



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	<i>Eresus sandaliatus</i> - Ladybird spider
Lead Partner/Agency	English Nature (Contact Point - EN)
Steering Group/Other organisations	<p><i>Steering group in existence? Please state yes or no. Please list the organisations represented.</i></p> <p>Yes. EN, Forest Enterprise, The Terrestrial Invertebrate Taxon Advisory Group of the Zoo Federation and two consultant arachnologists.</p>
Work programme in existence?	<p><i>Please state yes or no. If in existence, please use the agreed work programme to update Field 3 and Table B.</i></p> <p>There is a programme of work, which is covered in the minutes of the steering group, rather than a specific document.</p>

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	U K	E	N I	S	W	Comments
4.1 Maintain the population size at its known site.		T				continuing satisfactorily
4.2 Enhance the population size at Wareham Forest by 2010.		T				appears to be successful
4.3 Restore populations to two suitable sites within the historic range by 2010.		T				little progress
4.4 Continue to support an <i>ex-situ</i> programme to provide material for reintroduction and ecological research.		T				ongoing

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	U K	E	N I	S	W	Action significa nt?	Action complete or ongoing? (Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)
5.2.1 Prevent external activities threatening the existing populations.		T					ongoing
5.2.2 Remove encroaching pine, <i>Rhododendron</i> , bracken and scrub at appropriate intervals to maintain areas of bare ground and to encourage the regeneration of heather.		T				X	ongoing
5.2.3 Where possible, increase the available habitat at the known site and adjacent areas, and attempt to link up existing fragments of habitat.		T				X	ongoing
5.2.4 If new populations are found on any SSSIs, ensure that the species is included in relevant site management documents.		T					n/a
5.2.5 Consider notifying any newly discovered sites for the species as SSSIs.		T					n/a
5.3.1 Establish the ladybird spider on at least two additional sites within the former range by 2010.		T				X	little progress
5.4.1 Advise landowners and managers of sites where the ladybird spider is introduced about the habitat requirements and site management requirements of this species.		T					ongoing

5.5.1	Undertake surveys to determine the status of the species. These should concentrate on heathland areas within a radius of 30km of the extant site.		T				X	ongoing
5.5.2	Continue monitoring of extant population and initiate monitoring of any establishments.		T				X	ongoing
5.5.3	Consider genetic analysis of the population to identify inbreeding problems. If further colonies are discovered, take advice on the desirability of facilitating gene flow between populations, at least in the origination of new colonies.		T					no progress
5.6.1	Promote opportunities for the appreciation of this species and the conservation issues associated with its habitat. Continue to use this species as a flagship to inform and popularise the problems faced by heathland invertebrates and spiders in general.		T				X	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>			X				
<i>Northern Ireland</i>	X						
<i>Scotland</i>	X						
<i>Wales</i>	X						

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

The extant population in Dorset has been intensively monitored for the last X years and there has been a steady increase in numbers and extent in area inhabited by the colony, which is probably attributable to both management and enlargement of the habitat available at the site, and the prevailing weather conditions in certain breeding years. The success of individual recruitment generations is being monitored and there may be possible problems with sex ratio if good spring weather does not soon facilitate a good breeding season.

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.

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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	Roger Key	Dave Stone (species co-ordinator)
Organisation	English Nature	English Nature
Assessment date		July 31, 2003

(dd/mm/yy)		
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Completed forms should be submitted to JNCC

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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 population size at its known site.		
Country	Not appropriate	Target achieved	Some progress	No progress	Insufficient information
<i>UK</i>					
<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): Population numbers and area inhabited by a single cohort of juveniles has been shown to be increasing by monitoring. There may be problems ahead resulting from possible skewed sex ratio.					

Objective/target <i>(For new or revised targets please provide the new paragraph number and target text.)</i>			4.2 Enhance the population size at Wareham Forest by 2010.		
Country	Not appropriate	Target achieved	Some progress	No progress	Insufficient information
<i>UK</i>					

<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):

as above

Population numbers and area inhabited by a single cohort of juveniles has been shown to be increasing by monitoring. There may be problems ahead resulting from possible skewed sex ratio.

