THE SUSSEX RECORDER

Proceedings from the

Biological Recorders' Seminar

held at

Washington Village Hall, West Sussex

March 1992

Compiled and edited by

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Sussex Wildlife Trust

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INTRODUCTION

Tony Whitbread

This is the third of our Biological Recorders Seminars. The numbers of people attending, and the interest shown has indicated very strongly that a forum such as this is needed in our county.

A main aim of the seminar is simply to get biological recorders together. Many of us work in isolation, perhaps recognising important sites for particular species. A chance to meet and talk is, in itself, valuable.

Once together we can organise better systems of coordination between recorders. We now have systems in place which should, at last, start to achieve this. When we have better access to this information we can start to use this to achieve nature conservation on the ground. The following papers on the Environmental Survey Directory and the Sites of Nature Conservation Importance project outline how far we have got in this process.

The seminar can also be used as an opportunity to keep us all informed of major survey or recording projects that are underway. The three main talks in the morning session therefore discuss three projects that are underway at present.

We have also discussed in the past, the idea of using our network of biological recorders to look in detail at specific sites. Perhaps one specialist has noticed a site or area which has a certain wildlife interest but its value to other groups of plants or animals is unknown. A reasonable approach is therefore for the recorder to present this site to the seminar and so invite wider examination to find out if the site is of broader interest. This is the subject of our afternoon session. Several people have agreed to give short presentations introducing a site and discussing its value.

The agenda for this meeting has therefore almost set itself, and may form the pattern for subsequent seminars. We will start with short report back sessions for our two main systems of data collection, storage and use - namely the Environmental Survey Directory and Sites of Nature Conservation Importance projects. These are followed by sessions on major projects in the counties. In the afternoon we have more quick-fire presentations giving site profiles.

SUSSEX ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY DIRECTORY

Simon Curson

The Sussex Environmental Survey Directory is a database system to record the locality of survey information - a directory to inform people of what survey information exists in Sussex and where it is held.

The information is held on a card index and on a computer database which has a useful facility for searching on multiple fields. There are accompanying maps for each county to show the area covered by surveys. The maps of West Sussex are drawn onto overlays and those of East Sussex are held on a computer mapping system.

The Directory is now in a finalised and operable state, however the, as yet, small amount of information held on it is limiting and it is by no means comprehensive. At the moment 160 surveys of 200 sites are on the system. The backlog of surveys held with each of the steering group bodies is being put on the Directory as quickly as possible.

In addition to surveys held with the steering group bodies and other organisations, much survey data is held by individuals in Sussex. This information is a valuable but as yet untapped resource for conservation. So what will be needed soon is to add this information to the Directory. This is where your help comes in. If you have any information please send it in to Simon Curson at the Sussex Wildlife Trust using the Site and Survey Recording Sheets that were given out at the Seminar. If you need more Recording Sheets or run into problems then contact him at Sussex Wildlife Trust.

The Directory will be based and kept up to date at the Sussex Wildlife Trust. At regular intervals copies of the more recent update will be sent to the other Steering Group members. Enquiries for information will go through the Trust and be charged. This is the only way the Directory has of generating income and this hasn't been used much yet due to its infancy. Finance for the continuing update could therefore be a problem.

The Directory will probably be used mainly by the members of the Steering group. Consultants, surveyors and anyone wishing to assess ecological information of a given area will also find it an extremely useful "short-cut" in finding the actual ecological information they require. It would also be useful in highlighting areas on the ground that lack survey data.

The work continues . . . . . .

AN UPDATE ON THE SITES OF NATURE CONSERVATION IMPORTANCE PROJECT

Ann Griffiths

The identification of SNCIs in West Sussex is being done as a joint project with West Sussex County Council, English Nature and the Sussex Wildlife Trust. All are involved on the steering group. Funding has been provided by these organisations plus support from all the District and Borough Councils, the World Wide Fund for Nature and the National Rivers Authority.

A project team, consisting of Graham Roberts, Marion Finch and Louise Clarke, was appointed in 1990. This team collated existing information and carried out new surveys in order to identify the most valuable sites. The last few months have been put aside for evaluating the information gathered and producing the lists of SNCIs.

Identification has been carried out by presenting the site information to a panel of experts - people who are very familiar with aspects of the County's ecology.

On May 18th 1992 the lists of SNCIs will be produced as a series of dossiers, one for each Borough/District, and will be presented to the Local Authorities. This is however an ongoing process. Further sites may be added to the dossiers as they are discovered, or sites removed if they are destroyed.

