

Nature in the Dales:

# 2020 vision

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The second Biodiversity Action Plan for the  
Yorkshire Dales National Park

## **Vascular Plant Species Action Plans**

Yorkshire Dales Biodiversity Forum, 2011  
Amended Feb 2015

**VASCULAR PLANT SPECIES ACTION PLANS**

**COMMON JUNIPER *Juniperus communis* SPECIES ACTION PLAN**

**TRENDS & STATUS 2011**

Population in Britain	Less than 20% of occupied hectads in Great Britain occur within YDNP
Population in the YDNP	29 current localities within YDNP, most recent BSBI record dated 2010
Conservation Status in UK	Least Concern (Red List, 2005)
Conservation Status in Europe	Unknown
Current national population trend	Decline (change -0.42)
Current YDNP trend	Unknown

**UK BIODIVERSITY TARGETS 2011**

<b>UK BAP Targets</b>	<b>Priority Actions for YDNP LBAP</b>
<b>LOWLAND ACTIONS:</b> Bring research together to establish a detailed management protocol and apply this to key sites within core areas; restore and expand appropriate habitat; ensure grazing is at appropriate levels on all sites; establish ex-situ seedbank to reinforce highly isolated and edge-of-range single-sex populations with re-introductions where appropriate.	No
<b>UPLAND ACTIONS:</b> Wherever juniper is present, provide conditions, particularly through addressing grazing issues and preventing heathland burning, to allow regeneration to occur; ensure condition and expansion of appropriate upland habitats benefit this species.	Yes – covered by HAPs
Ensure land use planning strategies encourage the availability and connectivity of suitable habitat at the landscape level to allow adaptation of this species to climate change.	No
Ensure that agri-environment/rural development schemes include appropriate management prescriptions and sufficient uptake incentives to encourage appropriate levels of sheep/deer/cattle grazing in core areas where this species occurs. Improve the uptake of these prescriptions in core areas where this species occurs.	No
Surveillance programme: monitor a sample of known sites and populations, including those managed for regeneration, and survey periodically for new records.	Yes

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

**Objectives**

**CJ1.1:** Continue monitoring programme.

**CJ1.2:** Apply national management protocol to key sites; ensure grazing is at appropriate levels on all sites; establish ex-situ seedbank to reinforce highly isolated populations with re-introductions where appropriate by 2016.

**Actions & Targets**

Actions	Main Delivery Mechanism	Lead Organisation	Indicator
<b>CJ1.1: Continue</b> trend monitoring on a sample of known sites and populations.	Common Standards Monitoring	YDNPA	% of LBAP species that are stable or increasing
<b>CJ1.2:</b> Apply national management protocol to key sites; ensure grazing is at appropriate levels on all sites by 2016.	Woodland Management Scheme	YDNPA	-
<b>CJ1.3:</b> Supply ex-situ seedbank annually to reinforce highly isolated populations with re-introductions where appropriate.	-	YDNPA	-

**Milestones**

Actions	Target	When?
<b>CJ1.1: Continue</b> trend monitoring on a sample of known sites and populations.	Devise monitoring programme	Ongoing
<b>CJ1.2:</b> Apply national management protocol to key sites; ensure grazing is at appropriate levels on all sites by 2016.	75% of key sites	2016
<b>CJ1.3:</b> Supply ex-situ seedbank annually to reinforce highly isolated populations with re-introductions where appropriate.	-	Annual

**LADY'S SLIPPER-ORCHID *Cypripedium calceolus* SPECIES ACTION PLAN**

**TRENDS & STATUS 2011**

Population in Britain	33% of occupied hectads in Great Britain occur within YDNP
Population in the YDNP	14 historical and 1 extant locality plus reintroductions, most recent BSBI record 1998
Conservation Status in UK	Critically Endangered (Red List, 2005)
Conservation Status in Europe	Unknown
Current national population trend	Stable to increasing due to reintroductions
Current YDNP trend	Stable to increasing due to reintroductions

**UK BIODIVERSITY TARGETS 2011**

UK BAP Targets	Priority Actions for YDNP LBAP
Continue research into key factors determining sustainability in this species (genetics, pollinator ecology, mycological interactions and other autecological factors).	No
Continue with the restoration of populations throughout the range.	No
Surveillance programme: monitor all known populations, closely focussing on indications that populations are self-sustaining.	Yes
Continue to protect the existing populations from theft/ damage and to educate and inform the public in this regard.	Yes

