# England Coast Path Stretch: **Newquay to Penzance**



Report NQP 5: Clodgy Point to Pendeen Watch

## Part 5.1: Introduction

Start Point: Clodgy Point (grid reference: SW 5064 4127)

End Point: Pendeen Watch (grid reference: SW 3796 3580)

Relevant Maps: NQP 5a to NQP 5j

- 5.1.1 This is one of a series of linked but legally separate reports published by Natural England under section 51 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, which make proposals to the Secretary of State for improved public access along and to this stretch of coast between Newquay and Penzance.
- 5.1.2 This report covers length NQP 5 of the stretch, which is the coast between Clodgy Point and Pendeen Watch. It makes free-standing statutory proposals for this part of the stretch, and seeks approval for them by the Secretary of State in their own right under section 52 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949.
- 5.1.3 The report explains how we propose to implement the England Coast Path ("the trail") on this part of the stretch, and details the likely consequences in terms of the wider 'Coastal Margin' that will be created if our proposals are approved by the Secretary of State. Our report also sets out:
  - any proposals we think are necessary for restricting or excluding coastal access rights to address particular issues, in line with the powers in the legislation; and
  - any proposed powers for the trail to be capable of being relocated on particular sections ("roll-back"), if this proves necessary in the future because of coastal change.
- 5.1.4 There is also a single Overview document for the whole of this stretch of coast, explaining common principles and background. This and the other individual reports relating to the stretch should be read in conjunction with the Overview. The Overview explains, among other things, how we have considered any potential environmental impacts of improving public access to this part of the coast, and this report, and other separately published assessments we refer to, then provides more detail on these aspects where appropriate.

## Part 5.2: Proposals Narrative

### The trail:

- 5.2.1 Follows the existing South West Coast Path as currently walked and managed along most of this length. See maps NQP 5a to NQP 5j and table 5.3.1 below for more details.
- 5.2.2 Differs from the existing South West Coast Path at Hellesveor Cliff and Hor Point (route sections NQP-5-S003 to NQP-5-S004). This new route follows a more seaward walked path and public footpath. See map NQP 5a and table 5.3.2 below for more details.
- 5.2.3 Generally follows the coastline quite closely over this length and maintains good views of the sea.

#### The South West Coast Path

5.2.4 The South West Coast Path (SWCP) generally follows the coast over this length and for the most part we propose adopting the walked line of this route as the line of the England Coast Path. However, there are places where we have proposed improvements to the existing route line, and furthermore there may be places where the walked line differs slightly from the route originally approved by the Secretary of State, as the path has evolved over time to cope with coastal erosion and other processes. In both situations, as explained at part 6a of the Overview, assuming these proposals are approved we intend to use a separate variation report to the Secretary of State to change the route of the existing national trail to reflect the approved line of the England Coast Path insofar as the two are different.

#### Protection of the environment:

In this part of the report, we explain how we have taken account of environmental protection objectives in developing our proposals for improved coastal access.

- 5.2.5 The following designated sites affect this length of coast:
  - Land's End and Cape Bank Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
  - Aire Point to Carrick Du Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) for its geological and wildlife interest.
  - Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site (WHS)
  - Medieval chapel called Chapel Jane Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM)
  - Trereen Dinas promontory fort Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM)
  - Bosigran Castle promontory fort Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM)
  - Watermill near Bosigran Castle Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM)

Maps C and D in the Overview show the extent of designated areas along this stretch of coast, including SACs, SSSIs and Scheduled Monuments.

- 5.2.6 We consider that the coastal environment along this length of coast, including features of the sites listed above, is unlikely to be sensitive to the improvements to coastal access envisaged and that no special measures are needed in respect of our proposals.
- 5.2.7 Natural England is satisfied that the proposals for coastal access in this report are made in accordance with relevant environmental protection legislation. In respect of cultural heritage, we have taken advice from Historic England and others before confirming this conclusion. For more information

about how we came to this conclusion see the following assessments of the access proposals that we have published separately:

- A Habitats Regulations Assessment relating to any potential impact on the conservation objectives of European sites.
- Our Nature Conservation Assessment, in which we document our conclusions in relation to other potential impacts on nature conservation.

Part 6b of the Overview includes some contextual information about protecting the environment along this length of coast.

#### Accessibility:

- 5.2.8 There are some artificial barriers to accessibility on the proposed route, these include stiles at various points throughout this length including at Treveal Cliff, Porthmeor Cliff, Trevean Cliff and Tregaminion Cliff. There are also stepping stones Tremedda Cliff, Carn Moyle Cliff and Morvah Cliff.
- 5.2.9 The natural coastal terrain is often challenging for people with reduced mobility and this is the case on sections of our proposed route because:
  - The trail would follow an uneven grass or bare soil path along the cliff top for the entirety of this length;
  - The trail is undulating, exposed and narrow in places with steep slopes;
  - There are steep gradients in places with steps, for example at Zennor Cliff, Trewey Cliff and Chyrose Cliff where it would be necessary to ascend or descend the slopes.

See part 6a of the Overview - 'Recreational issues' - for more information.

#### Where we have proposed exercising statutory discretions:

- 5.2.10 **Landward boundary of the coastal margin**: We have used our discretion on some sections of the route to map the landward extent of the coastal margin to an adjacent physical boundary such as a fence line, pavement or track to make the extent of the new access rights clearer. See tables 5.3.1 and 5.3.2 below
- 5.2.11 In some places, we have used our discretion to propose the inclusion of additional, more extensive landward areas within the coastal margin, to secure or enhance public enjoyment of this part of the coast. The owner of this land is content for us to propose this. See maps NQP 5a, NQP 5c to NQP 5e, NQP 5g and NQP 5h and tables 5.3.1 and 5.3.2 below for more details.
- 5.2.12 The Proposals Tables show where we are proposing to alter the default landward boundary of the coastal margin. These proposals are set out in columns 4b and 4c of table 5.3.1 and columns 5b and 5c of table 5.3.2. Where these columns are left blank, we are making no such proposals, so the default landward boundary applies. See the notes relating to these columns above tables 5.3.1 and 5.3.2 explaining what this means in practice.

See also part 3 of the Overview - 'Understanding the proposals and accompanying maps', for a more detailed explanation of the default extent of the coastal margin and how we may use our discretion to adjust the margin, either to add land or to provide clarity.

5.2.13 **Coastal erosion:** Natural England is able to propose that the route of the trail would be able to change in the future, without further approval from the Secretary of State, in response to coastal change.

This would happen in accordance with the criteria and procedures for 'roll-back' set out in part 7 of the Overview.

Natural England may only propose the use of this roll-back power:

- as a result of coastal erosion or other geomorphological processes or encroachment by the sea, or
- in order to link with other parts of the route that need to roll back in direct
- response to such changes.
- 5.2.14 Column 3 of table 5.3.1 and column 4 of table 5.3.2 indicate where roll-back has been proposed in relation to a route section. Where this is the case, the route, as initially determined at the time the report was prepared, is to be at the centre of the line shown on maps NQP 5a to NQP 5g and NQP 5j as the proposed route of the trail.
- 5.2.15 If at any time in the future any part of a route section upon which roll-back has been specified needs, in Natural England's view, to change in order for the overall route to remain viable, the new route for the part in question will be determined by Natural England without further reference to the Secretary of State. This will be done in accordance with the criteria and procedures described under the title 'Roll-back' in part 7 of the Overview and section 4.10 of the Coastal Access Scheme. If this happens, the new route will become the approved route for that section for the purposes of the Order which determines where coastal access rights apply.

