

LAF National Conference – Workshop Feedback

Multi-user routes

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Presentation main points

Conflict can occur between any combination of user, Highway Authority (local and neighbouring), landowner/manager (and their plant/ livestock/crops etc), visitors, residents

PROWs can support a range of activities, if conducted with due consideration for other users and the routes themselves

Key issues or concerns raised by group

Better self-regulation, but also better management

Learning points/conclusions

Better management:

- Through joined up policies
- Better signage (+ contact numbers) to combat illegal use
- Backed up by Ranger/police enforcement
- Education and information, e.g. re legal rights, appropriate routes for use, when, by what means
- Tolerance and understanding – getting used to each other
- Specific issues : get users with specific issues to meet and seek agreed resolutions
- More robust locations
- Route management: engineering/ design solutions, or even route segregation
- Mowing field edge paths (HA responsibility)
- Refresh the Countryside Code (hasn't this just been done?!) to help with expected behaviour, protocols, etc
- Upgrading routes if heavily used (maintenance or legal status)

Actions to take away

Can Natural England help/ support with:

- Countryside code refresh to encompass some of the ideas above?
- Education of users: protocols, expected behaviours, legal rights
- Promotion of good policy-making and route design: produce guidance?

- Promote current good practice
- Use proactive comms – not just own website but use of other IT e.g. Twitter, Facebook, etc