



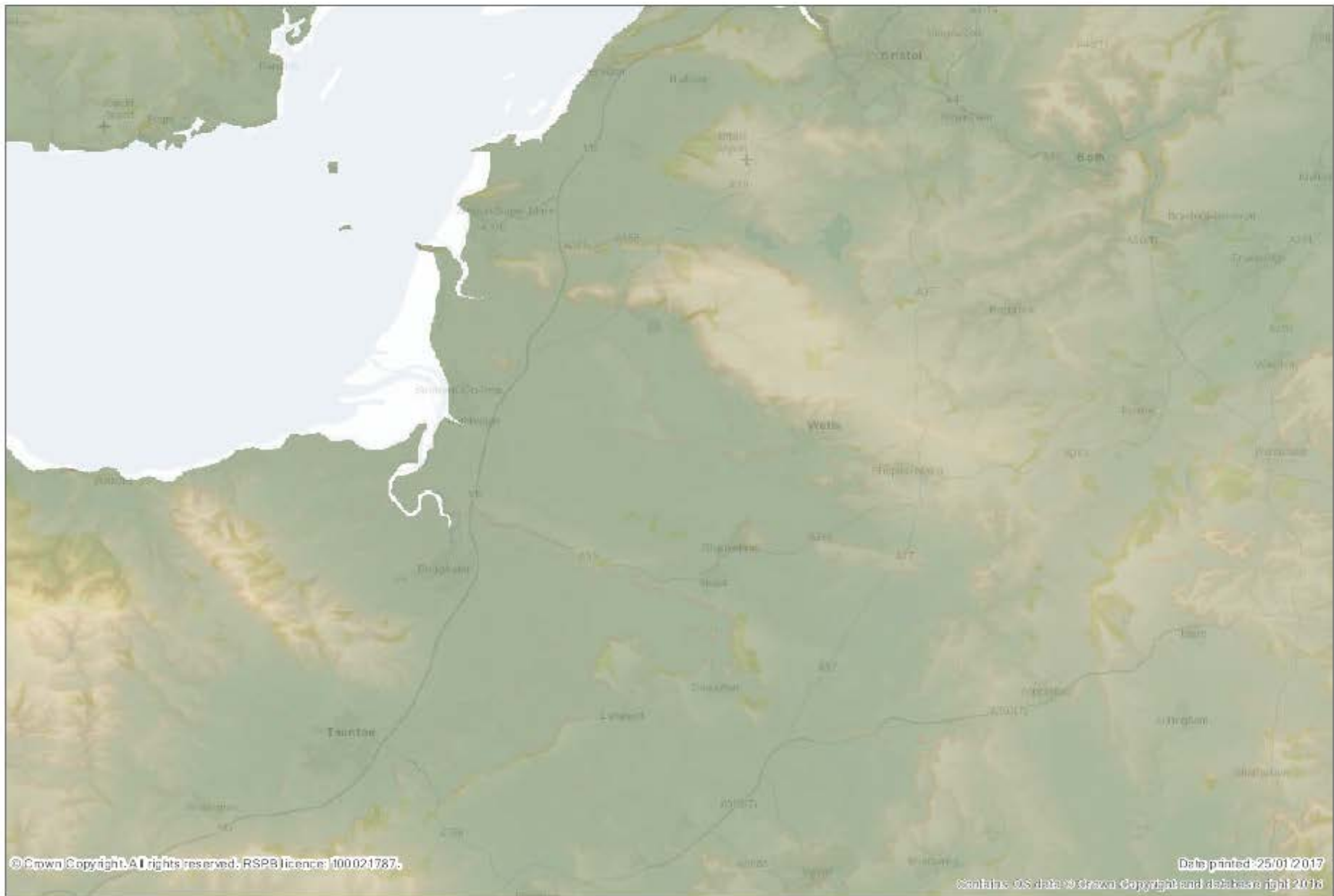
giving
nature
a home

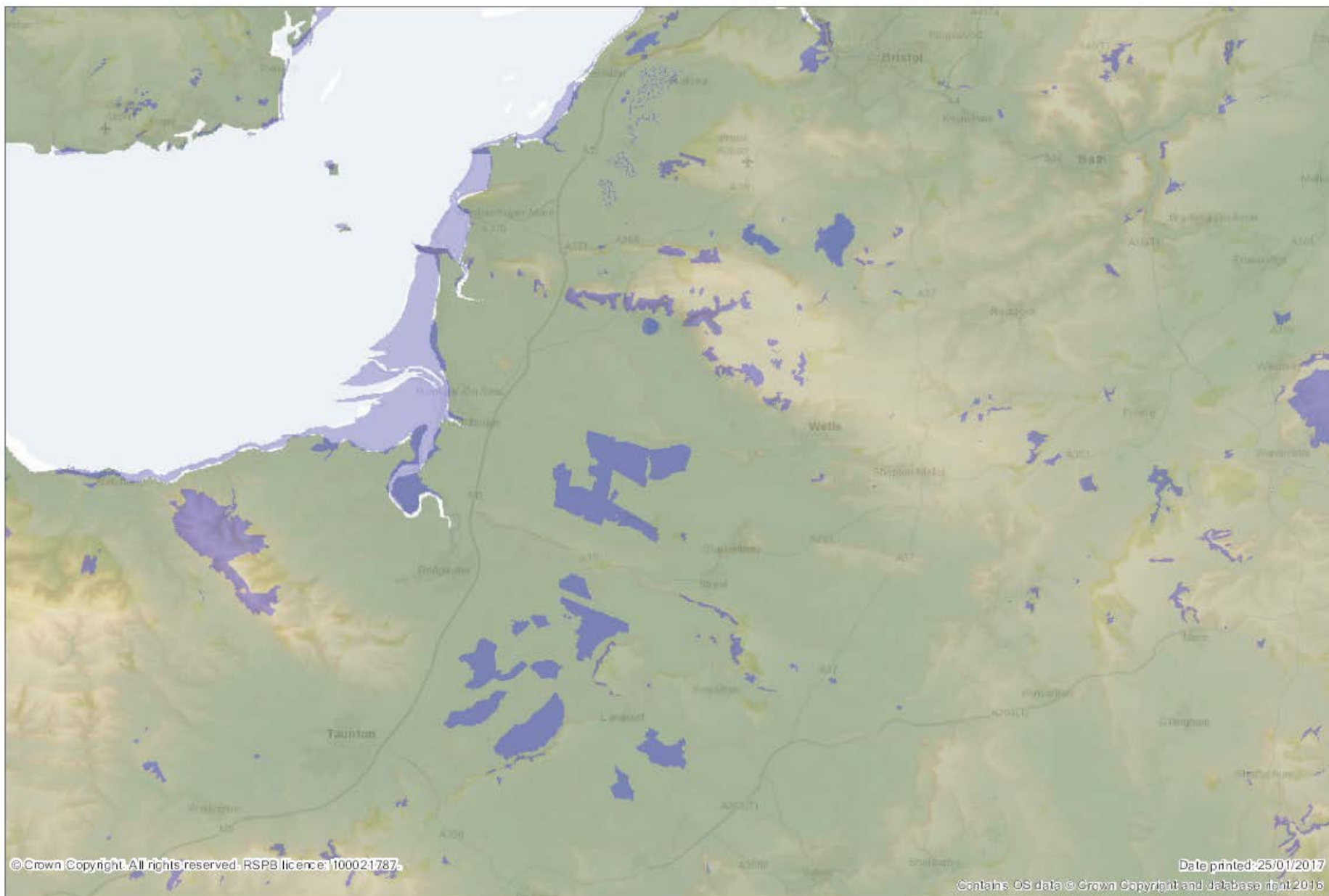
