

Site Improvement Plan

Lands End and Cape Bank

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)

UK0030375 Lands End and Cape Bank cSAC

Site description

Lands End & Cape Bank candidate SAC is designated for its Annex I rocky reef features (sub-features infralittoral rock, and circalittoral rock). The site is designated in two distinct parts: one area fringing the coast, and one area further from the coast.

Due to its south-westerly position on the British coast, the site is fully exposed to strong tidal currents and Atlantic swells. The coastal portion of the site is characterised by tide-swept kelp forests and sparse kelp parks with a lower layer of dense foliose red, green and brown algae. In deeper waters throughout the site, there are bryozoans and hydroid turf communities. Water movement by currents and wave action also encourages dense growths of sponges, sea squirts, anemones and soft corals. The species composition of the reef biotopes, including species such as sea fans and cup corals, is also influenced by the warming of the Gulf Stream, and to a lesser extent the Lusitanian current from the south.

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 Fisheries: Commercial marine and estuarine	Pressure	H1170 Reefs	Ensure compliance with byelaw	Cornwall Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA), Marine Management Organisation (MMO)
2 Fisheries: Commercial marine and estuarine	Threat	H1170 Reefs	Introduce and enforce appropriate management as necessary.	Cornwall Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA), Marine Management Organisation (MMO)

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 Fisheries: Commercial marine and estuarine

Dredges (inc. hydraulic), benthic trawls and seines are categorised as 'Red' for this interest feature (and specifically the sub-features: Coastal upstanding bedrock reefs; Offshore upstanding bedrock reefs) as part of Defra's revised approach to commercial fisheries management in European Marine Sites (EMS), and requisite mechanisms are being or will be implemented by Cornwall IFCA and the Marine Management Organisation (MMO). There are very few/no local inshore trawlers, though some trawl activity (beam and otter trawl) has been noted around the fringes of the offshore upstanding reefs, and foreign vessels (French and Belgian) have historic rights beyond 6nm. The reef features are very upstanding and therefore unlikely to be targeted by trawling vessels.

Action	Action description	Cost estimate	Timescale	Mechanism	Funding option	Delivery lead body	Delivery partner(s)
1A	Ensure compliance with byelaw and provide an appropriate level of reporting to ensure sites are well managed to enable Natural England to provide advice on the condition of features and potential condition threats.	Not yet determined	2015-20	Enforcement: Byelaws	Not yet determined	Cornwall Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA)	Marine Management Organisation (MMO)

2 Fisheries: Commercial marine and estuarine

Crab/lobster pots and gill, tangle and trammel nets are all used in the area, and are categorised as 'amber or green' under Defra's revised approach to commercial fisheries in European Marine Sites (EMS) and thus require assessment and (where appropriate) management. This assessment is being undertaken by Cornwall IFCA and the Marine Management Organisation (MMO). For activities categorised as 'green', these assessments should take account of any in-combination effects of amber activities, and/or appropriate plans or projects, in the site.

Action	Action description	Cost estimate	Timescale	Mechanism	Funding option	Delivery lead body	Delivery partner(s)
2A	Where the assessments indicate management is required, introduce appropriate measures.	Not yet determined	2016	Regulation: Creation / amendment of byelaws	Not yet determined	Cornwall Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA)	Marine Management Organisation (MMO)

<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	If management measures are established, ensure compliance with byelaw and provide an appropriate level of reporting to ensure sites are well managed and to enable Natural England to provide advice on the condition of features and potential condition threats.	Not yet determined	2015-20	Enforcement	Not yet determined	Cornwall Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA)	Marine Management Organisation (MMO)

Site details

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

Qualifying features

#UK Special responsibility

Lands End and Cape Bank cSAC	H1170 Reefs
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Site location and links

Lands End and Cape Bank cSAC

Area (ha) 30172	Grid reference	05 49 29W	Map link
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Local Authorities	Penwith
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Site Conservation Objectives	Lands End and Cape Bank cSAC
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European Marine Site conservation advice	Lands End and Cape Bank cSAC
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Regulation 33/35 Package	Regulation 33/35 package link
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Marine Management Organisation site plan	n/a
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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.

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<i>River basin</i>	South West RBMP
<i>WFD Management catchment</i>	n/a
<i>WFD Waterbody ID (Cycle 2 draft)</i>	n/a

Overlapping or adjacent protected sites

Site(s) of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	
Lands End and Cape Bank cSAC	Aire Point to Carrick Du SSSI Porthgwarra to Pordenack Point SSSI
National Nature Reserve (NNR)	
Lands End and Cape Bank cSAC	n/a
Ramsar	
Lands End and Cape Bank cSAC	n/a
Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA)	
Lands End and Cape Bank cSAC	n/a

<i>Version</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1.0	10/07/2015	

www.naturalengland.org.uk/ipens2000

