

Biodiversity Opportunity Areas: the basis for realising Surrey's ecological network

Appendix 4: Thames Basin Heaths Biodiversity Opportunity Area Policy Statements

TBH01: Chobham Common North & Wentworth Heaths TBH02: Chobham South Heaths TBH03: Colony Bog, Bagshot Heath & Deepcut Heaths TBH04: Ash, Brookwood & Whitmoor Heaths TBH05: Woking Heaths TBH06: Wisley, Ockham & Walton Heaths TBH07: Camberley & Broadmoor Heaths

September 2019

Biodiversity Opportunity Area **TBH01: Chobham Common North** & Wentworth Heaths

Local authorities: Surrey Heath, Runnymede

Aim & justification:

The aim of **Biodiversity Opportunity Areas** (BOAs) is to establish a strategic framework for conserving and enhancing biodiversity at a landscape scale, making our wildlife more robust to changing climate and socio-economic pressures. BOAs are those areas where targeted maintenance, restoration and creation of Natural Environment & Rural Communities (NERC) Act 'Habitats of Principal Importance', ie. **Priority habitats** will have the greatest benefit towards achieving this aim.

Realising BOA aims will contribute to UK commitments to halt biodiversity declines, and their recognition directly meets current **National Planning Policy Framework** policy to plan strategically for the enhancement of the natural environment; to be achieved by **providing net gains** for biodiversity and **establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures** (para. 170). Designation of BOAs also fulfils NPPF requirements to identify, **map and safeguard components of wider ecological networks**, and **areas identified for habitat management**, **enhancement**, **restoration or creation** (para. 174).

Explanatory

BOAs identify the most important areas for wildlife conservation remaining in Surrey and each include a variety of habitats, providing for an 'ecosystem approach' to nature conservation across and beyond the county. By working with larger, more dynamic ecosystems, it will be possible to create a wider range of habitats and their variants, which will in turn increase the ability of the landscape to support the widest variety of species.

I. Overview

This Biodiversity Opportunity Area is centred on Chobham Common National Nature Reserve west of Windlesham and north of the M3 motorway. Additional, largely wooded heathland within the Wentworth golf course and private estate south of Virginia Water, and in the Sunningdale golf course in the west, is also included. The NNR is internationally designated as part of the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area. The BOA meets TV01 in the north and is divided from TBH02 (Chobham South Heaths) only by the width of the M3 corridor. **Area**: 929.6 ha

2. National Character Areas

Thames Basin Heaths (NCA 129)

3. Profile

3.1 Physical

Bagshot Sands, Sand & Gravel, River Terrace Deposits. Undulating gravel plateau dissected by a linear valley mire system (including Long and Little Arms); falling generally north-east towards the Chertsey Bourne.

3.2 Biodiversity

3.2.1 Statutory protected sites

Natura 2000 (SPA/SAC): Thames Basin Heaths SPA; Thursley, Ash, Pirbright and Chobham SAC **SSSI**: Chobham Common

NNR: Chobham Common

3.2.2 Local Sites SNCI: 8

Important Bird Area/Important Plant Area: Thames Basin Heath(land)s (Birdlife/Plantlife)

3.2.3 NERC Act S.41

Habitats of Principal Importance (Priority habitats): Heathland, Acid grassland, Mixed deciduous woodland, Wet woodland, Standing open water, Fen

Species of Principal Importance (Priority species):

Plants: Basil thyme^{*}, Chamomile^{*}, Deptford pink^{*}, Lesser butterfly-orchid^{*}, Marsh clubmoss, Yellow bird's-nest^{*}

Fungi/Lichens: Berkeley's earthstar^{*}, Weathered earthstar^{*} (both fungi)

Invertebrates: Grayling, Silver-studded blue, Small heath, Goat moth, Shoulder-striped clover (a moth), Blue pepper-pot beetle, Heath shortspur (a beetle), Red barbed ant^{*}, Shining guest ant, Erratic ant^{*}, Long-horned mining bee^{*}, Tormentil mining bee, 5-banded tailed digger wasp, Bloody spider-

hunting wasp^{*}, Black-headed mason wasp^{*}, Mottled bee-fly, Serrated tongue-spider^{*}, Small meshweaver^{*} (a spider), Heath grasper^{*} (a spider), Peus's long-back spider^{*}, Swamp look-out spider, Triangle hammock-spider^{*}, Window-winged sedge (a caddis-fly)

Vertebrates: Bullfinch, Cuckoo, Dunnock, Lapwing, Lesser redpoll^{*}, Lesser spotted woodpecker, Linnet, Nightjar, Skylark, Song thrush, Spotted flycatcher, Reed bunting, Tree pipit, Willow tit^{*}, Woodlark; Adder, Common lizard, Grass snake, Sand lizard, Slow-worm, Smooth snake, Common toad; Brown long-eared bat, Harvest mouse, Hedgehog, Noctule bat, Soprano pipistrelle bat, Water vole*

3.2.4 Further important species interest: Bristle bent, Bog pimpernel, Common wintergreen, Green-flowered helleborine, Hare's-tail cottongrass, Heath spotted-orchid, Marsh gentian, Oblongleaved sundew, Royal fern, Blunt-leaved bog-moss, Compact bog-moss, Recurved bog-moss, Papillose bog-moss; Cladonia strepsilis, C. arbuscula (lichens); Araneus alsine, Cheiracanthium pennyi, Dipoena erythropus, Oxyopes heterophthalmus, Uloborus walckenaerius (all spiders), Micracanthia marginalis (a bug), Golden-tabbed robberfly; Crossbill, Dartford warbler, Hobby

3.2.5 Ancient woodland: present

3.2.6 Landscape scale conservation activity: Surrey Wildlife Trust Grazing Project; Surrey Countryside Partnerships team (Heathland Project)

3.3 Archaeology

Tumulus at Sunningdale golf course

3.4 Access

3.4.1 Publically-accessible Natural OS: Chobham Common NNR (Surrey Wildlife Trust)

3.4.2 Long-distance PRoW, etc: -

3.5 Key ecosystem services

Timber production; Carbon sequestration; Flooding regulation; Pollination services; Recreational (walking, equestrian, golf, nature observation)

3.6 Socio-Economic

3.6.1 Employment profile: Heritage conservation sector; Leisure sector (golf, equestrian, hospitality)

3.6.2 LEP: Enterprise M3

4. Objectives & Targets

TBH01/OI: SSSI units to achieve favourable condition. TI: 50% by 2020 (by area)

TBH01/O2: SNCI protected by planning policy & in positive management. **T2**: All by 2020

- **TBH01/O3**: Priority habitat restoration & creation.
 - Heathland/T3a: 6.5 ha by 2020 •
 - Acid grassland/T3b: 5.75 ha by 2020 •
 - Wet woodland/T3c: 1.75 ha by 2020 ٠
 - Mixed deciduous woodland (restoration only)/T3d: 75% by area
 - Fen/T3e: 3.25 ha by 2020

TBH01/O4: Priority species recovery.

