



BIODIVERSITY OPPORTUNITY AREAS (BOAs)

The bigger picture

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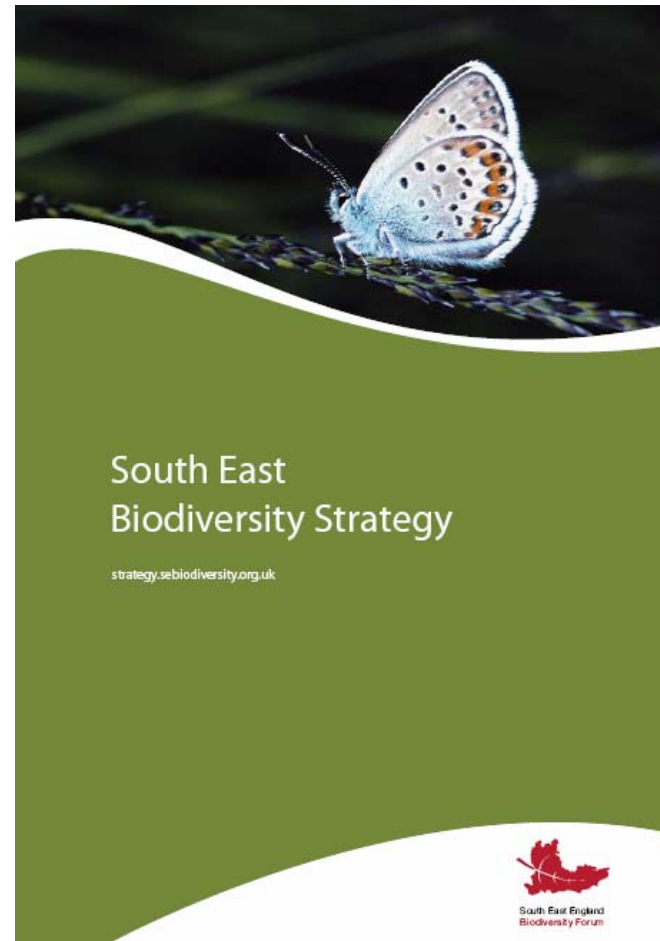
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BOAs – a definition

- Targeted landscape-scale approach to conserving biodiversity.
- Areas which provide greatest opportunities for habitat creation and restoration, based on
 - existing habitat,
 - opportunity for restoration, re-creation.

At the heart of the



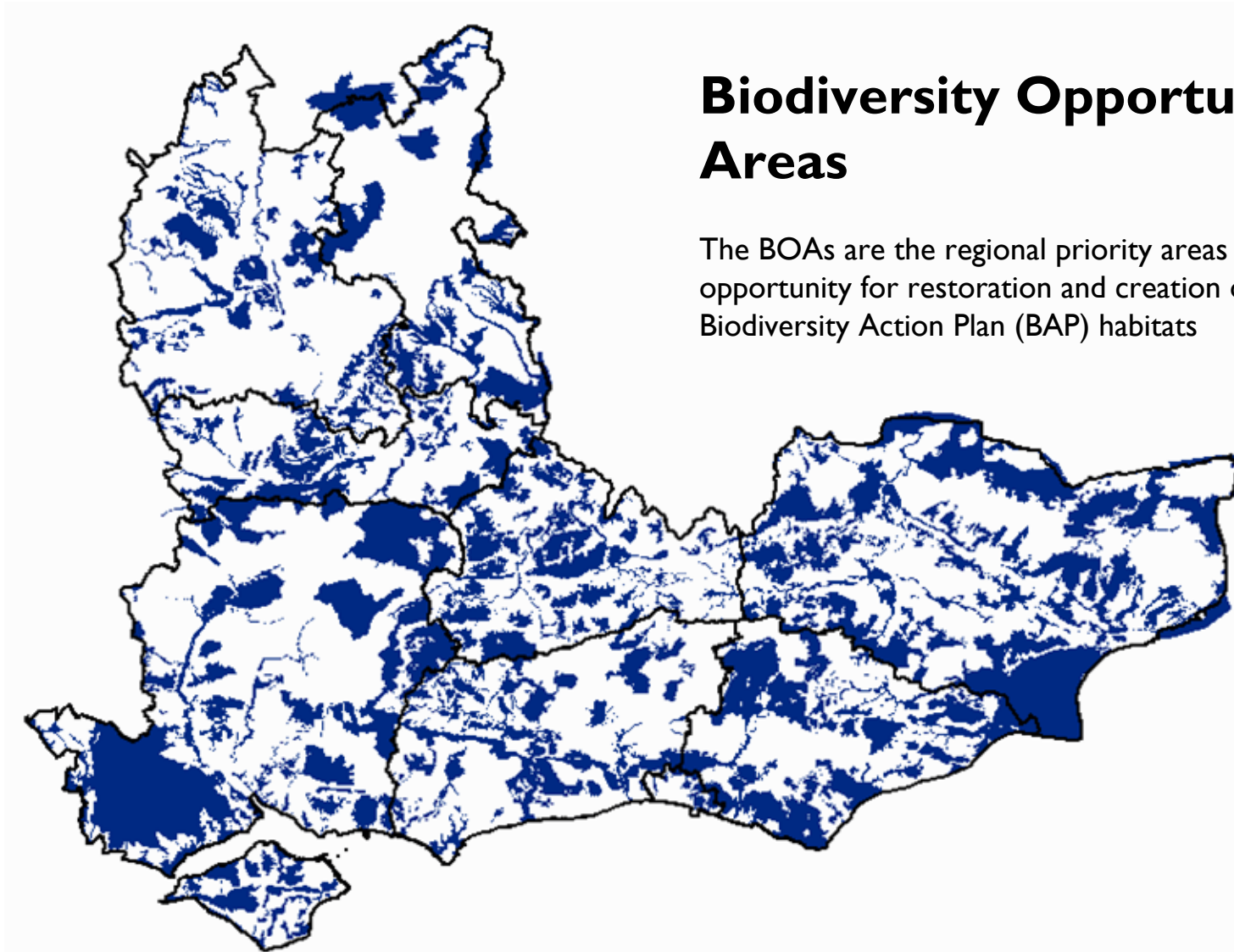
<http://strategy.sebiodiversity.org.uk>

Biodiversity under pressure

- Lost, fragmented and degraded habitats.
 - Isolated and vulnerable populations
/species decline.
 - Climate change and socio-economic pressures.
 - Dynamic systems.
-
- Need to halt ongoing losses and rebuild biodiversity
 - Need to look beyond protecting sites and separate species and move towards an integrated landscape scale approach - BOAs

Biodiversity Opportunity Areas

The BOAs are the regional priority areas of opportunity for restoration and creation of Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) habitats



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Hampshire Biodiversity Opportunity Areas Themed BOA Boundaries

Key to map:

Themed BOA Boundaries (Hampshire)

- North & West Hampshire Downs
- North & North East Hampshire Heaths & Woods
- East Hampshire Heaths, Woods & Rivers
- Major Rivers
- South Hampshire Heaths & Woods
- South Hampshire Downs
- Hampshire Coast and Harbours
- The New Forest & Coastal Plain
- Other BOA Boundaries (Non-Hampshire)
- Hampshire County Boundary

25th February 2010

0 12.5 25 50 75 100 Kilometers



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BOA Statements

Hampshire Biodiversity Opportunity Statements

04: Silchester/Tadley (Hants)

Landscape Character Area: North Hampshire Lowland and Heath

Landscape Types: Settled Lowland Mosaic Ancient Forest / Settled Lowland Mosaic Heath Plantation

Geology: Clay, Silt and Sand bedrock in the eastern half with Sand bedrock for the western half. Deposits mainly consist of Sand and Gravel, and Clay, Silt, Sand and Gravel.

Biodiversity: This extension into Hampshire from Berkshire includes the extensive ancient oakwood, Pamber Forest; two heathland Commons and a series of unimproved wet meadows. This association of ancient woodland, heath and grassland supports a diverse range of plants and animals. Pamber Forest is dominated by sessile oak with an understorey of coppiced hazel and a ground flora dominated by bracken with bilberry and heather locally frequent on the poor, acidic soils. To north of the site, woodland grades into the heathland of Silchester Common, which together with Tadley Common, represents the largest remnants of the once extensive north Hampshire heathland to the west of the River Loddon. The west side of Pamber Forest is bounded by a series of unimproved neutral to acid, wet unimproved meadows which support an outstandingly rich flora. The heathlands supports the silver-studded blue and grayling butterflies, both of which are declining nationally and the three bird species listed in Annex I of the EC Directive on the Conservation of Birds: woodlark, nightjar and Dartford warbler. The BOA extends as far as Silchester Brook to take in the ancient woodlands surrounding the Roman Town of Silchester and the extensive oak and pine plantations within Benyon's Enclosure which support bilberry and heather in the ground flora.

Targets and opportunities:

Lowland Dry Acid Grassland

Lowland Heath

Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland

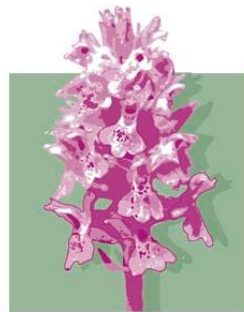
Wet Woodland

Lowland Meadow



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Review of land management provision within Biodiversity Opportunities Areas in Hampshire



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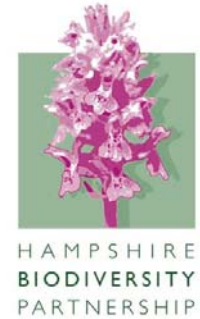


