



Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development
Faculty of Forestry

Community Conserved Areas (CCAs) in the UK

- A preliminary review

Bachelor thesis

to gain the Bachelor of Science degree (BSc) in
International Forest Ecosystem Management
at Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development, Germany

Presented by

Lea Wortmann

born August 25, 1985 in Breckerfeld, Germany

Bachelor thesis adviser: Dr. habil. rer. nat. Dipl.-Biol. P. Ibisch, Germany

1. Evaluator: Dr. habil. rer. nat. Dipl.-Biol. P. Ibisch, Germany

2. Evaluator: MSc C. Corrigan, England

Eberswalde, March 18, 2011

Abstract

This study aims to identify access and information on community conserves areas (CCAs) in the UK and to describe the diversity, biodiversity conservation, legal recognition, threats and developments of these areas. CCAs were identified through a broad internet search and telephone interviews and analysed in conformity to the ICCA criteria. In England and Wales, Friends groups primarily work together with the local authorities to conserve habitats and commons as a space with open access play an important role in connecting community participation and nature conservation. In Scotland, encouraged by the land reform legislation, community trusts own and conserve land, in most cases woodlands. In Northern Ireland, partnerships were established to promote habitats. Primary habitat is woodland but also limestone grassland, wildflower meadows with old hedges, wetlands and marine areas. People manage these habitats by maintaining and enhancing it, and to enhance biodiversity. In many cases, people use traditional management techniques. They are keen to protect and promote their local nature and wildlife and have taken their own initiative to do so. Many forms of CCAs exist and they conform to the three ICCA criteria in differing extents as some lack community governance. There is often shared governance of the sites as land is managed in partnerships with community groups and other institutions. Participating in the ICCA Registry can give communities shared experiences, awareness and national support. Thus this study contributes to the development of the global ICCA Registry and to further research on CCAs in the UK.

Key words: ICCAs; CCAs, protected areas; community conservation; community ownership; commons; United Kingdom

Acknowledgements

I would like to express my sincere gratitudes to my two supervisors Prof. Dr. Pierre Ibisch and MSc. Colleen Corrigan, for their advice, help and feedback. It was great to get the chance to contribute to a world wide project on protected areas with my thesis.

Many thanks go to Head of Protected Areas Programme Charles Besançon for his advice and to the entire Protected Areas Programme at UNEP-WCMC in Cambridge, especially Siobhan Kenney for her advice on potential CCAs and for help with generating GIS maps and Amy Milam as well for her help with GIS maps, and Arianna Granziera.

I would like to thank Helen Miller, Sue Stolton, Roger Crofts and the entire IUCN UK Committee for their advice and feedback on the study and for supporting the connection to their large-scale UK PA project.

I would also like to thank the people from the community areas in the UK who gave me detailed insights in structure, management, motivation and threats of their areas by phone, namely John Harrison, Bob Fleet, Susan-Acton Campbell, Mick Brummage, Bridget Smith, Rob Parry, Sue Price and John Wale.

Many thanks go to the people from different organisations, agencies and other institutions who gave me important information and hints to potential CCAs throughout the UK.

Christoph Nowicki, for his help in the beginning.

Deep thanks to Monika Wortmann and Christian Mauritz for their financial support and to friends who helped me with this thesis especially to André Findeisen, Emma Aldridge and Dennis Weidelich, and to friends who helped in other ways, Lea Henning, Katharina Kuhlmei and Johanna Kuhlmei, Paul Vonberg and Michel Wortmann.

Table of Contents

Abstract	iv
Acknowledgements	v
Table of Contents	vi
List of Figures	viii
List of Tables	viii
List of Annexes:	viii
Acronyms and Abbreviations.....	ix
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs).....	1
1.2 Community Conserved Areas (CCAs) in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK).....	4
1.3 Purpose and objectives of the study	6
2 Methodology	8
2.1 Overview	8
2.3 Web search and literature review	8
2. 2 Data collection	10
2.4 Contacts.....	11
2.5 Questionnaires.....	11
2.6 Analysis.....	12
3 Legislation and Biodiversity Conservation regarding CCAs.....	13
4 Description of CCAs in the UK	16
4.1 Areas and sizes	16
4.2 Habitat types	17
4.2.1 Woodland	18
4.2.2 Grassland and heathland	20
4.2.3 Wetland	21
4.2.4 Hedges and hedgerows.....	22
4.2.5 Marine habitats.....	23
4.3 History and motivation of nature conservation.....	23
4.4 Governance and ownership	25
4.4.1 Community governance	25
4.4.2 Community trusts	26
4.4.3 Community groups and local authorities	28
4.4.4 Community groups and national charities.....	28
4.4.5 Community groups and different landowners.....	29
4.4.6 Others	29
4.5 Management.....	30
4.5.1 Maintenance purpose	30
4.5.2 Meetings and advice.....	31
4.5.3 Management plans	32
4.5.4 Woodland management.....	33

4.5.5 Grassland and heathland management	34
4.5.6 Marine habitat management.....	34
4.5.7 Traditional management techniques	35
4.5.8 Desk-work.....	36
4.6 Monitoring	36
4.7 Funding	37
4.8 Threats.....	39
4.9 ICCA defining characteristics	40
4.9.1 ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	40
4.9.2 ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	42
4.9.3 ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	44
4.10 Protected Area designations	46
5.1 Methodology	48
5.2 Description of areas	49
5.3 Biodiversity conservation and management	50
5.5 Areas in conform to ICCA criteria.....	51
5.6 Protected Areas and CCAs in the UK.....	56
5.7 Trends and development of CCAs in the UK	59
6 Conclusion	61
Bibliography.....	x
Annex I - Research spreadsheet	xviii
Annex II – Distribution of identified CCAs in the UK, map with point locations	cviii
Annex III – Distribution of identified CCAs and PAs in the UK, map with CCA point locations and PA boundaries.....	cix
Declaration of Independence.....	cx

List of Figures

Figure 1: Distribution of identified CCAs in the UK

Figure 2: Area sizes

Figure 3: Main habitats

Figure 4: Woodland habitats

Figure 5: Community governance of identified areas

Figure 6: Community ownership of identified areas

Figure 7: Ownership of identified areas

Figure 8: Maintenance purpose on identified areas

List of Tables

Table 1: Identified CCAs regarding ICCA criteria

List of Annexes:

Annex I: Identified CCAs in the UK, research spreadsheets

Annex II: Distribution of identified CCAs in the UK, map with CCA point locations

Annex III: Distribution of identified CCAs and PAs in the UK, map with CCA point locations and PA boundaries

Acronyms and Abbreviations

AGM	Annual General Meeting
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
ASNW	Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CCA	Community Conserved Area
Defra	Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
FPIC	Free, Prior and Informed Consent
HIE	Highlands and Islands Enterprise
ICCA	Indigenous and Community Conserved Area
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
LBAP	Local Biodiversity Action Plan
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
MPA	Marine Protected Area
NTZ	No Take Zone
PA	Protected Area
PAWS	Planted Ancient Woodland Site
PoWPA	Programme of Work on Protected Areas
RAMSAR	Convention on Wetlands of International Importance
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SCF	Scottish Crofting Federation
SFGS	Scottish Forestry Grant Scheme
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
UK	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
UKBAP	UK Biodiversity Action Plan
UN	United Nations
UNEP-WCMC	United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre
WBCWA	Wemyss Bay Community Woodland Association
WDPA	World Database on Protected Areas
WoyD	Woods on your Doorstep

1 Introduction

1.1 Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs)

Throughout the world, indigenous peoples and local communities have traditionally conserved ecosystems and biodiversity. This is closely connected with their livelihood, culture and values since time immemorial. Recent initiatives of local communities have emerged to conserve areas due to the vast decline of ecosystems and biodiversity. With the recent development in conservation and development initiatives, areas that are conserved voluntarily by indigenous peoples and local communities have gained more interest. These initiatives have various rules, practices and institutions, different beliefs and histories in old and new forms, practised in traditional or modern communities. All initiatives consider conservation of nature managed in a voluntarily and self-directed way. These areas are extremely diverse and can extend from very small sites to very large areas. Many terms and definitions for these areas exist across the world such as indigenous protected territories, biocultural heritage sites, locally managed marine areas etc. (Kothari and Menon 2010). They have, however, been collectively called Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs). A definition by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) states that ICCAs are “natural and/or modified ecosystems, containing significant biodiversity values, ecological benefits and cultural values, voluntarily conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities, both sedentary and mobile, through customary laws or other effective means” (Borrini-Feyerabend et al. 2004, p. 3). Whereas ICCAs have focused on developing countries or on countries with indigenous peoples to address their relationship with nature and dependence of natural resources, ICCAs can also be found in the Global North. Here, they contribute to the conservation of biodiversity too and fulfil similar cultural needs in various ways. These areas exist in different forms and can be defined more specifically by these three criteria (UNEP-WCMC 2010):

1. A strong relationship exists between one or more indigenous or local communities (sedentary or mobile) and their physical environment (such as a given ecosystem, habitat, resource or species) as a result of cultural, social, economic and other reasons.
2. The concerned indigenous peoples or local community play a key role in making decisions about the management of the ecosystem, area or species. The community possesses (in law or in practice) the power to make and enforce key management decisions regarding the territory and resources.
3. The voluntary management decisions and efforts of the concerned community lead to, or at least are well into the process of leading to, the conservation of biodiversity, habitats, species, ecological functions and associated cultural values, regardless of the original management objectives as perceived by the community.

This study tries to analyse how different areas in the UK can meet the three criteria. It strives to give an overall analysis of representative areas that could be considered ICCAs. Communities have a strong impact on biodiversity as they protect a wide range of ecosystems and species, including agricultural, pastoral as well as hunting and gathering landscapes, forests, wetlands and coastal as well as mountain areas worldwide. As demonstrated in the handbook for the Registry (Corrigan and Granziera 2010), ICCAs conserve ecosystems and species, maintain ecosystem functions and provide corridors for species and genetic movement. They secure sustainable access to livelihood resources, maintain sustained benefits from ecosystem functions and sustain religious, cultural and identity needs through promoting of peoples' local customs and traditions. They protect the diverse natural resources of the area and secure collective or community land tenure. The total size of areas under the type of community governance is not clear and likely severely underestimated (UNEP-WCMC 2010) with the potential to significantly increase the global area under special conservation status (Kothari 2006). It is generally estimated that ICCAs may cover as much land as government-designated protected areas, about 12% of terrestrial surface (Borrini-Feyerabend et al. 2010) and include officially designated indigenous protected areas or community reserves, ranging across the entire spectrum of IUCN protected area categories, but

also numerous sites not yet recognised by governments. Whereas national governments usually set up and manage protected areas, local communities manage their territories as essential to their own well-being and survival.

Areas that are managed and conserved collectively are not formally recognized globally but the global acceptance and importance for conservation and development has risen since international programmes such as the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), which encourage all countries to recognise and support ICCAs for the conservation of biodiversity. The Fifth World Parks Congress (2003) and subsequently the Seventh Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (2004) endorsed the need to recognise and support ICCAs and, for the latter, Element 2 of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA) urges parties to recognise different governance models for protected areas, including ICCAs, Private Protected Areas and Shared Governance or Co-managed Protected Areas (Kothari and Menon 2010). Also, actions to enable participation, equity and benefit sharing were mandated by PoWPA. Though the role of indigenous and local communities in biodiversity conservation is currently gaining more recognition internationally, the people and their related areas still remain unrecognized and in lack of political and financial support (Corrigan and Granziera 2010). There is an urgent need to assess and document ICCAs around the world to recognise them as crucial contributors to biodiversity conservation, to understand and share knowledge about ICCAs and to support and ensure the needs of the communities.

To assess continuously more information about these areas, UNEP-WCMC is building a global interactive Registry on ICCAs. This project aims to gain awareness and recognition of ICCAs worldwide, promoted by a group of experts and organisations which has formed the ICCA Consortium since the 2008 World Conservation Congress (Corrigan and Granziera 2010). The development is a collaborative process in which indigenous and local communities are essential for filling the Registry with information and data. Descriptive information as well as spatial information is stored for understanding ICCAs. Through a growing set of case studies and other records, the conservation of biodiversity and cultural values can be demonstrated and shared.

1.2 Community Conserved Areas (CCAs) in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK)

Throughout recorded history the UK has consisted of multiple cultural groups and identities and from an early stage, the varied environments of the islands encouraged a great regional diversity of culture (James 2011). The settlers who crossed the North Sea to Britain eventually mixed with substantial surviving indigenous populations which, in many areas, apparently formed the majority. Contrary to the traditional idea that Britain originally possessed a Celtic uniformity, which first Roman, then Saxon and other invaders disrupted, in reality Britain has always been home to multiple peoples (James 2011). The British people were thought to be descended from the varied ethnic stocks that settled there before the 11th century, the pre-Celts, Celts, Romans, Anglo-Saxons, Norse and the Normans (James 2011). Recent analysis indicates that the British could broadly share a common ancestry with the Basque people (Oppenheimer 2006). In recent years, there were initiatives of the Scottish Crofting Federation (SCF) to recognise crofters, small-scale subsistence farmers in the Scottish Highlands, as indigenous peoples but the UK Government has refused to ratify UN legislation on indigenous rights, arguing there are no indigenous peoples in the UK, though they have ratified legislation that recognises Gaelic as one of the indigenous languages of the UK (Farmers Guardian 2008). Though the UK has no 'indigenous' peoples, there are still local communities who have taken their own initiatives to conserve their land. Though people in the UK are no longer directly dependent on their forest resources as people in developing countries, people still have a strong relationship with nature and there is a need to protect their forest patches or other ecosystems and wildlife. There are communities which conserve their small meadow for enjoyment and leisure. There are people who conserve their forest patches for their children and next generations. There are communities, which conserve their forest for contribution to biodiversity and for sustainable use of resources. These different CCA types can all conform to the ICCA criteria. CCAs can be seen here as a subset of ICCAs as these areas are represent in many countries, in developing and developed countries as well as in the North and in the South.

In the UK, a range of international and national nature conservation or landscape designations exist and different authorities have the responsibility to establish these sites. The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UKBAP) 1994 describes a planned approach with clear biological targets for species and habitats. It is the UK's Government response to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), signed in 1992 at the Rio Earth Summit, which called for the development and enforcement of national strategies and action plans to identify, conserve and protect existing biological diversity. The plan describes the biological resources of the UK and provides detailed plans for conservation of these resources such as management of UK's National Parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), National Scenic Areas, National Nature Reserves, Local Nature Reserves, Marine Nature Reserves and other main conservation areas in the UK. The UKBAP also calls for more involvement of local communities in conserving local biodiversity. There is, however, no formal statutory provision for community ownership of protected areas in the UKBAP (R. Crofts, personal communication). There are some provisions for common and 'customary' ownership of land as specifically in England and Wales common land and 'rights in common' over land stretch back to pre-feudal times. They facilitated economic survival, social networks and a sense of moral economy (Woodin et. al 2010). Despite the privatisation of industries and services in the recent history as part of a belief in the power of the free market, state control and regulation continued to grow. The state supported the enclosure of the commons but has also tried to protect common spaces. Vestiges of common land still remain in the form of village greens and public parks and the right to roam, community land trusts and the Community Right to Buy in Scotland, settled in government acts (Woodin et. al 2010). These are attempts to enable communities to take control of land and assets. Community ownership in the UK includes smaller communal living experiments and those seeking an alternative lifestyle. Smallholdings, allotments, village halls and land are held collectively and by individuals and families. Community ownership serves a variety of purposes related to daily life and remains an engine of inventiveness supporting wider society. In the four countries in the UK, different potential CCA types can be found and policies and legislations that contributes to them. The potential CCAs are diverse in management, ownership, habitat types and supporting programmes. This study tries to give information about these different communities and groups of

people and their strong relationship with an ecosystem. It strives to point out in which way they manage and govern these ecosystems self-directed and for the conservation of nature to see how these areas conform to the three ICCA criteria.

1.3 Purpose and objectives of the study

The purpose of conducting a national level analysis is to better understand the contribution and biodiversity conservation value of ICCAs at a scale, which is relevant to national policy and corresponding commitments by governments and international conventions and agreements, as Corrigan (2010) states in the Philippines National Level ICCA Pilot Analysis. To document all ICCAs is a slow process. The number of ICCAs can extend into the tens of thousands depending on the size of the country and this can take months or even years to get an accurate count of all existing ICCAs. Thus, this study is an approach with assumptions regarding what defines ICCAs given the best available information.

The UK was chosen for a national CCA analysis due to the importance of investigating the way in which ICCAs are not only representative in developing countries, but also in the Global North. The IUCN UK National Committee set up a large-scale project to identify what protected areas exist in the UK, to classify the aims of their management, record this information, and to make it publicly available. It incorporates the four main governance types government, shared, private and governance by indigenous peoples and local communities. This study, therefore, contributes to the large-scale UK study with research on the fourth governance type, governance by indigenous and local communities.

There are two objectives of this study, namely to identify access and information on CCAs in the UK and to describe the diversity, the importance for biodiversity conservation, the legal recognition, threats and current development of CCAs in the UK. Also, as a direct output, some areas will be entered in the ICCA Registry as case studies. The objectives were addressed with the help of following research questions:

- Where are representative CCAs in the UK existent?
- What types of CCAs exist and how do they relate to protected areas?
- What are the history and mechanisms of genesis of CCAs?
- What are the characteristics of CCAs in the UK regarding diversity, importance for biodiversity conservation, legal recognition, threats and future development?

2 Methodology

2.1 Overview

The methodology of this study shall contribute to a globally standardised process for all National ICCA Analyses. The best possible ways should be found to access the most relevant data on community conserved areas (CCAs) in order to have a useful example of accessing CCA data for future research. The challenge is to access the data and to gather information as much as possible on potential community conserved areas (CCAs) in a specific country, here in the United Kingdom, with different access tools. These include an extensive web search and a literature review of different papers and files as well as contacts to relevant organisations, agencies and individual persons. Almost all research is done by desk-based work. The quantitative and qualitative information about areas is collected in a prepared spreadsheet. Along with gathering potential CCA data, phone interviews with previously collected areas were conducted to get more detailed information. Relevant legislation regarding CCAs in the four countries of the UK was studied as well. As a direct output of this study, the ICCA Registry will be filled with case studies of UK CCAs.

2.3 Web search and literature review

Primarily, the research comprised a broad web search to identify information on possible representative Community and Conserved Areas (CCAs) throughout Great Britain. As a first step, the search engine Google was investigated with the terms ‘united kingdom community conserved areas’, ‘uk indigenous community conserved areas’ and ‘united kingdom protected areas’. These terms led to many different websites, documents and publications. These websites and publications revealed useful cases, projects, contacts or links to initiatives regarding community-owned or -managed areas. Many websites that may be associated with those areas such as websites of Natural England, Forestry Commission, County or

Parish Councils, Wildlife Trusts and Woodland Trust were explored directly. Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) were explored on different web pages, mainly on Natural England pages or in publications provided by them.

Many areas resulted from downloading or receiving documents about community initiatives or common land wherein a good amount of potential CCAs were listed. The Scottish charitable company Community Woodland Association (<http://www.communitywoods.org/>), for example, has a map with all their supporting member groups on its web page which is a valuable resource for sites in Scotland. Also, on the web page of the Community Woodland Network (<http://www.yourwoods.info/>), run by the Woodland Trust, are many community initiatives listed in England and Wales.

Most areas have their own website with the information about the site which was helpful in this research process for accessing information and identifying sites. 20 areas have websites provided by the owning or managing Trust, 12 areas by the Friends group and eight areas by a County Council or Borough Council website. Also, villages provide information about the site and associated groups on their village websites, these are three areas. The Forestry Commission has one area on their website and on Natural England and Joint Nature Conservation Committee two areas have been found. Organisations such as the Wildlife Trust, Woodland Trust or Common Ground have their information on areas on their websites where four areas have been found. Many areas are described on two or more different websites such as on a County Council web page as well as on a website of the associated Friends group or on the Natural England web page regarding Local Nature Reserve descriptions. In most cases contact persons are given on the associated website as well as the address of the area.

Furthermore, the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) was explored. Here, the protected areas (PAs) were filtered to only have PAs from the UK. Different designation types were looked at that could be associated with community involvement, such as Local Nature Reserves. These areas then were investigated on the Internet to get more information.

To have a good general overview about CCAs in the UK, CCAs were identified evenly distributed throughout the four UK countries.

Information and publications were searched for that dealt with common land, community governance and relevant legislation.

2. 2 Data collection

All research data accessed on the websites in December 2010 and January 2011 is collected in in a spreadsheet that contains different research questions, which provide for gathering potential CCA cases (see Annex I). These include:

- Name of CCA
- Source of information
- Contact person/ Website
- Overview
- Spatial information/ point location
- Biodiversity monitoring
- ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - Community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood
- ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 – Community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature
- ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 – Community is the major player in decision making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site
- Protected Area definition
- UK country England/ Wales/ Scotland/ Northern Ireland
- Maintenance purpose

Especially important are the three characteristics that define an ICCA as in the study CCAs were examined as such. Through a broad search on the Internet,

literature and contacts, potential CCAs in the UK were collected regarding these questions.

2.4 Contacts

Relevant contacts were established to access information on CCAs on a large scale and through different sources. A standardised e-mail was sent to different organisations, agencies and individuals to identify potential CCAs. Wildlife Trusts in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland were contacted as well as Woodland Trust and Natural England. Also, County Councils and University professors were contacted. Many of these contacts were established through the research process. After sending e-mails, contacts were called by phone if there was no immediate answer.

Contacts to the IUCN UK National Committee were established as this study contributes to their large-scale project on protected areas “Putting Nature on the Map” that identifies and categorises PAs throughout the UK. In return, the committee contributed useful information, especially about legislation, to this study.

2.5 Questionnaires

Eight phone interviews were conducted with persons from previously collected potential CCAs. These personal interviews provided in-depth and comprehensive information about the respective areas. A questionnaire sheet, developed by UNEP-WCMC for the ICCA Registry, guided through the interview. Additional questions regarding management and biodiversity monitoring and people’s close connection to the area were discussed to help to identify the area as a CCA. The qualitative and quantitative answers from the structured and unstructured interviewing were recorded and included in the research spreadsheet. People spoke very enthusiastic about their wildlife patches, commons and woodlands and were keen to express the importance of the area for the residents. Before accepting any data or information,

it is important to be sure that the community gives free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) to the use of data and information for the Registry and for the research thesis.

2.6 Analysis

The analysis of the findings was conducted with help of the research spreadsheet. The spreadsheet was divided into four separate spreadsheets for the analysis of the findings. This was done in order to get more structured tables and subjects. The overview of the area, the management, biodiversity monitoring and the three ICCA-defining characteristics of all 50 areas were first analysed separately and were broken down to similarities and distinctions between the different areas. The spreadsheets were filtered to retrieve data with specific keywords. All collected information was recorded and analysed then to get a detailed picture on CCAs in the UK.

3 Legislation and Biodiversity Conservation regarding CCAs

The UK has different acts and policies for land that includes community participation. Although the UK's national or sub-national law or policy does not recognise CCAs as such or as a protected area category, in general communities may own land (R. Crofts, personal communication). However, areas that are managed by communities overlap with national or even international protected area designations. The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UKBAP) 1994 seeks to promote local communities in conserving biodiversity and calls for the establishment of Local Nature Reserves (LNR). LNRs can be seen as the protected area designation with most community involvement in the UK. Many CCAs are located within a LNR or they wholly overlap. CCAs found in this study are subject to different provisions in England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland for community land and conservation.

In England and Wales, commons play an important role for communities and conservation as they give open access to everyone under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and are protected under the Commons Act 2006. The latter of these acts aims to protect areas of Common Land, in a sustainable manner delivering benefits for farming, public access and biodiversity (Defra 2010b). In general terms, Defra (2009) defines common land as land owned by one person over which another person is entitled to exercise rights of common, such as grazing animals or cutting bracken for livestock bedding, and these rights are generally exercisable in common with others. There are 373,570 hectares of registered common land in England and 175,000 hectares of finally registered common land in Wales (Defra 2009). All common land has an owner. This includes a local authority, national or local membership organisations or private individuals. 1,900 commons have no known owners and 1,740 commons, other than the 47 in the ownership of traditional estates, are in private ownership, 679 have private owners for parts of the land, 1,230 are owned by parish and other councils and 431 are owned by a variety of organisations including charities, trusts etc., and many commons have multiple owners (Defra 2009). Rights of common can include grazing sheep or cattle, taking peat or turf, taking wood,

gorse or furze, taking of fish, eating of acorns or beechmast by pigs. Common land and rights are a very ancient institution. They are part of the fabric of life in England and Wales and have their origins in the manorial system (Defra 2009). The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 permits public access to open countryside and includes also access to common land. 88 per cent of all commons in England have a national or international designation, for wildlife, landscape or archaeology (Open Space Society on Commons 2010). Commons set a framework for CCAs as there are many conservation initiatives on commons by Parish Councils and community groups throughout England and Wales.

In Scotland, the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 offers opportunities for community groups to own and manage the land where they live and work. Under the Act, bodies representing rural communities have a Community Right to Buy land with which the community has a connection. The right will arise in relation to land in which the body has registered an interest, when that land comes to be marketed or sold (The National Archives 2010). To register a community interest in land under the Community Right to Buy, an interested group must form a community body, a company limited by guarantee with no fewer than 20 members and the majority of members from the local community (HIE 2011). A community trust has a Board of Trustees and whilst they control the guarantee company, through decisions taken by them at General Meetings, they do each not “own” a proportionate part of the guarantee company (J. & H. Mitchell 2006 a). The members elect the Board of Directors which is responsible for setting and overseeing the policy of the guarantee company. Its members enjoy limited liability, but often have to pay an annual subscription at a rate set annually by themselves at a General Meeting (J. & H. Mitchell 2006b). These community trusts were established throughout Scotland and many purchased land for conservation purposes. In most cases, community woodlands emerge, controlled by the local community and managed by them or in partnership with another organisation, such as Forestry Commission Scotland. Encouraged by the land reform legislation, new community groups continue to form that benefits biodiversity conservation. As a result of the land reform movement in Scotland, the land on the Isle of Eigg was purchased by the Isle of Eigg Heritage Trust. This

is a partnership between the residents of Eigg, the Highland Council and the Scottish Wildlife Trust which owns and manages the island.

In Northern Ireland as well as in England and Wales, land is increasingly owned or managed in partnership between environmental charities and community groups for nature conservation and sustainable use. Programmes and projects by the Forestry Commission or Woodland Trust encourage local community participation in management and governance of ecosystems. In 2003, the Woodland Trust established a Community Woodland Network (Your Woods) which was launched UK-wide and was specifically for providing community woodland groups with a networking opportunity and information (Tidey and Pollard 2010). Membership was open to all community woodland groups without any costs. Another network tool for communities represents the charity GreenSpace, which established a national on-line support network for community groups that work specifically in parks and green spaces.

A Community Forest programme was established in 1990 by the then Countryside Commission as a pilot project to demonstrate the potential contribution of environmental improvement to economic and social regeneration in urban areas (England's Community Forests 2005). The programme quickly grew to a national programme, using broad-based partnerships to pioneer activity and deliver lasting change, and they have moved towards greater financial independence from national funding bodies, strengthening the local focus. They demonstrate that community engagement and on-going support of community groups is an essential driver for the management of woodland and community green spaces (Tidey and Pollard 2010).

4 Description of CCAs in the UK

4.1 Areas and sizes

The areas in this study were identified evenly distributed throughout the four countries in the UK (see map Annex II). Throughout the UK, 50 potential CCAs were identified. There are 25 CCAs in England, nine CCAs in Wales, 12 CCAs in Scotland and four CCAs in Northern Ireland.

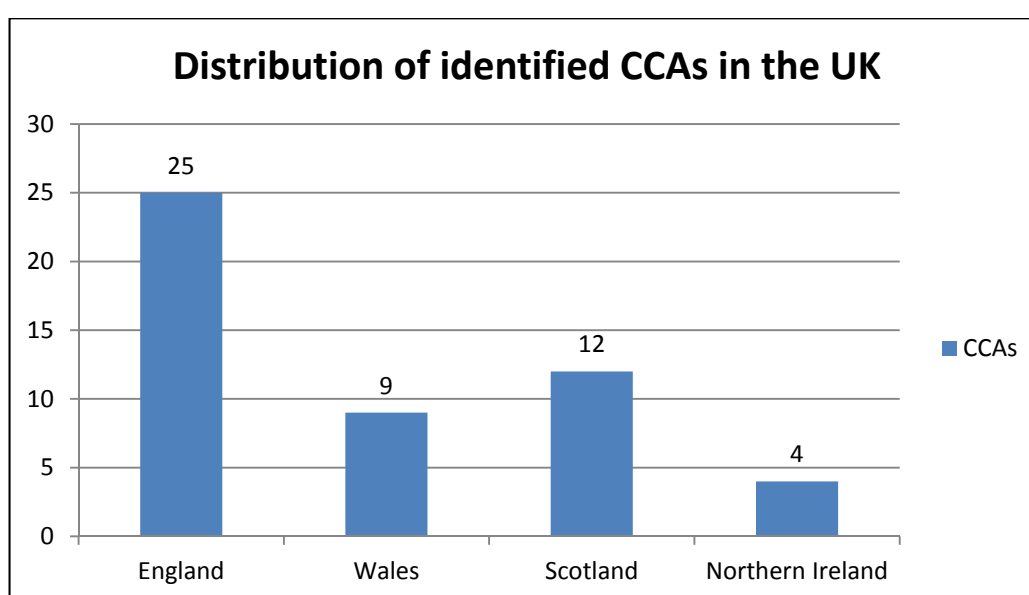


Figure 1

The sizes of the areas vary from 0.18 to 15798.9 hectares. Most of the areas range from 0-10 ha (34%). Areas that have sizes from 10-20 ha count for 10%, areas from 20-30 ha and 30-40 ha are only 4% respectively of all areas. Areas that are larger than 40 ha count for 26%. Here, the range is very big as some areas are, e.g., 85 ha (Laide Wood), 382 ha (Anagach Woods) or 1,324 ha (Skomer Marine Nature Reserve). For 11 sites (22%) there is no information about the area size available. The smallest CCA is the Broad Oak Community Orchard with 0.18 ha; the largest area has the Forest of Marston Vale with 15798.9 ha.

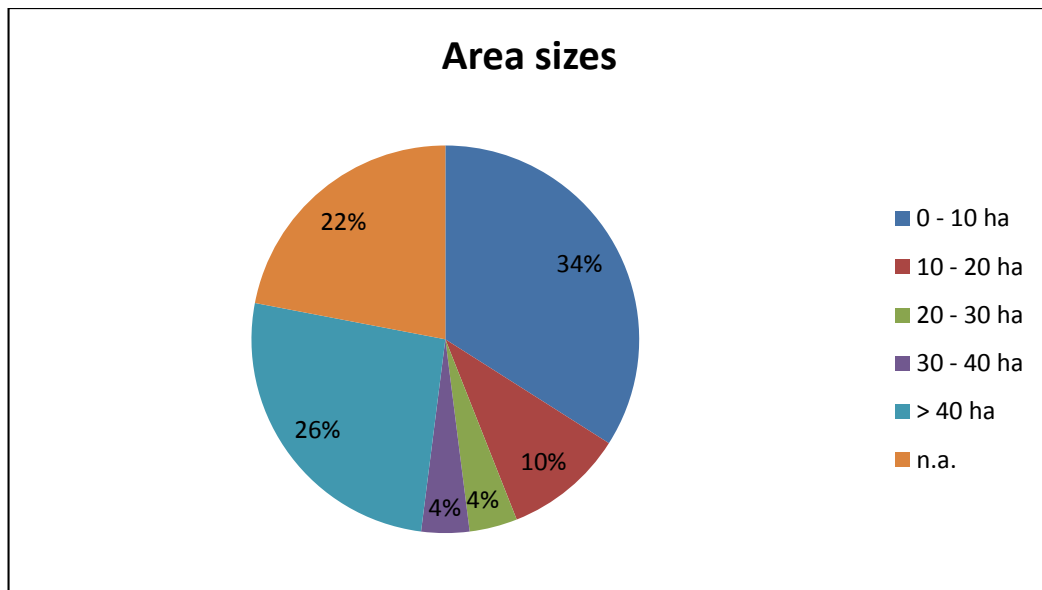


Figure 2

4.2 Habitat types

A variety of habitat types can be found on the CCAs, including all typical and important landscapes and habitats in the UK such as woodlands, orchards, wild meadows, hedgerows, limestone grassland, heath and fenlands. This variety demonstrates the impact that communities have on biodiversity. Almost all CCAs contain some of the different described habitats together. The most frequent habitats on the sites are woodlands which can be found on 39 areas (see Figure 3). On 14 sites grassland and heath can be found. On 15 sites wetland is existent. Three areas are marine sites with seabed habitats. Although they often describe small patches, they offer valuable and rare habitats for UK's biodiversity and form old and special sites to local people. Some sites contain archaeological monuments that are of historical value such as an iron hill fort on Coed Craig Ruperra in Wales and relicts of mining facilities in ex-mining areas.

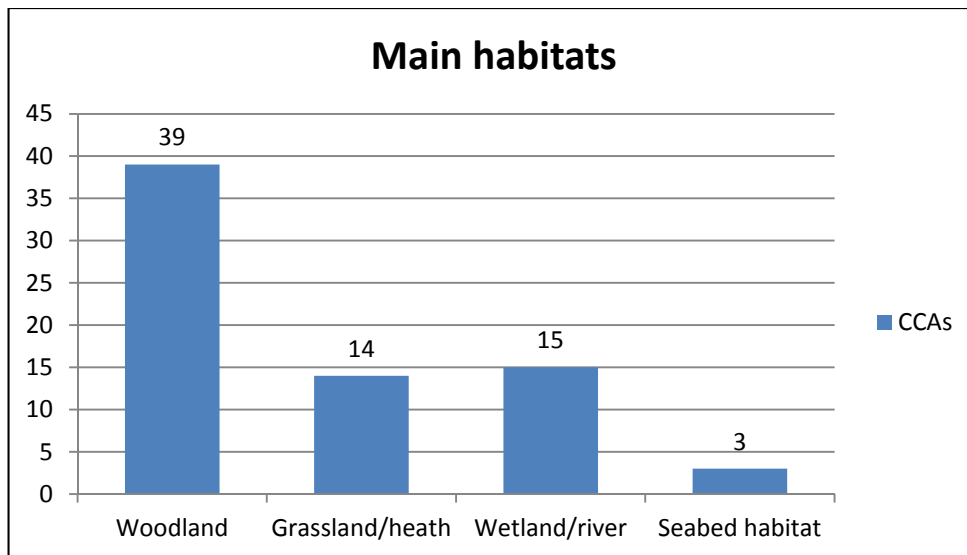


Figure 3

4.2.1 Woodland

On the majority of the sites, woodland can be found, especially in Scotland. This can be separated primarily into newly planted or recovering woodland and ancient or semi-ancient woodland. Newly planted or recovering woodland with native broadleaved trees such as oak, ash and alder and shrubs, along with a growing selection of biodiversity of wild flowers, birds and small animals can often be found on former arable land.

Many sites show ancient woodland, defined as land that has been continually wooded since at least 1600AD and describes the richest sites for wildlife and cultural heritage, and ancient semi-natural woodland (ASNW) that has developed naturally on undisturbed soils (The Woodland Trust 2011a). These sites have a wide range of native tree species and many spring flowers and provide habitat for a wide range of birds and animals. In England, Wales and Northern Ireland, moist and lichen-rich oakwoods and coppice are frequent whereas in Scotland often native pinewoods exist. For instance, in the Anagach Woods in Scotland three generations of Scots pine trees grow in the old woodland, dating back to 1766 (Anagach Woods Trust 2011). In Northern Ireland, other sites are newly planted woodlands with native mixed-broadleaves. The site Coed Craig Ruperra is a

Planted Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS) where in the past the native broadleaved trees have been clear-felled and non-native trees and conifers were planted in their place. The people of the Ruperra Conservation Trust restore the native woodland with a mix of oak and ash with an understorey dominated by hazel to get the site back into native woodland.

