

Cornwall's Super Green Spine (SGS)

The project aims to establish a permeable corridor for wildlife along the spine of Cornwall, linking Land's End to the Tamar valley, and beyond. Loosely based on the route of the A30 trunk road, a 4 km wide corridor would link all the significant river catchments in the county, providing new opportunities for wildlife to move east-west along the SGS as well as north-south along the river corridors. The corridor would be characterised by BAP habitats typical of Cornwall's farmed landscape, including heathland, low input neutral grasslands, purple moor grass pastures, wet woodland, upland unimproved acid grassland, mires and sand dunes.

The project would be delivered in the main by the appropriate targeting of Environment Stewardship agreements. The project would run over a 3 year timeframe aiming to have 90% of agricultural holdings within the SGS corridor in agri environment schemes (or alternative), and for these management agreements to include management options aimed at delivering:

- a more permeable landscape for wildlife
- all BAP habitats present to be under appropriate management
- opportunities identified and realised for the recreation of appropriate BAP habitats.

The project is currently in the planning stage. The lead organisations in this proposed project are likely to be land managers, Cornwall Council and Natural England with Cornwall Wildlife Trust and FWAG identified as potential partners.

Key BAP habitats:

- Lowland Heathland
- Lowland Calcareous Grassland
- Lowland Dry Acid Grassland
- Purple Moor Grass Pastures
- Wet Woodland
- Upland Flushes, Fens and Swamps
- Coastal Sand Dunes

Key BAP Species:

- Marsh fritillary
- Otter
- Dormouse
- Adder
- Curlew
- Willow tit



Goss Moor. Photo by Wesley Smyth