



**Isle of Wight
National
Landscape**

Climate Change Adaptation Plan

Date of Report: 30th June 2026



Coastal Erosion, Compton Beach

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1. Executive Summary

1.1 This Plan has been prepared by the Isle of Wight National Landscape in response to the anthropogenic climate change crisis currently impacting the whole planet. The Plan is a requirement of the UK government department DEFRA as part of their commitments under the Third National Adaptation Programme¹. This Plan should be read in conjunction with the Isle of Wight AONB Management Plan 2025-2030, adopted by the Isle of Wight Council in November 2024 after lengthy consultation with agencies, organisations and community groups.

1.2 Climate change will affect many of the special characteristics of the National Landscape as the climate produces hotter, dryer summers, leading to drought; wetter warmer winters, leading to flooding; and relative sea level rise, leading to increased coastal erosion.

1.3 Habitats and species will also be affected with water dependent communities of plants and animals suffering stresses related to summer drought and winter flooding. Warmer winters will have profound effects on hibernating species such as hedgehogs, dormice and bats (as well as reptiles and amphibians), whilst sea level rise will squeeze saltmarsh and other coastal habitats into thinner coastal margins, reducing sites for breeding and overwintering birds.

1.4 Our priorities, borne out by this document will be:

- a) Helping farmers adapt to the challenges that climate change will bring to their viability;
- b) Work with landowners to adapt to sea level rise through managed realignment and
- c) Work with landowners and organisations to help conserve and enhance the abundance and diversity of plants and animals in line with the recommendations found in the Isle of Wight Local Nature Recovery Strategy

1.5 We will do this by directing resources to initiatives and programmes set up by Isle of Wight National landscapes or its partners including:

- i) IWNL capital core and Farming in Protected Landscape funds to farmers and landowners for wide range of habitat enhancements and regenerative and environmentally-friendly farming practices (to help reduce emissions and improve water quality).
- ii) Continue to apply for grants and sponsorship (outside PL allocations) to conserve and enhance the landscape with partners and direct these funds to nature recovery, managed realignment and nature-friendly farming (to help wildlife habitats and species).
- iii) Work with partners to increase education and interpretation around climate change issues and how they affect the landscape and what individuals and organisations can do to mitigate and adapt to its effects.

Other priorities include working with planners to ensure climate change mitigation is addressed in planning applications in the IWNL and working with landowners and heritage agencies to conserve large historic estates whilst encouraging environmentally-friendly farming and other land use techniques on their land.

2. Planning, Purpose and Scope

2.1 THE ISLE OF WIGHT NATIONAL LANDSCAPE

The Isle of Wight National Landscape² can be found on the Isle of Wight, the largest island off the coast of England, in the English Channel separated from the mainland by the Solent. The original AONB was designated in 1963, the fourteenth of the 46 areas to be confirmed. The total area designated is 191 km², which is approximately half the land surface of the Island. Unusually, the National Landscape area is not continuous and is made up of five distinct land parcels across the Island.

A detailed record of the original designation process was published in 2002³. This sets out the reasons why areas that were put forward during the extensive consultation were either included or excluded.

2.2 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: Special Characteristics of the Isle of Wight National Landscape²

The special qualities of the Isle of Wight National Landscape are many, contrasting, varied and inspiring. They contribute greatly to the quality of life and well-being of local communities and visitors. They are listed below

- Majestic sea cliffs
- Sweeping beaches
- Ancient woodland
- Patchwork of worked fields and Irregular hedged fields of pasture
- Intricate inlets of tranquil creeks
- Coastal heath and downland
- Planned and manicured gardens of former Royal Estates and Victorian villas
- Dark starlit skies
- Bustle and colour of festivals and events
- Winding paths, shutes and hollow ways in the countryside
- Chines and steps down cliffs to the beach
- Place names and dialect to poetry, literature and art;
- Isolated houses, hamlets and rural villages to harbour towns,
- Castles and tumuli;
- Plants and animals
- Fossilised trees and dinosaur footprints.

2.3 VISION FOR THE ISLE OF WIGHT NATIONAL LANDSCAPE

‘The Isle of Wight AONB will remain a beautiful, thriving landscape cared for and appreciated by all.’