Objective/target <i>(For new or revised targets please provide the new paragraph number and target text.)</i>			4.3 Restore populations to two suitable sites within the historic range by 2010.		
Country	Not appropriate	Target achieved	Some progress	No progress	Insufficient information
<i>UK</i>					
<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): Survey work to identify additional sites for this species has produced a list of potential establishment sites. Some problems with the captive rearing project and the small size of the extant wild population make this only achievable in the longer term.					

Objective/target <i>(For new or revised targets please provide the new paragraph number and target text.)</i>			4.4 Continue to support an <i>ex-situ</i> programme to provide material for reintroduction and ecological research.		
Country	Not appropriate	Target achieved	Some progress	No progress	Insufficient information
<i>UK</i>					
<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):

England. Work has concentrated on collection of continental (Danish) specimens in order to develop rearing methodology. This has been partially successful. Progeny resulting from the adults from two collecting trips to Denmark have been raised in captivity, and mating, oviposition and development through to adult has been achieved, although the number of individuals successfully reared has been small, owing to the interdependence of the spiderlings in their very early stages, coupled with cannibalistic tendencies as they mature.

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>5.2.2 Remove encroaching pine, <i>Rhododendron</i>, bracken and scrub at appropriate intervals to maintain areas of bare ground and to encourage the regeneration of heather.</p> <p>and</p> <p>5.2.3 Where possible, increase the available habitat at the known site and adjacent areas, and attempt to link up existing fragments of habitat.</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>	<p>Yes</p>		
<p>Description of work taken and organisation responsible.</p>	<p><i>Please provide details of progress to date, including information about outputs, deadlines, which organisations and where action is being undertaken</i></p> <p>EN and Forest Enterprise have together cleared several hectares of <i>Rhododendron</i> around the existing site and removed a number of pines and have removed the mulch of leaf litter. This has resulted in good re-establishment of heath vegetation and the expansion of the colony of spiders into areas freed from shading by the larger shrubs and trees.</p> <p>More habitat for the spider to colonise</p>		
<p>Output and timescale</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td></td> <td> <p>Action by EN/FE</p> </td> </tr> </table>		<p>Action by EN/FE</p>
	<p>Action by EN/FE</p>		
<p>Constraints to action <i>(Please provide an explanation of the significant issues or difficulties encountered and</i></p>	<p>none - this has been a very good example of conservation and forestry operations working very well together.</p>		

<i>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> Continue expansion of area of open heath to link to former site for the species either to facilitate natural colonization or to link existing colony to a possible re-establishment site. Further cleared Rhododendron over several years
Output and timescale	<i>Action by EN/FE</i>

Table B: Proposed actions (Copiable table)

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

Published action/organisation(s) responsible <i>(For new or revised actions please provide the new paragraph number and action text.)</i>	5.3.1 Establish the ladybird spider on at least two additional sites within the former range by 2010.
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>	ongoing
Description of work taken and organisation responsible.	Please provide details of progress to date, including information about outputs, deadlines, which organisations and where action is being undertaken.

	<p>Survey work to identify additional sites for this species has produced a list of potential establishment sites. Some problems with the captive rearing project and the small size of the extant wild population make this only achievable in the longer term. Captive rearing work has concentrated on collection of continental (Danish) specimens in order to develop rearing methodology. This has been partially successful. Progeny resulting from the adults from two collecting trips to Denmark have been raised in captivity, and mating, oviposition and development through to adult has been achieved, although the number of individuals successfully reared has been small, owing to the interdependence of the spiderlings in their very early stages, coupled with cannibalistic tendencies as they mature.</p>	
Output and timescale	unclear until problems with captive rearing are overcome	Action by EN/TITAG
<p>Constraints to action (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.)</p>	problems with captive rearing	
<p>Action complete or ongoing? (Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)</p>	ongoing	
Next steps	Please outline future action/work including an indication of expected output, timescale and organisation responsible.	
Output and timescale		Action by

