



**Haweswater Aqueduct Resilience Programme - Proposed Bowland  
Section**

**Environmental Statement**

**Volume 2**

**Chapter 13: Public Access and Recreation**

June 2021



**Water for the North West**



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## Haweswater Aqueduct Resilience Programme - Proposed Bowland Section

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## **13. Public Access and Recreation**

### **13.1 Introduction**

- 1) This chapter presents an assessment of the likely significant effects of the Proposed Bowland Section on public access and recreational facilities.
- 2) Public access is considered as any route or area of land that allows members of the public to access the outdoors via walking, cycling or horse riding. The public access assessment considers the potential effects of the Proposed Bowland Section on access and amenity to Public Rights of Way (PRoWs) and open areas during construction and operation.
- 3) The recreational facilities aspect of the assessment considers potential effects of the Proposed Bowland section on access to recreational facilities, activities and events during construction and operation.
- 4) The report begins by reviewing the legislation and planning policies relevant to Public Access and Recreation. The assessment area and methodology for the assessment are then outlined. The nature, value and sensitivity of the existing baseline environment are then identified before an assessment is made of the potential effects on Public Access and Recreation for the Proposed Bowland Section. The design include embedded mitigation measures, which have been taken into account in the assessment. Additional essential mitigation measures to avoid, reduce or offset potential impacts are set out in Section 13.7.
- 5) The assessment area for recreational facilities is based on a 1 km buffer around the Lower Houses Compound and Newton-in-Bowland Compound. The assessment area for the PRoWs is up to 100 m, long-distance footpaths are up to 500 m and National Cycle Networks (NCNs) are 5 km from the construction compound areas.
- 6) This chapter is supported by the following technical appendices and figures:
  - Appendix 13.1: Public Access and Recreation Baseline
  - Figure 13.1: Public Access and Recreation Baseline.

### **13.2 Scoping and Consultations**

#### **13.2.1 Scoping**

- 7) A Public Access and Recreation chapter was included within the EIA Scoping Report which was submitted to the relevant planning authorities for comment in October 2019 with a follow-up Scoping Addendum in February 2021. Scoping Report responses were provided by each of the local authorities and these have been reviewed and the October 2019 Scoping Report responses incorporated into the assessment. Scoping comments and responses are outlined in Volume 4 Appendix 4.1.
- 8) Lancashire County Council (where Lancaster City Council and Ribble Valley Borough Council fall under the jurisdiction of) broadly agreed with the proposed methodology and requested to see an assessment of any proposals that impact existing PRoWs and associated mitigation measures. Lancashire County Council Highways and Transport requested as part of their Scoping Opinion that a high level Non-Motorised User) assessment be carried out along the traffic routes to include attraction information, PRoWs / long-distance routes, equestrian routes and data from Strava.

#### **13.2.2 Consultation**

- 9) During the course of this assessment, consultation has taken place with relevant statutory and non-statutory consultees, stakeholders and third parties, through both correspondence and face-to-face meetings. This has been summarised in Volume 4 Appendix 4.1, and key consultations of relevance to the assessment are summarised in the following paragraphs.

- 10) A teleconference was held with a PRow officer from Lancashire County Council on 19 June 2020 identifying proposed temporary PRow closures and diversions anticipated to be necessary to enable construction of the Proposed Bowland Section.
- 11) A consultation event was held for the Proposed Bowland Section on 26 August 2020 and 25 February 2021. Representatives from various non-motorised user groups were invited to attend. Representatives from Lancaster Ramblers and Clitheroe Ramblers were present where proposed PRow closures and diversions were discussed.
- 12) A teleconference was held with Sustrans on 11 March 2021 to identify any NCNs which would be impacted by the Proposed Bowland Section or by associated construction traffic routes.

### 13.3 Key Legislation and Guidance

- 13) Table 13.1 introduces relevant Public Access and Recreation legislation and guidance.

**Table 13.1: Public Access and Recreation Key Legislation and Guidance**

Applicable Legislation / Guidance	Description
The Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment (2017)	Provides overarching guidance on the assessment of public access and recreation.
Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) General Principles and Scheme Governance: General information. <u>GG 142 Walking, cycling and horse-riding assessment and review</u> (formerly HD 42/17) Revision 0, Nov 2019	This document sets out the walking, cycling and horse-riding assessment and review process for highway (road infrastructure) schemes. Whilst this is developed for motorways and all-purpose trunk road projects, the principles and methods can be adopted on other types of developments.
Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000	The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CROW Act) normally gives the public right of access to land mapped as 'open country' (mountain, moor, heath and down) or registered common land. These areas are known as 'open access land'. People can normally access open access land on foot to ' <i>walk, sightsee, bird-watch, climb and run</i> '.

- 14) National and local planning policies are covered in Chapter 5: Planning Policy and Context.

### 13.4 Assessment Methodology and Assessment Criteria

#### 13.4.1 Assessment Methodology

- 15) Reference has been made to national and local policy documents, relevant British Standards, national guidance and other relevant information in determining the assessment methodology and criteria to be used.
- 16) The assessment of effects on public access has taken account of:
  - Changes in accessibility to PRow and open access land
  - Changes in the amenity (pleasantness) experienced by walkers, cyclists and equestrians.
- 17) DMRB defines amenity as the '*relative pleasantness of a journey. It is therefore concerned with changes in the degree and duration of people's exposure to traffic – fear/safety, noise, dirt and air quality ... primarily any visual intrusion associated with the scheme and its structures*'<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> DMRB, Volume 11 Section 3 Part 8 (Pedestrians, Cyclists, Equestrians and Community Effects), Chapter 4 Changes in Amenity (Paragraph 4.1).

