

Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services

Tom Butterworth

A scenic landscape photograph of a large lake or reservoir, likely Windermere in the Lake District, England. The water is a deep blue, reflecting the sky and the surrounding mountains. The mountains are covered in green and brown vegetation, with some snow visible on the higher peaks. The sky is a clear, pale blue with a few wispy clouds. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

Biodiversity 2020



- Sites & Habitats (& integrated approaches & ecosystems)
- Species
- People engagement
- Marine



Natural England



- We are here to protect and support the sites that are important for wildlife
 - These are the Protected Sites
 - They hold vast areas of the important habitats
 - And lots of the important species
-
- So lets get on with it.

Thank you
Any questions?



Biodiversity: Farmland Birds

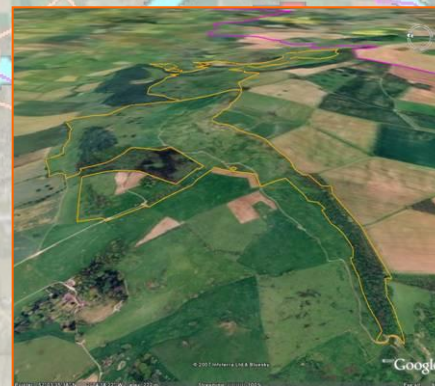
- Address decline in breeding waders, inc lapwing, curlew, & redshank:

- Provision of wetland & wet grassland in floodplain
- Feeding sites on adjacent arable land



SSSI & Biodiversity: Species rich grassland, heathland, and wood pasture

- Scrub/bracken invasion, and lack of grazing:
 - Scrub/bracken control
 - Site infrastructure
 - Appropriate management



