



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 rufibarbis</i> - Red barbed ant
Lead Partner/Agency	English Nature/Aculeate Conservation Working Group (Contact Point - EN)
Steering Group/Other organisations	Yes English Nature, Aculeate Conservation Group
Work programme in existence?	Yes

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 populations at all known sites.		✓				
4.2 Enhance the population size at all known sites by 2005.		✓				
4.3 Restore populations to suitable sites to maintain five viable populations within the historic range by 2010.		✓				

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 Where appropriate, include the requirements of the species when preparing or revising prescriptions for agri-environment schemes.		✓				no	not started

5.2.1	Where possible, ensure that all occupied and nearby potential habitat is appropriately managed, in particular that nests are not shaded by over-hanging vegetation or subjected to excessive disturbance.		✓				no	ongoing
5.2.2	Ensure that the species is included in site management documents for all relevant SSSIs.		✓				yes	ongoing
5.3.1	Reintroduce the red barbed ant to a series of sites within the former range in order to ensure that there is a total of five viable populations by 2010.		✓				no	not started
5.4.1	Advise landowners and managers of the presence of the species and the importance of beneficial management for its conservation.		✓				yes	ongoing
5.5.1	Conduct targeted autecological research to inform habitat management.		✓				yes	ongoing
5.5.2	Develop a methodology for captive rearing.		✓				no	not started
5.5.3	Establish a regular monitoring programme for the species.		✓				yes	ongoing
5.5.4	Pass information gathered during survey and monitoring of this species to a central database so that it can be incorporated into national databases.						no	not started
5.5.5	Encourage research into the ecology and conservation of this species on an international level, and use the experience gained towards its conservation in the UK.		✓				no	not started
5.6.1	Promote opportunities for the appreciation of this species and the conservation issues associated with its habitat. This should be achieved through articles within appropriate journals, as well as by a publicity leaflet.		✓				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: (<i>~ no more than 100 words for each country/region</i>)							
Confirmed colonies at two sites with possible sightings at one other site. Site management not ideal. No specifically damaging activities identified.							

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.

More detailed autecological work is required. An experimental habitat management programme must be stated. Failure to gain approval for grazing at Chobham Common will probably delay recovery 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	David Sheppard, Mike Edwards	Dave Stone (species co-ordinator)
Organisation	English Nature/Aculeate Conservation Working Group	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 Maintain populations at all known sites.			
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):					
Number of colonies appears to be the same but management not ideal and difficult to influence.					

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 all known sites 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):					
No action can be taken until the ecology of the species is understood.					

Objective/target <i>(For new or revised targets please provide the new paragraph number and target text.)</i>		4.3 Restore populations to suitable sites to maintain five viable populations within the historic range by 2010.			
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): Habitat parameters not known. Suitable sites cannot be identified.					

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>	5.2.2 Ensure that the species is included in site management documents for all relevant SSSIs.	
Work plan/organisation(s) responsible <i>(Summary of work plan agreed by the steering group, broken down by year if possible.)</i>	Local team informed of presence and broad habitat requirements as known.	
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>	
Output and timescale	ongoing	Action by EN
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>	Failure to win Public Inquiry to allow grazing of Chobham Common. Appropriate management now unlikely to be implemented and future of colony in doubt. No resolution to problem available. Abandonment of site and translocation of colony may be only way forward.	
Action complete or ongoing? <i>(Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)</i>	Not started	
Next steps	<i>Please outline future action/work including an indication of expected output, timescale and organisation responsible.</i>	
Output and timescale	ACG to review action plan and instigate new initiatives.	Action by EN ACG

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>	5.4.1 Advise landowners and managers of the presence of the species and the importance of beneficial management for its conservation.	
Work plan/organisation(s) responsible <i>(Summary of work plan agreed by the steering group, broken down by year if possible.)</i>	Completed	
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</i>	

	<i>undertaken</i>	
<i>Output and timescale</i>	<i>Completed</i>	<i>Action by EN</i>
<i>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.)</i>		
<i>Action complete or ongoing? (Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)</i>		
<i>Next steps</i>	<i>Please outline future action/work including an indication of expected output, timescale and organisation responsible.</i>	
<i>Output and timescale</i>	Maintain liaison with landowners/managers.	<i>Action by EN</i>

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

<i>Published action/organisation(s) responsible (For new or revised actions please provide the new paragraph number and action text.)</i>	5.5.1 Conduct targeted autecological research to inform habitat management.	
<i>Work plan/organisation(s) responsible (Summary of work plan agreed by the steering group, broken down by year if possible.)</i>	Investigation of impact of grazing on ant colonies. Establishment of captive colonies.	
<i>Action/workplan undertaken? (Please state yes or no.)</i>	<i>Yes</i>	
<i>Description of work taken and organisation responsible.</i>	<i>Please provide details of progress to date, including information about outputs, deadlines, which organisations and where action is being undertaken</i>	
<i>Output and timescale</i>	ongoing	<i>Action by EN ACG</i>
<i>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.)</i>		
<i>Action complete or ongoing? (Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)</i>		
<i>Next steps</i>	<i>Please outline future action/work including an indication of expected output, timescale and organisation responsible.</i>	
<i>Output and timescale</i>	Project is revised annually and short-term objectives and targets revised accordingly.	<i>Action by EN, ACG</i>

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

<i>Published action/organisation(s) responsible</i> <i>(For new or revised actions please provide the new paragraph number and action text.)</i>	5.5.3 Establish a regular monitoring programme for the species.	
<i>Work plan/organisation(s) responsible</i> <i>(Summary of work plan agreed by the steering group, broken down by year if possible.)</i>	Monitor current known colonies.	
<i>Action/workplan undertaken?</i> <i>(Please state yes or no.)</i>	Yes	
<i>Description of work taken and organisation responsible.</i>	<i>Please provide details of progress to date, including information about outputs, deadlines, which organisations and where action is being undertaken</i>	
<i>Output and timescale</i>	<i>Ongoing.</i>	<i>Action by EN ACG</i>
<i>Constraints to action</i> <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>		
<i>Action complete or ongoing?</i> <i>(Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)</i>		
<i>Next steps</i>	<i>Please outline future action/work including an indication of expected output, timescale and organisation responsible.</i>	
<i>Output and timescale</i>	Results are reviewed annually and objectives and targets revised accordingly.	<i>Action by EN ACG</i>