

East Anglia THREE

Appendix 23.1

Biological Records Check (East Anglia THREE)

Environmental Statement

Volume 3

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County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Babergh 32
Site Name BURSTALL LONG WOOD
Parish SPROUGHTON
District Babergh
NGR TM106452

Description

Burstall Long Wood is one of a group of ancient woodlands listed on English Nature's Inventory of Ancient Woodland, situated amidst arable fields to the west of Ipswich. It is enclosed on three sides by a ditch and bank; a characteristic feature of ancient woodlands. The district boundary runs through the northern section of the wood and a public footpath adjoins the southern boundary. The tree canopy of the wood consists of ash and field maple coppice with mature oak standards, beneath which is a layer of hazel coppice, elder, hawthorn and blackthorn. Areas of dead and diseased elm and aspen provide a source of decaying timber for invertebrates and hole-nesting birds. The ground flora, although dominated by dog's mercury, also supports many other woodland plants including some which are scarce and restricted to ancient woodlands, for example wood spurge and spurge laurel. Another strong indicator of ancient woodland and a scarce plant in Suffolk, the wild service-tree is also present in Burstall Long Wood. Patches of bluebells, primroses and early purple orchids are scattered throughout and provide a wonderful display of colour in the Spring. The wood contains a pheasant feeder and is used extensively for the rearing of game birds.

RNR Number 0

Area 3.82

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Mid Suffolk 10
Site Name	RIVER GIPPING (Sections)
Parish	Various
District	Mid Suffolk
NGR	TM073568 - TM124471
Description	<p>Many stretches of the River Gipping as it flows between Stowmarket and Ipswich are of considerable conservation value. Some sections support a diverse emergent fringe consisting of reed, pond sedge and bur-reed. This provides suitable habitat for breeding water birds, for example moorhen and coot. Channel vegetation is dominated by yellow water-lily but also contains some uncommon plants, for example arrowhead and spiked water-milfoil. A river corridor survey carried out in 1990 showed that kingfisher, reed bunting, reed and sedge warblers and tufted duck breed on the River Gipping. In addition grey wagtails are known to breed in old river structures, mainly locks, including Baylham Mill Lock and Sharmford Lock amongst many others. Furthermore the River Gipping supports a valuable mixed coarse fishery (Class A). Good populations of roach, dace, eel, tench, perch and pike occur in the river. In addition to its wildlife value the River Gipping is important as a leisure facility. A towpath which runs the length of the valley from Stowmarket to Ipswich is well-used by local people.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	12.62

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Mid Suffolk 100
Site Name	HOGFIELD GROVE
Parish	LITTLE BLAKENHAM
District	Mid Suffolk
NGR	TM108493
Description	<p>Hogfield Grove is a small woodland which is thought to be a fragment of ancient woodland. Situated in the parish of Little Blakenham, it is bordered in the south by a chalk pit which is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest. A woodbank separates the wood from arable fields on the eastern side; the remainder of the wood is enclosed by a fence. Hogfield Grove consists of ash, field maple and hazel coppice in the scrub layer with oak and ash standards forming the tree canopy. A notable feature of the wood is a few overmature cherry trees. Dog's mercury dominates about two thirds of the flora of the wood; bluebell interspersed with patches of bramble cover the rest of the area. A number of uncommon plants, for example foetid iris and early-purple orchid have been recorded in a few places in the wood. The wood is used extensively for pheasant rearing.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	0.86

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Mid Suffolk 11
Site Name BARHAM PITS
Parish BARHAM
District Mid Suffolk
NGR TM120514

Description

Barham Pits are a series of old gravel pits which are situated in the Gipping valley, north of Great Blakenham and east of the A14. The pits are generally deep with steep sides and therefore support little marginal vegetation. Although of little botanical value, the pits are of considerable ornithological importance. They provide food and shelter for significant numbers of wintering wildfowl. Large populations of pochard and tufted duck are regularly seen, with smaller numbers of other duck, for example goldeneye. In Summer, the pits are used by a variety of breeding water birds including good numbers of tufted duck and great crested grebes. In addition, the pits are a regular stop over for birds on passage, for example common tern, common sandpiper and osprey are frequent visitors. Furthermore kingfisher and heron are regularly observed feeding in or around the lakes. Barham Pits are leased to a fishing club and are well-used by local anglers.

RNR Number 0

Area 32.06

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Mid Suffolk 112
Site Name SOMERSHAM PARK
Parish SOMERSHAM
District Mid Suffolk
NGR TM083474

Description

Somersham Park woodland is set amidst arable fields, north of the village of Flowton, and west of Ipswich. It is listed in English Nature's Inventory of Ancient Woodland and the parish boundary between Flowton and Somersham runs along the southern edge. A notable feature of the wood is the distinctive medieval ditch and woodbank which completely encloses the wood. The majority of Somersham Park is composed of ash and field maple coppice with oak standards. A smaller area in the centre of the wood, a plantation of oak and ash (approximately 70% hardwood and 30% softwoods) was planted recently, between ten and twenty years ago. In addition small patches of cherry and aspen are scattered throughout. Hawthorn scrub, including Midland hawthorn, an ancient woodland indicator and other shrubs, for example willow, spindle and elm form a dense shrub layer which is largely restricted to the edges of rides. The shrub layer in the remainder of the wood is sparse. Somersham Park supports a good diversity and an abundance of breeding birds. Cuckoo, nightingale and warblers are amongst the many birds which have been recorded in the wood. The ground flora is rather sparse and is dominated by bramble with dog's mercury and ivy on the margins. Spurge laurel and wood spurge, two ancient woodland indicators have also been recorded. A pond situated on the western boundary although rather overgrown at present supports a good population of both dragonfly and amphibian larvae. A network of footpaths which criss-cross the wood is well used by local people.

RNR Number 0

Area 6.47

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Mid Suffolk 140

Site Name BRAMFORD CHURCHYARD

Parish BRAMFORD

District Mid Suffolk

NGR TM127464

Description

Bramford Churchyard is situated on the outskirts of the village, to the west of the River Gipping. A botanical survey of the churchyard in 1993 recorded nearly one hundred species of flowering plants, although a number of these plants are introduced species and garden escapes. In addition to many common wild flowers eg. ox-eye daisy, the site also supports a number of uncommon Suffolk plants for example burnet-saxifrage, salad burnet and round-leaved crane's-bill. The latter species is nationally scarce ie. a species which occurs in 16-100 10x10km. squares in Great Britain.

RNR Number 0

Area 0.98

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Mid Suffolk 141
Site Name BRAMFORD MEADOWS
Parish BRAMFORD
District Mid Suffolk
NGR TM127467

Description

Bramford Meadows, situated on the outskirts of Ipswich are bordered to the east by the main Ipswich railway line and to the west by the River Gipping and the village of Bramford. The Gipping Valley riverside footpath runs along the length of the meadows. The site which has recently been purchased by Suffolk County Council, consists of a series of low-lying wet meadows which are separated by a number of drainage ditches. The water in these ditches is of a high quality and they support a diverse aquatic and emergent flora. Along the ditch edges can be found water-plantain, purple loosestrife and flowering-rush. The latter species is a scarce plant in Suffolk and is restricted to the fringes of clean watercourses. A detailed invertebrate survey of the meadows carried out in 1993 showed that the site was also of considerable importance for its invertebrate populations. A total of seven species of Orthoptera (grasshoppers and crickets) was recorded during two visits to the site. Of particular importance are the margins of rank vegetation and bare mud along the dyke edges. These habitats were found to contain large populations of two species of bush cricket which are considered to be scarce in the County. Furthermore, the site is also noted for its butterfly fauna; fourteen species were recorded in three visits to the site. Brown Argus, a species with a local distribution in Suffolk confined mainly to Breckland and a few sites in the Gipping Valley, was recorded here in reasonable numbers. d Bramford Meadows have been entered into a Countryside Stewardship agreement and are managed by the Gipping Valley Project to enhance both their wildlife and landscape value.

