



English Nature is the government agency that champions the conservation of wildlife and geology throughout England. We want to ensure that future generations can enjoy a wealth of wildlife as a major part of their quality of life. We achieve this by taking action ourselves, and by working through and enabling others.

Our main duties and powers have been given to us by the following Acts of Parliament:

National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949

Countryside Act 1968

Nature Conservancy Council Act 1973

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (amended 1985)

Environmental Protection Act 1990

Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000

We are governed by a Council whose Chairman and Members are appointed by the Secretary of State for the Environment and we employ over 620 permanent staff.

We work closely with the Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Scottish Natural Heritage and the Countryside Council for Wales for a consistent approach to nature conservation and towards fulfilling our international obligations.

Following publication of the draft Natural Environment and Rural Communities Bill in February, English Nature, the Rural Development Service and the Countryside Agency's Landscape, Access and Recreation division are working towards integration as a single body: Natural England. It will work for people, places and nature with responsibility for enhancing biodiversity, landscapes and wildlife in rural, urban, coastal and marine areas; promoting access, recreation and public wellbeing, and contributing to the way natural resources are managed so they can be enjoyed now and for future generations.'

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