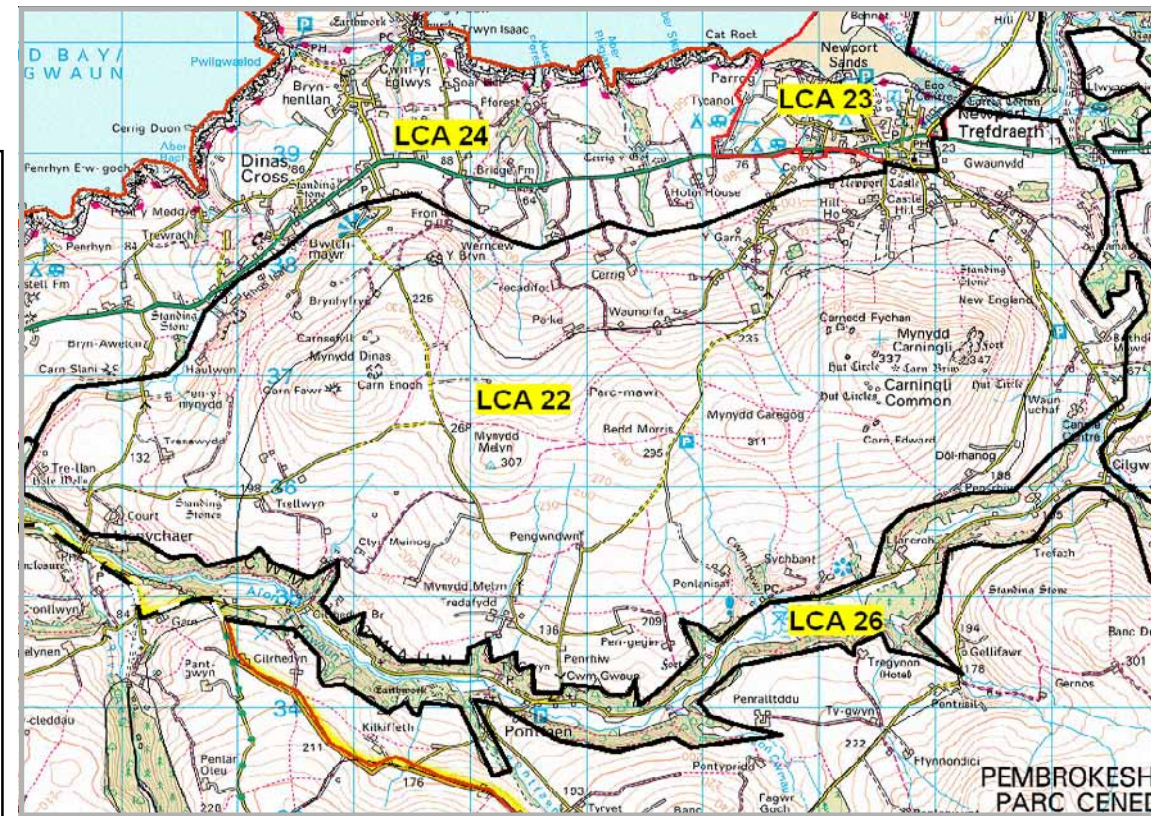
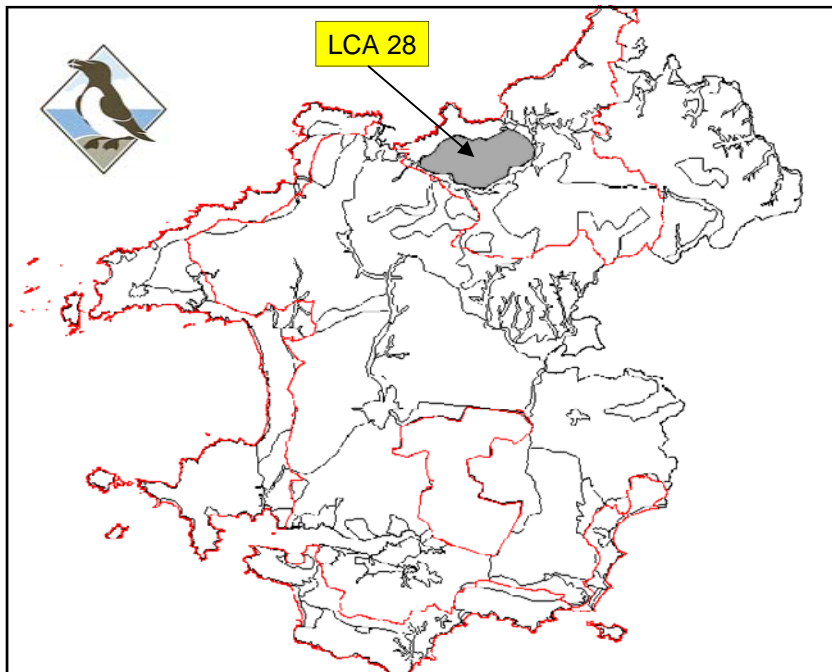


Pembrokeshire Coast National Park LCA 22 - MYNYDD CARNINGLI



Location, Context and Physical Characteristics

This large upland area is the westward extension of the Preseli range of hills, sharing many of its visual characteristics, but merits classification as a separate LCA in its own right, with its distinctive rocky summit and dominating position above the coast. The Mynydd Carningli peak forms an impressive landmark, especially when viewed from the direction of Dinas Cross, Newport, the high ground above the coast between Nevern and Moylgrove/Trewyddel, and from the main A487 coast road running northwards towards Cardigan.

