

APPENDIX D

COTSWOLDS AONB MANAGEMENT PLAN EXTRACT:

2. ESCARPMENT
7. HIGH WOLD
8. HIGH WOLD VALLEY

2. Escarpment



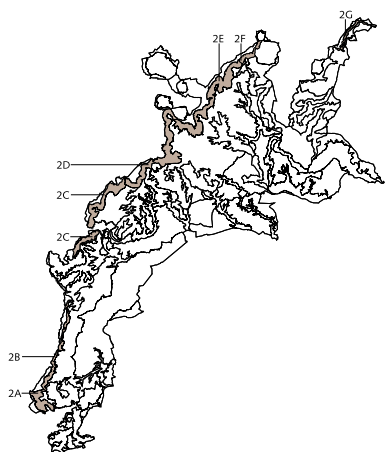
Character Areas

- 2A Bath to Beach Farm
- 2B Beach Farm to Hillesley
- 2C Uley to Cooper's Hill
- 2D Cooper's Hill to Winchcombe
- 2E Winchcombe to Dover's Hill
- 2F Dover's Hill to Mickleton
- 2G Edge Hill

Key Features

- **Steep exposed and elevated west facing escarpment slope, partly cloaked in semi-natural broadleaved woodland** forming a dramatic relief feature visible from the Forest of Dean and Malverns and a backdrop to neighbouring lowlands.
- **Rock outcrops often mark the site of former quarries** and offer valuable opportunities to view geological formations.
- **Generally poor soils and steep sloping relief of the escarpment not suited to arable farming, and primarily used for pasture or woodland**, which are the dominant land uses.
- **Limited areas of Registered Common Land on upper scarp slopes merging into the more extensive areas on the High Wold** represent an important landscape resource often of nationally important nature conservation and cultural heritage value.
- **Strong sense of elevation with dramatic panoramic views over the Severn Vale to the Forest of Dean and beyond into Wales, the Malverns and the Shropshire Hills** from open areas on the upper escarpment. This contrasts with the more intimate landscapes at lower elevations.
- **Continuity of escarpment face interrupted by a series of major valleys and embayments** creating dramatic relief features and local interest.

- **Gentler landform on lower slopes below the spring line** dissected by numerous streams and characterised by hummocky areas of former landslip, ridge and furrow and areas of arable farming blurring the transition with the surrounding vale.
- **Calcareous grasslands located on steeper escarpment slopes**, often found in close association with areas of ancient, broadleaved woodland and together forming nationally important habitats.
- **Summit of the escarpment slopes often marked by dramatic linear beech hangers**. These are often viewed as a silhouette against the skyline from the vale below.
- **Woodlands, hedgerows, scrub and isolated trees give the impression of a well wooded landscape**. Escarpment woodlands are often narrow and either trace steeper relief or mark the course of streams and gullies that are cut into the escarpment face, and together with hedgerows create important wildlife corridors.
- **Settlement generally confined to lower, shallower slopes, in sheltered locations and adjacent to spring lines**, with linear settlements bordering streams and roads on the lower escarpment slopes and isolated farms and dwellings in sheltered positions mid way up the escarpment.
- **A number of large towns and cities located at, or in the vicinity of the foot of the escarpment**. The scarp forms a rural backdrop to urban development and limits eastward expansion.



2. Escarpment



- **Roads and tracks surrounded by dense vegetation and occupying holloways**, run parallel to streams and link the High Wold to the Vale. Many are likely to follow the course of ancient and possibly prehistoric tracks. Occasional principal roads descending the escarpment form locally prominent features.
- **Numerous prehistoric sites and follies are located on promontories and elevated sections of the escarpment** indicating their symbolic and strategic importance. Their high visibility and wide panoramic viewing opportunities also make them popular to visitors and tourists.

Landscape Sensitivity

The escarpment is a distinctive and dramatic landscape. The combination of its elevation, and the steep slopes rising from the lowlands, make it a highly visible feature and is therefore very sensitive to change, particularly where this would introduce built elements within the otherwise agricultural landscapes, or interrupt the balance of rough grassland, species rich calcareous grassland and broadleaved woodland on the upper escarpment slopes.

The undulating lower escarpment slopes, at the junction of the vale, are visually less prominent than the upper escarpment slopes and generally more widely settled. These are therefore generally less sensitive to change.

2. Escarpment



Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
<p>Expansion and infilling of existing settlements fringing the lower slopes of the escarpment.</p> <p>Expansion of neighbouring towns and cities onto or towards the base of the scarp</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Erosion of distinctive form, scale and character of settlements. Erosion of the setting of the AONB Encroachment of built development onto lower escarpment slopes. Upgrading of rural lanes and holloways in areas of new development and the introduction of suburbanising features such as mini roundabouts, street lighting and kerbs, traffic calming at village entrances. Degradation of the view from the scarp across the adjoining vale and from the vale looking at the scarp. Urban fringe impacts such as fly tipping and dumping of vehicles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve pattern of settlements fringing the lower slopes and their existing relationship to landform. Conserve the distinctive orientation of linear villages on lower escarpment slopes. Ensure a buffer zone to the AONB is established parallel to the base of the scarp. Promote extension of the greenbelt to the south east and south of Gloucester and north of Bishop's Cleeve Conserve the rural character of the road network, and in particular holloways climbing the escarpment. Create new woodlands that link to existing woodlands on lower escarpment slopes to counteract the impact of intrusive or degraded urban edges. Control the proliferation of suburban building styles and materials Restore existing stone, old brick and half-timbered buildings within settlements in preference to new built development. Existing buildings should be carefully conserved and where converted to new uses buildings must retain their historic integrity and functional character. Sound conservation advice and principles must be sought and implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of new residential and commercial developments permitted on the lower escarpment slopes. Location and number of redundant buildings. Number of developments that detract or enhance landscape character Extent of road 'improvement' schemes and suburban road infrastructure details 	<p><i>Parish Council/Local Interest Groups:</i> <i>Undertake a photographic survey of key views of, and settlements/dwellings within the escarpment.</i></p> <p><i>Survey of redundant buildings</i></p> <p><i>LA LDF/Development Plan policies</i> <i>SPD Design Guidance</i> <i>LA/AONB Quality Design Award</i></p> <p><i>Local Transport Plans</i> <i>Forestry Commission - EWGS</i></p>

2. Escarpment



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid development that may restrict or obscure views to the upper escarpment slopes and distinctive features such as folly towers and hillforts. • New development to reflect local architectural styles. • Promote 'green' infrastructure in any major extensions to Gloucester and Cheltenham 		
<p>Isolated development such as new single dwellings on the mid escarpment slopes that might compromise rural landscape character and dispersed settlement patterns, including farm buildings converted to residential use.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual intrusions introduced to the landscape • Upgrading of minor roads and lanes and holloways in areas of new development and introduction of suburbanising features such as street lighting. • Introduction of 'lit' elements to characteristically dark escarpment slope landscapes. • Erosion of distinctive dispersed settlement character on the escarpment slopes. • Suburbanisation of agricultural landscape by the introduction of gardens e.g ornamental garden plants and boundary features, parking areas and conversion of tracks to manicured drives and gateways • Proliferation of stables and 'white tape' field boundaries for horses and ponies • Loss of tranquillity and sense of seclusion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the distinctive rural and dispersed settlement pattern. • Restore existing stone farm buildings and structures in preference to new built development. • Existing buildings should be carefully conserved and where converted to new uses buildings must retain their historic integrity and functional character. Sound conservation advice and principles must be sought and implemented • Maintain the sense of openness and consider the impact of built development on views to and from the escarpment slopes. • Control the proliferation of suburban building styles and materials. • Oppose new housing not for agricultural employment use in open countryside • Respect traditional position of agricultural buildings and their relationship to the surrounding land. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of historic traditional buildings converted and/or restored to residential use. • Number of lit dwellings on the escarpment • Number of new isolated developments • Extent of road 'improvement' schemes and suburban road infrastructure details 	<p><i>Parish Council/Local Interest Groups:</i> <i>Undertake a photographic survey of key views of, and settlements/dwellings within the escarpment.</i></p> <p><i>LA LDF/Development Plan policies/Design Guidance</i> <i>Parish Plans and Village design Statements</i></p> <p><i>EH Guidance</i></p>

