



Developing Sustainable Adaptation Responses: A Framework for Integrated Delivery

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Natural England's role



Our statutory purpose:

“to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development”

Objectives – driving forward our delivery work:

- To ensure we have a resilient and natural environment, with high adaptive capacity, hallmarked by a rich diversity of habitat and species
- Provide space and conditions for the natural environment to adapt
- A healthy, resilient natural environment is recognised as the bedrock of successful adaptation

Sustainable Adaptation



An emerging framework to help decision-making.

- *Action does not exacerbate the causes or consequences of climate change*
- *Action in one sector does not unreasonably limit the ability of another sector to adapt*
- *Decisions are based on a whole systems approach, not focused on individual sectors and considers vulnerability to impacts, and not just the possible impacts themselves.*
- *Decision-makers recognise that a system has multiple values and functions attached to it and acknowledge these are the basis for assessing options for action*

Four pilot landscape areas

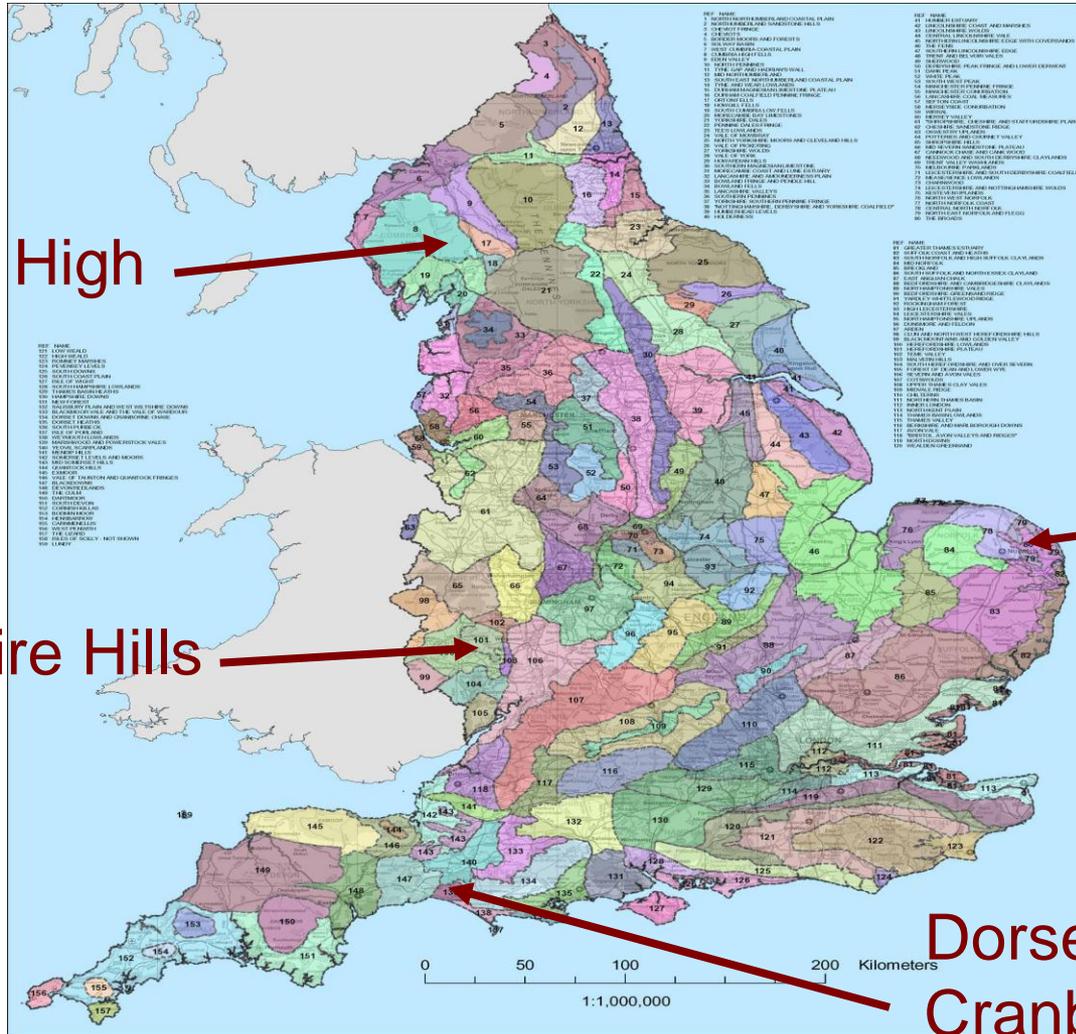


Cumbria High Fells

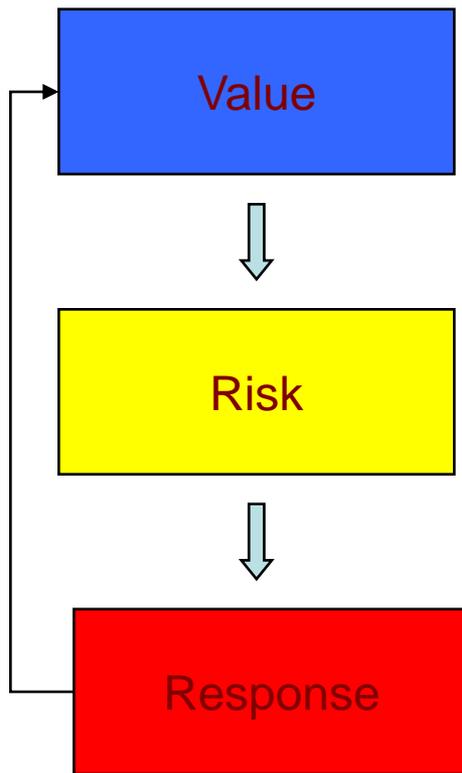
Shropshire Hills

The Broads

Dorset Downs & Cranborne Chase



A framework for sustainable adaptation

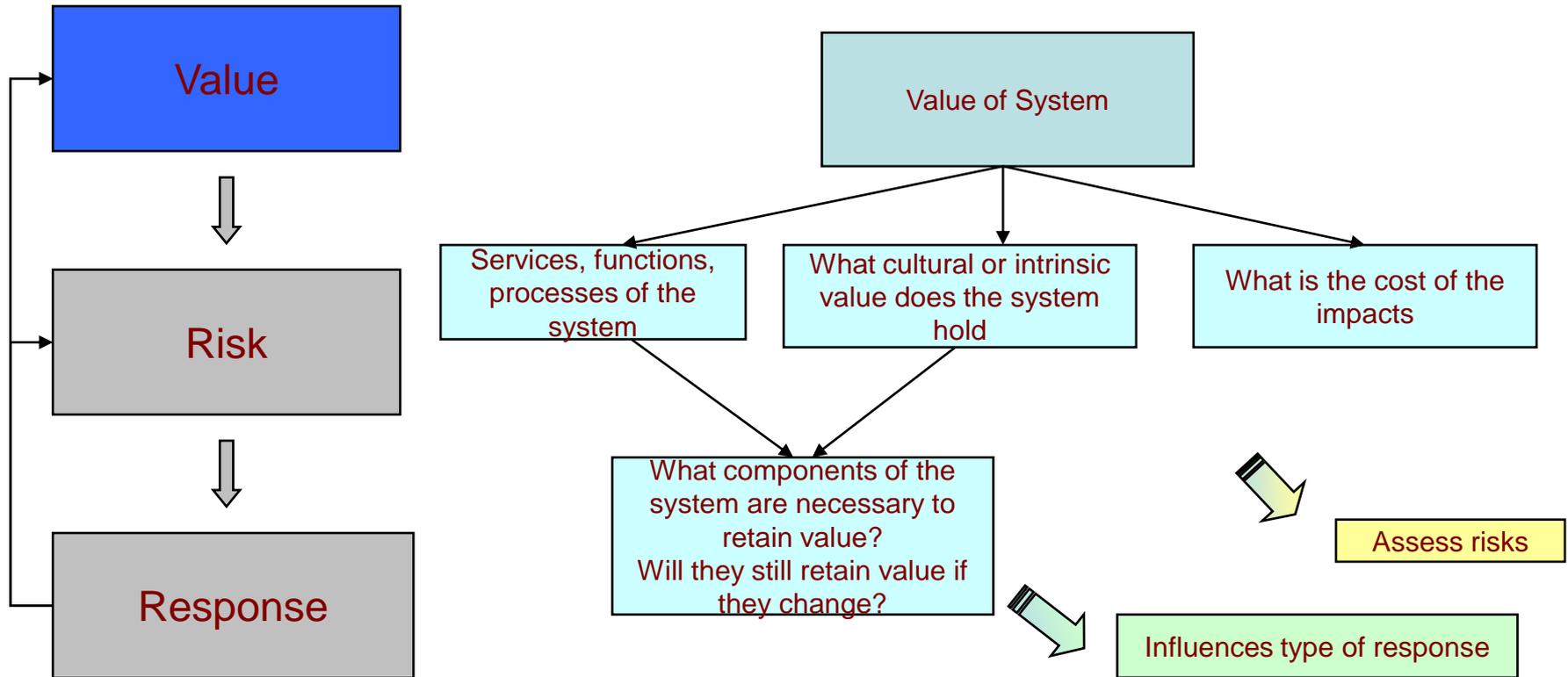


What is/are the value(s) of the system?
What do we want from it?
What are the essential components for function
How does it benefit society?

