

Other Conservation Designations within the AONB

The appendix covers the various conservation designations that apply within the AONB. Some areas of land, most notably in the coastal strip, may be included under more than one of these designations, and sometimes under several.

The appendix is arranged in two groups – nature conservation and cultural heritage – in descending order of significance i.e. sites of global - European - national - local importance. However the strength of protection a site receives does not always increase in proportion with its apparent importance. For example the European nature conservation designations have stronger protection under UK law than the globally important Ramsar sites.

Registered common land is also included in the appendix. Although not a conservation designation, common land makes an important contribution to the landscape, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area, because of its character and how it is managed, including constraints on development and changes of land use.

Ramsar Site

The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, especially as Wildfowl Habitat, was adopted at a meeting of countries held at Ramsar, Iran in 1971. The UK Government signed the convention in 1973 and became a contracting party in 1976 and in so doing accepted a commitment to promote both the conservation and the wise use of wetlands within its territory through local, regional and national actions and international co-operation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable use of wetlands and their resources throughout the world. By 2009, there were 159 'contracting parties', with 1870 sites covering nearly 184 million hectares covered by the designation.

For further information visit: www.ramsar.org

Ramsar Sites wholly within the AONB are: Dersingham Bog, North Norfolk Coast

Ramsar Sites overlapping the AONB are: Broadland, The Wash

Biosphere Reserve

Biosphere reserves are nominated by national governments and designated under the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). There are 553 sites worldwide in 107 countries. The 9 sites in the UK are almost entirely on existing National Nature Reserves and all have other national, European, or international conservation designations. They comprise core, buffer and transition zones.

Biosphere reserves wholly within the AONB are:

North Norfolk Coast (based on Holme Dunes, Scolt Head, Holkham and Blakeney National Nature Reserves) – designated in 1976

The original objectives of designation were for conservation, international research, monitoring and education and for demonstrating land, water and environmental development research. In the 1990s, the objectives were revised to apply to areas which innovate and demonstrate approaches to conservation and sustainable development. The majority of UK sites, including the North Norfolk Coast Biosphere Reserve, are currently under review to determine whether they can and should meet these revised objectives.

For further information visit: www.unesco.org/mab/

Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

The UK Government has an obligation to designate and protect SACs under the European Commission Habitats Directive 1992. They are protected under the same Regulations as SPAs (see below) because of their international importance for specific species and habitats. In England, designation of terrestrial SACs has been based on selected sites already designated as SSSIs (see below), although SACs can also extend below mean low water mark. 169 habitat types and 623 species are considered in most need of conservation at European level. 76 of these habitat types occur in the UK of which 23 have priority status. There are currently 609 SACs in the UK (Aug 2009). If a proposed development is likely to have a significant effect on a SAC an 'Appropriate Assessment' must be conducted to determine what impacts may arise, and possible means of mitigation. For further information visit: www.jncc.gov.uk

SACs wholly within the AONB are:

Overstrand Cliffs, Paston Great Barn

SACs overlapping the AONB are:

The Broads, Norfolk Coast and Gibraltar Point Dunes (terrestrial), Roydon Common and Dersingham Bog, The Wash & North Norfolk Coast (marine), Winterton & Horsey Dunes

Special Protection Area (SPA)

The UK Government has an obligation to designate and protect SPAs under the European Commission Directive on Wild Birds 1979. The sites are internationally important for specific bird species. As for SPAs (see above), site selection has been based on existing SSSIs and 'Appropriate Assessments' are required for proposed developments that may have an impact on the relevant bird species. There are 257 SPAs in the UK at present (August 2009). For further information visit: www.jncc.gov.uk

SPAs wholly within the AONB are:

North Norfolk Coast

SPAs overlapping the AONB are:

Broadland, Great Yarmouth and North Denes, The Wash

National Nature Reserve (NNR)

Some of the best SSSIs (see below) are designated as NNRs by Natural England under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. They include the best examples of biological and geographical sites and are managed by Natural England or other approved conservation bodies. Initially established to protect sensitive features and to provide 'outdoor laboratories' for research, their purpose has widened from managing some of our most pristine habitats, our rarest species and our most significant geology to include providing opportunities to the public as well as schools and specialist audiences to experience England's natural heritage.

