

NORTHUMBERLAND

MAX MILES ON FOOT: 2 MIN TIME: 3 HOURS

FENHAM-LE-MOOR

Vast extent of mudflats, saltmarsh and hedgerows

Redshank



CHRIS BRADY/ALAMY

PRACTICAL INFO

POSTCODE: NE70 7PN

GRID REF: NU 095 393

MAPS: OS Explorer 340, OS Landranger 75

PARKING: Free parking for two cars at the end of the road by the hide

TERRAIN: Very flat along the tarmac road so it is suitable for wheelchairs

ACCESSIBILITY: Open all year round. Please ensure that your vehicle is not blocking any of the farm gates

FACILITIES: None. Belford has cafés, toilets and pubs

Fenham Flats is one of the most underwatched sites in Northumberland, and an excellent vantage point on a rising tide during autumn and winter, giving great views of waders and wildfowl. It is the wintering ground of pale-bellied Brent Geese, Short-eared Owls, Wigeon, Pintail and Merlin, plus a small flock of Whooper Swans often turn up. The double decked hide gives 360-degree views of the whole site. However, there is a potential high risk of disturbance if people stray away from the hide and sheltered area. There is access to the western bay only between the months of June and July when the England Coastal path is diverted behind the hide giving good views of sea ducks.

STEVE NEWMAN



The hide at Fenham-le-Moor

STEVE NEWMAN

WHERE TO WATCH

1 The end of the road and hide are spot-on for scanning the site. Goldfinches were in the trees at the side of the hide with Pink-footed Geese, Barnacle Geese, Ringed Plover, Linnet, Redshank, Eider, Turnstone and Bar-tailed Godwit.

2 The public footpath running to the north of the farm lets you scan the farm buildings and fields behind. Look for Lapwing, Golden Plover, Barn Owl, Grey and Red-legged Partridge, Buzzard, Yellowhammer and Merlin.

3 The road from the hide to the bridge over the burn is bounded on both sides by high hedgerows which hold Chaffinch, Wren, and numerous other species. The burn itself has Sedge Warblers calling, Mallard, Coot and Grey Heron.

4 The spot overlooking the bay here is only available to access in the months of June and July when the England Coastal Path is diverted, to avoid disturbance. Look for Eider, Goosander, Siskin, Oystercatcher, Shelduck, Long-tailed Duck and Turnstone.

INSIDER KNOWLEDGE

Up to 2,000 Grey Seals can be spotted at low tide



JOSH HARRISON/ALAMY

TARGET SPECIES

WINTER

- Grey Plover
- Pale-bellied Brent Goose
- Pintail

SPRING

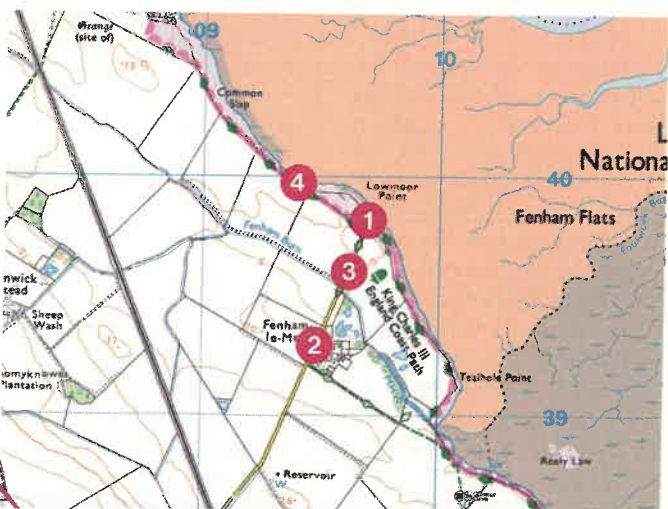
- Wheatear
- Grey Partridge
- Whitethroat

SUMMER

- Sedge Warbler
- Reed Bunting
- Eider

AUTUMN

- Osprey
- Long-tailed Tit
- Barnacle Geese



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