Somerset Levels and Moors

Harry Paget-Wilkes

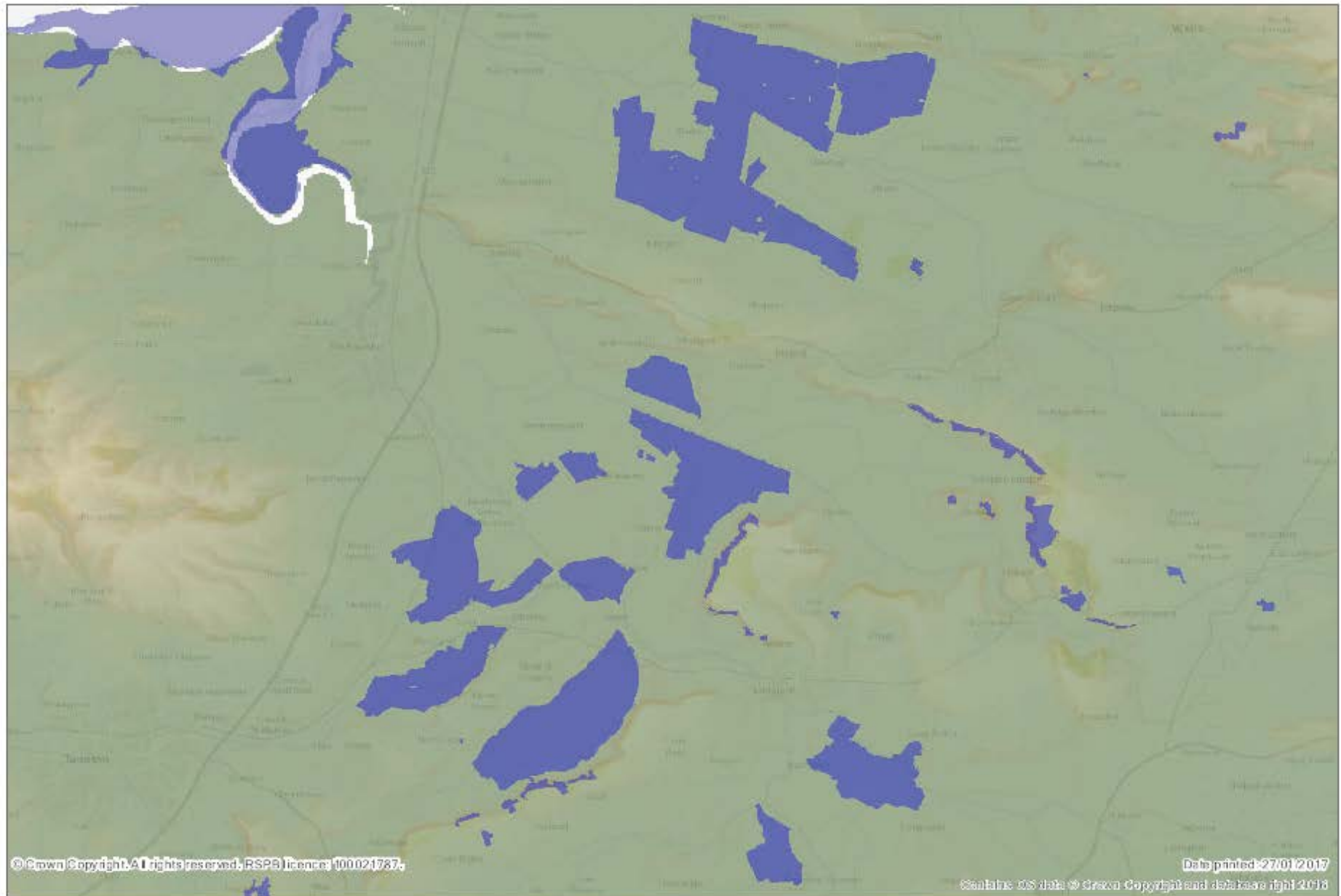
