



# G071 SINC's Data Standards

Guidance on SINC's data standards for site surveyors	
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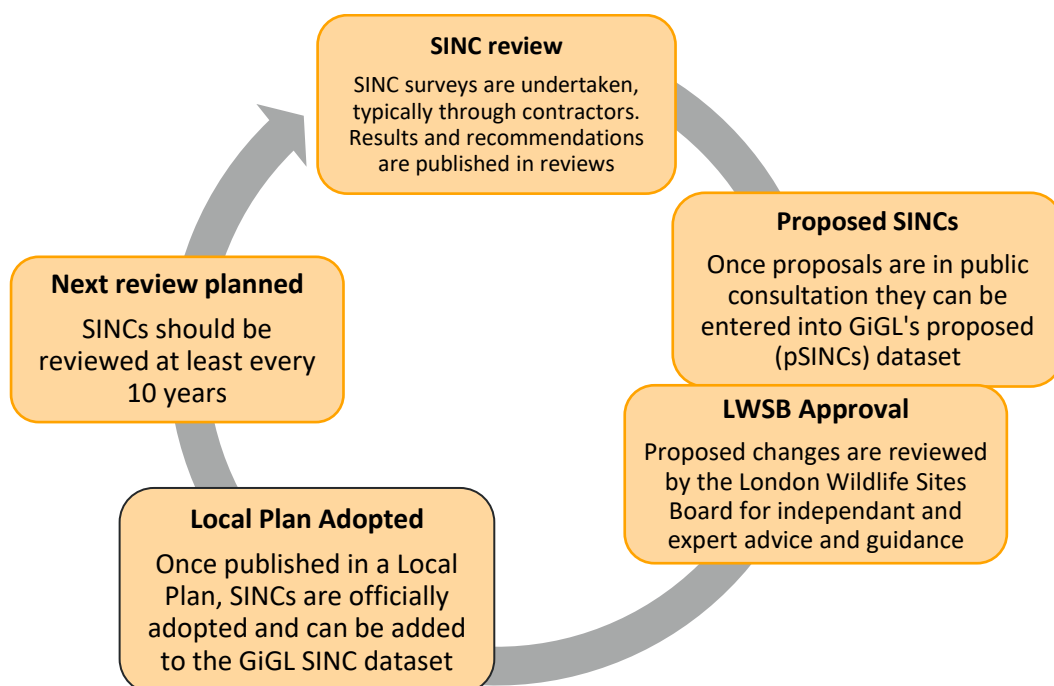


## Introduction

GiGL is the official custodian for the London wide Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) dataset on behalf of London Wildlife Sites Board (*Figure 1*). London's equivalent of Local wildlife sites, these sites are recognised for the important habitats they support.

After a survey is complete and results are adopted, with permission from data owners, GiGL will update the SINCs boundary, grade, or citation changes into the database for the London wide dataset and calculate and update any consequential changes to Area of Deficiency (AoD) in Access to Nature (areas more than 1km walking distance from accessible borough grade SINC or above). GiGL also process data for planned changes in the proposed SINC (pSINC) dataset, which includes any site that have entered public consultation but has not yet been adopted in a Local Plan.

GiGL can provide support to organisations undertaking (or commissioning consultants to conduct) SINCs reviews. This document outlines preferred data standards for integration of SINCs survey results into the London datasets.



*Figure 1. An overview of the SINC review process. Updated proposed and adopted site data should be shared with GiGL. GiGL standardise the data and update the London wide SINC datasets. These data are shared with GiGL partners and stakeholders, and used in planning, research, conservation, and decision making.*



## Recommended survey standards

Ecological expertise and local factors will dictate the most appropriate methods for a given survey. However, GiGL recommends the following data management standards or considerations in SINC survey design and outputs.

Observing these standards will help to ensure that the data you and your contractors collect meets best practice and will enable GiGL to incorporate local results into the London dataset. This will maximise the value of your investment, by ensuring the data are preserved in a format that supports efficient processing and valid analysis that will inform your current and future projects. Please notify surveyors prior to any survey of the available guidance and encourage them to follow the agreed data standards, as outlined in this document.

