

# VIXEN TOR MIRE

1997-2006: Possible Key Site

**CURRENT STATUS UNCERTAIN**

Breeding Scarce Blue-tailed Damselfly (1998 only).

Last updated: 11/04/2025

Site: VIXEN TOR MIRE	1987-1996			1997-2006			2007-2016			2017-2026		
Grid ref.: SX539742	Breeding		Other	Breeding		Other	Breeding		Other	Breeding		Other
	Succ	Poss		Succ	Poss		Succ	Poss		Succ	Poss	
<b><u>Damselflies</u></b>												
Beautiful Demoiselle					C	D						
Banded Demoiselle												
Emerald Damselfly												
<b>White-legged Damselfly</b>												
Large Red Damselfly				+	E	F						
Blue-tailed Damselfly												
<b>Scarce Blue-t Damselfly</b>				+		B						
Common Blue Damselfly												
<b>Southern Damselfly</b>												
Azure Damselfly						B						
<b>Red-eyed Damselfly</b>												
Small Red-eyed Damselfly												
<b>Small Red Damselfly</b>												
<b><u>Dragonflies</u></b>												
<b>Hairy Dragonfly</b>												
Common Hawker												
<b>Norfolk Hawker</b>												
Brown Hawker												
Southern Hawker												
Migrant Hawker						A						
Emperor Dragonfly												
Lesser Emperor												
Vagrant Emperor												
Golden-ringed Dragonfly				A		C						
<b>Downy Emerald</b>												
Broad-bodied Chaser												
<b>Scarce Chaser</b>												
Four-spotted Chaser												
Keeled Skimmer				D	D	E						
Black-tailed Skimmer												
Common Darter						+						
Red-veined Darter												
<b>Ruddy Darter</b>												
Black Darter												
Yellow-winged Darter												
Scarlet Darter												
<b>Total species in category:</b>	0	0	0	4	3	8						

**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.

**Key Species History**

**Scarce Blue-tailed Damselfly** – a few adults (code B) and emergent(s) noted in June 1998.

**Habitat**

An extensive area of mire in old mineral workings and a flat plateau to the north of Vixen Tor and to east of Feather Tor. The mire supports a mosaic of:

M6aii, Star Sedge - *Sphagnum auriculatum* sub-community Star Sedge; valley mire community;  
M6dii, sub-community Sharp-flowered Rush; valley mire community;  
M15a, Deer grass – Cross-leaved heath, wet heath community; and  
M21a, Bog Asphodel – *Sphagnum papillosum* – White-beaked Sedge, wet heath lawns community are also found with *Sphagnum* moss dominant.  
M25a, *Molinia* – Tormentil - Cross-leaved Heath, wet heath community;  
M29, Marsh St John's-wort – Bog Pondweed, *Sphagnum* moss lawns community.

An extensive network of M29 soakaway runnels occurs across the mire areas, with shallow open water suitable for Odonata. The lower mire in the old mineral working gullies are dominated by M29, *Sphagnum* moss lawns community, with open M29 soakaway runnels. Around the edges of the mires are extensive areas of runnels and seepages dominated by small sedges and shallow M29 runnels. These are heavily poached and probably subject to annual drying out.

**Status****Area**

**Local Authority:** Dartmoor NPA.

**Owner/tenant**

?

**Threats**

?

**Management suggestions**

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# Vixen Tor Mire: 2005 survey map

