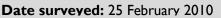
Area of LDU within AONB: 19.9 hectares

% of LDU within AONB: 100%







Survey points: SS435394, SS437392

Summary of landscape character

This LDU comprises the hummocky sand dunes of Croyde Burrows – forming the western edge of the settlement of Croyde. The dunes are crossed by a network of paths (including the South West Coast Path and Tarka Trail), with their raised position affording views westwards out to sea and around the bay, and eastwards into the resort of Croyde and its framing elevated downland (LDU 403). The sand dunes have an inherently wild quality, but this is affected by the close proximity of the resort of Croyde, which includes a range of tourist facilities including caravan/camping sites and car parks.

LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

LANDFORM / TOPOGRAPHY / VIEWS				
Landform description	Hummocky sand dunes with some very steep slopes, backing the beach at Croyde Sand.			
LAND USE AND PATTERNS				
Agriculture	Main agricultural land use	Other agricultural land use(s)		al land use(s)
	N/A	N/A		
Field patterns and boundaries	Field patterns and origins	Size (note variations) N/A		Boundary type / description
	N/A			Post-and-wire fencing borders the dunes.
Other land uses (e.g. recreation)	The whole LDU comprises the sand dunes of Croyde Burrows.			
WOODLAND AND SEMI-NATURAL HABITATS				
Trees / woodland	Size and distribution within landscape		Type and species(broadleaved / conifer	

cover	N/A			ehind th	s form prominent ne dunes in the W 18).
Semi-natural habitats	Description and location within landscape				
	Nationally important mosaic of dune grassland, tall herbs and scrub with a notable plant interest.				
	SETTLEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT				
Settlement pattern	Settlement size, type, density and relationship to landscape				
	This LDU is unsettled although strongly influenced by adjacent leisure and tourism-related development at Croyde – including a car park and caravan/camping site on the immediate north-eastern boundary of the LDU.				
Transport pattern	Road pattern, character and relationship to settlement / landscape			scape	
(including Public Rights of Way)	The dunes are crossed by a network of informal footpaths and public rights of way, as well as the Tarka Trail and South West Coast Path National Trails.				
Local vernacular styles and materials	Predominant traditional building materials	Any local variations			built features ing vernacular
	N/A	N/A		N/A	
Modern development styles / materials	N/A				
	HISTORIC EN	VIRONMEN	IT		
Key historic features	Description				
visible in the landscape	The only visible feature is a Listed lime kiln on the coast in the north- western corner of the LDU.				
	VIEWS / PERCEPTUAL QUALITIES				
Views	Key views / landmark features Intervisibility with LDUs			DUs	
		From this L	DU	To this LDU	
	The sandy beach and sea		397 (Croy Sand)	de	383
	strongly in westward views, framed by rocky heath-clad cliff headlands to		384 (Croy	de	384
	the north and south of Croyde Bay. Eastward views are dominated by development at Croyde, including	settlement		897	
		including	897 (north coast)	۱	403 896
	holiday parks and caravan sites, whilst the telecommunications mast on Ora Hill (LDU 403) is a		896 (south coast)		070
prominent feature in longer		403 (inclue mast on O	-		

	eastwards views.	Hill) 896 (upper combe slopes above Croyde)	
Perceptual qualities (description)	The dunes have a strong sense of place with their exposure and proximity to the sea conveying feelings of wildness, particularly in the quieter months of the year. The popularity of the area in peak season, with the dunes used by people en route to the adjacent beach at Croyde Sand, impacts on perceptions of tranquillity and remoteness.		

LANDSCAPE DESIGNATIONS

Designation	Number	% of LDU land area	
	NATURE CONSERVATION		
SSSI	I	70.71%	
County Wildlife Sites	I	20.57%	
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT			
Listed Buildings	I (Grade II)		

UK BAP PRIORITY HABITATS

UK BAP Priority Habitat	Area (ha)	% of LDU land area
Coastal sand dunes	10.64	53.61%
Maritime cliff and slope	0.1	0.53%

KEY FACTORS INFLUENCING LANDSCAPE CONDITION

Perceptual qualities	Dependent on weather and the time of year – the dunes' wild qualities are impacted on during the busy tourist season when they are used as a popular walking route to and from Croyde Sand.
Views	Eastward views are dominated by development at Croyde, contrasting with the undeveloped qualities of the dunes. The mast on Ora Hill (LDU 403) detracts from eastward views of generally undeveloped, smooth distant skylines. Sea views characterise views to the west, along with rocky headlands of the cliffs framing Croyde Bay.
Land use	N/A
Field patterns	N/A
Field boundaries	N/A
Trees and woodland	N/A
Semi-natural habitats	The sand dunes are part of the wider Saunton to Baggy Point SSSI – currently assessed by Natural England as in favourable condition.
Settlement and development	Modern development at Croyde lies immediately adjacent to the east of the LDU – affecting the setting of the comparatively wild and remote sand dunes.
Local vernacular	N/A