



Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership Partners' News March 2011

Suffolk Biodiversity
Partnership

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Partners News

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*Please note our new website address – www.suffolkbiodiversity.org. See page 14

PARTNERS NEWS

Purdis Heath SSSI Silver-studded Blue Project

Matt Berry, Butterfly Conservation

Purdis Heath is one of the best remnants of a formerly extensive tract of heathland which lay to the east of Ipswich, and formed the southern limit of the 'sandlings' heaths of East Suffolk (Natural England, 1988).

In October 2010 a meeting was organised by Butterfly Conservation to make a site habitat assessment and formulate an emergency plan of action. The aim was simple: try and save the ailing colony of Silver-studded Blue that had gone from peak numbers registering in the hundreds to, tragically, just four as the peak number seen during the flight season of 2010. Representatives from Butterfly Conservation, Natural England, Greenways Countryside Project, Suffolk Wildlife Trust and Ipswich Golf Club, collaborated with ecologists Neil Ravenscroft and Nick Blacker, to share their respective knowledge and experience in deciding upon a series of measures to radically improve the habitat for the butterfly, and the ants upon which they depend.



Silver-studded blue butterfly. Photo: Matt Berry

It was unanimously agreed that a significant increase in scrub removal was vital, since despite the valiant efforts made by volunteers at annual 'Megabash' events and the generous mowing of Heather by the adjacent Ipswich Golf Club, the SSB flight area had shrunk from 1.3Ha in 1985 to just 0.1Ha in 2009 (Ravenscroft, 2009). It was therefore agreed that extra coordinated effort from Butterfly Conservation, Greenways Project and Ipswich Wildlife Group volunteers would be put into the removal of encroaching Gorse, Birch and Oak. In order to assist other priority BAP species it was agreed to build reptile basking sites and hibernacula from logs and brash material arising from removed scrub, under instruction from George Millins and Marc Woolnough (SARG).

Furthermore, it was decided that the Heather would benefit from a lot more grazing, to increase areas of pioneer Heather and let in more light to the ground, benefiting ants, whilst also being desirable habitat to the female SSB for egg-laying and larval food. In the absence of an adequate amount of rabbit grazing a mechanized forage harvester was deemed to be the best management tool for the job. In addition, to help ants and expose the seed bank to encourage Bell Heather *Erica cinerea* regeneration, a previously cleared plot of scrub would have the top soil and litter layer scraped off to form bare ground habitat.



Purdis Heath heather cut. Photo: Matt Berry

Importantly, a series of public engagement measures were undertaken by Butterfly Conservation before man or machine made a move on the site. Information posters were erected and a Facebook page was set up to help disseminate news via the modern 'social media' world that we live in today. This page can be accessed at www.facebook.com/BC.Suffolk, and our local branch activities can also be followed on Facebook if you join us as a friend. The extra effort in engaging the public has proved to be invaluable, and excellent feedback on the project has been received throughout by members of the public – many of whom volunteered to help after hearing about the plans to save the butterflies.



Purdis Heath archeological trench Dec 2010

Photo: Matt Berry

Even with the public on board, before any of the works could be undertaken, and to comply with Natural England requirements for the site which lies close to an Anglo Saxon settlement, an archaeological investigation had to be completed.

This comprised of 5% of the land surface affected by the proposed works. A T-shaped trench was dug under the close supervision of local archaeologist Jon Newman. In order to monitor any disturbance to hibernating reptiles Zoologist and herpetologist Marc Woolnough oversaw the operation. The trench

revealed little, save for an old presumed WW2 bonfire site. This meant that the rest of the planned work could go ahead.

I am pleased to report that excellent progress has been made on the site so far this winter. The archaeological trench has been retained to add an extra habitat niche, providing a warm and sheltered micro-climate for butterflies and other sun loving invertebrates. Areas adjacent to the trench have been scraped, down to a depth of around 100mm revealing the soil mineral layer and hopefully dormant heather seed. Areas of mature to degenerate Heather have also been strategically mown, to link islands of habitat that are currently in a reasonable condition for the SSB, including the only known flight area in which they were recorded in 2010.

Greenways Countryside Project also hosted an event called 'Megabash' on January 22nd to complement the work already started. In practise this meant continued scrub removal. Invasive species such as Birch and Gorse were cut by a small army of approximately 40 – 50 volunteers. A fair proportion of the wood and brash was then used either for reptile basking / hibernation habitat, the rest was burnt. It is worth pointing out that the latter provided heat and smoke that is meant to be beneficial to the germination of heather species, and measures were taken to comply with NE guidelines aimed at minimising damage to heathland sites.

In line with Butterfly Conservation policy to direct maximum resources (currently 86% of its available funds) towards conservation, the work programme for this winter has been funded, and led, by the Suffolk Branch.

The next stage of the project is to monitor the site this coming June and July to assess the SSB population. It will be a very nervous time for recorders but (with everything crossed) it is hoped that they will have a better year in 2011. None of us involved with the project are under the illusion that this one year plan of action will be a quick fix, but it is hoped that we shall at least make progress in improving the habitat that will be necessary in arresting the decline of the species any further towards extinction from the site.

Butterfly Conservation will also be hosting the first of two field trips, in association with Suffolk Naturalists Society, on Sunday 8th May at 2pm. As well as surveying the site for any natural history of interest, a special focus will be on enlisting and briefing any volunteers willing to help monitor the SSB population.

If anyone is interested in helping with the project, particularly taking part in organised surveys, please contact Rob Parker on 01284 705476 or via email at robpaker@waitrose.com

Biodiversity? Don't forget the flea – the waterflea that is!

Adrian Chalkley, County Recorder for Freshwater Invertebrates

It is interesting that Buglife have a strap line that reads 'Conserving the small things that run the world'. As county recorder for freshwater invertebrates it is the small things I am concerned with. However, it is telling that out of some 28,000 records on my database I have 5,465 beetle records from 136 recorders but only 477 records of water fleas from 14 recorders. Of those 14 recorders only 6 were



***Polyphemus pediculus* - a predatory water flea from Lound lakes.**

Photo Adrian Chalkley

working in the last 20 years and during the last 10 years only 3 recorders have sent in records.

So whilst the small things that run the world have their fans, the smallest things are definitely less popular and, it would seem, have waning popularity. Yet I know a young entomologist, Hannah Robson, who is employed by the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust and looking into the diet of Scoter Ducks in Scotland. Apparently, water fleas are an important constituent of a young duckling's diet, but she has not found it easy to become adept at identifying the water fleas of those Scottish Lochs due to a dearth of information. Few people are working on the group, there is no national recording scheme and little knowledge as to which species are rare and which are common, indeed the most up to date key in English is a reprint of that published by the FBA in 1966.

So Hannah and I launched the Cladocera Interest Group at the beginning of January. We have already had an encouraging response showing that there are still people out there who have not forgotten these micro-crustaceans that help drive the aquatic ecosystem. We are busy putting together a website to publicise members work and an occasional newsletter to help members contact each other. We have contacted a wide range of other bodies in an effort to reach as many potential members as we can.

