

#### National Trust

# Wicken Fen

Creating a 53 square kilometre landscape for wildlife and people in Cambridgeshire

## Why do we need the Wicken Fen Vision?

Climate change

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Peat loss and declining soil health



Biodiversity in decline



Visitor pressure on fragile sites



Growing populations need greenspace

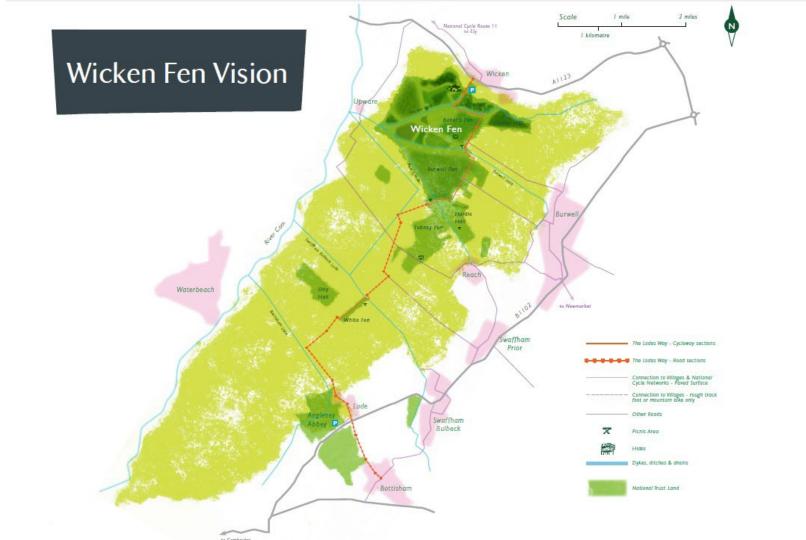


#### But there are also opportunities...

Only 1.6% of England is covered by fen but it is home to 27% of the UK's rarest species. Fens for the Future Partnership

Active partners with a vision to double land managed for nature in Cambridgeshire by 2050. Natural Cambridgeshire

Local academic, conservation & business community alert to the need for action on our doorstep.



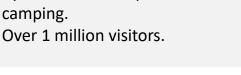
### The first 20 years...

Doubled size of nature reserve: 400 Ha new priority habitat.

Species returned: cranes, otters, water voles, dragonflies, dung beetles.

48km new and improved access. Cycle hire, boat trips and

Soil carbon emissions reduced by 80%. Rate of peat loss slowed.





### ...the future plan

Partnerships with landowners and tenants to increase space for nature on their land.

Increase diversity and access, benefitting local communities.

Monitor, research, learn and share knowledge.

Support a sustainable economy.

Climate action.

## Wicken Fen Nature Reserve Footprints: community engagement project



- Connect fen edge communities with their local heritage
- Provide activities that move, teach and inspire
- Make new partnerships with local organisations
- Engage local people with the fen landscape around them and encourage them to become part of its story and future
- Engender support for the Wicken Fen Vision

## What can you do?

- Include the Vision in parish neighbourhood plans
- Ask about National Trust support in managing land or connecting with others
- Connect with Footprints, our Community Engagement Project
- Speak to us about project opportunities such as Reach 24 or co-farm initiatives
- Attend our Community Liaison Forum
- Use Natural Cambridgeshire's Nature Recovery Toolkit





#### Thank you for listening.

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