

How a Natural Capital Approach is Improving England's Forests

Miranda Winram
Head of Strategy and Insight, Forest Enterprise

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Credit: Tom Cousins
(HooF Supporter)





206 million visits



Amazing care for our environment





252,000 ha of woods
and forest.
1.4m cmt timber

Why a Natural Capital Approach? (and limitations...)

The background features a large, stylized green tree on the right side, composed of several overlapping triangular shapes. To its left, there are several overlapping circular shapes of varying shades of green, resembling a forest canopy or a stylized tree structure. The overall background is a solid, vibrant green.

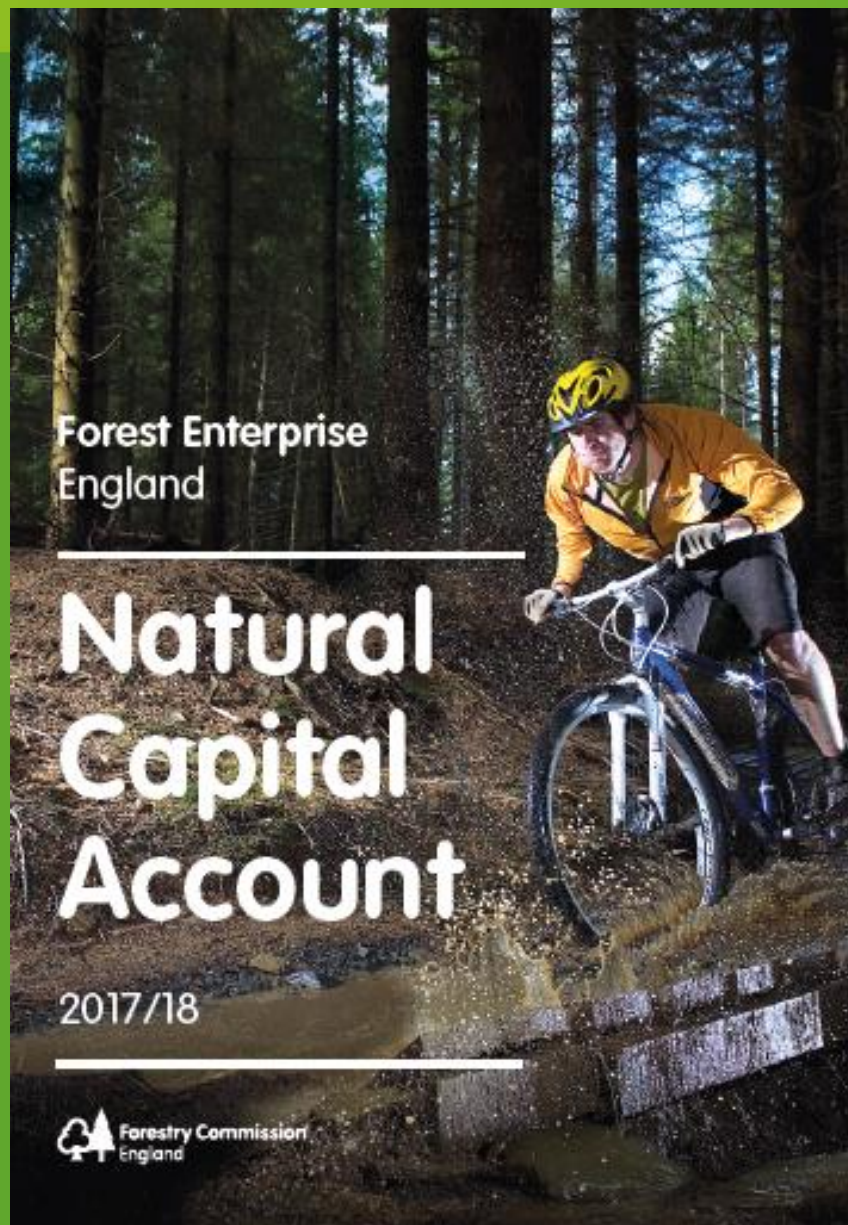
What Natural Capital is doing for Forest Enterprise:

- **Strategic - existential**
- **Strategic - performance**
- **Driving operational improvements**

Why relevant for others?

- **Defra & ELM**
- **Farm income dependency**
- **Access to finance**
- **Opportunities**

So what have we done?



