

# Parish Biodiversity Audit

for

# Upottery



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Consultation draft – March 2010

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Report commissioned by Devon County Council

Data supplied by the Devon Biodiversity Records Centre



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## Upottery Parish Plan Biodiversity Project

This document has been produced as a starting point to help community action for wildlife. By starting to bring together knowledge of the natural assets of the parish, it may go some way to achieving its aim of contributing to - and stimulating ideas for - local action.

It should be emphasised that it is just a beginning. It does not represent a comprehensive account of the parish and is based very largely on existing records held by the Devon Biodiversity Records Centre (DBRC). There will be a wealth of local knowledge that can be used to build upon and improve this report. Indeed, it is important that it is seen as a 'living document' and one that belongs to the parish. It is hoped that it will be added to and refined by the people of Upottery parish in future years.

### *Did you know...?*

Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 places the following biodiversity duty on all public bodies:

**'Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity'**

The duty applies to all local authorities, including parish and town councils. Its purpose is to raise the profile of biodiversity and make it a 'natural and integral' part of policy and decision making.

The Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) has issued guidance for local authorities on implementing this biodiversity duty. It can be downloaded from Defra's website:

[www.defra.gov.uk/environment/biodiversity/documents/la-guid-english.pdf](http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/biodiversity/documents/la-guid-english.pdf)

This audit and the ideas it may stimulate may help the Parish Council to fulfil this biodiversity duty.

## **Introduction**

Upottery parish lies fairly centrally to the Blackdown Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), in the upper reaches of the River Otter by which the parish is bisected. Upottery, which embraces the hamlets of Smeatharpe and Rawridge, for 170 years was owned by the Addington family who purchased the manor in 1780. Anthony Addington had been physician to George III and his son Henry became Prime Minister and Viscount Sidmouth, reflected in the name of the village pub, The Sidmouth Arms. Opposite the pub, the manor's coach house remains, as does the school, village hall, known as the Manor Rooms, and the Justice Room, all built by successive Lords Sidmouth. St. Mary's church is in the centre of Upottery.

It is tempting to suspect that the veteran walnuts, maiden-hair trees, or ginkgo, and the plane tree in the centre of the village all stem from manorial times, and the parkland behind Aller Farm on the slopes of Braddicksknapp Hill with its Lucombe Oak also owes origins to the Sidmouth Estate.

A leaflet that describes walks from the village refers to Rawridge's being recorded in Domesday. In medieval times it had been an important community with its own church; it still has its own post office. Smeatharpe is famed for its airfield which played a crucial role in the Normandy landings during the second world war. There is a Baptist chapel in Smeatharpe.

Although there are no designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) within Upottery, the parish is otherwise richly endowed: it possesses 16 County Wildlife Sites, six Other Sites of Wildlife Interest (OSWI) and 16 Unconfirmed Wildlife Sites (UWS). There is a willow sculpture (depicting a rabbit?) in a hedge just north of Riggles Cross, a hedgebank near Cooksmoor has the Devon Notable orpine long-established and a verge opposite Lambpark Farm has a patch of the uncommon hairy bindweed. Musk grows on Braddicksknapp Hill.

Curlew once bred on Smeatharpe airfield. Other records from the parish are presented in Appendix 2. Two such records seem likely to be erroneous; these are ivy-leaved bellflower and water germander neither of which occurs anywhere near Upottery.

Habitats particularly well represented in the parish are wet woodland and purple moor-grass and rush pasture, a reflection of the spring-line beneath the greensand that is typical of the Blackdown Hills. Upottery also has some remnants of lowland heathland, flower-rich meadows and pastures, some mixed deciduous woodland and species-rich hedges. One of the most magnificent meadows is a field owned by Cecil Dare near the A30 south of Rawridge; it is ablaze with wild daffodils in March.

Notable sites for biodiversity, and notable species as defined by the Devon Biodiversity Records Centre (DBRC), are summarised in Appendices 1 and 2. The species list includes those cited in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) as well as those given in the Devon BAP. What follows, under Designated

Sites, is summarized from survey records held by the DBRC. Some of these surveys were conducted some years ago and validation of both habitats and species mentioned would be useful.

## **Designated Sites**

Many designated sites are on private land. The inclusion of a site in no way implies any right to public access.

There are no statutory sites (e.g. Sites of Special Scientific Interest) within Upton parish. However, there are many County Wildlife Sites.

## **County Wildlife Sites**

County Wildlife Sites (CWS) are sites of county importance for wildlife, designated on the basis of the habitat or the known presence of particular species. This is not a statutory designation like SSSIs, and does not have any legal status. County Wildlife Sites are usually included in Local Plans as sites of regional or local biodiversity interest and are covered by Planning Policy Statement nine (PPS9). CWS recognition does not demand any particular actions on the part of the Landowner and does not give the public rights of access. However, it may increase eligibility for land management grants.

Note: 'Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation' was published by the Department of the Environment in August 2005. Planning Policy Statements (PPS) set out the Government's national policies on different aspects of planning in England. PPS9 sets out planning policies on protection of biodiversity and geological conservation through the planning system. This PPS replaces Planning Policy Guidance Note 9 (PPG9) on nature conservation published in October 1994.

## **Riggles Hillside County Wildlife Site**

Riggles Hillside CWS is now very substantially a mosaic of wet and broadleaved woodland with only remnants of springline mire that predominated when surveyed in 1991. The site lies near the top of an east-facing slope of the Otter catchment, just south of the disused Smeatharpe airfield.

In 2007, the remaining small patches of open mire supported purple moor-grass and rush pasture that seemed invertebrate-rich. A party of spotted flycatchers was recorded. Wet woodland comprised various components of alder, willow and downy birch, occasionally rich in sedges including the great tussock sedge and wood horsetail. Broadleaf woodland on better drained areas consisted of pedunculate oak, including some veteran trees in a

hedgebank. There is an area of hazel coppice where the herbaceous flora includes bluebells, wood sorrel and primroses. There is a complex badger sett on a steep slope to the north of the site.

#### Links to Devon and UK BAP

Key habitat:

- Wet woodland (UK BAP)
- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland (UK BAP)
- Purple moor-grass/rush pasture (UK BAP)
- Alder/willow wet woodland (Devon BAP)
- Rhos pasture (Devon BAP)

Key species:

- Spotted flycatcher (UK BAP)
- Primrose (Devon BAP)
- Wood horsetail (Devon Notable)

### **Buckhayes Covert County Wildlife Site**

Buckhayes Covert was found to be a remnant of ancient semi-natural woodland in 1993, formerly covering a much larger area. The site, that occupies 3ha, lies partly on steep, well-drained ground where there is pedunculate oak and ash, with some sycamore, occasional beech and with rhododendron in the understorey in some areas. On lower, wet ground wet woodland with alder, birch and willow had developed. Sedges, bittersweet, yellow pimpernel and marsh violet made up the herb layer. An open patch of grassland had a pond where several species of dragonfly were recorded.

