



Dartmoor National Park

Management Plan 2007 - 2012

December 2007





Foreword

I am delighted to put my name to the *Dartmoor National Park Management Plan 2007 – 2012*. If, collectively and individually, we are able to put as much commitment, effort and passion into delivering this Plan as we have devoted to the review, consultation and drafting process of the past 20 months, we will have every reason to be confident. The unprecedented levels of engagement, co-operation and attention to detail on the part of all parties working on this new Plan have been admirable and, on behalf of the Dartmoor National Park Authority, I must record my unreserved appreciation.

The level of sign-up and support amongst stakeholders for the Vision, Key Principles and Ambitions of the new Plan also promises well for the future. I make no apology for repeating the mantra: this is a Plan for us all, and not solely for the National Park Authority. The Authority will play a leading role in co-ordinating the Plan's delivery, measuring progress, and providing encouragement and support in pursuit of the goals; but the commitment and the responsibility is something we must all share. For many of us the Management Plan will advise and inform our respective Corporate Plans while itself remaining a living document. In that respect, I envisage a new approach towards working together as key stakeholders, with meetings on an annual basis to assess progress, seek to resolve difficulties,

and embrace new opportunities. I believe we can do more to make the State of the Park report a better tool in support of this approach.

The publication of the Management Plan marks the start of our journey. There certainly will be challenges, not least the inevitable pressures upon finite financial resources. Some stakeholders may be faced with conflicting strategic priorities, and resolution between these and their *Environment Act 1995* Section 62 responsibilities and the key principles of this Management Plan will be of fundamental importance. I believe that the Management Plan has the potential for us all to support bids for new money, but finance is not the only factor. Our aspirations demand a common philosophical and cultural ethos towards Dartmoor, and, as ever, innovation, partnerships, and new approaches to old problems will be of great significance. The pace of change in today's world is, without doubt, a challenge in itself, and in some respects time is not on our side. If we are to do our duty as custodians of Dartmoor, my message is, "we have a five year time-line, let's get started!"

On behalf of Dartmoor National Park Authority, I pledge our commitment to working with all partners and stakeholders in the spirit of the Plan we have created together. We have much to cherish and, together, we can achieve great things and build a legacy of which we can all be proud. I see the publication of this Management Plan as the start of that process.

Nigel Hoskin, Chairman, Dartmoor National Park Authority

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and not solely for the
National Park Authority.*



Consultation

This *Dartmoor National Park Management Plan* is the outcome of extensive consultation with those who have an interest in Dartmoor's future, including statutory agencies and representatives from local communities, amenity and special interest groups, and the general public.

The consultation began with a conference in April 2006. This was followed by a series of workshops which celebrated the special qualities that Dartmoor possesses, identified issues that may affect its future, and explored ways of moving forward. The draft *Dartmoor National Park Management Plan* then underwent formal consultation during June and July 2007. The final Plan has been produced having considered the responses received.

An Environmental Report accompanies this Plan. It sets out the Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal which aims to ensure the Plan does not have adverse environmental impacts. An Appropriate Assessment has also been undertaken which assesses the impact of the Plan on Special Areas of Conservation. Both the Report and the Assessment can be viewed on-line at www.dartmoor-npa.gov.uk or are available in hard format by request.

The Management Plan has been prepared by Land Use Consultants in conjunction with a project team of Dartmoor National Park Authority staff, guided by a steering group comprising the Senior Management Team and Members of the Authority.

*... the outcome of
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