- 18) The assessment of change to amenity experienced by PRow users is associated with noise, dust and visual aspects. The change to amenity of PRow users as a result of visual aspects is considered in Chapter 6: Landscape and Arboriculture.
- 19) The assessment of effects on recreation takes into account changes in the accessibility of recreational facilities, informal recreational activities and recreational events that are within the vicinity of the Proposed Bowland Section.
- 20) The assessment of effects on recreational facilities and activities focuses on public access and activities. Commercial effects on recreational facilities are considered separately in Chapter 14: Communities and Health.
- 21) The methodology was agreed with relevant stakeholders as outlined above in Section 13.2.2.

#### 13.4.2 Public Access

- 22) The public access assessment considers potential effects within a local, regional and national assessment area:
  - **Local** – PRow and open access land that would be directly affected by the Proposed Bowland Section (e.g. where a compound or construction access track would cross a PRow) and potential indirect effects on PRow within 100 m of the working area
  - **Regional** – the assessment area extends across Lancashire, and acknowledges that, for certain PRow, a wider catchment area exists
  - **National** – the assessment area includes nationally significant routes, e.g. the NCN which is crossed by the Proposed Bowland Section.
- 23) A description of the public access receptors is provided in Appendix 13.1.

#### 13.4.3 Recreation

- 24) The recreation assessment considers the following receptors that are within 1 km of the Proposed Bowland Section:
  - **Formal recreation** – designated facilities for recreational activities (e.g. sports playing fields and leisure centres)
  - **Informal recreation** – outdoor activities that are undertaken in various locations (e.g. horse riding, angling, sailing, kayaking, boat trips, wildlife watching)
  - **Events** – recreational events undertaken on a regular basis.
- 25) A list of the recreation facilities is provided in Appendix 13.1.

#### 13.4.4 Assessment Criteria

- 26) The significance of effect has been determined from the combination of the sensitivity of receptors and the magnitude of potential change. Sensitivity and magnitude criteria are set out in Table 13.2 and Table 13.3 respectively. Section 13.4.5 then sets out how these values are used to determine significance of effect.
- 27) Sensitivity is determined by, among other things, its level of designation or protection, its susceptibility to or ability to accommodate change, the timescale of the change and professional judgement. The sensitivity categories as set out in Table 13.2 have been informed by consultation described in Section 13.2.

**Table 13.2: Public Access and Recreation Sensitivity Criteria**

Sensitivity	Criteria
High (National)	Public Access: Feature / receptor possesses key characteristics which contribute significantly to the distinctiveness and character of the site. Feature / receptor possesses very significant social / community value and is extremely rare, and therefore is considered to have national importance (e.g. footpath of national significance). This can include PROWs identified by public and statutory consultees and groups as having a very significant social / community value, which would normally be considered as being local in importance.
	Recreation: Receptor that possess very significant social / community value and is rare. It would be extremely difficult to access another facility that offers the same activity in the region.
Medium (Regional)	Public Access: Feature / receptor possesses key characteristics which contribute significantly to the distinctiveness and character of the site. Feature / receptor possesses significant social / community value and is rare, and therefore is considered to have regional importance (e.g. footpath of regional significance). This can include a PROW identified by public and statutory consultees and groups as having a significant social / community value, which would normally be considered as being local in importance.
	Recreation: Receptor has a significant social / community value and is fairly rare. It would be difficult to access another facility that offers the same activity in the region.
Low (Local)	Public Access: Feature / receptor only possesses characteristics which are locally significant (e.g. local PROW network). This includes open access areas which are considered similar to a local PROW network. Feature / receptor not designated or only designated at a local level, and therefore is considered to have local importance.
	Recreation: Receptor possesses moderate social / community value and is relatively common. It would be fairly easy to access another facility that offers the same activity in the region. There are numerous caravan and camping sites within the assessment area; therefore, these have been assigned a low sensitivity.
Very Low / Negligible	Public Access: Feature / receptor characteristics do not make a significant contribution to the character or distinctiveness of the site and surroundings at a local scale.
	Recreation: Receptor possesses low social / community value and is common. It would be easy to access another facility that offers the same activity in the region.

28) The criteria used to help determine the magnitude of Public Access and Recreation effects are shown in Table 13.3.

**Table 13.3: Magnitude of Public Access and Recreation Effects**

Magnitude	Criteria
High	Significant, permanent loss or obstruction / irreversible changes to key characteristics, features or the function of amenity and recreation assets. For example, loss of PROW or recreation asset.

Magnitude	Criteria
<b>Medium</b>	Obstruction or change of key characteristics, features or the function of amenity and recreation asset in the medium term. For example, loss of part of recreation asset, change in entrance / access to recreation asset (including for the use of construction access tracks), and permanent diversion of PRoW >1 km in length. Duration of the closure and diversion extends through the enabling, construction and commissioning phases.
<b>Low</b>	Noticeable but not significant obstruction or change (temporary / potentially reversible), over part of the asset, to key characteristics, features or the function of amenity and recreation assets in the short term. For example, temporary closure of PRoW and / or temporary diversion of PRoW, temporary diversion of entrance / access to recreation asset, and permanent diversion to PRoW <1 km. Closure and diversion is only in place during enabling works.
<b>Very Low / Negligible</b>	Barely noticeable obstruction or changes over a small area, to key characteristics, features or the function of amenity and recreation assets, which are infrequent or temporary. For example, a slight diversion within the compound.

