

LOWLAND WOOD PASTURE AND PARKLAND HABITAT ACTION PLAN



Introduction

'Lowland wood pasture and parkland' is a UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Priority Habitat. This is a vegetation



Wood pasture: Ian Dormor

structure, rather than a particular plant community, where there has been a long history of management. Its identification may need research into the following: field archaeology, ground flora, aerial photographs, Ordnance Survey first edition 6" maps and historical records. First edition maps sometimes depict this

habitat as 'wooded commons'. The plan also covers isolated mature trees in fields and field boundaries.

Nationally, this habitat is known to support many UK priority species, especially invertebrates. Many of these have specialised requirements for rotting timber, sap runs and other niches. Many hole nesting birds breed, and the mix of mature trees, parkland structure and grazing provide ideal conditions for bats.

Status

National

The national resource covers some 10,000 to 20,000 hectares of working lowland wood pasture and parkland.

Regional

The regional resource has not been estimated.

This is a local but notable habitat of the North York Moors and Hills Natural Area.

Local

Only a small proportion occurs in Hambleton, chiefly in the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Sites include Gilling Castle (on the district boundary with Ryedale), Newburgh Priory and Beningbrough Hall. The amount of this habitat in the District is not known.

Hambleton Priority Species

- Spotted flycatcher

