

Get wild about Devon at Little Comfort Farm

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Little Comfort Farm covers 100 acres in total, 70 acres are owned and 30 acres are rented. The River Caen runs through the valley feeding a lake and pond with the meadows being a mixture of un-improved and semi-improved grassland.

This grassland is grazed by a suckler herd of ruby red Devon cattle and a flock of Lleyn sheep. The farm is also home to Gloucester old spot pigs and Organic laying hens.

The ponds and the grounds around the farmhouse and cottages are alive with wildlife. The larger pond is a coarse fishing lake and is stocked with carp, rudd, roach and bream.

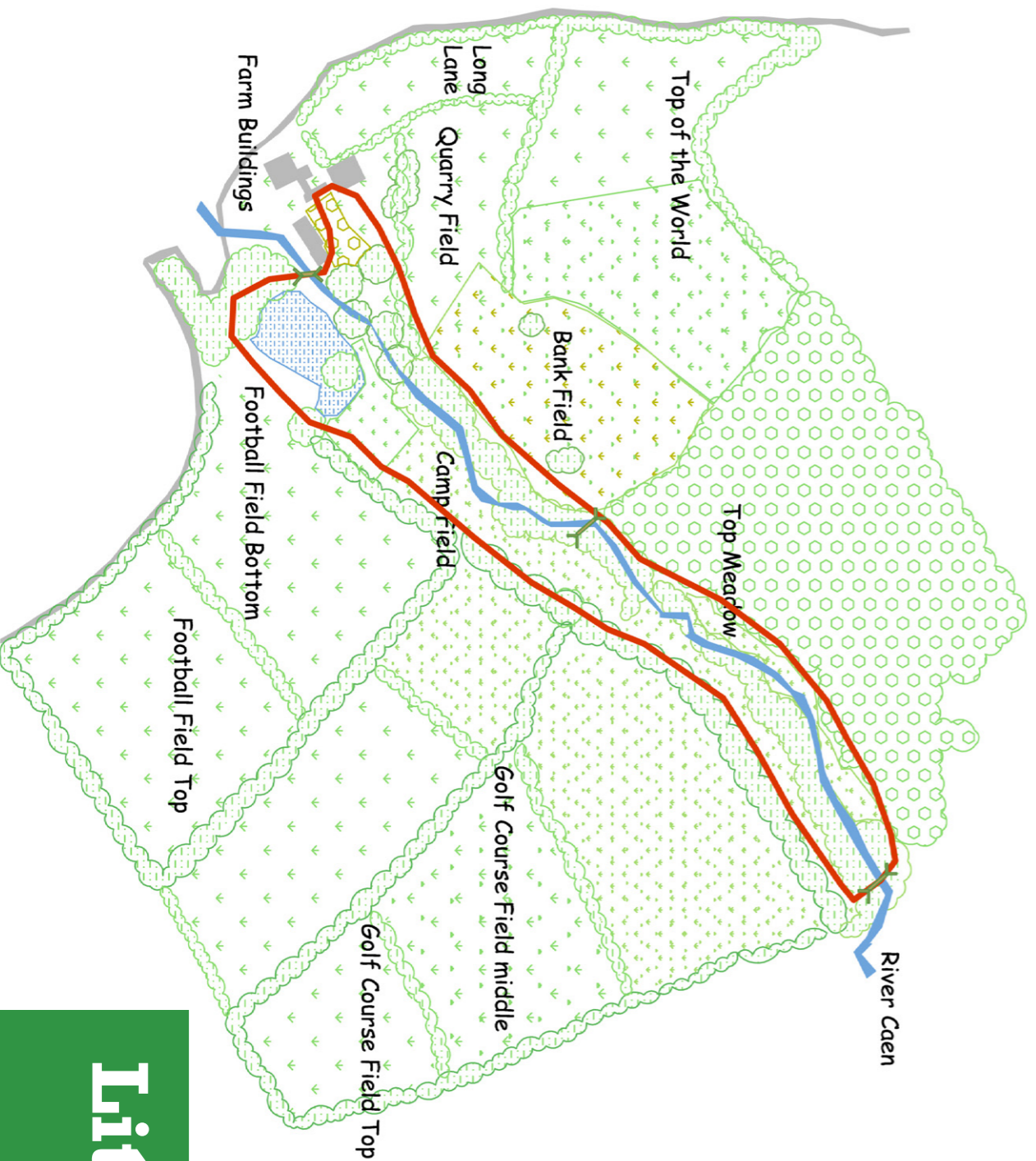
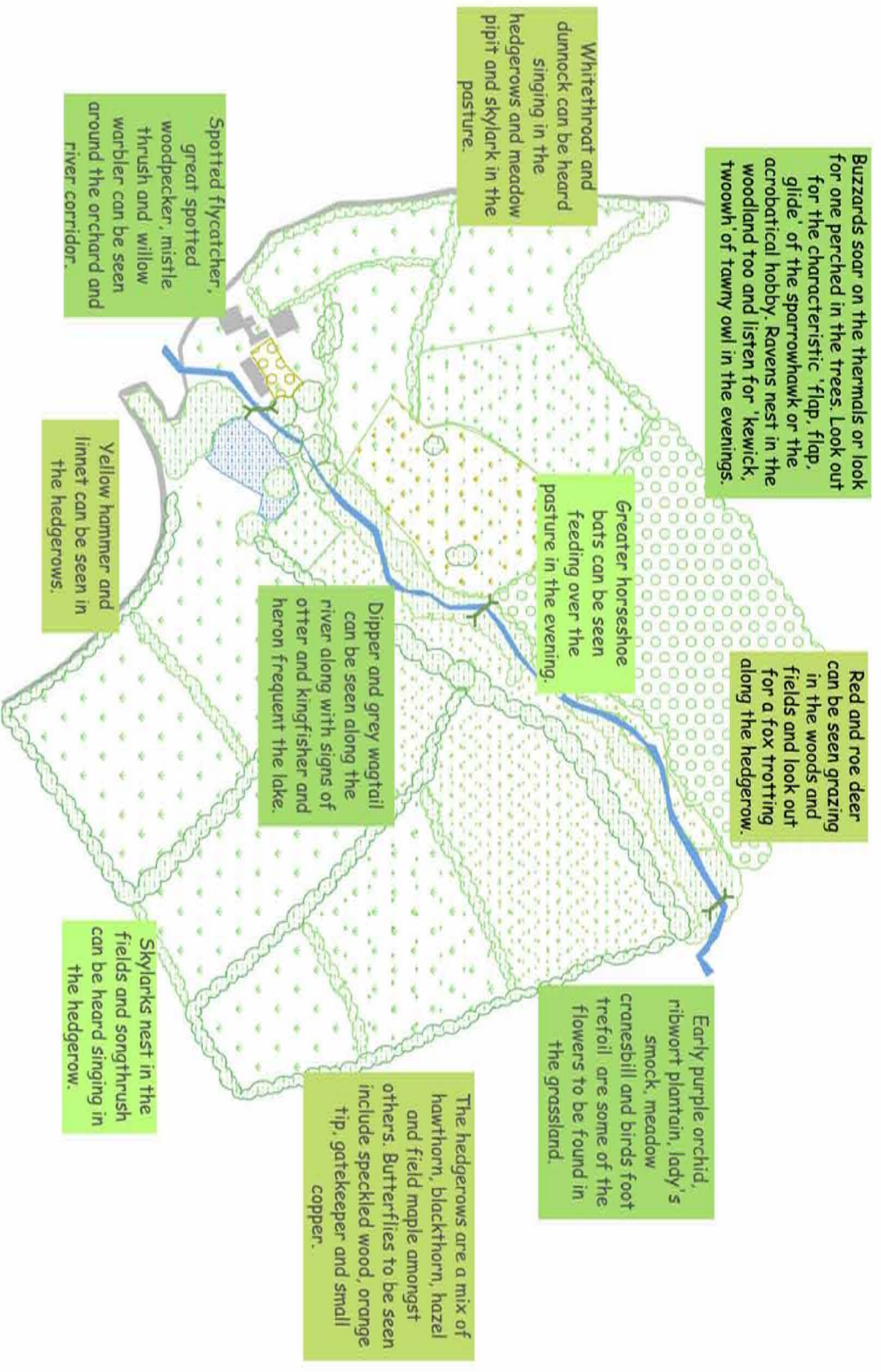
The vegetation around the pond is ideal habitat for invertebrates as well as providing hideouts and cover for frogs, toads and newts. The flora is a mix of yellow flag iris, marsh marigold, branched burr reed, lesser reed mace, water figwort, meadow sweet and water mint along with sedges, and there is an island with alder and silver birch trees.

Get wild about Devon

is a wildlife appreciation scheme for tourism businesses in Devon who are serious about proactively improving wildlife as part of their business. The scheme is supported by Devon County Council on behalf of Visit Devon.

www.visitdevon.co.uk





-  Hedgerows and trees
-  Orchard
-  Un-improved Grassland
-  Improved Grassland
-  Semi-improved Grassland
-  Unimproved Grassland with gorse and woodland edge
-  Woodland (Not owned by Little Comfort)
-  Farm Trail

Little Comfort Little Farm

Species List

at Little Comfort Farm

Trees & Shrubs

Ash
Beech
Black Alder
Blackthorn
Buddleia
Elder
Field Maple
Hawthorn
Hazel
Holly
Oak
Rowan
Scots pine
Silver Birch
Sweet chestnut
Wild cherry
Willow

Plants

Annual meadow grass
Bluebell
Bramble
Burdock
Black knapweed
Black medick
Bird-foot trefoil
Celandines
Cleavers
Cuckoo flower
Cocksfoot
Common dog violet

Cow parsley
Creeping buttercup
Creeping Thistle
Early purple orchid
Enchanters nightshade
Fleabane
Germander speedwell
Greater plantain
Greater sedge
Ground Ivy
Hairy willow herb
Hard rush
Herb robert
Honeysuckle
Herb bennet
Ivy
Lord and ladies
Marsh marigold
Ox-eye daisy
Nettles
Purple loosestrife
Purple moor grass
Primrose
Ragged robin
Ribwort plantain
Red campion
Spotted heath orchid
Sharp leaved rush
Soft rush
Spearwort
Sneezewort
Sheeps sorrel
Snowdrop

Timothy
Tormentil
Water figwort
Water mint
Yellow flag iris
Yorkshire fog

Ferns

Hard fern
Harts tongue fern
Lady fern
Male fern
Scaly male fern

Mammals

Badger
Bank vole
Common shrew
Daubenton bat
Field mouse
Fox
Greater horseshoe bat
Hedgehog
Mole
Long-eared bat
Noctule bat
Pipistrelle bat
Red deer
Roe Deer
Rabbit
Serotine bat
Stoat
Wood mouse

Reptiles & Amphibians

Common lizard
Frog
Grass snake
Palmate newt
Slow worm
Toad

Birds

Blackbird
Blackcap
Blue tit
Buzzard
Canada goose
Carrion crow
Chaffinch
Chiffchaff
Coal tit
Dunnock
Fieldfare
Goldcrest
Goldfinch
Great tit
Great spotted woodpecker
Greenfinch
Green woodpecker
Grey Heron
House martin
House sparrow
Jackdaw

Jay
Kestrel
Little egret
Little grebe
Long tail tit
Mallard
Merganser
Mistle thrush
Moorhen
Nuthatch
Pied wagtail
Raven
Redwing
Robin
Rook
Skylark
Song thrush
Sparrowhawk
Stock dove
Swallow
Swift
Treetreeper
Tawny owl
Whitethroat
Willow warbler
Wren
Yellow hammer

NB This is not a comprehensive list

Wildlife places of interest nearby

Braunton Burrows – OS Map: SS 464 326

Braunton Burrows is one of the richest and one of the largest sand dune systems in Britain. With over 500 different flowering plants, some of which are very rare with many different species of orchid. The habitat consists of huge sand dunes, rocky foreshore, mud and salt flats, saltmarsh, grazing marsh, coastal heath, back-shore marsh and ponds. The best time of year is from April to July for wildflowers and April to June for breeding birds, spring and autumn for migrant birds and winter wildfowl and waders. **For more information contact the North Devon Coast and Countryside Service on 01237 423655.**

Chapel Wood – OS Map: SS 483 415

This is a small remote mixed woodland reserve. It has a good variety of species of trees with birds such as buzzard, grey wagtail and green woodpecker. The woodland birds are best in spring and early summer. There are also the remains of an old hill fort and historical chapel.

For more information contact the RSPB South West England Regional Office on 01392 432691.

Ilfracombe and Lee to Croyde

Walk the coastal path with stunning scenery and dramatic coastline, sand dunes and look for autumn lady's tresses. **For more information contact the National Trust Tel: 01271 870555.**