

Small mammal trapping around Linton Pocket Park as part of a Linton BioBlitz overnight from 20 to 21 July 2024 - Peter Pilbeam, Helen Brookes and c25 FROG members and families.

Twenty (20) Longworth traps were set to catch with bedding (hay) and bait (muesli, diced apple and excess casters) at various locations (a narrow range of habitats) at intervals alongside the mainly perimeter path round Linton Pocket Park from around 6.30pm on Saturday 20 July 2024. They were opened from 8am on Sunday 21 July 2024. All trapped animals were identified to species level, weighed and sexed before being released immediately where they were caught - the traps were then removed.

Trap No.	Location	21/07/2024 – from 8am
70	from entrance - LH path behind brash pile on RHS	o
58	clockwise - 30m along and 3m in on RHS (long grass)	BV - m - 13.5gm
52	5m along - down path on LHS adj river bank	WM - m - 19gm
66	30m on - ditto	o
57	through gazebo - to L - LHS at pond edge	o
63	on way back to main path - RHS at pond edge	o
60	50m on - LHS under v old tree	o
54	30m on - LHS under coppiced tree	o
62	30m on - RHS under trees	o
53	going left - RHS under small bridge	BV - f - 24gm
61	just past big willows - LHS - 15m in - long grass/nettles	o
69	30m on - LHS of drain entry by river bank	o
59	15m on - behind bench seat	o
64	30m on - LHS by edge of river	o
51	50m on - LHS under willow	BV - f - 23gm
55	50m on - LHS under nettles	o
65	30m on - just behind fence on steep bank	o
56	50m on - LHS behind big oak	o
68	50m on - LHS of hazel coppice on steep bank	o
67	behind LHS gatepost	o

WM -- Wood Mouse

BV -- Bank Vole

m -- male

f -- female

o -- open, not tripped

In summary, out of 20 traps over one night there were 3 Bank Vole and 1 Wood Mouse catch. This represents (of 20 trap sessions) an overall catch rate of 20%.

The weather overnight and when the traps were checked at 8am on 21 July was cloudy, mild and dry.

Peter Pilbeam

24 July 2024