

Williamston Special Invertebrate Site

Habitats

Flower-rich grassland and bare areas

This reserve is managed by Northumberland Wildlife Trust. Areas of calaminarian grassland feature species such as mountain pansy and spring sandwort, with additional bare areas for basking and nesting. Swathes of devil's-bits scabious support late-season pollinators in the open glades, while woodland understory species such as yellow archangel, knapweed and red campion provide for pollinators from spring to late summer.



Woodland and deadwood

A range of tree species are found here, with willow, birch and alder dominating. Combined with standing and fallen deadwood and a flower-rich understory, this provides shelter, structure, multiple food plants and egg-laying habitat.

Running water

The river South Tyne flows past the site and is home to a wide range of riverflies, which shelter as adults in the nearby trees.

Species

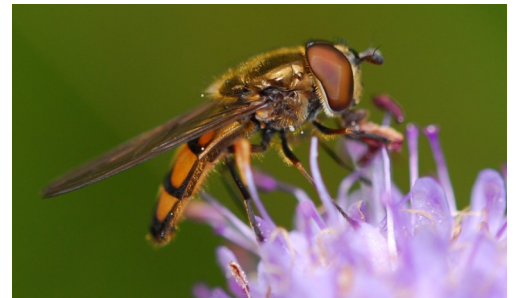
Common furrow-bees (pictured) and orange legged furrow-bees visit flowers. Marsham's nomad bees parasitise *Andrena* bees here.



Cream-spot ladybirds, birch mites (*Acalitus longisetosus*), bird cherry ermines and large emerald moths (pictured) use the woodland.



Nationally scarce *Xanthandrus comtus* hoverfly (pictured), bronze sap hoverfly, late bear hoverfly and migrant hoverfly live here.



Cranefly, *Nephrotoma flavipalpis* (pictured), and tachinid fly, *Dexiosoma caninum*, use shelter on site.



Grassland is home to ground beetle, *Curtonotus aulicus*, small copper and peacock butterflies (pictured).



Common yellow sally stoneflies (pictured), emerge from the river while field digger wasps nest in bare areas.












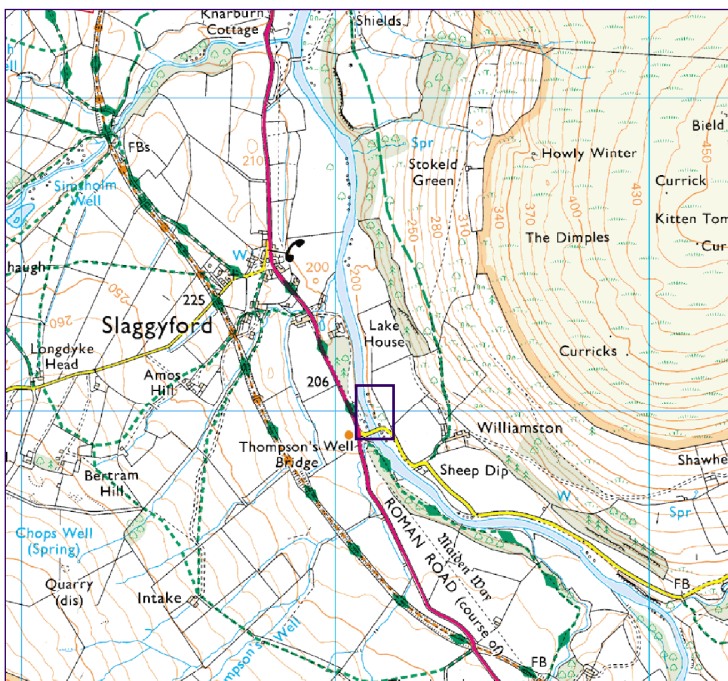
Williamston invertebrate survey route

Car parking: lay-by, A689, near Slaggyford, Northumberland, CA8 7NJ; GR: NY 68079 51944



Key habitats & features

-  Parking
-  Directions to survey route
-  Start and end points
-  Survey route
-  Running water
-  Bare areas
-  Flower-rich grassland
-  Broadleaf woodland with deadwood
-  Woodland with flower-rich understory



Terrain: the access to the survey route follows tarmacked track while the survey route is on a rough, uneven footpath.

Survey route length: 0.2 miles

The access to the survey route follows a road with light use by vehicles. Please be aware of traffic while walking to the site. The grassland is fragile, please stick to the survey route footpath.

For more information about Williamston Nature Reserve, please visit: <https://www.nwt.org.uk/nature-reserves/williamston>