### 13.4.5 Assessment of Significance

29) Professional judgement informed the identification of effects and evaluation of significance of potential effects. Table 13.2 and 13.3 illustrated how the sensitivity and magnitude categories are used to determine significance. For the purposes of this Environmental Statement, moderate or above effects are considered significant in the context of the EIA Regulations. Table 13.4 provides an illustration of how the significance of effects can be assessed taking into account both the magnitude of effect and a sensitivity to that change.

**Table 13.4: Significance of Effects**

		Magnitude			
		Very Low/ Negligible	Low	Medium	High
Sensitivity	Very Low/ Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible / Slight	Slight
	Low	Negligible	Negligible / Slight	Slight / Moderate	Moderate
	Medium	Negligible / Slight	Slight	Moderate	Moderate / Major
	High	Slight	Slight / Moderate	Moderate / Major	Major

30) The duration of the effects on PRoW and recreational facilities have been assigned within the assessment of likely significant effects and split into the following categories:

- **Short term** – impacts on PRoW or recreational facilities occur during the enabling works only
- **Medium term** – the duration of impacts extend through enabling, construction and commissioning phases
- **Long term** – permanent change to access to PRoW or recreational facility.

### 13.4.6 Embedded Mitigation and Good Practice

31) Embedded mitigation is inherent to the design, and good practice measures are the standard industry methods and approaches used to manage commonly occurring environmental effects. The assessments



presented in Section 13.6 of this chapter are made taking into account embedded mitigation and the implementation of good practice measures.

- 32) The need for any additional topic-specific essential mitigation identified as a result of the assessment in Section 13.6 (generally for effects likely to be significant in the context of EIA Regulations) is then set out separately in Section 13.7.

#### **Embedded Mitigation**

- 33) Chapter 3: Design Evolution and Development Description explains the evolution of the design with input from the environmental team, including mitigation workshops and the use of GIS-based constraints data. Embedded mitigation of particular relevance to Public Access and Recreation is set out below:

- Where possible, compounds have been located to minimise impacts to PRowWs.

#### **Good Practice Measures**

- 34) The following good practice measures have been taken into account in the assessment of the potential effects for this chapter. Temporary closures and diversions would be consented to in accordance with Lancashire County Council Rights of Way guidance and would comply with the following assumptions:

- PRowWs would be kept open or temporarily closed and diverted wherever practicable during enabling works, construction and commissioning phases. Where closures and diversions are required, they would be for the shortest duration practicable for the works required
- Signage would be in place in advance of temporary PRowW diversions outlining the diversion route to be followed
- Reinstatement would be carried out to at least the original PRowW condition.

- 35) The Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) identifies strategies the contractor would take to manage traffic movements, including pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders on the existing roads and PRowWs adjoining the roads.

- 36) Further good practice mitigation measures are identified within Appendix 3.2: Construction Code of Practice with reference to the noise and vibration strategy and air quality management strategy in order to reduce effects on amenity.

#### **13.4.7 Assumptions and Limitations**

- 37) AddressBase software was used to identify caravan sites, campsites, equestrian centres, village halls, libraries, historic ruins, sporting / activity centres, playgrounds, bingo halls, memorials / market crosses, public parks, woodland areas and public open spaces. There is the potential that AddressBase software may not represent the latest information as facilities may have changed their names, facilities may have closed or new facilities may have opened.

- 38) There were no surveys to identify PRowW usage carried out on the Proposed Bowland Section in line with the agreed scoping methodology. Liaison with key stakeholders such as the local authorities' PRowW officers and local interest groups provided local knowledge to support the assessment.

- 39) Due to restrictions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, a number of online resources have removed current and upcoming events from their sites. Although historic events have been identified, there is the potential that some recurring or rescheduled events may not be identified.

- 40) A number of organisations were approached for feedback on the Public Access and Recreation assessment. Where these organisations were unable to attend stakeholder meetings, some have provided other general information to incorporate in the assessment.

### 13.5 Baseline Conditions

- 41) This section details the Public Access and Recreation baseline for the assessment area and identifies receptors where there is potential for significant effects to arise. The Proposed Bowland Section is located within Lancaster City Council and Ribble Valley Borough Council approximately 14 km east of Lancaster and extends from approximately 4 km south of the village of Wray to approximately 850 m west of Newton-in-Bowland.
- 42) The Proposed Bowland Section is located within the Forest of Bowland and the Hodder Valley. Various walking routes have been identified within the assessment area.
- 43) Baseline data, to support the Public Access and Recreation assessment, was gathered from the following sources:
- Lancashire County Council Definitive Map<sup>2</sup> (online)
  - Lancashire County Council electronic PRow map
  - AddressBase Software
  - Desk-based research using web-based data sources
  - Site visits (17-18 February 2020 and 17-18 July 2020)
  - Consultation with appropriate statutory bodies, key stakeholders and other organisations (see Section 13.2).
- 44) Figure 13.1 displays all the PRowS, long-distance footpaths and NCNs identified within the vicinity of the Proposed Bowland Section and the recreational facilities within 1 km of the Proposed Bowland Section.
- 45) Appendix 13.1: Public Access and Recreation Baseline provides an overview of the baseline conditions of Public Access and links for the recreational facilities. Table 1 (in Appendix 3.1) provides details of the PRowS including number, description, photograph (where available), sensitivity and reason for assigned sensitivity usage.
- 46) There are a number of PRowS which are intersected by the construction traffic routes to the Proposed Bowland Section. Whilst it is acknowledged that users may encounter additional traffic when crossing these routes, it is not anticipated that there would be any restrictions or limitations on the use of these PRowS. Therefore, PRowS along the construction traffic routes have not been assessed further in this chapter.
- 47) NCN 69 is a 50.1 mile (81 km) route connecting Hest Bank by Morecambe Bay Nature Reserve with Cleethorpes Nature Reserve to the south of Grimsby, via Settle, Skipton, Cullingworth, Huddersfield, Horbury, Pontefract, Althorpe and Caistor.<sup>3</sup> NCN 69 passes through the centre of Wray following the B6480 Hornby Road before following Main Street, to the junction with Long Lane, turning right at Fairheath Road and bearing left onto Mewith Lane.
- 48) NCN 90 is a 130 mile (290 km) loop which takes in the Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), Arnside and Silverdale AONB, the Ribble Valley and Blackpool Pleasure Beach.<sup>4</sup> NCN 90 follows the same route as NCN 69 from Hornby to Fairheath Road. At Fairheath Road the route follows Spen Brow, passing through Slaidburn, Bolton by Bowland and Grindleton, carrying along Grindleton Road / West Bradford Road passing through the centre of Waddington to join Belle Vue Lane.
- 49) There are five long-distance footpaths within the search area of the Proposed Bowland Section. Two of these footpaths cross the access route for the Lower Houses Compound at Lower House Farm; these are:
- Joining the seas:<sup>5</sup> route from Whitby to Morecambe. This 157 mile (253 km) route passes through historic towns and villages, ruined abbeys and Yorkshire landscape. The route traverses the North

