



Species and Habitat Action Plan Assessment Form

Please refer to the accompanying guidance for information about how to complete this form and an explanation of terms used

Field 1: Action Plan details

Species/Habitat Action Plan	Barbastelle bat (<i>Barbastella barbastellus</i>)
Lead Partner/Agency	The Bat Conservation Trust
Steering Group/Other organisations	No formal Steering Group; working group of BCT, EN, CCW, VWT (FA, EA) and individual specialists
Work programme in existence?	No; review of state of knowledge and identification of priorities; some research (e.g. EN/BCT, VWT) providing data to assist delivery of the SAP

Field 2: Objectives and targets overview

Please list the targets for the action plan, indicating in which country/region the target is applicable, and additional comments including the rationale for new targets. For each new target please add new sequential paragraph numbers and target text. Please provide information about progress and country disaggregation in Table A for all targets.

Number and text	UK	E	NI	S	W	Comments
4.1 Maintain the known range and populations.		✓			✓	
4.2 Increase the total population size of this species by improving woodland age structure, particularly in wooded river valleys, to increase roosting and foraging opportunities		✓			✓	

Field 3: Proposed actions overview

Please list the proposed actions for the action plan, indicating in which country/region the action is applicable. For each new action please add new sequential paragraph numbers and action text. If the action is regarded as significant (please see guidance) indicate this in the box and provide further details in Table B. For actions not regarded as significant simply state if the action is ongoing or complete. Remember any action which is being dropped from the workplan will be regarded as significant for the first round of reporting.

Number and text	UK	E	NI	S	W	Action significant?	Action complete or ongoing? (Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)
5.1.1 Pursue the principles and requirements of the Agreement on the Conservation of Bats in Europe (ACTION: CCW, DETR, EA, EN, FA, FE, LAs, MAFF, WOAD)		✓			✓		ongoing

5.1.2 When next reviewed, consider targeting the Woodland Grant Scheme (Project 3), Forest Design Plans, Countryside Stewardship Schemes, ESAs and other relevant agri-environment and forestry schemes towards land in the vicinity of important roost sites, with the aim of enhancing terrestrial and aquatic habitats used by barbastelle bats. Consideration should be given to the retention of hollow, veteran, dying and dead trees in hedgerows and woodlands. (ACTION: CCW, DETR, EN, FA, FE, MAFF, WOAD)		✓			✓		Not started
5.1.3 Ensure that consideration is given to habitat surrounding key bat sites when developing structure plans and assessing planning applications. (ACTION:CCW, EN, LAs)		✓			✓		Not started
5.1.4 Ensure that the requirements of the barbastelle bat are considered during the development of Local Environment Agency Plans in areas where this species occurs. (ACTION: EA)		✓			✓		Not started
5.2 Site safeguard and protection							
5.3.1 None proposed.							
5.4. Advisory		✓			✓		Not started
5.4.1 When appropriate, advise relevant project officers for Countryside Stewardship, the Woodland Grant Scheme and other forestry and agri-environment schemes of the location of key roost sites, their importance and appropriate habitat management for the surrounding areas. (ACTION: CCW, EN, FA, FE, MAFF)		✓			✓		Not started
5.4.2 Establish links with organisations associated with the care and restoration of old buildings in the vicinity of barbastelle bat sites, in order to encourage provision for the requirements of the species within old buildings. (ACTION: CCW, EN, LAs)		✓			✓	✓	ongoing
5.4.3 Advise tree surgeons, tree wardens and foresters operating in the vicinity of barbastelle bat sites on tree management practices which will assist the conservation of this species. (ACTION: CCW, EN, FA, LAs)		✓			✓	✓	ongoing
5.4.4 Continue to support the current network providing bat conservation advice including the use of licensed bat workers/wardens for roost visits. (ACTION: CCW, EN)		✓			✓		ongoing
5.5 Future research and monitoring		✓			✓	✓	ongoing
5.5.1 Continue to search for maternity roosts and hibernation sites. On locating such sites, undertake autecological research and monitoring into the roosting requirements and foraging habitats of this species, with a view to refining habitat protection and management practices. (ACTION: CCW, EN, FC, JNCC)		✓			✓	✓	ongoing
5.5.2 Research the food and feeding requirements of the species. (ACTION: CCW, EN, JNCC)		✓			✓	✓	ongoing
5.5.3 Develop and maintain a national		✓			✓	✓	ongoing

