

# Site Improvement Plan

## Thames Basin

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](mailto: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](mailto:enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk)

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

**UK9012141 Thames Basin Heaths SPA**

**UK0012793 Thursley, Ash, Pirbright & Chobham SAC**

**UK9012131 Thursley, Hankley & Frensham Commons SPA**

## Site description

This is an extensive complex of lowland heathland, acid grassland, mire and commercial conifer plantations in south east England.

The complex is made up by 14 component SSSIs and includes the Thames Basin Heaths SPA, Thursley, Ash, Pirbright and Chobham SAC and Thursley, Hankley and Frensham Commons SPA.

The qualifying features present are Dartford warbler, woodlark, nightjar, depressions on peat, dry heath and wet heath.

## 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 Public Access/Disturbance	Pressure/Threat	A224(B) European nightjar, A246(B) Woodlark, A302(B) Dartford Warbler	Agree and implement an over-arching access management strategy	Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust, Crown Estate (Rural), Forest Enterprise, Forestry Commission, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, Local Authorities, National Trust, Natural England, RSPB, Surrey County Council, Surrey Heath Borough Council, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO), Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust (ARCT), Horsell Common Preservation Society, Local partnership
2 Undergrazing	Pressure	A224(B) European nightjar, A246(B) Woodlark, A302(B) Dartford Warbler, H4010 Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath, H4030 European dry heaths, H7150 Depressions on peat substrates	Agree and implement an over-arching habitat management strategy	National Trust, Natural England, RSPB, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)
3 Forestry and woodland management	Pressure	A224(B) European nightjar, A246(B) Woodlark, A302(B) Dartford Warbler, H4010 Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath, H4030 European dry heaths	Review and agree forestry plans/policies to ensure compatibility with objectives	Forest Enterprise, Natural England, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO), Crown Estate

4 Hydrological changes	Threat	H4010 Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath, H7150 Depressions on peat substrates	Hydrological investigations	Natural England, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)
5 Inappropriate scrub control	Pressure	A224(B) European nightjar, A246(B) Woodlark, A302(B) Dartford Warbler, H4010 Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath, H4030 European dry heaths	Agree habitat management strategies for all sites	Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust, Bracknell Forest Borough Council, Crown Estate (Rural), Forestry Commission, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, Natural England, RSPB, Surrey County Council, Surrey Heath Borough Council, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Windsor and Maidenhead Royal Borough Council, Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust (ARCT)
6 Invasive species	Pressure/ Threat	H4010 Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath, H4030 European dry heaths	Agree and implement invasive control strategies at all relevant sites	Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, Natural England, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)
7 Wildfire/ arson	Pressure	A224(B) European nightjar, A246(B) Woodlark, A302(B) Dartford Warbler, H4010 Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath, H4030 European dry heaths, H7150 Depressions on peat substrates	Agree and implement fire risk reduction strategies at all sites	Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust, Forestry Commission, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, Hampshire County Council, Local Authorities, Natural England, Surrey County Council, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO), Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service, Surrey Fire and Rescue Service, Wildfire, Horsell Common Preservation Society, South East England Wildfire Group

8	Air Pollution: impact of atmospheric nitrogen deposition	Pressure/ Threat	A224(B) European nightjar, A246(B) Woodlark, A302(B) Dartford Warbler, H4010 Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath, H4030 European dry heaths, H7150 Depressions on peat substrates	Agree and implement Nitrogen management/mitigation strategies at all sites	Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, Hampshire County Council, Natural England, Surrey Heath Borough Council, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)
9	Feature location/ extent/ condition unknown	Threat	A224(B) European nightjar, A246(B) Woodlark, A302(B) Dartford Warbler	Develop and implement improved bird monitoring strategy	Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, Natural England, RSPB, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO), Surrey Bird Club
10	Military	Threat	A224(B) European nightjar, A246(B) Woodlark, A302(B) Dartford Warbler, H4010 Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath, H4030 European dry heaths, H7150 Depressions on peat substrates	Agree and implement integrated management plans for military sites	Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, Natural England, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO), Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust (ARCT)
11	Habitat fragmentation	Pressure	A224(B) European nightjar, A246(B) Woodlark, A302(B) Dartford Warbler, H4010 Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath, H4030 European dry heaths, H7150 Depressions on peat substrates	Commission study to identify habitat management priorities to reduce fragmentation	Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust, Bracknell Forest Borough Council, Crown Estate (Rural), Forestry Commission, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, Natural England, RSPB, Surrey Heath Borough Council, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust (ARCT)

