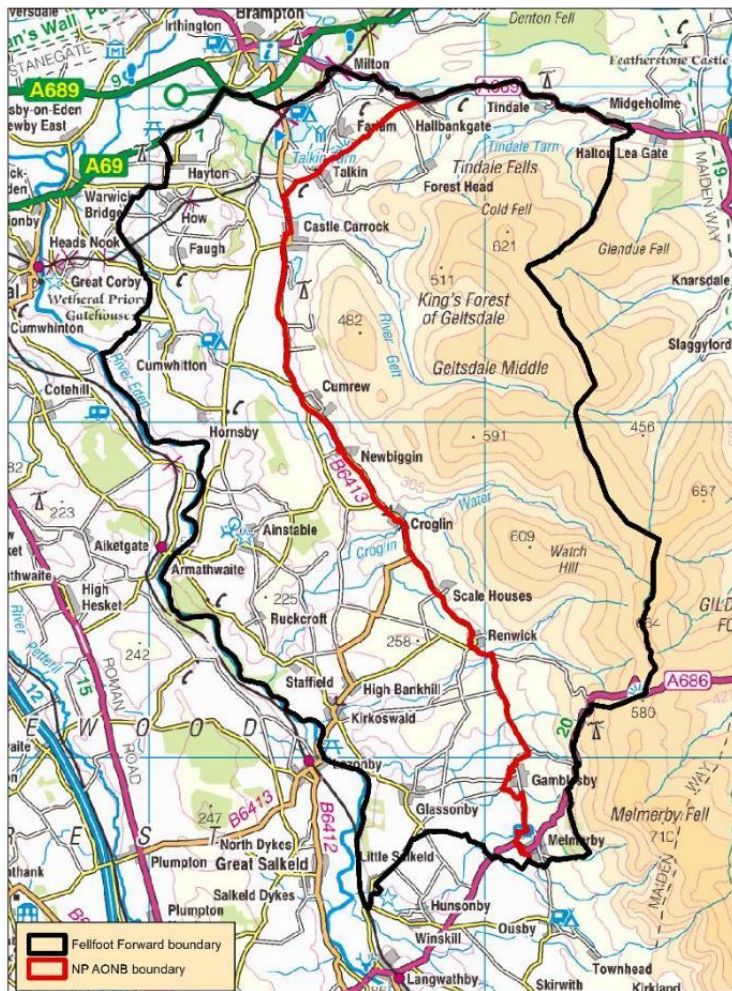


B D C

CUMBRIA BIODIVERSITY DATA CENTRE



Fellfoot Forward Landscape Partnership Scheme



We will connect Fellfoot communities, strengthen their ties, and help them work together to realise their shared vision for a 'slow' landscape; one that is resilient, rich in wildlife, accessible, and that encourages deep engagement with our natural and cultural heritage.

Project objectives

- a. To improve the Cumbria LNRS evidence by surveying nature rich sites
- b. To harness the expertise and enthusiasm of local volunteers
- c. To develop and promote the role of Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre and the value of recording and managing wildlife data.



A Partnership between Fellfoot Forward, Cumbria Local Nature Partnership, Cumbria Wildlife Trust, Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre and local volunteers

What we need to do:

- a. Recruit volunteers
- b. Train them on survey procedures
- c. Identify and shortlist sites to be fully surveyed.
- d. Run a programme of training days/recording days.
- e. Assess the site – is it good enough to be a CWS?
- f. Digitise the information
- g. Add new data to the LNRS evidence base.

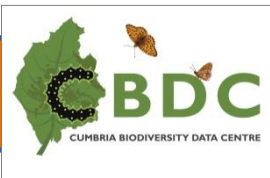


What we would like you to do:

1. Sign up
2. Help us find out if the site still exists
3. Join in the training
4. Take part in the recording programme
5. Go out and practice your survey skills
6. Tell us what you found.



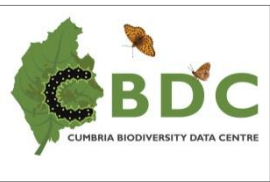
Skill levels: Beginners, Improvers, Experts