database for bat records. (ACTION: JNCC)							
5.5.4 Consider the recommendations of the National Bat Monitoring Programme once they are produced (ACTION: DETR)		✓			✓		Not started
5.6 Communications and publicity		✓			✓		Not started
5.6.1 Raise awareness of bat conservation issues amongst owners of large country houses and farm buildings through relevant organisations and appropriate property and farming magazines. (ACTION: CADW, CCW, EH, EN)		✓			✓		Not started
5.6.2 Maintain discussions on the conservation of the species on a pan-European scale through the IUCN Coordinating Panel for the Conservation of Bats in Europe and the European Bat Agreement. (ACTION:CCW, DETR, EN)		✓			✓	✓	ongoing
5.6.3 Raise awareness of the importance of old trees as roost and hibernation sites. (ACTION: CCW, EN, FA)		✓			✓	✓	ongoing
5.7 links with other action plans							
5.7.1 It is likely that implementation of this action plan will benefit Bechstein's and lesser horseshoe bats.							
5.7.2 The plan should be considered in conjunction with those for lowland beech, wet woodlands, lowland wood pastures and parkland, broadleaved and yew woodland, and chalk rivers.		✓			✓	✓	ongoing

Field 4: Assessment of status

Please tick the appropriate category to indicate the assessment of status of the species or habitat, for each country/region where appropriate, and provide a statement supporting the category selected.

	Not appropriate	Recovered	Signs of recovery	No change	Declining	Lost	Insufficient information
<i>UK</i>							
<i>England</i>							✓
<i>Northern Ireland</i>							
<i>Scotland</i>							
<i>Wales</i>							✓

Brief text description justifying assessment of status: (~ no more than 100 words for each country/region)

England: in the past three years extant maternity colonies have been identified in Norfolk, Devon, Sussex, Somerset. Research has been initiated at some of these, but insufficient data available yet to suggest any recent/current changes in status. **Wales:** species poorly recorded with few recent records.

Field 5: Summary statement

Please provide an overview of plan implementation, including new factors affecting the species or habitat which will accelerate or constrain progress towards meeting of the targets. Where a factor results in new action(s) please cross-reference back to the relevant numbers under Field 3 and Table B.

Progress on plan implementation slow so far because of the difficulty of locating sites. Now, current research on recently identified colonies should allow faster development of action once data are assessed.

Field 6: Signing off

Please 'sign off' the form below to confirm that steering group members or key contacts have been consulted and agreed the information provided.

Contact details	Lead Partner	Contact Point
Name	A.M.Hutson	A.J.Mitchell-Jones
Organisation	The Bat Conservation Trust	English Nature
Assessment date (dd/mm/yy)	30 September 1999	30 September 1999

Completed forms should be submitted to JNCC

Biodiversity Information Service
 Joint Nature Conservation Committee
 Monkstone House
 City Road
 Peterborough PE1 1JY
 Tel: 01733 562626
 Fax: 01733 555948
 E-mail: lpr99@jncc.gov.uk

Table A: Action Plan objectives and targets (Copiable table)

For each target please state how, if applicable, it has been disaggregated to the country level. Please insert the paragraph number, UK target and country-specific disaggregated target(s) into the table. Please tick the appropriate category to indicate progress against published and disaggregated targets. For each target please copy the table and detail the (existing or new [new paragraph numbers should run sequentially, under relevant headings in the published volumes]) paragraph number, target text and an assessment of progress.

