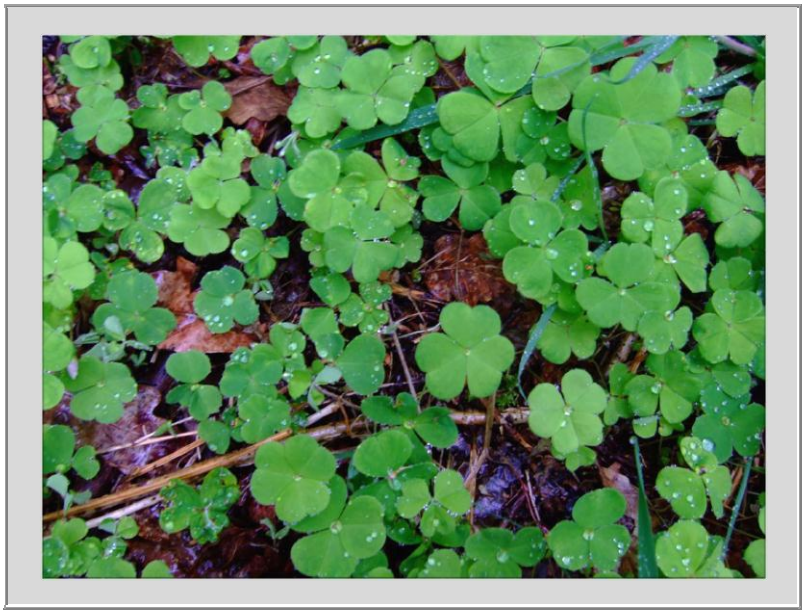
BOTANICAL SURVEY OF
STANMORE COMMON LNR, HARROW
2010



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For:

London Borough of Harrow
&
Harrow Nature Conservation Forum

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Front Cover: Wood Sorrell at Stanmore Common in 2010 (Photograph: John Dobson)

Make Natural Ltd. – Ecological Services
Registered Company No. 6901163

Make Natural Limited is a London-based ecological consultancy established in 2009. The Company provides specialist services in botanical survey, entomological survey, management plan development and GIS mapping.

The Managing Director of the Company is John Dobson B.Sc. M.Sc. MIEEM FRES. As the former Survey Manager for London Wildlife Trust, John brings his extensive experience of site survey and project management to the Company. In addition to his botanical interests, he is an experienced entomologist. He is a member of the Joint Committee for the Conservation of British Invertebrates and has published many formal- and informal articles the field.

CONTENTS

A detailed map of the site appears at the end of this PDF file

INTRODUCTION

Aim and Objectives

The Aim of this survey is to provide the botanical aspects of the data required in order to develop sustainable management strategies for Stanmore Common LNR.

The Objectives as specified by London Borough of Harrow and Harrow Nature Conservation Forum (HNCF) are listed below.

Conduct an Extended Phase I Survey of Stanmore Common

Record per parcel habitat percentages using the Greater London Authority (GLA) protocol.

Photograph selected features.

Record casual records of fauna encountered in the course of the botanical survey where these can be identified in the field

Produce a Geographical Information System (GIS) parcel map of the site based on existing management parcels. Add Target Notes to the GIS map, and deliver as an A3 pdf.

Produce a spreadsheet including:

1. Per parcel botanical records for from this survey, annotated with species status (BAP sp., Nationally Scarce species etc.)
2. Habitat percentages for each parcel.

To produce an e-report on the survey, including methodology, discussion of the survey data and preliminary recommendations for management and monitoring.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank all those who have helped with- and contributed to this survey including Steven Bolsover, Simon Braidman, Anthony Lovegrove, Howard Matthews, Matt Pennells, Victoria Shepherd, Chris Slack, Mark Spencer and Denis Vickers. In addition I am indebted to members of Harrow Natural History Society, Sean Tobin and all the other previous recorders at Stanmore Common.

METHODOLOGY

Area Surveyed

The area surveyed was that defined by statute as Stanmore Common Local Nature Reserve (LNR). This area was delineated in a GIS map held by Natural England and made available under license to Make Natural Ltd. by London Borough of Harrow GIS section.

Management Compartments

The existing management compartment system (as developed by London Borough of Harrow and as subsequently modified by Harrow Nature Conservation Forum volunteer wardens) was utilised as a framework for the survey. The compartment boundaries were modified conservatively in the course of the survey, in order to reflect more accurately both the ecological subdivisions of the site and the actual courses of those linear features such as paths and water-courses which had been used to define compartment boundaries.

> Where compartment boundaries were defined by linear features such as paths or watercourses, it was necessary to avoid the anomalies, inconsistencies and practical difficulties that would have resulted if it had been attempted to record half of the linear feature in each of the adjacent compartments. For species- and habitat recording purposes therefore, linear features defining compartment boundaries were taken to lie within the compartment to the west or south of the feature. Thus a plant species growing on an east-west path lying on a site boundary was recorded in the compartment to the south of the path. Similarly, watercourses specifying compartment boundaries were taken to include their riparian zone. Thus a marshy area immediately adjoining the east edge of a south-north running watercourse was recorded within the compartment on the west side of the watercourse. (If consistency of compartment-based recording is required in the future, then it is recommended that this approach should be adopted henceforth).

Survey Methods

The site was visited to record plants and GPS data from the 30 management compartments of the site on 28 occasions between 15 April and 28 July 2010. Three additional site visits were also made (16 August, 27 August and 28 September 2010), primarily to capture additional GPS data for mapping purposes. Each compartment was surveyed at least once, although a small number of compartments were surveyed a second time in order to record seasonal flora. Voucher specimens were collected in those cases where more detailed examination was required to enable species identification. Priority was given to surveying woodland compartments at a time when their spring flora was evident, as this flora includes species known to be Ancient Woodland Indicators (AWIs) in the south-east England region (Rose & O'Reilly, 2006).

The botanical and habitat data in this report is based on field studies conducted using standard Phase I survey methodology, as adapted for use in Greater London (GLA 2002). The botanical data is provided in an accompanying spreadsheet, and a taxonomic checklist of the recorded flora of Stanmore Common is included in this report (Appendix 1). These lists also include recent records for the Common from a number of other recorders (see below). The nomenclature for vascular plant species follows Stace (2010).

Fauna identifiable in the field was recorded as it was encountered during the conduct of the botanical survey.

Geographical data was captured using a high sensitivity hand-held GPS unit which was imported into GIS software for subsequent processing. MasterMap tiles provided under an Ordnance Survey Contractor License by Harrow GIS section were used as the primary reference source for the mapping.

Records from other sources

In addition to the flora recorded during the current survey, records from other sources were researched and included on the spreadsheet. These recorders are:

Simon Braidman	The volunteer warden of the site
John Dobson	Records from previous years from the current author
Teresa Farino *et al.*	Selected records from Nature Conservation in Harrow (Farino *et. al.* 1989)
Douglas Kent	Selected literature records from Kent (1975, 2000). A few illustrative records only; no comprehensive review of this data was undertaken.
Anthony Lovegrove	Records from recent years, including 2010 when he provided help with the current survey
Howard Matthews	Records and background information on ferns and horsetails at the Common
Jack Phillips	Records between 1973-1977
Christine Reiser	Unpublished records of bryophytes of Stanmore Common recorded 1993-1997
John Riley	Records from the LCS survey of Stanmore Ponds, 2007 (Riley, 2007)
Victoria Shepherd	A volunteer who helped with the survey of New Heath (compartment 21)
Sean Tobin	A large number of unpublished records (328) from the period 1989-1995 (Tobin 1989-1995)
Denis Vickers	Records from 2010 when he provided help with the current survey

Verification of species

On completion of the field survey six voucher specimens were forwarded to the Curator of British Botany at the Natural History Museum (Mark Spencer) for identification or confirmation. These were subsequently identified as umbellate hawkweed (*Hieracium umbellatum* ssp. *umbellatum*), hawkweed species (*Hieracium* sp.)(incomplete specimen ident.), black horehound (*Ballota nigra*) (an atypically robust shade form), French crane's-bill (*Geranium endressii*) (two locations) and brown bent (*Agrostis vineale*).

Limitations of Survey

Number of visits per parcel and seasonality

Although many plant species were identified from their vegetative characteristics (while not in flower) in the course of this survey, all plant species have a seasonality and may not be apparent, or are not readily identifiable for much of the year. In prioritising the recording of woodland spring-flowering species as previously discussed, species appearing in woodland habitats later in the year (e.g. in sunlit glades) were necessarily under-recorded in this survey. In the event the survey brief was extended by the surveyor in order to conduct additional summer surveys of five woodland compartments, and it is therefore suggested that seasonal bias has been mitigated in part although not eliminated by this means.

Species-complexes and hybrids

Certain of the 'species' of flora routinely encountered during botanical survey are in reality members of large groups of 'micro-species' which require highly specialised skills to resolve. Dandelions (*Taraxacum* spp.), hawkweeds (*Hieracium* spp.) and brambles (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) are all familiar examples. The survey protocol followed here normally records these to genus level only. In this survey however two hawkweeds have been sampled for specialist examination. Similarly willows and sallows (*Salix* spp.) occur in a wide range of hybrids. The survey protocol followed here recorded these as one of a limited range of species.

GPS accuracy

A high sensitivity hand-held GPS unit was utilised to capture location data such as the position of various features, or the route taken by woodland paths and watercourses. This design allows the capture of location data in situations where line-of-sight to satellites is impeded for example by woodland canopy. The intrinsic positional accuracy is however not much greater than that of less sophisticated GPS units. In the course of this survey the positional accuracy of recorded data varied widely, normally between about 5m and 15m.

Other limitations of GPS derived data

The mapping of paths during this survey was more-or-less confined to the major pathways, and a number of minor and obscure paths were not mapped. Although the routes of all the watercourses were mapped on the ground using GPS, some sections of watercourse run though impenetrable scrub while other sections run underground for a distance. In these cases the courses of those stretches have been inferred. Due to the number of such features and in many cases their seasonality, the mapping of marshy areas and flushes, (which are indicated on the map with Target Notes) has been necessarily selective in favour of the more extensive examples. This data however locates the major features and provides a sense of their ecological importance at the site.

ARRANGEMENT OF DATA IN THIS REPORT

Each Management Compartment is treated in a separate article, each of which summarises key features arranged as follows:

Compartment Name

The compartment names are applied as given by Harrow Nature Conservation Forum. In a small number of instances these have been modified by the surveyor where the original compartment has been split in the course of the survey. New compartments (22, 23) have been named by the surveyor. In four instances, and in consultation with HNCF, compartment names which formerly included taxon names have been changed in order to avoid any subsequent difficulties with database- and online searches which could arise as a result.

Grid Reference (centroid)

Grid references are supplied in Ordnance Survey format. The centroid is the point at the centre of an irregular polygon (in this instance the boundary of each compartment) as calculated by GIS software. In the case of contorted or sinuous polygons (such as watercourses) this centroid can fall outside the boundary of the polygon.

Date of Survey

The primary survey date is given. Where a compartment was surveyed twice, this additional date appears on the accompanying spreadsheet, along with the dates of any additional records such as those made on other dates while the surveyor was in transit.

Weather

A very brief summary of prevailing weather conditions

Compartment No.

The Compartment number as supplied by Harrow Nature Conservation Forum. In some instances alphanumeric numbering is utilised, e.g. 20a (Bluebell Heath West) and 20b (Bluebell Heath East). New compartment created in the course of this survey have been numbered 22 and 23. Including alphanumeric subdivisions, Stanmore Common LNR comprises 30 compartments. The same compartment system is used for management and recording.

Area (ha)

The area of each compartment in hectares derived from the GIS data.

[1 ha = 10,000 m^2 = 2.47 acres. 1 acre = 4046 m^2 = 0.4046 ha].

Surveyor

John Dobson, accompanied on occasions by a volunteer helper.

Habitat Percentages

The protocol followed here recognises the following habitat types in this context. These habitats are further defined in GLA (2002).

Native Broad-Leaved Woodland	Acid Grassland	Bog
Non- Native Broad-Leaved Woodland	Semi-Improved Neutral Grassland (SING)	Reed Swamp
Coniferous Woodland	Herb-Rich Neutral Grassland	*Typha* etc. swamp
Scattered Trees	Basic Grassland	Wet Marginal Vegetation
Recently Felled Woodland	Improved / Reseeded Agric. Grassland	Fen Carr (Woodland/Scrub over Fen)
Scrub	Amenity Grassland	Standing Water (inc, Canals)
Planted Shrubbery	Ruderal or Ephemeral	Ditches (water-filled)
Native Hedge	Roughland (SING + Tall Herbs + Scrub)	Running Water (Rivers & Streams)
Non-Native Hedge	Bracken	Intertidal (Mud/Sand/Shingle etc.)
Orchard	Tall Herbs	Saltmarsh
Vegetated Wall/Tombstones etc.	Heathland	Habitat data not available
Bare Soil and Rock	Allotments (active)	Other
Bare Artificial Habitat	Arable	

The habitat percentages are designed to be comparable with estimates made from an aerial photograph. The percentage that each of the listed habitats contributes to the whole are made on site by the surveyor, as if viewing the compartment from above. Thus habitat elements which would be obscured from aerial view by the woodland canopy are not included. Habitats contributing less than 1% are also discounted. The combined percentages for each compartment total 100%.

Habitat Features

This section of the field form is reproduced here:

	Woodland				Grassland				Wetland		
	Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland		Grazed		Frequently mown		Floating		Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation		Ancient woodland		Infrequently mown		Cuttings removed Y/N		Emergent vegetation		Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded		Unmanaged grassland		Ridge and Furrow		Natural river bank		Tidal
	Wood flush		Wood shrub layer %		Grassland flush		Bare soil		Trophic status		
	Decaying timber				Wet grassland						

Each of the features represented in the compartment is ticked to denote presence ('Y' for Yes is used for clarity in this report). 'Wood shrub layer percentage' however requires that a figure is entered. 'Cuttings removed' is indicated by 'Y' or 'N' and 'trophic status' (of water bodies) is entered as eu-, meso-, oligo- or dystrophic. In any of these categories, a '?' indicates that the surveyor lacks sufficient data to make a definitive assessment.

When assessing a woodland compartment which appears on the basis of its flora to comprise ancient woodland, the 'Ancient Woodland' box would be normally ticked in this table. As an enhancement for this survey, the actual number of ancient woodland indicator species (Rose & O'Reilly, 2006) recorded in each compartment is included here. The interpretation of these figures is considered in the Discussion to this report.

Description

The Description sections of this report include a description of the compartment and a selection of its important features. The included information is generally arranged as follows, although this strict arrangement is departed-from occasionally e.g. when information not falling readily into one of these categories is included.

The location of the compartment, and a description of its key physical features

A description of the compartment's principal vegetation cover, and its ancient woodland status

Examples of scarce or otherwise interesting flora recorded in the compartment

Selected fauna

Invasive and pest plant species.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)

Target notes describe 'point features' appearing on the GIS map. They are used to indicate the location of selected features considered to be of particular importance or interest such as for example a veteran tree or a woodland pond. Two series of target notes appear on the map:

T07.2	T for Target Note, followed by the compartment number (07 in this example), and after the decimal point the number of the target note within the compartment. This example indicates the second target note marked in compartment 07.
W2 C20a	Due to the importance of the numerous small wetland features at the site, the target notes indicating wetland features are held on a separate layer on the GIS map. These are labelled with 'W' numbers and are entered numerically within each compartment. The example refers to the second wetland feature indicated in compartment 20a. 'W' numbers are frequently applied to flushes at the Common, which can flow through several compartments.

BAP Species

Those species recorded in each compartment which are prioritised under the UK-, London-, or Harrow Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPs) are listed here. These are also summarised for the site in the discussion section of this report (p.102).

London Notable species

Those species recorded in each compartment which are Notable in London are listed. London Notable status is considered in the discussion section of this report (p.103).

Ancient Woodland Indicators (*SE England*)

Those species recorded in each compartment which are designated as Ancient Woodland Indicators (AWIs) for south-east England by (Rose & O'Reilly, 2006) are listed. AWIs are considered in the discussion section of this report (p.105).

Invasive Species and other Pest Species

Those species recorded each compartment which are scheduled as invasive species under Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act are listed.

Non-scheduled species considered by the surveyor to be actually- or potentially invasive in a particular compartment are also listed. These can include native as well as non-native plants.
Invasive species are considered further in the discussion section of this report (p.112).

Fauna

Fauna recorded in each compartment in the course of the botanical survey are listed, along with selective annotations.

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Species not falling into any of the above categories which are considered to be of importance or particular interest for other reasons are listed for each compartment

Management Notes

A brief list of some of the more important factors to be considered in each compartment when developing a management plan for the site.

RESULTS FOR INDIVIDUAL COMPARTMENTS

List of Compartments

Compartment Name	Comp. No.
Sylver Aspen Pines	01
Flushing Wood	02
Heathbourne Wood	03
Enigma Wood	04
Stonefly Wood	05
The Bower	06
Tyke's Water	07a
Pynding Mersc	07b
Mound Grove	08
Dyke Wood	09
Witling Wood East	10a
Witling Wood West	10b
Holly Wood	11
Brightwen Wood West	12a
Brightwen Wood East	12b
The Wetwood	13
Great Brewery Pond	14a
Little Brewery Pond	14b
Warren Lane Car Park	15
Witling Ride	16a
Witling Marsh	16b
Witling Glade	16c
Holly Brook Rise	17
Oakmead	18
Ceriseland	19
Bluebell Heath West	20a
Bluebell Heath East	20b
New Heath	21
The Hawthorns	22
The Aspens	23

Compartment Name	Sylver Aspen Pines	**Compartment No.**	01
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15711 94211	**Area (ha)**	5.460
Date of Survey	26 April 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Dull		

Habitat %

Native broadleaf woodland	90	Semi-improved neutral grassland	1
Scrub	9		

Woodland				Grassland		Wetland	
	Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	12	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Y	Wood flush	45	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y	Decaying timber			Wet grassland			

Description

Sylver Aspen Pines lies to the north of the site adjacent to private properties in Hertsmere. A seasonal ditch (The Brindle) runs along the north boundary, and exits the site at its north west corner. The horse ride runs alongside the ditch for much of its length, but curves southwards near the east of the site. Some stretches of the horse ride in this compartment are poorly maintained. It has become narrowed by vegetation in some places, and is a seasonal quagmire in others. Most of the compartment is north facing, rising to a low east-west ridge which it overtops prior to its boundary with Flushing Wood (comp. 02). Significant areas of the ground are peppered with small gravel diggings, particularly near the ridge. Flushes arising to the east run eastwards across the horse ride, and in addition gravel diggings around the centre of the compartment appear to act as a sump, collecting and supplying water which eventually appears as the major flush running across Bluebell Heath East (comp. 20b).

The vegetation includes species characteristic of acid woodland and is dominated by downy birch (*Betula pubescens*), bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) along with pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*). The number of ancient woodland indicator plant species recorded (12) is slightly on the low side in comparison with the site's other woodland compartments. This is probably at least in part the result of the high degree of soil disturbance due to the multiple small-scale historical gravel-diggings.

Important flora includes one of three areas at the Common which are carpeted with wood sorrel (*Oxalis acetosella*), the only sessile oaks (*Quercus petraea*) recorded at the site (one mature tree and one young tree), the only wild privet (*Ligustrum vulgare*) recorded at the site (a single sprawling shrub) and lady-fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*) growing from the ditch bank.

Fauna includes grass snakes which are apparently not uncommon here. Pheasant and woodcock are both recorded from this area.

The scheduled invasive plant Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) is very common along particular sections of the horse ride. Another scheduled species, rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) also occurs here. There is an extensive clump of snowberry (*Symphoriocarpus albus*) on the south of the horse ride, close to the apparent source of an east-flowing flush.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T01.1, T01.2	Sessile oaks
T01.3	One of three carpets of wood sorrel (*Oxalis acetosella*) known at the Common
T01.4	Landmark: The highpoint of the horse ride at the north east of the Common
W1-5 C01	Flushed areas

BAP Species

Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	London BAP Priority Species
Grass Snake	*Natrix natrix*	Harrow BAP Priority Species

London Notable species

Lady-fern	*Athyrium filix-femina*	Gooseberry	*Ribes uva-crispa*
Lesser spearwort	*Ranunculus flammula*	Lesser periwinkle	*Vinca minor*
Sessile oak	*Quercus petraea*	Purple moor-grass	*Molinia cerulea*
Bog stitchwort	*Stellaria alsine*	Sheep's fescue	*Festuca ovina*
Black currant	*Ribes nigrum*		

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Sessile oak	*Quercus petraea*	Pendulous sedge	*Carex pendula*
Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*	Remote sedge	*Carex remota*
Three-nerved sandwort	*Moehringia trinervia*	Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*
Black currant	*Ribes nigrum*	Wood millet	*Millium effusum*
Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*	Giant fescue	*Schedonorus giganteus*
Wood-sorrel	*Oxalis acetosella*	Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*

Invasive Species and other Pest Species
Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Japanese knotweed	*Fallopia japonica*
Rhododendron	*Rhododendron ponticum*

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*	Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*
Yew	*Taxus baccata*	Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*
Cherry laurel	*Prunus laurocerasus*	Snowberry	*Symphoriocarpus albus*
Lesser periwinkle	*Vinca minor*		

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Woodpigeon	*Columba palumbus*	
Robin	*Erithacus rubecula*	
Coal-tit	*Parus ater*	
Pheasant	*Phasianus colchicus*	
Chiffchaff	*Phylloscopus collybita*	
Green woodpecker	*Picus viridis*	
Blackbird	*Turdus merula*	
Grass Snake	*Natrix natrix*	Recorded here on three occasions
Common Carder-bee	*Bombus pascuorum*	
Longhorn Beetle sp.	*Rutpela maculata*	
Speckled Wood	*Pararge aegeria*	
Large White	*Pieris brassicae*	
Small White	*Pieris rapae*	
Muntjac	*Muntiacus reevesi*	
Grey Squirrel	*Sciurus carolinensis*	

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Wild privet	*Ligustrum vulgare*	Recorded only from this location at the Common
Wood millet	*Millium effusum*	Scarce but scattered at the Common

Management Notes

For management purposes this is generally a low-intervention area. On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Control of invasive plants	Particularly Japanese knotweed, rhododendron, snowberry. The wild privet grows among Japanese knotweed and is considered as threatened at the site as a result (see Discussion)
• Maintenance of the horse ride	Required in order to encourage horse riders to use the ride, rather than elsewhere at the site
• Hydrology	Maintain the long-term integrity of the wetland features
• Key plant species	Monitoring: Sessile oak, wood sorrel, wild privet, lady-fern

Compartment Name	Flushing Wood	**Compartment No.**	02
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15880 94195	**Area (ha)**	1.127
Date of Survey	29 April 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Dull, sunny periods		

Habitat %

Native broadleaved woodland	90	Scrub	10

Woodland				Grassland		Wetland	
	Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	8	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Y	Wood flush	30	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y	Decaying timber			Wet grassland			

Description

Flushing Wood largely comprises regenerating acid woodland and scrub, interspersed with larger older trees. It is the only woodland compartment at Stanmore Common that is both south-facing and has a south-facing woodland margin. (The only other wood with a significant south facing aspect (The Aspens, comp. 23) interfaces to its south margin with another woodland compartment (Enigma Wood, comp. 4). A key feature is of this compartment is the major flush. This water appears to originate with rainwater collected in gravel diggings in Sylver Aspen Pines (comp. 1) and then runs eastwards for a considerable distance along the footpath marking the north boundary of Flushing Wood before dividing. The minority of the flow continues eastwards, crosses the horse ride near the south east corner of the compartment and appears to exit the Common via a piped culvert which flows into an open ditch outside of the LNR in Clutterbucks Wood. The bulk of the flow however turns south and runs in a broad ditch down the hillside, eventually forming the large flush in Bluebell Heath East (comp. 20b), a key habitat asset at the Common.

The dominant vegetation of this woodland is downy birch (*Betula pubescens*) and bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*). Pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) and hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) are frequent, along with beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*). Although scattered older trees are present, the age structure and low number of ancient woodland indicator plant species reflect the relatively recent origins of much of this area of actively regenerating acid woodland. Larger trees including beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) are found mostly in the east of the compartment.

The ground flora includes the most extensive carpet of hair-moss (*Polytrichum* sp.) recorded at the Common, fragments of heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) on the south margin, bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*), wavy hair-grass (*Deschampsia flexuosa*) and wood meadow-grass (*Poa nemoralis*). Ivy (*Hedera helix*) is notably scarce here.

This area of woodland wood is notable for its bird life. Woodcock are associated with this area, and tree-creepers were easily observed here in 2010. Entomologically, it is the site of the first confirmed British record (by John Dobson in 2001 (Chandler, 2003)) of *Agathomyia wankowikski* a flat-footed fly (Platypezidae) whose larvae form galls in artist's fungus (*Ganoderma applanatum*). Numerous bumble bees were present, and possible these were nesting in well-drained areas of the south-facing woodland floor.

Bracken is a dominant invasive species in these woods, while sycamore, purple moor-grass (*Molinia cerulea*) and rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) are all potential pests here.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T02.1	The most extensive carpet of hair moss recorded at the Common
W1-4 C02	Flushed areas

BAP Species

Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	London BAP Priority Species

London Notable species

Heather	*Calluna vulgaris*	Wavy hair-grass	*Deschampsia flexuosa*
Wood speedwell	*Veronica montata*	Sheep's fescue	*Festuca ovina*
Purple moor-grass	*Molinia cerulea*		

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*	Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*
Aspen	*Populus tremula*	Wood meadow-grass	*Poa nemoralis*
Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*	Giant fescue	*Schedonorus giganteus*
Wood speedwell	*Veronica montata*	Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*

Invasive Species and other Pest Species

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*	Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*
Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*	Purple moor-grass	*Molinia cerulea*

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Long-tailed tit	*Aegithalos caudatus*	
Tree-creeper	*Certhia familiaris*	Apparently common in this wood
Great spotted Woodpecker	*Dendrocopos major*	
Jay	*Garrulus glandarius*	
Great-tit	*Parus major*	
Speckled Wood	*Pararge aegeria*	
Large White	*Pieris brassicae*	

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Hair moss sp.	*Polytrichum* sp.	

Management Notes

For management purposes this is generally a low-intervention area. On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Bird population	Maintain as a low-disturbance area for birds
• Woodland edge	Manage the south margin as a sculpted ecocline
• Hydrology	Maintain the long-term integrity of the extended flush
• Key plant species	Monitor the hair-moss carpet

Compartment Name	Heathbourne Wood	**Compartment No.**	03
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15536 93883	**Area (ha)**	3.200
Date of Survey	18 May 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Sunny, dull periods		

Habitat %

Native broadleaved woodland	75	Scrub	25

Woodland				Grassland		Wetland	
	Treeline w/out hedge	Y	Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	16	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Y	Wood flush	25	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y	Decaying timber			Wet grassland			

Description

Heathbourne Wood is a broad strip extending southwards from the north-west of the Common alongside Heathbourne Road. It includes a series of seepages and culverts at the sources of watercourses which run eastwards across the Common, namely The Heathbourne, Tyke's Water and The Speiring. The compartment is delineated in part by Jake's Path to the east, The Heathbourne to the north-east, and by The Speiring to the south. The compartment descends to the east from the roadside and interfaces with woodland to the south, east and north-east.

Pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) and downy birch (*Betula pubescens*) are abundant, as are bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg) sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and ivy (*Hedera helix*). Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) and hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) all occur frequently.

The relatively high number of Ancient Woodland Indicator species recorded (18) strongly suggests that this woodland is ancient in origin. The only soft shield-fern (*Polystichum setiferum*) recorded at the Common grows here alongside significant patches of bog stitchwort (*Stellaria alsine*). A single plant of Solomon's-seal (*Polygonatum multiflorum*) (identification to be confirmed) was located, whilst bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) are frequent in this area. It is one of the few areas on the Common where pignut (*Conopodium majus*) may be found, and one of three locations of carpets of wood-sorrel (*Oxalis acetosella*). The only colony of hemlock water-dropwort (*Oenanthe crocata*) in Harrow, which formerly grew in a ditch bordering Belswood Cottage was cut down in 2010 during its flowering period, possibly in the course of 'tidying' of the area on the LNR adjacent to the cottage. Time will tell whether this London Notable species will survive in Harrow. Bog-moss (*Sphagnum* sp.) grows in a flush in this compartment, and this is of London-wide importance.

