

# **Biodiversity Report**

Site: Appleton

TVERC Ref: 0251.14

Prepared for: BSG Ecology

Date: 25th November 2014

By Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre





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- ☑ Species status key
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- ☑ Designated wildlife sites guidance

Produced by TVERC 06/09/2012

#### **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

The copyright for this document and the information provided is retained by Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre. The copyright for some of the species data will be held by a recording group or individual recorder. Where this is the case, and the group or individual providing the data in known, the data origin will be given in the species table.

TVERC must be acknowledged if any part of this report or data derived from it is used in a report. The whole document may be used as an appendix within your report.

The data in this report can only be used for the project for which it was requested. It cannot be passed on to third parties without permission of TVERC (this excludes reports presented to clients and Local Authorities).

The data should be considered valid for a maximum 12 months from the date on the cover of this report. If the data is to be used after that time an update should be requested. The data must not be added to any permanent database system.

The absence of any species or habitat data for any site, area or location does not mean that any species or habitat is not present.

#### **MAPS**

To reproduce the Ordnance Survey mapping you must hold a relevant licence for the use of Ordnance Survey mapping or it can be copied at a printers or copyshop that holds a licence to carry out search work (see the Ordnance Survey website).

### **DATA STATEMENTS**

# STATEMENT ON BIRD RECORDS IN OXFORDSHIRE (DATA MARKED AS "OOS" IN THE DATA ORIGIN COLUMN)

The majority of bird records in Oxfordshire, except those in the north of the county, have been provided by the Oxford Ornithological Society. Such records have a value of OOS in the data origin column . Please note that:

- a. Not all species are subject to the same degree of recording; the absence of records of a species in a given geographical area does not necessarily indicate absence of that species.
- b. Not all parts of the county are subject to the same degree of recording; the absence of records for a given area does not necessarily indicate the absence of bird species.
- c. Records of species regarded as sensitive have been provided with reduced information about location. Any requests for more precise information about the location of such "confidential" sites should be addressed directly to OOS (<a href="www.oos.org.uk">www.oos.org.uk</a>) You can use the following email contacts <a href="mailto:chairman@oos.org.uk">chairman@oos.org.uk</a> (the chairman) and <a href="mailto:ian@recorder.fsnet.co.uk">ian@recorder.fsnet.co.uk</a> (the county bird recorder).

#### STATEMENT ON WILDLIFE TRUST WATER VOLE DATA

Since 2008 data has been collected as positive or negative sections of watercourses. Positive sections crossing into search areas are included within the data. These are shown with the central grid reference for the stretch of watercourse. This may fall outside the search area but the stretch will be at least partly within the search area. The location information shows the beginning and end points of the stretch of watercourse.

#### **USE OF NBN GATEWAY DATA**

Commercial organisations and members of the public may refer to the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) Gateway for wildlife records and habitat and designated site information for their own private use.

The NBN Gateway's Terms and Conditions state "You may not republish wholesale the material, data and/or information made available to you, or exploit it for commercial or academic research purposes without first obtaining written permission from the relevant data provider". This means that environmental consultants cannot use NBN data in ecology reports for planning applications unless they have obtained written permission from all the data providers. If NBN Gateway data are also provided for this project please make sure that the NBN Gateway's terms and conditions are followed precisely.

The National Planning Policy Framework states that "planning policies and decisions should be based on up-to date information about the natural environment and other characteristics of

the area". The NBN Gateway does not hold the most up-to-date, comprehensive or highest resolution information on protected and notable species, local sites or habitats in Berkshire and Oxfordshire.

TVERC have advised planning authorities in Berkshire and Oxfordshire that ecology reports using only NBN data should not usually be validated and the NBN has requested that suspected breaches of NBN terms and conditions are reported to the NBN Data Access Officer, who will take appropriate action. Further detail is available on our website:

http://www.tverc.org/cms/content/ecological-survey-reports-planning-applications.

# STATEMENT ON GRID REFERENCES

The following types of grid references are provided:

- Six figure grid references. Many of these will be an assigned relatively central grid
  reference for a site though with small sites the assigned grid reference for a site could be
  close to the edge. The record may have come from anywhere within the site. Where
  additional location information is provided the reference may be more accurate or central
  to a subsite within the larger site. Where the location is not site based, the grid reference
  should be within 100 metres of the location.
- Four figure grid references. Generally these are 1km square records often with some location information to give an idea of which part of the 1km square the record was found. Sometime this information can be quite accurate. Where a large site is referred to the location should be in that part of the 1km square that is within the site. In some case these may be tetrad records with grid reference referring to a 2km x 2km square. This includes some confidential records from Oxford Ornithological Society. Other tetrad data is rarely included.
- Eight and ten figure grid references: These are generally accurately worked out to the location where the species was found. However for small and narrow sites eight figure grid references may be used as a central grid reference for a site.
- TVERC intends to start tagging data to qualify these grid references but at present only a limited amount of qualification is provided. 1km square records are tagged as 1km record and 2km square records are tagged as 2km record.