Objective/target <i>(For new or revised targets please provide the new paragraph number and target text.)</i>		4.1 Maintain the known range and populations.			
Country	Not appropriate	Target achieved	Some progress	No progress	Insufficient information
<i>UK</i>					
<i>England</i>			✓		
<i>Northern Ireland</i>					
<i>Scotland</i>					
<i>Wales</i>					✓
Text description of target progress (separate for each country/region):					
England: two of four known maternity sites with some threat; currently in negotiation. Recent application of improved survey and research techniques have identified maternity and other roost sites and foraging behaviour, which can be used to facilitate implementation of parts of the SAP. Wales: no recent records and no current action					

Objective/target <i>(For new or revised targets please provide the new paragraph number and target text.)</i>		4.2 Increase the total population size of this species by improving woodland age structure, particularly in wooded river valleys, to increase roosting and foraging opportunities			
Country	Not appropriate	Target achieved	Some progress	No progress	Insufficient information
<i>UK</i>					
<i>England</i>			✓		
<i>Northern Ireland</i>					
<i>Scotland</i>					
<i>Wales</i>					✓
Text description of target progress (separate for each country/region):					
England: current research will be used to develop mechanisms to meet this action. Wales: as above under 4.1.					

Table B: Proposed actions (Copiable table)

For each significant action please copy and complete the table below.

<p>Published action/organisation(s) responsible <i>(For new or revised actions please provide the new paragraph number and action text.)</i></p>	<p>5.4.2 Establish links with organisations associated with the care and restoration of old buildings in the vicinity of barbastelle bat sites, in order to encourage provision for the requirements of the species within old buildings. (ACTION: CCW, EN, LAs)</p>	
<p>Work plan/organisation(s) responsible <i>(Summary of work plan agreed by the steering group, broken down by year if possible.)</i></p>		
<p>Action/workplan undertaken? <i>(Please state yes or no.)</i></p>	No	
<p>Description of work taken and organisation responsible. <i>Please provide details of progress to date, including information about outputs, deadlines, which organisations and where action is being undertaken</i></p>	Contact with English Heritage and National Trust established	
<p>Output and timescale</p>		<i>Action by</i>
<p>Constraints to action <i>(Please provide an explanation of the significant issues or difficulties encountered and how they have been or will be resolved. Any constraints which the steering group are unable to resolve should also be detailed.)</i></p>		
<p>Action complete or ongoing? <i>(Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)</i></p>	ongoing	
<p>Next steps <i>Please outline future action/work including an indication of expected output, timescale and organisation responsible.</i></p>	More detailed guidance for these and other appropriate organizations, including CADW	
<p>Output and timescale</p>	Circulation of information by end 2000	<i>Action by</i> BCT

<p>Published action/organisation(s) responsible <i>(For new or revised actions please provide the new paragraph number and action text.)</i></p>	<p>5.4.3 Advise tree surgeons, tree wardens and foresters operating in the vicinity of barbastelle bat sites on tree management practices that will assist the conservation of this species. (ACTION: CCW, EN, FA, LAs)</p>	
<p>Work plan/organisation(s) responsible <i>(Summary of work plan agreed by the</i></p>		

<i>steering group, broken down by year if possible.)</i>		
Action/workplan undertaken? <i>(Please state yes or no.)</i>	No	
Description of work taken and organisation responsible. <i>Please provide details of progress to date, including information about outputs, deadlines, which organisations and where action is being undertaken</i>	Guidance notes and other information on bats and trees from BCT and Arboricultural association widely circulated through these and other organizations. EN Veteran Trees Initiative Discussion on management of Sussex breeding site in progress JNCC manual (in press) on management of habitats for bats includes reference to the general requirements for this species	
Output and timescale		<i>Action by</i>
Constraints to action <i>(Please provide an explanation of the significant issues or difficulties encountered and how they have been or will be resolved. Any constraints which the steering group are unable to resolve should also be detailed.)</i>	As yet little data on specific requirements of this species	
Action complete or ongoing? <i>(Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)</i>	ongoing	
Next steps <i>Please outline future action/work including an indication of expected output, timescale and organisation responsible.</i>	Further refine habitat management guidance on this species through current research	
Output and timescale	More precise guidance by end 2001	<i>Action by</i> BCT/VWT

