

"in Wildness is the preservation of the World" Henry Thoreau

Site Issues



Satellite photo of Haytor

Erosion

One of the main concerns in maintaining Haytor as a high traffic area has to be the erosion of the site by the many thousands of people visiting. This erosion needs to be managed in order to preserve the location's intrinsic qualities and any accessibility solution would need to address them.

Erosion problems identified by DNP include:

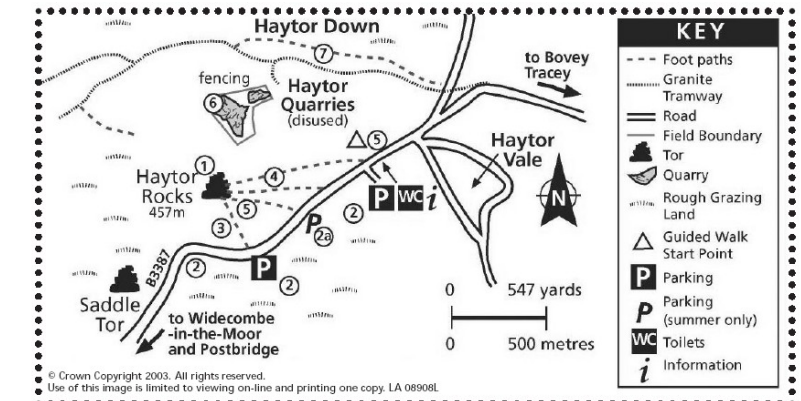
1. Trampling by walkers, climbers and livestock has exposed the soil around the base of the rocks.
2. People have driven vehicles onto the open land causing damage around the car park and roadsides.
3. The route from the upper car park to the Rocks is used by thousands of visitors which created erosion gullies.
4. Paths running from the Lower Haytor car park to the Rocks suffered from both narrowing by gorse encroachment and increased erosion from water runoff.
5. The popularity of the path from Lower Haytor car park to Haytor granite quarry led to muddy impassable ground.
6. The fence around the quarry attracts people and livestock, causing changes to the surrounding vegetation and soil.
7. In the early 1990s erosion caused by horse riding was a serious problem on parts of Haytor Down.

Sustainability

Sustainability, or the lack of it, is of course a key element of the erosion question. In basic terms sustainable tourism is about encouraging visitors in order to support the local economy and communities whilst preserving the environment from the wilful degradation, thoughtless abuse and premeditated vandalism of many tourists, and indeed many visitors from local areas (see diagram *Where do visitors come from and where do they go?*).

The Dartmoor Sustainability Charter suggests ways of addressing the issue including:

- buying locally produced food
- using environmentally friendly and recycled products
- encouraging the wise use of energy and water resources
- displaying public transport information
- composting kitchen waste
- promoting local festivals and events



Erosion map



Graffiti on Haytor

Walk
Don't
Walk