RNR Number 0

Area 9.04

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Mid Suffolk 145
Site Name	GT BLAKENHAM CHURCHYARD
Parish	GREAT BLAKENHAM
District	Mid Suffolk
NGR	TM118508
Description	<p>Despite its small size, this Churchyard supports a species-rich plant community of conservation importance. In 1992, over one hundred and ten species of flowering plants were recorded here. In addition to a wide range of common wild flowers and garden escapes, the churchyard also supports a number of uncommon Suffolk species for example, meadow saxifrage, early forget-me-not and burnet-saxifrage. Of particular interest is a small population of lesser meadow-rue, a rare plant which has only been recorded from a few sites in Suffolk, mainly in Breckland. Furthermore , a total of seven species of butterfly attracted to the profusion of wild flowers was recorded on the site in 1992. d</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	0.18

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Mid Suffolk 151

Site Name CUBITTS PIT

Parish BRAMFORD

District Mid Suffolk

NGR TM110483

Description

This County Wildlife Site is a small remnant of a much more extensive area of chalk grassland which was once part of Blood Hill SSSI, now de-notified following use of the area for landfill.

The site which is partially enclosed by dense scrub supports an area of unimproved species rich grassland (BAP habitat) which reflects the chalky substrate beneath. Typical plants include fairy flax, pyramidal orchid, southern marsh orchid and wild parsnip.

The site is noted for a large population of Roman snail, one of only a few sites in Suffolk where this species has been recorded. The snail has some protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act.

White letter hairstreak butterfly has also been recorded on the elm around the perimeter of the site.

RNR Number 0

Area 0.58

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Mid Suffolk 156
Site Name NUT TREE COTTAGE MEADOW
Parish LITTLE BLAKENHAM
District Mid Suffolk
NGR TM102494

Description

This County Wildlife Site is located to the north-west of the village of Little Blakenham. It adjoins another species-rich grassland County Wildlife Site which is situated to the south. The chalky soils of Nut Tree Cottage Meadow are colonised by a diverse flora including many plants which are typically associated with unimproved grassland. In addition to a wide range of fairly common wild flowers, e.g. cowslip and agrimony, the site also supports a number of species which are scarce and declining in Suffolk, including yellow-wort, pyramidal orchid and sulphur clover. The latter species is a nationally scarce species which is found only in 15 - 100 10 km squares in the UK. Nut Tree Cottage Meadow represents a valuable fragment of agriculturally unimproved grassland which is the most threatened habitat in Suffolk. The site is therefore a valuable addition to the Register of County Wildlife Sites (Mid Suffolk District).

RNR Number 0

Area 1.97

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Mid Suffolk 166
Site Name	165
Parish	Claydon
District	Mid Suffolk
NGR	TM13294985 - TM13334984
Description	Tower Mustard. This site is also a Roadside Nature Reserve.
RNR Number	165
Area	0.01

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Mid Suffolk 167
Site Name	144
Parish	Claydon
District	Mid Suffolk
NGR	TM12914956 - TM12914956
Description	Chalk flora including Pyramidal orchids. This site is also a Roadside Nature Reserve.
RNR Number	144
Area	0.47

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Mid Suffolk 17

Site Name REDE WOOD

Parish BARHAM

District Mid Suffolk

NGR TM154506

Description

Situated to the south-west of the village of Henley, Rede Wood is an important historical feature of the landscape. An old oak pollard on the woodland boundary is evidence of its antiquity. Rede Wood is a typical boulder clay woodland consisting of ash, oak and hazel in a coppice with standards structure. Other species include field maple, aspen, hawthorn with a small number of planted Scots pines. Comprehensive vegetation studies by the Suffolk Wildlife Trust and Suffolk County Council have recorded one hundred and one species of flowering plant in the wood. Species found include a number of those plants strongly associated with ancient woods, for example wood anemone and wood spurge. Bird's-nest orchid, a rare orchid species is also known to occur in the wood. In addition the wood supports a good diversity of other wildlife, for example forty nine species of fungi have been recorded (Hammond, 1986) and forty five species of bird (Suffolk County Council, 1986) including spotted flycatcher and green woodpecker have been observed. The wood is owned by Suffolk County Council and has been managed according to a management plan by the Gipping Valley Countryside Project since 1982. The current plan proposes that approximately two thirds of the wood will be managed on a two year coppice rotation for ash and a ten year rotation for hazel. Other species will be managed on a twenty year coppice rotation.

RNR Number 0

Area 7.51

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Mid Suffolk 171
Site Name	92
Parish	Flowton
District	Mid Suffolk
NGR	TM08364631 - TM08554648
Description	Sulphur Clover on the North-West side & Man Orchid on the South-East side. This site is also a Roadside Nature Reserve.
RNR Number	92
Area	0.08

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Mid Suffolk 173
Site Name	119
Parish	Little Blakenham
District	Mid Suffolk
NGR	TM 10364896 - TM 10404890
Description	Man orchid. This site is also a Roadside Nature Reserve.
RNR Number	119
Area	0.02

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Mid Suffolk 185
Site Name	COLUMN FIELD UPPER QUARRY
Parish	Great Blakenham
District	Mid Suffolk
NGR	TM 10355020

Description

Survey work carried out at the site during 2004 and 2005 has shown the area to be of high wildlife value and that it meets the CWS selection criteria.

The geology of the pit is distinctive of the Gipping valley, with sand and gravels overlying the Upper Chalk. Similar exposures are localised elsewhere in Suffolk, occurring in limited locations along the Lark valley near Bury St Edmunds and along the periphery of the Brecks associated with the Little Ouse valley.

Quarrying has left exposed sand and chalk in close proximity and steep sand cliffs. This is rarely found in the county and has resulted in the development of a particularly unusual mosaic of habitats on site.

The central area of the site comprises rank grassland, ponds, scrub and successional vegetation that is important for a wide range of birds including breeding little ringed plover, and the UK and Suffolk BAP species skylark, bullfinch, linnet and reed bunting. Other terrestrial birds of interest associated with the grassland include Meadow Pipit, Snipe, Redshank and Jack Snipe. The shallow nature of the ponds and surrounding grassland scrub mosaic also make this an important overwintering site for wildfowl and waders.

Sand martins are confirmed to be breeding in the sand cliff to the east of the central area.

The ponds and associated terrestrial habitat are known to support a medium (11-100) resident breeding population of the protected species, great crested newt and a good breeding population of grass snake.

The pit is also part of the important foraging corridor that the Gipping Valley provides for bats. Daubenton's bats that tend to feed repeatedly over the same stretches of water have been regularly recorded foraging over the pond area of the pit.

The exposures of chalk and sand and thin soils have been colonised by an interesting combination of plants

associated with early successional, chalk and dry grasslands including species such as blue fleabane, common centaury, bee and pyramidal orchids and yellow-wort. The latter is strongly associated with chalky soils and is decreasing in the county.

The mix of sand cliffs, bare ground and grassland provides valuable habitat for a wide range of invertebrates. Of particular interest is the site's significance for aculeate hymenoptera. 50 species have been recorded on the site. Two of these species, bee wolf *Philanthus triangulum* and the 5 banded digger wasp *Cerceris quinquefasciata* are nationally rare and a further six species of solitary mining wasps are nationally scarce.

