

YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN 2018 – 2023

HABITATS REGULATIONS ASSESSMENT
Summary of Scoping & Screening of the draft Plan objectives

Prepared on behalf of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Management Plan Steering Group

February 2018

1.1 The Habitats Regulations

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (or, more simply, 'The Habitats Regulations') require the steering group, to make an 'appropriate assessment' of the draft National Park Management Plan (NPMP) to establish whether the plan is likely to have a significant effect on a European site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) in view of that site's conservation objectives. European Sites are internationally recognised wildlife sites included in the European Union's 'Natura 2000' series (i.e. notified as 'Special Protection Areas' [SPAs] under the EU Birds Directive or 'Special Areas of Conservation' [SACs] under the EU Habitats Directive). As a matter of UK Government Policy and with respect to the need for 'appropriate assessment', Ramsar Wetlands of International Importance are treated as if they were SACs or SPAs.

1.2 Screening

Screening is the exercise whereby it is decided that the particular document being considered is 'caught' by the Habitats Regulations. This is done by answering a series of questions that lead one to a conclusion regarding whether something should be screened 'in' or screened 'out'. The results in this case are summarised in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Screening the NPMP

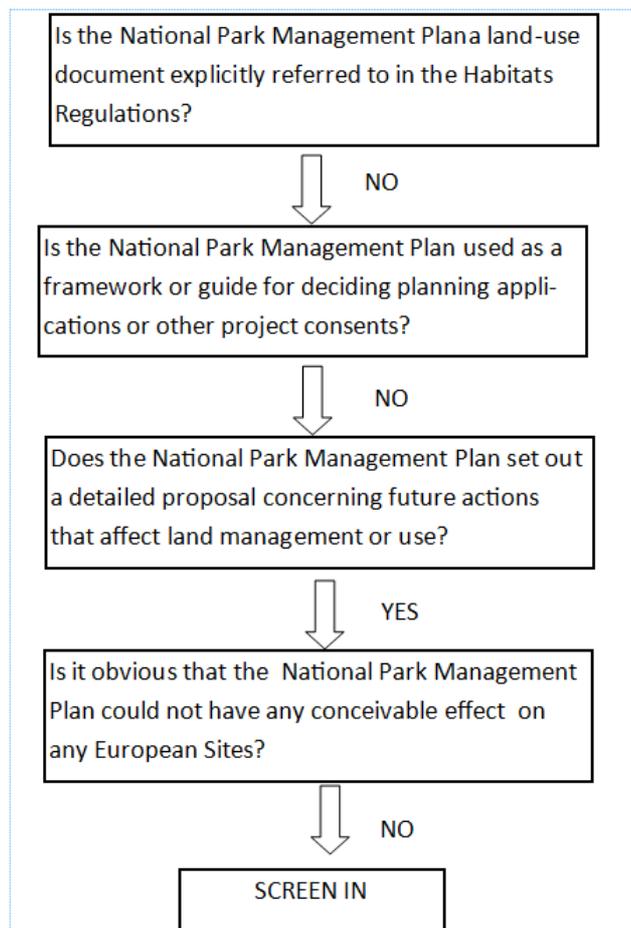


Figure 1 shows how it was decided to screen the Plan ‘in’ meaning that further investigation was needed before it could be concluded that the Plan was likely or not likely to have a significant effect on any European Site. In this case it could not be ruled out that the Plan would not have such an effect because the NPMP does intend to influence land use and inspire landscape-scale projects.

1.3 Scoping

All Natura 2000 and Ramsar Sites with land within the National Park were scoped automatically into the HRA because they are potentially affected by policies concerning activities within the National Park boundaries. Designated sites based on the Morecambe Bay estuary were also scoped into the HRA because it was considered probable that flood management activities aimed at alleviating flooding in Lancaster and other settlements within the Lune catchment had the potential to affect the ecology of the Bay. Table 1 lists the sites scoped into the Assessment.

