

**Small mammal trapping in Great Kneighton, Cambridge from 22/11/2019 to 23/11/2019.
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Background:

The trapping was part of Stacey's BSc (Hons) research project to assess the effects of new developments on mammal populations, Stacey had previously camera trapped and walked transects on site - Great Kneighton is a very new housing development on the southern edge of Cambridge and was used in comparison with mammal populations at Trumpington Meadows.

Protocol:

Thirty-nine (39) Longworth traps were set up with bedding (hay) and bait (fruit and nut muesli, diced apple and casters) at various locations (different habitat types) on a near-circular route round part of the grassland, lake and allotments next to Great Kneighton from around 3pm on 22 November 2019. They were checked from 8am on 23 November 2019 - each animal caught was weighed, sexed and released immediately. One animal was marked by fur clip to demonstrate the technique. All the traps were then removed.

Overnight the weather was wet, overcast and mild.

Results:

Trap No.	Location	23/11 am
Area 1 - around pond		
35	Corner of pond	o
51	10m round clockwise	BV - fc - 19.5gm
36	10m on by stone culvert	vo
38	10m on near track to water	WM - f - 15.5gm
33	10m on behind small tree	WM - f - 13gm
63	11m on at base of small tree	o
Area 2 - scrub bank by guided busway		
66	10m from corner of scrub bank under bramble	WM - ? - 18gm
39	10m right under bramble	WM - f - 15gm
57	10m right under bramble	WM - m - 17gm
68	11m right under bramble	WM - m - 18gm
50	10m right behind low tree on bank	WM - m - 20gm
Area 3 - new tree area		
47	Behind end corner tree guard	WM - m - 17gm
37	10m right and 2m in	WM - f - 14gm
31	10m right and 3m in	vo
34	10m right and 3m in	WM - f - 13gm
70	behind large tree near trap 34	WM - f - 19gm
Area 4 - other side of path		
41	Behind bronze holly on corner	o
45	11m right and 3m in by green holly	o
72	10m right and 3m in by green holly	vo
59	10m right behind green conifer	o
Area 5 - around lake		
58	Bankside corner by stone marker	o
56	35m anticlockwise by tree	o
53	35m on at base of tree close to water	o
54	50m on in shrubs at edge of lake	o
55	Corner of lake RHS of stone culvert	o
44	Under large tree 5m RHS of corner	BV - m - 21gm
60	Under large tree at entrance to promontory	BV - f - 15gm
61	c25m on in veg close to water	vo
71	c20m on under large rush	vo

Area 6 - grassland		
43	By small bush in centre of area	o
65	c25m towards large sign	BV - f - 25gm
Area 7 - allotments		
40	RHS of entrance adj fence	vo
62	In raised bed	o
69	In another raised bed	o
46	Behind water trough	o
48	20m behind trough into 'shrubs'	WM - e
42	20m further on into 'shrubs'	WM - f - 23gm
32	20m diagonally towards another water trough	WM - e
52	Behind that water trough	vo

Key:

WM -- Wood Mouse

BV -- Bank Vole

f -- female

m -- male

e -- escaped

o -- open (not tripped)

c -- marked by fur clip

v -- visited (external bait removed, not necessarily by small mammals)

Conclusions:

Over the 39 trap nights 17 captures were made – 14 wood mice and 3 bank voles.

The relevant OS grid reference TL4542154707.

Peter Pilbeam

27 November 2019