

Countdown 2010 Biodiversity Action Fund – Projects Awarded 2006 – 2008

National Projects

Project Ref.	Project	Organisation
CBAF/06/036	Environments for All	BTCV
The EBS describes the importance of “Involving Everybody” and states a vision of “A society in which people recognise, value and take action to maintain and enhance biodiversity as part of their everyday lives”. This project aims to generate large scale public involvement in biodiversity conservation, across all English regions, and on all kinds of sites from NNR’s and SSSI’s to back gardens. We will break out of the traditional comfort zones of the environmental sector to engage with disadvantaged and marginalised communities. We will introduce thousands of young people to biodiversity conservation, inline with EBS goals.		
CBAF/06/068	Cool Seas Roadshow	Marine Conservation Society
The Cool Seas Roadshow is an exciting and innovative project that will help maintain the momentum the MCS has generated in coordinating and implementing these SAPs and will raise awareness about biodiversity in the UK’s seas and conservation needs of BAP priority marine species amongst school pupils and local coastal communities.		
CBAF/06/075	Sealife Diversity, the Marlin Learning Zone	The Marine Biological Association of the UK
Sealife Diversity will be a project to support biodiversity information, biodiversity recording and public participation. It will have strong online and practical elements which will help inform the public, support partnerships and develop ecosystem-based policies. Sealife Diversity will provide a central Web resource on sealife biodiversity. Sealife Diversity will help a significant schools project partly funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund to survey local shores for BAP species and raise awareness amongst young people and communities. Using MarLIN’s experience and established channels of communication, Sealife Diversity offers the opportunity to build on significant work and to deliver a much-needed sealife biodiversity information source. It will maintain and develop an existing national partnership network and engage schools and communities through the delivery of a programme of events with a clear biodiversity message.		
CBAF/06/113	Rebuilding Biodiversity	Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
The Rebuilding Biodiversity project aims to facilitate the work of the Wildlife Trusts in England to deliver against four strategic objectives: To stand up for wildlife at sea, to stand up for wildlife on land, to create and enhance wildlife havens and to inspire people about the natural world.		
CBAF/06/123	Rural/urban dead wood beetles and their habitats	People’s Trust for Endangered Species
Dead wood habitats are of vital importance to a huge and diverse range of species in England; species including many breeding bats and birds, numerous species of lichens and mosses and thousands of species of fungi and saproxylic invertebrates. This project aims to raise awareness of these species and their habitats, both in urban and rural areas. Whilst a single overall project, there are two distinct components constructed around each of the BAP species that we look after. These two components are called the Great Stag Hunt and the Traditional Orchard Survey.		

North East Region

Project Ref.	Project	Organisation
CBAF/06/051	English Black Grouse Recovery Project *	The Game Conservancy Trust
We are seeking funding for an extension of the English Black Grouse Recovery Project to deliver the black grouse Biodiversity Action Plan in northern England. The continuation of employment of a dedicated project officer will deliver a targeted advisory programme to landowners, managers and grant giving bodies on the fringe of the range to enhance conditions for black grouse to promote range expansion. We propose a translocation project, to stimulate range expansion as research has suggested expansion targets may be		

unachievable within the SAP timeframe due to the limited dispersive capacity of males in northern England.		
CBAF/06/110	Coalfields & Lowlands Restoration Project	Durham Wildlife Trust
<p>The project aims to conserve, restore and enhance grazed lowland habitat - a mosaic of heath and acid/neutral grassland - in appropriate areas of the Durham Coal Measures and the Tees Lowlands. These aims will be achieved through a combination of capital works on partner-owned sites and a review of Local Sites (sites which meet a locally defined standard for wildlife importance). Capital works will include infrastructure improvements to facilitate grazing management, heathland or grassland re-creation on improved grassland or plantation sites, and improved public access and interpretation. The work to review Local Sites will involve surveying, writing management prescriptions and, thereafter, encouraging landowners to work with us and RDS staff at DEFRA to enter appropriate Environmental Stewardship schemes.</p>		
CBAF/06/131	Tweed Invasives Project	TWEED Forum
<p>The Tweed Invasives project is a pioneering project that aims to implement the long-term, sustainable control of invasive species within the Tweed Catchment and the successful establishment of native flora. The project will also provide advice to farmers, landowners, residents and those with fishing interests regarding the best means of control and the appropriate types of native replanting. Practical support will also be provided in the form of training courses, free herbicides, and provision of plants for replanting. The project not only sets out a framework for the long-term control of invasives but also the re-establishment of our native river banks helping to maintain and/or improve riparian and riverine habitats.</p>		

