



Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership Partners' News February 2009

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PARTNERS NEWS

Floating Pennywort Eradication on the River Waveney

Andrea Kelly, Broads Authority

We have been busy surveying and hand pulling the highly invasive non-native Floating Pennywort (*Hydrocotyle ranunculoides*) in a bid to stop it in taking over the River Waveney. This partnership project has been possible as a result of Defra and the Environment Agency funding the Broads Authority.

The proposal developed under the umbrella of the Norfolk Non-native Species Initiative aims to continue the early action to prevent the negative impact on biodiversity which would occur if left to spread throughout The Broads. In addition, this invasive plant potentially threatens water based recreation, such as angling and boating, where the total ecosystems services value of visitor revenue has been recently valued at over £320 million.

Our partnership approach builds on previous 100% success in complete eradication of floating pennywort from The Broads and we are hoping for similar success. The project will involve community awareness raising, through leaflet delivery to properties close to the river, and ensuring angling and boating people are aware and

can report sightings to the Broads Authority or Non-Native Species Coordinator (Mike Sutton-Croft at Norfolk County Council).

Roadside Nature Reserve cut-and-collect pilot project

Sue Hooton, Suffolk County Council

A pilot scheme to manage eight Roadside Nature Reserves (RNRs) in the Brecks in a new way was trialled in September 2008 by agreement with Natural England (NE). The RNRs are normally cut in the autumn by Suffolk County Council contractor Carillion plc. Many of these stretches of highways verge are also designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) so management techniques must be agreed with NE. Site Management Statements produced several years ago recommended that the cuttings should be removed. However, for many of the RNRs, traffic would pose a danger to volunteers raking up the cuttings, so a new approach was needed.



A successful bid to the Environment & Transport Directorate Environmental Projects fund has enabled County Council ecologists to agree a separate contract with Carillion under which specialist machinery will cut and collect the grass for composting. Unfortunately, some RNRs which are also SSSIs were not suitable for this form of management due to narrow width or a steep profile. This management technique has been commended by Natural England as a way of getting SSSIs into favourable condition.

Landseer Park update

Matt Berry, Ipswich Borough Council
(See also *Focus on Local Authorities*)

Since the previous article was published in December 2008 there has been an exciting development. The County Wildlife Panel has agreed a substantial increase to the size of the Park CWS. The increase was due to all the biodiversity gains in the past five to eight years, with a much more diverse and larger number of habitats and recorded species. This includes several BAP species, including *Natrix natrix*, *Anguis fragilis*, *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*, and *Aluada arvensis*.



Female grass snake *Natrix natrix*.
Photo: Matt Berry

A major reason for the higher number of recorded species has been the partnership built between the IBC Rangers & local volunteer recorders, most of whom are members of the Friends of Holywells Park, the site that adjoins Landseer Park. The two are separated only by Cliff Lane – over ground at least, since the Parks are joined underground by a toad tunnel that was installed approximately 8 years ago to aid the suffering population cross the road during its migrations between the two sites.

The volunteers gathered a large number of records during 2008, somewhere approaching 400 new records in fact! Without such knowledgeable and enthusiastic people it can be very difficult to progress projects like this in such short periods of time. I would point to it as a shining example of community involvement at its best!

Plus, the good news doesn't end there! As well as extending the Landseer Park CWS, Holywells Park CWS was also extended to include virtually the whole site. Overall this equates to a gain of 25 acres of CWS land in Ipswich.

A Living Landscape for Suffolk's Dormice

Alison Looser, Suffolk Wildlife Trust

A survey of the three main clusters of Suffolk's dormouse populations has been completed by Suffolk Wildlife Trust (SWT) in order to prioritise areas for habitat improvement and identify more potential sites for this highly endangered species. The three clusters were around the parishes of Bentley, Assington and Polstead. The work was carried out by student intern Alison Looser – a post sponsored by the Mammal Trust UK, part of the People's Trust for Endangered Species.



Cowlins new wood planted for dormice Photo: Alison Looser

The survey focused on examining the interconnecting links between woodlands which currently have dormice. It is the existence and health of these hedges which will enable existing but isolated dormouse populations to spread, colonise new areas and interbreed. By increasing the gene pool in this way more resilient populations will emerge.

