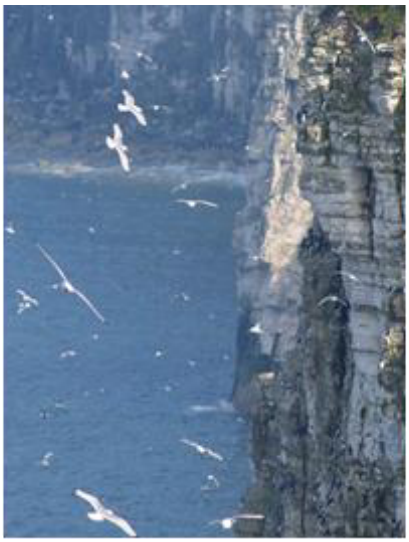
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Report to Inform a Habitats Regulations Assessment

Draft Yorkshire Dales National Park Management Plan 2025 – 2030

For

Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority

Project No.: YOR001-004-001/001/001

March 2025

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1. Executive Summary

1.1 Summary

1.1.1 National Park Authorities must produce management plans and update them every five years. The Yorkshire Dales National Park (YDNP) Management Plan 2025 – 2030 (YDNP Management Plan Partnership, 2025) is currently in draft form.

1.1.2 Under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) (Habitats Regulations), the YDNP Authority (YDNPA) have requested information to inform their Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) and to identify any likely significant effects the implementation of the management plan may have on internationally important statutory designated sites for nature conservation (Relevant sites). These site designations in the UK comprise Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Ramsar sites.

1.1.3 The following sites (shown on Figure 1) were determined to be relevant in the assessment of the management plan because they are within the geographic area covered by the plan (i.e. within the YDNP boundary):

- Malham Tarn Ramsar
- Asby Complex SAC
- Craven Limestone Complex SAC
- Ingleborough Complex SAC
- North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC
- North Pennine Moors SAC
- Ox Close SAC
- River Eden SAC
- North Pennine Moors SPA

1.1.4 Potential impact pathways considered include:

- Direct loss of Annex I habitats of functionally linked land (FLL)
- Increased recreational pressure
- Water discharge
- Damage and disturbance to Annex I habitats, habitats supporting Annex II species or FLL, including noise and light
- Cat predation of qualifying bird species

- Pollution: air, dust, spills
- Nutrient enrichment

1.1.5 The following sites (shown on Figure 1) were determined to be relevant because they are within 7km of the YDNP and potentially subject to off-site impacts of management leading to increased recreational pressure:

- Morecambe Bay Pavements SAC
- River Kent SAC
- Lake District High Fells SAC
- South Pennine Moors SAC
- South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA
- Moor House – Upper Teesdale SAC

1.1.6 South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA was also considered in relation to impacts on functionally linked land from land take, damage and disturbance, and on Annex 2 bird species from cat predation.

1.1.7 In addition, the Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast SPA and Ramsar site (shown on Figure 2) was also included in the assessment because of the potential for off-site impacts from nutrient enrichment, as a small area of the YDNP is within the Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast catchment area.

1.1.8 Objectives in the management plan were assessed in accordance with the Habitats Regulations individually and, where necessary, cumulatively.

1.1.9 Twenty-two objectives set out in the management plan were screened in for further assessment 'alone' because they may have a likely significant effect in the absence of mitigation. These objectives were taken through to the Appropriate Assessment, and it was determined that with mitigation these objectives would not have an adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.

1.1.10 Ten objectives were considered cumulatively. It was considered that the cumulative impact of these objectives could have a likely significant effect in the absence of mitigation on five of the Relevant sites. The cumulative impacts were then considered in the Appropriate Assessment, and it was determined that with mitigation these objectives would not have an adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.

1.2 Mitigation Measures

1.2.1 The following mitigation measures will ensure that there should be no significant adverse effect on any of the Relevant sites as a result of the management plan:

- In the forthcoming YDNP Local Plan the following policies are relevant:

  - Policy NE1 will act to protect Relevant sites from development;
  - Policy CP5 will protect Relevant sites where developments fall within a Nutrient Neutrality catchment; and
  - Policy AC5 will protect Relevant sites where developments will lead to an increase in traffic movements within 200m of a Relevant site.

- The YDNP (YDNP Biodiversity Forum, 2023) states that tree planting must be done *'following the principles of the 'right tree in the right place' and avoiding planting that might harm sensitive habitats and species'*.
- Ecological constraints, including 'Statutory Protected Sites of Ecological Importance' (including Relevant sites) will be considered by Electricity North West (Electricity North West Ltd, 2016) when determining which stretches of overhead lines to move underground. Both Electricity North West and Northern Powergrid have environmental obligations under Schedule 9 of the Electricity Act 1989.
- Relevant organisations must ensure that any impacts on Relevant sites are considered when organising and planning activities and events.
- High severity recreational activities such as 'green laneing' should be avoided in the following Relevant sites:
  - Ingleborough Complex SAC; and
  - North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC.

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Legend

- North Pennine Moors (SPA)
- South Pennine Moors Phase 2 (SPA)
- North Pennine Moors (SPA)
- Malham Tarn (Ramsar)
- North Pennine Dales Meadows (SAC)
- Asby Complex (SAC)
- Lake District High Fells (SAC)
- Moor House-Upper Teesdale (SAC)
- Morecambe Bay Pavements (SAC)
- North Pennine Moors (SAC)
- River Eden (SAC)
- River Kent (SAC)
- South Pennine Moors (SAC)
- Craven Limestone Complex (SAC)
- Ingleborough Complex (SAC)
- Ox Close (SAC)
- 7km Study Area Buffer
- Yorkshire Dales National Park Boundary

Map Centre Grid Reference: 386114E 491436N

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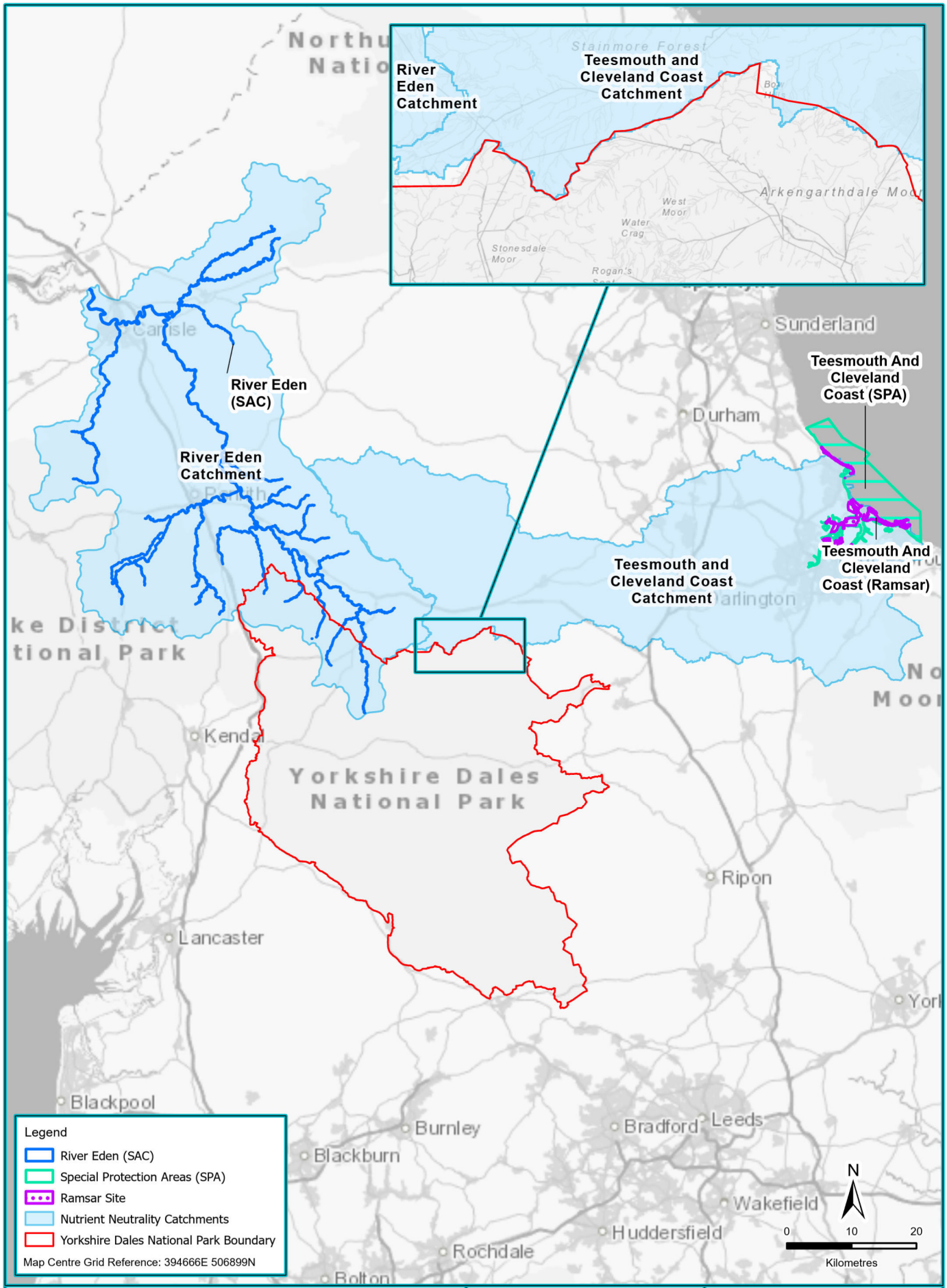
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Yorkshire Dales National Park and Relevant Sites

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Figure Title: Yorkshire Dales National Park and Nutrient Neutrality Catchments		Drawn: ET	Checked: JB
		Date: 28/02/2025	Date: 28/02/2025

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2. Introduction

2.1 The Management Plan

2.1.1 The Yorkshire Dales National Park (YDNP) Management Plan 2025-2030 (National Park Management Plan Partnership, 2025) is currently in draft form and is out for a second public consultation (20th January – 10th March 2025). This is the version assessed in this Report to Inform a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) and it will hereafter be referred to as 'the management plan'.

2.1.2 National Park Authorities are required by law to produce management plans and to review them every five years. The management plan should ensure that the statutory purposes (see below) of the National Park are met by bringing together relevant policies, plans and strategies of a range of organisations.

2.1.3 As set out in Section 61 of the Environment Act 1995, the two statutory purposes of National Parks that have guided the production of the management plan are:

1. *'conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage'* of the National Park; and
2. *'promoting opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities* (of the Park) *by the public."*

2.1.4 National Park Authorities also have a duty under Section 62(1) of the Environment Act 1995 to '*seek to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities within the National Park.*'

2.1.5 ~~The management plan is written for communities, businesses, visitors and other organisations that live, work, visit or operate in the YDNP.~~

2.2 The Brief and Objectives

2.2.1 Thomson Environmental Consultants was commissioned by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA) on 24th January 2025 to undertake a report to inform a HRA of the management plan, which is required to assess likely significant effects to designated sites of international nature conservation importance.

2.2.2 This report is provided to aid the competent authority in undertaking a HRA for the management plan in accordance with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, as amended.

3. Basis for Habitats Regulations Assessment

3.1 Background

3.1.1 The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, as amended (by The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations, 2019), are commonly referred to as the 'Habitats Regulations'. The Habitats Regulations collectively define former Natura 2000 sites (aka European sites or European offshore marine sites) in England and Wales as the 'National Site Network'. The National Site Network includes Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Sites of Community Importance (SCI), Special Protection Areas (SPA) and candidate Special Areas of Conservation (cSAC). Additionally, as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework 2024, possible SACs and proposed SPAs (pSAC and pSPA), Ramsar sites (and proposed Ramsar sites) and sites identified for Natura 2000 compensatory measures receive the same protection. These sites are henceforth referred to as 'Relevant Sites'.

3.2 Requirements of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations

3.2.1 Regulation 63 of the Habitats Regulations states that:

> *'A competent authority, before deciding to undertake, or give any consent, permission or other authorisation for, a plan or project which–*
>
> *(a) is likely to have a significant effect on a* [Relevant Site] *(either alone or in combination with other plans or projects), and*
> *(b) is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of that site,*
>
> *must make an appropriate assessment of the implications of the plan or project for that site, in view of that site's conservation objectives'.*

3.2.2 It further states that *'In the light of the conclusions of the assessment, and subject to Regulation 64 (considerations of overriding public interest), the competent authority may agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the [Relevant site]'.*

3.2.3 The Habitats Regulations require that the Secretary of State maintain or, where appropriate, restore habitats and species populations of European importance to favourable conservation status.

