

**Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority**

# Restoring Nature



Our actions to deliver the National Park Management Plan 2020-2024

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**Parc Cenedlaethol  
Arfordir Penfro  
Pembrokeshire Coast  
National Park**



## Conservation Action Plan

This action plan should be read in conjunction with the [Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Management Plan 2020-2024](#). It highlights priority actions for nature conservation for the National Park Authority to 2024. The plan will be reviewed annually.

The action plan contains actions for which funding has previously been approved. It may also indicate actions for which resourcing would be required. Where this is the case, any resourcing decision would be made in accordance with the Authority's standard procedures.

*Restoring Nature* should be viewed in conjunction with the current Corporate and Resources Plan. Further detail on actions is contained in the annual Conservation Reports presented to the Authority's Operational Review Committee.

*Restoring Nature* was drafted with input from the Authority's conservation staff and was consulted on with senior management and team leaders. The following partners were also consulted: Natural Resources Wales, Pembrokeshire County Council, the Wildlife Trust South and West Wales, and the Pembrokeshire Nature Partnership. The action plan identifies work on which the National Park Authority intends to lead, however, delivery relies on collaboration with a range of partners at a local, regional and national level.

### a) Priority Area: Managing Land for Nature

- Contributes to National Park Management Plan policies and impact areas L1 (d), E1 (a, b, c, e, f, l, n & o), N3 (b & c).
- Contributes to the following National Park Authority Well-being Objectives: Resilience (Conservation Land Management Service, Biodiversity & Connectivity Projects, Conservation Strategic Partnerships & Engagement, Looking after Trees in the Landscape, Engagement & Volunteering in looking after the Park's Ecosystems) and Global (Work Streams: Special Qualities: Inspiration and Education, Responding to the Climate Change Emergency).

### 1. Conserving the Park

**Purpose:** Our aim is to support landowners to reinstate a network of wildlife-friendly corridors and to manage and enlarge the key wildlife habitats that make up the circulation system of our countryside. This will give species the chance to establish larger, more sustainable populations, and to create new ones.

**Outcome:** Bigger, better and more connected areas for wildlife in the National Park.

Action / Initiative	Timescales	National Park Authority lead	Resources / Partners	Status
Conserving the Park Grant Scheme.	Ongoing	Conservation Team	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority (PCNPA), Pembrokeshire County Council (PCC), Welsh Government (WG)	Underway, operating at capacity.
Pembrokeshire Grazing Animals Network.	Ongoing	Conservation Team		Underway, at capacity.
Implement the Pembrokeshire Nature Recovery Plan.	Ongoing	Conservation Team	PCNPA, PCC, WG	Underway.
Implement <i>Dawnsio ar y Dibyn</i> Sustainable Management Scheme project.	2021 start (to be confirmed).	Conservation Team	PCNPA	Underway.
Deliver the <i>Make more Meadows</i> scheme in Partnership with the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Trust.	Current plan period.	Conservation Team	PCNPA	Underway.
Support the delivery of the <i>Magnificent Meadows</i> project in Pembrokeshire.	2020-2022	Conservation Team	PCNPA	Underway.

### 2. Resilient Commons

**Purpose:** To support the management of common land in the National Park

**Outcome:** Commons form an integral part of high nature value agricultural systems.

Action / Initiative	Timescales	National Park Authority lead	Resources / Partners	Status
Annual cutting of firebreak network.	Ongoing	Conservation Team	PCNPA	Underway.
Participate in the Pembrokeshire Wildfire Group (a sub-group of the Pembrokeshire Sustainable Agriculture Network).	Ongoing	Conservation Team	PCNPA	Underway.
Commons Resilience Grants for fencing to facilitate commons management.	Current plan period.	Conservation Team	PCNPA, WG	Underway.

### 3. National Park Authority-owned nature reserves

**Purpose:** To manage, expand and share the network of nature reserves owned by the National Park Authority.

**Outcome:** A network of nature-rich sites making a significant contribution to nature conservation in the National Park. Sites are exemplars of management for nature and are understood and enjoyed by local people and visitors.

Action / Initiative	Timescales	National Park Authority lead	Resources / Partners	Status
<i>Sequestration for the Nation</i> Project – strategic acquisition of land for carbon storage and nature conservation.	Ongoing	Conservation Team	WG, PCNPA	Underway
Implement an annual programme of practical conservation management.	Ongoing	Conservation Team	PCNPA	Underway.
Buffer and enlarge existing sites of interest for nature conservation where the opportunity arises either through land purchase or lease.	Current plan period.	Conservation Team	PCNPA	Underway.
Assess the impact of climate change and sea level rise on key sites (Carew and Freshwater East).	Current plan period.	Conservation Team	PCNPA, WG	Underway.
Develop a communication and interpretation plan for our Nature Reserves.	Ongoing	Communications Team / Discovery Team	None.	Not started.

### 4. Traditional Boundaries

**Purpose:** To improve the length, condition and management of traditional field boundaries in Pembrokeshire Coast National Park by offering advice, training and grant support.

**Outcome:** There will be a revival of skills around the management, repair and maintenance of traditional field boundaries. The contribution made to ecological connectivity, landscape quality and the historic environment will be secured for the future.

Action / Initiative	Timescales	National Park Authority lead	Resources / Partners	Status
<i>Traditional Field Boundaries</i> grant scheme pilot.	June 2020 – February 2022	Conservation Team	PCNPA, WG	Underway, fund nearly fully allocated.
Seek funding to run full-scale grant programme for traditional field boundaries.	Following Year 1 of Pilot Project.	Conservation Team	None. Links to Trees and Woodlands in the Landscape Project.	Project approved by Leadership Team.

### 5. Trees and Woodlands in the Landscape

**Purpose:** To support the expansion and management of trees and woodlands in the National Park including veteran trees, field trees, wood pasture and woodland.

**Outcome:** Sustainable enhancement and management of woodlands and trees in the National Park, increased habitat connectivity and better biodiversity outcomes.

Action / Initiative	Timescales	National Park Authority lead	Resources / Partners	Status
<i>Trees and Woodlands in the Landscape</i> Project.	2021/2022	Conservation Team	None. Links to Trees and Woodlands in the Landscape Project. Coed Cymru	Project approved by Leadership Team.
Trees and Woodland Siting and Design Guidance	2021/2022	Conservation Team	PCNPA	Underway

**Priority Area: Farming with Nature**

- Contributes to National Park Management Plan policies. W1 (e), E1 (a, b, e, o & p), N2 (a), N3 (a, b & c).
- Contributes to the following National Park Authority Well-being Objectives: Resilience (Conservation Land Management Service, Conservation Strategic Partnerships & Engagement) and Global (Work Streams: Responding to Climate Change Emergency)

**6. Sustainable agriculture**

**Purpose:** Monitor and input into the sustainable intensification agenda in Wales.

**Outcome:** Sustainable farm businesses, sustainable food production and increased biodiversity on farmland.

Action / Initiative	Timescales	National Park Authority lead	Resources / Partners	Status
Work with dairy farms in the National Park to trial different approaches to enable farm businesses to reduce carbon through offsetting and reduction measures.	2021/2021 – one year pilot.	Conservation Team	PCNPA, WG (Sustainable Landscapes, Sustainable Places funding)	Underway.
Support the design and delivery of the new Sustainable Land Management Scheme for Wales.	Current plan period.	Conservation Team	PCNPA, National Parks Wales	Underway.

**b) Priority Area: Threatened species**

- Contributes to National Park Management Plan policy E1 (n).
- Contributes to the following National Park Authority Well-being Objective: Resilience (Biodiversity & Connectivity Projects, Engagement & Volunteering in looking after the Park's Ecosystems).

**7. Threatened Species**

**Purpose:** Take action to secure the future of species for which the National Park has a special responsibility, species undergoing declines and species at risk of extinction in the National Park including those listed on Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

**Outcome:** The diversity of native and migrant species within the National Park is safeguarded for future generations.

Action / Initiative	Timescales	National Park Authority lead	Resources / Partners	Status
<i>Damselfly in Distress</i> project. Implement the prioritised programme of works for the enhancement of habitats for southern damselfly.	2020-2023	Conservation Team	PCNPA, Natural Resources Wales (NRW), National Lottery Heritage Fund	Underway.
Threatened butterflies project for brown hairstreak, marsh fritillary, small pearl-bordered fritillary and silver-studded blue.	Current plan period.	Conservation Team	PCNPA, NRW, National Lottery Heritage Fund	Underway.

