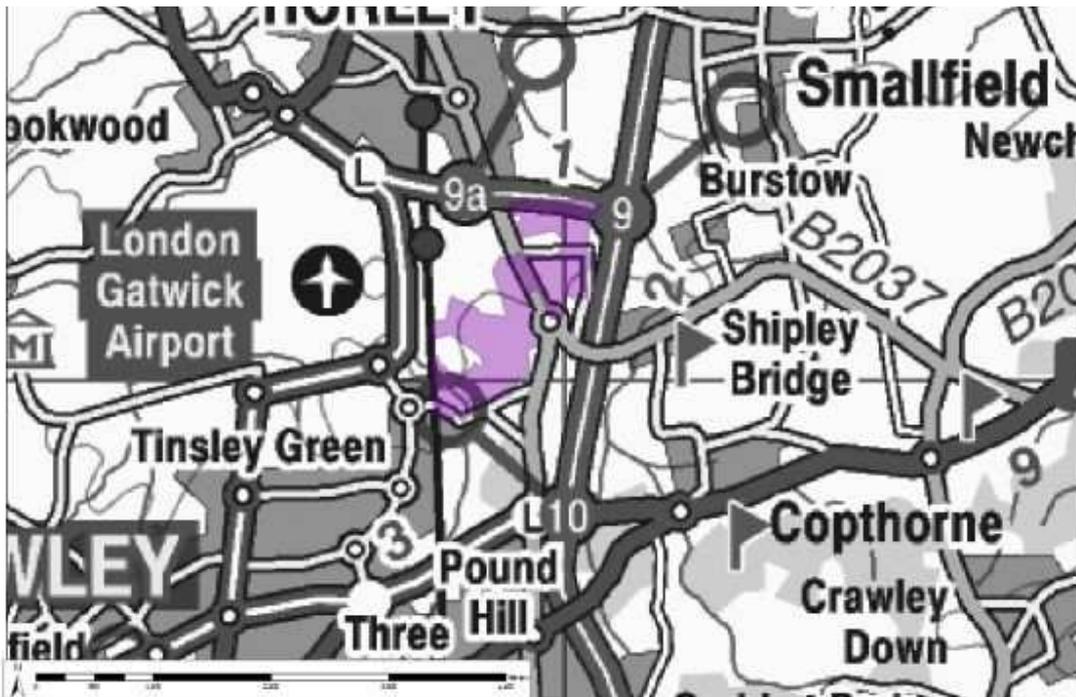


Gatwick Woods Biodiversity Opportunity Area

Joint Character Area Low Weald

Geology Gatwick Woods BOA lies on Weald clay formation mudstone



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

Gatwick Woods have been recognised as a Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA) as they represent 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 133 hectares.

This area is dominated by the Gatwick Airport landscape but contains a small amount of ancient woodland amongst agricultural land where the opportunities for biodiversity gain and landowner liaison are tangible.

BAP Habitat

Woodland

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

| Species | Habitat Requirements |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Lesser Redpoll <i>Carduelis</i> | birch and alder woods, most common in the north in the summer |

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <i>cabaret</i> | |
| Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> | Farmland, grazing marsh, wet meadows, seeds and insects |

Invasive Non-native Species

No records

Designated Sites

Horleyland Wood SNCI a good example of ancient coppice-with-standards Bluebell wood, with a canopy consisting predominantly of Oak, Birch and Ash. There is abundant dead wood, and a pond which adds to the habitat diversity.

Opportunities Identified

- Woodland management and restoration
- Education and community engagement, including links to health
- Increased site designation
- Working with and attracting new businesses
- Ecological networks
- Visitor facilities