Assessment of Coastal Access Proposals between

St Mawes to Cremyll

on sites and features of nature conservation concern

20th June 2019

About this document

This document should be read in conjunction with the published Reports for the St Mawes to Cremyll Stretch and the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).

The Coastal Access Reports contain a full description of the access proposals, including any additional mitigation measures that have been included. These Reports can be viewed here

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/england-coast-path-from-st-mawes-to-cremyll-comment-on-proposals

A HRA is required for European sites (SPA, SAC and Ramsar sites). The HRA is published alongside the Coastal Access Reports.

This document, the Nature Conservation Assessment (NCA), covers all other aspects (including SSSIs, MCZs and undesignated but locally important sites and features) **in so far as any HRA does not already address the issue for the sites and feature(s) in question**.

The NCA is arranged site by site. Maps 1-8 on pages 38-44 show designated sites along this stretch of coast.

See Annex 1 for an index to designated sites and features for this stretch of coast, including features that have been considered within any HRA.

Contents

Assessment of coastal access proposals on:

Lower Fal and Helford Intertidal SSSI

Is this site also part of a European site? Yes

The SSSI feature Littoral sediment is a sub feature of the SAC feature H1130 Estuaries. The SSSI feature Littoral rock and inshore sublittoral rock is a sub feature of the SAC feature Large shallow inlets and bays. Therefore the SSSI features will be considered as part of the Habitats Regulation Assessment for the Fal and Helford SAC.

The Fal and Helford SAC extends across both the Penzance to St Mawes and the St Mawes to Cremyll coastal stretches. The European site extends both further seaward and upstream within the Fal estuary than the extent of the SSSI and scope of the Coastal Access programme.

Establishment works

Is SSSI assent needed to implement any specific proposals for establishment works? No

Assessment of coastal access proposals on:

Carricknath Point to Porthbean Beach SSSI

Is this site also part of a European site? No

Current situation

Population of RDB moss - Many-fruited Beardless-moss, *Weissia multicapsularis*	The *Weissia multicapsularis* species occurs on hedge banks and on ground close to the hedge banks on the edge of the coastal margin. Currently the South West Coast Path runs through the gap in the hedge banks where the species are located. Management of the species to date includes managing surrounding species on the hedge. No threat is recorded associated with trampling due to the public use of the site as the main population is located up on the hedge bank. However, a new population was found in the last three years on the ground next to the hedge within an area that had been disturbed by badgers.
Vascular Plant Assemblage	The vascular plant assemblage includes Babington's Leek, (*Allium ampeloprasum var. babingtonii*) and Hairy Bird's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus subbiflorus*). The vascular plants within this group occupy the cliff area of the coastal margin. They prefer areas of short maritime grassland or disturbed ground for seed regeneration, with *Lotus subbiflorus* in many cases targeting the short turf adjacent to the current South West Coast Path.
Shoredock, (*Rumex rupestris*):	Shoredock, *rumex rupestris* is one of the rarest plants in Britain, being located only in the Isles of Scilly, Cornwall, Devon and Wales. It is a Red List Species (categorised as Endangered), and is listed as a priority species in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan. Within the SSSI it is found at three locations. These are: • Raven's Hole, (1 km south of Portscatho, within unit 1 of the SSSI) • Peter's Splash (0.5 km south of Portscatho, within unit 1 of the SSSI) • Porthbean Beach (within unit 1 of the SSSI)

Risk analysis

The route of the proposed trail predominately follows the existing South West Coast Path through the SSSI. The site is located on the western side of Gerrans Bay which includes an often short and steep coastal margin backed by agricultural fields.

Population of RDB moss - Many-fruited Beardless-moss, *Weissia multicapsularis*	Although the main bryophyte population is located off the ground on the hedge bank, it is likely that the presence of the coast path contributes to maintaining short vegetation at the base of the hedge bank. However, it should be noted that manual vegetation management is required on the hedge bank on an annual basis to retain the optimum conditions for the species. The more recent population found on the ground, could also be at risk if the path was realigned over this area. In general the forming of new paths within the coastal margin would be of benefit to the bryophyte species due to the need for short turf areas or indeed bare ground. The only potential sensitivity is if the current coast path is proposed for realignment which would result in the vegetation increasing in height, allowing sub optimal conditions for the bryophyte species to develop.
Vascular Plant Assemblage	Despite some active grazing, scrub species still dominate the coastal margin in this stretch. Therefore, additional public use of the coastal margin, in general, would benefit the vascular plant species by increasing the diversity of the habitat, with more informal paths creating suitable niche habitats. Realignment of the existing path however would allow the vegetation along the existing trail to grow up, creating sub optimal conditions for species such as *Lotus subbiflorus*. However, no realignments are proposed within this site and so it is concluded no impacts will occur.
Shoredock, (*Rumex rupestris*):	Shoredock is a coarse, stout perennial plant which needs a constant source of freshwater and is most often found growing in flushes at the base of cliffs or by the side of streams entering beaches. It is a poor competitor and depends on other factors to prevent it from being out-competed by other vegetation, such as exposure, a very rocky substrate, constant flushing by fresh water, or regular erosion, perhaps even grazing. The main threats are loss of suitable habitat due to culverting of streams, coastal defence, and boat-ramp construction on beaches. Shoredock is a long lived perennial and is somewhat resilient to grazing/ trampling. Beach leisure activities are unlikely to interfere with the plant because of where it grows - in wet areas at the back of beaches or on cliff slopes. Localised changes in access patterns could impact on the plants; for example, if a new entry to a beach were to be established close to the species. Thus our assessment focusses on checking that any proposed realignments of the Coast Path are not in the vicinity of Shoredock populations, and that our proposals could not inadvertently lead to new access points being established close to known locations of the plant. As no realignments are proposed and there are not anticipated to be any changes in the use of the coastal margin within this site, it is concluded that there will be no impacts.

Out of the three features identified for this SSSI, Many-fruited Beardless-moss, *Weissia multicapsularis* and Shoredock, *Rumex rupestris* are identified as potentially sensitive to public access, if the trail within the location of the features was proposed for realignment. This is not the case and the proposed trail will use the current line of the South West Coast Path within the vicinity of the *Weissia multicapsularis* and *Rumex Rupestris*. Therefore, there is not considered to be any interaction between these features and our coastal access proposals. As a result, no management measures are required to prevent an adverse impact occurring to the SSSI features.

Establishment works

Is SSSI assent needed to implement any specific proposals for establishment works? No

Assessment of coastal access proposals on:

Gerrans Bay and Camel Cove SSSI

Is this site also part of a European site? No

Current situation

1. Pleistocene/Quaternary of SW England	The SSSI provides important examples of the following geological types and formations: • Example of the Pleistocene / Quaternary succession on the south coast of Cornwall. These geological features are found on cliffs or on the foreshore. All of the above features are in favourable condition with no condition threats recorded related to public access.
2. Lichen Assemblage	The Lichen assemblage is located at Nare Head, (unit 2 of the SSSI). According to the condition assessment carried out in 2010, there are 9 nationally scarce species, 1 nationally rare/Schedule 8 species and 1 further species assessed as Near Threatened under the IUCN categorisation that make up the assemblage. The majority of species occur on open bare rock habitat, although one species, *Usnea esperantiana*, is found growing on scrub. The majority of sites, where the lichens are found, occur on steep coastal slopes that are unsuitable for public access. Some species are located on rocks at the back of the coves either side of the headland.
3. Vascular plant assemblage	The following vascular plants make up the assemblage for this SSSI: - Hairy Bird's-foot-trefoil*, Lotus subbiflorus* - Shore Dock, *Rumex rupestris* - Little Robin*, Geranium purpureum* - Dotted Sedge*, Carex punctata* - Maidenhair Fern*, Adiantum capillus-veneris* (NB *Rumex rupestris* is also notified in it's own right and so further information on this species is in section 4 below). The above species prefer areas of short maritime grassland, with *Lotus angustissimus* and *subbiflorus* in many cases targeting the short turf adjacent to the current South West Coast Path, or areas of thin soils

	around rocky outcrops on the cliff. *Adiantum capillus-veneris*, favours wet seepages on the cliff.
4. Shoredock, *Rumex rupestris*	Shoredock is one of the rarest plants in Britain, being located only in the Isles of Scilly, Cornwall, Devon and Wales. It is a Red List Species (categorised as Endangered), and is listed as a priority species in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan. Shore dock is found at Pendower Beach within this SSSI and was considered to be in favourable condition when last assessed in 2012. Pendower beach is already well used by the public. The South West Coast Path runs along the top of the cliff with parking close to the beach.
5. Breeding sea and coastal birds • Assemblage of breeding birds – Mixed • Guillemot, *Uria aalge* • Kittiwake, *Rissa tridactyla* • Shag, *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*	Three units of the SSSI are considered to be in favourable condition with unit 8 being classed as unfavourable recovering due to the extent of gorse cover on Nare Head. This issue is particularly associated with the condition of the Lichen feature and not the breeding birds feature. The foreshore within this site is mainly rocky although there are a number of sand / shingle beaches that are already popular and well used. These include Pendower and Carne beaches that have associated parking and access. Kiberick and Parc Caragloose coves are smaller beaches but also have parking close by with the South West Coast Path running adjacent to them. Data has been taken from the Joint Nature Conservation Council's Seabird Monitoring Project, (SMP) database. Data from 2015 to 2017 has been collated with counts per species per sector considered alongside the survey maps from 2016 which provides further detail on the location of the birds within the sector and SSSI. The mainland element of the Gerrans Bay to Camel Cove SSSI falls within SMP sectors 4 and 5. Records show that the majority of nesting birds, (Shag, Herring Gulls and Fulmer), are found between Shannick and Malmanare Point on the eastern side of Gerrans Bay at Nare Head. This corresponds with higher cliffs found in this section of the SSSI. The SMP records for Gull Rock show a sustained high level of nesting Guillemots with a peak of 309. Great Black-backed Gulls, Herring Gulls and Shags are also recorded nesting here in the last two years. For the Stonechat, Rock Pipit, Raven and Jackdaw species that also make up the assemblage, records from the British Trust for Ornithology's, (BTO) Birdtrack database have been used providing detail down to a 1 km square. This database does not categorise species records as breeding or likely to be breeding (eg – confirmed/probable/possible). However, by only selecting records on the system dated between 01 April and 31 August, presence during the breeding season may be inferred. Rock Pipit, Stonechat and Jackdaw were recorded during the breeding season around the Nare Head area. There are single records of Stonechat and Jackdaw around Pendower beach.

