

Small mammal trapping: Wellhouse Meadow, Haslingfield. Friday 12th May 2022 - Sunday 14th May 2023

10 traps were set on Friday 12th May around and within Wellhouse meadow, between approximately 7pm and 8pm. They were set with bedding (hay), casters, oats, and apple. The traps were set within a variety of habitats within and around the meadow.

They were opened from 7.30am on Saturday by Pippa Keynes with members of the public. The weather was dry and warm, and had been dry overnight. The traps were then left in place (closed) and reset on Saturday evening. They were opened on Sunday morning.

Wellhouse Meadow is a large area of semi-improved grassland within the village, with areas of tall ruderal vegetation around three edges, and large areas of uncut grass; some mown paths and short grass surround an orchard area to the north. There is scrub on one border (behind which is a large pond); plenty of trees around the edges and a couple of mature trees within the meadow.

Results:

Saturday 13th May:

None of the ten traps were tripped. One trap had been disturbed, and was pulled apart. This had been placed on the scrub edge near the pond. The trap was then moved to within the grassland on Saturday evening.

Sunday 14th May:

Only the trap placed in the grassland was triggered. A young wood mouse was captured (sex unknown).

Pippa Keynes 10th July 2023