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<p>Deterioration in condition of vernacular farm buildings</p> <p>Conversion of traditional farm buildings to new uses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Erosion of distinctive features and loss of Cotswold character. Loss of locally historic features and erosion of the integrity of the historic landscape Loss and erosion of Farmstead Character and how the buildings relate to the surrounding agricultural landuse Decline in quality of landscape 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve vernacular farm buildings for their own sake and/or by developing other options for their use whilst retaining their agricultural character Where converted to new uses buildings must retain their historic integrity and functional character. Sound conservation advice and principles must be sought and implemented Raise awareness of grant availability for building restoration. Respect traditional position of agricultural buildings and their relationship to the surrounding land. Promote examples of good practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of vernacular farm buildings at risk Number of vernacular farm buildings conserved. 	<p><i>Landowners</i></p> <p><i>Natural England via</i></p> <p><i>Environmental Stewardship,</i></p> <p><i>English Heritage and Local Authorities</i></p>
<p>Proliferation of equestrian establishments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proliferation of stables and other visual clutter such as ribbon fences, jumps, horse boxes, shelters and lighting associated with 'horsiculture'. Creation of paddocks by sub-dividing fields using post and rail fence or ribbon fences Deterioration in pasture quality and over grazing Pressure to provide new housing for staff and owners Excessive use of local roads and paths by horses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discourage horse paddocks in visually prominent roadside and valley side locations. Oppose change of use for the 'keeping of horses' in visually prominent locations. Encourage sensitive design and location of new equestrian facilities. Encourage the use of olive green tape, less posts etc Produce guidance on good practice Oppose over concentration of equestrian ventures in one area Ensure all new ventures provide accommodation within new stable buildings. Oppose new housing for owners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of horse paddocks. Number adopting good practice e.g olive green tape etc Number of equestrian ventures in an area. Numbers of horses on roads/bridleways 	<p><i>LA LDF/Development Plan policies</i></p> <p><i>Development Control</i></p> <p><i>Conservation Board Guidance</i></p> <p><i>BHS/Pony clubs</i></p>

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Major road construction and improvement schemes on escarpment slopes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intrusive features on highly visible sections of the escarpment, and at gateways into the AONB • Loss of woodland and other sensitive habitats • Potential impact of additional road signage and lighting • Loss of tranquility and excessive noise • Light and air pollution • Impact of road signs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Object to major road building schemes • Implement traffic management schemes including speed reduction • Ensure careful and sensitive design of road proposals and associated infrastructure on escarpment slopes. • Minimise loss of woodlands and other sensitive habitats • Funding from Highway Agency or highway authorities for mitigation measures to be a pre-condition e.g noise screening, quiet surfacing etc. • Consider the potential for exposing geological features and their long term management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent of loss of woodland and other important habitats to accommodate road alignment. 	Collaboration between County and District LAs/Planning and County Highways LAs for principal roads; Highways Agency for trunk roads;

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Introduction of vertical elements such as communication masts, wind turbines, electricity pylons and large road signs on and adjacent to the escarpment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of visually intrusive 'urban' features to rural landscapes • Loss of open character and 'natural' appearance • Introduction of unnatural movement and loss of tranquillity • Breaking up of escarpment skyline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the open, remote character by objecting to the development of vertical elements on the skyline or where these would adversely affect views along the escarpment or from the neighbouring vales and Cotswolds LCTs • Ensure the development of vertical elements in neighbouring areas beyond the AONB do not adversely affect views to and from the escarpment and across the adjacent LCTs • Ensure alternative options have been fully considered • Minimise impact by locating new communication masts on existing structures or by using existing masts • Set masts against trees • Bury cables underground • Consider other renewable energy technologies • Seek to minimise size and number of road signs 	Number of masts, turbines etc	<p><i>LAs/LDF/Development plan policies</i></p> <p><i>Highway Authorities</i></p> <p><i>Highways Agency</i></p>

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Road upgrading and improvements, especially of minor country roads, as a result of development or general improvement schemes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of suburban features such as mini roundabouts, kerbs and traffic calming measures. • Use of inappropriate materials • Loss of roadside hedges and walls • Loss of verge/roadside habitat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the rural character of the local road network . • Object to the upgrading of tracks or creation of roads on the escarpment, particularly on the mid and upper slopes, especially where a lack of roads is characteristic • Promote use of design and materials appropriate to local character. • Produce guidance on design and suitable materials. • Promote use of 'shared space' for traffic calming measures in villages. • Seek opportunities to conserve and enhance roadside boundaries and habitats. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length of road upgraded or improved. • Number of 'shared space' schemes • Loss of roadside boundaries/ habitat • Number of schemes that comply/enhance local distinctiveness. 	<p><i>Highways Agency</i></p> <p><i>Highway Authorities</i></p> <p><i>Planning Authorities</i></p> <p><i>Parish Councils</i></p>
Excessive traffic on minor local roads and lanes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pressure to improve roads by widening and straightening. • Loss of tranquillity and danger to walkers/riders and other non automotive users. • Damage to verges and roadside boundaries by HGVs and agricultural vehicles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote traffic restriction measures such as lorry routing maps. • Promote shared space and road design to slow and minimise traffic impact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level of traffic on minor roads/lanes • Number of traffic restrictions 	<p><i>LA Development Plan/LDF policies</i></p> <p><i>Highway Authorities</i></p> <p><i>The Traffic Commissioners</i></p> <p><i>NFU & CLA</i></p>
<p>Development of scrub and trees on roadside verges</p> <p>Mowing of verges at inappropriate times</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of views from the public highway • Loss of roadside grassland habitat • Damage to hedges and walls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify key views from roads • Manage/remove verge scrub and trees • Reintroduce appropriate verge management and mowing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of key views opened up • Length of verge cleared 	<p><i>Highway Authorities</i></p> <p><i>Highways Agency</i></p> <p><i>Parish Councils</i></p>

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Intensification of dairy farms on the lower escarpment slopes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Degradation and loss of hedgerows and increased use of post and wire fencing. Intensification of operations leading to farm amalgamation and the construction of large dairy sheds that obscure views of the escarpment when viewed from the vale and dominate views of the lowlands when viewed from the upper escarpment slopes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the conservation and restoration of hedgerows. Those marking ancient boundaries should be regarded as a priority. Conserve the open, remote character of the landscape in views to and from the escarpment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Length of degraded hedgerows and post and wire fences in sample area(s). Numbers of large dairy sheds. Take up of Environmental Stewardship agreements, which includes provision for hedgerow restoration, as well as various LA grant schemes. 	<p><i>Parish Council/Local Interest Groups:</i> <i>Undertake a photographic survey of key views to and from the escarpment.</i></p> <p><i>FWAG/NFU/CLA guidance</i></p> <p><i>Environmental Stewardship and remaining Countryside Stewardship schemes, and Cotswolds ESA schemes for substantial section of escarpment.</i></p>
Agricultural intensification, diversification and farm amalgamation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eutrophication of water courses from farm run off. Increased conversion of pasture to arable land. Damage to and loss of archaeological sites and field monuments from conversion of pasture to arable and from intensification of grazing. New agricultural buildings Move towards arable production on small mixed farms resulting in the removal or degradation of hedgerows and/ or loss of former pasture. Conversion of farm outbuildings and field barns to recreational or business uses Loss of Farmstead character 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage small-scale mixed farming and encourage woodland and boundary management. Monitor river nutrient levels. Object to proposals to convert pasture to arable particularly where archaeological sites/field monuments may be lost or damaged. Encourage low intensity grazing or restrict access by livestock where archaeological sites/field monuments may be lost or damaged Conserve areas of permanent pasture. Ensure that new farm buildings do not have an adverse visual impact on the wider landscape Seek to conserve traditional farm buildings. Respect traditional position of agricultural buildings and their relationship to the surrounding land. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area of permanent pasture. Area of ancient woodland. Area of species rich grassland. Number of traditional brick and stone barns. Number of archaeological sites/field monuments lost or damaged 	<p><i>FWAG/NFU/CLA guidance.</i></p> <p><i>Natural England/FWAG/ Environmental Stewardship and remaining Countryside Stewardship agreements.</i></p> <p><i>English Heritage and LA Archaeologists</i></p>

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Planting of energy crops such as Miscanthus, short rotation coppice and short rotation forestry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss or seasonal interruption of views particularly from roads and public rights of way. • Loss of remaining permanent pasture • Damage to archaeological sites and historic landscapes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure energy crops are not planted where they would restrict or intrude into views, particularly open views across the landscape and on skyline sites. • Do not plant on semi-natural habitats, permanent pasture or on sites with national or local BAP species that could be affected in a negative way. • Do not plant on sites where archaeological sites could be damaged or where significant historic landscapes would be adversely affected or on sites where features of geological or geomorphological importance would be obscured. • Produce guidance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area of energy crop planted • Number of sites impacting on BAP species • Number of archaeological sites and areas of historic landscape affected. • Number of geological and geomorphological sites affected 	<p><i>FWAG/NFU/CLA guidance</i> <i>DEFRA Guidelines</i></p> <p><i>County archaeologists, Wildlife Trusts, Geoconservation Trusts and RIGS Groups</i></p>

