Other Conservation Designations within the AONB

The appendix covers the various conservation designations that apply within the AONB. Some areas of land, most notably in the coastal strip, may be included under more than one of these designations, and sometimes under several.

The appendix is arranged in two groups – nature conservation and cultural heritage – in descending order of significance i.e. sites of global - European - national - local importance. However the strength of protection a site receives does not always increase in proportion with its apparent importance. For example the European nature conservation designations have stronger protection under UK law than the globally important Ramsar sites.

Registered common land is also included in the appendix. Although not a conservation designation, common land makes an important contribution to the landscape, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area, because of its character and how it is managed, including constraints on development and changes of land use.

Ramsar Site
The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, especially as Wildfowl Habitat, was adopted at a meeting of countries held at Ramsar, Iran in 1971. The UK Government signed the convention in 1973 and became a contracting party in 1976 and in so doing accepted a commitment to promote both the conservation and the wise use of wetlands within its territory through local, regional and national actions and international co-operation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable use of wetlands and their resources throughout the world. By 2009, there were 159 ‘contracting parties’, with 1870 sites covering nearly 184 million hectares covered by the designation.
For further information visit: http://www.ramsar.org

Ramsar Sites wholly within the AONB are:   Dersingham Bog, North Norfolk Coast
Ramsar Sites overlapping the AONB are:   Broadland, The Wash

Biosphere Reserve
Biosphere reserves are nominated by national governments and designated under the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). There are 553 sites worldwide in 107 countries. The 9 sites in the UK are almost entirely on existing National Nature Reserves and all have other national, European, or international conservation designations. They comprise core, buffer and transition zones.

Biosphere reserves wholly within the AONB are:
   North Norfolk Coast (based on Holme Dunes, Scolt Head, Holkham and Blakeney National Nature Reserves) – designated in 1976

The original objectives of designation were for conservation, international research, monitoring and education and for demonstrating land, water and environmental development research. In the 1990s, the objectives were revised to apply to areas which innovate and demonstrate approaches to conservation and sustainable development. The North Norfolk Coast Biosphere Reserve, in common with some other UK sites, seems likely to lose the designation under the new criteria. For further information visit: http://www.unesco.org/mab/
Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
The UK Government has an obligation to designate and protect SACs under the European Commission Habitats Directive 1992. They are protected under the same Regulations as SPAs (see below) because of their international importance for specific species and habitats. In England, designation of terrestrial SACs has been based on selected sites already designated as SSSIs (see below), although SACs can also extend below mean low water mark. 169 habitat types and 623 species are considered in most need of conservation at European level. 76 of these habitat types occur in the UK of which 23 have priority status. There are currently 615 SACs in the UK. If a proposed development is likely to have a significant effect on a SAC an ‘Appropriate Assessment’ must be conducted to determine what impacts may arise, and possible means of mitigation. For further information visit: http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-23

SACs wholly within the AONB are:
Overstrand Cliffs, Paston Great Barn

SACs overlapping the AONB are:
The Broads, Norfolk Coast and Gibraltar Point Dunes (terrestrial), Roydon Common and Dersingham Bog, The Wash & North Norfolk Coast (marine), Winterton & Horsey Dunes

Special Protection Area (SPA)
The UK Government has an obligation to designate and protect SPAs under the European Commission Directive on Wild Birds 1979. The sites are internationally important for specific bird species. As for SPAs (see above), site selection has been based on existing SSSIs and ‘Appropriate Assessments’ are required for proposed developments that may have an impact on the relevant bird species. There are 270 SPAs in the UK at present. For further information visit: http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-162

SPAs wholly within the AONB are:
North Norfolk Coast

SPAs overlapping the AONB are:
Broadland, Great Yarmouth and North Denes, The Wash

National Nature Reserve (NNR)
Some of the best SSSIs (see below) are designated as NNRs by Natural England under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. They include the best examples of biological and geographical sites and are managed by Natural England or other approved conservation bodies. Initially established to protect sensitive features and to provide ‘outdoor laboratories’ for research, their purpose has widened from managing some of our most pristine habitats, our rarest species and our most significant geology to include providing opportunities to the public as well as schools and specialist audiences to experience England’s natural heritage.

