

Bradlaugh Fields

Unit: Quarry Field

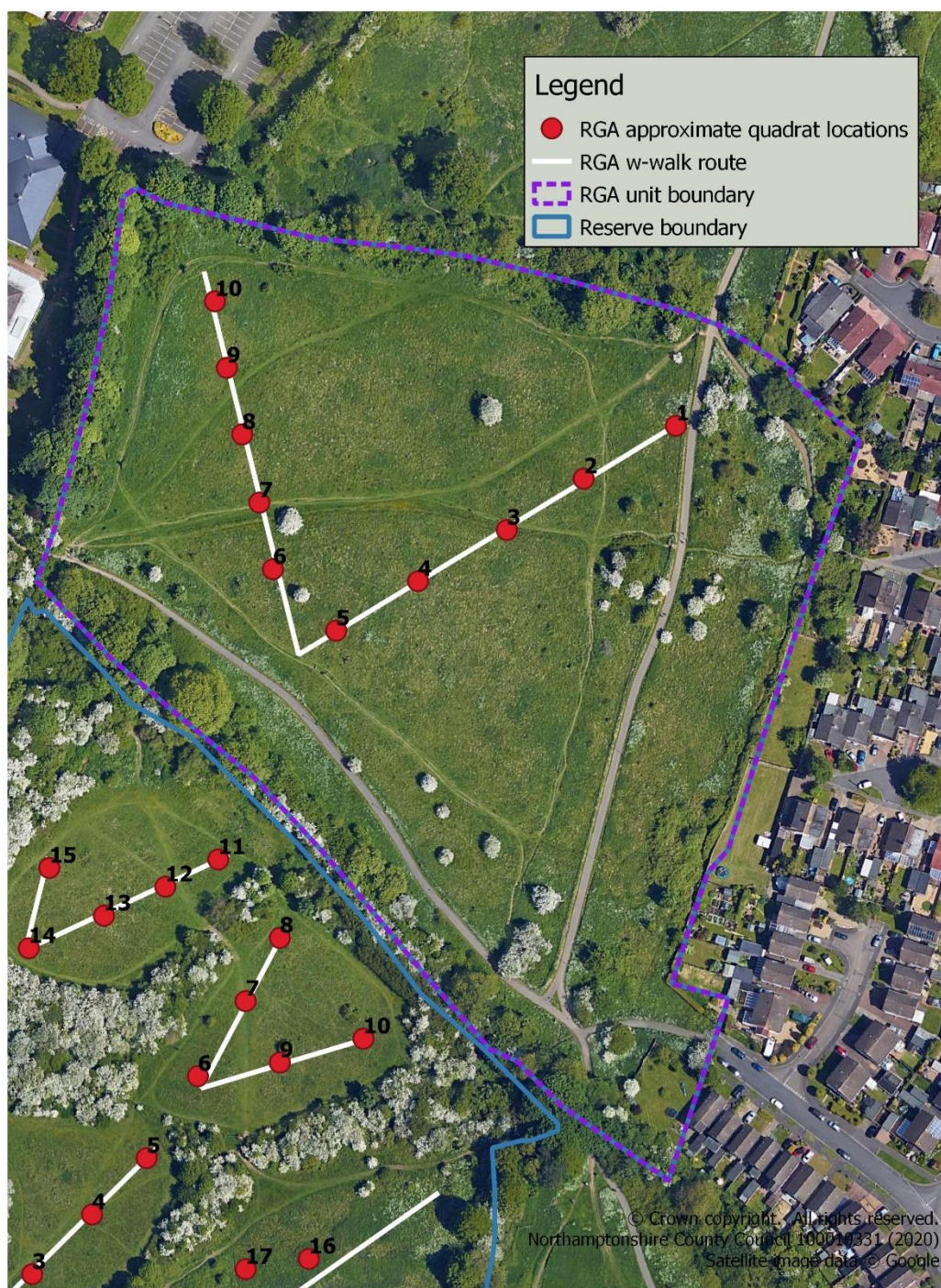
Map

Rapid Grassland Assessment Map

Site: Bradlaugh Fields

Compartment: Quarry Field

Year of survey: 2016



Grassland Feature

Grassland type: Neutral and calcareous

Grassland feature area: 4.90ha (estimated from QGIS 2020)

Management Comments and Restraints

May 2020. Quarry field was grazed – and possibly 2016 was the last year this happened. It has certainly not been grazed, or cut, since 2017. In effect no management of grassland is possible due to vandalism of the stock fencing and the uneven ground making 'mechanical grazing' very difficult. The field has been left to the dog walkers.

