

Title – Propagating Lichenologists

Background/Progress

A project was piloted with lichenologists in Wales between November 2008 and June 2009. All those involved provided their time voluntarily. Organisations with staff involved in the project provided their support by supplying staff time and covering travel and subsistence costs. Welsh Assembly Government supplied a small amount of funding for essential equipment.

Action was focused on getting experts teamed up with volunteers of different skill levels, out in the field together, carrying out BAP actions, direct nature conservation or surveillance work. Actions were reported on BARS and data collected was shared with the relevant LRCs.

A sample of brief reports are provided in annex 1.

Plan/Proposals

We are seeking WBP Steering Group approval both to continue the Lichenology Project in its current form and to extend the scheme to other taxonomic group across Wales.

Administration work to support these activities would continue to be provided by WAG, CCW and the WBP support team.

Decision Points

- a) To approve the continuation of the project and role out to new taxonomic groups.
- b) To agree the next three areas where this technique would provide the best strategic benefit.
- c) To provide names of key players who should be involved from these areas.
- d) To identify key areas where BAP action is needed.
- e) To encourage volunteering by suitable staff in own organisations to join the scheme.

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