On sections for which roll-back is <u>not</u> proposed in table 5.3.1, the route is to be at the centre of the line shown on maps NQP 5a and NQP 5e to NQP 5j as the proposed route of the trail.

## Other future change:

5.2.16 At this point we do not foresee any other need for future changes to the access provisions that we have proposed within this report.

See parts 7 - 'Future changes' of the Overview for more information.

#### Establishment of the trail:

5.2.17 Below we summarise how our proposed route for the trail would be physically established to make it ready for public use before any new rights come into force.

Establishment works will only start on this length of coast once these proposals have been approved by the Secretary of State. The works may therefore either precede or follow the start of establishment works on other lengths of coast within the stretch, and detailed in their separate reports.

- 5.2.18 Our estimate of the capital costs for physical establishment of the trail on the proposed route is £460 and is informed by:
  - information already held by the access authority, Cornwall Council, in relation to the management of the existing South West Coast Path;
  - the conclusions of our deliberations in relation to potential impacts on the environment; and

- information gathered while visiting affected land and talking to the people who own and manage it about the options for the route.
- 5.2.19 There is one main element to the overall cost:
  - A number of new signs would be needed on the trail, in particular on route sections where the proposed route differs from that of the existing South West Coast Path.

The surfaces and access furniture of the existing paths and footways on the proposed route are generally of a suitable standard for the trail.

Table 1 shows our estimate of the capital cost for each of the main elements of physical establishment described above.

#### **Table 1: Estimate of capital costs**

Item	Cost
Signs and interpretation	£400
Project management	£60

Total £460 (Exclusive of any VAT payable)

5.2.20 Once the Secretary of State's decision on our report has been notified, and further to our conversations with land managers during the route planning stage, Cornwall Council will liaise with affected land owners and occupiers about relevant aspects of the design, installation and maintenance of the new signs and infrastructure that are needed on their land. Prior to works being carried out on the ground, all necessary permissions, authorisations and consents will be obtained. All such works would conform to the published standards for National Trails and the other criteria described in our Coastal Access Scheme.

#### Maintenance of the trail:

- 5.2.21 Because the trail on this length of coast will form part of the National Trail being created around the whole coast of England called the England Coast Path, we envisage that it will be maintained to the same high quality standards as other National Trails in England (see The New Deal; Management of National Trails in England from April 2013: details at Annex A of the Overview).
- 5.2.22 We estimate that the annual cost to maintain the trail will be £14,511.40 (exclusive of any VAT payable). In developing this estimate we have taken account of the formula used to calculate Natural England's contribution to the maintenance of other National Trails.

## Part 5.3: Proposals Tables

See Part 3 of Overview for guidance on reading and understanding the tables below

## 5.3.1 Details for sections that follow the existing South West Coast Path - Maps NQP 5a to NQP 5j: Clodgy Point to Pendeen Watch

Key notes on table:

- 1. Column 2 an asterisk (\*) against the route section number means see also table 5.3.3: Other options considered.
- 2. Column 3 'No' means no roll-back is proposed for this route section. 'Yes normal' means roll-back is proposed and is likely to follow the current feature (e.g. cliff edge/beach) for the foreseeable future as any coastal change occurs.
- 3. Column 4a Certain coastal land types are included automatically in the coastal margin where they fall landward of the trail if they touch it at some point. The relevant land type (foreshore, cliff, bank, barrier, dune, beach, flat or section 15 land see Glossary) is shown in this column where appropriate. "No" means none present on this route section.
- 4. Columns 4b and 4c Any entry in these columns means we are proposing to align the landward boundary of the coastal margin on this route section with the physical feature(s) shown in 4b, for the reason in 4c. No text here means that for this route section the landward edge of the margin would be that of the trail itself or if any default coastal land type is shown in 4a, that would be its landward boundary instead.

1	2	3	4a	4b	4c	5
Map(s)	Route section number(s)	Roll-back proposed? (See Part 7 of Overview)	Landward margin contains coastal land type?	Proposal to specify landward boundary of margin (See maps)	Reason for landward boundary proposal	Explanatory notes
NQP 5a	NQP-5-S001 & NQP-5-S002	Yes - Normal	No			Detail of any roll back subject to SSSI assent
	NQP-5-S005	No	No			
	NQP-5-S006 & NQP-5-S007	No	No	Hedge bank	Additional landward area	
NQP 5b	NQP-5-S008 to NQP-5-S011	Yes - Normal	No			Detail of any roll back subject to SSSI assent
NQP 5c	NQP-5-S012	Yes - Normal	No	Hedge bank	Additional landward area	Detail of any roll back subject to SSSI assent
	NQP-5-S013	Yes - Normal	No			Detail of any roll back subject to SSSI assent
NQP 5d	NQP-5-S014	Yes - Normal	No			Detail of any roll back subject to SSSI assent
	NQP-5-S015	Yes - Normal	No	Hedge bank	Additional landward area	Detail of any roll back subject to SSSI assent
	NQP-5-S016 to NQP-5-S018	Yes - Normal	No			Detail of any roll back subject to SSSI assent
	NQP-5-S019 & NQP-5-S020	Yes - Normal	No	Hedge bank	Additional landward area	Detail of any roll back subject to SSSI assent

1	2	3	4a	4b	4c	5
Map(s)	Route section number(s)	Roll-back proposed? (See Part 7 of Overview)	Landward margin contains coastal land type?	Proposal to specify landward boundary of margin (See maps)	Reason for landward boundary proposal	Explanatory notes
	NQP-5-S021	Yes - Normal	No			Detail of any roll back subject to SSSI assent
NQP 5e	NQP-5-S022 to NQP-5-S030	Yes - Normal	No			Detail of any roll back subject to SSSI assent
	NQP-5-S031	Yes - Normal	No	Fence line	Additional landward area	Detail of any roll back subject to SSSI assent
	NQP-5-S032 & NQP-5-S033	Yes - Normal	Yes - s15 land			Detail of any roll back subject to SSSI assent
	NQP-5-S034 & NQP-5-S035	No	No			
NQP 5f	NQP-5-S036 & NQP-5-S037	No	Yes - s15 land			
	NQP-5-S038	Yes - Normal	Yes - s15 land			Detail of any roll back subject to SSSI assent
	NQP-5-S039 to NQP-5-S042	Yes - Normal	No			Detail of any roll back subject to SSSI assent
	NQP-5-S043	No	No			
	NQP-5-S044	Yes - Normal	No			Detail of any roll back subject to SSSI assent
	NQP-5-S045	No	No			
NQP 5g	NQP-5-S046	Yes - Normal	No	Hedge bank	Additional landward area	Detail of any roll back subject to SSSI assent
	NQP-5-S047 & NQP-5-S048	No	No	Hedge bank	Additional landward area	
NQP 5h	NQP-5-S049	No	Yes - s15 land			
	NQP-5-S050	No	No	Hedge bank	Additional landward area	
	NQP-5-S051	No	No	Seaward edge of road	Additional landward area	
	NQP-5-S052	No	Yes - s15 land			
	NQP-5-S053	No	No	Hedge bank	Additional landward area	
	NQP-5-S054	No	No			
NQP 5i	NQP-5-S055 & NQP-5-S056	No	No			
NQP 5j	NQP-5-S057 & NQP-5-S058	Yes - Normal	No			Detail of any roll back subject to SSSI assent
	NQP-5-S059	Yes - Normal	No	Path	Clarity and cohesion	Detail of any roll back subject to SSSI assent