**8. People, Paths and Pollinators Project (Lead – Delivery Team)**

**Purpose:** Managing the Pembrokeshire Coast Path National Trail to benefit pollinators and plant and insect species.

**Outcome:** Biodiversity on the Coast Path is safeguarded and enhanced. People's enjoyment of the Coast Path is enhanced.

Action / Initiative	Timescales	National Park Authority lead	Resources / Partners	Status
Implement the People, Paths and Pollinators Project pilot.	Current plan period.	Area Warden Manager West	Wardens, Pollinator Warden, Volunteers	Underway.
Roll out project to other areas of the Pembrokeshire Coast Path.	Current Plan period.	Area Warden Manager West	Wardens, Pollinator Warden, Volunteers, Dawnsion a'r y Dibyn project	Underway.

**c) Priority Area: Tackle key pressures on wildlife**

- Contributes to National Park Management Plan policies L2 (a, b & c), W1 (f, o), W2 (b, c & d), E1 (c, g, m & r).
- Contributes to the following National Park Authority Well-being Objectives: Resilience (Biodiversity & Connectivity Projects, Engagement & Volunteering in looking after the Park's Ecosystems), Communities (Community Activities & Projects benefiting the Park & People) and Global (Work Streams: Special Qualities: Inspiration and Education).

<b>9. Stitch in Time Project</b>
<b>Purpose:</b> Trial a catchment-based approach to the control of Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam in target catchments in the National Park
<b>Outcome:</b> Invasive species are controlled and/or eradicated and a working model for control is available for Park-wide control of the target species.

Action / Initiative	Timescales	National Park Authority lead	Resources / Partners	Status
Stitch in Time Project (Gwaun, Porthgain, Clydach and Castlemartin catchments).	April 2019 to April 2022.	Conservation Team	PCNPA, Volunteers	Underway

<b>10. Implement a Park-wide strategy for Himalayan balsam and Japanese knotweed control</b>
<b>Purpose:</b> To roll out the Stitch in Time approach Park-wide
<b>Outcome:</b> Invasive species are controlled and / or eradicated and biodiversity is protected and enhanced.

Action / Initiative	Timescales	National Park Authority lead	Resources / Partners	Status
Develop a prioritised Park-wide strategy for control.	2020	Conservation Team	PCNPA, Volunteers	Not started.
Survey for target species.	2020/2021	Conservation Team	PCNPA, Volunteers	Not started.

<b>11. Artificial Lighting</b>
<b>Purpose:</b> Manage lighting for vulnerable species and species groups including bats, otter, dormouse, Manx shearwater (vulnerable also to ships' lighting) and invertebrates.
<b>Outcome:</b> Reduce lighting as a factor affecting biodiversity in the National Park.

Action / Initiative	Timescales	National Park Authority lead	Resources / Partners	Status
Produce and promote supplementary planning guidance for Pembrokeshire on lighting for developments requiring lighting schemes (Pembrokeshire County Council and Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority).	Current plan period.	Health and Tourism Policy Officer	PCNPA, Pembrokeshire Light Pollution Partnership	Underway.
Engage with communities to reduce unwanted light.	2020/2022	Health and Tourism Policy Officer	PCNPA, Pembrokeshire Light Pollution Partnership	Underway.
Designate a Dark Sky Reserve in Pembrokeshire (feasibility)	2020/2022	Health and Tourism Policy Officer	PCNPA, PCC, Pembrokeshire Light Pollution Partnership, WG (Sustainable Landscapes, Sustainable Places funding)	Underway.
Promote good practice in regard to lighting, with enforcement where appropriate (focussing on installations intervisible with Dark Sky Discovery sites).	2020/2022	Health and Tourism Policy Officer	PCNPA, Pembrokeshire Light Pollution Partnership	Underway.

<b>12. Participate in the prevention of wildlife crime</b>
<b>Purpose:</b> Work with the Rural Crime Forum and Police Wildlife Liaison Officers to identify and prevent wildlife crime.
<b>Outcome:</b> Reduced wildlife crime.

Action / Initiative	Timescales	National Park Authority lead	Resources / Partners	Status
Attend the Rural Crime Forum.	Current plan period.	Ranger Services Manager	PCNPA	Underway.
Maintain liaison with local Police Wildlife Crime Officers.	Current plan period.	Conservation Team	PCNPA	Underway.