Brown tree-ant (*Lasius brunneus*) occurs on oak trunks in this area. This ant species occurs in small colonies (e.g. less than 50 individuals) and is noticeably timid when disturbed. Reeve's muntjac appears to be common here.

The scheduled invasive plant Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) occurs in clumps to the north and west of the site (these appeared to be under current management), whilst a small number of another scheduled species rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) are scattered in the woodland.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T03.1	Soft Shield-fern - its only known locality at the Common
T03.2	One of three carpets of wood sorrel (*Oxalis acetosella*) known at the Common
T03.3	Hemlock water-dropwort: The site of Harrow's long-standing colony of this London Notable species (Farino *et al*., 1989). Currently (2010) under threat
W1-3 C03	Points at which water-courses enter the Common
W 4 C03	Flushed area

BAP Species

Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	London BAP Priority Species
Solomon's-seal	*Polygonatum ?multiflorum*	London BAP Priority Species

London Notable species

Soft shield-fern	*Polystichum setiferum*	Lesser periwinkle	*Vinca minor*
Lesser spearwort	*Ranunculus flammula*	Wood forget-me-not	*Myosotis sylvatica*
Bog stitchwort	*Stellaria alsine*	Wavy hair-grass	*Deschampsia flexuosa*
Black currant	*Ribes nigrum*	Red currant	*Ribes rubrum*
Summer snowflake	*Leucojum aestivum* ssp. *pulchellum*	Solomon's-seal	*Polygonatum ?multiflorum*

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Soft shield-fern	*Polystichum setiferum*	Pendulous sedge	*Carex pendula*
Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*	Remote sedge	*Carex remota*
Aspen	*Populus tremula*	Wood-sedge	*Carex sylvatica*
Black currant	*Ribes nigrum*	Hairy-brome	*Bromopsis ramosa*
Red currant	*Ribes rubrum*	Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*
Wild cherry	*Prunus avium*	Giant fescue	*Schedonorus giganteus*
Wood-sorrel	*Oxalis acetosella*	Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*
Pignut	*Conopodium majus*	Solomon's-seal	*Polygonatum ?multiflorum*

Invasive Species and other Pest Species
Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Japanese knotweed	*Fallopia japonica*
Rhododendron	*Rhododendron ponticum*

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*	Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*
Yew	*Taxus baccata*	Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*
Cherry laurel	*Prunus laurocerasus*	Snowberry	*Symphoriocarpus albus*
Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*	Spanish bluebell	*Hyacinthoides hispanica*
Lesser periwinkle	*Vinca minor*		

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Blue-tit	*Cyanistes caeruleus*
Robin	*Erithacus rubecula*
Great-tit	*Parus major*
Wren	*Troglodytes troglodytes*
Brown Tree-ant	*Lasius brunneus*
Orange-tip	*Anthocharis cardamines*
Speckled Wood	*Pararge aegeria*
Muntjac	*Muntiacus reevesi*

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Raspberry	*Rubus idaeus*	Scarce at the Common
Hemlock water-dropwort	*Oenanthe crocata*	Only recorded from this Compartment
Corn parsley	*Petroselinum segetum*	Only recorded from this Compartment
Hair moss sp.	*Polytrichum* sp.	Several spp. historically recorded
Bog moss sp.	*Sphagnum* sp.	Importance for London

Management Notes

For management purposes this is generally a low-intervention area. On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Control of invasive plants	Particularly Japanese knotweed and rhododendron
• Hydrology	Retain the integrity of the hydrology in this compartment
• Key plant species	Monitor species at risk: Soft shield-fern and bog stitchwort: These grow closely adjacent to a Japanese knotweed management area. Hemlock water-dropwort: Ensure that it is not cut down by third parties in future years.

Compartment Name	Enigma Wood	**Compartment No.**	04
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15691 93998	**Area (ha)**	3.390
Date of Survey	6 May 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Dull and cool		

Habitat %

Native broadleaved woodland	85	Scrub	15

Woodland			Grassland		Wetland	
Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	12	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush	25	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y Decaying timber			Wet grassland			

Description

Enigma Wood lies on relatively level ground but falls overall slightly to the south east. It is surrounded by woodland except for its interface with compartment 18 (Oakmead) to the east of its southern margin. Its north margin is marked by The Heathbourne, and it is bounded to the south, east and west by footpaths. Gravel diggings are present, which sometimes appear as ditch-like excavations.

Downy birch (*Betula pubescens*), bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*) and bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) are all abundant, while aspen (*Populus tremula*) is frequent to the east of the compartment. Other frequent species include pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) including large trees, beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*).

There are patches of marsh bedstraw (*Galium palustre*) on the banks of The Heathbourne, and one of the Common's three colonies of lily-of-the-valley (*Convallaria majalis*) grows to the north-east. Lily-of-the-valley is considered to be native at the Common due to the situation of its colonies. Bluebell is abundant and three-nerved sandwort (*Moehringia trinervia*) occurs patchily on the woodland floor, where moss carpets are also a feature.

No uncommon fauna was observed here during the survey. On the site overall however, harlequin ladybirds, a potentially serious pest species, appeared to be less common than expected in 2010.

A scheduled invasive plant rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) was present, on the path running south east and also occasionally within the woodland. Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), rowan and sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) are all frequently occurring potential pests here as are the patches of regenerating ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*).

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T04.1	Landmark: The path descends to the east in a series of shallow 'steps' formed by tree roots crossing the path
T04.2	One of three colonies of apparently native lily-of-the-valley recorded at the site
W1 & W2 C04	Small marshy areas on the margin of The Heathbourne

BAP Species

Heath wood-rush *s.l.*	*Luzula multiflora* ssp*. multiflora* / *congesta*	London BAP Priority Species
Lily-of-the-Valley	*Convallaria majalis*	London BAP Priority Species
Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	London BAP Priority Species

London Notable species

Black currant	*Ribes nigrum*	Heath wood-rush *s.l.*	*Luzula multiflora* ssp*. multiflora* / *congesta*
Marsh bedstraw	*Galium palustre*	Lily-of-the-Valley	*Convallaria majalis*

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Three-nerved sandwort	*Moehringia trinervia*	Pendulous sedge	*Carex pendula*
Aspen	*Populus tremula*	Wood-sedge	*Carex sylvatica*
Primrose	*Primula vulgaris*.	Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*
Black currant	*Ribes nigrum*	Giant fescue	*Schedonorus giganteus*
Wild cherry	*Prunus avium*	Lily-of-the-Valley	*Convallaria majalis*
Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*	Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*

Invasive Species and other Pest Species

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Rhododendron	*Rhododendron ponticum*

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*	Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*
Yew	*Taxus baccata*	Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*
Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*		

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Jay	*Garrulus glandarius*
Chiffchaff	*Phylloscopus collybita*
Harlequin Ladybird	*Harmonia axyridis*
St. Mark's Fly	*Bibio marci*
Speckled Wood	*Pararge aegeria*
Scorpion Fly sp.	*Panorpa* sp.

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Goat willow	*Salix caprea*	Patchily distributed here and in some other compartments. Male catkins (pussy-willow) are a key source of early nectar and pollen at the site.
Scots pine	*Pinus sylvestris*	Scattered distribution at the site, with a known associated fauna.

Management Notes

For management purposes this is generally a low-intervention area. On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Control of invasive plants	Manage the rhododendrons
• Hydrology	Retain the integrity of the hydrology in this compartment, particularly the marshy margins to The Heathbourne and their associated flora such as marsh bedstraw and bog stitchwort
• Key plant species	Monitor key species: Lily-of-the-valley

Compartment Name	Stonefly Wood	**Compartment No.**	05
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15909 93992	**Area (ha)**	2.585
Date of Survey	6 May 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Sunny and cool		

Habitat %

Native broadleaved woodland	70	Scrub	30

Woodland				Grassland		Wetland	
	Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	10	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Y	Wood flush	65	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y	Decaying timber			Wet grassland			

Description

Stonefly Wood is bounded by clearings to its north (Bluebell Heath East, comp. 20b) and east (Pynding Mersc, comp. 7b). Footpaths mark the south and west boundaries, and The Heathbourne runs through the wood close to its north margin. The woodland floor is dominated with bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), while bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), downy birch (*Betula pubescens*), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*) are all abundant. The area is relatively flat but falls marginally to the south and east. The central area of the compartment is taken up with a broad east-west band of dense and mostly impenetrable scrub, which is likely have particular value for nesting birds and other fauna at the site. Larger trees such as pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) are scattered through the area, and good quality standing decaying timber habitats are present.

Marsh bedstraw (*Galium palustre*) and sanicle (*Sanicula europaea*) occur here and bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) is frequent. The ancient woodland indicators recorded suggest that some elements of this woodland are of ancient origin. Hair moss (*Polytrichum* sp.) is also present. The Common's specimen ancient hawthorn tree is situated on the west margin of this wood but is placed within The Hawthorns (comp. 22) for pragmatic management reasons. Other hawthorns within this compartment, particularly in the north-east sector, while not being particularly large, show signs of some age. There is also some nice old honeysuckle here, with ascending 'trunks' up to 4cm in diameter.

A tawny owl, presumably a male with young was seen flying within deep shade in the woodland in the middle of the day. The colouring of tawny owls displays some variability, and this individual was a striking rusty red. A buzzard was seen flying low above the treetops, and is thought likely that this bird was disturbed from its perch in the canopy by the surveyor. Willow warbler was also recorded from this compartment. The characteristic D-shaped exit holes of the hawthorn jewel (*Agrilus sinuatus*) beetle were present in one of the older hawthorns previously discussed.

No scheduled invasive species were recorded. Bracken, sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and yew (*Taxus baccata*) are all actual or potential pest species here.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
W C05	The flush which crosses Bluebell Heath East runs into The Heathbourne here

BAP Species

Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	London BAP Priority Species
Song Thrush	*Turdus philomelos*	UK and London BAP Priority Species

London Notable species

Marsh bedstraw	*Galium palustre*	Sanicle	*Sanicula europaea*

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Pendulous sedge	*Carex pendula*	Three-nerved sandwort	*Moehringia trinervia*
Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*	Wild cherry	*Prunus avium*
Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*	Sanicle	*Sanicula europaea*
Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	Giant fescue	*Schedonorus giganteus*
Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*	Black bryony	*Tamus communis*

Invasive Species and other Pest Species

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*	Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*
Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*	Yew	*Taxus baccata*
Turkey oak	*Quercus cerris*		

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Buzzard	*Buteo buteo*	Probably took wing from the canopy.
Great-tit	*Parus major*	
Willow-warbler	*Phylloscopus trochilus*	Song record (Denis Vickers).
Tawny Owl	*Strix aluco*	One hunting by day in shaded woodland.
Song Thrush	*Turdus philomelos*	UK- and London BAP Priority Species.
Hawthorn Jewel Beetle	*Agrilus sinuatus*	Recorded from its exit holes.
Peacock Butterfly	*Inachis io*	
DeGeer's Longhorn Moth	*Nemophora degeerella*	

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Hair moss sp. *Polytrichum* sp.	

Management Notes

For management purposes this is generally a low-intervention area. On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Control of invasive plants	Monitor potentially invasive shrub species
• Hydrology	Retain the integrity of the hydrology in this compartment, particularly the flush running from Bluebell Heath East
• Key habitat	Retain the integrity of the dense scrub belt in these woods.

Compartment Name	The Bower	**Compartment No.**	06
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15688 93809	**Area (ha)**	2.918
Date of Survey	25 May 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Warm and dull		

Habitat %

Native broadleaved woodland	70	Scrub	20
Non-native broadleaved woodland	10		

Woodland				Grassland		Wetland	
	Treeline w/out hedge	Y	Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	17	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Y	Wood flush	35	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y	Decaying timber			Wet grassland			

Description

The Bower is a roughly triangular area of north-facing acid woodland bounded by woodland except for its interface with Ceriseland (compartment 19) along the north section of its east margin and with Oakmead (comp. 18) to the north. Tyke's Water and Little Tyke (comp. 7a) traverse the compartment close to its north margin, whilst further south the Speiring flows north-eastwards through the compartment where two oval seasonal woodland pools have been dug alongside it in recent years. There is occasional evidence of historical gravel digging including a large pit to the south west.

This is well-structured woodland, including a number of large pedunculate oaks (*Quercus robur*) alongside younger trees and scrub. The large number of Ancient Woodland Indicator species (17) strongly suggests the ancient origins of this woodland. Close to Tyke's water (comp. 7a) there are small areas of carr-like habitat. Pedunculate oak, downy birch (*Betula pubescens*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) are all abundant in this compartment. Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and aspen (*Populus tremula*) are frequent, and a large beech grows in a path-side clearing to the west margin of the compartment. Both bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) and Spanish bluebell (*Hyacinthoides hispanica*) occur frequently.

There is a colony of lily-of-the-valley (*Convallaria majalis*) to the margin with Ceriseland, and this is regarded as native to the site. A nearby bird cherry (*Prunus padus*) is almost certainly a casual or introduction. Broad-leaved helleborine (*Epipactis helleborine*), great horsetail (*Equisetum telmateia*) and marsh bedstraw (*Galium palustre*) are found here alongside watercourses.

Cuckoo (a UK BAP Priority Species) was heard here in 2010, as was great spotted woodpecker.

A scheduled invasive plant Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) occurs occasionally near to Tyke's Water. In addition to other potentially invasive species, there are a very large number of ash saplings growing in this compartment.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T06.1	A small clearing dominated by a large beech
T06.2	A small bird cherry growing in the woodland edge
W1 C06	Inflow from an old culvert
W2 &3 C06	Marshy Areas
W4, 5 & 6 C06	Seasonal Pools

BAP Species

Lily-of-the-Valley	*Convallaria majalis*	London BAP Priority Species
Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	London BAP Priority Species
Cuckoo	*Cuculus canorus*	UK BAP Priority Species

London Notable species

Lily-of-the-Valley	*Convallaria majalis*	Purple moor-grass	*Molinia cerulea*
Broad-leaved helleborine	*Epipactis helleborine*	Bird cherry	*Prunus padus*
Great horsetail	*Equisetum telmateia*	Lesser spearwort	*Ranunculus flammula*
Marsh bedstraw	*Galium palustre*	Black currant	*Ribes nigrum*

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Wood anemone	*Anemone nemorosa*	Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*
Hairy-brome	*Bromopsis ramosa*	Wood millet	*Millium effusum*
Pendulous sedge	*Carex pendula*	Three-nerved sandwort	*Moehringia trinervia*
Wood-sedge	*Carex sylvatica*	Wood meadow-grass	*Poa nemoralis*
Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*	Aspen	*Populus tremula*
Lily-of-the-Valley	*Convallaria majalis*	Giant fescue	*Schedonorus giganteus*
Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	Black currant	*Ribes nigrum*
Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*	Black bryony	*Tamus communis*
Broad-leaved helleborine	*Epipactis helleborine*		

Invasive Species and other Pest Species
Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Japanese knotweed	*Fallopia japonica*

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*	Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*
Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*	Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*
Spanish bluebell	*Hyacinthoides hispanica*	Yew	*Taxus baccata*
Cherry laurel	*Prunus laurocerasus*		

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Cuckoo	*Cuculus canorus*	UK BAP species
Great spotted Woodpecker	*Dendrocopos major*	
Jay	*Garrulus glandarius*	
Magpie	*Pica pica*	
Blackbird	*Turdus merula*	
Speckled Wood	*Pararge aegeria*	

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Black bent	*Agrostis gigantea*	Not an uncommon species, but the only record from the site.
Hair moss sp.	*Polytrichum* sp.	

Management Notes

For management purposes this is generally a low-intervention area. On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Control of invasive plants	Manage the Japanese knotweed
• Hydrology	Maintain the long-term integrity of the wetland features
• Key plant species	Monitor the populations of broad-leaved helleborine and lily-of-the-valley

Compartment Name	Tyke's Water	**Compartment No.**	07a
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15810 93894*	**Area (ha)**	0.404
Date of Survey	10 June 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Sunny		

- *Note that due to the elongated and sinuous shape of this compartment the centroid (OS reference) falls outside its boundary, in comp. 18.*

Habitat %

Native broadleaved woodland	70	Scrub	20
Scattered trees	10		

Woodland			Grassland		Wetland	
Treeline w/out hedge	Y Wet woodland		Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	13 Ancient woodland		Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice	Pollarded		Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush	Wood shrub layer %		Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y Decaying timber			Wet grassland			

Description

Tyke's Water flows west to east across the Common running exclusively through woodland. This compartment includes its entire course east of Jake's path until it spills into Pynding Mersc (comp. 7b) to the east. In addition to its arising in Heathbourne Wood (comp. 3) it is additionally fed by Little Tyke, The Speiring, and Holly Brook. A small tributary to Little Tyke arises from an old culvert and in addition there are unnatural-looking right-angled bends in the watercourse, suggesting that its course has been historically engineered at these points, although these features are rather minor.

The width of the linear compartment 07a is variable, taking in both bank top vegetation, closely overshading trees and scrub and marshy extensions to the main watercourse. To its west the watercourse may run in a small channel or disappear under leaf litter. Further east the channel becomes well-defined, and is deep cut in places. Thus the stream bed varies between woodland soil, silt and exposed gravel. The stream bed was dry at the time of the survey, in part due to the drought and in part because the flow in all of Stanmore Common's watercourses is seasonal and weather dependent.

Both common nettle (*Urtica dioica*) and ivy (*Hedera helix*) were abundant along much of the watercourse, while common hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*) and bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) scrub is frequent along the banks. Overshading trees include pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) and beech (*Fagus sylvatica*). The Ancient Woodland Indicators recorded here (13) are unsurprising given the course of the stream through good woodland habitats.

The most notable plant recorded in this compartment is corn mint (*Mentha arvensis*). Formerly known from a small patch in Holly Brook Rise (comp. 17) it apparently disappeared from that location and was feared extinct at the Common. Fortunately it was discovered growing on the bank of Tyke's Water in 2009 by Anthony Lovegrove. Damp woodland seems to be a more natural habitat for this species than grassland or cereal fields (James, 2009), and it is hoped that this particular London rarity will continue to thrive at the Common. It is however highly sensitive to herbicides and this should be considered prior to management of Japanese knotweed.

Broad-leaved helleborine (*Epipactis helleborine*), marsh bedstraw (*Galium palustre*), square-stalked St. John's-wort (*Hypericum tetrapterum*) and ragged-robin (*Lychnis flos-cuculi*) are all important species in this compartment, the latter particularly so as its low population suggests that it is under threat at the site.

A scheduled invasive species, Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) occurs sporadically as large- and small clumps along the length of the watercourse.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
W1 & W2 C07a	Dense thickets of carr-like habitat near the confluence of Tyke's Water and Little Tyke: This is a sensitive habitat and one of potentially high value, particularly for invertebrates and birds

BAP Species

Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	London BAP Priority Species

London Notable species

Broad-leaved helleborine	*Epipactis helleborine*	Corn mint	*Mentha arvensis*
Marsh bedstraw	*Galium palustre*	Lesser spearwort	*Ranunculus flammula*
Square-stalked St John's-wort	*Hypericum tetrapterum*	Sanicle	*Sanicula europaea*
Ragged-robin	*Lychnis flos-cuculi*	Bog stitchwort	*Stellaria alsine*

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Pendulous sedge	*Carex pendula*	Three-nerved sandwort	*Moehringia trinervia*
Remote sedge	*Carex remota*	Wood meadow-grass	*Poa nemoralis*
Wood-sedge	*Carex sylvatica*	Sanicle	*Sanicula europaea*
Broad-leaved helleborine	*Epipactis helleborine*	Giant fescue	*Schedonorus giganteus*
Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	Black bryony	*Tamus communis*
Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*	Guelder-rose	*Viburnum opulus*
Wood millet	*Millium effusum*		

Invasive Species and other Pest Species

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Japanese knotweed	*Fallopia japonica*

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*	Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Blackbird	*Turdus merula*
Green-veined White	*Pieris napi*

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Hair moss	*Polytrichum* sp.	Characteristic

Management Notes

For management purposes this is generally a low-intervention area. On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Control of invasive plants	Manage the Japanese knotweed, taking into account the fragility of the habitats, including the Common's populations of corn mint and ragged robin
• Hydrology	Maintain the long-term integrity of the watercourse and its water supplies
• Key plant species	Monitor the corn mint and ragged robin

Compartment Name	Pynding Mersc	**Compartment No.**	07b
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 16046 93997	**Area (ha)**	0.134
Date of Survey	25 June 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Hot and sunny		

Habitat %

Scattered trees	35	Acid grassland	5
Scrub	10	Tall herbs	35
Bare Soil	10	Wet marginal vegetation	5

Woodland			Grassland		Wetland	
Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	5	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Y Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush		Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	Mesotrophic
Y Decaying timber			Wet grassland			

Description

NOTE: *Recent works (see below) which took place after the current survey, have substantially altered the habitat and flora in this compartment. Some of the recorded flora is no longer in evidence, while the status of its associated fauna is unknown. This account should therefore be read as a historical snapshot of Pynding Mersc, prior to the recent works, and as such it may provide a useful comparator when the new habitat has matured. Similarly, until the new footprint of the marsh becomes evident as the seasonal water-levels become established, it is not possible to delineate the compartment (including its developing riparian zone) accurately at this stage, and the map of compartment 07b is therefore nominal. The Target note is unaffected.*

Pynding Mersc lies close to the east margin of the Common and represents the point at which the flow from many of the Common's watercourses leaves the site, and where Tyke's Water flows eastwards out of the site into Grove Ponds. The bulk of the compartment lies in a shallow basin, the ground-level rising to the north and south. The east margin of the compartment is delineated by the site boundary fence, and the horse-ride runs approximately north-south close to this boundary. A footpath connecting the clearings Holly Brook Rise (comp. 17) and Bluebell Heath East (comp. 20b) runs to the west of Pynding Mersc.

Circumstantial and topographical evidence suggests that this was probably a historically marshy area, possibly with a diverse bog-moss (*Sphagnum* spp.) flora. It is not known if the marsh was drained by council contractors during construction of the horse-ride, or if the area had lost much of its marshland habitat prior to that event. Until relatively recently Pynding Mersc exited though a drainage pipe installed beneath the horse-ride, and subsequently the remaining marshy area was seasonal and of restricted extent. In c.2002 Harrow Drainage Engineers working in partnership with Harrow Agenda 21 Water Action Group and Harrow Nature Conservation Forum (HNCF) installed a bagwork dam at the outlet in order to raise the water level and restore the marsh. It appears that council contractors subsequently broke up the dam when water over-topped the horse-ride at a point to the north of the dam.

In August 2010 however Section 106 funding was employed in partnership with HNCF to construct a purpose-built dam and outflow and to stabilise the bank of the horse-ride, with the aim of once again reinstating the marshland habitat. In addition, construction of a walkway across the marsh is under consideration at the time of writing (August 2010).

There is native and non-native scrub and a few trees including alder (*Alnus glutinosus*) to the east margin. Much of the compartment is densely vegetated with ground flora, and is partly over-shaded by medium-aged pedunculate oak trees (*Quercus robur*). The dominant flora comprises floating sweet-grass (*Glyceria fluitans*), common nettle (*Urtica dioica*) and field horsetail (*Equisetum arvense*). Frequently occurring marshland plants include water forget-me-not (*Myosotis scorpioides*), lesser spearwort (*Ranunculus flammula*), gypsywort (*Lycopus europaeus*) and water mint (*Mentha aquatica*). Water-pepper (*Persicaria hydropiper*) and brooklime (*Veronica beccabunga*) occur as rarities in this compartment. In 2007 Howard Matthews recorded lady-fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*) in this compartment.

A range of wetland ground beetles (Carabidae) were observed foraging in undisturbed marginal mud. Slender groundhopper (*Tetrix subulata*) a local 'grasshopper' which is found in stable muddy habitats was present. Groundhoppers are the UK's only swimming 'grasshoppers' and can be seen (if you are lucky) swimming on or beneath the surface of marshy pools and woodland puddles. In recent years the very large and local wetland cranefly *Tipula fulvipennis* has been recorded here as well as a Nationally Scarce wetland wasp (*Crossocerus walkeri*). Submerged and semi-submerged fallen tree-trunks and branches are present and these are likely to provide high value habitat for invertebrates.

No invasive plants were recorded but for ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) which can behave invasively at the Common.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T07b.1	A tree to the east- and a sapling to the west of the horse-ride are the only examples of alder (*A. glutinosa*) recorded at Stanmore Common during the current survey.

BAP Species

None Recorded	

London Notable species

Lady-fern	*Athyrium filix-femina*	Lesser spearwort	*Ranunculus flammula*
Water forget-me-not	*Myosotis scorpiodes*	Brooklime	*Veronica beccabunga*

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Lady-fern	*Athyrium filix-femina*	Field rose	*Rosa arvensis*
Pendulous sedge	*Carex pendula*	Giant fescue	*Schedonorus giganteus*
Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*		

Invasive Species and other Pest Species

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*	

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Ground Beetle spp.	*Carabidae*	Species associated with the bare mud habitat
Slender Ground-hopper	*Tetrix subulata*	Marshland sp. – scarce in Harrow

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Alder	*Alnus glutinosus*	The only alders recorded at the site grow either side of the horse ride here
Water-pepper	*Persicaria hydropiper*	Scarce and local at the site
Gypsywort	*Lycopus europaeus*	Scarce and local at the site
Plum sp.	*Prunus domestica* var.	Fruit are small, cherry-red and very sweet

Management Notes

The management of this compartment will depend in part on the habitats which, following the recent works, develop naturally in the coming years, and assessment of their associated flora and fauna at that stage. On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Habitat fragility	Small areas of wetland habitat such as this can be very fragile, and apparently minor changes in management can destabilise or significantly alter the ecology. Following the recent works, major management interventions should therefore be avoided as the habitat develops and stabilises over the next few years
• Hydrology	Considering the known flora and fauna of Stanmore Common, the marshland habitats of the compartment are likely to support the most important flora and fauna. The wetland should therefore be managed primarily as a marshland rather than primarily as a pond, as the latter would carry a significant risk of damaging or destroying scarce wildlife
• Standing decaying timber habitat/Tree safety	The oak trees currently growing in the marsh will sicken and die presently due to waterlogging of their roots. These should be retained as valuable habitat. If any of the trees are close enough to the horse-ride to fall across it and therefore pose a risk to the public, they should be made safe by trimming or truncheoning, rather than removal. Large section cut timber should be left lying in the marsh, and no chipping should be carried out
• Alders	Ensure that all interested parties, including council contractors are aware of the importance of the alders growing adjacent to the horse-ride
• Key plant species	Monitor the natural recolonisation of the compartment with wetland flora at least annually over the coming years

Compartment Name	Mound Grove	**Compartment No.**	08
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15857 93765	**Area (ha)**	3.562
Date of Survey	4 June 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Hot and sunny		

Habitat %

Native broadleaved woodland	70	Scrub	30

Woodland				Grassland		Wetland	
	Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	14	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Y	Wood flush	60	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y	Decaying timber			Wet grassland			

Description

Mound Grove is an area of acid woodland bounded in part by clearings; Oakmead (comp. 18) to the north and Ceriseland (comp. 19) to part of its west margin. The watercourses Holly Brook and The Brightwen flow northwards through the compartment to meet Tyke's Water (Comp 7a) to the north. There are two historical earthworks within the compartment: The Pillow Mound is an artificial rabbit warren which might be medieval or later in origin. The Tumulus (Boudicca's Mound) is a circular earthwork of unknown origin.

Pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*), downy birch (*Betula pubescens*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) are abundant trees here, along with bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*).

Broad-leaved helleborine (*Epipactis helleborine*), sanicle (*Sanicula europaea*), wood millet (*Millium effusum*) and great horsetail (*Equisetum telmateia*) and found here along with woodland grasses such as wood meadow-grass (*Poa nemoralis*) and creeping soft-grass (*Holcus mollis*). Aspen (*Populus tremula)* occurs frequently here, along with the only spindle (*Euonymus europaeus*) recorded during this survey. The 14 Ancient Woodland Indicator species recorded suggest that a significant ancient woodland component is present.

Both cuckoo and song thrush are London BAP Priority species. Blackcap and nuthatch were also recorded here.