Access



SSSI

- HLS
- HLS unlikely

Biodiversity

- All BAP habitats
- Farmland Birds
- Floodplain

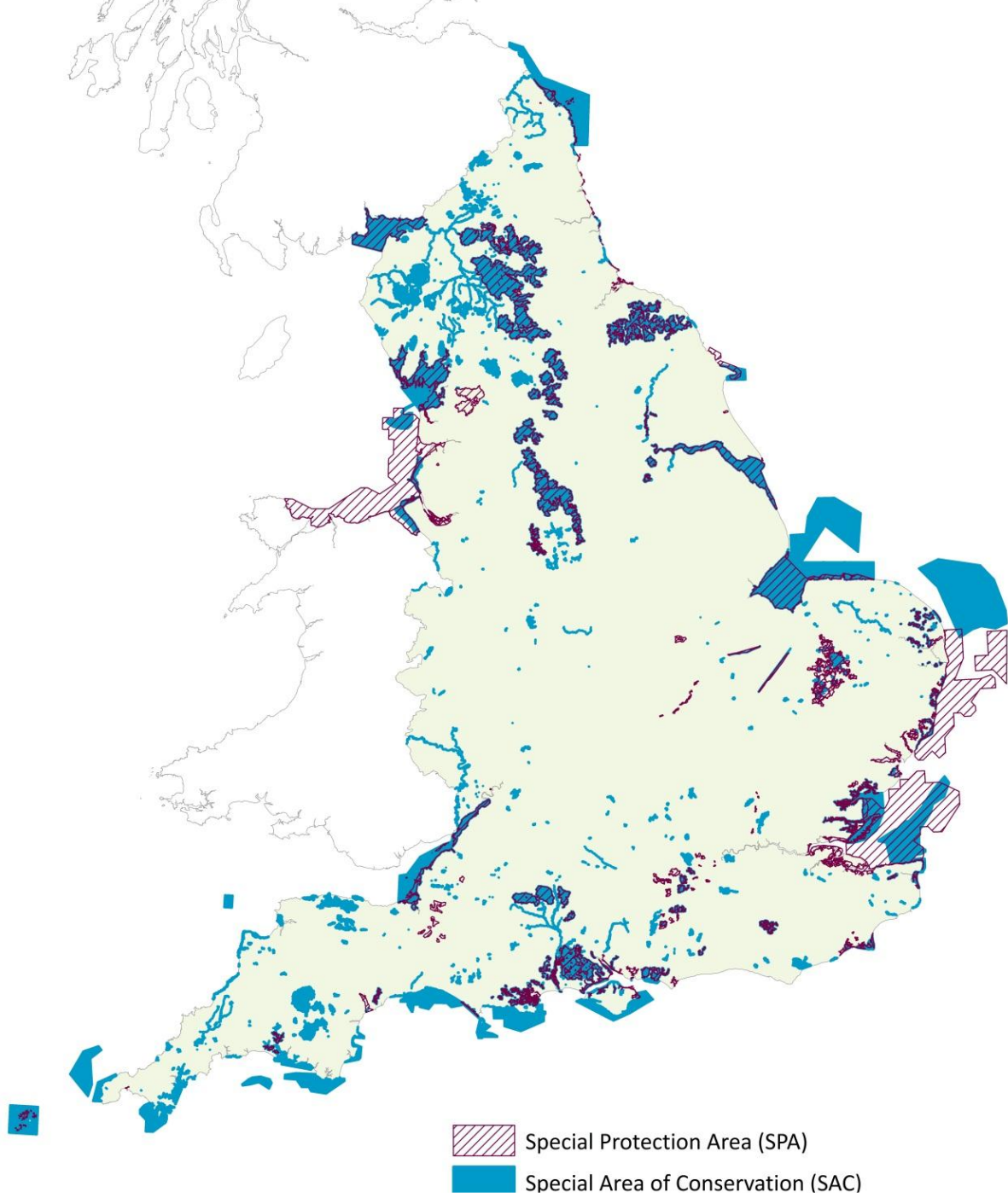
Landscape

Historic Environment

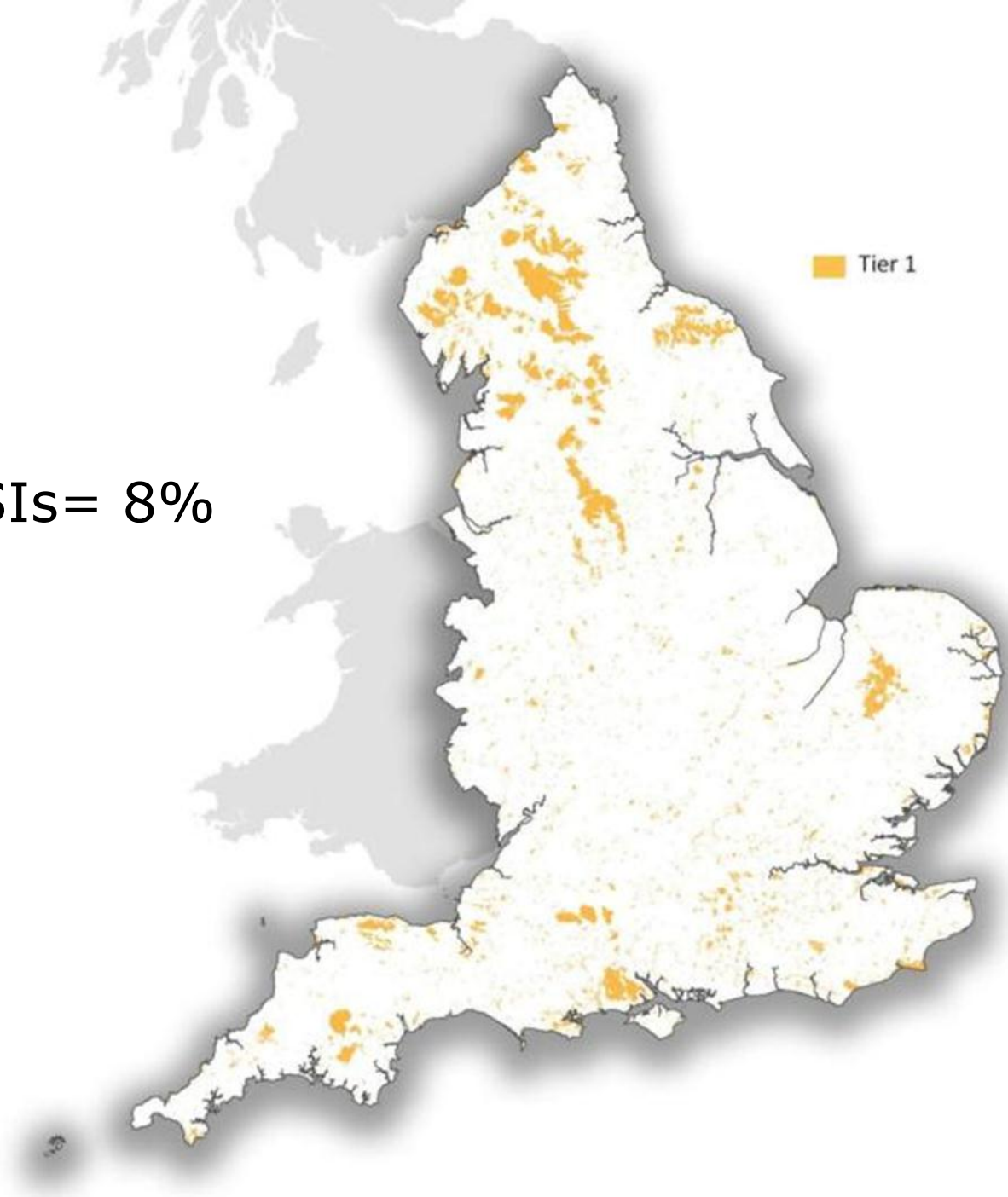
- SM at risk
- SM low
- Parks and Gardens