The information gained during the study was mapped onto GIS and this will enable areas to be prioritised for habitat improvement. Working alongside the landowners SWT will be planting new hedges at strategic locations and reinstating those which have deteriorated. Additional funding from Natural England's Countdown 2010 will allow further surveys outside the initial study areas to evaluate their suitability for dormice. In conjunction with this, links



Dormouse in torpor Photo: Alison Looser

will be improved to from existing strongholds to allow present populations to expand. The hedgerow planting will be undertaken by volunteers who will also build and erect dormouse boxes, to allow more sites to enter the National Dormouse Monitoring Programme.

Water Framework Directive consultation

Julia Stansfield, Environment Agency



The Water Framework Directive is coming. It's big, it's scary, and it's difficult to steer. However, with everybody's help, we may just be able to get it to go where we want – to that happy land where all our rivers, lakes, estuaries and seas have good ecology.

Seriously folks, the Water Framework Directive (WFD) is a European Union Directive that is now part of UK law and currently being turned into practical action by the Environment Agency. It sets a target of achieving at least 'good' ecological and chemical status for all inland and coastal waters. The route to how this is achieved is described in the Draft River Basin Management Plan (Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex are included in the Anglian River Basin District).

The Environment Agency is seeking to consult widely and all organisations and members of the public are invited to have their say. Consultation runs until 21st June 2009. To view the plan and make your response, please go to www.environment-agency.gov.uk/wfd and click on 'Anglian'. The draft plan can be downloaded and is not long (consultation main document). There are numerous annexes too, some of which are big (especially annex B, but this contains details of proposed actions and the details for individual waterbodies). You can also see more general explanations of the WFD on the main wfd page. Responses are encouraged on line. Alternatively all the details are available at local libraries or by writing to Water Framework Directive, Environment Agency, Kingfisher House, Goldhay Way, Orton Goldhay, Peterborough PE2 5ZR.

Don't miss the bus! Have your say or at least find out more about this important change to the way our waters are managed.

Wider Countryside Butterfly Survey **Rob Parker, Butterfly Conservation**

Butterfly Conservation (BC) is launching a new nationwide butterfly recording scheme for 2009. The survey arose out of concern that the long-standing Butterfly Monitoring Scheme (BMS) covered nature reserves, SSSIs and special habitats rather well, but ignored the "boring bits". As a result, BMS presented an image that was well above average for the country as a whole.

The new scheme will survey a random sample of squares, to fairly sample butterflies of the wider countryside, rather than the species of special habitats. Over the past 3 years, the survey methods have been trialled in a way that establishes its scientific and statistical credentials. A pilot scheme was run in 2007 and extended to selected counties (including Norfolk) in 2008. The results were a success, and it has been decided to launch to all counties in time for the 2009 season.

The new scheme does not replace existing surveys. It borrows some transect methodology, but requires only 2 or 3 walks per year, as distinct to the heavy commitment of 26 weeks required by the established BMS. For this reason, it may well appeal to some existing recorders who are keen to do more, but not ready to tackle a full transect.

The Wider Countryside Butterfly Survey is being mounted in collaboration with the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO), using their established bird survey arrangements, including on-line recording as the primary method (although surveyors without internet are also welcome, and may send their returns by post). A large number of BTO bird surveyors have already agreed to record butterflies in their existing squares, which gets us off to an excellent start.

To find out more, visit <http://www.ukbms.org/wcbs.htm>

Suffolk crayfish 'ark' project

Julia Stansfield, Environment Agency

Native white-clawed crayfish have been all but wiped out from Suffolk's rivers, probably through a combination of competition with alien species and outbreaks of crayfish plague. In some rivers alien species, especially signal crayfish, have self-sustaining populations.



Native white-clawed crayfish
Photo: R. Brown

In order to preserve the presence of native crayfish of relatively local provenance in the county, it is proposed to establish 'ark' sites away from rivers where several populations can be established. Ponds, lakes and gravel pits are all potentially suitable but have to be screened for suitability. This includes checking the site and any nearby waters for the presence of alien crayfish. Once sites have been identified, white-clawed crayfish from nearby threatened populations can be 'rescued' and used to stock the new sites.

A partnership project has just been set up between the Environment Agency, Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group, Water for Wildlife project and the Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership. Over the next five years we aim to set up several such ark sites and hopefully to expand the project into Norfolk and Essex.

