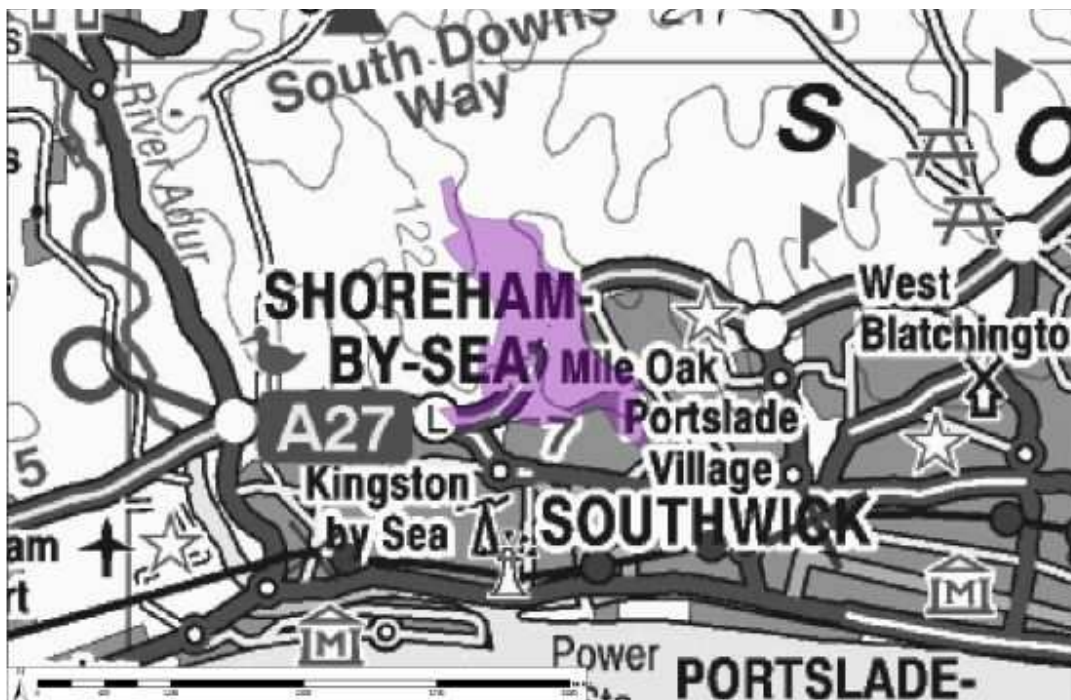


Crooked Moon to Thundersbarrow Biodiversity Opportunity Area

Joint Character Area South Downs

Geology Crooked Moon to Thundersbarrow lies mostly on chalk with an area of clay-with-flints in the southeast corner.



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

Rother, Brede and Tillingham Woods has been recognised as a Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA) as it represents a priority area for the delivery of Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) targets. It is one of 75 such areas across Sussex. The BOA covers approximately 201 hectares.

This area runs across the A27 from Rest and Be Thankful up to Thundersbarrow Hill. The North of the area has a significant amount of lowland calcareous grassland. A large proportion of this BOA is owned and managed by the National Trust.

BAP Habitat

Lowland calcareous grassland
Lowland dry acid grassland

BAP Species 11 species recorded, with the following in the last ten years:

Species	Habitat Requirements
Beaded Chestnut <i>Agrochola lychnidis</i>	Woodland rides, scrub, hedgerows and open country
Red Star-thistle <i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i>	Regularly disturbed grassland, well-drained soils
Cuckoo <i>Cuculus canorus</i>	Woodland, scrub, marshes, heathland, reedbed
Spotted Flycatcher <i>Muscicapa striata</i>	Open woodland and woodland edges, parks and gardens
House Sparrow <i>Passer domesticus</i>	Urban areas, farmland, hedgerows
Chalk Carpet <i>Scotopteryx bipunctaria</i>	Chalk grassland and a range of open habitats, larvae feed on vetch and clover
Turtle Dove <i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	Woodland edges, hedgerows and open land with scattered bushes

Invasive Non-native Species

No records

Designated Sites

Southwick Hill SNCI consists of dense scrub and unimproved grassland. Several rare species can be found including Bastard Toadflax and Red Star-thistle. The presence of a small amount of Heather suggests chalk heath was formerly developed here.

Opportunities Identified

- Chalk grassland management, restoration and creation
- Working with and attracting new businesses
- Chalk grassland butterfly interest
- Volunteer opportunities
- Landowner advisory and agri-environment schemes
- Access improvements