

Dorset Wildlife Trust - Reserve Hazard Overview

Reserve Name: Tadnoll & Winfrith Heaths	Map Ref: SY797874 (centre)	Site Category: 1 Size ha (a): 164.08	Profile Date: 10/5/12 Profile Completed by: NG
<p>Summary: SSSI, SPA, cSAC & Ramsar Site of national & international importance. Wide range of wet, dry & humid habitats supporting a rich diversity of wildlife. [Usage, visitor demographics & accident/incident history] Used by public all year round, mainly dog walkers, also visited for monitoring of species such as birds, reptiles, butterflies, dragonflies & wild flowers. [Main natural hazards] water (stream, ditches and occasional pond); Lyme's disease, leptospirosis, adders. [Main introduced / man-made hazards] cattle, ponies, dogs, roads (Gatemoor Road & Redbridge Road on Winfrith side) cattle grids/ gates.</p>			
<p>Reserve Management: Summer and Winter programme of works incl. Scrub clearance, topping of rushes, ragwort pulling, maintenance of furniture. Work carried out by staff, contractors and volunteers</p>			
<p>Risk classification: Predominantly a moderately developed rural terrain. It is expected that visitors will have some experience and knowledge of these surroundings, & an understanding of personal responsibility & self-reliance.</p>			
First Aid Provision: None on site	Mobile Phone Coverage: Variable, but generally good emergency coverage	Nearest Public Phone: Nearest public building: Red Lion pub on A352, at south end of Gatemoor Road SY805854	Emergency Services Access points: Tadnoll: main entrance SY791875 Winfrith (main) SY805863, (Whitcombe Hill) SY809875 & (Drove Hill) SY805861
<p>Nearest A&E Hospital: Dorset County Hospital, Dorchester</p>			
<p>Access: Marked trail connecting Winfrith & Tadnoll (David Limb Trail) which needs upgrading. Network of paths (grass/ bare ground). Fire defendable lines around the heathland. Open access (CRoW) land. Information boards at each of 2 main entrances</p>			
<p>Additional Facilities: Bird Hide SY801872 accessed from Winfrith main entrance</p>			
<p>Main natural hazards</p>			
<i>Topography</i>	Mainly flat but uneven ground, small hills at Whitcombe, Drove and the Old Knowle	<i>Water (deep, fast flowing, tidal, cold, strong currents etc.)</i>	Tadnoll Brook, a slow flowing chalk stream, plus several ditches/ drains. One permanent pond on Winfrith SY805876. Seasonal ponds/ flooded areas in the Tadnoll meadows
<i>Unprotected drops e.g. cliff edges, steep banks or slopes, gorges</i>		<i>Falling rocks, trees or branches</i>	
<i>Animals and insects e.g. Lyme's, Weil's, bites and stings</i>	Lyme's, Weil's, bites & stings. Cattle & ponies grazing. Adder on site.	<i>Plants e.g. umbellifer, poisonous</i>	Thistles, nettles
<i>Weather and environment e.g. Strong prevailing winds, fog, flooding, extreme cold</i>		<i>Getting stuck e.g. marsh, bog, ditches, quick sand</i>	Wet heath very boggy, meadows seasonally flood
<p>Main man made / introduced hazards</p>			
<i>Buildings e.g. visitors centres, hides, barns</i>	Bird Hide (see above) accessed via woodland trail/ small bridge	<i>Water and associated structures (canal, pond, lakes, bridges, stepping stones, walkways, pumps, sluices, dipping platforms)</i>	Bridges over Tadnoll Brook & ditches
<i>Services and ordnance (underground services,</i>	Underground power line traverses the reserve	<i>Access, egress and boundaries (fencing,</i>	Perimeter fencing for stock enclosure,

<i>overhead power lines, sewage, electrical substations)</i>	from Tadnoll entrance to Blacknoll through the reserve	<i>stiles, car park, steps)</i>	combined with field gate/ pedestrian gates at each main entrance. Cattle handling pen in tadnoll meadows SY797874. 4 x cattle grids/ gates owned by DCC, to allow extensive cattle grazing on Winfrith side. Car Park planned for Tadnoll main entrance
<i>Unprotected drops and confined spaces (mine shafts, fortifications, caves, tunnels)</i>		<i>Vehicles and machinery (cars, tractors, boats, motor bikes, quads)</i>	4WD vehicles on site daily for stock checking. Tractors/ attachments regularly used on site for management
<i>Work activity (farming, stock management, forestry, site management e.g. brush cutting, chainsaw work, animal control)</i>	Livestock management/ movement. Site management using power tools (chainsaws, brushcutters) as well as tractor-mounted machinery (toppers)	<i>Sport and recreation (dog walking, horse riding, mountain biking, swimming, fishing, hunting, shooting etc.)</i>	Dog walking, fishing rights under Freshwater & Biological Association (FBA)
<i>Illegal activities e.g. poaching, fly-tipping)</i>	Some fly-tipping issues along Redbridge Road at Winfrith end between Nutley Farm and Blacknoll	<i>From adjacent land (MoD, waste site, spraying, stock, shooting etc.)</i>	
<i>Pressure from crowds of people)</i>		<i>Other</i>	