#### Links to Devon and UK BAP

Key habitat:

- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland (UK BAP)
- Wet woodland (UK BAP)
- Alder/willow wet woodland (Devon BAP)

### **Aller Moor County Wildlife Site**

Aller Moor CWS lies above Aller Farm, to the west of the village. It constitutes a fairly large (6.7ha) block of semi-natural broadleaf woodland, with some 18 species of ancient woodland indicators that suggest that at least part of the site has been woodland for a substantial time. Some of the site is wet

woodland, with downy birch, willows and hazel, often underlain by purple moor-grass. The invasive cherry-laurel and rhododendron are encroaching.

#### [Links to Devon and UK BAP](#)

Key habitat:

- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland (UK BAP)
- Wet woodland (UK BAP)
- Alder/Willow wet woodland (Devon BAP)

### **Buckhayes Wood County Wildlife Site**

Buckhayes Wood CWS, which lies to the north of Buckhayes Covert, occupies 3ha of wet woodland on land probably too wet to be cleared and grazed or planted to conifers. Alder dominates much of the canopy with birch, and ash, oak and beech in drier areas. Hazel and holly are understorey shrubs on better drained ground, with abundant bluebells, yellow pimpernel and marsh violet.

#### [Links to Devon and UK BAP](#)

Key habitat:

- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland (UK BAP)
- Wet woodland (UK BAP)
- Alder/willow wet woodland (Devon BAP)

### **Moonhayes County Wildlife Site**

Moonhayes CWS in 1993 was a small (1.4ha) area of species-rich acid, marshy grassland that seemed threatened by drainage and improvement, like the surrounding land. At that time, the grassland was composed of frequent purple moor-grass, cock's-foot, Yorkshire fog, tufted hair-grass, greater birds-foot trefoil, marsh bedstraw, water mint and marsh pennywort, with occasional devil's-bit scabious, southern marsh orchid, ragged robin and sneezewort.

It is unknown whether this species diversity persists.

#### [Links to Devon and UK BAP](#)

Key habitat:

- Flower-rich meadows and pastures (Devon BAP)

## **Cook's Moor County Wildlife Site**

Cook's Moor CWS embraces the source of the Umborne Brook which is part of the Axe catchment. In 1992 when the site was surveyed, the more southerly section consisted of marshy grassland with abundant sharp-flowered rush, greater bird's-foot trefoil, lesser spearwort and marsh bedstraw, with frequent marsh pennywort and water forgetmenot. The better drained portions of the fields were species-poor and semi-improved.

The boggy area around the spring head to the north of the site was alder carr.

### **Links to Devon and UK BAP**

Key habitat:

- Wet woodland (UK BAP)
- Alder/willow wet woodland (Devon BAP)
- Lowland meadows (UK BAP)

## **Kitts Farm County Wildlife Site**

This 2.2ha triangular site was surveyed in 1992 when it was a nice patch of wet heath dominated by tussocks of purple moor-grass, with cross-leaved heath, western gorse, ling and tormentil. Flushed areas contained four species of sedge with bog asphodel. The site as not grazed and its interest seemed threatened by scrub encroachment.

### **Links to Devon and UK BAP**

Key habitat:

- Lowland heathland (Devon & UK BAP)
- Purple moor-grass & rush pasture (UK BAP)
- Rhos pasture (Devon BAP)

## **Collyforches Farm County Wildlife Site**

Collyforches Farm CWS lies at the source of the Corry Brook on the slope of Broadley Hill. In 1990, there was a species-rich area of unimproved marshy grassland with bog asphodel, bog pimperl, bog pondweed, devil's-bit,

meadow thistle and cross-leaved heath among purple moor-grass and rushes. In 2005, a remnant of fen meadow had survived, with devil's-bit, heath-spotted orchid and a hybrid thistle (*Cirsium x forsteri*) among the purple moor-grass. The site is unmanaged and scrub encroachment is almost complete.

#### Links to Devon and UK BAP

Key habitat:

- Lowland heathland (Devon & UK BAP)
- Purple moor-grass/rush pasture (UK BAP)
- Rhos pasture (Devon BAP)

Key species:

- *Cirsium x forsteri* (uncommon/under recorded).

### **Sandpit Hill County Wildlife Site**

Sandpit Hill is a fairly large (9.5ha) site just west of the A303 at Newcott. In 1991, it supported a rich diversity of mire vegetation surrounded by birch/willow scrubby woodland which was encroaching the open area. The mire was dominated by purple moor-grass and rushes, with cross-leaved heath, common cotton-grass, devil's-bit scabious, bog asphodel, meadow thistle, western gorse, tormentil, an unidentified orchid, bog mosses and various sedges. Patches of very wet peaty ground had a soakway community consisting of the insectivorous round-leaved sundew, bog pimpernel, bog pondweed, marsh st. john's-wort, pale butterwort and lousewort.

#### Links to Devon and UK BAP

Key habitat:

- Lowland heathland (Devon & UK BAP)
- Purple moor-grass/rush pasture (UK BAP)
- Rhos pasture (Devon BAP)

### **Newcott County Wildlife Site**

Newcott CWS lies southwest of Sandpit Hill and occupies an area of just under 10ha. A survey in 1991 found this east-facing slope to be largely overgrown by a mixture of willow, birch, alder, hazel and young pedunculate oak. Beneath the shrub layer, purple moor-grass and bracken, in the drier areas, were dominant. In the remaining open areas, assessed at only 25% of the site, tussocks of purple moor-grass was associated with bog myrtle, both western and European gorse, tormentil and sharp-flowered rush.

## **Links to Devon and UK BAP**

Key habitat:

- Lowland heathland (Devon and UK BAP)
- Purple moor-grass and rush pasture (UK BAP)
- Rhos pasture (Devon BAP)
- Wet woodland (UK BAP)
- Alder/Willow wet woodland (Devon BAP)

Key species:

- Bog myrtle (Devon Notable).

## **Corrymoor County Wildlife Site**

Corrymoor CWS consists of a mosaic of habitats that includes wet woodland, rush pasture and semi-improved grassland some of which is enclosed by species-rich hedges. The site, which was surveyed in 2007, embraces an area of 7.3ha with an easterly aspect at the headwaters of the Corry Brook. This is an organic farm under the ESA scheme so moderately grazed by beef cattle, sheep and prize-winning Angora goats.

