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**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT**



**A Strategy for
Implementing the
Environment Agency's
Contribution to the UK
Biodiversity Action Plan**



**ENVIRONMENT
AGENCY**

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A Strategy for Implementing the Environment Agency's Contribution to the UK Biodiversity Action Plan

Preface

In November 1996, the Environment Agency Board approved a strategy for implementing its contribution to species and habitat action plans produced for the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (the UK Plan). The original Board paper (EA (96) 139) is reproduced in this report, together with additional supporting material which did not accompany the original paper. This includes a full list of the species and habitats in the UK Plan's initial listings which require action by the Agency.

This report provides, for the benefit of both internal and external audiences, an overview of the approach the Agency is adopting in respect of the UK Plan and the extent of its involvement.

1. Purpose of Paper

- 1.1 Board Paper EA (96)117 (see Appendix 1) set out the immediate requirements of the Agency for the implementation of the UK Plan. The purpose of this paper is to set out a longer term strategy to ensure that achievement of relevant targets set in the overall UK Plan (which involves some 1650 species and 38 habitats) is recognised in the totality of the Agency's regulatory, operational and advisory activities and objectives. This strategy embraces not just the immediate requirements of Phase I of the UK Plan, but also the second and third phases.
- 1.2 These requirements need to be seen within the overall remit of the Agency with regard to biodiversity and its relevance to the Agency's principal, sustainable development, aim. Thus although certain actions fall on the Agency because of its specific conservation duties relating to the aquatic environment, all of the Agency's activities can potentially interface with all of the national biodiversity action plans.

2. Background to the UK Biodiversity Action Plan

- 2.1 Biodiversity is the variety of wildlife and habitats. The Biodiversity Convention, which recognises this importance, was signed by the Prime Minister at the Rio Earth Summit in June 1992. The convention requires that national programmes for the conservation of biological

diversity are developed. In 1994 the UK Plan was produced by the Department of the Environment (DoE).

- 2.2 In their statutory guidance to the Agency under section 4 of the Environment Act 1995, Ministers have identified, as a key component of its contribution to sustainable development "... *the conservation and where practicable enhancement of biodiversity...*". The UK Plan provides a framework within which the Agency can make this contribution.
- 2.3 Under the UK Plan a national group, which included a representative from the National Rivers Authority, was set up to take this work forward. In 1995 it produced "*Biodiversity: The UK Steering Group Report*" (the Report) which included costed action plans for a short list of 116 of the nation's most threatened and declining species. Middle (286 species) and long (1250 species) lists were also produced. Each species' action plan described the current status, factors causing loss or decline, current action, objectives, targets, and proposed actions to conserve and enhance the species concerned. The Report also included habitat action plans, with a similar structure, for 14 habitats and identified a further 24 for which action plans are required.
- 2.4 Each action plan has specific action points with responsible agencies (including the Agency) clearly identified. The Agency is tasked with taking a lead on many of these actions and several of the generic threats fall within its remit. For example, 20 of the 116 species are expected to benefit from action to maintain or improve water quality; flood defence water level management plans are identified as a requirement for 13 species.
- 2.5 A timescale of three years (that is, by 1998) was set for producing the 286 middle list action plans and remaining 24 habitat plans. The longer list is to be refined and revised in the light of new information by 1997.
- 2.6 In May 1996 the Government endorsed the main proposals set out in the Report, identified contact points (including the Agency) for the existing action plans and invited 'champions' from the non-statutory sector to take them forward. In August 1996 it was announced that

although a number of organisations had volunteered to become champions, not all species were covered. It is proposed that the role of champion be split between a 'Lead Partner', and 'sponsor'. The DoE's announcement on which species will be sponsored and their clarification of the roles of 'lead partner' and 'sponsor' is expected in late October 1996.

3. The Agency's Contribution

3.1 In developing and implementing the UK Plan, there are a number of roles for the Agency to play, as described below. The relationship between these roles and their responsibilities is given in Appendix 2.

3.2 **Plan development:** The NRA was represented on the group that developed Phase I of the UK Plan. The Government has endorsed the need for a similar national group, with a number of sub-groups, to carry forward the UK Plan. The Agency will be represented on the national group and on key sub-groups in the overall management structure of the UK Plan.