RNR Number 0

Area 47.45

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Mid Suffolk 188
Site Name	106
Parish	Great Blakenham
District	Mid Suffolk
NGR	TM 119504 - TM 121499
Description	Chalk flora including Pyramidal & Bee Orchid. This is also a Roadside Nature Reserve.
RNR Number	106
Area	0.49

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Mid Suffolk 28
Site Name	FORE AND BUSHEY GROVES
Parish	BRAMFORD
District	Mid Suffolk
NGR	TM095462
Description	<p>It is considered that Fore and Bushey Groves, which are now two small woods separated by a track and an area of dense scrub, were at one time joined together to form one larger woodland. The large proportion of the woods has a uniform structure consisting of field maple and hazel coppice with ash standards. However the southern half of Bushey Grove is occupied by a plantation of sycamore which is regenerating freely. In addition, approximately 10% of this area has been planted with Scots pine. A notable feature of Fore Grove is the wild service-tree, a rare species both nationally and regionally, which is restricted to ancient woodlands. The ground flora of both woods is very similar. Dog's mercury is dominant throughout and interspersed with patches of early-purple orchid and primrose. Evidence of woodpecker activity in dead standing trees is found throughout the wood. In addition, sparrowhawk was noted at the time of survey, although it is not known whether the species nested or not. Recent management of the wood has included the planting of snowberry for game cover and the clearing and removal of diseased elm.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	4.63

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Mid Suffolk 29
Site Name BULLEN WOOD
Parish BRAMFORD
District Mid Suffolk
NGR TM102459

Description

Bullen Wood is listed in English Nature's Ancient Woodland Inventory. The construction of an electricity sub-station on the western side has resulted in the clearance of part of Bullen Wood. The remaining area of woodland consists of hazel, ash and field maple coppice with numerous mature oak standards. Small areas dominated by aspen and wild cherry are also present. Hazel coppice together with patches of bramble and occasional hawthorn, holly, dogwood, elder and blackthorn comprise the shrub layer. Bullen Wood supports a fair diversity of plant species; a total of fifty one was recorded on one visit to the wood. Dog's mercury and bluebell are in the ground layer. Twayblade and early-purple orchids, spurge laurel, primrose and moschatel are amongst the less common woodland plants which are also on the species list. Although some areas of diseased elm particularly in the north eastern part of the wood have been cleared, the dead timber which remains provides valuable habitat for hole-nesting birds and dead wood invertebrates. Numerous holes in the dead trees are clear evidence of the importance of dead standing timber for woodpeckers.

RNR Number 0

Area 4.88

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Mid Suffolk 30
Site Name ROUND WOOD
Parish BRAMFORD
District Mid Suffolk
NGR TM102455

Description

Round Wood is one of a number of ancient woodlands in the parish of Bramford which are listed in English Nature's Ancient Woodland Inventory. A bank and ditch considered to be medieval in origin marks the northern and part of the western boundary of the wood. In addition to the bank and ditch, a hedge is also present along the southern and eastern margins. The dominant tree species in the wood are oak and ash with frequent hazel coppice and hawthorn. A good diversity of uncommon herbaceous and woody species can be found in the shrub and ground layers including Midland hawthorn, guelder rose, crab apple, spindle, early-purple orchid, wood anemone, early dog-violet, sanicle and stinking iris. A number of plants on the species list are indicators of ancient woodland. Furthermore, a wide range of woodland birds particularly warblers were recorded, when the wood was surveyed in 1986. Recent management work includes the re-coppicing possibly about twenty five years ago of a small section in the north-east. In addition some woodland under the electricity lines has been cleared for access.

RNR Number 0

Area 4.32

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Mid Suffolk 31
Site Name	MILLERS WOOD
Parish	BRAMFORD
District	Mid Suffolk
NGR	TM103468
Description	<p>This long, sinuous shaped woodland is one of several ancient woods situated in the parish of Bramford and listed in English Nature's Inventory of Ancient Woodland. The entire wood is enclosed by a woodbank, parts of which are probably medieval in origin. In addition, there are a number of internal ditches which divide the wood into compartments. The medieval parts of the wood which are considered to be the northern and southern sections are surrounded in places by a double woodbank. The northern section of the wood, as is typical of ancient woodlands, consists of hazel and field maple coppice with oak standards forming the tree layer. Further south, coppiced horse chestnut and sweet chestnut are abundant. In contrast the remainder of the wood is a recent plantation consisting mainly of sycamore with some beech. The ground flora is reasonably varied and a total of fifty two woodland plants have been recorded. Sanicle, violet, wood spurge and hairy St John's-wort are amongst the more uncommon plants on the species list. Of particular botanical interest and a strong indicator of ancient woods is the presence of a wild service-tree on the north western boundary. Some management work including coppicing and planting has taken place recently. Rearing of game birds is extensive throughout the wood.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	7.97

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Mid Suffolk 33
Site Name SUFFOLK WATER PARK
Parish BRAMFORD
District Mid Suffolk
NGR TM123485

Description

Suffolk Water Park is a disused gravel pit which has been reclaimed and developed as a leisure facility. Situated to the north-west of Ipswich, it is well used by local people for walking, fishing and bird-watching. The horse-shoe shaped lake has some gently shelving margins which slope down to deeper areas in the centre. A narrow fringe of emergent vegetation provides shelter and nesting habitat for a number of common water birds, for example moorhen. The remainder of the site consists of closely mown grassland with a shelterbelt of alder running the length of the peninsula. The fluctuating water level in the pit gives rise to occasional areas of exposed mud around the lake edge. Passage waders for example green sandpiper and wood sandpiper are attracted to these areas to feed and rest. In winter, the lake supports large numbers of wildfowl particularly pochard and tufted duck, for example goldeneye and smew regularly occur in small numbers. Furthermore the site is noted for roosting gulls. Thousands of black-headed and lesser black-backed gulls move inland from the River Orwell to roost on Suffolk Water Park. In addition to its ornithological importance, the site also provides a valuable habitat for dragonflies. At least eight species have been recorded around the margins of the lake.

RNR Number 0

Area 19.07

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Mid Suffolk 61
Site Name FLOWTONHALL GROVE
Parish FLOWTON
District Mid Suffolk
NGR TM081461

Description

This small ancient woodland is surrounded by arable fields and is situated to the south of the village of Flowton. It is listed in English Nature's Inventory of Ancient Woodland and a rather overgrown green lane leads to the north-eastern corner of the wood. Flowtonhall Grove is composed almost entirely of oak, field maple and hazel coppice with scattered oak and ash standards throughout. Two glades created by the felling of diseased elm are present in the northern half of the wood. Below the tree layer is an understorey composed largely of hawthorn. The shrub layer is particularly dense in the south western corner where some old large hawthorn and crab apple trees are present. The shrub layer provides a good habitat for nesting birds, particularly warblers. Bluebell, primrose and early-purple orchid provide a colourful display in the Spring. In addition, herb-Paris, a scarce ancient woodland indicator has been recorded in the ground layer. A small linear pond situated in the north-eastern corner is silted up and of limited value for wildlife.

RNR Number 0

Area 2.16

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Mid Suffolk 69
Site Name GREAT BLAKENHAM PIT
Parish GREAT BLAKENHAM
District Mid Suffolk
NGR TM10674986

Description

This large pit, situated to the north of Ipswich and to the west of the A45, is being excavated at the present time. It will be largely filled with domestic rubbish but certain areas will be retained for their wildlife value. The chalky banks and hedges around the older parts of the pit have stabilised and now support a species-diverse flora including many plants characteristic of a chalk grassland community. In addition to common flowering plants for example agrimony, wild parsnip and bird's-foot trefoil, a number of scarce Suffolk species namely yellow-wort and pyramidal orchid have also been recorded. In addition invertebrates, particularly butterflies are attracted to the numerous wild flowers. Furthermore, large populations of molluscs occur on the chalky banks. Some sections of bank have been colonised by a dense growth of scrub. This provides suitable nesting habitat for birds. The site is noted for its population of raptors; sparrowhawk, kestrel and owls are frequently recorded. The site is a good example of a chalk grassland community which is a scarce and declining habitat in Suffolk. Immediately adjacent to the pit is Claypit Grove which is a fragment of a more extensive ancient woodland. It is dominated by ash, oak, field maple and hazel coppice whilst the ground flora includes bluebell, enchanter's nightshade and dog's mercury. Deer have been reported in this wood.

