



Richard Leafe
CEO, Lake District National Park
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Dear Richard

Use of unsealed roads in the Lake District National Park

We were interested in all you had to say in your excellent presentation at the recent Carbon Zero in Cumbria and the Lake District event at Rheged and the ambitious plans which the National Park Partnership has to reduce its carbon footprint by 20% by 2025 en route to net zero by 2037.

Friends of the Earth West Cumbria & North Lakes would like to suggest that the National Park Authority's continued tolerance of driving on unsealed roads sits very uncomfortably with both your carbon saving targets and your approach to protecting the landscape of the Lake District. The vehicles used not only generate disproportionate amounts of carbon and other pollutants, they also have a direct impact on nature and people, greatly intensified by the climate crisis. It is clear that this type of motoring inevitably produces erosion, sediment runoff and hydrological changes in nearby habitats. Just as importantly, it diminishes the value and enjoyment of the Lake District for most of the people who visit the area or live there.

Your sustainable travel policy must logically include action against motor vehicles on unsealed tracks. Ignoring this most unsustainable mode of travel in the Lake District would be an odd omission on the Authority's part.

Yours sincerely,

West Cumbria & North Lakes Friends of the Earth