

Biodiversity Working Group

JCAB Update

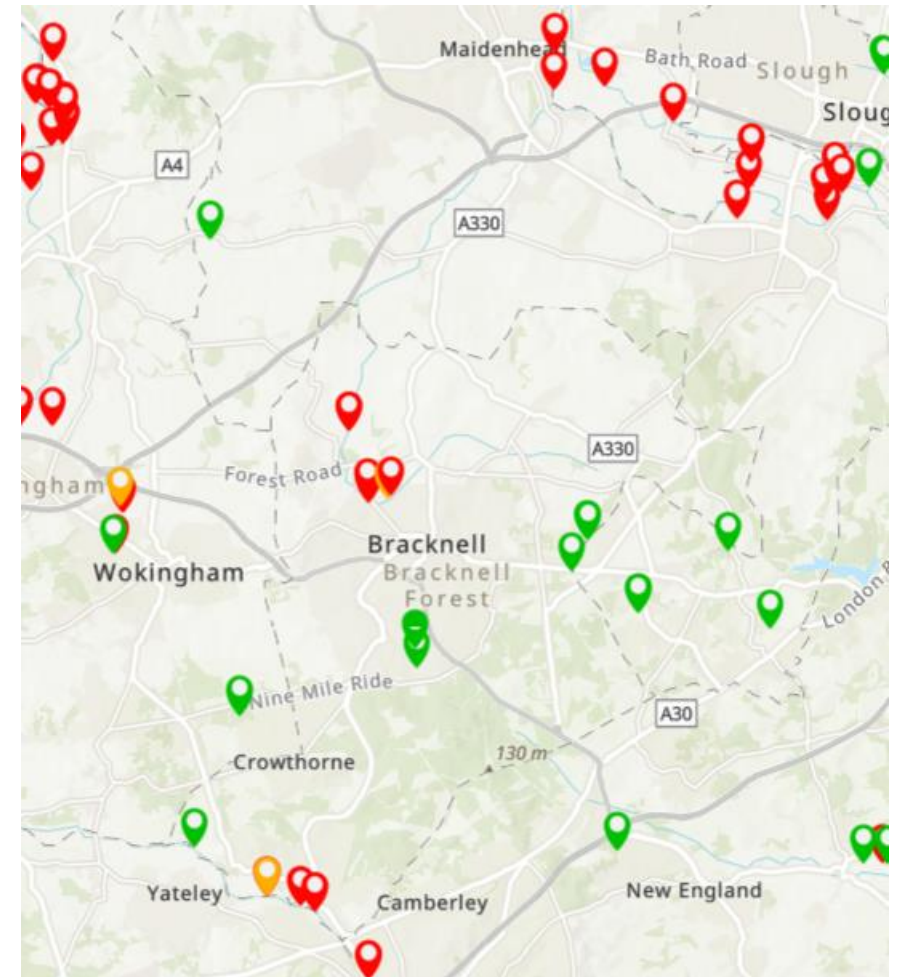
1st November 2024

Crown Estate

- Ponds and Wetlands - Climate adaptation and habitat improvement/restoration
 - Swinley Park- 2 seasonal woodland ponds restored
 - Buttersteep Forest – 7 new ponds created with associated wetlands.
 - Swinley Forest – Mill Pond leaking dam was repaired and water level raised, Mill Ride – a series of new ponds/wetland habitat has been created along an overgrown drainage ditch and water level raised in ponds and mire.
 - Crowthorne Woods – pond maintenance by removal of encroaching conifers
 - Crowthorne, Swinley and Buttersteep– installing numerous leaky dams for natural flood management/wetland restoration objectives

Water Quality Surveillance

- Wild Bracknell/BFNHS Partnership
 - Achieved a grant to fund test equipment
 - Team of 12 volunteers
- Datasets
 - Environment Agency
 - Freshwater Watch Waterblitz
 - Waterbody Surveillance Programme (WaSP)
- Determinands
 - Phosphate
 - Nitrate
 - Nitrite*
 - Ammonia* (* = EA and WaSP only)



Bracknell Forest Natural History Society

- Planted native trees and shrubs as understory replacements at Nightingale Triangle woodland
- Achieved a grant to enable purchase of river water measurement/analysis equipment and materials for the ongoing programme of water monitoring

Warfield Environment Group

- Extended its 3 managed-for-wildlife verges to the full length of eastern side of Harvest Ride between Whitegrove and Sheppee roundabouts (approx. 800m).

Biodiversity Survey Sub-Group

- Created to meet goal 2 of the Biodiversity Working Group:
 - *To monitor biodiversity and ecology over time to measure the effects of climate change and our interventions*
- Recommendations:
 - *To get more people involved in surveying by promoting citizen science projects; promoting iRecord; drafting a calendar of citizen science projects for 2025; and promoting the BFC wildlife surveying webpages*
 - *To encourage those people who want to do more to get involved in the appropriate surveying for their favourite Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) priority species*
- Current activity:
 - *Looking in more detail at the data for specific BAP priority species*

Lottery Fund Bid

- Working on proposals for:
 - Ponds
 - Tree Planting
 - Verges/green spaces – management for wildlife
 - Monitoring test equipment – Biodiversity and Environmental

- Next meeting: Wed 13th Nov 2pm to 4pm - Hybrid