RNR Number 0

Area 18.29

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Mid Suffolk 70
Site Name	GREAT WOOD
Parish	GREAT BLAKENHAM
District	Mid Suffolk
NGR	TM114509
Description	<p>This small area of ancient woodland is a fragment of a much larger woodland which was clear felled quite recently to provide land for a caravan park. The remaining strip of woodland is confined to the northern and eastern edges of the park. It consists mainly of ash with smaller numbers of oak standards. Neglected hazel coppice forms a dense understorey throughout. A number of old hazel coppice stools can still be seen and are evidence of the wood's antiquity. The field layer is covered in a thick growth of bramble. Great Wood is listed in English Nature's Ancient Woodland Inventory.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	3.47

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Mid Suffolk 80
Site Name WITNESHAM THICKS
Parish HENLEY
District Mid Suffolk
NGR TM169510

Description

This small woodland situated in an intensively farmed landscape is listed in English Nature's Ancient Woodland Inventory. It consists mainly of large neglected hornbeam coppice with mature oak standards scattered throughout. The tree canopy forms a dense layer beneath which is an understorey composed of hazel coppice and hawthorn. A few field maple and large ash standards are also present in the wood. It is bordered along its southern roadside boundary by a thick hedge of hornbeam, elder, hawthorn and blackthorn. In addition a ditch and bank, a feature associated with medieval woods, encloses the entire site. Very little light reaches the woodland floor through the dense tree canopy and as a result the ground flora is rather sparse. Bramble and dog's mercury are the dominant species and are patchily distributed throughout the wood. Witnesham Thicks is used for pheasant rearing and a number of laurels have been planted to provide additional cover.

RNR Number 0

Area 2.57

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Mid Suffolk 99
Site Name VALLEY LODGE MEADOW
Parish LITTLE BLAKENHAM
District Mid Suffolk
NGR TM103494

Description

This County Wildlife Site is located north west of the village of Little Blakenham. Enclosed by dense hedges, Valley Lodge Meadow is south facing and is situated on a gentle slope. A large proportion of the northern half of the meadow was at one time colonised by patches of hawthorn scrub. Recent removal of this scrub has enabled a species rich flora to develop on the chalky soils of the site. A wide range of chalkland plants can be seen here including yellow-wort, centaury and salad burnet. Pyramidal orchids are a notable feature of the site and frequently occur on the steeper parts of the slope. The species diversity of the meadow is maintained by careful management regime which involves grazing by goats and horses. Chalk grassland is a scarce habitat in Suffolk and therefore Valley Lodge Meadow is a valuable addition to the Register of County Wildlife Sites in Suffolk.

RNR Number 0

Area 1.24

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Suffolk Coastal 100
Site Name KIRTON RESERVOIR
Parish KIRTON
District Suffolk Coastal
NGR TM268405

Description

This area consists of a mosaic of habitats; wet meadow, open water and woodland. Long Meadow, which is situated west of Kirton Reservoir, and the marshy ground below the reservoir support a wide range of wetland plants including a spectacular display of the rare heath spotted orchids (over 1000 have been recorded). Osier beds in the vicinity of the reservoir support a good population of sedge warblers. The main canopy species in the narrow band of mature deciduous woodland along the north shore of the reservoir are oak and ash with a few large beech. The understorey contains hazel, hawthorn and elder with bluebell as the main constituent of the ground flora. Honeysuckle grows on the trees and on the ground. A notable amount of dead wood has resulted from storm damage and old age. There are a few occasional areas of bare ground on steep south-facing slopes.

RNR Number 0

Area 9.83

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 101
Site Name	PAULS ROUGH GROUND
Parish	BUCKLESHAM
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM269410
Description	<p>Paul's rough ground is a small, wet, unimproved meadow which lies adjacent to Kirton Brook. It supports a good range of marshland plants including greater bird's-foot trefoil, ragged robin and fleabane. Common spotted orchid grows in good numbers amongst the rush clumps along the western side. The meadow is managed by occasional cattle grazing. Bracken encroachment is a problem along the western boundary of the meadow.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	2.08

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 115
Site Name	POGSONS FARM MEADOW
Parish	PLAYFORD
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM221473
Description	<p>This site consists of herb-rich grazed meadows with areas of gorse and bramble scrub especially on the margins, remnant hedges, wetter areas and some planted trees. The trees planted in one corner include sweet chestnut, silver birch, larch and pine and the old hedges are dominated by hawthorn with ash, holly, sycamore and some elm stumps. An old oak and sweet chestnut pollard are pleasing features. A wide variety of grasses grow in the meadows reflecting the unimproved nature of the grasslands. Species include sweet vernal grass, crested dog's-tail, meadow foxtail, timothy and red fescue. The meadow also supports ragged robin, greater bird's-foot trefoil, sorrel, fleabane, sheep's sorrel, pignut, heath bedstraw and lady's bedstraw among many other species. The very wet areas add further variety with several rushes and horsetails, brooklime, and in open water, lesser water parsnip, watercress and duckweed are present. Overall, these meadows are a fine example of an increasingly scarce habitat in Suffolk.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	6.32

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 116
Site Name MEADOWS	OSIER BED & MARTLESHAM PLANTATION
Parish	LITTLE BEALINGS
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM236465
Description	<p>This site consists of two meadows and former osier bed adjacent to Butlers Brook, a tributary of the River Fynn. The osier bed contains occasional mature trees of alder, birch, hornbeam, ash and oak amongst the osier willow, which has not been cut for many years. The ground flora includes some noteworthy species such as twayblade, southern marsh orchid and large areas of opposite-leaved golden saxifrage. The two meadows on the southern side of the stream are floristically rich examples of unimproved, wet grassland although the western meadow has not been managed recently. Typical species include marsh marigold, meadowsweet, ragged robin, water mint and meadow vetchling. Both meadows contain abundant southern marsh orchids. The easternmost meadow is grazed and holds water in places throughout the year due to crag springs. These form boggy flushes which are ideal for snipe and other waders. Before the Second World War, flower-rich meadows were common in areas where the crag outcrops in the Sandlings. Many of these grasslands have since disappeared or have been agriculturally improved. These meadows, which still support a diverse plant community are therefore of high conservation value.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	1.95

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 117
Site Name	MEADOW COTTAGE WOOD
Parish	GREAT BEALINGS
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM239480
Description	<p>This very dense deciduous woodland with scrub is managed to some extent by the owners who have cleared some fallen trees and sprayed nettles. There is a mix of vegetation types including alder and willow coppice, ash woodland with oak and sweet chestnut; the scrub layer is made up of hazel, sloe, hawthorn and elder. There are some exotic species too like swamp cypress which were planted by previous owners. This site is noted for bearded couch. It is the only record for this plant in east Suffolk. Two other scarce plants namely small teasel and common bistort also occur here. Other plant species include broad-leaved willowherb, angelica, three-veined sandwort, opposite-leaved golden saxifrage and hogweed. There is a ditch and bank system, paths which are mown and clearings with tall herb vegetation. Furthermore a significant amount of fallen trees and branches of crack willow add habitat diversity to the wood.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	2.62

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 121
Site Name	BLOOMFIELDS FARM MEADOW
Parish	MARTLESHAM
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM245468
Description	<p>This meadow situated close to Bloomfield's Farm was first surveyed by the eminent botanist Francis Simpson in 1973, and more recently by Suffolk Wildlife Trust in 1986. Both surveys showed that in addition to a wide diversity of wetland plants, the meadow also supports large colonies of heath spotted and southern marsh orchids. Heath spotted orchid is a rare plant in Suffolk and this site is considered to be one of the finest remaining meadows for this species in the county.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	3.84

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 122
Site Name	MARTLESHAM COMMON
Parish	MARTLESHAM
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM245460
Description	<p>Martlesham Common is a remnant of a much larger area of heathland known as the Suffolk Sandlings. It consists of patches of diverse acid grassland flora, interspersed with larger areas of bracken and gorse. Amongst the many wild flowers which grow here are bell heather (an uncommon species of heather), field woodrush, nodding thistle and heath bedstraw. Furthermore, the site is important for its population of silver-studded blue butterflies, a rare heathland species which is listed on Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Despite considerable recreational pressure, Martlesham Common remains a highly valued heathland area.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	10.08

