Commons Development Officers Network

141,748ha of registered common land

Demystifying the language

Service based in the community (LEADER)

Language, tradition and local circumstances

1888 Common Land Units (CL) of which

Sorting out the registers

1006 Registered grazable CL units 92% of registered land
A cost or a benefit –
taking an innovative approach to problem plants
Bracken a cost benefit

- Income Understanding
- Compost sales
- Bracken harvesting
- Compost production
- Planning phase
- Benefits
- Awareness
Restoration of historically mined commons to grassland

- Invasive non-native species
- Habitat?
- Carbon and soil conditions?
Ecosystem goods and services – balancing priorities and needs

Showing the distribution of bracken within the Black Mountains between flat ground <20° and steep ground >20°

- Steep slopes (>20°) 1893ha
- Flatter ground (<20°) with 2006ha
- Dense bracken on steep slopes of 1719ha
- Dense bracken and flat 1696ha
- Scattered bracken on steep slopes 174ha
- Scattered bracken on flat ground 348ha
A question of burning

- No Management
- Uncontrolled Damaging Fire
- Increasing fire load
- No grazing

Dumping the jargon!!
And planning for success
Working together for better burning outcomes
Commons and ecosystem connectivity

Grazing - biodiversity - people - valued and protected landscapes
Tackling loss – community education and communication

“Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.”

Henry Ford 1930
"This is not like any other place – Dylan Thomas

“The traditional grazing of the common is so important for our community, the common and the environment, it is essential to our way of life that the practice and knowledge continues with the next generations”  Translation from Welsh Survey of commons 2015
A LIFE CYCLE

1. HABITAT BENEFITS:
FEEDSTOCK CREATED IN ACHIEVING HABITAT IMPROVEMENTS

2. ATMOSPHERIC BENEFITS:
AS CARBON IS SEQUESTERED IN PRODUCT CREATION

3. ENERGY BENEFITS:
ENERGY IS RECYCLED AND USED FOR PRODUCTION

4. ADD VALUE BENEFITS:
BIOCHAR IS ACTIVATED, BLENDED TO MEET SPECIFIC CUSTOMER ENVIRONMENTAL NEEDS

5. AWARENESS BENEFITS:
PRODUCT INFORMATION IS PROMOTED AND AWARENESS RAISED OF BENEFITS TO THE CUSTOMER AND THE ENVIRONMENT

6. ECONOMIC BENEFITS:
INCOME RECEIVED FROM PRODUCT SALES, ENERGY PRODUCED AND CARBON SEQUESTERED

7. SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS:
INCOME REINVESTED INTO ON-GOING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT