



Caravan Club BAP short list of features

A report prepared for:
The Caravan Club

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1 Executive summary

JUST ECOLOGY has been commissioned to write a corporate Biodiversity Action Plan (cBAP) for The Caravan Club.

As part of this process, specific Action Plans will be written for up to 20 species and habitats (hereafter known as 'features').

This document presents the short-list of potential features, prepared for consideration by key members of The Caravan Club.

2 Introduction

JUST ECOLOGY has now completed an audit of the biodiversity resource held by The Caravan Club, within its existing Club Site network.

The audit was comprised of a questionnaire survey of all site wardens, and a GIS examination of existing national habitat inventories; Ancient Woodland Inventory, Grassland Inventory, etc. (The details of the audit process will be contained within the final cBAP documentation.)

The output of this audit is a list of features, occurring on Caravan Club sites. A short-list of priority features has been drawn up by JUST ECOLOGY from the features lists, based on:

- National BAP for species and habitats;
- Habitat importance;
- Protection status of individual species;
- Rarity status;
- Flagship species.

Consultation with key members of the Caravan Club is now required, in order to decide on a finalised list of up to 20 BAP features.

Following this selection of up to 20 features, we will draft a series of Objectives and Targets, for each feature, for consideration by the Caravan Club Sites Management team. In turn these will inform the sub-action plans which will then be written for each feature within the cBAP.

3 Feature short-lists

The feature short-list for habitats and species is presented in Tables 1 and 2. The short-list is made up of 8 habitats, and 29 species, resulting in a short-list of 37 features. Up to 20 features can be selected from this short-list.

3.1 Habitat short-list

We have selected 8 habitat groups which we believe should all be included in the final short-list (Table 1, overleaf). The rationale for inclusion of all of these habitats is that: (i) they are each widespread across the site series; (ii) they are easily identified by both Site Wardens and Club Members; (iii) they are very important at a UK-wide level, and; (iv) if well managed, have the potential to provide an excellent resource for an extensive range of species, including the very many important species which will not be covered explicitly by the cBAP. The selection of a range of habitats thus allows the cBAP a much wider scope, enabling The Caravan Club to justifiably claim that they are working for the benefit of biodiversity found across, and adjacent to, their entire site series.

Table 1. Habitats short-list. Table headings: Q-naire Sites = No. of Questionnaire respondent sites in which habitat is present ($n = 98$ Questionnaire respondents). Data Sites = No. of sites in which habitat is present, as assessed using national inventory data ($n = 148$; full site series).

No.	Habitat	Q-naire Sites	Data Sites	Website
1	Broad leaved woodland	40	61 [†] / 36 [‡]	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=46
2	Wet woodland	20	20	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/ukplans.aspx?id=4
3	Scrub	38	n/a	No national BAP
4	Grouped plan for grasslands:	n/a	n/a	National BAP broken down into Priority Habitats:
	- Lowland calcareous grassland	4	7	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=12
	- Upland calcareous grassland	n/a	2	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=13
	- Lowland dry acid grassland	1	9	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=14
	- Lowland meadows	n/a	6	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=10
	- Upland hay meadows	n/a	n/a	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=11
	- Purple moor grass and rush pastures	n/a	5	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=17
	- Rough grassland	48	n/a	No national BAP
5	Species rich hedges (> 6 woody species)	45	n/a	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=7#1
6	Ditches & banks	20 / 19*	n/a	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=48
7	Rivers & streams	13 / 12 [§]	n/a	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=59
8	Veteran trees	44	n/a	No national BAP. For more information, see: http://www.english-nature.org.uk/pubs/handbooks/upland.asp?id=6

[†] Combination of Ancient Woodland Inventory data for England & Scotland only.

[‡] Combination of Inventories of Lowland mixed deciduous woodland and Lowland beech and yew woodland.

* Combination of Ditch & Bank questionnaire categories.

[§] Combination of River & Stream questionnaire categories.

3.2 Species short-list

We have short-listed 29 species, from which up to 12 can be selected for inclusion in the Caravan Club cBAP (Table 2). We have indicated those species which we would recommend for selection, based on an assessment of: (i) occurrence across the Caravan Club site series; (ii) rarity; (iii) importance; (iv) interest to Club members (potential flagship species), and; (v) a selection from each of the species groups (reptiles, insects, plants, etc.) present in the short-list.

