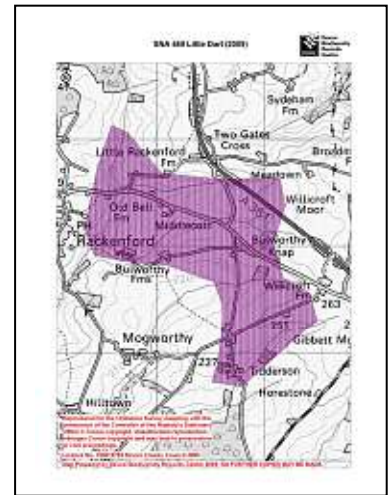


1. SNA details

SNA name:	Little Dart
SNA unique number:	469
SNA area (ha):	238.88



2. Summary of nature conservation interest

Priority BAP habitats:

Main Regional Nature Map habitat:	Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pasture
Other Regional Nature Map habitat(s):	
Other UK BAP habitats:	Lowland acid grassland, wet woodland, hedges, rivers, ponds

This SNA is part of a group of Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pasture SNAs around the Rackenford and Knowstone area, stretching from Colliers Moor in the north, to Witheridge Moor in the south (SNAs 331, 470, 329, 330, 527 and 328). It is between (and adjacent to) SNAs 328 and 527.

The land is relatively flat, apart from a couple of small river valleys (including the Little Dart River). There are 10 Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pasture sites, with some unimproved acid grassland, secondary woodland and broadleaved plantations. Some of the Culm sites include alder and willow scrub, so would probably contain wet woodland, although this has not been included on the wet woodland inventory. The rest of the SNA is farmland, with some good thick hedges.

Important species or species assemblage	Status
Devon notable flowering plants e.g. Lesser Butterfly Orchid, Wavy-Leaved St John's Wort, Bottle Sedge, Pale Sedge, Round-leaved Crowfoot, Wood Club-rush.	S.41 (Lesser Butterfly Orchid) Devon notable plants
Butterfly food plants e.g. Devils Bit Scabious.	
Butterflies e.g. Marsh Fritillary, Small Pearl-Bordered Fritillary.	S.41 (Marsh Fritillary & Small Pearl-Bordered Fritillary) DBAP, Nationally notable (Marsh Fritillary)
Moths e.g. Narrow-bordered Bee Hawk-moth.	S.41, Nationally notable
Other invertebrates e.g. dragonflies, damselflies, spiders, flies, beetles.	
Farmland Birds e.g. Curlew, Barn-Owl, Snipe, Reed Bunting, Tree Pipit, Willow Warbler, Redpoll, Marsh Tit.	S.41 (Reed Bunting, Tree Pipit) DBAP (Curlew, Barn Owl) Red bird list (Tree Pipit, Marsh Tit) Amber bird list (Curlew, Barn Owl, Snipe, Reed Bunting, Willow Warbler, Redpoll)
Dormouse	S.41, DBAP
Otter	S.41, DBAP
Brown Long-eared Bat	S.41

Species in **bold** recorded on this SNA. See Appendix 1 for further species recorded in SNA 469

Nature conservation designations

There are no designated sites within this SNA.

There are seven County Wildlife Sites covering habitats including: Culm grassland: species-rich Molinia mire and rush pasture, unimproved acid grassland, alder and willow scrub, tall herb vegetation, tussock sedge swamp and ponds.

There are no Regionally Important Geological Sites present.

3. UK BAP Priority habitat maintenance and restoration targets for SNA no 469

(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	TOTAL
Minimum area *	1	1
Maximum area #	24	24

* 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 and rush pasture:

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

This SNA profile 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.

