

## LAND SOUTH OF UPPER BRIGHTON ROAD (SITE 3) PRELIMINARY ECOLOGICAL SUMMARY REPORT

Prepared for Worthing Borou	ugh Council
by	

**Hankinson Duckett Associates** 

HDA ref: 454.2

November 2015

#### 1 Site summary

- 1.1 Site 3 comprises 4.4ha of land bordered to the north by the A27 (Sompting Bypass) with arable land beyond; to the east by residential property and grassland fields; to the south by residential development; and to the west by residential development and a school.
- 1.2 In general terms, the site is dominated by arable land and species-poor grassland fields with fencelines and hedgerows forming the majority of field boundaries. Upper Brighton Road runs along the southern boundary of the northernmost field. Some boundaries in the west and south of the site support recently planted native hedgerows.
- 1.3 At the time of the survey, a linear route through the site was being cleared for an infrastructure project which restricted access to the south-eastern areas of the site. Habitats in these areas were viewed from adjacent accessible land. An inaccessible fenced-off area supporting scrub and young trees with 'deep water' signs was also present in the east of the site suggesting presence of standing water.
- 1.4 Locations and detailed descriptions of the habitats present at the site are provided in the Phase1 habitat survey plan and target notes in *Appendix A*.

#### 2 Desk study

- 2.1 No statutory or non-statutory nature conservation designations pertain to the site or adjacent land.
- 2.2 No areas of international importance (i.e. SPA, SAC or RAMSAR) occur within 10km and no National Nature Reserves (NNRs) occur within 5km of the site boundary.
- 2.3 Two Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) are located with 5km of the site. The closest of these is 'Cissbury Ring', located approximately 1.6km to the north of the site and designated for its chalk grassland habitat. Adur Estuary SSSI is located approximately 4.7km east of the site and is designated for its saltmarsh habitat and mudflats, supporting important populations of wading birds. No other SSSIs are located within 5km of the site boundary.
- 2.4 Lancing Ring Local Nature Reserve (LNR), located approximately 2km east of the site, supports chalk grassland, woodland and wetland habitats. No other LNRs are located within 2km of the site.
- 2.5 Three Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCIs) occur within 2km of the site. 'Worthing & Hill Barn Golf Courses' and 'Tenants Hill and Reservoirs' SNCIs, are both located approximately 1.1km north-west of the site and designated primarily for their species-rich

grassland habitats. 'Lower Cokeham Reedbed and Ditches' SNCI is located approximately 1.2km south-east of the site and is designated for its reedbed and fen habitats.

- 2.6 Records of protected and notable species provided during the desk study included one record of Slow-worm pertaining to the site dating from 2011. Other records provided for within 2km of the site boundary include bats, Hazel Dormouse, reptiles, Water Vole, and notable birds, invertebrates and plants.
- 2.7 The full results of the desk study including plans showing the locations of nearby designated nature conservation sites and complete protected and notable species records for within 2km of the site are provided in *Appendix B*.

#### 3 Constraints and opportunities

- 3.1 The habitats/ features of highest ecological interest within and bordering the site are the mature native hedgerows and scrub with associated trees and ditches along field boundaries in addition to the potential waterbody located in the east of the site. Although these habitats are generally species-poor, often defunct and are likely to be at most of **low local** value in their own right, they form part of a network of linear semi-natural habitats which facilitate the movement of wildlife through the local area. In combination these features are considered of **moderate local** value for wildlife.
- 3.2 Other habitats/ features within and bordering the site including arable land, species-poor semi-improved grassland, recently planted hedgerow, Bramble scrub, bare ground, gravel, buildings and hardstanding, are considered of negligible/ less than local conservation interest in their own right.
- 3.3 Any development proposals for the site should seek to retain habitats/ features of local value and where appropriate enhance these features and the wider site through suitable management and complimentary habitat creation. Ways in which this could be achieved include:
  - Enhancement of existing hedgerows/ linear scrub habitats along field boundaries through selective clearance of Bramble, infilling using a species-rich mix of native shrubs and trees, and appropriate long-term management.
  - Use of native species-rich hedgerow, scrub and tree planting as boundary features to further enhance habitat connectivity across the site and complement existing habitats.
  - Creation of a range of habitats with high wildlife interest within areas of public open space such as species-rich grassland, native scrub and tree planting.
  - Retention and enhancement of any existing waterbodies and/or creation of new wetland habitats such as ponds, swales and reedbeds in conjunction with SuDS proposals.
  - Creation of new opportunities for nesting birds and roosting bats through provision of bird and bat boxes on existing trees and new buildings.

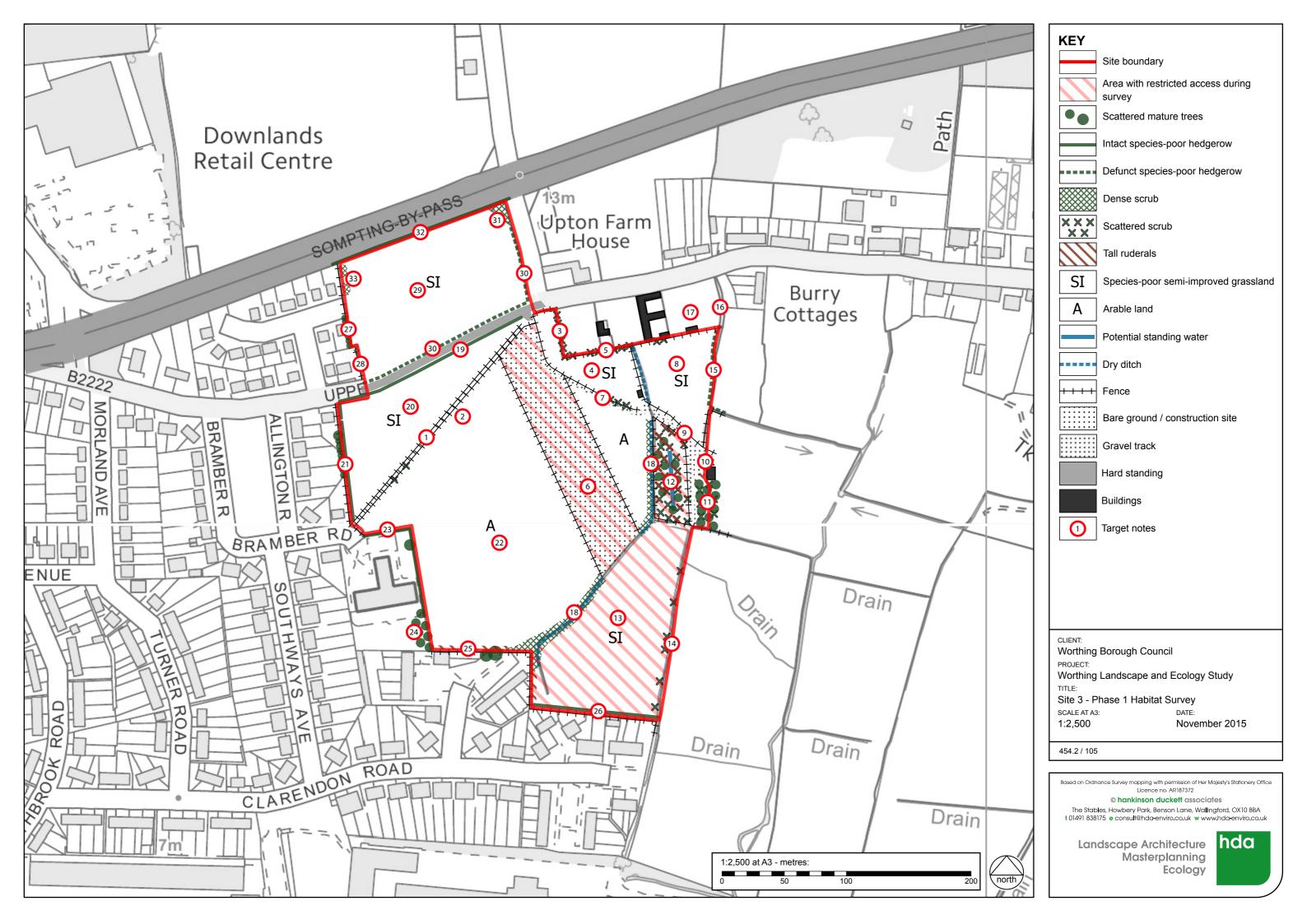
- Use of native species typical of the local area in landscape planting where appropriate to do so. Where possible these should be sourced from stock of local provenance.
- Prioritising the use of plants which benefit native wildlife within formal landscaping schemes, including nectar- and pollen-rich and fruit- and nut-producing species.

#### 4 Further information requirements

- 4.1 In view of the findings of the desk study and/or habitat resource of the site, consideration should be given to the requirement for the following further surveys and assessment work in support of a planning application:
  - Phase 1 bat survey (scoping inspections of buildings and trees)
  - Phase 2 emergence surveys (if potential for roosting bats identified during Phase 1 bat survey)
  - Phase 2 bat activity survey
  - Reptile survey
  - Badger survey
  - Great Crested Newt survey
  - Wintering and breeding bird surveys
  - Implications of increased recreational pressure on off-site designated areas both alone and in combination with other plans and projects.
- 4.2 It is recommended that the extended Phase 1 habitat survey and desk study are updated by the applicant prior to submission of a planning application. This is in order to ensure that the assessment of habitats at the site and its potential to support protected and notable species reflect any subsequent changes in the ecological character of the site and its surrounds, and strategic nature conservations objectives. The actual requirements for further work should also take into account the nature and extent of proposed development works.

#### **APPENDIX A**

Phase 1 habitat survey: Plan and Target Notes



#### Site 3 - Target Notes

- **1. Footpath:** A footpath running through the site between grassland and arable fields bordered by post and wire fence, rough grassland margins (see TN2) and a couple of Elder *Sambucus nigra* shrubs.
- 2. Arable field margin: The margin of the arable field along the southern side of the footpath (TN1) comprises rough grassland and ruderal vegetation including False Oat-grass Arrhenatherum elatius, Fescue Festuca sp., Wild Oat Avena fatua, Common Hogweed Heracleum sphondylium, Common Nettle Urtica dioica, Cow Parsley Anthriscus sylvestris, Smooth Sow-thistle Sonchus oleraceus, Mugwort Artemisia vulgaris, Creeping Thistle Cirsium arvense and Field Bindweed Convolvulus arvensis.
- **3. Boundary scrub**: A short section of boundary bordering a residential garden dominated by Bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. with occasional Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa* and Plum *Prunus domestica*. The dominant ground flora is Nettle and Hedge Bindweed *Calystegia sepium*.
- 4. Grassland field: A small field comprising semi-improved grassland. The sward is species-poor, supporting a relatively low diversity of forbs. The sward is dominated by grasses including Perennial Ryegrass Lolium perenne, Cocksfoot Dactylis glomerata, Yorkshire Fog Holcus lanatus, Creeping Bent Agrostis stolonifera, Common Bent Agrostis capillaris, Meadow Foxtail Alopecurus pratensis and Rough Meadow-grass Poa trivialis. Forb species included Ribwort Plantain Plantago minor, White Clover Trifolium repens, Red Clover Trifolium pratense, Lesser Trefoil Trifolium dubium, White Dead-nettle Lamium album, Red Dead-nettle Lamium purpureum, Common Mallow Malva neglecta, Common Ragwort Senecio jacobaea, Yarrow Achillea millefolium, Common Nettle, Field Bindweed, Common Knapweed Centaurea nigra, Hawksbeard Crepis sp., Creeping Cinquefoil Potentilla reptans and Hedge Woundwort Stachys sylvatica.
- **5. Garden boundary:** Short section of the site boundary bordering a garden supporting a range of small fruit trees.
- **6. Construction site:** An area of land being prepared for the routing of a grid connection cable. At the time of survey the area was fenced off with a newly erected post and wire fence. The northern section through the arable field comprised harvested Maize *Zea mays*. A small section of scrub/ hedgerow (TN18) between fields in the south-east (TN13) had been removed.
- **7. Fenceline:** Post and wire fence along the southern edge of grassland field TN4 with tall ruderals and scattered scrub. Ruderal species included Traveller's Joy *Clematis vitalba*, Common Nettle and Bramble. Scrub included Buddleia *Buddleja davidii* and Goat Willow *Salix caprea*.
- **8. Sheep-grazed field:** A small field grazed by sheep at the time of survey with a short sward. The sward was species-poor, with a species composition similar to TN4 but with a denser cover of Common Nettle and other common ruderal species.
- 9. Track and verges: A farm track running through the eastern area of the site comprising gravel, broken hardstanding and bare ground with sparse ephemeral vegetation. The verges are dominated by rough grasses and ruderal vegetation including Yorkshire Fog, White Dead-nettle, Cow Parsley, Yarrow, Common Mallow, Common Knapweed, Doves-foot Crane's-bill Geranium molle, Scentless Mayweed Tripleurospermum inodorum, Prickly Sow-thistle Sonchus asper, Broadleaved Dock Rumex obtusifolius, Common Nettle, Shepherd's Purse Capsella bursa-pastoris, Lesser Burdock Arctium minus, Common Poppy Papaver rhoeas, Common Field-speedwell Veronica persica and Petty Spurge Euphorbia peplus. More heavily disturbed areas of ground support Perennial Ryegrass, Annual Meadow-grass Poa annua, Greater Plantain Plantago major, Wall Barley Hordeum murinum and Knotgrass Polygonum aviculare.
- **10. Farm building and machinery:** Small area of bare ground along the eastern site boundary used for storing old farm machinery. Just beyond the site boundary is a domed metal barn.
- **11. Crack Willows:** A small copse along the eastern site boundary comprising young Crack Willow *Salix fragilis* trees and scrub. The ground layer and understorey also support Dog Rose *Rosa canina* and

- tall ruderal vegetation including Common Hogweed, Nettle, Hedge Bindweed and Bittersweet *Solanum dulcamara*.
- **12. Fenced area:** Small area in the east of the site surrounded by tall chain link fencing restricting access for closer inspection. The central area supported scrub including Crack Willow, Goat Willow and Bramble. The edges comprised gravel with ephemeral and ruderal vegetation including Buddleia, Petty Spurge, Willowherb *Epilobium* sp. and Red Valerian *Centranthus ruber*. 'Caution, deep water' signs on the fence suggest that the area contains or once contained standing water.
- **13. Grassland field:** A grassland field which is likely to have been used for sheep grazing but was ungrazed at the time of survey due to construction work progressing south-eastwards (TN6). The species composition appears similar to grassland TN4, although access for closer inspection was restricted.
- **14. Field boundary:** A highly defunct field boundary hedgerow along the eastern site boundary comprising scattered outgrown scrub dominated by Hawthorn.
- **15. Boundary hedgerow:** A short length of outgrown defunct hedgerow along the eastern site boundary dominated by Hawthorn with less frequent Goat Willow, Elm *Ulmus procera*, Elder, Damson and Bramble.
- **16. Garden boundary hedgerow:** Boundary of off-site field (TN17) comprising an intact Cherry Laurel *Prunus laurocerasus* with early-mature Ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and Damson.
- 17. Off-site field: Small field to the north-east of the site forming part of the curtilage of a neighbouring residential property. The area comprises recently established grassland with abundant ephemeral and ruderal vegetation. A chicken shed, newly restored timber barn/ garage and small apple trees occur along the southern margin which borders the site.
- **18. Field boundary scrub:** A wide linear strip of outgrown scrub crossing the southern area of the site and a shallow dry ditch. The scrub is dominated by Elm and Elder with abundant Bramble. Nettle and Hedge Bindweed dominated the ground layer.
- **19. Hedgerow:** Intact species-poor native hedgerow along the southern side of Upper Brighton Road dominated by Hawthorn with occasional Elm, Elder and Blackthorn. Nettle is abundant along the base.
- 20. Grassland field: Field to the south of Upper Brighton Road comprising species-poor semi-improved grassland. The sward was fairly long at the time of survey and is heavily dominated by grasses including Perennial Ryegrass, Common Bent, Yorkshire Fog, Cocksfoot, False Oat-grass and Sheep's Fescue Festuca ovina. Forbs were relatively scarce and included Knotgrass, White Clover, Field Bindweed, Common Mouse-ear Cerastium fontanum and Hawksbeard.
- 21. Western boundary: The westernmost boundary of the site bordering gardens of residential properties. The northern section comprises early-mature trees and scrub including Ash, Sycamore and Elder; the central section comprises a Leyland Cypress Cupressus x leylandii hedge; and the southern section comprises garden fencing. The entire length of the field margin has been recently planted with native hedgerow including Hawthorn, Wild Privet Ligustrum vulgare, Hazel Corylus avellana, Blackthorn, Field Maple Acer campestre, Holly Ilex aquifolium, Dogwood Cornus sanguinea and Guelder Rose Viburnum opulus.
- **22. Arable field:** An arable field supporting a crop of Maize at the time of survey. The field margins generally comprise rough grass and ruderal vegetation (TN2). Other arable weeds recorded include Scarlet Pimpernel *Anagallis arvensis*, Common Field-speedwell, Dove's-foot Crane's-bill, White Campion *Silene latifolia*, Smooth Sow-thistle, Field Pansy *Viola arvensis*, Shepherd's Purse, Broadleaved Willowherb *Epilobium montana* and Common Poppy.
- **23. School boundary hedgerow:** Managed native hedgerow along the western boundary of the site dominated by Hawthorn and Holly with occasional Dog Rose, Dogwood, Guelder Rose, Pedunculate Oak *Quercus robur*. There is also occasional outgrown early-mature Hazel, Ash and Field Maple trees.

