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Eden Crayfish Project

Funded by the Catchment Restoration Fund

Project reference no: CRF0039 (ST002)

Progress Report – August - January 2014

(Cumulative ie. including all outcomes since July 2012)

Farm Plans

- Number of Farm Plans completed: **12** (*Project target is 20*). Currently liaising with Natural England over SAC Site Improvement Plans (SIPs) and targeting farms accordingly.
- Number of Farm Plans underway: 3

Trees

- Number of trees planted: **1743** trees (*Project target is 6000 trees*).
- Further tree planting agreed: At least 1150 trees (Newby Beck, Meaburn Hall, Rosgill Hall, Halligill, Croglin High Hall and Davygill).

Fencing

- Length of fencing completed: **3623** m (*Project target is 20 km of fencing*);
 - **Birdby** at Cliburn 320 m, Grid ref. Top NY 61026 23578, Mid NY 61039 23662, Bottom NY 61051 23757 (included 370 m of bank protected);
 - **Crake Trees** at Maulds Meaburn 320 m, Grid ref. Top NY 62289 15812, Mid NY 62250 15951, Bottom NY 62220 16111 (included 640 m of bank protected and re-meandering of 75 m of Howe Beck);
 - **Newlands** at Drybeck 180 m, Grid ref. Top NY 68000 16194, Mid NY 67920 16234, Bottom NY 67833 16258 (included 180 m of bank protected);
 - **Dona Close** at Great Asby 740 m, Grid ref. Top NY 71576 11730, Mid NY 71368 11989, Bottom NY 71323 12271 (included 1350 m of bank protected).
 - **Friendship Farm** at Hoff 740 m, Grid ref. Top NY 67559 16105, Mid NY 67653 17088, Bottom NY 67617 17256 (included 740 m of bank protected).
 - **Sycamore Rise** at Great Asby 280 m, Grid ref. Top NY 66747 14242 Mid NY 66850 14293, Bottom NY 66990 14336 (included 280 m of bank protected).
 - **Croglin Low Hall at Croglin** 587 m, Grid ref. Top NY 55462 44996, Mid NY 55227 44943, Bottom 54923 44927 (included 587 m of bank protected).

- **Raygarthfield, Croglin** 456 m, Grid ref. Top NY 57770 46471, Mid 57661 46599, Bottom 57631 46743 (included 540 m of bank protected).
- Further fencing agreed: Over 15,000 m:
 - Meaburn Hall at Maulds Meaburn 3000 m;
 - Towcett at Shap 500 m;
 - Dedra Banks at Newby 500 m;
 - Morland Beck at Newby 750 m;
 - Lowergate at Morland 600 m;
 - Low Rutter at Hoff 3000 m;
 - Halligill at Asby 1488 m;
 - Croglin High Hall at Croglin 254 m;
 - Davygill at Croglin 540 m;
 - Rosgill Hall at Bampton aprox. 5000 m.

Farm improvement work

- Improvement work on farms to reduce diffuse pollution: 4 projects completed (*Project target is 20 farms*):
 - **Dedra Banks** at Newby – completed clean and dirty water separation work in farm yard (£5k);
 - **Crake Trees** at Maulds Meaburn – completed creation of sediment collection pond as part of fencing, re-meandering and tree planting project.
 - **Towcett** at Shap – completed clean and dirty water separation work in farm yard (£5k);
 - **Low Rutter** at Hoff – completed new cattle track (£5k).
- Further farm improvement work agreed:
 - Lansmere at Newby (£5k);
 - Swathburn at Ormside (£5k),
 - Raygarthfield at Croglin (£5k);
- Further farm improvement work planned:
 - Sleagill House at Sleagill (£5k);
 - High Murber at Crosby Ravensworth (£5k);
 - Longlands at Newby (£5k);
 - High Griseburn at Ormside (£5k);
 - Low Griseburn at Ormside (5k);
 - Croglin High Hall at Croglin (£5k);
 - Davygill at Croglin (£5k);
 - Rosgill Hall at Bampton (£5);
 - Rawfoot at Bampton (£5).

In-stream habitat improvement

- In-stream habitat improvement work completed (*Project target 5 locations*):
 - Crake Trees at Maulds Meaburn - completed 75 m of re-meandering of Howe Beck, a tributary of the River Lyvennet, Grid ref. Top 62278 15956, Mid 62288 15991, Bottom 62277 16024;
 - Crossrigg House at Cliburn – removed 1 main weir and 6 smaller weirs on Morland Beck, a tributary of the River Lyvennet, Grid ref. Top 60148 23500, Mid 60396 23559, Bottom 60547 23618 (450 m of river habitat improved and 2 km of Morland Beck opened up to migratory fish).

Community Groups

- Community Groups: 10 groups at 23 events;
 - Enterprise Mouchel awareness raising event with their staff as well as local authority representatives and local school children (3 days, 240 people);
 - Signal crayfish survey and removal carried out in River Caldew (6 days, 29 volunteers);
 - Cumbria Blue Badge Tourist Guides awareness raising day with ERT (1 day, 7 people);
 - Penrith Agricultural Show (1 day, over 100 members of the public);
 - Crayfish Survey Training 2012 & 2013 (3 days, 43 volunteers, 43 volunteer days);
 - Crayfish Surveys 2012 & 2013 (56 volunteers, 103 volunteer days);
 - Talk given at Penrith Library (18 members of the public);
 - Talk given to Pooley Bridge & District Women's Institute (20 WI members);
 - Appleby Agricultural Show (1 day, 10 members of the public);
 - Dufton Agricultural Show (1 day, 65 members of the public);
 - Talk given to Eden Valley Vintage Tractor Club (25 club members);
 - National Trust Acorn Bank Apple Day (1 day, 100 members of the public);
 - Talk to Maulds Meaburn Village Institute (25 members of the public);
 - Talk to Carlisle Natural History Society (50 Society members).

Risks and Issues

- **Farm Plans** – 3 Farm Plans to complete and 5 Farm Plans still to start - On target for completion March 2015;
- **Number of trees planted** – 1150 trees agreed but still to plant and 3000 trees still to be agreed by March 2015 – behind target but achievable by March 2015;
- **Fencing** - 15,000 m agreed but still to install and approx. 1500 m still to find – behind target with installation but all achievable by March 2015;
- **Improvement work on farms to reduce diffuse pollution** – 12 farm improvement works planned but still to complete and 4 farm improvement works still to find – behind target but achievable by March 2015.
- **In-stream habitat improvement** – Completed.
- **Crayfish survey and involvement of volunteers** - Completed for 2012 & 2013 and planned for 2014 survey season – On target.

Joanne Backshall
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6 February 2014