

51 nature reserves - free to everyone



Advising farmers
& landowners

Supporting
community groups

Planning & advocacy

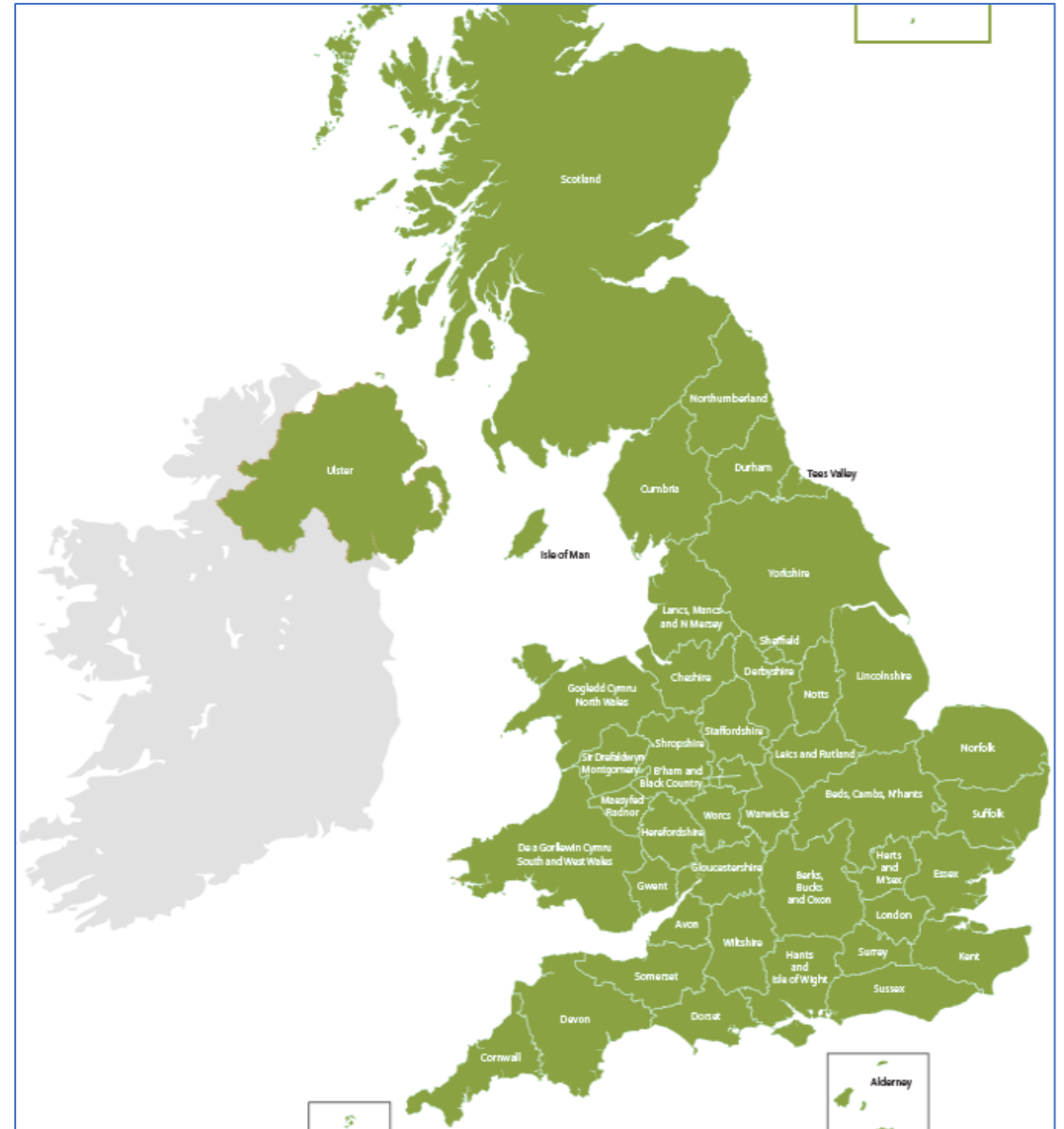
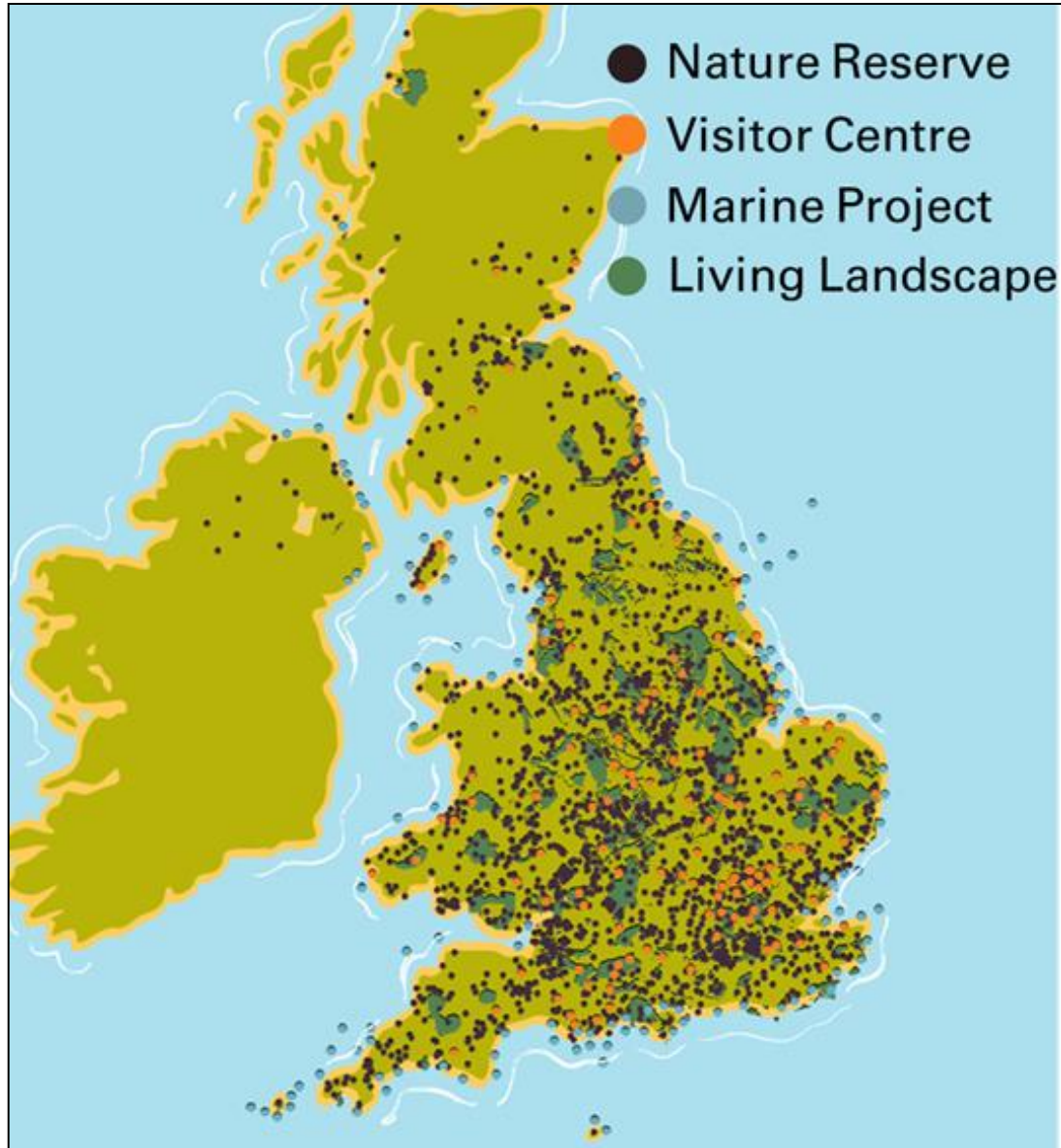
Nature tourism

Wilder schools

Teacher training

Business partnerships





Our Impact

in 2023

Millions

spent on natural flood management, including water quality improvement in our streams and rivers

Over 15.7 million

people spent time outdoors on a visit to a Wildlife Trust nature reserve

We manage

c. 100,000 hectares of land

114,000 young people

took part in Wildlife Trust-led education sessions

593,000 people

connected with nature when they took part in 30 Days Wild during June

39,000 active volunteers
across the movement

6,911 participants
on Wildlife Trust-led health and well-being programmes

298,000 young people
took a stand for nature by taking part in a Wildlife Trust-led campaign for its recovery

A total of
2,676 hectares of land has been improved for nature thanks to Wildlife Trust responses to planning applications

The Wildlife Trusts have been increasing their land holdings, restoring nature to more areas of the UK and now manage nearly
2,600 nature reserves



Why nature
matters



for business

Risk Management

Market advantage

**Return on
Investment**

**Increasing trends
of support**

**Social and cultural
benefits**





Nature Based Solutions – Letting Nature Help

- contribute significantly to achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions for the UK
- help nature and society to adapt to climate
- simultaneously deliver numerous public co-benefits
- aid nature's recovery