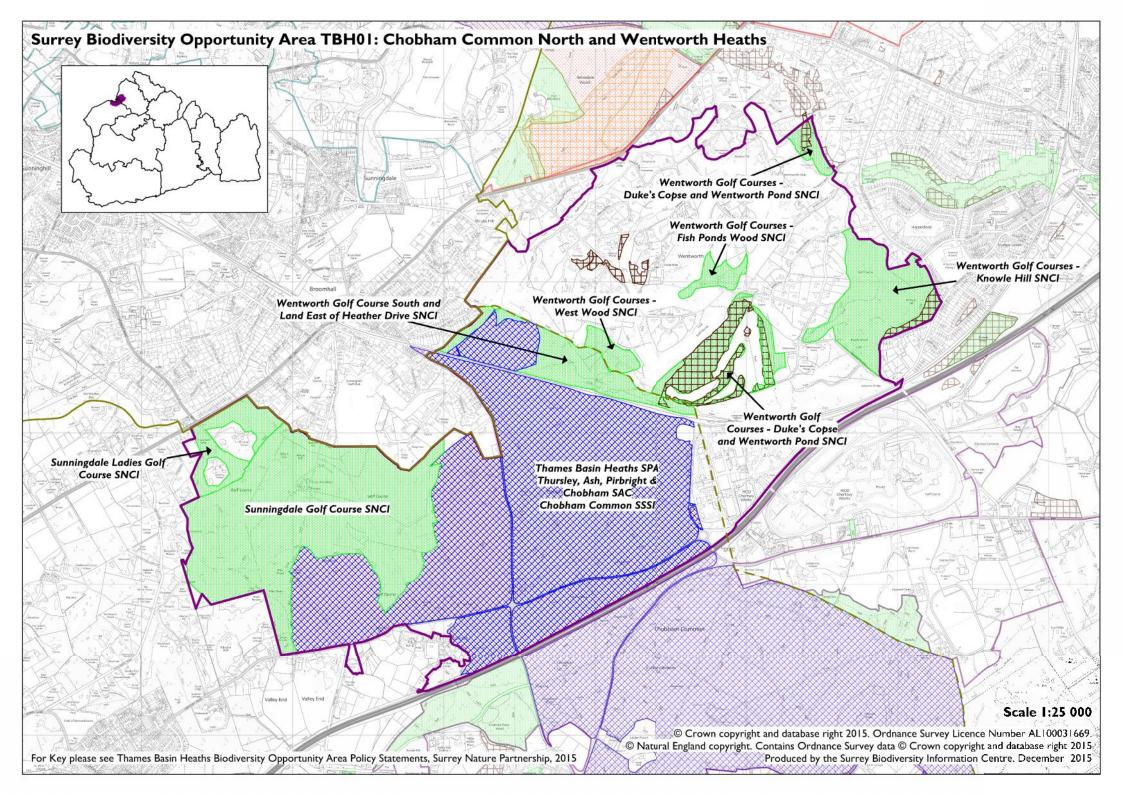
T4: By 2020, evidence of at least stabilisation & preferably recovery in the local populations of listed Priority species: Deptford pink Marsh clubmoss Window-winged sedge Woodlark

Nightjar

Smooth snake

probably extinct in BOA

Further details available from Surrey Biodiversity Information Centre, C/O Surrey Wildlife Trust, School Lane, Pirbright, Woking, Surrey, GU24 0JN



Biodiversity Opportunity Area TBH02: Chobham South Heaths

Local authorities: Surrey Heath, Runnymede

Aim & justification:

The aim of **Biodiversity Opportunity Areas** (BOAs) is to establish a strategic framework for conserving and enhancing biodiversity at a landscape scale, making our wildlife more robust to changing climate and socio-economic pressures. BOAs are those areas where targeted maintenance, restoration and creation of Natural Environment & Rural Communities (NERC) Act 'Habitats of Principal Importance', ie. **Priority habitats** will have the greatest benefit towards achieving this aim.

Realising BOA aims will contribute to UK commitments to halt biodiversity declines, and their recognition directly meets current **National Planning Policy Framework** policy to plan strategically for the enhancement of the natural environment; to be achieved by **providing net gains** for biodiversity and **establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures** (para. 170). Designation of BOAs also fulfils NPPF requirements to identify, **map and safeguard components of wider ecological networks**, and **areas identified for habitat management**, **enhancement**, **restoration or creation** (para. 174).

Explanatory

BOAs identify the most important areas for wildlife conservation remaining in Surrey and each include a variety of habitats, providing for an 'ecosystem approach' to nature conservation across and beyond the county. By working with larger, more dynamic ecosystems, it will be possible to create a wider range of habitats and their variants, which will in turn increase the ability of the landscape to support the widest variety of species.

I. Overview

This Biodiversity Opportunity Area includes Chobham Common National Nature Reserve south of the M3 motorway, together with additional, largely wooded heathland in the Foxhills and Queenwood golf courses to the south-east. The former Ministry of Defence Longcross (DERA) estate is also included. The NNR is internationally designated as part of the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area. The BOA is separated from TBH01 (Chobham Common North) by the width of the M3 corridor. **Area**: 994 ha

2. National Character Areas

Thames Basin Heaths (NCA 129)

3. Profile

3.1 Physical

Bagshot Sands, River Terrace Deposits. Undulating gravel plateau highest in the north-west at Staple Hill (75m), dissected by a branching valley mire system (including Albury Bottom and Langshot Bog descending south-eastward to the Addlestone Bourne.

3.2 Biodiversity

3.2.1 Statutory protected sites

Natura 2000 (SPA/SAC): Thames Basin Heaths SPA; Thursley, Ash, Pirbright and Chobham SAC SSSI: Chobham Common

NNR: Chobham Common

3.2.2 Local Sites SNCI: 6

Important Bird Area/Important Plant Area: Thames Basin Heath(land)s (Birdlife/Plantlife)

3.2.3 NERC Act S.41

Habitats of Principal Importance (Priority habitats):

Heathland, Acid grassland, Fen, Standing open water, Wet woodland

Species of Principal Importance (Priority species):

Plants: Chamomile^{*}, Deptford pink^{*}, Glandular eyebright, Lesser butterfly-orchid^{*}, Marsh clubmoss; Rusty fork-moss^{*}

Invertebrates: Grayling, Silver-studded blue, Small heath, Goat moth, Shoulder-striped clover (a moth), Blue pepper-pot beetle, Heath shortspur (a beetle), Shining guest ant, Erratic ant^{*}, Long-horned mining bee^{*}, Tormentil mining bee, 5-banded tailed digger wasp, Bloody spider-hunting wasp^{*}, Mottled

bee-fly, Serrated tongue-spider^{*}, Small mesh-weaver^{*} (a spider), Silky gallows-spider, Heath grasper^{*} (a spider), Peus's long-back spider^{*}, Swamp look-out spider, Triangle hammock-spider^{*}, Sedge jumper (a spider)

Vertebrates: Bullfinch, Cuckoo, Dunnock, Lesser redpoll^{*}, Lesser spotted woodpecker, Lapwing, Linnet, Nightjar, Marsh tit, Skylark, Song thrush, Spotted flycatcher, Reed bunting, Tree pipit, Willow tit^{*}, Woodlark; Adder, Common lizard, Grass snake, Sand lizard, Slow-worm, Common toad; Brown long-eared bat, Harvest mouse, Hedgehog, Noctule bat, Soprano pipistrelle bat, Water vole^{*}

3.2.4 Further important species interest: Bristle bent, Bog pimpernel, Dodder, Hare's-tail cottongrass, Heath cudweed, Heath spotted-orchid, Marsh gentian, Oblong-leaved sundew, Royal fern, Saw-wort, Yellow bartsia, Blunt-leaved bog-moss, Compact bog-moss, Recurved bog-moss, Papillose bog-moss; *Cladonia strepsilis, C. arbuscula* (lichens); *Cardiophorus asellus* (a click-beetle), *Araneus alsine, Cheiracanthium pennyi, Oxyopes heterophthalmus, Uloborus walckenaerius* (all spiders), Golden-tabbed robberfly, Lesser cockroach, *Micracanthia marginalis* (a bug); Crossbill, Dartford warbler, Hobby

3.2.5 Ancient woodland: -

3.2.6 Landscape scale conservation activity: Surrey Wildlife Trust Grazing Project

3.3 Archaeology

Bowl Barrow west of Barrowhills; 'Bee Garden' earthwork at Albury Bottom; Bowl Barrow northwest of Pipers Green Stud; Earthwork on Chobham Common

3.4 Access

3.4.1 Publically-accessible Natural OS: Chobham Common NNR, Gracious Pond Nature Reserve (Surrey Wildlife Trust); Stanners Hill (Surrey County Council); Chobham Place Wood (Surrey Heath Borough Council)

3.4.2 Long-distance PRoW, etc: -

3.5 Key ecosystem services

Timber production; Carbon sequestration; Flooding regulation; Pollination services; Recreational (walking, equestrian, golf, angling, nature observation)

3.6 Socio-Economic

3.6.1 Employment profile: Heritage conservation sector; Equine livery, breeding & services; Leisure sector (golf, equestrian, hospitality)

3.6.2 LEP: Enterprise M3

4. Objectives & Targets

TBH02/OI: SSSI units to achieve favourable condition. TI: 50% by 2020 (by area)

TBH02/O2: SNCI protected by planning policy & in positive management. T2: All by 2020

TBH02/O3: Priority habitat restoration & creation.

