# BOTANICAL SURVEY OF STANMORE COMMON LNR, HARROW 2010





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# For:

London Borough of Harrow & Harrow Nature Conservation Forum

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# Make Natural Ltd. - Ecological Services

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Make Natural Limited is a London-based ecological consultancy established in 2009. The Company provides specialist services in botanical survey, entomological survey, management plan development and GIS mapping.

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# **CONTENTS**

	Comp. No.	Page
INTRODUCTION		
Aim and Objectives		1
Acknowledgements		1
METHODOLOGY		2
ARRANGEMENT OF DATA IN THIS REPORT		5
RESULTS FOR INDIVIDUAL COMPARTMENTS		
List of Compartments		9
Sylver Aspen Pines	01	10
Flushing Wood	02	13
Heathbourne Wood	03	16
Enigma Wood	04	19
Stonefly Wood	05	22
The Bower	06	25
Tyke's Water	07a	28
Pynding Mersc	07b	31
Mound Grove	08	34
Dyke Wood	09	37
Witling Wood East	10a	40
Witling Wood West	10b	43
Holly Wood	11	45
Brightwen Wood West	12a	48
Brightwen Wood East	12b	51
The Wetwood	13	54
Great Brewery Pond	14a	57
Little Brewery Pond	14b	61
Warren Lane Car Park	15	64
Witling Ride	16a	66
Witling Marsh	16b	68
Witling Glade	16c	71
Holly Brook Rise	17	74
Oakmead	18	77

	Comp. No.	Page
Ceriseland	19	80
Bluebell Heath West	20a	83
Bluebell Heath East	20b	87
New Heath	21	91
The Hawthorns	22	94
The Aspens	23	96
DISCUSSION		
Conduct of the Survey		99
HABITATS AT STANMORE COMMON		
BAP Priority Habitats		99
Ancient Woodland		101
Discussion of Species		
Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Species		102
London Notable Species		103
Ancient Woodland Indicator Species		105
Hertfordshire Red Data Species		107
Mosses		108
Species thought to be currently under threat or recently extinct at Stanmore Common		109
Species newly recorded at the site following the heather introduction project		110
First records and first recent records for the site		111
Invasive and 'pest' Species		112
Outstanding Identification Issues		113
Table of Fauna recorded during the Survey		114
Target Notes		117
Note on the Survey Data Spreadsheet		119
APPENDICES		
Appendix 1: Checklist of the Flora of Stanmore Common LNR		120
Appendix 2: Compartment Map of Stanmore Common LNR		133
Appendix 3: Themed map of AWIs at Stanmore Common LNR		135
REFERENCES		137

A detailed map of the site appears at the end of this PDF file

#### INTRODUCTION

#### Aim and Objectives

The Aim of this survey is to provide the botanical aspects of the data required in order to develop sustainable management strategies for Stanmore Common LNR.

The Objectives as specified by London Borough of Harrow and Harrow Nature Conservation Forum (HNCF) are listed below.

Conduct an Extended Phase I Survey of Stanmore Common

Record per parcel habitat percentages using the Greater London Authority (GLA) protocol.

Photograph selected features.

Record casual records of fauna encountered in the course of the botanical survey where these can be identified in the field

Produce a Geographical Information System (GIS) parcel map of the site based on existing management parcels. Add Target Notes to the GIS map, and deliver as an A3 pdf.

Produce a spreadsheet including:

- 1. Per parcel botanical records for from this survey, annotated with species status (BAP sp., Nationally Scarce species etc.)
- 2. Habitat percentages for each parcel.

To produce an e-report on the survey, including methodology, discussion of the survey data and preliminary recommendations for management and monitoring.

# Acknowledgements

I would like to thank all those who have helped with- and contributed to this survey including Steven Bolsover, Simon Braidman, Anthony Lovegrove, Howard Matthews, Matt Pennells, Victoria Shepherd, Chris Slack, Mark Spencer and Denis Vickers. In addition I am indebted to members of Harrow Natural History Society, Sean Tobin and all the other previous recorders at Stanmore Common.

#### **METHODOLOGY**

#### Area Surveyed

The area surveyed was that defined by statute as Stanmore Common Local Nature Reserve (LNR). This area was delineated in a GIS map held by Natural England and made available under license to Make Natural Ltd. by London Borough of Harrow GIS section.

# Management Compartments

The existing management compartment system (as developed by London Borough of Harrow and as subsequently modified by Harrow Nature Conservation Forum volunteer wardens) was utilised as a framework for the survey. The compartment boundaries were modified conservatively in the course of the survey, in order to reflect more accurately both the ecological subdivisions of the site and the actual courses of those linear features such as paths and water-courses which had been used to define compartment boundaries.

Where compartment boundaries were defined by linear features such as paths or watercourses, it was necessary to avoid the anomalies, inconsistencies and practical difficulties that would have resulted if it had been attempted to record half of the linear feature in each of the adjacent compartments. For species- and habitat recording purposes therefore, linear features defining compartment boundaries were taken to lie within the compartment to the west or south of the feature. Thus a plant species growing on an east-west path lying on a site boundary was recorded in the compartment to the south of the path. Similarly, watercourses specifying compartment boundaries were taken to include their riparian zone. Thus a marshy area immediately adjoining the east edge of a south-north running watercourse was recorded within the compartment on the west side of the watercourse. (If consistency of compartment-based recording is required in the future, then it is recommended that this approach should be adopted henceforth).

# **Survey Methods**

The site was visited to record plants and GPS data from the 30 management compartments of the site on 28 occasions between 15 April and 28 July 2010. Three additional site visits were also made (16 August, 27 August and 28 September 2010), primarily to capture additional GPS data for mapping purposes. Each compartment was surveyed at least once, although a small number of compartments were surveyed a second time in order to record seasonal flora. Voucher specimens were collected in those cases where more detailed examination was required to enable species identification. Priority was given to surveying woodland compartments at a time when their spring flora was evident, as this flora includes species known to be Ancient Woodland Indicators (AWIs) in the south-east England region (Rose & O'Reilly, 2006).

The botanical and habitat data in this report is based on field studies conducted using standard Phase I survey methodology, as adapted for use in Greater London (GLA 2002). The botanical data is provided in an accompanying spreadsheet, and a taxonomic checklist of the recorded flora of Stanmore Common is included in this report (Appendix 1). These lists also include recent records for the Common from a number of other recorders (see below). The nomenclature for vascular plant species follows Stace (2010).

Fauna identifiable in the field was recorded as it was encountered during the conduct of the botanical survey.

Geographical data was captured using a high sensitivity hand-held GPS unit which was imported into GIS software for subsequent processing. MasterMap tiles provided under an Ordnance Survey Contractor License by Harrow GIS section were used as the primary reference source for the mapping.

#### Records from other sources

In addition to the flora recorded during the current survey, records from other sources were researched and included on the spreadsheet. These recorders are:

Simon Braidman	The volunteer warden of the site
John Dobson	Records from previous years from the current author
Teresa Farino et al.	Selected records from Nature Conservation in Harrow (Farino et. al. 1989)
Douglas Kent	Selected literature records from Kent (1975, 2000). A few illustrative records only; no comprehensive review of this data was undertaken.
Anthony Lovegrove	Records from recent years, including 2010 when he provided help with the current survey
Howard Matthews	Records and background information on ferns and horsetails at the Common
Jack Phillips	Records between 1973-1977
Christine Reiser	Unpublished records of bryophytes of Stanmore Common recorded 1993-1997
John Riley	Records from the LCS survey of Stanmore Ponds, 2007 (Riley, 2007)
Victoria Shepherd	A volunteer who helped with the survey of New Heath (compartment 21)
Sean Tobin	A large number of unpublished records (328) from the period 1989-1995 (Tobin 1989-1995)
Denis Vickers	Records from 2010 when he provided help with the current survey

# Verification of species

On completion of the field survey six voucher specimens were forwarded to the Curator of British Botany at the Natural History Museum (Mark Spencer) for identification or confirmation. These were subsequently identified as umbellate hawkweed (*Hieracium umbellatum* ssp. *umbellatum*), hawkweed species (*Hieracium* sp.)(incomplete specimen ident.), black horehound (*Ballota nigra*) (an atypically robust shade form), French crane's-bill (*Geranium endressii*) (two locations) and brown bent (*Agrostis vineale*).

#### **Limitations of Survey**

Number of visits per parcel and seasonality

Although many plant species were identified from their vegetative characteristics (while not in flower) in the course of this survey, all plant species have a seasonality and may not be apparent, or are not readily identifiable for much of the year. In prioritising the recording of woodland spring-flowering species as previously discussed, species appearing in woodland habitats later in the year (e.g. in sunlit glades) were necessarily under-recorded in this survey. In the event the survey brief was extended by the surveyor in order to conduct additional summer surveys of five woodland compartments, and it is therefore suggested that seasonal bias has been mitigated in part although not eliminated by this means.

# Species-complexes and hybrids

Certain of the 'species' of flora routinely encountered during botanical survey are in reality members of large groups of 'micro-species' which require highly specialised skills to resolve. Dandelions (*Taraxacum* spp.), hawkweeds (*Hieracium* spp.) and brambles (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) are all familiar examples. The survey protocol followed here normally records these to genus level only. In this survey however two hawkweeds have been sampled for specialist examination. Similarly willows and sallows (*Salix* spp.) occur in a wide range of hybrids. The survey protocol followed here recorded these as one of a limited range of species.

# GPS accuracy

A high sensitivity hand-held GPS unit was utilised to capture location data such as the position of various features, or the route taken by woodland paths and watercourses. This design allows the capture of location data in situations where line-of-sight to satellites is impeded for example by woodland canopy. The intrinsic positional accuracy is however not much greater than that of less sophisticated GPS units. In the course of this survey the positional accuracy of recorded data varied widely, normally between about 5m and 15m.

#### Other limitations of GPS derived data

The mapping of paths during this survey was more-or-less confined to the major pathways, and a number of minor and obscure paths were not mapped. Although the routes of all the watercourses were mapped on the ground using GPS, some sections of watercourse run though impenetrable scrub while other sections run underground for a distance. In these cases the courses of those stretches have been inferred. Due to the number of such features and in many cases their seasonality, the mapping of marshy areas and flushes, (which are indicated on the map with Target Notes) has been necessarily selective in favour of the more extensive examples. This data however locates the major features and provides a sense of their ecological importance at the site.

#### ARRANGEMENT OF DATA IN THIS REPORT

Each Management Compartment is treated in a separate article, each of which summarises key features arranged as follows:

# Compartment Name

The compartment names are applied as given by Harrow Nature Conservation Forum. In a small number of instances these have been modified by the surveyor where the original compartment has been split in the course of the survey. New compartments (22, 23) have been named by the surveyor. In four instances, and in consultation with HNCF, compartment names which formerly included taxon names have been changed in order to avoid any subsequent difficulties with database- and online searches which could arise as a result.

#### Grid Reference (centroid)

Grid references are supplied in Ordnance Survey format. The centroid is the point at the centre of an irregular polygon (in this instance the boundary of each compartment) as calculated by GIS software. In the case of contorted or sinuous polygons (such as watercourses) this centroid can fall outside the boundary of the polygon.

# Date of Survey

The primary survey date is given. Where a compartment was surveyed twice, this additional date appears on the accompanying spreadsheet, along with the dates of any additional records such as those made on other dates while the surveyor was in transit.

#### Weather

A very brief summary of prevailing weather conditions

### Compartment No.

The Compartment number as supplied by Harrow Nature Conservation Forum. In some instances alphanumeric numbering is utilised, e.g. 20a (Bluebell Heath West) and 20b (Bluebell Heath East). New compartment created in the course of this survey have been numbered 22 and 23. Including alphanumeric subdivisions, Stanmore Common LNR comprises 30 compartments. The same compartment system is used for management and recording.

#### Area (ha)

The area of each compartment in hectares derived from the GIS data.

[1 ha =  $10,000 \text{ m}^2 = 2.47 \text{ acres}$ . 1 acre =  $4046 \text{ m}^2 = 0.4046 \text{ ha}$ ].

#### Survevor

John Dobson, accompanied on occasions by a volunteer helper.

### Habitat Percentages

The protocol followed here recognises the following habitat types in this context. These habitats are further defined in GLA (2002).

Native Broad-Leaved Woodland	Acid Grassland	Bog
Non- Native Broad-Leaved Woodland	Semi-Improved Neutral Grassland (SING)	Reed Swamp
Coniferous Woodland	Herb-Rich Neutral Grassland	Typha etc. swamp
Scattered Trees	Basic Grassland	Wet Marginal Vegetation
Recently Felled Woodland	Improved / Reseeded Agric. Grassland	Fen Carr (Woodland/Scrub over Fen)
Scrub	Amenity Grassland	Standing Water (inc, Canals)
Planted Shrubbery	Ruderal or Ephemeral	Ditches (water-filled)
Native Hedge	Roughland (SING + Tall Herbs + Scrub)	Running Water (Rivers & Streams)
Non-Native Hedge	Bracken	Intertidal (Mud/Sand/Shingle etc.)
Orchard	Tall Herbs	Saltmarsh
Vegetated Wall/Tombstones etc.	Heathland	Habitat data not available
Bare Soil and Rock	Allotments (active)	Other
Bare Artificial Habitat	Arable	

The habitat percentages are designed to be comparable with estimates made from an aerial photograph. The percentage that each of the listed habitats contributes to the whole are made on site by the surveyor, as if viewing the compartment from above. Thus habitat elements which would be obscured from aerial view by the woodland canopy are not included. Habitats contributing less than 1% are also discounted. The combined percentages for each compartment total 100%.

#### Habitat Features

This section of the field form is reproduced here:

Woodland		Gra	ssland	W	etland
Treeline w/out hedge	Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice	Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Decaying timber		Wet grassland			•

Each of the features represented in the compartment is ticked to denote presence ('Y' for Yes is used for clarity in this report). 'Wood shrub layer percentage' however requires that a figure is entered. 'Cuttings removed' is indicated by 'Y' or 'N' and 'trophic status' (of water bodies) is entered as eu-, meso-, oligo- or dystrophic. In any of these categories, a '?' indicates that the surveyor lacks sufficient data to make a definitive assessment.

When assessing a woodland compartment which appears on the basis of its flora to comprise ancient woodland, the 'Ancient Woodland' box would be normally ticked in this table. As an enhancement for this survey, the actual number of ancient woodland indicator species (Rose & O'Reilly, 2006) recorded in each compartment is included here. The interpretation of these figures is considered in the Discussion to this report.

# Description

The Description sections of this report include a description of the compartment and a selection of its important features. The included information is generally arranged as follows, although this strict arrangement is departed-from occasionally e.g. when information not falling readily into one of these categories is included.

The location of the compartment, and a description of its key physical features

A description of the compartment's principal vegetation cover, and its ancient woodland status

Examples of scarce or otherwise interesting flora recorded in the compartment

Selected fauna

Invasive and pest plant species.

#### Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)

Target notes describe 'point features' appearing on the GIS map. They are used to indicate the location of selected features considered to be of particular importance or interest such as for example a veteran tree or a woodland pond. Two series of target notes appear on the map:

T07.2	T for Target Note, followed by the compartment number (07 in this example), and after the decimal point the number of the target note within the compartment. This example indicates the second target note marked in compartment 07.
W2 C20a	Due to the importance of the numerous small wetland features at the site, the target notes indicating wetland features are held on a separate layer on the GIS map. These are labelled with 'W' numbers and are entered numerically within each compartment. The example refers to the second wetland feature indicated in compartment 20a. 'W' numbers are frequently applied to flushes at the Common, which can flow through several compartments.

#### **BAP Species**

Those species recorded in each compartment which are prioritised under the UK-, London-, or Harrow Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPs) are listed here. These are also summarised for the site in the discussion section of this report (p.102).

#### London Notable species

Those species recorded in each compartment which are Notable in London are listed. London Notable status is considered in the discussion section of this report (p.103).

#### Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Those species recorded in each compartment which are designated as Ancient Woodland Indicators (AWIs) for south-east England by (Rose & O'Reilly, 2006) are listed. AWIs are considered in the discussion section of this report (p.105).

#### Invasive Species and other Pest Species

Those species recorded each compartment which are scheduled as invasive species under Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act are listed.

Non-scheduled species considered by the surveyor to be actually- or potentially invasive in a particular compartment are also listed. These can include native as well as non-native plants.

Invasive species are considered further in the discussion section of this report (p.112).

# Fauna

Fauna recorded in each compartment in the course of the botanical survey are listed, along with selective annotations.

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Species not falling into any of the above categories which are considered to be of importance or particular interest for other reasons are listed for each compartment

# Management Notes

A brief list of some of the more important factors to be considered in each compartment when developing a management plan for the site.

# **RESULTS FOR INDIVIDUAL COMPARTMENTS**

# List of Compartments

<b>Compartment Name</b>	Comp. No.
Sylver Aspen Pines	01
Flushing Wood	02
Heathbourne Wood	03
Enigma Wood	04
Stonefly Wood	05
The Bower	06
Tyke's Water	07a
Pynding Mersc	07b
Mound Grove	08
Dyke Wood	09
Witling Wood East	10a
Witling Wood West	10b
Holly Wood	11
Brightwen Wood West	12a
Brightwen Wood East	12b
The Wetwood	13
Great Brewery Pond	14a
Little Brewery Pond	14b
Warren Lane Car Park	15
Witling Ride	16a
Witling Marsh	16b
Witling Glade	16c
Holly Brook Rise	17
Oakmead	18
Ceriseland	19
Bluebell Heath West	20a
Bluebell Heath East	20b
New Heath	21
The Hawthorns	22
The Aspens	23

Compartment Name	Sylver Aspen Pines	Compartment No.	01
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15711 94211	Area (ha)	5.460
Date of Survey	26 April 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Dull		

Native broadleaf woodland	90	Semi-improved neutral grassland	1
Scrub	9		

	Woodland			Gra	ssland	We	tland
	Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	12	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Y	Wood flush	45	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y	Decaying timber			Wet grassland		1	

## **Description**

Sylver Aspen Pines lies to the north of the site adjacent to private properties in Hertsmere. A seasonal ditch (The Brindle) runs along the north boundary, and exits the site at its north west corner. The horse ride runs alongside the ditch for much of its length, but curves southwards near the east of the site. Some stretches of the horse ride in this compartment are poorly maintained. It has become narrowed by vegetation in some places, and is a seasonal quagmire in others. Most of the compartment is north facing, rising to a low eastwest ridge which it overtops prior to its boundary with Flushing Wood (comp. 02). Significant areas of the ground are peppered with small gravel diggings, particularly near the ridge. Flushes arising to the east run eastwards across the horse ride, and in addition gravel diggings around the centre of the compartment appear to act as a sump, collecting and supplying water which eventually appears as the major flush running across Bluebell Heath East (comp. 20b).

The vegetation includes species characteristic of acid woodland and is dominated by downy birch (*Betula pubescens*), bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) along with pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*). The number of ancient woodland indicator plant species recorded (12) is slightly on the low side in comparison with the site's other woodland compartments. This is probably at least in part the result of the high degree of soil disturbance due to the multiple small-scale historical gravel-diggings.

Important flora includes one of three areas at the Common which are carpeted with wood sorrel (*Oxalis acetosella*), the only sessile oaks (*Quercus petraea*) recorded at the site (one mature tree and one young tree), the only wild privet (*Ligustrum vulgare*) recorded at the site (a single sprawling shrub) and lady-fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*) growing from the ditch bank.

Fauna includes grass snakes which are apparently not uncommon here. Pheasant and woodcock are both recorded from this area.

The scheduled invasive plant Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) is very common along particular sections of the horse ride. Another scheduled species, rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) also occurs here. There is an extensive clump of snowberry (*Symphoriocarpus albus*) on the south of the horse ride, close to the apparent source of an east-flowing flush.

Target Notes	Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)		
T01.1, T01.2	Sessile oaks		
T01.3	One of three carpets of wood sorrel (Oxalis acetosella) known at the Common		
T01.4	Landmark: The highpoint of the horse ride at the north east of the Common		
W1-5 C01	Flushed areas		

# **BAP Species**

Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	London BAP Priority Species
Grass Snake	Natrix natrix	Harrow BAP Priority Species

# **London Notable species**

Lady-fern	Athyrium filix-femina	Gooseberry	Ribes uva-crispa
Lesser spearwort	Ranunculus flammula	Lesser periwinkle	Vinca minor
Sessile oak	Quercus petraea	Purple moor-grass	Molinia cerulea
Bog stitchwort	Stellaria alsine	Sheep's fescue	Festuca ovina
Black currant	Ribes nigrum		

# **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Sessile oak	Quercus petraea	Pendulous sedge	Carex pendula
Hornbeam	Carpinus betulus	Remote sedge	Carex remota
Three-nerved sandwort	Moehringia trinervia	Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis
Black currant	Ribes nigrum	Wood millet	Millium effusum
Holly	llex aquifolium	Giant fescue	Schedonorus giganteus
Wood-sorrel	Oxalis acetosella	Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta

# **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Japanese knotweed	Fallopia japonica
Rhododendron	Rhododendron ponticum

# Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Bracken</u>	<u>Pteridium aquilinum</u>	Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia
<u>Yew</u>	Taxus baccata	Sycamore	Acer pseudoplatanus
Cherry laurel	Prunus laurocerasus	Snowberry	Symphoriocarpus albus
Lesser periwinkle	Vinca minor		

## Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Woodpigeon	Columba palumbus	
Robin	Erithacus rubecula	
Coal-tit	Parus ater	
Pheasant	Phasianus colchicus	
Chiffchaff	Phylloscopus collybita	
Green woodpecker	Picus viridis	
Blackbird	Turdus merula	
Grass Snake	Natrix natrix	Recorded here on three occasions
Common Carder-bee	Bombus pascuorum	
Longhorn Beetle sp.	Rutpela maculata	
Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria	
Large White	Pieris brassicae	
Small White	Pieris rapae	
Muntjac	Muntiacus reevesi	
Grey Squirrel	Sciurus carolinensis	

# Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Wild privet	Ligustrum vulgare	Recorded only from this location at the Common
Wood millet	Millium effusum	Scarce but scattered at the Common

# **Management Notes**

Control of invasive plants	Particularly Japanese knotweed, rhododendron, snowberry. The wild privet grows among Japanese knotweed and is considered as threatened at the site as a result (see Discussion)
Maintenance of the horse ride	Required in order to encourage horse riders to use the ride, rather than elsewhere at the site
<ul> <li>Hydrology</li> </ul>	Maintain the long-term integrity of the wetland features
Key plant species	Monitoring: Sessile oak, wood sorrel, wild privet, lady-fern

Compartment Name	Flushing Wood	Compartment No.	02
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15880 94195	Area (ha)	1.127
Date of Survey	29 April 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Dull, sunny periods		

Native broadleaved woodland 90	Scrub	10
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	Woodland			Grassland		Wetland	
	Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	8	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Υ	Wood flush	30	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y	Decaying timber			Wet grassland		1	

## **Description**

Flushing Wood largely comprises regenerating acid woodland and scrub, interspersed with larger older trees. It is the only woodland compartment at Stanmore Common that is both south-facing and has a south-facing woodland margin. (The only other wood with a significant south facing aspect (The Aspens, comp. 23) interfaces to its south margin with another woodland compartment (Enigma Wood, comp. 4). A key feature is of this compartment is the major flush. This water appears to originate with rainwater collected in gravel diggings in Sylver Aspen Pines (comp. 1) and then runs eastwards for a considerable distance along the footpath marking the north boundary of Flushing Wood before dividing. The minority of the flow continues eastwards, crosses the horse ride near the south east corner of the compartment and appears to exit the Common via a piped culvert which flows into an open ditch outside of the LNR in Clutterbucks Wood. The bulk of the flow however turns south and runs in a broad ditch down the hillside, eventually forming the large flush in Bluebell Heath East (comp. 20b), a key habitat asset at the Common.

The dominant vegetation of this woodland is downy birch (*Betula pubescens*) and bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*). Pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) and hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) are frequent, along with beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*). Although scattered older trees are present, the age structure and low number of ancient woodland indicator plant species reflect the relatively recent origins of much of this area of actively regenerating acid woodland. Larger trees including beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) are found mostly in the east of the compartment.

The ground flora includes the most extensive carpet of hair-moss (*Polytrichum* sp.) recorded at the Common, fragments of heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) on the south margin, bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*), wavy hair-grass (*Deschampsia flexuosa*) and wood meadowgrass (*Poa nemoralis*). Ivy (*Hedera helix*) is notably scarce here.

This area of woodland wood is notable for its bird life. Woodcock are associated with this area, and tree-creepers were easily observed here in 2010. Entomologically, it is the site of the first confirmed British record (by John Dobson in 2001 (Chandler, 2003)) of *Agathomyia wankowikski* a flat-footed fly (Platypezidae) whose larvae form galls in artist's fungus (*Ganoderma applanatum*). Numerous bumble bees were present, and possible these were nesting in well-drained areas of the south-facing woodland floor.

Bracken is a dominant invasive species in these woods, while sycamore, purple moor-grass (*Molinia cerulea*) and rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) are all potential pests here.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)		
T02.1	The most extensive carpet of hair moss recorded at the Common	
W1-4 C02	Flushed areas	

# **BAP Species**

Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	London BAP Priority Species
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# **London Notable species**

Heather	Calluna vulgaris	Wavy hair-grass	Deschampsia flexuosa
Wood speedwell	Veronica montata	Sheep's fescue	Festuca ovina
Purple moor-grass	Molinia cerulea		

# **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Hornbeam	Carpinus betulus	Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis
Aspen	Populus tremula	Wood meadow-grass	Poa nemoralis
Holly	llex aquifolium	Giant fescue	Schedonorus giganteus
Wood speedwell	Veronica montata	Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta

# **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

N.	Departed	
I I N	Recorded	

# Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Bracken</u>	<u>Pteridium aquilinum</u>	Sycamore	Acer pseudoplatanus
Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia	Purple moor-grass	Molinia cerulea

# **Fauna** (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Long-tailed tit	Aegithalos caudatus	
Tree-creeper	Certhia familiaris	Apparently common in this wood
Great spotted Woodpecker	Dendrocopos major	
Jay	Garrulus glandarius	
Great-tit	Parus major	
Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria	
Large White	Pieris brassicae	

# Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Hair moss sp. Polytrichum sp.	
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# **Management Notes**

Bird population	Maintain as a low-disturbance area for birds
Woodland edge	Manage the south margin as a sculpted ecocline
<ul> <li>Hydrology</li> </ul>	Maintain the long-term integrity of the extended flush
Key plant species	Monitor the hair-moss carpet

Compartment Name	Heathbourne Wood	Compartment No.	03
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15536 93883	Area (ha)	3.200
Date of Survey	18 May 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Sunny, dull periods		

Native broadleaved woodland 75	Scrub	25
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	Woodland			Grassland		Wetland	
	Treeline w/out hedge	Υ	Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	16	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Υ	Wood flush	25	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Υ	Decaying timber			Wet grassland			

#### **Description**

Heathbourne Wood is a broad strip extending southwards from the north-west of the Common alongside Heathbourne Road. It includes a series of seepages and culverts at the sources of watercourses which run eastwards across the Common, namely The Heathbourne, Tyke's Water and The Speiring. The compartment is delineated in part by Jake's Path to the east, The Heathbourne to the north-east, and by The Speiring to the south. The compartment descends to the east from the roadside and interfaces with woodland to the south, east and north-east.

Pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) and downy birch (*Betula pubescens*) are abundant, as are bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg) sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and ivy (*Hedera helix*). Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) and hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) all occur frequently.

The relatively high number of Ancient Woodland Indicator species recorded (18) strongly suggests that this woodland is ancient in origin. The only soft shield-fern (*Polystichum setiferum*) recorded at the Common grows here alongside significant patches of bog stitchwort (*Stellaria alsine*). A single plant of Solomon's-seal (*Polygonatum multiflorum*) (identification to be confirmed) was located, whilst bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) are frequent in this area. It is one of the few areas on the Common where pignut (*Conopodium majus*) may be found, and one of three locations of carpets of wood-sorrel (*Oxalis acetosella*). The only colony of hemlock water-dropwort (*Oenanthe crocata*) in Harrow, which formerly grew in a ditch bordering Belswood Cottage was cut down in 2010 during its flowering period, possibly in the course of 'tidying' of the area on the LNR adjacent to the cottage. Time will tell whether this London Notable species will survive in Harrow. Bog-moss (*Sphagnum* sp.) grows in a flush in this compartment, and this is of London-wide importance.

Brown tree-ant (*Lasius brunneus*) occurs on oak trunks in this area. This ant species occurs in small colonies (e.g. less than 50 individuals) and is noticeably timid when disturbed. Reeve's muntjac appears to be common here.

The scheduled invasive plant Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) occurs in clumps to the north and west of the site (these appeared to be under current management), whilst a small number of another scheduled species rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) are scattered in the woodland.

<b>Target Notes</b>	Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)		
T03.1	Soft Shield-fern - its only known locality at the Common		
T03.2	One of three carpets of wood sorrel (Oxalis acetosella) known at the Common		
T03.3	Hemlock water-dropwort: The site of Harrow's long-standing colony of this London Notable species (Farino <i>et al.</i> , 1989). Currently (2010) under threat		
W1-3 C03	Points at which water-courses enter the Common		
W 4 C03	Flushed area		

# **BAP Species**

Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	London BAP Priority Species
Solomon's-seal	Polygonatum?multiflorum	London BAP Priority Species

# **London Notable species**

Soft shield-fern	Polystichum setiferum	Lesser periwinkle	Vinca minor
Lesser spearwort	Ranunculus flammula	Wood forget-me-not	Myosotis sylvatica
Bog stitchwort	Stellaria alsine	Wavy hair-grass	Deschampsia flexuosa
Black currant	Ribes nigrum	Red currant	Ribes rubrum
Summer snowflake	Leucojum aestivum ssp. pulchellum	Solomon's-seal	Polygonatum?multiflorum

# **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Soft shield-fern	Polystichum setiferum	Pendulous sedge	Carex pendula
Hornbeam	Carpinus betulus	Remote sedge	Carex remota
Aspen	Populus tremula	Wood-sedge	Carex sylvatica
Black currant	Ribes nigrum	Hairy-brome	Bromopsis ramosa
Red currant	Ribes rubrum	Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis
Wild cherry	Prunus avium	Giant fescue	Schedonorus giganteus
Wood-sorrel	Oxalis acetosella	Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta
Pignut	Conopodium majus	Solomon's-seal	Polygonatum?multiflorum

# **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Japanese knotweed	Fallopia japonica
Rhododendron	Rhododendron ponticum

# Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Bracken</u>	<u>Pteridium aquilinum</u>	<u>Sycamore</u>	Acer pseudoplatanus
<u>Yew</u>	Taxus baccata	<u>Ash</u>	<u>Fraxinus excelsior</u>
Cherry laurel	Prunus laurocerasus	Snowberry	Symphoriocarpus albus
<u>Rowan</u>	Sorbus aucuparia	Spanish bluebell	Hyacinthoides hispanica
Lesser periwinkle	Vinca minor		

# Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Blue-tit	Cyanistes caeruleus		
Robin	Erithacus rubecula		
Great-tit	Parus major		
Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes		
Brown Tree-ant	Lasius brunneus		
Orange-tip	Anthocharis cardamines		
Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria		
Muntjac	Muntiacus reevesi		

# Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Raspberry	Rubus idaeus	Scarce at the Common
Hemlock water-dropwort	Oenanthe crocata	Only recorded from this Compartment
Corn parsley	Petroselinum segetum	Only recorded from this Compartment
Hair moss sp.	Polytrichum sp.	Several spp. historically recorded
Bog moss sp.	Sphagnum sp.	Importance for London

# **Management Notes**

<ul> <li>Control of invasive plants</li> </ul>	Particularly Japanese knotweed and rhododendron
<ul> <li>Hydrology</li> </ul>	Retain the integrity of the hydrology in this compartment
Key plant species	Monitor species at risk:  Soft shield-fern and bog stitchwort: These grow closely adjacent to a Japanese knotweed management area.  Hemlock water-dropwort: Ensure that it is not cut down by third parties in future years.

<b>Compartment Name</b>	Enigma Wood	Compartment No.	04
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15691 93998	Area (ha)	3.390
Date of Survey	6 May 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Dull and cool		

Native broadleaved woodland 85	Scrub 15
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Woodland		Grassland		Wetland		
Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	12	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush	25	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y Decaying timber			Wet grassland		-	

#### **Description**

Enigma Wood lies on relatively level ground but falls overall slightly to the south east. It is surrounded by woodland except for its interface with compartment 18 (Oakmead) to the east of its southern margin. Its north margin is marked by The Heathbourne, and it is bounded to the south, east and west by footpaths. Gravel diggings are present, which sometimes appear as ditch-like excavations.

Downy birch (*Betula pubescens*), bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*) and bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) are all abundant, while aspen (*Populus tremula*) is frequent to the east of the compartment. Other frequent species include pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) including large trees, beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*).

There are patches of marsh bedstraw (*Galium palustre*) on the banks of The Heathbourne, and one of the Common's three colonies of lily-of-the-valley (*Convallaria majalis*) grows to the north-east. Lily-of-the-valley is considered to be native at the Common due to the situation of its colonies. Bluebell is abundant and three-nerved sandwort (*Moehringia trinervia*) occurs patchily on the woodland floor, where moss carpets are also a feature.

No uncommon fauna was observed here during the survey. On the site overall however, harlequin ladybirds, a potentially serious pest species, appeared to be less common than expected in 2010.

A scheduled invasive plant rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) was present, on the path running south east and also occasionally within the woodland. Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), rowan and sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) are all frequently occurring potential pests here as are the patches of regenerating ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*).

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)		
T04.1	Landmark: The path descends to the east in a series of shallow 'steps' formed by tree roots crossing the path	
T04.2	One of three colonies of apparently native lily-of-the-valley recorded at the site	
W1 & W2 C04	Small marshy areas on the margin of The Heathbourne	

# **BAP Species**

Heath wood-rush s.l.	Luzula multiflora ssp. multiflora / congesta	London BAP Priority Species
Lily-of-the-Valley	Convallaria majalis	London BAP Priority Species
Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	London BAP Priority Species

# **London Notable species**

Black currant	Ribes nigrum	Heath wood-rush s.l.	Luzula multiflora ssp. multiflora / congesta
Marsh bedstraw	Galium palustre	Lily-of-the-Valley	Convallaria majalis

# **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Three-nerved sandwort	Moehringia trinervia	Pendulous sedge	Carex pendula
Aspen	Populus tremula	Wood-sedge	Carex sylvatica
Primrose	Primula vulgaris.	Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis
Black currant	Ribes nigrum	Giant fescue	Schedonorus giganteus
Wild cherry	Prunus avium	Lily-of-the-Valley	Convallaria majalis
Holly	llex aquifolium	Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta

# **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Rhododendron
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# Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Bracken</u>	<u>Pteridium aquilinum</u>	<u>Sycamore</u>	Acer pseudoplatanus
<u>Yew</u>	Taxus baccata	<u>Ash</u>	Fraxinus excelsior
Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia		

# **Fauna** (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Jay	Garrulus glandarius
Chiffchaff	Phylloscopus collybita
Harlequin Ladybird	Harmonia axyridis
St. Mark's Fly	Bibio marci
Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria
Scorpion Fly sp.	Panorpa sp.

# Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Goat willow	Salix caprea	Patchily distributed here and in some other compartments. Male catkins (pussy-willow) are a key source of early nectar and pollen at the site.
Scots pine	Pinus sylvestris	Scattered distribution at the site, with a known associated fauna.

# **Management Notes**

Control of invasive plants	Manage the rhododendrons
,	Retain the integrity of the hydrology in this compartment, particularly the marshy margins to The Heathbourne and their associated flora such as marsh bedstraw and bog stitchwort
Key plant species	Monitor key species: Lily-of-the-valley

Compartment Name	Stonefly Wood	Compartment No.	05
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15909 93992	Area (ha)	2.585
Date of Survey	6 May 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Sunny and cool		

Native broadleaved woodland 70	Scrub	30
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	Woodland		Grassland		Wetland		
	Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	10	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Υ	Wood flush	65	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Υ	Decaying timber			Wet grassland	Ī	,	

#### **Description**

Stonefly Wood is bounded by clearings to its north (Bluebell Heath East, comp. 20b) and east (Pynding Mersc, comp. 7b). Footpaths mark the south and west boundaries, and The Heathbourne runs through the wood close to its north margin. The woodland floor is dominated with bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), while bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), downy birch (*Betula pubescens*), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*) are all abundant. The area is relatively flat but falls marginally to the south and east. The central area of the compartment is taken up with a broad east-west band of dense and mostly impenetrable scrub, which is likely have particular value for nesting birds and other fauna at the site. Larger trees such as pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) are scattered through the area, and good quality standing decaying timber habitats are present.

Marsh bedstraw (*Galium palustre*) and sanicle (*Sanicula europaea*) occur here and bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) is frequent. The ancient woodland indicators recorded suggest that some elements of this woodland are of ancient origin. Hair moss (*Polytrichum* sp.) is also present. The Common's specimen ancient hawthorn tree is situated on the west margin of this wood but is placed within The Hawthorns (comp. 22) for pragmatic management reasons. Other hawthorns within this compartment, particularly in the north-east sector, while not being particularly large, show signs of some age. There is also some nice old honeysuckle here, with ascending 'trunks' up to 4cm in diameter.

A tawny owl, presumably a male with young was seen flying within deep shade in the woodland in the middle of the day. The colouring of tawny owls displays some variability, and this individual was a striking rusty red. A buzzard was seen flying low above the treetops, and is thought likely that this bird was disturbed from its perch in the canopy by the surveyor. Willow warbler was also recorded from this compartment. The characteristic D-shaped exit holes of the hawthorn jewel (*Agrilus sinuatus*) beetle were present in one of the older hawthorns previously discussed.

No scheduled invasive species were recorded. Bracken, sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and yew (*Taxus baccata*) are all actual or potential pest species here.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
W C05	The flush which crosses Bluebell Heath East runs into The Heathbourne here

# **BAP Species**

Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	London BAP Priority Species
Song Thrush	Turdus philomelos	UK and London BAP Priority Species

# **London Notable species**

Marsh bedstraw	Galium palustre	Sanicle	Sanicula europaea	
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# **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Pendulous sedge	Carex pendula	Three-nerved sandwort	Moehringia trinervia
Hornbeam	Carpinus betulus	Wild cherry	Prunus avium
Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis	Sanicle	Sanicula europaea
Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Giant fescue	Schedonorus giganteus
Holly	llex aquifolium	Black bryony	Tamus communis

# **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded

# Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Sycamore</u>	Acer pseudoplatanus	Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia
<u>Bracken</u>	<u>Pteridium aquilinum</u>	<u>Yew</u>	Taxus baccata
Turkey oak	Quercus cerris		

# Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Buzzard	Buteo buteo	Probably took wing from the canopy.
Great-tit	Parus major	
Willow-warbler	Phylloscopus trochilus	Song record (Denis Vickers).
Tawny Owl	Strix aluco	One hunting by day in shaded woodland.
Song Thrush	Turdus philomelos	UK- and London BAP Priority Species.
Hawthorn Jewel Beetle	Agrilus sinuatus	Recorded from its exit holes.
Peacock Butterfly	Inachis io	
DeGeer's Longhorn Moth	Nemophora degeerella	

# Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

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# **Management Notes**

Control of invasive plants	Monitor potentially invasive shrub species
<ul> <li>Hydrology</li> </ul>	Retain the integrity of the hydrology in this compartment, particularly the flush running from Bluebell Heath East
Key habitat	Retain the integrity of the dense scrub belt in these woods.

Compartment Name	The Bower	Compartment No.	06
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15688 93809	Area (ha)	2.918
Date of Survey	25 May 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Warm and dull		

Native broadleaved woodland	70	Scrub	20
Non-native broadleaved woodland	10		

	Woodland		Grassland		Wetland		
	Treeline w/out hedge	Υ	Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation Coppice	17	Ancient woodland Pollarded	Infrequently mown Unmanaged	Cuttings removed Y/N Ridge and	Emergent vegetation  Natural river bank	Saline Tidal
Υ	Wood flush	35	Wood shrub layer %	grassland Grassland flush	Furrow Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y	Decaying timber			Wet grassland		L	

# **Description**

The Bower is a roughly triangular area of north-facing acid woodland bounded by woodland except for its interface with Ceriseland (compartment 19) along the north section of its east margin and with Oakmead (comp. 18) to the north. Tyke's Water and Little Tyke (comp. 7a) traverse the compartment close to its north margin, whilst further south the Speiring flows north-eastwards through the compartment where two oval seasonal woodland pools have been dug alongside it in recent years. There is occasional evidence of historical gravel digging including a large pit to the south west.

This is well-structured woodland, including a number of large pedunculate oaks (*Quercus robur*) alongside younger trees and scrub. The large number of Ancient Woodland Indicator species (17) strongly suggests the ancient origins of this woodland. Close to Tyke's water (comp. 7a) there are small areas of carr-like habitat. Pedunculate oak, downy birch (*Betula pubescens*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) are all abundant in this compartment. Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and aspen (*Populus tremula*) are frequent, and a large beech grows in a path-side clearing to the west margin of the compartment. Both bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) and Spanish bluebell (*Hyacinthoides hispanica*) occur frequently.

There is a colony of lily-of-the-valley (*Convallaria majalis*) to the margin with Ceriseland, and this is regarded as native to the site. A nearby bird cherry (*Prunus padus*) is almost certainly a casual or introduction. Broad-leaved helleborine (*Epipactis helleborine*), great horsetail (*Equisetum telmateia*) and marsh bedstraw (*Galium palustre*) are found here alongside watercourses.

Cuckoo (a UK BAP Priority Species) was heard here in 2010, as was great spotted woodpecker.

A scheduled invasive plant Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) occurs occasionally near to Tyke's Water. In addition to other potentially invasive species, there are a very large number of ash saplings growing in this compartment.

Target Notes (T)	Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)		
T06.1	A small clearing dominated by a large beech		
T06.2	A small bird cherry growing in the woodland edge		
W1 C06	Inflow from an old culvert		
W2 &3 C06	Marshy Areas		
W4, 5 & 6 C06	Seasonal Pools		

# **BAP Species**

Lily-of-the-Valley	Convallaria majalis	London BAP Priority Species
Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	London BAP Priority Species
Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus	UK BAP Priority Species

# **London Notable species**

Lily-of-the-Valley	Convallaria majalis	Purple moor-grass	Molinia cerulea
Broad-leaved helleborine	Epipactis helleborine	Bird cherry	Prunus padus
Great horsetail	Equisetum telmateia	Lesser spearwort	Ranunculus flammula
Marsh bedstraw	Galium palustre	Black currant	Ribes nigrum

# **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Wood anemone	Anemone nemorosa	Holly	llex aquifolium
Hairy-brome	Bromopsis ramosa	Wood millet	Millium effusum
Pendulous sedge	Carex pendula	Three-nerved sandwort	Moehringia trinervia
Wood-sedge	Carex sylvatica	Wood meadow-grass	Poa nemoralis
Hornbeam	Carpinus betulus	Aspen	Populus tremula
Lily-of-the-Valley	Convallaria majalis	Giant fescue	Schedonorus giganteus
Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Black currant	Ribes nigrum
Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis	Black bryony	Tamus communis
Broad-leaved helleborine	Epipactis helleborine		

# **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Japanese knotweed	Fallopia japonica	
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# Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Sycamore</u>	Acer pseudoplatanus	<u>Bracken</u>	Pteridium aquilinum
<u>Ash</u>	Fraxinus excelsior	<u>Rowan</u>	Sorbus aucuparia
Spanish bluebell	Hyacinthoides hispanica	<u>Yew</u>	Taxus baccata
Cherry laurel	Prunus laurocerasus		

# Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus	UK BAP species	
Great spotted Woodpecker	Dendrocopos major		
Jay	Garrulus glandarius		
Magpie	Pica pica		
Blackbird	Turdus merula		
Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria		

# Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Black bent	Agrostis gigantea	Not an uncommon species, but the only record from the site.
Hair moss sp.	Polytrichum sp.	

# **Management Notes**

Control of invasive plants	Manage the Japanese knotweed
Hydrology	Maintain the long-term integrity of the wetland features
	Monitor the populations of broad-leaved helleborine and lily- of-the-valley

Compartment Name	Tyke's Water	Compartment No.	07a
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15810 93894*	Area (ha)	0.404
Date of Survey	10 June 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Sunny		

Note that due to the elongated and sinuous shape of this compartment the centroid (OS reference) falls outside its boundary, in comp.
 18.

Native broadleaved woodland	70	Scrub	20
Scattered trees	10		

Woodland			Gras	ssland	Wetland	
Treeline w/out hedge	Υ	Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	13	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush		Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Pecaying timber			Wet grassland		-	

## **Description**

Tyke's Water flows west to east across the Common running exclusively through woodland. This compartment includes its entire course east of Jake's path until it spills into Pynding Mersc (comp. 7b) to the east. In addition to its arising in Heathbourne Wood (comp. 3) it is additionally fed by Little Tyke, The Speiring, and Holly Brook. A small tributary to Little Tyke arises from an old culvert and in addition there are unnatural-looking right-angled bends in the watercourse, suggesting that its course has been historically engineered at these points, although these features are rather minor.

The width of the linear compartment 07a is variable, taking in both bank top vegetation, closely overshading trees and scrub and marshy extensions to the main watercourse. To its west the watercourse may run in a small channel or disappear under leaf litter. Further east the channel becomes well-defined, and is deep cut in places. Thus the stream bed varies between woodland soil, silt and exposed gravel. The stream bed was dry at the time of the survey, in part due to the drought and in part because the flow in all of Stanmore Common's watercourses is seasonal and weather dependent.

Both common nettle (*Urtica dioica*) and ivy (*Hedera helix*) were abundant along much of the watercourse, while common hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*) and bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) scrub is frequent along the banks. Overshading trees include pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) and beech (*Fagus sylvatica*). The Ancient Woodland Indicators recorded here (13) are unsurprising given the course of the stream through good woodland habitats.

The most notable plant recorded in this compartment is corn mint (*Mentha arvensis*). Formerly known from a small patch in Holly Brook Rise (comp. 17) it apparently disappeared from that location and was feared extinct at the Common. Fortunately it was discovered growing on the bank of Tyke's Water in 2009 by Anthony Lovegrove. Damp woodland seems to be a more natural habitat for this species than grassland or cereal fields (James, 2009), and it is hoped that this particular London rarity will continue to thrive at the Common. It is however highly sensitive to herbicides and this should be considered prior to management of Japanese knotweed.

Broad-leaved helleborine (*Epipactis helleborine*), marsh bedstraw (*Galium palustre*), square-stalked St. John's-wort (*Hypericum tetrapterum*) and ragged-robin (*Lychnis flos-cuculi*) are all important species in this compartment, the latter particularly so as its low population suggests that it is under threat at the site.

A scheduled invasive species, Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) occurs sporadically as large- and small clumps along the length of the watercourse.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)		
W1 & W2 C07a	Dense thickets of carr-like habitat near the confluence of Tyke's Water and Little Tyke: This is a sensitive habitat and one of potentially high value, particularly for invertebrates and birds	

# **BAP Species**

Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	London BAP Priority Species
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#### **London Notable species**

Broad-leaved helleborine	Epipactis helleborine	Corn mint	Mentha arvensis
Marsh bedstraw	Galium palustre	Lesser spearwort	Ranunculus flammula
Square-stalked St John's-wort	Hypericum tetrapterum	Sanicle	Sanicula europaea
Ragged-robin	Lychnis flos-cuculi	Bog stitchwort	Stellaria alsine

# **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Pendulous sedge	Carex pendula	Three-nerved sandwort	Moehringia trinervia
Remote sedge	Carex remota	Wood meadow-grass	Poa nemoralis
Wood-sedge	Carex sylvatica	Sanicle	Sanicula europaea
Broad-leaved helleborine	Epipactis helleborine	Giant fescue	Schedonorus giganteus
Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Black bryony	Tamus communis
Holly	llex aquifolium	Guelder-rose	Viburnum opulus
Wood millet	Millium effusum		

#### **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Japanese knotweed	Fallopia japonica	
Capanooc Knowoca	r aliopia japornoa	

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Sycamore	Acer pseudoplatanus	Ash	Fraxinus excelsior	
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# Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Blackbird	Turdus merula
Green-veined White	Pieris napi

# Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Hair moss	Polytrichum sp.	Characteristic	
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# **Management Notes**

Control of invasive plants	Manage the Japanese knotweed, taking into account the fragility of the habitats, including the Common's populations of corn mint and ragged robin
Hydrology	Maintain the long-term integrity of the watercourse and its water supplies
Key plant species	Monitor the corn mint and ragged robin

<b>Compartment Name</b>	Pynding Mersc	Compartment No.	07b
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 16046 93997	Area (ha)	0.134
Date of Survey	25 June 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Hot and sunny		

Scattered trees	35	Acid grassland	5
Scrub	10	Tall herbs	35
Bare Soil	10	Wet marginal vegetation	5

	Wo	Woodland		Grassland		Wetland	
	Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	5	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Y Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
	Wood flush		Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	Mesotrophic
Y	Decaying timber			Wet grassland			

#### Description

**NOTE:** Recent works (see below) which took place after the current survey, have substantially altered the habitat and flora in this compartment. Some of the recorded flora is no longer in evidence, while the status of its associated fauna is unknown. This account should therefore be read as a historical snapshot of Pynding Mersc, prior to the recent works, and as such it may provide a useful comparator when the new habitat has matured. Similarly, until the new footprint of the marsh becomes evident as the seasonal water-levels become established, it is not possible to delineate the compartment (including its developing riparian zone) accurately at this stage, and the map of compartment 07b is therefore nominal. The Target note is unaffected.

Pynding Mersc lies close to the east margin of the Common and represents the point at which the flow from many of the Common's watercourses leaves the site, and where Tyke's Water flows eastwards out of the site into Grove Ponds. The bulk of the compartment lies in a shallow basin, the ground-level rising to the north and south. The east margin of the compartment is delineated by the site boundary fence, and the horse-ride runs approximately north-south close to this boundary. A footpath connecting the clearings Holly Brook Rise (comp. 17) and Bluebell Heath East (comp. 20b) runs to the west of Pynding Mersc.

Circumstantial and topographical evidence suggests that this was probably a historically marshy area, possibly with a diverse bog-moss (*Sphagnum* spp.) flora. It is not known if the marsh was drained by council contractors during construction of the horse-ride, or if the area had lost much of its marshland habitat prior to that event. Until relatively recently Pynding Mersc exited though a drainage pipe installed beneath the horse-ride, and subsequently the remaining marshy area was seasonal and of restricted extent. In c.2002 Harrow Drainage Engineers working in partnership with Harrow Agenda 21 Water Action Group and Harrow Nature Conservation Forum (HNCF) installed a bagwork dam at the outlet in order to raise the water level and restore the marsh. It appears that council contractors subsequently broke up the dam when water over-topped the horse-ride at a point to the north of the dam.

In August 2010 however Section 106 funding was employed in partnership with HNCF to construct a purpose-built dam and outflow and to stabilise the bank of the horse-ride, with the aim of once again reinstating the marshland habitat. In addition, construction of a walkway across the marsh is under consideration at the time of writing (August 2010).

There is native and non-native scrub and a few trees including alder (*Alnus glutinosus*) to the east margin. Much of the compartment is densely vegetated with ground flora, and is partly over-shaded by medium-aged pedunculate oak trees (*Quercus robur*). The dominant flora comprises floating sweet-grass (*Glyceria fluitans*), common nettle (*Urtica dioica*) and field horsetail (*Equisetum arvense*). Frequently occurring marshland plants include water forget-me-not (*Myosotis scorpioides*), lesser spearwort (*Ranunculus flammula*), gypsywort (*Lycopus europaeus*) and water mint (*Mentha aquatica*). Water-pepper (*Persicaria hydropiper*) and brooklime (*Veronica beccabunga*) occur as rarities in this compartment. In 2007 Howard Matthews recorded lady-fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*) in this compartment.

A range of wetland ground beetles (Carabidae) were observed foraging in undisturbed marginal mud. Slender groundhopper (*Tetrix subulata*) a local 'grasshopper' which is found in stable muddy habitats was present. Groundhoppers are the UK's only swimming 'grasshoppers' and can be seen (if you are lucky) swimming on or beneath the surface of marshy pools and woodland puddles. In recent years the very large and local wetland cranefly *Tipula fulvipennis* has been recorded here as well as a Nationally Scarce wetland wasp (*Crossocerus walkeri*). Submerged and semi-submerged fallen tree-trunks and branches are present and these are likely to provide high value habitat for invertebrates.

No invasive plants were recorded but for ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) which can behave invasively at the Common.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)		
T07b.1	A tree to the east- and a sapling to the west of the horse-ride are the only examples	
	of alder (A. glutinosa) recorded at Stanmore Common during the current survey.	

#### **BAP Species**

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None Recorded	

#### **London Notable species**

Lady-fern	Athyrium filix-femina	Lesser spearwort	Ranunculus flammula
Water forget-me-not	Myosotis scorpiodes	Brooklime	Veronica beccabunga

#### **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Lady-fern	Athyrium filix-femina	Field rose	Rosa arvensis
Pendulous sedge	Carex pendula	Giant fescue	Schedonorus giganteus
Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis		

### **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Ash Fraxinus excelsior	
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### Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Ground Beetle spp.	Carabidae	Species associated with the bare mud habitat
Slender Ground-hopper	Tetrix subulata	Marshland sp. – scarce in Harrow

## Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Alder	Alnus glutinosus	The only alders recorded at the site grow either side of the horse ride here
Water-pepper	Persicaria hydropiper	Scarce and local at the site
Gypsywort	Lycopus europaeus	Scarce and local at the site
Plum sp.	Prunus domestica var.	Fruit are small, cherry-red and very sweet

#### **Management Notes**

The management of this compartment will depend in part on the habitats which, following the recent works, develop naturally in the coming years, and assessment of their associated flora and fauna at that stage. On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

Habitat fragility	Small areas of wetland habitat such as this can be very fragile, and apparently minor changes in management can destabilise or significantly alter the ecology. Following the recent works, major management interventions should therefore be avoided as the habitat develops and stabilises over the next few years
<ul> <li>Hydrology</li> </ul>	Considering the known flora and fauna of Stanmore Common, the marshland habitats of the compartment are likely to support the most important flora and fauna. The wetland should therefore be managed primarily as a marshland rather than primarily as a pond, as the latter would carry a significant risk of damaging or destroying scarce wildlife
<ul> <li>Standing decaying timber habitat/Tree safety</li> </ul>	The oak trees currently growing in the marsh will sicken and die presently due to waterlogging of their roots. These should be retained as valuable habitat. If any of the trees are close enough to the horse-ride to fall across it and therefore pose a risk to the public, they should be made safe by trimming or truncheoning, rather than removal. Large section cut timber should be left lying in the marsh, and no chipping should be carried out
Alders	Ensure that all interested parties, including council contractors are aware of the importance of the alders growing adjacent to the horse-ride
Key plant species	Monitor the natural recolonisation of the compartment with wetland flora at least annually over the coming years

Compartment Name	Mound Grove	Compartment No.	08
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15857 93765	Area (ha)	3.562
Date of Survey	4 June 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Hot and sunny		

Native broadleaved woodland 70	Scrub 30
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	Wo	odland		Gras	ssland	We	tland
	Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	14	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Y	Wood flush	60	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Υ	Decaying timber			Wet grassland		1	

#### **Description**

Mound Grove is an area of acid woodland bounded in part by clearings; Oakmead (comp. 18) to the north and Ceriseland (comp. 19) to part of its west margin. The watercourses Holly Brook and The Brightwen flow northwards through the compartment to meet Tyke's Water (Comp 7a) to the north. There are two historical earthworks within the compartment: The Pillow Mound is an artificial rabbit warren which might be medieval or later in origin. The Tumulus (Boudicca's Mound) is a circular earthwork of unknown origin.

Pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*), downy birch (*Betula pubescens*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) are abundant trees here, along with bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*).

Broad-leaved helleborine (*Epipactis helleborine*), sanicle (*Sanicula europaea*), wood millet (*Millium effusum*) and great horsetail (*Equisetum telmateia*) and found here along with woodland grasses such as wood meadow-grass (*Poa nemoralis*) and creeping soft-grass (*Holcus mollis*). Aspen (*Populus tremula*) occurs frequently here, along with the only spindle (*Euonymus europaeus*) recorded during this survey. The 14 Ancient Woodland Indicator species recorded suggest that a significant ancient woodland component is present.

Both cuckoo and song thrush are London BAP Priority species. Blackcap and nuthatch were also recorded here.

No scheduled invasive plant species were recorded. Sycamore, bracken, ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), cherry laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*) and yew (*Taxus baccata*) are all actual or potential invasive species here.

Target Notes (T	Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T08.1	Landmark: Boudicca's Mound: A 'Round Barrow' (A name of convenience in use until the true nature of this circular mound-with-ditch can be determined.)	
T08.2	Landmark: A Pillow Mound: An artificial rabbit warren	
T08.3	The only spindle (Euonymus europaeus) recorded in the course of the 2010 survey	
W1 C08	Flushed area	
W2 – W4 C08	Marshy areas	

## **BAP Species**

Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	London BAP Priority Species
Song Thrush	Turdus philomelos	UK- and London BAP Priority Species
Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus	UK- and London BAP Priority Species

#### **London Notable species**

Broad-leaved helleborine	Epipactis helleborine	Lesser spearwort	Ranunculus flammula
Great horsetail	Equisetum telmateia	Sanicle	Sanicula europaea
Purple moor-grass	Molinia cerulea	Bog stitchwort	Stellaria alsine

## **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Hairy-brome	Bromopsis ramosa	Wood millet	Millium effusum
Pendulous sedge	Carex pendula	Three-nerved sandwort	Moehringia trinervia
Hornbeam	Carpinus betulus	Wood meadow-grass	Poa nemoralis
Broad-leaved helleborine	Epipactis helleborine	Aspen	Populus tremula
Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis	Sanicle	Sanicula europaea
Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Giant fescue	Schedonorus giganteus
Holly	llex aquifolium	Black bryony	Tamus communis

## **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Sycamore</u>	Acer pseudoplatanus	<u>Bracken</u>	<u>Pteridium aquilinum</u>
<u>Ash</u>	<u>Fraxinus excelsior</u>	Turkey oak	Quercus cerris
Purple moor-grass	Molinia cerulea	Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia
Cherry laurel	Prunus laurocerasus	<u>Yew</u>	Taxus baccata

#### **Fauna** (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Carrion Crow	Corvus corone	
Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus	UK BAP
Great-tit	Parus major	
Magpie	Pica pica	
Nuthatch	Sitta europaea	
Blackcap	Sylvia atricapilla	Song record (Denis Vickers)
Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes	
Blackbird	Turdus merula	
Song Thrush	Turdus philomelos	UK- and London BAP Priority Species
Harlequin Ladybird	Harmonia axyridis	
St. Mark's Fly	Bibio marci	
Silver-Y moth	Autographa gamma	
Scorpion Fly sp.	Panorpa sp.	

# Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Spindle	Euonymus europaeus	The only example recorded during this survey
Scots pine	Pinus sylvestris	Pine trees are scattered over the Common, and have a distinctive associated insect fauna

## **Management Notes**

•	Archaeology	Develop a management strategy for the archaeological features	
•		Maintain the long-term integrity of the watercourse, flushed and marshy areas and water supplies	
•	Key plant species	Monitor the spindle	

Compartment Name	Dyke Wood	Compartment No.	09
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15687 93616	Area (ha)	2.904
Date of Survey	28 May 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Hot and sunny		

Native broadleaved woodland 95 Scrub 5	Native broadleaved woodland 95	Scrub 5
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	Woodland			Grassland		Wetland	
	Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	14	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Y	Wood flush	50	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Υ	Decaying timber			Wet grassland		,	

#### **Description**

Dyke Wood is a north-facing area of acid woodland between lying between The Common (a road) and Jake's Path. It is bounded by The Speiring to the north and Holly Brook to the south, and The Brightwen arises on the Common within this compartment. The vegetation comprises mainly open woodland with scattered large pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) and hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) along with beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and downy birch (*Betula pubescens*). The woodland floor is dominated by bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and includes areas of herb layer and dense under-scrub. Both bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) and Spanish bluebell (*Hyacinthoides hispanica*) are frequent. There are a number of flushed and marshy areas, both on and away from the watercourses, including a marshy area created by management near to the south end of Holly Brook. Holly brook is the most constant of the seasonal watercourses at the Common, and is the last to cease flowing during relative drought.

In addition to bluebells the flora includes lady-fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*), hart's-tongue (*Asplenium scolopendrium*) and areas of sanicle (*Sanicula europaea*). A colony of bog moss (*Sphagnum* sp.) was recorded here, and these colonies at the Common are of importance to London. The 14 Ancient Woodland Indicator species recorded suggest that a significant ancient woodland component is present.

The fauna observed in this compartment includes the hoverfly *Brachypalpoides lenta*. This crimson and black species breeds in red-rot fungal decay occurring in oak trunks and roots, and it is rather scarce in London.

Invasive and potentially invasive species include a small amount of the scheduled species rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) growing near to the roadside, as well as dominant bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), and abundant developing ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*).

Target Notes (7	Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
W1 – W3 C09	W1 – W3 C09 Flushed areas	
W 4 C09	Point at which a watercourse enters the Common	

## **BAP Species**

Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	London BAP Priority Species

## **London Notable species**

Lady-fern	Athyrium filix-femina	Black currant	Ribes nigrum
Purple moor-grass	Molinia cerulea	Sanicle	Sanicula europaea
Lesser spearwort	Ranunculus flammula		

## **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Hart's-tongue	Asplenium scolopendrium	Holly	llex aquifolium
Lady-fern	Athyrium filix-femina	Wood meadow-grass	Poa nemoralis
Pendulous sedge	Carex pendula	Aspen	Populus tremula
Wood-sedge	Carex sylvatica	Black currant	Ribes nigrum
Giant fescue	Schedonorus giganteus	Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis
Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Black bryony	Tamus communis
Hornbeam	Carpinus betulus	Sanicle	Sanicula europaea

## **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Rhododendron ponticum	Rhododendron	Rhododendron ponticum
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## Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Sycamore</u>	Acer pseudoplatanus	<u>Bracken</u>	Pteridium aquilinum
<u>Ash</u>	Fraxinus excelsior	Turkey oak	Quercus cerris
Spanish bluebell	Hyacinthoides hispanica	Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia
Purple moor-grass	Molinia cerulea	<u>Yew</u>	Taxus baccata

#### **Fauna** (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Carrion Crow	Corvus corone	
Blackbird	Turdus merula	
Hoverfly sp.	Brachypalpoides lenta	A local species breeding in decaying timber
Common Blue Damselfly	Enallagma cyathigerum	

# Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Bog moss sp.	Sphagnum sp.	Characteristic of the site, and rare in London
Hair moss sp.	Polytrichum sp.	Several species are likely to be present at the Common

# **Management Notes**

Invasive species	Manage the small amount of rhododendron.
	Monitor annually the scrubby potentially invasive species such as rowan
<ul> <li>Hydrology</li> </ul>	Retain the long-term integrity of the hydrology of the compartment including watercourses, flushes and marshes
Key plant species	Monitor the bog-moss in the spring

Compartment Name	Witling Wood East	Compartment No.	10a
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 16041 93755	Area (ha)	2.737
Date of Survey	22 April 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Sunny		

Native broadleaved woodland 95	Scrub	5
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Woodland		Grassland		Wetland			
Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Υ	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	7	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	?	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland		Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush	70	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush		Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y Decaying timber			Wet grassland				

#### **Description**

Witling Wood East is the larger of two compartments which were a single compartment 10 prior to this survey. It is a band of primarily north-facing woodland running north-south, bounded by the fence-line to West Lodge the east; by West Lodge Approach to the south and, in the main by the clearings of compartments 16a-c to the west. Pedunculate oak (Quercus robur) is abundant here including some large trees, while beech (Fagus sylvatica) and hornbeam (Carpinus betulus) are abundant. It is speculated that the relatively low number of Ancient Woodland Indicators (7) and London Notable species (3) recorded in this compartment might well be due to high levels of disturbance in the past; otherwise this area does appear to be anomalous in these respects. There are also a great many young regenerating beech, rowan (Sorbus aucuparia), sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus) and holly (Ilex aguifolium) here. Witling Beck arises here and runs northwards through the west of the compartment, and there is a small area of managed grassland to the south by Warren Lane. The horse ride runs near the east margin, as does The Moat, a large ditch near which follows the site boundary. This compartment has a key role in providing the water source for the important flush in Wiltling Marsh (comp. 16b), although no clear evidence for this flushing within Witling Wood East was observed in the course of this survey.

There is a significant colony of wood millet (*Millium effusum*) on the margin of West Lodge Approach, and shining crane's-bill (*Geranium lucidum*) grows in its only recorded site at the Common on the grassland triangle adjacent to Warren Lane. Stone parsley (*Sison amomum*) is a rarity at the site and occurs sporadically on the horse ride. In common with other woodland compartments, the small woodland clearings carpeted with creeping soft-grass (*Holcus mollis*) are attractive and potentially ecologically valuable features.

One of only two molehills recorded during the survey was found in this compartment.

The scheduled invasive species rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) is frequent along the Moat, and in places behind the fence-line on adjacent property to the east. Cherry laurel (*Prunus lauraucerus*) is abundant along the Moat, and sycamore and yew (*Taxus baccata*) are also potentially invasive in this compartment.

Target Notes (T) &	Wetland Features (W)
None specified	

## **BAP Species**

None Recorded	
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# **London Notable species**

Shining crane's-bill	Geranium lucidum	Sanicle	Sanicula europaea	ĺ
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## **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Pendulous sedge	Carex pendula	Holly	llex aquifolium
Wood-sedge	Carex sylvatica	Wood millet	Millium effusum
Hornbeam	Carpinus betulus	Sanicle	Sanicula europaea
Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis		

#### **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Deserted		
None Recorded		
110110 110001404		

## Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Sycamore</u>	Acer pseudoplatanus	Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia
Cherry laurel	<u>Prunus laurocerasus</u>	Yew	Taxus baccata
Rhododendron	Rhododendron ponticum		

#### Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Jay	Garrulus glandarius		
Green woodpecker	Picus viridis		
Mole	Talpa europaea	Record of molehill	

#### Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

None Recorded		
None Necorded		

# **Management Notes**

O ""	
Grass-cutting	Investigate the current grass-cutting regime on the small grassland triangle by Warren Lane. Negotiate if possible a later first cut to allow the flora here to disperse their seed
<ul> <li>Hydrology</li> </ul>	Investigate the source in Witling Wood East of the flushing in Witling Marsh. Ensure the integrity of this flushing in all future management
<ul> <li>Hydrology</li> </ul>	Investigate the responsibility for The Stump, a ditch on the Warren Lane boundary of the cricket pitch, which acts as a feeder for Witling Beck. Negotiate to ensure the continued integrity of this ditch

Compartment Name	Witling Wood West	Compartment No.	10b
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 16007 93935	Area (ha)	0.683
Date of Survey	8 May 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Rain		

Native broadleaved woodland 50	Scrub 50
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	Woodland			Grassland		Wetland	
	Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	11	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
	Wood flush	60	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y	Decaying timber			Wet grassland		1	

#### **Description**

Witling Wood West was split from the former compartment 10 in the course of this survey in the light of its clear ecological differences. This area of acid woodland falls noticeably to the south. It is bounded by Holly Brook Rise, Tyke's Water and Pynding Mersc. There is a great deal of scrub in the woodland, as well as many sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) saplings. There is one particularly large and impressive pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) in this compartment. Two seasonal pools are present in the lower part of the woodland.

The ancient origins of the woodland in this compartment are apparent from the 11 Ancient Woodland Indicator species recorded here during this survey. In addition there are aspects of the flora here which are of particular importance. The very extensive carpet of wood sorrel (*Oxalis acetosella*) is a striking sight, and could be unique in London. In 2009 Joanne Colthup discovered two examples of marsh willowherb (*Epilobium palustre*) growing by the path on the wood margin. This is a particularly scarce and declining species which requires special recognition in management.

The exotic-looking hawthorn jewel beetle (*Agrilus sinuatus*) was recorded here from its characteristic exit holes in decaying branches on a hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*).

A scheduled invasive species Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) occurs here in a large clump by the streamside. This area showed signs of previous management. Sycamore and other species listed below are very common and potentially invasive in this area of woodland.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)				
T10b.1 One of three carpets of wood sorrel (Oxalis acetosella) known at the Com				
W1-2 C10b Seasonal pools				

### **BAP Species**

Marsh willowherb	Epilobium palustre	London BAP Priority Species	
Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	London BAP Priority Species	
Wood-sorrel	Oxalis acetosella	London BAP Priority Species	

### **London Notable species**

Marsh willowherb	Epilobium palustre	Lesser spearwort	Ranunculus flammula
Intermediate polypody	Polypodium interjectum	Sanicle	Sanicula europaea

#### **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Hairy-brome	Bromopsis ramosa	Three-nerved sandwort	Moehringia trinervia
Pendulous sedge	Carex pendula	Wood-sorrel	Oxalis acetosella
Hornbeam	Carpinus betulus	Wood meadow-grass	Poa nemoralis
Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis	Sanicle	Sanicula europaea
Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Giant fescue	Schedonorus giganteus
Holly	llex aquifolium		

#### **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Japanese knotweed	Fallopia japonica	

## Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Sycamore</u>	Acer pseudoplatanus	<u>Rowan</u>	Sorbus aucuparia
Ash	Fraxinus excelsior	Yew	Taxus baccata
<u>Bracken</u>	<u>Pteridium aquilinum</u>		

#### **Fauna** (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Carrion Crow	Corvus corone	
Chiffchaff	Phylloscopus collybita	
Blackbird	Turdus merula	
Hawthorn Jewel Beetle	Agrilus sinuatus	Recorded from exit holes in hawthorn
DeGeer's Longhorn moth	Nemophora degeerella	

#### Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Hair moss sp. Polytrichum s	
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#### **Management Notes**

Manage the Japanese knotweed. Monitor other potential invasive species, particularly sycamore and bracken
Develop low-intervention management strategies for wood sorrel and marsh willowherb

Compartment NameHolly WoodCompartment No.11Grid Reference (centroid)TQ 15928 93694Area (ha)2.945Date of Survey7 June 2010SurveyorJohn DobsonWeatherSunny / changeable

#### **Habitat %**

Native broadleaved woodland 90	Scrub 10
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	Woodland			Grassland		Wetland	
	Treeline w/out Wet hedge woodland		Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.	
	Even-aged plantation	19	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Y	Wood flush	60	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y	Y Decaying timber		Wet grassland		,		

#### **Description**

Holly Wood is an area of north-facing acid woodland extending northwards from Warren Lane west of the car park. It is bounded to the east by the open areas 16a-c, while Holly Brook runs on the west margin. The woodland is dominated by downy birch (*Betula pubescens*) and bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) along with frequent pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*). Rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), ash (*Fraxinus* excelsior) and elder (*Sambucus nigra*) all occur frequently, as do aspen (*Populus tremula*), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*) and Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*). The high number (19) of Ancient Woodland Indicator species recorded here provides strong evidence for the ancient origins of this area of woodland. Much of the woodland has a dense understory of bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) and bracken. Jake's Path traverses the woodland near its south end, and immediately to the west of Warren Lane Car Park (comp. 15) an area networked with small woodland paths is in regular usage as a gay rendezvous.

Notable plant species in this compartment include the only wild service tree (*Sorbus torminalis*) recorded at the Common, and the extremely scarce bristle club-rush (*Isolepis setacea*). The wild service tree is a twin-trunked young tree with one trunk growing horizontally. Red currant (*Ribes rubrum*) and sanicle (*Sanicula europaea*) both grow in clumps in wetter areas, and a wild cherry (*Prunus avium*) (rare at the Common) grows near the east margin of the woodland.

A pheasant was recorded here in the course of the survey, heard in the woods to the west of the car park.

No scheduled invasive species were recorded here. Sycamore, bracken and rowan are all invasive or potentially invasive plants in this compartment.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)				
T11.1	T11.1 The London Loop			
T11.2	The only wild service tree ( <i>Sorbus torminalis</i> ) recorded in the course of the 2010 survey. A young tree			

## **BAP Species**

Bluebell Hyacinthoides non-scripta London BAP Priority Specie	Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	London BAP Priority Species
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## **London Notable species**

Bristle club-rush	Isolepis setacea	Red currant	Ribes rubrum
Common evening-primrose	Oenothera biennis	Sanicle	Sanicula europaea
Lesser spearwort	Ranunculus flammula	Wild service-tree	Sorbus torminalis

# **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Wood anemone	Anemone nemorosa	Wood meadow-grass	Poa nemoralis
Hart's-tongue	Asplenium scolopendrium	Aspen	Populus tremula
Hairy-brome	Bromopsis ramosa	Primrose	Primula vulgaris
Pendulous sedge	Carex pendula	Wild cherry	Prunus avium
Wood-sedge	Carex sylvatica	Red currant	Ribes rubrum
Hornbeam	Carpinus betulus	Sanicle	Sanicula europaea
Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis	Giant fescue	Schedonorus giganteus
Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Wild service-tree	Sorbus torminalis
Holly	llex aquifolium	Black bryony	Tamus communis
Three-nerved sandwort	Moehringia trinervia		

# **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

ne Recorded
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# Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Sycamore</u>	Acer pseudoplatanus	<u>Bracken</u>	Pteridium aquilinum	
Ash	Fraxinus excelsior	Turkey oak	Quercus cerris	
Spanish bluebell	Hyacinthoides hispanica	Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia	
Cherry laurel	Prunus laurocerasus	Yew	Taxus baccata	

## **Fauna** (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Pheasant	Phasianus colchicus	Heard near Car Park
Blue-tit	Cyanistes caeruleus	
Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria	

# Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Short-fruited willowherb	Epilobium obscurum	Rare at Stanmore Common
Wild strawberry	Fragaria vesca	Rare at Stanmore Common
Bog moss sp.	Sphagnum sp.	Important for London

# **Management Notes**

Key plant species	Wild service tree: Monitor this single example annually. Seek other examples in the same vicinity.
	Bristle club-rush: Monitor this single example annually.
Invasive species	Annually assess potential invasive species, particularly rowan and sycamore.
Rendezvous for sexual encounters	In view of apparently routine public sexual activity occurring in this area, develop a strategy to discourage the use of the Common as a rendezvous for casual sexual encounters.

Compartment Name	Brightwen Wood West	Compartment No.	12a
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 16273 93547	Area (ha)	4.243
Date of Survey	15 April 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson, Denis Vickers
Weather	Sunny and cool		

Woodland			Gra	Grassland		Wetland		
	Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Υ	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	11	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	?	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland		Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
	Wood flush	30	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush		Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y	Decaying timber			Wet grassland			1	

#### Description

Brightwen Wood West is the major part of the eastwards extension to the Common lying to the north of Warren Lane. To the north it is bounded by the fence-line of The Grove estate and The Moat, a deep broad ditch which parallels the boundary here. To the east and west it is bounded by small access roads; The Grove to the east and West Lodge Approach to the west. (In the apparent absence of an existing name, West Lodge Approach is the name applied by the author to this access road for the purposes of this survey). There is widespread evidence of historic gravel digging, particularly to the east. Some of these shallow pits may form temporary ponds over winter and in wet conditions. The horse ride originates in this compartment, running north-west from Warren Lane and turning westwards alongside The Moat. The London Loop and the Bentley Priory Circular Walk also pass through the south-west of this compartment.

The compartment's long boundary with Warren Lane has a number of observable consequences:

- The wood edge to the roadside is vulnerable to fly-tipping and significant quantities of builder's- and other refuse was observed in the course of this survey.
- Partly as a consequence of this a number of 'garden throw-out' plant species grow near the roadside, and some of these may be potentially invasive species.
- Motorists regularly drive at high speed along Warren Lane, endangering visitors to the Common and wildlife alike.

The woodland floor is dominated by bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) with frequent bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), ivy (*Hedera helix*) and holly (*Ilex aquifolium*). Pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and downy birch (*Betula pubescens*) are frequent, as is cherry laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*), the latter particularly along The Moat. There are also occasional Turkey oak (*Quercus cerris*) and hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*). The prevalence of beech linked with the relative scarcity of hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) indicates that the soil in this compartment is likely to be less acidic than on the majority of the Common.

The compartment is notable for its ramsons (*Allium ursinum*) which grows here in a small number of discrete patches. Hart's-tongue (*Asplenium scolopendrium*) and pignut (*Conopodium majus*) are also found here and they are both scarce at the site.

The scheduled invasive species rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) is frequent along the Moat, and in places on adjacent property immediately behind the fence-line to the north. Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) is rare here, and also occurs near to The Moat. Cherry laurel (*Prunus lauraucerus*) is abundant along the Moat.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T12a.1	The London Loop

### **BAP Species**

None Recorded		
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## **London Notable species**

Sheep's fescue	Festuca ovina	Ramsons	Allium ursinum

#### **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Ramsons	Allium ursinum	Holly	llex aquifolium
Hart's-tongue	Asplenium scolopendrium	Wood meadow-grass	Poa nemoralis
Pendulous sedge	Carex pendula	Primrose	Primula vulgaris
Hornbeam	Carpinus betulus	Wild cherry	Prunus avium
Pignut	Conopodium majus	Giant fescue	Schedonorus giganteus
Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis		

#### **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Japanese knotweedFallopia japonicaRhododendronRhododendron ponticumWall cotoneasterCotoneaster horizontalisYellow archangel (variegated)Lamiastrum galeobdolon ssp. argentatum

#### Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Sycamore</u>	Acer pseudoplatanus	<u>Bracken</u>	<u>Pteridium aquilinum</u>
Ash	Fraxinus excelsior	Turkey oak	Quercus cerris
Spanish bluebell	Hyacinthoides hispanica	Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia
Daffodil (garden)	Narcissus sp.	Snowberry	Symphoriocarpus albus
<u>Cherry laurel</u> <u>Prunus laurocerasus</u>		<u>Yew</u>	Taxus baccata
Lesser periwinkle (variegated)		Vinca minor 'Arg	gentovariegata'

## Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Long-tailed tit	Aegithalos caudatus	
Blue-tit	Cyanistes caeruleus	Recorded by Denis Vickers (DV)
Robin	Erithacus rubecula	
Chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs	DV
Jay	Garrulus glandarius	
Great-tit	Parus major	
Blackcap	Sylvia atricapilla	DV
Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes	DV
Blackbird	Turdus merula	DV
Song thrush	Turdus philomelos	DV. UK- and London BAP Priority
		Species.
7-spot ladybird	Coccinella septempunctata	
Peacock butterfly	Inachis io	
Speckled wood	Pararge aegeria	
Hornet	Vespa crabro	

## Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

French crane's-bill	Geranium endressii	One of two clumps of this naturalised species at the Common
Mouse-ear-hawkweed	Pilosella officinarum	Of restricted distribution at the Common
Gorse	Ulex europaeaus	Characteristic of the site but not particularly common

## **Management Notes**

Invasive plants	Manage the rhododendron and Japanese knotweed.  Monitor and manage the garden species which are likely to become a problem in the future (e.g. variegated yellow archangel)
<ul> <li>Public safety</li> </ul>	Consider installing traffic-calming measures on Warren Lane
<ul> <li>Hydrology</li> </ul>	Develop strategies for enhancing the compartments wetland habitats
Key plant species	Monitor the ramsons annually

Compartment Name	Brightwen Wood East	Compartment No.	12b
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 16498 93657	Area (ha)	1.217
Date of Survey	22 April 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Sunny		

Native broadleaved woodland 95 Scrub 5
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W	Woodland		Grassland		Wetland	
Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	12	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush	20	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y Decaying timber			Wet grassland			

#### **Description**

Brightwen Wood East is the minor part of the eastwards extension to the Common lying to the north of Warren Lane. To the north it is bounded by the fence-line of The Grove estate; to the west by The Grove (a small access road) and to the east by housing. There is widespread evidence of historic gravel digging. Some areas of the woodland floor comprise of a series of pits with adjacent heaps of discarded soil. Some of these shallow pits may form temporary ponds over winter and in wet conditions, with one area north of the compartment's centre capable of retaining water well into the summer. The adjacent long-naturalised soil-heaps provide interesting and probably important well-drained habitats for plants and invertebrates, including attractive and potentially ecologically valuable carpets of mosses.

The compartment's boundary with Warren Lane has a number of observable consequences:

- The wood edge to the roadside is vulnerable to fly-tipping and significant quantities of builder's- and other refuse was observed in the course of this survey.
- Partly as a consequence of this a number of 'garden throw-out' plant species grow near the roadside, and some of these are potentially invasive species.
- Motorists regularly drive at high speed along Warren Lane, endangering visitors to the Common and wildlife alike.

Pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*), cherry laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*) and ivy (*Hedera helix*) are all abundant here. Downy birch (*Betula pubescens*), hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) and sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) occur frequently. There are occasional beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*). Wood anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*) and Solomon's-seal (*Polygonatum multiflorum*) (identification to be confirmed) both occur as rarities here, while bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) forms occasional patches in this historically disturbed area. In 2010 vegetation was cleared and trimmed on the Common adjacent to the north boundary fence, possibly as a security measure by a neighbouring householder.

