

## DETAILED PROJECT PLAN

HLF Programme Area			
Area	Programme Title	Main Area (tick <b>one</b> box only)	Links to Other Areas
A	<b>Conserving or restoring the built and natural features</b> that create the historic landscape character.	✓	
B	<b>Increasing community participation</b> in local heritage		✓
C	<b>Increasing access</b> to and <b>learning</b> about the landscape and its heritage		
D	<b>Increasing training</b> opportunities in local heritage <b>skills</b>		✓
E	Scheme staffing, overheads and running costs		

PA8

## Ancient boundaries, modern farming



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Heading	Content
Summary	A grant scheme to help repair significant walls and gateways which are clearly visible from the highway or well used access routes. Interpretation to raise public awareness of the importance of respecting stone walls
Project description	<p>There has been a gradual deterioration over decades of Dartmoor's stone walls due to weather, careless clambering by visitors and government grants favouring fencing over stone wall restoration. The granite gateposts have been replaced by modern wooden posts as the need for wider gateways have arisen due to changing farming practices. The capital grants through agri-environment schemes have not been available for several years and therefore repair of outer walls has not happened and the wooden stakes and fencing have broken down in many places. This is both unsightly and impractical.</p> <p>This project will enable farmers to rebuild the stone walls and use granite gateposts through a capital grant scheme. The walls will need to be alongside a road or adjunct to a public path. Farmers will get a 50% grant towards the cost of repairing the wall.</p>

	<p>This will achieve practical restoration of some of the walls and gateways that are visible from roads or footpaths. This in turn will provide a level of pride in our environment and surroundings.</p> <p>A panel of 4 farmers and 3 DNPA staff (this will include 1 HFP staff member) will oversee the grant applications and which walls and gateways should be restored. Any farmer within the MTMTE area can apply for the grant for their walls and gateways. They will need to be along a roadside or adjunct to a used public path and not covered by any other grant scheme e.g. HLS. The applications must be submitted in the period specified, and completed by Jan 2017. The panel will need to know the contractor ( may be farmer) who will be doing the work, viewing his insurance, health and safety policy and training that he is willing to give to people. The volunteer days may be with contractor / farmer of the panel's choice at a site they deem suitable.</p> <p>This project will provide an opportunity for farmers to tell the farming story and the importance of these ancient boundaries to a wider and create a fascinating story which has potential to change behaviour.</p> <p>It will improve public understanding of how modern hill farming has changed and how hard many of the farmers already work to integrate our heritage into their farming practice. It will raise public awareness of how important it is to close gates and not to damage stone walls, for animal welfare and supporting local farmers. It will create an archive of fascinating stories giving a window into how the public and farming life influence each other.</p> <p>It will provide a programme of volunteer events giving people the chance to try out granite wall and gateway restoration, which may lead to a sustainable group continuing to support farmers in the area.</p>
<p><b>Beneficiaries and communication</b></p>	<p>The landscape of Dartmoor will benefit by rebuilding the boundary walls. All travellers (both locals and visitors) across Dartmoor will be greeted with walls which are intact and well presented, reflecting the overall quality of the landscape. The stone walls will be stock proof and therefore in some cases wire fencing could be removed, again a visual impact. The farmers will benefit from stock proof boundaries. Visitors will have a better understanding of the significance of the walls to the history of the area and to farm management. As a result visitors will have a better appreciation of the value of stone walls and will treat them with respect.</p> <p><b>Key Message</b> Stone walls are an important, highly valued feature of the Dartmoor landscape. This scheme will help farmers to maintain them.</p> <p><b>Communications</b> The project will be supported by the MTMTE website which will let people know about the project. Communications will be made through the Hill Farm Project and Dartmoor Commoners Council</p>

<b>Project buy-in</b>	The project has been developed by the Hill Farm Project working with local farmers on Dartmoor who have stone wall boundaries; Dartmoor Farmers Association; Dartmoor Commoners Council, Duchy of Cornwall
<b>Project lead</b>	Sandra Dodd / Kate Tobin Dartmoor Hill Farm Project. sdodd@dartmoor-npa.gov.uk
<b>Partners / contractors etc.</b>	Duchy of Cornwall are supporting this project with a cash contribution Stone walling contractors Potentially people who will learn the skills of stone walling tradition and methods Farmers Visitor centres - farmers stories and interpretation DNPA communications team enabling the interpretation Devon County Council
<b>Project development</b>	This is a new project that has been put forward by the Hill Farm Project working with a group of farmers following consultation about the Scheme. It is essentially a grant scheme to help repair significant walls and gateways which are clearly visible from the highway or well used access routes. A deterioration of walls is clearly evident as you pass through the project area and this scheme aims to work with farmers to help address that need.
<b>Activities and Timetable</b>	September to December 14 – confirm the final grant scheme and appoint panel. Jan / Feb 15; invite applications for grant funding and develop interpretation material. Mar / Apr 15; develop interpretation material May / June 15 - June 18 annual grant approval July 15; meet farmers for stories and agreement on interpretation material Dec/ Jan 19 visit sites to sign off grants

