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Prioritising habitat delivery within B-Lines

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B-Lines – part of the solution!

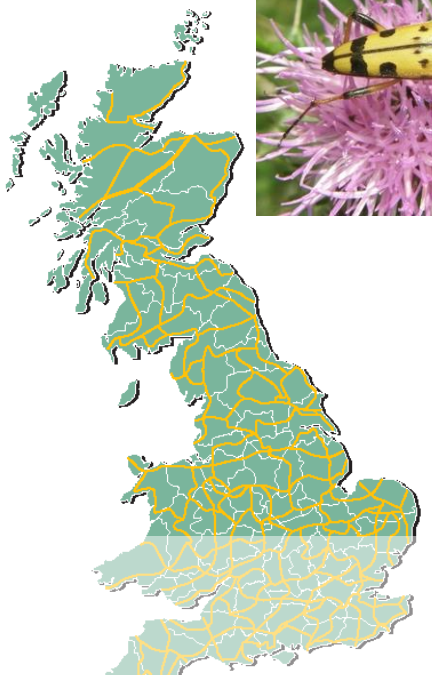
Wide **continuous** lines of permanent **wildflower-rich** habitat

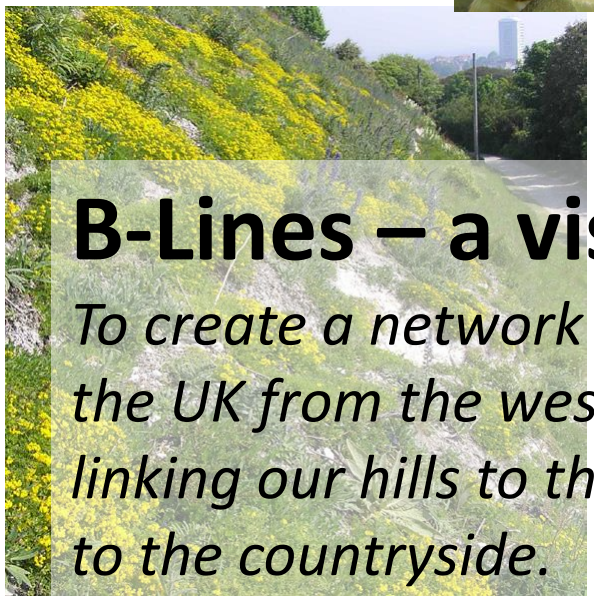
Link together and expand best wildlife areas by **enhancing**, **restoring** and **creating** new habitat.

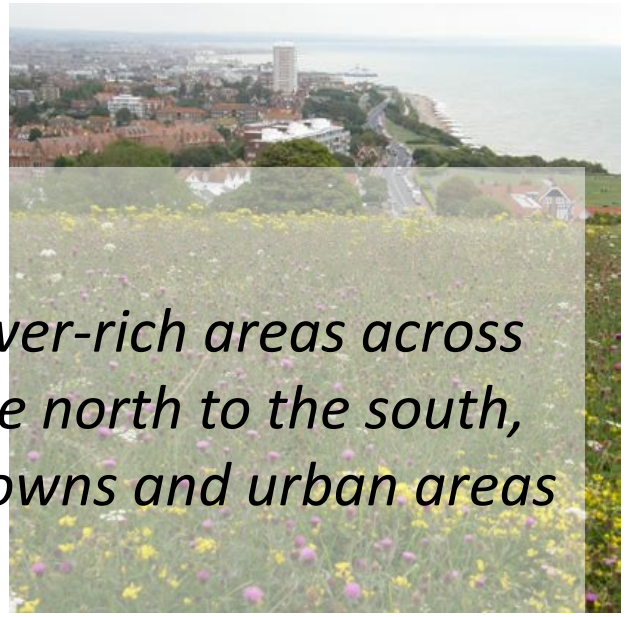
Linking with and **joining** other wildlife initiatives