A small amount of Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*), a scheduled invasive species, occurs near the roadside and near the north margin of the woodland. Cherry laurel (*Prunus lauraucerus*) is scattered in this compartment, including some large near-trees to the north of the site.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T012b.1	The western extent of the main seasonal wetland habitats within the woodland

## **BAP Species**

Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	London BAP Priority Species
Solomon's-seal	Polygonatum?multiflorum	London BAP Priority Species

#### **London Notable species**

Wavy hair-grass	Deschampsia flexuosa	Solomon's-seal	Polygonatum?multiflorum	ì
Sheep's fescue	Festuca ovina	Gooseberry	Ribes uva-crispa	ı

## **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Wood anemone	Anemone nemorosa	Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis
Hairy-brome	Bromopsis ramosa	Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta
Pendulous sedge	Carex pendula	Holly	llex aquifolium
Remote sedge	Carex remota	Solomon's-seal	Polygonatum?multiflorum
Wood-sedge	Carex sylvatica	Primrose	Primula vulgaris
Hornbeam	Carpinus betulus	Giant fescue	Schedonorus giganteus

# **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Japanese knotweed	Fallopia japonica
Yellow archangel (variegated)	Lamiastrum galeobdolon ssp. argentatum

## Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Sycamore</u>	Acer pseudoplatanus	Snowberry	Symphoriocarpus albus
Cherry laurel	<u>Prunus laurocerasus</u>	Yew	Taxus baccata
Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia		

# Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Great-tit	Parus major
Blackbird	Turdus merula
Buff-tailed Bumble-bee	Bombus terrestris
Common bee-fly	Bombylius major
Grey Squirrel	Sciurus carolinensis

# Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Mock orange	•	One of two examples of this naturalised species recorded at the Common
		recorded at the Common

# **Management Notes**

	Manage the cherry laurel and Japanese knotweed.  Monitor and manage the garden species which are likely to become a problem in the future (e.g. variegated yellow archangel)
<ul> <li>Public safety</li> </ul>	Consider installing traffic-calming measures on Warren Lane
<ul> <li>Hydrology</li> </ul>	Develop strategies for enhancing the compartments' wetland habitats
Key plant species	Monitor the Solomon's seal annually

Compartment Name	The Wetwood	Compartment No.	13
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 16379 93519	Area (ha)	2.485
Date of Survey	7 July 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Sunny		

Native broadleaved woodland	60	Scrub	15
Non-native broadleaved woodland	15	Standing Water	10

	Woodland		Grassland		Wetland		
	Treeline w/out hedge	Υ	Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	14	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
	Wood flush	30	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y	Decaying timber			Wet grassland	<u> </u>		

#### **Description**

The Wetwood is the eastwards extension of the Common situated to the south of Warren Lane. It is bounded by Warren Lane to the north and east, by a steep bank on the margin of a Harrow Rugby Club grounds to the south, and by Brewery Ponds to the west. Pedunculate oak (Quercus robur) and ivy (Hedera helix) are dominant here, while hornbeam (Carpinus betulus), grey willow (Salix cinerea), bramble (Rubus fruticosus agg.) and holly (Ilex aquifolium) grow abundantly. Frequent vegetation includes downy birch (Betula pubescens), aspen (Populus tremula) and bracken (Pteridium aquilinum), along with the London Notable marsh bedstraw (Galium palustre). The flora indicates that this woodland is acidic and of ancient origin (14 AWIs). The extensive gravel diggings here, taken in conjunction with the compartment's hydrology (which tends to encourage collection and retention of rain water and run-off) have created wet woodland habitat here, which although small appears likely to represent the best example of this UK BAP Habitat type not only in Harrow but beyond. The steep bank to the south is home to some of the oldest trees in the compartment, particularly pedunculate oaks. Large quantities of woody cut vegetation have been tipped down this embankment from the rugby pitch side. The Warren Lane margin is vulnerable to fly-tipping, of which there was plentiful evidence at the time of the survey. High speed driving is also a regular feature in this part of Warren Lane, potentially endangering wildlife, horse riders and pedestrians such as those using the adjacent London Loop or Bentley Priory Circular Walk.

Important flora include carpets of creeping-Jenny (*Lysimachia nummularia*) and velvet bent (*Agrostis canina*) both of which appear to be confined at the Common to these gravel diggings south of Warren Lane. Ramsons (*Allium ursinum*) and bluebell (*Hyacinthoides nonscripta*) grow here along with wood anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*) and pignut (*Conopodium majus*). Remote sedge (*Carex remota*) is abundant here, while wood-sedge (*Carex sylvatica*), cyperus sedge (*Carex pseudocyperus*) and oval sedge (*Carex leporina*) all occur as rarities. Hawkweed (*Hieracium* sp.) grows occasionally at the road side.

This compartment hosts the only active rabbit warren recorded during this survey. Two rabbits were seen grazing on one of the small swards of velvet bent which are characteristic of this compartment. In addition two closely adjacent rabbit holes were seen in the embankment to the south, although a detailed search for more was not conducted.

A scheduled invasive plant Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) grows occasionally here, particularly in the area to the east and north-east margins of the compartment.

Target Notes	Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)		
T13.1	The western limit of the main seasonal wetland habitats within the woodland		
T13.2	Storm Drain?: inflow or outflow to be determined		
T13.3	A small number of rabbit burrows in the bank to Harrow Rugby Club grounds		

#### **BAP Species**

Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	London BAP Priority Species
	,	, ,

### **London Notable species**

Ramsons	Allium ursinum	Sheep's fescue	Festuca ovina
Oval sedge	Carex leporina	Marsh bedstraw	Galium palustre
Cyperus sedge	Carex pseudocyperus	Dotted loosestrife	Lysimachia punctata
Wavy hair-grass	Deschampsia flexuosa	Black currant	Ribes nigrum

#### **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Ramsons	Allium ursinum	Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis
Wood anemone	Anemone nemorosa	Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta
Pendulous sedge	Carex pendula	Holly	llex aquifolium
Remote sedge	Carex remota	Wood meadow-grass	Poa nemoralis
Wood-sedge	Carex sylvatica	Aspen	Populus tremula
Hornbeam	Carpinus betulus	Black currant	Ribes nigrum
Pignut	Conopodium majus	Giant fescue	Schedonorus giganteus

#### **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Japanese knotweed	Fallopia japonica	
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# Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Sycamore</u>	Acer pseudoplatanus	<u>Bracken</u>	Pteridium aquilinum
Ash	Fraxinus excelsior	Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia
Spanish bluebell	Hyacinthoides hispanica	Yew	Taxus baccata
Cherry laurel	Prunus laurocerasus	Daffodil (garden)	Narcissus sp.

#### **Fauna** (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Robin	Erithacus rubecula	
Jay	Garrulus glandarius	
Song thrush	Turdus philomelos	UK- and London BAP Priority Species
Buff-tailed bumble-bee	Bombus terrestris	
Common bee-fly	Bombylius major	
Peacock butterfly	Inachis io	
Rabbit	Oryctolagus cuniculus	The only 2 rabbits seen during the survey

# Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Creeping-Jenny	Lysimachia nummularia	Recorded only from this compartment during the survey.
Velvet bent	Agrostis canina	Characteristic of this compartment
Hawkweed	Hieracium sp.	Grows on the road verge here, away from its usual sites at the Common

# **Management Notes**

Invasive plants	Manage the Japanese knotweed
<ul> <li>Public safety</li> </ul>	Consider installing traffic-calming measures on Warren Lane
<ul> <li>Hydrology</li> </ul>	Develop strategies for enhancing the compartments wetland habitats
<ul> <li>Rabbits</li> </ul>	Survey the extent of the rabbit warren/population
<ul> <li>Key plant species</li> </ul>	Monitor the creeping-Jenny annually

Compartment Name	<b>Great Brewery Pond</b>	Compartment No.	14a
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 16197 93402	Area (ha)	1.826
Date of Survey	1 July 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Warm and overcast		

Scattered trees	30	Acid grassland	5
Scrub	10	Standing water	45
Bare soil	10		

	Woodland		Grassland		Wetland			
	Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed		Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	9	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown		Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland		Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
	Wood flush		Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Y	Bare soil	Trophic status	Eutrophic?
Y	Decaying timber			Y Wet grassland			1	

### **Description**

This compartment 'Great Brewery Pond' has been extended in the course of the survey within the bounds of the LNR, to include the approach from Warren Lane. This area appears on ecological grounds to belong in this compartment rather than in The Wetwood (comp. 13) as formerly.

The pond surrounds include extensive and mostly native scrub. There is a small area of woodland to the east dominated by pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*), hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) and downy birch (*Betula pubescens*) and with plentiful sycamore saplings (*Acer pseudoplatanus*). Standing and fallen decaying timber is present within the compartment. The pond banks and path edges include extensive areas of bare earth, grey willow scrub (*Salix cinerea*) and trees including downy birch (*Betula pubescens*). There are patches of acid grassland around the pond including characteristic flora such as sheep's sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*). The east margin of the compartment comprises bramble-dominated scrub with ruderals and coarse grasses. The North London Loop and Bentley Priory Circular walk pass though this compartment and cross Warren Lane at a point where speeding cars routinely pass.

The pond itself was almost devoid of flora. No submerged aquatic plants were discovered using a weed drag, and the two patches of white water-lilies (*Nymphaea alba*) which have been present for many years were not present. Aquatic flora is restricted to a few plants of water mint (*Mentha aquatica*) and amphibious bistort (*Persicaria amphibia*) occurring in a small area to the south of the west water margin.

Grey sedge (*Carex divulsa*) is found on the approach from Warren Lane, while oval sedge (*Carex leporina*) and early hair grass (*Aira praecox*) occur as rarities on the bare soil of the pond banks. Species found in the acid grassland include mouse-ear hawkweed (*Pilosella officinarum*) and heath bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*).

House martins were seen feeding over the pond, and a grass snake was seen swimming across it. Both frogs and toads are said by anglers to occur here. Fish species present are said by anglers to include bream, carp, crucian carp, perch, pike, roach and tench. Anglers also asserted that [American signal] crayfish and [red-eared] terrapins are present in large numbers.

In terms of the number and variety of solitary bees which utilise the area for nesting sites, the areas of bare soil along and around the path to the east side of the pond is likely to be one of the best in Harrow. Bare Earth is a Harrow BAP Priority Habitat. This area however has suffered significant damage in recent years due to the setting of 'camp fires'. Potentially important habitat for invertebrates is also provided by semi-submerged fallen branches near the north end of the pond.

Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and cherry laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*) are all potential invasive species here. In addition a carpet of variegated yellow archangel (*Lamiastrum galeobdolon* ssp. *argentatum*) grows just outside the LNR on Council property near to the footpath to the south. This pernicious species should however be managed (eliminated) as if it were within the LNR.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)		
T14a.1	Considered likely to be one of the best examples of bare soil habitat in Harrow; used as a nesting site by a variety of solitary bees. A Harrow BAP Priority Habitat. Partially degraded and under continuing threat from 'cooking' fires.	

#### **BAP Species**

None Recorded		
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#### **London Notable species**

Early hair-grass	Aira praecox	Oval sedge	Carex leporina
Grey sedge	Carex divulsa	Wavy hair-grass	Deschampsia flexuosa

#### **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Hairy-brome	Bromopsis ramosa	Wood meadow-grass	Poa nemoralis
Hornbeam	Carpinus betulus	Aspen	Populus tremula
Pignut	Conopodium majus	Giant fescue	Schedonorus giganteus
Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis	Black bryony	Tamus communis
Holly	llex aquifolium		

### **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

*Yellow archangel (variegated)	Lamiastrum galeobdolon ssp. argentatum	*Carpeting an area just outside the LNR
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# Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Sycamore</u>	Acer pseudoplatanus	<u>Bracken</u>	Pteridium aquilinum
Ash	Fraxinus excelsior	Turkey oak	Quercus cerris
Spanish bluebell	Hyacinthoides hispanica	Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia
Cherry laurel	Prunus laurocerasus	Yew	Taxus baccata

#### **Fauna** (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Birds		
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	
House Martin	Delichon urbicum	
Robin	Erithacus rubecula	
Coot	Fulica atra	
Great-tit	Parus major	
House Sparrow	Passer domesticus	
Chiffchaff	Phylloscopus collybita	
Magpie	Pica pica	
Blackbird	Turdus merula	
Fish		
Bream	Abramis brama	Verbal record from anglers
Crucian Carp	Carassius carassius	Verbal record from anglers
Carp	Cypinus carpio	Verbal record from anglers
Pike	Esox lucius	Verbal record from anglers
Perch	Percia fluviatilis	Verbal record from anglers
Roach	Rutilus rutilus	Verbal record from anglers
Tench	Tinca tinca	Verbal record from anglers
Reptiles & Amphibians		
Toad	Bufo bufo	Verbal record from anglers
Red-eared Terrapin	Chrysemys scripta subsp. Elegans	Verbal record from anglers
Grass Snake	Natrix natrix	
Frog	Rana temporaria	Verbal record from anglers
Invertebrates		
American Signal Crayfish	Pacifastacus Ieniusculus	Verbal record from anglers
Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria	
Comma	Polygonia c-album	
Common Blue Damselfly	Enallagma cyathigerum	
Blue-tailed Damselfly	Ischnurea elegans	

# Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Wild strawberry	Fragaria vesca	
Amphibious bistort	Persicaria amphibia	
Lesser stitchwort	Stellaria graminea	
*Juniper sp.	Juniperus sp.	*A non-native juniper growing just outside the LNR; probably a throw-out.

# **Management Notes**

Pond quality	This formerly productive pond currently shows evidence of having a sick ecosystem. The reasons for this should be investigated and mitigated as appropriate
Bare earth	This important area of Harrow BAP habitat should be allowed to recover naturally once fire-lighting here has ceased
Invasive species	Give priority to eliminating the variegated yellow archangel here and at its two other recorded sites at the Common. If it is left to take hold it will quickly become impossible to eliminate
Public safety	Consider installing traffic-calming measures on Warren Lane

<b>Compartment Name</b>	Little Brewery Pond	Compartment No.	14b
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 16261 93478	Area (ha)	0.356
Date of Survey	5 July 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Warm and sunny		

Scattered trees	30	Acid grassland	5
Scrub	25	Bracken	5
Bare soil	5	Standing water	30

	Woodland		Woodland Grassland		essland	Wetland	
	Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	7	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
	Wood flush		Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	Eutrophic?
Y	Decaying timber			Y Wet grassland			

#### **Description**

The compartment 'Little Brewery Pond' was extended to the north in the course of this survey in order to match the area mapped and described as this compartment in the 2007 LCS Survey of this pond (Riley, 2007).

Little Brewery Pond is the smaller of the two ponds comprising compartments 14. It is situated to the north-east of the larger pond, into which it overflows beneath the main footpath which passes between the ponds. It is closely surrounded by scrub and trees which over-shade the pond margins. Grey willow (*Salix cinerea*) is abundant while English elm (*Ulmus procera*), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), downy birch (*Betula pubescens*) and hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) occur occasionally. Silver birch (*Betula pendula*) occurs here as a rarity.

Sampling the pond with a weed drag produced no aquatic vegetation, which appeared to be restricted to occasional bittersweet (*Solanum dulcamara*) growing at the water's edge. The pond was shallow, silted and there was a film on the water's surface. A range of scarce aquatic and marshland plants have been recorded in the past from this pond, and the uncommon pond-plant spiked water-milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) was recorded here by the current author as recently as 2001.

The scarce fern intermediate polypody (*Polypodium interjectum*) was found growing as an epiphyte near the pond margin, while the north extension to the parcel encompasses a seasonal pond, dry at the time of the survey, which supported extensive floating sweet-grass (*Glyceria fluitans*) and a carpet of velvet bent (*Agrostis canina*).

A grey heron was disturbed from the margin of the pond, while overhanging willows provided refuges for coot and mallard.

A small amount of the scheduled invasive species Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) was present in this small parcel

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
None specified	

## **BAP Species**

Bluebell Hyacinthoides non-scripta	London BAP priority Species
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## **London Notable species**

Lady-fern	Athyrium filix-femina	Intermediate polypody	Polypodium interjectum
Wavy hair-grass	Deschampsia flexuosa		

## **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Lady-fern	Athyrium filix-femina	Holly	llex aquifolium
Hornbeam	Carpinus betulus	Wood meadow-grass	Poa nemoralis
Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis	Aspen	Populus tremula
Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta		

## **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Jananasa knaturaad	Fallania iananiaa	
anese knotweed	Fallopia japonica	

# Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Sycamore</u>	Acer pseudoplatanus	Bracken	Pteridium aquilinum
Ash	Fraxinus excelsior	Turkey oak	Quercus cerris
Spanish bluebell	Hyacinthoides hispanica	Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia
Cherry laurel	Prunus laurocerasus	Yew	Taxus baccata
False-acacia	Robinia pseudoacacia		

#### **Fauna** (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos
Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea
Robin	Erithacus rubecula
Coot	Fulica atra
Moorhen	Gallinula chloropus
Great-tit	Parus major
Magpie	Pica pica
Grey Squirrel	Sciurus carolinensis

# Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Velvet bent	<u>o</u>	Characteristic. A wetland grass, forming carpets in the old gravel excavations
Sheep's sorrel	Rumex acetosella	A species of acid grassland habitats

# **Management Notes**

On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

<ul> <li>Pond quality</li> </ul>	This formerly productive pond currently shows evidence of having a sick ecosystem. The reasons for this should be investigated and mitigated as appropriate
<ul> <li>Invasive plants</li> </ul>	Manage the Japanese knotweed

Compartment Name	Warren Lane Car Park	Compartment No.	15
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15986 93535	Area (ha)	0.174
Date of Survey	17 June 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Warm and dry		

Scattered trees	35	Semi-improved neutral grassland	5
Bare artificial	58	Ruderal / Ephemeral	2

Wo	odland	Gra	ssland	We	etland
Treeline w/out hedge	Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	3 Ancient woodland	Y Infrequently mown	? Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice	Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Decaying timber		Wet grassland		'	

#### **Description**

Warren Lane Car Park is the only on-site car park at Stanmore Common. The entrance is guarded by a height restriction, and there are litter bins, benches, notice boards and a plinth commemorating the car park's construction. The car park marks the main access point to the Common and provides a meeting point for events which take place on the Common such as guided walks and working parties. In addition it is a web-publicised and popular meeting point for those seeking casual sexual encounters, which may take place particularly in the adjacent south end of Holly Wood (comp. 11) to the south of Jake's Path. Council contractors also regularly use the car park as a storage area for wood chippings.

For the purposes of this survey the car park is taken as comprising the area bounded by woodland or scrub edge to the east, west and south, including the entrance from Warren Lane, and the grassland margin to the north only as far as the bench. This unpromising area proved to be more species-rich than might have been supposed with 57 species recorded in this survey.

Narrow-leaved ash (*Fraxinus angustifolia*), Turkey oak (*Quercus cerris*) and pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) grow in and around the car park, along with downy birch (*Betula pubescens*), cherry laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*), English elm (*Ulmus procera*) and a plum tree (*Prunus domestica*). The mixed grassland verges comprise common bent (*Agrostis capillaries*), softbrome (*Bromus hordaceus*), cock's-foot (*Dactylis glomerata*), perennial rye-grass (*Lolium perenne*) and annual meadow-grass (*Poa annua*). Grassland herbs include cut-leaved crane's-bill (*Geranium dissectum*), bugle (*Ajuga reptans*), meadow buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*) and carpets of slender speedwell (*Veronica filiformis*). Plants of the kerbside and disturbed ground include prickly sow-thistle (*Sonchus asper*), pineappleweed (*Matricaria discoidea*) and shepherd's-purse (*Capsella bursa-pastorius*). Unusually, a single example of broad-leaved helleborine (*Epipactis helleborine*) was recorded on the west margin of the car park.

2010 was a good year for white admiral butterflies at the Common, when it was recorded in most open areas, including the car park.

No examples of Schedule 9 invasive species were recorded in this compartment.

<b>Target Notes</b>	(T) & Wetland Features (W)
T15.1	Warren Lane Car Park

## **BAP Species**

White Admiral	Ladoga camilla	London BAP Priority Species

## **London Notable species**

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#### **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Broad-leaved helleborine	Epipactis helleborine	Giant fescue	Schedonorus giganteus
Holly	llex aquifolium		

## **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded
110110 110001404

#### Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Cherry laurel	Prunus laurocerasus	Turkey oak	Quercus cerris	
Bracken	Pteridium aquilinum	Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia	

#### Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

White Admiral	Ladoga camilla	London BAP Priority Species	
Grey Squirrel	Sciurus carolinensis		

## Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

l	
None Recorded	
None Recorded	
Tione recorded	

## **Management Notes**

On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

<ul> <li>Security</li> </ul>	In view of the associated public sexual activity, develop a strategy to discourage the use of this area as a meet-up for casual sexual encounters. Install a council security camera on a tall post at the car park's corner. Remove the non-native trees (narrow-leaved ash, turkey oak) from the car-park to allow line-of-sight for
	the camera

Compartment Name	Witling Ride	Compartment No.	16a
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15958 93604	Area (ha)	0.207
Date of Survey	25 June 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Hot and sunny		

Scattered trees	20	Semi-improved neutral grassland	55
Scrub	20	Tall herbs	5

Woodland		Grassland		Wetland	
Treeline w/out hedge	Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	4 Ancient woodland	Y Infrequently mown	? Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice	Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush	Wood shrub layer %	Y Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Decaying timber		Wet grassland		'	

#### **Description**

Witling Ride acts as the main access route northwards onto the Common from the car park. There are dilapidated and remnant benches to its south end, which were installed many years ago on the broad area of flushed grassland at this location. To the north end the access path divides to pass into Holly Wood (comp. 11) to the west or across Witling Marsh (comp. 16b) to the east.

This compartment includes the largest contiguous area of neutral grassland at the Common. The grassland here is dominated by perennial rye-grass (*Lolium perenne*) with frequent white clover (*Trifolium repens*), while along the margins common nettle (*Urtica dioica*) is dominant alongside frequent bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.). Both Turkey oak (*Quercus cerris*) and pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) grow in this generally species-poor area along with some grey willow (*Salix cinerea*).

Witling Ride is notable as the location of the only remaining meadowsweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*) recorded at the Common. The former patch has declined significantly over recent years and now only one or two plants remain. Although not a rare plant, meadowsweet is local in London and is generally absent from acidic habitats. The neutral flushed grassland here offers apparently ideal habitat, but due to its location it suffers frequent disturbance and trampling.

Bracken (Pteridium aquilinum) grows frequently in this compartment and should be managed.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T16a.1	Benches
W1 C16a	Flushed area

None Recorded	
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### **London Notable species**

### **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Holly	llex aquifolium	Giant fescue	Schedonorus giganteus
Wood meadow-grass	Poa nemoralis	Wood speedwell	Veronica montana

# **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Large Skipper	Ochlodes venata	
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### Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Meadowsweet Filipendula ulmaria	Endangered at Stanmore Common
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### **Management Notes**

Key plant species	Develop a timely recovery plan for the meadowsweet.
<ul> <li>Invasive species</li> </ul>	Manage the bracken in this and other clearings at the site.
,	Consider options which would allow the important flushed grassland to recover and naturalise.

Compartment Name	Witling Marsh	Compartment No.	16b
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15990 93689	Area (ha)	0.424
Date of Survey	25 June 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Hot and sunny		

Scattered trees	25	Acid grassland	45
Scrub	10		

Wo	odland	Gra	assland	We	tland
Treeline w/out hedge	Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	3 Ancient woodland	Y Infrequently mown	Y Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice	Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush	Wood shrub layer %	Y Grassland flush	Y Bare soil	Trophic status	
Decaying timber		Wet grassland			

### **Description**

Witling Marsh is a west-facing area of grassland which includes a stretch of Witling Brook to the south and an area of seasonally flushed grassland. An additional area to the south of the compartment is occasionally inundated as a result of run-off when the car park floods. This acts to the benefit of Witling Marsh by supplementing its water supply. Due to its location, the east branch of a main access path onto the Common from the car park passes through the compartment, leading to churning and compaction of wet areas situated near the base of the incline.

Jointed rush (*Juncus articulatus*), toad rush (*Juncus bufonius*), purple moor-grass (*Molinia cerulea*) and tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*) occur frequently, along with bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) and grey willow (*Salix cinerea*).

Heath wood-rush (*Luzula multiflora*) a London BAP Priority Species is found here in its 'dense-headed' form as well as greater bird's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus pedunculatus*), marsh thistle (*Cirsium palustre*) and clumps of lesser spearwort (*Ranunculus flammula*) in the wetter areas. This compartment is notable for its colony of bog-moss (*Sphagnum* sp.). It is the only known area at the Common where this moss grows in grassland (as opposed to woodland) habitat suggesting that it might be a unique colony of a particular bog-moss species. This particular colony may be in decline and further research is needed. Colonies of bog-moss are extremely scarce in London, and should be prioritised accordingly at the Common.

No scheduled invasive species were recorded. Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) is frequent here and requires management.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
W1 C16b	Flushed area

Dense-headed heath wood-rush Luzula multiflora ssp. congesta London BAP Priority Species	Dense-headed heath wood-rush	Luzula multiflora ssp. congesta	London BAP Priority Species
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### **London Notable species**

Lesser spearwort	Ranunculus flammula	Wavy hair-grass	Deschampsia flexuosa
Dense-headed heath wood-rush	Luzula multiflora ssp. congesta	Purple moor-grass	Molinia cerulea

# **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Hornbeam	Carpinus betulus	Wood meadow-grass	Poa nemoralis
Aspen	Populus tremula		

# **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded	
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# Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Bracken</u>	Pteridium aquilinum	Purple moor-grass	<u>Molinia cerulea</u>
Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia		

### Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Long-tailed tit	Aegithalos caudatus
Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria
Blue-tailed Damselfly	Ischnurea elegans

# Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Greater bird's-foot-trefoil	Lotus pedunculatus	Scarce at the site
Marsh thistle	Cirsium palustre	Characteristic of flushed grassland at the site, and supporting an insect fauna
Marsh thistle	Cirsium palustre	Characteristic, Limited population, known associated insect fauna
Tormentil	Potentilla erecta	Characteristic
Bog moss sp.	Sphagnum sp.	Important to London

# **Management Notes**

Bog-moss	Identify reasons for possible decline of the bog-moss colony and apply appropriate remedial measures. Monitor annually
Soil churning and compaction	Develop a strategy to encourage pedestrians to use the alternative access path to the west of this compartment
<ul> <li>Hydrology</li> </ul>	Understand and secure the sources of the water which flushes the grassland

<b>Compartment Name</b>	Witling Glade	Compartment No.	16c
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15998 93781	Area (ha)	0.454
Date of Survey	25 June 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Hot and sunny		

Scattered trees	55	Acid grassland	25
Scrub	5	Bracken	10
Bare Soil	5		

٧	Woodland		Grassland		We	tland	
Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed		Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	2	Ancient woodland	Y Infrequently mown	Y	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland		Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush		Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Y	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y Decaying timber			Wet grassland			1	

### **Description**

Witling Glade is an area of dry grassland which is lightly over-shaded by a few mature trees. The grassland is dominated by red fescue (*Festuca rubra*) with abundant common bent (*Agrostis capillaris*) and Yorkshire fog (*Holcus lanatus*). The scattered trees include ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*), Turkey oak (*Quercus cerris*) and downy birch (*Betula pubescens*). Among the grassland herbs are heath bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*), compact rush (*Juncus conglomeratus*), hawkweed (*Hieracium sp.*) and Autumn hawkbit (*Scorzoneroides autumnalis*).

This area of 'woodland grassland' is unique in character at the Common; however it is generally an area which visitors pass through on their way to the clearings further north. Due presumably to the combination of semi-shaded and dry conditions, plant growth rates generally appear to be slow here, although any potential for scrub and bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) encroachment from the margins should be monitored. The position of a seasonal drainage channel running east to west near to the north of the compartment is marked by a shallow ditch, and this provides an opportunity to create a small seasonal marsh to the north west of the compartment.