			Abundance					Further						Priority	
Taxon			and/or			Grid Ref.		Location	Type of		Data	European		NERC	Other
Group	Common Name	Scientific name	Sex/Stage	Date	Grid Ref	Qualifier	Location	Information	Record	Comment	Origin	Directives	UK Legislation	S.41	Designations
amphibian	Common Frog	Rana temporaria		18/06/2007	SP449015		Besselsleigh Common Wood	S-VWHDC-owned			OLWS	HabDir-A5	WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a, 9.5b		
ampilibian	Common rrog	Kana temporana		10/00/2007	3177013		Desseisleigh Common Wood	3-VWIIDC-OWIIEG			OLVVS	I IdDDII -AS	WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,		
amphibian	Common Frog	Rana temporaria		18/06/2007	SP449015		Besselsleigh Common Wood	South (VoWH DC)			OLWS	HabDir-A5	9.5b		
				26/07/2000 -									WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,		
amphibian	Common Frog	Rana temporaria		06/09/2000	SP449016		Besselsleigh Common Wood		pitfall trap		OBRC	HabDir-A5	9.5b		
amphibian	Common Toad	Bufo bufo		18/06/2007	SP449015		Besselsleigh Common Wood	S-VWHDC-owned			OLWS		WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a, 9.5b	NERC S.41	
аттринышт	Common rodu	Daio Baio		10/00/2007	31 113013		Desseisleigh Common wood	5 Wilbe owiled			OLVVS		WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,		
amphibian	Common Toad	Bufo bufo		18/06/2007	SP449015		Besselsleigh Common Wood	South (VoWH DC)			OLWS		9.5b	NERC S.41	
										Two adult newts found in netting survey. A					
				22 /2 / /2 22	CD 444 CO 4 D 4					few eggs found on aquatic vegetation	0040		WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,		
amphibian	Smooth Newt	Lissotriton vulgaris	2 Adults	23/04/2002 06/09/2000 -	SP44160134		Roadside Pond, Appleton			(probably Smooth Newts).	ORAG		9.5b WACA-Sch5_sect9.5a,		
amphibian	Smooth Newt	Lissotriton vulgaris			SP449016		Besselsleigh Common Wood		pitfall trap		OBRC		9.5b		
Bird	Common Kingfisher	Alcedo atthis	1	1		2 km record	Confidential		Field Record	seen flying	OOS	BirdsDir-A1	WACA-Sch1(pt 1)		Bird-Amber
	3			, ,	1					Between Bablockhythe and Northmoor			,		
Bird	Common Sandpiper	Actitis hypoleucos	1	27/05/1999	SP437030		Bablockhythe		Field Record	Lock	00S				Bird-Amber
Bird	Eurasian Hobby	Falco subbuteo	1	31/07/2003			Confidential		Field Record		OOS		WACA-Sch1(pt 1)		
bird	Green Woodpecker	Picus viridis	Adults	23/07/2002		1 km record	Tubney Wood	North	field record		OBRC				Bird-Amber
bird bird	Green Woodpecker Green Woodpecker	Picus viridis Picus viridis	Heard		SP441009 SP449015		Holt Copse Besselsleigh Common Wood	Woodland S-VWHDC-owned		Heard	OLWS OLWS				Bird-Amber Bird-Amber
bird	Green Woodpecker	Picus viridis		18/06/2007			Besselsleigh Common Wood	South (VoWH DC)			OLWS				Bird-Amber
Bird	Grey Partridge	Perdix perdix	5		SP4401	1 km record		South (VOVVIT DC)	Field Record		OLVV3			NERC S.41	Bird-Red
Bird	Little Grebe	Tachybaptus ruficollis	2	02/01/2002	1		Northmoor Lock		Field Record		005			TILING OF TE	Bird-Amber
		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		, , , , ,	1										Bird-Amber,
															RedList_Global_
Bird	Red Kite	Milvus milvus	1	04/06/2002		1 km record	1		Field Record	Reported by locals as being seen regularly		BirdsDir-A1	WACA-Sch1(pt 1)		post2001_NT
bird	Song Thrush	Turdus philomelos Turdus philomelos			SP449015 SP449015		Besselsleigh Common Wood Besselsleigh Common Wood	S-VWHDC-owned South (VoWH DC)			OLWS OLWS			NERC S.41 NERC S.41	Bird-Red Bird-Red
bird	Song Thrush	Motacilla flava subsp.		18/06/2007	SP449015		Besselsieigh Common wood	South (VOVIA DC)			OLWS			NERC 5.41	Bira-Rea
Bird	Yellow Wagtail	flavissima	1	16/05/1998	SP4401	1 km record	Appleton		Field Record	Bird Race 98	oos			NERC S.41	Bird-Red
				,,											
										in a 3min kick/sweep sample - upstream of			WACA-		
	White-clawed	Austropotamobius					ROADBRIDGE, APPLETON (MARCHAM			a pollution incident and upstream of section			Sch5_sect9.1(taking),		GlobalRed-
crustacean	Freshwater Crayfish	pallipes	1 Juvenile	19/06/2001	SP44340115		BROOK)			of brook decimated by digging out.	EA	A2*,HabDir-A5	sect9.5a, 9.5b	NERC S.41	post2001-EN
flowering plant	Pluoball	Hyacinthoides non-		1077 1005	SP43500225		Ach Conso		field record		DDOW/T		WACA Cabo		
flowering plant	Bluebell	scripta Hyacinthoides non-		19// - 1985	SP43500225		Ash Copse		field record		BBOWT		WACA-Sch8		
flowering plant	Bluebell	scripta		1977 - 1985	SP435025		Eaton Plantation/Hanging Copse		field record		BBOWT		WACA-Sch8		
		Hyacinthoides non-			+		, , , ,								
flowering plant	Bluebell	scripta		pre 1985	SP440024		Hengrove Wood		field record		BBOWT		WACA-Sch8		
		Hyacinthoides non-	Frequent												
flowering plant	Bluebell	scripta	(DAFOR)	04/06/2008	SP441009		Holt Copse	Woodland			OLWS		WACA-Sch8		
flowering plant	Bluehell	Hyacinthoides non- scripta	Frequent (DAFOR)	18/06/2007	SP449015		Besselsleigh Common Wood	S-VWHDC-owned			OLWS		WACA-Sch8		
noncing plant	2.400011	- Con ipto	Occasional/	20, 30, 2007	5		2000 Common Wood	5 TITIBE OWING			02113			+	+
			Locally												
		Hyacinthoides non-	Frequent	10/05/55	OD 4 *** : =										
flowering plant	Bluebell	scripta	(DAFOR)	18/06/2007	SP449015		Besselsleigh Common Wood	South (VoWH DC)			OLWS		WACA-Sch8		
			Frequent/ Locally												
		Hyacinthoides non-	Abundant					Northern section							
flowering plant	Bluebell	scripta	(DAFOR)	18/06/2007	SP449015		Besselsleigh Common Wood	(privately owned)			OLWS		WACA-Sch8		
		Hyacinthoides non-													
flowering plant	Bluebell	scripta		22/07/1999	SP449016		Besselsleigh Common Wood		field record		OBRC		WACA-Sch8		
flavorina plant	Diveball	Hyacinthoides non-		11/04/2000	CD440016		Bassalalaiah Camman Waad		field record		OPPC		MACA Cabo		
flowering plant	Diuebeil	scripta Hyacinthoides non-		11/04/2000	5P449016		Besselsleigh Common Wood		field record		OBRC		WACA-Sch8	-	
flowering plant	Bluebell	scripta		17/05/2000	SP449016		Besselsleigh Common Wood		field record		OBRC		WACA-Sch8		
, said plant		Hyacinthoides non-		, ,									1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2		+
flowering plant	Bluebell	scripta		May 2000	SP449016		Besselsleigh Common Wood		field record		VWH		WACA-Sch8		
	,	Hyacinthoides non-			45						l				
flowering plant	Bluebell	scripta		June 1980	SP450015		Oxon tetrad 4400		field record		LN		WACA-Sch8		