Wet woodland habitats can be found on primarily three sites in England (Somersham LNR), Wales (Coed Craig Ruperra) and Northern Ireland (Hillview Community Woodland). Wet woodland occurs on poorly drained or seasonally wet soils, usually with alder, birch and willows as the predominant tree species, but sometimes including ash, oak, pine and beech on the drier riparian areas. It is found on floodplains, as successional habitat on fens, mires and bogs, along streams and hill-side flushes, and in peaty hollows (UKBAP 2011). Woodland maintenance and restoration grants are available to protect wet woodland as it is a UKBAP habitat.

In Scotland, some sites have remaining conifer plantations on their sites.

Some sites consist of different woodland habitats, for instance mixed native broadleaf and wet woodland. Most areas of the areas containing woodland show mixed native broadleaf (16 areas) and newly planted native woodland (15 areas). Seven areas feature ancient or semi-ancient woodland whereas six areas have remaining small conifer plantations on their site. Three of the areas show wet woodland on their sites.

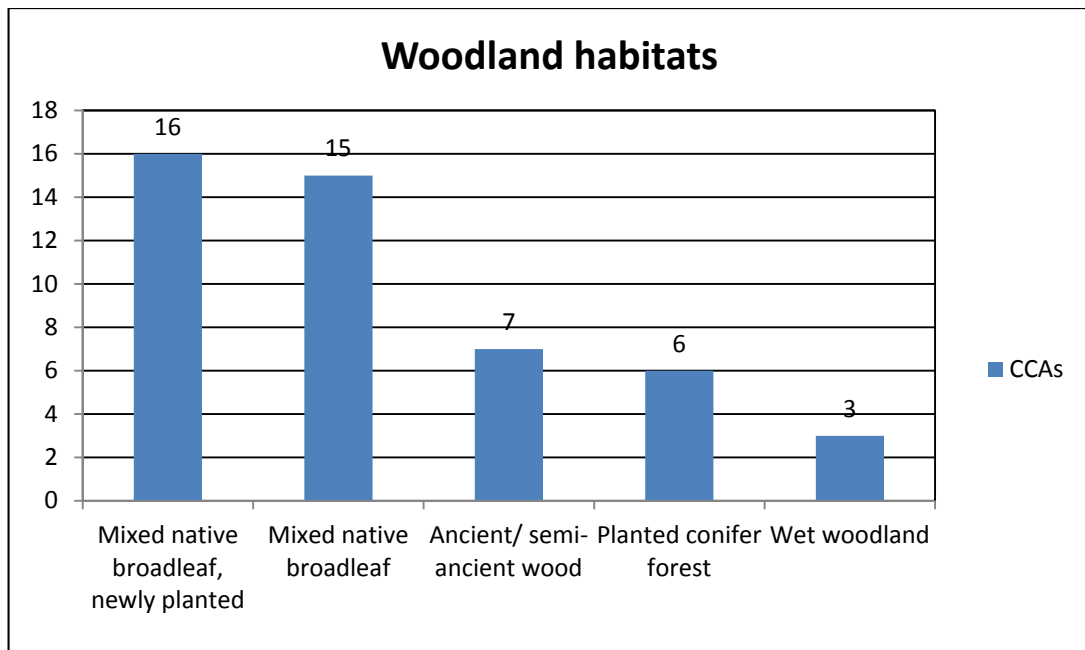


Figure 4

4.2.2 Grassland and heathland

Along with woodlands, grassland and heath play an important role in the British landscape. Grassland dominates the land cover of Wales, western and upland Britain below the moorland line (Flora Locale 2011). The majority of lowland grassland in all these areas has been agriculturally improved, due to the use of artificial fertilisers or slurry, weedkillers, ploughing and re-seeding with cultivated varieties and fodder plants. Abandonment of grazing and hay-making owing to loss of active farming are new threats in the ‘low’ uplands, where farmers are retiring and newcomers have no livestock or hay-making machinery to maintain their grasslands. Without grazing or cutting, such grasslands and their associated wildlife will rapidly disappear under bracken and scrub. On the upland fringe, overgrazing by sheep is resulting in further losses of this habitat, while on the edge of towns the habitat is threatened by the expansion of housing estates, business parks and by severe overgrazing by horses (Flora Locale 2011). Many of the English and Welsh sites in this study, especially the commons, have heathland or limestone grassland habitats. Communities try to get the grassland back into wild meadows such as on the Ferndown Local Nature Reserve. Wild meadows are grasslands full of wild flowers, grasses and sedges that have developed naturally, usually without planting. This habitat can support a variety of different flowering

plant species as well as grassland fungi and mosses and were shaped by many centuries of farmers grazing them with cattle, ponies or sheep (Flora Locale 2011). Many of them were traditionally enclosed to make hay, which would be cut mid-late summer. Grazing, or grazing and hay-making, are vital to maintain the diverse flora of the meadows as both prevent the growth of tussocky vegetation, scrub and trees. Across much of the UK, wildflower grasslands are now scarce and confined to small fragments in an intensively farmed landscape.

Heathland is characterised by the presence of plants such as heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), dwarf gorses (*Ulex minor*), and cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*). Areas consist of an ericaceous layer of varying heights and structures and additional features such as scattered trees and scrub, areas of bare ground, acid grassland, gorse (*Ulex sp.*) and wet heaths and on rare occasions it contains calcareous grassland with limestone or chalk heath and the presence and numbers of characteristic birds, reptiles, invertebrates, vascular plants, bryophytes and lichens are indicators of habitat quality (Natural England 2011a). For instance, the Troopers Hill Local Nature Reserve consists of heathland with acid grassland. The land of the Bearsted Woodland Trust in the North Downs in Kent consists of a meadow with typical chalk landscape and several plant species which are scarce or not found elsewhere in the British Isles that survive on the chalk grassland because of the close proximity of the North Downs to the continent, the warm climate and the south facing escarpment.

4.2.3 Wetland

Wetlands form over any land where the soil is either seasonally or permanently waterlogged. This can occur alongside rivers, across floodplains, where there are springs and seepages, a high water table or tidal incursion (Plantlife 2010). Habitats include fens, bogs, marshes, wet grassland, water-meadows and wet woodland. They can be found all across the UK and can form extensive networks of habitats which are rich in wildlife. Wetlands are the subject of conservation efforts and UK Biodiversity Action Plans.

The Little Ouse Headwaters Project in the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk is maintaining fenland, a naturally marshy region in eastern England. The Fens are very low-lying compared with the chalk and limestone landscape that surround them. A river corridor formerly held the most extensive area of valley fenland in England. Local people derived an income from the land by cutting peat for fuel, sedge for thatching, litter for animal bedding, and by grazing stock and shooting. A mosaic of reed and sedge beds with alder and willow woodland fringing the rivers gave way to dry, heathy pastures on the valley sides. The fields were bordered by oak trees, many of which were pollarded to provide a renewable source of timber. Small areas of fenland survived as the river course was canalised but their wildlife interest continued to decline. The ending of traditional management practices, the lowering of water tables and consequent dehydration and reduction in water quality, and the inability of many species to recolonise such small, isolated patches of land, all contributed to this decline. But today, despite these losses, pockets of land around the headwaters of the rivers still retain important wildlife (Little Ouse Headwaters Project 2011).

The Cwmgors Community Nature Reserve in Wales contains a raised bog, which develop from a lake or flat marshy area, very acidic and low in nutrients. There are many highly specialised animals and plants associated with bogs, offering a unique habitat. The UKBAP establishes bog habitats as a priority for conservation.

4.2.4 Hedges and hedgerows

Many CCAs in the UK, especially in England and Wales, are located directly in towns or suburbs, such as the Cwmtalwg Local Nature Reserve in Wales. It also contains small habitats that are important to people such as, in this case, an old hedge. Hedges and hedgerows form the English and Welsh landscape and were used since the time of the Romans. They are still used as field boundaries or to contain livestock in the lowlands whereas in the highlands dry stone walls are commonly used. Hedgerows are rich species and are important for local archaeology, history or landscape, for example ‘ancient’ hedgerows. The most commonly used species is hawthorn (*Crataegus sp.*) or blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*). Bramble (*Rubus sp.*) provides a valuable food source for many birds,

small mammals, butterflies and other invertebrates. There can also often be a number of woodland species. Species rich hedgerows provide habitats for spiders, butterflies, bees and stag beetles (*Lucanidae sp.*) as well as shelter and food for small mammals such as wood mice (*Apodemus sylvaticus*), bank voles (*Myodes glareolus*) and larger animals such as hedgehogs (*Erinaceus europaeus*) (Woodland Investment Management Ltd 2008). They are also homes and feeding stations for different birds such as blue tits (*Cyanistes caeruleus*), robins (*Erithacus rubecula*), blackbirds (*Turdus sp.*) and dunnocks (*Prunella modularis*). Recent years have seen the disappearance of English hedgerows as of intensive agriculture and industrial development.

4.2.5 Marine habitats

Three areas are marine areas in England, Wales and Scotland, with maerl beds and other seabed habitats, rocky reefs with a diversity of sea life including some very rare and fragile species such as grey seals (*Halichoerus grypus*), lobsters (*Homarus gammarus*) and many species of coral and cup corals existing together.

4.3 History and motivation of nature conservation

The areas that have information about their genesis of conservation initiatives on their websites demonstrate that first initiatives came from the local residents. The people became aware of missing maintenance or severe destruction of their surrounding environment and were concerned about the loss of nature and wildlife. They started to take action against this loss. The Wemyss Bay Community Woodland Association (WBCWA), for instance, was established in 2000, when a local woman became increasingly concerned about the neglect and degeneration of local greenspace (WBCWA 2010), the Wemyss Bay Woods. Among the community at large, the wood was developing the reputation as a place where under-age drinkers and drug addicts “hung out” (WBCWA 2010). Vandalism, fly tipping and littering were also common. The very dense undergrowth permitted very little light and even dog-walkers, particularly women,

were becoming increasingly reluctant to use the wood. Motivated community people took interest in the wood and arranged meetings with different stakeholders and conservation and environment organisations, public meetings in the community and established the Wemyss Bay Community Woodland Association (WBCWA), a core group of volunteers identified to form a committee to maintain the woods.

In some cases, people debated with other parties that planned housing development such as the community of Bearsted in Kent where in 2003 a special chalk landscape of the North Downs adjacent to the old typical English village Bearsted and close to a conservation area was planned to develop approximately one hundred new houses. The community did not want to see this landscape destroyed by housing and other industrial development, so a resident of the village bought the land: “I will buy the land if others work with me to care for it, to preserve and manage it” (J. Wale, personal communication). This was when the Bearsted Woodland Trust came into being and in the beginning, 600 people joined the Trust as they wanted to see the land conserved. Another example is the residents near Gunton Wood, where the supermarket chain Tesco planned to develop part of the land, but a group of local residents urged Tesco to allocate part of it for use as a Nature Reserve. After continuous pressure from the group this proposal was formally approved by the Council Planning Authorities.

In the Cwmtalwg Local Nature Reserve in Wales it was an old hedge that has brought many people closer to the nature of the place. In 1987, the Council planned to remove an old hedge in Barry. Local residents were concerned about that as the hedge was very old and contained many species and wildlife and it was a piece of British wild nature close to their houses. A local group was formed in 1988 and has been active since in protecting and enhancing local nature (Cwmtalwg Local Nature Reserve 2010).

On other areas such as the commons, people took their own initiatives directly in restoring and maintenance of the land. On Middle Hill Common, before 1940 there was sheep grazing on the site that promotes the limestone grassland habitat. As the grazing stopped in 1940, the common became jungle vegetation (J.

Harrison, personal communication). In 1988, a local people initiative came up to preserve the grassland, so they cleared bracken and bramble and the seeds for the limestone grassland habitat were still there.

In the case of the Wooplaw Community Woodland, for instance, it was more an initiative to create woodland for the community with the community. In 1987, Wooplaw Community Woodland was the first established 'community woodland' in the UK and it was the brainchild of Tim Stead, a wood sculptor and furniture maker who lived nearby in the village of Blainslie (Wooplaw Community Woodland 2010). He specialised in using native British hardwoods and made and sold wooden axeheads. Tim was unsure how to acquire land to plant trees or how to make them grow but, following publicity for his "Axes for Trees" project, he met up with people who did (Wooplaw Community Woodland 2010). It was at this point that the land at Wooplaw was for sale and, with the aid of grants it was purchased and an organisation set up to manage it. Many communities, such as Wooplaw, followed this initiative in Scotland.

4.4 Governance and ownership

Throughout the UK, CCAs that were found in this study have different governance and ownership. For nine sites of the 50 CCAs there was no information about the ownership available.

4.4.1 Community governance

The identified areas have different governance types, which can be separated primarily into four forms of community involvement: Community trusts, Friends groups, other local voluntary groups and Parish Councils. In all cases, except the community trusts that enjoy full communal governance on their sites, there is shared governance with other stakeholders such as the owners of the sites, local authorities or environmental charities. Friends groups are involved in the management on 17 sites, 12 of them in England, four in Wales and one in

Northern Ireland. Community trusts, that means a trust established to purchase or lease land in this study (here, the Community of Arran Seabed Trust is counted as well although they are not owning Lamlash Bay), manage 17 sites, nine in Scotland, six in England and two in Wales. Other local groups comprise partnerships with different charities and groups with local residents or sites, that are owned by Wildlife Trusts or the Woodland Trust and local people were involved in the management without an established community trust. These count for 14 sites, five in England, three in Scotland, three in Wales and three in Northern Ireland. Parish Councils, the first tier of local government, manage two sites in England.

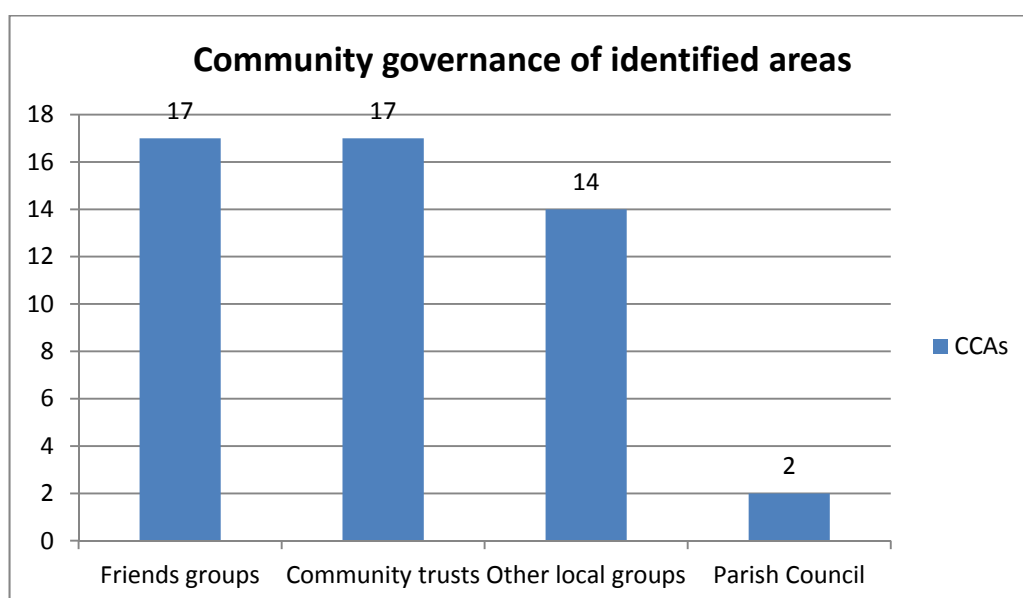


Figure 5

4.4.2 Community trusts

10 areas are completely owned by a community trust that has been set up to purchase the site. Additional two sites are only partly owned by a community trust and partly only leased by them (Little Ouse Headwaters Project) or partly owned by the village Parish Council (Kenninghall Wood and Hemp Meadow Wood). Overall, four sites are leased by a community trust or group. These are leased for 50 years (Culag Wood), 99 years (Warley Woods) or 125 years (Tarvin Community Woodland) for instance, from County or Highland Councils, a

highway authority or a private landowner. One site, Cwmgors Community Nature Reserve, is still in the process of getting the lease from the County Council in early 2011.

The Little Ouse Headwaters Project site is only partly leased and partly owned by a trust. This project is an association between Parish Councils in the area that each has nominated one trustee from their village and other local volunteers to form a trust. From the areas that are owned or leased by a community trust, seven of them are located in England, three in Wales and five in Scotland. All these sites are managed by the community trust and all decisions regarding management of the site are discussed in meetings and with everyone from the community who wants to participate. Areas that count here for community ownership, in addition with the four leased sites, one site partly owned or leased and one site partly owned by a community trust and partly by the village Parish as well as the site that is getting the lease in early 2011 are 15 sites.

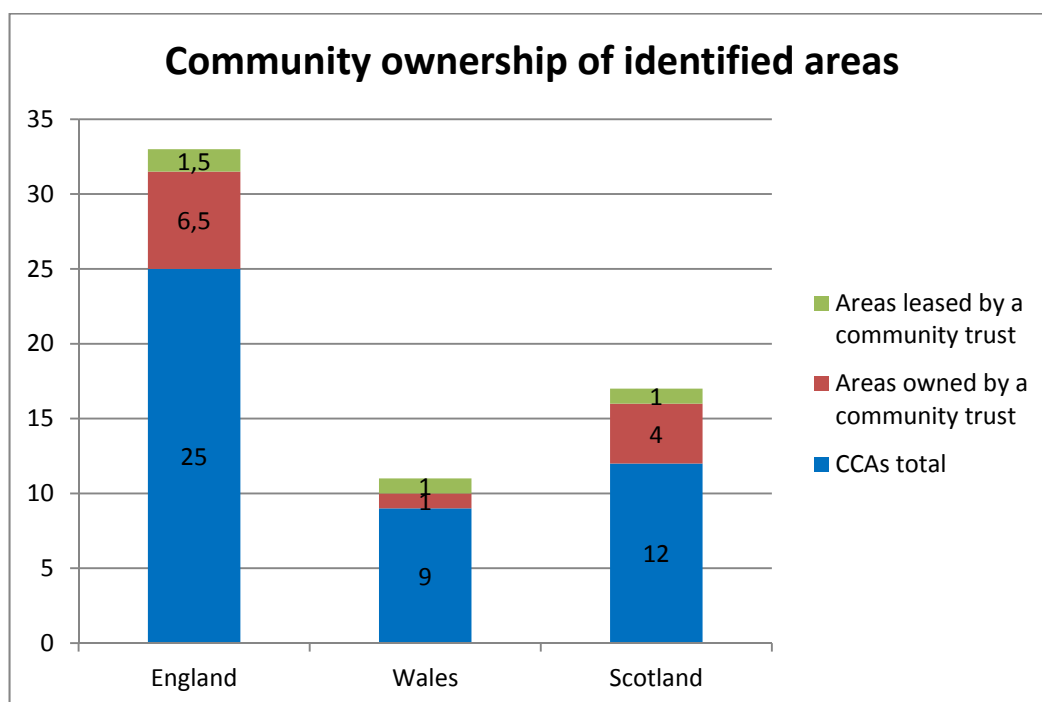


Figure 6

4.4.3 Community groups and local authorities

Parish Councils own four sites (and one site partly with a community trust) whereas County Councils, Borough Councils and City Councils own eight of the collected sites, two of them partly. Areas that are owned by government bodies such as County Councils, City Councils, Borough Councils and Parish Councils are all located in England and one in Wales (Cwmtalwg Local Nature Reserve). Three of these areas are the commons (Middle Hill Common, Felton Common and Kinson Common), areas purchased by Parish and Borough Councils and held in common. The management of these sites lies by sub committees or 'Friends' groups drawn from the Councils together with an interested group of the community. In the case of Felton Common, the responsibility for the management of the common lies by the North Somerset District Council, but in fact the Winford Parish Council is managing it. Parish Councils are the lowest, or first, tier of local government and have therefore close ties to the other village residents. In all of the three cases, Parish Councils form the management group of the sites with help from other villagers, whereas higher Councils manage their sites together with established Friends or community groups. 'Friends' are voluntary groups of local residents who dedicate some of their time, energy and effort to caring for and improving their local space and which are open to everyone in the community.

4.4.4 Community groups and national charities

Whilst one site is owned by a local Wildlife Trust, the Broad Oak Community Orchard in England, the UK-wide Woodland Trust owns five of the sites, one in Wales and four in Northern Ireland. Storeton Woods in England was purchased by a Friends group but the residents asked the Woodland Trust to take on the long-term ownership and management of the site. In all cases, the sites are managed by the Woodland Trust or the respective Wildlife Trust together with local people or an established community group.

4.4.5 Community groups and different landowners

The two large Community Forests Thames Chase and Forest of Marston Vale have different landowners such as private landowners or institutions and authorities and some sites of these areas are owned by Woodland Trust, Wildlife Trust and different Councils, some by the associated trust. These sites are planned and managed by the associated trust that represents different stakeholders from the various public and private sector interests in the area. Local volunteers help with the management on the sites. Also, Llwyni & Broadoak Wood is owned by different landowners and managed in a partnership between local authorities, landowners, a local wildlife charity and residents.

4.4.6 Others

Sites deemed to be exceptions in this study regarding ownership are sites owned by private landowners, Alyn Valley Woods and Wick Golden Valley Local Nature Reserve that are both, however, managed by a Friend's group and the respective County Council. Furthermore, big-scale trusts such as John Muir Trust (The Sandwood Estate) and Borders Forest Trust (Carrifran Wildwood) or a site leased by the Countryside Council for Wales (Skomer Marine Nature Reserve) from the Crown Estate. Borders Forest Trust and the John Muir Trust, both Scottish, have management sub groups or a management committee with people from the trust and local volunteers. The John Muir Trust has local crofters in its management committee. These sites are five in total.

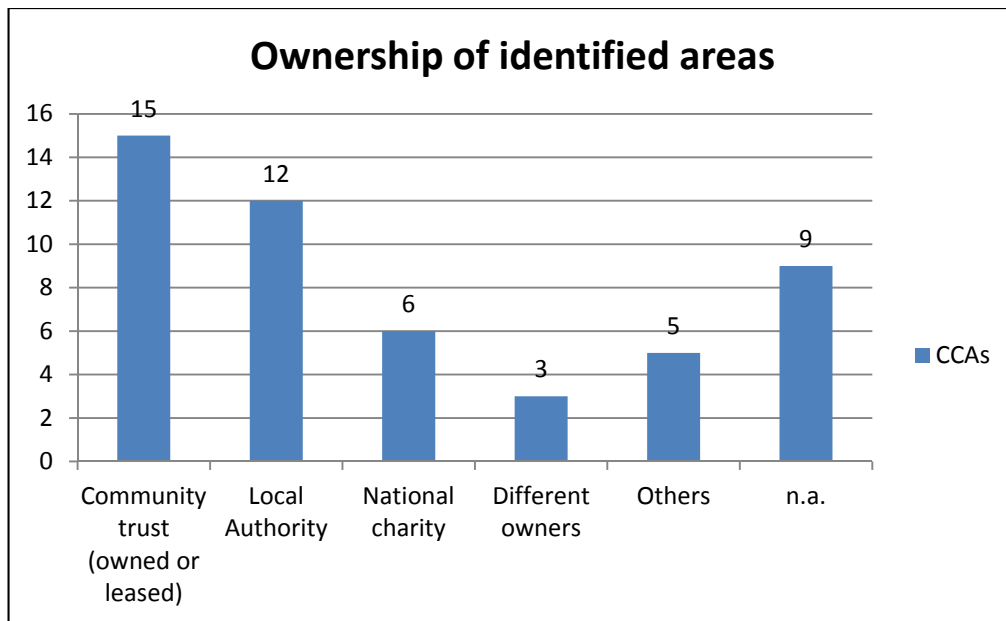


Figure 7

4.5 Management

On all sites, local people carry out management of the area voluntarily. Some Trusts or Friends groups hire local contractors for services who get paid from funding sources.

4.5.1 Maintenance purpose

All areas are managed primarily towards nature conservation. Six areas also manage the site for production of sustainable timber or non-timber forest products. These groups run a community orchard, produce sustainable timber from the woodland and one is a site with crofters who practise collective farming. On other woodland sites, people rarely use timber for their very own use. Six sites are managed primarily towards new woodland creation as the large community forest Forest of Marston Vale and Thames Chase Community Forest which both aim to increase the woodland cover in the region. People at areas such as the Carrifran Wildwood restore its habitats. Habitat restoration can be found on another six sites. Many sites have different purposes on their sites such as restoration of a woodland as well as enlargement of the woodland through new woodland creation or, the most frequent form, conservation and habitat creation.

The most sites that produce sustainable timber are located in Scotland whereas the most sites with conservation and recreation are located in England.

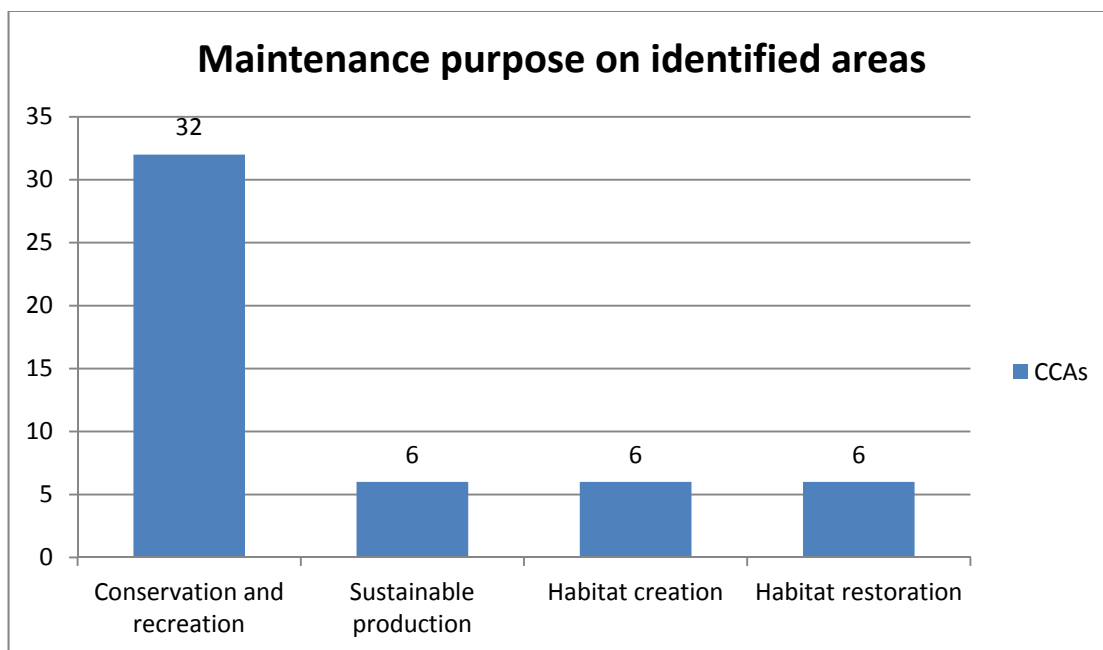


Figure 8

4.5.2 Meetings and advice

At areas that have a Friends group or community group but are owned by another party, these groups conduct regular maintenance on the sites. Regular planning meetings are held together with the owner, in most cases a local authority such as a County or City Council, and the further management is discussed. Also, regular smaller meetings are held by the groups to define next maintenance and conservation work on the site. At Annual General Meetings the formation of the group is discussed.

At sites that are owned by a community trust the maintenance and further management is discussed in regular meetings with the management groups and anyone from the community who wants to join, as well as Annual General Meetings, where the formation of the trust, the Board of Directors, is discussed and elected.

Parish Councils and many community groups and trusts get advice from environmental organisations such as the Wildlife Trusts, Natural England or Defra if sites are subject to protected area designations, e.g. Local Nature Reserve, or the Countryside Stewardship Agreement.

4.5.3 Management plans

27 sites have management plans. For all other sites there was no information about management plans available. Often, it was the initiative of the local groups to set up a management plan and in most of the cases they were planned by them and with help from a Wildlife Trust, Woodland Trust, Forestry Commission or another related environmental management institution. On sites owned by a trust the management plan is set up through community consultation and everyone from the community can participate in discussions and planning, as at Wooplaw Community Woodland, where every five years a management plan is set up and the group and anyone from the community who wants to discuss what kind of work should be done in the next time go out in the wood (B. Fleet, personal communication).

In the cases of the English commons such as the Middle Hill Common and other sites owned by local authorities, the management plan is often set up by the local group together with Defra and Natural England because it has to provide for management regarding the Countryside Stewardship Scheme and the Local Nature Reserve designation. In the case of Alyn Valley Woods, the management plan was set up by the Countryside Council for Wales together with the landowners of the sites but there is no management happening and the Friends group of Alyn Valley Woods is trying to get more responsibilities regarding the management of the area.

Overall, people carry out maintenance such as planting new trees and shrubs, pruning and coppicing, grass cutting or mowing to maintain grassland habitats, clearance of bracken (*Pteridium sp.*) and bramble to encourage the grassland or clearance to keep the paths open on the sites. On Little Downham Local Nature Reserve and some other areas, people elected a Tree Warden who endeavors to

maintain, improve and promote the existing tree network within the Parish, encouraged by a national voluntarily Tree Warden Scheme of the charity The Tree Council.

4.5.4 Woodland management

The studied woodlands are often managed with minimum intervention. Some areas are occasionally thinned from time to time to promote regeneration of young trees and ground vegetation; some woods are primarily left to mature and natural regeneration takes over. In most of these cases, the woodlands are managed for public enjoyment, wildlife and biodiversity. On some sites, new woodland has been created with trees that were planted and maintained to become, in the long-term, a self-sustaining high forest of mixed deciduous woodland with public access and a good habitat for local biodiversity.

On Bearsted Woodland in Wales, people originally planted the “People’s Wood”, an area planted with about hundred native trees in 2004 to celebrate the opening of the site and to enable an ecological system (J. Wale, personal communication). People also planted fruit trees to enhance the wider bird population and some cut trees are stored and used for ecological purposes such as encouraging frogs and insects and other wildlife. In one area, willow (*Salix sp.*) trees were felled at around 1.2 m (4 feet) and, as they respond well to this cutting, they have re-grown. Pollarding in this way is a traditional way of managing willows and such trees are cut every few years. The area under the willows will be planted with oak (*Quercus sp.*) and other species to create native woodland in this area. Part of the woodland is old woodland with dead and diseased trees which are left there for promoting wildlife and enhancing biodiversity. A big crow (*Corvus sp.*) population is present as well as woodland birds, various woodpecker (*Picidae*) species and other wildlife.

On Coed Craig Ruperra, the Planted Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS), the aim was to restore the native woodland which is most likely to have a mix of oak and ash (*Fraxinus sp.*) with an understorey dominated by hazel (*Corylus sp.*). On the remaining plantation areas the conifers have been thinned and some light reaches the ground which now allows native plants that are fairly shade-tolerant, such as

bramble, to begin colonising the forest floor. The grassland was reclaimed from the scrubby bramble overgrowth that was invading, and in 2006 people seeded it with a wildflower meadow mix. The meadow is mown once a year after the seed heads have dropped their contents.

These types of management and conservation tasks are more or less carried out on all collected woodland sites, depending on existing forest or newly created woodland.

4.5.5 Grassland and heathland management

Here, management includes grass cutting, mowing, clearing bracken and bramble and removing of invasive species to preserve the grassland habitat and heath as otherwise they can be rapidly colonised by woodland. On some areas, such as Kinson Common, Shetland Cattle were introduced for grazing to help reduce the amount of scrub and encourage more rare flora and fauna to flourish. On Cwmgors Community Nature Reserve cattle grazing is planned to control the bramble at the site. On Middle Hill Common e.g., grass is cut by hand as the area is not suitable for machines and the technique is preserving soil and plants. People cut the grass in September after it had chance to grow over spring and summer and after three days the grass is moved from the land to give the seeds a chance to drop. On the common, there is an important grasshoppers population and the grass is carefully managed in order to promote the population.

Wildflower meadows are promoted or established with wildflower seeds. The Cwmtalwg Local Nature Reserve group members cut back the grass with a brush cutter or mower or rake up and remove the grass to encourage the growth of wild flowers.

Work also includes cutting back overgrown paths and hedges, planting of hedges and repairing bridges and install footpaths, gates and cart sheds.

4.5.6 Marine habitat management

The three marine habitats are conservation areas such as the Lamlash Bay Community Marine Conservation Area on Isle of Arran that are protected for their maerl beds and other seabed habitats, to regenerate fish and scallop populations

and to enhance the marine biodiversity through the creation of No Take Zones (NTZs) where fishing is not allowed or collection of sea life of any kind, and a Marine Protected Area. Also, work is done by the community group in assisting everyone involved in protection of Lamlash Bay and doing awareness rising on the Isle and beyond regarding protection and sustainable fishery on the site.

The marine conservation areas have bye-laws with specific zones such as no fishing in the No Take Zone and other zones where fishing is prohibited except potting or angling or where no diving or fishing is allowed without a license. The management and protection relies on the co-operation of all those who use the area, including fishermen, divers and yacht owners as well as people who come for enjoyment of the area.

4.5.7 Traditional management techniques

At many areas, people conduct traditional management techniques. On woodland sites, for instance, people carry out coppicing, a traditional method of woodland management, which takes advantage of the fact that many trees reshoot from the stump or roots if cut down. Young tree stems are cut down to a foot or less from ground level and in doing so, a multitude of new shoots are encouraged. Tarvin Community Woodland e.g. felled very tall ash trees to permit them to grow again as coppice. Here, coppicing also provides a rich variety of habitats, as the woodland always has a range of different-aged coppice growing in it, which is beneficial for biodiversity (Tarvin Community Woodland Trust 2010). In Spring Wood, parts of the wood are coppiced by monthly work parties on a seven-year rotation and the produce is sold to local gardeners and allotment holders as beanpoles, pea sticks and firewood.

On Bearsted Woodland, pollarding is carried out, which is a method of encouraging lateral branches by cutting off a tree stem about 2m (six feet) above ground level. If pollarding is done repeatedly over time, a somewhat expanded tree trunk will result, and multiple new side and top shoots will grow on it; pollarding above head height protects valuable timber or poles from being damaged by browsing animals such as rabbits or deer (Owen 1999).

People in Laide Wood use Highland Ponies for work in the woods. During the January storms of 2005 a quarter of the woodland was lost through wind-blown

damage. Furthermore, on grasslands, some community groups use cattle grazing to promote the grassland habitat. Usually, sheep or cattle grazing were common in the UK for grass and weed control. Hay making and traditional hedge laying practices are conducted on some sites. Hedges were created and maintained as a natural fence on sites in the lowlands, whereas in the highlands drystone walls have been common, integral part of the Scottish landscape for decades. Drystone walls are, with hedgerows, one of the most commonly used field boundaries in the UK. The people at Wooplaw Community Woodland and other sites have workshops in building drystone walls with, people in other areas offer hedge-laying workshops.

4.5.8 Desk-work

The community trusts and Friends group have to deal with administrative work such as membership subscriptions or funding applications. Many groups publish regular newsletters about the site to their members and maintain a Friends' website about the area for awareness raising.

4.6 Monitoring

The community trusts and Friends groups carry out monitoring on their woodlands and grasslands. People want to know about the plant and wildlife biodiversity and to promote possibly existent rare and specific species. At nine from 50 areas there is no information on monitoring available.