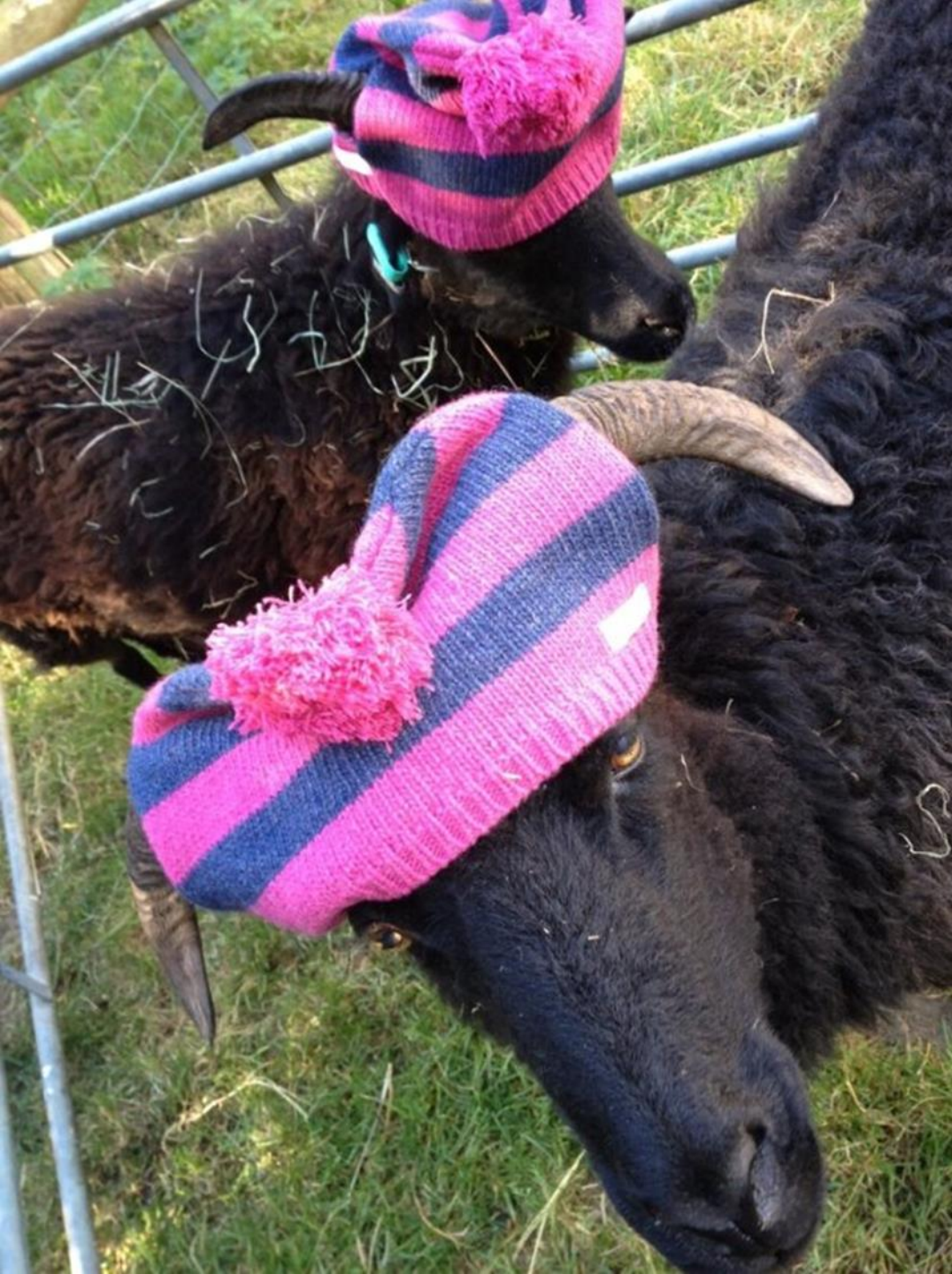
Why Suffolk Wildlife Trust?

- High quality
- Investment security
- 100% circular investment
- Bespoke to need
- Brand recognition

How we can help

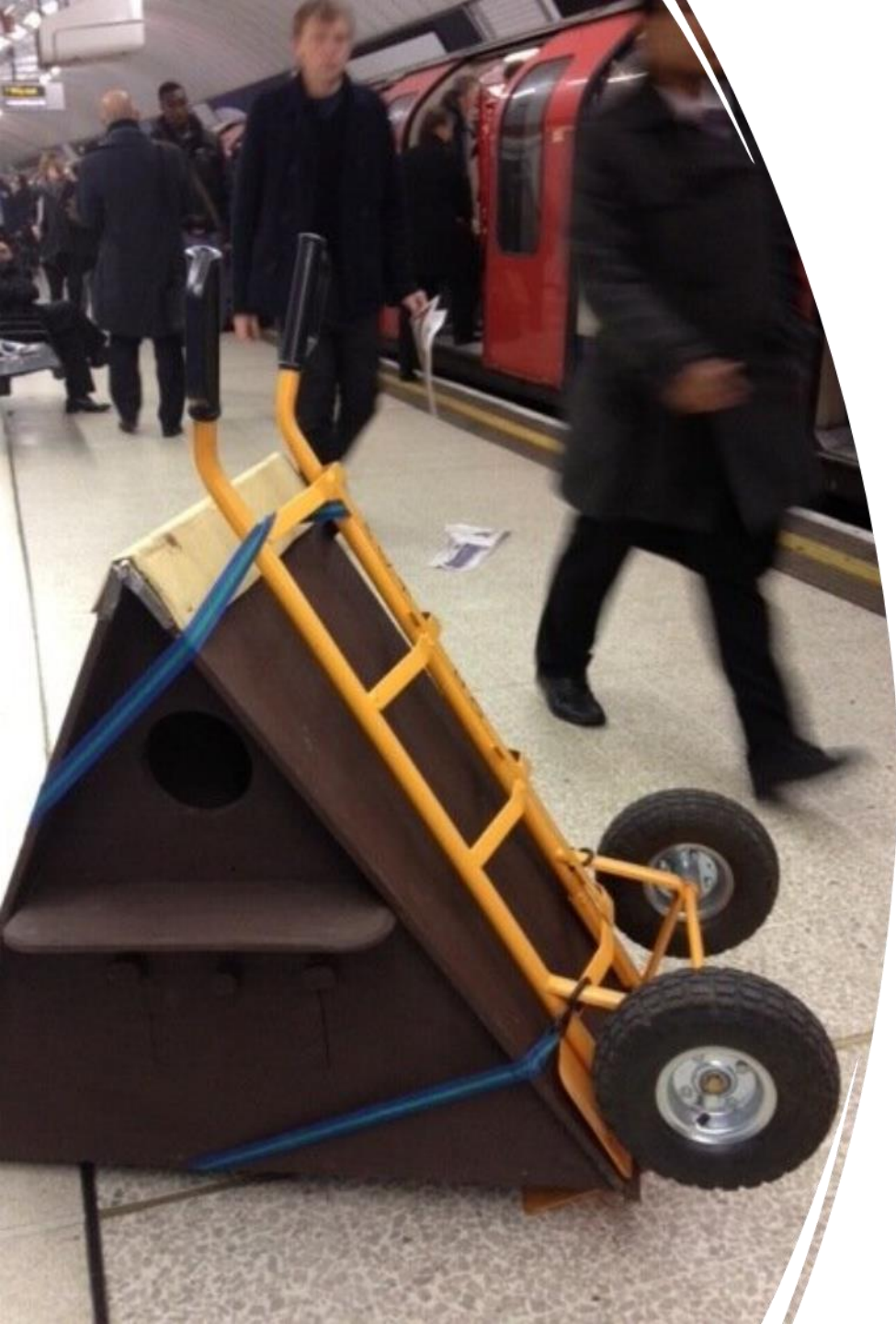
- Principles of engagement
- Wild My Business





Collaborative Partnership Benefits

- **INVEST** in Suffolk's wildlife
- **CREATE** more biodiversity
(mitigation & adaptation)
- **CONNECT** with nature
- **BOOST** staff wellness



Service Framework

- ✓ Investor in Wildlife Membership – Tiered
- ✓ Nature Based Services
- ✓ Team Building, Staff wellbeing & Volunteering
- ✓ Campaigns and Community Activities
- ✓ Sponsorship profiling
- ✓ National and Regional Partnerships



Finance to nature-based solutions increased by \$4 billion

UN Development Programme Report 2024

Wildmybusiness
@suffolkwildlifetrust.org





Suffolk
Wildlife Trust

Waveney & Little Ouse



RECOVERY PROJECT



Environment
Agency

Landscape Recovery at
Suffolk Wildlife Trust:

Waveney and Little Ouse Recovery Project:

DEFRA's Landscape Recovery Pilot's and the restoration of the valley
fens.

Dr Daniel Wade, Waveney and Little Ouse Recovery Project Manager.

What is DEFRA's Landscape Recovery scheme?



- It sits within agri-environment: part of the wider Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMS)
- For landowners wanting to take a larger and more radical approach to producing environmental and climate 'goods' from their land.
- Projects were put together and went through a selection process with DEFRA. This project was successful in round 1, round 2 selections are about to begin and round 3 is to come.



Why did Suffolk Wildlife Trust go down this path?



- Wilder Landscapes Team: How do we help protect nature between the reserves network?
- Farm advice has been an element of Suffolk Wildlife Trust's conservation team for several years.
- The team has noticed a strong appetite from farmers and landowners to improve habitats on their holdings, but they worry about the financial implications of such measures.



Why did Suffolk Wildlife Trust go down this path?

