

CL701 Carnyorth Downs – Consultation of a Review of the Existing Management.

Management Review

Proposed changes to the existing management

Day-to-day management of the cattle grazing, fire break management, rotational burning and scrub and bracken management will be managed by Phillip Tregear on behalf of Mr K Trembath. Phillip is a young farmer who lives next to the common at Higher Boslow, Carnyorth Farm. Phillip grew up on the farm and is familiar with the common land.

Change the native breed at risk grazing cattle from Longhorn to Red Poll.

Red Poll cattle do not have horns and are smaller than Longhorn cattle. See the Grazing Animals Project (GAP) 'The Breed Profiles Handbook: A Guide to the Selection of Livestock Breeds for Grazing Wildlife Sites'.

[GAP - The Breed Profiles Handbook: A Guide to the Selection of Livestock Breeds for Grazing Wildlife Sites](#)

The GAP Breed Profile Handbook for Red Poll cattle states:

Interaction with the Public – an ideal breed for grazing on public access sites.
Reaction to people – generally calm; may be inquisitive.
Tends to ignore footpath walkers, although may move away from large groups.
Public perception – an attractive, non-threatening and traditional British breed.

The common will be grazed by 10-14 Red Poll cows between May and September each year.

Red Poll cows in calf will be taken of the common to calve in September in the adjacent enclosed pasture fields and remain there with their calves.

No cows with calves at foot will graze the common.

No bulls will graze the common.

Install permanent signs on the access gates to Carnyorth Downs registered common stating 'Cattle graze this common between May and September'.

Scrub/bramble and bracken will be managed as required and the existing fire breaks will be maintained.

Manage the lowland heath on the common, except the wet/boggy mire area near Bog Inn, under the Higher Tier management option LH1 Management of lowland heath.

Manage South Lidden pond located between Carn Bean and Carn Kenidjack under the Higher Tier management option WT05 Pond management (areas more than 100 sq m).

Manage the grassland field parcel with underlying archaeology to the west of Warren's pond under the Higher Tier management option HS5.

No changes proposed to the existing management

No changes are proposed to the existing stock fencing, cattle grid, water troughs, access gates and stiles on the common.

Warren's Pond will not be included in the Higher Tier agreement and no management will be expected from the agreement holder in the pond or within the fenced land around the pond.

Proposed outcomes

LH1 Management of lowland heath requirements

Agreement holders are likely to need to:

Create a wide range of heather ages and structure through appropriate management (grazing, burning and/or cutting)

Provide bare ground cover between 1% and 10%

Maintain tree and scrub cover below 15%

Maintain the full range of age classes of Western or European gorse

Manage bracken so that cover is less than 10% in dense canopy

The agreement will set out what must not be done. It is likely agreement holders will not be allowed to:

Create bare ground on historic or archaeological features

Use fertilisers or manures

Apply any lime

Plough, cultivate or re-seed

Carry out supplementary feeding

Use pesticides, including herbicides, except to spot treat or weed wipe or to control injurious weeds or invasive non-natives.

A rotational burning plan and a scrub and bracken management plan will be developed within the first two years from the start of the Higher Tier agreement to inform further management of the common over the remaining 8 year period.

WT5 Pond management (areas more than 100 sq m) requirements

Agreement holders are likely to need to:

Manage vegetation in the pond

Control scrub and invasive non-native plants

Retain overhanging trees and bushes and deadwood

Graze or cut the margins of the pond

Carry out the work within the dates agreed with the adviser

Maintain clear, unpolluted water

Maintain the current water regime

The agreement will set out what must not be done. It is likely agreement holders will not be allowed to:

Introduce any plants or animals (including fish and waterfowl) to the pond

Deepen or change the original profile of the pond

Infill the pond.

HS5 Management of historic and archaeological features on grassland requirements

Maintain a continuous grass sward or vegetation cover so that no more than 5% of the features develop bare patches or erosion

Make sure scrub, bracken or pernicious weeds cover no more than 5% of the features

Make sure vehicle or stock access routes are at least 6m away from the feature (existing surfaced tracks can be used)

Do not:

Plough, cultivate or re-seed

Harrow or roll

Apply supplementary feed on or within 6m of the feature