



Warwickshire

How **nature** can help us tackle the **climate** crisis

Ian Jelley
Director of Living Landscapes

The story starts here...

Before establishing a separate charity in Warwickshire, we were part of a West Midlands Nature Conservation Trust. The first meeting of that organisation was in January 1958 and recorded they were in debt by £39. Thanks to the generosity of the founding members by the end of the first year they reported a £16 surplus.



1971

Formal confirmation of the Trust.

1973

Lynn Rushall was appointed as a part time Admin Officer, the Trust's first member of staff.

1975

Hams Hall Environmental Studies Centre is opened by Sir David Attenborough.

1977

Wildlife Watch, the junior branch of the Trust starts.

1979

Five graduates undertook a survey of the River Avon funded by the Manpower Services Commission.

1983

Hampton Wood is purchased.

1969

First ever Trust magazine.

"At the AGM of the West Midlands Trust for Nature Conservation in Birmingham on the 10th December 1970 it was agreed that the counties would separate. The Warwickshire Nature Conservation Trust was formally established. The first AGM was held in 1971."

The eight original subscribers of the Trust were:

- Fred Shotton of Solihull, a University Professor (the first Chairman)
- Derek Woods of Birmingham, a Schoolmaster
- Jocelyn Morris, curator of Warwick Museum
- David Hughes of Coventry, a Schoolmaster
- Guy Capper of Wolverhampton, a Secretary's Assistant
- Fred Fincher of Bromsgrove, a Naturalist
- Edward Wenham of Worcester, a Lecturer
- Richard Burges of Birmingham, a Medical Practitioner

1972

Brandon Marsh with crane.



1974

The Trust owns its first nature reserve - Clowes Wood.



1976

Draycote Meadows nature reserve opens.



1978

The Trust starts working with farmers



1980

Trust moved into its first HQ in 1 Northgate Street, Warwick and appoints 1st Conservation Officer.



1982

The Trust now has 13 nature reserves.



1984

Equipment wanted. In a later edition of the magazine that year they confirmed that a lady from Coventry had donated a caravan!



Our impact



Warwickshire

1985

Trust buys Ryton Wood for £100,000 thanks to grants from the National Heritage Memorial Fund, World Wildlife Fund, Nature Conservancy Council and several Cadbury Family Trusts.

1987

Shelley Green Meadow prior to translocation.

Shelley Green Meadow Translocation. Conservation Officer Jeff Lewis & Ron Hill.

1989

Trust members guided walk at Ryton Wood.

1986

Trust moves HQ to Montague Road, Warwick.

1988

Bishops Hill protest.

1990

Our gift shops.

1992

Sir David Attenborough opens Brandon Marsh.

1991

Trust buys Loxley Meadow for £20,000 thanks to a grant from the National Heritage Memorial Fund and a membership appeal.

1993

WarNaCT changes its name to Warwickshire Wildlife Trust.

1994

Trust hosts a job creation scheme in the recession.

1995

First Education Officer employed by the Trust.

1997

Trust education outreach starts.

1999

The Habitat Biodiversity Audit started in 1995 and has been running ever since.

2001

Giving nature a voice with development.

1996

Trust acquires Weppenbury Wood.

1998

Trust establishes a wholly owned subsidiary company Middlemarch Environmental.

2000

Leam Valley habitat enhancement.

2002

David Bellamy opening Parkridge.

Our impact



2005
Brandon Marsh Nature Reserve celebrates its 50th anniversary. The site has been managed by a dedicated group of volunteers which pre-date the formation of the Trust. In this photo they are accepting their Queen's Award for Voluntary Service several years later.

2003
10,000th Trust member.

2007
Community engagement in Coventry.

2009
Trust awarded £211,512 from Natural England & £14,263 from a membership appeal to start Sowe Valley Project.

2011
Launch of the North Warwickshire Local Nature Reserves.

2013
'Help for Hedgehogs' project starts.

2015
Trust gives evidence at HS2 Government select Committee.

2016
Trust gives evidence at 2nd HS2 Government Select Committee.

2017
The Environment & Me' project receives £372,304 from Big Lottery.

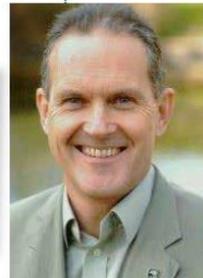
2019
Brandon Reach & Piles Coppice acquired as an extension to Brandon Marsh.

2004
Protesting against the proposed new airport in Warwickshire.



2006
Otter & water vole surveys undertaken across the county.

2008
'Living Roots' youth engagement project starts.



2010
Andy Tasker retires as CEO after 22 years working for the Trust.

2012
Trust embarks on badger vaccination programme.



2014
£2.5million, 5-year Tame Valley Wetlands scheme starts thanks to a grant from HLF.



Phil Fermore, MD of Middlemarch Environmental, hands over a cheque for Gift Aid worth £300,392, to Ed Green, CEO of the Trust