The hedgerow base along the field margin supported rough grasses and ruderal vegetation including Field Bindweed, Nettle and Wood Avens *Geum urbanum*.

- **24. Off-site tree planting:** Young to early-mature trees overhanging the site boundary from the school grounds comprise Rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, Field Maple, Hawthorn, Pedunculate Oak and Silver Birch *Betula pendula*.
- **25. South-western garden boundary:** Site boundary abutting residential gardens comprising a post and wire fence with dense tall ruderal vegetation along the site margin dominated by Common Nettle.
- **26. Southern garden boundaries:** The southern boundaries of the grassland field in the south-east of the site comprise tall ruderal vegetation dominated by Common Nettle. The southernmost boundary has been recently planted with native hedgerow (as TN21). Access for closer inspection of these boundaries was restricted by construction works within the site.
- **27. Boundary garden hedge:** A Cypress hedge on the western boundary of the northern grassland field, measuring approximately 6-8m in height with Elder and Bramble scrub beneath.
- 28. Garden boundary: Site boundary abutting garden with post and rail fence and dense Bramble scrub.
- **29. Grassland field:** Field to the north of Upper Brighton Road comprising species-poor semi-improved grassland with a similar species composition to grassland TN20. The field is likely to have been heavily grazed by horses but was ungrazed at the time of survey with a slightly rough sward. Other species recorded in the sward included Soft Brome *Bromus hordeaceus* and Yarrow.
- **30. Defunct hedgerows:** Hedgerows forming the southern and eastern boundaries of the northern grassland field within the site (TN29). Both hedgerows are unmanaged, outgrown and have a large proportion of gaps with dense Bramble, so are considered defunct. The dominant woody species is Hawthorn with less frequent Blackthorn, Elder and Elm. Nettle and Broadleaved Dock dominate the hedgerow bases.
- **31. Field corner scrub:** Dense mature Hawthorn scrub in the north-eastern corner of the site with abundant lvy growth.
- **32. Northern boundary hedgerow:** Outgrown hedgerow along the northernmost boundary of the site along the A27 corridor. The hedgerow is generally intact, dominated by Hawthorn with occasional Elder. Bramble is also abundant where gaps have formed. The ground layer is dominated by Nettle with abundant Ivy and Hedge Bindweed.
- **33. North-western garden boundary:** Boundary of site abutting gardens with Hawthorn and dense stands of Bramble along the field margin.

#### **APPENDIX B**

**Desk Study Results** 



### Desktop Biodiversity Report

Land south of Upper Brighton Road, Worthing + 2km radius

ESD/15/564

Prepared for Alex Leishman (Hankinson Duckett Associates)

18th August 2015



# Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre report regarding land south of Upper Brighton Road, Worthing + 2km radius 18/08/2015

#### Prepared for Alex Leishman Hankinson Duckett Associates ESD/15/564

#### The following information was requested:

Maps	✓
Sussex Protected Species Register - Excel	<b>✓</b>
Sussex Bat Inventory - Excel	<b>✓</b>
Sussex Bird Inventory - Excel	<b>✓</b>
UK BAP Species Inventory - Excel	<b>✓</b>
Sussex Rare Species Inventory - Excel	<b>✓</b>
Sussex Invasive Alien Species - Excel	<b>✓</b>
Full Species List	
Environmental Survey Directory	✓

#### SNCI

Ad07 - Lower Cokeham Reedbed & ditches; W07 - Worthing & Hill Barn Golf Courses; W10 - Tenants Hill & Reservoirs.

#### SSSI

Cissbury Ring.

#### Other Designations/Ownership

Environmental Stewardship Agreement; Local Geological Site; National Park.

#### **Habitats**

Lowland calcareous grassland; Reedbed; Traditional orchard; Wood-pasture and parkland.

#### Important information regarding this report

It must not be assumed that this report contains the definitive species information for the site concerned.

The species data held by the Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre (SxBRC) is collated from the biological recording community in Sussex. However, there are many areas of Sussex where the records held are limited, either spatially or taxonomically.

A desktop biodiversity report from SxBRC will give the user a clear indication of what biological recording has taken place within the area of their enquiry. The information provided is a useful tool for making an assessment of the site, but should be used in conjunction with site visits and appropriate surveys before further judgements on the presence or absence of key species or habitats can be made. It may be that the content of this report guides the reader as to which surveys should be carried out on the site.

This report was compiled using data held at SxBRC at the time of production. SxBRC takes data validation very seriously, but cannot be held responsible for the accuracy of data included in this report.

#### Copyright

The Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre must be acknowledged in all documents containing any part of the information contained in this report. You can also use the whole of a SxBRC report (unedited) as an appendix in your own report.

The SxBRC operates as agent to the individuals and groups who provide their records free of charge. The data suppliers retain copyright on their data, while SxBRC retains copyright on its desktop biodiversity reports.

#### Data usage

The data contained within this report is for use in the project for which the data was requested. It is not to be shared with third parties for use in other projects, unless permission is granted from SxBRC.

The data may be used for 12 months, after which a replacement SxBRC report must be requested. This ensures the most up-to-date information is being used.

#### **Ordnance Survey maps**

Members of the public wishing to reproduce maps made by SxBRC under East and West Sussex County Council or Brighton and Hove City Council licences must use copying facilities that have been authorised by Ordnance Survey (OS). Further information can be found on the <u>OS website</u>.

#### **Impartiality**

SxBRC functions as custodian of biological data. Our role is to collect, manage and disseminate wildlife and habitat data. As such, we have to remain impartial and cannot offer opinions on the biodiversity value of a given site. Similarly, we cannot put forward objections to planning applications or be involved in campaigns.

#### **Supplying records**

Our desktop biodiversity reports are only as good as the data we hold. We rely on the continuous submission of records to keep our database up-to-date. We are always grateful to receive records from ecological consultants and members of the public alike. We accept records in many different formats – please see our <u>website</u> for more details.

#### **Confidential Records**

The following species are not included in desktop biodiversity reports

#### **Badgers**

Badgers are one of our most recognisable native British mammals. They are not considered rare but are protected along with their setts under The Protection of Badgers Act 1992 and schedule 6 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981, as amended).



It is an offence to kill, injure, or take a badger or interfere with a badger sett.

"Interference" is defined by section 3 of The Protection of Badgers Act and includes damaging or destroying a badger sett, obstructing any entrance to a sett and also disturbing a badger when it is occupying a sett. If you need to do any work near to a sett (within 30m) you must contact Natural England for guidance as your activities may require a licence.

With continued persecution of badgers, often for the most cruel and barbaric 'sport', badger records are <u>not</u> included in our species inventory reports, as it has been requested that they remain confidential.

If you need further information about badgers in your enquiry area please contact the Badger Trust Sussex. Contact details can be found on their website: <a href="www.badgertrust-sussex.org.uk">www.badgertrust-sussex.org.uk</a>

#### Otters

Otters are slowly making a return to Sussex after becoming extinct in the 1960s, but are nowhere near their former numbers and remain very vulnerable.

If there is a river or tributary within 1km of your enquiry area please be aware of the potential for otters in the vicinity, especially if you are undertaking operations that may impact potential otter habitat.



Otters are protected by European and UK law. It is an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to kill, injure or take an otter from the wild without a licence; to damage or obstruct a holt; or disturb an otter in its resting place. Licences are required for checking holts or for carrying out work that may disturb

disturb an otter in its resting place. Licences are required for checking holts or for carrying out work that may disturb otters, such as the management of trees that are known to be used as resting sites. Natural England are responsible for issuing these licences in England.

If you need to find out if otters have been recorded in your enquiry area, please get in touch with the Record Centre.

#### Wood White and Duke of Burgundy butterflies

These two rare butterfly species have a very restricted range in Sussex and records have been made confidential based on advice given from Butterfly Conservation Sussex Branch.

#### Other confidential records

SxBRC holds records of other species that are confidential. Confidentiality can be for a variety of reasons but is usually to benefit the site or the species. If you need to know if any confidential records have been recorded in your enquiry area, please get in touch with the Record Centre.

#### **M**APS

There are three maps included in a standard desktop biodiversity report which show designated sites (statutory and non-statutory); habitats and natural features; and ownership and management.

The key on a map only shows those layers which are located within the enquiry area or immediate area. Below is a list of all layers which we currently show on our maps, with details of the data source. Citation sheets and further information on each layer can be found towards the back of the pdf report.

Designated sites		
Statutory		
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)	Downloaded from NE website.	
Country Park	Downloaded from NE website.	
Local Nature Reserve (LNR)	Downloaded from NE website.	
Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ)	Downloaded from NE website.	
Marine Site of Nature Conservation Importance (MSNCI)	Supplied by ESCC in 2005.	
National Nature Reserve (NNR)	Downloaded from NE website.	
National Park	Downloaded from NE website.	
Ramsar	Downloaded from NE website.	
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	Downloaded from NE website.	
Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	Downloaded from NE website.	
Special Protection Area (SPA)	Downloaded from NE website.	
Non-Statutory		
Local Geological Site (LGS)	Originally supplied as hand drawn maps by the Booth Museum (Brighton) in 2009, LGS boundaries were digitised by SxBRC. Site boundaries are now administered by SxBRC and the Sussex Geodiversity Partnership and have been further improved as a result of ground surveys between 2010 to 2012.	
Notable Road Verge	Owned and provided by ESCC and WSCC.	
Site of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI)	Supplied by WSCC, ESCC & BHCC.	
Habitats and natural features		
Ancient/veteran tree	Merged dataset created in July 2009. Data from Ancient Tree Hunt (national survey carried out in 2007/2008) and Tree Register of the British Isles (a charity which collates and updates data on notable trees).	
Ancient woodland	Downloaded from NE website.	
Black poplar	Created by SxBRC based upon species records arising from Sussex Wetland Landscapes Project.	
Chalk stream	Created and owned by SWLP and SxBRC.	
Coastal & floodplain grazing marsh	Downloaded from NE website.	
Coastal saltmarsh	Supplied by EA, based on data from the SRCMP Habitat Mapping Project.	
Coastal sand dune	Supplied by EA, based on data from the SRCMP Habitat Mapping Project.	
Coastal vegetated shingle	Downloaded from NE website.	
Ghyll woodland	Boundaries drawn on paper maps by Dr Francis Rose which were then digitised by SxBRC. Not ground-truthed.	
Intertidal chalk	Supplied by EA, based on data from the SRCMP Habitat Mapping Project.	

Intertidal mudflat	Supplied by EA, based on data from the SRCMP Habitat Mapping Project.	
Lowland calcareous grassland	Merged dataset from NE and SDJC sources, created in 2005. Administered by SxBRC.	
Lowland fen	Created by SxBRC in June 2011. Layer is an amalgamation of all the fen data currently available to SxBRC.	
Lowland heathland	High Weald Heathland data created by the High Weald Unit in 2006. The rest of Sussex Heathland data was created by SxBRC, with funding from WSCC and RSPB in 2007.	
Lowland meadow	Downloaded from NE website.	
Maritime cliff and slope	Supplied by EA, based on data from the SRCMP Habitat Mapping Project.	
Open water	Derived from OS mapping. This includes inland and tidal, running and standing water.	
Reedbed	Created by SxBRC in June 2011. Layer is an amalgamation of all the reedbed data currently available to SxBRC.	
Saline lagoon	Created by SxBRC.	
Traditional orchard	Downloaded from NE website.	
Wood-pasture & parkland	Downloaded from NE website.	
Ownership and management		
Environmental Stewardship Agreement Downloaded from NE website.		
National Trust property	Owned and provided by National Trust.	
RSPB reserve	Owned and provided by RSPB. Downloadable from their website.	
Sussex Wildlife Trust reserve	Created and maintained by SxBRC on behalf of SWT.	
Woodland Trust site	Owned and provided by the Woodland Trust.	