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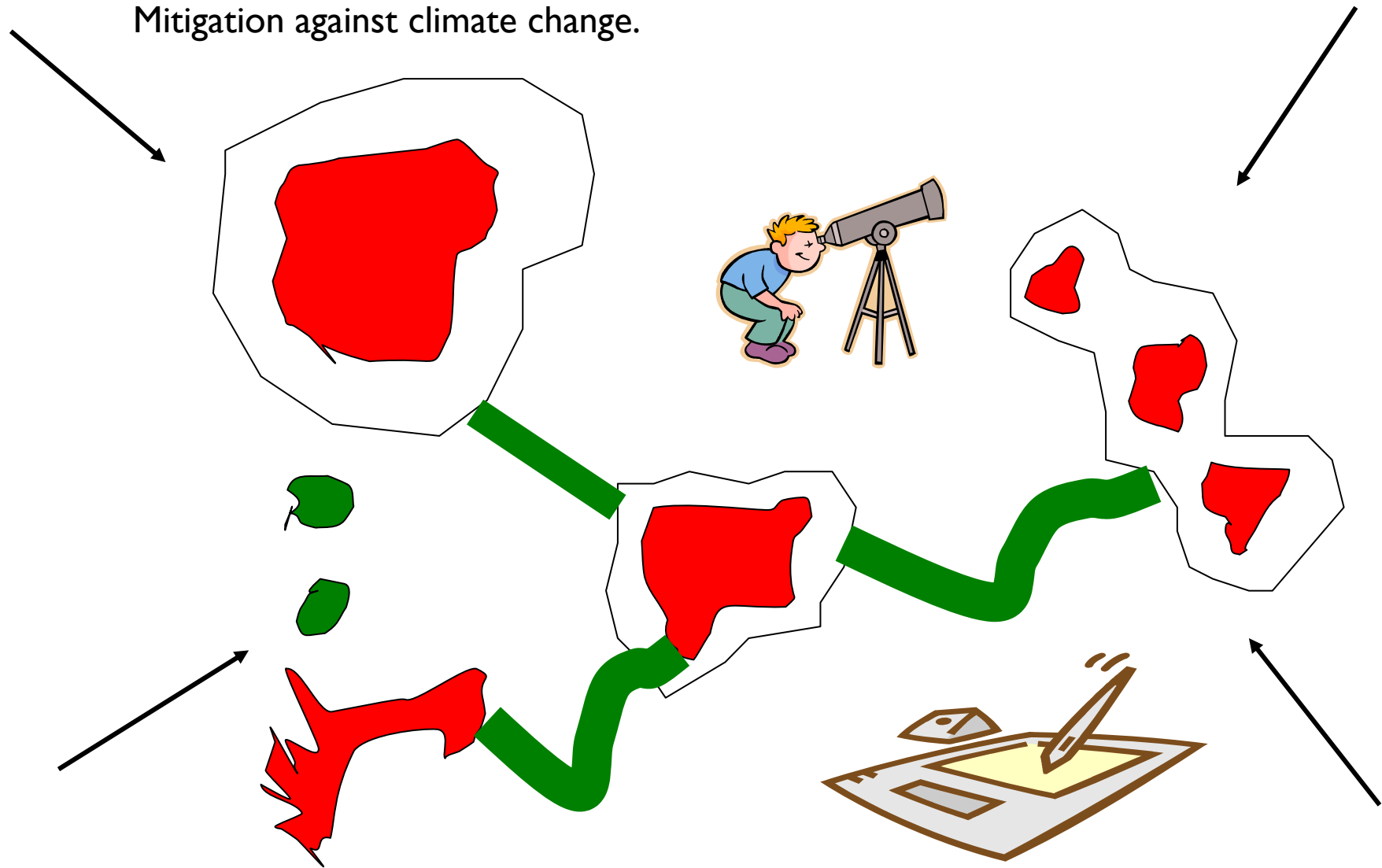
- Review looking at:
 - Projects and partnerships currently in operation.
 - Regional and local grant provision.
 - National Indicator 197.
 - Strategic influences and relevant strategies.
- Undertaken analysis to identify gaps and opportunities in land management provision.
- Final Report due shortly for consideration by Hampshire Biodiversity Partnership.
- Will be used to inform/direct future land management work.

The benefit of BOAs



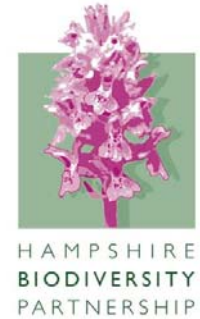
- Focus for achieving greatest positive conservation impact.
- Efficient way of delivering action on the ground.
- Promote partnership working.
- Mitigate against impacts of climate change on biodiversity

Mitigation against climate change.



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BOAs – the benefits con/t



- Help deliver ecosystem services
 - products (woodfuel)
 - regulating services (crop pollination, water regulation)
- Identify opportunities for biodiversity enhancement through major developments.
- Provide direction and opportunities for managing Local Authority owned land.
- Demonstrate commitment to biodiversity.
- Help provide quality areas in which people want to live and work.



Further information

- BOA maps – on line
- BOA statements – on line

- BOA Review - Report (available shortly)
- BOA Review - maps
 - paper copy (available)
 - electronic copy (available shortly)

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<http://www.hants.gov.uk/biodiversity>



Further information

1. *Conserving biodiversity in a changing climate: guidance on building capacity to adapt.* Defra 2007
2. *South East Biodiversity Strategy* South East Biodiversity Forum 2009
3. *The State of Hampshire's Biodiversity* Hampshire Biodiversity Partnership 2006
4. *England Biodiversity Strategy Climate Change Adaptation Principles* Defra 2008