

# Agri-Environmental Schemes in the United Kingdom

- Victoria Hunns: Principal Specialist  
Natural England
- Rhonda Robinson: Northern Ireland  
Environment Agency
- Jon Wordsworth: Rural Land Use  
Advisor  
Archaeology Scotland
- Mike Yates : Inspector of Ancient  
Monuments  
Welsh Assembly Government - Cadw



# Management Matters: The Archaeological Resource



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Management  
Matters:  
Neglect

Iron Age House



Above: Sheep grazing



Left: Livestock excluded

# Levels of Management

- Protection from damage – the catastrophic event and piecemeal attrition
- Sympathetic management – for long term sustainable survival
- Repair and conservation – to reduce vulnerability and make the site more robust and able to survive through sympathetic management.

# Existing Protection:

The Law:

Protects “Monuments of National Importance”  
 (“Scheduled Ancient Monuments”)

Single Farm Payment (SFP or SPS)

Cross Compliance and GAEC (Good Agricultural and  
 Environmental Condition)

England, Scotland & Wales

“Scheduled” (ie  
 protected sites) only

Northern Ireland

All known sites

# Agri-Environmental

## ‘pyramid’

High Level  
Stewardship/Targeted  
Glastir/ Rural  
Priorities/ Countryside  
Management

Entry Level Stewardship/  
/Basic Glastir/ Land  
Management Contract

SFPS/ SPS: Cross Compliance with  
Good Agricultural and Environmental  
Condition (GAEC)



# Entry Level

Key similarities: England Scotland and Wales

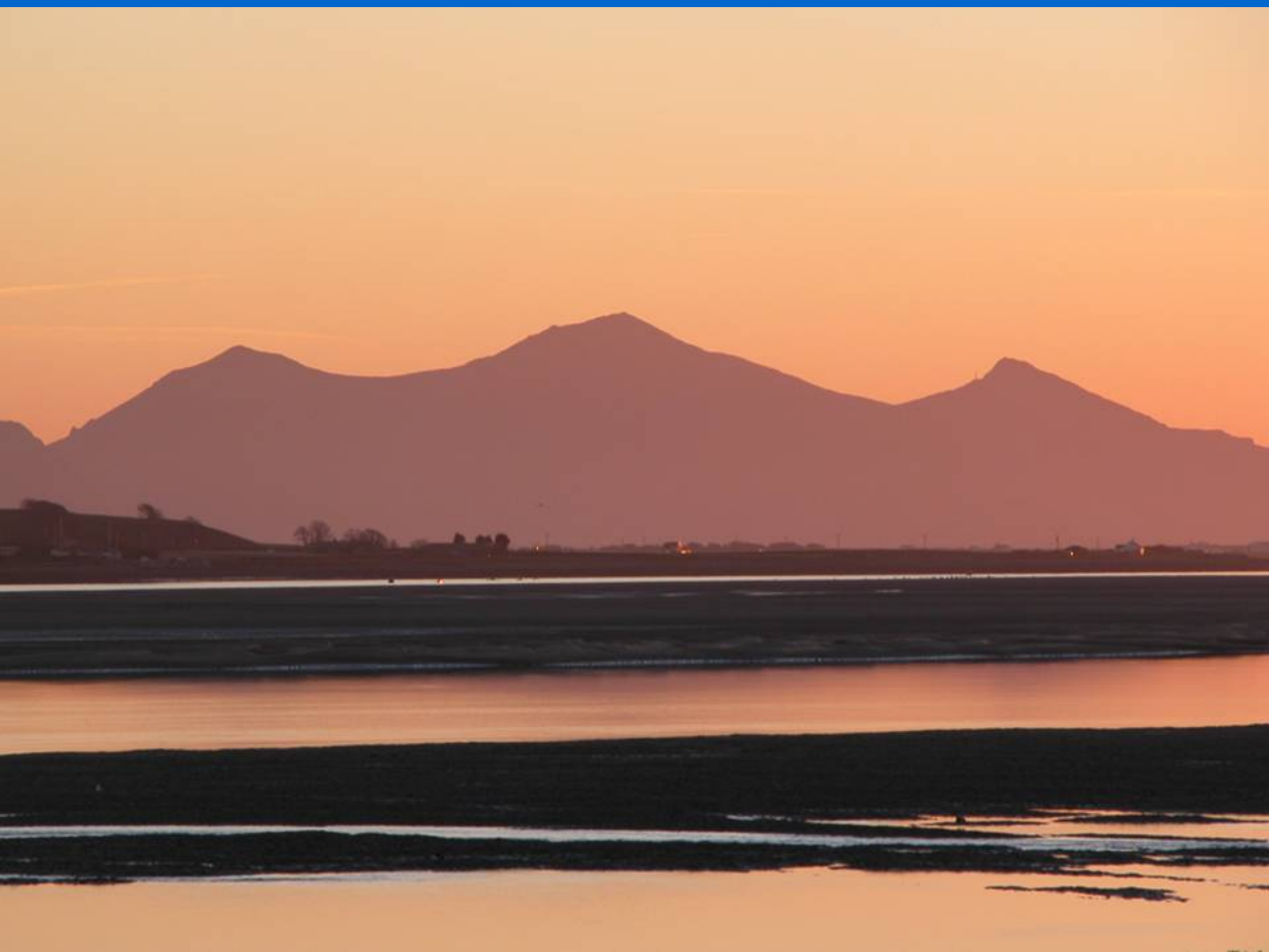
- Open to all registered farmers.
- Modest payments
- Low administration costs



# Entry Level

## Key impact for Historic Environment

- Open to all so potential to include very many historic features
- Low payments may not attract commercial farms - or very small holdings
- Low payment means modest expectations
- Low administration meant limited support



# ELS: England and Wales (?)

- Whole Farm: Protect all known historic features
- Options: For management of Historic Environment

# ELN has specific 'Options' for managing the Historic Environment



ED1: Maintenance of weatherproof traditional farm buildings



ED2: Take archaeological features currently on cultivated land out of cultivation



ED3: Reduce cultivation depth on land where there are archaeological features



ED4: Management of scrub on archaeological sites



ED5: Management of grassland with archaeological features

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# Four critical factors for success

- Take up
- Locational information
- Advice and guidance
- Inspection and control



# English ELS Success

- Since 2005 there are some 5419 agreements of which:
  - 1653 include maintenance of traditional buildings
  - 329 have taken archaeological site out of cultivation
  - 256 have reduced cultivation depths
  - 148 have reduced scrub
  - 3033 have agreed to sympathetic grassland management.

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# Countryside Management Scheme (and Tir Gofal)

Typical whole farm management prescriptions:

- Not feeding livestock on historic features
- Controlling stocking levels
- Avoiding use of vehicles over Historic Features
- Controlling scrub



# Capital Grants: Aber Castle Mound



# Recording and repair



# High Level Stewardship: Objectives



- Wildlife conservation
- Maintain and enhance landscape
- Natural resource protection
- Protect historic environment
- Promote public access

Also two secondary objectives:

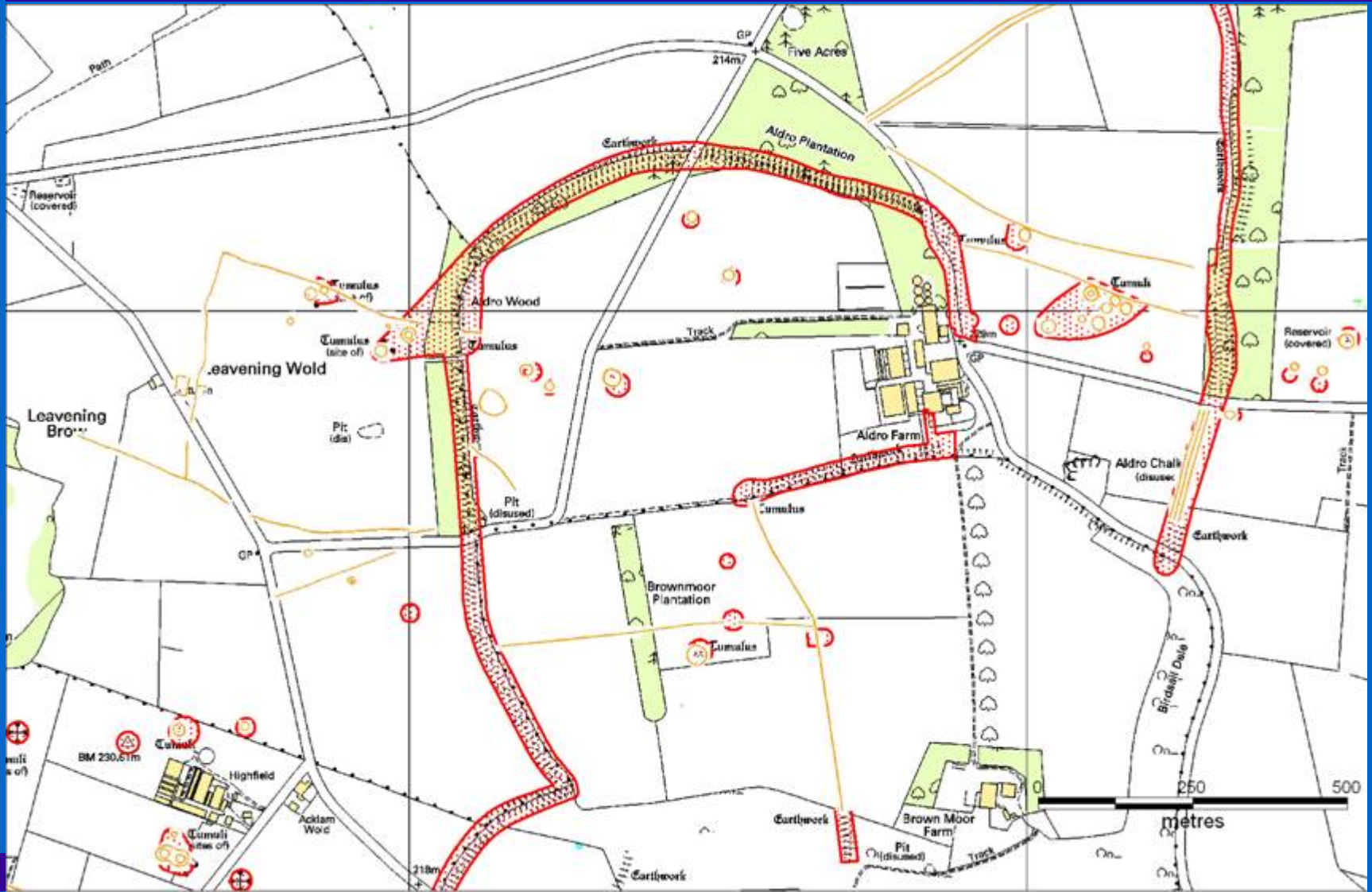
- Flood management
- Conservation of genetic resources