No scheduled invasive plant species were recorded. Sycamore, bracken, ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), cherry laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*) and yew (*Taxus baccata*) are all actual or potential invasive species here.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T08.1	Landmark: *Boudicca's Mound*: A 'Round Barrow' (A name of convenience in use until the true nature of this circular mound-with-ditch can be determined.)
T08.2	Landmark: A Pillow Mound: An artificial rabbit warren
T08.3	The only spindle (*Euonymus europaeus*) recorded in the course of the 2010 survey
W1 C08	Flushed area
W2 – W4 C08	Marshy areas

BAP Species

Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	London BAP Priority Species
Song Thrush	*Turdus philomelos*	UK- and London BAP Priority Species
Cuckoo	*Cuculus canorus*	UK- and London BAP Priority Species

London Notable species

Broad-leaved helleborine	*Epipactis helleborine*	Lesser spearwort	*Ranunculus flammula*
Great horsetail	*Equisetum telmateia*	Sanicle	*Sanicula europaea*
Purple moor-grass	*Molinia cerulea*	Bog stitchwort	*Stellaria alsine*

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Hairy-brome	*Bromopsis ramosa*	Wood millet	*Millium effusum*
Pendulous sedge	*Carex pendula*	Three-nerved sandwort	*Moehringia trinervia*
Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*	Wood meadow-grass	*Poa nemoralis*
Broad-leaved helleborine	*Epipactis helleborine*	Aspen	*Populus tremula*
Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*	Sanicle	*Sanicula europaea*
Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	Giant fescue	*Schedonorus giganteus*
Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*	Black bryony	*Tamus communis*

Invasive Species and other Pest Species

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*	Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*
Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*	Turkey oak	*Quercus cerris*
Purple moor-grass	*Molinia cerulea*	Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*
Cherry laurel	*Prunus laurocerasus*	Yew	*Taxus baccata*

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Carrion Crow	*Corvus corone*	
Cuckoo	*Cuculus canorus*	UK BAP
Great-tit	*Parus major*	
Magpie	*Pica pica*	
Nuthatch	*Sitta europaea*	
Blackcap	*Sylvia atricapilla*	Song record (Denis Vickers)
Wren	*Troglodytes troglodytes*	
Blackbird	*Turdus merula*	
Song Thrush	*Turdus philomelos*	UK- and London BAP Priority Species
Harlequin Ladybird	*Harmonia axyridis*	
St. Mark's Fly	*Bibio marci*	
Silver-Y moth	*Autographa gamma*	
Scorpion Fly sp.	*Panorpa* sp.	

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Spindle	*Euonymus europaeus*	The only example recorded during this survey
Scots pine	*Pinus sylvestris*	Pine trees are scattered over the Common, and have a distinctive associated insect fauna

Management Notes

For management purposes this is generally a low-intervention area. On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Archaeology	Develop a management strategy for the archaeological features
• Hydrology	Maintain the long-term integrity of the watercourse, flushed and marshy areas and water supplies
• Key plant species	Monitor the spindle

Compartment Name	Dyke Wood	**Compartment No.**	09
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15687 93616	**Area (ha)**	2.904
Date of Survey	28 May 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Hot and sunny		

Habitat %

Native broadleaved woodland 95	Scrub 5

Woodland			Grassland		Wetland	
Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	14	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Y Wood flush	50	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y Decaying timber			Wet grassland			

Description

Dyke Wood is a north-facing area of acid woodland between lying between The Common (a road) and Jake's Path. It is bounded by The Speiring to the north and Holly Brook to the south, and The Brightwen arises on the Common within this compartment. The vegetation comprises mainly open woodland with scattered large pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) and hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) along with beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and downy birch (*Betula pubescens*). The woodland floor is dominated by bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and includes areas of herb layer and dense under-scrub. Both bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) and Spanish bluebell (*Hyacinthoides hispanica*) are frequent. There are a number of flushed and marshy areas, both on and away from the watercourses, including a marshy area created by management near to the south end of Holly Brook. Holly brook is the most constant of the seasonal watercourses at the Common, and is the last to cease flowing during relative drought.

In addition to bluebells the flora includes lady-fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*), hart's-tongue (*Asplenium scolopendrium*) and areas of sanicle (*Sanicula europaea*). A colony of bog moss (*Sphagnum* sp.) was recorded here, and these colonies at the Common are of importance to London. The 14 Ancient Woodland Indicator species recorded suggest that a significant ancient woodland component is present.

The fauna observed in this compartment includes the hoverfly *Brachypalpoides lenta*. This crimson and black species breeds in red-rot fungal decay occurring in oak trunks and roots, and it is rather scarce in London.

Invasive and potentially invasive species include a small amount of the scheduled species rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) growing near to the roadside, as well as dominant bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), and abundant developing ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*).

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
W1 – W3 C09	Flushed areas
W 4 C09	Point at which a watercourse enters the Common

BAP Species

Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	London BAP Priority Species

London Notable species

Lady-fern	*Athyrium filix-femina*	Black currant	*Ribes nigrum*
Purple moor-grass	*Molinia cerulea*	Sanicle	*Sanicula europaea*
Lesser spearwort	*Ranunculus flammula*		

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Hart's-tongue	*Asplenium scolopendrium*	Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*
Lady-fern	*Athyrium filix-femina*	Wood meadow-grass	*Poa nemoralis*
Pendulous sedge	*Carex pendula*	Aspen	*Populus tremula*
Wood-sedge	*Carex sylvatica*	Black currant	*Ribes nigrum*
Giant fescue	*Schedonorus giganteus*	Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*
Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	Black bryony	*Tamus communis*
Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*	Sanicle	*Sanicula europaea*

Invasive Species and other Pest Species

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Rhododendron	*Rhododendron ponticum*

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*	Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*
Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*	Turkey oak	*Quercus cerris*
Spanish bluebell	*Hyacinthoides hispanica*	Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*
Purple moor-grass	*Molinia cerulea*	Yew	*Taxus baccata*

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Carrion Crow	*Corvus corone*	
Blackbird	*Turdus merula*	
Hoverfly sp.	*Brachypalpoides lenta*	A local species breeding in decaying timber
Common Blue Damselfly	*Enallagma cyathigerum*	

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Bog moss sp.	*Sphagnum* sp.	Characteristic of the site, and rare in London
Hair moss sp.	*Polytrichum* sp.	Several species are likely to be present at the Common

Management Notes

For management purposes this is generally a low-intervention area. On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Invasive species	Manage the small amount of rhododendron. Monitor annually the scrubby potentially invasive species such as rowan
• Hydrology	Retain the long-term integrity of the hydrology of the compartment including watercourses, flushes and marshes
• Key plant species	Monitor the bog-moss in the spring

Compartment Name	Witling Wood East	**Compartment No.**	10a
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 16041 93755	**Area (ha)**	2.737
Date of Survey	22 April 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Sunny		

Habitat %

Native broadleaved woodland	95	Scrub	5

Woodland				Grassland				Wetland	
	Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland		Grazed	Y	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	7	Ancient woodland		Infrequently mown	?	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded		Unmanaged grassland		Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
	Wood flush	70	Wood shrub layer %		Grassland flush		Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y	Decaying timber				Wet grassland				

Description

Witling Wood East is the larger of two compartments which were a single compartment 10 prior to this survey. It is a band of primarily north-facing woodland running north-south, bounded by the fence-line to West Lodge the east; by West Lodge Approach to the south and, in the main by the clearings of compartments 16a-c to the west. Pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) is abundant here including some large trees, while beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) are abundant. It is speculated that the relatively low number of Ancient Woodland Indicators (7) and London Notable species (3) recorded in this compartment might well be due to high levels of disturbance in the past; otherwise this area does appear to be anomalous in these respects. There are also a great many young regenerating beech, rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) here. Witling Beck arises here and runs northwards through the west of the compartment, and there is a small area of managed grassland to the south by Warren Lane. The horse ride runs near the east margin, as does The Moat, a large ditch near which follows the site boundary. This compartment has a key role in providing the water source for the important flush in Wiltling Marsh (comp. 16b), although no clear evidence for this flushing within Witling Wood East was observed in the course of this survey.

There is a significant colony of wood millet (*Millium effusum*) on the margin of West Lodge Approach, and shining crane's-bill (*Geranium lucidum*) grows in its only recorded site at the Common on the grassland triangle adjacent to Warren Lane. Stone parsley (*Sison amomum*) is a rarity at the site and occurs sporadically on the horse ride. In common with other woodland compartments, the small woodland clearings carpeted with creeping soft-grass (*Holcus mollis*) are attractive and potentially ecologically valuable features.

One of only two molehills recorded during the survey was found in this compartment.

The scheduled invasive species rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) is frequent along the Moat, and in places behind the fence-line on adjacent property to the east.
Cherry laurel (*Prunus lauraucerus*) is abundant along the Moat, and sycamore and yew (*Taxus baccata*) are also potentially invasive in this compartment.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
None specified	

BAP Species

None Recorded	

London Notable species

Shining crane's-bill	*Geranium lucidum*	Sanicle	*Sanicula europaea*

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Pendulous sedge	*Carex pendula*	Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*
Wood-sedge	*Carex sylvatica*	Wood millet	*Millium effusum*
Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*	Sanicle	*Sanicula europaea*
Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*		

Invasive Species and other Pest Species
Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*	Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*
Cherry laurel	*Prunus laurocerasus*	Yew	*Taxus baccata*
Rhododendron	*Rhododendron ponticum*		

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Jay	*Garrulus glandarius*	
Green woodpecker	*Picus viridis*	
Mole	*Talpa europaea*	Record of molehill

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

None Recorded	

Management Notes

For management purposes this is generally a low-intervention area. On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Grass-cutting	Investigate the current grass-cutting regime on the small grassland triangle by Warren Lane. Negotiate if possible a later first cut to allow the flora here to disperse their seed
• Hydrology	Investigate the source in Witling Wood East of the flushing in Witling Marsh. Ensure the integrity of this flushing in all future management
• Hydrology	Investigate the responsibility for The Stump, a ditch on the Warren Lane boundary of the cricket pitch, which acts as a feeder for Witling Beck. Negotiate to ensure the continued integrity of this ditch

Compartment Name	Witling Wood West	**Compartment No.**	10b
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 16007 93935	**Area (ha)**	0.683
Date of Survey	8 May 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Rain		

Habitat %

Native broadleaved woodland	50	Scrub	50

Woodland			Grassland		Wetland	
Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	11	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush	60	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y Decaying timber			Wet grassland			

Description

Witling Wood West was split from the former compartment 10 in the course of this survey in the light of its clear ecological differences. This area of acid woodland falls noticeably to the south. It is bounded by Holly Brook Rise, Tyke's Water and Pynding Mersc. There is a great deal of scrub in the woodland, as well as many sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) saplings. There is one particularly large and impressive pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) in this compartment. Two seasonal pools are present in the lower part of the woodland.

The ancient origins of the woodland in this compartment are apparent from the 11 Ancient Woodland Indicator species recorded here during this survey. In addition there are aspects of the flora here which are of particular importance. The very extensive carpet of wood sorrel (*Oxalis acetosella*) is a striking sight, and could be unique in London. In 2009 Joanne Colthup discovered two examples of marsh willowherb (*Epilobium palustre*) growing by the path on the wood margin. This is a particularly scarce and declining species which requires special recognition in management.

The exotic-looking hawthorn jewel beetle (*Agrilus sinuatus*) was recorded here from its characteristic exit holes in decaying branches on a hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*).

A scheduled invasive species Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) occurs here in a large clump by the streamside. This area showed signs of previous management. Sycamore and other species listed below are very common and potentially invasive in this area of woodland.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T10b.1	One of three carpets of wood sorrel (*Oxalis acetosella*) known at the Common
W1-2 C10b	Seasonal pools

BAP Species

Marsh willowherb	*Epilobium palustre*	London BAP Priority Species
Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	London BAP Priority Species
Wood-sorrel	*Oxalis acetosella*	London BAP Priority Species

London Notable species

Marsh willowherb	*Epilobium palustre*	Lesser spearwort	*Ranunculus flammula*
Intermediate polypody	*Polypodium interjectum*	Sanicle	*Sanicula europaea*

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Hairy-brome	*Bromopsis ramosa*	Three-nerved sandwort	*Moehringia trinervia*
Pendulous sedge	*Carex pendula*	Wood-sorrel	*Oxalis acetosella*
Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*	Wood meadow-grass	*Poa nemoralis*
Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*	Sanicle	*Sanicula europaea*
Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	Giant fescue	*Schedonorus giganteus*
Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*		

Invasive Species and other Pest Species

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Japanese knotweed	*Fallopia japonica*

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*	Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*
Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*	Yew	*Taxus baccata*
Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*		

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Carrion Crow	*Corvus corone*	
Chiffchaff	*Phylloscopus collybita*	
Blackbird	*Turdus merula*	
Hawthorn Jewel Beetle	*Agrilus sinuatus*	Recorded from exit holes in hawthorn
DeGeer's Longhorn moth	*Nemophora degeerella*	

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Hair moss sp. *Polytrichum sp.*	

Management Notes

For management purposes this is generally a low-intervention area. On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Invasive species	Manage the Japanese knotweed. Monitor other potential invasive species, particularly sycamore and bracken
• Key plant species	Develop low-intervention management strategies for wood sorrel and marsh willowherb

Compartment Name	Holly Wood	**Compartment No.**	11
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15928 93694	**Area (ha)**	2.945
Date of Survey	7 June 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Sunny / changeable		

Habitat %

Native broadleaved woodland	90	Scrub	10

Woodland				Grassland		Wetland	
	Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	19	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Y	Wood flush	60	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y	Decaying timber			Wet grassland			

Description

Holly Wood is an area of north-facing acid woodland extending northwards from Warren Lane west of the car park. It is bounded to the east by the open areas 16a-c, while Holly Brook runs on the west margin. The woodland is dominated by downy birch (*Betula pubescens*) and bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) along with frequent pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*). Rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), ash (*Fraxinus* excelsior) and elder (*Sambucus nigra*) all occur frequently, as do aspen (*Populus tremula*), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*) and Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*). The high number (19) of Ancient Woodland Indicator species recorded here provides strong evidence for the ancient origins of this area of woodland. Much of the woodland has a dense understory of bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) and bracken. Jake's Path traverses the woodland near its south end, and immediately to the west of Warren Lane Car Park (comp. 15) an area networked with small woodland paths is in regular usage as a gay rendezvous.

Notable plant species in this compartment include the only wild service tree (*Sorbus torminalis*) recorded at the Common, and the extremely scarce bristle club-rush (*Isolepis setacea*). The wild service tree is a twin-trunked young tree with one trunk growing horizontally. Red currant (*Ribes rubrum*) and sanicle (*Sanicula europaea*) both grow in clumps in wetter areas, and a wild cherry (*Prunus avium*) (rare at the Common) grows near the east margin of the woodland.

A pheasant was recorded here in the course of the survey, heard in the woods to the west of the car park.

No scheduled invasive species were recorded here. Sycamore, bracken and rowan are all invasive or potentially invasive plants in this compartment.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T11.1	The London Loop
T11.2	The only wild service tree (*Sorbus torminalis*) recorded in the course of the 2010 survey. A young tree

BAP Species

Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	London BAP Priority Species

London Notable species

Bristle club-rush	*Isolepis setacea*	Red currant	*Ribes rubrum*
Common evening-primrose	*Oenothera biennis*	Sanicle	*Sanicula europaea*
Lesser spearwort	*Ranunculus flammula*	Wild service-tree	*Sorbus torminalis*

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Wood anemone	*Anemone nemorosa*	Wood meadow-grass	*Poa nemoralis*
Hart's-tongue	*Asplenium scolopendrium*	Aspen	*Populus tremula*
Hairy-brome	*Bromopsis ramosa*	Primrose	*Primula vulgaris*
Pendulous sedge	*Carex pendula*	Wild cherry	*Prunus avium*
Wood-sedge	*Carex sylvatica*	Red currant	*Ribes rubrum*
Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*	Sanicle	*Sanicula europaea*
Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*	Giant fescue	*Schedonorus giganteus*
Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	Wild service-tree	*Sorbus torminalis*
Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*	Black bryony	*Tamus communis*
Three-nerved sandwort	*Moehringia trinervia*		

Invasive Species and other Pest Species

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*	Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*
Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*	Turkey oak	*Quercus cerris*
Spanish bluebell	*Hyacinthoides hispanica*	Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*
Cherry laurel	*Prunus laurocerasus*	Yew	*Taxus baccata*

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Pheasant	*Phasianus colchicus*	Heard near Car Park
Blue-tit	*Cyanistes caeruleus*	
Speckled Wood	*Pararge aegeria*	

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Short-fruited willowherb	*Epilobium obscurum*	Rare at Stanmore Common
Wild strawberry	*Fragaria vesca*	Rare at Stanmore Common
Bog moss sp.	*Sphagnum* sp.	Important for London

Management Notes

For management purposes this is generally a low-intervention area. On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Key plant species	Wild service tree: Monitor this single example annually. Seek other examples in the same vicinity. Bristle club-rush: Monitor this single example annually.
• Invasive species	Annually assess potential invasive species, particularly rowan and sycamore.
• Rendezvous for sexual encounters	In view of apparently routine public sexual activity occurring in this area, develop a strategy to discourage the use of the Common as a rendezvous for casual sexual encounters.

Compartment Name	Brightwen Wood West	**Compartment No.**	12a
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 16273 93547	**Area (ha)**	4.243
Date of Survey	15 April 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson, Denis Vickers
Weather	Sunny and cool		

Habitat %

Native broadleaved woodland	80	Scrub	20

Woodland			Grassland		Wetland	
Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Y Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	11	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	? Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush	30	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y Decaying timber			Wet grassland			

Description

Brightwen Wood West is the major part of the eastwards extension to the Common lying to the north of Warren Lane. To the north it is bounded by the fence-line of The Grove estate and The Moat, a deep broad ditch which parallels the boundary here. To the east and west it is bounded by small access roads; The Grove to the east and West Lodge Approach to the west. (In the apparent absence of an existing name, West Lodge Approach is the name applied by the author to this access road for the purposes of this survey). There is widespread evidence of historic gravel digging, particularly to the east. Some of these shallow pits may form temporary ponds over winter and in wet conditions. The horse ride originates in this compartment, running north-west from Warren Lane and turning westwards alongside The Moat. The London Loop and the Bentley Priory Circular Walk also pass through the south-west of this compartment.

The compartment's long boundary with Warren Lane has a number of observable consequences:

- The wood edge to the roadside is vulnerable to fly-tipping and significant quantities of builder's- and other refuse was observed in the course of this survey.
- Partly as a consequence of this a number of 'garden throw-out' plant species grow near the roadside, and some of these may be potentially invasive species.
- Motorists regularly drive at high speed along Warren Lane, endangering visitors to the Common and wildlife alike.

The woodland floor is dominated by bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) with frequent bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), ivy (*Hedera helix*) and holly (*Ilex aquifolium*). Pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and downy birch (*Betula pubescens*) are frequent, as is cherry laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*), the latter particularly along The Moat. There are also occasional Turkey oak (*Quercus cerris*) and hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*). The prevalence of beech linked with the relative scarcity of hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) indicates that the soil in this compartment is likely to be less acidic than on the majority of the Common.

The compartment is notable for its ramsons (*Allium ursinum*) which grows here in a small number of discrete patches. Hart's-tongue (*Asplenium scolopendrium*) and pignut (*Conopodium majus*) are also found here and they are both scarce at the site.

The scheduled invasive species rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) is frequent along the Moat, and in places on adjacent property immediately behind the fence-line to the north. Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) is rare here, and also occurs near to The Moat. Cherry laurel (*Prunus lauraucerus*) is abundant along the Moat.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T12a.1	The London Loop

BAP Species

None Recorded	

London Notable species

Sheep's fescue	*Festuca ovina*	Ramsons	*Allium ursinum*

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Ramsons	*Allium ursinum*	Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*
Hart's-tongue	*Asplenium scolopendrium*	Wood meadow-grass	*Poa nemoralis*
Pendulous sedge	*Carex pendula*	Primrose	*Primula vulgaris*
Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*	Wild cherry	*Prunus avium*
Pignut	*Conopodium majus*	Giant fescue	*Schedonorus giganteus*
Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*		

Invasive Species and other Pest Species

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Japanese knotweed	*Fallopia japonica*
Rhododendron	*Rhododendron ponticum*
Wall cotoneaster	*Cotoneaster horizontalis*
Yellow archangel (variegated)	*Lamiastrum galeobdolon* ssp. *argentatum*

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*	Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*
Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*	Turkey oak	*Quercus cerris*
Spanish bluebell	*Hyacinthoides hispanica*	Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*
Daffodil (garden)	*Narcissus* sp.	Snowberry	*Symphoriocarpus albus*
Cherry laurel	*Prunus laurocerasus*	Yew	*Taxus baccata*
Lesser periwinkle (variegated)		*Vinca minor 'Argentovariegata'*	

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Long-tailed tit	*Aegithalos caudatus*	
Blue-tit	*Cyanistes caeruleus*	Recorded by Denis Vickers (DV)
Robin	*Erithacus rubecula*	
Chaffinch	*Fringilla coelebs*	DV
Jay	*Garrulus glandarius*	
Great-tit	*Parus major*	
Blackcap	*Sylvia atricapilla*	DV
Wren	*Troglodytes troglodytes*	DV
Blackbird	*Turdus merula*	DV
Song thrush	*Turdus philomelos*	DV. UK- and London BAP Priority Species.
7-spot ladybird	*Coccinella septempunctata*	
Peacock butterfly	*Inachis io*	
Speckled wood	*Pararge aegeria*	
Hornet	*Vespa crabro*	

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

French crane's-bill	*Geranium endressii*	One of two clumps of this naturalised species at the Common
Mouse-ear-hawkweed	*Pilosella officinarum*	Of restricted distribution at the Common
Gorse	*Ulex europaeaus*	Characteristic of the site but not particularly common

Management Notes

For management purposes this is generally a low-intervention area. On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Invasive plants	Manage the rhododendron and Japanese knotweed. Monitor and manage the garden species which are likely to become a problem in the future (e.g. variegated yellow archangel)
• Public safety	Consider installing traffic-calming measures on Warren Lane
• Hydrology	Develop strategies for enhancing the compartments wetland habitats
• Key plant species	Monitor the ramsons annually

Compartment Name	Brightwen Wood East	**Compartment No.**	12b
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 16498 93657	**Area (ha)**	1.217
Date of Survey	22 April 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Sunny		

Habitat %

Native broadleaved woodland	95	Scrub	5

Woodland				Grassland		Wetland	
	Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	12	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
	Wood flush	20	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y	Decaying timber			Wet grassland			

Description

Brightwen Wood East is the minor part of the eastwards extension to the Common lying to the north of Warren Lane. To the north it is bounded by the fence-line of The Grove estate; to the west by The Grove (a small access road) and to the east by housing. There is widespread evidence of historic gravel digging. Some areas of the woodland floor comprise of a series of pits with adjacent heaps of discarded soil. Some of these shallow pits may form temporary ponds over winter and in wet conditions, with one area north of the compartment's centre capable of retaining water well into the summer. The adjacent long-naturalised soil-heaps provide interesting and probably important well-drained habitats for plants and invertebrates, including attractive and potentially ecologically valuable carpets of mosses.

The compartment's boundary with Warren Lane has a number of observable consequences:

- The wood edge to the roadside is vulnerable to fly-tipping and significant quantities of builder's- and other refuse was observed in the course of this survey.
- Partly as a consequence of this a number of 'garden throw-out' plant species grow near the roadside, and some of these are potentially invasive species.
- Motorists regularly drive at high speed along Warren Lane, endangering visitors to the Common and wildlife alike.

Pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*), cherry laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*) and ivy (*Hedera helix*) are all abundant here. Downy birch (*Betula pubescens*), hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) and sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) occur frequently. There are occasional beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*). Wood anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*) and Solomon's-seal (*Polygonatum multiflorum*) (identification to be confirmed) both occur as rarities here, while bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) forms occasional patches in this historically disturbed area. In 2010 vegetation was cleared and trimmed on the Common adjacent to the north boundary fence, possibly as a security measure by a neighbouring householder.

A small amount of Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*), a scheduled invasive species, occurs near the roadside and near the north margin of the woodland. Cherry laurel (*Prunus lauraucerus*) is scattered in this compartment, including some large near-trees to the north of the site.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T012b.1	The western extent of the main seasonal wetland habitats within the woodland

BAP Species

Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	London BAP Priority Species
Solomon's-seal	*Polygonatum ?multiflorum*	London BAP Priority Species

London Notable species

Wavy hair-grass	*Deschampsia flexuosa*	Solomon's-seal	*Polygonatum ?multiflorum*
Sheep's fescue	*Festuca ovina*	Gooseberry	*Ribes uva-crispa*

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Wood anemone	*Anemone nemorosa*	Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*
Hairy-brome	*Bromopsis ramosa*	Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*
Pendulous sedge	*Carex pendula*	Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*
Remote sedge	*Carex remota*	Solomon's-seal	*Polygonatum ?multiflorum*
Wood-sedge	*Carex sylvatica*	Primrose	*Primula vulgaris*
Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*	Giant fescue	*Schedonorus giganteus*

Invasive Species and other Pest Species

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Japanese knotweed	*Fallopia japonica*
Yellow archangel (variegated)	*Lamiastrum galeobdolon* ssp. *argentatum*

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*	Snowberry	*Symphoriocarpus albus*
Cherry laurel	*Prunus laurocerasus*	Yew	*Taxus baccata*
Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*		

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Great-tit	*Parus major*
Blackbird	*Turdus merula*
Buff-tailed Bumble-bee	*Bombus terrestris*
Common bee-fly	*Bombylius major*
Grey Squirrel	*Sciurus carolinensis*

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Mock orange *Philadelphus coronarius*	One of two examples of this naturalised species recorded at the Common

Management Notes

For management purposes this is generally a low-intervention area. On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Invasive plants	Manage the cherry laurel and Japanese knotweed. Monitor and manage the garden species which are likely to become a problem in the future (e.g. variegated yellow archangel)
• Public safety	Consider installing traffic-calming measures on Warren Lane
• Hydrology	Develop strategies for enhancing the compartments' wetland habitats
• Key plant species	Monitor the Solomon's seal annually

Compartment Name	The Wetwood	**Compartment No.**	13
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 16379 93519	**Area (ha)**	2.485
Date of Survey	7 July 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Sunny		

Habitat %

Native broadleaved woodland	60	Scrub	15
Non-native broadleaved woodland	15	Standing Water	10

Woodland			Grassland		Wetland	
Treeline w/out hedge	Y	Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	14	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush	30	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y Decaying timber			Wet grassland			

Description

The Wetwood is the eastwards extension of the Common situated to the south of Warren Lane. It is bounded by Warren Lane to the north and east, by a steep bank on the margin of a Harrow Rugby Club grounds to the south, and by Brewery Ponds to the west. Pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) and ivy (*Hedera helix*) are dominant here, while hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*), grey willow (*Salix cinerea*), bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) and holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) grow abundantly. Frequent vegetation includes downy birch (*Betula pubescens*), aspen (*Populus tremula*) and bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), along with the London Notable marsh bedstraw (*Galium palustre*). The flora indicates that this woodland is acidic and of ancient origin (14 AWIs). The extensive gravel diggings here, taken in conjunction with the compartment's hydrology (which tends to encourage collection and retention of rain water and run-off) have created wet woodland habitat here, which although small appears likely to represent the best example of this UK BAP Habitat type not only in Harrow but beyond. The steep bank to the south is home to some of the oldest trees in the compartment, particularly pedunculate oaks. Large quantities of woody cut vegetation have been tipped down this embankment from the rugby pitch side. The Warren Lane margin is vulnerable to fly-tipping, of which there was plentiful evidence at the time of the survey. High speed driving is also a regular feature in this part of Warren Lane, potentially endangering wildlife, horse riders and pedestrians such as those using the adjacent London Loop or Bentley Priory Circular Walk.

Important flora include carpets of creeping-Jenny (*Lysimachia nummularia*) and velvet bent (*Agrostis canina*) both of which appear to be confined at the Common to these gravel diggings south of Warren Lane. Ramsons (*Allium ursinum*) and bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) grow here along with wood anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*) and pignut (*Conopodium majus*). Remote sedge (*Carex remota*) is abundant here, while wood-sedge (*Carex sylvatica*), cyperus sedge (*Carex pseudocyperus*) and oval sedge (*Carex leporina*) all occur as rarities. Hawkweed (*Hieracium* sp.) grows occasionally at the road side.

