DORSET LOCAL NATURE RECOVERY STRATEGY HABITAT ASSEMBLAGES

| Habitat assemblage: | Species of wayside and pasture trees |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Broad Habitat type: | Farm, town and village |
| S41 and Priority Habitat type: | |
| Composite species assemblages: | Lichens, fungi and bryophytes of mature and veteran wayside and pasture trees Invertebrates of trees in suburban / urban areas |

| Habitat assemblage description: | Groups, avenues and isolated trees found in rural, suburban and urban situations. Many have planted origins from 19 th Century plantings in parks and large gardens and include non-native species, particularly beech ¹ , common lime, horse chestnut and sycamore. |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| | These trees are isolated and more exposed to the sun and the bark can be enriched by dust particles which influences the lichen assemblages that can include species that are not found in closed woodland and restricted to pasture and parkland trees. These species have declined generally in lowland Britain through the loss of trees and an increase in pollution, and as a group are among the most threatened in the UK and seldom occur within SSSIs. |
| | The sunlit conditions can create a warm microclimate favoured by many beetles and other invertebrates associated with deadwood features of veteran trees. These species are associated with parkland and wood-pasture rather than closed woodland. |
| | Dorset is a national stronghold for epiphytic lichens associated with pasture trees and recent surveys for saproxylic beetles have found sites of regional importance. |
| | ¹ Beech is only considered native in one small area of northeast Dorset |

Other related
assemblages:Species of veteran and ancient trees and deadwood features of old growth
woodland

| Pressures and Threats | |
|--------------------------|--|
| PA05 | Abandonment of management/use of grasslands and other agricultural and agro-forestry systems (e.g. cessation of grazing, mowing or traditional farming) |
| | A loss of small farms and the increase in farm size, and the increasing size of farm machinery coupled with the general intensification of agriculture has led to a significant loss of in-field trees and these have not replaced by new plantings. |
| PA08 | Extensive grazing or under-grazing by livestock |

| | Grazing around the trees keeps the trunks free of species such as Bramble and Ivy. Relaxation of grazing or abandonment can lead to the trunks becoming |
|------|---|
| | covered by these fast-growing species to the detriment of lichens in particular. |
| PA13 | Application of natural or synthetic fertilisers on agricultural land |
| | Regular application of artificial fertilizers and slurry close to trees leads to the |
| | over-enrichment (hypertrophication) of the bark leading to the loss of most |
| | bryophytes and lichens resulting in species-poor communities of a few Ammonia |
| | and ectomycorrhizal fundi which impacts on the health of the trees themselves |
| | and cotomycomizariongi whon impacts on the neutron the trees themselves. |
| PI03 | Problematic native species |
| | Ivy can become an issue in certain situations where in the absence of grazing it |
| | grows quickly covering the trunks and can eliminate the lichens and bryophytes. |
| | Bramble is also a problem if it is shading the lower trunk. |
| PI04 | Plant and animal diseases, pathogens and pests |
| | Trees species, native and non-native, are under increasing threat from disease. |
| | In the 1970s most large Elm trees were lost from the Dorset landscape through |
| | Dutch Elm Disease leading a decline of those invertebrates, fungi and lichens |
| | narticularly affecting younger trees but may take longer to affect older trees and |
| | veteran. There are also diseases affecting Horse Chestnut. Oak and Sweet |
| | Chestnut. |
| | |
| PJ03 | Changes in precipitation regimes due to climate change |
| | Changing rainfall patterns can lead to more prolonged droughts which may |
| | the trees making them more prope to disease or pathogenic fungi such as honey |
| | fungus. |
| | |
| PJ07 | Cyclones, storms, or tornados due to climate change |
| | The changing climate is leading to more frequent, and potentially stronger, storm |
| | events which lead to the loss of trees through wind-throw. Managed trees |
| | reduced canopy |
| | |
| PK04 | Atmospheric N-deposition |
| | Low level, but persistent, atmospheric pollution has an impact on epiphytic |
| | favouring species tolerant of medium to high levels of nitrogen compounds. |
| | |

Dorset Local Nature Recovery Strategy Species Assemblages Guidance: *Species of wayside and pasture trees* © DERC: Version 1.0, December 2024

| | | • | | • | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|-------------|---------------|----------|------|----------------|------|-------------|----------|------|------|---|
| Group | Species | Common Name | IUCN GB | IUCN Eng | IUCN other | Criteria | | | | Threats / I | ressures | | | |
| Mosses | Habrodon perpusillus | Lesser Squirrel-tail Moss | NT | n/a | n/a | 2 | PH05 | PI04 | PM01 | - | | | | |
| Mosses | Neckera smithii | Prince-of-Wales Feather-moss | ГС | n/a | n/a | 4 | PB07 | PB08 | PB14 | PH05 | P103 | PI04 | PM06 | |
| Fungi | Rhodotus palmatus | Wrinkled Peach | n/a | n/a | NT(Eur) | 2 | PB07 | PB08 | PH05 | | • | | | • |
| Fungi | Volvariella bombycina | Silky Rosegill | n/a | n/a | n/a | 4 | PB07 | PB08 | PH05 | - | • | | | • |
| Lichens | Anaptychia ciliaris | | EN | n/a | n/a | L | PA18 | P103 | PH05 | PI04 | РК04 | PM07 | - | - |
| Lichens | Bellicidia incompta | | ۷U | n/a | n/a | 1 | PA18 | PB07 and 08 | P103 | PH05 | РК04 | PM07 | | |
| Lichens | Caloplaca flavorubescens | | EN | n/a | n/a | 1, 4 | РК04 | PM07 | PK04 | - | | | | |
| Lichens | Catapyrenium psoromoides | | CR | n/a | n/a | 1, 4 | РК04 | PI04 | PM07 | | | | | |
| Lichens | Parmelina carporrhizans | | VU | n/a | n/a | L | P103 | PK04 | PM07 | - | • | - | - | - |
| Lichens | Physcia clementei | | TN | n/a | n/a | 2 | PA18 | PI03 | PH05 | PI04 | PK04 | PM07 | | |
| Lichens | Physcia tribacioides | | Ś | n/a | n/a | <u> </u> | PA18 | P103 | PH05 | PI04 | PK04 | PM07 | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Micro-habitat assemblage: Lichens, fungi and bryophytes of mature and veteran wayside and pasture trees