

Monitoring Sub-Group Minutes

Monday 20th September

2pm

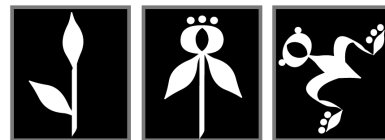
at BRERC, Ashton Court Visitor Centre

Chair: Tim Corner

Minutes: Jenny Hayward

Avon

Biodiversity Partnership



The variety of life

Actions

Attendees

Richard Bland, Bristol Naturalists' Society; Mary Wood, Avon Wildlife Trust and Avon Reptile and Amphibians Group; Rebecca Price, AWT; Tim Corner, BRERC; Jenny Hayward, Partnership Co-ordinator. Apologies: Karen Renshaw, B&NES; Dave Willis, SGC; Mr Stapleton, BOC.

The role and function of the group

Group agreed to use JH's model as starting point. Group will deal with monitoring species and habitats, not with monitoring and reporting back on others' actions (although BRERC will be able to help with this – TC keep steering group up-to-date with any help he can provide on reporting BAP actions). Group to keep up-to-date list of all recording groups in area on website (see notes below).

TC
Monitoring
group

Are the right people attending the groups?

Group needs wider membership. Lots of people/recording groups collecting data in area that are not represented. TC to finish off list of local groups collated by BRERC and send to monitoring group members in next 2 weeks. Members to add any other groups that they are aware of in subsequent 2 weeks. List to form basis of knowledge to decide whom we need to ask to group/whom we need to feed back to/influence in the area. To be discussed at next meeting. Group agreed that should remain aware of national recording groups and invite representatives along to meetings if relevant items on agenda. Possible mechanism for contacting people is e-group. JH to investigate setting up after next meeting's decision on membership.

TC/ALL

JH

Issues that can't be solved through existing work and related projects

Lots of ongoing action happening e.g. Table 4.6 in Avon BAP. Outstanding issues identified:

Woodlands: 1/ **Not all data going to BRERC.** JH sort out meeting to discuss with RS/TC, possibly before next steering group meeting. JH to ask HS what regional situation is. Some work due to happen on this anyway with Jim Fry/Rob Spence (see notes from woodland group – JH reported back v. briefly on plans from this group).

JH

2/ **Veteran tree records and survey.** Difficulty obtaining/collating veteran tree records for area. Recently have been 3 or 4 veteran tree initiatives with varying success. Need more concerted effort. 2 stages needed a) collate existing info b) focus survey to areas identified as lacking records. Records of trees BCC (parks department), B&NES – very little known, NSC, Tony Titchen, Terry Smith, Richard Bland! (Action RB – send veteran tree records to BRERC). ALL give list of people with veteran tree records to JH by end October. JH co-ordinate programme to contact all holders of records to ask for submission to BRERC Nov/Dec (e.g. divide

RB
ALL
JH

<p>contact all holders of records to ask for submission to BRERC Nov/Dec (e.g. divide up between most appropriate members of group – label as data-gathering project for Avon BAP). Monitoring Group: devise plans for next steps once this information is collated – e.g. at next meeting or afterwards. JH to contact SWBAP group and England BAP group for info on veteran tree surveys – where they've worked/where they haven't/money available. TC/JH to investigate possibility of Avon piloting public participation survey for veteran trees to be rolled out across SW. JH will contact Heather Sohl.</p> <p>Water: JH reported back on GCN project/invasive species ideas (see water and wetlands group minutes).</p> <p>Marine: Real lack of records. JH to bring up at Coastal and Marine meeting. JH/TC to contact HS asking for national marine data – updated info from NBN mapping. Other useful info: Baseline monitoring: Karen Renshaw noted that a project involving local communities in baseline monitoring of habitats and species would be useful. Some work is going on with LNRs at the moment. Also BRERC has Local Patch Initiative – exploiting people's knowledge of their local area to get data. HLF bid going in to continue this project. Ties in with BAP habitat and species monitoring.</p> <p>Bird Atlas: 2007-2011 BTO/BOC will be working on a new distribution atlas, probably based on bird density at a 1-km² level.</p> <p>Monitoring birds in different habitats: RB – might be possible to get BNS/BTO members to monitor birds in particular habitats – perhaps using national survey techniques in those habitats. Habitats would be those identified as priorities in Avon BAP. RB to think about this a bit more? Could be discussed at future meeting.</p> <p>Monitoring and reporting back on action</p> <p>JH to provide template for reporting back on actions – from table 4.6 and other actions added in from meetings for reporting back at next meeting. ALL to work out how best to do this for their orgs/groups.</p> <p>JH to email all to remind them to do this before next meeting when will report back for first time.</p> <p>ALL to consider how negative info should be reported back on/stored e.g. woodcock survey. Last year 15 sites were surveyed with no woodcocks found.</p> <p>Issues for other groups? (Monitoring/Funding/Communication + other habitat ones)</p> <p>TC keep steering group up-to-date with any help he can provide on reporting BAP actions</p> <p>Lack of marine records - Coastal and Marine meeting</p> <p>Feeding back to your organisation</p> <p>All to ensure relevant people in their organisations kept informed of Avon BAP group activities</p>	<p>Group</p> <p>JH</p> <p>JH/TC</p> <p>JH</p> <p>TC/JH</p> <p>RB</p> <p>JH/ALL</p> <p>JH</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>JH</p> <p>ALL</p>
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Next meeting date 16th December 9:30-1