

Peatland and Uplands Biodiversity Delivery Group

Draft Task Plan

(Based largely on the Objectives and Key Actions from the draft Northern Ireland Peatland Conservation Policy)

March 2007

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Site designation

Objective 1:

Designate all priority peatland and upland habitats that meet the scientific criteria required for ASSI designation, by 2012 and identify locally important sites as Sites of Local Nature Conservation Interest (SLNCIs) in Area Plans.

Key Action 1.1

Designate all priority peatland and upland habitats that meet the scientific criteria required for ASSI designation, by 2012.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
1.1.1	Review the coverage of within peatland and upland habitats the SAC/ASSI/NNR series	EHS	2007		BB	5.2.8	5.2.10
					LRB	5.2.6	5.2.10
					UH	5.2.9	5.2.10
					MH	5.2.9	5.2.10
					LH	5.2.8	5.2.9
1.1.2	Prepare and initiate a upland programme for designating additional peatland and sites.	EHS	2008		BB	5.2.8	5.2.10
					LRB	5.2.6	5.2.10
					UH	5.2.9	5.2.10
					MH	5.2.9	5.2.10
					LH	5.2.8	5.2.9

Key Action 1.2

Protect locally important sites from development by identifying them as Sites of Local Nature Conservation Interest (SLNCIs) in Area Plans.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
1.2.1	Identify SLNCIs in Development Plans	Planning Service, EHS	In line with Area Plan programme		BB	5.1.9	5.2.4
					LRB	5.1.9	5.2.4
					UH	5.1.4	5.2.4
					MH	5.1.4	5.2.4
					LH	5.1.4	5.2.4
1.2.2	Identify all peatland and upland 'Local Wildlife Sites' throughout Northern Ireland for potential inclusion as SLNCIs in Area Plans.	EHS	2009		BB	5.1.9	5.2.4
					LRB	5.1.9	5.2.4
					UH	5.1.4	5.2.4
					MH	5.1.4	5.2.4
					LH	5.1.4	5.2.4

Management of designated sites

Objective 2:

Maintain favourable condition or improve the conservation condition towards favourable, of 95% of the features underlying the designation of internationally important wildlife sites and Areas of Special Scientific interest by 2013.

Restoration

Key Action 2.1

Carry out a strategic review of restoration opportunities; key peatland and upland sites will be identified for positive management to achieve biodiversity targets.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
2.1.1	Monitor the favourable condition of site selection features.	EHS	Reporting on the Habitats Directive is due 2007		BB	5.2.6	5.5.4
					LRB	5.2.7	5.5.4
					UH	5.5.4	
					MH	5.5.4	5.5.7
					LH	5.5.4	
2.1.2	Initiate a programme to restore peatland and upland SACs/ASSIs which are not in favourable condition.	EHS	2008		BB	5.2.5	5.2.6
						5.2.7	5.2.9
						5.5.8	
					LRB	5.2.5	5.2.7
						5.2.8	5.2.9
					UH	5.2.5	5.2.6
						5.2.7	5.2.8
					MH	5.2.5	5.2.6
						5.2.7	5.2.8
						5.5.7	
					LH	5.2.5	5.2.6
						5.2.7	

Management of peatlands and uplands in the wider countryside

Objective 3:

Maintain the current extent and overall distribution of peatland and uplands currently in favourable condition and improve the condition of those areas of peatland and uplands which are degraded but readily restorable by 2010 and introduce management regimes to improve the condition of the remaining sites by 2015.

Agriculture

Key Action 3.1

Further promote uptake of agri-environment schemes to landowners and land managers of peatland and upland sites.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.1.1	Develop mechanisms which promote the uptake of agri-environment schemes.	DARD, EHS	On-going		BB	5.1.11 5.2.9	5.2.3
					LRB	5.2.3	5.2.8
					UH	5.1.7	5.2.3
						5.2.8	
					MH	5.1.7	5.2.3
						5.2.8	
					LH	5.1.7	5.2.3
						5.2.7	

Key Action 3.2

Agree habitat classifications, definitions and indicators for peatland and uplands to inform the Northern Ireland Rural Development Plan review in 2007.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.2.1	Produce habitat classifications, definitions and indicators for peatland and upland habitats	EHS, DARD	2007		BB	5.2.1 5.5.1	5.2.2
					LRB	5.2.1	5.2.2
						5.5.1	
					UH	5.2.1	5.2.2
						5.5.1	
					MH	5.2.1	5.2.2
						5.5.1	
					LH	5.2.1	5.2.2
						5.5.1	

Key Action 3.3

Review agri-environment schemes monitoring programme to take account of peatland and upland priority habitats.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.3.1	Ensure that the agri-environment scheme monitoring programme can contribute to reporting on peatland and upland habitats	DARD, AFBI			BB	5.1.10	
					LRB	5.1.10	
					UH	5.1.6	
					MH	5.1.6	
					LH	5.1.6	

Key Action 3.4

Ensure an integrated and effective approach to funding for management of peatland and upland sites to achieve biodiversity targets in relation to peatland and upland conservation.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.4.1	Review the funding for management of peatland and upland sites	DARD	2008		BB	5.4.2	
					LRB	5.2.8	
					UH	5.2.8	5.4.2
					MH	5.2.8	5.4.2
					LH	5.2.7	5.4.2
3.4.2	Implement and refine the funding for the management of peatland and upland habitats through agri-environment schemes.	DARD?	????		BB	5.1.10	5.4.2
					LRB	5.1.10	
					UH	5.1.6	5.4.2
					MH	5.1.6	5.4.2
					LH	5.1.6	5.4.2

Key Action 3.5

Define what constitutes “favourable condition”, “unfavourable condition” and “unfavourable recovering” for peatland and upland habitats for the wider countryside.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.5.1	Produce definitions of “favourable condition”, “unfavourable condition” and “unfavourable recovering” for peatland and upland habitats for the wider countryside.	EHS, DARD, AFBI	2007		BB	5.2.2	5.5.1
					LRB	5.2.2	5.5.1
					UH	5.2.1	5.5.1
					MH	5.2.2	5.5.1
					LH	5.2.2	5.5.1

Key Action 3.6

In partnership with stakeholders, review, amend and monitor the efficacy of Codes of Good Practice for Peat Cutting.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.6.1	Review and amend, if necessary, the efficacy of Codes of Good Practice for Peat Cutting.	DARD, EHS	2007		BB	5.1.8	5.3.1
						5.3.2	5.3.3
						5.3.4	
					LRB	5.1.13	5.3.1
						5.3.2	5.3.3
						5.3.4	
					UH	5.1.8	5.3.1
						5.3.2	5.3.3
						5.3.4	
					MH	5.3.1	5.3.2
						5.3.3	5.3.4
					LH	5.1.8	5.3.1
						5.3.2	5.3.3
						5.3.4	

Key Action 3.7

Further develop best practice peatland and upland management guidance and advice for landowners and land managers.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.7.1	Review existing guidance on peatland and upland habitat management.	ALL	2007		BB	5.1.7	5.1.11
						5.3.1	5.3.2
						5.3.3	5.3.4
						5.5.8	
					LRB	5.1.7	5.3.1
						5.3.2	5.3.3
						5.3.4	5.5.9
					UH	5.1.5	5.1.7
						5.3.1	5.3.2
						5.3.3	5.3.4
					MH	5.1.5	5.1.7
						5.3.1	5.3.2
						5.3.3	5.3.4
LH	5.1.5	5.1.7					
	5.3.1	5.3.2					
	5.3.3	5.3.4					
3.7.2	Produce revised guidance for the management of peatland and upland habitats to include guidance on assessing development proposals.	ALL	2009		BB	5.1.2	5.1.6
						5.1.7	5.3.1
						5.3.2	5.3.3
						5.3.4	5.5.8
					LRB	5.1.2	5.1.6
						5.1.7	5.3.1
						5.3.2	5.3.3
						5.3.4	5.5.9
					UH	5.1.1	5.1.3
						5.1.5	5.3.1
						5.3.2	5.3.3
						5.3.4	5.5.2
					MH	5.1.1	5.1.3
5.1.5	5.3.1						
5.3.2	5.3.3						
5.3.4							
LH	5.1.1	5.1.3					
	5.1.5	5.3.1					
	5.3.2	5.3.3					
	5.3.4						