What are the vulnerabilities, threats and opportunities, to the functioning of the system from climate change?

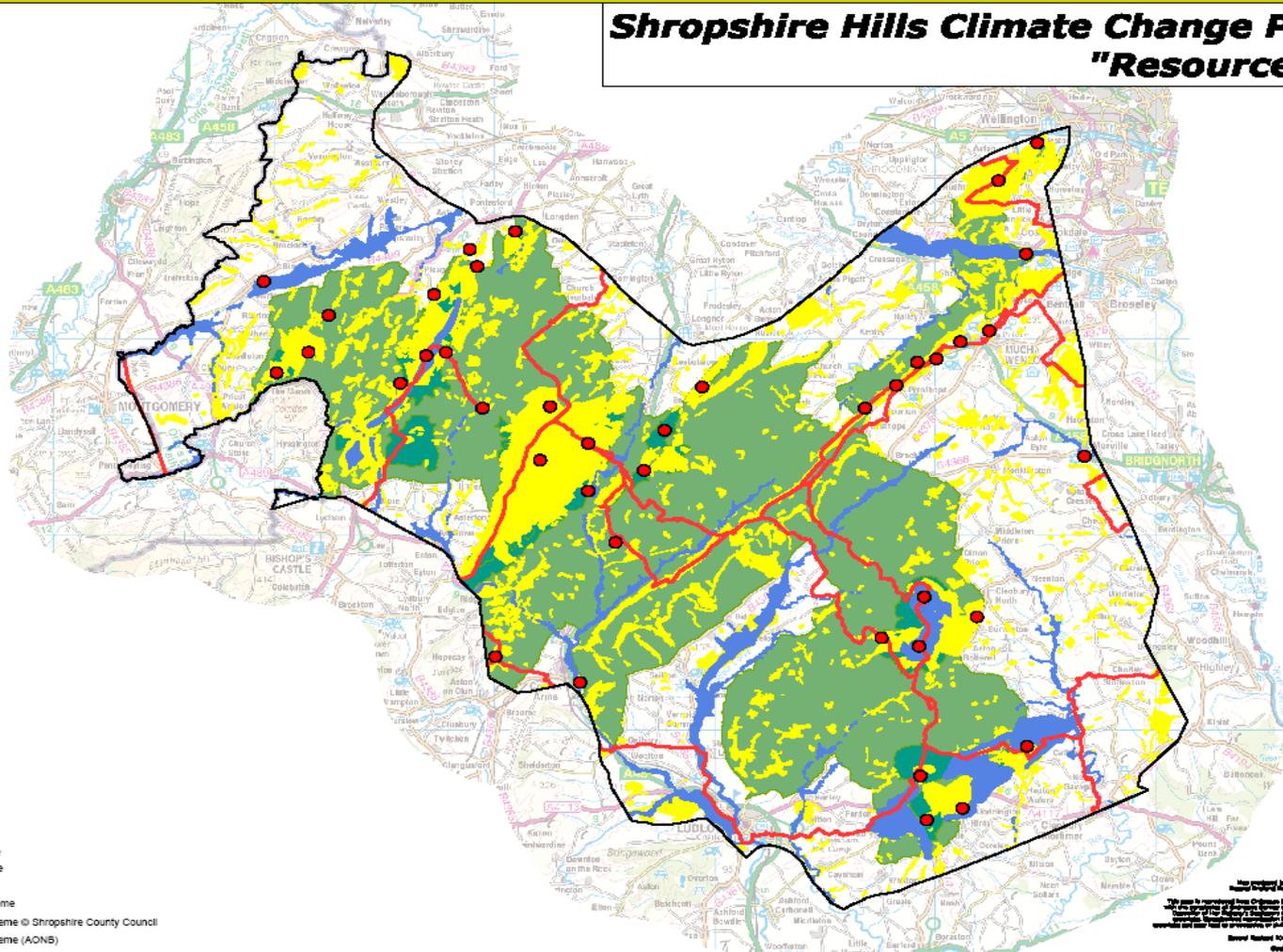
Identify and implement appropriate responses to minimise vulnerability and build resilience so that the system continues to provide the valued services

