

Part Three

Potential Measures Mapping

Pre-consultation draft November 2024

Prepared by Kent County Council

All maps can be viewed online (with a zoom function) at Kent & Medway LNRS Measures

Connectivity potential measures mapping

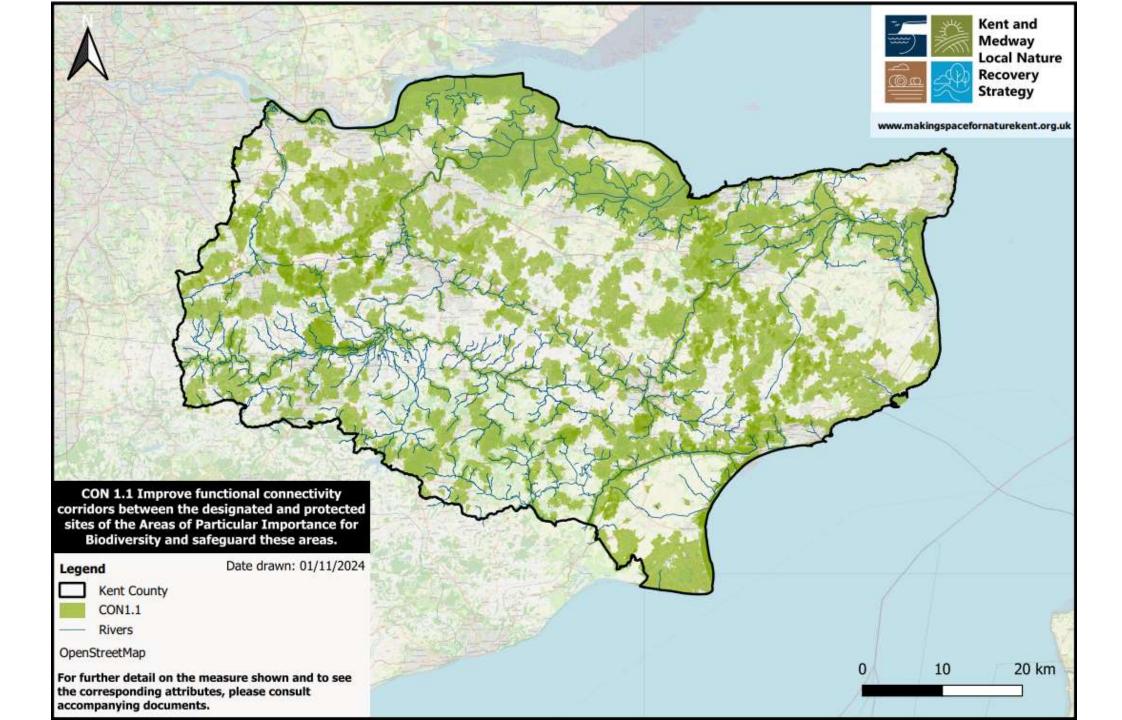
Priority CON1 County's key wildlife sites better connected by addressing the fragmentation and barriers preventing movement of species.

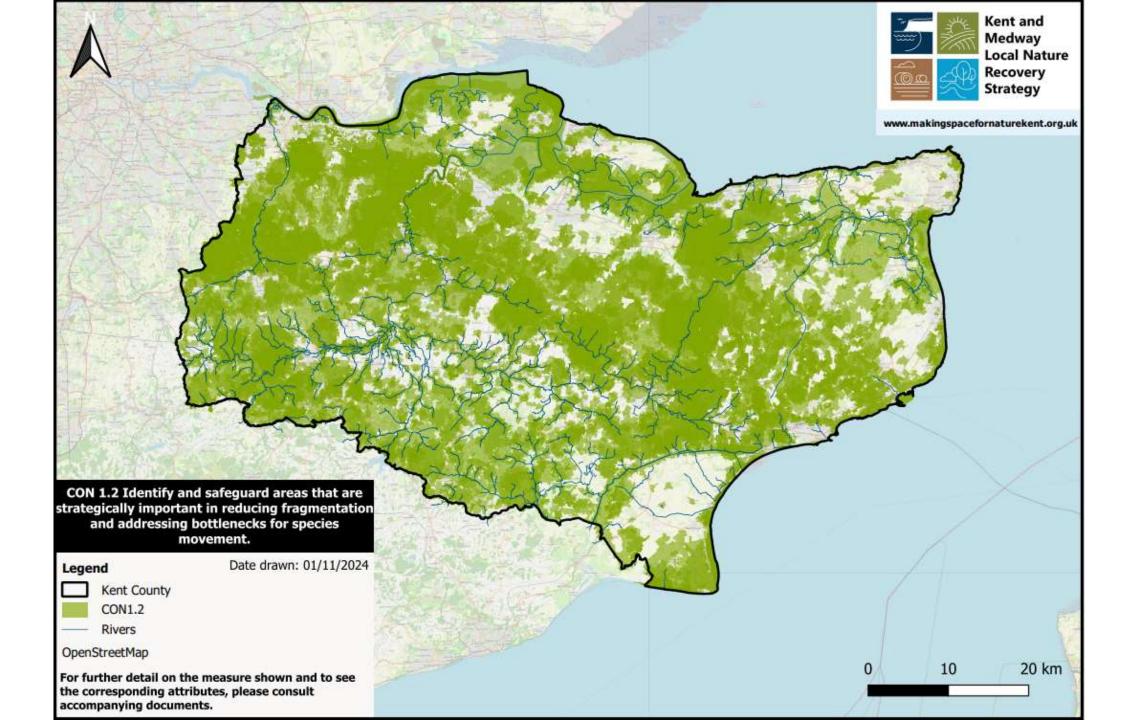


CON1.1 Improve functional connectivity corridors between the designated and protected sites of the Areas of Particular Importance for Biodiversity and safeguard these areas.



CON1.2 Identify and safeguard areas that are strategically important in reducing fragmentation and addressing bottlenecks for species movement.

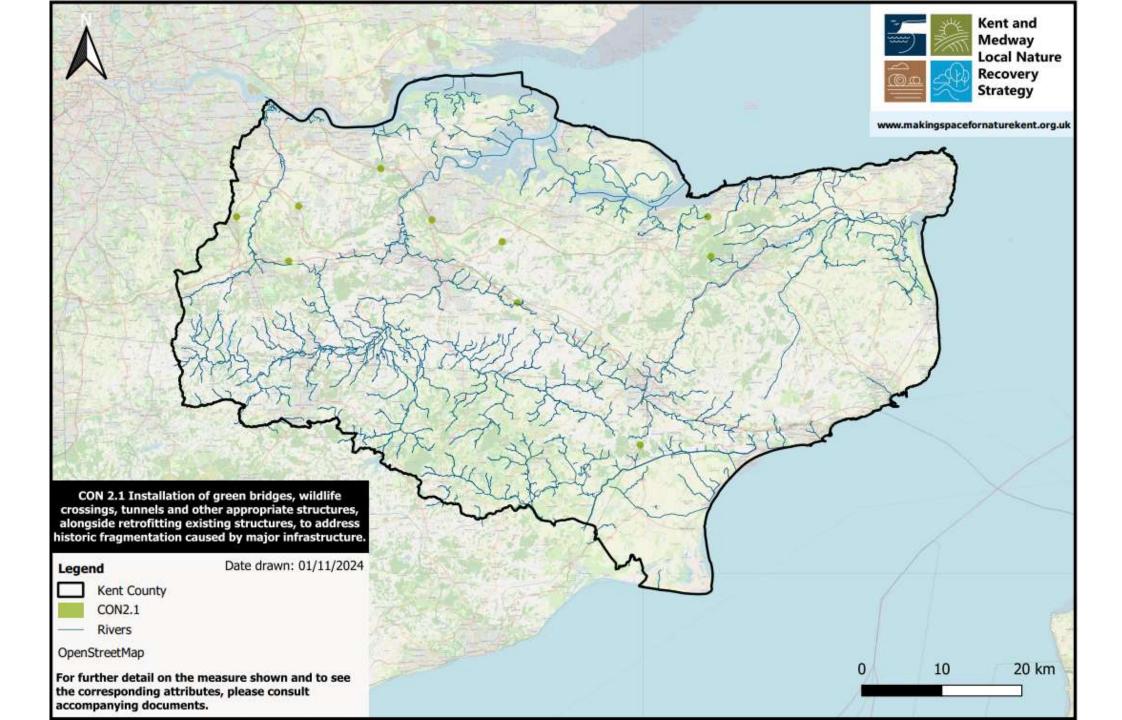




Priority CON2 Fragmentation caused by arterial roads, railway and other major infrastructure retrospectively addressed, reconnecting habitats and wildlife pathways.



CON2.1 Installation of functional green bridges, wildlife crossings, tunnels and other appropriate structures, alongside retrofitting existing structures, to address historic fragmentation caused by major infrastructure.



Priority CON3 Habitats functionally connected at both a county and local scale, delivering bigger, better, more and joined up with no important wildlife habitats, or species populations, left completely isolated.



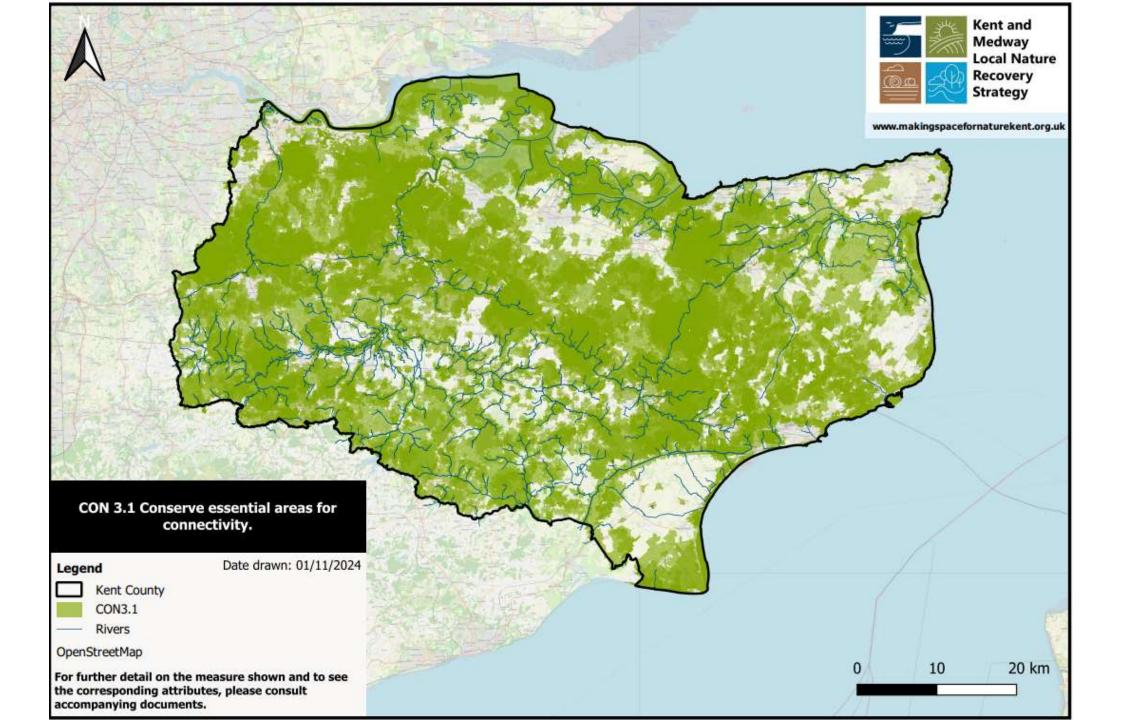
CON3.1 Conserve essential areas for functional connectivity.

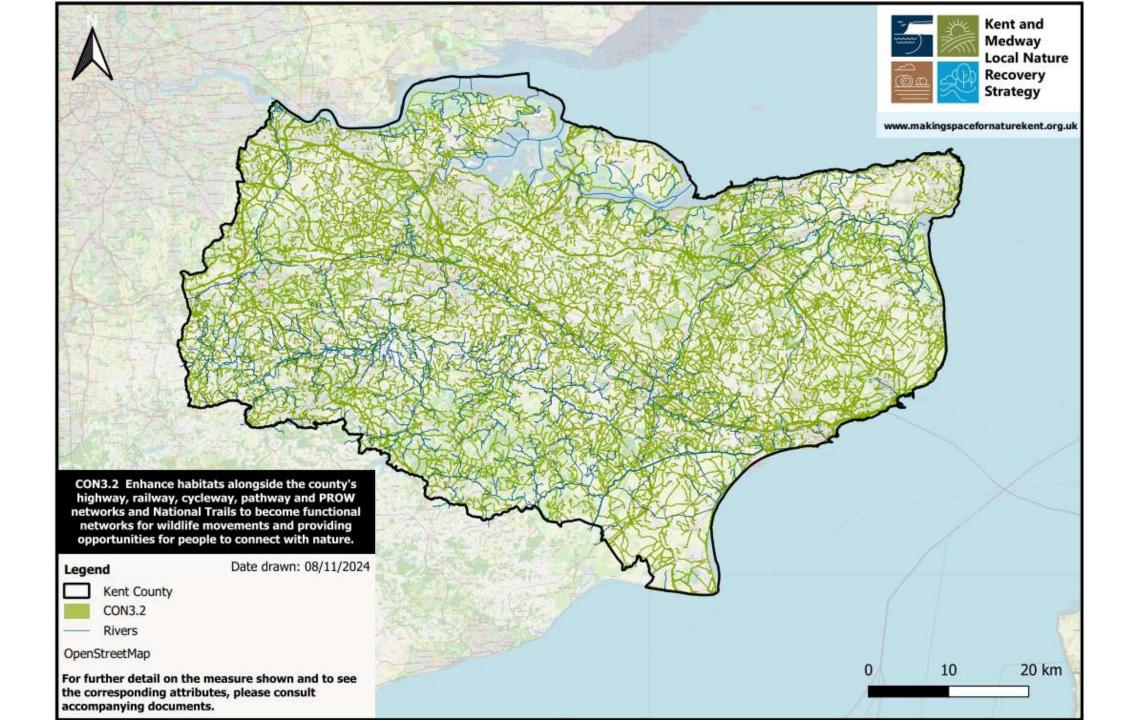


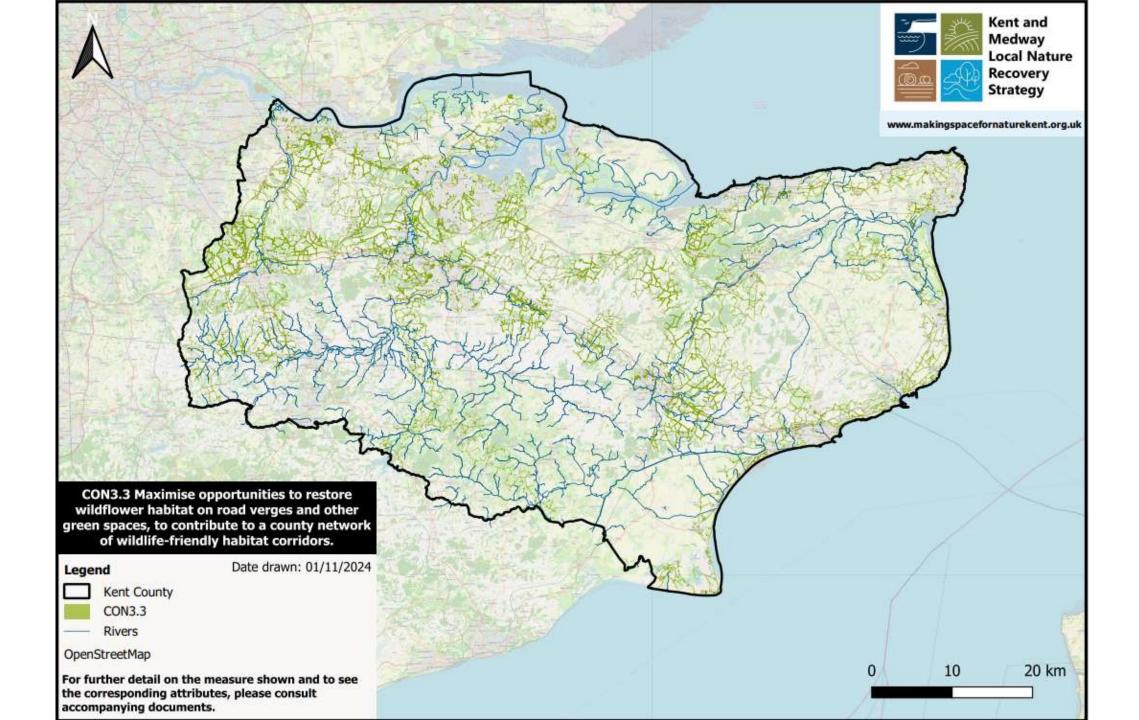
CON3.2 Enhance habitats alongside the county's highway, railway, cycleway, pathway and PROW networks and National Trails to become functional networks for wildlife movements and providing opportunities for people to connect with nature.



CON3.3 Maximise opportunities to restore wildflower habitat on road verges and other green spaces, to contribute to a county network of wildlife-friendly habitat corridors



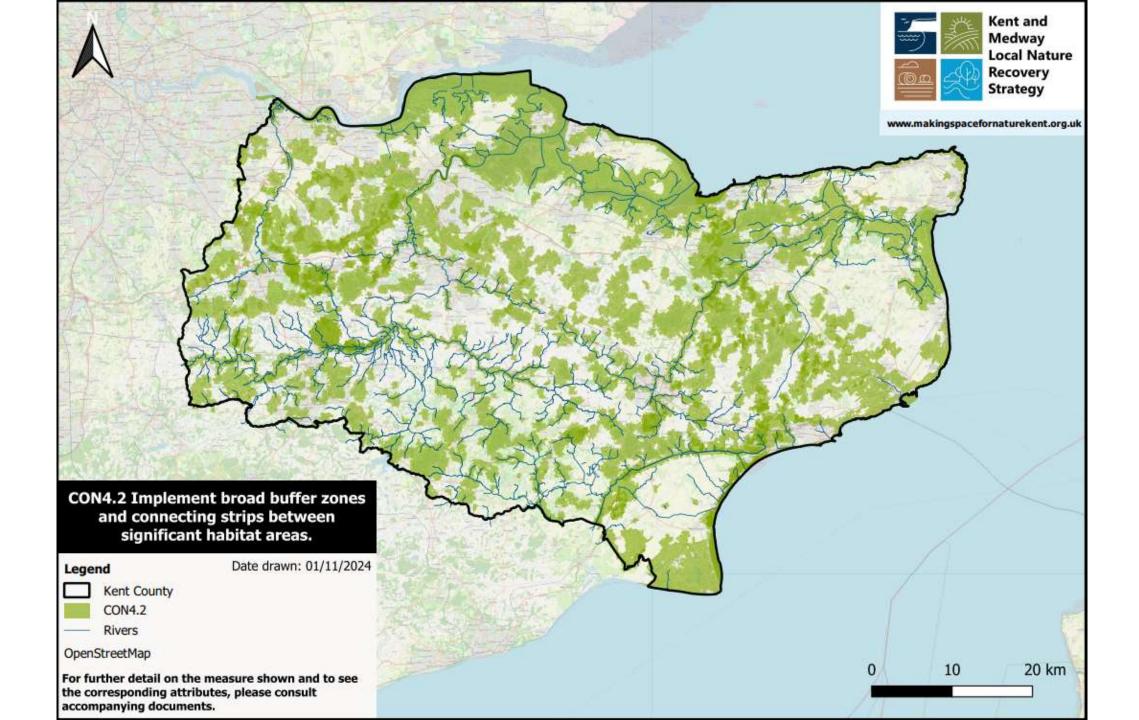




Priority CON4 Management of habitats and wildling approaches to deliver a connected mosaic of habitats at a large scale, where nature can flourish, and species requirements are considered.



CON4.2 Implement broad buffer zones and connecting strips between significant habitat areas.



Land management and land use potential measures mapping

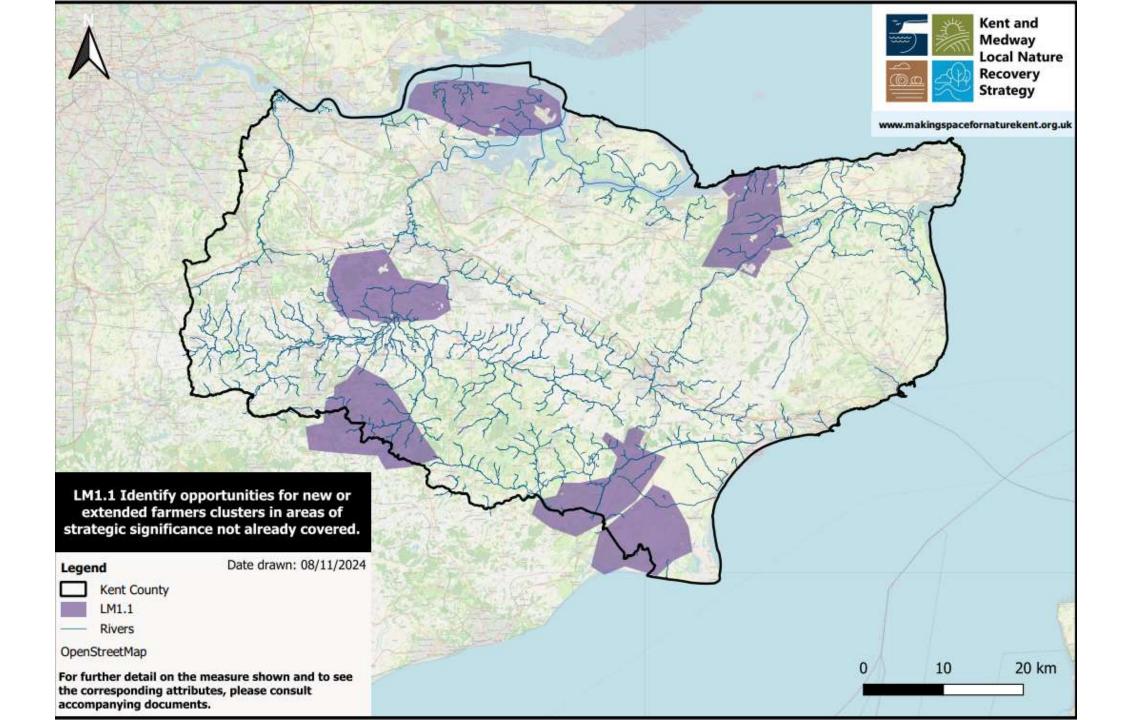
Priority LM1 Increase in the number of farms employing nature friendly farming practices, sensitive land management and delivering targeted action for nature recovery, resulting in farmland across the county that is rich in wildlife.

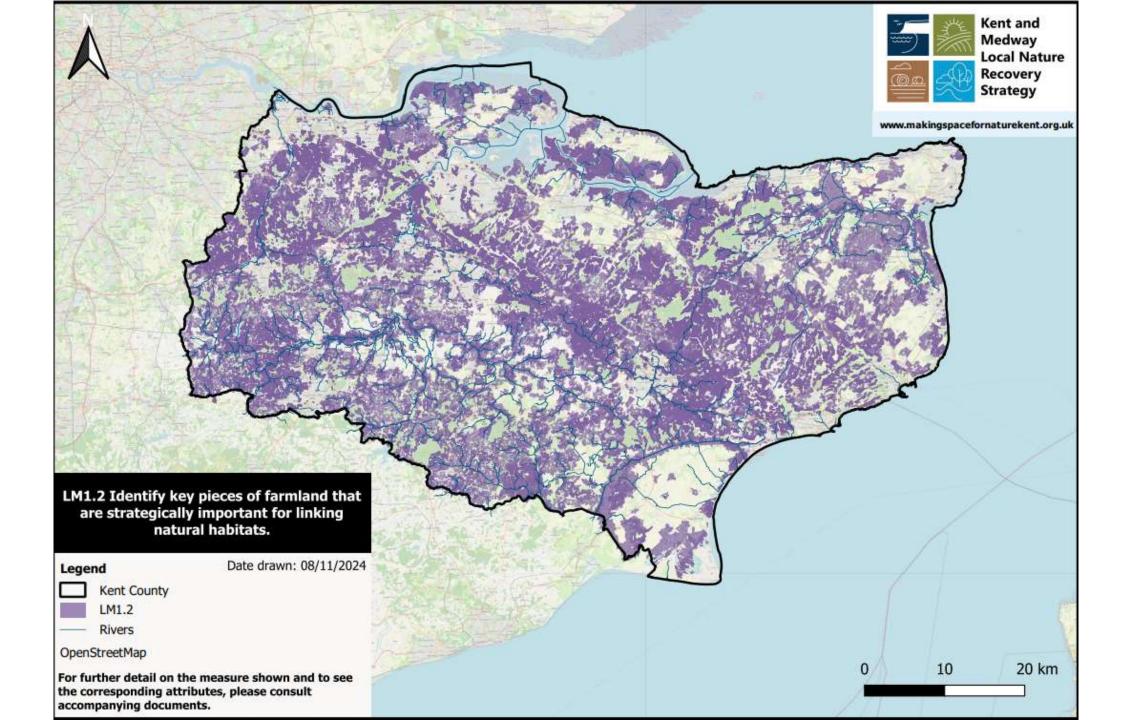


LM1.1 Identify opportunities for new or extended farmers clusters in areas of strategic significance not already covered



LM1.2 Identify key pieces of farmland that are strategically important for linking natural habitats

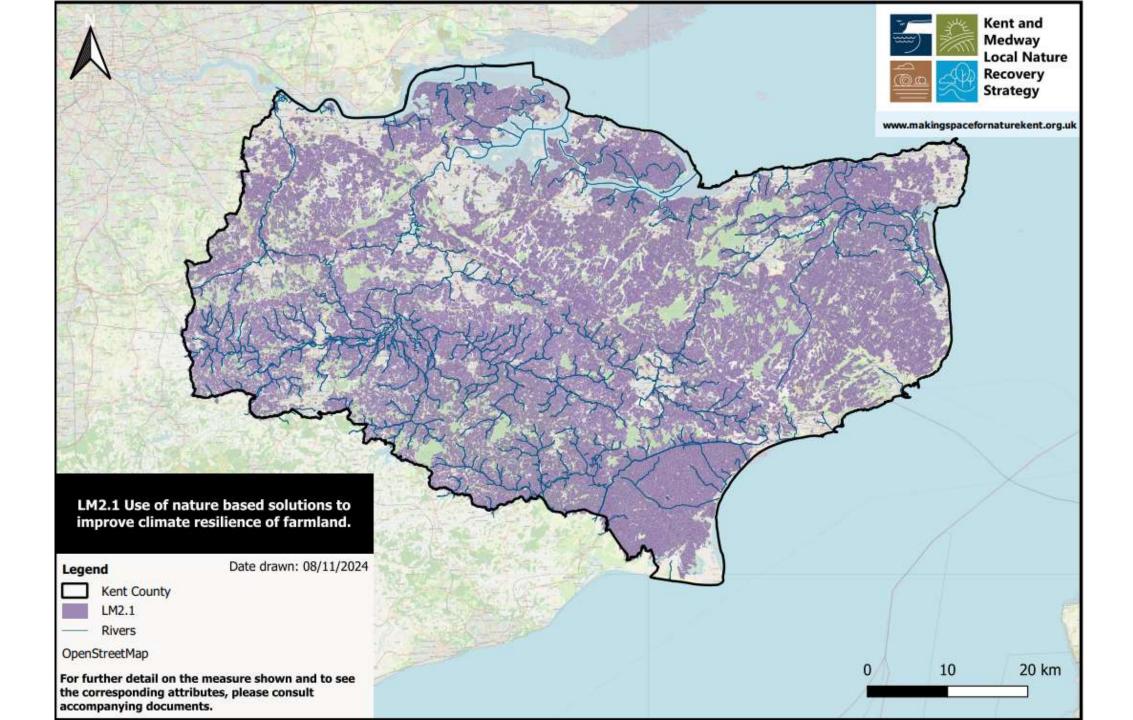




Priority LM2 Farmland responding to climate change induced pressures with the help of nature.



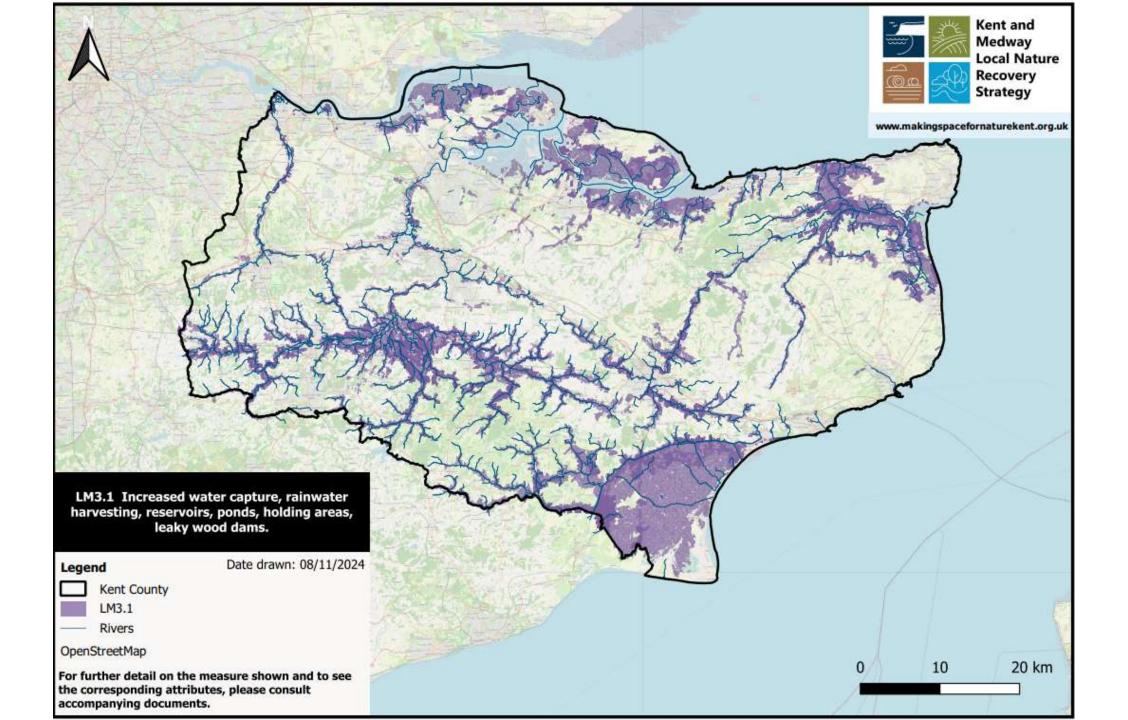
LM2.1 Use of nature-based solutions to improve climate resilience of farmland.



Priority LM3 Prevent agricultural diffuse pollution of freshwater habitats and groundwater bodies in farmland.



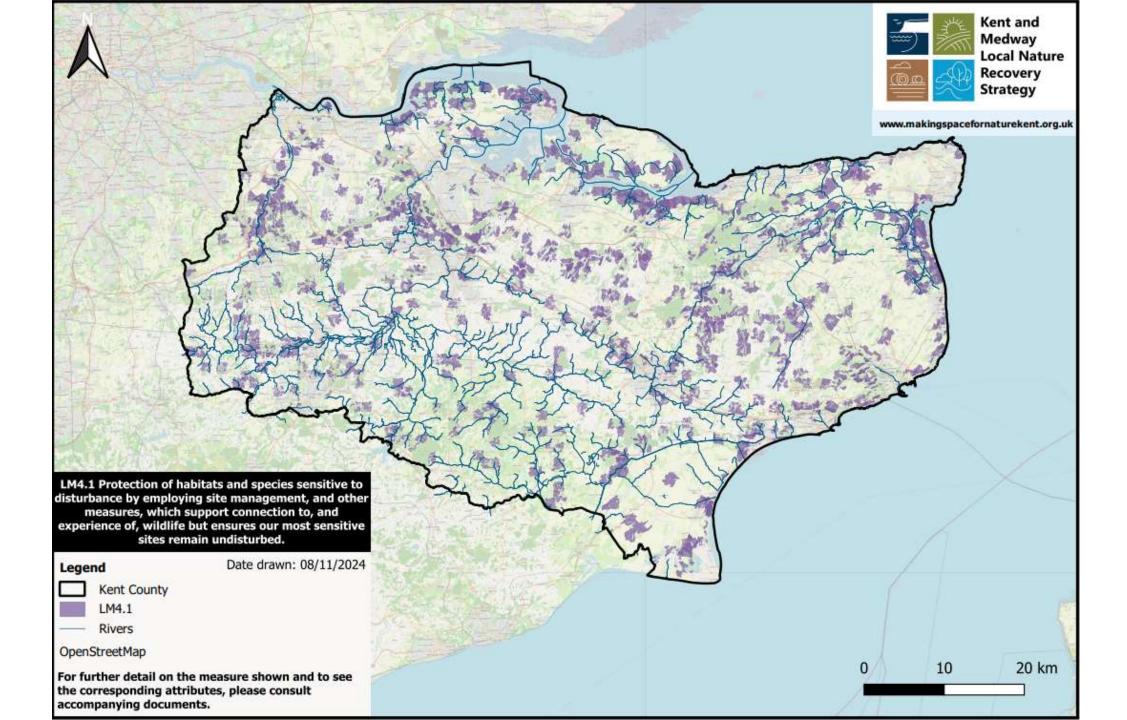
LM3.1 Increased water capture, rainwater harvesting, reservoirs, ponds, holding areas, leaky wood dams.



Priority LM4 Publicly accessible open spaces managed to deliver benefits for wildlife, as well as the people that use them.



LM4.1 Protection of habitats and species sensitive to disturbance by employing site management, and other measures, which support connection to, and experience of, wildlife but ensures our most sensitive sites remain undisturbed.



Grassland potential measures mapping

Priority GL1 Chalk grasslands are safeguarded from land use changes and other threats, and restored to a better and species-rich condition. They are connected and buffered across the landscape to promote ecological integrity and resilience, particularly for the purpose of facilitating species movements in response to climate change.



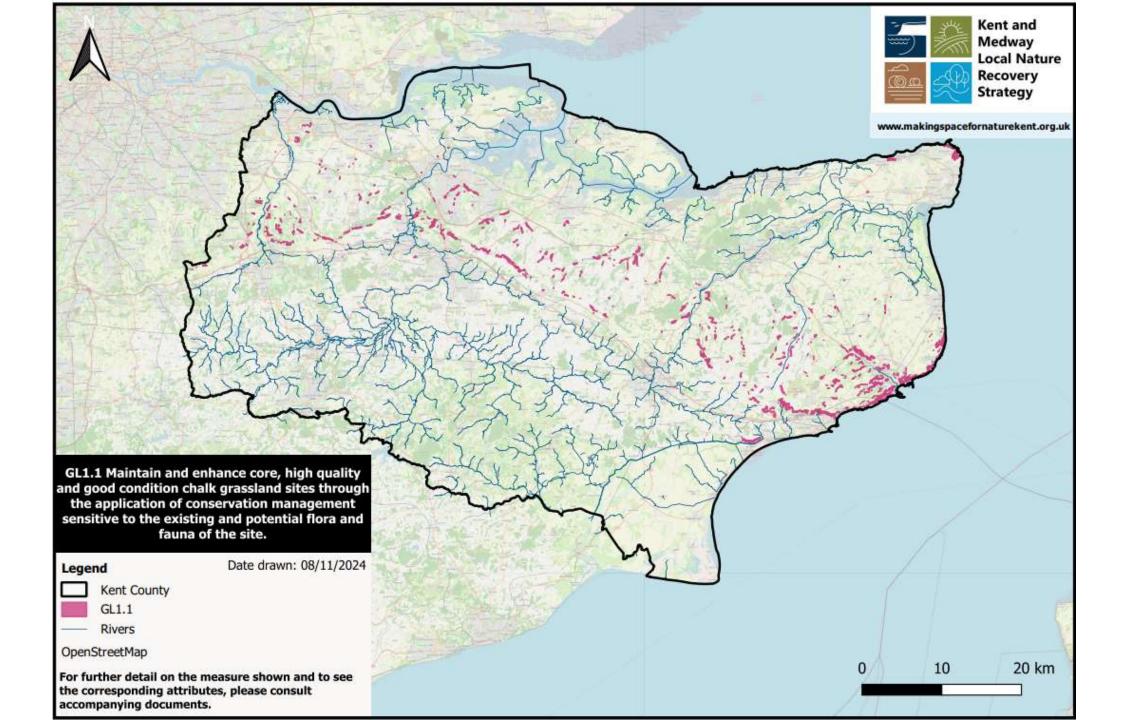
GL1.1 Maintain and enhance core, high quality and good condition chalk grassland sites through the application of conservation management sensitive to the existing and potential flora and fauna of the site

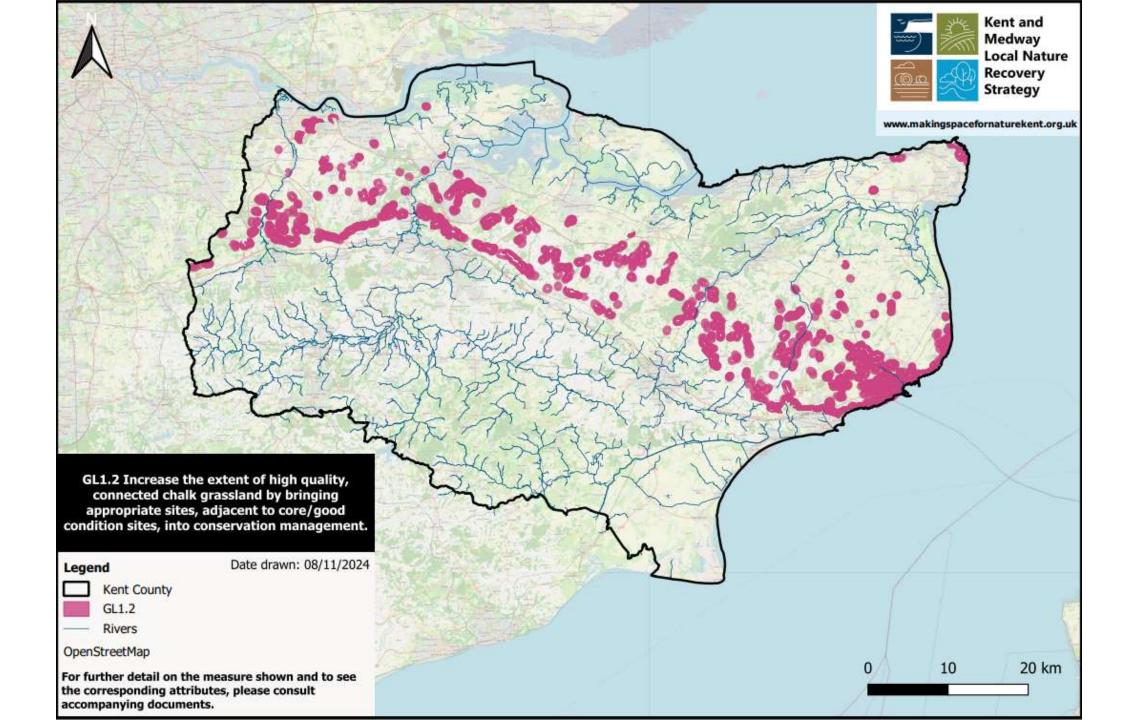


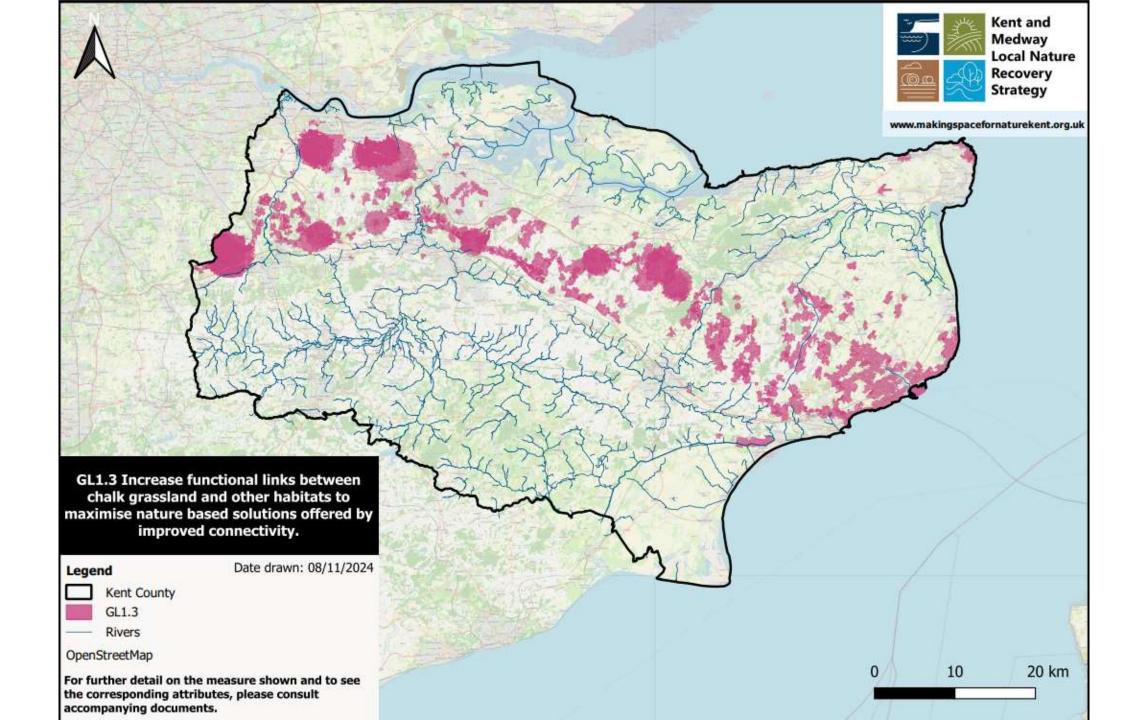
GL1.2 Increase the extent of high quality, connected chalk grassland by bringing appropriate sites, adjacent to core/good condition sites, into conservation management.



GL1.3 Increase functional links between chalk grassland and other habitats to maximise nature-based solutions offered by improved connectivity







Priority GL2 Existing coastal and floodplain grazing marsh restored to better condition and retaining more freshwater, with sensitive areas, and the breeding waders they support, protected from land management and recreational disturbance. Opportunities taken to create and extend areas of this habitat and increase its climate resilience.



