

Appendices

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Common and scientific names of plants and animals used in the BAP

The following list comprises common and scientific names of plants and animals referred to in the text, but which are not listed in the Key Species table above. The list is sorted alphabetically by common name.

alder	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	marjoram	<i>Origanum vulgare</i>
ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	marsh marigold	<i>Caltha palustris</i>
beechnut	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	meadow foxtail	<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>
bird's-nest orchid	<i>Neottia nidus-avis</i>	muntjac	<i>Muntiacus reevesi</i>
blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	New Zealand pygmyweed	<i>Crassula helmsii</i>
bracken	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	parrot's-feather	<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>
bramble	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	pedunculate oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>
Canadian pondweed	<i>Elodea canadensis</i>	perennial rye-grass	<i>Lolium perenne</i>
common hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	purple moor-grass	<i>Molinia caerulea</i>
common reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i>	rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>
corncockle	<i>Agrostemma githago</i>	ragged robin	<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>
crested dog's-tail	<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	rainbow trout	<i>Salmo gairdneri</i>
dog's mercury	<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>	rhododendron	<i>Rhododendron ponticum</i>
downy birch	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	roe deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>
Duckweed	<i>Lemna</i> spp.	saw-wort	<i>Serratula tinctoria</i>
early-purple orchid	<i>Orchis mascula</i>	signal crayfish	<i>Pacifastacus leniusculus</i>
fallow deer	<i>Dama dama</i>	silver birch	<i>Betula pendula</i>
fat (edible) dormouse	<i>Glis glis</i>	spiked water-milfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>
fennel pondweed	<i>Potamogeton pectinatus</i>	tufted hair-grass	<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>
field maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>	water fern	<i>Azolla filiculoides</i>
gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	watercress	<i>Rorippa nasturtium- aquaticum</i>
great burnet	<i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>	wild thyme	<i>Thymus polytrichus</i>
grey squirrel	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>	willow	<i>Salix</i> spp.
hazel	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	yellow water-lily	<i>Nuphar lutea</i>
large blue butterfly	<i>Maculinea arion</i>	yew	<i>Taxus baccata</i>
lesser water parsnip	<i>Berula erecta</i>		

The use of scientific names

- A1.1 Everyday, in conversation or writing, we apply names to objects, people, or places, so that we can identify them instantly without having to go into a detailed description to communicate what, who, or where, it is we mean. Scientific names for animals and plants serve the same purpose, but attempt to be more precise than common names. This eliminates confusion by ensuring that a different name is used for each of the three million or so known species and by providing a common language to everybody; scientific names have the same meaning throughout the world, regardless of national languages. Take the example of *Lotus corniculatus*. Most British field guides call this bird's-foot trefoil, but do eggs and bacon, ham and eggs, hen and chickens, or Tom Thumb sound familiar too? These are all commonly used names for *L. corniculatus*. If we have so many names for it in this country, just think how confusing it would be taking into account names used in other countries. Most scientific names are derived predominantly from Latin, with some Greek and other languages. The use of Latin stems from a time when it was the principal language used by scholars.
- A1.2 The prospect of having to use scientific names makes many people nervous or disinterested. Yet many other activities, such as photography, car-mechanics and even cooking, all entail the use of their own particular jargon. Whilst the best efforts have been made in the Bucks BAP to reduce the use of jargon, using common names where possible, many creatures have no common name and thus there is no alternative to the scientific name.
- A1.3 A scientific name is made up of two parts, the first eg *Lotus* is called the generic name, or genus. This denotes the group (genus) to which the species belongs and is common to all other species in the same group. It is much like our surname. The genus always starts with a capital letter. The second part of the name eg *corniculatus*, is the specific name. This is different for each species in the genus, much like our first names. It never has a capital letter. The method of using two words to name species is called the binomial system and was first introduced in the 18th Century by a Swedish naturalist, Carl Linnaeus. Latin names are usually printed in *italics*, or written underlined.
- A1.4 The application of scientific names to species and groups of species is termed Nomenclature. Grouping of species into groups, known as taxa - creating a 'family-tree' if you like - is called Classification. The study and use of classification, which has to involve nomenclature as well, is called Taxonomy. This probably sounds a little baffling, but, essentially, the whole is just a filing system for organisms, a tool which helps us study and communicate our ideas about them and not an end in itself.