North West Region

Project Ref.	Project	Organisation
CBAF/06/007	Completing Cumbria (wildlife sites) Project	Cumbria Wildlife Trust
<p>The overall aim of the project is to halt the loss of, and improve the biodiversity resource of Cumbria through the Wildlife Sites System. There are currently over 700 registered wildlife sites in Cumbria covering an area of 15772ha. Each site represents the most important areas for wildlife in Cumbria to endure long term protection and conservation. The project will champion wildlife sites in the county by managing and disseminating the data resource and using it to inform planning control processes and future conservation efforts. The project will survey Wildlife Sites where data is not complete or is out of date. The project will finalise a complete Wildlife Sites dossier for every district in Cumbria.</p>		
CBAF/06/031	Mossland Restoration Programme	Lancashire Wildlife Trust
<p>This project forms part of a larger mossland rescue effort by the Trust which seeks to bring mossland habitat and surrounding land into appropriate and sustainable management. The project will restore and enhance five sites which represent 60% of mossland habitat in the area. The project will help restore optimum water levels within the sites and move all sites from declining to recovering. Community involvement and re-education will be major themes of the project and advice will be given to those interested in becoming involved in monitoring and onsite conservation projects.</p>		
CBAF/06/098	Bringing Back the Natterjack Project	The Herpetological Conservation Trust
<p>The proposed project will involve conservation work on a truly landscape scale. The natterjack toad is the project flagship species but a wide range of other fauna and flora will also benefit. Natterjacks have suffered massive declines but fortunately, extensive areas of potential habitat still exist between most surviving populations and, with appropriate management, much of the coastal region could again support substantial natterjack metapopulations.</p>		
CBAF/06/140	Cumbria Small Steps	The National Trust - Cumbria
<p>The National Trust owns and manages a wide variety and extent of BAP habitats across Cumbria, ranging from upland heath to whole river catchments, extensive native woodland to hay meadows and sand dunes. These sites are habitat for many priority species and species with statements. The project has a number of aims 1) To carry out a range of work on a number of identified Trust properties to enhance the ecological condition of both habitats and SSSIs/ NNRs. 2) To increase our understanding of many of the habitats and species through appropriate surveys that will also enable improved long term management. 3) To enhance public understanding of and support for biodiversity through interpretation and events. 4) To engage more people with biodiversity by active involvement through volunteering opportunities.</p>		

Yorkshire and Humber region

Project Ref.	Project	Organisation
CBAF/06/006	Coalfield Heathland Project	Sheffield Wildlife Trust
Lowland heathland in the Yorkshire Coalmeasures Natural Area forms a mosaic of habitats; this diversity means the area supports a wide variety and diversity of species. The objective of this project is to: 1) Reconnect a variety of fragmented semi-natural habitats by securing the sustainable regeneration of lowland heathland in the region, which will act as 'stepping stones' to facilitate the movement of species between sites. 2) Reconnect people with their natural heritage and to enable the heathlands to play a key role in the economic educational and recreational wellbeing of those living and working in the region.		
CBAF/06/039	Pennine Dales Meadows Project	Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust
The project aims to enhance and restore species-rich meadows in the North Pennines AONB and the Yorkshire Dales National Park. Degraded meadows will be enhanced/restored by over sowing them with sustainably harvested seed from nearby species-rich donor sites and by ensuring appropriate subsequent meadow management. The project will provide the infrastructure needed to enable land managers to conserve and enhance these internationally important. An additional aim of the project is to increase public awareness, enjoyment and understanding of these nationally important habitats.		
CBAF/06/040	Yorkshire Dales Woodland Restoration Project	Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust
The project aims to enhance and restore species-rich meadows in the North Pennines AONB and the Yorkshire Dales National Park. Degraded meadows will be enhanced/restored by over sowing them with sustainably harvested seed from nearby species-rich donor sites and by ensuring appropriate subsequent meadow management. The project will provide the infrastructure needed to enable land managers to conserve and enhance these internationally important. An additional aim of the project is to increase public awareness, enjoyment and understanding of these nationally important habitats.		