Regular wildlife and plant monitoring surveys are carried out on the sites such as surveys on birds, animals, insects, butterflies, trees, plants and flowers or fungi, and species are recorded and lists generated. The lists are publicly available and can be downloaded in some cases on the group's web sites. People erect boxes for birds and bats and install them in the woods. In Kincladie Wood, the trust built bird boxes and installed them in the wood for monitoring of breeding. Local people sponsored the bird boxes and can now visit their very own bird box in the wood. At Ferndown Local Nature Reserve, people have established a bird feeding

area to encourage a variety of birds. Coed Craig Ruperra in Wales has an ongoing bird ringing project. On this site, the habitat of the European protected species hazel dormouse (*Muscardinus avellanarius*) is promoted, which is also protected in the UK under the Wildlife and Countryside Act. Regular surveys and nestbox projects were conducted. All collected information about the hazel dormouse goes back to the Countryside Council for Wales and specific records to the Biological Record Centre. The areas generally promote habitats of rare or threatened species and create new habitats for e.g. dormice, butterflies, insects and birds via nesting boxes and wildflowers by maintaining or creating wildflower meadows. Many community trusts or Friends groups have botanists or environmentalists who are keen to record a full list of plant species on the sites. In the Achnaha Community Wood, tree and shrub regeneration is monitored annually in May after leaf-burst, but before ground vegetation becomes dominant by using standard methods of fixed-point photography (Morvern Community Woodlands 2010). People on woodland sites often conduct surveys on trees, such as in the Raincliffe Woods, where the condition of veteran trees was assessed. At certain sites, such as on the Carrifran Wildwood site and in the Cwmgors Community Nature Reserve, Habitat Assessments were conducted. In the marine nature reserves, people conduct regular biological surveys. On the Isle of Arran, Lamlash Bay, many biological surveys of the No Take Zone and the protected area are carried out and species lists have been compiled. There are regular observation dives. In Rhydymwyn Valley Nature Reserve in Wales, an Ecology Year Planner was drawn up to plan surveys and protection tasks and advice for animals of the Valley by the local Wildlife group and friends. On sites where Wildlife Trusts are involved in management or advice, biological surveys are often conducted.

4.7 Funding

The management of the areas is almost entirely carried out by voluntary work of local people, except some sites that also have local contractors. Sources of funds are different institutions and programmes. While some community groups are still in the process of applying for grants, others get funding by different national or

regional schemes or are self-financed. Middle Hill Common and Felton Common, as well as the Little Ouse Headwaters Project, are supported by a grant from the Countryside Stewardship Agreement by Defra, which offers payments to farmers and land managers in England for effective land management to protect and enhance the environment and wildlife (Defra 2010a).

Some sites designated as Local Nature Reserves such as Troopers Hill applied for the Green Flag Award. This scheme recognises and rewards the best green spaces in the UK. Criteria for this award are the active involvement of members of the community who represent as many green space user groups as possible and particular attention is also paid to the conservation and appropriate management of natural features, wildlife and fauna and landscapes (Keep Britain Tidy 2011).

Some sites, including the Little Ouse Headwaters Project, Warley Woods and Raincliffe Woods, receive management funding from The National Lottery as well as from subdivided programmes Heritage Lottery Fund, Big Lottery Fund and Awards for All. All these Lottery grants schemes fund local community-based projects in the UK, using money raised through the National Lottery, to sustain and conserve the UK's diverse heritage to experience and enjoy and help more people to take an active part in and make decisions about heritage (Heritage Lottery Fund 2011).

In some cases, trees were planted with native species under the Woodland Grant Scheme, operated for Defra by the Forestry Commission, which aimed to encourage good management of forests and woodlands. These grants were paid as part of a contract in which land managers agreed to look after the woodlands and do the approved work to reasonable satisfaction (Defra 2010c). It was replaced with the English Woodland Grant Scheme in 2005. In Scotland, community trusts such as Anagach Woods Trust are also supported by the Scottish Forestry Grant Scheme (SFGS), providing grant aid to encourage the creation and management of woods and forests to provide economic, environmental and social benefits (Scottish Government 2011).

The Little Ouse Headwaters Project established a fundraising project to raise funds and got support from different national or small schemes as well as from the

European Union as the site contains international designated PAs. The large-scale community forest Forest of Marston Vale raised money from a number of local and national organisations to purchase 70 ha of farmland. In Thames Chase Community Forest, the Forestry Commission invested millions of government money for creating new publicly accessible woodlands (Thames Chase 2010). Some smaller funding sources include Grassroots Grants, an element of the Government's strategy for building stronger and more active communities, which supports the management of Little Downham Local Nature Reserve. Three of the four areas in Northern Ireland are Woods on your Doorstep (WoyD) sites, such as the Cullion Community Woodland. Here, the Omagh District Council gifted the land in 2000 to the Woodland Trust as one of the Woods on your Doorstep (WoyD) sites in Northern Ireland. The development and five years maintenance get funded to a certain extent by the Millennium Commission. In 2000, many new woods were planted in England, Wales and Northern Ireland in partnership with local communities to commemorate the Millennium. Local people worked closely with the Woodland Trust and other partners to identify the location, design the site, fundraise and plant the trees (The Woodland Trust 2011b). The people still carry out maintenance and management of these sites.

Many community trusts or groups receive funding donations from companies or from group members. They also have, in most cases, an annual membership subscription that is helpful for improving facilities. Often, the money raised through membership is used to meet day-to-day expenses. Membership costs from about 0.50£ to 3£ annually. People also hold fundraising events for the sites.

4.8 Threats

Many areas are threatened by lack of funding for management and maintenance, especially areas that are not owned by a community trust but where Friends groups, community groups and Parishes manage and maintain the sites. Here, part of the work is also trying to achieve grants and donors for their voluntary work on the sites.

Threats that directly affect the areas are invasive species and, above all, human impact such as vandalism, illegal dumping and overuse of the land. Commons specifically suffer from the fact that everyone is allowed to go on the common. Felton Common is overused, according to the Winford Parish Council. People tend to take the common as their garden. Cars drive through the common or park there. Planes coming from Bristol airport fly over the common. Signs were put up that signals byelaws such as no driving on the common. The Parish Council would be allowed to put up a gate to control parking on the common if this is reasonable but residents complained.

The Wemyss Bay Community Woodland Association reported problems with vandalism in the wood. To solve the problem, neighborhood watch volunteers were determined to report any problems observed at the site.

Another threat to the sites could be an end of a leasing period of sites that are under a lease contract for a defined period of time.

In many cases conservation initiatives come from older people who fear that there will be no young generation that wants to take on the conservation management on their site.

4.9 ICCA defining characteristics

The identified areas were examined in relation to the three ICCA criteria as mentioned in the Introduction chapter. Some areas match these characteristics more than other areas. They differ primarily in the extent of local governance.

4.9.1 ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- *community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood*

In most cases, it was a local people initiative to protect and conserve the land. Often, there is a community sense of ownership at the site and a strong community identity with this part of nature in their village. This is especially seen on the commons. The common is of great importance to the local community.

People see it as an important open space for everyone to sit, enjoy, cherish and for leisure activities. People feel passionate and proud about the common area (B. Smith, personal communication). These open spaces give people inspiration and creativity. In the Storeton Woods, people write articles, songs and poems about the wood which is published in a newsletter. They naturally value these often small areas as “a place where they can put their worries aside and admire the brilliant delicacy of leaves opening in spring, or relax in the welcome summer shade or walk among the frosted fallen leaves” (Bryan 2004, on webpage). As Bryan (2004, on webpage) from Cwmtalwg Local Nature Reserve notes, “though the place feels tranquil, it is also intensely dynamic, alive with insects and birds, which are another source of pleasure”. In a densely populated area, the woods are the nearest possibility people have to a natural and wild walk. They want access to land to enjoy woodlands, wildlife and nature experience.

The strong community associations with the area are sometimes very historical. Residents of the village Dunning, for example, care for Kincladie Wood as it is an important place especially for the older residents of Dunning, as they used to play in the wood when they were children, and pick blaeberrries (*Vaccinium myrtillus*) and use fallen timber for home use (Pentland 2005). In Gunton Woodland, many of the residents adjoining the wood were retired, often with dogs that needed daily exercise, and so there was a captive audience of like-minded individuals who had a vested interest in restoring the woodland. Since then, regular work parties take place and this is very much a social occasion, many strong and lasting friendships have been made and regular outings and social events such as garden parties all help to maintain the bonds that hold the group together (Gunton Woodland Community Project 2011). People from Carrifran Wildwood (Carrifran Wildwood 2010) believe that the valley should develop to resemble, as far as is possible, virgin woods. Carrifran upholds a long history which is also a motivation of the people, as, for example, six thousand years ago a hunter discarded his broken bow high up in Carrifran valley and this bow, the oldest ever found in Britain, testifies the long history of human influence in these remote hills. In some areas such as in Rhydymwyn Valley Nature Reserve or Coed Craig Ruperra the site also has historic value in terms of historic monuments that bring people closer to the area. They see the landscape closely connected with their cultural heritage, traditions and their own history. The Blackley Forest is a forest that is in commemoration of

the soldiers during World War II, a poppy field has been planted, surrounded by approximately 38 trees that represent the number of fallen soldiers from the Blackley area (Friends of Blackley Forest 2011)

The people are very keen on working and preserving the land and often come together to work hard on the site (J. Wale, personal communication). In Newborough Forest, people attach different values to various habitats and species. There are differing views about the suitability of various recreational uses and ways of managing these to avoid conflict (Forestry Commission Wales 2010). As people have a deep relationship with their ecosystems, they conduct sustainable and traditional land use to protect the land, such as coppicing, pollarding, drystone wall building and hedge laying. In Wooplaw Community Woodland they grow willow for basketry that is harvested each year. Events are held for the community with different workshops, walks and talks associated with the area and traditional culture. Taliesin, for example, has different festivals and courses such as blacksmithing, flat bow making, mushroom identification, wood carving, stone carving, 'bushcraft', basket making, spring and autumn gatherings, ceilidhs and music performances and compost toilet building and use on the site (South West Community Woodlands Trust 2011a). Art and crafts workshops, nature and sculpture trails and wood carving can often be seen in the woods. On other sites, events are held such as wildlife walks and nature education to bring people, and in many cases especially children, closer to nature.

4.9.2 ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - *community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature*

Although there are different governance and responsibilities regarding the management of the sites, all are managed and maintained for the protection, conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems and biodiversity by community groups. Overall aims and objectives of the community trusts and Friends groups are to conserve, enhance, restore and protect native trees, plants, natural beauty and all types of wildlife by supporting or provide a community conservation area for the benefit of the public at large and with a view to improving the quality of life (Tarvin Community Woodland Trust 2010). They all seek to increase public

awareness and reflect the concerns of the wider community, to reconnect people to local biodiversity by involving them in woodland management and nature activities, and foster appreciation and respect for the countryside (South West Community Woodlands Trust 2011b).

The groups try to achieve these aims and objectives through conservation work and maintenance such as reducing scrub encroachment by controlling bracken and bramble, gorse and scrub cover in order to encourage biodiversity; grass cutting to preserve the grassland habitat, sometimes traditionally by hand as the land is too steep and to support the ground (Middle Hill Common); hedge planting and tending, coppicing and rubbish clearance. On woodlands, people plant native and remove alien tree species, leave dead and diseased trees in old woodland to promote wildlife and enhance biodiversity, thin the woods and extracting small quantities of timber to open up gaps where trees can regenerate and the ground flora can develop. They introduce minimal-impact machinery for timber extraction or work with horses. People also try to designate their areas as protected areas. The community group in the Cwmtalwg Local Nature Reserve e.g. pressed for the Local Nature Reserve designation as there were plans for housing development in the area.

The Community of Arran Seabed Trust worked towards establishing a No Take Zone and a marine protected area (MPA) in Lamlash Bay to protect the maerl beds and to regenerate associated forms of marine life. Monitoring surveys of flora and fauna are carried out on most of the sites. Footpaths and guided walks are established to avoid damage to the sites. Fruit trees were planted to enhance the wider bird population, feeding stations and nesting boxes were also erected. All these management tasks are carried out by local people. The degree of self-directed planning decisions varies between areas. In the Alyn Valley for example, the Friends group work with landowners and other partners together, carry out work such as the clearance of weed on the site and raising awareness about the area. They also survey and monitor the flora and fauna but they do not have any control over the land (M. Brummage, personal communication). Cullion Community Woodland chose to create a wildlife pond on a constantly wet site where orchids flourish throughout the lower reaches of the area but the site is owned by the Woodland Trust, which set up the Woods on your Doorstep project

on the site and encouraged people to get involved in the management tasks as the project is created for community participation. Community trusts that purchased land such as many woodland areas in Scotland own the woodland and independently decide the conservation management.

4.9.3 ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - *community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site*

As described in the ownership and governance chapter, there is different management responsibilities and ownership of the sites.

Most of the areas are owned and managed by community trusts. Established to purchase land, they own and manage their areas themselves. Although there is a trust with its trustees that form a management committee, the entire community can participate in management and maintenance of the area.

Friends groups or people from the community manage sites in conjunction with the local authorities County Councils, Borough Councils and Parish Councils. These groups can participate in the management, in drawing up the management plan of the respective area and in carrying out regular maintenance and conservation tasks.

Community or Friends groups help local Wildlife Trusts, representing a UK-wide voluntary organisation dedicated to conserving habitats and species, or the Woodland Trust, the UK's largest woodland charity, on their few sites. The trusts manage the sites for the conservation of nature. Management plans are set up in conjunction, considering that the trust has the best experience and advice for the land.

Sites owned by private owners are either leased to a community group or a Friends group who have taken over the management of the area. In these cases, the community group can set up their own management plan for the area, whereas the Friends group can only operate if the land owner cares about the management

of the site. Here, Friends group carry out mainly small tasks such as clearance of weed on the site and try to raise awareness about the area to get more involved in the management and control of the land, such as the Friends group in Alyn Valley Nature Reserve.

Table 1: Identified CCAs regarding ICCA criteria

3 ICCA defining characteristics	<i>1. Community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally/ or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	<i>2. Community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	<i>3. Community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>
Activities of identified CCAs in the UK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation and enjoyment • Identification with the land • Education • Community events; team spirit • Access and connection to wildlife and nature • Traditional management practices • Income production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planting, maintaining native species • Promoting wildlife and natural habitats • Promoting regeneration growth • Clearance of scrub and invasive species • Monitoring and biological surveys • Banned fishing • Awareness raising and education efforts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community groups work together with Parish/ County Councils and/ or trusts in the management of the area • Community trusts own and manage the area • Local organisations and groups work together with owner in partnership • Community involved in management plan, management work on the site, administrative work

4.10 Protected Area designations

Most of the sites are located in designated protected areas (see map Annex III), with national and international PA designations. Many areas have different designations at the same time or on different parts of the area. The most frequent PA designation is the Local Nature Reserve (LNR). These areas range from 1.48 ha to 44 ha, for three areas data not available. Also, 10 sites are located on Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), sometimes only partly. Nine sites are located on Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and three in Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Also, three Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) were identified, two of which are designated as Marine Nature Reserves (MNR). On two sites, Kinson Common and Little Ouse Headwaters Project, some sites are recognised as an international designated Ramsar site. Another eight infrequent designations on eight different sites include Site of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI) (Broad Okay Community Orchard in England), Site of Importance to Nature Conservation (SINC) (Coed-y-Felin in Wales), County Wildlife Site (CWS) (Spring Wood in England), Biodiversity Alert Site (Ferndown LNR in England), Special Protection Area (SPA) (Kinson Common in England), Special Landscape Area (SLA) (Coed Craig Ruperra in Wales), National Park (NP) (Skomer Marine Nature Reserve) and National Nature Reserve (NNR) (Little Ouse Headwaters Project in England). Two of the marine areas have No-Take Zones (NTZ) on their sites. 23 sites are not designated as protected areas as of research in December 2010 and sometimes it is unapparent on the web sites whether the areas are designated as PAs, therefore it can be possible that there are more or other designations on the identified areas.

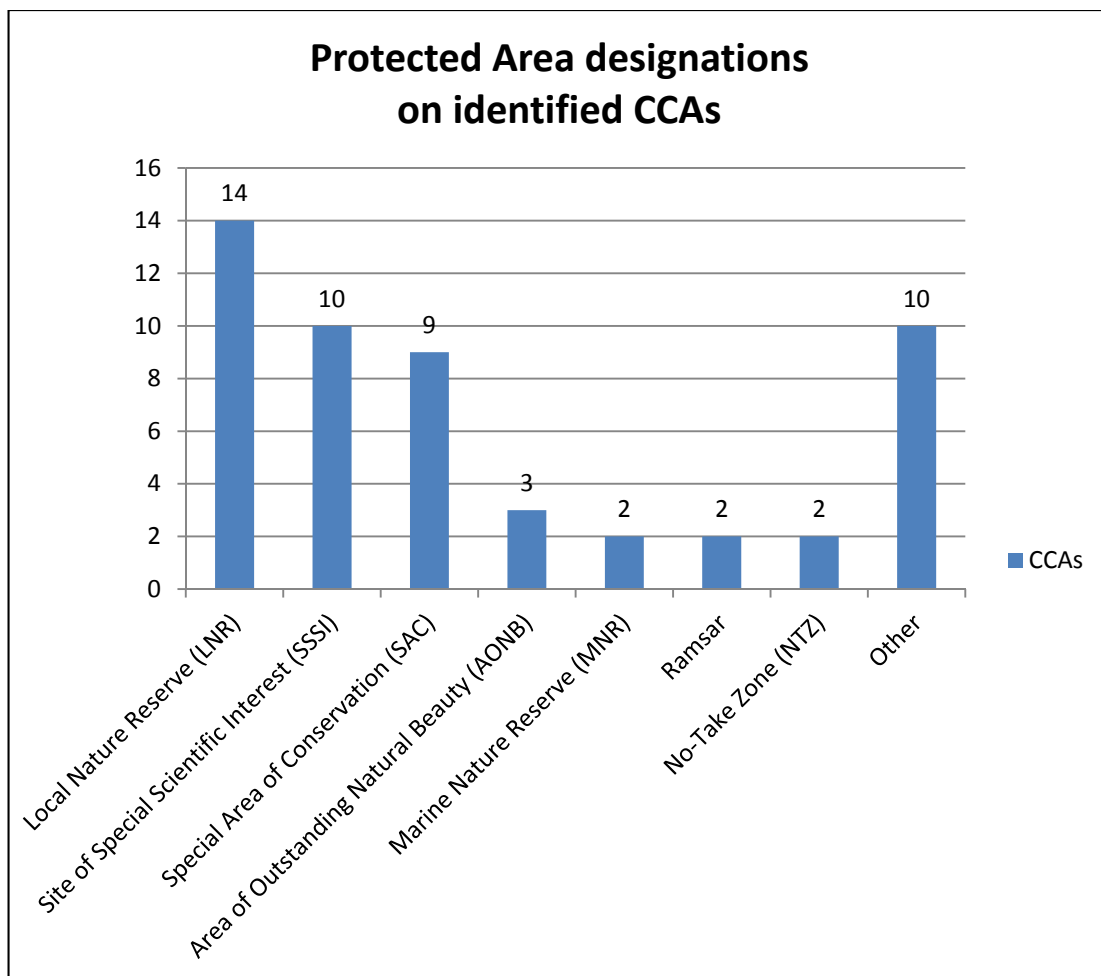


Figure 9

5 Discussion

5.1 Methodology

In this study, only samples of all sources - where most information was available and sites evenly distributed throughout the UK - could be collected due to the time limit of three months. There are more potential CCAs listed in the various collected documents. In this time frame, however, it was not possible to collect them all in the research spreadsheet and to access more areas in the web. Therefore, this study was limited to 50 sites and can be seen as an approach to access CCAs throughout the UK with different examples that demonstrates what can be CCAs in the UK. For instance, there are only three commons in this study but they often represent good CCA examples and should be further examined and discussed. It was especially difficult to find information on CCAs in Northern Ireland. It is assumed that there are many good examples of CCAs but they can not be found on the internet but through contacts to different local charities, associations or individuals. Here, more research should be carried out as the examples of CCAs in this study are not satisfying (see chapter 4 and chapter 5, Areas in conform to ICCA criteria). Generally, more research should be carried out to find more CCAs in the UK to get a more detailed picture and full records for the ICCA Registry.

20 contacts to environmental organisations such as the Wildlife Trusts, Woodland Trust and Natural England, governmental agencies and other relevant persons were established by a standardised e-mail and by phone to get more information about community groups and sites in the UK. It took a while to get answers from different people and it was difficult to get through to the right contact person, as often there was a transfer to another person who might know more about community conserved areas and these persons again were often hard to reach. Therefore, research in the web was more satisfying in accessing information in a short time. Still, answers from contact persons were more valuable in terms of the precision of research questions and accuracy of information.

E-mails were sent to 15 community groups throughout the UK to arrange phone interviews. With eight of them interviews were successfully conducted. Often,

there was no response to e-mails and it took a long time to get answers. Following up on these e-mails by calling people on the next day by phone was helpful, though it was often difficult to reach them by phone. While in England it was hard to reach contact persons of the sites as there are different people and institutions associated with the area, e.g. a Friends group, a local authority and a Wildlife Trust, in Scotland it was easier to reach the right contact person as they have many community trusts that own land and manage it by themselves so that the Chair of the trust could easily be contacted. Furthermore, information about the areas would have been more detailed and updated if more interviews were conducted with the communities. Some websites of Friends groups or others were incomplete for the research spreadsheet or there was information that was updated some years ago or it was uncertain how old the information was and whether it is still the same owner or designation type etc. as described on the websites.

5.2 Description of areas

CCAs in the UK form small patches of land within the villages - 34% of the areas consist of 0-10 hectares and most of them are managed by a Friends group or community trust whereas areas that are large such as Community Forest project sites or the Sandwood Estate (4,650 ha) are owned by a big-scale trust or partnership and have different funding sources. Half of all registered common land units in the UK are less than 1 ha in area (Defra 2009). People care about their land that is directly associated with their living space and a voluntary group of people can better oversee the management of small habitats than big-scale trusts that have people employed in the management of the land.

Although the areas are small they represent a variety of valuable and rare habitats, important for biodiversity conservation. Woodland is the most frequent habitat type found on the identified areas. Some sites in Scotland only consist of woodland; some sites throughout the UK consist of woodland and other habitats such as grassland. Although in this study there is no information about the different sizes of these woodland habitats it is obvious that woodland habitat accounts for the largest area in total. It is assumed that primarily woodlands are

managed communally or with local people involvement. It is striking that many sites comprise remarkable habitats such as ancient woodland, PAWS, wet woodlands and meadows with limestone grassland, old hedges. These habitats represent special traditional British landscapes or old natural features that are extraordinary to the people. Presumably, people become more aware of those sites when they are threatened, and take the initiative to protect them. It is obvious that community governance has strong impacts on biodiversity in the UK.

5.3 Biodiversity conservation and management

Community groups maintain the areas for the conservation of nature and recreation, for habitat restoration, creation and sustainable production. Whereas in England the trusts and Friends groups are managing a site primarily for conservation and recreational purposes, access to wildlife and open spaces, in Scotland, and where many communities purchased land encouraged by the land reform, the main objective is not only conservation and recreation but also sustainable production of timber or non-timber forest products for local consumption. Some groups have less control over the conservation management than others. All groups, however, strive to protect and enhance biodiversity on their sites. The management plans provide for conservation work and planning and determine different sites for different purposes. Often it is the Friends group's initiative to draw up a management plan for conservation of the sites and sometimes there are biologists, botanists or others who are keen to keep records and monitor flora and fauna, finding rare and threatened species and promote them by creating and enhancing valuable habitats. A huge amount of voluntary nature conservation work is carried out by local community groups throughout the UK. The regular maintenance tasks and management on the sites is carried out voluntarily and it is often their initiative to push for the protection status of the site. Sometimes traditional management techniques without heavy machines are used and, while keeping cultural traditions alive, it prevents soil degradation, promotes plants and wildlife and thus contributes to biodiversity. The CCAs represent a diversity of habitats, management, conservation purposes and governance types. Their efforts and their work make a valuable contribution to

UK's biodiversity conservation, considering that there are many UKBAP habitats on the areas.

5.4 Threats to the sites

People have reported different threats to their sites such as vandalism, overuse of the land, dumping and invasive species. They work towards solving these problems independently, through community consultation, having residents who watch the site, establishing byelaws and working hard on the sites. Many areas struggle for funding to manage and maintain their sites. Lack of funding became obvious in the personal phone interviews. Thus, many areas have received grants for their work or are in the process of applying for awards and schemes to get funding that are given for community involvement and creating and developing woodland. Here, more support to the communities is urgent. The lack of legislation for legal recognition as community conserved areas can be an overall threat to the sites, especially on the sites managed by Friends groups as there is no statutory recognition of their involvement.

5.5 Areas in conform to ICCA criteria

The identified areas match the three ICCA-defining characteristics in different ways. Some areas match these criteria more than others. Primarily, they differ in the extent of local governance.

People in the UK are not dependent on their land and its natural resources for their livelihood such as many indigenous people and community groups in developing countries are. Thus, they do not need to produce timber or non-timber forest products (NTFP) or to hunt etc. for subsistence. Although in some areas people produce sustainable timber or gather blaeberreries, the relationship with the land is close as it has an intrinsic value to the people. They want to see the land protected and conserved for themselves and for future generations – land that connects them with their home and their ancestors. They want to have access to the wilderness, an

open space, for enjoyment, education, inspiration and leisure. People organise cultural events on the sites where they can feel connected to wildlife and nature. At some areas, people produce natural resources for their own or local consumption or they only care for the habitats and biodiversity on the site. Hence, people take initiative to vehemently defend this land against housing development plans and any destruction of nature in their villages. Habitats have values for people and even an old hedge induces them to take initiative.

In the community groups' and trust's meetings, people discuss their objectives as well as the management of the area. The trusts which own the sites can exclusively decide how the site should be managed whereas Friends groups in most cases have to take advice and communicate with the associated local authority or owner of the site. People carry out maintenance and conservation work, carry out monitoring surveys and try to designate their areas as protected. The Friends groups always try to get more people interested in the sites and its nature and wildlife. They organise a range of festivals and educational events on the sites and search for donors and funders to secure the long-term conservation of the site. Whereas on some sites people work for the conservation of the site and manage it only with minimum intervention such as maintaining tasks, a few other sites are managed for sustainable production or for restoration or creation of habitats. It is noticeable that the community trusts in Scotland in particular, own woodland and manage it in some cases not only for conservation but also for local production. Here, the focus is not entirely on nature conservation as on the Friends group sites in England which established a group to conserve the local nature but more on community ownership and management.

The identified areas have different governance types, which can be separated primarily into four forms of community involvement: Community trusts, Friends groups, other local voluntary groups and Parish Councils. In all cases, except the community trusts that enjoy full communal governance on their sites, there is shared governance with other stakeholders such as the owners of the sites, local authorities or environmental charities. As governance types on the sites described in this study vary, Kothari and Menon (2010 p. 11) point out that there is a continuum of management types from state management, co-management and management by communities by themselves or in partnership with other

organisations such as NGOs and in many contexts, what is vital is not the terminology but the level of engagement of the community with the management of the site over time. If de facto control over day-to-day decision-making is with the community, it would count as an ICCA (Kothari and Menon 2010, p. 8).

Also noticeable is the difference of governance types between the four UK countries. Whereas in England, Wales and Northern Ireland the owners and site managers are two or even more different institutions, in Scotland it is often the same institution. Here, many community groups purchased land as the legislation in Scotland for the community right to buy encouraged them to do so.

Communities are able to own and manage their sites as a community body with an appropriate legal structure to represent the whole community or make use of an existing one. It owns the property on behalf of the community and manages it for their common good. The land, as Wightman et al. (2004 p. 11) points out, is thus common property, but only through the constitution of the owner rather than the form of tenure by which the land is held. This position in some ways mimics the traditional solution to common land. Here, the common resource could not be readily exploited by the individuals with the common rights but they formed a body to act on their collective behalf and shared out the returns. Common land in Scotland was once wide-spread with different types of commons, some similar to commons in England and Wales, but today there are only a few commons left, many of them un-noticed.

The commons in England and Wales, however, sometimes face difficulties with the different commoners' rights and open access as there is overuse and lack of rules and regulations, and some people may not consider the environment, such as on Felton Common. The Parish community group here is trying to raise awareness about conservation of the site. The commons are a well-used amenity for people exercising their rights of open access to the land. Parish Councils own these commons and manage it regarding nature conservation. Although they strive to protect the common for nature conservation, they have limited control over the land as there are specific commoners' rights and open access. Therefore, on the commons the associated group pushes for protected area designation of the site to have additional provisions for the use of the common.

Critics argue that the legislation of the land reform Act is too complex from the community point of view so that communities often face difficulties regarding provisions of the Act in exercising their rights. They undergo much administrative work such as preparing an application, establishing a company limited by guarantee, generating exact maps of the site. They are confronted with Ministers that have substantial discretionary powers so that they effectively act in a quasi-judicial capacity deciding which community can and which communities cannot exercise their rights under the Act (Wightman 2007). In some cases the community, while initiating a purchase, may not end up with full control over the land as the control is shared with partners, usually conservation organisations or public agencies that have provided a proportion of the funding - community partnerships (Wightman et al. 2004 p.11).

Some of the sites in England in this study are partnerships between institutions and can not conform to community governance. National charity-owned sites such as Wildlife Trust and Woodland Trust sites are primarily governed by them whereas local groups only assist with maintenance and management, as with the sites in Northern Ireland. The Woodland Trust set up a project for increasing the woodland cover with help from the community. The communities did not primarily take initiatives by themselves. However, the community is involved in the decision-making of the design of the site, how it should be implemented and in the direct work. They are encouraged to take on management in partnership of the site. Partnership approaches have in fact recently been developed in which conservation and community interests come together. The Isle of Eigg Heritage Trust, for example, comprises representatives from the Eigg Residents Association, Highland Council and the Scottish Wildlife Trust (Chenevix-Trench and Philip 2000). According to Chenevix-Trench and Philip (2000), the multi-agency approach may not be the ideal solution but in many cases communities need the financial backing that conservation organisations can offer. In the case of Cwmngors Community Nature Reserve, for example, the community group asked the Wildlife Trust for guidance and the Waungors partnership was established between them.

In most cases of areas in England and Wales, communities do not own the land but associated Friends group are involved to different extent in governance of the site.

They are especially involved in the performing work on the site but on some areas they also draw up management plans. In most cases, local authorities appreciate the work of the groups as they do not work on the sites in this manner and support good communication with the community group. They only set the regulatory framework for the site and advice. Friends groups are also able to apply pressure for their intentions and opinions. They are organised in the same way as community trusts but without ownership. They have limited control over the land. However, they voluntarily assist and work in partnership with the owners.

The large community forests Thames Chase and Marston Vale are part of England's Community Forests project to regenerate woodlands and to increase the woodland cover by involving communities. Each Community Forest is a partnership between local authorities and local, regional and national partners including the Forestry Commission and Natural England. The founding basis for each forest is a Forest Plan, approved by the government. Local people voluntarily help with direct work on the sites, school children help with planting and residents were asked for advice and opinions and shall be encouraged to participate in management. Again, the initiative did not come from the community itself but the programme was established in 1990 by the then Countryside Commission (England's Community Forests 2005).

The Alyn Valley Nature Reserve and the Sandwood Estate are other questionable CCAs. The latter consists of a large area owned by the John Muir Trust, a UK charity that owns different sites. The trust manages the land with a paid resident conservation manager and some of the work is done by work parties under a volunteer conservation programme and also pupils often lend a hand on the estate (John Muir Trust 2010). The trusts management committee, however, consists of representatives of the John Muir Trust together with resident crofters.

The Alyn Valley Nature Reserve Friends group mostly carries out small tasks such as weed-clearance on the primarily privately-owned sites and tries to raise awareness about the area to get more involved in the management and control of the land. Because of the low community governance of these particular sites, it is questionable that they conform to the ICCA criteria and could eventually not be deemed as CCAs.

5.6 Protected Areas and CCAs in the UK

The CBD PoWPA or the IUCN stated that many ICCAs qualify as protected areas. The IUCN sees ICCAs as one of the four main governance types that can achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values (Borrini-Feyerabend et al. 2010). However, ICCAs are not necessarily recognised as part of national protected area systems by the relevant government authorities or communities. They can be met with any of the IUCN protected area categories. Some communities prefer to maintain their ICCAs without any official PA status while others believe that such recognition would prevent or mitigate a variety of threats and mobilise needed support (Borrini-Feyerabend et al. 2010). State governments may be willing to use the legal instruments to recognise ICCAs as part of their national protected area system, and support them as such. The Regole of the Ampezzo Valley in Italy, for instance, is a community institution that is now formally in charge of governing the Parco Naturale delle Dolomiti d'Ampezzo, a regional protected area established partially on the Regole's land and partially on land belonging to the Italian state. They achieved formal recognition of the governance of a protected area by a community institution and obtained a tax-free status. They now also receive funds and subsidies from the Veneto regional government, from the Italian state and even the European Union. In the UK, special legislation to incorporate ICCAs into official protected areas was developed, for example in the New Forest of Hampshire that was transformed into a National Park. The community institution that protected and managed the forest as a common resource was respected and brought on to the management board for the National Park that was created, with integration of the verderers, the ones who had rights in forest use such as grazing and firewood collection, in the protected area governing board and not only as consultation or involvement in determining management objectives (Borrini-Feyerabend et al. 2010 pp. 54).

In regards to the identified areas in this study, it was not examined as to what extent the local groups are integrated in the designated protected area governing board. This should be examined in more research on protected areas and CCAs in the UK. However, PA designations on the sites were investigated to have an overview of PAs in which communities are involved. The most frequent protected

areas on the CCAs in this study are Local Nature Reserves (LNR), primarily located in England. LNRs have been specially set aside for biodiversity and where people can enjoy wildlife (DOE NIEA 2010). Usually they are areas with good wildlife content which are accessible to people and provide them with opportunities to be close to wildlife within, or close to, urban areas. Local Nature Reserves are sites where the principle objective is nature conservation, but where local people can have easy access and be involved in practical conservation measures taken on site (DOE NIEA 2010). The 14 identified LNRs are all managed by local authorities in conjunction with Friends groups. LNR is a statutory designation made under Section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, and amended by Schedule 11 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, by principal local authorities and, according to Natural England (2011b), a very clear signal to a local community of the local authority's commitment to nature conservation. Local authorities manage Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) to maintain and enhance their special wildlife and geology, which are often linked to actions and targets within a council's Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP). While it is the designation with most local people involvement it does not allow for entire community management. In England alone there are now more than 1400 LNRs (Natural England 2011b) which is a potential for establishing and identifying more CCAs in the UK, as in the identified areas in this study local Friends group manage the sites in conjunction with the local authorities. Sometimes it is the group that urges the recognition of the site as a protected area by consultations with the associated councils which shows the need and concern of the people for protection of their local environment.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) is the second frequent PA designation, occurring on 10 sites throughout England, Wales and Scotland for the best examples of the UK's flora, fauna, or geological or physiographical features in ownership of local authorities, partnerships and local and national-scale charities and management with local groups. Most SSSIs in the UK are privately-owned or managed; others are owned or managed by public bodies or non-government organisations.

Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) designations can be found on nine areas, defined in the European Union's Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) - habitats and

species considered to be of European interest following criteria given in the directive and assessed in the UK under a process set out by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC).

At three points, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) occur, considered to have significant landscape value in England, Wales or Northern Ireland, that has been specially designated by Natural England on behalf of the United Kingdom government, the Countryside Council for Wales or the Northern Ireland Environment Agency. In the UK, there are 46 AONBs and, according to the National Association on Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (NAAONB 2010), their care has been entrusted to the local authorities, organisations, community groups and individuals who live and work within them or who value them. The aims of this designation are to meet the need for quiet enjoyment of the countryside and consideration for the interests of people who live and work there. To achieve these aims, AONBs rely on planning controls and practical countryside management. Here, local communities can play a vital role.

Ramsar sites can be found on two areas, on a common and on the local Little Ouse Headwaters project. These sites contain wetland of international importance and get funded by the EU.