Published action/organisation(s) responsible <i>(For new or revised actions please provide the new paragraph number and action text.)</i>	5.5.1 Continue to search for maternity roosts and hibernation sites. On locating such sites, undertake autecological research and monitoring into the roosting requirements and foraging habitats of this species, with a view to refining habitat protection and management practices. (ACTION: CCW, EN, FC, JNCC)	
Work plan/organisation(s) responsible <i>(Summary of work plan agreed by the steering group, broken down by year if possible.)</i>		
Action/workplan undertaken? <i>(Please state yes or no.)</i>	Yes	
Description of work taken and organisation responsible. <i>Please provide details of progress to date, including information about outputs, deadlines, which organisations and where action is being undertaken</i>	Appropriate research in hand by EN/BCT, Vincent Wildlife Trust, Devon Bat Group. Awaiting report on Europe-wide discussions on species held in 1987 – expected summer 2000	

Output and timescale	EN/BCT report expected October 1999 VWT report availability uncertain as yet	<i>Action by</i>
Constraints to action <i>(Please provide an explanation of the significant issues or difficulties encountered and how they have been or will be resolved. Any constraints which the steering group are unable to resolve should also be detailed.)</i>	Difficulty of locating species in field	
Action complete or ongoing? <i>(Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)</i>	ongoing	
Next steps <i>Please outline future action/work including an indication of expected output, timescale and organisation responsible.</i>	Maintain and increase research effort	
Output and timescale		<i>Action by</i> EN

Published action/organisation(s) responsible <i>(For new or revised actions please provide the new paragraph number and action text.)</i>	5.5.2 Research the food and feeding requirements of the species. (ACTION: CCW, EN, JNCC)	
Work plan/organisation(s) responsible <i>(Summary of work plan agreed by the steering group, broken down by year if possible.)</i>		
Action/workplan undertaken? <i>(Please state yes or no.)</i>	Yes	
Description of work taken and organisation responsible. <i>Please provide details of progress to date, including information about outputs, deadlines, which organisations and where action is being undertaken</i>	Analysis of faeces from colonies in Norfolk and Sussex in hand Assessment of foraging habitat studies in Norfolk and Sussex	
Output and timescale	Faeces analysis: Preliminary report for Sussex expected 1999 ? Norfolk report expected 2000 Habitat requirements: Norfolk preliminary report 1999, fuller report October 1999 Sussex report expected 1999/2000	<i>Action by</i> VWT Norfolk Bat Group NBG/BCT VWT
Constraints to action <i>(Please provide an explanation of the</i>		

<i>significant issues or difficulties encountered and how they have been or will be resolved. Any constraints which the steering group are unable to resolve should also be detailed.)</i>	
Action complete or ongoing? <i>(Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)</i>	
Next steps <i>Please outline future action/work including an indication of expected output, timescale and organisation responsible.</i>	Comparison of reports with European literature to assess any further needs
Output and timescale	2000 Action by BCT/VWT

Published action/organisation(s) responsible <i>(For new or revised actions please provide the new paragraph number and action text.)</i>	5.5.3 Develop and maintain a national database for bat records. (ACTION: JNCC)
Work plan/organisation(s) responsible <i>(Summary of work plan agreed by the steering group, broken down by year if possible.)</i>	
Action/workplan undertaken? <i>(Please state yes or no.)</i>	No
Description of work taken and organisation responsible. <i>Please provide details of progress to date, including information about outputs, deadlines, which organisations and where action is being undertaken</i>	No longer expected to be a responsibility of JNCC. BCT has database of all records to 1995
Output and timescale	Action by BCT
Constraints to action <i>(Please provide an explanation of the significant issues or difficulties encountered and how they have been or will be resolved. Any constraints which the steering group are unable to resolve should also be detailed.)</i>	
Action complete or ongoing? <i>(Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)</i>	
Next steps <i>Please outline future action/work including an indication of expected output, timescale and organisation responsible.</i>	Complete data set to 1999