Resource protection





SSSIs= 8%

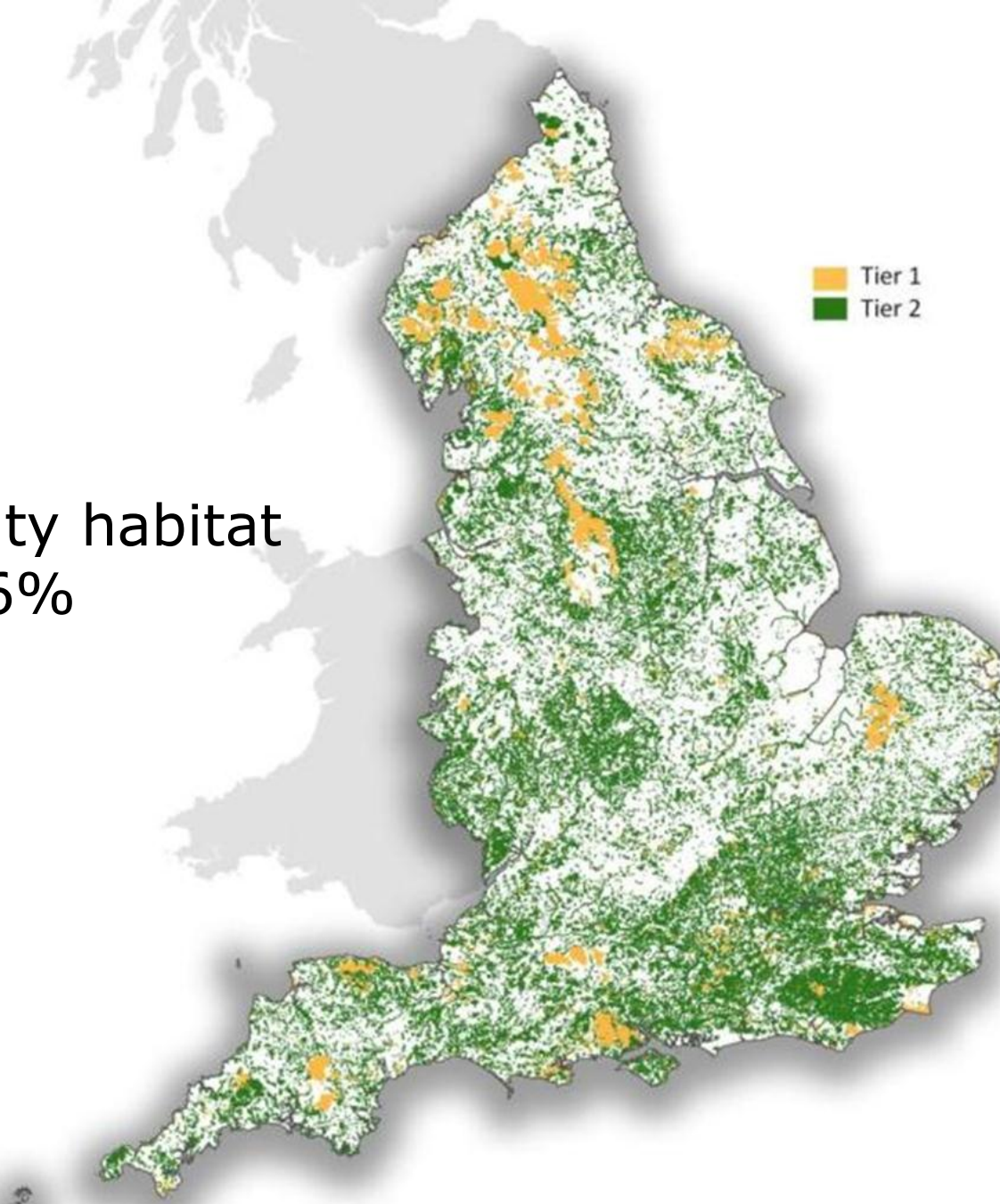


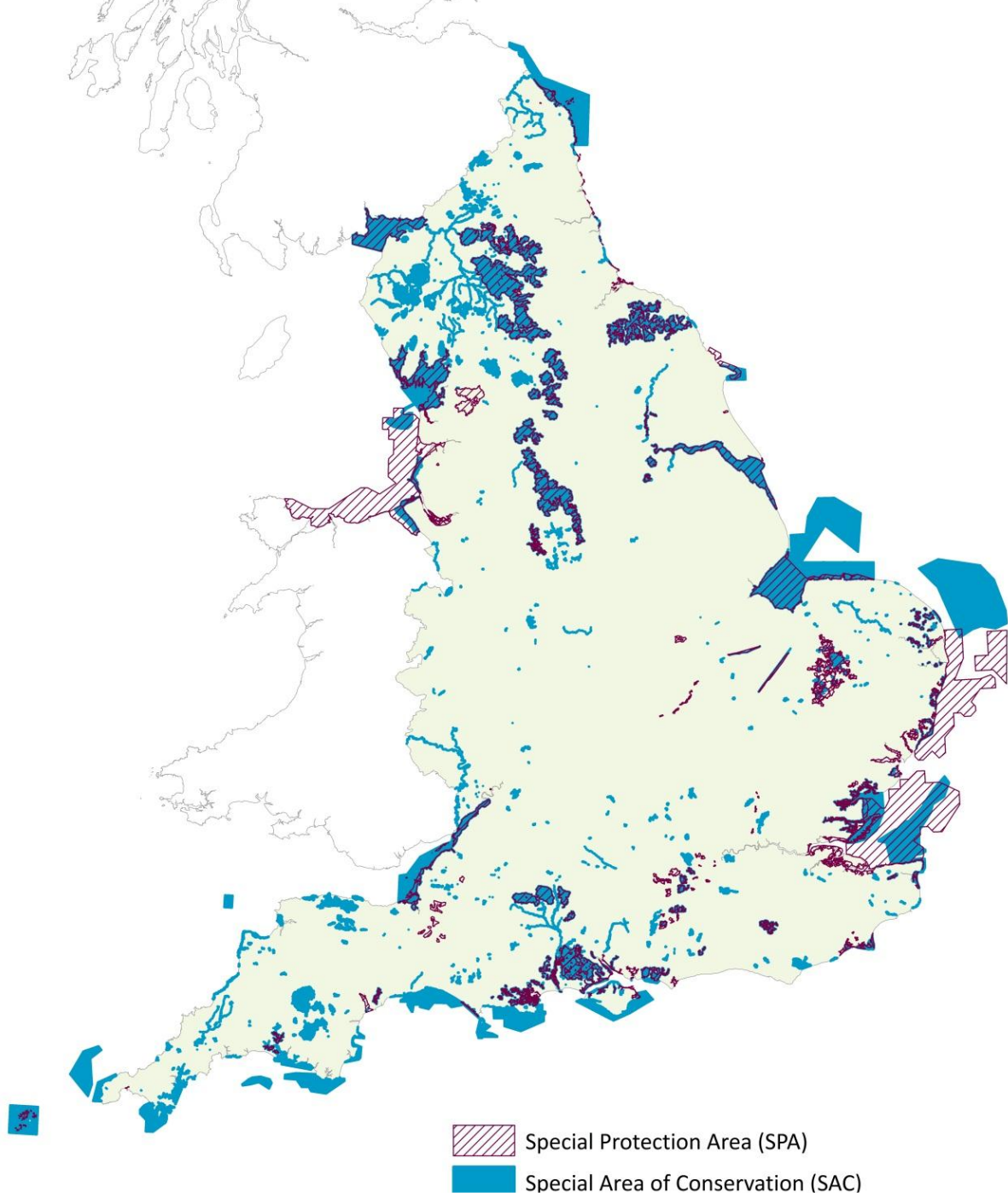
Tier 1

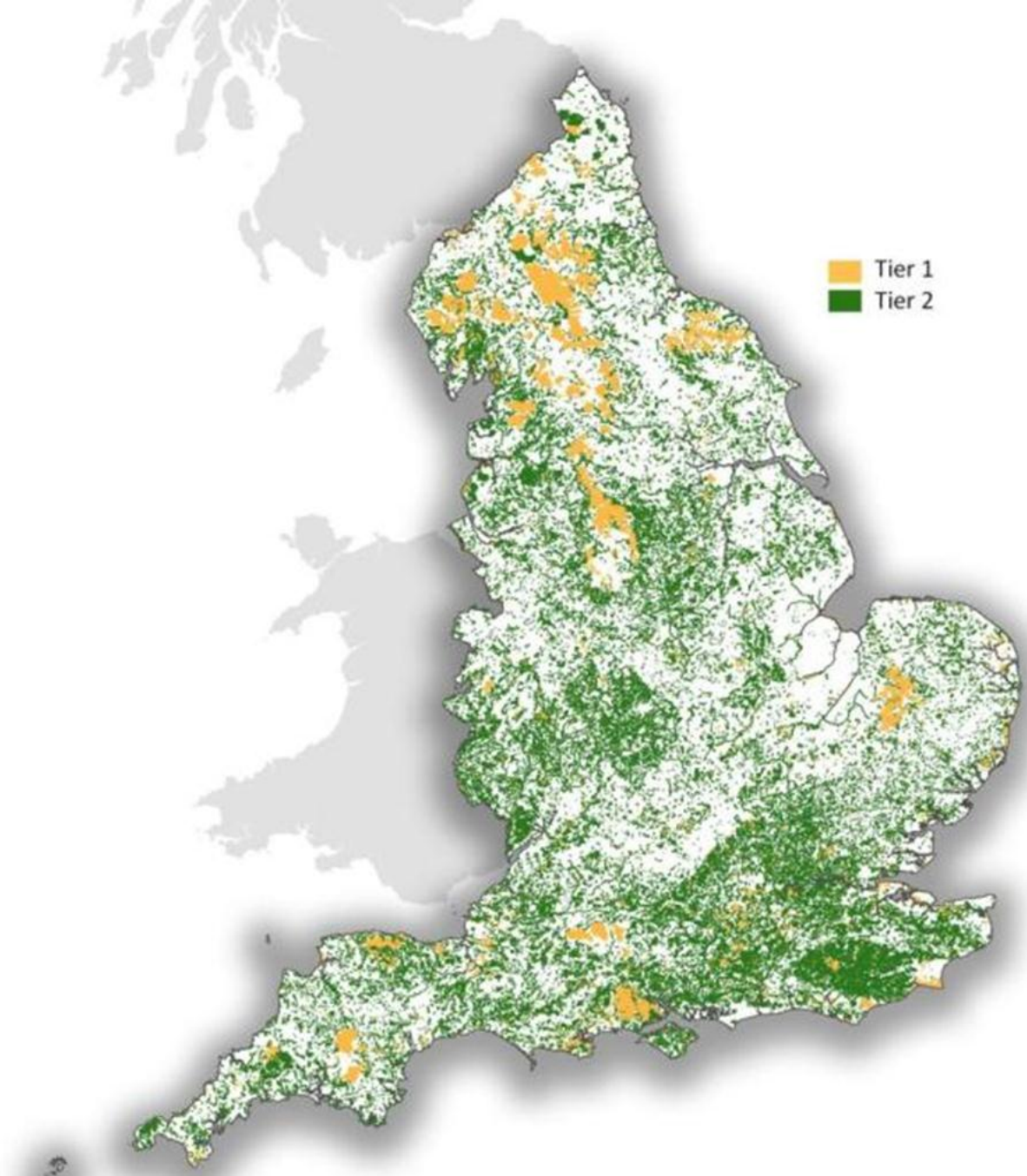


Tier 1
Tier 2

Priority habitat
= 16%







Tier 1
Tier 2



Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services

A wide-angle landscape photograph showing a large, calm lake or reservoir in the foreground, reflecting the sky. The lake is surrounded by rolling hills and mountains, some with patches of snow or light-colored rock. The sky is a clear, deep blue with a few wispy clouds. The overall scene is serene and natural.

Biodiversity 2020 – Outcome 1



- **BETTER,**
 - At least 50% SSSIs in favourable, while maintaining at least 95% in favourable/ recovering condition
 - 90% of priority wildlife habitats in recovering or favourable condition
- **BIGGER, MORE AND JOINED**
 - No net loss of priority habitat and an increase of at least 200,000 ha



Biodiversity 2020 – Outcome 1



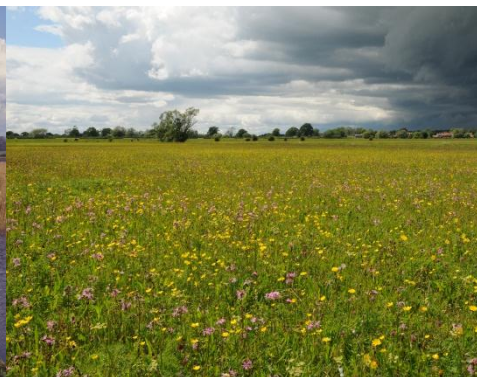
- 17% of land and inland water conserved through following the Ecosystems Approach
- Restoring at least 15% of our degraded ecosystems