Two of the 50 sites represent Marine Nature Reserves (MNRs), a British designation officially awarded by the government to a marine reserve of national significance to conserve marine flora and fauna and geological features of special interest, but following the introduction of the Marine and Coastal Access Act (2009), MNRs in England and Wales have been replaced by Marine Conservation Zones (JNCC 2010). There were only three statutory MNRs in the UK, two of them are identified in this study as CCAs, but because of the replacement, Strangford Lough in Northern Ireland remains the only Marine Nature Reserve in UK waters.

Commons in this study are designated as LNRs and one of them also has different designations such as SSSI, SAC and Ramsar. In fact, about 55% of common land in England is designated as SSSI (i.e. valuable wildlife habitat), but 43% of this is classified as in poor or declining condition (i.e. bad for wildlife) (Defra 2009). 48% (176,500 ha) of registered common land in England lies within national parks whereas 30% (115,000 ha) of registered common land is within Areas of

Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) (Defra 2009). As Defra (2009) states, legislation is essential to bring these common sites into good condition. CCAs could play a vital role in achieving this.

Although areas are not formally recognized as CCAs, many of them are recognized by different award winning projects for their community and environmental efforts and get funded by different grants for maintaining a site with local people involvement, giving communities in some cases more governance of the sites but no statutory community management status. However, it supports and further attracts attention and interest for community initiatives in the UK.

5.7 Trends and development of CCAs in the UK

Throughout the UK, many initiatives for community-ownership of assets are increasing and community groups have become stronger and more confident. As CABE and the Asset Transfer Unit (2010) points out in their guide for community groups, because of public sector budget cutting, the added value of community involvement will be increasingly important to complement reduced state funding and some local authorities are considering transferring public open spaces as a way of reducing their costs. As demonstrated in this study, community groups obviously seek to take on management of local sites and participate in projects and programmes. The Woodland Trust and the Forestry Commission implement projects for habitat restoration and conservation with the participation of local residents. It can be assumed that organisations and agencies consider that it is necessary to include local people in management and governance to implement the UKBAP, local action plans and other environmental Acts.

There is a long history of communities collectively owning public open space in the UK. The protection of the commons under the Commons Act 2006 gives a chance for communal biodiversity conservation and for the establishment of CCAs. Over recent years, more community groups have exercised their rights to buy land in Scotland, encouraged by the land reform, and most likely will continue to increase in number. If these communities focus on nature conservation they would count as CCAs. There are also initiatives to identify, document and restore

the old commons in Scotland such as the Commonweal Project, launched by the Caledonia Centre for Social Development in 2002, which aims “to raise awareness and promote practical action to restore Scotland's commons to those to whom they belong” (Caledonia Centre for Social Development 2009 on webpage).

Furthermore, Local Nature Reserves as the PAs with local community involvement have the potential for identifying more CCAs in the UK. Still, there are no areas in the UK that are recognised statutory as community conserved areas.

6 Conclusion

This study is an attempt to describe a national analysis about community conserved areas (CCAs) in the UK and to identify areas and their characteristics that are managed and governed by local communities. CCAs were identified throughout the UK with their different extents of community governance, a variety of habitats and peoples' motivation to conserve them. It is demonstrated that ICCAs exist in different forms, not only in developing countries but also in the Global North.

In England and Wales, Friends groups primarily work together with the local authorities to conserve habitats and commons play an important role in connecting community participation and nature conservation.

In Scotland, encouraged by the land reform legislation with the Community Right to Buy, community trusts own and conserve land, in most cases woodlands that were sometimes also used for local production. In Northern Ireland, partnerships were established to promote habitats but more research to identify more CCAs is necessary. Most of the areas are woodland habitats but also include limestone grassland, wildflower meadows with old hedges, wetlands and marine areas. Many of these habitats are special and typical British landscapes, mentioned in the UKBAP, and contain rare or threatened species. People manage these habitats by maintaining and enhancing them, often with minimum intervention, and to enhance biodiversity. In many cases, people use traditional management techniques. They are keen to protect and promote their local nature and wildlife and take own initiative to do so. The land has intrinsic value to the people and they want to enjoy the land for recreation, enjoyment, education and work.

There is, in some cases, lack of community governance at the areas that are found to conform to the three ICCA criteria. There is often shared governance of the sites as land is managed in partnerships with community groups and other institutions. All areas, however, contribute to communal governance and biodiversity conservation and it is assumed that there are many more initiatives of communal governance throughout the UK. Communities strive to become more involved in planning and management of their local environment and many initiatives emerge

to conserve and protect local habitats and biodiversity. Although there is no statutory recognition of community conserved areas, communities govern many sites by themselves or in partnership with other institutions.

Many of the areas lie within PAs, especially in Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) which are managed by community groups in conjunction with the local authorities but no PA designation recognises community governance as of this research. LNRs should also be further examined in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Commons turned out to be good possible examples of CCAs as people have open access to them and see it as their own land and a piece of their history. As only three of them could be accessed they require be further examined as CCAs in the UK.

Many areas receive funding from different national or regional programmes or are recognised by awards. Communities have reported that the major threat, apart from direct threats on the site such as invasive species, fly-tipping and overuse, is funding and support for the management and maintaining of the sites. Considering them as community conserved areas could eventually give them more stable support.

Further research on CCAs in the UK could also consider crofters, small-scale subsistence farmers in the Scottish Highlands, and their conservation management as they are traditional farmers with tight communal bonds (Doughty 1999).

Another continuative interesting research topic would be to have a further look on the British Overseas Territories regarding ICCAs. Many of these territories, which do not form part of the United Kingdom itself but fall under its jurisdiction, may inhabit indigenous peoples or local communities. An example recently highly discussed demonstrates the British Indian Ocean Territory with the Chagos Archipelago, where the Chagossian people were evicted from the island in the early 1970's due to a US military base (Fogle 2011 and Bacher 2010). The government recently established the The Chagos Archipelago as the world's largest marine reserve. On December 3, 2010, Wikileaks released a document revealing that the marine reserve was established primarily in order to deny the native Chagos Islanders the right to return to their homeland in the Indian Ocean (Bacher 2010). Here ICCAs could be discussed in this context as a protected area designation.

The areas in this study were primarily accessed on the internet while improving details of the areas with telephone interviews. Internet research is helpful to get an overall picture about CCAs in the UK but it is not very reliable and accurate. For more precise findings and detailed information on areas it is necessary to conduct more interviews with people from the communities, but this could take more time. Contacts to Wildlife Trusts and Woodland Trust as well as to local authorities or individuals who work towards this topic are valuable for identifying CCAs though it takes time to find and to reach them.

The CCAs in this study can contribute to the global ICCA Registry as examples from Europe. Although the UK has no indigenous people or communities that are directly dependent on natural resources, the areas can be seen as similar in their benefits and outputs to the people as ICCAs in other countries. They maintain sustained benefits from ecosystem functions to support human welfare and mitigation of natural disasters and provide larger landscape and waterscape integration, they protect and conserve the diverse natural resources of the area and wildlife, rare or threatened species, they sustain religious, cultural and identity needs, secure collective or community land tenure, attract funding, support and political empowerment (Corrigan and Granziera 2010 p. 6-8). The ICCA Registry can bring benefits to local communities through sharing their information such as contributing to increased global recognition of ICCAs, building the potential to attain or increase national and governmental support and fend off possible exploitation by investment and development and contribute to the awareness of ICCAs and their role in cultural and environmental conservation (Corrigan and Granziera 2010 p. 18). Exchange between the CCAs in the UK for sharing experiences and learning opportunities would be supported and communities could be encouraged to take on the governance of their surrounding natural habitats for conservation.

With this study, further research on CCAs in the UK can be supported and the ICCA Registry can be populated with these findings. It is necessary to further research generally on CCAs in the UK, the diversity of governance types and their inclusion in the UK's national protected area system. In fact, the CBD COP 10,

recently held in Nagoya, Japan in 2010, states in its decisions to PoWPA to work towards establishing effective processes for the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, in full respect of their rights and recognition of their responsibilities, in the governance of protected areas, consistent with national law and applicable international obligations (CBD 2010).

Bibliography

Anagach Woods Trust. The Origin and History of Anagach Woods.
<http://www.anagachwoods.org.uk/history.htm> (accessed January 10, 2011)

Bacher, D. 2010. WikiLeaks Reveals Marine Reserve's Role in Denying Chagossian Right of Return. Indybay, San Francisco Bay Area Independent Media Center, <http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2010/12/08/18666039.php> (accessed February 13, 2011)

Bearsted Woodland Trust. Trees and Hedges.
<http://www.bearstedwoodlandtrust.org/land/trees> (accessed December 16, 2010)

Borrini-Feyerabend, G., A. Kothari and G. Oviedo. 2004. Indigenous and Local Communities and Protected Areas. Towards equity and enhanced conservation. IUCN/WCPA Best Practice Series no. 11, IUCN Cambridge (UK)

Borrini-Feyerabend, G., et al. 2010. Bio-cultural diversity conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities - examples and analysis. ICCA Consortium and Cenesta for GEF SGP, GTZ, IIED and IUCN/CEESP, Teheran

Britain Express Limited. English hedges.
<http://www.britainexpress.com/History/english-hedges.htm> (accessed February 17, 2011)

Bryan, A. 2004. A History of the Cwmtalwg Local Nature Reserve from 1988 to 2004. Cwmtalwg Local Nature Reserve,
<http://homepage.ntlworld.com/a.bryan7/history.htm> (accessed December 20, 2010)

CABE (Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment) and Asset Transfer Unit. 2010. Community-led spaces - A guide for local authorities and community groups. London. Available from
<http://www.cabe.org.uk/files/community-led-spaces.pdf> (accessed December 19, 2010)

Caledonia Centre for Social Development. 2009. Commonweal - Identifying, documenting and restoring Scottish Commons. <http://www.scottishcommons.org/> (accessed February 5, 2011)

- Carrifran Wildwood. 2010. Why we are doing it.
<http://www.carrifran.org.uk/about/why-we-are-doing-it/> (accessed December 19, 2010)
- CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity). 2010. COP 10 Decision X/31.Protected areas, <http://www.cbd.int/decision/cop/?id=12297> (accessed March 10, 2011)
- Chenevix-Trench, H. and Philip, L. 2000. Community and Conservation Ownership in Highland Scotland - A Common Focus in a Changing Context. Aberdeen Papers in Land Economy, University of Aberdeen, Department of Land Economy, October 2000. Available at http://www.caledonia.org.uk/socialland/joint_owners.htm (accessed December 18, 2010)
- Corrigan, C. 2010. Supplement to the Final Report of Phase 1 of the ICCA Registry, Philippines National Level ICCA Pilot Analysis. UNEP-WCMC.
- Corrigan, C., and Granziera, A. 2010. A Handbook for the Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas Registry. UNEP-WCMC.
- Cwmtalwg Local Nature Reserve. Homepage.
<http://homepage.ntlworld.com/a.bryan7/> (accessed December 20, 2010)
- Defra (Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs). 2009. What is Common Land?, <http://www.defra.gov.uk/rural/protected/commonland/about.htm>, (accessed December 13, 2010)
- Defra (Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs). 2010a. Environmental Stewardship. <http://ww2.defra.gov.uk/food-farm/land-manage/stewardship/> (accessed February 17, 2011)
- Defra (Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs). 2010b. What is the Commons Act?. <http://www.defra.gov.uk/rural/protected/commonland/about-act.htm> (accessed December 13, 2010)
- Defra (Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs). 2010c. Woodland Grant Scheme. <http://www.defra.gov.uk/rural/rdpe/erdp/schemes/woodland-grant.htm> (accessed February 17, 2011)
- Doughty, S. W. 1999. Land Tenure and Crofting in Scotland. Department of Spatial Information Science and Engineering, University of Maine. Available at

<http://www.spatial.maine.edu/~onsrud/Landtenure/CountryReport/Scotland.pdf>
(accessed February 17, 2011)

England's Community Forests. 2005. About England's Community Forests.
<http://www.communityforest.org.uk/aboutenglandsforests.htm> (accessed January 19, 2011)

Farmers Guardian. 2008. The crofters – indigenous people of the Highlands.
Published March 14th 2008. <http://www.farmersguardian.com/the-crofters-%96-indigenous-people-of-the-highlands/16275.article> (accessed February 13, 2011)

Flora Locale. 2011. Wild Meadows, An Introduction to wild meadows.
<http://www.wildmeadows.org.uk/content.asp?did=41> (accessed February 17, 2011)

Fogle, B. 2011. Ben Fogle: My fight for the forgotten islanders. The Telegraph,
published 12/02/2011.
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/africaandindianocean/mauritius/8320609/Ben-Fogle-My-fight-for-the-forgotten-islanders.html> (accessed February 13, 2011)

Forestry Commission Scotland. 2010. National Forest Land Scheme (NFLS).
<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/nfls> (accessed January 25, 2011)

Forestry Commission Wales. 2010. Newborough Forest Management Plan 2010-2015, p. 16. Available at
[http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/20101201NewboroughForestManagementPlanFINALv10.pdf/\\$FILE/20101201NewboroughForestManagementPlanFINALv10.pdf](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/20101201NewboroughForestManagementPlanFINALv10.pdf/$FILE/20101201NewboroughForestManagementPlanFINALv10.pdf)
(accessed December 19, 2010)

Friends of Blackley Forest. Projects in the Forest.
<http://www.blackleyforest.com/projects.html> (accessed January 15, 2011)

Gunton Woodland Community Project. 2011. About Us.
<http://www.onesuffolk.co.uk/GuntonWoodlandCommunityProject/Aboutus/>
(accessed January 16, 2011)

Heritage Lottery Fund. 2011. Heritage Grants.
<http://www.hlf.org.uk/HowToApply/programmes/Pages/heritagegrants.aspx>
(accessed February 17, 2011)

HIE (Highlands and Islands Enterprise). Community Right to Buy. HIE, Inverness, Scotland. <http://www.hie.co.uk/support-for-communities/community-assets/community-right-to-buy.htm> (accessed February 2011)

J. & H. Mitchell. 2006a. What is a guarantee company?. J. & H. Mitchell, WS, Pitlochry, Scotland. <http://www.hmitchell.co.uk/jhmchari-settingup.htm> (accessed February 17, 2011)

J. & H. Mitchell. 2006b. Setting up a charity. J. & H. Mitchell, WS. Pitlochry, Scotland. <http://www.hmitchell.co.uk/jhmchari-settingup.htm> (accessed February 17, 2011)

James, S. 2011. Ancient history in depth. BBC. http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/british_prehistory/peoples_01.shtml, last updated 2011-01-31 (accessed February 13, 2011)

JNCC (Joint Nature Conservation Committee). 2010. Protected sites designations directory. <http://www.jncc.gov.uk/page-1527> (accessed March 3, 2011)

John Muir Trust. 2010. Sandwood Estate Sutherland. <http://www.jmt.org/sandwood-estate.asp> (accessed December 19, 2010)

Keep Britain Tidy. Green Flag Award, Judging Criteria. <http://www.keepbritaintidy.org/GreenFlag/Judges/JudgingCriteria/Default.aspx> (accessed February 17, 2011)

Kothari, A. 2006. Community conserved areas: towards ecological and livelihood security. *Parks*, 16 (1): 3- 13, 2006.

Kothari, A., and Menon, M. 2010. Territories and Areas Conserved by Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (ICCAs): How Far Do National Laws and Policies Recognise Them? Report released at the CBD 10th Conference of Parties, October 2010, Nagoya.

Little Ouse Headwaters Project. 2011. LOHP, The background, <http://www.lohp.org.uk/> (accessed February 17, 2011)

Morvern Community Woodlands. Achnaha Community Wood management plan, p. 10. Available at <http://www.morverncommunitywoodlands.org.uk/publications/AchnahaCommunityWoodManagementPlan%20007-2012.pdf> (accessed December 21, 2010)

- NAAONB (National Association for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty). 2010. An Introduction to Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. <http://www.aonb.org.uk/wba/naaonb/naaonbpreview.nsf/Web%20Default%20FrameSet?OpenFrameSet&Frame=Main&Src=%2Fwba%2Fnaaonb%2Fnaaonbpreview.nsf%2F%24LU.WebHomePage%2F%24first!OpenDocument%26AutoFramed> (accessed February 16, 2010)
- Natural England. 2011a. European Heathlands, Facts, <http://www.english-nature.org.uk/heathlands/> (accessed February 9, 2011)
- Natural England. 2011b. Local Nature Reserves. <http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/designatedareas/lnr/default.aspx> (accessed January 20, 2011)
- Open Space Society on Commons. 2010. Commons. <http://www.oss.org.uk/commons/> (accessed December 13, 2010)
- Oppenheimer, S. 2006. Myths of british ancestry. In Prospect, 21/10/2006, <http://www.prospectmagazine.co.uk/2006/10/mythsofbritishancestry/> (accessed February 13, 2011)
- Owen, P. A. 1999. Coppicing and Pollarding techniques. <http://www.powen.freeseve.co.uk/Guides/undercon-Pruning/coppicing-pollarding.htm> (accessed February 14, 2011)
- Pentland, E. 2005. 'Dunning Community Trust' - It's formation and the purchase of Kincladie Woods. Dunning Community Trust, <http://www.dunning-community-trust.org.uk/dct/origins.php> (accessed December 18, 2010)
- Plantlife. 2010. Wetland. Plantlife, Salisbury, Wiltshire. http://www.plantlife.org.uk/wild_plants/key_habitats/wetland/ (accessed January 18, 2011)
- Scottish Crofting Federation. 2011. Crofting Connections. <http://www.crofting.org/index.php/connections> (accessed February 14, 2011)
- South West Community Woodlands Trust. 2011a. Courses and Workparties. <http://www.swcwt.org/courses--workparties.html> (accessed January 13, 2011)
- South West Community Woodlands Trust. 2011b. <http://www.swcwt.org/index.html> (accessed January 13, 2011)

Tarvin Community Woodland Trust. Activities.

<http://www.tarvincommunitywoodland.org/> (accessed December 17, 2010)

Thames Chase. 2010. Current work. <http://www.thameschase.org.uk/current4.html> (accessed December 19, 2010)

The Department of the Environment (DOE), Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA). 2010. Local Nature Reserves (LNRs).

http://www.doeni.gov.uk/niea/biodiversity/local_nature_reserves.htm (accessed December 19, 2010)

The National Archives. Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2003/2/notes/division/2> (accessed December 18, 2010)

The Scottish Government. 2011. Scottish Agriculture: A guide to Grants and Services: June 2003.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2003/06/17552/22901> (accessed February 17, 2011)

The Woodland Trust. 2011a. Ancient woodland,

<http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/en/why-woods-matter/what-are-they/types/ancient-woodland/Pages/ancient-woods.aspx> (accessed February 17, 2011)

The Woodland Trust. 2011b. Woods on your Doorstep.

<http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/en/about-us/projects/woyd/pages/woyd-uk.aspx> (accessed February 17, 2011)

Tidey, P. and Pollard, A. 2010. Characterising Community Woodlands in England and Exploring Support Needs. Small Woods Association, Coalbrookdale, Telford.

Available at

[http://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/pdf/Community_woodlands_England_study_April2010.pdf/\\$FILE/Community_woodlands_England_study_April2010.pdf](http://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/pdf/Community_woodlands_England_study_April2010.pdf/$FILE/Community_woodlands_England_study_April2010.pdf) (accessed December 21, 2010)

UKBAP. UK Biodiversity Action Plan. Habitat Action Plan Wet woodland.

<http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=4> (accessed January 19, 2011)

UNEP-WCMC (2010): ICCA Registry, <http://www.iccaregistry.org/en/about> (accessed February 8, 2011)

WBCWA (Wemyss Bay Community Woodland Association). Wemyss Bay Community Woodland Association (WBCWA).
<http://www.wemyssbay.net/news/wbcwa/index.html> (accessed December 21, 2010)

Wemyss Bay Community Woodland Association (WBCWA),
<http://www.wemyssbay.net/news/wbcwa/index.html> (accessed February 16, 2011)

Wemyss Bay Community Woodland Association (WBCWA). Wemyss Bay Community Woodland Association (WBCWA).
<http://www.wemyssbay.net/news/wbcwa/index.html> (accessed January 13, 2011)

Wightman, A. 2007. Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 (Part 2 The community right to buy) - A Two Year Review. Caledonia briefing No. 6. Published by the Land Programme of the Caledonia Centre for Social Development, 28 February 2007. Available at http://www.andywightman.com/briefings/docs/briefing_6.pdf (accessed February 18, 2011)

Wightman, A.; Callander, R. and Boyd, G. 2004. Common Land in Scotland: A Brief Overview. Commonweal of Scotland – Working Paper No. 3 (Issue 1). Published by the Caledonia Centre for Social Development, March 2004. Available at http://www.scottishcommons.org/docs/commonweal_3.pdf (accessed March 3, 2011)

Woodin, T., Crook, D. and Carpentier, V. 2010. Community and mutual ownership: A historical review. Institute of Education, University of London, published by Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF). Available at <http://www.jrf.org.uk/sites/files/jrf/community-mutual-ownership-full.pdf> (accessed March 10, 2011)

Woodland Investment Management Ltd. 2008. Hedges, hedgerows..., <http://www.woodlands.co.uk/blog/wildlife/hedges-hedgerows/> (accessed February 17, 2011)

Wooplaw Community Woodland 2010. How Wooplaw was started.
http://www.wooplaw.org.uk/?page_id=7 (accessed December 22, 2010)

Personal communications

Roger Crofts, IUCN UK National Committee, e-mail message to author (January 2011)

John Harrison, Middle Hill Common, telephone interview (December 2010)

Bridget Smith, Felton Common, telephone interview (December 2010)

Mick Brummage, Alyn Valley Woods, telephone interview (December 2010)

Bob Fleet, Wooplaw Community Woodland, telephone interview (December 2010)

John Wale, Bearsted Woodland Trust, telephone interview (December 2010)

Annexes

Annex I - Research spreadsheet

Identified CCAs in the UK	
1 - Name of CCA	Broad Oak Community Orchard
Source of information	Common Ground http://www.england-in-particular.info/orchards/o-dorset-i.html , Wildlife Trust http://www.dorsetwildlife.co.uk/ , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Joy Wallis, People & Wildlife Co-ordinator, Dorset Wildlife Trust, jwallis@dorsetwildlife.co.uk , http://www.dorsetwildlife.co.uk/
Overview	Conservation work and planting is organised by the Wildlife Trust with volunteers from the local community including John Poole who lives adjacent and has been an active volunteer and promoter of the orchard; because of the species-rich ground flora the orchard has been designated a Site of Nature Conservation interest, containing species such as cowslip, Oxe-eye daisy, Creeping Jenny, Devil's Bit Scabious, Wood Anemone and Corky-fruited Water Dropwort; Apple Day has been celebrated for many years and continues to grow, a free shuttle bus is organized from the nearest town, Sturminster Newton, to discourage visitors from driving into this small village
Spatial information/ point boundaries	0.18 ha; OS Map ref ST 791124 ; long -2.298642, lat 50.910685
Management	Dorset Wildlife Trust with volunteers from the local community plant and doing conservation work; volunteers carry out pruning, having received training from DWT; A hedge laying cycle is also in operation for the mature mixed hedges of ash, willow and oak; Annual wildlife surveys are carried out and habitats are improved and created using log piles, compost heaps, bird boxes and a pond which attracts dragonflies and toads
Biodiversity monitoring	Annual wildlife surveys are carried out
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	Local people involved in planting and maintaining local varieties and diversity of fruits, local production by local residents; celebrating Apple Day
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	Planting and maintaining local varieties and diversity of fruits, preserving old trees and promoting wildlife species; over 100 years old orchard with diversity of fruit trees; the under-storey is managed as a meadow;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site	Donated to Dorset Wildlife Trust in 1979; conservation work and planting is organised by the Wildlife Trust with volunteers from the local community
Protected Area definition*	Site of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Sustainable production

2 - Name of CCA	Manor Road Community Woodland
Source of information	Avon Local Nature Reserves, Bath&North East Somerset Council http://www.avonlocalnaturereserves.org.uk/reserve.asp?id=8 , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Miriam Woolnough, Countryside Management Officer Bath&North East Somerset Council, Miriam_Woolnough@bathnes.gov.uk
Overview	Over 19 000 trees and shrubs have been planted on the 21-hectare site with grant aid from the Forestry Commission; woodland lies within the Forest of Avon area, that is an initiative that aims to create a greener and healthier environment for people, owned by Bath & North East Somerset Council and managed by the council in partnership with the Friends of Manor Road community group
Spatial information/ point boundaries	21 ha; OS Map ref ST 666 671; lat 51.402392, long - 2.480812
Management	Tree planting; a friends group carries out monthly task days in the wood like coppicing, pruning, pond clearance, stone wall building
Biodiversity monitoring	n.a.
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	A Friends group carries out monthly task days in the wood; enjoyment, recreation purposes; land lies within an initiative that aims to create a greener and healthier environment for people
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	Over 19 000 trees and shrubs have been planted since 1993, most of them native broadleaves; 4 ha wildflower meadow; many different birds use the woodland; heaven for wildlife
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site	Owned by Bath & Somerset Council and managed in partnership with the Friends of Manor Road Community Woodland
Protected Area definition*	Local Nature Reserve (LNR)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

3 - Name of CCA	Little Downham Local Nature Reserve
Source of information	Cambridgeshire http://www.cambridgeshire.net/organisation/little-downham-local-nature-reserve/8459.aspx ; http://www.littledownham.net/conservation/index.shtml , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Mrs J M Wardle, Parish Council Clerk, ltdownhampc@btinternet.com, +441353649499
Overview	Maintained and managed by the Parish Council and the Downham Parish Conservation Group; Downham Parish Conservation Volunteers have been established since 1995, the land consists of three areas of land owned by Little Downham Parish Council; Pingle Wood, a small woodland area, fine grasses and wildflowers; Myles Meadow, 3 ha of pasture that is rented out for cattle grazing from May to October; and The Holts (Holts Spinney, secondary woodland of Ash and Field Maple trees & Holts Meadows, stock fenced for sheep grazing and has a pond); adjacent to the LNR is a Community Orchard;
Spatial information/ point boundaries	lat 52.425213, long 0.243947
Management	Managed and maintained by Parish Council and the Downham Parish Conservation Group for conservation, production, observation; Downham Parish Conservation Volunteers have completed many projects including renewing from ground up, a Cartshed which now houses old fenland agricultural equipment and tasks such as Hedge planting, keeping local footpaths open, pond works for great crested newts, and establishing a Community Orchard; group has been funded for the management by Grassroots Grants which is managed by Cambridgeshire Community Foundation; Annual General Meetings of the Group, has a Chairman and Treasurer; Hay from Chettisham meadow has been deposited in Myles Meadow to encourage the Green winged orchid to grow there; maintenance work undertaken, such as clearing or mowing grass, cutting back overgrown paths and hedges, planting hedges and trees, repairing bridges, gates and the cartshed; also, work including organising and promoting events, updating the log book, writing the monthly Parish magazine article, filling out applications, organising works schedule, looking after trees and organising funds; The Tree Warden Scheme is a national initiative to enable people to play an active role in conserving and enhancing their local trees and woods, so in this Parish there is a Tree Warden who endeavours to maintain, improve and promote the existing tree network within the Parish
Biodiversity monitoring	Bat surveys for the Bat Conservation Trust to check for the presence of Daubenton's Bats, which might typically skim calm waters for prey, as this bat is fairly widespread around Britain though not necessarily common locally; Biodiversity surveys were undertaken of the churchyard and cemetery; tree surveys

ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	People want to conserve the trees around their homes; they see the area as a valuable resource, promoting biodiversity for plants and animals, providing educational opportunities for young people, promoting understanding of the countryside and recreational facilities for families and dog walkers especially; cattle and sheep grazing; open to everyone to wander around and observe local wildlife and scenery; cultural features such as a cartshed housing old agricultural machinery and information about the area; different events on the site; barbeques; there is a Tree Warden who endeavours to maintain, improve and promote the existing tree network within the Parish; a seat near tree in Orchard was planted in memory of Mary MacCauliffe
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	Managed as a LNR; wildflowers exist, and apple and soft fruit trees giving rise to the presence of birds, especially Bullfinches, which are a biodiversity target species; a pond is the natural habitat for dragonflies, damselflies and a wide range of other water dependant creatures and plants; there is a Tree Warden who endeavours to maintain, improve and promote the existing tree network within the Parish
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	Owned by the Parish Council and managed and maintained with the Downham Parish Conservation Group
Protected Area definition*	Local Nature Reserve (LNR)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

4 - Name of CCA	Wick Golden Valley Local Nature Reserve
Source of information	South Gloucestershire Council http://www.southglos.gov.uk/NR/exeres/62ce014c-3059-4d38-ad56-a8ed17a16750 ; Green Flag Award http://www.keepbritaintidy.org/GreenFlag/GreenFlagAwardSites/SouthWest/Default.aspx?parkID=700 , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	South Gloucestershire Council John Morris, 01454 863581; Friends group: mail@golden-valley.info, 01454 863581;
Overview	The reserve contains a variety of habitats along the slopes and bottom of the valley, including a river corridor, woodland and grassland; There are some large old trees, including species that indicate ancient woodland such as the 'wild service' trees above the ochre bins; the Valley is home to an array of wildlife including Peregrine Falcons, Kingfishers, dippers, crayfish, bats and earth star fungi; The Friends of Wick Golden Valley help to look after the reserve and organise a range of events, talks, walks, practical workdays and activities to help raise awareness of the nature reserve and to enhance its biodiversity;; the group is open to anyone who has an interest in the reserve; owned by Cemex (Wick Quarry), managed and maintained by South Gloucestershire Council and friends group; Two waymarked trails and a Bat Audio Trail lead visitors around the site; The river acts as a corridor for many birds including kingfishers and dippers, it also supports otters and a wide variety of fish and aquatic life; The woodland is well known for its carpets of spring flowers including wild garlic and bluebells; Bird life is very rich and diverse and includes great spotted woodpeckers and tawny owls; Eight species of bat can be found here including the endangered lesser and greater horseshoe bats; The adjacent active quarry provides an important habitat for peregrine falcons; won the Green Flag Award
Spatial information/ point boundaries	8.8 ha; OS Map ref BS30 5RE; lat 51.453773, long - 2.428951
Management	A local friends group organises a range of events and practical workdays to help raise awareness of the nature reserve and to enhance its biodiversity; managed as a Local Nature Reserve;
Biodiversity monitoring	n.a.
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	A community group organises events and workdays in the reserve; access for all; managed by locals for raising awareness and enhance biodiversity
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	The site was cleared after heavy industrial workings and left for nature to reclaim; contains a variety of habitats along the slopes and bottom of the valley, including a river corridor, woodland and grassland, large old trees indicating ancient woodland; these habitats have been heavily influenced by the quarrying and production of refined ochre that took place in the 20th century; now managed as a LNR by locals to enhance biodiversity

ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 <i>- community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	The reserve is owned by Cemex (Wick Quarry) and cared for by local people who have set up a friends group to assist the South Gloucestershire Council in managing and maintaining the reserve;
Protected Area definition*	Local Nature Reserve (LNR)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

5 - Name of CCA	Troopers Hill Local Nature Reserve
Source of information	Friends of Troopers Hill http://www.troopers-hill.org.uk/intro.htm ; personal communication; accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Friends of Troopers Hill friends@troopers-hill.org.uk , Susan Acton-Campbell +441179475037, Chair of Friends Group
Overview	Troopers Hill is a hillside overlooking the River Avon that has been quarried and mined in the past; Habitat types are Acid grassland and Heath land with typical important species; with heather and broom, rocky crags, spoil heaps and gullies; two listed chimneys; wide range of wildlife present on the hill and its importance as a unique habitat in the Bristol area due to the presence of acidic soils; community group carry out conservation work, organise public events, create friendly community focus, open to everyone
Spatial information/ point boundaries	lat 51.456102, long -2.536067
Management	Friends group draw up a management plan in 2004 on what species need to be controlled, what work could be done by local people and what by Council; Council extended the plan for getting the Green Flag Award; the 5-year plan is reviewed every year with Friends group and Council together; meetings every 8 weeks with members from Council and open to all, publicly advertised to discuss funding, events, management; Friends group is doing a 2 hours work party every month, doing practical conservation work by clearing bracken and bramble; removing invasive species; grasscutting to preserve grassland; the Friends group gets advice for conservation purposes by a person from the Council
Biodiversity monitoring	Different documentary monitoring surveys every year: Plant surveys, invertebrate species survey, fungi surveys; they have a list of species which is publicly available; a small mammals study has been done;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	Local people involvement in management and decisions; recreational, educational purposes; enjoyment, community events
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	Monitoring surveys, increase awareness and interest of local people; practical work parties on the site to conserve nature such as removing invasive species, grass cutting on meadow land to preserve the grassland
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site	The Friends of Troopers Hill work voluntarily in partnership with Bristol City Council
Protected Area definition*	Local Nature Reserve (LNR)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

6 - Name of CCA	Spring Wood
Source of information	Ipswich Wildlife Group http://www.greenlivingcentre.org.uk/iwg/spring-wood.htm ; Small Woods Association http://initiatives.smallwoods.org.uk/index.php?link=directory.php&id=2097 , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, enquiries@derbyshirewt.co.uk, +441773881188; Ipswich Wildlife Group, iwg@greenlivingcentre.org.uk, Gerry Donlon 01473 726082
Overview	Ipswich Wildlife Group and Derbyshire Wildlife Trust are managing Spring Wood, an ancient woodland, a County Wildlife Site and a Local Nature Reserve; wide range of native tree species, important for its spring flowers, provides habitat for a wide range of birds and animals
Spatial information/ point boundaries	OS Map ref SK 379225; lat 52.799182, long -1.438577
Management	Voluntary staff and regular volunteers help in the wood; parts of the wood are coppiced by monthly work parties on a seven-year rotation; joint monthly conservation work party of Ipswich Wildlife Group and the Friends of Belstead Brook Park in Spring Wood; work to ensure easy access to the wood by maintaining paths and gates, limiting the invasive bracken and bramble;
Biodiversity monitoring	n.a.
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	Coppicing by locals as traditional method of managing woodland and the produce sold to local gardeners and allotment holders as beanpoles, peasticks and firewood; a growing number of people with an enjoyable woodland experience; beanpole festival; produce for local people;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	Regular conservation work; Coppicing creates valuable habitat for many woodland plant and animal species, and can extend the life of many trees in the process; voluntary litter pickers
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site	Conservation work and management done by Ipswich Wildlife Group and Derbyshire Wildlife Trust with many local volunteers; owned by?
Protected Area definition*	Local Nature Reserve (LNR), County Wildlife Site (CWS), Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

7 - Name of CCA	Forest of Marston Vale
Source of information	<p>The Forest of Marston Vale http://www.marstonvale.org/index.html; Smallwoods Association http://initiatives.smallwoods.org.uk/index.php?link=directory.php&id=2035, http://www.marstonvale.org/, accessed December 2010</p>
Contact person/ website	<p>James Russell, Woodland Development Manager, james.russell@marstonvale.org, +441234767037, Forest Centre, Station Road, Marston Moretaine, Bedfordshire, MK43 0PR; The Forest of Marston Vale info@marstonvale.org</p>
Overview	<p>The Forest of Marston Vale is itself centred on the 'Brickfields', an area of existing and former clay pits stretching ten miles between the M1 motorway and the southern fringe of Bedford; the Vale has not been well wooded since the Iron Age; much of the surviving ancient woodland probably resulted from regeneration after the end of the Roman occupation of Britain; the principal public open space in the Forest is Marston Vale Millennium Country Park which was opened in 2000; The park features several lakes including the large Stewartby Lake and extensive wetlands; there is a visitor centre called the Forest Centre, which has a Lakeside Cafe, shop, toilets and bike rental through Route 51 Cycles; the park attracts many visitors a year; the Forest of Marston Vale is working towards transforming 61 sq.miles of the Marston Vale landscape planting over 5 million trees by 2030; working to regenerate the countryside around towns and cities, creating a more attractive countryside in which people live, work and enjoy their leisure time; The Forest Centre is a major visitor centre serving the entire Forest of Marston Vale catchment, set in a new 250ha country park, Millennium Country Park, with wetlands nature reserve, cycle and horse trails, and a variety of created wildlife habitats; different sites for different purposes; The Millennium Country Park has become one of ten locations used regularly for Health Walks; one of twelve of community forest projects in the United Kingdom which was initiated by the Countryside Agency and the Forestry Commission, in partnership with Bedfordshire County Council, Mid Bedfordshire District Council, and Bedford Borough Council; most of this land is in private ownership, there are incentives for landowners to plant trees, and the target for community forests in general is to reach 30 % tree cover;</p>
Spatial information/ point boundaries	15798.9 ha; lat 52.064658, long -0.535398