2018
Dunsmore Living Landscape receives over £1million from NLHF & reintroduces 2 colonies of dormice into woodlands.

2020
Warwickshire Wildlife Trust celebrates its 50th year!



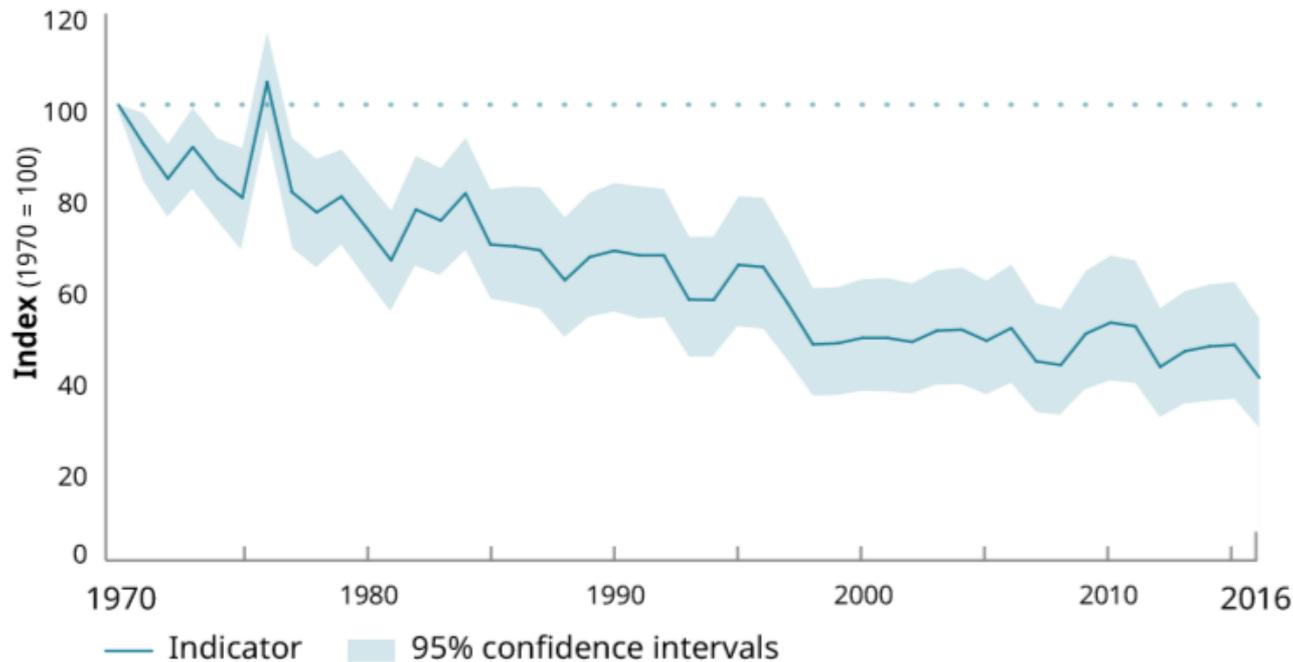
The State of Nature



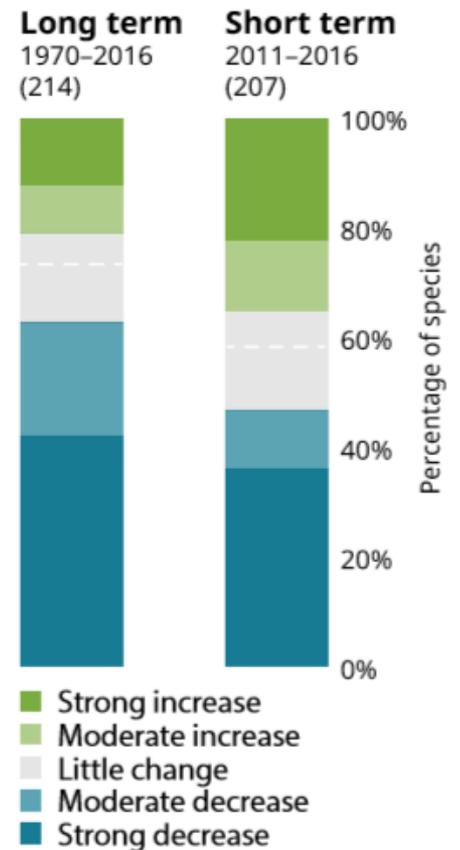
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UK Biodiversity Indicator: Change in the relative abundance of UK priority species, 1970 to 2016

Abundance indicator (214 species)