Fellfoot Site-Seeing Project



The next slides to be completed by ***Stuart...***



Fellfoot Site-Seeing Project

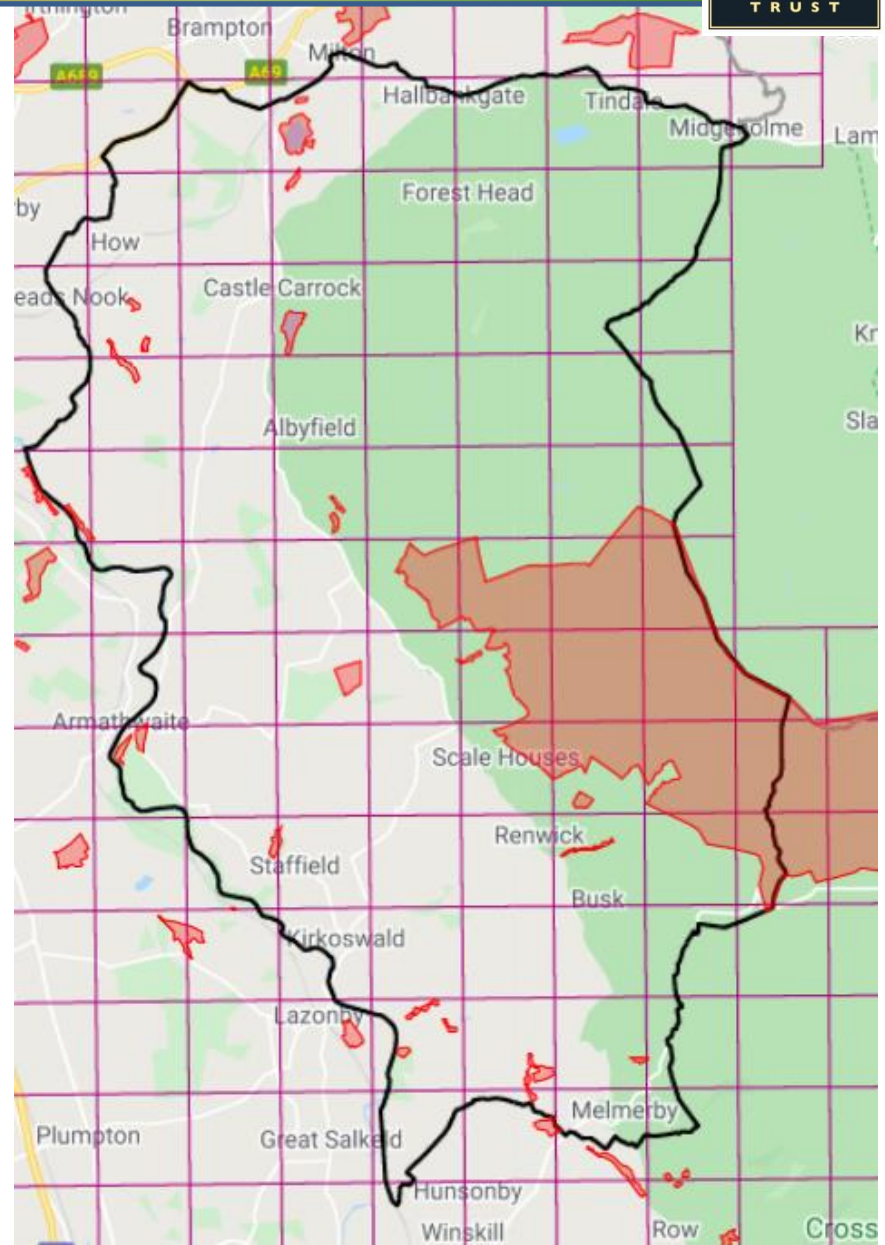


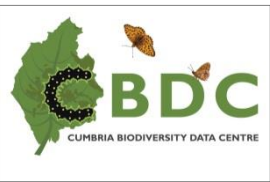
The part of the Site-seeing Project that CBDC has been asked to undertake involves training volunteers who already have good botanical skills to be able to re-survey current County Wildlife Sites in the Fellfoot Forward area. Many of these sites have not been surveyed for 20-30 years, if at all.

If there is sufficient time within the project, we might consider new sites (if any) that may be of sufficient calibre to become a CWS.

Ownership details and initial contacts for access permission will be undertaken by Cumbria Wildlife Trust.

Current County
Wildlife Sites
(CWSs) within the
Fellfoot Forward
project area.





Fellfoot Site-Seeing Project



County Wildlife Sites (CWSs) are non-statutory sites that have been identified in the past to have value with regards generally to their habitats, which are based on their flora. A small number of these sites have been recognised for their value to other taxa, particularly birds.

Although CWSs are non-statutory sites with no legal protection, local authorities are obliged to take them into consideration when the sites and their hinterland is subject to a development proposal.

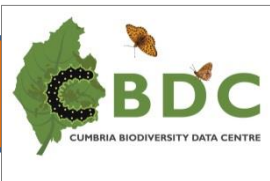
CWSs are/were also known by different terms: Sites of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI), Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC), Local Wildlife Sites (LWS), Wildlife Heritage Sites (WHS), etc.

Survey Methodology.

This will be described in detail during the training sessions (**to be confirmed**)

The basis of the survey is:

1. Check, amend or collect metadata (info we already have). This is to include boundaries.
2. To identify discrete habitat areas within the CWS. Ideally classify using Phase 1 Habitat Survey and/or Priority Habitat inventory.
3. Survey species of plants (or other taxa where relevant) within each habitat identified.
- [4. To identify National Vegetation Communities if time and skills allow]



Fellfoot Site-Seeing Project



What next?

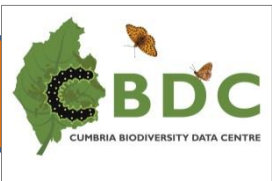
If you are interested in taking part in this project then please let us know.

I shall be running a training course (to be arranged) which will comprise several sessions on both theoretical and practical elements to ensure all our surveyors are able to collect the relevant data from the County Wildlife Sites during a field visit, in a safe manner.

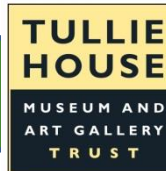
The course does **not** include botanical training, so you will already need at least a 'reasonable' level of botanical identification skills.

Skills in other taxa will be considered, as they might be relevant for a small number of CWSs.

I look forward to meeting you at the course and during subsequent surveys.



Fellfoot Site-Seeing Project



If anyone who has the requisite skills and would like to partake in this project as a volunteer, please contact Stuart Colgate at CBDC Email: stuartc@cbdc.org.uk or ring (01228) 618717.

Thank you for listening,

Stuart

Stuart Colgate, Recording Officer, CBDC, Carlisle.