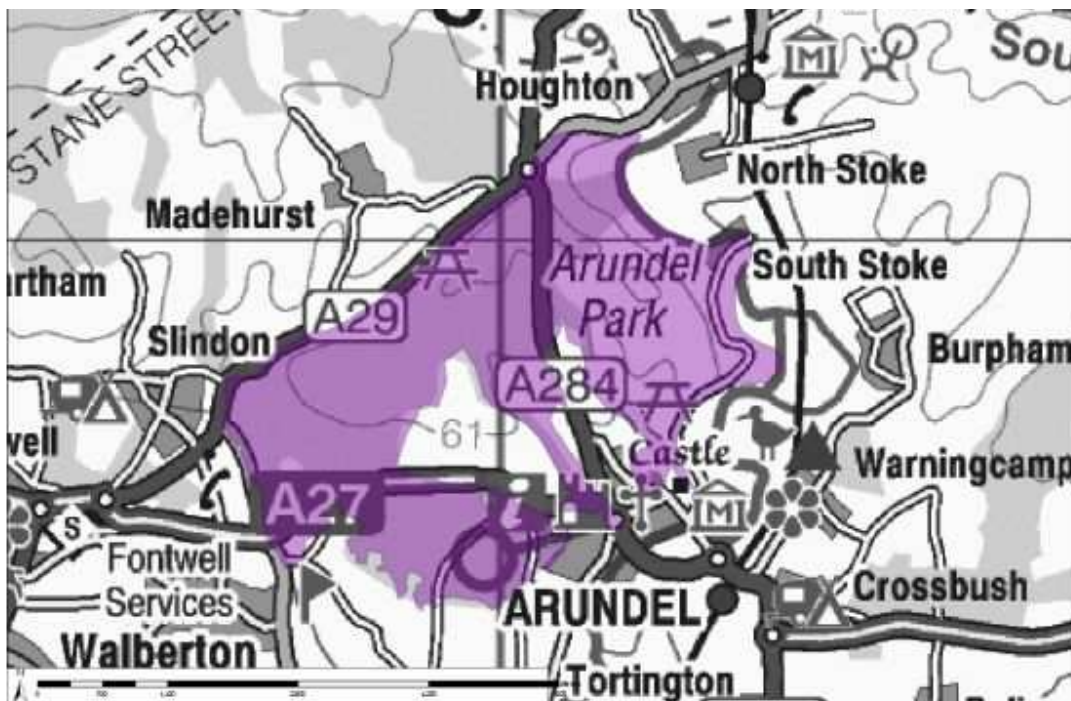


Arundel Park Biodiversity Opportunity Area

Joint Character Area South Downs

Geology Arundel Park Biodiversity Opportunity Area lies on chalk with clay, silt, sand and gravel alluvium deposits



The Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOAs) are the regional priority areas of opportunity for restoration and creation of Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) habitats. They are a spatial representation of BAP targets and are areas of opportunity, not constraint. The BOAs are the property of the South East England Biodiversity Forum www.sebiodiversity.org.uk. Contains Ordnance Survey data Crown copyright and database right 2010

Arundel Park has been recognised as a Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA) as it represents a priority area for the delivery of Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) targets. This is one of 75 such areas across Sussex. The BOA covers approximately 1403 hectares.

This medieval parkland area contains a matrix of chalk grassland, ancient woodland and ancient pasture parkland. To the west the site is bounded by the traditional park extent and to the east it is taken to the edge of the flood zone of the River Arun. This area also includes the ancient woodland complex of Rewell Wood.

BAP Habitat

Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh
Lowland calcareous grassland
Lowland heathland
Reedbeds

Wood-pasture and parkland
Woodland

BAP Species 118 species recorded, with the following in the last ten years:

Species	Habitat Requirements
Knot Grass <i>Acronicta rumicis</i>	Meadows, gardens and hedgerows, larvae feed on a range of herbs
Ear Moth <i>Amphipoea oclea</i>	Chalk grassland, marshy and damp places
Mouse Moth <i>Amphipyra tragopoginis</i>	Grassland, heathland, wetland, hedgerows and some woodland
European Eel <i>Anguilla anguilla</i>	Sea, freshwater rivers, eutrophic standing waters, moderate water quality
Tree Pipit <i>Anthus trivialis</i>	Newly planted conifers or open heath, mixed deciduous woodland
Water Vole <i>Arvicola terrestris</i>	Rivers, ponds, canals and drainage ditches, reedbeds, fens, grazing marsh, banks, slow-flowing waters
Centre-Barred Sallow <i>Atethmia centrago</i>	Woodland and hedgerows, larvae feed on Ash and Sallow
Scaup <i>Aythya marila</i>	Lakes, bogs and rivers, estuaries
Pearl-bordered Fritillary <i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>	Woodland, violets in sheltered locations, woodland clearings with some scrub or Bracken
Bittern <i>Botaurus stellaris</i>	Wet reedbed and marshland
Common Toad <i>Bufo bufo</i>	Scrub, rough grassland, fens, reedbed and wet woodland, dense ground vegetation or litter, ponds, large water bodies, hedgerows
Nightjar <i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>	Heathland, moorland, open woodland, recently felled conifer plantations, mosaic of bare ground, low vegetation, scrub and trees
Lesser Redpoll <i>Carduelis cabaret</i>	Birch and Alder woods, most common in the north in the summer
White Helleborine <i>Cephalanthera damasonium</i>	Woodlands, particularly Beech on chalk or limestone soils, low ground cover, shaded habitat
Hawfinch <i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>	Woodland, good supplies of fruit, seeds and keys, drinking pools
Small Heath <i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	Dry grassland, heathlands, short turf, parks and gardens
Cuckoo <i>Cuculus canorus</i>	Woodland, scrub, marshes, heathland, reedbed
Small Square-Spot <i>Diarsia rubi</i>	Prefers damp and marshy places, hedgerows
Small Phoenix <i>Ecliptopera silaceata</i>	Woodland, hedgerows, open habitats including commons and gardens, willowherbs
Yellowhammer <i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	Open countryside, scrubby areas, woodland edges, hedgerows, insect-rich grassland, seed-rich areas
Reed Bunting <i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	Wetlands including reedbeds, tall rushes and wet grassland with good vegetation cover, gardens, farmland, hedgerows, ditches
Galium Carpet <i>Epirrhoe galiata</i>	Coastal habitats such as vegetated shingle and cliffs, chalk downland, grassy heathland, hedgerows, larvae feed on bedstraws
Field Cricket <i>Gryllus campestris</i>	Sheltered, sunny sites with short turf and dry, hot soil
Small Emerald <i>Hemistola chrysoprasaria</i>	Chalk downland, hedgerows, woodland edges, larvae feed on Traveller's-joy
Ghost Moth <i>Hepialus humuli</i>	Grassy areas, hillsides, waste ground
Rosy Rustic <i>Hydraecia micacea</i>	Marshy areas, waste ground, hedgerows