Table 2. Species short-list, presented by species group.

No.	Group	Species	No.	Group	Species
9	Mammals	Common dormouse *	24	Amphibians	Great crested newt *
10		Lesser horseshoe bat	25	Insects	Stag beetle
11		Red squirrel	26		Large garden bumble-bee *
12	Raptors	Kestrel *	27	Reptiles	Slow worm *
13		Red kite	28	Plants	Autumn lady's tresses *
14	Farmland birds	Grouped plan for Swallows / Swifts / Martins *	29		Birdsnest orchid
15		Linnet	30		Burnt-tip orchid
16		Skylark	31		Cornflower *
17	Woodland birds	Bullfinch *	32		Early marsh orchid
18		Goldcrest	33		Green-winged orchid *
19		House sparrow	34		Lady orchid
20		Marsh tit	35		Northern marsh orchid
21		Mistle thrush	36		Purple rampion fumitory
22		Song thrush (RSPB Species champion species) *	37		Southern marsh orchid *
23		Woodlark			

* Species or species group recommended for inclusion in the cBAP.

We appreciate that Caravan Club staff, or Executive Members may wish to select species from this list which we have not recommended. In this case, further detailed information, including a breakdown of species occurrence and status, is given in Annexes 1-3, below.

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Annex 1. Species occurrence data. Source: Q, Questionnaire; W, Added by Site Wardens; D, Data extracted from national databases; A, Added. Re = No. of Regions in which species is present. Si = No. of Sites in which species is present. Only dated records for 1980 onwards have been used. Sample sizes are given in parentheses. Grey shading indicates species groups for which data was collected in the Questionnaire, but for which BAPs will not be prepared (e.g. 'Beetles'); in each case data for specific species (e.g. Stag beetle) are given immediately below.

Group	Species	Latin name	Source	Questionnaire		Data (1980+)	
				Re (14)	Si (98)	Re (14)	Si (148)
Amphibians	Great crested newt	Triturus cristatus	W/D	n/a	n/a	12	51
Insects	Beetles	n/a	Q	14	84		
Insects	Stag beetle	Lucanus cervus	D	n/a	n/a	1	1
Insects	Bees	n/a	Q	14	92		
Insects	Large garden bumble-bee	Bombus ruderatus	D	n/a	n/a	0	0
Reptiles	Slow worm	Anguis fragilis	Q	10	23	n/a	n/a
Mammals	Common dormouse	Muscardinus avellanarius	Q/D	12	30	6	26
Mammals	Lesser horseshoe bat	Rhinolophus hipposideros	D	n/a	n/a	5	20
Mammals	Red squirrel	Sciurus vulgaris	B	6	14	6	20
Birds of prey	Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus	Q	14	42	n/a	n/a
Birds of prey	Kites	n/a	Q	8	18		
Birds of prey	Red kite	Milvus milvus	W	1	1	n/a	n/a
Farmland birds	Swallows / Swifts / Martins	n/a	Q	14	81	n/a	n/a
Farmland birds	Barn swallow	Hirundo rustica	A	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Farmland birds	Common swift	Apus apus	A	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Farmland birds	House martin	Delichon urbica	A	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Farmland birds	Linnet	Acanthus cannabina	W	2	2	n/a	n/a
Farmland birds	Skylark	Alauda arvensis	A	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Woodland birds	Bullfinch	Pyrrhula pyrrhula	Q	14	52	n/a	n/a
Woodland birds	Goldcrest	Regulus regulus	Q	8	31	n/a	n/a
Woodland birds	House sparrow	Passer domesticus	Q	13	61	n/a	n/a
Woodland birds	Marsh tit	Parus palustris	W	4	4	n/a	n/a
Woodland birds	Mistle thrush	Turdus viscivorus	W	3	4	n/a	n/a
Woodland birds	Song thrush	Turdus philomelas	Q	14	76	n/a	n/a
Woodland birds	Woodlark	Lullula arborea	D	n/a	n/a	5	6
Plant	Autumn lady's tresses	Spiranthes spiralis	D	n/a	n/a	5	29