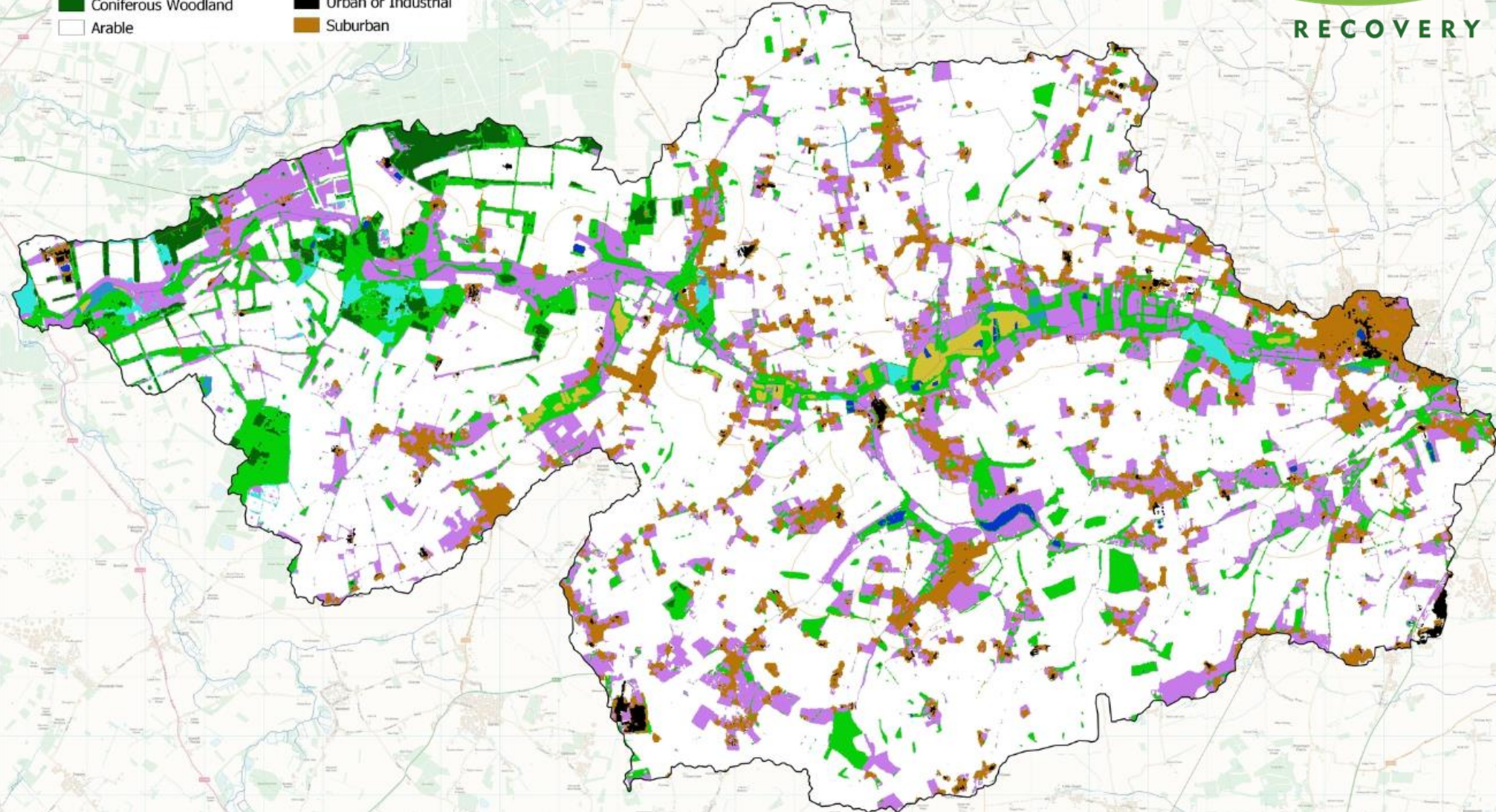


- The stretches of river in the area are generally poor under their water framework directive classifications; an area that needs work.
- Suffolk Wildlife Trust alongside Natural England worked on a report into building a vision for the headwaters prior to landscape recovery being announced.



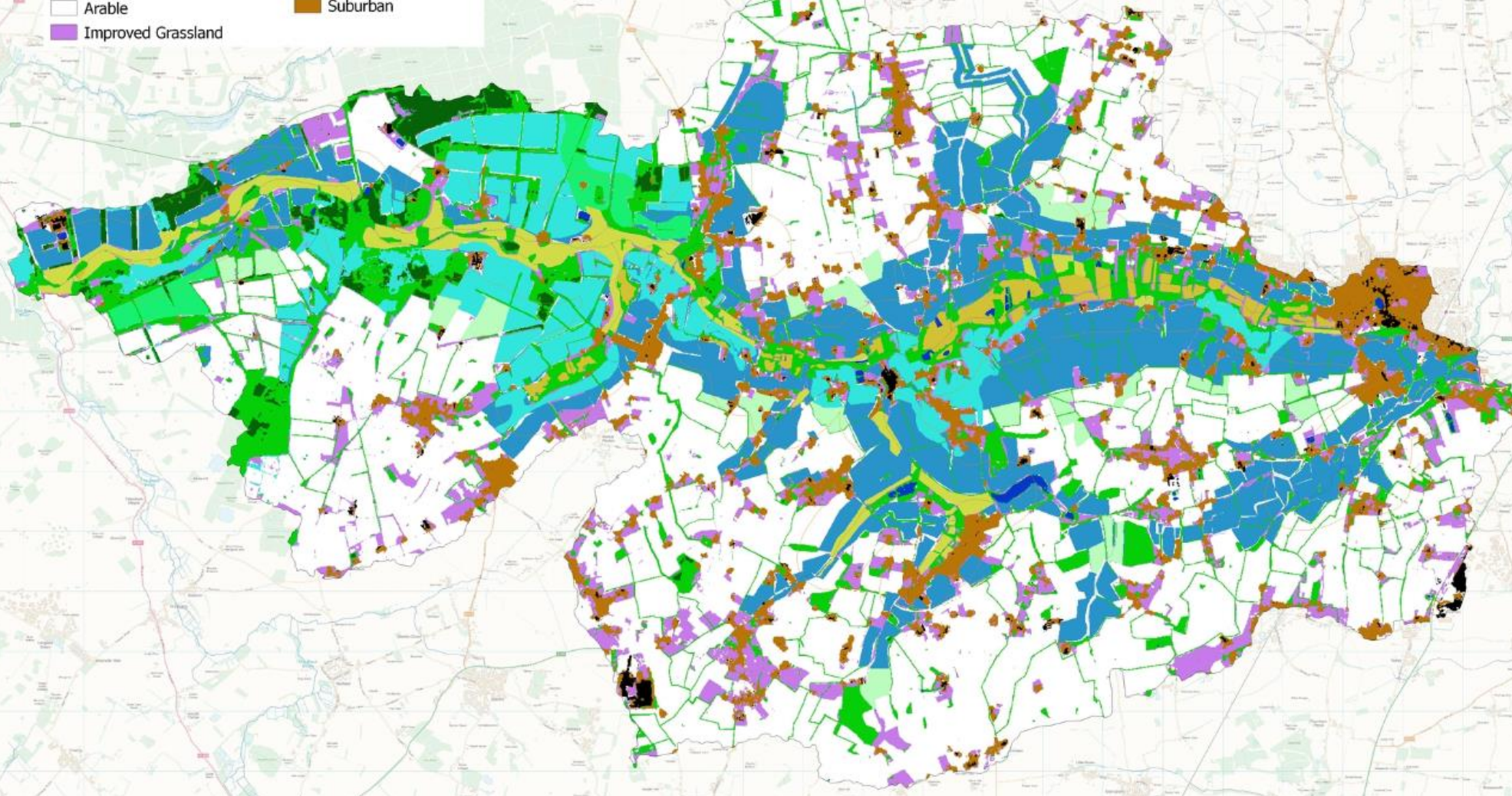


- Project area from watersheds
- Core Area
- Watercourse
- Habitats
 - Deciduous Woodland
 - Coniferous Woodland
 - Arable
- Improved Grassland
- Neutral Grassland
- Acid Grassland
- Fen
- Water
- Urban or Industrial
- Suburban





- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Project area from watersheds | Neutral Grassland |
| Core area | Calcareous Grassland |
| Watercourse | Acid Grassland |
| Habitat | |
| Deciduous Woodland | Fen |
| Coniferous Woodland | Wet Grassland or Fen |
| Woodland/grassland mosaic | Water |
| Arable | Urban or Industrial |
| Improved Grassland | Suburban |



Why did Suffolk Wildlife Trust go down this path?



- The document put together a vision statement, and a first meeting of interested landowners was brought together who agreed to explore the idea of how landscape recovery can produce an option for them as landowners
- At present, landowners have lost or are losing their basic payment income, with the promise that this would be made up through ELMS.

