

Recording Wildlife is key to Nature's Recovery

As the 2023 'State of Nature' report shows, the UK's wildlife is declining – with one in six species at risk of being lost from Great Britain.

However, it is not too late to reverse the biodiversity crisis, and for this we need high quality evidence in the form of wildlife data.

The National Biodiversity Network Trust (NBN Trust) and its members are working hard to make sure that this data is available to those who need it - to make the decisions that will benefit nature and help species to bounce back.

Lisa Chilton, CEO of the National Biodiversity Network Trust, says:

“Nature's recovery depends on the collection of wildlife records – information about what species have been seen where and when - so that we can measure and see if our conservation actions are working or not. In the UK, the collection of these vital records predominantly relies on an incredible community of organisations and volunteers, many of whom are members of the NBN Trust.

“You too can get involved in recording wildlife using one of the many apps and tools available such as iNaturalistUK, iRecord and iSpot. By doing so, you add to the knowledge of this country's biodiversity and which species are in particular danger - needing our urgent help and protection.” **/Ends.**

For more information, please contact **Mandy Henshall**, NBN Trust Communications and Engagement Manager, via: m.henshall@nbn.org.uk or on: **0115-850 0173**.

Notes to Editors:

1. The National Biodiversity Network Trust (NBN Trust) is one of the organisations within the State of Nature Partnership – which published the 'State of Nature' report in September 2023.
2. The NBN Trust is a small charity with a big plan – to make data work for nature. We passionately believe that, together, we can reverse the biodiversity crisis. The NBN Trust helps to provide vital evidence for nature's recovery. We also build partnerships to meet the needs of those who require biodiversity data – for policies, planning, research and conservation – and to connect people and communities with nature.

Notes to Editors (continued):

3. The National Biodiversity Network (NBN) is the UK's largest partnership for nature.

It is a collaboration of over 200 organisations committed to sharing UK wildlife data and making it easily available. It started in April 2000 and Network members range from government agencies, research bodies, local environmental records centres, conservation charities, commercial companies as well as local and national wildlife recording groups.

Members include some well-known organisations, such as the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), the National Trust, Butterfly Conservation and the Woodland Trust, as well as lesser-known groups such as Longhorn Beetle Recording Scheme, Riverfly Partnership and Outer Hebrides Recording Group, to name just a few.

The one thing that unites everyone involved in the Network is their desire for high-quality wildlife data to provide a robust evidence base for environmental decision-making. Data providers share their biodiversity data via the **NBN Atlas**: nbnatlas.org

The NBN Atlas was launched by the National Biodiversity Network Trust in April 2017 as an online platform to engage and inform people about the natural history of the UK, and can be used by anyone, free of charge. It is the largest UK-wide collection of multiple sources of information about species and habitats and allows users to examine and map these data.

It currently holds over 208 million records across 50,368 species – from ladybirds, red squirrels and toads through to rare lichen, fungi and endangered insects – and these are available for use according to their licence.

The NBN Atlas is helping to enthuse people about nature and improving our collective wildlife knowledge, which assists everyone's conservation efforts.