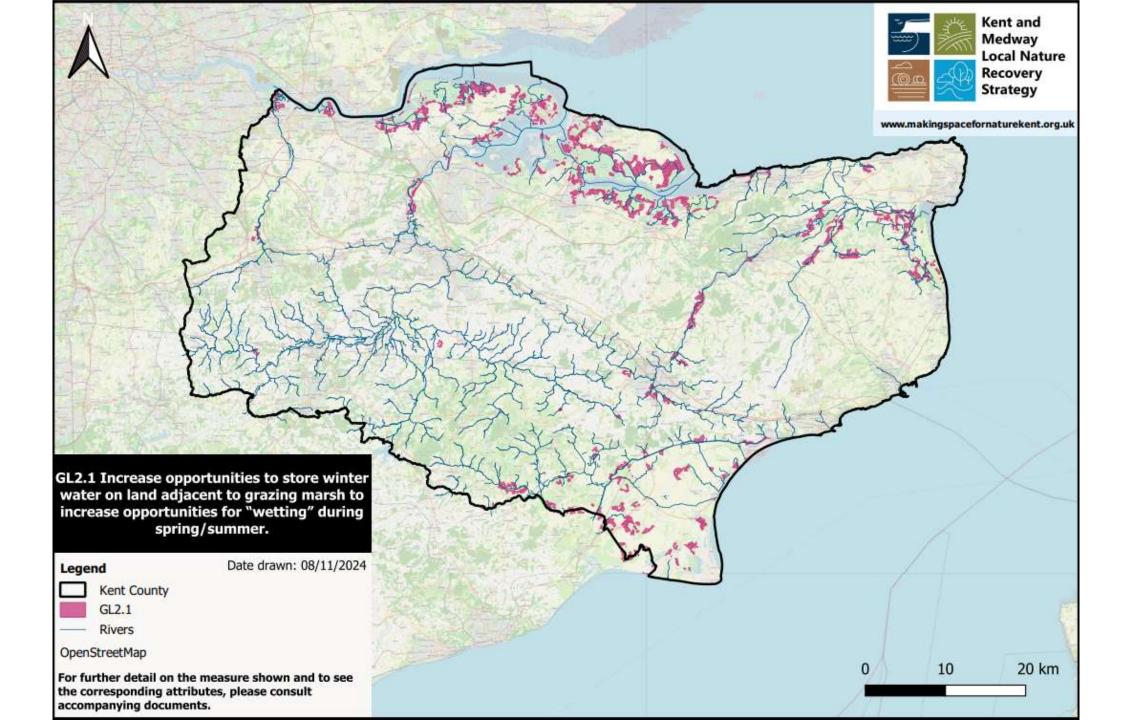
GL2.1 Increase opportunities to store winter water on land adjacent to grazing marsh to increase opportunities for "wetting" during spring/summer.

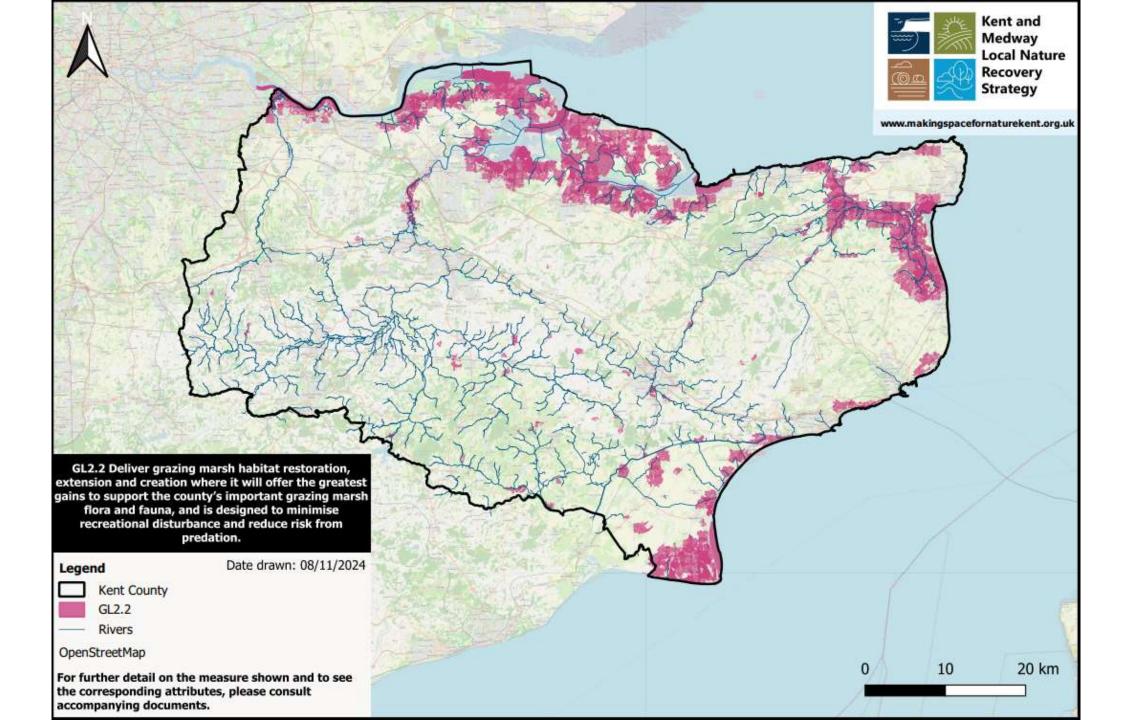


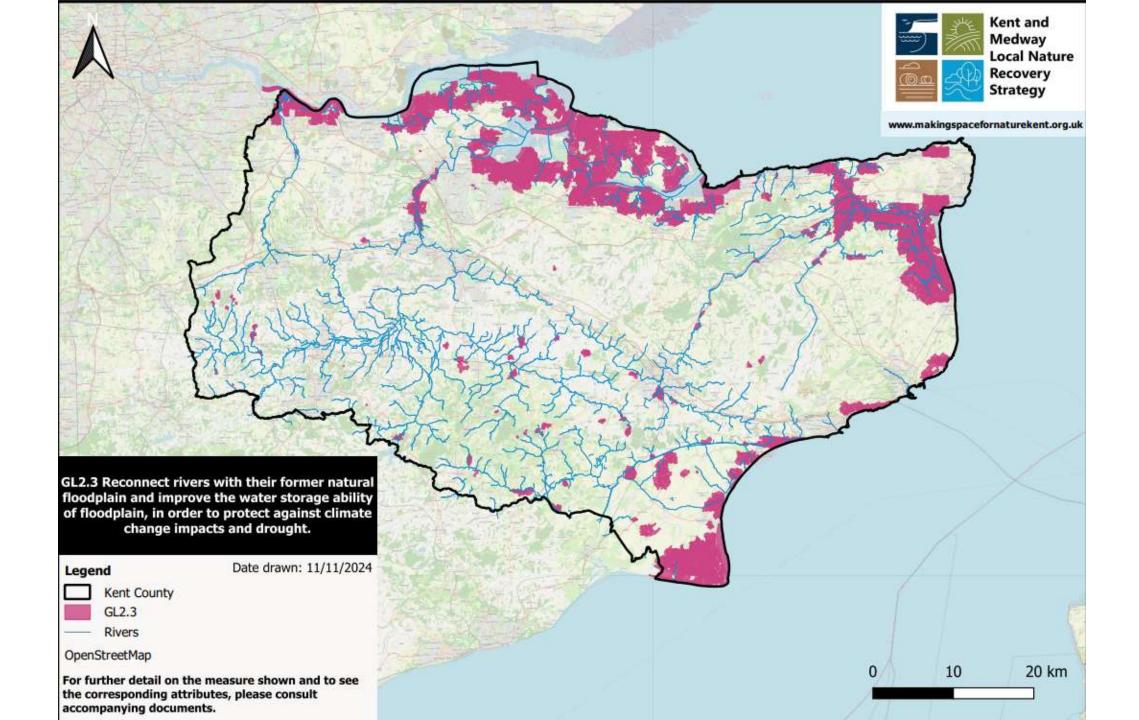
GL2.2 Deliver grazing marsh habitat restoration, extension and creation where it will offer the greatest gains to support the county's important grazing marsh flora and fauna and is designed to minimise recreational disturbance and reduce risk from predation.



GL2.3 Reconnect rivers with their former natural floodplain and improve the water storage ability of floodplain, in order to protect against climate change impacts and drought.







Priority GL3 Existing species-rich lowland meadow is safeguarded from loss, restored to better condition and extended through sensitive land management practices to reduce soil nutrient levels. Through the extension of lowland meadow, this habitat is better connected, reducing the risk of isolated meadow species and declines in species richness.



GL3.1 Maintain and enhance core, high quality and good condition lowland meadow sites through the application of grazing/cutting regimes sensitive to the existing and potential flora and fauna of the site



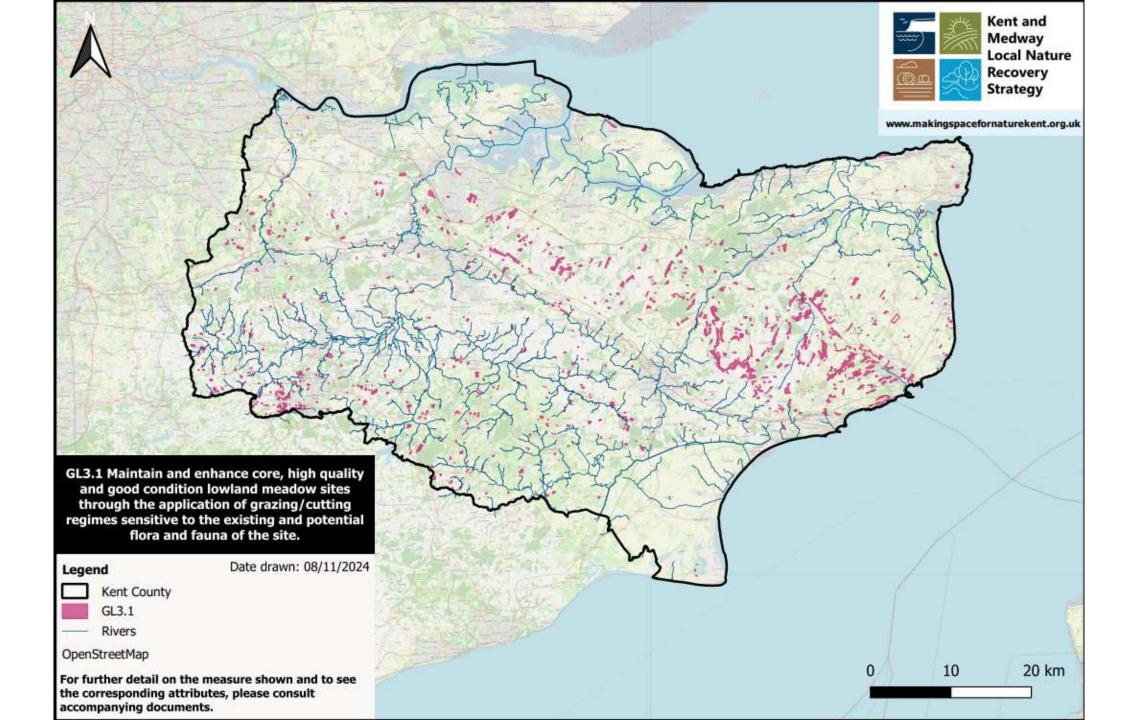
GL3.2 Increase the extent of high quality, connected lowland meadow by creating new lowland meadow sites, in close proximity to core/good condition sites.

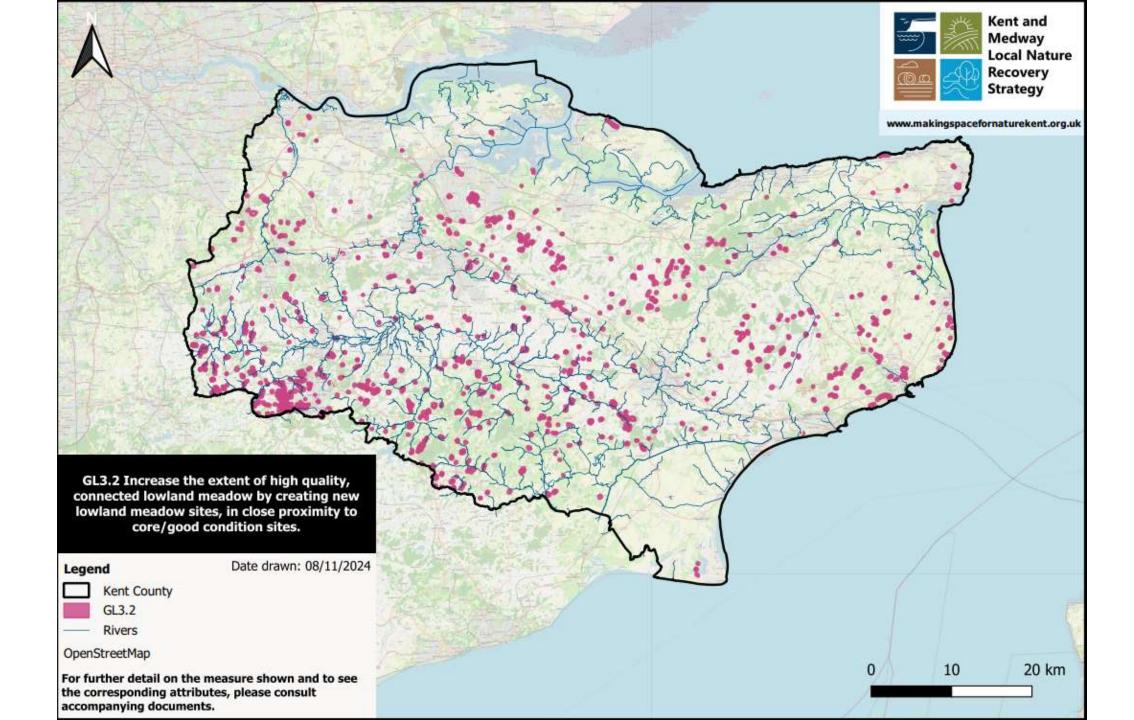


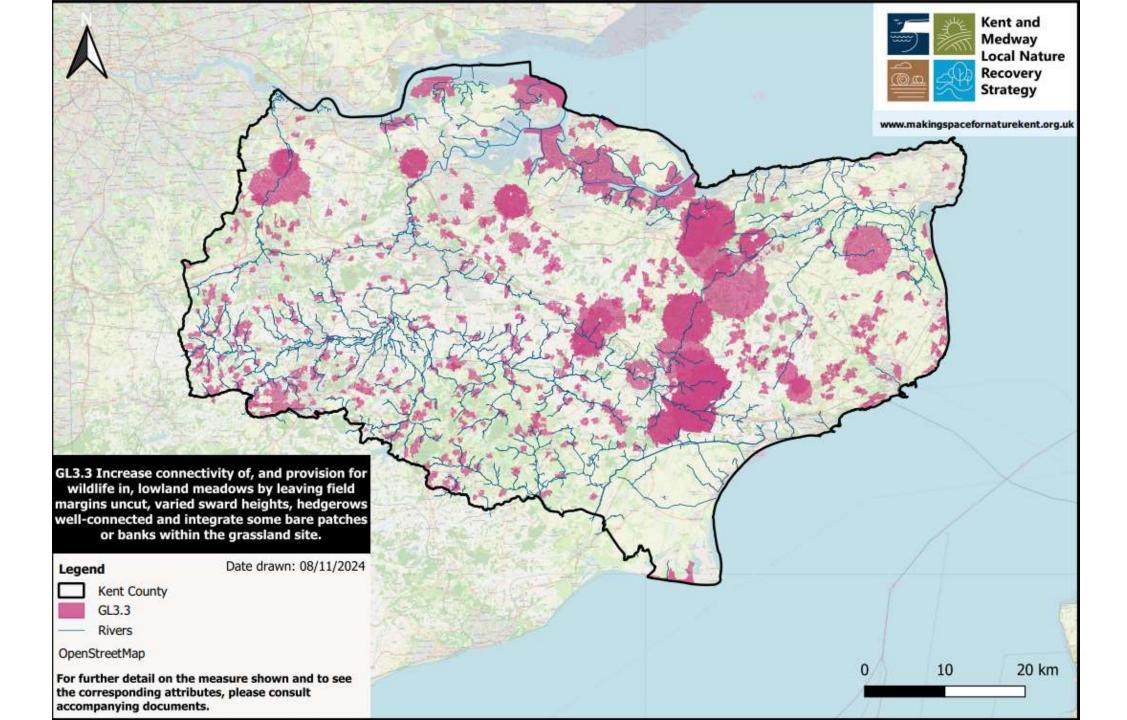
GL3.3 Increase connectivity of, and provision for wildlife in, lowland meadows by leaving field margins uncut, varied sward heights, hedgerows well-connected and integrate some bare patches or banks within the grassland site.

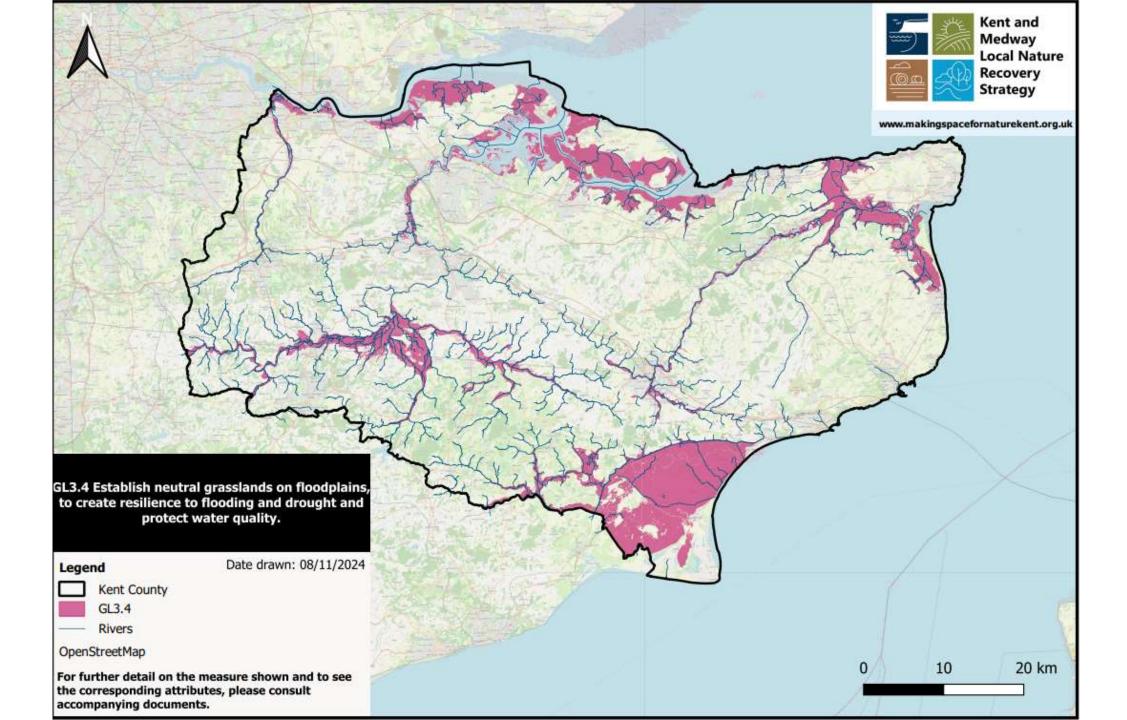


GL3.4 Establish neutral grasslands on floodplains, to create resilience to flooding and drought and protect water quality.









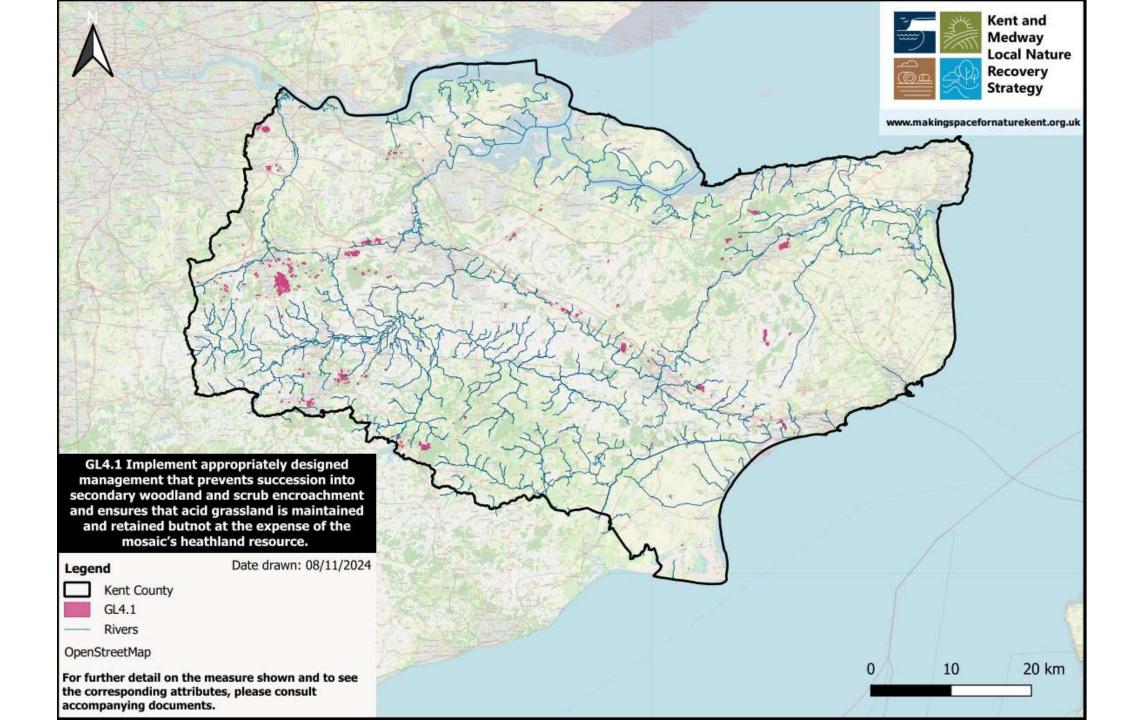
Priority GL4 Retain, restore and extend the county's acid grassland and heathland habitat mosaics, to improve the species diversity that these habitats, with limited extent in Kent and Medway, support.

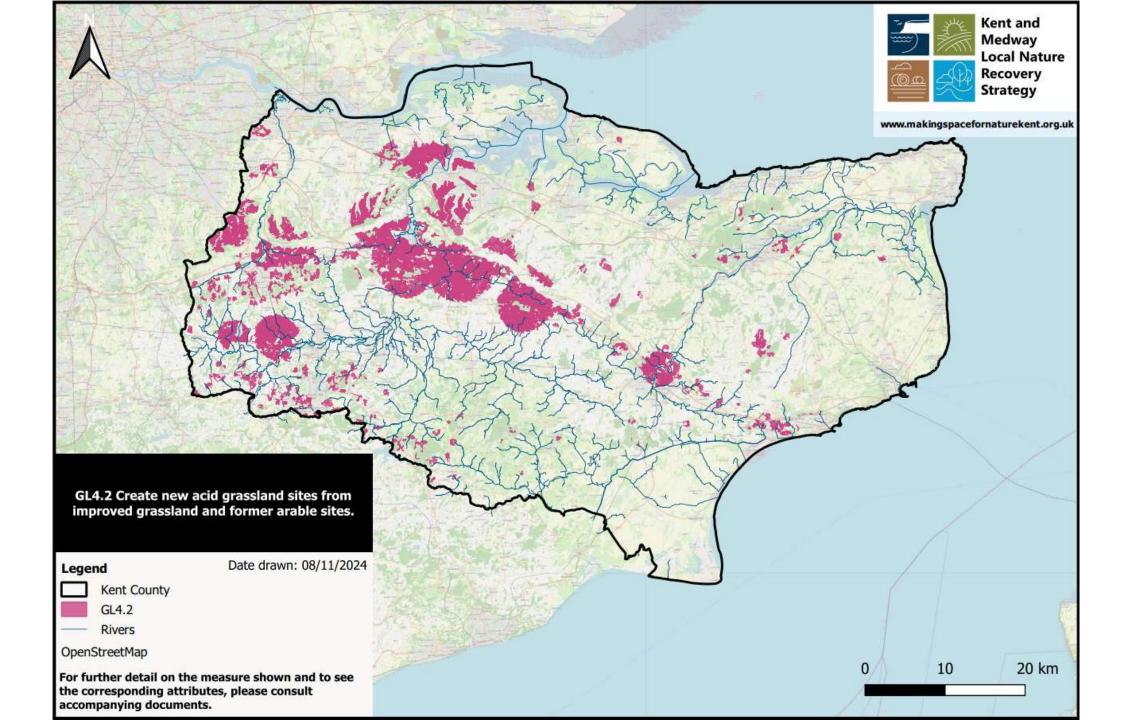


GL4.1 Implement appropriately designed management that prevents succession into secondary woodland and scrub encroachment and ensures that acid grassland is maintained and retained but not at the expense of the mosaic's heathland resource. Grazing regime provides maximum diversity and a combination of larger open areas and smaller mosaic "glades" to provide habitat for breeding birds, reptiles and invertebrates. Climate resilience is built into management.



GL4.2 Create new acid grassland sites from improved grassland and former arable sites.





Priority GL5 Safeguard, restore and increase fields with a diversity and abundance of arable wild plants.



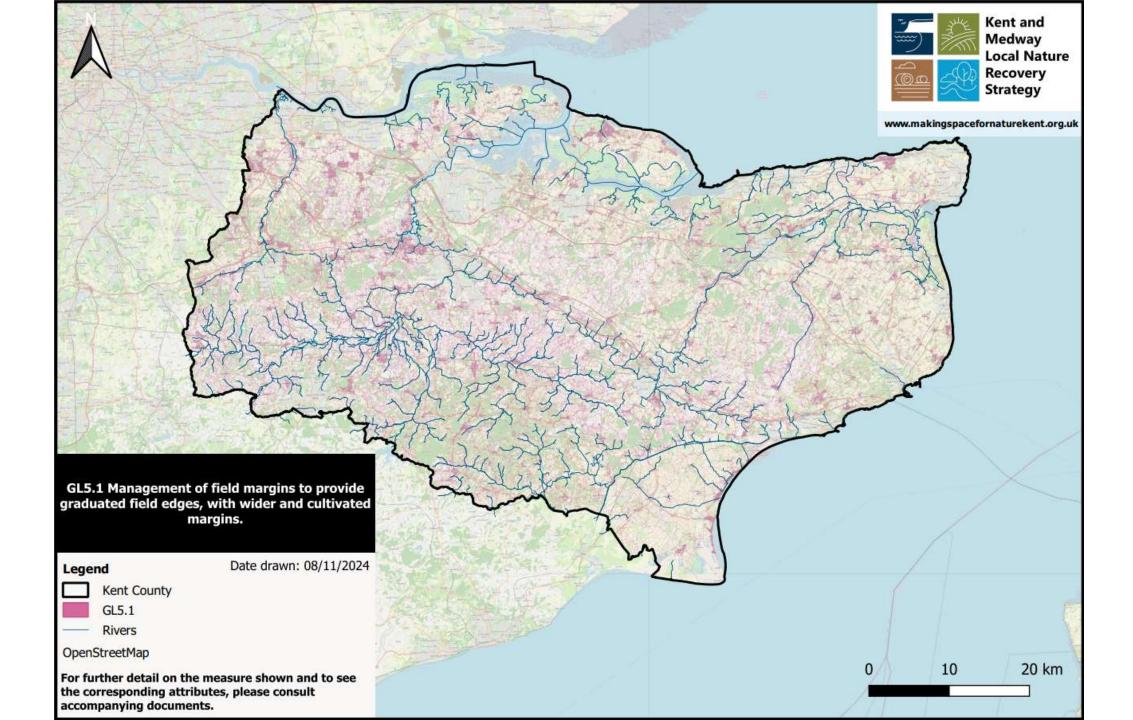
GL5.1 Management of field margins to provide graduated field edges, with wider and cultivated margins.

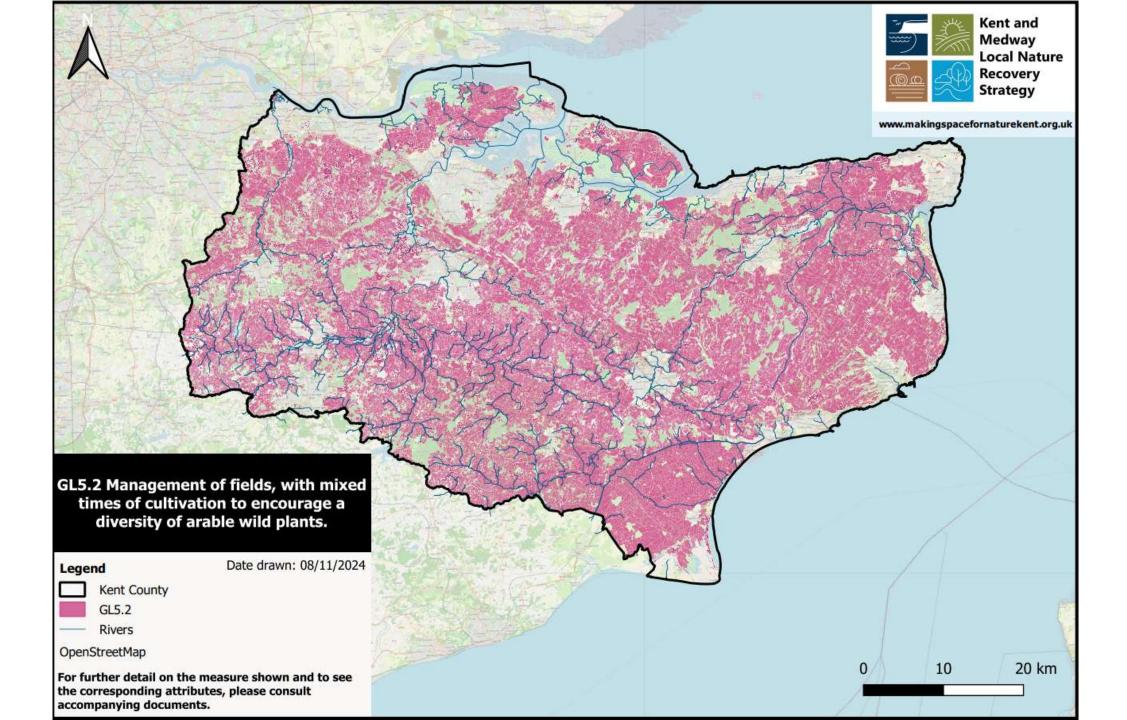


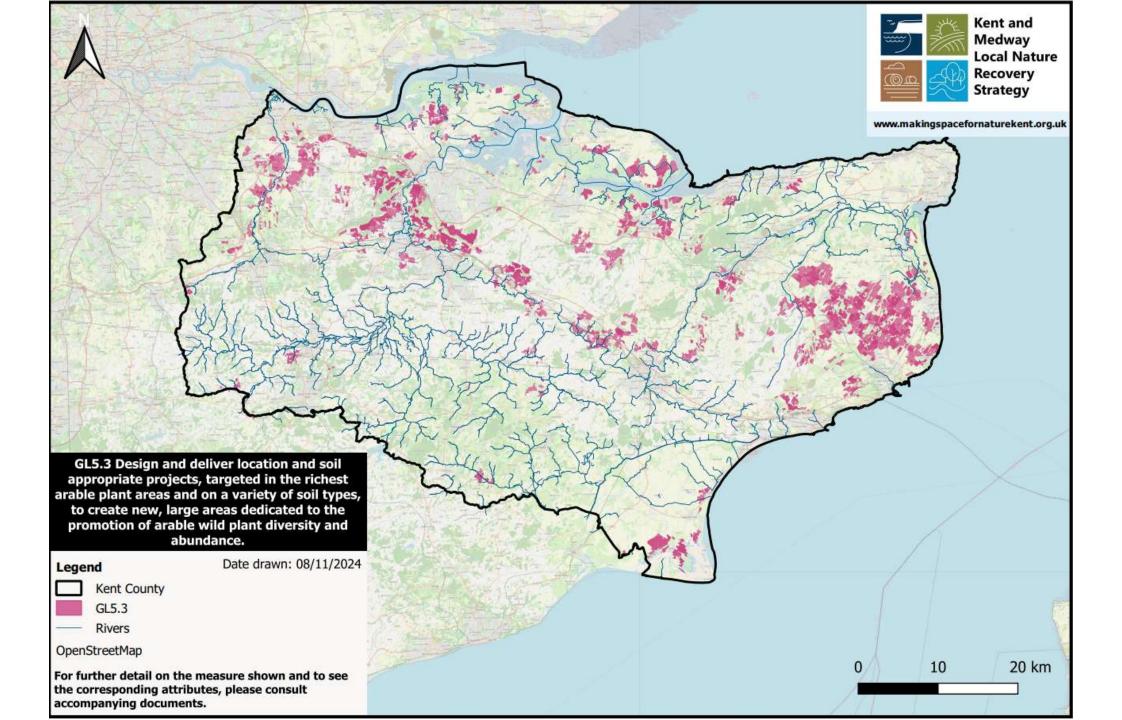
GL5.2 Management of fields, with mixed times of cultivation to encourage a diversity of arable wild plants.



GL5.3 Design and deliver location and soil appropriate projects, targeted in the richest arable plant areas and on a variety of soil types, to create new, large areas dedicated to the promotion of arable wild plant diversity and abundance.





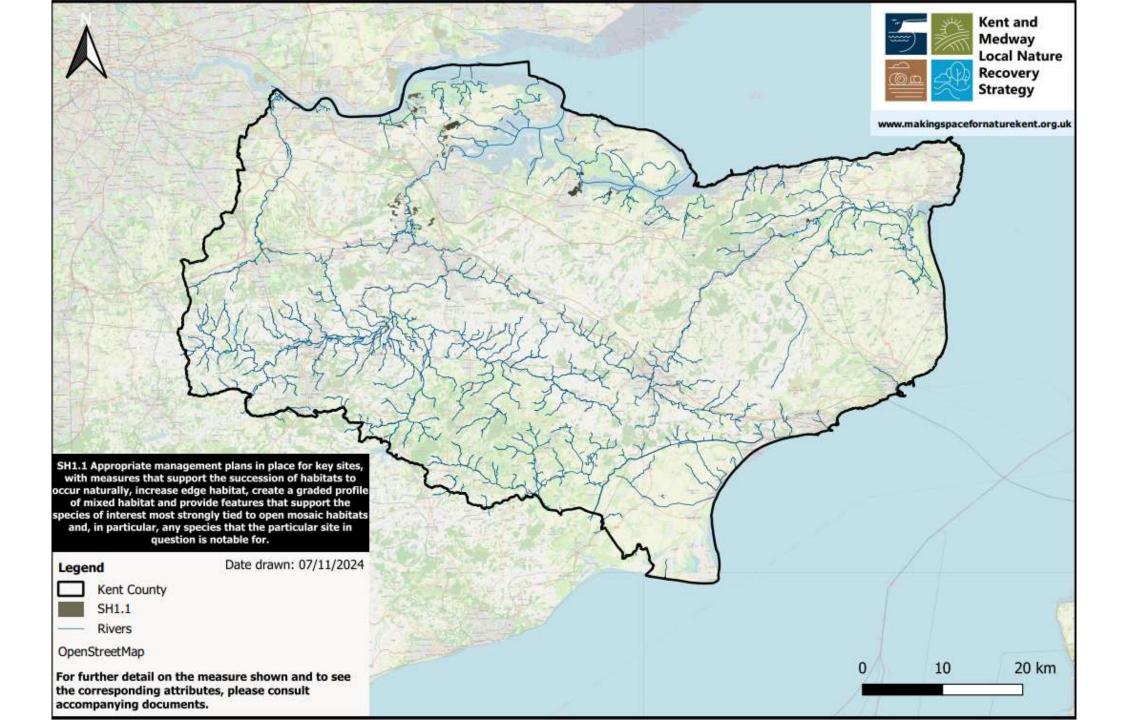


Successional habitat potential measures mapping

Priority SH1 Safeguard from loss and damage, open mosaic habitats found on previously developed land, that support priority species which rely on early successional habitats.



SH1.1 Appropriate management plans in place for key sites, with measures that support the succession of habitats to occur naturally, increase edge habitat, create a graded profile of mixed habitat and provide features that support the species of interest most strongly tied to open mosaic habitats and, in particular, any species that the particular site in question is notable for.



Priority SH2 Increase the extent of low level, scrub/successional habitat, providing a mix of young and mature scrub to enable structural diversity and the support of a wide range of species. Link this scrub habitat with hedgerows, woodland and other habitats to support wildlife corridors.



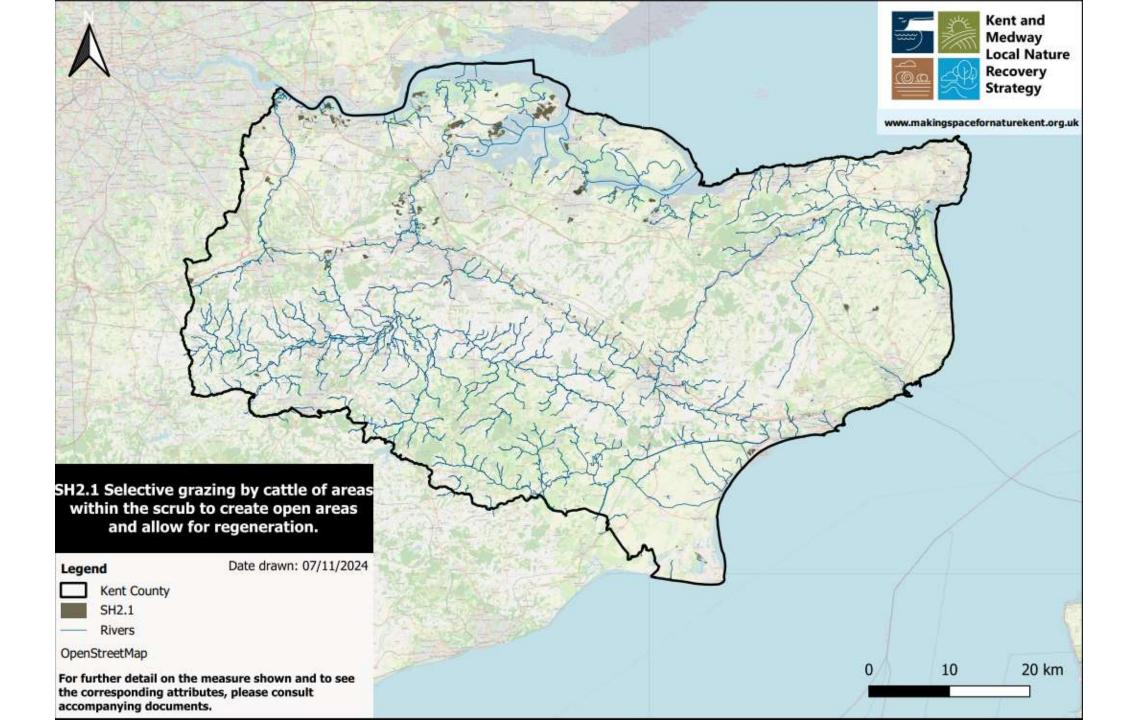
SH2.1 Selective grazing by cattle of areas within the scrub to create open areas and allow for natural regeneration.

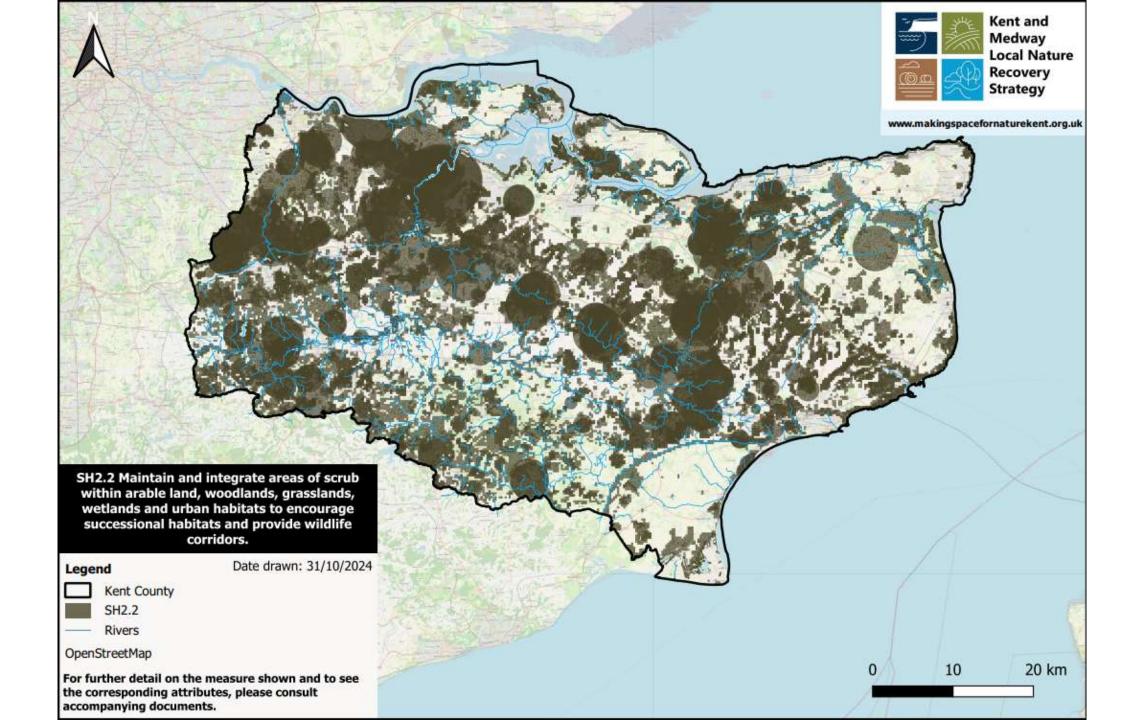


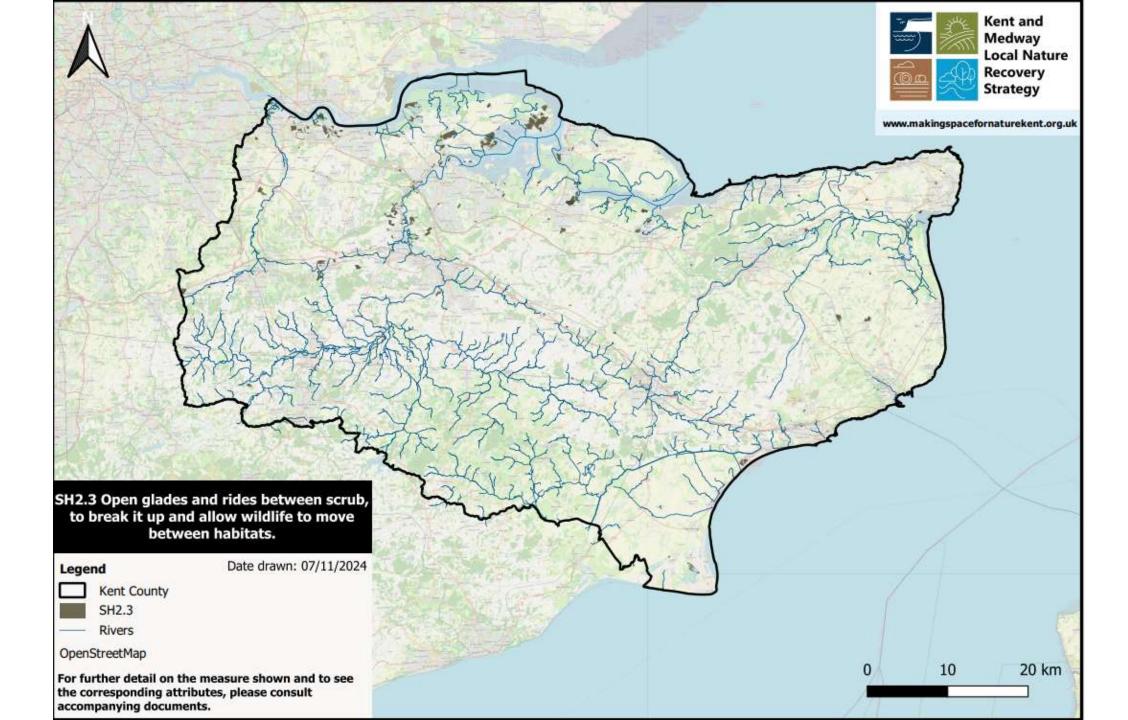
SH2.2 Maintain and integrate areas of scrub within arable land, woodlands, grasslands, wetlands and urban habitats to encourage successional habitats and provide wildlife corridors.



SH2.3 Open glades and rides between scrub, to break it up and allow wildlife to move between habitats.







Woodland, Trees and Hedgerows potential measures mapping

Priority WTH1 Retain the extent, and improve the condition, of existing woodland and trees outside woodland through active management, improving habitat provision for woodland species.