There are over 224 NNRs in England covering over 800 square kilometres, the largest being The Wash NNR at nearly 8,800 ha. For further information visit: https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-nature-reserves-in-england

NNRs wholly within the AONB are:
Blakeney Point, Dersingham Bog, Holkham, Holme Dunes, Scolt Head Island

NNRs overlapping the NNR are:
Winterton Dunes
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
Designated by Natural England under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Sites are protected legally under the Act but positive conservation management relies mainly on the co-operation of landowners. Designation is on biological and/or geological grounds. For further information visit: https://www.gov.uk/protected-or-designated-areas

SSSIs wholly within the AONB, with approximate areas, are:
- Bilsey Hill (NE of Langham) (2.5 ha)
- Briton’s Lane Gravel Pit (Sheringham) (21 ha)
- Cockthorpe Common (7 ha)
- Dersingham Bog (159 ha)
- Fellbrigg Woods (165 ha)
- Glandford (Hurdle Lane) (9 ha)
- Glandford (Letheringsett Road) (1 ha)
- Holkham Brick Pit (0.5 ha)
- Hunstanton Park Esker (17 ha)
- Kelling Heath (90 ha)
- Morston Cliffs (1 ha)
- Mundesley Cliffs (29 ha)
- North Norfolk Coast (7860 ha)
- Overstrand Cliffs (58 ha)
- Paston Great Barn (1 ha)
- Ringstead Downs (7 ha)
- Sheringham and Beeston Regis Commons (24 ha)
- Sidestrand and Trimingham Cliffs (117 ha)
- Snettisham Carstone Quarry (11 ha)
- Stiffkey valley (44 ha)
- Warham Camp (5 ha)
- Wells Chalk Pit (4 ha)
- Weybourne Cliffs (42 ha)
- Weybourne Town Pit (0.6 ha)
- Wiveton Downs (29 ha)

SSSIs overlapping with the AONB are:
- Upper Thurne Broads and Marshes (small overlap with AONB)
- The Wash (over 62,200 ha overall, overlaps with W parts of the AONB)
- Winterton–Horsey Dunes (427 ha total, majority in AONB)

Local Nature Reserve (LNR)
Local authorities have powers to acquire, declare and manage LNRs in consultation with Natural England, under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. To qualify for LNR status, a site must be of importance for wildlife, geology, education or public enjoyment. Some are also nationally important Sites of Special Scientific Interest. LNRs must be controlled by the local authority through ownership, lease or agreement with the owner. The main aim must be to care for the natural features which make the site special. For further information visit: https://www.gov.uk/create-and-manage-local-nature-reserves

LNRs within the AONB are:
- Wiveton Downs
County Wildlife Site (CWS)
These are recognised as the most significant wildlife sites in a county outside SSSIs, which contain locally distinctive and important habitats and species, with most sites in private ownership. Although not a statutory designation, local authorities have adopted County Wildlife Sites into the planning process and Local Plans / Local Development Frameworks recognise them and contain policies to protect them. In Norfolk the CWS system is managed by Norfolk Wildlife Trust in conjunction with Norfolk County Council and Natural England. For further information visit: www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/protectingwildlife/cws

There are 82 County Wildlife Sites in the Norfolk Coast AONB (2009). Site numbers, names and grid references are listed below.