	<p>Rectory Wood: The Forest of Marston Vale raised money from a number of local and national organisations to purchase 70 ha of farmland; the first phase of tree planting followed community consultation, with over 500 people attending 6 public planting events during the winter of 2003/4; in 2007/8 phase III was completed, bringing the total planted area to around 36ha, this new extensive area of well-wooded green space, delivered in partnership with public, private and voluntary sector partners, will help to reduce pressure on the ancient woodlands, provide informal recreational space for the local community, repair a damaged landscape and deliver national and local biodiversity action plan targets; Conquest Wood: an 8 ha area of new community woodland, planted over the winter of 2004/5 by the Forest of Marston Vale together with local people; Bedfordshire's Green Gateway: a major initiative started in 2000, by the Forest of Marston Vale to create a swathe of woodland and green space between the expanding communities of Wootton and Kempston; The five new woodlands of Buttons Ramsey, The Kill, Ridgeway Wood, Wiles Wood and Van Diemen's Land are linked by public footpaths and surfaced tracks; Shocott Spring: 52 ha of former arable farmland between the communities of Shortstown and Cotton End, purchased in 2005 by the Marston Vale Trust for creating new community woodland and in 2005/6 the first 25ha was planted, and in 2007/8 phase II (14ha) was completed with funds from People's Millions; the millionth tree was also planted as part of this project; several other projects the Trust is working on to extend the new woodland in purchasing land using funds from different sources and convert it to woodland by planting trees with local people; woodland design and tree establishment practices are promoted, in accordance with the best practice guidance provided by the Forestry Commission and others</p>
Management	
Biodiversity monitoring	Monitoring surveys on some sites especially where rare species are found
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	Forest creation with the Trust, locals, volunteers for recreation, conservation, job encouragement, cultural access, education; especially for local people rediscovering and enjoying the great outdoors; many different events on the sites for awareness raising and understanding of forest; quarterly newsletters; school projects; open access; sporting facilities; art projects like wood carving, performing arts communicating forest messages

ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	Planting and maintaining of local trees; transform the the Marston Vale from a damaged landscape to a well wooded landscape, enhancing biodiversity and wildlife habitats
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	Operated by a registered charity called the Marston Vale Trust, which undertakes various initiatives within the forest with local volunteers; company has nine Board members, drawn from the various public and private sector interests in the area; different land owners; some sites are purchased by the Trust, others owned by Woodland Trust, Wildlife Trust and different Councils
Protected Area definition*	No designation
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Habitat creation

8 - Name of CCA	Thames Chase Community Forest
Source of information	Thames Chase Community Forest http://www.thameschase.org.uk/index.html , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Robert Jennings, Director, enquiries@thameschase.org.uk , +441708641880
Overview	Working towards increasing the woodland cover with involvement of local people; working to regenerate the countryside around towns and cities, creating a more attractive countryside in which people live, work and enjoy their leisure time; Since 1990, over 1.3 million new trees have been planted in Thames Chase; in addition to woodlands, other habitats such as meadows, grasslands, wetlands, river valleys, commons and hedges are all essential parts of the Community Forest, which are being conserved, enhanced, or created, to improve the landscape and the biodiversity; there are over 47 different sites that belong to the Thames Chase forest; over 37km of hedgerows have been created or improved; Thames Chase is a partnership project and many organisations from the public, private and voluntary sectors are all involved in creating the Community Forest; several of the community woodland sites operate volunteer warden or "friends of" schemes such as in Berwick Woods, Harold Court Woods and Pages Wood; sites contain also Commons, "Woods on Your Doorstep" project
Spatial information/ point boundaries	9,842 ha; lat 51.551812, long 0.281680
Management	New woodlands are being created in a wide variety of ways; from small plantings around development sites to the recent large-scale plantings carried out by the Forestry Commission; the Thames Chase Team, based at the Thames Chase Forest Centre outside Upminster, implements the key areas of work of the forest; the Team currently consists of 9 core Thames Chase staff, directly employed by Essex CC, and 4 Forestry Commission staff; The Thames Chase Joint Committee is the executive body in Thames Chase which contains representatives of a number of Thames Chase Partners, including members from each of the five local authorities; The Joint Committee meets quarterly and instructs the Thames Chase Team to carry out work on behalf of the Partnership; The Thames Chase Conservation Volunteers is a volunteering group that operates from the Thames Chase Forest Centre, near Upminster, which meets weekly; there are occasional weekend tasks as well; two other groups also meet quarterly and advise the Thames Chase Team: the Forest Forum is made up of local interest groups and local representatives of national organisations, representing areas such as wildlife, access, heritage etc.; The Planners Group consists of local authority officers from the five partner authorities and advises at strategic and project level; the 47 sites open to public access within Thames Chase are managed by 14 different organisations: Brentwood Borough Council, Davy Down Trust Co. Ltd, Essex County Council, Essex Wildlife Trust, Forestry Commission, Grangewaters Outdoor Education Centre, London Borough of Barking and Dagenham, London Borough of Havering, London Wildlife Trust, Stubbers Adventure Centre, Tarmac Southern Ltd Thurrock Council, Waste Recycling Group, The Woodland Trust; between 2000 and 2003, the Forestry Commission

	invested some million of government money in Thames Chase for creating new publicly accessible woodlands; in these 3 years, the Commission acquired over 330ha of land, planted 400,000 trees and built 24km of accessible paths; the Thames Chase Community Tree Nursery with saplings of a wide range of native tree species, grown from locally sourced seed, tended by Thames Chase volunteers;
Biodiversity monitoring	n.a.
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	Local people renew and regenerate a varied wooded landscape for local people to influence, create, use, enjoy and cherish; for recreation, conservation, job encouragement, cultural access, education; an environmental education service is delivered by staff at the Thames Chase Forest Centre; school activities; many different events such as ecotherapy workshops held for people to be outdoors in a natural place to explore calmness, life changing and seasons returning and to get in touch with deeper natural processes and to acknowledge place in the rhythms of life; health programmes; carved wooden sculptures in the woods; monthly farmers' markets in the wood
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	Planting native trees, supporting natural biodiversity, woodland creation and restoration
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	Managed and maintained by the Thames Chase Joint Committee comprising three elected members from each of the five local authority partners, together with representatives of the Confederation of British Industry, Country Landowners Association, Forestry Commission and National Farmers Union; the Joint Committee is advised by representatives from the Arts Council, Forestry Commission, Natural England and Sport England; together with the Forest Forum and the Planners Group, this makes the Thames Chase Team who implement the Thames Chase plan; the team is supported by volunteers and friends; the 47 sites open to public access within Thames Chase are managed by 14 different organisations: Brentwood Borough Council, Davy Down Trust Co. Ltd, Essex County Council, Essex Wildlife Trust, Forestry Commission, Grangewaters Outdoor Education Centre, London Borough of Barking and Dagenham, London Borough of Havering, London Wildlife Trust, Stubbers Adventure Centre, Tarmac Southern Ltd Thurrock Council, Waste Recycling Group, The Woodland Trust; different land owners
Protected Area definition*	No designation
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Habitat creation

9 - Name of CCA	Ferndown Local Nature Reserve
Source of information	Friends of Ferndown Local Nature Reserve http://ferndownnature.blogspot.com/ ; Stafford Borough Council http://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/ferndown-local-nature-reserve/ ; Management Plan http://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/ferndown-local-nature-reserve/ , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Stafford Borough Council, Biodiversity Officer, Bill Waller, wwaller@staffordbc.gov.uk ; Friends of Ferndown LNR Committee, ferndown.nature@gmail.com , +448443510941
Overview	Land with six compartments comprising old agricultural fields whose hedgerow boundaries divide the site; main habitats are meadow and scrub woodland; part of the site, an old paddock field includes a Biodiversity Alert Site noted for its botanical interest; two fields are managed as wildflower meadows
Spatial information/ point boundaries	5.5 ha; OS Map ref SJ 852422; lat 52.977392, long - 2.221114
Management	Five-year management plan to restore the condition of the meadows; main management is meadow management, additional planting and scrub control; some areas are mown on a regular basis to allow walking and games; litter picking; Ragwort and Creeping Thistle are invasive weed that is pulled prior to the hay cut; Drainage is an issue on the site as the heavy soils can become water logged at times; The Friends of Ferndown LNR provides the focus for the local community to take a sense of ownership of the reserve, in contributing volunteer time to conservation tasks, fundraising, monitoring of wildlife and generally “keeping an eye” on the site; involving the community has been key to the success of work on site, increased sense of ownership helps reduce incidents of dog fouling, litter and fly tipping; a committee exists with Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer; the committee applied for funding towards a series of drainage ditches and creation of a couple of wetland pools to increase the biodiversity of the site;
Biodiversity monitoring	Flora and fauna surveys; nest boxes for Birds and Bats erected; Bird lists exist from bird surveys; to encourage a variety of Birds people set up a bird feeding area; Plant lists
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	Local people manage and maintain the site for an open space for recreation, nature exploration, conservation; children's play area; events on the site such as plant walk, bird walk, butterflies and moths events; community sense of ownership of the site
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	A management plan exists for the site which aims to restore the condition of the meadows, providing a greater variety of wildflowers that will in turn support many invertebrates such as butterflies and moths; scrub area supports many species of bird and the Friends of Ferndown group have created a feeding station for them
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	The Friends of Ferndown LNR together with the Stafford Borough Council are managing the site, carry out activities for people, set up a management plan and do conservation work; children's play area managed by Stafford Borough Council; the Council owns the site
Protected Area definition*	Local Nature Reserve (LNR), Biodiversity Alert Site (BAS)

UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation
10 - Name of CCA	Middle Hill Common
Source of information	Avon Local Nature Reserves, Bath&North East Somerset Council http://www.avonlocalnaturereserves.org.uk/reserve.asp?id=25 ; Natural England LNR http://www.english-nature.org.uk/special/lmr/lmr_details.asp?C=0&N=&ID=124 ; personal communication; accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Mr John Harrison, Weston-in-Gordano Parish Council; boxbush@waitrose.com , 01275 843024
Overview	The Parish Council of Weston-in-Gordano bought the land in 2000 from a private landowner; before 1940 there was sheep grazing on the site that promotes the grassland habitat; the grazing stopped in 1940, since then no one exercises their grazing rights anymore; in 1988 the site was jungle vegetation when local people initiatives came up to preserve the natural grassland, so they cleared bracken and bramble and the seeds for the limestone grassland habitat were still there; the habitats on the common comprise unimproved calcareous limestone grassland, scrub and broad-leaved woodland; the grassland sward varies in height supporting a range of flowering plants and providing a varied habitat for invertebrates and butterflies; the site is on common land and open access for all, but many rules regarding resource use as the site is a declared Local Nature Reserve (by North Somerset Council) and under the Countryside Stewardship (under DEFRA) after initiatives by the Weston-in-Gordano community; the village population is approx 300;
Spatial information/ point boundaries	1.48 ha; lat 51.467198, long -2.798205
Management	Parish Council has a meeting once a month; managed regarding Countryside Stewardship and Local Nature Reserve; management plan set up by the Council with DEFRA (regarding the Countryside Stewardship) and also Natural England because of the policies regarding Local Nature Reserve designation (designated 2004) and Countryside Stewardship; annual visits of the site by DEFRA and by Avon Wildlife Trust for advice; field work done by Parish Council volunteers, everyone can join the work like cutting grass, clearing paths of bracken and bramble; the grass is cut by hand and they cut it in September after the grass had chance to grow over spring and summer; after 3 days the grass will be removed from the land so that the seeds have 3 days to drop; the hay come in the nearby woodland; there is an important grasshoppers population on the site so that the plants are managed to promote it; there is no grazing on the common
Biodiversity monitoring	Monitoring surveys mainly by Avon Wildlife Trust; complete list of plant species;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	Site is of great importance to the local community; they find it important as an open space for everyone to sit, enjoyment, ride horses; it is well used as an amenity; grassland cutting by hand in a traditional way

ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	The community is conducting conservation work such as grassland cutting traditionally by hand, they do not use agricultural machines as land is too steep and that also supports the ground; clearance of bracken and bramble to promote the limestone grassland habitat; promoting plants for different typical wildlife species on the site
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	Bought by Weston-in-Gordano Parish Council in 2000; managed by local Middle Hill Management Team, a sub committee of Weston-in-Gordano Parish Council;
Protected Area definition*	Local Nature Reserve (LNR)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

11 - Name of CCA	Felton Common
Source of information	Avon Local Nature Reserves, Bath&Nort East Somerset Council http://www.avonlocalnaturereserves.org.uk/reserve.asp?id=31 , personal communication, accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Mrs Bridget Smith, Bridgets@dialstart.net, +441275472798
Overview	The Common was emerged in medieval times; it has a mosaic of habitats from acidic and calcareous grassland to scrub and bracken which support a wide variety of plants, invertebrates and birds; as it is a common, everybody is allowed to go there and to exercise commoner's rights, but no one is exercising them actually as it is too dangerous for cattle grazing; there is also a mixture of agricultural and recreational uses and the site is popular with walkers and horse-riders; there is a archaeological monument on the site which gives the common also natural history interest, 3 villages are in the Winford Parish Council area which is owning the site, two of them are adjacent to the common: Winford and Felton
Spatial information/ point boundaries	39.6 ha; lat 51.382436, long -2.694706
Management	The Common is managed by a Management Committee from Winford Parish Council, supported by a grant from the Countryside Stewardship Agreement by Natural England/DEFRA; a management plan was set up; main management on the site includes grasscutting and taking away, bracken and japanese knot weed clearance, keeping the paths open and litter picking; a local contractor works on the site who get funded and also volunteer work parties are taking place which everyone can join; they do not mowing the grass until the bluebells come up; signs were put up that signals byelaws like no driving on the common; it is used by the community for picknicks, biking, dog walking, enjoyment; everyone is allowed to go on the common and to do everything there, which is a problem from the conservation point of view; Problems: it is overused acc to Parish Council; planes coming from Bristol airport over the common; cars that drive through the common or park there; people tend to take the common as their garden; the Parish Council would be allowed to put up a gate to control parking on the common if it is reasonable but complaints by people; North Somerset District Council encouraged the Parish Council to designate it as a Local Nature Reserve; there is no friends group established yet as there are too less people interested in one
Biodiversity monitoring	There is a biodiversity monitoring group with bird experts that conducts surveys on flowers, birds, butterflies; a regular report is written, a very keen botanist lists plant species; managed by local people; there is a mixture of conservation and recreational uses and the site is popular with walkers and horse-riders, used mainly for recreational purposes; the site is a locally important area, people feel passionate and proud about the common area; as it is a common, everybody is allowed to go there and to exercise commoner's rights, but no one is exercising them actually as it is too dangerous for cattle grazing; there are people with commoners' rights to graze cattle, dig hay etc that goes back centuries and these go to houses or people; therefore some people have
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	

	commoners' rights but they do not live there anymore or people who settled in have rights because of the house; the North Somerset Council has a list of these rights and commoners; but no one is exercising them although some are complaining what is going on on the common; there is a village hall on the common and sometimes the community has events there with guided walks
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	objective is to achieve a balance between the agricultural, recreational, historical and environmental importance of this resource in cooperation of all community people; they reduce the bracken, gorse and scrub cover in order to encourage biodiversity; achieved according to a programme which includes annual mowing of the western section, gorse bashing, and felling some of the trees at the eastern end; they do not mowing the grass until the bluebells come up; someone take the bracken to compost it
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site	The common is owned by the Winford Parish Council and managed through a working party of 4 councillors, and 2 co-optees who live adjacent to the Common; responsible for the management of the Common is the North Somerset District Council, but in fact the Parish Council is managing it; much of the work has been achieved through voluntary labour and financial support from local businesses
Protected Area definition*	Local Nature Reserve (LNR)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

12 - Name of CCA	Somersham Local Nature Reserve
Source of information	Cambridgeshire County Council http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/environment/natureconservation/designatedsites/Somersham+LNR.htm ; Cambridgeshire.net: http://www.cambridgeshire.net/event/somersham-local-nature-reserve-launch/28893.aspx , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Environment Management and Climate Change Cambridgeshire County Council, emcc@cambridgeshire.gov.uk, +441223715560
Overview	The site includes many wildlife habitats and areas of woodland, grassland and wildflower meadows, a lake and wet woodland; the site is enjoyed by families, walkers, joggers, anglers, dog-walkers and horse riders from the surrounding area; a path runs around the lake and there is a section of the Somersham to Chatteris disused railway line that runs through the middle of the site; the old railway was closed in the 1960's when nature started to take over, the lake was a result of gravel extraction to create the railway;
Spatial information/ point boundaries	12 ha; OS Map ref TL3677; lat 52.378535, long 0.003908
Management	Various activities such as cutting back scrub and bramble to encourage grassland habitat, coppicing trees around the lake to improve water quality and keeping the paths clear; use a contractor to cut the meadow areas in September and rake off the cuttings, which are then composted on site; Cambridgeshire County Council and Somersham Parish Council manage the site alongside the Nature Reserve Group, which is made of members of the local community, meets four times a year and is open to all to join; the practical work at the reserve is done by both volunteers and paid contractors; hold volunteer work parties all year round to do various activities
Biodiversity monitoring	Wildlife surveys
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	The site is enjoyed by families, walkers, joggers, anglers, dog-walkers and horse riders from the surrounding area; recreation, conservation purposes; members of the community care for the site; community events on the site; the opening of the site had an official ribbon cutting ceremony and a parade through the new gates and community event with guided nature walks, activities such as pond dipping, bug hunting, creating willow sculptures, craft activities, a marquee with stalls and BBQ;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	Various activities such as cutting back scrub and bramble to encourage grassland habitat, coppicing trees around the lake to improve water quality and keeping the paths clear; use a contractor to cut the meadow areas in September and rake off the cuttings, which are then composted on site; area promotes plenty of wildlife
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site	Owned by Cambridgeshire County Council and Somersham Parish Council and managed by the Councils alongside the Nature Reserve Group, which is made of members of the local community; the practical work at the reserve is done by both volunteers and paid contractors;
Protected Area definition*	Local Nature Reserve (LNR)

UK country	England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose		Conservation and recreation

13 - Name of CCA	The Sandwood Estate
Source of information	John Muir Trust http://www.jmt.org/sandwood-estate.asp ; http://www.caledonia.org.uk/socialland/joint_owners.htm ; Management Plan summary http://www.jmt.org/sandwood-mgt-plan.asp , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	John Muir Trust admin@jmt.org ; Cathel Morrison, Conservation Manager Sandwood, +441971521240
Overview	The John Muir Trust bought the Estate in order to safeguard the site from major, inappropriate developments, to undertake positive management of activities which as a landowner it controls and to encourage, facilitate and support sustainable crofting practices; the role of JMT in practical action is limited to visitor management (pathwork, interpretation etc.), freshwater fishing, deer management and general services linked to public safety; JMT bought the estate to further its aim to protect and conserve wild places and to increase awareness and understanding of the value of such places; Tree planting has been a significant new development on the estate with woodland recently planted on former grazing land at Sandwood Loch; This scheme is significant in that it involves the crofters directly in forestry activities; The Trust also organises a number of volunteer work parties to undertake conservation work, particularly erosion control on the machair and footpath maintenance; There are several Sandwood weekends each year; Partnerships: Sandwood Management Committee, a formal means for the Trust and crofting tenants to meet at least twice a year; Grazings committees on each of the three common grazings, Oldshoremore, Oldshorebeg and Sheigra, Cape Wrath Conservation Group, West Sutherland Deer Management Group, West Sutherland & Wester Ross district Salmon Fisheries Board
Spatial information/ point boundaries	4,650 ha; OS Map ref NC 220610; lat 58.501177, long - 5.055575
Management	Day-to-day management is overseen by the resident conservation manager; The estate is all croft land, the 54 crofts are managed by 10 working crofters; the conservation manager and the wildland ranger for the area work on the estate including stabilising the dunes by planting marram grass, restoring old drystane dykes, conducting surveys of vegetation and of animals and birds, planting native tree species, repairing wear on the Sandwood Bay path, rural Skills training programme with Kinlochbervie High School; some of this is done by work parties under a volunteer conservation programme with members of the Trust or non-members; work party volunteers, mostly JMT members, spend weekends camping out or staying locally; there are several Sandwood weekends each year; pupils from Kinlochbervie High School often lend a hand on the estate; there is scope for sympathetic management, path maintenance, erosion control, and a survey programme of flora, fauna and human history; maintain good working relationships with crofting tenants and all local residents; Management Plan for the area exists

Biodiversity monitoring	Vegetation and animals and birds surveys; area monitoring; knowledge of the natural heritage, cultural heritage and the socioeconomics of the Estate through relevant research and surveys
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	Sandwood has a unique blend of a landscape steeped in human history, and rich in its purity and wildness; long-term vision is to see that its remote and unpopulated areas retain their character of exposure and wildness, whilst the populated areas contain a thriving community; protect the cultural heritage of the Estate with particular regard to traditions, history and archaeology; local residents involved in work on the site; for recreational purposes, conservation and enjoyment; education events; local community initiatives and training skills for sustainable management
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	The Trust organises a number of volunteer work parties to undertake conservation work, particularly erosion control on the machair and footpath maintenance; Tree planting on the estate planted on former grazing land at Sandwood Loch; The John Muir Trust aims to protect and conserve the wild places and to increase awareness and understanding of the value of such places; practical conservation work such as stabilising the dunes by planting marram grass, restoring old drystone dykes, conducting surveys of vegetation and of animals and birds, planting native tree species, repairing wear on the Sandwood Bay path
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	The estate is run by a management committee consisting of six crofters and two to three representatives of the John Muir Trust; although the Trust would like to involve non-crofting residents, friction between locals and incomers led crofters to state that they would not work on a committee that included non-crofters; the committee meets four times a year to discuss important issues; Day-to-day management is overseen by the resident conservation manager, employed directly by the Trust; The Trust gives the estate considerable autonomy in management, to activate the community
Protected Area definition*	2 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Scotland
Maintenance purpose	Sustainable production

14 - Name of CCA	Kenninghall Wood and Hemp Meadow Wood
Source of information	Kenninghall Lands Trust http://www.kenninghall-landstrust.org.uk/background.html , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Kenninghall Lands Trust lands-trust@kenninghall.org.uk
Overview	In the late 1980's concern was expressed at the loss of trees, hedgerows, and woods in the area with the resultant loss of wildlife habitat and amenity value; a local exhibition of aerial photographs and old maps underlined this as a serious problem resulting in a series of village initiatives to reverse the trend; in 1999 Kenninghall Wood was planted and in 2002, 10.5 acres of arable land adjoining Kenninghall Wood was offered for sale and the Kenninghall Lands Trust was formed to mastermind the purchase and organise future management of the land and to promote any future environmental projects within the village; within four months £20,000 had been raised from the residents and friends of Kenninghall and with the help of grants the purchase was completed in November 2002; Planting of Hemp Meadow Wood took place over one weekend in January 2003 when some 6,000 trees were planted by volunteers; many of the trees had been raised in local gardens from seedlings; one corner of the wood was planted by the children of Kenninghall Primary School; Kenninghall Lands Trust is only able to achieve its goals with the help of voluntary donations which are needed not only to fund new projects but also to cover the day to day running of the woods; people built a shelter in Hemp Wood
Spatial information/ point boundaries	Kenninghall Wood 2.2 ha includes 0.4 ha orchard, Hemp Meadow Wood 4.3 ha; OS Map ref TM034865; lat 52.439036, long 0.991754
Management	Native tree planting; Work parties with members of the Trust and friends for Coppicing, clearance of bracken and bramble, clearing the self seeded willow which rapidly outgrows and shades some of the planted trees; Annual General Meetings of the Committee that has a Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, Solicitor and other Trustees and a Norfolk County Council Environment Manager as a Committee member; people created a habitat suitable for some of the annual wild flowers that used to be seen in corn fields and other regularly ploughed fields but due to intensive farming, use of herbicides etc many old time favourites are seldom seen today, this area will be managed for arable species such as the common poppy, corncockle, white campion and corn marigold and part is reserved for varieties of grasses that provide seed for overwintering birds; tree, orchard, and hedge planting
Biodiversity monitoring	Bird list exists
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	The woods are of great concern to the village; they have become a much used local amenity; Norfolk fruit trees varieties planted by and for local people; local Scouts and Kenninghall Primary School use the sites as an educational resource and horse riding is allowed in Hemp Meadow Wood during certain times of the year; an annual festival on Midsummer's Day has become a permanent event and many other events take place on the site such as Apple Days, in Winter Wassailing with a Wassail tree, songs and poems, cider and apple juice to buy and bonfire and Christmas trees to recycle; guided walks; season festivals

ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	The community planted the woods with native trees for conservation, protection and improvement of landscape and natural environment of the village and to provide educational and recreational amenities for the community; the Trust with other villagers are managing and maintaining the woods acc to these aims;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	A village Trust was formed to buy and manage the woods; the community wood Kenninghall Wood is planted and managed by the villagers under the umbrella of the Kenninghall Parish Council who owns this part; Hemp Meadow Wood is owned and managed by the Trust and the entire community
Protected Area definition*	No designation
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

15 - Name of CCA	Little Ouse Headwaters Project
Source of information	Via Andrew Balmford; Little Ouse Headwaters Project http://www.lohp.org.uk/
Contact person/ website	Little Ouse Headwaters Project, enquiries@lohp.org.uk ; http://www.lohp.org.uk/
Overview	<p>The Little Ouse Headwaters Project is a local Charity dedicated to the restoration, conservation and promotion of enjoyment of the wildlife and landscape of the Little Ouse valley on the Suffolk/Norfolk borders; Groups of interested residents from the Parishes of Redgrave, South Lopham, Blo'Norton, Hinderclay and Thelnetham came together in 2002 to establish a charity to conserve and enhance the environmental value of the river valley within their parishes; charity is run entirely by volunteers; its trustees comprise nominees from the five Parish Councils in the project area together with other local residents with particular knowledge and interests relevant to the project; practical land management is achieved through a mix of volunteer labour and the use, whenever possible, of local contractors; have started to improve public access to the valley by the creation of new permissive footpaths; in 2002, the project secured ten-year tenancy agreements on two important parcels of land adjacent to the river; purchased the western end of Blo'Norton Fen SSSI/SAC and named it 'Betty's Fen'; In 2005 the LOHP entered into a new lease agreement for Blo' Norton Fen and Blo' Norton Little Fen, enabling to continue the successful restoration and management work started by the Blo' Norton Fen Conservation Group in 1997</p>
Spatial information/ point boundaries	lat 52.375829, long 1.051589; map of areas on website
Management	<p>The project aims to re-create and maintain a continuous corridor of wildlife habitat along the headwaters of the Little Ouse by improving the wildlife diversity where appropriate, restoring natural river features and improving water quality; Work parties are held on the second Sunday in most months and on most Wednesday mornings, mainly with volunteer residents doing conservation work on the sites such as hedge planting, coppicing, scrub clearance, rubbish clearance; and also some work done by local contractors; The open fen vegetation at Hinderclay Fen is cut on rotation, with about a third of the area cut each year; The LOHP is a registered charity and Company with a Chair and Hinderclay Fen warden, Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer and Vice-chair and other Trustees; The LOHP trustees are all local residents, and each parish council in the project area has nominated one trustee from their village; Annual General Meetings are held; Management Plan for the different areas; project to raise funding for the management and restoration; maintenance and enhancement of the existing wetland, woodland and heathland, and re-creation of some of the valley's fens, meadows and river meanders; creation of new permissive footpaths; raised funds from the Heritage Lottery Fund, DEFRA (Countryside Stewardship), the Shell Better Britain Community Fund and the East Anglian Daily Times Wild Flower Award scheme to start to restore and also from European Union;</p>
Biodiversity monitoring	Fungi, bats and flora recordings, with help from other environment groups;

ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	Local residents came together to improve the landscape within their parishes for recreation, amenity and education value for the community; events like Village History walks, New Year walks; some of the area's roads have been designated "Quiet Lanes", encouraging use by pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	Local people project was set up with the aim to re-create and maintain a continuous corridor of wildlife habitat along the headwaters of the Little Ouse by improving the wildlife diversity where appropriate, restoring natural river features and improving water quality; regular maintenance tasks include hedge planting, coppicing, scrub clearance, rubbish clearance;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	Local people set up a charity that purchased and leased land for conservation; sites are managed and decided voluntarily by them; the Trust includes representatives from each involved village
Protected Area definition*	Includes two Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) which also form part of the new Waveney and Little Ouse Valley Fen Special Area of Conservation (SAC); area adjoins Redgrave and Lopham Fen which is a National Nature Reserve (NNR) and internationally important wetland (Ramsar)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

16 - Name of CCA	Culag Wood/ Coille Chulaig
Source of information	Via file Land and Communities p. 8 http://rural.carnegieuktrust.org.uk/files/rural/Land%20and%20Communities.pdf , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Culag Community Woodland Trust, hiliary@culagwoods.org.uk; +441571844368; http://www.culagwoods.org.uk/index.html
Overview	Culag Community Woodland Trust (CCWT) was formed in 1995 to manage Culag Wood under a fifty-year lease from the owners, Assynt Estates and Highland Council; also, CCWT owns the Little Assynt Estate, which it bought in November 2000; in July 2003 CCWT purchased an office to facilitate the smooth running of administration and communication with local residents, visitors and other organisations; a variety of trails wind their way through the mixed woodland and down to the shore; leased by the community of Lochinver since 1992 the woodlands have become the venue for many exciting projects such as the sculpture trail, the heron-viewing project, the tepee and children's play area; the Wood is a great place to see wildlife; a mixture of native trees and more recent planted conifers create a mosaic of habitats interspersed with rocky crags and boggy swamps sloping down to the rugged coast; lots of wildlife, paths, lichens, sea and shore
Spatial information/ point boundaries	40 ha; Trust: lat 58.147324, long -5.243800; map of area on the website;
Management	Wood managed for sustainable timber; Managed also for conservation and recreational purposes; Working in partnership with Scottish Natural Heritage, the Trust has begun a long term plan to improve access, to involve more people in the understanding and management of their land; some 2000 acres have been planted with native species under a Woodland Grant Scheme, and work is under way to increase "accessibility for all" to the area, with improved car parking, footpaths
Biodiversity monitoring	A project to map habitats and measure growth amongst the Lobaria family of lichens is running;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	The local Trust is managing the wood to provide appropriate recreational opportunities for locals and visitors; enjoyment and education about the land
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	The Trust is managing the wood aiming to restore and protect their natural landscape and ecology and to provide appropriate recreational opportunities for locals and visitors; wildlife, native trees, lichens, sea and shore
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site	Culag Community Woodland Trust is managing the wood under a fifty-year lease from the owners, Assynt Estates and Highland Council; it is run by twelve directors drawn from the local community and has an active membership as well as enthusiastic volunteers and staff who all help the Trust
Protected Area definition*	No designation
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Scotland
Maintenance purpose	Sustainable production

17 - Name of CCA	Anagach Woods
Source of information	Community Woodlands Association, http://www.communitywoods.org/map/ ; Anagach Woods: http://www.anagachwoods.org.uk/ , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Anagach Woods Trust, http://www.anagachwoods.org.uk/ ; anagachwoods@aol.com , +441479872273
Overview	Three generations of Scots pine trees grow in Anagach Woods; woods date back to 1766 when Grantown was established as a new Highland industrial town; today the woods still produce valuable timber, and are of high conservation value; an extensive network of way-marked paths and tracks provides access for walking, running, orienteering, cycling, and also skiing in winter, also for people wishing to linger to enjoy the wealth of wildlife that inhabits the woodland; the strong association between the woods and the town meant that when the woods were put up for sale in 2001, the local community was galvanised into action and the woods were bought by the Anagach Woods Trust on behalf of the community in May 2002; the woods are managed to ensure that they remain an essential part of Grantown and that they reflect Strathspey's natural Scots pine heritage;
Spatial information/ point boundaries	382 ha; (in management plan 190 ha as priority area for conservation); lat 57.333057, long -3.578815
Management	Through community consultation, the Trust produces a management plan; 190ha identified as priority area for conservation with the minimum of management intervention, minimal recreation; increase of deadwood, removal of trees for regeneration growth, litter picking; habitat and species conservation work, also sustainable timber produce; The 2001 estimate for woodland structure is Mature 52%, Pole stage 6%, Young regeneration 11%, Broadleaved 9%, Open ground 1%, Bog and wetland 21%; Management plan: A timber management area of 52 hectares (13% of the area) has been identified as priority areas for timber production with high regard for conservation with focus on producing quality Scots pine timber on a 120 year rotation, with high initial stocking densities, regular thinning and high pruning to produce high value sawlog material; wherever possible they use local contractors for services; some Non-Timber Forest Produces like Christmas trees, fungi, roe stalking; funding by Scottish Forestry Grant Scheme (SFGS), Forestry and Rural Development Scheme (FRDS); 142 hectares (37% of the area) have been identified for recreation priority, but with high regard for the conservation objectives; maintaining and monitoring pathes, seatings, tree houses, kid's play area; open Annual General Meetings
Biodiversity monitoring	Conservation woodland: Natural Vegetation Classification survey 2004 and monitoring blaeberry and heather cover in July 2006, survey of the plants and insects associated with bogs and open water, engagement of a wildlife warden to monitor the capercaillie lek, counting number of males and females present

ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	Through community efforts, the wood was purchased by a set-up community Trust; the woods are for conservation, recreational and sustainable production purposes; the Trust engages community people for wood management and maintaining; once a year Open Day in the woods; talks and guided walks in the wood; work opportunities for school leavers from Grantown; they always seek ways to engage young people in the use and management of the Woods; events
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	Through community consultation, the Trust produces a management plan; 190ha identified as priority area for conservation; habitat and species conservation work, also sustainable timber produce;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	The community of Grantown-on-Spey owns the Anagach Woods through the Anagach Woods Trust, a charitable company, who manages the woods with help from other residents of the town; produced a management plan through community consultation
Protected Area definition*	No designation
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Scotland
Maintenance purpose	Sustainable production