Appendix 2: Natural areas

Background and role

- A2.1 English Nature launched the Natural Areas Strategy with the publication of a consultation paper in June 1993. This proposed that Natural Areas should provide a framework for an integrated approach to nature conservation in England. They are defined in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan as 'biogeographic zones which reflect the geological foundation, the natural systems and processes, and the wildlife in different parts of England, and provide a framework for setting objectives for nature conservation'. One hundred and twenty Natural Areas have been identified and are each comprised of a unique combination of geology, soils, topography and climate which themselves influence the vegetation, landscape, patterns of land use and characteristic wildlife.
- A2.2 Thus the boundaries of Natural Areas, based upon the distribution of wildlife and natural features, the land use pattern and human history of each area, do not follow administrative boundaries, but follow variations in the character of the landscape. They offer a more effective framework for planning and achievement of nature conservation objectives than do administrative boundaries. However they are not designations.
- A2.3 Natural Areas provide a way for all local interests to determine priorities for nature conservation based on areas with ecological and landscape integrity. Together, Natural Areas provide a powerful vision for nature conservation right across England; they provide a consistent, ecologically coherent countrywide framework to focus national targets to a level that can be used locally. Local action by local people for nature conservation is one of the key ambitions for Natural Areas. The Natural Area profiles will have provided the background for the production of county Biodiversity Action Plans.
- A2.4 Buckinghamshire encompasses parts of seven Natural Areas, the main ones include the London Basin; Chilterns; Midvale Ridge; Thames and Avon Vales and the West Anglian Plain, with small areas of the Yardley-Whittlewood Ridge and the Bedfordshire Greensand creeping in on the county boundary.
- A2.5 Natural Areas are widely used within English Nature to set targets for projects and National Action Plans. A lot of work has also been carried out to look at the nature conservation priorities for individual Natural Areas. For example the targets that have been set nationally for species and habitats in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan are being broken down by

Natural Area into appropriate local targets. This helps Natural England to identify where in the country they should focus their efforts, and how, in any one area they should use their resources to support the local character and diversity of the countryside.

A2.6 Natural Areas were developed primarily for use within Natural England , but others have recognised their value and are using them too. For example several Local Biodiversity Action Plan groups are using them as a basis for their plans. Natural England has also published a series of eight summaries, aimed at the Government Regions of England, which highlight the key features of the Natural Areas within each Region. They promote sustainable development and provide a basis for integrating nature conservation priorities into the regional decision-making framework.

Appendix 3: Glossary

This glossary defines the main terms used in the Biodiversity Action Plan, explaining specialist technical and policy terms used. A separate listing of abbreviations and acronyms is also included.

Aftermath

This is the term used for the first growth after a meadow has been cut for hay. It is traditional practice to graze the 'aftermath' following the hay crop.

Agenda 21

An Action Plan for the 21st Century endorsed at the Earth Summit. Agenda 21 sets out how we can meet the needs of communities and individual people today, whilst improving the quality of life and safeguarding the environment for future generations.

Agri-environment schemes

Schemes offering payments to farmers to promote farming that is compatible with the requirements of the protection of the environment and sustaining wildlife within the countryside. This includes schemes such as Environmental Stewardship and Environmentally Sensitive Areas.

Agrochemicals

Chemical substances used in agricultural production including fertilisers, herbicides, fungicides and insecticides.

Afforestation

The planting of trees on previously unwooded land.

Alert Site Register

A register of sites with ecological interest and relevant to the development control and planning process. It includes sites with statutory designations, such as SSSIs; sites with non-statutory designations, such as Wildlife Sites and sites with protected species. 'Alert Site' is a generic term only; it is not a designation.

Alien species

See non-native species.

Annual

A plant completing its life cycle in one year, usually germinating in Autumn or Spring, then flowering, fruiting and dying by the following Autumn.

Ancient woodland

Long-established woodland known to have had continuous woodland cover of some kind since before 1600 AD, and that has often consequently developed a rich plant and animal life.

Anthropogenic

Produced by human activity.

Baseline

A defined condition for a site, habitat or species against which future changes in the condition of the site, habitat or species can be monitored, and the significance of this change in conservation terms assessed.

Baseline survey

A survey of a site and its constituent habitats or species to establish the baseline conditions.

Bern Convention

Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats aims to ensure the conservation of wild flora and fauna species and their habitats.

Biennial

A plant living for two seasons, usually germinating in autumn or spring then flowering, fruiting and dying in the second season.

Biodiversity

The total variety of life on earth or any given part of it. The variety of genes, species and habitats within an area.

Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)

A framework for achieving the conservation of biodiversity based on the targeting of resources towards protecting priority habitats and species. BAPs also provide a means for the involvement in conservation of a wide range of organisations including the participation of members of local communities. BAPs can be prepared at a range of levels: country-wide (eg the UK Biodiversity Action Plan), for counties (eg the Bucks BAP) or for recognised areas (eg the National Forest BAP).

Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA)

Areas of the county that have been identified as containing concentrations of BAP priority habitats or where there is the opportunity for strategic biodiversity gain.

Biogeographical zones

Major parts of the Earth's surface, including its seas and oceans, characterised by distinctive assemblages of animals and plants.

Biological Notification Site (BNS)

A term used in the past for wildlife sites of county importance in Bucks, notified in the late eighties and early nineties. Some have been reviewed through the Wildlife Sites Project. Others await review. (see also Wildlife Site and Site of Importance for Nature Conservation.)

Biomass

The total quantity of living organisms in a given area, measured in terms of weight or energy content.

Biosphere

The surface layer of the Earth where living organisms occur, comprising land, water and air.

Biotic

Relating to life, or to living things.

Birds Directive

The abbreviated term for EC Council Directive 79/409/EEC of 2 April 1979 on the Conservation of Wild Birds. This Directive aims to protect bird species within the European Union through the conservation of populations of threatened birds and the habitats used by these species.

Bonn Convention

Bonn Convention on Migratory Species aims to conserve terrestrial, marine and avian migratory species throughout their range.

Bryophytes

A major group of plants that includes mosses and liverworts. Collectively with lichens and algae, they are sometimes referred to as 'lower' plants.

Calcareous

Soils which are rich in calcium, such as those derived from chalk and limestone rock.

Chalk grassland

Grassland in this category occurs on soils where the pH is above 7.0.

Champion (of a species or habitat action plan)

An organisation, be they a business, community group, charity or government body, or, an individual that undertakes to provide support for the implementation of an individual Species or Habitat Action Plan within a Biodiversity Action Plan.

Common Agricultural Policy

A European Community wide policy which supports agriculture through price support measures and market management and through measures to improve agricultural structures.

Community

An identifiable and distinct grouping of organisms occurring together in a particular area that interacts with each other and with their shared environment.

Consensus building

An approach to working on issues which builds common ground between all the parties or stakeholders involved.

Conservation

The management of human use of the environment to sustain, or improve, the diversity of wildlife occurring.

Conservation objective

A stated aim for the level of protection for a habitat or species that is desirable in view of the aims of nature conservation. Objectives should be specific, measurable and realistic, hence they will often include targets.

Convention

An international agreement through which nations agree to work together co-operatively to implement certain defined policies or take other action. International conventions are voluntarily entered into by countries, but once a country has signed a convention it agrees to be bound by its specified terms and conditions.

Convention on Biological Diversity

The Convention was signed by the Prime Minister and 150 other Heads of State or Governments at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992. Under Article 6A of the Convention, signatories must develop national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Coppicing

The traditional form of management of much of the broad-leaved woodland in the UK. It involves cutting down trees and shrubs near ground level, allowing the tree to re-grow from the stump, and re-cutting at intervals of one or more decades to provide a harvest of long straight poles.

Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000

The Act places a duty on Government Departments and the National Assembly for Wales to have regard for the conservation of biodiversity and maintain lists of species and habitats for which conservation steps should be taken or promoted, in accordance with the Convention on Biological Diversity. Schedule 9 of the Act changes the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, amending SSSI notification procedures and providing increased powers for the protection and management of SSSIs.

Schedule 12 of the Act amends the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, strengthening the legal protection for threatened species.

Deciduous

A woody plant which drops its leaves in the autumn (in Europe) and that produces new leaves from buds the following spring.

Diversity

An assessment of the richness of different types in a location (which can be a large or small area) including the number of different habitats or numbers of different species.

Earth Heritage

Geology and land form - its conservation and study.

Earth Summit

United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992.

Ecology

The study of the inter-relationships between living organisms and their environment.

Ecosystem

A community of interdependent organisms and the environment they inhabit and interact with, such as ponds and pond life.

Endemic species

A species of animal or plant found only in a particular area (usually taken to be a country or region).

Entry Level Stewardship

See Environmental Stewardship

Environment

The external surroundings (ie physical and chemical conditions) experienced by and influencing species and habitats.

Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Assessment

A process of predicting and evaluating an action's impacts on the environment. It aims to minimise environmental degradation by giving decision-makers better information about the consequences which development actions could have on the environment. (See also Strategic Environmental Assessment.)

Environmental Records Centre

A centre based often at the county level for the collection, management, analysis and dissemination of information on wildlife and habitats within that

area. Environmental Records Centres play an important role underpinning the monitoring of local BAPs and supporting the implementation and promotion of such local conservation initiatives.

Environmentally Sensitive Area

An agri-environment scheme which was run by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) designed to promote traditional farming practices to protect and enhance the environment. Farmers and other land managers were able to enter into 10 years agreements to manage their land in designated ways to maintain and restore particular landscapes and habitats.

Environmental Stewardship

An agri-environment scheme through which farmers and landowners can receive payments for management agreements that result in the maintenance and enhancement of certain important landscapes and habitats including grassland, lowland heath, waterside land and hedgerows and field boundaries which need restoring. There are 2 levels of scheme – Entry Level Stewardship and Higher Level Stewardship. The scheme is administered by Natural England

Eutrophic

[A habitat] having high productivity as a result of high levels of nutrients promoting the growth of certain species.

Eutrophication

The over-enrichment of a habitat with inorganic nutrients, especially nitrates and phosphates, typically from sewage discharge or agrochemical run-off which may result in an imbalance of the normal flora and fauna associated with the area.

Fauna

All animal life.

Flora

All plant life.

Flush

A patch of wet ground, where the water flows diffusely over and through the upper layers of soil and not in a fixed channel.

Forb

Herbaceous flowering plants excluding grasses.

Gene

The basic unit of inheritance of animals and plants.

Geomorphology

The study of the evolution of land forms, or the arrangement and forms of the Earth's crust.

Habitat

A place in which a particular plant or animal lives. Often used in a wider sense, referring to major assemblages of plants and animals found together such as woodlands or grassland. The priority habitats for conservation in the counties are described and defined fully in the Biodiversity Action Plan.

Habitat Action Plan

A targeted programme of management measures aimed at maintaining/restoring a specific habitat. Habitat Action Plans identify conservation objectives and targets for the habitat in question and specify actions and responsibilities for achieving the objectives. Habitat Action Plans are developed for national priority habitats in the UK Steering Group Report and for counties in local BAPs.

Habitat creation

Land management actions based on establishing a habitat on a site where it has not occurred before.

Habitat re-creation (or habitat restoration)

Land management action based on restoring a habitat on a site where it has previously existed, but subsequently been lost, or has significantly degraded.

Habitats Directive

The abbreviated term for EC Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora. This Directive promotes the conservation of certain key habitats and species within the European Community by requiring Member States to take measures to maintain or restore natural habitats and populations of wild species.

Hedgelaying

A traditional form of hedgerow management.

Herb

Vascular plant without woody stems eg primrose.

Higher Level Stewardship (HLS)

See Environmental Stewardship

Indicator species

An organism whose characteristics (eg presence or absence, population density, dispersion, reproductive success) are used as an index of attributes too difficult, inconvenient, or expensive to measure directly. Such

characteristics may be used to indicate the degree of pollution or other environmental conditions at a particular locality or habitat type.

Intensive agriculture

A term generally used to signify the use of high input, high output crop and livestock husbandry systems in order to produce the optimum possible economic return from the available land. Intensive agriculture involves high usage of fertilisers, agrochemicals and mechanisation.

Introduced (species)

A plant or animal brought to a site, or region where it did not previously exist, by humans, not necessarily intentionally.

Invertebrates

Animals without a backbone (insects, for example).

Lead Agency

An organisation, be they a business, community group, charity or government body, that undertakes to lead on the implementation of an individual Species or Habitat Action Plan within a Biodiversity Action Plan.

Local Agenda 21

Partnerships of local people, communities and organisations to achieve Agenda 21 at a local level.

Local authority

A local government body, such as a County, District or Borough Council.

Local Biodiversity Action Plan

A Biodiversity Action Plan prepared for a local area (usually a single county, grouping of counties, district or borough). Government guidance recommends that local BAPs correspond to local authority boundaries.

Local Environment Agency Plan (LEAP)

A plan of action for the Environment Agency and its partners to tackle environmental issues relating to the water environment, air and waste disposal and more generally to the achievement of sustainable development. LEAPs identify and focus action on specific problems within defined river catchments.

Local Nature Reserve (LNR)

An area of land that is of special nature conservation interest locally. LNRs are declared and managed by local authorities under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949.

