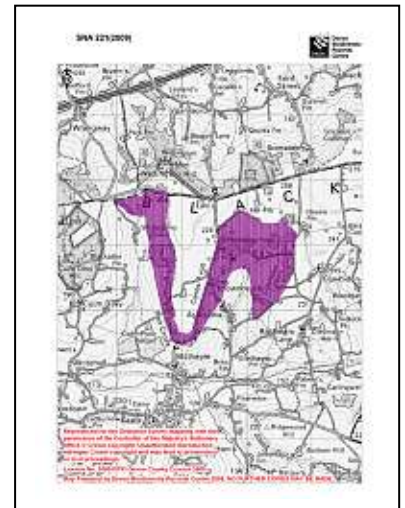


1. SNA details

SNA name:	Ashculm Turbary
SNA unique number:	221
SNA area (ha):	227.87



2. Summary of nature conservation interest

Priority BAP habitats

Main Regional Nature Map habitat:	Purple Moor Grass & Rush Pasture
Other Regional Nature Map habitat(s):	
Other UK BAP habitats:	Lowland Heathland, Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland, Wet Woodland, Lowland Meadows, Lowland Dry Acid Grassland, Hedges.

This SNA is in the Blackdowns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and includes the valley sides of the Blackdown hills around Simonsburrow and South of Wellington Monument. Springs originating in this area run down into the coombes leading down to the River Culm. Gradients vary from 175 to 245M. Although the SNA has been designated for purple moor grass & rush pasture it includes a mosaic of habitats which support a diverse range of species including:

Important species or species assemblage	Status
Butterfly food plants e.g. Devils Bit Scabious.	
Butterflies e.g. Marsh Fritillary, Small Heath, Wall Brown, Pearl-Bordered Fritillary.	S.41 (Marsh Fritillary, Small Heath, Wall Brown, P_B Fritillary) DBAP, Nationally notable (Marsh Fritillary, P-B Fritillary)
Reptiles & Amphibians e.g. Adder, Viviparous Lizard, Frogs, Grass Snake, Smooth Newt all recorded.	S.41 (Adder, Viviparous Lizard, Grass Snake)
Common Dormouse	S.41, DBAP
Other invertebrates: dragonflies e.g. Keeled Skimmer; damselflies; spiders; flies; beetles.	Nationally Important (Keeled Skimmer)
Barn-Owl	DBAP, Amber bird list

See Appendix 1 for further species recorded in SNA 221.

Nature conservation designations

Please refer to a site's formal citation for a complete consideration of the reasons for its designation.

Designation	Site Name	Description
SSSI	Ashculm Turbary	Dry and wet lowland heath & peat bog communities

(Ashculm Turbary SSSI is also a Devon Wildlife Trust (DWT) nature reserve.)

In addition the SNA includes 10 County Wildlife Sites covering habitats including: wet and dry secondary broadleaved woodland, scrub, wet and dry heath, unimproved neutral and marshy grassland, semi-improved acidic grassland, mires, bogs and rush pasture.

There are no Regionally Important Geological Sites.

3. UK BAP Priority habitat maintenance and restoration targets for SNA no 221

(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	Fens	Purple Moor Grass & Rush Pasture	Lowland Dry Acid Grassland	Lowland Meadow	Lowland Heathland	TOTAL
Minimum area *				0.25					0.25
Maximum area #	13	33	46	7	5	4	1	11	74

* 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.