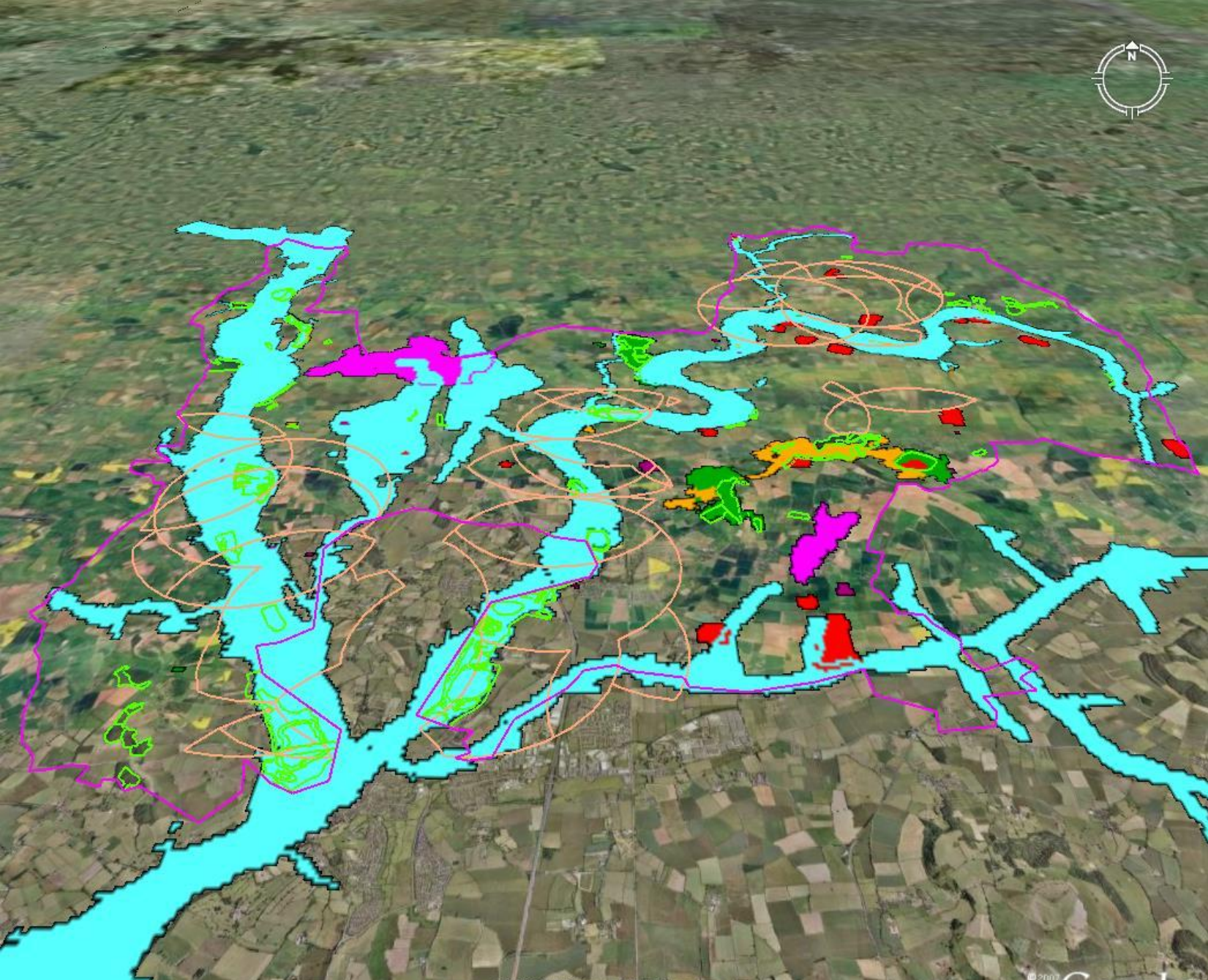


Biodiversity 2020 - Outcome 3



- We will see an overall improvement in the status of our wildlife
- We will have prevented further human-induced extinctions





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Biodiversity

All BAP habitats

Farmland Birds

Floodplain

Landscape

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SM low

Parks and Gardens

Resource protection

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Google

Severn and Avon Vales, Worcestershire

Pointer 52°02'45.79" N 2°06'48.44" W elev 15 m

Streaming 100%

Eye alt 10.26 km



2010 International Year of Biodiversity



Reviewing delivery – the Delivery Review

Delivery Review



| Outcome Metric | Outcome 1A | | | Outcome 1B |
|------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| | 90% of priority habitats in favourable or unfavourable recovering condition | At least 50% of SSSIs in favourable condition | Maintain at least 95% of SSSIs in favourable or unfavourable recovering condition | Increase priority habitats by at least 200,000 ha |
| What has been achieved | 62% | 37.5% | Over 95% maintained | 67,000ha |

So what does this mean?



- Biodiversity 2020 Outcomes remain deliverable;
 - we are currently not on course to deliver these targets
 - But we are developing a plan for success
- We need
 - effective join up between delivery bodies and partners
 - clear prioritisation and targeting of effort
- There is will be a funding shortfall; we will need to
 - define the scale of this
 - draw in new sources of funding

So what does this mean for Natural England ?



- Working on our protected sites is still a priority
- But it is not enough

- HLS and Countryside Stewardship will make a massive contribution to delivery of Bio 2020
- But they will not deliver it all

- Working with our traditional partners is vital
- But we must develop new partnerships

Or to put or another way



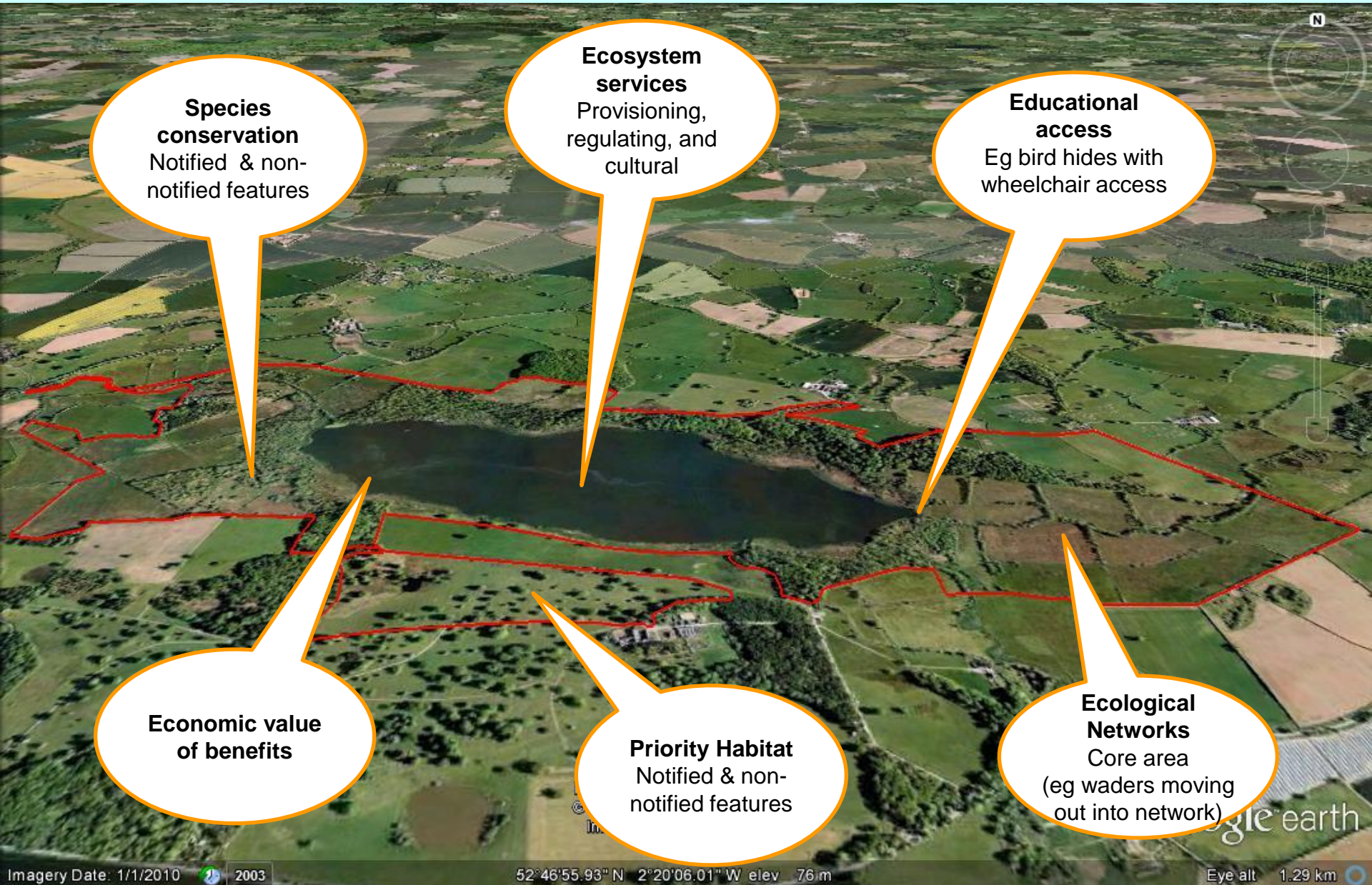
- There is still a lot to do.
- How can Natural England deliver all of this now that we are a smaller and leaner with fewer resources?
- We can't

Thank you
Any questions?