Suffolk's tree sparrows

Steve Piotrowski, Suffolk Wildlife Trust

Thirty years ago, the Tree Sparrow was a very familiar sight in the East Anglian countryside and no one would have dreamt that it would ever become threatened. However, at the turn of this Millennium it was on the verge of extinction, both as a breeding and wintering species.



Tree sparrow Photo: S. Piotrowski

Nationally, the Tree Sparrow population crashed between the late 1970s and the early 1990s with a decline of 93% on farmland between 1968 and 1999. The decline has continued with many local extinctions; the current population level is still only about 3% of that of the 1970s. The national decline has been mirrored locally and the Tree sparrow is now absent from most of East Anglia and the flocks of more than 100 birds seen in the past are no longer a feature of our countryside. The current breeding population for Suffolk and Norfolk is likely to be less than 100 pairs.

It is likely that the decline in Tree sparrow populations may be due to changes in agricultural practice, both in the UK and in their wintering grounds in south-west Europe. Significant changes include the increased use of herbicides and fertilisers, the switch from spring-sown to autumn-sown crops and the consequent loss of winter stubble fields and the general reduction in farmland habitat diversity.

Suffolk Wildlife Trust has identified key sites as part of their work with Natural England's Countdown 2010 Project. Landowners have been encouraged to retain wild birdseed strips beyond February to prolong the stay of the flocks; and breeding pairs have been located and nest boxes erected around the wintering and known breeding areas. Volunteers will assist with the project by liaising with landowners, suggesting sites for nest boxes, monitoring nests and ringing chicks. The flocks are attracted to the seed heads of millet and other flowering plants sown by farmers in strips as part of the Government's Environmental Stewardship Scheme, a clear sign that this policy is working.

During the breeding season of 2008, significant breeding colonies were identified in the Waveney Catchment area and there were small colonies along the Stour. These are to be further enhanced and protected. In addition, the large wintering Tree sparrow flocks in and around Lackford and Benacre are noteworthy. Current BTO Atlas fieldwork may well locate further colonies, so swift action will be necessary if these are to survive.

If we do nothing, it is likely that the Tree Sparrow will decline further and will soon become extinct as a Suffolk breeding species. Act now or pay the price!

North Warren and Aldringham Walks Nature Reserve mammals 2008

Rob Macklin, RSPB

A disappointing total of just 17 mammal species were recorded this year, although both **otters** and **water voles** continued to thrive, while **red deer** numbers were the highest ever with several sightings of large 12 point stags. Amazingly, there were no **hedgehog** sightings at the site, an astonishing statistic, suggesting that this previously common species is extinct in the area! The **badger** sett in Alexander Wood was not used this year and disturbance to a site across the B1122 resulted in two very unfortunate roadkills.

One **water shrew** record was made, a dead individual on the path, and a **harvest mouse** nest was found on the edge of the main reedbed. **Pipistrelles** appeared to be generally widespread and common across the reserve and were seen at River Hundred throughout the year. **Water Voles** were recorded in 93% of the grazing marsh, Hundred River and main reedbed transects in spring and 85% of transects in autumn.

Porpoises were regularly recorded offshore at Thorpeness throughout the year while the observer was sea-watching for birds. **Otter** spraint was found at six marking points on the south bank of the reedbed during the winter months and tracks were seen at the River Hundred ponds in February. The only sighting was at the west end of the reedbed in January. Four **mink** were trapped at the eastern edge of the reedbed between March and early April, the first time that trapping has been carried out at the reserve. Mink rafts have been used over the past two years but no signs of mink were found.

A plethora of **Red Deer** sightings were made throughout the year from both Aldringham Walks and North Warren. Peak gatherings were 8 young stags by Aldringham Church and a further 7 young stags at River Hundred in March; 9 hinds at Corporal's Belt in April; 12 hinds and two fawns around Square Covert in June and a "12 point" stag with 6 hinds and 6 calves between Square Covert and Corporal's Belt in October. A record count of 27 animals between Square Covert and Corporal's Belt on 24 July comprised 17 hinds and 10 calves.