The next stage is to make use of this information. Policies to protect SNCIs have now been incorporated into most Local Plans, which will be valuable in development control. However, there will be more positive use of the SNCI dossiers. Graham Roberts of West Sussex County Council is now co-ordinating the follow up work on the SNCIs. The aim is to contact farmers and landowners to tell them of their sites' value and to discuss sympathetic management. It may then be possible to target grant aid towards these sites hopefully making a good wildlife site an asset to the owner, rather than a liability. We are currently liaising with the National Farmers Union and the Country Landowners Association. They have understandable concerns about the project but are sympathetic to conservation and would like to see the project succeed without disadvantages to their members.

To conclude this section, there have been some positive examples which show how the system might work. A farm near East Grinstead was found to contain a valuable grassland area, now listed as an SNCI. Management here is now being grant aided including scrub clearance and follow up survey work. A valuable site has been found, is being managed sympathetically and the farmer has benefited - everybody wins.

THE OTTER PROJECT

Graham Roberts

This is a three year programme with the Hants, Kent and Sussex Trusts, sponsored by the NRA, looking at the status of the otter in SE England.

Before 1950, otters were frequent all over the British Isles. However, their numbers declined in the 1950's to 60's, probably due to the use of organochlorines in agriculture. This has resulted in otters now being found mainly in the North of Scotland, although they are present in the rest of Scotland, Wales and west of England. Very few are found in the east of England although they have a very wide distribution throughout the world. They are now extinct in seven countries in Europe, therefore those found in Britain are very important, especially as the best European concentrations are in Ireland and possibly Scotland.

Many otters in the south and east of the country are run over and killed on roads and railways so that accidents have become the main contributing factor to their decline.

Otters are very elusive and are therefore difficult to study. They are nocturnal and have very good senses (they see you, before you see them!). They cannot be trapped and studied as they get very stressed in traps.

In muddy rivers they use their whiskers to hunt.

Mink vs Otter

Otters are much bigger than mink, males being about 3' to 4' long and females 2' to 3' long. They also have a broader head and a wide base to the tail. Mink swim much higher up in the water than otters.

Mink have had a large impact on fisheries and water vole populations.

Do they compete? Mink and otter both live side by side in Devon. The otter is ten times the body weight of a mink and can therefore oust a mink should the situation lead to confrontation. However, competition for habitat is more serious. Mink are more generally encountered, as there are very few otters.

The otter has had protection since 1978. If there are otters in the South East we must protect them. They are a good indication of a healthy environment.

Habitat

Otters need large tracts of habitat if they are to survive. They can put up with agricultural improvement if riverside vegetation is left on both banks. Canalised rivers with no vegetation on the banks and dredgings just dumped on the sides, become 'flashy' and this is not a good habitat for the otters. There is also a problem with rivers having low flows and thus reducing the available habitat. Otters like clear, clean, deep water.

Otters need large tracts of secure woodland on the edges of rivers for lying-up sites - a line of alders is not enough. Big trees on banks, such as Ash, Oak and Sycamore, allow otters to lie-up amongst the roots. Dense scrub on the edges where there is no disturbance is also good cover. Bankside cover therefore is a priority. Willow scrub is good if there are no banks. They can climb and travel long distances across land to lying-up places; therefore woods some way away from the river are still important. They also like marshland habitats with alder carr, scrub, phragmites and so on with good cover and little disturbance. Otters will use streams to get from one river to another, and so corridors between good rivers are very important. Heavy shading means that the stream / river will be of low

AMPHIBIANS

Brian Banks

In southern England we have very good survey data for the rare amphibians and reptiles. The status of these animals is now well known:

The smooth snake is extinct in Sussex but has now been introduced. They are hard to find so tin sheets are placed outside and because they warm up quickly the snakes use them to thermoregulate. If the sheets are turned over regularly the chances of spotting a snake are increased. Their usual habitat is mature - degenerate heath with not too much scrub.

The sand lizard has similar habitat requirements but became extinct in Sussex. It has been reintroduced in two sites and has spread. Habitat management is important as bare sand is needed for the hatchlings.

Another species extinct in Sussex is the natterjack toad. There are no proposals to reintroduce this species.

There was a dearth of information on the more widespread species and it was sought to overcome this problem with a survey started in the mid 1980's.

Volunteers are still needed to look for amphibians and to carry out systematic recording and evaluation of sites. Also, torchlight surveys during April / May to quantify the numbers of amphibians which gives the best indication of the value of a pond.

In 1982/3 very few ponds were known to contain great crested newts. They were thought to be exceedingly rare, but in fact this just indicated a lack of survey work. This species is widespread in Sussex but not numerous. Numbers are deduced by netting out weed and counting the numbers of adults, or counting animals by torchlight survey. Searching for eggs is the quickest way of finding this species, but this method cannot be used yet to identify the population size in a pond. The main problem for great crested newts is the neglect of habitat and also the addition of fish to ponds, especially in developed areas.

The smooth newt is the commonest newt and second most common amphibian, especially in chalky areas.

The palmate newt is the scarcest British species and is found in acidic areas with a focus in the Weald.

