



*Windermere Reflections* is a programme of projects about to be submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund under its Landscape Partnership Scheme. If the go-ahead is given, around 20 projects are planned across 3 years from 2011-14, with a budget of just under £1.5 million.

Whilst the area covered by the proposal, which includes Langdale, Grasmere, Rydal, Ambleside and Elterwater is one of the most visited and enjoyed in the country, the environment and landscape heritage of the catchment is under threat from a range of impacts; declining water quality, fell-side erosion, damaged and shrinking habitats and invasive, alien plant and animal species, as well as the potential effects of global climate change.

*Windermere Reflections* will be a delivery mechanism for some of the objectives of the Windermere Catchment Restoration Programme, which is led by the Environment Agency as part of the Lake District Still Waters Partnership. Other key partners are the National Trust, the Lake District National Park Authority, South Lakeland District Council and the University of Cumbria, but the aim is to involve as many organisations and individuals as possible within the catchment of Windermere.

The projects are under 4 themed headings set by the Heritage Lottery Fund:

- *Conserving or Restoring the Built and Natural Features that Create the Historic Landscape Character*
- *Increasing Community Participation in Local Heritage*
- *Increasing Access to, and Learning About, the Landscape Area and its Heritage*
- *Increasing Training Opportunities in Local Heritage Skills*

One of the proposed projects deals with outdoor education and is designed to co-ordinate opportunities, in partnership with existing providers, to learn about and help deliver real environmental benefits through, for example, walling, tree-planting, trail design, woodland management, invasive species management, habitat creation and ecological surveys.

We are keen to enlist the views and support of experts in the field and to discuss how we might take this proposal forward to our mutual benefit and the benefit of the users of outdoor education services.

Dave Muir  
Landscape Partnership (Development) Officer

