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## MANAGEMENT PLAN 2019 – 2024

### Annexe

#### Annexe B: Habitats and species

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## Habitats and species of the Blackdown Hills AONB

Priority* Habitat	Description	Characteristic plant species	Associated priority species*
<b>Lowland meadows</b>	Enclosed, neutral, unimproved grassland. Managed by cutting for hay and/or livestock grazing.	Common bird's-foot-trefoil, common knapweed, common spotted-orchid, corky-fruited water dropwort, cowslip, devil's-bit scabious, green-winged orchid, pepper saxifrage, rough hawkbit, yellow rattle	<b>Insects – beetles</b> Black oil-beetle <b>Insects – moths</b> Cinnabar, shaded broad-bar <b>Plants</b> Greater butterfly-orchid <b>Reptiles</b> Common lizard, slow-worm <b>Mammals</b> Brown hare
<b>Lowland calcareous grassland</b>	Calcareous (pH ≥6), unimproved grasslands. Can be enclosed or unenclosed. Generally managed with livestock grazing. Restricted to sites on Lias Limestone around Pitminster.	Carline thistle, cowslip, hawkweed oxtongue, rock rose, salad burnet, stemless thistle, wild thyme, yellow-wort	<b>Insects – butterflies</b> Dingy skipper, Duke of Burgundy, grizzled skipper, small heath, small pearl-bordered fritillary, wall <b>Insects – moths</b> Autumnal rustic <b>Plants</b> Greater butterfly-orchid
<b>Lowland dry acid grassland</b>	Acidic (pH 4- 5.5), unimproved grasslands. Can be enclosed or unenclosed. Generally managed with livestock grazing.	Bilberry, bristle bent, heath bedstraw, heather, sand sedge, sheep's fescue, sheep's sorrel, tormentil, wavy hair-grass	<b>Amphibians</b> Common toad <b>Birds</b> Lapwing, nightjar <b>Insects – butterflies</b> Small heath <b>Reptiles</b> Adder
<b>Lowland heathland</b>	Broadly open habitat on impoverished, acidic mineral and shallow peat soil. Areas remain such as Blackdown and	Bilberry, bristle bent, bell heather, bracken, cross-leaved heath, heath bedstraw, heather, lousewort, sheep's fescue, tormentil, western gorse	<b>Birds</b> Nightjar, tree pipit <b>Insects – butterflies</b> Dingy skipper, grayling, small heath

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	Sampford Commons SSSI and Stockland turbaries.		<p><b>Insects – moths</b> Autumnal rustic, cinnabar, powdered quaker, shoulder-striped wainscot</p> <p><b>Reptiles</b> Adder, common lizard, grass snake, slow-worm</p>
<b>Purple moor-grass and rush pastures</b>	Poorly drained, usually acidic land. Includes fen meadows and rush pastures. Also known as Rhôs pastures or in Devon as Culm grasslands.	Common lousewort, devil's-bit scabious, greater bird's foot-trefoil, heath spotted orchid, marsh bedstraw, marsh thistle, marsh violet, meadow thistle, purple moor-grass, sharp-flowered rush, tormentil	<p><b>Birds</b> Curlew</p> <p><b>Insects – butterflies</b> <i>Brown hairstreak, marsh fritillary</i></p> <p><b>Insects – grasshoppers</b> Large marsh grasshopper</p>
<b>Lowland fens</b>	Peatlands that receive water and nutrients from the soil, rock and ground water as well as from rainfall. Includes springline mires and flushes.	Bog asphodel, common cotton-grass, cross-leaved heath, marsh pennywort, pale butterwort, round-leaved sundew, oblong-leaved sundew, <i>Sphagnum</i> (bog-mosses)	<p><b>Birds</b> Grasshopper warbler, reed bunting</p> <p><b>Insects – butterflies</b> <i>Wood white</i></p> <p><b>Insects – moths</b> Dark-barred twin-spot carpet, knotgrass, rosy rustic, shoulder-striped wainscot, small phoenix, small square-spot</p> <p><b>Reptiles</b> Adder</p>
<b>Lowland mixed deciduous woodland</b>	Generally enclosed and restricted to steeper slopes on a range of soils. Much is ancient woodland (ie thought to be in existence before 1600). Largest areas found on north-facing scarp slope overlooking the Vale of	Ash, beech, blackthorn, bluebell, cuckoo pint, dog's-mercury, field maple, hawthorn, hazel, pedunculate oak, primrose, red campion, sanicle, wood anemone, and a rich flora of mosses and lichens	<p><b>Amphibians</b> Common toad</p> <p><b>Birds</b> Common cuckoo, lesser redpoll, lesser spotted woodpecker, marsh tit, spotted flycatcher, wood warbler</p> <p><b>Insects – beetles</b> Violet oil-beetle</p>