18 - Name of CCA	Wooplaw Community Woodland
Source of information	Community Woodlands Association http://www.communitywoods.org/map/ , http://www.wooplaw.org.uk/ , personal communication, accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Wooplaw Community Woodland, http://www.wooplaw.org.uk/ ; Bob Fleet, Chairman +441578730327
Overview	In 1987, the first Community Woodland in Britain came into being at Wooplaw Woods; it was the brainchild of Tim Stead, a wood sculptor and furniture maker who lived nearby in the village of Blainslie; it was then that the land at Wooplaw came up for sale and, with the aid of grants from WWF and the Countryside Commission it was purchased and an organisation set up to manage it – called at that time Borders Community Woodlands; Local community manages the wood for the local community; ponds and stream, paths; objectives are to manage the woods in a way which is sustainable and which enhances biodiversity, for the benefit of the local community, by making the woods and land available to all for the purpose of education, training, recreation and the sustainable production of forest products; implementing a long term plan involving balanced harvesting and planting of appropriate woodland trees and plants; mainly conifer forest with sitka spruce that was planted years ago and also mixed broadleaf and open grassland; wherever possible, using local contractors and spending generated income locally; conservation, recreational, educational purpose; many events in the woods, including rehearse, storytelling, music, education for school children, biology field trips or tree planting with pupils
Spatial information/ point boundaries	20.30 ha; Gullet Wood (5.90 ha), Axehead Wood (5.80 ha), Easterpark Plantation (2.80 ha) and Big Wood (5.80 ha); map on website; lat 55.669776, long - 2.795605
Management	Annual general meeting of the Trust where officers and treasurer director are elected; Meeting every month to discuss what in the wood needs management; woodland maintenance by the Trust Committee and anyone from the communities who wants to help; people started coppicing but only some parts; they keep the paths open and drainage sometimes, but the woodland is maturing; no commercial production except some timber for local people; a 5-year management plan was set up and next year they will go out in the wood with the plan and anyone who wants to come to look what the next management plan is for
Biodiversity monitoring	Total list of species exists; there are several monitoring surveys on fungi, flora and fauna, but noch regularly; biological recordings with help from a botanical expert from the Trust Committee;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	community owns the woods and manages it for recreation, education, conservation; small amounts of timber from the woods for community; regular cultural events for providing woodland culture; guided walks, wood log cabin for community people; arts and sculpture trail; grave of founder of woodland in the

	woods; they grow willow for basketry that is harvested each year; people come to learn coppicing and planting skills, dry stone walls repair and about green wood work; foraging groups look for mushrooms and fruits
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	A management plan was set up with involving balanced harvesting and planting of appropriate woodland trees and plants; there is no commercial use of timber and the wood is in a maturing phase; people do coppicing and planting; woodland maintenance
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	Wood owned by Wooplaw Community Woodland, a registered charity; a management Committee set up a management plan; annual general meeting where officers are elected and monthly planning meetings; entire community involvement
Protected Area definition*	No designation
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Scotland
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

19 - Name of CCA	Wemyss Bay Community Woodland Association (WBCWA), Wemyss Bay Woods
Source of information	Community Woodland Association, http://www.communitywoods.org/map/ ; http://www.wemyssbay.net/news/wbcwa/index.html , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Eila Roberts, secretary, eila@wemyssbay.plus.com ; +441475529375; http://www.wemyssbay.net/news/wbcwa/index.html
Overview	In 2000, a local woman became increasingly concerned about the neglect and degeneration of local Greenspace, Wemyss Bay Woods; Among the community at large, the wood was developing the reputation as a place where under-age drinkers and drug addicts “hung out”; The very dense undergrowth permitted very little light and even dog-walkers, particularly women, were becoming increasingly reluctant to use the wood; motivated community people to take interest in the wood; meetings with different stakeholders; public meetings in the community; established Wemyss Bay Community Woodland Association (WBCWA), a core group of volunteers identified to form the Committee; open planning meetings; cultural, educational, conservation purposes; specific are for mountain bikes; neighbourhood watch volunteers to report any problems with people in the woods; terraced gardens with stone staircases; raised money for restoration of wood;
Spatial information/ point boundaries	lat 55.893989, long -4.888946
Management	Open planning meetings of the Association which has a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary; Membership costs £2.00 - £3.00 annually; the money raised through membership is used to meet day-to-day expenses such as insurance, stationery, postage etc.; members are entitled to come along to committee meetings and to attend and vote at the Annual General Meeting; specific area for mountain bikes; neighbourhood watch volunteers to report any problems with people in the woods; terraced gardens with stone staircases; raised money for the restoration of wood; members of the Association work regularly in the wood to clear rhododendron ponticum and planting; tree surgery on dangerous, seriously diseased or damaged trees; volunteer working weekends and weekday sessions; using the initial feasibility study, WBCWA designated areas within the woods for specific purposes; in addition to providing disabled parking facilities and wheelchair suitable access to a central glade and seating area, zones were identified for use by the local schools and youth organisations for educational purposes; in these areas children will be directly involved and responsible for the planning, planting and monitoring of the woodland's flora and fauna, and for the construction and erection of bird and bat boxes; the Association works alongside local authority staff from the Eco-Schools Initiative to provide the support and resources required to develop the educational potential of the wood; applications for grants to carry out much of the work such as to bring in contractors to carry out the path work, tree surgery, Japanese knotweed clearance, removal of fly-tipping and other works;
Biodiversity monitoring	Monitoring groups who monitor and record the various

	species of flora and fauna such as birds, animals, insects, butterflies, trees, plants and flowers or fungi; neighbourhood watch volunteers to report any problems with people in the woods;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	Community enjoys the wood as amenity; young people use to play and meet there; cycling paths; education purposes; school children directly involved in planning, planting and monitoring; cultural, educational, conservation purposes; by capturing the interest of, and involving, children at an early stage they want to retain their interest and enthusiasm as they grow, thus ensuring the future care of Wemyss Bay Wood as a community resource; one of the regular volunteers is 93 year old, who came regularly to work days; there are also several 5 - 7 year olds who come along regularly with their parents
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	Initiatives started because of the concern of wood decline; management regarding conservation of wood; committee designated areas in the wood for specific purposes to prevent degeneration of wood
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	Community established the Community Woodland Association and set up meetings and management plans; is managing the wood; raised money for restoration; wood owned by the council (?)
Protected Area definition*	No designation
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Scotland
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

20 - Name of CCA	Achnaha Community Wood/ Coille Choimhearsnachd Achnaha
Source of information	Community Woodlands Association, http://www.communitywoods.org/map/ ; Achnaha Community Wood http://www.morverncommunitywoodlands.org.uk/acw.htm ; Management Plan http://www.morverncommunitywoodlands.org.uk/acw.htm , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Morvern Community Woodlands http://www.morverncommunitywoodlands.org.uk/acw.htm ; Donald Kennedy Chairman, organictrees@tiscali.co.uk
Overview	Achnaha Community Wood is a coastal woodland of mixed broadleaves and some planted conifers; key features of the woodland are veteran trees, notably Sycamore and Ash, lichens, including some Atlantic woodland specialists, stands of regeneration, Craggy bank, wet woodland in the south-east corner, historical features such as dykes and field boundaries; the unfenced grassland area between the SW quarter of the wood and the shore was regularly grazed by neighbouring estate sheep that were able to forage along the shore in this area, until some 5 or so years ago, since then, it has only been grazed occasionally by deer; the open area on the Sound of Mull used by locals for camping, BBQs and access to the shore; with assistance from the Morvern Woodlands Project with funding from Highland Council, Forestry Commission Scotland and the European Union, the woodland was stock-fenced, dense areas of exotic conifers and Rhododendron were removed, and a footpath network was created between 2003-2006; Morvern Community Woodlands aims to using the abundant local woodland resource to raise awareness of the need for sustainable management of woodlands in Morvern and of the benefit of increasing the contribution of Morvern woodlands to the local economy; The Morvern peninsula has approximately 315 residents, with 2/3 living in the settlement of Lochaline (3 miles from Achnaha) and the remainder in outlying small settlements, crofts and farmsteads, volunteers for work parties are few, yet there is widespread support for the objectives of Morvern Community Woodlands at Achnaha
Spatial information/ point boundaries	8 ha; 6.5 ha woodland and 1.5 ha coastal open ground outwith the woodland; OS Map ref NM 643455; lat 56.542669, long -5.834854
Management	The woodland and adjacent open ground is managed by Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS) on behalf of the Scottish Ministers; public events and work programmes in the woodland are managed by Morvern Community Woodlands, a private limited company with Chairman and Secretary, in consultation with FCS; these activities are covered by a 25-year management agreement signed with FCS in 2005; 5-year Management Plan: different management areas; conduction of a dangerous tree assessment of veteran trees adjacent path; selective thinning in this area; a minimum intervention area where maintaining biodiversity interest; a recreation development area with management of regeneration to maintain open ground and maintaining two nestboxes on

	the edge trees; a machinery exclusion area, winch only; investigation of development of coastal wildlife hide, marking mature trees with timber potential for possible felling; progress in the implementation of the management plan is reviewed annually at the first Directors meeting after the Annual General Meeting
Biodiversity monitoring	Tree and shrub regeneration is monitored annually in May after leaf-burst, but before ground vegetation becomes dominant, using standard methods of fixed-point photography; Deer will continue to be managed by the Forestry Commission Scotland Ranger; general ad-hoc assessments of deer activity in the wood are made frequently throughout the year by Movern Community Woodland and if necessary, the Ranger will be asked for appropriate action; also woodland bird surveys
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	Community initiatives in maintaining the wood; community woodland restoration work, production of timber by locals for locals, education and recreation purposes, employment opportunities in the wood; different events in the wood; people work towards creating opportunities for woodland recreation and education, and provide access to woodland; promote the active involvement of the local community in woodland management and seek to create economic opportunities for local people through woodland management and utilisation; the committee gives training in woodland management skills to the residents
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	Achnaha Community Woodland people want to bring neglected woodland back into active management; the promote and conduct sustainable management; the woodland was stock-fenced, dense areas of exotic conifers and Rhododendron were removed, and a footpath network was created; they have introduced minimal-impact machinery for timber extraction and are now processing own hardwood timber to add value at source; the community started thinning the woodland and extracting small quantities of timber to open up gaps where trees can regenerate and the ground flora can develop; woodland monitoring
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site	Movern Community Woodlands was established in 2002 to make a positive contribution to the sustainable development of the remote, peninsular community; run by a dedicated team of volunteer directors drawn from the local community, Movern Community Woodlands is a not-for-profit company, set up to bring neglected woodlands back into active management; the company manages Achnaha Community Wood in partnership with Forestry Commission Scotland; the woodland and adjacent open ground is managed by Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS) on behalf of the Scottish Ministers; public events and work programmes in the woodland are managed by Movern Community Woodlands in consultation with FCS
Protected Area definition*	No designation
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Scotland
Maintenance purpose	Sustainable production

21 - Name of CCA	Gordon Community Woodland
Source of information	Community Woodland Association, http://www.communitywoods.org/map/ ; New Caledonian Woodlands, http://www.newcaledonianwoodlands.org/gordon_project.php , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Chairman of the trust Jim Fairgrieve and his wife Margaret 01573410357; Borders Community Woodland Forum, http://www.woodsforpeople.org/fx.bcwf/scheme/woodlands-gordon.aspx
Overview	Gordon Community Woodland is owned by Gordon Community Woodland Trust, a charitable Trust based in Gordon; all members of the Trust are free to attend committee meetings and membership is open to anyone; the woodland covers an area of 210 acres of mainly mixed broadleaves; one section, approx. 2 acres in the south western corner, includes many mature trees but the rest is much younger, planted in 1990; the woodland includes a large pond, the site of some ancient burial mounds and a disused railway line; it is bounded on the eastern side by the River Eden; picnic sites and benches are dotted around the woodland
Spatial information/ point boundaries	85 ha; lat 55.6845, long -2.53982
Management	Management for the woodland is a lot for a small community group to look after so New Caledonian Woodlands, a social and environmental enterprise, gives them a hand and also the Borders Forest Trust helps with work; project work includes a range of woodland management tasks, including the pruning and coppicing of an area for fuelwood; this work benefits the woodland by creating a healthier structure of plants and is an example of sustainable development
Biodiversity monitoring	n.a.
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	Community-owned woodland, for recreation, conservation and sustainable use;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	Community maintains the wood for restoration, recreation, education
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site	Owned by Gordon Community Woodland Trust; the woodland is managed by the Trustees and a committee of volunteers with help from Borders Forest Trust, a company limited by guarantee;
Protected Area definition*	No designation
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Scotland
Maintenance purpose	Sustainable production

22 - Name of CCA	Carrifran Wildwood
Source of information	Carrifran Wildwood, http://www.carrifran.org.uk/ ; Borders Community Woodland Forum, http://www.woodsforpeople.org/fx.bcwf/scheme/woodlands-carrifran.aspx ; Carrifran Wildwood Management Plan, http://www.carrifran.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2008/06/management-plan.pdf , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	www.carrifran.org.uk
Overview	Carrifran Wildwood is a bold initiative in ecological restoration, spearheaded by a group of friends in the Scottish Borders, with over 800 major supporters across Britain and overseas; the idea is to re-create an extensive tract of wild and largely wooded land, evoking the pristine countryside of six thousand years ago; once again there will be a haven for a rich array of native Scottish plants and animals excluded for centuries from these denuded hills; the Wildwood Group helped to form Borders Forest Trust (a registered charity), found a site and raised money; on 1st January 2000 the Trust bought Carrifran, a magnificent 1600 acre ice-carved valley in the Moffat Hills; the restoration began at once, when 100 people planted trees on that first day; five years on, almost a third of a million native trees and shrubs are growing at Carrifran
Spatial information/ point boundaries	647.5 ha; OS Map ref NT1513; lat 55.408120, long - 3.336097
Management	A detailed Management Plan for the area was drawn with different management compartments; people planted and plant native trees; restoration work such as montane shrub habitat restoration; Area to be left open Large parts of the Carrifran site are excluded from the plan to establish woodland Open ground, peatland and freshwater habitats; a phased removal of sheep grazing from the site over a period of at least six years as part of the purchase agreement of Carrifran; grazing rights for sheep will be leased to Mr Barker on an annual basis under a short-term grazing lease; Natural regeneration management and direct seeding because natural regeneration is limited; weed control; deadwood for enhancing biodiversity and nesting sites with boxes establishment; Day-to-day operations on site are controlled by a Site Operations Team, often joined by other group members; at Carrifran around 45,000 trees, 10% of the total have been planted by volunteers who have contributed their time and enthusiasm; the routine decision making body is the Wildwood Steering Group of about 12 people, comprising committed members of the Wildwood Group and BFT staff, which meets about once every three months; some management subgroups
Biodiversity monitoring	Many different surveys and recordings on the site such as a soil survey, a list of the vascular plants recorded on site, a Habitat Condition Assessment of vegetation of the western part of the Moffat Hills undertaken by environmental consultants, fungi surveys, mammal surveys, birds and breeding season surveys; a member of the Wildwood Group carried out some preliminary trapping of invertebrates

ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	Peoples initiative of ecological restoration of the valley for conservation, education, research; peoples motivation is that a visionary local initiative in ecological restoration could provide both a symbol of the power of individuals to reverse environmental degradation and an inspiration for others to make even bolder efforts; the vision has always been that the valley should develop to resemble, so far as is possible, virgin woods; Carrifran upholds a long exciting history which is also a motivation of the people, for example six thousand years ago a hunter discarded his broken bow high up in Carrifran valley and this bow, the oldest ever found in Britain, testifies the long history of human influence in these remote hills; conservation and restoration work by the Wildwood Group volunteers;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	Initiative in ecological restoration, spearheaded by a group of friends in the Scottish Borders; planted many trees; re-create an extensive tract of wild and largely wooded land
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	The project has many stakeholders and supporters; Carrifran Wildwood is owned by Borders Forest Trust (BFT), a formally registered charity with elected Trustees, the community-based Wildwood Group, a component of the Borders Forest Trust (BFT); on 1st January 2000 BFT bought Carrifran and restoration began at once, with 100 people planting trees on that first day; several of the BFT Trustees are actively involved in the Wildwood project and BFT staff have provided essential backup to the Wildwood Group volunteers; the routine decision making body is the Wildwood Steering Group of about 12 people, comprising committed members of the Wildwood Group and BFT staff, which meets about once every three months; some management subgroups
Protected Area definition*	Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Scotland
Maintenance purpose	Habitat restoration

23 - Name of CCA	Cwmgors Community Nature Reserve
Source of information	The Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales, http://www.welshwildlife.org/CwmgorsCommunityNatureReserve_en.link , personal communication, accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	WTSWW Conservation Manager Rob Parry r.parry@welshwildlife.org
Overview	The site is owned by the Neath Port Talbot County Council and leased to a local pony club, which needs only half of the site as the other half is a raised bog and horses can not go there; this lease of the raised bog habitat will be handed over to the Wildlife Trust and the community hopefully in early 2011, all parties has agreed upon that; the community set up a group of 6 regular members with a Chairman, Treasurer and officers that come from different institutions: the Chairman is a county councillor, someone from the pony club and local residents and held annual general meetings and regular meetings; this group creates a new nature reserve which makes use of the previously un-used area of land on the edge of Cwmgors and Gwaun Cae Gurwen and the group asked the Wildlife Trust of South & West Wales (WTSWW) for help; the village is situated in ex-mining areas in the Amman Valley; the community have been guided and constituted by the Wildlife Trust and supported by Communities First, the Coal Authority and Neath & Port Talbot Council for Voluntary Service; The community and the Wildlife Trust will be holding consultations regarding the site and have already uncovered a huge amount of support through meetings held with over 60 people; it is difficult to do the project without funding; it comes from the Welsh Assembly Government and the Landfill Tax and different smaller grants from smaller institutions
Spatial information/ point boundaries	16 ha, OS Map ref SN7010; lat 51.778139, long - 3.878525
Management	On the site there is no management yet as the site is not leased yet by the community; in partnership with the community group and the Wildlife Trust, the Waungors partnership, a management plan will be written for the site and funding for an officer will be applied for who can work on the site and encourages local volunteers to help and to get country skills so that the community will be the land managers of the site in the near future; The site is open to the public but there will be restricted access: footpaths and walks on guided routes will be established to avoid damage to the site; to help the biodiversity there will be cattle grazing to control bramble on the site; events on the site for education, and awareness rising of the community reserve: open days, tuition on hedge laying, woodland management; walks and bat surveys to get people more excited about the land; in the future the bog should attract more tourists as there is also a park outside of the bog habitat
Biodiversity monitoring	In the near future, there will be a habitat assessment, and there are plans for ecological surveys; there is a rare butterfly species on the site and is also ideal for otters and many invertebrates; every year there will be monitoring of the site

ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	The community wants the site for access to the land and wildlife; they want to enjoy and connect the local people to wildlife and the bog habitat; plans for events for education and awareness rising on the site
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	The whole idea of leasing the land to the community for access to the land for the community and for conservation came from the community; the bog habitat will get footpaths and guided walks to avoid damage to the site; they will maintain some scrub, but not that it will encroach to far, with the help of cattle grazing; monitoring of the site and ecological surveys; promotion of the rare butterfly species on the site, otters and invertebrates
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	The local voluntary community of Cwmgors set up a group with Chairman, Treasurer and officers to promote the lease of the habitat site to the group; they are working in partnership with the Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales and they will be managing and maintaining the site; the site is owned by the Neath Port Talbot County Council and leased to a local Pony Club but will hand over to the community in early 2011
Protected Area definition*	No designation
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Wales
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

24 - Name of CCA	Alyn Valley Woods
Source of information	Via Google term 'habitat types forests UK', http://www.glennmorris.org.uk/foavwhome.htm; JNCC http://www.jncc.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCODE=UK003007; personal communication; accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	General: foavw@glennmorris.org.uk, http://www.glennmorris.org.uk/what%20we%20do.htm; contact person answer: Glenn Morris glennmanc@hotmail.com and Gill Dobson, Chair of FOAVW gilldobson@tiscali.co.uk or member of group Mick Brummage, 01352741459, mick.brummage@tiscali.co.uk
Overview	Habitats of the Alyn Valley Woods are Tilio-Acerion forests and alluvial forests with Alder and Ash; The Friends of the Alyn Valley Woods were established in 2007 with a management committee which is coordinating things, a chairman and treasurer (5 committee members) and are working towards the conservation and enhancement of the flora and fauna of the Alyn Valley Woods and to promote its conservation value to all local people, and enhance liaison and cooperation with local landowners; they are organizing indoor and outdoor meetings relevant to local wildlife issues; Annual General Meetings; Hares and Bird walks, Badger watches; they work with landowners and other partners to conserve the Alyn Valley Woods, survey and monitor the flora and fauna, bring together people with interest and act as forum for exchange of views and ideas; they encourage interest and involvement of the local community, raise funds, support appropriate use of the Alyn Valley Woods for recreation and for education and training opportunities and for economic benefit; there are Nature Reserves (Loggerheads Country Park and Rhydymwyn Nature Reserve)
Spatial information/ point boundaries	200 ha; lat 53 09 31 N, long 03 12 05 W; lat 53.153934, long -3.199504
Management	The group is mainly involved in monitoring of the area as there are different landowners on the site; a basic management plan was written by the Countryside Council for Wales together with the landowners but there is no management happening; the Loggerheads Country Park is situated on the site and is owned by the Denbyshire County Council, the Friend's group was involved here in the management plan for the park; another area is the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty which is managed by the Denbyshire/Flintshire border committee; the other sites are owned and managed by private landowners; the group would like to be more involved in the management of the other sites but the landowners are not really interested; small amount of woodland work is done by the group with one landowner as well as monitoring of the site with mouse and bat boxes; there is also a big project together with the Wildlife Trust on control and monitoring of an alien species Himalayan Balsam which outcompetes the native flora; also some volunteers come to help with that work; in the future a private area could be transferred to a trust and then the group would be more actively involved in management

Biodiversity monitoring	Surveys and monitoring of flora and fauna; bird and hares walks and badger watches
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	Mainly used by locals for recreation and education; people use the Valley woods for a walk, dog walking, for some events at Loggerhead Country Park; there is a well established footpath; the Friend's group is carry out guided walks and lectures of the Valley to draw local peoples attention of the area and get them involved
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	The Friends of Alyn Valley Woods work with landowners and other partners to conserve the Alyn Valley Woods through some work like clearance of weed on the site and raising awareness about the area; they also survey and monitor the flora and fauna but they do not have any control over the land
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site	The Friends of the Alyn Valley Woods are working with landowners and local authority partners on planning issues to ensure appropriate development; they do not have any control over the land and are only involved in the management at Loggershead Country Park and one small woodland owned by a private owner; the woods are privately-owned by several different people; Loggerheads Country Park is managed by the local management authority Denbighshire County Council and Denbighshire Countryside Service
Protected Area definition*	Designated Special Area of Conservation (SAC); Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI); part of the valley lies within the Clwydian Range Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Wales
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

25 - Name of CCA	Rhydymwyn Valley Nature Reserve
Source of information	Via Friends of Alyn Valley Woods, Glenn Morrison; Rhydymwyn Valley http://www.newwildlife.org.uk/reserves/rhydymwyn.htm ; Friends of Rhydymwyn Valley http://www.rhydymwyn-hendre.org/FORV.html ; Rhydymwyn Valley History Society http://www.rhydymwynvalleyhistory.co.uk/index.html ; The Valley Site (source ownership of Valley): http://thevalleysite.org.uk/recentevents.htm , personal communication, accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Cat Lucas, NEWW community wildlife education officer, 01352 742115; cweo@newwildlife.org.uk ; Friends group Chairman Saul Burton burtonbeck@sky.com , Site manager David Williams +441352741591
Overview	The Wildlife Management of the site is the responsibility of the charity North East Wales Wildlife (NEWW) through an agreement with DEFRA who owns the site and working in conjunction with a voluntary body of local people, and interested parties called The Friends of Rhydymwyn Valley; The biodiversity is of interest as well as the historic value of the Rhydymwyn Valley Site; regular practical volunteering days on the reserve like building of dry stone walls; different events in the reserve organised by the NEWW like tree identity courses, reptile ramble, fungi course, autumn celebration day, butterfly walks, invertebrate workshops, invertebrate family days, Arts projects;
Spatial information/ point boundaries	lat 53.190081, long -3.190545; OS Map ref SJ205665; map on website
Management	The Friends group has a programme of events, speakers and community involvement and is an informal group with a desire to enjoy, monitor and contribute to, under the supervision of North East Wales Wildlife group, this unique asset in the village; they produce a regular magazine called Valley Voice; Management responsibility lies by the North East Wales Wildlife charity; practical working days with volunteers on the site; the friends group meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month to discuss about events and community involvement, monitoring; the group is constituted with a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Site manager; a wildlife management plan has been produced to maintain and enhance the natural and wildlife presence on the site
Biodiversity monitoring	Different monitoring projects of species such as North East Wales Wildlife records reptiles, butterfly surveys; an Ecology Year Planner was drawn to plan surveys and protection tasks and advice for animals of the Valley
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	Local people involved in management and conservation; site has high historic value and is also protected and promoted because of the history; education and recreation, events for education of children and to get people aware about the site;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	Practical work such as building dry stone walls, scrub clearance; monitoring projects

ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	The site is owned by DEFRA and guarded by Carillion Facilities Management (CFM) who have provided these services to the Rhydymwym site since 1992; but the management lies by the local charity North East Wales Wildlife (NEWW) in conjunction with the Friends of Rhydymwyn Nature Reserve and a body of local volunteers
Protected Area definition*	No designation
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Wales
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

26 - Name of CCA	Llwyni & Broadoak Wood
Source of information	Llwyni & Broadoak Wood, http://www.newwildlife.org.uk/reserves/llwyni.htm ; accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Cat Lucas, NEWW community wildlife education officer, 01352 742115; cweo@newwildlife.org.uk
Overview	Following a Public Inquiry in 1994, land scheduled for residential development was de-allocated to support the local wildlife; Inspector's recommendation was to provide fields for foraging, buffer zones along woodland edges, safe corridors for the movement of wildlife and measures for protecting wildlife during development; the open space was declared Flintshire's first Local Nature Reserve in 2000 and the following year it was designated as Connah's Quay Ponds and Woodlands Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI); comprises an area that is extensively developed but retains the rural character of the countryside that was dominant prior to the housing development; the open space now remains to support wildlife; LNR is the remnant of a large area of woodland, grassland and water habitats; woodlands have remnants of semi-natural ancient trees and the diversity of habitats has many notable species including badgers and great crested newts; the reserve is also habitat for foxes and a wide variety of birds, invertebrates and amphibians; the North East Wales Wildlife runs events and carries out projects to engage the community in nature conservation; the reserve has a strong sense of community involvement and identity; is a focal point for many community conservation projects, including tree planting, pond management and art workshops; many community events take place such as mural painting on the garage walls, woodsculpting, tree planting during National Tree Week, Spring cleanups, Wildflower as well as a community barbeque; threats include vandalism
Spatial information/ point boundaries	44 ha adjacent to the south west of Connah's Quay; lat 53.1982, long -3.0779; map on website
Management	Grassland and meadow management, pond management, woodland management
Biodiversity monitoring	Great crested newt survey and monitoring; Wildflower, Mammal, Amphibian and Bird surveys
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	Community involvement and identity; many community events take place at Llwyni LNR such as mural painting on the garage walls, woodsculpting, as well as a community barbeque
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	The site is managed and maintained by the community to support wildlife habitats for the different species on the site; tree planting, cleanups, pond and woodland management
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site	Site is managed through Llwyni Joint Consultative Board which is a partnership between local authority, Town and Country Councillors, the Countryside Council for Wales, local residents, landowners, North East Wales Wildlife (NEWW) and other interested organisations
Protected Area definition*	Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Local Nature Reserve (LNR), Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Wales
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

27 - Name of CCA	Lamlash Bay Community Marine Conservation Area, Isle of Arran
Source of information	COAST Community Of Arran Seabed Trust, http://www.arrancoast.com/ ; via Beth Stoker, JNCC; accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	COAST Community Of Arran Seabed Trust, http://www.arrancoast.com/ , contact sheet on website
Overview	Based on Arran, the largest island in the Firth of Clyde, the Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST) is a voluntary community group which protect the marine biodiversity; COAST was established in 1995 by 2 local divers, membership has grown to 1800 in 2009; the vision is to protect maerl beds and other seabed habitats, regenerate fish and scallop populations and to enhance the marine biodiversity in Lamlash Bay through the creation of a No Take Zone and a Marine Protected Area; promotion of natural regeneration of associated invertebrate, particularly scallop, and fish populations; At the North end of Lamlash Bay is the first Scottish NO TAKE ZONE, designated in 2008, an area of sea and seabed from which no marine life can be removed by any method; there are different regular meetings of the Committee members as well as meetings with different persons involved in the area; many educational events; many initiatives by the Committee for awareness rising of Lamlash Bay; about 20% of the Arran population are COAST members; Island Festivals
Spatial information/ point boundaries	lat 55.5300, long -5.1110
Management	Lamlash Bay is managed as a Marine Protected Area and a No Take Zone; the community is working and assisting everyone involved in protection of Lamlash Bay and doing awareness rising on the Isle and beyond regarding protection of the site and sustainable fishery
Biodiversity monitoring	Many biological surveys of the No Take Zone and the protected area; species list has been compiled; regular observation dives
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	Lamlash Bay is used by a number of local stakeholders including the Holy Isle ferry operator, the salmon and mussel farms, yachtsmen, boatmen, anglers, divers and practitioners of other leisure activities; the protection of Lamlash Bay will also help sustain the livelihoods of those dependent on fishing and tourism, increase the popularity of the area as both diving site and tourist destination and educate future generations on the need for marine conservation; also educational purposes on marine life
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	Community initiatives to protect Lamlash Bay by establishing a No Take Zone and a protected area: the maerl beds are protected and it helps regenerate associated forms of marine life including commercial bivalves, particularly scallops, and flatfish
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site	The COAST Community of Arran Seabed Trust is a voluntary community group that is working towards the protection of Lamlash Bay, working together with scottish government; the Isle of Arran lies within the North Ayrshire Council
Protected Area definition*	Marine Protected Area (MPA), No Take Zone (NTZ)

UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Scotland
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

28 - Name of CCA	Lundy Marine Conservation Zone
Source of information	Lundy Field Society http://www.lundy.org.uk/inf/mnr.html#mcz40 , via Beth Stoker JNCC; Natural England http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/marine/protectandmanage/mpa/mcz/lundy.aspx ; http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/saundersmpa2007_tcm6-9899.pdf , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Natural England http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/marine/protectandmanage/mpa/mcz/lundy.aspx ;
Overview	Rocky reefs with a diversity of sea life including some very rare and fragile species such as grey seals, lobsters and eight species of coral and five cup corals exist together; Suitability and importance of the island as a marine nature reserve was originally suggested in the Journal of the Devon Trust for Nature Conservation in 1969, an article was just the start and during 1971 publicity and consultations about a voluntary reserve came to fruition via the Lundy Field Society (LFS) in collaboration with the island authorities and the Nature Conservancy and a management policy was published in the LFS report for 1972; In 1986, the island was declared the first statutory marine nature reserve in Britain; The waters around Lundy are a popular site for divers, yachts and fishermen and are managed through a zonation scheme allowing particular activities in certain areas; To ensure that the underwater habitats and species are safeguarded there are the bye-laws which have been introduced by Natural England and the Devon Sea Fisheries Committee, but the management and protection relies on the co-operation of all those who use the area, including fishermen, divers and yacht owners as well as people who come for enjoyment; Natural England and the Devon Sea Fisheries Committee are now working in partnership with local fishermen to further the protection of marine wildlife in the 3.3sqkm No-Take Zone, designated in 2003; The creation of the Lundy NTZ was supported by local fishermen who hoped to see an increased catch outside the area;
Spatial information/ point boundaries	Lundy OS Map ref SS135460; lat 51.183194, long - 4.669157
Management	The management works through partnership with different Trusts and liaising with stakeholders such as divers, anglers, kayakers, yachts, fishermen, visitors; an annual general meeting is held with different stakeholders and managers of the site; weekly talks and walks throughout the year; Rockpool Rambles and Snorkel Safari's; The Marine Conservation Zone Zoning scheme has been established to present clearly, information related to the management of the Marine Conservation Zone, for the benefit of both wildlife and people, by showing users where they can undertake activities with minimal impact on the natural features and on each other: bye-laws made by Natural England and the Devon Sea Fisheries Committee such as no fishing or collection of sea life of any kind in the No-Take Zone; in the Refuge Zone there is no fishing except potting or angling; in the Recreational Zone same restrictions as for Refuge Zone but other water

	users; in the General Use Zone only spear fishing is not permitted; in the Archaeological Protection Zoners no diving or fishing allowed without a license
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	Fishermen involved with sustainable fishing; education and recreation purposes; enjoyment of site through diving and kayaking; learning about sea life
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	Different areas are established where different uses are allowed; In the No-Take Zone fishing is totally banned; bye-laws for the different areas permit or banned fishing
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	the area is administered by Natural England with the Devon Sea Fisheries Committee
Protected Area definition*	Marine Protected Area (MPA), Marine Nature Reserve (MNR), No-Take Zone (NTZ), Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

29 - Name of CCA	Skomer Marine Nature Reserve
Source of information	Countryside Council for Wales http://www.ccw.gov.uk/landscape--wildlife/protecting-our-landscape/special-landscapes--sites/protected-landscapes/marine-nature-reserves/skomer-mnr-report.aspx , via Beth Stoker; accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Countryside Council for Wales, The landscapes team; +448451306229
Overview	Marine Nature Reserve declared in 1990 to conserve marine flora, fauna, geological or physical features of special interest in the area and to provide special opportunities for scientific research and study; The seabed and intertidal area is under Crown Estate ownership and leased to Countryside Council for Wales; The public can visit the MNR by boat or explore the shoreline on foot; diving is permitted; Private watercraft are permitted to enter the waters of the MNR, although anchoring is restricted to North and South Havens on Skomer Island; The public have a general right of access on foot to the shoreline; there are 7 habitat features and 16 species features which are conservation priorities, these include grey seal, pink seafan, some seaslug species, eelgrass and algal communities.
Spatial information/ point boundaries	1,324 ha; lat 51.738719, long -5.267480
Management	There is a management plan for the site with an associated zone map, which indicates those areas where activities are restricted or prohibited by byelaws and codes of conduct; The Council has enacted byelaws which were created through discussions and mutual agreements with all concerned, and approved by the National Assembly for Wales; CCW employs two full-time, one part-time and one seasonal member of staff on Skomer MNR; biological monitoring on the site but managing human activity, so that it is in line with the provisions of the zone map, plays a large part of conservation management; Staff provide and maintain marker buoys and sited visitor moorings to facilitate this, as well as liaising closely with users and other stakeholders; The MNR has an advisory committee which meets annually, made up of over 40 individuals and organisations with an interest in the area
Biodiversity monitoring	Biological monitoring of seabed organisms; many monitoring and surveillance projects going on by the Council staff; an annual summary report is produced; many links with academic institutions and research by third-parties
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	Fishermen involved; education and recreation purposes;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	The council enacted byelaws for the protection of the area that restrict dumping rubbish and taking, killing or disturbing wildlife; a 5-knot speed limit was imposed within 100m of the shore; The Reserve also benefits from specific Sea Fishery Committee byelaws, prohibiting the use of mobile fishing gear (dredges and beam trawls) and the taking of certain species by any means;

ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	The area lies under Crown Estate ownership, but the Countryside Council for Wales is leasing the area and manages it with different stakeholders on the site;
Protected Area definition*	Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Special Area of Conservation (SAC), National Park (NP), Marine Nature Reserve (MNR), Marine Protected Area (MPA)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Wales
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

