

Ecology Review

ONGAR PARK ESTATE, NORTH WEALD BASSETT

Peer Group plc

Updated January 2018

Report updated January 2018

Since the report was first issued in December 2016, the following has happened or can be confirmed:

- The report was prepared to address ecological opportunities and constraints in relation to the Ongar Park Estate site at North Weald.
- An update Site review carried out in January 2018 has established that since December 2016 there have been some minor changes to ecological circumstances on site described below, but none that would materially affect the conclusions of the report.
- The minor changes are as follows:
 - the occurrence of a seasonally wet 'scrape' in a small area of scrub, which also supports two oak trees, within the golf course landscape (Amenity 1), located some 100m to the SW of the marked pond (Habitat Zonation Plan, Appendix A). At the previous survey in 2016, this small area of golf course scrub was dry and showed no indication of wet conditions. As this area has now been shown to provide an ephemeral water body it will need to be included in the newt survey along with the existing marked pond and other water bodies within the 500m territorial range of great crested newts. It will also need to be retained as part of any detailed scheme proposals.
 - At the time of the 2016 survey parts of the golf course (Amenity 1) had been disturbed and cultivated for re-seeding and were of minimal ecological interest. These areas have subsequently regenerated as 'non-golf rough' and now consist of rough grass / tall ruderal vegetation, apparently subject to low key management. If these areas are not subject to a more intensive cutting management regime they are likely to develop into habitat suitable for herptiles and ground nesting birds and other wildlife, rendering a lower proportion of Amenity 1 of minimal ecological value.
- Noting these additional ecological considerations, we consider the report remains valid as written. As stated in the original report, the ecological baseline data for the site will need to be informed by specialist ecological survey for a range of protected and other notable species prior to any application submission and a regime of suitable mitigation agreed.
- The Ecological Appraisal report was submitted to the Council and the Council has been invited to comment. At the time of writing no specific comments have been raised by EFDC.
- We consider that notwithstanding the potential for parts of the site to support protected and other notable species of wildlife, there is

sufficient scope for retention of the key elements of the site habitat (ponds, semi-mature woodland and rough grass / scrub mosaic habitat) within the adopted approach, whilst developing the remainder, subject to appropriate ecological mitigation and off-set.

- We maintain that the scope for provision of an extensive Country Park within adjacent land to the east of the site (within the same ownership) as proposed (Figure 11, Landscape and Biodiversity Opportunities Plan), would secure substantial nature conservation benefit in perpetuity and would render the scheme proposals acceptable in ecological terms and demonstrate that our approach secures the best objective for future management and enhancement of biodiversity objectives in the long term.

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Peer Group plc

December 2016

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CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	1
1.1	Background and Methodology	1
2	EXISTING ECOLOGICAL INTERESTS	3
2.1	Site Environs	3
2.2	Statutory Protected and Other Notified Sites	3
2.3	Statutorily Protected and Other Notable Species	5
2.4	Habitat Types and Species Present	8
3	HABITAT SCHEDULE (TARGET NOTES)	9
3.1	Amenity Land	9
3.2	Woodland / Tree Belt	9
3.3	Grassland / Scrub / Tall Ruderal	10
3.4	Wetland	13
4	ECOLOGICAL IMPACT, MITIGATION MEASURES AND HABITAT CREATION PROPOSALS	14
4.1	Ecological Impact	14
4.2	Mitigation Measures and Ecological Enhancement Measures	16
4.3	Overall Ecological Appraisal Summary	20
APPENDICES:		
APPENDIX A	PHASE 1 HABITAT ZONATION DRAWING	
APPENDIX B	DESK TOP STUDY DATA	

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and Methodology

- 1.1.1 The following preliminary ecological appraisal report provides the results of a Phase 1 Habitat walkover survey of the North Weald Bassett site undertaken in November 2016, along with the results of a desk-top study.
- 1.1.2 Consideration has also been given to the allocation of a significant extent of adjacent land to the east, in the same land ownership as open land. There is scope in this area for positive benefit in terms of ecological enhancement of the Site and its environs, including opportunities for new habitat creation and restoration / long term management of new and existing habitats (see Biodiversity and Opportunities Plan, Figure 11, Environmental Issues Report, Appendix A).
- 1.1.3 The information included in this report is based on site survey undertaken in November 2016, during suitable weather conditions and in accordance with JNCC 'best practice guidelines'. The survey was undertaken by Susan Deakin BSc MSc CMLI, a suitably qualified ecologist, with over 30 years' experience in carrying out ecological field survey and undertaking ecological impact assessment.
- 1.1.4 It is expected that this initial appraisal would be followed by specialist badger, bat, great crested newt, reptile and other species surveys in the spring / summer 2017, together with botanical survey of the composition of the grassland and scrub habitat in the western part of the site, in order to more fully evaluate its ecological value and determine baseline conditions.
- 1.1.5 This report is accompanied by a Phase 1 Habitat Zonation Drawing (Appendix A) and Desk Top Study Data (Appendix B). Available biological data relating to protected and other notable species and wildlife sites was obtained from the Essex Wildlife Trust (EWT) and the MAGIC 'natureonthemap' website and the Essex Mammal Group. Reference has also been made to a previous Habitat Survey, Capita Symonds (2011).

1.1.6 There follows in Sections 2 and 3 of the Report, a description of the existing ecological interests of the Site, including:

- statutory protection and other notifications
- site context
- habitat types and species present
- ecological evaluation.

1.1.7 Section 4 sets out a preliminary assessment of the potential ecological impacts and opportunities posed by the scheme proposals. The results of the survey also provide useful baseline data to highlight the potential for enhancing the nature conservation interest of land adjacent to the through the implementation of appropriate habitat improvement, restoration and creation schemes (see Biodiversity and Opportunities Plan, Figure 11, Environmental Issues Report, Appendix A).

2 EXISTING ECOLOGICAL INTERESTS

2.1 Site Environs

2.1.1 The Site comprises a linear area of land located on the south-eastern edge of North Weald Bassett, in Essex and the eastern part of the Site comprises part of Blakes Golf Course. The site is sub-divided by a track running in a NW-SE direction and the land to the west of the track is a combination of former managed grassland, now rough grassland with tall ruderal vegetation and scrub, with part of a belt of semi-mature oak dominated woodland.

2.1.2 The south-eastern boundary of the Site is not defined and the golf course and unmanaged grassland / woodland habitats extend to the south-east and east. The land to the north-west of the Site consists of residential development on the eastern edge of North Weald Bassett. Part of the Weald Common Local Wildlife Site (LoWS), also designated as a Local Nature Reserve (LNR), comprising flood defence land, lies to the immediate south-west of the Site.

2.2 Statutory Protected and Other Notified Sites

2.2.1 The proposed development Site does not contain, adjoin or include any statutorily designated sites of ecological interest, such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), National Nature Reserves, Special Protection Areas (SPAs) or other sites designated under UK or European Directives, with the exception of part of the Weald Common LNR (see above). There are a number of other LNR sites within reasonably close proximity of the Site including the Church Lane Flood Meadow LNR, to the west of the village and Roughtalleys Wood (LNR) also to the west of North Weald Bassett. The closest SSSI (also designated under European legislation) is Epping Forest SSSI, which is located approximately 2km to the west of the Site, beyond the M11 motorway.

2.2.2 Weald Common LNR which consists of two disjointed meadows, is also notified as a LoWS (ref EP124) and the eastern sector is located to the immediate west of the Site. The meadows were created in 1996 as part of a flood defence scheme for the village

and have now developed into notable wildflower meadows supporting betony, ragged robin, sedges and a significant cowslip assemblage. The bio-diverse grassland, includes wet meadows, drains and pond habitat, known to be inhabited by frogs and newts and a notable aquatic invertebrate population. Due to the proximity of the Site to this nationally important habitat complex, it will be necessary to ensure that there are no direct or indirect impacts on the LNR and its inhabiting wildlife as a result of scheme proposals. The site is owned and managed by Epping Forest District Council and public access is available only to the western meadow area.

- 2.2.3 Other LoWS within close vicinity of the Site include the Tylers Green Grasslands LoWS (ref EP138) and the adjacent Reynkyns Wood LoWS (EP145), an area of ancient woodland dominated by hornbeam coppice, with occasional oak and field maple standards and a sparse ground cover. The Tylers Green Grasslands to the north of the A414 consist of a complex of mainly damp/wet grasslands, grading into drier habitat, located close to the eastern end of the Site but separated from it by the A414.
- 2.2.4 The Ongar Radio Station LoWS (ref EP130) lies some 200m to the south of the Site. It is a derelict WW2 Marconi radio station comprising old grassland, now colonised by secondary woodland and scrub, with remnant areas of acidic grassland, other areas of rabbit grazed grassland and tall sward rough grassland. This area would provide an opportunity for significant biodiversity gain through the implementation of a regime of conservation management. Large concrete foundations and anchors remain on this area following the removal of the radio masts.
- 2.2.5 There are expected to be no direct or indirect adverse impacts on these habitats as a result of scheme proposals, although the potential for increased recreational pressure on sites open to the public would need to be managed to prevent deterioration of habitat through use.
- 2.2.6 The LoWS mapping and citations are included in the data received from EWT in Appendix B.
- 2.2.7 Within the vicinity of the Site are several Habitats of Principle Importance (HPI) UK and Essex Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Habitats, including Wood Pasture and Parkland (Ongar Park, to the east of Blakes Golf Course), Grassland Lowland

Meadows and Neutral and Acid Grassland (within the Weald Common, Tylers Green Grasslands and the Ongar Radio Station LoWSs), Hedgerows in the general vicinity, Ponds including Reedbeds (Weald Common LoWS and ponds within the golf course), Urban and Brownfield (within the vicinity of Weald Bassett) and Lowland Farmland (within the general vicinity). With the exception of a pond in the eastern part of the Site, these HPI and BAP habitats are not represented in the Site itself.

2.3 Statutorily Protected and Other Notable Species

2.3.1 In terms of species protected under The Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended) and European legislation, the Phase 1 survey indicates that the majority of the eastern sector of the Site, forming part of the Blakes Golf Course, comprises intensively managed grassland and other golf course habitats, with a small number of specimen trees, is generally unsuitable for most statutorily protected or other notable species. There is a possible exception of roosting bats in a small number of mature and over-mature oak trees within and close to the Site and there is also a possibility that the pond in the eastern extremity of the Site and a small number of similar ponds and a linear feature within the adjacent golf course could support protected species of herpetile including grass snakes and great crested newts.

2.3.2 Due to this potential and the potential for the scrub, young woodland and grassland habitat in the western part of the Site to support badgers and possibly bats, dormice and reptiles, breeding birds and other wildlife, further more detailed specialist survey will need to be undertaken at a later stage to support any more detailed scheme proposals

Badgers

2.3.3 Badgers are afforded specific protection under The Protection of Badgers Act, 1992. The initial walkover survey indicated no active or disused badger setts within or in close proximity of the Site, however, this survey was not comprehensive. There was some evidence of badger activity including some suspected badger foraging of anthills in Wood 1. There were no recent records of badger activity provided in the data search.

Bats

- 2.3.4 All species of bats are statutorily protected under UK and European statute. There are no buildings within the Site of any potential as bat roosting habitat, although a number of the mature and over-mature specimen trees within the eastern part and northern boundary of the Site have some potential as bat roosts. There is also a possibility that site boundaries and other vegetation belts associated with the western part of the Site provide potential flight / foraging corridors for bat species such as common pipistrelle and brown long eared bat. It is not, however, anticipated that any trees of potential to support roosting bats will be lost to the proposed development of the Site and it is expected that the proposed works will safeguard the future longevity of the trees.
- 2.3.5 Given appropriate development it is possible that the Site could potentially increase the value of the area for roosting bats, through the provision of micro-habitats of potential for bat roosts including bat bricks and suitable architectural features in the new buildings and bat boxes installed in mature trees within the Site.
- 2.3.6 The data search indicated a number of records of pipistrelle and Serotine bats in the study area.
- 2.3.7 Given the potential for some of the mature trees on and around the Site to possess micro-habitat suitable for roosting bats (such as cavities and loose bark), a more detailed inspection of trees should be undertaken by a bat specialist at the appropriate stage.

