

# 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

<b>Species/Habitat Action Plan</b>	Nightjar
<b>Lead Partner/Agency</b>	RSPB
<b>Steering Group/Other organisations</b>	Steering group in existence? Please state yes or no. Please list the organisations represented. No
<b>Work programme in existence?</b>	Please state yes or no. If in existence, please use the agreed work programme to update Field 3 and Table B. No

## 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 a population of at least 3400 churring males.	X					
4.2 Halt the decline in range of the nightjar (there were 268 occupied ten km squares in 1992).		X	X	X	X	
4.3 Increase the numbers and range of nightjar to 4000 churring males in at least 280 ten km squares by the year 2003 (an 18% population increase and 5% range increase in 10 years).		X	X	X	X	
4.4 In the long term (next 20 years), restore nightjar to parts of its former range in, for example, south-west England, west Midlands, north-west England, south-west Scotland and Northern Ireland.		X	X	X	X	

## 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 Include specific targets and management for the nightjar in Forest Design Plans across the species' current and former range		X	X	X	X	Yes	Started but not complete
5.1.2 Take full account of the requirements of the nightjar when considering felling and restocking proposals in its current and former range.		X	X	X	X	Yes	Ongoing

<b>5.1.3</b> Incorporate specific targets and management for nightjars in MoD site management plans in appropriate sites across the species' former range		X	?	X	X	Yes	started but not complete
<b>5.1.4</b> Seek to extend the Wildlife Enhancement Scheme to other key areas of lowland heathland in England.		X				Yes	Not started
<b>5.1.5</b> Support extensive low intensity agricultural systems within the historic range of the species through the appropriate agri-environment schemes.		X	X	X	X	Yes	Ongoing
<b>5.2.1</b> Consider notifying important nesting and foraging sites as SSSI/ASSIs		X	X	X	X	Yes	Started but not complete
<b>5.2.2</b> Designate as SPAs areas of 'special interest' that support nationally important populations of nightjars (subject to current guidelines) and encourage their appropriate management		X	X	X	X	Yes	Ongoing
<b>5.2.3</b> Seek to achieve 'favourable conservation status' of the nightjar by measures complementary to SPAs. This will include projects to maintain, enhance and restore heathland adjacent to SPAs (eg through agri-environment schemes).		X	X	X	X	Yes	Ongoing
<b>5.2.4</b> Protect nationally important localities for nightjars from damaging developments through the planning process.		X	X	X	X	Yes	Ongoing
<b>5.4.1</b> Produce specific advisory material for the management of heathland and forestry plantations for nightjars.		X				Yes	Started but not complete
<b>5.5.1</b> Monitor changes to the numbers and range of nightjars through a national survey every 10 years (next survey due in 2002) as part of the statutory agencies/RSPB programme of scarce bird monitoring.	X					No	Ongoing
<b>5.5.2</b> Investigate the availability of the nightjar's food supply.		X		X	X	Yes	Not started
<b>5.5.3</b> Evaluate the condition of heathland in the former range of nightjar and the potential for remedial management.		X			X	Yes	Ongoing
<b>5.6.1</b> Use the nightjar as a species to promote the conservation of heathland.		X				No	?

**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
UK							X
England							X
Northern Ireland							X
Scotland							X
Wales							X
Brief text description justifying assessment of status: (~ no more than 100 words for each country/region)							
<b>Insufficient time since the publication of this plan, and insufficient systematic information to make a detailed assessment of status. However, local information suggests that this species has continued recent increases.</b>							

**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 with this plan is partly dependent on progress of the lowland heathland habitat action plan in encouraging heathland management and the re-creation of new heathland habitat, and in the management of young forestry plantations. The provision of clearfell and young forestry plantations and the management of these sites in the initial years after planting has made a significant contribution to the increase in this species in the last decade. Care will have to be taken to ensure that any changes in forestry practice, in particular felling cycles but also plant spacing, ground treatment, herbicide regimes etc, will not have detrimental affects on the recovery of the population of this species..**

**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	Robin Wynde	Roderick Leslie
Organisation	RSPB	Forest Enterprise
Assessment date (dd/mm/yy)	18.10.99	1.11.99

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.

<b>Objective/target</b> (For new or revised targets please provide the new paragraph number and target text.)	4.1 Maintain a population of at least 3400 churring males.				
<b>Country</b>	<b>Not appropriate</b>	<b>Target achieved</b>	<b>Some progress</b>	<b>No progress</b>	<b>Insufficient information</b>
UK					X
England					X
Northern Ireland					X
Scotland					X
Wales					X
Text description of target progress (separate for each country/region):					
<b>There has been no comprehensive survey since the plan was published. However, local information suggests that the UK target has probably been achieved. This target has not yet been divided into country targets.</b>					

<b>Objective/target</b> (For new or revised targets please provide the new paragraph number and target text.)	4.2 Halt the decline in range of the nightjar (there were 268 occupied ten km squares in 1992).				
<b>Country</b>	<b>Not appropriate</b>	<b>Target achieved</b>	<b>Some progress</b>	<b>No progress</b>	<b>Insufficient information</b>
UK					X
England					X
Northern Ireland					X
Scotland					X
Wales					X
Text description of target progress (separate for each country/region):					
<b>There has been no comprehensive survey since the plan was published. However, local information suggests that the UK target has probably been achieved. This target has not yet been divided into country targets.</b>					

<b>Objective/target</b> (For new or revised targets please provide the new paragraph number and target text.)	4.3 Increase the numbers and range of nightjar to 4000 churring males in at least 280 ten km squares by the year 2003 (an 18% population increase and 5% range increase in 10 years).				
<b>Country</b>	<b>Not appropriate</b>	<b>Target achieved</b>	<b>Some progress</b>	<b>No progress</b>	<b>Insufficient information</b>
UK					X
England					X
Northern Ireland					X
Scotland					X
Wales					X

Text description of target progress (separate for each country/region):

**There has been no comprehensive survey since the plan was published to enable assessment of how much progress towards this objective has been achieved. This target has not yet been divided into country targets.**

<b>Objective/target</b> (For new or revised targets please provide the new paragraph number and target text.)	4.4 In the long term (next 20 years), restore nightjar to parts of its former range in, for example, south-west England, west Midlands, north-west England, south-west Scotland and Northern Ireland.				
<b>Country</b>	<b>Not appropriate</b>	<b>Target achieved</b>	<b>Some progress</b>	<b>No progress</b>	<b>Insufficient information</b>
<i>UK</i>					X
<i>England</i>					X
<i>Northern Ireland</i>					X
<i>Scotland</i>					X
<i>Wales</i>					X

Text description of target progress (separate for each country/region):

**No assessment of progress has been made since the plan was published.**