

Emberiza schoeniclus (Reed Bunting)

Full report outputted on the 31/07/2003 08:39:23

1. Status of the habitat / species

Please give your most accurate assessment of the status of your species or habitat for the UK and for each country. Leave the row blank where the species or habitat does not occur in that country.

	Amount:	Units:	Year:	Accuracy:	Reference for data:
UK	175000	Displaying males	2000	Informed guess	Extrapolated from Gibbons, Reid & Chapman: The New Atlas (incorporating 10 yr smoothed CBC trend)
E					No data available
NI					No data available
S					No data available
W					Nodata available

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2. Trend in Biological Status

Please give your best estimate of the current trend for your species or habitat for the UK, and each appropriate country, using the following categories. Please give an estimate unless there is absolutely no information on which to assess status.

	Trend:	Accuracy:	Reference for data:
UK	Declining (slow ing) ▼	Partial or sample survey ▼	http://www.bto.org.uk/birdtrends/wcreebu (data for 1994-2000)
E	Declining (continuing/accelerating) ▼	Partial or sample survey ▼	http://www.bto.org.uk/birdtrends/wcreebu (data for 1994-2000)
NI	Not know n ▼	Partial or sample survey ▼	small sample
S	Not know n ▼	Partial or sample survey ▼	small sample
W	Not know n ▼	Partial or sample survey ▼	small sample

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3. Status of knowledge

To what extent is our scientific knowledge of the habitat / species (e.g research information, autecological knowledge, knowledge for effective re-introduction or habitat restoration/re-creation) sufficient to deliver the plan targets?

Please give an assessment for the UK overall but if there is significant difference in knowledge between different countries this should be noted.

Status of knowledge:	Know ledge sufficient to effectively deliver the plan targets. <input type="button" value="v"/>
Notes:	<input type="text"/>

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4. Progress on targets

Each of the revised targets from the 2001 Targets Review is listed below.

For each one please give a qualitative assessment of progress for the UK and each country. You can also enter quantitative information on progress by entering data in each of the target boxes and entering the current amount in the amount box. For more information see Help.

T1: In the short term, halt or reverse the decline in numbers of the reed bunting by the year 2003 so that the Breeding Bird Survey index is at least at 1996 levels.

Target start date:

1998

Target end date: 2003

Target units:

	Progress	Target	Current	Accuracy	Monitoring
UK	Some progress (behind schedule)	100	96	Partial or sample survey	Yes
E	No progress	100	77	Partial or sample survey	Yes
NI	Unknown	100		Partial or sample survey	Yes
S	Unknown	100		Partial or sample survey	Yes
W	Unknown	100		Partial or sample survey	Yes

T2: In the long term, see a sustained recovery in numbers so that the BBS index is at least 50% higher than 1996 levels, in both wetland and farmland habitats, by 2008.

Target start date: 1998

Target end date: 2008

Target units:

	Progress	Target	Current	Accuracy	Monitoring
UK	Some progress (behind schedule) ▼	150	96	Partial or sample survey ▼	Yes ▼
E	No progress ▼	150	77	Partial or sample survey ▼	Yes ▼
NI	Unknown ▼	150		Partial or sample survey ▼	Yes ▼
S	Unknown ▼	150		Partial or sample survey ▼	Yes ▼
W	Unknown ▼	150		Partial or sample survey ▼	Yes ▼

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5. Current factors affecting the habitat

When your plan was published the factors (threats) that were thought to be causing loss or decline were listed (in section 2). Re-assessing the current situation may help prioritise actions for your species or habitat. In addition, this enables identification of the main threats to biodiversity across all plans. It is useful to assess whether the importance of different factors is changing and whether there are new issues emerging.

The threat section from the original plan is duplicated below, and a first attempt at categorising the threats has been made. Please confirm that you agree with the categorisation of the original threats identified in the plan (by deleting any wrongly categorised threats and adding the correct category). Please also add to the list any significant threats that have emerged recently, being mindful of environmental issues that have increased in profile or been recognised since plan publication (e.g. climate change). Once you are happy that the list contains all the threats identified in the published plan together with any new ones, please rank them in order of severity (1= highest threat). If the situation has changed and one of the published threats is no longer significant, please leave this in the list but give this rank = 0.

Current factors affecting the habitat from the original publication:

- 2.1 The decline of the reed bunting has occurred at the same time as decreases in the numbers and/or range of a suite of other farmland birds, many of which share its diet of cereal, grass and wildflower seeds, and also feed their young on insects. It is therefore likely that its decline on farmland may be largely due to: changes in agricultural practice, particularly the increased use of pesticides and fertilisers; the switch from spring-sown to autumn-sown crops and the consequent loss of winter stubble fields; the more intensive use of grassland; and the general reduction in habitat diversity on farmland due to the loss of mixed farming and increased specialisation.
- 2.2 Deterioration of wet habitats may have had a serious effect on populations. BTO census data suggest that numbers in wetland habitats have declined. Loss of small ponds, unsympathetic river engineering and the encroachment of scrub and carr are all likely to have had adverse effects on both the breeding and wintering populations. The main period of recent land drainage was 1968-85, when both arterial watercourses and field drains were modified on a large scale, leading to a loss in both the quantity and quality of the reed bunting's characteristic wetland habitats.