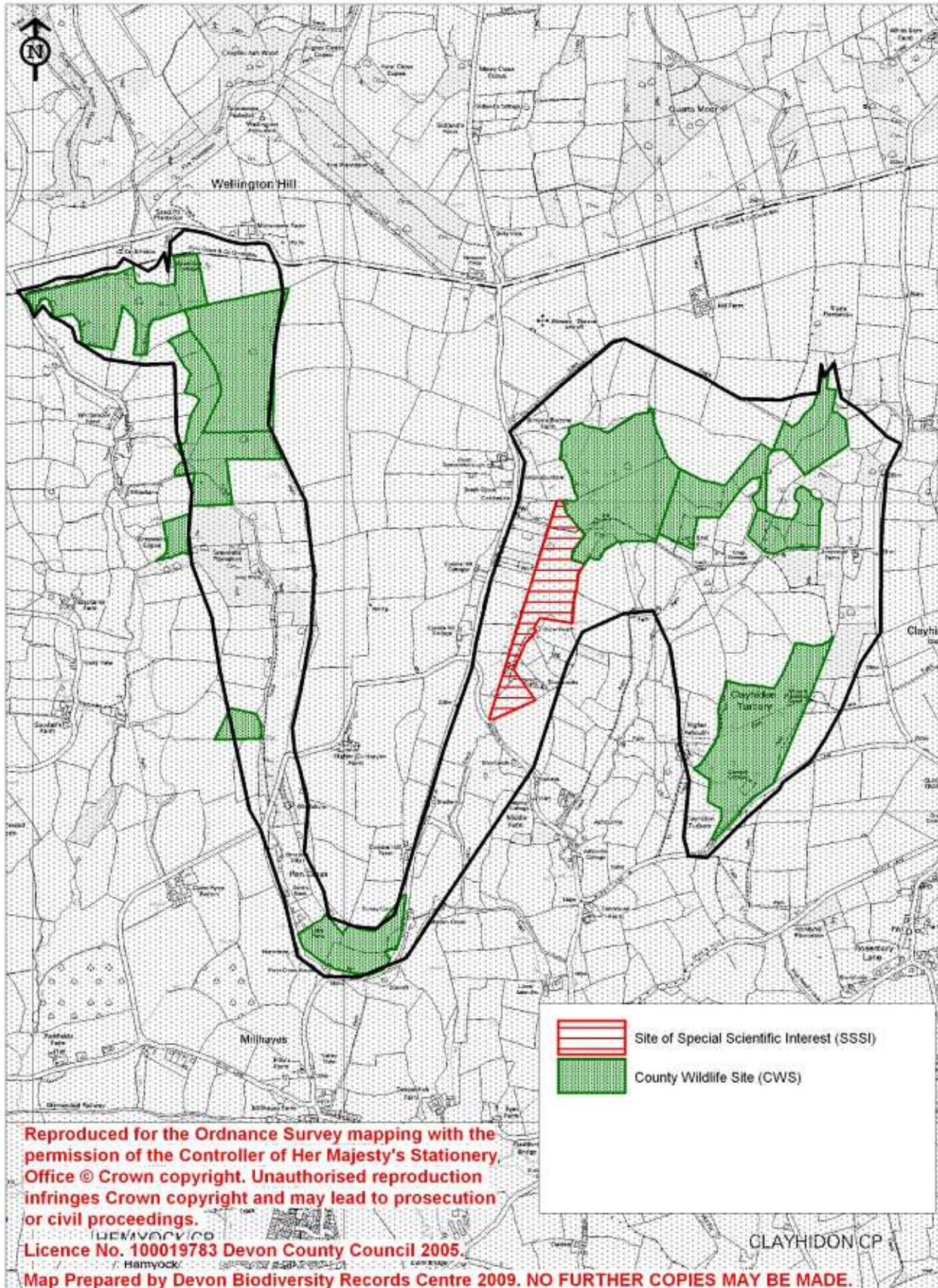
6. Other information

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.