Table 1: Natura 2000 & Ramsar sites scoped into the HRA

	<i>SITE NAME</i>
	<i>Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)</i>
A	North Pennine Moors
B	Ingleborough Complex
C	Craven Limestone Complex
D	Asby Complex
E	North Pennine Dales Meadows
F	Ox Close
G	River Eden
H	Morecambe Bay
	<i>Special Protection Areas (SPAs)</i>
I	North Pennine Moors
J	Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary
	<i>Ramsar Sites</i>
K	Malham Tarn
L	Morecambe Bay

Tables A to F below contain a summary of the initial rough scoping of the Habitats Regulation Assessment. Section 2 contains further detail of the scoping exercise.

Table A: A distinctive, living, working, cultural landscape

Objective	Evaluation	Screened In/Out
A1. During Brexit transition, support farmers and landowners to deliver a wide range of public benefits by keeping at least 60% of the Yorkshire Dales National Park in national agri-environment scheme agreements or other similar initiatives	50% of the Park area is currently covered by Agri-environment agreements (Source: Natural England), therefore this objective would have a positive impact if adopted.	Out
A2. Maintain the National Park as a place where a true sense of tranquillity, remoteness and solitude can be found, and by 2021 obtain Dark Skies Reserve status to enhance and promote enjoyment of its Dark Skies.	SPA and Ramsar bird populations are likely to be intolerant of excessive artificial light levels in and around international sites. Therefore this objective would tend to have a positive impact if adopted.	Out
A3. By 2020 produce a simplified and updated Landscape Character Assessment for the National Park to provide an assessment of dale by dale distinctiveness and development capacity.	A new Landscape Character Assessment may influence where certain types of land-use are encouraged. Therefore, there may be an indirect impact on international wildlife sites.	In. See Section 2.1.1.
A4. Continue to reduce the amount of overhead power lines and other equipment, including putting another 20km of existing power lines underground by 2023.	Undergrounding of power lines requires trenching and associated works. The impact of this objective would depend on the location of such works.	In. See Section 2.1.2.
A5. Use the Historic Environment Record to research, record and promote the stories of the National Park area, and carry out and co-ordinate 5-yearly surveys of the condition of all important historical structures and landscapes.	It is assumed that surveys would not require any physical disturbance of land. The timing of surveys might be important in relation to breeding birds and those sites where these are qualifying features.	In. See section 2.1.3.
A6. Help local people to restore, repair and bring back into use nationally-important historical sites, buildings and structures so that by 2023, no more than 10 scheduled monuments and seventy five listed buildings are considered at risk from unmanaged decline.	The restoration and repair of historical sites could have implications for the favourable condition status of international sites depending on the location of the historical sites in relation to the Natura 2000 network.	In. See section 2.1.4.
A7. Deliver co-ordinated programmes of activity that enhance the distinctive landscape, geology and cultural heritage, including through the 'Ingleborough Dales Landscape Partnership' (by 2020) and the 'Westmorland Dales Landscape Partnership' (by 2023).	Activities that are potentially disturbing to nesting birds would be capable of exerting a negative impact on international sites where bird populations are qualifying features.	In. See section 2.1.5.
A8. By 2021 develop a fully-costed, locally-tailored, locally-delivered, outcome-focused environmental land management scheme to manage, restore and improve the outstanding natural capital and rural heritage of the National Park.	It is assumed that any scheme developed would have a positive impact on favourable condition status of international wildlife sites.	Out