<sup>2</sup> Lancashire County Council definitive map <http://mario.lancashire.gov.uk/agsmario/> [Online] [Accessed: December 2020].

<sup>3</sup> NCN 69 <https://www.sustrans.org.uk/find-a-route-on-the-national-cycle-network/route-69/> [Online] [Accessed: March 2021].

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.openroadopenskies.co.uk/self-guided-cycling-holidays/route-90-north-lancashire-loop> [Online] [Accessed: March 2021].

<sup>5</sup> [https://ldwa.org.uk/ldp/members/show\\_path.php?menu\\_type=S&path\\_name=Joining+The+Seas](https://ldwa.org.uk/ldp/members/show_path.php?menu_type=S&path_name=Joining+The+Seas) [Online] [Accessed: March 2021].

York Moors, the Vale of York, Nidderdale AONB Yorkshire Dales and the Northern edge of the Forest of Bowland

- North Bowland Traverse:<sup>6</sup> low-level walk through the north-eastern Bowland Fells. This 30 mile (48 km) route crosses farmland and meadowland linking the Witches Way and Ribble Way at Slaidburn.
- 50) The remaining three long-distance footpaths are located around Newton-in-Bowland. The footpaths cross the access route for the Newton-in-Bowland Compound; these are:
- Lancashire Way: Central Route:<sup>7</sup> the Central Loop is the second part of the Lancashire Way. The 100 mile (161 km) route begins and ends in Preston taking in the Ribble Valley to Pendle Hill, the Hodder Valley and the southern half of the Bowland Fells
  - Clitheroe 60K:<sup>8</sup> this 37 mile (60 km) route starts from the Ribble Valley, taking in Longridge Fell, the Hodder Valley, Newton, skirting Grindelton Fell to Sawley and Downham, finally traversing Pendle Hill. This route links with the Pendle Way and Ribble Way
  - Hodder Way:<sup>9</sup> this is a 27 mile (44 km) route from the source of the River Hodder on access land near the Cross of Greet to Hodder Foot where it joins the River Ribble. The route passes through the villages of Slaidburn, Newton, Dunsop Bridge, Whitewell, Bashall Eaves and Great Mitton.
- 51) The Proposed Bowland Section is located within the Forest of Bowland AONB, designated in 1964 primarily due to the following characteristics:
- The grandeur and isolation of the upland core
  - The steep escarpments of the moorland hills
  - The undulation lowlands
  - The serenity and tranquillity of the area
  - The distinctive pattern of settlements
  - The wildlife of the area
  - The landscape's historic and cultural associations.<sup>10</sup>
- 52) There are no areas of open access land located within construction compound area; however, there are areas of access land approximately 190 m south of the Lower Houses Compound.
- 53) The Proposed Bowland Section would not affect any National Trust Land or National Trails.
- 54) There is one recreational facility within 1 km of the Proposed Bowland Section; this is Newton-in-Bowland Village Hall, and includes holding annual events such as the Newton-in-Bowland Duck Race, an annual event held around the start of May each year at Newton Bridge, dances and performances as well as holding Parish Council meetings.
- 55) Near the village of Wray, annual events include the Wray Scarecrow Festival and Fair, which was established in 1993 and supports local charities, voluntary groups, churches and chapels, and schools.
- 56) Spen House holiday let is located approximately 1 km from the Lower Houses Compound. Spen House provides self-catering holiday accommodation for up to ten people.<sup>11</sup>
- 57) There are a number of recreational trails surrounding the Proposed Bowland Section; these include:
- The Trough of Bowland:<sup>12</sup> this is a 23 km loop trail located near Clitheroe. The trail is primarily used for mountain biking

<sup>6</sup> [https://ldwa.org.uk/ldp/members/show\\_path.php?menu\\_type=S&path\\_name=North+Bowland+Traverse](https://ldwa.org.uk/ldp/members/show_path.php?menu_type=S&path_name=North+Bowland+Traverse) [Online] [Accessed: March 2021].