This compartment hosts the only active rabbit warren recorded during this survey. Two rabbits were seen grazing on one of the small swards of velvet bent which are characteristic of this compartment. In addition two closely adjacent rabbit holes were seen in the embankment to the south, although a detailed search for more was not conducted.

A scheduled invasive plant Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) grows occasionally here, particularly in the area to the east and north-east margins of the compartment.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T13.1	The western limit of the main seasonal wetland habitats within the woodland
T13.2	Storm Drain?: inflow or outflow to be determined
T13.3	A small number of rabbit burrows in the bank to Harrow Rugby Club grounds

BAP Species

Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	London BAP Priority Species

London Notable species

Ramsons	*Allium ursinum*	Sheep's fescue	*Festuca ovina*
Oval sedge	*Carex leporina*	Marsh bedstraw	*Galium palustre*
Cyperus sedge	*Carex pseudocyperus*	Dotted loosestrife	*Lysimachia punctata*
Wavy hair-grass	*Deschampsia flexuosa*	Black currant	*Ribes nigrum*

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Ramsons	*Allium ursinum*	Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*
Wood anemone	*Anemone nemorosa*	Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*
Pendulous sedge	*Carex pendula*	Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*
Remote sedge	*Carex remota*	Wood meadow-grass	*Poa nemoralis*
Wood-sedge	*Carex sylvatica*	Aspen	*Populus tremula*
Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*	Black currant	*Ribes nigrum*
Pignut	*Conopodium majus*	Giant fescue	*Schedonorus giganteus*

Invasive Species and other Pest Species
Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Japanese knotweed	*Fallopia japonica*

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*	Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*
Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*	Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*
Spanish bluebell	*Hyacinthoides hispanica*	Yew	*Taxus baccata*
Cherry laurel	*Prunus laurocerasus*	Daffodil (garden)	*Narcissus* sp.

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Robin	*Erithacus rubecula*	
Jay	*Garrulus glandarius*	
Song thrush	*Turdus philomelos*	UK- and London BAP Priority Species
Buff-tailed bumble-bee	*Bombus terrestris*	
Common bee-fly	*Bombylius major*	
Peacock butterfly	*Inachis io*	
Rabbit	*Oryctolagus cuniculus*	The only 2 rabbits seen during the survey

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Creeping-Jenny	*Lysimachia nummularia*	Recorded only from this compartment during the survey.
Velvet bent	*Agrostis canina*	Characteristic of this compartment
Hawkweed	*Hieracium sp.*	Grows on the road verge here, away from its usual sites at the Common

Management Notes

For management purposes this is generally a low-intervention area. On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Invasive plants	Manage the Japanese knotweed
• Public safety	Consider installing traffic-calming measures on Warren Lane
• Hydrology	Develop strategies for enhancing the compartments wetland habitats
• Rabbits	Survey the extent of the rabbit warren/population
• Key plant species	Monitor the creeping-Jenny annually

Compartment Name	Great Brewery Pond	**Compartment No.**	14a
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 16197 93402	**Area (ha)**	1.826
Date of Survey	1 July 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Warm and overcast		

Habitat %

Scattered trees	30	Acid grassland	5
Scrub	10	Standing water	45
Bare soil	10		

Woodland			Grassland			Wetland	
	Treeline w/out hedge			Grazed		Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	9	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown		Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland		Natural river bank	Tidal
	Wood flush		Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Y	Bare soil	Trophic status	Eutrophic?
Y	Decaying timber			Y Wet grassland				

Description

This compartment 'Great Brewery Pond' has been extended in the course of the survey within the bounds of the LNR, to include the approach from Warren Lane. This area appears on ecological grounds to belong in this compartment rather than in The Wetwood (comp. 13) as formerly.

The pond surrounds include extensive and mostly native scrub. There is a small area of woodland to the east dominated by pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*), hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) and downy birch (*Betula pubescens*) and with plentiful sycamore saplings (*Acer pseudoplatanus)*. Standing and fallen decaying timber is present within the compartment. The pond banks and path edges include extensive areas of bare earth, grey willow scrub (*Salix cinerea*) and trees including downy birch (*Betula pubescens*). There are patches of acid grassland around the pond including characteristic flora such as sheep's sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*). The east margin of the compartment comprises bramble-dominated scrub with ruderals and coarse grasses. The North London Loop and Bentley Priory Circular walk pass though this compartment and cross Warren Lane at a point where speeding cars routinely pass.

The pond itself was almost devoid of flora. No submerged aquatic plants were discovered using a weed drag, and the two patches of white water-lilies (*Nymphaea alba*) which have been present for many years were not present. Aquatic flora is restricted to a few plants of water mint (*Mentha aquatica*) and amphibious bistort (*Persicaria amphibia*) occurring in a small area to the south of the west water margin.

Grey sedge (*Carex divulsa*) is found on the approach from Warren Lane, while oval sedge (*Carex leporina)* and early hair grass (*Aira praecox*) occur as rarities on the bare soil of the pond banks. Species found in the acid grassland include mouse-ear hawkweed (*Pilosella officinarum*) and heath bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*).

House martins were seen feeding over the pond, and a grass snake was seen swimming across it. Both frogs and toads are said by anglers to occur here. Fish species present are said by anglers to include bream, carp, crucian carp, perch, pike, roach and tench. Anglers also asserted that [American signal] crayfish and [red-eared] terrapins are present in large numbers.

In terms of the number and variety of solitary bees which utilise the area for nesting sites, the areas of bare soil along and around the path to the east side of the pond is likely to be one of the best in Harrow. Bare Earth is a Harrow BAP Priority Habitat. This area however has suffered significant damage in recent years due to the setting of 'camp fires'. Potentially important habitat for invertebrates is also provided by semi-submerged fallen branches near the north end of the pond.

Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and cherry laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*) are all potential invasive species here. In addition a carpet of variegated yellow archangel (*Lamiastrum galeobdolon* ssp. *argentatum*) grows just outside the LNR on Council property near to the footpath to the south. This pernicious species should however be managed (eliminated) as if it were within the LNR.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T14a.1	Considered likely to be one of the best examples of bare soil habitat in Harrow; used as a nesting site by a variety of solitary bees. A Harrow BAP Priority Habitat. Partially degraded and under continuing threat from 'cooking' fires.

BAP Species

None Recorded	

London Notable species

Early hair-grass	*Aira praecox*	Oval sedge	*Carex leporina*
Grey sedge	*Carex divulsa*	Wavy hair-grass	*Deschampsia flexuosa*

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Hairy-brome	*Bromopsis ramosa*	Wood meadow-grass	*Poa nemoralis*
Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*	Aspen	*Populus tremula*
Pignut	*Conopodium majus*	Giant fescue	*Schedonorus giganteus*
Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*	Black bryony	*Tamus communis*
Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*		

Invasive Species and other Pest Species
Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

*****Yellow archangel (variegated)	*Lamiastrum galeobdolon* ssp. *argentatum*	*****Carpeting an area just outside the LNR

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*	Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*
Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*	Turkey oak	*Quercus cerris*
Spanish bluebell	*Hyacinthoides hispanica*	Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*
Cherry laurel	*Prunus laurocerasus*	Yew	*Taxus baccata*

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Birds		
Mallard	*Anas platyrhynchos*	
House Martin	*Delichon urbicum*	
Robin	*Erithacus rubecula*	
Coot	*Fulica atra*	
Great-tit	*Parus major*	
House Sparrow	*Passer domesticus*	
Chiffchaff	*Phylloscopus collybita*	
Magpie	*Pica pica*	
Blackbird	*Turdus merula*	
Fish		
Bream	*Abramis brama*	Verbal record from anglers
Crucian Carp	*Carassius carassius*	Verbal record from anglers
Carp	*Cypinus carpio*	Verbal record from anglers
Pike	*Esox lucius*	Verbal record from anglers
Perch	*Percia fluviatilis*	Verbal record from anglers
Roach	*Rutilus rutilus*	Verbal record from anglers
Tench	*Tinca tinca*	Verbal record from anglers
Reptiles & Amphibians		
Toad	*Bufo bufo*	Verbal record from anglers
Red-eared Terrapin	*Chrysemys scripta* subsp. *Elegans*	Verbal record from anglers
Grass Snake	*Natrix natrix*	
Frog	*Rana temporaria*	Verbal record from anglers
Invertebrates		
American Signal Crayfish	*Pacifastacus leniusculus*	Verbal record from anglers
Speckled Wood	*Pararge aegeria*	
Comma	*Polygonia c-album*	
Common Blue Damselfly	*Enallagma cyathigerum*	
Blue-tailed Damselfly	*Ischnurea elegans*	

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Wild strawberry	*Fragaria vesca*	
Amphibious bistort	*Persicaria amphibia*	
Lesser stitchwort	*Stellaria graminea*	
*****Juniper sp.	*Juniperus* sp.	*****A non-native juniper growing just outside the LNR; probably a throw-out.

Management Notes

• Pond quality	This formerly productive pond currently shows evidence of having a sick ecosystem. The reasons for this should be investigated and mitigated as appropriate
• Bare earth	This important area of Harrow BAP habitat should be allowed to recover naturally once fire-lighting here has ceased
• Invasive species	Give priority to eliminating the variegated yellow archangel here and at its two other recorded sites at the Common. If it is left to take hold it will quickly become impossible to eliminate
• Public safety	Consider installing traffic-calming measures on Warren Lane

Compartment Name	Little Brewery Pond	**Compartment No.**	14b
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 16261 93478	**Area (ha)**	0.356
Date of Survey	5 July 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Warm and sunny		

Habitat %

Scattered trees	30	Acid grassland	5
Scrub	25	Bracken	5
Bare soil	5	Standing water	30

Woodland			Grassland			Wetland	
Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed		Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	7	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown		Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland		Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush		Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush		Bare soil	Trophic status	Eutrophic?
Y Decaying timber			**Y** Wet grassland				

Description

The compartment 'Little Brewery Pond' was extended to the north in the course of this survey in order to match the area mapped and described as this compartment in the 2007 LCS Survey of this pond (Riley, 2007).

Little Brewery Pond is the smaller of the two ponds comprising compartments 14. It is situated to the north-east of the larger pond, into which it overflows beneath the main footpath which passes between the ponds. It is closely surrounded by scrub and trees which over-shade the pond margins. Grey willow (*Salix cinerea*) is abundant while English elm (*Ulmus procera*), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), downy birch (*Betula pubescens*) and hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) occur occasionally. Silver birch (*Betula pendula*) occurs here as a rarity.

Sampling the pond with a weed drag produced no aquatic vegetation, which appeared to be restricted to occasional bittersweet (*Solanum dulcamara*) growing at the water's edge. The pond was shallow, silted and there was a film on the water's surface. A range of scarce aquatic and marshland plants have been recorded in the past from this pond, and the uncommon pond-plant spiked water-milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) was recorded here by the current author as recently as 2001.

The scarce fern intermediate polypody (*Polypodium interjectum*) was found growing as an epiphyte near the pond margin, while the north extension to the parcel encompasses a seasonal pond, dry at the time of the survey, which supported extensive floating sweet-grass (*Glyceria fluitans*) and a carpet of velvet bent (*Agrostis canina*).

A grey heron was disturbed from the margin of the pond, while overhanging willows provided refuges for coot and mallard.

A small amount of the scheduled invasive species Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) was present in this small parcel

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
None specified	

BAP Species

Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	London BAP priority Species

London Notable species

Lady-fern	*Athyrium filix-femina*	Intermediate polypody	*Polypodium interjectum*
Wavy hair-grass	*Deschampsia flexuosa*		

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Lady-fern	*Athyrium filix-femina*	Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*
Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*	Wood meadow-grass	*Poa nemoralis*
Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*	Aspen	*Populus tremula*
Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*		

Invasive Species and other Pest Species
Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Japanese knotweed	*Fallopia japonica*

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*	Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*
Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*	Turkey oak	*Quercus cerris*
Spanish bluebell	*Hyacinthoides hispanica*	Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*
Cherry laurel	*Prunus laurocerasus*	Yew	*Taxus baccata*
False-acacia	*Robinia pseudoacacia*		

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Mallard	*Anas platyrhynchos*
Grey Heron	*Ardea cinerea*
Robin	*Erithacus rubecula*
Coot	*Fulica atra*
Moorhen	*Gallinula chloropus*
Great-tit	*Parus major*
Magpie	*Pica pica*
Grey Squirrel	*Sciurus carolinensis*

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Velvet bent	*Agrostis canina*	Characteristic. A wetland grass, forming carpets in the old gravel excavations
Sheep's sorrel	*Rumex acetosella*	A species of acid grassland habitats

Management Notes

On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Pond quality	This formerly productive pond currently shows evidence of having a sick ecosystem. The reasons for this should be investigated and mitigated as appropriate
• Invasive plants	Manage the Japanese knotweed

Compartment Name	Warren Lane Car Park	**Compartment No.**	15
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15986 93535	**Area (ha)**	0.174
Date of Survey	17 June 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Warm and dry		

Habitat %

Scattered trees	35	Semi-improved neutral grassland	5
Bare artificial	58	Ruderal / Ephemeral	2

Woodland			Grassland			Wetland	
Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed		Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	3	Ancient woodland	**Y** Infrequently mown	**?**	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland		Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush		Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush		Bare soil	Trophic status	
Decaying timber			Wet grassland				

Description

Warren Lane Car Park is the only on-site car park at Stanmore Common. The entrance is guarded by a height restriction, and there are litter bins, benches, notice boards and a plinth commemorating the car park's construction. The car park marks the main access point to the Common and provides a meeting point for events which take place on the Common such as guided walks and working parties. In addition it is a web-publicised and popular meeting point for those seeking casual sexual encounters, which may take place particularly in the adjacent south end of Holly Wood (comp. 11) to the south of Jake's Path. Council contractors also regularly use the car park as a storage area for wood chippings.

For the purposes of this survey the car park is taken as comprising the area bounded by woodland or scrub edge to the east, west and south, including the entrance from Warren Lane, and the grassland margin to the north only as far as the bench. This unpromising area proved to be more species-rich than might have been supposed with 57 species recorded in this survey.

Narrow-leaved ash (*Fraxinus angustifolia*), Turkey oak (*Quercus cerris*) and pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) grow in and around the car park, along with downy birch (*Betula pubescens*), cherry laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*), English elm (*Ulmus procera*) and a plum tree (*Prunus domestica*). The mixed grassland verges comprise common bent (*Agrostis capillaries*), soft-brome (*Bromus hordaceus*), cock's-foot (*Dactylis glomerata*), perennial rye-grass (*Lolium perenne*) and annual meadow-grass (*Poa annua*). Grassland herbs include cut-leaved crane's-bill (*Geranium dissectum*), bugle (*Ajuga reptans*), meadow buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*) and carpets of slender speedwell (*Veronica filiformis*). Plants of the kerbside and disturbed ground include prickly sow-thistle (*Sonchus asper*), pineappleweed (*Matricaria discoidea*) and shepherd's-purse (*Capsella bursa-pastorius*). Unusually, a single example of broad-leaved helleborine (*Epipactis helleborine*) was recorded on the west margin of the car park.

2010 was a good year for white admiral butterflies at the Common, when it was recorded in most open areas, including the car park.

No examples of Schedule 9 invasive species were recorded in this compartment.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T15.1	Warren Lane Car Park

BAP Species

White Admiral	*Ladoga camilla*	London BAP Priority Species

London Notable species

Broad-leaved helleborine	*Epipactis helleborine*	

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Broad-leaved helleborine	*Epipactis helleborine*	Giant fescue	*Schedonorus giganteus*
Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*		

Invasive Species and other Pest Species

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Cherry laurel	*Prunus laurocerasus*	Turkey oak	*Quercus cerris*
Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*	Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

White Admiral	*Ladoga camilla*	London BAP Priority Species
Grey Squirrel	*Sciurus carolinensis*	

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

None Recorded	

Management Notes

On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Security	In view of the associated public sexual activity, develop a strategy to discourage the use of this area as a meet-up for casual sexual encounters. Install a council security camera on a tall post at the car park's corner. Remove the non-native trees (narrow-leaved ash, turkey oak) from the car-park to allow line-of-sight for the camera

Compartment Name	Witling Ride	**Compartment No.**	16a
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15958 93604	**Area (ha)**	0.207
Date of Survey	25 June 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Hot and sunny		

Habitat %

Scattered trees	20	Semi-improved neutral grassland	55
Scrub	20	Tall herbs	5

Woodland			Grassland			Wetland	
Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland		Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	4	Ancient woodland	Y	Infrequently mown	? Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice		Pollarded		Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush		Wood shrub layer %	Y	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Decaying timber				Wet grassland			

Description

Witling Ride acts as the main access route northwards onto the Common from the car park. There are dilapidated and remnant benches to its south end, which were installed many years ago on the broad area of flushed grassland at this location. To the north end the access path divides to pass into Holly Wood (comp. 11) to the west or across Witling Marsh (comp. 16b) to the east.

This compartment includes the largest contiguous area of neutral grassland at the Common. The grassland here is dominated by perennial rye-grass (*Lolium perenne*) with frequent white clover (*Trifolium repens*), while along the margins common nettle (*Urtica dioica*) is dominant alongside frequent bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.). Both Turkey oak (*Quercus cerris*) and pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) grow in this generally species-poor area along with some grey willow (*Salix cinerea*).

Witling Ride is notable as the location of the only remaining meadowsweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*) recorded at the Common. The former patch has declined significantly over recent years and now only one or two plants remain. Although not a rare plant, meadowsweet is local in London and is generally absent from acidic habitats. The neutral flushed grassland here offers apparently ideal habitat, but due to its location it suffers frequent disturbance and trampling.

Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) grows frequently in this compartment and should be managed.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T16a.1	Benches
W1 C16a	Flushed area

BAP Species

None Recorded	

London Notable species

Wood speedwell	*Veronica montana*	

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*	Giant fescue	*Schedonorus giganteus*
Wood meadow-grass	*Poa nemoralis*	Wood speedwell	*Veronica montana*

Invasive Species and other Pest Species

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*	Turkey oak	*Quercus cerris*

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Large Skipper	*Ochlodes venata*

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Meadowsweet	*Filipendula ulmaria*	Endangered at Stanmore Common

Management Notes

On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Key plant species	Develop a timely recovery plan for the meadowsweet.
• Invasive species	Manage the bracken in this and other clearings at the site.
• Hydrology	Consider options which would allow the important flushed grassland to recover and naturalise.

Compartment Name	Witling Marsh	**Compartment No.**	16b
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15990 93689	**Area (ha)**	0.424
Date of Survey	25 June 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Hot and sunny		

Habitat %

Scattered trees	25	Acid grassland	45
Scrub	10		

Woodland			Grassland			Wetland	
Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland		Grazed		Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	3	Ancient woodland	Y	Infrequently mown	Y	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice		Pollarded		Unmanaged grassland		Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush		Wood shrub layer %	Y	Grassland flush	Y	Trophic status	
Decaying timber				Wet grassland			

Description

Witling Marsh is a west-facing area of grassland which includes a stretch of Witling Brook to the south and an area of seasonally flushed grassland. An additional area to the south of the compartment is occasionally inundated as a result of run-off when the car park floods. This acts to the benefit of Witling Marsh by supplementing its water supply. Due to its location, the east branch of a main access path onto the Common from the car park passes through the compartment, leading to churning and compaction of wet areas situated near the base of the incline.

Jointed rush (*Juncus articulatus*), toad rush (*Juncus bufonius*), purple moor-grass (*Molinia cerulea*) and tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*) occur frequently, along with bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) and grey willow (*Salix cinerea*).

Heath wood-rush (*Luzula multiflora*) a London BAP Priority Species is found here in its 'dense-headed' form as well as greater bird's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus pedunculatus*), marsh thistle (*Cirsium palustre*) and clumps of lesser spearwort (*Ranunculus flammula*) in the wetter areas. This compartment is notable for its colony of bog-moss (*Sphagnum* sp.). It is the only known area at the Common where this moss grows in grassland (as opposed to woodland) habitat suggesting that it might be a unique colony of a particular bog-moss species. This particular colony may be in decline and further research is needed. Colonies of bog-moss are extremely scarce in London, and should be prioritised accordingly at the Common.

No scheduled invasive species were recorded. Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) is frequent here and requires management.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
W1 C16b	Flushed area

BAP Species

Dense-headed heath wood-rush	*Luzula multiflora* ssp. *congesta*	London BAP Priority Species

London Notable species

Lesser spearwort	*Ranunculus flammula*	Wavy hair-grass	*Deschampsia flexuosa*
Dense-headed heath wood-rush	*Luzula multiflora* ssp. *congesta*	Purple moor-grass	*Molinia cerulea*

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*	Wood meadow-grass	*Poa nemoralis*
Aspen	*Populus tremula*		

Invasive Species and other Pest Species

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*	Purple moor-grass	*Molinia cerulea*
Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*		

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Long-tailed tit	*Aegithalos caudatus*
Speckled Wood	*Pararge aegeria*
Blue-tailed Damselfly	*Ischnurea elegans*

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Greater bird's-foot-trefoil	*Lotus pedunculatus*	Scarce at the site
Marsh thistle	*Cirsium palustre*	Characteristic of flushed grassland at the site, and supporting an insect fauna
Marsh thistle	*Cirsium palustre*	Characteristic, Limited population, known associated insect fauna
Tormentil	*Potentilla erecta*	Characteristic
Bog moss sp.	*Sphagnum* sp.	Important to London

Management Notes

On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Bog-moss	Identify reasons for possible decline of the bog-moss colony and apply appropriate remedial measures. Monitor annually
• Soil churning and compaction	Develop a strategy to encourage pedestrians to use the alternative access path to the west of this compartment
• Hydrology	Understand and secure the sources of the water which flushes the grassland

Compartment Name	Witling Glade	**Compartment No.**	16c
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15998 93781	**Area (ha)**	0.454
Date of Survey	25 June 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Hot and sunny		

Habitat %

Scattered trees	55	Acid grassland	25
Scrub	5	Bracken	10
Bare Soil	5		

Woodland			Grassland			Wetland	
	Treeline w/out hedge			Grazed		Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	2	Ancient woodland	Y	Infrequently mown	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded		Unmanaged grassland	Natural river bank	Tidal
	Wood flush		Wood shrub layer %		Grassland flush	Trophic status	
Y	Decaying timber				Wet grassland		

	Frequently mown		
Y	Cuttings removed Y/N		
	Ridge and Furrow		
Y	Bare soil		

Description

Witling Glade is an area of dry grassland which is lightly over-shaded by a few mature trees. The grassland is dominated by red fescue (*Festuca rubra*) with abundant common bent (*Agrostis capillaris*) and Yorkshire fog (*Holcus lanatus*). The scattered trees include ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*), Turkey oak (*Quercus cerris*) and downy birch (*Betula pubescens*). Among the grassland herbs are heath bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*), compact rush (*Juncus conglomeratus*), hawkweed (*Hieracium sp.*) and Autumn hawkbit (*Scorzoneroides autumnalis*).

This area of 'woodland grassland' is unique in character at the Common; however it is generally an area which visitors pass through on their way to the clearings further north. Due presumably to the combination of semi-shaded and dry conditions, plant growth rates generally appear to be slow here, although any potential for scrub and bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) encroachment from the margins should be monitored. The position of a seasonal drainage channel running east to west near to the north of the compartment is marked by a shallow ditch, and this provides an opportunity to create a small seasonal marsh to the north west of the compartment.

No scheduled invasive species were recorded here, but bracken control should be applied here as in other grasslands at the site.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T16c.1	Landmark: A large oak marking the entrance to a woodland footpath
W1 C16c	Flushed area

BAP Species

Dense-headed heath wood-rush	*Luzula multiflora* ssp. *congesta*	London BAP Priority Species

London Notable species

Wavy hair-grass	*Deschampsia flexuosa*	Dense-headed heath wood-rush	*Luzula multiflora* ssp. *congesta*
Purple moor-grass	*Molinia cerulea*		

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*	Giant fescue	*Schedonorus giganteus*

Invasive Species and other Pest Species

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*	Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*
Yew	*Taxus baccata*	Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*
Turkey oak	*Quercus cerris*	Purple moor-grass	*Molinia cerulea*
Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*		

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Speckled Wood	*Pararge aegeria*
Common Blue Damselfly	*Enallagma cyathigerum*
Common Green Grasshopper	*Omocestus viridulus*

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Hawkweed	*Hieracium* sp.	Characteristic of the site

Management Notes

On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Rotational grass cutting	Develop a rotational cutting schedule for this compartment. Monitor and control scrub encroachment from the margins.
• Invasive species	Develop a bracken management program to be applied here and in all clearings at the Common.
• Hydrology	Develop a plan to create a small sustainable seasonal marsh to the north west of the compartment.

Compartment Name	Holly Brook Rise	**Compartment No.**	17
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 16005 93857	**Area (ha)**	0.481
Date of Survey	22 June 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Hot and sunny		

Habitat %

Scattered trees	5	Acid grassland	37
Scrub	5	Bracken	50
Bare Soil	1	Heathland	2

Woodland			Grassland			Wetland	
Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland		Grazed		Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	5	Ancient woodland	Y	Infrequently mown	Y	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice		Pollarded		Unmanaged grassland		Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush		Wood shrub layer %		Grassland flush	Y	Trophic status	
Decaying timber				Wet grassland			

Description

Holly Brook Rise is a west-facing area of acid grassland with a main access path through the Common running approximately north-south near to its east margin. The path also branches to the west and north west. Beneath the dominant bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) a number of species characteristic of acid grassland grow. These include tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*), heath bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*), frequent pill sedge (*Carex pilulifera*) and heath wood-rush (*Luzula multiflora*), the latter mostly in its dense-headed form (ssp. *congesta*). Early in the year it was apparent that the grass in some areas had been cut excessively short in 2009, leaving extensive almost bare patches.

Growing on the paths there is a small quantity of heath speedwell (*Veronica officinalis*) in its only recorded location at the Common. Red bartsia (*Odontites vernus*), toad rush (*Juncus bufonius*) and hawkweed (*Hieracium* sp.) are also found on and around the paths. The path edge here is also the site of a former (or possibly current?) colony of corn mint (*Mentha arvensis*) (Simon Braidman, pers. comm.) which was not located in the course of this survey, although has been seen in this locality by the author a few years ago. A small amount of gorse (*Ulex europaeaus*) occurs here, and heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) grows naturally here in small clumps in two locations.

The bare earth patches on the path to the east provides valuable habitat for a range of ground-nesting bees and wasps. Bare earth is a BAP Priority Habitat in Harrow. A yearling toad was found here in the grassland by Tony Lovegrove. It is known that toads can range significant distances from their breeding sites, and this one was thought likely to have been associated with Grove Ponds.

Bracken is highly invasive here, and requires management.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T17.1	Heather Regeneration Area
T17.2	Heather Regeneration Area

BAP Species

Heath wood-rush	*Luzula multiflora* ssp*. multiflora* and ssp*. congesta*	(including Dense-headed-)

London Notable species

Lesser spearwort	*Ranunculus flammula*	Red Bartsia	*Odontites vernus*
Slender St John's-wort	*Hypericum pulchrum*	Heath speedwell	*Veronica officinalis*
Heather	*Calluna vulgaris*	Pill sedge	*Carex pilulifera*
Wavy hair-grass	*Deschampsia flexuosa*		
Dense-headed heath wood-rush	*Luzula multiflora* ssp*. congesta*		
Heath wood-rush	*Luzula multiflora* ssp*. multiflora*		

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Slender St John's-wort	*Hypericum pulchrum*	Wood meadow-grass	*Poa nemoralis*
Aspen	*Populus tremula*	Giant fescue	*Schedonorus giganteus*
Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*		

Invasive Species and other Pest Species

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*	Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*
Turkey oak	*Quercus cerris*	Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Jay	*Garrulus glandarius*	
Chiffchaff	*Phylloscopus collybita*	
Toad	*Bufo bufo*	One yearling in grassland
Common Blue Damselfly	*Enallagma cyathigerum*	
Common Green Grasshopper	*Omocestus viridulus*	

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Hawkweed	*Hieracium* sp*.*	Characteristic
Tormentil	*Potentilla erecta*	Characteristic

Management Notes

On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Heather	Monitor and manage the heather, which will increase over time given the opportunity. Ensure that neither colony is inadvertently mown.
• Invasive species	Develop a bracken management program to be applied here and in all clearings at the Common.
• Harrow BAP Habitat	Protect the bare earth habitats from damage e.g. by horses.
• Grass cutting	The annual grass-cutting should be no shorter than 5cm.
• Key plant species	Monitor the heath speedwell and relocate and monitor the corn mint if present.