- Heathland/T3a: 7 ha by 2020
- Acid grassland/T3b: 6 ha by 2020
- Fen/T3c: 3.5 ha by 2020

TBH02/O4: Priority species recovery.

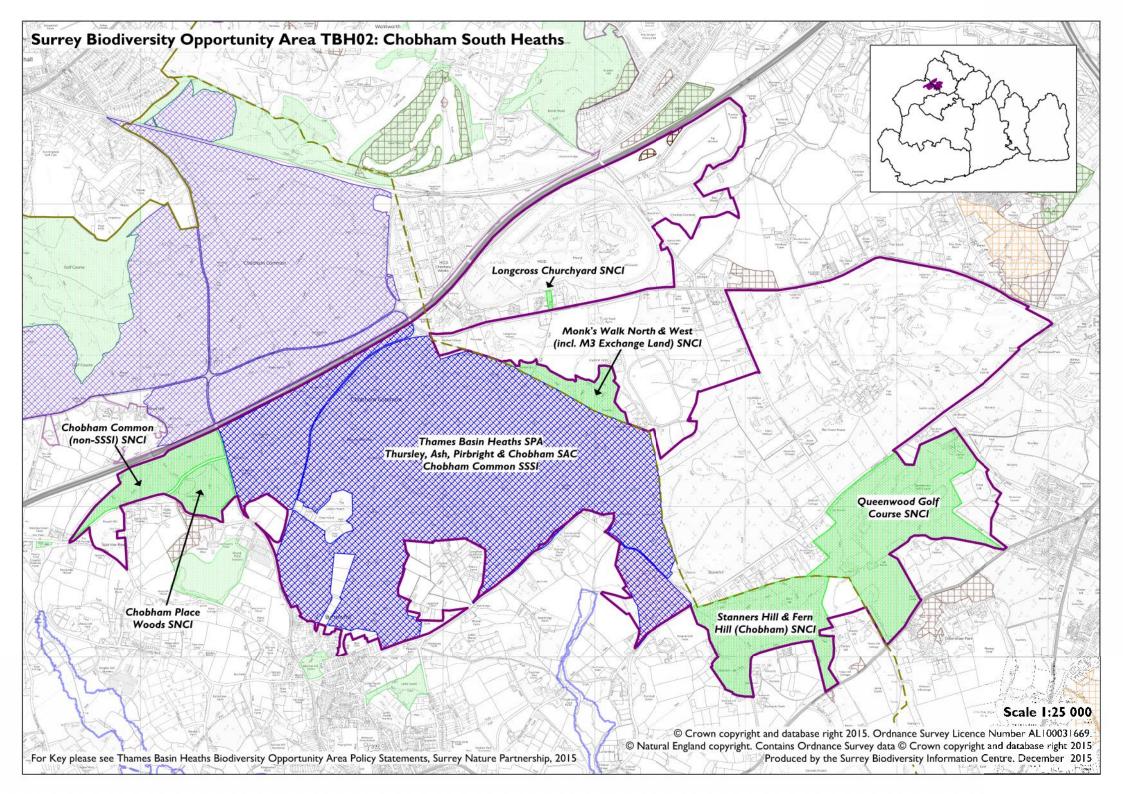
• **T4**: By 2020, evidence of at least stabilisation & preferably recovery in the local populations of listed Priority species:

Deptford pink Marsh clubmoss Nightjar Woodlark

Shoulder-striped clover moth Sand lizard

^{*} probably extinct in BOA

Further details available from Surrey Biodiversity Information Centre, C/O Surrey Wildlife Trust, School Lane, Pirbright, Woking, Surrey, GU24 0JN



Biodiversity Opportunity Area **TBH03: Colony Bog**, **Bagshot Heath** & **Deepcut Heaths**

Local authorities: Guildford, Woking, Surrey Heath

Aim & justification

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Explanatory

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I. Overview

This Biodiversity Opportunity Area includes an extensive heathland mosaic from the Basingstoke Canal north to the M3 corridor at Lightwater; from Frimley and Deepcut in the west, continuing across the Ministry of Defence Pirbright Ranges to Sheets Heath, Bisley and St John's on the outskirts of Woking in the east. The majority is internationally designated as part of the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area. **Area**: 2101.8 ha

2. National Character Areas

Thames Basin Heaths (NCA 129)

3. Profile

3.1 Physical

Bagshot Sands, Sand & Gravel, Alluvium. The BOA falls steeply from the high Chobham Ridges watershed along its western boundary; the eastern slope is dissected by a branching mire system feeding into the Addlestone Bourne.

3.2 Biodiversity

3.2.1 Statutory protected sites

Natura 2000 (SPA/SAC): Thames Basin Heaths SPA; Thursley, Ash, Pirbright and Chobham SAC SSSI: Colony Bog & Bagshot Heath, Basingstoke Canal (part) LNR: Bisley & West End Commons; Brentmoor Heath

3.2.2 Local Sites SNCI: 21

Important Bird Area/Important Plant Area: Thames Basin Heath(land)s (Birdlife/Plantlife)

3.2.3 NERC Act S.41

Habitats of Principal Importance (Priority habitats):

Heathland, Acid grassland, Fen, Wet woodland, Mixed deciduous woodland

Species of Principal Importance (Priority species):

Plants: Chamomile, Glandular eyebright, Lesser butterfly-orchid^{*}, Marsh clubmoss, Three-lobed crowfoot^{*}

Invertebrates: Grayling, Grizzled skipper, Silver-studded blue, Small heath, White admiral, Heath tiger-beetle, Heath shortspur (a beetle), Red barbed ant^{*}, Shining guest ant, Erratic ant, Tormentil mining-bee, Long-horned mining-bee, Hornet robberfly, Mottled bee-fly, Large marsh grasshopper^{*}, Small mesh-weaver (a spider), Silky gallows-spider, Heath grasper (a spider), Sedge jumper (a spider) *Vertebrates*: Bullfinch, Cuckoo, Dunnock, Lesser redpoll, Lesser spotted woodpecker, Linnet,

Nightjar, Skylark, Song thrush, Spotted flycatcher, Reed bunting, Tree pipit, Willow tit^{*}, Woodlark, Yellowhammer; Adder, Common lizard, Grass snake, Sand lizard, Smooth snake, Slow-worm, Common toad, Great crested newt; Brown long-eared bat, Harvest mouse, Hedgehog, Noctule bat, Soprano pipistrelle bat

3.2.4 Further important species interest: Bog-myrtle, Bog pimpernel, Black bog-rush, Bristle bent, Brown sedge, Common wintergreen, Dioecious sedge, Early marsh-orchid, *Equisetum x litorale*, Few-flowered spike-rush, Flea sedge, Hare's-tail cottongrass, Heath spotted-orchid, Lemon-scented fern, Marsh fern, Meadow thistle, Oblong-leaved sundew, Petty-whin, Round-leaved water-crowfoot, White beak-sedge, Blushing bog-moss, Compact swan-neck moss, Dwarf swan-neck moss, Hooked scorpion-moss, Magellanic bog-moss, Rusty hook-moss; Black bog ant, Golden-tabbed robberfly, *Myopa fasciata* (a thick-headed fly), *Atypus affinis* (Purse-web spider), *Dolomedes fimbriatus* (Raft spider), *Oxyopes heterophthalmus* (Lynx spider), *Neoscona adiantum*, *Tetragnatha striata* (both orb-web spiders); Dartford warbler, Hobby

3.2.5 Ancient woodland: -

3.2.6 Landscape scale conservation activity: Surrey Wildlife Trust Grazing Project; Surrey Countryside Partnerships team (Heathland Project)

3.3 Archaeology

Four Bowl Barrows on West End Common; Bowl Barrow at New England, West End Common

3.4 Access

3.4.1 Publically-accessible Natural OS: Sheets Heath, St John's Lye (Woking Borough Council); Frimley Fuel Allotments, Lightwater Country Park (Surrey Heath Borough Council); Brentmoor Heath, White Hill, Brookwood Lye, Bisley & West End Commons (Surrey Wildlife Trust/Surrey County Council); Basingstoke Canal (Basingstoke Canal Authority)

3.4.2 Long-distance PRoW, etc: -

3.5 Key ecosystem services

Agricultural production; Timber production; Carbon sequestration; Flooding regulation; Pollination services; Defence training; Recreational (walking, equestrian, shooting, golf, angling)

3.6 Socio-Economic

3.6.1 Employment profile: Armed forces (Army); Agriculture and silviculture sector; Equine livery & services; Leisure sector (golf, shooting, equestrian)

3.6.2 LEP: Enterprise M3

4. Objectives & Targets

TBH03/OI: SSSI units to achieve favourable condition. TI: 50% by 2020 (by area)

TBH03/O2: SNCI protected by planning policy & in positive management. **T2**: All by 2020

TBH03/O3: Priority habitat restoration & creation.

