

THE MARL ALLOTMENT (MARLOT) MANAGEMENT PLAN

1 FEBRUARY 2021

Site Name

The Marl Allotment (Marlot)

District and County

Whixall, Shropshire

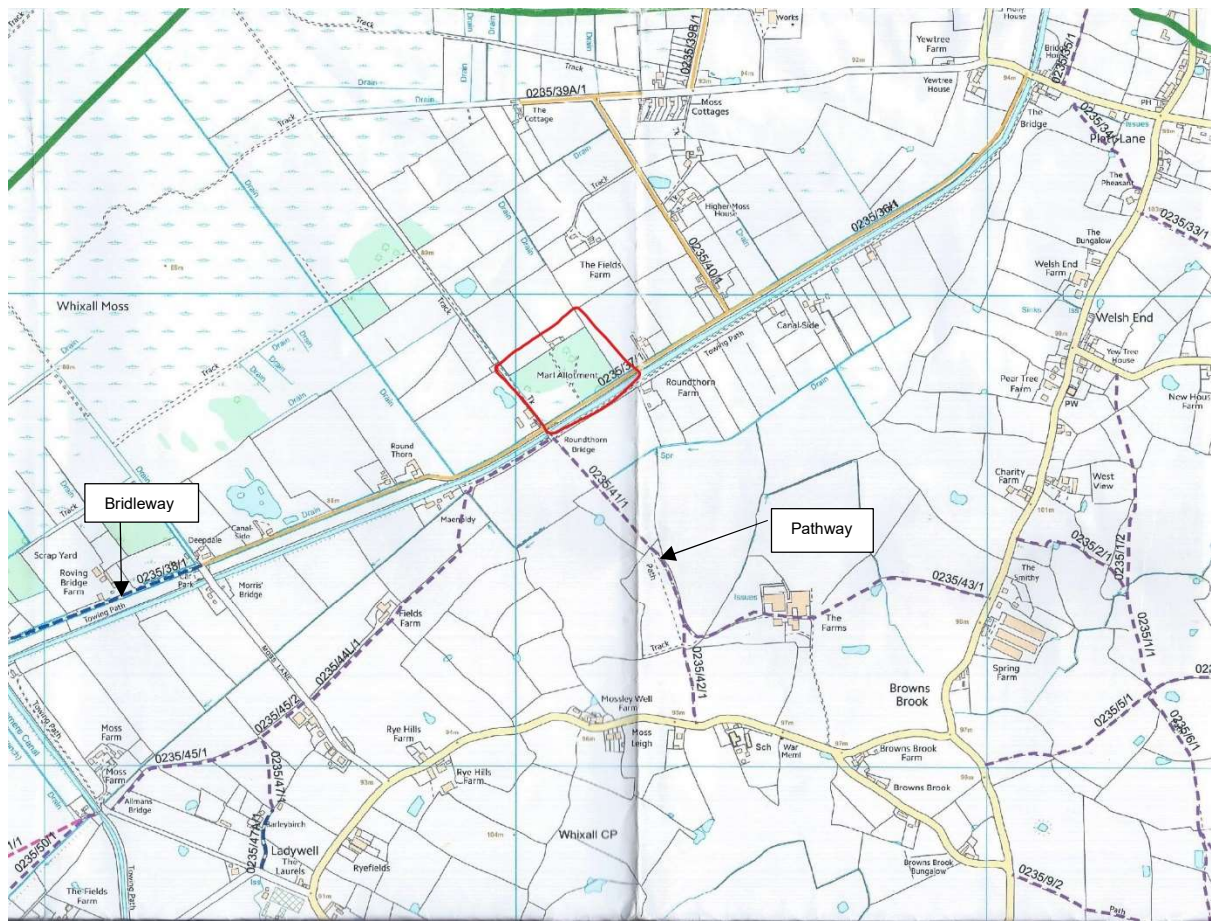
Proposed declaring authority

Whixall Parish Council

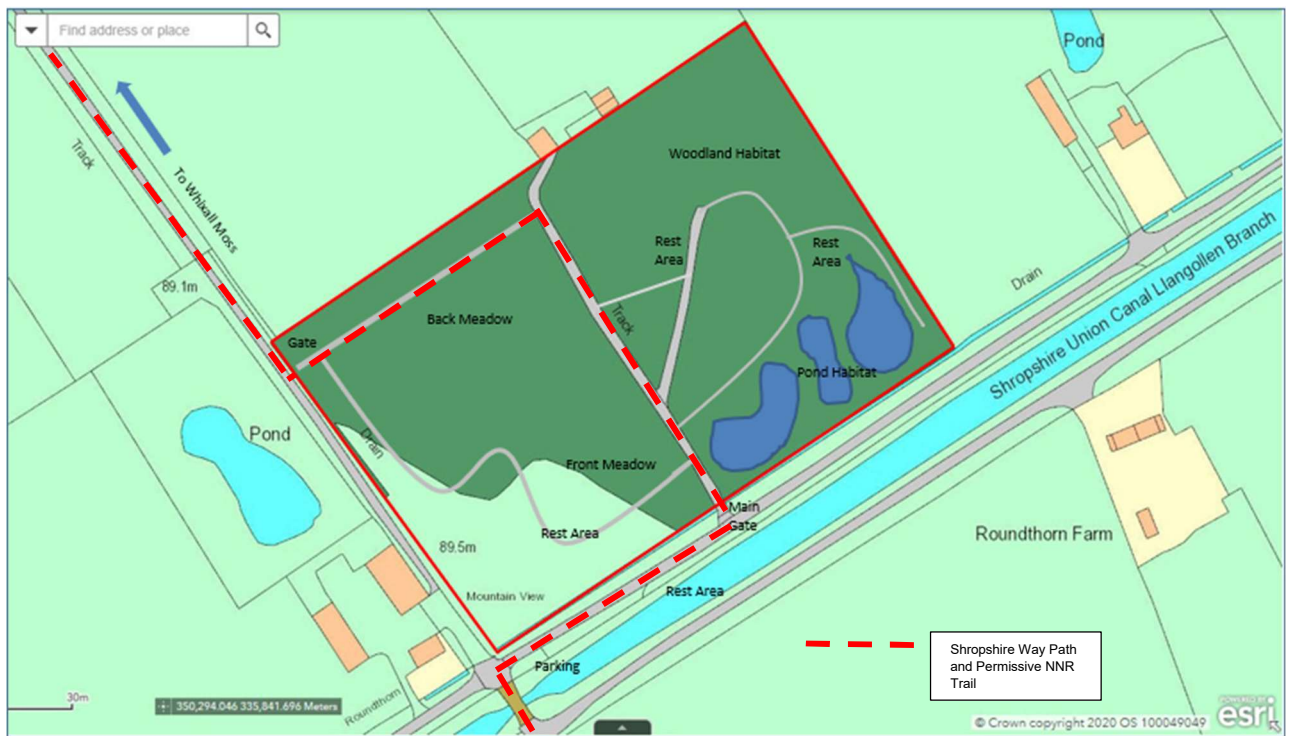
Area in Hectares

2.45 Hectares

Maps showing site location and site boundary



SITE LOCATION



SITE BOUNDARY

Location, Postcode and Map Reference

Adjacent to Shropshire Union Canal Llangollen Branch

Nearest Postcode: SY13 2PH

Grid Reference SJ501358 Lat/Long 52° 55' 03.21"N; 002° 44' 36.56"W

Elevation 93m

Description and History

The Marl Allotment (Marlot) is a 2.45 hectare area of common land situated to the south of Whixall Moss, one of the largest lowland raised mires in the UK, and to the north of the Llangollen Canal, within the Parish of Whixall, Shropshire. It is subject to protection under the Commons Act 2006.

The soil is peat and it is hydrologically part of the Fenn's, Whixall and Bettisfield Moss complex. The Marlot was once a rich mosaic of wetland, heathland, grassland and woodland habitats, with an amazing array of priority species present. Many years ago, local people used the site to dig for marl, a light, sandy clay, once used as a fertiliser. In more recent years it was a place where people dumped all kinds of waste material, including broken glass, scrap metal and plastics. The years without management resulted in much of the valuable open habitat being lost.

In 2012 Whixall Parish Council submitted a successful application to the Community Biodiversity Fund, under the "Your Natural Heritage" project to restore the site for wildlife and improve community access. A separate approach to Natural England also achieved additional matched funds for the project. A considerable amount of habitat management work was conducted at the Marlot at this time. A series of

ecological surveys (BioBlitzs) were also undertaken in 2012, providing a baseline for future monitoring. This included a botanical survey by Alex Lockton¹ which made the following management recommendations:

- Cut back trees and scrub
- Fence the site and have it grazed by cattle for at least part of the year
- Dig out scrapes to ensure there is open water

Gareth Parry, Shropshire Council Community Biodiversity Officer at the time, planned, organised and supervised the further recommended works and he subsequently produced an Ecological Management Plan² for the effective management of the site in the future. Since the restoration work in 2012/13 subsequent management and work on the site has been undertaken primarily by volunteers, operating under the authority of the Parish Council, using Parry's Ecological Management Plan as its base guide.

Duration as a Local Nature Reserve (LNR)

The Marlot should remain a protected Local Nature Reserve in perpetuity.

Ownership of the Land

The Marlot is registered Common Land and subject to protection under the Commons Act 2006. It has been under the registered ownership of Whixall Parish Council since 26 November 2014.

Agreements and Partnerships

Whixall Parish Council has recognised the importance of the site as a wildlife refuge and has enlisted the aid of Shropshire County Council, Natural England (Mosses NNR Staff), Shropshire Wildlife Trust and other conservation groups to identify the various flora and fauna and to advise upon the most effective way to manage the site. It is intended to develop these relationships further in order to fully utilise their expertise and advice on the continued management, use and maintenance of the Marlot.

Natural England, being the owners of the adjacent Mosses NNR, has a vested interest in the ongoing management of the site to ensure the biodiversity of the Mosses NNR from contaminating flora and fauna or other environmental variables (e.g., contamination to water courses). They continue to provide both advice and practical assistance to Whixall Parish Council, through site visits and volunteer work parties.

¹ Lockton Alex, Sept 2012 Ecological Management and Monitoring Plan for Marl Allotment, Whixall Moss

² Parry, Gareth, Shropshire County Council Community Biodiversity Officer, June 2013, Whixall Marlot Ecological Management Plan.

The Parish Council also devised a conservation grazing agreement, adapted from a Natural England model, which is currently in use for habitat management purposes (see Biodiversity and Habitat Management below).

The Marlot Conservation Group (MCG) is a small band of local community volunteers that regularly undertakes conservation and maintenance work on site, under direction from Whixall Parish Council. Initially using their own equipment and tools, they have now acquired power-tools and additional PPE and tools through funding from the Parish Council. The group works under agreed risk assessments and protocols and several members have appropriate power-tool qualifications.

Why choose the Marlot for LNR status?

As common land and a site of ecological importance and variety, under the stewardship of Whixall Parish Council, this piece of land naturally lends itself to be recognised and identified as a LNR for the benefit and enjoyment of the local and visitor communities. A community led Parish Plan in 2013 asked local parishioners whether “there is a need to protect wildlife and nature sites in the Parish” - 78% of respondents said there was a need, thus showing a considerable interest in the environment and wildlife within the local community. Whixall is a rural parish and many parishioners are sympathetic and embracing of the natural environment and the community owned Marlot is a valuable asset which is for the benefit for everyone, locals and visitors alike.

The Marlot is situated adjacent to a stretch of the Shropshire Union Canal Llangollen Branch close to the edge of Whixall Moss. Its position and locale make it an ideal starting point and gentle introduction for visitors to the nature and wildlife of the area and provides an excellent “stepping stone” for those who wish to also visit the more challenging environment of the nearby Moss. The Marlot is part of one the Fenn’s, Whixall and Bettisfield Mosses National Nature Reserve permissive NNR trails and part of the Shropshire Way. The trail pathway starts at the canal entrance to the Marlot, proceeds through the centre and connects the western boundary of the Marlot onto one of the main pathways into Whixall Moss.

Aims and Objectives

The main aim of achieving LNR status is to provide greater visibility, use and enjoyment by the local community of a piece of village common land that is there for all to experience. At present there is little understanding within the local community of its ecological importance and beauty, or indeed its very existence. Whixall Parish Council wish to ensure that the importance of the Marlot is recognised, and to engage more of the local and visitor community in its upkeep, maintenance and general use for enjoyment.

It is anticipated that with LNR status this would also attract and encourage local educational and environmental groups and organisations to visit and enjoy the varied

habitat and flora and fauna that the Marlot offers. This might then become part of a regular series of visits, surveys or educational experiences (see Environmental Education below).

Acquiring LNR status should also promote interest in the site with the local community as well as by the wider county community and other visitors to the region. It is also anticipated that achieving LNR status for the Marlot would provide access to additional local and government funds and resources (beyond that provided by the Parish Council) to assist in the upkeep, management and utilisation of the site.

