

Appendix III

Habitat characteristics and descriptions from the Field Surveys referred to in Section 3.5

Figure 3.4

Within the Redline Boundary

Buildings and Artificial Surfaces (BL3)

The site consists of a set of old farm buildings that are open in nature, associated out-buildings and access roads or residential properties.

Agricultural land (GA1) and Wet Grassland (GS4)

The main area of the festival has graded from agricultural grassland with patches of wet grassland into a mosaic of the two habitats. The dominant grass species on site is Perennial Ryegrass (*Lolium perenne*) and Timothy (*Phleum pratense*) but Yorkshire Fog (*Holcus lanatus*) is now also dominant in patches throughout; however perennial ryegrass is present throughout and there is evidence of sheep graze over winter and cutting management action. These areas also contained areas that were less management or grazing remnants were seen; which had taller grass species and a number of vegetative species such as thistles (*Asteraceae Spp.*), broadleaf dock (*Rumex obtusifolius*), and ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*) etc. There were an abundance of reeds (*Juncus sp.*) present throughout these areas and yellow flag Iris (*Iris pseudacorus*); particularly to the west of the site.



Agricultural Grassland (GA1)

This habitat occurs throughout the site. The dominant grass species on site are Perennial Ryegrass (*Lolium perenne*), Timothy (*Phleum pratense*), and Cocksfoot (*Dactylis glomerata*). Other species that were present were thistles (*Asteraceae Spp.*), broadleaf dock (*Rumex obtusifolius*), and ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*) etc. There were no species of note recorded within the redline. The main area of the festival is agricultural grassland however, there are patches of reeds present throughout. Areas of wet grassland (*GS4*) are also identified and mapped where relevant.

Bare Ground (ED)

The area of bare ground is a mud patch to the west of the site, where there were water seepage issues recently. The surrounding area has a number of common disturbed ground species such as Sheeps Sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*), willow-herbs (*Epilobium spp.*), Common Sorrel (*Rumex acetosa*), Spear Thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*), Colt's Foot (*Tussilago farfara*), Nettle (*Urtica dioica*), Dandelion (*Taraxacum spp.*), Ragworts (*Senecio spp.*), Greater Plantain (*Plantago major*), Knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*), Pineappleweed (*Matricaria discoidea*) and Shepherd's-purse (*Capsella bursa-pastoris*).

Hedgerows (WL1) and Treelines (WL2)

There are hedgerows and treelines present on site which vary in height and density. These form the boundaries between existing grassland fields in the eastern section of the site, and run along the northern, southern and eastern the boundaries of the site. These are dominated by willow (*Salix Sp.*) and hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), with occasional species such as lime (*Tilia x europaea Teile*). The understory was typically covered with Ramsden (*Allium ursinum*), herb Robert (*Geranium robertianum*), marsh marigold (*Caltha palustris*) and other common species. Other species included thistles (*Asteraceae Spp.*), Greater Stitchwort (*Stellaria holostea*), Common Speed Well (*Veronica persica*), Stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*) and Cows Parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*) etc. There were no species of note recorded within the redline.

Mixed Conifer Woodland (WD3)

The patch of mixed conifer woodland is a remnant plantation segment which has planted conifer trees as well as encroachment of broadleaved species such as beech (*Fagus*) but overall is species poor and likely to be used for commercial timber by Colte.

Drainage Ditches (FW4)

Drainage ditches are associated with one of the hedgerows which goes through the proposed camping area as identified by the hydrology map. This was a poorly vegetated area with thistles (*Asteraceae Spp.*), Greater Stitchwort (*Stellaria holostea*) and Common Speed Well (*Veronica persica*) present.

Outside the Redline**Mixed Broad-Leaved Woodland (WD1)**

The mixed broadleaved woodlands to the south of the site varied in complexity and community composition. To the south (*within 200m of the lake*) there was extensive areas of Rhododendron and Rhododendron/Lorrell Hybrids. In these areas the understory was sparse of other species. There were stands of cuckoo flower throughout the woodland which is the foodplant of the orange tip butterfly.

The trees present in the woodland included willows (*Salix spp.*), lime (*Tilia x europaea Teile*) and hazel (*Corylus avellana coll*) with patches of bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), scaley male fern (*Dryopteris affinis*), lords and ladies (*Arum alpinum*) etc. There were no oak trees observed during the field surveys.

Mixed Broadleaved/conifer woodland (WD2)

The hazelwood area by the lakeside to the east of the site is a longstanding woodland which is used for tourism and recreation. There is an open sparsely vegetated understory; however, the bankside has vegetation and more importantly complex root systems over the water. This area has a large pedestrianised road through it and a number of amenity facilities. The woods are dominated by oaks (*Quercus spp.*), with rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), willows (*Salix spp.*), bird cherry (*Prunus padus*), yew (*Taxus baccata*), and the rare rock whitebeam (*Sorbus rupicola*). This area supports several rare plant species, including yellow bird's-nest (*Monotropa hypopitys*), lady's mantle (*Alchemilla glaucescens*), ivy broomrape (*Orobancha hederæ*), black bryony (*Dioscorea communis*), intermediate wintergreen (*Pyrola media*) and bird's-nest orchid (*Neottia nidus-avis*).

Wet Willow-Alder-Ash Woodland WN6/GM1

The tree species includes willow (*Salix sp.*), Alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) and Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), as well as marsh species such as yellow flag iris, meadow sweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*) and marsh-bedstraw (*Galium palustre*). This area was boggy and marshy to the point of having stands of water that would be indicatant of a march rather than a wet woodland, therefore it was classified as a mosaic habitat of both.