

1. SNA details

SNA name:	Combpyne
SNA unique number:	619
SNA area (ha):	202.54



2. Summary of nature conservation interest

Priority BAP habitats

Main Regional Nature Map habitat:	Neutral grassland (lowland meadow), limestone grassland
Other Regional Nature Map habitat(s):	
Other UK BAP habitats:	Hedges, Rivers, Lowland calcareous grassland; Lowland mixed deciduous woodland, Lowland fen.

This SNA contains a roughly U-shaped steep sided series of ridges with a diverse range of habitats.

Bulmoor Pasture and Coppice SSSI occupies the north east portion of the SNA in a valley within which flows a small tributary of the River Axe. The SSSI has a complex geology and contains, in close proximity to one another, species-rich representative examples of certain types of ancient semi-natural woodland, calcareous grassland and spring-line mires. The SSSI contains an exceptionally large area of ancient Alder *Alnus glutinosa* dominated woodland and a bluebell carpeted Ash-Oak woodland. There are a series of spring-line mires which support a large colony of the scarce Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary butterfly *Boloria selene*. The SSSI also contains fields of *Avenula pubescens* calcareous grassland (CG6), which is a very rare habitat in Devon. The grassland and woodland areas of the SSSI were in unfavourable declining condition (2009) due to encroaching bracken and scrub.

Within another small valley to the south west at Combpyne there is a base-rich bog area but with encroaching woodland.

There are a number of Common dormouse records in woodlands within the SNA.

Important species or species assemblage	Status
Butterflies including small pearl-bordered fritillary, wood white, dingy skipper (latter found on chalk downland as well as woodland rides)	All S.41
Turtle dove	UKBAP(P); Red
Common dormouse	S.41; DBAP
Devon notable plants e.g. corky fruited water dropwort and great burnet	DN3
Tufted apple moss <i>Philonotis caespitosa</i>	Described in SSSI citation as only known from one other site from South Devon. Not designated.

See Appendix 1 for further species recorded within this SNA.

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	Bulmoor Pastures and Coppice	Ancient semi-natural woodland with unimproved calcareous grassland

In addition the SNA includes two County Wildlife Sites covering habitats including: Unimproved & semi-improved neutral grassland and marshy tall herb vegetation.

There are no Regionally Important Geological Sites within the SNA.

The SNA is within the East Devon AONB.

UK BAP Priority habitat maintenance and restoration targets for SNA no 619 (the measurement unit is hectare unless stated otherwise)

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

UK BAP priority habitat	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	Lowland Meadow	Fen**	Lowland Calcareous Grassland	TOTAL
Minimum area *	0.25	0.75	0	6	7
Maximum area #	23	5	24	6	58

* 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. There are a number of spring-line mires within the fen mapped area but they do not cover the entire mapped area.

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 lowland meadow or limestone grassland:

- 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.

