



Sussex



Horsham
District
Council



**Wilder
Horsham
District**

The Wilder Horsham District Project

Organisation - Landscape - Community

Helen Peacock and Richard Black

One in four species are at risk of extinction

Species assessed by the IUCN Red List



Amphibians

40%



Conifers

34%



Reef corals

33%



Sharks and rays

31%



Selected crustaceans*

27%



Mammals

25%



Birds

14%

*Assessed species include lobsters, freshwater crabs, freshwater crayfishes and freshwater shrimps

Source: IUCN Red List of Threatened Species



Biodiversity loss risks 'ecological meltdown' - scientists

By Helen Briggs
BBC Environment correspondent

Biodiversity: UK is one of world's most nature-depleted countries, new data finds

Revelation that world has crashed through "safe limit for humanity" for biodiversity prompts calls to treat the climate and nature crises together

'Nature is in crisis right now': UK's biodiversity loss highlighted in 'damning' government report

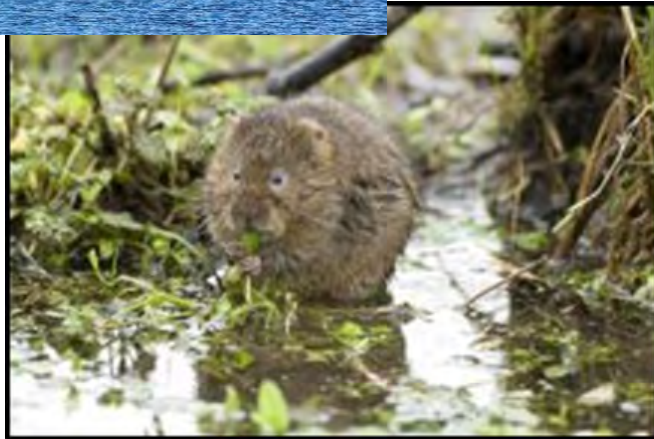
'It would be great to believe things are getting better, but they aren't,' wildlife expert says

