

A2B High Leas Farm Meadow Enhancement

Project Summary	The project enhanced 3.5 ha of grassland to encourage the establishment of flower rich meadows. A landowner event was held towards the end of the project that demonstrated the techniques and practice of meadow creation and restoration. The site lies within the Peak Fringe and the falls within the Character type 'Wooded slopes and valleys'.	
Lead Organisation	DerwentWISE Scheme Office	
Partners	Tim Sidaway of High Leas Farm Derbyshire Wildlife Trust	
Location	High Leas Farm	
Duration of project	April 2015 – March 2018 Yrs:2-4	
Total cost of project	£4303.00	
Volunteer time In-kind time	- £1000.00	
Outputs	<p>Original target</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.5 ha of grassland enhanced • 1 meadow management and enhancement event held 	<p>Achieved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.5 ha of grassland enhanced • 2 meadow management and enhancement events held, 24 attendees
Headlines/added value	A landowner networking evening was held at the farm on the 20th June 2017 where 24 landowners were in attendance. Talks included farm sharing, meadow creation and restoration, holistic farming and making profit from grazing land sustainably. Ice breaker activities were provided for attendees, including pole lathing and drystone walling. A very successful evening with the opportunity to network, learn new skills and ways of managing land in alternative ways. The landowners taken on a tour of the restored meadows on site as an example of good practise.	
Outcomes	<p>Three meadows were power harrowed, drilled and seeded, and rolled several times. Any stones were removed from the field to aid future management. This means that 3.5ha of previously low value pasture have been re-seeded with a high value meadow mix. This was enhanced with a smaller amount of 100% wildflower seed. Surveys will take place over the next two years to monitor the target of four additional plant species established on site.</p> <p>A small management plan has been produced to advise the landowner for future techniques for positive biodiversity value. A brief walkover survey took place to assess the flora diversity which yielded good</p>	

	<p>results in the first season. Further monitoring will take place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A2 The delivery of <i>significant, long lasting improvements</i> to the condition (and extent where appropriate) of priority sites and features, and hence to the landscape character • A3 Long term improvements to the landscape <i>brought about through better understanding, engagement</i> of land managers and communities, and land use policies and activities <i>based on good information</i> • B3 <i>Increased engagement and capacity among landowners and communities</i> to care for the landscape in the long term
<p>Any recommendations going forward</p>	<p>To continue to monitor the site</p>