1	2	3	4a	4b	4c	5
Map(s)	Route section number(s)	Roll-back proposed? (See Part 7 of Overview)	Landward margin contains coastal land type?	Proposal to specify landward boundary of margin (See maps)	Reason for landward boundary proposal	Explanatory notes
	NQP-5-S060 to NQP-5-S063	Yes - Normal	No			Detail of any roll back subject to SSSI assent
	NQP-5-S064 & NQP-5-S065	Yes - Normal	No			
	NQP-5-S066	No	No			
	NQP-5-S067	No	No	Landward edge of road	Clarity and cohesion	

# 5.3.2 Details for sections that differ from the existing South West Coast Path - Map NQP 5a: Clodgy Point to Trowan Cliff

Key notes on table:

- 1. Column 2 an asterisk (\*) against the route section number means see also table 5.3.3: Other options considered.
- 2. Column 4 'No' means no roll-back is proposed for this route section. 'Yes normal' means roll-back is proposed and is likely to follow the current feature (e.g. cliff edge/beach) for the foreseeable future as any coastal change occurs.
- 3. Column 5a Certain coastal land types are included automatically in the coastal margin where they fall landward of the trail if they touch it at some point. The relevant land type (foreshore, cliff, bank, barrier, dune, beach, flat or section 15 land see Glossary) is shown in this column where appropriate. "No" means none present on this route section.
- 4. Columns 5b and 5c Any entry in these columns means we are proposing to align the landward boundary of the coastal margin on this route section with the physical feature(s) shown in 5b, for the reason in 5c. No text here means that for this route section the landward edge of the margin would be that of the trail itself or if any default coastal land type is shown in 5a, that would be its landward boundary instead.

1	2	3	4	5a	5b	5c	6
Map(s)	Route section number(s)	Current status of route section(s)	Roll-back proposed? (See Part 7 of Overview)		Proposal to specify landward boundary of margin (See maps)	Reason for landward boundary proposal	Explanatory notes
NQP 5a	NQP-5-S003*	Public footpath	Yes - Normal	No	Hedge bank	Additional landward area	Detail of any roll back subject to SSSI assent
	NQP-5-S004*	Other existing walked route	Yes - Normal	No	Hedge bank	Additional landward area	Detail of any roll back subject to SSSI assent

### 5.3.3 Other options considered: Maps 5a - Clodgy Point to Trowan Cliff

Map(s)	Route section numbers(s)	Other option(s) considered	Reasons for not proposing this option
NQP 5a	NQP-5-S003 to NQP-5-S004	At Hor Point and Hellesveor Cliff we considered following the route of the South West Coast Path.	<ul> <li>We opted for the proposed route because:</li> <li>it follows an existing walked path and public footpath which are closer to the sea and provide good sea views;</li> <li>we concluded that overall the proposed route struck the best balance in terms of the criteria described in chapter 4 of the Coastal Access Scheme;</li> <li>under our proposals, the current SWCP route would remain available for people to use as part of the landward spreading room, but would not form part of the designated trail.</li> </ul>

Note: Any public rights of way not forming part of the proposed trail would remain available for people to use under their pre-existing rights.

## Part 5.4: Proposal maps

## 5.4.1 Map Index

Map reference	Map title
NQP 5a	Clodgy Point to Trowan Cliff
NQP 5b	Trevalgan Cliff to Trevega Cliff
NQP 5c	Trevega Cliff to Wicca Cliff
NQP 5d	Wicca Cliff to Zennor Head
NQP 5e	Carn Cobba to Treen Cove
NQP 5f	Treen Cove to Carn Moyle Cliff
NQP 5g	Carn Moyle Cliff to Rosemergy Cliff
NQP 5h	Rosemergy Cliff to Morvah Cliff
NQP 5i	Tregaminion Cliff to Portheras Cove
NQP 5j	Portheras Cove to Pendeen Watch

#### **PROPOSALS**

#### **Trail Sections**

Trail using existing public right of way or highway

Trail using other existing walked route

Trail not using existing walked route

Trail shown on other maps

Maps that show sections of the trail that follow the existing South West Coast Path as currently walked and managed use the following trail categories. Information on the existing status and infrastructure is not shown.

Trail using existing

South West Coast Path

Alternative or optional alternative route using existing South West Coast Path

Trail sections which follow existing public rights of way or highways are indicated by a suffix:

BW - Public bridleway

BY - Public byway

CP - Cycletrack (pedestrian)

CT - Cycletrack (cycles only)

FP - Public footpath

FW - Public footway (Pavement)

RB - Restricted byway

RD - Public road

#### **Coastal Margin**

Explanatory note

Part 3 of the Overview to the report explains where the landward boundary of the coastal margin falls by default. Our proposals include any suggested variation of this default boundary. The purple wash on the map indicates where as a result of our proposals the coastal margin would extend significantly to the landward side of the proposed route of the trail. The coastal margin may include some areas where coastal cacess rights do not apply, either seaward or landward of the proposed route of the trail: the Overview explains more about this. The landward boundary of the coastal margin may in due course move inland, if the trail rolls back under proposals in this report to respond to coastal change.



Coastal margin landward of the trail



Coastal margin landward of the trail which is existing access land

#### Other Information

Other access rights and routes

Public bridleways
Public byways
Public footpaths

Restricted byways

South West Coast Path
Sustrans national routes

Existing access land

#### Infrastructure types

For status of each, where shown on map, see colour codes below

Bridges: Stiles: Gates: Ladder stile Bristol gate Clapper bridge Lift-up stile 🙀 Field gate Footbridge Gateway with no gate Quad bike bridge Squeeze stile Sleeper bridge Kissing gate Step stile Vehicle bridge Pedestrian gate Stone stile Wheelchair gate Miscellaneous: Cycle chicane Barrier Interpretation panel Boardwalk Drainage Ramp Bollard Drop-kerb Revetment Cattle grid Gap in fence Stepping stones

#### Infrastructure status

Each symbol shown on the map is colour coded as appropriate, as in this example for a set of steps:

Hurdle

Steps

Existing steps to be retained

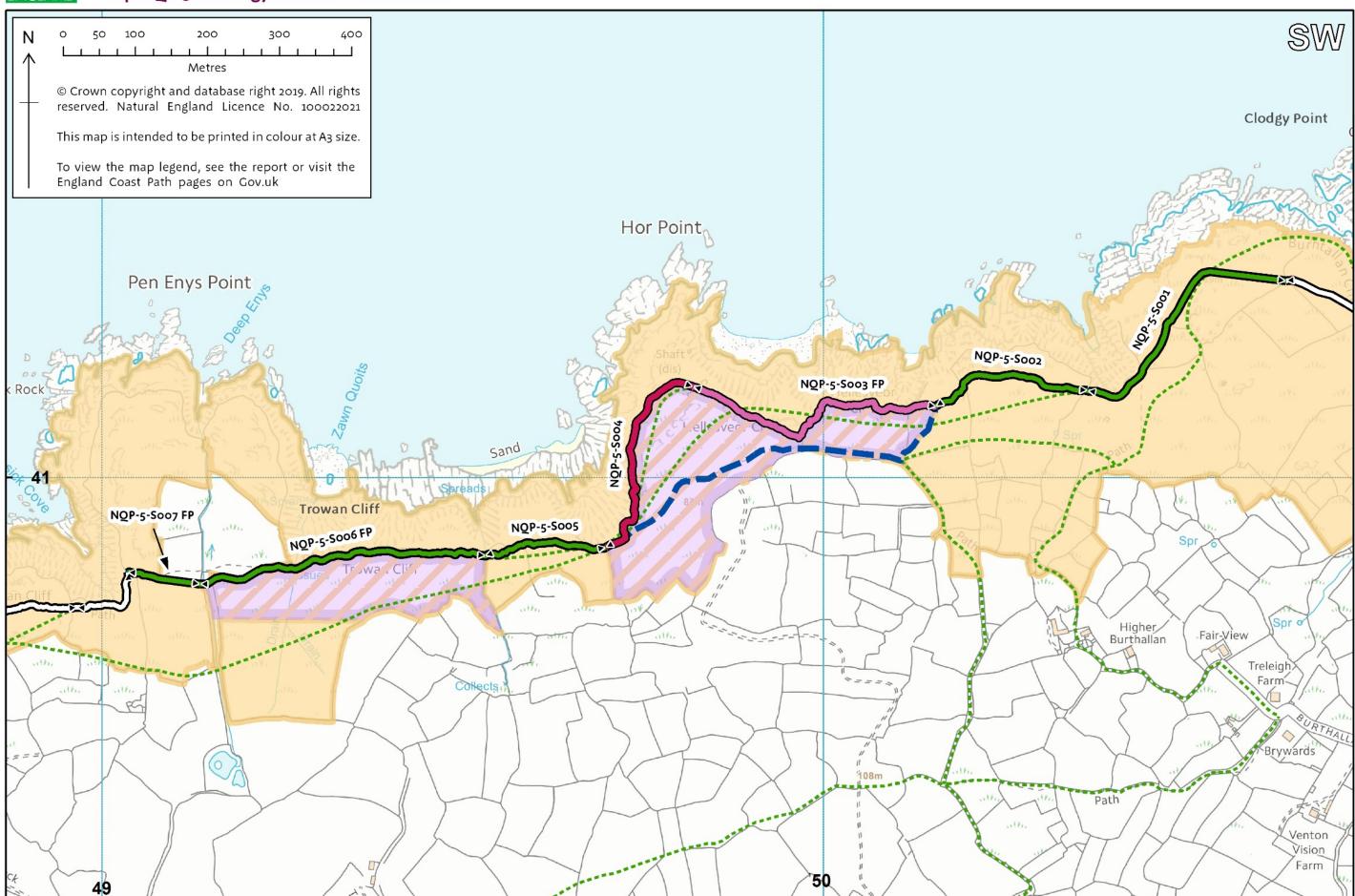
Culvert

New steps required

Existing steps to be removed

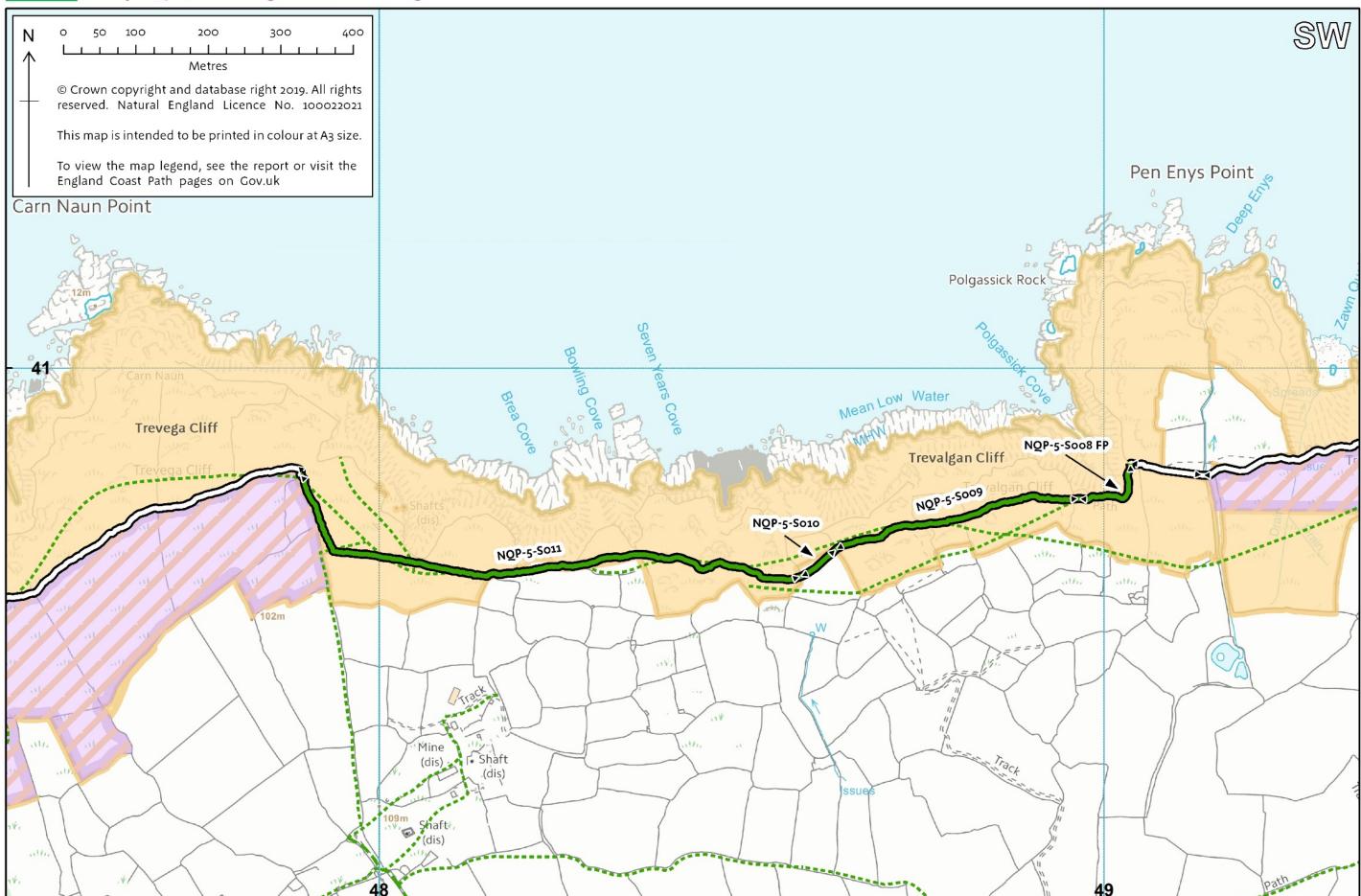


## Map NQP 5a: Clodgy Point to Trowan Cliff

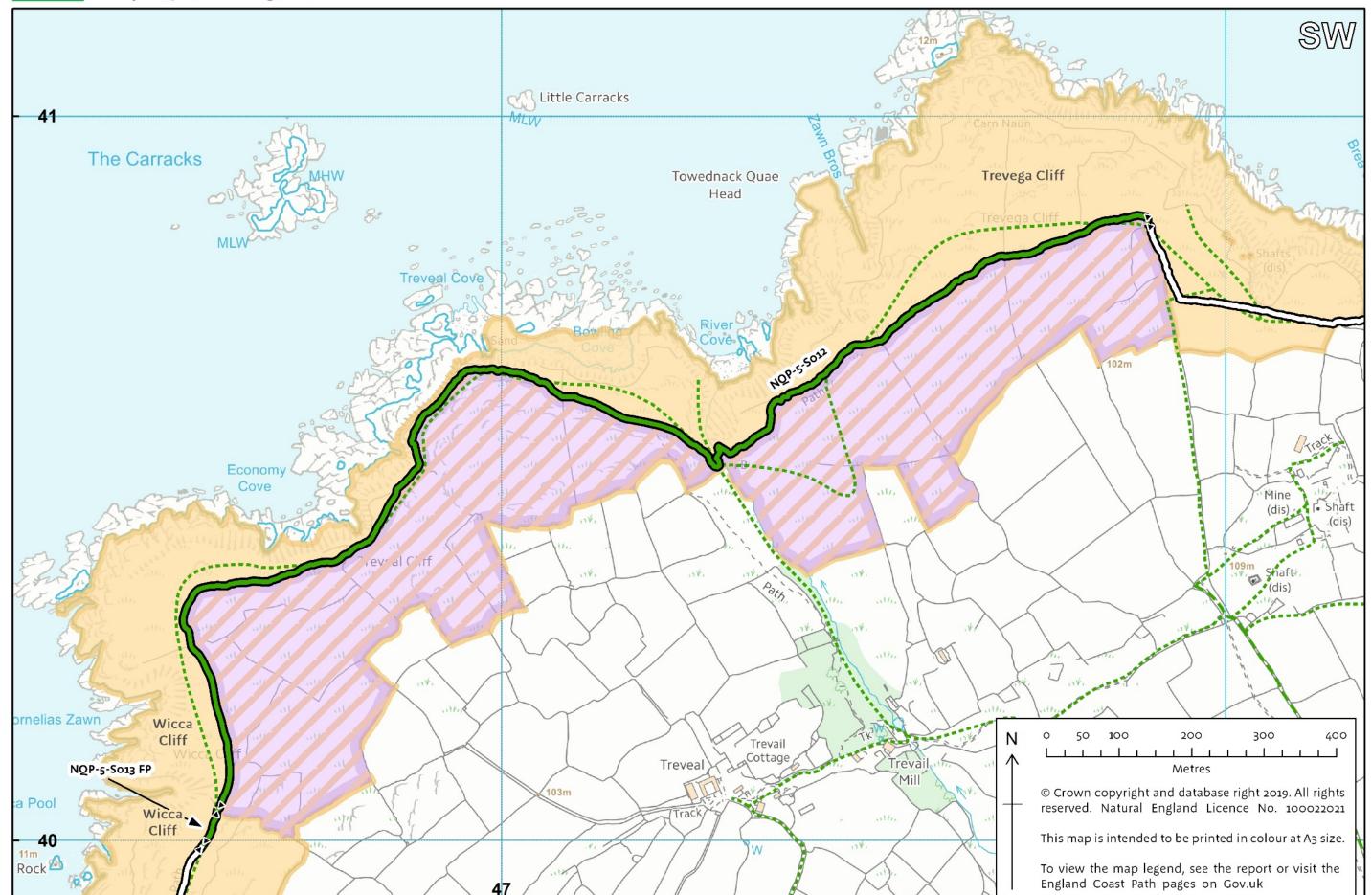




## Map NQP 5b: Trevalgan Cliff to Trevega Cliff



Map NQP 5c: Trevega Cliff to Wicca Cliff