The least abundant species in Sussex is the Common Toad which prefers large ponds with fish, and also does well on grazing marshes where there is suitable terrestrial habitat. Heads are counted at night or the numbers crossing roads. An area known as Offham Marshes in Lewes has been made an SSSI on account of its large toad population.

The common frog is the easiest species to survey as the clumps of spawn can be counted. A site is then scored according to the quantity of spawn, with a very good site scoring three points and a poor site scoring one point. A similar scoring system can be used for the other species, based on numbers of adults counted at the pond. Totalling the scores for amphibian species present, with bonus points if the pond supports 4 or more species, allows the value of ponds for amphibians to be composed, and this has enabled several key sites to be identified. The best appear to be Ashdown Forest, Offham Marshes SSSI and Woods Mill. Local authorities have this information as do EN and SWT. The revised edition and future editions will go to the District Councils. Sites should also be included on the SNCI if they score 5-10 points on this system.

SUBLITTORAL RECORDING

Robert Irving

Monitoring

Diving is expensive due to time, boats and equipment. Underwater cameras, although expensive, are very useful for recording and monitoring. An area off the coast of the Isles of Scilly has been monitored annually between 1985 and 1989, then every two years, using fixed point photography. This area is good for its sessile animals.

The site to be surveyed is marked by bolts attached to the rock with string between them so that the same area is photographed (in much the same way as land based long-term monitoring). Changes are then apparent when the photos are analysed eg: decline and increase of species. Also the growth rate of organisms eg: the sponge, can be ascertained. The problem arises when trying to relocate the site or individual that is to be recorded. Other animals settle on tags making them difficult to recognise and water visibility cannot always be guaranteed. The growth rate of some species can be monitored using a grid behind them eg: the sea fan. However, time is limited when actually under the water due to the need for decompression time and a limited oxygen supply.

Surveys

The quality of surveys depends upon a series of variable factors which include:

- Volunteer or professional divers.
- Coverage (time / money / size of team)
- Quality of results (depends on the experience of the personnel)
- Interpretation of results (can be ambiguous or variable)

Information that can be gained from surveys includes:

Distribution of sublittoral bottom types and the extent of algal cover ie: you find out what's on the bottom (sand or granite or chalk). Chalk underwater is a rare habitat. It is soft enough to be burrowed in to (and is thus easily broken up by animals). Almost all the bed of the sea is covered by sessile animals.

There have been sublittoral surveys of Sussex and Kent over recent years eg: Brighton Marina. The life in the marina is different from that outside. For example, organisms found on the under side of floating pontoons are never exposed and so don't dry out. Therefore organisms more usually found in deeper water can exist near the surface. Areas of the underside of the pontoons have been cleared to enable the process of recolonisation to be studied.

Seasearch

This is a phase 1 habitat survey, of sublittoral habitats using volunteer divers.

The sort of work that will be done in Sussex is similar to the Seven Sisters Marine Survey which resulted in proposals for protection.

Seasearch is linked with Coastal Zone Protection and Planning:

(a) It will give an assessment of what is known in Sussex already.

(b) It will use divers to assess habitat types offshore.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Matthew Thomas introduced seven short presentations. Each of these advertised little-known areas of potentially high wildlife value. Seminar participants were invited to visit these with a view to developing a more complete picture of their interest. Each presentation includes a contact for any additional survey information collected. Please include the following information with any survey data (a species list on its own may mean very little to the non-specialist):

SPECIES LISTS - USEFUL EXTRA INFORMATION

1. Conservation Importance

Previously unknown to science / Nationally rare / Locally rare / Common / Millions of 'em

Confined to south Uckfield / South-east England / Northern Hemisphere

2. Site Frequency

Can't move without squashing one / Abundant / Scattered / One elderly individual

3. Habitat Requirements

Food plant + tall grass / Shallow pools / Baobab trees

4. Location on the Site

In the pond / Compartment number. . . / Flew over about lunch time

BEAUPORT PARK

Clifford Dean

Beauport Park, to the north west of Hastings, East Sussex, is the largest remaining block of mainly broad-leaved woodland in the area.

Most is privately owned and inaccessible to the general public.

Study of old maps suggests that, contrary to appearances, only the outer woods may be of ancient origin, the centre having been farmland to the end of the 18th century. Large exotic trees are a conspicuous feature, dating from the mid 19th century. There is a wide variety of woodland structures, which would encourage a diversity of wildlife. The combination of large trees, dense undergrowth and steep valleys gives a rare and illusory sense of wilderness.

A survey of breeding birds in 1990 found good populations of common woodland species with an exceptional density of Nightingales. Other scarcer species found were Hawfinch, Woodcock and Redpoll. There is little detailed information on wildlife areas other than trees, although the site seems very promising for certain groups.

The park is of great interest to archaeologists as the site of large Roman iron workings. A bath-house has been excavated, which is one of the best-preserved Roman buildings in England.

