

VENN OTTERY DWT RESERVE

2017-2026: Confirmed Priority Site of National Importance

Southern Damselfly became extinct in 1990, but adults were reintroduced successfully from New Forest stock in 2007 and 2009. Also breeding Hairy Dragonfly.

Last updated: 26/03/2025

| Site: VENN OTTERY DWT RESERVE | 1987-1996 | | | 1997-2006 | | | 2007-2016 | | | 2017-2026 | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|------|-------|-----------|------|-------|-----------|------|-------|-----------|------|-------|
| Grid ref.: SY061921 | Breeding | | Other | Breeding | | Other | Breeding | | Other | Breeding | | Other |
| | Succ | Poss | | Succ | Poss | | Succ | Poss | | Succ | Poss | |
| <u>Damselflies</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Beautiful Demoiselle | | | | | | | | | | | | + |
| Banded Demoiselle | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Emerald Damselfly | | | A | | | | | | + | | A | B |
| White-legged Damselfly | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Large Red Damselfly | A | A | C | + | + | + | B | C | D | C | | C |
| Blue-tailed Damselfly | | | B | | | + | | | + | | | B |
| Scarce Blue-t Damselfly | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Common Blue Damselfly | | | A | | | | | | A | | | A |
| Southern Damselfly | | | + | | | | D | D | D | C | C | D |
| Azure Damselfly | A | | C | + | + | + | | | D | | | B |
| Red-eyed Damselfly | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Small Red-eyed Damselfly | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Small Red Damselfly | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Dragonflies</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hairy Dragonfly | | | | | | | | | | A | | A |
| Common Hawker | | | + | | | | | | | | | |
| Norfolk Hawker | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Brown Hawker | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Southern Hawker | A | | A | | | B | | | | B | | B |
| Migrant Hawker | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Emperor Dragonfly | | | A | | | B | | | B | | | B |
| Lesser Emperor | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Vagrant Emperor | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Golden-ringed Dragonfly | | | A | | | C | | | + | A | | B |
| Downy Emerald | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Broad-bodied Chaser | | | B | | | | | | B | | | B |
| Scarce Chaser | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Four-spotted Chaser | | | + | | | | | | A | | | + |
| Keeled Skimmer | B | C | D | | B | D | C | | C | B | B | D |
| Black-tailed Skimmer | | | | | | A | | | B | | | |
| Common Darter | | | + | | | B | | | | C | | C |
| Red-veined Darter | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ruddy Darter | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Black Darter | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yellow-winged Darter | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Scarlet Darter | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total species in category: | 4 | 2 | 14 | 2 | 3 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 12 | 7 | 3 | 15 |

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=101-500; F=>500; + = no count.

Priority Species History

Southern Damselfly – recorded in 1979, 1983 and up to 1990, when it became extinct. 50 translocated from New Forest in 2007 and a further 500 in 2009. Annual maxima from transect counts:

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 23 | 0 | 42 | 2 | 98 | 17 | 98 | 42 | 62 | 27 | 39 | 38 | 23 | ? | ? | 14 | | |

Small Red Damselfly – recorded in 1978 (no further details).

Hairy Dragonfly – 1 larva found on 24/7/19.

Other species of note

Common Hawker – recorded in 1979, 1983 and on 30/8/87.

Habitat

Wet lowland heath with runnels and mires.

Status

Devon Wildlife Trust Reserve; SSSI; SPA.

Area

c50 ha

Local Authority: East Devon DC

Owner/tenant

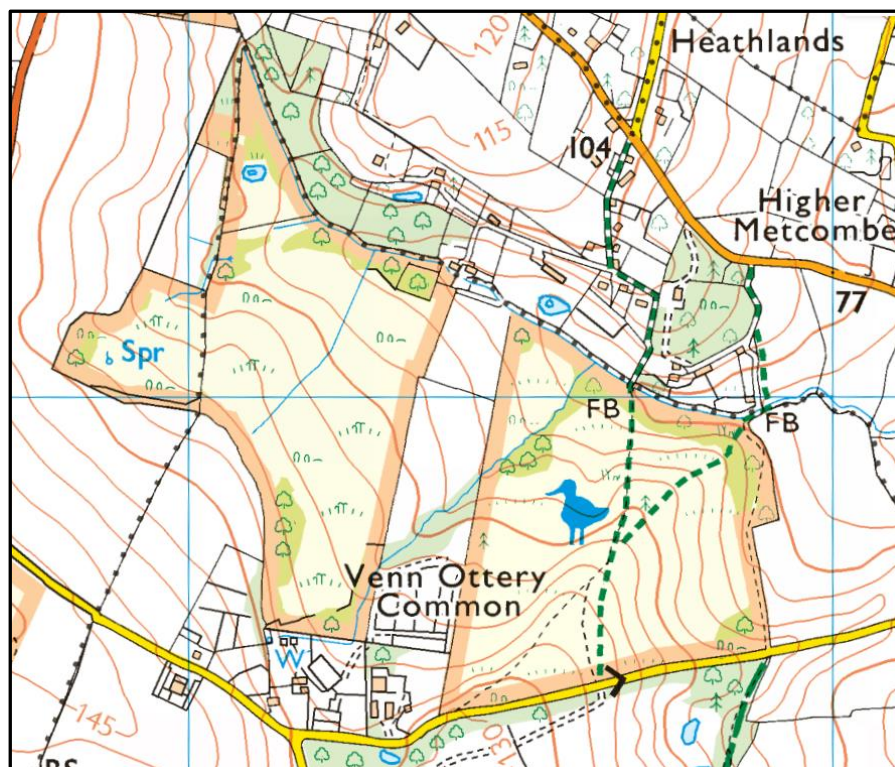
Clinton Devon Estates/DWT

Threats

- Loss of open runnels to vegetation growth.

Management suggestions

- Maintain open runnels with livestock grazing.



VENN OTTERY RESERVE.

(1995)

