LANDSCAPE VISION:

Creating one of the first landscape-scale, natural capital projects in the UK
WBEP in a Nutshell
The rationale of the project

What the WBEP aims to do

Create and restore ecosystem services (e.g. via habitats, carbon sequestration or nutrient recycling)….

… and finance this via the sale of environmental credits (predominately via biodiversity credits but also via carbon credits and water ecosystem services)

Why we need investment

Mobilise funding & investment so the WBEP is ready to:

1) Re-purpose land now and begin the journey to landscape-scale restoration
2) Start Restoring ecosystems early
3) Sell environmental credits – which will fund further habitat creation & restoration
Overall Opportunity: Closing the Biodiversity Financing Gap
A global opportunity to close the biodiversity financing gap, which we want to tap into

Nature is declining globally at unprecedented rates

To mitigate against the loss of global biodiversity **unprecedented amounts of funding** must flow into protecting nature

However, we are currently still witnessing an **annual biodiversity financing gap of US$598-824bn**

Biodiversity offsetting key to closing the gap, with the potential to generate **US$162-168bn/yr** in biodiversity funding globally

Likewise, wider payment for ecosystem services have significant impact and revenue potential

This is where the **WBEP** comes into play, pioneering biodiversity offsetting and payment for ecosystem services in the UK

Source: TNC, the Paulson Institute and Cornell University, Financing Nature (2020)
Our Vision
Introducing the Wendling Beck Exemplar Project (WBEP) and what we want to achieve

Ambition
• WBEP is a landscape-scale project aiming to transform 784ha of farmland through river restoration and the creation and enhancement of grasslands, woodlands, wetland and other habitats. It will contribute to nature recovery in Norfolk and deliver improvements to water, soil, air and biodiversity.
• The WBEP finances these landscape transformations via the sale of multiple environmental credits

Revenue streams
Biodiversity Net Gain
• Biodiversity units sold to local developers and infrastructure projects
• Biodiversity units sold to central GOV

Water Ecosystem Services
• Aquifer Recharge; Flood Mitigation & Nutrient balancing

Regenerative Agriculture
• Integrated sustainable food production

Carbon Offsetting
• Carbon across operational, biomass, soil, water

Largest revenue stream

Learning & knowledge sharing
• The WBEP project aims to help drive how farmers think about land use and lead from within the industry.
• There is a deliberate approach to learning and dissemination embedded in project. By creating a model which is both environmentally and financially resilient we can define a process that can be adopted by others and help scale up the approach locally and beyond. Project success would lead to the WBEP serving as a blueprint for others and has the potential to have a real impact on UK emission-reduction efforts and the GOV 25 year environment plan.
• WBEP aims to provide public access and education opportunities via a new Environment Hub, as well as sharing experiences nationally and globally. TNC is leading the knowledge sharing strategy and will document WBEP's experiences and engage with government to inform national policy.

Key actors
• WBEP is a collaboration between:

4 farmers

• Together these stakeholders form the Wendling Beck Alliance (WBA).
Overall WBEP Potential - Income Model

Income will be generated via an environmental fund which sells environmental credits

The Environment Fund mechanism allows:
1. the central accumulation of revenue through the sale of credits and natural capital services
2. attracting investment from the private sector and growth through secure green investment

Key

- Provisioning of restored land
- Approval, compliance & monitoring
- Financing/ payment

Notes:
1) Supporting landowners in the set-up of an Environment Fund (in WBEP example this would incl. the NRT, NWT, FWAG, TNC)
2) Roles of external stakeholders
3) Environment Fund does not own land, e.g. via conservation easement
Landscape Transformation
Creating a flourishing habitat network providing benefits to the people and planet

Masterplan; High level concept.