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	Taunton, but also occur on valley sides of the Culm, Yarty and Otter.		<p><b>Insects – butterflies</b>  <i>Brown hairstreak</i>, dingy skipper, Duke of Burgundy, grizzled skipper, small pearl-bordered fritillary, white admiral, white-letter hairstreak, <i>wood white</i></p> <p><b>Insects – moths</b>            Autumnal rustic, brindled beauty, buff ermine, centre-barred sallow, dusky thorn, flounced chestnut, oak hook-tip, rustic, small phoenix</p> <p><b>Mammals</b>  <i>Bechstein's bat</i>, noctule bat, brown long-eared bat, lesser horseshoe bat, <i>greater horseshoe bat</i>, <i>common dormouse</i></p> <p><b>Plants</b>  <i>Usnea articulata</i> (String-of-sausages lichen), white helleborine</p> <p><b>Reptiles</b>            Adder, grass snake</p>
<b>Wet woodland</b>	Poorly drained or seasonally-wet land. Mostly secondary woodland that has developed through succession from open semi-natural habitats such as rush pastures, fens and bogs.	Alder, downy birch, greater tussock sedge, grey willow, goat willow, great horsetail, kingcup, pendulous sedge, and a rich flora of ferns, mosses and lichens	<p><b>Birds</b>            Redpoll</p> <p><b>Insects – flies</b>  <i>Lipsothrix nervosa</i> (a crane-fly)</p> <p><b>Insects – moths</b>            Minor shoulder-knot, powdered quaker, small square-spot, sallow</p> <p><b>Mammals</b>            Noctule bat, otter</p>
<b>Traditional orchards</b>	Open-grown trees set in herbaceous vegetation. Habitat patches generally	Apple, damson, pear, plum, cherry	<p><b>Birds</b>            Bullfinch, lesser spotted woodpecker, spotted flycatcher</p>

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	small-scale. Trees are or were grown for fruit and nut production. Low intensity management such as grazing or annual hay cutting of orchard floor and no use of inorganic fertilisers or pesticides.		<b>Mammals</b> <i>Bechstein's bat</i> , brown long-eared bat, lesser horseshoe bat, soprano pipistrelle, hedgehog
<b>Ponds</b>	Permanent and seasonal standing water bodies up to 2ha in extent that meet certain criteria (eg presence of priority species, exceptional species diversity and high ecological quality status).	Bulrush, greater bird's-foot-trefoil, great pond-sedge, lesser spearwort, kingcup, marsh violet, meadowsweet	<b>Amphibians</b> Common toad, great crested newt
<b>Hedgerows</b>	Boundary line of trees or shrubs over 20m long and less than 5m wide, with any gaps no less than 20m long. Includes herbaceous vegetation within 2m of the hedgerow. Characteristically irregular, ancient hedgerows occur in valleys and slopes, with more regular patterns of fields on the plateau, where enclosure occurred more recently.	Ash, beech, blackthorn, bluebell, dog's mercury, field maple, hawthorn, hazel, oak, primrose, red campion, small-leaved lime, wild service tree, willow, holly, wood anemone, wood violet, yellow archangel	<b>Birds</b> Bullfinch, house sparrow, yellowhammer <b>Insects – butterflies</b> <i>Brown hairstreak</i> , white-letter hairstreak, <b>Insects – moths</b> Buff ermine, centre-barred sallow, dot moth, flounced chestnut, grey dagger, lackey, shaded broad-bar, white ermine <b>Mammals</b> <i>Bechstein's bat</i> , brown hare, brown long-eared bat, <i>greater horseshoe bat</i> , harvest mouse, lesser horseshoe bat, soprano pipistrelle, <i>common dormouse</i> , hedgehog

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			<b>Reptiles</b> Common lizard, slow-worm
<b>Rivers</b>	Natural and near-natural running water. Includes headwaters of the Yarty, Culm and Otter. Rivers emerge along the springlines near the northern escarpment and flow southwards.	Flowering-rush, greater pond-sedge, reed sweet-grass, yellow flag	<b>Crustaceans</b> <i>White-clawed crayfish</i> <b>Fish</b> Brown trout, lamprey <b>Mammals</b> Otter, soprano pipistrelle, water vole
<b>Other habitats with associated BAP/S41 species</b>			<b>Birds</b> Grey partridge (arable land) <b>Plants</b> Spreading hedge-parsley (arable land)
<p>* Priority habitats and species are derived from Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 (which listed many of our rarest and most threatened species). Until 2012 these were known as UK BAP habitats and species.</p>			
<p>Species highlighted in <i>green italics</i> are Devon Special Species - a list highlighting those species, whether plant, animal or fungus, which are considered to deserve particular conservation effort in Devon to help ensure they survive within the British Isles.  <a href="http://www.naturaldevon.org.uk/devons-natural-environment/devons-wildlife/devonspecialspecies/">www.naturaldevon.org.uk/devons-natural-environment/devons-wildlife/devonspecialspecies/</a></p>			