Risk analysis

The route of the proposed trail predominately follows the existing South West Coast Path through the SSSI. The site is located in Gerrans Bay, extending east to Camel Cove. The coastline on this stretch includes an often short and steep coastal margin backed by agricultural fields. A number of popular sandy beaches are located within Gerrans Bay including Pendower and Carne, which are well used all year round. The western side of Nare Head is characterised by higher, vertical cliffs running down to the foreshore.

1. Pleistocene/Quaternary of SW England	No improvements or realignments to the trail are proposed within the vicinity of the geological features.
2. Lichen Assemblage	Trampling through public use is not currently considered an issue on this site. The encroachment of gorse onto rocky outcrops is the only recorded threat to the lichen interest. A comment in the 2010 dossier for the feature states that…' *Although quite a popular site for visitors there was no evidence of any damage caused by recreational pressures. In fact moderate trampling might be beneficial*.' In general the forming of new paths within the coastal margin would be of benefit to a number of the individual bryophyte species due to the need for short turf areas or indeed bare ground.
3. Vascular plant assemblage	Despite some active management, scrub species still dominate the coastal margin in this stretch. Therefore, additional public use of the margin, in general, would benefit the vascular plant species by increasing the diversity of the habitat, with more informal paths creating suitable niche habitats.
4. Shoredock, *Rumex rupestris*	Shoredock is a coarse, stout perennial plant which needs a constant source of freshwater and is most often found growing in flushes at the base of cliffs or by the side of streams entering beaches. It is a poor competitor and depends on other factors to prevent it from being out-competed by other vegetation, such as exposure, a very rocky substrate, constant flushing by fresh water, or regular erosion, perhaps even grazing. The main threats are loss of suitable habitat due to culverting of streams, coastal defence, and boat-ramp construction on beaches. Shoredock is a long lived perennial and is somewhat resilient to grazing/trampling. Beach leisure activities are unlikely to interfere with the plant because of where it grows - in wet areas at the back of beaches or on cliff slopes. Localised changes in access patterns could impact on the plants; for example, if a new entry to a beach were to be established close to the species. Thus our assessment

	focusses on checking any proposed realignments of the South West Coast Path are not in the vicinity of Shoredock populations, and that our proposals could not inadvertently lead to new access points being established close to known locations for the plant.
5. Assemblages of breeding birds – Mixed Guillemot (*Uria aalge*) Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) Shag (*Phalacrocorax aristotelis*)	All of the bird species associated with this SSSI could be sensitive to disturbance while nesting. It is clear that certain parts of the SSSI are used to a greater extent by the notified species than others. Nare Head and Gull Rock were identified as key areas for the bird species of the SSSI to nest. However, Gull Rock is located below Mean Low Water and so is outside the scope of the coastal margin. On Nare Head itself, the proposed route follows the existing South West Coast Path which is located some distance back from the cliff edge on the headland, (between 70 – 350 metres back from the foreshore). The cliffs on the western side of Nare Head are much higher than the cliffs found elsewhere in Gerrans Bay, with vertical faces, hence they are a preferred nesting location for the majority of the bird species. The type of rock found on these cliffs does not lend itself to providing a safe climbing environment either. Therefore there is not considered to be any potential for impacts on the bird feature.

Establishment works

Is SSSI assent needed to implement any specific proposals for establishment works? No

Assessment of coastal access proposals on:

Cuckoo Rock to Turbot Point SSSI

Is this site also part of a European site? No

Current situation

1. IA - Coastal Geomorphology	This site provides important examples of the following geological types and formations: • Exposures of melange dominated Meneage Formation of the Gramscatho Group. The above features are found on cliffs or on the foreshore. All of the above features are in favourable condition with no condition threats recorded related to public access.

Risk analysis

The route of the proposed trail predominately follows the existing South West Coast Path through the SSSI. The site is located on the coastal margin within Veryan Bay which is characterised by a rugged coastline with beach inlets such as Portlunney Cove, Catchole Beach, Hemmick Beach and Portholland.

1. IA - Coastal Geomorphology	The SSSI could be impacted if works were proposed that could obscure the geological feature. However, the only works proposed are the cutting of new steps in rock to the south of Portloe. Following consideration, it has been concluded that these works will not obscure the feature and may even create new exposures which will be a benefit to the site.

Having considered the proposals made under the coastal access programme in the vicinity of this feature, it has been concluded that there will be no impact on the geological feature as described above. No additional management measures are required to prevent an adverse impact on the SSSI feature

Establishment works

Is SSSI assent needed to implement any specific proposals for establishment works? Yes

If yes, describe any special conditions that have been identified concerning how or when the works are to be carried out:

No special conditions necessary.

Where necessary, Cornwall Council will instigate the SSSI assent process by writing to us to confirm the timing of works and how operations to be undertaken in line with these conditions. Natural England will provide further advice as necessary.

Assessment of coastal access proposals on:

Polruan to Polperro SSSI

Is this site also part of a European site? Yes

Note that notified features of the SSSI that are also qualifying features of the European site are omitted from this assessment. The following SSSI features are sub features of the SAC.

Polruan to Polperro SAC feature - H1230 Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts

SSSI feature: MC1 *Crithmum maritimum-Spergularia rupicola* maritime rock-crevice

MC4 *Brassica oleracea* maritime cliff-ledge community

MC5 *Armeria maritima-Cerastium diffusum ssp. diffusum* maritime therophyte community

MC8 *Festuca rubra-Armeria maritima* maritime grassland

MC10 *Festuca rubra-Plantago spp.* maritime grassland

MC11 *Festuca rubra-Daucus carota ssp. gummifer* maritime grassland

MC12 *Festuca rubra-Hyacinthoides non-scripta* maritime bluebell

Polruan to Polperro SAC feature – European Dry Heath

SSSI feature: H4 *Ulex gallii - Agrostis curtisii* heath

Polruan to Polperro SAC feature – Shoredock, *rumex rupestris*

SSSI feature: Vascular plant assemblage, (inc. *rumex rupestris*)

Both the Polruan to Polperro SAC and SSSI sites cover the same geographical area.

Current situation

1. Vascular plant assemblage, (including Population of Schedule 8 plant – Sea Knotgrass, *Polygonum maritimum*).	The majority of the species included in this assemblage favour areas of short turf. *Lotus angustissimus* and *subbiflorus* in particular are found on the margins of the existing coast path due to the short turf habitat found in this location. Sea Knotgrass, *Polygonium maritimum* is found at one location on the site at the far west end of Great Lantic Beach. The plant grows at the back of the beach within the shingle. This area is well used by the public currently with the South West Coast Path running above the beach and the coastal slope in this area already being designated as Open Access land. The beach is around two kilometres east of Polruan with two car parks located close by.
2. SD2 *Honkenya peploides-Cakile maritima,* strandline community	The SD2 *Honkenya peploides-Cakile maritima* strandline community is associated with unit 3 of the site located at Great Lantic Beach. It was last assessed in 2012 and considered favourable with no condition threats associated with public access. This area is well used by the public currently with the South West Coast Path running across the coastal margin above the beach, and the coastal margin already designated as Open Access land. The beach concerned is around two kilometres east of Polruan with two car parks located close by.
3. SD4 Elymus farctus spp. Boreali-atlanticus, foredune community	This habitat is not generally static due to its location. Although normally above the Mean High Water line, the assessment in 2012 comments include…'*The bare sand habitats are limited in terms of vegetation and are frequently tidal, as well as being subject to frequent and heavy human disturbance*'. In addition, it should be noted that this habitat is located a short distance from the town of Fowey and Polruan to the west with parking close by, making these areas already popular and well used by the public. The feature is considered to be in favourable condition with no recorded threats to the condition of the feature from public access.
4. Terrestrial Invertebrate species • Invertebrate Assemblage F111 bare sand and chalk • Invertebrate Assemblage F112 open short sward	The SSSI covers some 10 kilometres of coast between Polruan and Polperro split into 8 units. The Invertebrate assemblage for this SSSI is considered to be throughout the site, with unit 6 providing particularly suitable habitat for the Hornet Robberfly. The units are assessed as being in favourable condition with no documented condition threats associated with public access. The current South West Coast Path runs through the Polruan to Polperro SSSI with a significant part of the coastal margin already designated as open access and a number of National Trust car parks located along this stretch of coast.

• Invertebrate Assemblage F2 grassland and scrub matrix • Nationally rare true fly species – Hornet Robberfly, *Asilus crabroniformis*	
5. Open Coastal Habitats • Lowland dry acid grassland (U1b,c,d,f) • Lowland neutral grassland (MG5) • MG5 Cynosurus cristatus – Centaurea nigra grassland • U1b, c, d, f Festuca ovina-Agrostis capillaris-Rumex acetosella grassland	According to the SSSI Citation, historic grazing and management has created the important grassland habitats that form this particular feature. Proactive management is undertaken by the current owner / occupiers through continued grazing and cutting of vegetation. However, the encroachment of Bracken, Bramble, Ivy and other scrub species continues to threaten the open grassland, heath and other niche habitats found on this site. The NVC report carried out by Spalding Associates Environmental Ltd in 2001 describes the site as, '*consisting of a mosaic of natural and semi-natural maritime cliff and cliff top vegetation*'. The maritime vegetation is a complex mosaic of grasslands, open herb, crevice, ledge, flush, therophyte and salt-pruned scrub communities that reflect the varied topography and degree of maritime exposure of the cliff sections'. The report also refers to the coast path and use by walkers, alongside grazing management, keeping the area open and suitable for a number of species. All units are considered to be in favourable condition following the last condition assessment in 2014. Six of the eight units include the niche rock crevice habitats that are often inaccessible due to the topography of the cliff slope, with the units largely dominated by scrub. The majority of this cliff slope area is already open to the public. Units four and six include areas of MG5 neutral grassland which are actively managed by the National Trust.