Visual and Sensory Characteristics

The Mynydd Carningli is a relatively small yet distinctive area characterised by open moorland and heath, with rocky summits and scree slopes evident on the higher parts. As with the Preseli Hills, the extensive tracts of open moorland on Carningli give an exposed and mountainous feel to the landscape. Conifer plantations are also present, forming incongruous features and breaking the skyline in some places, with a notably discordant effect on the long curves of the summits punctuated by rocky outcrops. The upland area affords wide-ranging views across to the neighbouring Mynydd Preseli - with which there is a strong visual relationship - and along the coast.

Vegetation and Habitat Characteristics

Habitats include marshy grassland, wet heathland and extensive areas of dry heathland which dominate the ridge.

Geological Characteristics

A prominent massif lying to the north west of the Preseli Hills and rising to 337m AOD that forms a broadly east-west ridge of coalescing knolls with rocky peaks or tors surrounded by rock-strewn slopes. It slopes away rapidly northwards towards the coast, forming an escarpment. To the south of the ridge, it slopes more gently towards Cwm Gwaun, but locally with steeper uppermost sections around the tors. The bedrock geology includes Ordovician volcanic rocks and slates with some igneous intrusions, the latter as in the Preseli Hills. However, the surface features are dominantly peri-glacial (Quaternary: Pleistocene).

Historic and Cultural Characteristics

There are Prehistoric standing stones, settlements and field systems, Medieval and post-Medieval structures and buildings of national significance. This archaeological wealth has led to the inclusion of part of the eastern section of this LCA - Carningli Common, Mynydd Carregog and the land sloping northwards down to Newport - within the Newport and Carningli Registered Landscape of Special Historic Interest in Wales. Extensive 19th and 20th century rectilinear enclosure of common land is evident on the southern flank of the mountain block. The boundary between cultivated land and moorland on the northern fringe, however, appears to have changed little since the early 19th century.

Map Notation:

- National Park Boundary
- LCA Boundary
- LCA Boundary defined by National Park Boundary



Evaluation & Recommendations

LCA No.	Character Area	Visual & Sensory Aspect Areas	Geological Landscape Aspect Areas	Landscape Habitats Aspect Areas	Historic Landscape Aspect Areas	Cultural Landscape Aspect Areas
22	Mynydd Carningli	04 - High 44 - Moderate	39 - High	358 - Moderate 517- Outstanding 611- Low 962 - Low	46149-Outstanding 42259-Outstanding 46067-Outstanding 46068-Outstanding 46071-Outstanding 46195-Outstanding 46196-Outstanding 46197-Outstanding	331-Outstanding

LANDMAP Aspect Evaluation Terms:

Outstanding:	Of International or National Importance
High:	Of Regional or County Importance
Moderate:	Of Local Importance
Low:	Of Little or No Importance

(The reference numbers in the table refer to the discrete Aspect Areas identified)

Special Qualities (Key Landscape Characteristics)

- This LCA forms an integral part of the wider upland area stretching inland from the coast and separated from the nearby Preseli Hills only by the narrow wooded valley of the Afon Gwaun. There is a strong visual relationship with the nearby Mynydd Preseli
- There is a pervading sense of remoteness and wildness, resulting from the strong sense of exposure on the open moorland and heathland, together with the close proximity of the sea. The relative inaccessibility imparts a sense of tranquillity
- There is a distinctive rock formation at the summit which adds to the sense of place, and this point is a conspicuous and distinctive reference point when viewed from the north, especially from the town of Newport, to which Carningli forms the impressive visual backdrop
- There are internationally important habitats present which are assessed as being of outstanding value within a single Aspect Area: wet heathland with cross-leaved heath and dry heath; almost half of the area of the LCA is classified as SSSI
- There are strong historical links with the upland of the Mynydd Carningli and Mynydd Preseli range of hills and the quality and extent of historical and archaeological features here is of recognised national significance within Wales and of outstanding value, as evidenced by the demarcation of the Newport and Carningli Registered Landscape of Special Historical Interest in Wales. This discrete block of upland centred on Mynydd Carningli at the north western end of the Preseli Hills contains a wealth of relict archaeological and other remains, some persisting as working elements in the landscape today, and the whole representing diverse land use and organisation from the prehistoric, Medieval and later periods
- The single dominant archaeological feature is that of the spectacular Iron Age fort at the summit of Mynydd Carningli. From this radiate outwards prehistoric field systems, settlement evidence and ritual sites (such as standing stones); the abundant evidence for prehistoric human activity from the Neolithic to the Iron Age can be traced across the high ground
- This is a very strong historical and cultural landscape, with almost every 'natural' outcrop having been re-worked at some time in its past and altered or enhanced by human activity. The open ground is dotted with cairns dating from prehistoric to recent times, tangible evidence of human influence on even open moorland with a wild and natural character.

Discernible Landscape Trends

- The planting of coniferous woodland has detracted from the open quality of the upland and represents an erosion of heathland habitats by encroachment
- Bracken encroachment on the high slopes is extensive and control measures are being actively supported by the National Park Authority

Management Guidance

- Conserve the open heathland and moorland, especially through bracken control on open access land
- Consider the appropriateness of conifer plantations with options including removal and replacement with heathland habitats. Discourage the further planting of woodland, especially coniferous species
- Encourage landowners to participate in agri-environmental schemes and leave overgrown areas around the margins of arable fields for the benefit of wildlife
- Rehabilitate historic boundary hedgerows and hedgebanks, especially the boundary bank between enclosed fields and open moorland
- Promote the reinstatement of traditional land boundary management methods and implement these in perpetuity, especially at key visual locations
- Monitor the condition of archaeological sites in relation to visitor erosion and disturbance; maintain the integrity of archaeological sites and their visual setting, especially within the Newport and Carningli Landscape of Special Historical Interest in Wales
- Ensure that as far as possible no significant geological or geomorphological features are lost or damaged.
- Ensure that as far as possible ancient monuments and remains are not lost or damaged.