

Water Shrew survey of Knepp Estate

27.7.05 - 13.8.05

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In order to survey for water shrews at Knepp estate, Dr Sara Churchfields method of bait tubing was employed. Tubes baited with castors were placed at wetland locations throughout Knepp estate. Unless otherwise stated, tubes were placed at approximately 10m intervals, with 10 tubes per site. Where possible tubes were placed within 2m of the watercourse in locations with good bankside plant cover. Some tubes may be exposed to poaching and trampling. Prevailing weather at time of tubing was dull with periods of intense rain (predicted to last for 2 days after tubing). Tubes were left in situ for 2 weeks, then collected individually in bags, air dried and processed for scats at Brighton University.

Water shrew territories are generally believed to be under 270m, their migration for new territory is though to be up to 3km but generally no more than 500m. For this reason, where possible, tube sites were kept at 500m or more from another site. This provides a rough idea of the distribution of separate individuals across the estate.

Transect Number - 1

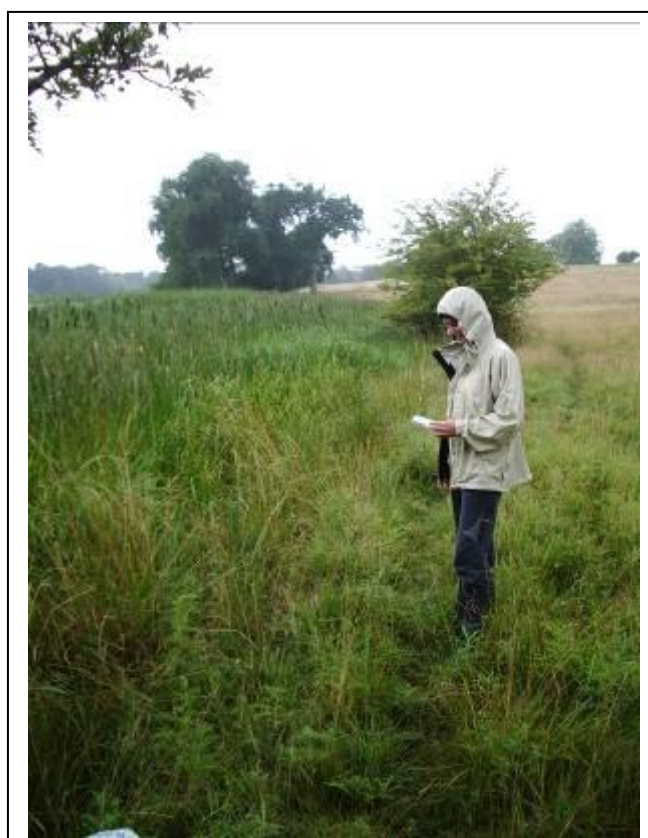
Tube code - K(O)P 1 - 10

Site name - Kneppmill Pond

GPS and accuracy - TQ 15787 21905 acc unknown.

Taken at tube 1, working downstream

Other info - KP 10 is at 15m and closer to water



Transect Number - 2

Tube code - BKP 1 - 10

Site name - Below Kneppmill Pond

GPS and accuracy - TQ 15591 21165 acc 22.4'

Taken at tube 1 immediately below Kneppmill pond exit onto floodplain

Other info -



Transect Number - 3

Tube code - ADUR 1 - 10

Site name - Main river Adur

GPS and accuracy - TQ 15995 20755 acc 21.1

Other info –



Transect Number - 4

Tube code - TW 1 - 10

Site name - Tenchford Weir

GPS and accuracy - TQ 15366 20961 acc 17.4

Number 1 at weir, working upstream

Other info -



Transect Number - 5

Tube code - ChB 1 - 10

Site name - Charlwood Barn bridge/weir

GPS and accuracy - TQ 15146 21421 acc 24.5

Other info -



Transect Number - 6

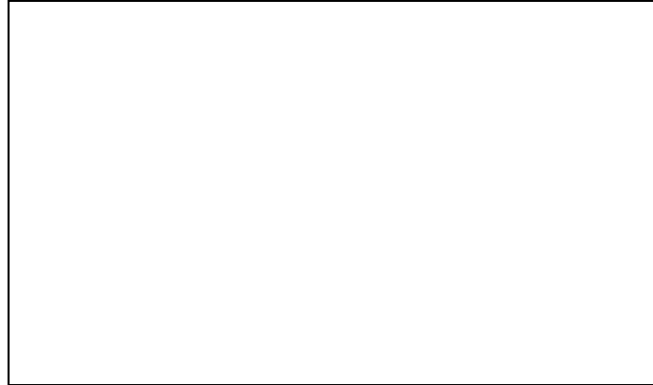
Tube code - HP 1 - 10

Site name - Hammer pond

GPS and accuracy - TQ 14797 20830 acc 27'

From bottom of lake outflow and around to south east side of lake

Other info -



Transect Number - 7

Tube code - CB 1 - 10

Site name - Capps Bridge

GPS and accuracy - TQ 14880 21820 acc 28'

GPS taken at tube 3 - working upstream from bridge

Other info -



Transect Number - 8

Tube code - SW 1 - 10

Site name - Spring Wood (lake)

GPS and accuracy - TQ 15296 22123 acc 20.8'

Taken at outflow to lake, transect running upstream/west around edge of lake

Other info -



Transect Number - 9

Tube code - PF 1 - 10

Site name - Pondtail Farm

GPS and accuracy - TQ 15988 22986 acc 25'

Other info -



Transect Number - 10

Tube code - PB 1 - 10

Site name - Bay Bridge

GPS and accuracy - TQ 16527 20735 acc 39.1'

Tubes placed along arable fenceline/hedgeline approximately 10m + from river - river too deep and liable to flooding.



Transect Number - 11

Tube code - RC 1 - 10

Site name - Renches Cottage/Goffsland Farm

GPS and accuracy - TQ 15002 23840 acc 24.1'

From bridge going downstream



Results

		Scat Presence/Absence											
		TUBE NUMBER											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	TOTAL water shrew		
SITE CODE													
K(O)P	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	2	1	L		1	
BKP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	L	1 & 2		1	
ADUR	0	1 & 2	0	1 & 2	1 & 2	1 & 2	1	1	0	2		6	
TW	1	L	2	2	2	1	2	1 & 2	1 & 2	2		4	
ChB	1 & 2	0	2	2	2	1	2	0	0	0		2	
HP	0	1 & 2	2	1 & 2	2	1	1	0	2	2		4	
CB	1	1 & 2	1 & 2	0	1	2	2	2	1 & 2	1		6	
SW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	
PF	L	2	L	L	0	2	L	0	2	1 & 2		1	
PB	0	1 & 2	0	0	1	2	0	1 & 2	1 & 2	1 & 2		5	
RC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			

0 = No scats

1 = Water shrew scats

2 = Other shrew scat

L = Lost

M = Tube moved

Other species noted

Grass Snake - Large adult. TQ15528 20990 acc. 15.7'