Risk analysis

The route of the proposed trail predominately follows the existing South West Coast Path between Fowey and Polperro. The proposed route follows the coastline quite closely and maintains good views of the sea, apart from the route through Polperro, which hugs the harbour. This coastal stretch is dominated by Lantic and Lanivet Bays, with Pencarrow Headland being the main headland jutting out and separating the two bays. There is more significant landward margin compared to the previous chapters, with species rich

maritime grassland and heathland found on the coastal slope, which is undulating with a number of coastal valleys running out to the cliffs.

1. Vascular plant assemblage, (including Population of Schedule 8 plant – Sea Knotgrass, *Polygonum maritimum*).	No realignments of the existing coast path are proposed within this SSSI with the coastal margin either designated as Open Access land or used informally, particularly around Lantic and Lantivet Bay. Therefore, it is not anticipated that there will be any changes in access patterns or volume of use than is experienced currently. It is not felt that the proposals made under the coastal access programme will impact on the vascular plant species.
3. SD2 Honkenya peploides-Cakile maritima strandline community	The area associated with this habitat at Great Lantic Beach is already well used by the public, with the South West Coast Path running across the coastal margin above the beach, and the coastal margin already designated as Open Access land. The habitat is mobile and not considered to be susceptible to damage from public access. Due to the existing use of this area and the resilient nature of the habitat, it is concluded that there will be no impact from our proposals.
4. SD4 Elymus farctus spp. Boreali-atlanticus, foredune community	The foredune habitat is found within Unit 3 of the designated site in the Lantic Beach area and also within Unit 5 at West Coombe Beach, as detailed in the 2001 NVC report. It is generally a mobile habitat that already has the South West Coast Path and land designated as open access adjacent to these areas of dune habitat. As there are no realignments proposed in this location and the area is already well used by the public, it is not felt that our proposals will change the existing usage of this site and so do not pose an issue for the fore dune habitat in this location.
5. • Invertebrate Assemblage F111 bare sand and chalk • Invertebrate Assemblage F112 open short sward • Invertebrate Assemblage F2 grassland and scrub matrix • Nationally rare true fly species – Hornet Robberfly, *Asilus crabroniformis*	The invertebrates referred to in this case are those that prefer either short turf, bare areas or a mix of grassland and scrub. The Hornet Robberfly requires grazed areas to utilise cattle or horse dung to lay its eggs and so requires actively grazed sites. The coastal margin in this location is already, to a large extent, open to public access. The main issue on this SSSI is managing the level of scrub within the coastal margin. Significant increase or change in public access on this site is unlikely due to the current trail, open access and car park provision already present in this area. Public access is to some extent beneficial for management of the site, by helping to maintain areas of short turf and the balance between scrub and grassland areas, providing additional suitable habitat for these species. Therefore, these features are not considered sensitive to changes in access.

6. • Lowland dry acid grassland (U1b,c,d,f) • Lowland neutral grassland (MG5) • MG5 *Cynosurus cristatus – Centaurea nigra* grassland • U1b, c, d, f *Festuca ovina-Agrostis capillaris-Rumex acetosella* grassland	It is noted that a number of the niche notified habitats are inaccessible on foot due to the topography of the coastal slope in this location. The current dominance and threat of scrub species ensures that in general any additional access paths created within the coastal slope will act, in the main, as a positive influence by helping control and fragment the current scrub cover and allow the notified habitats to remain and potentially increase. However, if the coast path was realigned through the heath or open coastal grassland habitats, it could have an impact by causing trampling of vegetation and potential erosion of the substrate. Particularly sensitive to trail realignment would be the MG5 neutral grassland found within units six and eight within the coastal valleys. Within the vicinity of these open coastal habitats, the proposed trail is to follow the existing line of the South West Coast Path with the coastal margin either open access land already or used informally at present where accessible. Therefore, it is not considered that the proposals made for this stretch of coast will impact the heathland and maritime grassland habitats of this site.

Establishment works

Is SSSI assent needed to implement any specific proposals for establishment works? Yes

If yes, describe any special conditions that have been identified concerning how or when the works are to be carried out:

No special conditions necessary.

Where necessary, Cornwall Council will instigate the SSSI assent process by writing to us to confirm the timing of works and how operations to be undertaken in line with these conditions. Natural England will provide further advice as necessary.

Assessment of coastal access proposals on:

Talland Barton Farm SSSI

Is this site also part of a European site? No

Current situation

1. Lower Plant Species • Population of RDB moss – Many-fruited Beardless-moss, *Weissia multicapsularis* • Pygmy moss, *Acaulon mediterraneum* • Portuguese pocket moss, *Fissidens curvatus* • Wedge-leaved screw-moss, *Tortula cuneifolia* • Dog screw-moss, *Totula canescens* • Wilson's pottia, *Tortula wilsonii*	The *Weissia multicapsularis* and *Fissidens curvatus* species on this site are located on the bare earth bank adjacent to the current South West Coast Path. The last condition assessment to consider these species was in 2014 when they were found to be in favourable condition. The last assessment for *Tortula cuneifolia* in particular was in 2017 which highlighted the encroachment of scrub within the quarry, where the species are located as a significant issue, turning the site condition to unfavourable status. *Totula canescens* is also found on the walls of the quarry. It should be noted that the path and associated coastal margin largely falls to the south of the SSSI, with the trail running along the southern boundary of the SSSI.

Risk analysis

The route of the proposed trail predominately follows the existing South West Coast Path through this site. The coastline along this stretch is rugged in character and prone to erosion.

1. • Population of RDB moss – Many-fruited Beardless-moss, *Weissia multicapsularis* • Pygmy moss, *Acaulon mediterraneum* • Portuguese pocket moss, *Fissidens curvatus* • Wedge-leaved screw-moss, *Tortula cuneifolia* • Dog screw-moss, *Totula canescens* • Wilson's pottia, *Tortula wilsonii*	The presence of the coast path in such close proximity to the *Weissia multicapsularis* and *Fissidens curvatus* species is likely to contribute to the correct conditions for those species that colonise the earth bank adjacent to the path. In general the forming of new paths within the coastal margin would be of benefit to a number of the individual bryophyte species due to the need for short turf areas or indeed bare ground. The only potential sensitives are related to the *Weissia multicapsularis* species if the current coast path is proposed for realignment which is not the case for this site. Therefore it is concluded that there is no interaction between the notified feature and our proposals.

Establishment works

Is SSSI assent needed to implement any specific proposals for establishment works? No

Assessment of coastal access proposals on:

Eglarooze Cliff SSSI

Is this site also part of a European site? No

Current situation

1. Vascular Plant Species • Slender Birds Foot Trefoil, *Lotus angustissimus* • Hairy Birds Foot Trefoil *Lotus subbiflorus* • Sea Carrot, *Daucus carota subsp. Gummifer* • Carrot Broomrape, *O. minor subsp.maritma* • Clustered Clover, *Trifolium glomerat* • Toothed Medick, *Medicago polymorpha*	The vascular plants within this feature group occupy the cliff slope within the coastal margin. All of the above species prefer areas of short maritime grassland, with *Lotus angustissimus* and *subbiflorus* in many cases targeting the short turf adjacent to the current South West Coast Path. Many species favour areas of thin soils around rocky outcrops on the cliff land.

Risk analysis

The route of the proposed trail predominately follows the existing South West Coast Path through the SSSI. The landscape along this coastal stretch is dominated by a coastal slope that contains a mix of maritime grassland, heathland and scrub.

1. • Slender Birds Foot Trefoil, *Lotus angustissimus* • Hairy Birds Foot Trefoil *Lotus subbiflorus* • Sea Carrot, *Daucus carota subsp. Gummifer* • Carrot Broomrape, *O. minor subsp.maritma*	Despite active grazing and vegetation management being supported through Conservation Management schemes for this site, scrub species still dominate the coastal margin. Therefore, additional public use of the coastal slopes, in general, would benefit the vascular plant species by increasing the diversity of the habitat, with more informal paths creating suitable niche habitats. If the existing coast path was realigned, it could mean that the short turf habitat required for species such as *Lotus angustissimus* and *subbiflorus* that is present along the existing route, would not be maintained. However, as the proposed route is to follow the existing South West Coast Path through this site it is concluded that there will be no impacts to the vascular plant species.

• Clustered Clover, *Trifolium glomerat* • Toothed Medick, *Medicago polymorpha*	

Establishment works

Is SSSI assent needed to implement any specific proposals for establishment works? No

Assessment of coastal access proposals on:

Rame Head and Whitsand Bay SSSI

Is this site also part of a European site? No

Current situation

1. EC - Marine Devonian IA - Coastal Geomorphology	This site provides important examples of the following geological types and formations: • Dartmouth Beds (Lower – Middle Siegenian), which includes a fossiliferous horizon yielding marine fossils of a mid or late Siegenian age. The above features are found on cliffs and on the foreshore at Whitsand Bay and within Bull Cove on the eastern side of Rame Head. The geological features are in favourable condition with no condition threats recorded related to public access.
2. Vascular plant assemblage	The following vascular plants make up the assemblage for this SSSI: - Slender Birds Foot Trefoil, *Lotus angustissimus* - Early Meadow Grass, *Poa Infirma* - Rock Sea Lavender, *Limonium binervosum* - Shore dock, *Rumex rupestris* The vascular plants within this feature group occupy the cliff area of the coastal margin, apart from *Rumex rupestris* which is often found growing in flushes at the base of cliffs or by the side of streams entering beaches, as it needs a constant source of freshwater. *Lotus angustissimus* often targets the short turf adjacent to the current South West Coast Path. *Poa infirma* and *Limonium binervosum* are also found in more open vegetation, favouring areas of thin soils around rocky outcrops on the cliff land.

Risk analysis

1. EC - Marine Devonian IA - Coastal Geomorphology	The SSSI could be impacted if works were proposed that could obscure the geological feature. However, no improvements or realignments to the trail are proposed within the vicinity of the geological features.
2. Vascular plant assemblage	There are no realignments proposed of the existing coast path route within this site. In addition, no improvement works are proposed within the location of any of the vascular plant populations. For this reason it is concluded that there will not be any impacts on the plant species that utilise the cliff slope. Shoredock is found at the back of the beach at Whitsand towards the south eastern end, which is characterised by intertidal rock. This is a popular area presently with heavy public use, particularly through the summer months. The majority of visitors however tend to remain more to the north west of the bay, utilising over 3 miles of sandy beach and so avoiding the Shoredock locations. As the beach is well used, it has been concluded that the introduction of coastal access rights is unlikely to change the access pressure or patterns in this area.