Sussex

Wetlands - 80% damaged or destroyed



90% decline in 30 years

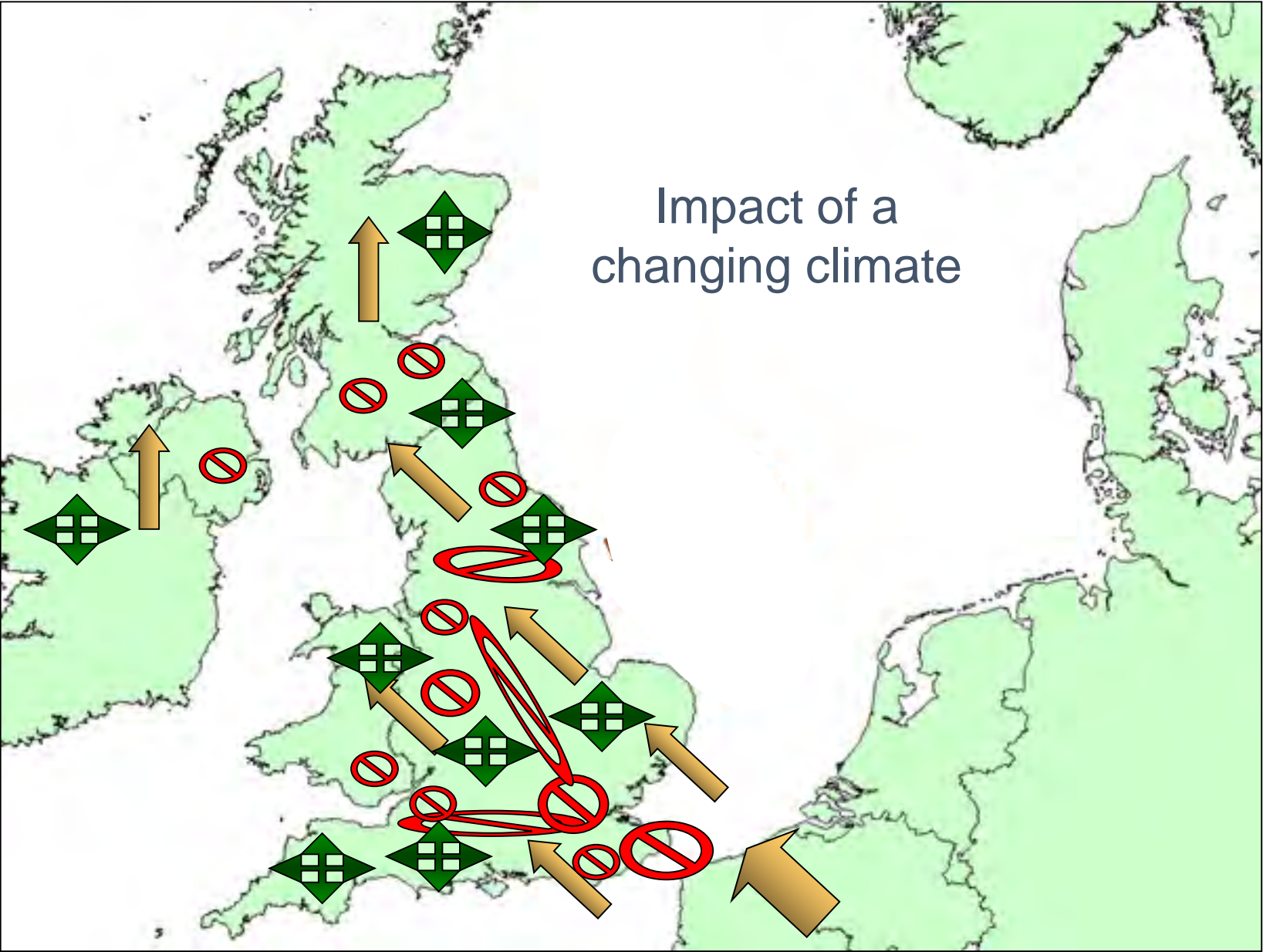


97% lost since the 1930's



Woodland – invasive species & reduced biodiversity

Impact of a changing climate



Benefits of wildlife



- Pollination
- Reduces flood risk
- Creates soil
- Captures carbon
- Provides products
- Filters pollutants from the air and water
- Health and wellbeing
- Sense of place



Why Wilder Horsham District?

- Global biodiversity crisis applies to the Horsham District
- Strengthen wildlife populations to ease the ecological crisis
- Act on 'the Lawton principles' of bigger, better, more & joined up
- Need nature to thrive and be able to move through the District



Help **wildlife thrive** across the District

Create networks of land that is protected and enhanced for wildlife, to allow habitats to expand and for species populations to increase, which will ensure that they are more resilient to change

