

Derby Fen (SSSI)

Location: Norfolk, PE32 1DA

GHG Peat Condition:-

Pre-restoration: Extensive Grassland

Target: Rewetted Fen

Restoration activity:

- Reinstatement of an existing water control structure to hold water levels higher across the site



Derby Fen supports large areas of dry acidic grassland and heath, complimented by damp grassland and fen habitats in the wetter low lying areas, plus areas of calcareous grassland. The site is designated as part of a larger SSSI, and is currently in unfavourable recovering condition.

Public access on site

- Derby Fen (SSSI) has public access throughout the site and is designated open access land under the CROW act. This can create challenges when installing monitoring equipment and carrying out surveys, with some tracks crossing the fen.
- There is no protection for monitoring equipment and this can lead to accidental or deliberate damage or loss of equipment such a data loggers and Surface Level Change (SLC) rods. Therefore, first and foremost, the equipment needs to be positioned off public tracks, as well as being appropriate for recording the data
- Some survey work can be restricted due to public presence at the time of surveying. For example, drone surveys are restricted to flying over people only who are within the project. So flights and timings must take this into consideration when planned into a monitoring schedule.



For further information,
visit:
<https://www.gfat.org.uk/derby-fen>