## 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 Public Access/Disturbance

Parts of Thames Basin Heaths (and Thursley, Hankley & Frensham Commons SPA) are subject to high levels of recreational use and dog walkers make up a large proportion of visitors. This is likely to be affecting the distribution and overall numbers of ground-nesting Annex 1 birds (and breeding success). An 'avoidance strategy' is in place to help manage this pressure, including the provision of Suitable Accessible Natural Green Space (SANGS). However, recreational pressure may be hampering the potential for the sites to achieve their full contribution to sustainable national populations. Further work is desirable to determine the scale of impact from recreational disturbance. There is also concern at the growing use of parts of the complex by commercial dog walkers and desire to control this. Improved habitat management to increase suitability for Annex 1 birds and better coordination of habitat provision across the complex is also needed to better offset the effects of disturbance.

Action	Action description	Cost estimate	Timescale	Mechanism	Funding option	Delivery lead body	Delivery partner(s)
1A	Production of over-arching habitat management strategy to help offset/decrease the effects of recreational disturbance on Annex 1 birds	£4,000	2017-20	Habitat creation / restoration strategy: Habitat restoration	Developer	Natural England	Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust, Crown Estate (Rural), Forestry Commission, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, RSPB, Surrey County Council, Surrey Heath Borough Council, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO), Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust (ARCT), Horsell Common Preservation Society

<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>
<b>1B</b>	Production of coherent and consistent access management strategies for all sites	£5,000	2017-20	Partnership agreement	Developer	Natural England	Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust, Crown Estate (Rural), Forest Enterprise, Forestry Commission, National Trust, RSPB, Surrey County Council, Surrey Heath Borough Council, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO), Horsell Common Preservation Society, Local partnership
<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>
<b>1C</b>	Implementation of a wardening strategy to reduce impacts of recreational disturbance on Annex 1 birds	No additional costs	2020	Advice: Wardening	Developer	Natural England	n/a

## 2 Undergrazing

Parts of the complex are undermanaged. Limitations are such that traditional stock cannot be used (because they are live firing ranges), or resistance to the fencing of common land. The excessive cost of disposal of arisings from cutting management is a significant factor making it impractical for large scale use. Controlled burning is not considered a practical alternative in this complex. Lack of grazing over a long period has resulted in poor habitat quality and restoration will take a long time. Grazing may actually be having negative impacts in some cases and improved management is required in these instances. There is scope to improve efficiency in use of resources through improved coordination, sharing of equipment and improved partnership working.

<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>
<b>2A</b>	Implementation of appropriate alternative management where grazing is not practical	No additional costs	2015-20	Partnership agreement	Not yet determined	Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)	Natural England

<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>
<b>2B</b>	Investigation of possible economic uses of material arising from habitat management such as biomass to bioenergy	No additional costs	2015-20	Investigation / Research / Monitoring	Not yet determined	Natural England	National Trust, RSPB, Surrey County Council, Surrey Wildlife Trust
<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>
<b>2C</b>	Development of a heathland management partnership which seeks to share resources, expertise and equipment in order to increase efficiencies in management delivery	Staff time	2015-20	Partnership agreement	Not yet determined	Natural England	Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust, Crown Estate (Rural), Forestry Commission, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, Surrey County Council, Surrey Heath Borough Council, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO), Horsell Common Preservation Society
<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>
<b>2D</b>	Production of agreed management plans for key sites which identify priority actions to improve condition of Natura 2000 features	£3,000	2015-20	Non-Natural England funded site management plan	Not yet determined	Natural England	Surrey Heath Borough 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>
<b>2E</b>	Improve long-term management of power line wayleaves with power suppliers to avoid damaging impacts and improve habitat condition and connectivity	Staff time	2015-20	Partnership agreement	Not yet determined	Not yet determined	Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust, Crown Estate (Rural), Forestry Commission, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, Natural England, Surrey County Council, Surrey Heath Borough Council, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO), Horsell Common Preservation Society

### 3 Forestry and woodland management

Large parts of Thames Basin Heaths are occupied by commercial forestry plantations where the maintenance of suitable conditions for Annex 1 birds is dependent upon rotational felling. However, there is no coordination or overall management plan and felling is dependent upon market forces. Climate change is also causing change in thinking amongst managers with introduction of broadleaves being considered and change from rotational to continuous cover management.