Planning Update

Workshop: 'Applying the biodiversity checklist with confidence'
Gen Broad, Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership

Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership planning group* was delighted to host a planners' training event in February at Suffolk Wildlife Trust headquarters, Ashbocking. It was a real pleasure to welcome delegates from all of the local authorities (Babergh, Forest Heath, Ipswich, Mid Suffolk, Suffolk Coastal, St Edmundsbury and Waveney), Suffolk County Council and the Broads Authority. South Norfolk District Council's ecologist also joined us.



Groups of planning department staff working through case studies at the workshop. Photo: Sue Hooton

The aim of the workshop was to provide practical training for planners in using Suffolk County Council's biodiversity checklist, thus boosting confidence in applying the checklist appropriately during planning decisions. Suffolk is leading the way in bringing consideration of biodiversity to planning decisions and the checklist has already been adopted by all of our local authorities.

Sue Hooton explained the function and appropriate use of the checklist and the importance of assessing whether biological surveys had been carried out at the correct time of year. Alison Collins presented Natural England's new draft guidance on protected species, such as badger, dormouse and barn owl, and Simone Bullion described Suffolk Wildlife Trust's role in the Development Control process. It was emphasised that local authorities have in-house biological expertise through their Countryside/ Parks department colleagues and can still consult with outside agencies when necessary.

The delegates then worked through a series of 5 case studies designed to present some tricky and some rather more straightforward dummy planning applications, including consideration of County Wildlife Sites, other designated sites and protected species. Through this practical, hands-on small group approach, the delegates also benefitted from being able to discuss issues with colleagues from other authorities.

The workshop was deemed a great success with positive feedback from delegates, and, if there is a demand, we would be delighted to repeat the workshop in the future. All members of the planning group contributed to the success of this workshop – thanks are due to you all!

* Members of the SBP Planning Group are listed on page 12.

Focus on local authorities

This edition focuses on Mid Suffolk District Council and Ipswich Borough Council activities; future editions will feature other local authority biodiversity work.

Mid Suffolk District Council Countryside Team

Biodiversity Update

Dave Hughes, Mid Suffolk Countryside Officer 01449 724639

With our focus primarily on our visiting public we sometimes feel as if biodiversity is pushed to the background. However, looking back over the year it is clear that much of the work we do to enhance our sites for the public involves work that improves the sites for wildlife. The Team at Mid Suffolk directly manages 3 Local Nature Reserves, 2 Churchyard County Wildlife Sites and helps manage a local Roadside Nature Reserve though our work for biodiversity is not confined to these sites.

During the year we have continued to manage our meadows, wetlands, ponds and woodland areas to maintain their wildlife interest. This is achieved with support from our volunteers, local school children, Junior Rangers (and a few Highland Cattle) and their efforts are ensuring that wildlife is thriving. The public now share the sites with many LBAP species and habitats – even if they don't realise. Our events and on-site interpretation help to draw attention to the wealth of wildlife present so that hopefully the public gain a better understanding of the importance of looking after their local area.

Discovery Project

Carrie Bewick, Discovery Project Officer

We were successful in securing another Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund grant last year and are busy completing the project: writing new educational resources about ponds, rivers and minibeasts for use at Needham Lake and in schools and their local area. These resources will be ready for use this spring/summer.

Our events programme for the year is now underway. In January we held a Saturday workshop 'Introduction to Bats' with the Bat Conservation Trust as part of the Count Bat project, encouraging local involvement in bat conservation. This was an adult event, which was very successful, so we hope to run more events later in the year.

The first children's event of the year, held at Needham Lake on 18 February was 'Build a Bird Feeder'. We made recycled feeders from milk bottles and seed and lard cakes to hang up in gardens. Families also tested their bird knowledge on a trail around the lake.



Recycled bird feeders.
Photo: Carrie Bewick

To find out what's going on in Mid Suffolk, go to [Mid Suffolk Countryside Events](#). The latest Discovery Project Newsletter can be downloaded from the Project [website](#). For further info, contact: Carrie Bewick, Discovery Project Officer
Tel: 01449 724632, email: carrie.bewick@midsuffolk.gov.uk

Ipswich Borough Council

Ipswich Wildlife and Education Rangers look after the management of wildlife areas in the parks and open spaces of Ipswich. As well as carrying out practical management, the team runs a varied events programme and work with many school groups and volunteers. Future events include Orwell Summer River Cruise, Teddy Bear bug hunt and the Fungi of Bridge Wood. For further information visit the Parks and Landscapes Ranger Service [website](#).