No scheduled invasive species were recorded here, but bracken control should be applied here as in other grasslands at the site.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)			
T16c.1 Landmark: A large oak marking the entrance to a woodland footpath			
W1 C16c	Flushed area		

Dense-headed heath woo	d-rush <i>Luzula multiflo</i>	ora ssp. congesta Londor	n BAP Priority Species
		. 0	, ,

# **London Notable species**

Wavy hair-grass	Deschampsia flexuosa	Dense-headed heath wood-rush	Luzula multiflora ssp. congesta
Purple moor-grass	Molinia cerulea		

# **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Holly Ilex aquifolium	Giant fescue Schedonorus giganteus
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# **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded		
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# Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Bracken</u>	<u>Pteridium aquilinum</u>	Sycamore	Acer pseudoplatanus
Yew	Taxus baccata	Ash	Fraxinus excelsior
Turkey oak	Quercus cerris	Purple moor-grass	Molinia cerulea
Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia		

### **Fauna** (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria
Common Blue Damselfly	Enallagma cyathigerum
Common Green Grasshopper	Omocestus viridulus

# Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Hawkweed Hieracium sp. Characteristic of the site	
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# **Management Notes**

Rotational grass cutting	Develop a rotational cutting schedule for this compartment.  Monitor and control scrub encroachment from the margins.
Invasive species	Develop a bracken management program to be applied here and in all clearings at the Common.
<ul> <li>Hydrology</li> </ul>	Develop a plan to create a small sustainable seasonal marsh to the north west of the compartment.

Compartment Name	Holly Brook Rise	Compartment No.	17
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 16005 93857	Area (ha)	0.481
Date of Survey	22 June 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Hot and sunny		

Scattered trees	5	Acid grassland	37
Scrub	5	Bracken	50
Bare Soil	1	Heathland	2

dland	Gra	assland	Wet	land
Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
5 Ancient woodland	Y Infrequently mown	Y Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Y Bare soil	Trophic status	
	Wet grassland			
	5 woodland Ancient woodland Pollarded Wood shrub	5 woodland Ancient woodland Pollarded Wood shrub layer %  Woodland Unfrequently mown Unmanaged grassland Grassland flush	woodland Ancient woodland Pollarded Wood shrub layer %  Woodland Pollarded Wood shrub layer %  Woodland Unmanaged grassland Grassland flush  Woodland Woodland Unmanaged grassland Grassland flush  Woodland Woodl	woodland Ancient woodland Pollarded Wood shrub layer %  Woodland V Infrequently mown V Cuttings removed Y/N Ridge and Furrow W Bare soil  Trophic status

### **Description**

Holly Brook Rise is a west-facing area of acid grassland with a main access path through the Common running approximately north-south near to its east margin. The path also branches to the west and north west. Beneath the dominant bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) a number of species characteristic of acid grassland grow. These include tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*), heath bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*), frequent pill sedge (*Carex pilulifera*) and heath wood-rush (*Luzula multiflora*), the latter mostly in its dense-headed form (ssp. *congesta*). Early in the year it was apparent that the grass in some areas had been cut excessively short in 2009, leaving extensive almost bare patches.

Growing on the paths there is a small quantity of heath speedwell (*Veronica officinalis*) in its only recorded location at the Common. Red bartsia (*Odontites vernus*), toad rush (*Juncus bufonius*) and hawkweed (*Hieracium* sp.) are also found on and around the paths. The path edge here is also the site of a former (or possibly current?) colony of corn mint (*Mentha arvensis*) (Simon Braidman, pers. comm.) which was not located in the course of this survey, although has been seen in this locality by the author a few years ago. A small amount of gorse (*Ulex europaeaus*) occurs here, and heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) grows naturally here in small clumps in two locations.

The bare earth patches on the path to the east provides valuable habitat for a range of ground-nesting bees and wasps. Bare earth is a BAP Priority Habitat in Harrow. A yearling toad was found here in the grassland by Tony Lovegrove. It is known that toads can range significant distances from their breeding sites, and this one was thought likely to have been associated with Grove Ponds.

Bracken is highly invasive here, and requires management.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T17.1	Heather Regeneration Area
T17.2	Heather Regeneration Area

Heath wood-rush	Luzula multiflora ssp. multiflora and ssp. congesta	(including Dense-headed-)
	1 1 3	,

# **London Notable species**

Lesser spearwort	Ranunculus flammula	Red Bartsia	Odontites vernus
Slender St John's-wort	Hypericum pulchrum	Heath speedwell	Veronica officinalis
Heather	Calluna vulgaris	Pill sedge	Carex pilulifera
Wavy hair-grass	Deschampsia flexuosa		
Dense-headed heath wood-rush Luzula multifl		a ssp. congesta	
Heath wood-rush	Luzula multiflora	a ssp. multiflora	

# **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Slender St John's-wort	Hypericum pulchrum	Wood meadow-grass	Poa nemoralis
Aspen	Populus tremula	Giant fescue	Schedonorus giganteus
Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis		

# **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorde	rded	
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# Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Bracken	Pteridium aquilinum	Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia
Turkey oak	Quercus cerris	Ash	Fraxinus excelsior

# **Fauna** (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Jay	Garrulus glandarius	
Chiffchaff	Phylloscopus collybita	
Toad	Bufo bufo	One yearling in grassland
Common Blue Damselfly	Enallagma cyathigerum	
Common Green Grasshopper	Omocestus viridulus	

# Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Hawkweed	Hieracium sp.	Characteristic
Tormentil	Potentilla erecta	Characteristic

# **Management Notes**

Heathe		Monitor and manage the heather, which will increase over time given the opportunity. Ensure that neither colony is inadvertently mown.
<ul> <li>Invasiv</li> </ul>		Develop a bracken management program to be applied here and in all clearings at the Common.
Harrow	BAP Habitat	Protect the bare earth habitats from damage e.g. by horses.
Grass of	cutting	The annual grass-cutting should be no shorter than 5cm.
Key pla	•	Monitor the heath speedwell and relocate and monitor the corn mint if present.

Compartment Name	Oakmead	Compartment No.	18
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15789 93903	Area (ha)	0.625
Date of Survey	24 June 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Hot and sunny		

Scattered trees	6	Semi-improved neutral grassland	7
Scrub	6	Bracken	20
Bare Soil	5	Tall herbs	3
Acid grassland	53		

Woodla	nd	Gr	assland	Wet	tland
Treeline w/out hedge Even-aged plantation Coppice Wood flush	Wet woodland Ancient woodland Pollarded Wood shrub layer %	Grazed  Y Infrequently mown Unmanaged grassland Y Grassland flush	Frequently mown  Y Cuttings removed Y/N Ridge and Furrow Bare soil	Floating Emergent vegetation Natural river bank Trophic status	Submerged veg. Saline Tidal
Decaying timber		Wet grassland			

### **Description**

Oakmead is a clearing running approximately east to west comprising predominantly acid grassland but with an area of neutral grassland around the north-south footpath which crosses the compartment. Adjacent to that footpath is a very large multi-trunked pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) which may have been coppiced in a past century.

The flora of the restricted area of neutral grassland includes perennial rye-grass (*Lolium perenne*), cock's-foot (*Dactylis glomerata*) and Yorkshire fog (*Holcus lanatus*). Characteristic flora of acid habitats is found throughout the remainder of the compartment. This includes tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*), sheep's sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*), sweet vernal-grass (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*), regenerating heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) and dense-headed heath wood-rush (*Luzula multiflora* ssp. *congesta*). Discoloured bare patches within the acid grassland indicate where fires have been lit in the past by working parties at the Common; The increased alkalinity and nutrient enrichment resulting from such fires will tend to degrade the acid grassland habitat. Early in the year it was apparent that the grass in some areas had been cut excessively short in 2009, leaving extensive almost bare patches.

To the south east an area of flushed grassland supports marsh thistle (*Cirsium palustre*), Great horsetail (*Equisetum telmateia*) and Betony (*Betonica officinalis*). Other grassland flora includes lesser stitchwort (*Stellaria graminea*), gorse (*Ulex europaeaus*) and wavy hair-grass (*Deschampsia flexuosa*), whilst located in a small area to the north east of the compartment is one of the Common's two main colonies of devil's-bit scabious (*Succisa pratensis*).

Grass snakes are a regular occurrence in this compartment, and in 2010 white admiral butterflies were frequent here. This indicates that following years of occasional sightings this butterfly is almost certainly now breeding at the Common. Other insects of interest here include small copper, common blue, hornet and long-winged cone-head (*Conocephalus discolor*).

No scheduled invasive plants were recorded in this compartment. Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) is highly invasive here, and requires management.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T18.1	Landmark: A large multi-trunked oak tree
T18.2-4	Heather Regeneration Areas

Devil's-bit scabious	Succisa pratensis	London BAP priority Species
Dense-headed heath wood-rush	Luzula multiflora ssp. congesta	London BAP priority Species

# **London Notable species**

Great horsetail	Equisetum telmateia	Betony	Betonica officinalis
Slender St John's-wort	Hypericum pulchrum	Wavy hair-grass	Deschampsia flexuosa
Dense-headed heath wood-rush	Luzula multiflora ssp. congesta	Heather	Calluna vulgaris

# **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Three-nerved sandwort	Moehringia trinervia	Betony	Betonica officinalis
Slender St John's-wort	Hypericum pulchrum	Aspen	Populus tremula

### **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Bracken</u> <u>Pteridium aquilinum</u> Turkey oak Quercus cerris
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# Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Buzzard	Buteo buteo	Regularly wheeling and calling in 2010
Grass Snake	Natrix natrix	Seen regularly in 2010
White Admiral	Ladoga camilla	Seen regularly in 2010.
		London BAP Priority Species
Small Copper	Lycaena phlaeas	
Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria	
Common Blue	Polyommatus icarus	
Gatekeeper	Pyronia tithonus	
Small Skipper	Thymelicus sylvestris	
Honey bee	Apis melifera	
Hornet	Vespa crabro	First site record
White cross garden spider	Aranaeus diademata	
Southern Hawker	Aeshna cyanea	
Brown Hawker	Aeshna grandis	
Common Blue Damselfly	Enallagma cyathigerum	
Common Darter	Sympetrum striolatum	
Common Green Grasshopper	Omocestus viridulus	
Long-winged cone-head	Conocephalus discolor	First site record (Simon Braidman)

# Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Gorse	Ulex europaeaus	Characteristic
Tormentil	Potentilla erecta	Characteristic
Marsh thistle	Cirsium palustre	Characteristic, Limited population, known associated insect fauna

# **Management Notes**

• Inv	vasive species	Develop a bracken management program to be applied here and in all clearings at the Common
• Go	orse	Cut-back the senescent gorse bushes in rotation to allow their regeneration
• He	eather	Allow the heather to regenerate,; ensure that none of the clumps are inadvertently mown
• Fir	res	Only allow fires when absolutely necessary. Confine all fires to the neutral grassland around the footpath
• Gr	rass-cutting	The annual grass-cutting should be no shorter than 5cm.
• Hy	ydrology	Treat the grassland flush as a sensitive area, and allow standing marsh thistle stems to persist overwinter
• Ke	ey plant species	Time the annual grass cutting to take place after the devil's-bit scabious has dropped its seeds

Compartment Name	Ceriseland	Compartment No.	19
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15763 93806	Area (ha)	0.359
Date of Survey	5 July 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Hot and sunny		

Scattered trees	5	Roughland	7
Scrub	8	Bracken	64
Acid grassland	12	Tall herbs	4

Submerged veg.
vegetation Saline
er bank Tidal
atus
1

### **Description**

Ceriseland is a north-facing clearing dominated by bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*). Tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*), honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*), heath bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*) and grey willow saplings (*Salix cinerea*) are abundant here. The grassland comprises mainly creeping bent (*Agrostis stolonifera*), red fescue (*Festuca rubra*) and purple moor-grass (*Molinia cerulea*), while marsh thistle (*Cirsium palustre*), great horsetail (*Equisetum telmateia*) and hawkweed (*Hieracium* sp.) all occur commonly. There is a flushed area running on the east side of the compartment. This fragile habitat is likely to be an important habitat for invertebrates and should receive special consideration in management

The heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) regeneration scheme (initiated by the voluntary wardens with the help of Harrow Council in the early 2000's) has been a success. In place of two small clumps to the south of the compartment there are currently many heather plants covering an area which now extends northwards down the slope.

There is a diffuse patch of heath rush (*Juncus squarrosus*) growing in this compartment. It is particularly rare in London, where is known only from this compartment at Stanmore Common and from Hounslow Heath (Chris Slack, *pers. comm.*).

White admiral butterflies were not uncommon here in 2010, and a scarce hoverfly of decaying timber (*Volucella inflata*) was recorded here during the botanical survey.

No scheduled invasive plant species were recorded, but both bracken and purple moor-grass are invasive in this compartment.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)		
T19.1	One of three colonies of apparently native lily-of-the-valley recorded at the site.	
T19.2-3	Heather Regeneration Areas	

Dense-headed heath wood-rush	Luzula multiflora ssp. congesta	London BAP Priority Species
Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	London BAP Priority Species

# **London Notable species**

Great horsetail	Equisetum telmateia	Heather	Calluna vulgaris
Slender St John's-wort	Hypericum pulchrum	Wavy hair-grass	Deschampsia flexuosa
Heath rush	Juncus squarrosus	Purple moor-grass	Molinia cerulea
Dense-headed heath wood-rush		Luzula multiflora ssp. c	ongesta

# **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Slender St John's-wort	Hypericum pulchrum	Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis
Aspen	Populus tremula	Wood millet	Millium effusum
Holly	llex aquifolium	Wood meadow-grass	Poa nemoralis
Wood-sedge	Carex sylvatica	Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta

# **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded	
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# Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Bracken</u>	<u>Pteridium aquilinum</u>	Turkey oak	Quercus cerris
Purple moor-grass	Molinia cerulea		

### **Fauna** (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Carrion Crow	Corvus corone	
A Hoverfly	Volucella inflata	An uncommon hoverfly of decaying timber
White Admiral	Ladoga camilla	Not uncommon at the site in 2010
Meadow Brown	Maniola jurtina	
Large Skipper	Ochlodes venata	
Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria	
Large White	Pieris brassicae	
Comma	Polygonia c-album	
Gatekeeper	Pyronia tithonus	

# Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Hawkweed	Hieracium sp.	Characteristic
Tormentil	Potentilla erecta	Characteristic

# **Management Notes**

Invasive Species	Develop a bracken management program to be applied here and in all clearings at the Common
Heather	Monitor the continuing spread of heather, and ensure that the heather is not inadvertently mown
<ul> <li>Hydrology</li> </ul>	Manage scrub encroachment on the flush by hand
Key plant species	Monitor the number of heath rushes annually

<b>Compartment Name</b>	Bluebell Heath West	Compartment No.	20a
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15850 94120	Area (ha)	0.809
Date of Survey	30 June 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Hot, overcast		

Scattered trees	15	Acid grassland	20
Scrub	20	Bracken	33
Bare Soil	2	Tall herbs	10

W	oodland	G	rassland	We	etland
Treeline w/out hedge	Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	9 Ancient woodland	Y Infrequently mown	Y Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice	Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush	Wood shru layer %	Y Grassland flush	Y Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y Decaying timber		Wet grassland			

### **Description**

Bluebell Heath West is the as the name suggests the west section of the former compartment 20 from which it was split in the course of this survey. It is an area of south-facing acid grassland bounded on three sides by woodland, and to the east by a substantial belt of scrub with trees. Footpaths run close to the margins and there is an important flush to the west. The grassland is dominated with bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*) and red fescue (*Festuca rubra*), whilst sweet vernal-grass (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*), heath bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*), dense-headed heath wood-rush (*Luzula multiflora* ssp. *congesta*) and pill sedge (*Carex pilulifera*) are frequent species. The latter two species appear to have been among the more conspicuous beneficiaries of the shift from mid-year to late-season grass-cutting which took place in the early 2000's, and are both currently far commoner than previously.

There are two small seasonal ponds to the south margin of the compartment, fed by The Heathbourne and by flushing from the north. These were created by volunteers less than 10 years ago as shady 'woodland' ponds, and although of limited botanical interest are likely to be used by multiple invertebrate species at the site. Immediately to the west of these is a grassy area which has been fenced by volunteers in order to protect the marshy ground from being churned annually into a quagmire by pedestrians and horses.

The large flush to the west margin of the compartment supports an important flora, most notably London's only colony of heath spotted-orchid (*Dactylorhiza maculata*). These have been the subject of targeted management and annual monitoring for some years; c. 40+ plants were counted here by Tony Lovegrove in 2010. Questions have been raised as to whether this population comprises at least in part the hybrid between heath spotted-orchid and common spotted-orchid (*D. fuchsii*) (the hybrid *D. fuchsii* x *D. maculata* is known as *D.* x *transiens*), and whether both parent species are currently present (Mark Spencer, pers. comm.). A site visit by an orchid specialist would be required to resolve these questions.

This flush is also a key site for other scarce species including devil's-bit scabious (*Succisa pratensis*) and ragged-robin (*Lychnis flos-cuculi*) which are both scarce at the Common. It is also a former site for marsh pennywort (*Hydrocotyle vulgaris*) and sneezewort (*Achillea ptarmica*). Marsh pennywort is considered in this report to be extinct at the Common, whilst the status of sneezewort at the site (not recorded in the current survey) remains uncertain.

A mature Turkey oak (*Quercus cerris*) fell some years ago into the south margin of the compartment. It remains a living tree however and is likely to provide an important and sustainable resource for invertebrates (timber in early decay on living trees). At the time of the survey however the horizontal trunk was largely concealed beneath bracken and scrub.

A local hoverfly of decaying timber habitats (*Ferdinandea cuprea*) was recorded here in the course of the survey. White admiral, marbled white and large skipper butterflies were also observed here.

Water fern (*Azolla filiculoides*), a scheduled invasive species has been recorded in the past (2007) on a small pond to the south margin of the compartment (Howard Matthews, pers. comm.). Bracken is dominant throughout much of the compartment and along with other clearings at the Common would require a management program in order to secure the site's biodiversity for the future. In some areas of the compartment the scrub species have become dominant or have developed into young trees. These species include bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), downy birch (*Betula pubescens*), and grey willow (*Salix cinerea*). Whilst scrub is an ecologically important component of grassland, management is required in this compartment in order to restore the balance between these components. In addition, purple moor-grass is over-common here. It may swamp or displace other grassland species and is therefore an apparent threat to the grassland diversity.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)		
T20a.1	Botanically important habitat to the west of the compartment	
T20a.2-4	Heather Regeneration Areas	
W1 C20a	Flushed Area	
W2-3 C20a	Seasonal Ponds	

### **BAP Species**

Devil's-bit scabious	Succisa pratensis	London BAP Priority Species
Dense-headed heath wood-rush	Luzula multiflora ssp. congesta	London BAP Priority Species
Heath wood-rush	Luzula multiflora ssp. multiflora	London BAP Priority Species
Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	London BAP Priority Species
Heath spotted-orchid	Dactylorhiza maculata	Harrow BAP and London BAP Priority Species

# **London Notable species**

Lesser spearwort	Ranunculus flammula	Sneezewort	Achillea ptarmica
Ragged-robin	Lychnis flos-cuculi	Pill sedge	Carex pilulifera
Slender St John's-wort	Hypericum pulchrum	Wavy hair-grass	Deschampsia flexuosa
Heather	Calluna vulgaris	Heath spotted orchid	Dactylorhiza maculata
Betony	Betonica officinalis		
Heath wood-rush ssps.	Luzula multiflora ssp	. congesta and ssp. multit	flora

# **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Wood anemone	Anemone nemorosa	Pendulous sedge	Carex pendula
Slender St John's-wort	Hypericum pulchrum	Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis
Aspen	Populus tremula	Wood meadow-grass	Poa nemoralis
Holly	llex aquifolium	Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta
Betony	Betonica officinalis		

# **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Water fern	Azolla filiculoides	
	2007, on the small seasonal pond to the south of the Compartment (Howard Matthews)	

# Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Bracken	Pteridium aquilinum	Sycamore	Acer pseudoplatanus
Turkey oak	Quercus cerris	Purple moor-grass	Molinia caerulea
Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia		

### Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Hoverfly sp.	Ferdinandea cuprea	A local hoverfly of decaying timber
White Admiral	Ladoga camilla	Not uncommon in 2010
Meadow Brown	Maniola jurtina	
Marbled White	Melanargia galathea	One individual seen
Large Skipper	Ochlodes venata	
Gatekeeper	Pyronia tithonus	
Southern Hawker	Aeshna cyanea	
Common Blue Damselfly	Enallagma cyathigerum	
Common Darter	Sympetrum striolatum	
Meadow Grasshopper	Chorthippus parallelus	
Common Green Grasshopper	Omocestus viridulus	

# Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Tormentil	Potentilla erecta	Characteristic
Greater bird's-foot-trefoil	Lotus pedunculatus	Scarce at the site
Gorse	Ulex europaeaus	Characteristic
Marsh thistle	Cirsium palustre	Characteristic
Hawkweed	Hieracium sp.	Characteristic

# **Management Notes**

Grass cutting	Develop an agreed program for the late-season rotational grass-cutting
Invasive species	Develop a bracken management program for the site.  Develop a purple moor-grass management strategy for this and other compartments.  Restore the balance between grassland and scrub. Where young trees are removed, grind the tree-stumps to allow safe access for grass-cutters.
Hydrology	Investigate the origin(s) of the water supplying the flush to the west margin. Develop a plan to secure this water supply for the future.
Invertebrate habitat	Manually clear scrub and bracken from around the fallen Turkey oak, in order to significantly enhance its habitat value.
Key plant species	Continue to monitor and manage the orchids annually. Seek an expert able to resolve their possible hybrid component.  Monitor the same area for the presence of sneezewort.

<b>Compartment Name</b>	Bluebell Heath East	Compartment No.	20b
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15981 94084	Area (ha)	1.404
Date of Survey	30 June 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Hot, overcast		

Scattered trees	25	Acid grassland	10
Scrub	28	Bracken	30
Bare Soil	2	Tall herbs	5

	Wo	odland		Grassland		Wetland			
	Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland		Grazed		Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	12	Ancient woodland	Y	Infrequently mown	Y	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded		Unmanaged grassland		Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
	Wood flush		Wood shrub layer %	Y	Grassland flush	Y	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Υ	Decaying timber				Wet grassland			1	

### **Description**

Bluebell Heath East was split from the former compartment 20 in the course of this survey, being as the name suggests its east section. It could itself justifiably be split into three distinct areas on the basis of vegetation type, but has not been further subdivided on the grounds of parsimony. To the east is a belt of dense scrub with trees, to the centre an extensive and ecologically important area of south-facing flushed acid grassland, and to the east an area of neutral grassland which includes the horse ride and an avenue of standard trees.

The scrub belt is overrun with bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) and bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*). It is important as the site of a large and senescent crab apple (*Malus sylvestris*), a valued asset at the site. Any management work taking place in this area should be preceded by survey to locate and protect any younger crab apple trees which may be growing here. The path edge to the south of the scrub belt is known for its population of hawkweed, but the scrub was encroaching onto these path margins at the time of the survey. Management work to cut back this scrub should be conducted from the side away from the path in order to avoid disturbance and compaction of these path edges. Although of less obvious ecological value, it may be of interest that the only London plane tree (*Platanus x hispanica*) recorded at the site grows in this belt. The young aspens (*Populus tremula*) growing here however are of known high ecological value at the site, and should be prioritised accordingly in any management. The only cornflower (*Centaurea cyanus*) recorded during the survey, a UK BAP species and presumably a casual, was growing at the path edge. To the south of the south path is located one of the three colonies of apparently native lily-of-the-valley (*Convallaria majalis*) recorded at the site.

The origins of the seasonal flush are discussed under Sylver Aspen Pines (comp. 01) and Flushing wood (comp. 02). In Bluebell Heath East this extensive flush diffuses southwards down the slope in a broad band, crossing the path to pass through the north margin of Stonefly Wood where it enters The Heathbourne. It is dominated by bracken (Pteridium aquilinum), and tormentil (Potentilla erecta) is abundant here. Jointed rush (Juncus articulatus), toad rush (Juncus bufonius), dense-headed heath wood-rush (Luzula multiflora ssp. congesta), pill sedge (Carex pilulifera) and wood-sedge (Carex sylvatica) all grow here. the latter as a few individuals growing to the south of the north path. Small amounts of bog moss (Sphagnum sp.) have been observed here in the past (J. Dobson, unpublished obs.). although it appears to be inconstant at this location. The flush has high potential as an invertebrate habitat. As well as bracken, the flush was encroached in places by saplings and scrub at the time of the survey. There was formerly a clump of Michaelmas daisies (Aster sp.) growing on the west margin of the flush, but this could not be located in 2010. Although botanically unremarkable, these were valued as an autumn nectar-source in the compartment, attracting numerous feeding insects at a time when there was little else in flower.

To the east of the footpath which parallels the east side of the flush the soil becomes progressively more neutral and this area of bracken-dominated grassland gives way to an avenue of mature trees. It is a matter of speculation as to whether this avenue is the result of selective woodland clearance, an element in the Chandos Vista (although the trees may me too young for that) or is perhaps serendipitous in origin. Midland hawthorn (*Crataegus laevigata*) and columbine (*Aquilegia vulgaris*) both grow in their only recorded localities at the Common between the horse ride and the east fence line.