Whilst there are at present no major threats to the park, its landscape and wildlife value are likely to be impaired through neglect and piecemeal development unless an integrated management scheme is implemented which acknowledges the range of interests represented in the site and seeks to preserve and enhance them.

Access to Beauport Park is via a public footpath which runs between the water tower at Telham (777140) and Moat Lane on the A21 (796144). It is waymarked at either end but becomes unclear in the area of the golf course. The land agents (Cluttons of East Grinstead - ask for Mr Atkins) have in the past issued permits on behalf of the owner, but because of a recent increase in the number of applications, no more of these will be issued for the time being. Clifford Dean is willing to help if he can.

Contact him at:

15 Coastguard Cottages
Pett Level
Hastings
East Sussex
TN35 4EW

Tel:0424 812249

He would also be grateful for any new records.

BUTTERFLIES ON MILL HILL

Joyce Gay

The site is Mill Hill on the side of the Adur River Valley which is a west facing chalk slope. Before the 1950's it was chalk grassland but since then it has scrubbed over. That was until five years ago. In 1987 the Friends of Mill Hill were set up and in turn they called in the butterfly society. This led to the clearance of much of the scrub. Now (1992) there is a lot of Horseshoe Vetch which is the food plant of the Adonis Blue and the Chalkhill Blue.

This winter there have been 12 sheep grazing there and cattle should be introduced this spring. This ought to help keep the scrub down.

The site is owned by Adur District Council. Access is not possible from the A27, but from the old A2, go along a small road directing you to the youth hostel. It would be useful to have surveys done for any other groups found there.

For more detailed access arrangements please contact:

Joyce Gay
Wellbrook
High Street
Henfield
West Sussex
BN5 9DD

to whom all site records should be sent.

CHICHESTER HARBOUR CONSERVANCY

Anne de Potier

Chichester Harbour Conservancy was established in 1971 to manage land and water together in a complementary fashion. The whole harbour is not a nature reserve but a well used area for boating amongst other things. It is a site of international importance for wildfowl and winter waders; it also has 11,000 Brent geese. Breeding birds include terns and black headed gulls which are well monitored. Land birds have also been well surveyed and monitored. The Chichester Conservancy use the COBRA bird recording system. Not much ringing is carried out but they are involved in the UK - Senegal monitoring of migration project.

There is little known about the intertidal invertebrates and habitats, especially of the effect of bait digging which is now done commercially on an increasingly large scale. There has been very little research done on seaweeds as plants in their own right or as pollution indicators. The diversity of species in the harbour is unknown.

The conservancy are participating in the SEASEARCH programme.

Other habitats to be found within the area of the harbour include:

- Some Salt Marsh which has a wide diversity of species. There is some monitoring of the plant communities.
- East Head Dune System. The history of the dune system and the rebuilding of the dune slack are all known.
- Wetland Habitats, including marshy / muddy inlets, soggy corners of fields (some brackish, some tidal).
- Wet Meadows - fresh water floods.
- Reed Beds - large and small, not all are protected.
- Freshwater streams with marsh / swamp / overgrowth.
- Thorney Deeps - brackish area surrounded by fresher water and flood meadows which are steadily grazed. Some surveys have been done on the meadows here.
- Woodland - birds, plants, butterflies and dragonflies are monitored in one site, and there is small mammal trapping there. Bat studies have just been started. Some areas of that wood are coppiced.

More monitoring is needed for planning, pollution damage, sediment movement, especially of invertebrates (land and water), fish etc. People should be made aware that there is grant aid available for surveys and expenses.

For detailed access arrangements please contact:

Anne de Potier
Chichester Harbour Conservancy
The Harbour Office
Itchenor
Chichester
West Sussex
PO20 7AW

Tel: 0243 512301

to whom all site records should also be sent.

BEES AND WASPS IN PATCHAM

John Felton

There is an alleyway near John's home in Patcham where he has been recording bees and wasps regularly for the past year. The alley has ground elder, nettles, elm and elderberry along its edge and is a sun trap.

Twelve visits were made for collecting specimens, each of about an hour at a time. Collecting needs to be disciplined. Specimens need to be collected as they cannot be identified in the field. In total it took over 10 hours to collect all the specimens and a further 20+ hours to mount and identify them all. In total 29 species of small bee & wasp were identified, however ants or bumble bees were not collected. Data gathered can be used to calculate species diversity and richness.

The wall along one side of the alley did not attract many species however it had jagged edges and good nesting sites in the rotten mortar. Leaf cutter bees may have previously eroded some of the mortar and holes in the bricks would have housed various wasp species.

This is a good example of a site rich in species and yet very small and easy to reach. It just shows that there can be an interest in any locality however humdrum. If disciplined recording and collecting is carried out there could be a huge database to refer to. Even so it is hard to delineate the area of the survey very accurately. For example is the wall part of the site or does it delineate the site?