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 123
Site Name	OLD ROTARY CAMPING GROUND
Parish	MARTLESHAM
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM256458
Description	<p>This site consists of an area of tall herb dominated by bracken encroaching on heavily rabbit grazed acid grassland and a wetter meadow area. The different habitats form an attractive mosaic with clumps of gorse and bramble scattered across the grassland. The whole is bounded by a thorn hedge with a few oak and dead elm, and beyond this lies a pine/birch woodland with areas of heather. Each habitat is of botanical interest. The short grassland has a typical array of acid loving species including red and sheep's fescue, sheep's-sorrel and heath bedstraw. Marsh willowherb, fen bedstraw and southern marsh orchid are all found in the wetter areas with a variety of rushes and horsetails. In the woodland, lady's bedstraw occurs along with ling and bell heather, while primrose appears in shadier parts. The variety of different plant communities within a relatively small area makes this area an important site for wildlife conservation.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	10.31

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Suffolk Coastal 124

Site Name LUMBER WOOD

Parish MARTLESHAM

District Suffolk Coastal

NGR TM266463

Description

Lumber Wood is listed in the English Nature Ancient Woodland Inventory. It consists mainly of mature sycamore which have been thinned and coppiced, and sweet chestnut ranging in age from saplings to mature trees. Dense clumps of suckering elm together with occasional hawthorn and elder form the scrub layer. A number of ornamental shrubs including rhododendron and poplar have been planted in the wood particularly along the eastern edge. The ground flora of the wood is quite varied. Plants of interest growing in the wet conditions of the woodland floor include ramsons, opposite-leaved golden saxifrage, brooklime and watercress. In the drier conditions, nettle, bluebell and bracken predominate.

RNR Number 0

Area 4.82

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Suffolk Coastal 142
Site Name PLAYFORD ALDER CARR
Parish PLAYFORD
District Suffolk Coastal
NGR TM207474

Description

This is a deciduous woodland in the Fynn valley consisting of alder, ash, oak, hornbeam and sycamore with wet areas of sedges and reeds. An area planted with hybrid poplars is also included within the site boundary as it contains standing water fed by springs and also the occasional oak and alder. Spring pond is very much overgrown with little open water but the ground is not water-logged with the springs flowing as streams. Some evidence of past coppicing is apparent and recent work (1986) has been undertaken along the ditch boundary to the north-east. There is a diverse age structure with regrowth of alder and hornbeam of considerable age. The flora includes bluebells on the slope rising to the railway line and some plants normally indicative of ancient woodland for example wood melick, sanicle and moschatel. Wetland species occur in the boggy flushes; marsh marigold, hemp agrimony, yellow flag and common valerian. A well used public footpath from Tuddenham to Playford runs through the wood.

RNR Number 0

Area 6.57

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 143
Site Name	LUX WOOD
Parish	PLAYFORD
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM218473
Description	<p>This deciduous ancient wood supports a wide range of tree species, including beech, oak, elm, sycamore, wild cherry and hornbeam. Small areas of hazel and small-leaved lime can also be found. Dutch elm disease has affected part of the wood, although suckering elm regrowth is evident in places. The understorey is composed of hazel, elder, hawthorn and bramble. Wood anemone together with bluebell, primrose and sweet violet provide a wonderful show in the Spring. Lux Wood is also an important site for birds. Nightingale and blackcap are amongst the breeding birds and hawfinch is a frequent visitor to the wood.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	4.65

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Suffolk Coastal 144

Site Name PLAYFORD MERE

Parish PLAYFORD

District Suffolk Coastal

NGR TM222474

Description

Playford Mere is situated south of the River Fynn and north of the railway line. The site consists of a number of artificial ponds linked by a series of channels and areas of tall fen vegetation interspersed with willow scrub and poplar plantation. This site is a mosaic of undisturbed habitats which provide a valuable refuge for wildlife particularly birds, in an otherwise intensively-farmed landscape. Good numbers of heron, shelduck, coot, moorhen, swan and tufted duck shelter in the tall waterside vegetation which fringes the pond and dykes. Uncommon wetland plants, for example meadow-rue, purple loosestrife and fleabane are abundant amongst the tall fen community.

RNR Number 0

Area 8.26

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Suffolk Coastal 146
Site Name SHOTTISHAM CREEK
Parish SHOTTISHAM
District Suffolk Coastal
NGR TM305432

Description

Shottisham Creek, a small tributary flows through a landscape of arable fields followed by grazing pasture before it joins the River Deben estuary. The downstream section of the water course is colonised almost completely by reed. Dykes flowing into the creek are also fringed with reed. Shottisham Creek is held to be of considerable ornithological importance, which is in part due to its close association with the Deben estuary. Species recorded in the reedbed include sedge and reed warblers and reed bunting. Other birds of interest to be seen here include barn owl, shelduck, snipe, cormorant, heron and gadwall. Marsh harriers are thought to breed close to the creek and use the site as a hunting ground. Decoy ponds situated on the south of Shottisham Creek are included within the County Wildlife Site boundary as they support a good diversity of bird species, for example shelduck, shoveler, teal and green sandpiper.

RNR Number 0

Area 47.65

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 147
Site Name	RAMSHOLT MARSHES & LODGE PLANTATION
Parish	RAMSHOLT
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM300422
Description	<p>Ramsholt Marshes are agriculturally-improved, grazing marshes drained by a network of dykes. They are frequently flooded in winter and therefore provide a shelter and good feeding ground in severe weather conditions. As a consequence they are used by a large number of wildfowl, in particular, mallard, wigeon and teal with fewer shoveler. Waders including redshank and curlew are also frequently seen feeding here. In the summer, good numbers of mallard, coot, moorhen and lapwing breed on the marshes. Lodge Plantation is a small area of woodland bordering the Deben estuary. It is also of conservation value as it supports a good sized heronry. This was probably founded in the 1950s and suffered substantial storm damage in October 1987.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	34.75

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 163
Site Name	CLIFF FARM MEADOWS & NETTLE HILL WOOD
Parish	SUTTON
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM293460
Description	<p>Cliff Farm Meadows are two small horse-grazed fields close to the Deben estuary near Sutton. They are linked by a stream which flows along the base of the slope. Wader species, for example, redshank, lapwing and snipe breed in the meadows during the summer. In the winter they are used by waders as a sheltering site. Also of ornithological interest are the frequent sightings of barn owl which probably nests nearby and uses these meadows as prime hunting ground. Furthermore, much the flora of the site is of conservation importance. Wetter marginal areas along the stream are colonised by brooklime, marsh marigold and fool's-watercress. Further away from the stream, southern marsh orchid and ragged robin are abundant. The pond which is fed by a stream is well used as a breeding site for amphibians. In the southernmost meadow a sandy bank which slopes down from Cliff Farm is colonised by acid grassland plants, for example, nodding thistle. Hares are abundant in this part of the meadow. In addition, an area of mixed woodland known as Nettle Hill Wood situated to the south of Cliff Farm Meadows ,supports one of the largest heronries in the county; approximately 24 nests were occupied in 1991.The nests are built in oak and Scots pine and suffered badly in the storm of 1987.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	15.83

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 170
Site Name	WELHAMS MEADOW AND COPSE
Parish	TUDDENHAM ST MARTIN
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM189490
Description	<p>This meadow is situated on a gentle valley side with wet flushes associated with springs. It supports unimproved meadow flora (BAP habitat) which includes pignut, marsh stitchwort, fleabane and betony, the latter being rare in East Anglia. The meadow also supports a population of the scarce heath spotted orchid. The drier slopes of the meadow have been colonised by bracken.</p> <p>The meadow is bounded by ancient hedgerows dominated by hazel and oak on the higher ground and a bank of valuable blackthorn scrub on the lower eastern boundary. Some of the hazels are very ancient and form a small copse to the north of the meadow with a ground flora of wood anemone.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	0.44

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 171
Site Name	PUMPING STATION MEADOW
Parish	TUDDENHAM ST MARTIN
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM192475
Description	<p>This site is a valuable mosaic of scrub, and fen meadow (BAP habitat), fed by springs. The wet areas are floristically diverse, supporting a typical fen meadow flora including a large population of southern marsh orchid and species associated with spring flushes like marsh marigold. The grassland on the higher (drier) ground is less species diverse but is still of value to species such as Barn owl. The grassland grades into scrub which is very important for other birds, including black cap, whitethroat and nightingale. The site also supports grass snake.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	1.99