Compartment Name	Oakmead	**Compartment No.**	18
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15789 93903	**Area (ha)**	0.625
Date of Survey	24 June 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Hot and sunny		

Habitat %

Scattered trees	6	Semi-improved neutral grassland	7
Scrub	6	Bracken	20
Bare Soil	5	Tall herbs	3
Acid grassland	53		

Woodland			Grassland			Wetland	
Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed		Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	4	Ancient woodland	Y Infrequently mown	Y	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland		Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush		Wood shrub layer %	Y Grassland flush		Bare soil	Trophic status	
Decaying timber			Wet grassland				

Description

Oakmead is a clearing running approximately east to west comprising predominantly acid grassland but with an area of neutral grassland around the north-south footpath which crosses the compartment. Adjacent to that footpath is a very large multi-trunked pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) which may have been coppiced in a past century.

The flora of the restricted area of neutral grassland includes perennial rye-grass (*Lolium perenne*), cock's-foot (*Dactylis glomerata*) and Yorkshire fog (*Holcus lanatus*). Characteristic flora of acid habitats is found throughout the remainder of the compartment. This includes tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*), sheep's sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*), sweet vernal-grass (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*), regenerating heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) and dense-headed heath wood-rush (*Luzula multiflora* ssp*. congesta*). Discoloured bare patches within the acid grassland indicate where fires have been lit in the past by working parties at the Common; The increased alkalinity and nutrient enrichment resulting from such fires will tend to degrade the acid grassland habitat. Early in the year it was apparent that the grass in some areas had been cut excessively short in 2009, leaving extensive almost bare patches.

To the south east an area of flushed grassland supports marsh thistle (*Cirsium palustre*), Great horsetail (*Equisetum telmateia*) and Betony (*Betonica officinalis*). Other grassland flora includes lesser stitchwort (*Stellaria graminea*), gorse (*Ulex europaeaus*) and wavy hair-grass (*Deschampsia flexuosa*), whilst located in a small area to the north east of the compartment is one of the Common's two main colonies of devil's-bit scabious (*Succisa pratensis*).

Grass snakes are a regular occurrence in this compartment, and in 2010 white admiral butterflies were frequent here. This indicates that following years of occasional sightings this butterfly is almost certainly now breeding at the Common. Other insects of interest here include small copper, common blue, hornet and long-winged cone-head (*Conocephalus discolor*).

No scheduled invasive plants were recorded in this compartment. Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) is highly invasive here, and requires management.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T18.1	Landmark: A large multi-trunked oak tree
T18.2-4	Heather Regeneration Areas

BAP Species

Devil's-bit scabious	*Succisa pratensis*	London BAP priority Species
Dense-headed heath wood-rush	*Luzula multiflora* ssp. *congesta*	London BAP priority Species

London Notable species

Great horsetail	*Equisetum telmateia*	Betony	*Betonica officinalis*
Slender St John's-wort	*Hypericum pulchrum*	Wavy hair-grass	*Deschampsia flexuosa*
Dense-headed heath wood-rush	*Luzula multiflora* ssp. *congesta*	Heather	*Calluna vulgaris*

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Three-nerved sandwort	*Moehringia trinervia*	Betony	*Betonica officinalis*
Slender St John's-wort	*Hypericum pulchrum*	Aspen	*Populus tremula*

Invasive Species and other Pest Species

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*	Turkey oak	*Quercus cerris*

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Buzzard	*Buteo buteo*	Regularly wheeling and calling in 2010
Grass Snake	*Natrix natrix*	Seen regularly in 2010
White Admiral	*Ladoga camilla*	Seen regularly in 2010. London BAP Priority Species
Small Copper	*Lycaena phlaeas*	
Speckled Wood	*Pararge aegeria*	
Common Blue	*Polyommatus icarus*	
Gatekeeper	*Pyronia tithonus*	
Small Skipper	*Thymelicus sylvestris*	
Honey bee	*Apis melifera*	
Hornet	*Vespa crabro*	First site record
White cross garden spider	*Aranaeus diademata*	
Southern Hawker	*Aeshna cyanea*	
Brown Hawker	*Aeshna grandis*	
Common Blue Damselfly	*Enallagma cyathigerum*	
Common Darter	*Sympetrum striolatum*	
Common Green Grasshopper	*Omocestus viridulus*	
Long-winged cone-head	*Conocephalus discolor*	First site record (Simon Braidman)

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Gorse	*Ulex europaeaus*	Characteristic
Tormentil	*Potentilla erecta*	Characteristic
Marsh thistle	*Cirsium palustre*	Characteristic, Limited population, known associated insect fauna

Management Notes

On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Invasive species	Develop a bracken management program to be applied here and in all clearings at the Common
• Gorse	Cut-back the senescent gorse bushes in rotation to allow their regeneration
• Heather	Allow the heather to regenerate,; ensure that none of the clumps are inadvertently mown
• Fires	Only allow fires when absolutely necessary. Confine all fires to the neutral grassland around the footpath
• Grass-cutting	The annual grass-cutting should be no shorter than 5cm.
• Hydrology	Treat the grassland flush as a sensitive area, and allow standing marsh thistle stems to persist overwinter
• Key plant species	Time the annual grass cutting to take place after the devil's-bit scabious has dropped its seeds

Compartment Name	Ceriseland	**Compartment No.**	19
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15763 93806	**Area (ha)**	0.359
Date of Survey	5 July 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Hot and sunny		

Habitat %

Scattered trees	5	Roughland	7
Scrub	8	Bracken	64
Acid grassland	12	Tall herbs	4

Woodland			Grassland			Wetland	
Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed		Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	8	Ancient woodland	Y Infrequently mown	Y	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland		Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush		Wood shrub layer %	Y Grassland flush		Bare soil	Trophic status	
Decaying timber			Wet grassland				

Description

Ceriseland is a north-facing clearing dominated by bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*). Tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*), honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*), heath bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*) and grey willow saplings (*Salix cinerea*) are abundant here. The grassland comprises mainly creeping bent (*Agrostis stolonifera*), red fescue (*Festuca rubra*) and purple moor-grass (*Molinia cerulea*), while marsh thistle (*Cirsium palustre*), great horsetail (*Equisetum telmateia*) and hawkweed (*Hieracium* sp.) all occur commonly. There is a flushed area running on the east side of the compartment. This fragile habitat is likely to be an important habitat for invertebrates and should receive special consideration in management

The heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) regeneration scheme (initiated by the voluntary wardens with the help of Harrow Council in the early 2000's) has been a success. In place of two small clumps to the south of the compartment there are currently many heather plants covering an area which now extends northwards down the slope.

There is a diffuse patch of heath rush (*Juncus squarrosus*) growing in this compartment. It is particularly rare in London, where is known only from this compartment at Stanmore Common and from Hounslow Heath (Chris Slack, *pers. comm*.).

White admiral butterflies were not uncommon here in 2010, and a scarce hoverfly of decaying timber (*Volucella inflata*) was recorded here during the botanical survey.

No scheduled invasive plant species were recorded, but both bracken and purple moor-grass are invasive in this compartment.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T19.1	One of three colonies of apparently native lily-of-the-valley recorded at the site.
T19.2-3	Heather Regeneration Areas

BAP Species

Dense-headed heath wood-rush	*Luzula multiflora* ssp. *congesta*	London BAP Priority Species
Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	London BAP Priority Species

London Notable species

Great horsetail	*Equisetum telmateia*	Heather	*Calluna vulgaris*
Slender St John's-wort	*Hypericum pulchrum*	Wavy hair-grass	*Deschampsia flexuosa*
Heath rush	*Juncus squarrosus*	Purple moor-grass	*Molinia cerulea*
Dense-headed heath wood-rush		*Luzula multiflora* ssp. *congesta*	

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Slender St John's-wort	*Hypericum pulchrum*	Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*
Aspen	*Populus tremula*	Wood millet	*Millium effusum*
Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*	Wood meadow-grass	*Poa nemoralis*
Wood-sedge	*Carex sylvatica*	Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*

Invasive Species and other Pest Species

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*	Turkey oak	*Quercus cerris*
Purple moor-grass	*Molinia cerulea*		

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Carrion Crow	*Corvus corone*	
A Hoverfly	*Volucella inflata*	An uncommon hoverfly of decaying timber
White Admiral	*Ladoga camilla*	Not uncommon at the site in 2010
Meadow Brown	*Maniola jurtina*	
Large Skipper	*Ochlodes venata*	
Speckled Wood	*Pararge aegeria*	
Large White	*Pieris brassicae*	
Comma	*Polygonia c-album*	
Gatekeeper	*Pyronia tithonus*	

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Hawkweed	*Hieracium* sp.	Characteristic
Tormentil	*Potentilla erecta*	Characteristic

Management Notes

On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Invasive Species	Develop a bracken management program to be applied here and in all clearings at the Common
• Heather	Monitor the continuing spread of heather, and ensure that the heather is not inadvertently mown
• Hydrology	Manage scrub encroachment on the flush by hand
• Key plant species	Monitor the number of heath rushes annually

Compartment Name	Bluebell Heath West	**Compartment No.**	20a
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15850 94120	**Area (ha)**	0.809
Date of Survey	30 June 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Hot, overcast		

Habitat %

Scattered trees	15	Acid grassland	20
Scrub	20	Bracken	33
Bare Soil	2	Tall herbs	10

Woodland			Grassland			Wetland	
	Treeline w/out hedge			Grazed		Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	9	Ancient woodland	Y	Infrequently mown	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded		Unmanaged grassland	Natural river bank	Tidal
	Wood flush		Wood shrub layer %	Y	Grassland flush	Trophic status	
Y	Decaying timber				Wet grassland		

Frequently mown	
Y	Cuttings removed Y/N
	Ridge and Furrow
Y	Bare soil

Description

Bluebell Heath West is the as the name suggests the west section of the former compartment 20 from which it was split in the course of this survey. It is an area of south-facing acid grassland bounded on three sides by woodland, and to the east by a substantial belt of scrub with trees. Footpaths run close to the margins and there is an important flush to the west. The grassland is dominated with bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*) and red fescue (*Festuca rubra*), whilst sweet vernal-grass (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*), heath bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*), dense-headed heath wood-rush (*Luzula multiflora* ssp*. congesta*) and pill sedge (*Carex pilulifera*) are frequent species. The latter two species appear to have been among the more conspicuous beneficiaries of the shift from mid-year to late-season grass-cutting which took place in the early 2000's, and are both currently far commoner than previously.

There are two small seasonal ponds to the south margin of the compartment, fed by The Heathbourne and by flushing from the north. These were created by volunteers less than 10 years ago as shady 'woodland' ponds, and although of limited botanical interest are likely to be used by multiple invertebrate species at the site. Immediately to the west of these is a grassy area which has been fenced by volunteers in order to protect the marshy ground from being churned annually into a quagmire by pedestrians and horses.

The large flush to the west margin of the compartment supports an important flora, most notably London's only colony of heath spotted-orchid (*Dactylorhiza maculata*). These have been the subject of targeted management and annual monitoring for some years; c. 40+ plants were counted here by Tony Lovegrove in 2010. Questions have been raised as to whether this population comprises at least in part the hybrid between heath spotted-orchid and common spotted-orchid (*D. fuchsii*) (the hybrid *D. fuchsii* x *D. maculata* is known as *D.* x *transiens*), and whether both parent species are currently present (Mark Spencer, pers. comm.). A site visit by an orchid specialist would be required to resolve these questions.

This flush is also a key site for other scarce species including devil's-bit scabious (*Succisa pratensis*) and ragged-robin (*Lychnis flos-cuculi*) which are both scarce at the Common. It is also a former site for marsh pennywort (*Hydrocotyle vulgaris*) and sneezewort (*Achillea ptarmica*). Marsh pennywort is considered in this report to be extinct at the Common, whilst the status of sneezewort at the site (not recorded in the current survey) remains uncertain.

A mature Turkey oak (*Quercus cerris*) fell some years ago into the south margin of the compartment. It remains a living tree however and is likely to provide an important and sustainable resource for invertebrates (timber in early decay on living trees). At the time of the survey however the horizontal trunk was largely concealed beneath bracken and scrub.

A local hoverfly of decaying timber habitats (*Ferdinandea cuprea*) was recorded here in the course of the survey. White admiral, marbled white and large skipper butterflies were also observed here.

Water fern (*Azolla filiculoides*), a scheduled invasive species has been recorded in the past (2007) on a small pond to the south margin of the compartment (Howard Matthews, pers. comm.). Bracken is dominant throughout much of the compartment and along with other clearings at the Common would require a management program in order to secure the site's biodiversity for the future. In some areas of the compartment the scrub species have become dominant or have developed into young trees. These species include bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), downy birch (*Betula pubescens*), and grey willow (*Salix cinerea*). Whilst scrub is an ecologically important component of grassland, management is required in this compartment in order to restore the balance between these components. In addition, purple moor-grass is over-common here. It may swamp or displace other grassland species and is therefore an apparent threat to the grassland diversity.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T20a.1	Botanically important habitat to the west of the compartment
T20a.2-4	Heather Regeneration Areas
W1 C20a	Flushed Area
W2-3 C20a	Seasonal Ponds

BAP Species

Devil's-bit scabious	*Succisa pratensis*	London BAP Priority Species
Dense-headed heath wood-rush	*Luzula multiflora* ssp. *congesta*	London BAP Priority Species
Heath wood-rush	*Luzula multiflora* ssp. *multiflora*	London BAP Priority Species
Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	London BAP Priority Species
Heath spotted-orchid	*Dactylorhiza maculata*	Harrow BAP and London BAP Priority Species

London Notable species

Lesser spearwort	*Ranunculus flammula*	Sneezewort	*Achillea ptarmica*
Ragged-robin	*Lychnis flos-cuculi*	Pill sedge	*Carex pilulifera*
Slender St John's-wort	*Hypericum pulchrum*	Wavy hair-grass	*Deschampsia flexuosa*
Heather	*Calluna vulgaris*	Heath spotted orchid	*Dactylorhiza maculata*
Betony	*Betonica officinalis*		
Heath wood-rush ssps.	*Luzula multiflora* ssp. *congesta* and ssp. *multiflora*		

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Wood anemone	*Anemone nemorosa*	Pendulous sedge	*Carex pendula*
Slender St John's-wort	*Hypericum pulchrum*	Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*
Aspen	*Populus tremula*	Wood meadow-grass	*Poa nemoralis*
Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*	Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*
Betony	*Betonica officinalis*		

Invasive Species and other Pest Species
Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

Water fern	*Azolla filiculoides*
	2007, on the small seasonal pond to the south of the Compartment (Howard Matthews)

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*	Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*
Turkey oak	*Quercus cerris*	Purple moor-grass	*Molinia caerulea*
Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*		

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Hoverfly sp.	*Ferdinandea cuprea*	A local hoverfly of decaying timber
White Admiral	*Ladoga camilla*	Not uncommon in 2010
Meadow Brown	*Maniola jurtina*	
Marbled White	*Melanargia galathea*	One individual seen
Large Skipper	*Ochlodes venata*	
Gatekeeper	*Pyronia tithonus*	
Southern Hawker	*Aeshna cyanea*	
Common Blue Damselfly	*Enallagma cyathigerum*	
Common Darter	*Sympetrum striolatum*	
Meadow Grasshopper	*Chorthippus parallelus*	
Common Green Grasshopper	*Omocestus viridulus*	

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Tormentil	*Potentilla erecta*	Characteristic
Greater bird's-foot-trefoil	*Lotus pedunculatus*	Scarce at the site
Gorse	*Ulex europaeaus*	Characteristic
Marsh thistle	*Cirsium palustre*	Characteristic
Hawkweed	*Hieracium* sp.	Characteristic

Management Notes

On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Grass cutting	Develop an agreed program for the late-season rotational grass-cutting
• Invasive species	Develop a bracken management program for the site. Develop a purple moor-grass management strategy for this and other compartments. Restore the balance between grassland and scrub. Where young trees are removed, grind the tree-stumps to allow safe access for grass-cutters.
• Hydrology	Investigate the origin(s) of the water supplying the flush to the west margin. Develop a plan to secure this water supply for the future.
• Invertebrate habitat	Manually clear scrub and bracken from around the fallen Turkey oak, in order to significantly enhance its habitat value.
• Key plant species	Continue to monitor and manage the orchids annually. Seek an expert able to resolve their possible hybrid component. Monitor the same area for the presence of sneezewort.

Compartment Name	Bluebell Heath East	**Compartment No.**	20b
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15981 94084	**Area (ha)**	1.404
Date of Survey	30 June 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Hot, overcast		

Habitat %

Scattered trees	25	Acid grassland	10
Scrub	28	Bracken	30
Bare Soil	2	Tall herbs	5

Woodland			Grassland			Wetland	
	Treeline w/out hedge			Grazed		Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	12	Ancient woodland	Y	Infrequently mown	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded		Unmanaged grassland	Natural river bank	Tidal
	Wood flush		Wood shrub layer %	Y	Grassland flush	Trophic status	
Y	Decaying timber				Wet grassland		

Frequently mown	
Y	Cuttings removed Y/N
	Ridge and Furrow
Y	Bare soil

Description

Bluebell Heath East was split from the former compartment 20 in the course of this survey, being as the name suggests its east section. It could itself justifiably be split into three distinct areas on the basis of vegetation type, but has not been further subdivided on the grounds of parsimony. To the east is a belt of dense scrub with trees, to the centre an extensive and ecologically important area of south-facing flushed acid grassland, and to the east an area of neutral grassland which includes the horse ride and an avenue of standard trees.

The scrub belt is overrun with bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) and bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*). It is important as the site of a large and senescent crab apple (*Malus sylvestris*), a valued asset at the site. Any management work taking place in this area should be preceded by survey to locate and protect any younger crab apple trees which may be growing here. The path edge to the south of the scrub belt is known for its population of hawkweed, but the scrub was encroaching onto these path margins at the time of the survey. Management work to cut back this scrub should be conducted from the side away from the path in order to avoid disturbance and compaction of these path edges. Although of less obvious ecological value, it may be of interest that the only London plane tree (*Platanus* x *hispanica*) recorded at the site grows in this belt. The young aspens (*Populus tremula*) growing here however are of known high ecological value at the site, and should be prioritised accordingly in any management. The only cornflower (*Centaurea cyanus*) recorded during the survey, a UK BAP species and presumably a casual, was growing at the path edge. To the south of the south path is located one of the three colonies of apparently native lily-of-the-valley (*Convallaria majalis*) recorded at the site.

The origins of the seasonal flush are discussed under Sylver Aspen Pines (comp. 01) and Flushing wood (comp. 02). In Bluebell Heath East this extensive flush diffuses southwards down the slope in a broad band, crossing the path to pass through the north margin of Stonefly Wood where it enters The Heathbourne. It is dominated by bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), and tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*) is abundant here. Jointed rush (*Juncus articulatus*), toad rush (*Juncus bufonius*), dense-headed heath wood-rush (*Luzula multiflora* ssp*. congesta*), pill sedge (*Carex pilulifera*) and wood-sedge (*Carex sylvatica*) all grow here, the latter as a few individuals growing to the south of the north path. Small amounts of bog moss (*Sphagnum* sp.) have been observed here in the past (J. Dobson, unpublished obs.), although it appears to be inconstant at this location. The flush has high potential as an invertebrate habitat. As well as bracken, the flush was encroached in places by saplings and scrub at the time of the survey. There was formerly a clump of Michaelmas daisies (*Aster* sp.) growing on the west margin of the flush, but this could not be located in 2010. Although botanically unremarkable, these were valued as an autumn nectar-source in the compartment, attracting numerous feeding insects at a time when there was little else in flower.

To the east of the footpath which parallels the east side of the flush the soil becomes progressively more neutral and this area of bracken-dominated grassland gives way to an avenue of mature trees. It is a matter of speculation as to whether this avenue is the result of selective woodland clearance, an element in the Chandos Vista (although the trees may me too young for that) or is perhaps serendipitous in origin. Midland hawthorn (*Crataegus laevigata*) and columbine (*Aquilegia vulgaris*) both grow in their only recorded localities at the Common between the horse ride and the east fence line.

No scheduled invasive species were recorded. Bracken, sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and purple moor-grass (*Molinia cerulea*) are all invasive species in this compartment.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T20b.1	A large veteran crab apple
W1 C20b	Flushed area

BAP Species

Cornflower	*Centaurea cyanus*	UK BAP Priority Species
Dense-headed heath wood-rush	*Luzula multiflora* ssp*. congesta*	London BAP Priority Species
Lily-of-the-Valley	*Convallaria majalis*	London BAP Priority Species
Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	London BAP Priority Species

London Notable species

Columbine	*Aquilegia vulgaris*	Wavy hair-grass	*Deschampsia flexuosa*
Slender St John's-wort	*Hypericum pulchrum*	Purple moor-grass	*Molinia cerulea*
Cornflower	*Centaurea cyanus*	Lily-of-the-Valley	*Convallaria majalis*
Pill sedge	*Carex pilulifera*		
Dense-headed heath wood-rush		*Luzula multiflora* ssp*. congesta*	

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Slender St John's-wort	*Hypericum pulchrum*	Wood-sedge	*Carex sylvatica*
Aspen	*Populus tremula*	Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*
Midland hawthorn	*Crataegus laevigata*	Wood meadow-grass	*Poa nemoralis*
Crab apple	*Malus sylvestris*	Giant fescue	*Schedonorus giganteus*
Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*	Lily-of-the-Valley	*Convallaria majalis*
Pendulous sedge	*Carex pendula*	Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*

Invasive Species and other Pest Species
Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*	Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*
Yew	*Taxus baccata*	Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*
Turkey oak	*Quercus cerris*	Purple moor-grass	*Molinia cerulea*

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Robin	*Erithacus rubecula*
Harlequin Ladybird	*Harmonia axyridis*
Meadow Brown	*Maniola jurtina*
Large Skipper	*Ochlodes venata*
Speckled Wood	*Pararge aegeria*
Comma	*Polygonia c-album*
Southern Hawker	*Aeshna cyanea*
Common Blue Damselfly	*Enallagma cyathigerum*
Common Green Grasshopper	*Omocestus viridulus*

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Water-pepper	*Persicaria hydropiper*	Scarce at the site
Tormentil	*Potentilla erecta*	Characteristic
London plane	*Platanus* x *hispanica*	The only example recorded at the site
Michaelmas daisy	*Aster* sp.	Valued and threatened

Management Notes

On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Grass cutting	Develop an agreed program for the late-season rotational grass-cutting
• Invasive species	Develop a bracken management program for the site. Develop a purple moor-grass management strategy for this and other compartments. Restore the balance between grassland and scrub. Ensure that ecologically valuable species and habitats are not adversely affected by works. Where young trees are removed, grind the tree-stumps to allow safe access for grass cutters.
• Key sensitive habitat	Consider the flush specifically in the management strategy, e.g. by ensuring that the soil does not become compressed through footfall or vehicles.
• Hydrology	Investigate the origin(s) of the water supplying the flush. Develop a plan to secure this water supply for the future.
• Key plant species	Monitor the lily-of-the-valley, and develop a management strategy for this species at the site

Compartment Name	New Heath	**Compartment No.**	21
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15749 94154	**Area (ha)**	0.613
Date of Survey	8 July 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Warm and dry		

Habitat %

Native broadleaved woodland	15	Bracken	10
Scattered trees	5	Tall herbs	30
Bare soil	25	Heathland	10
Acid grassland	5		

Woodland			Grassland		Wetland	
Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
Even-aged plantation	5	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
Coppice		Pollarded	Y Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Wood flush		Wood shrub layer %	Y Grassland flush	Y Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y Decaying timber			Wet grassland			

Description

New Heath in its present form originated in 2007 with the commencement of a project to remove the topsoil and seed the area with heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) originating from Hounslow Heath. This was performed in pursuance of London BAP Heathland targets.

Some years prior to the works a fire occurred in this area, resulting in a clearing dominated by bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and populated with scattered silver birches (*Betula pendula*) both living and dead. No pre-works botanical survey was performed, but in addition to bracken and silver birch, bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) and purple moor-grass (*Molinia cerulea*) were all common in the compartment (J. Dobson, pers. obs.).

At the time of the 2010 survey the seeded heather was abundant in the clearing. In the north of the compartment it grows on a broad incline of gravelly well-drained bare soil revealed by the scrape. To the south of the compartment the flushed ground is now covered in a dense carpet of soft-rush with abundant heather; the latter appears to be competing successfully with the rushes. The relationship between the flushing in this compartment and the water supply to the flush on Bluebell Heath West (comp. 20a) where the heath-spotted orchid (*Dactylorhiza maculata*) colony grows needs to be investigated and understood considering the high value ascribed to the orchids. This applies similarly regarding the water supply to the bog moss (*Sphagnum* sp.) in The Aspens (comp. 21) to the south of New Heath.

In the course of the survey a number of species were discovered on the dry upper half of the scrape which are unrecorded at the Common, at least in recent decades. These are listed below, and considered further in the discussion. These species could have originated from a persistent soil seed bank, or were imported along with the heather seed from Hounslow Heath. Hard fern (*Blechnum spicant*) is known to be persistent in the soil for extremely long periods (Howard Matthews, pers. comm.) and it is likely the current population at New Heath represents a re-emergence. Wetland species such a bulbous rush (*Juncus bulbosus*) are growing in unsuitably dry conditions at the Common, and are thought unlikely to persist.

Such species, might therefore be supposed to have been introduced along with the heather seed. The reappearance after long absence of green-ribbed sedge (*Carex binervis*), which was discovered at New Heath by Tony Lovegrove in 2009, is a most welcome if unintended consequence of the heather seeding project.

The extensive bare soil and the occasional seasonally damp depressions are likely to provide high value habitats for heathland- and other invertebrates. Ground beetles (*Carabidae*) and spider-hunting wasps (*Pompilidae*) were seen foraging on the ground in this area in the course of the botanical survey.

No scheduled invasive species were recorded. Purple moor-grass (*Molinia cerulea*) was frequent in the compartment, whilst bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) was abundant around the margins in 2010, and will need to be managed if the heathland character of New Heath is to be retained.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T21.1-2	Soil mounds resulting from the creation of the scrape in 2007 (West and East)

BAP Species

Hard-fern	*Blechnum spicant*	London BAP Priority Species
Dense-headed heath wood-rush	*Luzula multiflora* ssp. *congesta*	London BAP Priority Species
Green-ribbed sedge	*Carex binervis*	London BAP Priority Species

London Notable species

Hard-fern	*Blechnum spicant*	Brown bent	*Agrostis vinealis*
Heather	*Calluna vulgaris*	Wood small-reed	*Calamagrostis epigejos*
Bulbous rush	*Juncus bulbosus*	Heath-grass	*Danthonia decumbens*
Lesser pond-sedge	*Carex acutiformis*	Wavy hair-grass	*Deschampsia flexuosa*
Green-ribbed sedge	*Carex binervis*	Sheep's fescue	*Festuca ovina*
Oval sedge	*Carex leporina*	Purple moor-grass	*Molinia cerulea*
Pill sedge	*Carex pilulifera*	Mat-grass	*Nardus stricta*
Dense-headed heath wood-rush	*Luzula multiflora* ssp. *congesta*		

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Hard-fern	*Blechnum spicant*	Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*
Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*	Wood meadow-grass	*Poa nemoralis*
Wood small-reed	*Calamagrostis epigejos*		

Species newly recorded at New Heath following the heather introduction project.
Including species previously considered to be long extinct at the Common

Common Name	Scientific Name	Common Name	Scientific Name
Lesser pond-sedge	*Carex acutiformis*	Mat grass	*Nardus stricta*
Bulbous rush	*Juncus bulbosus*	Heath grass	*Danthonia decumbens*
Wood small-reed	*Calamagrostis epigejos*	Hard-fern	*Blechnum spicant*
Green-ribbed sedge	*Carex binervis*	Brown bent	*Agrostis vinealis*

Invasive Species and other Pest Species
Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Turkey oak	*Quercus cerris*	Purple moor-grass	*Molinia cerulea*
Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*	Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Buzzard	*Buteo buteo*	Regularly wheeling and calling; probably a juvenile
Ground Beetles	*Carabidae* spp.	A range of species foraging on the bare earth of the scrape
Small Copper	*Lycaena phlaeas*	
Meadow Brown	*Maniola jurtina*	
Speckled Wood	*Pararge aegeria*	
Large White	*Pieris brassicae*	
Gatekeeper	*Pyronia tithonus*	
Brown Hawker	*Aeshna grandis*	
Spider-hunting wasps	*Pompilidae* spp.	A range of species foraging on the bare earth of the scrape

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Spruce sp.	*Picea* sp.	Seedlings, apparently spruce, have appeared on the scrape
Scots pine	*Pinus sylvestris*	Scattered at the Common and with a good associated insect fauna

Management Notes

On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Heather/Heathland	Clarify whether this compartment is to be managed to maximise the heather, or alternatively as 'heathland' including a range of characteristic species and habitats
• 'New' species	Monitor the 'new' species, particularly green-ribbed sedge and hard fern
• Hydrology	Investigate and understand the relationship between flushing in this compartment and the flushing which supports important species in adjacent compartments lower on the slope

Compartment Name	The Hawthorns	**Compartment No.**	22
Grid Reference (centroid)	TQ 15819 94002	**Area (ha)**	0.188
Date of Survey	6 May 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Cool, sunny periods		

Habitat %

Native broadleaved woodland	40	Bracken	20
Scrub	25	Tall herbs	10
Semi-improved neutral grassland	5		

Woodland				Grassland				Wetland	
	Treeline w/out hedge		Wet woodland		Grazed		Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	3	Ancient woodland		Infrequently mown		Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Y	Unmanaged grassland		Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Y	Wood flush	20	Wood shrub layer %		Grassland flush		Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y	Decaying timber				Wet grassland				

Description

The Hawthorns is a woodland clearing created some years ago by volunteers who cleared scrub from around the pathway which runs with Enigma Wood (comp. 04) to its west side and Stonefly Wood (comp. 05) to the east. The former route of the pathway collected water draining from the west, and due to its relatively high usage became a quagmire for several months each year. Subsequently a second path was made by volunteers, and this runs on a slightly higher and therefore dryer route to the west of the original. The original (eastern) path was subsequently blocked at its ends. A series of small holes were dug along its length and it was allowed to develop as a linear seasonal marsh within the clearing.

The area is dominated with bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) along with abundant bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) and honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*). Aspen (*Populus tremula*), bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) and hawkweed (*Hieracium* sp.) are all found within the clearing.

A notable and striking feature is the large ancient hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) which has been partly revealed on the east side of the path. According to The Ancient Tree Forum (Woodland Trust, 2009), the girth of the Stanmore Common tree (219 cm as measured in the course of this survey) places the tree in the upper 50% of the range of trunk girths by which hawthorns are judged to be ancient. Ignoring a few exceptional outliers this range is approximately 120-270 cm for hawthorn. It is therefore suggested that this hawthorn tree is likely to be regionally (SE England) or quite possibly nationally important, and that future research and management should prioritise it accordingly.

No scheduled invasive species were recorded. Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), yew (*Taxus baccata*) and sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) are all invasive or potentially invasive in this compartment.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
T22.1	A large and ancient hawthorn

BAP Species

Bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	London BAP Priority Species

London Notable species

None Recorded		

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Aspen *Populus tremula*	Bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*
Holly *Ilex aquifolium*	

Invasive Species and other Pest Species

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*	Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*
Yew	*Taxus baccata*	Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Chiffchaff	*Phylloscopus collybita*
Speckled Wood	*Pararge aegeria*

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Hawkweed sp. *Hieracium sp.*	Characteristic of the site

Management Notes

On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Woodland clearing	Continue to manage this area as a woodland clearing
• Linear marsh	Continue to manage the former path as a seasonal marsh
• Ancient tree	Enlist the help of authoritative national organisations such as The Ancient Tree Forum in researching, managing and notifying the ancient hawthorn tree.

Compartment Name	The Aspens	**Compartment No.**	23
Grid Reference (centroid)	15689 94071	**Area (ha)**	1.364
Date of Survey	13 May 2010	**Surveyor**	John Dobson
Weather	Overcast		

Habitat %

Native broadleaved woodland 90	Scrub 10

Woodland				Grassland		Wetland	
	Treeline w/out hedge	Y	Wet woodland	Grazed	Frequently mown	Floating	Submerged veg.
	Even-aged plantation	11	Ancient woodland	Infrequently mown	Cuttings removed Y/N	Emergent vegetation	Saline
	Coppice		Pollarded	Unmanaged grassland	Ridge and Furrow	Natural river bank	Tidal
Y	Wood flush	20	Wood shrub layer %	Grassland flush	Bare soil	Trophic status	
Y	Decaying timber			Wet grassland			

Description

The Aspens is surrounded on all sides by woodland except to the north east where it interfaces for limited distances with New Heath (comp. 21) and Bluebell Heath West (comp. 20a). Its south margin is delineated by The Heathbourne.

This rare example of south-facing woodland at the Common is dominated by pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) and downy birch (*Betula pubescens*). Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*), creeping soft-grass (*Holcus mollis*), honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*) and rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) are abundant here along with the carpeting bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*). Frequently occurring species include aspen (*Populus tremula*), grey willow (*Salix cinerea*), wood meadow-grass (*Poa nemoralis*) and bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*). Marshy habitats beside The Heathbourne support bog stitchwort (*Stellaria alsine*), lesser spearwort (*Ranunculus flammula*) and marsh bedstraw (*Galium palustre*), whilst betony (*Betonica officinalis*) can be found on the stream bank. Three-nerved sandwort (*Moehringia trinervia*), common dog-violet (*Viola riviniana*) and wood millet (*Millium effusum*) are found within the woodland, where there are also scattered Scots pines (*Pinus sylvestris*) as well as colonies of hair moss (*Polytrichum* sp.) and bog moss (*Sphagnum* sp.).

A cuckoo was heard here on the 13th of May, Reeve's muntjac appears to be common and one of only two molehills seen at the Common was recorded here.

No scheduled invasive species was recorded here. Bracken, yew (*Taxus baccata*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) are all invasive or potentially invasive here.

Target Notes (T) & Wetland Features (W)	
W1-2 C23	Flushed areas

BAP Species

Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*	London BAP Priority Species

London Notable species

Lesser spearwort	*Ranunculus flammula*	Marsh bedstraw	*Galium palustre*
Bog stitchwort	*Stellaria alsine*	Wavy hair-grass	*Deschampsia flexuosa*
Betony	*Betonica officinalis*	Purple moor-grass	*Molinia cerulea*

Ancient Woodland Indicators (SE England)

Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*	Wood-sedge	*Carex sylvatica*
Three-nerved sandwort	*Moehringia trinervia*	Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*
Aspen	*Populus tremula*	Wood millet	*Millium effusum*
Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*	Wood meadow-grass	*Poa nemoralis*
Betony	*Betonica officinalis*	Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*
Pendulous sedge	*Carex pendula*		

Invasive Species and other Pest Species

Species in this section which received a DAFOR score of Frequent and above (Frequent, Abundant or Dominant) are underlined.

Invasive Species listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act

None Recorded

Species which are likely to be invasive or potentially invasive at Stanmore Common

Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*	Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*
Yew	*Taxus baccata*	Purple moor-grass	*Molinia cerulea*
Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*	Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*

Fauna (casual observations recorded in the course of the survey)

Cuckoo	*Cuculus canorus*	Heard here on 13th May
Chaffinch	*Fringilla coelebs*	
Magpie	*Pica pica*	
Blackbird	*Turdus merula*	
Muntjac	*Muntiacus reevesi*	
Mole	*Talpa europaea*	Recorded from presence of mole hill

Other species of particular interest or importance at Stanmore Common

Tall fescue	*Schedonorus arundinaceus*	Appears to be rather scarce at the Common

Management Notes

For management purposes this is generally a low-intervention area. On the evidence of this survey management strategies for this compartment should take into account:

• Wetland habitats	Develop strategies to carefully enhance the compartment's fragile wetland habitats
• Hydrology	Investigate and secure for the future the sources of water flushing the bog moss in this (and other) compartments

DISCUSSION

Conduct of the Survey

In conducting this survey it quickly became apparent that the existing maps of the Common contained multiple inaccuracies, including the boundaries of management compartments, the routes of paths, the courses of streams and the locations of other features. It was not considered possible therefore to carry out a meaningful compartment-based botanical survey without concurrently re-mapping these features at the Common. As a result, additional site visits were undertaken to enable the capture of the GPS data required for GIS processing in order to produce a completely new digital map of the Common's compartments, paths, watercourses and other features.

The remapping was performed conservatively and the original compartment structure was followed as far as possible. Users of the old maps will recognise most elements of the new one, and existing species records which are located by compartment number will generally remain valid.

Partially as a result of the extended mapping process, significantly more time was spent on the Common than originally proposed, resulting in a particularly thorough botanical survey. Although a tally of around 180-200 species had been anticipated (Denis Vickers, pers. comm.) in the event c.307 taxa were recorded.

HABITATS AT STANMORE COMMON

BAP Priority Habitats

Harrow BAP Priority Habitats

Six out of the nine current Harrow BAP Priority Habitats are represented at Stanmore Common

- Grassland
- Heathland
- Standing and running water
- Woodlands
- Bare ground
- Decaying timber

London BAP Priority Habitats

Six out of the fourteen current London BAP Priority Habitats are represented at Stanmore Common

- Acid grassland
- Heathland
- Rivers and streams
- Standing water
- Woodland
- Ancient Woodland

UK BAP Priority Habitats

In contrast to regional and local BAP Priority Habitats which may be broadly and pragmatically defined, UK BAP Priority Habitats are specified by the Biodiversity Review Group under detailed and ecologically precise habitat definitions (BRIG, 2010).

Of the sixty-five habitat types currently prioritised in the UK BAP, five were considered by the author as possibly present at Stanmore Common LNR, and the corresponding habitat definitions were consulted accordingly. On the basis of these BAP definitions it would appear that three UK BAP Priority Habitats are clearly represented at Stanmore Common LNR. A further two habitat types do not qualify under the given criteria:

Qualifying habitat types

Lowland dry acid grassland

The dry acid grassland habitats at the Common (most of the grassland present) would appear to qualify as UK BAP Priority Habitat under the given criteria.

Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

The majority of the woodland at the Common would appear to qualify as UK BAP Priority Habitat under the given criteria.

Wet woodland

The wet woodland habitats present at the Common would appear to qualify as UK BAP Priority Habitats under the given criteria.

Wet woodland is defined under the UK BAP to include both seasonal wet woodland, and wet woodland occurring in dispersed form within other habitats.

Seasonally wet woodland is present at the Common, particularly at The Wetwood (comp. 13), and also as numerous dispersed habitat features elsewhere at the Common.

Wet woodland contains elements of many other ecosystems and as such is important for many taxa. While few species of flowering plant depend on wet woodland *per se*, wet woodland may be important for its moss flora, and the number of associated invertebrate species can be very large (BRIG, 2010).

Examples of wet woodland are far scarcer regionally than either ‘Lowland dry acid grassland’ or ‘Lowland mixed deciduous woodland’ and this habitat type at Stanmore Common should therefore be prioritised accordingly.

Non-qualifying habitat types

Lowland heathland

Lowland heathland is defined in the UK BAP as comprising in addition to heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) a community of heathland species, both flora and fauna; it also includes a range of physical habitat elements such as bare soil and wet depressions. Examples of associated flora might include dwarf gorse (*Ulex minor*) and cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*) (the latter is a species formerly present at Stanmore Common, said to have been destroyed by fire in 1931 (Kent, 1975)).

The heathland plant community as defined in the UK BAP is not present at the Common, and characteristic heathland invertebrates were not recorded by the author in the course of voluntary invertebrate survey of the Common conducted around a decade ago. The heather native to the Common has been rescued from the brink of extinction by the warden Simon Braidman and others. It is an important element occurring within the 'Lowland dry acid grassland' UK BAP habitat, and does not constitute 'Lowland heathland'.

The scrape and subsequent heather planting which took place in New Heath (comp. 21) commencing in 2007 might possibly offer an exception. In addition to the heather growth, a number of grasses, sedges and rushes which may be characteristic of lowland heathland have been recorded in this compartment in the course of the survey (see Discussion). In addition there is currently (2010) extensive bare soil and a small number of seasonally damp depressions within this area. It is conceivable that were New Heath to be managed in the future as heathland (to include all the characteristic flora and habitats, prioritised at least equally to the heather) then lowland heathland habitat meeting UK BAP criteria could result.

Ponds

There are two adjacent ponds at Stanmore Common; Great Brewery Pond (comp. 14a) and Little Brewery Pond (comp. 14b). It is clear from this survey that neither pond satisfies the UK BAP Priority Habitat specification on quality criteria.

Rare and scarce pond flora which might meet the current UK BAP criteria has been recorded in the past from a number of ponds in Harrow, including Brewery Ponds (Farino *et al.*, 1989). The author is not aware that any of these Harrow ponds have retained their former botanical quality through recent decades. A possible exception might be Grove Ponds which Sean Tobin's more contemporary records suggest might have retained their botanical quality at least into the 1990's. Survey would be required to determine whether Grove Ponds might currently meet UK BAP Habitat criteria.

Ancient Woodland

Ancient woodland habitats at Stanmore common are discussed in the following section (Discussion of Species) under Ancient Woodland Indicator Species.

Discussion of Species

Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Species

The following species, which were either recorded at the Common in the course of the survey, or recorded very recently (marsh willowherb) are prioritised under the Harrow-, London- or United Kingdom Biodiversity Action Plans.

Hard-fern *Blechnum spicant* **London BAP**

Discovered at the Common during the current survey, growing on the scrape in New Heath (compartment 21).

Marsh willowherb *Epilobium palustre* **London BAP**

Two plants discovered at the Common in 2009 by Joanne Colthup. Not found during the current survey (drought?). This population requires monitoring.

Devil's-bit scabious *Succisa pratensis* **London BAP**

A species which has benefited from the change from mid-year to late-season grass-cutting which took place about a decade ago. Although somewhat dispersed, much of the population is restricted to two limited areas and requires monitoring.

Cornflower *Centaurea cyanus* **UK BAP, London BAP**

A single specimen recorded in the current survey. This species is widely sown for example in meadow flower seed mixes, and the Stanmore Common record is considered likely to represent a casual occurrence.

Heath wood-rush *Luzula multiflora* **London BAP**

A species which has conspicuously benefited from the change from mid-year to late-season grass-cutting which took place about a decade ago. Formerly very local in occurrence but now common and widespread in the clearings, mainly as the 'dense-headed' form (subspecies *congesta*).

Green ribbed sedge *Carex binervis* **London BAP**

A species which has not been recorded at the Common since 1983 (see Discussion), but which was discovered by Tony Lovegrove growing on the scrape in New Heath (compartment 21) in 2009. The current population of c. 6 individuals requires annual monitoring.

Lily-of-the-Valley *Convallaria majalis* **London BAP**

Three long-standing colonies of lily-of-the-valley are known at the Common, and these are considered to be native populations rather than garden escapes. These populations should be monitored and managed in order to regulate the optimum degree of overshading.

Bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* **London BAP**

Widespread and common throughout much of the Common, although patchy or scarce in some areas. Spanish bluebell (*Hyacinthoides hispanica*) is likely to represent a major threat to the native species through hybridisation.

Solomon's-seal *Polygonatum* ?*multiflorum* **London BAP**

Two non-flowering specimens were recorded at widely separate locations in course of the current survey. Requires monitoring. Identification requires confirmation (see Discussion: Outstanding Identification Issues).

Heath spotted orchid *Dactylorhiza maculata* **London BAP, Harrow BAP**

This well-known colony is the only recorded locality for this species in London, and is under current management and monitoring.

London Notable Species

London Notable Species are defined as those recorded in 15% or less of the tetrads of Greater London (LEU, 1998). The supporting distribution and occurrence data underlying these designations is however derived from the data utilised in Burton (1983), and is out of date. It is anticipated that a revised version of this list will become available in future. Until that time however the existing designations remain the *de facto* standard.

Difficulties with the London Notable list arise for a number of reasons including historical under-recording of some species, and changes in the distribution of certain species which have occurred in the interim. Without in any way anticipating the contents of a future London Notable list, certain species which qualify as Notables in the existing list, but which would clearly not currently qualify have been excluded from the lists as presented here. These include for example cherry laurel (*Prunus lauraucerus*) and Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*).

The following 51 London Notable species were recorded in the course of this survey. Joanne Colthup's important 2009 record of marsh willowherb is also included, although that species was not recorded during the current survey.

A small number of these species are non-native; for example summer snowflake (*Leucojum aestivum* ssp*. pulchellum*) or debatably native; for example black currant (*Ribes nigrum*). There is currently an increased emphasis on recording non-native naturalised species, although some might argue that such species should be listed separately in this context.

Those species which the author regards as particularly scarce in London are in bold-face.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Common Name	Scientific Name
Great horsetail	*Equisetum telmateia*	**Marsh bedstraw**	***Galium palustre***
Intermediate polypody	***Polypodium interjectum***	**Devil's-bit scabious**	***Succisa pratensis***
Lady-fern	*Athyrium filix-femina*	Cornflower	*Centaurea cyanus*
Soft shield-fern	*Polystichum setiferum*	**Bulbous rush**	***Juncus bulbosus***
Hard-fern	***Blechnum spicant***	**Heath rush**	***Juncus squarrosus***
Lesser spearwort	*Ranunculus flammula*	**Heath wood-rush ssp.**	***Luzula multiflora* ssp.**
Sessile oak	*Quercus petraea*	Lesser pond-sedge	*Carex acutiformis*
Bog stitchwort	***Stellaria alsine***	**Green-ribbed sedge**	***Carex binervis***
Slender St John's-wort	*Hypericum pulchrum*	Grey sedge	*Carex divulsa*
Square-stalked St John's-wort	*Hypericum tetrapterum*	Glaucous sedge	*Carex flacca*
Dotted loosestrife	*Lysimachia punctata*	**Pill sedge**	***Carex pilulifera***
Black currant	*Ribes nigrum*	Cyperus sedge	*Carex pseudocyperus*
Red currant	*Ribes rubrum*	**Bristle club-rush**	***Isolepis setacea***
Gooseberry	*Ribes uva-crispa*	Early hair-grass	*Aira praecox*
Marsh willowherb	***Epilobium palustre***	**Wood small-reed**	***Calamagrostis epigejos***
Common evening-primrose	*Oenothera biennis*	**Heath-grass**	***Danthonia decumbens***
Shining crane's-bill	*Geranium lucidum*	**Wavy hair-grass**	***Deschampsia flexuosa***
Corn parsley	*Petroselinum segetum*	Sheep's fescue	*Festuca ovina*
Lesser periwinkle	*Vinca minor*	Purple moor-grass	*Molinia cerulea*
Water forget-me-not	*Myosotis scorpioides*	**Mat-grass**	***Nardus stricta***
Wood forget-me-not	*Myosotis sylvatica*	Ramsons	*Allium ursinum*
Corn mint	***Mentha arvensis***	**Summer snowflake**	***Leucojum aestivum* ssp. *pulchellum***
Red bartsia	*Odontites vernus*	**Solomon's-seal**	***Polygonatum* ?*multiflorum***
Brooklime	*Veronica beccabunga*	**Heath spotted-orchid**	***Dactylorhiza maculata***
Wood speedwell	*Veronica montata*	**Broad-leaved helleborine**	***Epipactis helleborine***
Heath speedwell	***Veronica officinalis***		

Ancient Woodland Indicator Species

Ancient woodland is defined as woodland which existed prior to 1600. Ancient woodland indicator species (AWIs) are those plants which have an established association with ancient woodland habitats. This association can arise for a variety of reasons including for example the species' low dispersal rate away from such habitats (Rackham, 2010). Different indicator species have different degrees of association with ancient woodland, and this may be strong or moderate. No single species can therefore be relied upon as a definitive AWI, and in practice a suite of indicator species is used as evidence for the ancient origin of any particular woodland. The selection of AWIs has been developed on a regional basis, and the AWIs for south-east England are utilised here (Rose & O'Reilly, 2006).

The use of historical botanical records as AWIs would also be valid in this context, even where a species has become extinct at a site, so long as the locality of such records can be clearly established. There would appear to be scope for further research on these grounds regarding Stanmore Common.

Other evidence for the ancient origins of woodland, for example from historical accounts and maps should also be utilised where it is available.

AWIs were recorded per-compartment in this survey and this number is given under the individual compartment accounts. The number of AWIs in each compartment however should be considered as partly artefactual, as the current compartment divisions are unlikely in the main to reflect historical ecological and land-use divisions. There is no specified set number of AWIs required to establish woodland as ancient. As a rule of thumb, a small woodland (such as the individual woodland parcels at Stanmore Common) where the number of AWIs attains double figures is likely to have ancient origins.

An inventory of London's ancient woodlands compiled by the Nature Conservancy Council in 1985 (Spencer, 1986) ascribed ancient status at Stanmore Common only the areas now known as to Brightwen Wood West (comp. 12a) (11 AWIs in the current survey) and The Wetwood (comp. 13) (14 AWIs in the current survey). The current survey extends that designation to include much of the Common.

The following 34 Ancient Woodland Indicator species (south-east England) were recorded at Stanmore Common LNR in the course of the current survey.

Common Name	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Scientific Name**
Hart's tongue	*Asplenium scolopendrium*	Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*
Lady-fern	*Athyrium filix-femina*	Wood sorrel	*Oxalis acetosella*
Soft shield-fern	*Polystichum setiferum*	Pignut	*Conopodium majus*
Hard-fern	*Blechnum spicant*	Wood speedwell	*Veronica montata*
Wood anemone	*Anemone nemorosa*	Guelder-rose	*Viburnum opulus*
Sessile oak	*Quercus petraea*	Remote sedge	*Carex remota*
Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*	Wood-sedge	*Carex sylvatica*
Three-nerved sandwort	*Moehringia trinervia*	Hairy-brome	*Bromopsis ramosa*
Slender St John's-wort	*Hypericum pulchrum*	Wood small-reed	*Calamagrostis epigejos*
Aspen	*Populus tremula*	Creeping soft-grass	*Holcus mollis*
Primrose	*Primula vulgaris*	Wood millet	*Millium effusum*
Black currant	*Ribes nigrum*	Wood meadow-grass	*Poa nemoralis*
Red currant	*Ribes rubrum*	Giant fescue	*Schedonorus giganteus*
Midland hawthorn	*Crataegus laevigata*	Ramsons	*Allium ursinum*
Crab apple	*Malus sylvestris*	Solomon's-seal †	*Polygonatum ?multiflorum*
Wild cherry	*Prunus avium*	Broad-leaved helleborine	*Epipactis helleborine*
Field rose	*Rosa arvensis*	Bluebell	*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*

† Identification to be verified

Many have assumed in the past that Stanmore Common is largely comprised of secondary woodland, and the strong evidence of ancient woodland origins provided by this survey may be surprising to some.

It is suggested that the reasons for this widespread error in perception include:

Grazing

There is a known history of grazing at the site, which may have led to the belief that the majority of the site was formerly given over to livestock. The current survey suggests that this is unlikely and that much of the site has been wooded for a long period. It is known that grazing continued here well into the twentieth century. It would require additional research in order to attempt to discover the location and extent of formerly grazed areas at the Common. For example, a former (and current) clearing, now known as Bluebell Heath (comp. 20) is thought to have scrubbed-over at some point during in the second half of the 20th century, and this was cleared back to grassland by Harrow Council, possibly in the 1970s (Steve Woad, pers. comm.).

Veteran and ancient trees

Ancient woodlands can normally be expected include a population of ancient- and ancient-looking trees, often oaks (*Quercus* sp.). Apart from one massive ancient hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) in The Hawthorns (comp. 22), no such trees are known at the Common and the largest oaks are probably 200-300 years old (a rough estimate only as no measurements were taken).

It is speculated that many trees may have been taken from the site in history for use as timber. It has been suggested for example that the 1st Duke of Chandos (1674–1744) plundered the Common by selling timber from here to the navy (John Williams, pers. comm.). Hadfield (1969) refers to part of J. Macky's contemporary (1722) description of Canons, where Macky relates that the water supply for the gardens was piped from the mountains(!) of Stanmore in two miles of elm trunks. The origin of those tree trunks is unknown, and others can do the arithmetic to determine the likely acreage of woodland required to construct that pipeline. (The water source for the pipeline was in fact Spring Pond, Stanmore Little Common (Walter, 1999)).

Gravel extraction

The history of manual gravel extraction at the Common, including its historical duration and cessation date, are unknown to the author. That history is written widely over the Common's landscape however, in the form of hundreds of small and mainly shallow pits. The small size of these pits might suggest an early date (Denis Vickers, pers. comm.).

A key factor in allowing the persistence of AWIs is the persistence of undisturbed topsoil, and disturbed soil is anathema to these plant species. The gravel-diggings represent multiple discrete areas of historical soil disturbance scattered widely over the site. It also appears likely that this activity involved the removal of trees and tree roots for access purposes, resulting in additional soil disturbance as well as concomitant loss of trees. The ancient woodland flora we see today is therefore a spatially fragmented one, persisting in areas of undisturbed soil interstitial to the gravel diggings. This flora will, given time eventually colonise the previously disturbed areas.

Overshading

There are many areas of the woodland floor which have become are densely over-shaded by large number of sapling trees, inhibiting the growth of characteristic woodland ground flora. Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) presents a serious problem in many areas, while in particular areas other species such a fast-growing yew (*Taxus baccata*) saplings create areas of dense shade.

In the absence of coppicing or other forms of traditional woodland management, it is suggested that carefully selected areas which are densely overgrown with young sycamores should be cleared or treated to open up patches of woodland floor in order to encourage the characteristic flora. In addition, where a large tree falls leaving a temporary clearing, such opportunities might be taken to establish the resulting gaps in the canopy as permanent woodland clearings.

Hertfordshire Red Data Species

Hertfordshire lies on the north boundary of Stanmore Common, and the flora and habitats of the Common can be therefore expected to share features with both Hertfordshire and Greater London. Up-to-date and detailed information on Hertfordshire's botany has recently become available with the publication of a new flora of that county (James, 2009), which includes a Red Data List of Hertfordshire plants. Those species recorded at the Common and which appear as 'Rare' in the Hertfordshire Red Data list (five or fewer current localities in the County) are listed here to additionally inform the site's management.

Common name	**Scientific name**	**Comments**
Bitter-vetch	*Lathyrus linifolius*	Recorded by Sean Tobin in the period 1989-1992. Current status at the Common uncertain, and this species should be sought.
Marsh willowherb	*Epilobium palustre*	Recorded by Joanne Colthup (2009) and by Jack Phillips in 1977. Requires monitoring.
Heath rush	*Juncus squarrosus*	Recorded by the author in 2009 and again at the same location in 2010. Requires monitoring.
Solomon's-seal	*Polygonatum ?multiflorum*	Single plants recorded at two locations in the course of this survey. Identification to be confirmed.
Heath spotted orchid	*Dactylorhiza maculata*	Under current management and monitoring at Stanmore Common. 40+ plants counted by Tony Lovegrove in 2010.

Mosses

Limited and selective recording of mosses was undertaken in the course of the survey. Two types of readily recognisable mosses were recorded to genus level only.