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<p>Inappropriate or inconsistent management, or neglect of existing woodlands, including hanger woodlands, compounded by multiplicity of ownership.</p> <p>Inappropriate planting of new woodlands in terms of site, shape, scale and species composition.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of open character of some sections of the escarpment • Decline and loss of woodland habitats and wildlife corridors. • Poor management endangering long-term continuity of woodlands, especially ancient woodlands and significant alteration to the character of individual stretches of the escarpment. • Decline in the continuity and strength of character of the beech hangers. • Planting of new woodland in inappropriate locations leading to a decline in views to distinctive topographic and geological features • Loss of permanent pasture • Loss of views from the escarpment • Changes in composition of woodlands with potential increase in extent of coniferous plantations. • Mosaic of new woodlands of inappropriate shape and scale forming prominent features on the escarpment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve and enhance areas of existing woodland, with priority given to ancient woodlands. Consideration should be given to preserving their irregular forms, relationship to landform and interlocking patterns with hedgerows. • Restore PAWS • Conserve woodlands along gullies and streams. • Ensure that new woodland planting does not detract from views to and from the escarpment. • Ensure new woodlands respond to the scale and form of existing escarpment woodlands • Ensure woodland creation does not result in the loss of permanent pasture or unimproved grassland • Discourage the planting of extensive areas of conifers and encourage the replacement of conifer with native species. • Raise awareness of woodland owners by producing information and guidance • Identify key viewpoints 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas of ancient broadleaved woodland. • Numbers of WGS/EWGS woodland management agreements entered into. • Numbers of WT management schemes entered into. • Number of viewpoints lost or under threat 	<p><i>Parish Councils:</i> <i>Parish maps of broadleaved woodland cover.</i></p> <p><i>NE/Ancient woodland and FC Inventory</i></p> <p><i>FC/EWGS and WT for management of existing woodland, with potential focus on enhanced grants/initiative for management of beech hangers.</i></p> <p><i>Woodland Strategy for the Cotswolds to provide Design Guidance</i> <i>Woodland Industry</i></p> <p><i>Guidance via Agents</i></p>

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Loss of traditional horticulture/ agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of traditional orchards and local varieties of fruit Introduction of field film and polytunnels/ glasshouses into the neighbouring vale and their impact on views from the escarpment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and protect existing traditional orchards and new potential sites for traditional orchards Identify historical sites of orchards and promote their restoration Promote the appropriate management of existing traditional orchards and the planting of locally distinctive varieties Consider scale and siting of polytunnels etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss or gain of traditional orchards. Number of traditional orchards with management plans 	<p><i>LA Development Control</i> <i>Volunteer surveys</i> <i>Natural England - Environmental Stewardship</i></p> <p><i>FWAG/NFU/CLA guidance</i></p>
Increased use of polytunnels, glasshouses and field film in the adjacent vale.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact on views from the escarpment across the vale. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the scale and siting of polytunnels etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scale and number of locations visible from the escarpment 	<p><i>Local Authority Development Control</i> <i>Advice and guidance from NFU and CLA</i></p>
<p>Decline in grazing stock on upper escarpment slopes and areas of common land</p> <p>Abandonment of grassland</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrub encroachment and loss of species rich grassland due to invasion of dominant grass species. Development of secondary woodland Loss of open character of some sections of the escarpment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve areas of open pasture and common. Consider traditional management regimes to limit scrub encroachment on areas of semi natural grassland. Re-introduction of grazing on semi-natural grasslands/improvement of existing grazing regimes. Produce guidance on scrub management Identify key viewpoints 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area of scrub on upper escarpment slopes and common land. Area of species rich grassland. Area of semi-natural grassland under appropriate management 	<p><i>FWAG/NFU/CLA guidance</i></p> <p><i>Natural England- Environmental Stewardship and remaining Countryside Stewardship and Cotswolds ESA agreements.</i> <i>Local land owners</i> <i>AONB project - aerial photography</i></p>

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Lack of appropriate management in disused quarries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of limestone flora due to the development of scrub and secondary woodland. • Loss of bat roosts • Loss of geological exposures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify disused quarries important for biodiversity and/or geology • Encourage appropriate management by providing advice and guidance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of disused quarries in appropriate management 	<p><i>FWAG</i> <i>Wildlife Trusts</i> <i>Geology Trusts and RIGS Groups</i></p>

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Loss of hedged field boundaries as a result of field amalgamation or neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Degradation of small to medium scale hedgerow enclosed field patterns which are evident on escarpment slopes. Loss of elements of the historic environment including historic field patterns reflecting earlier agricultural systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve hedgerows and hedgerow trees and promote hedgerow planting to infill gappy hedges and replace post and wire fencing. Retain small to medium scale field patterns on escarpment slopes. Priority should be given to species rich hedges, hedges that form part of ancient boundary patterns and areas where hedgerow patterns are a highly visible feature and contribute to local landscape character. Ensure new hedges and dry stone walls reflect the surrounding traditional field boundary patterns Encourage hedgerow trees where appropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Length of hedgerows and post and wire fences in sample area(s). Take up of Environmental Stewardship agreements, which includes provision for hedgerow and dry stone wall restoration, as well as various LA grant schemes. 	<p><i>NE/Local Wildlife Trusts: Map and monitor species-rich, and ancient hedgerows.</i></p> <p><i>FWAG/NFU/CLA guidance</i></p> <p><i>Natural England/FWAG/ Environmental Stewardship and remaining Countryside Stewardship and Cotswolds ESA agreements for substantial section of escarpment.</i></p>
Increased leisure time resulting in tourism pressure at accessible escarpment vantage points and popular circular walks commencing from car park areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Degradation of the landscape as a result of littering, path erosion, car parking and use of off road vehicles. Adverse effect on species rich grassland communities. Positive implications through income generation and raising awareness and support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce measures to limit/manage access to degraded areas of the landscape. Reinstate areas of degraded landscape. Encourage the use of formal paths rather than allowing desire lines to develop. Limit/exclude motorcycles and mountain bikes from areas of historic and biodiversity interest. Minimise car journeys to escarpment vantage points by offering adequate public transport services. Resist the development of tourism facilities on the scarp 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extent and condition of areas of degraded landscape as a result of visitor pressure. Visitor numbers to principal areas and sites Number of popular locations/sites with management plans 	<p><i>Visitor management co-ordinated by LAs/Tourism Strategy</i></p> <p><i>BTCV initiatives guided by LAs/NE /EH</i></p> <p><i>Monitoring and management by Local Interest Groups eg Friends Of Leckhampton Hill and Charlton Kings Common and Painswick Beacon Conservation Group</i></p> <p><i>Local Visitor Payback Schemes</i></p>

2. Escarpment



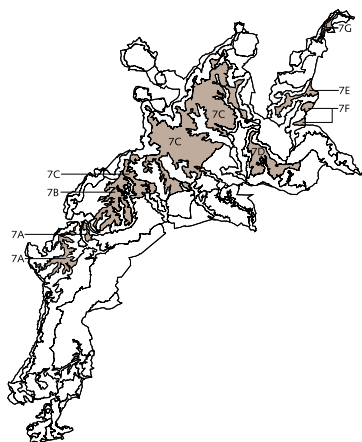
Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
Damage to field monuments and archaeological sites and the historic environment from farming operations, tree root damage, woodland management operations and tree planting and recreational activity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damage to important archaeological sites and important landscape features. • Loss of traditional field patterns • Loss of traditional field boundaries, particularly dry stone walls and hedgerows. • Loss of locally distinctive features • Damage caused by livestock • Damage caused by recreational activity • Encroachment of scrub onto archaeological features 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform landowners of important archaeological sites • Protect all upstanding archaeological sites and consider the impact of development on their landscape setting. • Restore the wider setting of key monuments to ensure that they do not read as islands amidst a sea of arable farming. • Raise awareness of the historic environment and of the SMR as a source of information • Provide guidance on managing the historic environment to farmers and land owners • Retain traditional field patterns and field boundaries • Ensure tree planting does not take place on archaeological features. • Control scrub and manage existing trees on archaeological features to minimise damage for example by root damage or wind-blow. • Minimise or prevent damage to the historic environment by recreational activity by working with landowners to prepare site management plans and if necessary limit access. • Repair badly eroded features such as earthworks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of damage to archaeological features • Number of archaeological features under suitable management. • Number of sites with management plans • Take up of ES schemes which include measures to conserve the historic environment 	<p><i>EH/LA Co Archaeologist</i></p> <p><i>FWAG/NFU /CLA re guidance to farmers</i></p> <p><i>LA LDF/Development Plan policies</i></p> <p><i>Natural England & Environmental Stewardship. Remaining Countryside Stewardship and ESA agreements</i></p> <p><i>FC & EWGS</i></p>
Loss of and damage to geological and geomorphological features due to tree growth, erosion and change of land use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of sites that provide an understanding of the Cotswold landscape • Loss of visible features such as outcrops, gulls and areas of landslip, particularly rotational slip. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify important geological features and ensure they are conserved and appropriately managed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of geological features in good condition. 	<p><i>RIGS Groups/Geoconservation Trusts</i></p> <p><i>Universities/study groups</i></p> <p><i>Natural England/FWAG/CLA Environmental Stewardship</i></p>

7. High Wold



Character Areas

- 7A *Nymphsfield and Kingscote Plateau & Minchinhampton Common*
- 7B *Bisley Plateau*
- 7C *Cotswolds High Wold Plateau*
- 7D *Rissington Plateau and Milton Downs*
- 7E *Rollright and Chastleton Plateau*
- 7F *Over Norton Plateau*
- 7G *Edge Hill Ironstone Plateau*



Key Features

- **Broad, elevated, gently undulating plateau** dissected by a network of dry valleys with distinctive convex profile valley sides.
- **Expansive long distance views** across the open plateau and to distant hills beyond the Severn Vale.
- **Elevated areas of plateau surrounded by deeply incised valleys** perceived as part of the High Wold, due to inter-visibility of neighbouring elevated landscapes.
- **Predominantly arable land use with some improved pasture/ grass leys, and very limited permanent pasture mainly confined to valley bottoms** provides seasonal variations in colour and texture.
- **Large scale, regular fields mainly enclosed by dry stone walls, together with hedgerows with very occasional hedgerow trees, and post and wire fencing** create a patchwork effect across wide areas of the landscape.
- **Small to moderate size geometric farm woodlands, many comprising small coniferous and broadleaved plantations and shelterbelts, and plantations bordering roads** provide shelter across areas of otherwise open landscape.
- **Settlement limited to small villages and hamlets, generally within valleys, and isolated farmsteads and individual dwellings** gives many areas a remote character.
- **Network of mainly linear roads following ridge tops, and linking settlements** give the landscape a distinct grain.
- **Evidence of long period of occupation of the landscape**, with many Neolithic and Bronze Age barrows and Iron Age hillforts
- **Seasonal rotation of arable cropping patterns and improved grassland** interrupts otherwise homogenous and simple land cover.
- **Remnants of once more extensive commons survive** highly valued for their nature conservation interest and cultural heritage value.
- **Occasional active and disused limestone quarries located across the High Wold** often valued as wildlife resources.
- **Prominent telecommunication masts and power lines** gain visual prominence as vertical elements in otherwise vast sweeping landscapes.
- **Use of locally quarried stone for both dry stone walls and houses, frequently constructed in distinctive local vernacular**, engenders a harmonious relationship between built elements and their surroundings.

7. High Wold



Landscape Sensitivity

Despite its predominantly agricultural character, the wide, elevated, gently undulating plateau landscape retains a strong sense of remoteness contributing to its high sensitivity. Wide panoramic views, a high degree of inter-visibility, and limited woodland cover also add to the sensitivity of the High Wold landscape to tall vertical elements, such as telecommunication masts and wind turbines.

The High Wold contains a large number of prehistoric monuments including funerary monuments dating to the Neolithic and Bronze Age and defensive enclosures dating to the Iron Age. These are an important component of the landscape and highly sensitive to developments that may affect their landscape setting and material remains.

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Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
<p>Isolated development such as new single dwellings that might compromise rural landscape character and dispersed settlement patterns, including farm buildings converted to residential use.</p> <p>Impact of managing land for equestrian uses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual intrusions introduced to the landscape • Upgrading of minor roads and lanes in areas of new development and introduction of suburbanising features such as street lighting. • Introduction of 'lit' elements to characteristically dark landscapes. • Suburbanisation of agricultural landscape by the introduction of gardens e.g ornamental garden plants and boundary features, parking areas and conversion of tracks to manicured drives and gateways • Proliferation of stables and 'white tape' field boundaries for horses and ponies • Construction of isolated stables and accommodation for staff/owner • Loss of tranquillity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the distinctive rural and dispersed settlement pattern. • Restore existing stone farm buildings and structures in preference to new built development. When restored or converted to new uses, buildings must retain their historic integrity and functional character. Sound conservation advice and principles must be sought and implemented. • Maintain the sense of openness and consider the impact of built development on views to and from and across the high wold. • Control the proliferation of suburban building styles and materials. • Oppose new housing not for agricultural employment use in open countryside • Respect traditional position of agricultural buildings and their relationship to the surrounding land. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of historic traditional buildings converted and/or restored to residential use. • Number of lit dwellings in the open landscape. • Number of new isolated developments • Extent of road 'improvement' schemes and suburban road infrastructure details 	<p><i>Parish Council/Local Interest Groups:</i> <i>Undertake a photographic survey of key views of, and settlements/dwellings within the High Wold. Parish Plans and village design statements</i></p> <p><i>LA Development Plan policies/ Design Guidance</i></p> <p><i>EH Guidance</i></p>

7. High Wold



Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
<p>Deterioration in condition of vernacular farm buildings</p> <p>Conversion of traditional farm buildings to new uses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Erosion of distinctive features and loss of Cotswold character. Loss of locally historic features and erosion of the integrity of the historic landscape Loss and erosion of Farmstead Character and how the buildings relate to the surrounding agricultural landuse Decline in quality of landscape 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve vernacular farm buildings for their own sake and/or by developing other options for their use whilst retaining their agricultural character Where converted to new uses buildings must retain their historic integrity and functional character. Sound conservation advice and principles must be sought and implemented Raise awareness of grant availability for building restoration. Respect traditional position of agricultural buildings and their relationship to the surrounding land. Promote examples of good practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of vernacular farm buildings at risk Number of vernacular farm buildings conserved. 	<p><i>Landowners</i></p> <p><i>Natural England via</i></p> <p><i>Environmental Stewardship,</i></p> <p><i>English Heritage and Local Authorities</i></p>
<p>Expansion of settlements within the High Wold</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Erosion of distinctive radial and linear settlement patterns. Intrusion of expanded settlement fringes into the landscape. Potential loss of archaeological remains and historic features. Proliferation of suburban building styles/ materials and the introduction of ornamental garden plants and boundary features. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preserve archaeological and historical features and deposits. Ensure that new development does not adversely affect settlement character and form. Ensure new built development is visually integrated with the rural landscape setting and does not interrupt the setting of existing villages or views . 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area of settlement growth Number of planning applications 	<p><i>LA Development Plan policies</i></p> <p><i>EA management and 'Local Contribution' initiatives</i></p>

7. High Wold



Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
Proliferation of equestrian establishments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proliferation of stables and other visual clutter such as ribbon fences, jumps, horse boxes, shelters and lighting associated with 'horsiculture'. • Creation of paddocks by sub-dividing fields using post and rail fence or ribbon fences • Deterioration in pasture quality and over grazing • Pressure to provide new housing for staff and owners • Excessive use of local roads and paths by horses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discourage horse paddocks in visually prominent roadside and valley side locations. • Oppose change of use for the 'keeping of horses' in visually prominent locations. • Encourage sensitive design and location of new equestrian facilities. • Encourage the use of olive green tape, less posts etc • Produce guidance on good practice • Oppose over concentration of equestrian ventures in one area • Ensure all new ventures provide accommodation within new stable buildings. • Oppose new housing for owners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of horse paddocks. • Number adopting good practice e.g olive green tape etc • Number of equestrian ventures in an area. • Numbers of horses on roads/bridleways 	<p><i>LA LDF/Development Plan policies</i></p> <p><i>Development Control</i></p> <p><i>Conservation Board Guidance</i></p> <p><i>BHS/Pony clubs</i></p>

