

Red Squirrel Conservation Implementation Plan								2004/05	
BAP/Strategy proposed actions	Actions	Level	Prior-ity	Costs	Lead organisation	Contributing	Contact person	Programmed	Progress/ Comments
5.1 Policy and Legislation									
5.1.1 Achieve agreement on the UK Red Squirrel Strategy and develop regional guidelines for management of red and grey squirrel populations within the national framework. (FC, JNCC, LAs)	Produce updated version of the red squirrel strategy	UK	low		JNCC	UKRSG	MH	2004/5 FY to be made available on the UKRSG website when it is up and running.	
	Complete process for prioritising areas for red squirrel conservation management. Achieve agreement on list of sites	UK/ Country/ Regional/ Local	high	Admin costs	UKRSG	Country Squirrel Groups FC/CCW/EN/S NH/ DARDNI	England ?. NI JG/JM. Scotland AM/ Wales LH/RJ	Revisit process in 2004	Priority areas in Scotland identified using GIS analysis in 2002. Process completed by UK RSG. Process also completed in NI, England and Wales. Achieving priorities will depend on availability of resources.
	Assess potential policy conflicts in relation to the W&CA 1981 (as amended). Review the prospect of adding the red squirrel to Annex IV of the Habitats Directive	UK	medium		DEFRA	UKRSG	MH	Long-term. Review periodically	Initiative from UKRSG
5.1.2 Review geographical restrictions on use of warfarin (FC, DEFRA, SOAEFD, ARAD)	Currently under examination	UK/ Country	Low		FC		Steve Gregory	Revisit after EC decision	Awaiting outcome of EC decision

5.1.3 Seek to ensure the needs of red squirrels are taken into account when carrying out Land Use Planning	Provide advice in relation to LUP	Country/ Regional	Low		DEFRA/ DTLR/ FC/ DARDNI/ Countryside division of NAW		Relevant FC/ DARDNI personnel	Long-term.	Make DTLR aware of BAP Targets and obligations
5.2 Site safeguard and management									
5.2.1 Prepare and implement site management plans for priority sites/woodlands.		Country/ Regional/ Local	High	England £20,000,	FC/FE/ DARDNI	CCW/EN/ SNH/EHS	Fred Currie, RJ/LH John Milburne	Ongoing. Progress reviewed annually	Sites identified across UK. Implementation Plan for Wales. Scotland needs to identify process. Plan being drawn up for northern England over 2002/3
5.2.2 Maintain liaison with implementation work on non-BAP sites	Use priority plans to inform implementation plans on other sites	Regional	Low		Country Fora	CCW, FE, ARAD			
5.3 Species management and protection									
5.3.1 Develop processes within the national framework, to guide and co-ordinate work.	Co-ordinate information sharing and BAP actions	UK	High		UKRSG	Country Fora LBAP	MH	Ongoing. Regular updates	Design website to allow feedback and information of different groups. Improve co-ordination between meetings
5.3.2 Carry out translocation projects where likely to contribute to Species Recovery and adhering to UK Translocations Policy	Identify potential sites	UK/ Country/ Regional/ Local	Low		Country Agencies			Long-term	Need to carefully assess the animal welfare issues of translocation with respect to pox transmission.
5.3.3 Prevent and manage incursion of grey squirrels into priority areas currently occupied by reds	Add grey squirrel suppression techniques to priority site management plans	Regional/ Local	High	Individual site costs as part of management plan	Priority site managers and adjacent landowners in buffer areas	FC		Ongoing. Regular updates	Work ongoing at Clocaenog. One trial site in NE England. One trial site in NI. Part funding available from FC and EHS

5.3.4 Avoid activities that encourage grey squirrels into red areas (supplementary feeding)	WIG 3 grant schemes -urgent review	Local- site specific	High		Local site managers				Supplementary feeding could be counter productive. Need to provide advice to local people stop feeding if grey squirrels occur.
5.4 Advisory									
5.4.1 Advise land managers on the relationship between reds and greys and appropriate management (CCW, EHSNI, EN, FC, SNH)	Use existing publications. Make more widely available via leaflets, websites etc. Review literature to ensure consistency.	UK/ Regional/ Local	High		FC/ DARDNI	Country Agencies/ DEFRA		Ongoing	
5.4.2 Develop guidance on forestry design and management to benefit red squirrels	Produce published guidance (carried out)	UK	High		FC			Technical paper in prep. Practice note endorsed in 1998	
5.5 Future research and monitoring									
5.5.1 Continue research on factors that affect red squirrel populations	Develop list of priority research. Review existing research. Produce research list and identify gaps.	UK	High		UKRSG		MH	Ongoing 2003/4	FC research important part of overall review. Poxvirus research group established by BM.
5.5.2 Establish a survey method and squirrel Monitoring Scheme to ascertain population levels, identify priority sites, and monitor range and population of greys.	Develop a suite of best practice standardised survey methods and implement at priority sites		High		FR	JNCC, EN, CCW, SNH, EHSNI	BM	Carried out 2004/6	Monitoring note published Sept 2001 Funding secured for a 2-yr scoping study for a national squirrel surveillance scheme

	Determine the status and trends of red (and grey) squirrel populations throughout the UK	UK	High		JNCC	FC, EN, CCW, SNH, EHSNI	JB	Ongoing	Setting up national mammal surveillance programme THROUGH Tracking Mammals Partnership
	Collate monitoring information to report on the effects etc.								
5.5.3 Ensure that data are available via the NBN.	Facilitate co-ordination between organisations				UKRSG/ JNCC	Regional projects			
	Develop systems that allow efficient access to, and use of, data and information.	UK/ Regional/ Local	High		UKRSG	JNCC			Depends on NBN and UKRSG website. Need data from local surveys e.g. loW
5.6 Communications and Publicity									
5.6.1 The balance between red and grey squirrel populations is an emotive issue. Clear information explaining the relationship between reds and greys should be made available to the public and landowners (CCW, EN, EHSNI, FC, SNH)	Produce educational materials and posters, and an agreed Q& A list for the press	Country/ Regional/ Local	High		Regional Projects				The website will address these issues and provide further information contacts
	Lead regional and local workshops	Regional/ Local	Low						
	Create UKRSG website	UK	High		JNCC/ UKRSG		MH	2004/5	
	Produce technical advice leaflets	UK/ Regional	High		UKRSG			On-going	The majority of these are complete and will be available on the website.
5.7 Funding									
Assess the provision of funds and how they might be obtained									