Establishment works

Is SSSI assent needed to implement any specific proposals for establishment works? Yes

If yes, describe any special conditions that have been identified concerning how or when the works are to be carried out:

No special conditions necessary.

Where necessary, Cornwall Council will instigate the SSSI assent process by writing to us to confirm the timing of works and how operations to be undertaken in line with these conditions. Natural England will provide further advice as necessary.

Assessment of coastal access proposals on:

Kingsand to Sandway Point SSSI

Is this site also part of a European site? No

Current situation

1. EC – South-West England Igneous	This site provides important examples of the following geological types and formations: • Extrusive rhyolite flow of Permian age. The above feature is found on the foreshore and is in favourable condition with no condition threats recorded related to public access.

Risk analysis

1. EC – South-West England Igneous	The SSSI could be impacted if works were proposed that could obscure the geological feature. However, there are no improvement works proposed in the vicinity of this SSSI.

Establishment works

Is SSSI assent needed to implement any specific proposals for establishment works? No

Assessment of coastal access proposals on:

Plymouth Sound Shores and Cliffs SSSI

Is this site also part of a European site? Yes

Note that notified features of the SSSI that are also qualifying features of a European site are omitted from this assessment. The following SSSI features are sub features of the Plymouth Sound and Estuaries SAC. The following SSSI features are sub features of the SAC:

Plymouth Sound and Estuaries SAC Feature – Reefs
SSSI features:

Exposed rocky shores (predominantly extremely exposed to wave action)
Moderately exposed rocky shores

Plymouth Sound and Estuaries SAC Feature - Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide
SSSI features:

Shores of mixed substrata (stones and sediment)

The SSSI site forms a very small part of the Plymouth Sound and Estuaries SAC with the SAC covering the mouth of the Tamar estuary and extending to the tidal limit of the Tamar and into the Yealm estuary to the east.

Current situation

1. EC – Variscan Structures	The site provides important examples of the following geological types and formations: • Lower Devonian to early Middle Devonian stratigraphic units, including part of the Dartmouth Group, the Meadfoot Group, the Staddon Grits, the Jennycliff Slates and part of the Plymouth Limestone. The above features are found on cliffs or on the foreshore. All of the above features are in favourable condition with no condition threats recorded related to public access and the above geological features.
2. • Exposed rocky shores (predominantly extremely	The Exposed rocky shores (predominantly extremely exposed to wave action) and Moderately exposed rocky shores feature was assessed as in favourable condition in 2010-11, with no condition threats associated with public access recorded.

exposed to wave action) • Moderately exposed rocky shores	
3. Shores of mixed substrata (stones and sediment)	The Shores of mixed substrata (stones and sediment) feature is found throughout the site and was assessed as in favourable condition in 2010. There are no recorded threats to site condition.

Risk analysis

The route of the proposed trail predominately follows the existing South West Coast Path through the SSSI. The site is located from Penlee point on the Rame headland into Plymouth Sound. The coast in this location runs from steep cliffs on Rame Head with wide open coastal views to views across the mouth of the Tamar estuary to the breakwater and city of Plymouth beyond.

1. EC – Variscan Structures	The SSSI could be impacted if works were proposed that could obscure the geological feature. However, there are no improvement works proposed in the vicinity of this SSSI.
2. • Exposed rocky shores (predominantly extremely exposed to wave action) • Moderately exposed rocky shores	Exposed rocky shores (predominantly extremely exposed to wave action) and Moderately exposed rocky shores have to contend with the impacts of wave action as the name suggests, therefore the habitats and species associated with these areas are not considered sensitive to the impacts of public access.
3. Shores of mixed substrata (stones and sediment)	Due to the nature of this feature with the stone element mixed with sediment, it is considered more resilient to public access than pure mudflat habitat. Therefore, it is not considered sensitive to public access.

It is concluded that no impacts are anticipated to the SSSI features due to both the resilient nature of the habitats to public access, the existing use of the foreshore in this location, and the lack of proposed realignments or improvements of the existing South West Coast Path within the SSSI site.

Establishment works

Is SSSI assent needed to implement any specific proposals for establishment works? No

Whitsand and Looe Bay MCZ

Is this site also part of a European site? Yes

There is a small overlap between the Whitsand and Looe Bay MCZ and the Plymouth Sound and Estuaries SAC. This overlap occurs within the most southerly end of Whitsand Bay at Polhawn Cove. The main purpose of the SAC designation in this location is due to the presence of Shoredock, *rumex rupestris*. However, the SAC designation does cover the intertidal rock feature of the Whitsand and Looe Bay MCZ in this location. Therefore, it should be noted that the Reefs feature of the SAC covers the intertidal rock feature of the MCZ in this location alone.

Current situation

1. Intertidal rock and reef High energy intertidal rock Moderate energy intertidal rock Low energy intertidal rock	Low, Moderate and High energy Intertidal rock is a feature of the site. This includes very exposed to moderately exposed upper and mid eulittoral bedrock and boulders characterized by a dense community of barnacles, including *Chthamalus montagui*, *Chthamalus* stellatus and *Semibalanus balanoides*, and the limpet *Patella vulgate*. In addition, species such as Stalked jellyfish, *Haliclystus spp* and Giant goby, *Gobius cobitis* are also present within intertidal rock pools.
2. Intertidal coarse sediment	The Intertidal coarse sediment feature is considered to be in favourable condition.
3. Intertidal sand and muddy sand	The Intertidal sand and muddy sand feature is considered to be in favourable condition.
4. Stalked jellyfish, *haliclystu spp.*	Stalked jellyfish, *haliclystu spp*. are considered to be in favourable condition and have been recorded predominantly in the intertidal pools around Hannafore. The occasional record has been found within the intertidal rock at Portwrinkle.
5. Ocean quahog, *Arctica islandica*	The ocean quahog, *Artica islandica* is a long lived bivalve that has been recorded within sediment habitats on the sea bed and is considered to be in favourable condition.
6. Pink sea-fan, *Eunicella verrucosa*	The Pink sea-fan, *Eunicella verrucosa* is a slow growing soft coral that is found off shore attached to ship wrecks and small areas of subtidal rocky reef. It is recorded as ‘recover to favourable condition’.

7. Sea-fan anemone, *Amphianthus dohrnii*	The Sea-fan anemone, *Amphianthus dohrnii* is around 1 cm in diameter and is often found attached to the Pink sea-fan, *Eunicella verrucosa,* rather than attaching itself directly to the sea bed and is recorded as 'recover to favourable condition'.
8. Subtidal coarse sediment	The subtidal coarse sediment feature of the site is considered to be in favourable condition. As the name suggests, the sediment habitat is found below the mean low water mark within the site.
9. Subtidal sand	As above, the subtidal sand feature is considered to be in favourable condition and is located below mean low water.
10. Seagrass beds	The Seagrass beds are also a subtidal feature and are in favourable condition.

A full list of designated features for this site can be found in Annex 1.

Risk analysis

The route of the proposed trail predominately follows the existing South West Coast Path north of the landward boundary of the MCZ. The proposed route follows the coastline quite closely and maintains good views of the sea. The landscape along this coastal stretch is dominated by a coastal slope that contains both maritime grassland, heathland and scrub. The MoD training area at Tregantle extends to the foreshore within Whitsand Bay which itself offers a sandy beach extending from Portwrinkle in the west to Tregonhawke in the east. The bay offers wide reaching views with Rame Head in the distance. Rame Head is the main headland marking the furthest south east corner of the county offering open coastal views from the west of the headland with views up the Tamar estuary on the eastern side.

1. High energy intertidal rock Moderate energy intertidal rock Low energy intertidal rock	The intertidal rock feature itself is not sensitive to impacts from public access. However, some of the fauna associated with the feature in this location such as Giant Goby, *Gobius cobitis* and Stalked jellyfish, *Haliclystus spp*. could be sensitive to trampling. Underboulder communities as a sub feature could also be sensitive to disturbance if subject to rock pooling with boulders being overturned in the process. The barnacle and limpet species are numerous throughout the rock feature and so are not considered to be at risk from changes in public access on the site. *Gobius cobitis* however, are hidden away within high shore rock pools in this location and so are subsequently not considered sensitive to disturbance. Underboulder communities are also located away from the most accessible areas of foreshore and so again carry a low risk of disturbance, even if public access increased or the trail was realigned. The intertidal rock feature adjacent to Hannafore is however considered diverse, with *Haliclystus spp*. and *Gobius cobitis* and possibly some Underboulder communities present within the habitat in this location. This section of reef is already accessible from Hannafore and Looe, with the area proving popular with locals and tourists. Most users use the walkway to access the intertidal area, with the majority drawn to the sandy beach away from the reef. Looe has an active Voluntary Marine Conservation Group who have been instrumental in establishing interpretation for

	visitors on site, as well as promoting a code of conduct for those visiting the coast around the town of Looe. As the coastal margin in this location is already well used and the Stalked Jellyfish, *Haliclystus spp*, are considered to be in favourable condition, it is not considered that the introduction of coastal access rights will increase the access pressure in this location, which is already popular. Therefore it is concluded that there will not be an interaction between our proposals and the intertidal rock feature.
2. Intertidal coarse sediment Intertidal sand and muddy sand	Coarse sediment and sand flats are a more mobile habitat and are resilient to public access due to the sand and coarse sediment within this intertidal habitat. Therefore, they are not considered sensitive to our proposals.
3. Stalked jellyfish, *haliclystu spp*	*Haliclystu spp*. are assessed as being sensitive to public access and rock pooling activities. However as detailed above, their main location within the intertidal rock located at Hannafore is already well used and it is not considered that our proposals will increase the access pressure in this location with the feature considered to be in favourable condition.
4. Ocean quahog, *Arctica islandica*	As the Ocean quahog, *Arctica islandica* feature is located below mean low water, it is concluded that our proposals under the coastal access programme will not have an impact on this feature.
5. Pink sea-fan, *Eunicella verrucosa*	As the Pink sea-fan, *Eunicella verrucosa* feature is located below mean low water, it is concluded that our proposals under the coastal access programme will not have an impact on this feature.
6. Sea-fan anemone, *Amphianthus dohrnii*	As the Sea-fan anemone, *Amphianthus dohrnii* feature is located below mean low water, it is concluded that our proposals under the coastal access programme will not have an impact on this feature.
7. Subtidal coarse sediment	As the subtidal coarse sediment is located below mean low water, it is concluded that our proposals under the coastal access programme will not have an impact on this feature.
8. Subtidal sand	As the subtidal sand is located below mean low water, it is concluded that our proposals under the coastal access programme will not have an impact on this feature.
9. Seagrass beds	As the Seagrass feature is located below mean low water, it is concluded that our proposals under the coastal access programme will not have an impact on this feature.