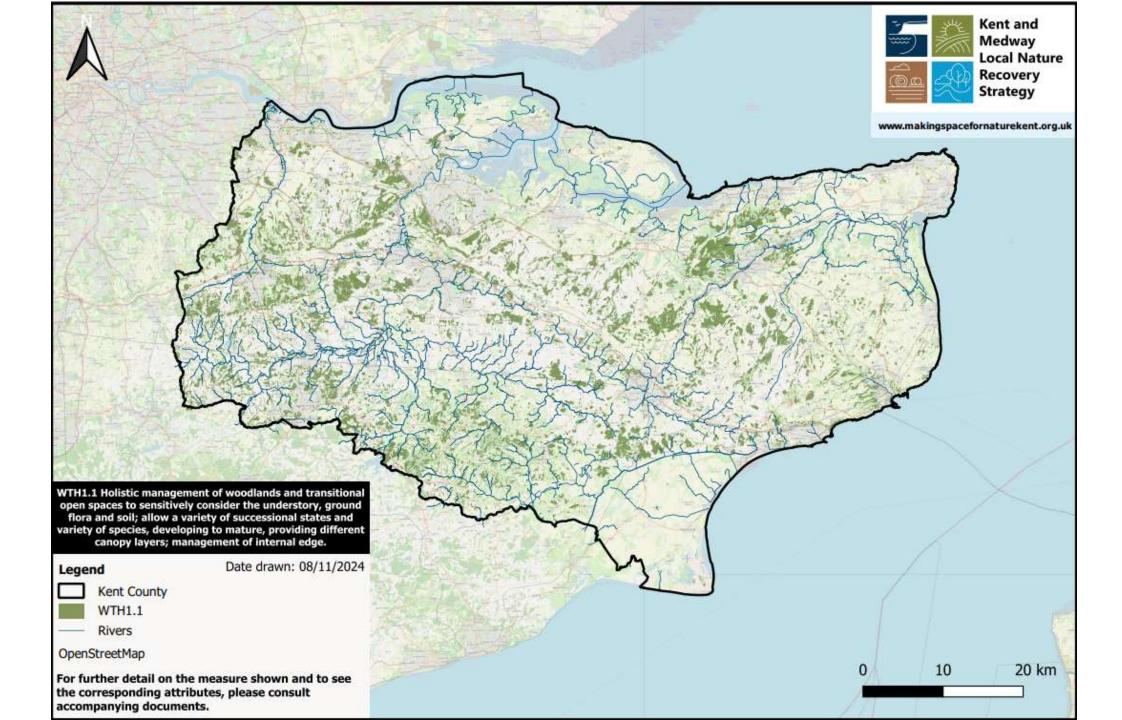
WTH1.1 Holistic management of woodlands and transitional open spaces to sensitively consider the understory, ground flora and soil; allow a variety of successional states and variety of species, developing to mature, providing different canopy layers; management of internal edge, including creation of glades and rides; preserve natural decay stages of woodland including old growth, dead and dead standing wood; where appropriate reinstate and increase coppicing as a management measure; deliver targeted management in order to provide habitats for vulnerable woodland species.

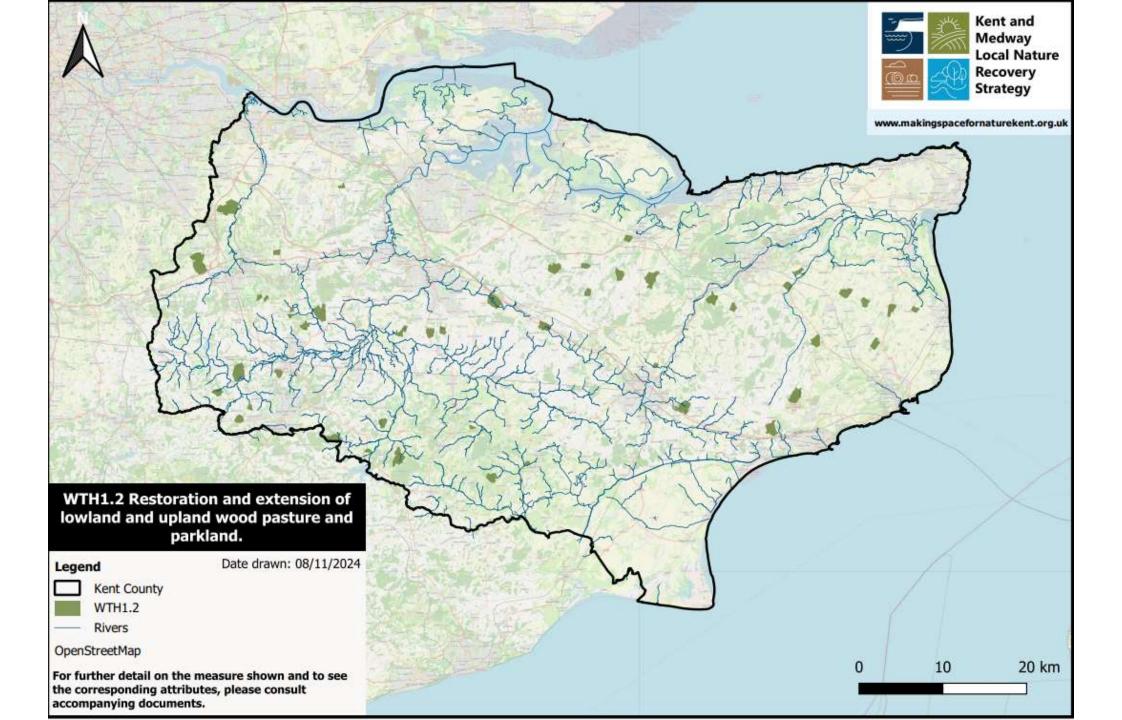


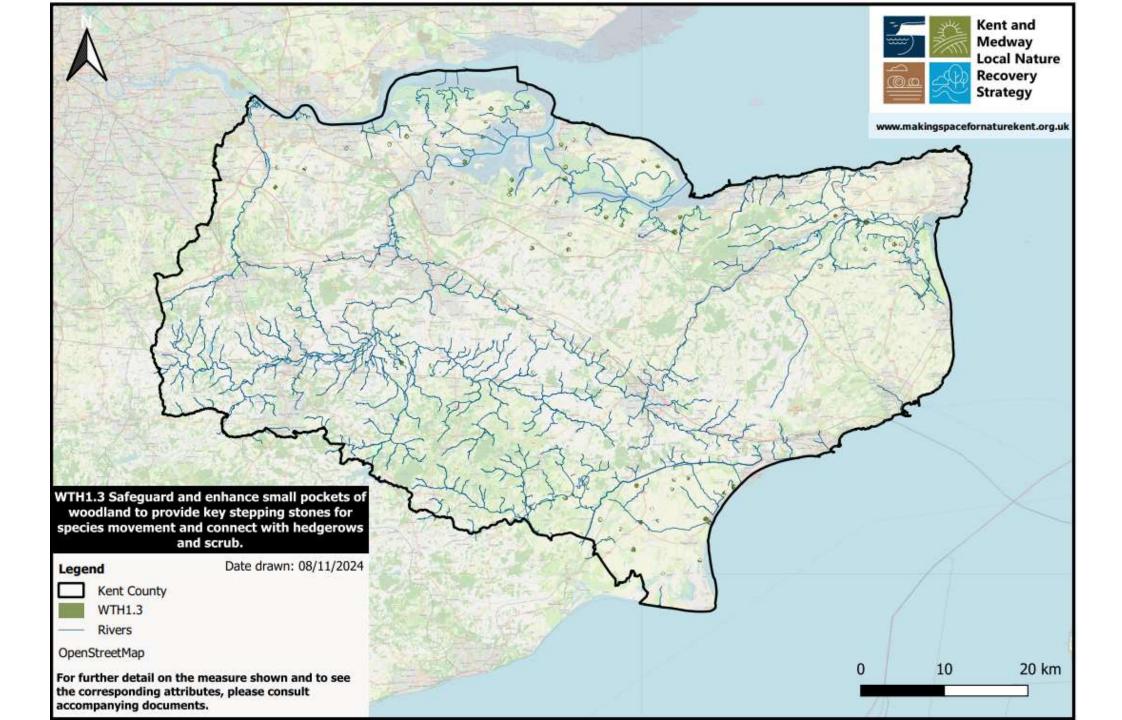
WTH1.2 Restoration and extension of lowland and upland wood pasture and parkland.



WTH1.3 Safeguard and enhance small pockets of woodland to provide key stepping stones for species movement and connect with hedgerows and scrub.







Priority WTH2 Increase the average canopy cover of Kent through woodland and trees outside woodland.



WTH2.1 Extension of existing woodland through natural colonisation and planting.



WTH2.2 Conversion of unproductive land for arable into woodland.



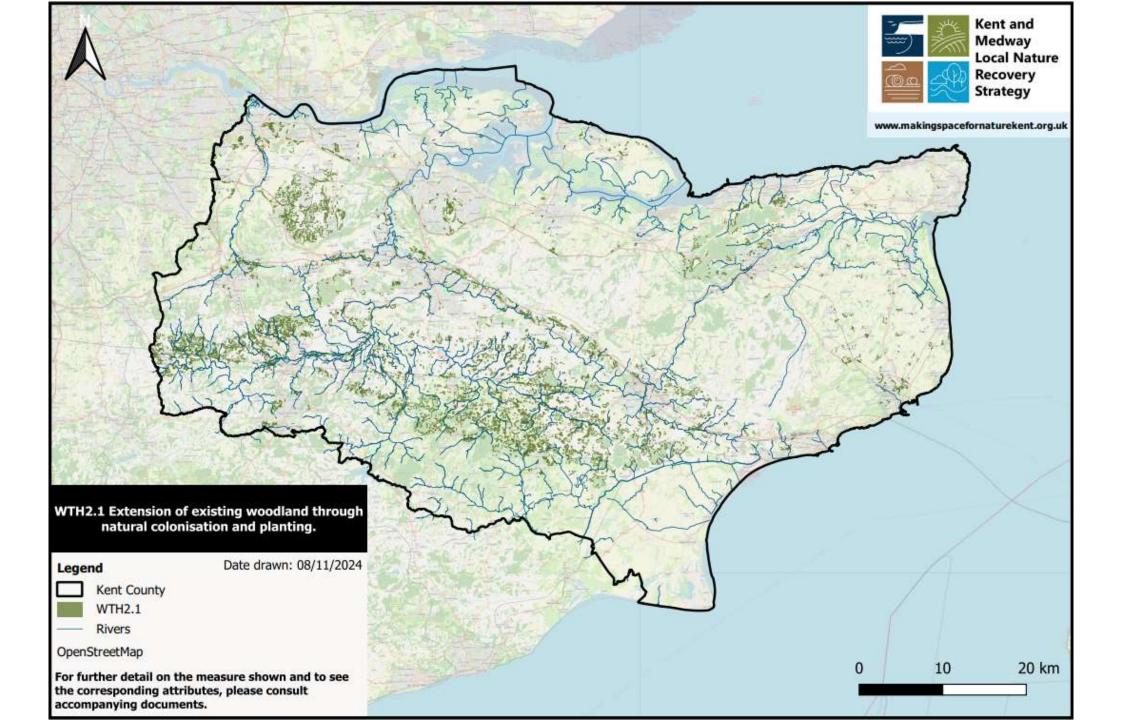
WTH2.3 Plant more trees in hedgerows.

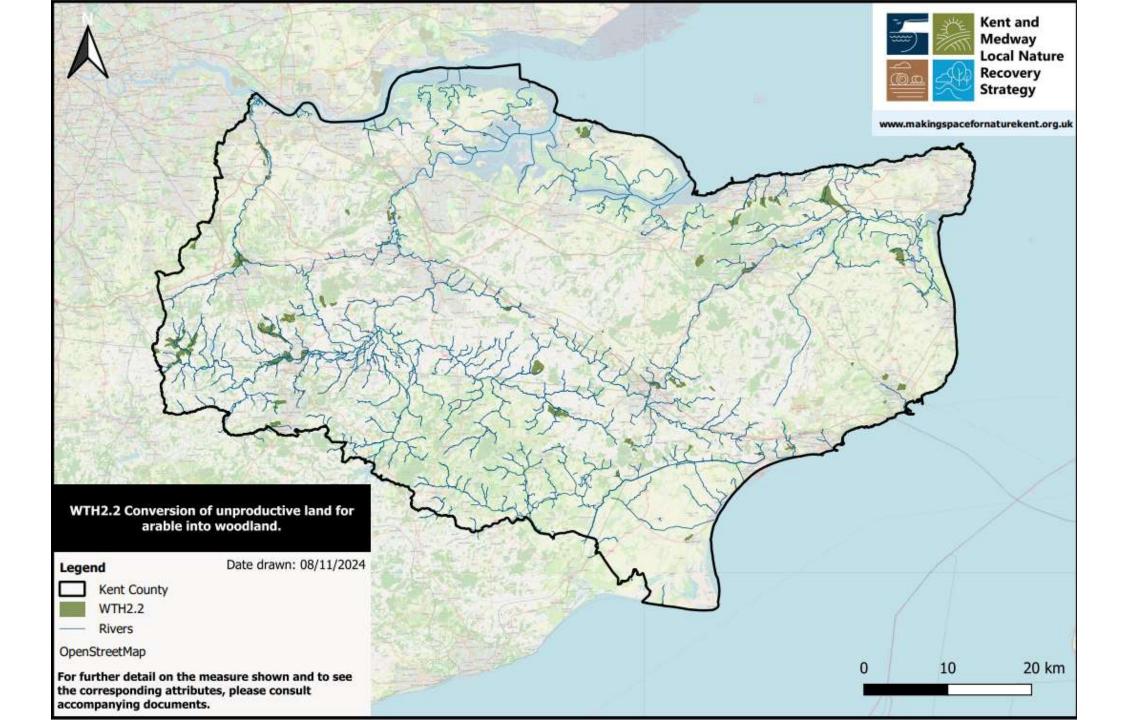


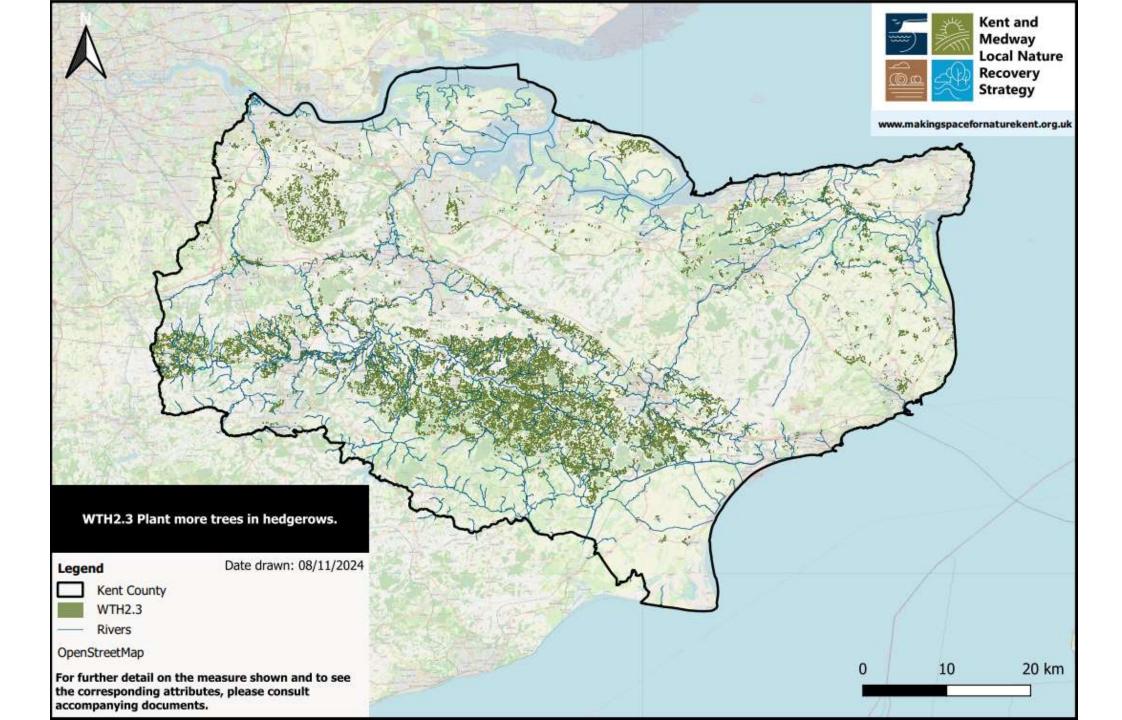
WTH2.4 Use tree and hedgerow establishment and scrub to increase connectivity, provide wildlife corridors and address fragmented areas of woodland.

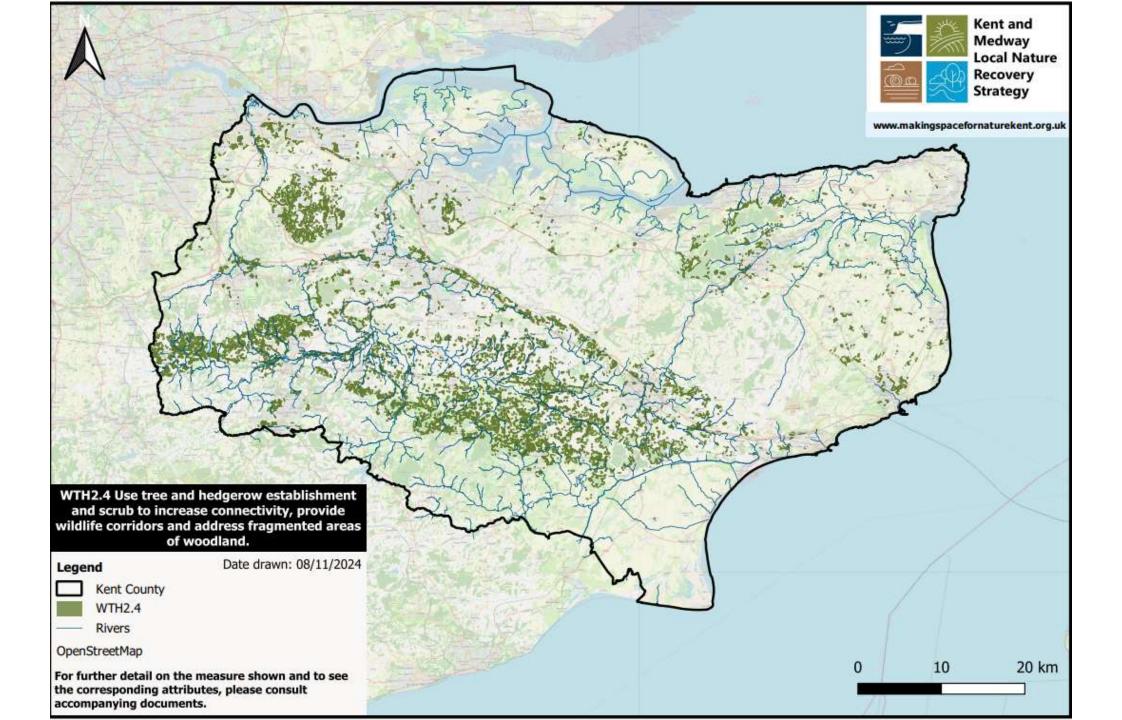


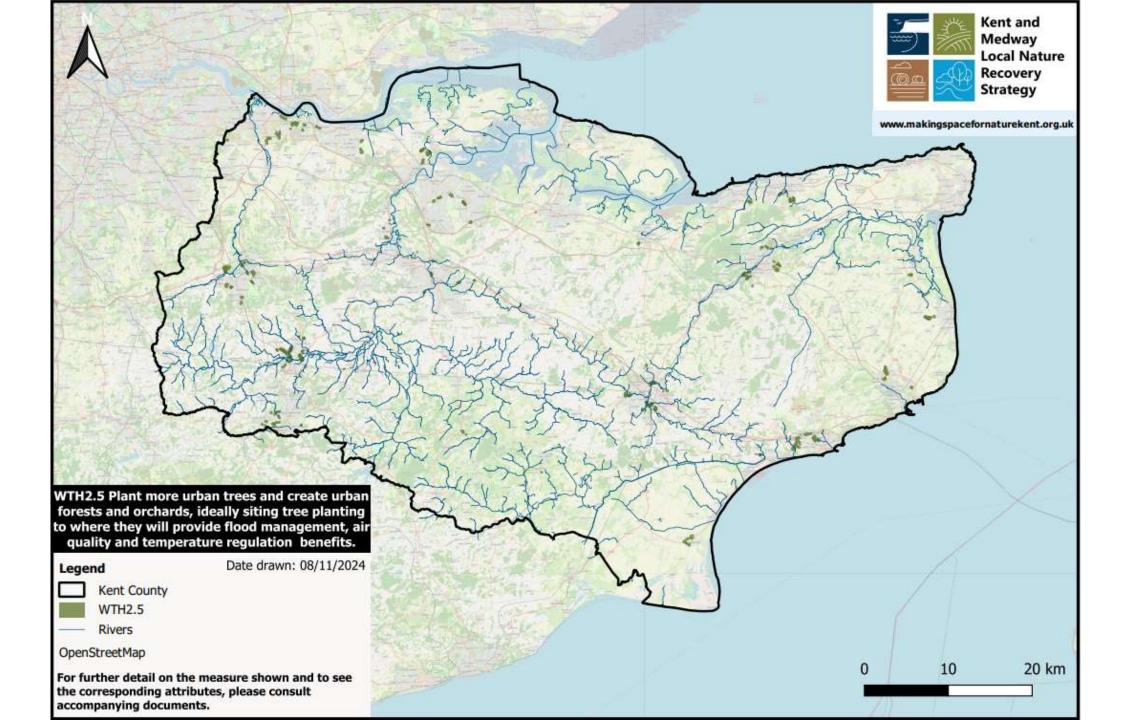
WTH2.5 Plant more urban trees and create urban forests and orchards, ideally siting tree planting to where they will provide flood management, air quality and temperature regulation benefits











Priority WTH4 Ensure the resilience of the county's woodlands.



WTH4.1 Management that facilitates and enables the natural regeneration of woodlands, by reducing grazing pressures.



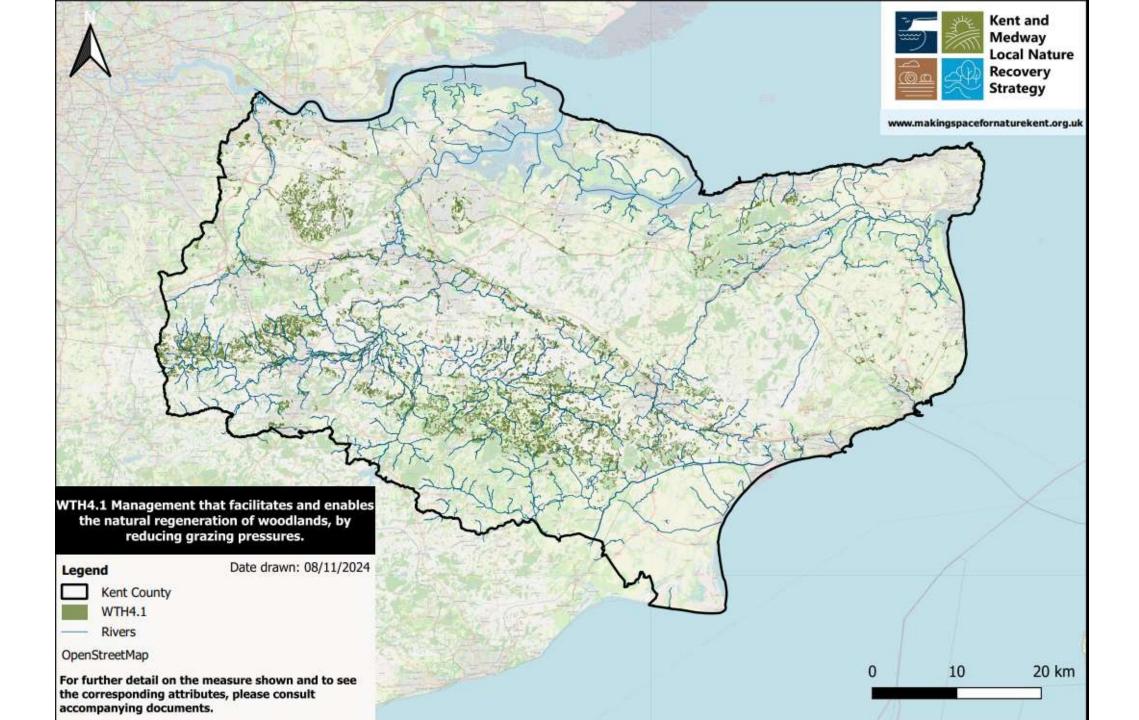
WTH4.2 Where appropriate, promote the restoration of Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) sites to a more species rich woodland.

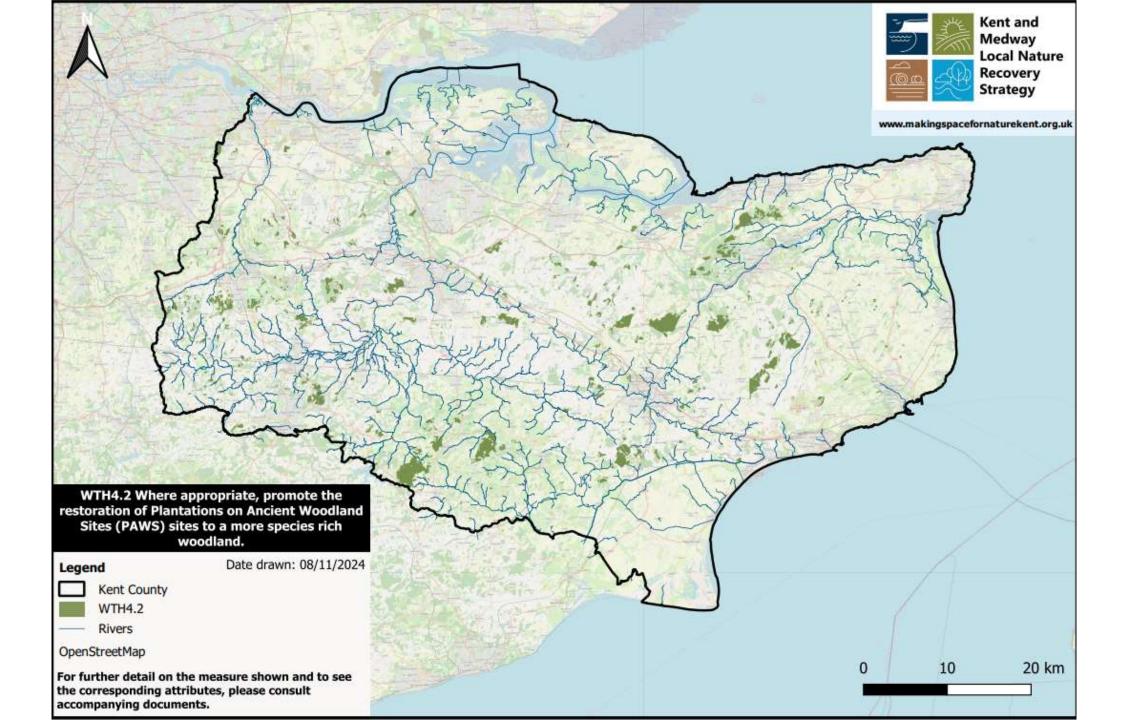


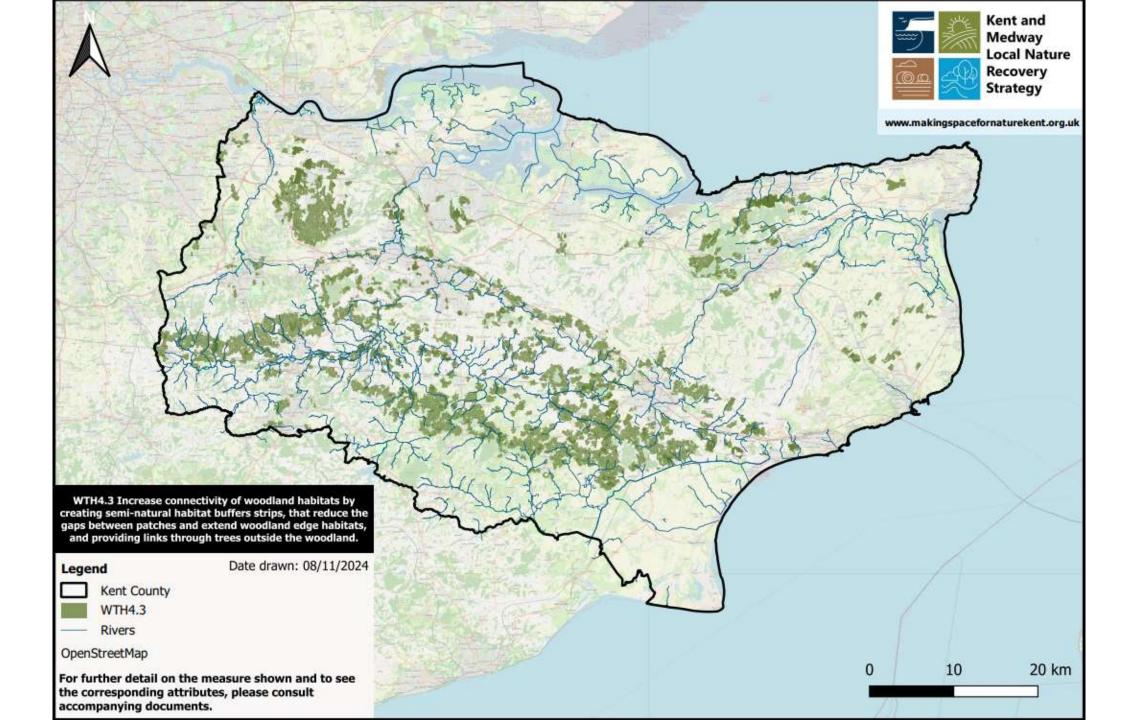
WTH4.3 Increase connectivity of woodland habitats by creating semi-natural habitat buffers strips, which reduce the gaps between patches and extend woodland edge habitats and provide links through trees outside the woodland.

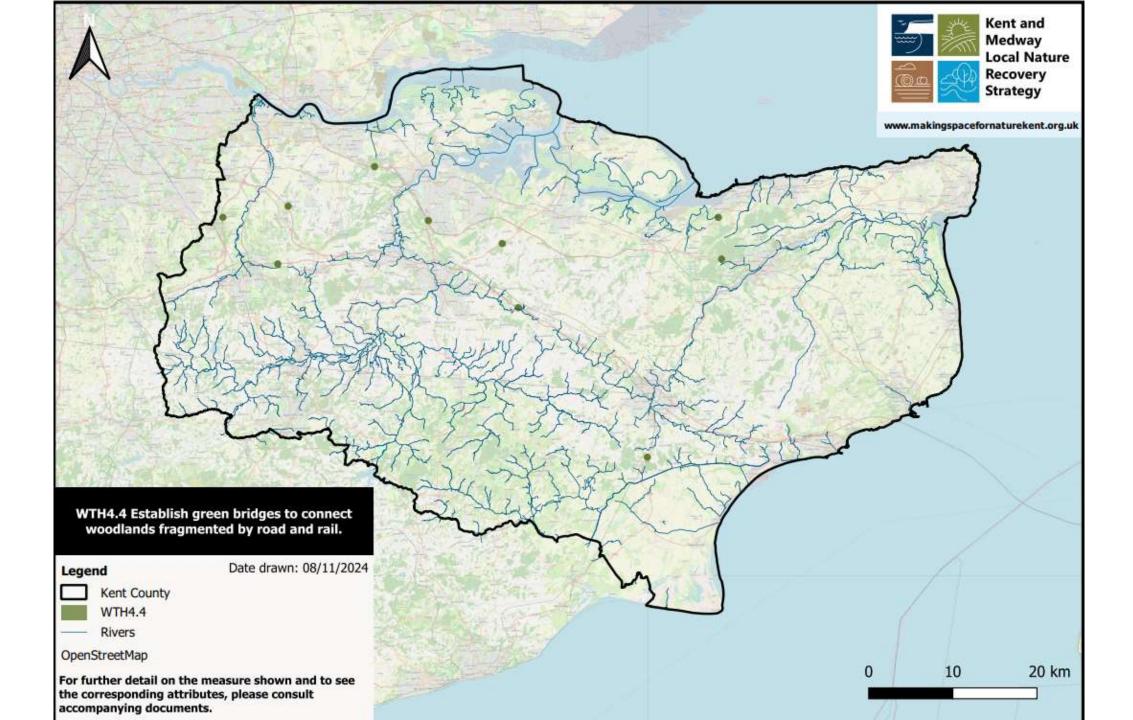


WTH4.4 Establish green bridges to connect woodlands fragmented by road and rail.









Priority WTH5 Ancient woodland, and ancient and veteran trees, are safeguarded from loss, with damaged areas restored through natural processes, management and the removal of invasive trees and plants. Areas of ancient woodland are buffered and better connected.



WTH5.1 Appropriate and targeted management of ancient woodland, in order to retain and enhance specific features of ancient woodland and enhance biodiversity.



WTH5.2 Establishment of wide buffer zones around ancient woodland that are linked to hedgerows, to extend habitat connectivity.



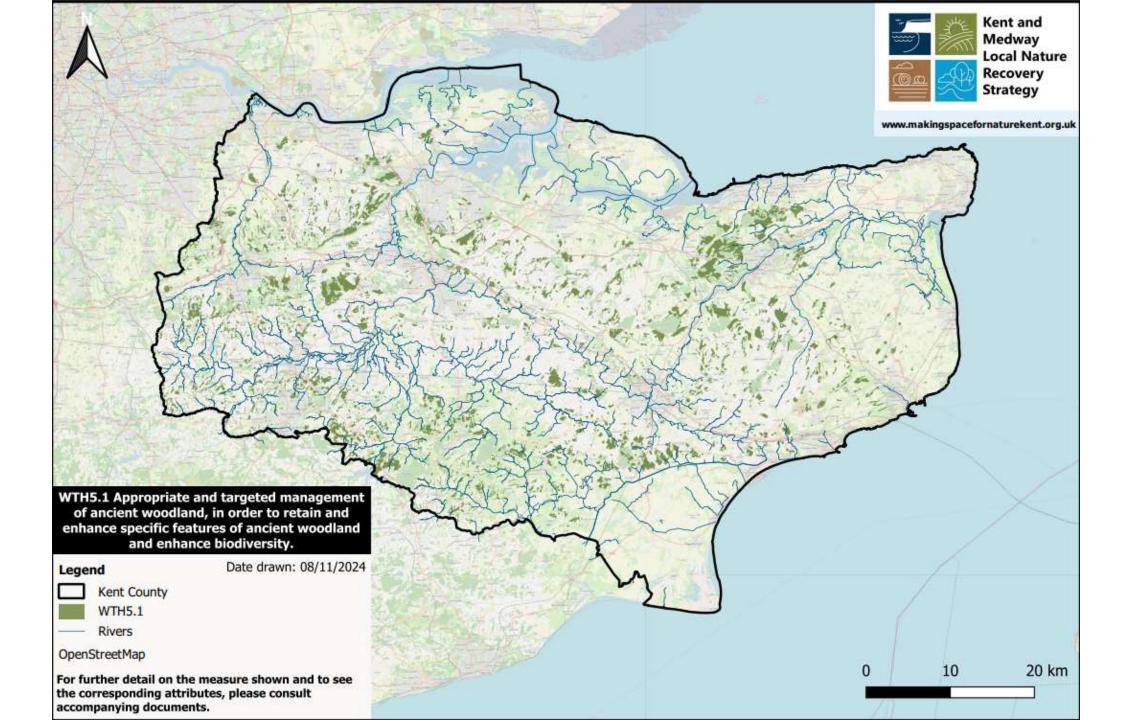
WTH5.3 Solitary ancient and veteran trees buffered with open space, with further protections offered with establishment of neighbouring wood pasture and agroforestry of mixed habitats.

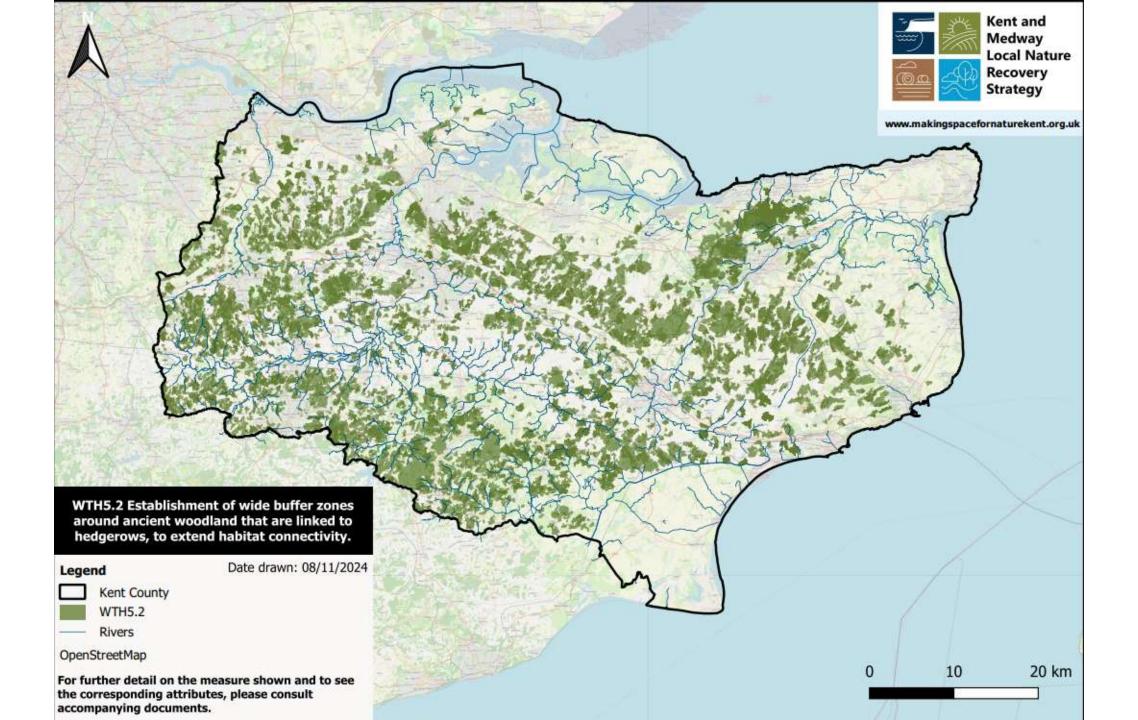


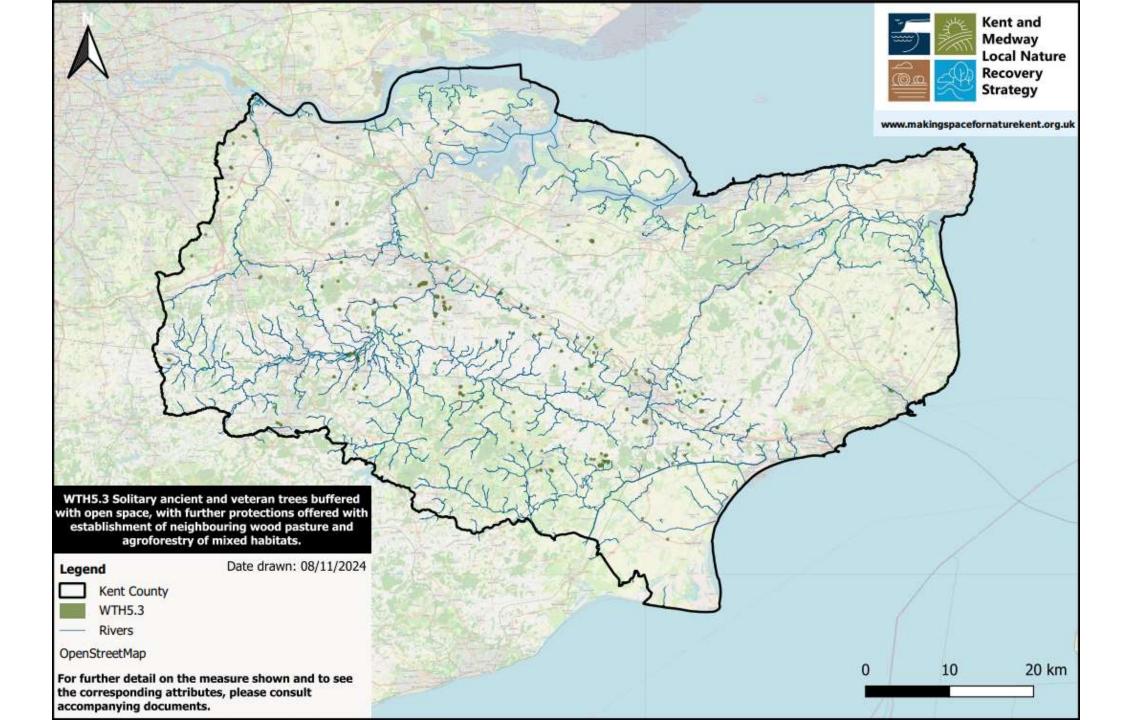
WTH5.4 Connectivity of ancient woodland improved by links to hedgerows, establishment of standard trees and increased standing deadwood.