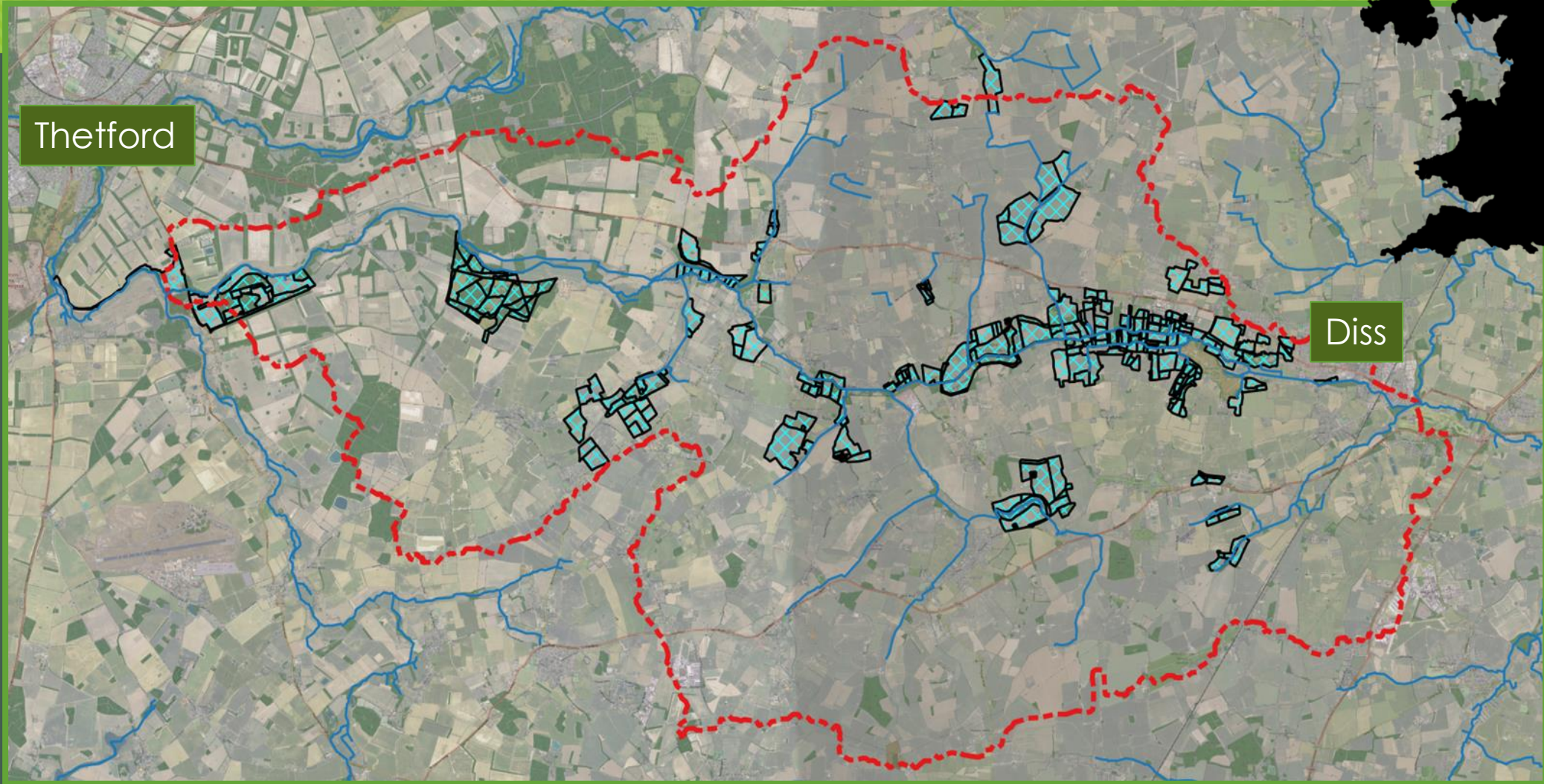


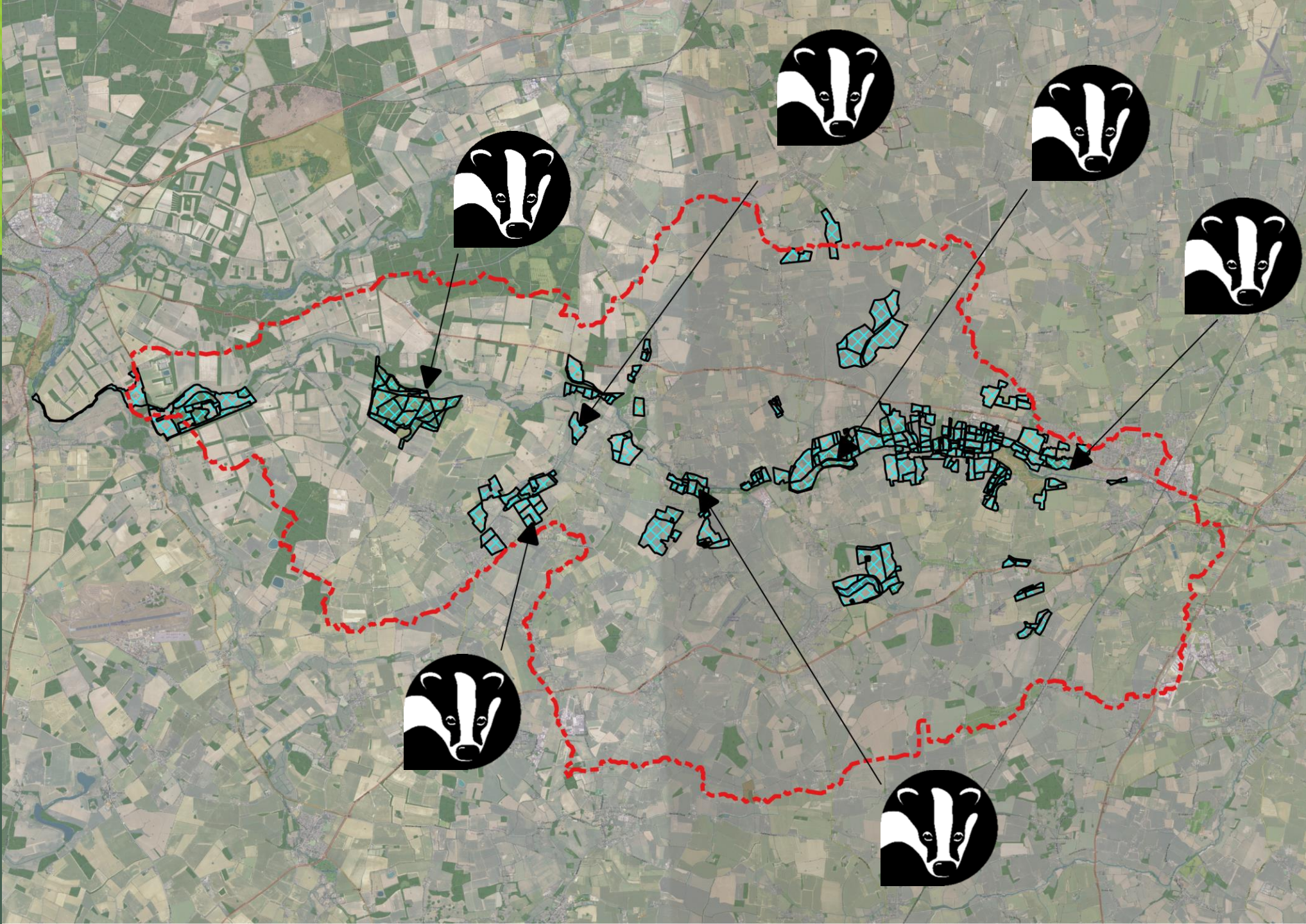
Early beginnings...

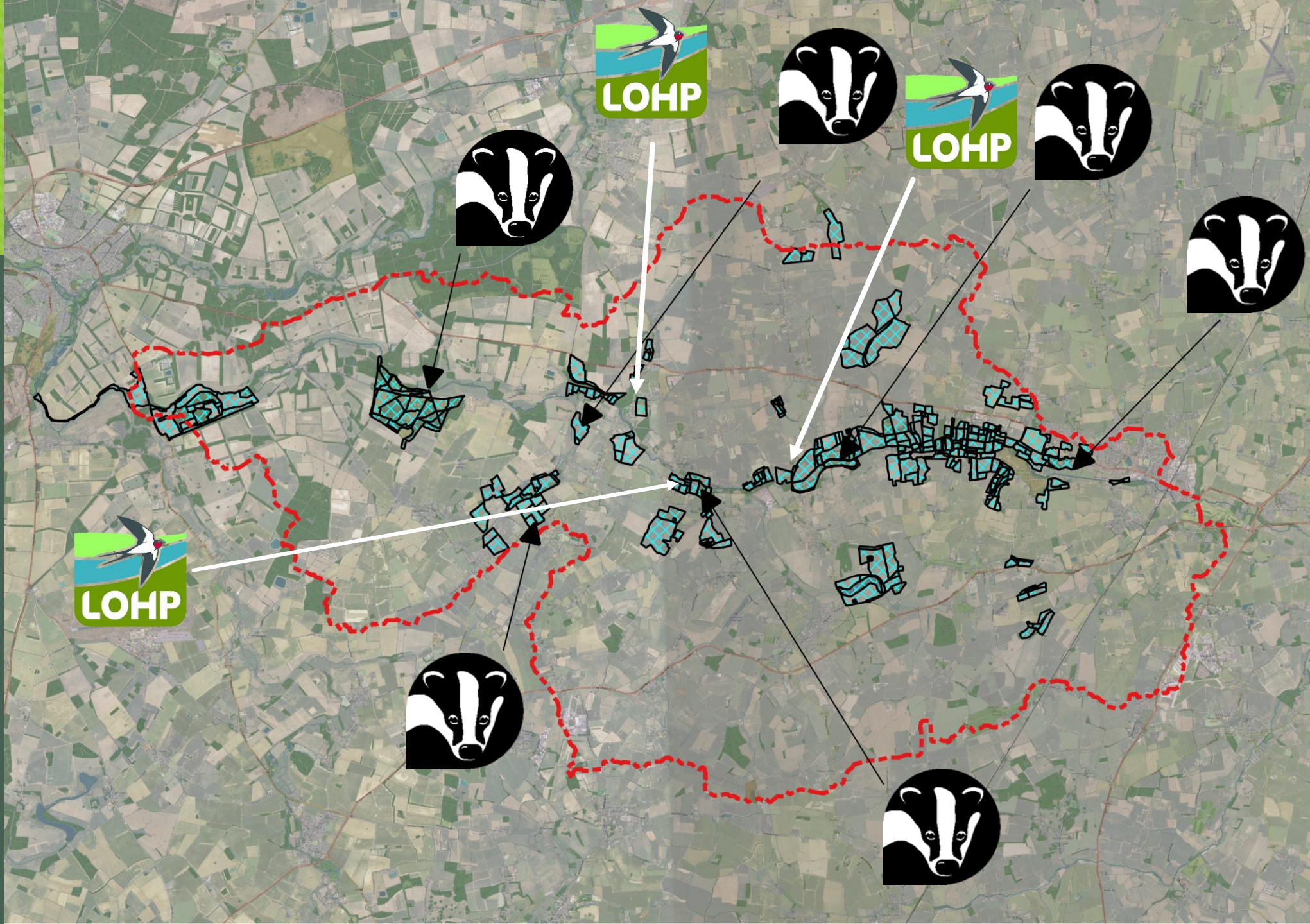
- Our landowners agree to let us explore options for their land holdings, mostly farmers (of varying sizes), our landowners also include a psychotherapy retreat and two eNGOs (SWT being one!).
- Before kick-off, project executive Sam Hanks, sourced and hired contractors, allowing the project to kick off as soon as possible.
- Project officially began its two-year Project Development Phase (PDP) on the 1st January 2023.



Where are we?







Habitat mapping

- UK Habitat Classification survey across the project area.
- Produces a baseline of habitats but is also applicable to biodiversity metric; producing a baseline for Biodiversity Net Gain credits.
- Landowner meeting: habitat change plan v1 agreed. Data passed on to contractors to calculate ecosystem service uplift from our baseline to our uplift.



