

DARTMOOR MID TERM ENVIRONMENTAL STOCKTAKE

Monitoring

In agreeing to MOD negotiating a new licence for 21 years from the Duchy of Cornwall, DEFRA "asked the Ministry of Defence to provide a report at the mid-point, which would be a stocktake of the training areas environmental management system, which includes environmental management tools and monitoring, usage data and public access. It will not include a further justification of continuing military need. During the stocktake the Ministry of Defence will consult with relevant stakeholders." (Hansard: 27 Jan 2008 Column 11WS).

Nigel Sharpe
Senior Estate Surveyor
Defence Infrastructure Organisation

(Updated 22 Nov 2019)

THEME	WHAT	HOW	FREQUENCY	LEAD (PARTNERS)	ISSUES, RISKS, CONDITIONS	PROGRESS	ACTIONS	COMMENTS	DATE CLOSED
Military Usage, Data & Recording	Military usage data including Live Firing, Dry Training and overall man training days per training area unit	Collation of booking and range use data	Monthly statistics reported annually to the Dartmoor Steering Group via Dartmoor Working Party	MOD	Military usage must not exceed licence conditions	On target	Continue to report data (DIO)	Licence limitations not exceeded	
Biodiversity	Breeding Bird Survey	Repeat 2006 RSPB survey methodology (reduced scope)	Target to undertake 2 x surveys prior to MTST (2022)	MOD (RSPB, DNPA, NE)		Meeting DIO (ES & C), DIO LMS & DNPA 17 Oct 16, it was agreed to jointly undertake Breeding Bird Survey with DNPA to include Mires Project sites and MoD Training Area in 2018		Report completed and distributed to DSG members June 2019	04/09/2019
	SSSI / SAC Common Standards Monitoring	Reactive or on NE rolling programme	Unknown	NE	NE Resources	DIO (ES & C) meeting with NE to discuss national programme of condition assessments	DIO (ES & C) to request NE perspective on Dartmoor SSSI condition monitoring	NE have identified resources to undertake site checks at SSSI Compartments 87 (Forest-2B North) and 88 (Forest-Amicombe) in July 2019 plus a set of further plots within the Forest of Dartmoor in order to ascertain favourable conditions now and at the end of the schemes in 2024	
	BAP Species; Contribute to monitoring and/or habitat works relating to BAP or locally significant indicator species	DNPA (and other partners) staff to work with DIO staff to develop bids for CSF MoD to make a scaled contribution to agreed projects that cover the DTA	As agreed with partners	MoD, DNPA (RSPB, NE)	Funding risk through annularity and priorities within DIO Conservation Stewardship Fund (CSF)	DIO/DNPA meeting Feb 16, DNPA agreed to put forward suggestions for CSF projects. MoD Currently supporting trial plots for Ring Ouzel at Standon and East Mill Tor through provision of vehicles and helo. MoD contributed funding to initial Ring Ouzel surveys. Data received by MoD. Dunlin Monitoring through PR14 (DNPA) until 2019. MoD contribution of £4K towards Dunlin monitoring in 2016. DIO represented at Peatland Partnership meetings. MoD contribution of £2.5K for 2016 and £3K in 2017.	DNPA to propose and discuss CSF projects with DIO specialists; this to include details of DNPA/RSPB Ring Ouzel trial site monitoring and any additional funding or logistics. DNPA/RSPB to provide details and results of Dunlin monitoring to date. MoD to be members of the Moorland Birds Initiative Advisory Group. DNPA proposed that DIO should prioritise support to the Peatland Partnership. MoD contribution of £2.5K (2016) and £3K (2017).	DNPA suggest key species as being Ring Ouzel and Dunlin within DTA.	
Air Quality	Monitoring of air quality in relation to military training.				Insignificant risk or impact so screened out.			Agreed by DWP.	
Water Quality	Utilise any existing data relating to water quality emerging from DTA catchment monitoring.	Water Framework Directive (WFD) Monitoring		Environment Agency (MoD)		DIO/EA meeting Feb 2017. EA monitor ecological and chemical quality of water within water bodies.	MoD to identify water bodies relevant to DTA.	WFD quality assessment of water bodies updated annually. No military issues identified. WFD reporting at http://environment.data.gov.uk/catchment-planning	
		Upstream Thinking Project		TBC - Data from Devon Wildlife Trust/DNPA/SWW/ Exeter Uni	Existing monitoring may identify data relevant to mid term stocktake.	Under development.	DWP to ascertain if relevant data exists.	MoD to liaise with Richard Brazier, University of Exeter - in hand. Meeting held 19 July 2019 with Tom Dauben regarding reduction of water runoff in Tavy catchment.	
Archaeology	Condition surveys of all scheduled archaeology within the DTA	Archaeological condition surveys of Scheduled Monuments undertaken by independent professional archaeologist	Rolling programme of quinquennial surveys incorporating Willsworthy, Okehampton, Merrivale, Cramber and Ringmoor	MoD		Cramber Survey complete in 2012/13 2017. Merrivale complete in 2010/11 Complete 17/18. Ringmoor complete in 2010/11 Complete 17/18. Willsworthy complete in 2012/13 Complete 18/19.	All reports to be shared with DWP, Historic England and landowners.	Rolling programme is on target. Willsworthy report completed. Okehampton Range due FY 2019/20.	