The Cladocera Interest Group would be pleased to include any readers of this newsletter in our mailing list and to encourage anyone with a microscope and a tea strainer to take the first steps in identifying some water fleas. If you are already involved in recording or identification then so much the better, please email admin@cladocera.org.uk in the first instance to express an interest.



Scapholeberis mucronata f. cornuta - a very common water flea in Suffolk. It is swimming the right way up. It clings underneath the surface film by setae on the straight ventral rims of the valves and swims along whilst collecting food particles. Photo: Adrian Chalkley

Suffolk stag beetle surveys contribute to scientific research

Colin Hawes, Suffolk stag beetle BAP lead

A collaborative conservation study of stag beetles across Europe has resulted in three papers, which were published in the February 2011 issue of the *Journal of Insect Conservation and Diversity*. Suffolk stag beetle distribution, road kill and larvae surveys have produced valuable data that has been used in this collaborative initiative. The first of the three papers introduces the study and explains why it was carried out. Bionomics and distribution of the stag beetle across Europe are dealt with in the second paper, while the third focuses on the development of non-invasive monitoring methods for larvae and adults of the beetle. Abstracts from the distribution paper and monitoring paper are given below.



Female stag beetle



Male stag beetle

Researchers in 41 countries were contacted and information sought on various life history characteristics of the insect. Data on adult body size were collected from seven countries. Beetles from Spain, Germany and the Netherlands are larger than those from Belgium and the UK. Habitat associations differ between the UK and mainland Europe. Larvae are most commonly associated with decaying oak. Distribution maps of the insect are presented. The data suggest that the beetle may be in decline across Europe, most likely due to habitat loss, and that conservation needs to focus on the biology of the insect in the local area.

Monitoring the stag beetle is not easy. Adults are present for only a few weeks and are crepuscular, active between dusk and dark, while larvae spend the whole of their life underground. Non-invasive methods of monitoring the adults using baited flight interception traps and road kill transect surveys are described, as is the non-invasive detection of larvae by means of radial diffusive samplers that collect volatiles, and acoustics to record stridulation. It is concluded that baited aerial traps, combined with road transect surveys can be used to monitor population abundance of adults, while detection of the volatile longifolene and the characteristic stridulation pattern can be used to reveal larval presence, without destroying their habitat.



Stag beetle larva Photo Niall Benvie

References

- Harvey, D. J. & Gange, A.C. (2011). The stag beetle: a collaborative conservation study across Europe. *Journal of Insect Conservation and Diversity* 4 (1): 2-3.
- Harvey, D. J., Gange, A.C. , Hawes, C.J. & Rink, M. (2011). Bionomics and distribution of the stag beetle, *Lucanus cervus*, across Europe. *Journal of Insect Conservation and Diversity* 4 (1): 23-38.
- Harvey, D.J., Hawes, C. J., Gange, A.C., Finch, P., Chesmore, D., Farr, I. *et al* . (2011). Development of non-invasive monitoring methods for larvae and adults of the stag beetle, *Lucanus cervus*. *Journal of Insect Conservation and Diversity* 4 (1): 4-14.

The journal is also available online: <http://www.onlinelibrary.wiley.com>

News from the Valley...

Sue Ellis, Dedham Vale AONB & Stour Valley Project

As the first signs of spring begin to appear, the project is busy planning activities for the spring & summer. The Stour Valley Volunteers have been out and about four times already in 2011 - cutting the annual willow crop at Belchamp Brook, working on coppicing tasks and clearing rides so the spring flowers can bloom to their full advantage.

After a local falconry group visited East Bergholt Primary School, it sparked off the schoolchildren's imaginations and led to the formation of the East Bergholt Raptor & Conservation Group, coordinated by one schoolboy's mother – Julia Smith. Neil Catchpole of the Dedham Vale AONB & Stour Valley Project then further inspired the newly formed raptor group with a talk on barn owl conservation. Following this, the Project also supported the group through the AONB's Sustainable Development Fund which has helped with the erection of a barn owl box and advice on the purchase of 3 nest box cameras and recording equipment to monitor nest boxes in the Stour Valley. One pupil's grandfather has also made a tawny owl box and a little owl box. The schoolchildren, working closely with Andrea Keyland of Out of the Hood Falconry, are keen to pursue their interest in birds of prey and also branch out into wider conservation interests. We wish them every success and look forward to hearing more news from them this year.

The recently installed otter holt at Daw's Hall Local Nature Reserve continues to show signs of otter use – in the last fortnight, the remains of a crayfish supper have been found around the holt. Whilst out re-pollarding willows around the 40th anniversary otter holt at Wissington, signs were also observed of otter use at both entrances to the holt and a regular track has formed between the holt and the river. What great news to start the year off with!



The Stour Valley Volunteers tackle some hedge maintenance at Alphemstone in the New Year.
Photo: DVSV

Access to Nature in Ipswich

Becky Marley, Project Manager, CSV Media Clubhouse

CSV Media Clubhouse and The Greenways Countryside Project were successful in securing funding from the Big Lottery's Changing Spaces grant, through Natural England's Access to Nature programme. We have funding for three years, to work across Ipswich at a number of sites.

The project is about connecting people with their local natural environment, and this will happen in a number of ways including:

- through consultation whereby people can input to decisions about what is done with greenspaces near to them.
- by creating new ways to engage people who have previously not had an interest in the environment, such as through using photography, film and other media, and fun leisure activities such as night walks and bug hunts.
- through getting involved in the hands-on management of the space by doing practical conservation volunteering.
- opportunities for volunteers to access accredited and non-accredited training in both conservation and media subjects.

The ultimate aim is that by the end of the project we will have created a legacy of motivated and empowered communities who realise the value of their local natural environment and have the tools and training to continue caring for it.

Although the project is open to all, it specifically aims to introduce the benefits of the natural world to people who have not had the opportunity or the interest to experience it before. So we are trying to do lots of fun and interesting activities that will interest different people, and also to reach out widely through different means including Roadshows and a radio show.

So far we have started meet and working with residents at Alderman Canal, the Triangle estate, Stoke Park, and the Belstead Brook area. We have run, or participated in, a range of events and activities including guided walks, family fun days, photography walks, bonfire party, festive crafts session, Ipswich Rivers Cleanup day, and numerous others. Through these means we have engaged with over 400 people, introducing them to new natural environments and activities. A number of the people we've met now do things regularly with the project, and get involved in the ongoing Greenways conservation work.

The project is match funded by a Haven Gateway grant obtained by Greenways which is enabling a number of big improvement works, including new bridges at Alderman Canal and Ellenbrook, path improvements, boardwalks, directional signage and information boards, and more. These will all add to the accessibility of the sites that we are encouraging people to use and enjoy.