Assessment of coastal access proposals on:

Chough, Pyrrhocorax

Is this site or feature also part of a European site? No

Current situation

Chough, *Pyrrhocorax*	Choughs have been breeding in small numbers in west Cornwall since 2002. Numbers have gradually built up with a roost site now present within the St Mawes to Cremyll stretch south of Portscatho, and nest sites recorded at Nare Head. The South West Coast Path currently runs through this section of coast, which is regularly used by the public.

Risk analysis

Chough, *Pyrrhocorax*	Choughs may be sensitive were we to make proposals that could alter the use of the Coast Path or associated coastal margin in the vicinity of nesting sites. Chough fledglings are also particularly vulnerable to disturbance by walkers and dogs. However, there is no proposed change to the alignment of the coast path in the vicinity of the nest sites, with the site at Nare Head being located on particularly steep cliffs which are inaccessible to the public and not ideal for climbing due to the type of rock present. Therefore, it is concluded that the coastal access proposals will not impact this species.

Assessment of coastal access proposals on:

Grey seal, *Halichoerus grypus*

Is this site or feature also part of a European site? No

Current situation

Grey seal, *Halichoerus grypus*	Grey seals are a protected species under Annex II and Annex V of the Habitats Directive. There are a small number of haul-out sites within the St Mawes to Cremyll stretch used by Grey Seals, although no pupping sites are recorded. Due to the sensitivity of the species the exact location of the haul out sites are not identified in this appraisal.

Risk analysis

Grey seal, *Halichoerus grypus*	Two haul-out sites have been recorded between St Mawes to Nare Head, which have been monitored over the past five years. The proposed trail is following the line of the existing South West Coast Path within the vicinity of the sites, with disturbance by walkers not recorded as a significant issue to date, despite informal access to beach areas in this stretch occurring at present. One main land haul out-site is recorded within the St Austell Bay area, with data collected over the last five years. Some disturbance of the seals has previously been recorded by users of the coast path, since then however practical steps have been taken on the ground to direct walkers away from the site and so reducing the level of disturbance. As the proposed route is using the line of the existing Coast Path, there is not considered to be an interaction with our proposals or interference with the steps taken to date to reduce levels of disturbance.

Assessment of coastal access proposals on:

Peregrine Falcon, *Falco peregrinus*

Is this site or feature also part of a European site? No

Current situation

Peregrine Falcon, *Falco peregrinus*	Peregrines are fully protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act. There are at least twelve recorded Peregrine nesting sites within the St Mawes to Cremyll stretch. At eight of these sites there are additional nest sites recorded, which maybe alternative nest sites for the same pair of birds. The historically recorded nest sites are often utilising the various headlands found along this stretch. Due to the sensitivity of the species the exact location of the nest sites are not identified in this appraisal.

Risk analysis

Peregrine Falcon, *Falco peregrinus*	We have checked that proposed realignments of the existing coast path are not within the vicinity of known nest sites. The establishment of coastal access rights within the margin are not likely to change the use of the area around the sites, as the margin is already dedicated as Open Access or used informally at present. Therefore, there is not considered to be an interaction between our proposals and this species.

Assessment of coastal access proposals on:

Sand Crocus, *Romulea columnae*

Is this site or feature also part of a European site? Yes

Although not a feature of the site, the location of the Sand Crocus, *romulea columnae* is within the Polruan to Polperro SAC.

Current situation

Sand Crocus, *Romulea columnae*	The Sand Crocus, *Romulea columnae* is found at two locations within the Polruan to Polperro SSSI and SAC coastal margin, located on thin soils over rocky outcrops.

Risk analysis

Sand Crocus, *Romulea columnae*	It is not proposed to realign the coast path in the vicinity of the Sand Crocus locations. Therefore, the existing South West Coast Path will be adopted with no predicted increase or change in access patterns in this area.

Conclusion

We, Natural England, are satisfied that our proposals to improve access to the coast between St Mawes to Cremyll are fully compatible with our duty to further the conservation and enhancement of the notified features of the Lower Fal and Helford Intertidal, Carricknath Point to Porthbean Beach, Gerrans Bay and Camel Cove, Cuckoo Rock to Turbot Point, Polruan to Polperro, Talland Barton Farm, Eglarooze Cliff, Rame Head and Whitsand Bay, Kingsand to Sandway Point and Plymouth Sound Shores and Cliffs Sites of Special Scientific Interest, consistent with the proper exercise of our functions[1].

In respect of any duties that may arise under section 125 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, Natural England has concluded for Whitsand and Looe Bay Marine Conservation Zone that the access proposal (including any mitigation measures specified) is the one that, consistently with the proper exercise of its functions under section 296 of the same Act, is least likely to hinder the achievement of the conservation objectives for the Marine Conservation Zone - and accordingly may proceed.

In respect of Sand Crocus, *Romulea columnae*, Chough, *Pyrrhocorax*, Grey seal, *Halichoerus grypus* and Peregrine Falcon, *Falco peregrinus*, we are satisfied that in developing the new access proposals, the appropriate balance has been struck between Natural England's conservation and access objectives, duties and purposes.

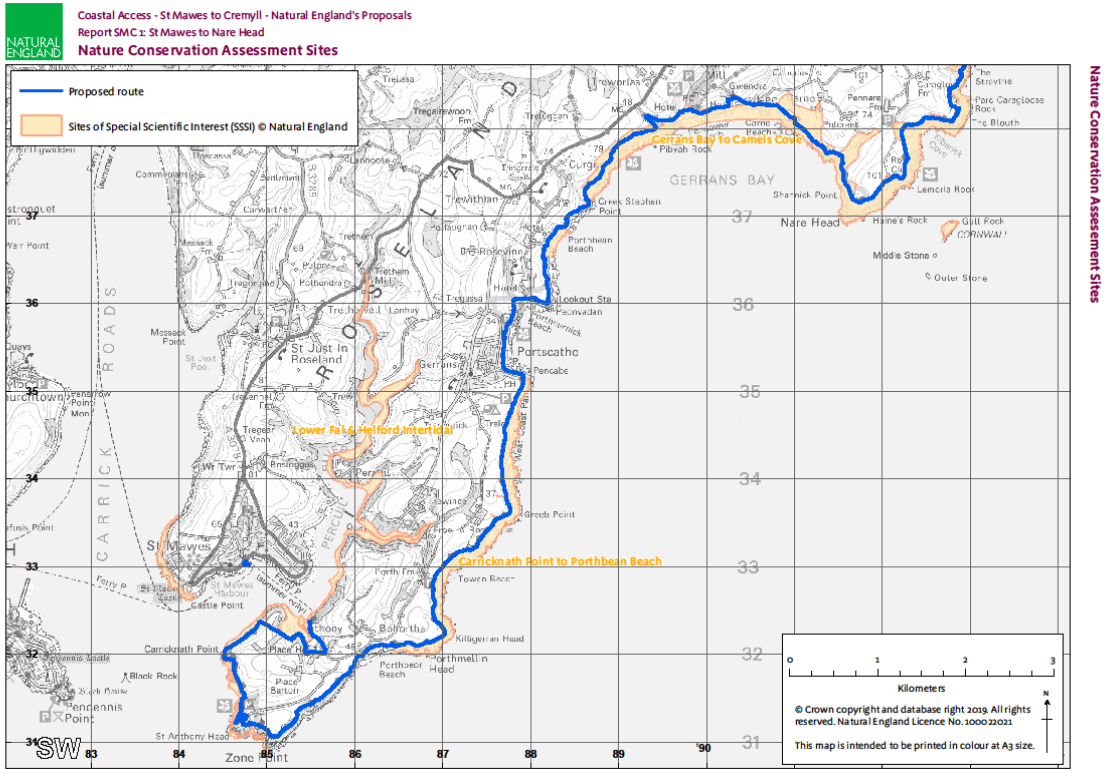
See also, where relevant, the conclusions of the separate HRA relating to common features.