Co-ordinated and **collaborative** work

A network of wildflower-rich areas



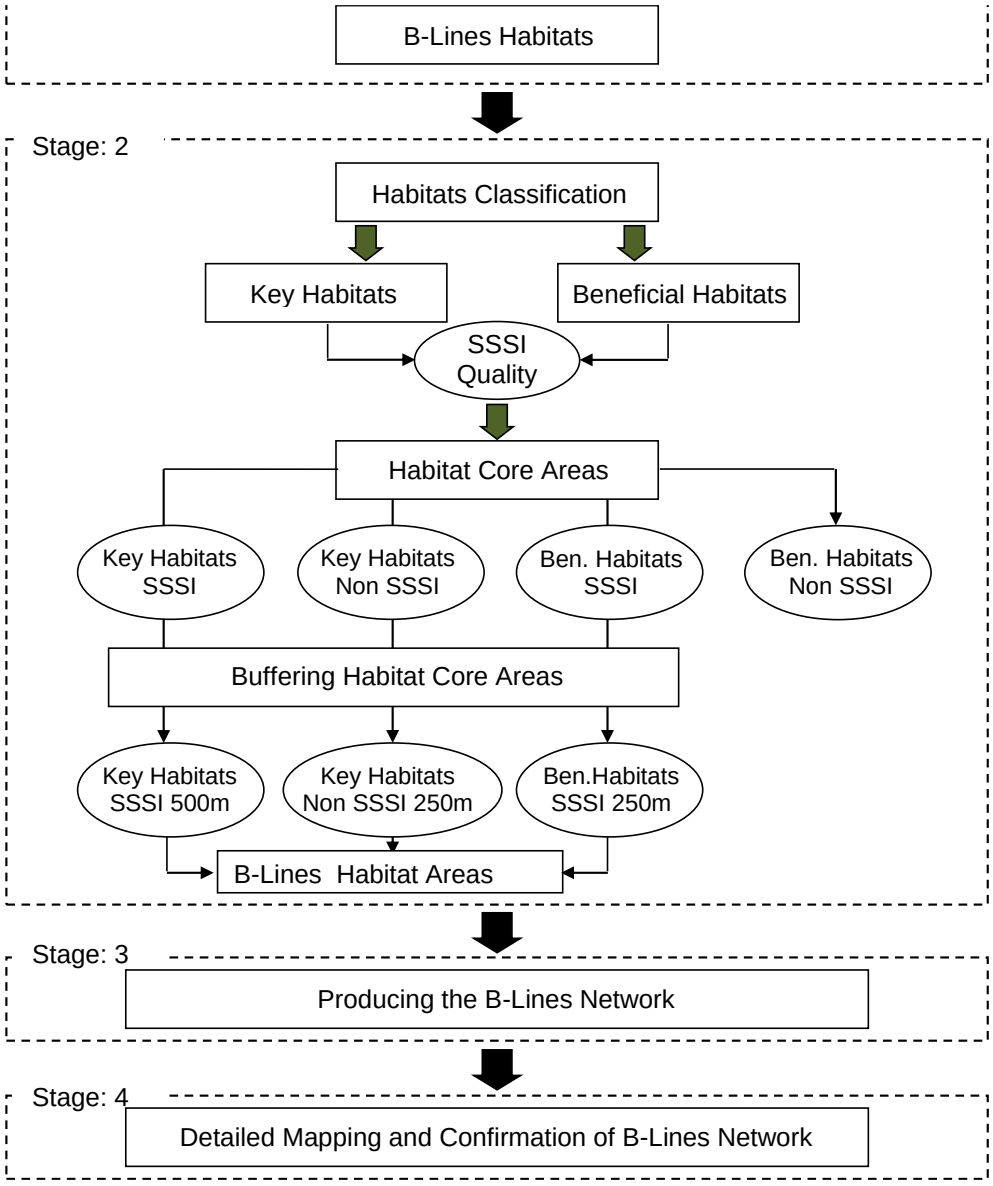




B-Lines – a vision

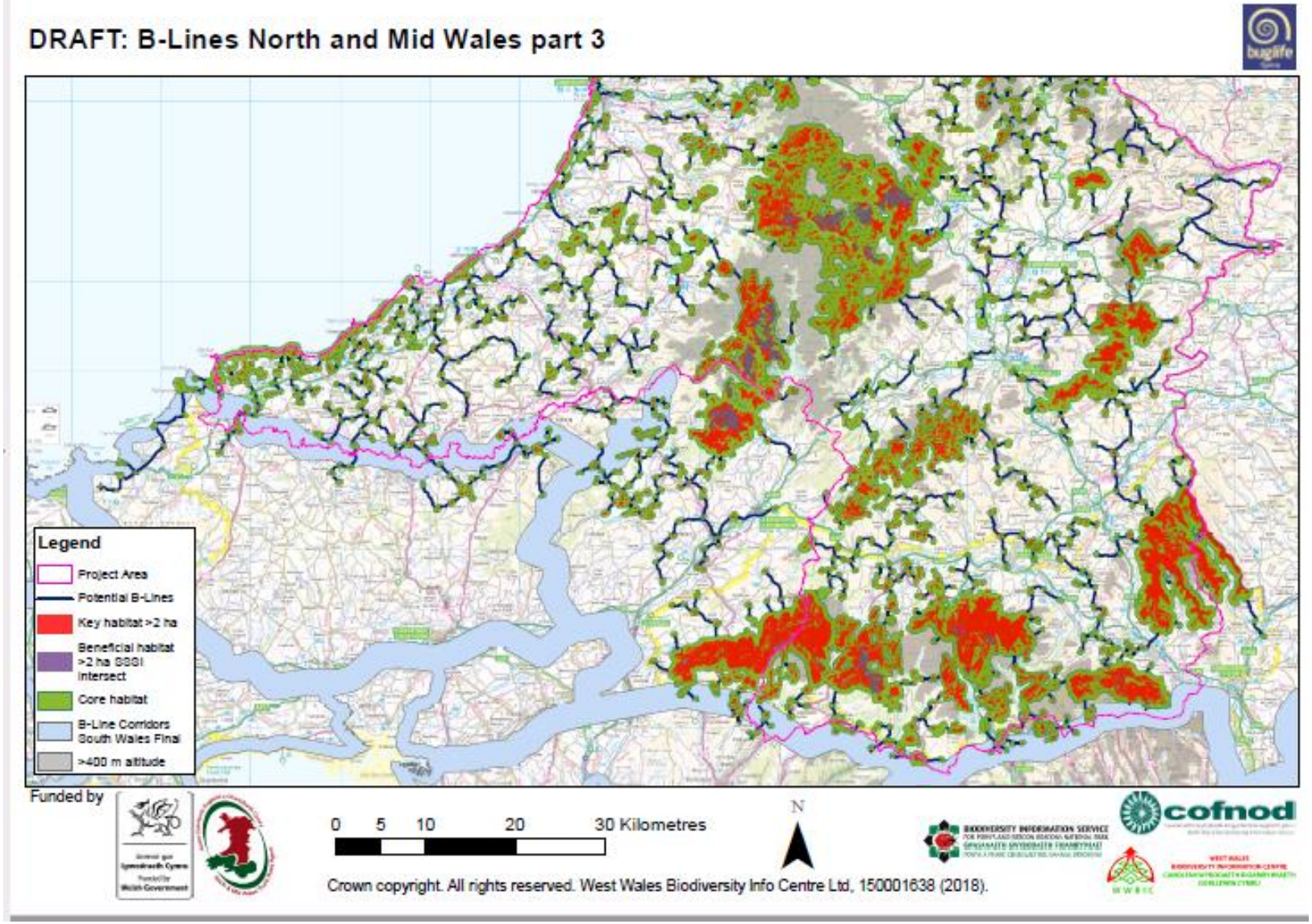
To create a network of B-Lines linking wildflower-rich areas across the UK from the west to the east, and from the north to the south, linking our hills to the coast, and linking our towns and urban areas to the countryside.

Mapping the B-Lines



- Collation of key data sets
- Analysis of data and provisional mapping (using 'Linkage mapper' to id least cost linear pathways
- Stakeholder input and verification – a mapping workshop
- Revision and prioritisation of mapping – final B-Lines map