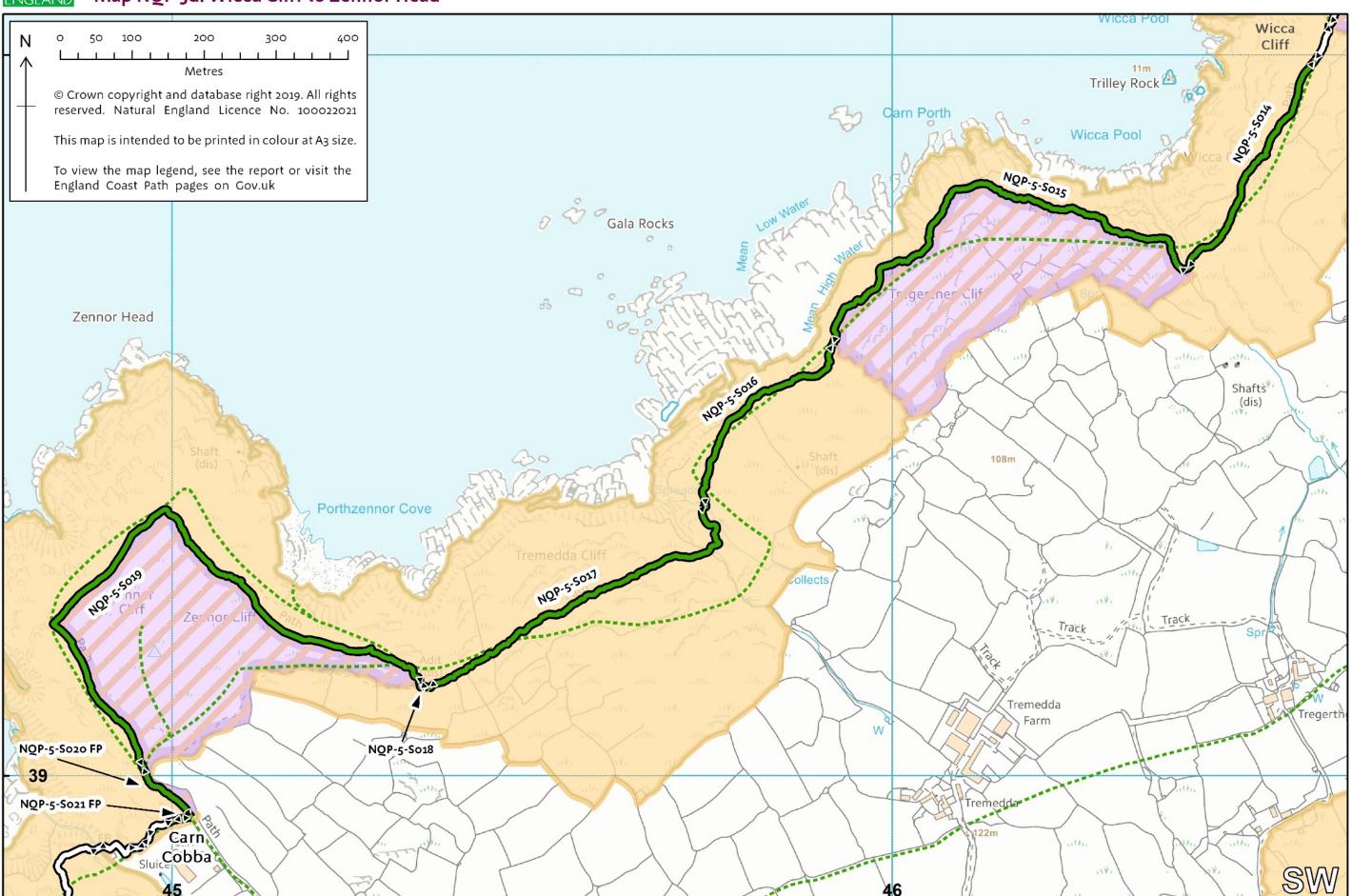




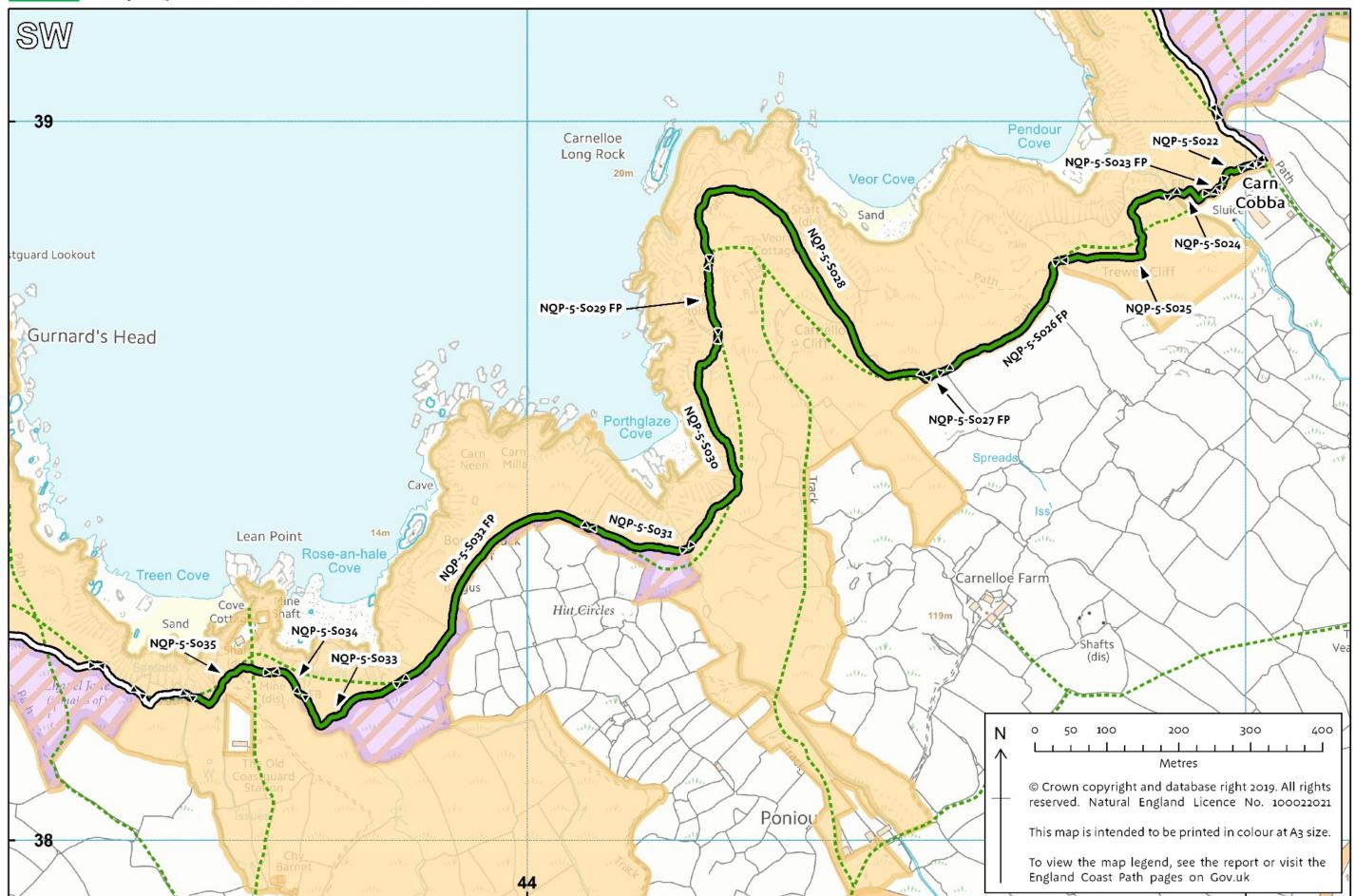
Coastal Access - Newquay to Penzance - Natural England's Proposals