RSPB Site Manager



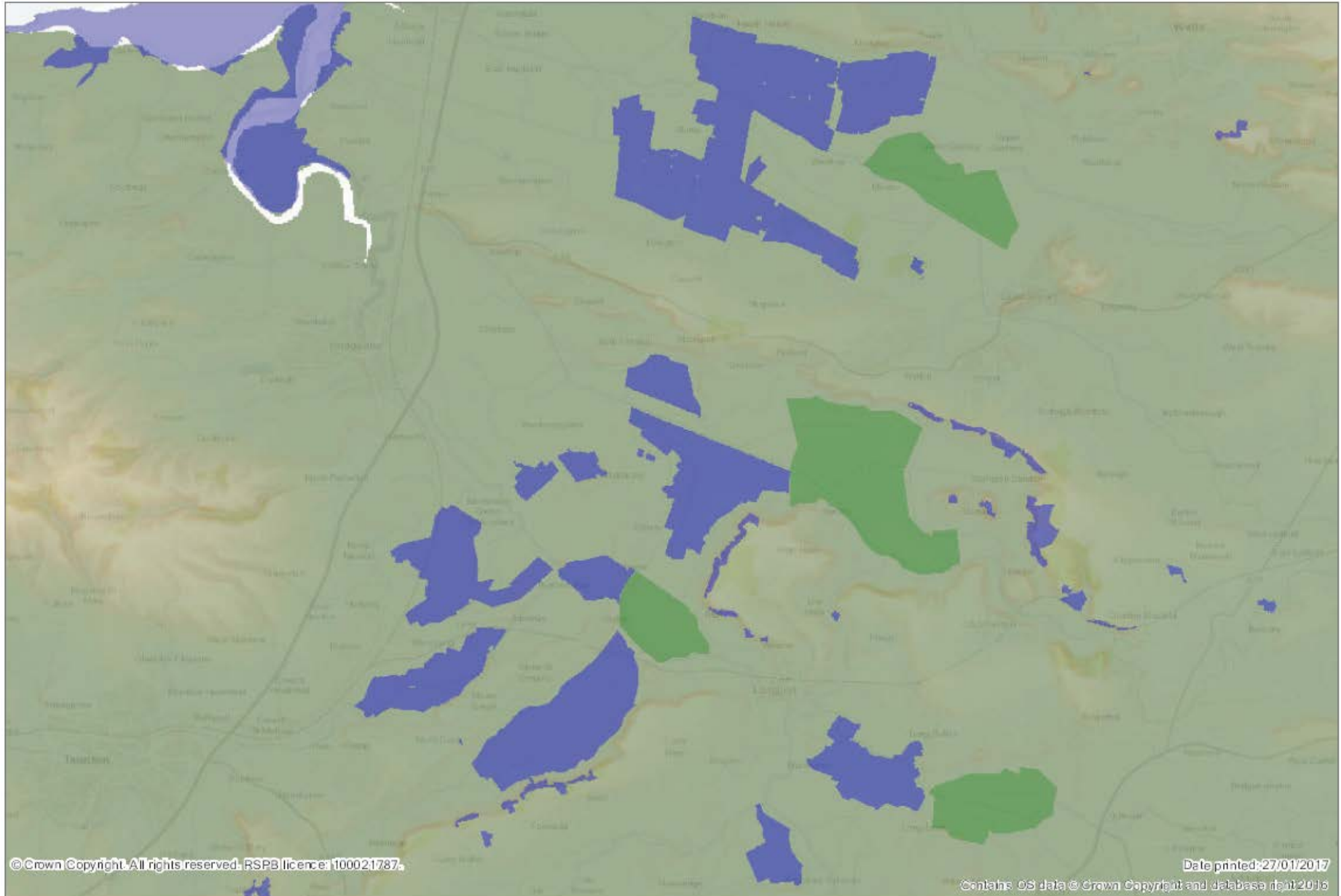




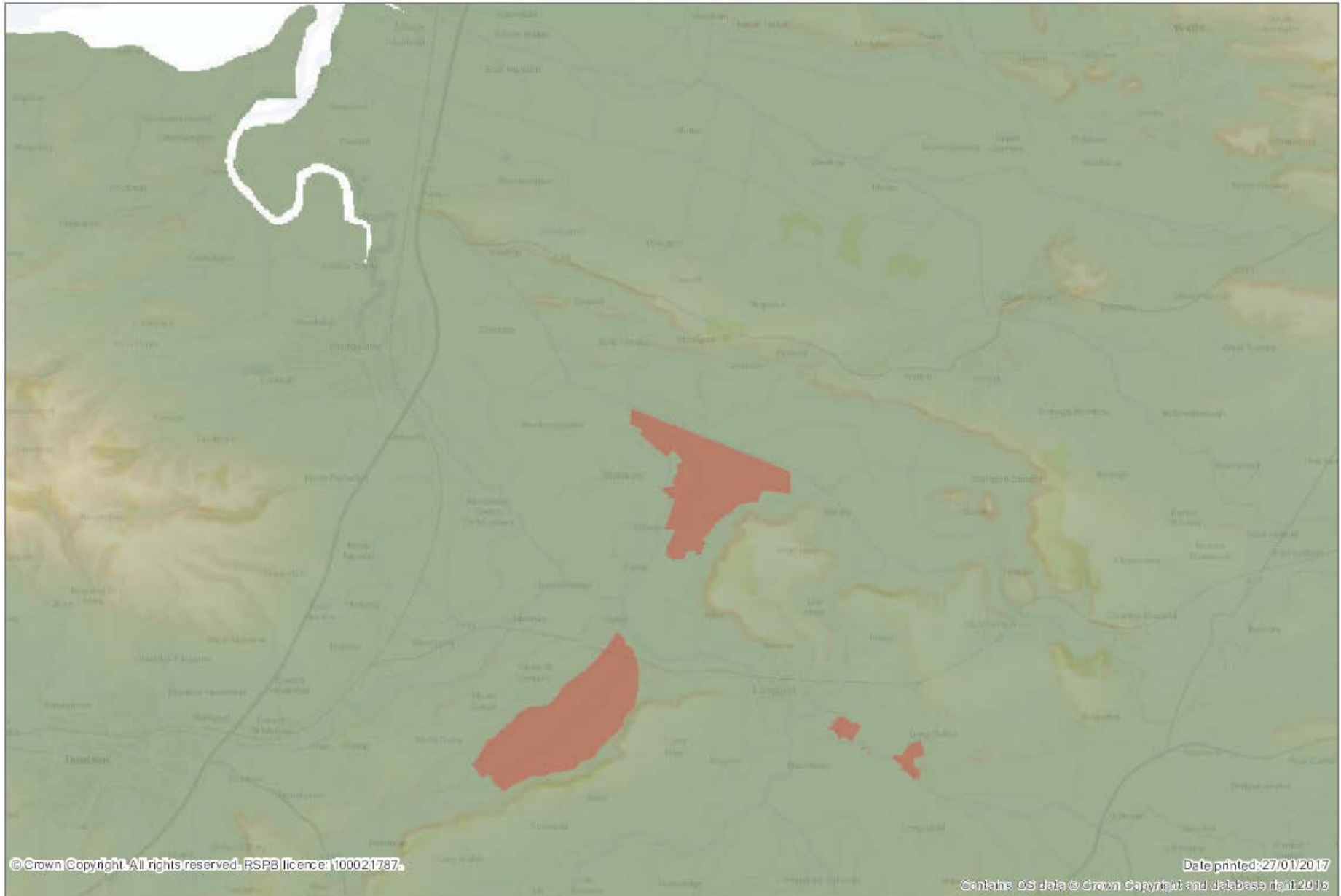
