

ACTION PLAN FOR 2021 - 2022

Site: Cowdray Marsh		Month/ Season	Priority	Volunteer	Ranger	Contractor
Date: April 2021						
1	Patrol and litter pick fortnightly	All Year	1		X	
2	Increase area of open water and marsh by clear a quarter of willow and alder growth (compartment 6)	Autumn	1	X	X	X
3	Treat larger cut willow and alder stumps in marsh to reduce regrowth. Cut or strim small regrowth	Autumn	1		X	
4	Walkover survey of marsh to identify any non-native species early and eradicate if found	Summer	1		X	
5	Coppice 3-4 of the largest trees in compartment 9	Winter	1			X
6	Inspect the High Wood's drain quarterly to ensure flow not impeded, unblock if required	All Year	1		X	
7	Monitor compartment 4 and High Wood's drain from excessive scrub growth, cut back if necessary	Autumn – Early winter	2	X	X	
8	Maintain "clover lawn" with regular cutting (compartment 3)	May – Oct	2			X
9	Maintain boundary fence	All Year	1	X	X	
11	Arrange Spring Tidy day	Early Spring	2		X	X
12	Conduct annual tree inspection survey	Late Summer- Autumn	1		X	X
13	Implement remedial tree work and carry out emergency tree works	All Year	1	X	X	X
14	Work with special interest group to increase species records	All Year	3	X	X	
15	Explore ways of making habitat improvements with special interest groups such as Essex Bat Group. <i>Bat Survey, Bat boxes along tree line with river, Otter survey</i>	All Year	2	X	X	
16	Monitor water loss from bund in Compartment 7. Carry out repairs if necessary	Late Summer	2		X	X
17	Visually inspect water levels on site to assess if future alternations are needed to maintain wet areas year-round.	All Year	2		X	

18	Assess quality of open water habitat with walk over survey and species recording to inform future action plans.	All Year	2	X	X	
19	Maintain site signs and ensure displaying correct information	All Year	1		X	
20	Maintain work access path to marsh by strimming	Spring - Summer	1	X	X	
21	Ensure cycle path is clear of encroaching vegetation	All Year	1	X	X	X
22	Monitor scrub and tree growth on riverbank, remove larger trees that may damage riverbank and reduce potential loafing areas for otter.	Winter	2	X	X	X
23	Monitor use of otter holt and carry repairs as required	Winter	2	X	X	