Community Participation, Access and Visitor Management

Government departments, environmental groups and national charities are all encouraging exposure to the countryside as a means of improving the nation's general health and well-being. The site offers a tranquil setting for visitors, but its biodiversity would be an added-bonus for those who may have just been seeking exercise in a rural environment.

With easy access for incidental visits from its southern (Llangollen Canal) and western (Whixall Moss access) edges, visits are also encouraged via its adoption as an alternative route for the Shropshire Way long-distance footpath, together with its inclusion in the 'Mosses Trails' booklet by Natural England³ and the 'Whixall Walks' booklet⁴. The latter is a community led publication produced under 'Meres and Mosses Landscape Partnership' funding provided by the Heritage Lottery in 2013.

There is a need to make the Marlot more obvious and inviting to prospective casual visitors. At present the main entrance is through a metal farmer's gate which gives the impression that it is "farmer's land" rather than common land. The Marlot information board is set back from the main gate and is not obvious to the passer-by and can be missed. New wood signs have recently been made and have been placed in and around the Marlot to provide directions for visitors to the various areas of the Marlot.



MAIN GATE ENTRANCE

Proposals for the ongoing management of the site will include additional information boards and revised signage to welcome and inform visitors, along with professionally printed leaflets to be handed out to educational establishments and made available on site. The designation as an LNR on maps will greatly enhance its visibility and use by all.

The main visitors to the Marlot are expected to be the local community, canal travellers, hikers, dog-walkers, organised group visits and the more specialised

³ Fenn's, Whixall & Bettisfield Mosses National Nature Reserve (Natural England 2010) Cat Code NE271

⁴ Whixall Walks booklet 2015 (Meres and Mosses Landscape Partnership)

naturalists and persons more generally going to visit the Mosses NNR. The canal side south entrance is directly opposite a dedicated mooring and picnic tables, set up by the Canal and River Trust for houseboat and barge traffic, and this has brought more visitors to the site. A picnic table has been installed by Whixall Parish Council in the front meadow to encourage visitors to pause and enjoy a rest whilst experiencing their surroundings. There is a small dedicated parking area on a road/track which runs alongside the Marlot. There are no other public facilities on site or nearby. Whilst dogs are allowed on site, visitors are asked to clean up and keep dogs on a lead.

There are several cut pathways around the Marlot which take visitors around the pond area, woodland area and the front and back meadows. The paths are constantly maintained to a good standard by volunteers using hand tools and brush-cutting equipment. In early 2020, a generous donation by a local resident permitted a section of boardwalk to be installed in the pond area, and this proved most effective during the ensuing period of continuous wet weather with rising water levels.

Whixall Parish Council's website and newsletter gives regular information about the Marlot and the local community has been invited to events aimed at a better understanding of its importance and to seek help with its maintenance. Encouraging the interest of local schools is seen as key to the awareness of and engagement in the site by the wider community.

Environmental Education

The Marlot has been the subject of various biodiversity events and surveys (BioBlitzes) organised by Shropshire Wildlife Trust and supported by Natural England. These bring experienced amateurs and experts to site to:

- a. list all the flora /fauna.
- b. to pass this knowledge and environmental exposure on to those members of the public that chose to attend.

It is anticipated that future events will directly involve teaching staff plus/minus students/members to introduce the site and its potential for short and long-term environmental studies. In a recent discussion (June 2021) with the Shropshire Wildlife Trust's Environmental Events Officer, future opportunities for visits and events at The Marlot by various organised groups has been scoped and will hopefully be implemented soon.

Whixall's Primary School is within walking distance of the site. The nearby towns of Wem and Whitchurch both have secondary schools and it is anticipated that these establishments could take advantage of the site's proximity to organise educational visits embracing numerous areas of the curriculum. Whixall Parish Council will contact and make direct liaison with the schools in the area to investigate how they might utilise the Marlot within their school curriculum.

With the assistance of local Natural England staff, it is intended to invite Colleges, Universities and Environmental Groups, who already undertake targeted studies and

surveys on the Mosses NNR, to make use of the Marlot as an additional study area to conduct their own ecological and environmental studies and surveys of the habitat, flora and fauna with minimal involvement from the MCG. This would also be extended to wildlife organisations and species recording groups within Shropshire; informing them of the biodiversity of the Marlot and invite and encourage them to come and conduct research, surveys and group events.

