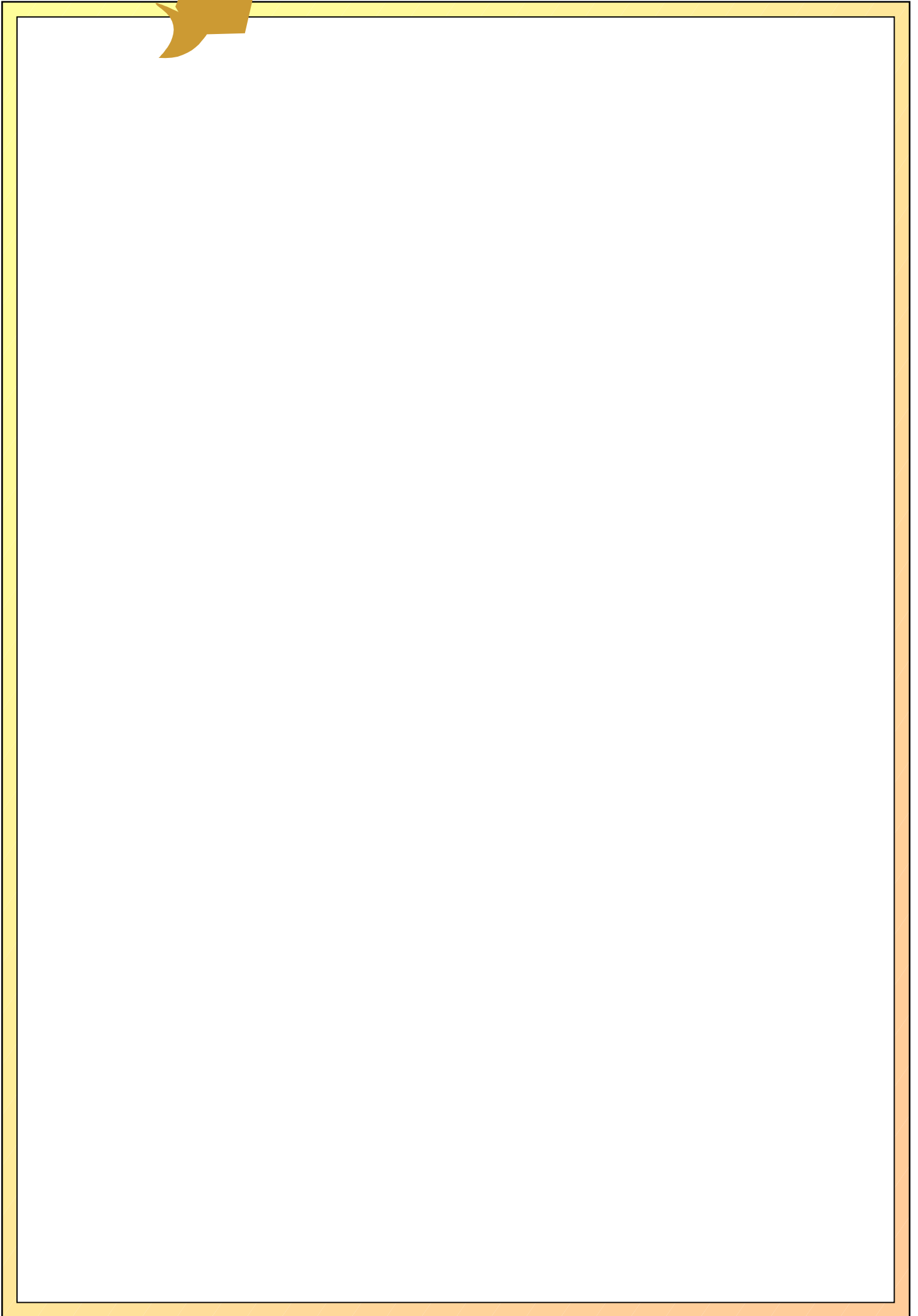
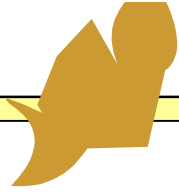


SD115



10.. APPENDIX 14: MEMBERSHIP LIST



2

INTRODUCTION

WHAT IS BIODIVERSITY?

Biodiversity means 'the variety of life' on Earth and is short for biological diversity. It describes the richness and variety of all living things, from the smallest microscopic organism, to the largest tree.

Wild plants and animals are included, together with the places and habitats in which they live. Biodiversity is not just restricted to the rare and threatened, but includes all life from the commonplace to the critically endangered.

WHY IS BIODIVERSITY IMPORTANT?

In addition to the intrinsic value of all living things, biodiversity is a key indicator of sustainable development and is essential to maintaining our quality of life - providing us with food, water, oxygen, clothing, health and relaxation. It delivers many environmental, social and economic benefits. Natural green space for instance can improve our health and well-being, reduce pollution, attract inward investment and tourism, and offers many opportunities for lifelong learning, community action and recreation.

UK BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UKBAP) is the UK Government's response to the Convention on Biological Diversity, signed in 1992 at the Rio Earth Summit. It describes the UK's biological resources and commits us to a detailed plan, with targeted actions, for the protection of those resources considered to be under threat. The UKBAP sets out how the UK is to deal with our commitment to biodiversity conservation. Following a review, in 2007, the UK produced a list of 1150 species and 65 habitat action plans. More information on the UKBAP can be found at <http://www.ukbars.defra.gov.uk/>.

The UK Biodiversity partnership exists to bring together all the partners involved in or with an interest in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan, and to co-ordinate action that should be taken forward at a UK level. The UK Biodiversity Partnership comprises of a wide range of people including private individuals, businesses, government and non government representatives.

The work of the UK Biodiversity Partnership is supported by the Biodiversity Partnership Standing Committee in addition to the Biodiversity Research Advisory group, Biodiversity Reporting and Information Group and the country groups including the Wales Biodiversity Partnership.

The Welsh Assembly Government, under requirements of the NERC Act 2006 have produced a list of species and habitats which are of principle importance for conservation in Wales, including UKBAP species and habitats as well as those which are of particular importance to Wales. These are also known as section 42 species and habitats.





