



DATE: 23/1/2019

TIME: 10-1pm

LOCATION: Clock Tower, Low Wood

PROJECT MEETING NOTES: DRAFT

MEETING / PROJECT NAME: Project Working Group (South Cumbria Catchment Management Group)

NOTES PREPARED BY: Jayne Wilkinson

1. ATTENDEES PRESENT

NAME	ORGANISATION/ROLE	EMAIL	TEXT REF
Jayne Wilkinson	South Cumbria Rivers Trust	jayne@scrt.co.uk	JW
Simon Johnson	Environment Agency – Catchment Director	simon.johnson@environment-agency.gov.uk	SJ
Pete Evoy	South Cumbria Rivers Trust	pete@scrt.co.uk	PE
David Greaves	South Cumbria Rivers Trust		DG
Sarah Henderson	Environment Agency		SH
James Anderson Bickley	Forestry Commission		JAB

2. APOLOGIES

Shamus Giles (CCC), Maggie Robinson (NE), Tom McCormick (T M), John Gorst (JG), Chris Evans (CE), Neil Harnott (NH), David Kennedy (DK), Louisa Simpson-Brown (LSB), Colin Parkes (CCC)

3. AGENDA/ OBJECTIVES

Update on Phase I projects and developing the phase II pipeline.

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Welcome and introductions:

Members who attended on the day were concerned about the lack of attendance, although poor conditions on the day were noted.

Actions arising from last meeting:

Actions from the last meeting mainly related to the matrix and will be covered later in this meeting. We are still awaiting infrastructure information which is unavailable due to difficulties with information sharing.

Action: JW to continue to follow up with Anthony Lane and include information into matrix when available.

Is infrastructure mainly focused on transport infrastructure or does it also include schools, hospitals etc? It was believed that it is mainly focused on transport infrastructure.

Action: JW to speak to Rachel Osbourn for an update from the Highways England Working Group

JAB: Storage options/ Kent package: Phase I of the Kent package is at the planning application stage. Storage and Phase II options are still being scoped. We need to demonstrate evidence of NFM effectiveness and cost: benefits. NFM is often focused on small sub-catchments however, it was raised that there is no evidence that NFM doesn't work in big catchments (Tom Nisbet (FC) and Nick Chappell (LEC)). Where does NFM fit, how do we elevate this within current structures and schemes such as ELMS testing and World Heritage status.

JW

SJ: The CMG is the engine room of change; opportunity to add value to programmes and pick up ones which don't fit with other forms of support. Projects will then be based on evidence and a knowledge that it will make a difference, in some cases projects may be resilience based.

Challenges of working in LDNP/ World Heritage Status were raised: nature and culture should be valued equally.

JAB: Cumbria is a good opportunity for meeting UK Government objectives for more woodland planting. However, there are difficulties for delivering within the LDNP. Forestry Commission is developing frameworks for working underneath/ alongside this.

Via the CMG/ CSFP we have a mechanism for reporting blockers and finding collaborative approaches to tackling challenges (**PE**).

Phase I Projects

See Becks to Bay website for project progress update. A number of changes have been made to the progress reporting to provide more information, including adding an 'overall' summary, project description and lead partner. Website: <https://btob.scrt.co.uk/south-cumbria-catchment-plan/cumbria-floods-partnership/project-progress>

JAB: Stock Beck, did have some delay but things are now progressing, CWT are leading on this. Birds Park is owned by UU who are also involved. Looking at felling trees and putting in large woody debris. Now starting re-engagement and further developing plans for works in UU site and surrounding area. Should be significant development on the project within the next 6 months.

Mill Beck Close: (Windermere). There are 3-4 housing association homes which flood regularly. School Knott planted under forest futures 10-20 years ago and this area is SLDC owned. Cumbria woodlands are developing a plan for the woodland and additional opportunities could include bunds & leaky dams.

Grange-Over-Sands: currently working up the design for the NFM scheme following completion of the modelling. Further options for urban NFM such as extra storage in the car park, have previously been raised. The issues affecting this catchment are complex.