The **Greenways Countryside Project** provides opportunities for volunteers to work on more than 40 sites in the Ipswich area. From April 2007 to March 2008, volunteers contributed a staggering 1,438 days of work, the equivalent of six and a half full time staff!

Here are just a few examples of the excellent biodiversity work achieved:

Spring Wood LNR: coppicing during winter months; cutting of beanpoles and peasticks for the annual Beanpole festival; and clearance of over 500 bags of rubbish (weighing almost a tonne) by 50 volunteers including the BBC and the Wolsey Rotary Club.

Purdis Heath SSSI: annual 'megabash' to tackle scrub encroachment.

Fonnereau Way: regular mowing and repairs to waymarker posts.

Priestly Wood SSSI: sensitive conservation work for the Woodland Trust in ancient woodland site.

Port of Ipswich: assisting the port with an orchid translocation project.

INFORMATION

Seasearch

Seasearch is a national project for volunteer divers who have an interest in what they're seeing under water and want to help protect the marine environment. The aim is to map the types of sea bed found in the near-shore zone around the whole of Britain and Ireland. In addition, the divers record species seen, identify the richest sites for marine life, problem sites and those sites which need protection.

The East Anglian Seasearch Report 2008 can be downloaded [here](#) (PDF 737 KB).

Future events:

Fish ID course led by Dr Frances Dipper, 5 April Great Yarmouth

Observer course planned for 4/5 July. This course gives divers a basic grounding in marine recording.

For further info, contact Dawn Watson email: divemouse@1townhouses.co.uk, tel: 01728 660598 or go to the Seasearch website: <http://www.seasearch.co.uk/index.htm>

Marine and Coastal Access Bill update

The Bill started its Committee stages on 12 January 2009. It has been announced that Tyneside will be the home of the headquarters of a new body to regulate and manage the sea around England, the Marine Management Organisation (MMO). The MMO is intended to be a '*centre of expertise that will contribute to sustainable development, streamline regulation and improve enforcement*'.

The MMO's responsibilities will include a new marine planning system, a new integrated marine licensing system, enforcement of sea fisheries, nature conservation and licensing using powers under the Marine and Coastal Access Bill.

The MMO will be a Non-Departmental Public Body, replacing the Marine and Fisheries Agency and will take on the new marine planning function and some responsibilities from other government departments and agencies, bringing together marine functions in one independent body for the first time.

For further information, visit [Defra's Current News website](#).

Thurrock Marshes, Essex

The three-year battle to save West Thurrock Marshes from destruction suffered a massive set-back on 28 January, when the Court of Appeal judged that the decision to build on the site was lawful. The case is the first legal test of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006.

For more information, visit the [Buglife website](#).

Butterfly Conservation Review 2000-2008

This recently published review celebrates the 40th anniversary of Butterfly Conservation. Included are national recording and monitoring schemes, action programmes for threatened species, Butterfly Conservation's nature reserves and research collaborations. The Conservation Review can be downloaded from Butterfly Conservation's [website](#).

CEH Delivery Plan

The Centre for Ecology and Hydrology published its Delivery Plan in January outlining how they intend to meet the scientific challenges and organisational goals outlined in their Science Strategy for 2008-2013. The plans for biodiversity can be found on page 7, Section 4.2 *Defining biodiversity change and its role in ecosystem structure, function and resilience* and on Page 9 *Biodiversity science topics and topic objectives*. The plan can be downloaded [here](#).

Toad crossings mapped on Google Earth, Telegraph 13 February

"Hundreds of toad crossings across the UK have been mapped on Google Earth in a bid to cut the number killed by motorists."

Froglife has mapped 700 crossings using satellite technology; it is hoped the map will help conservationists find out more about where amphibians are killed on roads on their way to breeding ponds in spring. Visit the [Telegraph article here](#).

