

SAMPLE ACTION PLAN

Species Action Plan for *Cyperus fuscus* - Brown Galingale - continued

ACTION PLAN OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS

- Establish an *ex-situ* programme to maintain the genetic diversity of *C. fuscus* in Jersey, by 2000.
- Maintain and enhance the population at Ouaisné by 2001.
- Introduce a population to a suitable new site and manage this site for *C. fuscus* by 2003.
- Provide statutory or active site protection at Ouaisné by 2004.
- Commence research into the impacts of rabbit and duck grazing on the fruiting success of *C. fuscus* at Ouaisné by 2003.

PROPOSED ACTION WITH LEAD AGENCIES

Policy and Legislation

- No action proposed.

Site Safeguard and Management

- Submit Le Ouaisné Pond and Le Ouaisné Common for designation as a SSI, by 2004 (ESU).
- Manage water levels at Ouaisné, ensuring that they are maintained within the parameters necessary for the species long-term survival, by 2000 (CMT).
- Introduce mild annual summer disturbance by 2001 e.g. trampling or drive a vehicle across the site once, (CMT).
- Divert run off water from the road so it does not flow into the pond at Le Ouaisné by 2006, (ESU to negotiate with the relevant States Authority).
- Ensure public access to the pond is not increased, (CMT).

Species Protection and Management

- Bring seedlings, from Ouaisné, into cultivation by 2000, (ESU).
- Collect seeds from Ouaisné and send them to the Millennium Seed Bank at Wakehurst Place by 2000, (ESU).
- Introduce *C. fuscus* to a new site, by 2003 (ESU and CMT). Monitor the new population, (ESU).

Advisory

- No action proposed.

Future Research and Monitoring

- Continue to monitor the population at Ouaisné annually and monitor the new population when introduced (ESU and CMT).
- Commence research into the impacts of rabbit and duck grazing on the fruiting success of the population at Ouaisné, by 2003 (ESU). Contact English Nature for advice on the experimental procedure that should be followed.
- Monitor research being undertaken in Britain on other aspects that influence the ecology of *C. fuscus*, (ESU).

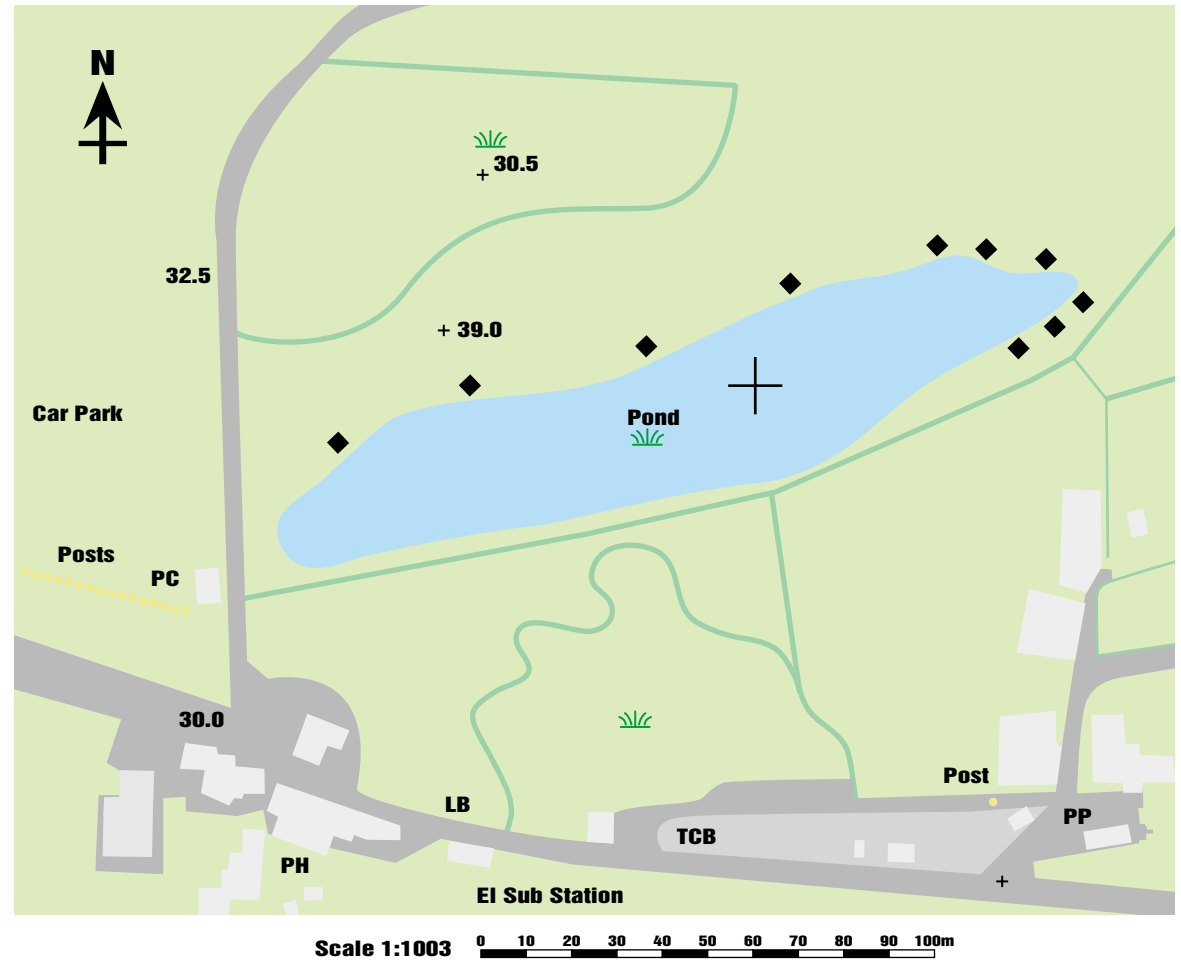
Communications and Publicity

- Send the monitoring data collected on *C. fuscus* at Ouaisné to PLANTLIFE annually (ESU).

Links with other Action Plans

- *C. fuscus* occupies bare mud habitats as do the BAP species *Elatine hexandra* and *Baldellia ranunculoides*. Management at Ouaisné for *C. fuscus* would benefit these species should they also appear.

Fig. 5.2.
Location Map of *Cyperus fuscus*



HABITAT STATEMENTS

A brief habitat statement has been prepared on the broad habitat types to inform policy and action. The habitat types to have been defined so as to be easily understood, unambiguous, and recognisable by a broad range of people.

The Identification of Key Habitats

The following criteria have been adopted to select key habitats. Costed Action Plans will be prepared for those habitats which satisfy one or more of the following criteria:

- Habitat for which Jersey has international obligations. e.g. listed in the EC Habitats Directive
- Habitats which are rare or important in the British Isles
- Habitats that are at risk in Jersey because of their rarity or vulnerability or high rate of decline in the last 20 years.
- Habitats that are important in Jersey because they provide a refuge for key species.

Habitat Action Plans - Format

Habitat action plans will be prepared under the following format:

Current Status

A physical description of the habitat including NVC or CORINE classification where appropriate.

A brief description of the biological importance of the habitat including notable species present and any links with species action plans

Current factors affecting the habitat

'Current' refers to factors that have occurred over the last 25 years. Factors considered to affect the habitat are listed in order of importance.





Current action

Legal Status - The current legal status of the habitat.

Management, research and guidance - Any management agreements, incentive grants, research or advice relating to the habitat.

Action plan objectives and proposed targets

Lists the objectives and targets of the plan, not the means of achievement.

The success of the action plan is measured against the targets.

Where possible quantitative targets will be set in terms of areas of habitat.

Reporting on outcomes will be on a five-yearly interval.

Proposed action

The methods by which the targets set in section 5.

Agencies responsible for targets are listed.

Actions are listed under the following headings:

Policy and Legislation

Site safeguard and management

Advisory

International

Future research and monitoring

Communication and Policy

Costings

Costs include any agri-environmental grants and average resource costs over 5 years. Cost estimates are based on previous experience and are based on costs of specific actions within the plans. Costings are general and could change if the assumptions made in the costing process prove to be under- or over-estimates





Section 6

Introduction

Data Requirements

The Jersey Environmental Database

Monitoring Climate Change

Habitat Classification

Information and data

ARTICLE 7 OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY: IDENTIFICATION AND MONITORING

“Each Contracting Party shall, as far as possible and as appropriate, in particular for the purposes of Articles 8 to 10:

- a) Identify components of biological diversity important for its conservation and sustainable use having regard to the indicative list of categories set down in Annex I;
- b) Monitor, through sampling and other techniques, the components of biological diversity identified pursuant to subparagraph (a) above, paying particular attention to those requiring urgent conservation measures and those which offer the greatest potential for sustainable use;
- c) Identify processes and categories of activities which have or are likely to have significant adverse impacts on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, and monitor their effects through sampling and other techniques; and
- d) Maintain and organize, by any mechanism data, derived from identification and monitoring activities pursuant to subparagraph (a), (b) and (c) above.

INTRODUCTION

It is to Jersey’s credit that much information and data on biodiversity has been collected in the past. The Société Jersiaise has an impressive amount of information, collected over the years in line with its stated objective of “the study of the history, the ancient language, the geology, the natural history and the antiquities of the Island”. Since the formation of a States’ conservation section in IDC in 1979, surveys have been carried out on most of the important habitats of the Island. Plant lists and habitat maps have been compiled. Unfortunately much of the work is not in an easily accessible form which would assist decision making on habitat management, species protection and land-use.

The collection, organisation and storage of biological data and information need to be improved. The opportunity to do this is provided by the need to comply with Article 7 of the Convention and the requirement to monitor progress on the implementation of Directives and Conventions. It is anticipated that once the mapping system has been adopted and the new Recorder 2000 is on line, it will be possible to make progress in this area. Consideration will be given to the issues of access to information and the intellectual property rights. It is important that data relating for instance to the location of especially rare plants or breeding birds is not immediately available to everyone. Existing links with data collectors in the Island will be strengthened.

The requirement under the Biodiversity Convention to identify important components of biodiversity for data collection and monitoring provides a framework into which requirements from a number of EC directives and other conventions fit. Table 6.1 shows the requirement to collect data and information relevant to biodiversity under various EC directives and the Convention itself. Table 6.2 shows the current status of surveillance and monitoring for the main groups of species in Jersey.

DATA REQUIREMENTS

The concept of biodiversity and the need to create an Island Strategy within the framework of the international Convention has drawn attention to the amount of work that has been done to date on this topic. In addition to work addressing the requirements of Article 7 of the Convention and the European dimension mentioned earlier, other important work has been completed during the preparation of the draft of the Island’s Conservation of Wildlife law. It deals with its schedules of protected species, the EU Birds and Habitats Directives and the international conventions, such as Bern, Bonn and Ramsar. The principles outlined in 2.4 above and the formulation and implementation of the Island Plan also require a fuller knowledge of species and habitats throughout the Island

The achievement of the broad aims, specific objectives and precise targets in States’ policy-making across the board depends to a large extent on data and information. The management of change requires knowledge of the existing position and what is changing. This gives understanding of the factors causing change, and identification and evaluation of the action needed to deal with them. Structured monitoring is a requirement of,

for example, the UK action plan. Basic requirements are:

- a) Establishment of a baseline;
- b) Regular and systematic monitoring to detect change or progress towards specific targets; and study of the reasons for change, especially undesirable change in order to inform action.

There is also a need for broader surveillance programmes which will allow the identification of important new trends such as declines in farmland birds, which in the UK have declined by as much as 50% in the last decade. The study of such trends would lead to action through operational programmes.

The quality of the decision taken is greatly influenced by the quality of the information, its relevance and the ease of access to it. As noted above, Jersey has a quantity of data on species and habitats, but it needs organisation to improve its accessibility. The first priority is the accessibility and co-ordination of existing data. Information support is needed for several areas including:

- planning applications;
- EIA decision making;

Due to lack of resources, it has not been possible to validate table 6.2 fully. However, the table does indicate that there are groups of species that are not covered by the required level of surveillance and monitoring. It will be necessary to give attention to the high costs of formal monitoring systems and the length of time before results can be fed into action. There is a need to prioritise on a more formal basis than at present, and to recognise that the lists of species are far from complete.

THE JERSEY ENVIRONMENTAL DATABASE

Following a request in the 1995 Strategic Policy Report, Alison Barnes (1996) made recommendations on :

- the generation of habitat and species data;
- monitoring habitat change;
- technology, including use of Recorder software system;
- standardisation/verification procedures;
- legal protocol;
- use of volunteers;



- staff requirements and finance, and
- inputting marine and non-biological data (such as geological) on the database and aiming at accreditation by the UK National Biodiversity network.

The recommendations were adopted and funding was acquired and it is still important to appoint a full-time project officer. And a Phase I habitat survey was completed but lack of staff has seriously hindered the implementation of the recommendations.

Fieldwork for Le Sueur's *Flora of Jersey* began in the 1960s and is somewhat out of date. Furthermore the spatial references in the flora use a grid using latitude and longitude. Each square is a rectangle half a minute of latitude by one minute of longitude, giving an area of about 1.15 square kilometres. Modern recording methods use a kilometre square based on the UTM grid. If resources were available it might be possible to scan the entries in the flora for individual species and convert their location to a UTM grid, although inaccuracies would be introduced. This data could then be compared with modern records to give comparative data on the status of species.

Surveyors from the Société Jersiaise are using subjective methods to identify species that are decreasing in range. It is partly this data that is used to compile threatened species lists. This study is combined with data generated by workers employed by the ESU and before that the Conservation Department of the IDC. This data spans a period of nearly 20 years.

A Phase I habitat survey has been completed using a combination of remote sensing (analysis of satellite and aerial photography supported by ground truthing) and fieldwork. Phase II surveys of sites identified in Phase I as being of importance will define vegetation more precisely and will include surveys of animals and communities. Phase II information is used to justify the designation of SSIs and Ramsar sites and enough data has so far been generated to enable the designation or proposed designation of 12 terrestrial SSIs and one Ramsar site. Marine sites are less well covered, but a substantial amount of detailed information has been gathered on the south-east intertidal zone.



MONITORING

Baseline data on Jersey's habitats is now largely complete. It is recognised that the baseline data may not be representative, since all systems are subject to stochastic or cyclical change. A period of surveillance will be vital to ensure that the baseline is representative. Key components (components intrinsic to and vital to the ecological integrity of an ecosystem) of individual habitats will be identified as part of the development of a monitoring programme. The monitoring programme will also define specific methods, frequency of sampling and criteria for review and changes. A programme of resurveying will be initiated in 2005 to monitor gross habitat changes in size and quality. An interval between surveys of three years would be ideal. The resource commitments for such a programme would be considerable. Fig. 6.1. shows a schematic representation of the ideal monitoring strategy:



Fig. 4.
Schematic representation of ideal monitoring strategy (in Barnes 1996)

HABITAT CLASSIFICATION

Up to now the UK's National Vegetation Classification has been used in parallel with the European CORINE system. Biogeographically Jersey is part of Europe. This fact, combined with the small area and high diversity of Jersey's habitats, has made the use of NVC in the Island difficult. NVC is a vegetation classification. It relies on rigorous sampling by skilled field workers to generate data, which while producing consistent data, is fairly time consuming. The use of Domin values can be problematical and may not be consistent between surveyors. CORINE is a hierarchical habitat classification, which is based on European phytosociology. It is a 'quick and dirty' method, which can be used by non-specialists. CORINE is the system used to define habitats under the Europa 2000 scheme, and is thus more useful when setting the Island's habitats in a European context. The problem of comparing classification systems reflects the artificial nature of trying to divide a continuum of vegetation into distinct categories, especially in a small island where distinct communities can be crowded together. Data collection in the Island will be on a level, which will generally allow classification under the NVC. Since the collection of data is the most time consuming it is intended to run both systems in tandem where possible.

A computer mapping system is proposed that is user-friendly and will be accessible to naturalists, the Société Jersiaise and ESU staff.

Standardisation /Verification procedures - At present no real verification procedure exists. This issue will be addressed when the Biodiversity Review Panel is set up

Legal Protocol - Data entry will comply with The Data Protection (Jersey) Law, 1987.

Use of Volunteers - The proposed Biodiversity Review Panel will also investigate the possibility of using volunteers to input data. The natural history sections of the Société Jersiaise are actively investigating this but progress is slow.

Staff Requirements - It is hard to see how progress can be made on this project without the appointment of a full time project officer. It may be possible to employ temporary staff to input historical data, but without specialist supervision it is inevitable that serious errors will occur. Piecemeal development of the project will lead to more problems than it will solve.

Marine Data - Fairly comprehensive data has been gathered for the south-east coast during the preparation of the Ramsar designation for the area. Data are available for most of the rest of the shoreline, but, like terrestrial data, it needs to be collated, analysed and updated. Recorder 2000 will be used to help to produce a full dataset.

Non Biological Data - In order to provide centralised information, consideration will be given to including geological and other data in a linked system.

Table 6.1.
Requirements to collect data and information under various EC Directives and International Conventions

REQUIREMENT FOR DATA AND INFORMATION	EC BIRDS DIRECTIVE	EC HABITATS DIRECTIVE	RAMSAR CONVENTION	BONN CONVENTION	BERN CONVENTION	BIODIVERSITY CONVENTION
REQUIREMENT TO GATHER INFORMATION ON	Wild Birds	Habitats and species	Wetlands and species	Migratory species	Threatened habitats	All components of biodiversity
MAINTAIN AND ORGANISE DATA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
REQUIREMENT TO MONITOR	Bird population levels	Habitats and species	Wetlands and species	Migratory species	Threatened habitats	All components of biodiversity
COLLECT INFORMATION ON DESIGNATED SITES FOR CONSERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY	SSIs	SSIs	SSIs			
DATA ON SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIODIVERSITY	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
DATA TO QUALIFY THREATS TO BIODIVERSITY	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Table 6.2.
Current Status of 'long list' Species Groups in Jersey

GROUP	NUMBER OF SPECIES CURRENTLY ON LIST	NUMBER OF SPECIES WITH ACTION PLANS	NUMBER OF SPECIES OUTSIDE SSIs	NUMBER OF SPECIES MAINLY WITHIN SSIs	NUMBER OF SPECIES FOUND ISLANDWIDE	NUMBER OF SPECIES LACKING ADEQUATE STATUS ASSESSMENT	NUMBER OF SPECIES WITH SOME FORM OF ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME IN PLACE	NUMBER OF SPECIES WHICH ACTION PLANS EXIST OR ARE BEING CONSIDERED
Aldae	0	0	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	0	0
Fungi	2	0	2	unknown	unknown	unknown	0	0
Lichens	360	0	unknown	unknown		unknown	0	0
Liverworts	0	0	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	0	0
Mosses	0	0	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	0	0
Stoneworts	0	0	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	0	0
Vascular plants	304	18					8	25
Ants	1	1	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	1	1
Bees	0	0	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	0	0
Beetles	0	0	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	0	0
Butterflies	30	0					0	0
Caddis Flies	0	0	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	0	0
Crickets/Grasshoppers	4	4	4	4				0 0
Dragonflies	3	3					0	0
Two-winged flies	0	0	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	0	0
Matfly	0	0	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	0	0
Millipedes	0	0	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	0	0
Molluscs	0	0	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	0	0
Moths	0	0	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	0	0
Other invertebrates	0	0	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	0	0
Spiders	0	0	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	0	0
Stoneflies	0	0	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	0	0
True Bugs	0	0	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	0	0
Wasps	0	0	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	0	0
Amphibians	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	0
Birds	3	3	2			2	3	3
Fish								
Mammals	3	1	2	0				
Reptiles	2	0	0	0			2	



Section 7

Introduction

Development of a Co-ordinated Education and Awareness Strategy

Key Sectors in Jersey

Public awareness and involvement

ARTICLE 13 OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY- PUBLIC EDUCATION AND AWARENESS:

The Contracting Parties shall:

- Promote and encourage understanding of the importance of, and the measures required for, the conservation of biological diversity, as well as its propagation through media, and the inclusion of these topics in educational programmes; and
- Cooperate, as appropriate, with other States and international organizations in developing educational and public awareness programmes, with respect to conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.

INTRODUCTION

Measures directly concerned with nature conservation are only a part of promoting and encouraging understanding of the importance of biodiversity. Measures must also be adopted to address the complex socio-economic factors that influence the way that people interact with their environment and to promote and encourage the ways that everyone can help in the conservation of biological diversity.

Although these broader issues are more appropriately addressed in the broader context of sustainability, the thread of personal responsibility for and involvement in the conservation of biodiversity is central to the educational aims of the strategy. The implementation of the action plans relies to a large extent on public understanding and support.

Perceptions of Biodiversity

A recent report commissioned to assist the development of Agenda 21 in Jersey held a series of focus groups. They note that while the groups evinced a strong aesthetic appreciation of the Island's landscape and natural beauty, "there was little awareness of the ecological importance of any of the habitats on Jersey, nor was (there) much concern about nature conservation expressed by the groups. Maintaining and enhancing biodiversity, a fundamental element of sustainable development strategies was not salient for group members - *which suggests that there is significant educational work to be done to raise this issue among the general public.*" (Italics added).

Research commissioned by the UK Biodiversity Steering Group showed that public understanding of biodiversity in the UK falls into three main categories; species, the natural environment and sustainability. The most common understanding of biodiversity is the "diversity of life", and the idea that species are vital to the maintenance of the earth's ecology. Biodiversity is also seen to mean the natural environment in a broader sense, including natural habitats. In both cases implicit in the word biodiversity is the need to take action to preserve the widest possible range of species and habitats. Biodiversity is also understood by some to have a deeper and more fundamental meaning linked to the impact of human activities on a global scale. In this sense, biodiversity is regarded as a crucial part of sustainability and is closely linked with Agenda 21. Although people in Jersey may not have such a developed awareness of biodiversity as they do in the UK, it nonetheless seems likely, given the similarities between the peoples that similar perceptions of biodiversity are held in Jersey.

DEVELOPMENT OF A CO-ORDINATED EDUCATION AND AWARENESS STRATEGY

Formal Education and Training

The formal education sector must continue to play a major part in promoting the understanding and importance of biodiversity. With minor exceptions in certain subject areas, the Jersey Curriculum mirrors the



National Curriculum for England and the major revisions made to this document in 2000 were also reflected in the local version.

Amongst those changes was a new statement of values, aims and purposes which underpins the Jersey Curriculum. This states under the heading of '*The Environment*':

"We value the environment, both natural and shaped by humanity, as the basis of life and a source of wonder and inspiration. On the basis of these values, we should:

- *accept our responsibility to maintain a sustainable environment for future generations*
- *understand the place of human beings within nature*
- *understand our responsibilities for other species*
- *ensure that development can be justified*
- *preserve balance and diversity in nature wherever possible*
- *preserve areas of beauty and interest for future generations*
- *repair, wherever possible, habitats damaged by human development and other means."*

The Science and Geography programmes of study throughout Key Stages 1-3 aim to provide knowledge, skills and understanding to school children on a number of topics which have a direct relationship with the concept of biodiversity. Headings within these subject areas include *life processes and living things* and *knowledge and understanding of environmental change and sustainable development*.

Further to these subject specific connections, the Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE) Curriculum aims to provide pupils with the knowledge skills and understanding to become informed, active and responsible citizens, attributes which will clearly assist in the Islandwide objective of promoting the importance of biodiversity and sustainable development.

Nationally, a range of initiatives are underway to promote good practice in environmental education and ensure that a range of high quality resources on the subject are available to school teachers. Organisations such as the Council for Environmental Education and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds provide expert advice and produce a range of guidance and resources for teaching about the importance of biodiversity in schools.

It is vital that the States of Jersey Departments responsible for education and environmental protection, work in partnership to ensure that Jersey keeps pace with developments at the national level and that progress continues to be made in this subject within the local formal education sector.

Public Awareness and Involvement

It is essential that the contact between people and nature is re-established. People of all ages must be encouraged to develop their direct knowledge and experience of biodiversity on an everyday basis. Relevant

initiatives being pursued by ESU include:

- a) A programme of walks and talks
- b) The production of information leaflets and videos
- c) The setting up of a computerised photographic archive; digital images are held on a database
- d) Various environmental events have been held since 1996 and these will continue to be an important way of bringing people together to learn about and discuss issues surrounding biodiversity.

Public consultation is enshrined in the decision making process. All initiatives involving biodiversity such as the St Ouen's Bay planning framework, and the consultation for Environmental Impact Assessment include wide public consultation as an essential component. Small consultation groups such as the Agile Frog Recovery Group and the protected species advisory group also fulfil an important role.



KEY SECTORS IN JERSEY

UK research has shown that levels of understanding and interest in biodiversity vary considerably between different sections of society. It is important to gear messages and proposals for involvement and action in accordance with the particular interests of each sector. A list of key sectors in Jersey is shown below.

- States Departments
- The churches and faiths
- Youth and community groups
- Tourism
- Business and commerce
- The farming industry
- The fishing industry
- The finance industry
- The professions
 - Architecture and landscape design
 - Engineering
 - Planning
 - Medical
 - Legal
- NGOs (Société Jersiaise, National Trust for Jersey, JWPT)
- Other land managers
- The media
- All forms of education



Champions of Biodiversity - The relevance of biodiversity for various sectors depends on how closely each sector is linked with the natural environment. The perception that biodiversity has no relevance for a particular sector could be overcome by the provision of leadership and inspiration from within individual sectors. Respected figures from within sectors should be encouraged to become *Champions of Biodiversity*. They would supplement key messages from this strategy with explanations of why biodiversity is important to their particular sector.

Partnerships - In the context of biodiversity partnerships are valuable and viable. Historically the department has made management agreements and provided advice for landowners and organisations. Recently an initiative to form a forum of farmers, growers, landowners and conservation groups is proving fruitful. It is intended that this will be an independent group, which will act as a conduit to involve a wide range of stakeholders who were previously difficult to reach.

Sponsorship - Limited departmental funds are available for funding small projects. The Société Jersiaise and the Jersey Tree Advisory Council are two groups who have benefited from this. The recent environmental festivals and weekend events attracted sponsorship from several Island businesses and it is hoped that this will expand through the Champions of Biodiversity scheme.

Barriers and Constraints - The following issues are perceived as preventing effective action to preserve biodiversity:

- a) the relevance of biodiversity is misunderstood. Unless biodiversity is promoted as a primary issue in its own right, and as a critical part of sustainability, all environmental actions will continue to be essentially palliative.
- b) the costs on the environment of everyday decisions are not apparent. To make progress in preserving biodiversity, the issues must be clearly defined to provide a basis for individual lifestyle and commercial decisions.
- c) consideration of biodiversity by organisations is often perceived as a costly extra burden. The financial benefits of an environmentally conscious approach are not always sufficiently emphasised.
- d) the lack of a consistent strategy for all States' departments towards the environment and the preservation of biodiversity leads to a public perception that the States does not follow the advice it is giving the public. The Agenda 21 focus groups were well aware that the Island faces problems but felt that their contribution as individuals was negated, as in the issue of waste separation, or that their willingness to contribute was ignored, as in the case of transport.
- e) information supplied may only reach those who are already concerned with environmental issues. The accessibility and usability of information must be carefully evaluated to ensure that relevant, practical, consistent and clear information is reaching individual key sectors.

- f) media treatment of environmental issues tends to focus on contentious issues. A higher profile should be given to biodiversity issues in all sections of the media.

Public Awareness

Biodiversity is ultimately lost or conserved at a local level and a considerable proportion of resources will continue to be devoted to providing information on biodiversity issues, and involving the population in the enhancement and conservation of the diversity of species in the Island. Key sectors in the Island will be approached to raise awareness and gain practical help. The gains to be made by involvement in the preservation of biodiversity will be emphasised.

International Linkages

The value of linkages both with the other Channel Islands and internationally should not be underestimated. Links with the authorities of other Channel Islands and the Isle of Man will be strengthened and the possibility of some involvement in EC projects such as Eurosite and Arc Manche will be investigated.







Section 8

References

Acknowledgements

The way forward

The task, which we have in front of us, we must tackle as partners, in the knowledge that we are leaving something worthwhile for those that come after us. In order to safeguard the extremely rich and visually attractive biodiversity of Jersey we must undertake a variety of protective measures and activities.

■ Designation of Sites of Special Interest.

Three have been declared already, the staff of ESU believe that six will be ready for designation by 2003 and nine by 2005. These are examples of what conservationists call site safeguard and will protect wildlife on the main wildlife sites of Jersey. We have an added responsibility to safeguard such areas because they belong to the world as well as to the people of Jersey.

■ Species Action Plans

Some species are more mobile or range more widely than over a limited range of sites but may nevertheless be rare or threatened. For these, Species Action Plans need to be prepared and implemented. They indicate how the sites and populations should be managed and who should be responsible. Again several of these have already been prepared and 20 will be completed by 2003 and 25 by 2005.

■ Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs)

A new recommendation for Jersey is the need to identify small semi-natural areas that are important to wildlife. These areas may not necessarily justify SSI status but will nevertheless be key sites for the conservation of nature. It is not proposed that they will have any statutory protection but will be the focus of targeted survey work by ecologists and be under the attentive eye of the Island's planners. Such recognition of small semi-natural areas of lesser importance than SSIs is part of the planning process in many English counties and has proved to be particularly beneficial. They should be known as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation or more briefly as SINCs. The process does not require any legislative change and will not threaten the rights of any landowner. Indeed conservationists look to landowners for their support and co operation.

■ Other Strategies

Although this strategy is fairly comprehensive there are still subjects which require further thought and development. It is therefore expected that in the next few years more detailed and focused strategies will be developed for grazing, water availability and quality for wildlife, public awareness of conservation (see below) and a Coastal Zone Management Strategy.

- It is also important that Jersey complies with all EU conservation and environmental directives and continues to administer CITES in an effective manner.

■ Research and Monitoring

There will continue to be topics which require research and monitoring. For example, more needs to be known about the population dynamics of Jersey orchid, the impact and rate of spread of Hottentot fig and the control of bracken. These topics are candidates for research and there are many more. Monitoring