3.2.4 The application of the Habitats Regulations involves the precautionary principle; that plans and projects can only be permitted once it has been determined there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of a Relevant site. Plans and projects may still, however, be permitted if there are no alternatives, and there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest as to why they should go ahead. In such cases compensatory measures will be necessary to ensure the overall integrity of the network of Relevant sites.

4. Methodology

4.1 HRA Process Overview

4.1.1 The Habitats Regulations procedurally describe a systematic set of stages for transparent consideration of the likely effects a plan or project could have on a Relevant site. Associated guidance states that there are four stages in producing an assessment:

- Stage One: Screening - the process which identifies whether the plan or project is required for the management of Relevant site(s) and if not, whether there may be any effects upon a Relevant site's designated features as a result of the plan or project, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, and considers whether these effects are likely to be significant;
- Stage Two: Appropriate Assessment - the consideration of the impact on the integrity of the Relevant site from the plan or project, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, with respect to the Relevant site's structure and function, and its conservation objectives. Additionally, where adverse effects on the protected site's integrity exist, an assessment of the effectiveness of potential mitigation of those impacts will be made;
- Stage Three: Assessment of alternative solutions - the process which examines alternative ways of achieving the objectives of the plan or project that avoid significant effects on the integrity of the Relevant site, identified at Stage Two; and
- Stage Four: Assessment where no alternative solutions exist and where adverse impacts remain – an assessment of compensatory measures where, in the light of an assessment of imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI), it is deemed that the plan should proceed.

4.1.2 Each stage determines whether a further stage in the process is required. If, for example, the conclusions at the end of Stage One are that there are no likely significant effects on any relevant site, there is no requirement to proceed further.

4.1.3 The following European Commission guidance is also used: Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC (European Commission, 2001).

4.2 Stage One: Screening

4.2.1 The information on Relevant sites was obtained from a search on the Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) website (Defra, 2025).

4.2.2 To determine which Relevant sites to consider, sites were scanned using 'Figure F4.4 Scanning and site selection list for sites that could potentially be affected by the plan' (Tyldesley and Chapman, 2025).

4.2.3 The Relevant site's Citation and Standard Data Form were obtained from the Natural England and Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) websites. The conservation objectives were obtained from the Natural England website for each Relevant site, and the information on these form the basis against which to assess the likely impacts of the proposed works.

4.2.4 The qualifying features of the Relevant SACs and SPAs were taken from the Citations, current threats and pressures were taken from the Standard Data Form and, for the SACs the habitat conditions were assessed using the Supplementary Advice on Conservation Objectives documents.

4.2.5 Equivalent information for Ramsar sites was taken from the relevant Ramsar Information Sheet. Defra and Natural England do not produce specific conservation objectives for individual Ramsar sites, but consider those for the overlapping Relevant site to be sufficient in most cases.

4.2.6 The conservation status of the interest features has been assessed based on information from the original Citation and Standard Data forms, with comparison with more recent Relevant site data on the Supplementary Advice on Conservation Objectives documents, where available. Where not available, the precautionary approach has been taken, and the conservation status assumed to be unfavourable.

4.2.7 The screening assessment is also informed by relevant case law, including ECJ Case C-323/117 (2018), which states that a screening assessment may not take account of avoidance or mitigation measures when determining the requirement for an appropriate assessment. The steps set out in this report are in alignment with this document and the case law.

4.2.8 Each objective detailed in the management plan was assessed for its likely significant effect on each of the Relevant sites, based on potential impact pathways, the sites' conservation objectives, and the current conservation status of its qualifying features. Cumulative and in-combination effects have been considered where required. The screening categories detailed in Table 1: Screening Categories (Tyldesley and Chapman, 2025) have been used to screen objectives 'alone' in or out of further consideration at the in-combination or Appropriate Assessment stage.

Table 1: Screening Categories (Tyldesley and Chapman, 2025)

Screening Category	Screened In / Out	Justification
A	Screened out	General Statement of policy / general aspiration.
B	Screened out	Policy listing general criteria for testing the acceptability / sustainability of proposals.
C	Screened out	Proposal referred to but not proposed by the plan.

Screening Category	Screened In / Out	Justification
D	Screened out	General plan-wide environmental protection / site safeguarding / threshold policies.
E	Screened out	Policies or proposals which steer change in such a way as to protect National sites from adverse effects.
F	Screened out	Policy that cannot lead to development or other change.
G	Screened out	Policy or proposal that could not have any conceivable effect on a site.
H	Screened out	Policy or proposal the (actual or theoretical) effects of which cannot undermine the conservation objectives (either alone or in combination with other aspects of this or other plan or projects).
I	Screened in	Policy or proposal which may have a likely significant effect on a site alone.
J	N/A[1]	Policy or proposal with an effect on a site but unlikely to be significant alone, so need to check for likely significant effects in combination.
K	Screened out after in combination test.	Policy or proposal unlikely to have a significant effect either alone or in combination.
L	Screened out after in combination test.	Policy or proposal which might be likely to have a significant effect in combination.
M	Screened in	Bespoke area, site or case-specific policies or proposals intended to avoid or reduce harmful effects on a European site.

4.3 Interpretation of "Likely Significant Effect"

4.3.1 Due to the subjectivity and interpretation of the Habitats Regulations, applicable case law can be used to interpret when effects should be considered as a likely significant effect, when carrying out a HRA.

[1] Not applicable

4.3.2 An interpretation of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive, delivered by the Court of Justice of the European Union (ECJ) Case[2], ruled that:

- An effect is considered 'likely', "if it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that it will have a significant effect on the protected site".
- An effect is considered 'significant', "if it undermines the conservation objectives" of a Relevant site; and
- Where a plan or project has an effect on a protected site "but is not likely to undermine its conservation objectives, it cannot be considered likely to have a significant effect on the protected site concerned".

4.3.3 This interpretation means that, even if the project or plan has an effect on the relevant site, the project or plan can still be screened out of further assessment if the effect, including when combined with effects from other projects or plans, obviously would not (or is very unlikely to) undermine the conservation objectives of the relevant site. Otherwise, the plan or project will need be assessed further at Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment (when avoidance and mitigation measures can be considered), or substantially re-designed or relocated and assessed afresh.

4.4 Stage Two: Appropriate Assessment

4.4.1 In this stage, potential mitigation measures are considered before evaluating the potential effects of the management plan, either individually or in combination with other nearby management plans, on the conservation objectives of the Relevant site(s), to deem whether a likely significant effect is still anticipated.

4.4.2 If the plan, alone or in combination with other plans, would breach the conservation objectives or there is uncertainty, then the conclusion must be that there would be an adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant site(s).

[2] ECJ Case C-127/02 "Waddenzee" Jan 2004.

5. Stage One: Screening Assessment

5.1 Step One: Management of the Network of Relevant Sites (National Site Network)

5.1.1 The management plan is not directly connected with, or necessary to, the management of any Relevant site, and therefore it needs to be determined whether the plan is likely to have significant effects on the identified Relevant sites.

5.2 Step Two: Description of the Management Plan

5.2.1 The management plan is arranged as follows:

5.2.2 **Introduction to the Consultation** – This section includes a discussion of what a National Park management plan is, the statutory purposes and duty of the National Park, the legal responsibilities of other bodies, the review process, and statutory assessments.

5.2.3 **Our Vision** – Summarises six ambitions for the National Park, to be achieved by 2040, that the objectives of the management plan will support. Two are prioritised including to be '*home to the finest variety of wildlife in England'* and '*resilient and responsive to the impacts of climate change, storing more carbon each year than it produces*.'

5.2.4 **Objectives** – The objectives are intended to be achieved over the next five to ten years and are split into six categories:

- **A.** A distinctive, living, working, cultural landscape that tells the ongoing story of generations of people interacting with their environment
- **B.** A friendly, open and welcoming place with outstanding opportunities to enjoy its special qualities
- **C.** Home to the finest variety of wildlife in England
- **D.** Resilient and responsive to the impacts of climate change, storing more carbon each year than it produces
- **E.** Providing an outstanding range of benefits for the nation based on its natural resources, landscape and cultural heritage, which underpin a flourishing local economy
- **F.** Home to strong, self-reliant and balanced communities with good access to the services they need

5.3 Step Three, Part One: Characteristics of the Site

Project Site

5.3.1 The YDNP was designated in 1954 and now covers an area of 217,900 ha, its boundary having been extended in 2016. Nationally and internationally important wildlife habitats make up over one quarter of the YDNP (57,000 ha).

5.3.2 The YDNP encompasses a diverse range of habitats, including limestone pavement, upland heathland, calcareous grassland, and extensive moorland. Traditional hay meadows, woodlands, rivers, and streams add to the ecological variety, while sinkholes, wetlands, peatlands, and fell slopes further enhance the landscape's complexity. These habitats support a rich biodiversity, from rare plant species to specialised invertebrates and birds, and play

crucial roles in carbon storage, water regulation, and traditional farming practices. Effective conservation management is essential to maintain these ecological functions, and the overall biodiversity of the Park.

5.3.3 The YDNP is uniquely characterised by its ancient dry-stone walls and field barns, which reflect centuries of agricultural practices and local heritage. The region is renowned for its sheep and dairy farming, with distinct breeds such as Dalesbred, Wensleydale, and Swaledale, and a strong tradition of upland cattle rearing that remains integral to local culture. Over a quarter of England's flower-rich upland hay meadows and pastures are found here, supporting nationally important populations of curlew, lapwing and black grouse. The Park is rich in archaeological remains, documenting human activity from the Palaeolithic era to twentieth-century industrial landscapes. It features some of the UK's finest limestone scenery, including crags, pavements, and the country's longest cave system. As an International Dark Sky Reserve, it offers extensive areas of unpolluted night sky, ideal for stargazing and viewing phenomena like the Milky Way and Northern Lights. The remoteness of certain areas provides a profound sense of tranquillity and solitude.

Relevant Sites

5.3.4 Relevant sites that may be affected by the management plan were identified through MAGIC that provides geographic information about the natural environment from across government (Defra, 2025). Relevant sites were selected using the scanning table shown below. Searches were undertaken during January 2025.

Table 2: Scanning and Site Selection List for Sites that Could Potentially be Affected by the Plan (F4.4).

Types of plan	Sites to scan for and check	Names of sites selected
1. All plans (terrestrial, coastal and marine)	Sites within the geographic area covered by or intended to be relevant to the plan	Malham Tarn Ramsar, Asby Complex SAC, Craven Limestone Complex SAC, Ingleborough Complex SAC, North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC, North Pennine Moors SAC, Ox Close SAC, River Eden SAC, North Pennine Moors SPA
2. Plans that could affect the aquatic environment	Sites upstream or downstream of the plan area in the case of river or estuary sites	N/A
	Open water, peatland, fen, marsh and other wetland sites with relevant hydrological links to land within the plan area, irrespective of distance from the plan area	Malham Tarn Ramsar, Asby Complex SAC, Craven Limestone Complex SAC, Ingleborough Complex SAC, North Pennine Moors SAC, Ox Close SAC, River Eden SAC

Types of plan	Sites to scan for and check	Names of sites selected
3. Plans that could affect the marine environment	Sites that could be affected by changes in water quality, currents or flows; or effects on the inter-tidal or sub-tidal areas or the sea bed, or marine species	N/A
4. Plans that could affect the coast	Sites in the same coastal 'cell', or part of the same coastal ecosystem, or where there are interrelationships with or between different physical coastal processes	N/A
5. Plans that could affect mobile species	Sites whose qualifying features include mobile species which may be affected by the plan irrespective of the location of the plan's proposals or whether the species would be in or out of the site when they might be affected	North Pennine Moors SPA and South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA
6. Plans that could increase recreational pressure on National sites potentially vulnerable or sensitive to such pressure[3]	Such National sites in the plan area	As 1.
	Such National sites within an agreed zone of influence or other reasonable and evidence-based travel distance of the plan area boundaries that may be affected by local recreational or other visitor pressure from within the plan area	Morecambe Bay Pavements SAC, River Kent SAC, Lake District High Fells SAC, South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA, South Pennine Moors SAC, Moor House – Upper Teesdale SAC
	Such National sites within an agreed zone of influence or other evidence-based longer travel distance of the plan area, which are major (regional or national) visitor attractions such as National sites which are National Nature Reserves where public visiting is promoted, sites in National Parks, coastal sites and sites in other major tourist or visitor destinations	N/A

[3] For item 6: 'Plans that could increase recreational pressure on European sites potentially vulnerable or sensitive to such pressure' a zone of influence of 7km has been used. This is based on visitor survey work at the South Pennine Moors SAC and SPA carried out by Bradford Metropolitan District Council (Footprint Ecology, 2021). These surveys determined that after an approximate distance of 7km visitor numbers started to drop off. The distance of 7km has been used in a number of other neighbouring district's local plans when assessing impacts of recreation on Relevant sites.

Types of plan	Sites to scan for and check	Names of sites selected
7. Plans that would increase the amount of development	Sites in the plan area or beyond that are used for, or could be affected by, water abstraction irrespective of distance from the plan area	N/A
	Sites used for, or could be affected by, discharge of effluent from waste water treatment works or other waste management streams serving the plan area, irrespective of distance from the plan area	Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast Ramsar and SPA, River Eden SAC
	Sites that could be affected by the provision of new or extended transport or other infrastructure	N/A
	Sites that could be affected by increased deposition of air pollutants arising from the proposals, including emissions from significant increases in traffic	Asby Complex SAC, North Pennine Moors SAC, River Eden SAC, North Pennine Moors SPA, Moor House – Upper Teesdale SAC, South Pennine Moors SAC, Lake District High Fells SAC, Morecambe Bay Pavements SAC, Ox Close SAC, North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC, Ingleborough Complex SAC, Craven Limestone Complex SAC
8. Plans for linear developments or infrastructure	Sites within a specified distance from the centre line of the proposed route (or alternative routes), the distance may be varied for differing types of site / qualifying features and in the absence of established good practice standards, distance(s) to be agreed by the statutory nature conservation body	N/A
9. Plans that introduce new activities or new uses into the marine, coastal or terrestrial environment	Sites considered to have qualifying features potentially vulnerable or sensitive to the effects of the new activities proposed by the plan	N/A
10. Plans that could change the nature, area, extent, intensity, density, timing or scale of existing activities or uses	Sites considered to have qualifying features potentially vulnerable or sensitive to the effects of the changes to existing activities proposed by the plan	N/A

Types of plan	Sites to scan for and check	Names of sites selected
11. Plans that could change the quantity, quality, timing, treatment or mitigation of emissions or discharges to air, water or soil	Sites considered to have qualifying features potentially vulnerable or sensitive to the changes in emissions or discharges that could arise as a result of the plan	As 1.
12. Plans that could change the quantity, volume, timing, rate, or other characteristics of biological resources harvested, extracted or consumed	Sites whose qualifying features include the biological resources which the plan may affect, or whose qualifying features depend on the biological resources which the plan may affect, for example as prey species or supporting habitat or which may be disturbed by the harvesting, extraction or consumption	N/A
13. Plans that could change the quantity, volume, timing, rate, or other characteristics of physical resources extracted or consumed	Sites whose qualifying features rely on the non-biological resources which the plan may affect, for example, as habitat or a physical environment on which habitat may develop or which may be disturbed by the extraction or consumption	N/A
14. Plans which could introduce or increase, or alter the timing, nature or location of disturbance to species	Sites whose qualifying features are considered to be potentially sensitive to disturbance, for example as a result of noise, activity or movement, or the presence of disturbing features that could be brought about by the plan	As 1.
15. Plans which could introduce or increase or change the timing, nature or location of light or noise pollution	Sites whose qualifying features are considered to be potentially sensitive to the effects of changes in light or noise that could be brought about by the plan	As 1.
16. Plans which could introduce or increase a potential cause of mortality of species	Sites whose qualifying features are considered to be potentially sensitive to the source of new or increased mortality that could be brought about by the plan	As 1.

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5.3.5 Water abstraction was screened out as an impact pathway in the HRA of the YDNP Local Plan (Thomson Environmental Consultants, 2024) and therefore it is not considered here.

5.3.6 Table 3, 4 and 5 below include each site and a list of its qualifying features, with priority features marked with an asterisk (*). Details of any current pressures and threats to the integrity of the site are also included (taken from the Standard Data Forms and Site Improvement Plans, unless stated otherwise), where they are considered relevant to the assessment of the management plan, as is the conservation status of the qualifying features. Where the conservation status of a qualifying features is favourable the objective is to maintain, where the conservation status is unfavourable, the objective is to restore.

5.3.7 Conservation objectives for each site are shown in sections 5.3.9 to 5.3.17.

5.3.8 This HRA will also consider functionally linked land (FLL) throughout the assessment. FLL is defined as:

> '*The term 'functional linkage' refers to the role or 'function' that land or sea beyond the boundary of a European site might fulfil in terms of supporting the populations for which the site was designated or classified. Such an area of land or sea is therefore 'linked' to the site in question because it provides a (potentially important) role in maintaining or restoring a protected population at favourable conservation status*' (Chapman and Tyldesley, 2016).

5.3.9 The location of the YDNP with respect to the Relevant sites and Nutrient Neutrality catchments is shown on Figures 1 and 2, respectively.

Table 3: Relevant Sites Within the YDNP

Site	Qualifying Features[4] and Conservation Status[5]		Current Relevant Pressures and Threats
	Habitats	Species	
Malham Tarn Ramsar	Ramsar Criterion 1: • Contains the highest marl lake in Britain, along with acidophilous bog, calcareous fen and soligenous mire = no data: assume unfavourable.	Ramsar Criterion 2: • Supports the nationally rare alpine bartisia *Bartsia alpina* and narrow small reed *Calamagrostis stricta* and seven nationally scarce species. Supports five listed British Red Data Book invertebrates including the caddis fly *Agrypnia crassicornis.* = no data: assume unfavourable.	Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands (JNCC, 2008): No factors reported adversely affecting the sites ecological character (past, present or potential).
Asby Complex SAC	Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site: • 6210 Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates = Unfavourable • 6410 Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils = Favourable • 7220 Petrifying springs with tufa formation (*Cratoneurion*)* = Unfavourable • 7230 Alkaline fens = Unfavourable	Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site: • 1013 Geyer's whorl snail *Vertigo geyeri* = Unfavourable • 1393 Slender green feather-moss *Drepanocladus* (*Hamatocaulis*) *vernicosus* = Unfavourable	Standard Data Form (SDF) (JNCC, 2015a): • High severity air pollution occurring both inside and outside the area. • High severity water pollution occurring both inside and outside the area. • High severity agricultural expansion occurring inside the area. • High severity urban development occurring inside the area. • High severity temperature extremes due to climate change occurring both inside and outside the area.

[4] Taken from citations or from the Ramsar Information Sheet (RIS).
[5] Taken from the relevant Supplementary Advice document.

Site	Qualifying Features[4] and Conservation Status[5]		Current Relevant Pressures and Threats
	Habitats	**Species**	
	• 8240 Limestone pavements* = Unfavourable Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site: • 3140 Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of *Chara* spp.= Unfavourable • 4030 European dry heaths = Unfavourable • 7210 Calcareous fens with *Cladium mariscus* and species of the *Caricion davallianae** = Unfavourable		Site Improvement Plan (SIP) (Natural England, 2014a): • Water pollution: '*A large gull colony, no longer present on site have left a historic legacy of enrichment in the Tarn. There are likely to be additional inputs from diffuse sources, but complex hydrology make it difficult to pinpoint the source'* • Air pollution: impact of atmospheric nitrogen deposition: '*Nitrogen deposition exceeds site relevant critical loads*.' • Public access/disturbance: '*The area is within the proposed extension area of the Yorkshire Dales National Park* [now part of the park]. *The raising of the profile of this area could lead to increased disturbance and damage to sensitive features*.' • Change in land Management - *The Asby Complex is a series of upland habitats, most of which are common land where the primary management is sheep grazing. Recent levels of sheep grazing are not conducive to achieving favourable condition on the mosaic of heathland and limestone grassland and much of the land is now managed under HLS to introduce cattle grazing. However, there are areas where this beneficial management has not been secured and, whilst they may be managed sensitively at present, any change in land management may have a detrimental effect on the SAC features. The beneficial changes in management achieved through HLS has often had a reliance on fencing, which if removed, would lead to a decline in SAC features. As much of the land is common land, secretary of state approval is required for most fencing proposals.*

Site	Qualifying Features[4] and Conservation Status[5]		Current Relevant Pressures and Threats
	Habitats	Species	
Craven Limestone Complex SAC	Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site: • 3140 Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of *Chara* spp. = Favourable • 6210 Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*) (* important orchid sites) = Favourable • 6410 Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (*Molinion caeruleae*) = Favourable • 7110 Active raised bogs* = Unfavourable • 7220 Petrifying springs with tufa formation (*Cratoneurion*)* = Favourable • 7230 Alkaline fens = Favourable • 8240 Limestone pavements* = Favourable Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site: • 6130 Calaminarian grasslands of the *Violetalia calaminariae* = Favourable	Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site: • 1092 White-clawed (or Atlantic stream) crayfish *Austropotamobius pallipes* = Unfavourable • 1163 Bullhead *Cottus gobio* = Unfavourable • 1902 Lady's-slipper orchid *Cypripedium calceolus* = Favourable	SDF (JNCC, 2015b): • High severity water pollution occurring both inside and outside the area. • High severity temperature extremes due to climate change occurring both inside and outside the area. • High severity impact from dams and water management/use occurring both inside and outside the area. SIP (Natural England, 2014b): • Hydrological changes: *"The edge of Tarn Moss is being eroded by wave action from the artificially high water levels in Malham Tarn. This is leading to direct loss of bog, and increased drying at the edge of the peat body. It also increases the sediment loading to the tarn."* • Climate change: *"Climate change may be leading to the loss of key species associated with the more upland and montane elements of calcareous rocky slopes and limestone pavement."* • Air pollution: impact of atmospheric nitrogen deposition: *"Nitrogen deposition exceeds site relevant critical loads."* • Public access/disturbance: *"Public access causing erosion is one of the contributing factors to the lack of structure of the bank side/stream vegetation. This is likely to be having a knock-on effect on the bullhead population. The bullhead population appears to be declining in this location."*

Site	Qualifying Features[4] and Conservation Status[5]		Current Relevant Pressures and Threats
	Habitats	Species	
	• 9180 *Tilio-Acerion* forests of slopes, screes and ravines* = Favourable		• Direct impact from third party: *"Possible theft of Lady's slipper orchid from the only documented wild site remaining in Britain."* • Water pollution: *There are diffuse water pollution issues at Malham Tarn which affect the tarn and possibly the fens. There is a concern about total phosphate levels in particular.*
Ingleborough Complex SAC	Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site: • 5130 Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands = Unfavourable • 7230 Alkaline fens = Favourable • 8210 Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation = Favourable • 8240 Limestone pavements* = Favourable Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site: • 6210 Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*) = Favourable • 6410 Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-	No species listed.	SDF (JNCC, 2015c): • High severity recreational activities causing human intrusion and disturbance, occurring both inside and outside the area. • High severity water pollution occurring both inside and outside the area. • High severity noise pollution occurring inside the area. • High severity agricultural expansion occurring inside the area. SIP (Natural England, 2014c): • Air pollution: impact of atmospheric nitrogen deposition: *"Nitrogen deposition exceeds site relevant critical loads, for all notified features by varying degrees with habitats with the lowest thresholds like Blanket Bog probably worst affected. Likely effects are reductions in bryophytes within wetland habitats, changes in species composition generally, increased plant growth and the favouring of more competitive species. Deposition on woodland habitats appears far higher, possibly due to the greater structure and 'scrubbing' though the basic modelling may obscure effects at higher altitude where*

Site	Qualifying Features[4] and Conservation Status[5]		Current Relevant Pressures and Threats
	Habitats	Species	
	laden soils (*Molinion caeruleae*) = Favourable • 7130 Blanket bogs* = Unfavourable • 7220 Petrifying springs with tufa formation (*Cratoneurion*)* = Favourable • 9180 *Tilio-Acerion* forests of slopes, screes and ravines* = Favourable		*habitat is more often cloud-bound (bogs over 600 metres asl are generally in poorer condition than those lower on the fell). Greatest inputs according to APIS are from UK Agriculture (mainly at distance) and European Imports."* • Climate change: *"Climate change may be leading to the loss of key species associated with the more upland and montane elements of calcareous rocky slopes and limestone pavement. Ingleborough has examples through the lowland/upland transition but over time only the former may remain. Certain key species cannot retreat as the habitat is fixed to the limestone band at circa 650 metres. There is no higher niche and only the north west aspect ameliorates any warming. The historic 'lowest altitude site in England' for Purple Saxifrage in Crummackdale appears lost, which is possible evidence that calcareous rocky slope habitat is affected."* • Hydrological changes: *"Exploratory digs relating to caving can result in changes to local hydrology."* • Change in land management: *There is a risk of land dropping out of agri-environment schemes at the end of current agreements (or at break clause) due to either attractiveness of payments or complicated nature of the new scheme. This leads to the related risk that land use may intensify, especially where past, outdated consents were not time limited so would come back into use. There is also the risk of land abandonment particularly on parcels which are smaller or difficult to manage, or on rough ground, due to practicalities of management.*

