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Restharrow Scrape and Field Reserve Conservation Plan

This document outlines the future conservation management plans for Restharrow Scrape and Field Reserve (the reserve) a site which had been managed and developed from about 2001 onwards for wildlife bio-diversity. The site was significantly extended in 2019 by the enlargement of an existing Scrape by excavation, the addition of a second bird observation hide, extension of an existing footpath and other ancillary work and installations.

The 2019 development was designed to improve bio-diversity in a complementary way to those being implemented in the adjacent areas by a range of other agencies. All of these are designed to reinstate, protect and improve wetland and coastal wildlife habitats in the area.

Description of Reserve



© Swift Aerial Photography

The reserve is land around and adjacent to Restharrow Scrape at Sandwich Bay, Kent (centred on NGR TR 3620 5710) and known as the Restharrow Scrape Field (**Appendix 1**).

Since its inception in 2002 and as a result of natural maturation processes and appropriate conservation management by SBBOT, the Restharrow Scrape has become a steadily-improving wildlife habitat. It attracts thousands of birds every year, including many which stay to breed, and provides a safe sanctuary.

As a result, numbers of human visitors to the site have also increased. It is not uncommon at peak periods (usually on a Sunday morning) to have 20 or more people occupying the bird hide at any one time, with a daily throughput of over 100 people. Overall, the total annual footfall now amounts to thousands of visitors.

Aims

The aims of this management plan are to provide a practical document for the implementation of work programmes to meet key objectives. These are to:

1. Maintain and enhance the important habitats and species of the reserve to good condition whilst recognising climate change is likely to influence the status of some of these habitats.
2. Maintain and enhance public enjoyment of the site through good public access and visitor experience.
3. Conserve the distinctive landscape character and spirit of place the reserve has.
4. Ensure the intrinsic interest of the reserve remains relevant to the surrounding landscape.

Vision

The reserve increases the bio-diversity on the area by providing extensive breeding, feeding and safe roosting areas for water birds and other bird species, as well as additional opportunities for the further growth of plant species and a range of vertebrates and invertebrates.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Legislation & policy/compliance

1.1. Designations

The reserve does not carry any designation at present (2020) but is adjacent to the Pegwell-Sandwich Bay Ramsar site; Special Protection Area; Site of Special Scientific Interest; National Nature Reserve and the RSPB. Lydden Valley Reserve. The development at Restharrow Scrape also supports National Planning Policy Framework, Dover District Council and Worth Parish Neighbourhood Plan objectives on the promotion and improvement of bio-diversity.

1.2. Tenure

The property had been held under leasehold by Sandwich Bay Bird Observatory Trust (SBBOT) since 2001. The sale of the site by the previous owners to SBBOT was agreed in late 2017 and the actual purchase took place in the Spring of 2019. As part of this transaction, a covenant was agreed which will protect the land in perpetuity as a site dedicated to nature conservation.

1.3. Policies

The policies of SBBOT relevant to the management of the reserve are:

Health and Safety Policy

These documents are available on the SBBOT website www.sbbot.org.uk and at the Field Centre.

1.4. Health and safety rationale

Specific hazards & risks

- Public access

- Avian disease
- Presence of livestock
- Use of boats by conservation team

1.5. RPA and stewardship info:

RPA parcels ID – TR3657 1108 and TR3657 1808

2. External influences affecting management

- Agri-environment schemes
- Public access
- Access for Old Downs farm

3. Environmental information

3.1. Topography, Geology & soils

Spoil from the 2001-2002 and 2019 excavations was distributed around the perimeter of much of the site in the form of raised bunds which, after intervening subsidence, are at an approximate height of 5.0 metres above mean sea level, 2 metres above local ground level. The Scrape was designed and excavated to have varying depths of water to accommodate different species of wildlife, shelving edges and muddy margins for wading birds and several islands to provide safe breeding and 'loafing' sites for the ducks and wading birds likely to visit the site.

Apart from the raised bunds, the topography of the site is predominantly flat and at a height of approximately 3 metres above mean sea level.

Appendix 8 is the original survey map to which the 2019 contractor worked. There were some minor alterations to the siting of islands and the result of these is shown on the photograph under Habitat Management: Islands.

In common with most of the adjacent flat farmland to the south-west, the site is the result of coastal deposition about 2500 - 2000 years ago and is made up almost entirely of marine sands with the admixture of some marine silt and which is known as the Sandown Series. This produces the very light, friable and free-draining soil and sub-soil in the area.