3.3 **Contact point:** The contact point for each species and habitat is responsible for stimulating action to achieve targets, monitoring results and reporting progress to the national group. Government has identified formal contact points (normally statutory agencies or Government departments) for each of the short list species and habitats. The Agency is the contact point for 12 species and one habitat. The Board has agreed that the primary focus of the Agency's input should be its contact point roles, and current actions relating to these species was given in the earlier Board paper.

3.4 **Lead partner:** The lead partner is responsible for preparing detailed work plans, directing resources and overseeing plan implementation. Government has invited statutory and voluntary bodies, research groups and others to become the lead partner for plans in which they are interested. The Agency is well-placed to fulfil this role for species such as allis and twaite shad, although it will not do so until the role is clarified, and particularly the resource implications.

3.5 **Responsible agency:** The Report allocates responsibility to the Agency for nearly 100 actions (in whole or in partnership with others) in 60 different plans, primarily relating to the aquatic environment. These actions involve many of its functions but it is possible that some of the greatest input will be required on plans for which it is not the contact point. These actions fall into three general categories as follows:

A actions that will be delivered through existing operational and other programmes and will not

require significant additional resources. Examples include the maintenance of water quality at current standards, preparation of water level management plans within the existing programme, and existing R&D projects;

B actions that can be delivered within the existing policy framework but do not appear in existing work programmes and may require additional resources or a re-ordering of priorities (for example some water quality improvements, changes to flood defence maintenance activities, habitat enhancement schemes). The conservation strategy currently in preparation has re-ordered priorities to place emphasis on UK Plan actions;

C actions which will require the development of new policies and procedures or major new R&D projects. Some of these may have significant resource implications for the Agency.

4. Strategy for delivery of the Agency's Contribution

4.1 Overall objective

To participate fully in the overall development and implementation of the UK Plan, recognising biodiversity as a key indicator of environmental quality, a key component of sustainable development and, ultimately, of the Agency's success in maintaining and improving the environment.

4.2 Strategy

The Agency will therefore carry out the following:

Plan development

i) work to ensure that the UK Plan targets are realistic (financially and environmentally) and compatible with its own environmental targets.

Incorporation into Agency policy

ii) review existing policies to ensure that their contribution towards biodiversity is specifically recognised in their aims and objectives;

iii) bring forward new or revised policies as necessary to address gaps or deficiencies in the current policy framework.

Plan implementation

iv) screen each action allocated to the Agency in the UK Plan and categorise as per 3.5 above;

v) identify the contribution towards individual plans that many of its existing policies and procedures are already making and ensure that biodiversity

objectives are specifically included (Category A actions);

- vi) re-examine existing operational and financial priorities to ensure that actions in support of biodiversity action plans are fully taken into account in work programmes and allocation of resources (Category B actions);
- vii) produce a costed, prioritised programme of actions which cannot be delivered through v) and vi) above. This will be used as the basis for bidding for additional funding from Government and other sources (Category B & C actions).

Delivery of Agency action under the UK Plan

- viii) use Local Environment Agency Plans as the basis for identifying, at a local level, specific Agency actions and objectives to implement appropriate components of the species and habitat plans and feed these into relevant local biodiversity plans produced by others (see Appendix 3);
- ix) provide advice to specific groups on how their actions can contribute to the achievement of species and habitat action plans, and generally to raise awareness of biodiversity issues;
- x) highlight its actions to help implement the UK Plan, even when these are not the primary aim of the work concerned;
- xi) implement its actions under the UK Plan in a cost-effective manner, where appropriate in partnership with other agencies and individuals.

4.3 General policies

In meeting the overall objective and strategy, and in recognition of its obligation to consider costs and benefits, the Agency will adopt the following policies.

- i) priority will be given to achievement of actions required under the UK Plan before resources are dedicated to implementing additional actions in regional or county biodiversity action plans;
- ii) unless there is clear evidence to the contrary, the Agency will assume that maintenance of existing environmental standards (for example RQOs, minimum acceptable flows, water level management regimes) is sufficient to provide the levels of protection required by individual species and habitat plans;
- iii) in prioritising new and existing activities to meet actions under the UK Plan, the Agency will, as well as considering relative costs, give priority firstly to those plans where Agency action is required to prevent a decline in status (rather than maintain the *status quo* or effect an improvement), and secondly to those that are most dependent on the powers

and expertise unique to the Agency.