Site	Qualifying Features[4] and Conservation Status[5]		Current Relevant Pressures and Threats
	Habitats	Species	
North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC	Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site: • 6520 Mountain hay meadows = Unfavourable Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site: • 6410 Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (*Molinion caeruleae*) = Favourable	No species listed.	SDF (JNCC, 2015f): • High severity livestock farming and ranching causing habitat loss, occurring inside the area. • High severity modification of natural systems (e.g., drainage, hydrology modification) causing habitat loss, occurring both inside and outside the area. • High severity recreational activities causing human intrusion and disturbance, occurring both inside and outside the area. • High severity agricultural expansion causing habitat loss, occurring inside the area. SIP (Natural England, 2014f): • Air Pollution: impact of atmospheric nitrogen deposition: *"Nitrogen deposition exceeds site relevant critical loads. This may be partially due to local fertiliser use. In some areas the effects are apparent, where there is a loss of species richness."* • Hydrological changes: "*Meadows are becoming wetter due to milder winters and wet summers; this may also be leading to an earlier start to the growing season, having a negative impact on boreal species changes such as wood cranesbill. Soil compaction due to heavy machinery and stock is also causing hydrological changes."* • Change in land management: "*Amalgamation of farm holdings is leading to undermanagement of some meadows. Management for hay is becoming less viable and productivity is reducing, due to lack of liming and*

Site	Qualifying Features[4] and Conservation Status[5]		Current Relevant Pressures and Threats
	Habitats	Species	
			farmyard manure input and a lack of soil testing, so pressures tend towards conversion to pasture. Change in land ownership in some areas may lead to a change in management practices. On some parts of the site, stewardship is not in place to ensure appropriate management of the features."
North Pennine Moors SAC	Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site: • 4030 European dry heaths = Favourable • 5130 Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands = Unfavourable • 7130 Blanket bogs* = Unfavourable • 7220 Petrifying springs with *tufa* formation (*Cratoneurion*)* = Unfavourable • 8220 Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation = Unfavourable • 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in the British Isles = Unfavourable Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site:	Annex II species present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for site selection: • 1528 Marsh saxifrage *Saxifraga hirculus* = Favourable	SDF (JNCC, 2015h): • High severity noise pollution occurring inside the area. • High severity air pollution occurring inside the area. • High severity water pollution occurring both inside and outside the area. • High severity agricultural expansion causing habitat loss, occurring inside the area. SIP (Natural England, 2014g): • Direct land take from development: "*Development applications (such as tracks, quarrying and windfarms) are usually small scale, but there is the potential for in combination effects on the European site. Proposals are dealt with via the planning control process, but usually require pre-application advice.*" • Air Pollution: risk of atmospheric nitrogen deposition: *"The critical loads for nitrogen are exceeded within these sites. The actual impacts of this are unclear at present. However, increased nitrogen deposition has the potential to affect the species composition of sensitive habitats. There is particular concern about the effects of nitrogen deposition on limestone grasslands,*

Site	Qualifying Features[4] and Conservation Status[5]		Current Relevant Pressures and Threats
	Habitats	Species	
	• 4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica tetralix* = Unfavourable • 6130 Calaminarian grasslands of the *Violetalia calaminariae* = Unfavourable • 6150 Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands = Unfavourable • 6210 Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*) = Unfavourable • 7230 Alkaline fens = Unfavourable • 8110 Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (*Androsacetalia alpinae* and *Galeopsietalia ladani*) = Unfavourable • 8210 Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation = Unfavourable		*which support arctic alpine species in the Upper Teesdale NNR, where an increasing proportion of grasses and a 'bulky' sward have been observed. In such areas, research into interactions with grazing and nutrient limitation will be a future requirement."* • Vehicles: *"Vehicle use for moorland or agricultural management or for recreational activity can damage habitats associated with soft ground in particular. It can also have direct impacts on or cause disturbance to breeding birds."* • Vehicles: illicit: *"There are localised but severe effects on bird populations and habitats through disturbance and direct physical damage as a result of illegal vehicle activity e.g. motorbikes."* • Public Access/Disturbance: *"There are localised but severe effects on bird populations and habitats through disturbance and direct physical damage as a result of high or inappropriate recreational usage. As well as well-established traditional walking routes (e.g. coast to coast path and Pennine Way) recreational activities such as gill scrambling, mountain-biking, geocaching and large organised outdoor events are increasing."* • Climate change: *"There is a threat to the distribution and range of species and habitats which are at the edge of their climatic range as result of climate and environmental change. This has the potential to have severe and widespread effects in the longer term."*
Ox Close SAC	Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:	No species listed.	SDF (JNCC, 2015h): • High severity industrial or commercial development causing habitat loss, occurring inside the area.

Site	Qualifying Features[4] and Conservation Status[5]		Current Relevant Pressures and Threats
	Habitats	**Species**	
	• 6130 Calaminarian grasslands of the *Violetalia calaminariae* = Unfavourable Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site: • 6210 Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*) = Unfavourable • 9180 *Tilio-Acerion* forests of slopes, screes and ravines* = Unfavourable		• High severity water pollution occurring both inside and outside the area. • High severity garbage and solid waste pollution occurring inside the area. SIP (Natural England, 2014h): • Air Pollution: impact of atmospheric nitrogen deposition: *"Nitrogen critical loads are exceeded for all of the SAC features at Ox Close. All habitats are sensitive to nitrogen and critical loads are exceeded for all three interest features; however the woodland is currently assessed as Favourable. An increase in nitrogen could lead to a change in community composition, a decline in diversity, increased mineralization, N leaching and surface acidification."*
River Eden SAC	Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site: • 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the *Littorelletea uniflorae* and/or of the *Isoëto-Nanojuncetea* = Unfavourable • 3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the *Ranunculion fluitantis* and *Callitricho-Batrachion* vegetation = Unfavourable • 91E0 Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior*	Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site: • 1092 White-clawed (or Atlantic stream) crayfish *Austropotamobius pallipes* = Unfavourable • 1095 Sea lamprey *Petromyzon marinus* = Unfavourable • 1096 Brook lamprey *Lampetra planeri* = Unfavourable • 1099 River lamprey *Lampetra fluviatilis* = Unfavourable • 1106 Atlantic salmon *Salmo salar* = Unfavourable	SDF (JNCC, 2015i): • High severity of natural system modifications (such as dams and water management/use), occurring both inside and outside the area. • High severity of climate change impacts related to temperature extremes, occurring both inside and outside the area. • High severity of water pollution, occurring both inside and outside the area. • High severity of air pollution, occurring both inside and outside the area. SIP (Natural England, 2014i):

Site	Qualifying Features[4] and Conservation Status[5]		Current Relevant Pressures and Threats
	Habitats	Species	
	(*Alno-Padion*, *Alnion incanae, Salicion albae*) * = Unfavourable	• 1163 Bullhead *Cottus gobio* = Unfavourable • 1355 Otter *Lutra lutra* = Unfavourable	• Water Pollution: *"1. Diffuse water pollution from agriculture (DWPA) is causing failure of water quality targets on specific tributaries. Catchment Sensitive Farming (CSF) and some Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) are targeted at these tributaries, but additional measures may be required including targeting the new agri-environment scheme (NELMS) at failing tributaries if this has suitable options and mechanisms for delivery. 2. There is a water quality threat for Ullswater which is hovering on passing/failing its phosphate targets. Source apportionment modelling attributes the impacts to tourism infrastructure, such as public toilets and campsites. Water quality failures in Dacre Beck are due to a large, non-consented caravan site. The Environment Agency are intending to investigate regulating the development."* • Hydrological changes: *"The Eden supplies a large volume of water to United Utilities integrated supply zone. Large abstractions were amended by the Environment Agency Review of Consents. Additional abstraction could impact on certain areas of the catchment, e.g. the River Leith. Drought orders are probably a greater threat than licensed abstraction. Multiple small-scale licences also have potential to impact, but these are mostly on intensively farmed areas where the river is larger, rather than the small limestone tributaries."* • Air Pollution: risk of atmospheric nitrogen deposition: *"Nitrogen deposition exceeds the site-relevant critical load for ecosystem protection and hence there is a risk of harmful effects, but the sensitive features are*

Site	Qualifying Features[4] and Conservation Status[5]		Current Relevant Pressures and Threats
	Habitats	Species	
			currently considered to be in favourable condition on the site. This requires further investigation." Evidence Pack TIN196 (Wood *et al.*, 2024a): Nutrient pressure for which the site is unfavourable: • Phosphorus
North Pennine Moors SPA	N/A (no habitat qualifying features)	• A082 Hen harrier; *Circus cyaneus* (Breeding) = No data – cautiously assumed unfavourable • A098 Merlin; *Falco columbarius* (Breeding) = No data – cautiously assumed unfavourable • A103 Peregrine falcon; *Falco peregrinus* (Breeding) = No data – cautiously assumed unfavourable • A140 European golden plover; *Pluvialis apricaria* (Breeding) = No data – cautiously assumed unfavourable	SDF (JNCC, 2015i): • High-severity noise pollution occurring inside the area. • High-severity air pollution occurring inside the area. • High-severity water pollution occurring both inside and outside the area. • High-severity habitat loss due to agricultural expansion occurring inside the area. SIP (Natural England, 2014g): • Direct land take from development: *"Development applications (such as tracks, quarrying and windfarms) are usually small scale but there is the potential for in combination effects on the European site. Proposals are dealt with via the planning control process, but usually require pre-application advice."* • Air Pollution: risk of atmospheric nitrogen deposition: *"The critical loads for nitrogen are exceeded within these sites. The actual impacts of this are unclear at present. However, increased nitrogen deposition has the potential to affect the species composition of sensitive habitats. There is particular concern about effects of nitrogen deposition on limestone grasslands*

Site	Qualifying Features[4] and Conservation Status[5]		Current Relevant Pressures and Threats
	Habitats	Species	
			which support arctic alpine species in the Upper Teesdale NNR, where an increasing proportion of grasses and a 'bulky' sward have been observed. In such areas, research into interactions with grazing and nutrient limitation will be a future requirement." • Vehicles: *"Vehicle use for moorland or agricultural management or for recreational activity can damage habitats associated with soft ground in particular. It can also have direct impacts on or cause disturbance to breeding birds."* • Vehicles: illicit: *"There are localised but severe effects on bird populations and habitats through disturbance and direct physical damage as a result of illegal vehicle activity e.g. motorbikes."* • Public Access/Disturbance: *"There are localised but severe effects on bird populations and habitats through disturbance and direct physical damage resulting from high or inappropriate recreational usage. As well as well-established traditional walking routes (e.g. coast to coast path and Pennine Way) recreational activities such as gill scrambling, mountain-biking, geocaching and large organised outdoor events are increasing."* • Climate change: *"There is a threat to the distribution and range of species and habitats which are at the edge of their climatic range as result of climate and environmental change. This has the potential to have severe and widespread effects in the longer term."*

Table 4: Relevant Sites Within 7km of the YDNP

Site	Qualifying Features		Current Relevant Pressures and Threats
	Habitats	Species	
Morecambe Bay Pavements SAC	Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site: • 3140 Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of *Chara* spp. = Unfavourable • 5130 *Juniperus communis* formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands = Unfavourable • 6210 Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*) (* important orchid sites) = Unfavourable • 8240 Limestone pavements * = Unfavourable • 9180 *Tilio-Acerion* forests of slopes, screes and ravines * Priority feature = Unfavourable • 91J0 *Taxus baccata* woods of the British Isles * = Unfavourable Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site: • 4030 European dry heaths = Unfavourable • 7210 Calcareous fens with *Cladium mariscus* and species of the *Caricion davallianae* * = Unfavourable • 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in the British Isles = Unfavourable	Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site: • 1014 Narrow-mouthed whorl snail *Vertigo angustior* = Unfavourable	SDF (JNCC, 2015e): None SIP (Natural England, 2014e): • Public Access/Disturbance: *"Motorbike and off-road bikes are illegally accessing land and damaging small areas. This is an increasing issue. There are also problems with pedestrian trampling along desire lines and dogs worrying sheep."* • Water pollution: *"Agriculture diffuse pollution, and also point source issues (septic tanks) are contributing to raised phosphate levels within the tarns."* • Air Pollution: impact of atmospheric nitrogen deposition: *"Nitrogen deposition exceeds site-relevant critical loads for all features except fen, lake (n/a) and the Vertigo snail (unknown). Lichens in woodland are poorly represented which could be due to this factor."*