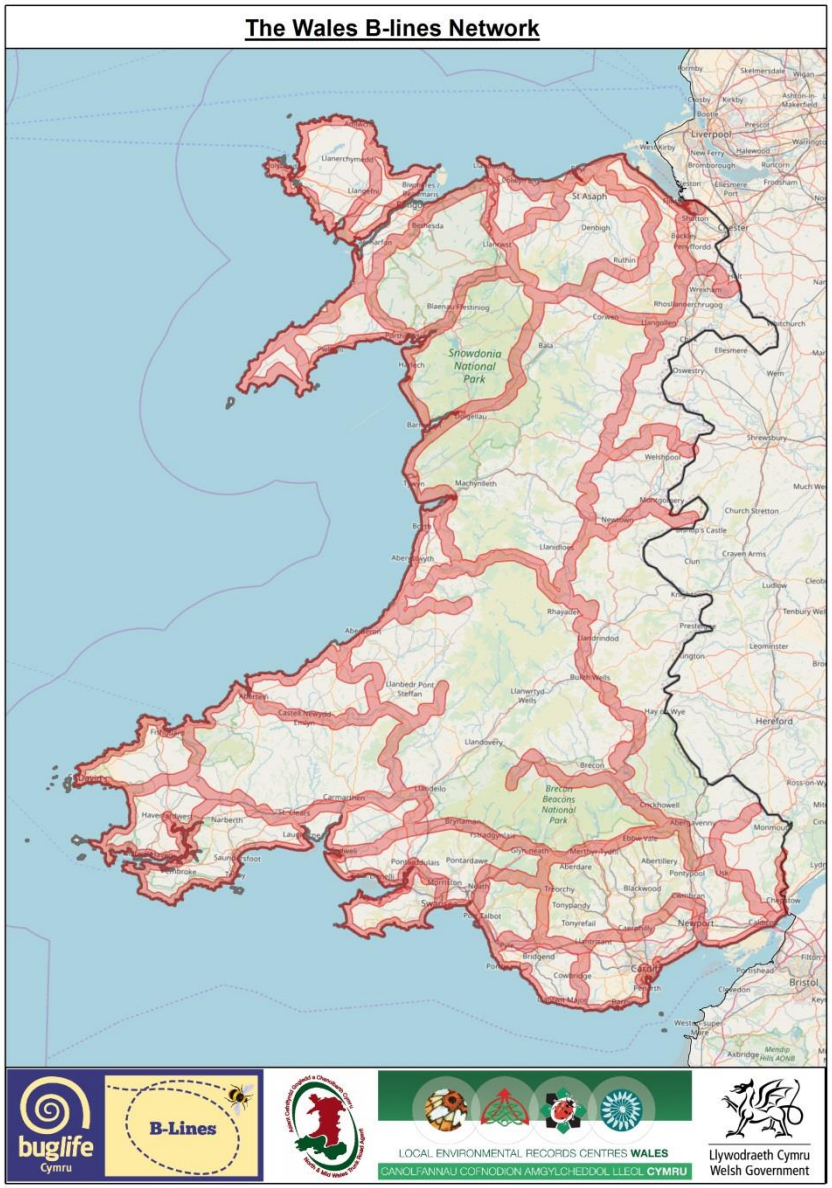
Mapping the B-Lines

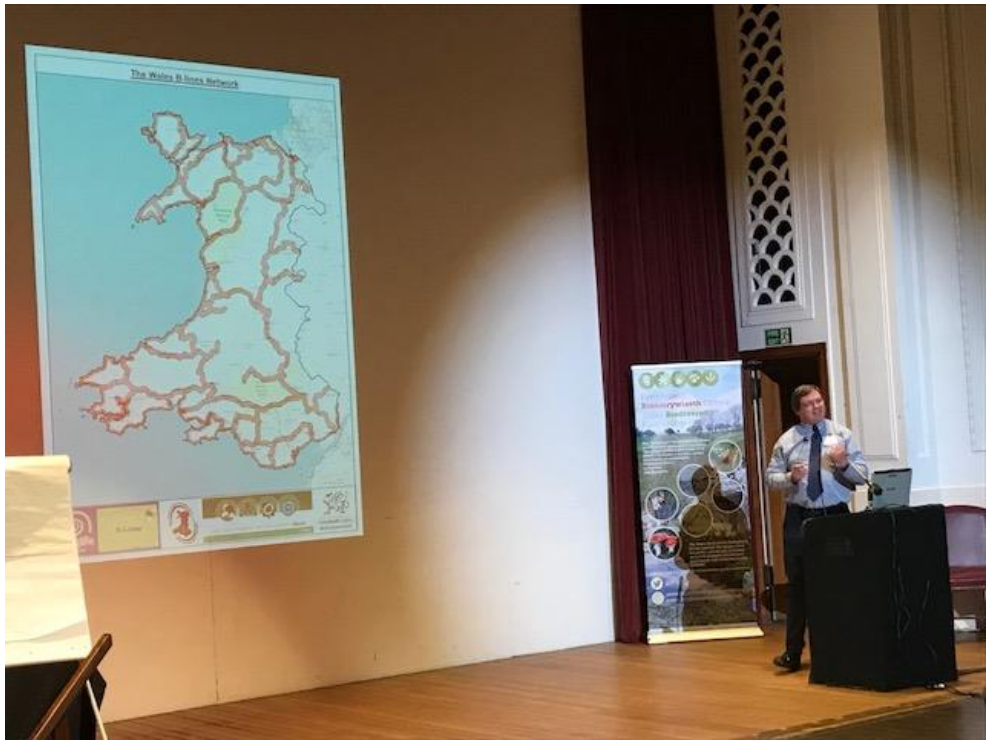


Mapping the B-Lines

