

Response to consultation for Epping Forest's Local Biodiversity Action Plan 2008-2012

Name	Organisation	Comment	Action taken
Gordon Wyatt	Natural England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • page 4, table of designated sites - the 1 Ramsar site (Lee Valley) is also an SPA. • page 4, paragraphs about designations - needs a sentence or two about the Lee Valley SPA • page 8, table showing relationship to UK and Essex BAPs - probably ought to also include the Lee Valley BAP, as this overlaps part of the district. • target 4.1 (Farmland projects) - full details of farmland within agri-environment schemes is now available online at: http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/campaigns/landmanagement/default.htm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • comment noted and suggested change has been added • comment noted and suggested change has been made • comment noted and suggested change has been made • This has been noted and target has been removed • comment noted and suggested change has been made
Rebecca O'Shea	Environment Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should water vole and otter be added to the list of priority species as they are both present within Epping Forest District/ on UK BAP? • Aim 13: If there is a fishing element to the pond restoration I am sure our Fisheries officer would help out and I would be able to buy in to pond restoration if it is within the floodplain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No - Epping Forest partnership took the decision to focus this LBAP on only a few flagship species. Water vole and otter were not prioritised for this plan. • This offer has been noted and if in the future a fishing element will arise we will take it up

Steve Bunce	Epping Forest Field Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thinks it looks really good. • Suggested to involve Epping Forest Field Centre (Field Studies Council) in the delivery of biodiversity projects in schools and higher education establishments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Epping Forest Field Centre has been added to the action plan.
Rebecca Inman	Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5.1.1 - To what end. What qualifies as 'good quality'. Is it that it supports known locally important species? Is there detail as to how this will be done? • 5.1.2 & 5.1.3 - What is meant by public survey? • 5.1.4 - FWAG is the most experienced organisation in submitting successful agri-environment scheme applications. What assistance is the LBAP proposing? Other partners have contributed towards the cost of a FWAG report and HLS application if it delivers particular targets (e.g. Plantlife to support applications that enhance populations of arable plants). This has been highly successful and could be used to help deliver LBAP targets. • 4.1.1 - Happy to do this but to what end? • 4.1.2 - FWAG can help to achieve this through existing membership and other network channels. • 6.1.2 - FWAG can help to achieve this with the potential to develop a woodland project within the district based on other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comment noted and 'good quality' is explained in Annex 2 • Explanation added to Annex 2 • FWAG put as lead partner • FWAG put as lead partner • FWAG put as lead partner • FWAG put as lead partner

		<p>successful FWAG partner projects. This has included management of existing woodlands and linking woodland habitats.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim 10 states 'Encourage the appropriate management of hedgerows and endeavour to extend existing area of hedgerows' – however there is no direct action within the LBAP to help achieve appropriate management of hedges. Many farmland habitats are no longer under direct threat from removal or ploughing up but suffer from the lack of appropriate sympathetic management. For example the lack of management leading to the degeneration of hedges is still an issue and over-management, associated with regular close trimming, is also a reason for hedgerow deterioration and loss. FWAG could promote 'best practice' within the district. • 13.2.1 - Happy to contribute to this. <p>There is significant potential to develop partnership working to deliver LBAP targets on farmland in Epping Forest.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An action has been added. • FWAG put as lead partner
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