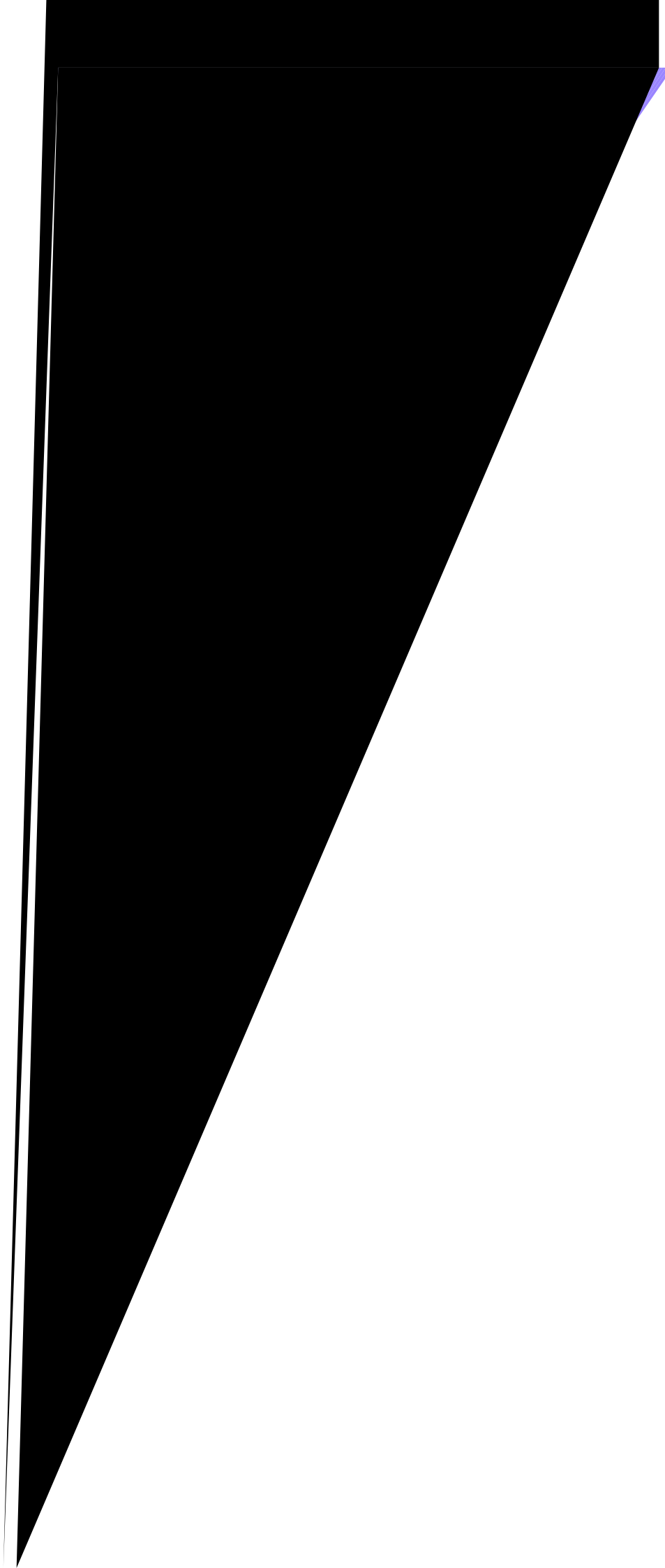


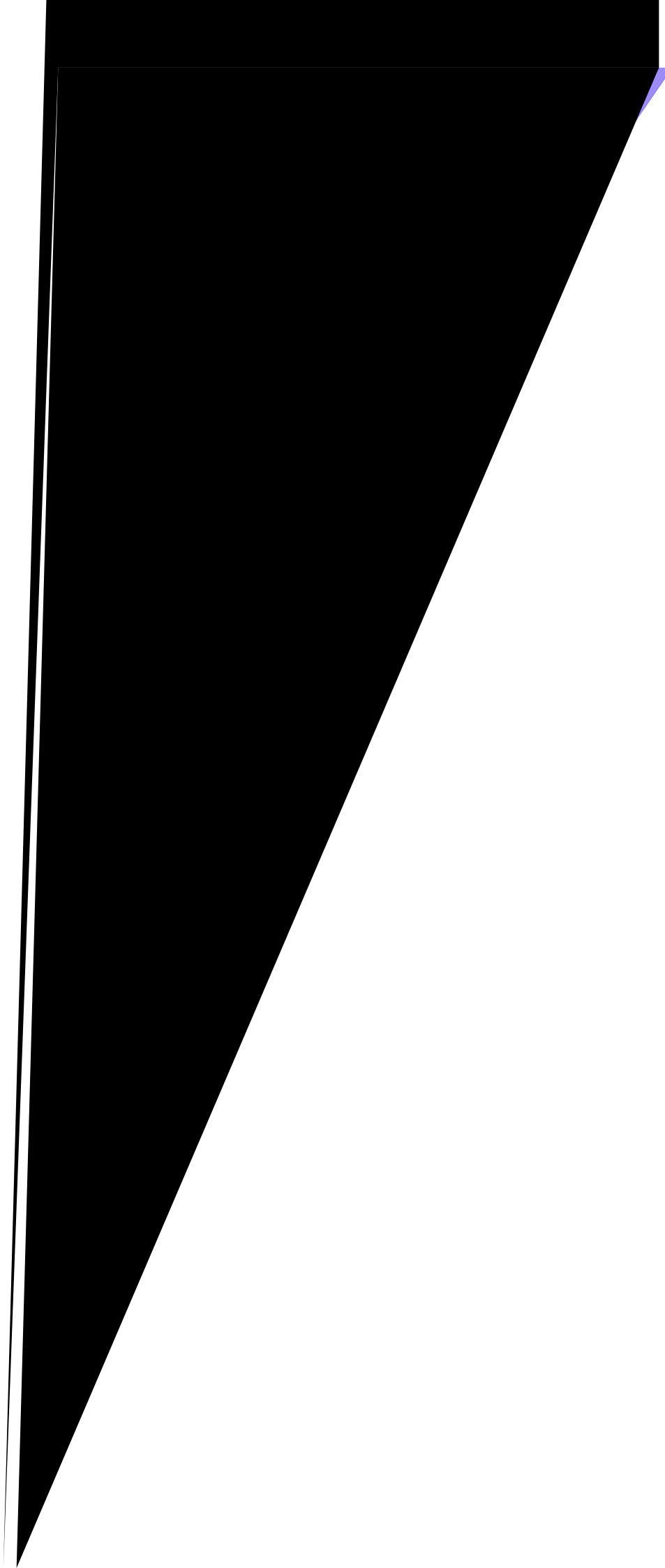




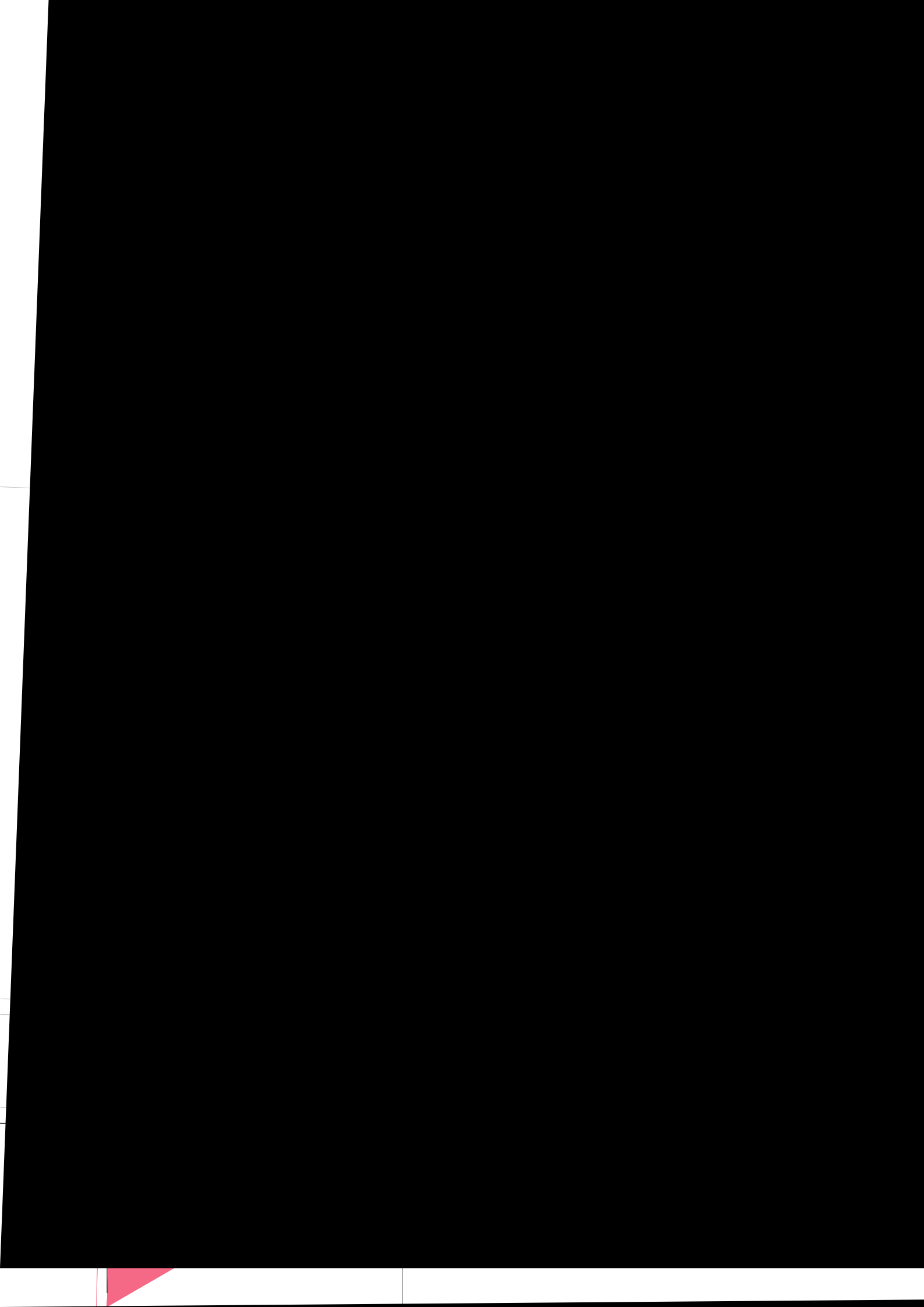






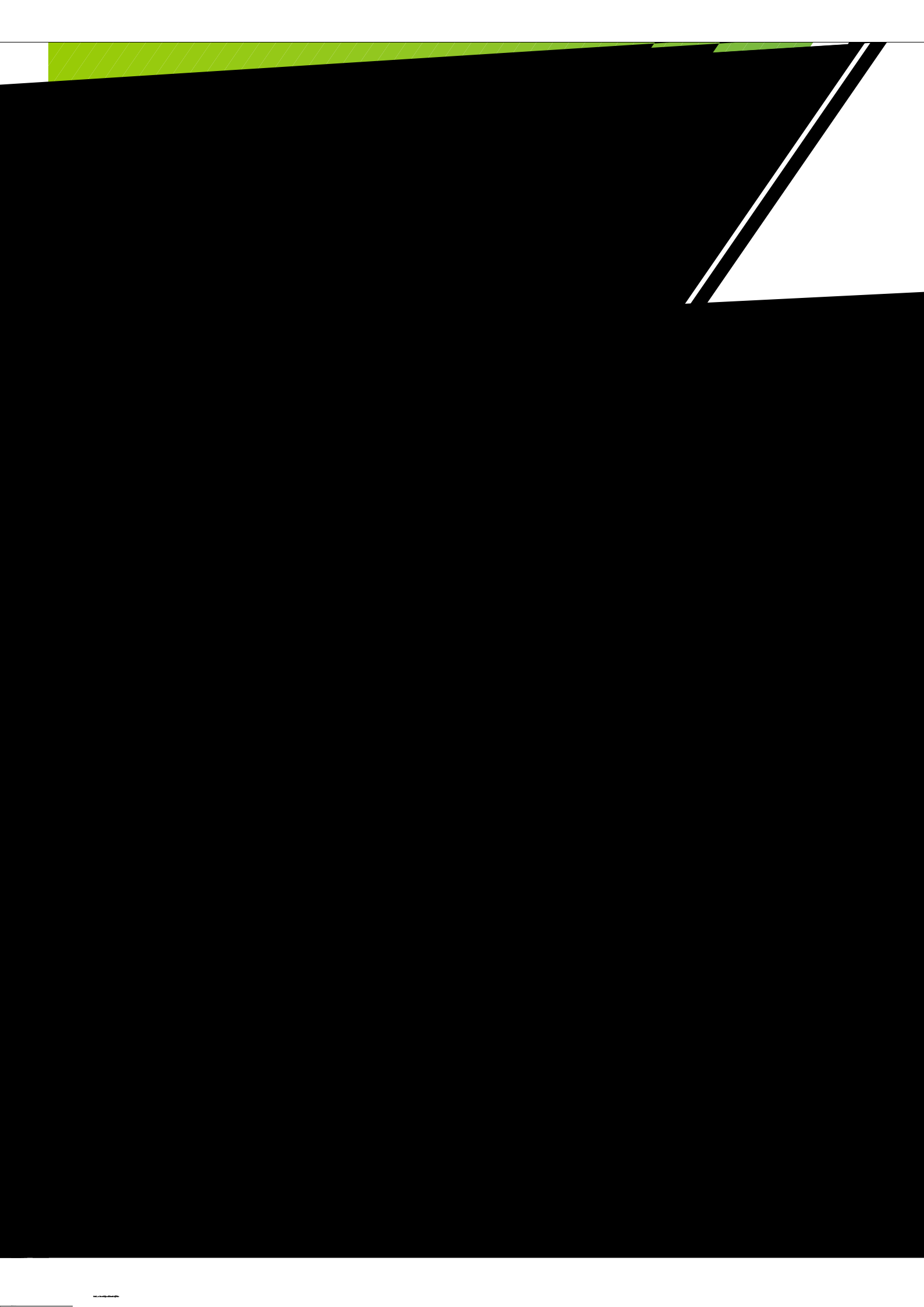






Lowland beech and yew woodland is usually comprised predominantly of beech on soils but its association with yew is often limited to calcareous sites. It is often found in significant percentage of yew present. Beech can occur on both acidic and calcareous soils.