West Midlands Region

Project Ref.	Project	Organisation
CBAF/06/109	Enhancing Biodiversity in NE Staffordshire	Staffordshire Wildlife Trust
The project will work with landowners in three key target areas within northeast Staffordshire. The areas represent the largest concentration of semi-natural grassland in the County. The main aim will be to bring as many landowners as possible into agri-environment schemes, ideally into Higher Level Scheme. Additional aims are to identify previously undiscovered areas of semi-natural grassland, around the target areas and within the BEA. Project officers will work with owners to provide advice and support, promoting a whole farm approach where possible. Key Biodiversity Action Plan targets for Lowland hay meadows, Lowland Calcareous grassland, Lowland acidic grassland and a number of other habitats and species will benefit.		
CBAF/06/114	Native Woodland Restoration in Herefordshire	River Wye Preservation Trust
Herefordshire's Ancient Woodland Inventory is over 20 years old, was 'provisional' at the time. It is now in urgent need of updating with new historical data, modern methods and new surveys. This project will produce information of what these woods were like in order to effectively restore and enhance them. This woodland data will be collated from a variety of sources including the 1948 to 1953 Forestry Commission census field survey sheets which details the species composition of canopy & understorey with age classes for all private & FC woodlands in the county. Reliable, quantitative, and detailed data for all Herefordshire's woodland will be available to all in accessible formats for the first time and will allow accurate quantitative and spatial analyses of woods, woodpasture, parks and tree clusters, their rate of change and forward projections.		

East Midlands Region

Project Ref.	Project	Organisation
CBAF/06/002	Restoring lowland heath land in Charnwood forest	Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust
This project will restore heathland habitat in 2 key areas of the Charnwood Forest through a 2 year programme of scrub removal, bracken control and gorse and bramble management combined with the implementation of sensitive conservation grazing using traditional hardy cattle breeds. In addition the project will restore, enhance and extend suitable habitat for 4 key BAP bird species (Linnet, Nightjar, Skylark and Woodlark) and 1 key National Forest BAP species (Adder). The project will 'knit together' key		

heathland areas to create an enhanced resource capable of supporting existing species.		
CBAF/06/003	Value In Meadows	Derbyshire Wildlife Trust
A product of agricultural management, semi-natural grasslands are wildlife havens, attractive landscape features and an important part of our rural and industrial heritage. The project aims to redress the current dramatic rate of decline in semi-natural grassland resource. The objectives of the project are to manage restore and create semi natural grasslands by 1) identifying the best examples if ancient pasture and meadow 2) securing their long term future by providing support and advice to landowners.3) Establishing a local seed scheme to enable grassland creation. 4) Raising public awareness and understanding.5) Exploring ways for grassland owners and graziers to derive economic benefits.		
CBAF/06/071	Wildlife Corridors in the Lincolnshire Limewoods	Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
The Limewoods project area supports a number of UK/Regional and Local BAP species that are covered by SAPs. This project will assess all available species and habitat information and ensure that the effect of habitat restoration, management and creation is minimised or better targeted for the appropriate species. The project will 1)Collate existing species and habitat information, undertake additional missing survey information such as farmland birds and produce a consistent and well thought out overall opportunities and constraints plan for the Limewoods project area. 2) Undertake restoration and enhance the management of existing habitats in particular taking into account the requirements of individual species. 3) Reduce habitat fragmentation which is presently restricting the natural ranges of the areas most important species. 4) Increase the local community awareness of biodiversity and foster improved management of habitats for species.		
CBAF/06/107	Wild About Nature	Groundwork Erewash Valley
The 'Wild about Nature' project will work on a suite of named sites throughout Lowland Derbyshire focussing on practical habitat management for biodiversity, promoting and empowering appropriate community involvement, and delivering interpretative events and educational activities. The sites selected for inclusion in this project are all considered to be of high nature conservation value. The majority of the sites are known to support the priority Biodiversity Action Plan habitat 'lowland meadow' and/or lowland dry acid grassland. All of the sites are considered to be in an unfavourable condition as assessed by DWT, due to lack of long term, sustained management practices. The work will contribute towards HAP's & SAP's of the Lowland Derbyshire LBAP.		
CBAF/06/122	Conservation Grazing in Nottinghamshire	Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust
This project seeks to maintain and expand the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust's Conservation Grazing Scheme as it moves towards financial sustainability over the next two years. This project was first launched in 1999 with the purchase of 35 Hebridean sheep. Since then the project has expanded rapidly, now consisting of approximately 600 sheep and 30 cows, which are used to graze over 640ha of rare heathland, wet, neutral and acid grassland. From April 2006 to March 2008 the Wildlife Trust will continue the conservation grazing of 640ha of land, while bringing a further 130ha under suitable management. Six priority sites will be surveyed to monitor the benefits of the scheme. In addition, efforts will be made to disseminate information to the public and landowners on the benefits of conservation grazing through public open days and a conservation grazing leaflet.		