30 - Name of CCA	Kinson Common
Source of information	Friends of Kinson Common, http://www.friendsofkinsoncommon.btck.co.uk/Home , via WDPA; accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Via website of Friends of Kinson Common: http://www.friendsofkinsoncommon.btck.co.uk/Contact %20us; Bournemouth Borough Councils Countryside Officers +441202535140, Bournemouth Borough Council Office +441202451673
Overview	Habitat types are dry heath, humid and wet heath, scrub, willow carr, woodland and grassland, marsh and open water; This range of habitats results in a varied and interesting flora and fauna, including over 350 species of plant, 3 reptile species, 40 species of breeding birds, with an additional 20 as winter visitors/ migrants. 24 species of butterfly, 19 species of dragonfly and damselfly and cricket, numerous insects and spiders and several mammal species; As well as wildlife, the Common also has much historical interest: Palaeolithic implements were found and various small flint implements from the Neolithic and Bronze ages have been found over the years; part of the site was named 'Gover's Glade' in memory of Doreen Gover, a valued member of the Friends group; Local Nature reserve and all Public Open Space; The Friends group was formed when they were concerned at the many problems arising on Kinson Common, so a Committee was formed and a good working relationship was forged with the Countryside Officers of Bournemouth Borough Council and other organisations and they are also supported by Natural England; over 600 paintings of Kinson Common from a local resident were donated
Spatial information/ point boundaries	16 ha; OS Map ref SZ 067 690; lat 50.521197, long - 1.906141
Management	Managed as open space for people to use and enjoy and managed for its wildlife value; Work carried out includes the creation of open areas for wild flowers and insects and scrub for nesting birds; There is also yearly mowing of the meadow to encourage wild flower growth; four Shetland Cattle were introduced on site in 2005 to help reduce the amount of scrub and encourage more rare flora and fauna to flourish;
Biodiversity monitoring	Many different surveys such as bird surveys, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and other insects; butterfly recordings by someone from the Dorset branch of Butterfly Conservation; lists of plants, moths, fungi
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	Managed as an Open Space for everyone to enjoy and work; many events on the site; local people are closely connected with the reserve with work and enjoyment, inspiration and education
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	Conservation management on the site includes litter- picking, wildlife recording and monitoring the site for anti-social behaviour, wildlife surveys and guided walks, scrub and gorse clearance; managed as a Local Nature Reserve and partly as SSSI, SAC, Ramsar site

Protected Area definition*	Local Nature Reserve (LNR), heathland sites are Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Areas (SPA) and Ramsar sites
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

31 - Name of CCA	Coed Craig Ruperra
Source of information	Ruperra Conservation Trust http://www.ruperra.org.uk/index.html ; via the Community Woodland Network http://frontpage.woodland-trust.org.uk/communitywoodlandnetwork/aboutus/walesgroupslist.htm , personal communication; accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Ruperra Conservation Trust ruperra@goolemail.com , +447984665958, Sue Price Trustee, personal communication;
Overview	<p>The recovering broadleaved woodland Coed Craig Ruperra is close to the villages of Draethen and Rudry in a triangle between Caerphilly, Newport and Cardiff; Habitats include heathland, coniferous plantation, wet woodland, grassland and deciduous woodland, water bodies and streams; Coed Craig Ruperra is owned by Ruperra Conservation Trust, a registered charity based near Caerphilly, in South Wales; the aim is to conserve and restore the biodiversity and built heritage of Coed Craig Ruperra, which was bought by the Trust in 2000; the Trust is made up of 10 trustees and about 250 members, all of whom pay an annual subscription to help support the ongoing woodland work (10-15 pounds/year, newsletter); The Trust was formed in 1996 with Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, and after purchasing the woodland, they get grants from Heritage Lottery Fund and other grants which allowed them to begin the major task of conserving and restoring both the native woodland and the Scheduled Ancient Monument, an Iron Age hill fort, which surmounts the ridge; The woodland lies in a Special Landscape Area, and for a long time formed part of the estate of Ruperra Castle, which lies to the south; Ruperra's native broadleaved trees were felled in the 1920s and several stages of conifer planting took place during the next 70 years or so, until the site was sold to the Trust and broadleaf restoration began; events and guided walks; a threat to the site is the lack of funding for the management and maintenance</p>
Spatial information/ point boundaries	lat 51.577332, long -3.114255
Management	<p>The site is a Planted Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS) which means that the native trees were clear-felled and the area was replanted with a conifer crop; When the Trust purchased Coed Craig Ruperra in 2000 after these conifers had themselves been clear-felled, its aim was to restore the native woodland which is most likely to have been a mix of Oak and Ash with an understorey dominated by Hazel; There is a Management Committee of the Trust that is managing the site to get it back to native woodland, the majority is oak and ash; and also managed to get the Iron Age hill fort that stands on a open grass area on top of a hill back visible; A management plan was developed by the Committee; the management meeting is held once a month with 2-4 Trustees and one person from the local Countryside Council; in the management plan, the hazel dormouse as a european protected species stands under protection and the habitat is promoted; Regular maintenance of the land is mainly carried out by volunteers; The Trust's volunteer group meets at least twice a month to undertake various maintenance tasks, from clearing scrub to creating paths; In the remaining plantation areas, the conifers have been thinned and some light gets to the ground which now allows native plants that are fairly shade-tolerant, such as bramble, to begin colonising the forest floor; the grassland was reclaimed from the scrubby bramble overgrowth that was invading, and in 2006 people seeded it with a wildflower meadow mix; The meadow is mown once a year after the seed heads have dropped their contents</p>

Biodiversity monitoring	Hazel dormouse survey and nestbox monitoring project since 2004; bird ringing project; bird boxes; a bat group carries out bat surveys and walks; data is assessed on the population size, breeding; other species surveys; information of the hazel dormouse goes back to the Countryside Council and other records to the Biological Record Centre
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	The Trustees are only local people and other villagers are involved in maintenance and management of the site; they feel a sense of ownership of the site and responsible for it; the Trust carried out surveys to get local people's opinions and suggestions about the site; people are interested in the management and come to enjoy the woodland, scenery and the woodland atmosphere; they come for walking, horse riding and for the historical aspect on the site; many people come to visit the monument Iron Age hill fort; people pay a subscription to the Trust for the management of the site; some events are carried out and wildlife walks, barbecues for members and craftsmen events with artists in the wood
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	Conifers had themselves been clear-felled and the Trusts aim was to restore the native woodland which is most likely to have been a mix of Oak and Ash with an understorey dominated by Hazel; As such, it holds far more potential for biodiversity; conservation work such as clearing grassland from the scrubby bramble overgrowth that was invading, conifers have been thinned and some light gets to the ground which now allows native plants that are fairly shade-tolerant to begin colonising the forest floor; promoting habitat for the protected species hazel dormouse; seeding the grassland with a wildflower mix to enhance biodiversity
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	The Ruperra Conservation Trust owns the land; local people involved in conservation work and maintenance of the site; Trust gets suggestions from the local villagers regarding the site management
Protected Area definition*	Special Landscape Area (SLA)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Wales
Maintenance purpose	Habitat restoration

32 - Name of CCA	Bearsted Woodland Trust
Source of information	Bearsted Woodland Trust, http://www.bearstedwoodlandtrust.org/ ; via Community Woodland Network http://frontpage.woodland-trust.org.uk/communitywoodlandnetwork/aboutus/segroupslist.htm ; personal communication; accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Deputy Chairman John Wale, deputychairman@bearstedwoodlandtrust.org , +441622737705
Overview	<p>Bearsted Woodland Trust protects and maintains woodland and meadow near Maidstone, restoring and enhancing a natural habitat for animals and plants and providing a place of recreation for local residents and visitors; native trees; educational events; a Friend's group exist; there is a Trust Management Committee and the land is managed under the guidance of the BWT's Environment and Conservation Adviser; In 2003, a special chalk landscape adjacent to the old typical english village Bearsted with a population of about 10.000 people and close to a conservation area was planned to develop for housing; About hundred new houses was planned to build but the community of Bearsted did not want to see this landscape of the North Downs in the middle of Kent in England destroyed by housing development and other industrial development that was going on there and so a resident of the village bought the land, "I will buy the land if others work with me to care for it, to preserve and manage it"; so the Trust came into being; In the beginning, 600 people joined the Trust as they wanted to see the land conserved; The area contains mixed grassland, an orchard, woodland and a wetland area consisting of a stream valley. This wetland is linked by a bridge to the valley. This bridge was new built from the money that the community raised together with making the land accessible for wheelchairs; There is also a children's play area that was provided in 2009 by the local Parish Council after the Trust's agreement. People raised money to build a tractor barn by volunteers; Sometimes, visitors from outside come to the site and also people from different countries as there is a big motorway not far away from the village.</p>
Spatial information/ point boundaries	6.5 ha; lat 51.270467, long 0.580088
Management	<p>Bearsted Woodland Trust is a charitable Trust with a Chairman, Treasurer, Trustees and a Management Committee, all working voluntarily; Within the Trust, there are professionals such as an environmental consultant who gives advice to the Management Committee how they can plan the site and preserve it not only on the short term but also for future generations; In the first three to four years, the first steps were the clearance of the site and planting of native trees with the help of the community; An annual meeting is held every year where there are decisions made about the site, Members were consulted about these decisions: there are about 1000 local people who are members of the Trust; A management plan was developed with the environmental consultant and conservation adviser within the Management Committee, which describes planting schemes; In the beginning, people planted the "People's Wood", an area planted with about hundred native trees in 2004 to celebrate the opening of the site and to enable an ecological system; The management team is a team of about 20 volunteers with a team leader; There are management meetings three to four times a year; They purchased a multipurpose tractor with the funded money for the work; They mow some sites of the grassland, keep the weed down, buy new trees and plant them; Part of the woodland is old woodland with dead and diseased trees which are left there for promoting wildlife and enhancing biodiversity; especially a big crow population</p>

	<p>is present as well as woodland birds, different woodpecker species and other wildlife; people planted also fruit trees to enhance the wider bird population; some trees that are cut are stored and used for ecological purposes such as encouragement of frogs and insects and other wildlife; part of the grassland is cut for hay which is used by a nearby farmer who takes it for fodder; in one area, willow trees were felled at around four feet, as willows respond well to this cutting they have re-grown; pollarding in this way is a traditional way of managing willows and such trees are cut every few years; The area under the willows will be planted with oak and other species to create a native woodland in this area</p>
Biodiversity monitoring	<p>Each year, monitoring is carried out by a local ecologist; Species surveys are carried out every one or two years to monitor the flora and fauna such as birds, bats, insects and plants; Many species lists exist; Planting projects with outside organisations are going on such as a wildflower project; there will be a Programme of Work over the next three years to test the soil, sow wildflower seeds and collect them for a seed bank for research and promotion; The Trust has joined a two-year project headed by the East Malling Research Centre carried out by woodland ecologists and funded by the Esme Fairbairn Trust;</p>
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	<p>People planted the “People’s Wood”, an area planted with about hundred native trees in 2004 to celebrate the opening of the site and to enable an ecological system; Local residents gather blackberries; pollarding in a way that is a traditional way of managing willows and these trees are cut every few years; community enjoys the nature and wildlife, extended walks and dog-walking; There are some events on the site, a fireworks display in November with many people who come to the site to see it; as a by-product, there is occasional work on the site for small contractors such as tree surgeon or occasional farming that helps the local economy; Two photographers from the community take pictures during the seasons that are published on the website of the Trust; A children’s mazing maze was designed and constructed through the work of 60 to 80 volunteers who dig the pathway for the maze in only one morning; The people are very keen on working and preserving the land and they often come together to work hard on the site; School children come to visit the area for education purposes; They come and learn about the woodland, animals, the birds and plants and some come to plant trees; The Trust hopes that these children are the future generation to look after the site and preserve it for the next generation;</p>
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	<p>Planting of native trees; people planted the “People’s Wood”, an area planted with about hundred native trees in 2004 to celebrate the opening of the site and to enable an ecological system; in old woodland dead and diseased trees are left there for promoting wildlife and enhancing biodiversity; people planted also fruit trees to enhance the wider bird population; some trees that are cut are stored and used for ecological purposes such as encouragement of frogs and insects and other wildlife;</p>
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site	<p>The Bearsted Woodland Trust purchased the land in 2003 with help of a local resident; the Trust owns the land and has about 20 active volunteering members who manage and maintain the site and about 1000 members from the community who support the Trust with annual membership fees; the community is involved in the work on the site and are consulted on decisions regarding management on the site</p>
Protected Area definition*	No designation
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

33 - Name of CCA	Laide Wood
Source of information	Laide Wood http://www.laidewood.org.uk/history.cfm , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Laide Wood, info@laidewood.org.uk
Overview	Laide Wood covers an area of hill moorland which was once part of the local Common Grazings; after changing hands several times the Wood was put on the market late 2002; With the assistance of the Scottish Land Fund and the Community Land Unit, along with generous donations from locals and visitors, the Wood was purchased in February 2003 by the community, the set up charity Laide and Aultbea Community Woodland ; A local Community Steering Group had been formed to take it to the purchase stage at which point a Company Limited by Guarantee was established with recognised Scottish Charitable Status; The main aim of the company was to develop Laide Wood in areas of conservation and recreation; a newsletter is regularly produced for members; many events and activities in the woodland; woodland with deep water courses, two lochans and a cascading waterfall which feeds Loch na Creige, the lochan by the Eastern Boundary
Spatial information/ point boundaries	85 ha; lat 57.86448, long -5.5404
Management	A five year management plan was created prior to purchase to show the prospective funding sources and members; all work is carried out voluntarily; in the January storms of 2005 a quarter of the Woodland was lost through wind blown damage; To cope with this a recovery plan was put into action which, through necessity, looked beyond the five year plan; The recovery plan soon developed into a major development plan for the Woodland which would probably take at least a decade to achieve, this was called the Phoenix initiative 2005; removal of just the damaged trees was impossible so they felled trees to make the land safe and they replanted using broad leaves and indigenous trees which would improve the bio-diversity throughout the woodland; new fencing; new walking routes established; Highland Ponies used for work in the woods; local tourist attraction;
Biodiversity monitoring	Biological surveys; Species lists;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	Community purchased the woodland for conservation and recreational purposes; access to the woodland and wildlife for local people; working voluntarily for promoting woodland conservation; many community events;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	Sustainable timber use; after the great storm, people replanted the woodland; using horses for work in the wood;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	Laide and Aultbea Community Woodland, a local charity set up by the community, owns the wood; a Community Steering Group Committee was set up
Protected Area definition*	No designation
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Scotland
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

34 - Name of CCA	Newborough Forest
Source of information	Forestry Commission Wales, Newborough Forest http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-7umeg8 , via Chris Wynne, Wildlife Trust North-Wales; accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Local Area Manager Tom Gordon Roberts, tim.gordon-roberts@forestry.gsi.gov.uk ; +443000680300 or John Browne, Forestry Commission Wales Planning Officer, john.browne@forestry.gsi.gov.uk , +443000680300
Overview	The Newborough forest contains forest, sand dunes and shore dock; a long history of community involvement, including a famous mass trespass in the 1930s to establish a claim over the route to Ynys Llanddwyn, and later involvement of the Community Council in a Joint Management Committee for the area; The community forms an important role within the Newborough Liaison Partnership, which consists of many institutions
Spatial information/ point boundaries	689 ha; OS Map ref SH414649; lat 53.158007, long - 4.372765
Management	Local volunteers are assisting with the management of the site; A separate forum, the Newborough Liaison Partnership, exists to support the management of the forest, but there are also other interest groups; The community is keen to engage with the management of the forest on an ongoing and continuing basis; Concerns over antisocial behavior have also been highlighted; There is a need to maintain the residents' car park and access through the forest as particular privileges of the local community; different meetings of the Partnership, also for management plan, which is set up for 5 years; also smaller groups which discuss specific issues such as species and habitats, access and recreation, community involvement, education, economics;
Biodiversity monitoring	There are many surveys and regular monitoring; different species lists exist; monitoring projects
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	The local community of Newborough is very active with a strong sense of 'ownership' of the dunes and forest and with strong views over its management; strong community associations with the area which go back many years; People attach different values to various habitats and species; there are differing views also about the suitability of various recreational uses and ways of managing these to avoid conflict; many events are taking place
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	The forest is managed sustainably regarding three different protected area designations; low impact silvicultural systems; thinnings to promote biodiversity; promotion of important plants and species like great crested newts and dune plants; parts of the forested coastline will be left to natural processes
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site	The forest is owned by the National Assembly for Wales and managed on behalf of the Welsh Assembly Government by Forestry Commission Wales; the people of Wales, the local communities around the village of Newborough and visitors to the forest are important stakeholders in the management of Newborough Forest; established the Newborough Liaison Partnership with Isle of Anglesey County Council, the Countryside Council for Wales and Forestry Commission Wales and several other local residents to improve management

Protected Area definition*	Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Wales
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

35 - Name of CCA	Corcrair Community Woodland
Source of information	Woodland Trust http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/en/our-woods/Pages/about-this-wood.aspx?wood=5472 , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Woodland Trust Our woods and their management wopsmail@woodlandtrust.org.uk; +441476 581111; Enquiry on the Woodland Trust webpage http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/en/our-woods/Pages/wood-contact.aspx?wood=5472
Overview	The land at Portadown was purchased as one of the Woodland Trust's, Woods on Your Doorstep projects where local people are involved in creating a new community woodland; the land was gifted in February 2001 to the Woodland Trust; 50% funded by the Forestry Commission; The site is located between the Corcrair estate and the River Ballybay, a flat area consisting unimproved grassland and wetland, on the drier ground planting of trees; after consultation with the local community, Corcrair & Redmanville Community Association, which is a group that improves the quality of life for residents, local people were involved in the design of the site and along with school children and representatives from Craigavon Borough Council trees were planted by local residents; Establishment of 50% of the site as a new secondary woodland to achieve high forest of mixed broadleaved canopy composition and the retention of at least 50% of the semi-natural wetland area for conservation value;
Spatial information/ point boundaries	4.33 ha; OS Map ref H997543
Management	Whilst maintaining the site for public access, it would be intended to encourage the site to become a self-sustaining high forest of mixed deciduous woodland; will be achieved through initially, the establishment of the planted trees, through regular weeding and replacement of failures; noxious weeds will be spot sprayed to prevent their spreading throughout the site; they retain at least 50% of the semi-natural open space; the stands of existing willow are managed under a minimum intervention regime allowing them to mature and regenerate naturally but they remove some of them ensuring the retention of at least 50% of the semi-natural open space; it is unlikely that it will ever produce quality timber as it is small and prone to levels of vandalism; path is monitored annually and mowed when necessary
Biodiversity monitoring	Noxious weeds are assessed across the whole site;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	As a Woods on Your Doorstep site this wood provides an opportunity for many local people to enjoy the woodland; a large amount of support of the woodland from the local residents; it provides an important resource for the people of the housing estate and the whole town of Portadown; many local people walk their dogs through the site daily; access to and enjoyment of woodland; increased awareness;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	Creation of new native woodland with participation of local people, they planted many trees; the area will retain at least 50% of the semi-natural open habitat as this habitat is very important for bird and insect life and increases the areas conservation value

ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site	Local residents were involved in decision-making of the design of the site and in the planting of the new woodland; the woodland is owned by the Woodland Trust and they are managing it with help of local people
Protected Area definition*	No designation
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Northern Ireland
Maintenance purpose	Habitat creation

36 - Name of CCA	Hillview Community Woodland
Source of information	Woodland Trust http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/en/our-woods/Pages/about-this-wood.aspx?wood=5118 , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Woodland Trust Our woods and their management wopsmail@woodlandtrust.org.uk; +441476 581111; Enquiry on the Woodland Trust webpage http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/en/our-woods/Pages/wood-contact.aspx?wood=5118
Overview	Hillview wood is a small triangular block of wet woodland, to the north west of a large shallow lough just north of Enniskillen town; The area was established as a community woodland and seeks further involvement and management by the local community and/or the Devenish Partnership Forum; The site contains an existing wet woodland to the south and a new planting; it is a small area next to the lough on the edge of Enniskillen town; there is a gravel path to the stone seat at the centre and a grass path from there to a stone seat at the lough shore; there is no 'through traffic' apart from the fisherman going to the lough shore, visitors to the site are there specifically to use it for quiet recreation
Spatial information/ point boundaries	1.4 ha; OS Map ref H241452
Management	The site will be managed by minimal intervention to achieve a high forest because it is a small wood with a primary aim being access; The trees will be left to mature and natural regeneration will take over, especially beside the lough side, where alders and willow will expand into the lough edges; Path to be maintained by mowing to a minimum 1m width for public access to the lough; maintenance of trees
Biodiversity monitoring	
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	Fisherman use the woodland by going to the lough shore; woodland specifically used for quiet recreation; local people want access to the lough via the site; woodland was designed and planted with the help of local people; people created a planted a ceremonial tree as part of the Woods On Your Doorstep project in 2000 to mark and celebrate the millennium; the tree is a Ginkgo biloba, being an ancient tree which would help symbolise the longevity of this new woodland for the future
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	The site was planted with native broadleaves of alder, willow, ash and oak; the woodland is managed by minimal intervention to achieve a high forest; natural regeneration; a variety of the planted trees will provide food and homes for a variety of birds and insects
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site	The Woodland Trust owns the site and seeks further involvement and management by the local community and the Devenish Partnership Forum that is managing a variety of social and environmental projects in the region; woodland was established with help of local residents, many trees were planted
Protected Area definition*	No designation
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Northern Ireland
Maintenance purpose	Habitat creation

37 - Name of CCA	Cullion Community Woodland
Source of information	Woodland Trust http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/en/our-woods/Pages/about-this-wood.aspx?wood=5361 , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Woodland Trust Our woods and their management wopsmail@woodlandtrust.org.uk; +441476 581111; Enquiry on the Woodland Trust webpage http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/en/our-woods/Pages/wood-contact.aspx?wood=5361
Overview	Cullion Wood is a woodland creation site adjacent to the Ulster History Park, 2 miles south of Gortin; the Omagh District Council gifted the land in 2000 to the Woodland Trust as one of the Woods On Your Doorstep (WoyD) sites in Northern Ireland (development and 5 years maintenance 50% funded by the Millennium Commission); with the Ulster History Park to its east, agricultural fields, maintained primarily in grass, flank the remainder of the site; it slopes from the South down to Cappagh in the North; following local consultation led by the Glens Community Group the whole site was planted by the community in 2001 with a mixture of native broadleaved trees
Spatial information/ point boundaries	1.32 ha; OS Map ref H475819
Management	In the long term, whilst maintaining the site for public access, it would be intended to encourage the site to become a self-sustaining high forest of mixed deciduous woodland; it is unlikely that it will ever produce quality timber as it is small; trees were planted in clumps of 20; in a few years it will require thinning and restructuring to improve stand stability; main purpose of the woodland is for public enjoyment; the path and a bridge over the pond will be monitored annually and appropriate management undertaken if required as well as the fences; local community group will mow the paths 3 times a year to maintain access; rabbit guards established; the Glens Community Group installed a picnic area and two seats; development of a partnership with the adjacent Ulster History Park
Biodiversity monitoring	Restructuring the woodland to encourage age and structural diversity will be assessed in a future plan
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	Strong community involvement in managing and maintaining the site; site used for recreational and educational purposes; access to and enjoyment of the site for local people; people created a native tree trail as part of the Woods On Your Doorstep project in 2000 to mark and celebrate the millennium; specimens of at least one of each of the native trees in Ireland are planted alongside the path and each of these has a small nameplate beside it which notes the tree's name in English, Irish and Latin, and each tree has also been assigned one of the local town land names
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	Community planted the whole site with a mixture of native broadleaved trees; Silver birch, ash and oaks were planted in the higher drier ground and the Group has mulched around these trees in preference to using pesticides; community chose to create a wildlife pond on a constantly wet site where orchids flourish throughout the lower reaches of the area; environmental education efforts through creation of a native tree trail

ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site	The Woodland Trust owns the site; there is a strong community involvement in the management of the area; the Glens Community Group was consulted regarding the design of the woodland and the whole site was planted by the community; Glens Development Group, a group to promote rural and economic development in Gortin glens and the surrounding area, has created and maintains the site contract
Protected Area definition*	Area lies within the Sperrins Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Northern Ireland
Maintenance purpose	Habitat creation

38 - Name of CCA	Friends of Belvoir Wood
Source of information	Woodland Trust http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/en/our-woods/Pages/about-this-wood.aspx?wood=5372 , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Woodland Trust Our woods and their management wopsmail@woodlandtrust.org.uk; +441476 581111; Enquiry on the Woodland Trust webpage http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/en/our-woods/Pages/wood-contact.aspx?wood=5372
Overview	Friends of Belvoir Wood are a woodland creation site positioned between Belvoir Forest Park, the Knock Dual Carriageway and Belvoir Housing Estate on the southern edge of the city of Belfast; the young wood was created in the 1980s by a group known as the Friends of Belvoir, and the Woodland Trust applied some finishing touches in the year 2000 with the planting of thousands of native trees through the Woods Of Your Doorstep project; the wood was gifted to the Trust in 2000; new ponds have been created and in the centre of the woodland is a colourful wildflower meadow, with orchids, bird's foot trefoil and knapweed;
Spatial information/ point boundaries	5.72 ha; OS Map ref J343693
Management	Friends of Belvoir created the site over the previous 15 years by planting trees, maintaining of a wildflower meadow and 3 ponds; with the Friends group, the local community and the Woodland Trust, the site was extended by planting an additional 2.3 ha of native trees; it is managed to encourage the development of a self-sustaining woodland with public access and a good habitat for local biodiversity; natural regeneration of oak; gravel paths were resurfaced; a wildflower meadow is maintained through an annual cut in August/September each year and cuttings removed to reduce nutrient buildup and maintain this wildlife habitat; trees will be removed in this area; it is unlikely that it will ever produce quality timber as it is a small area and vandalism levels fluctuate due to its urban nature; the wood may require thinning and restructuring to improve structural diversity and stand stability; ponds will be maintained and dredged as necessary to maintain the wildlife habitat; regular cutting and maintenance of all paths will maintain public access
Biodiversity monitoring	Annually assessment of a number of mature and over-mature trees
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	Recreation, enjoyment and access to woodland and wildlife; educational purposes; the Woods On Your Doorstep project feature to mark and celebrate the millennium is a carving of a red squirrel sitting within the open area, bringing attention to the valuable habitat in the area which is one of the last heartlands for the red squirrel in Northern Ireland; there is a leisurely stroll around;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	Local people planted woodland with native trees; a wildflower meadow is maintained annually to promote valued species like burnet moths and orchids; ponds were maintained to promote wildlife habitat; awareness rising on woodland habitat

ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site	The Woodland Trust owns the land whereas the local community and the Friends of Belvoir group are taking part in decision-making and management of the site
Protected Area definition*	No designation
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Northern Ireland
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

39 - Name of CCA	Cwmtalwg Local Nature Reserve
Source of information	Cwmtalwg Local Nature Reserve http://homepage.ntlworld.com/a.bryan7/ ; via Community Woodland Network http://frontpage.woodland-trust.org.uk/communitywoodlandnetwork/aboutus/walesgroupslist.htm ; accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Anne Bryan, a.bryan7@ntlworld.com
Overview	<p>The Cwmtalwg Local Nature Reserve is on the edge of the town of Barry, South Wales, and consists of deciduous woods; The land is owned by the Vale of Glamorgan Council and managed by the Cwmtalwg Woodlands Residents Group for the benefit of the local people and wildlife; In 1987 the Council planned to remove an old hedge in Barry, this hedge has brought many people closer to the nature of the place; the Group was formed in 1988 and has been active since in protecting and enhancing this nature reserve by planting trees, constructing paths and putting in seats; The Group is run entirely by volunteers; The Group aims to respond to the needs of the community and encourage local people and children to appreciate and care for the local environment; There are about 100 members, the subscription rates are £2 for adults, £3 for families, £1 for over 60s, 50p for schoolchildren; The Group has a constitution and policy for volunteers and safety policy which were developed after taking advice from various conservation organisations; In the last year Cwmtalwg has gained three awards: Green Pennant Award from the Civic Trust for the fourth year running, award that recognises high quality green spaces in England and Wales that are managed by voluntary and community groups; The Group also won two awards from the Vale of Glamorgan Show: First Prize in the woodland classes for the best project to encourage public access, recreation and interpretation of woodlands and Second Prize in the in Biodiversity class 2, projects by voluntary Groups which create, improve or manage sites for wildlife; threats: often rubbish dump by contractors and housholders, litter and dog mess constant problem; paper work more oppressive than in the past, grants more complex to apply for</p>
Spatial information/ point boundaries	2.85 ha; OS Map ref ST104686
Management	<p>Work parties are held on Sunday mornings 10 am to 12.00; The committee of seven meets about every 2 months and a newsletter is produced three times a year; An AGM is held each March to present the annual report and audited financial report; Group members do routine maintenance, picking up litter, cutting back shrubs from the paths, cutting back grass with a brush cutter or mower or raking up and removing grass to encourage the growth of wild flowers; For bigger tasks, such as path construction, more volunteers are involved, also school children; Some work is done by contractors; The Group has had a Woodland Improvement Grant from the Forestry Authority, which pays 50% of the cost of tree felling as part of woodland improvement; The Coed Cymru officer visits the wood every year or two with Group members and advises on management</p>

Biodiversity monitoring	The Wildlife Trust did a survey at the beginning of the project, found 122 plants; The present Group chairman is an expert bird watcher, has noted 45 species of birds; As more houses have been built around the woods some species have been lost, the cuckoo used to be heard each spring, but is no longer; But the site has also been enriched: a barren area of swampy mud, cleared of rubbish and overhanging trees, has become a pond alive with frogs in the breeding season; Surveys continue and species lists exist
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	Local residents initiative to preserve the land; they wanted to see their green space protected, they feel quite passionate about it; people naturally value it as a place where they can put their worries aside and admire the brilliant delicacy of leaves opening in Spring, or relax in the welcome summer shade or walk among the frosted fallen leaves; Though the place feels tranquil, it is also intensely dynamic, alive with insects and birds, which are another source of pleasure; Teddy Bears picnic in July for the children of local residents, an afternoon which is enjoyed by children, parents and grandparents; a senior picnic for older and disabled members and supporters were held in the last two summers; Nature walks are held on the first Sunday of each months, with bird watching, looking on flowers, insects, wildlife led by Group chairman; tree planting activities and educational walks; painting project was held
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	Protecting and maintaining of the ancient hedge with many different species and the small woods that show features of ancient woodland; raking up and removing grass to encourage the growth of wild flowers; the Group pressed for the Local Nature Reserve designation as there were housing development plans;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	The land is owned by the Vale of Glamorgan Council and managed by the Cwmtalwg Woodlands Residents Group
Protected Area definition*	Local Nature Reserve (LNR)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Wales
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

40 - Name of CCA	Warley Woods
Source of information	http://www.cabe.org.uk/publications/community-led-spaces ; Warley Woods Community Trust: http://www.warleywoods.org.uk/ , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	admin@warleywoods.org.uk; 0121 420 1061 (Trust office)
Overview	With one third woodland and an open grassland, Warley Woods has also an area called The Wilderness which had multiple uses in the past and was also the location for an illegal dump of thousands of tonnes of soil and rubble but this area had started to regenerate naturally with the range of plants attracting new birds and insects to the park; on the advice of local residents, the Trust decided to designate the area for wildlife and to create a new visitor attraction within the park with secured lottery funding from the CommunitySpaces Programme, managed by GroundworkUK which enabled the trust to survey the area for plants and invertebrates, make it safe, accessible and understandable; The Wilderness is home to plant species not found anywhere else in the West Midlands and a wetland boardwalk; also very few historic features on the site have survived over the years, but The Abbey, Tor, gardens, ice house and glasshouses have all been demolished; in response to that lack of management by various councils, Warley Woods Community Trust has taken over management of the Park; The Trust are working to make Warley Woods the People's Park; the trust has established a tree nursery on site to provide trees as they are required in the woods; different events and sporting activities are taking place in the woods such as running, walking, tai chi, golfers on a golf course; there is also a shop and a cafe; Membership of Warley Woods Community Trust is open to anyone and an Annual General Meeting (AGM) is held for votes; members receive the Trust's quarterly newsletter; currently there are more than 650 members of Warley Woods Community Trust, many members are actively involved in the Trust as Board members, Subgroup members or as volunteers; monthly meetings
Spatial information/ point boundaries	Lat 52.468975, long -1.981467
Management	Woodland with natural planting, accessible paths, benches, arbours and sculptures; The trust, in partnership with the Sandwell Council get management funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Big Lottery Fund to restore Warley Woods; Vegetation management in the winter garden area of Warley Woods; management of the children's play area; Over 300 small trees were planted by volunteers in the main area of beech and oak woodland during the winter months, together with the transplanting of saplings from the existing woodland; damaged trees were removed; more different tree species were planted; creation of a Wilderness wildlife area and trial wildflower meadows; restoration activities such as an archaeological investigation to record the important archaeological features of the landscape including Warley Abbey, Warley Tor, the Temple, the Ice House; resurfacing of drives, perimeter path and winter garden path, installation of litterbins and benches, installation of

	a new steel park railing perimeter fence to improve safety and the appearance of Warley Woods, installation of bollards around the remainder of the perimeter to prevent the dumping of cars; volunteer days
Biodiversity monitoring	Warley Woods provides valuable habitat for a wide range of wildlife and plants, there is a rich diversity of species in Warley Woods from invertebrates to birds to mammals; Species lists exist such for mammals, birds, fungi, wildflowers, trees, butterflies, reptiles and amphibians; species surveys
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	Community management of the site; recreational and education activities and events in the woods, open to everyone; well loved and used by the local people
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	People plant and promote native tree species; different byelaws exist for the use of the site to not destroy the environment; promotion of species habitats; biodiversity surveys; the overall objectives of the Trust is to promote the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical, natural and historic environment of the area, recreational and educational purposes for the community;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site	Community set up a charitable Trust, the Warley Woods Community Trust, with a Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and Trustees; membership is open to anyone and members and volunteers manage and maintain the woods; the site is leased by the Trust since 2004 from the landowner for a 99 years lease
Protected Area definition*	No designation
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Habitat restoration

41 - Name of CCA	Tarvin Community Woodland
Source of information	http://www.cabe.org.uk/publications/community-led-spaces/ ; Tarvin Community Woodland Trust: http://www.tarvincommunitywoodland.org/ , accessed 2010
Contact person/ website	info@tarvincommunitywoodland.org
Overview	<p>In 1997, after four years of negotiation with the Highways Agency, a licence to use the land as a public amenity was granted to Tarvin Parish Council; A sub-committee was appointed by the parish council to create the woodland amenity at no cost to the council; The Tarvin community has given over 7000 hours of voluntary effort resulting in an area of woodland that now contains several hundred newly planted oak and other native hardwood trees together with a growing selection of wild flowers, birds and small animals; Many families, individuals and organisations in the village have planted several hundred more commemorative oak and other native hardwood trees; The woodland is bounded by and contains several ancient hedges; Working with guidance from the Forestry Commission, the National Wildflower Centre at Knowsley and the Cheshire Landscape Trust, the Tarvin Community Woodland Trust, a charitable Trust since 2008, manages a long-term environmental scheme that will develop the area into a natural open woodland consisting of only native flora and fauna, all work is done on a voluntary basis; The core group has developed, managed and maintained the area with the assistance of forty or more others including the local youth club and the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV); the area is now a well used public amenity with a central footpath running through open woodland, meadow and wildflower areas; in June 2009 Cheshire West and Chester (the highway authority and current landowner) and the Trust signed a 125 year lease for a small rent; The woodland was the winner in 2000 (and runner up in 2002) of the Cheshire Best Kept Villages' countryside and wildlife award</p>
Spatial information/ point boundaries	5 ha; lat 53.1953, long -2.7602

	<p>The Trust members meet monthly to review and guide progress towards the aims and objectives; Interim meetings are held as necessary to plan and discuss specific topics in more detail; the work includes the active collaboration with Tarvin Parish Council and Cheshire West and Chester Council on environmental issues and public access; encouragement of involvement and management of the participation of volunteers and local community groups in order to continue the development of the amenity woodland; continuation of introducing and conserving native species of flora and encouragement of a greater diversity of fauna on the woodland; public awareness raising; the management activities are mainly mowing the annual growth to generate more effective open areas between the trees; but also maintaining the existing woodland / grassland natural habitat that has already attracted a cross-section of wildlife, creation of new habitats for species that are becoming rare e.g. dormice, butterflies, insects and birds via nesting boxes, wildflowers - a further meadow and a wetland extension to encourage more species, improving fencing and the natural hedgerows using traditional hedge laying techniques and local skills, BTCV and local volunteers e.g. youth club, commencing the removal of non-native trees and shrubs, together with overhanging branches, adjacent to the residential properties; started to thin the woodland for promoting it; Many of the very tall ash trees will be felled to permit them to grow again as coppice; coppicing is a traditional method of woodland management which takes advantage of the fact that many trees reshoot from the stump or roots if cut down; it has the effect of providing a rich variety of habitats, as the woodland always has a range of different-aged coppice growing in it for biodiversity</p>
Management	
Biodiversity monitoring	n.a.
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	Community manages and maintains the woodland for conservation, recreation and education; Some events on the site such as plant sales, coffee mornings, walks; there is a general sense of pride and ownership
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	Traditional hedge laying practices; tree coppicing; many nesting boxes for rare species; planting of native tree species; the Trust has the overall objective to conserve, restore and re-establish native trees, plants and all types of wildlife by provision of a community woodland area in Tarvin for the benefit of the public at large and with a view to improving the quality of life
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	The Community set up a charitable Trust, the Tarvin Community Woodland Trust, and manages the site; it is leased since June 2009 from Cheshire West and Chester (the highway authority and current landowner) on a 125 year lease for a small rent;
Protected Area definition*	No designation
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Habitat restoration