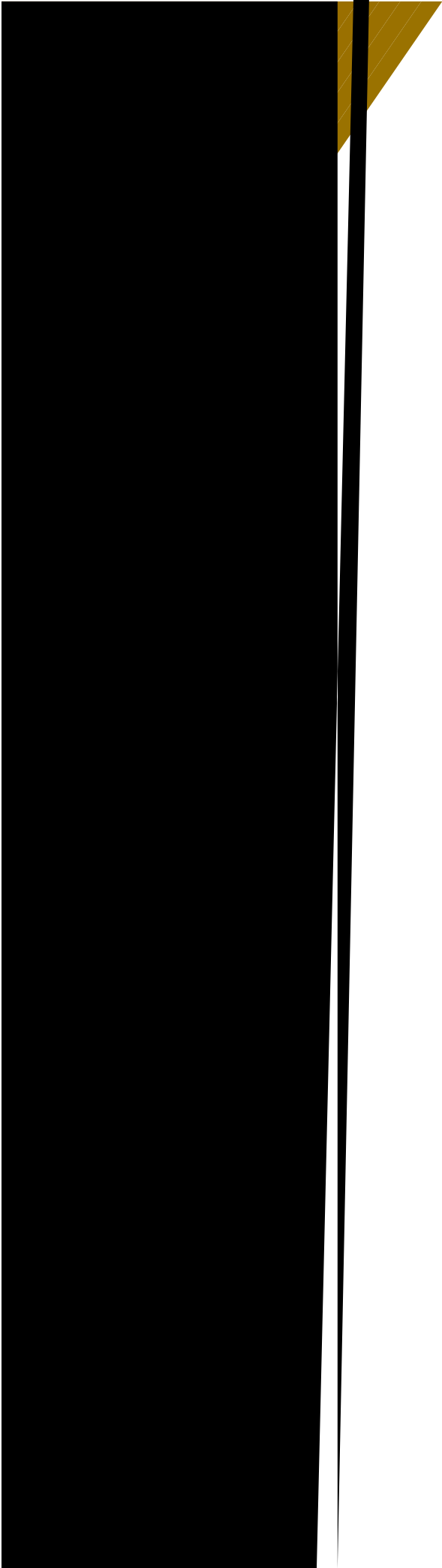




HAP 3 - HEATHLAND

Welsh Priority Habitats

Associated Species (see Appendix 3 for Full List)



HAP 4 - WETLANDS

Threats to lowland raised bog include afforestation, drainage, changes in grazing regimes, recreational pressures, burning and pollution.

Upland Flushes, Fens and Swamp

Upland flushes, fens and swamp are peat or mineral-based terrestrial wetlands in upland situations, which receive water and nutrients from surface and/or groundwater sources as well as rainfall. This habitat is typically dominated by sedges, rushes, grasses and occasionally wetland herbs. Upland flushes, fens and swamps is particularly important for nesting waders and invertebrates.

The current extent of upland flushes, fens and swamp in Blaenau Gwent is estimated to be around 95ha, but this is likely to be under recorded. Examples of this habitat can be found at sites such as Myn y-LV-ral-bgLSLth5al7LH-LV- -TYy in uplandK. Examp



Wetland

Public green spaces and gardens

Boundary and linear features

Inland rock outcrop and scree

Post industrial habitat

Action Review

See <http://www.ukbars.defra.gov.uk/> for lead partner actions and local action progress

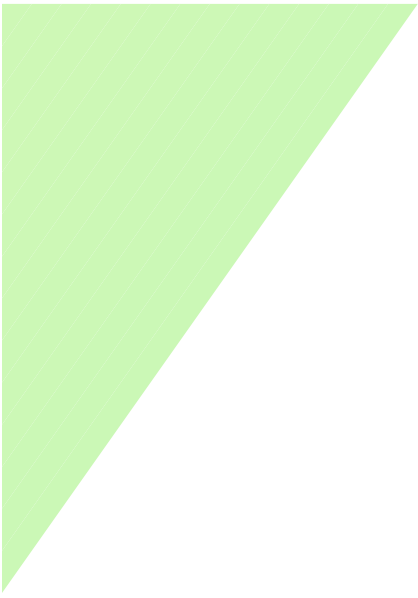
Targets and Actions

Summary of Targets for Rivers and Streams to be achieved by 2015

Priority Habitat	Maintain Extent (km)	Achieve Condition (ha)	Restore (ha)	Expand (ha)
Rivers and Streams	44km	50%	5%	5%



RIYUfIH8U-SSRRWvvHvUSKISHKvUDY5W7VlrefFIIDVvUvVlaIqVH55WvvHvUSKISHKvV



Grasslands

Heathland

Wetland

Rivers and streams

Public green space and gardens

Boundary and linear features

Inland rock outcrop and scree

Post industrial habitat

Action Review

MKILV7ZDKLLVAKLLM.VIIFFI[5]MKSL7K57MLA7DN-Y5V7-5K7DK543SKLS77D7YKTS7UY8LcLILhDKKvvU8SLVVLHYIK-H-ID-Dv

of food for wildlife and can be important habitat features in their own right. Highway verges provide wildlife corridors and contribute to the overall network of habitats across the county. They link habitats and aid movement of species.

The current extent of highway verges in Blaenau Gwent is approximately 546433m². This

Targets and Actions

HAP 7 - INLAND ROCK OUTCROP AND SCREE

HabitatLV8tLV8tLV8i5N7Y5D7Y5 7]T%IDLUV8-IDLUSHKID[5N7Y5L7Y5AI6TS%IDY7DRSKN , Gw&H

Boundary and linear features

Post industrial habitats

Action Review

See <http://www.ukbars.defra.gov.uk/> for lead partner actions and for local action progress

Targets and Actions

Summary of Targets for Inland Rock Outcrop and Scree to be Achieved by 2015

Priority Habitat	Maintain Extent (ha)	Achieve Condition (ha)	Restore (ha)	Expand (ha)
Inland Rock Outcrop and Scree	17	8.5	0.8	0.8

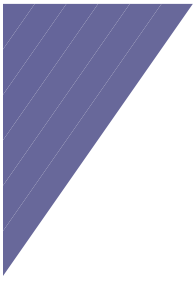
HAP-IR-TG1: Maintain extent of Inland rock and scree habitat