This is a public footpath and the other users have complained about excessive vegetation. It has now been cleared and it will be interesting to see which species persist, that is, are adapted to such a changeable habitat.

BRIGHTON BEACH near the MARINA

Jon Shaughnessy

Jon Shaughnessy's talk addressed the problem of what constitutes a site. Although a wood or meadow forms a discreet unit for species recording, there are many small patches of vegetation where the distinction is not so clear. For example, although the majority of Brighton beach is unvegetated, there are small areas which support good shingle flora, with species such as sea kale, yellow horned poppy, sea bindweed and sea sandwort. An area of 'waste ground' by the Marina has an interesting assemblage of plants, the Volks railways track is renown for its population of common broomrape and the flint wall around Roedean school has hoary stock, a Red Data Book species. Although the species present are uncommon - in the case of hoary stock, nationally rare - it is difficult to describe these small isolated fragments of habitats as sites, and therefore to protect them from destruction by mismanagement or development.

Please send any records of important wildlife sites in the Brighton and Hove area to:

The Booth Museum
194 Dyke Road
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 5AA

CHALK GRASSLAND SURVEYING & THE N.V.C. SYSTEM

Graham Steven

East Sussex chalk grassland was surveyed using the National Vegetation Classification during 1991. The NVC is particularly good at picking up subtle differences in superficially similar vegetation types. For example, several areas of a community typical of Wiltshire were encountered on north-facing slopes and a contrasting, continental type was found on the hot, south-facing parts of Beachy Head and Deep Dene.

East Sussex was found to be a major stronghold for CG2a. This is the short, very species-rich community most people associate with grazed downland.

IN CONCLUSION

Tony Whitbread

The pattern that has evolved for this year's seminar seems to be a sensible one - short report backs of projects underway, longer presentations about major surveys and shorter presentations of site profiles. We should of course have a long lunch break so that recorders get a chance to meet each other. The programme for next year will probably be similar. Therefore, we will be looking for speakers, particularly for the short site-profile presentations. Please get in touch if you would like to give a talk next year.

One development over the last year is that we are now trying to produce some form of newsletter between seminars. This is proving difficult with no staff, no time and no resources. But I do think that it is important to pass around information to keep us all aware of work being done. PLEASE THEREFORE SEND US ANY SMALL ARTICLES FOR THIS NEWSLETTER. If you are carrying out surveys, or recording projects, or would like to tell others of a potentially interesting site then please write a short article (we will be unable to do much editing) and I will try to put them together as an amateurish newsletter. The copy date for this is the end of September. I will produce the newsletter for November.

The organisation of biological recording in Sussex is improving yet it may be difficult to see how far we have got. It might therefore be interesting to look at the vision of the future I presented in the 1991 proceedings to see how far we have come.

1. A biological recorders working group to oversee the networking. This is in place. Although our main concern centres on the yearly seminar, we are thinking towards more frequent communications.
2. A directory of people. We now have a directory of specialists in the Sussex Wildlife Trust office, on card index and computer. It is not perfect but it's a start.
3. A usable ESD. This is developing nicely and although the directory is far from complete it is beginning to be usable. It needs more time and resources, one overworked part-time employee is not enough.
4. A growing network of SNCIs. These have now been identified for West Sussex and the concept of conserving them is now included in map structure plans for West and East Sussex. The identification of SNCIs has only just started in East Sussex and funding for future work is problematical. However we hope the work will continue.
5. The confidence of local naturalists in these systems. As these projects are progressing, rather than complete, perhaps we should not expect this yet. However, as the ESD becomes a more operable system hopefully local naturalists will feel able to feed into it, so recording the existence of their survey work.

See you next year, the date for the meeting will be circulated in the November newsletter.

Appendix I

WHO, WHAT AND WHERE.

A LIST OF USEFUL ORGANISATIONS

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF NATURE CONSERVATIONISTS
NATURE CONSERVATION BUREAU
DEPT MGM1
36 KINGFISHER COURT
HAMBRIDGE ROAD
NEWBURY
RG14 5SJ

BRITISH BRYOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Mr A.V. SMITH
1 CAR MEADOW COTTAGES
GLOSSOP ROAD
LITTLE HAYFIELD
STOCKPORT
CHESHIRE
SK12 5NR

BRITISH LICHEN SOCIETY
Dr O.W. PURVIS
BOTANY DEPT
NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM
CROMWELL ROAD
LONDON
SW7 5BD

BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF BRITISH ISLES
DEPT. OF BOTANY
NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM
CROMWELL ROAD
LONDON
SW7 5BD
071 938 9123