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

**Objectives**

**LSO1.1:** Continue surveillance programme in the Yorkshire Dales National Park until the end of 2020.

**LSO1.2:** Continue with species protection and public education.

**Actions & Targets**

Actions	Main Delivery Mechanism	Lead Organisation	Indicator
<b>LSO1.1:</b> Establish trend monitoring incorporating indicators of self sustaining populations.	Cypripedium Committee	Natural England	% of LBAP species that are stable or increasing
<b>LSO1.2:</b> Continue an annual programme of species protection and public education.	Cypripedium Committee	Natural England	-

**Milestones**

<b>Actions</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>When?</b>
<b>LSO 1.1:</b> Establish trend monitoring incorporating indicators of self sustaining populations.	Devise monitoring program	Ongoing
<b>LSO 1.2:</b> Continue an annual programme of species protection and public education.	-	Ongoing

**MARSH SAXIFRAGE *Saxifraga hirculus* SPECIES ACTION PLAN**

**TRENDS & STATUS 2011**

Population in Britain	Less than 20% of occupied hectads in Great Britain occur within YDNP
Population in the YDNP	1 site within YDNP, most recent YDNPA record 2009
Conservation Status in UK	Vulnerable (Red List, 2005)
Conservation Status in Europe	Unknown
Current national population trend	Decline (change -0.30)
Current YDNP trend	Stable but potentially on edge of decline

**UK BIODIVERSITY TARGETS 2011**

UK BAP Targets	Priority Actions for YDNP LBAP
Ensure all populations receive the levels of light grazing and hydrological regimes appropriate for their long-term survival.	Yes
Continue the programme of habitat restoration and expansion with the aim of restoring the species to other appropriate sites.	No
Undertake autecological research, including investigation of vectors for dispersal and landscape permeability factors.	No
Surveillance programme: monitor a sample of known populations and survey periodically for new records.	Yes
Ensure land use planning strategies encourage the availability and connectivity of suitable habitat at the landscape level to allow adaptation of this species to climate change.	No

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

**Objectives**

**MS1.1:** Continue existing surveillance programme until end of 2020.

**MS1.2:** Ensure the population receives the levels of light grazing appropriate for its long-term survival.

**Actions & Targets**

Actions	Main Delivery Mechanism	Lead Organisation	Indicator
<b>MS 1.1:</b> Continue annual monitoring.	Common Standards Monitoring	Natural England	% of LBAP species that are stable or increasing
<b>MS 1.2:</b> Ensure the population receives the levels of light grazing appropriate for its long-term survival.	Agri-environment schemes	Natural England	

**Milestones**

<b>Actions</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>When?</b>
<b>MS 1.1:</b> Continue annual monitoring.	Deliver monitoring programme	Annual
<b>MS 1.2:</b> Ensure the population receives the levels of light grazing appropriate for its long-term survival.	Favourable condition	Ongoing

**NARROW SMALL-REED *Calamagrostis stricta* SPECIES ACTION PLAN**

**TRENDS & STATUS 2011**

Population in Britain	Less than 20% of occupied hectads in Great Britain occur within YDNP
Population in the YDNP	1 localities within YDNP, most recent BSBI record dated 1994
Conservation Status in UK	Vulnerable (Red List, 2005)
Conservation Status in Europe	Unknown
Current national population trend	Decline (change -0.74)
Current YDNP trend	Unknown

**UK BIODIVERSITY TARGETS 2011**

UK BAP Targets	Priority Actions for YDNP LBAP
Maintenance of wet meadows (no drainage) with sensitive grazing regimes and protection from nutrient enrichment.	Yes – covered by HAPs
Surveillance programme: monitor all known populations.	Yes
Research measures to re-establish natural, ecological processes which would enable this species to disperse across the landscape and form self-sustaining populations.	No

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

**Objective**

**NSR1.1:** To continue surveillance programme for Narrow Small-reed.

**Actions & Targets**

Actions	Main Delivery Mechanism	Lead Organisation	Indicator
<b>NSR1.1:</b> Continue population & trend monitoring at Malham Tarn NNR.	Malham Tarn Management Plan	National Trust	% of LBAP species that are stable or increasing

**Milestones**

Actions	Target	When?
<b>NSR1.1:</b> Continue population & trend monitoring at Malham Tarn NNR.	Devise a survey & monitoring program	Ongoing



**OTHER VASCULAR PLANT SPECIES ACTION PLANS**

**TRENDS & STATUS 2011**

**BURNT ORCHID *Orchis ustulata***

Population in Britain	Less than 20% of occupied hectads in Great Britain occur within YDNP
Population in the YDNP	22 localities within YDNP, most recent BSBI record dated 1991-1999
Conservation Status in UK	Endangered (Red List, 2005)
Conservation Status in Europe	Unknown
Current national population trend	Decline (change -1.77)
Current YDNP trend	Unknown

