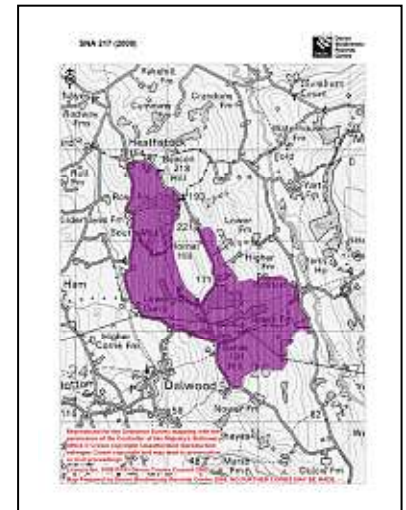


## 1. SNA details

<b>SNA name:</b>	Heathstock to Elford
<b>SNA unique number:</b>	217
<b>SNA area (ha):</b>	205.02



## 2. Summary of nature conservation interest

### Priority BAP habitats

<b>Main Regional Nature Map habitat:</b>	Purple Moor Grass & Rush Pasture
<b>Other Regional Nature Map habitat(s):</b>	
<b>Other UK BAP habitats:</b>	Hedges, Lowland mixed deciduous woodland, wet woodland and lowland meadow.

Sited on steeply sloping land to either side of Horner Hill and Danes Hill, north east of the village of Dalwood, this SNA does not have a strong identity as far as habitat types are concerned. The only piece of Purple Moor Grass & Rush Pasture habitat mapped is a high quality springline mire, isolated from other similar habitat.

There are unmapped patches of unimproved neutral grassland and secondary woodland present within OSWI's & unconfirmed wildlife sites. Ashcombe Copse is semi-natural ancient woodland and Thorney Cleave Copse, another County Wildlife Site woodland, contains many ancient woodland indicator species. There is an area of wet woodland in the River Yarty valley adjacent to the springline mire.

The following species have been recorded within SNA 217:

<b>Important species or species assemblage</b>	<b>Status</b>
Birds including Yellowhammer, Bullfinch and Spotted flycatcher	All S.41, Red
Butterflies typical of Culm grassland including Brown hairstreak and Small pearl bordered fritillary	All S.41 Nb (Brown hairstreak) Decline (small pearl bordered fritillary)
Rest harrow moth (found on calcareous grassland and only in South East England, so some doubt on presence)	RDB3
Common dormouse	S.41, DBAP
Notable plants including Round leaved crowfoot, Green winged orchid and Buckthorn	DN1
Lesser Horseshoe Bat (just outside of SNA boundary)	S.41, Habitats Directive, WCA

See Appendix 1 for further species recorded in SNA 217.

## Nature conservation designations

There are no statutory sites within this SNA.

The SNA does include four County Wildlife Sites covering habitats including: ancient semi-natural and secondary broadleaved woodland, unimproved neutral grassland and springline mire.

There are no Regionally Important Geological Sites present.

The SNA is within the Blackdown Hills AONB.

## 3. UK BAP Priority habitat maintenance and restoration targets for SNA no 217

(the measurement unit is hectare unless stated otherwise and is rounded up/down)

**Maintenance targets** (current extent of habitat) – 100 % favourable condition (based on NBN habitat layers)

UK BAP priority habitat	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	Wet Woodland	Woodland TOTAL	Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pasture	Lowland Meadow	TOTAL
Minimum area *	0	0	0	0.25	0	0.25
Maximum area #	8	0.77	9	6	2	17

\* current extent of habitat = a + b

a) sum of all the areas of criterion 1 polygons

b) number of criterion 2 polygons multiplied by the minimum mappable unit for that habitat

[criterion 3 polygons not included]

# current extent of habitat = criterion 1 + criterion 2 + criterion 3

### Theoretical restoration/creation targets using Rebuilding Biodiversity (RB) methodology:

The Rebuilding Biodiversity in the South West Technical Manual, November 2005 suggests the following restoration/creation targets for a Strategic Nature Area profile where the priority habitat is purple moor grass & rush pasture.