**NB County Wildlife Sites do not normally have public access.**

**West Norfolk**
440 Ling Common (TF 652240)
441 Fowlers Plantation (TF 676241)
443 Relict Heath (TF 649275)
444 Wootton Carr (TF 653250)
445 Castle Rising Wood (TF 668252)
446 Penny Wood (TF 682256)
447 Mill House Wood (TF 676251)
450 Wolferton Wood (TF 668272)
451 Cat's Bottom Heath (TF 676275)
452 The Carr and Slash Wood (TF 695298)
453 Wild Wood (TF 685284)
454 Wild Wood (TF 685286)
455 Boggs Whins (TF 678297)
456 Dersingham Meadow (TF 685298)
457 Dersingham Closed Common (TF 687295)
458 Dersingham Open Common (TF 686298)
459 Cat's Bottom Heath (TF 678274)
461 N. of Cat's Bottom (TF 673275)
463 Woodcock Wood (TF 685280)
464 Brick Kiln Covert (TF 686277)
465 Sandringham Park (TF 692281)
466 Wolferton Picnic Area (TF 665282)
467 Dersingham-Wolferton Railway (TF 660285)
468 Jocelyn's Wood (TF 682289)
469 Sandringham Warren (TF 675283)
470 Boathouse Wood (TF 660307)
476 Snettisham Common (TF 673337)
479 Ken Hill Wood (TF 675345)
481 Eaton Meadows (TF 701362)
484 Whin Covert (TF 692385)
485 South Hill Wood (TF 692399)
507 Barrow Common (TF 788433)
571 Ringstead Common (TF 726406)
1319 Thorpe Common and Fen (TF 845424)
1320 Burnham Norton Extension (TF 832436)
2034 Catlane Wood (TG 702388)
North Norfolk
1091 South of Hull Wood (TG 042398)
1096 Bush Wood (TG 050398)
1100 Cley Park (TG 070405)
1101 Cat Pits Wood (TG 089403)
1102 Adj. The Hangs (TG 084409)
1103 The Wing (TG 051412)
1104 The Hangs (TG 063427)
1106 Muckleburgh Hill (TG 100431)
1107 Kelling Hard (TG 098438)
1108 Langham Lane Meadow (TG 017405)
1109 Saxlingham Heath (TG 040403)
1110 Glandford Mill Meadow (TG 046415)
1111 Land at Cley (TG 044438)
1112 Morston Marshes (TG 005443)
1113 Hull Wood (TG 045401)
1143 Felbrigg Hall Estate (TG 189390)
1144 Metton Carrs (TG 200381)
1145 Gibbet and Marlpit Plantations (TG 155409)
1146 Pretty Corner and The Plains (TG 155415)
1147 Roman Camp and Beeston Regis Heath (TG 178418)
1148 Incleborough Hill (TG 188423)
1149 West Runton Common (TG 183422)
1150 Kelling Heath Park (TG 110417)
1152 Sheringham Wood and Park (TG 134415)
1154 Oak Wood (TG 134427)
1156 Beach Lane (TG 109437)
1192 Smith's Rough (TG 206401)
1196 Templewood Estate (TG 260384)
1197 Overstrand Disused Railway (TG 255400)
1199 Hall Wood (TG 213416)
1231 Waxham Sands Holiday Park (TG 458247)
1232 Fords Farm Pasture (TG 475225)
1246 Lambridge Covert (TG 432259)
1247 Marram Hills (TG 430277)
1248 Nr. French’s Farm (TG 441257)
1271 Holkham Lake (TF 883435)
1316 Stiffkey Meadows (TG 958429)
1317 Wells-Walsingham Railway (TG 936400)
1318 Wells Meadow (TF 913447)
2017 Salthouse Heath (TG 073424)
2073 Old Pollard Wood (TG 077400)
2077 Sheringham Old Wood (TG 159412)

Great Yarmouth
1436 Winterton PCC Land (TG 491198)
1437 West Coverts and Home Broad (TG 480200)
1438 Decoy Wood and South Wood (TG 484210)
1440 North Wood (TG 481220)

A map showing sites and reference numbers can be found at http://www.norfolk biodiversity.org/countywildlife/Map%20of%20Designated_wildlifesites2011_reduced.pdf
**Roadside Nature Reserves**
A non-statutory designation. RNRs are managed to conserve their locally significant flora.

RNRs West Norfolk
- 35 Docking Road, Ringstead
- 76 Peddars Way, Ringstead

RNRs North Norfolk
- 41 Stiffkey Road, Wells-next-the-Sea
- 44 Gravel Pit Hill, Cley-next-the-Sea
- 50 Wellspring Road, Southrepps
- 51 C303, Felbrigg
- 81 Lion’s Mouth, Felbrigg
- 101 Warham Road, Binham
- 108 Glandford Road, Wiveton

Further information on RNRs can be found at: https://www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/documents/a-living-landscape/wildlife-advice/community/nwt-roadside-nature-reserves

A list of sites in Norfolk can be found at:

**Scheduled Monument**
The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, building on legislation dating back to 1882, provides for nationally important archaeological and built heritage sites to be statutorily protected as Scheduled Monuments. There are currently around 19,000 entries in the Schedule, covering 35,000 sites ranging from prehistoric standing stones and burial mounds to Roman forts and medieval villages, and include some more recent structures such as collieries and wartime pill-boxes. The scheduling of a monument means that permission - 'scheduled monument consent' - is required for works to or affecting that monument. Historic England oversees and advises Government on scheduling and consents.
For further information on the sites below visit:
http://www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list