Catchment management

Key Action 3.8

Ensure that River Basin Management Plans recognise the contribution of peatland and upland priority habitats in helping waterbodies reach “good ecological status” by 2015.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.8.1	Ensure that peatland and upland habitats are fully included in the development of River Basin Management Plans	EHS	2009		BB	5.1.12	
					LRB	5.1.12	
					UH		
					MH		
					LH		

Monitoring

Key Action 3.9

Monitor the condition of designated peatland and upland sites as well as peatland habitats in the wider countryside.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.9.1	Monitor the favourable condition of site selection features.				BB	5.2.1	5.5.4
					LRB	5.2.1	5.5.4
					UH	5.3.5	5.5.4
					MH	5.2.1	5.5.4
					LH	5.2.1	5.5.4
3.9.2	Ensure that the condition of peatland and upland habitats is measured through the Northern Ireland Countryside Survey 2007 (NICS2007)	EHS	2008	Article 11 (Habitats Directive) surveillance of the Annex 1 habitats in the wider countryside	BB	5.2.1	
					LRB	5.2.1	
					UH	5.3.5	
					MH	5.2.1	
					LH	5.2.1	
3.9.3	Develop an inventory of the extent and condition of peatland and upland habitats.	EHS	2009		BB	5.2.1	5.5.3
					LRB	5.2.1	5.5.3
					UH	5.3.5	5.5.5
					MH	5.2.1	5.5.5
					LH	5.2.1	5.5.3

Forestry

Key Action 3.10

Do not permit afforestation on peatland and upland sites.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.10.1	Ensure no afforestation on peatland and upland sites.	Forest Service	On-going		BB	5.1.2	5.1.10
					LRB	5.1.2	5.1.10
					UH	5.1.1	5.1.6
					MH	5.1.1	5.1.6
					LH	5.1.1	5.1.6

Key Action 3.11

Continue to develop and implement forestry policies for the protection and management of peatland and upland in conjunction with other Agencies.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.11.1	Ensure that the development and implementation of forest policies continue to protect and enhance the management of peatland and upland habitats.	Forest Service	On-going		BB	5.1.2	5.1.10
					LRB	5.1.2	5.1.10
					UH	5.1.1	5.1.6
					MH	5.1.1	5.1.6
					LH	5.1.1	5.1.6

Planning Policy

Key Action 3.12

Ensure that the new Planning Policy Statement 21, "The control of mineral development" will include a policy on peatland and upland conservation, which incorporates the aims of the *Northern Ireland Peatland Conservation Policy*.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.12.1	Produce a Planning Policy Statement (PPS) on mineral development to include updated policies and guidance on peatland and upland habitats.	Planning Service/DRD?	To be confirmed		BB	5.1.4	
					LRB	5.1.4	
					UH		
					MH		
					LH		

Key Action 3.13

Ensure the reviewed Planning Policy Statement 2; "Planning and Nature Conservation" will provide adequate protection of peatland and upland areas, both designated and in the wider countryside.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.13.1	Produce a revised Planning Policy Statement 2: "Planning and Nature Conservation" which ensures adequate protection of peatland and upland habitats.	Planning Service, EHS	2008??	Draft for Public Consultation due in 2007 (PS)	BB	5.1.3	
					LRB	5.1.3	
					UH	5.1.2	
					MH	5.1.2	
					LH	5.1.2	