#### **Abbreviations**

BHCC Brighton and Hove City Council

EA Environment Agency
ESCC East Sussex County Council

NE Natural England

PTES People's Trust for Endangered Species
RSPB Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

SDJC South Downs Joint Committee

SRCMP Strategic Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme

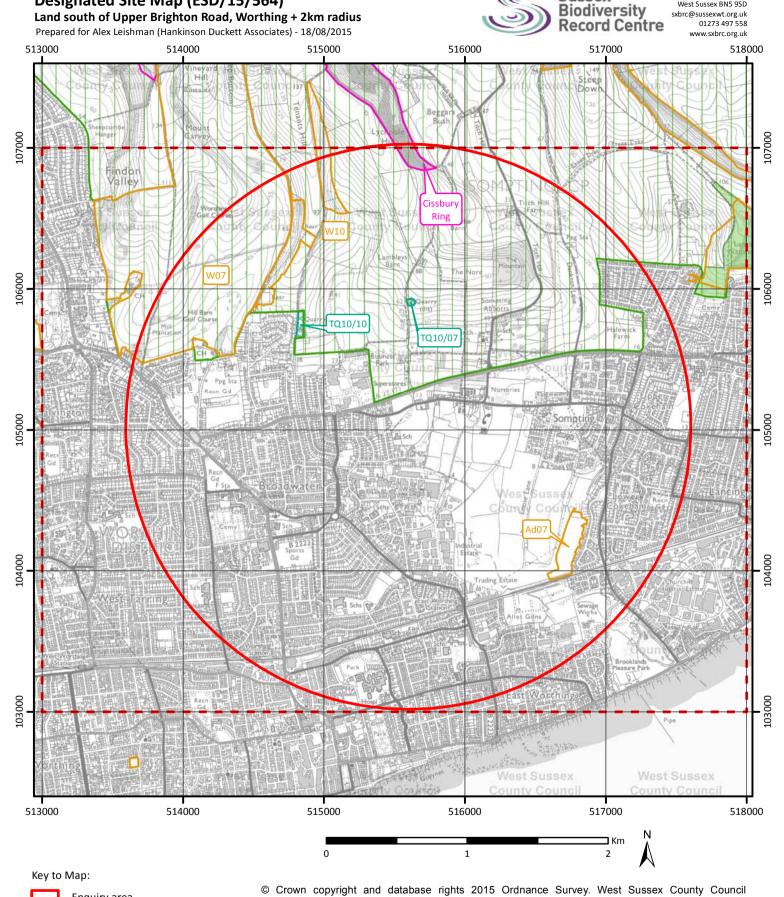
SxBRC Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre
SWLP Sussex Wetland Landscapes Project

SWT Sussex Wildlife Trust

WSCC West Sussex County Council

#### **Natural England datasets**

These are available for anyone to download and use in their own Geographical Information System (GIS). Visit <a href="https://www.gis.naturalengland.org.uk">www.gis.naturalengland.org.uk</a> for more information and register as a user.



Trust 100025883.

**Enquiry** area Species search area SNCI SSSI National Park LNR

LGS

Designated Site Map (ESD/15/564)

RAMSAR, Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Area (SPA), National Park, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), National Nature Reserve (NNR), Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Local Nature Reserve (LNR) and Country Park data reproduced with permission of Natural England. Site of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI) data provided by East and West Sussex County Councils, and Brighton & Hove City

100023447. East Sussex County Council 100019601. Natural England 100046223. Sussex Wildlife

Sussex

Woods Mill, Henfield,

West Sussex BN5 9SD

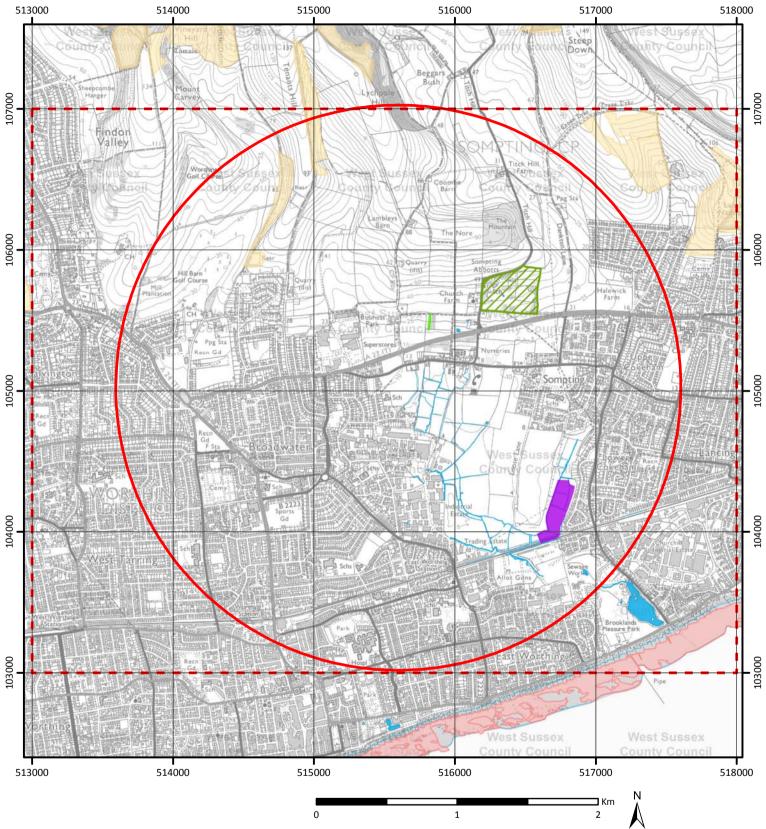
Council. Notable Road Verge data supplied by East and West Sussex County Councils. Local Geological Site (LGS) data created by SxBRC in partnership with Sussex Geodiversity Group. © Crown Copyright. All rights reserved 2015.

## Habitat & Natural Features Map (ESD/15/564) Land south of Upper Brighton Road, Worthing + 2km radius

Prepared for Alex Leishman (Hankinson Duckett Associates) - 18/08/2015

Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre

Woods Mill, Henfield, West Sussex BN5 9SD sxbrc@sussexwt.org.uk 01273 497 558 www.sxbrc.org.uk



Key to Map:

Enquiry area

Species search area

Reedbed

Reedbed

Intertidal mudflat

Open Water

Traditional orchard

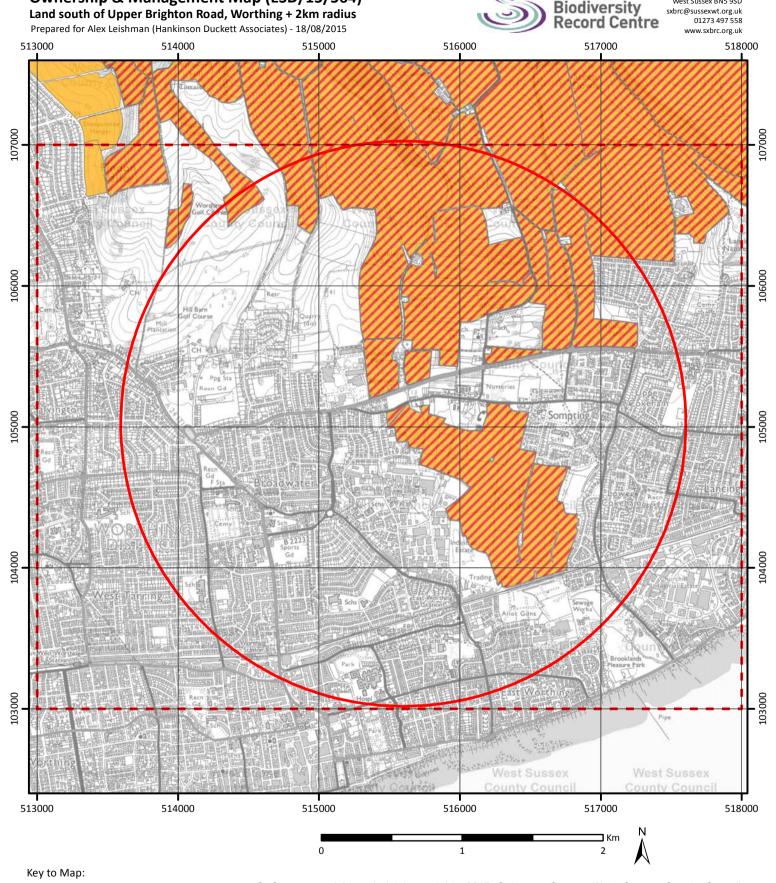
Wood-pasture & parkland

Lowland calcareous grassland

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**Enquiry** area

Species search area

Environmental Stewardship Agreements:

Ownership & Management Map (ESD/15/564)

Higher Level Stewardship (HLS)

Entry Level Stewardship (ELS)

Organic ELS

Organic ELS plus HLS

ELS plus HLS

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Woods Mill, Henfield,

West Sussex BN5 9SD

Sussex

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#### **Sussex Environmental Survey Directory**

Report on behalf of Alex Leishman (Hankinson Duckett Associates) regarding land south of Upper Brighton Road, Worthing + 2km radius.

Our Ref: ESD/15/564 Date: 18-Aug-15

The Sussex Environmental Survey Directory (ESD) was initiated in 1990 as a tool to report on biological surveys that had taken place in Sussex. The directory now contains information on over 2,000 surveys covering over 22,000 sites. This report details what surveys have been carried out on specific sites and directs the enquirer to where this information is held. The Record Centre does not hold copies of all the reports that it refers enquirers to, but simply directs the enquirer to organisations or individuals who do.

The directory is updated on a weekly basis and also contains summary data on the county's ornithological data, (courtesy of the Sussex Ornithological Society) and on the county's geological sites (courtesy of the Booth Museum).

Survey Name	Entomological Survey of Cokeham Brooks - (3651)	
Survey Author	EDWARDS, Mike	
Survey Comment  Date	Cokeham Brooks is an Area of flushed fen at the southern edge of the South Downs, Sompting Village, West Sussex. Visits were made to record the largest numbers of sp associated with the wetland habitats. 11/6/2009-4/7/2009	
Site Name	Lower Cokeham Ditches (pSNCI)	TQ168044
Site Comment	Potential SNCI. A stretch of reed bed transected and bounded by a number of watery ditches. Rough grazed meadows are found along the western length of the reed bed. Includes Lower Cokeham Reedbed & Ditches - SNCI Ad07.	
Copies Available	SxBRC Digital	

Survey Name	Worthing Viridor Site Ecological Surveys - (3793)	
Survey Author	THOMSON ECOLOGY	
Survey Comment  Date	Thomson Ecology was commissoned in April 2004 by Babtie Group on behalf management Ltd to crested newts, reptiles, badgers and water voles at a site April 2004	
Site Name	Worthing Waste Transfer Station	TQ161042
Site Comment  Copies Available	The site traverses arable land;rough pasture;ley;reed-filled ditches; a stream;secondary rank vegetation;hedges and some lines of old trees including a Black Poplar.  SxBRC Digital	

Bryophytes and Lichens in Chalk Grassland in West Sussex. - (283) **Survey Name** 

**Survey Author** ROSE, Francis (Dr).

A detailed survey of the Bryophytes (mosses and liverworts) on West Sussex chalk grassland. **Survey Comment** 

> Areas were identified from Graham Steven's chalk grassland report of 1992. Each area is given a grading according to how rich it is in Bryophytes. Much information was gathered during spring 1993, but information from previous years is also included. (Phase II). [SxBRC (2 copies) filed in

G1-3 Boxl.

**Date** 1.93-4.93

Site Name Reservoir Area by Tenantshill Barn, Worthing Golf Course TQ146059

**Site Comment** This is one of the richest chalk grasslands for lichens. The surface was scraped off in 1890

during the construction of an underground reservoir and a rich community has developed. A very

small site.

**Copies Available** SxBRC Boxes, WSCC, EN/LEWES/LIB

Report on the Molluscs of the West Sussex Chalk Downs 1993 - (293) **Survey Name** 

**Survey Author** WILLING, Martin J

Land molluscs were surveyed at 68 chalk grassland sites in West Sussex (plus 2 further sites **Survey Comment** 

reported to the author following completion of the main text). At each site field searches were undertaken and bulk samples of vegetation were taken to record smaller species. Species found are given an abundance rating at sites being newly surveyed for molluscs. The report also contains notes on selected species. (Phase II). [SxBRC copies held in G8 Molluscs box].

8.92-4.93 Date

Site Name Reservoir Area by Tenantshill Barn, Worthing Golf Course TQ146059

**Site Comment** This is one of the richest chalk grasslands for lichens. The surface was scraped off in 1890

during the construction of an underground reservoir and a rich community has developed. A very

small site.

**Copies Available** SxBRC Digital, WSCC, EN/LEWES/LIB

**Survey Name** Report on the Molluscs of the West Sussex Chalk Downs 1993 - (293)

**Survey Author** WILLING, Martin J

Land molluscs were surveyed at 68 chalk grassland sites in West Sussex (plus 2 further sites **Survey Comment** 

> reported to the author following completion of the main text). At each site field searches were undertaken and bulk samples of vegetation were taken to record smaller species. Species found are given an abundance rating at sites being newly surveyed for molluscs. The report also

contains notes on selected species. (Phase II). [SxBRC copies held in G8 Molluscs box].

Date 8.92-4.93

**Site Name** Lyons Farm Chalk Grassland, East of Tenants Hill

TQ156065

**Site Comment** A small West facing area of chalk grassland which has been used as a tip and is very degraded.

Only a few catholic mollusc species present.

SxBRC Digital, WSCC, EN/LEWES/LIB **Copies Available** 

Survey Name Report on the Molluscs of the West Sussex Chalk Downs 1993 - (293)

Survey Author WILLING, Martin J

Survey Comment Land molluscs were surveyed at 68 chalk grassland sites in West Sussex (plus 2 further sites

reported to the author following completion of the main text). At each site field searches were undertaken and bulk samples of vegetation were taken to record smaller species. Species found are given an abundance rating at sites being newly surveyed for molluscs. The report also contains notes on selected species. (Phase II). [SxBRC copies held in G8 Molluscs box].

**Date** 8.92-4.93

Site Name Tenants Hill Chalk Downland TQ150068

Site Comment A component of SNCI W10.

Copies Available SxBRC Digital, WSCC, EN/LEWES/LIB

Survey Name West Sussex Potential SNCI Project - (397)

Survey Author FINCH, Marion, CLARK, Louise

Survey Comment A survey of potential SNCIs to assess their significance. Incidental records of mammals, birds,

butterflies and moths, and ferns/bryophytes/lichens were included. ONLY West Sussex covered in the survey. Where relevant, info. In EN/SSSI Files. NB: some sites listed below have since

been designated, and are now named accordingly.

**Date** 1990-3.92

Site Name Lower Cokeham Ditches (pSNCI)

TQ168044

Site Comment Potential SNCI. A stretch of reed bed transected and bounded by a number of watery ditches.

Rough grazed meadows are found along the western length of the reed bed. Includes Lower

Cokeham Reedbed & Ditches - SNCI Ad07.

Copies Available WSCC, EN/SSSI/SCI

Survey Name West Sussex Potential SNCI Project - (397)

Survey Author FINCH, Marion, CLARK, Louise

**Survey Comment** A survey of potential SNCIs to assess their significance. Incidental records of mammals, birds,

butterflies and moths, and ferns/bryophytes/lichens were included. ONLY West Sussex covered in the survey. Where relevant, info. In EN/SSSI Files. NB: some sites listed below have since

been designated, and are now named accordingly.

**Date** 1990-3.92

Site Name The Mountain, Sompting (pSNCI)

TQ164063

Site Comment Potential SNCI. An area of severely storm damaged beech and sycamore woodland which has

been extensively replaced with beech, and some ash. The wood is extremely open, with some mature trees on the edges and northern part of the site, but with young sycamore and open

ground covering most of the area.

Copies Available WSCC, EN/SSSI/SCI

Survey Name

West Sussex Potential SNCI Project - (397)

FINCH, Marion, CLARK, Louise

Survey Comment

A survey of potential SNCIs to assess their significance. Incidental records of mammals, birds, butterflies and moths, and ferns/bryophytes/lichens were included. ONLY West Sussex covered in the survey. Where relevant, info. In EN/SSSI Files. NB: some sites listed below have since been designated, and are now named accordingly.

**Date** 1990-3.92

Site Name Steep Down Track, Sompting (pSNCI)

TQ167067

Site Comment Potential SNCI. The site consists of a grassy track with rank chalk grassland on either side and

on the adjoining banks, with are of scrub at the bottom. Scattered scrub occurs along the north-

eastern boundary of the track.