			Abundance	:				Further						Priority	
Taxon			and/or			Grid Ref.		Location	Type of		Data	European		NERC	Other
Group	Common Name	Scientific name	Sex/Stage		Grid Ref	Qualifier	Location	Information	Record	Comment	Origin	Directives	<b>UK Legislation</b>	S.41	Designations
flowering plant	Corn Marigold	Glebionis segetum	1		SP447027		West Farm, Appleton; Field #18		field record		ET				GBRed-post2001 VU
flowering plant	Corn Marigold	Glebionis segetum	<5		SP450013		West Farm, Appleton; Field #22		field record		ET				GBRed-post2001 VU
flowering plant	Corn Spurrey	Spergula arvensis	<20		SP450019		West Farm, Appleton; Field #20		field record		ET				GBRed-post2001 VU
flowering plant			<20		SP435017	I	West Farm, Appleton; Field #13		field record		ET				GBRed-post2001 NT
flowering plant	Large-leaved Lime	Tilia platyphyllos			SP449016		Besselsleigh Common Wood		field record		OBRC				Nat. Scarce
flowering plant	Prickly Poppy	Papaver argemone	30+	20/05/1997 - 23/05/1997	SP453017		West Farm, Appleton; Field #22		field record		ET				GBRed-post2001 VU
flowering plant	Shepherd's-needle	Scandix pecten-veneris	1000+	03/06/1997	SP444011		Tubney Manor Farm, Tubney/Fyfield; Field #9		field record		ET			NERC S.41	GBRed-post2001 CR
flowering plant	Shepherd's-needle	Scandix pecten-veneris	2	03/06/1997	SP446012		Tubney Manor Farm, Tubney/Fyfield; Field #6		field record		ET			NERC S.41	GBRed-post2001 CR
flowering plant insect - beetle	Smooth Cat's-ear	Hypochaeris glabra		1	SP435025		Eaton Plantation/Hanging Copse		field record		BBOWT				GBRed-post2001 VU
(Coleoptera)	a Beetle	Euglenes oculatus		22/06/2000 - 26/07/2000	SP449016		Besselsleigh Common Wood		pitfall trap		OBRC				Notable-B
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	a Beetle	Euglenes oculatus		12/05/2000	SP449016		Besselsleigh Common Wood		field record		OBRC				Notable-B
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	a Beetle	Hedobia (Ptinomorphus) imperialis			SP449016		Besselsleigh Common Wood		field record		OBRC				Notable-B
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	a Beetle	Agrilus (Anambus) laticornis Pterostichus		22/06/2000 - 26/07/2000	SP449016		Besselsleigh Common Wood		pitfall trap		OBRC				Notable-B
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	a Beetle	(Bothriopterus) oblongopunctatus		22/06/2000 - 26/07/2000	SP449016		Besselsleigh Common Wood	Box area	pitfall trap		OBRC				Notable-B
insect - beetle		Pterostichus (Bothriopterus)		06/09/2000 -											
(Coleoptera)	a Beetle	oblongopunctatus Pterostichus	1 Adult		SP449016		Besselsleigh Common Wood	Stream	pitfall trap		OBRC				Notable-B
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	a Beetle	(Bothriopterus) oblongopunctatus		11/04/2000 - 17/05/2000	SP449016		Besselsleigh Common Wood	Box area	pitfall trap		OBRC				Notable-B
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	a Beetle	Orchesia minor			SP449016		Besselsleigh Common Wood		field record		OBRC				Notable-B
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	a Beetle	Elodes minuta		22/06/2000 - 26/07/2000	SP449016		Besselsleigh Common Wood		pitfall trap		OBRC				Nat. Scarce
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	a Beetle	Tachinus rufipennis		13/07/2000 - 06/09/2000	SP449016		Besselsleigh Common Wood	Alders	field record		OBRC				GBRed-Pre94-R
insect - beetle (Coleoptera) insect - beetle	Flax Flea Beetle	Longitarsus parvulus		06/09/2000	SP449016		Besselsleigh Common Wood		field record		OBRC				Notable-A
	Flax Flea Beetle	Longitarsus parvulus		12/06/2001	SP449016		Besselsleigh Common Wood		field record		OBRC				Notable-A
dragonfly	Common Club-tail	Gomphus vulgatissimus	Males	12/06/2001	SP449016		Besselsleigh Common Wood		field record		OBRC				GBRed-post2001
moss	Lesser Striated Feather-moss		Occasional (DAFOR)	29/05/2007 - 08/10/2007			Besselsleigh Common Wood				OLWS				Nat. Scarce
	Common Lizard	Zootoca vivipara		17/05/2000			Besselsleigh Common Wood		field record		OBRC		WACA- Sch5_sect9.1(kill/injuring), sect9.5a, 9.5b	NERC S.41	
	Brown Long-eared Bat		1 Adult Male		SP444016		Appleton		Injured Bat Record		OBG	HabDir-A4	HabReg-Sch2, WACA- Sch5_sect9.4b, 9.5a, 9.5b, 9.4c HabReg-Sch2, WACA-	NERC S.41	
	Common Pipistrelle	Pipistrellus pipistrellus		22/07/1991	SP437011		Appleton		field record		NE	HabDir-A4	Sch5_sect9.4b, 9.5a, 9.5b, 9.4c		
	Eurasian Badger	Meles meles	Signs	04/06/2008	SP441009		Holt Copse	Woodland		signs, old sett (not in use?), path, snuffle holes	OLWS		Badgers Act (1992)		
	Eurasian Badger	Meles meles		18/06/2007	SP449015		Besselsleigh Common Wood	Northern section (privately owned)	Sett	Active badger sett identified.	OLWS		Badgers Act (1992)		
terrestrial mammal	Eurasian Badger	Meles meles		11/04/2000	SP449016		Besselsleigh Common Wood		Sett		OBRC		Badgers Act (1992)		