Please see [GiGL Site Survey Guidance](#) for ideal survey outputs for wildlife observations, habitat data and open space data. Any species data that is generated through the survey can also be shared with us to be included in the London wide species database. Specific guidelines are also available for data to be used for Area of Deficiency (AoD) modelling.

## Ideal survey outputs for London SINC data

- A spreadsheet listing all SINC within the area being surveyed with a record of what changes have been proposed. The original site reference in the London wide dataset should be used. GiGL can help to assign site references for new or upgraded/downgraded sites.
- Full boundaries as GIS polygons (TAB or shapefile) of new SINC or SINC that have been updated. These may be at proposal stage (regulation 18 or 19) or adopted. Please see [table 1a](#) for adopted SINC attributes and [table 1b](#) for proposed SINC attributes that should be followed.
- SINC citations as Word documents, one per site. Please see [Annex 2](#) for an example SINC citation and terminology, and [Annex 3](#) for a list of habitat definitions.
- Indication as to whether the site counts towards alleviating Areas of Deficiency in Access to Nature (SINC AoD). If only part of the site counts, provide a GIS boundary of that area. AoD may be affected if:
  - a new SINC has been designated,
  - a SINC has been lost,
  - a SINC is re-designated from Local to Borough level or above (or the reverse),
  - the boundary of a SINC which alleviates AoD is changed, or
  - the accessibility or quality of a site changes so that its ability to alleviate AoD is altered.



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- For sites that alleviate SINC AoD, mapped access points (e.g. gates and entry points open to the public) as a GIS points layer (TAB or shapefile) with one GIS point per access point and the site reference given in the attributes.

## Mapping and data capture – general guidance

### GIS layer output

- Use the map projection British National Grid (EPSG: 27700).
- Avoid duplicates.
- Be consistent with geometry and indicate the geometry used (e.g. Cartesian or Spherical).
- Indicate measurement units.
- When transferring data between parties or merging layers, be careful not to lose any information (such as site references).

### Boundaries

- Digitally map one site per GIS feature.
- In the case of partial surveys, please provide a full site polygon. Providing part of the polygon can lead to confusion about the existence of the rest of the site.
- Avoid overlapping polygons, for example, when site boundaries extend across rivers, wildlife corridors or other linear features that are also mapped as SINC polygons.
- If two sites share a boundary, the boundaries should not overlap and there should be no slivers or gaps between the polygons.
- Avoid other common mapping errors such as spikes, bowties, holes in polygons, slivers, label errors, and attribute rows with no map object.
- Use Ordnance Survey MasterMap as a base map for digitisation. If the site boundary follows an OS master map feature, such as a road, “snap” the boundaries to master map where applicable. All London Boroughs have access to OS MasterMap under a Public Sector Mapping Agreement and can share relevant areas with contractors for specific projects, provided that the contractors sign an appropriate End Use Licence first. There is further information about this on the OS website, and the GiGL team can provide advice and support on OS licencing and data sharing.





## Attributes

- Be consistent with the attributes, categories, and formatting (e.g. text, date formats, symbols, attribute definitions).
- Keep the site references that already exist. These consist of a borough name code, the SINC grade, and a unique number (e.g. BaBI03) and will be published in previous Local Plans. When adding a new site, use the next available reference for these sites. Do not re-use references from sites that have been de-designated or changed grade.

## Metadata

Metadata is data that describes the provided dataset. It informs what the dataset consists of, what different columns and attributes mean and what categories were used. Metadata is highly important to avoid any misinterpretation or confusion of the data content.

- Always accompany the data with metadata or with a “read me” file that explains the content and the attributes.
- Provide definitions for the attribute categories that you have used, e.g. define your accessibility descriptions, and specify which survey methodologies you are using.

## Attribute tables

See the tables below for the standard SINC and pSINC attributes.

