

**Review of
Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
in Ealing**

Prepared jointly by the GLA and Ealing Council

Council update (October 2008)

Review of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Ealing

This is a list of sites identified as being of importance for nature conservation under the procedures detailed in *Policy, criteria and procedures for identifying nature conservation sites in London*, adopted by the Mayor of London in his Biodiversity Strategy as the basis for such work in London. The list has been produced jointly by the Greater London Authority's Biodiversity Strategy team and officers of Ealing Council, and, once agreed, will constitute the recommended sites to be protected for nature conservation in Ealing's LDF. It is based on a survey commissioned by the Greater London Authority in 2005 and updates the list of sites in the London Ecology Unit's handbook *Nature Conservation in Ealing* of 1991 and the sites protected in Ealing's adopted UDP of 2004.

The proposed changes outlined in this report are to be taken forward through the LDF process. Ongoing consultation on these changes is being undertaken.

The report should be read in conjunction with the map appended separately, which maps the new site boundaries as recommended in this report. So that the changes can be better understood, the boundaries of the sites as identified in the 2004 adopted UDP are also plotted on this map.

The different grades of site

Sites of Metropolitan Importance

Sites of Metropolitan Importance for nature conservation are those sites which contain the best examples of London's habitats, sites which contain particularly rare species, rare assemblages of species or important populations of species, or sites which are of particular significance within otherwise heavily built-up areas of London. They are of the highest priority for protection. The identification and protection of Metropolitan Sites is necessary, not only to support a significant proportion of London's wildlife, but also to provide opportunities for people to have contact with the natural environment. The boundaries of the Metropolitan Sites were endorsed by the Mayor of London in November 2002 and revised in November 2005. The changes agreed following this review will be put to the Mayor for adoption.

Sites of Borough Importance

These are sites which are important at a borough perspective in the same way as the Metropolitan sites are important to the whole of London. Although sites of similar quality may be found elsewhere in London, damage to these would mean a significant loss to the borough. As with Metropolitan sites, while protection is important, management of borough sites should usually allow and encourage their enjoyment by people and their use for education. Since 1988 Borough sites have been divided, on the basis of their quality, into two grades, but it must be stressed that they are all important on a borough-wide view.

Sites of Local Importance

A Site of Local importance is one which is, or may be, of particular value to people nearby (such as residents or schools). These sites may already be used for nature study or be run by management committees mainly composed of local people. These sites also deserve protection in planning.

Local Sites are particularly important in areas otherwise deficient in nearby wildlife sites. To aid the choice of these further local sites, Areas of Deficiency are identified. Areas of Deficiency are defined as built-up areas more than one kilometre from an accessible Metropolitan or Borough Site. Further Local Sites are chosen as the best available to alleviate this deficiency; such sites need not lie in the Area of Deficiency, but should be as near to it as possible. Where no such sites are available, opportunities should be taken to provide them by habitat enhancement or creation, by negotiating access and management agreements, or by direct acquisition.

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Ealing

GLA ref	LDF ref	UDP ref	Site Name
Sites of Metropolitan Importance			
M006		75	London's Canals
M008	P101	44	Perivale Wood Local Nature Reserve
M037	N115	58	Islip Manor Meadows
M044		67	Horsenden Hill
M051	N101	60	Yeading Brook Meadows
M115		15	Gunnersbury Triangle
Sites of Borough Importance: Grade I			
EaBI01	N102	59	The West London Shooting Grounds and Down Manor
<i>[EaBI02</i>			<i>Hayes Pasture at Yeading Brook (now entirely in Hillingdon)]</i>
EaBI03	G132	63	Smith's Farm, Marnham Fields, Bridge Farm Open Space & Greenford Lagoons
EaBI04	S131	70	Tentelow Lane Woodland and Meadow
<i>[EaBI05</i>			<i>Greenford Park Cemetery (downgraded to EaBII24)]</i>
EaBI06	G121	48	Greenford Birch Wood
EaBI07		47	Long Drive Grassland
EaBI08	G103	52	Halsbury Road Railway Cutting
EaBI09	S128	1	Boundary Stream and the Aviary
EaBI10A	S141	3	Brent River Park South: Blackberry Corner, Jubilee Meadow, Trumpers Field & Fox Meadow
EaBI10B	H126	2	Brent River Park South: Elthorne Waterside
EaBI10C	S142	3	Brent River Park South: Glade Lane Canalside Park
EaBI11	G105	46	Grove Farm (formerly Ealing Northern Sports Ground)
EaBI12	S129	3	Long Wood Local Nature Reserve and meadows
EaBI13	H117/H118	28	City of Westminster Cemetery
EaBI14A	P112	9, 12, 13, 14	Brent River Park North: Hanger Lane to Great Western Railway
EaBI14B	P111	11	Brent River Park North: Great Western Railway to Marnham Fields
EaBI14C			Brent River Park North : Brent Valley Golf Club to Uxbridge Road
EaBI15	E112	24	Fox Wood and Hanger Hill Park
EaBI16	E113	24	Hanger Hill Wood
<i>EaBI17</i>			<i>Grand Union Canal (upgraded to M006)</i>
EaBI18	S139		St Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Norwood Green
EaBI19	A111	17	Acton Railsides
EaBI20	H127		Wyncote Farm
Sites of Borough Importance: Grade II			
EaBII01	N112		Lime Trees Golf Course
EaBII02	N107	61	Hayes By-pass Roughs

<i>[EaBII03</i>			<i>Rectory Park Extension & Kensington Sports Ground (downgraded to part of EaL01)]</i>
EaBII04	N121	56	Northolt Manor and Belvue Park
<i>[EaBII05</i>			<i>Toplock Depot (lost to development)]</i>
EaBII06	S133	71	Field and wood between Osterley Lane & St Mary's Avenue South
EaBII07	G140	50	The Litten Local Nature Reserve
EaBII08	G113	55	Lyons Tree Belt
EaBII09	H117	28	Hanwell Cemetery
EaBII10	E123	27	Gurnell Grove and Castle Bar Park
EaBII11	E127	26	Montpelier Park Wood
EaBII12	E148		South Ealing Cemetery
EaBII13	E114		Ealing Reservoir
EaBII14		20	Twyford Abbey Grounds
EaBII15	A114	25	Former Guinness Mounds
EaBII16	P109		Central Line in Ealing and Castle Bar Branch Line Railsides
EaBII17	E102, H111		Ealing Broadway to Hanwell Railsides
EaBII18	S103		Southall Railsides
EaBII19	E101	25	Piccadilly and District Line Railsides in Ealing
EaBII20			Silverlink Metro and Dudding Hill Loop Railsides in Ealing
EaBII21	P102		Perivale Community Centre
EaBII22			River Brent at Hanger Lane
EaBII23	S152		Havelock Cemetery
EaBII24	G142		Greenford Park Cemetery
EaBII25		3	St Bernard's Hospital Walls
EaBII26	E118		Mason's Green Lane
EaBII27	E115		St Augustine's Priory
Sites of Local Importance			
EaL01	N109	62	Rectory Park
<i>[EaL02</i>			<i>Canalside Woodlands (now included in M006)]</i>
EaL03	N123	58	Islip Manor Park
EaL04	S22	69	Avenue Road Hedge
EaL05	S137		Norwood Hall Woodland
EaL06	N133		Wood End Wireless Station
EaL07		51	Ravenor Park Nature Area and stream
EaL08	G127	49	Holy Cross Churchyard, Greenford
<i>[EaL09</i>			<i>St Bernard's Hospital (lost to development)]</i>
EaL10			Sudbury Lane
EaL11	H103		Cuckoo Park
EaL12	E136		Northfield Avenue
EaL13	E129	32	The Grange Estate Pond
EaL14	E139	38, 39	Lammas Park Enclosure and Nature Area
EaL15			St Mary's Churchyard, Ealing
EaL16	E107	34	Clevey Crescent Allotments

EaL17	E109	33	Hanger Lane Gyrotory
EaL18			Connell Crescent Allotments
EaL19	E145	31	Barons Pond
EaL20		16	Heathfield Gardens
EaL21	A110		North Acton Cemetery
EaL22	A126	23	Acton Park Nature Conservation Area & Acton Lane Sports Ground
[EaL23			<i>Scrubs Wood, Ealing Section (now entirely in Hammersmith & Fulham)]</i>
EaL24		36	Christ Church School Nature Area
EaL25	E146	37	Ealing Common
EaL26	S109	72	Southall Park Nature Conservation Area
EaL27		42	Walmer Gardens Open Space
EaL28		41	Haslemere Wildlife Reserve
EaL29	E149	40	Blondin Park Nature Area
EaL30	A121	22	Trinity Way Nature Area
EaL31	A128	21	Southfields Recreation Ground Nature Area
EaL32	N113	57	The West London Academy Nature Area
EaL33		43	Wall at Factory Yard
EaL34	E144	31	Pope's Field
EaL35	G107		Ridding Lane Open Space
EaL36			Ealing Central Sports Ground
EaL37	S112		Cranleigh Park Rough
EaL38			Whittle Road Park
EaL39	A104		Wesley Playing Fields
EaL40	N103		Down Way Park
EaL41	A132		Jerome Allotments
EaL42	E143		Carberry Avenue Allotments
EaL43	H105		Framfield Allotments
EaL44	S151		Hortus Cemetery
EaL45	G122		Oldfield Primary School
EaL46	N131		Northolt Park Meadow

SINC/SMI sites by LDF Localities

LDF ref	Site	GLA ref	UDP ref
Acton			
A1			
A121	Trinity Way Nature Area	EaL30	22
A126	Acton Park Nature Conservation Area & Acton Lane Sports Ground	EaL22	23
?	Silverlink Metro and Dudding Line Railsides in Ealing (Part)	EaBII20	
A2			
A111	Acton Railsides (Part)	EaBI19	17
A3			
?	Silverlink Metro and Dudding Line Railsides in Ealing (Part)	EaBII20	
A4			
?	Heathfield Gardens	EaL20	
A5			
A132	Jerome Allotments	EaL41	
A6			
?	Gunnersbury Triangle	M115	15
A128	Southfields Recreation Ground Nature Area	EaL31	21
?	Silverlink Metro and Dudding Line Railsides in Ealing (Part)	EaBII20	
Brent River Park			
BRP1			
P112	Brent River Park North: Hanger Lane to Great Western Railway (Part)	EaBII4A	
BRP2			
P112	Brent River Park North: Hanger Lane to Great Western Railway (Part)	EaBII4A	
BRP3			
P111	Brent River Park North: Great Western Railway to Marnham Fields	EaBI14B	11
No plot number	Brent River Park North: Brent Valley Golf Club to Uxbridge Road	EaBI14C	
BRP4			
S141	Brent River Park South: Hanwell Flight	EaBI10A	3
H126	Brent River Park South: Elthorne Waterside	EaBI10B	2
S142	Brent River Park South: Glade Lane Canalside Park	EaBI10C	3
H127	Wyncote Farm	EaBI20	
S129	Long Wood and Meadow	EaBI12	1
S128	Boundary Stream and the Aviary	EaBI09	1
S131	Tentelow Lane Woodland and Meadow	EaBI04	
Ealing			
E1			

E129	The Grange Estate Pond	EaL13	32
? not plotted	Connell Crescent Allotments	EaL18	
E113	Hanger Hill Wood	EaBI16	24
E115	St Augustine's Priory	EaBII27	
E112	Fox Wood and Hanger Hill Park	EaBI15	24
E114	Ealing Reservoir	EaBII13	
E127	Montpelier Park Wood	EaBII11	26
E123	Gurnell Grove and Castelebar Park	EaBII10	27
E102	Ealing Broadway to Hanwell Railsides (part)	EaBII17	
E2			
E146	Ealing Common	EaL25	37
E143	Carberry Avenue Allotments	EaL42	
E144	Popefield	EaL34	31
E145	Barons Pond	EaL19	32
?not plotted	St Mary's Churchyard	EaL15	
E139	Lammas park Enclosure and Nature Area	EaL14	38, 39
E136	Northfield Avenue	EaL12	29
?not plotted	Walmer Garden Open Space	EaL27	42
?not plotted	Haslemere Wildlife Reserve	EaL28	41
E149	Blondin Park Nature Area	EaL29	40
E148	South Ealing Cemetery	EaBII12	
E101	Piccadilly & District Line Railsides (part)	EaBII19	25
ETC1			
? not plotted	Christchurch School Nature Area	EaL24	
E102	Ealing Broadway to Hanwell Railsides (part)	EaBII17	
ETC3			
E102	Ealing Broadway to Hanwell Railsides (part)	EaBII17	
Greenford			
G1			
G107	Ridding Lane Open Space	EaL35	
G105	Grove Farm	EaBI11	46
? not plotted	Sudbury Lane	EaL10	
G103	Halsbury Road Railway Cutting	EaBI08	52
G2			
? not plotted	Horsenden Hill	M044	67
G3			
? not plotted	Horsenden Hill (part)	M044	67
P101	Perivale Wood (part)	M008	
P109	Central Line, West Ruislip Branch (part)	EaBII16	

G4			
G122	Oldfield Primary School	EaL45	
G121	Greenford Birch Wood	EaBI06	48
?	Long Drive Grassland	EaB107	47
?	Grand Union Canal (part)	M006	75
G113	Lyons Tree Belt	EaBII08	55
?	Central Line, West Ruislip Branch (part)	EaBII16	
G5			
?	Central Line, West Ruislip Branch (part)	EaBII16	
?	Grand Union Canal (part)	M006	75
G6			
G127	Holy Cross Churchyard	EaL08	49
G140	The Litten Local Nature Reserve	EaBII07	50
?	Ravenor Park Nature Area and Stream	EaL07	51
G132	Smith's Farm, Marnham Fields, Bridge Farm Open Space & Greenford Lagoons	EaBI03	63
N109	Rectory Park Nature Area and Hedges (part)	EaL01	62
?	Grand Union Canal (part)	M006	75
G7			
G142	Greenford Park Cemetery (part)	EaBII24	
Hanwell			
H1			
H103	Cuckoo Park	EaL11	
H105	Framfield Allotments	EaL43	
H2			
? not plotted	The Wall at Factory Yard	EaL33	43
H3			
H117	Kensington & Chelsea (Hanwell) Cemetery	EaBII09	28
H118	City of Westminster Cemetery	EaBI13	28
H111	Ealing Broadway to Hanwell Railsides	EaBII17	
Northolt			
N1			
N133	Wood End Wireless Station	EaL06	
N131	Northolt Park Meadow	EaL46	
N2			
N121	Northolt Manor and Belvue Park	EaBII04	56
N3			
N115	Islip Manor Meadows	M037	58
P109	Central Line, West Ruislip Branch (Part)	EaBII16	
N123	Islip Manor Park	EaL03	58
N121	Northolt Manor and Belvue Park	EaBII01	56
N4			
N113	The West London Academy Nature Area	EaL32	57
N112	Lime Trees Golf Course	EaBII01	
N102	The West London Shooting Grounds and Down Manor	EaBI01	59

N101	Yeading Brook Fields	M051	60
N103	Down Way Park	EaL40	
N107	Hayes By-Pass Roughs	EaBII02	61
N109	Rectory Park	EaL01	62
Perivale			
P1			
P102	Perivale Community Centre	EaBII21	
P101	Perivale Wood	M008	44
P109	Central Line, West Ruislip Branch	EaBII16	
	Grand Union Canal (Part)		75
P2			
No plot number	Ealing Central Sports Ground	EaL36	
Park Royal			
PR1			
No plot number	Twyford Abbey Grounds	EaBII14	20
E107	Cleveley Crescent Allotments	EaL16	34
E109	Hanger Lane Gyrotory	EaL17	33
A114	Former Guinness Mounds	EaBII15	25
P109	Central Line, West Ruislip Branch (Part)	EaBII16	
PR3			
P109	Central Line, West Ruislip Branch (Part)	EaBII16	
A104	Wesley Playing Fields	EaL39	
A110	North Acton Cemetery	EaL21	
No plot number	Silverlink Metro and Dudding Hill Loop Railsides (Part)	EaBII20	
A111	Acton Railsides (Part)	EaBI19	17
?	Grand Union Canal (Part)	M006	75
PR4			
P109	Central Line, West Ruislip Branch (Part)	EaBII16	
A111	Acton Railsides (Part)	EaBI19	17
Southall			
S1			
S112	Cranleigh Park Rough	EaL37	
?	Grand Union Canal (Part)	M006	75
S2			
G142	Greenford Park Cemetery	EaBII24	
S3			
S22	Avenue Road Hedge	EaL04	69
S4			
?	Grand Union Canal (Part)	M006	75
S5			
?	Grand Union Canal (Part)	M006	75
S6			
S109	Southall Nature Conservation Area	EaL26	72

S103	Southall Railsides	EaBII18	
?not plotted	St Bernard's Hospital Walls	EaBII25	3
S7			
S152	Havelock Cemetery	EaBII23	
S151	Hortus Cemetery	EaL44	
?not plotted	Whittle Road Park	EaL38	
S142	Brent River Park: Glade Lane Park	EaBI10C	3
?	Grand Union Canal (Part)	M006	75
S8			
S137	Norwood Hall Woodland	EaL05	
S133	Fields and wood between Osterley Lane & St Mary's Avenue South	EaBII06	71
S139	St Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Norwood Green	EaBI18	
?	Grand Union Canal (Part)	M006	75

Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: M006

Site Name: London's Canals

Summary:

London's canals provide a home for many fish and aquatic plants, and are a great way to enjoy the natural world in some of the city's most built-up areas.