Local Wildlife Site

A site not qualifying as of national importance for the wildlife it contains (ie a SSSI) but regarded to be of local importance for wildlife, its

importance being merited in a parish, district, borough or county context. Such sites are often called non-statutory wildlife sites as they do not have statutory protection like SSSIs, but are recognised in local plans. In Bucks Local Wildlife Sites have been called Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation and Biological Notification Sites.

Management

The manipulation of a site to maintain or enhance its habitats and population of a species, through recognised techniques such as coppicing or grazing.

Management planning

The process of identifying the management requirements of a site and developing the appropriate management measures to satisfy these requirements. The document prepared as part of the management process is known as the management plan.

Mesotrophic

[A habitat] which exhibits a neutral pH ie neutral grassland, or, whose primary productivity is between that regarded as eutrophic and oligotrophic. *Meso* being derived from the Greek meaning 'mid' or 'middle'.

Microhabitat

A small part of a habitat which has distinct physical conditions, a hollow in a mature tree for example.

Monitoring

A process of repeated observations of one or more elements of the environment, such as a population of a species, or water quality. Monitoring should follow a prearranged programme in space and time and use pre-set methods for data collection. Monitoring provides factual information concerning the present state and past trends in environmental parameters. Monitoring key habitats and species will allow the assessment of the success of the Biodiversity Action Plan in protecting biodiversity.

National Biodiversity Network

The National Biodiversity Network (NBN) is a partnership of local and national custodians of wildlife information, providing access to everyone within a framework of standards. The NBN is being promoted by a consortium led by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee, the Natural Environment Research Council, the Natural History Museum, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the Wildlife Trusts. Central to the NBN is the development of a fully functional national network of local records centres (LRC) operating to a minimum defined standard.

National Nature Reserve

A reserve declared under law and managed either by one of the statutory nature conservation agencies (English Nature in England) or by an approved body.

Nationally Rare Species

Species of very limited national occurrence and distribution. They are defined as those species known to occur in 15 or fewer of the 10 x 10 km Ordnance Survey grid squares that divide Great Britain.

Nationally Scarce Species

Species of limited national occurrence and distribution. They are defined as those species known to occur in 16-100 of the 10 x 10 km Ordnance Survey grid squares that divide Great Britain.

Native species

A species that occurs naturally in an area and, therefore, not having been introduced by humans, either accidentally or intentionally.

Natural Areas

A concept, introduced by English Nature, (now Natural England) for defining areas based on their characteristic landscape and fauna and flora and resulting in the definition of 92 terrestrial and 24 coastal/maritime Natural Areas in England. These biogeographic zones reflect the geological foundation, the natural systems and processes and the wildlife in different parts of England, and provide a framework for setting conservation objectives.

Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (Biodiversity Duty)

S40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 states:
“Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity”

This replaces and extends S74 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (which put a duty on government only).

It affects all levels of regional government from regional assemblies to parish councils and also public bodies such as health authorities, utilities companies, development agencies and transport agencies.

It also lists the species and habitats of principal importance

Natural range

The geographical distribution of a species or habitat in recent times but excluding any changes to that range as a result of human activities.

Nature conservation

See Conservation.

Niche

The ecological resource occupied by a species in a community or ecosystem.

Non-native species

A species which has become established in the wild in an area (most usually a country) in which it does not naturally occur. Non-native species are introduced into an area as a result of human activities/intervention (whether deliberate or accidental). These species often have adverse effects on native species and habitats as a result of competition.

Oligotrophic

[A habitat] having low primary productivity as a result of being low in nutrients.

Participatory appraisal

See Section 2.1 Production of the Plan.

Perennial

A plant that usually lives for more than two years.

Phase 1 (habitat survey)

A land survey to establish land-uses and, in particular, the location of important wildlife sites and habitats within a given area.

Pollard

A tree which has been cut about two metres from the ground so as to produce a crop of branches suitable for fencing or firewood. Pollarding is a traditional form of tree management and produces a sustainable harvest.

Pollution

The introduction by man, directly or indirectly, of substances into the environment resulting in deleterious effects to wildlife, hazards to human health or hindrance to activities such as fishing and recreation.

Population

All individuals of one species occupying a defined area and usually isolated to some degree from other similar groups of the same species.

Precautionary Principle

A principle underlying the concept of sustainable development which implies that prudent action be taken to protect the environment even in the absence of scientific certainty. Giving environmental well-being legitimate status in the development process and adopting best-practice techniques for environmental management are fundamental to this principle.