Development Plans

Key Action 3.14

Include Natura 2000, Areas of Special Scientific Interest and Sites of Local Nature Conservation Importance in Area Plans with associated protection policies.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.14.1 (1.2.2)	Include Natura 2000, Areas of Special Scientific Interest and Sites of Local Nature Conservation Importance in Area Plans.	Planning Service , EHS	In line with Area Plan programme		BB	5.1.9	5.2.4
					LRB	5.1.9	5.2.4
					UH	5.1.4	5.2.4
					MH	5.1.4	5.2.4
					LH	5.1.4	5.2.4

Key Action 3.15

Consider peatland and upland conservation when identifying "areas of constraint on mineral development" in Area Plans.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.15.1 (3.12.1)	Produce a Planning Policy Statement (PPS) on mineral development to include updated policies and guidance on peatland and upland habitats.	Planning Service/DRD?	To be confirmed		BB	5.1.4	
					LRB	5.1.4	
					UH		
					MH		
					LH		

Development Control

Key Action 3.16

Ensure priority is given to address land development and 'improvement' issues facing peatland and uplands, including infill for development, agriculture 'improvement', fly tipping and ribbon development.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.16.1	Identify and assess the significance of land development and land improvement issues affecting peatland and upland habitats.	Planning Service , EHS, DARD, District Councils	2008?		BB	5.5.9	
					LRB	5.5.10	
					UH	5.5.8	
					MH	5.5.8	
					LH	5.5.7	

Key Action 3.17

Continue to oppose applications for the disposal of waste on peatland and uplands.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.17.1	Oppose applications for the disposal of waste on peatland and uplands.	Planning Service , EHS	On-going	PPS 2 Revised is looking at developing a wetland policy. (PS)	BB		
					LRB		
					UH		
					MH		
					LH		
3.17.2	Produce a revised Planning Policy Statement 2: "Planning and Nature Conservation" which ensures adequate protection of peatland and upland habitats.	Planning Service , EHS	2008??	Draft for Public Consultation due in 2007 (PS)	BB	5.1.3	
					LRB	5.1.3	
					UH	5.1.2	
					MH	5.1.2	
					LH	5.1.2	

Key Action 3.18

Carry out a review of the implications for peatland and upland conservation of the expansion of the Renewable Energy Industry in Northern Ireland.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.18.1	Review the implications for peatland and upland conservation of the expansion of the Renewable Energy Industry in Northern Ireland.	Planning Service		This is not a separate task being undertaken by PS but will form part of the rationale for policy development of PPS 18 Renewable Energy.	BB	5.1.2	
					LRB	5.1.2	
					UH	5.1.1	
					MH	5.1.1	
					LH	5.1.1	

Key Action 3.19

While opposing inappropriate proposals, encourage the development of Best Practice Guidelines to mitigate ecological and hydrological impact of any engineering works on peatland, including turbines and roads.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.19.1	Produce revised guidance for the management of peatland and upland habitats to include guidance on assessing development proposals.	ALL	2007		BB	5.1.2	
					LRB	5.1.2	
					UH	5.1.1	
					MH	5.1.1	
					LH	5.1.1	

Peat extraction

Key Action 3.20

Ensure that all commercial peat cutting has planning permission.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.20.1	Ensure that all commercial peat cutting has planning permission.	Planning Service	On-going		BB	5.1.2	5.1.5
					LRB	5.1.2	5.1.5
					UH	5.1.1	
					MH	5.1.1	
					LH	5.1.1	
3.20.2	Continue to pursue enforcement action against unauthorised commercial peat cutting.	Planning Service	On-going		BB	5.1.1	5.1.5
					LRB	5.1.1	5.1.5
					UH	5.1.1	
					MH	5.1.1	
					LH	5.1.1	