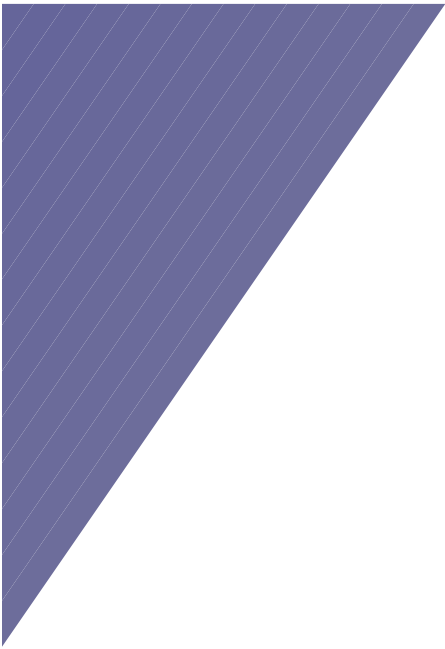
HAP-IR-TG2: Achieve condition of inland rock and scree in Blaenau Gwent

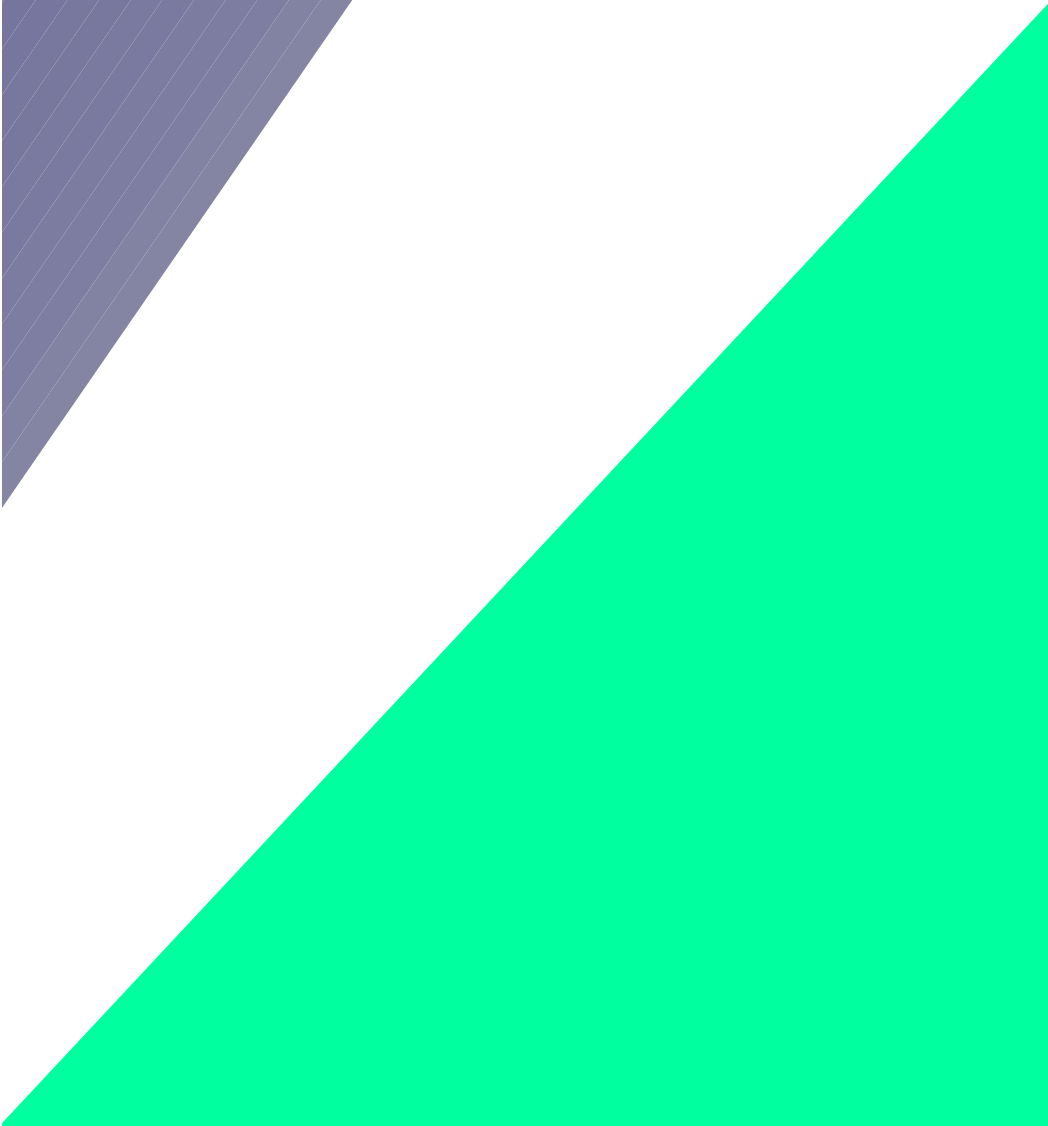
HAP-IR-TG3: Restore inland rock and scree in Blaenau Gwent

HAP-IR-TG4: Expand inland rock and scree in Blaenau Gwent

HAP-IR-TG5: Maintain and expand range and population size of priority species associated with inland rock and scree in Blaenau