4.4 Roles within the Agency

Responsibility for delivery of these actions will lie at a variety of levels within the Agency. Category A (see 3.5 above) actions will be delivered through existing programmes and require no changed or additional roles. Those in Category B can be delivered at an area or regional level once new or re-prioritised resources become available, while those in Category C may require national policy development and resource allocation before the areas or regions can act. Some actions may be dealt with nationally, with no requirement for area or regional input.

4.5 The following general allocation of roles within the Agency is recommended:

- i) *membership of the national biodiversity groups* – head office and nominated regional/area conservation staff, acting on a national basis;
- ii) *contact point and membership of steering groups* – head office and nominated regional/area conservation staff, acting on a national basis;
- iii) *champion/lead partner* – no Agency role currently proposed, only to be adopted if additional funding becomes available;
- vi) *focus for on-the-ground implementation* – The required input from the Agency for on-the-ground implementation will vary between individual plans and between regions. According to the required input for a particular plan, regional and/or area staff from one or more functions may have a role to play. No standard approach to organising each region's input to the plans is therefore proposed. However, the Regional Conservation Officer, as a member of the Conservation Technical Group, should act as the focus for each region's input to plans;
- vi) *review of functional policies and practices* – relevant Head of Function, in collaboration with Conservation and Biodiversity Policy Co-ordinator and Head of Conservation.

4.6 Management framework

A project group (with Board membership) should be established to oversee and co-ordinate the Agency's overall input to the UK Plan. Responsibility for further development of biodiversity policy will rest with the Environmental Strategy Directorate, in liaison with relevant functions, with the Head of Conservation responsible for overall delivery of the Agency's input to the plans. The Conservation Technical Group should act as the focus for co-ordinating activity between regions and contact with external organisations.

5. Conclusion and Recommendation

- 5.1 Fulfilment of the contribution expected of the Agency by the UK Plan (and endorsed by Government) will represent a major organisational challenge. Action will be required by a range of the Agency's functions at both a national level and regional/area level. While much work is now being delivered with current resources within existing programmes, some actions will require additional resources and/or a review of priorities. If this challenge is met, it will provide a tangible example of how the Agency is able to take a holistic approach to the protection and enhancement of the environment and deliver a key component of its contribution towards sustainable development.
- 5.2 **The Board is requested to consider, comment and, in the light of such comments, approve** the above strategy for the delivery of the Agency's contribution to the UK Plan and the setting up of a project group to oversee its implementation.

Dr R J Pentreath

Chief Scientist and Director of Environmental Strategy

4 October 1996

Appendix 1

Summary of Board Paper EA(96)117

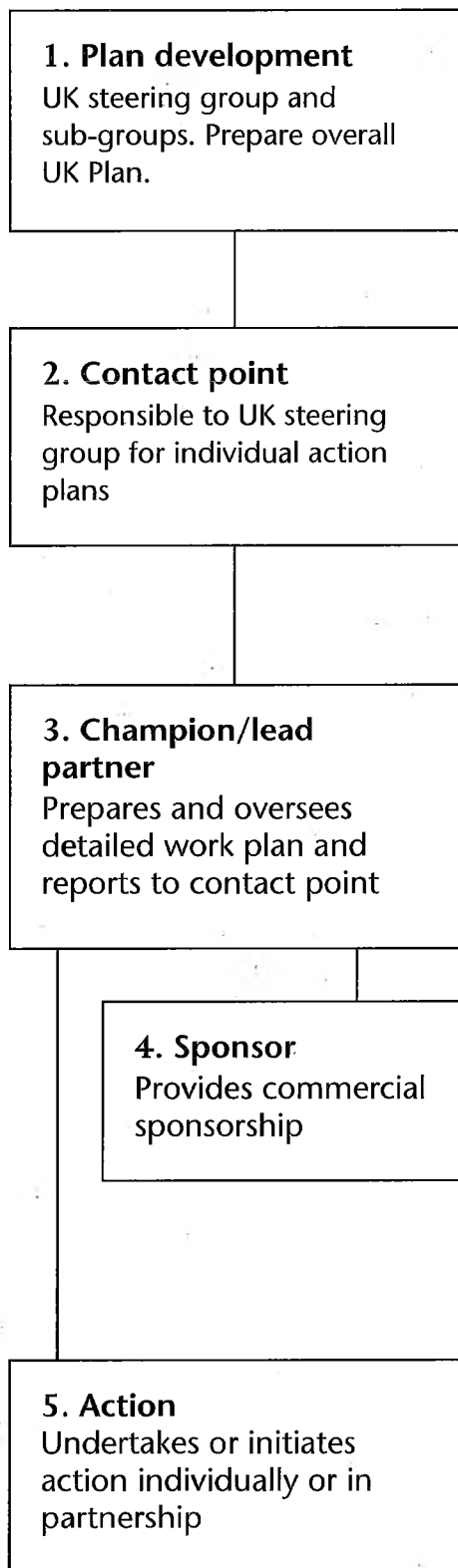
The UK Biodiversity Action Plan and the Agency's role