3.2 Hydrology

The Scrape is entirely reliant on rain water. The design of the later excavations was expected to allow more water to be held even over the summer months.

HABITAT AND SPECIES REVIEW

SPECIES

Birds:

Prior to the excavation of the former Restharrow Scrape in 2001-2, the site was used for intensive arable farming. At that time the land was enclosed by an ordinary post and barbed wire fence and there was no

other natural or semi-natural vegetation. As a result, the avian bio-diversity was very restricted, with just a few species recorded.

Since the construction of the original Restharrow Scrape, the avian bio-diversity, as measured by species-richness, has increased by a factor of approximately 20. This has been as a result of the provision of standing water of different depths, islands to provide secure breeding and roosting areas, muddy margins, marginal reed-beds and scrub areas, all providing new and varied habitats for a much wider range of species. As at 2018, the total bird-list was in excess of 200, with about 30 of these being species breeding on, around, or in the near vicinity of the Scrape (**Appendix 2**).

A range of scarce or rare visiting bird species occur annually, or less frequently, as non-breeding birds.

The Scrape also attracts migrants, especially wading birds moving to and from their Arctic breeding grounds and in the winter the safe roosting site provided by the Scrape has attracted growing numbers of duck, especially Eurasian Teal (*Anas crecca*) (up to 1650 birds in November 2016). The winter population of this species at this safe daytime roost site far exceeds any recent counts made from anywhere on the adjacent Ramsar, SPA and SSSI sites and make the Restharrow Scrape now the most important single site on the East Kent coast for the species. Counts of wintering waders such as Common Snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*) have also increased, with up to 30 of this species present in recent years.

Plants:

A botanical survey of the reserve conducted between 2011-2018 and updated in 2020 by the official Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland botanical recorder for the East Kent Vice-County has produced a provisional indicative list of some one hundred species of plant (**Appendix 3**). The list of species is typical of the mixed wetland and dry grassland habitat of this type of site.

There are several plants which are uncommon at a county level. These are Creeping Willow (*Salix repens* var. *argentea*), Yellow Bartsia (*Parentucellia viscosa*) and Southern Marsh Orchid (*Dactylorhiza praetermissa*).

Mammals:

Surveys conducted in the area of the Restharrow Scrape over the past 16 years have revealed a range of resident breeding mammal species but none have specially protected status (**Appendix 5**).

In particular, a number of bat species (*Chiroptera*) have been recorded by sonogram and visual survey work in recent years in the general area and sometimes observed feeding over the Scrape. It is assumed that the bats that have been recorded over the Scrape have been flying in to feed from more suitable roosting sites in the adjacent areas or, in some cases, are migrant individuals.

There have been no confirmed sightings of Water Vole from the reserve since the existing Scrape was excavated in 2002, nor any evidence of latrines, burrows, footprints or runs.

Reptiles and amphibians:

Surveys have been conducted in the area of the reserve since 2001 and a few common species have been recorded. (**Appendix 6**)

Insects and other Invertebrates:

Surveys of the butterflies, moths and dragonflies of the Sandwich Bay Estate, including the reserve area, have been conducted for many years by SBBOT and detailed data-sets have been built up. Almost all of the more unusual species that have been recorded are either migrants to the site or species which occur more commonly on adjacent golf-courses, coastal or other habitats. (**Appendices 4&7**).

The only insects of especial note which are known to occur on the reserve, around the margins of Restharrow Scrape, are two species of micro-moth, the leaf-miner *Stigmella zelleriella*, whose food-plant is the Creeping Willow (*Salix repens* var. *arenaria*) and *Phyllonorycter quinquegutella*, whose caterpillars also feed on the Willow. Sandwich Bay is the only known site in Britain for *Stigmella zelleriella*. It was previously confined to a gully on the adjacent SBBOT-owned Restharrow Dunes Nature Reserve but the Creeping Willow has seeded itself naturally onto Restharrow Scrape within the past ten years and the moth has followed, thus setting up a new and protected site for both plant and moth species. *Phyllonorycter quinquegutella* is a nationally scarce moth species and rare elsewhere in Kent. **(Appendix 6)**

HABITATS

Codes refer to the key on the Habitat Map **(Appendix 1)**

Semi-improved Grassland (Code S1): this is especially extensive across the north-west half of the Field, but also occurring in other areas. This grassland is dominated by grass species and also has an assemblage of forbs such as Common Birds-foot Trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), Red Clover (*Trifolium pratense*), Common Ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*), Red Bartsia (*Odontites vernus*) and some Yellow Bartsia (*Parentucellia viscosa*) and Silverweed (*Potentilla anserina*) **(Appendix 3)**. The area is known as a breeding site for such bird species as Meadow Pipit (*Anthus pratensis*), small numbers of duck and geese graze the shorter grass areas in winter and the area also has the commoner small mammals (voles etc.) present. A nestbox to encourage breeding Barn Owls (*Tyto alba*) was erected in 2019.