Source: jncc.gov.uk/ukbi-C4a



The State of Nature

The UK's biodiversity is declining



15%

of species are
threatened with
extinction from
Great Britain



133

of 8431 assessed
have already
become extinct
from Great Britain



The State of Nature

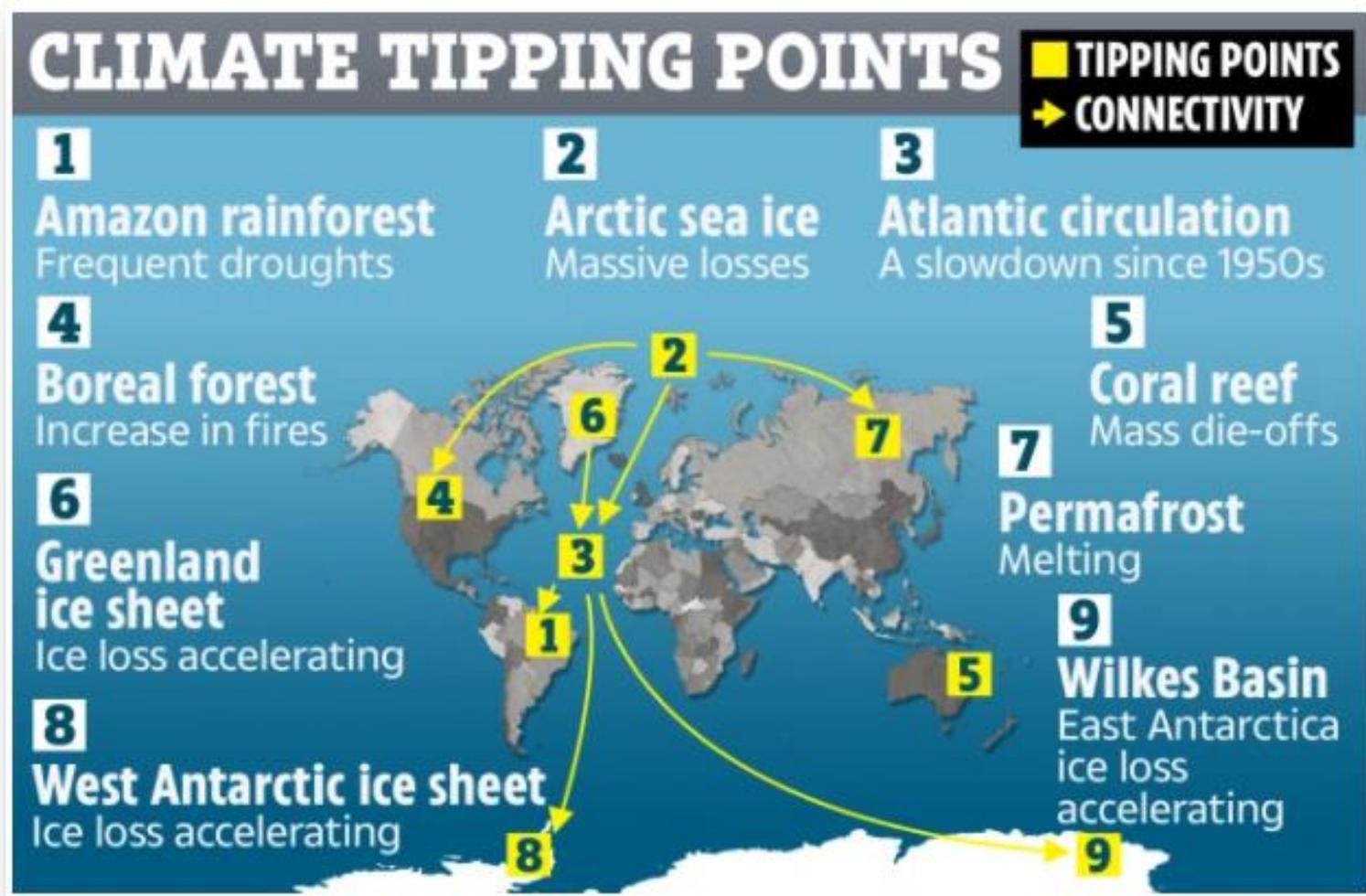


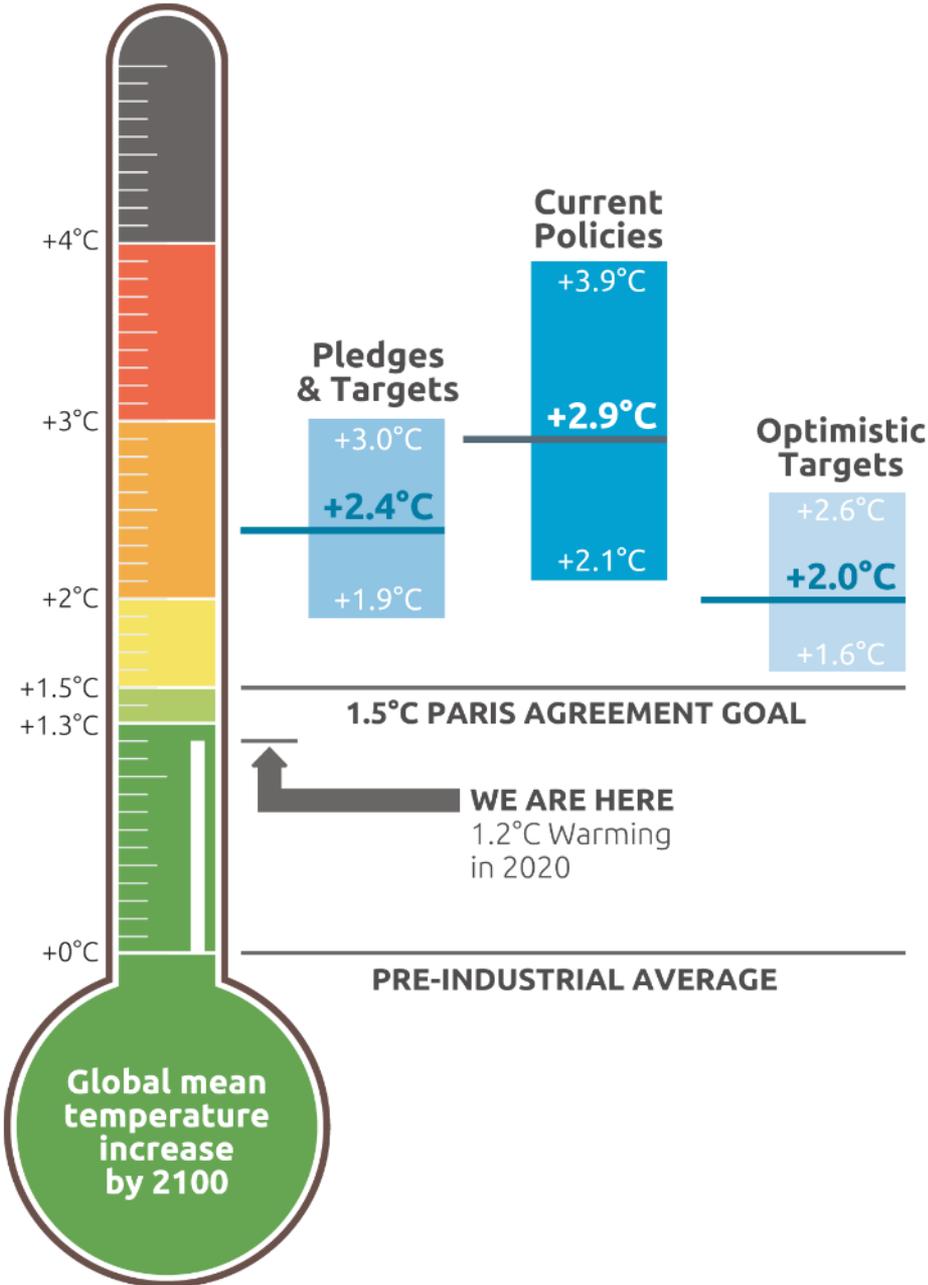
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One way of assessing how damaged nature is across the world is the
Biodiversity Intactness Index



The Climate Crisis





CAT warming projections Global temperature increase by 2100

May 2021 Update

Risks, opportunities, and benefits of further action



More action needed

Further investigation

Sustain current action

Maintain a
watching brief

Average UK wide scores

N1. Risks to terrestrial species and habitats from changing conditions

N2. Risks to terrestrial species and habitats from pests, pathogens and invasive species

