

Swindon BAP Standing Open Water Action Plan - Includes Urban Ponds and Canals

Objective SOW01: To monitor and enhance population sizes and ranges of species associated with standing open water.

Target	Target Measure	Action	Action Measure	Partners	Action Deadline	Links to Other Plans	Comments
SOWT1: To increase knowledge of the range and populations of species associated with SOW habitats, over and above the statutory requirements.	The WSBRC receive an increased number of records from Swindon Borough relating to SOW habitats. Baseline 2009/2010. WSBRC.	SOWA1: A volunteer group study amphibian populations in Swindon Borough.	At least five ponds are studied each year and the results reported to the WSBRC.	Wiltshire Amphibian and Reptile Group (WARG), WWT	Annual report		These are surveys undertaken over and above those carried out as part of a statutory obligation (development, public bodies etc). The Swindon Biodiversity Partnership would urge that all contracts for such work, contain a clause requiring those who have conducted surveys and subsequent monitoring, to pass the information to the WSBRC, as part of a statutory obligation.
		SOWA2: Individuals are trained to determine the presence/absence of GCN's (and other amphibians) in ponds, under licence.	At least 5 individuals undertake training.	WARG, WWT	2012		
		SOWA3: Interest in amphibian projects is generated by hosting events focused on amphibians (e.g. Great Crested Newt Hunts).	At least two public events per year.	WARG/WWT	Ongoing		

Target	Target Measure	Action	Action Measure	Partners	Action Deadline	Links to Other Plans	Comments
SOWT2: Water voles expand their range into more mink free areas.	An increase in the range of water voles. 2014. Water For Wildlife Project (WWT).	SOWA4: Mink control expanded out from local key area up to current target for the WFW project.	Percentage of target area covered.	WFW (WWT) , EA, CWP	2014		

Objective SOWO2: To increase the amount of standing open water habitat.

Target	Target Measure	Action	Action Measure	Partners	Action Deadline	Links to Other Plans	Comments
SOWT3: Increase the area of standing open water habitats.	At least one large area of SOW (1ha+) (SB Planning Dept.) and 5 smaller areas of SOW (EA) are developed each year. This is an accrual target to take account of big areas coming online; therefore base year is April 2009-March 2010.	SOWA5: Provide technical advice on biodiversity issues to ensure the Wilts and Berks Canal promotes maximum benefits to biodiversity.	Publication of a Wilts and Berks Canal Trust BAP.	W&BCT , EA, NE	2010	Wiltshire BAP	
		SOWA6: Encourage landowners (including schools) to construct new ponds.	At least five small ponds developed every year.	EA/WWT	Annually		
		SOWA7: Work with developers to provide advice on pond creation and management in new housing developments and roads (SUDS).	All major developments provide at least one new pond/wetland area for wildlife.	SBC , WWT, EA	Monitoring major development planning applications		
		SOWA8: To encourage the use of native plant species in newly created SOW habitats.	Build on existing work and compile a list of information sources and other resources that can be used to encourage use of native species.	WWT (WFW volunteers)	2011		
		SOWA9: Bring forward plans for SOW creation on possible sites (such as Wichelstowe off site mitigation area).	One major pond/wetland scheme is brought forward every five years.	SOW HAP Working Group , SBC, GWCF	2014		This is over and above the normal obligations and conditions, where a partnership approach may attract further resources across a landscape.

Objective SOWO3: To protect, buffer, link, restore and enhance standing open water habitats.

Target	Target Measure	Action	Action Measure	Partners	Action Deadline	Links to Other Plans	Comments
SOWT4: Work to achieve the restoration and enhancement of standing open water habitat.	One pond restored or enhanced every year (WWT WfW)	SOWA10: Using existing mechanisms (ELS, HLS, Developer obligations etc) bring forward at least one pond restoration per annum.	Number of ponds restored.	SOW HAP Working Group	Annually		It may be possible to pull together a list of opportunities that can be updated annually
		SOWA11: Promote and advise landowners of the benefits of buffer zones near aquatic habitats.	At least two sites influenced each year.	WWT (WfW)	Annually		
		SOWA12: Survey existing ponds to determine the number that meet national BAP priority status.	Number determined.		Annually		Swindon BAP Coordinator, EA and WfW to determine criteria against which this is judged.
		SOWA13: As ponds are surveyed, determine enhancements for those that do not currently meet national BAP priority status.	Enhancements suggested for ponds that do not currently meet status.		Ongoing		
		SOWA14: Encourage local communities to manage ponds in their local greenspace.	5 community groups actively engaged in managing ponds.	WWT	2014		
		SOWA15: Continue to provide a series of volunteer work parties based on Standing Open Water habitats.	10 work parties each year with a focus on SOW enhancement or restoration.	WWT, SBC Rangers, BTCV	Annually		