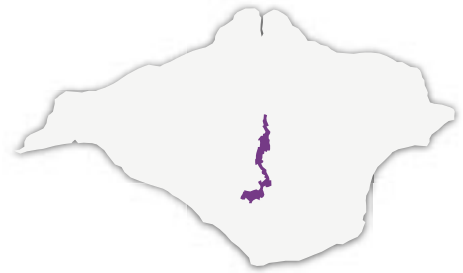


Isle of Wight Biodiversity Opportunity Areas

Upper Medina Valley



- Key**
- Upper Medina Valley
 - SINC
 - SSSI
 - Coastal habitat
- Terrestrial habitat**
- <all other values>
 - Ancient woodland
 - AncientWoodPlant

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Isle of Wight Biodiversity Opportunity Areas

Upper Medina Valley



Opportunity area description

River valley south of Newport as far as Chale Green.

Joint Character Area

Landscape descriptive unit

Isle of Wight Joint Character Area: Intensive arable land, sandstone hill and gravel ridges.

Landscape types

Rolling arable farmland, with scattered woodland in a wide valley.

Geology (bedrock)

Mudstone, sandstone, and ferruginous sands.

Geology (superficial)

Extensive alluvium and peat deposits.

Topography (landform)

Narrow stream heavily modified by river engineering crosses a wide sandstone vale. Irrigation storage reservoirs have been constructed in several places.

Biodiversity (BAP habitat, Designated sites

UK BAP Species)

SSSIs: The Wilderness, Cridmore Bay

SINCs: Billingham Manor Farm, Sibdown Farm Copse, Gatcombe Withybed, River Medina: Shide to Blackwater

BAP habitat

- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland.
- Wet woodland.
- Cereal field margins.
- Purple moor grass and rush pasture.

UK BAP Species

Water vole; Cornflower; Skylark; Yellowhammer; Linnet; Woodland Bats

Access

Footpaths cross the area, but no access along the length of the river.

Targets – main opportunities

- Wetland water control and management to benefit water vole and wetland BAP habitats.
- Arable plants.
- Farmland birds.