1970s distribution



1970s distribution

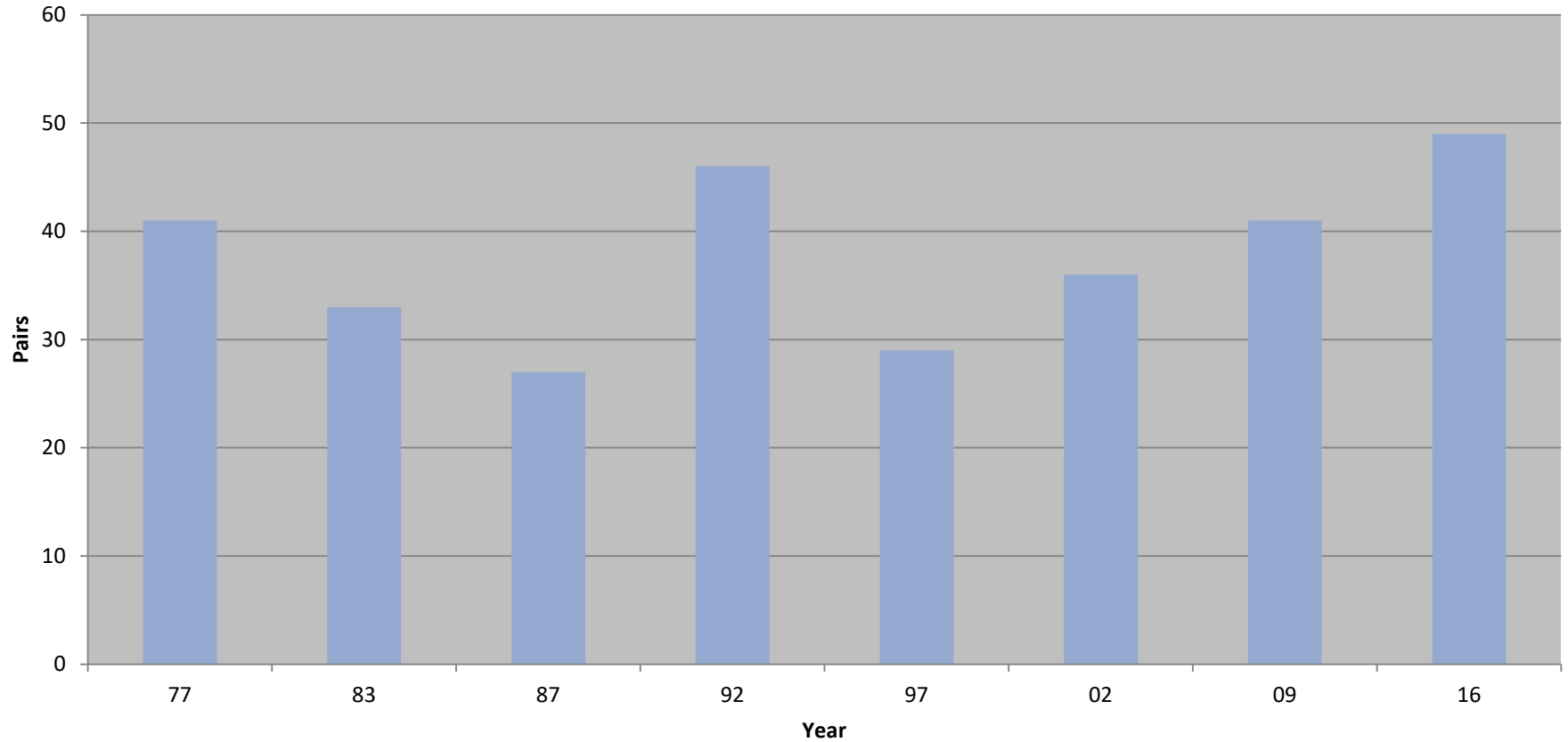


