

AONB Partnership Board

Nov 15th 2018

- 1) How does a National Park differ from an AONB?
- 2) Why would a Dorset NP be more likely to help you achieve the aims set out in your Management Plan?
- 3) How would a Dorset NP work with the Dorset Council?



The area proposed in 2013/14 subject to discussion and evaluation by Natural England



National Parks: Three interlocking responsibilities



The resources available to NPs and AONBs



- South Downs NP

Core annual grant £10m from DEFRA; no call on local authorities, businesses or households

About 100 staff: planners, rangers, ecologists etc

Opportunity for Dorset NP to support the Jurassic Coast Trust

- Dorset AONB

Core annual grant £240k from DEFRA + some from local authorities

4.5 FTE staff

Jurassic Coast Trust will have reduced future support from local authorities

Possible Glover changes



- National Parks

Duty to foster the economic and social wellbeing of their communities becomes a purpose;

More emphasis on economic role incl. in promoting local housing, wider engagement with all communities, where appropriate working beyond boundaries.

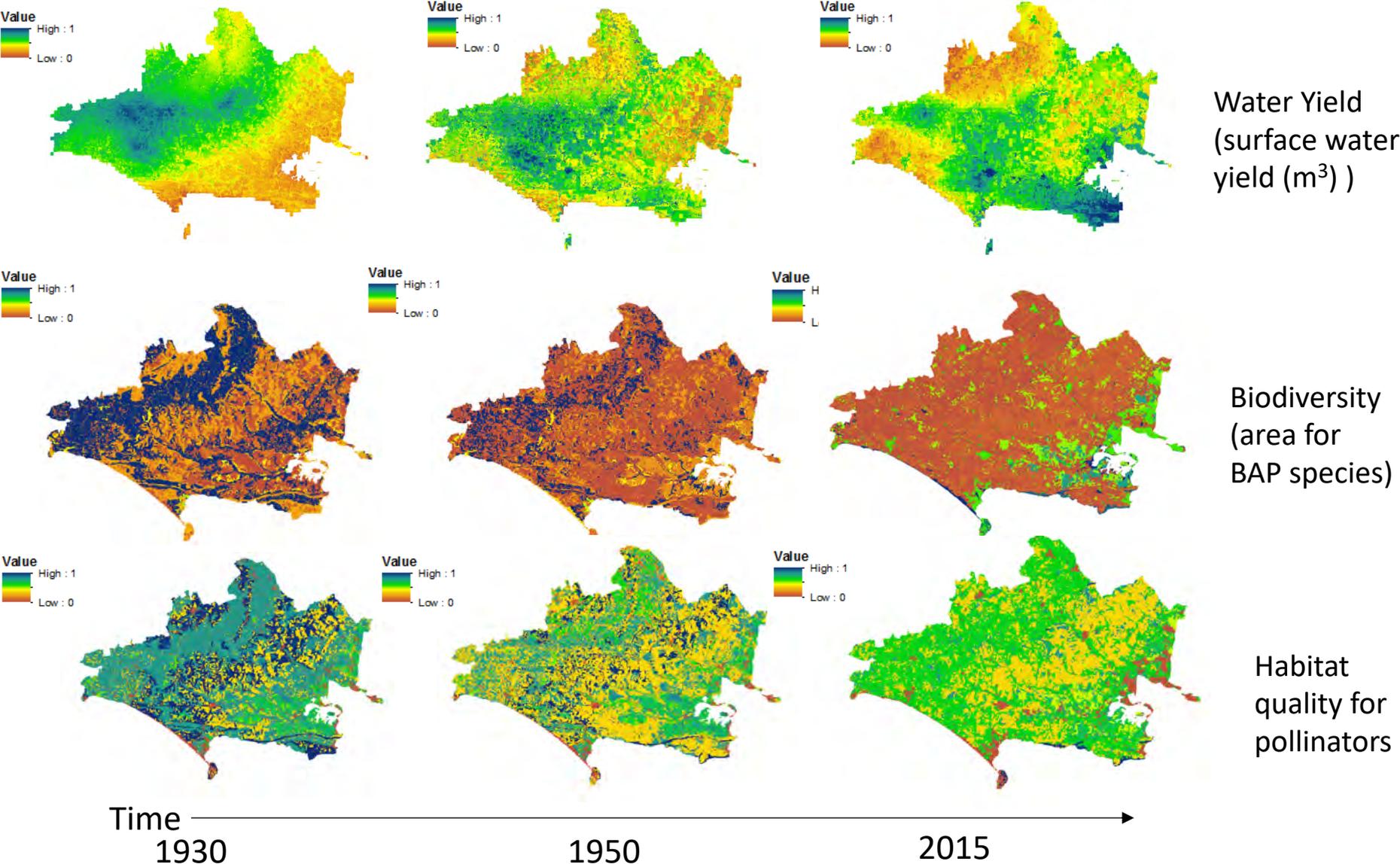
- AONBs

Recognise and formalize their role in conserving heritage and in promoting understanding;

Possible enhanced role in commenting on planning;

Possibly some additional funding.

How can we reverse the decline in Dorset's natural capital?



How can the AONB's aims best be achieved?



Through:

- the current arrangements, with an AONB and its capabilities and resources, perhaps with some enhancement?
- a National Park with its additional capabilities, wider purposes and role plus substantial extra resources?

A NP offers other benefits to communities and the economy.

But how would it work with the Dorset Council?

A partnership to deliver a shared agenda backed by extra resources



- The Dorset Council and the Dorset National Park have the same aims; the environment is our greatest economic asset
- But the Dorset Council will have enormous challenges and will have to focus on certain priorities
- The Dorset National Park would partner with the Dorset Council to deliver a shared agenda – paid for by central Government
- The NP Authority will be composed of 50%+ members from the Dorset Council bringing their knowledge and experience

An efficient process releasing resources for other priorities



- There would be a seamless planning resource which would develop and deliver compatible dovetailed plans
- An expert, efficient, resilient planning service for all rural Dorset
- The Dorset National Park would pay the Dorset Council for the services it buys, thus freeing Council funding for other priorities
- A Dorset National Park in partnership with a Dorset Council would create a rural powerhouse benefitting all of Dorset.

Proposed Resolution

“The Dorset AONB Partnership Board Invites the Glover review panel to evaluate the opportunity to evolve the AONB into a National Park as a future option for Dorset alongside its consideration of possible enhanced roles and resources for AONBs.”

- *“PDC notes with interest the Dorset National Park proposal and the opportunities this could offer to keep Purbeck special; keeps the proposals under review; and looks forward to Natural England undertaking the next stage of its evaluation in 2018”.*
- *DCC “keep it under review, noting that the proposal for a National Park could potentially support the County Council’s corporate outcomes in relation to a healthy and prosperous Dorset.”*
- *Cotswolds AONB Management Plan: ambition to be England’s next National Park.*

What vision and ambition do we have for Dorset?