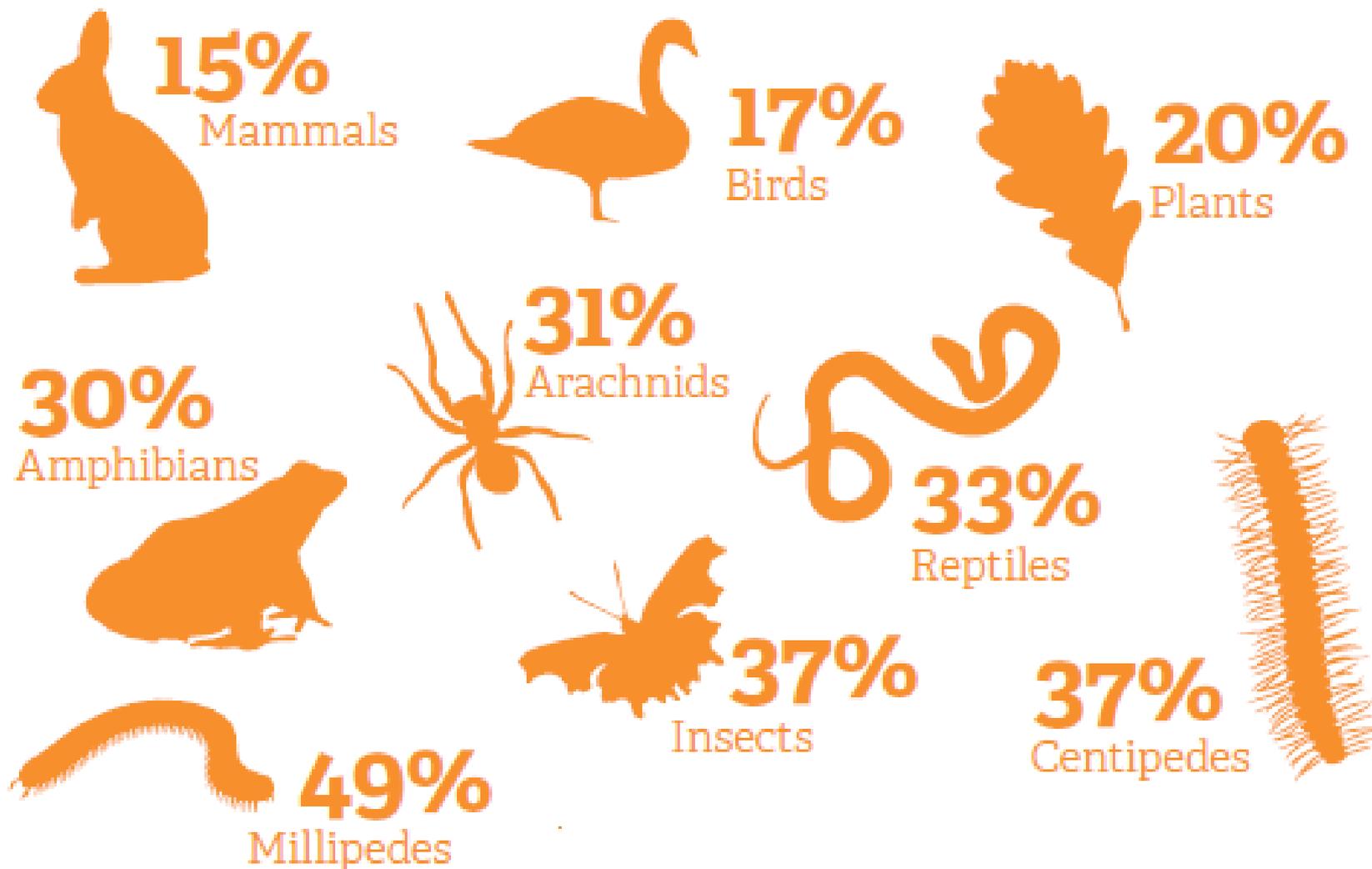
N3. Opportunities from new species colonisations in terrestrial habitats

N4. Risk to soils from changing climatic conditions, including seasonal aridity and wetness

N18. Risks and opportunities from climate change to landscape character

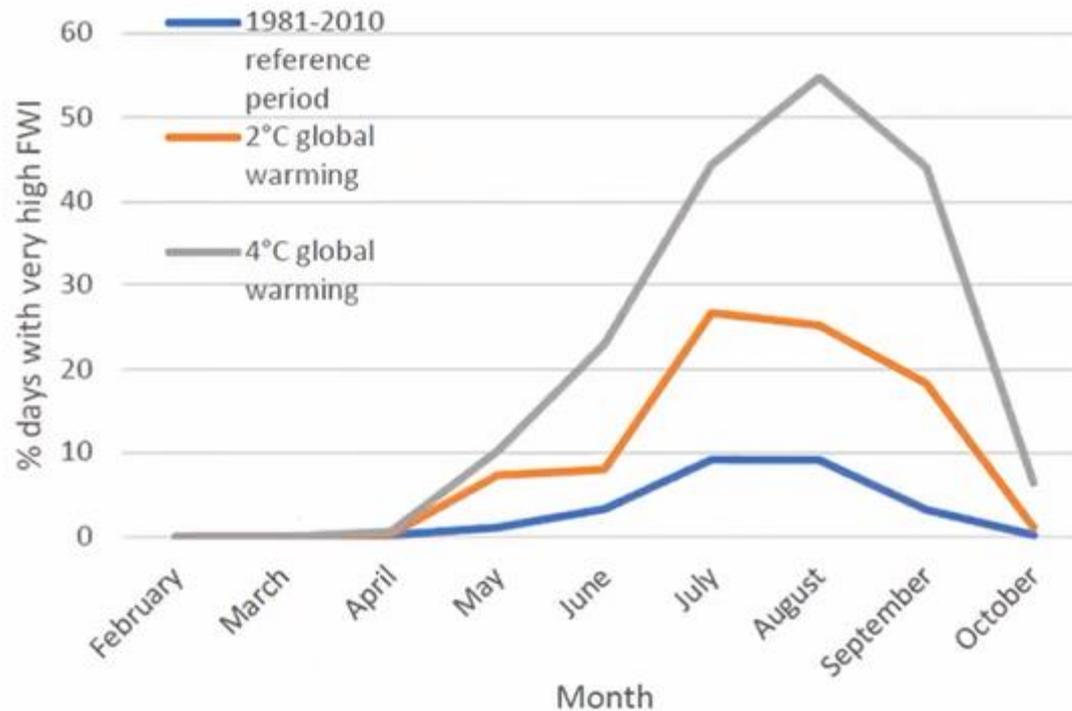
<https://www.ukclimaterisk.org/>

Warwickshire species at risk with 2 degrees warming



Wildfire will become an increasing risk

Predictions for % of days of 'very high' fire weather index based on UK climate scenarios