Key Action 3.21

Do not permit, within agri-environment agreements, any form of mechanised peat cutting.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.21.1	Ensure that no form of mechanised peat cutting is permitted within agri-environment agreements.	DARD	On-going	Agri-schemes: Peat cutting is not permitted on areas of intact uncut LRB. Cutting on existing cut-over bog is limited to 0.1 ha for domestic use. No form of mechanised peat cutting is Permitted. (DARD)	BB	5.1.10	
					LRB	5.1.10	
					UH	5.1.6	
					MH	5.1.6	
					LH	5.1.6	

Key Action 3.22

Carry out an assessment of the amount of peat which is extracted for fuel.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.22.1	Carry out an assessment of the amount of peat which is extracted for fuel in Northern Ireland.	EHS?	2008		BB	5.1.1	
					LRB	5.1.1	
					UH		
					MH		
					LH		

Key Action 3.23

Ensure that where planning permission is granted, conditions will be attached to minimise environmental damage and where practicable recreate wetland habitat.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
3.23.1	Ensure that appropriate conditions are included in planning permissions to minimise environmental damage and where practicable recreate wetland habitat.	Planning Service EHS			BB	5.1.2	
					LRB	5.1.2	
					UH	5.1.1	
					MH	5.1.1	
					LH	5.1.1	

Peat use and alternatives

Objective 4:

Seek to have a minimum of 90% of the peat product market requirements for soil improvers and growing media to be supplied by non-peat material by 2010.

Key Action 4.1

Cease to use horticultural peat in the management of the government estate and phase out the use of peat products by 2010.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
4.1.1	Reduce the use of horticultural peat in the management of the Government estate to less than 10%.	ALL	2009		BB	5.1.1	5.5.2
					LRB	5.1.1	5.1.11
						5.4.1	
					UH		
					MH		
LH							
4.1.2	Reduce the use of all peat products by 95%.	ALL	2009		BB	5.1.1	5.5.2
					LRB	5.1.1	5.1.11
						5.4.1	
					UH		
					MH		
LH							
4.1.3	Phase out the use of all peat products by 2010	ALL	2010		BB	5.1.1	5.5.2
					LRB	5.1.1	5.1.11
						5.4.1	
					UH		
					MH		
LH							

Key Action 4.2

Ensure action is taken to increase the use of alternatives to peat by individuals, industry, public bodies and government.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
4.2.1	Produce guidance and advice to minimise the use of peat for horticulture and fuel.		2008		BB	5.1.1	5.3.6
						5.5.2	
					LRB	5.1.1	5.1.11
						5.3.6	5.5.1
						5.5.8	5.6.5
					UH		
					MH		
					LH		

Key Action 4.3

Carry out an assessment of the use of peat and peat alternative products for growing media and soil improvers.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
4.3.1	Assess the use of peat and peat alternative products for growing media and soil improvers.		2009		BB	5.1.1	5.5.2
					LRB	5.1.1	5.1.11
						5.4.1	
					UH		
					MH		
					LH		
4.3.2	Identify the research requirements to contribute to the development of peat alternatives in Northern Ireland.	?	2008		BB	5.3.6	
					LRB	5.3.6	
					UH		
					MH		
					LH		

Education, Awareness and Research

Objective 5:

Improve understanding and increase the awareness of peatland issues amongst the public, landowners and stakeholders.

Key Action 5.1

Ensure that Peatland studies are included in formal education at Primary and Secondary level.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
5.1.1	Include peatland and upland studies in formal education at Primary and Secondary level.	DENI	2007?		BB	5.6.1	5.6.4
					LRB	5.5.6	5.5.7
						5.5.10	5.5.11
					UH	5.3.3	
					MH	5.6.1	
LH	5.6.1						

Key Action 5.2

Develop and promote peatland awareness programmes through a wide variety of media.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
5.2.1	Further promote Peatlands Park as the flagship for achieving environmental education through a wide variety of media.		On-going		BB	5.3.7	5.5.5
						5.6.3	5.6.3
						5.6.4	
					LRB	5.3.7	5.5.5
						5.6.1	5.6.3
						5.6.4	
					UH	5.3.6	5.5.3
						5.6.1	
					MH	5.3.6	5.5.3
						5.6.1	
LH	5.3.6	5.5.2					
	5.6.1						

