



# Tales from a National Park

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**Peak District National Park Authority**





# National Parks – protected landscapes

- Spectacular natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage
- Opportunity for escape, reflection and adventure and wonder

# The Peak District National Park

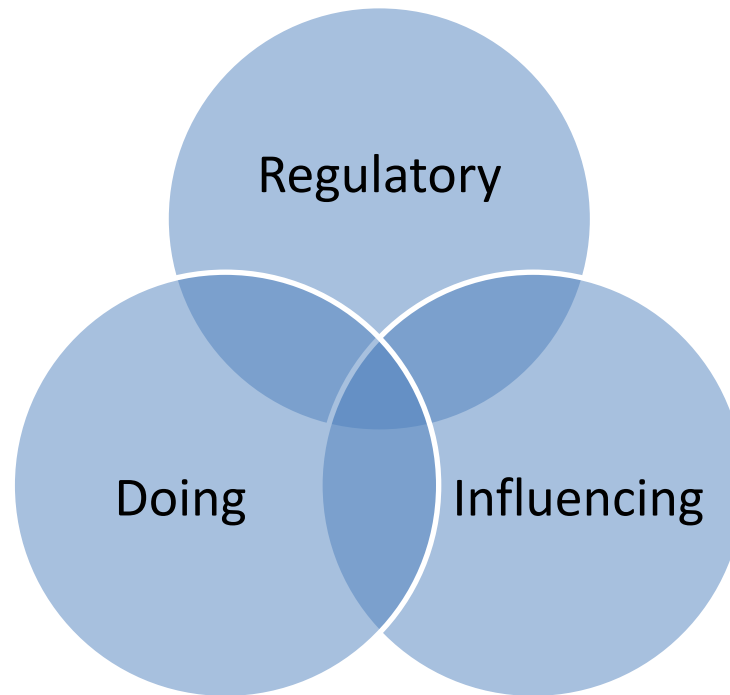
- 555 sq miles at the heart of the nation
- Highly accessible
- *Probably* the most visited
- Transition between upland and lowland
- Where the campaign for national parks began



## Our purposes ...



## Our role...



**... speak up for the place**

**... a convenor for the place**

# Landscape scale conservation

Working in the Dark Peak – what can we learn?



## Industrial past left a legacy

- 150 years of pollution alongside wildfires
- Left 27 sq km of bare exposed peat
- Inhospitable for wildlife and people



# Simple ambition

We set about to bring life back to the moorlands of the Peak District National Park and South Pennines



➤ One common purpose





# Convening of partners

- National Park Authority
- Environment Agency
- Natural England
- Water companies
- Moorland owners
- National Trust
- RSPB
- Pennine Prospects





# Partners

- Commitment to the long-term
- Supporting core costs
- Accepting leadership by others
- Purpose first, organisational visibility second

➤ Working together towards the common purpose



# A lead partner

- Inspire the vision in others
- Convene the partners
- Accept the cash flow risk and other risks
- Manage resources
- Finding solutions from VAT to hedging
- Providing the governance

➤ Taking the risk, making the business of delivery work

# Securing the funds

- In 2003 we secured £5 million HLF funding to start work towards this vision
- In 2010 we secured £10 million EU funding
- In 2016 we secured £12 million EU funding

➤ First funds are crucial, helps growth

# Deliver the outcomes

- Restored 900ha of badly damaged bog
- Protected 2,500 ha of active blanket bog
- Led to global innovation in moorland restoration
- Led to scientific endeavour showing the value of restored moorland

➤ Being relevant and making a difference on the ground

Stories are important



PEAK  
DISTRICT  
NATIONAL  
PARK



1976



Bare peat erodes at the rate of 25mm a year



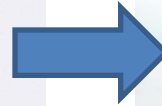
**PEAK  
DISTRICT**  
NATIONAL  
PARK



**1976**



**2003**





1976



2003



Active blanket bog grows at 1mm/ year



**PEAK  
DISTRICT  
NATIONAL  
PARK**

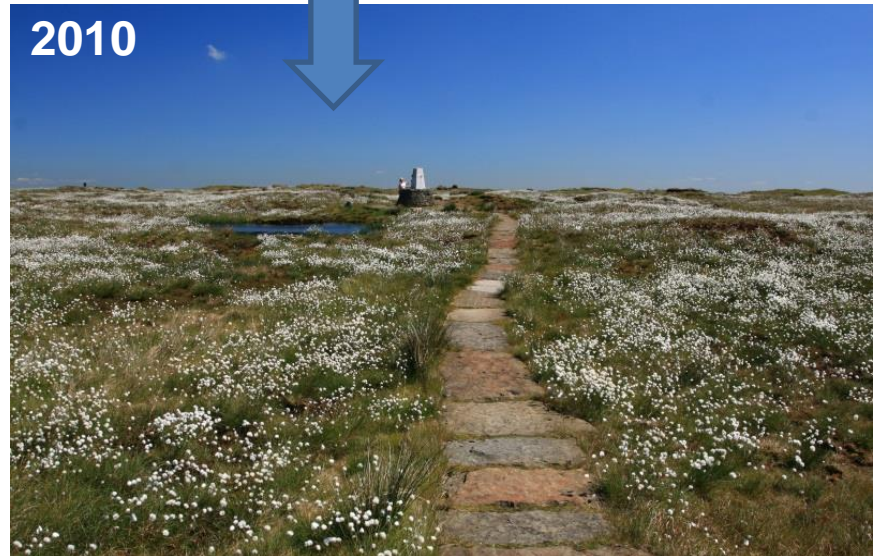
**1976**



**2003**



**2010**





# Partnership in action

Coming together is the beginning

Keeping together is progress

Working together is success

- It takes reciprocity, trust and cooperation



## We are not new to this....

- In our DNA... convenor for the National Park Management Plan
- In our future... National Parks Partnerships, Miles without Stiles



## The next 15 years

Maintaining the collaboration:

- Working outside the National Park boundary
- Collaboration across programmes
- Connecting our protected areas landscapes
- Only just touched on:
  - Community science – inspiring generations
  - Economic science – funding this as a service to the nation