Reptiles and Amphibians

- 2.3.8 The grassland habitat within the eastern part of the Site is generally unsuitable for terrestrial use by amphibians and reptiles due to regular intensive management but unmanaged grassland and scrub / young woodland habitat in the western part could support protected species of herptile including grass snakes and great crested newts in their terrestrial phase.
- 2.3.9 The data-search has not indicated any records of great crested newts or protected species of reptile, however, this does not necessarily mean that they are absent. The pond in the eastern extremity of the Site and other ponds and a linear wetland

feature in the adjacent golf course, along with wetland habitat in the adjacent Weald Common LNR adjoining the western end of the Site, could potentially support breeding populations of great crested newts. It is therefore considered necessary for specialist herpetological survey to be undertaken to determine this material consideration and to enable a suitable programme of mitigation to be undertaken / Natural England licences to be obtained if necessary.

Other Protected Species, Birds and Other Notable Species of Wildlife

- 2.3.10 The Site does not contain wetland habitat suitable for use by otters or water voles. The desk study has not indicated any records of dormice within the wider study area (2km of the Site). Whilst the young woodland, scrub and unmanaged grassland in the western part of the Site, along with a smaller area of rough grass and scrub at the eastern end of the Site could potentially support this protected species, the lack of records in the area, the general lack of connecting habitat and the immature nature of the habitats indicate that this species is not considered likely to be present.
- 2.3.11 The scrub, young woodland, unmanaged grassland, the pond and occasional specimen mature /over-mature trees on the Site all also provide potential breeding habitat for a number of bird species. Local authorities have a duty under Regulation 9A of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 'to take such steps in the exercise of their functions as they consider appropriate to contribute to the preservation, maintenance and re-establishment of a sufficient diversity and area of habitat for wild birds'. Any ecological assessment must take this into consideration when proposing appropriate mitigation and compensation measures.
- 2.3.12 During the walkover site survey a number of characteristic garden and hedgerow species were noted on the Site, including blackbird, linnet, wood pigeon, skylark, green woodpecker, kestrel, magpie, tree creeper, dunnoek, blue tit, great tit and robin.
- 2.3.13 As part of the recommended specialist bat survey an initial assessment should also be undertaken for owls and other cavity nesting species, including starling, great tit, nuthatch, kestrel and woodpeckers.

- 2.3.14 A number of common mammals were recorded during the site survey including grey squirrel, fox, roe and muntjac deer, rabbits and field mouse.
- 2.3.15 The young woodland, unmanaged grassland, tall ruderal vegetation and scrub, as well as the pond and the occasional mature trees and other habitats within the Site are likely to support a range of characteristic and common invertebrates, including beetles, crane flies, butterflies and moths.

2.4 Habitat Types and Species Present

- 2.4.1 The major eastern part of the Site consists of intensively managed golf course grassland with a small number of isolated mature / over-mature tree oak tree specimens, along with a scattering of young trees.
- 2.4.2 The western part of the Site consists of former agricultural grassland, with tall ruderal growth and scrub, with part of a belt of secondary woodland.
- 2.4.3 The location and types of habitat present on the application site are shown on the accompanying Phase 1 Habitat Zonation Drawing (Appendix A).
- 2.4.4 For each habitat type present on the site, a target note and evaluation is provided in terms of ecological interest. This is categorised according to minimal, low, moderate or high value, in the local, county or national context.
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3 HABITAT SCHEDULE (TARGET NOTES)

3.1 Amenity Land

3.1.1 Amenity 1

3.1.2 The eastern sector of the Site consists of a peripheral part of Blakes Golf Course. The predominant land use is intensively managed grass (generally species poor, with some ingress of bristly sow thistle and other ruderals in areas of mown golf rough), with bunkers, a scattering of young trees and some areas of disturbed / cultivated ground (likely to be in the process of re-seeding). The land consists of made-ground and is variably contoured for golf purposes. At the site visit kestrel, magpie and wood pigeon were noted flying over the golf course.

3.1.3 Ecological Evaluation: minimal / low in the local context.

3.2 Woodland / Tree Belt

3.2.1 Wood 1

3.2.2 A semi-mature tree belt consisting of secondary woodland dominated by mainly semi-mature oak with birch, field maple, ash, hawthorn, blackthorn, occasional sycamore and willow. There is variably frequent bramble, with other parts of the woodland (which extends to the east of the Site), colonised by tall ruderal vegetation including nettle, dock, bristly sow thistle and creeping thistle.

3.2.3 The ground flora is generally sparse and in places bare due to shading, although there are remnant areas of grassland (some rabbit grazed) including fescues, bents, cocksfoot, wood avens, wood sorrel, with nettle, herb Robert, along with ivy and some ground ivy.

3.2.4 The woodland is undoubtedly used by breeding birds and at the time of the survey blackbird, linnet, tree creeper, blue tit, green woodpecker, pheasant, magpie and wood pigeon were noted. The woodland is also likely to support a range of common invertebrates including decay organisms, beetles and also aphids and a number of

characteristic moths and butterflies. There are a number of ant hills, one of which had evidence of badger foraging. The boundaries of the woodland may be used by commuting and foraging bats but it is unlikely that the immature tree specimens within the wood possess micro-habitat suitable for use by bats (including cavities and loose bark). The wood is used by roe and muntjac deer.

3.2.5 Ecological Evaluation: moderate in the local context.

3.3 Grassland / Scrub / Tall Ruderal

3.3.1 *Grassland / Scrub / Tall Ruderal 1*

3.3.2 A relatively small area of rough grass and frequent tall ruderal vegetation with invading and well developed bramble thicket, dog rose and other scrub including young regenerating oak and birch and a clump of willow at the southern end and several conifers. It includes a mature oak specimen and a nearby ivy-clad dead tree, with some potential for roosting bats. It backs onto residential development and the south-western part of the area consists of short mown grass (garden extension). The remnants of grassland community includes creeping soft grass, sweet vernal grass, Yorkshire fog and cocksfoot.

3.3.3 The scrubby area is likely to support a range of breeding and feeding birds and a reasonable diversity of typical invertebrates, including meadow brown butterfly, cinnabar and other moths, crane flies and spiders. Grey squirrel was noted along with fox and field mouse. There could also be potential for reptiles and amphibians in their terrestrial phase, along with dormice, foraging bats and other small mammals.

3.3.4 Ecological Evaluation: low/moderate in the local context (depending on results of specialist survey).

3.3.5 *Grassland / Scrub / Tall Ruderal 2*

3.3.6 This is a narrow area fringe of tall ruderal vegetation and bramble thicket along the generally open rear garden boundary forming part of the northern boundary of the Site. It also includes compost heaps and may be frequented by reptiles and a typical range of breeding and feeding birds and invertebrates

3.3.7 Ecological Evaluation: low in the local context.

3.3.8 *Grassland / Scrub / Tall Ruderal 3*

3.3.9 This recti-linear area of rough grassland with tall ruderal vegetation and a variable degree of scrub ingress extends to the east of the Site. The areas of remnant rough grass tends to be dominated by a varied grass component including creeping soft grass, sweet vernal grass, Yorkshire fog, with fine-leaved species including fescues and bent, along with annual meadow grass, crested dogs tail, meadow foxtail, cocksfoot and timothy, along with an sporadic distribution of giant fescue and some mossy areas.

3.3.10 The broad leaved and ruderal component includes red and white clover, common vetch, cow parsley, chickweed and creeping buttercup, creeping cinquefoil, self heal, leontodon, with some localised growth of teasel, bristly sow thistle, creeping thistle, dock, marestail, great willow herb, pendulous sedge and other sedges and rushes, mugwort, hogweed and occasional nettle and ragwort, with some garden escapes including frequent aster. There are scattered mainly young willow and occasional birch and oak, with more frequent bramble and dog rose scrub. The ground is variable water logged.

3.3.11 Skylarks (UK BAP Priority Species) were observed in this area, along with green woodpecker, blackbird, blue tit, dunnoek, magpie, carrion crow and kestrel and it is likely to be used by feeding and breeding birds, along with a reasonable diversity of typical invertebrates. This sort of habitat also has potential to support reptiles and amphibians in their terrestrial phase. There is also a possibility of badgers, dormice, foraging bats and other small mammals being present.

3.3.12 Ecological Evaluation: low/moderate in the local context (depending on the results of specialist survey).

3.3.13 *Grassland / Scrub / Tall Ruderal 4*

3.3.14 Relatively extensive area of former agricultural grassland (referenced as partially semi-improved grassland and partially tall ruderal with scattered scrub in the 2011 Habitat Survey, Capita Symonds). This area is currently unmanaged and consists of rough grassland with tall ruderal vegetation and a variable degree of scrub ingress

particularly dominant on the northern (abutting existing residential development) and southern (merging into Wood 1) fringes of the area. Similar to Grassland / Scrub / Tall Ruderal 3, the areas of remnant rough grass tend to be dominated by a varied grass component including creeping soft grass, sweet vernal grass, Yorkshire fog, with some areas of rabbit grazed fine-leaved species including fescues and bent, along with cocksfoot and timothy, along with an sporadic distribution of giant fescue and some mossy areas.

- 3.3.15 The broad leaved and ruderal component includes red and white clover, common vetch, cow parsley, chickweed and creeping buttercup, creeping cinquefoil, self heal, leontodon, with some localised growth of teasel, bristly sow thistle, creeping thistle, dock, great willow herb, hemlock, marestail, great willow herb, pendulous sedge and other sedges and rushes, mugwort, hogweed and occasional nettle and ragwort, with some garden escapes including frequent aster and some golden rod. There are scattered mainly young oak, with a variable distribution of birch and willow, with more frequent bramble and some dog rose scrub. There are a number of good mature oak trees along the northern boundary with the existing residential development, which have some potential for roosting bats.
- 3.3.16 Skylarks (UK BAP Priority Species) were observed in this area, along with green woodpecker, blackbird, blue tit, dunnoek, magpie, carrion crow and kestrel and it is likely to be used by feeding and breeding birds, along with a reasonable diversity of typical invertebrates. This sort of habitat also has potential to support reptiles and amphibians in their terrestrial phase. There is also a possibility of badgers, dormice, foraging bats and other small mammals being present.
- 3.3.17 The western apex of this area abuts the Weald Common LoWS / LNR and associated wetland habitat.
- 3.3.18 Ecological Evaluation: low/moderate in the local context (depending on the results of specialist survey).
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3.4 Wetland

3.4.1 *Pond 1*

3.4.2 This is a pond within the golf course close to the northern apex of the Site and is thought to be of relatively recent origin. It comprises a reasonably substantial area of open water with a variably wide (2-10m wide) fringe of marginal vegetation dominated by common reed, with occasional young willow, oak and birch saplings. The pond is likely to support a range of characteristic aquatic fauna including breeding birds (at the survey visit reed warbler and great tit were noted, along with moorhen) and aquatic invertebrates and there is a potential for use by amphibians, including great crested newts. This pond lies adjacent to the boundary of the proposed development and would be retained.

3.4.3 Ecological Evaluation: moderate in the local context (high if great crested newts or other protected / BAP Priority Species are found to be present).

3.4.4 *Ditch 1*

3.4.5 A small ditch, seasonally wet becoming drier to the west, on the southern boundary of the golf course. The ditch supports common reed with a number of other marginal species including sedges, rushes and great willow herb, along with occasional willow saplings.

3.4.6 Ecological Evaluation: low / moderate in the local context.

3.4.7 *Ditch 2*

3.4.8 Similar to Ditch 1 and running parallel to it adjacent to a track crossing the Site in a NW-SE direction.

3.4.9 Ecological Evaluation: low / moderate in the local context.

4 ECOLOGICAL IMPACT, MITIGATION MEASURES AND HABITAT CREATION PROPOSALS

4.1 Ecological Impact

- 4.1.1 In this section an appraisal is made of any potential adverse ecological impacts that could be posed by the proposed residential development and associated ecological enhancement measures proposed within the Site, with a view to providing positive nature conservation impact.
- 4.1.2 Impacts can be sub-divided into direct losses and indirect effects, short and medium term impacts caused by construction and longer term impacts resulting from ongoing operational use of the site. These impacts may be temporary or permanent in duration and there is also a possibility of cumulative or secondary effects.
- 4.1.3 In terms of **direct losses** of habitat, it is expected that the development proposals will be largely restricted to areas of existing golf course and a localised area of rough grassland / tall ruderal / scrub in the eastern sector and former agricultural grassland, now rough grass colonised by tall ruderal vegetation and scrub and an area of secondary woodland in the western part of the Site and that the golf course pond, secondary woodland and occasional mature specimen trees, will be retained intact.
- 4.1.4 The area of former agricultural grassland to be lost is considered to be of generally low / moderate ecological value in the local context, although this is to be fully determined following specialist ecological survey to ascertain whether any protected or other notable species including reptiles, great crested newts (in their terrestrial phase), bats, badgers or dormice are present. Ponds are present within the great crested newt territorial range of 500m
- 4.1.5 A small number of mature trees within the Site may be used by roosting bats and the Site boundaries and other vegetated corridors eg the edges of the secondary woodland in the western part of the Site, may be used by foraging / commuting bats.