No scheduled invasive species were recorded. Bracken, sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and purple moor-grass (*Molinia cerulea*) are all invasive species in this compartment.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)		
T20b.1	A large veteran crab apple	
W1 C20b	Flushed area	

# **BAP Species**

Cornflower	Centaurea cyanus	UK BAP Priority Species
Dense-headed heath wood-rush	Luzula multiflora ssp. congesta	London BAP Priority Species
Lily-of-the-Valley	Convallaria majalis	London BAP Priority Species
Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	London BAP Priority Species

### **London Notable species**

Columbine	Aquilegia vulgaris	Wavy hair-grass	Deschampsia flexuosa
Slender St John's-wort	Hypericum pulchrum	Purple moor-grass	Molinia cerulea
Cornflower	Centaurea cyanus	Lily-of-the-Valley	Convallaria majalis
Pill sedge	Carex pilulifera		
Dense-headed heath wood-rush		Luzula multiflora ssp. co	ngesta

# **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Slender St John's-wort	Hypericum pulchrum	Wood-sedge	Carex sylvatica
Aspen	Populus tremula	Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis
Midland hawthorn	Crataegus laevigata	Wood meadow-grass	Poa nemoralis
Crab apple	Malus sylvestris	Giant fescue	Schedonorus giganteus
Holly	llex aquifolium	Lily-of-the-Valley	Convallaria majalis
Pendulous sedge	Carex pendula	Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta

# **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded	
None Recorded	
140110 140001404	

# Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Bracken</u>	Pteridium aquilinum	Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia
Yew	Taxus baccata	<u>Sycamore</u>	Acer pseudoplatanus
Turkey oak	Quercus cerris	Purple moor-grass	Molinia cerulea

# Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Robin	Erithacus rubecula
Harlequin Ladybird	Harmonia axyridis
Meadow Brown	Maniola jurtina
Large Skipper	Ochlodes venata
Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria
Comma	Polygonia c-album
Southern Hawker	Aeshna cyanea
Common Blue Damselfly	Enallagma cyathigerum
Common Green Grasshopper	Omocestus viridulus

### Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Water-pepper	Persicaria hydropiper	Scarce at the site
Tormentil	Potentilla erecta	Characteristic
London plane	Platanus x hispanica	The only example recorded at the site
Michaelmas daisy	Aster sp.	Valued and threatened

# **Management Notes**

Grass cutting		evelop an agreed program for the late-season rotational rass-cutting
Invasive species	Do ar Ro th ac re	evelop a bracken management program for the site. evelop a purple moor-grass management strategy for this nd other compartments. estore the balance between grassland and scrub. Ensure hat ecologically valuable species and habitats are not dversely affected by works. Where young trees are emoved, grind the tree-stumps to allow safe access for trass cutters.
Key sensitive hal	e.	onsider the flush specifically in the management strategy, .g. by ensuring that the soil does not become compressed brough footfall or vehicles.
<ul> <li>Hydrology</li> </ul>		evelop a plan to secure this water supplying the flush.
Key plant species		lonitor the lily-of-the-valley, and develop a management trategy for this species at the site

Compartment Name	New Heath	Compartment No.	21
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15749 94154	Area (ha)	0.613
Date of Survey	8 July 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Warm and dry		

Native broadleaved woodland	15	Bracken	10
Scattered trees	5	Tall herbs	30
Bare soil	25	Heathland	10
Acid grassland	5		

W	oodland				assla	ssland		Wetlar	nd
Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland		Grazed		Frequently mown	Floating		Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation		Ancient woodland		Infrequently mown		Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent veger	tation	Saline
Coppice	F	Pollarded	Υ	Unmanaged grassland		Ridge and Furrow	Natural river ba	nk	Tidal
Wood flush		Wood shrub layer %	Y	Grassland flush	Y	Bare soil	Trophic status		
Y Decaying timber				Wet grassland					

### **Description**

New Heath in its present form originated in 2007 with the commencement of a project to remove the topsoil and seed the area with heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) originating from Hounslow Heath. This was performed in pursuance of London BAP Heathland targets. Some years prior to the works a fire occurred in this area, resulting in a clearing dominated by bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and populated with scattered silver birches (*Betula pendula*) both living and dead. No pre-works botanical survey was performed, but in addition to bracken and silver birch, bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) and purple moor-grass (*Molinia cerulea*) were all common in the compartment (J. Dobson, pers. obs.).

At the time of the 2010 survey the seeded heather was abundant in the clearing. In the north of the compartment it grows on a broad incline of gravelly well-drained bare soil revealed by the scrape. To the south of the compartment the flushed ground is now covered in a dense carpet of soft-rush with abundant heather; the latter appears to be competing successfully with the rushes. The relationship between the flushing in this compartment and the water supply to the flush on Bluebell Heath West (comp. 20a) where the heath-spotted orchid (*Dactylorhiza maculata*) colony grows needs to be investigated and understood considering the high value ascribed to the orchids. This applies similarly regarding the water supply to the bog moss (*Sphagnum* sp.) in The Aspens (comp. 21) to the south of New Heath.

In the course of the survey a number of species were discovered on the dry upper half of the scrape which are unrecorded at the Common, at least in recent decades. These are listed below, and considered further in the discussion. These species could have originated from a persistent soil seed bank, or were imported along with the heather seed from Hounslow Heath. Hard fern (*Blechnum spicant*) is known to be persistent in the soil for extremely long periods (Howard Matthews, pers. comm.) and it is likely the current population at New Heath represents a re-emergence. Wetland species such a bulbous rush (*Juncus bulbosus*) are growing in unsuitably dry conditions at the Common, and are thought unlikely to persist.

Such species, might therefore be supposed to have been introduced along with the heather seed. The reappearance after long absence of green-ribbed sedge (*Carex binervis*), which was discovered at New Heath by Tony Lovegrove in 2009, is a most welcome if unintended consequence of the heather seeding project.

The extensive bare soil and the occasional seasonally damp depressions are likely to provide high value habitats for heathland- and other invertebrates. Ground beetles (*Carabidae*) and spider-hunting wasps (*Pompilidae*) were seen foraging on the ground in this area in the course of the botanical survey.

No scheduled invasive species were recorded. Purple moor-grass (*Molinia cerulea*) was frequent in the compartment, whilst bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) was abundant around the margins in 2010, and will need to be managed if the heathland character of New Heath is to be retained.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)			
T21.1-2	Soil mounds resulting from the creation of the scrape in 2007 (West and East)		

### **BAP Species**

Hard-fern	Blechnum spicant	London BAP Priority Species
Dense-headed heath wood-rush	Luzula multiflora ssp. congesta	London BAP Priority Species
Green-ribbed sedge	Carex binervis	London BAP Priority Species

### **London Notable species**

Hard-fern	Blechnum spicant	Brown bent	Agrostis vinealis
Heather	Calluna vulgaris	Wood small-reed	Calamagrostis epigejos
Bulbous rush	Juncus bulbosus	Heath-grass	Danthonia decumbens
Lesser pond-sedge	Carex acutiformis	Wavy hair-grass	Deschampsia flexuosa
Green-ribbed sedge	Carex binervis	Sheep's fescue	Festuca ovina
Oval sedge	Carex leporina	Purple moor-grass	Molinia cerulea
Pill sedge	Carex pilulifera	Mat-grass	Nardus stricta
Dense-headed heath wood-rush	Luzula multiflora ssp. congesta		

### **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Hard-fern	Blechnum spicant	Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis
Holly	llex aquifolium	Wood meadow-grass	Poa nemoralis
Wood small-reed	Calamagrostis epigejos		

# Species newly recorded at New Heath following the heather introduction project.

Including species previously considered to be long extinct at the Common

Common Name	Scientific Name	Common Name	Scientific Name
Lesser pond-sedge	Carex acutiformis	Mat grass	Nardus stricta
Bulbous rush	Juncus bulbosus	Heath grass	Danthonia decumbens
Wood small-reed	Calamagrostis epigejos	Hard-fern	Blechnum spicant
Green-ribbed sedge	Carex binervis	Brown bent	Agrostis vinealis

### **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded	

# Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Turkey oak	Quercus cerris	Purple moor-grass	Molinia cerulea
Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia	<u>Bracken</u>	<u>Pteridium aquilinum</u>

### **Fauna** (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Buzzard	Buteo buteo	Regularly wheeling and calling; probably a juvenile
Ground Beetles	Carabidae spp.	A range of species foraging on the bare earth of the scrape
Small Copper	Lycaena phlaeas	
Meadow Brown	Maniola jurtina	
Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria	
Large White	Pieris brassicae	
Gatekeeper	Pyronia tithonus	
Brown Hawker	Aeshna grandis	
Spider-hunting wasps	Pompilidae spp.	A range of species foraging on the bare earth of the scrape

### Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Spruce sp.	<i>Picea</i> sp.	Seedlings, apparently spruce, have appeared on the scrape
Scots pine	Pinus sylvestris	Scattered at the Common and with a good associated insect fauna

# **Management Notes**

•	Heather/Heathland	Clarify whether this compartment is to be managed to maximise the heather, or alternatively as 'heathland' including a range of characteristic species and habitats
•	'New' species	Monitor the 'new' species, particularly green-ribbed sedge and hard fern
•	Hydrology	Investigate and understand the relationship between flushing in this compartment and the flushing which supports important species in adjacent compartments lower on the slope

Compartment Name	The Hawthorns	Compartment No.	22
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15819 94002	Area (ha)	0.188
Date of Survey	6 May 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Cool, sunny periods		

Native broadleaved woodland	40	Bracken	20
Scrub	25	Tall herbs	10
Semi-improved neutral grassland	5		

	Woodland			Grassland			Wetland		
	Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland		Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.	
	Even-aged plantation	3	Ancient woodland		Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline	
	Coppice		Pollarded	Y	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal	
Y	Wood flush	20	Wood shrub layer %		Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status		
Y	Decaying timber				Wet grassland				

### **Description**

The Hawthorns is a woodland clearing created some years ago by volunteers who cleared scrub from around the pathway which runs with Enigma Wood (comp. 04) to its west side and Stonefly Wood (comp. 05) to the east. The former route of the pathway collected water draining from the west, and due to its relatively high usage became a quagmire for several months each year. Subsequently a second path was made by volunteers, and this runs on a slightly higher and therefore dryer route to the west of the original. The original (eastern) path was subsequently blocked at its ends. A series of small holes were dug along its length and it was allowed to develop as a linear seasonal marsh within the clearing.

The area is dominated with bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) along with abundant bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) and honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*). Aspen (*Populus tremula*), bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) and hawkweed (*Hieracium* sp.) are all found within the clearing.

A notable and striking feature is the large ancient hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) which has been partly revealed on the east side of the path. According to The Ancient Tree Forum (Woodland Trust, 2009), the girth of the Stanmore Common tree (219 cm as measured in the course of this survey) places the tree in the upper 50% of the range of trunk girths by which hawthorns are judged to be ancient. Ignoring a few exceptional outliers this range is approximately 120-270 cm for hawthorn. It is therefore suggested that this hawthorn tree is likely to be regionally (SE England) or quite possibly nationally important, and that future research and management should prioritise it accordingly.

No scheduled invasive species were recorded. Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), yew (*Taxus baccata*) and sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) are all invasive or potentially invasive in this compartment.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)		
T22.1	A large and ancient hawthorn	

Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	London BAP Priority Species
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# **London Notable species**

None Recorded		
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# **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Aspen	Populus tremula	Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	
Holly	llex aquifolium			

# **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

ne Recorded
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Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Bracken</u>	Pteridium aquilinum	<u>Rowan</u>	Sorbus aucuparia
<u>Yew</u>	Taxus baccata	<u>Sycamore</u>	Acer pseudoplatanus

### Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Chiffchaff	Phylloscopus collybita	
Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria	

# Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Hawkweed sp.	Hieracium sp.	Characteristic of the site

# **Management Notes**

<ul> <li>Woodland clearing</li> </ul>	Continue to manage this area as a woodland clearing
<ul> <li>Linear marsh</li> </ul>	Continue to manage the former path as a seasonal marsh
Ancient tree	Enlist the help of authoritative national organisations such as The Ancient Tree Forum in researching, managing and notifying the ancient hawthorn tree.

Compartment Name	The Aspens	Compartment No.	23
Grid Reference (centroid)	15689 94071	Area (ha)	1.364
Date of Survey	13 May 2010	Surveyor	John Dobson
Weather	Overcast		

Native broadleaved woodland 90	Scrub 10
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	Woodland		Grassland		Wetland		
	Treeline w/out hedge Even-aged	Υ 11	Wet woodland Ancient	Grazed Infrequently	Frequently mown Cuttings	Floating  Emergent vegetation	Submerged veg. Saline
	plantation Coppice	' '	woodland Pollarded	mown Unmanaged grassland	removed Y/N Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Y	Wood flush	20	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y	Decaying timber			Wet grassland			

### **Description**

The Aspens is surrounded on all sides by woodland except to the north east where it interfaces for limited distances with New Heath (comp. 21) and Bluebell Heath West (comp. 20a). Its south margin is delineated by The Heathbourne.

This rare example of south-facing woodland at the Common is dominated by pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) and downy birch (*Betula pubescens*). Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*), creeping soft-grass (*Holcus mollis*), honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*) and rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) are abundant here along with the carpeting bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*). Frequently occurring species include aspen (*Populus tremula*), grey willow (*Salix cinerea*), wood meadow-grass (*Poa nemoralis*) and bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*). Marshy habitats beside The Heathbourne support bog stitchwort (*Stellaria alsine*), lesser spearwort (*Ranunculus flammula*) and marsh bedstraw (*Galium palustre*), whilst betony (*Betonica officinalis*) can be found on the stream bank. Three-nerved sandwort (*Moehringia trinervia*), common dog-violet (*Viola riviniana*) and wood millet (*Millium effusum*) are found within the woodland, where there are also scattered Scots pines (*Pinus sylvestris*) as well as colonies of hair moss (*Polytrichum* sp.) and bog moss (*Sphagnum* sp.).

A cuckoo was heard here on the 13<sup>th</sup> of May, Reeve's muntjac appears to be common and one of only two molehills seen at the Common was recorded here.

No scheduled invasive species was recorded here. Bracken, yew (*Taxus baccata*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) are all invasive or potentially invasive here.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)				
W1-2 C23	W1-2 C23 Flushed areas			

### **BAP Species**

Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	London BAP Priority Species
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### **London Notable species**

Lesser spearwort	Ranunculus flammula	Marsh bedstraw	Galium palustre	
Bog stitchwort	Stellaria alsine	Wavy hair-grass	Deschampsia flexuosa	
Betony	Betonica officinalis	Purple moor-grass	Molinia cerulea	

### **Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)**

Hornbeam	Carpinus betulus	Wood-sedge	Carex sylvatica
Three-nerved sandwort	Moehringia trinervia	Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis
Aspen	Populus tremula	Wood millet	Millium effusum
Holly	llex aquifolium	Wood meadow-grass	Poa nemoralis
Betony	Betonica officinalis	Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta
Pendulous sedge	Carex pendula		

### **Invasive Species and other Pest Species**

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are <u>underlined</u>.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded		
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# Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

<u>Bracken</u>	<u>Pteridium aquilinum</u>	<u>Ash</u>	Fraxinus excelsior	
Yew	Taxus baccata	Purple moor-grass	Molinia cerulea	
Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia	Sycamore	Acer pseudoplatanus	

### Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus	Heard here on 13 <sup>th</sup> May
Chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs	
Magpie	Pica pica	
Blackbird	Turdus merula	
Muntjac	Muntiacus reevesi	
Mole	Talpa europaea	Recorded from presence of mole hill

### Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

			l
Tall fescue	Schedonorus arundinaceus	Appears to be rather scarce at the Common	l
Tall 1000ac	Concachoras aranamascas	Appears to be rather source at the common	l

# **Management Notes**

For management purposes this is generally a low-intervention area. On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

•		Develop strategies to carefully enhance the compartment's fragile wetland habitats
•	Hydrology	Investigate and secure for the future the sources of water flushing the bog moss in this (and other) compartments

### **DISCUSSION**

### **Conduct of the Survey**

In conducting this survey it quickly became apparent that the existing maps of the Common contained multiple inaccuracies, including the boundaries of management compartments, the routes of paths, the courses of streams and the locations of other features. It was not considered possible therefore to carry out a meaningful compartment-based botanical survey without concurrently re-mapping these features at the Common. As a result, additional site visits were undertaken to enable the capture of the GPS data required for GIS processing in order to produce a completely new digital map of the Common's compartments, paths, watercourses and other features.

The remapping was performed conservatively and the original compartment structure was followed as far as possible. Users of the old maps will recognise most elements of the new one, and existing species records which are located by compartment number will generally remain valid.

Partially as a result of the extended mapping process, significantly more time was spent on the Common than originally proposed, resulting in a particularly thorough botanical survey. Although a tally of around 180-200 species had been anticipated (Denis Vickers, pers. comm.) in the event c.307 taxa were recorded.

### **HABITATS AT STANMORE COMMON**

## **BAP Priority Habitats**

### **Harrow BAP Priority Habitats**

Six out of the nine current Harrow BAP Priority Habitats are represented at Stanmore Common

Grassland

Heathland

Standing and running water

Woodlands

Bare ground

Decaying timber

### **London BAP Priority Habitats**

Six out of the fourteen current London BAP Priority Habitats are represented at Stanmore Common

Acid grassland

Heathland

Rivers and streams

Standing water

Woodland

**Ancient Woodland** 

### **UK BAP Priority Habitats**

In contrast to regional and local BAP Priority Habitats which may be broadly and pragmatically defined, UK BAP Priority Habitats are specified by the Biodiversity Review Group under detailed and ecologically precise habitat definitions (BRIG, 2010).

Of the sixty-five habitat types currently prioritised in the UK BAP, five were considered by the author as possibly present at Stanmore Common LNR, and the corresponding habitat definitions were consulted accordingly. On the basis of these BAP definitions it would appear that three UK BAP Priority Habitats are clearly represented at Stanmore Common LNR. A further two habitat types do not qualify under the given criteria:

Qualifying habitat types

### Lowland dry acid grassland

The dry acid grassland habitats at the Common (most of the grassland present) would appear to qualify as UK BAP Priority Habitat under the given criteria.

#### Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

The majority of the woodland at the Common would appear to qualify as UK BAP Priority Habitat under the given criteria.

#### Wet woodland

The wet woodland habitats present at the Common would appear to qualify as UK BAP Priority Habitats under the given criteria.

Wet woodland is defined under the UK BAP to include both seasonal wet woodland, and wet woodland occurring in dispersed form within other habitats.

Seasonally wet woodland is present at the Common, particularly at The Wetwood (comp. 13), and also as numerous dispersed habitat features elsewhere at the Common.

Wet woodland contains elements of many other ecosystems and as such is important for many taxa. While few species of flowering plant depend on wet woodland *per se*, wet woodland may be important for its moss flora, and the number of associated invertebrate species can be very large (BRIG, 2010).

Examples of wet woodland are far scarcer regionally than either 'Lowland dry acid grassland' or 'Lowland mixed deciduous woodland' and this habitat type at Stanmore Common should therefore be prioritised accordingly.

### Non-qualifying habitat types

#### Lowland heathland

Lowland heathland is defined in the UK BAP as comprising in addition to heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) a community of heathland species, both flora and fauna; it also includes a range of physical habitat elements such as bare soil and wet depressions. Examples of associated flora might include dwarf gorse (*Ulex minor*) and cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*) (the latter is a species formerly present at Stanmore Common, said to have been destroyed by fire in 1931 (Kent, 1975)).

The heathland plant community as defined in the UK BAP is not present at the Common, and characteristic heathland invertebrates were not recorded by the author in the course of voluntary invertebrate survey of the Common conducted around a decade ago. The heather native to the Common has been rescued from the brink of extinction by the warden Simon Braidman and others. It is an important element occurring within the 'Lowland dry acid grassland' UK BAP habitat, and does not constitute 'Lowland heathland'.

The scrape and subsequent heather planting which took place in New Heath (comp. 21) commencing in 2007 might possibly offer an exception. In addition to the heather growth, a number of grasses, sedges and rushes which may be characteristic of lowland heathland have been recorded in this compartment in the course of the survey (see Discussion). In addition there is currently (2010) extensive bare soil and a small number of seasonally damp depressions within this area. It is conceivable that were New Heath to be managed in the future as heathland (to include all the characteristic flora and habitats, prioritised at least equally to the heather) then lowland heathland habitat meeting UK BAP criteria could result.

#### **Ponds**

There are two adjacent ponds at Stanmore Common; Great Brewery Pond (comp. 14a) and Little Brewery Pond (comp. 14b). It is clear from this survey that neither pond satisfies the UK BAP Priority Habitat specification on quality criteria.

Rare and scarce pond flora which might meet the current UK BAP criteria has been recorded in the past from a number of ponds in Harrow, including Brewery Ponds (Farino *et al.*, 1989). The author is not aware that any of these Harrow ponds have retained their former botanical quality through recent decades. A possible exception might be Grove Ponds which Sean Tobin's more contemporary records suggest might have retained their botanical quality at least into the 1990's. Survey would be required to determine whether Grove Ponds might currently meet UK BAP Habitat criteria.

### **Ancient Woodland**

Ancient woodland habitats at Stanmore common are discussed in the following section (Discussion of Species) under Ancient Woodland Indicator Species.

### **Discussion of Species**

Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Species

The following species, which were either recorded at the Common in the course of the survey, or recorded very recently (marsh willowherb) are prioritised under the Harrow-, London- or United Kingdom Biodiversity Action Plans.

Hard-fern Blechnum spicant London BAP

Discovered at the Common during the current survey, growing on the scrape in New Heath (compartment 21).

Marsh willowherb Epilobium palustre London BAP

Two plants discovered at the Common in 2009 by Joanne Colthup. Not found during the current survey (drought?). This population requires monitoring.

Devil's-bit scabious Succisa pratensis London BAP

A species which has benefited from the change from mid-year to late-season grass-cutting which took place about a decade ago. Although somewhat dispersed, much of the population is restricted to two limited areas and requires monitoring.

Cornflower Centaurea cyanus UK BAP, London BAP

A single specimen recorded in the current survey. This species is widely sown for example in meadow flower seed mixes, and the Stanmore Common record is considered likely to represent a casual occurrence.

Heath wood-rush Luzula multiflora London BAP

A species which has conspicuously benefited from the change from mid-year to late-season grass-cutting which took place about a decade ago. Formerly very local in occurrence but now common and widespread in the clearings, mainly as the 'dense-headed' form (subspecies *congesta*).

Green ribbed sedge Carex binervis London BAP

A species which has not been recorded at the Common since 1983 (see Discussion), but which was discovered by Tony Lovegrove growing on the scrape in New Heath (compartment 21) in 2009. The current population of c. 6 individuals requires annual monitoring.

Lily-of-the-Valley Convallaria majalis London BAP

Three long-standing colonies of lily-of-the-valley are known at the Common, and these are considered to be native populations rather than garden escapes. These populations should be monitored and managed in order to regulate the optimum degree of overshading.

Bluebell Hyacinthoides non-scripta London BAP

Widespread and common throughout much of the Common, although patchy or scarce in some areas. Spanish bluebell (*Hyacinthoides hispanica*) is likely to represent a major threat to the native species through hybridisation.

Solomon's-seal Polygonatum?multiflorum London BAP

Two non-flowering specimens were recorded at widely separate locations in course of the current survey. Requires monitoring. Identification requires confirmation (see Discussion: Outstanding Identification Issues).

Heath spotted orchid Dactylorhiza maculata London BAP, Harrow BAP

This well-known colony is the only recorded locality for this species in London, and is under current management and monitoring.

### London Notable Species

London Notable Species are defined as those recorded in 15% or less of the tetrads of Greater London (LEU, 1998). The supporting distribution and occurrence data underlying these designations is however derived from the data utilised in Burton (1983), and is out of date. It is anticipated that a revised version of this list will become available in future. Until that time however the existing designations remain the *de facto* standard.

Difficulties with the London Notable list arise for a number of reasons including historical under-recording of some species, and changes in the distribution of certain species which have occurred in the interim. Without in any way anticipating the contents of a future London Notable list, certain species which qualify as Notables in the existing list, but which would clearly not currently qualify have been excluded from the lists as presented here. These include for example cherry laurel (*Prunus lauraucerus*) and Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*).

The following 51 London Notable species were recorded in the course of this survey. Joanne Colthup's important 2009 record of marsh willowherb is also included, although that species was not recorded during the current survey.

A small number of these species are non-native; for example summer snowflake (*Leucojum aestivum* ssp. *pulchellum*) or debatably native; for example black currant (*Ribes nigrum*). There is currently an increased emphasis on recording non-native naturalised species, although some might argue that such species should be listed separately in this context.

Those species which the author regards as particularly scarce in London are in bold-face.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Common Name	Scientific Name
Great horsetail	Equisetum telmateia	Marsh bedstraw	Galium palustre
Intermediate polypody	Polypodium interjectum	Devil's-bit scabious	Succisa pratensis
Lady-fern	Athyrium filix-femina	Cornflower	Centaurea cyanus
Soft shield-fern	Polystichum setiferum	Bulbous rush	Juncus bulbosus
Hard-fern	Blechnum spicant	Heath rush	Juncus squarrosus
Lesser spearwort	Ranunculus flammula	Heath wood-rush ssp.	Luzula multiflora ssp.
Sessile oak	Quercus petraea	Lesser pond-sedge	Carex acutiformis
Bog stitchwort	Stellaria alsine	Green-ribbed sedge	Carex binervis
Slender St John's-wort	Hypericum pulchrum	Grey sedge	Carex divulsa
Square-stalked St John's-wort	Hypericum tetrapterum	Glaucous sedge	Carex flacca
Dotted loosestrife	Lysimachia punctata	Pill sedge	Carex pilulifera
Black currant	Ribes nigrum	Cyperus sedge	Carex pseudocyperus
Red currant	Ribes rubrum	Bristle club-rush	Isolepis setacea
Gooseberry	Ribes uva-crispa	Early hair-grass	Aira praecox
Marsh willowherb	Epilobium palustre	Wood small-reed	Calamagrostis epigejos
Common evening-primrose	Oenothera biennis	Heath-grass	Danthonia decumbens
Shining crane's-bill	Geranium lucidum	Wavy hair-grass	Deschampsia flexuosa
Corn parsley	Petroselinum segetum	Sheep's fescue	Festuca ovina
Lesser periwinkle	Vinca minor	Purple moor-grass	Molinia cerulea
Water forget-me-not	Myosotis scorpioides	Mat-grass	Nardus stricta
Wood forget-me-not	Myosotis sylvatica	Ramsons	Allium ursinum
Corn mint	Mentha arvensis	Summer snowflake	Leucojum aestivum ssp. pulchellum
Red bartsia	Odontites vernus	Solomon's-seal	Polygonatum?multiflorum
Brooklime	Veronica beccabunga	Heath spotted-orchid	Dactylorhiza maculata
Wood speedwell	Veronica montata	Broad-leaved helleborine	Epipactis helleborine
Heath speedwell	Veronica officinalis		

### Ancient Woodland Indicator Species

Ancient woodland is defined as woodland which existed prior to 1600. Ancient woodland indicator species (AWIs) are those plants which have an established association with ancient woodland habitats. This association can arise for a variety of reasons including for example the species' low dispersal rate away from such habitats (Rackham, 2010). Different indicator species have different degrees of association with ancient woodland, and this may be strong or moderate. No single species can therefore be relied upon as a definitive AWI, and in practice a suite of indicator species is used as evidence for the ancient origin of any particular woodland. The selection of AWIs has been developed on a regional basis, and the AWIs for south-east England are utilised here (Rose & O'Reilly, 2006).

The use of historical botanical records as AWIs would also be valid in this context, even where a species has become extinct at a site, so long as the locality of such records can be clearly established. There would appear to be scope for further research on these grounds regarding Stanmore Common.

Other evidence for the ancient origins of woodland, for example from historical accounts and maps should also be utilised where it is available.

AWIs were recorded per-compartment in this survey and this number is given under the individual compartment accounts. The number of AWIs in each compartment however should be considered as partly artefactual, as the current compartment divisions are unlikely in the main to reflect historical ecological and land-use divisions. There is no specified set number of AWIs required to establish woodland as ancient. As a rule of thumb, a small woodland (such as the individual woodland parcels at Stanmore Common) where the number of AWIs attains double figures is likely to have ancient origins.

An inventory of London's ancient woodlands compiled by the Nature Conservancy Council in 1985 (Spencer, 1986) ascribed ancient status at Stanmore Common only the areas now known as to Brightwen Wood West (comp. 12a) (11 AWIs in the current survey) and The Wetwood (comp. 13) (14 AWIs in the current survey). The current survey extends that designation to include much of the Common.