SAP 1 - BATS

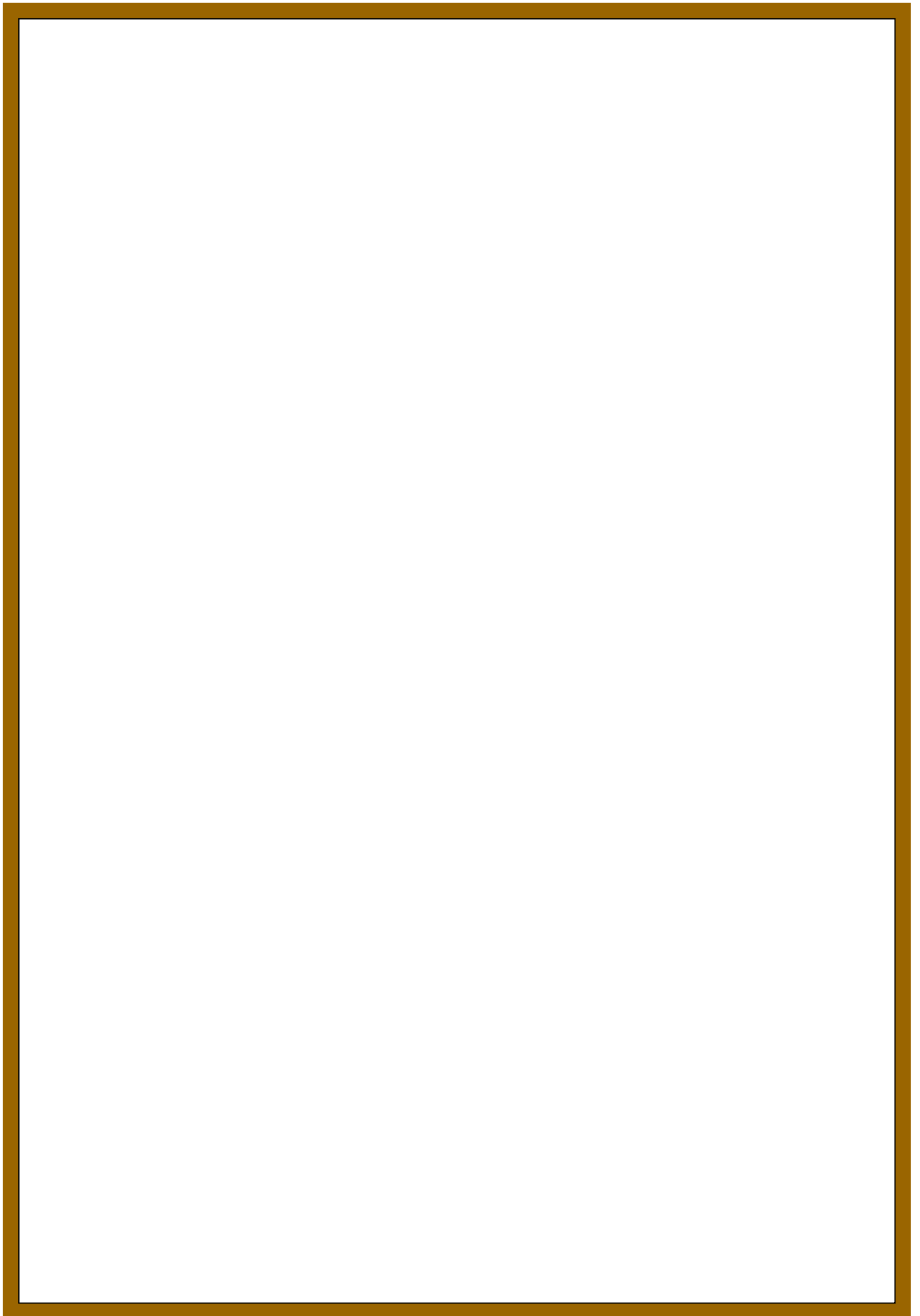
The following bat species are included in this Species Action Plan:

- Brant's (*Myotis brandtii*)
- Brown long eared (*Plecotus auritus*)
- Common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*)
- Daubenton's (*Myotis daubentonii*)
- Leislers (*Nyctalus leisleri*)
- Lesser horseshoe (*Rhinolophus hipposideros*)
- Natterer's (*Myotis nattereri*)
- Noctule (*Nyctalus noctula*)
- Serotine (*Eptesicus serotinus*)
- Soprano pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus*)
- Whiskered (*Myotis mystacinus*)

Ecology

All UK bats are nocturnal (active at night), insectivorous (insect eating) and belong to the sub-order *Microchiroptera*. The smallest species of bat found in the UK is the pipistrelle which weighs as little as 3g and is able to fit through gaps measuring as little as 5mm. The UK's largest bat species is the noctule which can weigh up to 40g and has a wingspan of up to 40cm.

Bats can roost in a range of places, with different species preferring different types of roost. The principle criteria for favourable roosting sites are sheltered conditions away from predators (and disturbance) and close to good foraging habitat, namely water sources and woodland or hedgerows. Structures satisfying these criteria can be crevices in trees or walls, in buildings where suitable voids exist or in caves or rock fissures. Roosts are used by bats for different activities at different time periods; movement between roosts to satisfy changing requirements is common. The main types of roost are maternity, mating, summer, transitional and hibernating



Distribution

Details on the approximate number and the distribution of bat species in Blaenau Gwent is currently unknown. It is, however, thought that common and soprano pipistrelles are the most common species found in the County. It is also recognised that the County is an important area for lesser horseshoe bat, which are found only in Wales and southwest England.

Links with other action plans

Woodland

Grassland

Heathland

Wetland

Rivers and streams

Public green space and gardens

Boundary and linear features

Inland rock outcrop and scree

Post industrial habitat

Action Review

See <http://www.ukbars.defra.gov.uk/> for lead partner actions and for local action progress

Targets

SAP-B-T1: Maintain and expand range and population size of bat species within Blaenau Gwent

SAP 2 - BIRDS



The following bird species are included in this Species Action Plan:

- Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*)
- Eurasian Sparrowhawk (*Accipiter nisus*)
- Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*)
- Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*)
- Tree Pipit (*Anthus trivialis*)
- Short eared owl (*Asio flammeus*)
- Long eared owl (*Asio otus*)
- European Nightjar (*Caprimulgus europaeus*)
- Lesser Redpoll (*Carduelis cabaret*)
- Common Linnet (*Carduelis cannabina*)
- Hen harrier (*Circus cyaneus*)
- Little ringed plover (*Charadrius dubius*)
- Hawfinch (*Coccothraustes coccothraustes*)
- Common Cuckoo (*Cuculus canorus*)
- House martin (*Delichon urbium*)
- Yellowhammer (*Emberiza citrinella*)
- Reed Bunting (*Emberiza schoeniclus*)
- Merlin (*Falco columbarius*)
- Peregrine (*Falco peregrinus*)
- Hobby (*Falco subbuteo*)
- Common Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*)
- Pied flycatcher (*Ficedula hypoleuca*)
- Brambling (*Fringilla montifringilla*)
- Snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*)

Distribution

Surveys carried out by the BTO, JNCC and the RSPB to assess the population of breeding birds in Wales, show that there have been declines in many species of birds since 1994. In Gwent, the number of wild bird species totals 288 as recorded in the 2nd Gwent atlas, 1998-2003. Surveys have indicated that there has been a decline in the range of many species across Gwent with 36 species having a reduced range of more than 10% (recorded as the number of tetrads occupied). These surveys have also indicated that there has been a large increase in the diversity of species in the north west Gwent including the county of Blaenau Gwent. Improvements across this area have included the reclamation of former industrial sites such as mining spoil tips, planting of



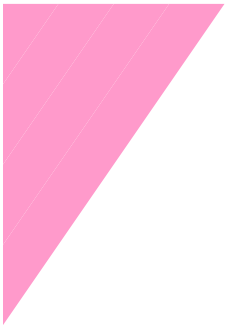
SAP 3 - LAPWING

Ecology

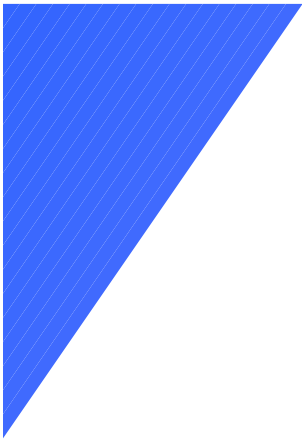
The Northern Lapwing (















moorland, coarse grassland and scrub. Adders are venomous and small mammals make

Great crested newts are sparsely distrib

SAP 7- INVASIVE SPECIES



manner, include Himalayan balsam, giant hogweed and Japanese knotweed. Japanese

GAP 1 - LOCAL BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN PROCESS

The Local Biodiversity Partnership is an alliance of a wide range of local government and non-government organisations working together to protect and enhance biodiversity in Blaenau Gwent. Only through this partnership is it possible to carry out biodiversity projects locally and deliver both LBAP and UKBAP targets.

