

## 1. SNA details

<b>SNA name:</b>	Belstone Corner
<b>SNA unique number:</b>	402
<b>SNA area (ha):</b>	176.89



## 2. Summary of nature conservation interest

### Priority BAP habitats:

<b>Main Regional Nature Map habitat:</b>	Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pasture
<b>Other Regional Nature Map habitat(s):</b>	
<b>Other UK BAP habitats:</b>	Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland, Ponds, Hedges, Rivers.

An area of undulating farmland with springs originating in certain areas.

Floristically rich purple moor grass and rush pasture occurs in the wetter areas in a mosaic with scrub and lowland mixed deciduous woodland providing excellent habitat for birds and invertebrates.

<b>Important species or species assemblage</b>	<b>Status</b>
Devon notable flowering plants e.g. Lesser Butterfly Orchid, Petty Whin, Pale Heath Violet.	S.41 (Lesser Butterfly Orchid, Pale Heath Violet) Devon notable plants (all) Nationally scarce (Pale Heath Violet)
Butterfly food plants e.g. Devils Bit Scabious.	
Butterflies (28 species recorded at Gilmoor and Moorlands SSSI) e.g. Marsh Fritillary, Small Pearl-Bordered Fritillary, Silver Washed Fritillary, Brown Hairstreak.	S.41 (Marsh Fritillary & Small Pearl-Bordered Fritillary, Brown Hairstreak)  DBAP, Nationally notable (Marsh Fritillary)
Other invertebrates e.g. dragonflies, damselflies, spiders, flies, beetles.	
Birds e.g. Barn-Owl, Grasshopper Warbler, Tree pipit, Woodlark.	S.41 ( Grasshopper Warbler, Tree pipit, Woodlark) DBAP (Barn Owl) Red bird list (Grasshopper Warbler, Tree pipit) Amber bird list (Barn Owl, Woodlark)
Bats e.g. Brown Long-eared bat, Pipistrelle	S.41
Mammals e.g. Brown Hare, Red Deer.	S.41; DBAP (Brown Hare)

The species listed above are taken from the SSSI citation, County Wildlife Site (CWS) survey cards or as incidental records for this SNA. See Appendix 1 for further species recorded in SNA 402.

## 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	Gilmoor and Moorlands	Unimproved herb-rich acidic grassland with scrub and woodland. Butterfly interest.

In addition the SNA includes 4 County Wildlife Sites covering habitats including: culm grassland, acidic grassland, scrub, bracken and secondary woodland.

There are no Regionally Important Geological Sites within this SNA.

### 3. UK BAP Priority habitat maintenance and restoration targets for SNA no 402

(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	Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pasture	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	Fens	TOTAL
Minimum area *	0.5			0.5
Maximum area #	18	17	11	46

\* current extent of habitat = a + b

a) sum of all the areas of criterion 1 polygons (*Definitely is*)

b) number of criterion 2 polygons multiplied by the minimum mappable unit for that habitat (*Definitely present within polygon but not mappable*)  
 [criterion 3 polygons not included] (*Probably the Priority Habitat but some uncertainty of interpretation*)