Increase awareness of actions that communities can take to improve their local natural environment and the benefits that wildlife provides

Maximise the opportunities that protecting and enhancing wildlife brings for **climate change mitigation and adaptation**

Wilder Horsham District – Project Strands

- **Resilient Organisation**
- **Resilient Landscape**
- **Resilient Communities**

Organisational Resilience

“embed the principles of the project throughout the Council”

- **Talks/CPD for staff**
- **Seminars for Members**
- **Review appropriate strategies & policies**



Staff survey



- **To benchmark staff knowledge and interest in wildlife, the ecological crisis, nature recovery, and the Wilder Horsham District project**
- **Good response rate**
- **High levels of interest, some knowledge, many inspired/motivated to take act**
- **Less understanding of the objectives of the project and nature recovery networks**

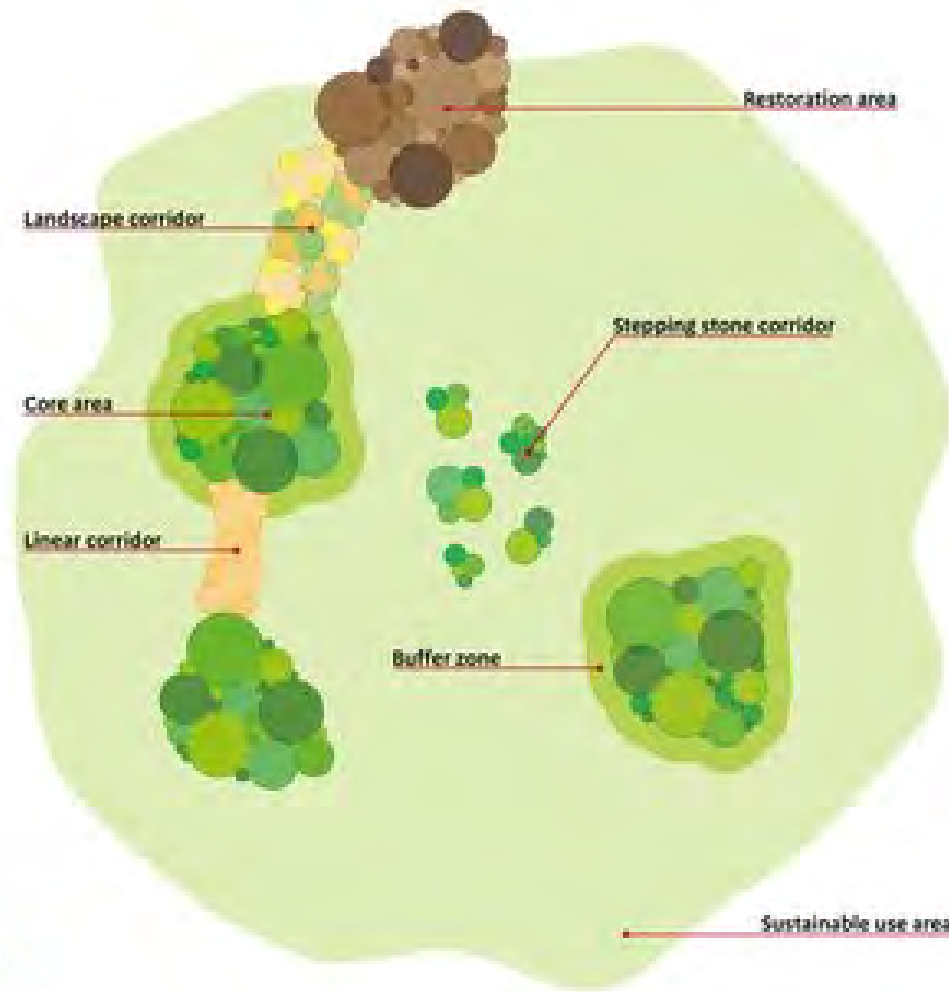
“I'm just interested to learn more!”