Site	Qualifying Features		Current Relevant Pressures and Threats
	Habitats	Species	
River Kent SAC	Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site: • Not applicable Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site: • 3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the *Ranunculion fluitantis* and *Callitricho-Batrachion* vegetation = Unfavourable	Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site: • 1092 White-clawed (or Atlantic stream) crayfish *Austropotamobius pallipes* = Unfavourable Annex II species present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for site selection: • 1029 Freshwater pearl mussel *Margaritifera margaritifera* = Unfavourable • 1163 Bullhead *Cottus gobio* = Unfavourable	SDF (JNCC, 2015j): • High severity impact from invasive non-native species occurring both inside and outside the area. • High severity pollution to groundwater occurring both inside and outside the area. • High severity human intrusion and disturbance occurring both inside and outside the area. SIP (Natural England, 2014j): • Water Pollution: *"Diffuse water pollution is causing failures in nutrient and suspended solid objectives on some tributaries. Reduced water quality and increased siltation impacts on all lifestages of the species interest features."*
Lake District High Fells SAC	Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site: • 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the *Littorelletea uniflorae* and/or of the *Isoëto-Nanojuncetea* = Unfavourable • 4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica tetralix* = Unfavourable	Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site: • None Annex II species present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for site selection:	SDF (JNCC, 2015d): • High severity air pollution occurring both inside and outside the area. • High severity droughts affecting both inside and outside the area. SIP (Natural England, 2014d):

Site	Qualifying Features		Current Relevant Pressures and Threats
	Habitats	Species	
	• 4030 European dry heaths = Unfavourable • 4060 Alpine and Boreal heaths = Unfavourable • 5130 *Juniperus communis* formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands = Unfavourable • 6150 Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands = Unfavourable • 6430 Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels = Unfavourable • 7130 Blanket bogs (* if active bog) * = Unfavourable • 8110 Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (*Androsacetalia alpinae* and *Galeopsietalia ladani*) = Unfavourable • 8220 Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation = Unfavourable • 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in the British Isles = Unfavourable Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site: • 6230 Species-rich *Nardus* grasslands, on silicious substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas in Continental Europe) * = Unfavourable • 7230 Alkaline fens = Unfavourable • 8210 Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation = Unfavourable	• 1393 Slender green feather-moss *Drepanocladus* (*Hamatocaulis*) *vernicosus* = Unfavourable	• Air Pollution: impact of atmospheric nitrogen deposition: *"Nitrogen deposition exceeds site relevant critical loads. The precise impacts are unclear and require further investigation. One specific area of concern is that it may be increasing grass-dominance at the expense of the less competitive plants, especially in the most unproductive habitats such as mountain tops, cliffs and possibly some mires. Impacts on oligotrophic lakes could also be significant."* • Public Access/Disturbance: *"Public access results in path erosion. There are also specific impacts due to the popularity of particular activities such as climbing and gill scrambling."*

Site	Qualifying Features		Current Relevant Pressures and Threats
	Habitats	Species	
South Pennine Moors SAC	Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site: • 4030 European dry heaths = Unfavourable • 7130 Blanket bogs (* if active bog) * = Unfavourable • 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in the British Isles = Unfavourable Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site: • 4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica tetralix* = Unfavourable 7140 Transition mires and quaking bogs = Unfavourable	None	SDF (JNCC, 2015k): • High severity air pollution occurring both inside and outside the area. • High severity other ecosystem modifications occurring both inside and outside the area. • High severity human intrusion and disturbance occurring both inside and outside the area. SIP (Natural England, 2014k): • Public Access/Disturbance: *"Disturbances/activities located in sensitive site areas or at sensitive times of the year (e.g. bird breeding season or during heavily waterlogged periods) can have a negative impact upon notified features. Particular activities which impact include rock climbing, walking (incl. dog walkers), legal activities (byway usage), hang-gliding and the flying of model aircrafts."* • Air Pollution: impact of atmospheric nitrogen deposition: *"Nitrogen deposition exceeds site relevant critical loads."*

Site	Qualifying Features		Current Relevant Pressures and Threats
	Habitats	Species	
			• Wildfire/Arson: *"Wildfires are a periodic threat across the site and directly impact on upland habitats including SAC features; blanket bog, wet heath and dry heath. The cause of ignition is generally accepted to be of human origin, with deliberate intent a pattern on some parts of the site and elsewhere careless behaviour near to footpaths and car parks appear to be the chief cause of ignition."* • Vehicles: *"Damaging vehicle use is an issue across the site, damaging notified features and affecting bird nesting activity. This can be motorbikes, quad bikes, 4x4s and pedal cycles. Wet peat habitats are most sensitive."* • Planning Permission: general: *"Local development frameworks, infrastructure programs and planning permissions need to be evaluated on a whole site basis, for example wind turbines and housing developments. The 'in combination' and cumulative effects of numerous applications are, potentially, fragmenting the site and slowing the*

Site	Qualifying Features		Current Relevant Pressures and Threats
	Habitats	Species	
			chances of a joined up landscape scale delivery resilient site."
South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA	N/A (no habitat qualifying features)	• A098 Merlin; *Falco columbarius*; (Breeding) = Unfavourable • A140 European golden plover; *Pluvialis apricaria* (Breeding) = Unfavourable • Breeding bird assemblage including golden plover (*Pluvialis* apricaria), lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*), dunlin (*Calidris alpina*), snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*), curlew (*Numenius arquata*), redshank (*Tringa totanus*), common sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucus*), short eared owl (*Asio flammeus*), whinchat (*Saxicola rubetra*), wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe*), ring ouzel (*Turdus torquatus*) and twite (*Linaria flavirostris*) = Favourable	SDF (JNCC, 2015n): • High severity hunting and collecting terrestrial animals occurring inside the area. • High severity impact from invasive genetic material occurring inside the area. • High severity human intrusion and disturbance occurring both inside and outside the area. • High severity outdoor sports and leisure activities occurring inside the area. SIP (Natural England, 2014k): • As for South Pennine Moors SAC above.
Moor House – Upper Teesdale SAC	Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site: • 3140 Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of *Chara* spp. = Unfavourable • 4060 Alpine and Boreal heaths = Unfavourable • 5130 Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands = Unfavourable	Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site: • 1015 Round-mouthed whorl snail *Vertigo genesii* = Favourable • 1528 Marsh saxifrage *Saxifraga hirculus* = Unfavourable	SDF (JNCC, 2015e): • High severity impact from invasive alien species (other than pathogens) occurring inside the area. • High severity impact from invasive genetic material occurring inside the area.

Site	Qualifying Features		Current Relevant Pressures and Threats
	Habitats	Species	
	• 6130 Calaminarian grasslands of the *Violetalia calaminariae* = Unfavourable • 6150 Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands = Unfavourable • 6210 Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*) (* important orchid sites) = Unfavourable • 6410 *Molinia* meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (*Molinion caeruleae*) = Unfavourable • 6430 Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels = Unfavourable • 6520 Mountain hay meadows = Unfavourable • 7130 Blanket bogs (* if active bog) * = Unfavourable • 7220 Petrifying springs with tufa formation (*Cratoneurion*)* = Unfavourable • 7230 Alkaline fens = Unfavourable • 7240 Alpine pioneer formations of the *Caricion bicoloris-atrofuscae* * = Unfavourable • 8110 Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (*Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani*) = Unfavourable		SIP (Natural England, 2014g): • Air Pollution: risk of atmospheric nitrogen deposition: *"The critical loads for nitrogen are exceeded within these sites. The actual impacts of this are unclear at present. However, increased nitrogen deposition has the potential to affect the species composition of sensitive habitats. There is particular concern about effects of nitrogen deposition on limestone grasslands which support arctic alpine species in the Upper Teesdale NNR, where an increasing proportion of grasses and a 'bulky' sward have been observed. In such areas, research into interactions with grazing and nutrient limitation will be a future requirement."* • Vehicles: *"Vehicle use for moorland or agricultural management or for recreational activity can damage habitats associated with soft ground in particular. It can also have direct impacts on or cause disturbance to breeding birds."* • Vehicles: illicit: *"There are localised but severe effects on bird populations and habitats through*

Site	Qualifying Features		Current Relevant Pressures and Threats
	Habitats	Species	
	• 8120 Calcareous and calcshist screes of the montane to alpine levels (*Thlaspietea rotundifolii*) = Unfavourable • 8210 Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation = Unfavourable • 8220 Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation = Unfavourable Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site: • 4030 European dry heaths = Unfavourable • 8240 Limestone pavements * = Unfavourable		*disturbance and direct physical damage as a result of illegal vehicle activity e.g. motorbikes."* • Public Access/Disturbance: "*There are localised but severe effects on bird populations and habitats through disturbance and direct physical damage resulting from high or inappropriate recreational usage. As well as well-established traditional walking routes (e.g. coast to coast path and Pennine Way) recreational activities such as gill scrambling, mountain-biking, geocaching and large organised outdoor events are increasing."* • Climate change: *"There is a threat to the distribution and range of species and habitats which are at the edge of their climatic range as result of climate and environmental change. This has the potential to have severe and widespread effects in the longer term."*

Table 5: Relevant Sites for Nutrient Enrichment Only

Site	Qualifying Features		Current Relevant Threats and Pressures
	Habitats	Species	
Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast (Ramsar)	None	Ramsar Criterion 5: • Assemblages of international importance: • Species with peak counts in winter: • 9528 waterfowl (5-year peak mean 1998/99-2002/2003) – No data, assume unfavourable Ramsar Criterion 6: Species/populations occurring at levels of international importance. Qualifying Species/populations (as identified at designation): • Species with peak counts in spring/autumn: • Common redshank, *Tringa totanus totanus*, 883 individuals, representing an average of 0.7% of the GB population (5-year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3) – No data, assume unfavourable Species with peak counts in winter: • Red knot, Calidris canutus islandica, W & Southern Africa (wintering) • 2579 individuals, representing an average of 0.9% of the GB population (5-year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3) – No data, assume unfavourable	Evidence Pack TIN204 (Woods *et al.,* 2024b): Nutrient pressure for which the site is unfavorable: • Nitrogen
Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast (SPA)	None	• A132 Pied avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta* (Breeding) = Favourable • A143 Red knot *Calidris canutus* (Non-breeding) = Unfavourable • A151 Ruff *Calidris pugnax* (Non-breeding) = Favourable • A162 Common redshank *Tringa totanus* (Non-breeding) = Unfavourable • A191 Sandwich tern *Sterna sandvicensis* (Non-breeding) = Unfavourable • A193 Common tern *Sterna hirundo* (Breeding) = Favourable • A195 Little tern *Sterna albifrons* (Breeding) = Favourable	Evidence Pack TIN204 (Wood *et al.*, 2024b): Nutrient pressure for which the site is unfavourable: • Nitrogen

Site	Qualifying Features		Current Relevant Threats and Pressures
	Habitats	Species	
		• Waterbird assemblage = Favourable	

Conservation Objectives

5.3.10 Conservation objectives outline the desired state of a site in terms of its qualifying ecological features (e.g. habitats and species). Where these objectives are met, the site is considered to be contributing to achieving favourable conservation status for that species or habitat type at a UK level.

5.3.11 With regards to **Asby Complex SAC**, **North Pennine Moors SAC** and **River Eden SAC**, the conservation objectives are to:

- *'Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring:*

  I. *The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species;*
  II. *The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats;*
  III. *The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species;*
  IV. *The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely;*
  V. *The populations of qualifying species; and*
  VI. *The distribution of qualifying species within the site.'*

5.3.12 With regards to **Craven Limestone Complex SAC**, the conservation objectives are to:

- *'Avoid the deterioration of the qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of the qualifying species, and the significant disturbance to those qualifying species, ensuring the integrity of the site is maintained, and the site makes a full contribution to achieving Favourable Conservation Status of each of the qualifying features.*

- *Subject to natural change, to maintain or restore:*

  I. *The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species;*
  II. *The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats;*
  III. *The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species;*
  IV. *The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely;*
  V. *The populations of qualifying species; and*
  VI. *The distribution of qualifying species within the site.'*

5.3.13 Defra and Natural England do not to produce specific conservation objectives for individual Ramsar sites, but consider those for the overlapping Relevant site to be sufficient in most

cases. Therefore, the conservation objectives listed above for Craven Limestone Complex SAC are also relevant for **Malham Tarn Ramsar**.

