

The Project is
Wildlife Research Unit

Valuation Project

Appendix 4.4

Information Fact Sheets



INFORMATION BROCHURE

and
Identity of Interviewer

This is to certify
that
is an official
interviewer employed
for the purposes of
this research project

Signed: *[Signature]*

Dr J F Benson
Project Co-Director

This study is being carried out by the University of Newcastle upon Tyne on
behalf of English Nature. If you have any questions or queries, please contact
Guy Garrod at the Centre for Rural Economy, The University
Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 4BA
Telephone 0161 2752000

The Pevensey Levels
Wildlife Enhancement
Scheme

Valuation Project

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Telephone: 091 2226000.



ENGLISH
NATURE

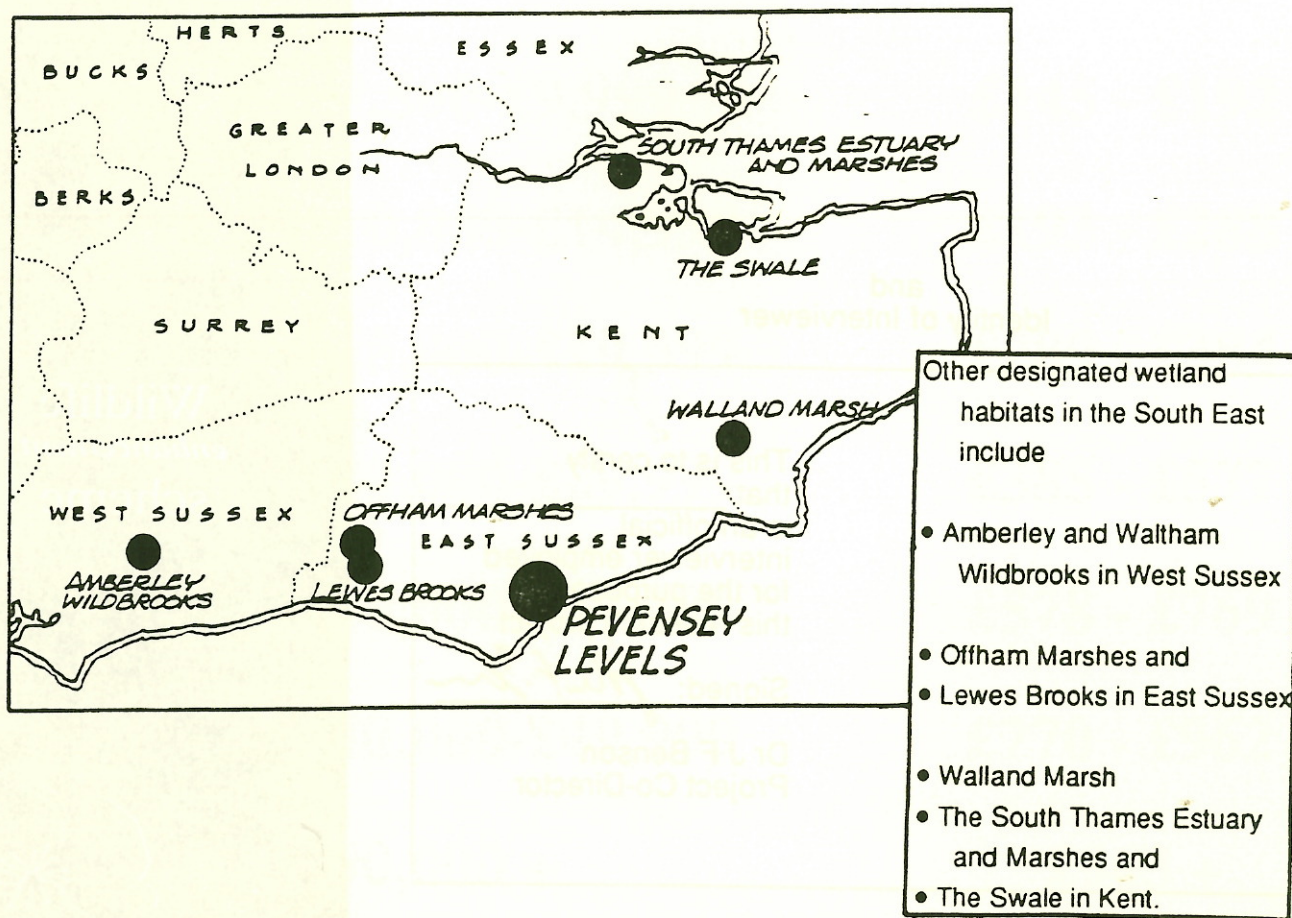
Wildlife
enhancement
scheme



Wetland Habitats in South East England

The Pevensey Levels is one of more than 3,700 Sites of Special Scientific Interest throughout England, covering semi-natural habitats which include:

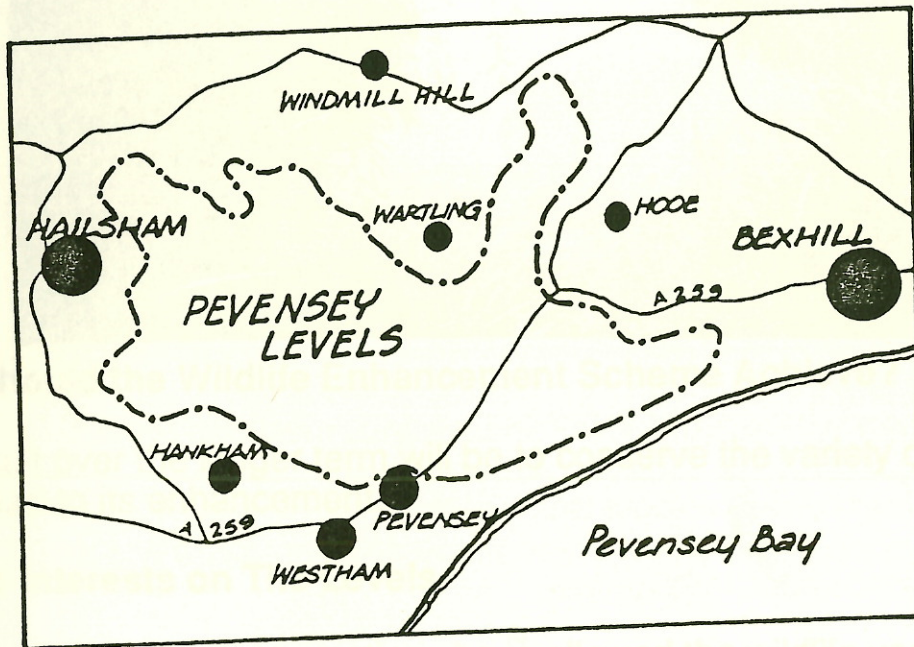
- coasts, cliffs and beaches
- woodlands
- meadows, fields and heaths
- rivers, lakes and ponds
- wetlands (fens, bogs, marshes)



During the last 50 years nearly three quarters of lowland wet grasslands and similar habitats have disappeared in the South East, due to agricultural intensification, development and other changes.

An Introduction to The Project

- The Pevensey Levels have been designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) by English Nature, the official Government advisory body for nature conservation in England.
- This map shows the area of the Pevensey Levels. The Levels cover nearly 9,000 acres (about 14 square miles) of wet grassland and marshland between Eastbourne and Bexhill.



- English Nature is running a pilot Wildlife Enhancement Scheme on the Levels, and is paying farmers and landowners to manage the Levels to help conserve and enhance the wildlife.
- As part of a review of the pilot project, English Nature would like your views on how much you value wildlife conservation generally and on the Levels in particular.
- Your views will be treated as confidential and no personal details will be revealed to anyone else, unless you agree to take part in a second stage of the project which the interviewer will describe. Unless you give your consent, neither your name nor your address will be added to the questionnaire.

The Future *With* the Wildlife Enhancement Scheme?

The main objectives of the scheme are to encourage farmers and landowners to farm the land in a traditional and sensitive way which safeguards the wildlife. This photograph shows a well-maintained ditch which is rich in wildlife.



What should the Wildlife Enhancement Scheme Achieve?

The result over the longer term will be to conserve the variety of wildlife and could lead to its enhancement.

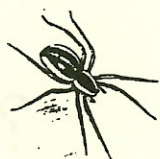
Wildlife Interests on The Levels

Traditional management practices have allowed the wildlife variety to flourish: this is just a summary of the many rare or uncommon species found on The Levels:

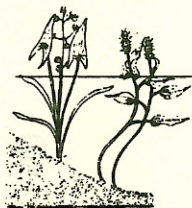


Dragonflies

eg Hairy Dragonfly



Fen raft spider



Flowering plants

eg Arrow Head
Water Soldier
Marshmallow



Water Snails

eg Ramshorn Snail



Water Beetles

eg Great Silver
Water Beetle



Song Birds

eg Yellow Wagtail
Sedge Warbler
Reed Warbler



Wading Birds

eg Lapwing
Golden Plover
Snipe



Birds of Prey

eg Hen Harrier
Peregrine Falcon
Short-eared Owl

The Future *Without* the Wildlife Enhancement Scheme?

Agricultural drainage, re-seeding, reclamation, lack of ditch management and intensification all contribute to a slow but steady process which reduces the wildlife of the Levels. This photograph shows an unmanaged ditch which is poor in wildlife



What will happen without the Wildlife Enhancement Scheme?

If recent trends continued, without management for conservation, the wildlife variety of the Levels would change and some species could become much less common or disappear altogether.

Wildlife Interests on The Levels

?	?	?	?
Dragonflies	Fen raft spider	Flowering plants	Water Snails
?	?	?	?
Water Beetles	Song Birds	Wading Birds	Birds of Prey