

## 1. SNA details

<b>SNA name:</b>	Wembury
<b>SNA unique number:</b>	621
<b>SNA area (ha):</b>	222.46



## 2. Summary of nature conservation interest

### Priority BAP habitats

<b>Main Regional Nature Map habitat:</b>	Neutral Grassland, Woodland.
<b>Other Regional Nature Map habitat(s):</b>	
<b>Other UK BAP habitats:</b>	Maritime Cliff and Slope, Hedges.

This SNA is designated for 2 habitat types: woodland which occurs on the steep sides of the stream valley running down to the sea and neutral grassland which is also present in the valley and on the sloping cliff tops. This SNA overlaps with SNA 1185 which is designated for maritime cliff and slope habitat. This area is used by walkers and horse riders having the Erme Plym trail running through the valley where it joins the South West Coast Path.

The woodland areas occur on sites listed in the Devon ancient woodland inventory but most have been replanted or are secondary woodland although a few ancient woodland indicator species remain.

The areas of neutral grassland are botanically rich. They contain Devon notable plant species including some which are restricted to coastal areas and support a variety of invertebrates.

The mosaic of habitats in this SNA makes it an important area for bird species. Farmland and scrub (European Gorse, Bramble, Blackthorn, Hawthorn and Elder) on the cliff tops support important populations of breeding birds as well as providing a staging post for migrant birds.

<b>Important species or species assemblage</b>	<b>Status</b>
Breeding birds: Cirl bunting, Yellowhammer, Linnet, Stonechat and Whitethroat.	S.41 (Cirl Bunting, Yellowhammer, Linnet) DBAP (Cirl Bunting) Red bird list (Cirl Bunting, Yellowhammer, Linnet) Amber bird list (Stonechat, Whitethroat)
Migrant birds e.g warblers.	
Ancient woodland plant indicator species e.g. Scaly Male Fern.	Ancient woodland indicator species
Grassland notable plant species e.g. Little Mouse-Ear, Meadow Clary, Ramping Fumitory.	Devon Notable plant species (Little Mouse-Ear)
Invertebrates associated with grassland habitats e.g. crickets, moths and butterflies: Great Green Bush Cricket, Grey Bush Cricket, Grass Eggar, Essex Skipper, Wall Brown.	S.41 (Wall Brown) DBAP (Great Green Bush Cricket) Nationally notable (Grey Bush Cricket, Grass Eggar)
Bats e.g. Lesser & Greater Horseshoe Bat	S.41 (Lesser & Greater Horseshoe bat) DBAP (Greater Horseshoe bat)

See Appendix 1 for further species recorded in SNA 621.

The landform in this area is important for its geological interest displaying wave-cut platform, head terrace and degraded fossil cliffline.

## 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	Wembury Point	Coastal grassland, gorse and scrub with bird interest.

In addition the SNA includes 3 County Wildlife Sites covering habitats including: Farmland, cliff top grassland, broadleaved woodland, broadleaved plantation on an ancient woodland site, unimproved and semi-improved neutral grassland, bracken and scrub.

There is also a Regionally Important Geological Site.

This SNA is within the South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

### 3. UK BAP Priority habitat maintenance and restoration targets for SNA no 621

(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	Lowland Meadow	TOTAL
Minimum area *			
Maximum area #	36	7	43

\* 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 either semi-natural broadleaved woodland or lowland Meadow:

- 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.