Due to the scheme proposals to retain and enhance a substantial area of adjacent land to be subject to ecological protection and enhancement (see Landscape and Biodiversity Opportunities Plan), there is significant potential for habitat losses within the Site to be mitigated and for bat and other wildlife habitats to be improved (see Biodiversity and Opportunities Plan, Figure 11, Environmental Issues Report, Appendix A).

- 4.1.6 The existing small area of secondary woodland within the Site boundary would be subject to habitat enhancement / restorative measures to improve its ecological integrity and intrinsic biodiversity value as part of the scheme proposals. There would therefore be no predicted direct negative impact on this habitat but conversely there is scope for significant positive direct impact, in terms of associated habitat enhancement through conservation management and habitat creation (see below).
- 4.1.7 During the proposed Site development there is a potential risk of direct disturbance to nesting birds, including ground nesting species. Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended), it is illegal to disturb any active bird's nest during the breeding season, and this even applies to birds which might generally be considered to be nuisance species, such as pigeons. It will therefore be necessary for vegetation clearance works, to avoid the bird breeding season (generally late February to August).
- 4.1.8 **Indirect impact** on the immediate area and also at the wider habitat level can be sub-divided into the short term impacts experienced during the site clearance and the construction period and any long term effects as a result of ongoing use of the Site.
- 4.1.9 During the period of site clearance and the subsequent construction works there will be some inevitable short term disturbance and potential for adverse impacts on the retained woodland and hedgerow habitats and specimen trees within and close to the Site. This is likely to include noise, vibration, light, runoff, dust, other particulate pollution and physical disturbance. It is expected in this case it will be possible to significantly reduce the potential indirect effects of construction activities, through adhering to the mitigation measures outlined below (see 4.2).

- 4.1.10 In the longer term there is potential for indirect ecological impact, once the construction has been completed, relating to on-going occupation of the new dwellings and associated noise, lighting and physical disturbance. It will be necessary to ensure that there is no adverse impact on any local bat populations as a result of scheme lighting proposals.
- 4.1.11 There is, conversely, the opportunity for positive impact as a result of the provision of habitat enhancement and creation (see below).
- 4.1.12 In order for the scheme proposals to be viewed in a positive light it will be necessary to demonstrate that the predictable indirect effects on the Weald Common LoWS / LNR and other nearby notified sites of county level nature conservation interest, can be minimised to an acceptable level through appropriate buffering and other strategic mitigation and that any residual negative impacts can be offset through habitat enhancement, new habitat creation and other associated community benefits, mainly associated with the enhancement of the adjacent land to the east (see Biodiversity and Opportunities Plan, Figure 11, Environmental Issues Report, Appendix A). There will be no predicted adverse impacts on any other site of county or national value in the wider vicinity of the Site, either in the long or short term.
- 4.1.13 The proposals, whilst currently preliminary, have the scope, through the implementation of substantial, ecologically sympathetic habitat enhancement measures within and adjacent to the Site to improve the biodiversity value of the surrounding habitats and to provide micro-habitats of specific value to wildlife.

4.2 Mitigation Measures and Ecological Enhancement Measures

- 4.2.1 It is envisaged that through the stipulation of appropriate mitigation measures relating both to the site clearance and subsequent construction period disturbance will be minimised. The following strategy of mitigation and enhancement is proposed:

4.2.2 *Mitigation Measures*

4.2.3 The following general ecological mitigation measures apply to the scheme proposals:

- the location of BS approved fencing to be agreed prior to commencement of works, to protect the pond and the area of semi-mature woodland, other retained habitat corridors and mature specimen trees. The fence will be installed around the external perimeter of the Root Protection Area (RPA) of each retained tree / or a combined RPA area.
- protected areas (within BS approved fencing) to be 'out of bounds' during the clearance and construction phase, for personnel, machinery and for storage of materials, service installation etc., except when these areas are being actively subject to works.
- best practise to be enforced during the site clearance and reinstatement period, in terms of site 'housekeeping', control measures, supervision and monitoring, as appropriate. This to include 'safe' siting of potentially hazardous stored materials, such as oil, fuels, cement, chemicals etc.
- daily site routine timed to minimise the need for lighting, this will also restrict noise and vibration disturbance to daylight hours, thus reducing potential disturbance to nocturnal animals and other wildlife.
- works programme designed to avoid disturbance to breeding birds i.e.no clearance of vegetation that is being actively used for bird breeding purposes, during the February to August period.
- if possible (determined by contractual programme and other logistical considerations), areas of proposed new planting and other habitat creation to commence in advance of main construction works, to encourage rapid establishment of vegetation and creation of useful new wildlife habitat.
- new areas of planting / habitat to be subject to an initial three year period of intensive establishment management, to aid rapid establishment.

4.2.4 Other specific mitigation measures relating to statutorily protected or other notable species of wildlife would be determined if appropriate following completion of any specialist ecological surveys that may be undertaken at a later stage.

4.2.5 ***Ecological Enhancement Measures Associated with the Development***

4.2.6 The following 'Key Recommendations' have been put forward to help enhance the ecology of the Site:

- It is also recommended that new hedgerows / green links are created within and around the southern perimeter of the Site, to provide substantial native wildlife corridors linking the secondary woodland and the pond etc to other semi-natural habitats within and outside the Site, including the Weald Common LNR / LoWS and the Ongar Radio Station LoWS.
- A phased programme of woodland management to be implemented to enhance the species, structural and age diversity of the semi-mature woodland. For example, creating grassy glades to perpetuate and enhance the biodiversity value of the woodland and reinforce the existing network of wildlife corridors in the long term and will be of particular benefit to a range of characteristic invertebrates, bats, nesting birds and other small mammals.
- The Essex Wildlife Trust to be involved if the potential for ecological enhancement of the adjacent land to the east is considered appropriate by the landowner, as part of the potential planning gain that might be achieved. This could formalise existing unofficial public use of much of the land.
- Any potential proposals for the enhancement of the wider land ownership should be designed with care to create a variety of small-scale topographical and micro-climatic conditions and specific habitat features to provide shelter, hibernation and basking sites for reptiles, amphibians in their terrestrial phase, invertebrates and other wildlife.
- Whilst relatively species-poor and impoverished through lack of management, the areas of adjacent grassland and developing scrub habitat, contains a range of broad-leaved species and the existing sward provides a good basis for grassland diversification, to provide floristically rich grassland habitats, adapted

to different micro-habitat conditions. These areas could also be part-seeded with a mix of valuable nectar and pollen producing plants including birds foot trefoil, kidney vetch, horseshoe vetch, wild carrot, small scabious, tufted and kidney vetch, wild marjoram, black knapweed, ox-eye daisy and yarrow. The wild flower swards would be managed on a rotational cutting regime to ensure that some areas of seed heads would be retained over the autumn / winter to encourage use by feeding birds and over-wintering invertebrates. It is also recommended that the opportunity is taken to create specific 'creature features' including log piles of specific benefit to hibernating reptiles and amphibians in their terrestrial phase. This habitat would be a useful complementary adjunct to the adjacent woodland and the peripheral hedgerow and other vegetation and would be of significantly higher ecological potential than the existing agricultural grass.

- The enhancement of the existing pond at the eastern end of the Site and the creation of at least one new pond within the Site. This would provide useful complementary wetland habitat and would be planted with native marginal and emergent aquatic species, to encourage use by great crested newts and other amphibians and aquatic invertebrates including dragonflies and damselflies.
- Planting within and around the Site to include groups of locally indigenous native trees and shrubs of specific value to invertebrates and of longer term benefit for breeding birds and bats, such as oak, hornbeam, holly, spindle, bird cherry, wild cherry, small leaved lime, rowan, aspen, hawthorn, goat willow and crab apple. Small groups of native tree and shrub planting should be located in the development sector of the site.
- The use of a diverse mix of locally indigenous, flowering and fruiting, native species of shrubs to create new wild life friendly shrubbery around the periphery of the proposed residential development. This will help screen the Site and will also improve the integrity of the wildlife corridors around the site. It would include a range of species specifically selected to provide a prolonged nectar and pollen producing period, including hawthorn, field maple, hazel, blackthorn, spindle, guelder rose, holly, goat willow and wild rose. The native shrubbery would be managed to specifically to promote an extended flowering period for the benefit of bees and other invertebrates, breeding birds and other wildlife.

- 4.2.7 It is recommended that specific additional measures for encouraging protected species and other wildlife and to enhance the overall biodiversity value of the area are implemented at the Site. These could include the installation of bat bricks and architectural features to encourage use by bats in the proposed dwelling and woodcrete bat boxes within mature retained trees in the Site. The installation of bird boxes, including a barn owl box, on suitable mature retained trees on the woodland edges, and elsewhere, is also recommended.
- 4.2.8 In order to ensure that the new habitats flourish in the long term, it is recommended that a Nature Conservation Management Plan would be produced and agreed with the LPA, to include plant replacement as necessary, a rigorous period of establishment maintenance, followed by a strategy of low key, appropriate, conservation management and monitoring.
-

4.3 Overall Ecological Appraisal Summary

- 4.3.1 Whilst the Site does not contain, adjoin or lie within close proximity of any SSSI's or other sites of international ecological importance, the western sector of the Site adjoins part of the Weald Common LNR/LoWS, a site notified of ecological interest at the National (LNR) and County level (LoWS) of importance.
- 4.3.2 Whilst the proximity of this LNR/ LoWs is a material consideration to any future planning application, the meadow and wetland habitats will not be directly impacted by the scheme proposals. The scheme would be carefully designed to avoid significant adverse, indirect impacts through the provision of an effective buffer strip and the implementation of effective habitat enhancement measures.
- 4.3.3 In order to provide an ecologically sustainable scheme, the proposed development could be linked to the ecological enhancement of the area of adjacent open land to the east. This would be subject to a strategy of habitat enhancement, restoration and creation, along with long term conservation management, to compensate and mitigate any adverse impacts associated with loss of the area of former grassland, now rough grass with tall ruderal species and scrub ingress, mainly located in the western part of the Site. The semi-mature woodland in the western part of the Site

would be retained and enhanced specifically for nature conservation benefit (see above). There will be no loss of woodland, hedge, individual trees or wetland.

- 4.3.4 At the next stage in the planning / design process it will be necessary for specialist survey to be undertaken to determine the presence or otherwise of protected or other notable species of fauna and flora. For example, there is potential for great crested newts to be present (due to the presence of ponds within their territorial range of 500m) in the rough grassland / scrub habitat and there is also potential for the presence of other protected species, including bats, badgers, dormice, reptiles and breeding birds in localised areas. More detailed botanical survey of the grassland habitat within the Site would also be required to determine the range of grasses and broad-leaved species present.
- 4.3.5 During the proposed Site development there is a potential risk of direct disturbance to nesting birds, including ground nesting species. It will therefore be necessary for vegetation clearance works, to avoid the bird breeding season (generally late February to August).
- 4.3.6 In terms of indirect impacts resulting from construction disturbance and also longer term occupation of the proposed residential development, during the period of site clearance and the subsequent construction works there will be some inevitable short term disturbance and potential for adverse impacts on the retained woodland, pond and specimen trees within and close to the Site. This is likely to include noise, vibration, light, runoff, dust, other particulate pollution and physical disturbance. It is expected in this case it will be possible to significantly reduce the potential indirect effects of construction activities, through effective buffering and adhering to the mitigation measures outlined above.
- 4.3.7 In the longer term there is potential for indirect ecological impact, once the construction has been completed, relating to on-going occupation of the new dwellings and associated noise, lighting and physical disturbance. It will be necessary to ensure that there is no adverse impact on any local bat populations as a result of scheme lighting proposals and this will be achieved through effective buffering of vulnerable habitats and compliance with Best Practice guidelines with respect to lighting and bats.

4.3.8 It is envisaged that through the stipulation of appropriate mitigation measures relating both to the site clearance and subsequent construction period disturbance will be minimised. A strategy of mitigation and enhancement is set out above and would be agreed with the LPA and environmental consultees, in order to ensure compliance with current national and local planning policy and guidance. Of primary importance would be to agree the location of BS approved fencing prior to commencement of works, to protect the pond, woodland, specimen trees and other strategic retained habitat corridors. The fence will be installed around the external perimeter of the Root Protection Area (RPA) of each retained tree or habitat / or a combined RPA area.