The following 34 Ancient Woodland Indicator species (south-east England) were recorded at Stanmore Common LNR in the course of the current survey.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Common Name	Scientific Name
Hart's tongue	Asplenium scolopendrium	Holly	llex aquifolium
Lady-fern	Athyrium filix-femina	Wood sorrel	Oxalis acetosella
Soft shield-fern	Polystichum setiferum	Pignut	Conopodium majus
Hard-fern	Blechnum spicant	Wood speedwell	Veronica montata
Wood anemone	Anemone nemorosa	Guelder-rose	Viburnum opulus
Sessile oak	Quercus petraea	Remote sedge	Carex remota
Hornbeam	Carpinus betulus	Wood-sedge	Carex sylvatica
Three-nerved sandwort	Moehringia trinervia	Hairy-brome	Bromopsis ramosa
Slender St John's-wort	Hypericum pulchrum	Wood small-reed	Calamagrostis epigejos
Aspen	Populus tremula	Creeping soft-grass	Holcus mollis
Primrose	Primula vulgaris	Wood millet	Millium effusum
Black currant	Ribes nigrum	Wood meadow-grass	Poa nemoralis
Red currant	Ribes rubrum	Giant fescue	Schedonorus giganteus
Midland hawthorn	Crataegus laevigata	Ramsons	Allium ursinum
Crab apple	Malus sylvestris	Solomon's-seal †	Polygonatum?multiflorum
Wild cherry	Prunus avium	Broad-leaved helleborine	Epipactis helleborine
Field rose	Rosa arvensis	Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta

<sup>†</sup> Identification to be verified

Many have assumed in the past that Stanmore Common is largely comprised of secondary woodland, and the strong evidence of ancient woodland origins provided by this survey may be surprising to some.

It is suggested that the reasons for this widespread error in perception include:

### Grazing

There is a known history of grazing at the site, which may have led to the belief that the majority of the site was formerly given over to livestock. The current survey suggests that this is unlikely and that much of the site has been wooded for a long period. It is known that grazing continued here well into the twentieth century. It would require additional research in order to attempt to discover the location and extent of formerly grazed areas at the Common. For example, a former (and current) clearing, now known as Bluebell Heath (comp. 20) is thought to have scrubbed-over at some point during in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and this was cleared back to grassland by Harrow Council, possibly in the 1970s (Steve Woad, pers. comm.).

#### Veteran and ancient trees

Ancient woodlands can normally be expected include a population of ancient- and ancient-looking trees, often oaks (*Quercus* sp.). Apart from one massive ancient hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) in The Hawthorns (comp. 22), no such trees are known at the Common and the largest oaks are probably 200-300 years old (a rough estimate only as no measurements were taken).

It is speculated that many trees may have been taken from the site in history for use as timber. It has been suggested for example that the 1<sup>st</sup> Duke of Chandos (1674–1744) plundered the Common by selling timber from here to the navy (John Williams, pers. comm.). Hadfield (1969) refers to part of J. Macky's contemporary (1722) description of Canons, where Macky relates that the water supply for the gardens was piped from the mountains(!) of Stanmore in two miles of elm trunks. The origin of those tree trunks is unknown, and others can do the arithmetic to determine the likely acreage of woodland required to construct that pipeline. (The water source for the pipeline was in fact Spring Pond, Stanmore Little Common (Walter, 1999)).

#### Gravel extraction

The history of manual gravel extraction at the Common, including its historical duration and cessation date, are unknown to the author. That history is written widely over the Common's landscape however, in the form of hundreds of small and mainly shallow pits. The small size of these pits might suggest an early date (Denis Vickers, pers. comm.).

A key factor in allowing the persistence of AWIs is the persistence of undisturbed topsoil, and disturbed soil is anathema to these plant species. The gravel-diggings represent multiple discrete areas of historical soil disturbance scattered widely over the site. It also appears likely that this activity involved the removal of trees and tree roots for access purposes, resulting in additional soil disturbance as well as concomitant loss of trees. The ancient woodland flora we see today is therefore a spatially fragmented one, persisting in areas of undisturbed soil interstitial to the gravel diggings. This flora will, given time eventually colonise the previously disturbed areas.

### Overshading

There are many areas of the woodland floor which have become are densely overshaded by large number of sapling trees, inhibiting the growth of characteristic woodland ground flora. Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) presents a serious problem in many areas, while in particular areas other species such a fast-growing yew (*Taxus baccata*) saplings create areas of dense shade.

In the absence of coppicing or other forms of traditional woodland management, it is suggested that carefully selected areas which are densely overgrown with young sycamores should be cleared or treated to open up patches of woodland floor in order to encourage the characteristic flora. In addition, where a large tree falls leaving a temporary clearing, such opportunities might be taken to establish the resulting gaps in the canopy as permanent woodland clearings.

### Hertfordshire Red Data Species

Hertfordshire lies on the north boundary of Stanmore Common, and the flora and habitats of the Common can be therefore expected to share features with both Hertfordshire and Greater London. Up-to-date and detailed information on Hertfordshire's botany has recently become available with the publication of a new flora of that county (James, 2009), which includes a Red Data List of Hertfordshire plants. Those species recorded at the Common and which appear as 'Rare' in the Hertfordshire Red Data list (five or fewer current localities in the County) are listed here to additionally inform the site's management.

Common name	Scientific name	Comments
Bitter-vetch	Lathyrus linifolius	Recorded by Sean Tobin in the period 1989-1992. Current status at the Common uncertain, and this species should be sought.
Marsh willowherb	Epilobium palustre	Recorded by Joanne Colthup (2009) and by Jack Phillips in 1977. Requires monitoring.
Heath rush	Juncus squarrosus	Recorded by the author in 2009 and again at the same location in 2010. Requires monitoring.
Solomon's-seal	Polygonatum?multiflorum	Single plants recorded at two locations in the course of this survey. Identification to be confirmed.
Heath spotted orchid	Dactylorhiza maculata	Under current management and monitoring at Stanmore Common. 40+ plants counted by Tony Lovegrove in 2010.

#### Mosses

Limited and selective recording of mosses was undertaken in the course of the survey. Two types of readily recognisable mosses were recorded to genus level only.

Common name	Scientific name Comments
Bog Mosses Sphagnum spp.	Sphagnum mosses are very scarce in London, and Stanmore Common's bogmoss flora should be considered as important to London as a whole.
	Three species were recorded here by Christine Reiser (unpublished data) in the period 1991-1997. These were <i>S. palustre</i> , <i>S. flexuosum</i> (as <i>S. recurvum</i> v. ambyphyllum) and a species recorded as <i>S. auriculatum</i> var. aur. which might have been <i>S. inundatum</i> , a species recorded at the Common as <i>Sphagnum subsecundum auriculatum</i> in Kent (2000). The number of species currently present at the Common remains to be determined.
	Sphagnum mosses exist in a small number of very vulnerable colonies at locations which were mapped in the course of the current survey. Following discussions with the Simon Braidman, the Volunteer Warden, it was decided to keep these localities confidential due the known threat of its collection for use in hanging baskets. This has taken place in the past at the Common (J. Dobson pers. obs.), and is a problem nationally where on occasion the police have become involved and prosecution sought. Subsequently the 'Sphagnum' layer in the GIS map of the site prepared by the author in the course of this survey is to be held as confidential by the Council, and although available to the warden and selected individuals, will not be published in any form.
Hair Mosses Polytrichum spp.	Like bog mosses, hair mosses are easy to recognise as a group, and although by no means as regionally rare as bog mosses they are very locally distributed in London.
	Unlike bog mosses, where different species may vary in the degree of shade they require in exclusively damp habitats, different species of hair moss may occur in wet or dry situations and in shady and open habitats, including some which are characteristic heathland flora. Christine Reiser (unpublished data) recorded <i>Polytrichum commune</i> and <i>P. formosum</i> at the Common and two additional species are given by Kent (2000); <i>P. piliferum</i> and <i>P. juniperum</i> .
	Hair mosses were recorded to compartment level in this survey. The number of species currently present at the Common remains to be determined.

### Species thought to be currently under threat or recently extinct at Stanmore Common

This is not an exclusive list, but includes species whose unfavourable status at the Common was highlighted by the current survey. It includes regional rarities such as corn-mint as well as widespread species (and one non-native species) where these are thought to be of particular value to the Common. Casual annuals are not considered. The species statuses (capitalised) reflect the opinion of the author.

Marsh pennywort	Hydrocotyle vulgaris	RECENTLY EXTINCT: Recently extinct. Most recent record: J. Dobson, 2001
Sneezewort	Achillea ptarmica	RECENTLY EXTINCT?: Possibly recently extinct. Most recent record: S. Braidman, 2003
Bitter vetch	Lathyrus linifolius	DATA DEFICIENT: Regionally rare; current status at the Common uncertain. Most recent record: S. Tobin, 1989-1992.
Meadowsweet	Filipendula ulmaria	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED. A long-standing clump in a vulnerable position near the car park on a main access route onto the Common. The clump has progressively shrunk over the years to 2-3 stems in 2010. Not a scarce species regionally, but characteristic of damp grassland at the Common. Most recent record: J. Dobson, 2010
Michaelmas daisy	Aster sp.	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED. A long-standing clump in Bluebell Heath East. It might persist beneath bracken but could not be located in 2010. A common non-native species, but a valued asset at the Common as an Autumn nectar source. A small number of plants persist in Holly Wood (comp. 11) growing in shade near Warren Lane. Most recent record: J. Dobson, 2010
Hemlock water- dropwort	Oenanthe crocata	VULNERABLE TO EXTINCTION: In 2010 contractors decimated the long-standing colony of this plant at the Common where it grows in a ditch on the LNR by Belswood Cottage. It is a scarce species regionally, with only 10 known sites in Hertfordshire (James, 2009). It should recover in 2011 but only if allowed to do so without annual 'tidying'. Most recent record: J. Dobson, 2010
Corn mint	Mentha arvensis	VULNERABLE TO EXTINCTION: A long-standing small patch of this regional rarity was formerly recorded for many years growing among grassland in Holly Brook Rise. When this colony disappeared it was thought to be extinct at the Common (and in Harrow). The species was then rediscovered on the margin of Tyke's Water by Tony Lovegrove in 2009, where a small number of plants grow in a vulnerable situation. It is unclear as yet whether the Holly Brook Rise colony is still present. Most recent record: Tony Lovegrove, 2010.
Soft shield-fern	Polystichum setiferum	VULNERABLE TO EXTINCTION: Recorded at a single locality on a watercourse immediately downstream of a colony of Japanese knotweed which is likely to receive chemical treatment. Most recent record: J. Dobson, 2010
Wild privet	Ligustrum vulgare	VULNERABLE TO EXTINCTION: Recorded at a single locality growing amongst Japanese knotweed which is likely to receive chemical treatment. Most recent record: J. Dobson, 2010

Species newly recorded at the site following the heather introduction project

The species listed here were either imported with the heather seed from Hounslow Heath or pre-existed in the soil bank at Stanmore Common and were encouraged to germinate by the scrape. Although unfortunately no pre-scrape survey was done, it is thought by the author and others that none of these species were previously present at the Common, at least in recent times.

The species here include those characteristic of dry habitats such as well-drained bare soil (the current conditions in New Heath), and species of damper or shadier conditions. The latter are thought unlikely to persist at the Common due to lack of suitable habitat. These are indicated by 'DRY' or 'WET' respectively. The dry habitat species should be managed as heathland flora.

In order to further inform speculation on the origin of these species at the Common, those which occur on the current plant list for Hounslow Heath (Chris Slack, pers. comm.) are also indicated here. Additional research would be required to determine which of these are historically recorded for Stanmore Common or Hounslow Heath. It is known for example that a single example of green-ribbed sedge (*Carex binervis*) was recorded at Stanmore Common in 1983 by the LNHS (Rodney Burton, pers. comm.).

Common Name	Scientific Name	Habitat Preference	Currently recorded at Hounslow Heath
Lesser pond-sedge	Carex acutiformis	WET	N
Bulbous rush	Juncus bulbosus	WET	N
Wood small-reed	Calamagrostis epigejos	WET	N
Green-ribbed sedge	Carex binervis	DRY	N
Mat grass	Nardus stricta	DRY	Υ
Heath grass	Danthonia decumbens	DRY	Υ
Hard-fern	Blechnum spicant	DRY	N
Brown bent	Agrostis vinealis	DRY	N

#### First records and first recent records for the site

These are the 60 plant species which appear, on the basis of the evidence available to the author, to be those recorded at the Common during this survey for the first time in recent history. Further evidence from local recorders is likely of course to refute that in some instances. This does not represent a 'new to the Common' list, as considerable additional research would be required to construct such a list. The list includes many common and easily-recorded species as well as scarce species and non-native colonisers of the Common.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Common Name	Scientific Name
Hard-fern	Blechnum spicant	Black horehound	Ballota nigra
Spruce sp.	Picea sp.	Yellow archangel	Lamiastrum galeobdolon
		(variegated)	ssp. argentatum
Nootka cypress	Xanthocyparis nootkatensis	Narrow-leaved ash	Fraxinus angustifolia
Greater celandine	Chelidonium majus	Wild privet	Ligustrum vulgare
London plane	Platanus x hispanica	Red bartsia	Odontites vernus
Copper beech	Fagus sylvatica f. purpurea	Heath speedwell	Veronica officinalis
Sessile oak	Quercus petraea	Cornflower	Centaurea cyanus
Equal-leaved knotgrass	Polygonum arenastrum	Traveller's joy	Clematis vitalba
Lime	Tilia x europaea	Prickly lettuce	Lactuca serriola
White willow	Salix alba	Hoary ragwort	Senecio erucifolius
Mock orange	Philadelphus coronarius	Perennial sow-thistle	Sonchus arvensis
Black currant	Ribes nigra	Common duckweed	Lemna minor
Gooseberry	Ribes uva-crispa	Bulbous rush	Juncus bulbosus
Orpine	Sedum telephium	Dense-headed heath wood-rush	Luzula multiflora ssp. congesta
Wall cotoneaster	Cotoneaster horizontalis	Lesser pond-sedge	Carex acutiformis
Meadowsweet	Filipendula ulmaria	Grey sedge	Carex divulsa
Wild strawberry	Fragaria vesca	Remote sedge	Carex remota
Bird cherry	Prunus padus	Bristle club-rush	Isolepis setacea
Firethorn sp.	Pyracantha sp.	Velvet bent	Agrostis canina
Raspberry	Rubus idaeus	Black bent	Agrostis gigantea
Spotted medick	Medicago arabica	Brown bent	Agrostis vinealis
Common vetch	Vicia sativa	False brome	Brachypodium sylvaticum
Short-fruited willowherb	Epilobium obscurum	Soft-brome	Bromus hordaceus
Common evening-primrose	Oenothera biennis	Wood small-reed	Calamagrostis epigejos
Spindle	Euonymus europaeus	Heath-grass	Danthonia decumbens
French crane's-bill	Geranium endressii	Wall barley	Hordeum murinum
Shining crane's-bill	Geranium lucidum	Mat-grass	Nardus stricta
Corn parsley	Petroselinum segetum	Tall fescue	Schedonorus arundinaceus
Greater periwinkle	Vinca major	Bread wheat	Triticum aestivum
Lesser periwinkle (variegated)	Vinca minor 'Argentovariegata'	Summer snowflake	Leucojum aestivum
,	-		ssp. pulchellum

### Invasive and 'pest' Species

Schedule 9 part 2 (plants) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (updated 2010) lists species which cannot be lawfully introduced to- or cultivated in the wild. Five of the plant species recorded at the Common are included in Schedule 9. They are:-

Japanese knotweed	Fallopia japonica	Water fern	Azolla filiculoides
Rhododendron	Rhododendron ponticum	Wall cotoneaster	Cotoneaster horizontalis
Yellow archangel	Lamiastrum galeobdolon ssp.		
(variegated)	argentatum		

It should be noted that any attempt to eradicate Rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) on the Common is unlikely to be sustainable unless this plant is also eradicated where it grows as a dominant species adjacent to the Common within adjoining properties. It grows in dense stands to the west margin- and to part of the south margin of Grove Estate, and also in dense stands to the west margin and probably elsewhere in Clutterbucks Wood. Neither of these areas was surveyed in 2010, although inspection from the fence-line and the 2003 GLA Borough Survey of Harrow suggest that both have significant ecological value, and indeed both areas are included within the Site of Metropolitan Importance.

Whilst some species such as bracken are considered invasive wherever they occur, others only behave in an invasive manner in some circumstances. The following is a list of species (excluding those on Schedule 9) which appeared in the course of the survey to be behaving in an invasive manner, either throughout their range at the Common, or more locally and in particular circumstances. This includes native species where their numbers and density appeared to be shading-out or 'blanketing' the characteristic flora, potentially leading to loss of biodiversity. In some area for example rowan saplings (*Sorbus aucuparia*), normally considered a desirable species, forms a dense near-monoculture at the Common. Conversely the non-native Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*), which in frequently an invasive species in woodlands, is too scarce at the Common to be considered invasive (yet).

Lesser periwinkle (*Vinca minor*), which is an archaeophyte (referring to non-native plants introduced to the British Isles prior to 1492) was recorded as an invasive species exclusively in Heathbourne Wood (comp. 3) where it forms dense carpets on streamside marshy areas, to the exclusion of valuable native flora such as bog stitchwort (*Stellaria alsine*), marsh bedstraw (*Galium palustre*) and bog moss (*Sphagnum* sp.).

Common Name	Scientific Name
Bracken	Pteridium aquilinum
Yew	Taxus baccata
Turkey oak	Quercus cerris
Cherry laurel	Prunus laurocerasus
Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia
Sycamore	Acer pseudoplatanus
Lesser periwinkle	Vinca minor
Ash	Fraxinus excelsior
Snowberry	Symphoriocarpus albus
Purple moor-grass	Molinia caerulea
Spanish bluebell	Hyacinthoides hispanica

Species which have been recorded at Stanmore Common and which Plantlife (2010) believes should be added to Schedule 9:

Common Name	Scientific Name	Notes
False acacia	Robinia pseudoacacia	Comps. 14a & 14b in current survey
Evergreen oak	Quercus ilex	Comps. 14a & 14b in LCS survey (Riley, J. 2007).  Not in current survey
Turkey oak	Quercus cerris	Recorded from seventeen comps. in current survey

## Outstanding Identification Issues

## The following provisional identifications appear for the reasons given:

Solomon's seal	Polygonatum multiflorum	Two non-flowering specimens approximating to this scarce native species were recorded at widely separate locations. The likely alternative identification is angular Solomon's-seal ( <i>Polygonatum odoratum</i> ) a naturalised garden escape previously recorded at the Common by Sean Tobin. Identification pending discovery of the species in flower
Spruce sp.	<i>Picea</i> sp.	Tiny seedlings growing on the scrape at New Heath are provisionally recorded as a spruce species. Identification pending discovery of a more mature example

### Table of Fauna recorded during the Survey

88 animal species were recorded as casual records in the course of the botanical survey. Of these 10 are verbal record from anglers (indicated under Notes). The BAP status of species is given

Common Name	Scientific Name	Notes
MAMMALS		
Grey squirrel	Sciurus carolinensis	Schedule 9, W&C Act
Mole	Talpa europaea	Records of molehills
Reeves muntjac	Muntiacus reevesi	Schedule 9, W&C Act
Rabbit	Oryctolagus cuniculus	
Bank vole	Clethrionomys glareolus	From field-signs. To be confirmed
BIRDS		
Blackbird	Turdus merula	
Blackcap	Sylvia atricapilla	
Blue-tit	Cyanistes caeruleus	
Buzzard	Buteo buteo	
Carrion crow	Corvus corone	
Chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs	
Chiffchaff	Phylloscopus collybita	
Coal-tit	Parus ater	
Coot	Fulica atra	
Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus	UK- & London BAP Priority Species
Goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis	ore a condon by a 1 horry opened
Great spotted woodpecker	Dendrocopos major	
Great-tit	Parus major	
Green woodpecker	Picus viridis	
Grey heron	Ardea cinerea	
House martin	Delichon urbicum	
House sparrow	Passer domesticus	UK- & London BAP Priority Species
Jay	Garrulus glandarius	ore a conden by a money epocles
Long-tailed tit	Aegithalos caudatus	
Magpie	Pica pica	
Moorhen	Gallinula chloropus	
Nuthatch	Sitta europaea	
Robin	Erithacus rubecula	
Song thrush	Turdus philomelos	UK- & London BAP Priority Species
Tawny owl	Strix aluco	ore a condon by a 1 hority opened
Tree-creeper	Certhia familiaris	
Willow-warbler	Phylloscopus trochilus	
Woodpigeon	Columba palumbus	
Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes	
FISH		
Bream	Abramis brama	Verbal record from anglers
Carp	Cypinus carpio	Verbal record from anglers
Crucian carp	Carassius carassius	Verbal record from anglers
Perch	Percia fluviatilis	Verbal record from anglers
Pike	Esox lucius	Verbal record from anglers
Roach	Rutilus rutilus	Verbal record from anglers
Tench	Tinca tinca	Verbal record from anglers

# Table of Fauna (continued)

Common Name	Scientific Name	Notes
REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS		
Frog	Rana temporaria	Harrow BAP Priority Species.
Grass snake	Natrix natrix	Verbal record from anglers UK, London and Harrow BAP Priority Species
[Red-eared] terrapin	Chrysemys scripta subsp. elegans	Verbal record from anglers. Species unconfirmed
Toad	Bufo bufo	UK, London and Harrow BAP Priority Species
INVERTEBRATES		
Brown tree-ant	Lasius brunneus	
Buff-tailed bumble-bee	Bombus terrestris	
Common carder-bee	Bombus pascuorum	
Honey bee	Apis melifera	
	Pompilidae spp.	
Spider-hunting wasps		First record at the Common
Hornet	Vespa crabro	First record at the Common
Ground beetles.	Carabidae spp.	
7-spot ladybird	Coccinella septempunctata	
Harlequin ladybird	Harmonia axyridis	
Hawthorn jewel beetle	Agrilus sinuatus	
A longhorn beetle	Rutpela maculata	
[American signal] crayfish	Pacifastacus leniusculus	Verbal record from anglers. Species unconfirmed. Schedule 9, W&C Act
Common bee-fly	Bombylius major	
St. Mark's fly	Bibio marci	
A hoverfly	Brachypalpoides lenta	
Comma	Polygonia c-album	
Common blue	Polyommatus icarus	
Gatekeeper	Pyronia tithonus	
Green-veined white	Pieris napi	
Large skipper	Ochlodes venata	
Large white	Pieris brassicae	
Marbled white	Melanargia galathea	
Meadow brown	Maniola jurtina	
Orange-tip	Anthocharis cardamines	
Peacock butterfly	Inachis io	
Small copper	Lycaena phlaeas	
Small skipper	Thymelicus sylvestris	
Small white	Pieris rapae	
Speckled wood	Pararge aegeria	
White admiral	Ladoga camilla	UK- & London BAP Priority Species
DeGeer's longhorn	Nemophora degeerella	
Silver-Y	Autographa gamma	
Blue-tailed damselfly	Ischnurea elegans	
Common blue damselfly	Enallagma cyathigerum	
Common darter	Sympetrum striolatum	
Brown hawker	Aeshna grandis	
Migrant hawker	Aeshna mixta	Record questionable due to early date
Southern hawker	Aeshna cyanea	The question and to during duto

# Table of Fauna (continued)

Common Name	Scientific Name	Notes
Common green grasshopper	Omocestus viridulus	
Meadow grasshopper	Chorthippus parallelus	
Long-winged cone-head	Conocephalus discolor	First record at the Common (Simon Braidman)
Slender ground-hopper	Tetrix subulata	
White cross garden spider	Aranaeus diademata	Det. Simon Braidman
A scorpion fly	Panorpa sp.	

## Target Notes

A GIS map of Stanmore Common LNR was developed as part of this survey project and this was also published in pdf format. The following labels appear on the map to indicate various features of interest (Target Notes). Users of the map might find it convenient to copy these pages to accompany the map.

Target Note No.	Description	Comp. No.
T01.1	Sessile Oak	1
T01.2	Sessile Oak	1
T01.3	One of three carpets of wood sorrel known at the Common	1
T01.4	Landmark: The highpoint of the horse ride at the north east of the Common	1
W1 C01	Flushed Area	1
W2 C01	Flushed Area	1
W3 C01	Flushed Area	1
W4 C01	Flushed Area	1
W5 C01	Flushed Area	1
T02.1	The most extensive carpet of hair moss recorded at the Common	2
W1 C02	Flushed Area	2
W2 C02	Flushed Area	2
W3 C02	Flushed Area	2
W4 C02	Flushed Area	2
T03.1	Soft Shield-fern - its only known locality at the Common	3
T03.2	One of three carpets of wood sorrel known at the Common	3
T03.3	Hemlock Water-dropwort: The site of Harrow's long-standing colony of this Notable plant - currently (2010) under threat	3
W1 C03	Inflow	3
W2 C03	Inflow	3
W3 C03	Inflow	3
W4 C03	Flushed Area	3
T04.1	Landmark: A series of tree-roots crossing the surface of the path which descends to the south east. A useful landmark for the lost.	4
T04.2	One of three colonies of apparently native lily-of-the-valley recorded at the site.	4
W1 C04	Marshy Area	4
W2 C04	Marshy Area	4
W1 C05	The flush which crosses Bluebell Heath East runs into The Heathbourne here	5
T06.1	A small clearing dominated by a large beech.	6
T06.2	A small bird cherry growing in the woodland edge	6
W1 C06	Inflow	6
W2 C06	Marshy Area	6
W3 C06	Marshy Area	6
W4 C06	Seasonal Pond	6
W5 C06	Seasonal Pond	6
W6 C06	Seasonal Pond	6
W1 C07a	Carr-like Habitat	07a
W2 C07a	Carr-like Habitat	07a
T07b.1	The only alders recorded in the course of the 2010 botanical survey	07b
T08.1	Landmark: A Round Barrow: A 'name of convenience', in use until the true nature of this circular mound-with ditch can be determined	8
T08.2	Landmark: A Pillow Mound: An artificial rabbit warren	8
T08.3	The only spindle recorded in the course of the 2010 survey	8
	•	

# Target Notes (continued)

Target Note No.	Description	Comp. No.
W1 C08	Flushed Area	8
W2 C08	Marshy Area	8
W3 C08	Marshy Area	8
W4 C08	Marshy Area	8
W1 C09	Flushed Area	9
W2 C09	Flushed Area	9
W3 C09	Flushed Area	9
W4 C09	Inflow	9
T10b.1	One of three carpets of wood sorrel known at the Common	10b
W1 C10b	Seasonal Pond	10b
W2 C10b	Seasonal Pond	10b
T11.1	The London Loop	11
T11.2	The only wild service tree ( <i>Sorbus torminalis</i> ) recorded in the course of the 2010 survey. A young tree	11
T12a.1	The London Loop	12a
T12b.1	The westerly extent of the main wet habitats within the woodland	12b
T13.1	The western extent of the main wet habitats within the woodland	13
T13.2	Drain: inflow or outflow to be determined	13
T13.3	A small number of rabbit burrows	13
T14a.1	Thought to be one of the best examples of bare soil habitat in	14a
	Harrow; used as a nesting site by a variety of solitary bees. A Harrow BAP Priority Habitat.	
T15.1	Warren Lane Car Park	15
T16a.1	Benches	16a
W1 C16a	Flushed Area	16a
W1 C16b	Flushed Area	16b
T16c.1	Landmark: A large oak marking the beginning of a woodland footpath	16c
W1 C16c	Flushed Area	16c
T17.1	Heather Regeneration Area	17
T17.2	Heather Regeneration Area	17
T18.1	Landmark: A large multi-trunked oak tree	18
T18.2	Heather Regeneration Area	18
T18.3	Heather Regeneration Area	18
T18.4	Heather Regeneration Area	18
T19.1	One of three colonies of lily-of-the-valley recorded at the site.	19
T19.2	Heather Regeneration Area	19
T19.3	Heather Regeneration Area	19
T20a.1	Botanically important habitat to the west of the compartment	20a
T20a.2	Heather Regeneration Area	20a
T20a.3	Heather Regeneration Area	20a
T20a.4	Heather Regeneration Area	20a
W1 C20a	Flushed Area	20a
W2 C20a	Seasonal Pond	20a
W3 C20a	Seasonal Pond	20a
T20b.1	A large veteran crab apple	20b
W1 C20b	Flushed area	20b
T21.1	Soil mound resulting from the creation of the scrape in 2007 (West)	21
T21.2	Soil mound resulting from the creation of the scrape in 2007 (East)	21
T22.1	A large and ancient hawthorn	22

### Target Notes (continued)

Target Note No.	Description	Comp. No.
W1 C23	Flushed Area	23
W2 C23	Flushed Area	23
WX Brindle	Outflow from the Common	Outside LNR
WX Clutterbucks	Outflow from the Common	Outside LNR

## Note on the Survey Data Spreadsheet

The spreadsheet accompanying this report comprises four pages:

- SC [Stanmore Common] Survey 2010 Plant Records: This is discussed in Appendix

   Note that this spreadsheet includes data from a range of sources, and users might wish to filter the data using the right hand column 'Survey Name' for analysis and export purposes
- 2. Compartment Details: A summary of statistics for each Compartment
- Target Notes: A key to the Target Notes included on the accompanying GIS and pdf maps of the LNR
- 4. **Fauna Records**: Records of the fauna observed in the course of the botanical survey.