1. The Agency has significant responsibilities regarding implementation of the UK Plan and the success of many of the species and habitat action plans depends on Agency action.
2. The availability of resources will determine the speed at which action plans are progressed and in which order of priority. A measured approach is therefore necessary.
3. A clear statement of the Agency's role is required and this will be produced in time for an autumn publication.
4. **It is recommended** that the Agency takes a full part in the various steering groups established by the DoE to oversee implementation of the action plans.
5. **It is recommended** that the Agency's primary focus should be as a contact point, and that it should consider becoming a species 'champion' only after full resource implications have been assessed.
6. **It is recommended** that no new Agency commitments are made to regional biodiversity action plans until the full implications are identified and resources made available.

Appendix 2

Agency Roles in the Delivery of the UK Biodiversity Plan

Role



Responsibility and Agency Involvement

1. Plan development:

oversee implementation of Phase I;
refine the 'middle' and 'long' species and habitat lists;
prepare costed action plans for Phases II and III.

The Agency is contributing to the national and country (England and Wales) groups set up to implement the initial phase of the UK Plan and develop further phases.

2. Contact point:

stimulate action for the achievement of targets;
set standards for monitoring and reporting progress;
act as initial contact point and to field general enquiries;
agree the overall work programme with the lead partner.

The Agency is the contact point for 12 species and one habitat. It will identify a flagship to highlight its contribution towards the UK Plan.

3. Champion/lead partner:

prepare work programme;
establish an information network for the UK Plan and stimulate action;
direct resources and manage publicity;
report progress.

4. Sponsorship

The Agency is not in a position to offer commercial sponsorship, although it may collaborate with others in undertaking projects.

5. Agency responsible for action

The UK Plan identifies the Agency as responsible for implementing, individually or in partnership with others, a range of actions within both species and habitat plans. Agency action involving many of its functions is required to help deliver over 50 plans. It will have a key role to play for several species and habitats for which it is not the formal contact point (for example shad, great crested newt, fens, mesotrophic lakes, reedbeds). It is likely that the input required for some of these will be greater than that needed for some plans for which it is the contact point. Again, the Agency will identify a flagship to highlight its work.

Appendix 3

Links with other initiatives

Local Environment Agency Plans

LEAPs will be a key mechanism for identifying the actions the Agency needs to take at a local level to deliver its contributions towards individual species and habitat action plans. The LEAP planning process should be used to identify:

- i) those species and habitats for which national biodiversity action plans have been prepared which occur within the LEAP area;
- ii) those actions identified in the national plan that are relevant to the LEAP area;
- iii) options for the Agency to deliver the relevant actions;
- iv) SMART objectives for delivery of the actions.

Although lack of space in the actual LEAP documents will probably prevent a detailed description of the relevant issues, they should indicate which species/habitats occur and relevant actions the Agency is going to undertake. The underlying detail should be held in a format available to external interests to use, for example in the preparation of regional or county biodiversity action plans.

LEAPs are seen as the key mechanism for prioritising actions arising from action plans against other demands on functional resources.

County and regional biodiversity action plans

In a number of locations, voluntary conservation organisations are taking the initiative in producing county or regional biodiversity action plans. It is essential that there are clear links between these plans and the UK Plan. Currently there is no uniform guidance on how this linkage should be handled, resulting in no clear consistency in local initiatives. Local plans produced to date include specific actions for the Agency, some of which are clearly a contribution to the UK Plan; others have less clear links to a national programme.

There are two approaches the Agency can take in preparing programmes to implement its contribution to the UK Plan and setting these out in LEAPS:

- i) to divide the national Agency action into respective LEAP actions, or;
- ii) to build up LEAP actions from the county and regional biodiversity action plans.

In order to focus the Agency's resources on delivering the national priorities identified in the UK Plan, the former approach should be adopted. As set out in 4.3 i) of the Agency Biodiversity strategy, no new Agency resources should be committed to actions in local plans unless they form an integral part of the UK Plan.

