Surrey Nature Recovery

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Introduction

- LNRS Overview
- Area map
- Delivery mechanisms
- National species objectives
- LNRS Species process
- What next?



Local Nature Recovery Strategy Overview





Areas of Particular Importance for Biodiversity

- National Designations (SAC, SPA, SSSI, NNR)
- Local Nature Reserves
- Local Wildlife Sites (SNCIs in Surrey)
- Irreplaceable Habitats
 - Ancient woodland
 - Blanket bog
 - Coastal sand dunes

- Ancient and veteran trees
- Limestone pavements
- Spartina saltmarsh swards
- Mediterranean saltmarsh scrub Lowland fens



27. If the responsible authority believes that additional areas require protection due to their particular importance, they should discuss making those areas local wildlife sites with the relevant local planning authority (if this is not the responsible authority).



Description of the Strategy Area



The State of Surrey's Nature







Priorities and Measures for Nature Recovery





Priorities and Measures for Nature Recovery

Engagement Opportunities

- Online Survey March onwards
- Events –
- Thematic and geographic workshops April -September
- Formal consultation



Delivery Mechanisms

Policy

- Local plans and policies
- Climate Change Action Plans
- Biodiversity Duty

Financial

- Biodiversity Net Gain
- Farming Subsidy?
- Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)
- High Integrity Nature Markets
 - Carbon
 - Natural Flood Management
 - Biodiversity Credits



National Context for Species

The government has set legally binding targets to:



Halt the decline in species abundance by the end of 2030



Increase species abundance by the end of 2042 so that is greater than in 2022 and at least 10% greater than in 2030



Reduce the risk of species' extinction by 2042, when compared to the risk of species' extinction in 2022



LNRS Species Process





Stage 1 - Create LNRS Species Long List

Use Local species data to isolate and focus on the species meeting these criteria which are geographically and ecologically relevant to the strategy area

- Any native species which have been assessed as Red List Threatened against IUCN criteria
- Any native species which have not been formally assessed against IUCN Red List criteria but where strong evidence is provided to show that they would meet the criteria for Threatened status
- Any native species considered to be nationally extinct that re-establish themselves or are rediscovered
- Any native species which have been assessed as Red List Near Threatened against IUCN criteria
- Any native species which NE suggest as suitable candidates for conservation translocation, or any native species already subject to translocation efforts

NE Guidance - "The species longlist is likely to comprise between 150 and 500 species"



Stage 1 - Create LNRS Species Long List

Surrey Local Nature Recovery Strategy: IUCN Regionally Red Listed & NERC S.41 Species, Surrey Nature Partnership 2023								
Fish, Reptiles, Amphibians & Mammals			SPI (S.41, NERC Ac)	UK BAP Priority	GB4/England Red Lists	Relevant Priority Habitat (s)	Notes(inc. on Surrey statusj	
		Specially Protected	S V		0		× ×	
Fisha								
European eel	Anguilla anguilla		•	•	CR	Rivers, Standing water	local, declining	
Bullhead	Cottus gobio	A2				Rivers	local	
River lamprey	Lampetra fluviatilis	A2	•	•		Rivers	extinct	
Brook lamprey	Lampetra planeri	A2				Rivers	local	
Atlantic salmon	Salmo salar	A2	•	•	EN	Rivers	rare; Thames only	
Brown trout	Salmo trutta		•	•		Rivers	rare, declining (&	
Amphibians1								
Common toad	Bufo bufo	S5(s)	•	•	NT	various wetlands	common, declinin	
Natterjack toad	Epidalea calamita	S5/A4	•	•	EN	Heathland (wet)	very rare, declinin	
Great crested newt	Triturus cristatus	S5/A2,4	•	•		Standing water, Ponds	local, declining; in	
Reptiles ¹								
Slow-worm	Anguis fragilis	S5	•	•		various	common, declinin	
Smooth snake	Coronella austriaca	S5/A4	•	•	EN	Heathland	very rare (& re-int	
Sand lizard	Lacerta agilis	S5/A4	•	•	EN	Heathland	rare (& re-introdu	
Grass snake	Natrix natrix	S5	•	•		various	locally common?	
Adder	Vipera berus	S5	•	•	VU	Calcareous grassland, Heathland	local, declining	
Common lizard	Zootoca vivipara	S5	•	•		various	locally common, o	
Mammals2								
Water vole	Arvicola amphibius	S5	•	•	EN	Rivers, Standing water, Reedbeds, Fen	extinct?	
Barbastelle	Barbastella barbastellus	S5/A2,4	•	•	VU	Mixed deciduous woodland, Wood-pasture & parkland	rare?	
Serotine	Eptesicus serotinus	S5/A4			VU	Mixed deciduous woodland, Wood-pasture & parkland, urban	locally common	
Hedgehog	Erinaceus europaeus	S6	•	•	VU	various, Hedgerows	locally common, o	
Wildcat	Felis sylvestris	S5/A4		•	CR4	Mixed deciduous woodland, Heathland	(long) extinct	
Brown hare	Lepus europaeus		•	•	NA	Hedgerows, Calcareous grassland, Arable field margins	naturalised; very r	
Otter	Lutra lutra	S5/A2,4	•	•		Rivers, Standing water, Wet woodland	very rare; formerl	
Pine marten	Martes martes	S5	•	•	CR	Mixed deciduous woodland, Heathland	extinct	
Harvest mouse	Micromys minutus		•	•		Reedbeds, Fen, Arable field margins	local, declining?	
Common dormouse	Muscardinus avellanarius	S5/A4	•	•	VU	Mixed deciduous woodland. Hedgerows	local. declining?:	



Stage 1 - Evaluate species pressures

~	Agriculture
*	Forestry
Ş	Energy Production
	Development
۲	Recreational Pressure
ž	Invasive Non-Native Species
	Climate Change



Stage 2 - Identifying species which LNRS can best support

The LNRS is a spatial document - As such, the first step to refining the species longlist is to identify the species which will benefit from this approach



The selected species requires specific habitat management



The selected species would benefit from action within their international migratory route



Stage 2 - Grouping species into habitat assemblages

- Identify where these candidate species might share habitat requirements and might thereby benefit collectively from the same recovery measures
- Assemblages might be named on the basis of:
 - Pertinent habitat e.g. Lowland dry heath assemblage
 - Habitat mosaic e.g. Downland assemblage
 - Umbrella Species e.g. Yellow Hammer assemblage

It will likely not be possible / appropriate to place every candidate species into an assemblage: some species will require specific, individual recovery measures



Stage 3 - Selecting LNRS species priorities list

Criteria for prioritisation

- Urgency
- Deliverability
- Contribution to national objectives
- Cross-boundary considerations
- Maximising benefits
- Climate change impacts
- Pre-existing initiatives



Stage 3 - Developing potential measures for species

Potential measures for recovering and enhancing species in LNRS may include:

- Creating new habitat for species
- Expanding existing habitat to provide more space for species to flourish
- Enhancing habitat to better support species' needs through new or improved management practices
- Connecting habitat to enable species to move through the landscape and colonise new areas
- Actions to mitigate specific pressures impacting species in the local area, such as recreational disturbance, poor water quality, or the presence of invasive non-native species
- Bespoke actions such as localised surveys or conservation translocations



So, what next?

- Recruit the Species Technical Group (STG)
- Discuss with myself and Mike if there are data sets that may not have been considered in the draft longlist (held outside of SBIC)
- Draft species longlist circulated to species groups in March for consideration
- March engagement plan begins

Come and talk to me in the coffee break or email me:

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