There are currently (in 2009) 222 NNRs in England covering about 92,000 hectares, the largest being The Wash NNR at nearly 8,800 ha. For further information visit:

www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/designatedareas/nnr/

NNRs wholly within the AONB are:

Blakeney Point, Dersingham Bog, Holkham, Holme Dunes, Scolt Head Island

NNRs overlapping the NNR are:

Winterton Dunes

Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

Designated by Natural England under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Sites are protected legally under the Act but positive conservation management relies mainly on the co-operation of landowners. Designation is on biological and/or geological grounds. For further information visit:

www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/designatedareas/SSSI/

SSSIs wholly within the AONB, with approximate areas, are:

- Bilsey Hill (NE of Langham) (2.5 ha)
- Briton's Lane Gravel Pit (Sheringham) (21 ha)
- Cockthorpe Common (7 ha)
- Dersingham Bog (159 ha)
- Felbrigg Woods (165 ha)
- Glandford (Hurdle Lane) (9 ha)
- Glandford (Letheringsett Road) (1 ha)
- Holkham Brick Pit (0.5 ha)
- Hunstanton Park Esker (17 ha)
- Kelling Heath (90 ha)
- Morston Cliffs (1 ha)
- Mundesley Cliffs (29 ha)
- North Norfolk Coast (7860 ha)
- Overstrand Cliffs (58 ha)
- Paston Great Barn (1 ha)
- Ringstead Downs (7 ha)
- Sheringham and Beeston Regis Commons (24 ha)
- Sidestrand and Trimmingham Cliffs (117 ha)
- Snettisham Carstone Quarry (11 ha)
- Stiffkey valley (44 ha)
- Warham Camp (5 ha)
- Wells Chalk Pit (4 ha)
- Weybourne Cliffs (42 ha)
- Weybourne Town Pit (0.6 ha)
- Wiveton Downs (29 ha)

SSSIs overlapping with the AONB are:

- Upper Thurne Broads and Marshes (small overlap with AONB)
- The Wash (over 62,200 ha overall, overlaps with W parts of the AONB)
- Winterton–Horsey Dunes (427 ha total, majority in AONB)

Local Nature Reserve (LNR)

Local authorities have powers to acquire, declare and manage LNRs in consultation with Natural England, under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. To qualify for LNR status, a site must be of importance for wildlife, [geology](#), education or public enjoyment. Some are also nationally important [Sites of Special Scientific Interest](#).

LNRs must be controlled by the local authority through ownership, lease or agreement with the owner. The main aim must be to care for the natural features which make the site special. For further information visit:

www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/designatedareas/lnr

LNRs within the AONB are:

- Wiveton Downs

County Wildlife Site (CWS)

These are recognised as the most significant wildlife sites in a county outside SSSIs, which contain locally distinctive and important habitats and species, with most sites in private ownership. Although not a statutory designation, local authorities have adopted County Wildlife Sites into the planning process and Local Plans / Local Development Frameworks recognise them and contain policies to protect them. In Norfolk the CWS system is managed by Norfolk Wildlife Trust in conjunction with Norfolk County Council and Natural England. For further information visit:

www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/protectingwildlife/cws

There are 82 County Wildlife Sites in the Norfolk Coast AONB (2009). Site numbers, names and grid references are listed below.

NB County Wildlife Sites do not normally have public access.