5.3.14 With regards to **Ingleborough Complex SAC**, **North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC** and **Ox Close SAC**, the conservation objectives are to:

- *'Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring:*

  I. *The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats;*
  II. *The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats; and*
  III. *The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats rely.'*

5.3.15 With regards to **Morecambe Bay Pavements SAC**, **River Kent SAC**, **Lake District High Fells SAC**, **Moor House – Upper Teesdale SAC** and **South Pennine Moors SAC** the conservation objectives are to:

- *'Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring:*

  IV. *The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species;*
  V. *The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats;*
  VI. *The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species;*
  VII. *The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely;*
  VIII. *The populations of qualifying species; and,*
  IX. *The distribution of qualifying species within the site.'*

5.3.16 With regards to **North Pennine Moors SPA**, **South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA** and **Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast SPA** the conservation objectives are to:

- *'Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the aims of the Wild Birds Directive, by maintaining or restoring:*

  I. *The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features;*
  II. *The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features;*
  III. *The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely;*
  IV. *The population of each of the qualifying features; and*
  V. *The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.'*

5.3.17 The conservation objectives listed above for Teesmouth and Cleveland SPA are also relevant for **Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast Ramsar**.

5.4 Step Three, Part Two: Identification of Potential Impacts 'Alone' and Step Four: Assessment of Likely Significant Effect 'Alone'

5.4.1 Table 6 below shows which potential impact pathways have been considered for each objective, and which sites are considered 'Relevant'.

Table 6: Assessment of Objectives in the Management Plan

Objectives	Potential Impact pathways	Sites Considered Relevant
A1, A2, A3, A4, A5, A6 B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, B6, B7 C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6, C7, C8 D1, D2, D3, D4, D5, D6 E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, E6, E7 F1, F2, F3, F4, F5, F6,	• Direct habitat loss within Relevant sites or FLL • Increased recreational pressure • Water discharge • Damage and disturbance to Annex I habitats, habitats supporting Annex II species or FLL, including noise and light • Cat predation of qualifying bird species • Pollution: air, dust, spills • Nutrient enrichment	All sites within the geographic area covered by the management plan: • Malham Tarn Ramsar • Asby Complex SAC • Craven Limestone Complex SAC • Ingleborough Complex SAC • North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC • North Pennine Moors SAC • Ox Close SAC • River Eden SAC • North Pennine Moors SPA
F1	• Increased recreational pressure	Sites outside of but within 7km of the National Park: • Morecambe Bay Pavements SAC • River Kent SAC • Lake District High Fells SAC • South Pennine Moors SAC • South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA • Moor House – Upper Teesdale SAC
F1	• Land take of FLL • Damage and disturbance to FLL • Cat predation of qualifying bird species	Sites outside of but within 7km of the National Park with birds as qualifying features: • South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA
F1	• Nutrient enrichment	Sites with a Nutrient Neutrality catchment that overlaps with the National Park: • River Eden SAC • Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast SPA and Ramsar

5.4.2 Table 7 below shows each of the objectives in the management plan, whether they have been screened in or out of further assessment and why. Using the screening categories in Table 1: Screening Categories (Tyldesley and Chapman, 2025) each objective is assessed as either:

- **Screened Out** – there will be no likely significant adverse effect on the Relevant sites as a result of this objective alone or in combination with other plans or projects.
- **In-Combination Consideration Required** - there could be an appreciable effect on the Relevant sites as a result of this objective alone and there could be an in combination with other plans or projects. Following an in-combination assessment the section or policy will then either be screened out, as above, or further assessment will be required, as below.
- **Appropriate Assessment Required** – a likely significant adverse effect on the Relevant sites as a result of this objective alone cannot be ruled out at the screening stage and further assessment is required.

5.4.3 Cumulative impacts of objectives are considered below the table.

Table 7: Summary of Assessment of Objectives 'Alone' in the Management Plan

Objective	Assessment	Conclusion: Screened Out / In-Combination Consideration Required / Appropriate Assessment Required Category[6]
A. A distinctive, living, working, cultural landscape that tells the ongoing story of generations of people interacting with their environment		
A1. Support farmers and land managers to maintain and improve the outstanding landscape, geology, wildlife and rural heritage of the National Park, so that at least 80% of land managers have adopted nature-friendly farming on at least 15% of their land by 2030.	If adopted this objective would have a positive impact on the Relevant sites.	Screened Out: Category D
A2. Maintain the National Park as a place where a true sense of tranquillity and remoteness can be found so as to retain 'Dark Sky Reserve' status.	If adopted this objective would be likely to have a positive impact on the Relevant sites.	Screened Out: Category D
A3. Reduce the number of nationally designated heritage assets at risk, so that no more than 12 are at risk by 2030.	Currently 16 nationally designated heritage assets are at risk. Approximately half of the existing field barns and drystone walls in the National Park are considered to be in poor or very bad condition. Dependant on the works required to modify/repair a heritage asset or to conserve or enhance a field barn or drystone wall, and their location, Relevant sites could be adversely impacted. Works could lead to the direct loss of Annex I habitats or habitats supporting qualifying species either inside the Relevant sites or where habitats act as FLL; or Relevant sites or FLL could be impacted through increased levels of pollution or disturbance.	Appropriate Assessment Required: Category I
A4. Support farmers and landowners to conserve and enhance the distinctive landscape of field barns and drystone walls, so that at least one of the Barns and Walls Conservation Areas (Swaledale & Arkengarthdale and Littondale) is no longer at risk.		

[6] see Table 1 for explanation of categories

Objective	Assessment	Conclusion: Screened Out / In-Combination Consideration Required / Appropriate Assessment Required Category[6]
A5. Support farmers and landowners to take up measures that will enhance the wider Dales' landscape, and support nature, climate and farming resilience, including planting 6,000 field trees, creating 300 ha of wood pasture, and creating or restoring 60 km of hedgerows by 2030 (from 2022 baseline).	It is likely that this objective would have a positive impact on Relevant sites. However, if implemented in the wrong place these measures could have an adverse effect through the direct loss of Annex I habitats or habitats supporting qualifying species either inside the Relevant sites or where habitats act as FLL.	Appropriate Assessment Required: Category I
A6. Continue to reduce the amount of intrusive overhead power lines and other equipment, including putting another 15km of existing power lines underground by 2028.	The works required to move power lines underground has the potential to adversely impact Relevant sites, depending on the timing and/or location of the works, through direct impacts to Annex I habitats or habitats supporting qualifying species either inside the Relevant sites or where habitats act as FLL.	Appropriate Assessment Required: Category I
B: A friendly, open and welcoming place with outstanding opportunities to enjoy its special qualities.		
B1. Manage and maintain the standard of all public rights of way, so that, on average, 90% remain 'easy to use' and at least 10% are suitable for a diverse range of ages and abilities.	A good network of public rights of way should have a positive impact on Relevant sites by managing public access. However, dependant on the location nature of works required to manage and maintain public rights of ways there could be an adverse effect on Relevant sites through direct loss of Annex I habitats or habitats supporting qualifying species either inside the Relevant sites or where habitats act as FLL.	Appropriate Assessment Required: Category I
B2. Manage and promote the Pennine Way, Pennine Bridleway and Coast-to-Coast National Trails and other established long-distance routes, and improve linkages from the Coast-to-Coast route to 5 nearby settlements by 2030.	A good network of public rights of way should have a positive impact on Relevant sites by managing public access. However, dependant on the nature of works required to improve linkages between the Coast-to-Coast route and five nearby settlements there could be an adverse effect on Relevant sites through direct loss of Annex I habitats or	Appropriate Assessment Required: Category I

Objective	Assessment	Conclusion: Screened Out / In-Combination Consideration Required / Appropriate Assessment Required Category[6]
	habitats supporting qualifying species either inside the Relevant sites or where habitats act as FLL.	
B3. By 2030, provide activity days, support and training to 200 groups from under-served communities, helping more people to experience the special qualities of the Yorkshire Dales National Park more easily.	Dependant on the nature of the activities there could be an adverse effect on the Relevant sites as a result of these objectives for example through disturbance of qualifying bird species or damage to Annex I habitats or FLL through trampling.	Appropriate Assessment Required: Category I
B4. Provide outdoor learning and skills-based activities to enable 5,000 young people from in and around the National Park to explore and enhance their environment each year.		
B5. Give people from all backgrounds an opportunity to enjoy and contribute to looking after the National Park by providing at least 7,000 volunteer days per year, with at least 20% coming from under-served communities by 2029.		
B6. Enhance at least five 'green lanes' by 2030 and manage use by recreational motor vehicles and motorcycles - encouraging and supporting responsible use and enforcing restrictions where necessary.	Although the objective could have a positive impact on Relevant sites by ensuring more appropriate use of 'green lanes', this policy has the potential to adversely impact Relevant sites, depending on the location of the green lanes and the nature of the works required for enhancement, through impacts to Annex I habitats or habitats supporting qualifying species either inside the Relevant sites or where habitats act as FLL.	Appropriate Assessment Required: Category I

Objective	Assessment	Conclusion: Screened Out / In-Combination Consideration Required / Appropriate Assessment Required Category[6]
B7. Help to tackle health inequalities and improve people's health and well-being by enabling at least 1,500 people with health conditions to connect with and experience the special qualities of the National Park through 'social prescribing' activities by 2030.	Because 'social prescribing' is about connecting people to existing activities, groups and services this objective is reasonably unlikely to have an adverse effect on the Relevant sites.	Screened Out: Category F
C: Home to the finest variety of wildlife in England		
C1. Improve the condition of protected wildlife sites so that 60% of Sites of Special Scientific Interest are assessed as having 'actions on track' to achieve favourable condition by the start of 2028, and 45% are in favourable condition by 2030.	As Sites of Special Scientific Interest often overlap with Relevant sites and/or include FLL, this objective is likely to have a positive impact on the Relevant sites.	Screened out: Category D
C2. Support farmers and landowners to restore and manage landscape-scale mosaics of semi-natural habitats in 6 'nature recovery areas' ('Cumbria Connect'; 'Heart of the Dales'; 'Snaizeholme'; 'Tees-Swale'; 'Three Dales'; and 'Ure Dales'), and develop similar initiatives for at least 3 additional areas.	If adopted these objectives would have a positive impact on the Relevant sites.	Screened Out: Category D
C3. Ensure that all the priority habitat outside of Sites of Special Scientific Interest is in favourable management through agri-environment or similar funding schemes by 2042.		
C4. Ensure that monitoring plans are in place for all 'priority wildlife species' by 2030, and undertake	There are 40 'priority wildlife species' listed in the Nature Recovery Plan of the YDNP (YDNP Biodiversity Forum, 2023) and a number of	Screened Out: Category D

Objective	Assessment	Conclusion: Screened Out / In-Combination Consideration Required / Appropriate Assessment Required Category[6]
conservation projects so that 85% of those species have stable or increasing populations by 2035.	these are qualifying species of the Relevant sites. If adopted this objective would have a positive impact on the Relevant sites.	
C5. Work with farmers, landowners and water companies to reverse the decline in the condition of rivers so that 65% are in 'good ecological status' by 2031.	If adopted this objective would have a positive impact on the Relevant sites.	Screened Out: Category D
C6. Support implementation of the national Wildlife Crime Strategy to end the illegal killing and disturbance of birds of prey and other wildlife by 2028.	If adopted this objective would have a positive impact on the Relevant sites. Hen harrier, merlin and peregrine falcon are qualifying features of North Pennine Moors SPA. Merlin and short-eared owl are qualifying features of South Pennine Moors SPA, for which hunting is a current threat listed in the Standard Data Form for the site (JNCC, 2015n)	Screened Out: Category D
C7. Support farmers and landowners to restore or create 5,000 hectares of new wildlife-rich habitats outside protected sites by 2030 (from a 2022 baseline).	If adopted this objective would have a positive impact on the Relevant sites as these habitats could act as FLL and support the function and processes of the qualifying habitats and species of the Relevant sites.	Screened Out: Category D
C8. Support farmers and landowners to bring 70% of woodland into sustainable management by 2030, including positive management of conifer plantations to increase habitat for red squirrels and black grouse.	If adopted this objective would have a positive impact on the Relevant sites.	Screened Out: Category D
D. Resilient and responsive to the impacts of climate change, storing more carbon each year than it produces		
D1. Work with farmers and landowners to support food production through the use of regenerative farming practices across at least 100 farm holdings (c15,000 ha) by 2030.	This objective would have a positive impact on the Relevant sites as regenerative farming can lead to a reduction in the amount of diffuse pollution reaching rivers, an improvement in soils and a reduction in the use of synthetic fertilisers.	Screened Out: Category D