Copies Available WSCC, EN/SSSI/SCI

Survey Name	West Sussex Potential SNCI Project - (397)	
Survey Author	FINCH, Marion, CLARK, Louise	
Survey Comment  Date	A survey of potential SNCIs to assess their significance. Incidental record butterflies and moths, and ferns/bryophytes/lichens were included. ONL in the survey. Where relevant, info. In EN/SSSI Files. NB: some sites libeen designated, and are now named accordingly. 1990-3.92	Y West Sussex covered
Site Name	Offington Cemetery/Durrington Cemetary (pSNCI)	TQ130057
Site Comment	Potential SNCI. It is a large area of unimproved herb-rich grassland within urban Worthing District. It contains some rank grassland and disturbed ground but much unimproved calcareous grassland. Only the south-west corner of the site is SNCI W6.	
Copies Available	WSCC, EN/SSSI/SCI	

Survey Name	West Sussex Potential SNCI Project - (397)	
Survey Author	FINCH, Marion, CLARK, Louise	
Survey Comment  Date	A survey of potential SNCIs to assess their significance. Incidental records of mammals, birds, butterflies and moths, and ferns/bryophytes/lichens were included. ONLY West Sussex covered in the survey. Where relevant, info. In EN/SSSI Files. NB: some sites listed below have since been designated, and are now named accordingly. 1990-3.92	
Site Name	Shepherd's Mead Field, Field Valley (pSNCI) TQ134067	
Site Comment	Potential SNCI. This site consists of thick hedges around an arable field. The hedges are species-rich chalk scrub.	
Copies Available	WSCC, EN/SSSI/SCI	

Survey Name	West Sussex Potential SNCI Project - (397)	
Survey Author	FINCH, Marion, CLARK, Louise	
Survey Comment  Date	A survey of potential SNCIs to assess their significance. Incidental records of mammals, be butterflies and moths, and ferns/bryophytes/lichens were included. ONLY West Sussex covers in the survey. Where relevant, info. In EN/SSSI Files. NB: some sites listed below have site been designated, and are now named accordingly. 1990-3.92	vered
Site Name	Mill Plantation, Salvington (pSNCI)	138058
Site Comment	Potential SNCI. This small wood is on the south-facing slope of the South Downs on the Hi Golf Course. It is secondary woodland with old beech trees and poor ground flora. It has so	

holm oak, scots pine and sweet chestnut.

Copies Available WSCC, EN/SSSI/SCI

West Sussex Potential SNCI Project - (397)	
FINCH, Marion, CLARK, Louise	
A survey of potential SNCIs to assess their significance. Incidental records of mammals, birds, butterflies and moths, and ferns/bryophytes/lichens were included. ONLY West Sussex covere in the survey. Where relevant, info. In EN/SSSI Files. NB: some sites listed below have since been designated, and are now named accordingly. 1990-3.92	ed
London & Edinburgh Ins HQ Grounds (pSNCI) TQ1400	)53
Potential SNCI. This site is on the lower south facing slopes of Cissbury Hill. It consists of amenity grassland with some specimen trees and a wildlife garden.  WSCC_EN/SSSI/SCI	
	FINCH, Marion, CLARK, Louise  A survey of potential SNCIs to assess their significance. Incidental records of mammals, birds, butterflies and moths, and ferns/bryophytes/lichens were included. ONLY West Sussex covere in the survey. Where relevant, info. In EN/SSSI Files. NB: some sites listed below have since been designated, and are now named accordingly.  1990-3.92  London & Edinburgh Ins HQ Grounds (pSNCI)  TQ1400  Potential SNCI. This site is on the lower south facing slopes of Cissbury Hill. It consists of

Survey Name	West Sussex Potential SNCI Project - (397)	
Survey Author	FINCH, Marion, CLARK, Louise	
Survey Comment  Date	A survey of potential SNCIs to assess their significance. Incidental records of mammals, birds, butterflies and moths, and ferns/bryophytes/lichens were included. ONLY West Sussex covered in the survey. Where relevant, info. In EN/SSSI Files. NB: some sites listed below have since been designated, and are now named accordingly.  1990-3.92	
	1000 000	
Site Name	Broadwater & Worthing Cemetery (pSNCI) TQ143044	
Site Comment  Copies Available	Potential SNCI. A large cemetery within urban Worthing. It has areas of specie-rich unimproved chalk grassland, less species-rich grassland and scattered trees with patches of scrub. WSCC, EN/SSSI/SCI	

Survey Name	West Sussex Potential SNCI Project - (397)	
Survey Author	FINCH, Marion, CLARK, Louise	
Survey Comment  Date	A survey of potential SNCIs to assess their significance. Incidental records of mammals, birds, butterflies and moths, and ferns/bryophytes/lichens were included. ONLY West Sussex covered in the survey. Where relevant, info. In EN/SSSI Files. NB: some sites listed below have since been designated, and are now named accordingly.	
Site Name	1990-3.92  Broadwater Churchyard & Manor School Fields (pSNCI)  TQ147044	
Site Comment	Potential SNCI. A one acre churchyard within urban Worthing, derived from old meadowland.  The grassland is rank and there are patches of scrub and planted trees.	
Copies Available	WSCC, EN/SSSI/SCI	
Survey Name	West Sussex Potential SNCI Project - (397)	
Survey Author	FINCH, Marion, CLARK, Louise	
Survey Comment	A survey of potential SNCIs to assess their significance. Incidental records of mammals, birds, butterflies and moths, and ferns/bryophytes/lichens were included. ONLY West Sussex covered in the survey. Where relevant, info. In EN/SSSI Files. NB: some sites listed below have since been designated, and are now named accordingly.	
Date	1990-3.92	
Site Name	Chesswood Farm Allotment Gardens (pSNCI) TQ165038	
Site Comment	Potential SNCI. The northern part of the site is mainly derelict allotments with species-rich tall herbs. The southern part is mainly used allotments with tall herbs/grass on the edges and on derelict plots. Shrubs are scattered throughout. A polluted stream runs through the site.	
Copies Available	WSCC, EN/SSSI/SCI	
Survey Name	West Sussex Potential SNCI Project - (397)	
Survey Author	FINCH, Marion, CLARK, Louise	
Survey Comment  Date	A survey of potential SNCIs to assess their significance. Incidental records of mammals, birds, butterflies and moths, and ferns/bryophytes/lichens were included. ONLY West Sussex covered in the survey. Where relevant, info. In EN/SSSI Files. NB: some sites listed below have since been designated, and are now named accordingly.  1990-3.92	
Site Name	Hill Barn Golf Course Copse (pSNCI)  TQ143057	
Site Name Site Comment	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
one Comment	Potential SNCI. A small copse of secondary woodland at the south of Hillbarn Golf Course. On the site of a derelict chalk pit. It is young oak and ash woodland, with much dead wood. It is used by the public.	

WSCC, EN/SSSI/SCI

**Copies Available** 

Survey Name	Designated SNCIs (in West Sussex) - (500)	

Survey Author WSCC

**Survey Comment** All SNCIs in West Sussex are covered here. All sites have management prescriptions. Each

site was surveyed botanically, but additional information on other groups is included where known. (A hand-book 'West Sussex Sites of Nature Conservation Importance' has been

produced). (Phase II). In 1998 a further 26 new sites were added. In 2001 a further 23 new sites were added and 1 deleted. [NB: a number of additional sites are also included which are not designated, but which were presumably considered for designation at some stage, or which were

at some time designated but which have since be deselected].

**Date** 1990-

Site Name Lower Cokeham Reedbed & Ditches - SNCI Ad07

TQ167043

Site Comment An area of reed-bed and tall fen crossed and bordered by wet ditches located on the edge of a

heavily built up area.

Copies Available EN, SWT, WSCC

Survey Name	Wintering Waterfowl Count Scheme - (506)	
Survey Author	Various	
Survey Comment  Date	WWT covers inland sites and some coastal areas and sites are counted for waterfowl, rails, herons and Kingfishers every month over the winter. A summary of the results combined with BTO's Estuary counts are published in "Wildfowl and Wetland Counts" each year. Information on sites can be obtained via the above contact.	
Site Name	Brooklands Boating Lake, East Worthing	TQ173035

Site Comment A small boating lake between Lancing and Worthing.

Copies Available As contact

Survey Name	Lichens of Chalk Grassland (598)	
Survey Author	GILBERT, Oliver L.	
Survey Comment	This survey gives species lists of lichens present and a brief description of the communities on each site. It is a paper from the Lichenologist 25(4):379-414. (At EN it is kept in the Lichens box in the library). (Phase II)	
Date	1987-1992	
Site Name	Reservoir Area by Tenantshill Barn, Worthing Golf Course TQ146059	
Site Comment	This is one of the richest chalk grasslands for lichens. The surface was scraped off in 1890 during the construction of an underground reservoir and a rich community has developed. A very small site.	
Copies Available	EN	

Survey Name	Worthing Waste Transfer Station Survey - (612)	
Survey Author	MacDONALD, Mott.	
Survey Comment	A preliminary inspection of the area conducted by a walk-over survey. Basic habitat types and some plant species present listed. A summary of likely impact and mitigation measures of the proposed waste transfer station are also given.	
Date	9.93	
Site Name	Worthing Waste Transfer Station	TQ161042
Site Comment	The site traverses arable land;rough pasture;ley;reed-filled ditches; a stream;secondary vegetation;hedges and some lines of old trees including a Black Poplar.	y rank

Copies Available EN, WSCC

Survey Name	Survey of Sompting Abbot's Churchyard - (620)	
Survey Author	BISHOP, George and Betty, HAES, E. C. M.	
Survey Comment	A full species list of the plants found in the churchyard on the day of the site visit. (At EN it is kept in file 'BO5/4-3/10 - West Sussex Wildlife Recording Group'). (Phase II)	
Date	7.81	
Site Name	St Mary's Churchyard, Sompting Abbots	TQ162056
Site Comment	The grassland in this churchyard has a chalky aspect to it.	
Copies Available	EN	

Survey Name	A27 Worthing/Lancing Improvement - Environmental Statement - (740)	
Survey Author	CHRIS BLANDFORD ASSOC.	
Survey Comment	The ecological survey is an appendix to the statement. It identifies areas of semi-natural vegetation and mature conservation significance, giving botanical species lists and a very brief description of most sites. Appendices detail Cissbury Ring and Lancing Ring. (Phase II)	
Date	6.90	
Site Name	Lower Cokeham Ditches (pSNCI)	Q168044
Site Comment	Potential SNCI. A stretch of reed bed transected and bounded by a number of watery di Rough grazed meadows are found along the western length of the reed bed. Includes Lockeham Reedbed & Ditches - SNCI Ad07.	
Copies Available	SxBRC Digital	

Survey Author CHRIS BLANDFORD ASSOC.

Survey Comment The ecological survey is an appendix to the statement. It identifies areas of semi-natural

vegetation and mature conservation significance, giving botanical species lists and a very brief

description of most sites. Appendices detail Cissbury Ring and Lancing Ring. (Phase II)

**Date** 6.90

Site Name The Mountain, Sompting (pSNCI)

TQ164063

Site Comment Potential SNCI. An area of severely storm damaged beech and sycamore woodland which has

been extensively replaced with beech, and some ash. The wood is extremely open, with some mature trees on the edges and northern part of the site, but with young sycamore and open

ground covering most of the area.

Copies Available SxBRC Digital

Survey Name A27 Worthing/Lancing Improvement - Environmental Statement - (740)

Survey Author CHRIS BLANDFORD ASSOC.

Survey Comment The ecological survey is an appendix to the statement. It identifies areas of semi-natural

vegetation and mature conservation significance, giving botanical species lists and a very brief

description of most sites. Appendices detail Cissbury Ring and Lancing Ring. (Phase II)

**Date** 6.90

Site Name Steep Down Track, Sompting (pSNCI)

TQ167067

Site Comment Potential SNCI. The site consists of a grassy track with rank chalk grassland on either side and

on the adjoining banks, with are of scrub at the bottom. Scattered scrub occurs along the north-

eastern boundary of the track.

Copies Available SxBRC Digital

**Survey Name** A27 Worthing/Lancing Improvement - Environmental Statement - (740)

Survey Author CHRIS BLANDFORD ASSOC.

**Survey Comment** The ecological survey is an appendix to the statement. It identifies areas of semi-natural

vegetation and mature conservation significance, giving botanical species lists and a very brief

description of most sites. Appendices detail Cissbury Ring and Lancing Ring. (Phase II)

**Date** 6.90

Site Name Offington Cemetery/Durrington Cemetary (pSNCI)

TQ130057

Site Comment Potential SNCI. It is a large area of unimproved herb-rich grassland within urban Worthing

District. It contains some rank grassland and disturbed ground but much unimproved calcareous

grassland. Only the south-west corner of the site is SNCI W6.

Survey Name	A27 Worthing/Lancing Improvement - Environmental Statement - (740)
Survey Author	CHRIS BLANDFORD ASSOC.
Survey Comment	The ecological survey is an appendix to the statement. It identifies areas of semi-natural vegetation and mature conservation significance, giving botanical species lists and a very brief description of most sites. Appendices detail Cissbury Ring and Lancing Ring. (Phase II)
Date	6.90
Site Name	Mill Plantation, Salvington (pSNCI) TQ138058
Site Comment	Potential SNCI. This small wood is on the south-facing slope of the South Downs on the Hill Barn Golf Course. It is secondary woodland with old beech trees and poor ground flora. It has some holm oak, scots pine and sweet chestnut.
Copies Available	SxBRC Digital

Survey Name	A27 Worthing/Lancing Improvement - Environmental Statement - (740)	
Survey Author	CHRIS BLANDFORD ASSOC.	
Survey Comment	The ecological survey is an appendix to the statement. It identifies areas of semi-natural vegetation and mature conservation significance, giving botanical species lists and a very brief description of most sites. Appendices detail Cissbury Ring and Lancing Ring. (Phase II)	
Date	6.90	
Site Name	Hill Barn Golf Course Copse (pSNCI)  TQ143	3057
Site Comment	Potential SNCI. A small copse of secondary woodland at the south of Hillbarn Golf Course. O the site of a derelict chalk pit. It is young oak and ash woodland, with much dead wood. It is u by the public.	
Copies Available	SxBRC Digital	

Survey Name	A27 Worthing/Lancing Improvement - Environmental Statement - (740)	
Survey Author	CHRIS BLANDFORD ASSOC.	
Survey Comment  Date	The ecological survey is an appendix to the statement. It identifies areas of semi-natural vegetation and mature conservation significance, giving botanical species lists and a very brief description of most sites. Appendices detail Cissbury Ring and Lancing Ring. (Phase II) 6.90	
Site Name	Reservoir Area by Tenantshill Barn, Worthing Golf Course TQ146059	
Site Comment	This is one of the richest chalk grasslands for lichens. The surface was scraped off in 1890 during the construction of an underground reservoir and a rich community has developed. A very small site.	
Copies Available	SxBRC Digital	

Survey Author CHRIS BLANDFORD ASSOC.

Survey Comment The ecological survey is an appendix to the statement. It identifies areas of semi-natural

vegetation and mature conservation significance, giving botanical species lists and a very brief

description of most sites. Appendices detail Cissbury Ring and Lancing Ring. (Phase II)

**Date** 6.90

Site Name Grassland S of Sheepcombe Hanger - A27 Improvement Area G12

TQ136068

Site Comment An area of improved grassland on clay. It is fairly species rich.