2.4 Climate Change

Climate change is the overarching term given to the change in Earth’s climate systems as a result of complex planetary processes. It is attributed largely to the increased levels of atmospheric greenhouse gases produced by the use of fossil fuels from the activity of humans.

The greenhouse effect is where the sun warms the earth and the earth radiates energy back to the atmosphere and is a natural process, but the amount of greenhouse gases has dramatically increased in the past 50 years trapping more energy and causing the planet to

warm. There are seven greenhouse gases typically reported – carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃). Each gas contributes a different amount to global warming known as its global warming potential (GWP).

Global warming is the overarching term given to the rise in global temperatures leading to climate change. This has led to altered weather patterns, rising sea levels, and other impacts on ecosystems.

We have already seen many effects from a changing climate including, increases in flooding, more extreme weather events, more frequent heat waves and droughts, shifts in the ranges of species, changes in pests and diseases and coastal erosion due to sea level rise and storm surges.

2.5 Why is climate change important for the IW National Landscape?

The landscape is an important factor in our understanding of how to adapt to and mitigate the changes brought about by climate change. Habitats will need to be given opportunities to adapt with increased drought, prolonged flooding, and coastal squeeze and this will have direct impacts on coastal defences, development of housing and infrastructure and food production. All these challenges are active issues across the country, but the situation is exacerbated by the coastal nature of large areas of development in a community that celebrates its relationship with the sea.

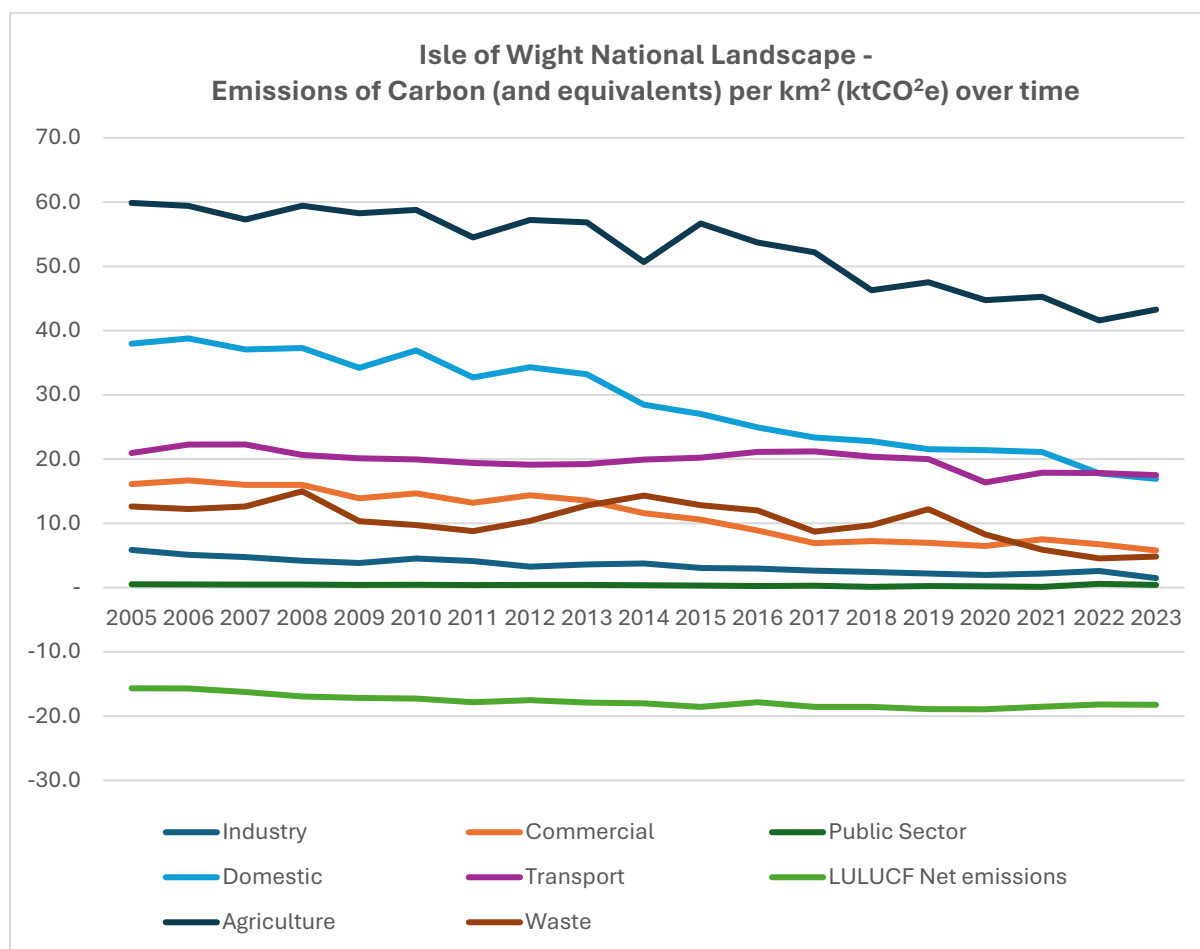
Adaptation (adjustments in ecological, social or economic systems in response to the actual and expected impacts of climate change⁴) and mitigation (efforts to reduce emissions and enhance sinks) require access to long-term resources and access to land where land use can change to accommodate the 'new' situations. Therefore, managed retreat on the coast, abandonment of some developments and infrastructure, food production practices changed in floodplains and positive changes in vegetation cover in some habitats may all have to be adopted in order to continue balancing the needs of communities and nature