**AN EYEBRIGHT *Euphrasia officinalis* subsp. *monticola***

Population in Britain	Less than 20% of occupied hectads in Great Britain occur within YDNP
Population in the YDNP	12 localities within YDNP, most recent BSBI record dated 1991-1999
Conservation Status in UK	Vulnerable (Red List, 2005)
Conservation Status in Europe	Unknown
Current national population trend	Decline due to loss of upland hay meadows
Current YDNP trend	Unknown

**FIELD GENTIAN *Gentianella campestris***

Population in Britain	Less than 20% of occupied hectads in Great Britain occur within YDNP
Population in the YDNP	12 localities within YDNP, most recent BSBI record dated 1987
Conservation Status in UK	Vulnerable (Red List, 2005)
Conservation Status in Europe	Unknown
Current national population trend	Decline (change -1.28)
Current YDNP trend	Unknown

**FLAT SEDGE *Blysmus compressus***

Population in Britain	Less than 20% of occupied hectads in Great Britain occur within YDNP
Population in the YDNP	25 localities within YDNP, most recent BSBI record dated 1991-1999
Conservation Status in UK	Vulnerable (Red List, 2005)
Conservation Status in Europe	Unknown
Current national population trend	Decline (change -1.28)
Current YDNP trend	Unknown

**FROG ORCHID *Coeloglossum viride***

Population in Britain	Less than 20% of occupied hectads in Great Britain occur within YDNP
Population in the YDNP	25 localities within YDNP, most recent BSBI record dated 1997
Conservation Status in UK	Vulnerable (Red List, 2005)
Conservation Status in Europe	Unknown
Current national population trend	Decline (change -1.34)
Current YDNP trend	Unknown

**HOLLY FERN *Polystichum lonchitis***

Population in Britain	Less than 20% of occupied hectads in Great Britain occur within YDNP
Population in the YDNP	8 historical localities within YDNP, most recent BSBI record dated 2010
Conservation Status in UK	Vulnerable (Red List, 2005)
Conservation Status in Europe	Unknown
Current national population trend	Decline (change -0.76)
Current YDNP trend	Unknown

**LESSER BUTTERFLY-ORCHID *Platanthera bifolia***

Population in Britain	Less than 20% of occupied hectads in Great Britain occur within YDNP
Population in the YDNP	10 localities within YDNP, most recent BSBI record dated 1988-2005
Conservation Status in UK	Vulnerable (Red List, 2005)
Conservation Status in Europe	Unknown
Current national population trend	Decline (change -1.67)
Current YDNP trend	Unknown

**NORTHERN HAWK'S-BEARD *Crepis mollis***

Population in Britain	Less than 20% of occupied hectads in Great Britain occur within YDNP
Population in the YDNP	3 current localities within YDNP, most recent BSBI records 2008
Conservation Status in UK	Endangered (Red List, 2005)
Conservation Status in Europe	Unknown
Current national population trend	Decline (change -1.20)
Current YDNP trend	Unknown

**SMALL WHITE-ORCHID *Pseudorchis albida***

Population in Britain	Less than 20% of occupied hectads in Great Britain occur within YDNP
Population in the YDNP	2 historical localities within YDNP, most recent BSBI record dated 1988
Conservation Status in UK	Vulnerable (Red List, 2005)
Conservation Status in Europe	Unknown
Current national population trend	Decline (change -1.77)
Current YDNP trend	Unknown

