

2. Habitat and Species Action Plans

2.1 Introduction

Seven habitat action plans and thirteen species individual action plans are presented in this Plan. They are all included in Appendix 1 starting on page 63. They cover all the key habitats and species identified in *The Nature of Dartmoor: A Biodiversity Profile* and were drawn up through a collaborative partnership approach as described in the introduction to the Action Plan on pages 20 and 21. People and organisations participating in the action plan workshops and the authors of the action plans are shown in Table 3. The plans follow a format which is common to the UK, regional and county action plans, hence facilitating cross-referencing and reporting.

2.1.1 Grouping of habitat action plans

The habitat action plans include groupings of key habitats. This is because the actions necessary to protect and enhance them are inter-related or are very similar; the boundaries between them are not always obvious on the ground; or there are not many specific actions relating to them. Examples are the Moorland Action Plan which includes upland heathland, lowland heathland, blanket bog, valley mire and grass moorland; and the Woodland Action Plan which includes upland oakwood, wet woods and plantations (broadleaved and conifer). The introduction to each individual action plan includes an explanation of which species and habitats are included and why.

2.1.2 Action plans for key species

Targets and actions for key species have been covered in one of two ways. Where the actions for



© Chris Gomesall: RSPB.

Stonechat

individual species mostly involve habitat management or enhancement, the species has been included within the appropriate Habitat Action Plan in the 'Key Species Management' section e.g. red grouse within the Moorland Action Plan. Where most of the actions necessary for conserving the species are very specific, or the species occurs in a number of habitats, then a separate species action plan has been drawn up e.g. High Brown Fritillary (specific actions) or Dormouse (occurs in a number of habitats). In addition, there are two species action plans for groups of species which contain many rare or threatened species – Bats and also Mosses, Lichens and Ferns.

The relationship between species and habitat action plans is shown in Table 4 on pages 25, 26 and 27.

2.1.3 The role of lead bodies, partners and land owners in delivering the actions

Each action plan identifies a lead body (usually an organisation or agency), which is responsible for the delivery of individual actions, with partner bodies as appropriate. These bodies have been included, with their agreement, because in most cases they are best placed to ensure that the action identified is indeed undertaken.

However, landowners also obviously have a crucial role to play in the implementation of most actions and their agreement and support is essential for delivery. It has not been possible, for practical reasons, to gain the agreement of every landowner on Dartmoor for each action and instead they are represented by the major landowning, farming and forestry organisations. This point is developed further in section 4.1 (page 43) on partnerships with landowners and managers.

2.1.4 Monitoring responsibility for the action plans

Each action plan also identifies a body with the responsibility for overall monitoring. This is simply a co-ordinating role and entails reporting on the progress being made on individual actions. There is no implied accountability for actions – this is the responsibility of the ‘deliverer’.

Table 3. Authors and participants in action plan workshops

Habitat	Author	Workshop Participants/Consultees
Moorland	DNPA	CLA, DNPA, Dartmoor Commoners' Council, Duchy of Cornwall, DWT, EA, EN, FRCA, NFU, MAFF, MoD, NT, RSPB
Woodland	DNPA	DNPA, DWT, Duchy of Cornwall, EA, EN, FC (FA and FE), Fountain Forestry, NFU, NT, RSPB, SWW, TGA, Woodland Trust
Freshwater	EA	British Canoe Union, DNPA, DBWPS, DWT, Duchy of Cornwall, EA, China Clay Association, EN, NT, River Dart Country Park, SWW, West Country Rivers Trust, Wild Trout Society
Rhôs pasture	DNPA	CLA, DNPA, Peter Dracup (farmer), Duchy of Cornwall, EN, FRCA, MAFF, NFU
Haymeadows and spp. rich dry pastures	RSPB	DNPA, DWT, Duchy of Cornwall, EN, NFU, NT
Field boundaries	EN	DCC, DNPA, Devon Hedge Group, DRST, DWT, EN, FRCA, Geoff Hearnden (farmer), MAFF, RSPB
Rocks	EN	BOT, DNPA, DWT, Devon Caving Club, Devon RIGS Group, EN, NT, RSPB, William Pengelly Trust
Mosses, lichens and ferns	EN	Barbara Benfield (BLS), DNPA, EN, Mark Pool (BBS), Michael Proctor (BBS), Local District Councils
Deptford Pink	DNPA	BSBI, Plantlife
Flax-leaved St. John's Wort	DNPA	DWT, NT, Plantlife
Vigur's Eyebright	BSBI	DNPA
Blue Ground Beetle	DNPA	EN
Bog Hoverfly	DNPA	EN
High Brown & Pearl-bordered Fritillaries	DNPA	Butterfly Conservation, EN, NT
Marsh Fritillary & Narrow-bordered Bee Hawk-moth	DNPA	Butterfly Conservation, EN
Scarce Dragonflies	DNPA	British Dragonfly Society, EN
Golden Plover & Dunlin	RSPB	DNPA, Dartmoor Study Group, DPBWS, EN
Ring Ouzel	DBWPS	DNPA, EN, RSPB
Bats	EN	DNPA, Devon Bat Group, Bat Conservation Trust
Dormouse	DNPA	EN, MAFF, Mammal Society, NT