- 30% cover of priority habitat
- 30% cover of other semi-natural habitat
- 40% cover of other land uses.

This SNA will be further developed as follows:

#### **4. Opportunities for habitat restoration and creation in the SNA**

This is an optional but desirable section to be completed by local experts and which would outline the practical opportunities for habitat restoration and creation on the ground. This may include emphasising the importance of an SNA for habitats additional to the primary one for which it was identified or, indeed, for particular species.

This section can also be used to develop more realistic habitat restoration targets, which could then be used to refine the theoretical targets listed above.

#### **5. Constraints to habitat restoration and creation in the SNA**

As above, but in this case outlining the constraints to habitat restoration and creation in the SNA.

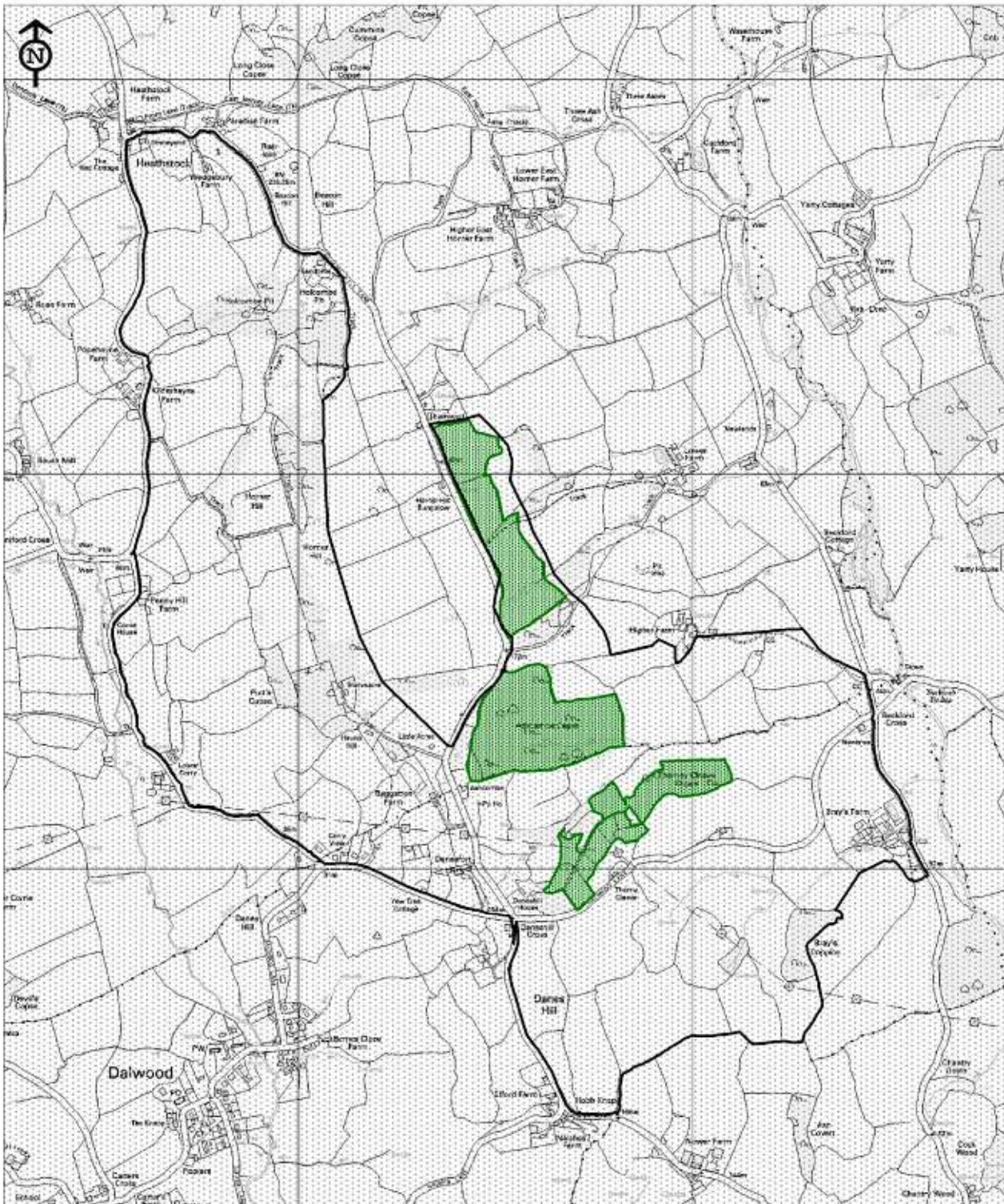
#### **6. Other information**

This is another optional section reliant upon local knowledge of the SNA. This section can be used for any other information that might be useful. It may be particularly useful for those SNAs within which there current projects or for which projects are planned.

Contents could include:

- Restoration targets for BAP habitats additional to the main nature map habitat.
- Maps detailing areas for restoration
- Nature conservation objectives
- And so on.


# Designated sites within SNA 217 (2009)



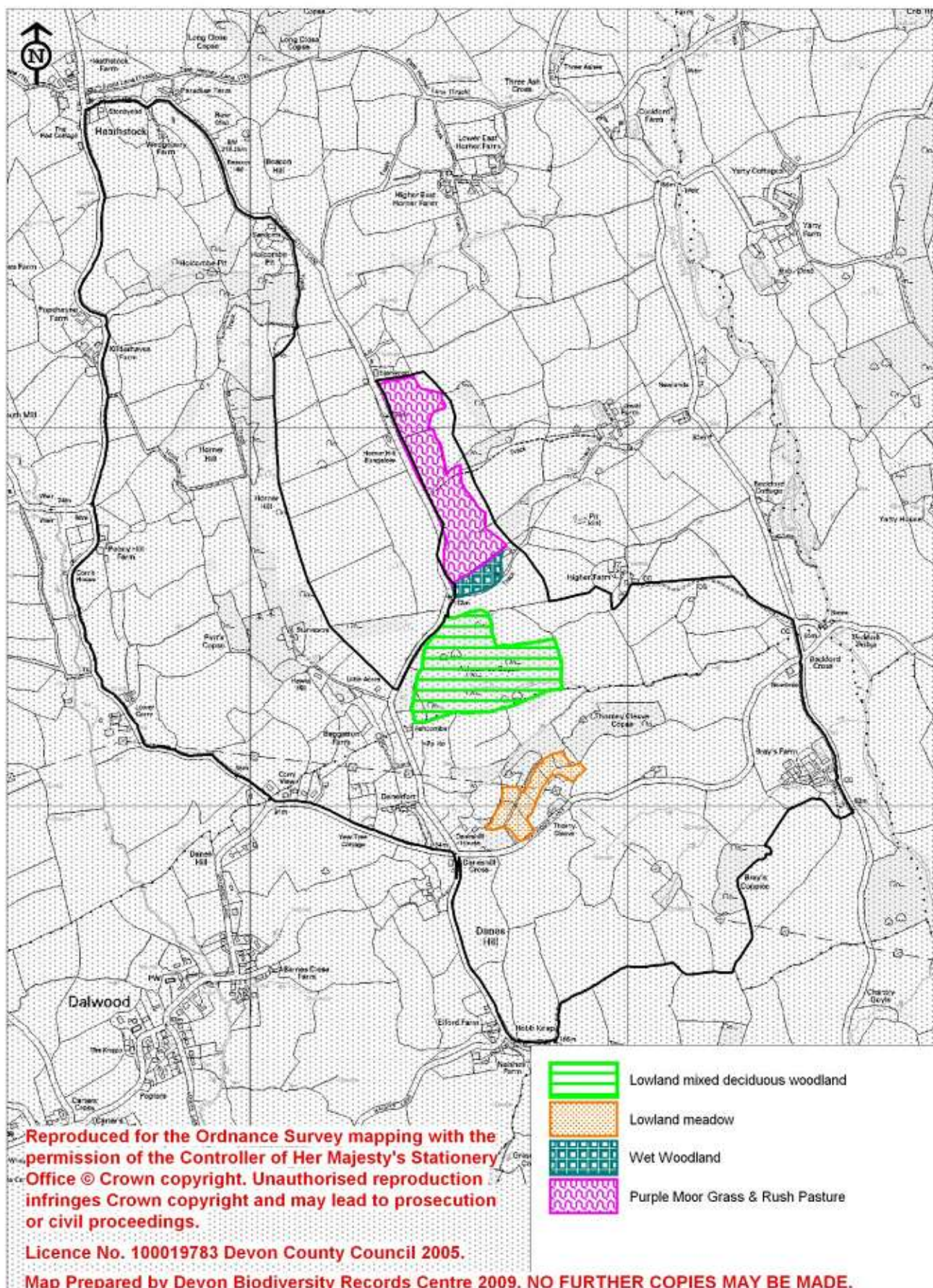
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 County Wildlife Site (CWS)