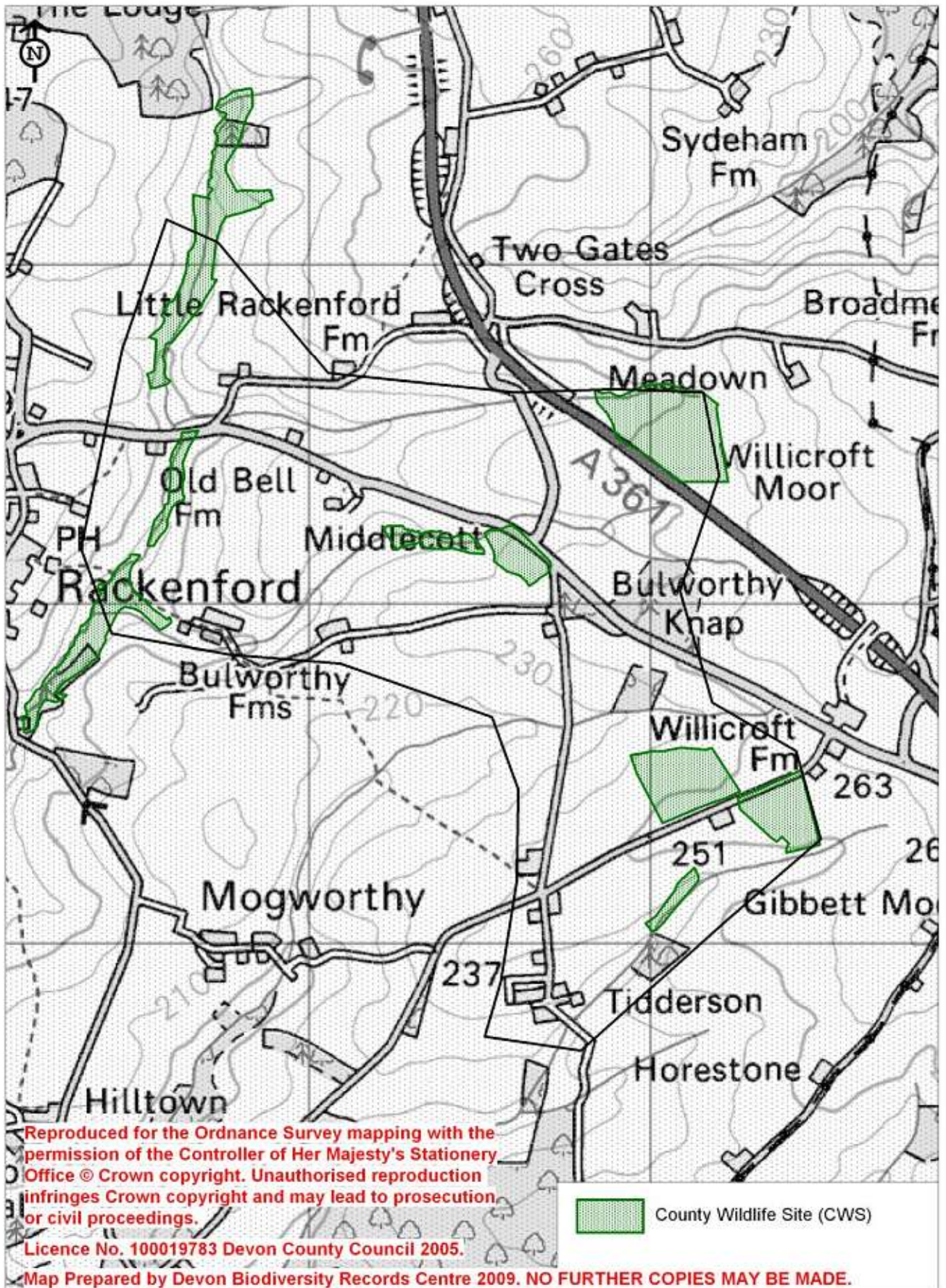
6. Other information

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.