CHICHESTER HARBOUR CONSERVANCY
HARBOUR OFFICE
ITCHENOR
CHICHESTER
WEST SUSSEX
PO20 7AW

CONCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF GB & NI
Dr MARTIN WILLING (CONSERVATION OFFICER)
14 GOODWOOD CLOSE
MIDHURST
WEST SUSSEX
GU29 9JG
0730 814790

COUNCIL FOR THE PROTECTION OF RURAL ENGLAND
8 St JULIANS LANE
SHOREHAM-BY-SEA
WEST SUSSEX
BN43 6YS
0273 592862

EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL
SOUTHOVER HOUSE
SOUTHOVER ROAD
LEWES
EAST SUSSEX
BN7 1YA
0273 482641

EAST SUSSEX HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Mr P. MARTIN (SECRETARY)
20 SILVERLANDS ROAD
St LEONARDS-ON-SEA
EAST SUSSEX
TN37 7DE
0424 440895

ENGLISH NATURE
THE OLD CANDLEMAKERS
WEST STREET
LEWES
EAST SUSSEX
BN7 2NZ
0273 476595

HASTINGS BADGER PROTECTION SOCIETY
DONALD WISE (FIELD OFFICER)
304 BEXHILL ROAD
St LEONARDS-ON-SEA
EAST SUSSEX
0424 439168

SUSSEX BAT GROUP
VIC DOWNER (COORDINATOR)
26 COMMAND ROAD
EASTBOURNE
EAST SUSSEX
BN20 8RA
0323 838366

SUSSEX BOTANICAL RECORDING SOCIETY
EAST SUSSEX BRANCH
BREDA BURT
BROOMFIELD FARM
PLAYDEN
RYE
EAST SUSSEX
TN31 7QA

SUSSEX BOTANICAL RECORDING SOCIETY
WEST SUSSEX BRANCH
MARY BRIGGS
9 ARUN PROSPECT
PULBOROUGH
WEST SUSSEX
RH20 1AL

SUSSEX ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
JOHN IRONS
9 BABYLON WAY
RATTON
EASTBOURNE
BN20 9DL

SUSSEX WILDLIFE TRUST
WOODS MILL
HENFIELD
WEST SUSSEX
BN5 9SD
0273 492630

WEALD AND DOWNLAND BADGER GROUP
BOB DARLING
55 NIGHTINGALE LANE
BURGESS HILL
WEST SUSSEX
0444 246103

Appendix II

RECORDING SHEETS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY DIRECTORY

How a survey is put onto the ESD

1. A survey is sent to one of the five parent bodies.

2. It is extracted onto survey and site forms after it has been checked to see if it is already on the system.

3. The survey is given a number by the compiler and the survey number is put onto each site form of the survey.

4. The survey is then mapped. As each site is mapped the mapper should:

   - indicate that it has been mapped on each site form

   - check the boundaries of each site to see if it is already on the ESD. If it is, then the mapper writes the survey numbers of the site at the top of the site form. If it is not on the ESD, the mapper maps the site and leaves the site form blank. Every site must be either mapped or have the survey number put by existing boundaries on the map.

5. The survey then comes back to the compiler who:-

   - numbers each blank site form

   - finds the original site form of those sites already surveyed and transfers the information onto them (survey name, date and number) and indicates on the duplicate site form that this has been done by writing in the original site number and ringing it

   - do not throw away any site forms as they are all needed for computer inputting.

6. The survey, including all site forms, goes for input onto the computer. Survey form should be entered first, then site forms. The computer will find the originals of the duplicate site forms by the original site number. All new info of survey name, date and number of duplicate sites must be entered.

7. The survey comes back to the compiler for filing in numerical order. Duplicate site forms may now be discarded.

SURVEY RECORDING SHEET

For Office use only	Survey Code No. .....

Essential
SURVEY NAME.....

SURVEY DATE..... PUBLICATION DATE(if applicable).....

NAME OF SURVEYOR / RECORDER.....

DID THE SURVEY INCLUDE

A preliminary inspection ☐
Detailed fieldwork and recording ☐
Site description / evaluation ☐
A literature search ☐
Other.....

COULD IT BE DESCRIBED AS

EN Phase I ☐
Phase II ☐
Phase III ☐
Other.....

GROUPS COVERED (as appropriate)

Trees/Shrubs ☐
Grasses/Sedges/Rushes ☐
Herbs ☐
Ferns/Bryophytes/Lichens ☐
Fungi ☐
Algae (inc. seaweeds) ☐

Mammals ☐
Birds ☐
Reptiles / Amphibians ☐
Fish ☐
Butterflies/Moths ☐
Other Invertebrates ☐

Stratigraphy ☐
Mineralogy ☐
Geomorphology ☐
Palaeoenvironment/Palaeoecology ☐

Sedimentology / Petrology ☐
Palaeontology ☐
Structure and relationships ☐

SITES COVERED (continue overleaf if necessary)

Name.....	Grid ref.....	For office use only Code No. .....
.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....