## **Links to Devon and UK BAP**

Key habitat:

- Wet woodland (UK BAP)
- Alder/Willow wet woodland (Devon BAP)
- Purple moor-grass and rush pasture (UK BAP)
- Rhos pasture (Devon BAP)
- Ancient/species-rich hedges (UK and Devon BAP)

Key species:

- Barn owl (Devon BAP)
- Primrose (Devon BAP)

## **Middle Luxton County Wildlife Site**

In a survey in 1992, Middle Luxton CWS was a mosaic of communities deemed of high conservation value consisting of spring-line mire, species-rich grassland and rush pasture amid improved grassland. To the south-east of the site, there was an excellent diversity of plant communities including purple moor-grass and rush pasture and bog pools with soakway communities, the latter with bog pondweed, bog pimpernel, marsh violet, marsh St. John's-wort

and bog moss. Spring-line mire communities additionally supported abundant carnation sedge, lesser spearwort and devils-bit associated with marsh pennywort, water mint and greater bird's-foot trefoil. In between these marshy areas, there was herb-rich short sward of locally dominant carnation sedge, abundant meadow thistle and devil's-bit, associated with tormentil, lousewort and yellow sedge.

The pastures were cattle grazed at an intensity that seemed appropriate.

### **Links to Devon and UK BAP**

Key habitat:

- Purple moor-grass and rush pasture (UK BAP)
- Rhos pasture (Devon BAP)
- Flower-rich meadows and pastures (Devon BAP)
- Lowland meadows (UK BAP)

### **Pamos Farm, South County Wildlife Site**

Pamos Farm (S) was a small (1.3ha) area of spring-line mire when surveyed in 1993. Open areas between tussocks of purple moor-grass were very species-rich, with devil's-bit, sneezewort, bog asphodel, tormentil and an orchid. Flushes had bog moss, bog pimpnel and pale butterwort, and there were patches of wet heathland with western gorse and cross-leaved heath. The site was also rich in invertebrates with seven species of butterfly including wall brown, various dragonflies including keeled skimmer, and a "spider with two white lines" that may have been raft spider. Birch and willow scrub was transitional to secondary wet woodland at the north end of the site from where scrub was invading the valuable open areas.

### **Links to Devon and UK BAP**

Key habitat:

- Purple moor-grass and rush pasture (UK BAP)
- Lowland heathland (Devon and UK BAP)
- Rhos pasture (Devon BAP)
- Wet woodland (UK BAP)

Key species:

- Round-leaved crowfoot (Devon Notable)
- Wall brown (UK BAP)

## **Pamos Farm, North County Wildlife Site**

Pamos Farm (N) CWS in 1992 was a 4ha site of improved and semi-improved cattle-grazed pasture within which were small patches of species-rich unimproved and marshy grassland. On the better drained steeper slopes of the site were found areas with abundant black knapweed, betony, germander speedwell, devil's-bit and violets. In one area on a particularly steep bank a short-sward community consisted of frequent tormentil, self-heal, mouse-ear hawkweed and trailing St. john's-wort. Some marshy grassland with rushes had marsh bedstraw, greater bird's-foot trefoil, cuckoo flower and lesser spearwort.

### **Links to Devon and UK BAP**

Key habitat:

- Flower-rich meadows and pastures (Devon BAP)
- Lowland meadows (UK BAP)

## **Higher Luxton County Wildlife Site**

Higher Luxton CWS is a large area of 17ha that is a mosaic of spring-line mire, rush pasture and wet woodland. The site, which is managed under an ESA agreement, is grazed by beef cattle and by ponies though there is some scrub encroachment of the mire. Spring-line mire occurs to the west of the site, often as glades within wet woodland. Here, purple moor-grass is dominant, with occasional angelica, greater bird's-foot trefoil, marsh violet and marsh thistle. Some patches of mire also support devil's-bit, common sedge, tormentil, marsh pennywort and lesser skullcap, with occasional square stemmed St. Johns's-wort and sneezewort. Soft rush is abundant in some areas.

### **Links to Devon and UK BAP**

Key habitat:

- Wet woodland (UK BAP)
- Alder/willow wet woodland (Devon BAP)
- Purple moor-grass and rush pasture (UK BAP)
- Rhos pasture (Devon BAP)
- Ancient/Species-rich hedges (UK BAP)
- Species-rich hedges (Devon BAP)

## **Higher Luxton, North County Wildlife Site**

This small site, to the north-east of Higher Luxton CWS at the northern extremity of the parish, was found to be unimproved neutral grassland when surveyed in 1992. Sharp-flowered rush, devil's-bit and black knapweed were abundant, with frequent sweet vernal-grass and self-heal. Common gorse was locally dominant higher up the slope.

The site was deemed good for butterflies.

### **Links to Devon and UK BAP**

Key habitat:

- Flower-rich meadows and pastures (Devon BAP)
- Lowland meadows (UK BAP)

### **Other habitats of interest:**

#### **Ancient Woodland**

Ancient Woodland is a term applied to woodlands which have existed at least since Medieval times to the present day without ever having been cleared for uses other than wood or timber production. A convenient date used to separate ancient and secondary woodland is about the year 1600. In special circumstances semi-natural woods of post-1600 but pre-1900 origin are also included. The Devon Ancient Woodland Inventory was prepared in 1986 by the Nature Conservancy Council.

There is a remnant of ancient woodland at Buckhayes Covert CWS.

#### **Species-rich hedges**

Hedgerows tend to be taken for granted as they always seem to be there, providing such a constant in a familiar landscape. However, they do require regular attention to keep them in good condition. That so many are still in good condition is a testament to the skill and hard work of generations of farmers. But there are changes even in the oldest hedgelines as the way the majority are managed has altered. There is now less farm labour available and more reliance on mechanical cutting rather than traditional hedge laying (or, as it is known in Devon, 'steeping').

Even the mechanical cutting has changed as reciprocating cutters that could cut shrub stems cleanly have given way to tractor-mounted flails which can tackle slightly older growth but at the expense of every stem being shattered. Flailing can actually promote bud development (on hawthorn, for example, research indicates that severe damage to the end of a branch encourages shoot development further down in the base of the plant which can help to thicken it up). However, flailing can also leave shrubs susceptible to infection. As individual hedge plants die, they leave gaps which render the hedge less effective and which would in the past have been filled when the hedge was next steeped.