Copies Available SxBRC Digital

Survey Name A27 Worthing/Lancing Improvement - Environmental Statement - (740)

Survey Author CHRIS BLANDFORD ASSOC.

**Survey Comment** The ecological survey is an appendix to the statement. It identifies areas of semi-natural

vegetation and mature conservation significance, giving botanical species lists and a very brief

description of most sites. Appendices detail Cissbury Ring and Lancing Ring. (Phase II)

**Date** 6.90

Site Name Wood E of Worthing Golf Club House - A27 Improvement Area W13

TQ139060

**Site Comment** A small wood of young Oak and Ash.

Copies Available SxBRC Digital

Survey Name A27 Worthing/Lancing Improvement - Environmental Statement - (740)

Survey Author CHRIS BLANDFORD ASSOC.

Survey Comment The ecological survey is an appendix to the statement. It identifies areas of semi-natural

vegetation and mature conservation significance, giving botanical species lists and a very brief

description of most sites. Appendices detail Cissbury Ring and Lancing Ring. (Phase II)

**Date** 6.90

Site Name Worthing Golf Course (NE Area)

TQ145065

Site Comment An area of mixed grassland types; some short shorn amenity; other areas of longer rough and

scattered trees.

Survey Author CHRIS BLANDFORD ASSOC.

Survey Comment The ecological survey is an appendix to the statement. It identifies areas of semi-natural

vegetation and mature conservation significance, giving botanical species lists and a very brief

description of most sites. Appendices detail Cissbury Ring and Lancing Ring. (Phase II)

**Date** 6.90

Site Name Tenants Hill North Covered Reservoir

TQ149061

**Site Comment** A covered reservoir supporting a fairly species poor chalk flora.

Copies Available SxBRC Digital

Survey Name A27 Worthing/Lancing Improvement - Environmental Statement - (740)

Survey Author CHRIS BLANDFORD ASSOC.

**Survey Comment** The ecological survey is an appendix to the statement. It identifies areas of semi-natural

vegetation and mature conservation significance, giving botanical species lists and a very brief

description of most sites. Appendices detail Cissbury Ring and Lancing Ring. (Phase II)

**Date** 6.90

Site Name Tenants Hill W Slope Scrub - A27 Improvement Area S5

TQ149065

**Site Comment** An area of scrub on a steep west-facing slope.

Copies Available SxBRC Digital

Survey Name A27 Worthing/Lancing Improvement - Environmental Statement - (740)

Survey Author CHRIS BLANDFORD ASSOC.

Survey Comment The ecological survey is an appendix to the statement. It identifies areas of semi-natural

vegetation and mature conservation significance, giving botanical species lists and a very brief

description of most sites. Appendices detail Cissbury Ring and Lancing Ring. (Phase II)

**Date** 6.90

Site Name Lychpole Hill Chalk Grassland - A27 Improvement Area G18

TQ159067

**Site Comment** A small area of chalk grassland on a slope. It is fairly species rich.

Survey Author CHRIS BLANDFORD ASSOC.

Survey Comment The ecological survey is an appendix to the statement. It identifies areas of semi-natural

vegetation and mature conservation significance, giving botanical species lists and a very brief

description of most sites. Appendices detail Cissbury Ring and Lancing Ring. (Phase II)

**Date** 6.90

Site Name The Nore Chalk Grassland, Sompting

TQ160063

**Site Comment** An area of species rich chalk grassland on a north facing slope.

Copies Available SxBRC Digital

Survey Name A27 Worthing/Lancing Improvement - Environmental Statement - (740)

Survey Author CHRIS BLANDFORD ASSOC.

**Survey Comment** The ecological survey is an appendix to the statement. It identifies areas of semi-natural

vegetation and mature conservation significance, giving botanical species lists and a very brief

description of most sites. Appendices detail Cissbury Ring and Lancing Ring. (Phase II)

**Date** 6.90

Site Name Woodland/Parkland by Church Lane, Sompting Abbotts

TQ163058

Site Comment A small area of woodland/parkland adjacent to a school. It is not of significant nature

conservation interest.

Copies Available SxBRC Digital

Survey Name A27 Worthing/Lancing Improvement - Environmental Statement - (740)

Survey Author CHRIS BLANDFORD ASSOC.

**Survey Comment** The ecological survey is an appendix to the statement. It identifies areas of semi-natural

vegetation and mature conservation significance, giving botanical species lists and a very brief

description of most sites. Appendices detail Cissbury Ring and Lancing Ring. (Phase II)

**Date** 6.90

Site Name Titch Hill Grassland - A27 Improvement Area G21

TQ165059

**Site Comment** A small patch of unimproved grassland in an otherwise improved area.

Survey Author CHRIS BLANDFORD ASSOC.

Survey Comment The ecological survey is an appendix to the statement. It identifies areas of semi-natural

vegetation and mature conservation significance, giving botanical species lists and a very brief

description of most sites. Appendices detail Cissbury Ring and Lancing Ring. (Phase II)

**Date** 6.90

Site Name Grassland W of Coombe Barn - A27 Improvement Area G19

TQ167065

**Site Comment** An area of disturbed chalk grassland.

Copies Available SxBRC Digital

Survey Name A27 Worthing/Lancing Improvement - Environmental Statement - (740)

Survey Author CHRIS BLANDFORD ASSOC.

Survey Comment The ecological survey is an appendix to the statement. It identifies areas of semi-natural

vegetation and mature conservation significance, giving botanical species lists and a very brief

description of most sites. Appendices detail Cissbury Ring and Lancing Ring. (Phase II)

**Date** 6.90

Site Name Dankton Lane Woodland Fragment

TQ168058

Site Comment A small Sycamore dominated woodland fragment to the west of Dinkton Lane.

Copies Available SxBRC Digital

Survey Name A27 Worthing/Lancing Improvement - Environmental Statement - (740)

Survey Author CHRIS BLANDFORD ASSOC.

Survey Comment The ecological survey is an appendix to the statement. It identifies areas of semi-natural

vegetation and mature conservation significance, giving botanical species lists and a very brief

description of most sites. Appendices detail Cissbury Ring and Lancing Ring. (Phase II)

**Date** 6.90

Site Name Lancing Ring (Scrub West of)

TQ178065

Site Comment An area of scrub which opens out into chalk grassland in the centre. There are some areas of

rank grassland. Parts of site fall within SNCI Ar02 and LNR.

Survey Name Sussex Churchyard Survey - (916)

Survey Author DONOVAN, Pat

Survey Comment Botanical survey of most of the churchyards in Sussex. The majority will have just a species list,

but the ones with ecological significance have more detail. (Phase II). NB: Results held at SxBRC for some of sites covered (with details for each site filed according to grid squares), including ESD site nos. 841[TQ33], 1370 [TQ32], 4470 [TQ32], 4341 [SU90]., 4382 [TQ01].

[SxBRC also holds documents in BRC box H2b].

**Date** 1980-

Site Name Broadwater & Worthing Cemetery (pSNCI)

TQ143044

Site Comment Potential SNCI. A large cemetery within urban Worthing. It has areas of specie-rich unimproved

chalk grassland, less species-rich grassland and scattered trees with patches of scrub.

Copies Available As contact, SxBRC File Cabs, SxBRC Boxes

Survey Name Sussex Churchyard Survey - (916)

Survey Author DONOVAN, Pat

Survey Comment Botanical survey of most of the churchyards in Sussex. The majority will have just a species list,

but the ones with ecological significance have more detail. (Phase II). NB: Results held at SxBRC for some of sites covered (with details for each site filed according to grid squares), including ESD site nos. 841[TQ33], 1370 [TQ32], 4470 [TQ32], 4341 [SU90], 4382 [TQ01].

[SxBRC also holds documents in BRC box H2b].

Date 1980-

Site Name St Mary's Churchyard, Sompting Abbots

TQ162056

**Site Comment** The grassland in this churchyard has a chalky aspect to it.

Copies Available As contact, SxBRC File Cabs, SxBRC Boxes

Survey Name Sussex Churchyard Survey - (916)

Survey Author DONOVAN, Pat

Survey Comment Botanical survey of most of the churchyards in Sussex. The majority will have just a species list,

but the ones with ecological significance have more detail. (Phase II). NB: Results held at SxBRC for some of sites covered (with details for each site filed according to grid squares), including ESD site nos. 841[TQ33], 1370 [TQ32], 4470 [TQ32], 4341 [SU90]., 4382 [TQ01].

[SxBRC also holds documents in BRC box H2b].

**Date** 1980-

Site Name Offington Cemetery/Durrington Cemetery (Part of)

TQ130058

**Site Comment** SW part of site is SNCI W06.

Copies Available As contact, SxBRC File Cabs, SxBRC Boxes

Survey Name Sussex Churchyard Survey - (916)

Survey Author DONOVAN, Pat

**Survey Comment** Botanical survey of most of the churchyards in Sussex. The majority will have just a species list,

but the ones with ecological significance have more detail. (Phase II). NB: Results held at SxBRC for some of sites covered (with details for each site filed according to grid squares), including ESD site nos. 841[TQ33], 1370 [TQ32], 4470 [TQ32], 4341 [SU90], 4382 [TQ01].

[SxBRC also holds documents in BRC box H2b].

**Date** 1980-

Site Name All Saints' Churchyard, Findon Valley TQ130068

**Site Comment** 

Copies Available As contact, SxBRC File Cabs, SxBRC Boxes

Survey Name Sussex Churchyard Survey - (916)

Survey Author DONOVAN, Pat

Survey Comment Botanical survey of most of the churchyards in Sussex. The majority will have just a species list,

but the ones with ecological significance have more detail. (Phase II). NB: Results held at SxBRC for some of sites covered (with details for each site filed according to grid squares), including ESD site nos. 841[TQ33], 1370 [TQ32], 4470 [TQ32], 4341 [SU90]., 4382 [TQ01].

[SxBRC also holds documents in BRC box H2b].

**Date** 1980-

Site Name St Andrew's Churchyard, Tarring TQ131041

**Site Comment** 

Copies Available As contact, SxBRC File Cabs, SxBRC Boxes

Survey Name Sussex Churchyard Survey - (916)

Survey Author DONOVAN, Pat

Survey Comment Botanical survey of most of the churchyards in Sussex. The majority will have just a species list,

but the ones with ecological significance have more detail. (Phase II). NB: Results held at SxBRC for some of sites covered (with details for each site filed according to grid squares), including ESD site nos. 841[TQ33], 1370 [TQ32], 4470 [TQ32], 4341 [SU90]., 4382 [TQ01].

[SxBRC also holds documents in BRC box H2b].

**Date** 1980-

Site Name St Andrew's Churchyard, Victoria Rd, Worthing TQ144031

**Site Comment** 

Copies Available As contact, SxBRC File Cabs, SxBRC Boxes

Survey Name	Survey of Halewick Farm - (1001)	
Survey Author	CLARK, Louise, FINCH, Marion	
Survey Comment	A brief survey of the botany of the site, (Phase II) in response to correspondences betwee Shipson & SWT. [SxBRC copy filed under TQ10].	een Mrs
Date	5.91	
Site Name	Halewick Farm Fields & Grasslands	ΓQ172057
Site Comment	The site consists of two large overgrazed pastures and a small scrubby area to the north Worthing.	h of
Copies Available	SxBRC File Cabs	

Survey Name	Sompting Meadows Management Plan - (1082)	
Survey Author	SUSSEX WILDLIFE TRUST	
Survey Comment	A management plan with a botanical survey by Dolphin Ecological Surveys attached as an appendix. Also held in EN TQ01 File.	
Date	4.96 - 5.96	
Site Name	Sompting Meadows TQ15805	
Site Comment		
Copies Available	WSCC	

Survey Name	Land at Warren Road/Links Road, Worthing - Ecological Report - (1463)	
Survey Author	NEWCOMBE, Martin	
Survey Comment	Site survey in connection with planning application.	
Date	7.6.00	
Site Name	Land at Warren Road/Links Road, Worthing	TQ135056
Site Comment	Broadly level site - sandy, clay soil with scattered flints - bounded by existing developments. Site includes gardens of 'The Links House' and 'Rawdon House' and parts of rear gardens of 124-134 Warren Rd (although no access to 132 & 128: surveyed by sight from neighbouring gardens!). Site is of 'some ecological interest but does not appear to be in any way outstanding'.	
Copies Available	SxBRC Digital	

Survey Name	Ecological Appraisal of Proposed Car Park Site, Lyons Farm, Worthing - (1472)				
Survey Author	WANSBURY, Claire, BURTON, Emma				
Survey Comment	Survey to assess ecological value of site of proposed car park at Lyons Farm. Supplementary survey 01/08/00				
Date	25.1.00, 01.08.00				
Site Name	Proposed Car Park Site, Lyons Farm, Worthing TQ15205				
Site Comment	Site is part of arable field - deemed to be of 'negligible value to wildlife' - 'no features of ecological importance'.				
Copies Available	SxBRC Digital				

## Glossary of Abbreviations

#### Organisations:

**BBCS British Butterfly Conservation Society** www.sussex-butterflies.org.uk

(now Butterfly Conservation)

Booth Museum of Natural History **BMONH** Tel: 03000 290900 BSBI Botanical Society of the British Isles www.bsbi.ora.uk **BTO** British Trust for Ornithology Tel: 01842 750050

EΑ **Environment Agency** Tel: 08708 506506 (Southern Regional Office)

English Nature (now Natural England) Tel: 03000 600 300 (Sussex Team) ΕN East Sussex County Council Tel: 01273 481621 (County Ecologist) **ESCC** Forestry Commission Tel: 01420 23337 (SE England) FC

**FWAG** Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group Tel: 01273 891190 (Sussex Area)

Contact NE NCC Nature Conservancy Council (now NE)

Tel: 03000 600 300 (Sussex Team) NE Natural England National Rivers Authority (now EA) NRA Contact EA

NT

National Trust Tel: 01372 453401 (South East Office) RSPB Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Tel: 01273 775333 (SE Regional Office)

SBRS Sussex Botanical Recording Society www.sussexflora.org.uk SOS Sussex Ornithological Society www.sos.org.uk **SxBRC** Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre Tel: 01273 497521

SxWT/SWT Sussex Wildlife Trust Tel: 01273 492630

WSCC West Sussex County Council Tel: 01243 756691 (County Ecologist)

#### **Designations**

AONB Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty COGS County Geological/Geomorphological Site

LNR Local Nature Reserve **NNR** National Nature Reserve

National Park NP

RAMSAR (internationally important wetlands) RAMSAR

Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Site RIGS

Special Area of Conservation SAC

Site of Nature Conservation Importance SNCI

SPA Special Protection Area

SSSI Site of Special Scientific Interest

## Surveys:

Phase I A broad habitat survey with a dominant species list and land use information. Phase II Mapping of vegetation communities with species lists and abundance/distribution. Phase III A detailed survey including ecological processes and long term monitoring information.

**NVC** National Vegetation Classification.

Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCIs) are non-statutory designations which are identified at a county level. They typically form a network of sites that are recognised to be of local conservation importance and are often included in Local Authority development plans. In other areas of the country they are sometimes called SINCs (Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation) or County Wildlife sites.

There are many sites within East and West Sussex and Brighton and Hove that are not recognised under the national designation of SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) but are of considerable wildlife value due to the special interest of their flora or fauna. In May 1990 a Sussex-wide project was instigated to identify which non-designated sites were important for wildlife. The selected sites are now known as SNCIs. The aim of this identification was to protect such sites from land management changes, which may lessen their nature conservation interest, and to encourage sensitive management to maintain and enhance their importance.

