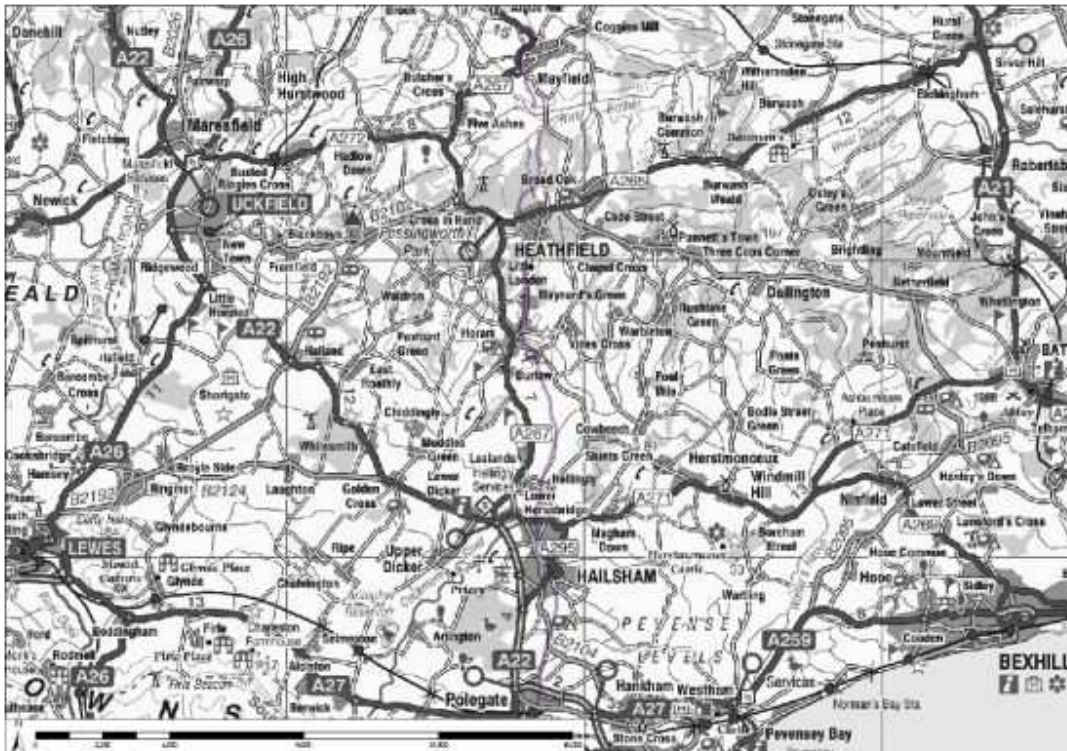


Cuckoo Trail habitat link Biodiversity Opportunity Area

Joint Character Area High Weald



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

Cuckoo Trail habitat link 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 61 hectares.

Most of the Cuckoo trail is in the ownership of Wealden District Council or East Sussex County Council. A habitat management plan is being implemented for the majority of the trail, which is managed for leisure and wildlife. The Cuckoo Trail passes through two major towns and penetrates a third urban area. It has important benefits for urban wildlife and also for the northward migration of species responding to global climate change. The use of the Cuckoo Trail to enhance networks of natural habitats is supportable in the light of planning policy and guidance. It will, be particularly important in the conservation and enhancement of wildlife habitats in the area between Hailsham and Polegate.

BAP Habitat

Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh
Woodland

BAP Species

no records

Invasive Non-native Species

no records

Designated Sites

Bramble Cottage meadow SNCI a small unimproved herb-rich meadow, which is damper in places. There is also a pond surrounded by several large Oaks and an area of dense Blackthorn scrub that add interest to the site.

Upper Old Mill meadows SNCI four unimproved meadows surrounded by woodland and thick hedges, which support an abundance of invertebrates.

Opportunities Identified

- Access management
- Policy integration
- Education and community engagement
- Ecological networks