2.6 Nature and Source of Emissions in Isle of Wight National Landscape

Emissions that affect changes in the climate can come from a number of sources. These include industry, other commercial activity, public sector, domestic, transport, agriculture and waste. Some of the emissions are countered by the ability of the land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF) sector to act as a sink. Measurable emissions include carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide.



Grazing cattle at Mottistone

Figure 1. Graph illustrating reduction in emissions in IWNL over time

Data from Department for Energy Security and Net Zero⁵

Figure 1 shows the greenhouse gas emissions from each sector within the National Landscape boundary from 2005 to 2023. Domestic and agricultural emissions have reduced during this period due to home energy efficiency measures, decarbonisation of the national grid and adoption of regenerative farming practices with the remaining sectors staying relatively static. The majority of emissions we do not have direct control over and can only aim to influence these sectors via third parties. However, we do have strong links with the agriculture sector and its emissions are the largest for the NL. We will aim to reduce emissions within the agricultural sector through communication with our networks and funding programmes such as FIPL. We also have strong connection to the Land use, Landuse Change and Forestry sector and through our projects will aim to encourage practices that work for both nature recovery and carbon storage and sequestration.



Species-rich grassland at St Catherine's Point

3. Assessment of Impact and Vulnerabilities

3.1 Impacts of Projected Climate Change

The Met Office⁷ has highlighted the impacts of anthropogenic climate change on the Isle of Wight on the environment and living conditions into the future. Headline projections are for warmer, wetter winters and hotter, drier summers. Summer rainfall will be more intense when it occurs, and relative sea level rise is inevitable. Impacts include:

Increased heat: increased energy demand for summer cooling and stresses on water supplies for cooling.

Poor health: increased risk to health from heat stress

Transport disruption: increased disruption to transport due to heat eg rail buckling. Increased flooding of low-lying transport routes

Sea level rise: Increased risk in coastal flooding and tidal locking also leading to greater fluvial flooding

Increased drought: risk to water supplies from drought, increased risk of failures in crop yields, species intolerant of drought being lost from the landscape.

Increased risk to biodiversity: drying of wetlands, lower river flows, increased fire risk to woodland, grassland and heathlands and increased mortality of animals in hibernation.

Heavier rainfall: increased risk of river and surface water flooding. Increased run-off of sediment and animal manure / agrichemicals.

Inadequate drainage: Increased disruption to urban drainage systems

Economic and energy disruption: infrastructure is at high risk from flooding or storm events (high winds).

Pests and diseases including non-native invasive species as a result of less frost days.

3.2 Projected Climate Changes

Global Warming Levels (GWL) are a simple way to represent climate change at a global scale which then drives local changes. Average temperatures are currently expected to exceed 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels in the early 2030s, and around 2°C above pre-industrial levels by the 2050s, on any plausible pathway of global greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, global warming reaching as high as 4°C above pre-industrial by the end of the century cannot be ruled out¹⁷.

The current global warming level is a measure of global warming since pre-industrial conditions, typically a 30-year climate average without the influence of the ups and downs of year-to-year temperature variations. Multiple estimates point towards a [current global warming level](#) of [1.3°C](#). A Met Office-led paper on the methodology of the current global warming level assessment can be found [here](#). As part of the ups and downs an individual year, such as 2024 exceed 1.5°C even though the underlying warming has not quite reached that level yet¹⁸.

Table 1. Local Climate Changes. This table shows projected changes for the Isle of Wight for a number of Global Warming Levels (figures quoted are extremes as these will be the most damaging)

	0.6 °C GWL Baseline 1981- 2000	1.0 °C GWL Recent past 2001- 2020	1.5 °C GWL Paris agreement	2 °C GWL Guidance : Prepare	4 °C GWL Guidance: Assess Risks
TEMPERATURE	°C	°C	°C change	°C change	°C change
Summer Maximum Temperature	27.8	30.9	+3.4	+4.4	+8.7
Summer Average Temperature	16.3	17.8	+2.0	+2.6	+5.0
Winter Average Temperature	5.7	6.6	+1.2	+1.6	+4.0
Winter Minimum Temperature	-5.4	-4.9	+2.0	+2.4	+4.0
Average Annual Temperature	10.8	11.8	+1.3	+1.8	+3.8
PRECIPITATION	Mm/day	Mm/day	% change	% change	% change
Summer Precipitation Rate	1.49	1.62	+4	-25	-49
Winter Precipitation Rate	2.71	3.31	+22	+15	+39

Source of data : DEFRA / Met Office [Explore the Climate of your Local Authority](#)

Table 2. Local Climate Indicators: reflect impacts on health, growing and heating demands

	0.6 °C GWL Baseline 1981- 2000	1.0 °C GWL Recent past 2001- 2020	1.5 °C GWL Paris agreement	2 °C GWL Guidance : Prepare	4 °C GWL Guidance: Assess Risks
Summer Days (day > 25°C)	7	21	24	31	69
Hot Summer Days (day > 30°C)	0	3	4	4	20
Extreme summer days (day > 35°C)	0	0	0	0	2
Tropical nights (night > 20°C)	0	1	1	1	11
Frost days (day min < 0°C)	26	23	18	18	8
Icing days (day max < 0°C)	1	1	1	1	0
Growing degree days* (degrees the daily mean temperature is above 5.5°C)	2084	2416	2496	2655	3321
Heating degree days (degrees the daily mean temp is below 15.5°C)	1935	1786	1704	1674	1336
Cooling degree days (degrees the daily mean temp is above 22°C)	16	44	55	68	180

Source of data : DEFRA / Met Office [Explore the Climate of your Local Authority](#)

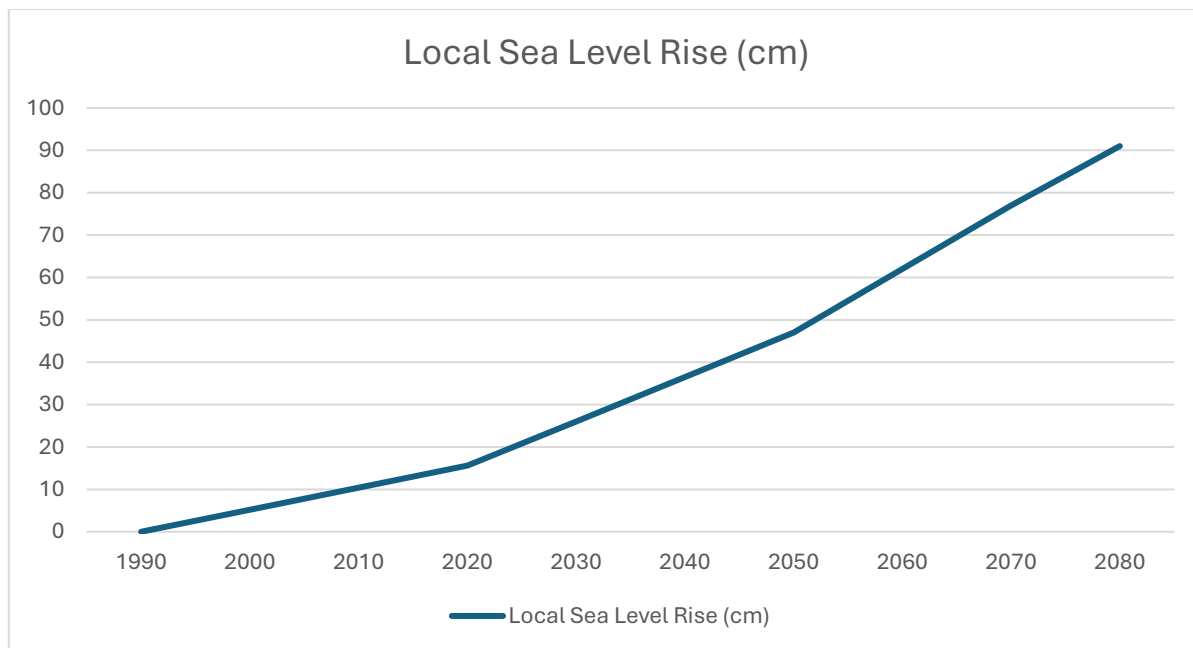
*Degree days are not the number of days, but the number of degrees the daily average temperature exceeds the threshold each day, added up over the year