Supporting Material

Table 1. UK Biodiversity Action Plan: species for which the Agency is contact point and/or lead partner.

Species	Contact	Lead partner	Agency co-ordinator	Region	Address	Phone
Allis Shad	MAFF	EA/MAFF	(NW) Miran Aprahamian	North West	Richard Fairclough House, Knutsford Road, Warrington, WA4 1HG	01925 653999
Crayfish	EA	Game Conservancy	(NE) Jonathon Brickland	N East	Olympia House, Gelderd Lane, Gelderd Road, Leeds, LS12 6DD	0113 244 0191
Depressed river mussel	EA	EA	(W) Catrin Davies	Welsh	Rivers House, St Mellons Business Park, St Mellons, Cardiff, CF3 0LT	01222 770088
Freshwater pea mussel	EA	EA	(T) Dave Leeming	Thames	The Grange, 97 Crossbrook Street, Waltham Cross, Herts, EN8 8HE	01992 63556
Freshwater pearl mussel	SNH	EA	(NW) Steve Garner	North West	Chertsey Hill, London Road, Carlisle, CA1 2QX	01228 25151
Glutinous snail	EA	EA	(T) John Steel	Thames	The Mead, Rose Kiln Lane, Reading, RG2 0SF	01734 535000
Little whirlpool ram's horn snail	EA	EA	(S) Jane Cecil	Southern	Rivers House, 3 Liverpool Gardens, Worthing, BN11 1TF	01903 215835
Otter	EA	EA/Wildlife Trusts	(W) Teg Jones	Welsh	Rivers House, St Mellons Business Park, St Mellons, Cardiff, CF3 0LT	01222 770088
Ribbon leaved water plantain	EA	EA/EN	(M) Gill Evans	Midland	Hafren House, Welshpool Road, Shelton, Shrewsbury, SY3 8BB	01743 272828
River jelly lichen	EA	EA	(W) Chris Formaggia	Welsh	Rivers House, St Mellons Business Park, St Mellons, Cardiff, CF3 0LT	01222 770088
Shining ram's horn snail	EA	EA	(S) Shelagh Wilson	Southern	Rivers House, Sturrey Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT2 0AA	01227 765061
Southern damselfly	EA	Wildlife Trusts	(S) Tim Sykes	Southern	Sarum Court, Sarum Road, Winchester, SO22 5DP	01962 713267
Twaite shad	MAFF	EA/MAFF	(NW) Miran Aprahamian	North West	Richard Fairclough House, Knutsford Road, Warrington, WA4 1HG	01925 653999
Vendace	EA	EA	(NW) Steve Douglas	North West	Chertsey Hill, London Road, Carlisle, CA1 2QX	01228 25151
Water vole	EA	UK Water Vole Group	(T) Alastair Driver	Thames	Kings Meadow House, Kings Meadow Road, Reading, RG1 8DQ	0118 953 5000

Table 2. UK Biodiversity Action Plan: other species requiring action by the Agency.