Priority Species

The top priority species for conservation in the UK as identified in the UK Biodiversity Partnership Species and Habitat Review 2007. The list replaces the Tranche 2 Action Plans, Volume 1 - vertebrates and vascular plants, 1998. Priority Species comprise those which are globally threatened and/or which are rapidly declining in the UK.

Ramsar Convention

An international convention originally agreed in Ramsar in 1975. It aims to stem the progressive encroachment loss of wetlands and promoting the wise use of wetland wildlife. It requires the designation of Wetlands of International Importance (also known as Ramsar sites).

Red Data Book species

A species listed in catalogues published by the World Conservation Union (IUCN), national agencies or county-level organisations, listing species which are rare, endangered or vulnerable to extinction globally, nationally or within counties.

Reintroduction

The release and establishment of a species by human agency to an area within its natural range but where it had become extinct in historical times.

Ride

An open unmade track through a wood.

Regionally Important Geological & Geomorphological Site (RIGS)

Geological or geomorphological sites, excluding SSSIs, in a county, that are considered worthy of protection for their scientific, educational, historical or aesthetic importance. Such sites are generally non-statutory, like Wildlife Sites, but are recognised in local plans.

River Corridor Survey

A map-based survey for watercourses, identifying channel characteristics and features as well as adjacent land use and plant species.

Semi-natural habitats

A habitat modified to a limited extent by human activities, but still consisting of species naturally occurring in the area. The majority of important habitats remaining in the UK are considered to be semi-natural as opposed to natural.

Set-aside

Normally arable land removed from agricultural production as a requirement for receiving agricultural support. Although Set-aside was a measure purely to control excessive production, set-aside land potentially had significant spin-off benefits for wildlife.

Short list species

The top priority species for conservation in the UK as identified in the UK Steering Group Report Volume 1, 1995. This list has since undergone review and is now termed the Priority Species list.

Shrub

A woody perennial, branched from the base (without one main trunk as in a tree), and normally not more than about 6 m tall.

Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC)

A wildlife site of county importance (see also wildlife site). During 1996/97 and 1997/98, the Bucks SINC Project identified new wildlife sites and reviewed some of the Biological Notification Sites. (See also Biological Notification Site and Wildlife Site). Now known as Local Wildlife Sites.

Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

An area of land or water notified by a statutory conservation agency under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as being of national nature or geological conservation importance.

Soligenous

[Fens] fed by springs, or seepage.

Special Area of Conservation

A site of European importance for wildlife designated under the Habitats Directive (1992), by the UK Government where the necessary management is applied for the maintenance or restoration of the habitats and/or species for which the site is designated.

Special Protection Area

A site of international importance for birds designated under the Birds Directive (1979), by the UK Government where appropriate steps are taken to protect the bird species for which the site is designated.

Species

A population of individuals, all of which closely resemble one another in all important features of structure and are normally capable of cross-breeding within the population (though not always outside it). When breeding occurs outside the population of the species, the results are called hybrids and are usually sterile.

Species Action Plan

A conservation plan for a species based upon knowledge of its ecological and other requirements, which identifies the actions needed to stabilise and improve its status. Species Action Plans are developed for national priority species in the UK Steering Group Report and for counties in local BAPs.

Species of Conservation Concern

High priority species for conservation in the UK as identified in the UK Biodiversity Group Tranche 2 Action Plans, Volume 1 –

vertebrates and vascular plants, 1998. The list replaces the 'long' list identified in the UK Steering Group Report Volume 1, 1995.

Species poor

A term usually applied to a plant community that has a small number of species per unit area.

Species rich

Refers to a plant community that has a large number of species per unit area.

Strategic Environmental Assessment

The formalised, systematic and comprehensive process of evaluating the environmental impacts of a policy, plan or programme and its alternatives, including the preparation of a report on the evaluation and the use of the findings in publicly-accountable decision-making.

Sub-species

A group of interbreeding populations with different characteristics (physical and genetic) from other populations of the same species. They are often isolated geographically from other populations of the same species.

Succession

Sequential development of plant or animal communities through time.

Survey

An inventory of the attributes of a site, area or region, usually in terms of habitat and associated species and normally following a standardised procedure.

Sustainability

Maintaining the environment's natural qualities and characteristics and its capacity to fulfil its full range of functions, including maintenance of biodiversity.

