

Trampling Damage to Vegetation and Soil Cover at Paths within the Burren National Park, Mullach Mor, Co. Clare

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Abstract

Within the Burren National Park, trampling by cattle and goats has created a network of paths. Between 1986 and 1992, surveillance of three selected paths revealed a pattern of increasing damage to vegetation and soil cover. An attempt was made to quantify the extent of trampling damage, and to examine possible causes of observed spatial variation in the severity of damage. Some implications for management policy within the National Park are explored.

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