

# London Biodiversity Action Plan – Review of Priority Species

## 1. Background

Those familiar with the paper *London Biodiversity Action Plan – Species of Conservation Concern and Priority Species for action* (GLA 2005), will be aware of the existing list of London BAP priority species, which are subject to London Plan policy 3D.12 (*Biodiversity and nature conservation*). Policy 3D.12 is to be revised as part of the first review of the London Plan (*Further Alterations to the London Plan*) in 2008. However there is presently no intention to change the policy affording protection through the planning system to priority species identified in the London and Borough Biodiversity Action Plans.

The UK Biodiversity Action Plan was reviewed in 2007, including a complete revision of the national list of priority habitats and species. As the primary criterion for identifying London BAP priority species selects all UK BAP priority species with native or long-established naturalised populations in Greater London, the UK BAP review clearly necessitates a revision of the London BAP priority species.

On-going ecological survey has re-discovered and recorded several new species resident in Greater London since 2005. Also the regional biological records centre (Greenspace Information for Greater London - GIGL) has continued to develop in the interim, enabling much improved cross-referencing of related databases. This review of our BAP Priority Species has therefore taken the opportunity to also consider these new findings.

Whilst the presence of an established resident population cannot generally be assumed from a single species record, so long as the latter is both relatively recent and plausible ecologically this paper has accepted this to be so - pending new information to the contrary. An expert verification procedure is currently under development within GIGL, which may help to add clarity in this regard. Of course any list of this kind must essentially be viewed as a working document.

Overall the UK BAP review has added a great many new priority species to the national list, following lengthy consultation and a rigorous analysis of all UK native species' threatened status. The review has also de-classified a number of former priority species owing to more positive estimations of their status. This review of London BAP priority species has generally resisted removing species from the original list although updated opinion concerning several local extinctions has in fact made this appropriate (these are listed at the end of the table below).

The reference lists of Species of Conservation Concern in London (which include the priority species) have also been updated and are viewable as downloads on the London Biodiversity Partnership website. These remain as four taxonomically grouped spreadsheets, titled **Plants**, **Fungi**, **Vertebrates** and **Invertebrates**.

## 2. London BAP Priority Species

The new list of London BAP Priority Species is as follows;

<b>LONDON BAP PRIORITY SPECIES</b>		UK BAP Priority	UK SCC	UK Red Data List	UK Scarce	London SAP current
<b>Vascular plants</b>						
Annual knawel	<i>Scleranthus annuus</i>	●		●		
Autumn squill	<i>Scilla autumnalis</i>				●	
Basil thyme	<i>Clinopodium acinos</i>	●		●		
Black poplar	<i>Populus nigra betulifolia</i>					●
Borrer's saltmarsh-grass	<i>Puccinellia fasciculata</i>	●		●		
Chalk eyebright	<i>Euphrasia pseudokernerii</i>	●		●	●	
Chamomile	<i>Chamaemelum nobile</i>	●	●	●		
Copse-bindweed	<i>Fallopia dumetorum</i>	●		●	●	
Creeping marshwort	<i>Apium repens</i>	●		●		
Cut-grass	<i>Leersia oryzoides</i>	●		●		
Divided sedge	<i>Carex divisa</i>	●		●		
Dodder	<i>Cuscuta epithimum</i>			●		
Dwarf milkwort	<i>Polygala amarella</i>			●		
Early gentian	<i>Gentianella anglica</i>	●			●	
Fine-leaved sandwort	<i>Minuartia hybrida</i>	●		●		
Fly orchid	<i>Ophrys insectifera</i>	●		●		
Greater yellow-rattle	<i>Rhinanthus angustifolius</i>		●	●		
Green-flowered helleborine	<i>Epipactis phyllanthes</i>				●	
Juniper	<i>Juniperus communis</i>	●				
Lesser calamint	<i>Clinopodium calamintha</i>			●	●	
Man orchid	<i>Aceras anthropophorum</i>	●		●	●	
Marsh sow-thistle	<i>Sonchus palustris</i>				●	
Mistletoe	<i>Viscum album</i>					●
Mudwort	<i>Limosella aquatica</i>				●	
Narrow-fruited cornsalad	<i>Valerianella dentata</i>		●	●		
Narrow-leaved bitter-cress	<i>Cardamine impatiens</i>			●		
Narrow-leaved water-dropwort	<i>Oenanthe silaifolia</i>			●	●	
Pennyroyal	<i>Mentha pulegium</i>	●		●		
River water-dropwort	<i>Oenanthe fluviatilis</i>		●			
Round-leaved wintergreen	<i>Pyrola rotundifolium</i>			●	●	
Slender bedstraw	<i>Galium pumilum</i>	●		●	●	
Tower mustard	<i>Arabis glabra</i>	●		●		●
Wall bedstraw	<i>Galium parisiense</i>			●	●	
White helleborine	<i>Cephalanthera damasonium</i>	●		●		
Yellow bird's-nest	<i>Monotropa hypopitys</i>	●		●	●	