Table B: A friendly, open and welcoming place

Objective	Evaluation	Screened In/Out
B1. Maintain and promote the Pennine Trails and other long-distance routes, and raise the standard of public rights of way so that 90% are 'easy to use' by 2023.	Some long distance routes run through international sites and path maintenance works can affect local hydrology and soil chemistry.	In. See section 2.1.6.
B2. Carry out works to improve access on appropriate public rights of way and established permissive routes so that 262 km (10%) are suitable for users of all ages and abilities by 2023.	Depending on their nature, access works may affect hydrology and soils.	In. See section 2.1.7.
B3. By 2023, provide 6,000 people from all backgrounds and all abilities with opportunities that will enable them to access the special qualities of the National Park and so increase their understanding, enjoyment, health and well-being.	It is difficult to quantify how many extra people might visit international wildlife sites within the Park as a direct result of this objective but it is assumed that the potential impact would be marginal, given this is a park-wide objective,	Out
B4. Through educational and skills based activities inspire 6,000 young people, on average each year, from in and around the National Park to discover, explore and enhance their environment.	As above.	Out
B5. Run a cohesive programme of inspirational events, guided walks and shows, attracting 4,000 people annually to find out more about the [special qualities of the] National Park	As above.	Out
B6. Give people from all backgrounds an opportunity to enjoy and contribute to the National Park by providing at least 7,000 volunteer days per year by 2023, with 15% coming from under-represented groups	As above	Out
B7. Work with the organisers of large-scale events to ensure they are well run, , provide benefits for local communities and businesses, and contribute funding to cover the annual cost of maintaining the 'Three Peaks' route	Large-scale events such as the Scott Trial motorcycling event have routes that cross international wildlife sites. Physical damage and/or disturbance to breeding birds are potential impacts.	In. See section 2.1.8.
B8. Promote and encourage responsible cycling by supporting world class cycling events that showcase the National Park, enabling the development of four 'cycle hubs', and at least one further family-friendly cycling route by 2023	Cycling events tend to be confined to roads and, although some pass through wildlife sites, the impacts on the sites themselves will be very limited.	Out
B9. Work with user groups and highway authorities to maintain green lanes, and keep under review and enforce appropriate measures to manage the use of recreational motor vehicles on those that are sensitive.	Managing the use of recreational vehicles is likely to have positive benefits for international wildlife sites.	Out

Table C: Home to the finest variety of wildlife in England

Objective	Evaluation	Screened In/Out
C1. Support farmers and landowners to restore and manage land in nationally and internationally important wildlife sites, so that 50% is in 'favourable condition' by 2023	The impact is intended to be positive for nature conservation.	Out
C2. Support farmers and landowners to restore and manage priority habitats outside SSSIs so that 30% are in good condition by 2024, and create at least one landscape-scale 'nature recovery area'.	The impact is intended to be positive for nature conservation.	Out
C3. Work with farmers and landowners to achieve stable or increasing populations for 90% of priority species by 2025, including the UK 'red-listed' upland birds — Black Grouse; Curlew; Hen Harrier; Lapwing; Merlin; Skylark; and Yellow Wagtail — for which the National Park is renowned.	The impact is intended to be positive for nature conservation.	Out
C4. Work with farmers and landowners through the Catchment Sensitive Farming programme and other initiatives to improve the condition of the Aire, Eden, Lune, Ribble, Swale, Ure and Wharfe so that at least 90% of all rivers achieve 'good ecological status' by 2027.	The impact is intended to be positive for nature conservation.	Out
C5. Work with farmers in Wensleydale to demonstrate the benefit of 'high nature value', low-input farm systems through a 5-year trial of a 'payment by results' approach to agri-environment funding.	The impact is intended to be positive for nature conservation.	Out
C6. Work with moorland managers to devise and implement a local approach to end illegal persecution of raptors, including independent and scientifically robust monitoring, and co-ordinated Hen Harrier nest and winter roost site protection.	The impact is intended to be positive for nature conservation.	Out
C7. Support landowners to restore and manage ancient woodlands so that 60% are in good condition or being well managed by 2023.	The impact is intended to be positive for nature conservation.	Out