Waveney & Little Ouse

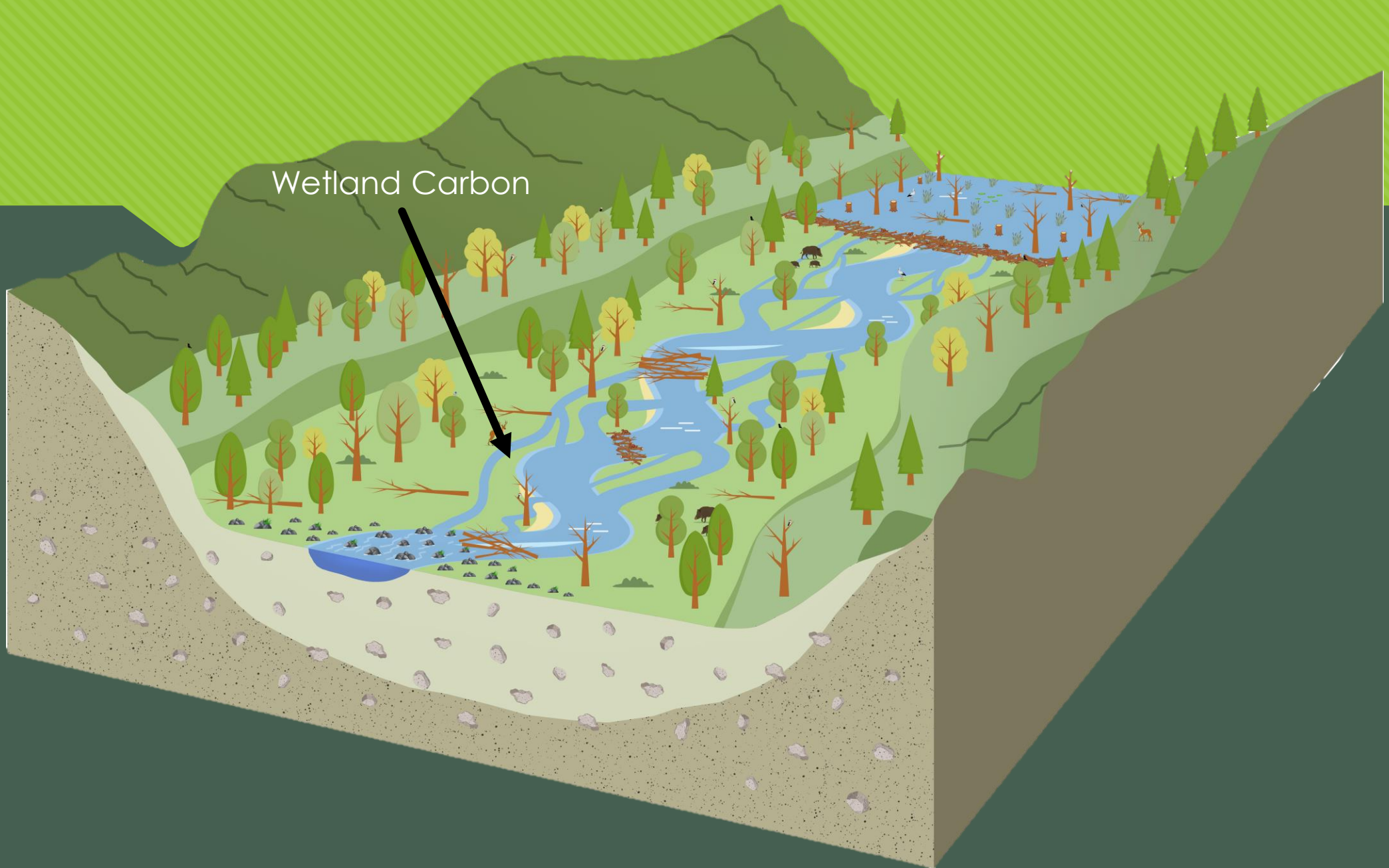


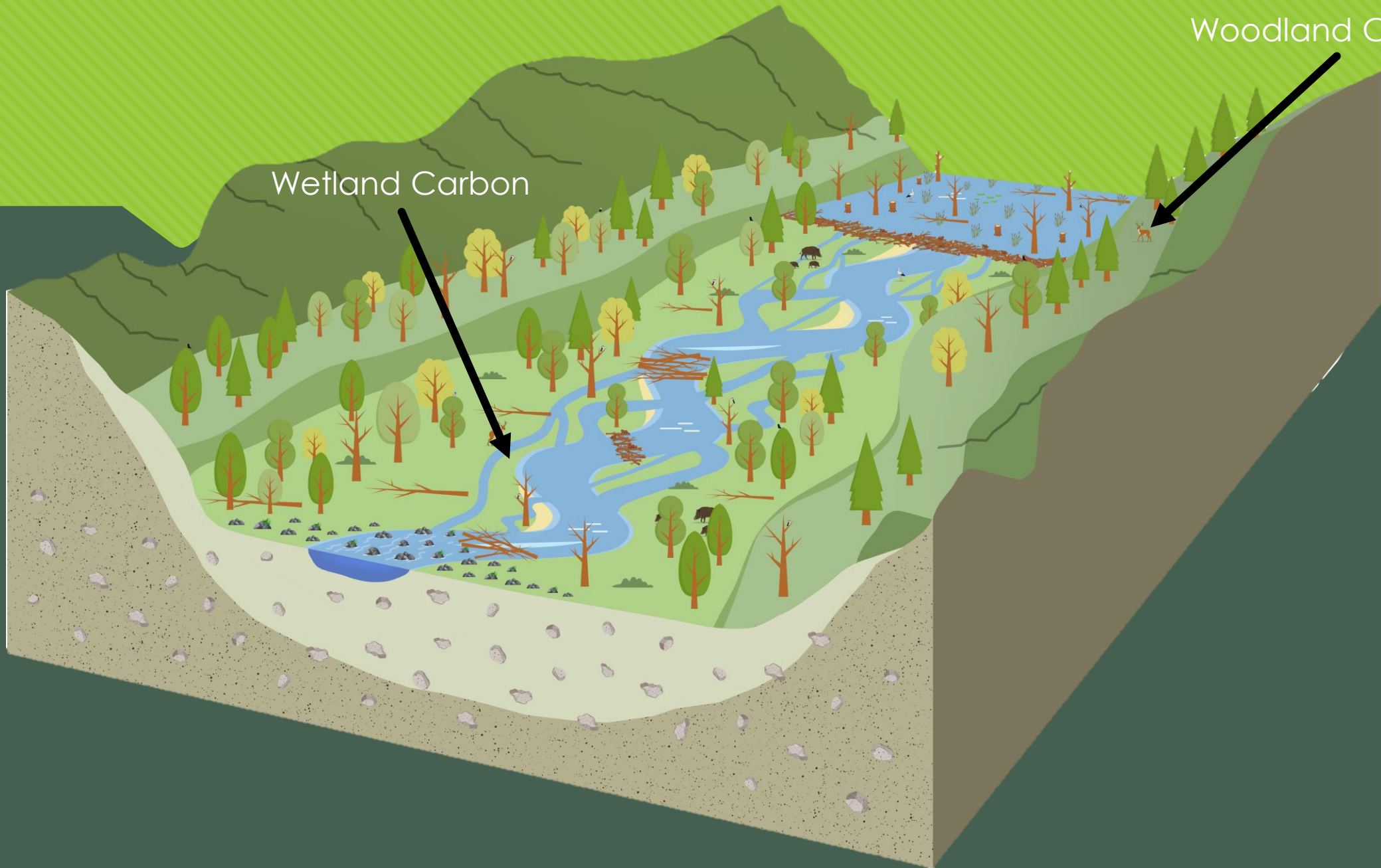
RECOVERY PROJECT





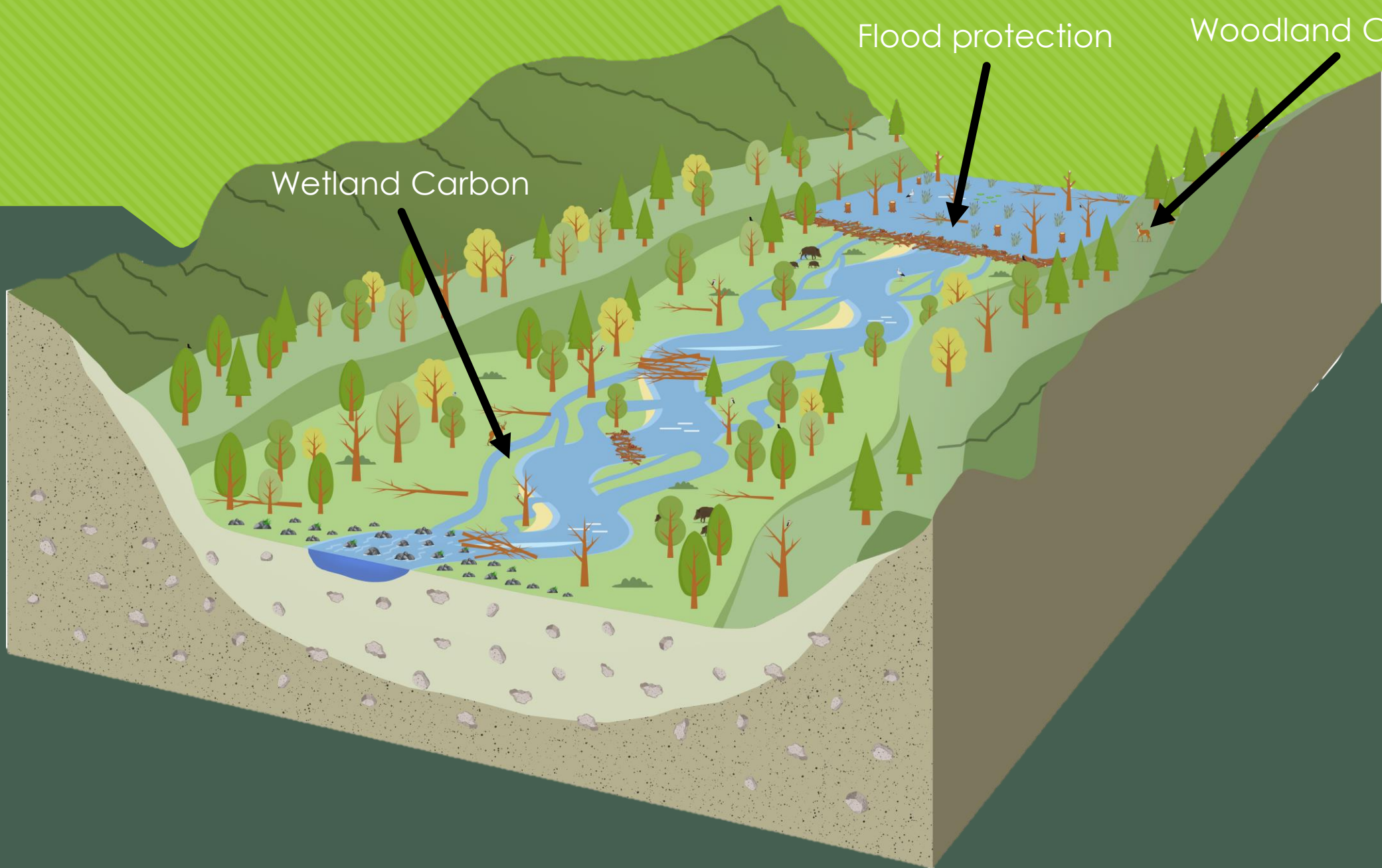
Wetland Carbon





Wetland Carbon

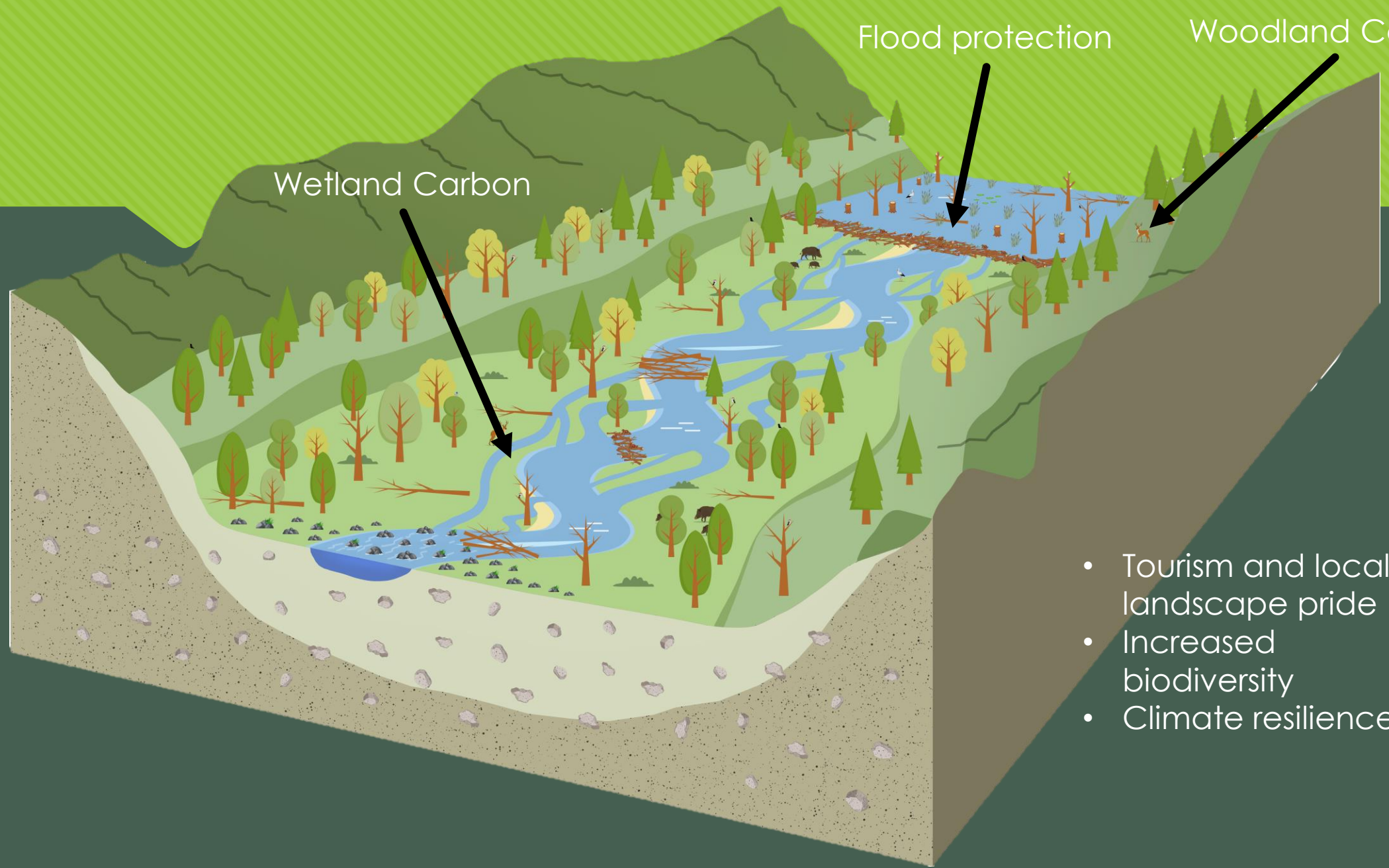