<b>Lower plants</b>					
Veilwort (a liverwort)	<i>Pallavicinia lyellii</i>	●		●	
<b>Fungi</b>					
Bear cockleshell	<i>Lentinellus ursinus</i>		●	●	
Crimson bolete	<i>Rubinoboletus rubinus</i>			●	
Golden-gilled bolete	<i>Phylloporus rhodoxanthus</i>	●		●	
Hedgehog fungus	<i>Hericium erinaceum</i>	●		●	
Nail fungus	<i>Poronia punctata</i>	●		●	
Oak polypore	<i>Piptoporus quercinus</i>	●		●	
Olive earthtongue	<i>Microglossum olivaceum</i>	●		●	
Pink waxcap	<i>Hygrocybe calyptriformis</i>	●		●	
Tiered tooth	<i>Hericium cirrhatum</i>			●	
tooth fungi (grouped)	<i>Hydnum, Phellodon spp.</i>	●		●	
Zoned rosette	<i>Podoscypha multizonata</i>			●	
<b>Invertebrates</b>					
Brown hairstreak (butterfly)	<i>Thecla betulae</i>	●			●
Chalkhill blue (butterfly)	<i>Lysandra coridon</i>		●		
Dark green fritillary (butterfly)	<i>Argynnis aglaja</i>		●		
Dingy skipper (butterfly)	<i>Erynnis tages</i>	●			
Grayling (butterfly)	<i>Hipparchia semele</i>	●			
Grizzled skipper (butterfly)	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>	●			
Heath fritillary (butterfly)	<i>Melicta athalia</i>	●		●	
Small blue (butterfly)	<i>Cupido minimus</i>	●	●		
Small heath (butterfly)	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	●			
Wall (butterfly)	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	●			
White admiral (butterfly)	<i>Ladoga camilla</i>	●			
White-letter hairstreak (butterfly)	<i>Strymonidia w-album</i>	●			●
August thorn (moth)	<i>Ennomos quercinaria</i>	●			
Autumnal rustic (moth)	<i>Eugnorisma glareosa</i>	●			
Balsam carpet (moth)	<i>Xanthorhoe biriviata</i>			●	
Beaded chestnut (moth)	<i>Agrochola lychnidis</i>	●			
Blood-vein (moth)	<i>Timandra comae</i>	●			
Brindled beauty (moth)	<i>Lycia hirtaria</i>	●			
Broom moth	<i>Melanchra pisi</i>	●			
Broom-tip (moth)	<i>Chesius rufata</i>	●			
Brown-spot pinion (moth)	<i>Agrochola litura</i>	●			
Buff ermine (moth)	<i>Spilosoma luteum</i>	●			
Centre-barred sallow (moth)	<i>Atethmia centrago</i>	●			
Cinnabar (moth)	<i>Tyria jacobaeae</i>	●			
Crescent (moth)	<i>Celaena leucostigma</i>	●			
Dark spinach (moth)	<i>Pelurga comitata</i>	●			
Dark-barred twin-spot carpet (moth)	<i>Xanthorhoe ferrugata</i>	●			
Deep-brown dart (moth)	<i>Aporophyla lutulenta</i>	●			
Dot moth	<i>Melanchra persicariae</i>	●			
Double dart (moth)	<i>Graphiphora augur</i>	●			
Double line (moth)	<i>Mythimna turca</i>				●
Dusky brocade (moth)	<i>Apamea remissa</i>	●			
Dusky thorn (moth)	<i>Ennomos fuscantaria</i>	●			