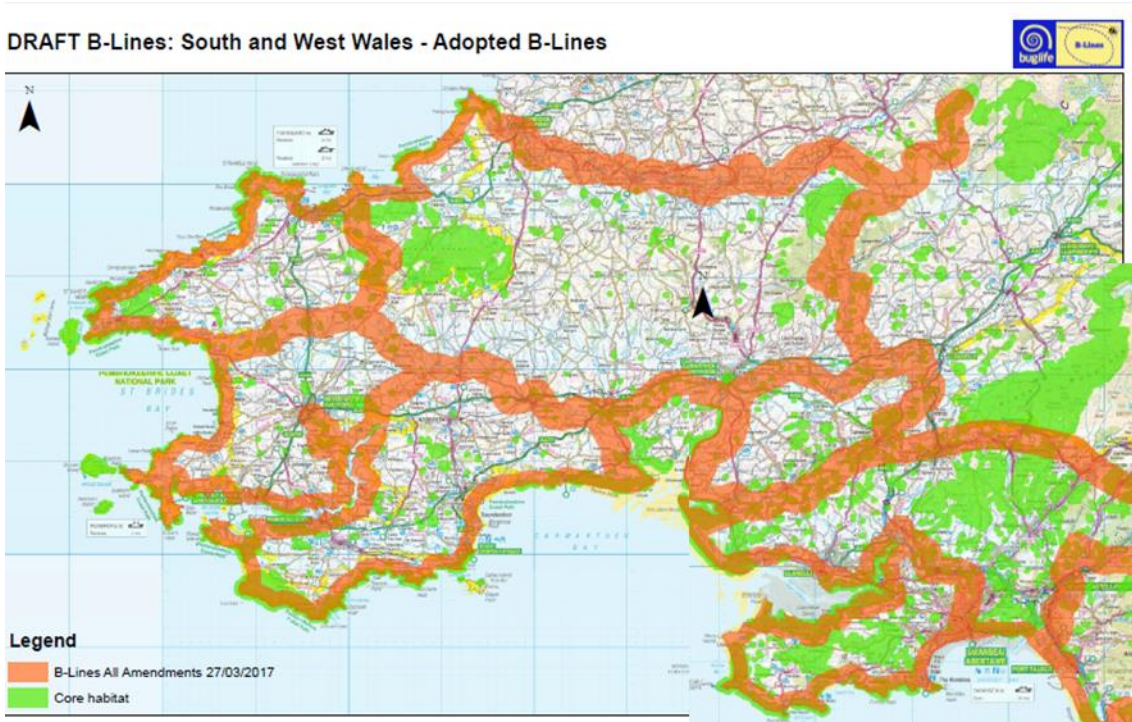
Wales Phase 1 Habitat
SSSI Layer
Local wildlife sites
Ffridd habitat layer
NRW upland layer