			Abundance					Further		T		1		Priority	
Taxon			and/or			Grid Ref.		Location	Type of		Data	European		NERC	Other
Group	Common Name	Scientific name	I	Date	Grid Ref	1	Location	Information	Record	Comment	Origin	Directives	UK Legislation	S.41	Designations
Стопр			Contolago		Ona no	- Cuaiiiioi		inionination	1100014				HabReg-Sch2, WACA-		
terrestrial									dung/droppings/			HabDir-	Sch5_sect9.4b, 9.5a,		GlobalRed-
mammal	European Otter	Lutra lutra	spraints	01/03/2006	SP43330224		Thames		frass/pellet, etc.		WILDCRU	A2*,HabDir-A4	9.5b, 9.4c	NERC S.41	post2001_NT
	,								-				HabReg-Sch2, WACA-		
terrestrial										spraint in crevice of recently pollarded		HabDir-	Sch5_sect9.4b, 9.5a,		GlobalRed-
mammal	European Otter	Lutra lutra	Droppings	18/01/2001	SP435025		Eaton Plantation			willow. Fish scales remain	BBOWT	A2*,HabDir-A4	9.5b, 9.4c	NERC S.41	post2001_NT
													HabReg-Sch2, WACA-		
terrestrial									dung/droppings/			HabDir-	Sch5_sect9.4b, 9.5a,		GlobalRed-
mammal	European Otter	Lutra lutra	spraints	01/03/2006	SP43620281		Thames		frass/pellet, etc.		WILDCRU	A2*,HabDir-A4	9.5b, 9.4c	NERC S.41	post2001_NT
												III-hDin	HabReg-Sch2, WACA-		GlobalRed-
terrestrial	F 0#**	Lutur lutur		01/02/2006	CD42700207		Theorem		dung/droppings/		WITH DODLI	HabDir-	Sch5_sect9.4b, 9.5a,	NEDC C 41	
mammal	European Otter	Lutra lutra	spraints	01/03/2006	SP43700287		Thames		frass/pellet, etc.		WILDCRU	A2*,HabDir-A4	9.5b, 9.4c	NERC S.41	post2001_NT
terrestrial									duna/dranninas/			HabDir-	HabReg-Sch2, WACA- Sch5_sect9.4b, 9.5a,		GlobalRed-
mammal	European Otter	Lutra lutra	spraints	01/11/2004	SP43700300		Thames		dung/droppings/ frass/pellet, etc.		WILDCDII		9.5b, 9.4c	NERC S.41	post2001_NT
mammai	Luropean Otter	Lutia lutia	sprairits	01/11/2004	3743700300		Hanes		irass/peliet, etc.		WILDCRO	AZ ,I Idbbii AT	HabReg-Sch2, WACA-	NLKC 3.41	postzoo1_N1
terrestrial									dung/droppings/	,		HabDir-	Sch5_sect9.4b, 9.5a,		GlobalRed-
mammal	European Otter	Lutra lutra	spraints	01/11/2004	SP43700300		Thames		frass/pellet, etc.		WILDCRU		9.5b, 9.4c	NERC S.41	post2001_NT
											11111111111	7	WACA-	111111111111	P
													Sch5_sect9.1(kill/injuri	i	
													ng & taking), sect9.2,		
terrestrial													9.4a, 9.4b, 9.5a, 9.5b,		
mammal	European Water Vole	Arvicola amphibius		31/03/2001	SP443012		Ock Catchment				BBOWT		9.4c	NERC S.41	
													HabReg-Sch2, WACA-		
terrestrial	Long-eared Bat												Sch5_sect9.4b, 9.5a,		
mammal	species	Plecotus	3	04/07/1988	SP443015				other	Roost in roof space of private house	OBG	HabDir-A4	9.5b, 9.4c		
													HabReg-Sch2, WACA-		
terrestrial	Long-eared Bat	Disastrus	10	10/04/1005	CD4E01	1 1			. 0		ODC		Sch5_sect9.4b, 9.5a, 9.5b, 9.4c		
mammal	species	Plecotus	10	10/04/1985	SP4501	1 km record			other		OBG	HabDir-A4	HabReg-Sch2, WACA-		
terrestrial													Sch5_sect9.4b, 9.5a,		
mammal	Pipistrelle Bat species	Dinictrolluc	20	09/07/1986	SP4401	1 km record			other		OBG		9.5b, 9.4c		
mannina	i pistrelle par species	i ipisti ciius	20	05/07/1900	31 4401	- Kill Tecolu			Other		1000	I IGDDII AT	HabReg-Sch2, WACA-		
terrestrial			1 Juvenile						Injured Bat				Sch5_sect9.4b, 9.5a,		
mammal	Pipistrelle Bat species	Pipistrellus	Female	18/07/2006	SP443016		Appleton		Record		OBG		9.5b, 9.4c		
	,			1 , 2 , 2 , 2			• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •					-	HabReg-Sch2, WACA-		
terrestrial			1 Adult						Injured Bat				Sch5_sect9.4b, 9.5a,		
mammal	Pipistrelle Bat species	Pipistrellus	Female	17/06/2004	SP444014		Appleton		Record		OBG		9.5b, 9.4c		

# Status Key. Produced January 2014 by Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre

#### **EUROPEAN DIRECTIVES**

- ➤ BirdsDir-A1 Species listed on Annex 1 of EC Directive 79/409/EEC on the Conservation of Wild Birds.
- ➤ HabDir-A2, HabDir-A4 & HabDir-A5 Annex 2 and Annexes 4/5 respectively of the EC Habitats Directive. This is the Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.

#### **UK LEGISLATION: CONSERVATION OF HABITATS AND SPECIES REGULATIONS 2010**

This legislation translates the European Habitats Directive (see above) into UK law where species are listed in Schedule 2 and Schedule 4. Species are tagged as HabReg-Sch2 or HabReg-Sch4.

#### **UK LEGISLATION: WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981**

#### **Schedule 1 Wild Birds**

prohibits the intentional killing, injuring or taking of <u>any</u> wild bird and the taking, damaging or destroying of the nest (whilst being built or in use) or eggs. It prohibits possession of wild birds (dead or alive) or their eggs. In addition:

- ➤ WACA-Sch1(pt 1) There are additional penalties for offences relating to birds on this schedule and it is also an offence to disturb such birds at the nest or with dependent young.
- ➤ WACA-Sch1(pt 2) Covers the protection of birds which may be killed during the open season.

(Please note that some schedule 1 bird records will refer to species that do not breed in the county, e.g. over-wintering birds such as Redwing or Fieldfare. Although we include them in the annotated records, only they and their nests, eggs and dependent young enjoy extra protection under the W&C 1981 act. If you are in any doubt about the breeding status of a bird please contact us at TVERC)

#### **Schedule 5 Wild Animals**

- ➤ WACA-Sch5\_sect9.1 covers intentional killing injuring or taking (species are covered by all or some of these)
- WACA-Sch5\_sect9.2 Covers possession or control (live or dead animal, part or derivative)
- ➤ WACA-Sch5\_sect9.4a Covers damage to or destruction of any structure or place used by a scheduled animal for shelter or protection.
- ➤ WACA-Sch5\_sect9.4b Covers disturbance of animal occupying such a structure or place.
- ➤ WACA-Sch5\_sect9.4c Covers obstruction of access to any structure or place which any such animal uses for shelter or protection
- ➤ WACA-Sch5\_sect9.5a Covers selling, offering for sale, possessing or transporting for the purpose of sale (live or dead animal, part or derivative).
- ➤ WACA-Sch5 sect9.5b Covers advertising for buying or selling such things.

#### **Schedule 8 Wild Plants**

WACA-Sch8 - Covers any picking, uprooting or destruction of plants listed on the Schedule. It also prohibits the sale, etc, or possession for the purpose of sale of any plants on the Schedule.

#### PRIORITY NERC S.41 2006

Species listed in Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 as a species of principle importance. These are very similar to the list of UKBAP and have superseded them. Species are tagged NERC S.41.

#### OTHER DESIGNATIONS: RED LISTS

**Global Red List Species** (tagged GlobalRed) - Species listed by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Species included are from post 1994 and post 2001 lists.

**GB Red List Species** (tagged GBRed) - Species included in national red lists. Species included are from pre 1994 and post 2001 lists. Please note not all taxon groups are currently covered, for example fungi.

#### Abbreviations:

**EX** – Extinct A taxon is Extinct when there is no reasonable doubt that the last individual has died.

**EW** – Extinct in the Wild. Species known to survive only in cultivation, in captivity or as a naturalised population(s) well outside the past range.

**CR** – Critically Endangered (CR) Species facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild in the immediate future.

**EN** – Endangered: Species that are not Critically Endangered but is facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild in the near future.

**VU** – Vulnerable: A species is Vulnerable when it is not Critically Endangered or Endangered but is facing a high risk of extinction in the wild in the medium-term future

**NT** – Near Threatened – A taxon considered to llikely to become endangered in the near future.

**LR(cd)** – Lower risk (conservation dependent)

**DD** – Data deficient – A taxon with insufficient data to make an assessment of its risk of extinction.

**RE** – Regionally Extinct – Taxa that are considered extinct within the region but populations exist elsewhere in the world.

**Inde** – indeterminate – based on a pre 1994 category: Taxa which are known to be Endangered, Vulnerable or Rare but with insufficient data to place them in one of the categories.

**Insu** – Insufficiently known - based on a pre 1994 category which equates to data deficient.

Species included here are from information compiled by JNCC (The Joint Nature Conservation Committee).

#### OTHER DESIGNATIONS: NATIONALLY NOTABLE SPECIES

This covers invertebrate species not falling within IUCN categories but never the less uncommon in Britain.

**Nationally Notable A** (Tagged Notable-A): Taxa which occur in <30 10 km (hectad) squares or for less well recorded groups within <7 vice counties.

**Nationally Notable B** (Tagged Notable-B): Taxa which don't fall within IUCN categories but are uncommon in Britain and occur in 31-100 10 km sq/ or for less or for less well recorded groups between 8 and 20 vice counties

**Notable** (Tagged Notable): Taxa known to be scarce (occurring in between 16 and 100 10km squares) but for which there is insufficient information to assign them to the above categories.

This designation comes from the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) species dictionary but is supported by JNCC.

#### OTHER DESIGNATIONS: NATIONALLY RARE OR SCARCE SPECIES

This designation covers species that are recognised to occur in only a few locations in Britain.

**Rare** (tagged as Status-NR) = occurring in 15 or fewer hectads (10 km squares) in the UK

**Scarce** (tagged as Status-NS) = occurring in 16 - 100 hectads in the UK.

#### OTHER DESIGNATIONS: BIRDS OF CONSERVATION CONCERN LISTS & RED LIST FUNGI

These lists were drawn up by leading governmental and non-governmental conservation organizations including the RSPB and British Trust for Ornithology. The most recent version was published in May 2009.

**Red List** (tagged Bird-Red) - species are those that are globally threatened, whose population or range has declined rapidly in recent years (i.e. by more than 50% in 25 years), or which have declined historically and not recovered.

**Amber List** (tagged Bird-Amber) - Amber list species are those whose population or range has declined moderately in recent years (by more than 25% but less than 50% in 25 years), those whose population has declined historically but recovered recently, rare breeders (fewer than 300 pairs), those with internationally important populations in the UK, those with localised populations, and those with an unfavourable conservation status in Europe.

**Red List Fungi** – This designation uses the Red Data List of Threatened British Fungi (preliminary assessment) by Shelley Evans (BMS Conservation Officer). Species are designated as:

Fungi Red-CR – Critically Endangered

Fungi Red-EN - Endangered

Fungi Red-NT – Near Threatened

Fungi Red-VU – Vulnerable

These follow current IUCN guidelines (2001) as closely as possible but with adaptations to take into account the fungal lifestyle and associated practicalities of fungal recording.

#### OTHER DESIGNATIONS: LOCAL BAP SPECIES

For any Local Authority that has drawn up a list of BAP species. Designations will only apply to species recorded from the Local Authority area.

Currently, only Bracknell Forest Council have such a BAP list and relevant records are tagged Bracknell LBAP.

# **DATA ORIGIN KEY**

Data Origin Abbreviation	Origin Details
AN	Abingdon Natural History Society
ANHSO	Ashmolean Natural History Society (& Rare Plant Group)
BBG	Binfield Badger Group
BBOWT	Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust
BC	Butterfly Conservation (includes Upper Thames and National Data)
BDS	British Dragonfly Society
BENHS	British Entomological Natural History Society
BFC	Bracknell Forest Council
BIG	Berkshire Invertebrate Group
BLWS	Berkshire Local Wildlife Sites Project
BMG	Berkshire Mammal Group
BOC	Berkshire Bird Clubs
BOS	Banbury Ornithological Society
BRAG	Berkshire Reptile & Amphibian Group
BRC	Biological Record Centre (Monk's Wood)
BSBBG	Berks & South Berks Bat Group
BSBI	Botanical Society of the British Isles
BTC	Banbury Town Council
ВТО	British Trust for Ornithology
BUWG	Bracknell Urban Wildlife Group
CBT	Childe Beale Trust
CDC	Cherwell District Council
CRPG	Cotswold Rare Plant Group
EA	Environment Agency (formally the National Rivers Authority)
EC	Professional Ecological Consultant
ET	The Earth Trust (formally the Northmoor Trust)
FLC	Friends of Longcot Churchyard
FWAG	Farmland Wildlife Advisory Group
НА	Highways Agency
LN	Local/National Expert (known to TVERC)
LWVP	Lower Windrush Valley Project
MGLG	Moor Green Lakes Group
MOP	Member of the Public
NE	Natural England/EN/NCC
NFC	Newbury Field Club
NHM	Natural History Museum
NPD	National Ponds Database
NRG	Newbury Ringing Group
NT	National Trust
OBG	Oxfordshire Bat Group
OBRC	Oxfordshire Biological Record Centre (TVERC precursor)
OCC	Oxfordshire County Council
OLWS	Oxfordshire Local Wildlife Sites Project
OMG	Oxfordshire Mossing Group
00S	Oxfordshire Ornithological Society
ORAG	Oxfordshire Reptile & Amphibian Group
OS	Otter Spotter Project

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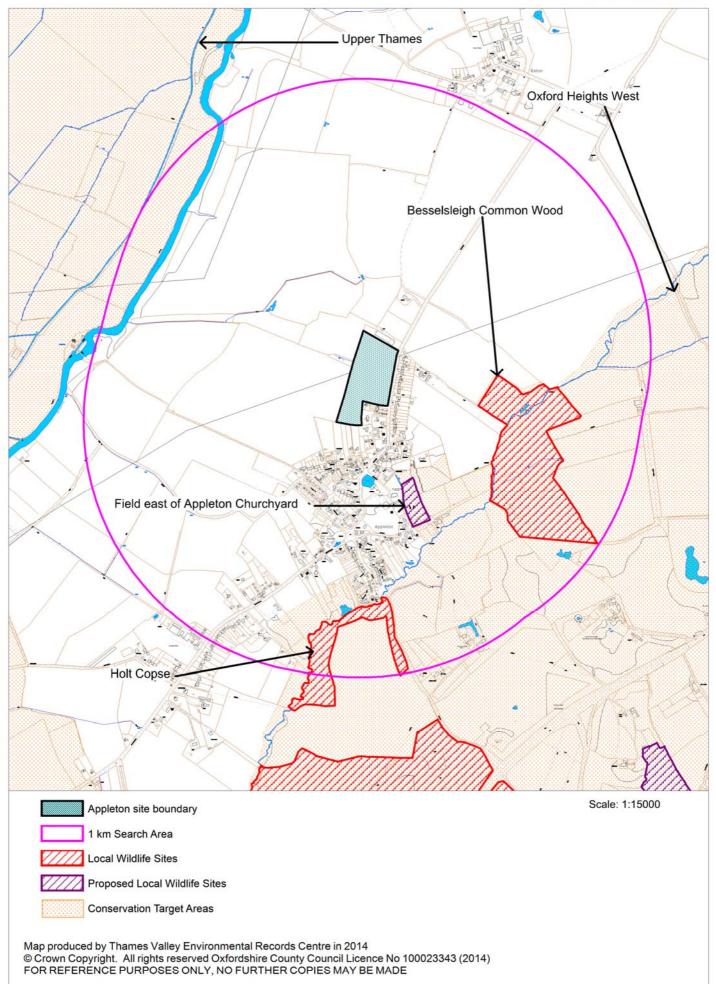
# **DATA ORIGIN KEY (Contd)**

Data Origin Abbreviation	Origin Details
OUNHM	Oxford University Natural History Museum
OUWG	Oxford Urban Wildlife Group
OX	Oxford City Council
PC	Pond Conservation
PL	Plantlife
PTES	People's Trust for Endangered Species
RBC	Reading Borough Council
RBWM	Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead
RDNHS	Reading and District natural History Society
RM	Reading Museum
RSPB	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
RUWG	Reading Urban Wildlife Group
RWP	Reading Woodlands Plan
SODC	South Oxfordshire District Council
SW	Shotover Wildlife
TVERC	Thames Valley Environmental Record Centre
TVFG	Thames valley Fungus Group
TW	Thames Water
U	Unknown
VCH	Victoria County History (historical records)
VWH	Vale of White Horse District Council
WB	West Berkshire District Council
WBC	Wokingham Borough Council
WIA	Wildlife in Ascot Group
WILDCRU	Wildlife Conservation Research Unit
WMUWG	Windsor & Maidenhead Urban Wildlife Group
WODC	West Oxfordshire District Council
WS	Wytham Survey
WWT	Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust
YE	Yattendon Estate

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# Appleton Designated Wildlife Sites Map





#### Oxfordshire Local Wildlife Site citation

### BESSELSLEIGH COMMON WOOD

Site Code: 40K05

Grid Reference: SP449017 Area (ha): 9.85 ha

Local Authority: Vale of White Horse Last Survey Date(s): 18 June 2007

Designation Date:

#### **Site Description**

Besselsleigh Common Wood supports areas of lowland mixed deciduous woodland and an area of wet woodland. Both are priority UK Biodiversity Action Plan habitats. The site has two main areas. The southern part is owned by the Vale of White Horse District Council. The Oxfordshire Woodland Project assists with management. The boundary between this area and the northern area is clearly marked by a post and wire fence. The northern area is in private ownership. The southern part of the site and the north-west area, known as Little England Copse are listed in the Ancient Woodland Inventory as semi-natural ancient woodland. There are banks and channels marking the border of these areas. However the other woodland has trees of a similar age and supports some of the richest areas of ground flora.

The slopes have oak and ash woodland with frequent sycamore, some birch and wild cherry. Some of the oak and ash are large. In the understory there is hazel coppice with some hawthorn, elder, redcurrant, holly, young sycamore and hornbeam, which is abundant in the south-west corner. The ground flora is varied with abundant, often dominant, bluebell and areas with abundant wood anemone, wood sorrel and dog's mercury. The lichen Lepidoza reptans, which is scarce in Oxfordshire, has been recorded in this part of the wood. Little England Copse is also oak and ash woodland. There are two large open areas dominated by bracken and bluebells. Around these areas, bracken is more abundant in the woodland. Honeysuckle, red campion and greater stichwort are found in these more acidic areas. In the north-east there is a large area of recent tree planting with oak, ash and beech.

There are patches of wetter woodland with alder and wild cherry on the slopes. The north-east of the area owned by the Council is also very wet and there is a pond at the edge. There is a more extensive area of wet woodland, with old coppiced alder and willow, at the base of the slope by the stream, where the ground is very marshy in places. Moschatel, marsh marigold and pendulous sedge are found here. Further north, on this flat area at the base of the slope, ash dominates and there is some alder and oak here.

Although the southern part of the wood is included as semi-natural ancient woodland in the ancient woodland inventory it has been replanted with sycamore or is very significantly modified. There is little or no understorey in

the area. Management has been undertaken and a significant area of sycamore has been removed and replanted with a mixture of typical native species. This planting is around an old ride and here there are some species associated with acidic soils such as sheep's sorrel and heath speedwell. At the edge of the sycamore plantation, larger oaks tend to dominate and the sycamore is generally quite young. The south-eastern edge is much more varied with open habitat (tall herb and rough grassland) and suckering elm. Under the remaining sycamore and oak/sycamore woodland the ground flora is dominated by dense bluebells and there are very few other species present. The most abundant other species are scattered bramble and bracken. This area includes a large badger sett.

<u>SECTION 41 HABITAT(S) OF PRINCIPLE IMPORTANCE</u>: Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland, Wet Woodland

<u>PROTECTED SPECIES</u>: Badger, bluebell.

SECTION 41 SPECIES OF PRINCIPLE IMPORTANCE: Song thrush

**RED DATA BOOK SPECIES:** 

**NATIONALLY SCARCE SPECIES:** 

**BIRDS OF CONSERVATION CONCERN:** 

Red-listed: Marsh Tit (2000), Song thrush Amber-listed: Green woodpecker, goldcrest

<u>ANCIENT WOODLAND INDICATORS</u>: wood anemone, wood sorrel, pendulous sedge, wood sedge, pignut, three-nerved sandwort, primrose, red currant, yellow pimpernel, bluebell, moschatel, holly.

#### Oxfordshire Local Wildlife Site citation

#### **HOLT COPSE**

Site Code: 40K02

Grid Reference: SP441009 Area (ha): 5 ha

Local Authority: Vale of White Horse Last Survey Date(s): 2008

Designation Date:

#### **Site Description**

Holt Copse consists of a narrow strip of Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland (UKBAP Priority habitat) bordered by a stream towards the south of Appleton. The woodland is marked on the ancient woodland inventory and twenty one ancient woodland indicators have been recorded at the site. The canopy is predominately ash with occasional oak, while alder is present towards the stream. Tall, overgrown hazel makes up the understorey with occasional hawthorn, areas of holly, wych elm, suckering elm and scattered field maple. Towards the south, rhododendron is present. Some honeysuckle and dog rose scramble across the understorey. The field layer varies but is predominately bluebell, wood anemone, dog's mercury, pignut, ivy and rough meadow-grass. Other species include sanicle, wood melick, wood millet, male fern, herb Robert and lords-and-ladies. In the damper areas towards the stream, the field layer includes locally abundant ramson's, bugle, enchanter's nightshade, wood sedge and tufted hair-grass. Red currant and gooseberry are also scattered throughout the woodland. The stream forms a western boundary and is lined with alder, pollarded crack willow, hazel and hawthorn. There is little in the way of emergent or aquatic vegetation in the stream. Some pendulous sedge and the invasive Himalayan balsam line the banks. A drain forms the eastern boundary and is heavily shaded, with a shallow flow. A footpath runs around the woodland.

### SECTION 41 HABITAT(S) OF PRINCIPLE IMPORTANCE:

lowland mixed deciduous woodland

#### **SECTION 41 SPECIES OF PRINCIPLE IMPORTANCE:**

**RED DATA BOOK SPECIES:** 

**NATIONALLY SCARCE SPECIES:** 

BIRDS OF CONSERVATION CONCERN:

Amber List: green woodpecker (2008), willow warbler (1985)

TYPICAL SPECIES of (habitat):

Twenty one ancient woodland indicators present: field maple, moschatel, ramsons, wood anemone, pendulous sedge, remote sedge, pignut, giant fescue, bluebell, holly, wood melick, wood millet, aspen, barren strawberry, primrose, wild cherry, red currant, field rose, sanicle, black bryony and guelder rose.

### **Oxfordshire Proposed Local Wildlife Site Description**

### FIELD EAST OF APPLETON CHURCHYARD

Site Code: 40L06

Grid Reference: SU44450155 Area (ha): 1.16

Local Authority: Vale of White Horse

### **Site Description**

This hay cut meadow supports a very large population of pignut and may support lowland meadow habitat.

SECTION 41 HABITAT(S) OF PRINCIPLE IMPORTANCE: Possible lowland meadow

Produced by TVERC 24/04/2013

## Oxford Heights West CTA (Conservation Target Area)

This complex area encompasses the Oxford Heights from west of the city to Appleton in the west and Frilford in the south west. Includes Cumnor Hill, Boars Hill and the woodlands to the south.

Joint Character Area: Midvale Ridge

**Landscape Types:** Wooded Estateland (western slopes, south east woodlands and running from Cumnor to Frilford). Wooded Farmland at Boars Hill and Hurst Hill. Rolling Farmland west of Lashford Lane.

**Geology**: Boars Hill is topped with glacial sand and gravel and sandstone. The Ampthill and Kimmeridge Clay band is found in the wooded area to the south where there are also further areas of glacial sand and gravel. On the western slopes there is a band of limestone and Oxford Clay mudstone towards the base. The northern escarpment is similar but also includes a band of sandstone. The area running from Cumnor to Frilford is sandstone with some limestone with alluvium along the stream valleys. Calcareous Grit, which is a mixture siltstone, sandstone and mudstone, is found at Appleton and in bands along the western streams.

**Topography:** The prominent hills west of Oxfordshire, sections of the Oxford Heights escapement to the north and near Appleton and the land running gently down to the Ock Valley to the south. This are is intersected by a number of streams including the Sandford Brook and brook flowing from Frilford to Cumnor. Three small valleys cut into the western slopes.

**Area of CTA:** 3297 hectares

#### **Biodiversity:**

- Fen: this area has the main concentration of fen in Oxfordshire especially along the Sandford Brook. There is reed dominated fen in the valleys on the western slopes and flushes on the northern escarpment and in woodland near Appleton. Hurst Hill has remnant Sphagnum bog and there are other areas on Cumnor Hill associated with large flushes.
- Wet Woodland: found is association with the fens and in woodland near Appleton.
- Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland: Found in the woodlands to the south-east, some of the woodland along the Sandford Brook at Cothill, in woodland on the northern escarpment, Hurst Hill, in the woodlands at Appleton and in remnants in Tubney Wood.
- Acid grassland: there are patches of acid grassland in some sites on Boars Hill. It is also found
  at Frilford Heath golf course and in restored land at Sheepstead Farm. It is also found on rides
  in Tubney Wood and there is remnant habitat at Besselsleigh Common Wood.
- Heathland: some areas have been restored at Sheepstead Farm. Has been known from Frilford Heath in the past. It was also present at Hurst Hill.
- Limestone Grassland: on the northern escarpment and in the small western valleys.
- Lowland Meadow: found on northern escarpment. Remnants are found elsewhere including a meadow at Appleton and some fairly acidic examples are found on Boars Hill.
- Geology: geological SSSIs are found at Dry Sandford Pit, Cumnor, Hitchcopse Pit, Hurst Hill and there are also two Local Geological Sites.
- Other species: arable wildflowers are found on sandy soils for example at Tubney Manor Farm. **Access**: Besselsleigh Common Wood, BBOWT reserves at Cothill, Oxford City Council land and a nature park on the western slopes. There are some accessible areas on Boars Hill.

#### Archaeology:

#### Oxfordshire Biodiversity Action Plan Targets associated with this CTA:

- 1. Lowland heathland and lowland dry acid grassland management<sup>1</sup> and restoration (on the sandstone).
- 2. Fen management and restoration.
- 3. Lowland mixed deciduous woodland management and restoration.
- 4. Lowland meadows management and restoration (mainly on the northern escarpment).
- 5. Lowland calcareous grassland management and creation.
- 6. Arable field margins management and creation (particularly for arable wildflowers).

#### Other targets:

Management of geological interest.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "Management" implies both maintaining the quantity, and maintaining and improving the quality of existing BAP habitat and incorporates the following target definitions: "Maintaining extent" and "Achieving Condition".

# GUIDANCE ON THE VARIOUS STATUTORY AND NON-STATUTORY WILDLIFE SITE DESIGNATIONS.

# SITE DESIGNATIONS THAT PROTECT THE UK'S NATURAL HERITAGE THROUGH STATUTE

# LOCAL NATURE RESERVES (LNRS) (IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND AND WALES)

Under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 LNRs may be declared by local authorities after consultation with the relevant statutory nature conservation agency. LNRs are declared and managed for nature conservation, and provide opportunities for research and education, or simply enjoying and having contact with nature.

