

National Park Access Updates

June 2026

Access For All Funds.

We are looking forwards to receiving these funds from government. We believe that it will be roughly the same amount as previous so around £150,000. Much of that money has already been allocated but project ideas around avccessibility are always welcome.

Volunteering.

Our rights of way work has started. We are focussing on ditch/drain clearance and surfacing until August when bird nesting season ends. We'll then tackle overgrown paths until October when we move back into conservation tasks. We have expanded into welcoming corporate groups to volunteer with us. This gives us a great opportunity to work with a wider range of people and to generate a small amount of income to cover costs.

England Coast Path

We continue to work towards opening stretches 2 and 5 of the Highcliffe to Calshot section of the England Coast Path by March 2027. As the Access Authority it is the role of the NPA to complete establishment works along both these stretches.

Landscape Enhancement Initiative Projects

We have just submitted a project at Franchises Lodge to assist the RSPB with their mammoth task of large scale rhododendron clearance and landscape recovery. We hope to here whether we're successful in a few months time. The bid will mostly focus on habitat improvements but there will be some upgrades to the surrounding public rights of way network.

*Adam Vasey,
Lead Access & Volunteering Officer
New Forest National Park Authority*