2016 distribution



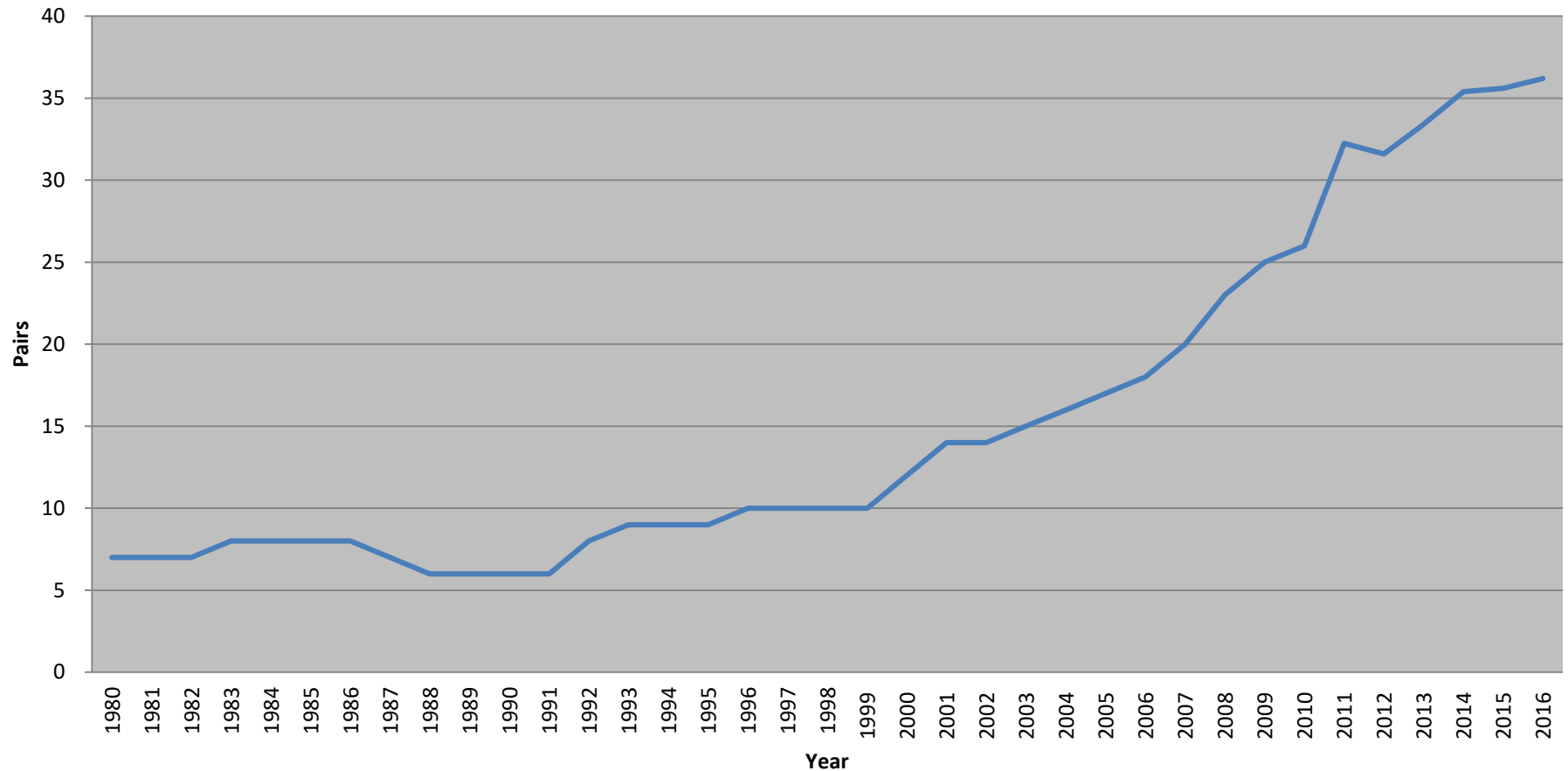


Breeding Curlew pairs Somerset Levels and Moors