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Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
Introduction of vertical elements such as communication masts, wind turbines, electricity pylons and large roadsigns particularly on prominent hill top, valley rim and escarpment edge locations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of visually intrusive ‘urban’ features to rural landscapes • Loss of open character • Introduction of unnatural movement and loss of tranquillity • Breaking up of the Cotswold skyline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the open, remote character by objecting to the development of vertical elements on the skyline or where these would adversely affect views across and to the High Wold. Ensure the development of vertical elements in neighbouring LCTs and areas beyond the AONB do not adversely affect views to, from and across the High Wold. • Ensure alternative options have been fully considered • Minimise impact by locating new communication masts on existing structures or by using existing masts. • Set masts etc against trees • Bury cables underground • Consider other renewable energy technologies • Seek to minimise the size and number of roadsigns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of masts, turbines etc 	<p><i>LAs/LDF/Development plan policies</i></p> <p><i>Highway Authorities, Highways Agency</i></p>

7. High Wold



Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
New large scale quarries and expansion of existing quarrying operations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of habitats. • Visual impact of quarry and quarry traffic and disturbance of sense of tranquillity and rural landscape character. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote policy that aggregates are produced only as a by-product of building stone • Apply the presumption against new large scale quarrying, particularly for aggregates. • Support small scale quarrying operations for walling and building stone paying regard to their impact on local landscape character, heritage and nature conservation interests. • Achieve a re-allocation by Mineral Authorities of apportionment of mineral production to outside of the AONB • Promote 'local stone for local use' • Resist after use for in-fill or recycling material from outside the Cotswolds. • Explore alternative after use such as for biodiversity and geoconservation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of habitats/features arising from quarrying operations. • Creation of habitat as an after use • Number of geological features retained 	<p><i>LA Development Plan policies</i></p> <p><i>QPA/Quarry companies</i></p> <p><i>LWT surveys</i></p> <p><i>Geoconservation Trusts/RIGS Groups</i></p>
Waste disposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degradation of landscape character and wildlife habitats. • Fly tipping in former quarry sites • Loss of geological features • Loss of tranquillity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect former quarries from fly tipping. • Waste Plan - proximity principle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inventory of local quarries or 'delves' and condition. • Evidence of fly tipping 	<p><i>Parish Council/Local Interest Group survey</i></p> <p><i>LA LDF/Development Plan policies</i></p> <p><i>LA Waste plan</i></p>

7. High Wold



Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
Major road construction and improvement schemes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intrusive features on the highly visible High Wold. Loss of woodland and other sensitive habitats Potential impact of additional road signage and lighting Loss of tranquility and excessive noise Light and air pollution Impact of road signs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Object to major road building schemes Implement traffic management schemes including speed reduction Ensure careful and sensitive design of road proposals and associated infrastructure. Minimise loss of woodlands and other sensitive habitats Funding from highways authorities or Highways Agency for mitigation measures to be a pre-condition e.g noise screening, quiet surfacing etc. Consider the potential for exposing geological features and their long term management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extent of loss of woodland and other important habitats to accommodate road alignment. Number of visibly intrusive features associated with roads 	<p><i>Collaboration between County and District LAs/Planning and County Highways LAs for principal roads;</i></p> <p><i>Highways Agency for trunk roads;</i></p>
Road upgrading and improvements, especially of minor country roads, as a result of development or general improvement schemes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction of suburban features such as mini roundabouts, kerbs and traffic calming measures. Use of inappropriate materials Loss of roadside hedges and walls Loss of verge/roadside habitat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve the rural character of the local road network. Object to the upgrading of tracks or creation of roads especially where a lack of roads is characteristic Promote use of design and materials appropriate to local character. Produce guidance on design and suitable materials. Promote use of 'shared space' for traffic calming measures in villages. Seek opportunities to conserve and enhance roadside boundaries and habitats. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Length of road upgraded or improved. Number of 'shared space' schemes Loss of roadside boundaries/ habitat Number of schemes that comply/enhance local distinctiveness. 	<p><i>Highways Agency</i></p> <p><i>Highway Authorities</i></p> <p><i>Planning Authorities</i></p> <p><i>Parish Councils</i></p>

7. High Wold



Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
Excessive traffic on minor local roads and lanes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pressure to improve roads by widening and straightening. • Loss of tranquillity and danger to walkers/riders and other non automotive users. • Damage to verges and roadside boundaries by HGVs and agricultural vehicles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote traffic restriction measures such as lorry routing maps. • Promote shared space and road design to slow and minimise traffic impact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level of traffic on minor roads/lanes • Number of traffic restrictions 	<p><i>LA Development Plan/LDF policies</i></p> <p><i>Highway Authorities</i></p> <p><i>The Traffic Commissioners</i></p> <p><i>NFU & CLA</i></p>
<p>Development of scrub and trees on roadside verges</p> <p>Mowing of verges at inappropriate times</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of views from the public highway • Loss of roadside grassland habitat • Damage to dry stone walls and hedges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify key views from roads • Manage/remove verge scrub and trees • Reintroduce appropriate verge management and mowing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of key views opened up • Length of verge cleared 	<p><i>Highway Authorities</i></p> <p><i>Highways Agency</i></p> <p><i>Parish Councils</i></p>

7. High Wold



Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
<p>Agricultural intensification and diversification in particular the construction of new industrial scale agricultural 'sheds' conversion of grassland to arable, the removal of semi-natural vegetation cover and the poor maintenance and subsequent loss of field boundaries.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field amalgamation and loss of hedgerows and dry stone walls leading to the loss of distinctive field patterns. Decline in maintenance of stone walls leading to a locally degraded or neglected landscape character. Conversion of permanent pasture to arable Damage to and loss of archaeological sites and field monuments from conversion of pasture to arable and from intensification of grazing. Increased use of post and wire fences. Construction of large scale industrial style agricultural 'shed' on the skyline or in prominent locations. Conversion of farm outbuildings and field barns to recreational or business uses Loss of Farmstead character 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the protection of traditional field patterns and encourage hedgerow and stone wall restoration. Ensure that new farm buildings do not have an adverse visual impact on the wider landscape Provide advice to farmers on siting of new buildings Seek to conserve traditional farm buildings. Respect traditional position of agricultural buildings and their relationship to the surrounding land. Conserve areas of permanent pasture Object to proposals to convert pasture to arable particularly where archaeological sites/field monuments may be lost or damaged 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Length and condition of hedgerows. Length and condition of stone walls. 	<p><i>FWAG/NFU/CLA guidance</i></p> <p><i>Natural England - Environmental Stewardship agreements</i></p> <p><i>Cross compliance and EIA for semi-natural habitats</i></p> <p><i>Remaining Countryside Stewardship and Cotswolds ESA agreements</i></p>

7. High Wold



Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
Planting of energy crops such as Miscanthus, short rotation coppice and short rotation forestry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss or seasonal interruption of views particularly from roads and public rights of way. • Loss of remaining permanent pasture • Damage to archaeological sites and historic landscapes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure energy crops are not planted where they would restrict or intrude into views, particularly open views across the landscape and on skyline sites. • Do not plant on semi-natural habitats, permanent pasture or on sites with national or local BAP species that could be affected in a negative way. • Do not plant on sites where archaeological sites could be damaged or where significant historic landscapes would be adversely affected or on sites where features of geological or geomorphological importance would be obscured. • Produce guidance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area of energy crop planted • Number of sites impacting on BAP species • Number of archaeological sites and areas of historic landscape affected. • Number of geological and geomorphological sites affected 	<p><i>FWAG/NFU/CLA guidance</i> <i>DEFRA Guidelines</i></p> <p><i>County archaeologists, Wildlife Trusts, Geoconservation Trusts and RIGS Groups</i></p>
Decline in grazing stock on areas of common land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrub encroachment and loss of species rich grassland due to invasion of dominant grass species. • Loss of open character 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve areas of open pasture and common land by increased grazing and management. • Encourage traditional management regimes to control scrub encroachment on areas of common land. • Re-introduction of grazing on semi-natural grasslands/improvement of existing grazing regimes. • Produce guidance on scrub management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area of scrub. • Area of species rich grassland. • Area of semi-natural grassland under appropriate management • Monitor implementation of CAONB Grassland Strategy 	<p><i>FWAG/NFU/CLA guidance</i></p> <p><i>Natural England</i></p> <p><i>The National Trust</i></p> <p><i>Wildlife Trusts</i></p>

7. High Wold



Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
Maturation of enclosure age pine and beech corner copses, roadside shelterbelts and farm copses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of characteristic feature of the High Wold landscape. Introduction of non-characteristic tree species and general erosion of the High Wold's open character. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage opportunities to manage and re-plant enclosure age tree belts using traditional species. Identify areas of AONB where shelterbelts are part of the inherent character and use to target Environmental Stewardship. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of characteristic corner copses in good condition. Length of characteristic roadside shelterbelts. 	<p><i>PC Survey/inventory</i></p> <p><i>FC/EWGS and WT for creation of appropriate new and management of existing woodland</i></p> <p><i>Natural England & Environmental Stewardship</i></p>
Establishment of further areas of 'ad hoc' woodland planting of coniferous shelterbelts and geometric farm copses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased woodland cover diminishing the open character of the High Wold. Dense coniferous woodlands limiting long distance views and inter-visibility of detached areas of High Wold. Loss of permanent pasture Loss of views across, to and from the High Wold 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discourage 'ad-hoc' planting through appropriate agricultural support mechanisms Limit new farm woodland and shelterbelt planting. Promote the felling of inappropriate coniferous plantations and replanting of farm woodlands and shelterbelts on enclosure age woodland footprints using suitable species. Ensure that new woodland planting does not detract from views across, to and from the High Wold. Ensure new woodlands respond to the scale and form of existing High Wold woodlands; Ensure woodland creation does not result in the loss of permanent pasture or unimproved grassland Discourage the planting of extensive areas of conifers and encourage the replacement of conifer with native species, particularly on PAWS Raise awareness of woodland owners by producing information and guidance Identify key viewpoints 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of farm copses and shelterbelts. Areas of ancient broadleaved woodland. Numbers of EWGS woodland management agreements entered into. Number of viewpoints lost or under threat 	<p><i>PC Survey/inventory</i></p> <p><i>FC/EWGS and WT for creation of appropriate new and management of existing woodland</i></p>

7. High Wold



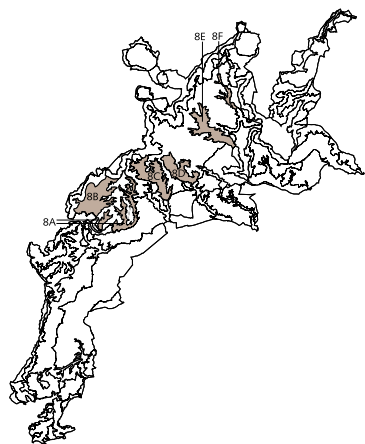
Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
Damage to field monuments and archaeological sites and the historic environment from farming operations, tree root damage, woodland management operations and tree planting and recreational activity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damage to important archaeological sites and important landscape features. • Loss of traditional field patterns • Loss of traditional field boundaries, particularly dry stone walls and hedgerows. • Loss of locally distinctive features • Damage caused by livestock • Damage caused by recreational activity • Encroachment of scrub onto archaeological features 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform landowners of important archaeological sites • Protect all upstanding archaeological sites and consider the impact of development on their landscape setting. • Restore the wider setting of key monuments to ensure that they do not read as islands amidst a sea of arable farming. • Raise awareness of the historic environment and of the SMR as a source of information • Provide guidance on managing the historic environment to farmers and land owners • Retain traditional field patterns and field boundaries • Ensure tree planting does not take place on archaeological features. • Control scrub and manage existing trees on archaeological features to minimise damage for example by root damage or wind-blow. • Minimise or prevent damage to the historic environment by recreational activity by working with landowners to prepare site management plans and if necessary limit access. • Repair badly eroded features such as earthworks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of damage to archaeological features • Number of archaeological features under suitable management. • Number of sites with management plans • Take up of ES schemes which include measures to conserve the historic environment 	<p><i>EH/LA Co Archaeologist</i></p> <p><i>FWAG/NFU/CLA re guidance to farmers</i></p> <p><i>LA LDF/Development Plan policies</i></p> <p><i>Natural England & Environmental Stewardship. Remaining Countryside Stewardship and ESA agreements</i></p> <p><i>FC & EWGS</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of and damage to geological and geomorphological features due to tree growth, erosion and change of land use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of sites that provide an understanding of the Cotswold landscape • Loss of visible features such as dry valley systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify important geological features and ensure they are conserved and appropriately managed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of geological features in good condition. 	<p><i>RIGS Groups/Geoconservation Trusts</i></p> <p><i>Universities/study groups</i></p> <p><i>Natural England/FWAG/CLA Environmental Stewardship</i></p>

8. High Wold Valley



Character Areas

- 8A Toadsmoor, Holy Brook, and Upper Frome Valleys
- 8B Painswick and Slad Valleys
- 8C Upper Churn Valley
- 8D Upper Coln Valley
- 8E Upper Windrush Valley
- 8F Upper Dikler Valley



Key Features

- **Predominantly dry or ephemeral flow headwater valleys with generally broad valley form and shallow slope profiles** forming a rolling gently dissected landform.
- **Incised valley form below heads of valleys with often steep, convoluted valley sides dissected by minor watercourses and distinctive convex profile at transition with the High Wold** and forming dramatic landscape features and contrast to the open landscapes characteristic of the neighbouring High Wold.
- **Sections with pronounced valley form meanders with distinctive interlocking spurs, disproportionate to size of rivers and streams** indicative of valley formation and conditions prevalent during the glacial periods.
- **Extensive areas of predominantly broadleaved woodland cloaking sections of the valley sides, particularly across the steeper sections**, create visual containment and add to the secluded, secretive character of many stretches of the valleys.
- **Areas of open pastoral farmland extend between the wooded slopes, and along valley bottoms, together with pockets of arable land, particularly on the shallower slopes** indicative of a well-settled and long farmed landscape.
- **Pasture predominantly comprises improved grassland, together with occasional remnants of unimproved and calcareous grasslands** of nationally important nature conservation value.
- **Intermittent stone villages occupying secluded locations in valley bottoms, often in association with a bridging point**, indicate a long history of settlement in the valleys.
- **Occasional farmsteads and isolated buildings within the more open valley sections** link to farmed areas on the adjacent High Wold.
- **Occasional private parklands and gardens associated with country houses** add to the wooded and historic character of the valleys.
- **Limited road network within valleys generally confined to a single valley bottom road, or routes that cross the valley** maintain a quiet, secluded and rural character in the valleys.
- **Deeply incised and inaccessible wooded slopes** extend across some valley sections, and provide important habitats for wildlife.

8. High Wold Valley



Painswick and Slad Valleys

- **Wider and complex valley form to Painswick Valley and its tributaries, but with steep and convoluted slopes, separated by intermediate ridges that project into the main valley form.**
- **Rich pastoral and secluded rural character** with intermittent consolidated areas of arable land.
- **Sheltered, visually contained and intimate setting of remote upper reaches of valleys.**
- **Significant areas of registered common land and ancient semi-natural woodland in the upper reaches of the Painswick and Slad Valleys** marking the transition with the High Wold and the upper slopes of the Escarpment.

Landscape Sensitivity

The High Wold Valleys are sensitive to developments that might interrupt the sense of seclusion within them and their rural, pastoral character. In addition, the confined landform and steep slopes within the valleys, together with many areas of nature conservation interest together form a further constraint to development. Such areas include riparian and riverine habitats along watercourses at the base of the valleys, areas of ancient broadleaved woodland, and calcareous grassland on steep landform beyond the limits of grazing stock. The valleys are therefore particularly sensitive to direct change brought about by development, and also by intensification of agricultural activities leading to overgrazing or fertiliser run-off.

The town of Painswick, occupying a spur of land separating two valleys is highly visible and an important component of the wider landscape. Therefore the settlement is sensitive to further development on its fringes. The wider valley is also sensitive due to its rural character. Of particular sensitivity are the ancient semi-natural woodlands and areas of Registered Common Land supporting calcareous grassland in the upper reaches of the Painswick and Slad Valleys. These areas are of national importance for their nature conservation value, and designated as NNRS and SSSI.