There are currently 61 Scheduled Monuments in the Norfolk Coast AONB:
- Aylmerton - wayside cross S of village
- Babingley – medieval settlement (two sites)
- Babingley - Butler’s Cross,
- Babingley - St Felix’s Church
- Binham Priory
- Blakeney Guildhall (medieval undercroft)
- Blakeney Chapel (site, N of Cley)
- Blakeney Downs – two bowl barrows
- Bodham – oval barrow / bowl barrow, Howes Hill
- Brancaster – ‘Branodunum’ Roman fort (two sites)
- Burnham Market - bowl barrow and pill box, Westgate Hall
- Burnham Market – St Mary’s Friary and Holy Well
- Burnham Overy - village cross
- Burnham Overy – Roman barrow E of village
- Castle Rising - castle and 11th century church
- Castle Rising – motte castle, Keeper’s Wood
Castle Rising - standing cross, the Green
Castle Rising - bowl barrow, bank and ditch, Mill House
Castle Rising - bowl barrow and mound, Old Fen
Cockthorpe – village cross
Eaton (nr Sedgeford) - Roman villa
High Kelling – oval Barrow, Bodham Wood
Holkham – Iron Age fort WNW of village
Kelling – bowl barrow N side Muckleburgh Hill
Kelling Heath bowl barrow
Langham airfield dome trainer
Paston Great Barn
Ringstead - St Peter’s Church tower
Roughton Heath (including Hare’s Hill and Two Hills) – tumuli (five sites)
Salthouse Heath – barrow cemetery (complex of over thirty barrows, mainly bowl
barrows, on and around Salthouse Heath)
Snippetsheath - remains of town, Lodge Hill (SW of village)
Southrepps – Stump Cross (wayside cross)
Stiffkey - tumulus, Warborough Hill
Thornham - Roman signal station (SW of village)
Titchwell - village cross
Warham Camp – small multivallate fort S of village (two sites)
Warham – iron age ditched enclosure NE of Warham Camp
Warham – bowl barrow, Fiddler’s Hill SE of village
Warham - Hale’s Manor moated site and earthworks E of village
Waxham site of manorial complex (incl. Great Waxham Tythe Barn)
Weybourne Priory
Weybourne – moated site, Rosedale Farm
Weybourne Heath – bowl barrow
Wighton - Crabb’s Castle, medieval castle site W of village
Wighton – medieval settlement N of Grove Farm
Wiveton Bridge

Historic Parks and Gardens
Since the 1980s, there has been a national record of the historic parks and gardens that
make such a rich and varied contribution to our landscape. This record, known as the
Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England and now containing
nearly 1450 sites, was established, and is maintained by, Historic England. The Register
is divided into three grade bands. The majority of the sites are Grade II, indicating their
national importance. Around 30% of all sites are considered to be of exceptional historic
interest and are awarded a star giving them Grade II* status. A further 10% are of
international importance, and are classified as Grade I.
For further information on the sites below visit:
http://www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list

Registered Historic Parks and Gardens within the AONB are:
    Fellbrigg Hall (II*), Holkham Hall (I), Hunstanton Hall (II), Sandringham Hall (II*),
    Sheringham Hall (II*), Stiffkey Hall (II), Voewood (II*)

Building Conservation Areas
A Conservation Area is an area of special architectural or historic interest, the character or
appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. Consequently, Conservation
Areas are of many different kinds. They vary widely in size and content in the Norfolk
Coast AONB, from the traditional medieval settlement cores to extensive rural landscapes
such as the Glaven Valley. However, the majority of Conservation Areas relate to the built environment of villages and towns. These may be large or small, and range from whole town centres to terraces and smaller groups of buildings. They will often be centred upon Listed Buildings. Important groups of other buildings, open spaces, trees, historic street patterns and village greens can all contribute to the special character of an area, which merits designation as a Conservation Area. Conservation areas designated by the local planning authorities are contained in their respective Local Plans (Local Development Frameworks). For further information contact District / Borough Council Conservation and Design Sections.