- Natural England can't on our own...
 - Working together
 - Working with a range of levers
 - Working in integrated ways

Protected sites wider contribution – an example in upper catchment and core of wider breeding wader area



Species conservation
Notified & non-notified features

Ecosystem services
Provisioning, regulating, and cultural

Educational access
Eg bird hides with wheelchair access

Economic value of benefits

Priority Habitat
Notified & non-notified features

Ecological Networks
Core area
(eg waders moving out into network)

Working together



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Biodiversity

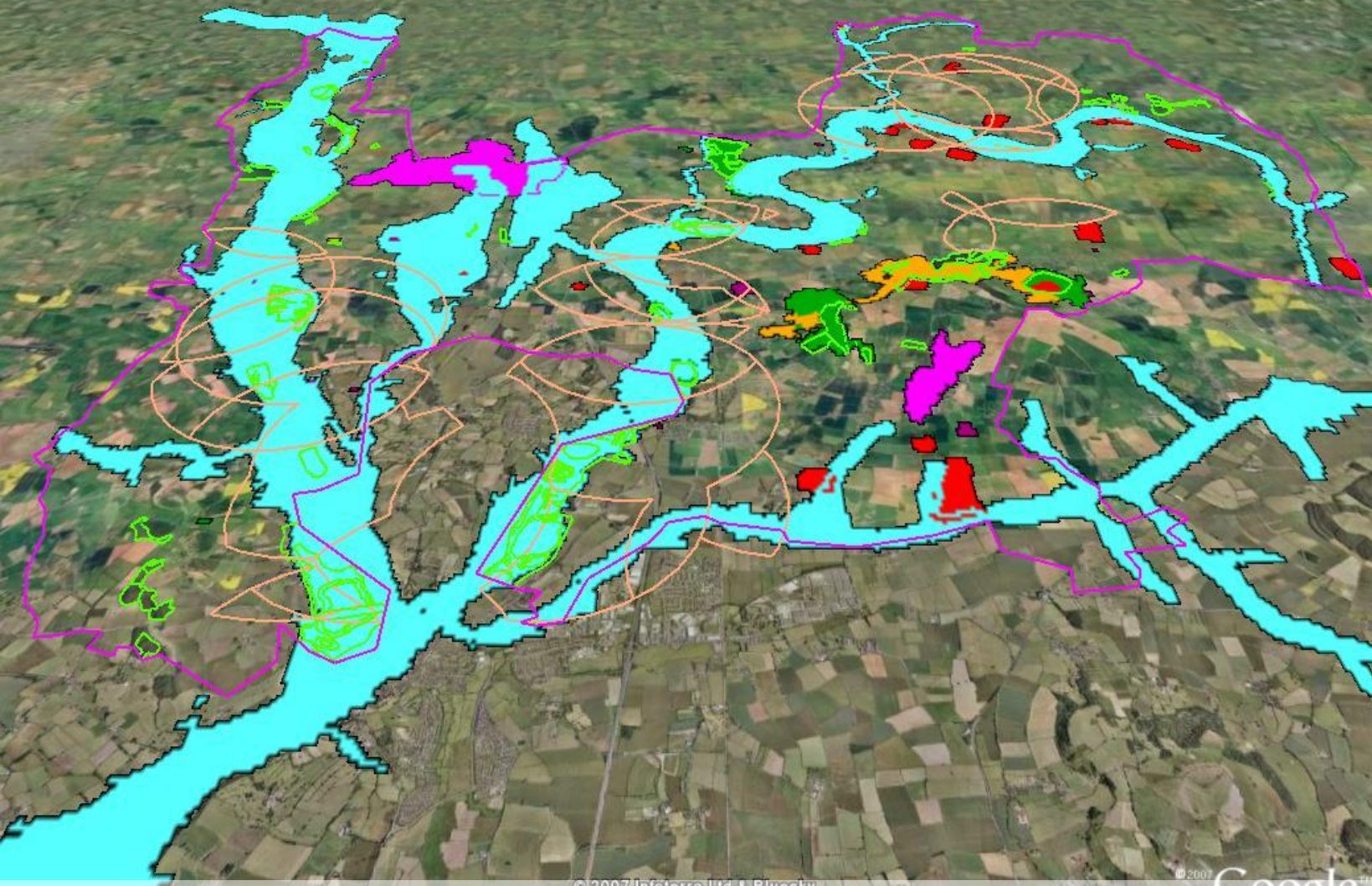
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What has Catchment Sensitive Farming achieved?

1. Farmer engagement

16,133 farms covering 2,311,527 ha = 42% of priority catchments

167,788 individual recommendations to reduce water pollution

2. Awareness

58% of farmers in catchments aware of CSF

90% trust their CSFO

90% indicate their understanding of water pollution has improved

3. Taking action

64% of measures implemented by March 2014

Typical lag of 3 years to implement 70% of measures

4. Water Quality Improvements

Load reductions: 4 to 12% across key pollutants. Most effective on sediment.

CSF is making significant contributions to meeting targets for protected sites: 22% for SSSI catchments.



**A clear solution
for farmers**
CATCHMENT SENSITIVE FARMING



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Environment
Agency



Funding from the
European Agricultural
Fund for Rural
Development: Europe
Investing in rural areas.

