

1. SNA details

SNA name:	Bray Valley
SNA unique number:	512
SNA area (ha):	3,024.50



2. Summary of nature conservation interest

Priority BAP habitats:

Main Regional Nature Map habitat:	Woodland
Other Regional Nature Map habitat(s):	
Other UK BAP habitats:	Upland Heath, Lowland Heath, Blanket Bog, Purple Moor Grass & Rush Pasture, Lowland Meadows, Lowland Dry Acid Grassland, Hedges, Rivers.

Sites of ancient woodland occur on the steep river valley sides of the River Bray and its tributaries. Although many of these areas have been replanted with conifer and broadleaved plantation, some areas of semi-natural woodland remain. Species-rich areas of acid, marshy grassland and 'culm grassland' also occur alongside the Bray where springs originate in the fields. Higher up into Exmoor National Park, part of Shoulsbarrow Common is included in the SNA. This is part of North Exmoor SSSI and includes heathland habitat and blanket bog.

Important species or species assemblage	Status
Ancient Woodland Indicator plants e.g. Wood Sorrell, Hard Fern, Wood Anemone.	Ancient Woodland Indicator plants.
'Culm grassland' and acid grassland Devon notable plant species e.g. Ivy-leaved Bellflower, Round-leaved Crowfoot.	Devon notable plant species
Invertebrates associated with grassland sites e.g. dragonflies, damselflies, spiders, flies, beetles.	
Bats e.g. Brown Long-Eared Bat	S.41
Brown Hare	S.41; DBAP
Farmland birds e.g. Grey Partridge, Barn Owl, Skylark	S.41 (Grey Partridge, Skylark) DBAP (Barn Owl) Red (Grey Partridge, Skylark) Amber (Barn Owl)
Otter	S.41; DBAP
Common Dormouse	S.41; DBAP

See Appendix 1 for further species recorded within SNA 512

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	North Exmoor	A southern outpost of typically northern & upland elements of Britain's flora & fauna. Nationally important for its south-western lowland heath communities & for transitions from ancient semi-natural woodland through upland heath to blanket mire

In addition the SNA includes 22 County Wildlife Sites covering habitats including: Unimproved neutral, acid and marshy grassland; mire; rush pasture; ancient semi-natural woodland; broadleaved secondary woodland; ancient semi-natural woodland replanted with conifers and non-native broadleaves; scrub; bracken; culm grassland.

The Northern part of this SNA falls within Exmoor National Park.

There are no Regionally Important Geological Sites.

3. UK BAP Priority habitat maintenance and restoration targets for SNA no 512, Bray Valley

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

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

UK BAP priority habitat	Upland Oak Woodland	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	Woodland TOTAL	Blanket Bog	TOTAL
Minimum area *					
Maximum area #	41	323	364	5	369

* 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 semi-natural broadleaved woodland:

- 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.