United Kingdom Parliament Daily Digest Bulletin Science and Technology

PostNote [325 - Wild Deer](#) February 2009

"Wild deer populations are increasing in number and geographic range in the UK. Deer are a valuable natural resource if managed sustainably, but when occurring at excessive densities, they can have negative effects on biodiversity, the rural economy, human health and safety, and animal welfare. This POSTnote examines the current status of wild deer in the UK, their ecological, economic and social impacts and legislation on their management. "

Norfolk Wildlife Trust's Non-native species survey

Norfolk Wildlife Trust is undertaking a survey on the distribution of 5 non-native species in Norfolk – American mink, Giant hogweed, Himalayan balsam, Japanese knotweed and muntjac deer. For further info, email Barry Madden: barrym@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk or visit the [website here](#).

Japanese knotweed treatment tax relief

The government will legislate in the Finance Bill to extend Land Remediation expenditure on contaminated land to include the removal of Japanese knotweed by treatment from 1 April 2009. See page 18 of the document:

www.hmrc.gov.uk/budget2008/pn-complete.pdf (PDF 494 KB).

Quality Assurance of the UK Invertebrate Signposts

Buglife has published a review of the Invertebrate Signposts compiled by the UK BAP process and concluded: "*The summary finding is that generally the signposts/actions are incomplete and poorly drafted and hence are not a sound basis for local or country biodiversity conservation action*".

Buglife consider that the review defined a good list of species in need of action and now want to ensure that appropriate actions are taken: habitat management, site protection, species recovery, policy changes and research. Buglife believes that the actions required need to be properly defined so that conservation efforts can be efficient and effective. For further information, contact Buglife.

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](#).

WHAT'S ON

Tree to Timber - The Traditional Way

Saturday 28th February, 10.00-4.00 at Ringshall. Free, but booking essential.

OBe Community Interest Company in association with the Anglian Woodland Project. Includes delivery of local Oak by horse and cart, and a talk on the use of horses in woodland management; the Orchard Barn project; the history and function of Suffolk Woods; traditional timber framing techniques; a hewing demo and a mobile saw mill demo.

Further courses available through spring and summer including **An Introduction to Timber-framing Repairs, 5-day Green Oak Timber Framing course** and **Learn how to build with Cob** (help to construct a circular 'Apple Store' from local clay and straw).

For further info contact: Sarah Partridge Tel: 01473-658193, enquiries/bookings:

jane@orchardbarn.org.uk, www.orchardbarn.org.uk

OBe - committed to hands-on, low-impact environmental education

Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition

On now until 26 April 2009, Natural History Museum, London

Visit the [Natural History Museum website](#) to see this year's winning entries in the on-line gallery or to book tickets to visit the exhibition.

1-2 April 2009 10th River Restoration Conference
'River restoration benefits: past, present and future'

Venue: Nottingham University

Topics: Flood risk management working with natural processes, Climate change proofing, River basin projects, Benefits and effectiveness of schemes for habitat enhancement, Indicators for appraisal and evaluation, Urban regeneration, Planners and urban design

Various wildlife events - [Suffolk Wildlife Trust](#), [National Trust](#), [RSPB](#)

SBP Planning Group members:

Marie Smith, Chair and Forest Heath District Council Planning Policy Manager

Sue Hooton, Senior Ecologist, Suffolk County Council

Simone Bullion, Senior Conservation Officer, Suffolk Wildlife Trust

Trudy Seagon, Conservation Assistant, Suffolk Wildlife Trust

Alison Collins, Planning and Biodiversity Advisor, Natural England

Sandra Scott, Senior Planning Officer, Babergh District Council

Gen Broad, Biodiversity Officer, Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership

If you would like to share information on how your organisation is benefiting biodiversity in Suffolk, please contact Gen Broad, Suffolk Biodiversity Officer.

Tel: 01473 264308, Mobile: 0789 4885337, email: gen.broad@et.suffolkcc.gov.uk

Deadline for April 2009 newsletter: Friday 24 April 2009.

SBP is a partnership comprised of conservation organisations, statutory bodies, local authorities, businesses and not-for-profit organisations working throughout the county of Suffolk on behalf of wildlife. 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.

Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership consists of:

Natural England, Environment Agency, FWAG, RSPB, Suffolk Biological Records Centre, Suffolk Naturalist's Society, Suffolk Wildlife Trust, National Trust, Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Coastal District Council, Ipswich Borough Council, Babergh District Council, Forest Heath District Council, St. Edmundsbury Borough Council, Mid Suffolk District Council, Waveney District Council.