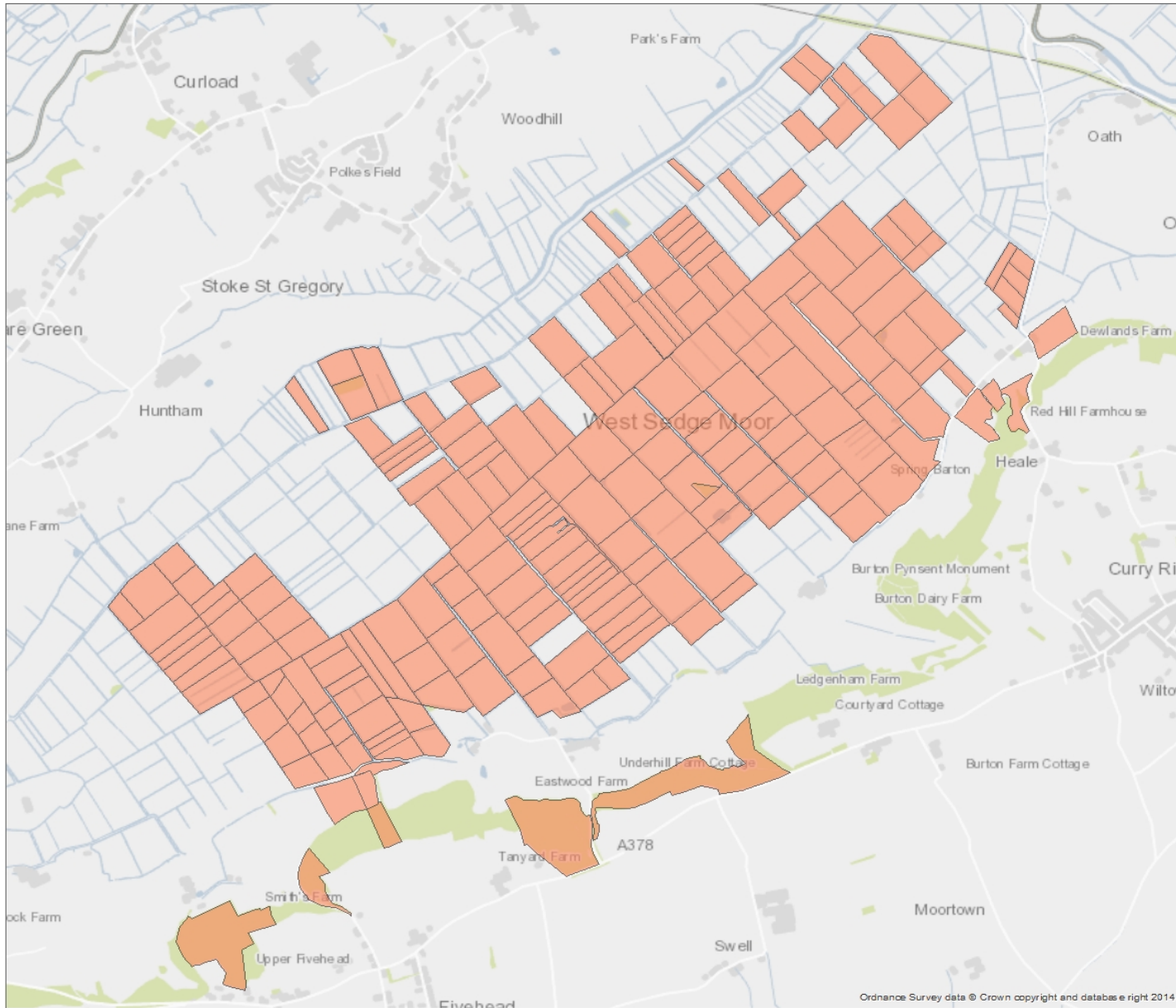
5 yr averaged Breeding Curlew- West Sedgemoor





