

‘South Downs Way Ahead’

An aerial photograph of a rural landscape. The top portion shows a road and a large, flat, brownish field. Below this is a vast area of rolling green hills. A prominent feature is a long, winding line of dense trees that runs diagonally across the middle of the frame. The hills are covered in lush green grass, and there are scattered trees and small structures throughout the landscape. The overall scene is bright and clear, suggesting a sunny day.










**Emily Brennan & Nigel James (South Downs
Way Ahead NIA Lead Officers)**

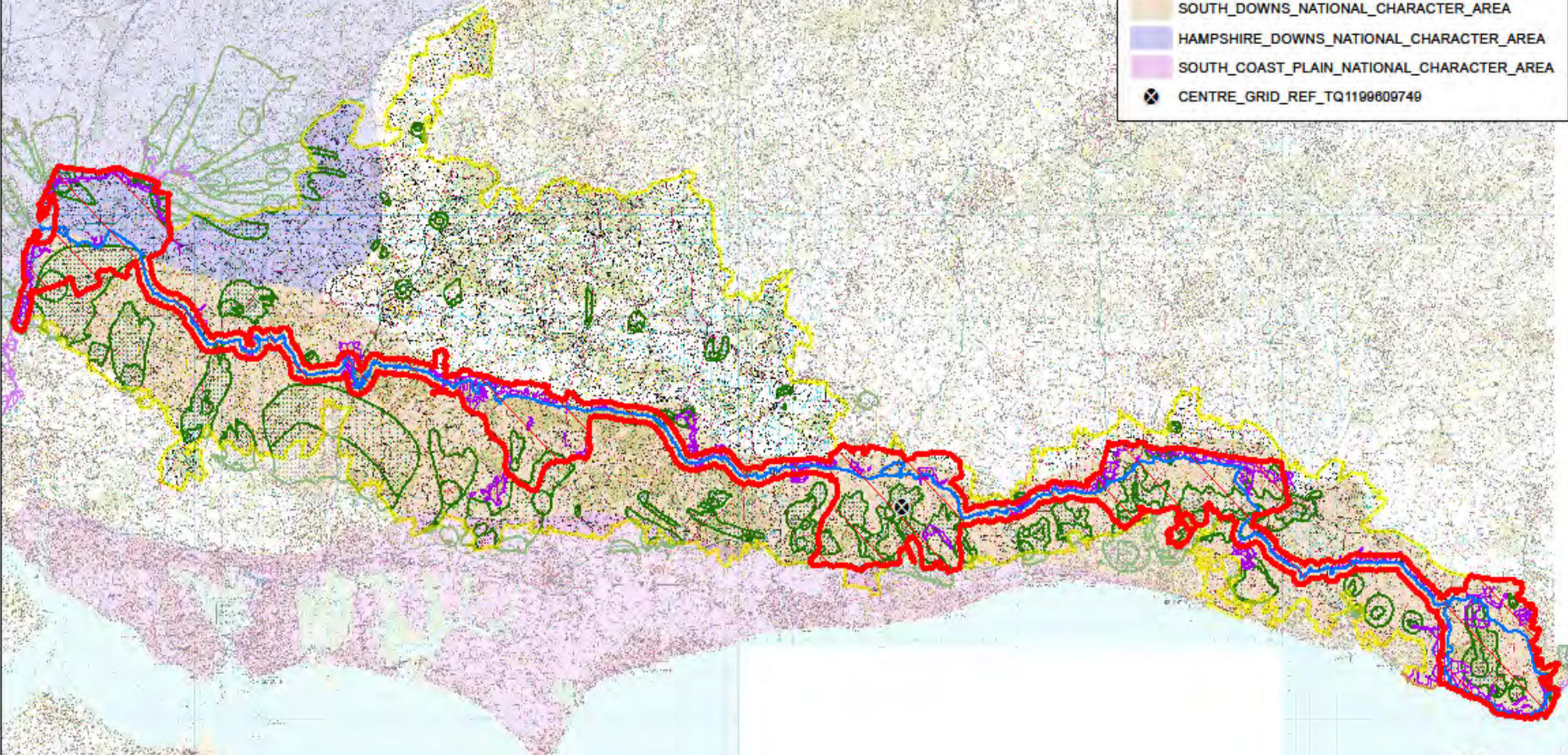
A scenic view of rolling green hills under a clear sky. In the foreground, a field of tall grasses and wildflowers, including yellow daisies and purple flowers, is visible. A large, leafy tree stands on the left side of the hill. The background shows more rolling hills and a valley with a small body of water in the distance.