Our weekly radio show on ICR fm has exposed listeners to a number of activities and organisations related to the natural world, including RSPB, foraging, Wildlife Care and Rescue, stargazing, rambling, recording birdsong and much more. This is another activity that, as well as being a means of sharing and spreading information and raising awareness, is also something project participants can get involved in and I learn skills from. This also applies to other delivery aspects of the project including film making, web design, photography and newsletter production and the Roadshows.

So far we've had a lot of fun, met a lot of great people, and done some good work. We're looking forward to building on this in 2011!

If anyone would like to find out more about the project or has any questions they can get in touch with the Project Manager, Becky Marley, on bjmarley@csv.org.uk, or check us out on www.a2nipswich.org.uk, www.facebook.com/a2nipswich, or tweet us on @a2nipswich – and don't forget to tune into the radio show, Mondays 7-8.30pm on 105.7fm (if you live in the Ipswich area) or <http://www.icrfm.co.uk/> to listen online!

Coastal Flood Events and Potential Habitat Loss on the Suffolk Coast

Ben Heather – Biological Records Officer

Coastal flood events and the potential damage caused by saline inundation are one of the greatest threats to Suffolk's freshwater habitats situated in coastal areas. Reedbed and coastal floodplain grazing marsh (CFGM) are two habitats at significant risk of either damage or more long term destruction from saline inundation. These habitats have a significant proportion of their county extent within or near to projected tidal flood zones.

Using habitat mapping gathered using remote-sensing techniques, whereby aerial photography is studied alongside other data sources, it has been possible to make some base-line predictions for the proportion of habitat at risk when compared against projected tidal flood zones for specific scale events. However, a couple of factors have to be taken into consideration; firstly that habitat mapping gathered remotely is not ground-truthed (checked on the ground) and that the Environment Agency's projected tidal flood zones are formulated without taking into account coastal defences.

Using data recently updated for the national wetland habitat inventories, along with less prescriptive data outlining areas of possible CFGM, a figure of approximately 10,739 ha of this habitat can be said to exist in Suffolk. Of this 57% would be inundated by a 1 in 100 year tidal flood event and approximately 60% by a 1 in 1000 year event. However, these figures are significantly greater when looking at CFGM in coastal areas. Using the Suffolk Coasts and Heaths Countryside Character Area as a catchment, where 50% of the county's CFGM occurs, 87% would be at risk from a 1 in 100 year tidal flood event and when using the Suffolk Coasts and Heaths AONB this increases to almost 98%. Figure 1 shows an example of the extent of 1 in 100 year tidal flood event in relation to mapped CFGM and shows the areas at risk from saline inundation.



Fig.1 An example of the extent of 1 in 100 year tidal flood event showing the areas at risk from saline inundation.

Reedbeds, often in a matrix with other habitats, are hard to map from remote sources, especially aerial photography, but the Suffolk Coast does include some significant large examples. In the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Countryside Character Area there is 691 ha of mapped reedbed of which just over 98% is at risk of saline inundation from a 1 in 100 year flood event; this figure is similar when looking within the Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB. This figure is significant as although reedbed is tolerant to brackish conditions damage will occur through prolonged saline inundation from a tidal flood event.

This study also looked at the number and proportion of County Wildlife Sites at risk from coastal flood events. 1,487 ha or 7.6% of the total area of Suffolk's County Wildlife Sites, which represent significant examples of habitats and mosaics of habitats across Suffolk would potentially be inundated by a 1 in 100 year tidal flood event. Again, this figure significantly increases when looking at sites just within the Suffolk Coasts and Heaths Countryside Character Area where 15.9% of the total area of County Wildlife Sites within this area would be inundated.

As well as the 1 in 100 year and 1 in 1000 year tidal flood event projections the Environment Agency were also able to provide us with a 1 in 20 year projected tidal flood event for the Deben Estuary. By creating a theoretical study area (the estuary buffered by 4km) and by applying the 1 in 20 year tidal flood catchment it is possible to say that roughly 68% of CFGM, 95% of reedbed and 16% of the total area of County Wildlife Sites in this area are at risk from saline inundation (see Fig. 2).

The figures collated in this study are alarming, but they represent a 'worst case' scenario and should be regarded as a foundation for further investigation given the limitations of the data used. The full version of the report can be downloaded from the SBRC website download page: <http://www.users.globalnet.co.uk/~sbrc/Downloads.htm> .

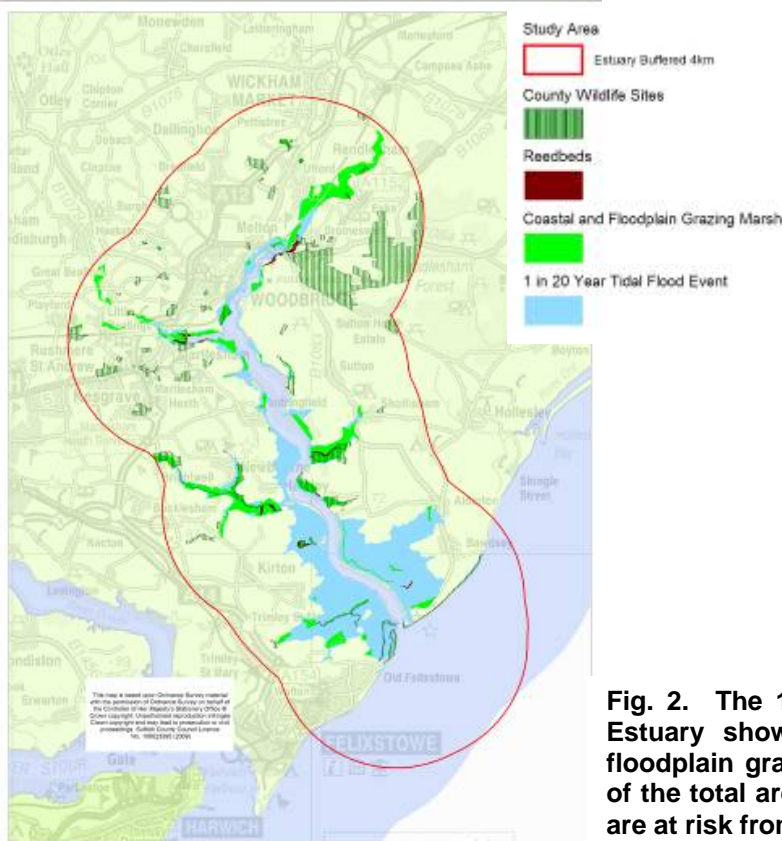


Fig. 2. The 1 in 20 year projection for the Deben Estuary showed that about 68% of coastal and floodplain grazing marsh, 95% of reedbed and 16% of the total area of County Wildlife Sites in this area are at risk from saline inundation.

Youth work with Suffolk Wildlife Trust

Gemma Smith, Carlton Marshes Education Officer

Fancy a trip to the beach to explore an evergreen Oak woodland or a chance to carry out vital conservation work on a SSSI reserve to help protect some of the areas rarest species? Are you 12-18 years old? Then you need to consider Suffolk Wildlife Trusts YOE project.