<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>
<b>3A</b>	Undertake review of long-term forestry management policy in the complex to ensure suitable habitat conditions for Annex 1 birds are consistently maintained	Staff time	2015	Partnership agreement	Not yet determined	Forest Enterprise	Crown Estate (Rural), Natural England, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)

### 4 Hydrological changes

Part of Thursley, Ash Pirbright & Chobham SAC (Elstead Common) has evidence of damaging impacts due to drainage. Drains are also present on Thursley and Ockley Commons but it is not clear whether these are having adverse impacts - more research is needed here. This is becoming more urgent in the face of changing weather patterns and prolonged droughts but it is not clear at present what intervention, if any, should be put in place.

<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>
<b>4A</b>	Commission hydrological studies of Elstead, Ockley and Thursley Commons to determine whether drainage is having adverse impacts	£1,500	2015-18	Investigation / Research / Monitoring	Natural England	Natural England	Surrey Wildlife Trust, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)



<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>
<b>4B</b>	Commission hydrological studies of mires on Ash Ranges (inc Whitepatch Bog), to determine effects of past drainage and potential for habitat restoration	£1,500	2017-19	Investigation / Research / Monitoring	Natural England	Natural England	Surrey Wildlife Trust, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)
<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>
<b>4C</b>	Commission and implement mire restoration plans to bring these into favourable condition	£10,000	2018-21	Habitat creation / restoration strategy: Habitat restoration	Natural England	Natural England	Surrey Wildlife Trust, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)

## 5 Inappropriate scrub control

Ineffective or lack of scrub control affects some areas of dry and wet heath, especially at Colony Bog, Bourley and Long Valley. The absence of scrub management plans at most sites is of concern as it is often viewed as a negative aspect with little consideration given for its value to Annex 1 birds. There is also concern that scrub management is a constant, significant drain on resources - there is a need for investigation of options which give an economic return on scrub management.

<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>
<b>5A</b>	Implement programme of scrub clearance to reverse effects of encroachment of heathland to follow on from investigation of sustainable uses of arisings	Not yet determined	2017-25	Non-Natural England funded site management plan	Not yet determined	Natural England	Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust, Bracknell Forest Borough Council, Crown Estate (Rural), Forestry Commission, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, RSPB, Surrey County Council, Surrey Heath Borough Council, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Windsor and Maidenhead Royal Borough Council, Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust (ARCT)

## 6 Invasive species

Rhododendron and Gaultheria control is on-going in parts but difficult to control where access for management is constrained. It is unclear what the scale of threat is posed by piri-pri bur to open heathland but monitoring of its spread is desirable. Possibly more of a threat to dry heath than wet.

<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>
<b>6A</b>	Draw up invasive species control plans for all sites where these remain a problem or pose a significant threat, and agree implementation	Staff time	2015-20	Invasive Control Plan: Invasive Species Control Programme	Not yet determined	Natural England	Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)

## 7 Wildfire/ arson

Uncontrolled fires are very damaging as they can have profound impacts on reptile populations, invertebrates and plant diversity and can result in significant habitat loss for annex 1 birds. They can affect forestry areas as well as open heath. Damaging impacts can last for many years for example by the wholesale removal of all gorse from a site. Strategies are in place in parts of the complex to reduce risk but more attention is needed to properly address this issue. Increasing threat of extensive fires is of great concern to the fire services and there is a desire for greater link up between efforts to protect property and roads from fire, and habitat management.