UK BIODIVERSITY TARGETS 2011

UK BAP Targets	Priority Actions for YDNP LBAP
<b>BURNT ORCHID, FIELD GENTIAN:</b> Maintain or restore traditional (no fertiliser, no herbicide, moderate grazing) pasture management for all remaining extant calcareous pasture sites. Ensure that management is sensitive to the different flowering periods of the two varieties.	Yes – covered by HAPs
<b>BURNT ORCHID, FIELD GENTIAN, FROG ORCHID:</b> Extend area of traditionally managed semi-natural pasture to link existing populations and to provide opportunities for colonisation.	No
<b>BURNT ORCHID, FIELD GENTIAN, FLAT SEDGE, FROG ORCHID, LESSER BUTTERFLY-ORCHID, NORTHERN HAWK'S-BEARD, SMALL WHITE-ORCHID:</b> Surveillance programme: monitor a sample of known populations and survey periodically for new records.	Yes
<b>BURNT ORCHID:</b> Consider measures to restore populations to other suitable localities within the former range where appropriate low intensity, low nutrient input, moderately grazed grassland management can be secured.	No
<b><i>Euphrasia officinalis</i> subsp. <i>monticola</i>:</b> At key sites for this species, ensure that appropriate agricultural management (e.g. levels and patterns of grazing and fertilizer application) for the needs of this species are maintained or restored via mechanisms such as management agreements and agri-environment prescriptions.	Yes - covered by HAPs
<b><i>Euphrasia officinalis</i> subsp. <i>monticola</i>:</b> Develop large-scale landscape processes and mechanisms that will support and encourage the evolution currently operating in this genus.	No
<b><i>Euphrasia officinalis</i> subsp. <i>monticola</i>:</b> Improve recording of this species through the production of a definitive handbook for <i>Euphrasia</i> identification and promote the need for survey through workshops and training.	Yes
<b>FLAT SEDGE:</b> Maintain appropriate habitat conditions in core areas and address lack of grazing/cutting, eutrophication and falling water tables, through targeted use of agri-environment schemes.	Yes – covered by HAPs
<b>FLAT SEDGE:</b> Maintain populations at all isolated sites through appropriate habitat management.	Yes – covered by HAPs
<b>FROG ORCHID:</b> Maintain or restore traditional pasture management (no fertiliser, no herbicide, moderate grazing levels) for pasture and montane sites and traditional machair management for machair at all remaining sites to secure favourable condition.	Yes – covered by HAPs
<b><i>Euphrasia officinalis</i> subsp. <i>monticola</i>, HOLLY FERN, LESSER BUTTERFLY-ORCHID, SMALL WHITE-ORCHID:</b> Ensure that agri-environment/rural development schemes include appropriate management prescriptions and sufficient uptake incentives to encourage a reduction in sheep/deer grazing in upland core areas where this species occurs. Improve the uptake of these prescriptions in core areas where this species occurs.	Yes – covered by HAPs
<b>HOLLY FERN:</b> Ensure single population in Northern Ireland is sufficiently protected and that a site management plan is in place and is being implemented correctly.	No
<b>HOLLY FERN, SMALL WHITE-ORCHID:</b> Investigate the loss of this species and determine its likely response to overgrazing, atmospheric and agricultural nutrient deposition, and climate change, so that appropriate site management recommendations can be made.	No
<b>HOLLY FERN, SMALL WHITE-ORCHID:</b> Ensure land use planning strategies encourage the availability and connectivity of suitable habitat at the landscape level to allow adaptation of this species to climate change.	No
<b>LESSER BUTTERFLY-ORCHID, SMALL WHITE-ORCHID:</b> Refine our understanding of the threats posed to this species by agricultural intensification (e.g. inappropriate under- or over-grazing, eutrophication, drainage) and gather sufficient evidence to support changes in management practices.	No

## Nature in the Dales: 2020 Vision

UK BAP Targets <i>(Continued)</i>	Priority Actions for YDNP LBAP
<b>LESSER BUTTERFLY-ORCHID:</b> For sites outside agri-environment/rural development schemes, ensure appropriate habitat conditions (e.g. roadside verge cutting, appropriate drainage) are maintained through other mechanisms (e.g. LBAPs, Forestry frameworks, practical site management). See comments for Priority Habitats that apply to this species.	Yes – covered by HAPs
<b>LESSER BUTTERFLY-ORCHID:</b> Raise awareness of the plight of this species amongst landowners and the general public to help in the protection of remaining sites.	No
<b>NORTHERN HAWK’S-BEARD:</b> Identify existing localities and ensure that key sites throughout the remaining range are managed sensitively through environmental stewardship (protection from agricultural intensification, over or under-grazing, development, change of land use and eutrophication).	Yes - Through Lowland & Upland Calcareous grassland HAPs
<b>NORTHERN HAWK’S-BEARD:</b> Determine extent of and any reasons for the currently observed decline.	No

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

#### Objective

**OVP1.1:** To continue survey and monitoring programme.

#### Actions & Targets

Actions	Main Delivery Mechanism	Lead Organisation	Indicator
<b>OVP1.1: Continue</b> population & trend monitoring by promoting recording.	Yorkshire Dales Rare Plants Project	Yorkshire Dales Biodiversity Forum	% of LBAP species that are stable or increasing

#### Milestones

Actions	Target	When?
<b>OVP1.1:</b> Continue population & trend monitoring by promoting recording.	Devise survey and monitoring programme	Ongoing

*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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