Grid ref: TQ 133 791 (centroid in Ealing)

Area (ha): 52.62 in Ealing

Borough(s):

Brent, Camden, Ealing, Hackney, Hammersmith and Fulham, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Islington, Kensington and Chelsea, Tower Hamlets, Westminster

Habitat(s):

Canal, Ruderal, Semi-improved neutral grassland, Tall herbs, Vegetated wall/tombstones

Access: Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership: British Waterways

Site Description:

London's canals support a wide range of aquatic flora, amongst which are found a number of locally uncommon species. These include narrow-leaved water plantain (*Alisma lanceolatum*), rigid hornwort (*Ceratophyllum demersum*) and shining pondweed (*Potamogeton lucens*), all species of clean, clear waters. Many waterside plants, including several London rarities, also grow on the brickwork and banks of the canal. The canals also support an important invertebrate fauna (including several species of dragon/damselflies), a diverse fish community, and breeding waterfowl. London's network of canals fulfil an important function in allowing nature into heavily built-up environments. The towpath and associated areas of waste ground, especially in East London, support a number of uncommon species of disturbed ground. The whole of the Grand Union Canal system in London, including the Regent's and Hertford Union Canals, is included in this single Metropolitan site.

There are two branches to the Grand Union Canal in Ealing which diverge at Bull's Bridge in the south-west of the borough. In places both branches flow through areas of substantial open space such as west of Southall Gasworks, Smith's Farm in Northolt, Horsenden Hill, Elthorne Park in the Boston Manor area and Jubilee Meadows in Hanwell. The best sections for aquatic plants are in the main branch from Bull's Bridge to the Osterley Lock area. Some of the more uncommon aquatic species that grow here include yellow water-lily (*Nuphar lutea*), greater duckweed (*Spirodela polyrhiza*) and arrowhead (*Sagittaria sagittifolia*). By far the most common submerged plant is fennel pondweed (*Potamogeton pectinatus*). In some stretches of the Paddington branch the water quality is poor and supports little or no aquatic vegetation. Zebra mussels are abundant along some of these stretches. The most interesting areas of grassland beside the towpath are near Bull's Bridge where species like salad burnet (*Sanguisorba minor*) and burnet saxifrage (*Pimpinella saxifraga*) grow. Walls on the structures associated with the 'Hanwell Flight' series of locks support some uncommon ferns including wall-rue (*Asplenium ruta-muraria*).

Several parcels of adjacent habitat have been added to the site as currently adopted by the Mayor. These include Oldfield Wetland in Northolt, habitats in and south of King George's Playing Fields in Southall, parts of Glade Lane Park in Southall and woodland adjacent to the Canal in Elthorne Park in Boston Manor.

Site first notified: 01/04/1986 **Boundary last changed:** 2004 (UDP)

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006 **Mayor Agreed:** 25/11/2002

Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: M008

Site Name: Perivale Wood Local Nature Reserve

Summary: This ancient wood and meadow forms one of Britain's oldest nature reserves.

Grid ref: TQ 159 837

Area (ha): 11.30

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Ancient woodland, Unimproved neutral grassland

Access: Access at limited times

Ownership: The Selborne Society

Site Description:

A representative example of ancient oak-ash woodland with an understorey of coppiced hazel (*Corylus avellana*). The wood's diverse flora includes wild service-tree (*Sorbus torminalis*), goldilocks buttercup (*Ranunculus auricomus*) and three-nerved sandwort (*Moehringia trinervia*). The site supports an important assemblage of fungi. A strip of unimproved grassland to the east and south of the woodland contains a good flora including adder's-tongue (*Ophioglossum vulgatum*) and blinks (*Montia fontana*), and supports a good population of slow-worms. A long-established Local Nature Reserve and a SSSI. Perivale Wood is open to the public on the first Sunday in May to see the bluebells. Otherwise, it is open to members of the Selborne Society by key access, to non-members at regular field meetings, and for schools and colleges to be given a guided tour. For more detail, see the web link. The **Grand Union Canal** adjoins the northern edge of the wood, which can be viewed from the towpath.

It is proposed to add a parcel of land along the west boundary which is owned by the Post Office to the site as currently adopted by the Mayor.

Site first notified: 01/04/1986 **Boundary last changed:** 2004 (UDP)

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006 **Mayor Agreed:** 25/11/2002

Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: M037

Site Name: Islip Manor Meadows

Summary: One of the richest grassland sites in London, with both wet and dry pastures and a wealth of plant life.

Grid ref: TQ 119 844

Area (ha): 24.84 in Ealing

Borough(s):

Ealing, Hillingdon

Habitat(s):

Pond/lake, Unimproved neutral grassland, Wet grassland

Access: Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership: London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This site contains a rich mosaic of different grassland types; over 20 grass species and 10 leguminous species are among the diverse flora. Damp grassland and ephemeral ponds support a number of uncommon plant species; ragged-robin (*Lychnis flos-cuculi*), lesser spearwort (*Ranunculus flammula*), oval sedge (*Carex ovalis*) and marsh cudweed (*Gnaphalium uliginosum*). Typical London clay grassland herbs include sneezewort (*Achillea ptarmica*), pepper-saxifrage (*Silaum silaus*), devil's-bit scabious (*Succisa pratensis*) and betony (*Stachys officinalis*). Drier grassland supports grass vetchling (*Lathyrus nissolia*), dyer's greenweed (*Genista tinctoria*), saw-wort (*Serratula tinctoria*) and narrow-leaved birds's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus glaber*). Permanent ponds support further botanical interest, including lesser marshwort (*Apium inundatum*) and common water-crowfoot (*Ranunculus aquatilis*). The latter also support important populations of the specially-protected great crested newt. A Local Nature Reserve.

It is proposed to correct the boundary in the north of the site to include all the grassland between housing.

Site first notified: 19/09/1988 **Boundary last changed:** 2004 (UDP)

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006 **Mayor Agreed:** 25/11/2002

Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: M044

Site Name: Horsenden Hill

Summary: A fine area of hilly countryside, containing grassland, ancient hedgerows and a small ancient wood.

Grid ref: TQ 163 843

Area (ha): 138.82

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Ancient woodland, Hedge, Pond/lake, Scrub, Unimproved neutral grassland

Access: Free public access (part of site)

Ownership: London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

An outstanding hilly countryside area of old pastures and meadows divided by hedges. The grassland is botanically diverse and contains uncommon species such as pepper-saxifrage (*Silaum silaus*), sneezewort (*Achillea ptarmica*), dyer's greenweed (*Genista tinctoria*), common restharrow (*Ononis repens*) and grey sedge (*Carex divulsa* ssp. *divulsa*). Ragged-robin (*Lychnis flos-cuculi*) occurs in damper areas. Dating methods estimate the hedgerows to be medieval in origin; they contain plants normally associated with long-established woodland, for example spindle (*Euonymus europaeus*) and yellow archangel (*Lamium galeobdolon*).

There are several small areas of scrub and woodland, including the ancient Horsenden Wood, where wild service-tree (*Sorbus torminalis*) occurs. Several old field ponds have been restored and support amphibian populations, including the specially-protected great crested newt. The site also includes two golf courses. The top of the hill is a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

To the south of the **Grand Union Canal**, an area of grassland and wetland called Paradise Fields is included in the site. A reed bed here supports breeding reed bunting and reed warbler.

It is proposed to extend the site currently adopted by the Mayor: including an area of vegetation developing on old tennis courts in the park across the road and Berkeley Fields. The Club House Building off Whitton Avenue East has been now been excluded from the site.

Site first notified: 19/09/1988 **Boundary last changed:** 2004 (UDP)

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006 **Mayor Agreed:** 25/11/2002

Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: M051

Site Name: Yeading Brook Meadows

Summary: An extensive area of meadows and pastures, divided by old hedges, on the floodplain of the Yeading Brook. The wetter fields support some interesting plants.

Grid ref: TQ 101 832 (centroid in Ealing)

Area (ha): 30.53 in Ealing

Borough(s):

Ealing, Hillingdon

Habitat(s):

Hedge, Pond/lake, Running water, Unimproved neutral grassland, Wet grassland

Access: Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership: London Borough of Hillingdon, London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

An extensive mosaic of unimproved meadows and pastures divided by hedgerows, on the old floodplain of the Yeading Brook. The grassland varies according to management history and tendency to flooding, although the total flora is extremely diverse. Plants typical of unimproved meadows include sneezewort (*Achillea ptarmica*), great burnet (*Poterium sanguisorba*) and pepper-saxifrage (*Silaum silaus*). The wettest fields contain meadowsweet (*Filipendula vulgaris*), ragged-robin (*Lychnis flos-cuculi*) and numerous sedges and rushes. In the south of the site are a series of damp hollows supporting further uncommon plants; adder's-tongue fern (*Ophioglossum vulgatum*), common spotted-orchid (*Dactylorhiza fuchsii*), grass vetchling (*Lathyrus nissolia*) and the only London population of the nationally scarce narrow-leaved water-dropwort (*Oenanthe silaifolia*).

The Yeading Brook flows through the site, with a diverse marginal flora including flowering-rush (*Butomus umbellatus*). Riverside scrub in the north of the site supports a small population of broad-leaved helleborine (*Epipactis helleborine*). The avifauna includes breeding grey partridge, skylark, reed and sedge warblers, linnet and reed bunting, while many other species overwinter. Small water bodies support important amphibian populations including the specially-protected great crested newt.

Part of the site is a Local Nature Reserve; part is a London Wildlife Trust nature reserve.

It is proposed to add a parcel of land to the south-east of the bank around the West London Shooting Grounds to the site currently adopted by the Mayor.

Site first notified: 19/09/1988 **Boundary last changed:** 2004 (UDP)

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006 **Mayor Agreed:** 25/11/2002

Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: M115

Site Name: Gunnersbury Triangle

Summary: A wonderful educational nature reserve, surrounded on all sides by railway lines, famously saved from development by a local campaign in the 1980s.

Grid ref: TQ 201 787 (centroid in Ealing)

Area (ha): 0.49 in Ealing

Borough(s):

Ealing, Hounslow

Habitat(s):

Pond/lake, Secondary woodland, Semi-improved neutral grassland

Access: Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership: London Borough of Hounslow

Site Description:

This site was saved from development in 1984, in an historic and influential example of grassroots opposition winning the day. Enclosed on all sides by railway lines, the site consists largely of secondary woodland dominated by birch (*Betula* spp.) and willow (*Salix* spp.). There is also a small area of dry grassland in the north of the site which supports fine-leaved sheep's-fescue (*Festuca filiformis*) and the uncommon moss *Rhynchostegium megapolitanum*. A number of locally rare plants are found on the site, including lady-fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*), narrow buckler-fern (*Dryopteris carthusiana*) and heath woodrush (*Luzula multiflora*). Many common species of birds and butterflies also occur. By far the most important wildlife site within a large area of inner-west London, and an extremely important educational resource for local schools and community groups.

A Local Nature Reserve managed by the London Wildlife Trust, with classroom facilities and a full-time warden.

No changes are proposed to the site as adopted by the Mayor in 2002 and as mapped in the 2004 UDP.

Site first notified: 29/10/1990 **Boundary last changed:** 01/01/1991

Citation last edited: 15/10/2002 **Mayor Agreed:** 25/11/2002

Site of Borough Grade I Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBI01

Site Name: The West London Shooting Grounds and Down Manor

Summary:

A large area of open space which is mostly not intensively managed and supports a mix of habitats.

Grid ref: TQ 106 835

Area (ha): 30.06

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, hedge, scattered trees, ruderal, tall herbs, bare ground, pond, swamp.

Access:

Access to West London Shooting Grounds restricted to members. Access to Down Manor by prior arrangement.

Ownership:

Down Manor owned by All Soul's College, Oxford. West London Shooting ground owned by West London Shooting School. Basketball court north of Rushdene Crescent owned by London Borough of Ealing.

Site Description:

The West London Shooting Grounds support a mosaic of habitats including several hedges, some patches of suckering English elm (*Ulmus procera*) and a small woodland of pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) which is unusual in having a wide age-range of trees. The site is bounded to the west, south and east by a large bank which supports varied semi-natural vegetation including tall herbs, ruderals and bare areas kept open by 4x4 vehicle activity. There is also a large pond in the centre with great reedmace (*Typha latifolia*) on the margins. On the south side of the bank a large strip of relatively undisturbed grassland, tall herbs and bramble scrub provides additional wildlife habitat.

Down Manor is an important archaeological site consisting of an overgrown moat surrounding the site of a 13th century manor house. The moat retains some wetland vegetation and the site is managed by Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust to conserve its wildlife interest. Hedges of English elm surround the moat and dense scrub, dominated in places by wild plum (*Prunus domestica*) occurs in the centre and the south. The vegetation by parts of the moat is cut to reduce shade. Two rare plants, orange foxtail (*Alopecurus aequalis*) and green hellebore (*Helleborus viridus*) have been recorded here.

Access to West London Shooting Grounds is restricted to members. Access to Down Manor is by prior arrangement.

The site has been expanded from the 2004 (UDP) site to include the habitat surrounding the basketball court north of Rushdene Crescent and almost all of the shooting grounds except for the more intensively-managed area in the north-west.

Access to West London Shooting Grounds is restricted to members. Access to Down Manor is by prior arrangement.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2004 (UDP)

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade I Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBI03

Site Name: Smith's Farm, Marnham Fields, Bridge Farm Open Space & Greenford Lagoons

Summary:

Large open space with excellent mosaic of habitats including woodland, scrub, ponds, reedbeds, grassland and tall herbs.

Grid ref: TQ 135 832

Area (ha): 22.46

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, scattered trees, ruderal, tall herbs, bare ground, reed bed, swamp, pond.

Access:

Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This site is part of the wider 'Northolt & Greenford Country Park'. The land to the east of the canal is known as 'Smith's Farm' and supports a variety of habitats which are fairly diverse in species. Habitats here include a mosaic of scattered trees, scrub, tall herbs, ruderals, tall rank neutral grassland and bare ground next to the footpaths. An excellent large pond supports a variety of plant communities growing from the water, the exposed mud and the pond edges. A good population of the rare marsh dock (*Rumex palustris*) occurs in the north-east corner of the pond. A diverse wasteland community has developed on and around decaying concrete in the north-west of the site with areas of scrub around the edge, tall rank vegetation, shorter ruderal vegetation and sparse plants amongst the cracked concrete. This variety of vegetation structure makes ideal habitat for birds and invertebrates.

Immediately to the east of the canal there are patches of scrub, dominated in places by bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) and very large stands of tall herbs such as cow parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*) and hemlock (*Conium maculatum*). The habitat is more open in the north of this area with rank neutral grassland and some ruderal vegetation near the paths.

A narrower strip of semi-natural vegetation extends for about 600m to the east of the footbridge crossing the A40. Immediately east of the footbridge there is a series of three ponds known as the 'Greenford Lagoons', each fringed by common reed (*Phragmites australis*) and surrounded by rank grassland with scattered scrub.

To the east of this again is a developing young woodland of pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) and hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) with a smaller section of suckering English elm (*Ulmus procera*) in the extreme east. Wood avens (*Geum urbanum*) is abundant on the ground providing colour in spring and early summer. A remnant hedgerow with several very large mature oaks bisects this woodland.

The wasteland area in the north west has been added to the 2004 (UDP) site.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2004 (UDP)

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade I Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBI04

Site Name: Tentelow Lane Woodland and Meadow

Summary:

A fine ancient woodland with lots of bluebells and a meadow with a variety of grassland types.

Grid ref: TQ 139 792

Area (ha): 9.30

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Ancient woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, acid grassland, amenity grassland, hedge, scattered trees, ruderal, bare ground.

Access:

Free public access (all/most of site).

Ownership:

Northern half of woodland owned by Osterley Sports Club. Remainder of site owned by London Borough of Ealing.

Site Description:

Tentelow woodland is an ancient woodland dominated by pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*), hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) and English elm (*Ulmus procera*). The southern half of the woodland is managed by the council and is one of the finest examples of ancient woodland in the borough with abundant bluebells (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) in spring and with bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and creeping soft-grass (*Holcus mollis*) also in the ground flora. The northern half has been somewhat neglected and damaged by human activities in the past. Allowing public access to this half and managing it in a similar way to the southern half would greatly enhance the site.

Tentelow meadow supports a fine mosaic of acid and neutral grassland communities. Scrapes have been dug here in the past revealing a gravelly substrate. The scrape bottoms are sparsely vegetated but mosses including *Brachythecium albicans* and lichens including a *Peltigera* species have colonised. Patches of squirrel-tail fescue (*Vulpia bromoides*) occur on the edges of the scrapes. Parts of the meadow are acid in character, dominated by common bent (*Agrostis capillaris*) and red fescue (*Festuca rubra*). Most of the meadow is however, more neutral with grasses such as Yorkshire-fog (*Holcus lanatus*), cock's-foot (*Dactylis glomerata*) and false oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*) and colourful herbs including oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*), several clovers (*Trifolium* sp) and vetches (*Vicia* sp).

The amenity grassland in the south end of the sports pitches supports a large population of blinks (*Montia fontana*) which is an uncommon plant in London. Native hedges have been planted around these fields and the rough grassland around the edges adds more valuable wildlife habitat here. Skylarks can be heard singing here in the summer.

The grassland and hedges on the edges of the Osterley Sports Club fields and an area of grassland next to the south end of the wood have been added to the 2004 (UDP) site.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2004 (UDP)

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade I Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBI06

Site Name: Greenford Birch Wood

Summary:

A small woodland, mostly of silver birch

Grid ref: TQ 141 835

Area (ha): 3.75

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, tall herbs, pond.

Access:

Free public access (all/most of site).

Ownership:

Greenford Birch Wood owned by London Borough of Ealing, remainder of site owned by Birkbeck Sports Association.

Site Description:

This relatively small woodland, part of the Northolt-Greenford Countryside Park, has a variety of woodland types within it. The east of the site is dominated by willows (*Salix* sp) and suckering English elm (*Ulmus procera*), the west end is a mix of silver birch (*Betula pendula*), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) and elder (*Sambucus nigra*), with mature hawthorn scrub in between. Along the A40 there is a woodland edge habitat of lower scrub, tall herbs and rough grassland which adds to the value of the site for birds and invertebrates. A small pond occurs on the edge near the houses in the west.

Two patches of semi-natural vegetation within the Birkbeck Sports Ground provide similar additional habitat locally and are included in the site. The patch in the west is woodland of pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*), white willow (*Salix alba*) and weeping willow (*Salix x sepulchralis*) with a dense understorey. The eastern patch has a few scattered trees with hawthorn, elder and bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) scrub and rough vegetation comprising of grasses and tall herbs.

Another parcel of woodland and rough vegetation has been added to the 2004 (UDP) site in the north-east.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2004 (UDP)

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade I Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBI07

Site Name: Long Drive Grassland

Summary:

An abandoned railway line with scarce plants typical of chalk grassland

Grid ref: TQ 141 840

Area (ha): 0.41

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, chalk grassland, scattered trees.

Access:

No public access

Ownership:

Private

Site Description:

The vegetation on this site has developed on an abandoned railway line. At least some of the ballast used must be limestone as several plants of calcareous grassland have been recorded here. These include marjoram (*Origanum vulgare*), blue fleabane (*Erigeron acer*), salad burnet (*Sanguisorba minor*) and greater knapweed (*Centaurea scabiosa*).

Habitats on the site vary from dense scrub in the east end to frequently mown grassland in the west end and a mosaic of low scrub and long and short grassland in between.

No changes are proposed to the site in the adopted 2004 UDP.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 01/01/1991

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade I Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBI08

Site Name: Halsbury Road Cutting

Summary:

A wide section of relatively undisturbed mixed woodland on the railway embankment.

Grid ref: TQ 142 856

Area (ha): 6.47

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, ruderal, bare ground.

Access:

Can be viewed from adjacent paths or roads only.

Ownership:

Rail company.

Site Description:

This wide railway embankment supports undisturbed woodland comprised mainly of ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) with dense hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) and bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg) in the understorey. Along the railway lines there are bands of scrub, tall herbs with rosebay willowherb (*Chamerion angustifolium*) and grassland dominated by false oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*) providing a 'woodland edge' habitat. Some sparse ruderal species occur within the railway lines including small toadflax (*Chaenorhinum minus*). On the footbridge there is some neutral grassland which is relatively flower-rich with herbs such as common bird's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), common vetch (*Vicia sativa*), oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*) and hedgerow crane's-bill (*Geranium pyrenaicum*).

Apart from Chiltern Lane trains, the only place from which this site can be viewed is from the southern edge of Roxeth Park in South Harrow.

The 2004 (UDP) site has been extended to include a short section of habitat along the railway cutting to the west to the borough boundary, and a small addition to the eastern tip of the site.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2004 (UDP)

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade I Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBI09

Site Name: Boundary Stream and the Aviary

Summary:

A section of stream with grassland, reed beds, woodland and a lake

Grid ref: TQ 140 790

Area (ha): 4.91

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, unimproved neutral grassland, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, scattered trees, tall herbs, reed bed, lake, running water.

Access:

No public access.

Ownership:

Eastern section, 'The Aviary' owned by Sultan of Brunei, western section at Tentelow Pumping Station owned by Thames Water, land by stream in between owned by Sutton's Farm.

Site Description:

The Boundary Stream has semi-natural woodland along the banks. The woodland has a variety of species of trees and shrubs with a wide age-range. The stream has natural banks along its length enhancing its value as a wildlife habitat. It meanders through agricultural fields which are privately-owned and thus the wildlife using the stream is relatively protected from disturbance.

At the west end there is an area of semi-natural neutral grassland near and around the Tentelow Pumping Station. Most of the grassland is rank and dominated by a few vigorous species including false oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), creeping thistle (*Cirsium arvense*) and cock's-foot (*Dactylis glomerata*). Near the stream where the grassland is wet there are some more interesting species in places including devil's-bit scabious (*Succisa pratensis*). The most species-rich piece of grassland occurs on the bank in the north where burnet saxifrage (*Pimpinella saxifraga*) is quite abundant. The most herb-rich corner of the agricultural field is also included.

At the east end the grounds of 'The Aviary' supports several good habitats. The stream has been widened and a large reed bed created to attempt to improve the water quality entering the site. Further east the stream feeds a large lake with a good population of waterfowl and a heronry on the opposite bank. The lake supports breeding great crested newts. Aquatic vegetation is mainly limited to filamentous algae due to problems with water quality coming in from the stream. A large patch of woodland is included in the site which has frequent common dog-violet (*Viola riviniana*), red campion (*Silene dioica*), wood avens (*Geum urbanum*) and hairy brome (*Bromopsis ramosa*) and some wood anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*) and primrose (*Primula vulgaris*).

The Boundary Stream forms the boundary between Ealing and Hounslow boroughs. Across the stream in Hounslow, the site is known as **St Mary's Wood and the Boundary Stream**.

No changes are proposed to the site in the adopted UDP (2004).

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2004 (UDP)

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBI10A

Site Name: Brent River Park South: Blackberry Corner, Jubilee Meadow, Trumpers Field & Fox Meadow

Summary:

A wooded section of the River Brent and adjacent hay meadows.

Grid ref: TQ 152 794

Area (ha): 18.01

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, acid grassland, amenity grassland, hedge, scattered trees, tall herbs, pond, running water, swamp, vegetated wall/tombstone

Access:

Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership:

All owned by London Borough of Ealing apart from Margaret's Road rough which may be privately owned

Site Description:

The River Brent between the Uxbridge Road and the canal is flanked by semi-natural woodland on either side, greatly enhancing its value for wildlife. Willows (*Salix* sp) and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) are the main tree species. Fennel pondweed (*Potamogeton pectinatus*) grows in the water here. There is a footpath along the west bank and the east bank is largely free from human disturbance. Along the north edge of the canal to the south west the semi-natural woodland and grassland at Billet Hart's Park add further habitat variety. An area of scrub and ruderal wasteland vegetation is included in the site to the extreme west.

Three meadows south of the 'Hanwell Flight' series of locks - Blackberry Corner, Jubilee Meadow and Trumper's Field - are separated by outgrown hedges providing plenty of berries for birds in winter. The meadows are rich in wild flowers, including pignut (*Conopodium majus*), field wood-rush (*Luzula campestre*), bugle (*Ajuga reptans*), common spotted orchid (*Dactylorhiza fuchsii*) and bulbous buttercup (*Ranunculus bulbosus*). The grasslands are all cut annually for hay. There are patches of shorter acid grassland, which have developed on areas where the top layers of soil have been scraped off. These contain characteristic wild flowers such as sheep's sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*) and mouse-ear hawkweed (*Pilosella officinarum*). The pond in Trumper's Field is dominated by great reedmace (*Typha latifolia*), with a variety of other wetland plants present. The hedges around Trumpers Field contain hedge bedstraw (*Galium mollugo*) and soft shield-fern (*Polystichum setiferum*).

The railway cutting on the southern edge of the site has a few wild service-trees (*Sorbus torminalis*), and a number of locally rare ferns, including hart's-tongue (*Phyllitis scolopendrium*), black spleenwort (*Asplenium adiantum-nigrum*) and rustyback (*Ceterach officinarum*), grow in abundance on the Three Bridges.

Minor boundary changes are proposed to the site in the adopted UDP, including the addition of a strip along railway line adjoining Trumpers Way site.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2004 (UDP)

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBI10B

Site Name: Brent River Park South: Elthorne Waterside

Summary:

A mix of grassland and scrub in a large open space.

Grid ref: TQ 157 792

Area (ha): 14.41

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, acid grassland, amenity grassland, hedge, scattered trees, ruderal, tall herbs, bare ground, pond, wet ditches, swamp

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

Elthorne Park has an excellent mosaic of vegetation communities providing niches for many different plants and animals. Some areas are unmanaged and succession is allowed to proceed unhindered, in other areas the grassland is managed under a number of different management regimes resulting in some of the most varied grassland communities in the borough. A variety of soil types occur as part of the park is on 'made ground' on top of a former rubbish tip. Low-level rabbit grazing in places provides patches of short grassland to give further diversity. Some uncommon plants occur in the shorter turf including spotted medick (*Medicago arabica*), lesser chickweed (*Stellaria pallida*) and small-flowered crane's-bill (*Geranium pusillum*).

Well Meadow in the south-east of the site is surrounded by woodland and scrub. The grasslands are on a slope with rabbit grazing keeping part of the field short but longer grass predominating. Wild onion (*Allium vineale*) is particularly frequent in this field, which also contains grass vetchling (*Lathyrus nissolia*). The pond is rather shaded, but supports dense emergent vegetation dominated by yellow iris (*Iris pseudacorus*) and great reedmace (*Typha latifolia*), with other species including greater spearwort (*Ranunculus lingua*), which is rare in London.

Only minor changes are proposed to the boundary of the site as adopted in the 2004 UDP. These include the addition of a small strip of land adjoining Wyke Gardens.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2004 (UDP)

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBI10C

Site Name: Brent River Park South: Glade Lane Canalside Park

Summary:

A mixture of valuable wildlife habitats in and adjacent to Glade Lane Canalside Park.

Grid ref: TQ 138 796

Area (ha): 9.00

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, hedge, scattered trees, ruderal, tall herbs, bare ground, pond, swamp

Access:

Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

Parts of the park, especially in the west, are formally managed but there are pockets of semi-natural vegetation and groups of young trees providing some wildlife interest. The more interesting parts of the park are the grassland and tall herb communities to the east, a number of native hedges, the ponds and the wasteland to the north-west.

The vegetation consists mainly of rank grassland dominated by false oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), which is cut annually for hay, and unmanaged areas which are dominated by tall herbs. Grass vetchling (*Lathyrus nissolia*), an uncommon species in London, is quite frequent in the less rank areas and marjoram (*Origanum vulgare*) grows near the phone mast. Creeping yellow-cress (*Rorippa sylvestris*) is particularly abundant in this park near the footpaths.

The smaller pond is dominated by lesser reedmace (*Typha angustifolia*), which is far less common in London than its larger relative. The larger pond is quite open, with abundant water-crowfoots (*Ranunculus* spp.), bulbous rush (*Juncus bulbosus*) and other aquatic plants on the margins. The grassland immediately surrounding the pond is quite flower-rich with members of the pea family especially abundant.

Native black-poplars (*Populus nigra* spp. *betulifolia*), a priority species in the London Biodiversity Action Plan, grow on the banks of the adjacent **Grand Union Canal**.

The wasteland has developed on dumped soil and rubble. The varying topography and the diversity of plant species makes the site very attractive for invertebrates and other animals, possibly including reptiles. Poplar seedlings are abundant and will soon come to dominate the site if left unmanaged. Some of the more unusual plants growing here include pampas-grass (*Cortaderia selloana*), dotted loosestrife (*Lysimachia punctata*), balm (*Melissa officinalis*) and orange mullein (*Verbascum phlomoides*).

The 2004 (UDP) site has been extended to include the whole park. The grasslands along the canal from the 2004 site have been upgraded to part of M 006.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2004 (UDP)

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade I Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBI11

Site Name: Grove Farm (formerly Ealing Northern Sports Ground)

Summary:

Mainly mixed woodland but with some species-rich grassland in a small glade and dense stand of tall herbs in a larger glade.

Grid ref: TQ 151 853

Area (ha): 11.19

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, unimproved neutral grassland, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, ruderal, tall herbs.

Access:

Free public access (part of site)

Ownership:

David Lloyd Leisure

Site Description:

This large open space contains a mixture of wildlife habitats, including woodland, meadow and a stream. It is a Local Nature Reserve.

The woodland is varied in species composition with ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*) blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*) and pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) being the most frequent trees and shrubs. The ground flora is dominated by ivy (*Hedera helix*) and bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), with a few other wild flowers including wood anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*). A stream runs through the woodland adding to its nature conservation interest. A few wild service-trees (*Sorbus torminalis*) grow in the wood. This is a species normally associated with ancient woodland.

In the south-east corner a small glade supports some species-rich damp grassland. This glade includes some species which are quite uncommon in London and usually grow in unimproved grasslands, including glaucous sedge (*Carex flacca*), welshed thistle (*Carduus crispus*) and pepper saxifrage (*Silaum silaus*).

A larger glade runs through the centre of the site. A path with short grassland goes through the middle of part of the glade, which is otherwise dominated by dense stands of tall herbs.

An area of ruderal vegetation in the north-east has been added to the (2004 UDP) site. Minor boundary adjustments have also been made to the western edge of the site.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** (2004 UDP)

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade I Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBI12

Site Name: Long Wood Local Nature Reserve and meadows

Summary:

One of the finest ancient woods in Ealing and adjacent pastures

Grid ref: TQ 153 790

Area (ha): 20.90

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Ancient woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, acid grassland, ruderal, tall herbs, bare ground, bracken, running water, swamp.

Access:

Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

Long Wood is one of the best surviving blocks of ancient woodland in the borough of Ealing. Midland hawthorn (*Crataegus laevigata*) occurs in the shrub layer. The ground flora has abundant bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) as well as false brome (*Brachypodium sylvaticum*), wood millet (*Milium effusum*) and wood speedwell (*Veronica montana*). Broad-leaved helleborine (*Epipactis helleborine*) was recorded in the past. The structure of the wood is varied, enhancing its value for wildlife, with wet areas, a stream and open areas mixed with more mature woodland. Opposite-leaved golden-saxifrage (*Chrysosplenium oppositifolia*) and large bittercress (*Cardamine amara*), both uncommon species in London, occur in one of the wet areas with a range of other wetland herbs and sedges.

The field to the north-west (known as Earl of Jersey's Field) is grazed by horses and is not particularly species-rich, but has a mosaic of dry acid grassland and neutral grassland communities with patches of tall herbs and some depressions which are wet in winter. This variety of structure makes this grassland more valuable for birds and invertebrates.

Further to the north-west, a wide strip of grassland along Windmill Lane in the former Warren Farm School Sports Centre is being managed for nature conservation and is cut for hay annually, as well as being grazed by rabbits. Most of the grassland is fine-leaved acid grassland dominated by common bent (*Agrostis capillaris*), squirrel-tail fescue (*Vulpia bromoides*) and red fescue (*Festuca rubra*) with herbs such as cat's-ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*), yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), common bird's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*) and lesser stitchwort (*Stellaria graminea*). In the extreme north-west end an area of rank neutral grassland adds further variety.

The field in the north-west corner was formerly playing fields which are now grazed lightly by horses. The grassland is slightly on the acidic side of neutral and yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*) and ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*) are particularly abundant. The infrequently-used goods railway line supports some very fine semi-natural habitat. Many mature pedunculate (*Quercus robur*) oaks line the top of the cuttings and the ground flora is typical of slightly acidic soils with frequent, common bent, creeping soft-grass (*Holcus mollis*) and wood sage (*Teucrium scorodonia*) with sheep's sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*) in the less shaded areas.

Long Wood is a Local Nature Reserve, and a popular place for informal recreation, though the noise from the adjacent M4 motorway detracts somewhat from visitors' experience.

The field in the north-west and the railway cuttings have been added to the 1991 site.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2004 (UDP)

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade I Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBI13

Site Name: City of Westminster Cemetery

Summary:

A large cemetery site with some nice flower-rich grassland

Grid ref: TQ 159 800

Area (ha): 8.98

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Semi-improved neutral grassland, acid grassland, scattered trees, bare ground, vegetated walls/tombstones.

Access:

Free public access (all/most of site).

Ownership:

Privately owned.

Site Description:

This cemetery supports a mix of grassland habitats as well as scattered trees and vegetated tombstones. There are a variety of native and non-native tree species here including several tall mature deodar cedars (*Cedrus deodara*). Some of the neutral grassland is quite flower-rich with colourful displays of oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*), selfheal (*Prunella vulgaris*) and salad burnet (*Sanguisorba minor*). The acid grassland here is dominated by red fescue (*Festuca rubra*) and the herbs sheep's sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*) and mouse-ear hawkweed (*Pilosella officinarum*) are quite abundant.

No changes are proposed to the site in the adopted 2004 UDP.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 01/01/1991

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade I Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBI14A

Site Name: Brent River Park North: Hanger Lane to the Great Western railway

Summary:

A section of the River Brent, a large golf course and several meadows.

Grid ref: TQ 170 826

Area (ha): 54.51

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-natural neutral grassland, acid grassland, amenity grassland, hedge, scattered trees, ruderal, tall herbs, bare ground, pond, running water, swamp, vegetated wall/tombstone, allotments

Access:

Free public access (part of site)

Ownership:

Ealing Golf Course and Brentham Sports Club are privately owned, St Mary the Virgin, Perivale owned by the Church of England, the remainder owned by London Borough of Ealing.

Site Description:

This section of the Brent River Park runs from Brentham Meadow close to Hanger Lane in the east to Stockdove Way Meadow next to the Greenford to Ealing Railway line in the west. The River Brent here is mostly lined with trees and shrubs although some sections are open on at least one bank. This provides excellent habitat for dragonflies and other aquatic invertebrates.

The largest section of terrestrial habitat is on Ealing Golf Course. In the north-west of this golf course parallel lines of 'ridge and furrow' can be seen in the grassland indicating that this land was once cultivated but has been relatively undisturbed for a long time since then. Some of the grassland here has frequent burnet saxifrage (*Pimpinella saxifraga*) a species normally associated with old grassland. Small areas of flower-rich grassland occur near the oxbows in the west. A fine pond complex on three different levels also occurs on the course with different wetland communities associated with each level.

Brentham Meadow and Long Field provide contrasting grassland communities to the closely mown fairways on the golf course. Here common grassland invertebrates can thrive under the annual hay cutting regime.

Other features of interest here include the churchyard of St Mary the Virgin, Perivale which supports a very uncommon fern species, rustyback (*Ceterach officinarum*) growing from a brick tomb. A dense area of scrub in land between the river and Stockdove Way adds further variety.