The YOE project (Youth Outdoor Experience) aims to give young people around the lower Waveney area the chance to get active outdoors and discover new green spaces in their local area. Started in 2007, with funding from Natural England, the project has worked with many local schools and agencies providing stimulating and challenging sessions for many young people.

A typical programme lasts 12 weeks, with 2 hour long sessions running whatever the weather, with young people from Kirkley High even braving the December snow falls. Pupils can carry out a variety of tasks including coppicing, path clearing, team building challenges, shelter building, pond clearance, fire lighting and outdoor cooking.



YOE participant hedge planting at Gunton Meadow nature reserve.

Many young people when they start the programme view the natural world as a hostile place full of mud, dirt and insects! Our main aim is to give them a chance to get comfortable with being outside and to find out it can be fun!

We hope to inspire the next generation, to help them understand how important wild areas are for people as well as for conservation, to create ambassadors for future wildlife conservation.

For more information about the YOE project please contact Gemma Smith (Education Officer) on 01502 564250 or email

carlton.education@suffolkwildlifetrust.org

Suffolk Community Barn Owl Project

Oka Last, Suffolk Community Barn Owl Project Administrator

Following Steve Piotrowski's 5 year review of the Project in November, Suffolk's barn owls have had a tough time during the extreme weather conditions and heavy snow during December. We are concerned that the young barn owl chicks that successfully fledged from the late bumper broods of 2010 will have found it more difficult than their parents to hunt for food and stay alive. With the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) reporting increased recoveries of ringed barn owls nationally we hope that this bleak outlook will not be reflected in Suffolk's barn owls. Although we have anecdotal evidence of dead, unringed, birds being found in Suffolk fields, we will reserve judgement on how Suffolk barn owls have fared until the BTO have fully analysed recoveries and the first nest box checks are completed in June.

Focus on west Suffolk

The Project's aim this year is to spread the population of barn owls from its stronghold in north east Suffolk throughout the county, focussing on west Suffolk where the barn owl population is more sparse. To achieve this we are delighted to welcome 10 new volunteer Barn Owl Conservation Advisers and an additional tree surgeon to cover the south west Suffolk area. Our Barn Owl Conservation Advisers are pivotally important in advising landowners about the importance of land management for barn owl, increasing rough grassland and marshland habitat for small mammals, therefore increasing feeding opportunities for barn owl.

The low density of the barn owl population in West Suffolk is clearly demonstrated in **Fig 1**, a map of the Project's preliminary monitoring results for 2010.

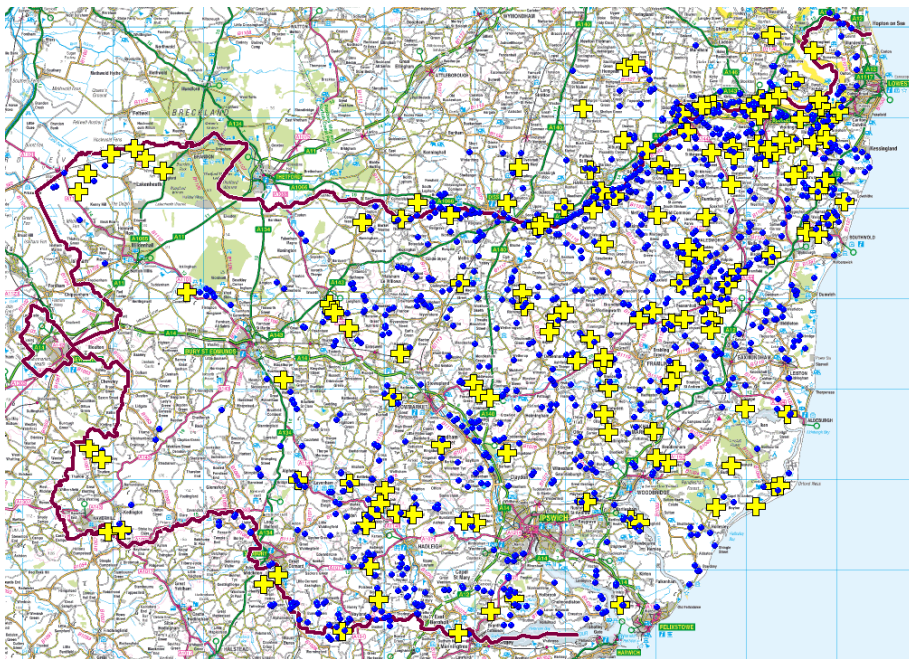


Fig. 1. Proven breeding success 2010

Key

Blue dots = barn owl nest boxes

Yellow crosses = nest sites with proven breeding success

Of the 1200 barn owl nest boxes in position last year our preliminary monitoring results have reported signs of barn owl presence in 212 barn owl nest boxes, of which 114 sites have bred successfully (**Fig 2**).

Fig 2: Barn Owl Chicks ringed by the project to date:

Breeding Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total Chicks Ringed	40	181	178	188	292
Average Chicks per Nest	1.9	2.8	2.3	2.2	2.6
Maximum Chicks per Nest	3	5	5	5	6
Minimum Chicks per Nest	1	1	1	1	1
Number of Nests	21	64	76	84	114

Fig 2 represents successful nests i.e. where chicks were ringed and (we hope) have successfully fledged. **Fig 2** does not include nests that have been abandoned at the prospecting or egg-laying stages, failures where eggs did not hatch or chicks died, or nest boxes which have shown signs of barn owl roosting.

The Project nest box monitoring results will be finalised in the near future so keep an eye on the website for the latest *Barn Owl News* www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org – follow the menu links to **Species & Habitats, Suffolk Community Barn Owl Project**.

A new disease of oak trees: Acute Oak Decline (AOD), has taken hold in Suffolk

Gary Battell, Woodland Advisory Officer, Suffolk County Council

Acute Oak Decline (AOD), a decline in which bacteria and *Agrilus biguttatus* appear to have key roles is affecting Suffolk's oak trees. This is causing concern among tree professionals, local authorities, the Woodland Trust, National Trust and the CLA, as trees can die within three years of symptom development.

There is agreement that urgent extra funding is required to increase AOD research as we are dealing with a complex involving a number of organisms that are difficult to work with and the increased incidence has been so alarming that no more time should be lost in getting to the cause of the problem. So far research has shown that the bacteria are new to science, although nothing is known about their origin at this stage. Furthermore at the present time there is little understanding how the bacteria spreads and what actually is killing the trees, whether it is the bacteria or secondary girdling by a beetle or poor root health or a combination of these factors? In Suffolk, we have numerous cases of AOD in both our landscape and woodland trees and this is causing premature deaths.

We should be very concerned about AOD. However, there is not too much we can do until we understand its cause and effects. Dr Sandra Denman and fellow scientists from Forest Research, the official research agency of the Forestry Commission, are investigating the causes of the problem and have done a truly excellent job. However, there is an urgent need for an adequate budget for staffing in order to speed up research, implement a monitoring programme and provide best advice. We all want to continue to see oak trees in our Suffolk landscape and in homes as furniture. At present we think we have AOD present throughout Suffolk in landscape trees and in many of our woods, however, specimens will have to be analysed by scientists for verification of bacterial species present and indications of the presence of *Agrilus*. *Agrilus* beetle is associated with most of the symptomatic trees and scientists and entomologists will have to establish precisely what the relationship between the bacteria and the larvae of the beetle is with regard to AOD. A major concern must be for our ancient trees in historic parks like Staverton and the condition of our oak trees in Suffolk's ancient woodland.