Table D: Resilient and responsive to the impacts of climate change

Objective	Evaluation	Screened In/Out
D1. Work with farmers and landowners to ensure that at least 70% of all woodland is in active management by 2023 , including positive management of conifer plantations to increase suitable habitat for red squirrels and black grouse	Broadleaved woodlands form a small proportion of the semi-natural habitats in some SACs. So long as the “positive management” is not detrimental to the conservation interest, the impact will be neutral or, potentially, positive.	Out
D2. Support landowners to create at least 400 hectares of new native broadleaved woodland that enhances the special qualities of the National Park by 2023, with priority given to projects that strengthen habitat networks, increase carbon storage and help to reduce flooding.	The impact is dependent on where the trees are planted. Poorly sited plantations would conflict with bird populations that favour open moorland and some plant assemblages.	In. See section 2.1.9
D3. By 2030 restore all degraded blanket bog/deep peat habitat to ecologically and hydrologically functioning bog that is actively sequestering and storing carbon, and is being managed sustainably.	This will have a positive impact for all SACs & SPAs based on upland blanket bog habitats.	Out
D4. Progressively reduce road haulage of crushed rock and timber, including reducing road haulage from the three quarries in Ribblesdale by 50% compared to 2011 levels.	A minor positive impact should be caused if pollution and disturbance levels are reduced.	Out
D5. Work with farmers and landowners to deliver landscape-scale natural flood management projects in the Aire, Eden, Ribble; Lune; Swale, Ure, and Wharfe catchments.	There could be an impact on the Eden SAC depending on the measures that are promoted.	In. See section 2.1.10
D6. By 2020 develop and launch an online, interactive habitat network map for the Yorkshire Dales National Park that shows existing networks and potential expansion areas in order to support farmers and land managers to develop connected, climate-resilient habitats	This could be a positive management tool.	Out

Table E: Providing an outstanding range of benefits for the nation based on its natural resources

Objective	Evaluation	Screened In/Out
E1. Connect Grassington-Threshfield, Hawes-Gayle, Reeth and Sedbergh, to hyperfast, fibre-to-the-premises broadband (1,000 mbps) by 2023, and secure at least the Universal Service Obligation for broadband of 10 mbps) for the rest of the National Park.	It is not anticipated that any of the identified connections will require excavations within international wildlife sites.	Out
E2. Provide basic mobile phone coverage across the National Park and ensure 4G (or later) services are available on all networks in the Service 'Hubs', and 'spokes' by 2021.	If phone masts are required there could be some small-scale construction in or close to international sites.	In. See section 2.1.11.
E3. Improve the quality, variety and marketing of the tourism 'offer' to encourage more overnight stays and more visitors in the 'shoulder months', so that the value of tourism grows by at least 5% in real terms by 2023.	A direct impact to international sites is unlikely to arise but there could be indirect impacts if more people access international sites. See B1 & B2 regarding how access will be managed.	Out
E4. Increase in real-terms the total level of financial support to farmers and landowners through agri-environment and other environmental support schemes to recognise the full range of public benefits provided by 'high nature value' farming in the National Park	The public benefits of 'high nature value' farming include biodiversity enhancement. It is anticipated this would led to a positive impact for European Sites.	Out
E5. Support the development of rail services and related economic uses along the Leeds-Settle-Carlisle Railway, and the reinstatement of the Wensleydale Railway from Redmire to Aysgarth starting before 2023.	The impact of this policy will depend on where development is encouraged within the Leeds-Settle-Carlisle railway corridor.	In. See section 2.1.12.
E6. Encourage production of locally-distinctive, high-quality food in a way that delivers an outstanding range of public benefits, so as to secure the long-term economic viability of High Nature Value farming.	See comments on High Nature Value farming above (E4).	Out
E7. Develop and promote new events, festivals and attractions based on the Park's special qualities and local distinctiveness so that at least 10% of visitors each year are coming for the first time.	A direct impact to international sites is unlikely to arise but there could be indirect impacts if more people access international sites. See B1 & B2 regarding how access will be managed.	Out
E8. Provide at least ?? apprenticeships by 2023, focusing on those skills (farming, countryside management, heritage) that are essential to maintaining the National Park's special qualities.	The effect of this could be marginally positive assuming it will facilitate sympathetic management of international sites by farmers and landowners.	Out
E9. Deliver at least one key economic regeneration project in each of the 3 districts with allocated employment sites, and increase the number and quality of jobs so as to increase gross value added (GVA) by [10%?] by 2023	Allocated employment sites do not impinge on international wildlife sites.	Out

Table E (continued): Providing an outstanding range of benefits for the nation based on its natural resources