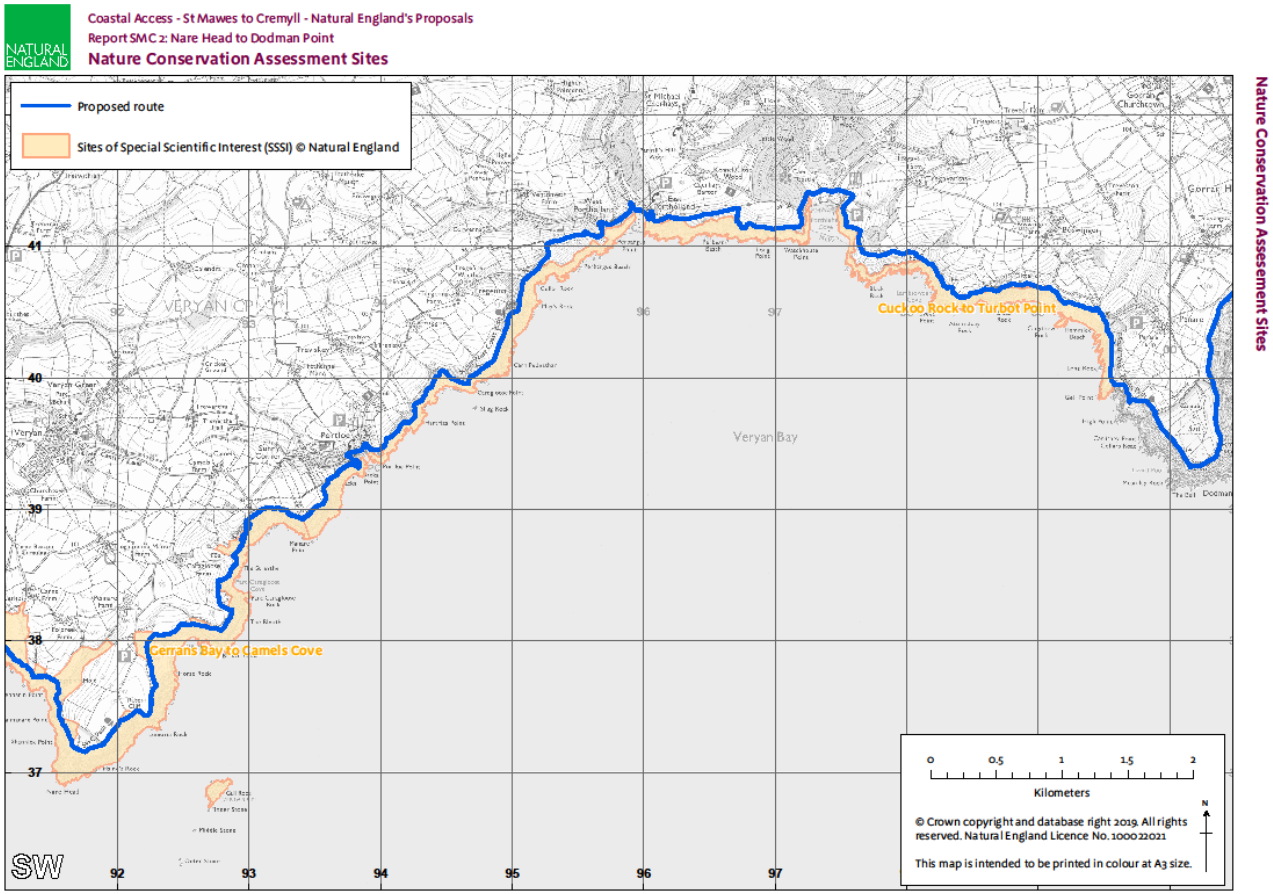
The conclusions of this assessment have been checked by:

Richard Andrews, Coastal Access Senior Specialist	14 May 2019	On behalf of the Coastal Access Programme Team
Nik Ward, Cornwall Team Leader	14 May 2019	Senior Officer with responsibility for protected sites

[1] Natural England's functions includes its balanced general purposes for access, nature conservation and landscape under the NERC Act 2006, any specific statutory duties it may have to deliver specific improvements to public access, and the access-related policies and priorities it periodically agrees with Defra.

Maps 1-8 Designated sites

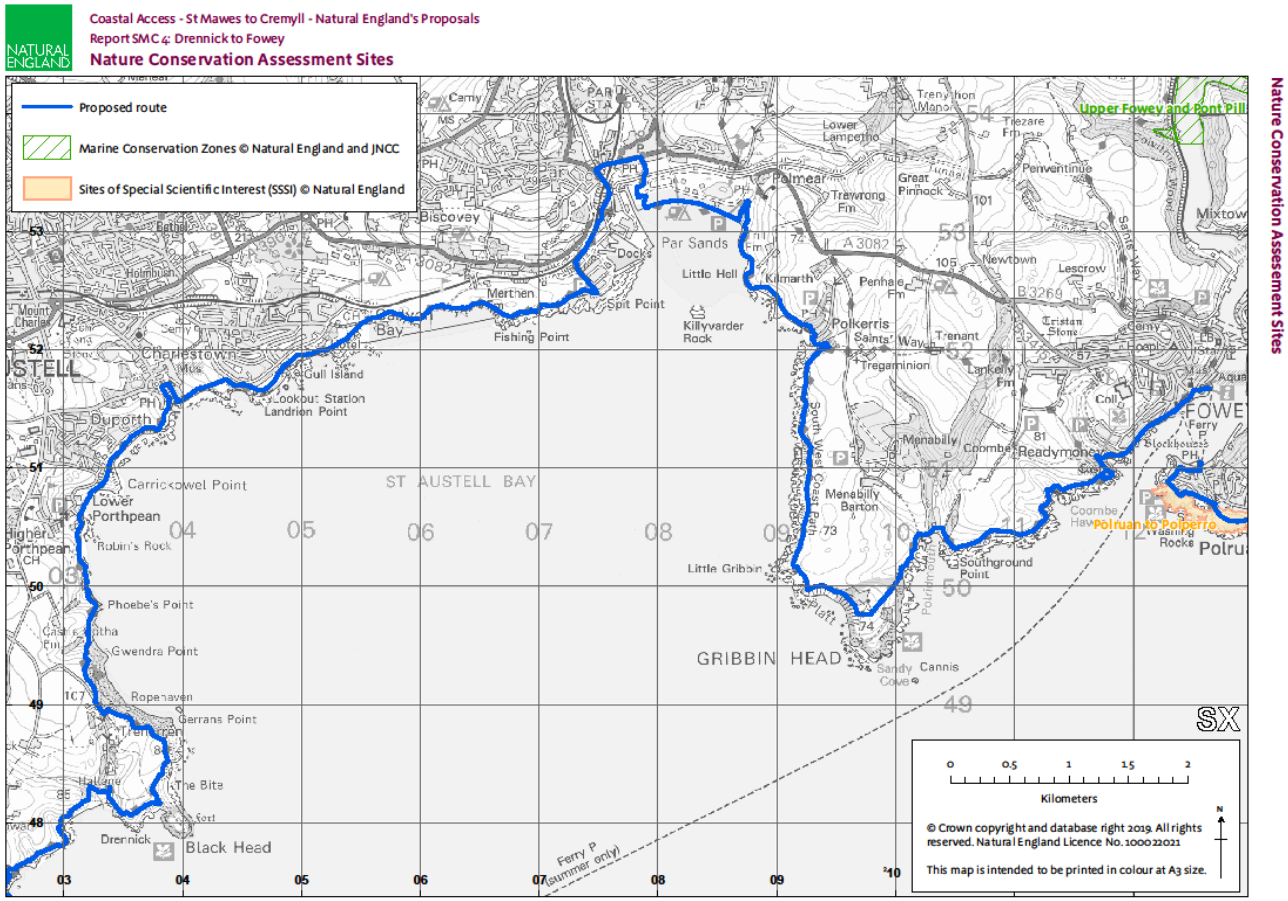




Nature Conservation Assessment Sites

Coastal Access - St Mawes to Cremyll - Natural England's Proposals
Report SMC 3: Dodman Point to Drennick
Nature Conservation Assessment Sites

Nature Conservation Assessment Sites


Coastal Access - St Mawes to Cremyll - Natural England's Proposals
Report SMC 4: Drennick to Fowey
Nature Conservation Assessment Sites
Proposed route
Marine Conservation Zones © Natural England and JNCC
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) © Natural England
Upper Fowey and Pont Pill
Polruan to Polperro
ST AUSTELL BAY
GRIBBIN HEAD
Black Head
Drennick
Polkerris
Par Sands
Charlestown
Duporth
Lower Porthpean
Carrickowel Point
Phoebe's Point
Gwendra Point
Gerrans Point
The Bite
Ropehaven
Menabilly
Menabilly Barton
Southground Point
Little Gribbin
Sandy Cove
Cannis
Killyvarder Rock
Fishing Point
Spit Point
Gull Island
Lookout Station
Landrion Point
Robin's Rock
Kilometers
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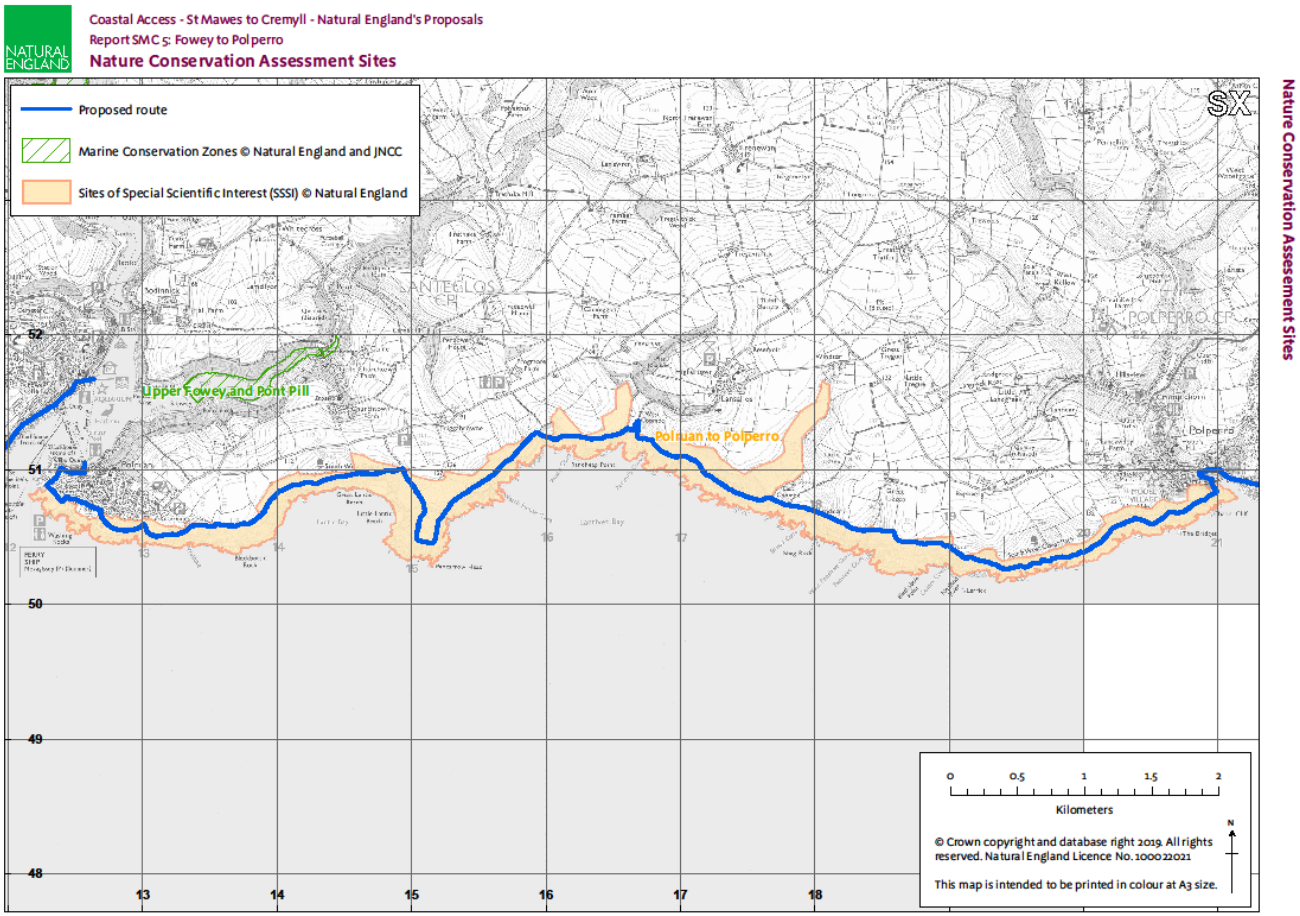
This map is intended to be printed in colour at A3 size.
Nature Conservation Assessment Sites