Abbreviations: BOT – Barn Owl Trust, BSBI – Botanical Society of the British Isles, BBS – British Bryological Society, BLS – British Lichen Society, CLA – Country Landowners' Association, DCC – Devon County Council, DNPA – Dartmoor National Park Authority, DRST – Devon Rural Skills Trust, DWT – Devon Wildlife Trust, DBWPS – Devon Birdwatching and Preservation Society, EA – Environment Agency, EN – English Nature, FRCA – Farming and Rural Conservation Agency, FA – Forest Authority, FC – Forestry Commission, FE – Forest Enterprise, MAFF – Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, MoD – Ministry of Defence, NFU – National Farmers' Union, NT – National Trust, RSPB – Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, SWW – South West Water, TGA – Timber Growers Association

Table 4. The Relationship between Dartmoor Habitat Action Plans and Species Action Plans

To see whether a species is included in a Habitat Action Plan (HAP), or has its own Species Action Plan (SAP), look for the following symbols opposite the species name:

- HAP** Action for key species included in this Habitat Action Plan
- SAP** Action for key species in a separate Species Action Plan
- Habitat in which species regularly occurs

	Dartmoor Species Action Plans	Dartmoor Habitat Action Plans						
		Moorland Key Habitats included	Woodland Key Habitats included	Freshwater Key Habitats included	Rhôs Pasture	Hay Meadows and Spp. Rich Dry Pastures	Field Boundaries Key Habitats included	Rocks Key Habitats included
Key Species		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upland Heath • Lowland Heath • Grass Moor • Blanket Bog • Raised Bog • Valley Mire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upland Oakwood • Parkland • Wet Woods • Plantation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Torrent Rivers • Streams • Reservoirs • Ponds 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hedges • Walls • Isolated Trees (including veteran trees) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rocky Outcrops • Quarries • Caves • Mines • Buildings
Mosses, ferns and lichens (including String-of-sausages Lichen and <i>Graphina pauciloculata</i>)	SAP	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Deptford Pink	SAP					●		
Flax-leaved St. John's Wort	SAP							●
Heather		HAP ●						
Greater Butterfly Orchid						HAP ●		
Bog Orchid		HAP ●						
Irish Lady's Tresses		HAP ●						
Vigur's Eyebright	SAP	●						
Wild Daffodil			HAP ●					

(cont.)

Table 4. The Relationship between Dartmoor Habitat Action Plans and Species Action Plans (cont.)

	Dartmoor Species Action Plans	Dartmoor Habitat Action Plans						
		Moorland Key Habitats included	Woodland Key Habitats included	Freshwater Key Habitats included	Rhôs Pasture	Hay Meadows and Spp. Rich Dry Pastures	Field Boundaries Key Habitats included	Rocks Key Habitats included
Key Species		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Upland Heath •Lowland Heath •Grass Moor •Blanket Bog •Raised Bog •Valley Mire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Upland Oakwood •Parkland •Wet Woods •Plantation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Torrent Rivers •Streams •Reservoirs •Ponds 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Hedges •Walls •Isolated Trees (including veteran trees) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Rocky Outcrops •Quarries •Caves •Mines •Buildings
Blue Ground Beetle	SAP		●					
Bog Hoverfly	SAP	●			●			
High Brown Fritillary & Pearl-bordered Fritillary	SAP	●						
Large Blue Butterfly						HAP ●		
Marsh Fritillary & Narrow-bordered Bee Hawk-moth	SAP				●			
Scarce dragonflies (includes Keeled Skimmer & Southern Damselfly)	SAP	●		●	●			
Salmon				HAP ●				
Buzzard		●	HAP ●					

(cont.)

Table 4. The Relationship between Dartmoor Habitat Action Plans and Species Action Plans (cont.)

	Dartmoor Species Action Plans	Dartmoor Habitat Action Plans						
		Moorland Key Habitats included	Woodland Key Habitats included	Freshwater Key Habitats included	Rhôs Pasture	Hay Meadows and Spp. Rich Dry Pastures	Field Boundaries Key Habitats included	Rocks Key Habitats included
Key Species		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Upland Heath •Lowland Heath •Grass Moor •Blanket Bog •Raised Bog •Valley Mire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Upland Oakwood •Parkland •Wet Woods •Plantation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Torrent Rivers •Streams •Reservoirs •Ponds 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Hedges •Walls •Isolated Trees (including veteran trees) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Rocky Outcrops •Quarries •Caves •Mines •Buildings
Cirl Bunting						HAP ●	●	
Curlew		HAP ●			●			
Golden Plover & Dunlin	SAP	●						
Ring Ouzel	SAP	●						●
Red Grouse		HAP ●						
Skylark		HAP ●				●		
Woodlark						HAP ●		
Bats (includes Greater Horseshoe Bat)	SAP	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Otter				HAP ●	●			
Dormouse	SAP		●		●		●	