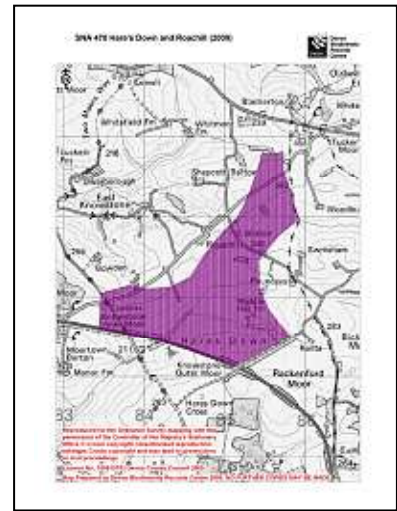


1. SNA details

SNA name:	Hare's Down and Roachill
SNA unique number:	470
SNA area (ha):	269.93



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:	Hedges, Lowland heathland, Fens, Lowland mixed deciduous woodland, wet woodland.

This SNA is one of a number of similar SNA's at Knowstone and Rackenford, divided by the North Devon Relief Road. Together they form the largest single area of Culm grassland in Devon. This one contains high quality Culm grassland across the southern portion, which is designated as a Special Area of Conservation (therefore of international importance) and as a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

A significant area of dry and wet lowland heathland is also present within the southern sector of this SNA. In the northern part of the SNA at Wiston Moor CWS is a separate parcel of Purple Moor Grass, containing NVC habitat M24. The land is generally between 200 and 250 metres above sea level and undulating.

The following important species have been recorded within this SNA:

Important species or species assemblage	Status
Birds found on Purple Moor Grass & Rush Pasture e.g. Curlew	S.41, DBAP, Amber
Other priority birds e.g. Tree pipit, Grasshopper warbler, Reed bunting, Cuckoo	All S.41 Red (Tree pipit, grasshopper warbler, Cuckoo) Amber (Reed bunting)
Typical butterflies of Purple Moor Grass & Rush Pasture e.g. Marsh fritillary, Small heath	All S.41 DBAP, Nb (Marsh fritillary)
Barn Owl (just outside SNA boundary)	DBAP, Amber
Turtle Dove	S.41, Red
Lesser butterfly orchid, typical of the main habitat	S.41, DN3
Otter	S.41, DBAP

See Appendix 1 for further species recorded in SNA 470.

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
SAC	Culm Grassland	Culm grassland: wet and dry heath, species rich <i>Molinia</i> mire & rush pasture. Plant, bird & invertebrate interest.
SSSI	Hares Down, Knowstone and Rackenford Moors	Lowland heathland; Lowland mixed deciduous woodland; Purple moor grass and rush pasture; Wet woodland

In addition the SNA includes four County Wildlife Sites covering habitats including: Culm grassland: species-rich *Molinia* mire, wet heath, rush pasture. The Rackenford and Knowstone DWT reserve is present.

There are no Regionally Important Geological Sites.

3. UK BAP Priority habitat maintenance and restoration targets for SNA no 470 (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	Lowland Heathland	Fens**	Purple Moor Grass & Rush Pasture	TOTAL
Minimum area *	1	1	2	12	0	0.25	14
Maximum area #	1	1	2	17	85	96	200

* 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

**The NBN habitat layer has a large area in this SNA mapped as 'lowland fen' however there is some doubt over the accuracy of this. Little reference could be found to fen habitat in survey data relating to this area and there is often confusion over the definition of fen and how it overlaps with mire, swamp and bog.

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 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.