Open water (Code G1) with islands: the area of open fresh water of the Scrape fluctuates seasonally, being at its highest in late-winter and at its lowest in late-summer. The supply of water is entirely from precipitation and from ground-water with the depth varying from a few inches at the margins to 2.7 metres in the deeper pools. Apart from filamentous *algae* in some of the shallows, the only plants of the open water area are small patches of Water Crowfoot (*Ranunculus* sp.). The open water areas attract a range of wildfowl – geese, ducks, swans, with peak numbers in the winter **(Appendix 2)** and is the main source of visitor attraction, while the islands attract breeding species such as Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*), Oystercatcher (*Himantopus ostralegus*) and, for the first time at the site, in 2018, several breeding pairs of the nationally-scarce Avocet (*Avosetta recurvirostra*).

Marginal vegetation (coded with red circle and central dot symbol on map): marginal vegetation around the edge of the Scrape consists of stands of Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*), Bulrush (*Typha latifolia*), various sedges (*Carex* spp.) and grasses (Poaceae) and, in places somewhat further removed from the water's edge, Creeping Willow (*Salix repens* var. *arenaria*) is well-established, having spread by self-seeding from the only other known nearby site in a gully in the Restharrow Dunes, some 400 metres away. Up to 50 specimens of Southern Marsh Orchid (*Dactylorhiza praetermissa*) have occurred in recent years and, in places, including on at least one of the islands in the Scrape, colonies of Yellow Bartsia (*Parentucellia viscosa*). The margins of the Scrape are favoured feeding and 'loafing' areas for many water-bird species, including migrant wading birds, and a hunting area for a number of species of dragonfly and damselfly (*Odonata*) that have been identified on the Scrape **(Appendices 2&4)**.

Scattered scrub (Coded as green crosses on the map): scattered scrub trees consisting of three species of willow (*Salix* spp.), up to about 4 metres high, have colonised parts of the reserve on the NE corner.

Ruderal vegetation (Code C3): ruderal vegetation occurs primarily on the raised earth bunds which surround much of the Scrape Field. Plant species include Bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), Mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*), Common Ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*), Hogweed (*Heracleum sphondylium*), Bristly Ox-tongue (*Helminthotheca echioides*), Hoary Mustard (*Hirschfieldia incana*) and others.

HABITAT MANAGEMENT

Semi-improved Grassland: the main management activity consists of light grazing by cattle in the winter months. The southern edge of the field area between the fence and the edge of the Scrape is cut annually outside the breeding season for winter wildfowl grazing. Grazing licence to be reviewed September 2021

Open water: maintain the area of open water

Islands:

Numbered as on plan below



1a & 1b: Maintain open area of shingle

Annual cut of the vegetated areas outside the breeding season. Cut material removed

2-9: Annual cut of vegetation outside the breeding season. Cut material removed

Control excessive growth of reed

4: Leave area of reed to north and east

10-12: Maintain channels around islands by cutting reed growth after breeding season. Cut material removed

Clear flat tops by annual cut of vegetation outside the breeding season. Cut material removed

Leave reeds on sloping sides

Review September 2021

13-15: remove willows except *repens*

Marginal vegetation: Prevention of encroachment by tall shrubs

Maintain short grassy sward in front of hides. Cut material removed

Scattered scrub: Control growth of scrub vegetation in NE corner of reserve

Ruderal vegetation: Remove any tree growth from bunds and elsewhere on the reserve

MANAGEMENT OF AREAS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Maintain fences, gates and paths

Cut and remove any vegetation encroaching on the paths

Sand Martins

Attempt sound luring again in 2021 following reduction of planned activity in 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions

Once banks stabilise cut a face in the bund close to the water

Review activity and consider building an artificial Sand Martin bank

KEY

C3	RUDEAL VEGETATION	○ ○	MARGINAL VEGETATION	○ ○
H6.5	DUNE PASTURE	X X	SCATTERED SCRUB	X X
G1	OPEN WATER	■	BUILDINGS	■
J2.6/G1	SEASONAL DITCH	*	CAR PARK	*
H3	SHINGLE		* LEVEL FLUCTUATES	

RESTIARROW SCRAPE AND FIELD HABITAT MAP BASED ON JNCC PHASE ONE ECOLOGY SURVEY

APPENDIX 2

Status of the commoner birds of Restharrow Scrape and Field.