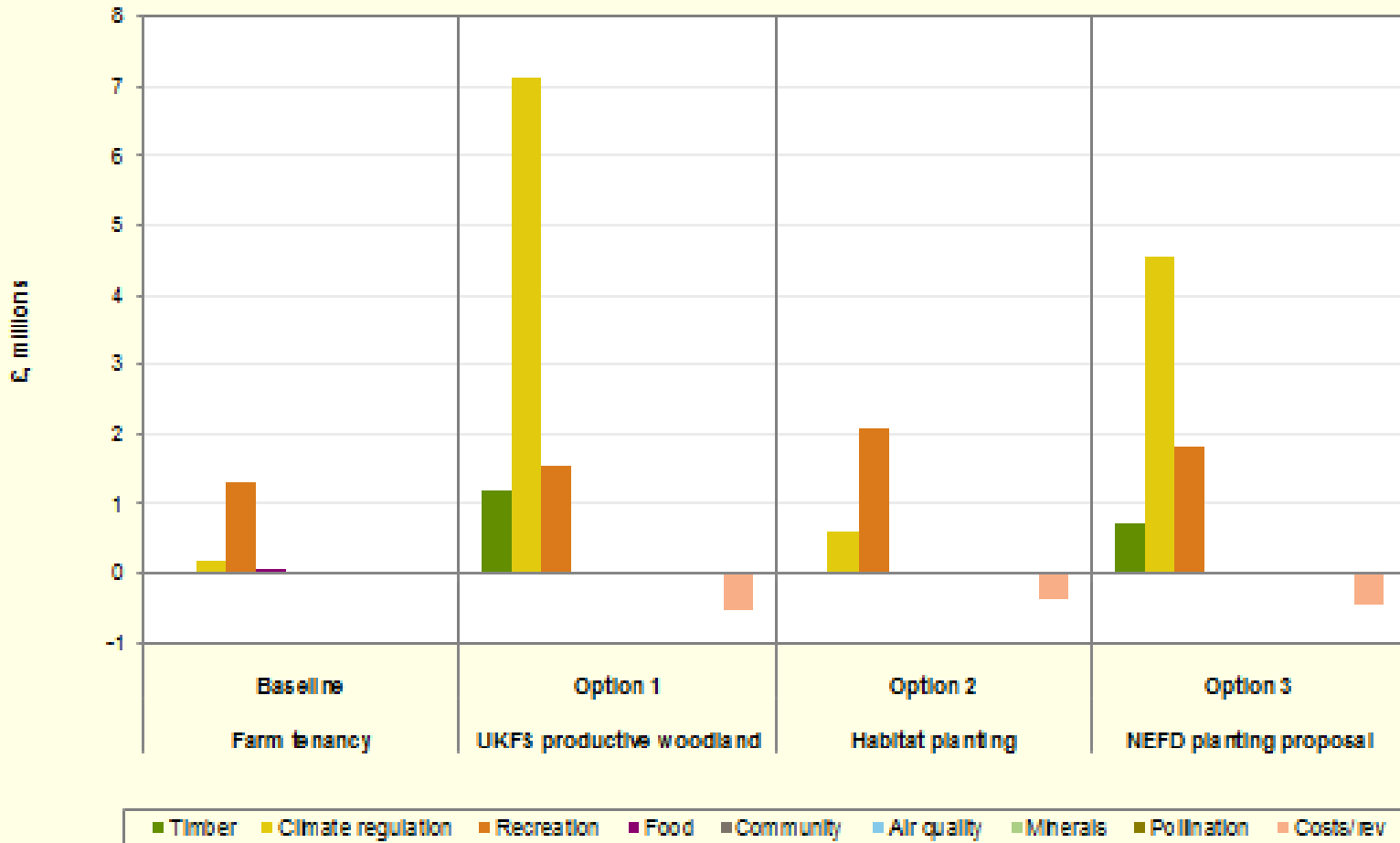
Natural Capital Account Components

- **Asset register**
- **Ecosystem service flows and valuation**
- **Net natural capital asset value**
£23bn
>10x £2bn

Operational Decision Making

- **Developed a tool at local level**
- **Applied it to landscape change schemes**
- **Output graphs and tables**

Natural capital value across options



Options:

- **1:5 net asset value difference (max £9.4m)**
- **20:1 priority habitat cover**
- **-£93k / +£160k / +£352k financial NPV**

- **Just a tool...**
- **Feedback**
- **Uses**
- **Our development**

What's next for FE?

- **Commitment to annual NCA process**
- **Desire to embed NC approach in operational decision making**

More Information:

miranda.winram@forestry.gsi.gov.uk
jacob.waller@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

Natural Capital Account:

<https://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/BEEH-B3MDHX>

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