East of England Region

Project Ref.	Project	Organisation
CBAF/06/042	Conserving butterflies and moths at a landscape level *	Butterfly Conservation
This project will implement a targeted programme of action to conserve threatened butterflies and moths in 30 priority landscape areas across the Midlands and the East of England (covering 3 English Regions). We will deliver biodiversity targets by giving specialist management advice on at least 280 key sites across the priority landscape areas and this will lead to habitat improvement on at least 100 of these. The project will also develop effective partnerships in the 30 landscape areas, with landowners and manager, local volunteers, government agencies and a very broad range of voluntary and private sector organisations.		
CBAF/06/052	Suffolk Ecological Networks Project	Suffolk Wildlife Trust
The Suffolk Ecological Networks project will be delivered by Suffolk Wildlife Trust and Suffolk Biological Records Centre on behalf of the Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership. It has two goals which support the		

delivery of the Suffolk BAP. 1) To counter habitat fragmentation and increase opportunities for species to disperse and respond to factors such as climate change by mapping existing wildlife habitat across the county and establishing ecological networks of interconnected habitat on which to focus conservation effort. 2) To encourage targeted action for BAP habitats and species within the ecological networks by providing proactive advice to landowners and community groups.

South East Region

Project Ref.	Project	Organisation
CBAF/06/019	Rebuilding Biodiversity in Oxfordshire	Oxfordshire Nature Conservation Forum
Previously collected data will be examined to identify hotspots for conservation action this will allow habitats to be recreated and extended in the most appropriate places. This data will be used to revise a suite of HAPs and to produce a work programme with explicit targets. A Biodiversity Officer will analyse the target hotspots and prioritise areas for action. This person will motivate and co-ordinate the variety of partnership organisations, landowners and community groups essential for conducting the work on the ground.		
CBAF/06/022	Promoting Biodiversity Action in Sussex	Sussex Wildlife Trust
This project aims to encourage the implementation of action to deliver biodiversity targets in Sussex. It aims to do this at a range of levels, from the influence of strategic organisations using ideas on ecological networks through to the encouragement of individuals by holding courses and activity in school grounds. Throughout, the project will be guided by information from the Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre and will be advised by the Sussex Biodiversity Partnership regarding biodiversity targets and principles.		
CBAF/06/049	Grazing for Biodiversity in NE Hampshire	The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust
The benefits of grazing in delivering conservation objectives on heathland and grassland sites are widely accepted, however in North East Hampshire, the number of livestock farmers has declined dramatically. The Trust relies on the services of just three graziers in the entire area, with the result that we struggle to deliver appropriate management on our reserves to meet favourable condition targets. The project aim is to develop a strategy for introducing grazing. For the first time we have large enough blocks of land at our disposal to start to develop locally sustainable grazing solutions which are financially viable, thereby helping to deliver favourable condition on a suite of SSSIs that will be maintained into the future. This land also gives us a key opportunity to educate the public on the importance of managing wildlife sites and build public support for conservation management, particularly the issues surrounding scrub control, fencing and grazing, which often evoke emotional responses from local residents		
CBAF/06/105	Wychwood Ancient Habitats Programme	The Friends of Wychwood
This Programme has a sharp focus on a number of habitats within the former Royal Hunting Forest that are closely linked with the historic character of the area: lowland wood-pasture and parkland, ancient trees, ancient species rich hedgerows and lowland broadleaved woodland. The aim of the Programme is to confirm the extent of these habitats, identify the priority areas for biodiversity and, working with a cross section of the community including landowners, partner organisations and volunteers, take action to conserve and where appropriate restore these habitats.		