Table 1a. Standard **adopted SINC** attributes

Field	Description	Example
SiteName	Name of the site	Oasis Children’s Nature Garden
SiteRef	Unique site code	LaB08
Grade	Grade of site designation. See <a href="#">Annex 1</a> for hierarchy of site designations	B
Borough	Borough(s) containing the site. Multiple boroughs should be delineated with a comma	Lambeth
AreaHa	Area of the site in hectares	0.21
Easting	Easting of the centre of the site	530,120
Northing	Northing of the centre of the site	176,565
Qualifier	Explains the position of the grid reference relative to the site. Grid references are given for the site centroid <sup>1</sup> for all SINC’s in the GiGL database	Centroid

<sup>1</sup>This is the MapInfo “centroid” which is technically a “representative point” rather than the mathematical centroid of the polygon: it is the centre of the minimum bounding rectangle. If this point is outside of the site then it is shifted until it is within it. If it is a multi-polygon site, only the largest polygon is used for the calculation.



Access	Site accessibility information: <i>Free public access (all/most of site), free public access (part of site), access on public footpaths only, no public access, can be viewed from adjacent paths or roads only, public access (entry fee), access at limited times, access by prior arrangement, access to residents only, restricted (other)</i>	Access at limited times
OtherRefs	Any previous/alternative codes applied by Local Planning Authorities	Formerly LaBII06, borough ref SINC08
AlleviAoD	If the site alleviates Areas of Deficiency in Access to Nature (SINC AoD): <i>Yes, no, part</i>	Yes
ReviewDt	Date when the borough last reviewed the site	01/03/2008
LWSBApp	If the designation has been approved by the London Wildlife Sites Board (LWSB)	Yes
LWSBAppDt	The most recent date when the LWSB approved the site	01/01/2010
AdoptDt	The date that the Local Plan the site is based on was published	01/09/2015
ExpRevFreq	The expected number of years between borough SINC reviews (max. 10 years from the last review)	10
ExpRevDt	When the borough is planning to review the site	01/04/2018
VerifDt	Date when the borough confirmed to GiGL the data were up-to-date	01/01/2019
ChangePend	If there are proposed changes to the site stored in the GiGL pSINC database, or if the site has been deselected in proposals ( <i>yes, no, deselected</i> )	No
LastModDt	Year the site was last edited by GiGL	24/03/2021
Licence	The licence holder of the dataset. See GiGL's Data Access policy for further details.	GiGL

Table 1b. Standard **Proposed SINC (pSINC)** attributes

Field	Description	Example
SiteName	Name of the site	Harleyford Road Community Garden
SiteRef	Unique site code. This will have a 'p' as the first character to indicate it is a proposed site	pLaB06
Grade	Grade of site designation. See <a href="#">Annex 1</a> for hierarchy of site designations	B
Borough	Borough(s) containing the site. Multiple boroughs should be delineated with a comma	Lambeth
AreaHa	Area of the site in hectares	0.23
Easting	Easting of the centre of the site	530,697
Northing	Northing of the centre of the site	177,859



Qualifier	Explains the position of the grid reference relative to the site. Grid references are given for the site centroid <sup>2</sup> for all SINCs in the GiGL database	Centroid
Access	Site accessibility information: <i>Free public access (all/most of site), free public access (part of site), access on public footpaths only, no public access, can be viewed from adjacent paths or roads only, public access (entry fee), access at limited times, access by prior arrangement, access to residents only, restricted (other)</i>	Free public access (all/most of site)
OtherRefs	Any previous/alternative codes applied by Local Planning Authorities	Formerly LaBII08, borough ref SINC06
AlleviAoD	If a site alleviates AoD: <i>Yes, No or Part</i>	No
LWSBApp	If the designation has been approved by the London Wildlife Sites Board (LWSB)	Yes
LWSBAppDt	The most recent date when the LWSB approved the site	04/10/2019
PropChange	The proposed changes to a site: <i>new site, boundary, grade, citation, boundary/grade, boundary/citation, grade/citation, boundary/grade/citation, other.</i> Citation changes include any changes to the name, description or attributes. De-designated sites will not be included, but please notify GiGL so we can archive the site from the adopted SINCs data layer on adopted of the Local Planning policy	Boundary
NotfiDt	Date when the proposed changes were first published or when GiGL was first informed about	01/07/2019
Stage	The stage at which the site is in within the planning cycle	Reg 19
SurveyType	The stage at which the site is in within the planning cycle	Partial
Surveyors	Who carried out the survey	Available from GiGL
ExptAdoption	Date when the new Local Plan is likely to be published	01/01/2022
LastModDt	Year the site was last edited by GiGL	19/03/2021
Licence	The licence holder of this dataset. See GiGL's Data Access policy for further details.	GiGL

