The Wild Watch Project:

- A new recording project led by Nidderdale AONB in partnership with The University of Leeds and NEYEDC and with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

- Better ecological information is critical to our work: we currently have only scant knowledge of where vulnerable species can be found and habitat data is limited to outdated paper maps.

- We want to find out where our local species can be found and to understand their relationships with the habitats in which they live. Only then can we effectively manage habitats for the benefit of those species

Nidderdale
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

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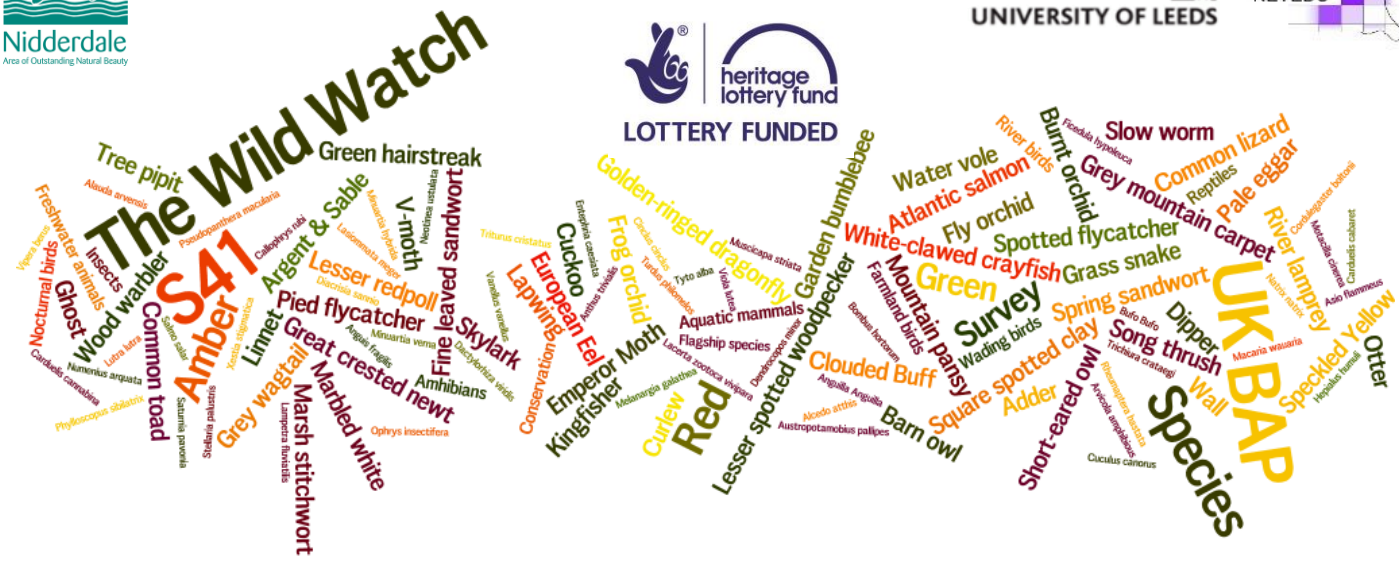
NEYEDC

heritage lottery fund
LOTTERY FUNDED

The Wild Watch Project:

The project aims to:

- Collect ecological data on 50 species of national conservation concern
- Create and up to date habitat map and model species distributions for 10 of the surveyed species using HSM
- Produce 10 Species Recovery Action Plans
- Boost membership of local naturalist organisations
- Reconnect local communities to their natural heritage



The Wild Watch Sites:

- 1km^2 survey windows, currently located at the centre of each Ordnance Survey square in the AONB.
- This grid sampling gives wide coverage and removes sampling bias, making the data more suitable for modelling.
- Surveys for each of the species groups will take place in each grid square, though the route followed for each survey is likely to differ.
- Repeat surveys will be required to cover different times of the year and over the three year project timescale.