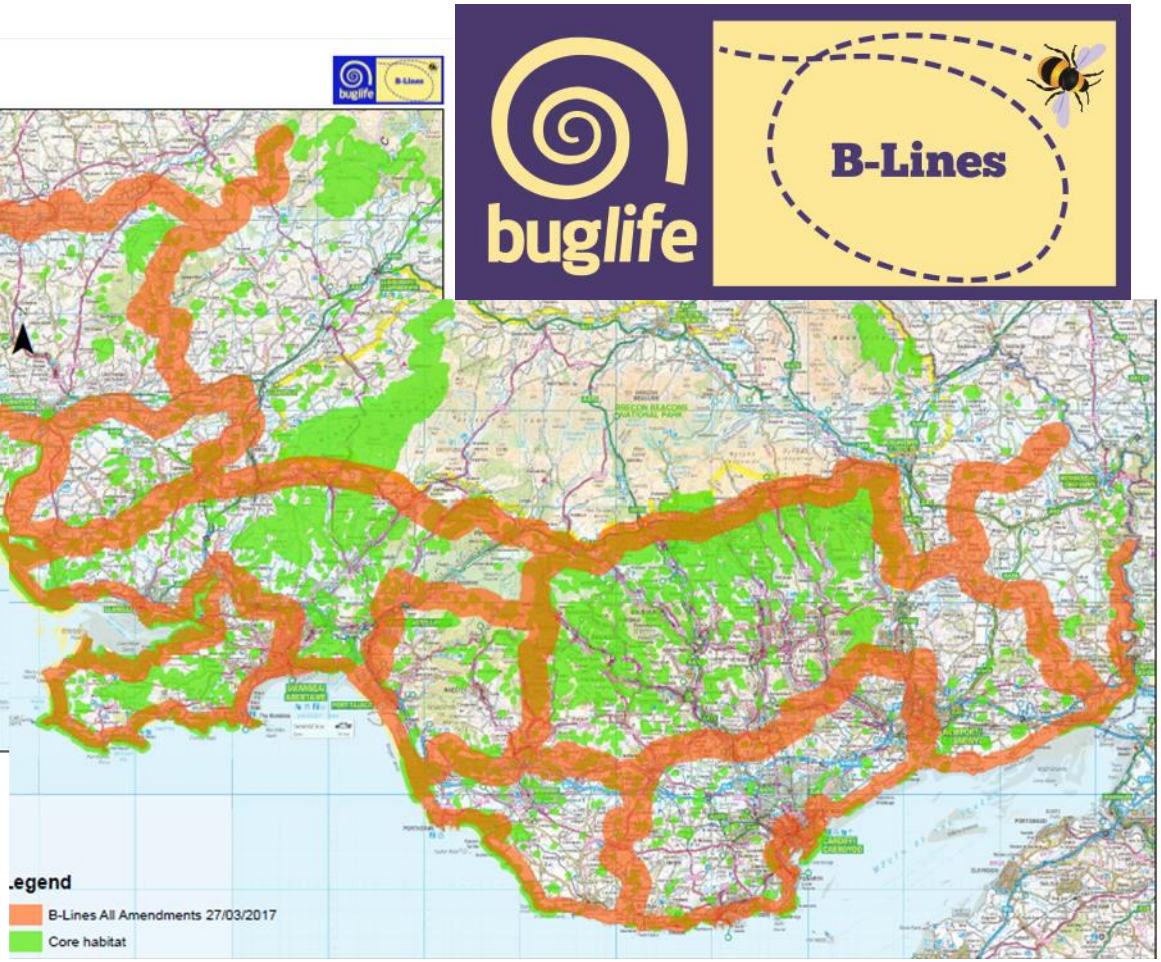
Making a B-Line for Wales





South and West Wales B-Lines





City and County of Swansea
Dinas a Sir Abertawe

Neath Port Talbot County Borough
Bwrdeistref Sirol Castell-nedd Port Talbot

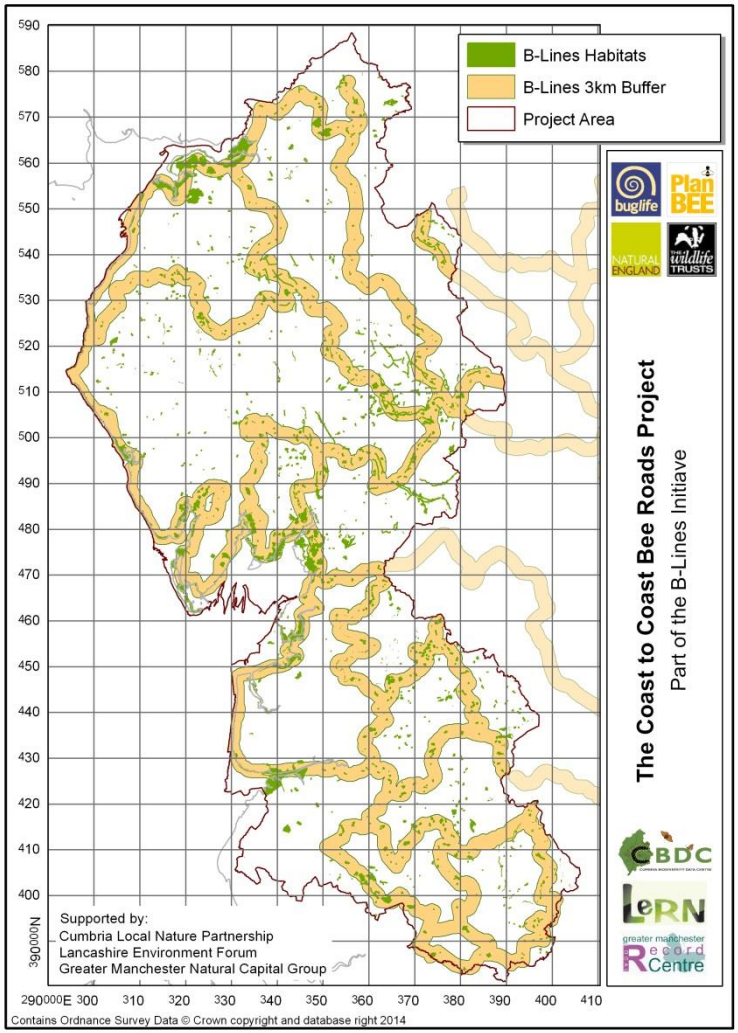
Tai Tarian

GIG CYMRU NHS WALES
Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board

Case Study: B-Lines Coast to Coast project
- Cumbria, Lancashire, Greater Manchester

Comparing current (or pollinator movements) with the proposed B-Lines

- Assess flow of B-Lines habitat area map as a whole showing movement of species through the landscape
- Dispersal distance - 1km
- Assess the overlap with the proposed B-Lines routes.
- Used automatically generated source and target at northern and southern borders of the landscape.