**d) Priority Area: People taking action for wildlife**

- Contributes to National Park Management Plan policy W2 (c).
- Contributes to the following National Park Authority Well-being Objectives: Resilience (Biodiversity & Connectivity Projects, Engagement & Volunteering in looking after the Park's Ecosystems), Communities (Community Activities & Projects benefiting the Park & People) and Global (Work Streams: Special Qualities: Inspiration and Education).

**13. Engage communities in implementing the Pembrokeshire Nature Recovery Plan**

**Purpose:** Engaging a range of people in the delivery of the Pembrokeshire Nature Recovery Plan and through our own activities.

**Outcome:** Better outcomes in the National Park and in Pembrokeshire. Increased engagement with biodiversity and nature conservation.

Action / Initiative	Timescales	National Park Authority lead	Resources / Partners	Status
Implement the Pembrokeshire Local Nature Recovery Plan.	Ongoing	Conservation Team	PCNPA, PCC, WG	Underway.
Volunteer survey of reptiles.	Current plan period.	Conservation Team	PCNPA, Pembrokeshire Reptile and Amphibian Group, Amphibian and Reptile Trust, Volunteers	Underway.
Volunteer monitoring of marsh fritillary and southern damselfly.	Current plan period.	Conservation Team	PCNPA, Volunteers	Underway.
Support for Butterfly Conservation brown hairstreak surveys.	Ongoing	Conservation Team	PCNPA	Underway.
Support for citizen science delivering data for conservation.	Current plan period.	Conservation Team	PCNPA	Underway.

**e) Priority Area: Survey, Monitoring and Research**

- Contributes to National Park Management Plan policy W2 (c) and underpins impact areas under policy E1.
- Contributes to the following National Park Authority Well-being Objectives: Resilience (Conservation Land Management Service, Biodiversity & Connectivity Projects, Conservation Strategic Partnerships & Engagement, Engagement & Volunteering in looking after the Park's Ecosystems), Communities (Community Activities & Projects benefiting the Park & People) and Global (Work Streams: Special Qualities: Inspiration and Education, Responding to Climate Change Emergency).

**14. Habitat and Species Survey**

**Purpose:** Conduct habitat and species surveys.

**Outcome:** Improved knowledge of the distribution of habitats and species within the National Park informing an evidence-based approach to conservation and planning.

Action / Initiative	Timescales	National Park Authority lead	Resources / Partners	Status
Support the West Wales Biodiversity Information Centre and utilise its expertise.	Ongoing	Conservation Team	PCNPA	Underway.
Submit wildlife records to West Wales Biodiversity Information Centre.	Ongoing	Conservation Team	PCNPA	Underway.
Create a grassland inventory for the National Park.	Current plan period.	Conservation Team	PCNPA	Not started.

**15. Monitoring**

**Purpose:** Condition monitoring and trends assessment.

**Outcome:** Improved knowledge of the condition and trends of habitats and species within the National Park informing an evidence-based approach to conservation.

Action / Initiative	Timescales	National Park Authority lead	Resources / Partners	Status
Continue with long term monitoring projects for chough, barn owl, bats (Carew Castle) and skylark (St. Davids Airfield).	Ongoing	Conservation Team	PCNPA	Underway.
Commission an external review of the long term chough monitoring dataset.	2021	Conservation Team	PCNPA	Complete.
Work with partners to safeguard long term monitoring projects within the National Park (e.g. shelduck, seabirds).	Ongoing	Conservation Team	PCNPA	Underway.
Support and input to the State of Wildlife in Pembrokeshire Report.	Ongoing	Conservation Team	PCNPA	Underway.

<b>16. Research</b>
<b>Purpose:</b> To improve of our knowledge of nature in the National Park and to inform our conservation management actions.
<b>Outcome:</b> An evidence-based approach to conservation.

Action / Initiative	Timescales	National Park Authority lead	Resources / Partners	Status
Support others conducting research of interest in the National Park.	Ongoing	Conservation Team	PCNPA	Underway.
Continue to support our university partnerships.	Ongoing	Conservation Team	PCNPA	Underway.
Adder radio-tracking in partnership with Amphibian and Reptile Conservation to investigate adder use of the coastal belt.	Current plan period.	Conservation Team	PCNPA	Underway.
Further analysis of the chough monitoring dataset to identify factors affecting success (e.g. geology and landuse).	Current plan period.	Conservation Team	£10k funding required	Not started.
Maintain contributions to the Milford Haven Waterway Environmental Surveillance Group.	Current plan period.	Conservation Team	PCNPA	Underway.