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Group	Species	Latin name	Source	Questionnaire		Data (1980+)	
				Re (14)	Si (98)	Re (14)	Si (148)
Plant	Birdsnest orchid	Neottia nidus-avis	D	n/a	n/a	9	24
Plant	Burnt-tip orchid	Orchis ustulata	D	n/a	n/a	4	7
Plant	Cornflower	Centaurea cyanus	D	n/a	n/a	9	30
Plant	Early marsh orchid	Dactylorhiza incarnata	D	n/a	n/a	11	29
Plant	Green-winged orchid	Orchis morio	D	n/a	n/a	9	35
Plant	Lady orchid	Orchis purpurea	D	n/a	n/a	2	2
Plant	Northern marsh orchid	Dactylorhiza purpurella	D	n/a	n/a	9	37
Plant	Purple ramping fumitory	Fumaria purpurea	D	n/a	n/a	4	4
Plant	Southern marsh orchid	Dactylorhiza praetermissa	D	n/a	n/a	11	55

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Annex 2. Selection criteria for species. PSA bird species = Public Service Agreement indicator species: <http://www.bto.org/research/indicators/index.htm>. IUCN bird Red/Amber list = (Red) Threatened according to IUCN criteria; those whose population or range has declined rapidly in recent years; (Amber) unfavourable conservation status in Europe: http://www.rspb.org.uk/Images/Bocc2_tcm5-44622.pdf.

Group	Species	Status/reason for selection
Amphibians	Great crested newt	Priority species. Endangered. Listed in the EC Habitats Directive and Bern Convention. Protected by the Cons Regulations and the WCA.
Insects	Beetles	
Insects	Stag beetle	Priority species. Rare. Listed in the EC Habitats Directive.
Insects	Bees	
Insects	Large garden bumble-bee	Priority species. Nationally scarce.
Reptiles	Slow worm	Protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act.
Mammals	Common dormouse	Priority species; declining. Listed in the Bonn Convention EC Habitats Directive. Protected by the Cons Regulations and the WCA.
Mammals	Lesser horseshoe bat	Priority species. Vulnerable and rare in UK. Listed in Bern Convention and EC Habitats and Species Directive. Protected by the Cons Regulations and the WCA.
Mammals	Red squirrel	Priority species. Listed in the Bern Convention. Protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act.
Birds of prey	Kestrel	PSA Farmland bird. Serious cause for concern; (25-49%) decline in breeding pop last 25 yrs.
Birds of prey	Kites	
Birds of prey	Red kite	Protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981(Schedule 1). IUCN bird Amber list. Pop increasing; outlook good.
Farmland birds	Swallows / Swifts / Martins	
Farmland birds	Barn swallow	IUCN bird Amber list. Some declines.
Farmland birds	Common swift	Recent steep decline.
Farmland birds	House martin	PSA bird (other). IUCN bird Amber list. Apparently stable.
Farmland birds	Linnet	PSA Farmland bird. IUCN bird Red list. Seriously declining.
Farmland birds	Skylark	PSA Farmland bird. IUCN bird Red list. Declined by 54% between 1969 and 1991.
Woodland birds	Bullfinch	PSA Woodland bird. IUCN bird Red list. Seriously declining.
Woodland birds	Goldcrest	PSA Woodland bird. IUCN bird Amber list. Seriously declining.
Woodland birds	House sparrow	PSA bird (other). IUCN bird Red list. Severely declining - rapid fall over last 25 yrs.
Woodland birds	Marsh tit	IUCN bird Red list. Declining.
Woodland birds	Mistle thrush	PSA bird (other). IUCN bird Amber list. Declining.
Woodland birds	Song thrush	PSA Woodland bird. IUCN bird Red list. Serious losses. Rapid decline over last 25 yrs.
Woodland birds	Woodlark	Priority species. Protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Schedule 1). IUCN bird Red list.
Plant	Autumn lady's tresses	Distribution limited. Near threatened. General protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Decreasing.
Plant	Birdsnest orchid	Distribution limited. Near threatened. General protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.
Plant	Burnt-tip orchid	Distribution limited. Nationally scarce. General protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Rare and decreasing.
Plant	Cornflower	Priority species. Endangered. General protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.
Plant	Early marsh orchid	Distribution limited. General protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Has declined markedly in central and south-east England over the last century.
Plant	Green-winged orchid	Distribution limited. General protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

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Group	Species	Status/reason for selection
Plant	Lady orchid	Nationally Scarce, but common in Kent. Endangered. General protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.
Plant	Northern marsh orchid	Distribution limited. General protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.
Plant	Purple rampion fumitory	Priority species. General protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.
Plant	Southern marsh orchid	Distribution limited. General protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

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Annex 3. Further species information.