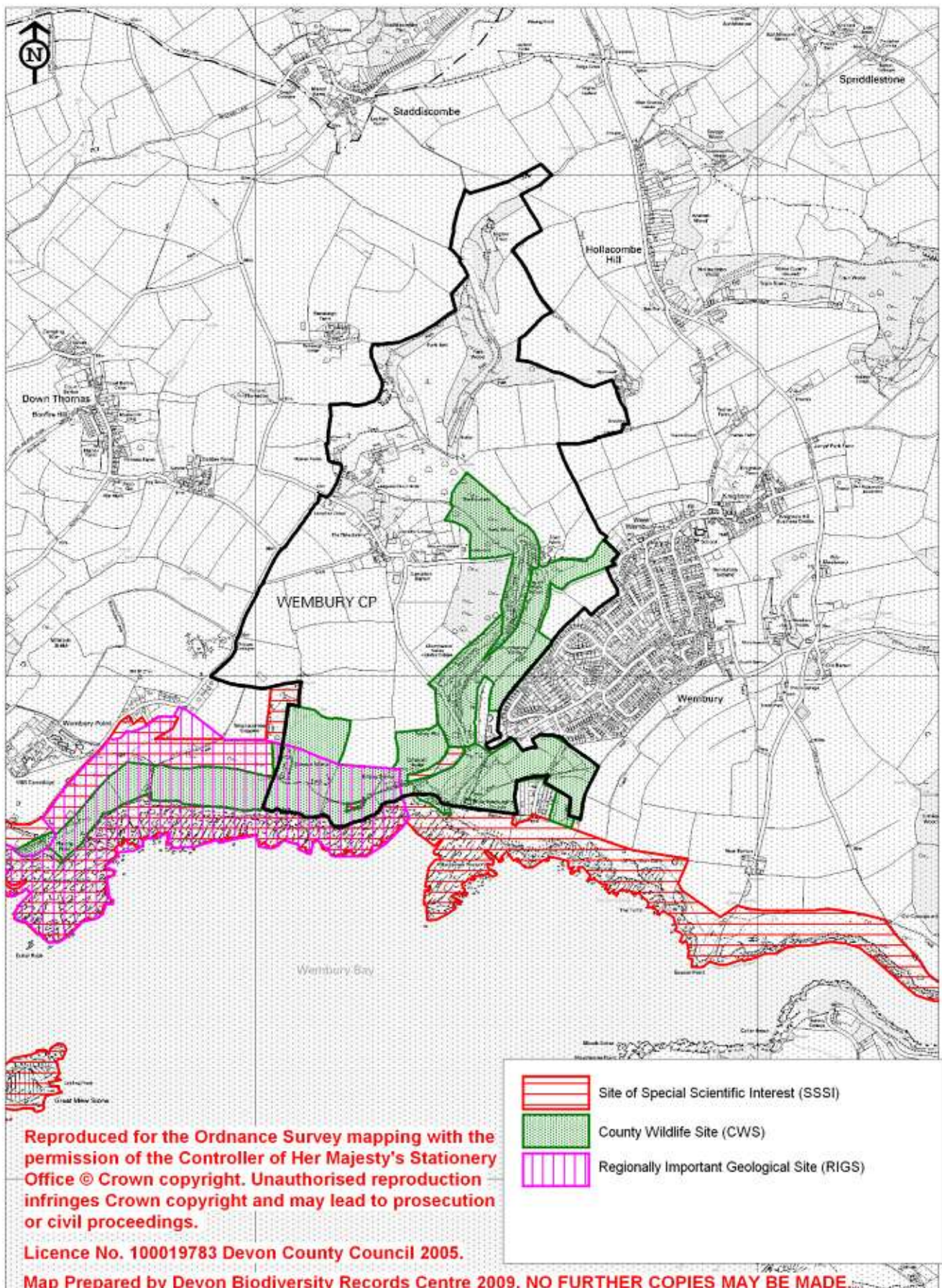
#### **6. Other information**

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.

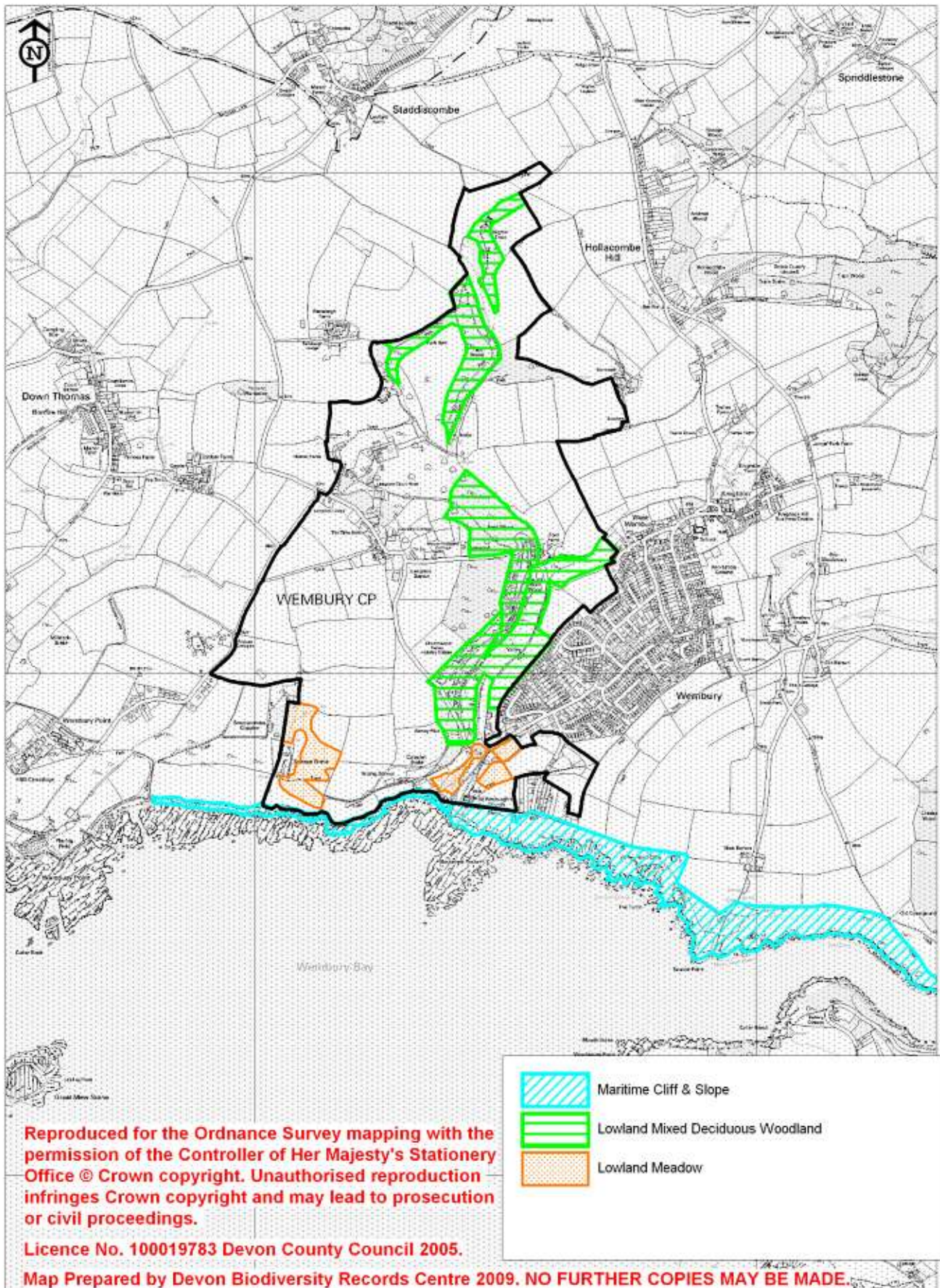
Contents could include:

- 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 621 (2009)



# Selected UKBAP habitats within SNA 621 (2009)



## Legally protected and notable species recorded within SNA 621

Common Name	Scientific name	Status
a Long-eared Bat	Plecotus spp.	WCA
Cirl Bunting	Emberiza cirrus	S.41; DBAP; Red
Early Meadow-Grass	Poa infirma	NS; DN1
Essex Skipper	Thymelicus lineola	Decline
Grass Eggar	Lasiocampa trifolii	Na
Great Green Bush Cricket	Tettigonia viridissima	DBAP
Greater Horseshoe Bat	Rhinolophus ferrumequinum	S.41; DBAP
Green Hairstreak	Callophrys rubi	Decline
Grey Bush Cricket	Platycleis albopunctata	Nb
Lesser Horseshoe Bat	Rhinolophus hipposideros	S.41
Linnet	Carduelis cannabina	S.41; Red
Little Mouse-Ear	Cerastium semidecandrum	DN2
Meadow Clary	Salvia pratensis	vul
Primrose	Primula vulgaris	DBAP
Ramping Fumitory	Fumaria capreolata	DN3
Round-Leaved Crane's-Bill	Geranium rotundifolium	DN3
Saltmarsh Rush	Juncus gerardii	DN3
Slow-Worm	Anguis fragilis	S.41
Smooth Newt	Triturus vulgaris	WCA
Stonechat	Saxicola torquata	Amber
Turtle Dove	Streptopelia turtur	S.41; Red
Wall Brown	Lasiommata megera	S.41
Weasel	Mustela nivalis	WCA
Whitethroat	Sylvia communis	Amber
Willow Warbler	Phylloscopus trochilus	Amber
Wood Calamint	Clinopodium menthifolium	S.41; vul
Yellowhammer	Emberiza citrinella	S.41; Red

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

**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.

**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 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.

**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.
- (VUL)** **VULNERABLE** A taxon is Vulnerable when the best available evidence indicates that it meets any of the criteria A to E for Vulnerable (see [Red List Categories and Criteria booklet](#) for details), and it is therefore considered to be facing a **high risk of extinction** in the wild.

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