

# Site Improvement Plan

## River Dee and Bala Lake

Site Improvement Plans (SIPs) have been developed for each Natura 2000 site in England and for most sites which straddle the border between England and Wales. This plan has been drawn up as part of the Improvement Programme for England's Natura 2000 sites (IPENS) in conjunction with the LIFE Natura 2000 Programme for Wales. Natura 2000 sites is the combined term for sites designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protected Areas (SPA). This work has been financially supported by LIFE, a financial instrument of the European Community.

The plan provides a high level overview of the issues (both current and predicted) affecting the condition of the Natura 2000 features on the whole site (in both England and Wales), and outlines the priority measures required to improve the condition of the features. It does not cover issues where remedial actions are already in place or ongoing management activities which are required for maintenance.

The SIP consists of three parts: a Summary table, which sets out the priority Issues and Measures; a detailed Actions table, which sets out who needs to do what, when and how much it is estimated to cost; and a set of tables containing contextual information and links. Once this current programme ends, it is anticipated that Natural England and others, working with landowners and managers, will all play a role in delivering the priority measures to improve the condition of the features on these sites.

The SIP for this cross-border site between England and Wales is based on Natural England and Natural Resources Wales's current evidence and knowledge, and are live, and not legal documents; they will be updated to reflect changes in our evidence/knowledge and as Actions get underway. The information in the SIP will be used to update both England and Wales's contributions to the UK's Prioritised Action Framework (PAF).

The SIPs are not formal consultation documents, but if you have any comments (relating to areas within England and/or Wales) about the SIP or would like more information please email us at [IPENSLIFEProject@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:IPENSLIFEProject@naturalengland.org.uk), or contact Natural England's Responsible Officer for the site via our enquiry service 0300 060 3900, or [enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk)

To contact Natural Resources Wales telephone 0300 065 3000, or email [enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk)

**This Site Improvement Plan covers the following Natura 2000 site(s)**

**UK0030252 River Dee and Bala Lake SAC**

## Site description

The River Dee and Bala Lake/ Afon Dyfrdwy a Llyn Tegid SAC extends from the upland source of the Dee at Bala Lake in Snowdonia, Wales through lowland Shropshire and Cheshire in England, to its outflow into the Dee Estuary, and includes some of the tributaries such as the Ceiriog. It is considered of European importance due to the habitat it provides for plant communities and a number of species, including several fish species such as Atlantic salmon, and also otter and floating water plantain.

A joint approach has been taken by Natural Resources Wales and Natural England to identifying issues and actions related to cross-border Natura 2000 sites. For the River Dee and Bala Lake/Afon Dyfrdwy a Llyn Tegid (of which 87% lies in Wales) information on the issues and actions required to improve the condition of the SAC is contained in a Prioritised Improvement Plan produced by Natural Resources Wales as part of its LIFE Natura 2000 Programme in 2015.

For information on the Prioritised Improvement Plan for the River Dee and Bala Lake/Afon Dyfrdwy a Llyn Tegid contact Natural Resources Wales at <http://naturalresources.wales/about-us/our-projects/life-n2k-wales/?lang=en> or e-mail [enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk).

## Plan Summary

*This table shows the prioritised issues for the site(s), the features they affect, the proposed measures to address the issues and the delivery bodies whose involvement is required to deliver the measures. The list of delivery bodies will include those who have agreed to the actions as well as those where discussions over their role in delivering the actions is on-going.*

### Issue

Issues identified affecting this site can be found in the Prioritised Improvement Plan (PIP) produced by NRW. Contact details can be found above.

## Site details

The tables in this section contain site-relevant contextual information and links

### Qualifying features

#UK Special responsibility

#### River Dee and Bala Lake SAC

S1099 *Lampetra fluviatilis*: River lamprey

S1106 *Salmo salar*: Atlantic salmon

S1163 *Cottus gobio*: Bullhead

S1095 *Petromyzon marinus*: Sea lamprey

H3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the *Ranunculion fluitantis* and *Callitriche-Batrachion* vegetation

S1096 *Lampetra planeri*: Brook lamprey

S1831 *Luronium natans*: Floating water-plantain

### Site location and links

#### River Dee and Bala Lake SAC

Area (ha) **1308.93**      Grid reference **SJ423503**      [Map link](#)

Local Authorities      Cheshire; Ddinbych/ Denbighshire; Gwynedd; Shropshire; Sir y Fflint/ Flintshire; Wrecsam/ Wrexham

Site Conservation Objectives      [European Site Conservation Objectives for River Dee and Bala Lake SAC](#)

European Marine Site conservation advice      [n/a](#)

Regulation 33/35 Package      [n/a](#)

Marine Management Organisation site plan      [n/a](#)

## Water Framework Directive (WFD)

*The Water Framework Directive (WFD) provides the main framework for managing the water environment throughout Europe. Under the WFD a management plan must be developed for each river basin district. The River Basin Management Plans (RMBP) include a summary of the measures needed for water dependent Natura 2000 sites to meet their conservation objectives. For the second round of RBMPs, SIPs are being used to capture the priorities and new measures required for water dependent habitats on Natura 2000 sites. SIP actions for non-water dependent sites/habitats do not form part of the RBMPs and associated consultation.*

### **River Dee and Bala Lake SAC**

*River basin*

[Dee RBMP](#)

*WFD Management catchment*

Middle Dee

*WFD Waterbody ID (Cycle 2 draft)*

GB111067051910, GB111067051930, GB111067052120, GB111067052130, GB111067052140, GB111067057080

## Overlapping or adjacent protected sites

Site(s) of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	
River Dee and Bala Lake SAC	River Dee (England) SSSI

National Nature Reserve (NNR)	
River Dee and Bala Lake SAC	n/a

Ramsar	
River Dee and Bala Lake SAC	n/a

Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA)	
River Dee and Bala Lake SAC	n/a

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1.0	08/06/2015	



[www.naturalengland.org.uk/ipens2000](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ipens2000)