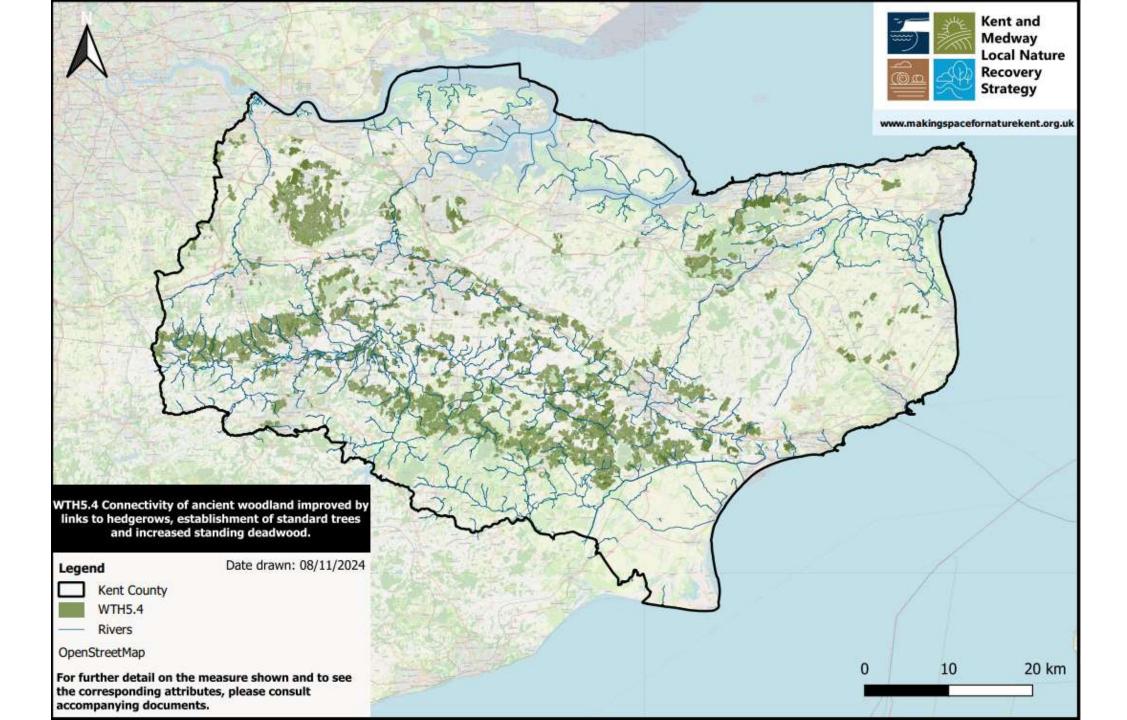


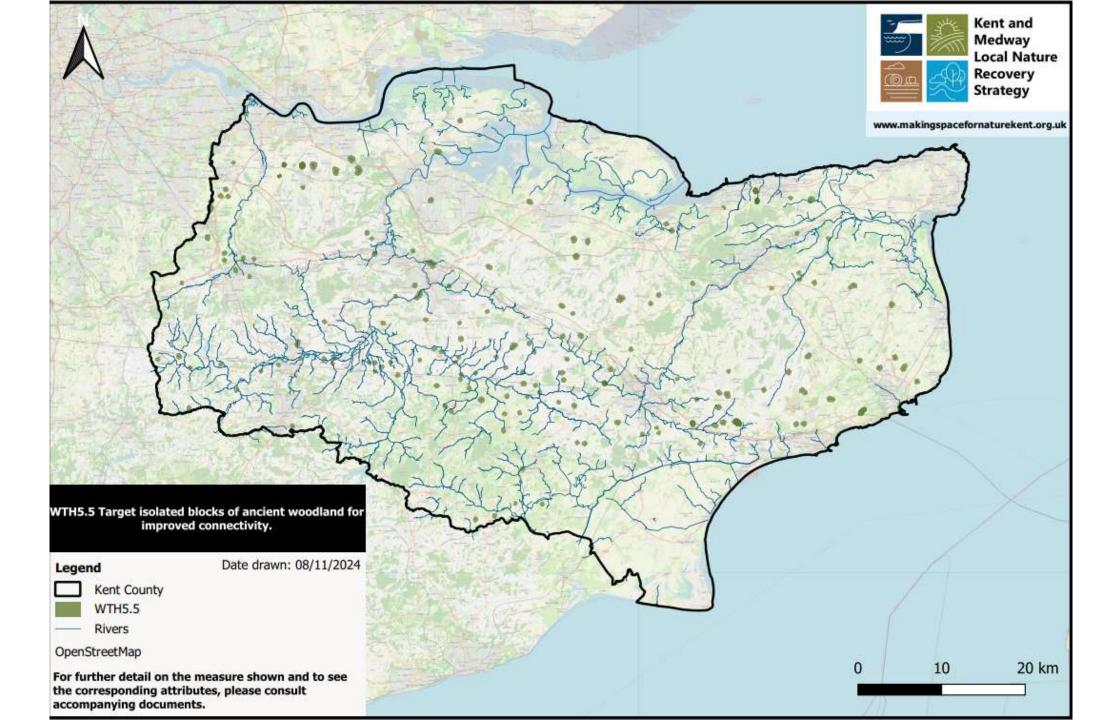
WTH5.5 Target isolated blocks of ancient woodland for improved connectivity.











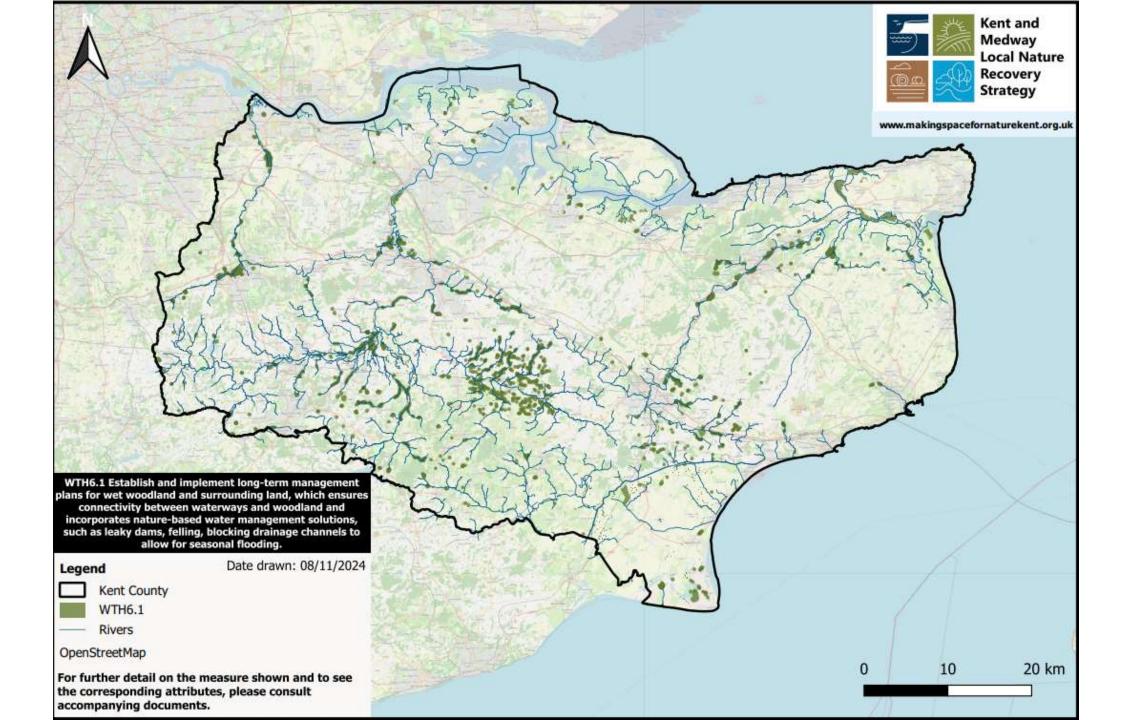
Priority WTH6 Increase the extent of high quality wet woodland in the county and improve connectivity with the freshwater habitat network.

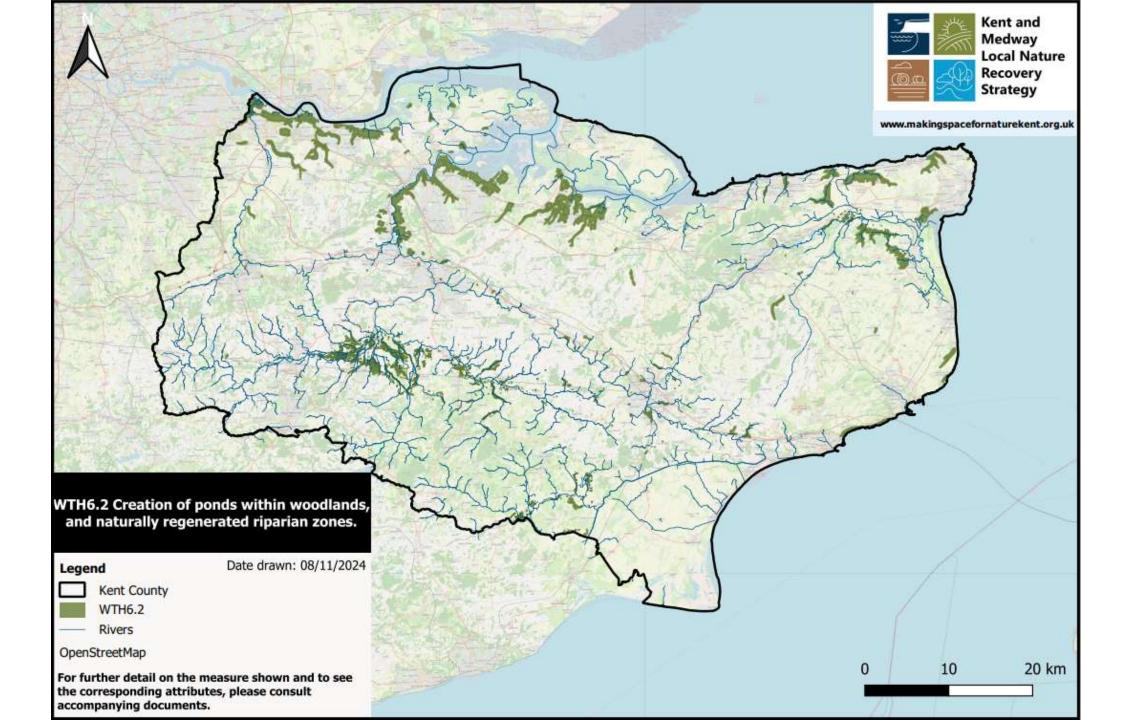


WTH6.1 Establish and implement long-term management plans for wet woodland and surrounding land, which ensures connectivity between waterways and woodland and incorporates nature-based water management solutions, such as leaky dams, felling, blocking drainage channels to allow for seasonal flooding.



WTH6.2 Creation of ponds within woodlands, and naturally regenerated riparian zones.

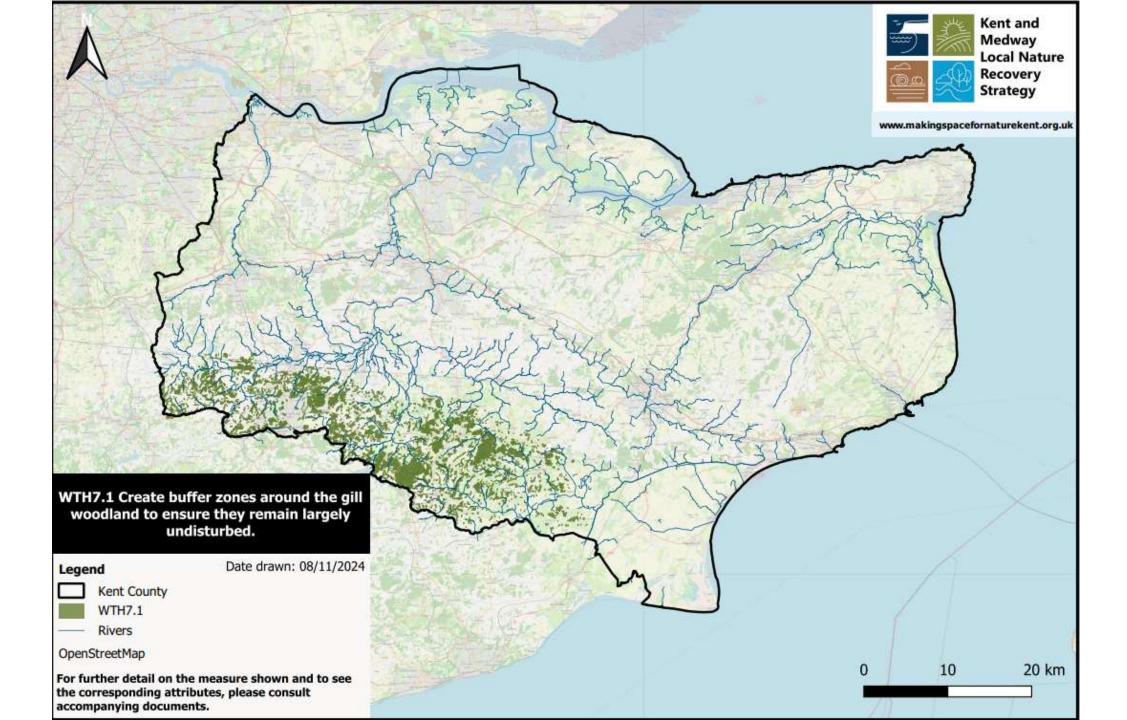




Priority WTH7 Retain and safeguard the High Weald's unique gill woodland and the plant species they support and the important functions they provide for the wider river catchment.



WTH7.1 Create buffer zones around the gill woodland to ensure they remain largely undisturbed.



Priority WTH8 The extent of species-rich hedgerows throughout the county is increased, with lost hedgerows replaced, gaps filled and management of existing hedgerows improving the quality as well as quantity. Hedgerows providing a coherent network of shelter, nesting and forage for wildlife across the landscape and allowing other habitats to be linked.

Note: Mapping numbers for WTH8 starting at WTH8.2 is correct – no potential measure or map is missing.



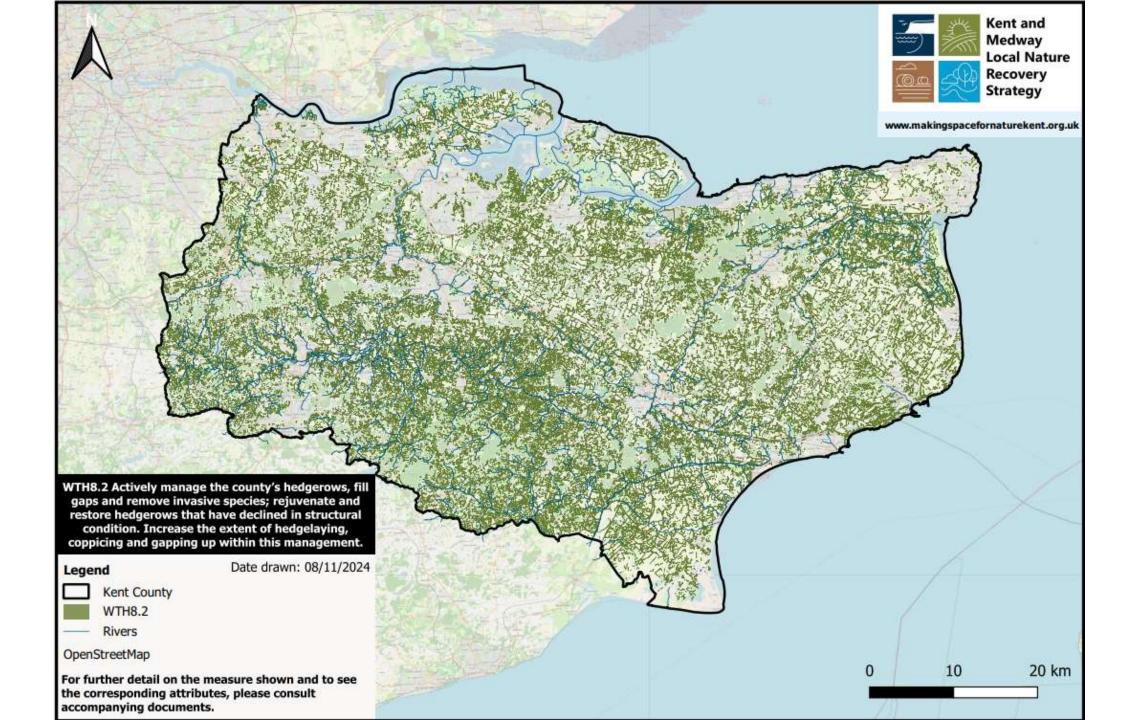
WTH8.2 Actively manage the county's hedgerows, fill gaps and remove invasive species; rejuvenate and restore hedgerows that have declined in structural condition. Increase the extent of hedgelaying, coppicing and gapping up within this management.

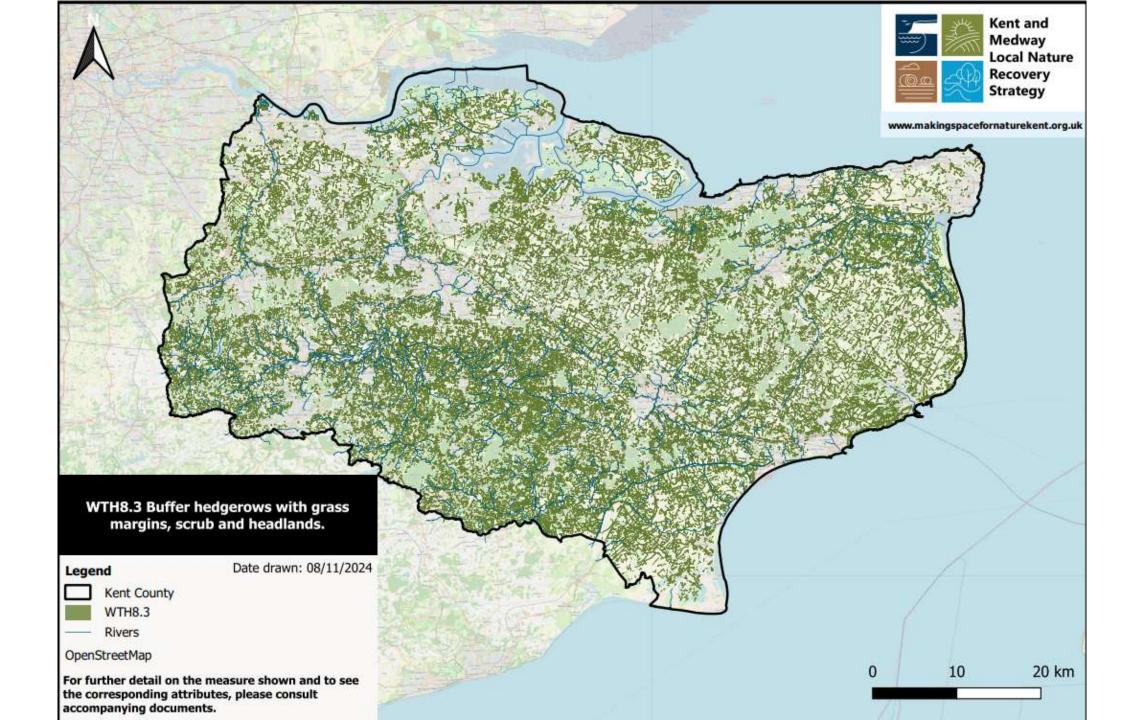


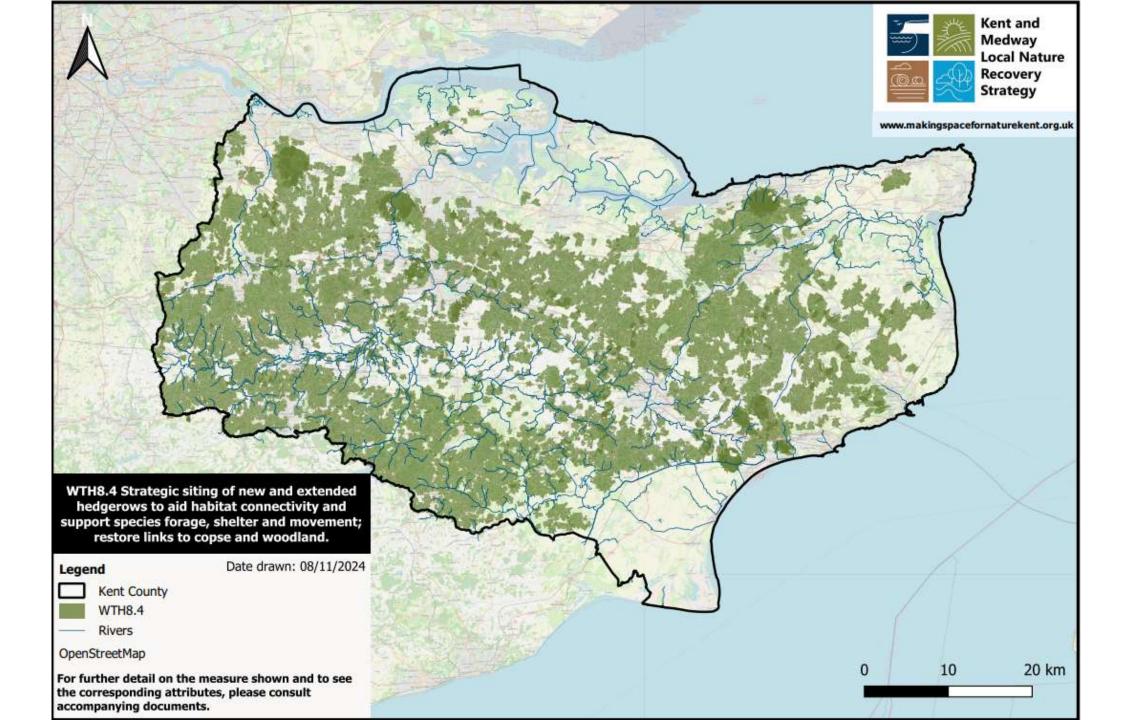
WTH8.3 Buffer hedgerows with grass margins, scrub and headlands.



WTH8.4 Strategic siting of new and extended hedgerows to aid habitat connectivity and support species forage, shelter and movement; restore links to copse and woodland.







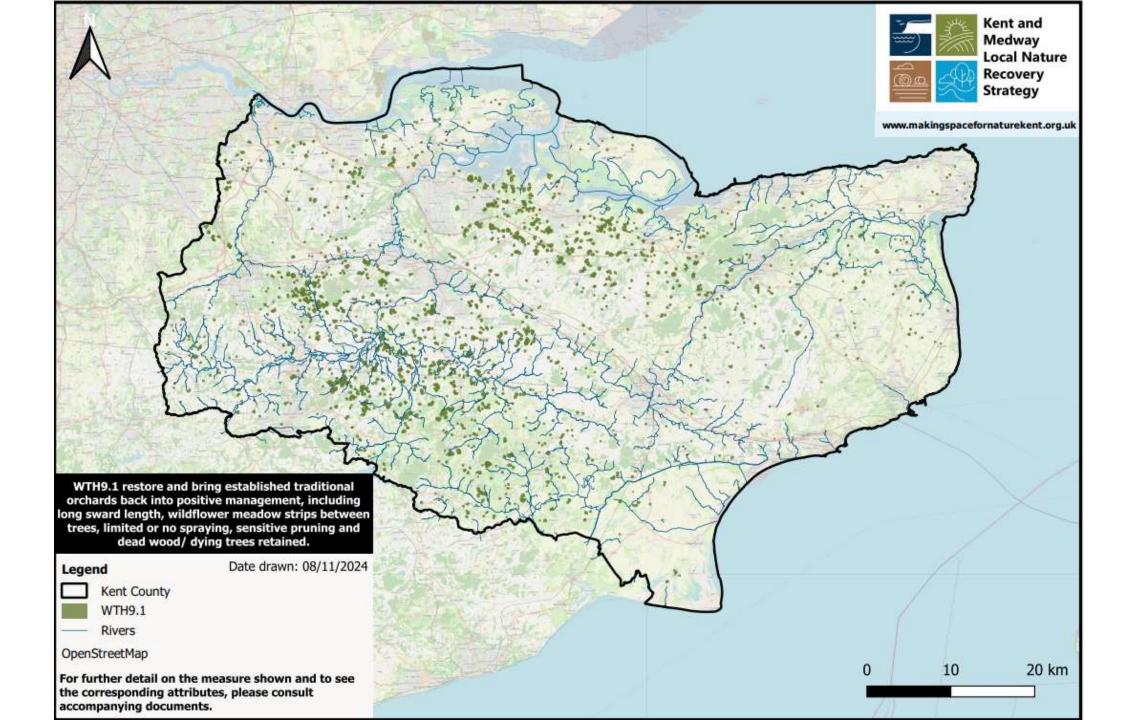
Priority WTH9 An increase in traditional orchards, under sensitive management, supporting an abundance and diversity of wildlife.

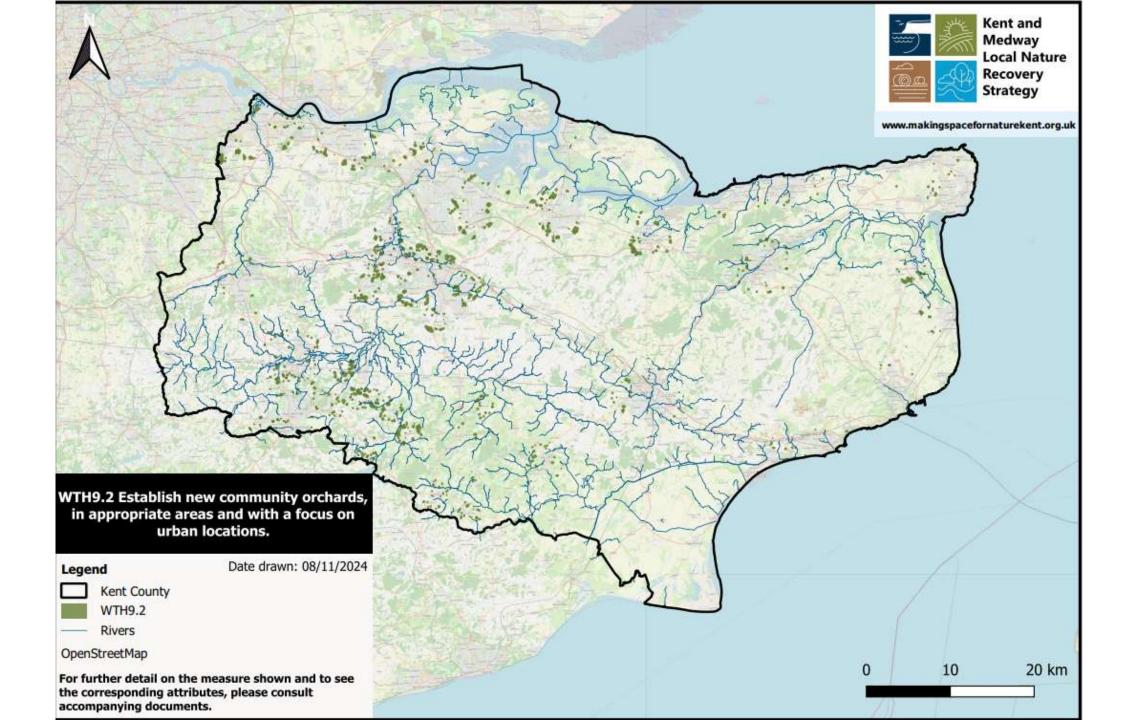


WTH9.1 restore and bring established traditional orchards back into positive management, including long sward length, wildflower meadow strips between trees, limited or no spraying, sensitive pruning and dead wood/ dying trees retained.



WTH9.2 Establish new community orchards, in appropriate areas and with a focus on urban locations.





Freshwater potential measures mapping

Priority FW1 All rivers and streams and their associated floodplains have a more natural form, free from physical modifications and barriers, allowing them to achieve at minimum good ecological status or potential and supporting natural processes. All freshwater habitats support a diverse native flora and fauna.



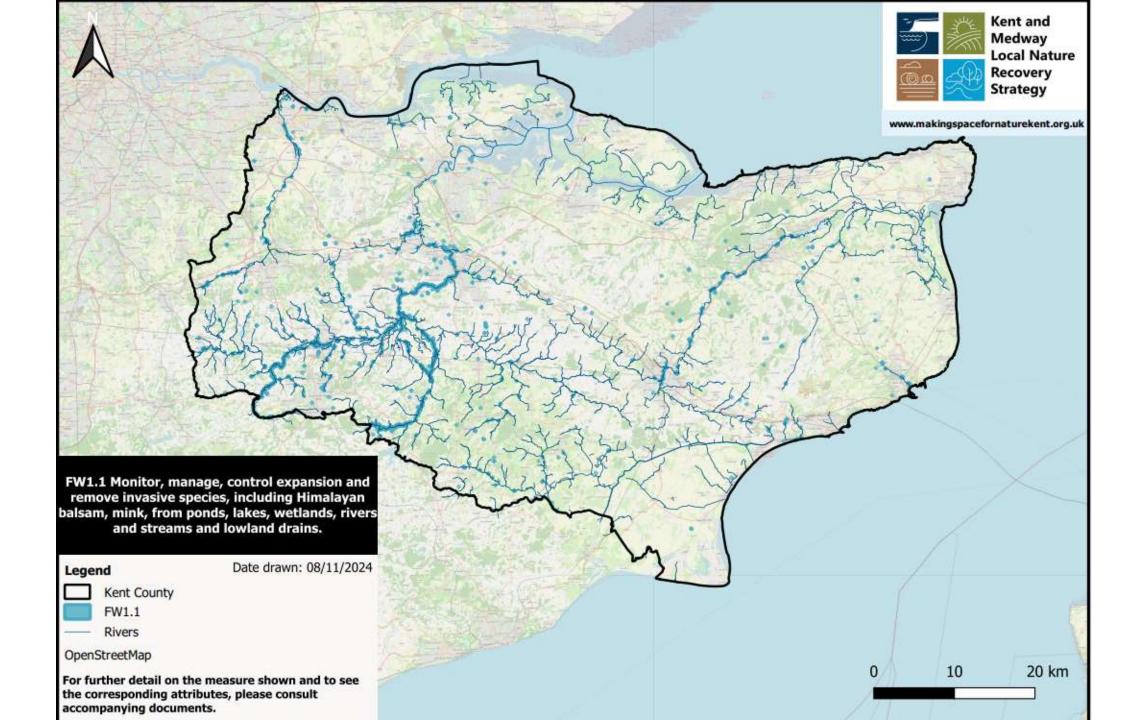
FW1.1 Monitor, manage, control expansion and remove invasive species, including Himalayan balsam, mink, from ponds, lakes, wetlands, rivers and streams and lowland drains.

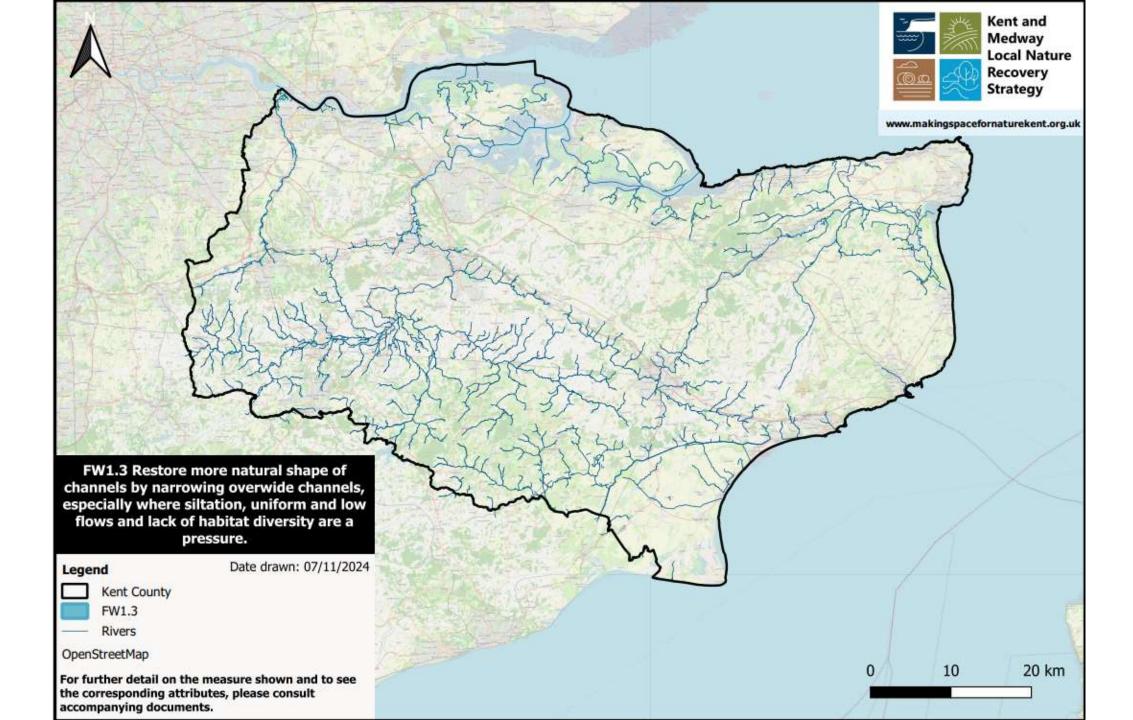


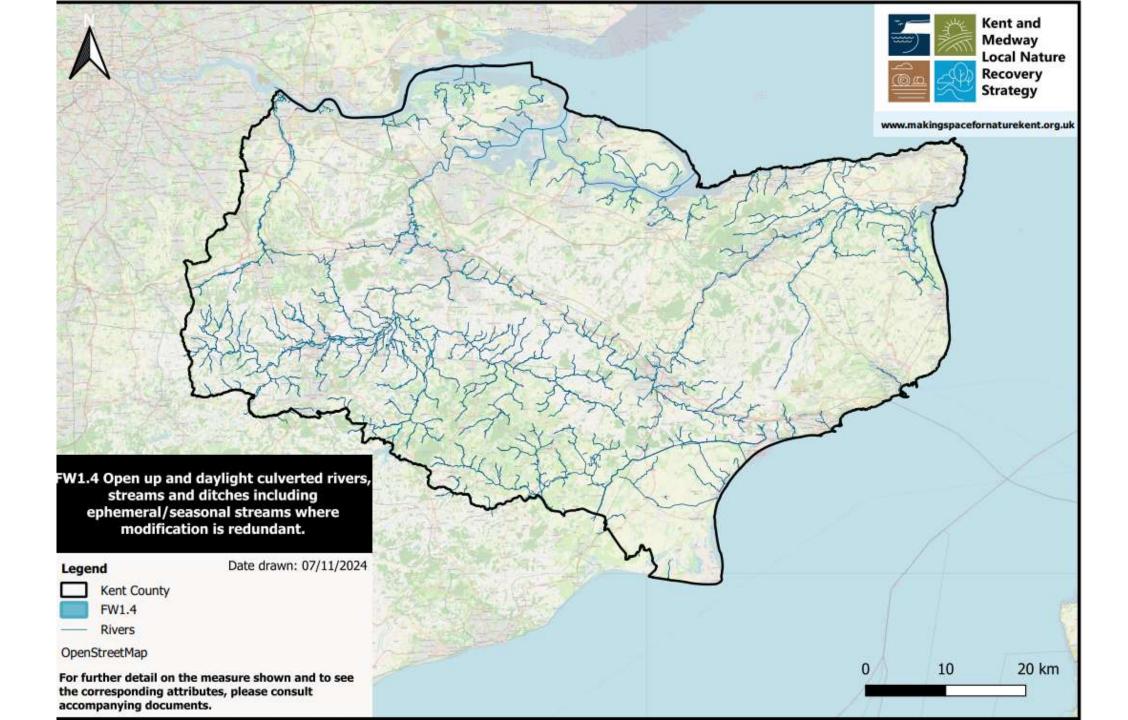
FW1.3 Restore more natural shape of channels by narrowing overwide channels, especially where siltation, uniform and low flows and lack of habitat diversity are a pressure.



FW1.4 Open up and daylight culverted rivers, streams and ditches including ephemeral/seasonal streams where modification is redundant.







Priority FW2 Ensure freshwater habitats and groundwater bodies are supplied with clean water, safeguarded from, and able to withstand, the impacts of pollution.



FW2.1 Discharge agricultural land drains into interception features in buffers, rather than the stream network.



FW2.2 Reduce input of diffuse phosphate and nitrate pollution to surface and groundwater bodies



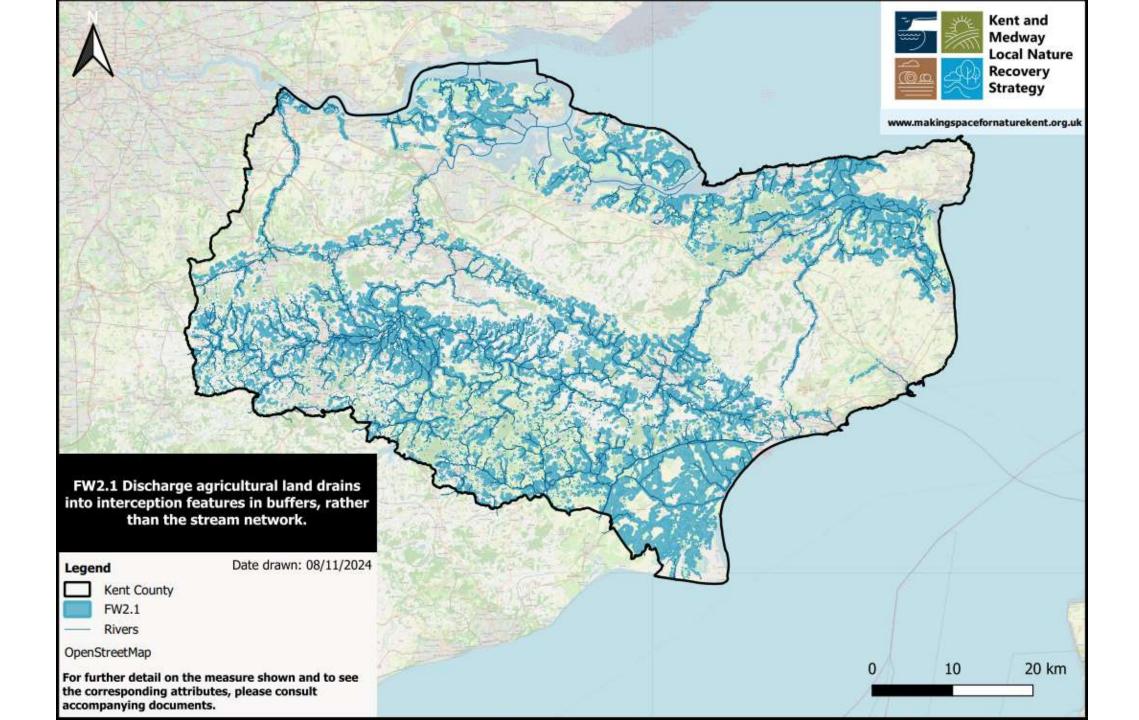
FW2.3 Establish and manage functional buffer strips and other interception features for all flow pathways to hold runoff and remove pollutants including chemicals, nutrients and sediment, before it enters rivers and streams from farms, livery yards and similar land uses.

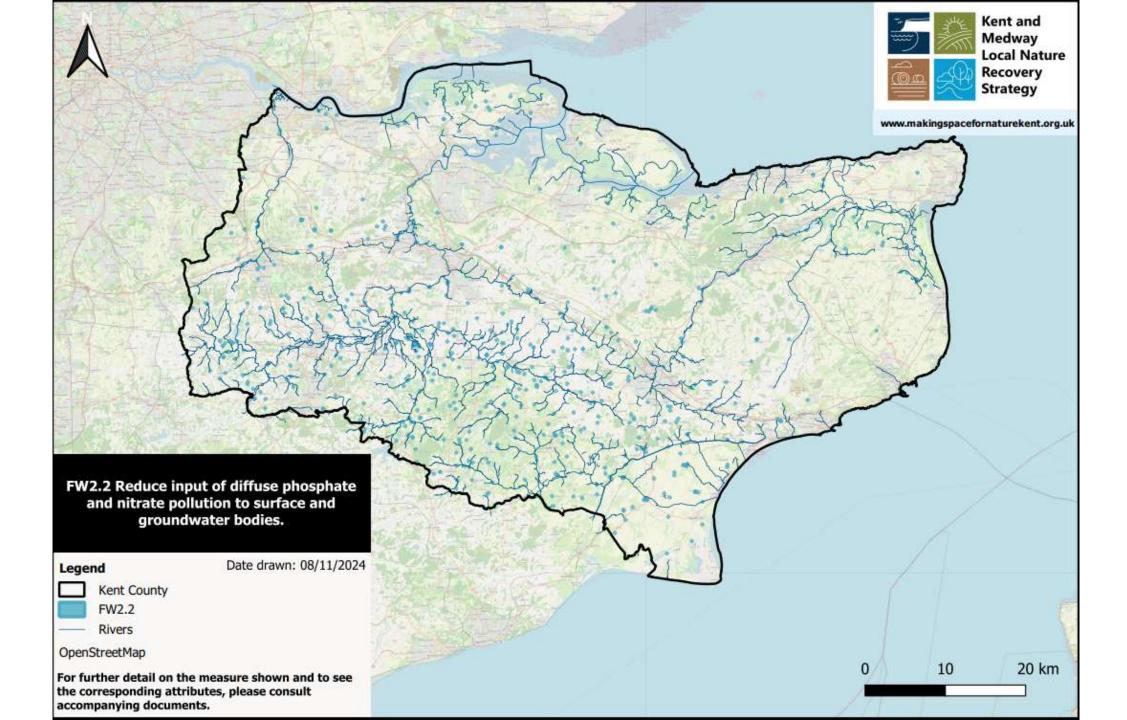


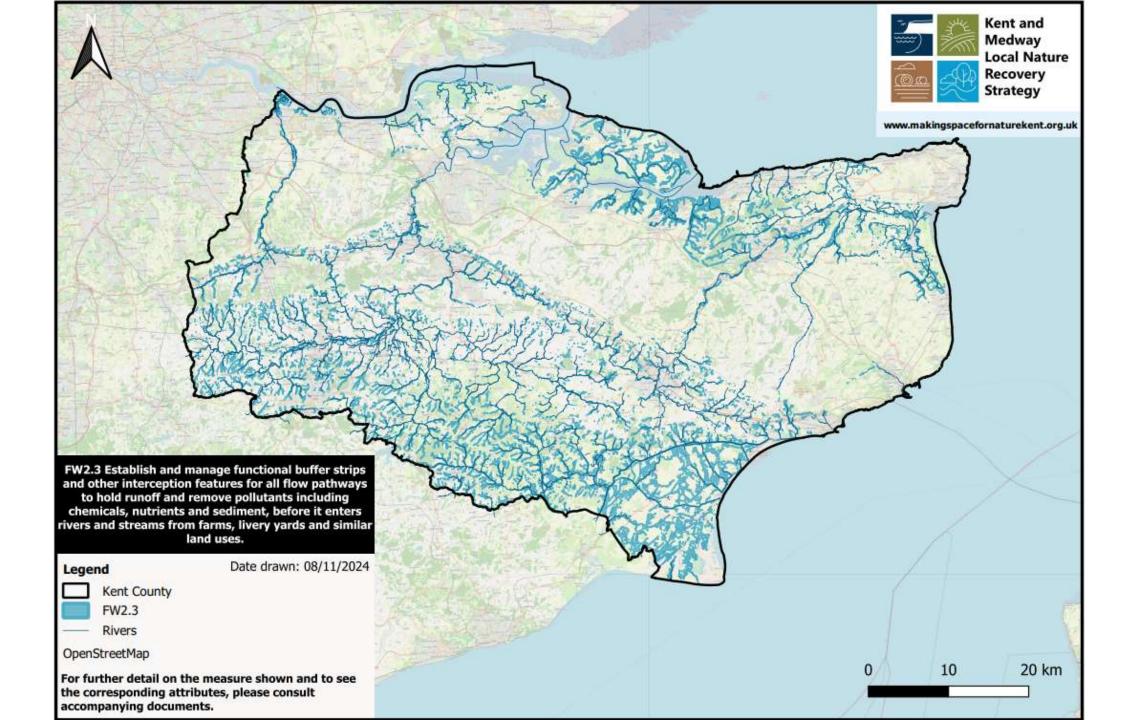
FW2.4 Prevent road runoff entering rivers through the installation of SuDS, downstream defenders, or similar interception features on highways, local roads, and existing and new developments.

