



## 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>Thamnobryum angustifolium</i> - Derbyshire feather moss
Lead Partner/Agency	English Nature (Contact Point - EN)
Steering Group/Other organisations	No
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 Safeguard at its only known site.		T				Not considered to be under immanent threat at its sole known site.
4.2 Safeguard at any other sites at which it is found.		T				
4.3 Promote ecological research on this species to aid effective conservation management.		T				

### 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.)
5.3.1 Discourage illegal collecting of this species and ensure offenders are prosecuted.		T				No	ongoing
5.4.1 Ensure visitors to the NNR are aware of the presence and vulnerability of the species. Encourage local climbers and caving societies to use alternative rock faces and cave entrances.		T				Yes	ongoing
5.4.2 Ensure the relevant societies are aware of the ecological and legal implications of collecting this species.		T				No	ongoing
5.5.1 Investigate the ecological and habitat requirements of this species to help underpin management advice and identify potential threats to the survival of the population.		T				No	not started
5.5.2 Monitor extant population regularly and seek to identify any further, or undue, threats to this species.		T				Yes	ongoing
5.5.3 Survey similar habitats in the area to determine if the plant occurs elsewhere.		T				Yes	complete
5.5.4 Establish a number of <i>ex-situ</i> populations in culture.		T				No	not started, but a priority species once ex situ project underway.
5.5.5 Pass information gathered during survey and monitoring of this species to JNCC or BRC so that it can be incorporated in national databases.		T				No	ongoing
5.5.6 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 Data List.		T				No	probably not significant
5.6.1 Use the presence and ecology of this species to highlight the importance of rock habitats for UK biodiversity and the threats posed by human activities.		T				No	probably not a significant action; other species may be better flagships.

**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.

	<b>Not appropriate</b>	<b>Recovered</b>	<b>Signs of recovery</b>	<b>No change</b>	<b>Declining</b>	<b>Lost</b>	<b>Insufficient information</b>
<i>UK</i>							
<i>England</i>				T			
<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 species is moderately inaccessible and not easy to find thus little danger from collecting. Threat comes from changes in water quantity & quality, and recreational pressures, but much has been done to minimise the latter. Current info suggests there is no change in its status.

**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.

This species, since it is known from a single rock, is vulnerable to loss. However, conditions remain stable, as they probably have been for a considerable length of time, and there is no reason to be overly concerned. Water flow is an issue, but following a dry 1997 when water dried up for a long period, lasting damage was not apparent with moribund shoots producing new growth once flow restored. Water quality is monitored and no concerns here. Recreation is an issue, with cavers causing modification of the water flow, but much has been done to avert this threat. Persons lighting fires in the cave also potential issue, but a notice is now in place informing people of a rare plant and need to take care. Site is regularly monitored by Ben Le Bas (EN). Press attention recently done much to alert potential users of site the significance of the moss but at the same time care taken not to disclose location to all & sundry. Ex situ collection is a priority for this species, but techniques need to be in place before material taken, and this is planned in a joint EN/Kew project in next 1-3 years.

**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.

<b>Contact details</b>	<b>Lead Partner</b>	<b>Contact Point</b>
<b>Name</b>	Ron Porley	Dave Stone (species co-ordinator)
<b>Organisation</b>	English Nature	English Nature
<b>Assessment date (dd/mm/yy)</b>	21 Sept 1999	29 September 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

**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 Safeguard at its only known site.		
Country	Not appropriate	Target achieved	Some progress	No progress	Insufficient information
UK					
England		T			
Northern Ireland	X				
Scotland	X				
Wales	X				
Text description of target progress (separate for each country/region):  Tentatively tick placed in target achieved; species is in SSSI/NNR and site manager well aware of the plant, it is monitored and the hydrological regime is also monitored. Because of this, the population relatively well safeguarded.					

Objective/target <i>(For new or revised targets please provide the new paragraph number and target text.)</i>			4.2 Safeguard at any other sites at which it is found.		
Country	Not appropriate	Target achieved	Some progress	No progress	Insufficient information
UK					
England					T
Northern Ireland	X				
Scotland	X				
Wales	X				
Text description of target progress (separate for each country/region):  The case for a more systematic intensive survey is not convincing; it has been searched for within the same gorge, and other similar gorges. The precise conditions are quite rare in the Peaks, and thus likelihood of discovering further populations is small.					

<b>Objective/target</b> <i>(For new or revised targets please provide the new paragraph number and target text.)</i>		<b>4.3</b> Promote ecological research on this species to aid effective conservation management.			
<b>Country</b>	<b>Not appropriate</b>	<b>Target achieved</b>	<b>Some progress</b>	<b>No progress</b>	<b>Insufficient information</b>
<i>UK</i>					
<i>England</i>				T	
<i>Northern Ireland</i>	X				
<i>Scotland</i>	X				
<i>Wales</i>	X				
Text description of target progress (separate for each country/region):  Best chance of research on this species is on ex situ material, and this not possible yet. Once it is in ex situ it may respond to bulking up providing sufficient material for ecological work without compromising the wild population. In the meantime all literature on the species could be collated.					