So what do we do

- We manage (with others) on large scale



West Sedgemoor Reserve Boundary

Legend

RSPB Ownership

Acknowledgements & Notes:

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Map scale = 1:17,519

Date printed: 2010/2015

0 0.275 0.55 1.1 km



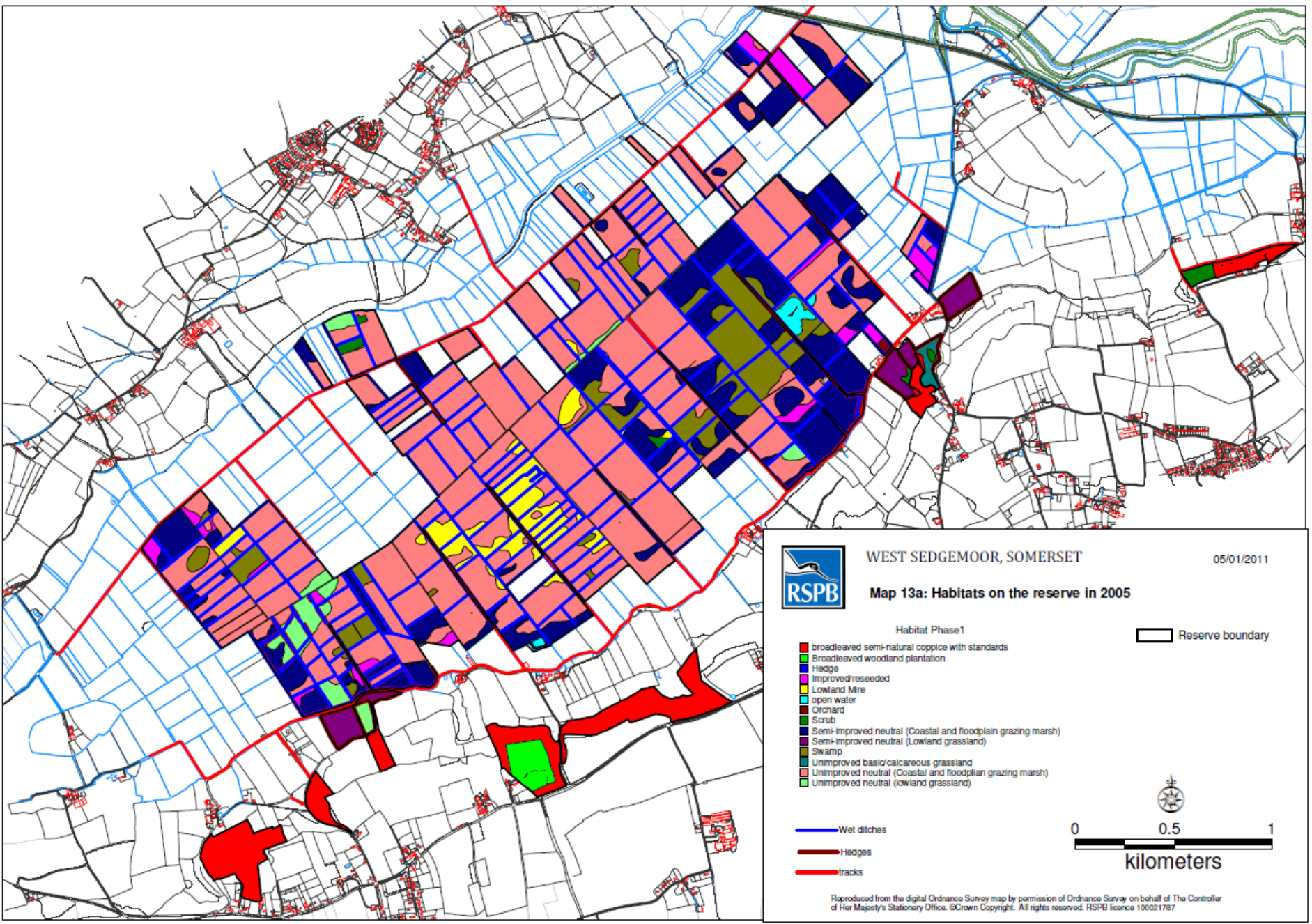
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So what do we do

- we manage (with others) on large scale
- managing under HLS agreements
- water management
- predator management
- scrub control
- annual surveys