Activity Timeline	Y1						Y2				Y3				Y4				Y5									
	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
PA8 Ancient Boundaries, Modern Farming																												
Confirm final grant scheme and appoint panel																												
Invite applications for grant funding																												
Develop interpretation material																												
Annual grant award to farmers																												
Work with farmers to develop stories and review interpretation																												
Site visits to sign off grants																												

Budgets	Cost Breakdown		
Estimated Total Cost	Cost:		Contingency:
	£100,000		£0
VAT	a. Is VAT applicable?	b. Is VAT reclaimable?	c. VAT amount:
	No	No	£0
Lead Partner Contributions	Type:	Secured:	Unsecured:
	Cash (source):	£30,000	£0
	Staff:	£0	£0
	Volunteers:	£0	£0
	In-kind:	£0	£0
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£30,000</b>	<b>£0</b>
Other Contributions	Type:	Secured:	Unsecured:
	Cash (source):	£0	£50,000
	Staff (source):	£0	£0
	Volunteers (source):	£0	£0
	In-kind (source):	£0	£0
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£50,000</b>
<i>Moor than meets the eye contribution</i>	Contribution:		Intervention Rate (%)
	£20,000		20%

<b>Outputs</b>	Visual impact of Dartmoor landscape improved Dartmoor heritage maintained / restored for next generation
<b>Output indicators and targets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2000m of stone wall will be restored within the MTMTE area over 2 years.</li> <li>• 6 farmers will benefit</li> <li>• Training to be provided to 20 people</li> <li>• Interpretation material, including photos and dialogue by farmers being used in visitor centres.</li> <li>• 4 volunteer days attended by 24 people</li> </ul>
<b>Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heritage will be in a better condition</b> Walls and gateways will have been repaired Maintaining traditional skills Maintaining part of the iconic Dartmoor landscape Assisting farmers to improve their boundaries with pride</li> <li>• <b>More people and a wider range of people will have engaged with heritage</b> Visitors centres using stories and interpretation material Improved public behaviour</li> </ul>

<b>Evidence</b>	<p>Visual improvements – through site visits and photographic evidence</p> <p>Better access for machinery to some fields</p> <p>Improved understanding by the public – from feedback form at events and activities</p> <p>Improved public behaviour ( less gates left open, ...etc) – qualitative evidence from farmers</p>
<b>Wider context</b>	<p>This project links with</p> <p>PA7 Ponies, Pounds and Driftways</p> <p>PB3 Moor Medieval- the story of farming</p> <p>PB6 Managing Volunteers</p> <p>PC1 Discovering the Dartmoor Story</p> <p>PD1 Dartmoor Diploma</p> <p>PD2 Ecoskills</p> <p>PD3 East Shallowford Trust</p>
<b>Legacy and maintenance of benefits</b>	<p>Some of the stone walls date back many hundreds of years, others not quite so old, but all are iconic to the Dartmoor area. By restoring these not only provides a stock proof boundary for years to come for farmer's livestock, but also maintains the history of the area.</p> <p>The skills learnt by volunteers of farmers as part of the scheme will be carried on to the next generation.</p> <p>The grant recipient will be required to ensure ongoing maintenance. Hopefully the level of damage by the public will be reduced</p>

Risks and Risk Mitigation	Project risk register			
	Nature of the risk	Severity	Likelihood	Measures taken to minimise
	Poor take up by farmers	H	L	The project has been developed in consultation with the farming community who identified the need for the scheme. The HFP staff are trusted by the farming community and have a good record of delivery.
	Too much demand for limit resources resulting in farming community feeling let down	L	M	The grant will have clear criteria to help identify priorities, clear process and timeline for delivery. If outcomes achieved and landscape features improved significantly – look for other funding
	Farmers use the fund inappropriately or quality of work is not good enough	H	L	Clear criteria have been drawn up to set out what the grant fund can be used for. farmers are contributing 50% cost so they will also be looking for value for money and quality work
	Future of the Hill Farm Project is not secured	L	H	DNPA would need to lead delivery of the scheme through core staff. Sustainable farming is a high priority for the Authority.
	Poor weather delays delivery	L	H	Increase timescale for delivery in first four years.
	Physical risks of delivery e.g. roadside working/ lifting stone etc	H	L	All contractors to have risk assessments for each site and job. Risk is with contractor
Background information	This supports the DNPA management plan in its aims for high quality communications to increase understanding of Dartmoor, high quality learning experiences for people of all ages, a variety of opportunities for people to volunteer to learn a new skill that is part of Dartmoor's heritage. It supports the maintaining of skills and traditions of Dartmoor hill farming which is priority of DNPA. It improves the visual impact on the landscape.			