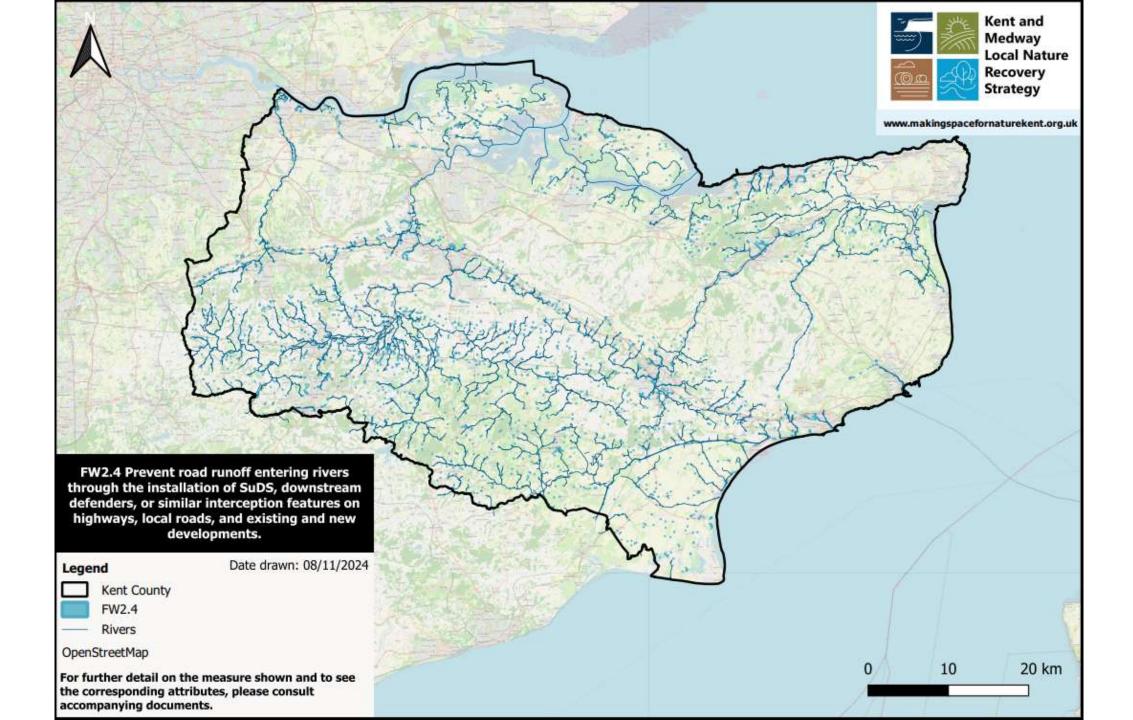


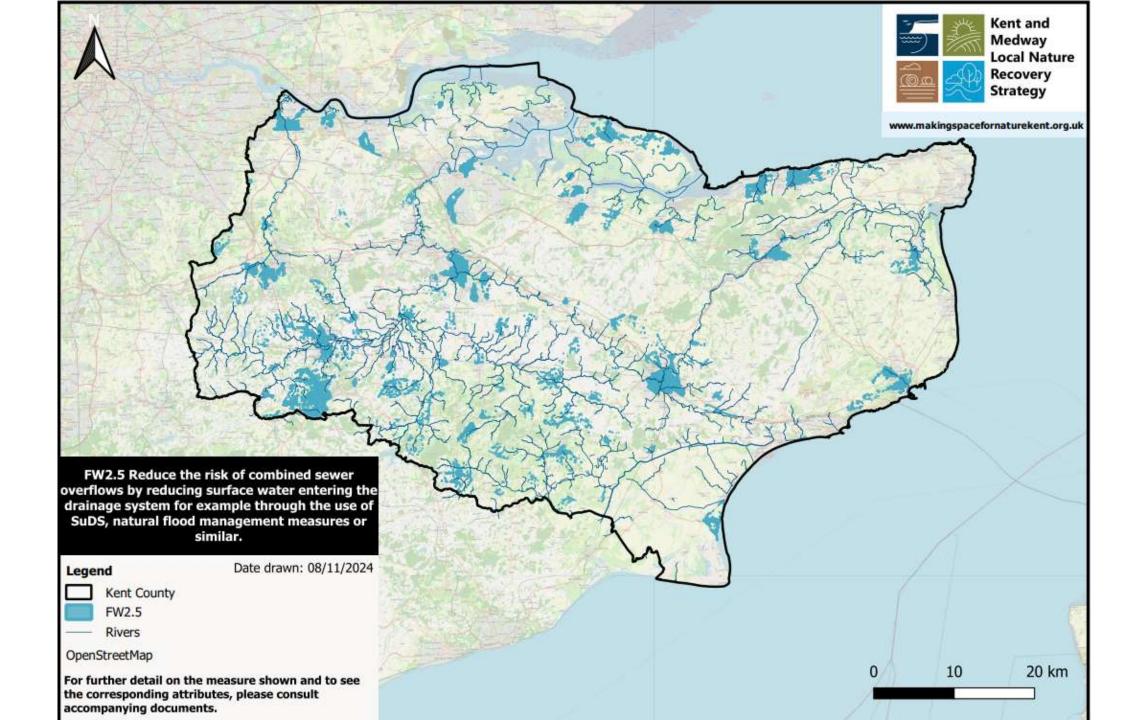
FW2.5 Reduce the risk of combined sewer overflows by reducing surface water entering the drainage system for example through the use of SuDS, natural flood management measures or similar.











Priority FW3 Freshwater habitats and groundwater bodies are supplied with sufficient water and resilient flows, supporting their natural hydrological and hydrogeological regime.



FW3.1 Safeguard rivers from disproportionate impacts of abstraction by managing abstraction and water use in catchments which suffer from drought or water scarcity and improving habitats to provide resilience.



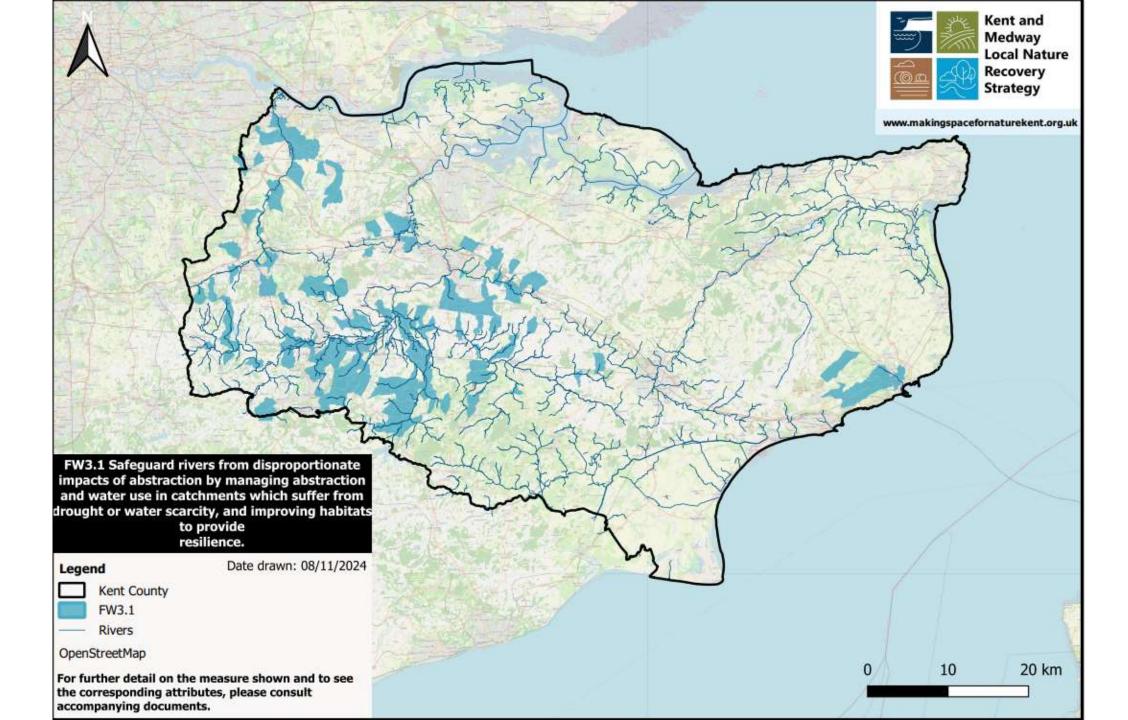
FW3.2 Retain and enhance habitats that support infiltration such as grasslands and woodland and avoid sealing of surfaces through development, compaction or inappropriate management of habitats and reduction of infiltration in key recharge areas and around chalk stream winterbournes.

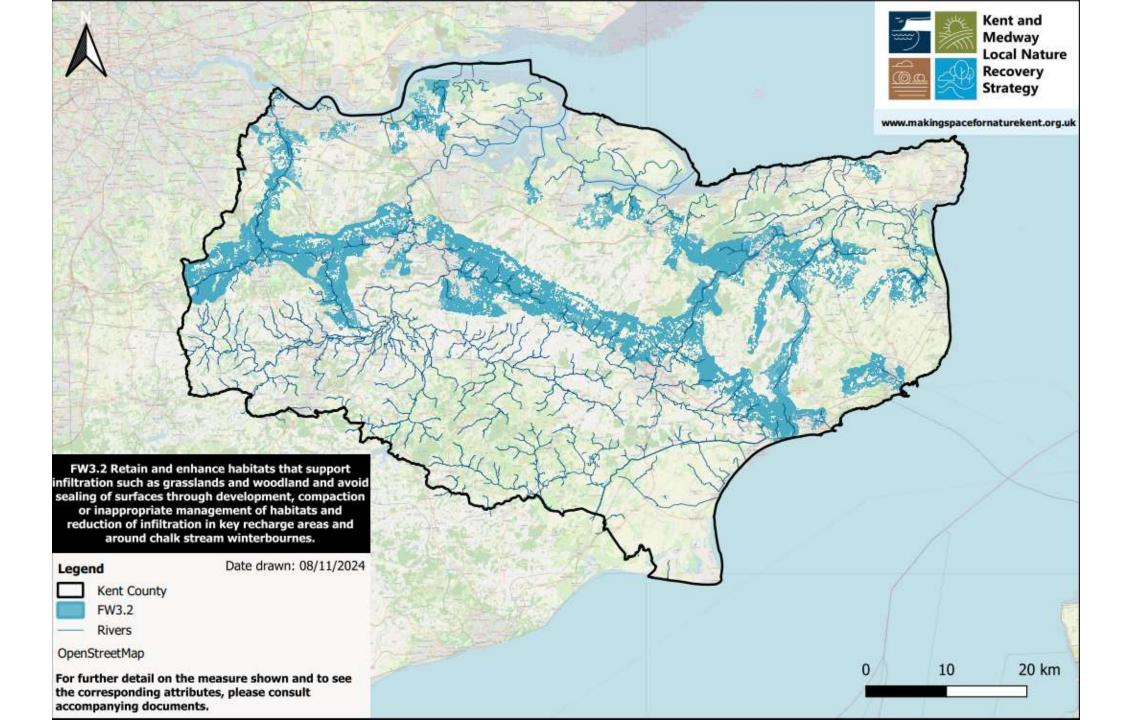


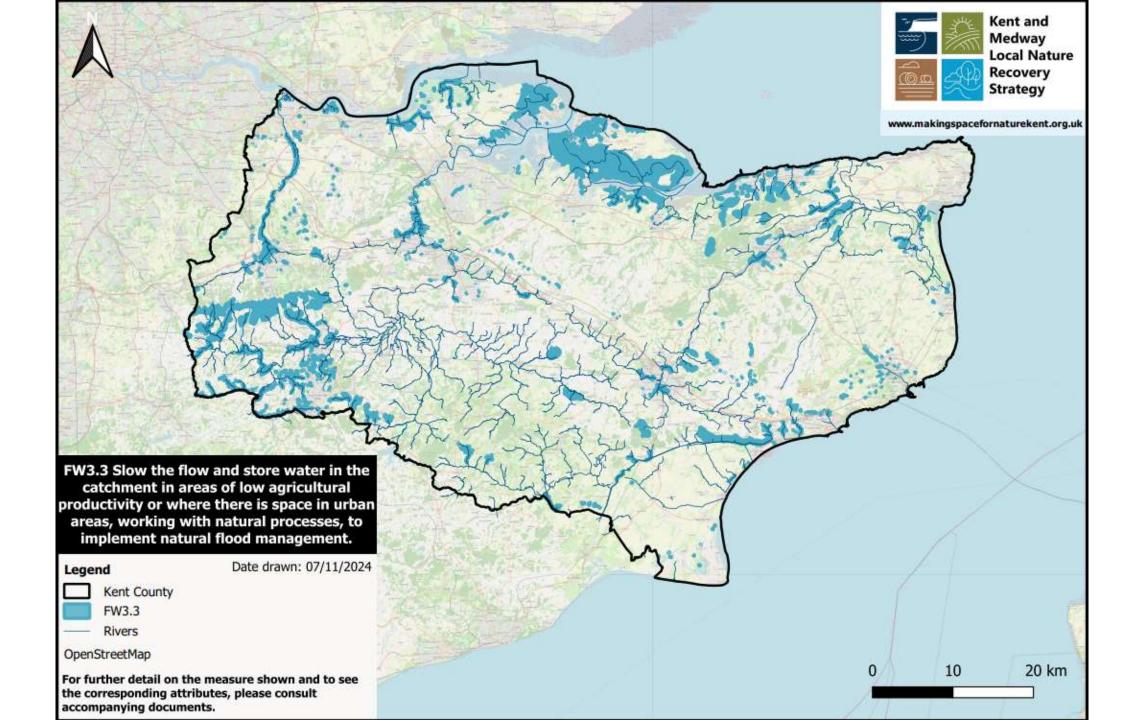
FW3.3 Slow the flow and store water in the catchment in areas of low agricultural productivity or where there is space in urban areas, working with natural processes, to implement natural flood management e.g. through installation of large woody material, creation of wet woodlands, lowland meadows, reedbeds, flood attenuation ponds and similar, especially where they can reduce flood risk and provide clean recharge to the groundwater body.

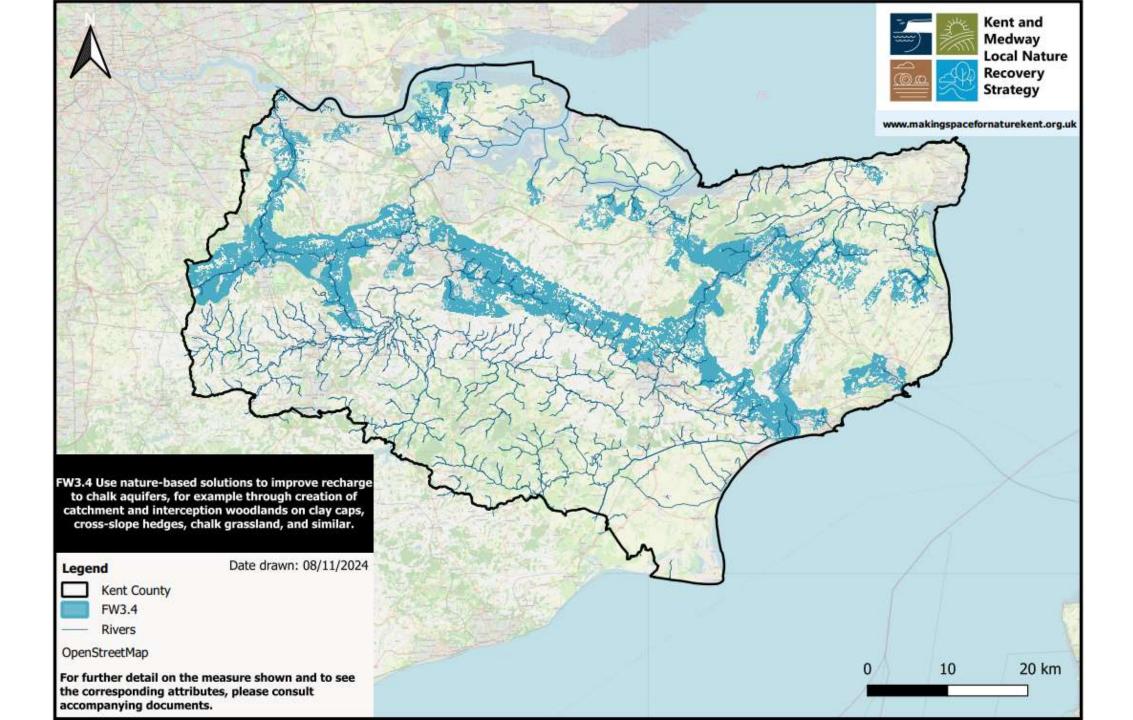


FW3.4 Use nature-based solutions to improve recharge to chalk aquifers, for example through creation of catchment and interception woodlands on clay caps, cross-slope hedges, chalk grassland, and similar.









Priority FW4 Rivers, streams and springs and associated waterbodies have wide, more natural buffer strips with a diverse vegetation structure, which allow natural processes, provide a balance of light and shade, mosaics of wetland habitats, and safeguard from pollution and drought.

Note: Mapping numbers for FW4 starting at FW4.2 is correct – no potential measure or map is missing.



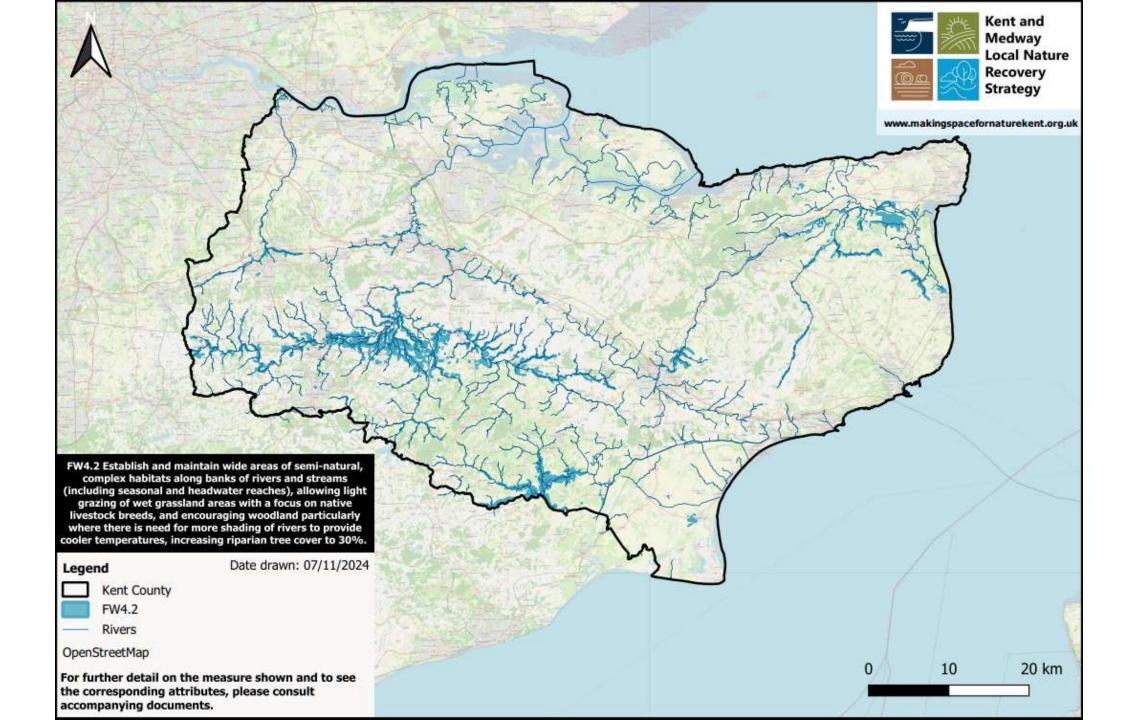
FW4.2 Establish and maintain wide areas of semi-natural, complex habitats along banks of rivers and streams (including seasonal and headwater reaches), allowing light grazing of wet grassland areas with a focus on native livestock breeds, and encouraging woodland particularly where there is need for more shading of rivers to provide cooler temperatures, increasing riparian tree cover to 30%. Allow natural regeneration of habitats and recolonisation.

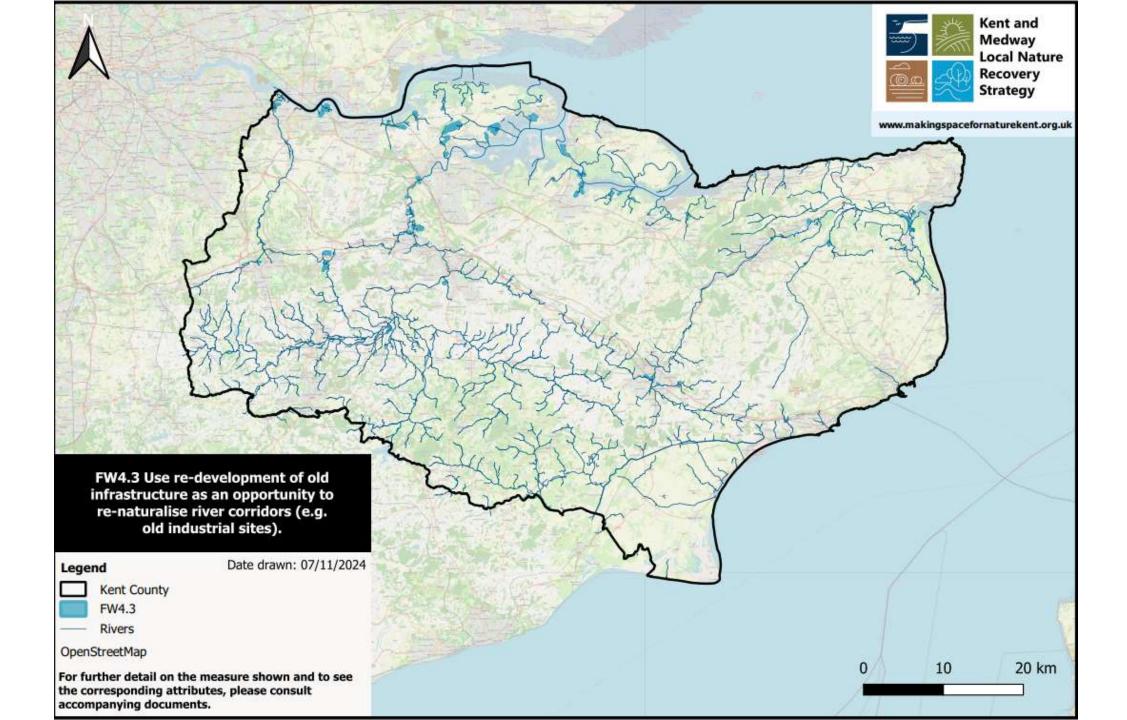


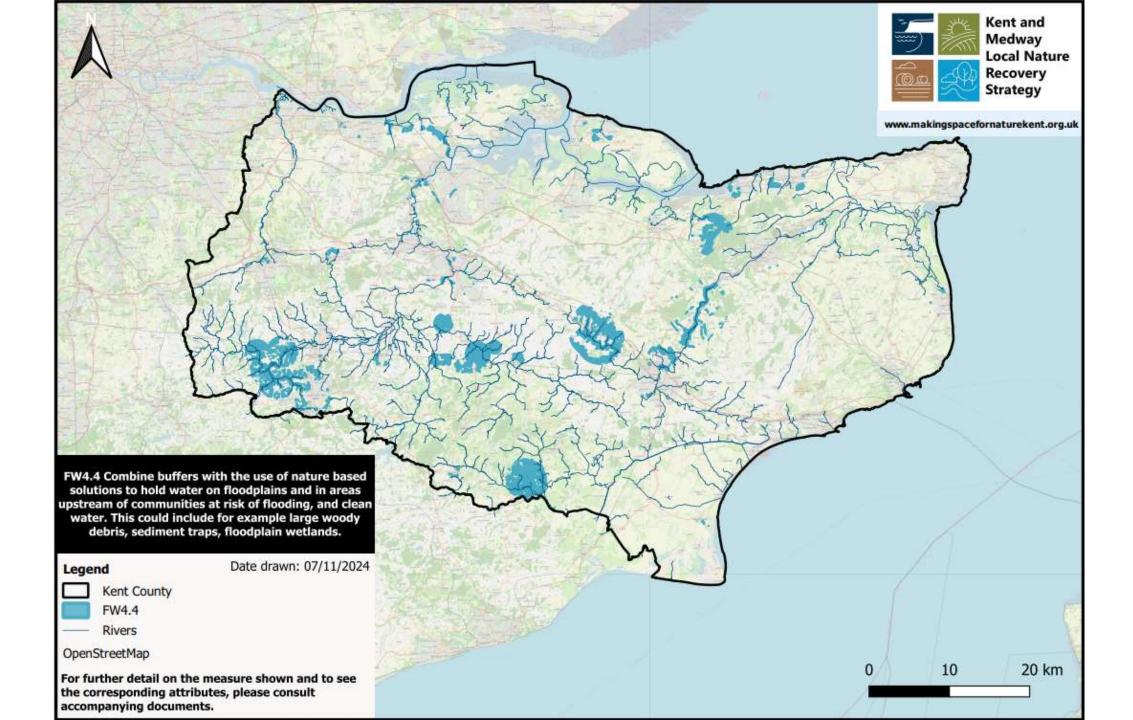
FW4.3 Use re-development of old infrastructure as an opportunity to re-naturalise river corridors (e.g. old industrial sites).



FW4.4 Combine buffers with the use of nature-based solutions to hold water on floodplains and in areas upstream of communities at risk of flooding, and clean water. This could include for example large woody debris, sediment traps, floodplain wetlands.







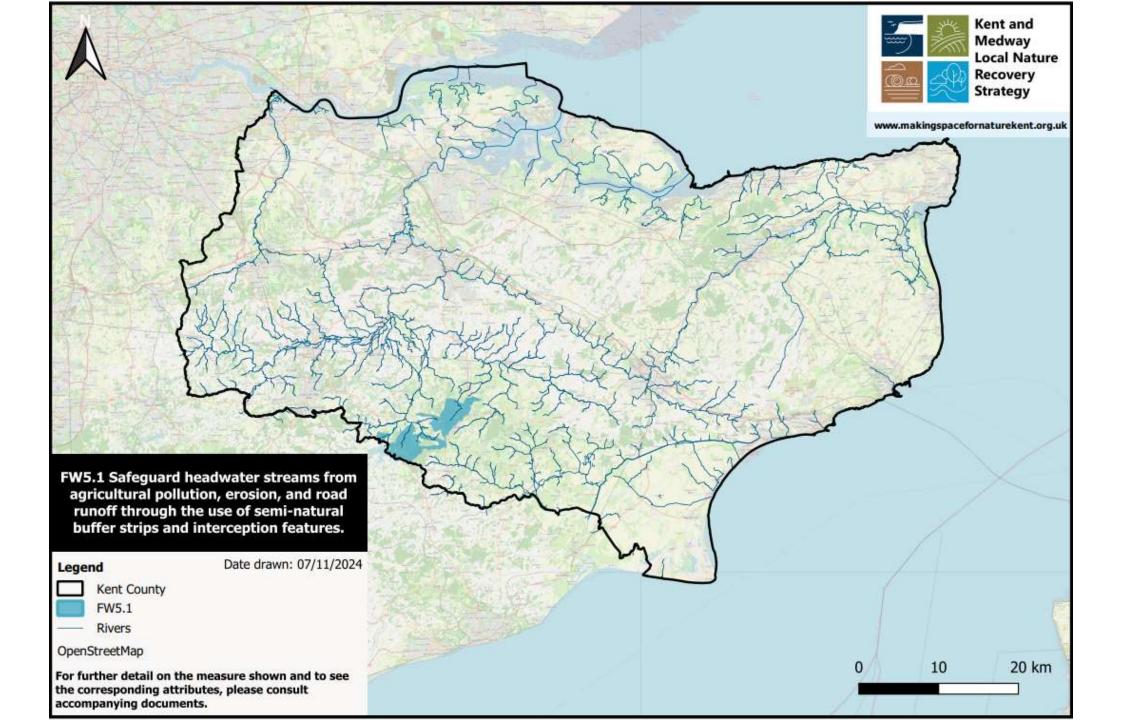
Priority FW5 Headwater streams have a natural form and natural processes, functioning as part of a mosaic of (seasonally) wet habitats including grasslands and woodlands, providing resilient flows to rivers and supporting a wide range of wildlife.

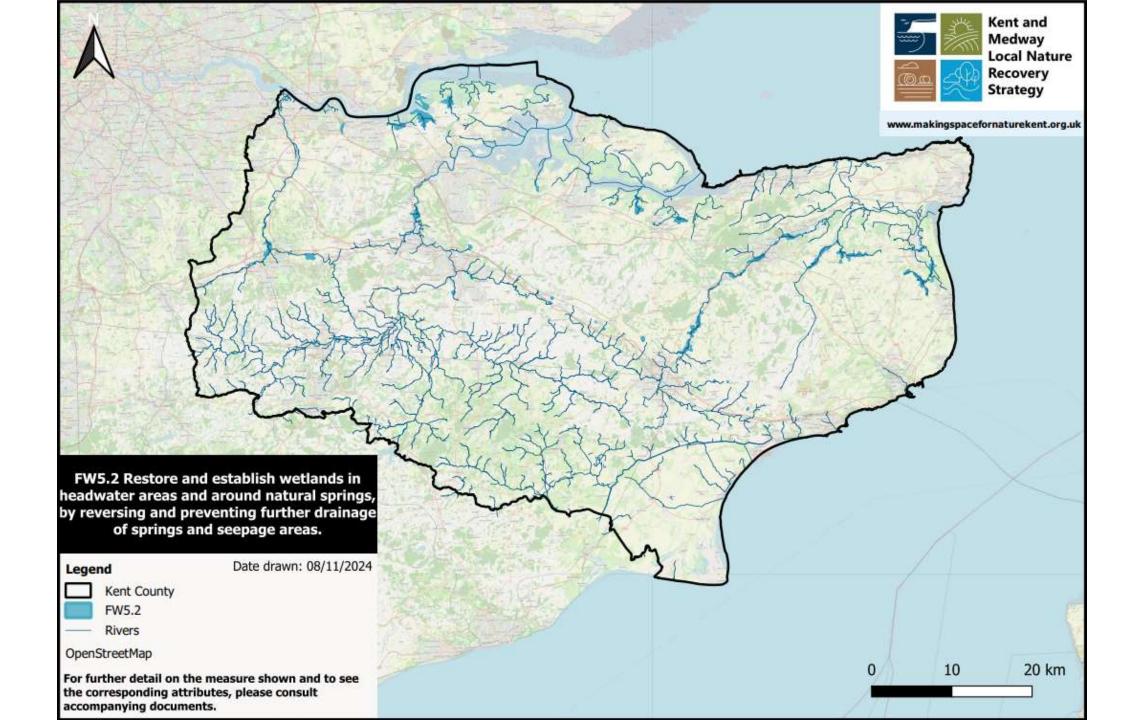


FW5.1 Safeguard headwater streams from agricultural pollution, erosion, and road runoff through the use of semi-natural buffer strips and interception features.



FW5.2 Restore and establish wetlands in headwater areas and around natural springs, by reversing and preventing further drainage of springs and seepage areas.





Priority FW6 Chalk streams reach, at minimum, Good Ecological Status or Potential, and provide high quality river habitat with a natural channel form and processes, supporting characteristic flora and fauna, natural and resilient flows along their permanent length, and well managed ephemeral headwater streams. Quality and quantity of water supporting chalk steams and the groundwater bodies they rely on is safeguarded.

Note: Mapping numbers for FW6 are correct – no potential measure FW6.4 or associated map is missing.



FW6.1 Safeguard winterbourne streams and key recharge zones for aquifers feeding chalk streams.



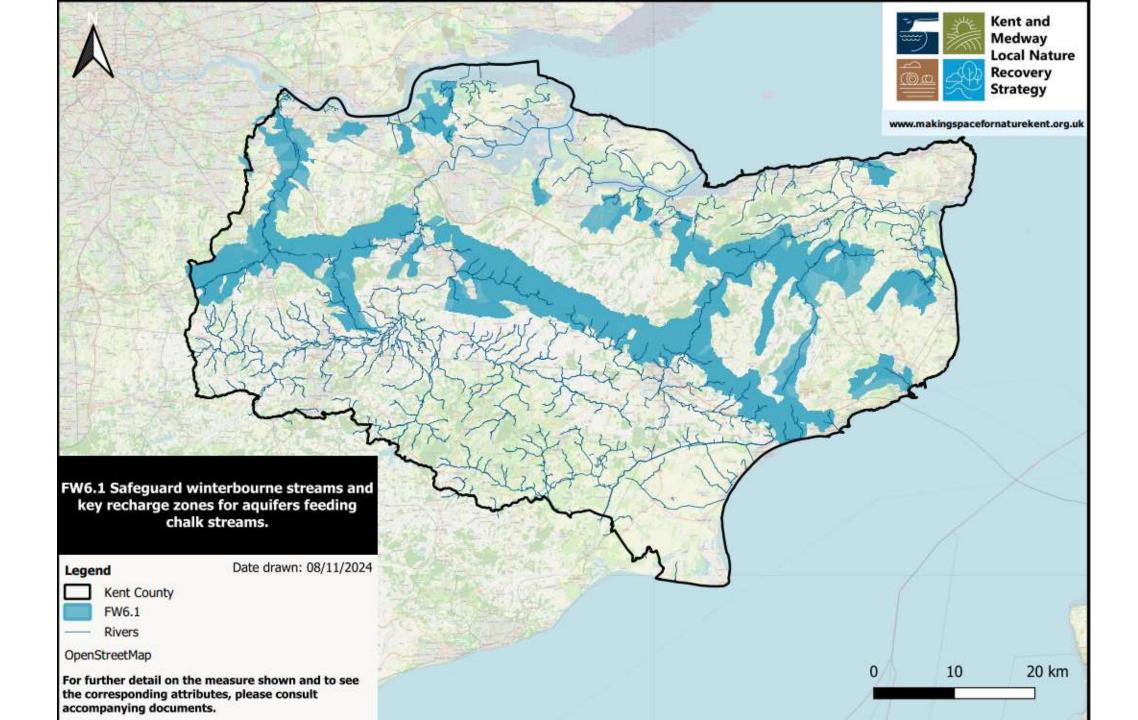
FW6.2 Establish good farming practices for chalk streams, including cover crops, minimum till, infield buffer strips and green swales, restoration of hedges across slopes, woodland and pond restoration in fields.

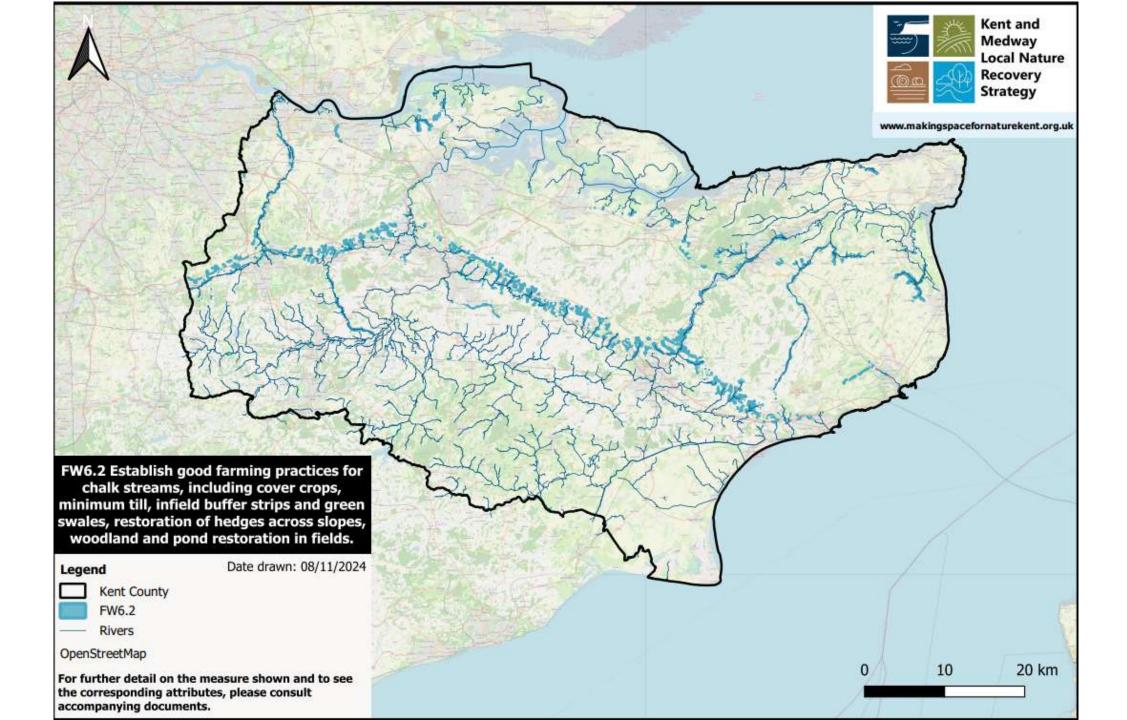


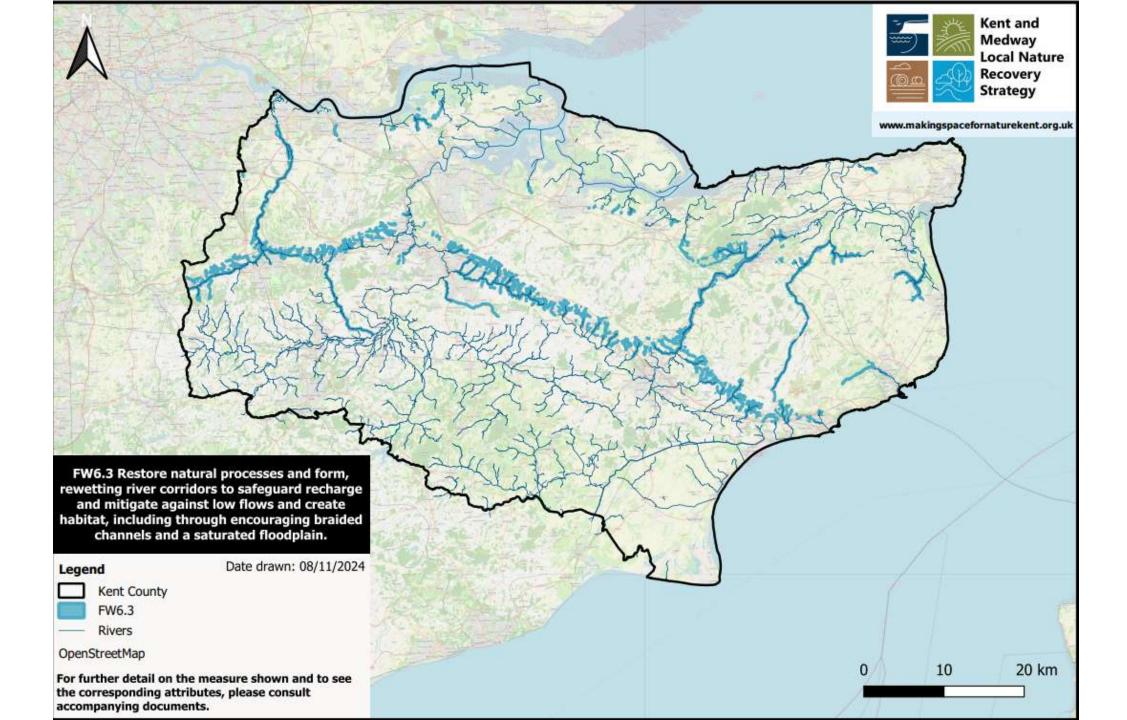
FW6.3 Restore natural processes and form, rewetting river corridors to safeguard recharge and mitigate against low flows and create habitat, including through encouraging braided channels and a saturated floodplain.

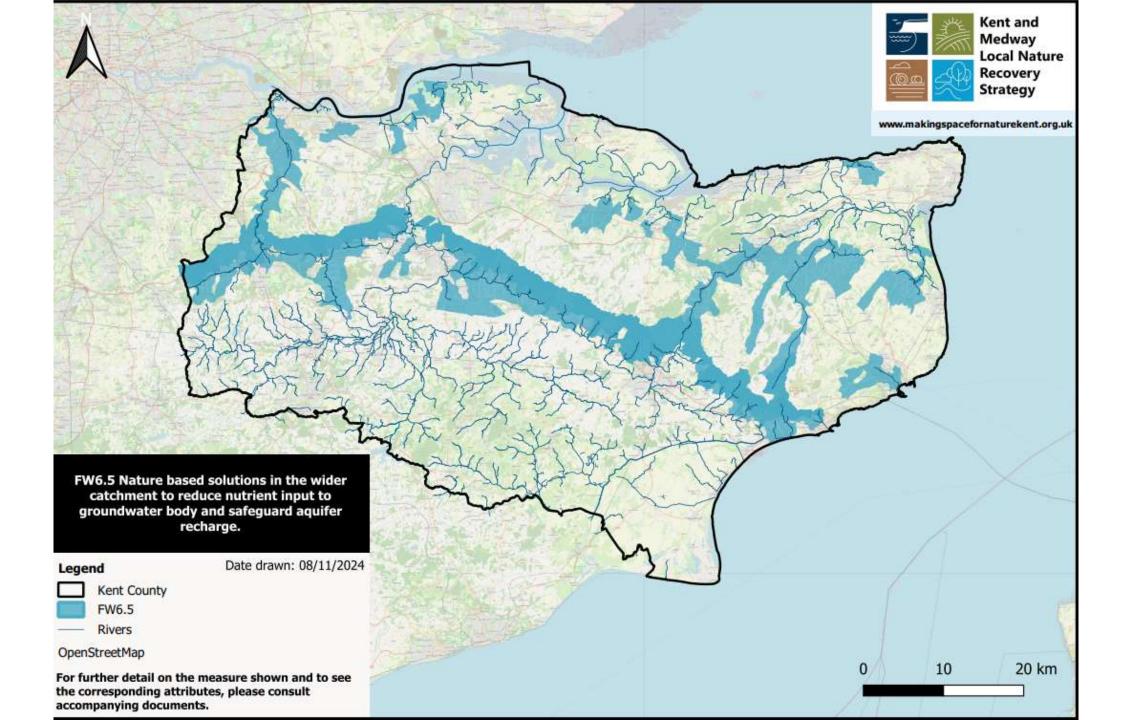


FW6.5 Nature-based solutions in the wider catchment to reduce nutrient input to groundwater body and safeguard aquifer recharge.









Priority FW7 Clay rivers have a more natural channel form and processes, without physical modifications and the impacts of historic alterations, and are connected to a mosaic of wetland habitats along the floodplain and headwater streams.

Note: Mapping numbers for FW7 are correct – no potential measure FW7.4 or associated map is missing



FW7.1 Restore banks and channel, through regrading and creation of more shallow banks and associated wetland areas, to undo historic physical modification.



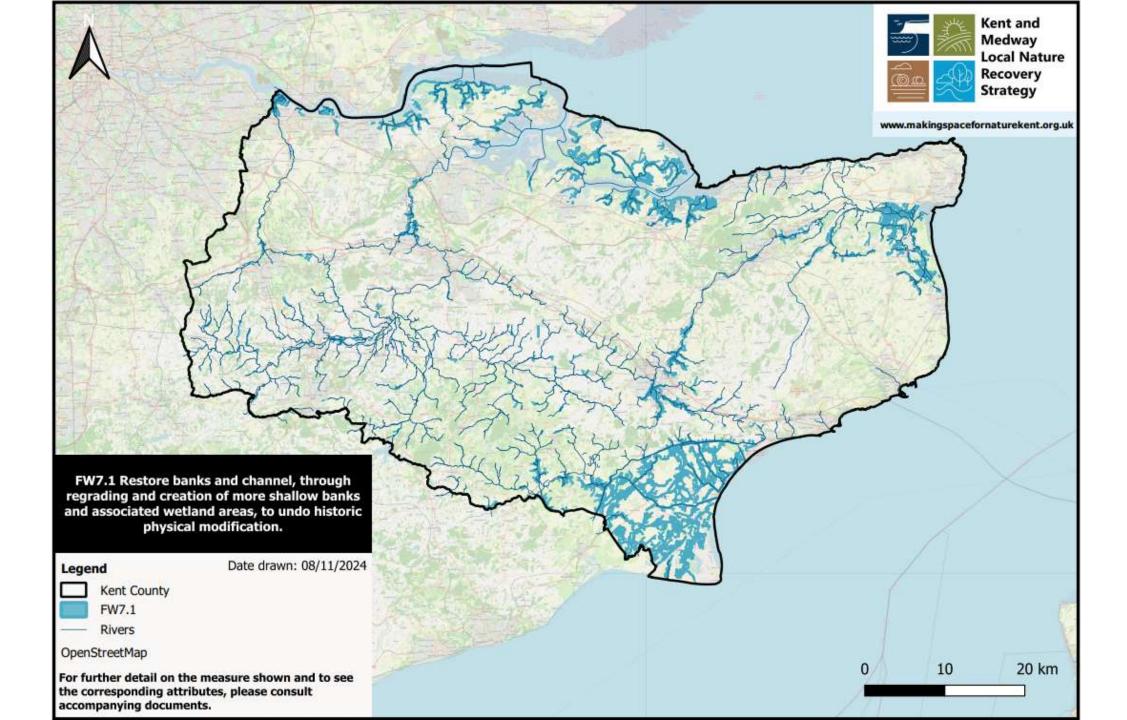
FW7.2 Remove physical obstructions and restore a natural channel shape.