Several additions have been made to the 2004 (UDP) site including the whole of Ealing Golf Course, all of the course of the River Brent plus adjacent semi-natural habitat, the cricket pitch south of Stockdove Way meadow and Argyll Road Green.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2004 (UDP)

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade I Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBI14B

Site Name: Brent River Park North: Great Western Railway to Marnham Fields

Summary:

A large area of open space with grassland, woodland and the River Brent.

Grid ref: TQ 151 862

Area (ha): 64.17

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, acid grassland, amenity grassland, hedge, scattered trees, ruderal, tall herbs, bare ground, running water, allotments

Access:

Free public access (part of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This section of the Brent River Park runs from the Greenford to Ealing railway line to Marnham Field and Mayfield Meadow in the south.

Perivale Park includes a formally-managed park and a golf course. 'Ridge and furrow' can be seen in both areas. The golf course contains some excellent acid grassland which could be even better if mown a little less frequently between the fairways. Remnants of these acid grassland communities survive in the park and blinks (*Montia fontana*), a rare plant in London, grows in the frequently-mown sward.

The river contains abundant fennel pondweed (*Potamogeton pectinatus*). A strip of land between the river and Ruislip Road is a mix of scrub, tall herbs and various grassland communities including one wet grassland type dominated by tall fescue (*Festuca arundinacea*). Coston's Brook flows north to south to merge with the River Brent. This section of the brook supports virtually no aquatic vegetation.

To the west of the brook, Perivale Park Meadows contain some scrub and tall herb habitat, as well as herb-rich grassland including neutral grassland with sneezewort (*Achillea ptarmica*). Further valuable wildlife habitat is provided to the south of Ruislip Road by the semi-natural vegetation on both sides of the river. The river has natural banks throughout this section and several pools and riffles along its length. Large meadows occur at Bitterns Field and Mayfield Meadow. These are mostly dominated by false oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*) with coarse herbs like cow parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*) and hogweed (*Heracleum sphondylium*) predominating, though some damp areas are richer, supporting fleabane (*Pulicaria dysenterica*) and rushes (*Juncus* spp.).

Mayfield and Greenford Island also has a block of developing woodland with a variety of native species, and a reed bed with purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*). Marnham Field in the south west has frequently-mown grass in the centre with longer grass, scrub and trees around the edges.

Rustyback fern (*Ceterach officinarum*) grows on the railway bridge over Ruislip Road East.

Several additions have been made to the 2004 (UDP) site including Perivale Park (including the golf course), High Lane Allotments and Marnham Field.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2004 (UDP)
Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade I Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBI14C

Site Name: Brent River Park North: Brent Valley Golf Club to Uxbridge Road

Summary:

Two large golf courses on undulating land with good grassland and other habitats

Grid ref: TQ 145 808

Area (ha): 119.01

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, acid grassland, amenity grassland, improved agricultural grassland, hedge, scattered trees, ruderal, tall herbs, bare ground, pond, running water, swamp, vegetated wall/tombstone

Access:

Free public access (part of site)

Ownership:

West Middlesex Golf Course and High Lane Meadow privately owned. St Mary's Church, Hanwell owned by the Church of England. Hanwell Springs privately owned but managed by London Wildlife Trust. All other land owned by London Borough of Ealing.

Site Description:

This section of the Brent River Park extends from Brent Valley Golf Club in the north to Uxbridge Road in the south. The two golf courses have some nice semi-natural grassland communities and a mix of other habitats to add variety. Some uncommon plants including harebell (*Campanula rotundifolia*) and sand spurrey (*Spergularia rubra*) are found in the acid grassland communities especially in the south of West Middlesex Golf Course. Betony (*Stachys officinalis*), a scarce plant in London characteristic of unimproved grassland, can also be found on the golf course.

The river has a mixture of wooded banks and more open areas providing a variety of niches for plants and animals favouring wet habitats. Dormers Mill Pond is the largest water body in the Borough (apart from the lake at **The Aviary**) attracts waterfowl and several dragonfly species.

Parts of Brent Lodge Park and Churchfields are managed for nature conservation with grassland being cut annually for hay, hedges allowed to grow out and up and areas of rough vegetation left to their own devices. The hay meadows are dominated by meadow foxtail (*Alopecurus pratensis*) and contain a good diversity of wild flowers, including cuckooflower (*Cardamine pratensis*). Other areas in the park are more formally managed with planted trees and shrubs and closely-mown grassland.

Valuable neutral grassland occurs at Dormer's Wells and Brent Meadow. The large pond at Dormer's Wells has well-developed marginal vegetation and abundant submerged aquatic plants including horned pondweed (*Zannichellia palustris*). Other habitats of interest occur at Hanwell Springs (woodland with a natural spring and wetland habitats), Half Acre, and the woodland on the embankment by Wharncliffe Viaduct, which has recently been opened to public access.

Several additions have been made to the 2004 (UDP) site including all of West Middlesex and Brent Valley golf courses, all of Brent Lodge Park (including the zoo), Churchfields Recreation Ground, High Lane Meadow, all of Dormer's Wells and the River Brent between the viaduct and Uxbridge Road.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2004 (UDP)

Site of Borough Grade I Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBI15

Site Name: Fox Wood and Hanger Hill Park

Summary: A fine ancient wood on a slope with additional wildlife habitats in the adjacent Hanger Hill Park

Grid ref: TQ 183 821

Area (ha): 10.33

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Ancient woodland, secondary woodland, semi-improved neutral grassland, acid grassland, amenity grassland, hedge, scattered trees, ruderal, bare ground, running water

Access:

Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

The main wildlife interest of this site is in Fox Wood itself. This is a mixed woodland partly on a slope with a good variety of structure and species composition. Wood anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*) has been recorded here and other woodland herbs such as wood avens (*Geum urbanum*), garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*) and lesser celandine (*Ranunculus ficaria*) are frequent. Two small meadows occur north of the playing fields between the two arms of the woodland. Several colourful herbs have been planted here and the meadows are cut annually for hay, to retain their value for wildlife. Fox Wood is managed as a nature reserve by the London Wildlife Trust

Hanger Hill Park has a pitch and putt course in the north half and a more formally managed park in the south half. The grasslands are disappointing over much of the area but some interesting communities occur on banks in the east of the park. The best features here are the ancient hedge along the west and the mature oaks in the middle which may have been part of an historic hedge line.

The south half of Hanger Hill Park has been added to the 2004 (UDP) site.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2004 (UDP)

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade I Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBI16

Site Name: Hanger Hill Wood

Summary:

Ancient woodland with a good variety of trees and shrubs

Grid ref: TQ 186 820

Area (ha): 3.44

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Ancient woodland, secondary woodland, scrub

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

Map evidence suggests that there has been woodland here since at least the 14th century, although the site was much modified in the 18th century with several exotic species planted. The woodland has a wide variety of trees and shrubs with a well developed shrub layer, making it suitable nesting habitat for several species of woodland birds. A plant of butcher's broom (*Ruscus aculeatus*) near the north end is thought to have been planted here. The ground flora is mainly dominated by cow parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*), bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*) and common nettle (*Urtica dioica*), with some wood avens (*Geum urbanum*) adding some colour. Many of the mature sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) trees have died or are dying due to sooty bark disease. This enhances the value of the site for many types of wildlife (especially certain birds, invertebrates and fungi) which depend on decaying timber.

Four blocks of sycamore and English elm (*Ulmus procera*) woodland south of the main wood have been added to the 2004 (UDP) site

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2004 (UDP)

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade I Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBI18

Site Name: St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Norwood Green

Summary:

A very attractive churchyard with flowery grassland and seven fern species

Grid ref: TQ 135 786

Area (ha): 0.16

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Semi-improved neutral grassland, acid grassland, scattered trees, bare ground, vegetated walls/tombstones

Access:

Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership:

Diocese of London

Site Description:

The small churchyard is very attractive in appearance and supports a variety of habitats. The west and north sides of the churchyard are quite shaded due to the mature yew (*Taxus baccata*) trees. The grassland in the south-east side of the churchyard is quite colourful with herbs including yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), selfheal (*Prunella vulgaris*), speedwells (*Veronica* sp), cat's-ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*) and sweet violet (*Viola odorata*).

The main interest here, however are the ferns. The churchyard supports seven species, which is a very high number for London and the highest number known for a single site in Ealing. Most of the ferns grow on the walls of the church building, especially in the channel at the base of the walls. Four species that are uncommon or rare in London are here, black spleenwort (*Asplenium adiantum-nigrum*), maidenhair spleenwort (*Asplenium trichomanes*), soft shield-fern (*Polystichum setiferum*) and wall-rue (*Asplenium ruta-muraria*). The walls here are particularly suitable for these ferns for a number of reasons. The channel is dark and damp which suits them, the mortar in the walls is probably the old-fashioned lime-based type and the walls have not been scraped clean of vegetation and re-pointed too often.

This newly identified site has been added following the 2005 survey.

Site first notified: 2005

Boundary last changed: 2005

Citation last edited:

10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade I Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBI19

Site Name: Acton Railsides

Summary:

Particularly valuable railside habitats due to the width and extent of habitat and its variety

Grid ref: TQ 195 815

Area (ha): 48.32

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, scattered trees, ruderal, tall herbs, bare ground.

Access:

Can be viewed from adjacent paths or roads only

Ownership:

Network Rail, London Underground Limited

Site Description:

These rail cuttings in the North Acton area are particularly wide and provide varied semi-natural wildlife corridors. Habitats vary from one section to another, in places woodland and scrub predominate but much of the cuttings are more open with grassland and tall herb habitats. The grassland is quite colourful with a variety of herbs. Some of the grasslands are managed to prevent woody species establishing which also retains their current wildlife interest. These habitats are quite unusual on railsides elsewhere in Ealing which are mainly narrower and more dominated by woody species with grassland normally confined to small patches or narrow strips. The sidings in the south provide further variety with good conditions for ruderals on and between the tracks. Piles of sand and bare ground provide niches for reptiles and many invertebrates. The space between the intersecting rail lines in the east of the site supports a substantial area of undisturbed woodland and scrub which enhances the value of the site further.

Another feature of interest occurs on the westbound platform of North Acton station. The common thallose liverwort (*Marchantia polymorpha*) grows in profusion here where water from damaged drainage pipes seeps down the brick walls. This species is from a mainly tropical genus and has two very striking reproductive structures, one which resembles a miniature birds nest with eggs and one which resembles a tiny umbrella.

Two section of this site were included in the 2004 UDP, the woodland and scrub south of Churchill Gardens in West Acton and some sections of railside habitat around and to the east of North Acton Station. Otherwise none of the remainder of this site was included as a SINC in 2004.

Site first notified: 2005

Boundary last changed: 2004 (UDP)

Citation last edited:

10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade I Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBI20

Site Name: Wyncote Farm

Summary:

Excellent mosaic of wasteland habitats, with parched communities in the centre surrounded by tall herbs leading to scrub on the edges.

Grid ref: TQ 157 788

Area (ha): 2.87

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scrub, ruderal, tall herbs, bare soil

Access:

Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership:

Private

Site Description:

This is the finest example of wasteland habitat in the Borough, an uncommon habitat type in Ealing. Soil and rubble have been dumped here to a depth of a few metres over the site. This has provided a very good substrate for encouraging a very wide variety of plants and plant communities to thrive. In the centre of the site, conditions appear to be very free-draining so in prolonged periods of dry weather the vegetation becomes very parched. This suits a particular group of species including white stonecrop (*Sedum album*), flattened meadow-grass (*Poa compressa*), small-flowered crane's-bill (*Geranium pusillum*) and squirreltail fescue (*Vulpia bromoides*). Black medick (*Medicago lupulina*) and spotted medick (*Medicago arabica*) are particularly abundant in this area. Common restharrow (*Ononis repens*) which is an uncommon species in London also grows here. Damper areas support tussocks of pendulous sedge (*Carex pendula*) and tufted hair-grass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*).

Nearer the edges, vegetation growth is more vigorous and supports a variety of ruderals and tall herbs. Members of the pea family are particularly prominent, with frequent goat's-rue (*Galega officinalis*), medicks (*Medicago* spp), melilots (*Melilotus* spp), clovers (*Trifolium* spp), bird's-foot trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*) and vetches and tares (*Vicia* spp). Beyond this again scrub is gradually developing comprised of buddleja (*Buddleja davidii*), bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg), grey willow (*Salix cinerea*) and roses (*Rosa* spp) including sweet briar (*Rosa rubiginosa*) which is uncommon in London, occurring more usually on the chalk.

This diversity of plant species and mixture of habitats provides excellent conditions for a wide range of invertebrates. Flocks of seed-eating birds such as finches use the site for foraging. Small mammals also use the site and provide food for hunting kestrels.

This newly identified site has been added following the 2005 survey

Site first notified: 2005

Boundary last changed: 2005

Citation last edited:

10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII01

Site Name: Lime Trees Golf Course and Lime Trees Park

Summary:

A golf course with breeding great crested newts in the ponds and a park with several features of wildlife interest.

Grid ref: TQ 116 840

Area (ha): 38.82

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, scattered trees, tall herbs, ruderal, bare ground, pond, swamp

Access:

Free public access (part of site)

Ownership:

Golf course owned by Lime Trees Park Golf Club, remainder of site owned by London Borough of Ealing.

Site Description:

This golf course was being re-landscaped in 2005 when surveyed. Several of the more important semi-natural habitats were retained throughout the re-landscaping process. The course includes several valuable areas of scrub which have developed out of ancient hedges. There are five ponds or seasonally fluctuating water bodies on the course which provide valuable wildlife habitat. Great crested newts breed on the site and the ponds support good populations of several dragonfly species.

The park to the south includes several semi-natural habitats which compliment those on the golf course. There are several areas of rough grassland which provide habitat for common invertebrates including grasshoppers, crickets and butterflies. Trees of several species and mixed ages occur including a fine old pollard oak in the south. Even the frequently mown grassland has some interest as there are lots of humps and hollows providing a variety of conditions. A pond in the south-west is well vegetated with lots of planted species and is now mainly dominated by great reedmace (*Typha latifolia*) but some broad-leaved pondweed (*Potamogeton natans*) survives in the more open areas. One of the more interesting species in the nearby grassland is sneezewort (*Achillea ptarmica*) which is uncommon in London but occurs in some of the damp unimproved meadows in Ealing.

Although parts of the site were designated by the London Ecology Unit in 1991, the entire site now is new, as the 2004 UDP did not include it as a site.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII02

Site Name: Hayes By-pass Roughs

Summary:

Extensive areas of woodland, scrub and grassland adjacent to the main road

Grid ref: TQ 118 828

Area (ha): 6.19

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, scattered trees, bare ground, vegetated walls/tombstones

Access:

Free public access (part of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This site along both sides of the Hayes Bypass is what remains of a formally more extensive area of semi-natural grassland and scrub here. The woody vegetation is quite varied in species composition and structure with some areas originating from planting associated with the road building and other areas having arisen more spontaneously.

Some of the scrub is quite dense and undisturbed, especially an area in the middle of the west site which provides secure nesting habitat for birds. Areas of grassland also survive which are managed more or less frequently in different parts of the site giving rise to a variety of habitat conditions. The more frequent herbs here include wild carrot (*Daucus carota*), hogweed (*Heracleum sphondylium*), bristly oxtongue (*Picris echioides*) and creeping cinquefoil (*Potentilla reptans*).

Several parcels of land have been added to the 2004 (UDP) site – the vegetation along the entire length of both sides of the Bypass is now included, and the scrub extending south-westwards from the centre of the west side is also entirely included now. Another parcel of grassland and scrub north-west of the roundabout is also included.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII04

Site Name: Northolt Manor and Belvue Park

Summary:

An extensive green space around the 14th century Northolt Manor, a Scheduled Ancient Monument

Grid ref: TQ 132 840

Area (ha): 8.07

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, hedge, scattered trees, bare ground, pond, running water, vegetated walls/tombstones

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership: London Borough of Ealing and Diocese of ??

Site Description:

The site of the 14th century Northolt Manor supports several valuable wildlife habitats including woodland, scrub, grassland and wetland around the remains of an archaeological dig. The wetland area is particularly valuable with water at different levels in different parts of the site and a good range of aquatic and marginal plant species. Thread-leaved water-crowfoot (*Ranunculus trichophyllus*) and narrow-fruited water-cress (*Rorippa microphylla*) are abundant in the water. The manor is a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

The park to the south is mostly dominated by amenity grassland but has two areas of grassland managed for nature conservation and a small stream flowing along the western boundary. The stream also flows through the parts of Northolt Green that are included in this site enhancing the value of these green spaces for wildlife. Also included in the site is St Mary's churchyard which has rough grassland between the tombstones and is surrounded by tall hedges and trees making it a valuable site locally for birds.

This is part of the Northolt-Greenford Countryside Park.

An extra section of Northolt Green to the north-west has been added to the 2004 (UDP) site.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII06

Site Name: Field and wood between Osterley Lane & St Mary's Avenue South

Summary:

This site consists of a horse-grazed field, a small wood and the roadsides of Osterley Lane.

Grid ref: TQ 135 784

Area (ha): 1.40

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Semi-improved neutral grassland, improved agricultural grassland, hedge, scattered trees, tall herbs, bare ground

Access:

Free public access (part of site)

Ownership:

Fields privately owned, roadsides owned by London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

The field is divided into separate paddocks which get grazed at different times and at different intensities. This variable management creates a variety of structure to the vegetation and greatly enhances its wildlife value. The field is quite colourful when flowering due to species such as yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), cat's-ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*), meadow buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*) and common vetch (*Vicia sativa*). The boundary stream runs through the fields but is underground here. The wildlife value of the site could be easily enhanced if the stream was opened up again and wetland plants allowed to colonise the banks. The wood includes several fine mature pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) trees.

The roadsides of adjacent Osterley Lane provide a real 'country lane' feel which is unexpected in this part of London. A remnant ancient hedge occurs along part of the road and the grass verge supports a variety of wild grasses and herbs.

Minor boundary extensions proposed to 2004 (UDP) site

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII07

Site Name: The Litten Local Nature Reserve

Summary:

A pleasant woodland nature reserve with a variety of trees and shrubs and three small ponds.

Grid ref: TQ 144 827

Area (ha): 1.05

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, amenity grassland, tall herbs, pond

Access:

Access at limited times

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

The woodland is varied in structure and in woody species. Mature woodland is interspersed with younger woodland and scrub around the paths and ponds providing a range of woodland edge habitat suitable for birds and other wildlife. Many different woody species occur here, some of the more frequent species include horse chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*), hazel (*Corylus avellana*), pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*), snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*) and English elm (*Ulmus procera*). Ivy (*Hedera helix*) dominates the ground flora on most of the site.

The ponds provide habitat variety and support a range of wetland species including pendulous sedge (*Carex pendula*), water plantain (*Alisma plantago-aquatica*), yellow iris (*Iris pseudacorus*), celery-leaved buttercup (*Ranunculus sceleratus*) and soft-rush (*Juncus effusus*).

The site is a Local Nature Reserve.

No changes are proposed to the boundaries in the adopted UDP (2004).

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 31/10/1991

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII08

Site Name: Lyons Tree Belt

Summary: A narrow strip of woodland within factory grounds

Grid ref: TQ 143 845

Area (ha): 2.59

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland.

Access:

No public access

Ownership:

Lyons Maid plc

Site Description:

The site is mostly comprised of a strip of woodland dominated by non-native species along the back of a factory. Some of the more frequent trees and shrubs include hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), hybrid black-poplar (*Populus x canadensis*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*) and sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*). There is a more open area of grassland adjacent to the woodland at the western end. These habitats are important locally for birds and invertebrates but its greatest value is in the populations of slow worms that use the site.

The area of grassland in the south-west has been added back into the 2004 (UDP) site.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII09

Site Name: Hanwell Cemetery

Summary:

Cemetery with lots of mature trees and some patches of acid grassland

Grid ref: TQ 158 804

Area (ha): 6.27

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Acid grassland, amenity grassland, hedge, scattered trees, bare ground, vegetated walls/tombstones

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea

Site Description:

The mature trees on the site provide good habitat for birds in the area. As in many cemeteries, many of the planted trees here are conifers and evergreens including holly (*Ilex aquifolium*), yew (*Taxus baccata*), and deodar cedar (*Cedrus deodara*). Several mature Indian bean-tree (*Catalpa bignonioides*) provide additional interest. The grassland between the graves is mostly frequently mown but still supports common herbs such as daisy (*Bellis perennis*), selfheal (*Prunella vulgaris*), yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*) and oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*). In places the soil is acidic and supports a different grassland community dominated by common bent (*Agrostis capillaris*), red fescue (*Festuca rubra*) and cat's-ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*).

No changes are proposed to the boundary in the adopted UDP (2004).

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 01/01/1991

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII10

Site Name: Gurnell Grove and Castle Bar Park

Summary:

Several linked parcels of semi-natural grassland and woodland

Grid ref: TQ 158 820

Area (ha): 4.39

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, hedge, scattered trees, tall herbs, bare ground

Access:

Free public access (part of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing.

Site Description:

The closely-mown grassland in the park at Gurnell Grove, and the playing fields of Hathaway School, support a large population of burnet saxifrage (*Pimpinella saxifraga*), a species characteristic of old unimproved grassland. The school playing fields are surrounded by semi-natural vegetation including outgrown hedges and areas of long grassland with lots of common knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*).

Next to Castle Bar Station a green space is managed by the Council to encourage a variety of habitats. Rough grassland, managed with an annual hay cut, and tall herbs predominate here with a smaller area of scrub.

A dense block of woodland occurs further to the south. This has several fine mature pedunculate oaks (*Quercus robur*) and the ground flora is dominated by bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*) and ivy (*Hedera helix*).

Immediately south of this Cavendish School 'nature area' provides additional wildlife habitat with a mix of woodland, scrub and some neutral grassland. Springhallow School, south of this again is one of the most interesting school grounds in the Borough. Grassland on steep banks flanks the west and north sides of the buildings and parts of the grassland area very flower-rich. Common bird's-foot-trefoil, (*Lotus corniculatus*), selfheal (*Prunella vulgaris*) and autumn hawkbit (*Leontodon autumnalis*) are particularly frequent here. A native hedge has been planted along the north boundary.

Most of these parcels of land are linked by the lanes along the east of the site. These lanes contain several fine mature pedunculate oak trees and have a ground flora typical of ancient hedges with flowers including bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*), garlic-mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*) and common vetch (*Vicia sativa*).

Several parcels of land have been added to the 2004 (UDP) site. These are, all of Hathaway School's grounds, the grassland in Cavendish School's grounds, the lane running south of Castle Bar Park and Springhallow School's grassland.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII11

Site Name: Montpelier Park Wood

Summary:

A small but varied woodland with a pond.

Grid ref: TQ 175 818

Area (ha): 0.51

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, ruderal, pond

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This woodland is quite varied for its size. About half is densely shaded from evergreen trees and shrubs including holm oak (*Quercus ilex*), box (*Buxus sempervirens*) and holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) with dense ivy (*Hedera helix*) on the ground and climbing the trees. The remaining half is less shaded and is composed of a variety of woody species including sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*) and wild plum (*Prunus domestica*). Cow parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*) and bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg) dominate the ground flora here.

A small pond in the south has a varied wetland flora including pendulous sedge (*Carex pendula*), yellow iris (*Iris pseudacorus*), marsh marigold (*Caltha palustris*) and great reedmace (*Typha latifolia*) with Nuttall's waterweed (*Elodea nuttallii*) in the water. A small clearing in the north has been planted with 'wild flowers' and now supports populations of meadow crane's-bill (*Geranium pratense*), garden lady's-mantle (*Alchemilla mollis*) and hautbois strawberry (*Fragaria moschata*).

No Change is proposed to the boundary of the site as shown in the 2004 UDP.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII12

Site Name: South Ealing Cemetery

Summary:

Large cemetery with lots of trees and some interesting patches of grassland

Grid ref: TQ 179 789

Area (ha): 9.43

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Semi-improved neutral grassland, scattered trees, bare ground, vegetated walls/tombstones

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

The density of trees in this cemetery almost qualifies it to be counted as woodland. There is a mix of conifers and broad-leaved trees. Some of the conifers are mature and now form fine specimen trees, particularly the line of deodar cedars (*Cedrus deodara*) near the entrance.

Most of the grassland around the graves is not very species-rich but in places it has a high proportion of flowers with frequent selfheal (*Prunella vulgaris*), oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*), common dog-violet (*Viola riviniana*), common bird's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*) and yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*). In the south-west of the cemetery, several clumps of the uncommon grey sedge (*Carex divulsa* ssp *divulsa*) grow.

This newly identified site has been added following the 2005 survey.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII13

Site Name: Ealing Reservoir

Summary:

Covered reservoir with flowery grassland and native shrubs around the edges

Grid ref: TQ 181 818

Area (ha): 1.53

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, bare ground

Access:

Can be viewed from adjacent paths or roads only

Ownership:

A water company *Which one? Is it TW?*

Site Description:

When the reservoir was redeveloped and covered the landscaping of the site included planting of native species. This planting and the subsequent management has led to an interesting wildlife habitat developing here. The grassland on the banks is especially colourful with herbs including yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), red clover (*Trifolium pratense*), bristly oxtongue (*Picris echioides*) and common bird's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*). A variety of native trees and shrubs occur on the edge of the site including dog-rose (*Rosa canina*), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), goat willow (*Salix caprea*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), crab apple (*Malus sylvestris*), guelder-rose (*Viburnum opulus*) and dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea*).

This newly identified site has been added following the 2005 survey

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII14

Site Name: Twyford Abbey Grounds

Summary:

Somewhat overgrown landscaped grounds with areas of woodland and tall herb communities

Grid ref: TQ 190 831

Area (ha): 5.42

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, scattered trees, tall herbs, bare ground

Access:

No public access

Ownership:

Twyford Abbey Properties

Site Description:

This site has one of the largest areas of open space in this heavily built-up area. The site has extensive areas of woodland including some areas which have developed into woodland around planted exotic trees. Tall herbs are now dominating most of the non-woodland vegetation due to the lack of management in recent years. Giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*), an invasive species, is particularly abundant and requires control. These habitats are of value to common birds, mammals and invertebrates. Some of the former interest of the site has been lost due to lack of management but this could be restored by re-establishing a grazing or cutting regime in the fields.

As full access was not gained to the site during the survey, the centre section of the site which was omitted from the 2004 UDP has been added back in. The habitats in this area appeared to be similar to the remainder of the site from the vantage point gained.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII15

Site Name: Former Guinness Mounds

Summary:

Two banks with woodland and grassland, adding to the wildlife habitat of the adjacent railway cuttings.

Grid ref: TQ 191 824

Area (ha): 1.74

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, scattered trees, ruderal, tall herbs, bare ground

Access:

Can be viewed from adjacent paths or roads only.

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing?

Site Description:

This site is comprised of woodland and grassland on both sides of a railway cutting which have developed on mounds of waste material from construction of the nearby A40 underpass. The west half of the site has been slightly reduced in extent due to building of a new slip road and exotic shrubs have been planted along the edge of the new road. There are planted trees and shrubs at the bottom of the slope with grassland and areas of ruderal vegetation near the top.

The east half has been less disturbed and is overall more semi-natural in character with a mix of mainly woodland, grassland and tall herbs. The woodland on this side is mostly composed of native species including field maple (*Acer campestre*), silver birch (*Betula pendula*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), wild cherry (*Prunus avium*) and pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*).

Part of the west side of the 2004 UDP site has been lost to road development.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII16

Site Name: Central Line and Castle Bar branch railsides

Summary:

Long section of railway line with bands of semi-natural woodland and grassland along most of its length.

Grid ref: TQ 155 828

Area (ha): 56.61

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, hedge, scattered trees, ruderal, tall herbs, bare ground

Access:

Can be viewed from adjacent paths or roads only

Ownership:

London Underground Limited, Network Rail

Site Description:

This rail line stretches from the Borough boundary near Islip Manor in the west right across the north of the borough to the North Acton Railsides site in the east. The sub-site also includes the section of rail line linking Greenford to South Greenford stations. The Central Line is in a cutting at either end and runs on an embankment in the middle. It is well vegetated and reasonably wide almost throughout its length. Habitats are quite varied and include some fine pieces of woodland, scrub and grassland providing a range of habitat conditions to suit different species.

Each of the separate rail lines in the Borough of Ealing have their own characteristic suite of species. Woody species encountered frequently along this line include false acacia (*Robinia pseudoacacia*) and Spanish broom (*Spartium junceum*), while a sorbaria (*Sorbaria* sp) grows in several places in the extreme east of the site. The colourful flowers of small toadflax (*Chaenorhinum minus*) can be spotted from the platforms of most stations along the line growing through the railway ballast. An uncommon fern, black spleenwort (*Asplenium adiantum-nigrum*) grows from brick walls in at least three places and grows especially prolifically at the Bideford Avenue bridge in Perivale and on the wall of the pedestrian underpass west of Cayton Road Sports Ground in Greenford.

Only a very short section of this line west of the Grand Union Canal in Northolt was including in the 2004 UDP.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII17

Site Name: Ealing Broadway to Hanwell railsides

Summary:

Rail line with good ruderal communities on the tracks.

Grid ref: TQ 161 806

Area (ha): 11.25

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, scattered trees, tall herbs, ruderal, bare ground

Access:

Can be viewed from adjacent paths and roads only

Ownership:

Network Rail

Site Description:

This site includes the railside of the Great Western Railway between Ealing Broadway and Hanwell stations. To the west of Hanwell, the railway enters the **Brent River Park**. This line is mostly on embankment, but the extreme east section is in a cutting.

Along the tracks themselves there is more ruderal vegetation along parts of these lines than most of the other lines in the borough. One of the most interesting features on these lines is the fern community on the walls of the railway bridge crossing Ruislip Road. Hart's-tongue (*Phyllitis scolopendrium*), black spleenwort (*Asplenium adiantum-nigrum*) and rustyback (*Ceterach officinarum*) are all abundant here. The last two species are quite uncommon in London.

A newly identified site. None of this site was included in the 2004 UDP.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII18

Site Name: Southall railsides

Summary:

Rail line with good ruderal communities on the tracks and in adjacent land in the west.

Grid ref: TQ 132 789

Area (ha): 16.01

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, scattered trees, tall herbs, ruderal, bare ground

Access:

Can be viewed from adjacent paths and roads only

Ownership:

Network Rail, other private

Site Description:

This site includes the railsides of the Great Western Railway between the **Brent River Park North** and Southall, along with the goods line going south-east from Southall station as far as Three Bridges, where this line enters another section of the **Brent River Park South**. The line immediately east and west of Southall station has little vegetation on the edges and is not included in the site. This line is mostly on embankment, with some sections on a viaduct.

Several vacant plots of land and lightly-used industrial units in the west with wasteland vegetation are included in this sub-site. This type of vegetation is a diverse mix of ruderal species, tall herbs, grasses and scrub with lots of colourful flowers and lots of food supplies for birds and invertebrates. These areas are sometimes favoured by reptiles who like the mixture of rough vegetation, rubble and bare areas. Along the tracks themselves there is more ruderal vegetation along parts of these lines than most of the other lines in the borough.

A newly identified site. None of this site was included in BII 16 in the 2004 UDP.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 02/10/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII19

Site Name: Piccadilly and District Lines in Ealing

Summary:

Mostly narrow strips of woodland and scrub along the rail lines, with smaller areas of grassland and ruderal vegetation.

Grid ref: TQ 179 796

Area (ha): 36.42

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, hedge, scattered trees, ruderal, tall herbs, bare ground

Access:

Can be viewed from adjacent paths and roads only.

Ownership:

London Underground Limited

Site Description:

This site includes both branches of the Piccadilly line that go through the borough and diverge west of Acton Town Station. The habitat alongside these lines is in narrower strips than on many of the other lines in the borough. The main habitats along these lines are woodland and scrub with lesser amounts of grassland and tall herbs although parts of the Heathrow branch has quite grassy vegetation. Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) are frequent in the woodland that has developed and hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) and blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*) are the most common shrubs in the scrub. Along the narrow edges to the Rayners Lane branch between Uxbridge Road and the junction at Waldegrave Road near Ealing Common several exotic shrubs have been planted including Asian firethorn (*Pyracantha coccinea*) and snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*). A wider section of sidings between Boston Manor and Northfields Station has sparse ruderal vegetation between the tracks. Wall lettuce (*Mycelis muralis*) is one of the characteristic herbs growing among the ballast on this line. It can be seen from the platforms of South Ealing and Northfields Station.

South-east of Acton Town, the site also includes a section of the District line, between Turnham Green and Chiswick Park. Along the embankment of the District Line there are some good examples of acid grassland dominated by sheep's fescue (*Festuca ovina*). Spanish broom (*Spartium junceum*) is also quite frequent here.

A newly identified site. None of this sub-site was included in the 2004 UDP.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII20

Site Name: Silverlink Metro and Dudding Hill Loop railsides in Ealing

Summary:

Narrow strips of habitat along the rail lines with a variety of habitats including some acid grassland.

Grid ref: TQ 206 802

Area (ha): 13.65

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, acid grassland, scattered trees, tall herbs, ruderal, bare ground

Access:

Can be viewed from adjacent roads and paths only.

Ownership:

Network Rail

Site Description:

This site includes the Silverlink Metro, and part of a goods line that branches off from it in the extreme north-east of the borough. Space for semi-natural habitat is limited to quite narrow strips along most of these sections. Colourful and varied ruderal vegetation is quite frequent, especially in the south. Other sections of the sub-site have considerable areas of woodland and scrub. Another feature of interest is the colony of black spleenwort (*Asplenium adiantum-nigrum*) that grows from the brick wall on the bridge at Acton Lane.

Only a tiny bit of this site at Acton Junction was included in the 2004 UDP.

Site first notified: 18/10/2002 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 10/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII21

Site Name: Perivale Community Centre

Summary:

Meadow which is similar in character to the fields on Horsenden Hill

Grid ref: TQ 161 838

Area (ha): 2.36

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, bare ground

Access:

Free public access (all/part of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This site is really an extension of the **Horsenden Hill** site which has been separated from it by the canal. The site consists of a field almost completely surrounded by trees and shrubs. Bands of woodland occur along the north and south boundaries and an outgrown hedge separates the site from the meadows of **Perivale Wood Nature Reserve**. A line of mature pedunculate oaks (*Quercus robur*) going east to west through the field may indicate the line of a former field boundary. The most frequent woody species here are mostly native species and include field maple (*Acer campestre*), blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), pedunculate oak and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*).

A small area of grassland near the road and the play area is mown frequently but most of the field is managed as meadow and is similar in character to some of the fields on Horsenden Hill, though not as species-rich as the best ones. The sward is mainly dominated by grasses but some herbs are reasonably frequent including rough hawkbit (*Leontodon hispidus*), ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), creeping cinquefoil (*Potentilla reptans*), creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*), common ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*) and white clover (*Trifolium repens*). At least seven grass species were found here, although more may occur. Meadow barley (*Hordeum secalinum*) is particularly frequent here as it is in many of the fields on Horsenden Hill.

A newly identified site. This site has been added following the 2005 survey

Site first notified: 2005

Boundary last changed: 2005

Citation last edited:

13/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII22

Site Name: River Brent at Hanger Lane

Summary:

A canalised section of the River Brent with strips of semi-natural habitat adjacent along the south bank

Grid ref: TQ 182 832

Area (ha): 1.84

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scrub, scattered trees, ruderal, bare ground, running water, planted shrubbery

Access:

Free public access (part of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing?