WEST SEDGEMOOR, SOMERSET

05/01/2011

Map 13a: Habitats on the reserve in 2005

Habitat Phase1

Reserve boundary

- broadleaved semi-natural coppice with standards
- Broadleaved woodland plantation
- Hedge
- Improved/reseeded
- Lowland Mire
- open water
- Orchard
- Scrub
- Semi-improved neutral (Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh)
- Semi-improved neutral (Lowland grassland)
- Swamp
- Unimproved basic/calcareous grassland
- Unimproved neutral (Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh)
- Unimproved neutral (lowland grassland)

Wet ditches

Hedges

Tracks



0 0.5 1

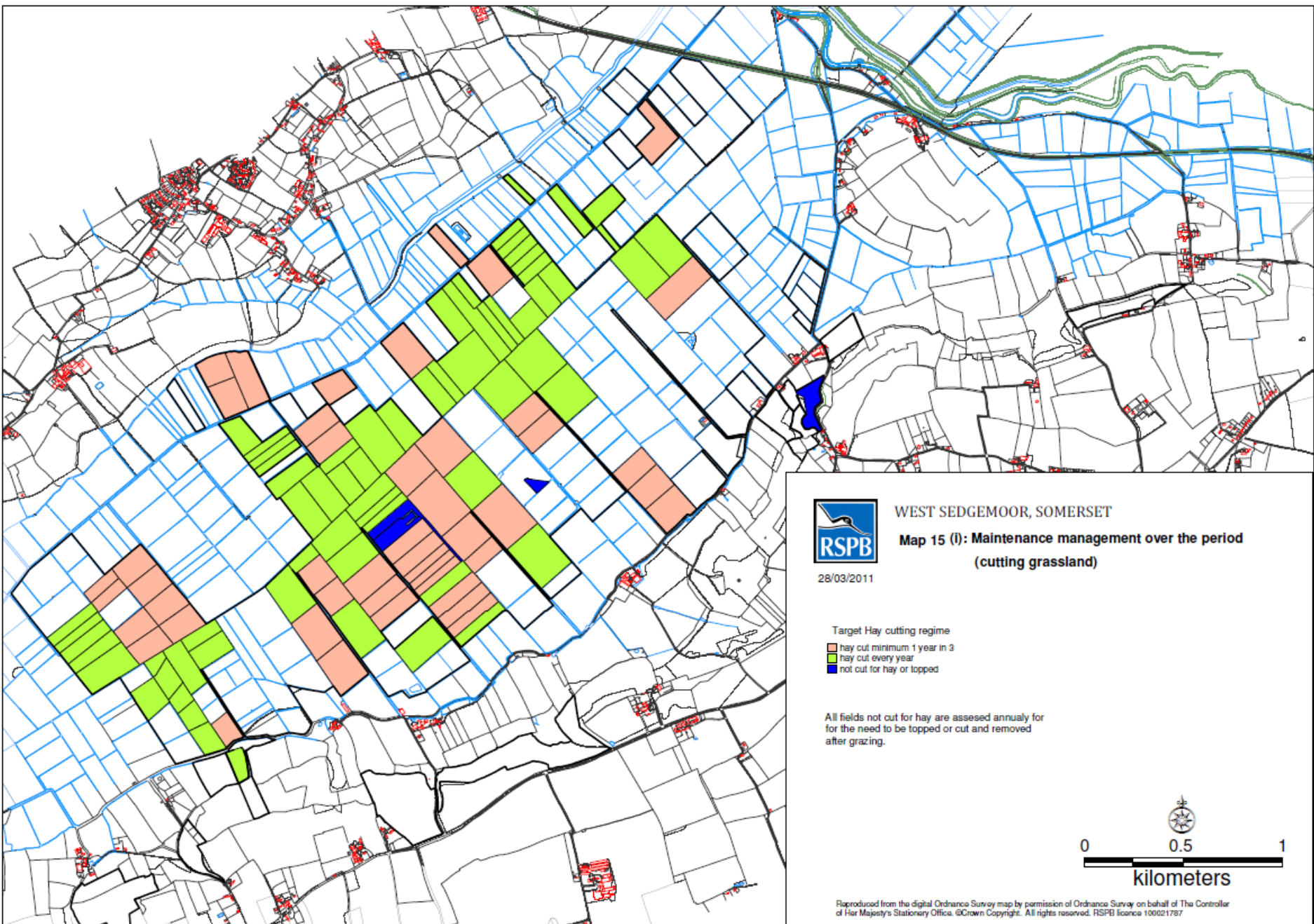
kilometers

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Late hay cutting on an extensive scale





WEST SEDGEMOOR, SOMERSET

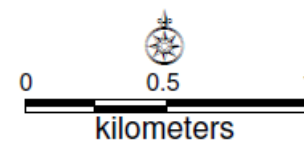
**Map 15 (I): Maintenance management over the period
(cutting grassland)**

28/03/2011

Target Hay cutting regime

- hay cut minimum 1 year in 3
- hay cut every year
- not cut for hay or topped

All fields not cut for hay are assessed annually for the need to be topped or cut and removed after grazing.



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What next

- Research: why are they doing well here and how well are they actually doing.
- Advice and influence around the other remnant population.
- Landscape scale: valued and supported, compatible land management systems.