Summary

Metric	Year	
	2016	2020
Number of positive indicators recorded	7	8
Number of targets achieved	9	5
Number of targets failed	1	5
Number of targets not recorded	0	0

Targets

Attribute	Target	Achieved?	
		2016	2020
Extent	No loss of area	Yes	Yes
Herb / grass ratio	40% – 90% herbs	Yes	No
Frequency of positive indicator species/taxa	At least 2 species are frequent and at least a further 2 are occasional / frequent.	Yes	No
Cover of positive indicator species/taxa	At least 2 species are high cover and at least a further 2 are moderate/ high	No	No
Frequency of negative indicator species/taxa	No species more than occasional	Yes	No
Indicators of waterlogging	No species more than occasional	Yes	Yes
Frequency of all scrub and tree species	No species more than occasional	Yes	Yes
Percentage cover of all scrub and tree species	Not covering more than 5% of the grassland feature	Yes	Yes
Litter	No more than 10% cover (average)	Yes	No
Bare ground	No more than 2% cover (average)	Yes	Yes

Survey Comments

Year	Comments
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2016	False Oat-grass - everywhere but low density
2020	Overall % cover of scrub not recorded. Spiked sedge added to positive indicator list, this has affected total number of positive indicators recorded. Field bindweed added to negative indicator list - this has resulted in the target for negative indicator frequency being failed. Site unmanaged. Clumps of greater knapweed, agrimony, field scabious and meadow vetchling, but otherwise very grassy with bindweed.