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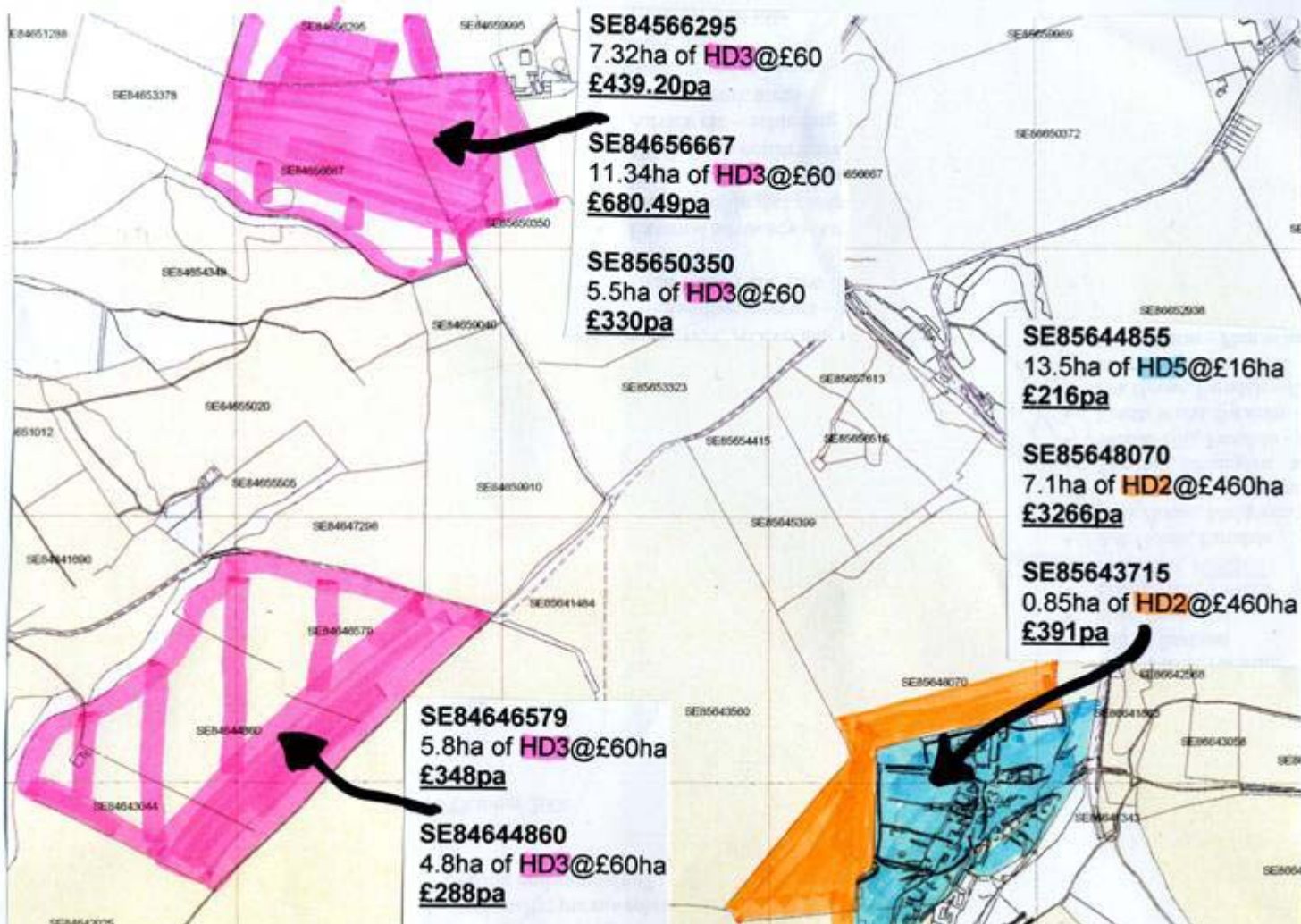
# Traditional Farm Buildings



# Farm Environmental Plan (FEP)



# Costed mangement actions



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# Summary:

## Levels of Management

- Protection: ELS type schemes can offer very extensive additional protection providing basic information is sound.
- Sympathetic management: Supported in ELS but difficult to evaluate. More proactive in HLS - potentially more effective but less extensive.
- Repair and conservation: Modest contribution in ELS but potential for significant progress in HLS type schemes - depending on take up

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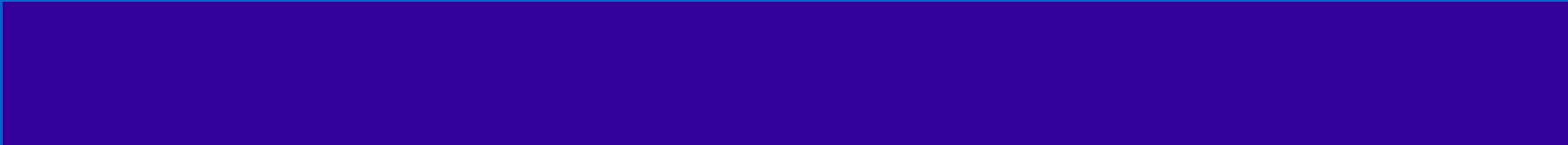
# Finally - Think of Europe

- Rural Development Regulation - RDR
- Rural Development Plans - RDP 2013-
- EU Objectives - Climate Change

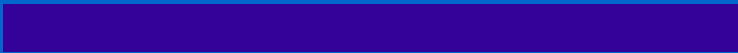
# Work with Europe

- Synergies - with other EU objectives - especially soil carbon
- Sensitivity about demonstrating value
  - Better definition of our resource
  - Methodologies for monitoring

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QuickTime™ and a  
decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.



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