These two tables provide projections that show the effects of global warming under a number of scenarios but all leading to an increased frequency in hotter climate increasing opportunities for vegetation growth (benefitting agriculture and forestry) but bringing about a northward drift of current distribution and extent of existing species and habitats. A shift to drought tolerant crops will be required together with strategies to cope with disease and pathogens (and their biological vectors) able to survive warmer, frost-free winters. This effect may then allow the colonisation of southern species from the continent into the UK as well as non-native invasive species displacing native species.

3.3 Sea Level Rise

Relative sea level rise is seen as a particular threat to the Isle of Wight due to the location of many coastal conurbations and neighbouring low-lying land. This land is vulnerable to increased sea level and increased storminess leading to coastal erosion and damage to flood defences. Sea level rise will also exacerbate tidal locking of rivers leading to increased fluvial flooding of property, infrastructure and farmland.

Figure 3: Predicted Sea level Rise on IW coast – worst case illustrated



Source of data : DEFRA / Met Office [Explore the Climate of your Local Authority](#)



Saltmarshes at Newtown

3.4 Landslides

Landslides are a frequent occurrence in the Isle of Wight National Landscape on both Hamstead and Tennyson Heritage coasts. These are predominately undeveloped coastlines and where the Shoreline Management Plan¹⁶ for the Island recommend non-intervention. However, some communities are at risk including Luccombe and St Lawrence.

Ground movement is linked to prolonged and intensive rainfall leading to lubrication of geological layers and slippage of the land towards the sea. As winters are predicted to get wetter it is assumed that landslips will increase in frequency and extent with possible loss of houses, businesses and road infrastructure.

3.5 Introduction of Risk Assessment

The Isle of Wight National Landscape has adopted the Protected Landscapes Climate Change⁸ risk / opportunity matrix method for assessing risks resulting from climate change.

Here risks are categorized depending on likelihood and impact of risk (negative) or opportunity (positive). These values are brought together to form a score which can be placed in a matrix where a high negative value (<-16) becomes a major or catastrophic risk whereas a high positive score (>+16) becomes a major or fantastic opportunity. The matrix does not take into account other factors like feasibility, affordability and time taken to produce anticipated results and thus allows decisions at a strategic level to be made regarding progress towards adaptation and resilience to climate change and its impacts.



St Martin's Down, Wroxall

3.6 Protected Landscape Climate Change Adaptation Report: Risk/Opportunity Matrix

Likelihood of a risk or opportunity occurring is rated 1 to 5

The impact of a risk or opportunity is rated from -5 to +5

Risk/Opportunity Matrix: The combination of likelihood and impact leads to a scoring of risks and opportunities

These combined ratings lead to a Red / Amber / Green (RAG) score.