<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>
<b>7A</b>	Completion of fire strategies and risk management plans for all sites and agree implementation in order to reduce fire risk	Staff time	2017-20	Non-Natural England funded site management plan	Not yet determined	Natural England	Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust, Forestry Commission, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO), Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service, Surrey Fire and Rescue Service, Wildfire, Horsell Common Preservation Society
<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>
<b>7B</b>	Undertake public fire awareness campaign	£3,000	2015-16	Advice: Education & awareness raising	Not yet determined	Natural England	Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust, Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service, Surrey Fire and Rescue Service, Wildfire, Horsell Common Preservation Society

<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>
<b>7C</b>	Embed wildfire mitigation and adaptation into local authority Local Development Plan policies	Not yet determined	2015-16	Advice	Not yet determined	Not yet determined	Forest Services, Hampshire County Council, Local Authorities, Natural England, Surrey County Council, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service , Surrey Fire and Rescue Service , South East England Wildfire Group

## 8 Air Pollution: impact of atmospheric nitrogen deposition

Nitrogen deposition exceeds the site-relevant critical load for ecosystem protection. The aerial pollution may be promoting changes in species composition of mires towards Molinia and sedge dominated systems rather than Sphagnum dominated; spread of Molinia into wet and dry heath also appears to be promoted by high nitrate levels. This is most likely to be a current issue at Chobham Common but may represent a chronic adverse impact over the complex as a whole.

<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>
<b>8A</b>	Control, reduce and ameliorate atmospheric nitrogen impacts	Not yet determined	2014-20	Site Nitrogen Action Plan	Not yet determined	Natural England	Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, Hampshire County Council, Natural England, Surrey Heath Borough Council, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)

## 9 Feature location/ extent/ condition unknown

There are significant gaps in the knowledge of key aspects such as where woodlarks are overwintering and whether these sites are in need of protection, and coverage of the complex in terms of monitoring of Annex 1 birds is not comprehensive so recorded bird numbers are not representative of total numbers. Also, current monitoring does not provide information on breeding success, only territory numbers.

<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>
<b>9A</b>	Establish sustainable long-term bird monitoring strategy which provides adequate coverage of all parts of both SPAs	£5,000	2015	Partnership agreement	Not yet determined	Natural England	Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, RSPB, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO), Surrey Bird Club
<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>
<b>9B</b>	Commission research to determine critical factors in the breeding success of woodlark in this complex, particularly focussing on possible effects of climate change and changing weather patterns	£4,000		Investigation / Research / Monitoring	Not yet determined	Natural England	RSPB

## 10 Military

None of the military training areas in the complex currently have integrated management plans which seek to integrate management of the estate for military training with nature conservation management. There is a need for improved communication between partners over common objectives.

<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>
<b>10A</b>	Completion of integrated management plans for all military training sites in the complex	Not yet determined	2015-20	Non-Natural England funded site management plan	Not yet determined	Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)	Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, Natural England, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust (ARCT)

## 11 Habitat fragmentation

Fragmentation of the complex means that recovery after devastating impacts such as fires and severe winters is restricted or prevented altogether. This has implications for the ability of species such as Dartford warbler, smooth snake, marsh clubmoss, specialist invertebrates to recolonise parts of the complex. There is currently high risk of local extinctions in parts of the complex because of this.

<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>
<b>11A</b>	Commission study to identify priorities for habitat management which reduces the adverse impacts of habitat fragmentation	£3,000	2015-20	Investigation / Research / Monitoring	Not yet determined	Natural England	Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust, Bracknell Forest Borough Council, Crown Estate (Rural), Forestry Commission, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, RSPB, Surrey Heath Borough Council, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust (ARCT)

## Site details

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

### Qualifying features

#UK Special responsibility

<b>Thames Basin Heaths SPA</b>	A224(B) <i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i> : European nightjar  A246(B) <i>Lullula arborea</i> : Woodlark A302(B) <i>Sylvia undata</i> : Dartford warbler
<b>Thursley, Ash, Pirbright &amp; Chobham SAC</b>	H4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i>  H4030 European dry heaths H7150 Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i>
<b>Thursley, Hankley &amp; Frensham Commons SPA</b>	A224(B) <i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i> : European nightjar  A246(B) <i>Lullula arborea</i> : Woodlark  A302(B) <i>Sylvia undata</i> : Dartford warbler

### Site location and links

#### Thames Basin Heaths SPA

Area (ha) <b>8274.72</b>	Grid reference <b>TQ560080</b>	<a href="#">Map link</a>
Local Authorities	Berkshire; Bracknell Forest; Hampshire; Surrey; Windsor and Maidenhead	
Site Conservation Objectives	<a href="#">European Site Conservation Objectives for Thames Basin Heaths SPA</a>	
European Marine Site conservation advice	<a href="#">n/a</a>	
Regulation 33/35 Package	<a href="#">n/a</a>	
Marine Management Organisation site plan	<a href="#">n/a</a>	

