

USK VALLEY OSPREYS

STRATEGIC PLAN

INTRODUCTION

Ospreys were persecuted close to extinction in the UK before natural re-colonisation in Scotland in 1960. In recognition of their endangered status, ospreys have the highest possible wildlife protection as a Schedule 1 species under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

While they have gradually expanded their range across the UK since 1960 it was only in 2023 that first evidence was found of a pair of ospreys establishing a territory in South Wales. This pair therefore became the first to successfully build a nest in South Wales for hundreds of years.

UVO was launched in March 2024 using the focus of the local nest near Brecon as the basis for the development of an osprey conservation charity.

STRATEGIC PLAN

OUR VISION AND GOALS

Our Vision is the widespread breeding of ospreys across South Wales.

To realise this our **Goals** are:

1. To protect both nests and ospreys in the Usk Valley catchment area
2. To engage in scientific data collection on the activities of ospreys for both conservation and research purposes
3. To educate the wider public about the species to build up support and understanding for the protection of ospreys and ensure that they have a thriving future.

OUR OBJECTIVES

1. **Protection** of all known nests and all ospreys present in the Usk Valley
2. **Research** by collection and sharing of scientific evidence to promote osprey conservation
3. **Educate and Inspire** an understanding and appreciation of ospreys; and build a
4. **Sustainable Future** by creating a sustainable charity to help provide an effective future for ospreys in Wales

OUR VALUES

1. **Collaboration** - with local population, farmers and landowners, the Welsh Government, with other conservation charities and the scientific research community
2. **Evidence based**- with high quality and rigorous scientific data collection of a standard compatible with Higher Education level research
3. **Transparency and integrity** - working with the support of professional advice, organisations and others to promote best practice in osprey conservation
4. **Nature first** - putting sustainability at the forefront of our actions, and our operations.

Adopted by the Trustees November 2024