Risk	-5	Catastrophic	-5	-10	-15	-20	-25
	-4	Major	-4	-8	-12	-16	-20
	-3	Moderate	-3	-6	-9	-12	-15
	-2	Minor	-2	-4	-6	-8	-10
	-1	Slight	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5
No Change	0	No Change	0	0	0	0	0
Opportunity	+1	Slight	1	2	3	4	5
	+2	Minor	2	4	6	8	10
	+3	Moderate	3	6	9	12	15
	+4	Major	4	8	12	16	20
	+5	Fantastic	5	10	15	20	25
			Rare	Unlikely	Possible	Likely	Almost certain
			1	2	3	4	5
			Likelihood				

Simplified Rating (used in the summary of key risks and opportunities)

Risk (-) Score	Simplified RAG Score
1-6	Low
7-15	Medium
16-25	High

Opportunity (+) Score	Simplified RAG Score
1-6	Low
7-15	Medium
16-25	High

The result of this exercise is added as an Appendix to this document

3.7 Summary of Risk Assessment

The risk assessment provides a stark assessment of the risks and opportunities impacting on the Isle of Wight National Landscape into the future. The highest scoring risks (16+ to 2050 and 20+ 2080) and opportunities are listed below aligned with the predicted impacts of climate change explored above:

Risks

- Coastal erosion
- Sea level rise and coastal squeeze
- Water availability, water temperature and water infrastructure
- Fluvial flooding
- Impacts on soil structure and erosion
- Degradation of habitats including peatlands, grasslands, heaths, rivers, streams and ponds
- Loss of species
- Damage to heritage assets – also inappropriate tree planting / hedgerows / development leading to changes in landscape character
- Agriculture / Forestry

Opportunities

- Change in land use – reduction in intensive management, adoption of regen farming, resilient crops, exploitation of new markets
- Coastal realignment
- Increase tree cover – more resilient trees
- Increase in green infrastructure
- Nature based solutions – coastal CO² / blue carbon
- PLTOF / LNRS outcomes for nature recovery
- Increased opportunities for renewable energy infrastructure – more wind / sun



Multi-species cover crop at Arreton

4. Conservation Goals and Objectives

4.1 IWAONB Management Plan 2025-2030²

This plan should be read in conjunction with the Isle of Wight National Landscape Management Plan 2025-2030 [IW AONB Management Plan produced by the Isle of Wight NL partnership – Isle of Wight National Landscape](#) which includes information on climate change and DEFRA Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework. Policies and priorities are shown below:

4.2 KEY FACTS AND FIGURES:

Table 3: IWNL Contribution to DEFRA Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework

	Target 2030	Target 2030	DEFRA PLTOF target (ha)
Habitat	Maintain (ha)	Restore / create (ha)	
Ancient woodland	471	320	103
Lowland meadow	116	100	
Heath and acid grassland	147		
Calcareous grassland	553	95	
Wetlands	220		
Shoreline / coastal	421		
PLTOF target for all above			378
Peat	60	5	5

Table 4: Carbon Stored in Different Habitats in IW National Landscape

Habitat represented in IWAONB	Area (ha)	Carbon stored (tC / ha)
Maritime grassland	34	2040
Lowland calcareous grassland	626	38812
Lowland heath and acid grassland	148	13172
Saltmarsh and coastal habitats	121	18431
Unimproved grassland	223	13826
Broadleaved woodland	2111	454921
Conifer woodland	230	40020
Peatlands	137	35894
Agricultural improved grassland	6284	389608
Arable	3921	220282

These figures show the role of various habitats in the National Landscape in the storage of historic atmospheric carbon. Their degradation or destruction can release carbon back into the atmosphere and add to the warming effect this produces. Arable and grassland leys are temporary features and so their ability to store carbon long-term is diminished.

Table 5: Carbon Sequestration in Different Habitats in IW National Landscape

Habitat represented in IWAONB	Area (ha)	Carbon captured (tC / ha/ yr)
Saltmarsh	121	440
Broadleaved woodland	2111	5279
Conifer woodland	321	460
Agriculturally unimproved grassland	1031	942
Peatlands	137	82

Note: tC – tonnes of carbon; ha – hectares

From: Anderson and Morris 2021⁹

These figures show the role of certain habitats in the absorption of atmospheric carbon on an annual basis where this process has been measured. New habitats can be added as their sequestration rates come to light through research. They are all features of the National Landscape but this is not an exhaustive list of all habitats facilitating carbon sequestration. Again the degradation or destruction of these habitats will reduce the landscape's ability to reduce atmospheric carbon and the effects of warming on the planet and conversely, if carbon capture is increased in these habitats through changes in agriculture or forestry practice these results will increase.