# Selected UK BAP priority habitats within SNA 217 (2009)



Appendix 1: Legally protected and notable species found within SNA 217.

Common name	Scientific name	Status
Badger	<i>Meles meles</i>	WCA
Brown Hairstreak	<i>Thecla betulae</i>	S.41; Nb
Buckthorn	<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>	DN1; DR
Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	S.41; Red
Common Dormouse	<i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>	S.41; DBAP
Corky-Fruited Water-Dropwort	<i>Oenanthe pimpinelloides</i>	DN3
Cowslip	<i>Primula veris</i>	DN3
Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>	Amber
Green-Winged Orchid	<i>Orchis morio</i>	DN1
Primrose	<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	DBAP
Rest Harrow Moth	<i>Aplasta ononaria</i>	RDB3
Round-leaved Crowfoot	<i>Ranunculus omiophyllus</i>	DN1
Slow-Worm	<i>Anguis fragilis</i>	S.41
Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria selene</i>	S.41; Decline
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	S.41; Red
Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	Amber
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	Amber
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	S.41; Red

**WCA**            **Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981)**

**DA**             **Deer Act 1991:** deer protected under the Deer Act.

**S.41**            **Species or habitat of principal importance in England (i.e. English BAP priority species / habitats – see Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)**

**DBAP**            **Devon Biodiversity Action Plan species:** these have been identified as species of key conservation concern in Devon.

**NR**             **Nationally Rare:** 1-15 10km squares in Atlas of British Flora 1962.

**NS**             **Nationally Scarce:** 15-100 10km squares in Atlas of British Flora 1962.

**Devon Notable Species:** species recorded from 2km squares Atlas of Devon Flora 1984 (R.B. Ivimey-Cook, Department of Biological Sciences, The University of Exeter).

**DN1**            **Devon Notable<sup>1</sup>:** 1-25 2 km squares in Atlas of Devon Flora 1984.

**DN2**            **Devon Notable<sup>2</sup>:** 26-50 2 km squares in Atlas of Devon Flora 1984.

**DN3**            **Devon Notable<sup>3</sup>:** Selected species recorded from over 50 2 km squares in Atlas of Devon Flora 1984.

**DR**             **Devon Rarity:** native species recorded from 3 or fewer localities within Devon.

**Na**             **Nationally Notable A:** known from 30 or fewer 10km squares. Taken from the Invertebrate Site Register.

**Nb**             **Nationally Notable B:** known from 100 or fewer 10km squares. Taken from the Invertebrate Site Register.

**Decline**        Substantial local decline in Devon

**Red List**        Bird species of high conservation concern, such as those whose population or range is rapidly declining, recently or historically, and those of global conservation concern.

**Amber List**

Bird species of medium conservation concern, such as those whose population is in moderate decline, rare breeders, internationally important and localised species and those of unfavourable conservation status in Europe.

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