Output and timescale	Publish map 2000	<i>Action by</i> BCT
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Published action/organisation(s) responsible <i>(For new or revised actions please provide the new paragraph number and action text.)</i>	5.6.2 Maintain discussions on the conservation of the species on a pan-European scale through the IUCN Coordinating Panel for the Conservation of Bats in Europe and the European Bat Agreement. (ACTION:CCW, DETR, EN)	
Work plan/organisation(s) responsible <i>(Summary of work plan agreed by the steering group, broken down by year if possible.)</i>		
Action/workplan undertaken? <i>(Please state yes or no.)</i>	No	
Description of work taken and organisation responsible. <i>Please provide details of progress to date, including information about outputs, deadlines, which organisations and where action is being undertaken</i>	Species not highlighted in current Bats Agreement projects except 1) as species for which autecological research should be encouraged 2) incidentally in transboundary projects on habitat management for trees/forest and for underground habitats See also above under 5.5.1	
Output and timescale	Reports on transboundary projects expected for 2000 Bats Agreement MoP in July 2000	<i>Action by</i> DETR
Constraints to action <i>(Please provide an explanation of the significant issues or difficulties encountered and how they have been or will be resolved. Any constraints which the steering group are unable to resolve should also be detailed.)</i>		
Action complete or ongoing? <i>(Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)</i>	ongoing	
Next steps <i>Please outline future action/work including an indication of expected output, timescale and organisation responsible.</i>	Assess implications of European report expected summer 2000	
Output and timescale	Consider implications for revision of SAP by end 2000	<i>Action by</i> BCT

Published action/organisation(s) responsible <i>(For new or revised actions please provide the new paragraph number and action text.)</i>	5.6.3 Raise awareness of the importance of old trees as roost and hibernation sites. (ACTION: CCW, EN, FA)	
Work plan/organisation(s) responsible <i>(Summary of work plan agreed by the steering group, broken down by year if possible.)</i>		

Action/workplan undertaken? <i>(Please state yes or no.)</i>	No	
Description of work taken and organisation responsible. <i>Please provide details of progress to date, including information about outputs, deadlines, which organisations and where action is being undertaken</i>	See 5.4.3.	
Output and timescale		<i>Action by</i>
Constraints to action <i>(Please provide an explanation of the significant issues or difficulties encountered and how they have been or will be resolved. Any constraints which the steering group are unable to resolve should also be detailed.)</i>		
Action complete or ongoing? <i>(Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)</i>		
Next steps <i>Please outline future action/work including an indication of expected output, timescale and organisation responsible.</i>		
Output and timescale		<i>Action by</i>

Published action/organisation(s) responsible <i>(For new or revised actions please provide the new paragraph number and action text.)</i>	5.7.2 The plan should be considered in conjunction with those for lowland beech, wet woodlands, lowland wood pastures and parkland, broadleaved and yew woodland, and chalk rivers.	
Work plan/organisation(s) responsible <i>(Summary of work plan agreed by the steering group, broken down by year if possible.)</i>		
Action/workplan undertaken? <i>(Please state yes or no.)</i>	No	
Description of work taken and organisation responsible. <i>Please provide details of progress to date, including information about outputs, deadlines, which organisations and where action is being undertaken</i>	Relevant HAPs have been identified and contact established with most	
Output and timescale		<i>Action by</i>
Constraints to action		

<p><i>(Please provide an explanation of the significant issues or difficulties encountered and how they have been or will be resolved. Any constraints which the steering group are unable to resolve should also be detailed.)</i></p>		
<p>Action complete or ongoing? <i>(Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)</i></p>	ongoing	
<p>Next steps <i>Please outline future action/work including an indication of expected output, timescale and organisation responsible.</i></p>	Complete establishment with relevant HAPs and develop involvement	
<p>Output and timescale</p>	Input to implementation of relevant HAPs	<i>Action by</i> BCT/EN