Sites within both rural and urban areas were considered but the evaluation process considers two types of site under slightly different criteria:

- **Rural sites**, that may contain habitats such as heathland or ancient woodland, must be of county-wide importance.
- **Urban sites** must recognise the importance to safeguard important urban wildlife sites, to link all significant greenspaces and to ensure that people in towns have easy access to wildlife areas.

The selection of SNCIs was made, after extensive survey work, by a panel of expert ecologists. This panel included representatives from the relevant County Council, English Nature (now Natural England) and the Sussex Wildlife Trust. A range of specialists with either specific species knowledge or a sound knowledge of the county's ecology were also involved with the selection process. Assessment and identification of SNCIs is a continuing process with new sites being identified and others deleted as ecological knowledge of the total resource and specific sites increase.

In West Sussex SNCI selection is steered by the County Council, whereas in East Sussex it is steered by the District Councils. Currently there are over 600 SNCIs in Sussex.

Although SNCIs have no statutory protection they need to be considered in the planning process through Planning Policy Guidance such as PPG9 which refers to the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 Section 30. This states that nature conservation issues should be included in the surveys of local authority areas to ensure that the plans are based on fully adequate information about local species, habitats, geology and landform. Plans should be concerned not only with designated areas but also with other land of conservation value and the possible provision of new habitats.

SNCI site accounts outline the characteristics of the area based on its semi-natural vegetation and the underlying geology and are in three main sections:-

- Summary which highlights the nature conservation importance of the site
- Site description or site notes which gives further descriptive details about the site and its associated species
- **Management recommendations** which give a brief indication of the type of management that would best maintain the nature conservation interest of the site.

It is important to realise that classification as an SNCI in no way reduces the value of other wildlife sites. Sites of SNCI quality may not have been surveyed for various reasons. All areas of semi-natural vegetation are important to wildlife. Many rare plants and animals occur in seemingly otherwise uninteresting sites and may be overlooked by the survey.

#### West Sussex

Site Name: Lower Cokeham Reedbed and Ditches

Site Ref: Ad07 Owner: Private

District: Adur Size (ha): 6.2

Parish: Sompting Date: Identified May 1992

National Grid Ref: TQ167043 Author: Marion Finch

**Habitat:** Reedbed and ditches

#### **Summary**

The site consists of an area of reedbed and tall fen, which is crossed and bordered by wet ditches. It is of considerable importance for wildlife as it is an area of semi-natural habitat, which is especially valuable for birds, located on the edge of a heavily built-up area.

#### Site description

The reedbed is dominated by Common Reed *Phragmites australis* and Hairy Willowherb *Epilobium hirsutum*, with patches of Meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria* and Reed Canary-grass *Phalaris arundinacea*. Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Creeping Thistle *Cirsium arvense* and Bittersweet *Solanum dulcamara* occur in drier areas. Hawthorn, Elder and Crack Willow scrub is scattered, or lines the ditches, and there is a wooded strip along the eastern boundary.

The ditches mostly contain water. Tall species, such as Reed Canary-grass and Hairy Willowherb are locally dominant, but other herbs, such as Water-cress Nasturtium officinale, Brooklime Veronica beccabunga, Gipsywort Lycopus europaeus, Water Mint Mentha aquatica, Fool's Water-cress Apium nodiflorum, Water Forget-me-not Myosotis scorpioides and Celery-leaved Buttercup Ranunculus sceleratus occur in more open areas. Branched Burreed Sparganium erectum, Floating Sweet-grass Glyceria fluitans and Marsh Foxtail Alopecurus geniculatus also occur.

Areas of tall fen vegetation and reedbeds are valuable as roosting and nesting sites for a variety of birds, such as Warblers and Starlings.

The urban setting of the site increases its importance for wildlife.

#### **Management recommendations**

The reedbed appears to be drying out. Ideally, management should aim to raise the water table to prevent this. Cutting vegetation on a rotational basis would help to encourage vigorous new growth of reeds, and provide more structural diversity.

#### **West Sussex**

Site Name: Worthing & Hill Barn Golf Courses

Site Ref: W07 Owner: Private

District: Worthing Size (ha): 205.2

Parish: N/A Date: Identified May 1992. Revised Dec 2003.

National Grid Ref: TQ140164 Author: Kate Ryland

Habitat: Chalk grassland, scrub and woodland

#### Summary

Worthing and Hill Barn golf courses encompass significant areas of unimproved chalk grassland, neutral grassland, mixed chalk scrub and woodland. Many of the fairways and areas of rough are of botanical interest with chalk flora including Round-headed Rampion *Phyteuma orbiculare* and Juniper *Juniperus communis*. Invertebrates and birds of interest recorded on Worthing golf course including the Dark Green Fritillary, Green Hairstreak, Chalkhill Blue, Grey Partridge, Skylark, Stonechat and Corn Bunting.

#### Site description

Hill Barn golf course is a fairly small site, contiguous with the much larger Worthing golf course. It has woodland and scrub boundaries to the east and west comprising rich secondary woodland and scrub with a variety of trees and shrubs. These include Ash, Holm Oak, Hawthorn, Beech, Wild Privet, Elm, Holly, Wayfaring Tree and a locally rich ground flora that includes Spurge-laurel *Daphne laureola*, Ivy *Hedera helix*, Traveller's Joy *Clematis vitalba*, Sweet Violet *Viola odorata* and Stinking Iris *Iris foetidissima*.

Unmown "wildflower" areas support a good range of plant species including Wild Carrot *Daucus carota*, Greater Knapweed *Centaurea scabiosa*, Harebell *Campanula rotundifolia*, Kidney Vetch *Anthyllis vulneraria*, Field Scabious *Knautia arvensis*, Sainfoin *Onobrychis viciifolia* and Yellow Rattle *Rhinanthus minor*. The southern part of this course has distinctly neutral grassland, parts of which have been improved, though common herbs such as Common Bird'sfoot-trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*, Common Sorrel *Rumex acetosa*, Yarrow *Achillea millefolium* and Red Clover *Trifolium pratense* occur in places.

An unusually high proportion of Worthing golf course is not part of the playing area and is of potentially greater wildlife value. An area of scrub on the eastern side of the course supports a small number of Juniper bushes. Measures are underway to conserve and propagate this species under the guidance of Plantlife. It also occurs in Beech woodland in the north of the course.

Mount Carvey is an extremely valuable area of east facing unimproved chalk grassland that is managed by light sheep grazing. The turf is typically species rich and contains a good range of calcicoles including Harebell, Greater Knapweed, Squinancywort Asperula cynanchica, Pyramidal Orchid Anacamptis pyramidalis, Eyebright Euphrasia agg., Field Scabious, Cowslip Primula veris, Small Scabious Scabiosa columbaria, Wild Thyme Thymus polytrichus and Round-headed Rampion.

Cissbury plantation contains numerous old Beech trees and a dense, regenerating shrub layer with herb rich, rabbit grazed glades. This woodland is valuable for invertebrates, including Silver-washed Fritillary, and birds such as woodpeckers.

### **Management recommendations**

Both golf courses are already under sympathetic management for wildlife. Worthing golf course staff are endeavouring to minimise the use of greenkeeping chemicals and maximise water conservation.

#### **West Sussex**

Site Name: Tenants Hill & Reservoirs

Site Ref: W10 Owner: Worthing Borough Council

**District:** Worthing Size (ha): 16.8

Parish: N/A Date: Identified May 1992. Revised Dec 2003

National Grid Ref: TQ150070 & TQ148063 Author: Graham Roberts

**Habitat:** Chalk grassland, scrub and dewpond

#### Summary

Tenants Hill has a steep east-facing slope of species-rich unimproved chalk grassland. The two covered reservoirs have developed surprisingly rich chalk grassland floras. Small areas of species-rich grassland occur adjacent to both reservoirs. The flora immediately east of the southern reservoir is of exceptional interest. There are small herb-rich glades within the belt of scrub linking the two reservoirs.

#### Site description

The herb-rich flora of Tenants Hill includes Horseshoe Vetch *Hippocrepis comosa*, Round-headed Rampion *Phyteuma tenerum*, Yellow-wort *Blackstonia perfoliata*, Kidney Vetch *Anthyllis vulneraria*, Sweet Violet *Viola odorata*, Bladder Campion *Silene vulgaris*, Greater Knapweed *Centaurea scabiosa*, Common Milkwort *Polygala vulgaris*, Yellow Rattle *Rhinanthus minor*, Autumn Gentian *Gentianella amarella* and Carline Thistle *Carlina vulgaris*. Upright Brome *Bromus erectus* and Sheep's-fescue *Festuca ovina* are the dominant grasses, with frequent Quaking Grass *Briza media*. The lower part of the slope has dense Hawthorn scrub, where Whitethroat, Lesser Whitethroat, Willow Warbler and Yellowhammer may all breed. There is a dewpond, which has recently been restored.

The flora of both reservoirs includes Salad Burnet Sanguisorba minor, Wild Carrot Daucus carota, Oxeye Daisy Leucanthemum vulgare, Wild Mignonette Reseda lutea, Greater Knapweed and Quaking Grass. The southern reservoir has a particularly interest flora, including notable plants such as Autumn Lady's-tresses Spiranthes spiralis, Pyramidal Orchid Anacamptis pyramidalis, Squinancywort Asperula cynanchica, Dwarf Thistle Cirsium acaule, Marjoram Origanum vulgare, Kidney Vetch and Common Milkwort.

Noteworthy plants found in the species-rich grassland just east of the southern reservoir include Common Restharrow *Ononis repens*, Horseshoe Vetch, Pyramidal Orchid, Bladder Campion, Common Broomrape *Orobanche minor*, Slender Sandwort *Arenaria leptoclados* and Crested Hair-grass *Koeleria micrantha*.

#### Management recommendations

As with most chalk grasslands, scrub invasion needs to be monitored and if necessary controlled in order to maintain open, herb-rich swards.

# SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST (SSSI)

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) are areas notified under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as being of special interest for nature conservation. They represent the finest sites for wildlife and natural features supporting many characteristic, rare and endangered species, habitats and natural features. Notification as a SSSI is primarily a legal mechanism organised by Natural England and selected according to specific scientific criteria. *The Guidelines for the Selection of Biological SSSIs*, published in 1989 by the Joint Nature Conservation Council, set down the selection criteria for both biological and geological SSSIs.

**Biological SSSIs** form a national network of wildlife sites. Sites are selected in such a way that the protection of each site, and hence the network, aims to conserve the minimum area of wildlife habitat necessary to maintain the natural diversity and distribution of Britain's native flora and fauna and the communities they comprise. Each site, therefore, is of national significance for its nature conservation value.

**Geological SSSIs** are sites chosen for their research value, the criterion being that they are of national or international importance. Geological conservation is concerned with the maintenance of our geological and geomorphological heritage.

There are over 4,000 SSSIs in England of which just under 150 are in Sussex. Natural England is responsible for identifying and protecting these sites. This is achieved, primarily, in partnership with SSSI owners and managers, and as a result the majority are in good condition and well managed.

Ever growing pressures on our landscape and countryside mean that SSSIs are an increasingly precious part of our natural heritage. Damaging SSSIs is unacceptable, either in the short or long term, and must be avoided if they are to remain the finest wildlife and natural heritage sites in England. Once lost, the special interest of a site may be difficult or impossible to restore or recreate. Owners and occupiers (i.e. landowners, tenants and commoners) of SSSIs must give Natural England written notice before initiating any operations likely to damage the site, or allowing someone else to carry out these activities. None of the operations listed in the notification documents may proceed without Natural England's consent.

Under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CROW) anyone who intentionally or recklessly destroys or damages any of the flora, fauna or geological or physiological features of an SSSI is guilty of an offence. They are liable, on summary conviction, of a fine of up to £20,000.

For more information on SSSIs visit the Natural England website.

## SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST (SSSI)

Site Name: Cissbury Ring
County: West Sussex

**District:** Adur, Arun, Worthing

Local Planning Authority: Adur District Council, Arun District Council, Worthing Borough Council

**Size:** 81.9 hectares (202.4 acres)

National Grid Ref: TQ140080

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1980 Date of last revision: 
Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1986 Date of last revision: -

Other Information: This site lies within the South Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

Part of the site is owned and managed by the National Trust.

Cissbury Ring is of archaeological importance. There are several boundary amendments to the site.

#### Reason for Notification

Cissbury Ring is an ancient hill fort site situated on chalk. The main biological interest of the site centres on the areas of unimproved chalk grassland, a habitat type which has become rare nationally through being under constant threat from agricultural improvement. The scrub areas provide important habitats for wintering, breeding and migrant birds and also support a varied butterfly fauna.

Unimproved chalk grassland occupies the steep slopes which encircle the central plateau, the area round the old flint mines and the southern-most field. Upright brome *Bromus erectus* forms a compact turf in which kidney vetch *Anthyllis vulneraria*, horse-shoe vetch *Hippocrepis comosa* and yarrow *Achillea millefolium* are abundant; other components in the sward include harebell *Campanula rotundifolia*, marjoram *Origanum vulgare*, field fleawort *Senecio integrifolius*, wild basil *Clinopodium vulgare*, heath bedstraw *Galium saxatile* and the frog orchid *Coeloglossum viride*.

The belt of scrub along the north-east facing scarp slope consists of a diversity of shrub species including hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, privet *Ligustrum vulgare*, dogwood *Cornus sanguinea* and spindle *Euonymus europaeus*. Elsewhere, scrub invasion is more scattered particularly in the area occupied by the old flint mines. There are several juniper bushes *Juniperus communis* to the north of the Ring.

The main plain of the Cissbury Ring is situated on clay soils overlying the chalk. Here neutral grassland is dominated by Yorkshire fog *Holcus lanatus*, sheep's fescue *Festuca ovina* and creeping bent *Agrostis stolonifera* grasses with wood sage *Teucrium scorodonia* and bramble *Rubus fruticosus*.

Among the butterflies occurring here are the adonis blue *Lysandra bellargus*, the chalkhill blue *L. coridon* and the brown argus *Aricia agestis*.

The scrub along the escarpment supports a diverse breeding bird community notably of warblers and finches. The autumn passage is particularly important when the scrub is used by redstarts, whinchats, stonechats, tree pipits and warblers. Over-wintering numbers of thrushes and finches are significant and a range of birds of prey is regularly recorded.

#### SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST (SSSI)

## Operations likely to damage the special interest

## Site name: Cissbury Ring (OLD1004162)

#### Ref. No. Type of operation

- 1. Cultivation, including ploughing, rotovating, harrowing, and re-seeding.
- **2.** Grazing and changes in the grazing regime (including type of stock or intensity or seasonal pattern of grazing and cessation of grazing).
- **3.** Stock feeding and changes in stock feeding practice.
- **4.** Mowing or other methods of cutting vegetation and changes in the mowing or cutting regime (including hay making to silage and cessation).
- **5.** Application of manure, fertilisers and lime.
- **6.** Application of pesticides, including herbicides (weedkillers).
- 7. Dumping, spreading or discharge of any materials.
- 8. Burning.
- **9.** The release into the site of any wild, feral or domestic animal\*, plant or seed.
- **10.** The killing or removal of any wild animal\*, including pest control.
- 11. The destruction, displacement, removal or cutting of any plant or plant remains, including tree, shrub, herb, hedge, dead or decaying wood, moss, lichen, fungus, leaf-mould, turf.
- 12. Tree and/or woodland management+ and changes in tree and/or woodland management+.
- **13a.** Drainage (including the use of mole, tile, tunnel or other artificial drains).
- 14. The changing of water levels and tables and water utilisation (including irrigation, storage and abstraction from existing water bodies and through boreholes).
- 20. Extraction of minerals, including shingle, sand and gravel, topsoil, subsoil, shells and spoil.
- 21. Construction, removal or destruction of roads, tracks, walls, fences, hardstands, banks, ditches or other earthworks, or the laying, maintenance or removal of pipelines and cables, above or below ground.
- **22.** Storage of materials.
- 23. Erection of permanent or temporary structures, or the undertaking of engineering works, including drilling.
- 24. Modification of natural or man-made features, clearance of loose rock, scree or spoil and battering, buttressing, grading or seeding rock-faces, outcrops or cuttings, infilling of pits and guarries.
- **25.** Removal of geological specimens, including rock samples, minerals and fossils.
- **26.** Use of vehicles or craft likely to damage or disturb features of interest.
- 27. Recreational or other activities likely to damage or disturb features of interest.
- 28. Game and waterfowl management and hunting practice.
- \* 'Animal' includes any mammal, reptile, amphibian, bird, fish or invertebrate.
- + Including afforestation, planting, clear and selective felling, thinning, coppicing, modification of the stand or underwood, changes in species composition, cessation of management.

## KEY NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SITE DESIGNATIONS

#### **National Nature Reserve (NNR)**

National Nature Reserves are statutory reserves established under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. NNRs may be owned by the relevant national body (e.g. Natural England in England) or established by agreement. A few are owned and managed by non-statutory bodies, for example the Sussex Wildlife Trust. NNRs cover a selection of the most important sites for nature conservation in the UK. There are six NNRs in Sussex.

#### Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

Special Areas of Conservation are sites designated by Member States under the EC Habitats Directive. The aim is to establish a European network of important high quality conservation sites that will make a significant contribution to conserving habitats and species considered to be most in need of conservation at a European level. There are 12 SAC sites in Sussex.

## **Special Protection Area (SPA)**

Special Protection Areas are designated under the EC Birds Directive, to conserve the habitat of certain rare or vulnerable birds and regularly occurring migratory birds. Any significant pollution or disturbance to or deterioration of these sites has to be avoided. All SPAs are also designated as SSSIs. There are six SPA sites in Sussex.

#### Ramsar

Ramsar sites are designated under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance. Under the Convention, each government must select its best wetlands according to very clear criteria, which include: a wetland that regularly supports 20,000 or more waterbirds; a wetland that regularly supports 1% of the individuals in a population of one species or subspecies of waterbird. Wetlands are broadly defined to include marsh, fen, peatland and water. All designated Ramsar sites are also designated as SSSIs. There are four Ramsar sites in Sussex.

#### **National Park**

National Parks are beautiful, spectacular and often dramatic expanses of countryside. In the UK people live and work in the National Parks and the farms, villages and towns are protected along with the landscape and wildlife. They differ from Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) in that each National Park has its own authority for planning control and other services.

The creation of the South Downs National Park (SDNP) was confirmed on 12th November 2009 and came into being on 1st April 2010.

Further information can be found on the SDNP Authority website.

## **Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)**

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty are areas of high scenic quality that have statutory protection in order to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of their landscapes. They differ from National Parks in their more limited opportunities for extensive outdoor recreation and by the way they are managed. AONBs are designated by Natural England under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

There are two AONBs in Sussex covering approx. 114,000 hectares; Chichester Harbour and High Weald. Each has an associated body concerned with the area's conservation:

Chichester Harbour Conservancy www.conservancy.co.uk

High Weald AONB Unit www.highweald.org

#### Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ)

MCZs protect a range of nationally important marine wildlife, habitats, geology and geomorphology. In November 2013 27 MCZs were designated in English inshore and English and Welsh offshore waters in the first tranche of sites. Three of these sites were designated off Sussex; Kingmere, Beachy Head West and Pagham Harbour. More MCZs will be designated in future rounds or 'tranches', although it is uncertain how many.

Further information can be found on the JNCC website.

#### **Local Nature Reserve (LNR)**

Local Nature Reserves are for both people and wildlife. All district and county councils have powers to acquire, declare and manage LNRs. To qualify for LNR status, a site must be of importance for wildlife, geology, education or public enjoyment. Some are also SSSIs. There are 36 LNRs in Sussex.

#### **Country Park**

Country Parks were established as a result of the 1968 Countryside Act to provide a wide range of opportunities for recreation, health, education and improve the quality of life for local communities. Natural England recognises Country Parks as significant places that contribute to England's accessible natural green space. There are 11 Country Parks in Sussex, the details of which can be obtained from the local authorities.

#### Local Geological Site (LGS)

Previously known as Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites (RIGGS), LGS are non-statutory designations that have been identified by local geodiversity groups as being of importance. There are over 120 LGS in Sussex which have been assessed by the Sussex Geodiversity Partnership. The features identified as being important become a material consideration in any future development, and should be taken into account by the relevant local authority.

A selection of LGS with public access in Sussex can be viewed on the Sussex Geodiversity Partnership's website.

#### Marine Site of Nature Conservation Importance (MSNCI)

Marine Sites of Nature Conservation Importance are non-statutory sites identified on account of the special interest of their marine habitats, the fauna and flora, or for unusual geological and geomorphological features. They are an extension of the series of terrestrial SNCIs. The identification of these sites is to highlight their importance for marine wildlife and to emphasise the risks of certain operations damaging their interest. There are 23 MSNCIs off the Sussex coast.

#### **Environmental Stewardship**

Environmental Stewardship is an agri-environment scheme managed by Natural England that provides funding to farmers and other land managers to deliver effective environmental management.

There are four elements to Environmental Stewardship, three of which are relevant in Sussex:

**Entry Level Stewardship (ELS)** goes beyond the Single Payment Scheme requirement to maintain land in good agricultural and environmental condition.

**Organic Entry Level Stewardship (OELS)** is the organic strand of ELS. It is geared to organic and organic/conventional mixed farming systems and is open to all farmers not receiving Organic Farming Scheme aid.

**Higher Level Stewardship (HLS)** involves more complex types of management where agreements are tailored to local circumstances.

Further information can be found on the Natural England website.

Further information on many of the designations listed above can be found on the Natural England website.

# West Sussex Local Geological Site (LGS) Survey 2010





Woods Mill, Henfield, West Sussex BN5 9SD. Tel: 01273 497521 Email: sxbrc@sussexwt.org.uk Website: www.sxbrc.org.uk

1. Site Information								
Site Name & LGS ID	Gaster Pit 7, Lambl	Gaster Pit 7, Lambley's Lane, Sompting TQ10/07						
Site Type	ED		Grid Reference		TQ156059 (revised)			
Date of Visit	20/07/2010		Local Authority					
Surveyor	Peter Anderton		Landowi	ner				
1:50,000 BGS Sheet no.	318/333		1:25,000	OS Sheet no.	121			
LGS designation	Scientific X	Educationa	al X	Aesthe	tic	Historical		

#### Interest Feature(s):

Disused chalk quarry exposing Culver Chalk Formation. This site and TQ10/10 between them form the only exposure of this part of the Culver Chalk, which is generally poorly exposed in England. Quarry face about 40m long and up to 7m high.

**Stratigraphy:** Tarrant Chalk member, Culver Chalk Formation, White Chalk Subgroup, late Cretaceous in age. Type locality for the Charmandean Flint marker bed.

**Sedimentology:** soft white chalk limestone with layers of irregular flints including the prominent Charmandean Flint. Deposited in relatively deep ( $\rightarrow$ 100m) open marine environment.

**Sedimentary structures:** The flints are irregular, often in the shape of burrow-fills.

**Palaeontology:** Fossil echinoid *Offaster pilula* occurs in thin band just below the Charmandean Flint layer. *Echinocorys* fossils also found.

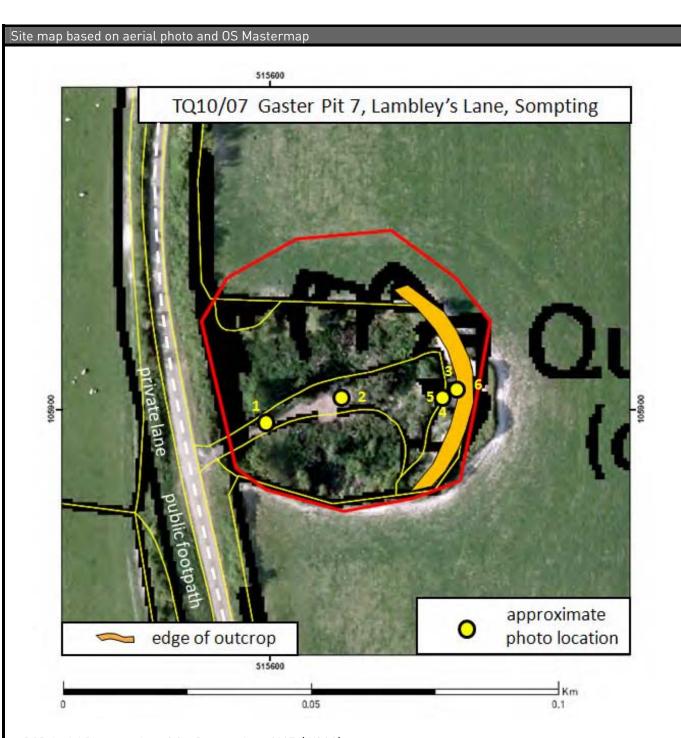
Previous management and dates (if any)

	Is (are) the feature(s) exposed?	Υ	If No, can it (they) practically be re-exposed?				
	Is (are) the feature(s) being affected by the following factors?						
	Factor	Y/N	Comments				
3edrock feature	Vegetation		Y The main face is mostly free from vegetation but overhanging vegetation is starting to affect the extremities of the exposurand shrubs are taking over the debris at the foot of the cliff.				
Ä Ž	Scree/Mass Movement		Debris obscures the base of the face.				
200	Flooding						
Sed	Dumping/Landfill						
	Quarrying/Engineering Works						
	Development (housing/industrial)	N					
	Others (please define) –	N					
	Is (are) the feature(s) exposed?	N/A	If No, can it (they) practically be re-exposed?				
sit	Is (are) the feature(s) being affected by th	e follow	ing factors?				
ode	Vegetation (Trees or crop planting)						
al de ure	Agricultural practices (deep ploughing)						
ficial de feature	Quarrying/Engineering Works						
Superficial deposit feature	Development (housing/industrial)						
Su	Others (please define) -						

	Is (are) the geomorphological feature(s) be	ing allo	owed to evolve naturally?	N/A
Ó	Is (are) the feature(s) being affected by the	followi	ing factors?	
atur	Vegetation	N		
r fea	Sea Defences	N		
Geomorphology feature	River Management	N		
lohol	Ground Stabilisation (slopes/sand dunes)	N		
orp	Water level change	N		
Дое	Development (housing/industrial)	N		
	Others (please define) –	N		

	Factor	Y/N	Comments
	Are any of the following cau	sing diffi	culties in accessing the site?
ນ	Physical obstacles	Y	Access is difficult because the quarry floor is covered with small trees, shrubs (brambles and buddleia) and nettles, and vegetation is taking over the base of the cliff. The debris slope at the foot of the cliff is steep and unstable.
סווב מררבא	Landowner permissions	N	
בונם ה	Protected species/habitats	N	
S	Other (please define) Parking	Υ	The narrow lane leading to the quarry is a private road although designated as a public footpath. With permission it would be possible to park on the verge near th quarry entrance.
	Are any of the following in a	n undesi	rable condition?
11	Interpretation Boards	N	
	Benches/Fences/Gates	N	
ש והיום והיום היום היום והיום והיו	Earthworks	N/A	
_	Other (please define)		
n	Are there any other features	of inter	est that should be considered?
oillei Teatul es	Biodiversity	N	
Ū	Historic Environment	N	

4. Site Status	
Overall, is the site in a desirable condition for use(s) of the feature(s) identified?	<u>Yes</u> / No / Uncertain
If Yes - what management is required (if any) for the feature(s) to maintain a des	irable condition:
Vegetation clearance on the quarry floor and along the foot of the face would allow	better access to the exposure and improve visibility.
For the above, is the management: Being undertaken / Going to be undertaken / A	lot going to be undertaken / Not possible
If Uncertain or No - what management is required for the feature(s) to reach and	maintain a desir aste condition.
For the above, is the management: Being undertaken / Going to be undertaken / N	lot going to be undertaken / Not possible
Are there any secondary factors that need further management?	Yes / <u>No</u> / Not applicable
Suggested management in order for the feature(s) to reach/maintain a desirable	condition:



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Key to Map:



GS









5. Part of central chalk face showing prominent Charmandean Flint band at centre, thinner flint bands near base and possible thin marl seams in the upper section. Face 5.5m high. Grid ref. TQ15640590. Direction east.

6. Detail of Charmandean Flint band showing large irregular flints. Thickness of layer is 10 to 15cm. Grid ref. TQ15640590. Direction NE.

# West Sussex Local Geological Site (LGS) Survey 2010

## Condition Monitoring Form for NI 197 Reporting



Woods Mill, Henfield, West Sussex BN5 9SD. Tel: 01273 497521 Email: sxbrc@sussexwt.org.uk Website: www.sxbrc.org.uk

1. Site Information						
Site Name & LGS ID	Gaster Pit 10, Charmandean Quarry, Worthing TQ10/10					
Site Type	ED	Grid Reference	TQ148057			
Date of Visit	20/07/2010	Local Authority				
Surveyor	Peter Anderton	Landowner				
1:50,000 BGS Sheet no.	318/333	1:25,000 OS Sheet no.	121			
LGS designation	Scientific X Education	nal X Aesthe	tic Historical			

#### Interest Feature(s):

Disused chalk quarry exposing Culver Chalk Formation. This site and TQ10/07 between them form the only exposure of this part of the Culver Chalk, which is generally poorly exposed in England. Quarry is about 150m long, 40m wide with faces up to 20m high.

**Stratigraphy:** lower to middle Tarrant Chalk member, Culver Chalk Formation, White Chalk Subgroup, late Cretaceous in age.

**Sedimentology:** soft white chalk limestone with layers of flint. Deposited in relatively deep ( $\rightarrow$ 100m) open marine environment.

Palaeontology: a variety of fossils have been found but they are not abundant.

