Scottish Borders LBAP Partnership

Considering the Biodiversity Priorities for SRDP 2014-20?

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Outline for Workshop

• Introduction to Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) reform – what do we know?
• Break into two groups – 1 hour: to consider what are the biodiversity objectives and priorities for the new SRDP?
• Brief feedback and next steps
First Some Background……

• CAP 2020 policy aims – more competitive, more environmentally sustainable, more socially inclusive
• Budget – ‘do more for less’
• Principles – better targeting, simplification, more joined up approach
• 2 year negotiation to 2014 – Scot Govt consultation soon, first ‘programme outline’ draft Spring 2012
CAP legal proposals

• Pillar 1 – Direct payments - new design, area based payments from 2014
• New 30% ‘Green Payment’, linked to crop diversification, permanent grassland, ‘ecological focus (7%)’
• Pillar 2 – Rural Development - new framework, 3 objectives, 6 basic priorities
• No minimum spend (with exception of 25% agri-env and 5% LEADER)
Six New Rural Dev Priorities:

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<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Fostering knowledge transfer and innovation in agriculture, forestry and rural areas</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Enhancing competitiveness of all types agriculture and enhancing farm viability</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Promoting food chain organisation and risk management in agriculture</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td><strong>Restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems dependent on agriculture and forestry</strong></td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Promoting resource efficiency and low carbon economy in agriculture, food and forestry sectors</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Promoting social inclusion poverty reduction and economic development in rural areas</td>
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Current SRDP RP Programme:

BUDGET HEADING 2 - AGRI ENV

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Value (£)</th>
<th>Percent (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conversion to organic farming</td>
<td>1,016,739</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maintenance of organic farmland</td>
<td>2,103,861</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mown Grassland for Wildlife</td>
<td>576,138</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Control of invasive species</td>
<td>380,950</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Breckland Management of Habitat Mosaics</td>
<td>797,671</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lowland Raised Bogs - Basic management</td>
<td>882,664</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water Margins Flood Plains</td>
<td>628,544</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heath and Heather Swiping</td>
<td>530,661</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management of Moorland</td>
<td>531,919</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Away/Off - Wintering of Sheep</td>
<td>506,888</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grass Margins and Beetlebanks</td>
<td>327,282</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biodiversity Cropping on In-Bye</td>
<td>292,127</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scrub and Tall Herb Communities</td>
<td>1,683,179</td>
<td>31.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conservation Management for Small Units - Ind.</td>
<td>1,200,000</td>
<td>22.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grazing Management of Cattle</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control of grey squirrels</td>
<td>628,344</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mammal and Bird Control</td>
<td>41,480</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wild Bird Seed Mix/Unharvested Crop</td>
<td>497,608</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Open Grazed or Wet Grass Crop</td>
<td>3,000,000</td>
<td>58.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conversion to organic farming</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>18.9%</td>
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Our Scottish Borders
Your opportunity

Scottish Borders Council
## Current ‘Biodiversity’ Priorities:

| BOR8   | BAP and LBAP  
|        | Grasslands, Woodlands & Scrub, Peatlands & Wetlands, Freshwater, UKBAP priority |
| BOR9   | Designated Sites |
| BOR10  | Species Action Framework |
| BOR11  | Invasives |
| BOR12  | Solway-Tweed RBMP  
|        | TCMP  
|        | Habitat Networks |
The Group Work

• Split into 2 Groups – each focused on discussing biodiversity priorities post 2014
• Building on meeting with NGOs at Tweed Forum in August
• ‘High level’ at this point – guiding principles
• Moving towards an ‘Ecosystem approach’?
Questions for Groups

1. What are main lessons learned from your experience of the current SRDP, and its delivery of biodiversity objectives?
2. What should the ‘guiding principles’ be for the design of the new SRDP?
3. What are the high level biodiversity priorities for Scottish Borders? (& where?)
4. Does an ecosystem approach help to identify these?
Group 1 – Sam/ Katie

- Barry Prater
- Peter Norman
- Iain Laidlaw
- Sandy Maxwell
- Mike Fraser
- Andy Millar
- Ian Davidson
- Andrew Panter
- Pip Tabor
- Steve Hannah
- Derek Robeson
- Lorna Anness

Group 2 – John/ Andy

- Maggie Magee
- Stuart MacPherson
- David Kennedy
- Liz Aty
- Elaine More
- Lesley Muirden
- Anne Brown
- James Hunt
- Natalie Harmsworth
- Graeme Wilson
- Hugh Chalmers
Feedback – Lessons Learned

• Tension of targeting vs accessibility
• Scale of investments related to benefits
• Landscape scale projects difficult to deliver – multiple applicants
• Complex bureaucracy
• Lack of spatial targeting – ‘bang for buck’
• Lack of monitoring data
Feedback – Guiding Principles

• Moving away from ‘short-term ism’ (GAEC link for investments)
• Continuity needed- keep best of SRDP
• Strengthen LMOs and retain competitive Rural Priorities – same principles applied to both; outcomes & results focused
• Success criteria at start
• Use existing datasets
• RP need regional budgets and decision making, but what level of region? Not one size fits all
• What size region – pilot in Borders?
Feedback – Priorities

• Keep in mind drivers for land use change – food security, woodland strategy, climate change, and complexity of business decisions and grant incentives….

• Focus on strengths rather than gaps?

• Focus on habitat networks – if not in priority area don’t fund it & designated sites (mapping key)

• Differential rates linked to priorities

• Some difficult political decisions?
Feedback – Ecosystem Approach?

- Yes! Helps prioritisation, but location and quality also important
- Consequences also important
- Helps identify conditions
- Helpful to see multiple benefits of investments
- Need better awareness raising & communication