Site Description:

The wildlife value of this section of the river is limited somewhat due to the stark concrete channel that the river runs through here. The concrete base and walls provide limited opportunities for plant colonisation and few of the niches used by invertebrates and fish that would occur on the uneven substrates of more natural sections of the river. Despite this the submerged plant, fennel pondweed (*Potamogeton pectinatus*) has managed to get a foothold and is quite frequent where it occurs.

The main value of the site at the moment may be for birds. The adjacent scrub habitat provides cover and feeding areas and the invertebrate communities of the river itself provide further feeding. In places exotic shrubs have been planted which provide nesting sites. Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), crack willow (*Salix fragilis*), osier (*Salix viminalis*) and elder (*Sambucus nigra*) have colonised the banks and provide extra habitat for birds and invertebrates. Ruderal species are frequent on the banks in places and add a bit more habitat diversity to the site.

Any future opportunities to remove the concrete base and sides should be taken as this would greatly enhance the value of the site.

A newly identified site. This site has been added following the 2005 survey

Site first notified: 2005

Boundary last changed: 2005

Citation last edited:

13/02/2005

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII23

Site Name: Havelock Cemetery

Summary:

Cemetery with very flower-rich grassland

Grid ref: TQ 125 793

Area (ha): 2.24

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scattered trees, semi-improved neutral grassland, vegetated walls/tombstones

Access:

Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

Despite the cemetery being in full use and the grass being mown frequently, the grasslands here are very flower-rich. Oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*), yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*) and common bird's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*) are particularly abundant and field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*), black medick (*Medicago lupulina*), selfheal (*Prunella vulgaris*) and germander speedwell (*Veronica chamaedrys*) are some of the other species that are common here. The variety and abundance of flowers indicates that the management here has been favourable and there has not been very much (if any) use of herbicide on these grasslands in the past. If the mowing regime was relaxed a little more the grasslands would be very colourful and visually attractive while not getting too untidy and causing concern about neglect.

The north half of the cemetery is very open with few trees and shrubs which is good for the flowers as they don't suffer too much shade. In contrast the south half has quite a few young and mature trees scattered throughout which provides useful habitat diversity. Yew (*Taxus baccata*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and a cherry (*Prunus* sp) are the most frequent woody species here.

A newly identified site. This site has been added following the 2005 survey

Site first notified: 2005

Boundary last changed: 2005

Citation last edited:

13/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII24

Site Name: Greenford Park Cemetery

Summary:

Large cemetery with grassland that is quite flowery in places with additional habitat provided by the adjacent allotment site which is not in full use

Grid ref: TQ 140 817

Area (ha): 14.37

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scrub, semi-improver neutral grassland, amenity grassland, scattered trees, ruderal, bare ground, allotments, vegetated walls/tombstones

Access:

Free public access (most of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

The grasslands in this cemetery are quiet flower-rich in places but have lost some of their interest in recent years as more ground has been used for burials. Some of the more common flowers here include yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), agrimony (*Agrimonia eupatoria*), autumn hawkbit (*Leontodon autumnalis*), oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*), selfheal (*Prunella vulgaris*), red clover (*Trifolium pratense*) and creeping cinquefoil (*Potentilla reptans*). Other interesting species have been recorded here before including cuckoo-flower (*Cardamine pratensis*), burnet saxifrage (*Pimpinella saxifraga*) and ragged-Robin (*Lychnis flos-cuculi*).

Apart from the grasslands, there are several other habitats here that enhance the overall value of the site for wildlife. Trees, shrubs and hedges are scattered throughout the site at different densities providing a variety of conditions from full shade through part shade as well as unshaded areas. In the south of the cemetery an impressive remnant hedgebank survives with a double row of mature trees running east to west. In the north-east of the cemetery recent landscaping has resulted in a vigorous growth of ruderal species and substantial areas of bare ground. These habitats attract many species of invertebrates which like these conditions. The allotment site to the north-east provides further diversity. The allotments are only partly in use so there are now areas of rank grassland and dense scrub.

A newly identified site. This site has been added following the 2005 survey

Site first notified: 2005

Boundary last changed: 2005

Citation last edited:

13/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII25

Site Name: St Bernard's Hospital walls

Summary:

Old walls supporting seven fern species including several uncommon species

Grid ref: TQ 146 800

Area (ha): 0.13

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scattered trees, amenity grassland, vegetated walls

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

West London Mental Health Trust?

Site Description:

This site is in two parts covering old walls which support interesting fern communities, the walls of St Bernard's Hospital chapel and some old boundary walls in the south-east of the hospital site. Six species occur on the walls of the chapel including the uncommon species black spleenwort (*Asplenium adiantum-nigrum*), maidenhair spleenwort (*Asplenium trichomanes*) and lady-fern (*Athyrium filix-foemina*). On the old boundary walls maidenhair spleenwort also occurs but black spleenwort and wall-rue (*Asplenium ruta-muraria*) are particularly abundant and include some very large old plants.

The value of the site could easily be damaged if walls are re-pointed or cleaned in an insensitive way. It is likely that other old walls in this area also supported interesting ferns but these have now lost their interest. Interpretation boards highlighting the ferns would enhance the value of the site for the public and would be a reminder to those maintaining the walls to take care not to damage the site unnecessarily.

A newly identified site. This site has been added following the 2005 survey

Site first notified: 2005

Boundary last changed: 2005

Citation last edited:

13/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII26

Site Name: Mason's Green Lane

Summary:

Several undisturbed strips of woodland, scrub and grassland

Grid ref: TQ 194 817

Area (ha): 1.97

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland

Access:

Can be viewed from adjacent paths or roads only

Ownership:

Appears to be all privately-owned, large section in the south-east owned by John Lewis

Site Description:

This site consists of several areas and strips of habitat next to Mason's Green Lane and the lane behind Princess Gardens. The largest area occurs in the south-east. This is an interesting looking area of young woodland with lots of different tree species with rough grassland in the centre providing a useful contrast in habitats. These habitats may have resulted from landscaping carried out as part of the planning conditions when the site was redeveloped. The other strips of land in this site are much narrower and are mainly dense, dark English elm (*Ulmus procera*) woodland and mixed scrub, often with abundant ivy on the ground. The undisturbed nature of the site makes it a valuable bird nesting habitat.

A newly identified site. This site has been added following the 2005 survey.

Site first notified: 2005

Boundary last changed: 2005

Citation last edited:

13/02/2006

Site of Borough Grade II Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaBII27

Site Name: St Augustine's Priory

Summary:

School grounds with a variety of habitats including strips of woodland which may be ancient

Grid ref: TQ 185 818

Area (ha): 4.76

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Ancient woodland, scattered trees, planted shrubbery, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, bare ground

Access:

Can be viewed from adjacent paths or roads only

Ownership:

St Augustine's Priory

Site Description:

The most interesting habitat on this school site is the woodland. Two strips of woodland run north to south in the site, one on the west boundary and one through the middle. The woodland on the boundary appears to be a continuation of the ancient woodland habitat of Hanger Hill Wood across the road. The strip of woodland in the middle of the site may have grown out from an old hedgerow. Pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) are the main trees with several native shrubs species in the understorey and a few exotic species also planted in to the woodland.

The site includes several different types of habitat in different areas making it more valuable for a variety of birds and invertebrates. Most of the site has open habitats with sports playing fields, tennis courts and areas of less frequently used grassland. The front of the site, north of the school buildings is more formally landscaped and includes some fine specimen trees.

A newly identified site. This site has been added following the 2005 survey.

Further survey is probably required to clarify the boundaries of this proposed site.

Site first notified: 2005

Boundary last changed: 2005

Citation last edited:

13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL01

Site Name: Rectory Park

Summary:

A large park with numerous features of wildlife value.

Grid ref: TQ 124 834

Area (ha): 8.73

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scattered trees, scrub, hedge, semi-improved neutral grassland, tall herbs, ruderal, bare ground, running water, pond/lake

Access:

Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This site includes the nature area and hedges in the main park, and areas of wildlife habitat in Rectory Park Extension.

The block of woodland in the south is managed as a 'nature area' and has a variety of planted trees and shrubs. A pond in the east of the site is one of the more interesting features of the wood. The pond is allowed to dry out in summer which enhances its value for invertebrates who favour fluctuating water levels for different stages of their life-cycle. Vegetation is quite dense much of it dominated by reed sweet-grass (*Glyceria maxima*) with other marginal species like water plantain (*Alisma plantago-aquatica*), yellow iris (*Iris pseudacorus*) and clustered dock (*Rumex conglomeratus*) more sparse around the edges.

Two long excellently-managed native hedges are included, one along the boundary with the golf course and the other running north to south down the middle of the main park. These hedges are managed unintensively which allows them to retain their wildlife value and they are extremely valuable for nesting birds in the area as well as providing a large nectar source for insects in spring. Also included is the strip of semi-natural vegetation that has been allowed to develop along the west boundary which provides more habitat diversity on the site with mature trees, scrub, rough grassland and tall herbs.

Rectory Park Extension, to the north of the established park, was undergoing redevelopment during 2005 but some of the former areas of wildlife interest were retained (but disturbed in places) during the process. The site consists of a small park in the north-west with rough grassland, scrub and mature planted trees, a linear strip of grassland along the west of the development site with some young planted trees, a dense area of scrub with some disturbed ground in the south-east and an interesting area of rough grassland and scrub in the south-west just north of the entrance to the golf course.

In much of the grasslands here tufted hair-grass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*) is prominent indicating that the soil conditions are damp. This is most obvious in the rough grassland in the south-west where interesting wet grassland communities are developing in some damp depressions. The grasslands on the site as a whole have considerable potential for development of wet grassland communities if the right management is put in place following the redevelopment. The existing areas of trees and scrub will add variety to these habitats and increase the overall wildlife value of the site.

The 2004 (UDP) site only included the nature area block of woodland in the south.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005
Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL03

Site Name: Islip Manor Park

Summary:

Small area of park managed for nature conservation with meadow flanked on three sides by woodland

Grid ref: TQ 125 844

Area (ha): 0.89

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, semi-improved grassland

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This part of the park is managed for nature conservation and provides a useful local wildlife resource. The plants in the grassland are allowed to grow long, flower and set seed before being cut. The most common grasses in this meadow are common bent (*Agrostis capillaris*), smaller cat's-tail (*Phleum bertolonii*) and red fescue (*Festuca rubra*) and herbs are generally quite sparse apart from creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*). Around the meadow a woodland understorey has been allowed to develop under the planted horse chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*), hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) and common lime (*Tilia x europaea*) trees.

The site has been expanded from the 2004 (UDP) site to include all of the area managed for nature conservation.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL04

Site Name: Avenue Road Hedge

Summary:

Remnants of an ancient hedgerow surviving in a heavily built-up area

Grid ref: TQ 128 801

Area (ha): 0.51

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scrub, scattered trees, ruderal

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This hedge has been much modified but retains elements that show that it has probably been here for a very long time. The hedgerow trees are mainly ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) but English elm (*Ulmus procera*) suckers indicate that there were once elm trees here also. The line of planted London plane (*Platanus x hispanica*) and common lime (*Tilia x europaea*) across the road provide further habitat and are included in the site. Beneath and between the hedgerow trees native shrubs occur including hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*) and a rose (*Rosa* sp). Most surprisingly, for such a built-up and a disturbed site such as this there are still hedgerow herbs and climbers present like bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*), traveller's-joy (*Clematis vitalba*) and white bryony (*Bryonia dioica*).

The treeline on the opposite side of the road has been added to the 2004 (UDP) site.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL05

Site Name: Norwood Hall Woodland

Summary:

Secondary woodland with a variety of trees and shrubs

Grid ref: TQ 134 786

Area (ha): 3.05

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, scattered trees, bare ground, planted shrubbery

Access:

Can be viewed from adjacent path or road only

Ownership:

Gurdwara Sri Guru Singh Sabha

Site Description:

The main piece of woodland here is in the western half of this site. Many of the mature trees are exotic species like sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), horse chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*) and copper beech (*Fagus sylvatica* 'Purpurea'). The understorey is sparse but includes bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg), elder, (*Sambucus nigra*) and holly (*Ilex aquifolium*). Cow parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*), common nettle (*Urtica dioica*) and ivy (*Hedera helix*) are among the more common species on the ground. The site is undisturbed for most of the year providing a haven for wildlife locally. The gardens and other areas of semi-natural vegetation in the south of the site are also included in the site.

A newly identified site. The site was not adopted as a SINC in the 2004 UDP.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL06

Site Name: Wood End Wireless Station

Summary:

Mostly frequently-mown grassland which includes herb species associated with old unimproved grassland

Grid ref: TQ 139 848

Area (ha): 2.18

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Amenity grassland, scattered trees

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing?

Site Description:

The management of this site has become more intensive in recent years and it is now mown much more frequently than in the past. Despite this the grassland still contains some interesting species. Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), cat's-ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*), autumn hawkbit (*Leontodon autumnalis*), common bird's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), common sorrel (*Rumex acetosa*) and burnet saxifrage (*Pimpinella saxifraga*) are all quite frequent here. Burnet saxifrage normally grows in grasslands that have not been intensively improved, so it indicates that the soil conditions here still retain the potential for restoration of an interesting meadow. The site sits on a low hill with most of the grassland on gentle slopes.

A newly identified site. This site was not adopted as a SINC in the 2004 UDP.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL07

Site Name: Ravenor Park Nature Area and stream

Summary:

An area of dense plum scrub, a small meadow and a stream with several mature trees alongside

Grid ref: TQ 140 824

Area (ha): 0.84

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, running water

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This site has two separate parcels of land included. In the south of the park, the 'nature area' consists of a block of dense wild plum (*Prunus domestica*) scrub with young ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) in the west end. There is a small meadow in the south mainly dominated by grasses including false oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*) and Yorkshire-fog (*Holcus lanatus*). Birds and invertebrates benefit from this mix of habitats and paths lead through the area so that the public can enjoy the site. The second part of the site occurs along the stream along the northern boundary. Apart from the wetland habitat the other particularly fine wildlife features here are several mature pedunculate oak trees.

The habitat along the stream has been added to the 1991 site.

No change is proposed to this site

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL08

Site Name: Holy Cross Churchyard, Greenford

Summary:

Churchyard with flower-rich grasslands which could be enhanced by slight changes to the management

Grid ref: TQ 145 831

Area (ha): 0.60

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, scattered trees, hedge, bare ground, vegetated walls/tombstones

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

Church of England

Site Description:

This grasslands of this churchyard provide the main interest. They are quite flower-rich with white clover (*Trifolium repens*), creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*), selfheal (*Prunella vulgaris*), creeping cinquefoil (*Potentilla reptans*), cat's-ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*), common knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*) and yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*) all frequent here. Other interesting meadow species including meadow vetchling (*Lathyrus pratensis*) and burnet saxifrage (*Pimpinella saxifraga*) have been recorded here before. The north and south sides have trees and shrubs scattered throughout but the centre of the site is more open. The grasslands could be enhanced if the mowing regime was relaxed slightly.

A minor addition to the western boundary of the site is proposed.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL10

Site Name: Sudbury Lane

Summary:

Ancient double hedge with a wide variety of native trees and shrubs

Grid ref: TQ 146 855

Area (ha): 0.33

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, bare ground

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This site is a surviving ancient double hedge with a large ditch which has a mixture of native species. Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) are the main trees but English elm (*Ulmus procera*) suckers also occur indicating that elm trees once formed part of the canopy. The understorey is very varied and includes field maple (*Acer campestre*), dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea*), hazel (*Corylus avellana*), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), roses (*Rosa spp*) and elder (*Sambucus nigra*). This site provides a very good local wildlife resource which can be enjoyed by the public but it could be made more attractive by making sure that rubbish and dumped material is not allowed to remain on the site for long periods.

Minor changes are proposed to correct an apparent mapping error in the UDP site, which does not include the verges of the lane.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL11

Site Name: Cuckoo Park

Summary:

A park with lots of rough vegetation and wildlife habitat around the edges

Grid ref: TQ 156 814

Area (ha): 4.92

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scrub, amenity grassland, hedge, scattered trees, tall herbs, bare ground

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

Much of the grasslands on the site are closely-mown and used for sports but the habitat around the edges and elsewhere are much more interesting for wildlife. There are strips of scrub, scattered trees and tall herbs all adding habitat diversity. Because of this variety of habitats there are different niches for a wide variety of invertebrates, birds and mammals. This is a good example of how management of a frequently used public park can also benefit wildlife.

Newly identified site. This site was not adopted as a SINC in the 2004 UDP.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL12

Site Name: Northfield Avenue

Summary:

Three hedges adjacent to an allotment site providing valuable wildlife habitat

Grid ref: TQ 168 801

Area (ha): 3.19

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, scattered trees, hedge, tall herbs, bare ground. allotments

Access:

Can be viewed from adjacent paths or roads only

Ownership:

Allotments privately owned, remainder of site owned by London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

The site consists of a native hedges on either side of an allotment, a quiet lane to the east and another hedge across the busy road along the west side. The hedges are the main feature of wildlife interest. The main woody species are hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*), English elm (*Ulmus procera*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and garden privet (*Lonicera ovalifolium*). They are well managed and remain dense and tall for most of their length providing valuable nesting habitat for birds.

No change to existing 2004 UDP designation.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL13

Site Name: The Grange Estate Pond

Summary:

Large pond with small island

Grid ref: TQ 171 814

Area (ha): 0.32

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scrub, scattered trees, pond

Access:

No public access

Ownership:

Grange Estate Company Ltd.

