

Suffolk County Wildlife Site designation procedure

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1 Why are landowner details & permission required for submission of survey data to Suffolk CWS Panel for assessment against CWS criteria?

A1 The Suffolk CWS Panel cannot make use of or assess survey data collected without landowner's permission or is not recognised as being in the public domain. In line with the Data Protection Act, landowner details will not be divulged. Please note that an area of land open to the public does not imply permission to survey.

Q2 Why can't survey data be emailed to SBRC?

A2 The site survey form is currently only available in pdf format as it needs to be printed off to be signed. See SBRC website for further details. However photos related to a survey form can be uploaded to flickr and added to the [SBRC group](#).

Q3 How do I use the Suffolk CWS criteria?

A3 The Suffolk CWS Panel need to know as much as possible about a site to assess it against the Suffolk CWS criteria e.g. inclusion on information relating to neighbouring habitats, presence of BAP habitats and species on the site. The CWS Panel will make the decision as to whether a site meets the CWS criteria.

Q4 Where can I find out about protected and BAP habitats/species?

A4 For more information about Suffolk's habitats and species see SBRC's website <http://www.users.globalnet.co.uk/~sbr/>

For more information on Protected species see JNCC website:

<http://www.jncc.gov.uk/page-1743>

For further information on Suffolk's Local BAP species:

<http://www.suffolkbiodiversity.org/biodiversity-action-plans.aspx>

Q5 What do I need to include in the species summary?

A5 Relative abundance of species actually using the site is very important e.g. evidence of breeding or over-wintering/hibernating. Incidental records are of limited value to the Suffolk CWS assessment procedure.

Q6 What information should I include on the sketch map?

A6 An accurate site boundary, north orientation, a 6 figure grid reference, different habitat units and surrounding habitats are all essential information. If you wish to request a map, on which to draw a more accurate boundary please contact SBRC: Ben.Heather@suffolk.gov.uk or phone 01473 433571.

Q7 When will I know the decision of the Suffolk CWS Panel?

A7 There is no set timetable for CWS designation as it depends on several factors. Further survey information may be required or the CWS Panel may need to make a site visit which may mean waiting for the optimal survey season.

