

Species Biodiversity Delivery Group

Work Programme

2009 -2012

March 2009

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1. Identification of priority species

Objective 1:

To maintain and update a list of priority species requiring conservation action.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update
1.1.1	Present draft NI priority species list to NIBG	NIEA	March 2009	Lead co-ordinators to provide list of species. NIEA to collate and present to NIBG
1.1.2	Publish proposed NI priority list	NIEA	March 2009	
1.1.3	Agree and publish final lists	NIEA	September 2009	
1.1.4	Agree protocol for updating lists	ALL	December 2009	

2. Identifying of actions required for priority species

Objective 2:

To identification of actions required for priority species.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update
2.1.1	Review UK signposting exercise	ALL	May 2009	
2.1.2	Complete a signposting exercise for all proposed NI priority species	NIEA	December 2009	
2.1.3	Agree success criteria and targets for NI priority species	ALL	March 2010	
2.1.4	Identify leads for all NI priority species	NIEA	2010	
2.1.5	Agree species actions to be delivered by habitat biodiversity delivery groups	NIEA	2010	

3. Management of designated sites

Objective 3:

To ensure that, where possible, designated sites address the needs of priority species.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update
3.1.1	Identify and designate ASSIs which benefit priority species	NIEA	Ongoing	Part of PSA target for 200 additional ASSIs by 2013
3.1.2	Ensure the management of designated ASSIs benefit priority species	NIEA	2010	

4. Management of species in the wider countryside

Objective:

Maintain the current extent and overall status of priority species in the wider countryside and marine environment

Agricultural policy

Further promote uptake of agri-environment schemes to landowners and land managers to benefit priority species.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update
4.1.1	Ensure that the agri-environment scheme monitoring programme can contribute to reporting on priority species	DARD	2009	
4.1.2	Ensure that key information on priority species is available for agri-environment schemes	DARD	ongoing	

Planning Policy

Ensure planning permission decisions are made which minimise the impact on priority species and where practicable help restore populations.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update
4.2.1	Produce a Planning Policy Statement (PPS 2) Nature Conservation to include updated policies and guidance on priority species	DOE	To be confirmed	
4.2.2	Ensure that appropriate conditions are included in planning permissions to minimise impacts on priority species.	Planning Service, NIEA	Ongoing	

4.2.3	Ensure that key information on priority species is available for those making planning decisions	NIEA. ALL	Ongoing	
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Water Policy

Ensure water policy decisions are made which minimise the impact on priority species and where practicable help restore populations.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update
4.3.1	Ensure that key information on priority species is available for those making water policy decisions.	NIEA. ALL	Ongoing	

Marine Policy

Ensure marine policy decisions are made which minimise the impact on priority species and where practicable help restore populations.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update
4.4.1	Ensure that key information on priority species is available for those making marine policy decisions.	NIEA. ALL	Ongoing	

5. National and International liaison

Objective:

Contribute to identifying species requiring conservation action and co-ordinating the delivery of action in Ireland, the UK and internationally.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update
5.1.1	Contribute to the UK Biodiversity Partnership through the reporting, review and delivery of action for priority species.	NIEA	ongoing	
5.1.2	Contribute to the development and publication of Irish Red lists	ALL	ongoing	Bryophyte RDB and water beetle due to be published Work on non-marine molluscs started Vascular plant RDB review initiated
5.1.3	Contribute to the development of all-Ireland species action	NIEA	2010	

6. Education, Awareness and Research

Objective:

Improve understanding and increase the awareness of species conservation issues amongst the public, landowners and stakeholders.

Key Action 6.1

Ensure that studies of Northern Ireland species are included in formal education and that readily accessible information on NI priority species is readily available.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update
6.1.1	Seek to include more species studies in formal education.	ALL	ongoing	
6.1.2	Publish NI priority species lists	NIEA	2009	
6.1.3	Review and update NI priority species webpages	NIEA	2011	

7. Research and survey

Objective:

Initiate and support research required to identify and inform conservation action for Northern Ireland priority species.

Key Tasks		Partners - Lead Partner(s) in bold	Timeframe	Comments/Update
7.1.1	Identify research and survey priorities for NI priority species.	ALL	2010	
7.1.2	Identify research and survey priorities for species and species groups with inadequate data.	ALL	2010	