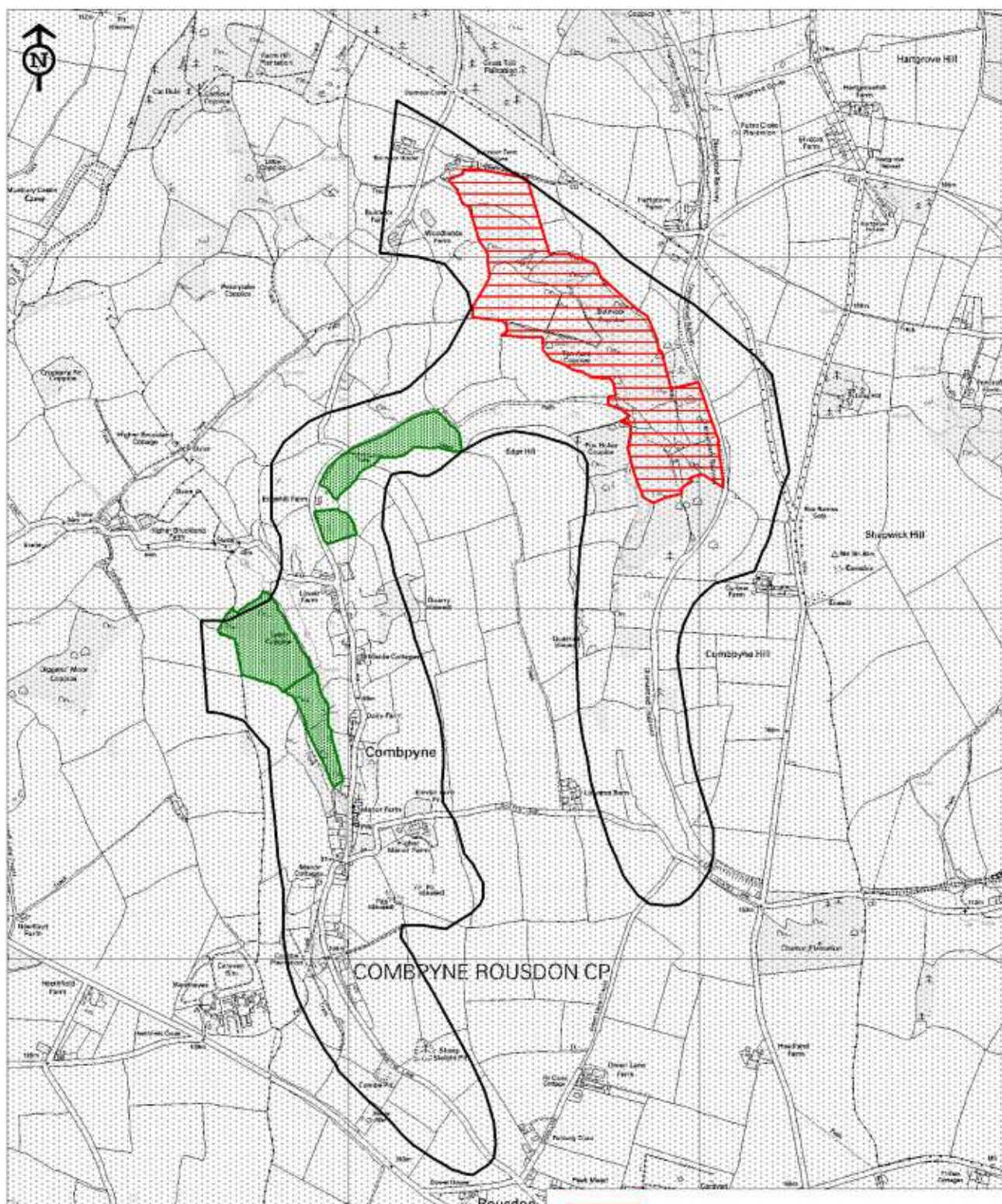
6. Other information

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 619 (2009)