“We need to be very proactive in educating and empowering people to do their bit.”

Horsham District land

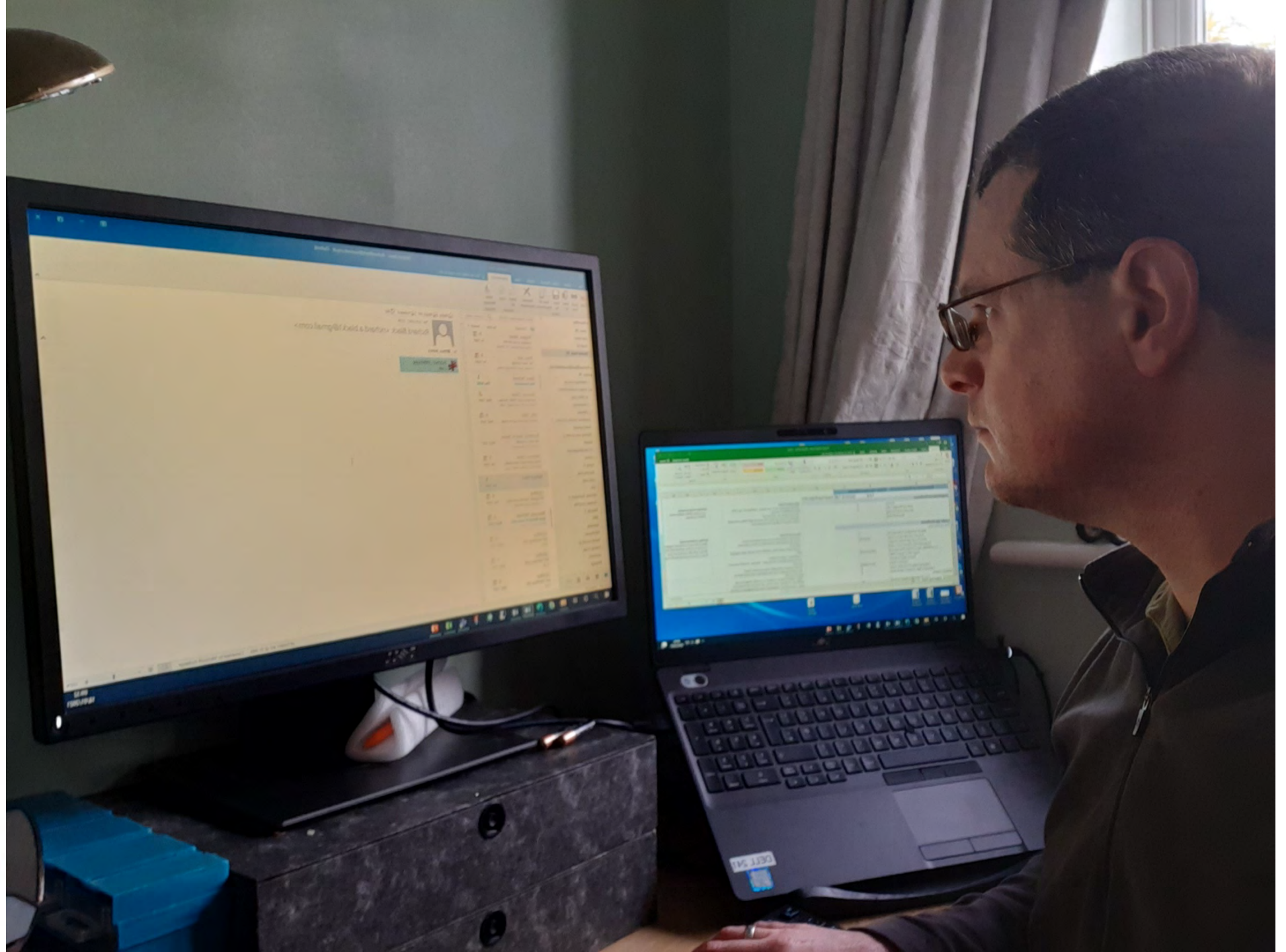


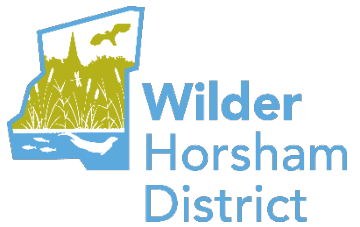
Landscape resilience



- Bigger
- Better
- More
- Joined up







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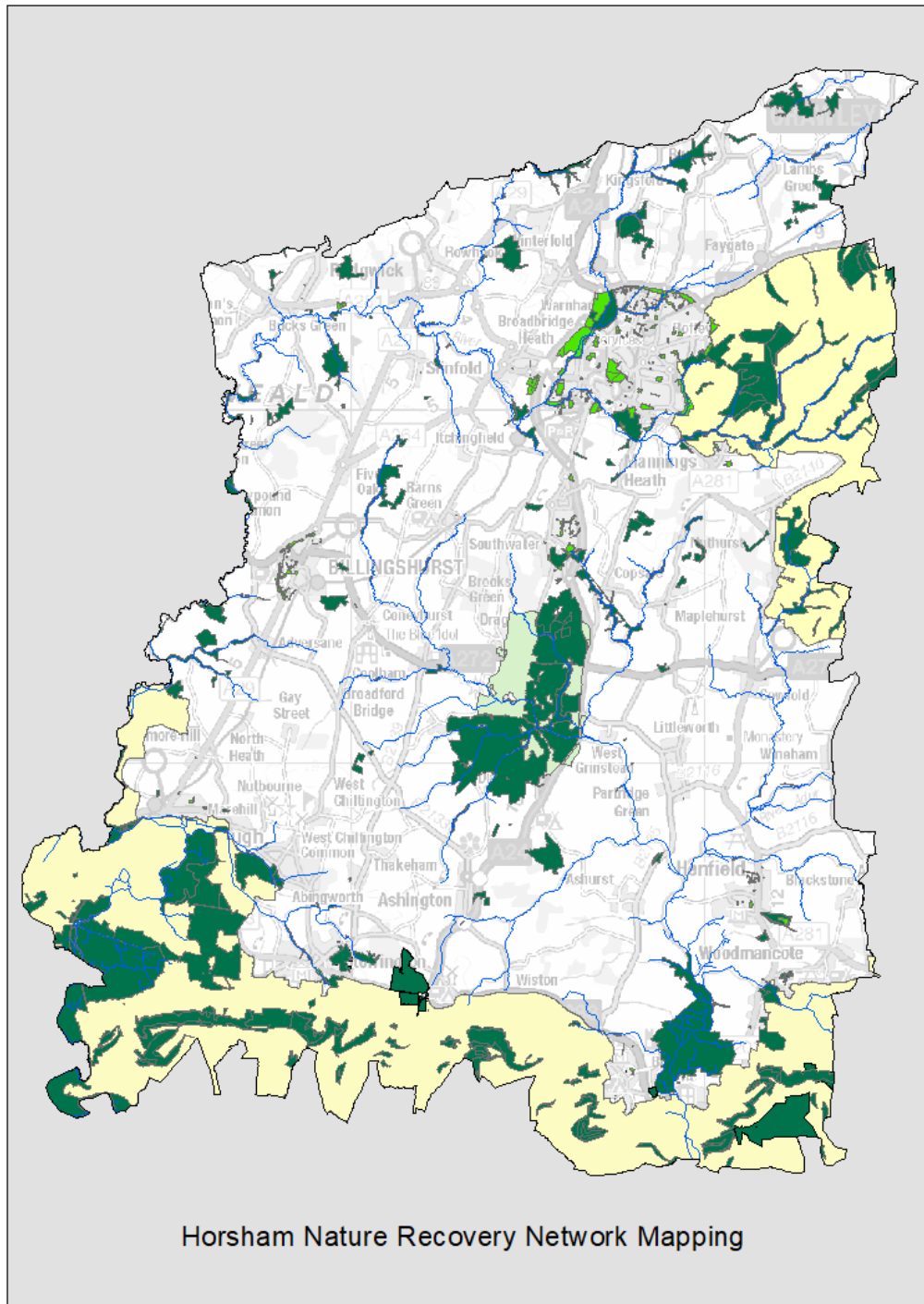




Better

Core Areas

Designated sites
Local Wildlife sites
Rare Habitats
Nature Reserves
HDC Holdings
Knepp



