



**Lowland Farmland HAP Group Meeting  
13<sup>th</sup> December 2006, DWT Office, Belper.**

**Present:**

Anna Evans, Derbyshire Wildlife Trust  
Dan Abrahams (Natural England)  
Debbie Court (LD Biodiversity Partnership) **Note taker**

**Apologies:**

Carl Hawke (National Trust)

**1. UK BAP Review**

Debbie reported that the revised UK BAP Targets had now been published. Below are the revised targets:

Habitat name	Target type	Target number	Target text	Target units
Ancient and/or species-rich hedgerows	Maintaining extent	T1	Maintain the net extent of hedgerows across the UK.	Kilometres
Ancient and/or species-rich hedgerows	Maintaining extent	T2	Maintain the overall number of individual, isolated hedgerow trees (estimated by CS 2000 to be 1.8 million in Great Britain in 1998) and the net number of isolated veteran trees (to be estimated for the first time by CS 2007).	Number of trees
Ancient and/or species-rich hedgerows	Achieving condition	T3	Ensure that between 2005 and 2010 hedgerows remain, on average, at least as rich in native woody species.	Number of species
Ancient and/or species-rich hedgerows	Achieving condition	T4	Achieve favourable condition of 243,000 km (35%) of hedgerows by 2010 and 348,000 km (50%) by 2015. (Target does not include Northern Ireland.)	Kilometres
Ancient and/or species-rich hedgerows	Achieving condition	T5	Reverse the unfavourable condition of over-managed hedgerows across the UK by reducing the proportion of land managers who trim most of their hedges annually to 60% by 2010.	Percentage (%)
Ancient and/or species-rich hedgerows	Achieving condition	T6	Halt further decline in the condition of herbaceous hedgerow flora in Great Britain by 2010 (and improve their condition by 2015). (Target does not include Northern Ireland.)	Number of species

Ancient and/or species-rich hedgerows	Achieving condition	T7	Improve the condition of the hedgerow tree population by increasing numbers of young trees (1-4 years) in Great Britain to 40,000 by 2010 and 80,000 by 2015. (Target does not include Northern Ireland.)	Number of trees
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Cereal field margins	Expansion	T1	Expand the area of cultivated, low-input field margins to 16.3kha by 2010.	Hectares
Cereal field margins	Expansion	T2	Expand the area of margins providing wild bird seed to 20.8kha by 2010.	Hectares
Cereal field margins	Expansion	T3	Expand the area of flower-rich field margins which provide a pollen and nectar source to 12kha by 2010.	Hectares
Cereal field margins	Expansion	T4	Expand the area of permanent grass margins to 27kha by 2010.	Hectares
Cereal field margins	Achieving condition	T5	Achieve favourable condition on an increasing proportion of the resource of arable field margins by 2010.	Hectares

## 2. Progress on Hedgerows

The 2005/6 Annual Report for the Lowland Derbyshire BAP recorded the planting of 530m of hedgerow and the management of 2,728m hedgerow. No information was received from DEFRA concerning any ELS and HLS agreements, so no information has been recorded for work on private land.

Hedgerow planting will only be included in Higher Level Scheme (HLS) agreements as Entry Level Schemes (ELS) agreements do not include capital items. Hedgerow management can be included in both ELS and HLS will be recorded.

Anna reported that the surveying part of the Chesterfield Hedgerow Project has been delayed by the delay in the production of DEFRA's revised hedgerow survey handbook. It will include information on hedgerow condition to be able to monitor for the UK Hedgerow HAP. DEFRA has agreed to the surveying part of the project being carried over until summer 2007. Despite this Trevor Taylor has managed to survey 120 hedgerows collecting information on what we think will be included in the handbook. He has also marked the locations of veteran trees in hedgerows so that they can be followed up by the Great Trees of Derbyshire Project.

Anna also reported that the project will be running a hedgerow surveying training session in early spring 2007 to enable volunteers to help with the surveying. The DWT hedgerow management has been revised and printed as part of the project as well as a new leaflet on hedgerow wildlife. These are now available to download from the 'download section' of the DWT website.

A 200 metre section of hedgerow was planted and sections gapped up by Chesterfield Rangers and local school children at Norbriggs Flash.

Dan said he had recently received information from Jim Flanagan who undertook the CPRE hedgerow survey in the Moss Valley. This is on paper but needs to be digitised and in a format that is compatible with the other digitised hedgerow information.

Actions No 1 in the HAP states that we need all of the available hedgerow information in one place. There was some discussion as to how we were going to achieve this. It was suggested that we mapped hedgerows and split them into species-rich hedgerows (an average of > 5 woody species per 30metres) and non-species-rich hedgerows.

Debbie had continued to digitise hedgerow loss between the First Edition OS map and now. Glapwell and Clowne have both lost 63% of their hedges.

### **3. Field Margins**

The first draft Field Margins HAP has been with James Couzens awaiting comments for the last 8 months. Dan agreed to take it away and make some comments so that the targets are compatible with the measurable outcomes of ELS and HLS.

**Action: Dan**

### **4. HLS and ELS**

Take up of ELS has been encouraging. Dan showed a map of ELS and HLS take up in the Bolsover area. The boundaries of all Environmental Stewardship schemes (ELS & HLS) can now be viewed on the MAGIC website [www.magic.gov.uk](http://www.magic.gov.uk).

Dan agreed to investigate the take up of hedgerow and buffer /field margin options under ELS.

**Action: Dan**

### **5. Future Projects**

Debbie suggested a possible Farmland Bird project in the Southern Magnesian part of Bolsover. The map showed a high, but not complete, take up of ELS in the area. The project could include monitoring farmland bird populations on ELS schemes, advising landowners on available ELS options for farmland birds, planting hedgerows and awareness raising on farmland bird issues. Debbie will write up a project proposal bid and send around to partners and members of the Bolsover Biodiversity Network.

**Action: Debbie**

### **6. Date of next Meeting**

24<sup>th</sup> April 2007

Debbie to arrange a site visit to an appropriate farm in the Bolsover area possibly in Pilsley and a nearby location for the meeting possible Pilsley Village Hall.

**Action: Debbie**

Debbie Court  
13<sup>th</sup> December 2006.