<sup>2</sup>This is the MapInfo "centroid" which is technically a "representative point" rather than the mathematical centroid of the polygon: it is the centre of the minimum bounding rectangle. If this point is outside of the site then it is shifted until it is within it. If it is a multi-polygon site, only the largest polygon is used for the calculation.





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## Annex 1: Hierarchy of SINCs designations

The London Wildlife Sites Board, chaired by the Greater London Authority, provides a suggested method for local authorities to follow when designating SINCs. Further information can be found on the GLA website [here](#).

The following summary of the three designation tiers of SINC sites is adapted from the above webpage:

1. The top tier, Sites of Metropolitan Importance, includes the best sites in London. They include nationally important wildlife sites such as Richmond Park, Epping Forest and Rainham Marshes, and places such as Sydenham Hill Woods, Eastbrookend Country Park and Hounslow Heath where Londoners can discover natural environment that belie their urban setting.
2. The second tier comprises Sites of Borough Importance (Grade I and II). They include woodlands, rivers, grasslands and some of the more mature parks which have ancient trees, meadows and parks where nature conservation is a primary objective of land management. *Local Planning Authorities can use Borough grades BI and BII, with BI being higher quality, or use a combined borough 'B' grade.*
3. The third tier comprises Sites of Local Importance, which provide people with access to nature close to home. They are those parks and green spaces where there is some intrinsic nature conservation value.





## Annex 2: Example SINC citation

Borough Grade I

Site Reference: BaBI03  
Site Name: Monken Hadley Common  
Summary: A large wooded common with areas of acid grassland and several ponds.  
Grid ref: TQ 264 971  
Area (ha): 72.16  
Borough(s): Barnet  
Habitat(s): Acid grassland, Marsh/swamp, Pond/lake, Secondary woodland, Semi-improved neutral grassland  
Access: Free public access (all/most of site)  
Ownership: Trustees of Monken Hadley Common  
Reason for designation: In area of deficiency to access to nature; important habitat for foraging mammals; an excellent pond, important for breeding common frog.

Site Description:

This large common is the last remaining fragment of the former Enfield Chase. It is mostly wooded, with small areas of grassland, a large artificial lake and two ponds.

The woodland is dominated by pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*), with hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) and beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) locally abundant, and a few fine old field maples (*Acer campestre*). Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) forms a dense understory in places, while elsewhere a more diverse shrub layer includes Midland hawthorn (*Crataegus laevigata*), field maple, hazel (*Corylus avellana*), crab apple (*Malus sylvestris*), elm (*Ulmus sp.*) and rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*). The ground flora includes wood speedwell (*Veronica montana*), stinking iris (*Iris foetidissima*), wood sorrel (*Oxalis acetosella*), goldilocks buttercup (*Ranunculus auricomus*), dog's mercury (*Mercurialis perennis*), wood melick (*Melica uniflora*), bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) and broad buckler-fern (*Dryopteris dilatata*). Several of these are ancient woodland indicators, suggesting that fragments of the woodland have survived from before the time when the common was managed as wood-pasture. Butterflies occurring in the woodland include white-letter and purple hairstreaks. Breeding birds include sparrowhawk, tawny owl, cuckoo, stock dove, willow warbler, nuthatch and treecreeper.

Several clearings support acid grassland. The sward is dominated by red fescues (*Festuca rubra*) or wavy hair-grass (*Deschampsia flexuosa*), with a little mat-grass (*Nardus stricta*) in places, the latter rather rare in London. Typical wild flowers of acid soils can be seen, such as harebell (*Campanula rotundifolia*), sheep's sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*), mouse-ear hawkweed (*Pilosella officinarum*), tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*), heath bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*), heath groundsel (*Senecio sylvatica*) and common sedge (*Carex nigra*).