West Norfolk

- 440 Ling Common (TF 652240)
- 441 Fowlers Plantation (TF 676241)
- 443 Relict Heath (TF 649275)
- 444 Wootton Carr (TF 653250)
- 445 Castle Rising Wood (TF 668252)
- 446 Penny Wood (TF 682256)
- 447 Mill House Wood (TF 676251)
- 450 Wolferton Wood (TF 668272)
- 451 Cat's Bottom Heath (TF 676275)
- 452 The Carr and Slash Wood (TF 695298)
- 453 Wild Wood (TF 685284)
- 454 Wild Wood (TF 685286)
- 455 Boggs Whins (TF 678297)
- 456 Dersingham Meadow (TF 685298)
- 457 Dersingham Closed Common (TF 687295)
- 458 Dersingham Open Common (TF 686298)
- 459 Cat's Bottom Heath (TF 678274)
- 461 N. of Cat's Bottom (TF 673275)
- 463 Woodcock Wood (TF 685280)
- 464 Brick Kiln Covert (TF 686277)
- 465 Sandringham Park (TF 692281)
- 466 Wolferton Picnic Area (TF 665282)
- 467 Dersingham-Wolferton Railway (TF 660285)
- 468 Jocelyn's Wood (TF 682289)
- 469 Sandringham Warren (TF 675283)
- 470 Boathouse Wood (TF 660307)
- 476 Snettisham Common (TF 673337)
- 479 Ken Hill Wood (TF 675345)
- 481 Eaton Meadows (TF 701362)
- 484 Whin Covert (TF 692385)
- 485 South Hill Wood (TF 692399)
- 570 Barrow Common (TF 788433)
- 571 Ringstead Common (TF 726406)
- 1319 Thorpe Common and Fen (TF 845424)
- 1320 Burnham Norton Extension (TF 832436)
- 2034 Catlane Wood (TG 702388)

North Norfolk

1091 South of Hull Wood (TG 042398)
1096 Bush Wood (TG 050398)
1100 Cley Park (TG 070405)
1101 Cat Pits Wood (TG 089403)
1102 Adj. The Hangs (TG 084409)
1103 The Wing (TG 051412)
1104 The Hangs (TG 063427)
1106 Muckleburgh Hill (TG 100431)
1107 Kelling Hard (TG 098438)
1108 Langham Lane Meadow (TG 017405)
1109 Saxlingham Heath (TG 040403)
1110 Glandford Mill Meadow (TG 046415)
1111 Land at Cley (TG 044438)
1112 Morston Marshes (TG 005443)
1113 Hull Wood (TG 045401)
1143 Felbrigg Hall Estate (TG 189390)
1144 Metton Carrs (TG 200381)
1145 Gibbet and Marlpit Plantations (TG 155409)
1146 Pretty Corner and The Plains (TG 155415)
1147 Roman Camp and Beeston Regis Heath (TG 178418)
1148 Ingleborough Hill (TG 188423)
1149 West Runton Common (TG 183422)
1150 Kelling Heath Park (TG 110417)
1152 Sheringham Wood and Park (TG 134415)
1154 Oak Wood (TG 134427)
1156 Beach Lane (TG 109437)
1192 Smith's Rough (TG 206401)
1196 Templewood Estate (TG 260384)
1197 Overstrand Disused Railway (TG 255400)
1199 Hall Wood (TG 213416)
1231 Waxham Sands Holiday Park (TG 458247)
1232 Fords Farm Pasture (TG 475225)
1246 Lambridge Covert (TG 432259)
1247 Marram Hills (TG 430277)
1248 Nr. French's Farm (TG 441257)
1271 Holkham Lake (TF 883435)
1316 Stiffkey Meadows (TG 958429)
1317 Wells-Walsingham Railway (TG 936400)
1318 Wells Meadow (TF 913447)
2017 Salthouse Heath (TG 073424)
2073 Old Pollard Wood (TG 077400)
2077 Sheringham Old Wood (TG 159412)

Great Yarmouth

1436 Winterton PCC Land (TG 491198)
1437 West Coverts and Home Broad (TG 480200)
1438 Decoy Wood and South Wood (TG 484210)
1440 North Wood (TG 481220)

Roadside Nature Reserves

RNRs W Norfolk

35

76

RNRs N Norfolk

41
44
50
51
52

Scheduled Monument

The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, building on legislation dating back to 1882, provides for nationally important archaeological and built heritage sites to be statutorily protected as Scheduled Monuments. There are currently around 19,000 entries in the Schedule, covering 35,000 sites ranging from prehistoric standing stones and burial mounds to Roman forts and medieval villages, and include some more recent structures such as collieries and wartime pill-boxes. The scheduling of a monument means that permission - 'scheduled monument consent' - is required for works to or affecting that monument. English Heritage oversees and advises Government on scheduling and consents.