Case Study: B-Lines Coast to Coast project

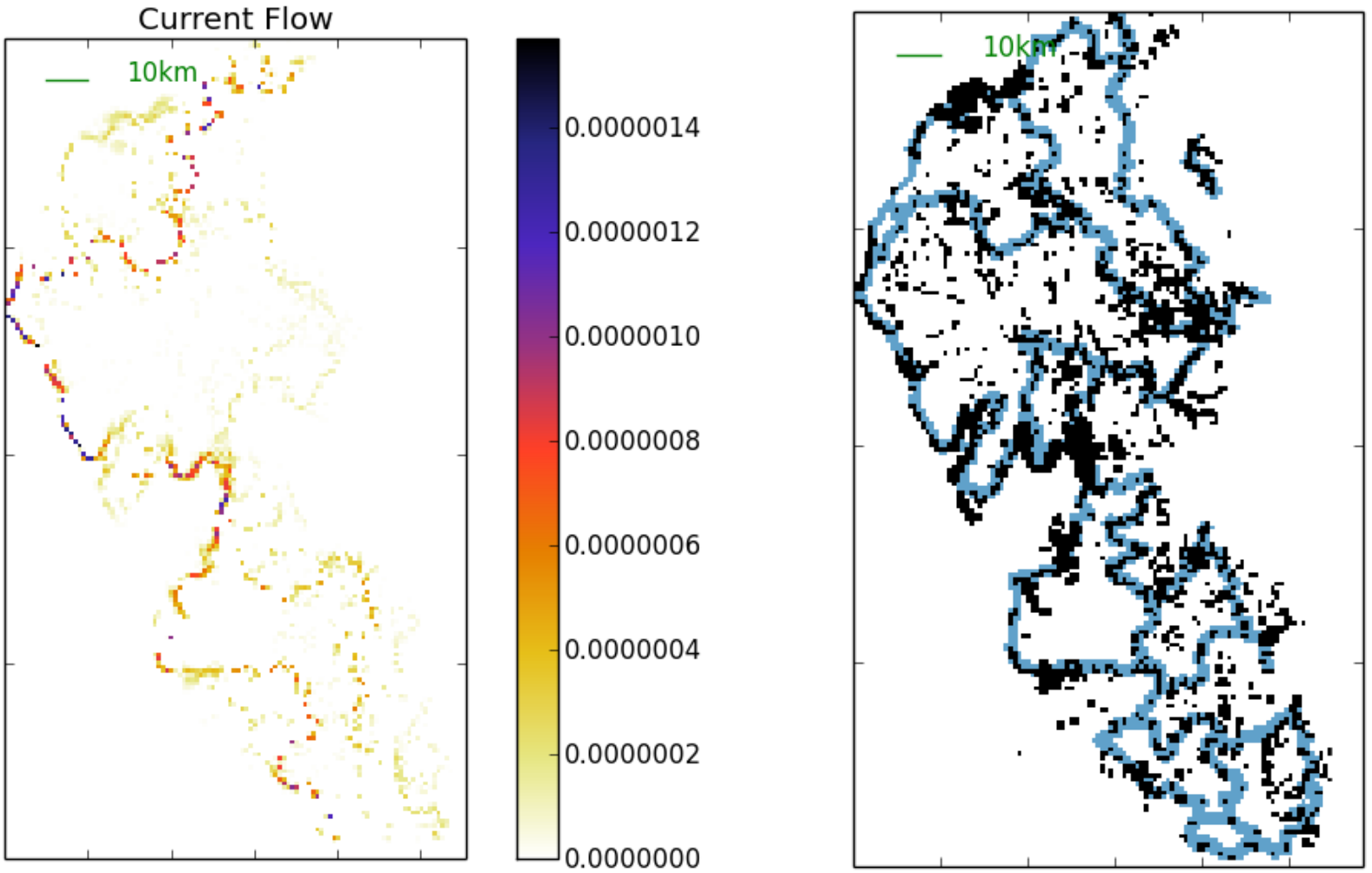


Fig 1: Left: current flow as predicted using Condatis to assess the B-Lines Habitat Area map. Right: The B-Lines habitat area base map (black) overlain with the proposed B-Lines network map (blue).