Determine Value of System

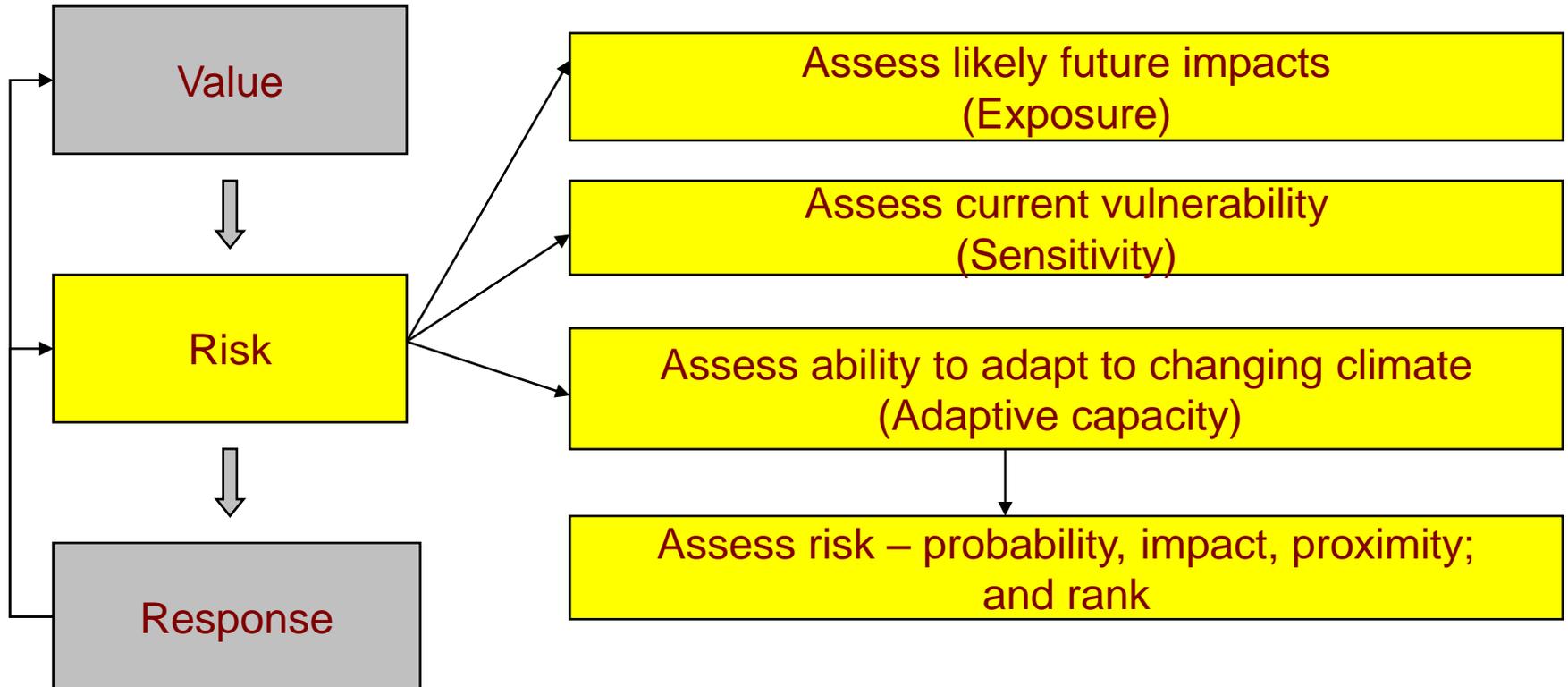


We have identified and mapped the key valued environmental assets

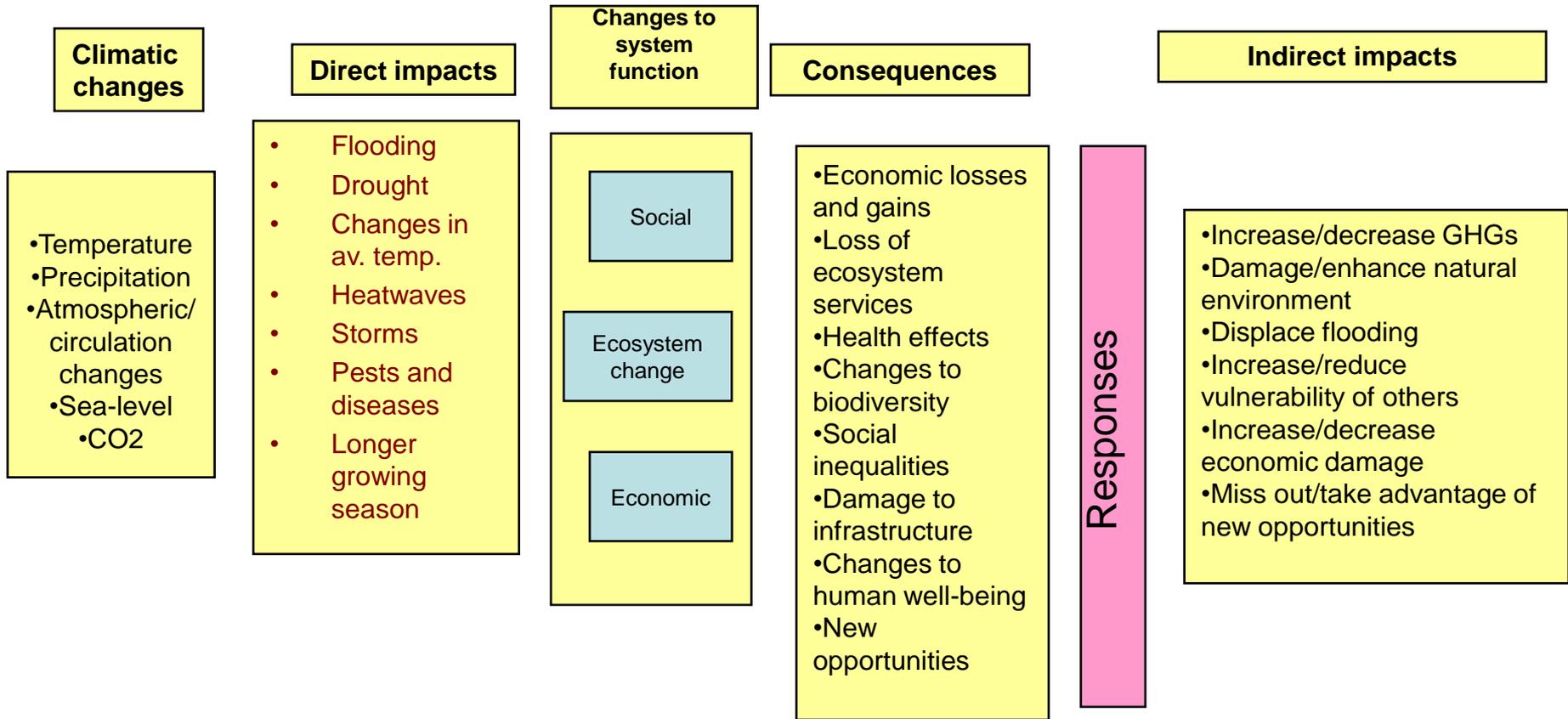