With the advent of mechanical hedge-trimming has come another change - it is now possible to trim all the hedges on a farm in one year. It is this that perhaps has had the most impact on the vertebrate wildlife. Fruiting and seeding species are very much less productive and there is a different and less varied structure. Also, shrubs that do produce a good berry crop are sometimes cut in the early autumn before the birds, particularly the migrants, can gain any advantage from this food source. A couple of generations ago, many hedges on a farm might have been cut less frequently, allowing them to be much more productive in the meantime.

Recognising these changes does allow choices in the way hedges are managed in the future. Hedges can be cut on a two or even three year rotation. Alternatively, perhaps only one or two of the three 'faces' (the top and the two sides) could be cut in any one year. This wouldn't stop road or drive side hedges being cut from both the safety and visual aspects but for the majority of hedges it would have two major benefits: it would take less time (and hence cost) and it would benefit wildlife! However, whatever pattern of cutting is adopted, "all hedges, except perhaps holly, will need laying or coppicing sooner or later because they will become thin at the base. This is the best form of long-term management" (*Devon's hedges: Conservation and management*, Devon County Council / Devon Hedge Group).

Once it was realised nationally that many thousands of kilometres of hedgerow were being lost annually and that something ought to be done about it, the Hedgerow Regulations (made under Section 97 of the Environment Act 1995) were introduced in England and Wales in 1997 to protect them. The Regulations are intended to prevent the removal of most countryside hedgerows without first submitting a hedgerow removal notice to the local planning authority. The local planning authorities are only able to require the retention of 'important' hedgerows. The Regulations then set out criteria to be used by the local authority in determining which hedgerows are important (Bickmore, 2002).

In such a clearly agricultural landscape, the hedgerows and hedgebanks represent continuity as features in the landscape and provide a significant wildlife resource at a time when the fields themselves are being more intensively used. The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK Steering Group, 1995) lists ancient and or species-rich hedgerows as one of its priority habitats.

Sunken lanes between high hedgebanks are features of the Blackdown Hills and many hedges are at least Medieval in origin, enclosing small irregular fields. Not only do ancient hedges consist of many species of native woody plant but often also support abundant hedgerow herbs typical among which is the primrose.

There are species-rich hedges within Corrymoor CWS.

#### Links to Devon and UK BAP

Key habitat:

- Species-rich hedge (Devon & UK BAP)

Key species:

- Orpine (Devon Notable)

#### **Cemeteries/ churchyard**

Stone walls, tomb stones and churches can prove rich in diversity of lichens and some species appear to be exclusive to churches. Over 150 lichens, including species from yew and other trees, have been recorded from some churches and churchyards. Details are given by Barbara Benfield in the Lichen Flora of Devon, the richest county for lichens in England.

#### **Water's edge : The River Otter**

The River Otter is one of the three great rivers of the Blackdowns; it flows south through the parish. The sources of both the Corry Brook and the Umborne Brook lie just within Uppottery parish.

#### Links to Devon and UK BAP

Key habitats:

- Rivers, streams, floodplains and fluvial processes (Devon BAP)
- Rivers (UK BAP)

#### **Potential County Wildlife Sites**

There are 7 potential, Unconfirmed County Wildlife Sites (UWS) in Uppottery parish. These are sites identified as having possible interest but not fully surveyed; some will be areas of significant wildlife interest. Other Sites of

Wildlife Interest (OSWI) are sites of significant wildlife interest within a local context that have been surveyed but do not reach the criteria for County Wildlife Sites. There are 3 such sites in the parish. Both the UWS and the OSWI are listed in Appendix 1.

## **Species**

### **Important Species**

Appendix 2 presents a list of species which are legally protected or Devon Notable ones that have been reported in and around Upottery parish.

### **Birds**

Surprisingly, only four species of bird are listed. Of these, the bullfinch is a UK BAP species and the redwing is deemed of high conservation concern. Spotted flycatchers have been recorded at Riggles Hillside CWS and barn owls at Corrymoor. The former is a UK BAP species, the latter a Devon BAP species.

### **Plants**

Devon Notable plant species recorded from Upottery include bog myrtle, round-leaved crowfoot, pepper-saxifrage, narrow buckler fern, wood horsetail, and orpine. A hybrid thistle (*Cirsium x forsteri*) and hairy bindweed can be added to the list and ivy-leaved bellflower and water germander should be deleted as errors.

### **Mammals**

The brown hare and brown long-eared bat are both UK BAP species.

Neither the otter nor dormouse, which are both Devon and UK BAP species, are recorded from Upottery but it is probable they are present.

Formerly widespread throughout the UK, otters declined rapidly, and the species was effectively lost from the Midlands and south-eastern England by the 1980s. Populations hung on in the north and west including south-west England, and there is evidence of some recovery in former habitats. Devon has an internationally important population, and otters are now back in most rivers, streams and wetlands throughout the county.

The dormouse is a species of conservation concern in Devon. Though the species has declined nationally and has become extinct in some areas,

Devon as a whole, and probably the Blackdowns in particular, are strongholds for the dormouse.

### **Invertebrates**

Two butterflies are recorded (Appendix 2); these are the wall brown and brown hairstreak. Both are UK BAP species.

### **Reptiles and Amphibians**

A grass snake and common frog are the only species recorded in this group. More recording seems warranted.

## **The Devon Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP).**

The Devon Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) describes the key actions needed to look after 40 of Devon's most important habitats and species. It does not stand alone, but is part of a much wider process aimed at conserving our biodiversity.

The Devon BAP is a direct descendent of a process started at the famous 'Earth Summit' held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. At this summit, world leaders pledged to halt and reverse the loss of the planet's biodiversity. For its part, the UK government produced a series of Action Plans for a great many threatened habitats and species. These national plans have been joined by a series of regional Action Plans aimed at providing a more local perspective.

The Devon BAP<sup>1</sup> builds on this endeavour, identifying local priorities and providing targets and plans of action for the County.

All of this work has one aim: to encourage practical action on the ground. Its success depends upon us all.

### **Biodiversity links:**

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<sup>1</sup> In fact, it integrates wildlife and geological conservation in one document and is now officially known as the Devon Biodiversity and Geodiversity Action Plan (still commonly referred to as the Devon Biodiversity Action Plan and always abbreviated to the Devon BAP).