	English name	Scientific name	Status
1	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	Resident. Breeds – one to three pairs in recent years.
2	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	Occasional visitor, all times of the year, usually in ones or twos.
3	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	Occasional visitor, all times of the year, with up to three birds recorded on any given day.
4	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Occasional visitor, all times of the year. Usually as single birds.
5	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	Resident. Breeds – one pair in recent years.
6	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	Mainly winter visitor – up to 200 birds.
7	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	Winter visitor. Occasionally a pair breeds.
8	Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>	Winter visitor in small numbers.
9	Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>	Winter visitor in small numbers.
10	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	Winter visitor in growing numbers – up to 1650 in recent years. Restharrow Scrape is now the most important single site in coastal East Kent for the species and has more of this species than on the neighbouring Ramsar or SPA sites.
11	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Resident. Breeds – one to three pairs in recent years. More in winter
12	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	Winter visitor in small numbers.
13	Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>	Occasional spring and autumn migrant, though rarely more than one or two birds on any given day.
14	Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>	Winter visitor-up to about 20 birds.
15	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	Occasional winter visitor.
16	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	Winter visitor and occasional breeder in small numbers (one or two pairs).
17	Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	Seen regularly throughout the year, more so in winter
18	Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	Uncommon winter visitor.
19	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	Breeds in the general area and hunts over the Scrape.
20	Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	Breeds in the general area.
21	Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Breeds in the general area and hunts over edges of the Scrape area. Peak counts of up to three or four birds are usual in September.
22	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Occasional visiting single birds to the Scrape area.
23	Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>	Regular visitor in winter, but usually as single birds.
24	Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>	One or two breeding pairs in the area.

25	Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	Occasional records of one or two birds, especially in winter.
26	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>	Winter visitor in small numbers – perhaps up to 2-4 birds.
27	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	Resident and several pairs breed.
28	Common Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	Resident and several pairs breed
29	Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	One or two pairs attempt to breed in most years on islands in the Scrape
30	Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	Up to six pairs attempted to breed in 2018, with some success - a 'first' breeding record for the site
31	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	Up to 3 or 4 pairs attempt to breed on the Scrape islands every year, with larger numbers (up to 1500) present in winter.
32	Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	Occasional visitor in winter usually in small numbers, but up to 500 have been recorded.
33	Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	Occasional visiting birds in autumn/ winter
34	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	Spring and autumn migrant in small numbers – up to 2 or 3 birds at any one time. Has bred.
35	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	Winter visitor in steadily growing numbers – up to 30 birds in the past 3 winters.
36	Jack Snipe	<i>Lymnocyptes minimus</i>	One of the best sites in Kent to see this secretive species in autumn and winter, albeit in small numbers (typically up to 3 or 4 birds).
37	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	Occasional visiting migrants in spring and autumn – usually no more than 1 or 2 individuals.
38	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Occasional visiting migrants in spring and autumn – usually no more than 1 or 2 individuals.
39	Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	Winter visitor – up to about 15/20 birds.
40	Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	Occasional winter visitor in ones or twos and has occasionally bred.
41	Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	Regular spring and autumn migrants in small numbers.
42	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	Regular spring and autumn migrants in small numbers.
43	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	Regular spring and autumn migrant.
44	Common Sandpiper	<i>Arctitis hypoleucos</i>	Regular spring and autumn migrants in small numbers.
45	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	Scarce spring and autumn migrant.
46	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	Occasional visitor, especially in winter.
47	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	Occasional visiting migrants in spring and autumn.
48	Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>	Visits Scrape in small numbers at all times of year.
49	Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	Visits Scrape in small numbers at all times of year.
50	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	Visits Scrape in small numbers at all times of year.

51	Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	Visits Scrape in small numbers at all times of year.
52	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	Visits Scrape in small numbers at all times of year.
53	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	Very occasional visitor.
54	Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>	Flocks visit adjacent area in winter.
55	Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	Resident. Breeds. Flocks in winter.
56	Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	Occasional visitor.
57	Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	Breeds in the area and visits the Scrape to drink
58	Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	Occasional visitor and regular breeder but becoming less common.
59	Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	Present in the local area. Has bred on site, (2020).
60	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>	Present in the local area.
61	Short-eared Owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>	Winter visitor in most years and had bred in the very local area in recent years.
62	Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	Summer visitor – ‘fly-over’ birds only.
63	Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Occasionally in winter months.
64	Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>	Resident. Breeds in area.
65	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	Breed locally and visits the Scrape area.
66	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	Migrants only. Could breed if suitable habitat provided.
67	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Migrants visit Scrape in spring and autumn
68	House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	Breeds locally and uses mud from Scrape for nesting material.
69	Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	Breeds locally. Present all year round.
70	Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	Now only a migrant. Much scarcer than in the past.
71	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Spring and autumn visitor.
72	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	Breeds in the Scrape area – 1 or 2 pairs.
73	Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	Breeds in the Scrape area – 2-3 pairs.
74	Duncock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	Breeds in the Scrape area – 2-3 pairs.
75	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	Breeds in the Scrape area – 1 or 2 pairs.
76	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	Resident in the general area and visits the Scrape occasionally.
77	Cetti’s Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	Mainly autumn and winter visitor.
78	Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	Summer migrant and several breeding pairs.
79	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	Regular summer migrant and breeder.
80	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	Migrants in the spring and autumn.
81	Chiffchaff	<i>P. collybita</i>	Migrants in the spring and autumn.
82	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	Migrants in the spring and autumn.
83	Whitethroat	<i>S. communis</i>	Summer migrant. Several pairs breed around the Scrape area.
84	Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	Resident and breeds in the area.

85	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	Breeds nearby and occasional winter visitor to the Scrape area.
86	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	Breeds nearby but mainly a winter visitor to the Scrape area.
87	Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	Breeds nearby but mainly a winter visitor to the Scrape area.
88	Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	Mainly an autumn migrant, over-flying the area..
89	Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	Resident in the area. Visits Scrape regularly.
90	Rook	<i>C. frugilegus</i>	Resident in the area. Visits Scrape regularly.
91	Carrion Crow	<i>C. corone</i>	Resident in the area. Visits Scrape regularly.
92	Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Resident in the area. Visits Scrape regularly.
93	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	Resident in the wider area. Visits Scrape occasionally in winter.
94	Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	Resident and breeds in the area. Visits Scrape regularly.
95	Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	Resident and breeds in the area. Visits Scrape regularly.
96	Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	Resident and breeds – 1 or 2 pairs
97	Corn Bunting	<i>E. calandra</i>	Two pairs resident and breeding at the edge of the Scrape Field area.
NOTE: a further 100-plus species of bird have been recorded on Restharrow Scrape as casual visitors or vagrant birds, bringing the total bird checklist for the site to over 200 species.			

APPENDIX 3

Indicative list of the flora of the Restharrow Scrape and Field, 2011 - 2020

Compiled by Sue Buckingham - official Recorder for the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland for the East Kent Vice-County

	English name	Scientific name	Date first recorded	Comment
1	Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	21 Jul 2012	
2	Black Bent	<i>Agrostis gigantea</i>	21 Jul 2012	
3	Creeping Bent	<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	21 Jul 2012	
4	Marsh Foxtail	<i>Alopecurus geniculatus</i>	19 Jun 2020	Occasional with Toad Rush on wet path
5	Meadow Foxtail	<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>	19 Jun 2020	
6	Scarlet Pimpernel	<i>Anagallis arvensis subsp arvensis</i>	21 Jul 2012	Occasional
7	Bugloss	<i>Anchusa arvensis</i>	19 Jun 2020	Occasional on perimeter bank
8	Barren Brome	<i>Anisantha sterilis</i>	19 Jun 2020	
9	False Oat-Grass	<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	21 Jul 2012	
10	Garden Asparagus	<i>Asparagus officinalis</i>	19 Jun 2020	Scattered plants
11	Sea Club-rush	<i>Bolboschoenus maritimus</i>	21 Jul 2012	
12	Butterfly-bush	<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	19 Jun 2020	A few plants on perimeter banks
13	Glaucous Sedge	<i>Carex flacca</i>	21 Jul 2012	
14	Hairy Sedge	<i>Carex hirta</i>	21 Jul 2012	Frequent with Toad Rush
15	Greater Pond-sedge	<i>Carex riparia</i>	06 Aug 2020	
16	Common Centaury	<i>Centaurium erythraea</i>	01 Aug 2011	
17	Common Mouse-ear	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	21 Jul 2012	
18	Fathen	<i>Chenopodium album</i>	21 Jul 2012	
19	Red Goosefoot	<i>Chenopodium rubrum</i>	06 Aug 2020	
20	Creeping Thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	01 Aug 2011	
21	Spear Thistle	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	19 Jun 2020	
22	Canadian Fleabane	<i>Conyza canadensis</i>	21 Jul 2012	
23	New Zealand Pigmyweed	<i>Crassula helmsii</i>	19 Jun 2020	Occasional at present on drawdown zone and as an aquatic
24	Smooth Hawk's-beard	<i>Crepis capillaris</i>	29 Oct 2011	
25	Crested Dog's-tail	<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	21 Jul 2012	
26	Cock's-foot	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	21 Jul 2012	
27	Southern Marsh-orchid	<i>Dactylorhiza praetermissa</i>	21 Jul 2012	Occasional with most around the Graham Crick hide
28	Common Spike-rush	<i>Eleocharis palustris</i>	01 Aug 2011	
29	Sea Couch	<i>Elytrigia athericus</i>	06 Aug 2020	
30	Great Willowherb	<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	29 Oct 2011	
31	Hoary Willowherb	<i>Epilobium parviflorum</i>	21 Jul 2012	
32	Square-stalked Willowherb	<i>Epilobium tetragonum</i>	21 Jul 2012	Occasional
33	Field Horsetail	<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	21 Jul 2012	

