Small Mammal Trapping Paxton Pits 16-17 October 2021. Carole Baber, George, Baber, Mike Thomas.

The weather over both days was cool and predominantly dry. Overnight was dry and cool with a light breeze.

Longworth Traps

Twenty (20) Longworth traps were set up with bedding (hay) and bait (muesli, diced apple and casters) in the Sanctuary. See map below. Traps were set from 5.30pm on 16 October 2021. They were checked and opened from 7.30am on the following day and then removed from the site. All members of the group wore masks to prevent transfer of COVID to the mammals and those handling them wore gloves and used hand sanitiser before each trap was opened. The trapped animals were released immediately after weighing and sexing.

Results:

The Sanctuary

	Trap No.	17/10 07.30 am
1	53	WM – M – JUV – 15.0g
2	65	WM – F – Lactating – 25.0g
3	58	WM – M – 19g
4	78	WM – M – 22g
5	46	WM – E – 17g
6	49	WM – F – Lactating – 25.0g
7	77	WM – M – 17g
8	61	WM – F – 17.5g
9	68	0
10	67	WM – F – 17.5g
11	74	WM − M − 24.5g
12	41	WM - ? – 16.5g
13	62	0
14	52	WM – F – Lactating – 25.0g
15	57	0
16	80	WM – M – 29.0g
17	71	WM – F – 19.5g
18	54	0
19	56	WM – M – 21g
20	70	WM – M – 17.0g
Total captures:		16/20

Key:

WM -- Wood Mouse

M -- male

F -- female

o -- open (not tripped)

Conclusions:

A surprise that all captures were wood mice. Conducting a trapping session earlier in the year next year may produce different results.

Photos available in Google file sent to all involved

Carole Baber 25/10/2021