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Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
Expansion of valley settlements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Erosion of the rural character of the valleys and the landscape setting of historic villages. Expansion of valley settlements onto the highly visible valley sides, Increase in light pollution Loss of village patterns and development of 'rural sprawl' Degradation of views across and along the valley Upgrading of minor roads and lanes associated with new development and the introduction of suburbanising features such as mini roundabouts, street lighting and kerbs and traffic calming at village entrances Erosion of distinctive settlement patterns and loss of small fields and network of narrow lanes associated with houses fringing the valley villages. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit expansion of villages Ensure built development respects rural landscape character. Conserve the distinctive rural character of valley settlements and the rural road network of narrow dry stone walled lanes. Avoid developments incorporating standardised development layout, suburban style lighting, construction details and materials that cumulatively can lead to the erosion of peaceful landscape character. Avoid development that may restrict or obscure views across or along the valleys Restore existing stone buildings within settlements in preference to new built development. Existing buildings should be carefully conserved and where converted to new uses buildings must retain their historic integrity and functional character. Sound conservation advice and principles must be sought and implemented Promote the use of local stone and building styles in the construction of new buildings and extensions to existing dwellings Retain village character and settlement patterns Conserve and restore traditional dry stone wall boundary features on valley slopes bordering settlements Ensure new developments are well integrated into their surroundings with native woodland planting and trees. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inventory of evidence of inappropriate development Number of new residential developments using locally distinctive materials. Extent of road 'improvement' schemes and suburban road infrastructure details 	<p><i>LA LDF/Development Plan policies</i></p> <p><i>Village Design Statements</i></p> <p><i>LA Conservation/Heritage officers; EH</i></p> <p><i>Monitoring and management by Local Interest Groups eg Painswick Beacon Conservation Group</i></p>

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Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
Isolated development such as new single dwellings that might compromise rural landscape character and settlement patterns, particularly on valley sides.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visual intrusions introduced to the landscape Upgrading of minor roads and lanes in areas of new development and introduction of suburbanising features such as street lighting. Introduction of 'lit' elements to characteristically dark landscapes. Suburbanisation of agricultural landscape by the introduction of gardens e.g ornamental garden plants and boundary features, parking areas and conversion of tracks to manicured drives and gateways Loss of green space between built up areas on the valley slopes that often provide a green backdrop to settlements in the valley Proliferation of stables and 'white tape' field boundaries for horses and ponies Loss of tranquillity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve the distinctive rural and dispersed settlement pattern. Restore existing stone farm buildings and structures in preference to new built development. Where converted to new uses buildings must retain their historic integrity and functional character. Sound conservation advice and principles must be sought and implemented Prevent the use of suburban building styles and materials. Oppose new housing not for agricultural employment use in open countryside Respect traditional position of agricultural buildings and their relationship to the surrounding land. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of isolated dwellings built. Number of vernacular stone buildings converted and/or restored to residential use. 	<p><i>Parish Council/Local Interest Groups:</i> <i>Undertake a photographic survey of key views of, and settlements/dwellings within the escarpment.</i></p> <p><i>Parish Plans and village design statements</i></p> <p><i>LA LDF/Development Plan policies/Design Guidance</i></p> <p><i>EH Guidance</i></p>

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Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
<p>Conversion of redundant farm buildings and mills to desirable residential properties.</p> <p>Conversion of traditional farm buildings to new uses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction of the remote character of the valleys and introduction of suburban features such as ornamental gardens. Erosion of distinctive features and loss of Cotswold character. Loss of locally historic features and erosion of the integrity of the historic landscape Loss and erosion of Farmstead Character and how the building relates to the surrounding agricultural landuse Decline in quality of landscape 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider opportunities for the conversion of mills and barns to new visitor uses and rural industries. Capacity of the local road network needs to be taken into consideration Stabilise historic buildings and undertake localised scrub and woodland clearance to enhance their landscape setting and increase the contribution they make to landscape character. Conserve mill races, mill ponds, leats and meadows which relate to mill sites whilst recognising and enhancing their nature conservation value. Conserve vernacular farm buildings for their own sake and/or by developing other options for their use whilst retaining their agricultural character Existing buildings should be carefully conserved and where converted to new uses buildings must retain their historic integrity and functional character. Sound conservation advice and principles must be sought and implemented Respect traditional position of agricultural buildings and their relationship to the surrounding land. Promote examples of good practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inventory of mills and barns, and other historic features. Number of traditional buildings converted and/or restored to residential use 	<p><i>LA LDF/Development Plan policies</i></p> <p><i>LA Conservation/Heritage Officers/EH</i></p> <p>Natural England- Environmental Stewardship agreements</p>

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Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
Introduction of vertical elements such as communication masts, wind turbines, electricity pylons and large road signs particularly on valley rims and heads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of visually intrusive 'urban' features to rural landscapes • Introduction of unnatural movement and loss of tranquillity • Breaking up of valley rim skylines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve character by objecting to the development of vertical elements where these would adversely affect views along the valleys and from valley sides and on valley rims • Ensure development of vertical elements in neighbouring LCTs do not adversely affect views from, across or along the valleys • Ensure alternative options have been fully considered • Minimise impact by locating new communication masts on existing structures or by using existing masts. • Set masts etc against trees • Bury cables underground • Consider other renewable energy technologies • Seek to minimise size and number of roadsigns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of masts, turbines etc 	<i>LAs/LDF/Development plan policies</i>
Proliferation of equestrian establishments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proliferation of stables and other visual clutter such as ribbon fences, jumps, horse boxes, shelters and lighting associated with 'horsiculture'. • Creation of paddocks by sub-dividing fields using post and rail fence or ribbon fences • Deterioration in pasture quality and over grazing • Pressure to provide new housing for staff and owners • Excessive use of local roads and paths by horses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discourage horse paddocks in visually prominent roadside and valley side locations. • Oppose change of use for the 'keeping of horses' in visually prominent locations. • Encourage sensitive design and location of new equestrian facilities. • Encourage the use of olive green tape, less posts etc • Produce guidance on good practice • Oppose over concentration of equestrian ventures in one area • Ensure all new ventures provide accommodation within new stable buildings. Oppose new housing for owners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of horse paddocks. • Number using good practice e.g olive green tape etc • Number of equestrian ventures in an area. • Numbers of horses on roads/bridleways 	<p><i>LA LDF/Development Plan policies</i></p> <p><i>LA Planning Enforcement Development Control</i></p> <p><i>Conservation Board Guidance</i></p> <p><i>BHS/Pony clubs</i></p>

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Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
Road upgrading and improvements, especially of minor country roads, as a result of development or general improvement schemes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of suburban features such as mini roundabouts, kerbs and traffic calming measures. • Use of inappropriate materials • Loss of roadside hedges and walls • Loss of verge/roadside habitat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve the rural character of the local road network • Promote use of design and materials appropriate to local character. • Produce guidance on design and suitable materials. • Promote use of 'shared space' for traffic calming measures in villages. • Seek opportunities to conserve and enhance roadside boundaries and habitats. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length of road upgraded or improved. • Number of 'shared space' schemes • Loss of roadside boundaries/ habitat • Number of schemes that comply/enhance local distinctiveness. 	<p><i>Highways Agency</i></p> <p><i>Highway Authorities</i></p> <p><i>Planning Authorities</i></p> <p><i>Parish Councils</i></p>
Excessive traffic on minor local roads and lanes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pressure to improve roads by widening and straightening and improving sightlines. • Loss of tranquillity and danger to walkers/riders and other non automotive users. • Damage to verges and roadside boundaries by HGVs and agricultural vehicles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote traffic restriction measures such as lorry routing maps. • Promote shared space and road design to slow and minimise traffic impact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level of traffic on minor roads/lanes • Number of traffic restrictions 	<p><i>LA Development Plan/LDF policies</i></p> <p><i>Highway Authorities</i></p> <p><i>The Traffic Commissioners</i></p> <p><i>NFU & CLA</i></p>
<p>Development of scrub and trees on roadside verges</p> <p>Mowing of verges at inappropriate times</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of views from the public highway • Loss of roadside grassland habitat • Damage to hedges and walls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify key views from roads • Manage/remove verge scrub and trees • Reintroduce appropriate verge management and mowing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of key views opened up • Length of verge cleared 	<p><i>Highway Authorities</i></p> <p><i>Highways Agency</i></p> <p><i>Parish Councils</i></p>

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Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
<p>Agricultural intensification, diversification and farm amalgamation.</p> <p>Conversion of permanent pasture to arable.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eutrophication of water courses from farm run off. • Loss of dry stone walls, species rich hedgerows and field patterns on the valley sides. • Loss of permanent pasture • Increased conversion of pasture to arable land. • Damage to and loss of archaeological sites and field monuments from conversion of pasture to arable and from intensification of grazing. • New agricultural buildings • Move towards arable production on small mixed farms resulting in the removal or degradation of hedgerows and/ or loss of former pasture. • Conversion of farm outbuildings and field barns to recreational or business uses • Loss of Farmstead character 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage small-scale mixed farming and encourage woodland and boundary management. • Monitor river nutrient levels. • Conserve herb-rich meadows and areas of permanent pasture • Object to proposals to convert pasture to arable particularly where archaeological sites/field monuments may be lost or damaged. • Encourage low intensity grazing or restrict access by livestock where archaeological sites/ field monuments may be lost or damaged • Ensure that new farm buildings do not have an adverse visual impact on the wider landscape • Seek to conserve traditional farm buildings. • Respect traditional position of agricultural buildings and their relationship to the surrounding land. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area of permanent pasture. • Area of ancient woodland. • Area of species rich grassland. • Number of traditional brick and stone barns. • Number archaeological sites/ field monuments lost or damaged 	<p><i>FWAG/NFU/CLA guidance.</i></p> <p><i>Natural England/FWAG/ Environmental Stewardship and remaining Countryside Stewardship agreements.</i></p> <p><i>English Heritage and LA Archaeologists</i></p>