Unit: Scrub Field

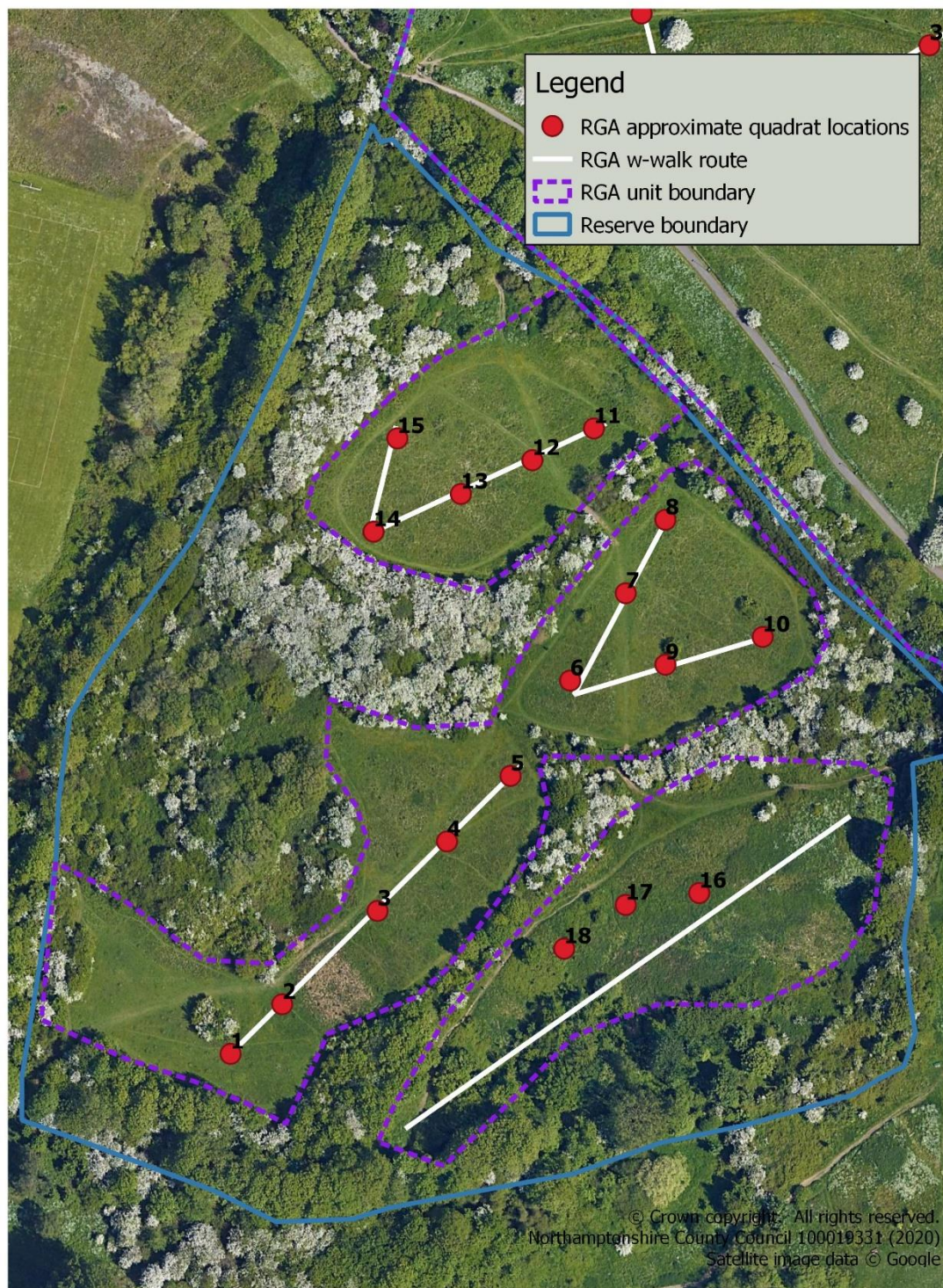
Map

Rapid Grassland Assessment Map

Site: Bradlaugh Fields

Compartment: Scrub Field

Year of survey: 2016



Grassland Feature

Grassland type: Neutral and calcareous

Grassland feature area: 2.35ha (estimated from QGIS 2020)

Management Comments and Restraints

May 2020. This was being grazed (like quarry field) but that stopped in 2016 or earlier due to vandalism of the stock fencing.

Since then EXCEPT for the field with quadrants 16-18. The fields have been selectively mown with a cut and collect tractor and flail. Where quadrants 1 and 2 lie, this field has been cut with an autoscylthe and the arisings raked off.

These fields have had scrub encroachment from the edges tackled and the erstwhile wet seep, with small trees between quadrants 2 and 3 has been cut. The seep has also dried out – due it is thought to Anglian Water works near to quadrant 11 (blocked a leak).

The field with quadrants 16/18 has, like quarry field, not been actively managed since 2017 at least – the vegetation here is appreciably higher and rank compared to the other fields.

Summary

Metric	Year	
	2016	2020
Number of positive indicators recorded	16	17
Number of targets achieved	9	6
Number of targets failed	1	4
Number of targets not recorded	0	0

Targets

Attribute	Target	Achieved?	
		2016	2020
Extent	No loss of area	Yes	Yes
Herb / grass ratio	50% – 90% herbs	Yes	Yes
Frequency of positive indicator species/taxa	At least 4 species are frequent and at least a further 6 are occasional / frequent.	Yes	No
Cover of positive indicator species/taxa	At least 3 species are high cover and at least a further 1 are moderate/ high	Yes	No
Frequency of negative indicator species/taxa	No species more than occasional	No	No
Indicators of waterlogging	No species more than occasional	Yes	Yes
Frequency of all scrub and tree species	No species more than occasional	Yes	No
Percentage cover of all scrub and tree species	Not covering more than 5% of the grassland feature	Yes	Yes
Litter	No more than 10% cover (average)	Yes	Yes
Bare ground	No more than 2% cover (average)	Yes	Yes

Survey Comments

Year	Comments
2016	Surveyors sampled 18 points in total, only samples 1-15 input on this form Sedge assumed to be C.flacca Scrub entered as the highest cell count for hawthorn, blackthorn or saplings
2020	Yellow-wort and common-spotted orchid added to positive indicator list. Field bindweed added to negative indicators.