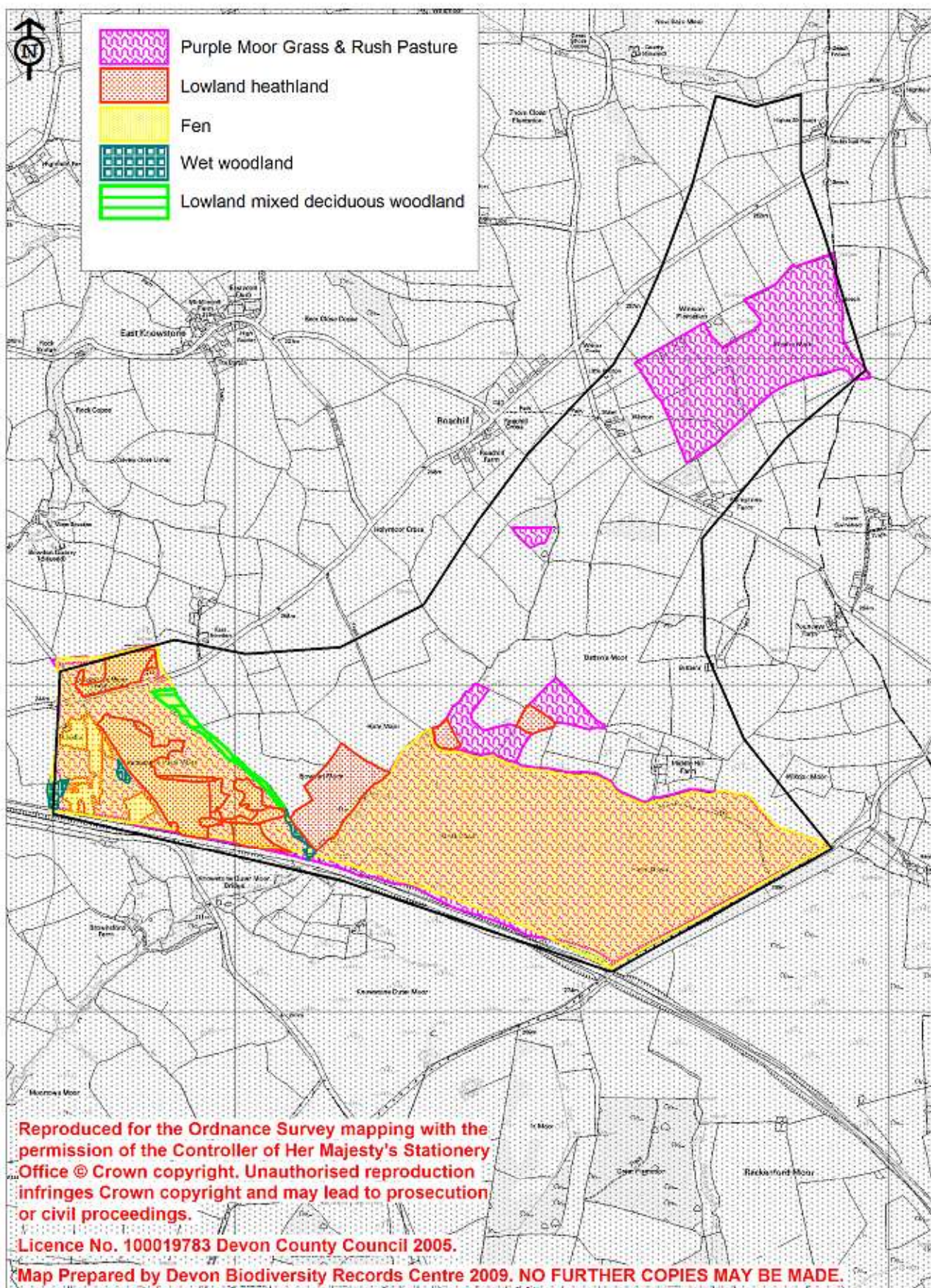
6. Other information

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.

**Selected UK BAP priority habitats within SNA 470
Hare's Down & Roachill (2009)**



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Appendix 1: Legally protected and notable species found within SNA 470 Hare's Down & Roachill

Common name	Scientific name	Status
Badger	<i>Meles meles</i>	WCA
Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>	WCA
Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	S.41; Red
Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	S.41; DBAP; Amber
Garden Tiger	<i>Arctia caja</i>	S.41
Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>	Decline
Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>	S.41; Decline
Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	Red
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Amber
Lesser Butterfly-orchid	<i>Platanthera bifolia</i>	S.41; DN3
Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	S.41; Red
Marsh Fritillary	<i>Eurodryas aurinia</i>	S.41; DBAP; Nb
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	Amber
Otter	<i>Lutra lutra</i>	S.41; DBAP
Pearl Bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>	S.41; DBAP; Nb
Primrose	<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	DBAP
Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>	DA
Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	S.41; Amber
Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>	DA
Silver-studded Blue	<i>Plebejus argus</i>	S.41; Nb
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	S.41; Red
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	S.41
Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria selene</i>	S.41; Decline
Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	Amber
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	S.41; Red
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	S.41
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</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.

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 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.

- 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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