Horsham Nature Recovery Network Mapping

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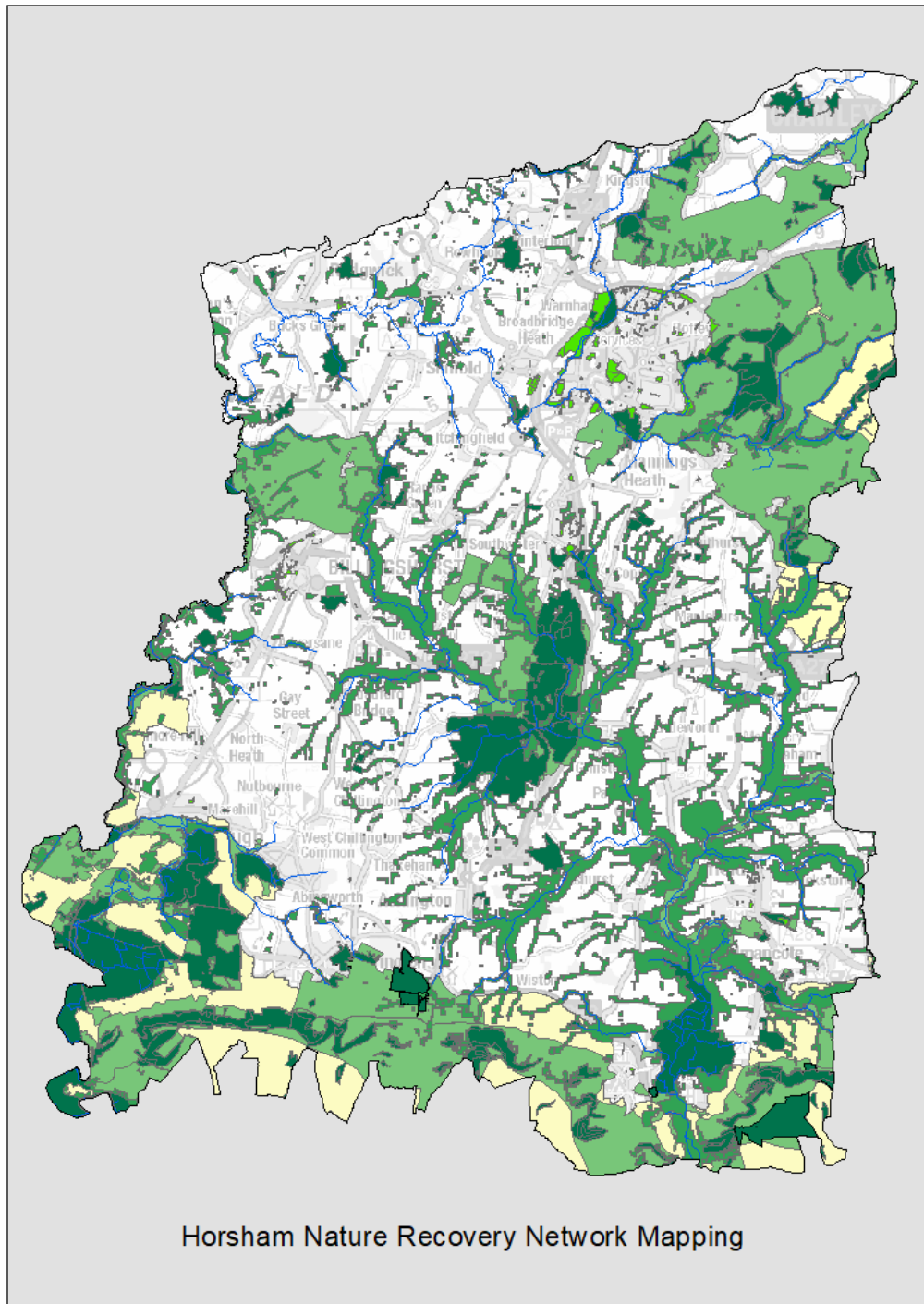


Wilder
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More

Habitat
Potential
Modelling

Biodiversity
Opportunity
Areas



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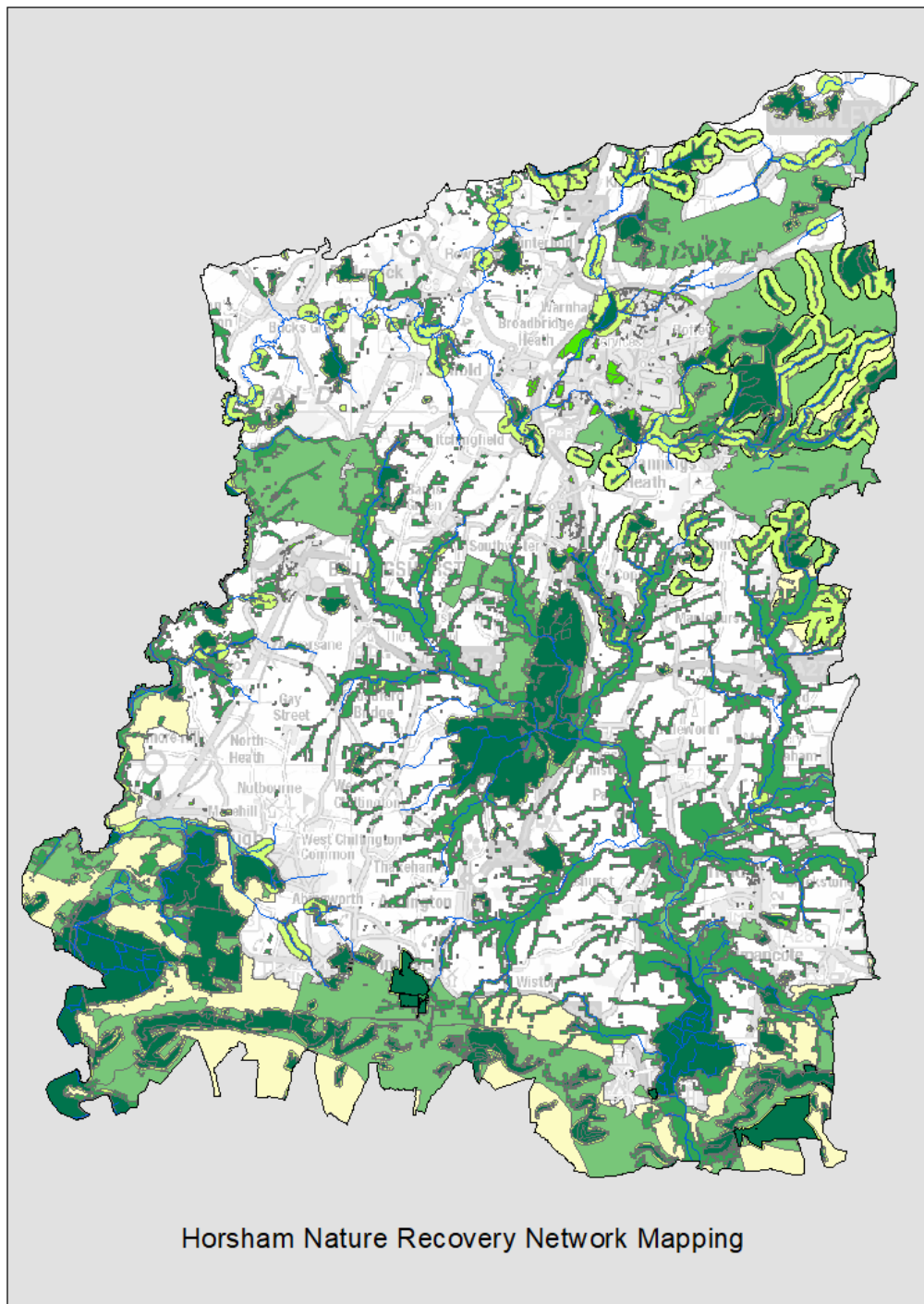


