



Owl Survey Queen's Wood October 2007

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Owl Survey at Queen's Wood

Method

One visit was made in October 2007 starting at sunset and lasting two hours. The whole of the site was walked, stopping to listen for birds holding territory and looking for any other signs of breeding activity. Recordings were also played for short periods in an attempt to lure any additional birds in the vicinity. All birds were recorded regardless of their breeding potential.

Habitat

| Area | Habitat | Potential for birds |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| North of Queen's Wood Road | High density of deciduous trees with at least one coppiced area. Some areas of holly were identified. | Excellent habitat for woodland species including Tawny Owls. Confirmed by the presence of at least one pair. |
| South of Queen's Wood Road | High density of deciduous trees with some bushes. | Not a prime area for woodland species but the closeness of the north section and gardens added value. Birds would use both sections equally as there is very little difference between them and therefore no difference should be given to either in scale of importance |

Results

Saturday 6 October 2007

Three species of bird were seen in the area, one of which Tawny Owl (1) was thought to be breeding at the site. The numbers in brackets represent the total number of breeding pairs calculated.

A male Tawny Owl was heard in the northeast corner of the north section of the wood. It was possibly calling from the neighbouring gardens in Wood Vale. A female was also heard calling in the southeast corner of the north section. Both birds were heard calling within the first hour of dusk. No other species of bird are usually expected to be breeding during October. The majority of woodland birds do not start breeding until February or March time.

Two more species of bird were recorded in the wood during the survey. They were Carrion Crow, one seen roosting in the middle of the north section and two Redwings were heard migrating over the wood.

Observations took place between – 19:20 hrs to 21:20 hrs



Conclusion

Breeding birds

Tawny Owls were present in the wood during the survey and at least one pair was considered to be breeding here. The male that was heard was possibly singing from outside of the wood in neighbouring gardens. This is typical of this species in London where they will feed and singing from gardens as their natural habitat of woodland is a scarce commodity.

Other birds

Two more species of bird were present in the wood. A Carrion Crow was disturbed from its roost site and two Redwings were heard migrating over. The latter species migrates in large numbers over England during October usually calling whilst they move south.



Appendix 1 – Species seen, their status in this country and number of breeding pairs

The following is a list of all species found on the site, their status in this country and the number of breeding pairs given in brackets.

Schedule 1 = Provides legal protection to rare birds and their young. It is an offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb at, on, or near an active nest.

Red List = species that are either globally threatened or have suffered serious decline.

Amber List = Moderate decline in population size and range.

Green List = No identified threat to the population's status.

Introduced = Species that have escaped and bred in the wild and have no specific conservation status here.

Breeding Species

Tawny Owl (1) – Green list

Non-Breeding Species

Redwing – Schedule 1 list

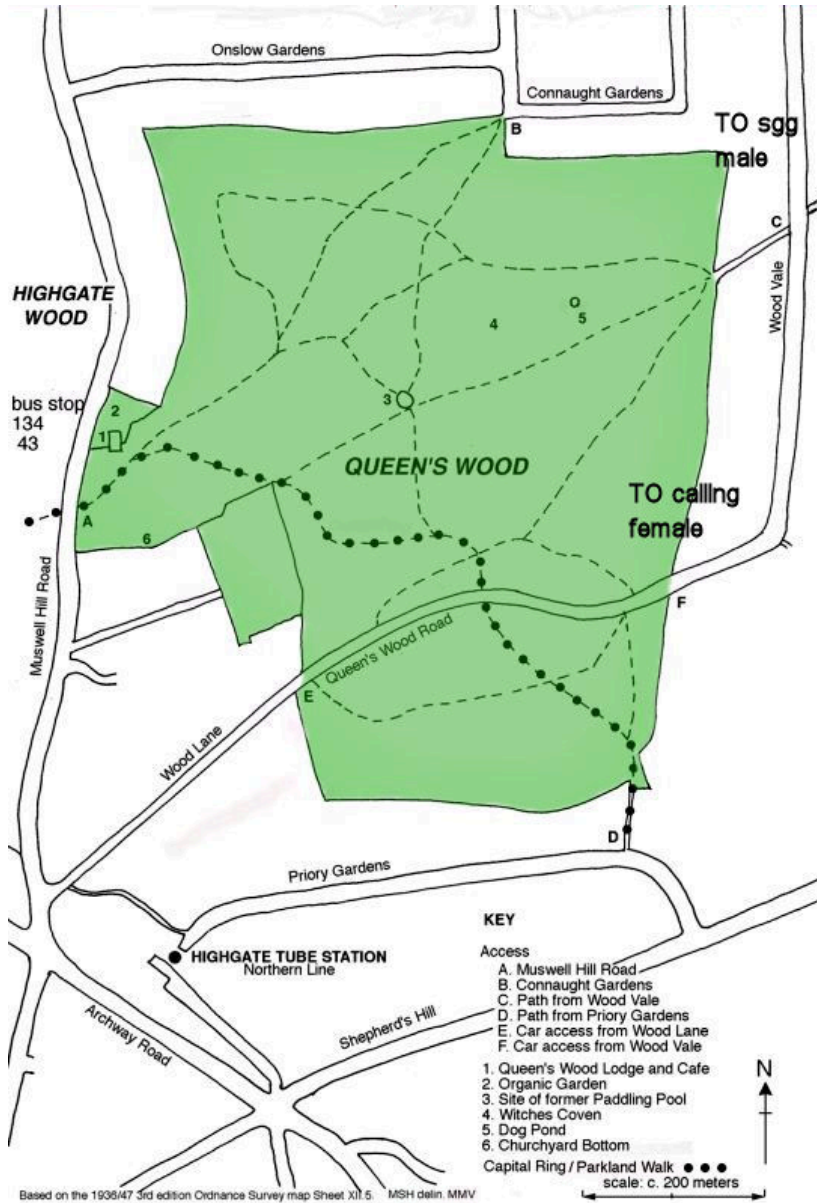
Carrion Crow – Green list

Appendix 2 – List of all species seen and their status at the site

| Species (Latin name) | Status at the site | Notes |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Tawny Owl (<i>Strix aluco</i>) | Confirmed breeding | One male present holding territory and a female calling. |
| Redwing (<i>Turdus ilacus</i>) | Migrant | Two birds heard calling. |
| Carrion Crow (<i>Corvus corone</i>) | Non breeding | One bird called in response to Tawny Owl song being played. This bird was not considered to be breeding at this site. |



Appendix 3 – Queen’s Wood, London map for October 6th





Appendix 4 – Bird species and behaviour key

Keys for map on pages 10

| Species | Code |
|----------------|-------------|
| Tawny Owl | TO |
| | |

| Behaviour | Code |
|------------------|-------------|
| Singing | sgg |
| | |

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