The presence of trees and development of new woodland is an important contributor to both carbon storage and sequestration and these features should be accommodated and encouraged in the National Landscape in hedges, rews and woodlands.

4.3 Policies for Climate Change and Mitigation

These policies are taken from the Isle of Wight AONB Management Plan 2025-2030, agreed by partners and adopted by the Isle of Wight Council:

P16 Support farmer clusters and other cooperative land use groups adopting climate adaptation and mitigation techniques in the designated landscape.

P17 Encourage local authority and wider National Landscape Partnership to educate and raise awareness of climate change to achieve carbon emissions reduction required by the DEFRA Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework

P18 Support land use change and land acquisition that creates opportunities for coastal managed retreat, peatland restoration, tree planting and floodplain restoration.

4.4 Priorities for Climate Change and Mitigation

We have developed the following priorities for adaption for the effects from climate change and reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from the National Landscape area

- Work with the wider partnership to produce a Climate Adaption Plan by 2028 (DEFRA target)
- Promote climate change mitigation techniques to contribute to DEFRA Protected Landscape Targets and Outcomes Framework
- Work to promote wider objectives of the Isle of Wight Biosphere initiative.

These policies and priorities emphasise the need for partnership and collaboration across many organisations and agencies if the national and local targets for climate change adaptation and habitat / species loss are to be achieved.

5 Possible Adaptation Options

5.1 Aligning Policy and Action

The risks and opportunities identified above fall into two categories and help formulate a plan of action to mitigate and adapt to these changes. The first category are those risks being brought about by natural processes and forces which are generally outside the resources and influence of a National Landscape or its partners. These include coastal erosion, sea level rise and water availability. Natural processes (and subsequent natural change) will continue to be advocated by Isle of Wight National Landscape, so opportunities arise to contemplate coastal realignment rather than hard engineering on undeveloped coastlines.

The second category is around land use change where the active manipulation of the natural environment leads to conflict with natural processes. This includes coastal squeeze, agriculture, fluvial flooding due to modification of watercourses, degradation of habitats (with commensurate loss of species) and underground archaeology. It is these risks and opportunities that can be recognised by the Isle of Wight National Landscape in both policy and action.

Therefore, the National Landscape has listed the key characteristics of the designated landscape and decided on its policy direction based on Resist, Accept or Direct principles.



Brook Chine

5.2 Resist, Accept, and Direct (RAD) Framework¹⁰

Resist, accept, and direct (RAD) is a framework for managing natural resources in response to change, such as from climate change.

- **Resist:** Actively work to maintain current ecosystem conditions by protecting resources from impacts.
- **Accept:** Choose not to intervene and allow the ecosystem to change on its own into new conditions.
- **Direct:** Intentionally guide the ecosystem's transformation toward new, potentially desirable ecological condition

Characteristic	Resist	Accept	Direct	Action
Majestic sea cliffs		X		Natural process however accept conflict with other interests
Ancient woodland	X			Conserve and enhance
Sweeping beaches		X		Natural process
Patchwork of worked fields and Irregular hedged fields of pasture			X	Active advocacy using IWNL resources to encourage adaptation
Intricate inlets of tranquil creeks			X	Conserve and enhance but also look at managed realignment in these areas
Coastal heath and downland	X			Conserve and enhance
Planned and manicured gardens of former Royal Estates and Victorian villas			X	Actively advocate for positive management of gardens and parks for biodiversity gains
Dark starlit skies	X			Conserve and enhance including increased education
Bustle and colour of festivals and events			X	Advocate interpretation and education in light of changes by climate. May reduce outdoor activity
Winding paths, shutes and hollow ways in the countryside	X			Conserve and enhance
Chines and steps down cliffs to the beach		X		Natural processes but retain access to beaches where possible
Place names and dialect to poetry, literature and art;			X	Not a climate change issue but cultural activity can be used to educate and interpret
Isolated houses, hamlets and rural villages to harbour towns,			X	Advocate positive change to adapt to climate change in development and infrastructure around settlements
Castles and tumuli;	X			Conserve and enhance
Plants and animals			X	Conserve and enhance in light of LNRS and PLOTf targets / aspirations
Fossilised trees and dinosaur footprints.		X		Natural processes

6 Selection of Adaptation Actions

From the table above, the characteristics that require **Direct** intervention have become priorities for inclusion in an action plan to be implemented over the next five years.

