

Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust

Donna Nook



Location & Access

OS: 113 • **GR:** TF 422 998 • 1149.7ha (2840.97 acres) • Leasehold and management agreement 1978

Habitat type: Coastal

There are several access points off the main A1031 coastal road with parking facilities at: Stonebridge (TF 422 998), Howden's Pullover (TF 449 952), Saltfleet (TF 456 944) and Saltfleet Haven (TF 467 935). Public access is possible at Merrikin's Pullover (TF 445 958) but there are no parking facilities. Visitors should note that the Pyes Hall, Warren Farm, Red Farm and Coastguard Cottage entrances are all private and should not be used.

Description & Management

Donna Nook National Nature Reserve covers more than 10km of coastline between Grainthorpe Haven in the north and Saltfleet in the south where it borders the Saltfleetby-Theddlethorpe National Nature Reserve.

The reserve consists of dunes, slacks and inter-tidal areas. Coastal processes, particularly sand and mud accretion, alter the natural features from year to year, and sand from the beach and offshore sandbanks is blown inland by easterly winds to form dune ridges. Deposition of material from the River Humber has resulted in mudflats and saltings.

The advancing dunes have trapped areas of saltmarsh behind them, and these areas have gradually become less saline, allowing an interesting plant community to develop. On the landward side, the reserve is bounded by a sea bank erected after the floods of 1953.

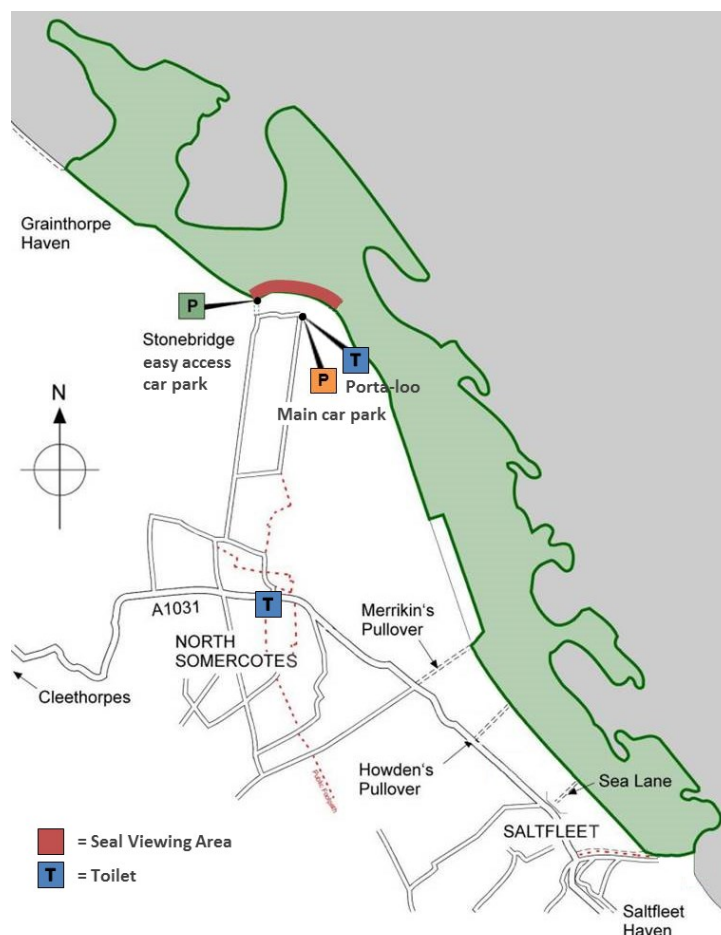
The reserve is rich in bird life: 47 species of bird breed regularly and the

area is famous for more uncommon passage migrants and rarities; over 250 species have been recorded in total.

Visitors should be made aware that the Ministry of Defence still maintains part of the area as a bombing target range and under no circumstances should anyone enter the bombing area when red flags are flying. However, most of the dune area is accessible at all times.

Grey Seals

For much of the year grey seals at the Donna Nook National Nature Reserve are at sea or hauled out on distant sandbanks. Every November and December, the seals give birth to their pups near the sand dunes: a wildlife spectacle which attracts visitors from across the UK. Access for the grey seal colony is from either car park.



Donna Nook
GR at TF 422998
(Stonebridge entrance)