LOCATION OF RECORDS Booth Museum ☐ Sussex Wildlife Trust ☐ English Nature ☐
West Sussex C.C. ☐ East Sussex C.C. ☐

Other (include address).....
.....

CONTACT NAME AND ADDRESS.....
.....

DESCRIPTION OF SURVEY AND OTHER INFORMATION

(Continue overleaf if necessary)

For Office use only

SUSSEX ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY DIRECTORY

ENTERED BY.....

ENTRY DATE.....

East Sussex ENGLISH NATURE The Booth Museum

C/O SUSSEX WILDLIFE TRUST, WOODS MILL, HENFIELD, WEST SUSSEX BN5 9SD
Tel. 0273 492630

SITE RECORDING SHEET

For Office use only	Site Code No. .....

SITE NAME..... GRID REF..... 10km Sq..... PLEASE ATTACH MAP OF SITE

If known
COUNTY- East/West Sussex DISTRICT..... PARISH.....

SITE STATUS NNR ☐ SSSI ☐ LNR ☐ SNCI ☐ Reserve ☐

Other.....

If known
HABITATS REPRESENTED

Woodland and scrub ☐
Tall herb and fern ☐
Bog and flush ☐
Open water (inc rivers) ☐
Marine ☐
Coastland ☐
Grassland ☐
Heathland ☐
Swamp/fen/inundation ☐
Urban and amenity ☐
Rock outcrops ☐
Other.....

If known
OWNERSHIP Public ☐ Private ☐ Unknown ☐

If known
IMPORTANT SPECIES

Wildlife and Countryside Act species ☐
Red data book species ☐
County rarities ☐
Other.....

COMMENTS (eg Management proposals, planning history, brief site description)

(continue overleaf if necessary)

SURVEY NO(S)	SURVEY DATE(S)	SURVEY NAME(S)
.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....

(continue overleaf if necessary)

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SUSSEX ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY DIRECTORY

ENTERED BY.....

ENTRY DATE.....

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Tel. 0273 492630

Appendix III

FURTHER INFORMATION ON SUBLITTORAL RECORDING

COASTAL ZONE PROTECTION AND PLANNING

- National Rivers Authority
  coastal zone management plans (especially estuaries)

- District Councils ARUN
  CHICHESTER
  coastal management plans

- West Sussex County Council
  coastal strategy

- English Nature
- Joint Nature Conservation Committee
  (marine nature conservation review)

