

Nature Map Update on Progress March 2007 –

1. Nature Map leaflet – The leaflet has been put on hold whilst the partnership undertakes a branding exercise, including the design of a new logo.
2. Nature Map on the web – Nature Map can be accessed and GIS files downloaded from the SW Observatory website (http://www.swenvo.org.uk/nature_map/nature_map.asp). Other support material can also be found here, such as the presentation.
3. Nature Map and LDF document – This document has now been completed and will be distributed shortly. There is a need now to ensure that it is made as widely available as possible, especially to planners. The Towns, Cities and Development Group will produce an article to be submitted to appropriate planning journals.
4. Nature Map – Phase 2 Project NE underspend – We have received a grant of £20,000 from NE to undertake Development of Nature Map to include; an interactive website for Nature Map; workshops; GIS inputting and data purchase. More information and discussion about this grant will be held at the meeting.
5. Climate change proofing Nature Map – We are working with the SW Climate Change Impacts Partnership (SWCCIP) to ensure Nature Map is climate proof. A workshop to further develop this will be held in April. We will work jointly with SWCCIP to advocate /promote Nature Map as an adaptation tool for the region.
6. The Wetland Vision – This 50 year vision is being drawn up nationally by a partnership of organisations. A copy of Nature Map has been supplied to the partnership and the Water and Wetlands Group are meeting with Carrie Howard to discuss the Wetland Vision and ensuing match with Nature Map in this region.
7. RSS - Nature Map is now in the Draft RSS. The Towns and Cities Development Group submitted comments on behalf of the partnership. The EiP process is about to begin; we are not required to be present at this process as Nature Map has not been raised as an issue which is excellent news. Groups such as SWCCIP are highlighting Nature Map as a key adaptation tool in their representations to the EiP.

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6th March 2007