- The Devon BAP can be viewed at [www.devon.gov.uk/biodiversity](http://www.devon.gov.uk/biodiversity). This site also contains links to other nature conservation issues relevant to Devon, such as information on hedges. If you do not have access to the internet and require paper copies of relevant sections of the Devon BAP please contact Devon County Council's Biodiversity Officer on 01392 382804.
- Details of biodiversity planning in the South West region can be viewed at [www.swbiodiversity.org.uk](http://www.swbiodiversity.org.uk).
- Detailed national Action Plans can be viewed at [www.ukbap.org.uk](http://www.ukbap.org.uk). This site also contains useful information on UK biodiversity action planning. The list of UK priority habitats and species was revised in 2008 and, following political devolution, a separate list of priority BAP habitats and species has been produced in England. These are known as 'habitats and species of principal importance in England'. The lists can be viewed here: [www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/biodiversity/protectandmanage/habsandspeciesimportance.aspx](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/biodiversity/protectandmanage/habsandspeciesimportance.aspx)

Where they have been produced, national objectives and targets for these features can be seen on the Biodiversity Action Reporting System website: [www.ukbap-reporting.org.uk/outcomes/targets.asp](http://www.ukbap-reporting.org.uk/outcomes/targets.asp)

## Some Ideas for Local Action...

A major step to knowing what you can do for your local wildlife and geology is to know what you have already got. This report will help you in this, but it is just a start.

Ultimately, the protection and enhancement of the local natural environment requires the interest and enthusiasm of the local community.

There follow some initial ideas for local nature conservation action. Many of them will directly help to achieve the objectives of the habitat and species action plans contained in the **Devon Biodiversity Action Plan**.

It is by no means an exhaustive list. As a community, you may have many more ideas for action that you would like to take forward in the coming years.

### 1 Further survey:

This report is just a beginning. Carrying out further survey within your area will help build a better picture of the wildlife present, and of the opportunities for enhancement. Gaining a better understanding of the resource is usually a key objective of the Devon BAP's habitat and species action plans.

One example of survey work that might usefully be undertaken would be to produce a hedgerow appraisal for your local area. Comparing the current distribution of hedges against boundary lines shown on old maps will give a clue as to how this important resource has changed over recent years. It may also highlight opportunities for restoring hedges in your area. It might also be possible to assess the condition of hedges and this may, in turn, give some ideas about improving their future management to benefit wildlife. Survey work could be undertaken as a community group or in liaison with other agencies active in the area.

Help to build up a picture of the state of Devon's environment by sending your records to the Devon Biodiversity Records Centre where they can be properly collated.

## **2 Influence the management of Public Open Space:**

Creating areas of more species-rich grassland will help to reduce the isolation of the remaining fragments of traditionally managed agricultural land, contributing to the **Flower-rich Meadows and Pastures Action Plan**. Churchyards have often received less intensive management than the surrounding land and can provide good opportunities for wildlife.

Planting up areas that are currently of little wildlife interest with new copses of native trees and shrubs will also help to attract wildlife. Suitable sites might include unused areas of playing fields, for example.

## **3 Build relationships with local landowners:**

Encourage the adoption of more wildlife-friendly land management. For example, hedges which are cut only every other year will provide an autumn and winter source of nuts and berries for birds and small mammals (and can save the landowner money in management costs). The improved management of hedgerows is a key objective of the **Species-rich Hedges Action Plan**. If the owner is willing, why not get involved with practical management, such as traditional hedge laying or pond restoration?

## **4 Adopt a road verge:**

Many verges can have a significant value for wildlife because they have escaped the intensive management of the surrounding farmland. Ensuring such verges are managed for their wildlife is a very positive step, again contributing to the **Flower-rich Meadows and Pastures Action Plan**.

There are, of course, obvious health and safety implications to roadside management. It is an action that would need to be undertaken in close liaison

with the relevant highways authority (generally, this is the Highways Agency for motorways and trunk roads, and Devon County Council for all other roads).

## **5 Wildlife gardening:**

Green up your garden! Collectively the gardens of Upottery represent a significant area that could be used to benefit wildlife. Large or small, you can turn your garden (or a part of it!) into a haven for wildlife. A very good source of information on wildlife gardening is the Natural England web site:

[www.naturalengland.org.uk/advice/wildlifegardening/](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/advice/wildlifegardening/)

Natural England is the Government's adviser on nature conservation. Its web site also contains links to a number of other very useful sources of information.

The Devon Wildlife Trust is another good source of information:

[www.devonwildlifetrust.org/wildlife-gardening/](http://www.devonwildlifetrust.org/wildlife-gardening/)

## **6 Join local conservation organisations:**

One example of a prominent local conservation organisation is the Devon Wildlife Trust. DWT has a number of Local Groups and volunteer opportunities:

[www.devonwildlifetrust.org/get-involved/](http://www.devonwildlifetrust.org/get-involved/)

## **7 Japanese Knotweed:**

Not something to cherish, but it can't be ignored! Fortunately, there are no records of Japanese knotweed in Culmstock. However, this plant spreads easily and it is always worth keeping an eye out for it and being prepared.

Introduced into Britain by the Victorians, Japanese Knotweed is a native of Japan, north China, Korea and Taiwan. It flourishes in Britain's mild and fertile environment and has no natural biological enemies here. Consequently, it is very invasive and can overrun large areas, replacing our native flora. It is a serious pest which can be so vigorous as to cause significant damage to buildings and roads. It is also a difficult plant to eradicate.

For these reasons Japanese Knotweed is listed under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as a plant that is not to be planted or otherwise

introduced into the wild. In addition, all parts of the plant are considered as controlled waste under the Waste Regulations.

What can you do?

- Firstly, it is important to build up a picture of where Japanese Knotweed is present. This will give an idea of the scale of the problem and will help to prevent it being accidentally spread during any ditch clearance, highway work and so on. To help develop an understanding of the problem in Devon, records should also be sent to the Devon Biodiversity Records Centre<sup>2</sup>. Ideally, records should include when you first saw it and confirmation of when it was seen most recently; its precise location (notes or a sketch map are helpful, as is a grid reference if you have one); the kind of habitat it is in (e.g. next to running water, on a road verge), and a rough indication of how abundant it is.
- Secondly, be careful not to spread the plant further! This is all too easily done as it can regenerate from even the smallest fragment and is easy to spread unknowingly. It is important not to flail it or to try and dig it up. Often, it is best not to cut Japanese Knotweed at all, but if it is it should be very carefully disposed of on site when dead or removed as Controlled Waste. Any tools used should be properly cleaned.
- Finally, if Japanese Knotweed is on your land, the best way to prevent its spread is to control or eradicate it as soon as possible. Regular cutting can weaken and eventually kill the plant but it is a time-consuming job and proper disposal of the cut material can be a problem. Usually, the most effective method of control is to treat the plant with herbicide. This can take a number of years to be successful but if the plant is left untreated it will inevitably spread. A number of issues should be taken into account in deciding which herbicide to use, particularly the presence of water (where special care needs to be taken and the advice of the Environment Agency must be sought).