<sup>7</sup> [https://ldwa.org.uk/ldp/members/show\\_path.php?menu\\_type=S&path\\_name=Lancashire+Way+-+Central+Loop](https://ldwa.org.uk/ldp/members/show_path.php?menu_type=S&path_name=Lancashire+Way+-+Central+Loop) [Online] [Accessed: March 2021].

<sup>8</sup> [https://ldwa.org.uk/ldp/members/show\\_path.php?path\\_name=Clitheroe+60K](https://ldwa.org.uk/ldp/members/show_path.php?path_name=Clitheroe+60K) [Online] [Accessed: March 2021].

<sup>9</sup> [https://ldwa.org.uk/ldp/members/show\\_path.php?menu\\_type=S&path\\_name=Hodder+Way](https://ldwa.org.uk/ldp/members/show_path.php?menu_type=S&path_name=Hodder+Way) [Online] [Accessed: March 2021].

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.forestofbowland.com/files/images/FOB%20ManPlan0719bLoRes.pdf> [Online] [Accessed: March 2021].

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.booking.com/hotel/gb/spen-house.en-gb.html> [Online] [Accessed: March 2021].

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/england/lancashire/britains-best-singletrack-trough-of-bowland> [Online] [Accessed: March 2021].

- Dunsop Bridge to Slaidburn:<sup>13</sup> this route is a 9.3 km point-to-point trail near Clitheroe. This trail is primarily used for hiking, walking and nature trips
- Slaidburn Circular Walk:<sup>14</sup> this is a 10.1 km-loop trail near Slaidburn. This trail is primarily used for hiking, walking and bird watching.

- 58) There are two recreational cycle routes which intersect with the construction traffic routes for the Proposed Bowland Section; these are: Ribble Valley Villages and Clitheroe to Downham cycle routes.
- 59) The Ribble Valley Villages<sup>15</sup> cycle route is a 29 mile (47 km) route which takes in both contrasting sides of the Ribble Valley. The route follows minor roads and B roads, starting and finishing at Waddington car park. The route takes in a number of places of interest including Downham, Ribchester Roman Museum and Stonyhurst College.
- 60) The Clitheroe to Downham cycle route is a 13 mile (21 km) route commencing from Clitheroe Rail Station. The route takes in the villages of Worston, Downham, West Bradford and Waddington before returning to Clitheroe via the Edisford Bridge.
- 61) The Tour of Lancashire cycle event<sup>16</sup> is a 162 km route starting from Preston College. The event consists of a long, medium and short route. The short route is a 67.7 km route which passes through the rolling Lancashire countryside towards Clitheroe through Sabden, Whalley and back to Preston.
- 62) The medium route is a 112.3 km route starting at Preston College, skirting the edge of the Forest of Bowland, passing through Inglewhite, Calder Vale and Okenclough, returning through the Trough of Bowland, Clitheroe, Sabden, Whalley and back to Preston.
- 63) The long route starts from Preston College, skirts the edge of the Forest of Bowland passing through Inglewhite, Calder Vale and Okenclough. The route returns through the Forest of Bowland, Slaidburn, Dunsop Bridge, Clitheroe, Sabden, Whalley and back to Preston.
- 64) The Pendle Witch trail<sup>17</sup> is a 45 mile (72 km) self-guided car, minibus or bike trail. The route starts from the Pendle Heritage Centre in Barrowford passing through Chatburn, Clitheroe, Waddington and Newton before heading towards Dunsop Bridge and Lancaster via the Trough of Bowland.
- 65) There are a number of angling associations within the Hodder Valley and Ribble Valley areas, whilst it is acknowledged that there may be impacts on amenity, it is not proposed to restrict angling activities. United Utilities will continue engagement with angling associations to minimise potential disruption.
- 66) Although no formal equestrian routes were found within the study area. The British Horse Society Equestrian Access Mapping DOBBIN identifies unofficial routes uploaded by members of the general public close to the Lower Houses Compound which suggests potential usage in the area. Engagement will continue with the British Horse Society to minimise potential disruption.

### 13.5.1 Information Sources

- 67) The assessment was undertaken with reference to the sources detailed in Table 13.5.

**Table 13.5: Key Information Sources**

Data Source	Reference
Maps & Related Information Online (MARIO) – Lancashire County Council’s interactive mapping website.	<a href="http://mario.lancashire.gov.uk/agsmario/">http://mario.lancashire.gov.uk/agsmario/</a> (Accessed March 2021)

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/england/lancashire/dunsop-bridge-to-slaidburn> [Online] [Accessed: March 2021].

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/england/lancashire/slaidburn-circular-walk> [Online] [Accessed: March 2021].

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.visitlancashire.com/dbimgs/Ribble-Valley-Cycle-Map.pdf> [Online] [Accessed: March 2021].

<sup>16</sup> <https://velo29events.com/sportives/tour-of-lancashire-sportive/tour-of-lancashire-long/> [Online] [Accessed: March 2021].

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.visitlancashire.com/things-to-do/pendle-witch-trail-lancaster-to-pendle-p51630> [Online] [Accessed: March 2021].