The increase in pests, pathogens and diseases in Britain in general is largely due to globalisation of trade in plants and plant products, as well as climate change. All agree there is an urgent need for Defra to support and fund a project that researches, monitors and gives best advice on tree pests, pathogens and diseases as these are having an increasing impact globally on the health of the plant life that we all depend on. John Jackson, Director of the Royal Forestry Society says, "Urgent action is not an option - it's a necessity".

Suffolk people have done much to raise the concerns of AOD. Peter Goodwin, a founder of Woodland Heritage and owner of the fine furniture maker, Titchmarsh & Goodwin in Ipswich, has obtained charitable funding to support research. Peter is actively lobbying for increased Government action and an adequate project budget for Acute Oak Decline and other tree diseases currently affecting Britain's trees.

Peter Goodwin told BBC news "I have never seen anything like it (AOD). Its spread over the last two years has been quite alarming; very little was known about the cause and the possible involvement of bacteria contributing to this disease complex; we have never had a bacterium that is capable of doing what this one is doing on oak."

AOD affects the UK's two native species of oak - sessile and pedunculate; however, there must be some concern that this could affect other species in the future for example in Spain a similar condition is reported on holm oak and Pyrenean Oak (Melojo).

Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership News

❖ **Waveney Green Web Project**

This exciting project is working to connect 'green spaces' across the district, linking school grounds with business premises with highways and parish lands; seeking opportunities to make larger-scale spaces for insects, beetles, birds and mammals. Our flyer says it all!

This collaborative project between Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Creating the Greenest County initiative and funded by Waveney Local Strategic Partnership focuses on simple practical actions to improve neighbourhood green space for wildlife.

❖ **Suffolk Environmental Education Network (SEEN)**

The role of SEEN is to enable the environmental education providers in the coastal area of Suffolk to present a joined-up approach for schools and communities.

Two clear objectives have been established: a) to set up a graduate training scheme, so that each of the appropriate organisations hosts a graduate placement and b) to organise a teachers' workshop to clarify what environmental education resources are available and where they can be found.

SEEN members: Natural England (chair), SBP, Country Trust, Benacre Estate, Suffolk Wildlife Trust, RSPB, Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB, National Trust, Suffolk Punch Trust, Suffolk County Council.

❖ **Saving Suffolk's stag beetles**

SBP is delighted to support the Saving Suffolk Stag Beetles project, led by researcher Colin Hawes. We have worked alongside Suffolk Farming & Wildlife Group and the Dedham Vale and Stour Valley AONB Project to bring the project to schools in the south of the county.

Waveney Green Web

Connecting green spaces



**A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY FOR
PEOPLE TO RESTORE NATURE ON THEIR
DOORSTEPS!**

This practical, down-to-earth project will create and connect wildlife-friendly areas in schools, public green spaces and businesses. Wildlife will thrive with more 'breathing spaces' and better links between habitats. People can build closer relationships with the natural world and create a stronger community spirit.

Some simple actions can really help the animals in Waveney's towns and villages. Get involved and learn how to attract more wildlife to your parish by linking the green areas of Waveney! School packs available.

For further information contact:
Gen Broad, Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership
Tel: 01473 264308, email: gen.broad@suffolk.gov.uk

This is a collaborative project between Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership, Suffolk County Council, Waveney Local Strategic Partnership, Suffolk Wildlife Trust and Creating the Greenest County



Colin is booked to visit 22 primary schools between May and July this year. He will take along a comprehensive 'schools' pack' containing model stag beetle kits to be made up by the children, buckets for filling with wood chips to encourage larvae to move in and leaflets generously supplied by the People's Trust for Endangered Species explaining *where*, *how* and *what* to do for stag beetle conservation.

Each school will also be able to show that they have made log pile 'Dead wood nature reserves' with the all-weather yellow discs illustrated here.



❖ **Brecks Biodiversity Audit**

There was further publicity for this high profile project following the launch of the report *Securing biodiversity in Breckland* in November. Follow the links to The Independent, Natural England and Biodiversity News to find out more.

[The Independent Jack Watkins: Where the wild things are: Brecklands >](#)
[Natural England report Protecting England's natural treasures: Last refuges of England's rarest species revealed >](#)

[British Wildlife April 2011 – The Importance of Breckland for Biodiversity – Dolman et al](#)
[Biodiversity News Spring 2011 Gen Broad & Scott Perkin: Pioneering Study Confirms Breckland as a Nationally Important Biodiversity Hotspot \(PDF 4 MB\)](#)

❖ **Project fund achievements**

Over the past year, SBP project fund has made significant contributions to the conservation of a range of Biodiversity Action Plan species and habitats. These include:

- Survey work on St Edmundsbury Borough Council land, particularly for **water voles** and **otters**.
- **Reed bunting** research to study the habitat requirements and movements of the species in West Suffolk using data from ringing work.
- **Suffolk Traditional Orchard Survey**: detailed species surveys of orchards of high ecological value and the establishment of County fruit and nut collections.
- **Waveney Green Web**
- **Stag beetle** school visits

❖ **Launch of new Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership website**

We are delighted to announce that SBP launched a new independent website (www.suffolkbiodiversity.org) in March 2011. The site originally housed just the NERC Act information, but has now been expanded to include all of the SBP activities, including projects, Biodiversity Action Plans and more. The website is a 'work in progress', so please don't hesitate to provide feedback!

INFORMATION and NEWS

Funding opportunities recently announced **UK Mammals Grants (UK)**

The People's Trust for Endangered Species is inviting applications from voluntary conservation organisations, scientific researchers, individuals and consortia needing financial support for work that relates to the conservation of mammals, to apply for funding of up to £30,000 through their UK mammals grant programme. The trust aims to fund scientific research, practical habitat management work, reintroduction and monitoring

programmes and educational projects. Priority will be given to those projects aimed at furthering the aims of Biodiversity Action Plans and similar initiatives. The average grant given per project has been £9,000. Projects supported in the past include: Bats in the Lake District; monitoring of UK bat species in underground sites; and monitoring Irish pine martens.

Deadline for applications: 1 November 2011.

[Visit People's Trust for Endangered Species >](#)

British Ecological Society - Education Grants (UK)

The British Ecological Society is offering grants to enable teachers to make the teaching of ecology more innovative, interesting and exciting in primary, secondary and tertiary schools. The aim of this grant is to promote good practice in teaching ecology and to support ecology teaching that is innovative, inspiring and intellectually stimulating. Grants are available to enable teachers to develop and resource innovative teaching and learning activities and/or to undertake research to evaluate methods of teaching ecology. This can be achieved in many different ways and can include projects based in or outside of the classroom. Grants of up to £1,500 are available and there are two application deadlines per year. [BES website>](#)

Deadline for applications: 15 September 2011.