Fortunately, a great deal of advice (including an Environment Agency Code of Practice) is available on the Devon Knotweed Forum's web pages. You are recommended to view these at:

[www.devon.gov.uk/knotweed](http://www.devon.gov.uk/knotweed)



## Useful sources of further information:

The following organisations can offer advice and information on various wildlife topics as well as organising events and carrying out projects.

Blackdown Hills AONB: [www.blackdown-hills.net](http://www.blackdown-hills.net).

Botany Section, Devonshire Association for the Advancement of Science, Literature and the Artes: [www.devonassoc.org.uk](http://www.devonassoc.org.uk)

British Trust for Conservation Volunteers: [www.btcv.org.uk](http://www.btcv.org.uk)

British Dragonfly Society: [www.dragonflysoc.org.uk](http://www.dragonflysoc.org.uk)

Butterfly Conservation: [www.butterfly-conservation.org](http://www.butterfly-conservation.org) (Tel: 0870 7744309)

Devon Bat Group: [www.dbg.me.uk](http://www.dbg.me.uk)

Devon Birdwatching and Preservation Society: [www.devonbirds.org](http://www.devonbirds.org)

Devon Fungus Group: [www.ex.ac.uk/devonfungusgroup](http://www.ex.ac.uk/devonfungusgroup)

Devon Mammal Group: [www.devonmammalgroup.org](http://www.devonmammalgroup.org)

Devon Wildlife Trust: [www.devonwildlifetrust.org](http://www.devonwildlifetrust.org) (Tel: 01392 279244)

Natural England: [www.naturalengland.org.uk/](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/)  
(Tel: 01392 889770)

Natural England: [www.naturalengland.org.uk](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk) (Tel: 0845 600 3078)

Plantlife: [www.plantlife.org.uk](http://www.plantlife.org.uk) (Tel: 01722 342730)

RSPB: [www.rspb.org.uk](http://www.rspb.org.uk)

The Woodland Trust: [www.woodland-trust.org.uk](http://www.woodland-trust.org.uk) (Tel: 01476 581111)

The Living Churchyards & Cemeteries Project, Arthur Rank Centre, National Agricultural Society, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire, CV8 2LZ Tel: 01203 696969 ext.364/339.

In addition, Devon County Council has produced a Community Wildlife Toolkit which is available via the DCC web site ([www.devon.gov.uk/biodiversity](http://www.devon.gov.uk/biodiversity)). This toolkit aims to provide practical advice on management to encourage wildlife and, in particular, provides a central point from which to access the large amount of advice that is already available from a huge range of other organisations.

In addition to management advice, the toolkit provides guidance on seeking funding for project work.

## Possible sources of funding:

*Please note that funding sources change quite frequently and are often short lived. IT is worth exploring widely what may be available. However, the sources listed below should provide a good starting point.*

Heritage Link – a funding directory supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund. A good source of information.

<http://www.heritagelink.org.uk/fundingdirectory/main/fundinghome.php>

## Major sources of funding

Environmental Stewardship – whole farm agri-environment scheme funding.

[www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/farming/funding/es/default.aspx](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/farming/funding/es/default.aspx)

SITA Trust - Enriching Nature: for biodiversity conservation projects within ten miles of any landfill site in England.

[www.sitatrust.org.uk](http://www.sitatrust.org.uk)

GrantScape – significant sums of money often available for biodiversity action, including landscape-scale projects.

[www.grantscape.org.uk/home](http://www.grantscape.org.uk/home)

The Tubney Charitable Trust – large funds available but on an invitation-to-bid only basis.

[www.tubney.org.uk](http://www.tubney.org.uk)

Esmee Fairbairn Foundation – no maximum size of grant. “Priority will be given to high quality projects that are exemplars of good practice or imaginative approaches to old problems, that have wider impact, leading to changes in the law, policy or practice or that may be viewed as difficult to support or too 'high risk' by other funders.”

[www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk](http://www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk)

Big Lottery Fund – “Every year BIG gives out millions of pounds from the National Lottery to good causes. Our money goes to community groups and to projects that improve health, education and the environment.” Often has large programmes relating to the environment, for example:

- *Changing Spaces: Access to Nature* - grants: £50,000 - £715,000. This programme aims to encourage more people to enjoy the outdoors, particularly those who face social exclusion.

[http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog\\_cs\\_access\\_nature?regioncode=-uk](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_cs_access_nature?regioncode=-uk)

- *Changing Spaces: Community Places* - grants: £10,000 - £450,000. This programme will fund community groups who want to improve local green spaces such as play areas, community gardens and parks.  
[http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog\\_cs\\_comm\\_spaces?regioncode=-uk](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_cs_comm_spaces?regioncode=-uk)

## Possible funding for smaller projects

It should be noted that many of these grants only have a finite pot of money and this could run out at any time. It is also important to check that your project meets any relevant funding criteria. Please check with the different organisations before applying.

Big Lottery Fund (see above) – BIG also gives smaller grants, for example:

- *Awards for All England* - Grants: £300 - £10,000. 'Awards for All gives money to projects that encourage people to take part in arts, sport, heritage and also community projects'.  
[http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog\\_a4a\\_eng?regioncode=-uk](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_a4a_eng?regioncode=-uk)

AONB Sustainable Development Funds -

- Blackdown Hills
- East Devon
- North Devon
- South Devon
- Tamar Valley

Biffawards - grants for biodiversity projects within 10 miles of a Biffa operation (landfill)

[www.biffaward.org/projects/smallgrants.php](http://www.biffaward.org/projects/smallgrants.php)

BBC Breathing Places – currently only available for projects that have received Breathing Places funding already. Grants of £1000 to £5000 available.

[www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog\\_breathingplaces](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_breathingplaces)

SITA Trust - Enriching Nature: for biodiversity conservation projects within ten miles of any landfill site in England.

[www.sitatrust.org.uk](http://www.sitatrust.org.uk)

Forestry Commission - grants and sources of funding available for improving biodiversity (for example, the Woodland Improvement Grant).

[www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/hcou-4u4j28](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/hcou-4u4j28)

Tree Council - small grants for schools and communities for tree planting schemes.