Data Source	Reference
Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) website. This data source provided information showing sensitive national designations that fall within the Proposed Bowland Section.	<a href="https://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx">https://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx</a> . (Accessed March 2021)
Sustrans and the Ordnance Survey website. Both sites teamed together to identify walking and cycling routes. NCNs are also identified.	<a href="https://www.sustrans.org.uk/">https://www.sustrans.org.uk/</a> (Accessed March 2021) <a href="https://osmaps.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/ncn">https://osmaps.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/ncn</a> (Accessed March 2021)
AllTrails is a fitness and travel application allowing users access to a database of trail maps, used in outdoor recreational activities such as hiking, mountain biking, climbing and snow sports.	<a href="https://www.alltrails.com/">https://www.alltrails.com/</a> (Accessed March 2021)
The Long Distance Walkers Association (LDWA). The LDWA have collated the details of every known long-distance path in the UK. This page provides information on how to access the long-distance paths.	<a href="https://ldwa.org.uk/ldp/members/search_by_path.php">https://ldwa.org.uk/ldp/members/search_by_path.php</a> (Accessed March 2021)
Ordnance Survey's AddressBase data. Provided point data for addresses and provides a breakdown of categories of addresses.	Ordnance Survey's AddressBase
Available information via internet searches.	Websites and google searches including local authority websites, Strava, local events and club sites.

### 13.6 Assessment of Likely Significant Effects

- 68) The following section describes the effects of the Proposed Bowland Section on Public Access and Recreation during the enabling works, construction, commissioning and operational phases. An assessment of potential effects on public access and recreational facilities is provided below.
- 69) Effects that continue through enabling works, construction and commissioning are detailed in Section 13.6.1.

#### 13.6.1 Enabling Works, Construction and Commissioning Phase Effects

- 70) The summary of enabling works, construction and commissioning phase effects on public access and recreational facilities and activities are shown in Table 13.6. The following sections describe the types of effects that the Proposed Bowland Section would have on the receptors.
- 71) The affected PRowS are shown on Figure 13.1. The Environmental Masterplan comprises a series of drawings illustrating the locations where both generic and site-specific mitigation measures are proposed. Proposed temporary closures and diversions are presented on Figure 20.1: Environmental Masterplan.

#### Public Rights of Way – Lower Houses Compound

- 72) At the Lower Houses Compound, footpath 1-38-FP 22 would be impacted for the duration of the works. As this site would be a reception shaft; there would be construction movement within the compound. There are two proposals for the diversion of the PRow. The first proposal would include the creation of a crossing point where the current alignment of the PRow intersects with the construction access track and a diversion around the edge of the construction compound. The second proposal would require a diversion along 1-38-FP 23 avoiding the construction access track and diverting along the field boundary to rejoin the existing alignment of 1-38-FP 22.

- 73) Footpath1-38-FP 23 would be impacted by the increase of construction traffic entering the Lower Houses Compound, with users experiencing visual and noise impacts.
- 74) The Joining of the Seas long-distance footpath crosses the join of the construction traffic route and access track to the Lower Houses Compound. There are no proposed diversions for the Joining of the Seas footpath. Increased signage would be required to acknowledge the increase in traffic movements for pedestrians, as well as signage along the road from Park House Lane to acknowledge the presence of pedestrians to construction traffic.
- 75) The North Bowland Traverse long-distance footpath crosses the join of the construction traffic route and access track to the Lower Houses Compound. There are no diversions or closures proposed for along the North Bowland Traverse. Increased signage would be required to acknowledge the increase in traffic movements for pedestrians, as well as signage along the road from Park House Lane to acknowledge the presence of pedestrians to construction traffic.

#### **Public Rights of Way – Newton-in-Bowland Compound**

- 76) At the Newton-in-Bowland Compound footpath 3-29-FP 31 would be impacted for the duration of the construction works. As this would be a launch site there would be construction movement within the compound. A diversion would be required around the compound boundary.
- 77) Footpath 3-29-FP 32 would not be impacted by a closure or diversion as a result of the Newton-in-Bowland Compound; however, it may experience an increase in pedestrian movements if users of 3-29-FP 31 are diverted along this footpath, as well as visual and noise impacts.
- 78) Footpath 3-29-FP 26 would be impacted by the construction access into the Newton-in-Bowland Compound for the duration of the works. As 3-29-FP 26 would cross the construction access, a controlled crossing point would be required to minimise disruption.
- 79) Footpath 3-29-FP 35 would not be directly affected by the Newton-in-Bowland compound along the length of its route; however, it would experience disruption where it joins onto 3-29-FP 26 at the controlled crossing point. Users of this PRow may experience visual and noise impacts.
- 80) The Lancashire Way Central Loop follows the alignment of the B6478 Hallgate Hill from Newton-in-Bowland, turning left after crossing the River Hodder towards Easington. This long-distance footpath does not intersect with the construction traffic routes for the Newton-in-Bowland Compound; however, increased signage would need to be placed both along the long-distance footpath to advise of increased construction traffic and along the B6478 to advise of oncoming pedestrians.
- 81) The Clitheroe 60K interacts with the Proposed Bowland Section at the access track for the Newton-in-Bowland Compound. To minimise disruption to the Clitheroe 60K it is proposed that a controlled crossing is implemented, to prevent closure or use of a diversionary route.
- 82) The Hodder Way runs along the edge of the River Hodder intersecting with the Proposed Bowland Section at the Newton-in-Bowland Compound. As the Hodder Way would cross the access track it is proposed that a controlled crossing is implemented, to prevent closure or use of a diversionary route.

#### **National Cycle Network**

- 83) The construction traffic route for the Lower Houses Compound has the potential to cause disruption to both NCN 69 and NCN 90 due to an increase in construction traffic. The construction traffic route intersects with NCN 69 and NCN 90 along the abnormal loads route, along the B6480 at the junction with Ingleborough View / Moor Lane and through the centre of Wray along Main Street. NCN 69 and NCN 90 would be further intersected by the construction traffic routes along the return of the one way system from the Lower Houses Compound along Long Lane. This NCN would also be met by construction traffic along Fairheath Road heading towards the Lower Houses Compound.
- 84) There would be an increase in traffic movement to and from the Lower Houses Compound; this is expected to be between four and eight additional vehicle movements per hour. This may increase for a four-week period when the Tunnel Boring Machine arrives and when the tunnels are connected.