The largest of the three water bodies, known as Jack's Lake or Beech Hill Lake, is managed for angling, but contains some wetland vegetation and supports common waterfowl. It is



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used for feeding by Daubenton's bats, which forage low over the water. The two smaller ponds have a much richer flora, including broad-leaved pondweed (*Potamogeton natans*), water-starwort (*Callitriche sp.*), lesser spearwort (*Ranunculus flammula*), water forget-me-not (*Myosotis scorpioides*), common spike-rush (*Eleocharis palustris*), nodding bur-marigold (*Bidens cernua*) and branched bur-reed (*Sparganium erectum*). The ponds support large populations of amphibians, which attract grass snakes.

Site first notified:	01/01/1997	Boundary last changed:	01/01/1997
Citation last edited:	28/11/2005	LWSB Agreed:	Unknown
Defunct:	N		
Last Updated:	05/04/2006		

## Citation terminology

**Borough grade:** Grade of site designation. See [Annex 1](#) for hierarchy of site designations.

**Site Reference:** Unique site code. These consist of a borough name code, the SINC grade, and a unique number.

**Site Name:** Name of the site.

**Summary:** A short summary not more than 2-3 sentences and based on the description text.

**Grid ref:** The grid reference of the centre of the site.

**Area (ha):** Area of the site in hectares.

**Borough(s):** Borough(s) containing the site. Multiple boroughs should be delineated with a comma.

**Habitat(s):** A list of habitats found within the site. See [Annex 3](#) for habitat descriptions.

**Access:** Site accessibility information: Free public access (all/most of site), free public access (part of site), access on public footpaths only, no public access, can be viewed from adjacent paths or roads only, public access (entry fee), access at limited times, access by prior arrangement, access to residents only, restricted (other).

**Ownership:** A list of site owners.

**Reason for designation:** The main reason for a site designation (e.g. for a specific habitat, species, or aggregate).

**Description:** Text describing the main characteristics of the site and its importance, significant species/habitat present, history, access, current uses, potential threats and other relevant details. Avoid identifying specific people or contact details.

**Site first notified:** Date when the local authority first designated the site as a SINC (dd/mm/yyyy)

**Citation last edited:** Date when the citation was last edited by the local authority (dd/mm/yyyy)

**Defunct:** Indicates if the site is an ex-SINC (Y/N)

**Boundary last changed:** Date when the site boundary was last modified by the local authority (dd/mm/yyyy)

**LWSB Agreed:** Indicates if the designation has been approved by the London Wildlife Sites Board (Yes/No/Partly reviewed/Unknown).

**Last Updated:** Date when the record was last edited by GiGL (dd/mm/yyyy)



## Annex 3: Habitat types

The habitat list in the GiGL SINC database is based on the London wide Open Space survey, with definitions given here.

Code	Name	Definition
01/02/03	Woodland	Stands of trees forming at least 75% cover, including coppice and trees of shrub size, but excluding fen carr (19). Includes stands of willow except <i>Salix cinerea</i> , <i>caprea</i> and <i>viminalis</i> , but excludes hawthorn, hazel (except hazel coppice with standards), elder, juniper and the three willow species listed above, which are always scrub (06) regardless of height. Where the species composition does not fulfil any of 01, 02 or 03 below, code as a mixture.
01	Native broadleaved woodland	Woodland (see above) with native broadleaved species (i.e. excluding sycamore and sweet chestnut) comprising at least 75% of the canopy.
02	Non-native broadleaved woodland	Woodland (see above) with non-native broadleaved species (including sycamore and sweet chestnut) comprising 75% of the canopy.
03	Coniferous woodland	Woodland (see above) with coniferous species (including yew) comprising 75% of the canopy.
37	Scattered trees	Trees forming less than 75% canopy cover over another habitat (excluding coppice with standards, which is coded as woodland).
05	Recently felled woodland	Does not include coppice, which is coded as woodland.
06	Scrub	Dominated (at least 75% cover) by shrubs (usually less than 5 metres tall), excluding fen carr (19), heathland (15), young woodland, coppice, hedges (25, 34) and planted shrubberies (38). Includes stands of hawthorn, hazel (except coppice with standards), elder and <i>Salix cinerea</i> , <i>caprea</i> and <i>viminalis</i> regardless of height.
38	Planted shrubbery	Dominated (at least 75% cover) by shrubs, usually non-native species, the majority of which have clearly been planted. Excludes hedges (25, 34).
25	Native hedge	Line of shrubs, with or without treeline, one or two mature shrubs wide (wider belts should be coded as scrub or woodland), with native species comprising at least 75% of the shrubs.
34	Non-native hedge	As above but with non-native species comprising at least 75% of the shrubs. If neither 25 nor 34 apply, code as a mixture.
31	Orchard	Planted fruit or nut trees forming at least 50% canopy cover.
36	Vegetated walls,	Includes ruins, fences and other artificial structures with an appreciable amount of vegetation (including mosses and lichens) but



	tombstones. etc	excluding artificial water margins, which should be coded as wet marginal vegetation (18) if vegetated.
26	Bare soil and rock	Includes active quarries, fresh road workings, spoil or tipping and earth banks of water habitats, where these are minimally vegetated. Excludes arable land (28).
27	Bare artificial habitat	Includes tarmac, concrete, railway ballast, gravel paths, buildings and artificial margins to aquatic habitats, where these are minimally vegetated.
08	Acid grassland	Un- or semi-improved grassland on acidic soils, with less than 25% cover of heather or dwarf gorse. Excludes reedswamp (17). Usually with one or more of <i>Deschampsia flexuosa</i> , <i>Molinia caerulea</i> , <i>Nardus stricta</i> , <i>Juncus squarrosus</i> , <i>Galium saxatile</i> , <i>Potentilla erecta</i> or <i>Rumex acetosella</i> in abundance.
09	Neutral grassland (semi-improved)	Mesotrophic grassland usually with one or more of <i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i> , <i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i> , <i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> , <i>Cynosurus cristatus</i> , <i>Dactylis glomerata</i> , <i>Festuca arundinacea</i> or <i>F.pratensis</i> . Contains more than just <i>Lolium perenne</i> , <i>Trifolium repens</i> , <i>Rumex acetosa</i> , <i>Taraxacum</i> , <i>Bellis perennis</i> and <i>Ranunculus</i> species (see 07 and 11), but lacks the characteristic forbs of 35. Excludes reedswamp (17).
35	Neutral grassland (herb-rich)	Mesotrophic grassland with more forbs typical of old grassland than 09. Likely to contain one or more of <i>Primula veris</i> , <i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i> , <i>Achillea ptarmica</i> , <i>Silaum silaus</i> , <i>Succisa pratensis</i> , <i>Stachys officinalis</i> , <i>Serratula tinctoria</i> , <i>Ophioglossum</i> , <i>Gensita tinctoria</i> , <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i> or <i>Caltha palustris</i> , or an abundance of <i>Carex ovalis</i> , <i>Pimpinella saxifraga</i> , <i>Conopodium majus</i> , <i>Cardamine pratensis</i> , <i>Knautia</i> or <i>Filipendula ulmaria</i> .
10	Basic grassland	Un- or semi-improved grassland containing calcicoles. Usually with some of <i>Brachypodium pinnatum</i> , <i>Bromopsis erecta</i> , <i>Helictotrichon pratense</i> , <i>Thymus polytrichus</i> , <i>Sanguisorba minor</i> , <i>Centaurea scabiosa</i> or <i>Origanum vulgare</i> in some abundance.
11	Improved or re-seeded agricultural grassland	Species-poor mesotrophic grassland containing little but <i>Lolium perenne</i> , <i>Trifolium repens</i> , <i>Agrostis</i> species, <i>Bellis perennis</i> , <i>Taraxacum</i> and <i>Ranunculus</i> species. Distinguished from 07 by its agricultural use and hence usually less frequent mowing.
07	Amenity grassland	Usually frequently mown, species-poor mesotrophic grassland characteristic of parks and sports pitches, containing similar species to 11. Scattered trees and shrubberies in parks should be coded separately.
12	Ruderal or ephemeral	Communities composed of pioneer species such as occur in early succession of heavily modified substrates. Typical species include <i>Senecio squalidus</i> , <i>S.vulgaris</i> , <i>Sinapis arvensis</i> , <i>Poa annua</i> , <i>Hirschfeldia incana</i> and species of <i>Polygonum</i> , <i>Persicaria</i> , <i>Melilotus</i> ,