Site Description:

This is one of the larger ponds in the borough. The pond and its edges is managed quite formally and fish have been introduced which limits its wildlife potential somewhat but it is still a good habitat locally for invertebrates and birds. Wetland plants are quite sparse on the edges but yellow iris (*Iris pseudacorus*) is abundant. The north and south ends have large trees on the banks while it is a bit more open in the middle. This provides further niches due to the varying shade conditions.

Minor changes are proposed to the 2004 UDP site boundary to include the surrounding habitat.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL14

Site Name: Lammas Park Enclosure and Nature Area

Summary:

Three parcels of semi-natural vegetation providing a variety of habitat conditions

Grid ref: TQ 175 798

Area (ha): 0.83

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, hedge, scattered trees, bare ground, tall herbs, pond

Access:

Full public access (part of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This site is in three separate sections. In Lammas enclosure an abandoned tennis court in the north is developing some interesting wildlife habitat. The land is surrounded by scrub and some scattered shrubs occur in the centre. Most of this parcel has been colonised by ruderals and tall herbs with some bare ground remaining scattered throughout. This makes excellent habitat for invertebrates due to the variety of habitat structure and the plentiful nectar sources. There are lots of colourful plants here including several Michaelmas daisies (*Aster* spp), rosebay willowherb (*Chamerion angustifolium*). Smooth hawk's-beard (*Crepis capillaris*), herb-Robert (*Geranium robertianum*), oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*), purple toadflax (*Linaria purpurea*), bristly oxtongue (*Picris echioides*), common ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*), white clover (*Trifolium repens*) and many more.

In the south of Lammas Enclosure and area of rough vegetation has been managed for nature conservation for several years. This vegetation has also developed in an area formerly used for tennis and now is a mix of rough grassland and scrub providing good bird and invertebrate habitat. Also include in the site is the area of meadow immediately adjacent to the west which is in an earlier stage of succession, therefore providing different niches for wildlife. The third parcel of land is the 'nature area' in Lammas Park which includes a very small pond with wetland vegetation on the margins and a few planted native and exotic shrubs. This area is used for nature study for groups of small children.

The parcel in the north of Lammas enclosure has been added to the 2004 (UDP) site and the parcel in the south has been extended westwards to include all of the wildlife habitat.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL15

Site Name: St.Mary's Churchyard, Ealing

Summary:

A wooded churchyard with a small glade

Grid ref: TQ 177 797

Area (ha): 0.20

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, semi-improved neutral grassland

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

Church of England

Site Description:

This small churchyard has mostly been allowed to turn into woodland. The main woody species are sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), yew (*Taxus baccata*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*), holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) and hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*). Native shrubs including field maple (*Acer campestre*) and hazel (*Corylus avellana*) have been planted on the site in recent years. Cow parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*) and wood avens (*Geum urbanum*) occur in the ground layer. A small glade has been kept open in the centre greatly adding to the usefulness of the site for many forms of wildlife. It will be important to ensure that this glade remains open in order to conserve the wildlife interest here. In the open areas herbs such as cat's-ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*), autumn hawkbit (*Leontodon autumnalis*) and germander speedwell (*Veronica chamaedrys*).

No changes are proposed to the site in the adopted UDP (2004).

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 01/01/1991

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL16

Site Name: Cleveley Crescent Allotments

Summary:

Allotment site with potential for riverside habitat enhancement

Grid ref: TQ 183 831

Area (ha): 0.46

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scattered trees, allotments

Access:

Can be viewed from adjacent paths or roads only

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

The main value of this site lies in its population of slow worms. It also has great potential for enhancement due to its position along the bank of a canalised section of the River Brent. This would be an ideal site in which to re-profile the river banks and allow a more natural riverside habitat to develop, which would be of great benefit to wildlife on this degraded section of the river. The site is now almost fully occupied by active allotments having supported more scrub habitat in the recent past. There are a few trees and shrubs remaining on site along the riverside including hybrid black-poplar (*Populus x canadensis*) and rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*).

No changes are proposed to the site in the adopted UDP (2004).

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL17

Site Name: Hanger Lane Gyratory

Summary:

Relatively undisturbed area of woodland and grassland which is quite flower-rich

Grid ref: TQ 184 827

Area (ha): 1.18

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, scattered trees, ruderal, bare ground

Access:

Free public access (part of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This small site is surrounded by the busy Hanger Lane Gyratory. The northern section is a formally managed park with amenity grassland and scattered trees. The main habitat interest of the site is in the remainder of the site to the south. On the railway cutting along the south semi-natural pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) survives. The centre of the site is occupied by rough grassland which is quite flowery surrounded by scrub. The scrub provides a gradual transition from the woodland to the grassland making the site suitable for many 'woodland edge' species of birds and invertebrates. Some of the species in the grassland include yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), common knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*), wild carrot (*Daucus carota*), perforate St John's-wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*), ribbed melilot (*Melilotus officinalis*) and several vetches and tares (*Vicia* spp).

Minor changes are proposed to the UDP (2004) site boundary to include the whole of the park.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL18

Site Name: Connell Crescent Allotments

Summary:

Small site with dense scrub and trees

Grid ref: TQ 189 823

Area (ha): 0.17

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scrub, scattered trees

Access:

No public access

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This former allotment site has now been fully abandoned and has developed into dense scrub with a line of Lombardy poplars (*Populus nigra* 'Italica') along the edge. It appears that the site has been unmanaged and relatively undisturbed for some time. The lack of disturbance will have favoured some wildlife including several bird species but the lack of management means that the site has lost some of its earlier interest as it did also contain rough grassland in the recent past.

No changes are proposed to the boundary in the adopted UDP (2004).

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 01/01/1991

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL19

Site Name: Barons Pond

Summary:

Pond almost surrounded by trees and with a small glade adjacent

Grid ref: TQ 189 794

Area (ha): 0.23

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, pond

Access:

Can be viewed from adjacent paths or roads only

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This pond is open on the south side by the road but flanked by trees on all other sides. The water level fluctuates naturally in summer which greatly enhances the value of the site for invertebrates which depend on exposed mud for part of their life cycle. There is no submerged vegetation apart from some filamentous algae but marginal vegetation is reasonably well developed and includes great willowherb (*Epilobium hirsutum*), purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*), gypsywort (*Lycopus europaeus*) and water mint (*Mentha aquatica*). A diverse mixture of native and non-native woody species occurs here including several species that have been recently planted such as Italian alder (*Alnus cordata*) and alder buckthorn (*Rhamnus catharticus*). North of the pond there is a small grassy glade which provides additional habitat diversity.

No changes are proposed to the boundary in the adopted UDP (2004).

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL20

Site Name: Heathfield Gardens

Summary:

A small park with a pond, a native hedge and several planted native trees and shrubs

Grid ref: TQ 195 798

Area (ha): 0.27

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scrub, amenity grassland, hedge, scattered trees, planted shrubbery, bare ground

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This small park has a variety of habitats in a small space. The small pond is full of reed sweet-grass (*Glyceria maxima*) and also has some tall plants of water dock (*Rumex hydrolapathum*). A native species hedge has been planted along the west side and several other native trees and shrubs have been planted in the park including hazel (*Corylus avellana*), field maple (*Acer campestre*) and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*). A dense thicket of snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*) occurs in the south end. The grasslands here are frequently mown for the most part but sometimes small areas are allowed to grow longer.

No changes are proposed to the boundary in the adopted UDP (2004).

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 18/10/2002

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL21

Site Name: North Acton Cemetery

Summary:

Cemetery with areas of quite flower-rich grassland and scattered trees providing additional habitat

Grid ref: TQ 206 821

Area (ha): 5.50

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, scattered trees, bare ground, vegetated walls/tombstones

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

The grasslands on this site are the most interesting feature. The south section of the cemetery has the most flower-rich grasslands with a variety of herbs here including yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), cat's-ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*), autumn hawkbit (*Leontodon autumnalis*), oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*), common bird's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*) and selfheal (*Prunella vulgaris*) all frequent. Sneezewort (*Achillea ptarmica*) also occurs here. This is a species that normally indicates old unimproved grassland. The management here allows these flowers to survive by cutting the sward only every few weeks and by not using herbicides. The graves themselves provide habitat for invertebrates on disturbed soil and stony substrates. Additional habitat for birds is provided by the scattered trees which mainly occur around the edges. The north section of the cemetery has a good number of mature trees in the centre also. Many of the trees here are conifers including western red-cedar (*Thuja plicata*) and Monterey cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*). Parties of goldcrests can be heard moving about in these trees.

Newly identified site. This site was not adopted as a SINC in the 2004 UDP.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL22

Site Name: Acton Park & Acton Lane Sports Ground

Summary:

A public park with several areas managed for nature conservation and a private sports ground and allotment site providing additional habitat

Grid ref: TQ 208 802

Area (ha): 18.95

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, hedge, scattered trees, planted shrubbery, bare ground, allotments

Access:

Free public access (part of site)

Ownership:

Acton Park owned by London Borough of Ealing. Sports ground owned by The Park Club. Allotments owned by East Acton Community Association.

Site Description:

This is a large area of open space providing several wildlife habitats in a very built-up part of the borough. The park has a 'nature conservation area' with tiny pieces of demonstration habitats including hazel (*Corylus avellana*) coppice, spring bulbs, meadow and orchard. Elsewhere in the park the management is more formal but sections of native hedge have been planted. There are lots of mature trees in the park including some particularly fine specimens of London plane (*Platanus x hispanica*). The sports ground provides additional habitat with several lines of mature trees. Under some of the strips of trees the ground layer is not mown frequently allowing woodland herbs like cow parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*) and wood avens (*Geum urbanum*) to flourish. The allotments to the south of the sports club add further diversity to the area. Most of the plots are in use and the regularly disturbed soil here suits several annual weeds and invertebrates which depend on these conditions. The allotments are flanked on both sides by lines of mature sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), horse chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*) and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*).

Only parts of the site were adopted in the 2004 UDP. The whole of the park, parts of the sports ground and the allotments to the south have now been included in the revised site.

Site first notified: 01/01/1991 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL24

Site Name: Christ Church School Nature Area

Summary:

A school nature area used for environmental education

Grid ref: TQ 176 808

Area (ha): 0.04

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Semi-improved neutral grassland, scattered trees

Access:

No public access

Ownership:

Christ Church School. *Is this a Council school or a church school? Ownership presumably LBE or Diocese?*

Site Description:

This site was not accessed during the survey in 2005. Although there is no access for the public, the value of this site is as an educational resource for the children attending the school. The space is managed to allow the children to have contact with and learn about the natural world.

No changes are proposed to the site in the adopted UDP (2004).

Site first notified: 18/10/2002 **Boundary last changed:** 18/10/2002

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL25

Site Name: Ealing Common

Summary:

A large open space with grasslands managed under different regimes and two ancient hedgerows

Grid ref: TQ 185 804

Area (ha): 17.10

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Acid grassland, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, scattered trees, hedge

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

Grassland is the predominant habitat on this large common. Three distinct grassland communities occur here due to differences in management and soil conditions. Amenity grassland is the most extensive community. This grassland is mown very frequently and used for recreation. The next most extensive community is the acid grassland in the centre of the common. The grassland here is mown less frequently allowing grasses and herbs to flower and set seed and providing many more niches for birds and invertebrates than in the amenity grassland. Common bent (*Agrostis capillaris*) and red fescue (*Festuca rubra*) are the most frequent grasses and several yellow-flowered members of the daisy family provide colour including cat's-ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*), autumn hawkbit (*Leontodon autumnalis*) and smooth hawk's-beard (*Crepis capillaris*). In the south of the common an area of neutral rank grassland occurs which is quite different in character. This grassland is mown just once a year and has become dominated by grasses such as false oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), cock's-foot (*Dactylis glomerata*) and common couch (*Elytrigia repens*) with coarse herbs including cow parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*), hoary cress (*Lepidium draba*) and thistles (*Cirsium* spp).

Lines of planted horse chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*), London plane (*Platanus x hispanica*) and common lime (*Tilia x europaea*) trees flank the roads criss-crossing the common. More semi-natural woody vegetation occurs in two places in the north of the common where remnant ancient hedgerows have survived with a mix of native species of trees and shrubs including hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) English elm (*Ulmus procera*) and elder (*Sambucus nigra*).

The entire common is now included in the revised site. Only parts were included in the 2004 UDP site.

Site first notified: 18/10/2002 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL26

Site Name: Southall Park Nature Conservation Area

Summary:

A section of a public park which is managed for nature conservation with a rough meadow and a pond

Grid ref: TQ 135 801

Area (ha): 0.25

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Semi-improved neutral grassland, scattered trees, bare ground, pond

Access:

Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

Two main habitats occur in this small area of the park which is managed for nature conservation. The pond in the south is partly shaded by the trees along the south boundary but is open on all other sides. Several wetland plants have been planted here. The exotic aquatic species, curly waterweed (*Lagarosiphon major*) has been introduced here at some point and is now abundant in the water. A variety of marginal species occur on the edges including great reedmace (*Typha latifolia*), branched bur-reed (*Sparganium erectum*), water forget-me-not (*Myosotis scorpioides*), water mint (*Mentha aquatica*), purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*), fool's water-cress (*Apium nodiflorum*) and water plantain (*Alisma plantago-aquatica*) among others.

The meadow is mown once a year and coarse herbs are competing well with the grasses providing a colourful spectacle and move diversity for invertebrates. Some of the more common species here include ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*), creeping thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), hoary mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*), hoary cress (*Lepidium draba*) and common nettle (*Urtica dioica*).

A strip of land along the west has been removed from the 2004 UDP site to reflect the true extent of the habitat here. Moreover a small addition is proposed to the eastern edge of the site

Site first notified: 18/10/2002 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL27

Site Name: Walmer Gardens Open Space

Summary:

A small nature area with an orchard, a tiny pond and some grassland

Grid ref: TQ 163 795

Area (ha): 0.30

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, scattered trees, hedge, orchard

Access:

Free public access (part of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This small, secluded park has several habitats of interest. It includes a small orchard with wild plum (*Prunus domestica*) and apple (*Malus domestica*) trees and some rough grassland which is mown infrequently to allow wildlife to flourish. A small pond is now choked with great reedmace (*Typha latifolia*). These habitats are in the nature area in the north of the site which can be viewed from the part to which there is public access. In this south section the grassland is mown frequently, which limits its wildlife value. If the mowing regime were relaxed a bit it would add to the value of the site.

No changes are proposed to the site in the adopted UDP (2004).

Site first notified: 18/10/2002 **Boundary last changed:** 18/10/2002

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL28

Site Name: Haslemere Wildlife Reserve

Summary:

An interesting collection of habitats developing on and around some old tennis courts

Grid ref: TQ 163 791

Area (ha): 0.31

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, scattered trees, bare ground, ruderal, pond

Access:

No public access

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This site contains a very wide diversity of semi-natural habitats in a relatively small space. In the past the site was occupied by hard-surfaced tennis courts. The habitats on the site now are a mixture of recently created habitat and interesting plant communities that have developed on the old courts naturally. Plant colonisation of the old courts is in various stages of succession on different parts of the site. Areas of scrub with a mixture of woody species have colonised around the edges. A large area in the south is occupied by a colourful mixture of ruderal species and tall herbs providing a good local source of nectar for invertebrates. The bluish flowers of common Michaelmas-daisy (*Aster x salignus*) are particularly prominent in late summer. Some parts of this area are barer or have been colonised by a carpet of mosses. In the north near the access point the ground is mostly bare with sparse ruderals. The grassland in the centre is being managed as a meadow, receiving just one cut in late summer. This management regime will eventually result in rank grassland dominated by false oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*) and coarse herbs. If the diverse mixture of herbs that are here now are to be conserved at least two or three cuts per year will be needed. Several native shrubs have been planted but most of the woody species on the site have colonised naturally. In the north end a pond has been installed which now has several wetland plants on the margins including water-plantain (*Alisma plantago-aquatica*), false fox-sedge (*Carex otrubae*), great willowherb (*Epilobium hirsutum*), gypsywort (*Lycopus europaeus*) and great reedmace (*Typha latifolia*). There is no public access to the site at present but there are plans to allow access in the near future.

No changes are proposed to the site in the adopted UDP (2004).

Site first notified: 18/10/2002 **Boundary last changed:** 18/10/2002

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL29

Site Name: Blondin Park Nature Area

Summary:

A community nature reserve with a variety of habitats and many planted 'native' species

Grid ref: TQ 167 787

Area (ha): 2.18

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scrub, acid grassland, semi-improved neutral grassland, orchard, scattered trees, pond, swamp

Access:

Free public access (most of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

A variety of semi-natural habitats occur here providing a range of niches for different birds, small mammals and invertebrates. The habitat also looks suitable for common reptiles and amphibians. The predominant habitats are rough grassland and scrub which have largely developed naturally although some native shrubs have also been planted. The rough grassland varies in character from one part of the site to another depending on the species present and the soil conditions.

In the north-west section the grassland has been much modified and several species have been sown here. Many of these are now dying off and a grassland community more typical of the soil conditions is developing. In places the soil is slightly acid and is free-draining allowing common bent (*Agrostis capillaris*) and red fescue (*Festuca rubra*) to dominate with low growing herbs like dove's-foot crane's-bill (*Geranium molle*), cat's-ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*) and daisy (*Bellis perennis*).

An interesting pond occurs in the east. Several wetland plants have been introduced here and the margins are now occupied by species such as lesser pond-sedge (*Carex acutiformis*), sharp-flowered rush (*Juncus acutiformis*) and greater spearwort (*Ranunculus lingua*). The last species is native to Britain but quite localised in where it occurs naturally. It has been introduced to many places where it did not occur before as it is a popular with people who plant up ponds. Normally when 'native' plants are introduced to ponds they bring unwelcome 'guests' with them. Unsurprisingly, this has happened here and two invasive alien species have also been introduced: New Zealand pigmyweed (*Crassula helmsii*) and parrot's-feather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*). Interestingly, a stonewort (*Chara vulgaris*) is abundant in the water. This species may have colonised itself or may have been introduced with other plants. Stoneworts are a type of algae which resemble vascular plants. This species may disappear after a few years once other vascular plants become more vigorous. The presence of the stonewort here indicates that the water quality is quite good.