Objective	Assessment	Conclusion: Screened Out / In-Combination Consideration Required / Appropriate Assessment Required Category[6]
D2. Work with farmers and landowners to bring all remaining degraded peatland (c28,000 ha) into initial restoration and management by 2035, so that all the 67,000 ha of peat in the National Park has been restored by 2050.	This objective would have a positive impact on the Relevant sites.	Screened Out: Category D
D3. Work with farmers and landowners to encourage creation of 6,000 ha of native broadleaf and mixed woodland, including, scrub, wood pasture and natural regeneration by 2031, to create a network that is more resilient to climate change and helps to reduce downstream flood peaks.	It is likely that adoption of this objective will have a positive impact on the Relevant sites. However, dependant on the choice of location for new woodland there could be an adverse effect through the direct loss of Annex I habitats or habitats supporting qualifying species either inside the Relevant sites or where habitats act as FLL.	Appropriate Assessment Required: Category I
D4. Significantly increase take up of natural flood management measures, including re-naturalising 25 km of rivers by 2030, to reduce flood risks inside and outside the National Park.	It is likely that adoption of this objective will have a positive or neutral impact on the Relevant sites for example through the removal of barriers to migrating fish including lamprey, which are qualifying features of the River Eden SAC. However, dependant on the measures used there could be an adverse effect through the direct loss of Annex I habitats or habitats supporting qualifying species either inside the Relevant sites or where habitats act as FLL.	Appropriate Assessment Required: Category I
D5. Support more services along the Settle-Carlisle Railway and the reinstatement of other rail lines, increase bus and community transport links to surrounding towns, and improve infrastructure to support electric vehicles, so as to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from travel in the National Park by 50% by 2030 (compared to 2019 levels).	This objective is likely to have a positive impact on the Relevant sites as an increase in the use of public transport and electric vehicles should lead to a reduction in air pollution as a result of traffic movements. However, development such as the reinstatement of railways lines and improvements to electric vehicle infrastructure could have an adverse	Appropriate Assessment Required: Category I

Objective	Assessment	Conclusion: Screened Out / In-Combination Consideration Required / Appropriate Assessment Required Category[6]
	effect on Relevant sites through the direct loss of Annex I habitats or habitats supporting qualifying species either inside the Relevant sites or where habitats act as FLL and disturbance of qualifying species.	
D6. Support initiatives to improve the energy efficiency of buildings and increase small-scale and community renewable energy schemes, so as to reduce energy costs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from industrial, commercial and domestic properties by 50% by 2030 (compared to 2019).	Although overall this objective should have a positive impact on Relevant sites individual developments could have an adverse effect through the direct loss of Annex I habitats or habitats supporting qualifying species either inside the Relevant sites or where habitats act as FLL and disturbance of qualifying species.	Appropriate Assessment Required: Category I
E: Providing an outstanding range of benefits for the nation based on its natural resources, landscape and cultural heritage, which underpin a flourishing local economy		
E1. Establish an integrated National Park farm advisory service to: support regenerative farming; increase take-up of national agri-environment schemes and green finance opportunities; and, so support the viability and retention of low input livestock farming across the National Park.	This objective aims to support the achievement of other objectives so will not, in itself, have an impact on Relevant sites.	Screened Out: Category F
E2. Encourage and support farms and estates to provide more opportunities for visitors and schools groups to experience the special qualities of the National Park, including establishing a 'peer mentoring' network to help build capacity by 2029.	Overall this objective should have a positive impact on Relevant sites. However, dependant on the nature of the opportunities or experiences there could be an adverse effect on the Relevant sites as a result of this objective for example through disturbance of qualifying bird species or damage to Annex I habitats or FLL through trampling.	Appropriate Assessment Required: Category I
E3. Make the National Park more accessible to a diverse range of ages and abilities, including by providing 'Changing Places' accessible toilet facilities, all terrain	Dependant on the nature of any developments there could be an adverse effect on the Relevant sites as a result of this objective through the direct loss of Annex I habitats or habitats supporting qualifying	Appropriate Assessment Required: Category I

Objective	Assessment	Conclusion: Screened Out / In-Combination Consideration Required / Appropriate Assessment Required Category[6]
mobility scooters, and accessible routes at 10 locations, and creating 5 new 'access for all' trails.	species either inside the Relevant sites or where habitats act as FLL and disturbance of qualifying species.	
E4. Develop and promote events and attractions based on the special qualities of the National Park that will be attractive to a more diverse and younger audience, so that 15% of visitors each year are coming for the first time.	Dependant on the nature of the events and attractions there could be an adverse effect on the Relevant sites as a result of this objective for example through disturbance of qualifying bird species or damage to Annex I habitats and FLL through trampling.	Appropriate Assessment Required: Category I
E5. By 2030 provide at least 30 apprenticeships or traineeships, and wider programmes of training in land management, heritage and countryside skills, including the new skills needed by businesses to support more nature-friendly farming and tackle climate change.	This objective would have a positive impact on the Relevant sites.	Screened Out: Category D
E6. Provide advice, training and support for rural and land-based businesses to help them to innovate, diversify and secure investment in their natural assets so as to retain at least the same number of jobs within the sector.	This objective aims to support the achievement of other objectives so will not, in itself, have an impact on Relevant sites.	Screened Out: Category F
E7. Improve the quality and sustainability of the tourism 'offer' and visitor information to encourage more overnight stays, and to encourage visitors to experience parts of the National Park that are currently less visited, so that the value of tourism grows by at least 5% in real terms by 2030.	Encouraging visitors to experience parts of the National Park that are currently less visited is likely to encourage recreation in areas outside of the Relevant sites. However, an overall increase in recreation is likely to lead to an increase in recreational pressure in the Relevant sites.	Appropriate Assessment Required: Category I
F. Home to strong, self-reliant and balanced communities with good access to the services they need		

Objective	Assessment	Conclusion: Screened Out / In-Combination Consideration Required / Appropriate Assessment Required Category[6]
F1. Support the completion of 250 new dwellings by 2030, including at least 135 social housing, affordable or local occupancy homes to attract and retain younger working age households.	New housing could result in an adverse effect on the Relevant sites through the direct loss of, or damage to, Annex I habitats or habitats supporting qualifying species either inside the Relevant sites or where habitats act as FLL and disturbance of qualifying species. Additionally, if new dwellings are proposed within either of the two nutrient neutrality catchments that are present in the National Park this could lead to an adverse effect on the Relevant sites due to an increase in nutrient discharge.	Appropriate Assessment Required: Category I
F2. Increase the proportion of dwellings that are permanently occupied by requiring all new dwellings to be for principal occupancy, and, encouraging change of use from second homes, so that fewer than 20% of properties are under-occupied by 2031.	This objective is unlikely to lead to an adverse impact on the Relevant sites.	Screened out: Category G
F3. Improve local access to services that are essential to the long-term viability of local communities, including providing access to gigabit broadband to 99% of properties in the Cumbrian part of the National Park by 2026, and superfast (over 30Mbs) to 97% of properties in the North Yorkshire part by 2030.	Dependant on the nature of any developments there could be an adverse effect on the Relevant sites as a result of this objective through the direct loss of, or damage to, Annex I habitats or habitats supporting qualifying species either inside the Relevant sites or where habitats act as FLL and disturbance of qualifying species.	Appropriate Assessment Required: Category I
F4. Empower community groups to take on and manage services, take ownership of local assets and develop community wealth initiatives such as shops and community renewable energy.	This objective aims to support the achievement of other objectives so will not, in itself, have an impact on Relevant sites.	Screened Out: Category F

Objective	Assessment	Conclusion: Screened Out / In-Combination Consideration Required / Appropriate Assessment Required Category[6]
F5. Improve connectivity by reducing mobile phone 'not spots' from 21% of the National Park to less than 10% by 2027.	The mobile phone masts that have already received planning permission should not have an adverse effect on Relevant sites. However, any new masts for which planning permission is applied for, could through the direct loss of, or damage to, Annex I habitats or habitats supporting qualifying species either inside the Relevant sites or where habitats act as FLL and disturbance of qualifying species. .	Appropriate Assessment Required: Category I
F6. Produce local plans to improve connections for walking, cycling, wheeling and riding in and around the National Park, so it is easier for residents and visitors to travel between places for work, for school and to key visitor destinations without needing a car, and create at least two new multi-user routes by 2030.	Although overall this objective should have a positive impact on Relevant sites individual projects could have an adverse effect through the direct loss of, or damage to, Annex I habitats or habitats supporting qualifying species either inside the Relevant sites or where habitats act as FLL and disturbance of qualifying species.	Appropriate Assessment Required: Category I

Cumulative Impacts of Objectives on Relevant Sites

5.4.4 Increased recreational pressure was considered the only impact pathway through which objectives could have a cumulative impact.

5.4.5 The following objectives are considered together for the cumulative impacts on the Relevant sites within the YDNP through an increase in recreational pressure:

- B1-B6
- E2
- E3
- E7
- F1

5.4.6 Each Relevant site is assessed in Table 8 below.

5.4.7 Objective F1 is considered the only objective likely to lead to an increase in recreational pressure on Relevant sites outside, but within 7km of, the National Park. Therefore, a cumulative impact assessment is not required for these Relevant sites.

Table 8: Summary of Cumulative Recreational Impacts of Objectives Screening Assessment

Relevant Site	Assessment	Conclusion
Asby Complex SAC	Priority 8 in the Asby Complex SAC Site Improvement Plan (Natural England, 2014a) is public access/disturbance threatening the qualifying habitats and species (with the exception of semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates). Without mitigation, the cumulative impacts of recreation on Asby Complex SAC could have a significant adverse effect on the qualifying features. This is considered further in the Appropriate Assessment.	Screened in for Appropriate Assessment
Craven Limestone Complex SAC and Malham Tarn Ramsar	As Malham Tarn Ramsar lies wholly within Craven Limestone Complex SAC, these two sites are considered together. Priority 12 in the Craven Limestone Complex SAC Site Improvement Plan (Natural England, 2014b) is public access/disturbance putting pressure on bullhead, a qualifying species, by causing erosion to bank sides and stream vegetation. Priority 13 is direct impact from third parties threatening Lady's-slipper orchid, a qualifying species, through theft. Without mitigation, the cumulative impacts of recreation on Craven Limestone Complex SAC could have a significant adverse effect on the qualifying features. This is considered further in the Appropriate Assessment.	Screened in for Appropriate Assessment
Ingleborough Complex SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC	Public access or disturbance is not listed as a priority in the relevant Site Improvement Plans (Natural England, 2014c, 2015g). However, the Standard Data Forms (SDF) (JNCC, 2015c, 2015g) list 'high severity recreational activities causing human intrusion and disturbance, occurring both inside and outside the area' as a threat to the integrity of the sites. The SDFs do not define 'high severity recreational activities'. For the purposes of this assessment, such activities are assumed not to include walking or dog walking but might include 'green laneing' with offroad vehicles or other activities that could disturb and/or damage wild flora or fauna. Therefore, objective B6 should be considered 'alone' in the Appropriate Assessment to ensure that any significant adverse effect on the qualifying features of Ingleborough Complex SAC as a result of 'green laneing' are addressed. Other objectives are not considered likely to lead to a significant adverse effect on the qualifying features due to the low numbers of new dwellings proposed under the objectives listed above and	Screened out

Relevant Site	Assessment	Conclusion
	the fact that the implementation of the objectives will be spread across the whole of the National Park.	
North Pennine Moors SAC and SPA	Recreational disturbance is addressed in Priorities 15 and 16 of the North Pennine Group Site Improvement Plan (Natural England, 2014e). Priority 15 is the illicit use of vehicles causing localised but severe effects on bird populations and habitats through disturbance and direct physical damage. Priority 16 is public access/disturbance: 'There are localised but severe effects on bird populations and habitats through disturbance and direct physical damage as a result of high or inappropriate recreational usage. As well as well-established traditional walking routes (e.g. coast to coast path and Pennine Way) recreational activities such as gill scrambling, mountain-biking, geocaching and large organised outdoor events are increasing.' Without mitigation, the cumulative impacts of recreation on North Pennine Moors SAC and SPA could have a likely significant effect on the qualifying features. These are considered further in the Appropriate Assessment.	Screened in for Appropriate Assessment
Ox Close SAC River Eden SAC	Public access or disturbance is not listed as a priority in the Ox Close SAC or River Eden SAC Site Improvement Plans (Natural England, 2014f and 2014g, respectively) nor is reference to increased recreational activity included in the Standard Data Forms (JNCC, 2015j and 2015K, respectively). Therefore, based on the low numbers of new dwellings proposed under the objectives listed above, the fact that the implementation of the objectives will be spread across the whole of the National Park and the absence of recreational pressure from the listed threats and priorities for this SAC, it is not anticipated that the cumulative impacts of these policies will have a LSE on the qualifying features of Ox Close SAC.	Screened out.