42 - Name of CCA	Blackley Forest
Source of information	Via Community Woodland Network: http://frontpage.woodland-trust.org.uk/communitywoodlandnetwork/aboutus/northgroupslist.htm ; Friends of Blackley Forest: http://www.blackleyforest.com/index.html , accessed January 2011
Contact person/ website	info@blackleyforest.com, Friends tel 07907571250, http://www.blackleyforest.com/contact.html
Overview	The forest was planted by Manchester Corporation and local residents beginning in 1953; prior to 1953 the land had been grazed and tree cover was very limited; 40 years after the first tree was planted the site had become a valuable community and wildlife resource supporting a range of habitats; there had been little in the way of co-ordinated and practical management of the area; the woodlands and associated habitats urgently required management, access arrangements needed improving and interpretation and education facilities needed developing; therefore, a fully integrated woodland management plan was prepared for presentation to Manchester City Council; the forest was made into a Local Nature Reserve in June 2005 by English Nature and Manchester City Council; the community has played a vital part in achieving the successful regeneration of the forest; the forest has an area of heath land unique to Manchester area; The River Irk runs through and bisects the forest; achieved The Green Apple Award in recognition of the huge improvements that have taken place within the forest and the forest was part of The Silver Award winning Blackley in Bloom team for the urban category
Spatial information/ point boundaries	20.5 ha; lat 53.51804, long -2.20938
Management	The Friends Group does practical work such as producing a local newsletter, applying for grants and organising activities such as litter cleanups, control of invasive species (Japanese Knotweed, bracken), painting railings, making bird boxes and planting trees and bulbs; organising bat and bird walks; an integrated woodland management plan was prepared for presentation to Manchester City Council
Biodiversity monitoring	Group puts up over 35 nest boxes for a wide variety of species of birds for monitoring; bird feeding station; ecological bat and bird surveys; invertebrate species records; plant and tree species records
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	As the forest is in commemoration of the soldiers during World War II, a poppy field surrounded by approximately 38 trees that will represent the number of fallen soldiers from the Blackley area is created; a sculptor created a wooden sculpture in the wood together with pupils from a nearby school; bird box making, bird watching and planting; bat and moths walks; health walks; forest used for recreation, education and conservation work, enjoyment

ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	The Friends Group does practical work such as litter cleanups, control of invasive species (Japanese Knotweed, bracken), making bird boxes and planting trees and bulbs; because of past industrial pollution, the people work hard towards the river Irk supporting shoals of fish; objectives of the group is to promote a rich wildlife and to protect species and have a healthy environment for the public
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site	Following public meetings in 1999, a formally constituted community group, the 'Friends of Blackley Forest', was established; the City Council is responsible for the overall management of the forest, and supports the Friends Group with advice and funding; group also helped to draw up a woodland management plan; group has a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer; working together with other local volunteers
Protected Area definition*	Local Nature Reserve (LNR)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

43 - Name of CCA	Storeton Woods
Source of information	Via Community Woodland Network: http://frontpage.woodland-trust.org.uk/communitywoodlandnetwork/aboutus/northgroupslist.htm ; Friends of Storeton Woods: http://www.friendsofstoretonwoods.org.uk/ , accessed January 2011
Contact person/ website	committee@friendsofstoretonwoods.org, Deputy Chair Barrie Old barrie@friendsofstoretonwoods.org.uk, http://www.friendsofstoretonwoods.org.uk/
Overview	In 1989 the Friends of Storeton Woods purchased this wood with the help and support of the Woodland Trust; group works now very closely with the Woodland Trust to conserve and protect the area for future generations; It took the dedication of local people near the woods in Bebington, Wirral, to uncover the potential of wildlife and biodiversity of the woods, as it was in a bad situation; people approached the landowner and raised £25,000 towards the purchase price, then asked the Woodland Trust to take on the long-term ownership and management of the woods, which it did in 1989; the local group organises regular workdays and events, such as an annual Christmas carol concert in the woods; woods are on the site of an old sandstone quarry, an old tramway embankment, formerly for carrying stones, still exists as a footpath, and stone from the quarry can be seen in many major buildings; open for all as a member by a donation
Spatial information/ point boundaries	12.5 ha, OS Map ref SJ314847
Management	The Friends group writes a newsletter, issued to members quarterly; open membership with an annual subscription; management and maintaining work; Annual General Meetings are held; open workdays
Biodiversity monitoring	n.a.
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	People write articles and songs and poems about the wood which were published in the newsletter; in a densely populated area, the woods are the nearest thing people have to a natural and wild walk; woods for recreation, conservation, education, enjoyment; people are very close with the wood
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	Peoples initiative to purchase the woods for conservation and enjoyment;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	The Friends of Storeton Woods, a charity, purchased the woods and asked the Woodland Trust to take on the long-term ownership and management of the woods, which it did in 1989; they are managing and maintaining it, also financially, with help from the Woodland Trust; the group has a Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and other Trustees
Protected Area definition*	No designation
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

44 - Name of CCA	Hagg Wood
Source of information	Via Community Woodland Network: http://frontpage.woodland-trust.org.uk/communitywoodlandnetwork/aboutus/northgroupslist.htm ; Friends of Hagg Wood: http://www.fohw.org.uk/ , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	Friends of Hagg Wood: http://www.fohw.org.uk/ , Chairman: David Mayston davidmays@onetel.com
Overview	Friends of Hagg Wood was formed in 1996 to preserve, protect and enhance the natural plant and animal life in the wood for the community. FHW holds monthly conservation working parties in the wood and other enjoyable activities, including illustrated talks, social events and visits to places of conservation interest. The wood was established as a Community Woodland in 2003. The Forestry Commission manages the wood in consultation with the Friends of Hagg Wood. The long-term objective is to restore the wood as native semi-natural woodland, including oak, ash and other broad-leaved trees and native woodland shrubs, as well as maintaining some of the larger conifers. The wood is designated as a Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS for short).
Spatial information/ point boundaries	43 ha, OS Map ref SE 685 526
Management	Open membership with an annual subscription; the group has a Committee, a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and holds Annual General Meetings and other meetings; monthly conservation work parties in the wood
Biodiversity monitoring	n.a.
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	Different events are taking place in the wood; people are very close with the wood
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	Conservation work in the wood; objectives of the Friends are to promote the conservation of the natural plant and animal life together with access and preservation for the public
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	The Forestry Commission has the responsibility of managing the wood, but the Friends of Hagg Wood are managing and maintaining the wood in consultation with the Commission;
Protected Area definition*	No designation
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Habitat restoration

45 - Name of CCA	Sadlers Wells Wood
Source of information	Via a study by Phil Tidey and Angela Pollard 2010, Small Woods; received by Anna Lawrence, Forest Research; Sadlers Wells Wood: http://www.sadlerswellswood.co.uk/Default.html , accessed December 2010
Contact person/ website	http://www.sadlerswellswood.co.uk/Default.html ; Ernest Croley Tel 01829-260344, ernest.croley@homecall.co.uk
Overview	Sadlers Wells Community Woodland is a registered charity which was formed to acquire and manage ancient semi-natural woodland known as Sadlers Wells Wood on the edge of the village of Bunbury, Cheshire for the benefit of the local community and to extend it by planting native broadleaved trees; the wood is a remnant of a much larger wood and it is a much appreciated local amenity which occupies a prominent position in the Cheshire landscape; the purchase of the wood was completed in January 2006 with the aid of a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund and help of other organisations; there is also a Friends of Sadlers Wells Wood group, members of the public who support the work and objectives of the charity; the wood itself produces no income and people therefore has to raise all the funds needed to pay for expenditure such as insurance, maintenance, etc., local people who enjoy the wood help with financing and maintaining the wood; there is an annual subscription for members of the charity and a newsletter
Spatial information/ point boundaries	1.2 ha; OS Map ref SJ560578
Management	Sadlers Wells Community Woodland is a Charity whose management is vested in Trustees with a Chairman and 6 other representatives from the local region; ancient semi-natural woodland which includes a good variety of native broadleaved trees and is bounded on the southerly side by the stream, and an additional area lies on the other side of the stream and in the adjoining Parish of Spurstow, this area has been planted up (March 2006) with app 800 young trees of locally sourced pedunculate oak, ash, small leaved lime, wild cherry, field maple and crab apple; a local volunteer has built a bridge across the stream to provide access from one side to the other;
Biodiversity monitoring	Surveys and records of the flora and fauna of the wood
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	People use the wood as an educational resource for the local community; users, helpers and friends help the charity in managing and maintaining tasks in the wood; events for the community in the wood such as guided walks or talks about animals; school education projects
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	The people of the charity work towards preserving the heritage of the ancient semi-natural woodland, to manage and maintain it in accordance with the Local Biodiversity Action Plan, to improve the value of the wood as a wildlife habitat and to provide a valuable amenity for the locality; they also want to extend the wood and they carry out surveys and records of the flora and fauna of the wood; planting of native trees; maintaining and promote the ancient semi-natural woodland

ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	The Sadlers Wells Community Woodland is a local charity that owns the wood and manages it with local people voluntarily; financial support by the Heritage Lottery Fund
Protected Area definition*	No designation
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

46 - Name of CCA	Raincliffe Woods
Source of information	Via Community Woodland Network: http://frontpage.woodland-trust.org.uk/communitywoodlandnetwork/aboutus/northgroupslst.htm; Friends of Raincliffe Woods http://www.raincliffewoods.com/index.html, January 2011
Contact person/ website	Friends of Raincliffe Woods http://www.raincliffewoods.com/index.html; raincliffewoods@gmail.com or Andy 07799 816273
Overview	The pending destruction of Raincliffe so incensed a group of local business men that in 1925 they, C.C.Graham, George Rowntree and Arnold Wallis, formed "The Trust" and bought the woodland back to ensure it's survival, these were the original " Friends of Raincliffe Woods" for, without their intervention, Raincliffe would most certainly have been destroyed; The Friends of Raincliffe Woods (FoRWoods) formed in March 2005 after a series of public meeting held to discuss issues in and around the woodland and a Core Group was elected to act as a committee to keep the Friends informed of activities; Membership of the Friends is free and is open to anyone interested in; there are three designated walks through the wood and a Nature Trail with areas of interest as well as a Geology Trail through Forge Valley, a nature reserve
Spatial information/ point boundaries	161.9 ha; lat 54.2668, long -0.4800
Management	The Friends group acts as an advisory body for the community and woodland users; a committee with Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary and additional trustees exists who held regular committee meetings; the Friends support the use of the woodland as an educational resource; the Friends held regular activity days, which range from conservation activities to organised walks; work includes footpath maintenance, removing of invasive species; clearing rhododendron to promote native species; the Friends working with Scarborough Borough Council towards funding for a management plan; this should result in a structured and sustainable conservation and restoration program ensuring the protection of the environment as under funding resulting in poor maintenance; the Friends provide way marking for introductory trails throughout the woodland and produce maps and guides to support these woodland walks; financial support by The National Lottery
Biodiversity monitoring	Habitat surveys and ecological records, veteran tree survey
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood	The Friends organise regular practical events and activities in the woodland involving local people, colleges and schools and encourage schools and colleges to use the woodland for educational and practical activities; wood events with bird trail, face painting, mask making, making of Bird Boxes, Bat Homes, Insect Houses; an event called 'Secret Wood' was held in 2000 to encourage people back into the woodland following it's closure due to a national Foot & Mouth outbreak which was so popular that it became an annual event;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	The Friends aim to conserve, enhance and protect the natural beauty, geology, flora, fauna of the woods, promote the woodland, increase public awareness and reflect the concerns of the wider community; they try to encourage

	responsible use of the woodland
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	In 1926 Scarborough Council bought Raincliffe; when the Friends of Raincliffe Woods were formed they started to manage and maintain the wood and did pressure towards funding and working on a management plan;
Protected Area definition*	Partly designated as Nature Reserve (NR): Forge Valley
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

47 - Name of CCA	Gunton Woodland
Source of information	Via Community Woodland Network: http://frontpage.woodland-trust.org.uk/communitywoodlandnetwork/aboutus/segroupslist2.htm#Forest_for_Our_Children_; www.guntonwoodland.org.uk, accessed January 2011
Contact person/ website	Gunton Woodland Community Project www.guntonwoodland.org.uk; info@guntonwoodland.org
Overview	<p>Gunton Wood degenerated into a wilderness of rank vegetation and sycamores; it was a daunting task that confronted a group of residents in 1997 when they resolved to restore the Wood; one year later Gunton Woodland Community Project was formally constituted as a member organisation, regular weekly work parties commenced and the wood has been designated as a Local Nature Reserve with 4000 new trees, paths, seats and a pond to provide a valuable habitat for wildlife and nature lovers; in 2003 the Group won the Queen's Golden Jubilee Award for Voluntary Service; Many of the residents adjoining the Wood were retired, often with dogs that needed daily exercise, and so there was a captive audience of like minded individuals who had a vested interest in restoring the woodland; the chain Tesco planned to develop part of their land, but the Group urged Tesco to allocate part of it for use as a Nature Reserve and after continuous pressure from the Group this proposal was formally approved by the Council Planning Authorities; Suffolk Wildlife Trust assumed ownership of the Reserve; since then, the Group has worked closely with the Trust to provide volunteer help to work on projects within the Reserve; also various projects have been undertaken in nearby Foxburrow Wood; in 2009, the group led a campaign to resist a proposal by the Council to convert the "Church Field" for use by the Rugby Club and for other sports facilities; this 15 ha field, immediately adjacent to Gunton Wood, is unsuitable for such purposes and the proposal would have had serious repercussions on the status of the Gunton Wood Nature Reserve; fortunately, the Gunton Parochial Church Council, as owners of the field, also had strong objections and the Council formally withdrew their proposal at the end of 2009; since then joint efforts are being made by the Church and the Group to progress the idea of using the field as a Woodland Burial Site which would involve the planting of thousands of trees interspersed with wild flower meadows</p>
Spatial information/ point boundaries	2.5 ha; OS Map ref TM 543958
Management	<p>Every Thursday morning, between 20 and 30 residents gather for work party activities; the project Committee publishes a quarterly Newsletter for members; with help of the Suffolk Wildlife Trust a management plan was drawn; having completed the initial 5 year Work Plan for Gunton Wood, it became clear that care and maintenance activities alone would be insufficient to keep the large workforce occupied, so with the agreement of Suffolk Wildlife Trust and the landowners, various projects have therefore been undertaken in nearby Foxburrow Wood; these include bramble pulling, fencing, bridging and the construction of short sections of boardwalk to facilitate access in wet weather; work in Gunton Wood also includes ditch clearing, cutting and raking</p>

	the wild flower meadow, coppicing elders, felling dead elms, pruning wild roses; pond clearance; funding donations from companies and group members
Biodiversity monitoring	Bird surveys and records; wide range of habitats with diff. species
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	Great enthusiasm for the project to restore the wood; many of the residents adjoining the Wood were retired, often with dogs that needed daily exercise, and so there was a captive audience of like minded individuals who had a vested interest in restoring the woodland; since then, regular work parties take place; it is very much a social occasion, many strong and lasting friendships have been made; regular outings and social events such as garden parties all help to maintain the bonds that hold the Group together; Close relationships have been forged with several local schools by conducting regular nature walks and pond dipping exercises with the children; conservation, maintaining and education purposes;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	The group works towards conservation of the wood and extension of the conservation area by campaigning and awareness raising; conservation and maintaining tasks such as coppicing, pruning, pond clearance, raking the wild flower meadow
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	Different owners of Gunton Wood: partly owned by the Council and partly by the Church; nearby Foxburrow Wood is owned partly by Waveney District Council and other parts by two other owner; the Suffolk Wildlife Trust assumed ownership of the adjoining Nature Reserve; the people of the Gunton Woodland Community Project initiated the restoration of the woodland and manages and maintains the woodland with help from the Suffolk Wildlife Trust;
Protected Area definition*	Local Nature Reserve (LNR)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	England
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

48 - Name of CCA	Kincladie Wood
Source of information	Via Community Woodland Association http://www.communitywoods.org/map/ ; Dunning Community Trust http://www.dunning-community-trust.org.uk/ , accessed January 2011
Contact person/ website	Dunning Community Trust http://www.dunning-community-trust.org.uk/ ; webmaster@dunning-community-trust.org.uk
Overview	Kincladie has been defined as being of plantation origin within the Ancient Woodland Inventory and it is possible that the woodland is of ancient origin however which has existed without ever being cleared for grazing or arable farming since at least 1750; The ground flora contains ancient woodland indicators; these include Wood anemone (<i>Anemone nemerosa</i>), violets (<i>Viola</i> spp.) and wood sorrel (<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>); broadleaves and conifers in the wood; wood purchased in 2005 by the Dunning Community Trust; a major clean up of Kincladie Wood with the erection of affordable homes in 2006, where about 50 volunteers removed several tons of rubbish from the wood and erected 22 of a planned 40 bird boxes; as well as providing more homes for an expanding population of tits, the Trust is encouraging less common species, such as spotted flycatcher and redstart, with open-fronted bird boxes; Kincladie Wood is popular with villagers wanting a short, peaceful walk and to use it as an educational resource to help schoolchildren learn about the natural world; the wood, known to locals as My Lady's Wood or Mi Lady's Wood, it came up for sale in 2005; to the west it has a Roman Dyke running at an angle through it, a site recorded by Historic Scotland as an Ancient Monument, and records also show that witches were killed and burnt in the wood in 1663; people wanted to by the wood and set up a company called the Dunning Community Trust; after fundraising, campaigning and applying for grants, the wood was bought in 2005 and the company has now about 300 members
Spatial information/ point boundaries	8 ha; Lat Long 56.312N, 3.584W; OS Map ref NO 020 144
Management	A woodland management plan is set up by the Trust; thinning some trees in the wood for promoting regeneration of young trees and ground vegetation; events organized for members of the Trust to provide training and education to contribute to the management of the wood and future projects; membership with a membership subscription; Annual General Meetings of the Trust
Biodiversity monitoring	Monitoring of birds in the wood: bird ringing and counting; the Trust built bird boxes and installed them in the wood for monitoring of breeding; people sponsor the bird boxes; fungi surveys, tree surveys
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	People of the village Dunning care for the wood as it is an important place for them to enjoy, to relax and recreate; it is an important place since ages especially for the older residents of Dunning, as they used to play in the wood when they were children; they also used to pick blaberries and some fallen timber for home use; in the last years, many people sponsored a bird box, and often visit their very own box in the wood; events such as music, art and storytelling midsummer festival take place in the wood; 'teddy bear picnic' for young and old, and school days in the wood for education; fundraising events for the wood;

ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	The Trust works towards the conservation and enhancing of biodiversity in the wood and the education of the public in the management of woodland and environmental protection, conservation, improvement; education of the public in the understanding of woodland and its flora and fauna; promoting the sustainable development and biodiversity of the wood through practical work in the wood such as light thinning, rubbish clearance, establishment of bird nests
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 <i>- community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	Dunning Community Trust as a private company limited by guarantee bought the wood in 2005 and manages the wood with help from people from the village Dunning
Protected Area definition*	No designation
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Scotland
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

49 - Name of CCA	Taliesin
Source of information	Via Community Woodland Association, http://www.communitywoods.org/map/ ; South West Community Woodlands Trust: http://www.swcwt.org/index.html , accessed January 2011
Contact person/ website	South West Community Woodlands Trust, Jools Cox, Tel 01556 503649, joolscox@tiscali.co.uk ; http://www.swcwt.org/contact.html ;
Overview	Taliesin is an ancient woodland site nestling at the foot of Scree Hill with burns, water meadows, several ponds, and approx. 2000 trees planted and tended by the South West Community Woodlands Trust members; The Trust runs craft workshops through the year and holds regular festivals, work days and barbeques, and is involved in partnership management with the Forestry Commission on adjoining woodland called Potterland Hill; as the woodland develops the biodiversity of the site continues to increase; Violets, bluebells, primrose, bog asphodel, damsel and dragonflies, lizards, toads, frogs, adders and red squirrels proliferate; Raspberries, blackberries, fungi, elderflowers, pig nuts and sheep sorrel satisfy the needs of the hunter gatherer; South West Community Woodlands Trust bought Taliesin in 2008 with help from Awards for All, generous donations from local benefactors and from the committee and the membership; South West Community Woodlands Trust is a registered charity established in 1997 with the aim to conserve and regenerate woodlands, to reconnect people to local biodiversity by involving them in woodland crafts and woodland management, and foster appreciation and respect for the countryside; purchasing Taliesin has secured the future of the community woodland; Taliesin is a rich habitat for many species of wildlife; The Trust also manages an Orchard and Wild Harvest Project throughout Dumfries and Galloway to bring local people back to local produce and consumption
Spatial information/ point boundaries	OS Map ref NX793 556
Management	Approx. 2000 trees planted and tended by Trust members in Taliesin; regular work parties for coppicing, treeplanting, general maintenance, deerproofing; Taliesin willow was being gathered to make panels for the walls of the compost loo and it is also used by local willow workers and used at the courses; the Trust has good relations with the Forestry Commission who manage the public forests adjoining Taliesin on three sides, and has entered co-operative restoration of disused hazel coppicing on Potterland Hill which has been recognised as a Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS) undergoing transition towards native mixed woodland; the Trust also keep abreast of the Forestry Commission's management plans and activities in the area such as Felling plans, Re-stocking/planting plans, upcoming operations and the areas involved; pond building; persuaded landowners to plant trees along the river Urr from the source to the sea to create a wildlife corridor; the Trust is a registered charity with open membership with an annual donation, regular newsletters issued
Biodiversity monitoring	Records of plants and trees

ICCA defining characteristics no. 1 - <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	The Trust, set up by local residents, manages the wood and practices and teaches traditional woodland skills and crafts in the wood; different festivals and courses such as blacksmithing, flat bow making, mushroom identification, peg loom rug making, wood carving, stone carving, bushcraft, paper making, basket making, spring and autumn gatherings, ceilidhs and music performances; compost loo building and use on the site; the wood is greatly used by walkers, cyclists, campers, Forest School activities, young children, cadets and scouts; visitors enjoy walking in the woodland or sitting in the sun;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - <i>community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature</i>	Sustainable use of native timber, education in tree planting, grafting, coppicing, survival skills and low impact technologies provide training and employment opportunities for local people; all planting and land management at Taliesin is done with wildlife diversity in mind, and the focus on native species will help to increase the number of species; native tree planting, general maintenance of the wood; building a pond to attract more species; have planted trees and persuaded landowners to plant trees along the river Urr from the source to the sea to create a wildlife corridor; the Trust aims to conserve and regenerate woodlands, to reconnect people to local biodiversity by involving them in woodland crafts and woodland management, and foster appreciation and respect for the countryside;
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - <i>community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site</i>	South West Community Woodlands Trust bought Taliesin in 2008 and manages and maintains it; the Trust is also involved in the management of the adjoining site owned by the Forestry Commission
Protected Area definition*	No designation; the adjoining site Potterland Hill (owned by Forestry Commission) is recognised as a Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Scotland
Maintenance purpose	Habitat restoration

50 - Name of CCA	Coed-y-Felin
Source of information	Via contact to Chris Powell Parks Conservation Officer, Parks Services Cardiff (from Rhydymwyn contact); Friends of Coed-y-Felin: http://www.lisvanecommunity.org.uk/Core/Lisvane-cc/Pages/Friends_of_Coed-y-Felin_2.aspx , accessed January 2011
Contact person/ website	Friends of Coed-y-Felin http://www.lisvanecommunity.org.uk/Core/Lisvane-cc/Pages/Friends_of_Coed-y-Felin_2.aspx ; Cardiff Ranger Services 029 2044 5900 (ask for Ranger Services); website manager who can forward to persons: hanson.hillcot@btinternet.com
Overview	Coed-y-Felin comprises semi-ancient and mixed natural woodland; Site of Nature Conservation Importance, that is 'one of the most important sites of nature conservation value at the local level'; it is also a valuable section of the Nant Fawr corridor that is recognised by the County Council as having strategic importance in terms of recreation, amenity and wildlife, and because of this importance the Friends of Coed-y-Felin was formed, a group of volunteers, mainly of neighbours from around the wood, who work in partnership with the Cardiff City Council, with all local residents and with any other appropriate body; the group was formed in 1999; recent projects being the construction of the woodland path leading from Clos Llysfaen down to the Nant Fawr and the stepping stones and setting out a Nature Trail; Friends of Coed y Felin have won the Green Pennant awarded for the third year running; The Green Pennant Award is awarded by Keep Britain Tidy, a national award that recognises high quality green spaces in England and Wales that are managed by voluntary and community groups; the woodland lies within the community of Lisvane, in which many community initiatives exist
Spatial information/ point boundaries	5.7ha; OS Map ref CF140SJ
Management	Regular Working Parties of the Friends group; they always seek people who help in the wood; these work days are usually held on the 3rd Sunday of each month; here people carry out woodland maintenance and contribute to ongoing projects; notices of these are posted at the entrances to the wood; all are welcome to join in, family involvement is especially welcome; a qualified Park Ranger supervises all working parties and all equipment is provided; some of the Friends erect a number of Bat Boxes; Membership: There is no formal membership, but a contribution of £5.00 per household every year;
Biodiversity monitoring	Bat boxes for monitoring, provided by Environment Wales and the Countryside Council for Wales
ICCA defining characteristics no. 1- <i>community is closely connected to a defined ecosystem culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood</i>	Peoples initiative to protect the wood; events in the wood like Spring Walks, a ranger-led Spring Walk in Coed-y-Felin; wood carvings; building of a Nature Trail; the group promotes the educational enjoyment of Coed-y-Felin and set out a Nature Trail

ICCA defining characteristics no. 2 - community management decisions and efforts lead to the conservation of nature	People maintain the wood and conserve it; their objectives are to improve and to help to conserve this amenity for the community, to promote the study of the wildlife in the woods, the plants, birds, animals and insects in their natural habitat, to preserve and encourage the flora and fauna of the woodlands, including its diversity of trees
ICCA defining characteristics no. 3 - community is the major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site	The voluntarily group Friends of Coed-y-Felin works in partnership with the Cardiff City Council, with all local residents and with any other appropriate body in the wood; owner of the wood Cardiff City Council (?)
Protected Area definition*	Site of Importance to Nature Conservation (SINC)
UK country England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland	Wales
Maintenance purpose	Conservation and recreation

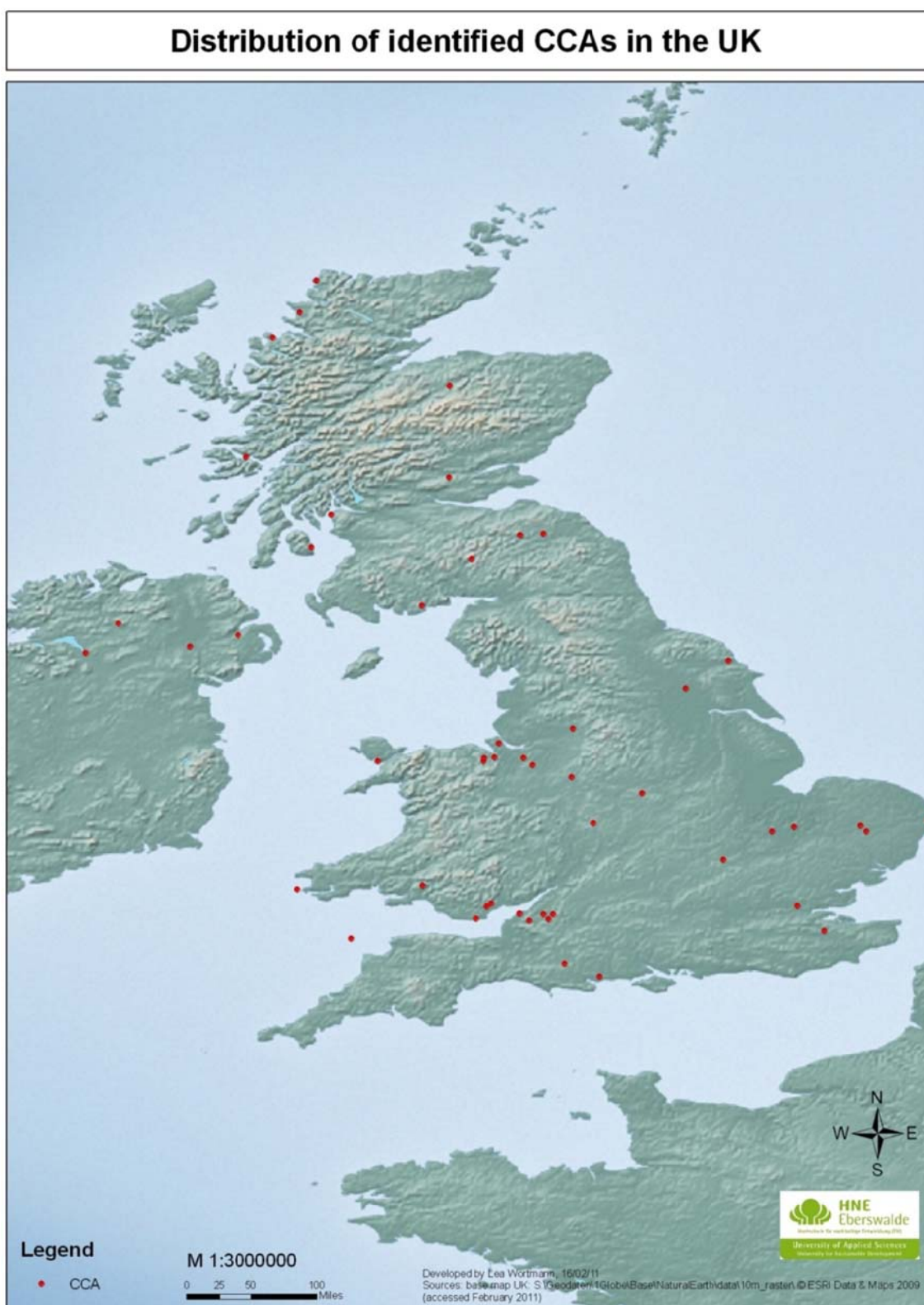
Definition ICCAs:

- 1.A community is closely **connected to a well defined ecosystem** (or to a species and its habitat) culturally and/or because of survival and dependence for livelihood;
- 2.The community management decisions and efforts **lead to the conservation** of the ecosystem's habitats, species, ecological services and associated cultural values [even when the conscious objective of such management may be different than conservation per se, and be, for instance, related to material livelihood, water security, safeguarding of cultural and spiritual places, etc.].
- 3.The community is the **major player in decision-making (governance) and implementation regarding the management of the site**, implying that community institutions have the capacity to enforce regulations; in many situations there may be other stakeholders in collaboration or partnership, but primary decision-making rests with the concerned community.

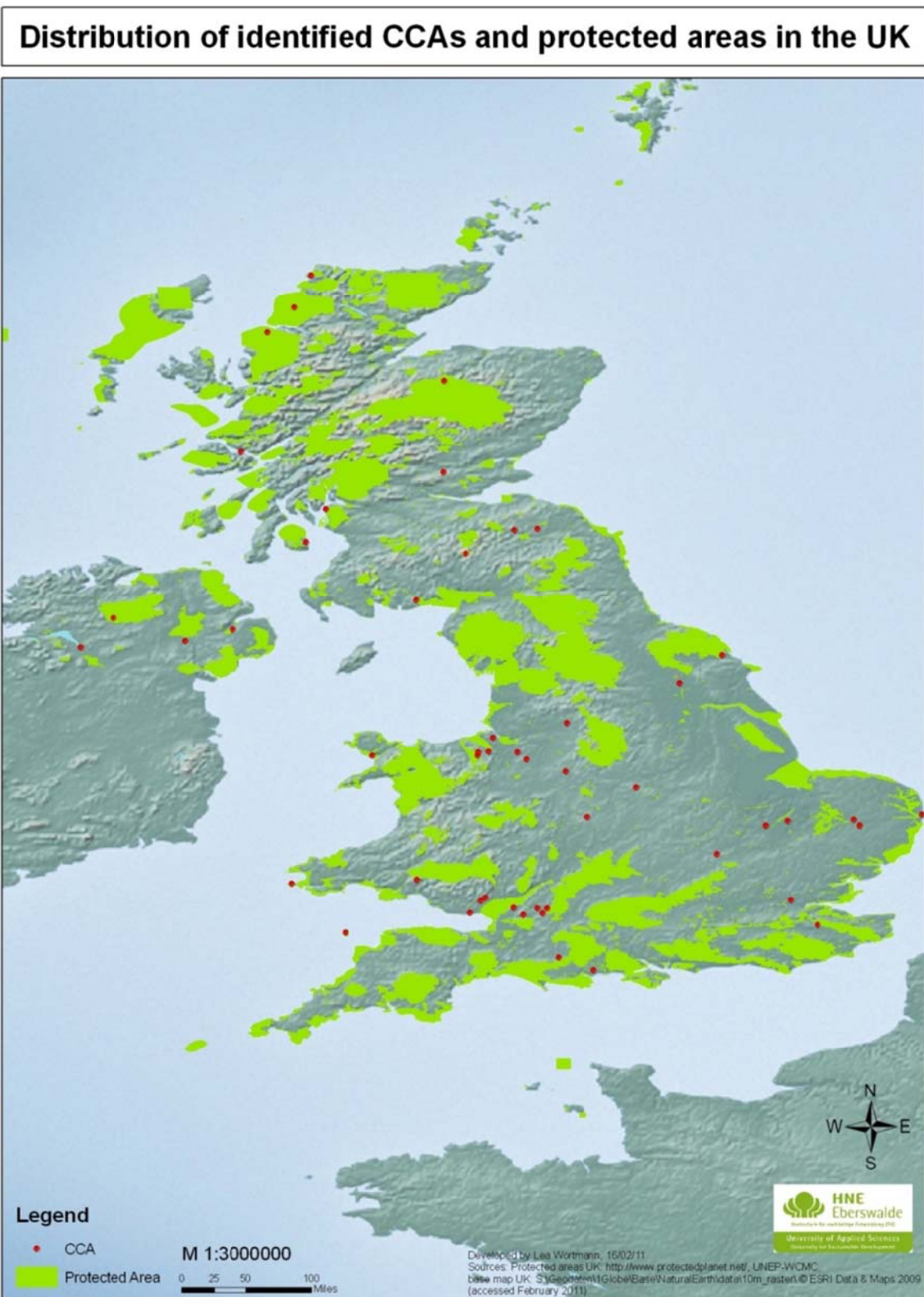
***Definition Protected Area:**

“A clearly defined geographical space, recognised, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values”.

Annex II – Distribution of identified CCAs in the UK, map with point locations



Annex III – Distribution of identified CCAs and PAs in the UK, map with CCA point locations and PA boundaries



Declaration of Independence

Declaration of independent work on Bachelor thesis

With this statement I declare that I have prepared this Bachelor thesis independently, only using the references given in this paper.

Lea Wortmann

Eberswalde, March 17th 2011

