Managing grass verges for biodiversity in times of austerity

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Asset or liability?

MAINTENANCE BUDGETS
All public authorities in England have a duty to have regard to conserving biodiversity as part of policy or decision making.

- 200,000ha road verges
- 700 species
- 45% of total flora
Multiple Services

- Water Management
- Flood risk regulation
- Pollination
- Biodiversity
- User experience
- Sense of place
- Recreation
- Biomass for Bioenergy
- Air quality
- Noise reduction
- Carbon offsetting
- Visual screening
Value

Soft estate management

Infrastructure resilience

Other services

Biomass
Integrated green grey infrastructure

Provided courtesy of ALTERRA / E.A. van der Grift
Reduction in loss of biodiversity

End of Road Period 1

Net Gain in biodiversity

2040

End of Road Period 2

No Net Loss of biodiversity
A590 Cumbria

- Baseline 54.6 biodiversity units
- Following management there will be 122.4 units
- Uplift of 67.5 units or 123%.
Poorly designed, managed and valued = liability

Well designed, managed and valued = asset
Thank you and enjoy the day!

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