#### **APPENDICES**

### Appendix 1: Checklist of the Flora of Stanmore Common LNR (2010)

A total of 2634 taxon records are held on the Stanmore Common spreadsheet. Of these, 2001 records in 307 taxa were added by the Make Natural survey. Of the remaining 633, 328 records originate from Sean Tobin and 305 from other sources. Older historical records, including records of species which are considered to be long-extinct at the Common are not included.

All records in the Make Natural survey include location data to Compartment level. Of the remaining 633 records, 409 are recorded simply as Stanmore Common, without sub-locality.

The following checklist of the flora of Stanmore Common LNR includes 393 species/subspecies. 14 of these are presumed or likely to have become extinct within recent decades, and these are indicated with annotations. In addition to the current flora as recorded in 2010, this checklist includes those which are known to have occurred at the Common in recent decades as casuals, as well as a number of species whose current status at the Common remains unclear. This species list is not to be regarded as comprehensive and it is fully expected that records of additional species will be added to it in future.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Equisetaceae		
Equisetum arvense	Field horsetail	
Equisetum telmateia	Great horsetail	
Polypodiaceae		
Polypodium interjectum	Intermediate polypody	
Dennstaedtiaceae		
Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken	
Aspleniaceae		
Asplenium scolopendrium	Hart's tongue	
Woodsiaceae		
Athyrium filix-femina	Lady-fern	
Dryopteridaceae		
Dryopteris dilatata	Broad buckler-fern	
Dryopteris filix-mas	Male-fern	
Polystichum setiferum	Soft shield-fern	
Blechnaceae		
Blechnum spicant	Hard-fern	
Azollaceae		
Azolla filiculoides	Water fern	
Pinaceae		
Larix decidua	European larch	
Picea sp.	Spruce sp.	Seedlings on New Heath. ID requires confirmation
Pinus sylvestris	Scots pine	

Cupressaceae     Xanthocyparis nootkatensis     Nootka cypress       Taxaceae     Yew       Nymphaeaceae     Nymphaea alba     White water-lily     Possibly extinct       Ranunculaceae     Anemone nemorosa     Wood anemone       Aquilegia vulgaris     Columbine     Clematis vitalba       Ficaria verna subsp. fertilis     Lesser celandine       Ficaria verna subsp. verna     Lesser celandine       Ranunculus acris     Meadow buttercup       Ranunculus flammula     Lesser spearwort       Ranunculus flammula     Lesser spearwort       Ranunculus flammula     Lesser spearwort       Ranunculus repens     Creeping buttercup       Berberidacea     Vereping buttercup       Berberidacea     Furgenone mexicana     Mexican poppy       Chelidonium majus     Greater celandine       Fumariaceae     Fumariaceae       Fumaria officinalis     Common fumitory       Pseudofumaria lutea     Yellow corydalis       Platanaceae       Platanaceae     London plane       Ulmas procera     English elm       Cannabaceae     Humulus lupulus     Hop       Urticaceae     Common nettle       Fagaceae     Common nettle       Castanea sativa     Sweet chestnut       Fagus sylvatica     Beech	Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Taxaceae Taxus baccata Yew  Nymphaeaceae Nymphaea alba White water-lily Possibly extinct  Ranunculaceae Anemone nemorosa Aquilegia vulgaris Columbine Clematis vitalba Traveller's joy Ficaria verna subsp. fertilis Ficaria verna subsp. verna Ranunculus acris Ranunculus sublosus Ranunculus bulbosus Ranunculus sublosus Ranunculus flammula Lesser celandine Ranunculus repens Creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens Creeping buttercup  Berberidacea Mahonia aquilolium Oregon-grape Papaveraceae Argemone mexicana Chelidonium majus Greater celandine Fumariaceae Fumaria officinalis Posudofumaria lutea Yellow corydalis Platanus x hispanica London plane Ulmus procera Cannabaceae Humulus lupulus Hop Urticaceae Urtica dioica Common nettle Fagaceae Castanea sativa Fagus sylvatica Fagus sylvatica Fagus sylvatica f, purpurea Quercus cerris Turkey oak Quercus petraea	Cupressaceae		
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Mahonia aquifoliumOregon-grapePapaveraceaeMexican poppyChelidonium majusGreater celandineFumariaceaeFumaria officinalisCommon fumitoryPseudofumaria luteaYellow corydalisPlatanaceaePlatanus x hispanicaLondon planeUlmaceaeEnglish elmCannabaceaeHopHumulus lupulusHopUrticaceaeUrtica dioicaCommon nettleFagaceaeCastanea sativaSweet chestnutFagus sylvaticaBeechFagus sylvatica f. purpureaCopper beechQuercus cerrisTurkey oakQuercus petraeaSessile oak	Ranunculus repens	Creeping buttercup	
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Fagus sylvatica f. purpurea  Quercus cerris  Quercus ilex  Quercus petraea  Copper beech  Turkey oak  Evergreen (Holm) oak  Sessile oak	Castanea sativa	Sweet chestnut	
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Quercus ilexEvergreen (Holm) oakQuercus petraeaSessile oak	Fagus sylvatica f. purpurea	Copper beech	
Quercus petraea Sessile oak	Quercus cerris	Turkey oak	
	Quercus ilex	Evergreen (Holm) oak	
Quercus robur Pedunculate oak	Quercus petraea	Sessile oak	
	Quercus robur	Pedunculate oak	

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Betulaceae		
Alnus glutinosus	Alder	
Betula pendula	Silver birch	
Betula pubescens	Downy birch	
Carpinus betulus	Hornbeam	
Corylus avellana	Hazel	
Chenopodiaceae		
Atriplex patula	Common orache	
Chenopodium album	Fat-hen	
Chenopodium polyspermum	Many-seeded goosefoot	
Caryophyllaceae		
Cerastium fontanum	Common mouse-ear	
Lychnis flos-cuculi	Ragged robin	
Moehringia trinervia	Three-nerved sandwort	
Myosoton aquaticum	Water chickweed	Record requires confirmation
Sagina procumbens	Procumbent pearlwort	
Silene dioica	Red campion	
Silene latifolia	White campion	
Stellaria alsine	Bog stitchwort	
Stellaria graminea	Lesser stitchwort	
Stellaria holostea	Greater stitchwort	
Stellaria media	Common chickweed	
Polygonaceae		
Fallopia japonica	Japanese knotweed	
Persicaria amphibia	Amphibious bistort	
Persicaria hydropiper	Water-pepper	
Persicaria lapathifolia	Pale persicaria	
Persicaria maculosa	Redshank	
Polygonum arenastrum	Equal-leaved knotgrass	
Polygonum aviculare	Knotgrass	
Rumex acetosa	Common sorrel	
Rumex acetosella	Sheep's sorrel	
Rumex conglomeratus	Clustered dock	
Rumex crispus	Curled dock	
Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved dock	
Rumex sanguineus	Wood dock	
Clusiaceae		
Hypericum humifusum	Trailing St John's-wort	Possibly extinct
Hypericum perforatum	Perforate St John's-wort	
Hypericum pulchrum	Slender St John's-wort	
Hypericum tetrapterum	Square-stalked St John's-wort	

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Tiliaceae		
Tilia x europaea	Lime	
Malvaceae		
Malva neglecta	Dwarf mallow	
Violaceae		
Viola odorata	Sweet violet	
Viola riviniana	Common dog violet	
Salicaceae		
Populus alba	White poplar	
Populus tremula	Aspen	
Salix alba	White willow	
Salix caprea	Goat willow	
Salix cinerea	Grey willow	
Salix fragilis	Crack-willow	
Salix x sepulcralis	Weeping willow	
Brassicaceae		
Alliaria petiolata	Garlic mustard	
Arabidopsis thaliana	Thale cress	
Armoracia rusticana	Horse-radish	
Barbarea vulgaris	Winter-cress	
Brassica nigra	Black mustard	
Capsella bursa-pastorius	Shepherd's-purse	
Cardamine flexuosa	Wavy bitter-cress	
Cardamine hirsuta	Hairy bitter-cress	
Cardamine pratensis	Cuckooflower	
Erysimum cheiranthoides	Treacle mustard	
Lunaria annua	Honesty	
Nasturtium officinale	Water-cress	
Rorippa palustris	Marsh yellow-cress	
Sisymbrium officinale	Hedge mustard	
Ericaceae		
Calluna vulgaris	Heather	
Rhododendron ponticum	Rhododendron	
Primulaceae		
Lysimachia nummularia	Creeping-Jenny	
Lysimachia punctata	Dotted loosestrife	
Primula vulgaris	Primrose	
Hydrangeaceae		
· •		

Mock orange

Philadelphus coronarius

**Scientific Name** Common Name **Notes** Grossulariaceae Ribes nigrum Black currant Ribes rubrum Red currant Ribes uva-crispa Gooseberry Crassulaceae Sedum telephium Orpine Saxifragaceae Saxifraga cymbalaria Celandine saxifrage Rosaceae Agrimonia eupatoria Agrimony Cotoneaster horizontalis Wall cotoneaster Crataegus laevigata Midland hawthorn Hawthorn Crataegus monogyna Hybrid hawthorn Crataegus x media Filipendula ulmaria Meadowsweet Fragaria vesca Wild strawberry Geum urbanum Wood avens Malus pumila Apple Malus sylvestris Crab apple Potentilla anserina Silverweed Potentilla erecta Tormentil Potentilla reptans Creeping cinquefoil Prunus avium Wild cherry Prunus domestica subs. Plum Prunus laurocerasus Cherry laurel Prunus padus Bird cherry Prunus spinosa Blackthorn Pyracantha sp. Firethorn sp. Rosa arvensis Field rose Rosa canina Dog-rose Rubus caesius Dewberry Bramble Rubus fruticosus agg. Rubus idaeus Raspberry Whitebeam Sorbus aria agg.

Sorbus torminalis Wild service-tree

Sorbus aucuparia

Rowan

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Fabaceae		
Galega officinalis	Goat's-rue	
Laburnum anagyroides	Laburnum	
Lathyrus linifolius	Bitter-vetch	Status uncertain
Lathyrus pratensis	Meadow vetchling	
Lotus corniculatus	Common bird's-foot-trefoil	
Lotus pedunculatus	Greater bird's-foot-trefoil	
Medicago arabica	Spotted medick	
Medicago lupulina	Black medick	
Ornithopus perpusillus	Bird's-foot	
Robinia pseudoacacia	False-acacia	
Trifolium campestre	Hop trefoil	
Trifolium dubium	Lesser trefoil	
Trifolium pratense	Red clover	
Trifolium repens	White clover	
Ulex europaeus	Gorse	
Vicia sativa	Common vetch	
Vicia sepium	Bush vetch	
Haloragaceae		
Myriophyllum spicatum	Spiked water-milfoil	Presumed extinct
Onagraceae		
Chamerion angustifolium	Rosebay willowherb	
Circaea lutetiana	Enchanter's-nightshade	
Epilobium ciliatum	American willowherb	
Epilobium hirsutum	Great willowherb	
Epilobium montanum	Broad-leaved willowherb	
Epilobium obscurum	Short-fruited willowherb	
Epilobium palustre	Marsh willowherb	
Epilobium parviflorum	Hoary willowherb	
Epilobium tetragonum	Square-stalked willowherb	
Oenothera biennis	Common evening-primrose	
Celastraceae		
Euonymus europaeus	Spindle	
Aquifoliaceae		
llex aquifolium	Holly	
Euphorbiaceae		
Euphorbia helioscopia	Sun spurge	
Euphorbia peplus	Petty spurge	
Mercurialis perennis	Dog's mercury	

**Scientific Name** Common Name Notes Hippocastanaceae Aesculus hippocastanum Horse chestnut Aceraceae Acer platanoides Norway maple Acer pseudoplatanus Sycamore Oxalidaceae Oxalis acetosella Wood sorrel Geraniaceae Geranium dissectum Cut-leaved crane's-bill Geranium endressii French crane's-bill Geranium lucidum Shining crane's-bill Geranium molle Dove's-foot crane's-bill Geranium robertianum Herb-Robert **Araliaceae** Hedera helix lvy **Apiaceae** Ground-elder Aegopodium podagria Aethusa cynapium Fool's parsley Angelica sylvestris Wild angelica Anthriscus sylvestris Cow parsley Chaerophyllum temulum Rough chervil Conopodium majus **Pignut** Heracleum mantegazzianum Giant hogweed Heracleum sphondylium Hogweed Presumed extinct Hydrocotyle vulgaris Marsh pennywort Oenanthe crocata Hemlock water-dropwort Petroselinum segetum Corn parsley Sanicula europaea Sanicle Sison amomum Stone parsley **Apocyanaceae** Vinca major Greater periwinkle Vinca minor Lesser periwinkle Vinca minor 'Argentovariegata' Lesser periwinkle (variegated) Solanaceae Solanum dulcamara Bittersweet Convolvulaceae Calystegia sepium Hedge bindweed Calystegia silvatica Large bindweed Calystegia x lucana Hybrid bindweed Convolvulus arvensis Field bindweed

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Boraginaceae		
Myosotis arvensis	Field forget-me-not	
Myosotis laxa	Tufted forget-me-not	Record requires confirmation
Myosotis scorpioides	Water forget-me-not	
Myosotis sylvatica	Wood forget-me-not	
Pentaglottis sempervirens	Green alkanet	
Pulmonaria officinalis	Lungwort	
Symphytum officinale	Common comfrey	
Symphytum tuberosum	Tuberous comfrey	
Symphytum x uplandicum	Russian comfrey	
Lamiaceae		
Ajuga reptans	Bugle	
Ballota nigra	Black horehound	
Betonica officinalis	Betony	
Galeopsis tetrahit	Common Hemp-nettle	
Glechoma hederacea	Ground-ivy	
Lamiastrum galeobdolon ssp. argentatum	Yellow archangel (variegated)	
Lamium album	White dead-nettle	
Lamium purpureum	Red dead-nettle	
Lycopus europaeus	Gypsywort	
Mentha aquatica	Water mint	
Mentha arvensis	Corn Mint	
Prunella vulgaris	Selfheal	
Scutellaria minor	Lesser skullcap	Presumed extinct
Stachys palustris	Marsh woundwort	
Stachys sylvatica	Hedge woundwort	
Teucrium scordonia	Wood sage	
Callitrichaceae		
Callitriche platycarpa	Various-leaved water-starwort	Presumed extinct
Callitriche stagnalis	Common water-starwort	
Plantaginaceae		
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort plantain	
Plantago major	Greater plantain	
Plantago coronopus	Buck's-horn plantain	
Plantago media	Hoary plantain	Record requires confirmation
Buddlejaceae		
Duddlaia davidii	Duttorfly buch	

Butterfly-bush

Buddleja davidii

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Oleaceae		
Fraxinus angustifolia	Narrow-leaved ash	
Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	
Ligustrum ovalifolium	Garden privet	
Ligustrum vulgare	Wild privet	
Scrophulariaceae		
Digitalis purpurea	Foxglove	
Linaria vulgaris	Common toadflax	
Odontites vernus	Red bartsia	
Scrophularia nodosa	Common figwort	
Verbascum thapsus	Great mullein	
Veronica beccabunga	Brooklime	
Veronica chamaedrys	Germander speedwell	
Veronica filiformis	Slender speedwell	
Veronica hederifolia	lvy-leaved speedwell	
Veronica montata	Wood speedwell	
Veronica officinalis	Heath speedwell	
Veronica persica	Common field-speedwell	
Veronica serpyllifolia	Thyme-leaved speedwell	
Rubiaceae		
Galium mollugo	Hedge bedstraw	
Galium aparine	Cleavers	
Galium palustre	Marsh bedstraw	
Galium saxatile	Heath bedstraw	
Sambucus nigra	Elder	
Caprifoliaceae		
Lonicera periclymenum	Honeysuckle	
Symphoriocarpus albus	Snowberry	
Viburnum opulus	Guelder-rose	
Dipsacaceae		
Dipsacus fullonum	Wild Teasel	

Succisa pratensis

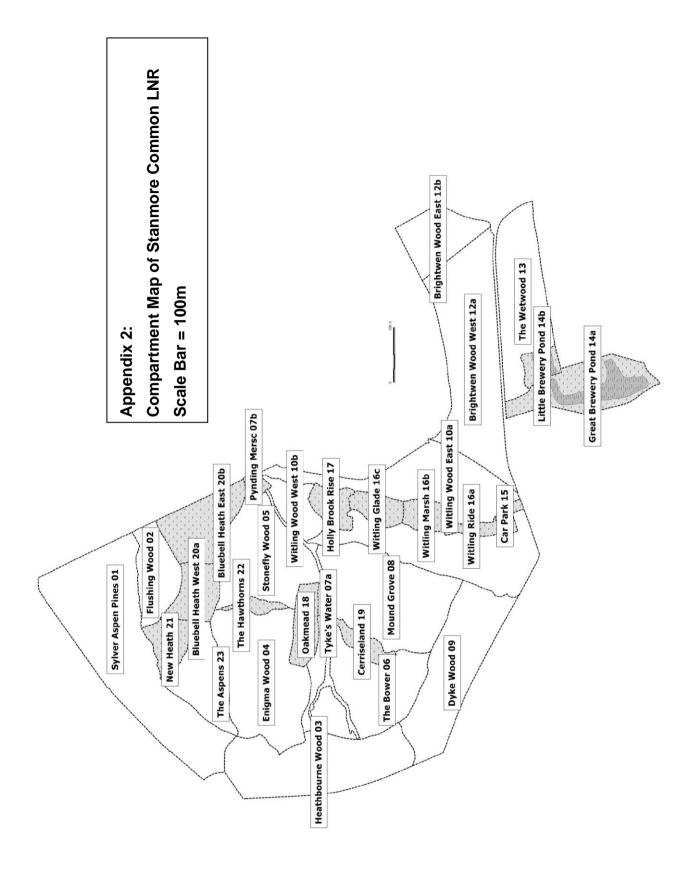
Devil's-bit scabious

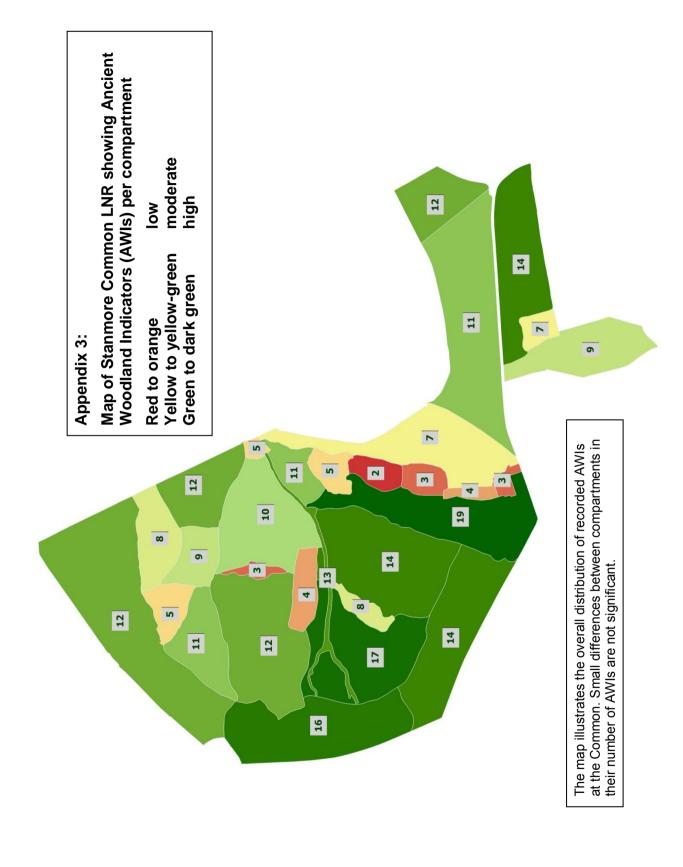
Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Asteraceae		
Achillea millefolium	Yarrow	
Achillea ptarmica	Sneezewort	Possibly extinct
Arctium minus	Lesser burdock	
Artemisia vulgaris	Mugwort	
Aster sp.	Michaelmas daisy	
Bellis perennis	Daisy	
Centaurea cyanus	Cornflower	
Centaurea montana	Perennial cornflower	
Centaurea nigra	Common knapweed	
Cirsium arvense	Creeping thistle	
Cirsium palustre	Marsh thistle	
Cirsium vulgare	Spear thistle	
Crepis capillaris	Smooth hawk's-beard	
Gnaphalium uliginosum	Marsh cudweed	
Hieracium sabaudum	Autumn hawkweed	
Hieracium umbellatum ssp. umbellatum	Umbellate hawkweed	
Hypochaeris radicata	Cat's-ear	
Lactuca serriola	Prickly lettuce	
Lapsana communis	Nipplewort	
Matricaria discoidea	Pineappleweed	
Matricaria recutita	Scented mayweed	
Mycelis muralis	Wall lettuce	
Petasites fragrans	Winter heliotrope	Presumed extinct
Petasites hybridus	Butterbur	
Pilosella officinarum	Mouse-ear hawkweed	
Scorzoneroides autumnalis	Autumn hawkbit	
Senecio erucifolius	Hoary ragwort	
Senecio jacobaea	Common ragwort	
Senecio squalidus	Oxford ragwort	
Senecio vulgaris	Groundsel	
Sonchus arvensis	Perennial sow-thistle	
Sonchus asper	Prickly sow-thistle	
Sonchus oleraceus	Smooth sow-thistle	
Tanacetum parthenium	Feverfew	
Taraxacum sp.	Dandelion	
Tragopogon pratensis	Goat's-beard	
Tussilago farfara	Colt's-foot	

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Potamogetonaceae		
Potamogeton natans	Broad-leaved pondweed	Presumed extinct
Potamogeton obtusifolius	Blunt-leaved pondweed	Presumed extinct
Zannichelliaceae		
Zannichellia palustris	Horned pondweed	Presumed extinct
Araceae		
Arum maculatum	Lords-and-Ladies	
Lemnaceae		
Lemna minor	Common duckweed	
Juncaceae		
Juncus acutiflorus	Sharp-flowered rush	
Juncus articulatus	Jointed rush	
Juncus bufonius	Toad rush	
Juncus bulbosus	Bulbous rush	
Juncus conglomeratus	Compact rush	
Juncus effusus	Soft rush	
Juncus inflexus	Hard rush	
Juncus squarrosus	Heath rush	
Luzula campestris	Field wood-rush	
Luzula multiflora ssp. congesta	Dense-headed heath wood-rush	
Luzula multiflora ssp. multiflora	Heath wood-rush	
Cyperaceae		
Carex acutiformis	Lesser pond-sedge	
Carex binervis	Green-ribbed sedge	
Carex divulsa	Grey sedge	
Carex flacca	Glaucous sedge	
Carex hirta	Hairy sedge	
Carex leporina	Oval sedge	
Carex nigra	Common Sedge	
Carex pendula	Pendulous sedge	
Carex pilulifera	Pill sedge	
Carex pseudocyperus	Cyperus sedge	
Carex remota	Remote sedge	
Carex sylvatica	Wood-sedge	
Isolepis setacea	Bristle club-rush	

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Poaceae		
Agrostis canina	Velvet bent	
Agrostis capillaris	Common bent	
Agrostis gigantea	Black bent	
Agrostis vineale	Brown bent.	
Agrostis stolonifera	Creeping bent	
Aira praecox	Early hair-grass	
Alopecurus geniculatus	Marsh foxtail	
Alopecurus pratensis	Meadow foxtail	
Anisantha sterilis	Barren brome	
Anthoxanthum odoratum	Sweet vernal-grass	
Arrhenatherum elatius	False oat-grass	
Avena sativa	Oat	
Brachypodium sylvaticum	False brome	
Bromopsis ramosa	Hairy-brome	
Bromus hordaceus	Soft-brome	
Calamagrostis epigejos	Wood small-reed	
Dactylis glomerata	Cock's-foot	
Danthonia decumbens	Heath-grass	
Deschampsia cespitosa	Tufted hair-grass	
Deschampsia flexuosa	Wavy hair-grass	
Elymus repens	Common couch	
Festuca filiformis	Fine-leaved sheep's-fescue	
Festuca ovina	Sheep's fescue	
Festuca rubra	Red fescue	
Glyceria declinata	Small sweet-grass	Record requires confirmation
Glyceria fluitans	Floating sweet-grass	
Glyceria maxima	Reed sweet-grass	Presumed extinct
Glyceria notata	Plicate sweet-grass	Record requires confirmation
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire-fog	
Holcus mollis	Creeping soft-grass	
Hordeum murinum	Wall barley	
Lolium perenne	Perennial rye-grass	
Millium effusum	Wood millet	
Molinia caerulea	Purple moor-grass	
Nardus stricta	Mat-grass	
Phalaris arundinacea	Reed canary-grass	
Phleum bertolonii	Smaller cat's-tail	
Phleum pratense	Timothy	
Phragmites australis	Common reed	

**Scientific Name Notes Common Name** Poa annua Annual meadow-grass Poa nemoralis Wood meadow-grass Poa pratensis Smooth meadow-grass Poa trivialis Rough meadow-grass Schedonorus arundinaceus Tall fescue Schedonorus giganteus Giant fescue Trisetum flavescens Yellow oat-grass Triticum aestivum Bread wheat **Typhaceae** Presumed extinct Typha latifolia Bulrush Liliaceae Allium ursinum Ramsons Convallaria majalis Lily-of-the-valley Galanthus sp. Snowdrop sp. Spanish bluebell Hyacinthoides hispanica Hyacinthoides non-scripta Bluebell Leucojum aestivum ssp. pulchellum Summer snowflake Narcissus sp. Daffodil (garden) ID requires confirmation Polygonatum multiflorum Solomon's-seal Polygonatum odoratum Angular Solomon's-seal Iridaceae Yellow iris Iris pseudacorus Dioscoreaceae Tamus communis Black bryony Orchidaceae Dactylorhiza fuchsii Common spotted-orchid Heath spotted-orchid Dactylorhiza maculata Epipactis helleborine Broad-leaved helleborine





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# **Notes**

