

Thornwood Common LNR

Reserve Area: 3.4 Hectares

Access: The only access to this reserve is via footpath 76 off High Road, Thornwood.

Parking: Roadside parking in Thornwood. Please be respectful of the local residents.

What3words: **Eastern entrance:** ///washed.boots.helps **Western entrance:** ///vouch.other.parts

Grid Reference: **Eastern entrance:** TL47090442 **Western entrance:** TL46850453

LNR declaration: 2004. **Wildlife Site Designation:** Ep92 2009



Snipe



Ragged Robin



Orange-tip butterfly

Site Description: Thornwood Common is primarily managed as a flood alleviation site, however it is also managed for wildlife. The scrapes and ponds created on the site make a wonderful wetland habitat with Snipe, Woodcock and Kingfisher having been seen. The ditches are also home to elusive Weasels! There is also an area of wildflower meadow rich in species such as Ragged Robin and Ladies Smock.

Site Management: Thornwood Common is cut annually to reduce the number of invasive species competing with the wildflowers for nutrients. The scrapes on the wet meadow are dug out every few years to prevent them silting up, as are the ditches which run through the site. The trees on the banks of the central ditch are coppiced on rotation to allow a mosaic of light and shade onto the stream.