Sustainability indicators

Features which can be used to monitor the state of the environment and the sustainability of actions upon it. Indicators help to simplify and quantify complex phenomena, enabling information to be communicated. For example, the DEFRA publish a set of Headline Indicators for sustainable development. These include the use of population counts for wild birds to indicate the state of our wildlife in relation to sustainable development. For more information see www.defra.gov.uk.

Sustainable development

The use of resources to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The conservation of

biodiversity is a key test of sustainable development. If an activity results in a net loss of biodiversity then it is unsustainable.

Target (biodiversity target)

A quantified conservation objective. Targets state, for example, projected population numbers for species or areas for habitats. Setting such numerical targets provides a tight focus for what the Biodiversity Action Plan is aiming to achieve. Furthermore, it establishes a yardstick against which the achievements of the BAP can be measured.

Taxon (pl. Taxa)

A unit or rank of classification of living things, which may be a species, or a group of species.

Taxonomy

The science of describing, naming and classifying living things.

Terrestrial

Living on, or referring to, land.

UK Biodiversity Action Plan

A strategy produced in 1994 by the UK Government that provides the framework for fulfilling the UK's responsibilities towards the Convention on Biological Diversity.

UK Steering Group Report

The report following from the UK BAP in 1995 which establishes specific actions and responsibilities for achieving the UK BAP.

Vascular plant

A plant which contains vessels to conduct sap around it.

Vertebrates

Animals with a backbone.

Water quality

The nature of a body of water in terms of its physical characteristics, turbidity for instance, and its chemical characteristics, nutrient status or level of pollutants for example.

Wetland

Any habitat that is characterised by the presence of flowing or standing water at some stage in the year. Wetlands can range from open water bodies such as lakes and ponds, to seasonally wet habitats such as carr woodland or lowland wet grassland.

Appendix 4: Abbreviations

This section lists the main abbreviations and acronyms used in the Biodiversity Action Plan.

ADAS	Agricultural Development and Advisory Service
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
ACMP	Aylesbury Countryside Management Project
AMP	Asset Management Plan
AVDC	Aylesbury Vale District Council
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan
BC	Butterfly Conservation
BCCAS	Bucks County Council Archaeological Service
BBClub	Buckinghamshire Bird Club
BBOWT	Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust
BBS	British Bryological Society
BCC	Buckinghamshire County Council
BCT	Bat Conservation Trust
BEHG	Bucks Earth Heritage Group
BIG	Bucks Invertebrate Group
BMKBP	Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Biodiversity Partnership
BNCF	Buckinghamshire Nature Conservation Forum
BMS	British Mycological Society
BNS	Biological Notification Site
BTO	British Trust for Ornithology
BTCV	British Trust for Conservation Volunteers
BW	British Waterways
BWF	Buckinghamshire Woodland Forum
CC	Chilterns Conference
CCSP	Chilterns Chalk Streams Project
CDC	Chiltern District Council
CGCoop	Chalk grassland Co-operative
CI	Chilterns Initiative
CL	Corporation of London
CLA	Country Landowners Association
CoAg	Countryside Agency
CSGB	Conchological Society of Great Britain
CWP	Chilterns Woodlands Project
DETR	Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions
DOE	Department of the Environment
EA	Environment Agency
EC	European Community
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
NE	Natural England
ENPACT	English Nature Practical Applications of Conservation Techniques
ERC	Environmental Records Centre
ESA	Environmentally Sensitive Area
FA	Forestry Authority
FE	Forestry Enterprise
FRCA	Farming and Rural Conservation Agency
FWAG	Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group
GCT	Game Conservancy Trust
GIS	Geographic Information System

GT	Greensand Trust
HAGG	Heathland/Acid Grassland Group
HAP	Habitat Action Plan
HOT	Hawk and Owl Trust
IDB	Internal Drainage Board
IUCN	World Conservation Union (previously called the International Union for Nature Conservation)
IFE	Institute of Freshwater Ecology
LA21	Local Agenda 21
LAs	Local Authorities
LEAP	Local Environment Agency Plan
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
LWS	Local Wildlife Site
MKC	Milton Keynes Council
MKPT	Milton Keynes Parks Trust
MPG	Mineral Planning Guidance
NCC	Nature Conservancy Council
NCF	Nature Conservation Forum
NFU	National Farmers Union
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
NNR	National Nature Reserve
NT	National Trust
NVC	National Vegetation Classification
NVZ	Nitrate Vulnerable Zone
PA	Participatory Appraisal
PPS	Planning Policy Statement
RDB	Red Data Book
RIGS	Regionally Important Geological & Geomorphological Sites
RPG	Regional Planning Guidance
RSPB	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SAP	Species Action Plan
SBDC	South Bucks District Council
SINC	Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
SPA	Special Protection Area
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
TPO	Tree Preservation Order
TVEF	Thames Valley European Forum
TWIG	Transnational Woodland Industries Group
WCCP	West Chilterns Commons Project
WDC	Wycombe District Council
WT	Woodland Trust