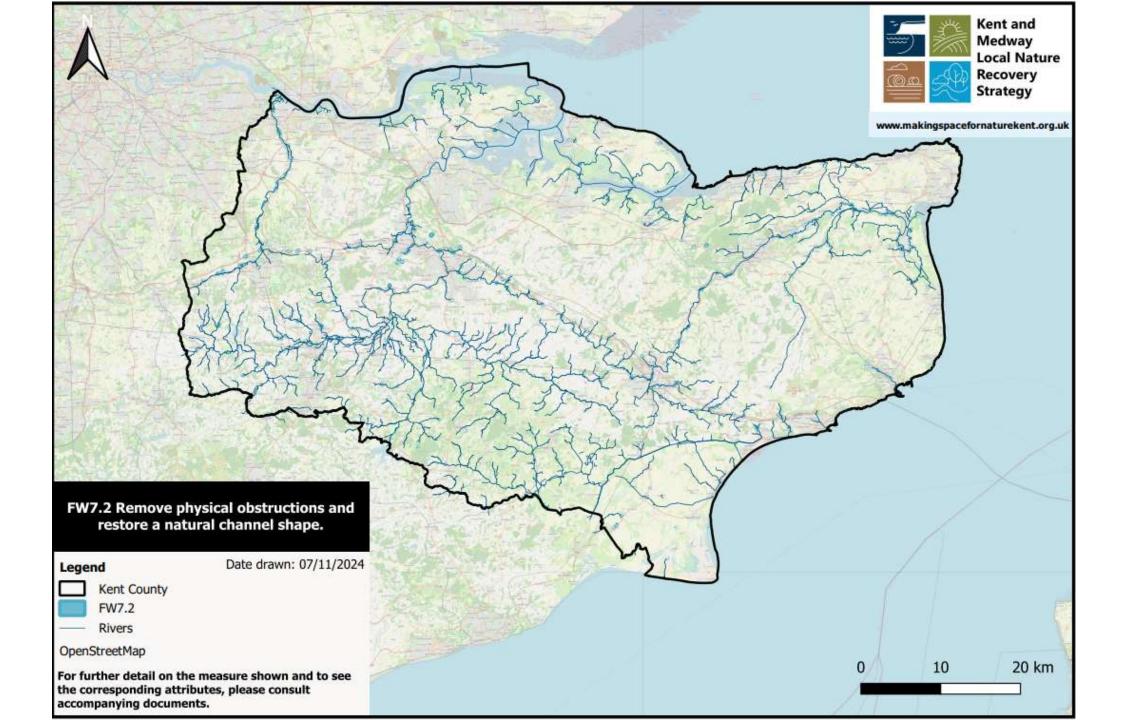


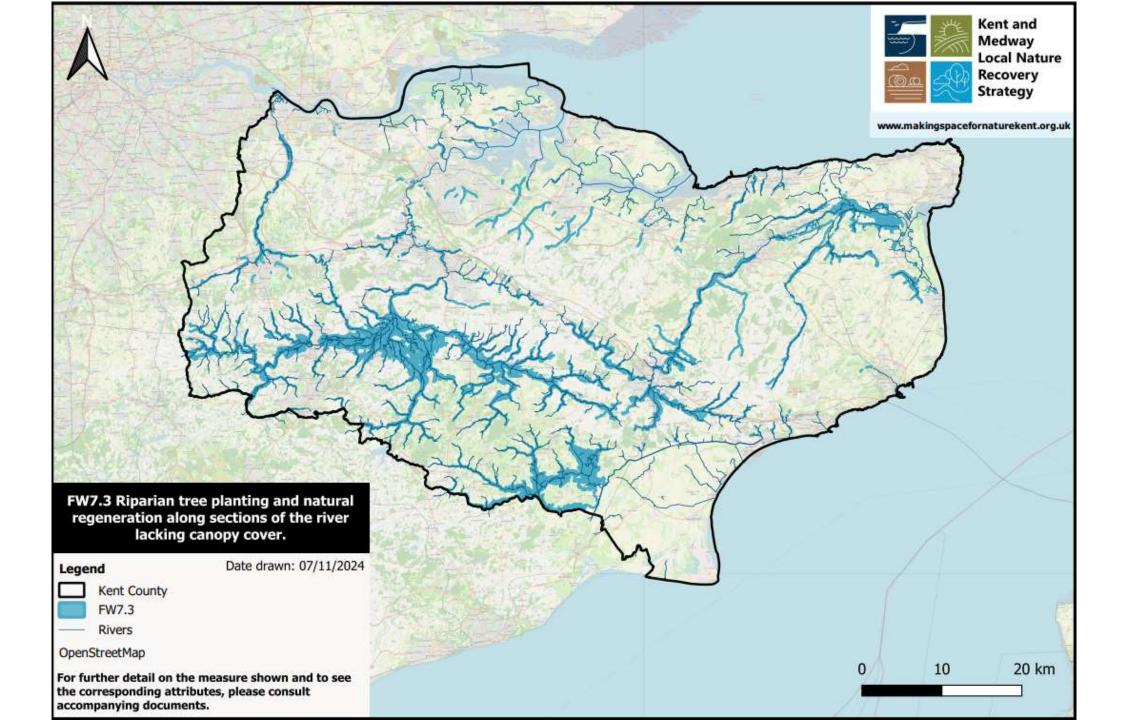
FW7.3 Riparian tree planting and natural regeneration along sections of the river lacking canopy cover.

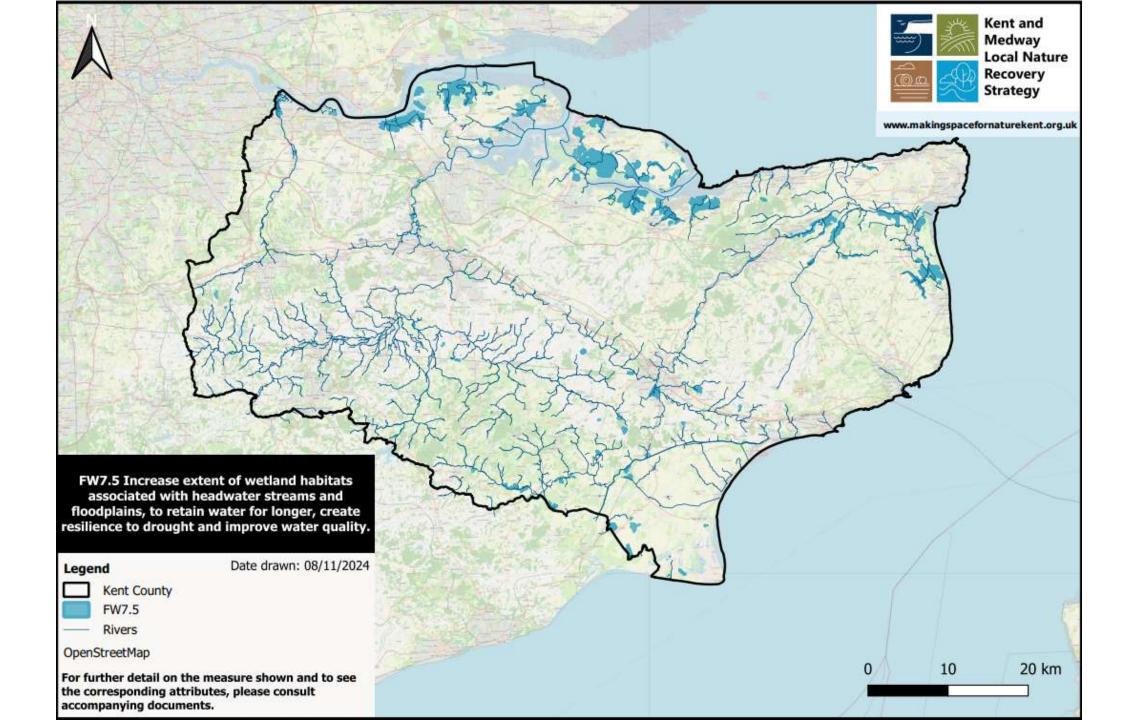


FW7.5 Increase extent of wetland habitats associated with headwater streams and floodplains, to retain water for longer, create resilience to drought and improve water quality.









Priority FW8 Maintain and enhance ponds with high ecological value and restore those lost or degraded. Enhance lake habitats and create new ponds, especially as part of a mosaic of habitats. Safeguard all pond habitats from run-off pollutants and invasive species, while allowing successional habitats to develop where appropriate.

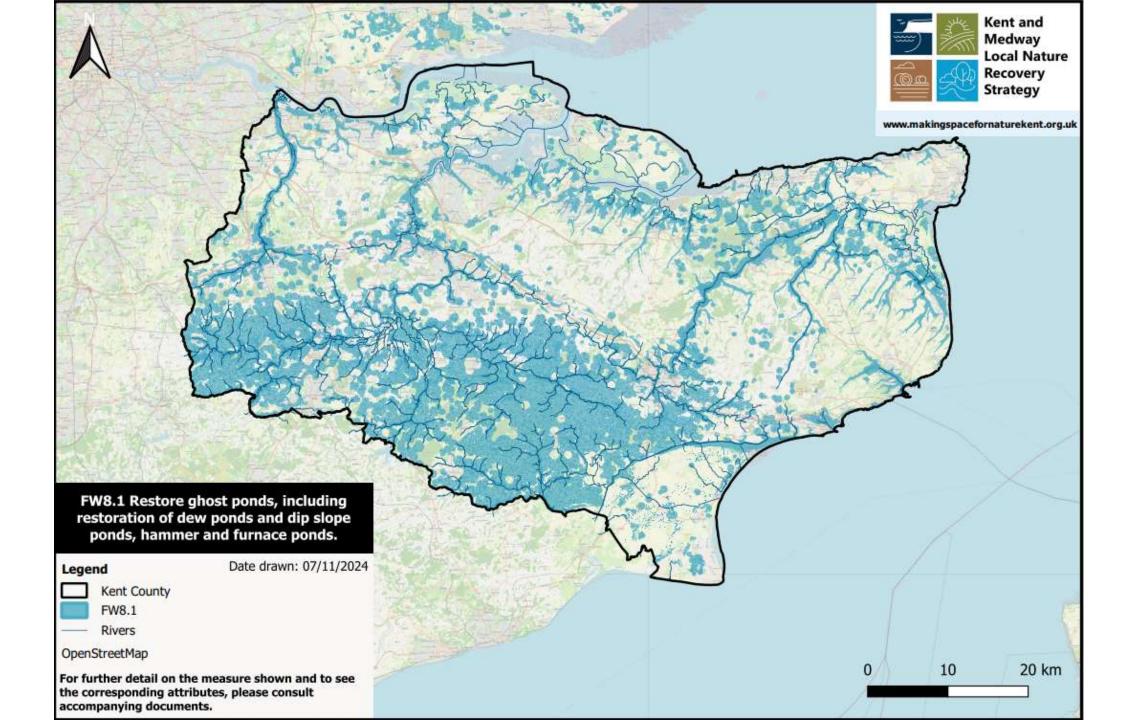
Note: Mapping numbers for FW8 are correct – no potential measure FW8.2-8.3 or associated map is missing.

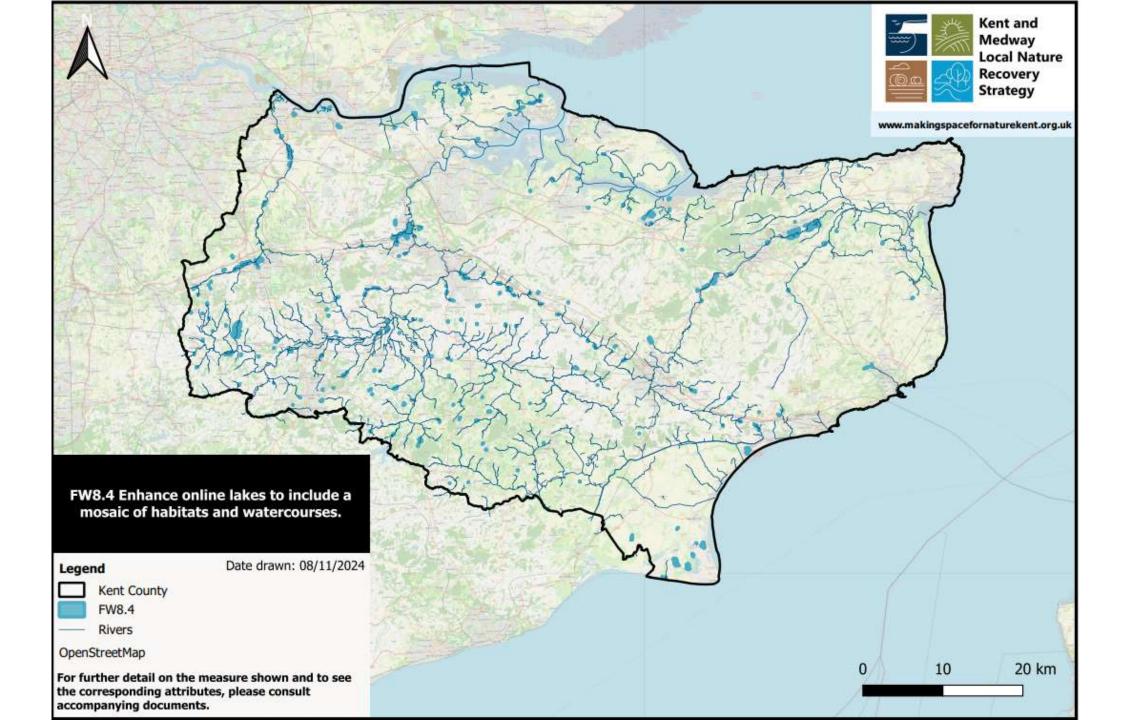


FW8.1 Restore ghost ponds, including restoration of dew ponds and dip slope ponds, hammer and furnace ponds.



FW8.4 Enhance online lakes to include a mosaic of habitats and watercourses.





Priority FW9 Lowland mire sites (fen and valley mires) and lowland peat habitats are well managed and enhanced, with the provision of buffers to allow the habitat extent to increase.

Note: Mapping numbers for FW9 are correct – no potential measure FW9.3 or associated map is missing.)



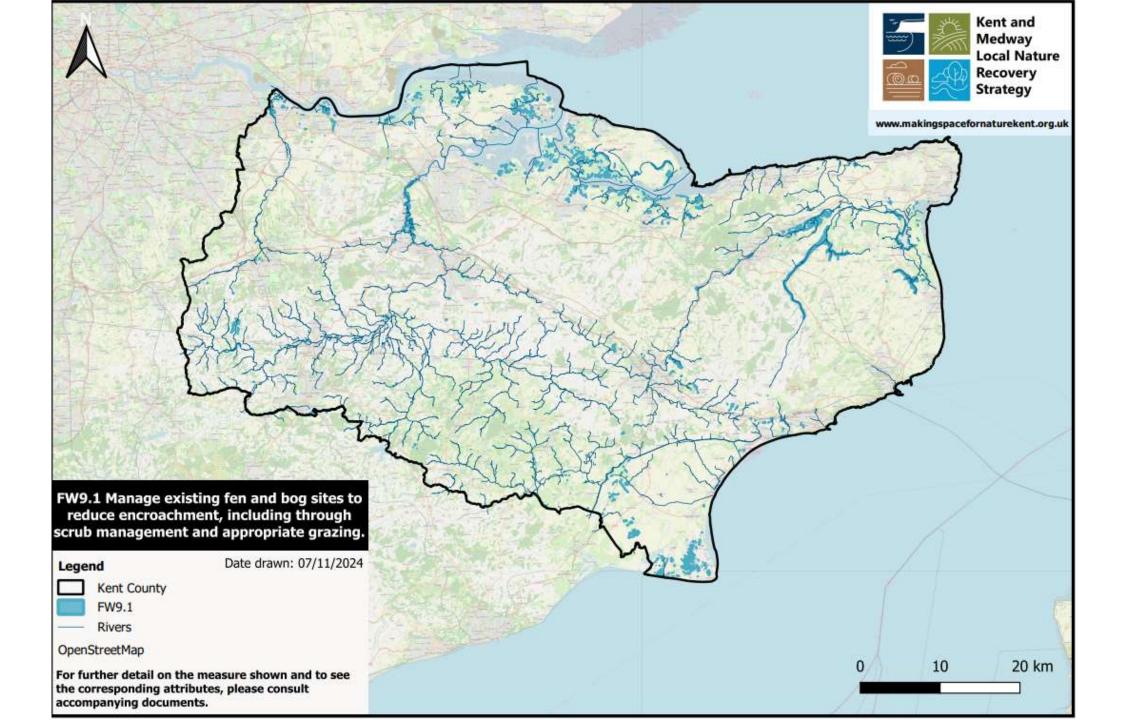
FW9.1 Manage existing fen and bog sites to reduce encroachment, including through scrub management and appropriate grazing.

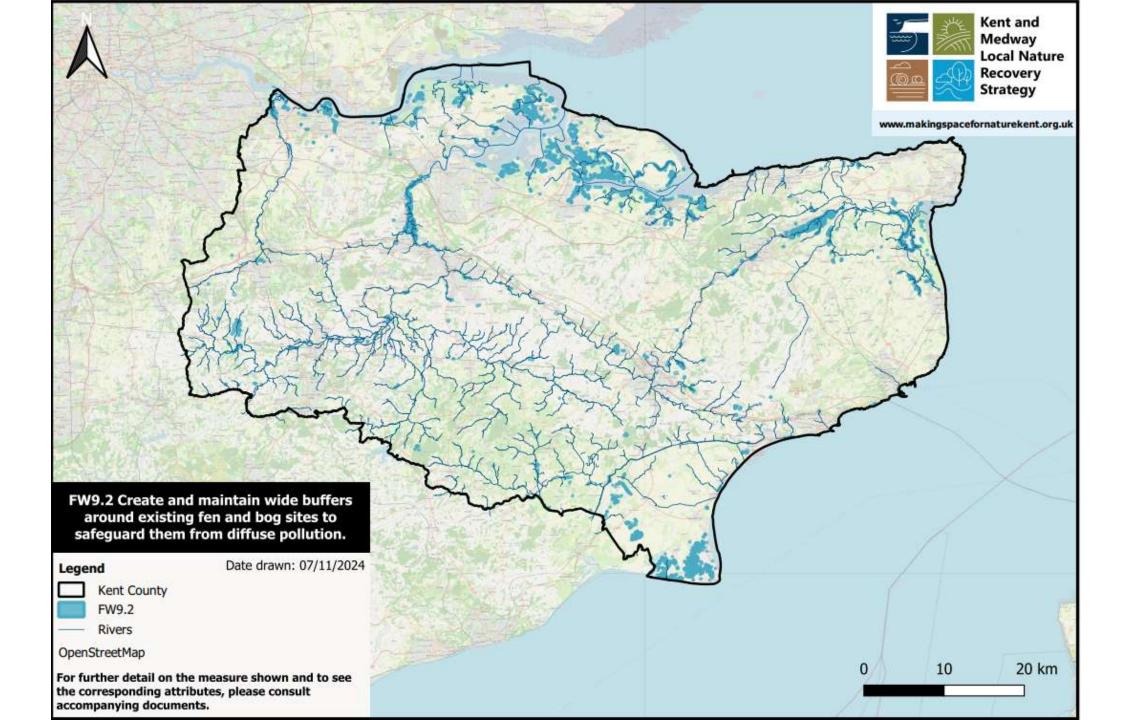


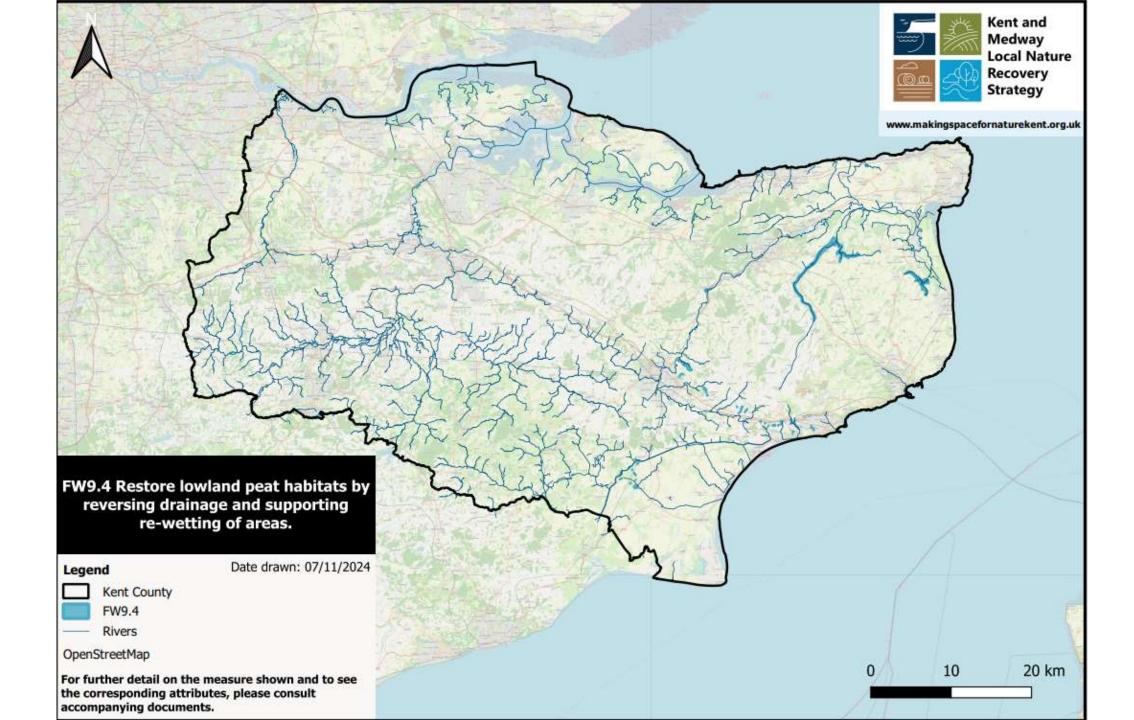
FW9.2 Create and maintain wide buffers around existing fen and bog sites to safeguard them from diffuse pollution.



FW9.4 Restore lowland peat habitats by reversing drainage and supporting re-wetting of areas.



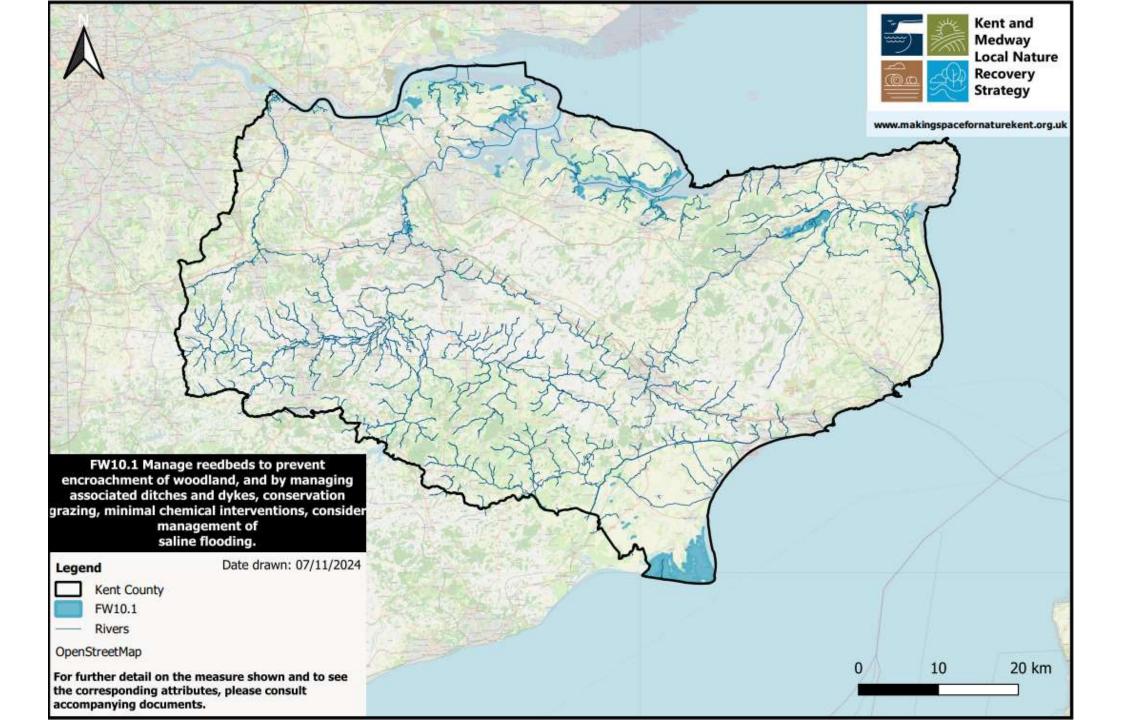




Priority FW10 High quality natural reedbeds across Kent are increased, and existing reedbeds are in appropriate management.



FW10.1 Manage reedbeds to prevent encroachment of woodland, and by managing associated ditches and dykes, conservation grazing, minimal chemical interventions, consider management of saline flooding.



Priority FW11 Enhance and restore wildlife-rich and functioning freshwater wetlands across the county, providing not only shelter, nurseries and breeding grounds but also carbon sinks and water management.



FW11.1 Enhance reservoirs and similar waterbodies to provide better wildlife habitat. Ensure any such water bodies include features that enable wildlife to get out of water.



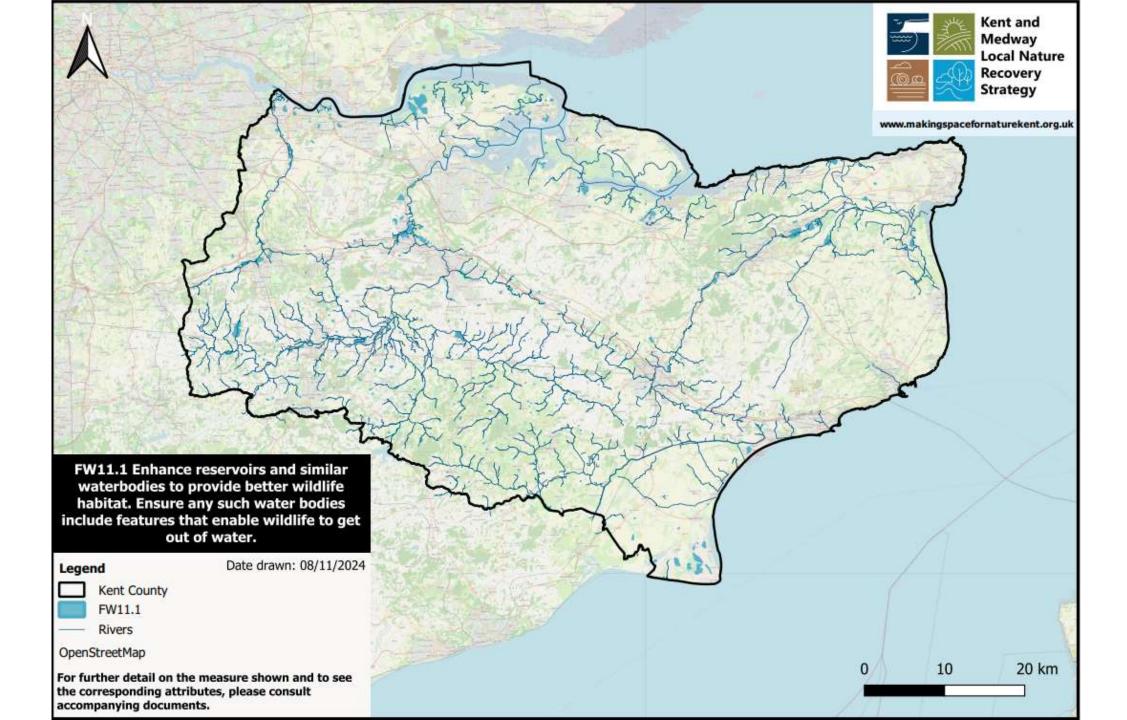
FW11.2 Manage, restore and expand river valley wetlands, for example floodplain meadows, floodplain grazing marshes, reedbeds and mudflats.

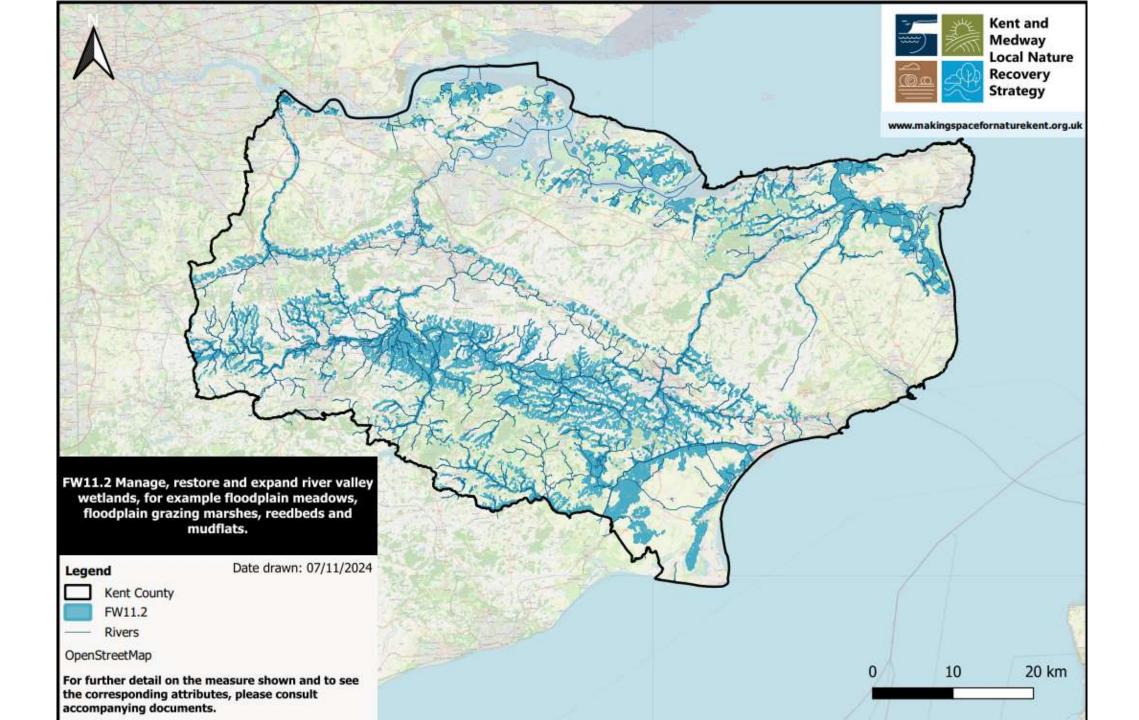


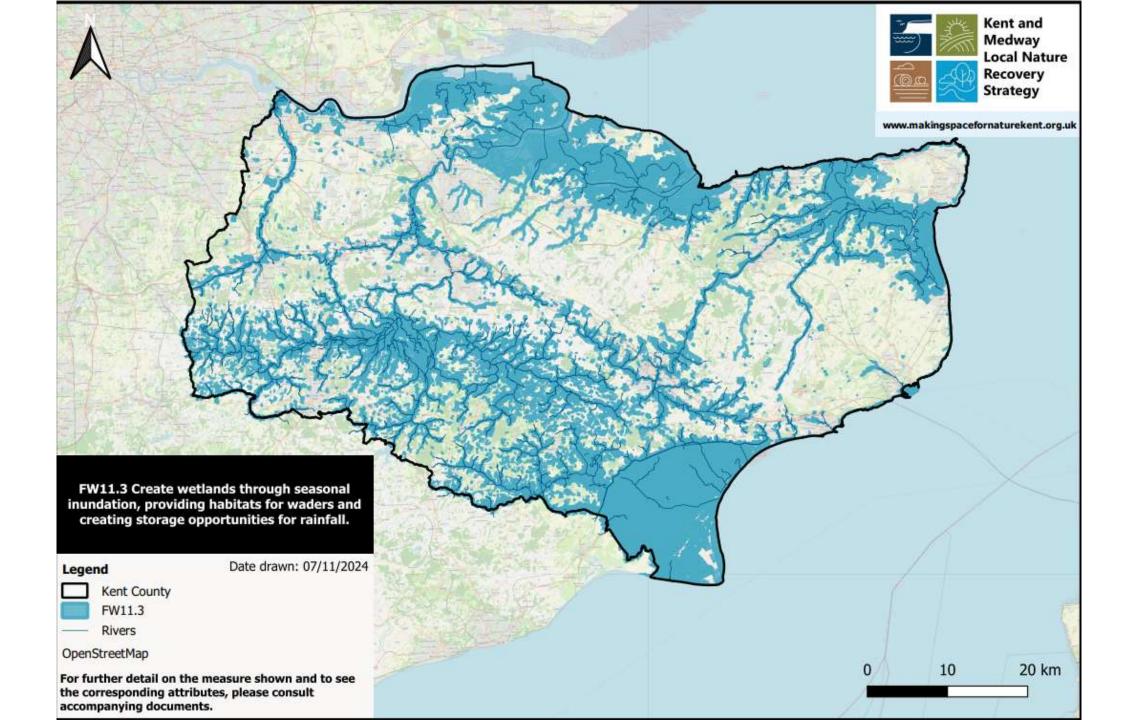
FW11.3 Create wetlands through seasonal inundation, providing habitats for waders and creating storage opportunities for rainfall.

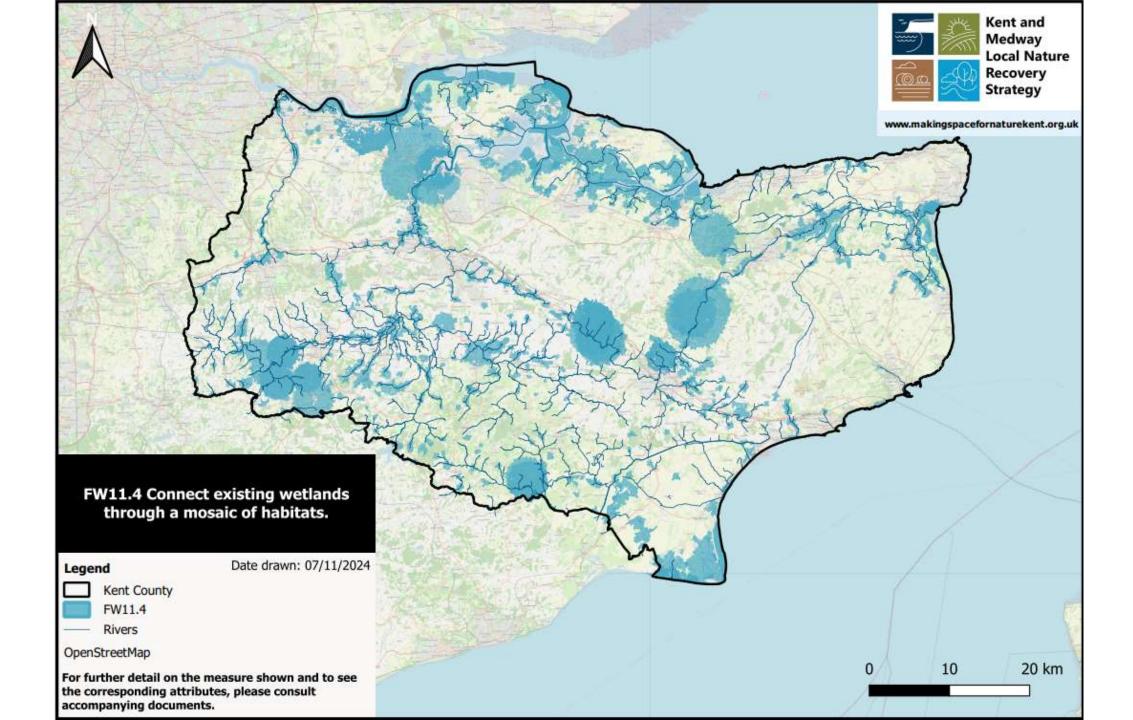


FW11.4 Connect existing wetlands through a mosaic of habitats.





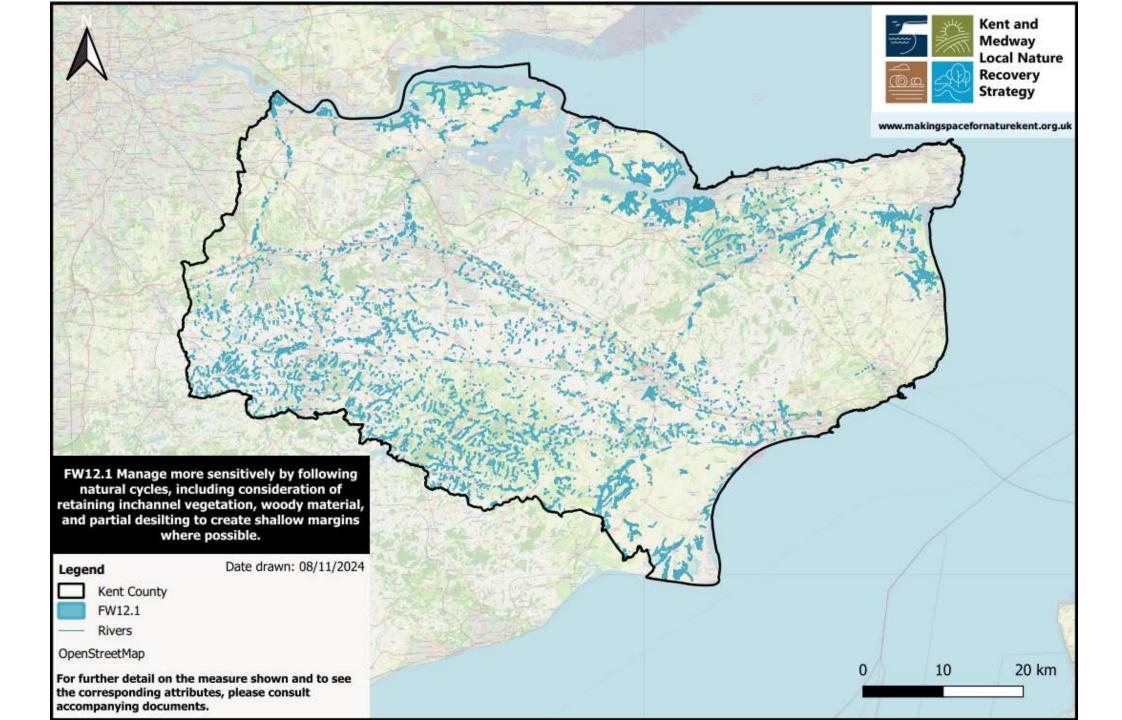




Priority FW12 Restore and enhance semi-natural lowland drains and associated marshlands through integrated water level management and habitat restoration to reduce flood risk, mitigate drought impacts and promote biodiversity.



FW12.1 Manage more sensitively by following natural cycles, including consideration of retaining in-channel vegetation, woody material, and partial desilting to create shallow margins where possible.



Urban potential measures mapping

Priority URB1 Address habitat fragmentation of the urban environment, ensuring urban species can freely move about and developed areas and infrastructure does not impede passage.



URB1.1 Employ conservation cuts, and minimise mowing, on verges and grass areas in areas known to be of importance for pollinators connectivity.



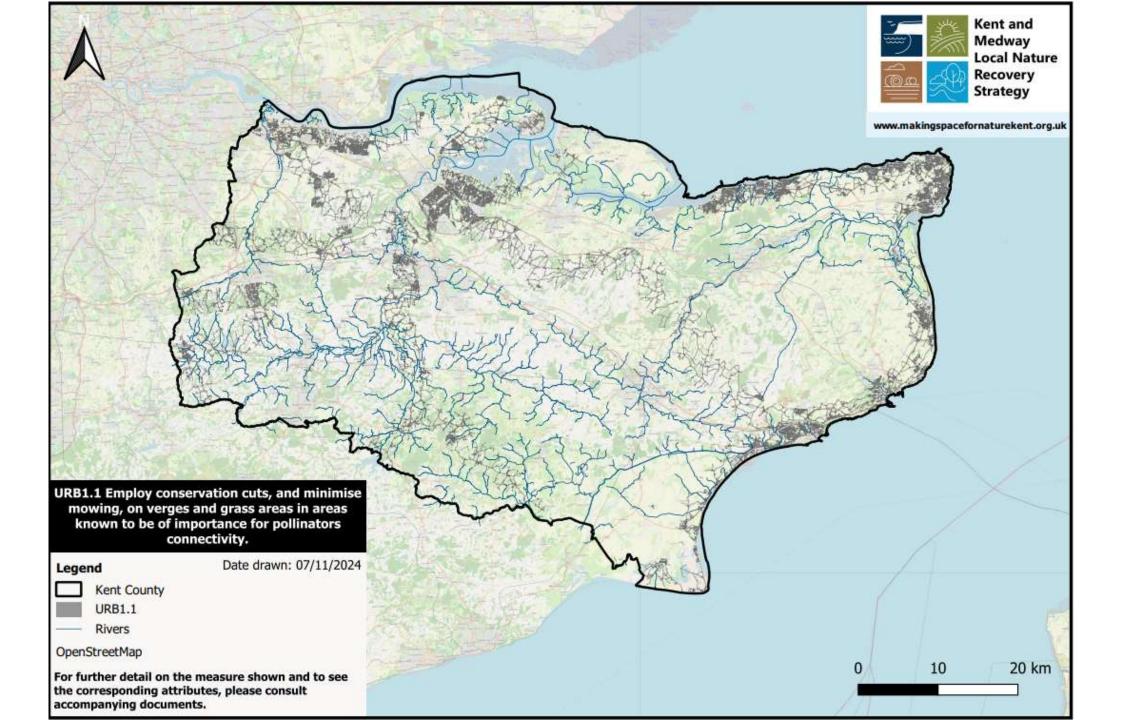
URB1.2 Enhance and safeguard existing greenspace and trees that provide key stepping stones between larger natural spaces that are either within or at the edge of urban areas.