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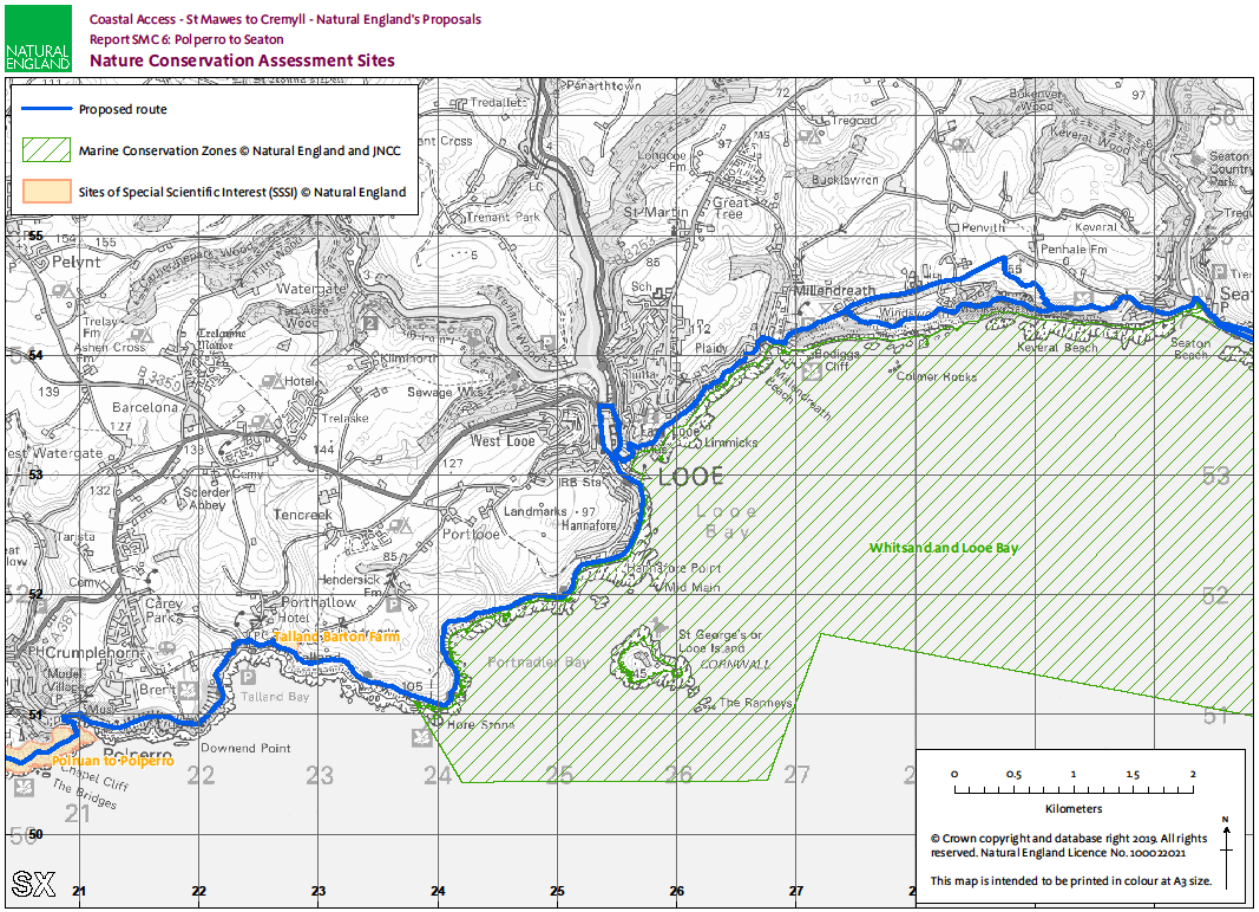
Coastal Access - St Mawes to Cremyll - Natural England's Proposals
Report SMC 6: Polperro to Seaton
Nature Conservation Assessment Sites
Proposed route
Marine Conservation Zones © Natural England and JNCC
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) © Natural England
Whitsand and Looe Bay
Polruan to Polperro
Talland Barton Farm
Nature Conservation Assessment Sites
0 0.5 1 1.5 2
Kilometers
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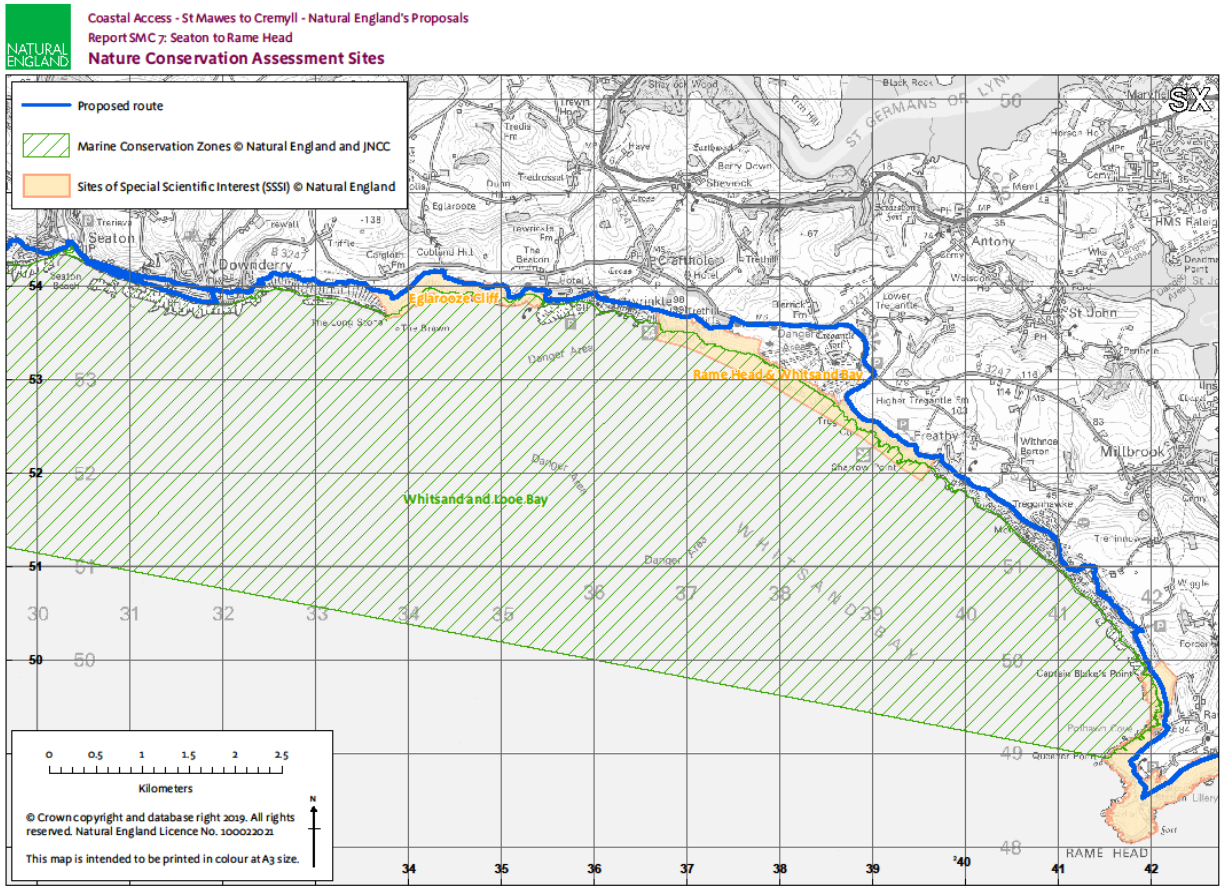
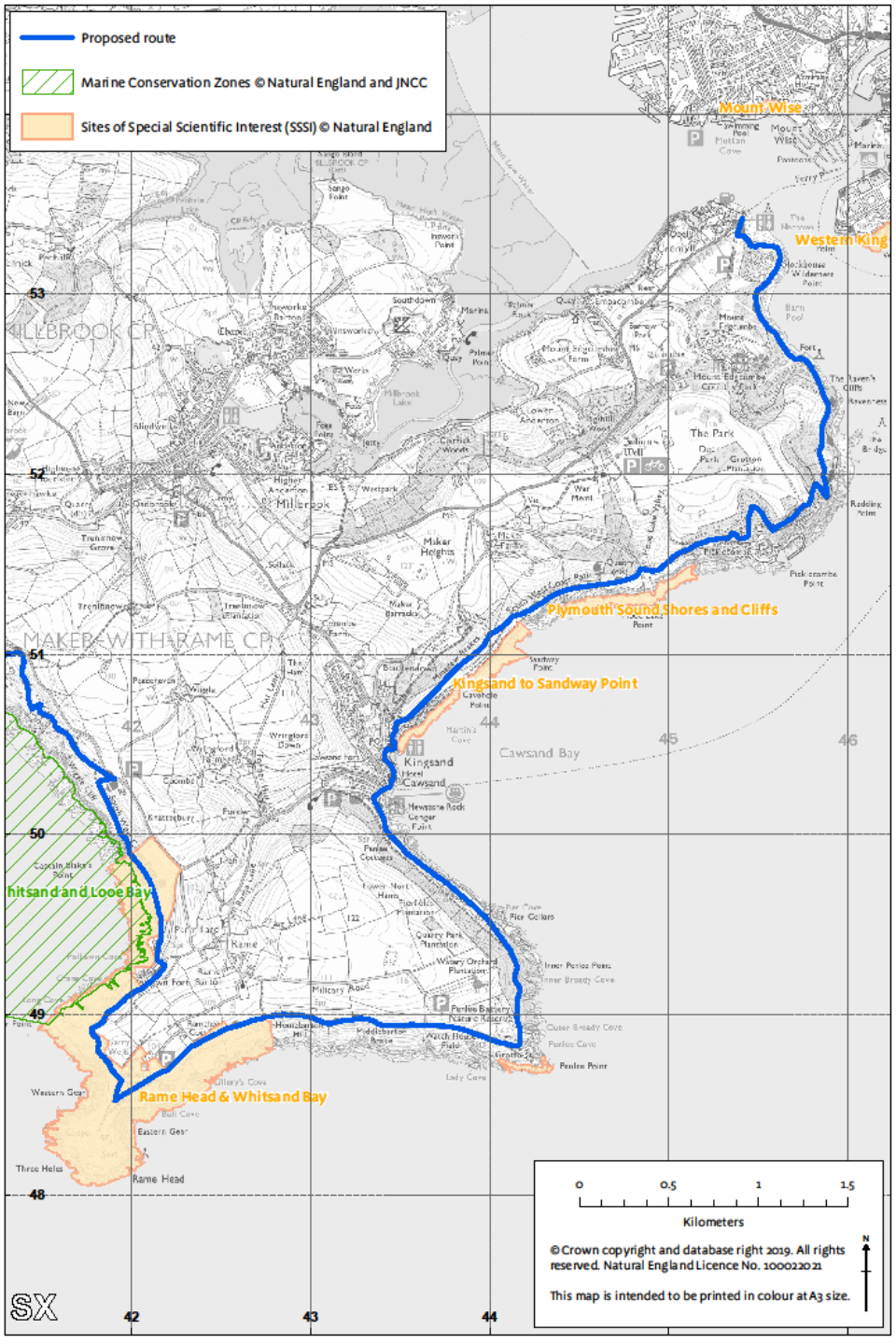


