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Ufd165. Redgates Lane (0.1 ha) TL 572389

This site comprises the road verge, hedge and immediate inner field margin. It has been identified on account of its scattered population of the nationally scarce plant Crested Cow-wheat (*Melampyrum cristatum**). The southern section of the verge comprises Essex County Council Protected Roadside Verge UTT53. A small number of plants of the Essex Red Data Listed Wild Liquorice (*Astragalus glycyphyllos**) also occur here, along the inner field margin. Whilst the distribution of important plants is rather patchy along this hedgerow, it is hoped that appropriate management of the verge, hedgerow and field margin might allow the Crested Cow-wheat to spread and strengthen this localised population.

LoWS Selection Criteria: SCr15

Condition and Management Issues: Appropriate mowing regimes for roadside verges are a perennial problem. Nutrient enrichment is likely to be a long-term trend. The Protected Road Verge is suffering from dense shading from the adjacent hedge. It is not known what impact the sheep grazing of the adjacent field is having on the Cow-wheat in the long-term.

Date of first designation: 30/09/2007

Date of last revision: