

## 1. SNA details

<b>SNA name:</b>	Offwell
<b>SNA unique number:</b>	62
<b>SNA area (ha):</b>	402.91



## 2. Summary of nature conservation interest

### Priority BAP habitats

<b>Main Regional Nature Map habitat:</b>	Lowland Heath
<b>Other Regional Nature Map habitat(s):</b>	
<b>Other national BAP habitats:</b>	Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland, Upland Oakwood, Wet Woodland, Lowland Meadows, Lowland Heathland, Hedgerows, Rivers.

This SNA is designated for Lowland Heathland habitat. However, there is presently very little of this habitat present within the SNA boundary. Aerial photos from 2006 show the area of lowland heathland mapped on the NBN habitat layer at Aplin's common is now conifer plantation. A small area (1.52 ha) of lowland heathland remains at Hawkswood nature reserve. Other valuable areas of semi-natural habitat are present within the SNA, notably areas of ancient semi-natural woodland at Offwell woods and areas of wet woodland at Hawkswood and Hooper's farm. In addition, there are areas of mire, unimproved marshy grassland and unimproved neutral grassland. Important species recorded in this SNA include:

<b>Important species or species assemblage</b>	<b>Status</b>
Dragonflies and damselflies at Offwell woods e.g. Variable Blue Damselfly, Keeled Skimmer, Ruddy Darter.	Nationally notable/important
Butterflies at Offwell woods and Hawkswood Nature reserve e.g. Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary, Small Heath, Dingy Skipper, High Brown Fritillary, Marsh Fritillary, Pearl Bordered Fritillary.	S. 41 (all) DBAP (Marsh Fritillary, Pearl Bordered Fritillary)
Devon notable plants at Hawkswood nature reserve e.g. Sweet Gale, Royal Fern, Corky Fruited Water Dropwort, Bog Myrtle.	Devon notable
Lichens at Hawkswood e.g. <i>Usnea articulata</i> , <i>Usnea florida</i> .	S. 41
Birds include Green Woodpecker, Goldcrest, Song Thrush, Bullfinch, Cuckoo, Osprey and Nightjar.	S. 41 (Song Thrush, Bullfinch, Cuckoo, Nightjar) Red bird list (Song Thrush, Bullfinch, Nightjar) Amber bird list (Cuckoo, Green Woodpecker, Goldcrest, Osprey)
Dormouse	S. 41, DBAP
Reptiles and Amphibians at Hawkswood nature reserve e.g. Adder, Common Lizard, Slow-Worm, Common Frog, Palmate Newt, Common Toad.	S. 41 (common lizard, adder and slow-worm)

## Nature conservation designations

There are no statutory designations in relation to this SNA.

The SNA includes 5 County Wildlife Sites covering habitats including: Ancient semi-natural woodland (partly replanted with conifers), wet & dry secondary broadleaved woodland, wet & dry heath, unimproved neutral grassland, springline mire and unimproved marshy grassland.

There is one Devon Wildlife Trust reserve: Hawkswood.

There are no County Geological Sites.

## 3. UK BAP Priority habitat maintenance and restoration targets for SNA no 62 (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	Upland Oak wood	Wet Woodland	Woodland TOTAL	Lowland Meadow	Lowland Heathland	TOTAL
Minimum area *	1	0.58	1	2.58		0.25	3
Maximum area #	63	0.58	18	82	4	6	92

\* 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 lowland heath:

- 60% cover of priority habitat
- 0% 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.

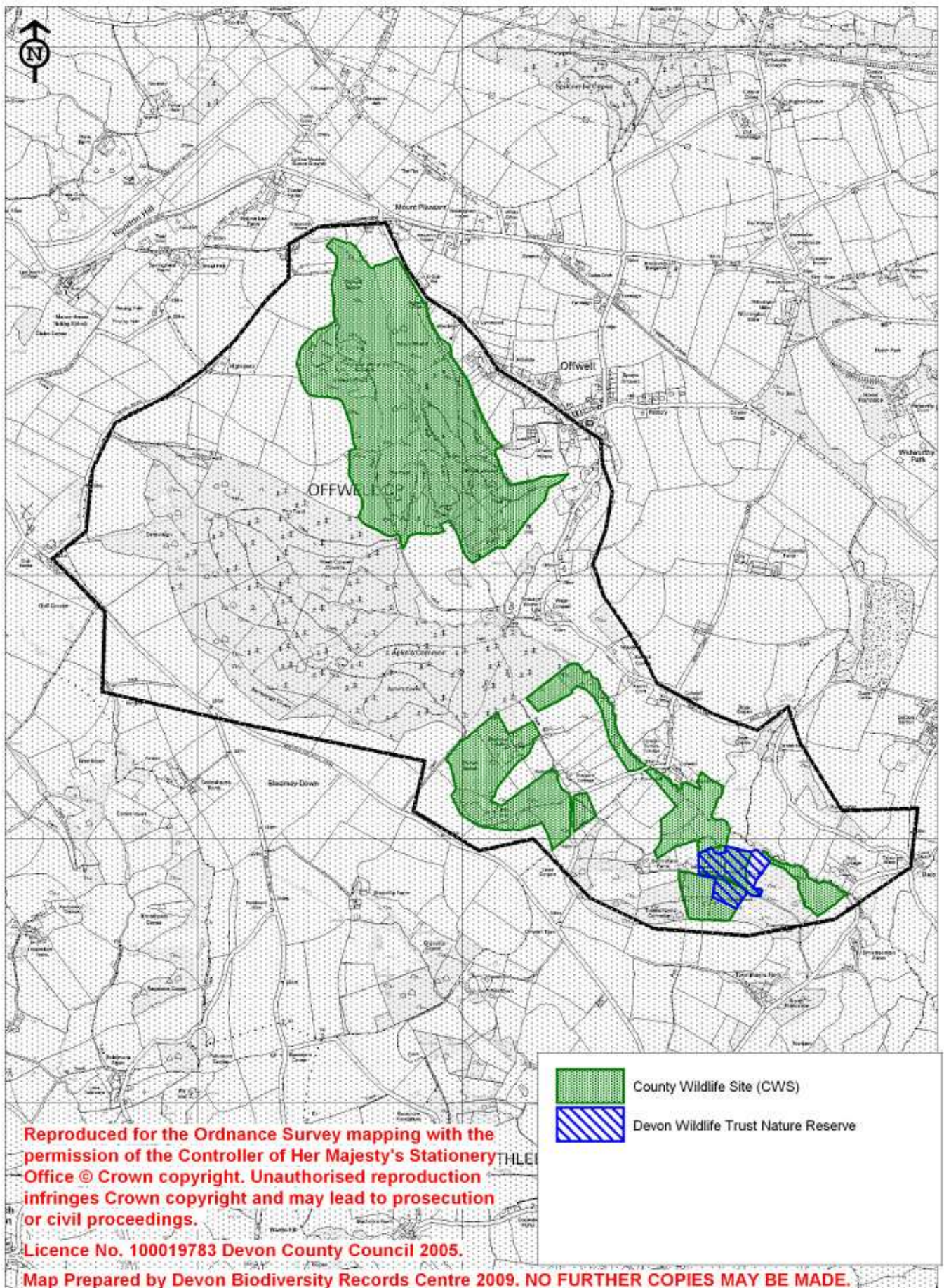
#### **6. Other information**

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 no 62 (2009)



# Selected UKBAP priority habitats within SNA no 62 (2009)