**Table B: Proposed actions (Copiable table)**

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

<b>Published action/organisation(s) responsible</b> <i>(For new or revised actions please provide the new paragraph number and action text.)</i>	5.3.1 Discourage illegal collecting and ensure offenders prosecuted	
<b>Work plan/organisation(s) responsible</b> <i>(Summary of work plan agreed by the steering group, broken down by year if possible.)</i>	NNR Mgt Plan; Site Mgt Statement	
<b>Action/workplan undertaken?</b> <i>(Please state yes or no.)</i>	Yes	
<b>Description of work taken and organisation responsible</b>	Site manager advises accordingly and there is no indication of illegal collecting being a threat to this species. Provides early warning of possible threats; work ongoing.	
<b>Output and timescale</b>	Provides early warning of possible threats; work ongoing.	Action by EN
<b>Constraints to action</b> <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>	None	
<b>Action complete or ongoing?</b> <i>(Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)</i>	Ongoing	
<b>Next steps</b>	Continue vigilance	
<b>Output and timescale</b>		Action by EN

<b>Published action/organisation(s) responsible</b> <i>(For new or revised actions please provide the new paragraph number and action text.)</i>	5. 4.1 Ensure visitors, cavers & climbers aware of species....	
<b>Work plan/organisation(s) responsible</b> <i>(Summary of work plan agreed by the steering group, broken down by year if possible.)</i>	Site Manager EN has this in place	
<b>Action/workplan undertaken?</b> <i>(Please state yes or no.)</i>	Yes	
<b>Description of work taken and organisation responsible.</b>	Site manager has gone to considerable lengths to minimise this threat in talking to interested groups and publicity.	
<b>Output and timescale</b>	Population safeguarded	Action by EN

<b>Constraints to action</b> <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>	None	
<b>Action complete or ongoing?</b> <i>(Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)</i>	Ongoing	
<b>Next steps</b>	Site manager will continue level of input	
<b>Output and timescale</b>		Action by EN

<b>Published action/organisation(s) responsible</b> <i>(For new or revised actions please provide the new paragraph number and action text.)</i>	5.5.2 Monitor population.....	
<b>Work plan/organisation(s) responsible</b> <i>(Summary of work plan agreed by the steering group, broken down by year if possible.)</i>	Incorporated in NNR Mgt Plan	
<b>Action/workplan undertaken?</b> <i>(Please state yes or no.)</i>	Yes	
<b>Description of work taken and organisation responsible.</b>	Site manager keeps population under surveillance regularly.	
<b>Output and timescale</b>		Action by EN
<b>Constraints to action</b> <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>	None	
<b>Action complete or ongoing?</b> <i>(Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)</i>	Ongoing	
<b>Next steps</b>	Collate monitoring data and review future action.	
<b>Output and timescale</b>		Action by EN

<b>Published action/organisation(s) responsible</b> <i>(For new or revised actions please provide the new paragraph number and action text.)</i>	5.5.3 Survey similar habitats in the area for other populations	
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<b>Work plan/organisation(s) responsible</b> <i>(Summary of work plan agreed by the steering group, broken down by year if possible.)</i>	Independent bryologists and EN/JNCC	
<b>Action/workplan undertaken?</b> <i>(Please state yes or no.)</i>	No	
<b>Description of work taken and organisation responsible.</b>	This plant has been searched for in same gorge and the few similar sites in the Peaks with no success, and priority should now be directed at ensuring the protection of extant population.	
<b>Output and timescale</b>		Action by EN/JNCC
<b>Constraints to action</b> <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>		
<b>Action complete or ongoing?</b> <i>(Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)</i>		
<b>Next steps</b>	No more survey work is planned; effort should be concentrated on the sole known site.	
<b>Output and timescale</b>		Action by

<b>Published action/organisation(s) responsible</b> <i>(For new or revised actions please provide the new paragraph number and action text.)</i>	5.5.4 Establish a number of <i>ex-situ</i> populations in culture.	
<b>Work plan/organisation(s) responsible</b> <i>(Summary of work plan agreed by the steering group, broken down by year if possible.)</i>	This is priority species in EN/Kew ex situ bryophyte project	
<b>Action/workplan undertaken?</b> <i>(Please state yes or no.)</i>	Yes	
<b>Description of work taken and organisation responsible.</b>	EN/Kew project on target to begin in 2000-2003 which will investigate techniques and protocols for ex situ conservation of bryophytes.	
<b>Output and timescale</b>		Action by EN/Kew/ CCW/SN H
<b>Constraints to action</b> <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</i>		

<i>should also be detailed.)</i>		
<b>Action complete or ongoing?</b> <i>(Please state yes, not started, or ongoing.)</i>		
<b>Next steps</b>	ex situ bryophyte project MoA with Kew is being finalised and will begin early 2000.	
<b>Output and timescale</b>		<i>Action by</i>