[www.treecouncil.org.uk/?q=grants](http://www.treecouncil.org.uk/?q=grants)

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[www.devonwildlifetrust.org](http://www.devonwildlifetrust.org)

## **Acknowledgements**

Roy Sampson, Upottery Parish Council.

Tim Phillips, whose photograph is on the front cover.

Tom Dare, for access to his land.

**Appendix 1 - Statutory & non-statutory sites within Upton parish (2009) Enq no. 4725**

Site no.	File Code	Site Name	Grid Reference	Area (ha)	Description	Status
1	ST10/049	Riggle's Hillside	ST185093	5.30	Springline mire and wet woodland	CWS
2	ST10/050	Buckhayes Covert	ST197092 & ST198093	3.00	Ancient semi-natural woodland	CWS
3	ST10/052	Aller Moor	ST191077	6.70	Wet and dry secondary woodland and conifer plantation	CWS
4	ST10/088	Buckhayes Wood	ST197095	3.00	Ancient semi-natural woodland partly replanted with conifers	CWS
5	ST20/005	Moonhayes	ST205099	1.40	Unimproved acidic grassland	CWS
6	ST20/007	Cook's Moor	ST213061	1.70	Marshy grassland	CWS
7	ST20/010	Kitt's Farm	ST219080	2.20	Wet heath	CWS
8	ST20/016	Collyforches Farm	ST227074	9.30	Unimproved marshy grassland	CWS
9	ST20/018	Sandpit Hill	ST228093	9.50	Wet heath	CWS

Site no.	File Code	Site Name	Grid Reference	Area (ha)	Description	Status
10	ST20/019	Newcott	ST225090	9.80	Wet heath	CWS
11	ST20/102	Corrymoor	ST225069	7.30	Semi-improved neutral grassland, rush-pasture & wet woodland	CWS
12	ST21/001	Middle Luxton	ST207104	3.70	Springline mire	CWS
13	ST21/002	Pamos Farm (S)	ST214104	1.30	Springline mire	CWS
14	ST21/003	Pamos Farm (N)	ST216106	4.00	Semi-improved neutral & marshy grassland	CWS
15	ST21/004	Higher Luxton	ST214112	17.00	Mosaic of wet woodland, rush-pasture and springline mire	CWS
16	ST21/005	Higher Luxton (N)	ST216114	1.30	Unimproved neutral grassland	CWS
17	ST10/047	Woods Linhay	ST192082	4.90	Wet neutral grassland	OSWI
18	ST10/089	Fair Oak Mire	ST184091	1.10	Springline mire	OSWI
19	ST20/002	Reed's Covert & Summerhayes Wood	ST212070	7.00	Ancient semi-natural and secondary mixed woodland	OSWI

Site no.	File Code	Site Name	Grid Reference	Area (ha)	Description	Status
20	ST20/003	Cleave Farm	ST203088	2.20	Semi-improved neutral grassland	OSWI
21	ST20/008	Woods Common	ST214077	4.40	Semi-improved neutral grassland	OSWI
22	ST20/092	Reed's Covert Mire	ST210068	0.30	Springline mire	OSWI
23	ST10/048	Fair Oak Covert	ST187088	16.50	Secondary woodland	UWS
24	ST10/051	Sheepwash Covert	ST194085	5.50	Secondary woodland	UWS
25	ST10/082	Hayne Farm	ST197048	2.70	Semi-improved neutral grassland	UWS
26	ST20/023	Rookery Farm	ST221087	2.00	Acidic grassland	UWS
27	ST20/015	Nine Acre Plantation	ST224073	8.70	Secondary woodland	UWS

Site no.	File Code	Site Name	Grid Reference	Area (ha)	Description	Status
28	ST20/014	Nichol's Reeds	ST223065	17.40	Secondary woodland	UWS
29	ST20/009	Preston Farm	ST210077 & ST215075	4.10	Secondary woodland	UWS
30	ST20/001	Reddick's Hill	ST201055	19.50	Secondary woodland	UWS
31	ST20/096	Otter View	ST205088	1.80	Unimproved grassland	UWS
32	ST20/099	Higher Luxton (N)	ST218114	4.10	Marshy grassland	UWS
33	ST20/100	Lower Luxton	ST219111	1.40	Marshy grassland	UWS
34	ST10/120	Claypits Farm	ST198053	4.10	Meadow with large population of wild daffodil	UWS
35	ST10/046	South Cleave	ST189082	10.30	Secondary woodland	UWS

Site no.	File Code	Site Name	Grid Reference	Area (ha)	Description	Status
36	New Site		ST188078	2.60	Possible unimproved grassland	UWS
37	ST11/004	Smeatharpe Airfield	ST185101	194.20	Winter bird interest	UWS
38	New site	Riggles Field	ST186092	2.30	Unimproved grassland	UWS

**County Wildlife Sites (CWS):** these are sites of county importance for wildlife, designated on the basis of the habitat or the known presence of particular species. This is not a statutory designation like SSSIs, and does not have any legal status. County Wildlife Sites are usually included in Local Plans as sites of substantive nature conservation interest and are covered by Planning Policy Statement note nine (PPS9). CWS recognition does not demand any particular actions on the part of the Landowner and does not give the public rights of access. However, it may increase eligibility for land management grants.

**Other Sites of Wildlife Interest (OSWI):** these are sites of significant wildlife interest within a local context that have been surveyed but do not reach the criteria for County Wildlife Sites. They are not covered by PPS9, but may be included in Local Plans.

**Unconfirmed Wildlife Sites (UWS):** these are sites identified as having possible interest but not fully surveyed. Some of these sites will be areas of significant wildlife interest.

## Appendix 2 - Legally protected & notable species within Upottery parish (2009) Enq 4725

ID	Common Name	Scientific Name	Location	Date	Grid Reference	UK protection	International protection	Status
1	Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Riggle's Farm	2007	ST184094			Amber
2	Primrose	<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Riggle's Farm	2007	ST184094			DBAP
3	Badger	<i>Meles meles</i>	Riggle's Farm	2007	ST184094	WCA 6, BA	Bern III	
4	Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>	Riggle's Farm	2007	ST184094	DA	Bern III	
5	Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>	Smeatharpe Airfield	2006	ST185101	WCA 1		Red
6	Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Smeatharpe Airfield	2006	ST185101			Amber
7	Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	Smeatharpe Airfield	2002	ST190101	NERC 41		UKBAP (P); DBAP
8	Badger	<i>Meles meles</i>	A30, 0.75 miles North of Monkton	1999	ST1904	WCA 6, BA	Bern III	
9	Primrose	<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Braddicksnap Hill	2006	ST191074			DBAP
10	Pepper-Saxifrage	<i>Silaum silaus</i>	Braddicksnap Hill	2006	ST191074			DN1
11	Narrow Buckler-Fern	<i>Dryopteris carthusiana</i>	Aller Moor	2006	ST191077			DN3
12	Brown Hairstreak	<i>Thecla betulae</i>	Upottery	1996	ST197081	WCA 5 (S); NERC 41		UKBAP (P); Nb
13	Ivy-Leaved Bellflower	<i>Wahlenbergia hederacea</i>	Buckhayes Wood; sub-site 2	1993	ST197095			DN3

