

# ABBROOK POND

## 2017-2026: Possible Priority Site of Local Importance

### CURRENT STATUS UNCERTAIN

A small, tree-fringed, old Bovey Basin clay pit pond near Kingsteignton, used for angling. Formerly held breeding Red-eyed Damselfly (possibly still breeding) and occasional Hairy Dragonfly and Downy Emerald.

Last updated: 28/03/2025

Site: ABBROOK POND	1987-1996			1997-2006			2007-2016			2017-2026		
Grid ref.: SX863744	Breeding		Other	Breeding		Other	Breeding		Other	Breeding		Other
	Succ	Poss		Succ	Poss		Succ	Poss		Succ	Poss	
<b><u>Damselflies</u></b>												
Beautiful Demoiselle			B			A						
Banded Demoiselle												
Emerald Damselfly												
<b>White-legged Damselfly</b>												
Large Red Damselfly	A		A		B	B						
Blue-tailed Damselfly	B		C			B						C
<b>Scarce Blue-t Damselfly</b>												
Common Blue Damselfly	B	C	D	A		B	B		C			D
<b>Southern Damselfly</b>												
Azure Damselfly			D		A	C						
<b>Red-eyed Damselfly</b>	A	B	D									B
Small Red-eyed Damselfly										C	A	D
<b>Small Red Damselfly</b>												
<b><u>Dragonflies</u></b>												
<b>Hairy Dragonfly</b>			A									
Common Hawker												
<b>Norfolk Hawker</b>												
Brown Hawker												
Southern Hawker						A						
Migrant Hawker						B						
Emperor Dragonfly	B		B									B
Lesser Emperor												
Vagrant Emperor												
Golden-ringed Dragonfly			A									
<b>Downy Emerald</b>			B									
Broad-bodied Chaser			A									
<b>Scarce Chaser</b>												
Four-spotted Chaser						A						
Keeled Skimmer												
Black-tailed Skimmer												
Common Darter			B									
Red-veined Darter												
<b>Ruddy Darter</b>												
Black Darter												
Yellow-winged Darter												
Scarlet Darter												
<b>Total species in category:</b>	5	2	12	1	2	8	1	0	1	1	1	5

**Bold underlined** = nationally important species    **Bold black** = important species

Succ = Successful breeding (exuvia(e) and/or larva(e) and/or pre-flight emergent and/or oviposition);

Poss = Possible breeding (copulating pair); Other = Adult(s) or unspecified.

Abundance codes: A=1; B=2-5; C=6-20; D=21-100; E=100-500; F=>500; + = no count.

### **Priority Species History**

**Red-eyed Damselfly** – C adults in 1990, >25 adults on 22/5/92, including copulating pairs and one pair ovipositing. In 1995, 12 adults, with one pair ovipositing. Only 4 males seen on 22/7/18 and none on 19/7/24 (but lack of public access, so viewing from road through trees).

**Hairy Dragonfly** – recorded in 1982 and on 1994.

**Downy Emerald** – recorded in 1982; three territorial males in 1992.

### **Habitat (from 1995 survey)**

Pond set amongst broad-leaved woodland. Banks nearly 100% fringed by mature trees, most overhanging. Occasional anglers' 'swims' provide patches of bare ground, around which the very few emergents (*Iris pseudacorus* and *Juncus effusus*) occur. There are two large patches of *Nymphaea alba*; large areas of *Myriophyllum*, *Ceratophyllum* and algae provide submerged and additional floating vegetation. Large carp present. Water cloudy on 23/5/95, but fairly clear by 12/7/95. Detritus and dead leaves on shallowly shelving banks. pH: 8.0 (22/5/92); 8.4 (20/7/95). Conductivity: 370  $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$  (4/8/95). Ugbrooke Stream overshadowed by mature trees (dappled sun <5%). Gravelly base with silty patches, fast flow.

### **Status**

None.

### **Area**

1.5 ha

**Local Authority:** Teignbridge DC

### **Owner/tenant**

WBB Minerals, leased to Exeter and District Angling Association.

### **Threats**

- Overstocking with fish.
- Turbidity.

### **Management suggestions**

- Cut some clearings along pond edges, either short rotation coppice or permanent clearings, to encourage emergent plants; maintain free from trampling.



Dave Smallshire, 22/07/2018

# Abbrook Pond map from 1995 survey