Key Action 5.2 (continued)

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
5.2.2	Review and update the peatlands website and CD Rom		2009		BB	5.3.7	5.5.5
						5.6.1	5.6.2
					LRB	5.3.7	5.5.5
						5.6.1	5.6.2
					UH	5.3.6	5.5.3
						5.6.1	
					MH	5.3.6	5.5.3
						5.6.1	
					LH	5.3.6	5.5.2
						5.6.1	

Recreation

Key Action 5.3

Provide opportunities, where appropriate, for public access to and enjoyment of peatlands and uplands.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
5.3.1	Further promote Peatlands Park as the flagship for achieving environmental education through a wide variety of media.		On-going		BB	5.6.1	5.6.5
					LRB	5.6.1	5.6.6
					UH	5.2.7	5.6.1
						5.6.2	
					MH	5.2.7	5.6.1
						5.6.2	
					LH	5.6.1	5.6.2

Archaeological and paleo-environmental

Key Action 5.4

Aim to increase awareness of the archaeological and paleo-environmental archives in peatland and upland sites and where appropriate, ensure they are protected.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
5.4.1	Increase awareness of the archaeological and paleo-environmental archives in peatland sites.	EHS?	?	All management works on peatland and upland sites should consider the archaeological and paleo-environmental impacts of the work.	BB	5.3.1	5.3.4
					LRB	5.3.1	5.3.4
					UH		
					MH		
					LH		
5.4.2	Where appropriate, ensure archaeological and paleo-environmental archives in peatland sites are protected	EHS?	?		BB	5.1.2	5.1.4
					LRB	5.1.2	5.1.4
					UH		
					MH		
					LH		

Research

Key Action 5.5

Initiate and support research to advance the aims of the Northern Ireland Peatland Conservation Policy and the Northern Ireland peatland and uplands Habitat Action Plans.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
5.5.1	Identify research priorities for peatland and upland habitats.		2008		BB	5.5.6	5.5.7
						5.5.9	5.5.10
					LRB	5.5.6	5.5.7
						5.5.10	5.5.11
					UH	5.5.2	5.5.6
						5.5.7	5.5.8
						5.5.9	
					MH	5.5.2	5.5.6
						5.5.7	5.5.8
5.5.9							
LH	5.5.5	5.5.6					
	5.5.7	5.5.8					

Implementation

Objective 6:

Ensure that the Northern Ireland Peatland Conservation Policy is implemented and will re view it by 2011.

Key Action 6.1

A Peatland Biodiversity Delivery Group, led by EHS, including Government, NGOs and businesses, will be established in 2006 to help develop and implement the Northern Ireland Peatland Conservation Policy.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
6.1.1	Publish a Northern Ireland Peatland Policy.	EPG	2007		BB	5.1.8	
					LRB	5.1.8	
					UH		
					MH		
					LH		

Key Action 6.2

Ensure the implementation and future review of the Northern Ireland Peatland Conservation Policy through an Interdepartmental Peatland and Upland Conservation Policy Steering Group led by EPG.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
6.2.1	Review the Northern Ireland Peatland Policy.	EPG	(2011)		BB	5.1.13	
					LRB	5.1.8	
					UH		
					MH		
					LH		

Objective 6 (continued):

Key Action 6.3

Further develop links with Great Britain and the Republic of Ireland to take forward the aims of Northern Ireland Peatland Conservation Policy.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update	Related HAP Actions		
6.3.1	Establish further links and develop existing links with Great Britain and the Republic of Ireland to take forward the aims of the Northern Ireland Peatland Policy.	ALL	On-going		BB	5.4.1	
					LRB	5.4.1	
					UH	5.4.1	5.5.6
					MH	5.4.1	5.5.6
					LH	5.4.1	