SEASEARCH

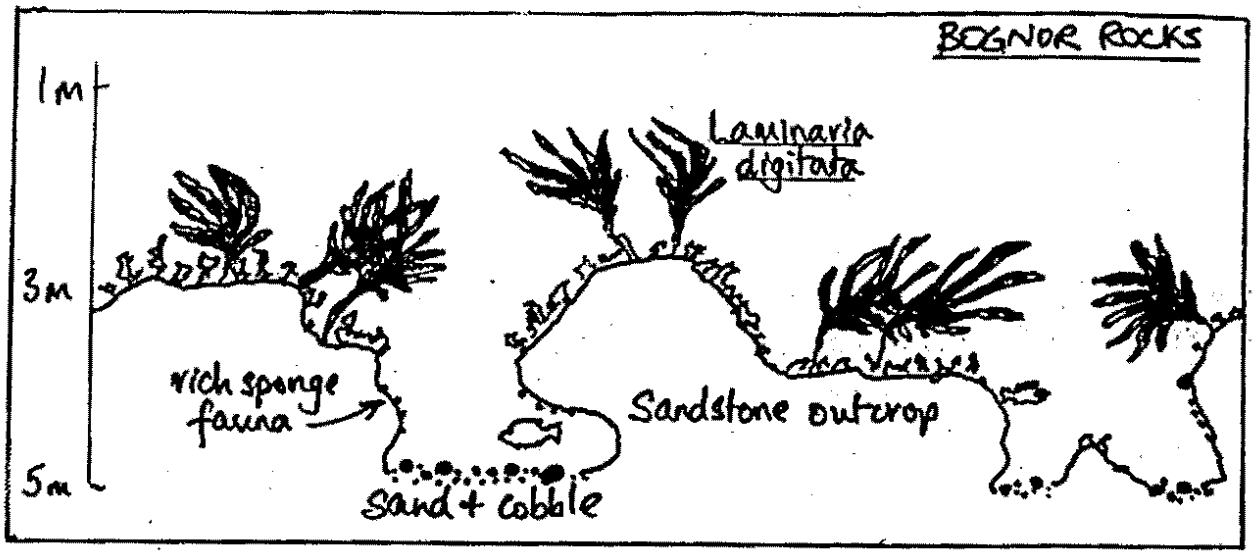
Project relevant to:-

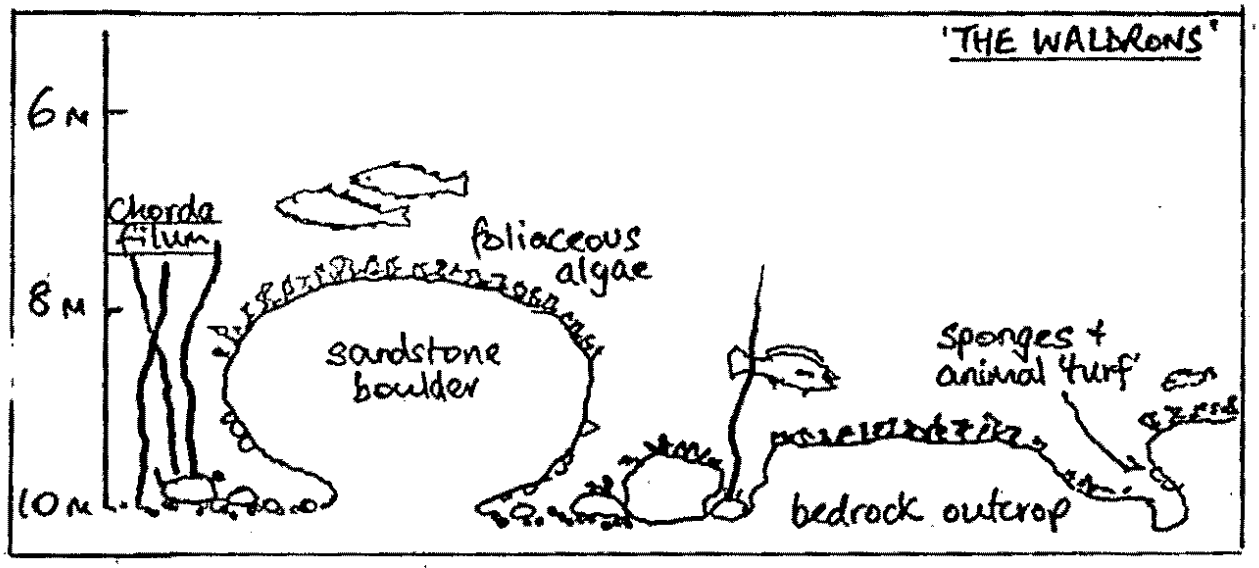
- Off-shore Dredging
- Oil Exploration
- Long Sea Outfalls
- Marina Building
- Fisheries Policies
- Recreation
- Creation of Protected Areas

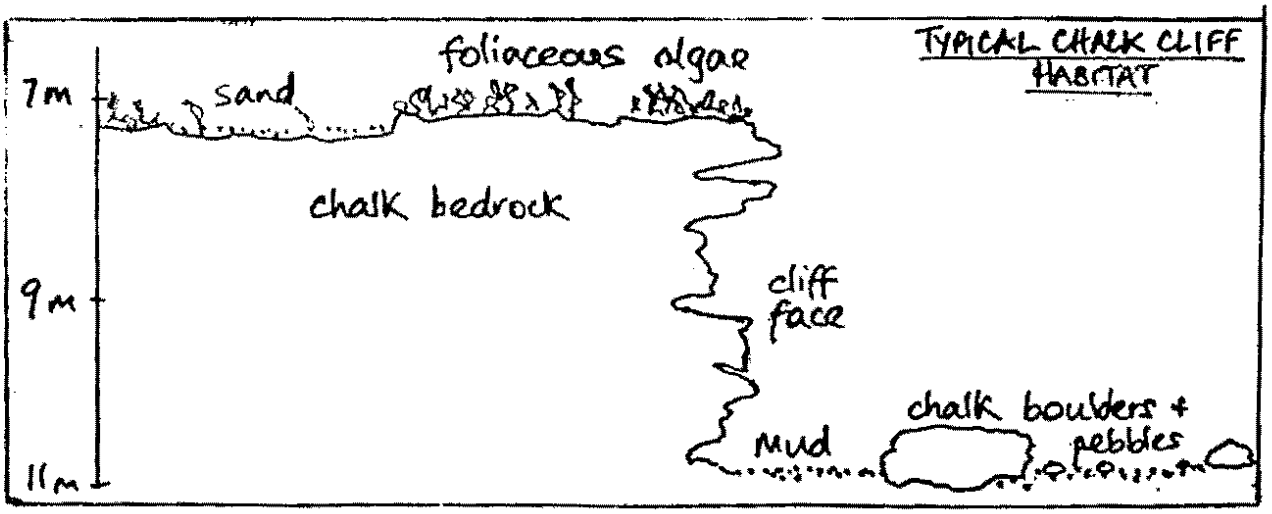
Information to be gathered on:-

- Ecology
- Geology
- Archaeology

WEST SUSSEX SUBLITTORAL : HABITAT EXAMPLES







(after WOOD, 1984)