- Heathland/T3a: 14.5 ha by 2020
- Acid grassland/T3b: 13 ha by 2020
- Fen/T3c: 7.5 ha by 2020

TBH03/O4: Priority species recovery.

T4: By 2020, evidence of at least stabilisation & preferably recovery in the local populations of listed Priority species:
 Chamomile Marsh clubmoss Heath tiger-beetle

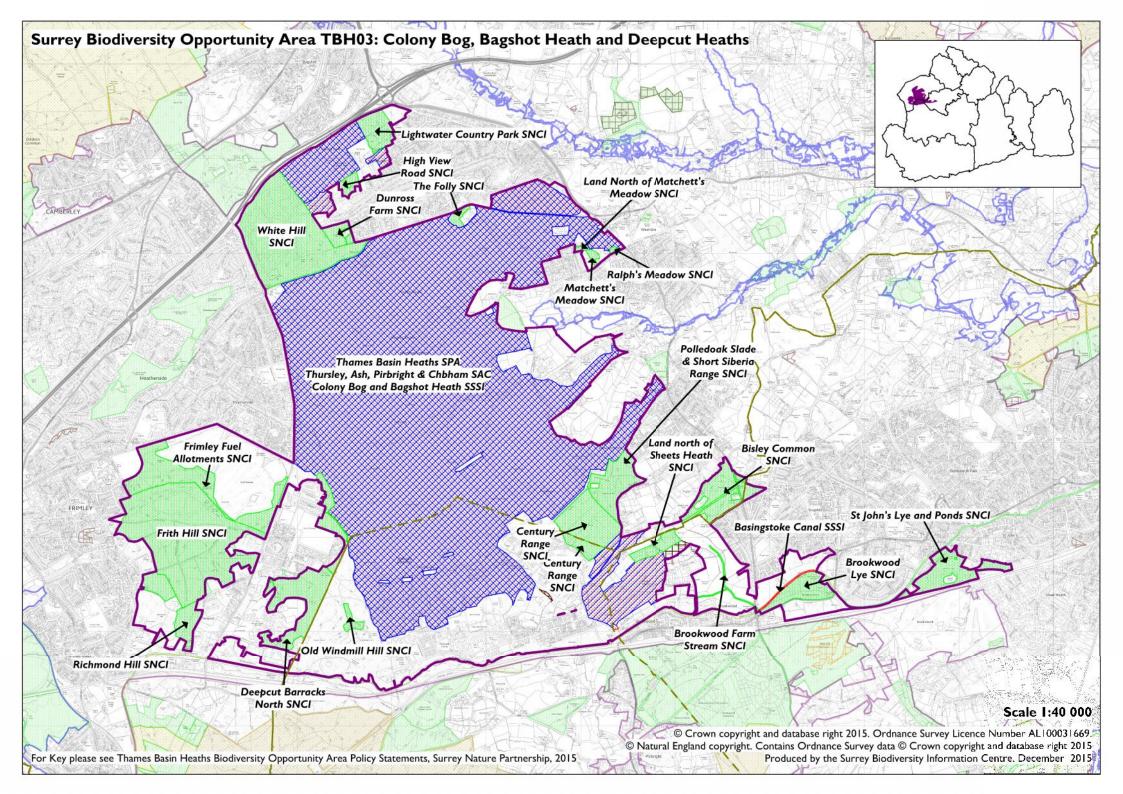
Woodlark

Nightjar

Heath tiger-beet Smooth snake

* probably extinct in BOA

Further details available from Surrey Biodiversity Information Centre, C/O Surrey Wildlife Trust, School Lane, Pirbright, Woking, Surrey, GU24 0JN



Local authorities: Guildford, Woking, Surrey Heath

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Explanatory

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I. Overview

This Biodiversity Opportunity Area includes extensive heaths and commons south and east of the Basingstoke Canal, from the Ministry of Defence Ash Ranges at its western end through to Smarts Heath and Whitmoor Common in the east. A large section is internationally designated as part of the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area. The BOA meets R03 (Blackwater River) at Mytchett and R04 (River Wey & tributaries) at Mayford. **Area**: 3944.9 ha

2. National Character Areas

Thames Basin Heaths (NCA 129), Thames Basin Lowlands (NCA 114; marginal)

3. Profile

3.1 Physical

Bagshot Sands, Sand & Gravel, River Terrace Deposits. Undulating plateau deeply dissected by a branching mire system, falling sharply from a maximum height of 116m at Romping Down to the Blackwater valley in the west and more gently towards the Wey floodplain in the east.

3.2 Biodiversity

3.2.1 Statutory protected sites

Natura 2000 (SPA/SAC): Thames Basin Heaths SPA; Thursley, Ash, Pirbright and Chobham SAC **SSSI**: Ash to Brookwood Heaths; Whitmoor Common; Smarts & Prey Heaths; Basingstoke Canal (part) **LNR**: Fox Corner Wildlife Area; Whitmoor & Rickford Commons

3.2.2 Local Sites

SNCI: 33

Important Bird Area/Important Plant Area: Thames Basin Heath(land)s (Birdlife/Plantlife)

3.2.3 NERC Act S.41

Habitats of Principal Importance (Priority habitats):

Heathland, Acid grassland, Mixed deciduous woodland, Wet woodland, Arable field margins, Standing open water

Species of Principal Importance (Priority species):

Plants: Chamomile, Copse-bindweed, Coral necklace, Glandular eyebright, Marsh clubmoss^{*}, Marsh stitchwort, Pillwort^{*}, Small fleabane^{*}, Tubular water-dropwort; Large-celled flapwort, Pitted frillwort, Veilwort^{*} (all liverworts)

^{*} probably extinct in BOA

Further details available from Surrey Biodiversity Information Centre, C/O Surrey Wildlife Trust, School Lane, Pirbright, Woking, Surrey, GU24 0JN

Fungi/Lichens: Bearded tooth, Zoned tooth (both fungi)

Invertebrates: Grayling, Silver-studded blue, Small heath, White admiral, White-letter hairstreak, Argent-&-sable^{*}, Goat moth, Heart moth^{*}, Heath tiger-beetle, Dark guest ant, Shining guest ant, Erratic ant, Long-horned mining-bee, Tormentil mining-bee, Mottled bee-fly, Silky gallows-spider, Window-winged sedge (a caddis-fly)

Vertebrates: Bullfinch, Cuckoo, Dunnock, Lapwing, Lesser redpoll, Lesser spotted woodpecker, Linnet, Nightjar, Marsh tit, Skylark, Song thrush, Spotted flycatcher, Reed bunting, Tree pipit, Willow tit^{*}, Woodlark, Yellowhammer; Adder, Common lizard, Grass snake, Sand lizard, Slow-worm, Smooth snake, Common toad, Great crested newt; Brown long-eared bat, Harvest mouse, Hedgehog, Noctule bat, Soprano pipistrelle bat, Water vole^{*}

3.2.4 Further important species interest: Bog beacon (fungus), Allseed, Bog-myrtle, Bog pimpernel, Bristle club-rush, Corn marigold, Floating club-rush, Horned pondweed, Many-stalked spike-rush, Marsh gentian, Marsh St John's-wort, Marsh violet, Meadow thistle, Mousetail, Oblong-leaved sundew, Petty-whin, Round-leaved water-crowfoot, Sheep's-bit, Silver hair-grass, Slender cottongrass, White sedge, White beak-sedge, Blushing bog-moss, Compact swan-neck moss, Pellucid plait-moss, Slender smoothcap (a moss); Small scabious mining-bee, Golden-tabbed robberfly, *Myopa fasciata* (a thick-headed fly), Bog bush-cricket, Small red damselfly, *Oxyopes heterophthalmus* (Lynx spider), *Hyperaspis pseudopustulata* (a ladybird), *Erioptera neilseni* (a cranefly), *Mimumesa spooneri* (a solitary wasp); Dartford warbler, Hobby; Brook lamprey

