

**Small mammal trapping on Trumpington Meadows , overnight on 23/10/2019 – Cambridgeshire  
Mammal Group demonstrating for Wildlife Trust for Mammal Week - Jo Chesham, Joy Dingley,  
Sharon Erzinclioglu, Iain Webb, Becky Green, Jo, and members of the public.**

**Context:** Small mammal trapping was conducted on this site for the BCN Wildlife Trust as part of the National Mammal Week, opening traps on the 24<sup>th</sup> October to the public to demonstrate methods/differing species found on site.

Two sets of Longworth traps 19 in each location – Southern and Northern areas of the reserve totaling 38 were set up with bedding (hay) and bait (museli, casters and diced apple) around the site from 4.30pm Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October spaced randomly c10 metres apart in areas representing the various habitat types across the site. Trap locations were marked with canes/biogradable tape. Then traps were opened the following morning from 7.30am, small mammals captured were identified, weighed, sexed and released.

First set (on the southern side) Starting from the shrub along the RHS edge from the bottom of the bridge walked round to midday and crossed over to river side, along grass edge where IW previously encountered Harvest mice this year.

**Southern Side**

Trap No	Location	24/10/19 – c7.30am
1	Over bridge in scrub RHS	BV – f – 17.5gm
2	Further down in scrub RHS	WM – m – 15gm
3	LHS under bramble	BV – f - 13.5gm
4	RHS in scrub	WM – m – 17.5gm
5	LHS in between plastic tree tubing on floor	WM – f – 16gm
6	LHS in long grass, bottom of small tree	WM – f – 15.5gm
7	Before coloured fence panel RHS	WM – m – 15.5gm
8	LHS path under hawthorn	WM – f – 13.5gm
9	RHS path past fence panel	BV – m – 19gm
10	On corner path LHS 2 metres in	WM – f – 17gm
11	In hole in log pile	BV – m – 21.5gm
12	On corner under dry grass	o
13	On left in nettles opposite two ashes	o
14	Left in tall grass opposite gap mature willows	CS – f - 8gm
15	Long grass on left opposite goat willow	o
16	In grass on left before corner	o
17	Further down in grass opposite ash	HM – m? – 5gm
18	In grass opposite willow blind	WM – f – 17.5gm
19	Near bench on right under elder	WM – m – 16.5gm

**Northern Side**

Trap No	Location	24/10/19 – c7.30am
20	By outflow of stream	FV – m – 26.5gm
21	2/3 from outflow to bridge	WM – m – 16.5gm
22	In dog wood area before edifice	WM – m – 21gm
23	On corner edifice	BV – m 14.5gm
24	Under willow	WM – m – 16.5gm
25	Opposite side in long grass	veo

26	Log pile on the left	veo
27	Log pile on the right	veo
28	Right in middle stand of birch	BV – m – 16gm
29	Opposite hare gap outside of river	Veo
30	Under willow opposite teasels	veo – small droppings
31	Under willow with cracked branch	BV – f – 24.5gm
32	Base of tree by railway behind tree	WM – f – 14gm
33	Under bird nest box	o
34	Under little willow with ivy base	WM – m – 17.5gm
35	Under grass mound by railway track	WM – f – 16gm
36	Under ivy covered stump	BV – f – 17gm
37	Next to same stump near log	o
38	On path outside wood LHS under bramble	o

WM – Wood mouse

CS – Common shrew

HM – Harvest mouse

BV – Bank Vole

FV- Field Vole

\* - probable FV due to coat colour, additional measures taken 11cm length snout to base of tail, 3cm length of tail

m – male

f – female

j – juvenile

e – escaped

o – open, and not tripped

veo – visited (exterior bait taken, not necessarily small mammals) and empty and open (not tripped)

### Summary:

In total 15 wood mice, 8 bank voles, 1 field vole, 1 common shrew and 1 harvest mouse were caught so 26 small mammals represented as 5 species. This indicates a healthy population at Trumpington Meadows, and captures tended to be younger animals looking at the relevant weights. Harvest mouse nest search survey would be a good idea to complete to get an indication of population size of the harvest mice at the site. One trap was identified as not working during the collection of traps from the site.