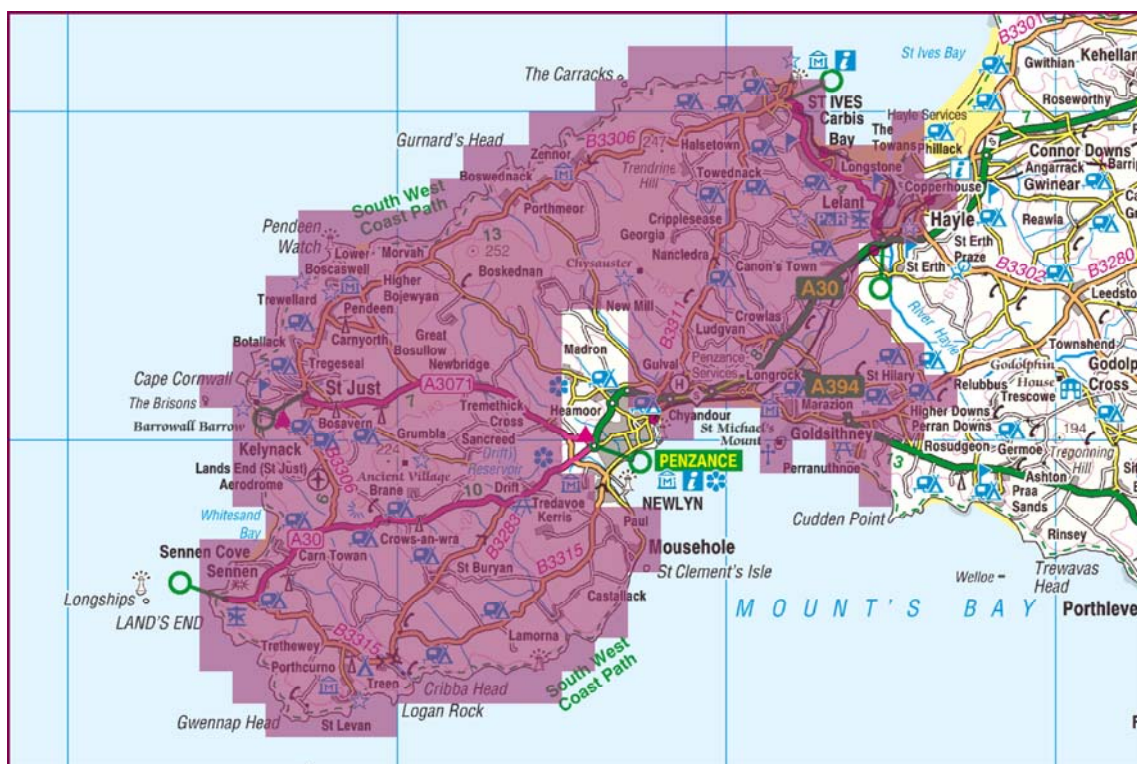


## Penwith Target Area



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Total Area: 28,200ha

### Why is the Penwith Target Area a priority for Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) management?

The **Penwith Target Area** is important for its significant contribution to the following Higher Level Stewardship objectives: **Biodiversity, Landscape, Historic Environment, Resource Protection and Access.**

The Penwith Target Area is a protected landscape including the Land's End Peninsular that falls within the **Cornwall Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty**. The area comprises a coastal plateau of granite moorland and enclosed farmland with sheltered valleys falling eastwards towards Penzance. The **South West Coast Path** follows the rugged coast with links to areas of open access. Within this target area nationally important areas for biodiversity occur including **lowland heathland** and **maritime cliff and slope**. Important areas of **wetlands, coastal habitats, Cornish hedges and woodland** are also present. These habitats support key species of wildlife notably **chough**, associated with the coastal headlands of West Penwith and Land's End. Resource protection issues include diffuse pollution on

farmland affecting the valuable wetland habitats within the **Marazion Marsh catchment** in the east of the area. The area includes historic buildings, registered and unregistered **historic parklands**, together with scheduled and undesignated prehistoric and Medieval features – many surviving as **earthworks, such as burial chambers and field systems**; also Post-Medieval features including the remains of **tin mining sites** and associated settlements. The St Just Mining District on the west coast forms part of the **Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site**.

## What do I need to do to get an agreement?

Applications must perform **ONE\*** or more of the following land management activities:

- Maintain/Restore/Create important areas of the following habitats: **coastal** (particularly maritime cliff and slope) and **lowland heathland, wetlands, species-rich grasslands and ancient semi-natural woodland**<sup>1</sup>
- Provide habitat for the following range-restricted farmland birds:  
**Rare Birds:** wherever priority sites for any of the following individual species occur – **chough**.
- Positive management of **visible and below ground archaeological and historic features** that are assessed as a priority in the region<sup>2</sup>
- Protect, maintain and restore **historic landscapes and their features** such as parkland where they are assessed as a priority in the region<sup>3</sup>
- Maintain or restore **historic buildings** that are assessed as a priority in the region<sup>4</sup>
- Implement land management practices and capital works to minimise soil erosion from **land at risk of generating diffuse pollution** affecting the **Marazion Marsh catchments**<sup>5</sup>
- Maintain/restore characteristic landscape features such as **ancient field boundary patterns** including **Cornish hedges**
- Create new **permissive access** where there is identified demand or need in order to link people with places, enhance existing networks and/or provide opportunity to improve people's understanding of the farmed environment through **educational access** particularly where there is potential for enhanced links to the **South West Coast Path** and settlements.

If you think that you can help Natural England achieve any of the above objectives please contact your local office using the number below. Natural England currently hold additional information about environment features on your holding which will be used to identify priority holdings, as a result of this, please note that you may be contacted directly by us.

**Please note:** \* applications seeking to maintain or restore field boundaries **MUST** be accompanied by

another land management activity from the list provided.

Footnotes:

<sup>1</sup>creation of the habitats listed above will be considered where there are significant opportunities to extend, link or buffer important areas of existing habitat to reduce the impacts of fragmentation. For example, the creation of freshwater wetlands on the River Hayle in the north-east of the area.

<sup>2</sup>This statement refers to both designated (Scheduled Monuments) and undesignated historic environment features that have been prioritised in accordance with advice from Natural England, English Heritage and local authority archaeologists. It aims to ensure positive management of visible features such as earthworks, standing stones and structures, and action for the most vulnerable archaeological sites that are currently in cultivation, for example by reducing the depth of damaging cultivations through minimum tillage or direct drilling where this offers a suitable level of protection. It also includes the maintenance of below-ground archaeology under permanent uncultivated vegetation and maintaining sufficient waterlogged conditions to preserve organic archaeological material in wetlands.

<sup>3</sup> This statement refers to both designated (Registered Parks and Gardens, World Heritage Sites and Registered Battlefields) and undesignated historic environment features that have been prioritised in accordance with advice from Natural England, English Heritage and local authority archaeologists. It aims to significantly address the condition of historic landscapes through the proactive maintenance or restoration of structures or features that make a major contribution to the design intentions, character or feel of the area, as well as providing for their biodiversity and amenity value.

<sup>4</sup>Natural England has a method of prioritising historic buildings by assessing them for their significance, vulnerability and value for money. To check the eligibility of your building, and to find out if your building is a priority for action, please contact Natural England.

<sup>5</sup>Options or capital items that improve infiltration and reduce runoff may also provide benefits for flood management.

For more information on Higher Level Stewardship please see our website: [www.naturalengland.org.uk](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk)

**Before applying for HLS you are required to discuss your proposals with a Natural England adviser.**

**To contact an adviser please telephone 0300 060 1118**