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Bigger

Buffers



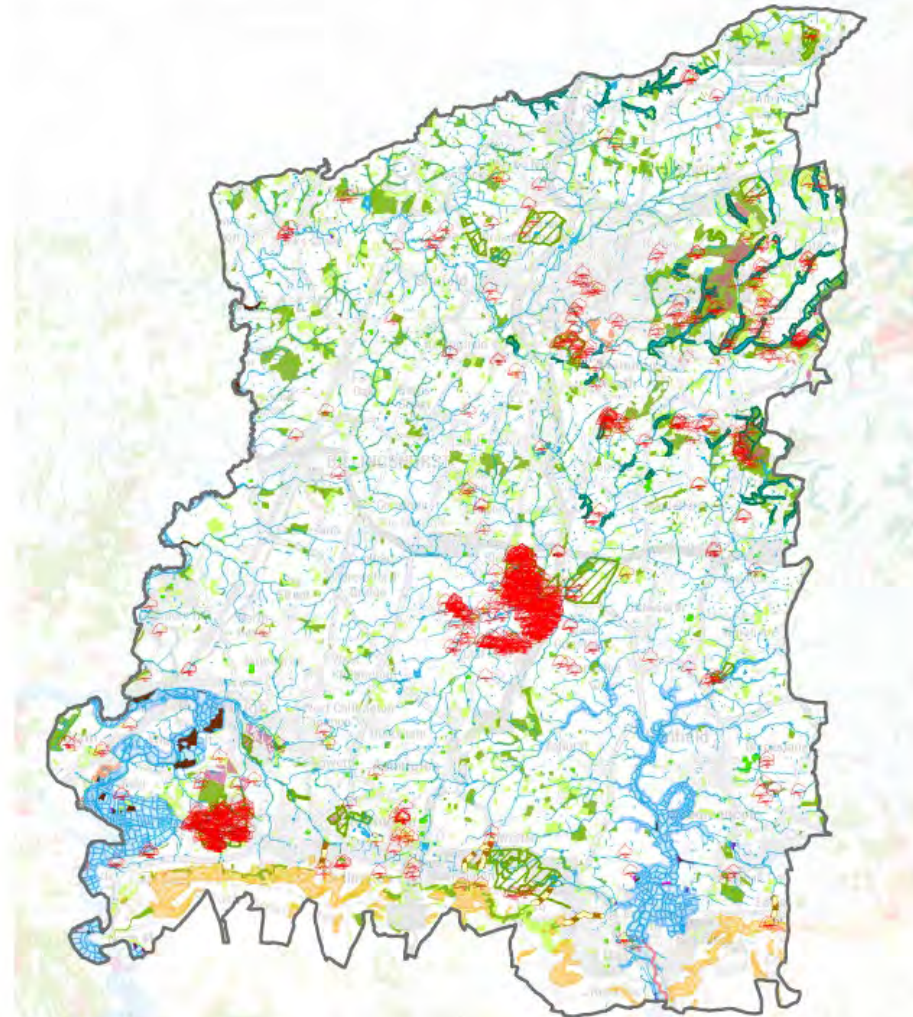
Horsham Nature Recovery Network Mapping

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Map 4: Section 41 habitats and other

Land at Horsham District

SxBRC/19/003 - 02/04/2019



Key to Map:

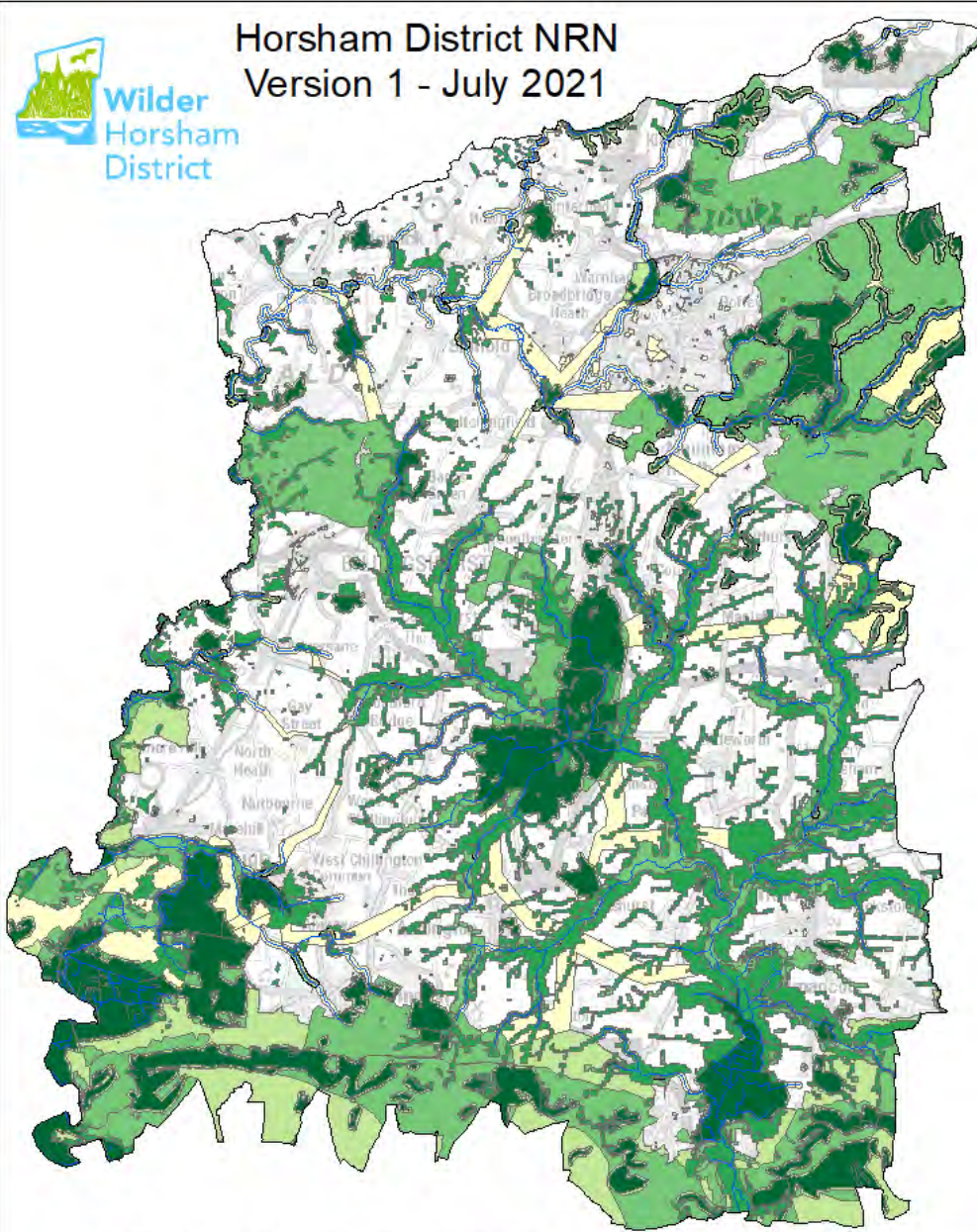
- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Ancient/veteran tree | Traditional orchard |
| Chalk stream | Lowland meadow |
| Lowland fen | Wood-pasture & parkland |
| Reedbed | Lowland heathland |
| Coastal saltmarsh | Ancient woodland |
| Intertidal mudflat | Lowland calcareous grassland |
| Open Water | Deciduous woodland |
| Ghyll woodland | Coastal & floodplain grazing marsh |

Ancient woodland, and section 41 habitat data supplied by Natural England. Contains public sector information licenced under the Open Government Licence v3.0. Additional contributors of habitat data include Sussex Wildlife Trust, South Downs Conservation Board, Environment Agency, Sussex Wetlands Landscapes Project, WSCC, RSPB, High Weald AONB Unit, Ancient Tree Hunt, and Tree Register of the British Isles.

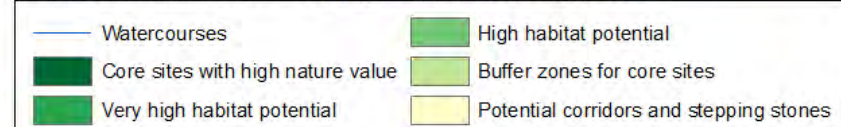
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Joined up



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The Nature Recovery Award

A fund to contribute towards practical schemes that make links and networks for wildlife through the landscape.

Applications for up to £5,000 are awarded quarterly

First round launched in late November 2020

Five projects have been awarded funding so far.

Next round opens on Monday 3rd January 2022



The Glebe Field, Thakeham



Work Party Volunteers

Survey Volunteers




Community resilience




Engage with parish/neighbourhood councils and community groups through targeted events



 **Sussex**
Wildlife Trust
Storrington & Arun Valley Regional Group


29th October
7.30pm

Pulborough Village Hall
Swan View
Pulborough
RH20 2BF



Wilder Horsham

Presented by Richard Black & Chloe Harrison



- Ticket price is £5 and includes refreshments
- You will need to prebook your place at Eventbrite here:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/182752316097>
- Covid measures will be in place
- Please email for further information about our group.

swtstorringtonregion@gmail.com



Establish a collaborative network of community groups who are all engaged with reversing the decline of wildlife and increasing access to the natural environment

HORSHAM DISTRICT MAP



Celebrate the outcomes of the Wilder Horsham District programme

Home > What we do > Community Projects > Wilder Horsham District



Wilder Horsham District

Barn owl © Peter Brooks

In this section

- About us
- Environmental Education
- Current Issues
- Community Projects

Wilder Horsham District

Wilder Horsham District is an innovative five-year partnership with Horsham District Council working to deliver a Nature Recovery Network for Horsham District.



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wilderhorshamdistrict [Edit Profile](#)

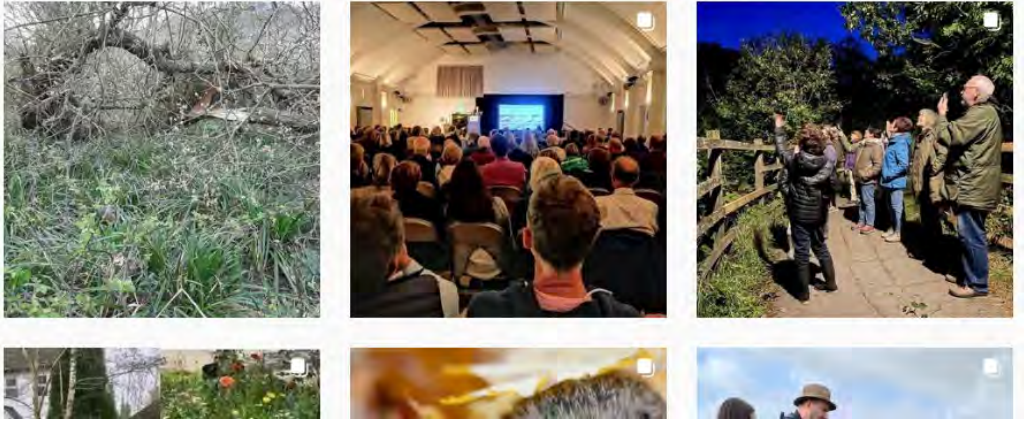
20 posts 133 followers 21 following

Wilder Horsham District
Wilder Horsham District is a five-year partnership with Horsham District Council working to deliver a Nature Recovery Network for Horsham District 🐛
linktr.ee/wilderhorshamdistrict



Funding Communit... Advice Volunteers Site Visits

POSTS IGTV SAVED TAGGED



Categories

- SWT News
- Wildlife Garden
- Conservation >
- Wildlife Events >
- Author >
- Nature Reserves >
- Wildlife >
- Wildlife Advice
- Environmental Education >
- Marine
- Volunteering >
- Community >
- Living Landscapes >
- Wetland
- wildlife photography
- Digital
- Support Sussex Wildlife Trust

Seal Spotting in Horsham District

11 January 2021 | Posted in Wilder Horsham District



Common Seal on the River Adur at Small Dole © Michael Blencowe

By Michael Blencowe
Senior Communities and Wildlife Officer

The launch of our Wilder Horsham District project last year inspired me to get out explore the wildlife and history of Horsham – the district where I live - in between lockdowns. On my first trip out I was surprised to find that Horsham was a lot wilder than I thought.

Share this



Recent Tweets

"Best trip ever?" For the last 8 years (pre-Covid), Sussex Wildlife Trust & Sustrans have been running 'Bike to Nature' trips within Brighton & Hove. Find out more about them here
@sustrans <https://t.co/XW7YK7g59H>
pic.twitter.com/hoG6ee6dww
- Sussex Wildlife Trust (@SussexWildlife) January 12, 2021
12 Jan 21 10:30 am

News from Rye Harbour Nature Reserve - <https://t.co/q/W9xaB4g7>
pic.twitter.com/Z8U5YMc3F4
- Sussex Wildlife Trust (@SussexWildlife) January 12, 2021
12 Jan 21 09:14 am

You just can't beat seeing
... out in the wild

Community Action for Wildlife - Sussex Wildlife Trust Team



The Delivery stage

- The first part of the project has been set-up.
- The response so far has been amazing and gives us hope that the project can help bring about nature recovery in the District.
- We just need to turn this enthusiasm into delivery for nature.
- So...how can we help you and how can you help us?
- We would like to invite you to come up with ideas for your Parish.

Pulborough

Ancient and veteran
tree survey





Broadbridge Heath

Wildflower verges

Billingshurst

Butterfly meadows



A sunset landscape with silhouettes of horses in the foreground and a dramatic, colorful sky. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds in shades of orange, pink, and blue. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange glow. In the foreground, several horses are silhouetted against the bright light of the sunset. They are standing in a field, and their forms are dark against the bright background. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

WilderHorshamDistrict@sussexwt.org.uk

<https://sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/wilderhorshamdistrict>