5.5 Step Three, Part Three: Identification of Potential Impacts In Combination

5.5.1 An in combination assessment is not required at this stage as all objectives either have a positive effect, no effect or no appreciable effect and therefore cannot act in combination with other plans or projects and can be screened out; or first need to be considered in the Appropriate Assessment 'Alone'.

5.6 Conclusion of Likely Significant Effects

5.6.1 Following the assessment above, it cannot be objectively concluded that the management plan 'alone', or 'in combination' will not have a likely significant effect on the qualifying features of the Relevant Sites. Therefore, an Appropriate Assessment is required.

6. Stage Two: Appropriate Assessment

6.1 Step One, Part One: Information on Relevant Sites

6.1.1 Details of the relevant SAC, SPA and Ramsar sites, reasons for notification and condition of the sites, and the qualifying features are provided in Section 5.3.

6.2 Step One, Part Two: Potential Effects on Conservation Objectives and Step Two, Part One: Impact Prediction 'Alone'

6.2.1 In the absence of mitigation, the objectives of the management plan have the potential to significantly adversely impact the integrity of the Relevant sites and undermine the conservation objectives as detailed in Section 5.3. This could negatively affect the integrity of Relevant sites in such a way that they are unable to achieve or maintain favourable conservation status of their qualifying features.

6.3 Mitigation Measures

6.3.1 Table 9 and Table 10 below include recommended mitigation measures for each of the objectives within the management plan which were deemed in the Screening Assessment to require an Appropriate Assessment individually and cumulatively. The last column of the tables provides the assessment of effects following the implementation of the recommended mitigation.

Table 9: Mitigation and Recommendation for Objectives 'Alone'

Objective	Mitigation and/or Recommendations	Conclusion, with mitigation
A. A distinctive, living, working, cultural landscape that tells the ongoing story of generations of people interacting with their environment		
A3. Reduce the number of nationally designated heritage assets at risk, so that no more than 12 are at risk by 2030.	Policy NE1 of the forthcoming YDNP Local Plan should ensure that any works required to modify/repair a heritage asset do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.	No adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.
A4. Support farmers and landowners to conserve and enhance the distinctive landscape of field barns and drystone walls, so that at least one of the Barns and Walls Conservation Areas (Swaledale & Arkengarthdale and Littondale) is no longer at risk.	Policy NE1 of the forthcoming YDNP Local Plan should ensure that any works required to conserve field barns do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.	No adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.
A5. Support farmers and landowners to take up measures that will enhance the wider Dales' landscape, and support nature, climate and farming resilience, including planting 6,000 field trees, creating 300 ha of wood pasture, and creating or restoring 60 km of hedgerows by 2030 (from 2022 baseline).	In reference to the planting of 6,000 field trees to achieve the targets in the Dales Woodland Strategy (Dales Woodland Forum, 2020), the Nature Recovery Plan for the YDNP (YDNP Biodiversity Forum, 2023) states that this must be done '*following the principles of the 'right tree in the right place' and avoiding planting that might harm sensitive habitats and species*'. Adhering to this guidance will ensure that the planting of field trees does not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.	No adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.
A6. Continue to reduce the amount of intrusive overhead power lines and other equipment, including putting another 15km of existing power lines underground by 2028.	If planning permission is required, Policy NE1 of the forthcoming YDNP Local Plan should ensure that any works required do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites. If planning permission is not required there will be no significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites for the following reasons: • Ecological constraints, including 'Statutory Protected Sites of Ecological Importance' (including Relevant sites) will be considered by Electricity North	No adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.

Objective	Mitigation and/or Recommendations	Conclusion, with mitigation
	West (Electricity North West Ltd, 2016) when determining which stretches of overhead lines to move underground. • Both Electricity North West and Northern Powergrid have environmental obligations under Schedule 9 of the Electricity Act 1989.	
B: A friendly, open and welcoming place with outstanding opportunities to enjoy its special qualities.		
B1. Manage and maintain the standard of all public rights of way, so that, on average, 90% remain 'easy to use' and at least 10% are suitable for a diverse range of ages and abilities.	Policy NE1 of the forthcoming YDNP Local Plan should ensure that any works required to manage and maintain public rights of way do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.	No adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.
B2. Manage and promote the Pennine Way, Pennine Bridleway and Coast-to-Coast National Trails and other established long-distance routes, and improve linkages from the Coast-to-Coast route to 5 nearby settlements by 2030.	Policy NE1 of the forthcoming YDNP Local Plan should ensure that any works required to improve linkages between the Coast-to-Coast route and five nearby settlements do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.	No adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.
B3. By 2030, provide activity days, support and training to 200 groups from under-served communities, helping more people to experience the special qualities of the Yorkshire Dales National Park more easily.	Relevant organisations must ensure that any impacts on Relevant sites are considered when organising and planning activity days, support and training to ensure they do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.	No adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.
B4. Provide outdoor learning and skills-based activities to enable 5,000 young people from in and around the National Park to explore and enhance their environment each year.	Relevant organisations must ensure that any impacts on Relevant sites are considered when organising and planning outdoor learning and skills-based activities to ensure they do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.	No adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.
B5. Give people from all backgrounds an opportunity to enjoy and contribute to looking after the National Park by providing at least 7,000 volunteer days per year, with at least 20% coming from under-served communities by 2029.	Relevant organisations must ensure that any impacts on Relevant sites are considered when organising and planning volunteer days to ensure they do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.	No adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.

Objective	Mitigation and/or Recommendations	Conclusion, with mitigation
B6. Enhance at least five 'green lanes' by 2030 and manage use by recreational motor vehicles and motorcycles - encouraging and supporting responsible use and enforcing restrictions where necessary.	Policy NE1 of the forthcoming YDNP Local Plan should ensure that any works required to enhance 'green lanes' do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites. High severity recreational activities such as 'green laneing' should be avoided in the following Relevant sites: • Ingleborough Complex SAC • North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC	No adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.
D. Resilient and responsive to the impacts of climate change, storing more carbon each year than it produces		
D3. Work with farmers and landowners to encourage creation of 6,000 ha of native broadleaf and mixed woodland, including, scrub, wood pasture and natural regeneration by 2031, to create a network that is more resilient to climate change and helps to reduce downstream flood peaks.	In reference to the creation of 6,000 ha of woodland to achieve the targets in the Dales Woodland Strategy (Dales Woodland Forum, 2020) the Nature Recovery Plan for the YDNP (YDNP Biodiversity Forum, 2023) states that this must be done '*following the principles of the 'right tree in the right place' and avoiding planting that might harm sensitive habitats and species*'. Adhering to this guidance will ensure that the creation of woodland will not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.	No adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.
D4. Significantly increase take up of natural flood management measures, including re-naturalising 25 km of rivers by 2030, to reduce flood risks inside and outside the National Park.	Any new woodland must be planted in line with the Nature Recovery Plan for the YDNP (YDNP Biodiversity Forum, 2023) which states that this must be done '*following the principles of the 'right tree in the right place' and avoiding planting that might harm sensitive habitats and species*'. Adhering to this guidance will ensure that the creation of woodland as part of this objective will not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites. Policy NE1 of the forthcoming YDNP Local Plan should ensure that any works requiring planning permission do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.	No adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.
D5. Support more services along the Settle-Carlisle Railway and the reinstatement of other rail lines, increase bus and community transport links to surrounding towns, and improve infrastructure	Policy NE1 of the forthcoming YDNP Local Plan should ensure that any works required to reinstate railways lines and improve electric vehicle infrastructure do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.	No adverse effect on the integrity of

Objective	Mitigation and/or Recommendations	Conclusion, with mitigation
to support electric vehicles, so as to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from travel in the National Park by 50% by 2030 (compared to 2019 levels).		the Relevant sites.
D6. Support initiatives to improve the energy efficiency of buildings and increase small-scale and community renewable energy schemes, so as to reduce energy costs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from industrial, commercial and domestic properties by 50% by 2030 (compared to 2019).	Policy NE1 of the forthcoming YDNP Local Plan should ensure that any developments do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.	No adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.
E: Providing an outstanding range of benefits for the nation based on its natural resources, landscape and cultural heritage, which underpin a flourishing local economy		
E2. Encourage and support farms and estates to provide more opportunities for visitors and schools groups to experience the special qualities of the National Park, including establishing a 'peer mentoring' network to help build capacity by 2029.	Relevant organisations must ensure that any impacts on Relevant sites are considered when organising and planning activity days, support and training to ensure they do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.	No adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.
E3. Make the National Park more accessible to a diverse range of ages and abilities, including by providing 'Changing Places' accessible toilet facilities, all terrain mobility scooters, and accessible routes at 10 locations, and creating 5 new 'access for all' trails.	Policy NE1 of the forthcoming YDNP Local Plan should ensure that any works required to make the National Park more accessible do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.	No adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.
E4. Develop and promote events and attractions based on the special qualities of the National Park that will be attractive to a more diverse and younger audience, so that 15% of visitors each year are coming for the first time.	Relevant organisations must ensure that any impacts on Relevant sites are considered when organising and planning events and attractions to ensure they do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.	No adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.

Objective	Mitigation and/or Recommendations	Conclusion, with mitigation
E7. Improve the quality and sustainability of the tourism 'offer' and visitor information to encourage more overnight stays, and to encourage visitors to experience parts of the National Park that are currently less visited, so that the value of tourism grows by at least 5% in real terms by 2030.	Policy NE1 of the forthcoming YDNP Local Plan should ensure that any works required to fulfil this objective, do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.	No adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.
F. Home to strong, self-reliant and balanced communities with good access to the services they need		
F1. Support the completion of 250 new dwellings by 2030, including at least 135 social housing, affordable or local occupancy homes to attract and retain younger working age households.	The following policies in the forthcoming YDNP Local Plan should ensure that an increase in the number of dwellings in the National Park do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites: • Policy NE1. • Policy CP5, where developments fall within a Nutrient Neutrality catchment. • Policy AC5, where developments will lead to an increase in traffic movements within 200m of a Relevant site.	No adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.
F3. Improve local access to services that are essential to the long-term viability of local communities, including providing access to gigabit broadband to 99% of properties in the Cumbrian part of the National Park by 2026, and superfast (over 30Mbs) to 97% of properties in the North Yorkshire part by 2030.	Policy NE1 of the forthcoming YDNP Local Plan should ensure that any works required to improve access to services in the National Park, including providing access to gigabit broadband, do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.	No adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.
F5. Improve connectivity by reducing mobile phone 'not spots' from 21% of the National Park to less than 10% by 2027.	Policy NE1 of the forthcoming YDNP Local Plan should ensure that any planning applications for new masts do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.	No adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.

Objective	Mitigation and/or Recommendations	Conclusion, with mitigation
F6. Produce local plans to improve connections for walking, cycling, wheeling and riding in and around the National Park, so it is easier for residents and visitors to travel between places for work, for school and to key visitor destinations without needing a car, and create at least two new multi-user routes by 2030.	Policy NE1 of the forthcoming YDNP Local Plan should ensure that any works required to support this objective, including the creation of at least two new multi-user routes, do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.	No adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.

Table 10 : Mitigation and Recommendation for Cumulative Impacts of Increased Recreation

Relevant Site	Mitigation and Recommendations	Conclusion
Asby Complex Craven Limestone Complex SAC and Malham Tarn Ramsar North Pennine Moors SAC and SPA	Policy NE1 of the forthcoming YDNP Local Plan should ensure that any increases in recreational pressure, do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites. Policy NE1 of the forthcoming YDNP Local Plan should ensure that any works required to enhance 'green lanes' do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites. High severity recreational activities such as 'green laneing' should be avoided in North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC. Relevant organisations must ensure that any impacts on Relevant sites are considered when organising and planning activities and events etc to ensure they do not result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.	No adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites.

6.4 Step Two, Part Two: Impact Prediction 'In Combination'

6.4.1 An in combination assessment is not required as all objectives were assessed to have no adverse effect on the integrity of the Relevant sites with mitigation.

6.5 Conclusions on Site Integrity

6.5.1 The identified risks can be mitigated by following the recommendations given in Table 9 and Table 10. The implementation of mitigation would mean that the proposed management plan is reasonably unlikely to contravene the conservation objectives or adversely affect the integrity of the Relevant sites, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. Consequently there is no requirement to proceed with Stage Three or Stage Four of the HRA methodology.

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