The area occupied by two houses on the south boundary has been removed from the 2004 UDP site.

Site first notified: 18/10/2002 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL30

Site Name: Trinity Way Recreation Ground

Summary:

A park with several features of wildlife interest, a meadow, native shrubs and mature trees

Grid ref: TQ 216 805

Area (ha): 2.46

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, scattered trees

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This public park includes a meadow area in the south-east which is cut once a year in order to allow wildlife to flourish. Native flowers have been sown here in the past and oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*) survives and is still quite abundant here. The grassland is becoming rank however and in order to conserve a flower-rich habitat it will need to be cut a bit more frequently in future. Other features of wildlife interest in the park include a clump of planted native shrubs in the north, a recently planted native hedge and several mature sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and common lime (*Tilia x europaea*) trees around the edges.

Only part of the park was included in the 2004 UDP site, but all is now included.

Site first notified: 18/10/2002 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL31

Site Name: Southfields Recreation Ground Nature Area

Summary:

A meadow and small woodland with a good population of stag beetles

Grid ref: TQ 208 797

Area (ha): 0.37

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Semi-improved neutral grassland, secondary woodland

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This site mainly consists of a small, planted woodland which is now starting to mature. There is a mixture of mainly native woody species including pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*), wild cherry (*Prunus avium*), hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*), silver birch (*Betula pendula*) and field maple (*Acer campestre*). A large population of stag beetle larvae were found here in a pile of wood chippings and the management of the site now includes maintaining and increasing the area of wood chippings to provide extra habitat for the beetle. A small area of grassland south of the wood is managed as a meadow by cutting the grass once a year in late summer. The meadow supports a variety of native grasses and herbs as well as many tussocks of the non-native grass California brome (*Ceratochloa carinatus*) which appears to be expanding its range in west London.

The boundary of the site was shown incorrectly in the 2004 UDP, and has now been adjusted.

Site first notified: 18/10/2002 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL32

Site Name: The West London Academy Nature Area

Summary:

Native hedge and strip of woodland with narrow strip of flowery grassland

Grid ref: TQ 122 840

Area (ha): 1.64

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, semi-improved neutral grassland, hedge, bare ground

Access:

Free public access (part of site)

Ownership:

Most of site owned by West London Academy, road verge owned by Highways Authority

Site Description:

The grounds of the West London Academy were being re-landscaped and re-developed during 2005 but most of the area of wildlife interest was retained. The east half of the site consists of a narrow strip of woodland with a variety of planted trees including field maple (*Acer campestre*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), hybrid black-poplar (*Populus x canadensis*), grey poplar (*Populus x canescens*), Turkey oak (*Quercus cerris*) and a willow (*Salix* sp). The ground flora is dominated by bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg), hogweed (*Heracleum sphondylium*) and cow parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*).

The west half consists of a planted native hedge with an abundance of guelder rose (*Viburnum opulus*) and hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and a strip of grassland on the road verge which is quite flower-rich. Some of the more common herbs in the grassland here include yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), goat's-rue (*Galega officinalis*), autumn hawkbit (*Leontodon autumnalis*), common bird's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*) and black medick (*Medicago lupulina*).

The redevelopment plans for the site include provision of more open space in the west including a pond. These new areas may add to the wildlife interest here in the future.

Additions are proposed to the western and eastern end of the site.

Site first notified: 18/10/2002 **Boundary last changed:** 18/10/2002

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL33

Site Name: Wall at Factory Yard

Summary:

Grid ref: TQ 152 801

Area (ha): 0.06

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Vegetated wall

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

Privately owned

Site Description:

This old wall supports populations of two fern species which are uncommon in London. Black spleenwort (*Asplenium adiantum-nigrum*) is frequent on the wall while maidenhair spleenwort (*Asplenium trichomanes*) is confined to a few plants here. Ferns like these generally only grow on old walls which have the old-fashioned lime-based mortar. The survival of the ferns depends on a careful approach to maintenance of the wall. When repair is necessary it is usually possible to ensure that the ferns can survive by repairing only some sections at any one time and using lime-based mortar rather than modern cement-based mortar for the repairs.

No changes are proposed to the site in the adopted UDP (2004).

Site first notified: 18/10/2002 **Boundary last changed:** 18/10/2002

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL34

Site Name: Popefield Playing Fields

Summary:

Former sports pitch now developing into an interesting meadow

Grid ref: TQ 186 797

Area (ha): 2.74

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Semi-improved neutral grassland, tall herbs

Access:

Can be viewed from adjacent paths or roads only

Ownership:

The Park Club

Site Description:

This is a former sports field which has been unused and infrequently managed for the past few years. It is now occupied by long grassland dominated mainly by false oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*) with a variety of other grasses and herbs. Around the edges tall herbs become more frequent possibly due to even less frequent management in these areas. Some of the more common species here include broad-leaved dock (*Rumex obtusifolius*), common ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*) and hemlock (*Conium maculatum*). The mix of grass-dominated vegetation with tall herb communities on the edges backing on the trees and shrubs in places along the boundary provides a good deal of habitat structure that suits many birds and invertebrates. The value of the site could easily be enhanced if the grassland was cut a bit more frequently.

Newly identified site. This site has been added following the 2005 survey

Site first notified: 2005

Boundary last changed: 2005

Citation last edited:

13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL35

Site Name: Ridding Lane Open Space

Summary:

A tree-lined stream and a small public park with several fine mature oaks

Grid ref: TQ 157 853

Area (ha): 1.43

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, amenity grassland, scattered trees, planted shrubbery, running water

Access:

Free public access (most of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This site is in two contrasting sections. The main feature of wildlife interest in the park in the north is the collection of mature pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) trees which support a range of birds and invertebrates. The remainder of the park is mostly managed too frequently to be of great benefit for wildlife but the planted shrubs and the habitat along the railway line provide additional habitat.

The stream that flows through this site flows in an underground channel for most of its length but here it flows through open natural stream banks between the back gardens of Ridding Lane and Horsenden Crescent. The banks are lined with trees throughout its length, mainly with ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), English elm (*Ulmus procera*) and wild plum (*Prunus domestica*). The combination of running water and semi-natural vegetation provides good habitat for many invertebrates and some common birds.

A newly identified site. This site has been added following the 2005 survey.

Site first notified: 2005

Boundary last changed: 2005

Citation last edited:

13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL36

Site Name: Ealing Central Sports Ground

Summary:

A stream with marginal vegetation and a large outgrown hedge

Grid ref: TQ 159 831

Area (ha): 1.08

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Amenity grassland, hedge, scattered trees, running water

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

The habitats on this site are in two contrasting sections. The stream along the west runs through an underground pipe until it reaches this site and goes under the main A40 on leaving the site in the south. Wet marginal vegetation is best developed in the south end and includes plants such as fool's water-cress, (*Apium nodiflorum*), branched bur-reed (*Sparganium erectum*), great willowherb (*Epilobium hirsutum*) and water plantain (*Alisma plantago-aquatica*). Nuttall's waterweed (*Elodea nuttallii*) grows submerged in the water. The habitat here would benefit from a less frequent cutting regime on the banks to allow more marginal species to flower and set seed.

The hedge along the south of the park is probably a remnant of the field boundaries in the former countryside here. It is mostly comprised of a mix of native species including hazel (*Corylus avellana*), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), field maple (*Acer campestre*) and blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*). Some hybrid black-poplars (*Populus x canadensis*) have been planted in to the hedge at some point. Hedgerow herbs including garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*), cow parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*) and wood avens (*Geum urbanum*) can be seen in spring.

A newly identified site. This site has been added following the 2005 survey

Site first notified: 2005

Boundary last changed: 2005

Citation last edited:

13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL37

Site Name: Cranleigh Park Rough

Summary:

Interesting area of developing wasteland vegetation

Grid ref: TQ 127 814

Area (ha): 0.14

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Semi-improved neutral grassland, ruderal, scattered trees, planted shrubbery

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This site is in the north end of a public park which formerly was managed more formally. Crushed glass has been laid down on most of this area recently which has encouraged a diverse range of wasteland plants to colonise. This colourful mixture of plants includes rosebay willowherb (*Chamerion angustifolium*), wild carrot (*Daucus carota*), creeping thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), Guernsey fleabane (*Conyza sumatrensis*), black medick (*Medicago lupulina*), small-flowered evening-primrose (*Oenothera biennis*) and red campion (*Silene dioica*). This vegetation provides a very good resource for invertebrates. The site also includes a small area of meadow contains meadow barley (*Hordeum secalinum*), common bent (*Agrostis capillaris*), common knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*) and yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*)

A newly identified site. This site has been added following the 2005 survey

Site first notified: 2005 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL38

Site Name: Whittle Road Park

Summary:

Rough grassland which supports good populations of invertebrates

Grid ref: TQ 135 795

Area (ha): 1.05

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Semi-improved neutral grassland, hedge, scattered trees, tall herbs

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

The grassland in this park is allowed to grow long to benefit wildlife. It is not particularly rich in plant species but supports good populations of invertebrates such as butterflies, ants and grasshoppers. The main grasses in the sward include Yorkshire-fog (*Holcus lanatus*), soft-brome (*Bromus hordaceus*), creeping bent (*Agrostis stolonifera*) and common couch (*Elytrigia repens*). Some of the herbs in the grassland include common vetch (*Vicia sativa*), hairy tare (*Vicia hirsuta*), ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*) and oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*). The site backs on to the Maypole Dock branch of the Grand Union Canal which enhances its value for invertebrates that use both water and grassland habitats.

A newly identified site. This site has been added following the 2005 survey.

Site first notified: 2005

Boundary last changed: 2005

Citation last edited:

13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL39

Site Name: Wesley Playing fields

Summary:

Park which is partly managed for nature conservation with a meadow, a native hedge and a small wetland

Grid ref: TQ 208 829

Area (ha): 1.49

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, scattered trees, hedge, bare ground, swamp, pond

Access:

Free public access (most of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

Parts of this public park are managed for nature conservation. A native hedge has been planted along the west with hazel (*Corylus avellana*), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) and guelder rose (*Viburnum opulus*). A large patch of grassland in the centre of the park is allowed to grow long before it is cut and is developing into a meadow community. A 'nature area' is fenced off in the north-east corner and includes an area of rough grassland surrounding a pond. The grassland has had several herbs sown into it including common knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*) and oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*). Marginal plants in the pond include lesser reedmace (*Typha angustifolia*), water plantain (*Alisma plantago-aquatica*), water mint (*Mentha aquatica*) and clustered dock (*Rumex conglomeratus*).

A newly identified site. This site has been added following the 2005 survey.

Site first notified: 2005

Boundary last changed: 2005

Citation last edited:

13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL40

Site Name: Down Way Park

Summary:

A park with a native hedge supporting a good population of house sparrows

Grid ref: TQ 107 830

Area (ha): 0.61

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Amenity grassland, hedge, bare ground

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This small park is bordered on three sides by a native hedge of hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) and field maple (*Acer campestre*). The hedge is regularly trimmed which allows it to maintain a dense growth providing ideal nesting habitat for birds. There is a particularly strong population of house sparrows nesting here, a species which has greatly declined in London in recent years.

A newly identified site. This site has been added following the 2005 survey.

Site first notified: 2005

Boundary last changed: 2005

Citation last edited:

13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL41

Site Name: Jerome Allotments

Summary:

Mostly abandoned allotments where semi-natural grassland and scrub habitats are developing

Grid ref: TQ 198 796

Area (ha): 0.39

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, hedge, scattered trees, bare ground, vegetated walls/tombstones, allotments

Access:

Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

Most of the plots have now been abandoned on this site allowing a mix of habitats to develop that are useful for birds and invertebrates. Scrub, rough grassland, bare soil and bare artificial surfaces are intermixed here. The site has suffered a good deal of vandalism in recent years and now looks quite unkempt and untidy. However, this untidiness is probably beneficial to the wildlife that use the site.

A newly identified site. This site has been added following the 2005 survey.

Site first notified: 2005

Boundary last changed: 2005

Citation last edited:

13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL42

Site Name: Carbury Avenue Allotments

Summary:

An allotment site supporting several interesting arable weeds and grassland herbs

Grid ref: TQ 189 797

Area (ha): 0.42

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, tall herbs, bare ground, allotments

Access:

No public access

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

This small allotment site has a different soil type to that found on most other allotments in the borough. The narrow strips of grassland between the plots are quite herb-rich in places with an abundance of common bird's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), salad burnet (*Sanguisorba minor*) and oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*). The plots themselves support interesting weed communities quite different from the weeds on most other allotment sites in the borough. Very few of the plots are dominated by coarse weeds like thistles (*Cirsium* sp) and docks (*Rumex* sp). Instead there is quite a diverse range of smaller weeds including several very colourful species. Some of the more frequent weeds include scarlet pimpernel (*Anagallis arvensis*), shepherd's-purse (*Capsella bursa-pastoris*), green field speedwell (*Veronica agrestis*), groundsel (*Senecio vulgaris*), sun spurge (*Euphorbia helioscopia*) and fool's parsley (*Aethusa cynapium*). Some crop plants have now spread out of the plots and naturalised elsewhere on the site including borage (*Borago officinalis*), fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*) and garden radish (*Raphanus sativus*). Garden pansy (*Viola x wittrockiana*) and love-in-a-mist (*Nigella damascena*) have also gone 'wild' here.

A newly identified site. This site has been added following the 2005 survey.

Site first notified: 2005

Boundary last changed: 2005

Citation last edited:

13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL43

Site Name: Framfield Allotments

Summary:

Large allotment site with grassland, tall herbs and scrub on abandoned plots and a pond managed for wildlife

Grid ref: TQ 157 811

Area (ha): 2.74

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, tall herbs, allotment, pond

Access:

No public access

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

Much of the site is still in use as allotments but substantial areas of semi-natural habitat are developing on the abandoned plots, especially in the west of the site. A pond has been installed and is being managed for wildlife, lesser reedmace (*Typha angustifolia*) and dense sward of hairy sedge (*Carex hirsuta*) grow on the margins and curly waterweed (*Lagarosiphon major*) is abundant in the water. Rank vegetation surrounding the pond and on other abandoned plots includes rough grassland, tall herbs and bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg) scrub. This provides ideal conditions for slow worms which are known to use the site.

A newly identified site. This site has been added following the 2005 survey.

Site first notified: 2005

Boundary last changed: 2005

Citation last edited:

13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL44

Site Name: Hortus Cemetery

Summary:

Cemetery with nice grassland with abundant populations of some common herbs

Grid ref: TQ 129 795

Area (ha): 2.64

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Semi-improved neutral grassland, planted shrubbery, scattered trees, vegetated walls/tombstones, bare ground

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing

Site Description:

The grasslands on this cemetery site are mown relatively frequently but have not been damaged by herbicide treatment. There are no very unusual species in the grasslands but they contain very abundant populations of some colourful common herbs. These include yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), common bird's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), selfheal (*Prunella vulgaris*) and germander speedwell (*Veronica chamaedrys*). White stonecrop (*Sedum album*) grows abundantly in many places on the stony substrates covering the graves. Most of the site is open but lines of trees occur on the edges.

A newly identified site. This site has been added following the 2005 survey.

Site first notified: 2005

Boundary last changed: 2005

Citation last edited:

13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL45

Site Name: Oldfield Primary School

Summary:

School grounds with a diverse mix of wildlife-friendly habitats

Grid ref: TQ 147 834

Area (ha): 2.14

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Secondary woodland, scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland, amenity grassland, scattered trees, bare ground

Access:

Can be viewed from adjacent paths or roads only

Ownership:

Oldfield Primary School

Site Description:

Management of this school grounds has been friendly to wildlife and as a result it contains a surprisingly diverse mixture of habitats in such a small space. This must be a great asset when covering environmental education with the children and provides an interesting play environment where they can have contact with the natural world on a regular basis. The grounds include areas of long grass, strips of scrub and small pockets of woodland as well as trees along the boundary. Some of the more common woody species here include hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), English elm (*Ulmus procera*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), silver birch (*Betula pendula*), hazel (*Corylus avellana*), apple (*Malus domestica*) and pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*). The mixture of different types of vegetation provides ideal conditions for a variety of birds and invertebrates.

A newly identified site. This site has been added following the 2005 survey.

Site first notified: 2005

Boundary last changed: 2005

Citation last edited:

13/02/2006

Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Reference: EaL46

Site Name: Northolt Park Meadow

Summary:

A meadow with a mix of damp and dry grassland communities

Grid ref: TQ 131 849

Area (ha): 2.50

Borough(s):

Ealing

Habitat(s):

Semi-improved neutral grassland, scattered trees, bare ground

Access:

Free public access (all of site)

Ownership:

London Borough of Ealing?

Site Description:

This grassland has been unmanaged for a few years and is developing into an interesting meadow. The vegetation is now quite coarse and would benefit from some regular but infrequent cutting. In drier places false oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*) predominates while in damper areas tufted hair-grass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*) is the more frequent species. Herbs include creeping cinquefoil (*Potentilla reptans*), hoary ragwort (*Senecio erucifolius*), common vetch (*Vicia sativa*), creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*) and cut-leaved crane's-bill (*Geranium dissectum*). Two uncommon sedges, spiked sedge (*Carex spicata*) and grey sedge (*Carex divulsa*) occur in a dry area near the demolished building in the south. A line of Lombardy poplars (*Populus nigra* 'Italica') separates the grassland from the park to the north.

A newly identified site. This site has been added following the 2005 survey.

Site first notified: 2005 **Boundary last changed:** 2005

Citation last edited: 13/02/2006