**Thursley, Ash, Pirbright & Chobham SAC**

Area (ha) **5138**      Grid reference **SU914411**      [Map link](#)

Local Authorities      Surrey

Site Conservation Objectives      [European Site Conservation Objectives for Thursley, Ash, Pirbright & Chobham SAC](#)

European Marine Site conservation advice      [n/a](#)

Regulation 33/35 Package      [n/a](#)

Marine Management Organisation site plan      [n/a](#)

**Thursley, Hankley & Frensham Commons SPA**

Area (ha) **1869.95**      Grid reference **SU910412**      [Map link](#)

Local Authorities      Surrey

Site Conservation Objectives      [European Site Conservation Objectives for Thursley, Hankley & Frensham Commons SPA](#)

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.

### Thames Basin Heaths SPA

River basin	<a href="#">Thames RBMP</a>
WFD Management catchment	Loddon, Lower Thames, Mole, Wey
WFD Waterbody ID (Cycle 2 draft)	GB106039017120, GB106039017170, GB106039017870, GB106039017920, GB106039017930, GB30643218, GB30643359

### Thursley, Ash, Pirbright & Chobham SAC

River basin	<a href="#">Thames RBMP</a>
WFD Management catchment	Loddon, Wey
WFD Waterbody ID (Cycle 2 draft)	GB106039017760, GB106039017780, GB106039017870, GB106039017920, GB30643943, GB30644031

### Thursley, Hankley & Frensham Commons SPA

River basin	<a href="#">Thames RBMP</a>
WFD Management catchment	Wey
WFD Waterbody ID (Cycle 2 draft)	GB106039017760, GB106039017780, GB30643943, GB30644031

## Overlapping or adjacent protected sites

Site(s) of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	
<b>Thames Basin Heaths SPA</b>	Chobham Common SSSI
	Eelmoor Marsh SSSI
	Horsell Common SSSI
	Hazeley Heath SSSI
	Ockham & Wisley Commons SSSI
	Whitmoor Common SSSI
	Colony Bog & Bagshot Heath SSSI
	Bramshill SSSI
	Ash to Brookwood Heaths SSSI
	Broadmoor to Bagshot Woods & Heaths SSSI
	Basingstoke Canal SSSI
	Bourley & Long Valley SSSI
	Castle Bottom to Yateley and Hawley Commons SSSI
	Sandhurst to Owlsmoor Bogs & Heaths SSSI
	<b>Thursley, Ash, Pirbright &amp; Chobham SAC</b>
Colony Bog & Bagshot Heath SSSI	
Chobham Common SSSI	
Thursley, Hankley & Frensham Commons SSSI	
Basingstoke Canal SSSI	
<b>Thursley, Hankley &amp; Frensham Commons SPA</b>	Thursley, Hankley & Frensham Commons SSSI
National Nature Reserve (NNR)	
<b>Thames Basin Heaths SPA</b>	Castle Bottom NNR
	Chobham Common NNR
<b>Thursley, Ash, Pirbright &amp; Chobham SAC</b>	Chobham Common NNR
	Thursley NNR

<b>Thursley, Hankley &amp; Frensham Commons SPA</b>	Thursley NNR
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### Ramsar

<b>Thames Basin Heaths SPA</b>	n/a
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<b>Thursley, Ash, Pirbright &amp; Chobham SAC</b>	Thursley & Ockley Bogs
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<b>Thursley, Hankley &amp; Frensham Commons SPA</b>	Thursley & Ockley Bogs
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### Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA)

<b>Thames Basin Heaths SPA</b>	Thursley, Ash, Pirbright & Chobham SAC
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<b>Thursley, Ash, Pirbright &amp; Chobham SAC</b>	Thursley, Hankley & Frensham Commons SPA
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	Thames Basin Heaths SPA
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<b>Thursley, Hankley &amp; Frensham Commons SPA</b>	Thursley, Ash, Pirbright & Chobham SAC
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<i>Version</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1.0	03/11/2014	

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