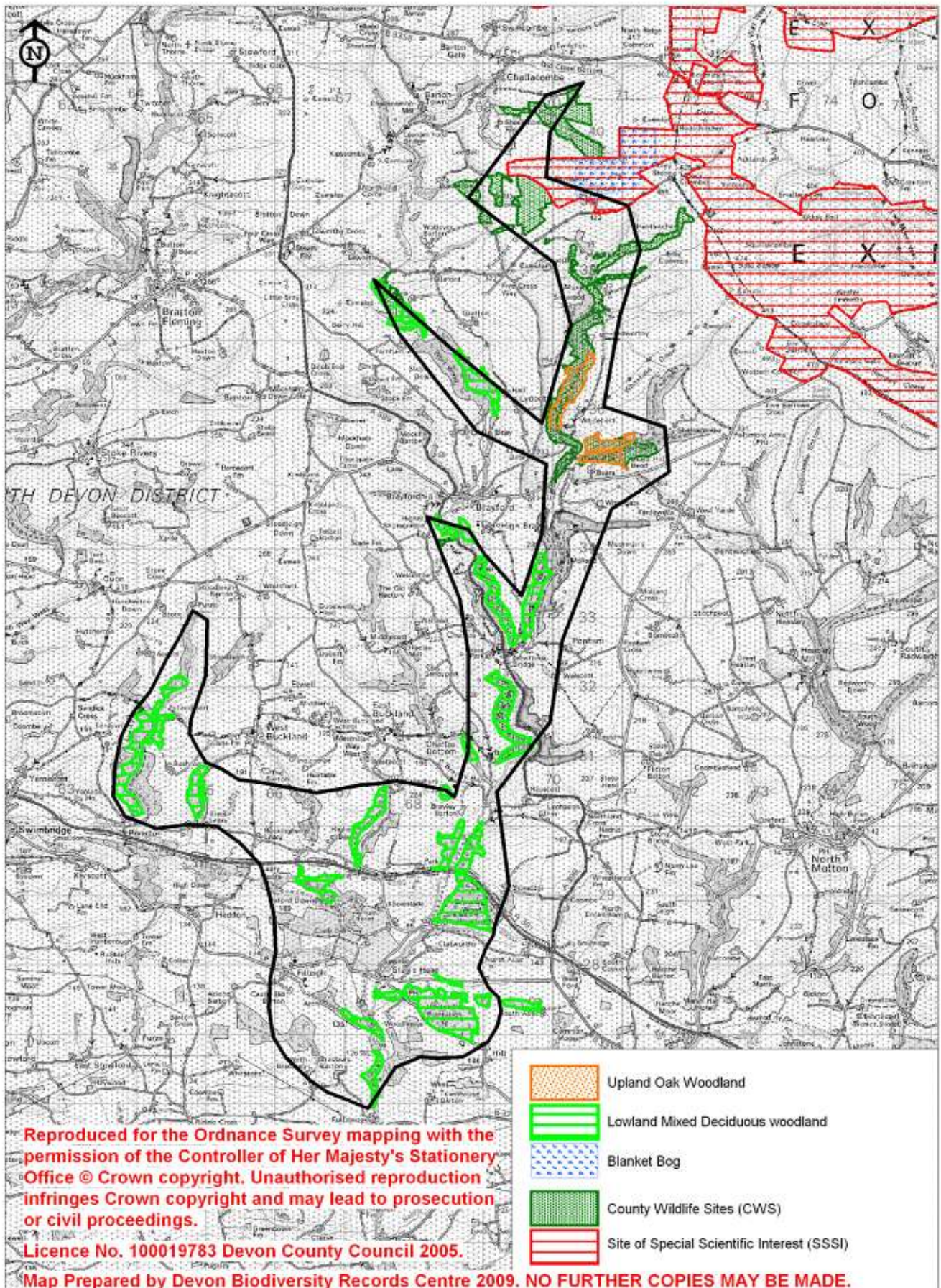
6. Other information

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 and UKBAP priority habitats within SNA 512 (2009)



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Appendix 1: Legally protected & notable species within SNA no 512 (2009)

Common name	Scientific name	Status
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	S.41
Badger	<i>Meles meles</i>	WCA
Brown Long-Eared Bat	<i>Plecotus auritus</i>	S.41
Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	WCA
Primrose	<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	DBAP
Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	S.41; DBAP
Otter	<i>Lutra lutra</i>	S.41; DBAP
Common Solomon's Seal	<i>Polygonatum multiflorum</i>	DN1
Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	DBAP; Amber
Common Dormouse	<i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>	S.41; DBAP
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	S.41; Red
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Amber
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	Amber
Ivy-leaved Bellflower	<i>Wahlenbergia hederacea</i>	DN3
Ring Ouzel	<i>Turdus torquatus</i>	Red
Round-leaved Crowfoot	<i>Ranunculus omiophyllus</i>	DN1
Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	Amber
Woodcock	<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>	Amber
Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>	WCA
Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>	WCA
a Lichen	<i>Usnea florida</i>	S.41

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

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.

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.

DN3 **Devon Notable³:** Selected species recorded from over 50 2 km squares in Atlas of Devon Flora 1984.

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.