Objective	Evaluation	Screened In/Out
E10. Utilise necessary tools and mechanisms to support a thriving, profitable and sustainable Dales farm business sector which attracts young farmers and new entrants, so that by 2025, average LFA farm business incomes have increased to match the national average wage for farming (currently £22,763/annum)	The impact of this on international wildlife sites is considered neutral.	Out
E11. Increase the number of jobs within the rural and land based sector to 3,000 full time equivalents by 2023, by encouraging business innovation and diversification, improving knowledge transfer, supporting the promotion of locally produced products, and encouraging new entrants to the rural business sector.	It is not intended that this policy should be interpreted as supporting agricultural intensification at the expense of habitats within international wildlife sites.	Out
E12. By 2019 undertake a costed audit of public goods that are provided by sustainable land management in the Yorkshire Dales National Park in order to inform national policy and seek financial support from Government and the private sector.	It is anticipated that such an audit would quantify the value of ecosystem services delivered by land in international wildlife sites.	Out

Table F: Home to strong, self-reliant and balanced communities

Objective	Evaluation	Screened In/Out
F1. Complete at least 325 new dwellings in a range of tenures, sizes and types by 2023.	The impact on Natura 2000 sites and Ramsar designations will depend on where dwellings are built.	In. See section 2.1.13.
F3. Undertake a package of measures to promote the National Park as a place to live for working age households to the National Park to help halt the decline in the working age population (18 to 44 years).	Promotional activity of this sort could have an indirect impact if it leads to more people accessing wildlife sites. See B1 & B2 concerning management of public access.	
F4. Locate and retain access to high quality community services and business infrastructure centred on the four service 'hubs' of Sedbergh, Hawes-Gayle, Reeth and Grassington-Threshfield, or their 'spoke' settlements	A neutral impact is anticipated.	Out
F5. Through the 'Great Place: Lakes and Dales' project, carry out a programme of research and investment into local culture, arts and heritage so as to retain and attract younger people and businesses to the rural corridor linking Skipton to Grasmere.	See comments on F3.	
F6. Use the Sustainable Development Fund and other funding sources, to support 20 new local projects each year that bring economic, social and environmental benefits to the National Park.	The impact on international sites depends on where projects are located. This cannot be predicted in advance of applications being made.	In. See section 2.1.14.
F7. By 2021 take all necessary steps to ensure the provision of sufficient housing land supply for the following 5 years	See comments on F1.	In. See section 2.1.15.

2.1 Detailed consideration of draft NPMP objectives not screened out

The following sections analyse the objectives that have not been screened out during the 'rough screening' summarised in Tables A to F above. At this stage it is accepted practice to consider whether possible significant effects can be avoided through simple mitigation measures or procedures and whether or not there are other plans or documents where the issues are/can be dealt with at a finer scale (and which have been or could be subjected to HRA).

A3: By 2020 produce a simplified and updated Landscape Character Assessment for the National Park to provide an assessment of dale by dale distinctiveness and development capacity.

Potentially affected sites: All.

The act of producing a Landscape Character Assessment will not itself have any impact on international wildlife sites. However, if the Assessment is to be used to help guide where development is to be encouraged and/or habitat creation to be promoted, then the document ought to be screened under the Habitats Regulations. It is assumed that the Assessment will not have a greater influence on land-use than the current Local Plans, which have all been adopted following a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).

Conclusion: A significant effect is unlikely.

A4: Continue to reduce the amount of overhead power lines and other equipment, including putting another 20km of existing power lines underground by 2023.

Potentially affected sites: All within the National Park.

Undergrounding of power lines and other equipment implies engineering operations including, potentially, trenching. Not only could this threaten habitat degradation/loss in SACs designated for sensitive habitats but, if undertaken in particular seasons, such works might be disturbing to the bird interest. The objective is not specific about where undergrounding will occur, therefore, precise impacts cannot be predicted here.

Conclusion: Individual projects will need to be Habitats Regulations screened and HRA carried out if necessary. This will be the responsibility of the relevant utilities and of the YDNPA if Authority consent is required.

A5: Use the Historic Environment Record to research, record and promote the stories of the National Park area, and carry out and co-ordinate 5-yearly surveys of the condition of all important historical structures and landscapes.

Potentially affected sites: SPAs and Ramsar sites within the National Park.