Common name	Scientific name Comments
Bog Mosses *Sphagnum* spp.	*Sphagnum* mosses are very scarce in London, and Stanmore Common's bog-moss flora should be considered as important to London as a whole. Three species were recorded here by Christine Reiser (unpublished data) in the period 1991-1997. These were *S. palustre*, *S. flexuosum* (as *S. recurvum* v. *ambyphyllum*) and a species recorded as *S. auriculatum* var. *aur.* which might have been *S. inundatum*, a species recorded at the Common as *Sphagnum subsecundum auriculatum* in Kent (2000). The number of species currently present at the Common remains to be determined. *Sphagnum* mosses exist in a small number of very vulnerable colonies at locations which were mapped in the course of the current survey. Following discussions with the Simon Braidman, the Volunteer Warden, it was decided to keep these localities confidential due the known threat of its collection for use in hanging baskets. This has taken place in the past at the Common (J. Dobson pers. obs.), and is a problem nationally where on occasion the police have become involved and prosecution sought. Subsequently the '*Sphagnum'* layer in the GIS map of the site prepared by the author in the course of this survey is to be held as confidential by the Council, and although available to the warden and selected individuals, will not be published in any form.
Hair Mosses *Polytrichum* spp.	Like bog mosses, hair mosses are easy to recognise as a group, and although by no means as regionally rare as bog mosses they are very locally distributed in London. Unlike bog mosses, where different species may vary in the degree of shade they require in exclusively damp habitats, different species of hair moss may occur in wet or dry situations and in shady and open habitats, including some which are characteristic heathland flora. Christine Reiser (unpublished data) recorded *Polytrichum commune* and *P. formosum* at the Common and two additional species are given by Kent (2000); *P. piliferum* and *P. juniperum.* Hair mosses were recorded to compartment level in this survey. The number of species currently present at the Common remains to be determined.

Species thought to be currently under threat or recently extinct at Stanmore Common

This is not an exclusive list, but includes species whose unfavourable status at the Common was highlighted by the current survey. It includes regional rarities such as corn-mint as well as widespread species (and one non-native species) where these are thought to be of particular value to the Common. Casual annuals are not considered. The species statuses (capitalised) reflect the opinion of the author.

Marsh pennywort	*Hydrocotyle vulgaris*	RECENTLY EXTINCT: Recently extinct. Most recent record: J. Dobson, 2001
Sneezewort	*Achillea ptarmica*	RECENTLY EXTINCT?: Possibly recently extinct. Most recent record: S. Braidman, 2003
Bitter vetch	*Lathyrus linifolius*	DATA DEFICIENT: Regionally rare; current status at the Common uncertain. Most recent record: S. Tobin, 1989-1992.
Meadowsweet	*Filipendula ulmaria*	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED. A long-standing clump in a vulnerable position near the car park on a main access route onto the Common. The clump has progressively shrunk over the years to 2-3 stems in 2010. Not a scarce species regionally, but characteristic of damp grassland at the Common. Most recent record: J. Dobson, 2010
Michaelmas daisy	*Aster* sp.	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED. A long-standing clump in Bluebell Heath East. It might persist beneath bracken but could not be located in 2010. A common non-native species, but a valued asset at the Common as an Autumn nectar source. A small number of plants persist in Holly Wood (comp. 11) growing in shade near Warren Lane. Most recent record: J. Dobson, 2010
Hemlock water-dropwort	*Oenanthe crocata*	VULNERABLE TO EXTINCTION: In 2010 contractors decimated the long-standing colony of this plant at the Common where it grows in a ditch on the LNR by Belswood Cottage. It is a scarce species regionally, with only 10 known sites in Hertfordshire (James, 2009). It should recover in 2011 but only if allowed to do so without annual 'tidying'. Most recent record: J. Dobson, 2010
Corn mint	*Mentha arvensis*	VULNERABLE TO EXTINCTION: A long-standing small patch of this regional rarity was formerly recorded for many years growing among grassland in Holly Brook Rise. When this colony disappeared it was thought to be extinct at the Common (and in Harrow). The species was then rediscovered on the margin of Tyke's Water by Tony Lovegrove in 2009, where a small number of plants grow in a vulnerable situation. It is unclear as yet whether the Holly Brook Rise colony is still present. Most recent record: Tony Lovegrove, 2010.
Soft shield-fern	*Polystichum setiferum*	VULNERABLE TO EXTINCTION: Recorded at a single locality on a watercourse immediately downstream of a colony of Japanese knotweed which is likely to receive chemical treatment. Most recent record: J. Dobson, 2010
Wild privet	*Ligustrum vulgare*	VULNERABLE TO EXTINCTION: Recorded at a single locality growing amongst Japanese knotweed which is likely to receive chemical treatment. Most recent record: J. Dobson, 2010

Species newly recorded at the site following the heather introduction project

The species listed here were either imported with the heather seed from Hounslow Heath or pre-existed in the soil bank at Stanmore Common and were encouraged to germinate by the scrape. Although unfortunately no pre-scrape survey was done, it is thought by the author and others that none of these species were previously present at the Common, at least in recent times.

The species here include those characteristic of dry habitats such as well-drained bare soil (the current conditions in New Heath), and species of damper or shadier conditions. The latter are thought unlikely to persist at the Common due to lack of suitable habitat. These are indicated by 'DRY' or 'WET' respectively. The dry habitat species should be managed as heathland flora.

In order to further inform speculation on the origin of these species at the Common, those which occur on the current plant list for Hounslow Heath (Chris Slack, pers. comm.) are also indicated here. Additional research would be required to determine which of these are historically recorded for Stanmore Common or Hounslow Heath. It is known for example that a single example of green-ribbed sedge (*Carex binervis*) was recorded at Stanmore Common in 1983 by the LNHS (Rodney Burton, pers. comm.).

Common Name	Scientific Name	Habitat Preference	Currently recorded at Hounslow Heath
Lesser pond-sedge	*Carex acutiformis*	WET	N
Bulbous rush	*Juncus bulbosus*	WET	N
Wood small-reed	*Calamagrostis epigejos*	WET	N
Green-ribbed sedge	*Carex binervis*	DRY	N
Mat grass	*Nardus stricta*	DRY	Y
Heath grass	*Danthonia decumbens*	DRY	Y
Hard-fern	*Blechnum spicant*	DRY	N
Brown bent	*Agrostis vinealis*	DRY	N

First records and first recent records for the site

These are the 60 plant species which appear, on the basis of the evidence available to the author, to be those recorded at the Common during this survey for the first time in recent history. Further evidence from local recorders is likely of course to refute that in some instances. This does not represent a 'new to the Common' list, as considerable additional research would be required to construct such a list. The list includes many common and easily-recorded species as well as scarce species and non-native colonisers of the Common.

Common Name	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Scientific Name**
Hard-fern	*Blechnum spicant*	Black horehound	*Ballota nigra*
Spruce sp.	*Picea* sp.	Yellow archangel (variegated)	*Lamiastrum galeobdolon* ssp. *argentatum*
Nootka cypress	*Xanthocyparis nootkatensis*	Narrow-leaved ash	*Fraxinus angustifolia*
Greater celandine	*Chelidonium majus*	Wild privet	*Ligustrum vulgare*
London plane	*Platanus* x *hispanica*	Red bartsia	*Odontites vernus*
Copper beech	*Fagus sylvatica* f. *purpurea*	Heath speedwell	*Veronica officinalis*
Sessile oak	*Quercus petraea*	Cornflower	*Centaurea cyanus*
Equal-leaved knotgrass	*Polygonum arenastrum*	Traveller's joy	*Clematis vitalba*
Lime	*Tilia* x *europaea*	Prickly lettuce	*Lactuca serriola*
White willow	*Salix alba*	Hoary ragwort	*Senecio erucifolius*
Mock orange	*Philadelphus coronarius*	Perennial sow-thistle	*Sonchus arvensis*
Black currant	*Ribes nigra*	Common duckweed	*Lemna minor*
Gooseberry	*Ribes uva-crispa*	Bulbous rush	*Juncus bulbosus*
Orpine	*Sedum telephium*	Dense-headed heath wood-rush	*Luzula multiflora* ssp. *congesta*
Wall cotoneaster	*Cotoneaster horizontalis*	Lesser pond-sedge	*Carex acutiformis*
Meadowsweet	*Filipendula ulmaria*	Grey sedge	*Carex divulsa*
Wild strawberry	*Fragaria vesca*	Remote sedge	*Carex remota*
Bird cherry	*Prunus padus*	Bristle club-rush	*Isolepis setacea*
Firethorn sp.	*Pyracantha* sp.	Velvet bent	*Agrostis canina*
Raspberry	*Rubus idaeus*	Black bent	*Agrostis gigantea*
Spotted medick	*Medicago arabica*	Brown bent	*Agrostis vinealis*
Common vetch	*Vicia sativa*	False brome	*Brachypodium sylvaticum*
Short-fruited willowherb	*Epilobium obscurum*	Soft-brome	*Bromus hordaceus*
Common evening-primrose	*Oenothera biennis*	Wood small-reed	*Calamagrostis epigejos*
Spindle	*Euonymus europaeus*	Heath-grass	*Danthonia decumbens*
French crane's-bill	*Geranium endressii*	Wall barley	*Hordeum murinum*
Shining crane's-bill	*Geranium lucidum*	Mat-grass	*Nardus stricta*
Corn parsley	*Petroselinum segetum*	Tall fescue	*Schedonorus arundinaceus*
Greater periwinkle	*Vinca major*	Bread wheat	*Triticum aestivum*
Lesser periwinkle (variegated)	*Vinca minor 'Argentovariegata'*	Summer snowflake	*Leucojum aestivum* ssp. *pulchellum*

Invasive and 'pest' Species

Schedule 9 part 2 (plants) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (updated 2010) lists species which cannot be lawfully introduced to- or cultivated in the wild. Five of the plant species recorded at the Common are included in Schedule 9. They are:-

Japanese knotweed	*Fallopia japonica*	Water fern	*Azolla filiculoides*
Rhododendron	*Rhododendron ponticum*	Wall cotoneaster	*Cotoneaster horizontalis*
Yellow archangel (variegated)	*Lamiastrum galeobdolon* ssp. *argentatum*		

It should be noted that any attempt to eradicate Rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) on the Common is unlikely to be sustainable unless this plant is also eradicated where it grows as a dominant species adjacent to the Common within adjoining properties. It grows in dense stands to the west margin- and to part of the south margin of Grove Estate, and also in dense stands to the west margin and probably elsewhere in Clutterbucks Wood. Neither of these areas was surveyed in 2010, although inspection from the fence-line and the 2003 GLA Borough Survey of Harrow suggest that both have significant ecological value, and indeed both areas are included within the Site of Metropolitan Importance.

Whilst some species such as bracken are considered invasive wherever they occur, others only behave in an invasive manner in some circumstances. The following is a list of species (excluding those on Schedule 9) which appeared in the course of the survey to be behaving in an invasive manner, either throughout their range at the Common, or more locally and in particular circumstances. This includes native species where their numbers and density appeared to be shading-out or 'blanketing' the characteristic flora, potentially leading to loss of biodiversity. In some area for example rowan saplings (*Sorbus aucuparia*), normally considered a desirable species, forms a dense near-monoculture at the Common. Conversely the non-native Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*), which in frequently an invasive species in woodlands, is too scarce at the Common to be considered invasive (yet).

Lesser periwinkle (*Vinca minor*), which is an archaeophyte (referring to non-native plants introduced to the British Isles prior to 1492) was recorded as an invasive species exclusively in Heathbourne Wood (comp. 3) where it forms dense carpets on streamside marshy areas, to the exclusion of valuable native flora such as bog stitchwort (*Stellaria alsine*), marsh bedstraw (*Galium palustre*) and bog moss (*Sphagnum* sp.).

Common Name	Scientific Name
Bracken	*Pteridium aquilinum*
Yew	*Taxus baccata*
Turkey oak	*Quercus cerris*
Cherry laurel	*Prunus laurocerasus*
Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*
Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*
Lesser periwinkle	*Vinca minor*
Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*
Snowberry	*Symphoriocarpus albus*
Purple moor-grass	*Molinia caerulea*
Spanish bluebell	*Hyacinthoides hispanica*

Species which have been recorded at Stanmore Common and which Plantlife (2010) believes should be added to Schedule 9:

Common Name	Scientific Name	Notes
False acacia	*Robinia pseudoacacia*	Comps. 14a & 14b in current survey
Evergreen oak	*Quercus ilex*	Comps. 14a & 14b in LCS survey (Riley, J. 2007). Not in current survey
Turkey oak	*Quercus cerris*	Recorded from seventeen comps. in current survey

Outstanding Identification Issues

The following provisional identifications appear for the reasons given:

Solomon's seal	*Polygonatum multiflorum*	Two non-flowering specimens approximating to this scarce native species were recorded at widely separate locations. The likely alternative identification is angular Solomon's-seal (*Polygonatum odoratum*) a naturalised garden escape previously recorded at the Common by Sean Tobin. Identification pending discovery of the species in flower
Spruce sp.	*Picea* sp.	Tiny seedlings growing on the scrape at New Heath are provisionally recorded as a spruce species. Identification pending discovery of a more mature example

Table of Fauna recorded during the Survey

88 animal species were recorded as casual records in the course of the botanical survey.
Of these 10 are verbal record from anglers (indicated under Notes).
The BAP status of species is given

Common Name	Scientific Name	Notes
MAMMALS		
Grey squirrel	*Sciurus carolinensis*	Schedule 9, W&C Act
Mole	*Talpa europaea*	Records of molehills
Reeves muntjac	*Muntiacus reevesi*	Schedule 9, W&C Act
Rabbit	*Oryctolagus cuniculus*	
Bank vole	*Clethrionomys glareolus*	From field-signs. To be confirmed
BIRDS		
Blackbird	*Turdus merula*	
Blackcap	*Sylvia atricapilla*	
Blue-tit	*Cyanistes caeruleus*	
Buzzard	*Buteo buteo*	
Carrion crow	*Corvus corone*	
Chaffinch	*Fringilla coelebs*	
Chiffchaff	*Phylloscopus collybita*	
Coal-tit	*Parus ater*	
Coot	*Fulica atra*	
Cuckoo	*Cuculus canorus*	UK- & London BAP Priority Species
Goldfinch	*Carduelis carduelis*	
Great spotted woodpecker	*Dendrocopos major*	
Great-tit	*Parus major*	
Green woodpecker	*Picus viridis*	
Grey heron	*Ardea cinerea*	
House martin	*Delichon urbicum*	
House sparrow	*Passer domesticus*	UK- & London BAP Priority Species
Jay	*Garrulus glandarius*	
Long-tailed tit	*Aegithalos caudatus*	
Magpie	*Pica pica*	
Moorhen	*Gallinula chloropus*	
Nuthatch	*Sitta europaea*	
Robin	*Erithacus rubecula*	
Song thrush	*Turdus philomelos*	UK- & London BAP Priority Species
Tawny owl	*Strix aluco*	
Tree-creeper	*Certhia familiaris*	
Willow-warbler	*Phylloscopus trochilus*	
Woodpigeon	*Columba palumbus*	
Wren	*Troglodytes troglodytes*	
FISH		
Bream	*Abramis brama*	Verbal record from anglers
Carp	*Cypinus carpio*	Verbal record from anglers
Crucian carp	*Carassius carassius*	Verbal record from anglers
Perch	*Percia fluviatilis*	Verbal record from anglers
Pike	*Esox lucius*	Verbal record from anglers
Roach	*Rutilus rutilus*	Verbal record from anglers
Tench	*Tinca tinca*	Verbal record from anglers

Table of Fauna (continued)

Common Name	Scientific Name	Notes
REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS		
Frog	*Rana temporaria*	Harrow BAP Priority Species. Verbal record from anglers
Grass snake	*Natrix natrix*	UK, London and Harrow BAP Priority Species
[Red-eared] terrapin	*Chrysemys scripta* subsp. *elegans*	Verbal record from anglers. Species unconfirmed
Toad	*Bufo bufo*	UK, London and Harrow BAP Priority Species
INVERTEBRATES		
Brown tree-ant	*Lasius brunneus*	
Buff-tailed bumble-bee	*Bombus terrestris*	
Common carder-bee	*Bombus pascuorum*	
Honey bee	*Apis melifera*	
Spider-hunting wasps	*Pompilidae* spp.	
Hornet	*Vespa crabro*	First record at the Common
Ground beetles.	*Carabidae* spp.	
7-spot ladybird	*Coccinella septempunctata*	
Harlequin ladybird	*Harmonia axyridis*	
Hawthorn jewel beetle	*Agrilus sinuatus*	
A longhorn beetle	*Rutpela maculata*	
[American signal] crayfish	*Pacifastacus leniusculus*	Verbal record from anglers. Species unconfirmed. Schedule 9, W&C Act
Common bee-fly	*Bombylius major*	
St. Mark's fly	*Bibio marci*	
A hoverfly	*Brachypalpoides lenta*	
Comma	*Polygonia c-album*	
Common blue	*Polyommatus icarus*	
Gatekeeper	*Pyronia tithonus*	
Green-veined white	*Pieris napi*	
Large skipper	*Ochlodes venata*	
Large white	*Pieris brassicae*	
Marbled white	*Melanargia galathea*	
Meadow brown	*Maniola jurtina*	
Orange-tip	*Anthocharis cardamines*	
Peacock butterfly	*Inachis io*	
Small copper	*Lycaena phlaeas*	
Small skipper	*Thymelicus sylvestris*	
Small white	*Pieris rapae*	
Speckled wood	*Pararge aegeria*	
White admiral	*Ladoga camilla*	UK- & London BAP Priority Species
DeGeer's longhorn	*Nemophora degeerella*	
Silver-Y	*Autographa gamma*	
Blue-tailed damselfly	*Ischnurea elegans*	
Common blue damselfly	*Enallagma cyathigerum*	
Common darter	*Sympetrum striolatum*	
Brown hawker	*Aeshna grandis*	
Migrant hawker	*Aeshna mixta*	Record questionable due to early date
Southern hawker	*Aeshna cyanea*	

Table of Fauna (continued)

Common Name	**Scientific Name**	**Notes**
Common green grasshopper	*Omocestus viridulus*	
Meadow grasshopper	*Chorthippus parallelus*	
Long-winged cone-head	*Conocephalus discolor*	First record at the Common (Simon Braidman)
Slender ground-hopper	*Tetrix subulata*	
White cross garden spider	*Aranaeus diademata*	Det. Simon Braidman
A scorpion fly	*Panorpa* sp.	

Target Notes

A GIS map of Stanmore Common LNR was developed as part of this survey project and this was also published in pdf format. The following labels appear on the map to indicate various features of interest (Target Notes). Users of the map might find it convenient to copy these pages to accompany the map.

Target Note No.	Description	Comp. No.
T01.1	Sessile Oak	1
T01.2	Sessile Oak	1
T01.3	One of three carpets of wood sorrel known at the Common	1
T01.4	Landmark: The highpoint of the horse ride at the north east of the Common	1
W1 C01	Flushed Area	1
W2 C01	Flushed Area	1
W3 C01	Flushed Area	1
W4 C01	Flushed Area	1
W5 C01	Flushed Area	1
T02.1	The most extensive carpet of hair moss recorded at the Common	2
W1 C02	Flushed Area	2
W2 C02	Flushed Area	2
W3 C02	Flushed Area	2
W4 C02	Flushed Area	2
T03.1	Soft Shield-fern - its only known locality at the Common	3
T03.2	One of three carpets of wood sorrel known at the Common	3
T03.3	Hemlock Water-dropwort: The site of Harrow's long-standing colony of this Notable plant - currently (2010) under threat	3
W1 C03	Inflow	3
W2 C03	Inflow	3
W3 C03	Inflow	3
W4 C03	Flushed Area	3
T04.1	Landmark: A series of tree-roots crossing the surface of the path which descends to the south east. A useful landmark for the lost.	4
T04.2	One of three colonies of apparently native lily-of-the-valley recorded at the site.	4
W1 C04	Marshy Area	4
W2 C04	Marshy Area	4
W1 C05	The flush which crosses Bluebell Heath East runs into The Heathbourne here	5
T06.1	A small clearing dominated by a large beech.	6
T06.2	A small bird cherry growing in the woodland edge	6
W1 C06	Inflow	6
W2 C06	Marshy Area	6
W3 C06	Marshy Area	6
W4 C06	Seasonal Pond	6
W5 C06	Seasonal Pond	6
W6 C06	Seasonal Pond	6
W1 C07a	Carr-like Habitat	07a
W2 C07a	Carr-like Habitat	07a
T07b.1	The only alders recorded in the course of the 2010 botanical survey	07b
T08.1	Landmark: A Round Barrow: A ‘name of convenience’, in use until the true nature of this circular mound-with ditch can be determined	8
T08.2	Landmark: A Pillow Mound: An artificial rabbit warren	8
T08.3	The only spindle recorded in the course of the 2010 survey	8

Target Notes (continued)

Target Note No.	Description	Comp. No.
W1 C08	Flushed Area	8
W2 C08	Marshy Area	8
W3 C08	Marshy Area	8
W4 C08	Marshy Area	8
W1 C09	Flushed Area	9
W2 C09	Flushed Area	9
W3 C09	Flushed Area	9
W4 C09	Inflow	9
T10b.1	One of three carpets of wood sorrel known at the Common	10b
W1 C10b	Seasonal Pond	10b
W2 C10b	Seasonal Pond	10b
T11.1	The London Loop	11
T11.2	The only wild service tree (*Sorbus torminalis)* recorded in the course of the 2010 survey. A young tree	11
T12a.1	The London Loop	12a
T12b.1	The westerly extent of the main wet habitats within the woodland	12b
T13.1	The western extent of the main wet habitats within the woodland	13
T13.2	Drain: inflow or outflow to be determined	13
T13.3	A small number of rabbit burrows	13
T14a.1	Thought to be one of the best examples of bare soil habitat in Harrow; used as a nesting site by a variety of solitary bees. A Harrow BAP Priority Habitat.	14a
T15.1	Warren Lane Car Park	15
T16a.1	Benches	16a
W1 C16a	Flushed Area	16a
W1 C16b	Flushed Area	16b
T16c.1	Landmark: A large oak marking the beginning of a woodland footpath	16c
W1 C16c	Flushed Area	16c
T17.1	Heather Regeneration Area	17
T17.2	Heather Regeneration Area	17
T18.1	Landmark: A large multi-trunked oak tree	18
T18.2	Heather Regeneration Area	18
T18.3	Heather Regeneration Area	18
T18.4	Heather Regeneration Area	18
T19.1	One of three colonies of lily-of-the-valley recorded at the site.	19
T19.2	Heather Regeneration Area	19
T19.3	Heather Regeneration Area	19
T20a.1	Botanically important habitat to the west of the compartment	20a
T20a.2	Heather Regeneration Area	20a
T20a.3	Heather Regeneration Area	20a
T20a.4	Heather Regeneration Area	20a
W1 C20a	Flushed Area	20a
W2 C20a	Seasonal Pond	20a
W3 C20a	Seasonal Pond	20a
T20b.1	A large veteran crab apple	20b
W1 C20b	Flushed area	20b
T21.1	Soil mound resulting from the creation of the scrape in 2007 (West)	21
T21.2	Soil mound resulting from the creation of the scrape in 2007 (East)	21
T22.1	A large and ancient hawthorn	22

Target Notes (continued)

Target Note No.	Description	Comp. No.
W1 C23	Flushed Area	23
W2 C23	Flushed Area	23
WX Brindle	Outflow from the Common	Outside LNR
WX Clutterbucks	Outflow from the Common	Outside LNR

Note on the Survey Data Spreadsheet

The spreadsheet accompanying this report comprises four pages:

1. **SC** [*Stanmore Common*] **Survey 2010 Plant Records**: This is discussed in Appendix 1. Note that this spreadsheet includes data from a range of sources, and users might wish to filter the data using the right hand column 'Survey Name' for analysis and export purposes
2. **Compartment Details**: A summary of statistics for each Compartment
3. **Target Notes**: A key to the Target Notes included on the accompanying GIS and pdf maps of the LNR
4. **Fauna Records**: Records of the fauna observed in the course of the botanical survey.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Checklist of the Flora of Stanmore Common LNR (2010)

A total of 2634 taxon records are held on the Stanmore Common spreadsheet. Of these, 2001 records in 307 taxa were added by the Make Natural survey. Of the remaining 633, 328 records originate from Sean Tobin and 305 from other sources. Older historical records, including records of species which are considered to be long-extinct at the Common are not included.

All records in the Make Natural survey include location data to Compartment level. Of the remaining 633 records, 409 are recorded simply as Stanmore Common, without sub-locality.

The following checklist of the flora of Stanmore Common LNR includes 393 species/sub-species. 14 of these are presumed or likely to have become extinct within recent decades, and these are indicated with annotations. In addition to the current flora as recorded in 2010, this checklist includes those which are known to have occurred at the Common in recent decades as casuals, as well as a number of species whose current status at the Common remains unclear. This species list is not to be regarded as comprehensive and it is fully expected that records of additional species will be added to it in future.

