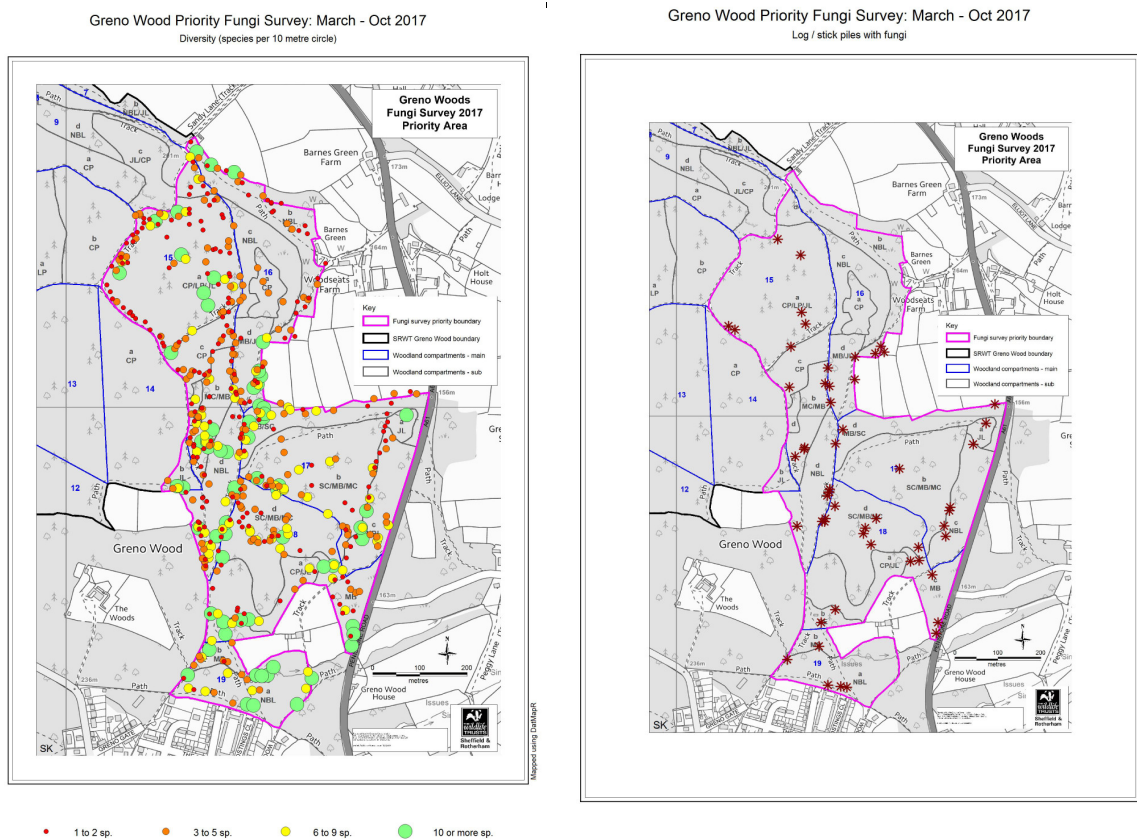


## Case study: Greno Woods Fungi Survey

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Greno Wood is one of the most significant recent acquisitions by Sheffield & Rotherham Wildlife Trust and is notably lacking in useful data about its fungi. Our aim was to carry out a very detailed and comprehensive team survey of all kinds of fungi and also of habitat and management factors which seemed relevant to fungi. We used the same 10m circle unit of recording as in our grassland surveys, following the British Mycological Society's guidelines for responsible scientific collection. An evidence base of 5,340 field, studio and microscope photographs was assembled. From 26 full-day surveys from March – November 2017 we accrued 3,389 records of fungi of which 2,692 fell within the area of woodland prioritised by the Wildlife Trust. 456 species were identified in the locality, of which 405 were in the priority area. 33 nationally or locally rare species (5 Red Data) were noted. 502 10m circles were analysed for correlation of fungal diversity with habitat factors. The most significant factors in order of importance were (1) unspoiled path edges (2) dead wood such as "habitat heaps", logs and stumps (3) tree species. Oak is prioritised by the Wildlife Trust but our survey showed the importance of beech, sweet chestnut and conifer for fungal diversity. Care of path edges by discouraging trampling by dogs, provision of much greater volumes of dead wood and tolerance of a wide variety of tree species would enhance the mycota of Greno Woods. Data on fungal abundance was also recorded. In general, fungi are not present in great abundance at Greno Woods, and colonies tend to be small. This reflects our feeling that the woods have not been managed in the past in a wildlife-friendly manner.



## References

1) Deadwood Survey Plymouth University/Buglife

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