

# *Lepus europaeus* (Brown Hare)

Full report outputted on the 31/07/2003 10:24:14

## 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	752608	Individuals	1997	Partial or sample survey	Harris et al (2000) Report to Lord Burns Hunting Inquiry
E	572250	Individuals	1991	Partial or sample survey	Harris et al (1995) JNCC report
NI					
S	187250	Individuals	1991	Partial or sample survey	Harris et al (1995) JNCC report
W	58000	Individuals	1991	Partial or sample survey	Harris et al (1995) JNCC report

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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:
<b>UK</b>	Stable	Partial or sample survey	Bag records/hunt data
<b>E</b>	Stable	Partial or sample survey	Bag records/hunt data
<b>NI</b>			
<b>S</b>	Not known	Partial or sample survey	Bag records
<b>W</b>	Declining (slow ing)	Partial or sample survey	Unpublished BTO report, 20002

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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.

<b>Status of knowledge:</b>	Know ledge sufficient to make some impact, but more research needed. ▼
<b>Notes:</b>	Recent studies funded by Defra have not yet been published.

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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.

<b>T1: Maintain existing populations.</b>				
<b>Target start date:</b>	<input type="text" value="1995"/>			
<b>Target end date:</b>	<input type="text" value="2002"/>			
<b>Target units:</b>	<input type="text" value="Individuals"/> ▼			
<b>Progress</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Accuracy</b>	<b>Monitoring</b>

<b>UK</b>	Target achieved	80000	75200	Partial or sample survey	Under active development
<b>E</b>	Target achieved	60000	60000	Partial or sample survey	Under active development
<b>NI</b>					
<b>S</b>	Unknown	20000			Under active development
<b>W</b>	No progress	60000			Under active development

**T2: Expand existing populations, doubling spring numbers in Britain by 2010.**

Target start date: 1995

Target end date: 2010

Target units: Individuals

	Progress	Target	Current	Accuracy	Monitoring
<b>UK</b>	No progress	16000	75000	Partial or sample survey	Under active development
<b>E</b>	No progress	12000	60000	Partial or sample survey	Under active development

<b>NI</b>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="Under active development"/>
<b>S</b>	<input type="text" value="No progress"/>	<input type="text" value="40000"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="Under active development"/>
<b>W</b>	<input type="text" value="No progress"/>	<input type="text" value="12000"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="Under active development"/>

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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 Conversion of grassland to arable.

2.2 Loss of habitat diversity in the agricultural landscape.

2.3 Changes in planting and cropping regimes, such as a move from hay to silage, and autumn planting of cereals.

## 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"/>	3	Habitat loss / degradation - agriculture   Intensive crop regimes
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Habitat loss / degradation - agriculture   Intensive grassland management
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Habitat loss / degradation - agriculture   Loss of mixed farming

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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:	Country:
<b>Constraint keyword:</b>	
Policy, legislation and designation   Agriculture (incl. Common Agricultural Policy)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UK <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> NI <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W

<b>Solution:</b>	<b>Solution type:</b>
Divert farming policies to agri-environment schemes	Legislation and policies
<b>Able to resolve:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Constraint 2:</b>	
<b>Constraint keyword:</b>	<b>Country:</b>
Funding and incentives   Agricultural schemes - not delivering wildlife gains	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UK <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> NI <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W
<b>Solution:</b>	<b>Solution type:</b>
Introduce Entry Level Stewardship scheme for England. Similar schemes needed for all countries.	Funding and incentive schemes
<b>Able to resolve:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Constraint 3:</b>	
<b>Constraint keyword:</b>	<b>Country:</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/> UK <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> NI <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> W

<b>Solution:</b>	<b>Solution type:</b>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Able to resolve:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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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"/>	Countryside Council for Wales
<input type="checkbox"/>	Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
<input type="checkbox"/>	English Nature
<input type="checkbox"/>	Game Conservancy Trust

<input type="checkbox"/>	Mammal Society
<input type="checkbox"/>	Scottish Natural Heritage
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wildlife Trusts

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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.

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## 9. Linkages to LBAPs

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

Generic advice to LBAPs on species/habitat needs or appropriate local actions produced/distributed.	<input type="button" value="▼"/>
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b) If you have been in contact with LBAPs how was it initiated?

By LBAP	<input type="button" value="▼"/>
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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.)

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

**Other (please specify):**

Helping with future monitoring of hare distribution and abundance

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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:

The adoption of the Arable Field Margin option within Countryside Stewardship and the Conservation Headland tiers within ESAs are helping farmers to diversify habitats on arable farms. The new flexible set-aside regimes, which allow non-rotational set-aside, also provide potential benefits to hares.

Country:

UK  E  NI  S  W

Keyword:

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

### Success 2:

Description:

Country:

Defra R&D project on integrating farm management practices with brown hare conservation has provided practical management recommendations (Ref BD1436 – “Integrating farm management practices with Brown hare conservation in pastoral landscapes” – S. Harris and N. Vaughan Bristol, University)

UK  E  NI  S  W

**Keyword:**

Research, survey and information | Impacts/ threats - improved understanding

**Success 3:**

**Description:**

**Country:**

UK  E  NI  S  W

**Keyword:**

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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:

<b>Contact point:</b>	<input type="text"/>	<b>email:</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Your name:</b>	<input type="text"/>		
<b>Date:</b>	<input type="text"/>		

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