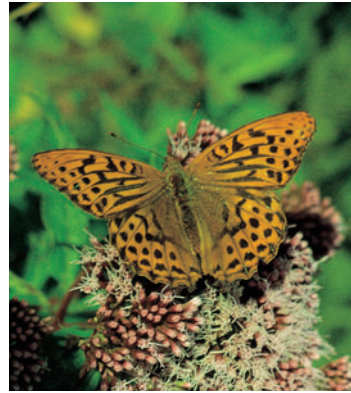




Dormouse. English Nature



Fly agaric. English Nature



Silver-washed fritillary. English Nature



East Dartmoor Woods and Heaths

National Nature Reserve

working today for nature tomorrow

Management

People have shaped the Dartmoor landscape over thousands of years. The land on this National Nature Reserve is now managed to help protect rare and threatened habitats and the birds, plants, animals and insects that live there.

Moor and heathland

Heathland is burnt in small patches on a rotation to ensure a mix of plants at different stages of growth. Young heather provides grazing for livestock and also conditions favoured by species associated with open ground. Mature heather and gorse provides a habitat for spiders and nesting birds

such as the nationally rare Dartford warbler.

Woodland

The overall aim of managing the woodland is to restore natural diversity. To achieve this, individual trees or small pockets of trees are selectively felled (thinned), and non-native plants, such as rhododendron and laurel, are cleared. After trees have

been felled, seeds in the soil are allowed to grow naturally. This ensures that the trees that grow are best suited to the particular environment of each site. Deadwood is left to rot, providing ideal conditions for a variety of insects and fungi. Standing deadwood can provide roosting and nesting sites for bats and birds.

Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)

The European Union's Habitats Directive requires member states to designate SACs to protect Europe's most endangered species and habitats. Together these sites form a Europe-wide network known as Natura 2000. Western oak woodland and dry heathland like that found in this reserve, is very rare across Europe. For this reason, the East Dartmoor Woods and Heaths National Nature Reserve has been included in the South Dartmoor Woods candidate SAC.



English Nature is the Government agency that champions the conservation of wildlife and natural features throughout England. www.english-nature.org.uk

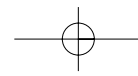
For further information please contact:
English Nature, Yarner Wood, Bovey Tracey TQ13 9LJ
Tel: 01626 832330

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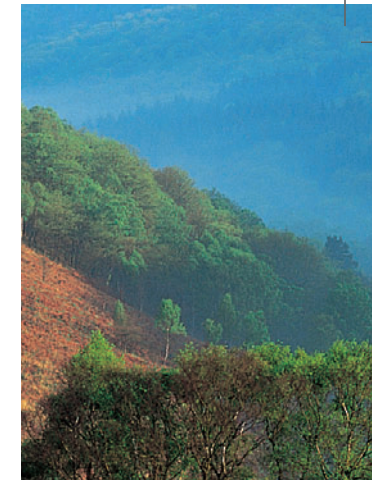
Awarded for excellence

working today
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A very special place

East Dartmoor Woods and Heaths National Nature Reserve consists of three adjacent reserves (Yarner Wood, Trendlebere Down and Bovey Valley Woodlands) which were joined together in 1998. They contain a range of rare wildlife and habitats which make this a very special place.



Graham Noble



Graham Noble

Western oak woodland

Western oak woodland is internationally rare in Europe and is primarily restricted to the western UK and Ireland. Yarner Wood and Bovey Valley Woodlands support a rich diversity of fungi, lichens, mosses and ferns, together with rare butterflies and many species of nesting and wintering birds.



English Nature

Moorland and heath

True upland moorland, rare in southern England, is found on the upper slopes of Trendlebere Down where the main plants are heather, purple moor grass and bristle bent grass. Lower down, towards the woodland fringe, bracken and invasive birch trees are more common.



English Nature

Valley mire

Wet areas in Trendlebere Combe and parts of the Bovey Valley support rare bog habitat dominated by sphagnum moss and colourful plants like the southern marsh orchid, bog asphodel and the insectivorous sundew.



Graham Noble

River valley

Lying in a deep valley carved out of Dartmoor granite, the fast-flowing River Bovey is an important habitat for otter, dipper, grey wagtail, salmon, sea trout and a variety of dragonflies.