#### NATIONAL NATURE RESERVES (NNRS)

NNRs contain examples of some of the most important natural and semi-natural terrestrial and coastal ecosystems in Great Britain. They are managed to conserve their habitats or to provide special opportunities for scientific study of the habitats communities and species represented within them.

NNRs are declared by the statutory country conservation agencies under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. In Northern Ireland, Nature Reserves are designated under the Amenity Lands Act (Northern Ireland) 1965.

#### RAMSAR SITES

Ramsar sites are designated under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, agreed in Ramsar, Iran, in 1971. Originally intended to protect sites of importance especially as waterfowl habitat, the Convention has broadened its scope over the years to cover all aspects of wetland conservation and wise use, recognizing wetlands as ecosystems that are extremely important for biodiversity conservation in general and for the well-being of human communities. The Convention adopts a broad definition of wetland, namely "areas of marsh, fen, peatland or water, whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed six metres". Wetlands "may incorporate riparian and coastal zones adjacent to the wetlands, and islands or bodies of marine water deeper than six metres at low tide lying within the wetlands".

There is only one Ramsar site in Berkshire or Oxfordshire, South West London Waterbodies.

# SITES OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST (SSSI) (ENGLAND, SCOTLAND AND WALES)

The SSSI series has developed since 1949 as the national suite of sites providing statutory protection for the best examples of the UK's flora, fauna, or geological or physiographical features. These sites are also used to underpin other national and international nature conservation designations. Most SSSIs are privately-owned or managed; others are owned or managed by public bodies or non-government organisations.

Originally notified under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, SSSIs have been renotified under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Improved provisions for the protection and management of SSSIs were introduced by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (in England and Wales) and the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004.

# SPECIAL AREAS OF CONSERVATION (SAC) AND SITES OF COMMUNITY IMPORTANCE (SCI)

SACs are designated under the EC Habitats Directive. SACs are areas which have been identified as best representing the range and variety within the European Union of habitats and (non-bird) species listed on Annexes I and II to the Directive. SACs in terrestrial areas and territorial marine waters out to 12 nautical miles are designated under the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended). New and/or amended Habitats sites which have been submitted to the European Commission by Government, but not yet formally adopted by the Commission, are referred to as candidate Special Areas of Conservation (cSACs). Sites which have been adopted by the EC, but not yet formally designated by governments of Member States are known as Sites of Community Importance (SCIs). In the UK, designation of SACs is devolved to the relevant administration within each country.

SACs, together with SPAs, form the Natura 2000 network.

#### **SPECIAL PROTECTION AREAS (SPA)**

SPAs are classified by the UK Government under the EC Birds Directive. SPAs are areas of the most important habitat for rare (listed on Annex I to the Directive) and migratory birds within the European Union. SPAs in terrestrial areas and territorial marine waters out to 12 nautical miles are classified under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

SPAs, together with SACs, form the Natura 2000 network.

# NON-STATUTORY NATURAL HERITAGE CONSERVATION DESIGNATIONS

#### LOCAL WILDLIFE SITES

Local authorities for any given area may designate certain areas as being of local conservation interest. The criteria for inclusion, and the level of protection provided, if any, may vary between areas. Most individual counties have a similar scheme, although they do vary.

Most Local Wildlife Sites systems involve a panel of ecologists and others in the development of local criteria and the selection of the sites. Panels usually include a local government ecologist, an Natural England representative, the Local Wildlife Trust, the Local Environmental Record Centre and sometimes include a representative of local landowners and local naturalists.

These sites, which may be given various titles such as 'County Wildlife Sites' (CWS), 'Local Wildlife Sites' (LWS), 'Local Nature Conservation Sites' (LNCS), 'Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation' (SINCs), or Sites of Nature Conservation Importance' (SNCIs), together with statutory designations, are defined in local plans under the Town and Country Planning system and the National Planning Policy Framework and are a material consideration when planning applications are being determined.

As part of a national standardisation process these sites have recently been renamed as Local Wildlife Sites in Oxfordshire and Berkshire. Previously they were known as County Wildlife Sites in Oxfordshire and Wildlife Heritage Sites in Berkshire. Although the use of these names, especially in citations and descriptions, is being edited and replaced with Local Wildlife Sites or LWS it is likely that some references will remain to these former names until this is complete.

#### PROPOSED LOCAL WILDLIFE SITES AND EXTENSIONS

These are also included on designated sites maps. They are areas thought to include important areas of UKBAP habitat or priority or protected species populations. Extensions are likely to have similar habitats to the adjacent Local Wildlife Sites. Local Authorities are made aware of these sites. They will not have been fully surveyed and taken to the selection panel as yet.

#### **NGO PROPERTIES / NATURE RESERVES**

A variety of non-governmental organisations such as the John Muir Trust, Plantlife, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Wildlife Trusts and Woodland Trust own or manage nature reserves or other areas of land that are important for biodiversity. These sites may be intended primarily for nature conservation, or for other purposes such as protection of landscape features or the provision public access to the countryside. These areas of themselves have no statutory basis, but a large number are also designated SSSIs / NNRs / SPAs / SACs / Ramsar sites, etc.

In Berkshire and Oxfordshire, BBOWT (Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust), Woodland Trust and RSPB sites fall into this category.

#### LOCAL GEOLOGICAL SITES (LGS)

Local Geological Sites formerly known as Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites (RIGS) are the most important places for geology and geomorphology outside statutorily protected land such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). As part of a national standardisation process these sites have recently been renamed as Local Geological Sites in Oxfordshire and Berkshire. Sites are selected under locally-developed criteria, according to their value for education, scientific study, historical significance or aesthetic qualities. Whilst not benefiting from statutory protection, LGS are equivalent to Local Wildlife Sites, and "...consideration of their importance becomes integral to the planning process".

#### **OTHER SITES**

Occasionally other sites might be shown on maps. These are likely to be sites with some wildlife interest, usually managed by local groups, local authorities or town councils but which do not have a specific statutory or non-statutory designation.

Some local authorities within Oxfordshire and Berkshire have identified other sites which are protected through policies in their local plans, including sites of local importance to nature conservation (SLINCs) in oxford city and district wildlife sites in Cherwell. For SLINCs we only show sites on maps that are not local wildlife sites or proposed local wildlife sites.

## CONSERVATION TARGET AREAS/ BIODIVERSITY OPPORTUNITY AREAS

These landscape scale areas have been identified as supporting high concentrations of UKBAP habitats and species populations and the potential to restore habitats at a landscape scale. These areas act as a focus for targeting resources into habitat management and restoration.