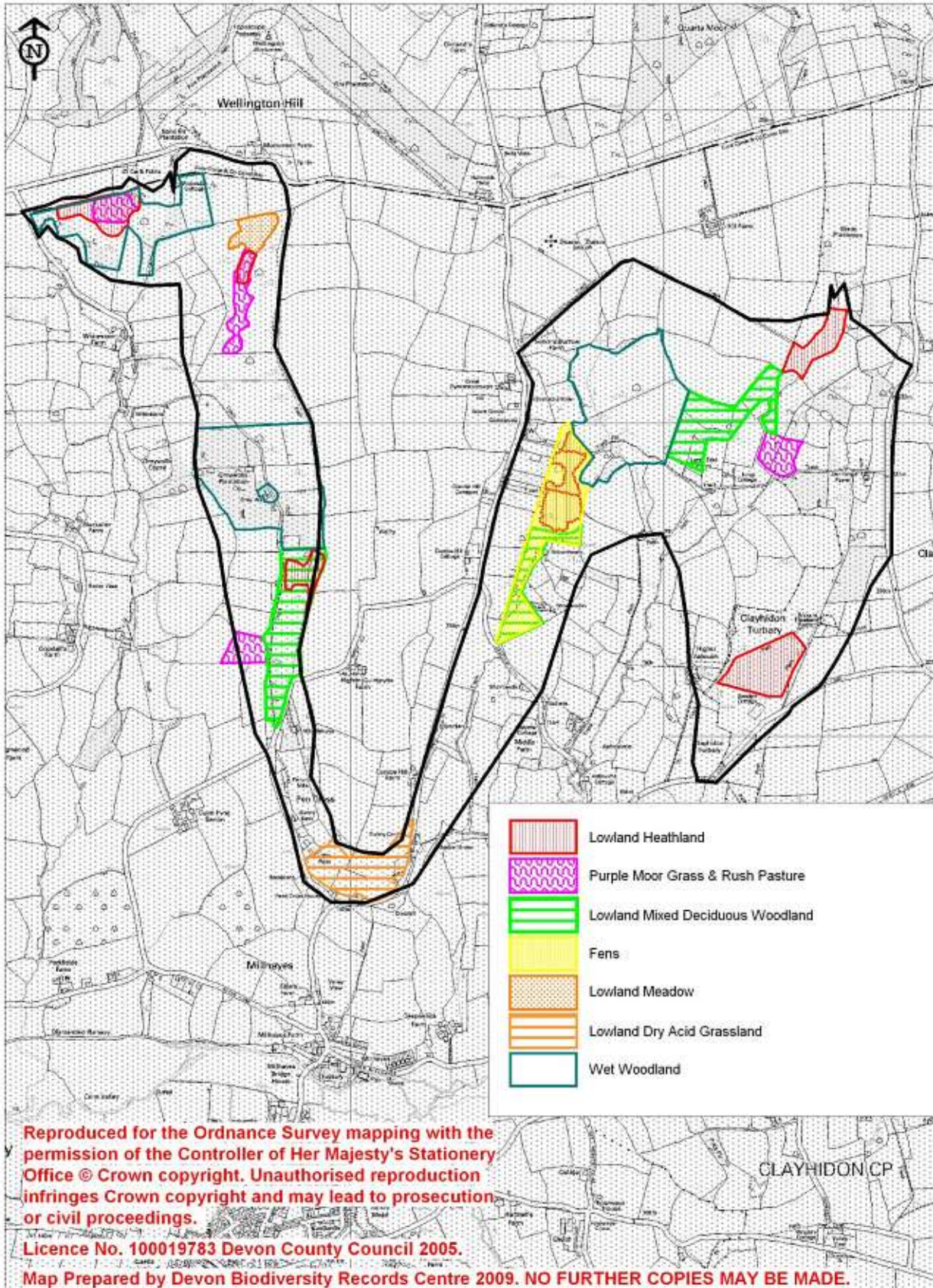
Contents could include:

- 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 221 (2009)



Selected UK BAP priority habitats within SNA 221 (2009)



Appendix 1: Legally protected & notable species recorded within SNA 221 (2009)

Common name	Scientific name	Status
Adder	<i>Vipera berus</i>	S.41
Broad-Leaved Cottongrass	<i>Eriophorum latifolium</i>	DR
Common Dormouse	<i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>	S.41; DBAP
Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>	WCA
Corky-Fruited Water-Dropwort	<i>Oenanthe pimpinelloides</i>	DN3
Keeled Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum coerulescens</i>	KeyD (N)
Lesser Butterfly-Orchid	<i>Platanthera bifolia</i>	S.41; DN3
Long-Leaved Sundew	<i>Drosera intermedia</i>	DN2
Marsh Fritillary	<i>Eurodryas aurinia</i>	S.41; DBAP; Nb
Marsh Valerian	<i>Valeriana dioica</i>	DN3
Needle Spike-Rush	<i>Eleocharis acicularis</i>	NS; DN1
Primrose	<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	DBAP
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	S.41
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Amber
Tooth fungus	<i>Phellodon melaleucus</i>	UKBAP (GPC)
Viviparous Lizard	<i>Lacerta vivipara</i>	S.41
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	S.41
White Beak-Sedge	<i>Rhynchospora alba</i>	DN2

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

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.

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 Notable¹:** 1-25 2 km squares in Atlas of Devon Flora 1984.

DN2 **Devon Notable²:** 26-50 2 km squares in Atlas of Devon Flora 1984.

DN3 **Devon Notable³:** 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.

KeyD (N) **Nationally Important Key Dragonfly Species:** those which have been recorded in less than 10% of 10km squares in Britain. Those occurring in Devon are White-legged damselfly (*Platycnemis pennipes*) Scarce blue-tailed damselfly (*Ischnura pumilio*) Small red damselfly (*Ceragrion tenellum*) Hairy dragonfly (*Brachytron pratense*) Downy emerald (*Cordulia aenea*) and Keeled skimmer (*Orthetrum coerulescens*).