Conservation areas within the AONB or overlapping the boundary are:

In North Norfolk District (29):
- Binham (part), Blakeney, Cley-next-the-Sea, East Runton (part), Felbrigg, Gissingham, Glandford, Glaven Valley (part), Holkham, Kelling, Langham (part), Letheringsett, Morston, Northrepps, Overstrand (part), Salthouse, Sidestrand, Southrepps Lower (part), Southrepps Upper, Stiffkey, Trimmingham, Trunch (part), Upper Sheringham, Warham, Wells-next-the-Sea, West Runton (part), Weybourne, Wighton (part), Wiveton

For further information see: [http://www.northnorfolk.org/planning/12803.asp](http://www.northnorfolk.org/planning/12803.asp)

In the Borough of King's Lynn & West Norfolk (14):
- Brancaster, Burnham Market, Burnham Norton, Burnham Overy Mills, Burnham Overy Town, Burnham Overy Staithe, Burnham Thorpe, Castle Rising, Holme-next-the-Sea, Old Hunstanton (part), Ringstead, Sedgeford (most), Thornham, Titchwell


In Great Yarmouth Borough (2):
- East and West Somerton (part)
- Winterton (small part)

For further information see: [http://www.great-yarmouth.gov.uk/sport-leisure/heritage/conservation/index.htm](http://www.great-yarmouth.gov.uk/sport-leisure/heritage/conservation/index.htm)

**Listed buildings**

Buildings of special architectural or historic interest are designated by the Secretary of State, advised by English Heritage, under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. Listed Buildings include all buildings built before 1700 that survive in anything like their original state, selected buildings built between 1700 and 1840, and buildings of a definite quality and character built between 1840 and 1914. After 1914 only those buildings of the highest quality are selected and buildings less than 30 years old are only selected if they are of outstanding quality and under threat. It is the age, quality and distinctiveness of a building that qualifies it for listing.

There are 849 listed buildings (43 Grade I, 65 grade II* and 741 Grade II) in the AONB; information about particular listed buildings can be obtained from the relevant District / Borough Council.

Alternatively, the location and brief details of listed buildings can be found on the MAGIC web site [http://www.magic.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx](http://www.magic.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx) under ‘historic statutory designations’ and further information on named listed buildings via: [http://www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/](http://www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/)
Registered Common Land

Many areas of ‘common land’ i.e. land on which members of the community had rights of use, have disappeared as the rural economy has changed. Common land appearing now on County registers is that which has been recognised as such under the 1965 Registration of Commons Act. Common land usually, but not always, has a recognised owner and may or may not have specified common rights registered in association with it.

Registered areas of common land (* with common rights) in the AONB are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parish</th>
<th>Registration no. and area if recorded</th>
<th>Name / description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Wootton</td>
<td>CL173* (55 ha)</td>
<td>Marsh Common – 4 parcels of land to the W and NW of the village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dersingham</td>
<td>CL313* (5 ha)</td>
<td>North Wootton Common (W of village)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dersingham</td>
<td>CL226 (61 ha)</td>
<td>Dersingham Common – 3 adjoining parcels of land S of village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snettisham</td>
<td>CL378* (58 ha)</td>
<td>Snettisham Beach Shingle Fields – strip of land parallel to coast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sedgeford</td>
<td>CL64 (9 ha)</td>
<td>Snettisham Common (W of village)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holme-next-the-Sea</td>
<td>CL132*</td>
<td>three small pieces of land adjoining Holme Common, to NW of village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thornham</td>
<td>CL56*</td>
<td>Low Common - multiple intertidal areas with substantial overall area, N of village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thornham</td>
<td>CL41* (225 ha)</td>
<td>Thornham Common – complex area N of village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Titchwell</td>
<td>CL122* (15 ha)</td>
<td>foreshore and saltings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brancaster</td>
<td>CL124*</td>
<td>Brancaster Marshes - large intertidal area to n of Brancaster and Brancaster Staithe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brancaster</td>
<td>CL161*</td>
<td>intertidal area to N of CL124</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burnham Norton</td>
<td>CL9 (0.6 ha)</td>
<td>small area to N of village</td>
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<td>Burnham Thorpe</td>
<td>CL84* (3 ha)</td>
<td>Thorpe Common (NW of village)</td>
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<td>Stiffkey</td>
<td>CL425 (0.4 ha)</td>
<td>The Common (W of village)</td>
</tr>
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<td>Stiffkey</td>
<td>CL426</td>
<td>Gravel Pit (w of village)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morston</td>
<td>CL191 (0.9 ha)</td>
<td>Morston Quay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blakeney</td>
<td>CL269 (0.005 ha)</td>
<td>triangle of land outside Red House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blakeney</td>
<td>CL270</td>
<td>Small triangle of land at junction of Langham Road and A149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cley-next-the-Sea</td>
<td>CL284 (0.5 ha)</td>
<td>Cley Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Code</td>
<td>Area (ha)</td>
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<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>------</td>
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