Nature Conservation Assesement Sites

Coastal Access - St Mawes to Cremyll - Natural England's Proposals
Report SMC 8: Rame Head to Cremyll
Nature Conservation Assessment Sites



Nature Conservation Assessment Sites

Annex 1. Index to designated sites and features

Note: columns in grey are European sites for which a separate Habitats Regulations Assessment has been carried out.

Features	Lower Fal and Helford Intertidal SSSI	Carricknath Point to Porthbean Beach SSSI	Fal and Helford SAC	Gerrans Bay and Camel Cove SSSI	Cuckoo Rock to Turbot Point SSSI	Polruan to Polperro SSSI	Polruan to Polperro SAC	Talland Barton Farm SSSI	Eglarooze Cliff SSSI	Rame Head and Whitsand Bay SSSI	Plymouth Sound and Estuaries SAC	Kingsand to Sandway Point SSSI	Plymouth Sound Shores and Cliffs SSSI	Whitsand and Looe Bay MCZ	Falmouth Bay to St Austell Bay SPA
Geological Features															
EC - Marine Devonian					✓					✓					
IA - Coastal Geomorphology										✓					
EC - South-West England Igneous												✓			
Pleistocene/Quaternary of SW England				✓											
EC - Variscan structures													✓		
Lower Plant Species															
Lichen assemblage				✓											
Population of RDB moss - Many-fruited Beardless-moss, *Weissia multicapsularis*		✓						✓							

Features	Lower Fal and Helford Intertidal SSSI	Carricknath Point to Porthbean Beach SSSI	Fal and Helford SAC	Gerrans Bay and Camel Cove SSSI	Cuckoo Rock to Turbot Point SSSI	Polruan to Polperro SSSI	Polruan to Polperro SAC	Talland Barton Farm SSSI	Eglarooze Cliff SSSI	Rame Head and Whitsand Bay SSSI	Plymouth Sound and Estuaries SAC	Kingsand to Sandway Point SSSI	Plymouth Sound Shores and Cliffs SSSI	Whitsand and Looe Bay MCZ	Falmouth Bay to St Austell Bay SPA
Pygmy moss, *Acaulon mediterraneum*								✓							
Portuguese pocket moss, *Fissidens curvatus*								✓							
Wedge-leaved screw-moss, *Tortula cuneifolia*								✓							
Dog screw-moss, *Totula canescens*								✓							
Wilson's pottia, *Tortula wilsonii*								✓							
Vascular Plant Species															
Slender Birds Foot Trefoil, *Lotus angustissimus*									✓	✓					
Hairy Birds Foot Trefoil, *Lotus subbiflorus*									✓						
Vascular plant assemblage		✓		✓											
Sea Carrot, *Daucus carota subsp. Gummifer*									✓						

Features	Lower Fal and Helford Intertidal SSSI	Carricknath Point to Porthbean Beach SSSI	Fal and Helford SAC	Gerrans Bay and Camel Cove SSSI	Cuckoo Rock to Turbot Point SSSI	Polruan to Polperro SSSI	Polruan to Polperro SAC	Talland Barton Farm SSSI	Eglarooze Cliff SSSI	Rame Head and Whitsand Bay SSSI	Plymouth Sound and Estuaries SAC	Kingsand to Sandway Point SSSI	Plymouth Sound Shores and Cliffs SSSI	Whitsand and Looe Bay MCZ	Falmouth Bay to St Austell Bay SPA
Carrot Broomrape, *O. minor subsp. Maritima*									✓						
Clustered Clover, *Trifolium glomeratum*									✓						
Toothed Medick, *Medicago polymorpha*									✓						
Early Meadow Grass, *Poa Infirma*										✓					
Vascular plants associated with the Supralittoral zone															
Population of Schedule 8 plant - Sea Knotgrass, *Polygonum maritimum*						✓									
S1441 Shoredock, *Rumex rupestris*		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓				
Intertidal rock and reef															
H1170 Reefs											✓				

Features	Lower Fal and Helford Intertidal SSSI	Carricknath Point to Porthbean Beach SSSI	Fal and Helford SAC	Gerrans Bay and Camel Cove SSSI	Cuckoo Rock to Turbot Point SSSI	Polruan to Polperro SSSI	Polruan to Polperro SAC	Talland Barton Farm SSSI	Eglarooze Cliff SSSI	Rame Head and Whitsand Bay SSSI	Plymouth Sound and Estuaries SAC	Kingsand to Sandway Point SSSI	Plymouth Sound Shores and Cliffs SSSI	Whitsand and Looe Bay MCZ	Falmouth Bay to St Austell Bay SPA
Large Shallow Inlets and Bays, (Intertidal Rock sub feature)											✓				
Exposed rocky shores (predominantly extremely exposed to wave action)													✓		
Moderately exposed rocky shores													✓		
High energy intertidal rock														✓	
Moderate energy intertidal rock														✓	
Low energy intertidal rock														✓	
Intertidal Sediments															
H1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; Intertidal mudflats and sandflats															
Shores of mixed substrata (stones and sediment)													✓		
Intertidal coarse sediment														✓	

Features	Lower Fal and Helford Intertidal SSSI	Carricknath Point to Porthbean Beach SSSI	Fal and Helford SAC	Gerrans Bay and Camel Cove SSSI	Cuckoo Rock to Turbot Point SSSI	Polruan to Polperro SSSI	Polruan to Polperro SAC	Talland Barton Farm SSSI	Eglarooze Cliff SSSI	Rame Head and Whitsand Bay SSSI	Plymouth Sound and Estuaries SAC	Kingsand to Sandway Point SSSI	Plymouth Sound Shores and Cliffs SSSI	Whitsand and Looe Bay MCZ	Falmouth Bay to St Austell Bay SPA
Intertidal sand and muddy sand														✓	
SD2 *Honkenya peploides-Cakile maritima* strandline community						✓									
Subtidal Features															
Ocean quahog, Arctica islandica														✓	
Pink sea-fan, Eunicella verrucosa														✓	
Sea-fan anemone, Amphianthus dohrnii														✓	
Subtidal coarse sediment														✓	
Subtidal sand														✓	
Seagrass beds														✓	
Sand Dune Habitats															
SD4 *Elymus farctus ssp. boreali-atlanticus* foredune community						✓									
Breeding Sea and Coastal Birds															

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Assemblages of breeding birds – Mixed				✓											
Guillemot (*Uria aalge*)				✓											
Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*)				✓											
Shag (*Phalacrocorax aristotelis*)				✓											
Black-Throated Divers, *Gavia arctica*															✓
Great-Northern Divers, *Gavia immer*															✓
Slavonian Grebes , *Podiceps auritus*															✓
Terrestrial Invertebrate species															
Invert. assemblage F111 bare sand & chalk						✓									
Invert. assemblage F112 open short sward						✓									

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Invert. assemblage F2 grassland & scrub matrix						✓									
Nationally rare true fly species - Hornet Robberfly, *Asilus crabroniformis*						✓									
Open Coastal Habitats															
Lowland dry acid grassland (U1b,c,d,f)						✓									
Lowland neutral grassland (MG5)						✓									
European dry heaths							✓								
Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts							✓								
MC1 *Crithmum maritimum-Spergularia rupicola* maritime rock-crevice						✓									

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MC4 *Brassica oleracea* maritime cliff-ledge community						✓									
MC5 *Armeria maritima-Cerastium diffusum ssp. diffusum* maritime therophyte community						✓									
MC8 *Festuca rubra-Armeria maritima* maritime grassland						✓									
MC10 *Festuca rubra-Plantago spp.* maritime grassland						✓									
MC11 *Festuca rubra-Daucus carota ssp. gummifer* maritime grassland						✓									
MC12 *Festuca rubra-Hyacinthoides non-scripta* maritime bluebell						✓									
H4 *Ulex gallii-Agrostis curtisii* heath						✓									

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MG5 *Cynosurus cristatus – Centaurea nigra* grassland						✓									
U1b, c, d, f *Festuca ovina-Agrostis capillaris-Rumex acetosella* grassland						✓									
Stalked jellyfish, haliclystu spp.															
Stalked jellyfish, *Haliclystus spp*														✓	