London

Project Ref.	Project	Organisation
CBAF/06/081	All of a Buzz in the Thames Gateway	Buglife
The project will develop a strategic plan to conserve and enhance the nationally important invertebrate populations associated with the Thames Gateway's extensive brownfield habitats, now threatened by extensive development. The evidence-base for this strategy will be supported by data collection and the mapping of key species and sites. Raising awareness of the importance of brownfield sites for urban wildlife is also an urgent priority. Volunteers will be involved in conducting surveys as well as through a programme of public events, activities and publications. The project will provide developers and local authorities with the information they need to help plan and implement development in ways that minimise adverse impacts on biodiversity.		

South West Region

Project Ref.	Project	Organisation
CBAF/06/041	Rebuilding Biodiversity in the Mendip	Somerset Wildlife Trust

	Hills	
<p>This is a landscape scale project for the Mendip Hills in Somerset designed to ensure the long term survival of the national BAP habitats and the species they support .Through this project we aim to restore, link and improve the quality of a mosaic of habitats that currently exist and to provide a significant enhancement of Mendip biodiversity. These aims will be achieved through targeting landowner support and advice; securing grants schemes; raising awareness of rebuilding biodiversity with local communities and the general public; encouraging involvement through volunteering; baseline surveying and monitoring of the project are to measure impact and outcomes of this approach.</p>		
CBAF/06/066	Severn Vale Biodiversity Partnership	Stroud Valleys Project
<p>The Severn Vale Biodiversity Project is a partnership project between Stroud Valleys Project (SVP), the Severnside Project, and the Gloucestershire Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG). The aim of the partnership is to create a network of wildlife – rich corridors connecting the biodiversity-rich sites throughout the project area and from Gloucester along the River Severn to Slimbridge. It will result in intensive work on the ground leading to high quality, very visible landscape scale habitat improvements. The entire 42 square mile project area will be surveyed, to assess basic land use, wildflowers, farmland birds, water voles & otters. It will link biodiversity with social and economic development by building partnerships between landowners, farmers, environmental organisations, local communities, parish and district councils, schools and businesses.</p>		
CBAF/06/088	Cirl bunting Re-introduction	RSPB
<p>The Cirl Bunting re-introduction Project will establish a new self-sustaining population of cirl buntings beyond the bird's restricted range in south Devon. Specifically the project will 1) Hand rear cirl buntings from the existing wild population and release them under controlled conditions into suitable predetermined locations in Cornwall.2) Secure future suitable habitats through a programme of targeted advisory work with farmers and promoting take-up of environmental stewardship agreements to deliver land management suitable for cirl buntings.</p>		
CBAF/06/093	Development of manor farm - restoration of chalk grassland habitat	RSPB
<p>This project will contribute to the restoration of chalk grassland habitat, a BAP priority, in Wiltshire. Specifically the project will: 1) Restore about 60ha of lowland calcareous grassland. 2) Undertake specialist grassland reversion. 3) Provide management advice to land managers of surrounding estates, influencing more than 300ha of land. The restoration of the chalk grassland will offer long term sustainable benefits for conservation and biodiversity and help restore priority habitats and species. The work will improve the overall coherence of the network of conservation sites across the South West by consolidating areas of semi natural habitat.</p>		
CBAF/06/111	Culm Natural Networks	Devon Wildlife Trust
<p>Culm Natural Networks will deliver programmes of site assessment, specialist landowner advice and grazing facilitation, and crucially it will encourage wider protection of biodiversity by giving it a demonstrable economic value. Condition assessments will be undertaken for 60% of known culm grassland sites, covering around 2,500 hectares. Project officers will promote best practice habitat management to the owners of assessed sites. Services provided will include assistance with entry to agri-environment grant schemes, specialist habitat management advice and connection with local graziers to return livestock management to at least 20 ungrazed sites.</p>		

* **Note a number of projects cut across different regions**