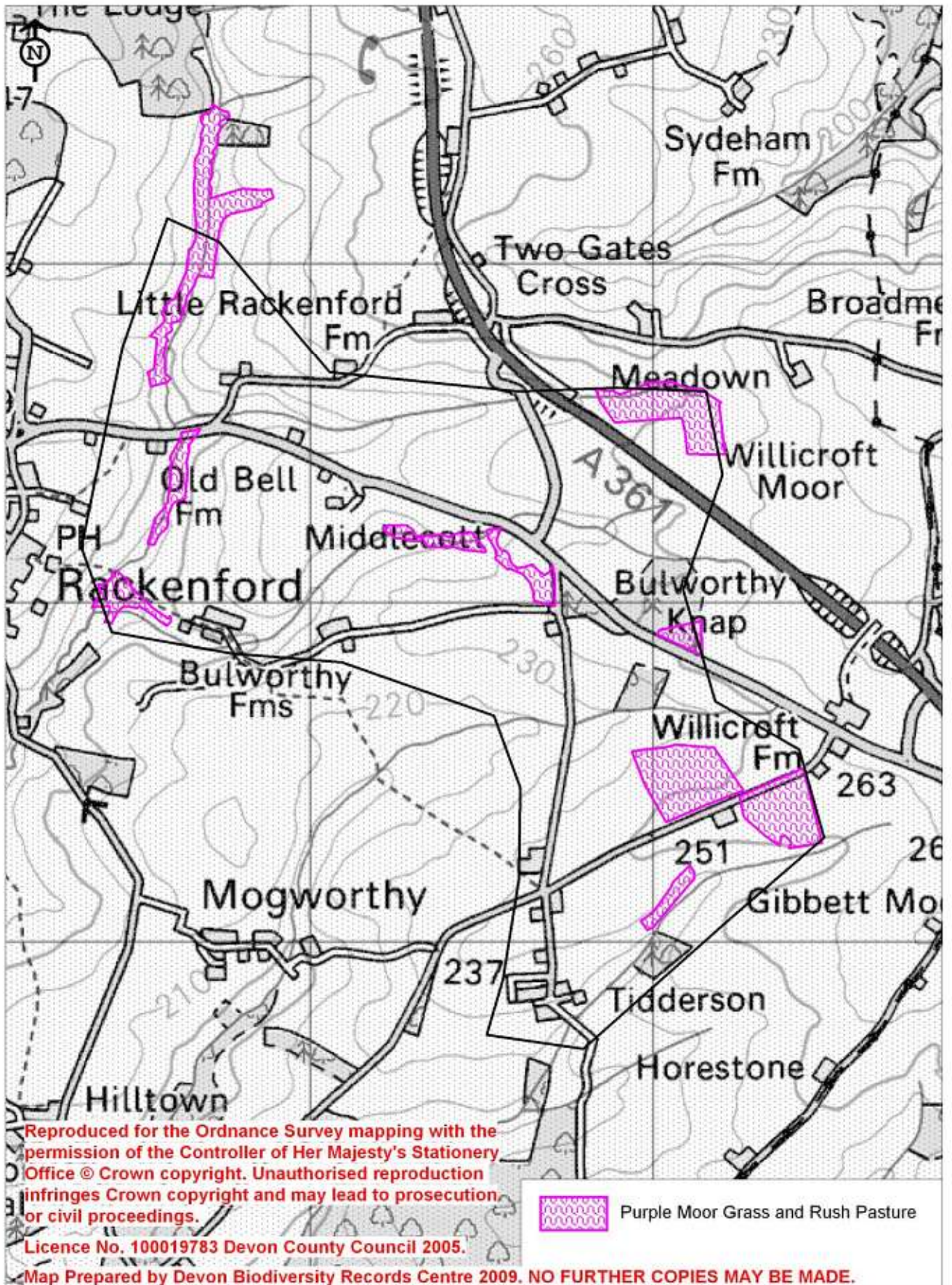
Contents could include:

- 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 469 Little Dart (2009)



Selected UKBAP Habitats within SNA 469 Little Dart (2009)



Appendix 1: Legally protected and notable species found within SNA 469 Little Dart

Common name	Scientific name	Status
a Bat	Chiroptera	WCA
Bottle Sedge	Carex rostrata	DN3
Brown Long-eared Bat	Plecotus auritus	WCA, S.41
Marsh Tit	Parus palustris	Red
Pale Sedge	Carex pallescens	DN2
Redpoll	Carduelis flammea	Amber
Roe Deer	Capreolus capreolus	DA
Round-leaved Crowfoot	Ranunculus omiophyllus	DN1
Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	Boloria selene	S.41; Decline
Tree Pipit	Anthus trivialis	S.41; Red
Willow Warbler	Phylloscopus trochilus	Amber
Wood Club-rush	Scirpus sylvaticus	DN3

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).

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 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.

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.