

Site Improvement Plan

Carrine Common

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)

UK0012795 Carrine Common SAC

Site description

Carrine Common SAC, located just south-west of Truro, consists of the second largest area of Dorset heath in Cornwall, represented in both dry and wet heath vegetation types. The majority of the Dorset heath occurs within lowland dry heath, dominated by heather (ling), bell heather, western gorse and bristle bent. The occurrence here of Dorset heath in dry heath on soils that are more free-draining is not typical and is thought to reflect Cornwall's highly oceanic climate (in Dorset the Dorset heath sites are typically much drier).

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 Inappropriate scrub control	Pressure	H4020 Wet heathland with Dorset heath and cross-leaved heath, H4030 European dry heaths	Develop a robust management programme	Natural England
2 Direct impact from 3rd party	Pressure	H4020 Wet heathland with Dorset heath and cross-leaved heath, H4030 European dry heaths	Provide signage to advise and inform the public, arrange removal of dumped material	Cornwall Council, Natural England
3 Air Pollution: risk of atmospheric nitrogen deposition	Pressure	H4020 Wet heathland with Dorset heath and cross-leaved heath, H4030 European dry heaths	Control and reduce impacts of atmospheric nitrogen deposition	Natural England
4 Public Access/Disturbance	Pressure	H4020 Wet heathland with Dorset heath and cross-leaved heath, H4030 European dry heaths	Investigation/monitoring to assess potential environmental impact	Natural England

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 Inappropriate scrub control

Bracken and gorse scrub affects part of the site.

Action	Action description	Cost estimate	Timescale	Mechanism	Funding option	Delivery lead body	Delivery partner(s)
1A	Produce a five year detailed site management plan.	Not yet determined	2014-20	National Nature Reserve (NNR) management plan	Natural England (NNR running costs)	Natural England	n/a
1B	Implement actions identified in the management plan.	Not yet determined	2014-20	National Nature Reserve (NNR) management plan	Natural England (NNR running costs)	Natural England	n/a

2 Direct impact from 3rd party

The persistent dumping of garden waste introducing non-native garden plants and invasive species into the heathland is a problem. The SAC is located close to Truro and there is easy access via a heavily used public road which traverses the site.

Action	Action description	Cost estimate	Timescale	Mechanism	Funding option	Delivery lead body	Delivery partner(s)
2A	Provide signage to inform and advise the public about this issue (garden waste, manure and fly-tipping) together with the removal of invasive plants (under NNR management).	£350	2014-16	Advice: Signage	Natural England (NNR running costs)	Natural England	Cornwall Council

<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
2B	Take enforcement action to address fly-tipping.	Not yet determined	2014-16	Enforcement	Natural England (NNR running costs)	Natural England	n/a

3 Air Pollution: risk of atmospheric nitrogen deposition

Nitrogen deposition exceeds the site-relevant critical loads above which the quality and character of heathland and wetland vegetation begins to be altered and adversely impacted. The city of Truro, located approx 2 km north and east of Carrine Common SAC, is the closest source of nitrogen deposition. Air quality monitoring in the city is thought to routinely record poor air quality. Nitrogen deposition levels are liable to continue to increase due to ongoing residential and commercial developments to the west and south of Truro, and a potential new road link south of Threemilestone / Truro.

<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
4A	Control, reduce and ameliorate atmospheric nitrogen impacts	Not yet determined	2014-20	Site Nitrogen Action Plan	Not yet determined	Natural England	Not yet determined

4 Public Access/Disturbance

The site is well used by dog walkers and there is evidence of dog fouling (which can cause localised nutrient enrichment and adverse impacts on heath vegetation). Investigation is required to ascertain whether nutrient enrichment from dog fouling is impacting on the heathland.

<i>Action</i>	<i>Action description</i>	<i>Cost estimate</i>	<i>Timescale</i>	<i>Mechanism</i>	<i>Funding option</i>	<i>Delivery lead body</i>	<i>Delivery partner(s)</i>
4A	Investigation/monitoring to determine if dog fouling is an issue.	Not yet determined	2014-20	Investigation / Research / Monitoring	Natural England (NNR running costs)	Natural England	n/a

Site details

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

Qualifying features

#UK Special responsibility

Carrine Common SAC	H4020# Temperate Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica ciliaris</i> and <i>Erica tetralix</i>
	H4030 European dry heaths

Site location and links

Carrine Common SAC

Area (ha)	45.86	Grid reference	SW798438	Map link
Local Authorities				Cornwall
Site Conservation Objectives				European Site Conservation Objectives for Carrine Common SAC
European Marine Site conservation advice				n/a
Regulation 33/35 Package				n/a
Marine Management Organisation site plan				n/a

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 (RBMP) 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.

Carrine Common SAC

<i>River basin</i>	South West	South West RBMP
<i>WFD Management catchment</i>	West Cornwall and the Fal	
<i>WFD Waterbody ID (Cycle 2 draft)</i>	GB108048001250	

Overlapping or adjacent protected sites

Site(s) of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	
Carrine Common SAC	Carrine Common & Penwethers SSSI

National Nature Reserve (NNR)	
Carrine Common SAC	n/a

Ramsar	
Carrine Common SAC	n/a

Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA)	
Carrine Common SAC	n/a

<i>Version</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1.0	15/10/2014	

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