4.3.9 The scheme provides significant opportunity for positive ecological impact as a result of the potential for extensive habitat enhancement in the adjacent area, encompassing the Ongar Radio Station LoWS, to the east of the Site. The proposals have the scope, through the implementation of substantial, ecologically sympathetic habitat enhancement measures within and adjacent to the proposed development Site, to both compensate for habitat losses and mitigate against potentially adverse impacts on wildlife and also to provide significant biodiversity gain. The habitat enhancement proposals will improve the biodiversity value of the mainly unmanaged grassland and scrub habitats through sympathetic conservation management. Hibernaculum sites and other micro-habitats of specific value to protected species, including bats, great crested newts, reptiles and other notable and characteristic species of wildlife, will also be implemented at the North Weald Bassett Site.

ONGAR PARK ESTATE

ECOLOGY REVIEW

PHASE 1 HABITAT

December 2016

ZONATION DRAWING



LEGEND

Site being promoted
by Peer Group

Grassland/Scrub/Tall Ruderal 1

Grassland/Scrub/Tall Ruderal 2

Grassland/Scrub/Tall Ruderal 3

Grassland/Scrub/Tall Ruderal 4

Wood

Amenity

Pond



Project: Ongar Park Estate

Client: Peer Group plc

Date: December 2016

Scale: NTS

Status: FINAL

ONGAR PARK ESTATE

ECOLOGY REVIEW

DESK TOP STUDY DATA

December 2016

FIGURE 1: COVERING LETTER

FIGURE 2: DESIGNATED SITES MAP

FIGURE 3: KEY TO ATTRIBUTES FOR DESIGNATED SPECIES DATASETS

FIGURE 4: LoWS MAP

FIGURE 5: LoWS DESCRIPTIONS FOR NORTH WEALD BASSETT

FIGURE 6: PROTECTED AND DESIGNATED SPECIES RECORDS

FIGURE 7: NORTH WEALD RECOMMENDATIONS DOCUMENT

Susan Deakin

05 December 2016

Data Search from Essex Wildlife Trust Biological Records Centre

Ref: 245

Dear Susan,

Please find attached the results of your data search from Essex Wildlife Trust Biological Records Centre, as per the reference above. Unless otherwise requested, this dataset contains all relevant species and site information as specified under the East of England Standard Minimum Service guidelines for data provision. More information on the Standard Minimum Service can be found here:

<http://www.essexwtrecords.org.uk/standard-minimum-service>.

Please note that Essex Wildlife Trust Biological Records Centre does not hold all available data for Essex, and that other sources of data should also be consulted to obtain a complete dataset for your search area. More details on the data that we hold, and of our data quality and coverage can be found in our metadata statement, which is available here: <http://www.essexwtrecords.org.uk/info>.

Absence of records does not imply any species or habitat is absent from a given area. Nor does recorded presence imply current, continuing or breeding presence. Caution should therefore be exercised when interpreting the data provided, and where appropriate expert advice should be sought and desk studies should be supplemented by a site visit. Whilst every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of all data provided, Essex Wildlife Trust Biological Records Centre can accept no responsibility for any costs, damages or liabilities whatsoever arising from the use of data provided by or any inaccuracies within it.

Please note that this data is only valid for the above request and should not be used for any other purpose without written consent. If a record is marked as confidential and you require further details please contact us or the original data supplier for further information.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any queries.

Regards,

Dana Knollova

Essex Wildlife Trust Biological Records Centre

records@essexwt.org.uk

danak@essexwt.org.uk



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*Registered Charity
No 210065*

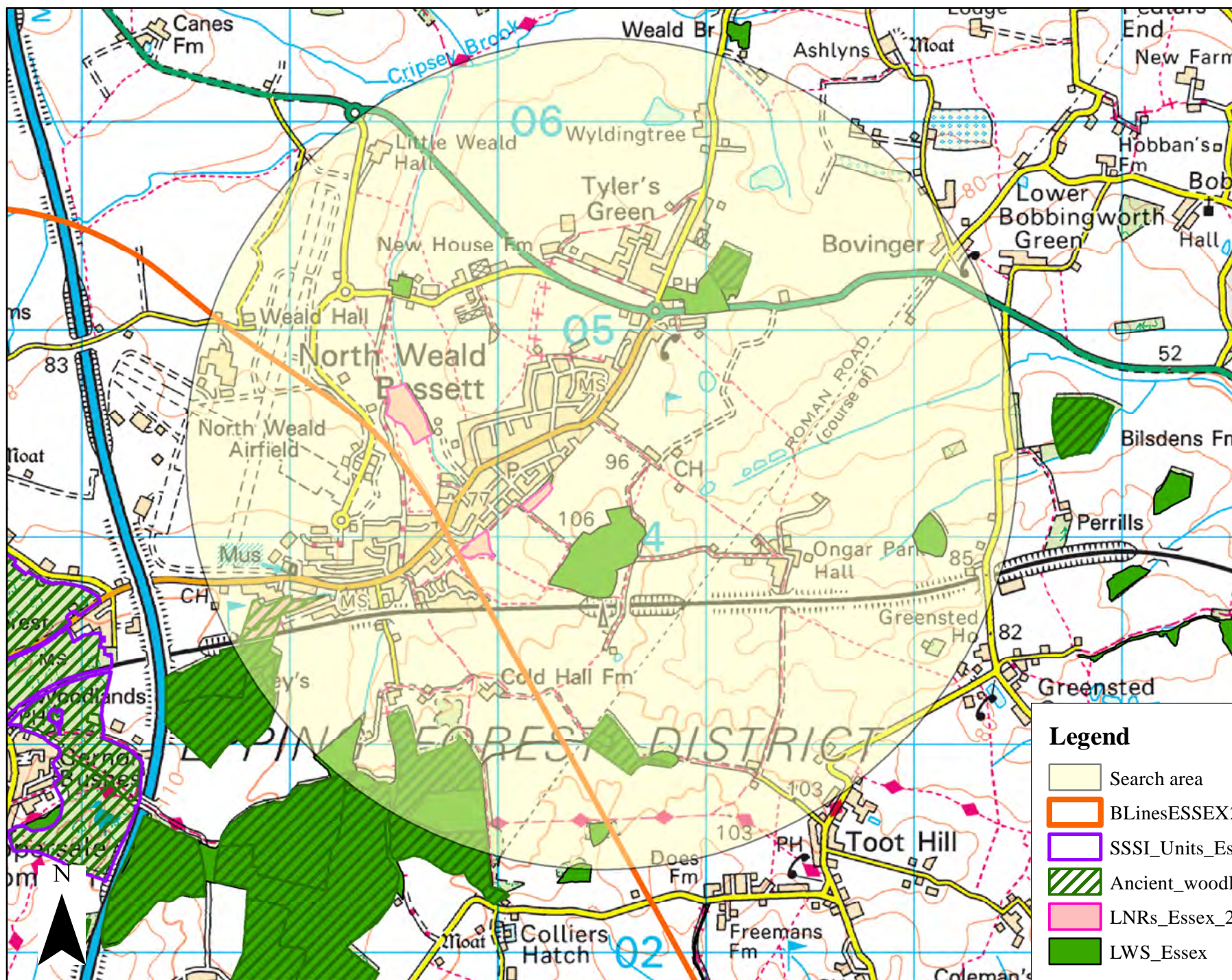
*VAT Registered
No 945 7459 77*

Essex Wildlife Trust Records Centre data search - designated sites within search boundary for North Weald Bassett area



Essex Wildlife Trust
Biological Records Centre
Abbotts Hall Farm
Great Wigborough
Essex
CO5 7RZ

www.essexwtrecords.org.uk
records@essexwt.org.uk
@EssexWTrecords



Legend

- Search area
- BLinesESSEX2kmCLIPPED
- SSSI_Units_Essex_10Km_Buffer_2016
- Ancient_woodland_Essex_November_2015
- LNRs_Essex_2015
- LWS_Essex

0 0.3 0.6 1.2 Kilometers

1:25,000

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Date: 22/11/2016

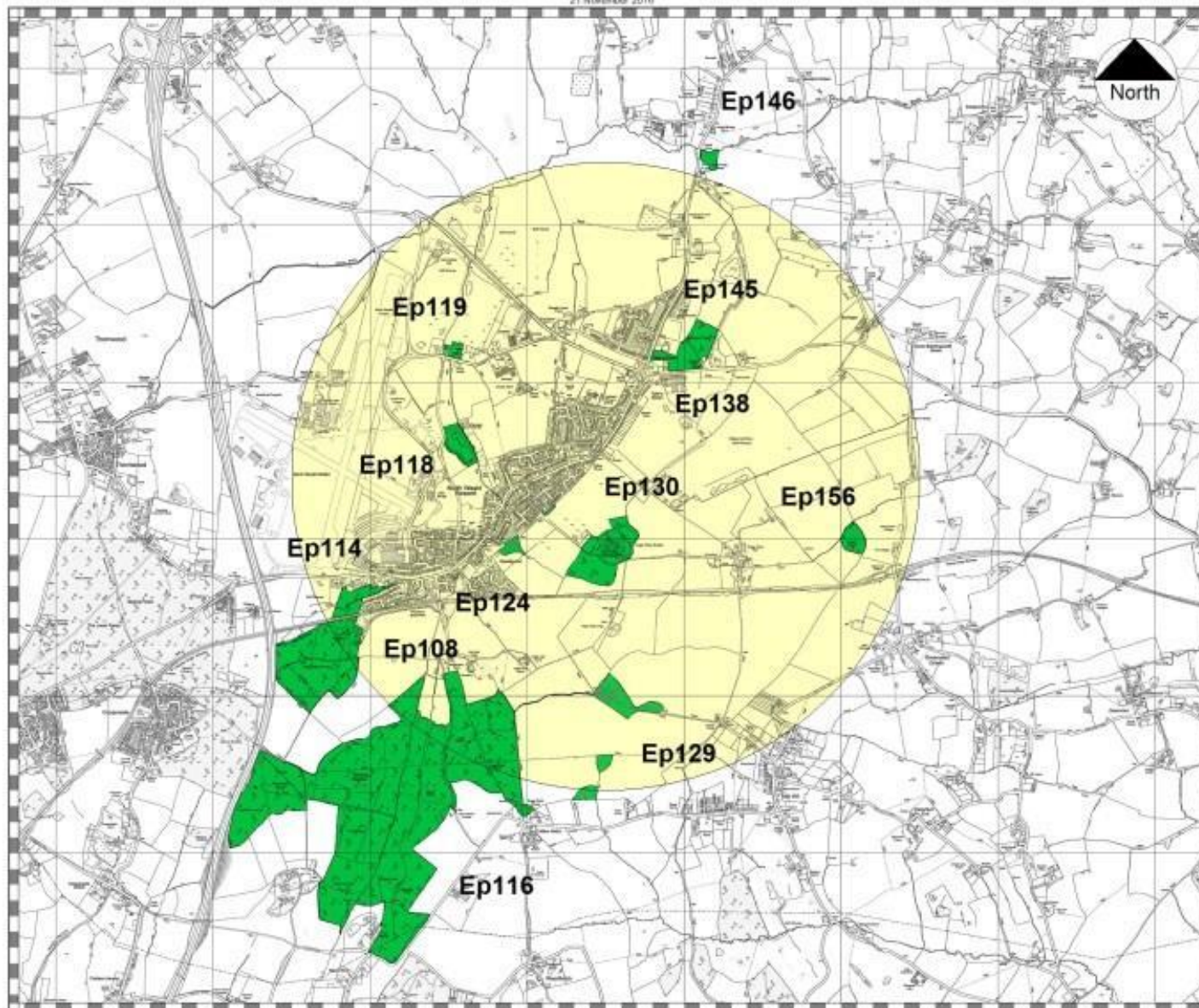
Created by : Dana Knolova

Key to attributes for designated species datasets

NOTE: datasets may contain all or a selection of the fields below, depending on the type of dataset and the purpose it is being used for.

column heading	Full title	notes
Row_id/FID		unique row number generated by ArcGIS software
Obs_key	Observation Key	the unique identification code for each record
Taxon_Grou	Taxon group	Taxon group
Common_Nam	Recommended Common Name	Vernacular name. May not be present for all species
Taxon_Name	Recommended Taxon Name	Latin name
Location	Event Location	standardised location
Location_N	Event Location Name	Text field, may include the original location name supplied by the recorder if different from above
Spatial_Re	Sample Spatial Reference	Gridreference at original resolution - this may be missing for confidential records
Sample_1km	Sample 1 km Square	Sample 1 km Square
Easting	Sample Easting (centre)	
Northing	Sample Northing (centre)	
Sample_Dat	Sample Date	date of record in vague date format
Sample_Yea	Sample Year	year date supplied to allow filtering of records
Abundance	Observation Abundances (LC)	abundance data for record
Obs_zero	Observation zero abundance	true or false - zero abundance (negative records) are flagged in this column for filtering purposes
Record_Typ	Observation Record Type	
obs_commen	Obs Comment	observation comment
Sample_com	Sample Comment	Sample comment
Survey_Nam	Survey Name	source of the data
Survey_Tag	Survey Tags	organisation supplying the data
Determinat	Determination Type	verification status of the record
Confidenti	Observation Confidential	is the record confidential? Yes or no.
Taxon_Desi	Taxon Designated?	is the taxon designated? Yes or no
Planning_D	Planning Legislation - Taxon Designated	is the taxon designated? Yes or no
European_D	All European Designated (Birds Dir, H&S, Berne, Bonn, EC CITES) - Status Abbreviation	
UK_Legally	All UK Legally Protected (W&C Act, Badgers and Cons Regs) - Status Abbreviation	
BAP_2007	Biodiversity Action Plan species (2007) - Status Abbreviation	
Country_UK	Country/UK Biodiversity Lists - Status Abbreviation	
FEP_Status	Farmland Environment Planning - Status Abbreviation	
ICUN_RedLi	IUCN Red Lists - Status Abbreviation	
nat_rare_n	statuses of nationally rare, notable, scarce - Status Abbreviation	
WACA_Sch1	Wildlife & Countryside Act (Sch 1, 5 & 8) - Status Abbreviation	WACA designations
Speci_number	Specimen number	Identifies an individual specimen in a catalogued dataset, e.g. a veteran tree
Speci_type	Specimen type	e.g. veteran tree. Used only when specimens are numbered as above

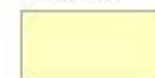
21 November 2016



KILOMETRES 0 100 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.0 1.2 1.4 1.6 1.8 2.0 2.2 2.4 2.6 2.8 3.0 3.2 3.4 3.6 KILOMETRES
1:50,000

Local Wildlife Sites for North Weald Bassett - 2016

LEGEND



Search area (2km
radius from TL 505
044)



Local Wildlife Sites

LOCAL WILDLIFE SITES

EPPING DISTRICT

EP108 Roughtalley's Wood



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Ep108 Roughtalley's Wood (22.2 ha) TL 486032

The canopy of this ancient woodland is dominated by conifers and Sweet chestnut (*Castanea sativa*) coppice, with Pedunculate Oak (*Quercus robur*) and Sessile Oak (*Q. petraea*) standards interspersed throughout. Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) is locally dominant in areas, whilst other species present include birches, both Downy Birch (*Betula pubescens*) and Silver Birch (*B. pendula*). The ground flora reflects the acid nature of the soils. Heath Bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*) is a low growing herb of infertile acidic soils and Purple Moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*), requires permanently or seasonally wet acid soils. The habitat is also suitable for the moss *Sphagnum denticulatum* that generally favours acidic, nutrient poor conditions. Lady Fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*), an Essex Red data List species, occurs in more freely draining areas of the woodland. Other species of the wet areas in the woodland include Marsh Bedstraw (*Galium palustre*) and Bog Stitchwort (*Stellaria uliginosa*).

BAP Habitats

Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland (UK)

Ancient Woodland (Essex)

Selection Criteria

HC1- Ancient Woodland Sites

Rationale

Although replanted, this ancient woodland is most important for its ground flora, and in particular the acid conditions of the underlying soils, which support an interesting suite of species. It is a modified form of the W10 NVC woodland type covered by the UK BAP listed above.

Review Schedule

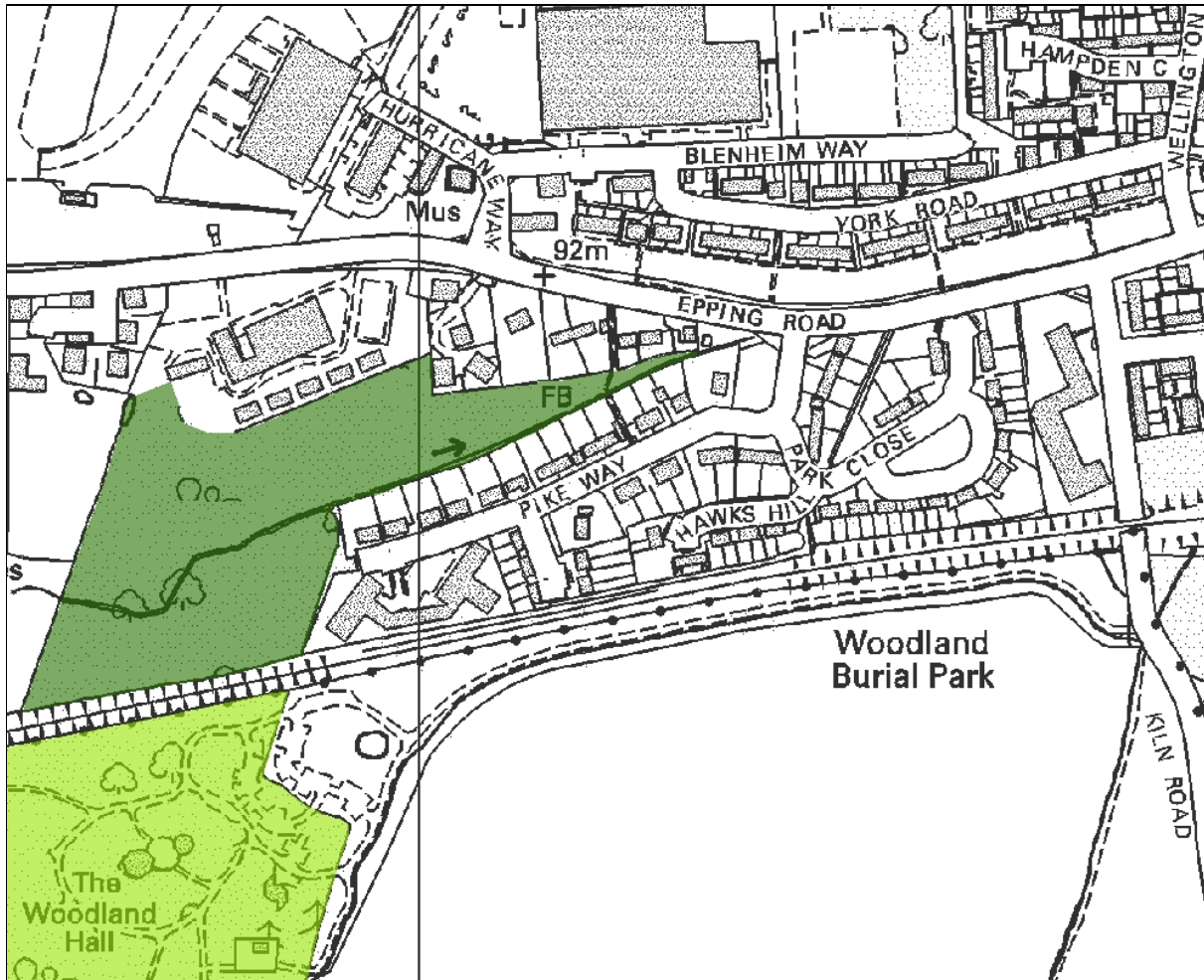
Site Selected: 1992

Reviewed: 2009

LOCAL WILDLIFE SITES

EPPING DISTRICT

EP114 Roughtalleys Wood



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Ep114 Roughtalleys Wood LNR (3.4 ha) TL 488036

Roughtalleys Wood was split into two parts by the Epping to Ongar railway extension constructed during the 1860's. This site comprises ancient and recent woodland habitat. The southern part of the reserve has a mix of tree and shrub species, including Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) coppice and standards, Sweet Chestnut (*Castanea sativa*), Pedunculate Oak (*Quercus robur*) and Silver Birch (*Betula pendula*) standards. Hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) are found in the shrub canopy. In contrast, the northern part of the site has more open areas with wet grassland, ponds and ruderal, along with planted broadleaf tree species. A wide variety of herbs grow due to the differing habitat types. These include Agrimony (*Agrimonia eupatoria*), Red Bartsia (*Odontites vernus*), Three-nerved Sandwort (*Moehringia trinervia*) and Creeping Jenny (*Lysimachia nummularia*), this latter species preferring damp soils. Two orchid species, Common Spotted-orchid (*Dactylorhiza fuchsia*) and the rare Broad-leaved Helleborine (*Epipactis helleborine*), an Essex Red Data List species, have also been recorded from this site.

BAP Habitats

Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland (UK)

Ancient Woodland (Essex)

Selection Criteria

HC1 – Ancient Woodland Sites

HC2 - Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland on Non-ancient Sites

Rationale

This site is largely ancient woodland, with the area of more recent wood providing a habitat extension.

Review Schedule

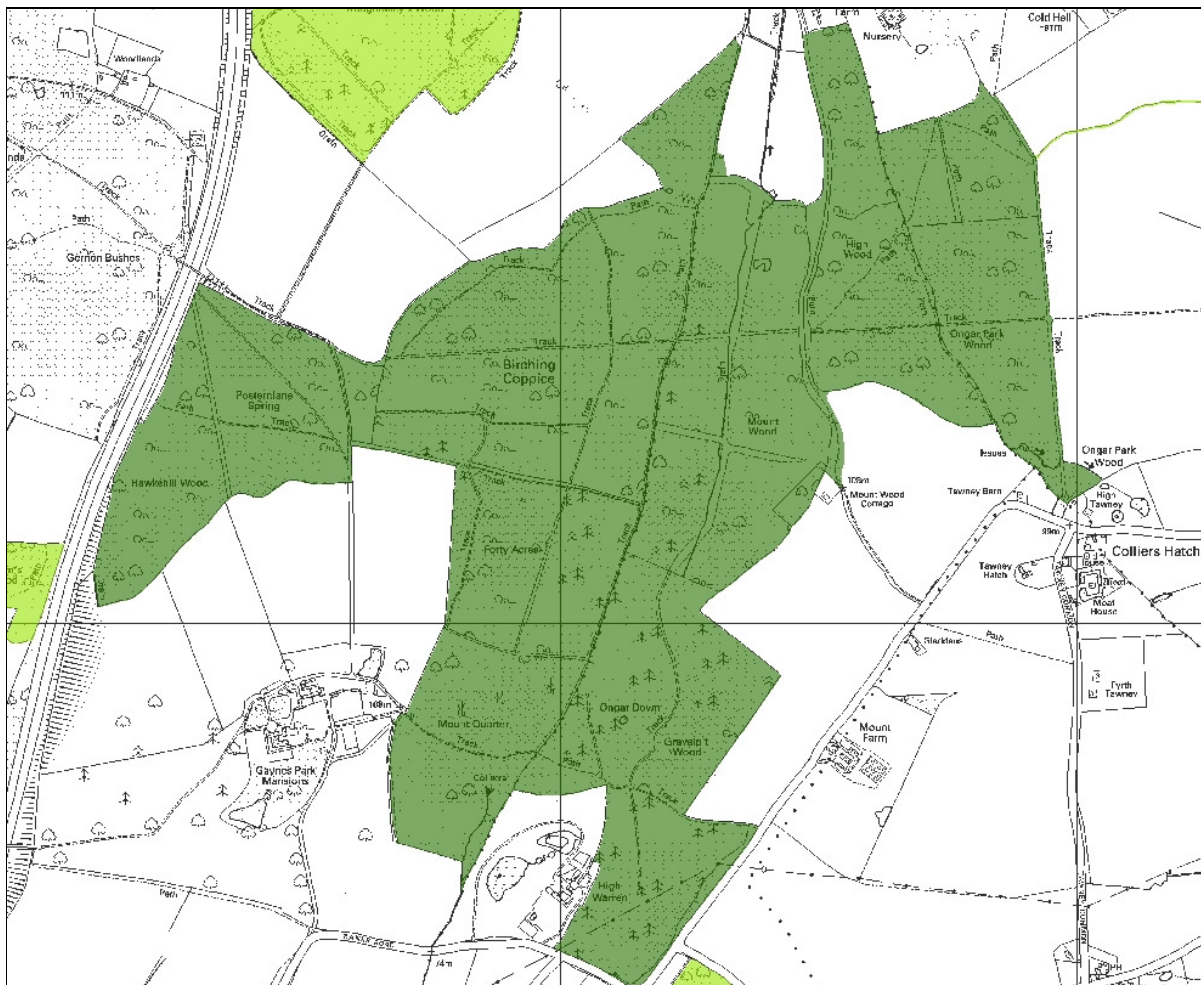
Site Selected: 1992

Reviewed: 2009 (site separated from Roughtalley's Wood Ep108 and secondary woodland added)

LOCAL WILDLIFE SITES

EPPING DISTRICT

EP116 Birching Coppice Complex



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Ep116 Birching Coppice Complex (138.2 ha) TL 491023

This site comprises Posternlane Spring, Hawkshill Wood, Birching Coppice, Mount Wood, Forty Acres, Mount Quarter, Ongar Down, Gravelpit Wood, High Warren and Ongar Park Wood.

Hawkshill Wood and Posternlane Spring are adjoining woodlands, though with differing composition. Within Hawkshill Wood, dense Sweet Chestnut (*Castanea sativa*) coppice dominates with a few Silver Birch (*Betula pendula*) trees scattered throughout. An area of Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) coppice is found on the western edge bordering the M11. The ground flora is dominated by low growing Bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg). In contrast, Posternlane Spring has a Hornbeam/Pedunculate Oak (*Quercus robur*) composition with scattered Rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) that gives way to a Sweet Chestnut and Oak dominant section towards the east side. Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) dominates much of the ground flora. Flora found along the rides includes Tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*) and Skullcap (*Scutellaria galericulata*).

Much of the central woodland blocks of Birching Coppice, Mount Wood, Forty Acres, Mount Quarter, Ongar Down, Gravelpit Wood and High Warren comprise plantations with Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) and Silver Birch. Some of the internal wood banks still retain coppiced Hornbeam as a probable remnant of the former composition prior to replanting.

High Wood has a high canopy of Hornbeam coppice, with some Silver Birch coppice and standards found in the central area, whilst further to the south, Hornbeam coppice dominates. The northern part of Ongar Park Wood has Silver Birch coppice and standards and some Pedunculate Oak over a Bracken dominated ground flora. The southern section has tall Hornbeam coppice forming a densely shading canopy with very little shrub layer or ground flora. Adjoining to the east of High Wood is Ongar Park Wood. This block was once part of a much larger wood of the same name and included the northernmost woodland block of Ongar Park Woods (Ep129) to the east, now surviving as an isolated feature in amongst arable fields. The wood was within the boundary of Ongar Great Park, one of the earliest deer parks dating back to the 11th century.

Bracken is dominant beneath many of the plantation blocks, but the ride flora alludes to the underlying acid nature of the soils. Several species of interest are to be found in the ground flora of these woodland blocks including two grasses of particular note: Wavy Hair-grass (*Deschampsia flexuosa*) found on the free draining areas beneath the canopy and Purple Moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*) abundant along some of the open rides on acid soils that remain at least seasonally wet. Also found along the rides in wet rutted areas are Water-purslane (*Lythrum portula*) (an Essex Red Data List species), Tormentil, Wood-sedge (*Carex sylvatica*) and Remote Sedge (*Carex remota*). Other species of interest recorded from this site include Bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*), Dog's Mercury (*Mercurialis perennis*) and Wood Melick (*Melica uniflora*).

BAP Habitats: Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland (UK)
Ancient Woodland (Essex)

Selection Criteria

HC1 – Ancient Woodland Sites

HC2 - Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland on Non-ancient Sites

Rationale

This is the largest block of ancient woodland Local Wildlife Site in the district, with this ancient status confirmed by the flora, physical characteristics and documentary evidence.

Review Schedule

Site Selected: 1992

Reviewed: 2009 (minor amendments)

LOCAL WILDLIFE SITES

EPHING DISTRICT

EP118 Church lane Flood Meadow



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Ep118 Church Lane Flood Meadow LNR (3.5 ha) TL 495045

This site was created in 1989 and combines practical flood defence with the creation of a biodiverse habitat from former arable land to good effect. The meadow has also been developed as a wildlife habitat comprising a wet flood meadow. A central pond area has developed a diverse wetland flora. This wet marshy area is surrounded by a species-rich dry grassland sward, whilst tree and shrub planting has occurred on the slopes.

The species of the wet areas includes locally dominant stands of Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*). Meadowsweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*), Ragged Robin (*Lychnis flos-cuculi*), Water Mint (*Mentha aquatica*), Marsh Woundwort (*Stachys palustris*) and Yellow-iris (*Iris pseudacorus*) are among a diverse suite of species also found in this central marsh area. Some particularly rare species to Essex have also been introduced including Devil's-bit Scabious (*Succisa pratensis*). Marsh Cinquefoil (*Potentilla palustris*) a species originally introduced to a site in Epping Forest has also been introduced to this site. The dry grassland slopes have a varied mix of grasses such as Sweet Vernal-grass (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*), Red Fescue (*Festuca rubra*) and Crested Dog's-tail (*Cynosurus cristatus*). A variety of herbs are found on the drier grassy slopes including Common Knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*), Grass Vetchling (*Lathyrus nissolia*), Common Bird's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*) and Meadow Buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*). Grass Snakes have been introduced to this area and other reptiles and amphibians may well be present.

BAP Habitats

Lowland Fens, Reedbeds (UK)

Reedbeds (Essex)

Selection Criteria

HC28 – Small-component Mosaics

Rationale

Although essentially man-made, the site has developed to support a diverse range of habitats within a small area that support reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates. The area of reedbed is modest in terms of the Essex and UK BAPs but it is a scarce habitat type in the district, especially away from the Lee valley.

Review Schedule

Site Selected: 1998

Reviewed: 2009

LOCAL WILDLIFE SITES

EPPING DISTRICT

EP119 St. Andrew's Churchyard, North Weald



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Ep119 St. Andrew's Churchyard, North Weald (0.8 ha) TL 495052

This churchyard has been managed by Countrycare since 1993. The grass sward exhibits a variety of species including Yellow Oat-grass (*Trisetum flavescens*), Red Fescue (*Festuca rubra*), Sweet Vernal-grass (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*), Yorkshire-fog (*Holcus lanatus*) and Meadow-grasses (*Poa* spp.). The influence of moderately calcareous soils is reflected in Hoary Plantain (*Plantago media*) and Rough Hawkbit (*Leontodon hispidus*) found locally near the church. Other species amongst the species-rich grassland include Creeping Jenny (*Lysimachia nummularia*), found in a damper part of the churchyard, Ox-eye Daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*), Meadow Buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*) Barren Strawberry (*Potentilla sterilis*) and Cowslip (*Primula veris*).

BAP Habitats

Species-rich Grasslands (Essex)

Selection Criteria

HC11 – Other Neutral Grasslands

Rationale

As with many churchyards, this site is a relict piece of ancient grassland which has retained a species-rich sward. There has been a decline in the number and quality of such grasslands throughout the county in recent decades. Consequently, these old grassland sites are extremely important habitats.

Review Schedule

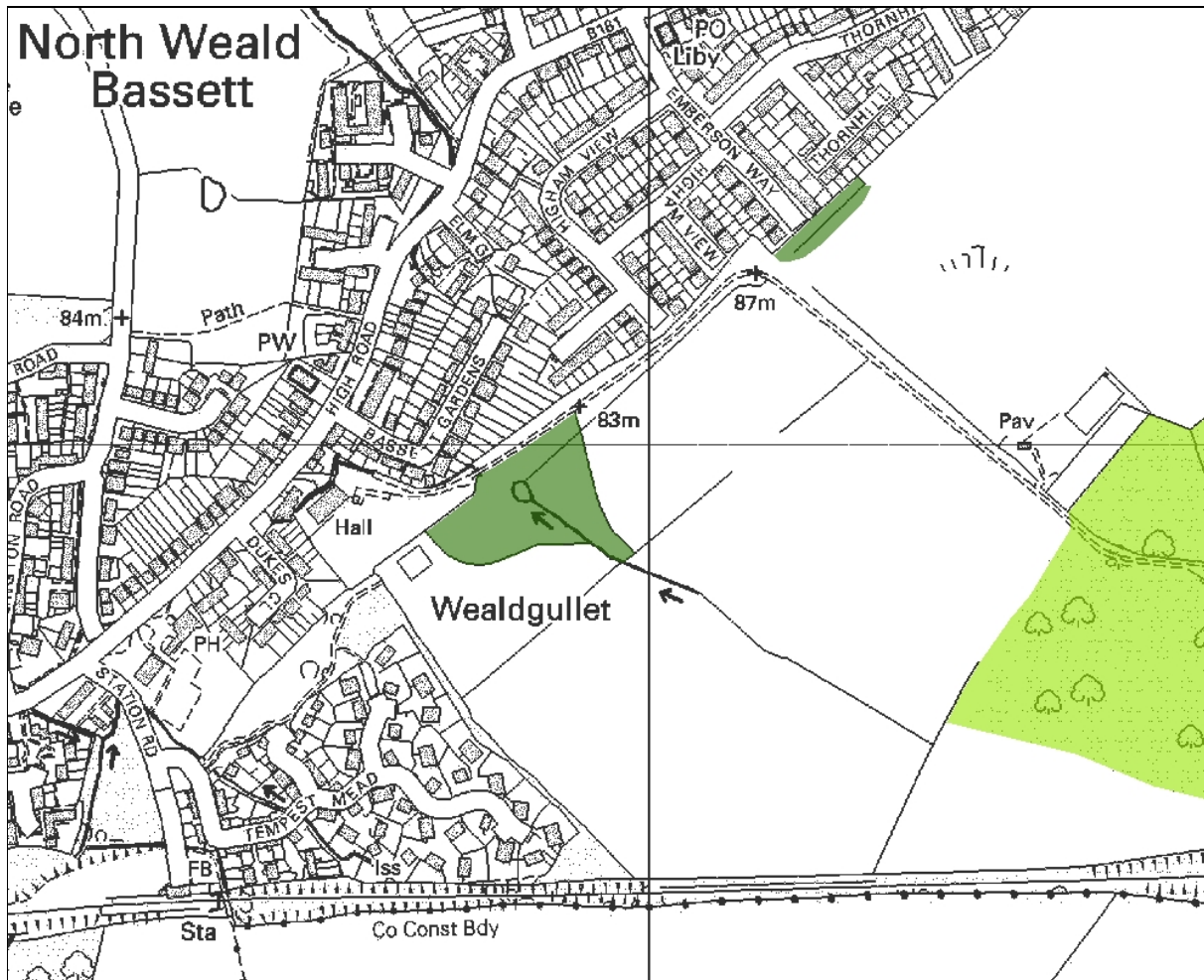
Site Selected: 1992

Reviewed: 2009

LOCAL WILDLIFE SITES

EPPING DISTRICT

EP124 Weald Common



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Ep124 Weald Common LNR (1.2 ha) TL 500040

This site, located to the south east of North Weald Bassett, comprise two meadows created in 1996 as part of a flood defence for the village and later declared a LNR in 2004. Despite the primary aim of flood alleviation, the opportunity to create a diverse wildlife habitat was incorporated into the scheme. The grassland is characterised by a range of species including Cowslip (*Primula veris*), Wild Carrot (*Daucus carota*), Grass Vetchling (*Lathyrus nissolia*) and Agrimony (*Agrimonia eupatoria*). The wet areas of the meadows and drains exhibit a wide variety of species. Cyperus Sedge (*Carex pseudocyperus*), Ragged-Robin (*Lychnis flos-cuculi*), Purple-loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*), Sweet-flag (*Acorus calamus*) and Water-plantain (*Alisma plantago-aquatica*) and several rushes (*Juncus* spp.) are recorded from these areas of the site.

BAP Habitats

Species-rich Grasslands (Essex)

Selection Criteria

HC11 – Other Neutral Grasslands

HC31 – Urban Sites

Rationale

This is a created site that serves not only a practical function, but enhances the local environment on the urban fringes of North Weald Bassett. The site has been developed for its wildlife potential, recreation and educational value for local residents.

Review Schedule

Site Selected: 2009

Reviewed: -

LOCAL WILDLIFE SITES
EPPING DISTRICT
EP129 Ongar Park Woods



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Ep129 Ongar Park Woods (6.8 ha) TL 503027

This site comprises three separate blocks of woodland and a hedge line. The majority of the northernmost wood and the hedge are surviving remnants of a once much larger wood that was grubbed out around 1950 and converted to the farmland we see today. These and Ongar Park Wood (part of the Birching Coppice Complex (Ep116) were historically part of the same woodland lying within the boundary of Ongar Great Park, one of the earliest deer parks dating back to the 11th century. The two additional woodland blocks although within the boundary of the former Ongar Park Wood are probably of recent origin but may represent ancient woodland that was converted to parkland but then reverted to a more typical woodland structure.

The northern wood has a varied composition with Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) and Hazel (*Corylus avellana*) coppice, Pedunculate Oak (*Quercus robur*) / Silver Birch (*Betula pendula*) coppice and standards, Alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) / Hazel and Silver Birch/ Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*). The very eastern end of the site is recent woodland with very scattered Pedunculate Oak standards over a Bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg) dominated ground flora. The ancient wood ground flora is much more diverse with abundant Bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) and many other species including Wood-sedge (*Carex sylvatica*), Yellow Pimpernel (*Lysimachia nemorum*), Creeping-jenny (*Lysimachia nummularia*) and Marsh Bedstraw (*Galium palustre*) confined to a damp pond depression in the south-west corner of the wood.

The hedge forming the ghost outline of the former Ongar Park Wood exhibits old Hornbeam coppice. This species-rich hedge also includes Field Maple (*Acer campestre*), Pedunculate Oak, Hazel, Dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea*), Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) and Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*).

The central woodland is bounded by a ditch on two sides and by a stream on its eastern edge. Tall Alder dominates the eastern margins of the wood. The remainder is a mix of Hornbeam and Hazel coppice with Silver Birch. A more open structure exists in the north part of the wood. Here, young Aspen (*Populus tremula*) grows near a tangle of Bramble and Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*).

The southernmost woodland has much tall spindly Elm (*Ulmus* sp.), Hornbeam coppice and Birch (*Betula* spp.). Pedunculate Oak and Ash also occur in the high canopy. Elder (*Sambucus nigra*) forms a patchy shrub canopy. The ground flora is mainly Bramble and Bracken, but species of interest as ancient woodland indicators include Yellow Pimpernel and Remote Sedge (*Carex remota*).

BAP Habitats

Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland (UK)

Ancient Woodland (Essex)

Selection Criteria

HC1 – Ancient Woodland Sites

HC2 - Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland on Non-ancient Sites

HC8 – Hedgerows and Green Lanes

Rationale

These woods and “ghost” hedge boundary feature are remnants of a very historic landscape feature and have cultural as well as ecological value as ancient woodland and hedge bank habitat. Areas of more recent woodland provide habitat extensions to these small remaining fragments.

Review Schedule

Site Selected: 1992

Reviewed: 2009 (‘Ghost’ ancient wood hedge bank added)

LOCAL WILDLIFE SITES

EPPING DISTRICT

EP130 Ongar Radio Station



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Ep130 Ongar Radio Station (10.8 ha) TL 504039

Ongar Radio Station was built by Marconi/Cable & Wireless in the 1920's on an area of high ground to the east of North Weald Bassett, thereby encapsulating an area of old grassland before agricultural intensification of grasslands had begun. The site is now derelict and over the years has gradually become engulfed by secondary woodland and scrub. The woodland component comprises Pedunculate Oak (*Quercus robur*), Silver Birch (*Betula pendula*), Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*), Elder (*Sambucus nigra*), Grey Willow (*Salix cinerea*) and Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*). A small central area of grassland exhibits characteristics of a moderately acidic grassland with a species composition including Red Fescue (*Festuca rubra*), Common Bent (*Agrostis capillaris*), Mouse-ear-hawkweed (*Pilosella officinarum*) and abundant Heath Speedwell (*Veronica officinalis*). The woodland is surrounded by areas of short rabbit-grazed, and tall sward rough grassland. A variety of herbs have been recorded including Agrimony (*Agrimonia eupatoria*), Hairy St John's-wort (*Hypericum hirsutum*), Meadow Buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*) and Lesser Stitchwort (*Stellaria graminea*).

BAP Habitats

Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland (UK)

Selection Criteria

HC28 – Small Component Mosaics

Rationale

One of the key qualities of this site is that it comprises old grassland, even though it lacks some of the scarce indicators of such habitat. This implies that an above average suite of more “cryptic” species such as fungi, mosses, liverworts and invertebrates may well be present. The mosaic of grassland, scrub and maturing woodland is a positive quality, but ongoing management will be needed to ensure that the wood and scrub components do not dominate.

Review Schedule

Site Selected: 2009

Reviewed:

LOCAL WILDLIFE SITES

EPHING DISTRICT

EP138 Tylers Green Grasslands



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Ep138 Tylers Green Grasslands (3.3 ha) TL 508051

This site comprises two damp grassland meadows with a complex structure of wet areas grading into drier habitat. The drier sward has a very diverse grass mix including Sweet Vernal-grass (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*), Meadow Barley (*Hordeum secalinum*), Meadow-grasses (*Poa* spp.), Yorkshire-fog (*Holcus lanatus*), Creeping Bent (*Agrostis stolonifera*) and Red Fescue (*Festuca rubra*). The very wet zones are characterised by the local dominance of Floating Sweet-grass (*Glyceria fluitans*). The general damp character of this site is highlighted by the many species associated with these conditions, including Ragged-Robin (*Lychnis flos-cuculi*), Cuckooflower (*Cardamine pratensis*), Meadowsweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*), Greater Bird's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus pedunculatus*) and Creeping Jenny (*Lysimachia nummularia*). In addition, the western meadow has extensive patches of Common Bistort (*Persicaria bistorta*), an Essex Red Data List species, now confined to only a few sites in the county. The drier grassland is characterised by species such as Common Knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*), Lesser Stitchwort (*Stellaria graminea*), Cowslip (*Primula veris*) and Common Bird's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*).

BAP Habitats

Species-rich Grasslands (Essex)

Selection Criteria

HC11 – Other Neutral Grasslands

Rationale

These two damp meadows form an extensive area of important species-rich and largely unimproved grassland. Parts of the sward may constitute a form of the MG5 *Cynosurus cristatus* – *Centaurea nigra* NVC grassland type, which would mean the UK BAP habitat “Lowland Meadows” would apply here, but more detailed vegetation analysis would be needed to confirm this.

Review Schedule

Site Selected: 1992 (western meadow only)

Reviewed: 2009 (eastern meadow added)

LOCAL WILDLIFE SITES

EPPING DISTRICT

EP145 Reynkyns Wood



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Ep145 Reynkyns Wood (3.0 ha) TL 511052

Reynkyns Wood comprises virtually pure Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) coppice with only a few scattered Pedunculate Oak (*Quercus robur*) and Field Maple (*Acer campestre*) trees. This has resulted in a dense shading canopy beneath which there is no appreciable shrub or sub-canopy. The only contrast is a localised area of tall Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) with a sub-canopy of Elm (*Ulmus* sp.) and Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) in the shrub layer, found in the north-east corner of the wood. A sparse ground flora includes Pignut (*Conopodium majus*), Three-nerved Sandwort (*Moehringia trinervia*) and Remote Sedge (*Carex remota*).

BAP Habitats

Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland (UK)

Ancient Woodland (Essex)

Selection Criteria

HC1 – Ancient Woodland Sites

Rationale

This wood is included within the Ancient Woodland Inventory for Essex and has a composition that also indicates this status.

Review Schedule

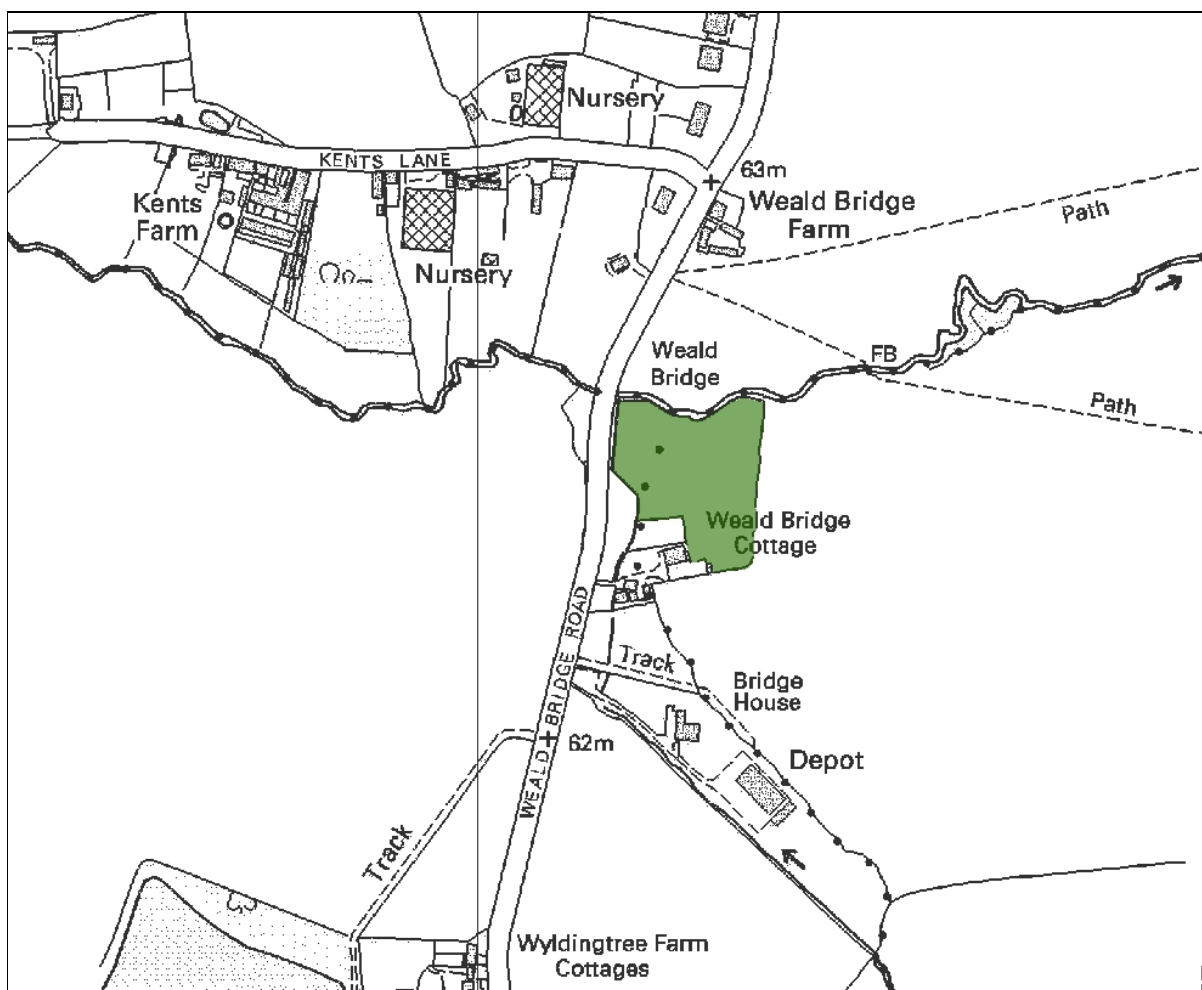
Site Selected: 1992

Reviewed: 2009 (boundary of southern tip revised)

LOCAL WILDLIFE SITES

EPPING DISTRICT

EP146 Weald Bridge Meadow



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Ep146 Weald Bridge Meadow (1.1 ha) TL 511064

False Oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*) dominates a tall grass sward across this streamside “floodplain” meadow, though other grasses present include Bent-grasses (*Agrostis* spp.), Yorkshire-fog (*Holcus lanatus*), Rough Meadow-grass (*Poa trivialis*) and Meadow Foxtail (*Alopecurus pratensis*). Lady’s Bedstraw (*Galium verum*) and Common Knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*) are found throughout this mainly dry grassland, whilst localised pockets of damp grassland support Meadowsweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*). However, of special interest is the presence of Betony (*Stachys officinalis*), an Essex Red Data List species.

BAP Habitats

Species-rich Grasslands (Essex)

Selection Criteria

HC11 – Other Neutral Grasslands

SC1- Vascular Plants (Betony)

Rationale

Betony is a species that has severely declined in its distribution throughout the county due to loss and improvement of permanent pasture. The whole site comprises old, relatively unimproved grassland. It may once have been a form of MG5 NVC grassland covered by the UK Lowland Meadow BAP habitat, but the widespread False Oat-grass (indicative of insufficient management pressure) has now created a different vegetation type.

Review Schedule

Site Selected: 2009

Reviewed: -

LOCAL WILDLIFE SITES

EPPING DISTRICT

EP156 Miller's Grove



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Ep156 Miller's Grove (2.3 ha) TL 520040

Miller's Grove is located just within the extreme eastern boundary of Ongar Great Park, a medieval deer park dating from the 11th century. This broadleaved woodland slopes north-westerly down to a small stream. Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) coppice dominates most of the high canopy with interspersed Pedunculate Oak (*Quercus robur*) standards resulting in a dense shading canopy with relatively little vegetation or ground flora beneath except for occasional patches of Creeping Soft-grass (*Holcus mollis*). Areas of Silver Birch (*Betula pendula*) allow more light penetration and Bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg) exploits this. Towards the stream Grey Willow (*Salix cinerea*) grows along with Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*). Wood Meadow-grass (*Poa nemoralis*) is found very locally on the eastern edge of the wood.

BAP Habitats

Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland (UK)

Selection Criteria

HC2 - Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland on Non-ancient Sites

Rationale

Although within the boundary of the medieval Ongar Great Park, this woodland has no apparent historic links to the ancient Park landscape. However, it has a coppice with standards structure with a native species composition, making it valuable woodland habitat in the modern arable landscape surrounding it.

Review Schedule

Site Selected: 1992

Reviewed: 2009

Protected & Designated Species

Essex Record Centre

LOCATION: North Weald Bassett Area
SEARCH AREA: 2km radius around
 Grid ref.TL 505 044

LEGALLY PROTECTED AND DESIGNATED SPECIES RECORDS, INCLUDING SPIE (Species of Principal Importance in England, formerly BAP) RECORDS

Duplicate records may appear on the legally protected and designated species list

A negative record is one where a site has been surveyed and no signs were seen on that occasion

Taxon Group	Taxon Name	Common Name	Sample Year	Sample Date	Location	Location	Spatial Ref
Bird	Cuculus canorus	Cuckoo	2012	01/05/2012	North Weald	North Weald, Near High Road	TL501038
Flowering plant	Dactylorhiza fuchsii	Common Spotted-orchid	2012	05/07/2012	Roughtalley's Wood LNR Ep114	Roughtalley's Wood LNR, Roughtalley's Wood LNR	TL48850371
Flowering plant	Epipactis helleborine	Broad-leaved Helleborine	2012	05/07/2012	Roughtalley's Wood LNR Ep114	Roughtalley's Wood LNR, Roughtalley's Wood LNR	TL48850371
Insect - Butterfly	Coenonympha pamphilus	Small Heath	2007	08/05/2007	North Essex	Bobbingworth, Bobbingworth	TL513061
Flowering plant	Dactylorhiza fuchsii	Common Spotted-orchid	2014	06/06/2014	Church Lane Flood Meadow Ep118	Church Lane Flood Meadow	TL495046
Flowering plant	Ophrys apifera	Bee Orchid	2014	06/06/2014	Church Lane Flood Meadow Ep118	Church Lane Flood Meadow	TL495046
Insect - moth	Tyria jacobaeae	Cinnabar	2012	11/07/2012	Church Lane Flood Meadow Ep118	Church Lane Flood Meadow	TL495046
Insect - Butterfly	Coenonympha pamphilus	Small Heath	2012	11/07/2012	Church Lane Flood Meadow Ep118	Church Lane Flood Meadow	TL495046
Bird	Pyrrhula pyrrhula	Bullfinch	2015	10/05/2015	North Weald Bassett CP		TL49340516
Flowering plant	Euphorbia	Spurge	2014	06/06/2014	Church Lane Flood Meadow Ep118	Church Lane Flood Meadow	TL495046
Flowering plant	Oenanthe silaifolia	Narrow-leaved Water-dropwort	2014	06/06/2014	Church Lane Flood Meadow Ep118	Church Lane Flood Meadow	TL495046
Bird	Motacilla cinerea	Grey Wagtail	2015	22/07/2015	Church Lane LNR	Church Lane LNR	TL495046
Insect - Butterfly	Coenonympha pamphilus	Small Heath	2015	16/07/2015	North Weald Flood alleviation flower meadow	North Weald Flood Meadow Local Nature Reserve	TL501041
Terrestrial mammal	Pipistrellus pipistrellus	Common Pipistrelle	2010	14/07/2010	North Weald	North Weald	TL499045
Terrestrial mammal	Pipistrellus pipistrellus	Common Pipistrelle	2011	07/07/2011	North Weald	North Weald	TL502046
Bird	Egretta garzetta	Little Egret	2016	31/03/2016	Church Lane LNR	Church Lane LNR	TL497045
Bird	Buteo buteo	Buzzard	2016	31/03/2016	Church Lane LNR	Church Lane LNR	TL497045

Project: Ongar Park Estate

VETERAN TREES

Essex Record Centre

LOCATION:

North Weald Bassett Area

SEARCH AREA:

2km radius around
Grid ref.TL 505 044

Taxon Group	Latin Name	Common Name	Species Type	Species Number	Species Comm	Abundance	Sample Year
Flowering plant	Pyrus communis	Pear	Veteran/Notable Tree	9282	Woodland Trust Tree ID number	1 Count of Mature	2005
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW091		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW092		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW093		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW094		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW095		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Aesculus hippocastanum	Horse-chestnut	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW096		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Acer	Maple	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW098		1 Count of Mature	2012
Flowering plant	Carpinus betulus	Hornbeam	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW099		1 Count of Mature	2012
Flowering plant	Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW102		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Aesculus hippocastanum	Horse-chestnut	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW103		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Tilia	Lime	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW104		1 Count of Mature	2008
Conifer	Taxus baccata	Yew	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW105		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW153		1 Count of Mature	2012
Flowering plant	Carpinus betulus	Hornbeam	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW154		1 Count of Mature	2012
Flowering plant	Carpinus betulus	Hornbeam	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW155		1 Count of Mature	2012
Flowering plant	Carpinus betulus	Hornbeam	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW156		1 Count of Mature	2012
Flowering plant	Populus	Poplar	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW157		1 Count of Mature	2012
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW158		1 Count of Mature	2012
Flowering plant	Carpinus betulus	Hornbeam	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW159		1 Count of Mature	2012
Flowering plant	Carpinus betulus	Hornbeam	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW160		1 Count of Mature	2012
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT B022		1 Count of Mature	2007
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT B021		1 Count of Mature	2007
Flowering plant	Pyrus pyraeaster	Wild Pear	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW004		1 Count of Mature	2007
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW006		1 Count of Mature	2007
Flowering plant	Acer campestre	Field Maple	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW007		1 Count of Mature	2007
Flowering plant	Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW125		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW136		1 Count of Mature	2012
Flowering plant	Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW187		1 Count of Mature	2013
Flowering plant	Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW195		1 Count of Mature	2013
Flowering plant	Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW196		1 Count of Mature	2013
Flowering plant	Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW197		1 Count of Mature	2013
Flowering plant	Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW198		1 Count of Mature	2013
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT B002		1 Count of Mature	2007
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT B070		1 Count of Mature	2010
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT B068		1 Count of Mature	2010
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT B067		1 Count of Mature	2010
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT B066		1 Count of Mature	2010
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT B065		1 Count of Mature	2010
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT B019		1 Count of Mature	2007

Taxon Group	Latin Name	Common Name	Species Type	Species Number	Species Comm	Abundance	Sample Year
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT B020	9312 Woodland Trust Tree ID number	1 Count of Mature	2007
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT B063		1 Count of Mature	2010
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT B071		1 Count of Mature	2010
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT B072		1 Count of Mature	2010
Flowering plant	Quercus robur	Pedunculate Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree			1 Count of Mature	2005
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW141		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW143		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Carpinus betulus	Hornbeam	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW144		1 Count of Mature	2012
Flowering plant	Populus	Poplar	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW146		1 Count of Mature	2012
Flowering plant	Populus	Poplar	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW147		1 Count of Mature	2012
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW148		1 Count of Mature	2012
Flowering plant	Carpinus betulus	Hornbeam	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW149		1 Count of Mature	2012
Flowering plant	Carpinus betulus	Hornbeam	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW150		1 Count of Mature	2012
Flowering plant	Carpinus betulus	Hornbeam	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW151		1 Count of Mature	2012
Flowering plant	Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW152		1 Count of Mature	2012
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW175		1 Count of Mature	2013
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW176		1 Count of Mature	2013
Flowering plant	Salix alba	White Willow	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW177		1 Count of Mature	2013
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW178		1 Count of Mature	2013
Flowering plant	Salix fragilis	Crack-willow	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW179		1 Count of Mature	2013
Flowering plant	Aesculus hippocastanum	Horse-chestnut	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW182		1 Count of Mature	2013
Flowering plant	Aesculus hippocastanum	Horse-chestnut	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW183		1 Count of Mature	2013
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW199		1 Count of Mature	2013
Flowering plant	Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW200		1 Count of Mature	2013
Flowering plant	Aesculus hippocastanum	Horse-chestnut	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW201		1 Count of Mature	2013
Conifer	Taxus baccata	Yew	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW106		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW107		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Tilia	Lime	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW108		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW109		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW110		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW111		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Salix	Willow	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW112		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW113		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW114		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Salix	Willow	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW115		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Salix	Willow	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW116		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW117		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW118		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW119		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW120		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW121		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW084		1 Count of Mature	2007
Flowering plant	Acer campestre	Field Maple	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW088		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Acer campestre	Field Maple	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW089		1 Count of Mature	2008
Flowering plant	Quercus	Oak	Veteran/Notable Tree	VT NW090		1 Count of Mature	2007

INVASIVE SPECIES

Essex Record Centre

LOCATION: North Weald Bassett Area

SEARCH AREA: 2km radius around
Grid ref.TL 505 044

Taxon Group	Taxon Name	Common Name	Location	Location North	Record Type	Spatial Record	Sample 1KM
Flowering plant	Impatiens glandulifera	Indian Balsam	Church Lane Flood Meadow Ep118	Church Lane Flood Meadow	Field record	TL495046	TL4904
Flowering plant	Crassula helmsii	New Zealand Pigmyweed	Church Lane Flood Meadow Ep118	Church Lane Flood Meadow	Field record	TL495046	TL4904

Appendix B: North Weald Recommendations Document

Essex Mammal Group, North Weald Datasearch, November 2016

TL520055	09 Nov 1996	Harvest Mouse
TL515035	18 Nov 2001	Rabbit
TL515035	18 Nov 2001	Fox
TL515035	18 Nov 2001	Grey Squirrel
TL511031	06 Jun 1998	Brown Hare
TL511031	06 Jun 1998	Rabbit
TL495057	26 Nov 1996	Fox
TL515052	16 Jan 1997	Mole
TL505051	27 Mar 1999	Badger
TL490030	05 Feb 2006	Muntjac
TL492061	05 Jan 2006	Brown Hare
TL518053	26 Sep 1996	Rabbit
TL518031	29 Aug 1996	Rabbit
TL520053	09 Nov 1996	Harvest Mouse
TL511048	25 Jan 2006	Fallow Deer
TL523034	22 Aug 1996	Pipistrelle recorded foraging
TL508051	15 May 1995	Hedgehog
TL509051	29 Sep 1994	Brown Rat
TL524045	23 Feb 1994	Grey Squirrel
TL519031	23 Apr 1994	Fallow Deer
TL505053	08 Apr 2009	Muntjac
TL496038	21 Jul 1982	Pipistrelle roost in building
TL520054	09 Nov 1996	Yellow-necked Mouse
TL495052	18 Nov 1996	Grey Squirrel
TL506052	06 Jun 1996	Fox
TL485055	17 Nov 2001	Grey Squirrel
TL485055	17 Nov 2001	Mole
TL500050	11 Nov 2005	Fallow Deer
TL490030	05 May 1996	Fallow Deer
TL490030	05 May 1996	Rabbit
TL490030	05 May 1996	Brown Hare
TL512052	05 Jan 2006	Brown Hare
TL512052	25 Jan 1997	Grey Squirrel
TL493052	03 Sep 1996	Rabbit
TL524044	31 Dec 1999	Stoat
TL521026	15 May 2013	Rabbit
TL512050	29 Mar 2013	Fox
TL517064	18 Nov 1999	Bank Vole
TL517064	18 Nov 1999	Wood Mouse
TL517064	18 Nov 1999	Common Shrew
TL517064	18 Nov 1999	Pygmy Shrew
TL503053	14 Jun 1999	Badger
TL511064	29 Oct 1996	Mole
TL522032	31 Dec 1999	Brown Hare
TL486061	21 Apr 2003	Muntjac
TL495059	27 Jun 2005	Stoat

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