Darwin Initiative

The Darwin Initiative offers funds to encourage the sharing of UK biodiversity expertise with local partners in countries with a wealth of biodiversity, but who lack the means to protect these resources and to assist in meeting their international biodiversity commitments. A total budget of £9 million will be available for this new round. Deadlines for application:

- **Post Project Applications: 13 June 2011.**
- **Main Project - Stage 1 Applications: 20 June 2011.**

[Darwin Initiative website >](#)

Sustainable Development Fund

Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB **Sustainable Development Fund** is for projects that enhance and/or benefit the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Projects previously supported can be seen on the AONB website, grants available from £1,000+. Projects should be match funded, grants available for up to 75% of the project costs.

[Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB SDF website >](#)

[Dedham Vale AONB SDF website >](#)

Connect to Conservation Fund

The AONB **CCF** is a small grant fund offering grants of up to £500. The fund is supported by businesses and visitors in the AONB and is for community conservation projects.

Projects can request up to 100% grant funding, and the panel like to be able to see the project being led by the community and/or to the benefit of the local people, visitors and area. We expect to grant funding for up to ten projects 2011-12. Previous grants have been for, for example, barn owl nestboxes, pond restoration and hedge planting.

[Suffolk Coast and heaths AONB CCD website>](#)

Deadline for SDF and CCF applications: 27 May 2011.

Funding for Environmental Projects (UK)

Patagonia, the outdoor gear company, is inviting applications for funding through its Environmental Grants Programme. The company are most interested in making grants to organisations that identify and work on the root causes of problems and that approach

issues with a commitment to long-term change. They seek to support small, grassroots activist organisations with provocative direct-action agendas, working on multi-pronged campaigns to preserve and protect the environment. Most grants are in the range of \$3,000 to \$8,000. This is an international grants programme and UK projects supported have included: Buglife - \$7,800 towards work to prevent the extinction of various invertebrate species; Marine Conservation Society - \$10,000 towards marine work.

[Patagonia website >](#)

Deadline for applications: 30 September 2011.

Essex & Suffolk Water Branch Out Project

Working in partnership to reconnect habitats for the benefit of people and wildlife

This initiative will encompass a number of projects with the aim of helping the region build resilience and adapt to the changing climate whilst bringing benefits to water, wildlife and communities. Our partners will include other utility companies, conservation organisations, farmers/landowners, local authorities and the general public.

The fund will be open for applications from September 2011. To find out more visit [Essex & Suffolk Water website >](#)

Biodiversity News – winter edition

Includes an article on the Brecks Biodiversity Audit by Gen Broad (SBP) and Scott Perkin (NBP) "*Pioneering Study Confirms Breckland as a Nationally Important Biodiversity Hotspot*".

To download the Newsletter go to [Biodiversity News >](#) (4MB)

Little Ouse Headwaters Project gets £370,000 Lottery funding

The LOHP made a successful bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund in February for a grant of £370,000 to buy land at Webbs Fen. The new fen covers 150 acres and is in both Norfolk and Suffolk. Project chair Nigel Clark said "*It is an important wetland area for wildlife, visitors and for replenishing ground waters which are pumped out for drinking water.*"

To find out more visit the [LOHP website >](#)

Biodiversity Science – a new publication from Operation Wallacea

Keeping you informed about conservation research developments

This is a quarterly peer-reviewed newsletter designed to provide updates to biology, geography and environmental science teachers, academics and interested students on developments in biodiversity science and conservation management issues.

Highlights from the first edition:

- [How stereo-video surveys are providing more accurate monitoring of reef fish](#)
- [Whether the REDD scheme could include biodiversity criteria](#)
- [How volunteers can provide valuable results in the field](#)

Defra Invitation to *Shape the nature of England* report

A summary of all responses (over 15,000) to the consultation "An Invitation to Shape the Nature of England" can be found on the [DEFRA website >](#)

There is an executive summary and a detailed summary of the responses. These will be fed into the forthcoming White Paper.

Natural history societies and recording schemes in the UK:

A consultation into the factors that limit their functioning and development

A report commissioned by The Natural History Museum and the Open Air Learning Laboratories (OPAL). This is a fascinating report for everyone interested in biological recording. The report is available on the NBN website or downloaded [here >](#) (2 MB)

Suffolk Coastal District Council Quality of Place Awards 2011

These awards are designed to recognise and credit high standards of design that contribute to the environment of the District.

Nominations are currently being accepted in the following categories:

- **Building conservation**
- **Design**
- **Landscape and Nature**

Any projects or schemes completed within the last two years are eligible for nomination.

Deadline for applications: 29 April 2011.

Further information on [SCDC website >](#)

GeoSuffolk Times newsletter April 2011

The newsletter provides an update on GeoSuffolk activities and contains some fascinating articles e.g. Westleton Heath and Common – ‘*Westleton Gravel, part of the Norwich Crag Formation, underlies the tracts of heath land in this area, its grey flint cobbles forming an attractive backdrop to the heather and gorse. It is a marine deposit, formed in tidal channels about 2 million years ago.*’.

[Visit the GeoSuffolk website to download the newsletter >](#)

Orchard Matters

Newsletter of the Conserving and Restoring Traditional Orchard, England Project

Winter 2010/11 edition now available. To read Paul Read’s feature on the Suffolk Traditional Orchard Survey go to page 2. Click [here](#) to view the newsletter.

Suffolk’s Living Sea

The Wildlife Trusts’ North Sea Project

To find out what’s living in the seas off the coast of Suffolk, take a look at the Wildlife Trusts’ North Sea Awareness Booklet – [Suffolk’s Living Sea](#).

Years of exploitation have led to the perception of an empty and lifeless North Sea, but take the time to delve below the surface and you’ll find an astonishing array of weird and wonderful creatures. The undersea landscape off Suffolk is characterised by vast sandy plains, stretching far out to sea.

What often appears on first glance to be a barren, desert-like wasteland is in fact teeming with life dwelling within and upon the seabed. Moving inland, Suffolk is home to some important areas of shingle beach, providing a unique home to many species of specialised plants.

Find out more about Peacock worms, Crystal sea slugs, the Starlet sea anemone and more in this colourful booklet!

50 years of action for Suffolk’s wildlife 1961 - 2011

To mark Suffolk Wildlife Trust’s 50th year, SWT is planning a year of wildlife celebrations showcasing some of the county’s best wildlife moments.

April 25th Dawn chorus at Carlton Marshes, April 26th Evening chorus at Lackford Lakes, May 7th Bluebells at Arger Fen, June Birthday walks at Lackford Lakes, Foxburrow Farm, Carlton Marshes and Redgrave & Lopham Fen, June 4th Coastal vegetation at Dingle Marshes, July 6th Nightjars and glow worms at Blaxhall Common, August 1st Norfolk hawk and dragonflies of the Broads at Carlton Marshes, August 1st Dragonflies of the Fens at Redgrave & Lopham Fen, September 11th Heather, hawks and hobbies at Sutton & Hollesley Common, October 8th Fungi at Captain’s Wood, November 16th Starling roost at Lackford Lakes, November 27th Starling roost at Hen Reedbeds, December 14th Gull roost at Lackford Lakes.