Shropshire Hills Climate Change Project "Resource Map"



Assess Risk

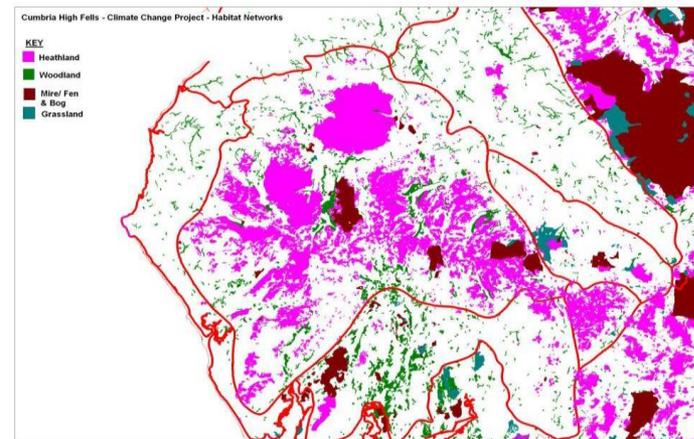
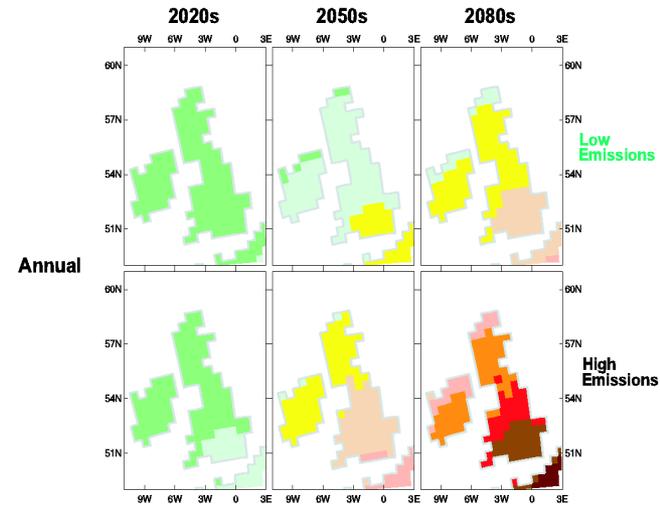
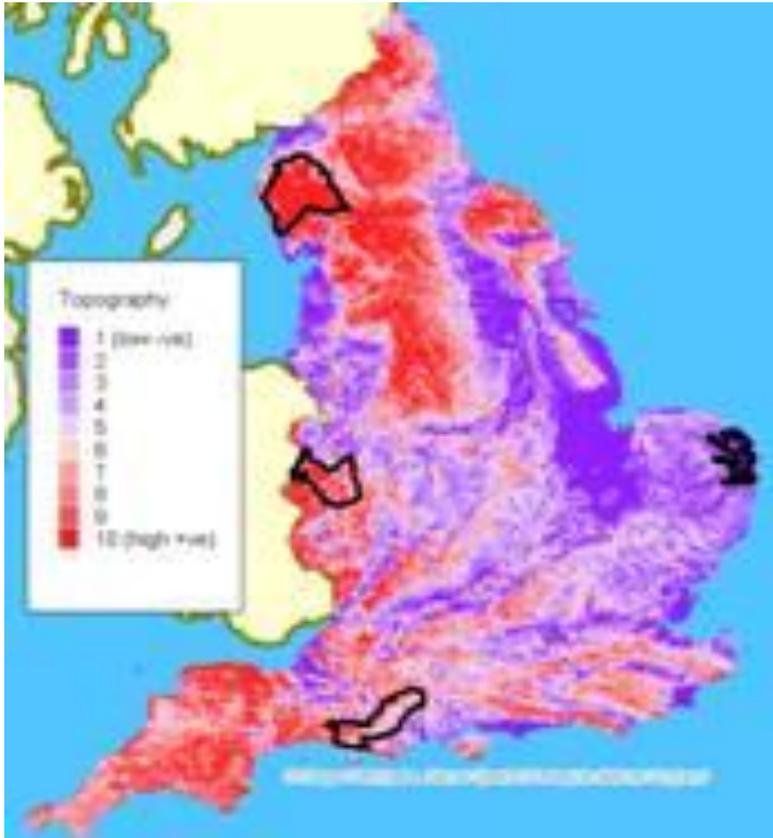


