

Nature in the Dales:

2020 vision

The second Biodiversity Action Plan for the
Yorkshire Dales National Park

Reptile Species Action Plans

Yorkshire Dales Biodiversity Forum, 2011
Amended Feb 2015

REPTILE SPECIES ACTION PLANS

TRENDS & STATUS 2011

SLOW WORM *Anguis fragilis*

Population in Britain	Widespread and common
Population in the YDNP	Rare (possibly under-recorded)
Conservation Status in UK	Not threatened.
Conservation Status in Europe	Not threatened
Current national population trend	Small decline
Current YDNP trend	Unknown

GRASS SNAKE *Natrix natrix*

Population in Britain	Widespread and common especially in the lowlands
Population in the YDNP	Rare – only known from one site
Conservation Status in UK	Not threatened
Conservation Status in Europe	Not threatened
Current national population trend	Small decline
Current YDNP trend	Unknown

COMMON LIZARD *Zootoca vivipara*

Population in Britain	Widespread and common in suitable habitat
Population in the YDNP	A large and thriving population
Conservation Status in UK	Not threatened
Conservation Status in Europe	Not threatened
Current national population trend	Small decline
Current YDNP trend	Unknown

ADDER *Vipera berus*

Population in Britain	Rare
Population in the YDNP	Rare, but probably under-recorded
Conservation Status in UK	Not threatened
Conservation Status in Europe	Thought to be stable
Current national population trend	Widespread decline likely
Current YDNP trend	Unknown, although recorders report a decline

UK BIODIVERSITY TARGETS 2011

UK BAP Targets	Priority Actions for YDNP LBAP
WIDER ACTION- AGRI-ENV: Declines in this widespread species most likely due to wide scale habitat loss. Hence key to redress is through agri-environment policy and practice (restoration and/or installation of hedgerows, dry stone walls, buffer strips, etc).	Yes – covered by Hedgerows HAP
WIDER ACTION- PLANNING: Common Lizard, Grass Snake and Slow Worm would benefit greatly from recognition of their habitat and management needs at the wider landscape scale. Requires adequate consideration under planning process. Taking account of/or determining their presence during the early stages of local authority development plans, land allocation (especially of `brownfield sites`), and then development schemes, could significantly enhance their current conservation status.	No
GROUPED SPECIES ACTION- GENERAL HABITAT MANAGEMENT: Habitat management that provides suitable basking, feeding, breeding and hibernation sites in a connected landscape for Grass Snake, Slow Worm and Common Lizard should be incorporated into agri-environment schemes, highways schemes, brownfield development plans and land management by public bodies. Such management would include (not exhaustive list), scrub management, not planting up areas with trees, grassland management to suitable heights, provision of hibernacula, provision of egg-laying sites for Grass Snake pond and water management, providing habitat connectivity.	No
MONITORING: The National Amphibian and Reptile Recording Scheme (NARRS) should be implemented and resourced to improve survey data of this fossorial species, but also to monitor population levels so that success criteria and targets can be reported against.	Yes

**NATURE IN THE DALES: 2020 VISION
OBJECTIVES, ACTIONS, TARGETS & MILESTONES**

Objective

RE1.1: To establish a monitoring programme for slow worm, common lizard, adder and grass snake by end of 2016.

Actions & Targets

Actions	Main Delivery Mechanism	Lead Organisation	Indicator
RE1.1: Establish baseline population & trend monitoring by promoting recording of these species in ten 1km squares each year.	National Amphibian and Reptile Recording Scheme (NARRS)	Yorkshire Amphibian and Reptile Group	% of LBAP species that are stable or increasing

Milestones

Actions	Target	When?
RE1.1: Establish baseline population & trend monitoring by promoting recording of these species in ten 1km squares each year.	Ten 1km squares annually	2016

Nature in the Dales: 2020 Vision

Nature in the Dales: 2020 Vision was written and co-ordinated by Tim Thom, Ian Court, Frances Graham & Hannah Fawcett of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority in 2011, following consultation. The production of the plan was steered, advised and supported by the Yorkshire Dales Biodiversity Forum who will be responsible for ensuring that the actions and targets in *Nature in the Dales: 2020 Vision* are achieved. Minor revisions made Feb 2015.

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For citation purposes please use the following format:

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