

Medmenham Biodiversity Opportunity Area Statement



Area Coverage	1860 ha
Number of Designated Sites	Local wildlife sites 10 SSSI 2
BAP Habitat	Lowland Meadow 1 ha Lowland Calcareous Grassland 4.5 ha Lowland Beech & Yew Woodland 122 ha Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland 14 ha

This BOA covers the north-south ridge west of Marlow, from the Thames Valley at Medmenham up to Moor Common in the north.

The BOA connects to the Hambleden and Wormsley Valleys and South Western Commons BOAS

Joint Character Area	Chilterns
Landscape Types	Wooded Agricultural land
Geology	Chalk with overlying clay with flints on some higher ground and sand and gravels in the lower areas
Topography	A north – south orientated ridge.
Biodiversity	<p>Calcareous Grassland – There several small sites of calcareous grassland including Homefield Wood SSSI, Lodge Farm Bank Field, and Munday Dean LWS.</p> <p>Woodland – The area contains part of the Chiltern Beechwoods SAC at Pullingshill and Hollowhill Woods. It also includes Homefield Wood SSSI and several woodland LWSs such as Munces Wood, Highruse Wood and Hog and Kings Hanging Woods.</p> <p>Hedgerows – The area around Marlow Bottom contains pre-18th century enclosures and these may be bordered by species rich hedgerows</p>
Access	There is a network of footpaths throughout
Archaeology	There are 2 SAMs – Medmenham Hill Fort and the fort at Danesfield House
Targets	<p>Lowland Calcareous Grassland – Management, Restoration, Creation</p> <p>Woodland – Management, Restoration</p> <p>Hedgerows - Management, Restoration, Creation</p> <p>Lowland Meadows - Management, Restoration, Creation</p>

Area of BAP habitat present in BOA (from BCC Integrated Habitat System Mapping 2010) and 2015 Habitat Targets for this BOA				
Medmenham BOA	Lowland Calcareous Grassland	Lowland Meadows	Lowland Beech & Yew Woodland	Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland
Area of Habitat in BOA (ha)	5.7	1	121.8	14.3
% of BOA Area	0.3	0.05	6.5	0.8
% of County Resource	1.7	0.27	10.2	0.9
2015 BAP Targets	Lowland Calcareous Grassland	Lowland Meadows	Native Woodland	
Maintenance (ha)	5.7	1	136.1	
Achieving Condition (ha)	4.7	1	88.5	
Restoration (ha)	0.1	0.1	82.82	
Creation (ha)	1.2	0	13.5	

Info on resource for other BAP habitats

Arable Field Margins		Traditional Orchards		Ponds		Hedgerows	
Area of Arable (ha)	337	No of Orchards	21	No of BAP Priority Ponds	0	% of BOA with potential for hedgerows of high-med biodiversity value	29
% of BOA in arable	18	Area of Orchards (ha)	5.9	Creation Target	tbc	% of BOA with potential for hedgerows of med-low biodiversity value	20
Area of arable in ES (ELS / HLS)	196 (91)	<i>Data from PTES Traditional Orchards Aerial Photo Survey</i>				<i>Data from BCC Historic Landscape Assessment</i>	
% of arable in ES	58						

The Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOAs) map depicts the regional priority areas of opportunity for restoration and creation of Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) habitats. This is a spatial representation of the BAP targets and the BOAs are areas of opportunity, not constraint. The BOAs shown in the map do not include all the BAP habitat in the region, nor do they include all the areas where BAP habitat could exist. In particular, more work is needed to develop approaches in urban and in marine environments.

The Biodiversity Opportunity Areas Map is the property of the members of the South East England Biodiversity Forum. For more information please see www.sebiodiversity.org.uk

Priority Habitat Mapping data supplied by Buckinghamshire County Council, Natural Environment Team.
Data is correct of April 2010.

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