Previous management and dates (if any)

2	ary Factors  Is (are) the feature(s) exposed?	Υ	If No, can it (they) practically be re-exposed?			
	Is (are) the feature(s) being affected by the following factors?					
	Factor	Y/N	Comments			
Bedrock feature	Vegetation	Y	Most of the quarry faces are heavily overgrown by trees and shrubs with only small patches of chalk visible. A 70m long section on the west side near the entrance shows more exposure but even this is obscured by ivy and overhanging vegetation.			
k fe	Scree/Mass Movement	N				
oc.	Flooding	N				
edr	Dumping/Landfill	N				
<b>—</b>	Quarrying/Engineering Works	N				
	Development (housing/industrial)	Y	Disused open sheds along the western edge reduce visibility of the exposure but their presence has probably preserved the face here from the encroaching vegetation.  The SW corner of the quarry appears to be used for stabling.			
	Others (please define) –	N				
	Is (are) the feature(s) exposed?	N/A	If No, can it (they) practically be re-exposed?			
osit	Is (are) the feature(s) being affected by t	he follow	ing factors?			
epo	Vegetation (Trees or crop planting)					
al d	Agricultural practices (deep ploughing)					
ficial de feature	Quarrying/Engineering Works					
Superficial deposit feature	Development (housing/industrial)					
Su	Others (please define) -					

	Is (are) the geomorphological feature(s) be	owed to evolve naturally?	N/A			
ō	Is (are) the feature(s) being affected by the following factors?					
atur	Vegetation	N				
fea	Sea Defences	N				
Geomorphology feature	River Management	N				
lohol	Ground Stabilisation (slopes/sand dunes)	N				
orp	Water level change	N				
тое	Development (housing/industrial)	N				
	Others (please define) –	N				

	Factor	Y/N	Comments				
	Are any of the following causing difficulties in accessing the site?						
SS	Physical obstacles	Υ	Thick scrub prevents access to most of the quarry faces and the northernmost part of the quarry is almost impenetrable.				
acce	Landowner permissions	N					
Site access	Protected species/habitats	N					
S	Other (please define) Parking	Υ	The lane to the west of the quarry is only suitable for 4W vehicles beyond the initial section. There nowhere convenient to park lower down. I parked next to a house with the owner's permission.				
	Are any of the following in a	n undesi	rable condition?				
	Interpretation Boards	N					
iture	Benches/Fences/Gates	N					
Furniture	Earthworks	N/A					
	Other (please define)						
S	Are there any other features	of inter	est that should be considered?				
ture	Biodiversity	N					
· fea	Historic Environment	N					
Other features	Other (please define)						

4. Site Status	
Overall, is the site in a desirable condition for use(s) of the feature(s) identified?	Yes / <u>No</u> / Uncertain

If Yes - what management is required (if any) for the feature(s) to maintain a desirable condition:

For the above, is the management: Being undertaken / Going to be undertaken / Not going to be undertaken / Not possible

If Uncertain or No - what management is required for the feature(s) to reach and maintain a desirable condition:

Clearance of vegetation from the best exposed section is needed just to be able to see it properly and removal of the disused open sheds in front of the exposure would improve visibility. Substantial clearance would be required to re-expose any other part of the quarry.

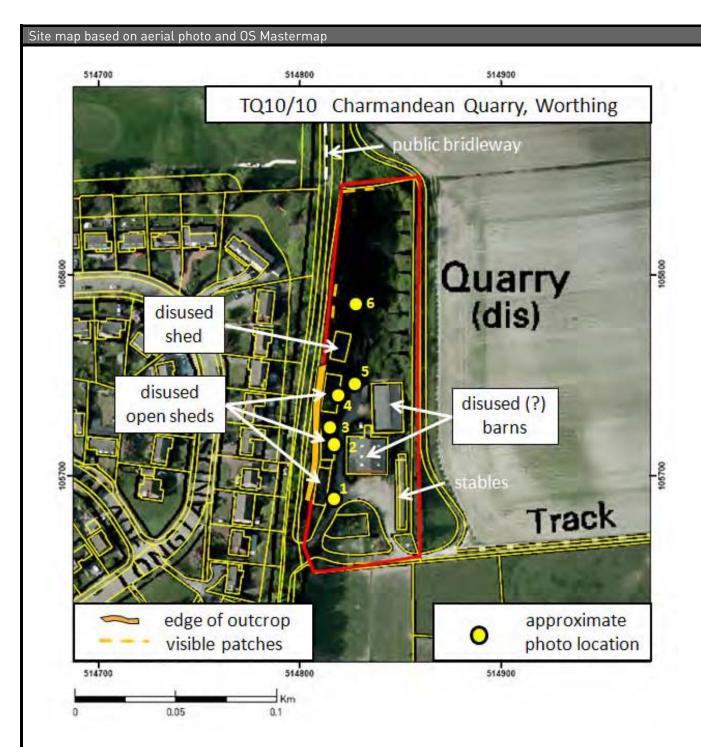
For the above, is the management: Being undertaken / Going to be undertaken / Not going to be undertaken / Not possible

Are there any secondary factors that need further management?

Yes / No / Not applicable

Suggested management in order for the feature(s) to reach/maintain a desirable condition:

Removal of the disused sheds would improve access to the best exposed section and substantial vegetation clearance would be essential for access to any other part of the quarry.



RGB Aerial Photography - ©GeoPerspectives, 2007. (WSCC).

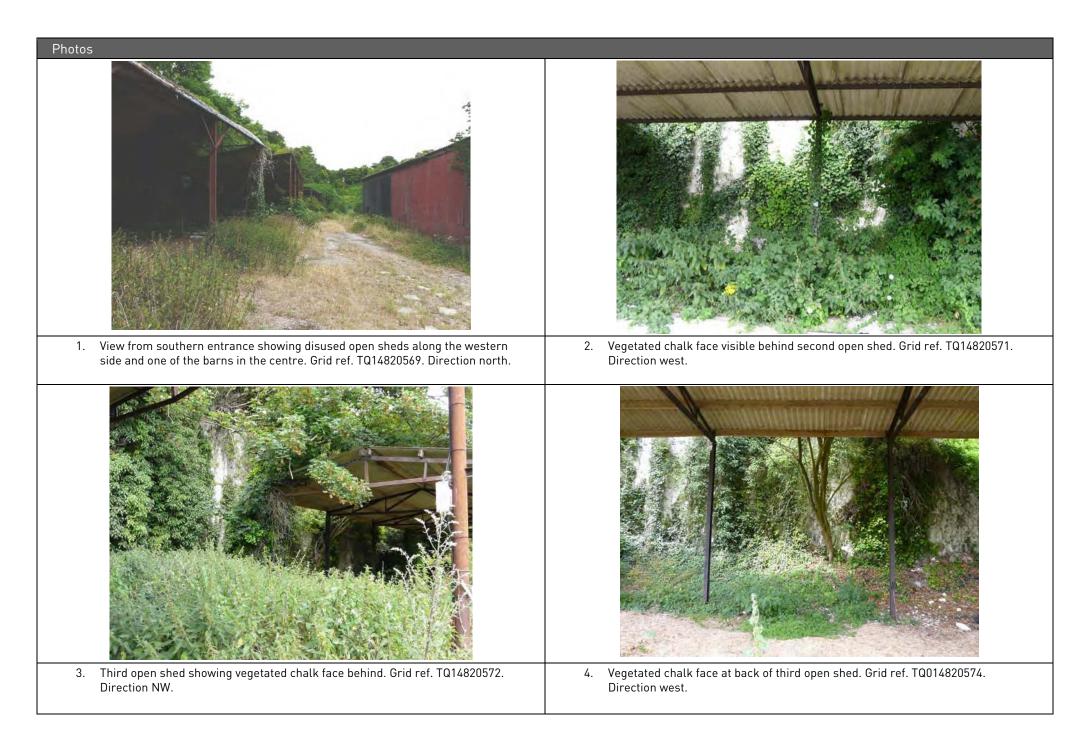
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Key to Map:











5. Beyond the northernmost shed the quarry floor is filled with impenetrable scrub and the faces are almost completely covered by vegetation with occasional glimpses of chalk behind. Grid ref. TQ014820575. Direction north.



6. Western face beyond northernmost shed showing glimpse of chalk through dense vegetation cover. Grid ref. TQ014830578. Direction west.

## LOWLAND CALCAREOUS GRASSLAND

Lowland calcareous grasslands develop on shallow lime-rich soils generally overlying limestone rocks - in Sussex it occurs exclusively on chalk.

#### Why is it important?

- Chalk grassland can support over 50 species of flowering plant per square metre, including a number of nationally scarce species.
- Many species of rare invertebrates are found including hoverflies, molluscs and moths
- Rare assemblages of mosses and lichens can be found on some chalk grasslands.
- The grasslands and associated patches of scrub provide breeding and feeding habitat for many birds including scarce species such as stone curlew.



Round-headed rampion

#### Lowland calcareous grassland in Sussex

The South Downs represents one of the major areas of chalk grassland in the UK. It is estimated that the habitat now covers only around 3% of the South Downs, where it is predominantly confined to steeper slopes. It continues to support a rich diversity of animals and plants including many rare species.

#### What are the threats?

- Agricultural intensification by use of fertilisers, liming, reseeding and ploughing.
- Lack of grazing stock results in dominance of coarse grasses and scrub, and a decline in overall botanical diversity.
- Recreation effects including disturbance of wildlife, compaction of soil, trampling and increased nutrients in soil. High public access can also cause conflicts where grazing animals are present.
- Isolation and fragmentation of sites reduces dispersal opportunities making species more susceptible to extinction.
- Losses can result from development including redevelopment of abandoned chalk quarries which can develop good quality grassland.

#### Some associated species

- Linnet Carduelis cannabina
- Whitethroat Sylvia communis
- Adonis blue Polyommatus bellargus
- Glow-worm Lampyris noctiluca
- Round-headed rampion Phyteuma orbiculare
- Yellow-wort Blackstonia perfoliata

(Illustration courtesy of Natural England.)

## REEDBED

Reedbeds are wetlands dominated by stands of common reed where the water table is at or above ground level for most of the year. They tend to incorporate open water and ditches, and areas of wet grassland and carr woodland may also be associated with them.

## Why are they important?

- They provide important breeding and roosting habitat for birds including rare species such as bearded tit and Cetti's warbler.
- A number of invertebrates are recorded from reedbeds including moths, snails and beetles. Many of the species found are now uncommon.
- Reedbeds provide a refuge for shoals of fish, which in turn provide food for other species.



Bittern

#### Reedbeds in Sussex

The majority of reedbeds in Sussex are less than five hectares in size. The largest reedbed in Sussex is at Filsham, which is around 17 hectares.

#### What are the threats?

- Drainage for farming and development, and over-abstraction of water.
- Water pollution can cause a loss of diversity and dominance by a few species.
- Flood defence measures can contribute to loss of reedbeds.
- A lack of management.

### Some associated species

- Bittern Botaurus stellaris
- Grass snake Natrix natrix
- Swollen spire snail Mercuria confusa
- Flame wainscot Mythimna flammea
- Common reed Phragmites australis
- Reed sweet-grass Glyceria maxima

## **Further information**

• Sussex Wetland Landscapes Project: www.sussexotters.org

(Illustration courtesy of Natural England.)

## TRADITIONAL ORCHARDS

Traditional orchards are areas of land on which a range of fruit and nut trees are cultivated that are managed in a low intensity way. Permanent grassland beneath the trees was traditionally grazed by livestock.

#### Why are they important?

- The mosaic of habitats such as hedgerows, dead wood and fruit trees make traditional orchards important for a wide range of species.
- Traditional orchards provide a the conditions needed for many bryophytes and lichens.
- Holes and crevices in old trees provide habitat for bats and nest sites for birds such as redstart and bullfinch.
- Dead and decaying wood makes traditional orchards hugely important for invertebrates, lichens and fungi.



#### Traditional orchards in Sussex

The traditional orchards inventory\* lists over 900 sites in Sussex covering an area of approximately 300 hectares. It is estimated that around half of these orchards are currently in a poor condition.

#### What are the threats?

- Changes in farming policy and markets has led to a decline in income from traditional orchard produce.
- A decline in the skills and knowledge to manage traditional orchards can lead to neglect.
- Loss of orchards can occur as fruit trees dying of old age are not replaced.
- Lack of protection under the current planning system.

#### Some associated species

- Lesser spotted woodpecker Picoides minor
- Noctule Nyctalus noctula
- Lichen running-spider Philodromus margaritatus
- Noble chafer Gnorimus nobilis
- Mistletoe Viscum album
- A lichen Ramonia chrysophaea

#### \* The Traditional Orchard Inventory for England

The traditional orchard data used in Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre reports are the result of a project run by the People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES) on behalf of Natural England. The resulting inventory is based on combining exisiting survey data with aerial photograph interpretation, together with ground-truthing survey work by local volunteers. The inventory is provisional, and is still being refined and updated as new data becomes available. The project was completed in March 2011.

For the purpose of the inventory, traditional orchards are defined as sites where at least five fruit trees must be present with no more than 20m between their crown edges.

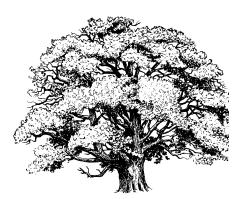
#### **Further information**

Orchard Network: www.orchardnetwork.org.uk

## **WOOD-PASTURE & PARKLAND**

Many parks were established in medieval times for aesthetic reasons, to provide grazing for farm animals or deer and to provide wood from pollarded trees. In later centuries, new landscaped parks were created from these medieval parks or by enclosing ordinary farmland. Wood-pasture and parkland is therefore the result of a distinctive, historic land-use system, and represents a vegetation structure rather than being a particular plant community.

Typically this structure consists of veteran trees with wide, spreading crowns growing in a matrix of grazed grassland or heathland. It is a habitat of cultural and historical significance and can also be of great ecological importance due to the wide range of species it supports. For these reasons, and due the threats facing the habitat, it is a UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) habitat.



Pedunculate Oak

#### **Current status and distribution**

There are no reliable statistics on the extent of this habitat in the UK, but it is most common in southern Britain. Sussex is particularly rich in wood-pasture and parkland with several large old deer parks, such as Petworth Park and Parham Park.

#### **Ecological significance**

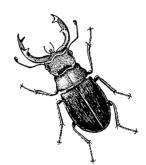
Wood-pasture and parkland is important for wildlife for a number of reasons:

- The mosaic of habitats together with the presence of veteran trees provides the conditions needed by certain species for every stage of their life cycle.
- There is often a continuity of old trees over hundreds of years, or even in some cases back to the post ice-age 'wildwood'. The trees have often been pollarded; this management technique extends their life and creates rot holes and crevices which are used by bats, hole-nesting birds and invertebrates.
- Sussex has the majority of the UK's mature English Elms following the loss of millions to Dutch Elm Disease.
- Rotten wood within ancient tree trunks supports saproxylic invertebrates (those that rely on dead wood for all or
  part of their life cycle) and are amongst the most threatened group of species in Europe. One such species is the
  click beetle *Lacon querceus*, which develops in dry red-rotten oak wood in veteran trunks and fallen boughs. The
  Stag Beetle is another saproxylic beetle often associated with pasture parkland.
- The old tree trunks also support unique communities of lichens, mosses and liverworts which depend on the stability of the surface provided by veteran trees. Two BAP Priority Species of lichen found on old trees include *Bacidia incompata* and *Enterographa sorediata*.

## Threats facing the habitat include:

- Isolation and fragmentation of the remaining parklands.
- Inappropriate grazing resulting in the loss of plant diversity and habitat structure.
- Agricultural intensification including reseeding, ploughing and use of fertilisers.
- Neglect and loss of veteran trees, and over-tidying of deadwood.

(Illustrations courtesy of Natural England.)



Stag Beetle

## **Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre**

Woods Mill Henfield West Sussex BN5 9SD

Tel: 01273 497521

Email: info@sxbrc.org.uk Website: www.sxbrc.org.uk

The Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre is managed by the Sussex Wildlife Trust as a partnership project. A list of our current funding partners can be found on our website: www.sxbrc.org.uk/about/partners