Report NQP 5: Clodgy Point to Pendeen Watch

## Map NQP 5d: Wicca Cliff to Zennor Head

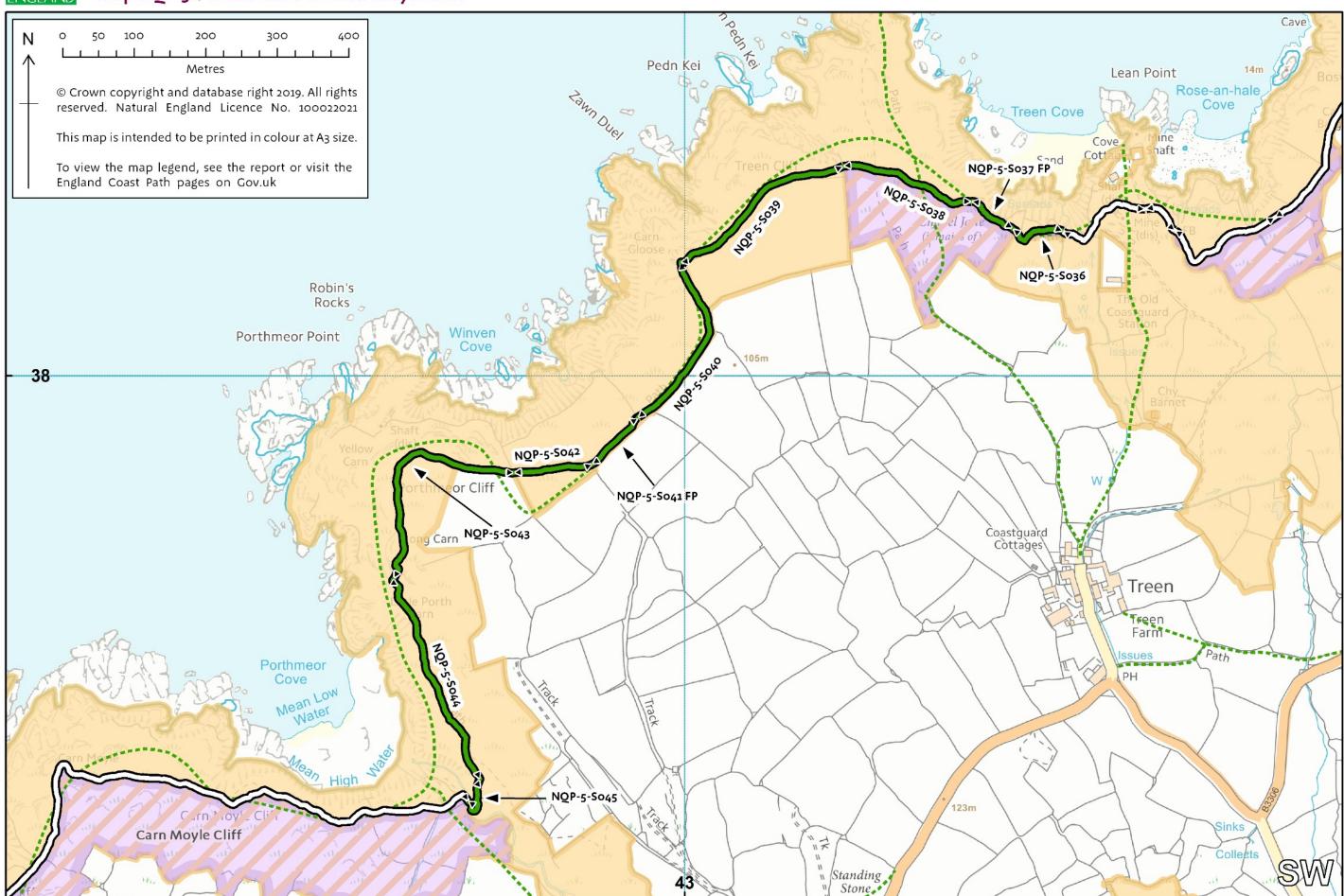


Map NQP 5e: Carn Cobba to Treen Cove



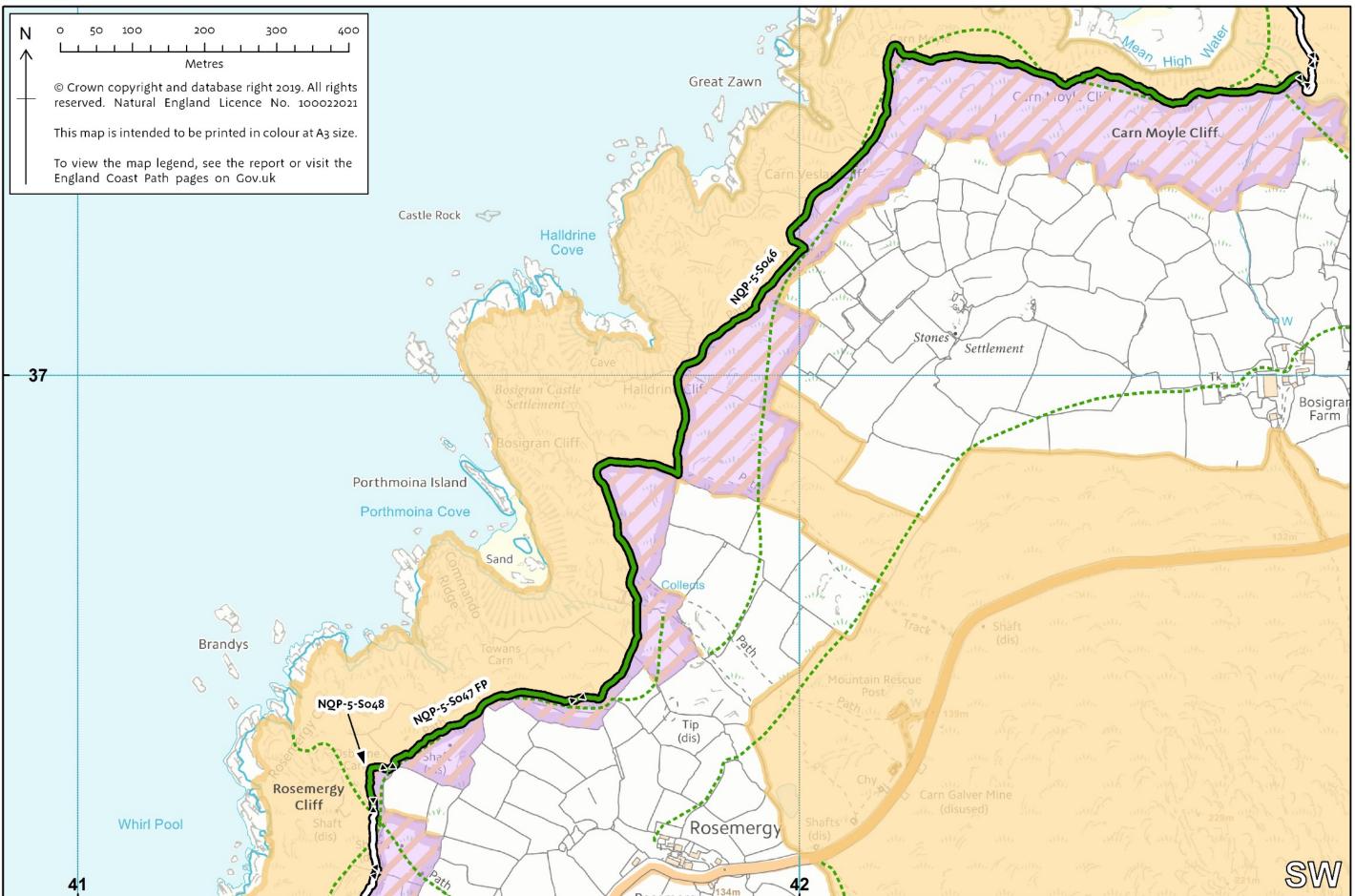


## Map NQP 5f: Treen Cove to Carn Moyle Cliff



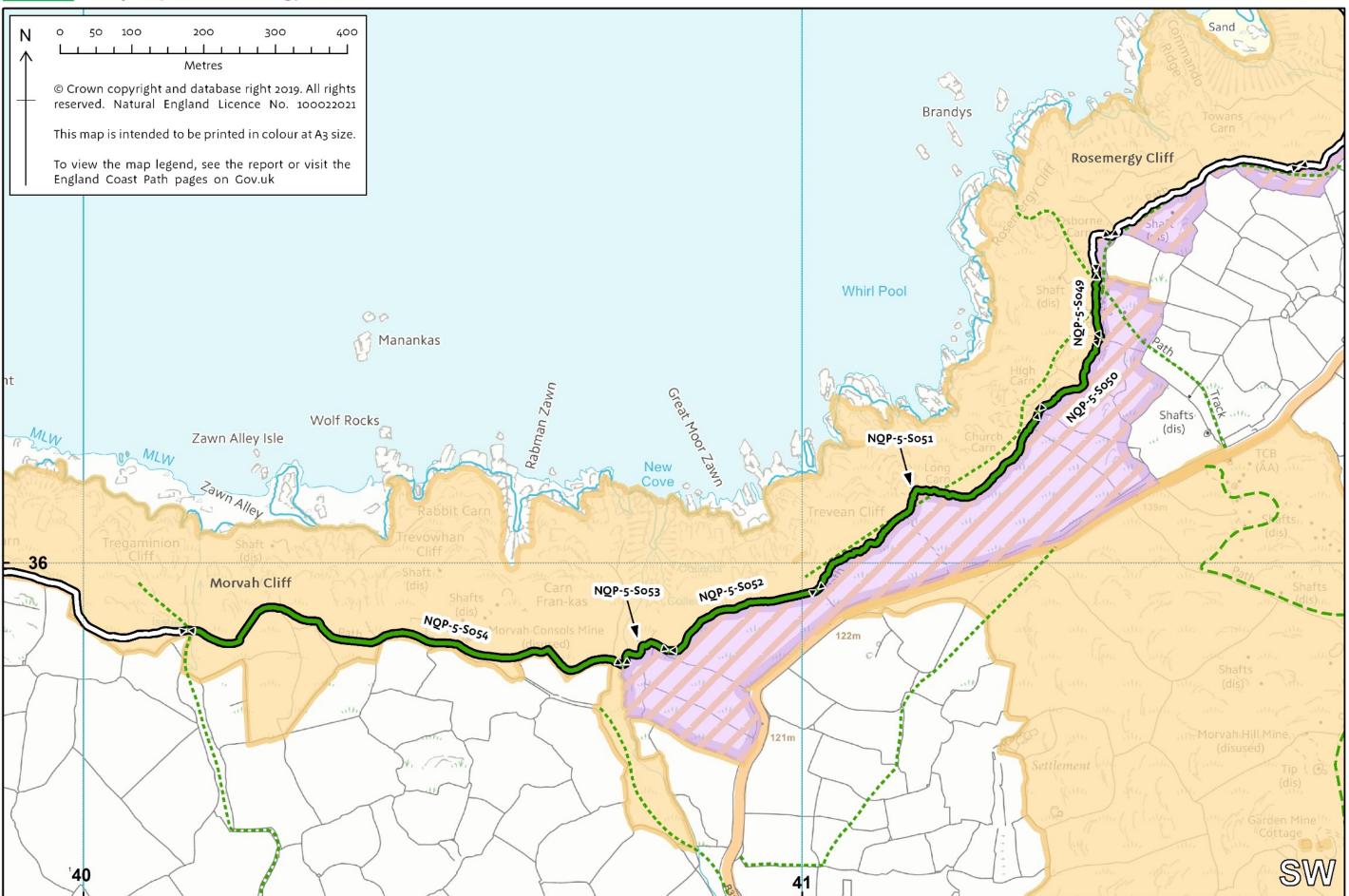