Book in advance by calling Brooke House on **01473 890089**. Cost: £3 per person payable on the day. Visit [Suffolk Wildlife Trust website >](#)

WYG newsletter

Ecology winter update January 2011

Useful articles include: Changes in the Ecological Planning Legislation and Winter Surveys. View the [WYG Group newsletter >](#)

NE's East of England GI spring newsletter

The newsletter includes articles on the Localism Bill, the future of Green Infrastructure and new publications such as *The Case for Trees*, *Economic contribution of green networks* and *Reappraising the East of England's woodland*. The newsletter will be available on the [NE East of England GI website](#) in early April.

UK Biodiversity partnership conference

Presentations and feedback are available from the conference held in November at the University of Stirling.

Visit the [Scottish Government website >](#)

OPAL launches Climate Change survey

OPAL launched the Climate Survey in March. The survey, which is lead by the Met Office and the Royal Meteorological Society, aims to find out more about the way human activities affect climate and the way in which climate change may affect us. OPAL is distributing free Climate Survey packs to people who would like to participate. The pack includes all the information needed to complete the survey, including easy-to-follow instructions in the Field Guide and Workbook, together with an OPAL Cloud Guide.

To find out more, visit the [OPAL website >](#)

Buglife BAP species management sheets

Copies of Buglife's new species management sheets aimed at providing information, management advice and agri-environment options for 8 BAP invertebrate species (including the Large garden bumblebee and the Hornet robberfly) are now available to download from the [Buglife website >](#)

Future Heritage Lottery Funding - Don't Forget to Have Your Say

The HLF are reviewing their funding and preparing a new strategic plan. They urgently want more views on supporting the natural environment and biodiversity. Unlike many organisations, HLF is in the fairly unique position of having extra funding from 2013 - amounting to £300m per year until 2019. They invest in the protection and conservation of both the built and natural environment – including in projects to protect biodiversity.

So far they have had proportionately fewer responses from individuals and organisations interested in biodiversity and environment!

Please help the HLF look at their approach to supporting the environment in the years ahead. What matters to you most about the UK's heritage? Perhaps it's the upkeep of a precious landscape or your local nature reserve? Or is it a scheme to bring biodiversity heritage into an industrial heritage landscape?

Please go to the [HLF website](#) and fill out the public questionnaire by **26 April 2011**.

Preparing for the UN Decade on Biodiversity

The United Nations officially declared 2011-2020 as the Decade on Biodiversity. The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) secretariat in Montreal is creating branding to support the initiative and preparing to launch a core website. In the UK a provisional website is being developed to support this.

Further information can be downloaded [here >](#) (700 Kb)

Seasearch East – Norfolk marine chalk reef report

Authors: Rob Spray and Dawn Watson

The report shows the range of habitats on the reef and explains the wealth of survey data collected. The following link gives access to a reduced version of the report (4 MB).

[Seasearch East – Norfolk chalk reefs >](#)

Pond Conservation – ‘The Pond Book: a guide to the management and creation of ponds’, 2nd edition

Cost: £17.00. Available from [Pond Conservation’s website >](#)

The book shows why ponds are so valuable for people, landscapes and for wildlife, takes a fresh look at a wide range of management issues and helps you decide on the best solutions for your pond.

International Press Centre for Biodiversity Research

The website is an initiative of ALTER-Net and provides a biodiversity news service.

News story: Migrating moths and songbirds travel at similar rates

<http://www.biodiversityresearch.net/>

Net Gain news

(Net Gain is the North Sea Marine Conservation Zones Project)

The Net Gain spring 2011 newsletter can be viewed [here >](#)

Balanced Seas works in the South-East area and covers the Suffolk coast south of Bawdsey. The 3rd progress summary can be found on the [Balanced Seas website >](#)

2020 Vision for a wilder Britain - The Lowdown - March 2011

*It's an exciting time for all of us at 2020VISION as the project really starts to gather pace. We've kicked off with 3 major assignments and we have images pouring in from 'behind the scenes' all the time. If what we've seen so far is anything to go by, it's going to be a sensational collection. Really sensational. **Click here** to view our first online gallery with BBC Wildlife Magazine.*

*But we're not taking our eye off the prize - that of having this unique resource seen and it inspiring people to think differently about the world they live in. We're already turning our focus to next spring and beyond and exploring myriad ways in which 2020VISION will roll out across the country. **Click here** to download our Products Brochure and see a few of our initial ideas. And of course we welcome any of yours.*

Find out more about [2020 Vision >](#)

NE Standing advice for protected species

Natural England has adopted national standing advice for protected species. It provides a consistent level of basic advice which can be applied to any planning application that could affect protected species. It replaces some of the individual comments that Natural England has provided in the past to local authorities.

[Natural England website >](#)

Eastern Sea Fisheries Joint Committee changes

The ESFJC became the Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Committee (IFCA) from 1 April 2011. Website: www.eastern-ifca.gov.uk, email: mail@eastern-ifca.gov.uk

Biodiversity in the East of England

To find out what's going on in our region, check the websites for the county Biodiversity Partnerships forum:

[Norfolk, Bedfordshire and Luton](#), [Essex](#), [Cambridgeshire and Peterborough](#).

And the revised [East of England Biodiversity Forum website >](#)

The **East of England Biodiversity Forum newsletter Oct 2010 to Jan 2011** is now available on the [SBP website](#). Contents include: Business and biodiversity; a new brochure providing an update on regional targets; East of England Local Wildlife Sites Project; Natural England biodiversity delivery post April 2011; invasive species and more...

WHAT'S ON

The Great Easter Newt Hunt

22nd April to 2nd May

Amphibian & Reptile Conservation and Amphibian and Reptile Groups of the UK

Did you know that

Little is known about our most widespread newts?

Smooth and palmate newts are the least protected of our amphibians?

We need more information about newts to plan their conservation?

Help us find out how important your garden pond is for newts! We'll use the information to create a garden newt map and provide advice on newt conservation in gardens. It only takes 10 minutes during the day and 10 minutes after dark. To find out how to take part visit <http://www.newthunt.org/>



Surveying for amphibians

6 May Near Creeping 19:00 – 21:45

Practical and theory for surveying water bodies for amphibians. The training will cover search methods used to find and identify local amphibians (smooth newt, common frog, common toad and great crested newt) and recording them. The training will take place early evening and finish late evening. Booking is essential via website contacts page.

[Visit Suffolk Amphibian and Reptile Group website to book >](#)

Discovering fen plants

A free Plantlife workshop, hosted by Tim Pankhurst

16 May Redgrave and Lopham Fen 10:00 – 15:00

Participants will have the opportunity to practice their identification skills and will be introduced to 50 species of plants. They will learn about some of the threats facing fens and how Suffolk Wildlife Trust and Plantlife are helping to conserve this special habitat.

