

Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands (RIS)

1. Name and address of the compiler of this form:

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Designation date

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Site Reference Number

2. Date this sheet was completed/updated:

Designated: 14 February 1994 / Updated: May 2005

3. Country:

UK (England)

4. Name of the Ramsar site:

Thursley and Ockley Bog

5. Map of site included:

a) **hard copy** (required for inclusion of site in the Ramsar List): *yes -or- no*

b) **digital (electronic) format** (optional): Yes

6. Geographical coordinates (latitude/longitude):

51° 09' 52'' N 00° 42' 01'' W

7. General location:

Nearest town/city: Guildford

Thursley and Ockley Bogs is located in south-west Surrey, approximately 8 km south of Godalming.

Administrative region: Surrey

8. Elevation (average and/or max. & min.) (metres): 9. Area (hectares): 265

Min. No information available

Max. No information available

Mean No information available

10. Overview:

Thursley and Ockley Bogs is a valley mire complex and lies within Thursley, Hankley & Frensham Commons SSSI. The mire occurs within a matrix of heathland, where drainage is impeded, and a deep layer of peat has built up from the remains of bog-moss *Sphagnum* spp. which forms much of the vegetation. Several areas of open water also contribute significantly to the overall diversity of the site, ranging from acidic boggy pools and ditches to large ponds.

11. Ramsar Criteria:

2, 3

12. Justification for the application of each Criterion listed in 11. above:

Ramsar criterion 2

Supports a community of rare wetland invertebrate species including notable numbers of breeding dragonflies.

Secretariat Comment: Criterion 2 requires to specify the scientific names of those mentioned species considered vulnerable, endangered or critically endangered. This need to be included in the next update.

Ramsar criterion 3

It is one of few sites in Britain to support all six native reptile species. The site also supports nationally important breeding populations of European nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus* and woodlark *Lullula arborea*.

13. Biogeography:**a) biogeographic region:**

Atlantic

b) biogeographic regionalisation scheme (include reference citation):

Council Directive 92/43/EEC

14. Physical features of the site:

Soil & geology	acidic, peat, nutrient-poor
Geomorphology and landscape	lowland
Nutrient status	oligotrophic
pH	acidic
Salinity	fresh
Soil	mainly organic
Water permanence	usually permanent
Summary of main climatic features	Annual averages (Wisley, 1971–2000) (www.metoffice.com/climate/uk/averages/19712000/sites/wisley.html) Max. daily temperature: 14.6° C Min. daily temperature: 6.1° C Days of air frost: 47.4 Rainfall: 647.1 mm Hrs. of sunshine: 1534.7

General description of the Physical Features:

No information available

15. Physical features of the catchment area:

No information available

16. Hydrological values:

Recharge and discharge of groundwater, maintenance of water quality (removal of nutrients)

17. Wetland types

Inland wetland

Code	Name	% Area
U	Peatlands (including peat bogs swamps, fens)	100

18. General ecological features:

A valley-mire complex dominated by bog-moss *Sphagnum* spp. (NVC M21) surrounded by wet heath (NVC M16). The site supports assemblages of rare wetland invertebrate species, including notable numbers of breeding dragonflies. A significant number of non-wetland Red Data Book invertebrates also occur on Thursley and Ockley Bogs. All six native reptile species and nationally important breeding populations of European nightjar and woodlark are also present on site.

19. Noteworthy flora:**Nationally important species occurring on the site.****Higher Plants.**

Rhynchospora fusca, *Calluna vulgaris*, *Erica tetralix*

Lower Plants.

Sphagnum spp., *Lycopodiella inundata*

20. Noteworthy fauna:**Species Information****Nationally important species occurring on the site.****Reptiles**

Lacerta agilis, *Lacerta vivipara*, *Anguis fragilis*, *Natrix natrix*, *Coronella austriaca*, *Vipera berus*

21. Social and cultural values:

Aesthetic
Archaeological/historical site
Conservation education
Current scientific research
Non-consumptive recreation
Traditional cultural

22. Land tenure/ownership:

Ownership category	On-site	Off-site
Local authority, municipality etc.	+	+
National/Crown estate	+	+
Private	+	+
Other	+	+

23. Current land (including water) use:

Activity	On-site	Off-site
Nature conservation	+	+
Recreation	+	+
Research	+	+
Fishing: recreational/sport	+	
Hunting: recreational/sport	+	+
Military activities	+	+

24. Factors adversely affecting the site's ecological character, including changes in land (including water) use and development projects:

Explanation of reporting category:

1. *Those factors that are still operating, but it is unclear if they are under control, as there is a lag in showing the management or regulatory regime to be successful.*
2. *Those factors that are not currently being managed, or where the regulatory regime appears to have been ineffective so far.*

NA = Not Applicable because no factors have been reported.

Adverse Factor Category	Reporting Category	Description of the problem (Newly reported Factors only)	On-Site	Off-Site	Major Impact?
No factors reported	NA				

For category 2 factors only.
 What measures have been taken / are planned / regulatory processes invoked, to mitigate the effect of these factors?

Is the site subject to adverse ecological change? NO

25. Conservation measures taken:

Conservation measure	On-site	Off-site
SSSI / ASSI	+	+
NNR	+	+
SPA	+	
Land owned by a NGO for nature conservation		+
Management agreement	+	+
Site management statement/plan implemented	+	
SAC	+	

26. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:

No information available

27. Current scientific research and facilities:

Environment.

Water temperature monitoring of pools and ditches.
 Annual pH and conductivity recording from pools and ditches.
 Fixed point photography.
 Research into suspected nutrient influenced sphagnum die back (NESCOT + other). Now resolved.
 EA monitored boreholes and water flow measurements + series of dipwells

Fauna.

Annual count of key bird species.

Flora.

Vegetation quadrats along transect of dry heath through to mire.

Lycopodiella trial management - Plantlife International

28. Current conservation education:

Information is provided through National Nature Reserve interpretation panels, a reserve leaflet and a dragonfly interpretation board. Through prior arrangement the site is used by educational groups from primary schools through to postgraduate students.

29. Current recreation and tourism:

Activities, Facilities provided and Seasonality.

Walking, dog walking, horse riding, bird watching – all year.

Fox hunt – winter (part of site)

Orienteering – winter (part of site).

30. Jurisdiction:

Head, Natura 2000 and Ramsar Team, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, European Wildlife Division, Zone 1/07, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol, BS1 6EB

31. Management authority:

Site Designations Manager, English Nature, Sites and Surveillance Team, Northminster House, Northminster Road, Peterborough, PE1 1UA, UK

32. Bibliographical references:

Site-relevant references

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