For further information visit: www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.1369

There are currently 59 Scheduled Monuments in the Norfolk Coast AONB:

- Aylmerton - wayside cross S of village
- Babingley – medieval settlement (two sites)
- Babingley - Butler's Cross,
- Babingley - St Felix's Church
- Binham Priory
- Blakeney Guildhall (medieval undercroft)
- Blakeney Chapel (site, N of Cley)
- Blakeney Downs – two bowl barrows
- Bodham – oval barrow / bowl barrow, Howes Hill
- Brancaster – 'Branodunum' Roman fort
- Burnham Market - bowl barrow and pill box, Westgate Hall
- Burnham Market – St Mary's Friary and Holy Well
- Burnham Overy - village cross
- Burnham Overy – Roman barrow E of village
- Castle Rising - castle and 11th century church
- Castle Rising – motte castle, Keeper's Wood
- Castle Rising - standing cross, the Green
- Castle Rising - bowl barrow, bank and ditch, Mill House
- Castle Rising - bowl barrow and mound, Old Fen
- Cockthorpe – village cross
- Eaton (nr Sedgeford) - Roman villa
- High Kelling – oval Barrow, Bodham Wood
- Holkham – Iron Age fort WNW of village
- Kelling – bowl barrow N side Muckleburgh Hill
- Kelling Heath bowl barrow
- Langham airfield dome trainer
- Paston Great Barn
- Ringstead - St Peter's Church tower
- Roughton Heath (including Hare's Hill and Two Hills) – tumuli (five sites)
- Salthouse Heath – barrow cemetery (complex of over thirty barrows, mainly bowl barrows, on and around Salthouse Heath)
- Snettisham - remains of tower, Lodge Hill (SW of village)
- Southrepps – Stump Cross (wayside cross)
- Stiffkey - tumulus, Warborough Hill

Thornham - Roman signal station (SW of village)
 Titchwell - village cross
 Warham Camp – small multivallate fort S of village (two sites)
 Warham – iron age ditched enclosure NE of Warham Camp
 Warham – bowl barrow, Fiddler's Hill SE of village
 Warham - Hale's Manor moated site and earthworks E of village
 Waxham site of manorial complex (incl. Great Waxham Tythe Barn)
 Weybourne Priory
 Weybourne – moated site, Rosedale Farm
 Weybourne Heath – bowl barrow
 Wighton - Crabb's Castle, medieval castle site W of village
 Wighton – medieval settlement N of Grove Farm
 Wiveton Bridge

Historic Parks and Gardens

Since the 1980s, there has been a national record of the historic parks and gardens that make such a rich and varied contribution to our landscape. This record, known as the *Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England* and now containing nearly 1450 sites, was established, and is maintained by, English Heritage. The Register is divided into three grade bands. The majority of the sites are Grade II, indicating their national importance. Around 30% of all sites are considered to be of exceptional historic interest and are awarded a star giving them Grade II* status. A further 10% are of international importance, and are classified as Grade I.

For further information visit: www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.1410

Registered Historic Parks and Gardens within the AONB are:

Felbrigg Hall (II*), Holkham Hall (I), Hunstanton Hall (II), Sandringham Hall (II*),
 Sheringham Hall (II*), Stiffkey Hall (II)

Building Conservation Areas

A Conservation Area is an area of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. Consequently, Conservation Areas are of many different kinds. They vary widely in size and content in the Norfolk Coast AONB, from the traditional medieval settlement cores to extensive rural landscapes such as the Glaven Valley. However, the majority of Conservation Areas relate to the built environment of villages and towns. These may be large or small, and range from whole town centres to terraces and smaller groups of buildings. They will often be centred upon Listed Buildings. Important groups of other buildings, open spaces, trees, historic street patterns and village greens can all contribute to the special character of an area, which merits designation as a Conservation Area. Conservation areas designated by the local planning authorities are contained in their respective Local Plans (Local Development Frameworks). For further information contact District / Borough Council Conservation and Design Sections.