Species	Contact	Lead partner	Agency co-ordinator	Region	Address	Phone
Aquatic warbler	CCW	RSPB	(M) Andrew Heaton	Midland	Sapphire East, 550 Streetsbrook Road, Solihull, B91 1QT	0121 711 2324
Atlantic lejeuna	EN	Plantlife	(SW) Trevor Renals	South West	St John Moore House, Victoria Square, Bodmin, PL31 1EB	01208 78301
Bittern	EN	RSPB	(NW) Judith Bennet	North West	Mirwell, Carrington Lane, Sale, Cheshire, M33 5NL	0161 973 2237
Black bog ant	CCW	Wildlife Trusts	(W) Liz Roblin	Welsh	Glan Tawe, 154 St Helens Road, Swansea, SA1 4DF	01792 645300
Creeping marshwort	EN	EN	(T) Richard Green	Thames	Isis House, Howberry Park, Wallingford, OX1 8BD	01734 535000
Derbyshire feather moss	EN	EN	(M) Pete Sibley	Midland	Trentside Offices, Scarrington Road, West Bridgeford, Nottingham, NG2 5FA	0115 945 5722
Desmoulins whorl snail	EN	EN	(T) Daryl Buck	Thames	The Mead, Rose Kiln Lane, Reading, RG2 0SF	01734 535000
Floating water plantain	CCW	Plantlife	(W) Nicki Smith	Welsh	Rivers House, St Mellons Business Park, St Mellons, Cardiff, CF3 0LT	01222 770088
Geyers whorl snail	CCW	CCW	(T) Daryl Buck	Thames	The Mead, Rose Kiln Lane, Reading, RG2 0SF	01734 535000
Great crested newt	EN	EN/Herp. Conservation Trust	(S) Mark Elliot	Southern	Rivers House, 3 Liverpool Gardens, Worthing, BN11 1TF	01903 215835
Ground beetle (<i>B. argenteolum</i>)	EHS (DoE(NI))	EHS (DoE(NI))	(S) Rob Pilcher	Southern	Millsbrook House, Mill Street, East Malling, Kent, ME19 6BU	01732 875587
Ground beetle (<i>P. crux major</i>)	EN	EN	(W) Carri Lane	Welsh	Fford Penlan, Parc Menai, Bangor, LL57 4BP	01248 670770
Harbour porpoise	SMRU	Sea Mammal Research Unit	(SW) Sonia Thurley	South West	St John Moore House, Victoria Square, Bodmin, PL31 1EB	01208 78301
Holly leaved naiad	EN	Broads Authority/ Wildlife Trusts	(A) Gary Murphy	Anglian	Kingfisher House, Goldhay Way, Peterborough, PE2 5Z	01733 371 811
Leaf beetle (<i>C. exigus</i>)	EN	EN	(A) Gary Murphy	Anglian	Kingfisher House, Goldhay Way, Peterborough, PE2 5Z	01733 371 811
Longhorn beetle (<i>O. oculata</i>)	EN	EN	(A) Gary Murphy	Anglian	Kingfisher House, Goldhay Way, Peterborough, PE2 5Z	01733 371 811

Table 2 (cont'd)

Species	Contact	Lead partner	Agency co-ordinator	Region	Address	Phone
Marsh earwort	SNH	SNH	(SW) Trevor Renals	South West	St John Moore House, Victoria Square, Bodmin, PL31 1EB	01208 78301
Marsh fritillary	CCW	Butterfly Conservation	(NW) Andy Fraser	North West	Chertsey Hill, London Road, Carlisle, CA1 2QX	01228 25151
Medicinal leech	SNH	Wildlife Trusts/ RSPB	(W) Bryan Jones	Welsh	Fford Penlan, Parc Menai, Bangor, LL57 4BP	01248 670770
Narrow-mouthed whorl snail	CCW	CCW	(T) Daryl Buck	Thames	The Mead, Rose Kiln Lane, Reading, RG2 0SF	01734 535000
Natterjack toad	EN	Herp. Conservation Trust	(NW) Steve Garner	North West	Chertsey Hill, London Road, Carlisle, CA1 2QX	01228 25151
Netted carpet moth	EN	Butterfly Conservation /Nat. Trust	(NW) Brian Ingersent	North West	Eskdale House, Shap Road, Kendal, Cumbria, LA9 6RF	01925 653999
Norfolk flapwort	EN	Wildlife Trusts	(A) Gary Murphy	Anglian	Kingfisher House, Goldhay Way, Peterborough, PE2 5Z	01733 371 811
Petalwort	CCW	Plantlife	(W) Bryan Jones	Welsh	Fford Penlan, Parc Menai, Bangor, LL57 4BP	01248 670770
Pipistrelle bat	EN	Bat Conservation Trust	(SW) Lyn Jenkins	South West	Manley House, Kestrel Way, Exeter, EX2 7LQ	01392 444000
Round-mouthed whorl snail	SNH	SNH	(T) Daryl Buck	Thames	The Mead, Rose Kiln Lane, Reading, RG2 0SF	01734 535000
Sand lizard	EN	EN/Herp. Conservation Trust	(NW) Neil Guthrie	North West	Lutra House, Dodd Way, Walton Summit, Preston, PR5 8BX	01772 39882
Sandbowl snail	EN	EN	(NW) Paul Green	North West	Richard Fairclough House, Knutsford Road, Warrington, WA4 1HG	01925 653999
Scarab beetle (<i>A. niger</i>)	EN	EHS (DoE(NI))	(S) Tim Holtzer	Southern	Sarum Court, Sarum Road, Winchester, SO22 5DP	01962 713267
Slender naiad	SNH	SNH	(NW) Liz Oliver	North West	Chertsey Hill, London Road, Carlisle, CA1 2QX	01228 25151
Starfruit	EN	Plantlife	(T) Chris Catling	Thames	Gade House, London Road, Rickmansworth, WD3 1RS	01992 635566
Starlet sea anemone	EN	WWF	(SW) Peter Nicholson	South West	Manley House, Kestrel Way, Exeter, EX2 7LQ	01392 444000
Yellow marsh saxifrage	SNH	SNH	(NE) Roger Martin	North East	Coverdale House, Amy Johnson Way, York, YO3 4UZ	01904 692296

Table 3. UK Biodiversity Action Plan: habitats requiring action by the Agency.

