Improvement Programme for England's Natura 2000 Sites (IPENS) Planning for the Future

# Site Improvement Plan Gang Mine

Site Improvement Plans (SIPs) have been developed for each Natura 2000 site in England as part of the Improvement Programme for England's Natura 2000 sites (IPENS). Natura 2000 sites is the combined term for sites designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protected Areas (SPA). This work has been financially supported by LIFE, a financial instrument of the European Community.

The plan provides a high level overview of the issues (both current and predicted) affecting the condition of the Natura 2000 features on the site(s) and outlines the priority measures required to improve the condition of the features. It does not cover issues where remedial actions are already in place or ongoing management activities which are required for maintenance.

The SIP consists of three parts: a Summary table, which sets out the priority Issues and Measures; a detailed Actions table, which sets out who needs to do what, when and how much it is estimated to cost; and a set of tables containing contextual information and links.

Once this current programme ends, it is anticipated that Natural England and others, working with landowners and managers, will all play a role in delivering the priority measures to improve the condition of the features on these sites.

The SIPs are based on Natural England's current evidence and knowledge. The SIPs are not legal documents, they are live documents that will be updated to reflect changes in our evidence/knowledge and as actions get underway. The information in the SIPs will be used to update England's contribution to the UK's Prioritised Action Framework (PAF).

The SIPs are not formal consultation documents, but if you have any comments about the SIP or would like more information please email us at IPENSLIFEProject@naturalengland.org.uk, or contact Natural England's Responsible Officer for the site via our enquiry service 0300 060 3900, or enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk

### This Site Improvement Plan covers the following Natura 2000 site(s)

UK0012817 Gang Mine SAC

## **Site description**

Covering an area of 8.26 hectares, Gang Mine SAC is located on the south-eastern margin of the carboniferous limestone massif of the White Peak in Derbyshire. It lies at approximately 230m above sea level on the essentially flat limestone plateau.

Extensive lead mining has taken place across much of the site resulting in a series of spoil heaps, hummocks and hollows of varying size and topography. Heavy metal content of the soils varies across the site, resulting in a mosaic of plant communities reflecting the complex variations in soil conditions and toxicity, as well as the size, steepness and aspect of slopes. Areas of unworked land within the site support neutral grassland and scrub habitat on deeper soils.

# **Plan Summary**

This table shows the prioritised issues for the site(s), the features they affect, the proposed measures to address the issues and the delivery bodies whose involvement is required to deliver the measures. The list of delivery bodies will include those who have agreed to the actions as well as those where discussions over their role in delivering the actions is on-going.

Priority & Issue	Pressure or Threat	Feature(s) affected	Measure	Delivery Bodies
1 Air Pollution: imp atmospheric nitrog deposition		H6130 Grasslands on soils rich in heavy metals	Further investigate potential atmospheric nitrogen impacts on the site	

### **Issues and Actions**

This table outlines the prioritised issues that are currently impacting or threatening the condition of the features, and the outstanding actions required to address them. It also shows, where possible, the estimated cost of the action and the delivery bodies whose involvement will be required to implement the action. Lead delivery bodies will be responsible for coordinating the implementation of the action, but not necessarily funding it. Delivery partners will need to support the lead delivery body in implementing the action. In the process of developing the SIPs Natural England has approached the delivery bodies to seek agreement on the actions and their roles in delivering them, although in some cases these discussions have not yet been concluded. Other interested parties, including landowners and managers, will be involved as the detailed actions are agreed and delivered. Funding options are indicated as potential (but not necessarily agreed or secured) sources to fund the actions.

### 1 Air Pollution: impact of atmospheric nitrogen deposition

Nitrogen deposition exceeds the site relevant critical load for ecosystem protection and hence there is a risk of harmful effects, but the sensitive features are currently considered to be in favourable condition on this site. This requires further investigation.

Action	Action description	Cost estimate	Timescale	Mechanism	Funding option	Delivery lead body	Delivery partner(s)
1A	Further investigate potential atmospheric nitrogen impacts on the site based on application of guidance from Chief Scientist's Group Nitroger Task and Finish Group.		2014-17	Investigation / Research / Monitoring	Not yet determined	Natural England	Not yet determined

# Site details

The tables in this section contain site-relevant contextual information and links

### Qualifying features

#UK Special responsibility

Gang Mine SAC

H6130 Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae

### Site location and links

Gang Mine SAC	
Area (ha) 8.26 Grid reference SK286557	Map link
Local Authorities	Derbyshire
Site Conservation Objectives	European Site Conservation Objectives for Gang Mine SAC
European Marine Site conservation advice	n/a
Regulation 33/35 Package	<u>n/a</u>
Marine Management Organisation site plan	<u>n/a</u>

### Water Framework Directive (WFD)

The Water Framework Directive (WFD) provides the main framework for managing the water environment throughout Europe. Under the WFD a management plan must be developed for each river basin district. The River Basin Management Plans (RMBP) include a summary of the measures needed for water dependent Natura 2000 sites to meet their conservation objectives. For the second round of RBMPs, SIPs are being used to capture the priorities and new measures required for water dependent habitats on Natura 2000 sites. SIP actions for non-water dependent sites/habitats do not form part of the RBMPs and associated consultation.

#### Gang Mine SAC

River basin	Humber RBMP
WFD Management catchment	Derbyshire Derwent
WFD Waterbody ID (Cycle 2 draft)	n/a

Overlapping or adjacent protected sites		
Site(s) of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)		
Gang Mine SAC	Gang Mine SSSI	
National Nature Reserve (NNR)		
Gang Mine SAC	n/a	
Ramsar		
Gang Mine SAC	n/a	
Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA)		
Gang Mine SAC	n/a	

Version	Date	Comment
1.0	10/11/2014	



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