Case study: Cinderbarrow Farm, Cumbria

Mixed farm in Cumbria delivering multiple ecosystem services:

- Flood alleviation
- High value grasslands and ancient woodland, high brown fritillary
- Protecting water that flows into Morecambe Bay supporting important shell fisheries
- Carbon storage in the peat mosslands
- Recreation for countryside users
- Conserving genetic resources – native cattle and ponies



Interventions:

- CSF advice and capital grant to keep stock from river and nutrient management to improve Bathing and Shellfish Waters
- Environmental Stewardship agreement for grass and moss habitats inc arable reversion which also aids flood storage

Tansy Beetle (*Chrysolina graminis*)



The perfect present for the new MP that has everything!
<https://www.buglife.org.uk/adopt-tansy-beetle>

- Formerly restricted to banks of River Ouse
- This summer re-found at Woodwalton Fen, and reintroduced at Wicken Fen)
- Local Action - TBAG – Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, EA, Buglife, York Uni, NT, North Yorkshire CC
- New SSSI north of York – Clifton Ings and Rawcliffe Meadows designated for the Tansy Beetle

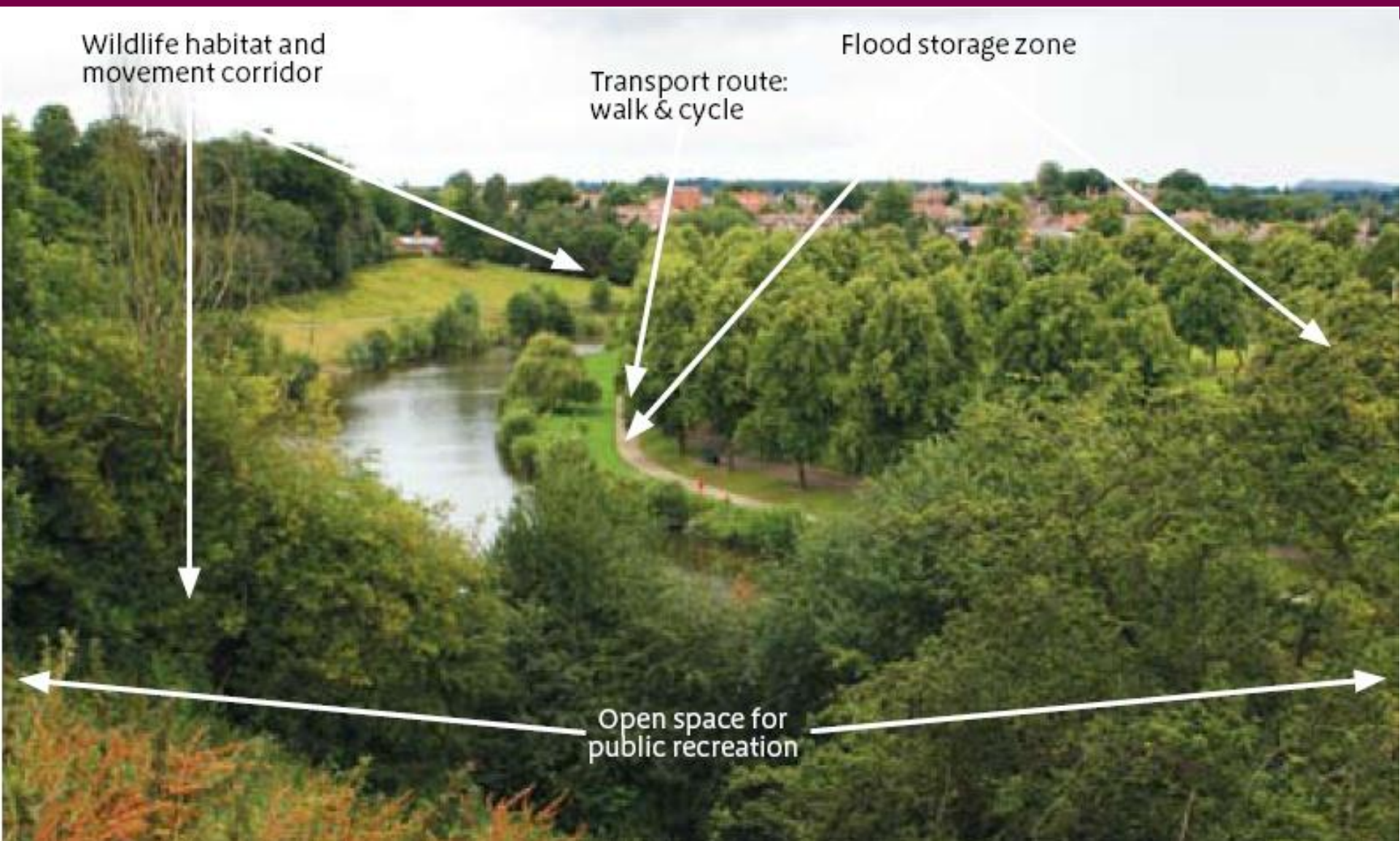
Working with range of levers

Wildlife habitat and
movement corridor

Transport route:
walk & cycle

Flood storage zone

Open space for
public recreation



Transport Green Corridors

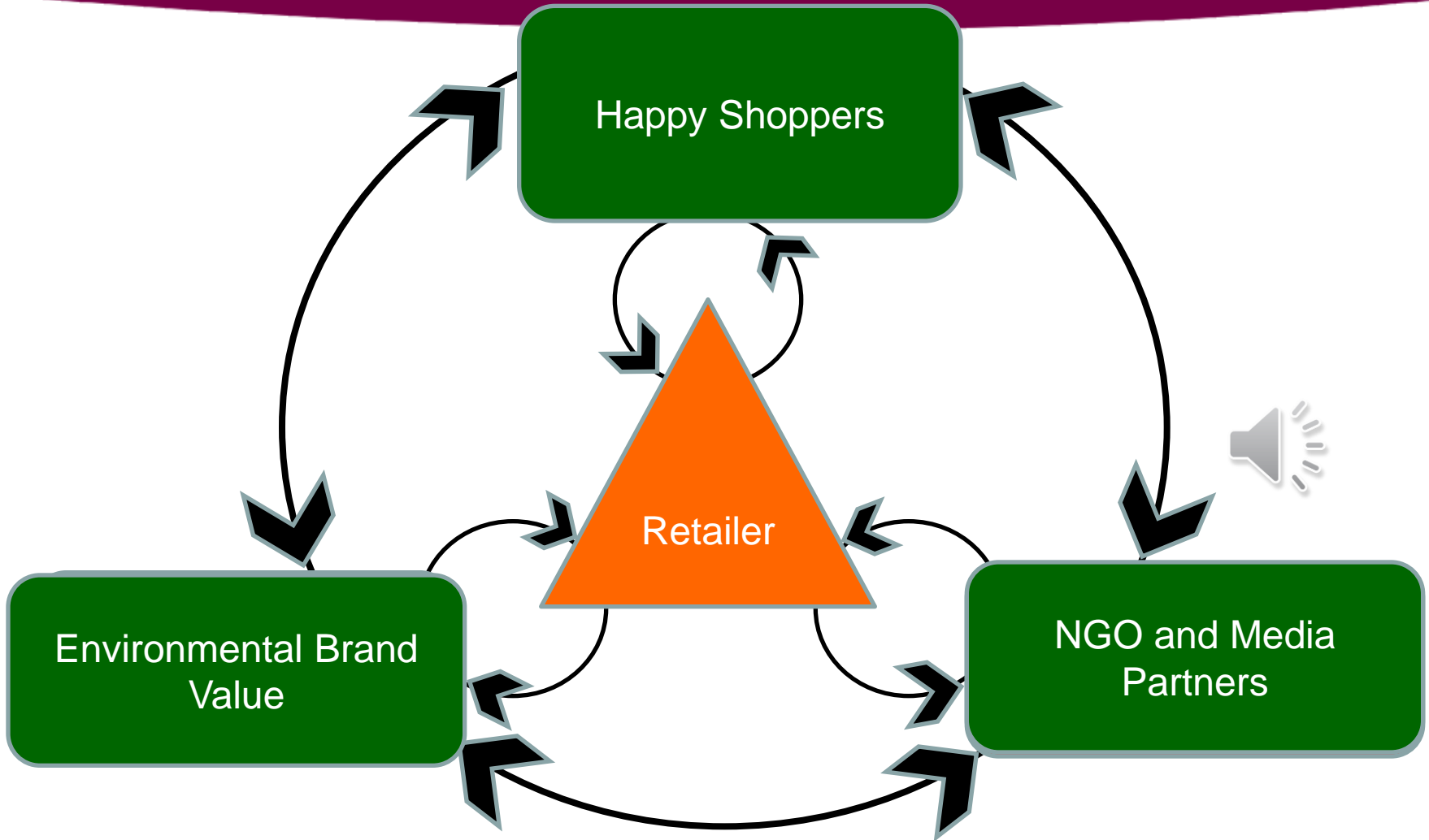


Partnership with Network Rail, Highways England, Morecambe Bay + Humberhead Levels NIAs

- enhance ecological connectivity/biodiversity;
- enhance delivery of ecosystem services;
- improve transport infrastructure resilience to climate change/extreme weather.
- £30 million Biodiversity pot from Highways England



Circle of Success



Integrating delivery by working together with a range of leavers



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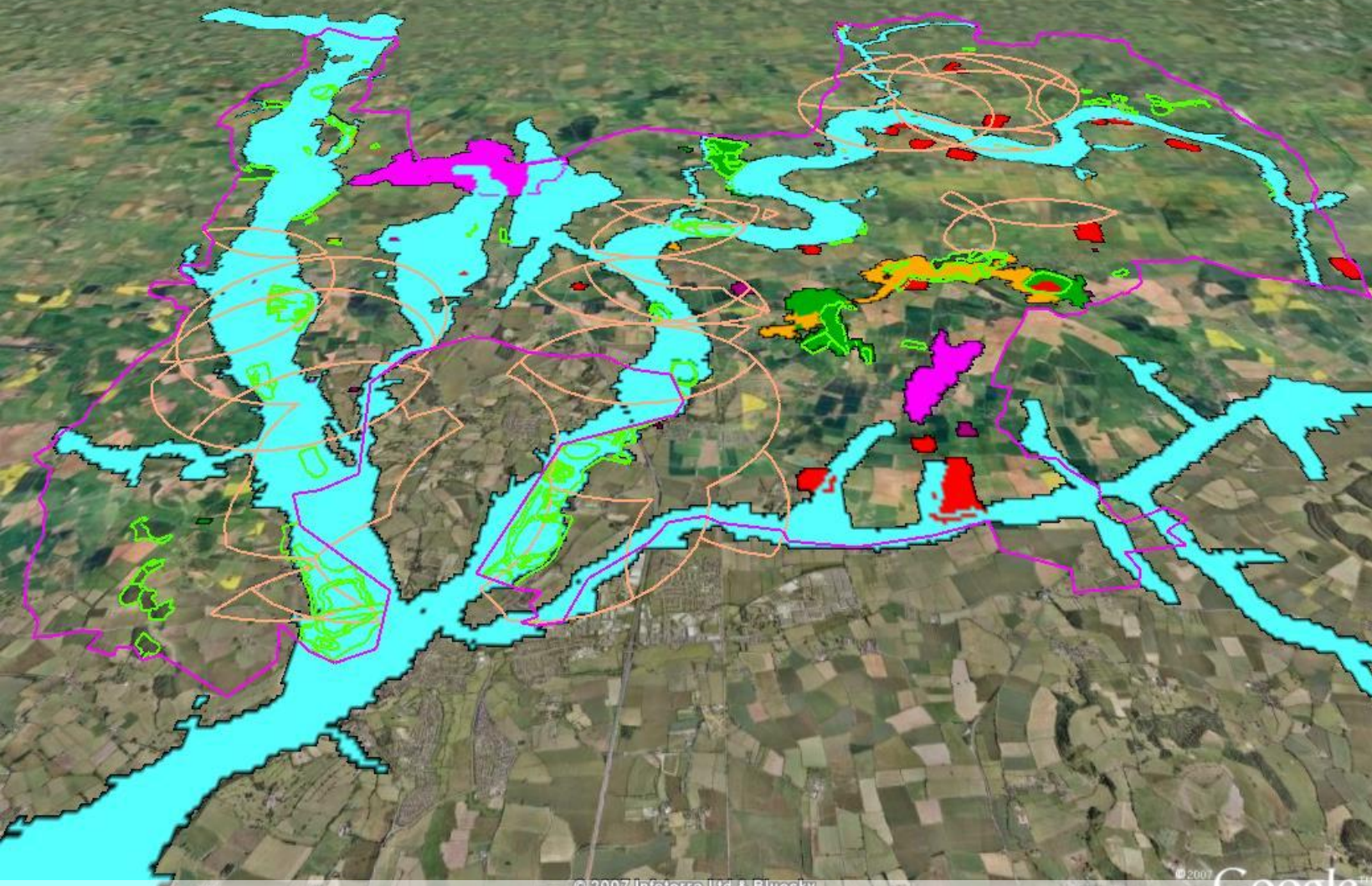
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Severn and Avon Vales, Worcestershire



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