Woodland Carbon



Wetland Carbon

Flood protection

Woodland Carbon

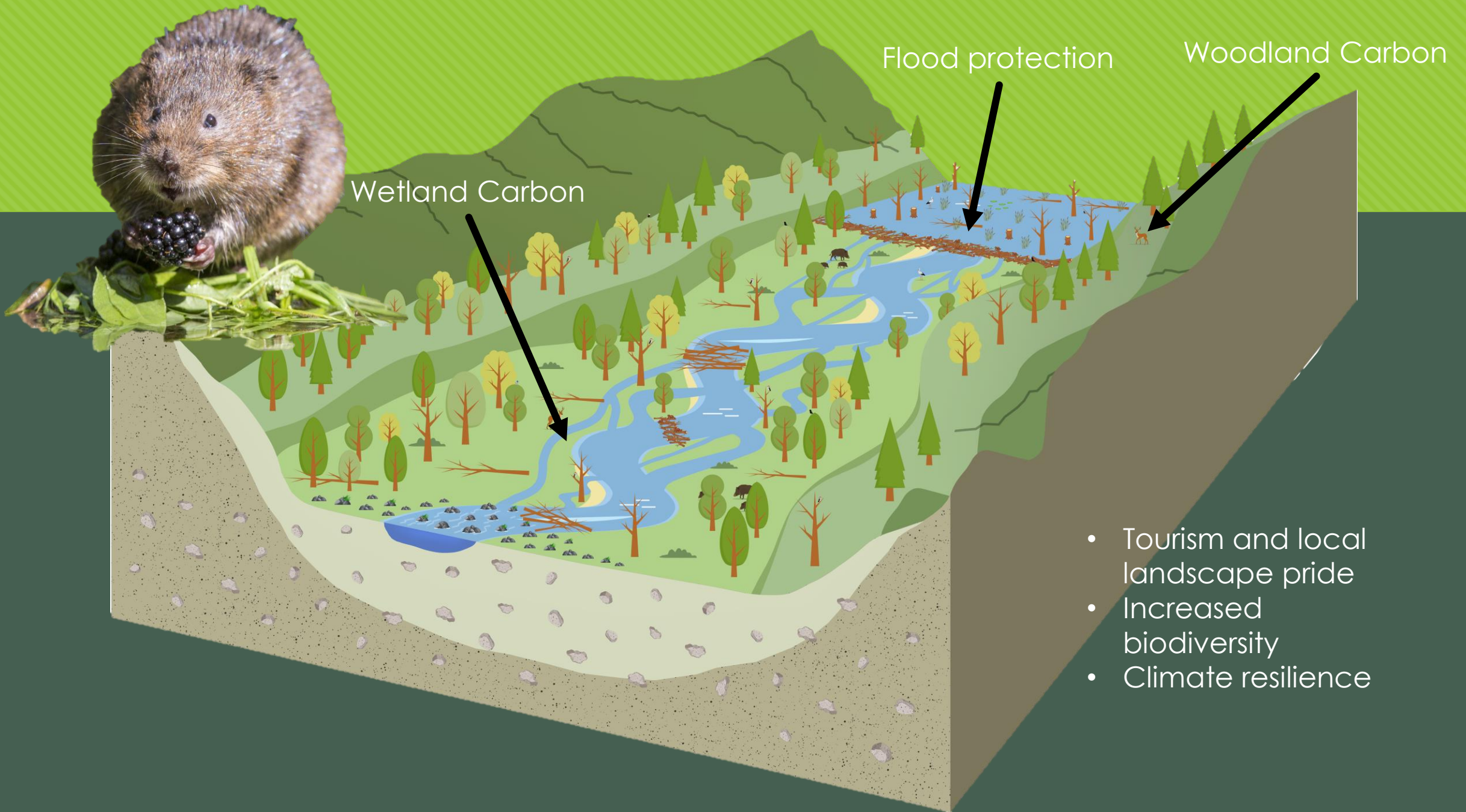


Wetland Carbon

Flood protection

Woodland Carbon

- Tourism and local landscape pride
- Increased biodiversity
- Climate resilience