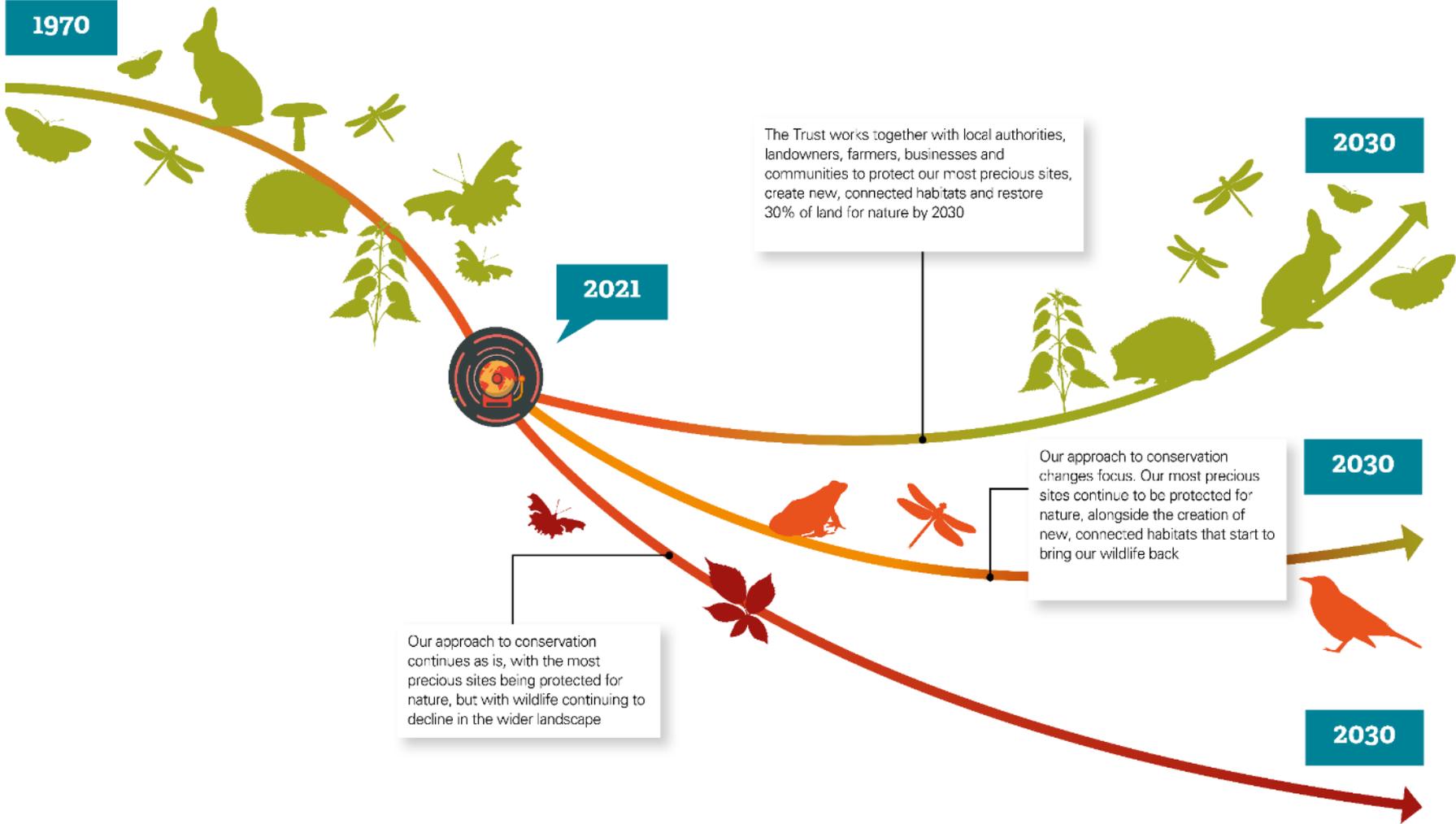


The number of days with high wildfire risk will double in a 2°C world and could more than quadruple in a 4°C world

Bending the curve and bringing our wildlife back



Warwickshire



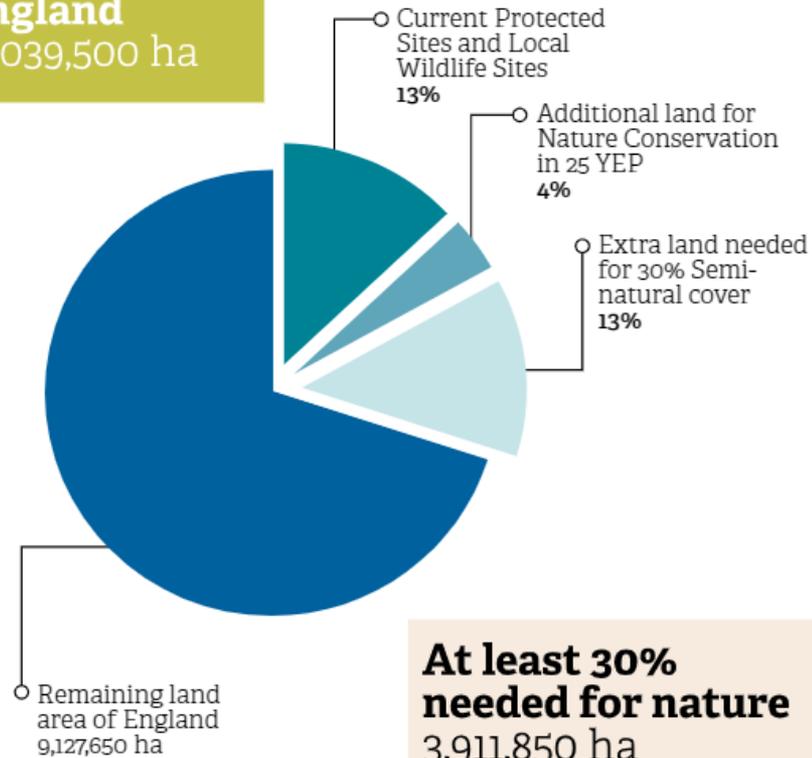
How do we **step up** to
respond to the
nature and climate crisis?



30% by 2030 (30by30)

Land cover in England

13,039,500 ha



At least 30% needed for nature
3,911,850 ha



30by30 in Warwickshire

Percentage of land contributing towards nature's recovery

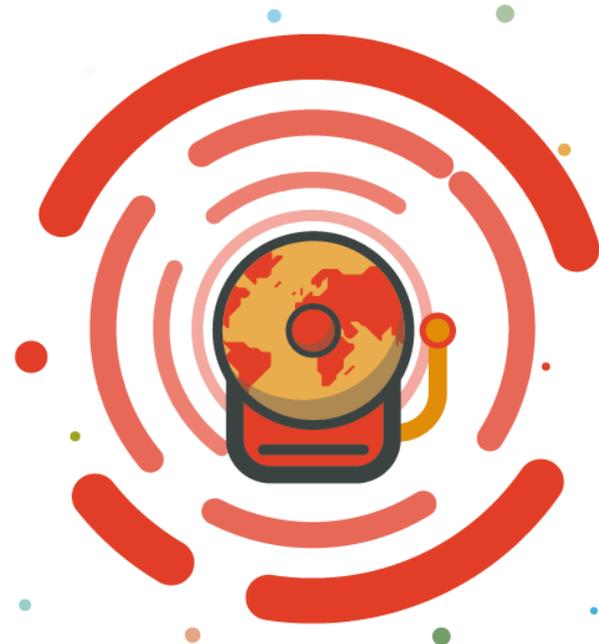
AUTHORITY	PERCENTAGE
Coventry City Council	11%
North Warwickshire Borough Council	14%
Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council	10%
Rugby Borough Council	10%
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	6%
Stratford on Avon District Council	16%
Warwick District Council	14%
Warwickshire, Coventry & Solihull	13%



Nature Recovery Fund Appeal

What do you need to know?