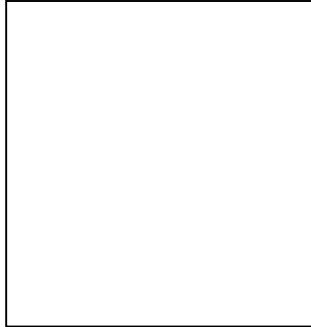
It is essential to ensure that the biodiversity partnership continue to drive the LBAP forward, helping its implementation and promotion throughout Blaenau Gwent. This can be made possible through the continued efforts and support from all the members of the partnership.

The Biodiversity Partnership currently meets four times a year and meetings are steered by representatives from Blaenau Gwent Biodiversity Partnership, Gwent Wildlife Trust, Countryside Council for Wales and Wales Biodiversity Partnership.

Action review

See www.ukbap.gov.uk for more information.

GAP 2 - BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION



In order to protect and enhance biodiversity, it is vital to have baseline biological information and to ensure that this is complete, up-to-date and easily accessible to all.

The co-ordination of surveys for priority species and habitats can provide information on the biodiversity resources that are available in Blaenau Gwent. This information can include details on the extent, distribution and condition of habitats and populations of species which allows us to set practical and realistic conservation targets. Continued monitoring will allow the assessment and reporting of progress towards the set targets, which can then be amended accordingly to ensure that actions are focused towards those species and habitats that require it most.

By sharing this information and making it available to a wide range of individuals and groups, conservation can be more effective and it is possible to inform a wide audience of what is being carried out to protect biodiversity.

Both recorders and SEWBRcC play an important role in the collection and management of biological data. Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council have a Service Level Agreement with SEWBRcC so that up to date biological information can be used in the production, implementation and review of the LBAP. Information on the LBAP and the work that is being carried out toward actions and targets is accessible on BARS - <http://http://www.ukbars.defra.gov.uk/>

Action review

See <http://www.ukbars.defra.gov.uk/> for lead partner actions and for local action progress

Targets

GAP-BI-T1: To commission surveys and support local recorders in carrying out surveys of priority species and habitat

GAP-BI-T2: Continue to monitor priority species and habitats and records

GAP-BI-T3: Ensure that any work carried out towards conservation of priority species and habitats is recorded

GAP-BI-T4: To work with and support the Local Record Centre (SEWBRcC)

GAP 3 - INTERPRETATION, EDUCATION AND AWARENESS RAISING

Through the interpretation of biodiversity information and education to a wide audience, it is possible to raise awareness of the importance of biodiversity and what needs to be done to conserve and enhance it.

The concept of 'biodiversity' needs to be understood and this can be achieved by educating a wide range of individuals and organisations on what biodiversity can be found in the borough, why it needs to be protected and how this can be done. Support from a wide partnership is fundamental to achieving conservation targets. By gaining an understanding/sympathy for biodiversity conservation, it is possible to engage many people in this - whether it is inputting into the LBAP, surveying, practical conservation work or simply trying to minimise their impact on biodiversity.

Information on Blaenau Gwent Biodiversity Partnership is available on BGCBCs website - biodiversity pages - www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk. This also contains information on the LBAP and events which are being organised.

Action review

See <http://www.ukbars.defra.gov.uk/> for lead partner actions and for local action progress

Targets

GAP-IEAR-T1: To increase understanding of the importance of biodiversity, and what can be done to protect and enhance it through the interpretation of biodiversity information

GAP-IEAR-

**APPENDIX 1. MEMBERS OF BLAENAU GWENT BIODIVERSITY
PARTNERSHIP**

Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council (BGCBC)

Botanical Society of the British Isles (BSBI)

Brecon Beacons National Park Authority (BBNP)

British Trust for Conservation Volunteers Cymru (BTCV)

Butterfly Conservation (BC)

Coed Cymru (CC)

Countryside Council for Wales (CCW)

Environment Agency Wales (EAW)

Forestry Commission (FC)

Gwent Badger Group (GBG)

vT%ILIDVTI]i5B7S5s7D-5 (7DH5E7Y5A7DVL5W7V5)7DH5 5 5 5 m7DV5p7DVSyvT]IDVSto7D-5h Is7K5l7DVK5e

Organisation	Contact Details
Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council	Business Resource Centre Tafarnaubach Industrial Estate Tredegar NP22 3AA Ecology/Biodiversity: Tel.01495 355702 Trees & TPOs: Tel. 01495 355546 www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk
Botanical Society of the British Isles (BSBI)	97 Dragon Parade Harrogate North Yorkshire HG1 5DG http://www.bsbi.org.uk/
Brecon Beacons National Park Authority (BBNP)	Planning Department Plas Y Ffynnon Cambrian Way Brecon Powys LD3 7HP www.breconbeacons.org.uk
British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV)	Unit 1 The Innovation Centre Festival Drive Victoria Business Park Ebbw Vale NP23 8XA www.btcvcymru.org
Butterfly Conservation (BC)	Calvert Terrace Swansea SA1 6AR www.butterfly-conservation.org
Countryside Council for Wales (CCW)	Unit 7 St. Mellons Business Park Cardiff CF3 OLT Tel. 02920 772400 www.ccw.gov.uk
Coed Cymru (CC)	Coed Cymru, The Old Sawmill, Tregynon, Newtown, Powys SY16 3PL www.coedcymru.org.uk
Environment Agency Wales (EAW)	Rivers House St. Mellons Business Park Cardiff CF3 OEY Tel. 08708 506506 www.environment-agency.gov.uk
Forestry Commission (FC)	Planning Licensing Coed y Cymoedd Cantref Court District Office Brecon Rd Resolven Abergavenny SA11 4DR Tel. 01873 850060 / 01639 710221 www.forestry.gov.uk

Gwent
Amphibian
and Reptile
Group
(GARG)

12 APPENDIX 3: SPECIES INCLUDED IN BLAENAU GWENT LBAP

Latin Name	UK BAP	Section 42	Regional/local importance	Protected
------------	--------	------------	---------------------------	-----------