		<i>Atriplex, Chenopodium, Medicago, Vulpia, Picris, Lactuca, Diplotaxis, Conyza</i> and <i>Reseda</i> .
13	Bracken	Stands where bracken is dominant. Also used with other habitat codes to indicate scattered bracken.
14	Tall herbs	Stands of tall non-grass herbaceous species, often rhizomatous perennials, such as <i>Fallopia japonica, Conium maculatum, Chamerion angustifolium, Anthriscus sylvestris, Urtica dioica, Epilobium hirsutum, Solidago canadensis</i> and species of <i>Aster</i> and <i>Heracleum</i> . Excludes herbaceous fen vegetation 32).
33	Roughland	An intimate mix of semi-improved neutral grassland (09), tall herbs (14) and scrub (06). If these occur in large enough patches they should be coded separately. Usually the next successional stage after 12.
15	Heathland	Dwarf-shrub cover greater than 25% of species such as heathers and <i>Ulex minor</i> , with less than 50% cover of <i>Sphagnum</i> . May include a large amount of acid grassland (06) in a close mosaic, but code as a mixture if grassland areas are large.
39	Allotments (active)	Communal allotment gardens which are under cultivation. Code disused plots under other habitats as appropriate.
28	Arable	Cropland, horticultural land (excluding allotments), freshly ploughed land and livestock paddocks stocked so heavily as to have little vegetation.
16	Bog	Dominated by <i>Sphagnum</i> mosses (greater than 50% cover) with water table at or just below the surface.
17	Reedswamp	Stands of <i>Phragmites australis</i> with at least 75% cover of reeds. Includes dry and tidal stands.
40	Typha, etc swamp	Stands of <i>Glyceria maxima, Typha</i> species or <i>Phalaris arundinacea</i> where these species form at least 75% cover.
18	Wet marginal vegetation	Emergent vegetation with a permanently high water table in strips less than five metres wide on the margins of water bodies. Contains species such as <i>Iris pseudacorus, Apium nodiflorum, Acorus calamus</i> and species of <i>Rorippa, Alisma</i> and <i>Juncus</i> . May include <i>Phragmites, Typha</i> and <i>Glyceria maxima</i> , but where these form single-species stands code as 17 or 40 respectively.
19	Fen carr	Woodland or scrub over herbaceous vegetation with the water table above ground for most of the year.
20	Standing water (includes canals)	Lakes, reservoirs, pools, wet gravel pits, ponds, canals, docks and brackish lagoons beyond the limit of swamp or wet marginal vegetation. Always code vegetated margins separately and note trophic status and whether saline or tidal.
21	Ditches (water filled)	Distinguished from 20 and 22 by their (often agricultural) drainage role. Always code vegetated margins separately and note trophic status and whether saline or tidal.



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22	Running water	Rivers and streams. Always code vegetated margins separately and note trophic status and whether saline or tidal.
23	Intertidal mud, sand, shingle, etc	Intertidal areas without significant vegetation of higher plants. Try to record the extent at low tide.
24	Saltmarsh	Intertidal areas appreciably vegetated with higher plants, excluding reedswamp (17).
30	Habitat information not available	Areas which cannot be observed due to restricted access, etc.
29	Other	To be avoided if possible. Must be specified if used.
32	Species-rich herbaceous fen	Stands of herbaceous vegetation where the water table is above ground for most of the year, with less than 75% dominance of <i>Phragmites</i> , <i>Typha</i> , <i>Glyceria</i> and <i>Phalaris arundinacea</i> . Distinguished by width from 18.