Biodiversity and Habitat Management

Past surveys and reports have shown that the Marlot contains some rare and protected species as well as an abundance of differing flora and fauna in its mosaic of habitats. Lockton's botanical survey in 2012 listed about 150 species of plant life (see appendix). Further surveys will be commissioned in the future as a means of monitoring the situation and these could be linked to arranged educational studies with professional expertise from local wildlife organisations.

Pond and Ditch Management

The Marlot has several ponds which provide habitat for the Great Crested Newt which is protected by British and European Laws. Regular newt surveys are conducted under the supervision of licensed handlers and the results are collated by Natural England.

The following is a small example extract of previous survey results (not exhaustive)

Date	Great Crested Newts	Smooth Newts
April 2016	6	11
April 2017	27	62
April 2018	13	21
March 2020	17	4
May 2021	10	12



POND HABITAT

These surveys are conducted annually between March and June and it is expected that these will continue for the foreseeable future. Ongoing work is required to keep the ponds and ditches from natural succession - clogging with vegetation and debris. A rotation system is adopted and the task is achieved by organised work parties using hand tools, in accordance with the

Ecological Management Plan. A programme of future pond and ditch excavations and scrapes has been planned, which may necessitate the use of heavier machinery. This will be done in conjunction with advice from both Natural England (Mosses NNR) and Shropshire Wildlife Trust and would utilise specialist machinery and personnel.

It is also intended to introduce and encourage more indigenous wildflowers around the periphery of the pond and meadow areas to provide a more visually inviting experience for the visitor.

The ponds also attract a plethora of dragonflies and damselflies and other insects as well as being a haven for numerous species of birds.

A natural rest/seating area has been made from felled wood which is situated at the top of the pond habitat area and gives an excellent view of all the ponds. This is an ideal spot for a new information board.

Woodland Management

The woodland areas contain broadleaf trees and shrubs. Trees are not normally felled unless their condition or location presents a hazard. Some rotted trunks are left for the benefit of nesting birds and other wildlife.

The understorey is mainly bramble scrub, which requires attention to enable other climbing plants and flowers to thrive. Small, informal glades and paths have been created to promote this growth and to enhance the visitor experience. However, the importance of the understorey is recognised as habitat for insects and animals and there are various habitat piles created all around the site.

It is intended to provide woodland habitat information boards and benches to this area.



WOODLAND HABITAT

Materials arising from forestry work will often be stacked as 'habitat' or made ready to be chipped and spread where needed on site e.g., on footpaths.

Nest boxes and bat roost boxes have been installed all around the site. Currently Natural England staff and volunteers, under licence, monitor their occupation as part of a wider nest box scheme across the whole of the Mosses NNR. Currently all data is returned to Natural England, the British Trust for Ornithology and, through them, to the wider NBN network. Continued annual monitoring programmes are regarded as a useful step for students to get practical experience in this particular area of nature conservation.

Meadow Management

Two linked meadow areas contain a wide variety of grasses, sedges, ferns and numerous wildflowers.



FRONT MEADOW



BACK MEADOW

Control of re-generated willow growth presents the biggest challenge to effective management, along with dense patches of bracken. A small number of 'conservation grazed' cattle are introduced over short periods in autumn and early spring to assist with this management. They are carefully monitored to ensure over grazing does not occur.

A patch of Creeping willow (*Salix repens*), a nationally rare plant species and found at only a handful of sites in North Shropshire - has been identified on site and has been ring-fenced for protection.

It is intended to provide boards providing relevant information on the meadow habitat.

The front meadow area is an ideal spot for visitors to sit down at the table/bench and experience in slow time the beauty and peacefulness of the Marlot.

Additional benches in the rear meadow are also required and the intention is to purchase more as part of the management plan.



CREEPING WILLOW

General Maintenance

In addition to the small number of local parish volunteers from the MCG, they are sometimes assisted by volunteers working on behalf of Natural England. This is arranged on a case-by-case basis and provides essential assistance and added manpower to the MCG in the ecological management of the Marlot. The MCG volunteers carry out maintenance and upkeep work twice a week on site throughout the year.