- Fundraising appeal launched on **30th March 2021**
- We had already secured **£1.5 million** through legacies and some generous corporate donations, and since March a further £50,000 has been generously donated by the general public
- We need your help to double that to create a **£3 million** fund to help nature recover in our patch
- Using that we will start to buy land and **double** the size of the area the Trust manages for nature conservation by 2030



What habitat will we create?



Woodland creation at Bubbenhall



Pond creation next to the River Sherbourne

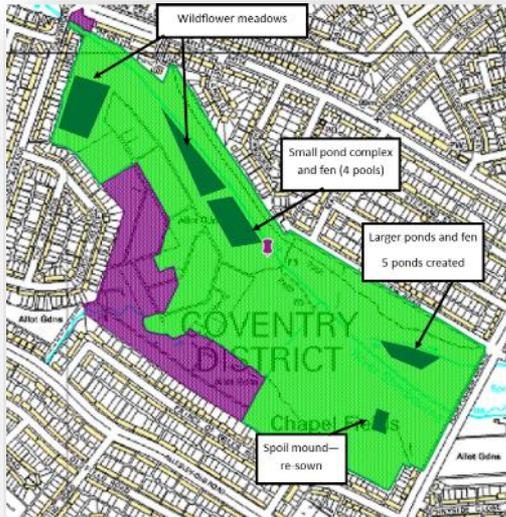


Wild flower meadow translocation at Dunchurch

Habitat creation or rewilding?

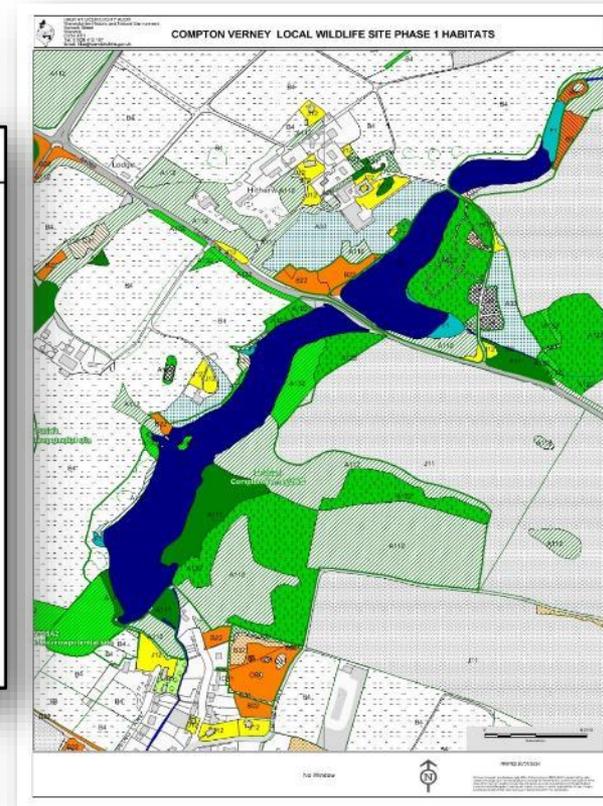
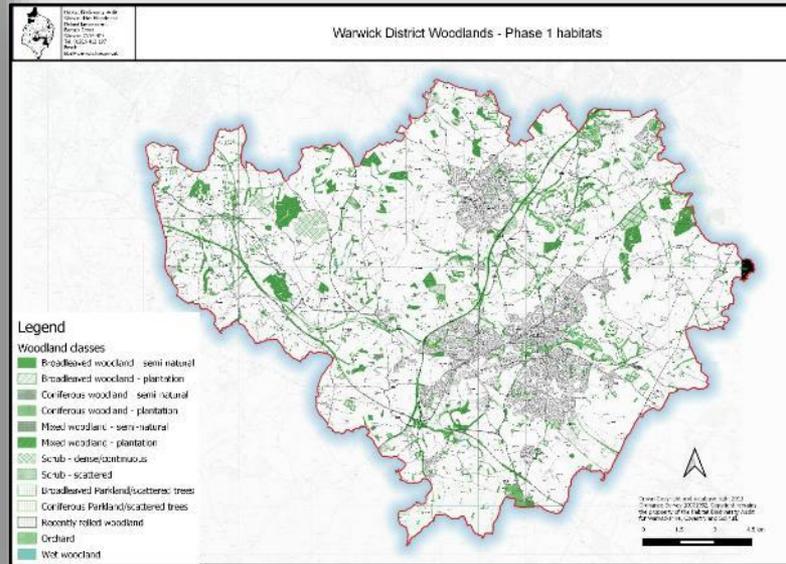
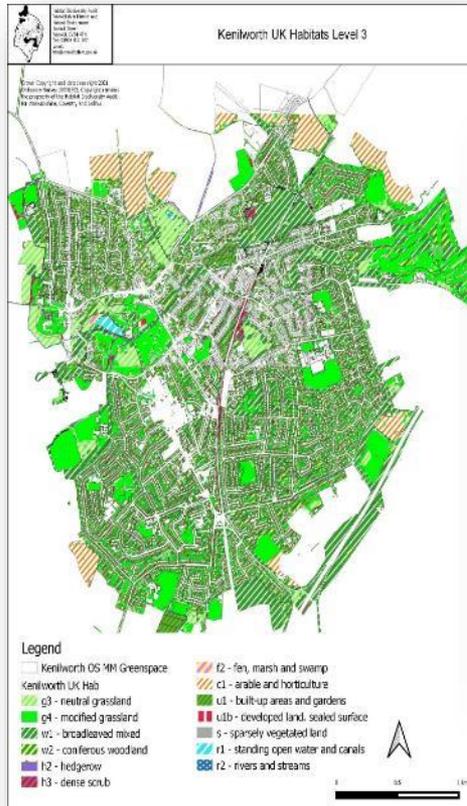


Habitat creation will play a part



There is a role for natural regeneration or 'rewilding'

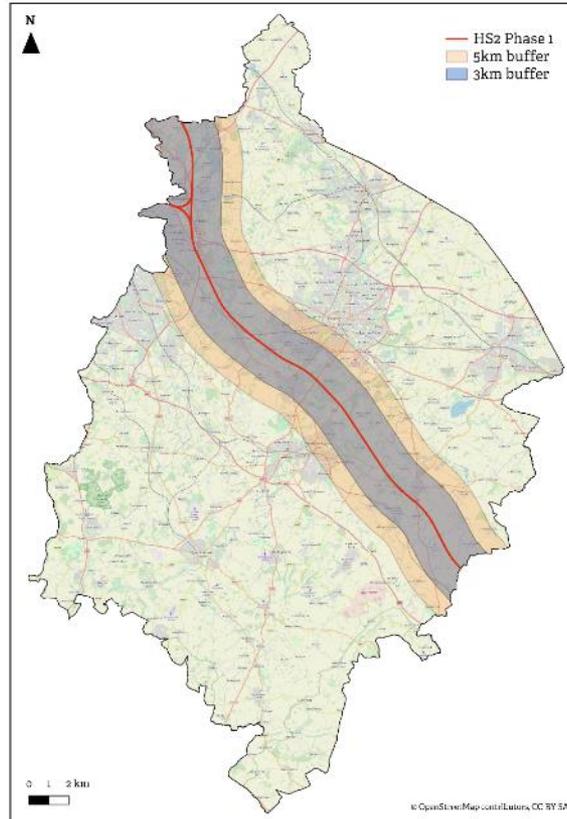
Data is key



The type of land we'll target



Golf courses which are struggling to be viable



Farmland which is difficult to grow food on

Land use which has been impacted by development



Manage our land



Help others manage their land



Create new wildlife havens

= 30by30



How do we **tip the balance** for
nature and climate,
so it goes in the other direction?



Is there a **positive tipping point**
that can create momentum for
behavioural change, that leads to
ACTION!



Things we know...



Warwickshire



Most people's experience of **nature** is close to **home**, in **green spaces** in towns and cities.



Spending time in **nature** is **good** for your **wellbeing**.



Engagement is **unequal**; low **income**, **ethnic** minority and old **age** groups are less likely to frequently visit.



Children's experience with nature is **varied**, with almost **25%** spending time outside less than once a month.



There are many **different** reasons and **barriers** people have for not **visiting** the environment.



Promoting people's **access** to nature should be an **aim** in itself because of the **benefits** it provides to **society**



Concern for the environment is **mainstream**, but most pro-environmental **behaviours** are not.



Time spent in the natural world provides **large** benefits to the **economy**.



Turning values into action



Warwickshire

VALUES

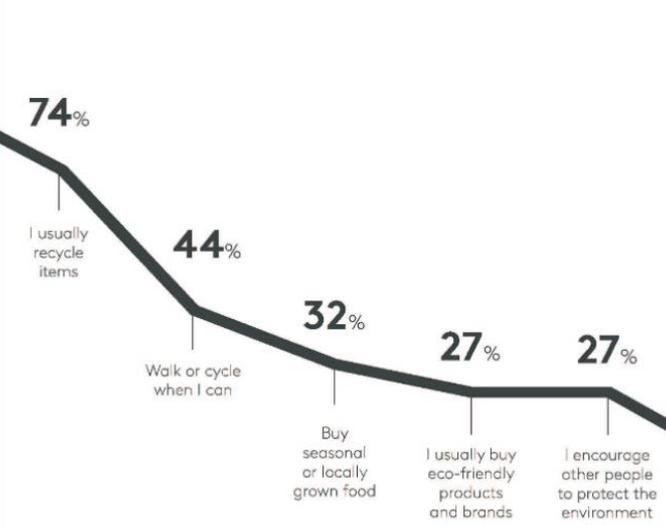
94% 94% 90% 89%

Having open green spaces close to me
I am glad natural places exist
I am concerned about damage to the natural environment
Spending time out of doors is important

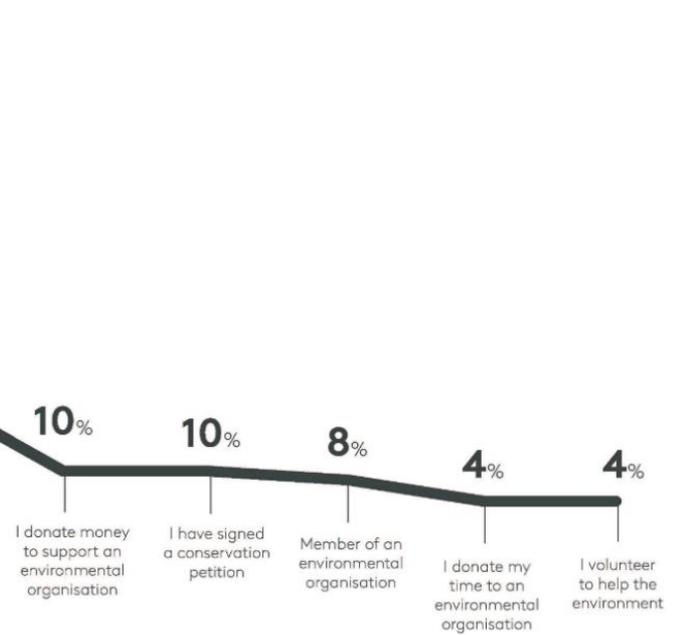
(Proportion of population undertaking activities)

Source: MENE 2018/19, Adults living in England

HOUSEHOLD ACTIONS



CONSERVATION ACTIONS



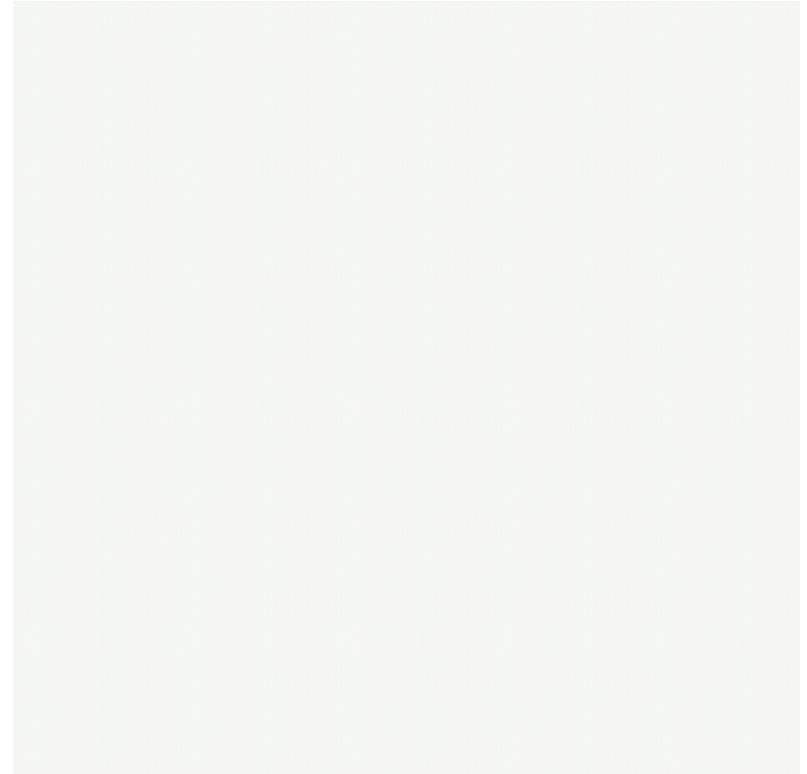
Pro-environmental values and actions

[Natural England's MENE survey](#)

Creating a 'Team Wilder'



More people on nature's side





Warwickshire

So what is Team Wilder?