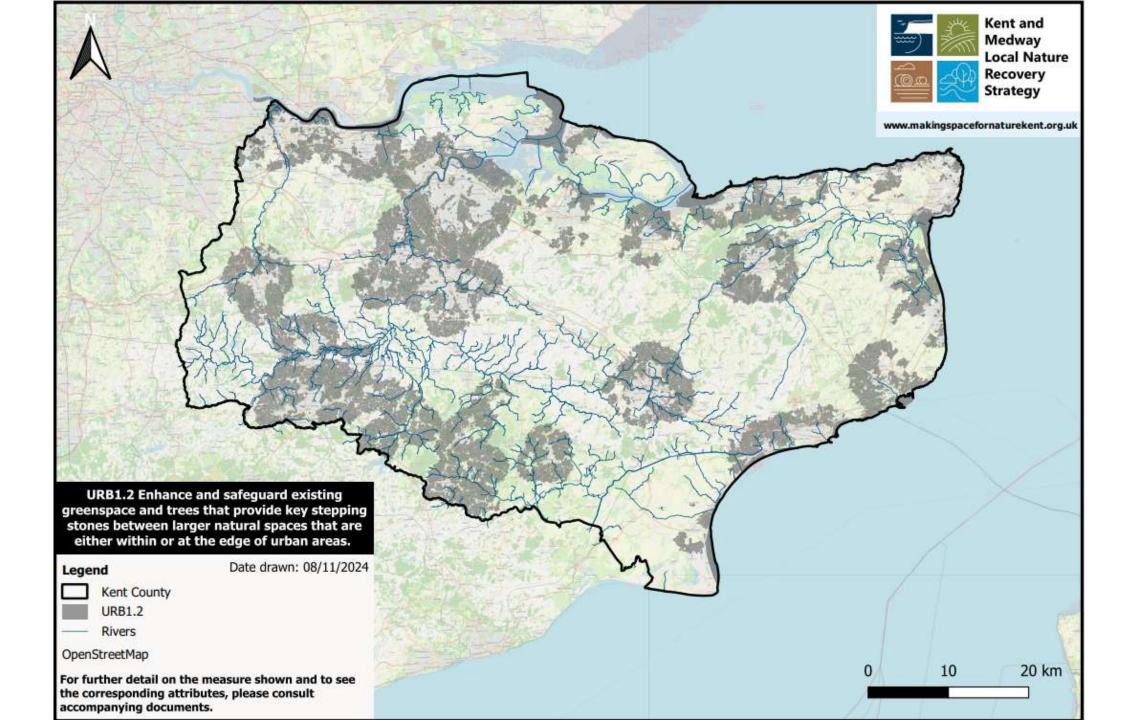


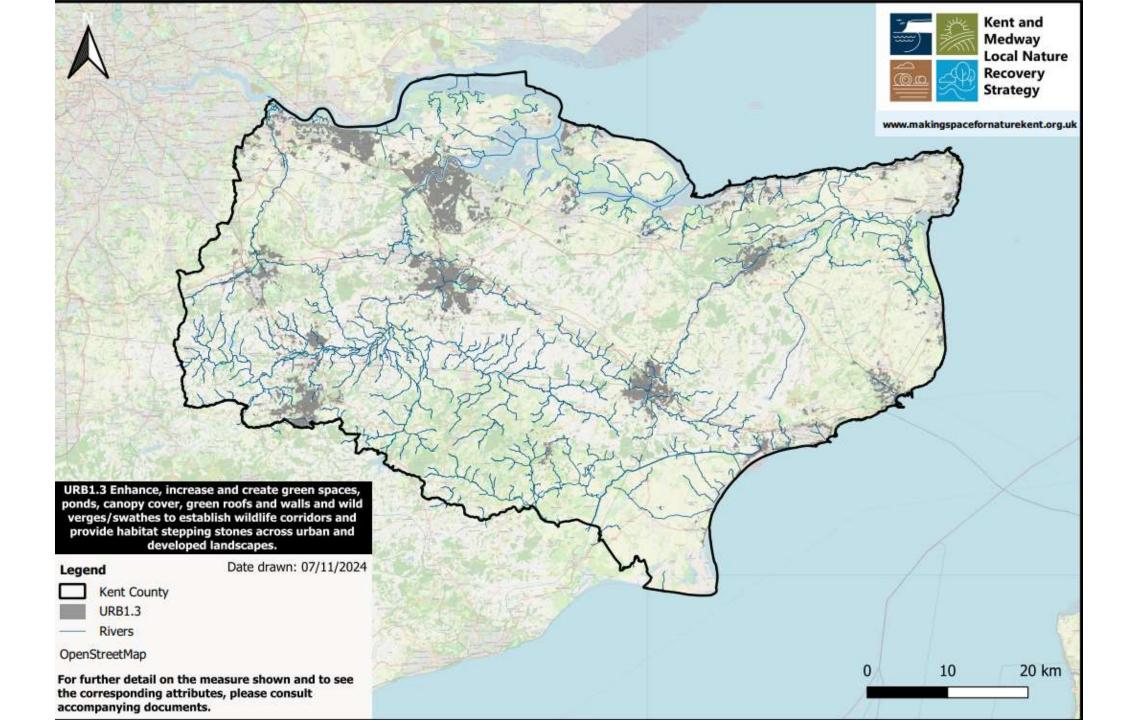
URB1.3 Enhance, increase and create green spaces, ponds, canopy cover, green roofs and walls and wild verges/swathes to establish wildlife corridors and provide habitat stepping stones across urban and developed landscapes.

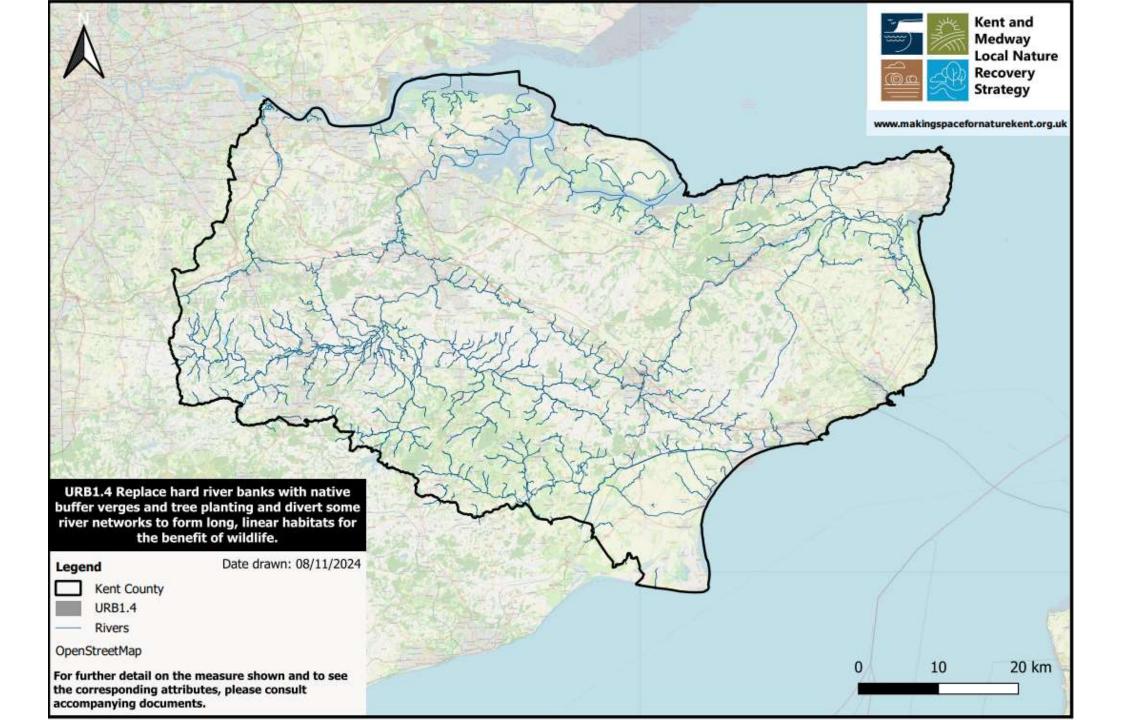


URB1.4 Replace hard river banks with native buffer verges and tree planting and divert some river networks to form long, linear habitats for the benefit of wildlife.









Priority URB2 Deliver benefits for wildlife through urban public greenspace and land management.



URB2.1 Areas of urban greenspace managed specifically for nature recovery, to provide a greater complexity of habitats, with year round shelter, forage and food, focussing on where benefits are most needed.



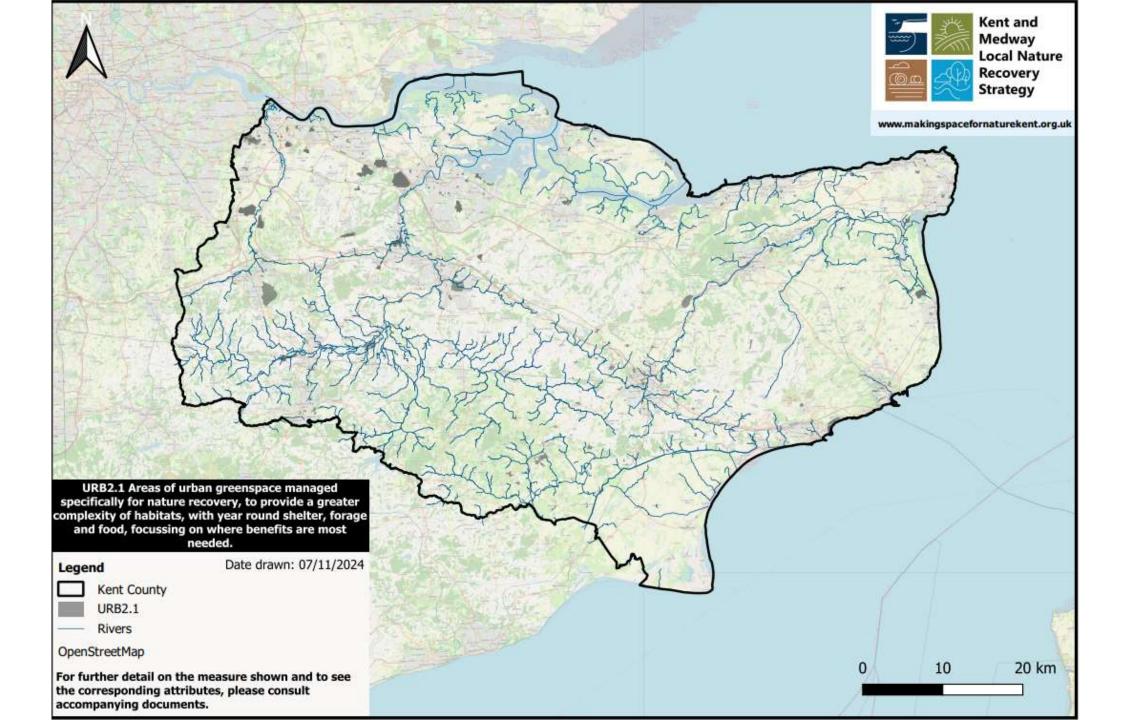
URB2.2 Employ conservation cuts, minimise mowing and leave wild strips, buffers and corners on verges and grass areas in areas known to be of importance for pollinators.

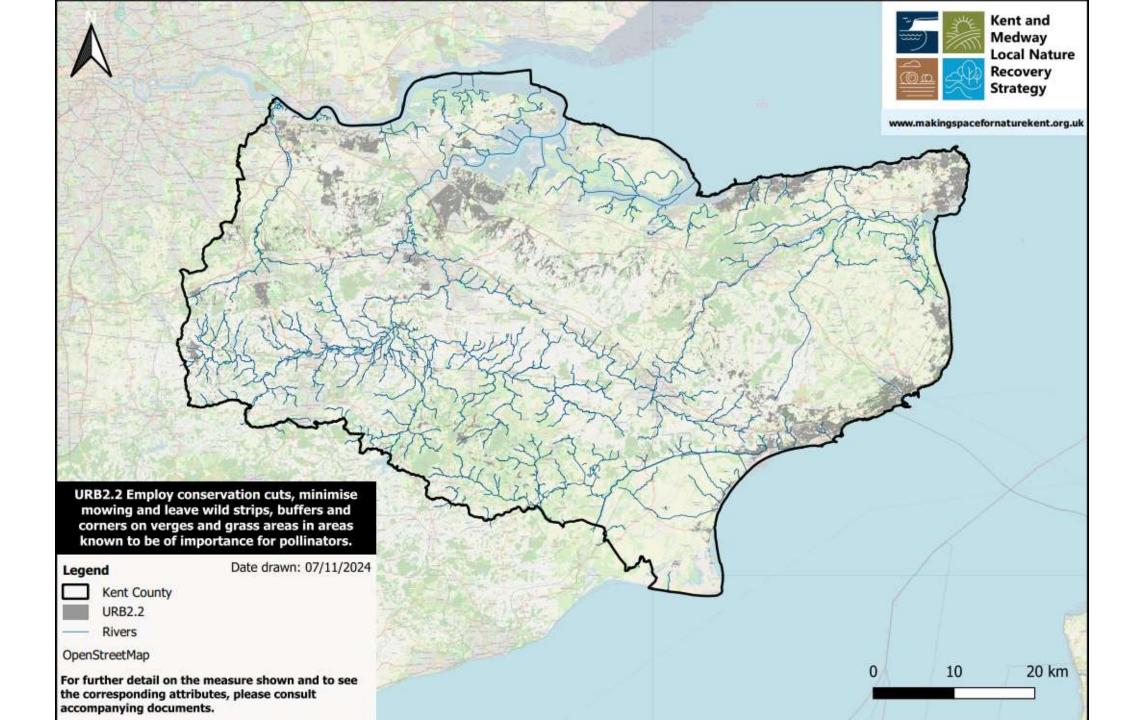


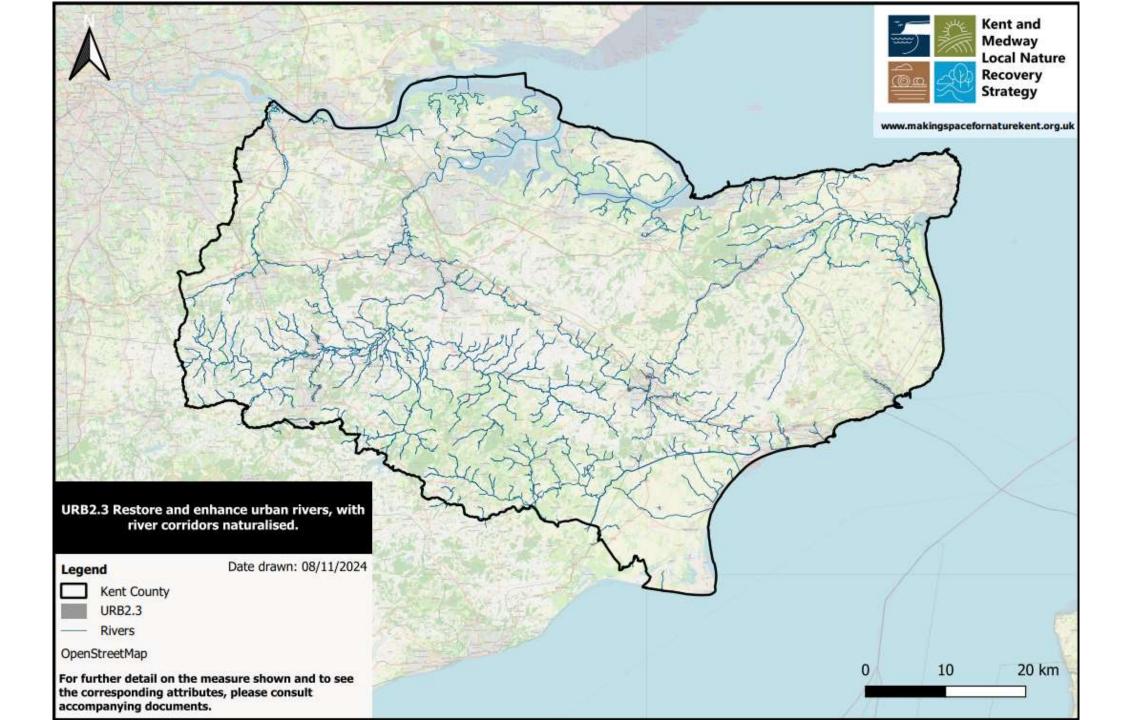
URB2.3 Restore and enhance urban rivers, with river corridors naturalised.

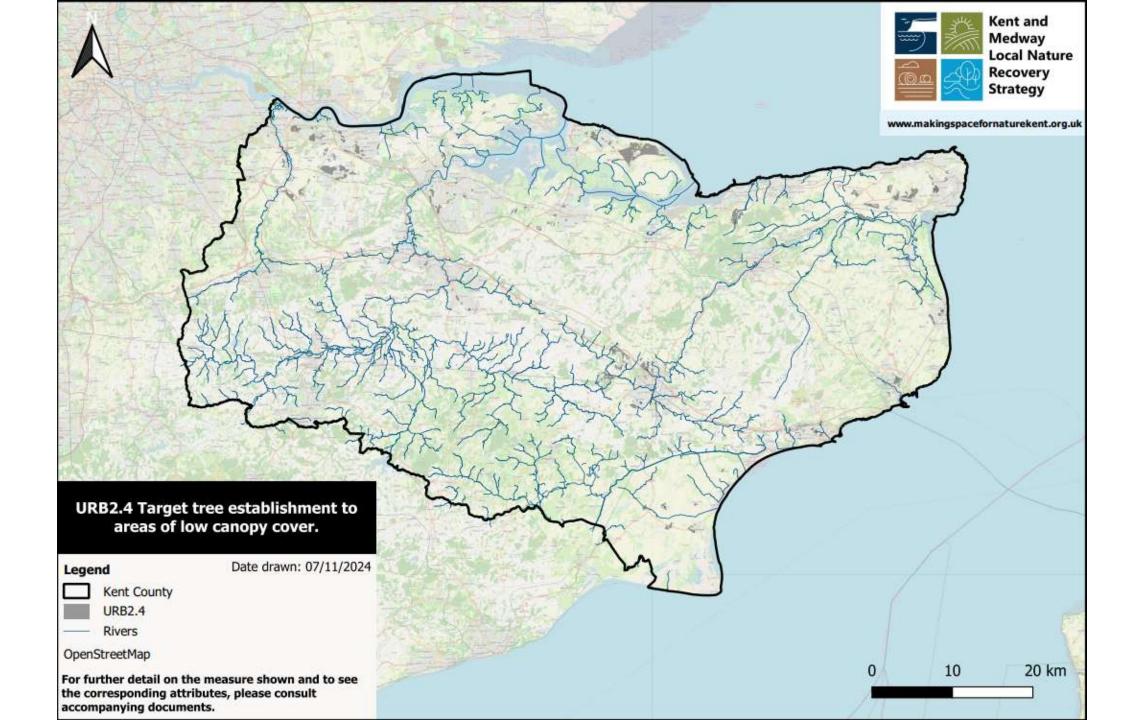


URB2.4 Target tree establishment to areas of low canopy cover.









Priority URB3 Safeguard and increase the extent of green space, trees and hedgerows within urban areas to not only provide more habitat for wildlife but also deliver other benefits including urban cooling, air and noise pollution regulation and surface water management.

URB3.1 Trees and hedgerows specifically planted to deliver air quality, temperature regulation/cooling and surface water management benefits and targeted to areas where it is most needed and will deliver the greatest impact.

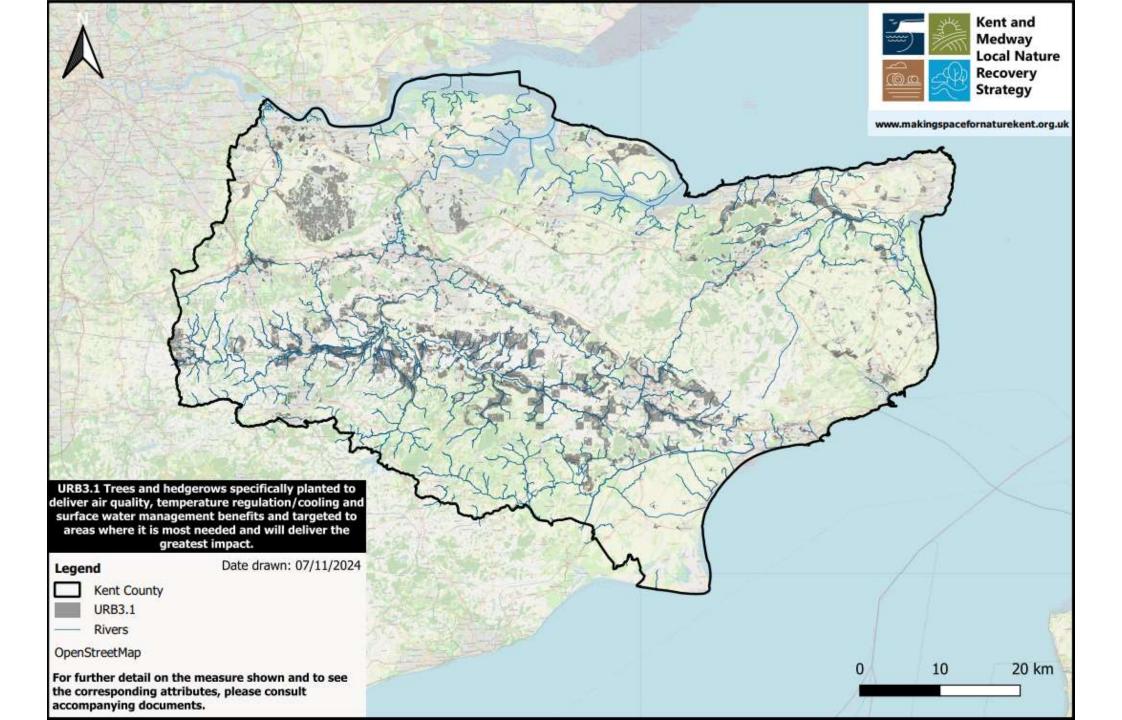


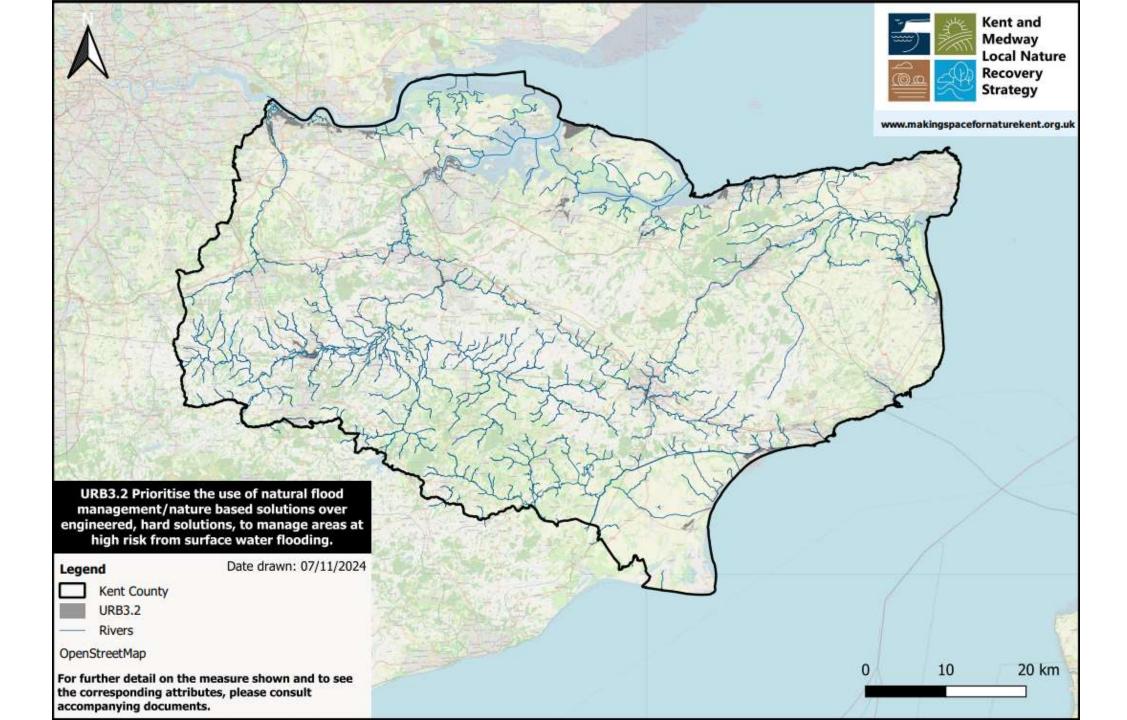
URB3.2 Prioritise the use of natural flood management/nature-based solutions over engineered, hard solutions, to manage areas at high risk from surface water flooding.

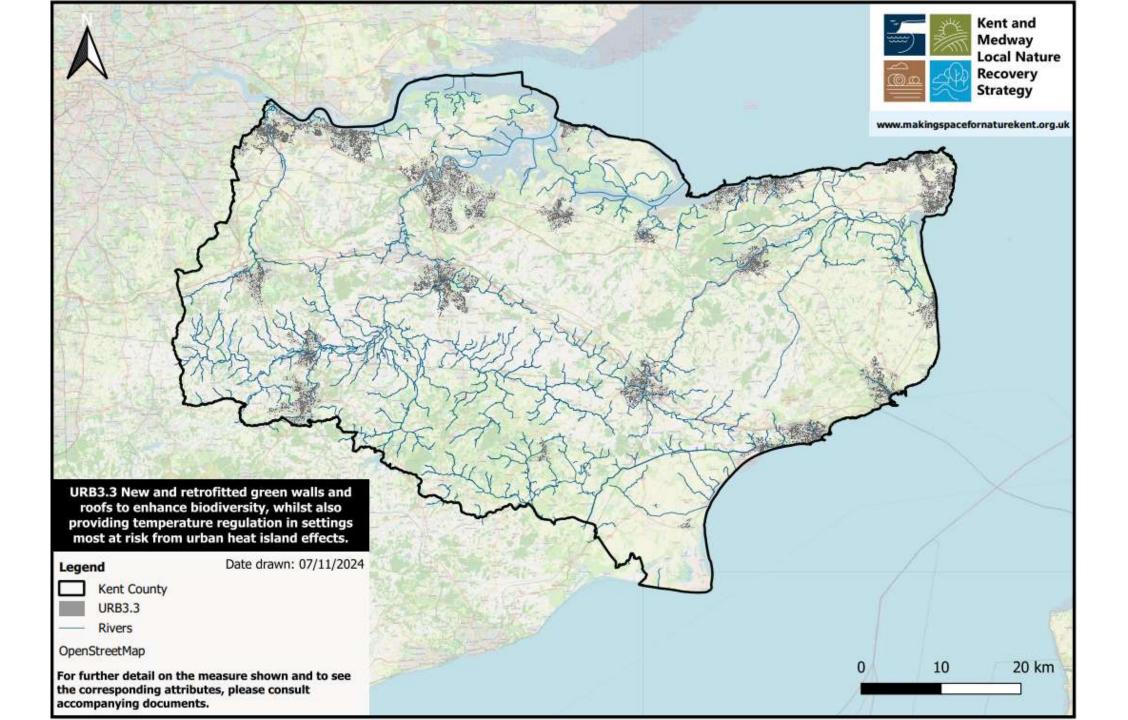
URB3.3 New and retrofitted green walls and roofs to enhance biodiversity, whilst also providing temperature regulation in settings most at risk from urban heat island effects.

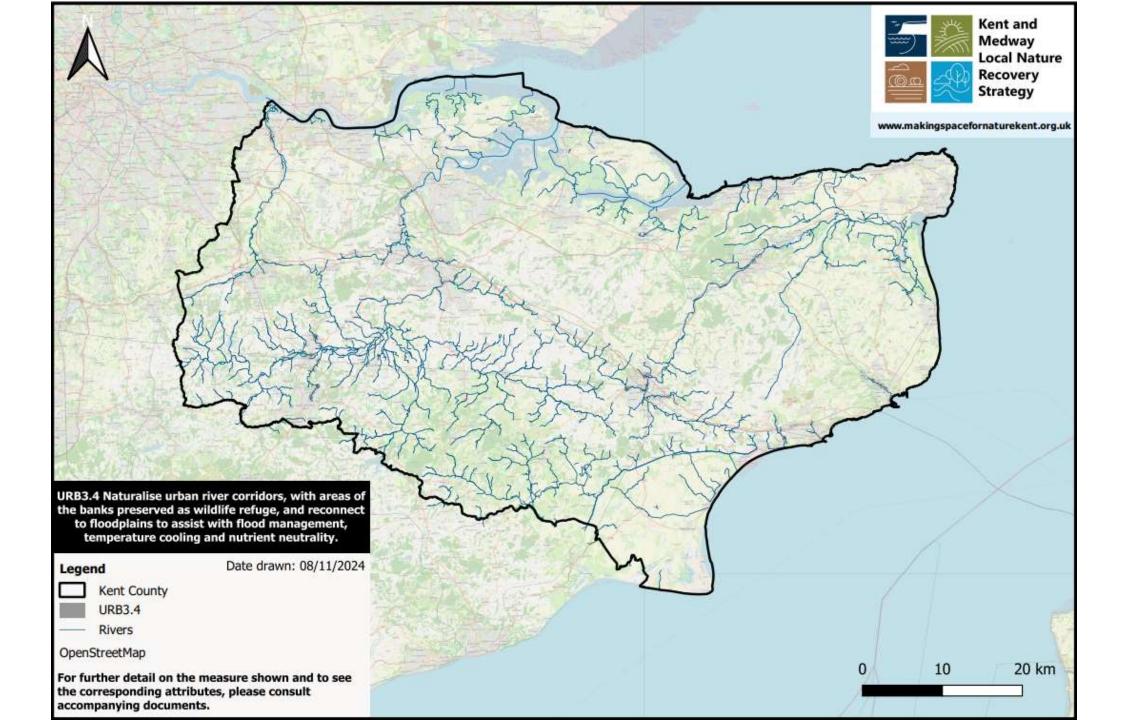
URB3.4 Naturalise urban river corridors, with areas of the banks preserved as wildlife refuge, and reconnect to floodplains to assist with flood management, temperature cooling and nutrient neutrality.

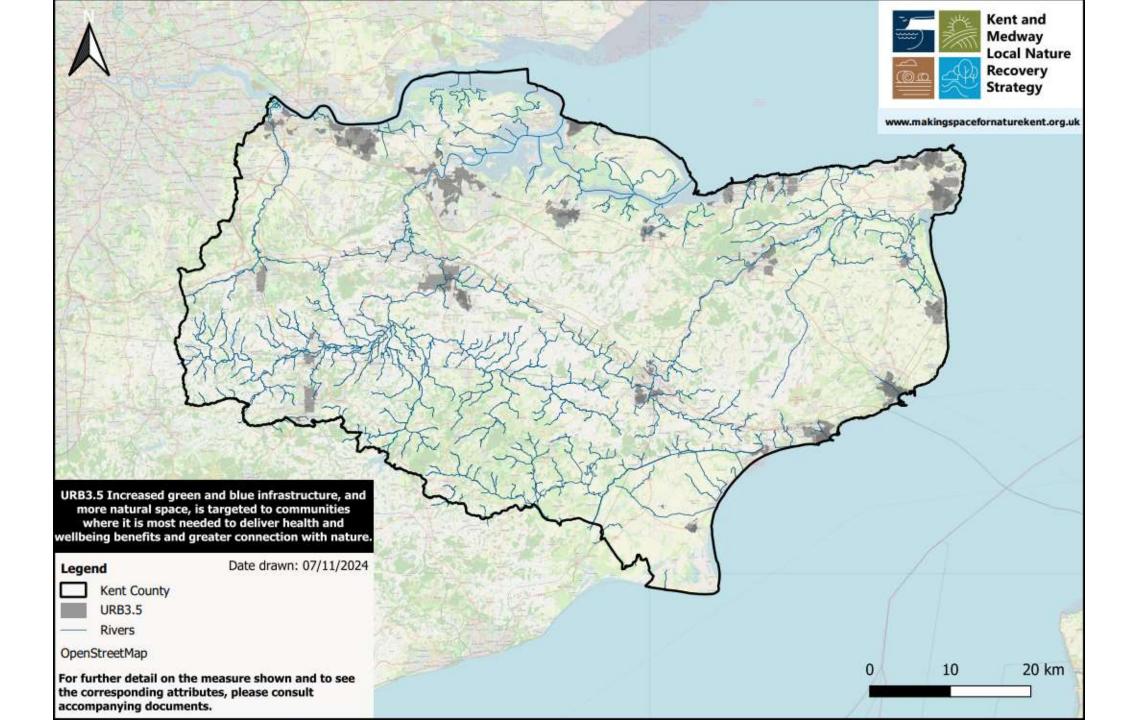
URB3.5 Increased green and blue infrastructure, and more natural space, is targeted to communities where it is most needed to deliver health and wellbeing benefits and greater connection with nature.





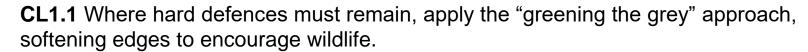






Coastal potential measures mapping

Priority CL1 Sustainable and strategic management of estuaries and open coast to create functionally linked coastal habitats that are allowed evolve, creating areas for wildlife to thrive. Natural dynamic processes and progression is restored, to enable adaption and resilience to climate change and minimise the loss of intertidal habitats.





CL1.2 Refuges for wildlife created with either 'no go' or restricted areas.



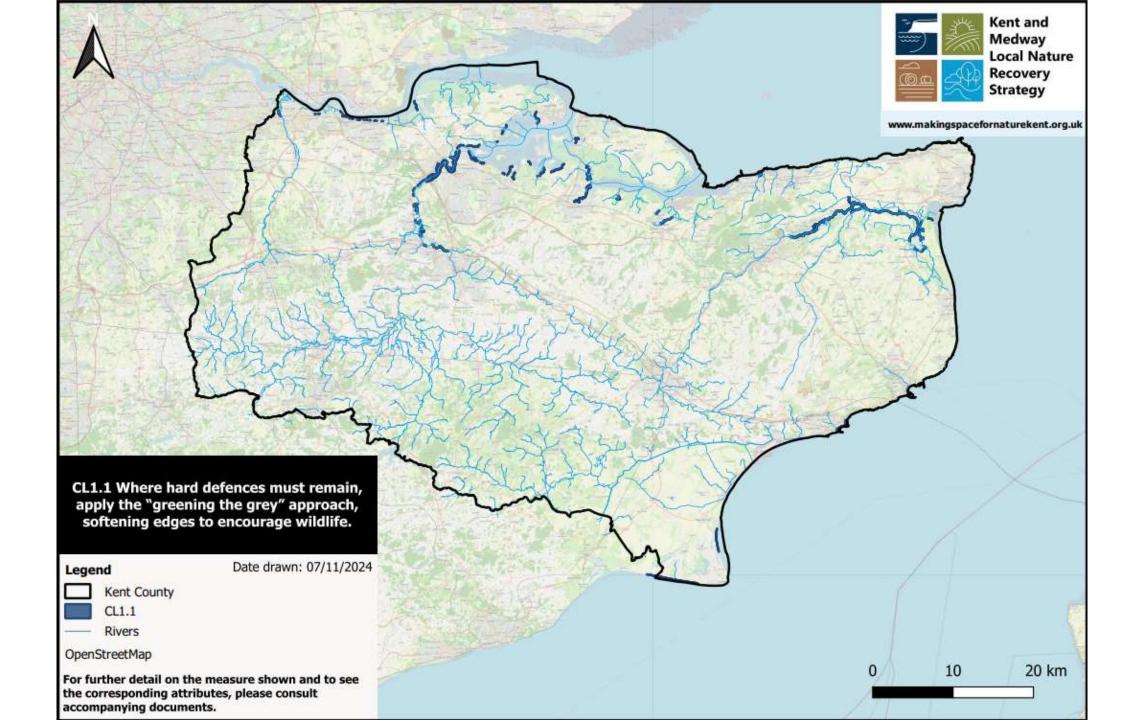
CL1.3 Hard defences removed, to allow space for tidal ingress and enable the managed realignment of the coastline, to mitigate coastal squeeze and allows intertidal habitats to be more resilient to climate change.

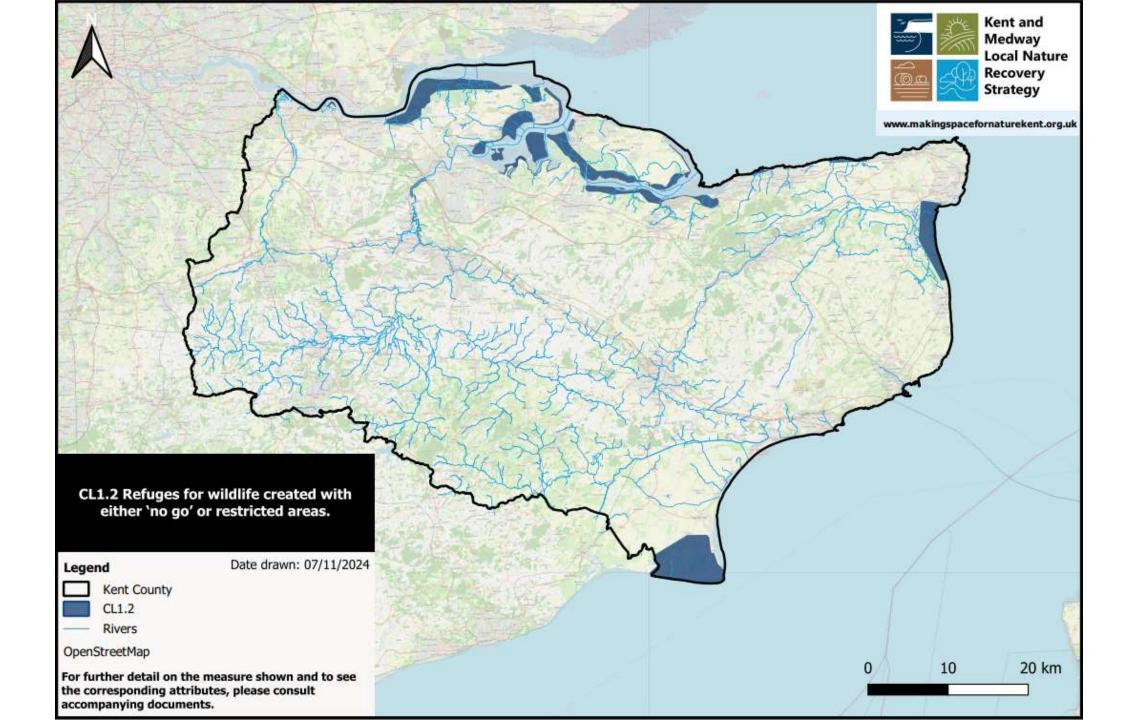


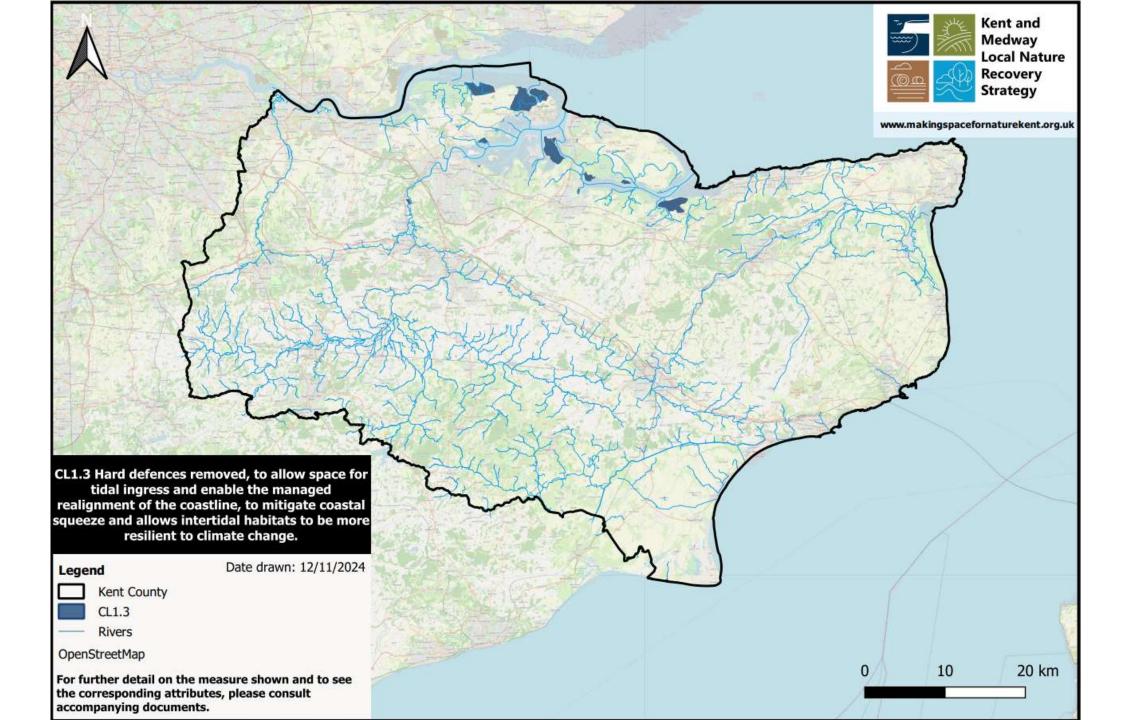
CL1.4 Create areas for saltmarsh restoration, seagrass regeneration and high tide roosts as well as breeding areas for seabirds and waders, with appropriate measures to prevent or reduce disturbance and predation.

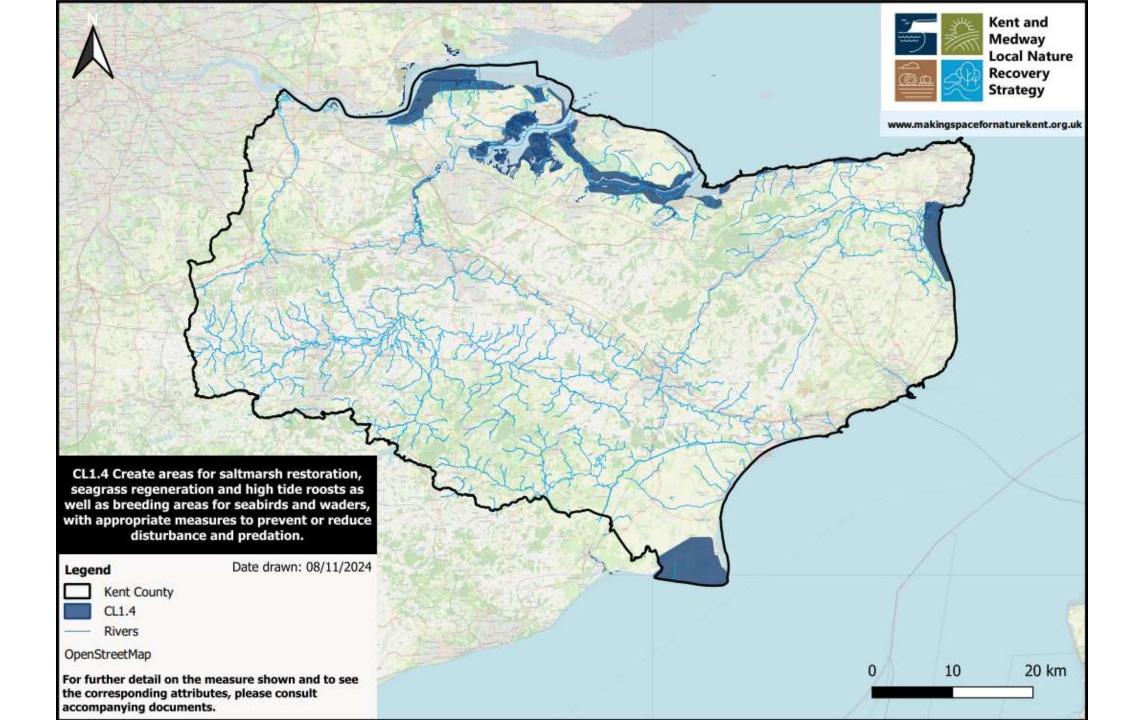


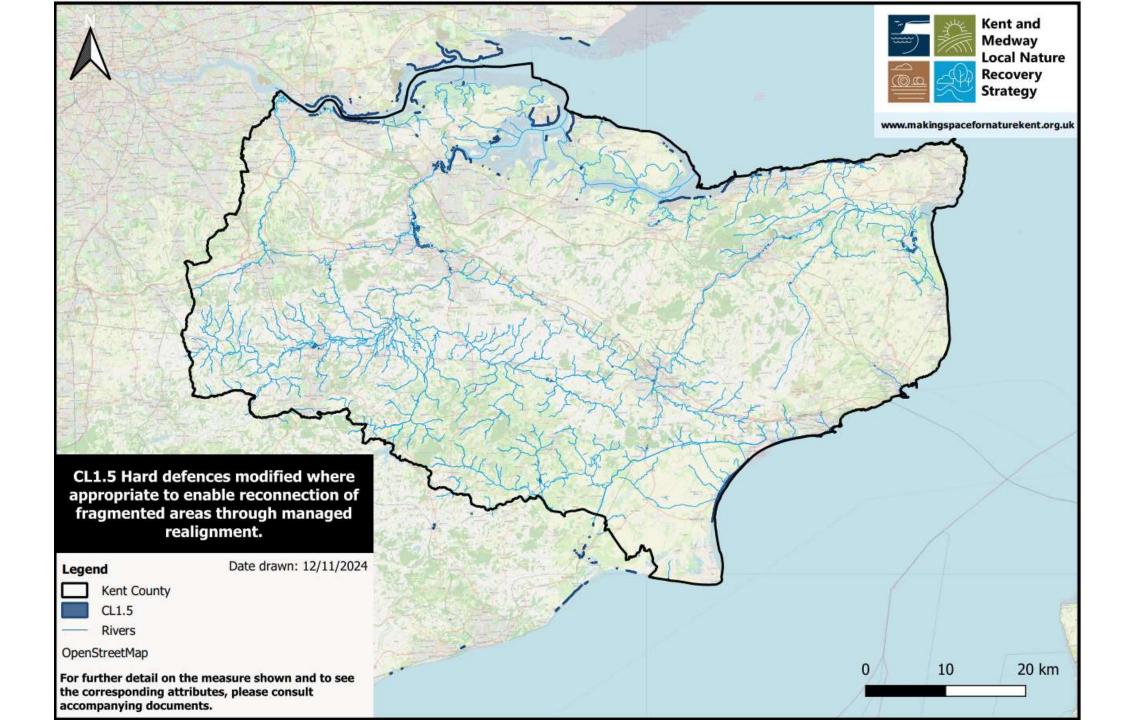
CL1.5 Hard defences modified where appropriate to enable reconnection of fragmented habitats through managed realignment.