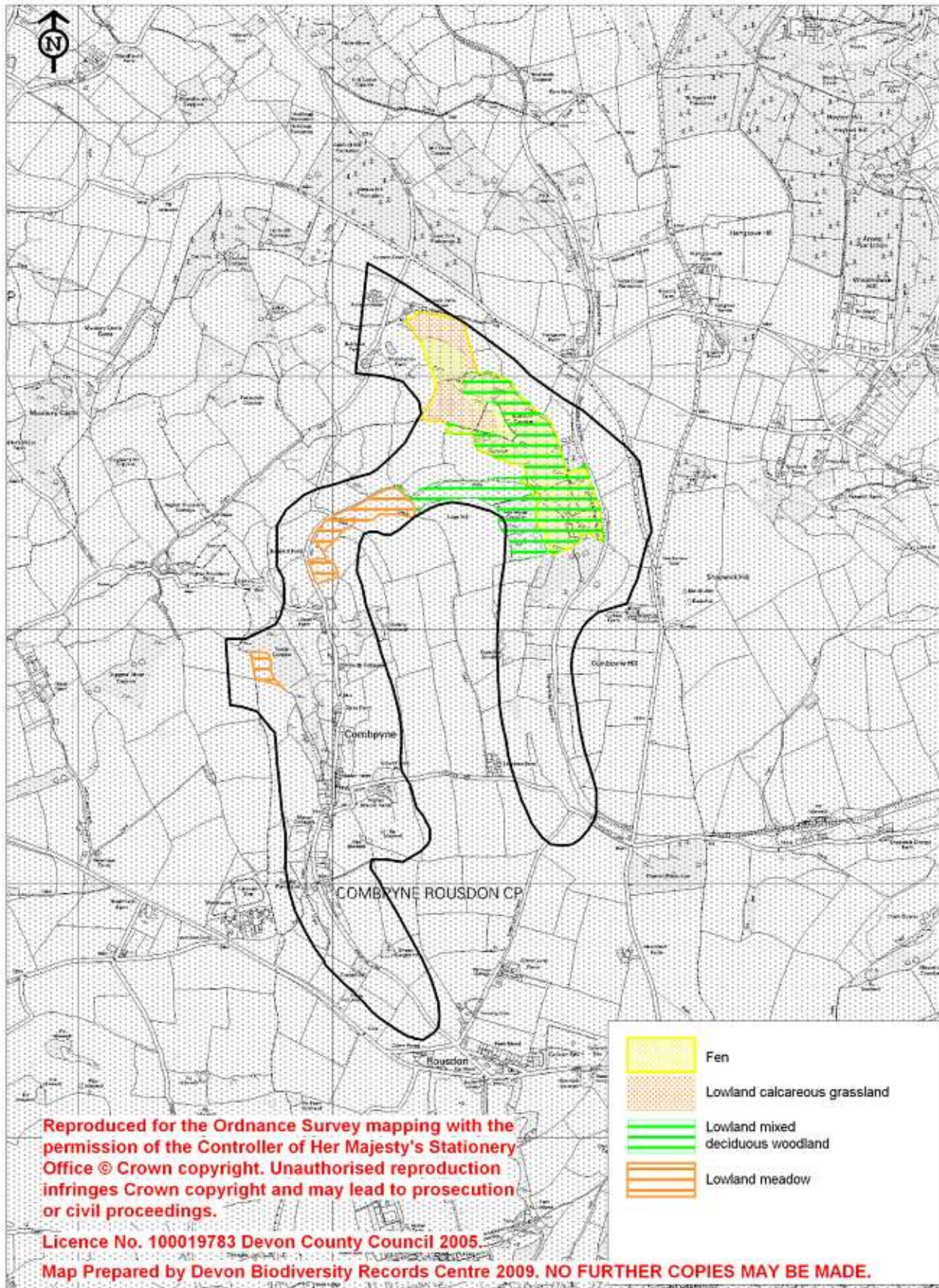
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-  Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
-  County Wildlife Site (CWS)

Selected UKBAP priority habitats within SNA 619



Appendix 1: Legally protected and notable species recorded within SNA 619 (2009)

Common name	Scientific name	Status
Newt	Triturus	WCA
Common Frog	Rana temporaria	WCA
Common Toad	Bufo bufo	S.41
Yellowhammer	Emberiza citrinella	S.41; Red
Peregrine	Falco peregrinus	Amber
Wall Brown	Lasiommata megera	S.41
Wood White	Leptidea sinapis	S.41; Nb
Dingy Skipper	Erynnis tages	S.41; Decline
Common Dormouse	Muscardinus avellanarius	S.41; DBAP
Primrose	Primula vulgaris	DBAP
Corky-Fruited Water-Dropwort	Oenanthe pimpinelloides	DN3
Great Burnet	Sanguisorba officinalis	DN3
Slow-Worm	Anguis fragilis	S.41
Viviparous Lizard	Lacerta vivipara	S.41
Grass Snake	Natrix natrix	S.41

- 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 / 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.
- 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 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.