Costs and Funding

All maintenance and upkeep costs are currently funded through a dedicated funding line within the overall financial budget of Whixall Parish Council. This funding is used for the purchase and maintenance of Parish owned equipment and ancillary costs in managing the upkeep of the site. The Parish Council would also anticipate using any grants or local government funds and initiatives which are or were made available in assisting in the costs of the Marlot. It is anticipated that designation of the site as a LNR would improve access to other funding streams and allow for the improvement to the infrastructure and facilities within the Marlot, particularly information boards and rest area seating.

MARL ALLOTMENT BOTANICAL SPECIES LIST

A botanical species survey was carried out by Alex Lockton (Whild Associates, Shrewsbury) and Joumana Mobarak in August 2012 as part of an Ecological Management and Monitoring Plan for the Marl Allotment⁵. Survey was based on a survey by Dr Jonathon H S Cox conducted in 1991.

Species	Common Name	1991	2012
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple	-	yes
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore	-	yes
<i>Achillea ptarmica</i>	Sneezewort	-	yes
<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>	Agrimony	-	yes
<i>Agrostis canina</i>	Velvet Bent	yes	yes
<i>A. capillaris</i>	Common Bent	-	yes
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	Creeping Bent	-	yes
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Bugle	yes	yes
<i>Alisma plantago-aquatica</i>	Water-plantain	-	yes
<i>Alliaria petiolate</i>	Garlic Mustard	-	yes
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Alder	yes	yes
<i>Alopercurus pratensis</i>	Meadow Foxtail	-	yes
<i>Angelica sylvestris</i>	Wild Angelica	yes	yes
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal Grass	yes	yes
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False Oat Grass	-	yes
<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>	Mugwort	-	yes
<i>Arum maculatum</i>	Lords and Ladies	-	yes
<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>	Lady Fern	-	yes
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch	-	yes
<i>B. pubescens</i>	Downy Birch	yes	yes
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Heather	yes	yes
<i>Calystegia pulchra</i>	Hairy Bindweed	-	yes
<i>C. sepium</i>	Hedge Bindweed	-	yes
<i>Cardamine flexuosa</i>	Wavy Bitter-cress	-	yes
<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	Cuckoo-flower	yes	yes
<i>Carex canescens</i>	White Sedge	-	yes
<i>C. nigra</i>	Common Sedge	yes	yes

⁵ Ecological Management and Monitoring Plan for Marl Allotment, Lockton (Whild Associates) and Parry (Shropshire Council) September 2012.

<i>C. otrubae</i>	False Fox-sedge	yes	yes
<i>C. pilulifera</i>	Pill Sedge	-	yes
<i>C. pseudocyperus</i>	Cyperus Sedge	-	yes
<i>C. remota</i>	Remote Sedge	yes	yes
<i>Centuaurea nigra</i>	Common Knapweed	-	yes
<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Common Mouse-ear	-	yes
<i>Ceratocapnos claviculate</i>	Climbing Corydalis	yes	yes
<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>	Rosebay Willowherb	yes	yes
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping Thistle	-	yes
<i>C. palustre</i>	Marsh Thistle	yes	yes
<i>C. vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle	-	yes
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	-	yes
<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	Crested Dog's-tail	-	yes
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock's-foot	-	yes
<i>Dactylorhiza fuscii</i>	Common spotted-orchid	yes	-
<i>Danthonia decumbens</i>	Heath-grass	-	yes
<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>	Tufted Hair-grass	yes	yes
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	Foxglove	yes	yes
<i>Dryopteris affinis</i>	Golden-scaled Male-fern	-	yes
<i>D. carthusiana</i>	Narrow Buckler-fern	-	yes
<i>D. dilatata</i>	Broad Buckler-fern	yes	yes
<i>D. filix-mas</i>	Common Male fern	-	yes
<i>Elymus caninus</i>	Bearded Couch	-	yes
<i>Epilobium ciliatum</i>	American Willowherb	-	yes
<i>E. hirsutum</i>	Great Willowherb	yes	yes
<i>E. montanum</i>	Broad-leaved Willowherb	-	yes
<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	Field Horsetail	-	yes
<i>E. fluviatile</i>	Water Horsetail	-	yes
<i>E. palustre</i>	Marsh Horsetail	-	yes
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red Fescue	-	yes
<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>	Meadowsweet	yes	yes
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	-	yes
<i>Galeopsis bifida</i>	Bifid Hemp-nettle	-	yes
<i>G. speciosa</i>	Large-flowered Hemp-nettle	-	yes
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers	-	yes
<i>G. palustre</i>	Common Marsh-bedstraw	-	yes
<i>G. saxatile</i>	Heath Bedstraw	yes	-
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb-robert	-	yes
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Wood Avens	-	yes
<i>Glyceria fluitans</i>	Floating Sweet-grass	-	yes
<i>G. maxima</i>	Reed Sweet-grass	-	yes
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	-	yes
<i>Heracleum spondylium</i>	Hogweed	yes	yes
<i>Hieracium</i> sp.	a hawkweed	-	yes