Priority CL2 Reduce small scale loss, improve condition and increase connectivity of saltmarsh and mudflats, providing functioning ecosystems that are safeguarded from recreational disturbance.

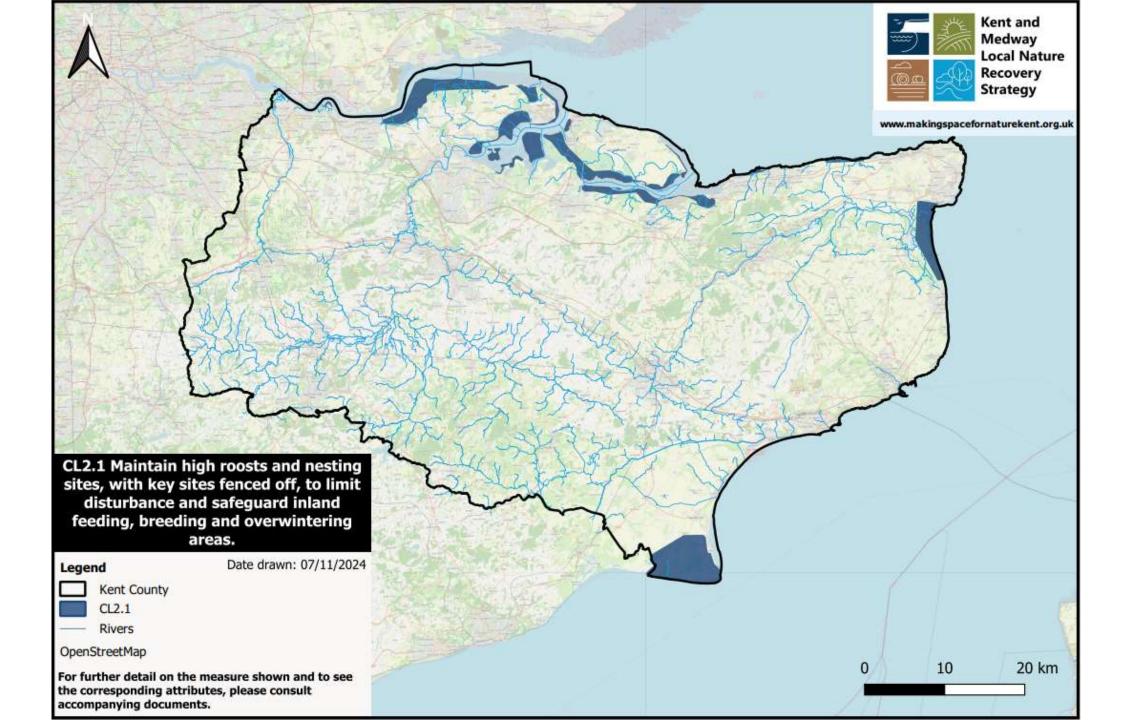
Note: Mapping numbers for CL2 are correct – no potential measure CL2.2-2.4 or associated map is missing.)

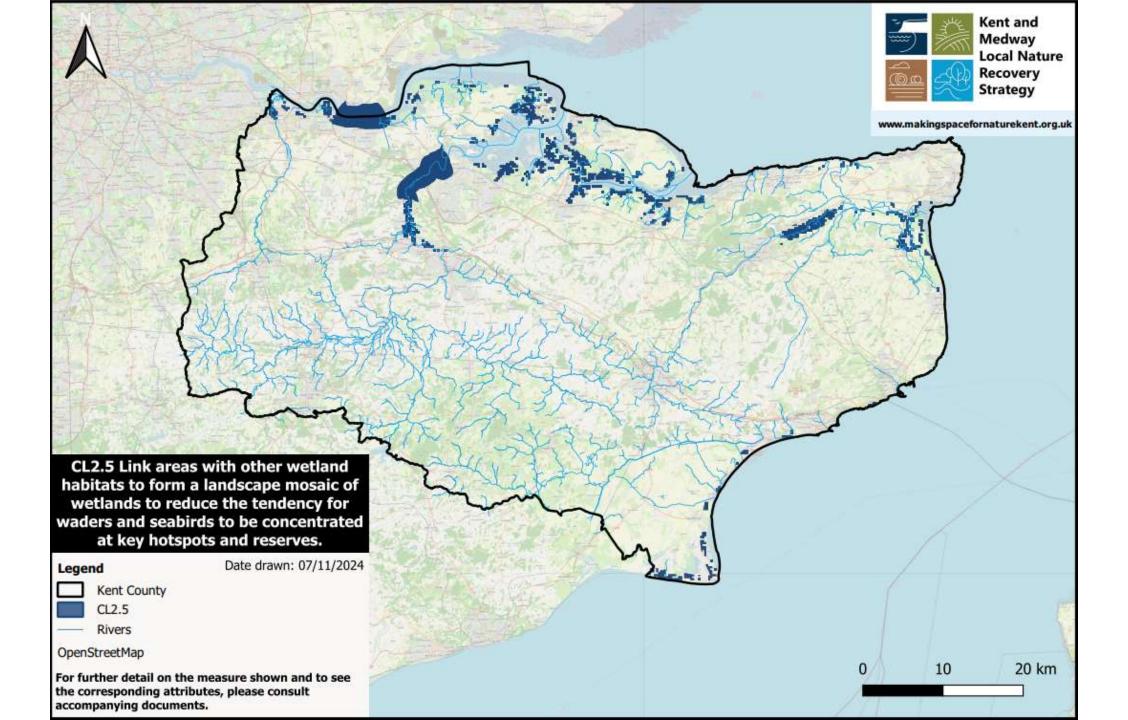


CL2.1 Maintain high roosts and nesting sites, with key sites fenced off, to limit disturbance and safeguard inland feeding, breeding and overwintering areas.



CL2.5 Link areas with other wetland habitats to form a landscape mosaic of wetlands to reduce the tendency for waders and seabirds to be concentrated at key hotspots and reserves.





Priority CL3 Reverse the decline in seagrass off Kent's coast to safeguard this important habitat for marine species and their breeding grounds and nurseries; and to preserve its vital function as a blue carbon store.



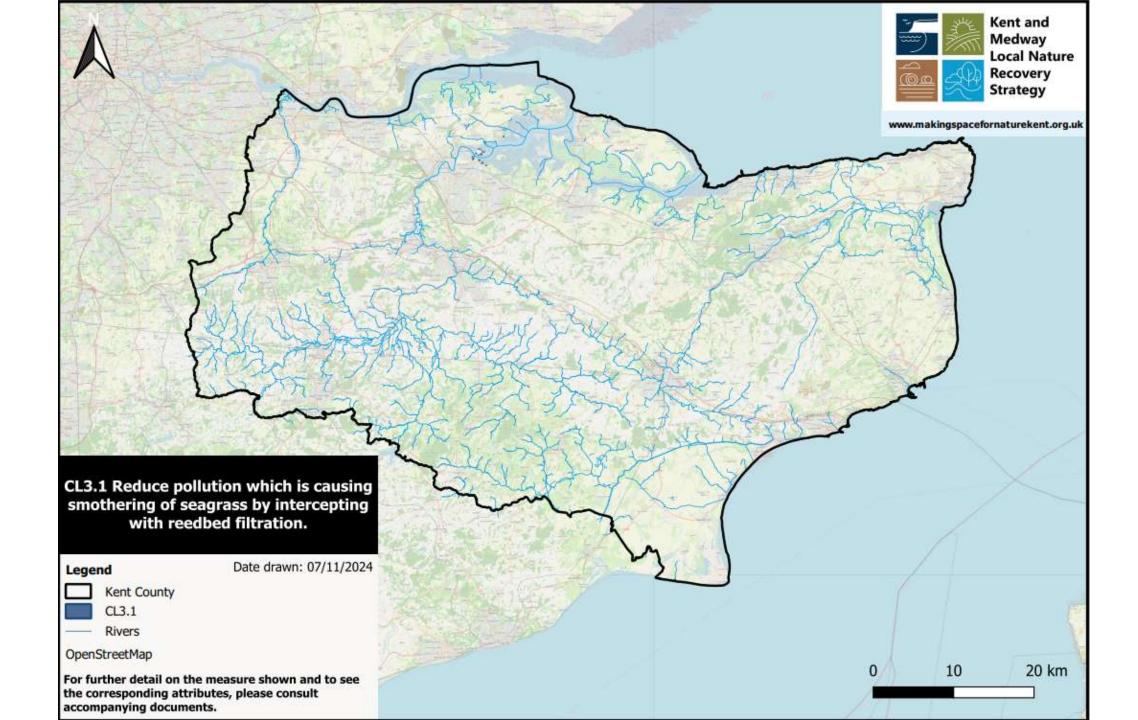
CL3.1 Reduce pollution which is causing smothering of seagrass by intercepting with reedbed filtration.

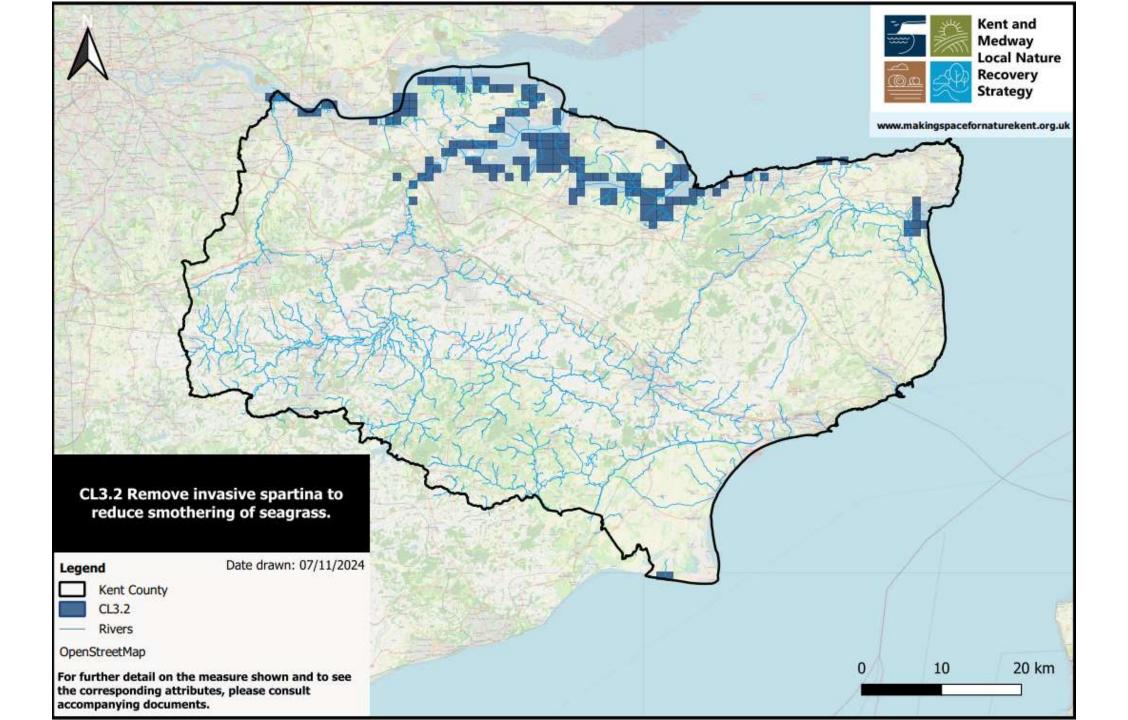


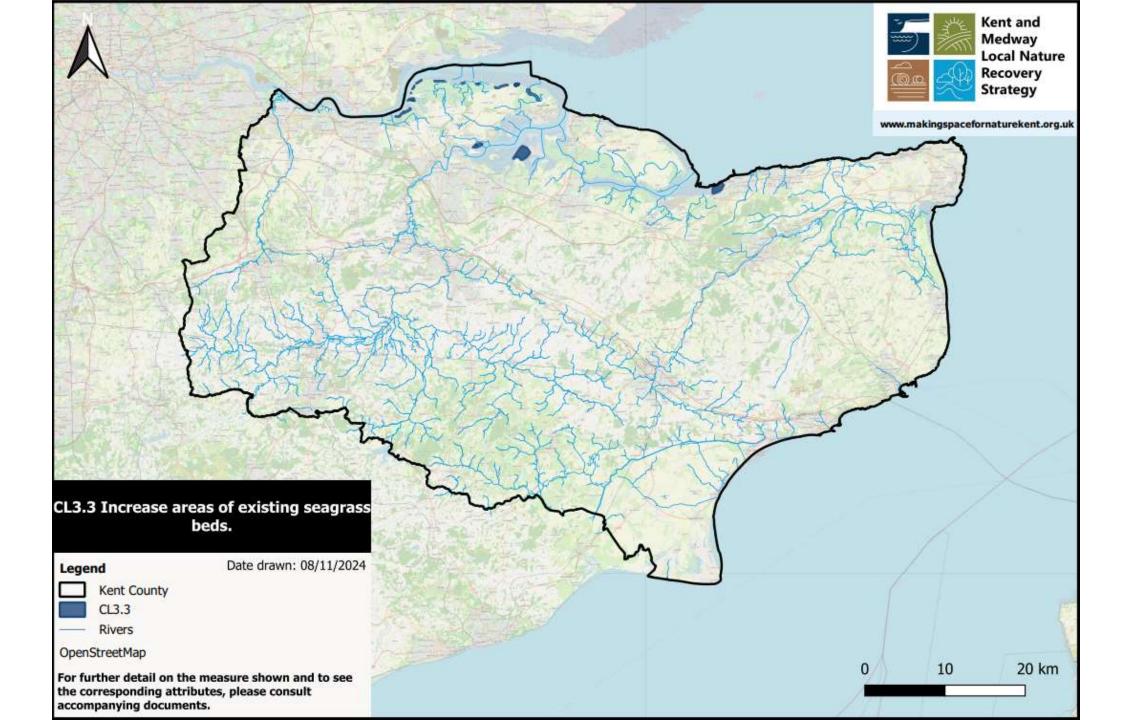
CL3.2 Remove invasive spartina to reduce smothering of seagrass.



CL3.3 Increase areas of existing seagrass beds.





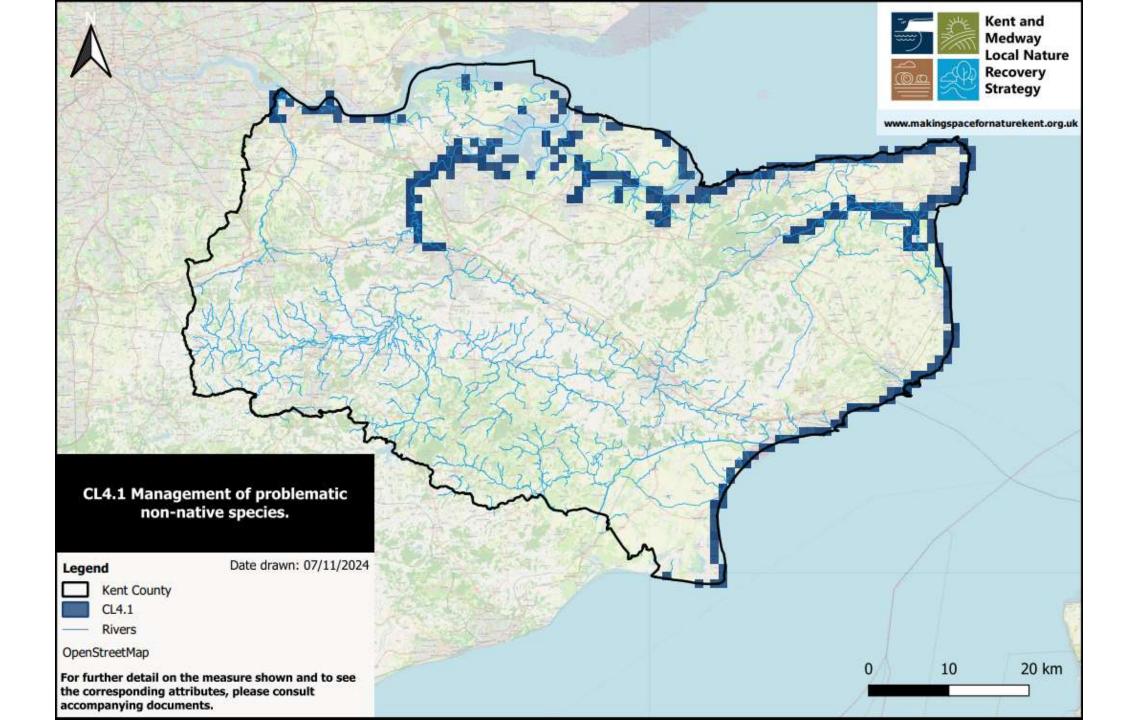


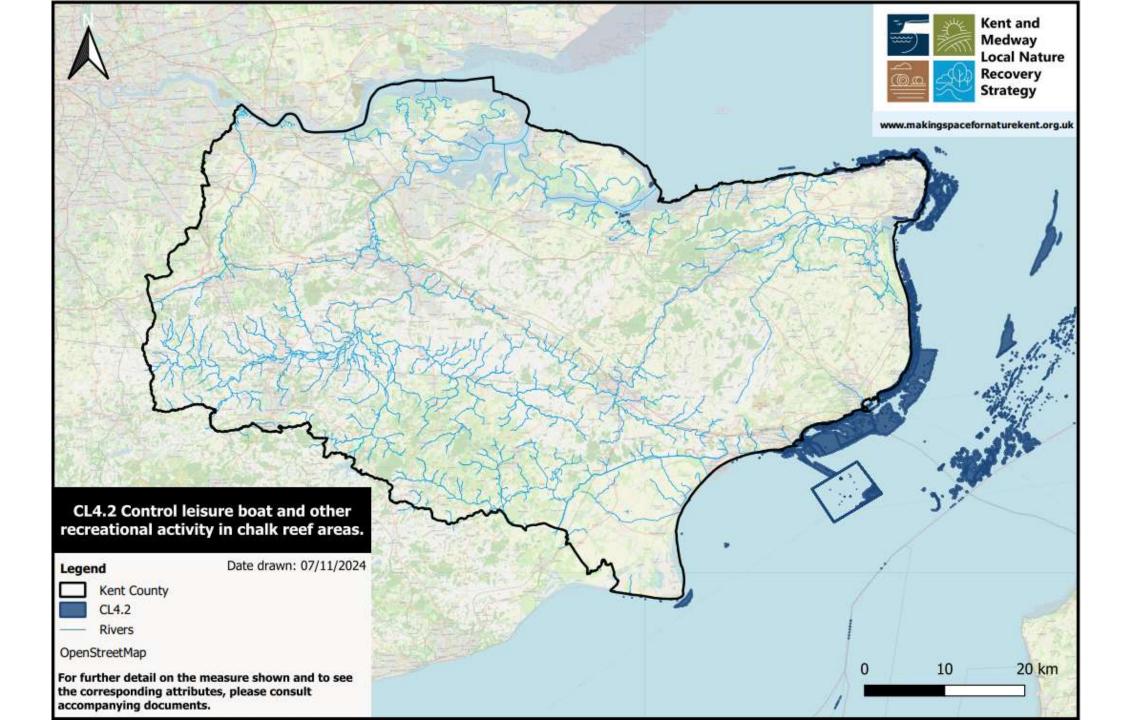
Priority CL4 Chalk cliffs and reef communities thrive in their natural state and are safeguarded from damage from recreational and leisure activities, development and bottom fishing methods.



CL4.1 Management of problematic non-native species.

CL4.2 Control leisure boat and other recreational activity in chalk reef areas.





Priority CL5 Sustainable management of native oyster beds to allow them to reach their habitat building potential.



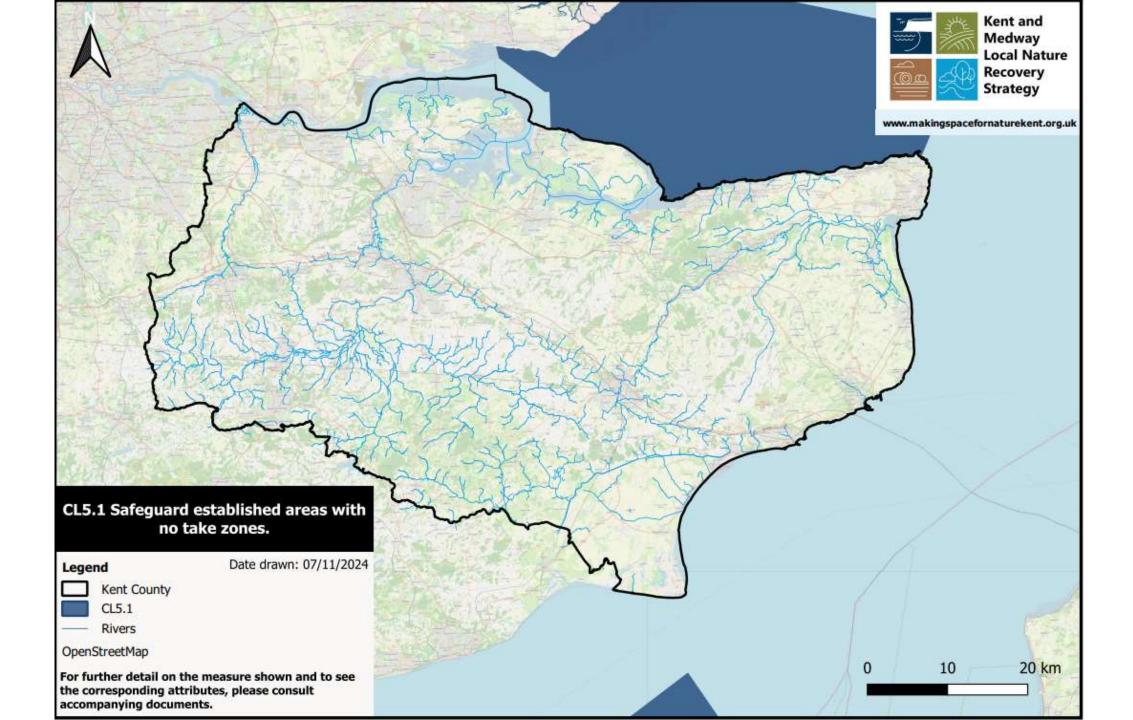
CL5.1 Safeguard established areas with no take zones.

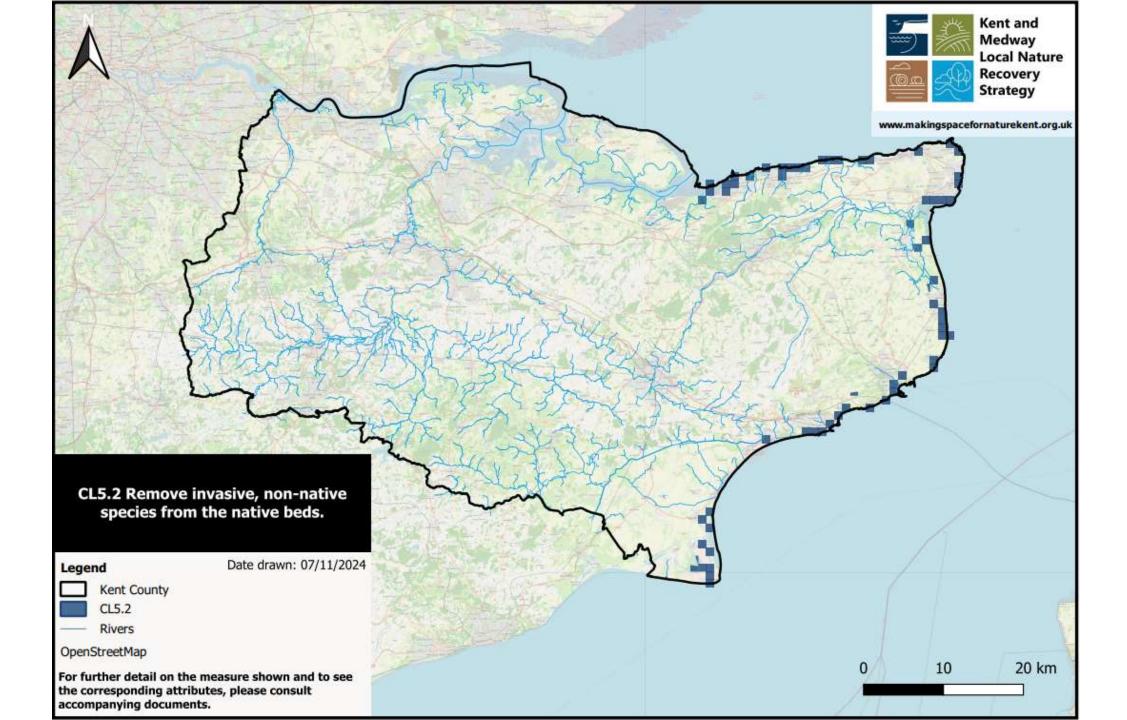


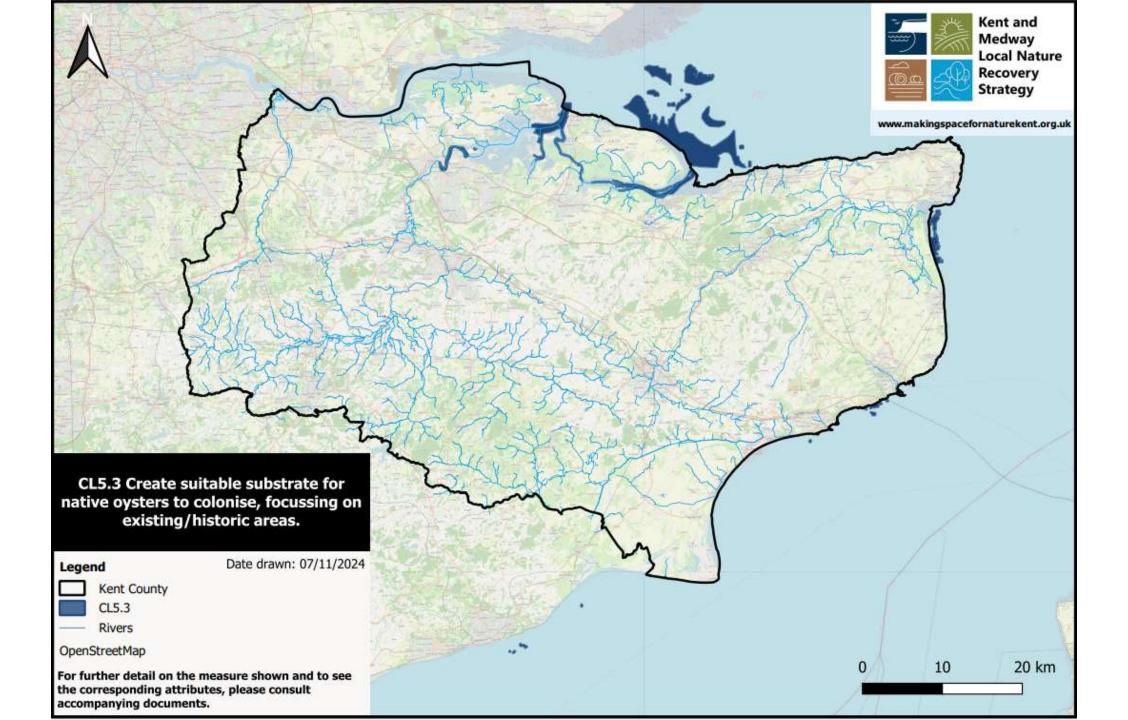
CL5.2 Remove invasive, non-native species from the native beds.



CL5.3 Create suitable substrate for native oysters to colonise, focussing on existing/historic areas.







Priority CL6 Saline lagoons are appropriately safeguarded and managed to increase their resilience and adaptation to climate change and secure their ecological functions, including the role they will play as transitional habitats.



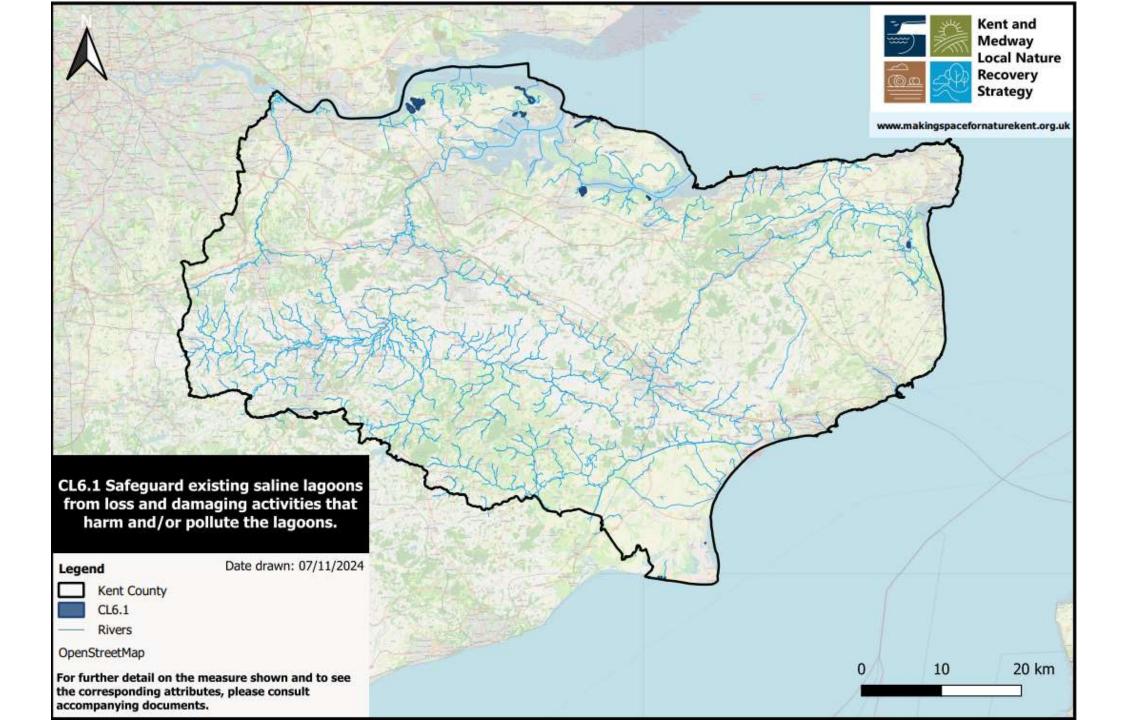
CL6.1 Safeguard existing saline lagoons from loss and damaging activities that harm and/or pollute the lagoons.

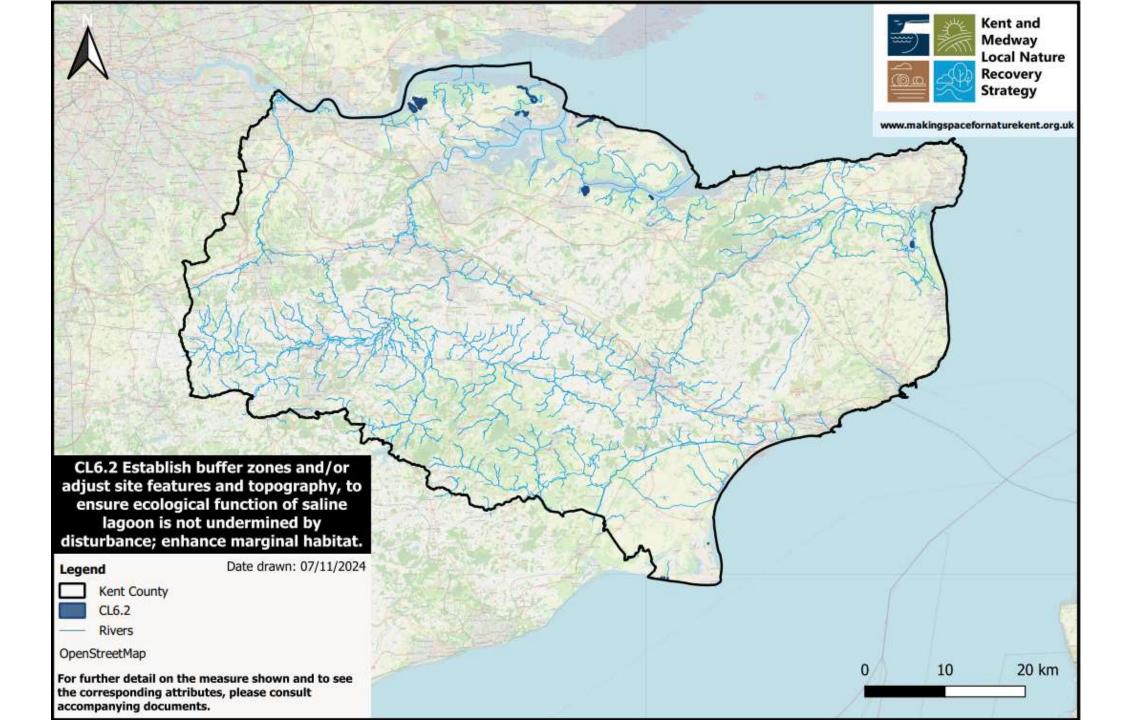


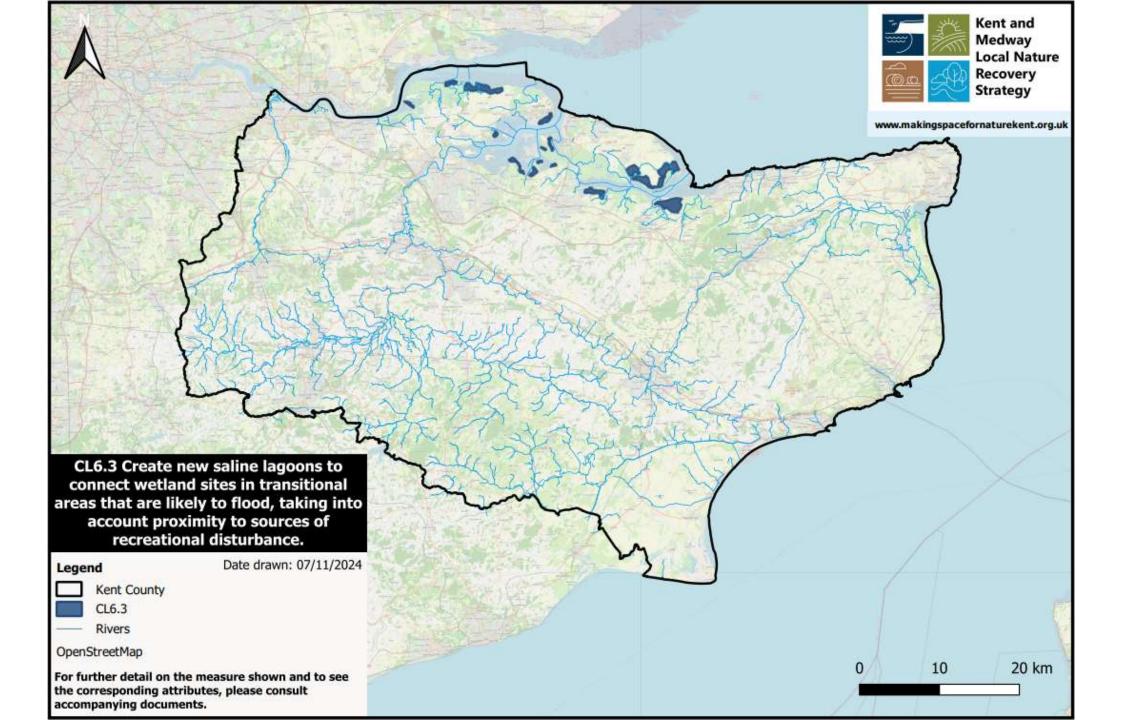
CL6.2 Establish buffer zones and/or adjust site features and topography, to ensure ecological function of saline lagoon is not undermined by disturbance; enhance marginal habitat.



CL6.3 Create new saline lagoons to connect wetland sites in transitional areas that are likely to flood, taking into account proximity to sources of recreational disturbance.







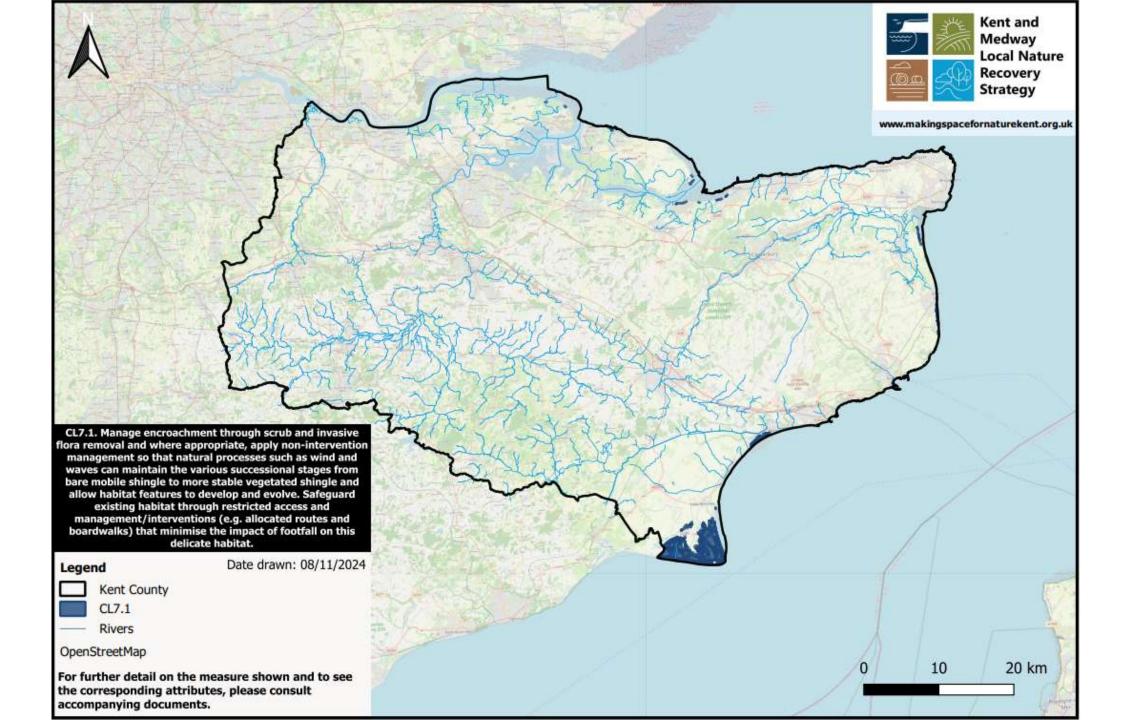
Priority CL7 Safeguard and restore vegetated shingle, ensuring there is no unavoidable loss and areas remain in, or are returned to, a favourable condition.

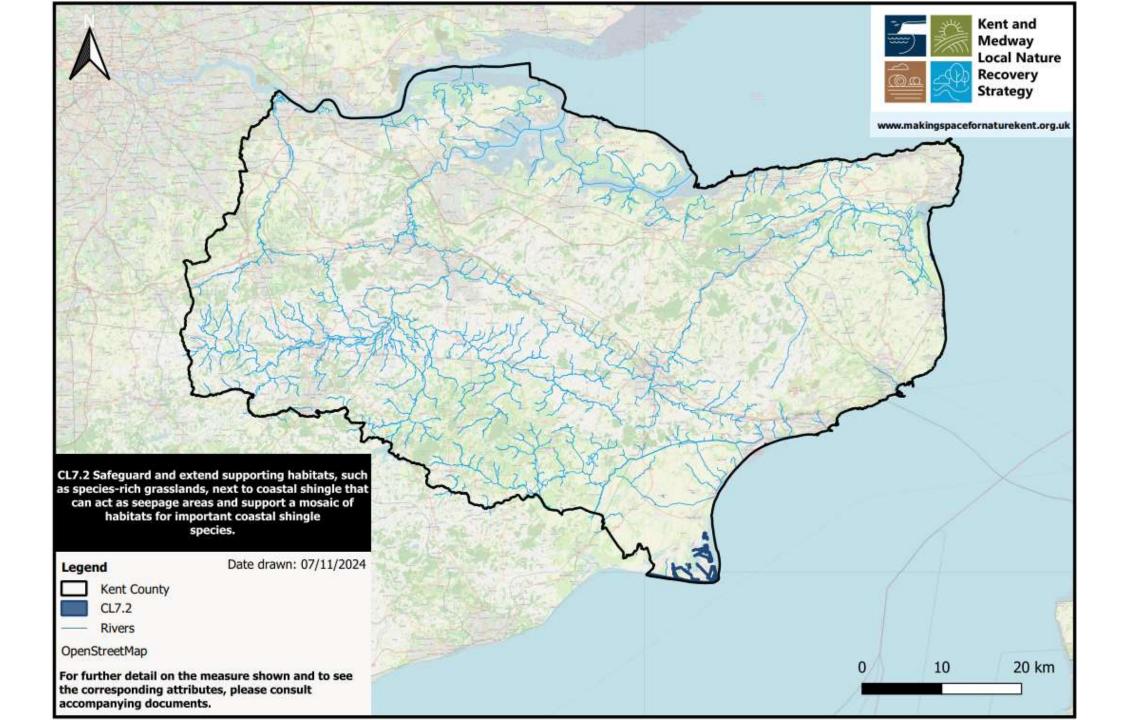


CL7.1. Manage encroachment through scrub and invasive flora removal and where appropriate, apply non-intervention management so that natural processes such as wind and waves can maintain the various successional stages from bare mobile shingle to more stable vegetated shingle and allow habitat features to develop and evolve. Safeguard existing habitat through restricted access and management/interventions (e.g. allocated routes and boardwalks) that minimise the impact of footfall on this delicate habitat.



CL7.2 Safeguard and extend supporting habitats, such as species-rich grasslands, next to coastal shingle that can act as seepage areas and support a mosaic of habitats for important coastal shingle species.





Priority CL8 Reduction in coastal wildlife disturbance resulting from leisure pressures at coast.



CL8.1 Develop zoned recreational areas that limit, restrict or prevent leisure activities which can disturb wildlife and damage sensitive habitats; safeguard offshore islands.



CL8.2 Building up of existing and creation of new seal haul out sites, which are adequately managed to provide safe areas seals.

