**Natural and Cultural Heritage Fund**

**Template for Visitor Impact Mitigation**

This template is provided to support NCHF projects, organisations may have their own approach to environmental sustainability action planning which should be reviewed to ensure it covers all aspects indicated in the [guidance](https://www.nature.scot/doc/nchf-sustainability-action-plan-guidance-and-template).

| **Work stream/ project activity** | **Activity** | **Regularity** | **Methodology** | **Responsible officer** | **Actions required** | **Please add additional columns** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Monitoring baseline | Ensure baseline data is recorded | At start of project | Desk and external exercise |  |  |  |
| Monitoring visitor numbers | Survey for visitors | Annual/quarterly | Comparative Survey- direct/indirect |  | Analysis, review and interpretation of the results.  Sharing the results. |  |
| Protection of specific, significant habitats or structures | Identifying any National or European site designations | At start of project | Review relevant maps/websites. Contact relevant organisations |  | Communicate regularly with relevant bodies.  Identify any specific protective actions e.g disturbance mitigated by path diversion |  |
| Monitoring visitor impacts: Visual site assessment | Reviewing visitor impact on paths or remains/structures.  (Simple indicators and simple methodology will reduce resource required for this.) | Seasonal/quarterly during periods of very wet or dry weather, during peak visitor periods | Measuring and comparing bare ground/habitat impact.  Fixed point photography  Written report |  | Mitigation techniques might include – changing the location, changing the access route, improving the access route, preventing impact at sensitive points |  |
| Monitoring visitor impacts on community and residents | Identifying any impacts on local residents through perception survey |  | Survey to identify if local people are generally satisfied with the site? |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Please add additional rows* |  |  |  |  |