3.2.5 Ancient woodland: present, including PAWS

3.2.6 Landscape scale conservation activity: Surrey Wildlife Trust Grazing Project; Surrey Countryside Partnerships team (Heathland Project); Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership

3.3 Archaeology

Linear boundary on Whitmoor Common; Disc Barrow on Whitmoor Common

3.4 Access

3.4.1 Publically-accessible Natural OS: Greatbottom Flash, Mytchett Lake (Basingstoke Canal Authority); West Heath, Bowling Hill, Gravelpit-Normandy Hill/Wyke Common, Dawney's Hill-Pirbright Common, Bullswater Common (Guildford BC); Brookwood Cemetery; Smarts Heath, Prey Heath (Woking BC); Frimley Lodge Park (Surrey Heath BC); Fox Corner Wildlife Area; Rickford Common, Whitmoor Common, Stringer's Common, Britten's Pond (Surrey Wildlife Trust/SCC)

3.4.2 Long-distance PRoW, etc: The Fox Way (Link 6)

3.5 Key ecosystem services

Agricultural production; Timber production; Carbon sequestration; Flooding regulation; Pollination services; Human decomposition; Defence training; Recreational (walking, equestrian, mountain-biking, golf, angling, bird-watching); Spiritual uses

3.6 Socio-Economic

3.6.1 Employment profile: Armed forces (Army); Agriculture & silviculture sector; Equine livery & services; Leisure sector (golf, equestrian); Research and higher education

3.6.2 LEP: Enterprise M3

4. Objectives & Targets

TBH04/OI: SSSI units to achieve favourable condition. **TI**: 50% by 2020 (by area)

TBH04/O2: SNCI protected by planning policy & in positive management. **T2**: All by 2020

TBH04/O3: Priority habitat restoration & creation.

- Heathland/T3a: 26.5 ha by 2020
- Acid grassland/T3b: 24.25 ha by 2020
- Wet woodland/T3c: 5 ha by 2020
- Mixed deciduous woodland

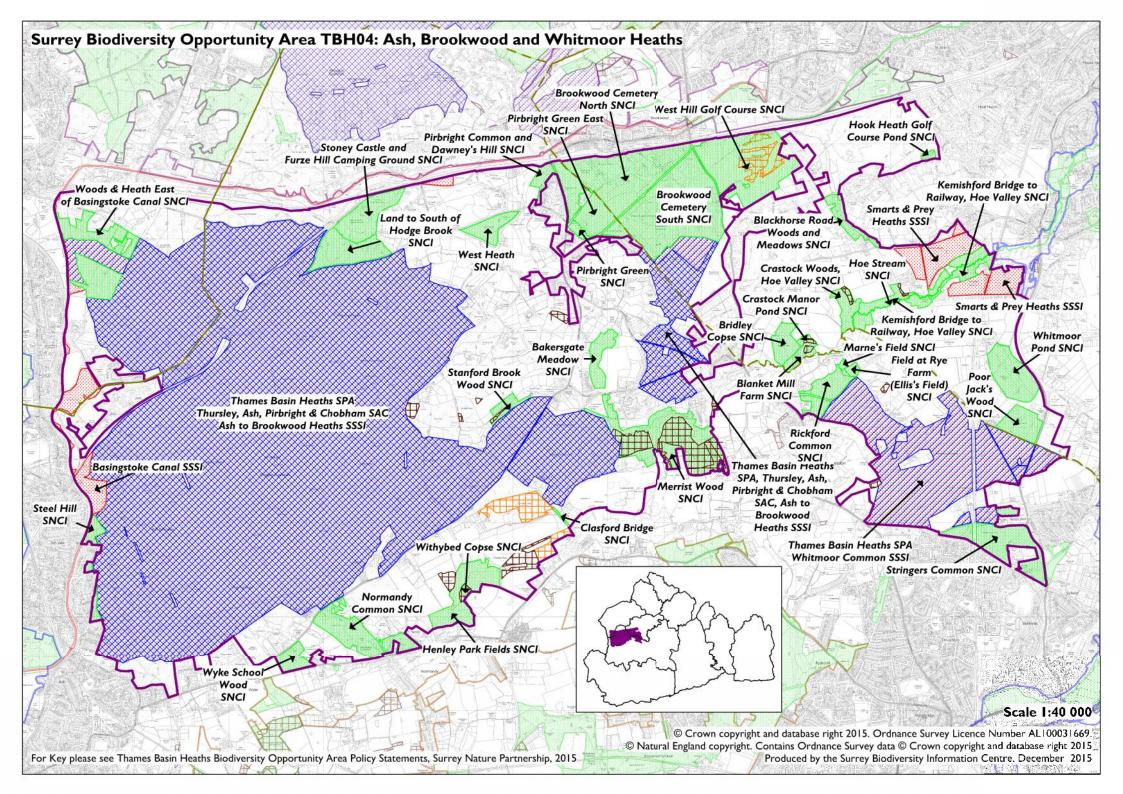
(restoration only; Ancient woodland prioritised)/**T3d**: 75% by area

TBH04/O4: Priority species recovery.

• **T4**: By 2020, evidence of at least stabilisation & preferably recovery in the local populations of listed Priority species:

Chamomile Small fleabane Window-winged sedge Smooth snake Marsh clubmoss Veilwort Nightjar Sand lizard

Pillwort Heath tiger-beetle Woodlark



Biodiversity Opportunity Area **TBH05: Woking Heaths**

Local authorities: Woking, Runnymede

Aim & justification

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Realising BOA aims will contribute to UK commitments to halt biodiversity declines, and their recognition directly meets current **National Planning Policy Framework** policy to plan strategically for the enhancement of the natural environment; to be achieved by **providing net gains** for biodiversity and **establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures** (para. 170). Designation of BOAs also fulfils NPPF requirements to identify, **map and safeguard components of wider ecological networks**, and **areas identified for habitat management**, enhancement, restoration or creation (para. 174).

Explanatory

BOAs identify the most important areas for wildlife conservation remaining in Surrey and each include a variety of habitats, providing for an 'ecosystem approach' to nature conservation across and beyond the county. By working with larger, more dynamic ecosystems, it will be possible to create a wider range of habitats and their variants, which will in turn increase the ability of the landscape to support the widest variety of species.

I. Overview

This Biodiversity Opportunity Area is centred on Horsell Common to the north of Woking. It includes some adjacent farmed land and golf courses, and extends eastward to meet the Addlestone Bourne (part of R04) at Woodham. **Area**: 426.6 ha

2. National Character Areas

Thames Basin Heaths (NCA 129)

3. Profile

3.1 Physical

Bagshot Sands, Alluvium. The BOA falls gently northward towards the narrow floodplain of the Addlestone Bourne.

