



News:

On behalf of the UK BAP partnership, the **JNCC** has published the “Main Results of the 2008 UK Biodiversity Action Plan Reporting Round (2010)”. The report contains the fourth update on the progress to conserve the species and habitats identified as requiring priority action under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (using data collected from 2008 reporting round). To allow comparison with the previous reporting round in 2005, this report examines the 45 habitats and 475 species (covered by 391 Species Action Plans) that were on the UK list prior to a review in 2007. See below for publication details but the summary findings were:

- 8 priority habitats (18%) and 40 priority species (11%) were increasing or probably increasing.
- 9 priority habitats (20%) and 144 priority species (39%) were stable or probably stable.
- 19 priority habitats (42%) and 88 priority species (24%) were declining or probably declining but the rate of decline is slowing for 9 habitats (20%) and 28 species (8%).
- 8 species were reported to have been lost since the publication of the UK Biodiversity Action Plan in 1994.

BIODIVERSITY PLANNING TOOLKIT

The **Association of Local Government Ecologists (ALGE)** has launched the Biodiversity Toolkit Pilot, a new versatile online resource aimed at helping users to incorporate biodiversity into the planning system and new development. The Toolkit has been created in partnership with a wide range of conservation and planning organisations across the UK. User feedback is sought on the pilot, which will run until the end of August. See for yourself at: www.biodiversityplanningtoolkit.com/default.asp

SITA Trust has agreed to fund the **Forestry Commission** £24K for a project at Oversley Wood near Alcester. It is predominantly coniferous woodland with 55% of the woodland designed as Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) and 45% as Ancient Semi Natural Woodland (ASNW). It contains a significant proportion of the national resource of at least three nationally important aspen feeding UK BAP invertebrates (two micro moths and a weevil) as well as a good variety of other species. It has never fitted well into a ‘landscape’ level approach and there is an urgent need to learn more about the site and its distinctive species so it can be managed in the most effective way. The project will maintain and create more invertebrate habitat, improve connectivity both within the wood and its links to other sites as well as the opportunity to improve the biodiversity value of shady silted ponds. There will also be a survey and research side of this project which will inform additional management work that maximises the habitat benefits of the improved invertebrate ecological knowledge at Oversley Wood. To find out more



**Forestry Commission
England**

about this project contact Richard Boles, Area Forester for Forestry Commission England (richard.boles@forestry.gsi.gov.uk).

Biodiversity at the Edinburgh Fringe! Carole Jahme has devised a comic science show to mark the **International Year of Biodiversity 2010** “Carole Jahme Is Bio-diverse!” For details see www.guardian.co.uk/science/blog/2010/jul/30/humanzee-evolution-carole-jahme-edinburgh-festival

Key LBAP Dates:

Agendas for the following meetings will be sent out to members of the relevant groups at least one week ahead of the session.

- Landscapes for Living, Wednesday 15th September at 10am, The Barn at Brandon Marsh
- Main Steering Group, Tuesday 19th October at 10am, Venue TBC

Events, Conferences and Training Courses:

The **International Association for Landscape Ecology UK 2010** conference “**Future Landscape Ecology**” will be taking place from 13th to 16th September at the University of Brighton. Themes for the event include: Species responses to landscapes; Assessing vulnerability and resilience; Future scenarios; Problem solving; Workshop sessions; Landscape-scale adaptation and management. There will also be local field excursions. For more information see the ialeUK website at: www.iale.org.uk/conference2010

**WARWICKSHIRE, COVENTRY & SOLIHULL LBAP
PARTNERSHIP UPDATE – (NO. 20) AUGUST 2010**



The **British Science Association's annual science festival** will be taking place in Birmingham from 14th to 19th September. There will be a whole range of events including talks, debates, plays, films, fieldtrips and hands-on activities. For more information and a full programme of events see the website: www.britishecienceassociation.org/web/britisheciencefestival/

Nature After Minerals (NAM) are holding a **Reedbed Design, Creation and Management Workshop** on 15th September at the Memorial Hall, Collingham, Nottinghamshire. It is aimed at providing practical advice and training for key stakeholders in and around the minerals industry. The morning presentations will focus on the importance of reedbed habitat for rare wildlife and the technical aspects of reedbed design and creation, as well as its long-term management and how this has been incorporated into the creation of a wetland reserve at Tarmac's sand and gravel quarry at Langford Lowfields. The afternoon session will involve a site visit to the Langford Lowfields reserve. To book a place please contact Debra Royal via email: debra.royal@rspb.org.uk or phone: 01767 693588

Taking place from 15th to 17th September 2010 "**The End of Tradition? Aspects of Commons and Cultural Severance in the Landscape**" is a conference at Sheffield Hallam University, which will cover key issues around the impacts of cultural change and abandonment on commons and their biodiversity. It will look at the lessons to be learnt for engaging and re-connecting people with nature into the 21st century drawing on examples from Europe, Asia and the USA. This is an IYB-2010 event. Further details can be found at www.ukeconet.co.uk/index.php/events/50-conferences/100-tradition-conf

There is a **Biodiversity Benchmark Introductory Workshop** taking place on 23rd September, from 10am to 4pm at The London Mathematical Society, 57-58 Russell Square, London, WC1B 4HS. For further information and to book please visit the Biodiversity Benchmark website at: www.wildlifetrusts.org/index.php?section=corporate:biodiversity:workshops



The **Amateur Entomologists' Society Annual Exhibition and Trade Fair** is taking place on 2nd October from 11:00 - 16:30 at Kempton Park Racecourse, Sunbury-on-Thames. For further details see www.amentsoc.org/events/listings/0330/.

The **Association of Local Government Ecologists 2010 Conference** will be held on 23rd November at the LGA's Local Government House, Smith Square, London. The programme is currently being developed and will focus on the changing face of biodiversity delivery in light of the new Government and reviews and studies that are underway. Further details of this event will be available nearer the time.

Recent Publications and Other Information:

I have received the following information/publications; if you require a copy of any of these documents please let me know:

- The **JNCC** report "**Main Results of the 2008 UK Biodiversity Action Plan Reporting Round (2010)**" is available to view or download at www.jncc.gov.uk/pdf/pub2010_UKBAPHighlightsReport2008.pdf
- The Wildlife & Countryside Link statement on Defra spending decisions "**Link Spending Cuts Statement**" is available at: www.wcl.org.uk/docs/2010/Link_spending_cuts_statement_14July10.pdf
- The summer edition of **Biodiversity News** can now be found at: www.ukbap.org.uk/library/bn50.pdf
- The **REGENU Funding Bulletin** and **Funding Newsflash** are available at: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/grants
- The SITA Trust report on the **outcomes of 4 years of its Enriching Nature Funding Programme** is available at www.sitatrust.org.uk or for a hard copy please contact Marianne.ivin@sitatrust.org.uk
- A new e-newsletter has been launched providing information about the **UK Biodiversity Action Reporting System**. These will be sent to all BARS users on a quarterly basis to keep people up to speed with the important developments taking place over the year.