Threats and opportunities from climate change

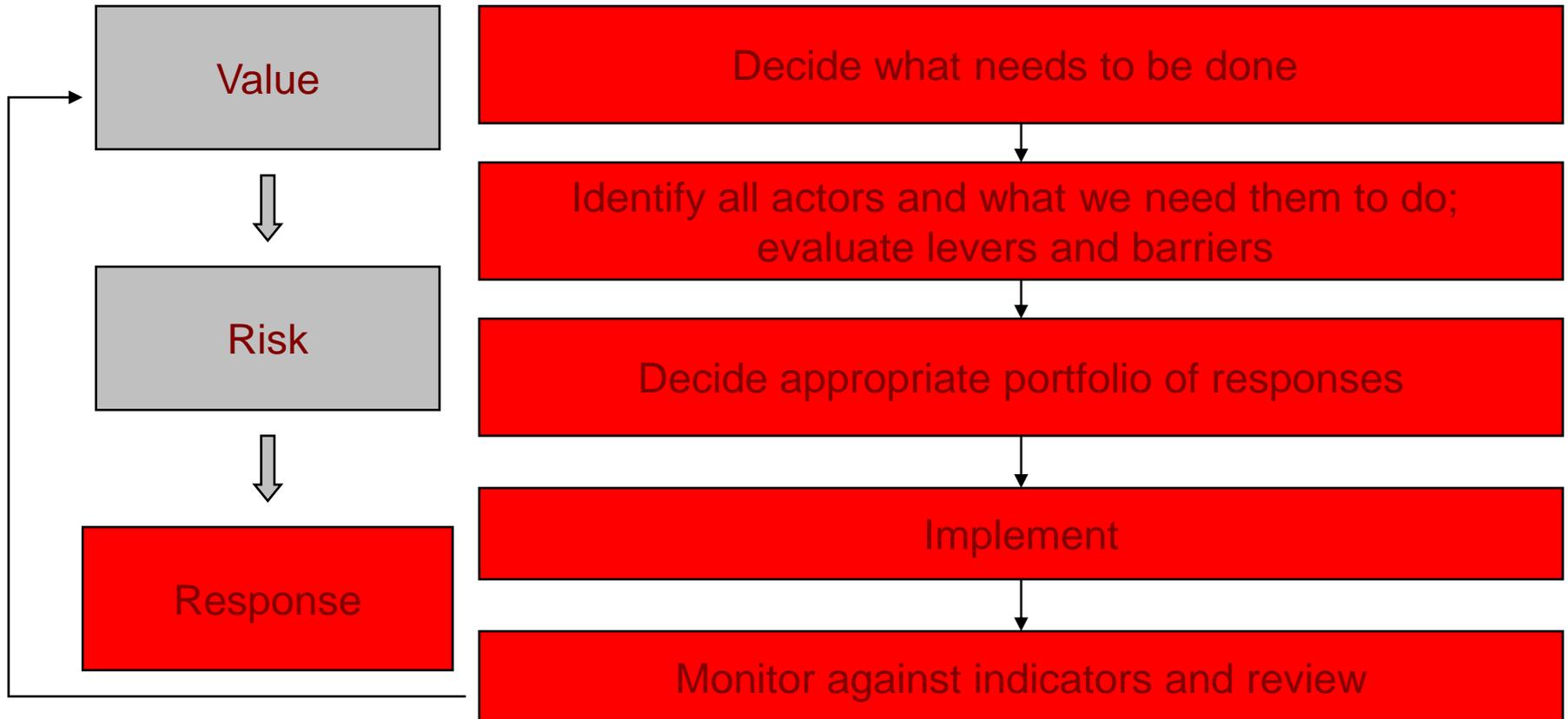


Threats and opportunities

Assessing exposure, sensitivity and adaptive capacity for natural environment



Adaptation Response



Response strategies: delivery of conservation objectives

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- Conserve existing biodiversity in Protected Areas
- Reduce sources of harm not linked to climate