Outline of NIA
Examples of current delivery
The NIA approach beyond 2015

South Downs Way Ahead Nature Improvement Area

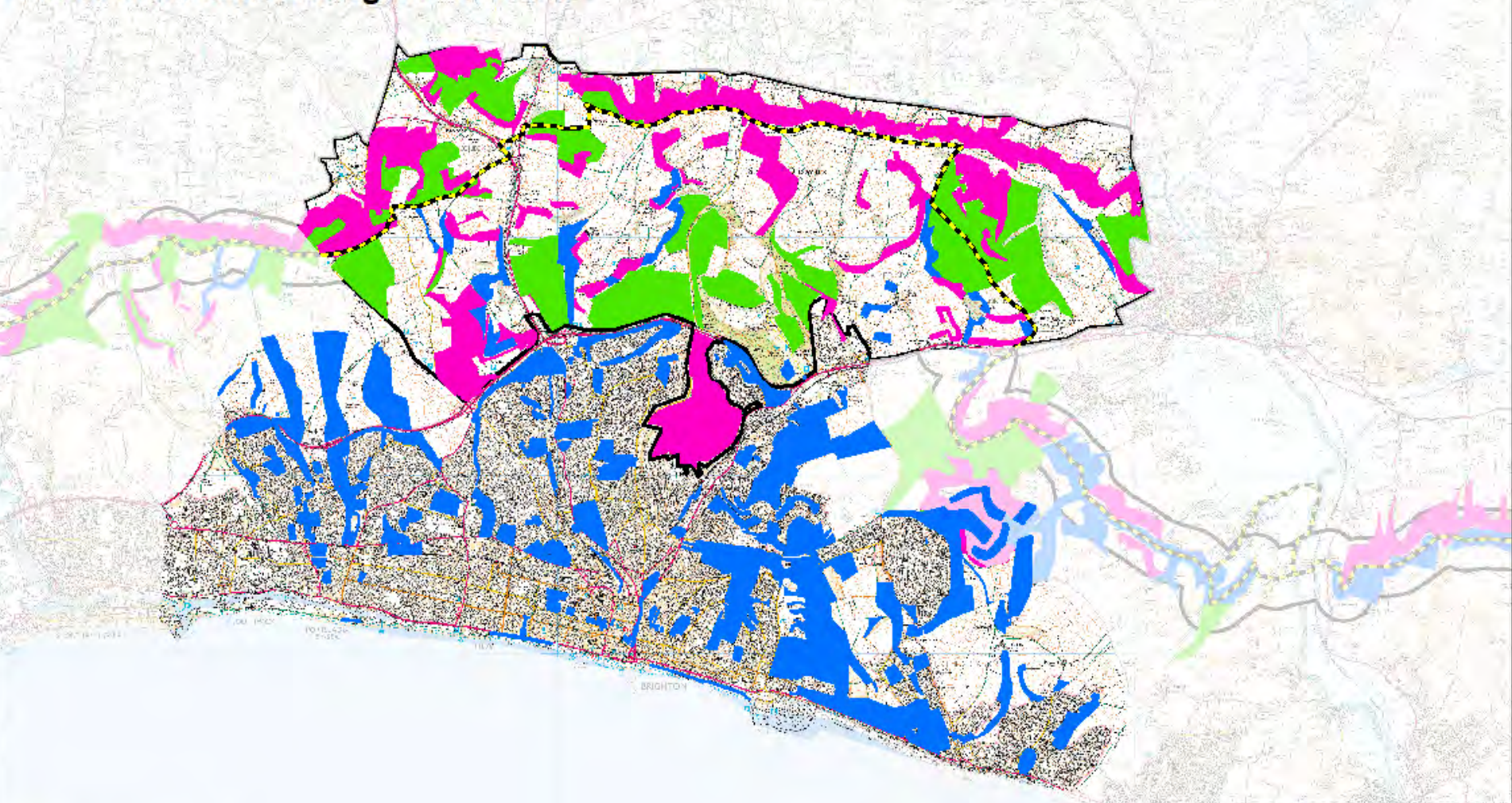
Legend

-  SOUTH_DOWNS_WAY_AHEAD_NIA
-  SOUTH_DOWNS_WAY
-  SOUTH_DOWNS_NATIONAL_PARK_BOUNDARY
-  SSSI_(SITES_OF_SPECIAL_SCIENTIFIC_INTEREST)
-  SOURCE_PROTECTION_ZONES
-  SOUTH_DOWNS_NATIONAL_CHARACTER_AREA
-  HAMPSHIRE_DOWNS_NATIONAL_CHARACTER_AREA
-  SOUTH_COAST_PLAIN_NATIONAL_CHARACTER_AREA
-  CENTRE_GRID_REF_TQ1199609749