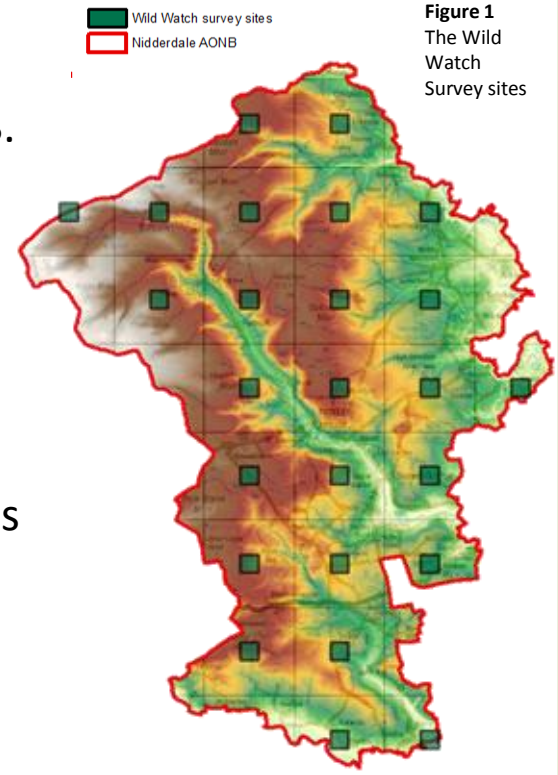
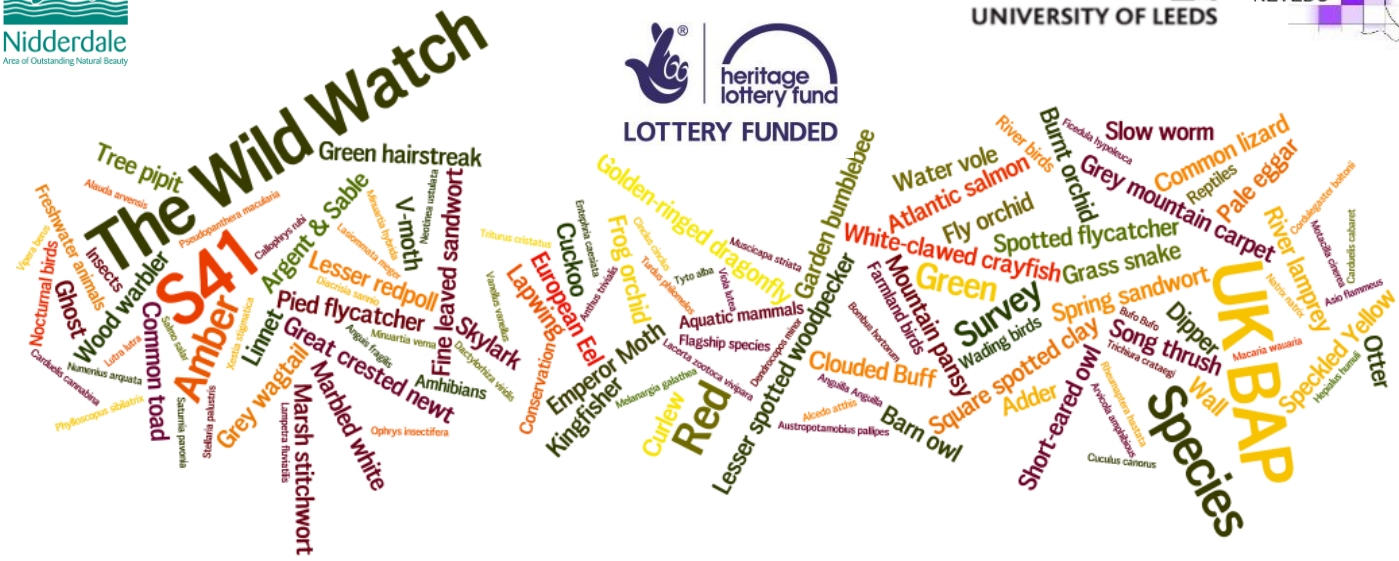


Figure 1 The Wild Watch Survey sites



The Wild Watch Species:

- There are 50 target species across 13 survey groups:
- Species were known to be present in Nidderdale AONB and are of national conservation concern (generally S41 species)
- We are interested in hearing from anyone who can help with any of the species groups, but the priorities for 2017 are:
    - Aquatic Mammals
    - Breeding Wading Birds
    - Bumblebee
    - Dragonfly
    - Butterflies and Moths

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The Wild Watch Project:

Surveys will be carried out by a range of different groups:

- Existing recorders
- Naturalists who would like training in new taxa
- General public with training
- Citizen science level projects, .e.g. nocturnal birds
- Masters level ecology students
- Farmers, gamekeepers and landowners
- Professional consultants, e.g. woodland birds

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The Wild Watch Project:

- We need your help to carry out surveys and to help train new volunteers.

We are able to offer:

- Expenses
- Training and equipment
- Access to land to survey with permissions negotiated
- We have a budget for building the membership capacity of naturalist organisations: e.g. leaflet production costs and improvements to websites.
- We will use social media, press and events to promote our partner organisations, your events and recruitment drives