

## About the South West Peak's grasslands

Unimproved grasslands are a vital component of a healthy ecosystem, as they hold a huge wealth of diversity—many different plants flourish in these open habitats, which, in turn, attract a host of insects, mammals and birds. They are also culturally valuable and provide an important resource for farming and wider society. Their environmental value extends beyond wildlife as they are also important for carbon capture in their soils and soak up excess rainfall.

The South West Peak is a hidden gem that supports high concentrations of semi-natural habitats & some of the last remaining unimproved grasslands in the UK. The area is especially important as it holds flower-rich hay meadows and distinct wet grassland communities resulting from the area's unique geography.

However, grasslands are particularly vulnerable to damage so it is vitally important that we work to protect them and learn more about their extent and quality in this special area of the Peak District.



The South West Peak Landscape Partnership is a five year scheme running from 2017 to 2021, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.



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# Glorious Grasslands

Protecting & enhancing flower-rich grasslands in the South West Peak



**South West Peak  
Landscape Partnership**



Gathering data about grasslands in the South West Peak by surveying key target areas, including for special waxcap fungi.



Informing people about the value of species-rich grasslands through activities that demonstrate their environmental and cultural importance.



## *What are we doing?*



Advising farmers on grassland management & the importance of grasslands for wildlife & farming.



Working on a landscape level so we can join up grasslands to make them more resilient and allow species to move freely between them.

Supporting farmers to re-establish local plant communities by spreading seed collected from existing flower-rich sites onto "receptor" sites.

Helping farmers access financial support & to realise the economic value of species-rich grasslands.

Come along to our events - learn more about the spectacular diversity of the South West Peak's meadows during our "walks and talks" activities.



Get involved in restoration activities such as collecting & spreading wildflower seed.

## *How can you help?*

Develop your skills & knowledge at our plant identification training sessions.

Become a "Meadow Monitor" & help us to survey sites so we can understand plant population changes & assess the success of restoration works. You could 'adopt' a farm and follow its progress throughout the project and beyond.



Take part in our annual hay meadow hunts - let us know about any flower-rich meadows & road verges that you find on your travels.