Group	Species	N BAP?	Website
Amphibians	Great crested newt	Y	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=619
Insects	Beetles	N	
Insects	Stag beetle	Y	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=425
Insects	Bees	N	
Insects	Large garden bumble-bee	Y	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=154
Reptiles	Slow worm	N	http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/wildfacts/factfiles/281.shtml
Mammals	Common dormouse	Y	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=462
Mammals	Lesser horseshoe bat	Y	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=551
Mammals	Red squirrel	Y	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=565
Birds of prey	Kestrel	N	http://www.rspb.org.uk/birds/guide/k/kestrel/index.asp
Birds of prey	Kites	N	
Birds of prey	Red kite	N	http://www.rspb.org.uk/birds/guide/r/redkite/index.asp
Farmland birds	Swallows / Swifts / Martins	N	
Farmland birds	Barn swallow	N	http://www.rspb.org.uk/birds/guide/s/swallow/index.asp
Farmland birds	Common swift	N	http://www.rspb.org.uk/birds/guide/s/swift/index.asp
Farmland birds	House martin	N	http://www.rspb.org.uk/birds/guide/h/housemartin/index.asp
Farmland birds	Linnet	Y	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=188
Farmland birds	Skylark	Y	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=80
Woodland birds	Bullfinch	Y	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=542
Woodland birds	Goldcrest	N	http://www.rspb.org.uk/birds/guide/g/goldcrest/index.asp
Woodland birds	House sparrow	N	http://www.rspb.org.uk/birds/guide/h/housesparrow/index.asp
Woodland birds	Marsh tit	N	http://www.rspb.org.uk/birds/guide/m/marshtit/index.asp
Woodland birds	Mistle thrush	N	http://www.rspb.org.uk/birds/guide/m/mistlethrush/index.asp
Woodland birds	Song thrush	Y	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=621
Woodland birds	Woodlark	Y	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=426
Plant	Autumn lady's tresses	N	http://www.britainsorchids.fieldguide.co.uk/?PP=species_account&SPID=18&SHC=21&PSD=1&PHPSESSID=66968da1aefcdae7ddd68b8e591538c
Plant	Birds nest orchid	N	http://www.britainsorchids.fieldguide.co.uk/?PP=species_account&SPID=15&SHC=33&PSD=1&PHPSESSID=66968da1aefcdae7ddd68b8e591538c
Plant	Burnt-tip orchid	N	http://www.britainsorchids.fieldguide.co.uk/?PP=species_account&SPID=52&SHC=37&PSD=1&PHPSESSID=66968da1aefcdae7ddd68b8e591538c
Plant	Cornflower	Y	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=198
Plant	Early marsh orchid	N	http://www.britainsorchids.fieldguide.co.uk/?PP=species_account&SPID=39&SHC=7&PSD=2&PHPSESSID=66968da1aefcdae7ddd68b8e591538c
Plant	Green-winged orchid	N	http://www.britainsorchids.fieldguide.co.uk/?PP=species_account&SPID=51&SHC=19&PSD=1&PHPSESSID=66968da1aefcdae7ddd68b8e591538c
Plant	Lady orchid	N	http://www.britainsorchids.fieldguide.co.uk/?PP=species_account&SPID=53&SHC=35&PSD=1&PHPSESSID=66968da1aefcdae7ddd68b8e591538c

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Plant	Northern marsh orchid	N	http://www.britainorchids.fieldguide.co.uk/?PP=species_account&SPID=45&SHC=29&PSD=1&PHPSESSID=66968da1aefcdae7dddb68b8e591538c
Plant	Purple ramping fumitory	Y	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/UKPlans.aspx?ID=316
Plant	Southern marsh orchid	N	http://www.britainorchids.fieldguide.co.uk/?PP=species_account&SPID=44&SHC=27&PSD=1&PHPSESSID=66968da1aefcdae7dddb68b8e591538c