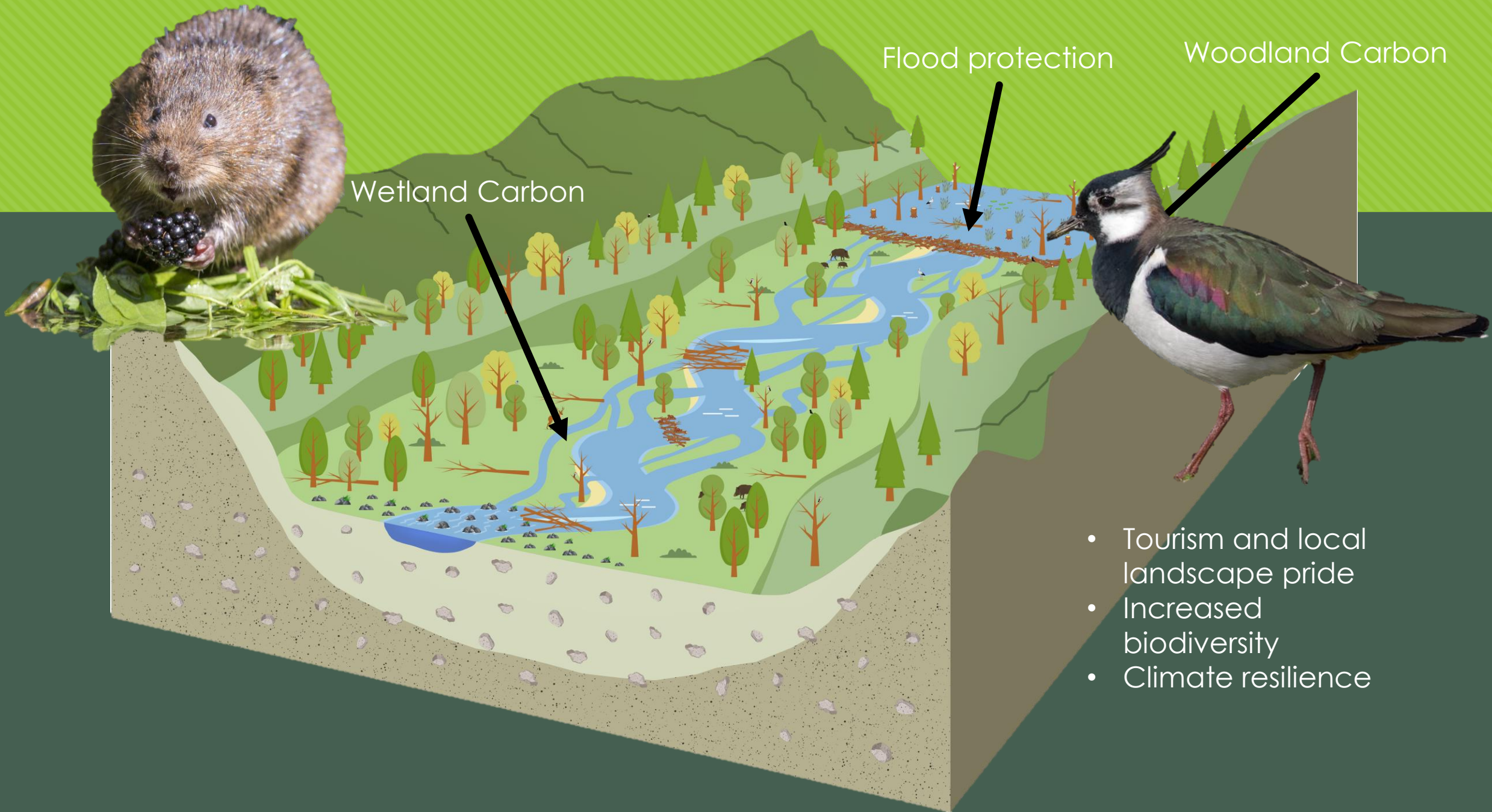


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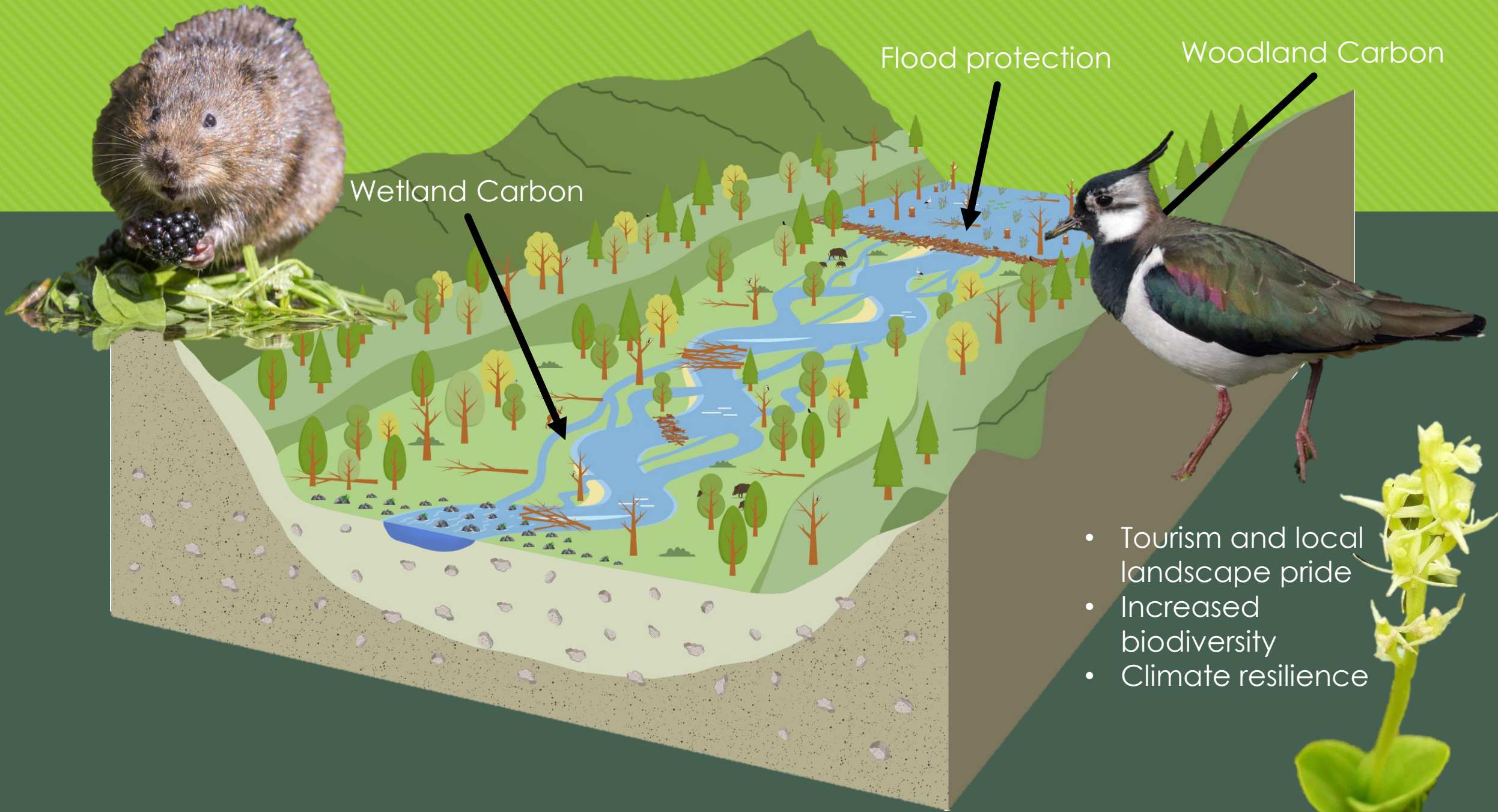


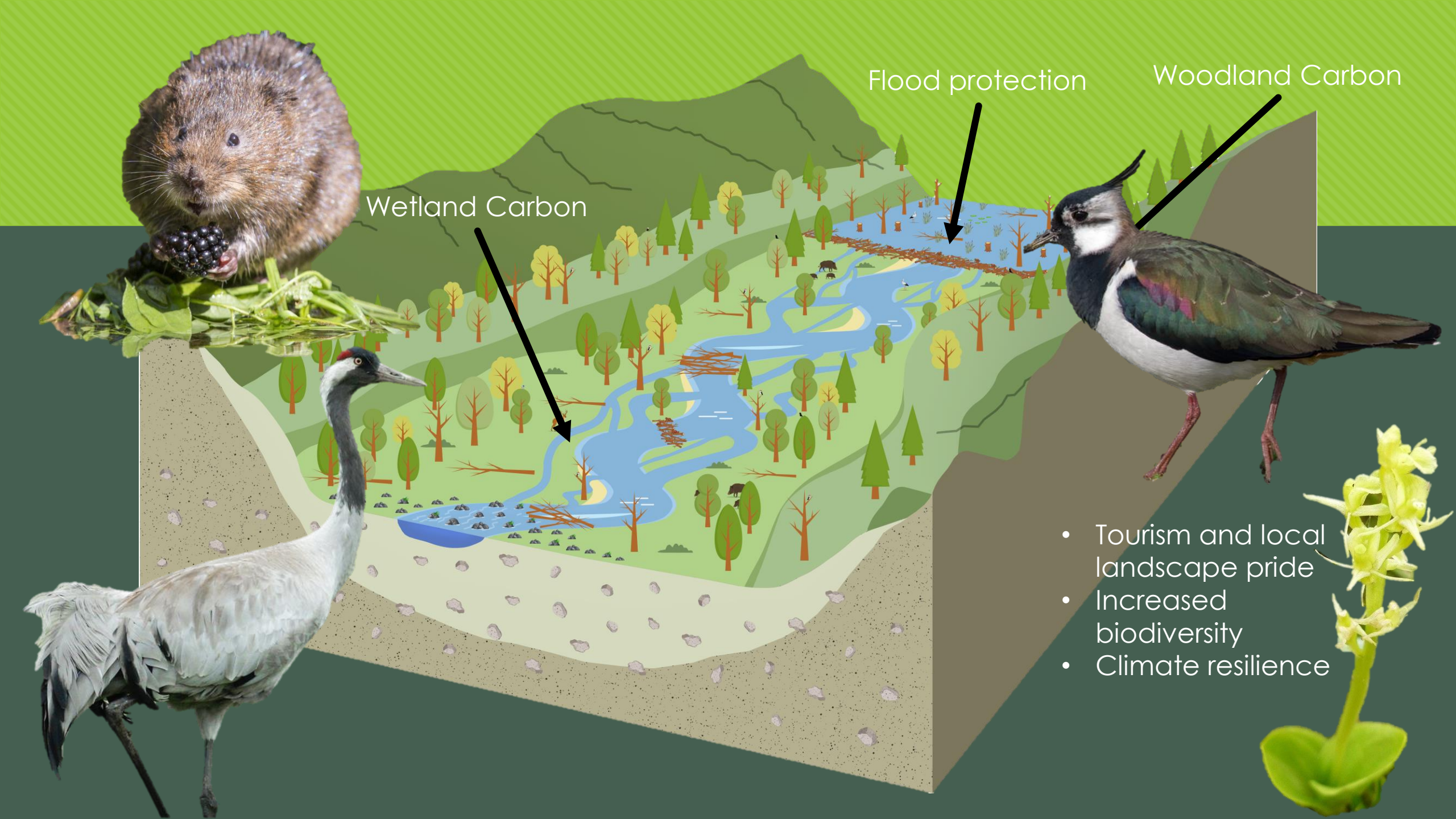
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Flood protection