It is assumed that the surveys will not be intrusive and, therefore, that there is no risk of habitats being affected directly. Bird populations may be affected by disturbance if surveys entail access to areas with sensitive breeding or over-wintering populations.

Conclusion: Survey programmes should be devised so that surveys are scheduled so as to avoid sensitive times of year if the surveys are due to happen in places where there are likely to be qualifying bird species in significant numbers.

A6: Help local people to restore, repair and bring back into use nationally-important historical sites, buildings and structures so that by 2023, no more than 10 scheduled monuments and seventy five listed buildings are considered at risk from unmanaged decline.

Potentially affected sites: All sites within the National Park.

The impact of adopting such an objective depends on which historical assets are being considered and what needs to be done to restore them. For example, vegetation management could be required and this may have implications for plant communities that are reasons for wildlife site designation. Timing with respect to birds might be an issue.

Conclusion: Impacts on international wildlife sites ought to be considered at the planning stage. HRAs could be required for some projects affecting wildlife sites.

A7: Deliver co-ordinated programmes of activity that enhance the distinctive landscape, geology and cultural heritage, including through the ‘Ingleborough Dales Landscape Partnership’ (by 2020) and the ‘Westmorland Dales Landscape Partnership’ (by 2023).

Potentially affected sites: All sites within the National Park but especially the Ingleborough Complex SAC (within the Ingleborough Dales Landscape Partnership area) and the Asby Complex SAC (within the Westmoreland Dales Landscape Partnership area).

The impact of adopting such an objective depends on where the activities are run and what sorts of events are staged. Birds are not qualifying features of either of the SACs mentioned but timings of activities might be important in some SPA & Ramsar sites.

Conclusion: Impacts on international wildlife sites ought to be considered at the programme planning stage. HRAs could be required for some projects affecting wildlife sites.

B1: Maintain and promote the Pennine Trails and other long-distance routes, and raise the standard of public rights of way so that 90% are ‘easy to use’ by 2023.

Potentially affected sites: The Pennine Way goes through the Craven Limestone Complex SAC and the North Pennine Moors SPA & SAC, while the Pennine Bridleway passes through the Ingleborough Complex SAC.

The impact of adopting this objective will depend on where works need to be undertaken. There could be potential impacts on plant communities (directly or through changes to soil conditions) and, therefore, to sites that are designated on habitat grounds. The timing of works might be important in some SPA & Ramsar sites.

Conclusion: Impacts on international wildlife sites ought to be considered at the programme planning stage. HRAs could be required for some projects affecting wildlife sites.

B2: Carry out works to improve access on appropriate public rights of way and established permissive routes so that 262 km (10%) are suitable for users of all ages and abilities by 2023.

As for B1.

B7: Work with the organisers of large-scale events to ensure they are well run, provide benefits for local communities and businesses, and contribute funding to cover the annual cost of maintaining the 'Three Peaks' route.

Potentially affected sites: The Three Peaks Route goes through the Ingleborough Complex SAC. The Scott Trial (a major off road motorcycle event) usually takes place on a route that takes in some of the North Pennine Moors SPA & SAC.

YDNPA may be able to influence such events but rarely is it the organiser of them, so it is not the 'competent for the Habitats Regulations. Natural England consent may be needed in some situations and it is assumed it will apply the necessary tests before granting approval.

Conclusion: YDNPA should do what it can to raise impacts on international wildlife sites with event organisers at the programme planning stage.

D2: Support landowners to create at least 400 hectares of new native broadleaved woodland that enhances the special qualities of the National Park by 2023, with priority given to projects that strengthen habitat networks, increase carbon storage and help to reduce flooding.

Potentially affected sites: All within the National Park.

Planting schemes over 2 hectares require Forestry Commission (FC) approval and, therefore, the FC will be the competent authority with respect to the Habitats Regulations. Planting under 2 hectares is likely to need Natural England consent if proposed within a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). All international sites are also designated as SSSIs.

Conclusion: It is unlikely that new woodland affecting European Sites could be approved without their being HRA.

D5: Work with farmers and landowners to deliver landscape-scale natural flood management projects in the Aire, Eden, Ribble; Lune; Swale, Ure, and Wharfe catchments.

Potentially affected sites: River Eden SAC, Morecambe Bay SAC & Ramsar sites and Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA.

Flood management projects affecting the Eden catchment may have to be considered on a case by case basis. It is not appropriate to consider impacts at the level of the National Park Management Plan as there are no specific proposals that can be assessed. Generally, the purpose of natural flood management is to reduce peak volumes of waters in rivers running through human settlements, etc. by increasing water storage capacity and slowing flows. It is considered unlikely that tidal cycles, salinity, etc. at the estuary level will be affected significantly or that sedimentation and supply of nutrients to the marine environment will be affected to the level it would impact on the qualifying features of any of the Morecambe Bay sites.

Conclusion: Some flood management projects in the Eden catchment could need full HRA.

E2: Provide basic mobile phone coverage across the National Park and ensure 4G (or later) services are available on all networks in the Service ‘Hubs’, and ‘spokes’ by 2021.

Potentially affected sites: All sites within the National Park.

Construction of telephone masts and associated infrastructure within or immediately adjacent to international wildlife sites could threaten habitat degradation/loss in SACs designated for sensitive habitats or, if works occur in particular seasons, they might be disturbing to the bird interest that has led to the designation of SPAs and/or Ramsar sites. The objective is not specific about where new masts need to be sited, therefore, precise impacts cannot be predicted.

Conclusion: Individual projects will need to be Habitats Regulations screened and HRA carried out if necessary. This will be the responsibility of the relevant utilities and of the YDNPA if consent is required.

E5: Support the development of rail services and related economic uses along the Leeds-Settle-Carlisle Railway, and the reinstatement of the Wensleydale Railway from Redmire to Aysgarth starting before 2023.

Potentially affected sites: Ingleborough Complex SAC and River Eden SAC.

The Settle – Carlisle Railway runs to the immediate east of part of the Ingleborough Complex SAC. A few stretches of railway adjoin the SAC, while at Ribbleshead the SAC includes a short length of the railway embankment. At Griseburn Viaduct the railway line crosses near the Eden SAC. Development within the railway corridor thus has the

potential to affect two European Sites. The section of the Wensleydale Railway mentioned in the objective is not closely associated with any internationally-designated wildlife site.

Conclusion: Individual planning proposals capable of affecting international sites will need to be Habitats Regulations screened and HRA carried out if necessary. This will be the responsibility of YDNPA if the Authority's consent is required.

F1: Complete at least 325 new dwellings in a range of tenures, sizes and types by 2023.

Potentially affected sites: All sites within the National Park.

Targets and acceptable locations for new housing development are set out in the Local Development Plans that cover the National Park. These plans have already been the subject of HRA.

Conclusion: Individual planning proposals capable of affecting international sites will need to be Habitats Regulations screened and HRA carried out if necessary. This will be the responsibility of YDNPA if the Authority's consent is required.

F6: Use the Sustainable Development Fund and other funding sources, to support 20 new local projects each year that bring economic, social and environmental benefits to the National Park.

Potentially affected sites: All sites within the National Park.

It cannot be decided in advance of applications for funding whether any projects will be proposed that would have the capacity to significantly affect international wildlife sites.

Conclusion: Individual grant applications capable of affecting international sites will need to be screened and HRA carried out if necessary. This will be the responsibility of YDNPA if the Authority's consent is required.

F7: By 2021 take all necessary steps to ensure the provision of sufficient housing land supply for the following 5 years

As for F1.

2.2 Discussion and Final Conclusion

Forty-nine objectives in the draft Yorkshire Dales Management Plan (as at 20 February 2018) have been analysed for their likely impact on the integrity, qualifying features and conservation objectives of twelve internationally designated wildlife sites. None of the objectives were identified as being likely to cause a significant adverse impact to any international wildlife site.

In some cases it was established that particular projects that the document might inspire could have significant effects, but in all of these instances mechanisms were shown to exist (or which could readily be put in place) whereby the particular projects could be assessed at a planning stage and HRA carried out.

In the absence of any clear objection on Habitats Regulations grounds it is possible for the draft Plan to be adopted, as currently worded.