



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>Formica pratensis</i> - Black backed meadow ant
Lead Partner/Agency	English Nature (Contact Point - EN)
Steering Group/Other organisations	Yes. English Nature, Aculeate Conservation Group
Work programme in existence?	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 Survey to determine the distribution and status of the ant by 2000.		✓				
4.2 If found to be present in the UK, clarify taxonomic status by 2005.		✓				
4.3 If still present, protect and manage all remaining populations.		✓				
4.4 If feasible, restore 10 populations to suitable former sites by the year 2005.		✓				

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 If colonies are re-discovered, encourage the uptake of management agreements and incentive schemes for the restoration or enhancement of suitable heathland in areas adjacent to known, or restored, colonies, and encourage the protection and regeneration of heathland within its former range to encourage expansion of existing colonies.		✓				no	not started
5.2.1 Ensure the survival of any re-discovered or re-introduced populations through favourable management of sites.		✓				no	not started
5.2.2 Seek to restore suitable habitat to former sites, with a view to re-introducing populations within the former range of the species.		✓				no	not started
5.3.1 Following further survey and assessment, and the identification of suitable former sites, seek to restore self-sustaining 10 populations within the former range of this ant on the British mainland, by the year 2005, using captive-bred individuals as necessary.		✓				no	survey complete restoration not started
5.4.1 If the species is re-discovered, ensure the land owners or managers are aware of the presence and importance of conserving the species, and appropriate methods of management to maintain and enhance populations.		✓				no	not started
5.5.1 Undertake a thorough systematic survey for the species to confirm its distribution and conservation status by the year 2000.		✓				no	complete
5.5.2 Encourage investigation and confirm the taxonomic status of the species by the year 2005.		✓				no	not started
5.5.3 If re-introduction proves necessary, promote research to determine the most appropriate means..		✓				no	not started

5.5.4	Encourage research on the habitat requirements of this species, including colony foundation, genetic variation and integrity, methods of artificially rearing this species and the myrecophile fauna associated with colonies.		✓				no	not started
5.5.5	Encourage research on the ecology and conservation of lthis species at an international level and use the information and experience gained towards its conservation both in the UK and internationally.	✓					no	not started
5.5.6	If re-discovered in the UK, encourage monitoring of extant populations and seek to identify any other threats to the species.		✓				no	not started
5.5.7	Pass information gathered during survey and monitoring of this species to JNCC or BRC so that it can be incorporated in national databases.		✓				no	not started
5.5.8	Provide information annually to the World Conservation Monitoring Centre on the UK status of the species to contribute to maintenance of an up-to-date global red lists.	✓					no	not started

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>	x						
<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)

Last found in 1987/88. Regularly searched since then. Survey of old sites in 1997 failed to find it.

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.

Presumed extinct. Project will resume if new colonies found.

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	David Sheppard	Dave Stone (species co-ordinator)
Organisation	English Nature	English Nature
Assessment date (dd/mm/yy)	30/9/1999	10/10/1999

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 Survey to determine distribution of the ant by 2000.		
Country	Not appropriate	Target achieved	Some progress	No progress	Insufficient information
<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): None found since 1987/88. Now presumed extinct.					

Objective/target <i>(For new or revised targets please provide the new paragraph number and target text.)</i>			4.2 If found to be present in the UK, clarify taxonomic status by 2005.		
Country	Not appropriate	Target achieved	Some progress	No progress	Insufficient information
<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): Not a priority unless colonies found in mainland UK.					

Objective/target <i>(For new or revised targets please provide the new paragraph number and target text.)</i>			4.3 If still present, protect and manage all remaining populations.		
Country	Not appropriate	Target achieved	Some progress	No progress	Insufficient information
<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 colonies found.					

Objective/target <i>(For new or revised targets please provide the new paragraph number and target text.)</i>			4.4 If feasible, restore 10 populations to suitable former sites by the year 2005.		
Country	Not appropriate	Target achieved	Some progress	No progress	Insufficient information
<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 action can be taken until the ecology of the species is understood. Precise habitat requirements in UK not known.					

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>5.1 etc</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>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>Output and timescale</p>		<p><i>Action by</i></p>
<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>		
<p>Next steps</p>	<p><i>Please outline future action/work including an indication of expected output, timescale and organisation responsible.</i></p>	
<p>Output and timescale</p>		<p><i>Action by</i></p>