## Map NQP 5g: Carn Moyle Cliff to Rosemergy Cliff



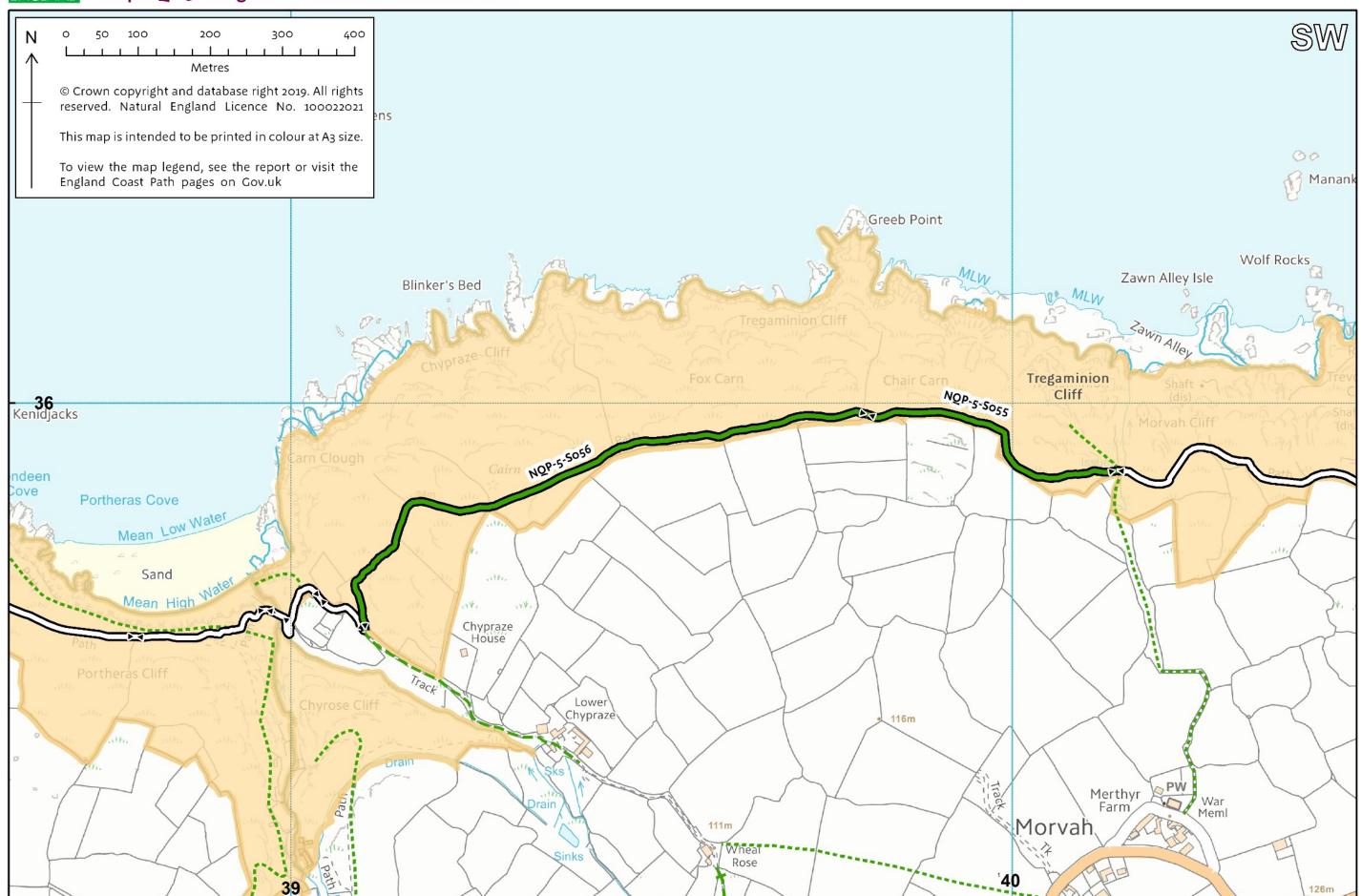


## Map NQP 5h: Rosemergy Cliff to Morvah Cliff





## Map NQP 5i: Tregaminion Cliff to Portheras Cove





## Map NQP 5j: Portheras Cove to Pendeen Watch