Dusky-lemon sallow (moth)	<i>Xanthia gilvago</i>	●				
Ear moth	<i>Amphipoea oclea</i>	●				
Feathered gothic (moth)	<i>Tholera decimalis</i>	●				
Figure-of-eight (moth)	<i>Diloba caerlecephala</i>	●				
Flounced chestnut (moth)	<i>Agrochola helvola</i>	●				
Forester (moth)	<i>Adscita stances</i>	●			●	
Galium carpet (moth)	<i>Epirrhoe galiata</i>	●				
Garden dart (moth)	<i>Euxoa nigricans</i>	●				
Garden tiger (moth)	<i>Arctia caja</i>	●				
Ghost moth	<i>Hepialus humuli</i>	●				
Goat moth	<i>Cossus cossus</i>	●	●		●	
Grass rivulet (moth)	<i>Perizoma albulata</i>	●				
Green-brindled crescent (moth)	<i>Allophytes oxyacanthae</i>	●				
Grey dagger (moth)	<i>Acronicta psi</i>	●				
Heath rustic (moth)	<i>Xestia agathina</i>	●				
Hedge rustic (moth)	<i>Tholera cespitis</i>	●				
Knot grass (moth)	<i>Acronicta rumicis</i>	●				
Lackey (moth)	<i>Malacosoma neustria</i>	●				
Large nutmeg (moth)	<i>Apamea anceps</i>	●				
Latticed heath (moth)	<i>Chiasmia clathrata</i>	●				
Minor shoulder-knot (moth)	<i>Brachylomia viminalis</i>	●				
Mottled rustic (moth)	<i>Caradrina morpheus</i>	●				
Mouse moth	<i>Amphipyra tragopoginis</i>	●				
Mullein wave (moth)	<i>Scopula marginepunctata</i>	●				
Oak hook-tip (moth)	<i>Drepana binaria</i>	●				
Oak lutestring (moth)	<i>Cymatophorima diluta</i>	●				
Powdered quaker (moth)	<i>Orthosia gracilis</i>	●				
Pretty chalk carpet (moth)	<i>Melanthia procellata</i>	●				
Rosy minor (moth)	<i>Mesoligia literosa</i>	●				
Rosy rustic (moth)	<i>Hydraecia micacea</i>	●				
Rustic (moth)	<i>Hoplodrina blanda</i>	●				
Sallow (moth)	<i>Xanthia icteritia</i>	●				
September thorn (moth)	<i>Ennomos erosaria</i>	●				
Shaded broad-bar (moth)	<i>Scotopteryx chenopodiata</i>	●				
Shoulder-striped wainscot	<i>Mythimna comma</i>	●				
Small emerald (moth)	<i>Hemistola chrysoprasaria</i>	●				
Small phoenix (moth)	<i>Ecliptopera silaceata</i>	●				
Small square-spot (moth)	<i>Diarsia rubi</i>	●				
Spinach (moth)	<i>Eulithis mellinata</i>	●				
Sprawler (moth)	<i>Asteroscopus sphinx</i>	●				
Star-wort (moth)	<i>Cucullia asteris</i>		●		●	
Streak (moth)	<i>Chesias legatella</i>	●				
V-moth	<i>Macaria wauaria</i>	●				
White ermine (moth)	<i>Spilosoma lubricipeda</i>	●				
Horehound long-horn (micromoth)	<i>Nemophora fasciella</i>	●			●	
Scarce emerald damselfly	<i>Lestes dryas</i>		●	●		
a cardinal click beetle	<i>Ampedus cardinalis</i>		●	●		
a false click beetle	<i>Eucnemis capucina</i>	●		●		

a wood-boring weevil	<i>Dryophthorus corticalis</i>	●		●		
a click beetle	<i>Elater ferrugineus</i>	●		●		
a ground beetle	<i>Calosoma inquisitor</i>	●			●	
Poplar leaf-rolling weevil	<i>Byctiscus populi</i>	●		●		
Violet oil-beetle	<i>Meloe violaceus</i>	●			●	
Streaked bombardier beetle	<i>Brachinus sclopeta</i>	●		●		
Saltmarsh shortspur (beetle)	<i>Anisodactylus poeciloides</i>	●		●		
Stag beetle	<i>Lucanus cervus</i>	●			●	●
Brown-banded carder bee	<i>Bombus humilis</i>	●				●
Long-horned mining bee	<i>Eucera longicornis</i>	●			●	
Sea-aster Colletes (bee)	<i>Colletes halophilus</i>	●			●	
Shrill carder bee	<i>Bombus sylvarum</i>	●			●	
Five-banded tailed digger wasp	<i>Cerceris quinquefasciata</i>	●		●		
Black-backed meadow ant	<i>Formica pratensis</i>	●		●		
Southern wood-ant	<i>Formica rufa</i>	●				
Southern yellow splinter (a crane fly)	<i>Lipsothrix nervosa</i>	●				
Hornet robber-fly	<i>Asilus crabroniformis</i>	●			●	
Phoenix (a picture-winged) fly	<i>Dorycera graminum</i>	●		●		
Duffey's bell-head spider	<i>Baryphyma duffeyi</i>	●		●		
Serrated tongue-spider	<i>Centromerus serratus</i>	●			●	
a spider	<i>Ero aphana</i>		●	●		
Depressed river mussel	<i>Pseudanodonta complanata</i>	●			●	
Desmoulin's whorl-snail	<i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i>	●			●	
German hairy snail	<i>Perforatella rubiginosa</i>			●		
Little whirlpool ram's-horn snail	<i>Anisus vorticulus</i>	●		●		
Swollen spire snail	<i>Pseudamnicola confusa</i>	●	●	●		
Thames/two-lipped door snail	<i>Laciniaria biplicata</i>			●		
<b>Birds</b>				Red	Amber	
Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellata</i>	●		●		
Black redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochrurus</i>		●		●	●
Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	●		●		
Corn bunting	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>	●		●		
Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	●			●	
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	●			●	
Grasshopper warbler	<i>Locustella naevia</i>	●	●	●		
Grey partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>	●		●		
Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>	●			●	
Herring gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	●			●	
House sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	●		●		●
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	●			●	
Lesser redpoll	<i>Carduelis flammea</i>	●			●	
Lesser spotted woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>	●		●		
Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	●		●		
Marsh tit	<i>Parus palustris</i>	●	●	●		
Marsh warbler	<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>	●		●		
Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>		●		●	●
Reed bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	●		●		
Sand martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>		●		●	●

Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	●		●		
Song thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	●		●		
Spotted flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	●		●		
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	●		●		
Tree pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	●		●		
Tree sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	●		●		
Turtle dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	●		●		
Wood warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>	●			●	
Yellow wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	●			●	
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	●	●	●		
<b>Reptiles, Amphibians, Mammals &amp; Fish</b>						
Adder	<i>Vipera berus</i>	●	●			●
Common lizard	<i>Lacerta vivipara</i>	●				●
Common toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>	●				
Grass snake	<i>Natrix natrix</i>	●	●			●
Slow-worm	<i>Anguis fragilis</i>	●	●			●
Great crested newt	<i>Triturus cristatus</i>	●				
Brown hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	●				
Brown long-eared bat	<i>Plecotus auritus</i>	●	●			●
Common dormouse	<i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>	●				
Common pipistrelle (bat)	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	●				●
Daubenton's bat	<i>Myotis daubentoni</i>		●			●
Harvest mouse	<i>Micromys minutus</i>	●				
Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>	●				
Leisler's bat	<i>Nyctalus leisleri</i>		●		●	●
Nathusius' pipistrelle (bat)	<i>Pipistrellus nathusii</i>		●	●		●
Natterer's bat	<i>Myotis nattereri</i>		●			●
Noctule (bat)	<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	●	●			●
Otter	<i>Lutra lutra</i>	●				
Serotine (bat)	<i>Eptesicus serotinus</i>		●		●	●
Soprano pipistrelle (bat)	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	●				●
Water vole	<i>Arvicola terrestris</i>	●				●
Whiskered & Brandt's bats	<i>Myotis mystacinus, M.brandtii</i>		●			●
Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>	●				
European eel	<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>	●				
River lamprey (fish)	<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>	●				
Sea lamprey (fish)	<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>	●				
Smelt (fish)	<i>Osmerus eperlanus</i>	●	●			
Sea/Brown trout	<i>Salmo trutta</i>	●				
Twaite shad (fish)	<i>Allosa phallax</i>	●				
<b>Species removed from the London BAP Priority list;</b>						
Buttoned snout (moth)	<i>Hypena rostralis</i>	●			●	
Four-spotted (moth)	<i>Tyta luctuosa</i>	●		●		e.
Pale shining brown (moth)	<i>Polia bombycina</i>	●				e.
Toadflax brocade (moth)	<i>Calophasia lunula</i>	●		●		
Grey heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>					●

● = reviewed status e. = extinct

### 3. References

1. Biodiversity Reporting and Information Group (July 2007), *Report on the Species & Habitat Review* (Report to the UK Biodiversity Partnership)
2. Cheffings CM & Farrell L (Eds.), 2005. *The Vascular Plant Red Data List for Great Britain*. JNCC
3. Greater London Authority, 2005. *London Biodiversity Action Plan – Species of Conservation Concern and Priority Species for action*. London Biodiversity Partnership
4. Plant C W, 1993. *Larger Moths of the London Area*. LNHS
5. RSPB. *The Population Status of Birds in the UK. Birds of conservation concern: 2002-2007*
6. RSPB. *State of the UK's Birds 2006*
7. Shirt D B (Ed.), 1987. *Red Data Books 2: Insects*.
8. UK BAP website <http://www.ukbap.org.uk/>
9. London BAP website <http://www.lbp.org.uk/>