- 85) NCN 90 would further be affected by access to the Newton-in-Bowland Compound where the route passes along Grindleton Road / West Bradford Road, crossing Waddington to join Belle Vue Lane. There would be an increase in traffic movement to and from the Newton-in-Bowland Compound, with an expected increase of five to 14 additional vehicle movements per hour.

**Recreational Activities**

- 86) Newton-in-Bowland Village Hall is the only recreational facility within 1 km of the Proposed Bowland Section. The village hall does not fall along one of the construction traffic routes and would not be expected to be directly impacted by the Proposed Bowland Section; however, users may experience an increase in traffic on the surrounding road network.
- 87) The Ribble Valley Villages and Clitheroe to Downham cycle routes follow the alignment of the construction traffic route for the Proposed Bowland Section where the route passes through Chatburn, West Bradford and Waddington. Users along these routes would experience an increase in traffic along Ribble Lane, Grindleton Road / West Bradford Road.
- 88) The Tour of Lancashire cycle event would be affected by the construction traffic route to and from the Newton-in-Bowland Compound where the event passes along Dunsop Road / Newton Road. At the Lower Houses Compound the event follows the alignment of the construction traffic route along the B6480, Main Street, Long Lane and Spen Brow.

**Table 13.6: Summary of Enabling Works, Construction and Commissioning Phase Effects**

Environmental / Community Asset	Value / Sensitivity	Effect	Duration	Magnitude	Significance of Effect (Pre- Essential Mitigation)
Lancaster City Council					
Footpath 1-38-FP 22	Low	This footpath would be temporarily impacted by the compound and would require a diversion.	Medium term Temporary	Medium	Slight / Moderate
Footpath 1-38-FP 23	Low	This footpath would be temporarily impacted by increased traffic movements.	Medium term Temporary	Low	Negligible / Slight
Long-distance footpath – Joining of the Seas	Medium	Long-distance footpath which may be impacted temporarily by the construction traffic route.	Medium term Temporary	Low	Slight
Long-distance footpath – North Bowland Traverse	Medium	Long-distance footpath which may be impacted temporarily by the construction traffic route.	Medium term Temporary	Low	Slight
NCN 69	High	Popular NCN which may be impacted temporarily by the construction traffic route.	Medium term Temporary	Low	Slight / Moderate
NCN 90*	High	Popular NCN which may be impacted temporarily by the construction traffic routes.	Medium term Temporary	Low	Slight / Moderate



Environmental / Community Asset	Value / Sensitivity	Effect	Duration	Magnitude	Significance of Effect (Pre- Essential Mitigation)
Ribble Valley Borough Council					
Footpath-29-FP 31	Low	This footpath would be temporarily impacted by the compound and would require a diversion.	Medium term Temporary	Medium	Slight / Moderate
Footpath 3-29-FP 26	Medium	This footpath would be temporarily impacted by the access track and would require the implementation of a controlled crossing.	Medium term Temporary	Low	Slight / Moderate
Footpath 3-29-FP 35	Low	This footpath would be temporarily impacted by the crossing of the access track where it joins FP 26.	Medium term Temporary	Low	Slight
Long-distance footpath – Lancashire Way: Central Loop	Medium	Long-distance footpath which may be impacted temporarily by the construction traffic route.	Medium term Temporary	Low	Slight
Long-distance footpath – Clitheroe 60K	Medium	Long-distance footpath would be temporarily impacted by the access track and would require the implementation of a controlled crossing.	Medium term Temporary	Low	Slight / Moderate
Long-distance footpath – Hodder Way	Medium	Long-distance footpath would be temporarily impacted by the access track and would require the	Medium term Temporary	Low	Slight / Moderate

Environmental / Community Asset	Value / Sensitivity	Effect	Duration	Magnitude	Significance of Effect (Pre- Essential Mitigation)
		implementation of a controlled crossing.			
Newton-in-Bowland Village Hall	Medium	This recreational facility would be impacted by increased traffic movements in the area.	Medium term Temporary	Low	Slight
Ribble Valley Villages cycle route	Medium	This recreational route would be impacted by increased traffic movements in the area.	Medium term Temporary	Low	Slight
Clitheroe to Downham cycle route	Medium	This recreational route would be impacted by increased traffic movements in the area.	Medium term Temporary	Low	Slight
The Tour of Lancashire cycle event	Medium	This recreation route would be impacted by increased traffic movements in the area.	Medium term Temporary	Low	Slight

\*NCN 90 is impacted by the Proposed Bowland Section in both Lancaster City Council and Ribble Valley Borough Council. To avoid double counting effects, the NCN is only listed once.

**13.6.2 Construction Phase**

89) Construction phase effects would remain the same as effects identified during the enabling works phase in Section 13.6.1.

**13.6.3 Commissioning Phase**

90) Commissioning phase effects would remain the same as effects identified during the enabling works phase in Section 13.6.1.

**13.6.4 Operational Phase**

91) Potential temporary impacts during the operational phase for public access could arise from routine site walkovers and remedial works, which may be required during the lifetime of the pipeline. Additionally, in an emergency, such as a burst pipe, PRowS and roads may need to be temporarily closed. This could affect access to these PRowS and recreational facilities. The main operational effects of the Proposed Bowland Section on recreational facilities would be road closures (or lane closures) during an emergency, for which a diversion or traffic management would be required. Operational impacts would be very infrequent and for a short duration; therefore, not significant and not assessed further.