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 182
Site Name CREEK REED	KYSON MEADOWS, SLUICE WOOD & MARTLESHAM
Parish	MARTLESHAM
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM257470
Description	

Kyson Meadows, which are cattle-grazed, unimproved pastures border the Deben estuary. Many birds for example mallard, shelduck, teal, moorhen and a large number of snipe also use Kyson Meadows as a wintering, sheltering and feeding site. In addition, the reed-fringed dykes which cross the area, provide a valuable habitat for breeding water birds including reed and sedge warbler, coot, mallard and also a large number of breeding toads. A number of pollarded willows, some of which have suffered storm damage border the dykes. These trees which contain numerous pockets of decaying wood and holes are frequented by hole-nesting birds and invertebrates. The grassland community of the meadows is also of conservation value. It contains numerous wetland plants for example, spike-rush, marsh marigold, false fox sedge and hairy sedge. The reedbed adjoining Martlesham Creek and the associated scrub provide a valuable breeding habitat for wren, sedge and reed warblers and reed bunting. The reedbed is also a Winter roosting site for teal and snipe; 30-40 teal and up to 75 snipe were recorded in 1988. This area is important for passage waders, for example greenshank, wood sandpiper and spotted redshank and as a late Autumn roost for up to 1000 swallow and sand martin and up to 200 pied wagtail. Adjacent to the reedbed, on the southern bank of Martlesham Creek, lies Sluice Wood. It consists of oak, ash, field maple, hornbeam, alder and hazel. The ground flora contains some plants typical of a wet woodland, for example flag iris and opposite-leaved golden saxifrage. Other plants indicate a long woodland history, for example wood spurge and pignut. Sluice Wood is also important as a breeding habitat for amphibians.

RNR Number	0
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Area 23.61

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Suffolk Coastal 187
Site Name HASKETON MEADOW
Parish HASKETON
District Suffolk Coastal
NGR TM244505

Description

Hasketon Meadow is one of four meadows situated to the west of the village which have recently been denotified as a Site of Special Scientific Interest. This remaining meadow, although no longer qualifying as a Site of Special Interest, fulfils the criteria for selection as a County Wildlife Site. It supports two distinct plant communities. Over half the meadow is herb-poor sward dominated by meadow foxtail, Yorkshire fog and cocksfoot. This is interspersed with areas of species-rich grassland. Amongst the more common wild flowers for example bird's-foot trefoil and ox-eye daisy, recorded in these patches are also a number of scarce Suffolk species for example green-winged orchid and pepper saxifrage. Hasketon Meadow is managed by an annual hay cut. It is considered that a more intensive management regime, for example cutting followed by cattle grazing the regrowth would increase the species diversity and conservation value of the site.

RNR Number 0

Area 0.84

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 188
Site Name	SECKFORD HALL CAMP SITE
Parish	MARTLESHAM
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM254482

Description

Seckford Hall Campsite is situated to the west of Woodbridge. It is bordered in the east and south by the A12, in the north by a minor road and in the west by a small stream. The site consists of an undulating area which slopes down in the west and south, before rising gently again in the extreme south of the site. The flatter land in the north is well used as a camping and caravan site. In addition a public footpath runs along the western margin of the site. A detailed survey carried out in 1993 shows that the site supports a number of different plant communities. A small area in the west is composed of a wetland flora dominated by meadowsweet and sedge. This is bordered by areas of bracken which have colonised the drier ground. The remainder of the site consists of rabbit-grazed, sandy grassland with a number of small scattered oak and hawthorn trees. This area supports a diverse acid grassland community; a total of thirty five flowering plant species characteristic of this habitat were recorded. In addition to a wide range of uncommon heathland plants, for example changing forget-me-not, spring vetch and bird's-foot, the site also supports two nationally scarce species ie. species which only occur in 16-100 10km squares in Great Britain. These are mossy stonecrop and suffocated clover. Furthermore Shepherd's cress and hoary cinquefoil, two species which are uncommon in Britain are found on this site in good numbers. Of particular importance is a significantly large population of the rare Shepherd's cress. Seckford Hall Campsite is a valuable remnant of the Sandlings heathland which once bordered the length of the Suffolk coast. It is therefore an important addition to the Register of County Wildlife Sites in Suffolk Coastal District.

RNR Number	0
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Area 8.55

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 197
Site Name	WOODBIDGE WET MEADOW
Parish	WOODBIDGE
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM265483
Description	<p>This County Wildlife Site wet meadow is located on the south-western outskirts of Woodbridge, to the south of the Ipswich Road. The low-lying part of the site is fed by springs and remains wet throughout the year. It supports a diverse wetland flora, a notable feature of which is a large and thriving population of southern marsh orchids which are estimated to number several thousand. Other wetland species include square-stalked St. John's Wort, fleabane and angelica. The drier slopes of the site support a plant community typically found on light soils in this part of Suffolk. Red campion is found in abundance in this part of the meadow.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	1.17

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 201
Site Name	MARTLESHAM PLANTATION ACID GRASSLAND
Parish	Martlesham
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM240463
Description	<p>This small area of acid grassland is fragment of the once extensive Martlesham Heath, that has become isolated by the building of the A12 Woodbridge bypass. Its flora is characteristic of grassland on base-poor, freely draining soils of the Suffolk sands and gravel, comprising a sward dominated by creeping bent grass, <i>Agrostis capillaris</i>; 0 sheep's fescue, <i>Festuca orvina</i> 0 and sheep's sorrel. The sward has escaped 'improvement' with artificial fertiliser or reseeding and is maintained as open grassland by the grazing of rabbits and horses. In the north-west corner, some scrub invasion by bramble has taken place, but is currently kept in check by grazing and creating a mosaic of scrub and open grassland. Provided that the field continues to be grazed at the present level, and that no 'improvements' to the sward are made, this site should retain its value as acid grassland.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	0.31

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 205
Site Name	FELIXSTOWE FERRY
Parish	Felixstowe
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM326372
Description	

Felixstowe Ferry and its surroundings comprise a diverse range of semi-natural habitat that supports a wide range of wildlife. The Deben river and its saltmarshes are already designated as an SSSI and the vegetated shingle at the Ferry is included in the Suffolk Shingle Beaches CWS. In 2003, further survey work has been carried out that has provided additional and up to date information on the Felixstowe Ferry area, resulting in the designation of the Felixstowe Ferry CWS. The site comprises a number of different linked habitats: The Tomline Wall runs along the west of the site, and is a man-made flood defence bank with dykes either side. Rough grassland on the bank provides important habitat for slow-worm, grass-snake, several species of birds including Meadow pipit (Amber status) and Skylark (BAP species), a wide range of invertebrates including several species of butterfly. Reed warbler and Reed bunting (BAP species) have been recorded in the reed beds adjacent to the dykes and the dykes themselves are a stronghold for water voles (BAP species). At the northern end of the Tomline wall there is an area of rough grassland/scrub that is partially inundated by brackish water giving rise to an interesting mix of species suited to both freshwater and brackish plants. Of particular note is the population of Grass Vetchling. The nationally scarce Shrubby seablite was recorded on the river wall in 2003. An area of gorse and dry grassland links the above area with the former sand dune ridge on the golf course. This gorse/grass mosaic is important for reptiles with Common Lizard being recorded there in summer 2003. The former sand dune ridge areas of unimproved sand dune grassland, including Sea Holly. To the east of the seawall there is a large area vegetated shingle supporting the characteristic plants of this nationally rare habitat such as Sea pea, Yellow horned poppy, and Sea Kale. Parts

of the sand dune ridge and the shingle area were formerly part of the Suffolk Shingle Beaches CWS. In 2003, they have been incorporated into the Felixstowe Ferry CWS and the boundaries of the Suffolk Shingle Beaches CWS amended accordingly.