**South Downs Way Ahead NIA
Brighton, Hove & Lewes Focal Area
Chalk Grassland Ecological Network**

Example focal area map



Legend

- CORE_AREAS
- LINEAR_CORRIDORS_&_STEPPING_STONES*
- RESTORATION_ZONES
- SOUTH_DOWNS_WAY_AHEAD_NIA
- SOUTH_DOWNS_WAY



*The NIA boundary includes the Brighton & Hove Urban Green Network, as shown above.



South Downs Way Ahead Partnership

(1) Arun and Rother Rivers Trust, (2) Brighton & Hove City Council, (3) Brighton University, (4) Butterfly Conservation, (5) Eastbourne Borough Council, (6) Environment Agency, (7) Forestry Research, (8) Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust, (9) Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre, (10) Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, (11) Leeds University, (12) Lewes District Council, (13) Lewes & Ouse Valley Eco-nomics Group, (14) National Trust, (15) Natural England, (16) Portsmouth Water, (17) Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, (18) Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, (19) Rural Economy and Land Use Programme (Newcastle University), (20) South Downs Land Management Group, (21) South Downs National Park Authority, (22) South Downs Network, (23) South Downs Society, (24) South East Water, (25) Southern Water, (26) Steyning Downland Scheme, (27) Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre, (28) Sussex Wildlife Trust, (29) Winchester City Council

Key: Community group Local government Research institute National government NGO Local partnership/network
Regional government Business

NIA objectives

A sepia-toned landscape photograph of a chalk hillside. The hillside is covered in trees and vegetation, with a valley below. The foreground shows a line of trees and a field. The overall scene is a natural, rural landscape.

- 1. Walk the Chalk**
- 2. Linking the Fragments**
- 3. Surface to Groundwater**
- 4. Town to Down**
- 5. Valuing the Chalk**