Keyworded factors:

To add factors click the add button, to delete factors check the delete box and then click the delete button.

Delete:	Rank:	Keyword:
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Habitat loss / degradation - agriculture Intensive crop regimes
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Habitat loss / degradation - agriculture Intensive grassland management
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Habitat loss / degradation - agriculture Loss of mixed farming
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Habitat loss / degradation - extraction/drainage Drainage (for agriculture)
<input type="checkbox"/>	0	Habitat loss / degradation - management practice Scrub encroachment

- Habitat loss / degradation - woodlands/forestry | Decline of woodland coppicing / pollarding
- Pollution - land | Agricultural (nutrient enrichment)
- Pollution - land | Agricultural (other agro-chemicals)

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6. Constraints (optional)

Select the three most significant constraints to achieving the targets of the plan, and indicate the order of priority (1-3 with 1 being the most significant constraint). Only include constraints that are acting as a real blockage to delivering the plan targets or leading to a substantial delay in their delivery. For each constraint, please indicate whether you feel that it is within the ability of the lead partner or steering group to resolve the constraint.

Constraint 1:	
Constraint keyword:	Country:
Policy, legislation and designation Agriculture (incl. Common Agricultural Policy)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UK <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NI <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W
Solution:	Solution type:
Persuade EU to implement changes at mid-term review	Legislation and policies

Able to resolve:

Constraint 2:

Constraint keyword:

Country:

Funding and incentives | Agricultural schemes - changes needed to structure / payments

 UK E NI S
 W

Solution:

Solution type:

UK Govts to make more money available through further modulation

Funding and incentive schemes

Able to resolve:

Constraint 3:

Constraint keyword:

Country:

Funding and incentives | Agricultural schemes - changes needed to structure / payments

 UK E NI S
 W

Solution:

Solution type:

Devolved Assemblies to develop agri-environment schemes alongside Defra model

Funding and incentive schemes

Able to resolve:

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7. Steering Group

Please list all organisations that are represented on the steering group for your species/habitat (include all organisations that have contributed either directly or by correspondence within the last 3 years). Where a steering group does not exist please leave this form blank.

To add organisations click the add button, to delete organisations check the delete box and then click the delete button.

Delete: Organisation:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | British Trust for Ornithology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Countryside Council for Wales |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Department of Agriculture and Rural Development for Northern Ireland |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | English Nature |

- Environment and Heritage Service
- Game Conservancy Trust
- Joint Nature Conservation Committee
- National Assembly for Wales Agriculture Department
- Pesticides Safety Directorate
- Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Division
- Scottish Natural Heritage
- Syngenta

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8. Other Groups/Organisations

Please list any additional groups/organisations that are actively involved in implementing your action plan. (This is to try to assess which groups are involved where there is no steering group and any additional contributors). If you do not have any other organisations involved, [click here](#).

To add organisations click the add button, to delete organisations check the delete box and then click the delete button.

9. Linkages to LBAPs

a) Which of the following most accurately describes your interaction with LBAPs, up to now?

b) If you have been in contact with LBAPs how was it initiated?

c) Irrespective of current contact, how important do you consider LBAP co-ordinated action will be in achieving the targets of the plan? Select from category:

d) If you consider LBAP action to be anything other than unimportant, which of the following forms of engagement do you think would be appropriate? (Note, you may tick more than one category.)

<input type="checkbox"/> Indirect contact (e.g. posting information on UKBAP website, sharing work programmes, meeting schedules, articles in Biodiversity News, newsletter)
<input type="checkbox"/> Provision of generic information on habitat and/or species (e.g. advice and guidance on habitat/species ecology and management)
<input type="checkbox"/> Direct provision of advice (e.g. proactive approach to LBAP, response to consultations from LBAPs, advice on LBAP target setting)
<input type="checkbox"/> Reciprocal attendance at meetings

Development of collaborative projects

Other (please specify):

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10. Successes (optional)

Have there been key successes in the implementation of your plan that should be drawn to the attention of government, the wider BAP partnership, or the public? Please give a brief description (i.e. 2-3 sentences) of up to three successes and allocate a topic area to each of them:

Success 1:

Description:

Partnership between DEFRA, SCAs, NGOs & Industry to deliver research results and policy change

Country:

UK E NI S W

Keyword:

Partnership | Government support

Success 2:

Description:

Research has identified causes of decline

Country:

UK E NI S W

Keyword:

Research, survey and information | Autecology - improved know ledge

Success 3:

Description:

Arable options available in Countryside Stew ardship

Country:

UK E NI S W

Keyword:

Funding and incentives | Agricultural schemes - beneficial changes to structure / payments

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Thankyou for answering the questions. You have not yet completed all of the questions. You can go back and answer the additional ones or edit the ones you have already answered whenever you want.

Sign-off:

When you have completed all of the questions that you are able to, you must sign off your reporting.

I agree that the steering group (if present) have agreed the information in this report and that the following contact point has also signed it off:

Contact point:

Defra

email:

andy.evans@

Your name:

Andy Evans

Date:

13 01 03