**13.7 Essential Mitigation and Residual Effects**

92) Mitigation is most effective if considered as an integral part of the Proposed Bowland Section design in order to avoid, reduce or offset any adverse effects on the Public Access and Recreation or wider environment.

93) The main effects of the Proposed Bowland Section on Public Access and Recreation would be during the enabling works, construction and commissioning phase. A number of PRowS would need to be temporarily closed for a short period where a compound or construction access track would cross a PRow. Consultation with PRow officers and local groups would be carried out so that all closures and diversions can be agreed, publicised and the disturbance minimised.

94) The Proposed Bowland Section could have visual impacts on users of PRowS during construction and operation; this is further discussed in Chapter 6: Landscape and Arboriculture.

95) In general, recreational facilities and activities would be accessible throughout the construction period. However, road closures and traffic management systems could cause delays. These delays could have socio-economic impacts which are further discussed in Chapter 14: Communities and Health.

96) The summary of essential mitigation identified and the resultant residual effects are identified in Table 13.7. For the remaining receptors, taking into account embedded mitigation and good practice contained in the CCoP, no further essential mitigation has been identified, and the residual effects remain as per Table 13.6

**Table 13.7 Summary of Mitigation and Residual Effects**

Development Component	Mitigation	Magnitude (With Mitigation)	Residual Effect and Significance
NCN 69	Ongoing discussions with Sustrans to minimise impacts as far as reasonably practicable. Additional mitigation measures included in the CTMP (RVBC-BO-APP-007_01)	Low	Slight / Moderate

### **13.8 Cumulative Effects**

- 97) The following section provides an overview of the potential cumulative effects from different proposed developments and land allocations, in combination with the Proposed Bowland Section (i.e. inter-project cumulative assessment). Data on proposed third party developments and land allocations contained in the development plan documents were obtained from various sources, including local planning authority websites, online searches, and consultations with planning officers. Proposed development data were then reviewed with a view to identifying schemes or land allocations whose nature, scale and scope could potentially give rise to significant environmental effects when considered in combination with the likely effects arising from the Proposed Bowland Section.
- 98) Intra-project cumulative impacts. i.e. two or more types of impact acting in combination on a given environmental receptor, property or community resource, are considered in Chapter 14: Communities and Health.
- 99) The over-arching cumulative effects of the Proposed Programme of Works i.e. the five proposed replacement tunnel sections in combination, are considered in Volume 2 Chapter 19: Cumulative Effects. In addition, Volume 2 Chapter 19 examines the cumulative effects associated with the outcomes from Volume 2 (delivery and operation of the main construction compounds, tunnel and construction traffic routes), Volume 5 (proposed off-site highways works and satellite compounds), and Volume 6 (Proposed Ribble Crossing).
- 100) Based on professional judgement, it was concluded that there are no proposed third party developments or land allocations in local development plan documents which could potentially give rise to likely significant cumulative effects on PRoW and recreational facilities. No cumulative assessment was therefore undertaken for Public Access and Recreation in the context of the Proposed Bowland Section.

#### **13.8.1 Highways Works**

- 101) The potential for likely significant effects relating to public access and recreation for the Proposed Bowland Section off-site highways works is covered in Volume 5 of the ES. Likely significant effects are predicted on the users of public footpaths at several locations due to diversions. However, these effects would be for a short duration during the construction of the works.

#### **13.8.2 Ribble Crossing**

- 102) The potential for likely significant effects relating to public access and recreation for the Proposed Bowland Section off-site highways works is covered in Volume 6 of the ES. Likely significant effects are predicted on the users of public footpaths at several locations due to diversions. However, these effects would be for a short duration during the construction of the works.

### **13.9 Conclusion**

- 103) This chapter of the Environmental Statement considered the potential Public Access and Recreation impacts associated with enabling works, construction and commissioning phases along the route of the Proposed Bowland Section.
- 104) The Proposed Bowland Section would intersect a total of 12 PRoWs which would be directly or indirectly affected during the construction period. Throughout the enabling, construction and commissioning phases four PRoWs would be affected by either a temporary closure or diversion; these would then be reinstated once the works are complete. One of the affected PRoWs would be within Lancaster City Council and three PRoWs within Ribble Valley Borough Council areas.
- 105) There are five cycle routes which would be affected by the construction traffic routes of the Proposed Bowland Section. One NCN is located within Lancaster City Council, three recreational routes are located within Ribble Valley Borough Council and one affected NCN is in both local authority areas. In addition, access to Newton-in-Bowland Village Hall may also be impacted due to construction traffic on Slaidburn Road having a minor effect on car journeys to the village hall..

- 106) It is anticipated that due to the nature of the Proposed Bowland Section, there would be no significant operational phase impacts on public access and recreational facilities. Operational phase activities would generally be limited to site walkovers and remedial works, which may be required during the lifetime of the pipeline.
- 107) The residual impacts for public access and recreational facilities, recreational activities and events would be slight. All temporary PRow closures would be in accordance with Lancashire County Council's Right of Way Guidance and agreed with the relevant local authorities. In addition, access to recreational receptors would be maintained throughout the construction period. United Utilities would maintain ongoing contact with the affected communities to mitigate any potential effects on future events or activities.

### **13.10 Glossary and Key Terms**

- 108) Key phrases and terms used within this technical chapter relating to Public Access and Recreation are defined within Appendix 1.2: Glossary and Key Terms.