- Develop ecologically resilient and varied landscapes
- Make space for the natural development of rivers and coasts.
- Maintain and enhance habitat networks
- Respond to changing conservation priorities

Conserving biodiversity in a changing climate: guidance on building capacity to adapt

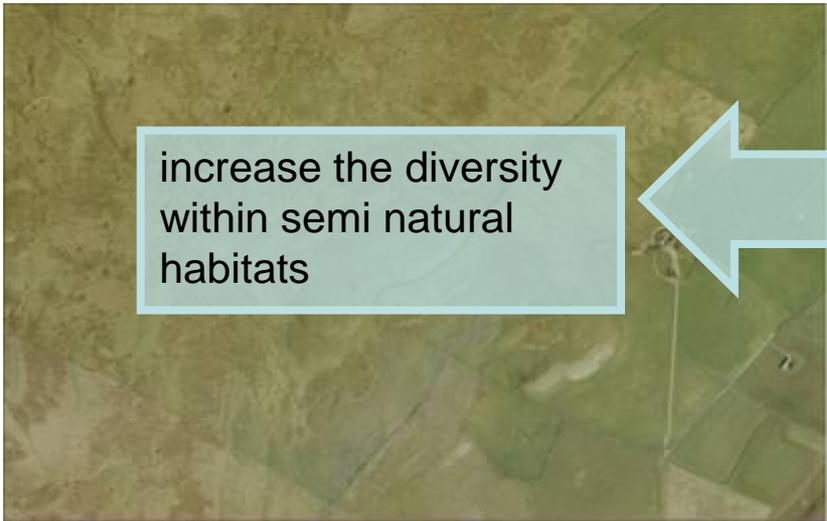


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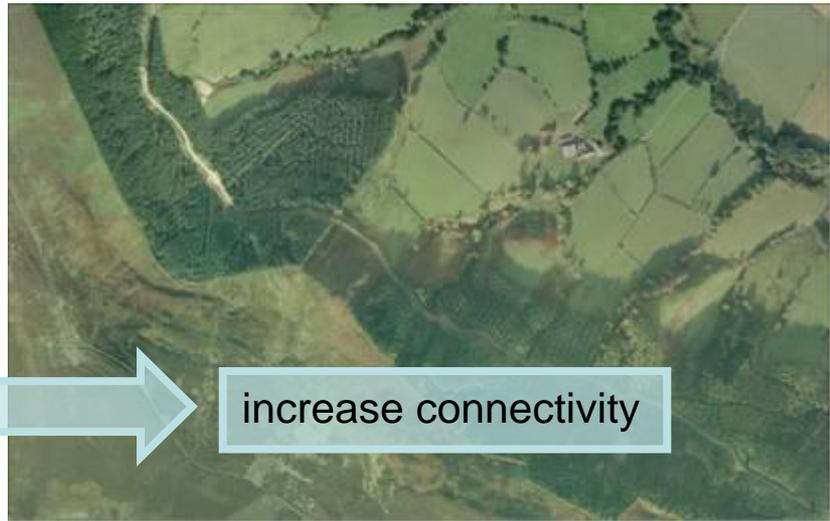


