

Nutrient Neutrality

The Wildlife Trust's scheme: *a Wilder solution*



Hampshire &
Isle of Wight
Wildlife Trust



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Why is the Wildlife Trust interested?

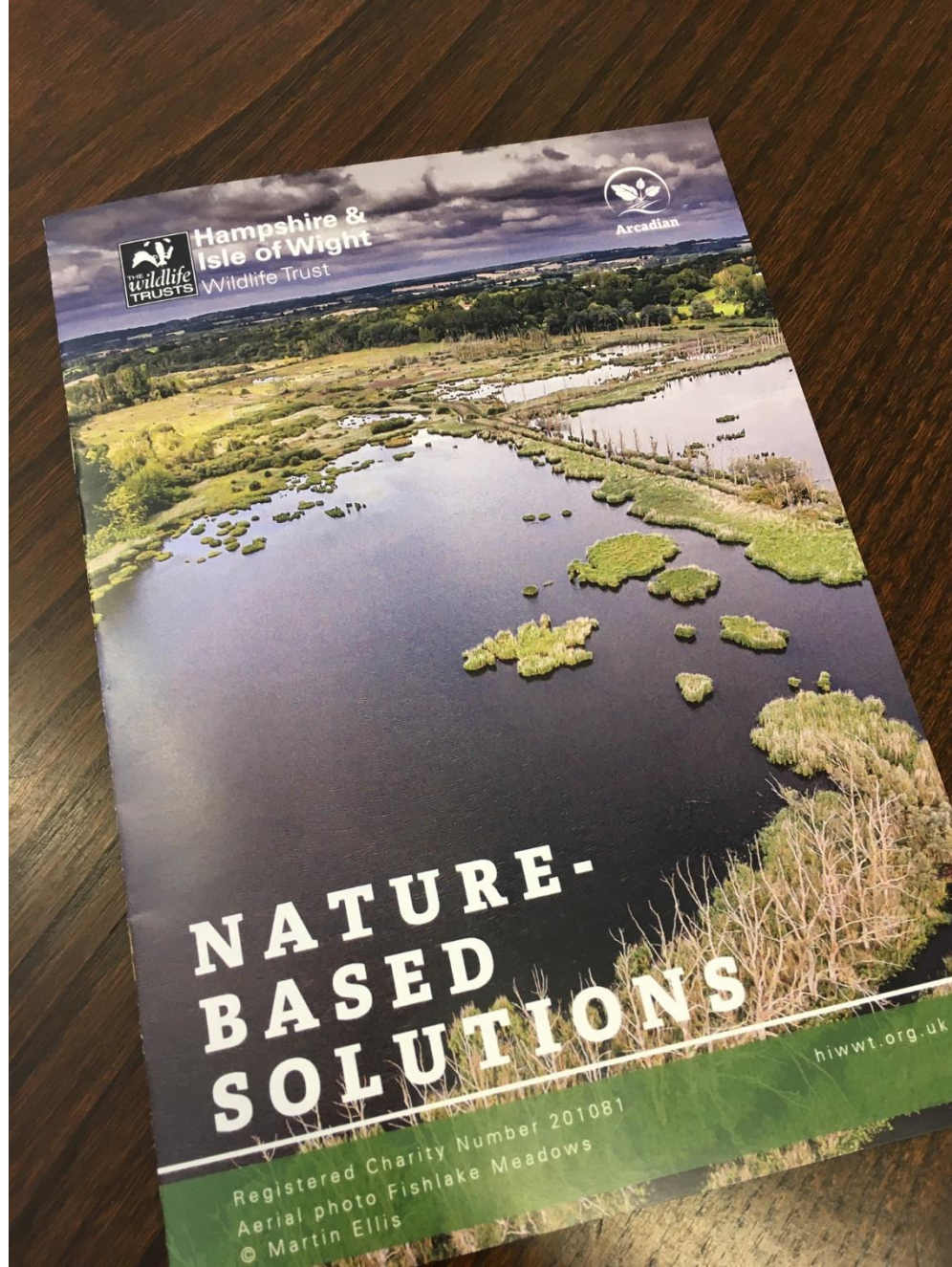


- We are keen to find a way of reducing nitrates entering and polluting the Solent.
- We think there is an opportunity to use the scheme to deliver significant wildlife gain: our ***Wilder 2030*** aspirations.
- We want to find a solution that can be delivered quickly to head off the possibility of increased housing numbers being imposed on LPA's or planning by appeal.
- We want to avoid mitigation through lots of *ad hoc* bits of land (as is already happening).
- We want avoid this issue being an excuse for diluting the protection of our most valuable wildlife habitats
- We take a long-term view on issues and we want to be seen as an reliable delivery partner that can offer **Nature Based Solutions** at a reasonable cost.

The scheme principles



- The LPA or developer would calculate the nitrate offset requirement for their development(s) (or potentially their agreed Local Plan) with the calculation validated by Natural England.
- The Trust would sell nitrate credits at an agreed rate to developers. A credit being 1kg/N per year. (est. £2000 - £2500 per credit plus an admin fee of circa £1000).
- The Trust will purchase intensively managed arable land which we would remove from intensive production in perpetuity. The Trust would enter into a legally binding contract to underpin the agreement (probably s.106).
- Once secured the Trust would look to re-wild areas, create wildflower meadows or plant woodland to bring significant additional wildlife benefits to the areas concerned.



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