PE: Bell Beck: Video footage of an overview of the site was shown to the group. Landowner agreement in place and large woody debris (10) was installed. There are maintenance and liability issues as no one wants to take this on, however, SCRT have overcome this by managing the site for the duration of the project, including monitoring. They will then use the data to see if it is making a difference and if not will take everything out at the end of the project time-span. A water logger (pressure transducer) has been installed along with time-lapse cameras. The monitoring will also help inform if amendments need to be made to the design.

Currently, felling licences are taking a long time to go through (3-4months).

Phase II Development

Jayne Wilkinson presented a summary of progress to date. Since the last PWG meeting developments have been made to the decision support tool including the addition of business data and surface water modelling. This support tool has now been agreed for use by the CMG. A strategy has also been agreed by the CMG for CMG 'enablement', PWG 'Delivery' and continued support to existing projects. This has been applied to the decision support tool with the top 6 initially being outlined for a CMG focus and the next 9 forming a commission to the PWG, as well as identification of any 'quick wins'. To progress this, community evidence/ decision forms have been developed (first draft), two of these (Coniston & Dalton in Furness) were filled out ahead of the meeting. These were presented to the group for comment and the following responses were received:

JAB: Fantastic resource and a good level of detail but are we also looking at this for the top 6? **JW/PE:** Yes, but we may need to take a different approach and it may not be in the same form.

JAB: Dalton in Furness – not sure about potential for NFM, as would also need to consider reservoir capacity? There is complex hydrology with mine works etc which could make it a difficult catchment to work in. **SH:** it is a catchment which is of interest to the EA and there could be opportunities here.

Windermere; lots of challenges and this is generally agreed. However, it is a priority for focus.

SH: great form/ evidence but need to ensure CaBA and other deliverables are included. Also need to have the relevant people on each group, particularly CaBA representatives on the CMG. **JW:** there is some CaBA information on the forms, but this can be expanded. It may be that we establish specific task groups for each community to ensure the right people are involved e.g. major landowners, community, CaBA representatives.

SH: focussing into some specific catchments is a good idea, particularly to draw together all the information

Decision: Support for the community forms, and acknowledgement that this level of information may then influence the matrix.

SH: still need to add in more about the other focuses aside from Flood Risk such as more WFD information so that we can adapt to different drivers.

Action: JW to adapt forms to include information on ‘other drivers’

DG: good start and helpful to have the decision support tool to start filtering the list to then enable you look at some communities in more detail. Although it may be that as we add more the ‘priorities’ may change.

This will be a list shaped and developed by the PWG.

Action: All to send in any additions to the evidence forms

4. ACTION ITEMS: SUMMARY

ACTION	ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY	DATE TO BE ACTIONED
Liaise with Anthony Lane about when information on infrastructure may be available	Jayne Wilkinson	On-going
Speak to Rachel Osbourn for an update from the Highways England Working Group	Jayne Wilkinson	20 th Feb
Adapt community evidence forms to include information on other drivers such as WFD and habitats	Jayne Wilkinson	23 rd Feb
Send in any additions/ information to be captured on the evidence forms	All	23 rd Feb

5. NEXT MEETING (if applicable)

DATE	TBC:	TIME	TBC	LOCATION	TBC
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GLOSSARY:

AMP	Asset Management Plan
BTOB	Becks to Bay (South Cumbria's Catchment Partnership)
CABA	Catchment Based Approach
CCC	Cumbria County Council
CMG	Catchment Management Groups
CP	Catchment Partnership
CSFP	Cumbria Strategic Floods Partnership
CWT	Cumbria Wildlife Trust
EA	Environment Agency
FC	Forestry Commission
LEC	Lancaster Environment Centre
LLFA	Lead Local Flood Authority
MSFW	Making Space for Water Groups
NE	Natural England
NERC	Natural Environment Research Council
NFM	Natural Flood Management
NNR	National Nature Reserve
PWG	Project Working Group
RFCC	Regional Flood & Coastal Committee
RT	Rivers Trust
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SCRT	South Cumbria Rivers Trust
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest