

The Species Action List

The following species will be the focus of new action for the next five years:

1. Species conservation

Vertebrates – native species

- Black grouse
- Capercaillie
- Great crested newt
- Greenland white-fronted goose
- Red squirrel
- Scottish wildcat
- Vendace
- Water vole

Vertebrates – formerly native species

- European beaver
- White-tailed eagle

Invertebrates

- Freshwater pearl mussel
- Great yellow bumblebee
- Marsh fritillary butterfly
- Pearl-bordered fritillary butterfly
- Pine hoverfly
- Slender Scotch burnet moth

Plants and fungi

- Bird's nest stonewort
- Intermediate wintergreen
- Lesser butterfly orchid
- Small cow-wheat
- Woolly willow
- Hazel gloves fungus

2. Invasive non-native species

Vertebrates

- American mink
- Grey squirrel (with regard to red squirrel conservation)

Invertebrates

- North American signal crayfish

Plants

- New Zealand pygmyweed
- *Rhododendron ponticum* and its hybrids
- *Sargassum muticum* (wireweed)

3. Conflicts of interest involving native species

Vertebrates

- Hen harrier

4. Sustainable use of species

Vertebrates

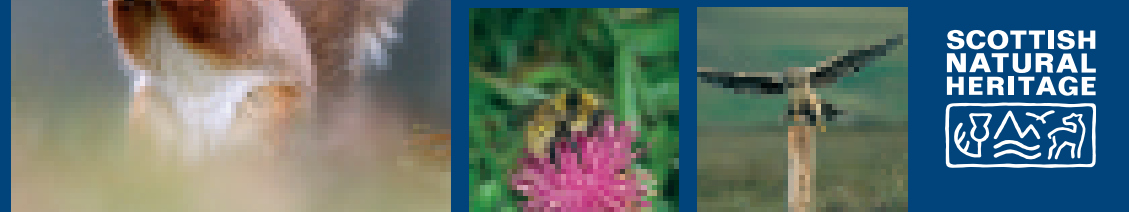
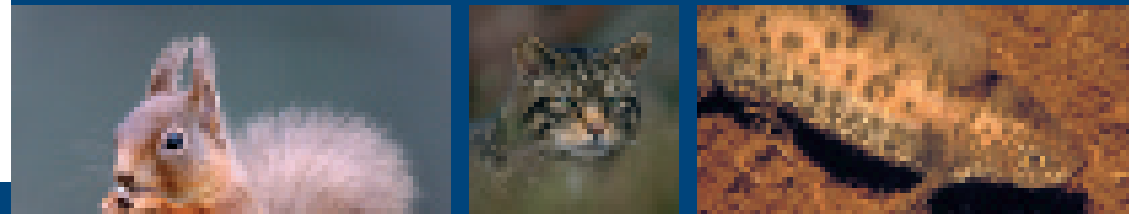
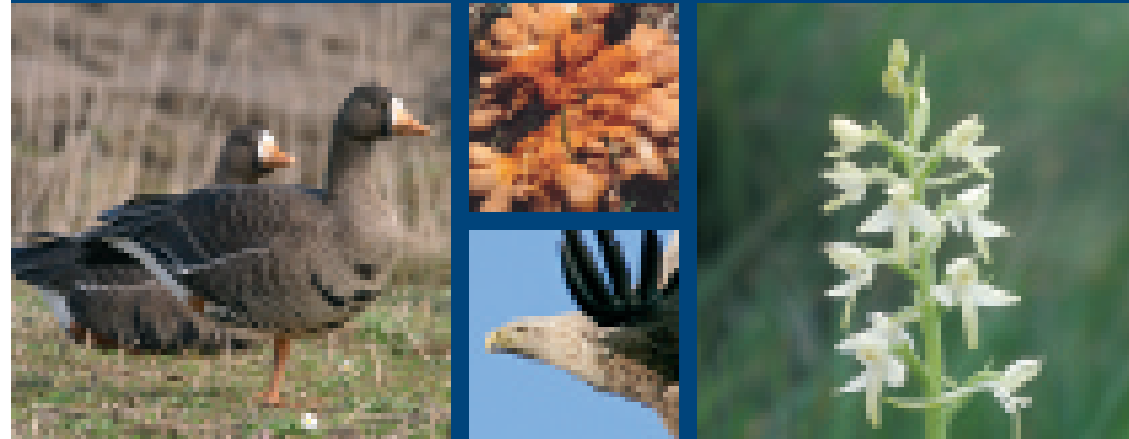
- Native deer (red deer & roe deer)

Invertebrates

- Native oyster



A Five Year Species Action Framework: Making a difference for Scotland's Species



For more information, and a copy of the full Species Action Framework booklet, go to the SNH web site www.snh.org.uk. Copies can also be ordered by phoning SNH Publications on 01738 458530.

Scottish Natural Heritage,
Battleby, Redgorton, Perth PH1 3EW
Tel: 01738 458530 Fax: 01738 458613

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Scotland has some of the best wild areas and most iconic species in the whole of Europe. Our biodiversity is a vital part of our natural and cultural heritage that enriches and underpins our lives – the air we breathe, the water we use and the soil we grow our food in all depend on it. But our actions are threatening the ability of the earth's ecosystems to sustain us in future.

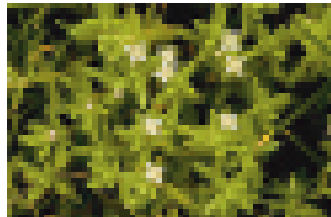
The Scottish Biodiversity Strategy sets out what we need to do over the next 25 years to conserve and enhance biodiversity. The importance of Scotland's biodiversity to our health, individually and as a nation, is emphasized in the Strategy, as is the enormous economic value.

We now need to prioritize the way we manage species, focusing on those where we expect significant gains to overall biodiversity, and thereby benefits to the people of Scotland, will result. SNH has therefore produced a 'Species Action Framework' which sets out a strategic approach to species management in Scotland.

The Framework addresses the following issues:

Why do we manage species?

SNH's long-term aim is for thriving and, where possible, self-sustaining and self-regulating populations of native species, distributed throughout their natural range.



New Zealand pygmyweed

When is species management needed?

There are four main situations:

1. *Species conservation* – where targeted action is focused on the needs of a species to increase its range or population size because it is at risk in Scotland or internationally, or because it plays a vital role in achieving healthy ecosystems.
2. *Invasive non-native species* – where species that are not native to a particular area threaten biodiversity aims.
3. *Conflicts of interest involving native species* – when the behaviour of a species brings it into conflict with people's interests or with the conservation of other species or habitats.
4. *Sustainable use of species* – where a species in the wild is a resource of social or economic benefit (e.g. field sports, fisheries).

Which species should be the focus of species management efforts?

A new 'Species Action List' of 32 species where new, focused effort and resources over the next five years could make the most difference to biodiversity has been produced (see overleaf).



Black grouse

How do we manage species for biodiversity?

The following five principles should guide all species management:

1. *Species management is a shared responsibility.*
2. *There are ecological and socio-economic aspects to species management decisions.*
3. *Species management benefits from a strategic approach.*
4. *Species management needs an adaptive approach.*
5. *Management activity should have regard to animal welfare.*

Practitioners of land and water management will be key partners in meeting the biodiversity conservation objectives outlined in this framework for action.

The full Species Action Framework document, available from SNH, includes short accounts and summary five year implementation plans for all the species on the Species Action List.

Pearl-bordered fritillary butterfly