34	Hemp-agrimony	<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	19 Jun 2020	
35	Tall Fescue	<i>Festuca arundinacea</i>	21 Jul 2012	
36	Cut-leaved Crane's-bill	<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	19 Jun 2020	
37	Small-flowered Crane's-bill	<i>Geranium pusillum</i>	21 Jul 2012	
38	Hogweed	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	21 Jul 2012	
39	Hoary Mustard	<i>Hirschfeldia incana</i>	29 Oct 2011	
40	Yorkshire-fog	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	01 Aug 2011	
41	Marsh Pennywort	<i>Hydrocotyle vulgaris</i>	01 Aug 2011	Occasional on drawdown area
42	Sharp Rush	<i>Juncus acutus</i>	01 Aug 2011	
43	Jointed Rush	<i>Juncus articulatus</i>	21 Jul 2012	
44	Toad Rush	<i>Juncus bufonius</i>	21 Jul 2012	More or less carpeting the path around the water
45	Hard Rush	<i>Juncus inflexus</i>	01 Aug 2011	
46	Grass Vetchling	<i>Lathyrus nissolia</i>	19 Jun 2020	Found just one plant
47	Meadow Vetchling	<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	01 Aug 2011	
48	Perennial Rye-grass	<i>Lolium perenne</i>	21 Jul 2012	
49	Common Bird's-foot-trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	01 Aug 2011	
50	Scented Mayweed	<i>Matricaria chamomilla</i>	19 Jun 2020	
51	Water Mint	<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	06 Aug 2020	
52	Field Forget-me-not	<i>Myosotis arvensis</i>	19 Jun 2020	
53	Tufted Forget-me-not	<i>Myosotis laxa</i>	06 Aug 2020	Occasional on the drawdown zone
54	Spiked Water-milfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	21 Jul 2012	
55	Large-flowered Evening-primrose	<i>Oenothera glazioviana</i>	21 Jul 2012	Perimeter bank
56	Red Bartsia	<i>Odontites vernus</i>	21 Jul 2012	
57	Common Restharrow	<i>Ononis repens</i>	21 Jul 2012	
58	Common Poppy	<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	03 Jun 2010	Perimeter bank
59	Yellow Bartsia	<i>Parentucellia viscosa</i>	01 Aug 2011	
60	Redshank	<i>Persicaria maculosa</i>	21 Jul 2012	
61	Common Reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i>	29 Oct 2011	
62	Bristly Oxtongue	<i>Picris echioides</i>	03 Jun 2010	
63	Ribwort Plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	03 Jun 2010	
64	Greater Plantain	<i>Plantago major</i>	21 Jul 2012	
65	Annual Meadow-grass	<i>Poa annua</i>	06 Apr 2011	
66	Rough Meadow-grass	<i>Poa trivialis</i>	21 Jul 2012	
67	Knotgrass	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	06 Aug 2020	
68	Fennel Pondweed	<i>Potamogeton pectinatus</i>	06 Aug 2020	
69	Silverweed	<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	21 Jul 2012	
70	Barren Strawberry	<i>Potentilla sterilis</i>	19 Jun 2020	
71	Common Fleabane	<i>Pulicaria dysenterica</i>	21 Jul 2012	
72	Meadow Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	19 Jun 2020	
73	Brackish Water-crowfoot	<i>Ranunculus baudotii</i>	19 Jun 2020	Aquatic and drawdown area
74	Lesser Spearwort	<i>Ranunculus flammula</i>	21 Jul 2012	
75	Hairy Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus sardous</i>	19 Jun 2020	Occasional on path around the water

76	Celery-leaved Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus sceleratus</i>	19 Jun 2020	A few plants on drawdown zone
77	Yellow-rattle	<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	01 Aug 2011	
78	Narrow-fruited Water-cress	<i>Rorippa microphylla</i>	21 Jul 2012	
79	Bramble	<i>Rubus fruticosus agg</i>	21 Jul 2012	
80	Common Sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	19 Jun 2020	
81	Clustered Dock	<i>Rumex conglomeratus</i>	06 Aug 2020	
82	Curled Dock	<i>Rumex crispus</i>	29 Oct 2011	
83	Grey Willow	<i>Salix cinerea</i>	21 Jul 2012	
84	Crack-willow	<i>Salix fragilis</i>	21 Jul 2012	
85	Creeping Willow	<i>Salix repens var. argentea</i>	01 Aug 2011	Particularly on the islands
86	Osier	<i>Salix viminalis</i>	21 Jul 2012	
87	Brookweed	<i>Samolus valerandi</i>	21 Jul 2012	Occasional on drawdown zone
88	Tall Fescue	<i>Schedonorus arundinaceus</i>	19 Jun 2020	
89	Grey Club-rush	<i>Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani</i>	21 Jul 2012	
90	Common Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	29 Oct 2011	
91	Groundsel	<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	19 Jun 2020	
92	White Campion	<i>Silene latifolia</i>	19 Jun 2020	
93	Black Nightshade	<i>Solanum nigrum</i>	19 Jun 2020	
94	Perennial Sow-thistle	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>	01 Aug 2011	
95	Smooth Sow-thistle	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	21 Jul 2012	
96	Corn Spurrey	<i>Spergula arvensis</i>	19 Jun 2020	Occasional on recently created sand banks with <i>Papaver rhoeas</i>
97	Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum agg.</i>	03 Jun 2010	
98	Upright Hedge-parsley	<i>Torilis japonica</i>	01 Aug 2011	
99	Lesser Trefoil	<i>Trifolium dubium</i>	21 Jul 2012	
100	Alsike Clover	<i>Trifolium hybridum</i>	21 Jul 2012	
101	Red Clover	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	21 Jul 2012	
102	Scentless Mayweed	<i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i>	21 Jul 2012	
103	Bulrush	<i>Typha latifolia</i>	21 Jul 2012	
104	Common Nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	01 Aug 2011	
105	Pink Water-speedwell	<i>Veronica catenata</i>	01 Aug 2011	Occasional on drawdown area with galled ovaries from a weevil called <i>Gymnetron villosulum</i>
106	Tufted Vetch	<i>Vicia cracca</i>	19 Jun 2020	
107	Common Vetch	<i>Vicia sativa subsp. segetalis</i>	19 Jun 2020	
108	Smooth Tare	<i>Vicia tetrasperma</i>	19 Jun 2020	
109	Field Pansy	<i>Viola arvensis</i>	19 Jun 2020	
	<i>Chara vulgaris var papillata</i> (to be confirmed later on).			

APPENDIX 4

Commoner Dragonflies and Damselflies (*Odonata*) of Restharrow Scrape and Field.

English name	Scientific name	Status at Restharrow
Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i>	A recent immigrant to the U.K. Seen annually in small numbers since 2004 and almost certainly breeds.
Black-tailed Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum cancellatum</i>	Up to 20 or more records annually and breeds on the Scrape.
Ruddy Darter	<i>Sympetrum sanguineum</i>	Annual in small numbers.
Common Darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>	Regular breeder
Variable Damselfly	<i>Coenagrion pulchellum</i>	Occasional records only
Small Red-eyed Damselfly	<i>Erythromma viridulum</i>	Recent colonist, recorded annually from the Scrape
Common Blue Damselfly	<i>Enallagma cyathigerum</i>	Recorded annually in fair numbers
Blue-tailed Damselfly	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>	Recorded annually in good numbers
Brown Hawker	<i>Aeshna grandis</i>	Occasional records only.
Migrant Hawker	<i>Aeshna mixta</i>	Regular breeder.
Emperor	<i>Anax imperator</i>	Has been seen egg-laying (ovipositing) and a few territories occupied each year.
Four-spotted Chaser	<i>Libellula quadrimaculata</i>	Occasional records only.
Scarce Chaser	<i>Libellula fulva</i>	Occasional records only.
NOTE: a number of other species of Odonata occur in the Sandwich Bay area and some of these are known to have visited the site.		