	Latin Name	UK BAP	Section 42	Regional/local importance	Protected	
--	------------	-----------	---------------	------------------------------	-----------	--

Blaenau Gwent Biodiversity Action Plan – March 2009

	Latin Name	UK BAP	Section 42	Regional/local importance	Protected	Blaenau Gwent BAP Habitats
--	------------	--------	------------	---------------------------	-----------	----------------------------

Blaenau Gwent Biodiversity Action Plan – March 2009

Blaenau Gwent BAP Habitats													
Latin Name	UK BAP	Section 42	Regional/local importance	Protected	Grassland	Heathland	Woodland	Wetland	Rivers and Streams	Public Open Spaces and Gardens	Boundary and Linear Features	Inland Outcrop Rock and Scree	Post Industrial

Blaenau Gwent Biodiversity Action Plan – March 2009

	Latin Name	UK BAP	Section 42	Regional/local importance	Protected	Blaenau Gwent BAP Habitats B yy5 b7Dv 55f7VL5 DLUSYvI878Bâ5L7DS5B7DS5A7VIDLUSYvIL-8B Bft-cC5Pd 5B7DV7V
--	------------	--------	------------	---------------------------	-----------	--

Blaenau Gwent Biodiversity Action Plan – March 2009

		Latin Name	UK BAP	Section 42	Regional/local importance	Protected	Blaenau Gwent BAP Habitats								
							Grassland	Heathland	Woodland	Wetland	Rivers and Streams	Public Open Spaces and Gardens	Boundary and Linear Features	Inland Outcrop Rock and Scree	Post Industrial
Date	Coloured	<i>Hygrocybe spadicea</i>		✓			✓					✓			
	waxcap														

Blaenau Gwent Biodiversity Action Plan – March 2009

		Latin Name	UK BAP	Section 42	Regional/local importance	Protected	Blaenau Gwent BAP Habitats								
							Grassland	Heathland	Woodland	Wetland	Rivers and Streams	Public Open Spaces and Gardens	Boundary and Linear Features	Inland Outcrop Rock and Scree	Post Industrial
Anomalous moth		<i>Stilbia anomala</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓							
August Thorn		<i>Ennomos quercinaria</i>	✓	✓			✓		✓			✓			
Autumnal Rustic		<i>Eugnorisma glareosa</i>	✓	✓											✓
							☐☐								

Blaenau Gwent Biodiversity Action Plan – March 2009

Latin Name	UK BAP	Section 42	Regional/local importance	Protected	Blaenau Gwent BAP Habitats								
					Grassland	Heathland	Woodland	Wetland	Rivers and Streams	Public Open Spaces and Gardens	Boundary and Linear Features	Inland Outcrop Rock and Scree	Post Industrial
Garden Tiger <i>Arctia caja</i>	✓	✓			✓		✓			✓			✓

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
Latin Name
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Blaenau Gwent Biodiversity Action Plan – March 2009

		Blaenau Gwent BAP Habitats											
Latin Name	UK BAP	Section 42	Regional/local importance	Protected	Grassland	Heathland	Woodland	Wetland	Rivers and Streams	Public Open Spaces and Gardens	Boundary and Linear Features	Inland Outcrop Rock and Scree	Post Industrial
Keeled skimmer dragonfly			✓					✓	✓				✓
Scarce blue tailed damselfly			✓					✓	✓				✓
Other invertebrates													
Brown banded carder bee	✓	✓			✓								

Blaenau Gwent Biodiversity Action Plan – March 2009

Blaenau Gwent BAP Habitats													
Latin Name	UK BAP	Section 42	Regional/local importance	Protected	Grassland	Heathland	Woodland	Wetland	Rivers and Streams	Public Open Spaces and Gardens	Boundary and Linear Features	Inland Outcrop Rock and Scree	Post Industrial
<i>Myotis daubentonii</i>			✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓

Dormouse *Elmys opimus* ✓

Blaenau Gwent Biodiversity Action Plan – March 2009

		Latin Name	UK BAP	Section 42	Regional/local importance	Protected	Blaenau Gwent BAP Habitats								
							Grassland	Heathland	Woodland	Wetland	Rivers and Streams	Public Open Spaces and Gardens	Boundary and Linear Features	Inland Outcrop Rock and Scree	Post Industrial
Water vole		<i>Arvicola terrestris</i>	✓	✓		✓				✓	✓				
West European Hedgehog		<i>Erinaceus</i>													

Blaenau Gwent Biodiversity Action Plan – March 2009

Latin Name	UK BAP	Section 42	Regional/local importance	Protected	Blaenau Gwent BAP Habitats
					Grassland Heathland Woodland Wetland Rivers and Streams Public Open Spaces and Gardens Boundary and Linear Features Rock and Scree Inland Outcrop Post Industrial



Blaenau Gwent Biodiversity Action Plan – March 2009

		Blaenau Gwent BAP Habitats											
Latin Name	UK BAP	Section 42	Regional/local importance	Protected	Grassland	Heathland	Woodland	Wetland	Rivers and Streams	Public Open Spaces and Gardens	Boundary and Linear Features	Inland Outcrop Rock and Scree	Post Industrial
Wood spurge			✓										
<i>Euphorbia amygdaloides</i>							✓						

Habitat Restoration

Land management actions aimed at restoring a habitat on a site where it has previously existed, but subsequently been lost.

Hibernation

A period of dormancy in winter when an animals temperature and other body processes drop to a low level.

Invertebrates

Animals without a backbone.

Local Nature Reserve (P1517S5s7DKs HinoS

A conservation plan for a species based upon knowledge of its ecological and other requirements, which identifies the actions needed to maintain and improve its status.

Special Protection Area (SPA)

A site of international importance designated by the UK Government under the EU Birds Directive on the Conservation of wild birds.

Sustainable Development - The concept and practice of development that ensures use of a resource or environment does not degrade the usefulness of the resource over time.

Unitary Development Plan (UDP)

The forward planning document for Unitary Authorities, replacing county structure plans (held by Council Councils) and District Local Plans (District Councils).

- UK Government (1994). Biodiversity: The UK Action Plan. HMSO, London.
- UK Biodiversity Group (1995). Biodiversity: the UK Steering Group Report. Vols. 1 and 2. HMSO, London.
- UK Biodiversity Group. Action Plans vols 1-6. English Nature.
- Welsh Assembly Government (2003). Going Wild in Wales: List of Species and Habitats of Principal Importance for the Conservation of Biological Diversity.
- Welsh Assembly Government (2002). Planning Policy WALES.
- Welsh Office (2009). Nature Conservation and Planning: Technical Advice Note (Wales)
- 5
- Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) HMSO, London.

Page: 13

[P1]Does this need to be updated to reflect the recent changes? (No longer 1994 amended Regs)