

# The Suffolk Biodiversity Action Plan

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# Priority habitats and species

- UK level BAP 1994 , priority species and habitats - targets and actions
- Translated at a local level, LBAPS
- Suffolk LBAP 1996, tranche 1 plans 1998 and tranche 2 in 2000
- 73 action plans - National and Suffolk character
- Statements

# What targets

- Identify, and secure sympathetic management for all designated heathland areas with the aim of achieving favourable status by 2010
- 4 or 5 key targets for each habitat or species, identified in the national context, SMART

# What actions

- *Site safeguard and management*: ensure Heathland sites are not adversely affected by development by ensuring implementation of relevant policy
- SWT, Las and EN
- *Advisory Provide*: conservation advice to heathland owners and managers through Agri-environment schemes and other projects - DEFRA and EN

# How does the BAP work

- Partnership is key to BAP implementation
- 5 Habitat working groups, Coastal, Farmland, Wetland, Heathland and Woodland
- Biodiversity Steering group, oversees and leads the BAP process
- Executive group - oversees my role, made up from the partnership

# HWG key role

- Each plan has a local lead - responsible for leading on their plan
- *HWG*: Prioritise from the plans - actions - all time limited
- Review plans and incorporate necessary change/evolution - National and Local
- Report plans Biodiversity Action Reporting system BARs

# BAP process - added value conservation projects

- Target and focus from National, Regional to County, District and Community conservation projects
- Closer working - more economical, less duplication
- Common vision and shared goals at the LBAP level of biodiversity conservation

# Plus

- Target external funding applications in the most effective and optimum way
- Should engage with new communities, key tenet of Convention on Biological Diversity and Local Agenda 21
- Should allow accurate monitoring of biodiversity action in the UK - BARs

# My role

- *Influencing strategy:*
- Local Development Frameworks - government PPS 9, replacing district local plans, opportunities for BAP habitats and species - not least Biodiversity mapping- especially “opportunity mapping”
- Underway in Suffolk S of N reports and landscape characterisation work - SBRC

# Strategy

- Local Area Agreements: ensure that 50% of BAP targets are complete and 35% of the remainder are underway by 2008
- Local Strategic Partnerships: like to influence these - linking all of these biodiversity, green spaces, health agenda-presentations to LSP

# Strategy

- Community Strategy: Biodiversity action that is focused on community engagement, within the framework of the Suffolk BAP and makes links to green space objectives, health, fitness.

# Manage/support the HWG

- *In achieving biodiversity action*
- prioritise
- review
- report
- information sharing
- identify funding

# Biodiversity rep. BARS

- Populate Biodiversity Actions Reporting system
- All plans onto BARS
- Train and support leads and implementation members of the BAP to report on and use BARS

## In summary

- BAP started in the UK in 1994, results of UK 10 year review, achievement and review
- Suffolk LBAP reviewed at 5 years 2003,
- 27% of actions had been completed with a further 55% in progress/nearing completion
- Lots more to do!