Future of the NFM COP discussion

Group 1, Group 2, Group 3, Group 4

1. **The CoP project team would like to devise objectives to guide activities and measure success against over the next 3 years (5 minutes):**

   a. **What would a successful COP look like to you?**

Notes:
- Sharing innovation
  - Including problems and issues
  - Good and bad = key
- A successful COP to me looks like people sharing ideas naturally and the COP being one of the first places [people turn to for advice
- Mechanism for trouble shooting particular challenges.
  - Forum for help
- Active participation/engagement. Involvement of the right people (are we missing anyone?). Sharing of best practise, but also to share what didn't work so learn from each other mistakes
- Formation of new partnerships on projects
  - Has themed sessions helped - has been approach putting sessions together so far?
    - A good idea
    - Clear brief, opportunity with CIRIA guidance
    - Does this need to be planned and set out?
- Does it need to include land owners? Having some input from these might help discussions. Site visits are important, perhaps this is an opportunity to engage land owners
- Carry on what is already been happening - site visits and learning from those experiences in delivering - how to move away from the large scale hard engineering to the small scale, relationships with land owners etc. Need to fully understand what an NFM scheme is all about from beginning to end. Buddy systems between experienced and non- experienced NFM groups.
- Experience of applying and receiving funding – linking up with key actors working in river trusts.
- More info to be able to deliver NFM interventions - can we grow the knowledge and turn that into more interventions being installed on the ground?
- Opportunity to network, visit sites, time for informal chat. Meeting project managers and seeing what they have done, how they chose what to do where, what problems they had and how they overcame them. Not overdoing the powerpoint and formal element.
- be brave about having smaller groups still go out on site, even with current restrictions
- would be good to share feedback from the Defra Pilot projects as they end this year, discuss ongoing monitoring options and requirements

   b. **What would need happen to deliver the answer to the previous Q?**

Notes:
- Themed sessions – what themes?
  - Monitoring Benefits? modelling
  - Designing an NFM scheme, something on monitoring.
  - So far looked at funding, maintenance, identifying NFM opportunities, monitoring and interpretation
  - Farm impact and farmer engagement / community engagement as a theme, links between farmer installing NFM and communities that benefit from it

- o   What about a session on where things didn't work as expected - what can we learn? How can this be applied/avoided?
- o   Involvement of the right people....... Do we have a private land advisor? Possibly a farmer who believes in NFM as part of the partnership.

- Event = workshops on how to write funding bids etc.
- Need to help people who work in hard engineering to move over to NFM agenda and how to navigate the funding and delivery of project.

- Parks and countryside teams across the councils could be linked into - asked to attend the COP.
- How to tag NFM onto big FRM projects but also other development projects.

2.   **Linked to the previous point we would you like to understand what you think the CoP could focus on in the coming 12 months (5 minutes):**

   a.   **What are you/your organisations priorities around NFM over the next 12 months?**
Notes:

- Build on Collingham – see it working on a farm – NFM (possibly nature based rather than flood risk) on a commercial basis and seen as a mainstream

   b.   **Could you also identify possible site visits (COVID dependant)?**
Notes:
- As we've used pre-recorded sessions this time - could we use pre-recorded virtual tours?
   - o   Action – ask whole CoP if they have something already made or get some videos?
   - o   I agree, we have adapted to doing more of this - perhaps it would help reach a wider audience?
- Sheffield & Rotherham Wildlife Trust happy to host something in Sheffield Lakeland (nw Sheffield) at some point - farmer and water company engagement.
   - o   SRWT - we've had professionally made film on NFM in Sheffield - part 1 of 3.
- Our last session with Cumbria - also allowed us to visit another area- and get their best practice
   - o   Have some drone footage
- Moors for the Future have some new trial sites we'd love to invite people to. including peat bunds on upland SSSI
   - o   brilliant idea
   c.   **Would you/ your organisation be able to host / lead a future event?**
Notes:

- NT would like to host Gorpley and Wessenden – NFM sites almost finished and would be good to get out early next year!
- CBMC, would be willing to host an event, ideally a site visit, in Calderdale. Want to share what they have done and also get ideas for future work

Themes for above - JBA Consulting, Talks on Modelling NFM specific

3.   **The CoP project team would like to develop some clear and robust governance and this is likely to include a small steering group – which partnerships, organisations or individuals do you think should be represented on that? (5 minutes)**
Notes:

- NFU

Grass roots-community rep

- NT, CLA, tenant farmer association, IDB
    - IDB
- Need consideration of the vast geographies of Yorkshire
    - Bring more lowland into it
    - Urban catchments?
    - South and east rep could by better on COP involvement
    - Aire Catchment Network
- Farmers, council representation (land drainage consent teams) Planning? (at what scale will planning involvement be required). National Parks – consider if NFM conflicts current vision. Rivers trusts. Selection of different NGOs. Academics. Water companies
- Governance vs members
- Do funders understand what we are trying to achieve
- iCASP are still the name/face of the CoP for a lot of people – be good to keep them involved for consistency and continuity
- So long as the 'steering group' is broad it will most likely represent the needs of the wider CoP well. Probably needs some form of governance process to keep it stable in the long-term and make sure people/groups are replaced and still represented, but equally we don't want to go overly heavy on the process