defra
Department for Environment
Food and Rural Affairs

Use the assessment of threats to develop response strategies



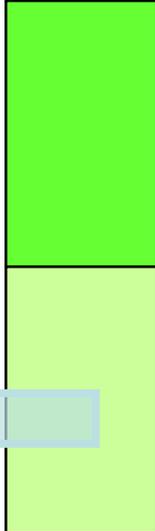
increase the diversity within semi natural habitats



increase connectivity



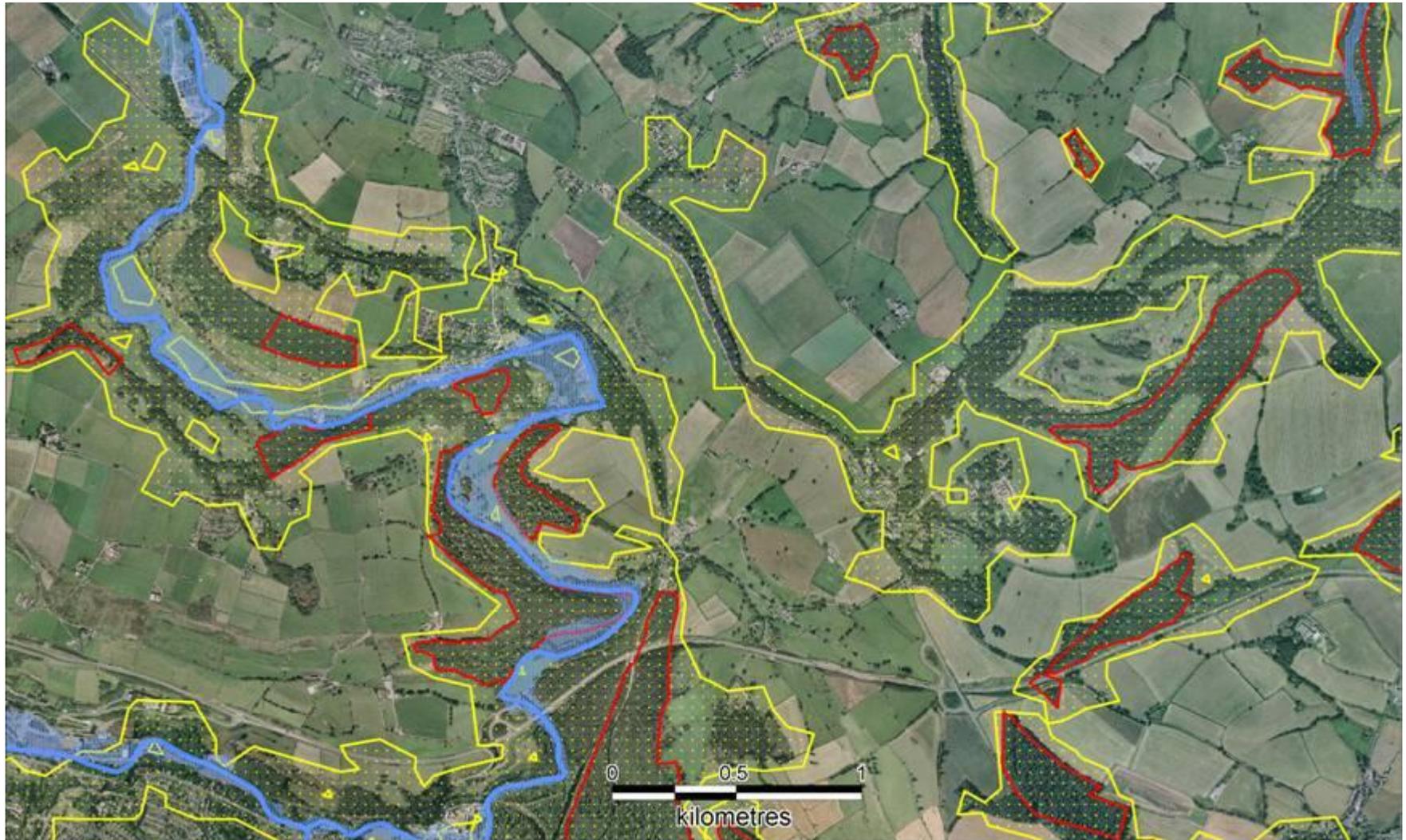
increase core area e.g. of woodland



deliver ecosystem goods & services

Networks in practice

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Future challenges



- How manage across scale: temporal, spatial, institutional
- What tools do we need to deliver the responses – do we have the right mechanisms available
- Adaptation is a negotiated process – who and how facilitate those discussions
- Lack of a vision for where we want to go – need to have a shared view of what our landscape will look like and how it will be used to enable sustainable decision-making.



THANK YOU

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