Habitat	Contact	Agency co-ordinator	Region	Address	Phone
Chalk rivers	EA	(S) Robin Crawshaw	Southern	Guildbourne House, Chatsworth Drive, Worthing, W Sussex, BN11 1LD	01903 832000
Fens	EN	(SW) Lyn Jenkins	South West	Manley House, Kestrel Way, Exeter EX2 7LQ	01392 444000
Grazing marsh	EN	(NE) Martin Fuller	North East	Coverdale House, Amy Johnson Way, York YO3 4UJZ	01904 692296
Mesotrophic lakes	SEPA	(NW) Karen Rouen	North West	Eskdale House, Shap Road Kendal, Cumbria LA9 6RF	01925 653999
Reedbeds	EN	(NW) Judith Bennet	North West	Mirwell, Carrington Lane, Sale, Cheshire M33 5NL	0161 973 2237
Saline lagoons	EN	(SW) Peter Nicholson	South West	Manley House, Kestrel Way, Exeter EX2 7LQ	01392 444000
Seagrass beds	EHS(NI)	(SW) Peter Nicholson	South West	Manley House, Kestrel Way, Exeter EX2 7LQ	01392 444000

Addresses of other contact points

Countryside Council for Wales
 Plas Penrhos
 Fford Penrhos
 Bangor
 Gwynedd LL57 2LQ
 Telephone 01248 370444

Department of Environment for
 Northern Ireland
 Commonwealth House
 35 Castle Street
 Belfast BT1 1GU
 Telephone 01232 351717

English Nature
 Northminster House
 Peterborough
 PE1 1UA
 Telephone 01733 455000

Royal Botanical Gardens, Edinburgh
 20A Inverleith Row
 Edinburgh
 EH3 5LR
 Telephone 0131 552 7171

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
 Nobel House
 17 Smith Square
 London SW1 3JR
 Telephone 0171 238 5667

Scottish Natural Heritage
 12 Hope Terrace
 Edinburgh
 EH9 2AS
 Telephone 0131 447 4784

The Scottish Office Agriculture, Environment
 and Fisheries Department
 Pentland House
 47 Robb's Loan
 Edinburgh EH4 1TY
 Telephone 0131 556 8400

Sea Mammal Research Unit
 c/o British Antarctic Survey
 High Cross
 Madingley Road
 Cambridge CB3 0ET
 Telephone 01223 311354

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Biodiversity: the UK Action Plan (Cm 2427. HMSO, 1994)

Biodiversity: the UK Steering Group Report, Vols 1 & 2. (HMSO, 1995)

Government Response to the UK Steering Group Report on Biodiversity (Cm 3260. HMSO, 1996)

Sustainable Development Section publication series

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Exeter EX2 7LQ
Tel: 01392 444 000
Fax: 01392 444 238

NORTH EAST

Rivers House
21 Park Square South
Leeds LS1 2QG
Tel: 0113 244 0191
Fax: 0113 246 1889

THAMES

Kings Meadow House
Kings Meadow Road
Reading RG1 8DQ
Tel: 0118 953 5000
Fax: 0118 950 0388

NORTH WEST

Richard Fairclough House
Knutsford Road
Warrington WA4 1HG
Tel: 01925 653 999
Fax: 01925 415 961

WELSH

Rivers House/Plas-yr-Afon
St Mellons Business Park
St Mellons
Cardiff CF3 0LT
Tel: 01222 770 088
Fax: 01222 798 555



For general enquiries please call your local Environment Agency office. If you are unsure who to contact, or which is your local office, please call our general enquiry line.

**ENVIRONMENT AGENCY
GENERAL ENQUIRY LINE**

0645 333 111

The 24-hour emergency hotline number for reporting all environmental incidents relating to air, land and water.

**ENVIRONMENT AGENCY
EMERGENCY HOTLINE**

0800 80 70 60



**ENVIRONMENT
AGENCY**