

Location reference:	Helford Estuary
Management Area reference:	MA14
Policy Development Zone:	PDZ5



PREFERRED POLICY TO IMPLEMENT PLAN:

From present day (0-20 years)	NAI along undefended estuary banks and at small settlements. NAI at Durgan. NAI at Helford Passage. HTL at Gweek Quay. NAI at Helford. NAI at Flushing. NAI at Gillan.
Medium term (20-50 years)	NAI along undefended estuary banks and at small settlements. NAI at Durgan. NAI at Helford Passage. HTL at Gweek Quay. NAI at Helford. NAI at Flushing. NAI at Gillan.
Long term (50 -100 years)	NAI along undefended estuary banks and at small settlements. NAI at Durgan. NAI at Helford Passage. HTL at Gweek quay. NAI at Helford. NAI at Flushing. NAI at Gillan.

SUMMARY OF SPECIFIC POLICIES

Policy Unit		SMP1 Policy	SMP2 Policy Plan			Comment
		50 yrs	2025	2055	2105	
14.1	Undefended Estuary Banks (and including undefended estuary communities)	Not considered in SMP1	NAI/MR	NAI/MR	NAI/MR	Meets the wider scale objectives of the Fal & Helford SAC. Some small-scale flooding risks exist at Porth Navas, St Anthony in Meneage. Managed realignment in the Gweek area (excluding Gweek Quay) could provide valuable intertidal habitat creation opportunities.
14.2	Durgan	Not considered in SMP1	NAI	NAI	NAI	Several listed properties indicated to be at risk. Settlement is principally owned by National Trust. Approach would be not to constrain natural processes, invoke non-interventional approach and to allow property to be lost over time.
14.3	Helford Passage	Not considered in SMP1	NAI	NAI	NAI	Some small-scale flooding and possible erosion indicated at this location. Unlikely to justify any investment but continue to monitor shoreline evolution and water levels during extreme events. Manage flood risks to people through improvements to flood warning service.
14.4	Gweek Quays (north & south quays)	Not considered in SMP1	HTL	HTL	HTL	Holding the line along the existing quay defence lengths will assist in managing future increase in flood risk due to sea level rise. HTL approach would help to sustain important socio economic benefits. Historical interest in the quay structures and walls would be maintained through HTL. It is important to note that the HTL policy only covers the consented extent of the quay. An un-consented section at the southern most end of the north quay is not covered and the SMP Review recommends its removal and re-instatement of the natural intertidal habitat under the MR approach for the remainder of Gweek. Refer to policy mapping.
14.5	Gweek	Not considered in SMP1	MR	MR	MR	Managed realignment along the banks of the estuary adjacent to the Gweek Quay frontage could provide some valuable habitat creation opportunities.

Policy Unit		SMP1 Policy	SMP2 Policy Plan			Comment
		50 yrs	2025	2055	2105	
14.6	Helford	Hold the line	NAI	NAI	NAI	No significant risks are indicated. NAI approach should not preclude local maintenance of small sections of Council owned walls if required.
14.7	Flushing	Not considered in SMP1	NAI	NAI	NAI	Limited erosion risk exists. Flood risk is slight. NAI would not preclude local management of the private defences which defend 1 or 2 properties and the road.
14.8	Gillan	Not considered in SMP1	NAI	NAI	NAI	Limited erosion risk exists. Flood risk is slight. NAI would not preclude local management of the private defences which defend 1 or 2 properties and the road.

Key: HTL - Hold the Line, A - Advance the Line, NAI – No Active Intervention
MR – Managed Realignment

PREDICTED IMPLICATIONS OF THE PREFERRED PLAN

Policy Unit		Theme				
		Property & Land Use	Nature Conservation	Landscape	Historic Environment	Amenity & Recreational Use
14.1	Undefended Estuary Banks (and including undefended estuary communities)	Some small-scale flooding risks will exist for property at Porth Navas, St Anthony in Meneage.	The preferred plan for a non-interventional approach will generally support the core objectives of the Fal & Helford SAC right across the majority of the undefended estuary. Managed realignment in the Gweek area (excluding Gweek Quay) could provide valuable intertidal habitat creation opportunities.	Preferred plan will support the landscape value and the AONB designation which covers the entire frontage of the Helford.	There are numerous historic sites across the undefended parts of the estuary which may potentially be adversely impacted or ultimately lost under a no active intervention approach.	Recreational use would generally be unaffected by the plan.
14.2	Durgan	Some limited impact on the community expected in the medium to long term.	The preferred plan for a non-interventional approach will generally support the core objectives of the Fal & Helford SAC.	Preferred plan will support the landscape value and the AONB designation.	Old School House and Quay walls could be lost in the longer term.	Recreational use would generally be unaffected by the plan although loss of quays in longer term may be detrimental.
14.3	Helford Passage	Some limited impact on the community expected in the	The preferred plan for a non-interventional approach will	Preferred plan will support the landscape value and the AONB	Several historical features including, coastguard station,	Recreational use would generally be unaffected by the plan

Policy Unit		Theme				
		Property & Land Use	Nature Conservation	Landscape	Historic Environment	Amenity & Recreational Use
		medium to long term.	generally support the core objectives of the Fal & Helford SAC.	designation.	boat house, lime kiln, Helford Passage Public House and pillbox may potentially be affected by increasing flood risk through time.	although loss of quays in longer term may be detrimental.
14.4	Gweek Quay	Property and core land use protected under the preferred plan. HTL policy only covers the consented extent of the quay. An un-consented section at the southern-most end of the north quay is not covered.	The shoreline and its habitats will continue to be modified by the Gweek quays structures and natural processes constrained.	Preferred plan will generally support the landscape value and the AONB designation but landscape will be defined by quay structures.	Variety of historical features and listed buildings in the Quay area would be safeguarded under the plan.	Recreational use would be supported under the preferred plan.
14.5	Helford	No significant implications.	The preferred plan for a non-interventional approach will generally support the core objectives of the Fal & Helford SAC.	Preferred plan will support the landscape value and the AONB designation.	A number of historical sites exist close to waters edge but none significantly affected by the preferred plan.	Recreational use would generally be unaffected by the plan although ongoing sea level rise may be detrimental in longer term. .
14.6	Flushing	No significant implications.	The preferred plan for a non-interventional approach will generally support the core objectives of the Fal & Helford SAC.	Preferred plan will support the landscape value and the AONB designation.	A number of historical sites exist close to waters edge but none significantly affected by the preferred plan.	Recreational use would generally be unaffected by the plan although ongoing sea level rise may be detrimental in longer term. .
14.7	Gillan	No significant implications.	The preferred plan for a non-interventional approach will generally support the core objectives of the Fal & Helford SAC.	Preferred plan will support the landscape value and the AONB designation.	A number of historical sites exist close to waters edge, including submarine ancient forest but none significantly affected by the preferred plan.	Recreational use would generally be unaffected by the plan although ongoing sea level rise may be detrimental in longer term.