Scientific Name	**Common Name**	**Notes**
Equisetaceae		
Equisetum arvense	Field horsetail	
Equisetum telmateia	Great horsetail	
Polypodiaceae		
Polypodium interjectum	Intermediate polypody	
Dennstaedtiaceae		
Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken	
Aspleniaceae		
Asplenium scolopendrium	Hart's tongue	
Woodsiaceae		
Athyrium filix-femina	Lady-fern	
Dryopteridaceae		
Dryopteris dilatata	Broad buckler-fern	
Dryopteris filix-mas	Male-fern	
Polystichum setiferum	Soft shield-fern	
Blechnaceae		
Blechnum spicant	Hard-fern	
Azollaceae		
Azolla filiculoides	Water fern	
Pinaceae		
Larix decidua	European larch	
Picea sp.	Spruce sp.	*Seedlings on New Heath. ID requires confirmation*
Pinus sylvestris	Scots pine	

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Cupressaceae		
Xanthocyparis nootkatensis	Nootka cypress	
Taxaceae		
Taxus baccata	Yew	
Nymphaeaceae		
Nymphaea alba	White water-lily	*Possibly extinct*
Ranunculaceae		
Anemone nemorosa	Wood anemone	
Aquilegia vulgaris	Columbine	
Clematis vitalba	Traveller's joy	
Ficaria verna subsp. *fertilis*	Lesser celandine	
Ficaria verna subsp. *verna*	Lesser celandine	
Ranunculus acris	Meadow buttercup	
Ranunculus bulbosus	Bulbous buttercup	
Ranunculus flammula	Lesser spearwort	
Ranunculus repens	Creeping buttercup	
Berberidacea		
Mahonia aquifolium	Oregon-grape	
Papaveraceae		
Argemone mexicana	Mexican poppy	
Chelidonium majus	Greater celandine	
Fumariaceae		
Fumaria officinalis	Common fumitory	
Pseudofumaria lutea	Yellow corydalis	
Platanaceae		
Platanus x *hispanica*	London plane	
Ulmaceae		
Ulmus procera	English elm	
Cannabaceae		
Humulus lupulus	Hop	
Urticaceae		
Urtica dioica	Common nettle	
Fagaceae		
Castanea sativa	Sweet chestnut	
Fagus sylvatica	Beech	
Fagus sylvatica f. *purpurea*	Copper beech	
Quercus cerris	Turkey oak	
Quercus ilex	Evergreen (Holm) oak	
Quercus petraea	Sessile oak	
Quercus robur	Pedunculate oak	

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Betulaceae		
Alnus glutinosus	Alder	
Betula pendula	Silver birch	
Betula pubescens	Downy birch	
Carpinus betulus	Hornbeam	
Corylus avellana	Hazel	
Chenopodiaceae		
Atriplex patula	Common orache	
Chenopodium album	Fat-hen	
Chenopodium polyspermum	Many-seeded goosefoot	
Caryophyllaceae		
Cerastium fontanum	Common mouse-ear	
Lychnis flos-cuculi	Ragged robin	
Moehringia trinervia	Three-nerved sandwort	
Myosoton aquaticum	Water chickweed	*Record requires confirmation*
Sagina procumbens	Procumbent pearlwort	
Silene dioica	Red campion	
Silene latifolia	White campion	
Stellaria alsine	Bog stitchwort	
Stellaria graminea	Lesser stitchwort	
Stellaria holostea	Greater stitchwort	
Stellaria media	Common chickweed	
Polygonaceae		
Fallopia japonica	Japanese knotweed	
Persicaria amphibia	Amphibious bistort	
Persicaria hydropiper	Water-pepper	
Persicaria lapathifolia	Pale persicaria	
Persicaria maculosa	Redshank	
Polygonum arenastrum	Equal-leaved knotgrass	
Polygonum aviculare	Knotgrass	
Rumex acetosa	Common sorrel	
Rumex acetosella	Sheep's sorrel	
Rumex conglomeratus	Clustered dock	
Rumex crispus	Curled dock	
Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved dock	
Rumex sanguineus	Wood dock	
Clusiaceae		
Hypericum humifusum	Trailing St John's-wort	*Possibly extinct*
Hypericum perforatum	Perforate St John's-wort	
Hypericum pulchrum	Slender St John's-wort	
Hypericum tetrapterum	Square-stalked St John's-wort	

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Tiliaceae		
Tilia x *europaea*	Lime	
Malvaceae		
Malva neglecta	Dwarf mallow	
Violaceae		
Viola odorata	Sweet violet	
Viola riviniana	Common dog violet	
Salicaceae		
Populus alba	White poplar	
Populus tremula	Aspen	
Salix alba	White willow	
Salix caprea	Goat willow	
Salix cinerea	Grey willow	
Salix fragilis	Crack-willow	
Salix x *sepulcralis*	Weeping willow	
Brassicaceae		
Alliaria petiolata	Garlic mustard	
Arabidopsis thaliana	Thale cress	
Armoracia rusticana	Horse-radish	
Barbarea vulgaris	Winter-cress	
Brassica nigra	Black mustard	
Capsella bursa-pastorius	Shepherd's-purse	
Cardamine flexuosa	Wavy bitter-cress	
Cardamine hirsuta	Hairy bitter-cress	
Cardamine pratensis	Cuckooflower	
Erysimum cheiranthoides	Treacle mustard	
Lunaria annua	Honesty	
Nasturtium officinale	Water-cress	
Rorippa palustris	Marsh yellow-cress	
Sisymbrium officinale	Hedge mustard	
Ericaceae		
Calluna vulgaris	Heather	
Rhododendron ponticum	Rhododendron	
Primulaceae		
Lysimachia nummularia	Creeping-Jenny	
Lysimachia punctata	Dotted loosestrife	
Primula vulgaris	Primrose	
Hydrangeaceae		
Philadelphus coronarius	Mock orange	

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Grossulariaceae		
Ribes nigrum	Black currant	
Ribes rubrum	Red currant	
Ribes uva-crispa	Gooseberry	
Crassulaceae		
Sedum telephium	Orpine	
Saxifragaceae		
Saxifraga cymbalaria	Celandine saxifrage	
Rosaceae		
Agrimonia eupatoria	Agrimony	
Cotoneaster horizontalis	Wall cotoneaster	
Crataegus laevigata	Midland hawthorn	
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	
Crataegus x *media*	Hybrid hawthorn	
Filipendula ulmaria	Meadowsweet	
Fragaria vesca	Wild strawberry	
Geum urbanum	Wood avens	
Malus pumila	Apple	
Malus sylvestris	Crab apple	
Potentilla anserina	Silverweed	
Potentilla erecta	Tormentil	
Potentilla reptans	Creeping cinquefoil	
Prunus avium	Wild cherry	
Prunus domestica subs.	Plum	
Prunus laurocerasus	Cherry laurel	
Prunus padus	Bird cherry	
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	
Pyracantha sp.	Firethorn sp.	
Rosa arvensis	Field rose	
Rosa canina	Dog-rose	
Rubus caesius	Dewberry	
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble	
Rubus idaeus	Raspberry	
Sorbus aria agg.	Whitebeam	
Sorbus aucuparia	Rowan	
Sorbus torminalis	Wild service-tree	

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Fabaceae		
Galega officinalis	Goat's-rue	
Laburnum anagyroides	Laburnum	
Lathyrus linifolius	Bitter-vetch	*Status uncertain*
Lathyrus pratensis	Meadow vetchling	
Lotus corniculatus	Common bird's-foot-trefoil	
Lotus pedunculatus	Greater bird's-foot-trefoil	
Medicago arabica	Spotted medick	
Medicago lupulina	Black medick	
Ornithopus perpusillus	Bird's-foot	
Robinia pseudoacacia	False-acacia	
Trifolium campestre	Hop trefoil	
Trifolium dubium	Lesser trefoil	
Trifolium pratense	Red clover	
Trifolium repens	White clover	
Ulex europaeus	Gorse	
Vicia sativa	Common vetch	
Vicia sepium	Bush vetch	
Haloragaceae		
Myriophyllum spicatum	Spiked water-milfoil	*Presumed extinct*
Onagraceae		
Chamerion angustifolium	Rosebay willowherb	
Circaea lutetiana	Enchanter's-nightshade	
Epilobium ciliatum	American willowherb	
Epilobium hirsutum	Great willowherb	
Epilobium montanum	Broad-leaved willowherb	
Epilobium obscurum	Short-fruited willowherb	
Epilobium palustre	Marsh willowherb	
Epilobium parviflorum	Hoary willowherb	
Epilobium tetragonum	Square-stalked willowherb	
Oenothera biennis	Common evening-primrose	
Celastraceae		
Euonymus europaeus	Spindle	
Aquifoliaceae		
Ilex aquifolium	Holly	
Euphorbiaceae		
Euphorbia helioscopia	Sun spurge	
Euphorbia peplus	Petty spurge	
Mercurialis perennis	Dog's mercury	

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Hippocastanaceae		
Aesculus hippocastanum	Horse chestnut	
Aceraceae		
Acer platanoides	Norway maple	
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore	
Oxalidaceae		
Oxalis acetosella	Wood sorrel	
Geraniaceae		
Geranium dissectum	Cut-leaved crane's-bill	
Geranium endressii	French crane's-bill	
Geranium lucidum	Shining crane's-bill	
Geranium molle	Dove's-foot crane's-bill	
Geranium robertianum	Herb-Robert	
Araliaceae		
Hedera helix	Ivy	
Apiaceae		
Aegopodium podagria	Ground-elder	
Aethusa cynapium	Fool's parsley	
Angelica sylvestris	Wild angelica	
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow parsley	
Chaerophyllum temulum	Rough chervil	
Conopodium majus	Pignut	
Heracleum mantegazzianum	Giant hogweed	
Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed	
Hydrocotyle vulgaris	Marsh pennywort	*Presumed extinct*
Oenanthe crocata	Hemlock water-dropwort	
Petroselinum segetum	Corn parsley	
Sanicula europaea	Sanicle	
Sison amomum	Stone parsley	
Apocyanaceae		
Vinca major	Greater periwinkle	
Vinca minor	Lesser periwinkle	
Vinca minor 'Argentovariegata'	Lesser periwinkle (variegated)	
Solanaceae		
Solanum dulcamara	Bittersweet	
Convolvulaceae		
Calystegia sepium	Hedge bindweed	
Calystegia silvatica	Large bindweed	
Calystegia x *lucana*	Hybrid bindweed	
Convolvulus arvensis	Field bindweed	

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Boraginaceae		
Myosotis arvensis	Field forget-me-not	
Myosotis laxa	Tufted forget-me-not	*Record requires confirmation*
Myosotis scorpioides	Water forget-me-not	
Myosotis sylvatica	Wood forget-me-not	
Pentaglottis sempervirens	Green alkanet	
Pulmonaria officinalis	Lungwort	
Symphytum officinale	Common comfrey	
Symphytum tuberosum	Tuberous comfrey	
Symphytum x *uplandicum*	Russian comfrey	
Lamiaceae		
Ajuga reptans	Bugle	
Ballota nigra	Black horehound	
Betonica officinalis	Betony	
Galeopsis tetrahit	Common Hemp-nettle	
Glechoma hederacea	Ground-ivy	
Lamiastrum galeobdolon ssp. *argentatum*	Yellow archangel (variegated)	
Lamium album	White dead-nettle	
Lamium purpureum	Red dead-nettle	
Lycopus europaeus	Gypsywort	
Mentha aquatica	Water mint	
Mentha arvensis	Corn Mint	
Prunella vulgaris	Selfheal	
Scutellaria minor	Lesser skullcap	*Presumed extinct*
Stachys palustris	Marsh woundwort	
Stachys sylvatica	Hedge woundwort	
Teucrium scordonia	Wood sage	
Callitrichaceae		
Callitriche platycarpa	Various-leaved water-starwort	*Presumed extinct*
Callitriche stagnalis	Common water-starwort	
Plantaginaceae		
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort plantain	
Plantago major	Greater plantain	
Plantago coronopus	Buck's-horn plantain	
Plantago media	Hoary plantain	*Record requires confirmation*
Buddlejaceae		
Buddleja davidii	Butterfly-bush	

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Oleaceae		
Fraxinus angustifolia	Narrow-leaved ash	
Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	
Ligustrum ovalifolium	Garden privet	
Ligustrum vulgare	Wild privet	
Scrophulariaceae		
Digitalis purpurea	Foxglove	
Linaria vulgaris	Common toadflax	
Odontites vernus	Red bartsia	
Scrophularia nodosa	Common figwort	
Verbascum thapsus	Great mullein	
Veronica beccabunga	Brooklime	
Veronica chamaedrys	Germander speedwell	
Veronica filiformis	Slender speedwell	
Veronica hederifolia	Ivy-leaved speedwell	
Veronica montata	Wood speedwell	
Veronica officinalis	Heath speedwell	
Veronica persica	Common field-speedwell	
Veronica serpyllifolia	Thyme-leaved speedwell	
Rubiaceae		
Galium mollugo	Hedge bedstraw	
Galium aparine	Cleavers	
Galium palustre	Marsh bedstraw	
Galium saxatile	Heath bedstraw	
Sambucus nigra	Elder	
Caprifoliaceae		
Lonicera periclymenum	Honeysuckle	
Symphoriocarpus albus	Snowberry	
Viburnum opulus	Guelder-rose	
Dipsacaceae		
Dipsacus fullonum	Wild Teasel	
Succisa pratensis	Devil's-bit scabious	

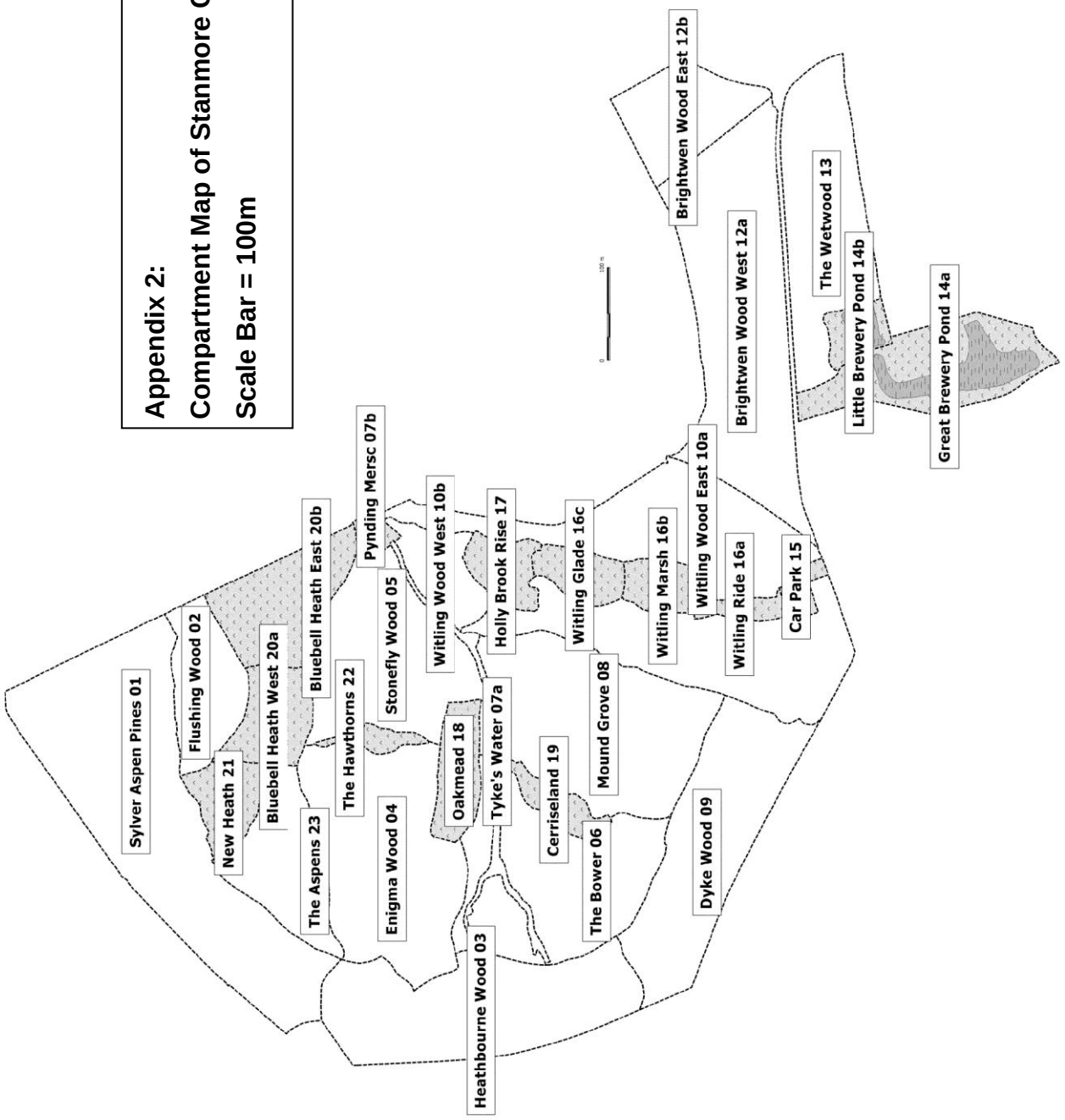
Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Asteraceae		
Achillea millefolium	Yarrow	
Achillea ptarmica	Sneezewort	*Possibly extinct*
Arctium minus	Lesser burdock	
Artemisia vulgaris	Mugwort	
Aster sp.	Michaelmas daisy	
Bellis perennis	Daisy	
Centaurea cyanus	Cornflower	
Centaurea montana	Perennial cornflower	
Centaurea nigra	Common knapweed	
Cirsium arvense	Creeping thistle	
Cirsium palustre	Marsh thistle	
Cirsium vulgare	Spear thistle	
Crepis capillaris	Smooth hawk's-beard	
Gnaphalium uliginosum	Marsh cudweed	
Hieracium sabaudum	Autumn hawkweed	
Hieracium umbellatum ssp. *umbellatum*	Umbellate hawkweed	
Hypochaeris radicata	Cat's-ear	
Lactuca serriola	Prickly lettuce	
Lapsana communis	Nipplewort	
Matricaria discoidea	Pineappleweed	
Matricaria recutita	Scented mayweed	
Mycelis muralis	Wall lettuce	
Petasites fragrans	Winter heliotrope	*Presumed extinct*
Petasites hybridus	Butterbur	
Pilosella officinarum	Mouse-ear hawkweed	
Scorzoneroides autumnalis	Autumn hawkbit	
Senecio erucifolius	Hoary ragwort	
Senecio jacobaea	Common ragwort	
Senecio squalidus	Oxford ragwort	
Senecio vulgaris	Groundsel	
Sonchus arvensis	Perennial sow-thistle	
Sonchus asper	Prickly sow-thistle	
Sonchus oleraceus	Smooth sow-thistle	
Tanacetum parthenium	Feverfew	
Taraxacum sp.	Dandelion	
Tragopogon pratensis	Goat's-beard	
Tussilago farfara	Colt's-foot	

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Potamogetonaceae		
Potamogeton natans	Broad-leaved pondweed	*Presumed extinct*
Potamogeton obtusifolius	Blunt-leaved pondweed	*Presumed extinct*
Zannichelliaceae		
Zannichellia palustris	Horned pondweed	*Presumed extinct*
Araceae		
Arum maculatum	Lords-and-Ladies	
Lemnaceae		
Lemna minor	Common duckweed	
Juncaceae		
Juncus acutiflorus	Sharp-flowered rush	
Juncus articulatus	Jointed rush	
Juncus bufonius	Toad rush	
Juncus bulbosus	Bulbous rush	
Juncus conglomeratus	Compact rush	
Juncus effusus	Soft rush	
Juncus inflexus	Hard rush	
Juncus squarrosus	Heath rush	
Luzula campestris	Field wood-rush	
Luzula multiflora ssp. *congesta*	Dense-headed heath wood-rush	
Luzula multiflora ssp. *multiflora*	Heath wood-rush	
Cyperaceae		
Carex acutiformis	Lesser pond-sedge	
Carex binervis	Green-ribbed sedge	
Carex divulsa	Grey sedge	
Carex flacca	Glaucous sedge	
Carex hirta	Hairy sedge	
Carex leporina	Oval sedge	
Carex nigra	Common Sedge	
Carex pendula	Pendulous sedge	
Carex pilulifera	Pill sedge	
Carex pseudocyperus	Cyperus sedge	
Carex remota	Remote sedge	
Carex sylvatica	Wood-sedge	
Isolepis setacea	Bristle club-rush	

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Poaceae		
Agrostis canina	Velvet bent	
Agrostis capillaris	Common bent	
Agrostis gigantea	Black bent	
Agrostis vineale	Brown bent.	
Agrostis stolonifera	Creeping bent	
Aira praecox	Early hair-grass	
Alopecurus geniculatus	Marsh foxtail	
Alopecurus pratensis	Meadow foxtail	
Anisantha sterilis	Barren brome	
Anthoxanthum odoratum	Sweet vernal-grass	
Arrhenatherum elatius	False oat-grass	
Avena sativa	Oat	
Brachypodium sylvaticum	False brome	
Bromopsis ramosa	Hairy-brome	
Bromus hordaceus	Soft-brome	
Calamagrostis epigejos	Wood small-reed	
Dactylis glomerata	Cock's-foot	
Danthonia decumbens	Heath-grass	
Deschampsia cespitosa	Tufted hair-grass	
Deschampsia flexuosa	Wavy hair-grass	
Elymus repens	Common couch	
Festuca filiformis	Fine-leaved sheep's-fescue	
Festuca ovina	Sheep's fescue	
Festuca rubra	Red fescue	
Glyceria declinata	Small sweet-grass	*Record requires confirmation*
Glyceria fluitans	Floating sweet-grass	
Glyceria maxima	Reed sweet-grass	*Presumed extinct*
Glyceria notata	Plicate sweet-grass	*Record requires confirmation*
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire-fog	
Holcus mollis	Creeping soft-grass	
Hordeum murinum	Wall barley	
Lolium perenne	Perennial rye-grass	
Millium effusum	Wood millet	
Molinia caerulea	Purple moor-grass	
Nardus stricta	Mat-grass	
Phalaris arundinacea	Reed canary-grass	
Phleum bertolonii	Smaller cat's-tail	
Phleum pratense	Timothy	
Phragmites australis	Common reed	

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Poa annua	Annual meadow-grass	
Poa nemoralis	Wood meadow-grass	
Poa pratensis	Smooth meadow-grass	
Poa trivialis	Rough meadow-grass	
Schedonorus arundinaceus	Tall fescue	
Schedonorus giganteus	Giant fescue	
Trisetum flavescens	Yellow oat-grass	
Triticum aestivum	Bread wheat	
Typhaceae		
Typha latifolia	Bulrush	*Presumed extinct*
Liliaceae		
Allium ursinum	Ramsons	
Convallaria majalis	Lily-of-the-valley	
Galanthus sp.	Snowdrop sp.	
Hyacinthoides hispanica	Spanish bluebell	
Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Bluebell	
Leucojum aestivum ssp. *pulchellum*	Summer snowflake	
Narcissus sp.	Daffodil (garden)	
Polygonatum multiflorum	Solomon's-seal	*ID requires confirmation*
Polygonatum odoratum	Angular Solomon's-seal	
Iridaceae		
Iris pseudacorus	Yellow iris	
Dioscoreaceae		
Tamus communis	Black bryony	
Orchidaceae		
Dactylorhiza fuchsii	Common spotted-orchid	
Dactylorhiza maculata	Heath spotted-orchid	
Epipactis helleborine	Broad-leaved helleborine	

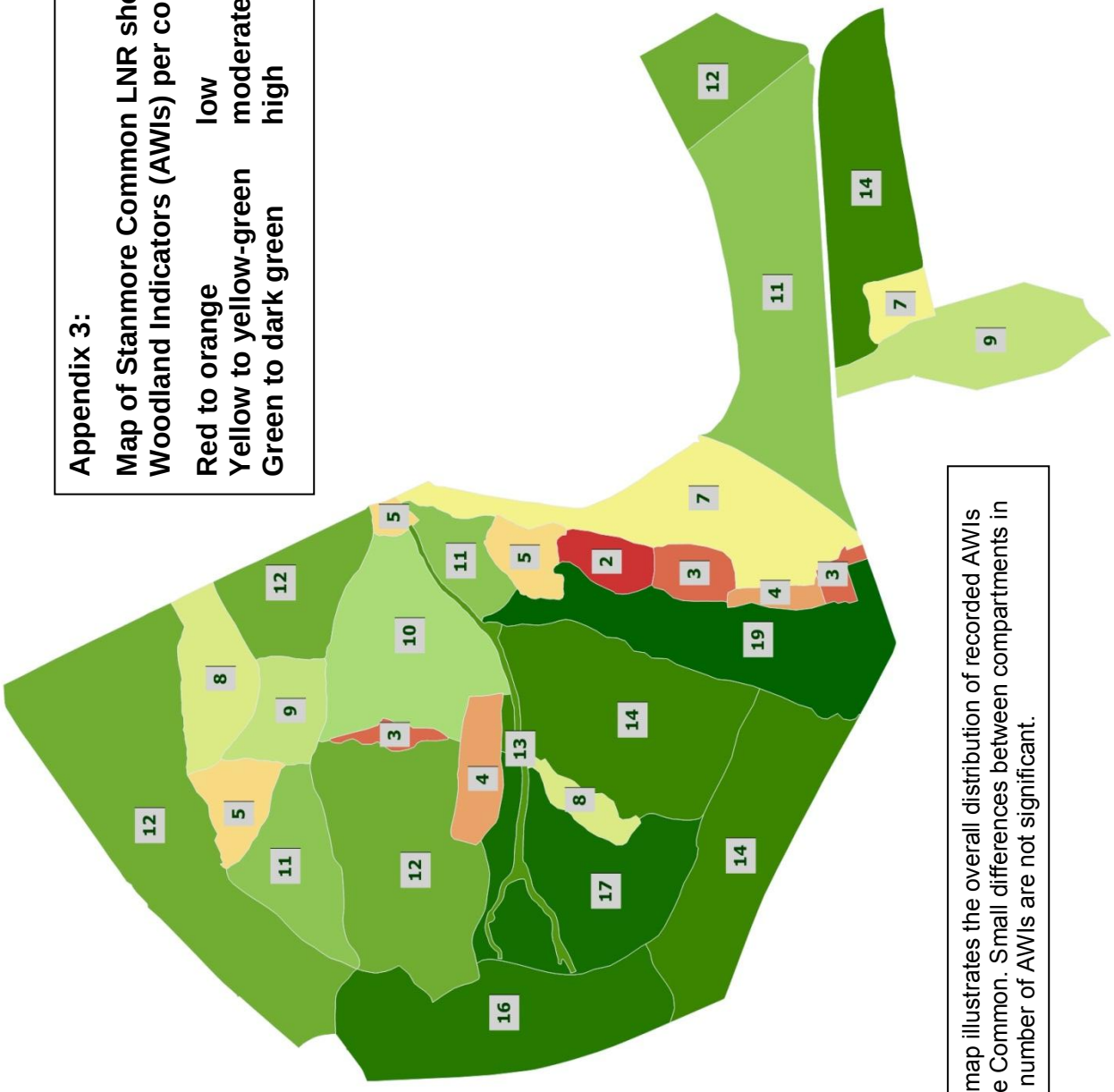
Appendix 2:
Compartment Map of Stanmore Common LNR
Scale Bar = 100m



Appendix 3:

Map of Stanmore Common LNR showing Ancient Woodland Indicators (AWIs) per compartment

Red to orange low
Yellow to yellow-green moderate
Green to dark green high



The map illustrates the overall distribution of recorded AWIs at the Common. Small differences between compartments in their number of AWIs are not significant.

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Notes

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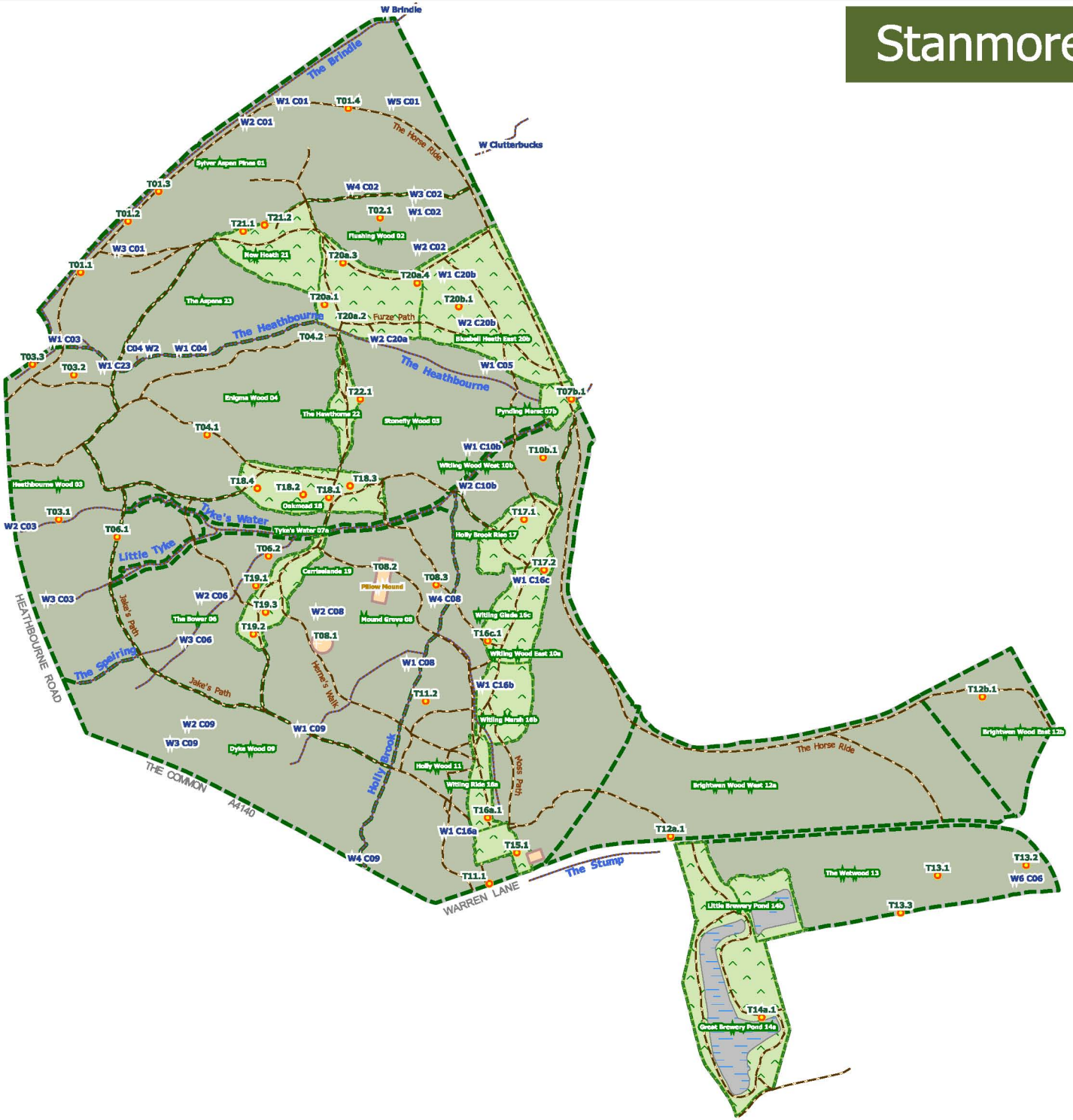

KEY TO MAP

Road Names
text — Labels

Path Names
text — Labels

Watercourse Names
text — Labels

Target Notes Labels
text — Labels

Man Made Features Labels
text — Labels

Wetland Features Labels
text — Labels

Management Compartment Names
text — Labels

Target Notes
Points

Paths
Lines

Watercourses
Lines

Man Made Features
Areas

Ponds (permanent)
Areas

Clearings & Grassland
Areas

Management Compartments
Areas

Stanmore Common LNR 2010. v1.0
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