White Admiral <i>Limenitis camilla</i>	Woodlands, sunny glades, Bramble, Honeysuckle, partially-shaded locations
Grasshopper Warbler <i>Locustella naevia</i>	Scrub, thick grassland, reedbeds, forestry and gravel pits
Stag Beetle <i>Lucanus cervus</i>	Broadleaved woodland, parkland, hedgerows, gardens, dead and decaying wood
Wood Lark <i>Lullula arborea</i>	Heathland, woodland, mosaic of scattered trees, bare ground, short vegetation and taller vegetation, open seed-rich areas
Common Scoter <i>Melanitta nigra</i>	Breed around mesotrophic waters, blanket bog and heathland, winters around inshore waters
Pretty Chalk Carpet <i>Melanthia procellata</i>	Hedgerows, scrub, woodland edges, Traveller's-joy
Harvest Mouse <i>Micromys minutus</i>	Arable margins, hedgerows, meadows, scrub, reedbeds, tall grass.
Drab Looper <i>Minoa murinata</i>	Wooded habitats, open but sheltered areas, larvae feed on Wood Spurge
Hazel Dormouse <i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>	Woodland, overgrown hedgerows, Honeysuckle, Bramble, Hazel and Ash, well-structured woodland with a well-developed understorey and scrubby areas
Spotted Flycatcher <i>Muscicapa striata</i>	Open woodland and woodland edges, parks and gardens
Grass Snake <i>Natrix natrix</i>	Water, reedbed, ponds, heathland, hedgerows, grazing marsh, gardens, fish, amphibians
Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i>	Reedbeds, estuaries, damp grassland, heathland, mosaic of tall vegetation for nesting with short vegetation and open habitats for feeding
Noctule <i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	Woodland, wetlands, hedgerows and pastures, predominantly roost in tree cavities
Tubular Water-dropwort <i>Oenanthe fistulosa</i>	Floodplain meadows, fens, shallow water in ditches, streams, ponds and canals, open areas
Oblique Carpet <i>Orthonama vittata</i>	Marshy areas and other damp habitats, larvae feed on bedstraws
House Sparrow <i>Passer domesticus</i>	Urban areas, farmland, hedgerows
Tree Sparrow <i>Passer montanus</i>	Farmland, woodland edges, hedgerows with mature trees, wetland edges
Grey Partridge <i>Perdix perdix</i>	Farmland, rush pastures, moors, mosaics of bare ground and cover, hedgerows, uncultivated margins
Brown Long-eared Bat <i>Plecotus auritus</i>	A widespread bat of open woodlands, hedgerows, parks and gardens, it roosts in old buildings and trees in the summer, moving to caves and underground sites in the winter.
Grizzled Skipper <i>Pyrgus malvae</i>	Grassland, quarries, embankments, woodland rides, larvae feed on Agrimony and <i>Potentilla</i> species, requires warmth and shelter
Shaded Broad-bar <i>Scotopteryx chenopodiata</i>	Chalk grassland and a range of open habitats, larvae feed on vetch and clover
White Ermine <i>Spilosoma lubricipeda</i>	Gardens and hedgerows
Buff Ermine <i>Spilosoma luteum</i>	Woodland, parks and gardens
Turtle Dove <i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	Woodland edges, hedgerows and open land with scattered bushes
Feathered Gothic <i>Tholera</i>	Rough grassland and downland, larvae feed on grass blades

<i>decimalis</i>	
Blood-Vein <i>Timandra comae</i>	Gardens, fields and waste ground
Pale Eggar <i>Trichiura crataegi</i>	Woodland, hedgerows and heathland, larvae feed on a range of plants including Blackthorn, Hawthorn, Bilberry and Heather
Ring Ouzel <i>Turdus torquatus</i>	Short grassy areas
Cinnabar <i>Tyria jacobaeae</i>	Meadows, wasteland, road verges and downland
Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	Farmland, grazing marsh, wet meadows, seeds and insects
Oak Hook-tip <i>Watsonalla binaria</i>	Oak woodland and parkland, larvae feed on oak
Common Lizard <i>Zootoca vivipara</i>	Open woodland, moorland, heathland, fens, sand dunes, rocks, gardens and cliffs

Invasive Non-native Species 10 species recorded, with the following in the last ten years:

New Zealand Pigmyweed *Crassula helmsii*
 Harlequin Ladybird *Harmonia axyridis*
 Hybrid Bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta x hispanica = H. x massartiana*
 Himalayan Balsam *Impatiens glandulifera*
 Parrot's-feather *Myriophyllum aquaticum*
 Winter Heliotrope *Petasites fragrans*
 Cherry Laurel *Prunus laurocerasus*
 Rhododendron *Rhododendron ponticum*

Designated Sites

Arundel Park SSSI is one of the most important sites in the country for invertebrates including 15 endangered species, and it also has a diverse breeding and wintering bird community. The site is an old deer park consisting of a series of spurs and valleys, with chalk grassland and a variety of woodland types. Uncommon species include Box, Stinking Hellebore and Field Fleawort.

Binsted Wood Complex SNCI a mixture of ancient woodland, conifer plantation and species-rich pasture with a rich and diverse flora.

Rewell Wood Complex SNCI a large ancient woodland complex with a diversity of habitats and wide glades that support a rich flora and butterfly fauna.

Opportunities Identified

- Chalk grassland management, restoration and creation
- Woodland management and restoration
- Woodland butterfly interest