<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire-fog	yes	yes
<i>H. mollis</i>	Creeping Soft-grass	-	yes
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Perforate St John's wort	-	yes
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	Cat's-ear	yes	yes
<i>Illex aquifolium</i>	Holly	-	yes
<i>Juncus acutiflorus</i>	Sharp-flowered Rush	-	yes
<i>J. bufonius</i>	Toad Rush	-	yes
<i>J. conglomeratus</i>	Compact Rush	-	yes
<i>J. effusus</i>	Soft-rush	yes	yes
<i>J. inflexus</i>	Hard Rush	-	yes
<i>Lapsana communis</i>	Nipplewort	-	yes
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow Vetchling	yes	yes
<i>Lemna minor</i>	Common Duckweed	-	yes
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Perennial Rye-grass	-	yes
<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	Honeysuckle	-	yes
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Common Bird's-foot-trefoil	yes	yes
<i>L. pedunculatus</i>	Large Bird's-foot-trefoil	-	yes
<i>Luzula campestris</i>	Field Wood-rush	-	yes
<i>Lycopus europaeus</i>	Gipsywort	yes	yes
<i>Lythrum portula</i>	Water Purslane	-	yes
<i>Mentha x verticillata</i>	Whorled Mint	-	yes
<i>Mimulus guttatus</i>	Monkeyflower	-	yes
<i>Molinia caerulea</i>	Purple Moor-grass	-	yes
<i>Myosotis scorpioides</i>	Water Forget-me-not	yes	-
<i>M. sylvatica</i>	Wood Forget-me-not	-	yes
<i>Neottia ovata</i>	Common Twayblade	yes	-
<i>Odontites vernus</i>	Red Bartsia	-	yes
<i>Oxalis tetraphylla</i>	Four-leaved Pink-sorrel	-	yes
<i>Persicaria hydropiper</i>	Water-pepper	-	yes
<i>Persicaria maculosa</i>	Redshank	-	yes
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	Reed Canary-grass	yes	yes
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	-	yes
<i>P. major</i>	Greater Plantain	-	yes
<i>Poa pratensis</i>	Smooth Meadow-grass	-	yes
<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	Silverweed	yes	yes
<i>P. erecta</i>	Tormentil	yes	yes
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Selfheal	-	yes
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn	-	yes
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	yes	yes
<i>Quercus robor</i>	Pedunculate Oak	yes	yes
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow Buttercup	-	yes
<i>R. aquatilis</i>	Common Water-crowfoot	-	yes
<i>R. flammula</i>	Lesser Spearwort	yes	yes
<i>R. repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup	-	yes