RNR Number 0

Area 24.91

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 206
Site Name	WOODBIDGE OLD CEMETERY
Parish	Woodbridge
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM265489

Description

The flora of Woodbridge Old Cemetery is characteristic of the unimproved dry grassland typically associated with the sand and gravel and red crag geology of the Suffolk Coasts and heaths. The soils are thin, free-draining and therefore nutrient poor. The higher ground and slopes of the cemetery support parched grassland with characteristic species such as Common bent, Squirrel's tail fescue, Clustered clover (Nationally scarce), Lady's bedstraw, Sheep's sorrel and Wild Clary. In places, where conditions are really parched vegetation is comprised almost entirely of lichens and bryophytes. At the base of the slopes where conditions are more mesotrophic species such as Ox-eye Daisy and Common Sorrel are found. Meadow Saxifrage (considered occasional in Suffolk) occurs in clusters throughout the cemetery. The cemetery is regularly mown and this plays an important in maintaining the short turf required by many of the plants characteristic of these dry grasslands. The site also has some magnificent mature trees, both coniferous and deciduous that are likely to be important for a wide range of birds and may support bats. In addition, the cemetery includes standing and fallen dead wood habitat that provides suitable habitat for the Stag Beetle. This nationally rare species retains an important stronghold in south-east Suffolk. It is relatively common in an around Ipswich and the Shotley peninsula, with its range extending eastwards to Woodbridge. A number of records for Stag beetle have been recorded in areas close to the Old Cemetery.

RNR Number 0

Area 1.81

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Suffolk Coastal 222

Site Name PORTER'S WOOD

Parish Woodbridge

District Suffolk Coastal

NGR TM265483

Description

Porter's Wood is situated to the south-west of Woodbridge town centre and is owned by the Woodland Trust.

The woodland is underlain by sand and gravels and Red Crag over impermeable London Clay and exhibits the classic seepage zones and peat accumulations associated with this geology and typical of many river valleys in the Suffolk Sandlings.

Broadly speaking the woodland can be divided almost in two: the south-western half is free-draining and slopes steeply down to the spring line, where the ground becomes waterlogged and has allowed peat accumulation. The latter has given rise to characteristic vegetation of wet alder carr woodland with a ground flora dominated by ransoms and marsh marigold with opposite-leaved golden saxifrage in the seepage zones. On the drier ground the ground flora is characterised by species such as native bluebell, red campion, three-nerved sandwort, creeping soft grass and, at the very top of the slope, bracken. The tree layer includes native species typical of free-draining soils such as oak and holly, but its true character is somewhat obscured by tree planting.

This area of the woodland also shows evidence of disturbance with pits and hollows and it is possible it has been used for sand and gravel extraction in the past. In some areas sycamore is the dominant trees species having self sown, possibly after a period of disturbance.

There are important areas of standing and fallen dead wood and Porter's Wood falls within the area of Suffolk where stag beetles are found.

Many resident and migrant birds have been recorded on the site visit including chiff chaff, blackcap, songthrush, bluetit, great tit, long-tailed tit and chaffinch.

The woodland is connected to a range of nearby semi-natural habitat that increases its value for wildlife. To the

east it is directly connected to Woodbridge Wet Meadow CWS which is immediately adjacent to grassland leading down to the Deben estuary and Woodbridge water meadows. To the west it is connected with Broom Heath which in turn connects with Kyson point woodland and Martlesham Creek and back to Woodbridge water meadows.

RNR Number 0

Area 3.15

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Suffolk Coastal 29

Site Name THE MILL RIVER

Parish KIRTON

District Suffolk Coastal

NGR TM219433

Description

The Mill River rises in The Mount CWS on the outskirts of Ipswich and flowing into the River Deben estuary at Kirton creek. The watercourse flows through a diverse landscape ranging from alder carr, flower-rich grazing meadows, improved pasture and poplar plantation. Springs feed the Mill River from both sides and the river is unusual in Suffolk in having a natural flow unimpeded by weirs and dams. A number of areas which border the Mill River have also been identified as County Wildlife Sites. These are The Mount, Brightwell Grazing Meadows and Valley Farm Meadow. The Mill River has good water quality and therefore supports a wide variety of aquatic wildlife. Water Starwort, and watercress are abundant in some sections. The banks are lined with old pollarded willows and the marshy edge is colonised by a typical tall-herb flora. Kingfishers are frequently seen along many sections of the river. The old pollards provide shelter for nesting birds and small mammals. It should also be noted that the reed-fringed section of the Mill just upstream from Kirton Creek is a prime habitat for birds such as sedge and reed warbler. Breeding mallard, tufted duck, mute swan and teal have been all been sighted. Waders using this stretch of river include whimbrel, green sandpiper, oystercatcher and lapwing.

RNR Number 0

Area 5.5

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 30
Site Name	BRIGHTWELL GRAZING MEADOWS
Parish	BRIGHTWELL
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM252433
Description	<p>Herb rich, cattle grazed meadows of considerable botanical interest adjoin both sides of the River Mill. A new straight channel has been cut for the river, upstream of Brightwell Bridge and the abandoned meandering watercourse forms a valuable habitat for plants such as watercress and brooklime. Downstream of the bridge, the meadows are spring fed and the high water table throughout the summer provides ideal conditions for a wide range of wetland species including southern marsh orchid, meadow saxifrage, ragged robin and distant sedge. Lapwing and redshank are known to have bred on the meadow. Furthermore, amphibians are abundant in the marshy conditions.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	38.57

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 4
Site Name	SUFFOLK SHINGLE BEACHES
Parish	ALDRINGHAM CUM THORPE
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM3338
Description	<p>Vegetated shingle is a rare and decreasing habitat, both in the British Isles and in Europe. The plant community which survives in this environment is prone to damage from visitor pressure. The stretches of shingle beach along the Suffolk coast are of a national conservation importance for the range of shingle plants that grow there. Sea pea, which is a nationally scarce plant, grows in profusion on many stretches of beach; other typical shingle flora includes sea kale, sea spurge, sea sandwort and sea bindweed can also be found. There are also rare invertebrates species found in these coastal sites. All of the shingle beaches are of high conservation value and most are already covered as SSSIs the remaining areas have been designated as CWS.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	38.83

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 49
Site Name	TUDDENHAM HALL WOOD
Parish	CULPHO
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM202499
Description	<p>A small ancient containing mainly oak, ash and field maple with hazel as an understorey. Holly, wild cherry and a variety of other tree and shrub species are present providing good cover for nesting woodland birds. The ground flora contains plants indicative of ancient woodlands including yellow archangel, wood millet and sanicle.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	2.35

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Suffolk Coastal 50
Site Name PLAYFORD RESERVOIR
Parish PLAYFORD
District Suffolk Coastal
NGR TM208487

Description

This is a spring-fed area of open water situated on tributary of the River Fynn. The northern edge of the reservoir is fringed with dense reed, behind which is an area dominated by fen vegetation including southern marsh orchid, greater pond sedge and hairy willowherb. This tall herb community is a valuable habitat for a number of breeding bird species, for example sedge warbler, reed warbler, wren, whitethroat and reed bunting. The open water of the reservoir itself is frequented by a number of water birds; coot, moorhen, and mallard and in winter provides sheltered conditions for significant numbers of wildfowl. The site is a very important one for breeding amphibians; thousands of young frogs and toads have been observed on the edges of the reservoir.