3.2 Biodiversity

3.2.1 Statutory protected sites

Natura 2000 (SPA/SAC): Thames Basin Heaths SPA SSSI: Horsell Common

3.2.2 Local Sites

Important Bird Area/Important Plant Area: Thames Basin Heath(land)s (Birdlife/Plantlife)

3.2.3 NERC Act S.41

Habitats of Principal Importance (Priority habitats): Heathland, Acid grassland, Wet woodland

Species of Principal Importance (Priority species):

Plants: Glandular eyebright^{*}, Three-lobed crowfoot **Invertebrates**: Grayling, Silver-studded blue, Small heath, White admiral, White-letter hairstreak, Forester moth, Goat moth, Blue pepper-pot beetle, New Forest mud beetle^{*}, Scarlet malachite beetle, Skeetle (a camphor) beetle^{*}, Shining guest ant, *Chrysis fulgida* (a ruby-tailed wasp)^{*}, Bloody spiderhunting wasp^{*}, Heath grasper^{*} (a spider), Peus's long-back spider^{*}, Triangle hammock-spider^{*}, Gentle groove-head spider^{*}

Vertebrates: Bullfinch, Cuckoo, Dunnock, Grasshopper warbler^{*}, Lesser redpoll^{*}, Lesser spotted woodpecker, Linnet, Nightjar, Reed bunting, Skylark, Song thrush, Spotted flycatcher, Tree pipit, Woodlark; Adder, Common lizard, Grass snake, Slow-worm, Common toad, Great crested newt;

probably extinct in BOA

Further details available from Surrey Biodiversity Information Centre, C/O Surrey Wildlife Trust, School Lane, Pirbright, Woking, Surrey, GU24 0JN

Brown long-eared bat, Hedgehog, Noctule bat, Soprano pipistrelle bat

3.2.4 Further important species interest: Bog hair-grass^{*}, Common cudweed, Common dodder, Lesser water-plantain^{*}, Many-stalked spike-rush, Marsh speedwell, Marsh St John's-wort, Round-leaved crowfoot, Shoreweed, White beak-sedge; *Anthidium manicatum* (Wool-carder bee), *Eumenes coarctata* (a potter-wasp), *Melanophila acuminata* (a jewel beetle), Golden-tabbed robberfly, *Micropeza lateralis* (a stilt-legged fly), *Myopa fasciata* (a thick-headed fly); Dartford warbler, Hobby

3.2.5 Ancient woodland: present

3.2.6 Landscape scale conservation activity: Surrey Countryside Partnerships team (Heathland Project)

3.3 Archaeology

Bell Barrow & Disc Barrow on Horsell Common

3.4 Access

3.4.1 Publically-accessible Natural OS: Horsell Common (Horsell Common Preservation Society/Woking Borough Council)

3.4.2 Long-distance PRoW, etc: -

3.5 Key ecosystem services

Timber production; Carbon sequestration; Flooding regulation; Pollination services; Recreational (walking, equestrian, golf); Spiritual uses

3.6 Socio-Economic

3.6.1 Employment profile: Equine livery & services; Leisure sector (golf, hospitality, equestrian)

3.6.2 LEP: Enterprise M3

4. Objectives & Targets

TBH05/OI: SSSI units to achieve favourable condition. TI: 50% by 2020 (by area)

TBH05/O2: SNCI protected by planning policy & in positive management. T2: All by 2020

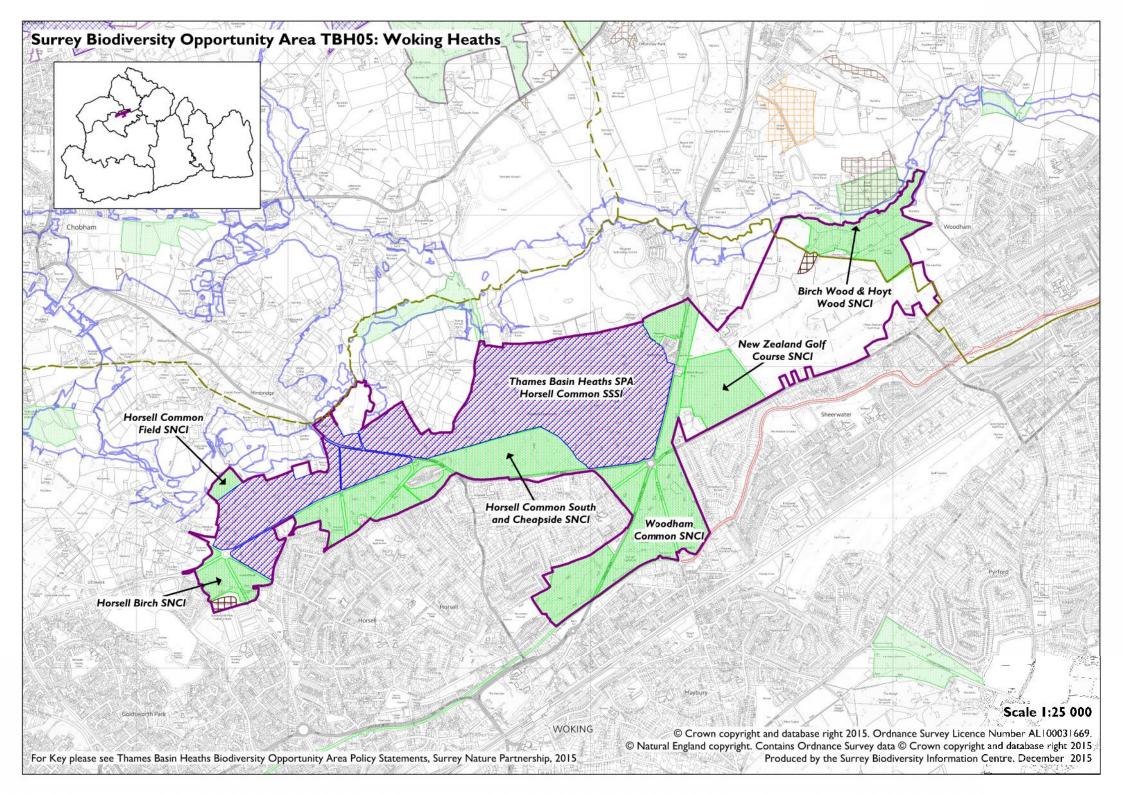
TBH05/O3: Priority habitat restoration & creation.

- Heathland/T3a: 3 ha by 2020
- Acid grassland/T3b: 2.5 ha by 2020
- Wet woodland/T3c: 0.5 ha by 2020

TBH05/O4: Priority species recovery.

- T4: By 2020, evidence of at least stabilisation & preferably recovery in the local populations of listed Priority species:
 Three-lobed crowfoot
 Blue pepper-pot beetle
 - Nightjar

Blue pepper-pot beetle Woodlark



Biodiversity Opportunity Area **TBH06: Wisley**, **Ockham & Walton Heaths**

Local authorities: Elmbridge, Guildford

Aim & justification

The aim of **Biodiversity Opportunity Areas** (BOAs) is to establish a strategic framework for conserving and enhancing biodiversity at a landscape scale, making our wildlife more robust to changing climate and socio-economic pressures. BOAs are those areas where targeted maintenance, restoration and creation of Natural Environment & Rural Communities (NERC) Act 'Habitats of Principal Importance', ie. **Priority habitats** will have the greatest benefit towards achieving this aim.

Realising BOA aims will contribute to UK commitments to halt biodiversity declines, and their recognition directly meets current **National Planning Policy Framework** policy to plan strategically for the enhancement of the natural environment; to be achieved by **providing net gains** for biodiversity and **establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures** (para. 170). Designation of BOAs also fulfils NPPF requirements to identify, **map and safeguard components of wider ecological networks**, and **areas identified for habitat management**, **enhancement**, **restoration or creation** (para. 174).

Explanatory

BOAs identify the most important areas for wildlife conservation remaining in Surrey and each include a variety of habitats, providing for an 'ecosystem approach' to nature conservation across and beyond the county. By working with larger, more dynamic ecosystems, it will be possible to create a wider range of habitats and their variants, which will in turn increase the ability of the landscape to support the widest variety of species.

I. Overview

This Biodiversity Opportunity Area includes an almost continuous area of historic commons with some farmed land, from Ockham in the south to the outskirts of Weybridge in the north. The M25/A3(T) interchange fragments the BOA considerably at Ockham and Wisley Commons. The BOA shares adjacency with the River Wey floodplain (R04) at Byfleet and the Mole (R05) along much of its eastern margin. **Area**: 1180.8 ha

2. National Character Areas

Thames Basin Heaths (NCA 129), Thames Basin Lowlands (NCA 114)

3. Profile

3.1 Physical

Bagshot Sands, Sand & Gravel, Alluvium, River Terrace Deposits. The BOA occupies a series of gently undulating river terraces dividing the catchments of the Rivers Wey and Mole.