APPENDIX 5

Mammals of Restharrow Scrape and Field.

English name	Scientific name	Status at Restharrow
Bank Vole	<i>Myodes glareolus</i>	Widespread and common.
Field or Short-tailed Vole	<i>Microtus agrestis</i>	Widespread and common.
Water Vole	<i>Arvicola amphibius</i>	No confirmed records from the Restharrow Scrape area, where the habitat is unsuitable in any case.
Wood or Long-tailed Field-mouse	<i>Apodemus sylvaticus</i>	Widespread and common.
Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cunicula</i>	Breeds within the Restharrow Scrape field.
Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	Present in the wider area and occasionally reported from the 'dry meadow' area of the Restharrow Scrape Field.
Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>	Has declined in the general area and no definite records for Restharrow Scrape Field.
Mole	<i>Talpa europaeus</i>	Found in dry meadow on northern half of Restharrow Scrape Field. Very common in the general area.
Common Shrew	<i>Sorex araneus</i>	Found throughout the general area but in low numbers.
Pygmy Shrew	<i>Sorex minutus</i>	Reported infrequently from long grass areas, but no specific records from Restharrow Scrape area.
Water Shrew	<i>Neomys fodiens</i>	Occasional records from the Sandwich Bay Estate area, but none specifically from the Restharrow Scrape area.
Whiskered Bat	<i>Myotis mystacinus</i>	One record only (2016) from Sandwich Bay Estate, (not specifically from the Scrape).
Long-eared Bat species.	<i>Plecotus sp.</i>	2 records from the Estate area in 2015 (not specifically from the Scrape).
Noctule	<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	Recorded from the Estate area in only 3 years since 1995, (not specifically from the Scrape).

Common Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Recorded most years in small numbers in the general area.
Soprano Pipistrelle	<i>P. pigmaellus</i>	Recorded feeding over the Restharrow Scrape in 2014 and 2016.
Nathusius Pipistrelle	<i>P. nathusi</i>	One record only from the Estate in October 2016, probably refers to migrant animals.
Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	Common in the area. Probable predator of young wildfowl on the Scrape but rarely seen actually predating.
Stoat	<i>Mustela erminea</i>	Widespread but not often seen in the area.
Weasel	<i>M. nivalis</i>	Widespread but not often seen.
NOTE: the mammal records above derive from: • observations made since 2001-2 by Observatory staff and members, including the use of 'humane trapping and release' and habitat mat surveying; • sonogram surveys done by staff and students from Hadlow College and Greenwich University • records sent in by other visitors to the area.		

APPENDIX 6

Moths

Stigmella zelleriella (Sandhill Pigmy)



Sandwich Bay only known site in UK. RDB1

Food plant – Creeping Willow *Salix repens*

Phyllonorycter quinqueguttella (Sandhill Midget)



Nationally Scarce B

Food plant – Creeping Willow *Salix repens*

Restricted in Kent to Sandwich Bay and Dungeness.

Reference: A Review of the Status of Microlepidoptera in Britain
Butterfly Conservation Report No. S12-02 Tony Davis January 2012

APPENDIX 7

Other available data-sets

Additional groups for which records are held by Sandwich Bay Bird Observatory, covering the Application Site and the wider area include:

- Moths and Butterflies (*Lepidoptera*)
A systematic list of the Moths of Sandwich Bay (Updated to 31st December 2019)
- Bees and Bumble-bees (*Hymenoptera*)
- True flies (*Diptera*)
- Grasshoppers and Crickets (*Orthoptera*)
- Beetles (*Coleoptera*)
- Amphibians and Reptiles (*Amphibia* and *Reptilia*)

APPENDIX 8

Survey map of levels

Stippling shows areas of deeper water in the channel around the perimeter plus deeper pools in the centre of the original area to the SE of the reserve and on the NW corner of the original area (marked with ⚡ on the plan)