To book visit www.wildaboutplants.org.uk/events.

Lichen identification one-day course

17 May Field Studies Council, Flatford Mill Field Centre, East Bergholt CO7 6UL

Discover more about lichens and learn how to identify the common species. Course leader: John Skinner, Senior Keeper of Natural History at Southend Museum. Includes an introductory talk, a field excursion and an explanation of how to use simple charts and keys to help identify species.

Cost: £20 (sponsored by the British Lichen Society with OPAL funding).

Further information: [Field Studies Council website >](#)

International Day of Biological Diversity 2011 – 22nd May

Biodiversity Day this year has a Forest theme as it is aligned to 2011 also being the International Year of Forests. You can find out more on the [Convention on Biological Diversity website >](#)

Norfolk non-native species stakeholders' forum

24 May, Abbey Conference Centre, Carrow Road, Norwich 12:00 – 16:00

Includes presentations on the killer shrimp, the cost of non-native species to Great Britain and the eradication of coypus.

Booking essential. Contact Mike Sutton-Croft, Norfolk Non-native Species Initiative

Tel: 01603 228977. Email: michael.sutton-croft@norfolk.gov

Rex Graham Reserve Open day

28 May 09:30 – 15:30, Forestry Commission, Mildenhall, Suffolk

A once a year opportunity to be able to get close enough to photograph the nationally rare Military Orchid. Rex Graham reserve is one of 2 UK sites where the orchids can be found. The site is a European designated site for conservation value and is also home to Broad-leaved Helleborine, Mezereon, Adder's-tongue and Pyramidal Orchid.

For more information contact Nicky Hooton, Thetford Forest Park Ranger, tel: 01842 819081.



Discovering marsh plants

A free Plantlife workshop, hosted by Tim Pankhurst

11 June Carlton Marshes 10:00 – 15:00.

Participants will have the opportunity to practice their identification skills and will be introduced to 50 species of plants. They will learn about some of the threats facing marshes and how Suffolk Wildlife Trust and Plantlife are helping to conserve this special habitat.

To book visit www.wildaboutplants.org.uk/events .

Landscape and Localisms: future directions in habitat management, Cambridge Conservation Forum

23 June, Judge Business School, Cambridge

Objectives of the Symposium

- To debate what the government's localism agenda might mean for conservation management and nature reserves
- To share ideas and current good practice around implementing visions and habitat management planning illustrated by case studies
- To discuss ways of rising to the challenge of involving/being led by local people

Speakers include: Andy Clements, Director BTO; Andrew Dodd, Head of Site Conservation Policy, RSPB; David Thomas, Head of Environment and Sustainable

Development, Birdlife; Malcolm Ausden, Principal Ecologist, RSPB; Bill Sutherland, Miriam Rothschild Chair in Conservation Biology.

Tickets: £35 including refreshments, lunch and a wine reception. Visit:

<http://www.cambridgeconservationforum.org.uk/events/>

Talk about geology on the River Orwell from a boat

23 June A talk by Bob Markham of GeoSuffolk during an evening Cruise on the River Orwell with Ipswich Park Rangers

To book - phone 01473 433994.

Securing the landscape conference

20 July, East Malling Conference Centre, Kent

Illegal off-roading and environmental crime in our rural landscapes: finding a solution through coordinated partnership action

The conference is free, but booking is essential. Visit the Valley of Visions website at www.valleyofvisions.org.uk to submit an expression of interest or send your contact details to conference@vov.kentdowns.org.uk

Fish diversity and conservation – current state of knowledge

The Fisheries Society of the British Isles 2011 Annual International Conference 18-22 July, Bournemouth University

Themes: Trends in global fish diversity, Understanding fish behaviour to achieve conservation, Linking habitat management to fish conservation, The role of introduced species in the decline of fish diversity, The role of policies in support of global fish conservation, Genetic and evolutionary perspective of fish conservation.

To find out more, visit [FSBI >](#)

Autumn on the fen

A free Plantlife workshop, hosted by Tim Pankhurst

12 September Redgrave and Lopham Fen 10:00 – 15:00

There will be a short introduction inside in the morning and the rest of the day will be spent outside looking at a range of plants. In the case of poor weather, participants will be able to make some collections and examine them inside.

To book visit www.wildaboutplants.org.uk/events .

Spatial Ecology and Conservation Conference

5-7 September, University of Birmingham

The conference will bring together an international field of ecological research scientists, with conservation practitioners and planners, to review, discuss and evaluate the latest advances in spatial ecology and associated technologies, and how these can best be deployed to underpin conservation. Current gaps and future needs will also be identified, and a range of potential solutions discussed.

Theme 1: Generating ecological data, Theme 2: Undertaking spatial analysis,

Theme 3: Using spatial analyses for conservation

Further information: <http://www.ert-conservation.co.uk/SEC1-Homepage.htm>

World Conference on Marine Biodiversity – Our Oceans our Future 26-30 September University of Aberdeen

The conference will bring together scientists, practitioners and the public to discuss and advance our understanding of the issues surrounding the importance of biodiversity in the marine environment. The aims are to:

- Review our knowledge of marine biodiversity and its role in marine ecosystem functioning
- Assess the most critical threats to marine systems and consider management strategies
- Discuss sustainable development and socio-economic impacts on the marine sector
- Identify future research priorities

Further information: <http://www.marine-biodiversity.org/>

Various wildlife events - [Suffolk Wildlife Trust](#), [National Trust](#), [RSPB](#), [Butterfly Conservation Suffolk Branch](#), [Suffolk Moth Group](#), [Suffolk Fungus Group](#), [Suffolk Ornithologists Group](#), [Suffolk Naturalists Society](#)

SBP INFORMATION

If you would like to share information on how your organisation is benefiting biodiversity in Suffolk, please send your article to Gen Broad, Suffolk Biodiversity Officer (tel: 01473 264308, Mobile: 0789 4885337, email: gen.broad@suffolk.gov.uk)

Deadline for May 2011 newsletter: Friday May 27.

SBP is a partnership comprised of conservation organisations, statutory bodies, local authorities, businesses, not-for-profit organisations and community groups working together throughout Suffolk to protect biodiversity. The UK's Biodiversity Action Plan is delivered at a local level by members of the Partnership – for further information visit www.suffolk.gov.uk/Environment/Biodiversity/SuffolkBiodiversityPartnership.htm

Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership comprises:

Babergh District Council, Center Parcs–Elveden, Environment Agency, Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group, Essex & Suffolk Water, Forestry Commission, Forest Heath District Council, Ipswich Borough Council, Mid Suffolk District Council, National Trust, Natural England, RSPB, St. Edmundsbury Borough Council, Suffolk Biological Records Centre, Suffolk Naturalist's Society, Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Suffolk Coastal District Council, Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Naturalists Society, Waveney District Council.