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Ufd90. Kiora Pastures (1.6 ha) TL 524326

These two old grasslands are becoming rather rank and tall, but they still retain an important flora, with the western field notable for its population of Meadow Saxifrage (*Saxifraga granulata**), a rare and decreasing plant in Essex. The eastern field has a large population of Cowslips (*Primula veris*). Other species of interest include Lady's Bedstraw (*Galium verum*), Field Wood-rush (*Luzula campestris*) and Field Scabious (*Knautia arvensis*). Increased management pressure by way of late summer grazing may assist in reducing the abundance of Cow Parsley and tall, rough grasses, in favour of the more interesting low-growing herbs and grasses. The invertebrate populations of these old grasslands would repay closer examination.

LoWS Selection Criteria: HCr10, SCr15

Condition and Management Issues: Both fields are in need of management to reverse the gradual invasion by coarse, tall grasses and herbs. Autumn grazing may be beneficial in this respect.

Date of first designation: 1994

Date of last revision: 30/09/2007