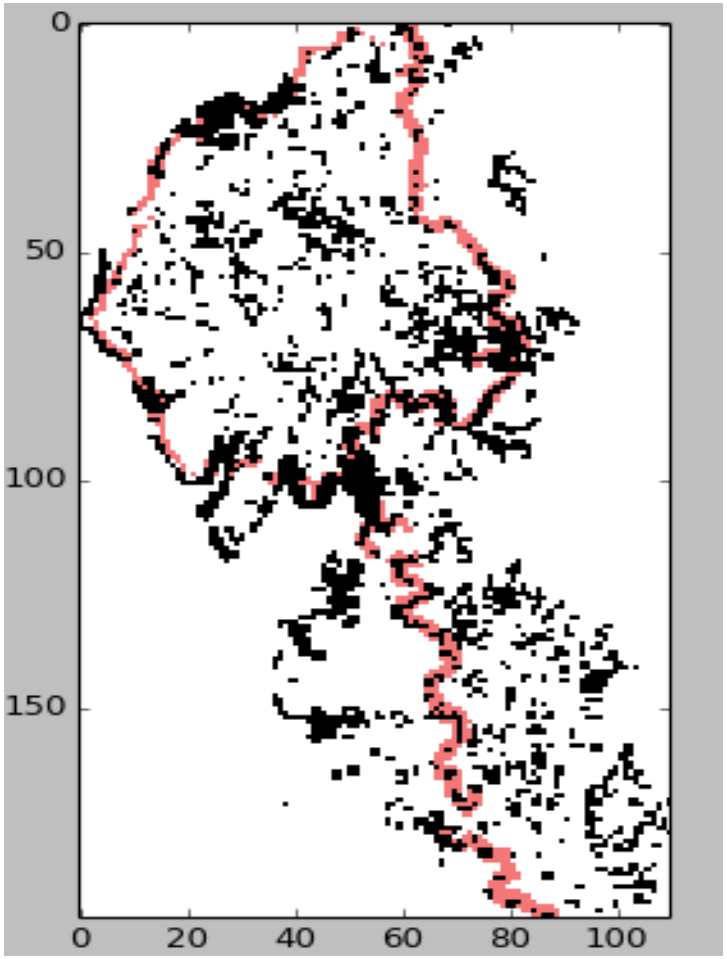
Case Study: B-Lines Coast to Coast project

Identifying key sites to enhance connectivity for insect pollinators

- able to calculate the contribution that each 1km cell adds to the overall connectivity of the network when key habitats are restored within them

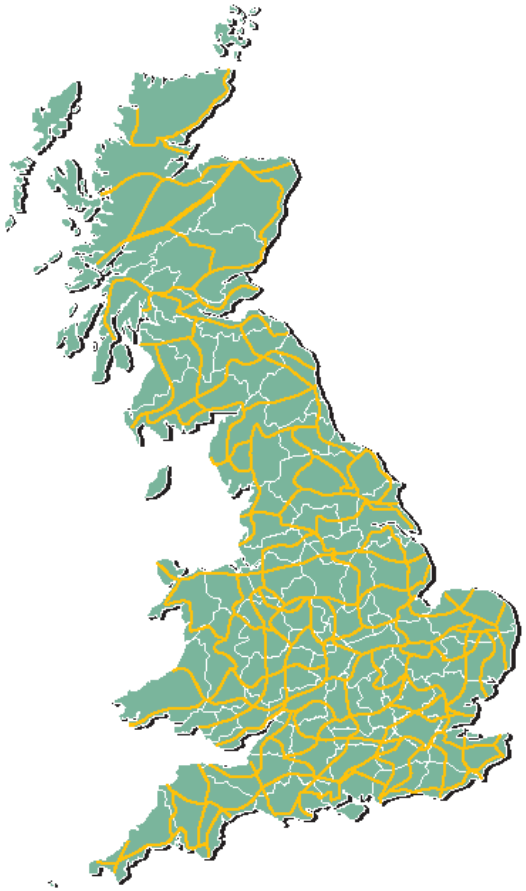
- Allows us to prioritise individual 1km cells which would best enhance the connectivity of the B-Lines should key wildflower-rich habitats be restored/created

- **Potential to target a relatively small percentage of the B-Line for habitat restoration can disproportionately enhance the connectivity of the landscape - Cost-Benefit tool**



50% of the overall B-Lines flow can be achieved using only 675 (35%) of the 1928 cells.

B-Lines at a UK level




Thanks for listening,
any questions?

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When to use Condatis in the mapping process?
Altitude – can this be factored in?
Identifying source and target areas