Conservation areas in the AONB are:

Binham, Blakeney, Brancaster, Burnham Market, Burnham Norton, Burnham
 Overy Mill, Burnham Overy Town, Burnham Overy Staithe, Burnham Thorpe,
 Castle Rising, Cley-next-the-Sea, East Runton, Felbrigg, Gimmingham, Glandford
 (with Letheringsett), Glaven Valley, Holkham, Holme-next-the-Sea, Kelling,
 Langham, Letheringsett, Morston, Northrepps, Old Hunstanton, Ringstead,
 Salthouse, Sedgeford, Sidestrand' Southrepps , Upper and Lower), Stiffkey,
 Thornham, Thorpe Market, Titchwell, Trimmingham, Trunch, Upper Sheringham,
 Warham, Wells-next-the-Sea, Weybourne, Wighton, Wiveton

Listed buildings

Buildings of special architectural or historic interest are designated by the Secretary of State, advised by English Heritage, under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. Listed Buildings include all buildings built before 1700 that survive in anything like their original state, selected buildings built between 1700 and 1840, and buildings of a definite quality and character built between 1840 and 1914. After 1914 only those buildings of the highest quality are selected and buildings less than 30 years old are only selected if they are of outstanding quality and under threat. It is the age, quality and distinctiveness of a building that qualifies it for listing. For further information visit: www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.1373

There are too many listed buildings in the AONB to list in this appendix, but information about particular listed buildings can be obtained from the relevant District / Borough Council.

Registered Common Land

Many areas of 'common land' i.e. land on which members of the community had rights of use, have disappeared as the rural economy has changed. Common land appearing now on County registers is that which has been recognised as such under the 1965 Registration of Commons Act. Common land usually, but not always, has a recognised owner and may or may not have specified common rights registered in association with it.

Registered areas of common land (* with common rights) in the AONB are:

Parish	Registration no. and area if recorded	Name / description
North Wootton	CL173* (55 ha)	Marsh Common – 4 parcels of land to the W and NW of the village
	CL313* (5 ha)	North Wootton Common (W of village)
Dersingham	CL226 (61 ha)	Dersingham Common – 3 adjoining parcels of land S of village
Snettisham	CL378* (58 ha)	Snettisham Beach Shingle Fields – strip of land parallel to coast
	CL64 (9 ha)	Snettisham Common (W of village)
Sedgeford	CL81 (0.04 ha)	Sedgeford Village Pound
Holme-next-the-Sea	CL132*	three small pieces of land adjoining Holme Common, to NW of village
	CL32*	substantial area of coastal and intertidal land to N and NW of village
	CL441*	Parish sand pit (small site)
Thornham	CL56*	Low Common - multiple intertidal areas with substantial overall area, N of village
	CL41* (225 ha)	Thornham Common – complex area N of village
	CL198 (0.4 ha)	New Road Chalk Pit
	CL121 (0.4 ha)	Choseley Road Chalk Pit
Titchwell	CL122* (15 ha)	foreshore and saltings
Brancaster	CL124*	Brancaster Marshes - large intertidal area to n of Brancaster and Brancaster Staithe
	CL161*	intertidal area to N of CL124

	CL162*	small area N of village
	CL65*	Scolt Head Island (incl. Parts of Burnham Norton, Burnham Overy etc marshes) – v large overall area
	CL159* (33 ha)	Barrow Common (S of Brancaster Staithe)
Burnham Norton	CL9 (0.6 ha)	small area to N of village
Burnham Thorpe	CL84* (3 ha)	Thorpe Common (NW of village)
Stiffkey	CL425 (0.4 ha)	The Common (W of village)
	CL426	Gravel Pit (w of village)
	CL428 (0.05 ha)	Little Hill (NW of village)
Morston	CL191 (0.9 ha)	Morston Quay
	CL193 (0.3 ha)	Cold Blow Pit - by Langham Road
Blakeney	CL269 (0.005 ha)	triangle of land outside Red House
	CL270	Small triangle of land at junction of Langham Road and A149
Cley-next-the-Sea	CL284 (0.5 ha)	Cley Green
Salthouse	CL283 (0.25 ha)	Triangle of land near Gravel Pit Hill
Weybourne	CL153	gravel pit S of station (0.1 ha)
Upper Sheringham	CL54 (0.5 ha)	Upper Sheringham Common (nr. Howe's Hill, SW of village)
Beeston Regis	CL85 (3.7 ha)	Beeston Hall Common
Runtons	CL5	Incleborough Hill, West Runton Common incl. Cooper's Common, Station Common and the Hurne, Town Hill, Congham Hill, greens Common, Abbs Common, Sparrow Park
Roughton	CL89 (0.8 ha)	Surveyor's Pit (N of village)
Southrepps	CL390 (0.4 ha)	Drove Hill (Lower Street)