ID	Common Name	Scientific Name	Location	Date	Grid Reference	UK protection	International protection	Status
14	Badger	Meles meles	A30 heading towards Honiton, between turning for Cotleigh and village of Monkton. Adjacent to area of woodland on steep slopes.	2004	ST201053	WCA 6, BA	Bern III	
15	Roe Deer	Capreolus capreolus	A30 heading towards Honiton. Between turning for Cotleigh and village of Monkton. Adjacent to woodland.	2004	ST201054	DA	Bern III	
16	Badger	Meles meles	In Upottery	2000	ST202085	WCA 6, BA	Bern III	
17	Badger	Meles meles	Churchinford to Upottery, just before Moonhayes Cross	2001	ST204103	WCA 6, BA	Bern III	
18	Badger	Meles meles	A30 as you approach the A303 junction, by turning for Rawridge Farm, near Honiton.	2002	ST206060	WCA 6, BA	Bern III	
19	a Bat	Chiroptera	The West House, Higher Phillishayes, Upottery.	2004	ST207088	WCA 5, 6	EC IVa; Bonn II	

ID	Common Name	Scientific Name	Location	Date	Grid Reference	UK protection	International protection	Status
20	Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>	Minson's Hill	2006	ST208092	DA	Bern III	
21	Primrose	<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Reed's Covert Mire	1993	ST210068			DBAP
22	Badger	<i>Meles meles</i>	A30, past Honiton near Upottery turning.	1999	ST2107	WCA 6, BA	Bern III	
23	Primrose	<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Reed's Covert & Summerhayes Wood	1993	ST212070			DBAP
24	Water Germander	<i>Teucrium scordium</i>	Lambpark; Community B, Quadrat 3	1987	ST213114	WCA 8; NERC 41		UKBAP (P); DN1; DR; vul
25	Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	Pamos Farm (S)	1993	ST214104	NERC 41		UKBAP (P)
26	Keeled Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum coerulescens</i>	Pamos Farm (S)	1993	ST214104			KeyD (N)
27	Round-leaved Crowfoot	<i>Ranunculus omiophyllus</i>	Pamos Farm (S)	1993	ST214104			DN1
28	Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	Higher Luxton	2007	ST214112			UKBAP (P); Red
29	Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>	Higher Luxton	2007	ST214112	WCA 5 (S)	EC Va; Bern III	
30	Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>	Higher Luxton	2007	ST214112	DA	Bern III	
31	Grass Snake	<i>Natrix natrix</i>	Kingston Cottage, Upottery, Honiton.	2004	ST216078	WCA 5 (KIS); NERC 41	Bern III	UKBAP (P)

ID	Common Name	Scientific Name	Location	Date	Grid Reference	UK protection	International protection	Status
32	Grey Long-Eared Bat	Plecotus austriacus	Kingston Cottage, Upottery, Honiton.	2004	ST216078	WCA 5, 6	EC IVa; Bern II; Bonn II	
33	Badger	Meles meles	A303, where A30 meets A303, nr. Chard	Jun-05	ST218076	WCA 6, BA	Bern III	
34	Brown Long-Eared Bat	Plecotus auritus	Rookery Farm, Upottery, Nr Honiton (barn)	2009	ST219088	WCA 5, 6; NERC 41	EC IVa; Bern II; Bonn II	UKBAP (P)
35	Roe Deer	Capreolus capreolus	Corrymoor	2007	ST225069	DA	Bern III	
36	Primrose	Primula vulgaris	Corrymoor; Dry woodland	2007	ST225069			DBAP
37	Bog Myrtle	Myrica gale	Sandpit Hill	1991	ST229093			DN1
38	Roe Deer	Capreolus capreolus	Sandpit Hill	1991	ST229093	DA	Bern III	

**NERC 41**      **NERC Act (2006) Section 41:** Species listed under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006). These are the species found in England which have been identified as requiring action under the UK BAP. All local authorities and other public authorities in England and Wales have a duty to promote and enhance biodiversity in all of their functions.

**WCA 1**        **Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Schedule 1:** birds which are protected by special penalties at all times.

**WCA 5**        **Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Schedule 5:** species protected against killing, injury, disturbance and handling.

- WCA 5 (S)** **Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Schedule 5: (sale):** species protected against sale only.
- WCA 5 (KIS)** **Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Schedule 5: (killing & injury):** species protected against killing, injury and sale only.
- WCA 6** **Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Schedule 6:** animals (other than birds) which may not be killed or taken by certain methods
- WCA 8** **Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Schedule 8:** plants which are protected.
- BA** **Protection of Badgers Act 1992:** badgers may not be deliberately killed, persecuted or trapped except under licence. Badger setts may not be damaged, destroyed or obstructed.
- DA** **Deer Act 1991:** deer protected under the Deer Act.
- Bern II** **Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) Appendix II:** Special protection for listed animal species and their habitats.
- Bern III** **Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) Appendix III:** Exploitation of listed animal species to be subject to regulation
- ECIVa, IVb** **EC Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Habitats & Species Directive) Annex IVa:** Exploitation of listed animals and plants to be subject to management if necessary.
- ECVa, Vb** **EC Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Habitats & Species Directive) Annex Va and Vb:** Exploitation of listed animals and plants to be subject to management if necessary.
- Bonn II** **Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn Convention) Appendix II:** Range states encouraged to conclude international agreements to benefit species listed.

- UKBAP(P)**     **UK Priority Species (Short and Middle Lists - UK Biodiversity steering Group Report 1995)** i.e. species that are globally threatened and rapidly declining in the UK (by more than 50% in the last 25 years). Has a Species Action Plan.
- DBAP**            **Devon Biodiversity Action Plan species:** these have been identified as species of key conservation concern in Devon.
- Devon Notable Species:** Selected species recorded from over 50 2km squares in the 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.
- DN3**            **Devon Notable<sup>3</sup>:** 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.
- Nb**             **Nationally Notable B:** known from 100 or fewer 10km squares. Taken from the Invertebrate Site Register.
- 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.