# 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.

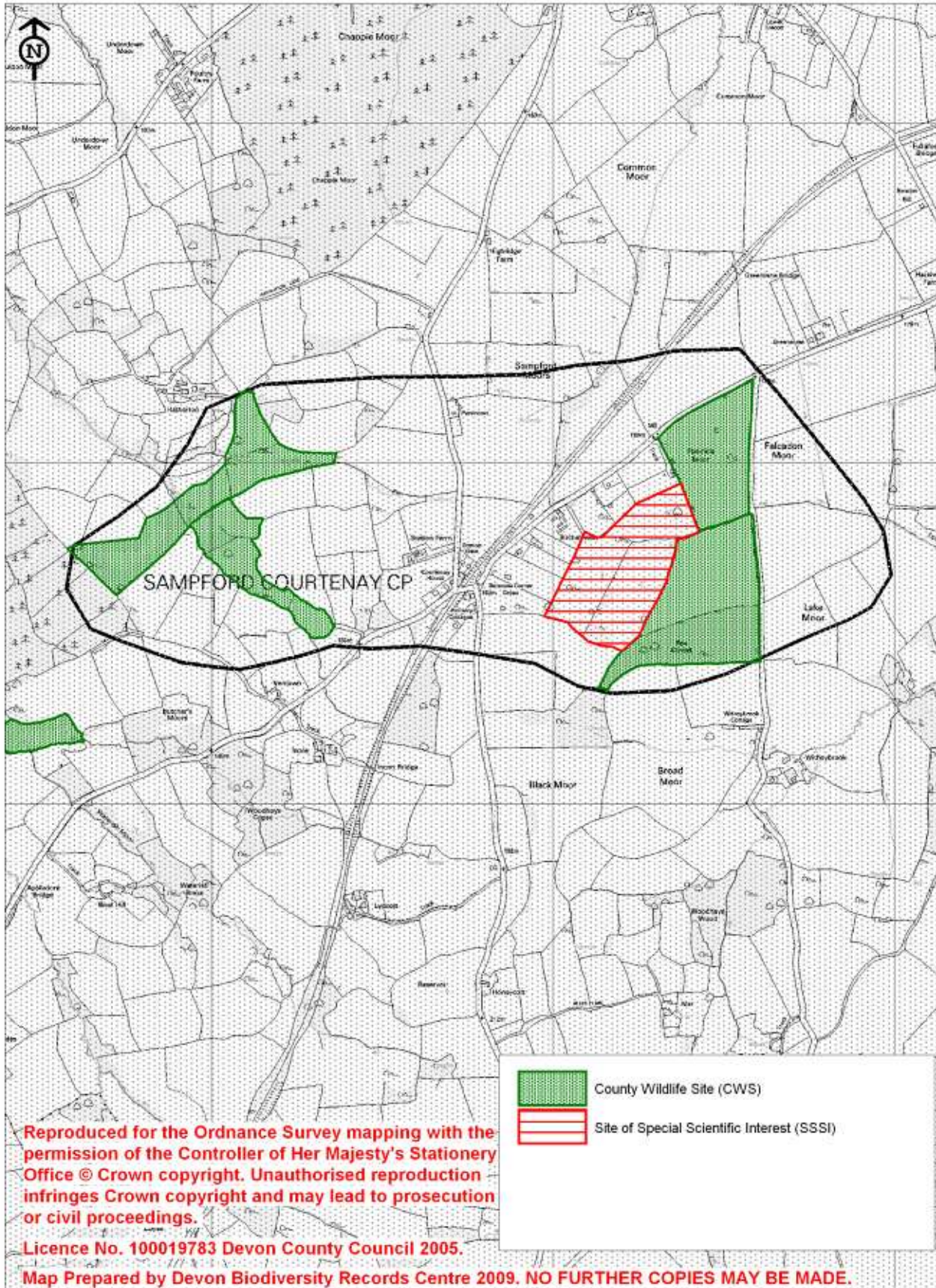
#### **6. Other information**

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.