#### 7. Priority Area: Marine Environment

- Contributes to National Park Management Plan policies W2 (c). E1 (g, h, l & m).
- Contributes to the following National Park Authority Well-being Objectives: Resilience (Conservation Strategic Partnerships & Engagement, Marine and Foreshore Environment) and Global (Work Streams: Special Qualities: Inspiration and Education, Responding to Climate Change Emergency).

<b>17. Foreshore management</b>
<b>Purpose:</b> Support integrated sustainable management of the foreshore.
<b>Outcome:</b> Conservation / enhancement of foreshore, greater awareness and enriched visitor experiences of it.

Action / Initiative	Timescales	National Park Authority lead	Resources / Partners	Status
Support Natural Resources Wales in managing bait-digging in the intertidal and prevent damage to conservation features of SSSIs and Special Areas of Conservation.	Current plan period.	Conservation Team	PCNPA, Pembrokeshire Marine European Marine Site Officer (via contribution to Relevant Authority Group), Welsh Government, Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum Community Interest Company.	Underway.
Support the work of partners in delivering recreational management to protect coastal and marine wildlife and habitats.	Current plan period.	Conservation Team	PCNPA, Pembrokeshire Marine European Marine Site Officer (via contribution to Relevant Authority Group), Welsh Government, Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum Community Interest Company.	Underway.
With stakeholders, create a Foreshore Management Action Plan, with joint actions as members of the Public Services Board and collaborative site specific action plans for pressured locations.	Current plan period.	Head of Ranger Services	PCNPA, Pembrokeshire Marine European Marine Site Officer (via contribution to Relevant Authority Group), Welsh Government, Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum Community Interest Company.	Underway.
Reduce waste and marine litter by reducing Authority use, contributing to beach cleans, and raising awareness.	Current plan period.	Discovery Team, Ranger Team, Delivery Team	PCNPA, Pembrokeshire Marine European Marine Site Officer (via contribution to Relevant Authority Group), Welsh Government,	Underway.

			Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum Community Interest Company, Pembrokeshire County Council, Keep Wales Tidy, National Trust.	
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<b>18. European Marine Sites</b>				
<b>Purpose:</b> Support European Marine Site management through financial contributions to actions undertaken for the Relevant Authorities Groups. This will also contribute to Wales National Marine Plan goals and the UK Marine Policy Statement.				
<b>Outcome:</b> Conservation / enhancement of features of European Marine Site, and greater awareness and enriched visitor experiences of them.				

Action / Initiative	Timescales	National Park Authority lead	Resources / Partners	Status
Raise awareness of local marine wildlife and how our actions can impact upon essential marine ecosystems.	Ongoing	Discovery Team, Delivery Team, Ranger Team, Conservation Team	PCNPA, Pembrokeshire Marine European Marine Site Officer (via contribution to Relevant Authority Group), Marine Protected Area Management Steering Group	Underway.
Seek opportunities for joint working to improve water quality information and land management. Support expansion of water quality work from the Waterway to the open coast.	Current plan period.	Delivery Team, Conservation Team	PCNPA, Pembrokeshire Marine European Marine Site Officer (via contribution to Relevant Authority Group), Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum Community Interest Company Other partners: Natural Resources Wales, Wildlife Trust South and West Wales, National Trust, West Wales Rivers Trust, Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water, PLANED.	Underway.
Work with partners to prepare a biosecurity plan for the Pembrokeshire Coast. Support awareness raising and reporting (e.g. Marine Code app).	Current plan period.	Conservation Team	PCNPA, Pembrokeshire Marine Relevant Authorities Group (includes the Port of Milford Haven), Milford Haven Waterway Environmental Surveillance Group, Pembrokeshire Nature Partnership and Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum Community Interest Company.	Underway.
Collaborate on marine pollution prevention, contingency planning and response.	Ongoing	Head of Ranger Services, Biodiversity Officer	PCNPA, Dyfed Powys Local Resilience Forum Counter Pollution Group, Advisory Group for the Control of Major Accident Hazards sites in the Haven.	Underway.