RNR Number 0

Area 2.96

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 51
Site Name	CULPHO WOOD
Parish	CULPHO
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM208499
Description	<p>This substantial block of ancient woodland was clear-felled in the early 1940s and replanted by the Forestry Commission with mainly oak and some conifers. It is included in the Inventory of Ancient Woodland but little is known about its ground flora apart from a record of Greater Butterfly Orchid.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	22.31

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 65
Site Name	EGYPT WOOD
Parish	TRIMLEY ST MARY
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM288369
Description	<p>A small woodland (1.5 hectares) of ash, oak and sycamore with some field maple coppice. The ground flora is reasonably diverse with a range of typical species such as primrose, lords-and- ladies, herb-Robert, bluebell and male fern. The wood, although not appearing in English Nature's Ancient Woodland Inventory may be of considerable antiquity as it supports a diverse ground flora including early purple and twayblade orchids and sanicle. The woodland is also important for shelter and breeding sites for invertebrates and birds in an area with very little woodland indeed. A smaller area (1.2 hectares) of damp scrub lies adjacent to the wood providing habitat diversity to the wood. Additional species recorded for this area are crosswort, brooklime, greater knapweed and kingcup.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	2.52

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 66
Site Name	CORPORATION MARSHES
Parish	FALKENHAM
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM300404
Description	<p>This site, adjacent to Falkenham Creek, consists of a reedbed interspersed with clumps of scrub. It is drained by a dyke which flows through the area into Falkenham Creek on the eastern side. It is used in winter as a hunting ground by short-eared owl, hen harrier and marsh harrier. In summer, sedge and reed warbler, wren and whitethroat breed in good numbers.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	8.38

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Suffolk Coastal 67

Site Name KINGS FLEET

Parish FALKENHAM

District Suffolk Coastal

NGR TM310380

Description

Kingsfleet is an extensive area of open water situated close to the Deben Estuary. It is a former tributary creek that is now separated from the tidal estuary by the sea wall. It is fed by springs and is mainly freshwater, although there is some brackish seepage the sea wall at the eastern end. A large number of birds use the area in late Summer; up to several hundred yellow wagtail together with bearded tit have been recorded roosting in the reed-fringe and it is an important roost for swallows in autumn. In the Summer, a good range of wetland birds including reed and sedge warblers, coot, little grebe and tufted duck breed amongst the tall emergent plants. The water quality of Kingsfleet is very good and as a consequence the aquatic flora and invertebrate fauna, particularly dragonflies is abundant and varied. The site also provides good habitat for BAP mammals such as Water Vole and Otter.

RNR Number 0

Area 8.61

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Suffolk Coastal 76
Site Name KILN FARM MEADOW
Parish GREAT BEALINGS
District Suffolk Coastal
NGR TM236487

Description

This site has an interesting flora, typical of an increasingly rare habitat, the wet meadow. Among the many species represented are ragged robin, red and white campion, common spotted orchid, southern marsh orchid, marsh marigold and great horsetail. Primrose and cowslip are also present with a wide variety of grasses and rushes, the latter found in the dampest areas. A mown path dominated by grasses contrasts with areas of taller flowers, forming a pleasing mosaic of plant communities. The meadow is fringed with ash, elder and willow trees, and is cut late in the year.

RNR Number 0

Area 0.74

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 77
Site Name	QUEECH WOOD
Parish	GREAT BEALINGS
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM243492
Description	<p>Queech Wood as listed in English Nature's Woodland Inventory is surrounded by a ditch and bank which is typical of most ancient woods. The tree canopy is dominated by mature ash with frequent oak and field maple and a dense scrub layer is provided by hazel, blackthorn, rose and elder. Tangles of honeysuckle and ivy in the trees are widespread. Dog's-mercury and nettle dominate the ground flora, although a number of more uncommon woodland plants are also present; wood spurge, violet, sanicle and hairy St John's-wort. The wood is mainly used as a cover for game birds.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	3

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 85
Site Name	CHURCH FARM MEADOW
Parish	HASKETON
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM249502
Description	<p>One corner of a semi-improved horse-grazed field close to Church Farm, appears to be more waterlogged than the remainder of the site, and as a consequence is less heavily grazed. This has enabled a herb-rich flora to flourish and unusual wetland plants, for example, southern marsh orchid (50 spikes), false fox sedge and lesser stitchwort grow here in good numbers.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	0.85

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number Suffolk Coastal 86

Site Name BLUNTS WOOD

Parish HASKETON

District Suffolk Coastal

NGR TM250493

Description

Blunt's Wood is the remnant of a once larger ancient woodland. It has a ditch and bank along the southern boundary, with shallower ditches along all the other boundaries. A well-developed mixed deciduous hedge which includes ash, hazel, field maple, oak, cherry and hawthorn surrounds the woodland. The wood itself is mixed deciduous woodland with a considerable amount of former hazel coppice, and some more recent coppicing. Wild cherry standards are located frequently along the strip of woodland adjacent to the road. The eastern half of the wood has been cleared and replanted with both native and exotic species including beech, sweet chestnut and Corsican pine. The ground flora is fairly diverse though it is limited in distribution. This is probably due to earlier disturbance and the dense shade cast by the canopy. Of special interest is the presence of early purple and common spotted orchids. Carpets of ivy and dog's-mercury can be found in the southern extension of the wood.

RNR Number 0

Area 4.04

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 87
Site Name	BLUNTS WOOD MEADOW
Parish	HASKETON
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM252493
Description	<p>This horse-grazed meadow was ploughed and reseeded in 1972-74 but has escaped herbicide application and has not been heavily fertilised. As a result, the diversity of the plant community has been retained and a number of interesting species occur, including cowslip and primrose. However, of the greatest interest is the presence of greater burnet-saxifrage, of which there are only three other records in east Suffolk. The meadow lies adjacent to Blunt's Wood which has also been designated as a County Wildlife Site.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	1.65

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 88
Site Name	NEWBOURNE SPRINGS MEADOWS
Parish	HEMLEY
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM276425
Description	<p>A series of unimproved meadows are situated adjacent to the east bank of Newbourne Springs, downstream of Street Farm. Some of the meadows, for example the meadow adjacent to Street Farm and Puddingpokes meadow are managed by one annual cut. As a consequence they support a herb-rich community characteristic of wet meadows; for example ragged robin, southern marsh orchid, tubular water-dropwort and water forget-me-not grow frequently here. The meadows which are not managed on a regular basis are colonised by a less diverse community composed of hairy willowherb, yellow flag, lesser pond sedge and meadowsweet. The reed-fringed dykes and stream support good numbers of reed and sedge warblers.</p>
RNR Number	0
Area	17.4

County Wildlife Site Citations

CWS Number	Suffolk Coastal 98
Site Name	KESGRAVE WOOD / SINKS VALLEY
Parish	KESGRAVE
District	Suffolk Coastal
NGR	TM230461
Description	

Kesgrave Wood (covered by a Tree Preservation Order) is an early 19th century plantation which has subsequently been considerably augmented by natural regeneration. The central part appears to have been set out as a park and a number of parkland trees of considerable age can be identified; beech, lime, sweet chestnut and sycamore. The western end of the wood contains the highest proportion of native trees (oak, hornbeam, birch and Scots pine). Throughout the wood, sweet chestnut has been planted and much of it coppiced in the past, although little management has taken place over the last 50 years. As a result of the storm of October 1987, parts of the woodland were severely damaged. A number of very old pollard oaks fringe the road on the southern edge of the wood. The pattern of the ground flora changes according to past use and management; some areas contain red campion, foxglove and dog's-mercury whilst others are dominated by bracken and bramble. There is a scatter of garden escapes in the wood but the species list also includes native plants, for example pignut, common spotted orchid, wood anemone and opposite-leaved golden saxifrage. Roe, muntjac and fallow deer are present in the wood and noctule bats have been recorded on this site. The woodland supports a comprehensive range of birds including treecreeper, nuthatch and all the species of woodpecker. A pair of nightingales held a territory to the south of Kesgrave Hall in 1989. The wood is under threat from the Kesgrave by-pass which would bisect it. Sinks Valley extends westwards from Kesgrave Wood to the lane which links Kesgrave with Playford. The valley supports areas of acid grassland, heathland, alder woodland and scrub, which together with Kesgrave Wood, form an important mosaic of semi-natural habitat along the valley. Scarce Suffolk species recorded in the valley are heath rush, bog moss and marsh valerian. In

addition, mossy stonecrop, a nationally scarce species is recorded in 16-100 10x10km squares in Great Britain, is present. In 1996, a large proportion of this site was confirmed as part of the Sinks Valley, Kesgrave SSSI.

RNR Number 0

Area 19.32

Appendix 23.1 Ends Here