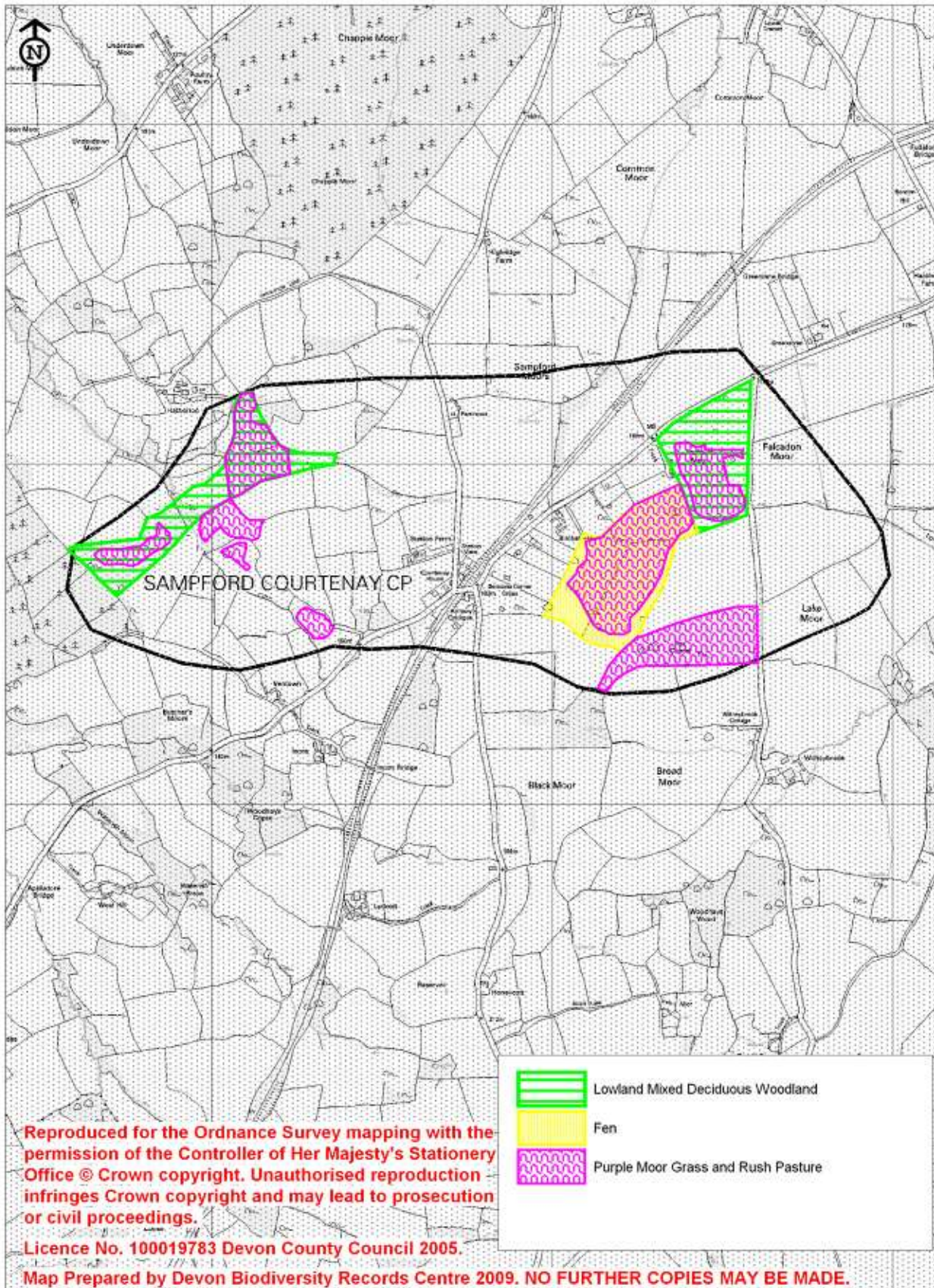
Contents could include:

- 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 402 (2009)



# Selected UKBAP priority habitats within SNA 402 (2009)



**Legally protected and notable species recorded in 402 (2009)**

<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific name</b>	<b>Status</b>
Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	S.41; DBAP
Brown Long-Eared Bat	<i>Plecotus auritus</i>	S.41
Chaffweed	<i>Anagallis minima</i>	DN1; DR
Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>	WCA
Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>	S.41; Decline
Grasshopper Warbler	<i>Locustella naevia</i>	S.41; Red
Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>	Decline
Marsh Fritillary	<i>Eurodryas aurinia</i>	S.41; DBAP; Nb
Pale Heath Violet	<i>Viola lactea</i>	S.41; NS; DN2
Petty Whin	<i>Genista anglica</i>	DN3
Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	WCA
Purple Hairstreak	<i>Quercusia quercus</i>	Decline
Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>	DA
Redpoll	<i>Carduelis flammea</i>	Amber

**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 / habitat)** – 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 in the 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.

**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.