Table B: Proposed actions (Copiable table)

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

<p>Published action/organisation(s) responsible (For new or revised actions)</p>	<p>5.5.1 Undertake surveys to determine the status of the species. These should concentrate on heathland areas within a radius of 30km of the extant site.</p>
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please provide the new paragraph number and action text.)		
Work plan/organisation(s) responsible (Summary of work plan agreed by the steering group, broken down by year if possible.)		
Action/workplan undertaken? (Please state yes or no.)	ongoing	
Description of work taken and organisation responsible.	<p>Please provide details of progress to date, including information about outputs, deadlines, which organisations and where action is being undertaken.</p> <p>Survey has been undertaken in across the Dorset heathlands and possible leads in Cornwall, the Isle of Wight and Lincolnshire have been followed up. No additional populations of the species have been located.</p>	
Output and timescale	Annual survey reports.	Action by EN/ consultant arachnologists
Constraints to action (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.)	none (no spiders!)	
Action complete or ongoing? (Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)	ongoing	
Next steps	<p>Please outline future action/work including an indication of expected output, timescale and organisation responsible.</p> <p>further survey for ?max 3 years</p>	
Output and timescale	additional survey reports	Action by

Table B: Proposed actions (Copiable table)

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

<p>Published action/organisation(s) responsible (For new or revised actions please provide the new paragraph number and action text.)</p>	<p>5.5.2 Continue monitoring of extant population and initiate monitoring of any establishments.</p>	
<p>Work plan/organisation(s) responsible (Summary of work plan agreed by the steering group, broken down by year if possible.)</p>		
<p>Action/workplan undertaken? (Please state yes or no.)</p>	<p>ongoing</p>	
<p>Description of work taken and organisation responsible.</p>	<p>Please provide details of progress to date, including information about outputs, deadlines, which organisations and where action is being undertaken.</p> <p>The numbers and location of all spider burrows on 2-year-old and older spiders have been monitored now since 1980 and shown the successful expansion of the population in recent years, probably as a result of the habitat management that has been undertaken, coupled with favourable weather conditions.</p> <p>Annual monitoring report, including map indicating location of all burrows.</p>	
<p>Output and timescale</p>	<p>Annual monitoring report, including map indicating location of all burrows.</p>	<p>Action by EN, consultant arachnologist</p>
<p>Constraints to action (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.)</p>	<p>none</p>	

Action complete or ongoing? (Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)	ongoing	
Next steps	Please outline future action/work including an indication of expected output, timescale and organisation responsible. continue monitoring	
Output and timescale		Action by

Table B: Proposed actions (Copiable table)

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

Published action/organisation(s) responsible (For new or revised actions please provide the new paragraph number and action text.)	5.6.1 Promote opportunities for the appreciation of this species and the conservation issues associated with its habitat. Continue to use this species as a flagship to inform and popularise the problems faced by heathland invertebrates and spiders in general.	
Work plan/organisation(s) responsible (Summary of work plan agreed by the steering group, broken down by year if possible.)		
Action/workplan undertaken? (Please state yes or no.)	ongoing	
Description of work taken and organisation responsible.	Please provide details of progress to date, including information about outputs, deadlines, which organisations and where action is being undertaken. There has been repeated interest in this species from the written and broadcast media, both as a result of a press release and on a more opportunistic basis. EN illustrated the species in an edition of its English Nature Magazine and a brief information leaflet and Awanted≅ poster produced and disseminated to land managers in the Dorset Heathlands area but not to the general public.	
Output and timescale	publicity - ongoing	Action by EN,

		FE, TITAG
<p>Constraints to action (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.)</p>	<p>time available to project team members has prevented a more public appeal for possible sightings of the species.</p>	
<p>Action complete or ongoing? (Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)</p>	<p>ongoing</p>	
<p>Next steps</p>	<p>Please outline future action/work including an indication of expected output, timescale and organisation responsible.</p> <p>continued publicity</p>	
<p>Output and timescale</p>		<p>Action by</p>