Characteristic	Man Plan Priority	Partners	Action & Resources
Patchwork of worked fields and Irregular hedged fields of pasture	Support initiatives which conserve and enhance the designated landscape through targeted action including DEFRA Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes, Access for All, Farming in Protected Landscapes and Farmer Clusters	DEFRA; Natural England; Environment Agency; Isle of Wight Council; NFU; CLA; National Trust; HIW Wildlife Trust; IW Food Partnership; Landowners and farmers	Encourage regenerative* farming techniques and land use change opportunities including creation of habitat on agricultural land. IWNL CDEL; IWNL FiPL; NLHF; landowners
Intricate inlets of tranquil creeks	Support landowners working towards national targets for nature recovery and climate change mitigation and adaptation	DEFRA; Natural England; Environment Agency; Isle of Wight Council; NFU; CLA; Landowners and farmers	Implement managed realignment in estuarine conditions such as Yarmouth, Newtown and Thorness. IWNL FiPL; landowners
Planned and manicured gardens of former Royal Estates and Victorian villas	Promote the recording, understanding, conservation, enhancement, and interpretation of the historic environment in the Isle of Wight AONB.	English Heritage; Heritage England; IWC Archaeological Service; landowners	Implement land use change in large estates towards regenerative farming and habitat creation IWNL FiPL; landowners
Isolated houses, hamlets and rural villages to harbour towns,	Support strategic bodies and local organisations to ensure that green infrastructure opportunities are maximised throughout the designated landscape.	Isle of Wight Council Planning Policy; Community (inc Parish and Town Councils); landowners	Increase green infrastructure to reduce flooding and create new habitat IWNL influence on planning policy and development in NL Support sustainable solutions to landslide prevention in developed areas IWC; landowners
Plants and animals	Support the development of targeted programmes for habitat maintenance, restoration, and creation, in line with DEFRA's Targets and Outcomes through a landscape-scale approach.	DEFRA; Natural England; Environment Agency; Isle of Wight Council; NFU; CLA; National Trust; HIW Wildlife Trust; Landowners and farmers	Increase in extent and abundance of habitats and species in the IWNL to enhance land use for climate change adaptation IWNL CDEL; IWLRC; IWLNRs: NLHF

* 'regenerative farming focuses on improving soil fertility, increasing biodiversity and sequestering carbon, ultimately promoting long-term environmental and economic stability'¹⁹.

These actions will be supported by other non-climate change actions such as enhanced interpretation, education and celebration of the adaptation listed above. This includes the Direct responses to 'dark starlit skies' and 'bustle and colour of events and festivals'.

7 Track Effectiveness and Ecological Response – monitoring

Monitoring the effectiveness of these measures will be done at a national, regional and local level and will align with Protected Landscapes Targets and Outcomes Framework¹¹, Biodiversity Net Gain¹², Local Nature Recovery Strategies¹³, Catchment Sensitive Farming¹⁴ and Together for Mission Zero targets refined from the Isle of Wight Climate and Environment Strategy 2021-2040¹⁵

Local initiatives will have their own local monitoring protocols whether they are run by the local authority, local conservation organisations, farmer clusters and projects that seek to make changes based on the priorities above.

Monitoring will include:

- i) Increase in extent of land under environmentally-friendly farming initiatives (ha)
- ii) Increase in the extent of habitat created or restored (ha and km)
- iii) Increase in abundance and range of target species (numbers)
- iv) Decrease in diffuse pollution indicators (water quality including nitrates, phosphates, sediment and turbidity)
- v) Decrease in emissions from key activities including agriculture

8 Acknowledgements and References

8.1 Acknowledgements

The Isle of Wight National Landscape would like to thank Clare Downing of the National Landscapes Association for her help with the formulation of this Plan.

8.2 References

References used for the formulation of this Plan are numbered throughout the sections and further information can be found here:

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