3.2 Biodiversity

3.2.1 Statutory protected sites

Natura 2000 (SPA/SAC): Thames Basin Heaths SPA SSSI: Ockham & Wisley Commons LNR: Ockham & Wisley

3.2.2 Local Sites SNCI: 5 Important Bird Area/Important Plant Area: Thames Basin Heath(land)s (Birdlife/Plantlife)

3.2.3 NERC Act S.41

Habitats of Principal Importance (Priority habitats): Heathland, Acid grassland, Wet woodland, Arable field margins

Species of Principal Importance (Priority species):

Plants: Annual knawel^{*}, Copse-bindweed, Cornflower, Glandular eyebright, Pennyroyal^{*}, Pillwort^{*}, Red-tipped cudweed^{*}; Rusty fork-moss, Pitted frillwort, Large-celled flapwort, Millimetre moss^{*} **Invertebrates**: Grayling, Silver-studded blue, Small heath, Blue pepper-pot beetle, Heath tiger-beetle^{*}, Poplar leaf-rolling weevil, Shining guest ant, Red-shanked carder bee, Hornet robberfly^{*}, Southern

yellow splinter (a cranefly), Mottled bee-fly

Vertebrates: Bullfinch, Cuckoo, Dunnock, Grey partridge^{*}, Lesser redpoll^{*}, Linnet, Nightjar, Skylark, Song thrush, Spotted flycatcher, Reed bunting, Tree pipit, Tree sparrow^{*}, Woodlark, Yellowhammer; Adder, Common lizard, Grass snake, Sand lizard, Slow-worm, Common toad, Great crested newt; Brown long-eared bat, Harvest mouse, Hedgehog, Noctule bat, Soprano pipistrelle bat

3.2.4 Further important species interest: Bog hair-grass, Corn spurrey, Green-flowered helleborine, Heath cudweed, Lemon-scented fern, Lesser water-plantain, Marsh speedwell, Marsh St. John's-wort, Marsh violet, Needle spike-rush, Meadow thistle, Petty-whin, Royal fern, Shepherd's-cress, Shoreweed, Whorl-grass, Yellow bartsia; *Amara infima* (a ground beetle), *Cardiophorus asellus* (a click-beetle), Golden-tabbed robberfly, *Myopa fasciata* (a thick-headed fly), *Tanyptera atrata*, *Tipula livida*, *Limonia inusta* (all craneflies), White-faced dragonfly^{*}, Bog bush-cricket, Great green bush-cricket, Wood cricket; Dartford warbler, Hobby

3.2.5 Ancient woodland: present

3.2.6 Landscape scale conservation activity: Surrey Wildlife Trust Grazing Project

3.3 Archaeology

Hengi-form Monument at Red Hill; Bell Barrow on Cockcrow Hill; Bowl Barrow west of Cockcrow Hill

3.4 Access

3.4.1 Publically-accessible Natural OS: Ockham Common & Chatley Heath, Wisley Common, Snake's Field/Bolder Mere (Surrey Wildlife Trust/Surrey County Council); Walton Common (part - Elmbridge Borough Council)

3.4.2 Long-distance PRoW, etc: -

3.5 Key ecosystem services

Agricultural production; Timber production; Carbon sequestration; Flooding regulation; Pollination services; Recreational (walking, equestrian, golf, film-making, nature observation); Spiritual uses

3.6 Socio-Economic

3.6.1 Employment profile: Agriculture and silviculture sector; Leisure sector (golf, hospitality, equestrian)

3.6.2 LEP: Enterprise M3

4. Objectives & Targets

TBH06/OI: SSSI units to achieve favourable condition. **TI**: 50% by 2020 (by area)

TBH06/O2: SNCI protected by planning policy & in positive management. T2: All by 2020

- TBH06/O3: Priority habitat restoration & creation.
 - Heathland/T3a: 8.25 ha by 2020
 - Acid grassland/T3b: 7.25 ha by 2020
 - Wet woodland/T3c: 1.5 ha by 2020

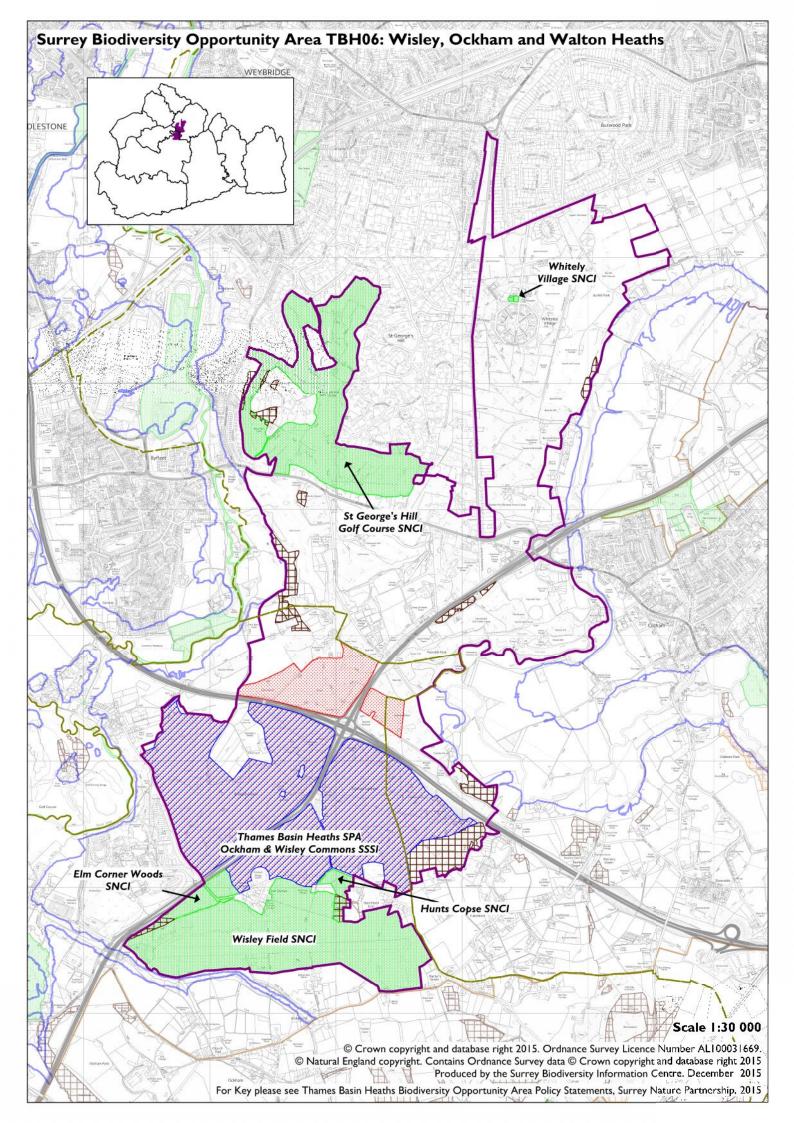
TBH06/O4: Priority species recovery.

T4: By 2020, evidence of at least stabilisation & preferably recovery in the local populations of listed Priority species:
 Annual knawel Pillwort Heath tiger-beetle

Annual knawel	Pillwort
Nightjar	Woodlark

Heath tiger-beetle Sand lizard

Further details available from Surrey Biodiversity Information Centre, C/O Surrey Wildlife Trust, School Lane, Pirbright, Woking, Surrey, GU24 0JN



Biodiversity Opportunity Area **TBH07: Camberley & Broadmoor** Heaths

Local authorities: Surrey Heath

Aim & justification

The aim of **Biodiversity Opportunity Areas** (BOAs) is to establish a strategic framework for conserving and enhancing biodiversity at a landscape scale, making our wildlife more robust to changing climate and socio-economic pressures. BOAs are those areas where targeted maintenance, restoration and creation of Natural Environment & Rural Communities (NERC) Act 'Habitats of Principal Importance', ie. **Priority habitats** will have the greatest benefit towards achieving this aim.

Realising BOA aims will contribute to UK commitments to halt biodiversity declines, and their recognition directly meets current **National Planning Policy Framework** policy to plan strategically for the enhancement of the natural environment; to be achieved by **providing net gains** for biodiversity and **establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures** (para. 170). Designation of BOAs also fulfils NPPF requirements to identify, **map and safeguard components of wider ecological networks**, and **areas identified for habitat management**, **enhancement**, **restoration or creation** (para. 174).