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Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
Planting of energy crops such as Miscanthus, short rotation coppice and short rotation forestry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss or seasonal interruption of views particularly from roads and public rights of way. • Loss of remaining permanent pasture • Damage to archaeological sites and historic landscapes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure energy crops are not planted where they would restrict or intrude into views, particularly open views across the landscape and on skyline sites. • Do not plant on semi-natural habitats, permanent pasture or on sites with national or local BAP species that could be affected in a negative way. • Do not plant on sites where archaeological sites could be damaged or where significant historic landscapes would be adversely affected or on sites where features of geological or geomorphological importance would be obscured. • Produce guidance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area of energy crop planted • Number of sites impacting on BAP species • Number of archaeological sites and areas of historic landscape affected. • Number of geological and geomorphological sites affected 	<p><i>FWAG/NFU/CLA guidance</i> <i>DEFRA Guidelines</i></p> <p><i>County archaeologists, Wildlife Trusts, Geoconservation Trusts and RIGS Groups</i></p>
Decline of important semi-natural and ancient woodland due to neglect and over grazing of stock limiting natural regeneration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of woodland and associated habitat. • Decline in the wooded character of the valleys. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exclude grazing or manage grazing as appropriate. • Initiate schemes for the phased removal of invasive non-native species. • Conserve and manage ancient semi-natural woodlands. • Restore PAWS • Conserve grassland habitats found in close proximity to areas of broadleaved woodland. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area of semi-natural broadleaved woodland. 	<p><i>LA/Ecology Officers</i></p> <p><i>FC/England Woodland Grant Scheme</i></p> <p><i>Natural England/Environmental Stewardship</i></p>

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Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
Establishment of areas of ad hoc woodland creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of permanent pasture • Loss of character • Loss or restriction of views across and along the High Wold valleys 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve views • Plant new woodland or allow natural woodland regeneration on valley sides and surrounding new development, but not on areas of permanent pasture or unimproved grasslands. • Identify key viewpoints 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viewpoints retained • Area of permanent pasture • Area of new woodland 	<p><i>LA Landscape Officers</i></p> <p><i>FC/England Woodland Grant Scheme</i></p> <p><i>Natural England/ Environmental Stewardship</i></p>
Decline in grazing stock particularly on unimproved limestone grassland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrub encroachment and loss of species rich grassland due to invasion of dominant grass species. • Development of secondary woodland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve areas of open pasture and common. • Consider traditional management regimes to limit scrub encroachment on areas of semi natural grassland. • Re-introduction of grazing on semi-natural grasslands/improvement of existing grazing regimes. • Produce guidance on scrub management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area of scrub • Area of species rich grassland. • Area of semi-natural grassland under appropriate management • Area of permanent pasture 	<p>FWAG/NFU/CLA guidance</p> <p>Natural England - Environmental Stewardship and current Countryside Stewardship schemes and Cotswolds ESA agreements</p> <p>Local land owners</p> <p>AONB project - aerial photography</p>
Intensive grazing of stretches of riverbank up to the waters edge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of riparian habitat. • Bank instability leading to increased erosion and further bank instability and widening of river channels. • Loss of breeding habitat for some bird species. • Loss of habitat for invertebrates and mammals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage low intensity grazing along valley bottom meadows and traditional farming methods. • Manage riparian habitats to avoid erosion due to over grazing. • Avoid engineered solutions to water management along degraded stretches of riverbank. • Encourage the use of temporary fencing where required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area of valley bottom meadows • Presence of indicator plant, bird, invertebrate and mammal populations 	<p><i>EA</i></p> <p><i>Natural England/FWAG/ Environmental Stewardship and remaining Countryside Stewardship and ESA agreements.</i></p>

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Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
Changes in land use and management within historic parks and gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weakening of the integrity of designed landscapes, parks and gardens • Loss of or damage to elements of designed landscapes, parks and gardens. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve and enhance historic parks and gardens, including their setting • Develop and implement management plans • Restore lost elements of historic parks and gardens to restore the integrity of the designed landscape as a whole. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of intact and remnant designed landscapes. • Number of management plans • Number of restored landscapes/features 	<p><i>English Heritage</i> <i>Historic Garden/Parkland societies</i> <i>The National Trust</i> <i>LA LDF/Development Plan policies</i></p>
Climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential to lead to an increase in the severity and frequency of storm surges and flooding of valley meadows. • Changes in woody plant species • Construction of flood defences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect unstable river banks to avoid erosion through storm surges only if necessary, otherwise maintain the natural character of the river and promote measures that naturally enhance the capacity of the river such as braiding and its surrounding wet meadows. • Ensure any flood defence construction takes account of landscape character and local distinctiveness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor habitats and species associated with river and riverside habitats for signs of change. • Frequency of flood events • Decline in woody plant species. • Changes in crops grown 	<p><i>EA/management and 'Local Contribution' initiatives</i> <i>LA Ecologist/LWT/BAP & HAP</i></p>
Fencing off of river corridors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River edge becomes overgrown with rank vegetation due to a loss of grazing leading to loss of riparian habitat. • Imposition of fence line along valley bottom. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage low intensity grazing along floodplain and valley bottom meadows. • Encourage use of temporary fencing where required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area of rank growth along river edge. 	<p><i>FWAG/NFU/CLA guidance</i> <i>Natural England/Environmental Stewardship and current Countryside Stewardship/ESA agreements</i></p> <p><i>EA management and 'Local Contribution' initiatives</i></p>
Water abstraction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced river flows/dry rivers • Die-off of riverside trees such as willow • Loss of wetland habitat • Limited selection of crop type 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce or stop abstraction • Support river flows/water recirculation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length of reduced flow/dry river • Length of riverside habitat lost 	<p><i>EA - CAMS and abstraction licensing</i> <i>Wessex Water Low Flows Project</i></p>

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Local Forces For Change	Potential Landscape Implications	Outline Landscape Strategies and Guidelines	Potential Indicators for Monitoring Landscape Change	Potential Opportunities for Stakeholder Involvement
Damage to field monuments and archaeological sites and the historic environment from, farming operations, tree root damage, woodland management operations and tree planting and recreational activity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damage to important archaeological sites and important landscape features. • Loss of traditional field patterns • Loss of traditional field boundaries, particularly dry stone walls and hedgerows. • Loss of locally distinctive features • Damage caused by livestock • Damage caused by recreational activity • Encroachment of scrub onto archaeological features 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform landowners of important archaeological sites • Protect all upstanding archaeological sites and consider the impact of development on their landscape setting. • Restore the wider setting of key monuments to ensure that they do not read as islands amidst a sea of arable farming. • Raise awareness of the historic environment and of the SMR as a source of information • Provide guidance on managing the historic environment to farmers and land owners • Retain traditional field patterns and field boundaries • Ensure tree planting does not take place on archaeological features. • Control scrub and manage existing trees on archaeological features to minimise damage for example by root damage or wind-blow. • Minimise or prevent damage to the historic environment by recreational activity by working with landowners to prepare site management plans and if necessary limit access. • Repair badly eroded features such as earthworks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of damage to archaeological features • Number of archaeological features under suitable management. • Number of sites with management plans • Take up of Environmental Stewardship schemes which include measures to conserve the historic environment 	<p><i>EH/LA Co Archaeologist</i></p> <p><i>FWAG/NFU/CLA re guidance to farmers</i></p> <p><i>LA LDF/Development Plan policies</i></p> <p><i>Natural England & Environmental Stewardship. Remaining Countryside Stewardship and ESA agreements</i></p> <p><i>FC & EWGS</i></p>
Loss of and damage to geological and geomorphological features due to tree growth, erosion and change of land use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of sites that provide an understanding of the Cotswold landscape • Loss of visible features such as valley bulges and land slips. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify important geological features and ensure they are conserved and appropriately managed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of geological features in good condition. 	<p><i>RIGS Groups/Geoconservation Trusts</i></p> <p><i>Universities/study groups</i></p> <p><i>Natural England/FWAG/CLA Environmental Stewardship</i></p>