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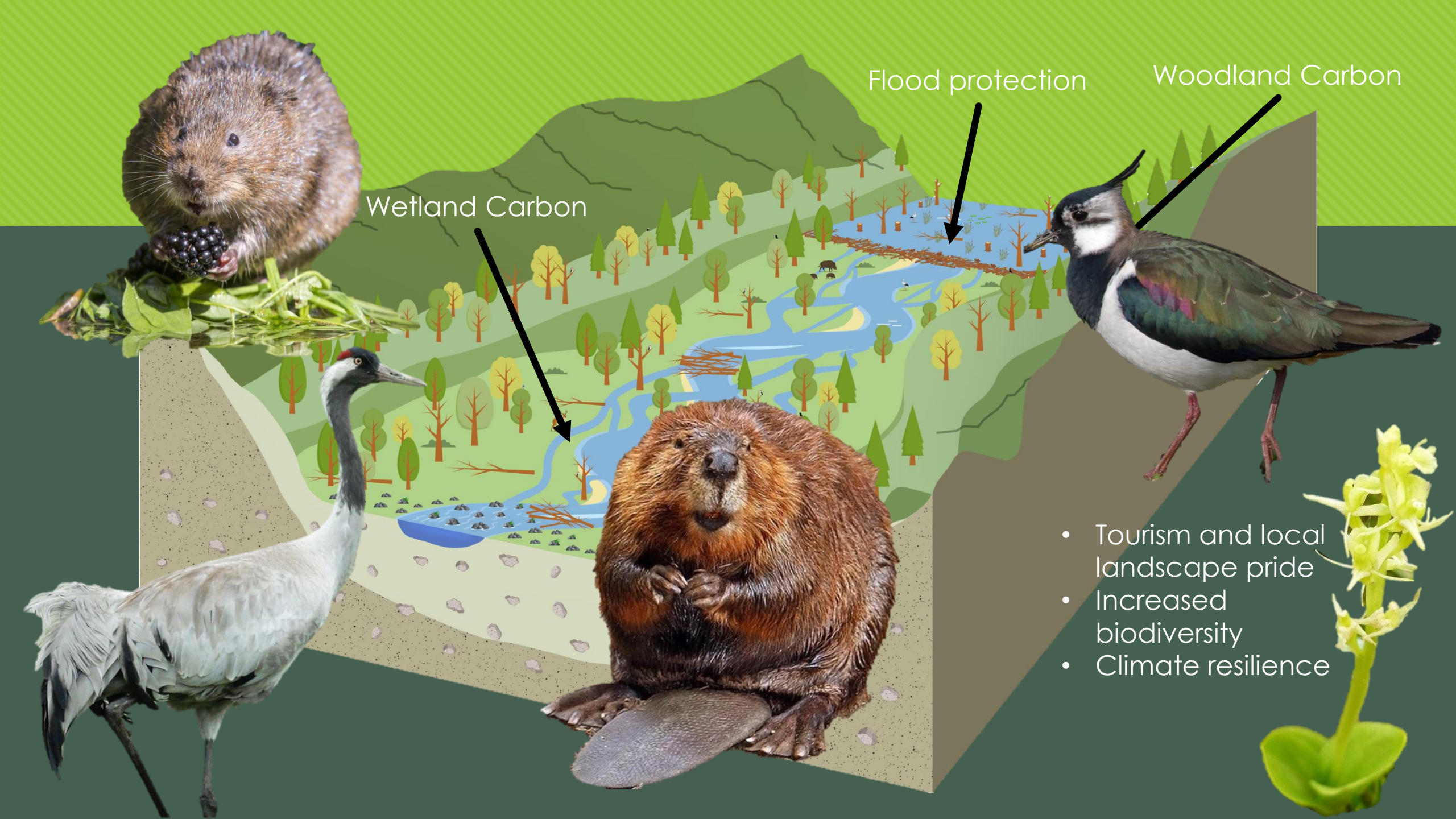


Wetland Carbon

Flood protection

Woodland Carbon

- Tourism and local landscape pride
- Increased biodiversity
- Climate resilience



Flood protection

Woodland Carbon

Wetland Carbon

- Tourism and local landscape pride
- Increased biodiversity
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What will a restored landscape look like?

- Reconnected floodplains, reducing flood pressures for habitations along the Waveney and Little Ouse valleys.
- River restoration: meandering, stage zero and in-channel modifications.
- Reducing inputs onto farmland in the project area.
- Natural regeneration of scrub and woodland habitats.
- Rough grazing on restored grassland habitats.





What have we got to offer?

Estimated tonnes of CO₂
sequestered over 50
years:

-266,803



Biodiversity Units (via
Biodiversity Metric 3.1):

5,346



9,969kg

reduction in Phosphorus
(P) exports



439kg

reduction in Nitrogen (N)
exports



450,948m³

of new floodwater
storage space



204,286m³

of runoff reduction into
local rivers



Building a blended finance model

- As a seller of ecosystem services, we must prioritise a system whereby landowners can make a living off environmentally focused services and solutions.
 - This could include environmental measures on food-producing land or wholesale change to managing the land for an ecosystem service.
 - Blended Finance is the combination of private investment and sales, alongside public money through DEFRA's Landscape Recovery Payments.

Building a blended finance model

- We must ensure our project has good MRV and delivers to the highest standard for the environment.
- We wish to codesign our ‘financial vehicle’, to aid the project’s competitiveness in a new market.
- We hope the project can be beneficial to multiple sectors, including DEFRA, the landowners, our trading partners and importantly, the local landscape and it’s communities.



Defining the right payment expectations

- What is the ecosystem service value of the land? vs. What is the realistic income for a landowner within ecosystem services?
- Blended Finance: What can we expect from the private markets?
- What can we expect from DEFRA's Landscape Recovery Payments?

Ultimately, for this to work for many, LR needs to be the strongest or one of the strongest economic options for the landscape.



Farm Business Impact Assessment

Farm Impact Study				
Outline Farm Data				
Land proposed for WaLOR:		ha		
			Current GM (Nix 54 ed)	
	Ha	Current enterprises	£/ha	Total/yr
Current use				£ -
				£ -
				£ -
				£ -
				£ -
	Totals	0	#DIV/0!	£ -
		Year	Rate (£/ha)	Total
Plus: Basic Payment	0	2020	£ 233.00	£ -
	0	2024	£ 117.00	£ -
Total GM + BP foregone	at	2020 BP rate		£ -
	at	2024 BP rate		£ -



Cost per tonne of carbon dioxide produced (in £ or €)

Europe (€ per tonne)

UK (£ per tonne)



Source: Data provided by ICE (via Montel); due to licensing this data is not available for download
EU & UK Emissions Trading Scheme prices (December contract)

Steps so far - in practice

We have taken the following steps to reach the current state:

We have a number of companies engaging with the project and a good understanding of their needs.

Develop understanding of industry and landscapes in the region

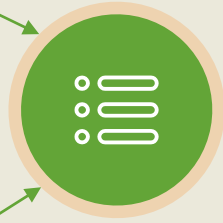


- Identify companies with an interest in the landscape
- Prioritise into a short-list

Initial meetings with companies to introduce the project and build rapport on behalf of WaLOR



Create materials to inform businesses about the opportunity



- Call and email
- Reach out to existing contacts
- Share project materials with companies



Deepen understanding of company specific demands via 'needs and requirements questionnaire'

Project Opportunities



- Landscape Scale Improvements
- Defining a new way to restore the environment through multi-agency collaboration
- A secure business opportunity for landowners
- A reliable ecosystem service selling project with robust monitoring and evaluation.
- A system that can grow its ambition beyond the development phase.

Engagement Opportunities

- If you have an interest in trading in ecosystem services, we want to hear from you!
- We have a questionnaire designed to understand the business needs from a Landscape Recovery Project.
- Spring Workshop: 16th May 2024. Introducing the details of our blended finance approach.

Project next steps in 2024.

- Document finalisation for DEFRA
- Sell ecosystem services and agree on monitoring and accreditation structure.
- Agree with landowners on the structure of the legal entity.
- Submit applications for legal permissions (EA, NE, Forestry England etc.).

Connecting Constable Country



Suffolk
Wildlife Trust

- 16,000ha of farmland
- 1650ha woodland and scrub
- 50m wide connectivity corridors
- Key deer control coordination at a landscape level
- Every farm with a net-zero plan
- Project-level carbon assessment and reduction plan
- A private and public blended funding proposal
- Carbon and biodiversity units available from 2026

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○ Questions!

Waveney & Little Ouse



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