Example of project delivery

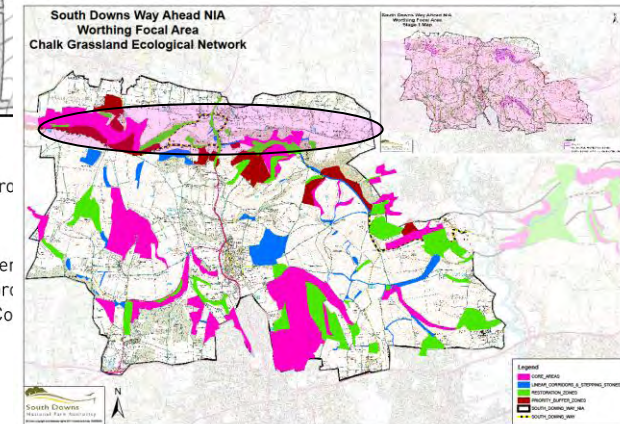
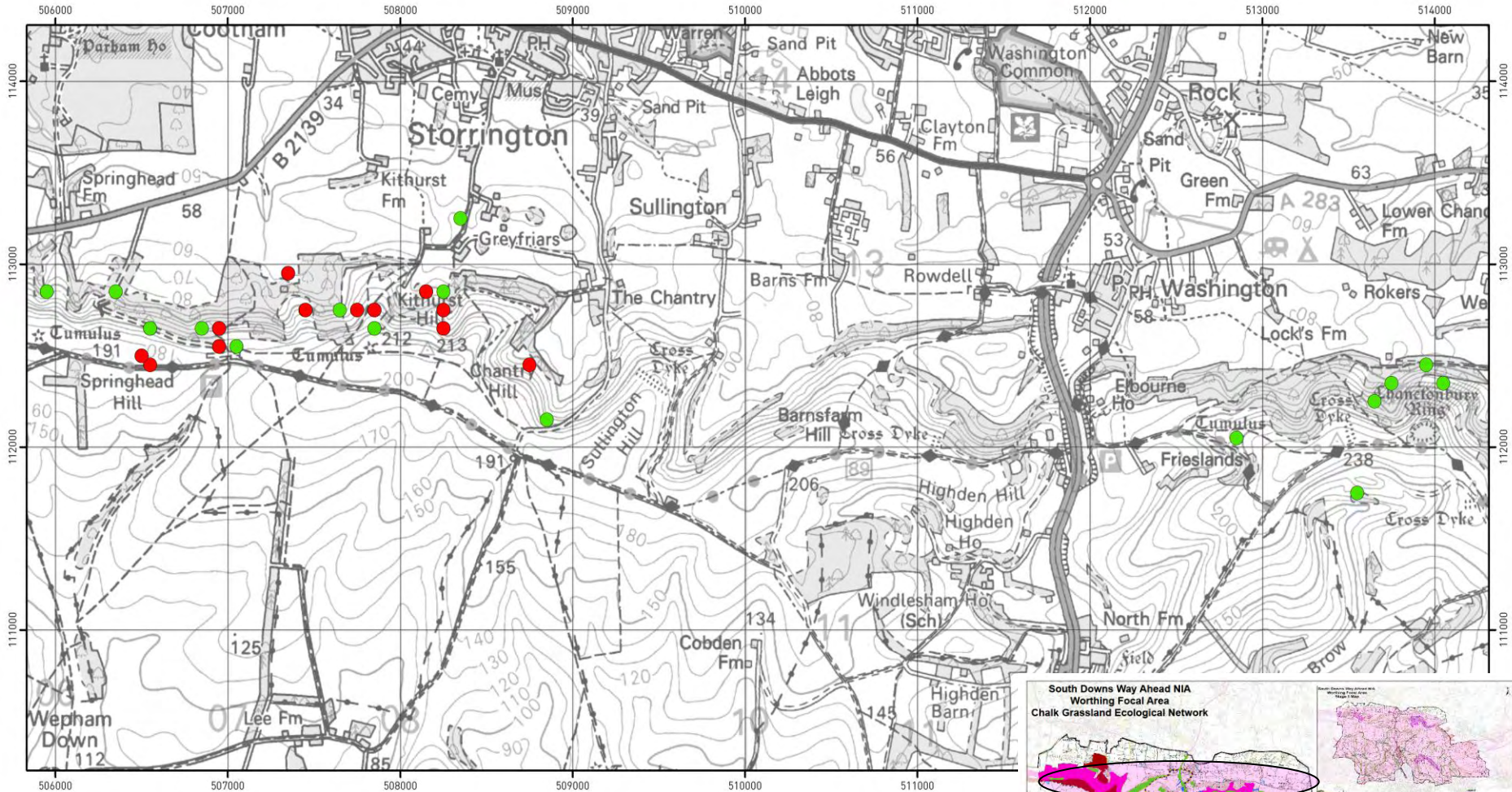
Chantry to Chanctonbury Dukes

Objectives 1 & 2: **Walk the Chalk & Linking the Fragments**



Duke of Burgundy *Hamearis lucina* records.

Prepared for Nigel James, South Downs National Park Authority.
Our Ref: ESD/12/42.
31.01.2012.

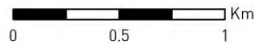


Key to map:

- 2009 - 2011 data
- Pre - 2009 data (incomplete)

Species data is provided to SxBRC by a range of individual recorders, recording grc remains the property of the original recorder and is reproduced with thanks.

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A close-up photograph of a person drinking water from a glass. The person's face is partially visible on the right side, with their mouth open and lips touching the rim of the glass. A stream of clear water is being poured into the glass from the left, creating a dynamic splash and refraction of light. The background is dark and out of focus, showing some green foliage. The overall mood is fresh and clean.

Example of project delivery

**Improving groundwater quality through
land management**

Objective 3: Surface to Groundwater

Example of project delivery

Connecting people with their local landscape

Objectives 4 & 5: Town to Down & Valuing the Chalk





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Strengths

- Good staff resources
- Acted as a catalyst & accelerated action
- Land manager involvement
- Urban / rural interface
- Value for money
- Unlocked additional resources
- Complements other work



Areas for Development

Partnership

Monitoring & Evaluation

Branding / Marketing

Considering the Future

Our NIA beyond 2015