Explanatory

BOAs identify the most important areas for wildlife conservation remaining in Surrey and each include a variety of habitats, providing for an 'ecosystem approach' to nature conservation across and beyond the county. By working with larger, more dynamic ecosystems, it will be possible to create a wider range of habitats and their variants, which will in turn increase the ability of the landscape to support the widest variety of species.

I. Overview

This Biodiversity Opportunity Area includes the Surrey section of a large heathland extending north from Camberley into Bracknell Forest in Berkshire where it is contiguous with <u>BOA 22 (Thames Basin Heaths)</u>. It includes the grounds of the Sandhurst Military Academy in the west and its adjacent Barossa training estate on Old Dean Common, continuing to the A322 at Bagshot Park. A small extension crosses the A30 to include Black Hill. The majority is internationally designated as part of the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area. **Area**: 721.3 ha

2. National Character Areas

Thames Basin Heaths (NCA 129)

3. Profile

3.1 Physical

Bagshot Sands, Sand & Gravel. The BOA falls toward its northern boundary along Wishmoor Bottom from the high, sinuous ridge of Saddleback Hill running parallel with the A30 through Camberley.

3.2 Biodiversity

3.2.1 Statutory protected sites

Natura 2000 (SPA/SAC): Thames Basin Heaths SPA SSSI: Broadmoor to Bagshot Woods & Heaths (part)

3.2.2 Local Sites SNCI: 8

Important Bird Area/Important Plant Area: Thames Basin Heath(land)s (Birdlife/Plantlife)

3.2.3 NERC Act S.41

Habitats of Principal Importance (Priority habitats): Heathland, Acid grassland, Wet woodland, Fen

Species of Principal Importance (Priority species):

Plants: Chamomile, Crested buckler-fern, Glandular eyebright

Fungi/Lichens: Bitter tooth, Fused tooth, Grey tooth, Velvet tooth, Zoned tooth (all fungi)

Invertebrates: Grayling, Silver-studded blue, Small heath, Goat moth, Blue pepper-pot beetle, Shining guest ant

Vertebrates: Bullfinch, Cuckoo, Dunnock, Lesser redpoll, Lesser spotted woodpecker, Linnet, Nightjar, Reed bunting, Skylark, Song thrush, Spotted flycatcher, Tree pipit, Woodlark; Adder, Common lizard, Grass snake, Slow-worm, Common toad; Brown long-eared bat, Hedgehog, Noctule

bat, Soprano pipistrelle bat

3.2.4 Further important species interest: Allseed, Bog-myrtle, Common wintergreen, Eared sallow, Hare's-tail cottongrass, Heath cudweed, Heath spotted-orchid, Marsh fern, Meadow thistle, Petty-whin, Royal fern; Bog bush-cricket, Stenus kiesenwetteri (a rove beetle), Dolomedes fimbriatus, Evarcha arcuata, Micrommata virescens (all spiders), Florodelphax leptosoma (a leafhopper), Myrmecoris gracilis (a plant bug), Golden-ringed dragonfly, Small red damselfly; Crossbill, Dartford warbler, Hobby, Redstart

3.2.5 Ancient woodland: present, including PAWS

3.2.6 Landscape scale conservation activity: Surrey Wildlife Trust Grazing Project; Surrey Countryside Partnerships team (Heathland Project); Heathland Conservation Society

3.3 Archaeology -

3.4 Access

3.4.1 Publically-accessible Natural OS: Bagshot Heath/Barossa, Black Hill (Ministry of Defence/ Surrey Wildlife Trust)

3.4.2 Long-distance PRoW, etc: -

3.5 Key ecosystem services

Timber production; Carbon sequestration; Flooding regulation; Pollination services; Defence training; Recreational (walking, equestrian, mountain-biking)

3.6 Socio-Economic

3.6.1 Employment profile: Armed forces (Army); Leisure sector (hospitality)

3.6.2 LEP: Enterprise M3

4. Objectives & Targets

TBH07/OI: SSSI units to achieve favourable condition. TI: 75% by 2020 (by area)

TBH07/O2: SNCI protected by planning policy & in positive management. **T2**: All by 2020

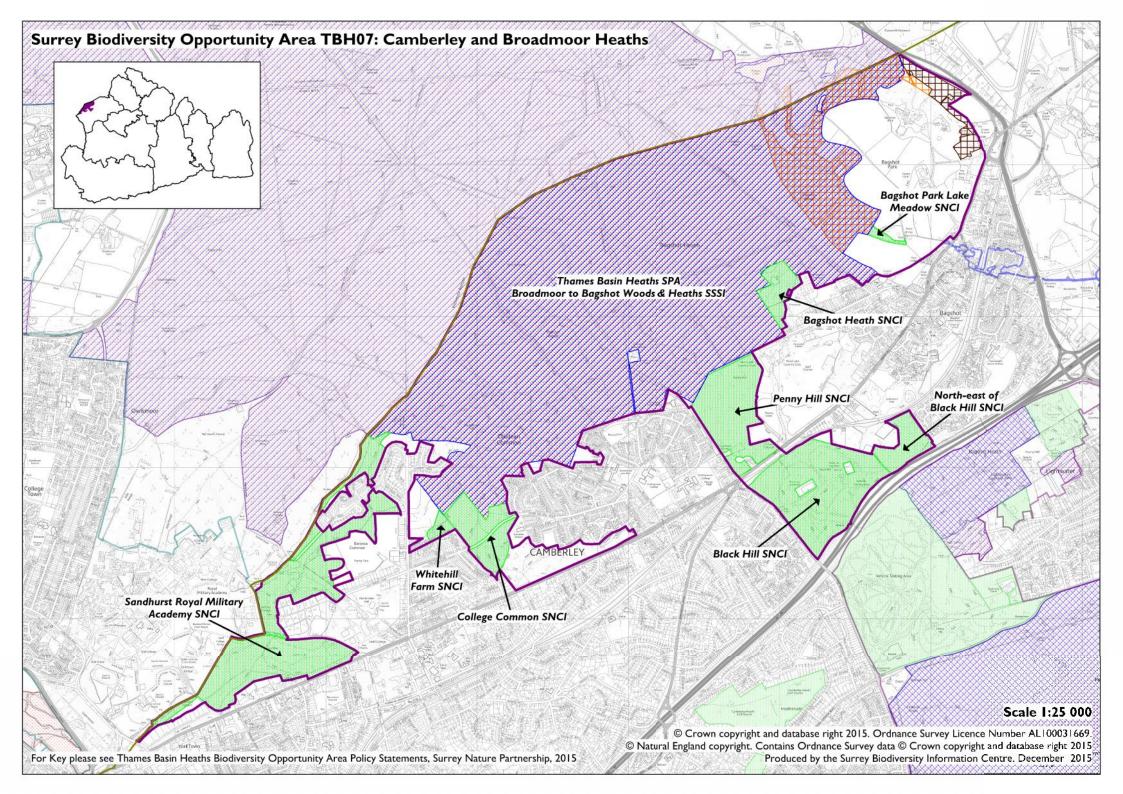
TBH07/O3: Priority habitat restoration & creation.

- Heathland/T3a: 5 ha by 2020
- Acid grassland/T3b: 4.5 ha by 2020
- Mixed deciduous woodland •
 - (restoration only; Ancient woodland prioritised)/T3c: 75% by area
- Wet woodland/T3d: I ha by 2020
- Fen/T3e: 2.5 ha by 2020

TBH07/O4: Priority species recovery.

T4: By 2020, evidence of at least stabilisation & preferably recovery in the local populations of listed Priority species: Nightjar Woodlark

Crested buckler-fern



Surrey Biodiversity Opportunity Area Statements - Key to Statement Maps

Surrey Biodiversity Opportunity Areas



Thames Basin Heaths







North Downs



Wealden Greensand



Rivers



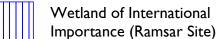
Other "Opportunity Areas"



Special Protection Area (SPA)

Special Area of Conservation (SAC)







Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

Non-statutory Nature Conservation Designations

Site of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI)



Potential Site of Nature Conservation Importance (pSNCI)

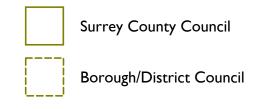


Ancient Semi-natural Woodland (ASNW)



Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS)

Administrative Boundaries



Please Note: This is a standardised key and as such not all designations will appear on each map.