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Public Access and Perception of Military Use	Monitor and improve, where feasible, quality of access to DTA and perceptions of users of the National Park to military activity.	MoD contribute to an initiative that DNPA and the National Trust are leading on to develop a common approach to visitor surveys across Dartmoor. Under this option MoD could pay for the insertion of relevant questions on a periodic basis. Multi-agency visitor, agency visitor surveys across the National Park with a set of common questions that could include military training. Results will assist with monitoring the National Park Management Plan and contribute to the mid-term stock take.	TBC	DNPA/NT (MoD)	Funding risk through annularity and priorities within DIO Conservation Stewardship Fund (CSF). CSF bids must be prepared for submission to DIO in September each year.	Complete.	DNPA/NT to update MoD on survey details and progress in time for funding bids. MoD to agree military question set.	DNPA 2017 Visitor survey report received Oct 2019. Cramber re-survey dates 20-22 July and 28-28 October 2017. Report has been issued to DNPA September 2018.	DNPA Report received Oct 2019	
		Utilise other sources/survey of public access and perceptions to inform the MTST.	As available	MoD		Cramber Tor visitor surveys undertaken as part of Cramber Tor Planning Applications, captures wider perceptions of military training. DNPA management plan survey also reports on public perception of military training on Dartmoor.	MoD to compile and maintain register of relevant reports/surveys.	MoD will draw together list of surveys held by MoD. All other bodies will be approached by MoD for relevant reports/surveys held by them. List of surveys/reports on all subjects held by DIO in Devonport issued July 2018 and distributed at DWP on 6 September 2019.		
		Resolve erosion caused by public access pressure at Prison Corner Newtake and Cowsic	One off project	MoD (DNPA, Duchy)			Complete	MoD to lead delivery of project solution.	Granite causeways laid in 2017 at Prison Newtake Corner and Cowsic. Further improvements at Cowsic undertaken in 2019.	
		Prepare information film explaining military training on Dartmoor for delivery at DNPA High Moorland Visitor Centre (HMVC)	One off project	MoD/DNPA			Complete	MoD to source funding and filming unit.	Film is now being shown at Dartmoor High Moorland Visitor Centre. Complete.	
		Wildfire Partnership		Devon Fire & Rescue / Commoners / DNPA / MOD			Development of maps being undertaken with suggested firebreaks. Review of firefighting kit.			
		Record all compliments and complaints reported to MoD and DNPA relating to DTA.	Reported to DWP and collated annually for presentation to the Dartmoor Steering Group.	MoD/DNPA			Formal reporting form agreed and provided to DNPA. All reports discussed, resolved (when required) and minuted at DWP.	Continue to report at DWP.	Reported at DWP meetings.	
Additional Monitoring Sources	Farming Futures Monitoring - Dartmoor Forest	DFF Forest outcomes methodology and monitoring reports.		Dartmoor Commoners, NE (MoD)	DFF monitoring may identify reporting areas relevant to MTST report.	MoD have received copy of DFF monitoring table.	Dartmoor Commoners to provide update on progress in order to enable DWP to ascertain if relevant data exists or is likely to be collated.	Farming Future Monitoring methodology received.	04/09/2019	
Integrated Management Planning	Dartmoor Training Area Integrated Rural Management Plan 2010-2020	Undertake annual review of IRMP action table and 5 year review of component plans to inform Conservation Stewardship Fund (CSF) bids and future environmental management across DTA.	Annual	MoD	5 year review due 2015.	Action plan reviewed annually and reported to each DWP.	5 year review of components to be drafted by end of 2016/2017 financial year.	Review in progress. Text drafted and mapping provided by Landmarc on CD.		