Warwickshire



TEAM WILDER



Arden Farm Wildlife Network

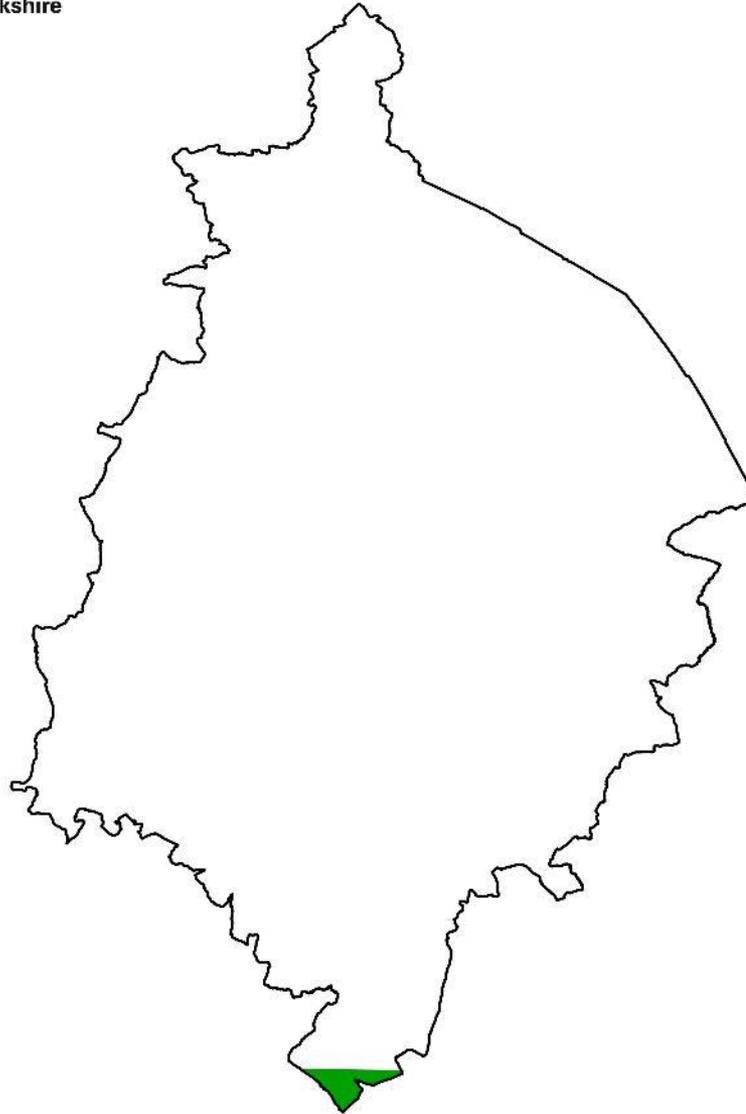
So, if we're
looking to create a
Wilder Warwickshire,
then what does that look like?





Warwickshire

Warwickshire Wildlife Trust Manage 0.4% of
Land in Warwickshire, Coventry & Solihull.





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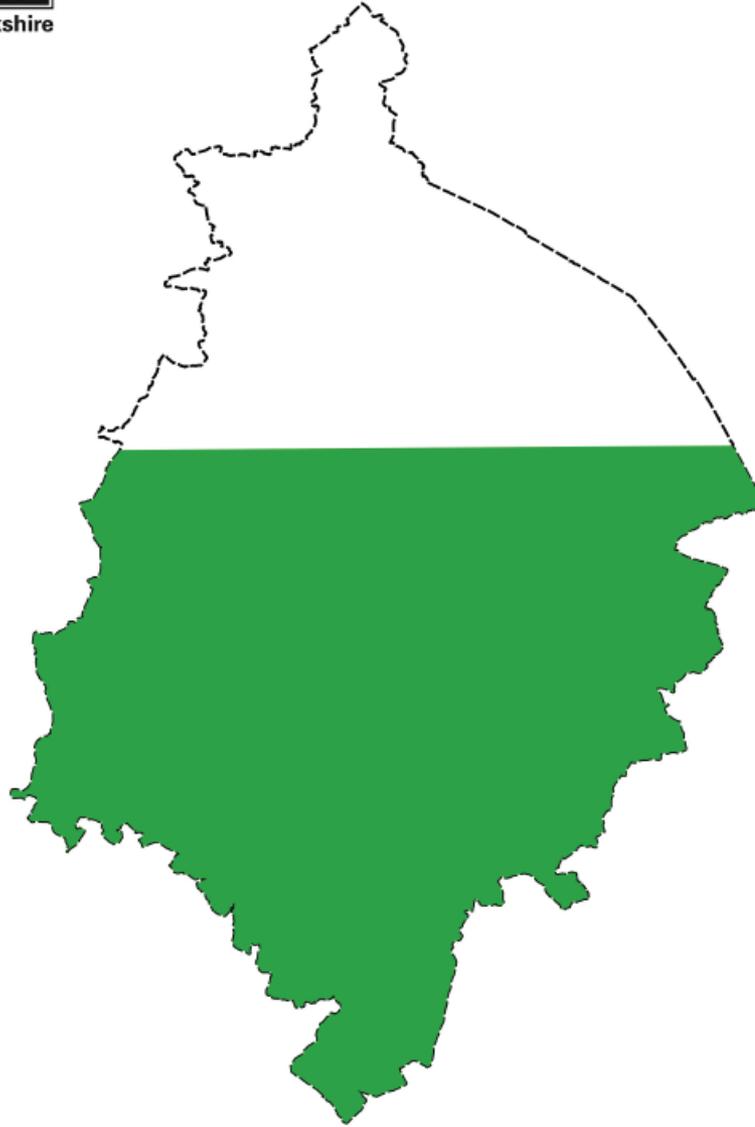
Warwickshire Wildlife Trust is part of an active partnership in three Living Landscape schemes* covering 11% of land in Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull





Warwickshire

Agricultural land use currently equates to around 70% of the land area across Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull





Warwickshire



30by30



In summary...



More people on
nature's side

More action for
wildlife

More space for
nature



...we need to scale up