<i>R. sceleratus</i>	Celery-leaved Buttercup	-	yes
<i>Ribes rubrum</i>	Red Currant	-	yes
<i>R. uva-crispa</i>	Gooseberry	-	yes
<i>Rosa arvensis</i>	Field Rose	-	yes
<i>Rosa canina</i> agg.	Dog Rose	yes	yes
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	Bramble	yes	yes
<i>R. idaeus</i>	Raspberry	-	yes
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common Sorrel	yes	yes
<i>R. acetosella</i>	Sheep's Sorrel	-	yes
<i>R. conglomeratus</i>	Clustered Dock	-	yes
<i>R. crispus</i>	Curled Dock	-	yes
<i>R. obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Dock	-	yes
<i>Salix caprea</i>	Goat Willow	-	yes
<i>S.cinerea</i>	Grey Willow	yes	yes
<i>S.repens</i>	Creeping Willow	-	yes
<i>S. x sepulacralis</i>	Weeping Willow	-	yes
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder	yes	yes
<i>Scrophularia auriculata</i>	Water Figwort	-	yes
<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	Common Ragwort	-	yes
<i>Silene flos-cuculi</i>	Ragged Robin	yes	yes
<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	Bittersweet	yes	yes
<i>Sonchus asper</i>	Prickly Sow-thistle	-	yes
<i>S. oleraceus</i>	Smooth Sow-thistle	-	yes
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan	yes	yes
<i>Sparganium erectum</i>	Branched Bur-reed	-	yes
<i>Sphagnum</i> sp.	a bog-moss	yes	-
<i>Stachys palustris</i>	Marsh Woundwort	-	yes
<i>S. sylvatica</i>	Hedge Woundwort	-	yes
<i>Stellaria alsine</i>	Bog Stichwort	-	yes
<i>S. graminea</i>	Lesser Stitchwort	yes	yes
<i>Succisa pratensis</i>	Devil's - bit Scabious	yes	yes
<i>Symphytum x uplandicum</i>	Russian Comfrey	-	yes
<i>Torilis japonica</i>	Upright Hedge-parsley	-	yes
<i>Trifolium dubium</i>	Lesser Trefoil	-	yes
<i>T. pratense</i>	Red Clover	yes	yes
<i>T. repens</i>	White Clover	-	yes
<i>Trisetum flavescens</i>	Yellow Oat-grass	-	yes
<i>Typha latifolia</i>	Great Reedmace	-	yes
<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	Wych Elm	-	yes
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Stinging nettle	yes	yes
<i>Veronica beccabunga</i>	Brooklime	-	yes
<i>V. chamaedrys</i>	Germander Speedwell	-	yes
<i>V. officinalis</i>	Heath Speedwell	yes	-
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted vetch	-	yes

V. sepium	Bush vetch	yes	-
Viola palustris	Marsh violet	yes	yes
V. riviniana	Common Dog-violet	-	yes

ADDITIONAL SPECIES NOTED AT THE MARLOT

From ongoing annual surveys conducted by Dr Robert Harris (Independent Consultant), the following additional species have also been noted at the Marlot.

Triturus cristatus	Great-crested newt
Lissotriton vulgaris	Smooth Newt
Platycnemis pennipes	White-legged Damselfly
Calopteryx splendens	Banded Demoiselle
Aeshna mixtra	Migrant Hawker Dragonfly
Callophrys rubi	Green Hairstreak Butterfly
Lasiocampa quercus	Oak Eggar Moth caterpillar
Nepa cinerea	Giant Water Scorpion
Dolomedes fimbriatus	Raft Spider
Arvicola amphibus	Water Vole
Micromys minutus	Harvest Mouse
Anas platyrhynchos	Mallard
Ardea cinerea	Grey Heron
Buteo	Common Buzzard
Accipiter nisus	Sparrowhawk*
Falco tinnunculus	Common Kestrel
Gallinula chloropus	Moorhen*
Scolopax rusticola	Woodcock
Columba oenas	Stock Dove*
Columba palumbus	Woodpigeon*
Cuculus canorus	Cuckoo
Tyto alba	Barn Owl*
Alcedo atthis	Kingfisher
Dendrocopos major	Great Spotted Woodpecker*
Motacilla alba	Pied Wagtail
Prunella modularis	Dunnock*
Erithacus rubecula	Robin*
Turdus philomelos	Song Thrush*
Turdus iliacus	Redwing
Turdus merula	Blackbird*
Sylvia borin	Garden Warbler*
Sylvia atricapilla	Blackcap*

<i>Sylvia communis</i>	Whitethroat
<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	Sedge Warbler
<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	Willow Warbler*
<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	Chiffchaff*
<i>Troglodytes</i>	Wren*
<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	Spotted Flycatcher
<i>Parus major</i>	Great Tit*
<i>Pariparus ater</i>	Coal Tit*
<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	Blue Tit*
<i>Poecile palustris</i>	Marsh Tit*
<i>Poecile montanus</i>	Willow Tit
<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	Long-tailed Tit*
<i>Sitta europaea</i>	Nuthatch*
<i>Certhia familiaris</i>	Treecreeper*
<i>Pica Pica</i>	Magpie
<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	Jay
<i>Corvus monedula</i>	Jackdaw*
<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Starling
<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	Chaffinch*
<i>Carduelis cabaret</i>	Lesser Redpoll
<i>Carduelis</i>	Goldfinch*
<i>Chloris chloris</i>	Greenfinch
<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	Bullfinch
<i>Emberiza schoenichus</i>	Reed Bunting

* known breeding species

A full updated survey of all taxa is currently in abeyance due to current Covid-19 restrictions. As soon as practicable surveys will be undertaken to provide a more up to date baseline on conversion to LNR status.