Appendix 7: Places of interest

The following lists just some of the sites which have public access and can be visited to see some of the habitats and species listed in the BAP. Further details on local sites are available from members of the Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Biodiversity Partnership.

Site Name	Grid Reference	Habitats	Comments
Ashridge Common and Woods	SP975135	Woodland, calcareous grassland, acid grassland	SSSI owned by NT
Aston Rowant	SP728972	Woodland, calcareous grassland	SSSI and NNR
Black Park	TQ013842	Woodland, heathland, acid grassland, eutrophic standing water, streams	SSSI, LNR and Country Park owned by BCC
Blue Lagoon	SP867323	Eutrophic standing water, woodland	LNR
Bradenham Woods: Park Wood & The Coppice	SU828984	Woodland, calcareous grassland	SSSI owned by NT
Buckingham Sand Pit	SP700344	Earth heritage	LNR owned by AVDC
Burnham Beeches	SU950857	Woodland, heathland	SSSI- southern half owned by CoL is a NNR. Whole site is a SSSI and SAC
Butler's Hangings	SU817962	Calcareous grassland, scrub	SSSI and BBOWT reserve
College Lake Wildlife Centre, including Pitstone Quarry SSSI	SP933139	Eutrophic standing water, earth heritage	LWS and BBOWT nature reserve
Coombe Hill	SP849066	Calcareous grassland, acid grassland, woodland	SSSI, mostly owned by NT
Coombes Quarry	SP733327	Earth heritage	LNR owned by BCC
Dancersend	SP900094	Calcareous grassland, woodland	SSSI - part a BBOWT nature reserve
Ellesborough and Kimble Warrens	SP831058	Woodland, calcareous grassland	SSSI crossed by public footpaths
Finemere Wood	SP718218	Woodland	SSSI and BBOWT nature reserve
Gomm Valley	SU897922	Calcareous grassland, woodland	SSSI and BBOWT nature reserve
Grand Union Canal	SP843143	Eutrophic standing	Public footpath

	SP874102 SP872375	water, urban	
Grangelands and Pulpit Hill	SP829050	Calcareous grassland, woodland	SSSI owned by NT and BCC
Hollowhill and Pullingshill Woods	SP822862	Woodland	SSSI, owned by BCC and WT
Howe Park Wood	SP833344	Woodland	SSSI owned by MKC
Ivinghoe Hills	SP963159	Calcareous grassland, woodland	SSSI, owned by NT
Kings Wood	SU890940	Woodland, urban	Public footpaths
Long Herdon & Grange Meadows	SP648202	Lowland meadows, river	Part SSSI; BBOWT nature reserve
Marlow Gravel Pits with River Thames	SU884875	Eutrophic standing water, river	Public footpaths
Moorend Common	SU802905	Acid grassland, heathland, marsh, woodland	SSSI, part owned by Fingest and Lane End Parish Council
Naphill Common	SU840972	Woodland, heathland	SSSI, registered common
Northmoor Hill Wood	TQ034892	Woodland, earth heritage	LNR owned by BCC
Pilch Fields	SP747322	Lowland meadows	SSSI and BBOWT nature reserve
River Misbourne	SU966968	Chalk stream	Public footpath
River Thame, Aylesbury	SP817153	River, urban	Public footpath
Rushbeds Wood & Lapland Farm	SP672154	Woodland, neutral grassland	BBOWT nature reserve, part SSSI
Shabbington Woods (Bernwood Forest) including Bernwood Meadows	SP615110	Woodland, neutral grassland, hedgerows	SSSI, managed by FC and partly by BBOWT as a Forest nature reserve
Stoke Common	SU985853	Heathland	SSSI managed and owned by SBDC
Stony Stratford	SP785412	Standing water, fen	
Tring Reservoirs	SP919136	Standing water, fen, reedbed	SSSI and NNR
Weston Turville Reservoir	SP862096	Standing water, reedbed, fen	SSSI and BBOWT nature reserve

Appendix 8: References

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