

## SINC CITATION

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### Register of Site of Importance for Nature Conservation

<b>SINC Name</b>	Golden Hill
<b>SINC number</b>	188
<b>Grid reference</b>	SZ 339878
<b>Area ha</b>	25.44
<b>Site managed by</b>	Isle of Wight Council/Private landowner
<b>Access</b>	Public access to IWC land; none to private land
<b>Local Nature Reserve</b>	
<b>Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty</b>	
<b>Ancient Woodland Inventory</b>	
<b>Statutory Main River</b>	
<b>Geology</b>	Osborne and Headon beds
<b>General description of site</b>	<p>Scrub, secondary woodlands, calcareous grasslands and unimproved neutral grasslands lie over Osborne and Headon Beds. This gives rise to a varied but primarily calcareous soil series derived from thin-bedded marls and clays, with smaller amounts of limestone and sand. There is Gorse scrub on the southern slopes with Hawthorn and Bramble more evident to the north. Blackthorn, Rose, Ash, Sycamore, Privet and dogwood are all found here. Notable species include Nightingale and Red Squirrel. Secondary woodland on the site consists of Oak, Ash, Silver Birch, Sycamore and Field Maple with a Hawthorn and Dogwood understorey. White Admiral and Purple Hairstreak occur here. An area of Elms to the south of the site is notable for the White-letter Hairstreak butterfly. The species-rich unimproved grassland includes areas with Bee Orchid, Pyramidal Orchid, Corky-fruited Water Dropwort, Purging Flax, Restharrow, Quaking Grass, and Dyer's Greenweed. Marsh Orchid occurs in damper areas to the north. A remarkable population of Early Gentian occurs in thin base-enriched grassland on the southern slope. Grizzled and Dingy Skippers and large populations of Marbled Whites occur in the grasslands. Notable species of neutral/acid grassland include Heath Dog Violet, Flea Sedge and formerly, Pale Dog Violet.</p>
<b>Major habitat</b>	Unimproved grasslands
<b>Subsidiary habitat</b>	Secondary woodlands, Scrub, calcareous grasslands, unimproved neutral grassland
<b>National BAP Priority Species</b>	Early Gentian, Red Squirrel
<b>Protected species</b>	Early Gentian, Red Squirrel
<b>Red Data book species</b>	Early Gentian
<b>Nationally scarce species</b>	None recorded
<b>Locally important species</b>	Nightingale, Heath Dog Violet, Myopites inulaedyssentericae
<b>Information updated on</b>	13/05/2002

SINC MAP

C188 Golden Hill

