

Thames Valley Environmental
Records Centre

Annual Newsletter

2023-2024





November 2023

Welcome to the TVERC newsletter

Welcome to the TVERC Annual Newsletter for 2023. I am delighted once again to introduce this years Annual Newsletter. Over the last year, you have continued to share your recording and conservation efforts with us. We are keen to hear about more of them and share the news! We have been able to mention just a few in this issue.

The TVERC team have been busy once again, and have made good progress in a number of areas. It was great to be able to hold face to face Recorders Conferences in Berkshire and Oxfordshire again this year. Thank you to those who contributed to the days either by attending or providing some of the excellent talks and workshops. From your feedback it is clear that these days are valued as an excellent opportunity to share experiences and network with others. We are starting to plan for both our next ones so if you have any ideas for speakers and workshops please let us know.

We now hold over 4.5 million species records, and ensure these are used widely, making them available for both research and informed decision making through our data licencing and search service. Over the last 12 months we have also been improving the quality and consistency of our habitat data, making it easier to compare with other sets of data, and support the new UK Hab classification and Biodiversity Net Gain habitat condition. Out in the field, our work to review the two counties important Local Wildlife Sites continues. We have increased our survey team, adding capacity for this and other survey work. Earlier this year, the team all completed the River Condition Assessment course and now include this as part of our Biodiversity Net Gain surveys.

Work on the Local Nature Recovery Strategy has begun, with Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, and Oxfordshire County Council being appointed as Responsible Authorities to prepare these strategies for each county. Over the next 18 months they will be consulting with a wide variety of partners from many different groups to agree the counties priorities for natures recovery and identify specific areas where actions to achieve these could be undertaken. There will be opportunities for you to get involved, and we will be pushing information out about these initiatives as soon as we hear more details. Once the initial strategy has been adopted, it is planned that progress will be monitored and the strategy reviewed and updated regularly.

Finally, TVERC has published its Business Plan for the next few years. This details our objectives for ensuring we remain integral to the support of well-informed environmental decision-making within the two counties. A cornerstone of this is our encouragement and support of the recording community. We want to ensure our region has a diverse, active and skilled set of recorders both now and into the future. Over the coming year we will be kicking off a variety of initiatives to support this objective.

Please keep an eye out for our regular news updates either on our website or through our social media posts throughout the year. It is a great way to keep in touch with what is going on, not just with TVERC but with efforts throughout our counties'

Defra's mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain regulations is due to come to effect. This requires that developments deliver biodiversity to a minimum of 110% of predevelopment levels, through on-site and off-schemes. We hope that although the contribution is likely to be small, it will become a useful part of improving the prospects for wildlife in our counties.

Steve Wilkes TVERC Director



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A Thank-you from the Data Search Team

Elizabeth Tatham: Biodiversity Data Assistant

I would like to take this space as an opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to our data search service, even in a small way

To those of you who request data from us, we have processed over 700 data requests in 2023 to date. You are helping us to continue improve and support the service for the benefit of our environment. If you ever have a request which is not included in the form options, please do not hesitate to ask! Figuring out how to make bespoke requests work with our code is a surprisingly fun part of my day.

To those of you who send us data, thank you for ensuring that the planning applications, re-search work and conservation projects our data searches contribute to are getting the best information possible. And to anyone who has been recording in the TVERC region, whether that be during your lunchtime walks, or on official surveys, our data searches need your data! You can send us your records either via email to tverc@oxfordshire.gov.uk, or using our simple recording form: <https://www.cognitofirms.com/Tverc/SimpleRecordingForm>.

Finally, some of you occasionally comment on how our data searches can be improved, and this information has given us some great insights! We are always developing our service to help meet your needs, so we would appreciate any feedback or suggestions for new products we could develop. Get in touch via email to datasearch@tverc.org.



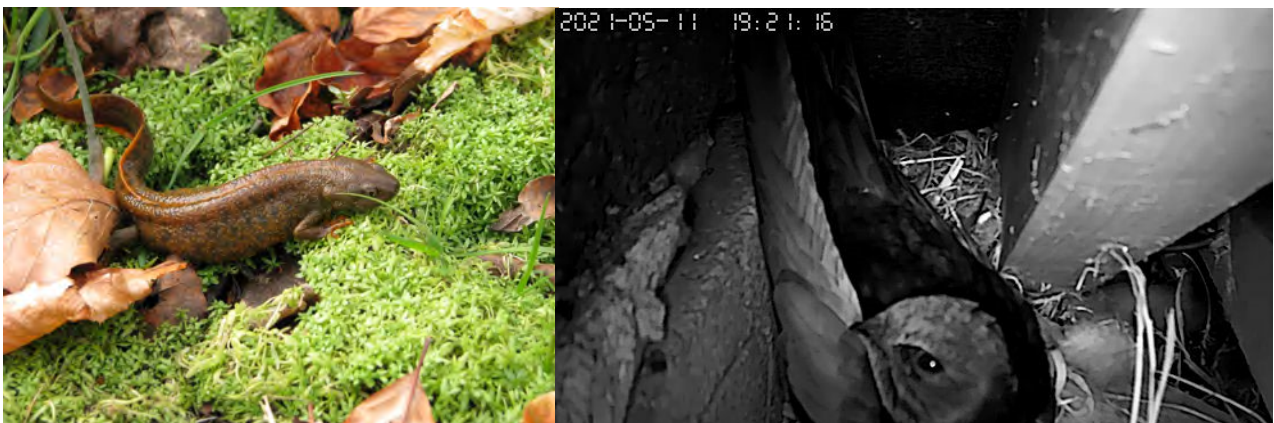
Data Search Service: Data Packages

Elizabeth Tatham: Biodiversity Data Assistant

Great Crested Newt Package

As Great Crested Newt (GCN) monitoring becomes more sophisticated and creative, (the latest methods use dog detectives!) we expect to be receiving more GCN records from ecological reports and GCN surveyors. If you want to incorporate the latest data into your projects, consider including our GCN package in your data requests.

This package includes data on GCN occurrence (both positive and negative records), suitable habitats within the search area, and NatureSpace's GCN risk zones. This differs from the existing 'single species' option as the customer receives a summary, a map and a webmap of the data, rather than a simple spreadsheet with GCN records. It also includes ponds survey history, which tells you whether the pond has been surveyed for GCN, and the results of those surveys (positive or negative).



Swift Package

Have you had the joy of witnessing any swift screaming parties this summer? Swift breeding season is over, but if you have recorded or photographed any swifts in Oxfordshire or Berkshire, especially breeding/nesting swifts, please send your records our way! Sadly, swifts are declining across the country, but the cause (s) of these declines are unclear. Your records are vital to help determine what is the most likely driver, and how to reverse these changes. And for those of you looking for swift information for ecological reports, you can request our swift package for an insight into where birds have been breeding in your area. The package focuses on breeding swift records, including pairs of swifts and nesting swifts. The data is supplied in the form of a swift hotspot map and summary table of the records.

House-Holder Package

Recently at TVERC, we have received some cool records of species near houses, including some adorable hedgehogs and badgers! This reminds us that our homes are often important areas for wildlife too, and so we should do what we can to help nature thrive alongside us. Tailored towards homeowners who would like to get a better sense of what is around their property, but do not require a full set of Protected & Notable species data, the householder package summarises species affected by minor household developments. This includes records of house martin, house sparrow, starling, barn swallow, great crested newt, badger or breeding/nesting/roosting records of any species. The package searches a 200m radius around the property, to determine whether species of interest have been recorded in the vicinity.

For More Information:

Send us your records: by email to tverc@oxfordshire.gov.uk, or using our simple recording form: <https://www.cognitoforms.com/Tverc/SimpleRecordingForm>.

Data search charges: _ <https://www.tverc.org/cms/content/data-search-charges-response-times>

Request a data search: <https://www.cognitoforms.com/Tverc/DataRequestForm>

Species Data Highlights

Ellen Lee: TVERC Data Manager

The summer is always a quiet time for species data. Wildlife recorders are taking advantage of any good weather windows to get out into the field to record the wildlife that particularly interests them, so records from our local enthusiasts are thin on the ground. This doesn't mean that the TVERC data team takes a snooze though. There are still plenty of other things going on during that time.

All year around we are actively sourcing and receiving ecological reports from both the ecological consultancies themselves and local authority ecologists. Currently we are receiving and processing nearly 300 such reports annually. We also take time over the summer to upload some online data sets. The largest of these is from iRecord.

Each year we download records verified in the previous calendar year. We are currently beginning the process of wrangling the 2022 verified records for Oxfordshire and Berkshire and will be working hard to import as many as we can into our database over the next few months. Another big online data set that we have recently added to our database is the Rothamsted Insect Survey (RIS) moth records for all the trapping sites in the TVERC area, nearly 150k records stretching back into the 1960s.



It's been great to see that people are starting to make good use of the simple record entry form available via our website. It's a straightforward way of telling us about single incidental sightings and has been taken up by some consultants in addition to members of the public. It's interesting to see what sort of species motivate members of the public to record wildlife. Most often, it's encounters with either iconic (otters for example) or just plain weird species (for example, my favourite green-fanged tube-web spider!). If you hear of local people with interesting wildlife sightings, please do encourage them to use this link.

Finally, I want to let you know about an interesting bee record we recently received. It's a violet carpenter bee. It was spotted by an allotment holder in Tilehurst, Berkshire at the start of July. As you will see from the photo, it's a very large bee with violet tinted wings. It's a fairly common bee on the continent, but has only arrived here relatively recently. Initially vagrants were occasionally reported, but in

2007 it was confirmed breeding in a tree in a garden in Leicestershire. Nobody quite knows why Leicestershire which is not exactly coastal. Perhaps it arrived on imported timber. Apparently (and I hope I've got this right (there are a lot of Hymenoptera experts among you!)) the adults emerge in April or May and are seen during the late spring and summer.

After mating, the females make a nest by boring holes in dead wood. They lay their eggs in individual cells and each is provisioned with a pollen ball for the larva to feed on. They overwinter and emerge as adults the following spring. This is only the second confirmed record in the TVERC area. The first was in 2014, not far from this one near Thatcham. So keep your eyes peeled for this spectacular bee.

We'd love to be able to add more sightings to our database, especially if they are accompanied by photos.

How Do I Submit a Record?

There are many ways you can submit your wildlife records to us at TVERC. Whether you are an experienced recorder or just getting started, we welcome all nature based records through any of the following formats:

- *An Excel csv spreadsheet with attached photos for verification*
- *Through our [Simple Recording Form \(for single records\)](#)*
- *Through our dedicated [iRecord channel](#)*

If you are still unsure please do email us at tverc@oxfordshire.gov.uk or visit our website

TVERC Habitat Data

Miguel Batista: TVERC Data Manager

Every year, TVERC curates, prepares, and delivers habitat data for our data partners. They include Oxfordshire County Council, Oxfordshire district councils, the different unitary authorities in Berkshire and other environmental record centres like BBOWT and the Environmental Agency. Previously, data provided for Habitats held many geographical errors. This included topological errors which were present due to years and years of building the layer in a certain way. A lot of work was required to develop this and then add UKHAB information; a notable team effort across 8 months. As a result of this work, the layer gained about 2,000 polygons (a 1.7% increase) and is now comprised of 122,000 polygons. The layer also matches OS Master Map everywhere, with zero topological errors. The layer classification was already very good and we have our surveyors to thank for keeping the quality of the surveys as high as it is.

UK-Hab Translation

The translation from Phase 1 to UK-Hab was done mostly by an algorithm developed by Gordon Barker (TVERC Project Officer) using a translation dictionary that matches values in Phase 1 to UK-Hab. This process was largely seamless but a few habitats had to be manually edited. The Algorithm provides both principal codes as well as secondary

codes. Besides providing our database with the future standard for habitat mapping, this also provides our habitat layer with the information needed to calculate metrics like Biodiversity Net Gain and Habitat Health; a significant achievement and something we hope to integrate into our work at a larger scale.

New Local Wildlife Site Habitats Layer

This year's addition of Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) data has been a bit different than usual with the data being provided in the old format (layers with the different counties covered) with no topology checks. As such, the first order of business was to turn the data into a feature in a geodatabase and conduct topology checks. The polygons were then matched to the OS Master Map boundaries (where needed) and finally they were merged into our main database of habitat data. The data was added in successfully and now integrates our main geodatabase together with an improved Pond layer and many new datapoints as well.

Under-Recorded but not Under Valued

Chloe-Mae Kilby TVERC Administration Officer

Often many species are under-recorded in scientific data and therefore it can be difficult to understand the dynamics of population fluctuation and trends. Some of the species that may get ignored are the more common species (it is assumed we know lots about them) and also 'un-charismatic' groups. Research trends have shown that mammals and birds represent a higher focus in the literature, with many non-charismatic creatures significantly under-represented. This is also the case for citizen science, where common and/or rarer species are the least found in our record database. This may also include certain species of bird and mammal, as well as insects. Recording wildlife is a great way to connect with nature and support local conservation and data-driven decision making. Whatever the species, TVERC welcomes all records to support a better understanding of conservation need and priorities. Here are some examples of species under-recorded in our data;

House Sparrows and Starlings

This enigmatic bird species is often found nesting near to people, in cities, farmland, towns and villages. In UK there is a known 5,300,000 breeding pairs, however research suggests that they are drastically declining in numbers since the 1970s. At TVERC, we don't get many records of House Sparrows and, as such, rely on other forms of record collection for this species. So, if you see a House Sparrow(s) please do fill in our Simple Recording Form and let us know.



Roman Snails

Also known as the Edible or Burgundy snail, the Roman Snail is the largest terrestrial snail in Europe, protected under UK law. They require calcareous soils to form their shell and are often found in chalk grasslands, however, can also be found in woodland, hedgerow and scrub habitat. The Cotswolds and Chilterns are a particular hot-spot. We don't have many records of this species, so let us know if you do see one, though be sure not to handle it



TVERC Micro-Internship: Understanding the Challenges and Opportunities within Citizen Science Recording

Joss Carr: TVERC intern 2023

It is the unfortunate reality that the largest data source available to environmental record centres worldwide is one fraught with challenges. Citizen science (CS) data - in ecology, that data on species occurrences which is recorded, en-masse, by the general public - is, in comparison to species data collected in structured biodiversity surveys, more biased, more often erroneous, and is often 'presence-only' (meaning only locations where a species is observed are recorded whereas those where a species is absent are not).

Nevertheless, the sheer quantity of available data is huge. Are these challenges so great as to warrant the rejection of this gigantic data source in its entirety? Certainly not. Rather, various methodologies are available to ecologists for working around these problems. It is possible to generate trustworthy insights from citizen science data, a few adjustments must simply first be made.

My name is Joss, and I'm currently studying for my undergraduate degree in Geography at Oxford University. Given I am particularly interested in conservation and ecology, I was chosen to conduct a 1-week micro-internship with TVERC in June 2023.

My task was researching the various methodologies available for working with volunteer-collected, presence-only data in ecology.

In my report, I began identifying broad challenges which particularly affect data collected by the general public as opposed to that collected by professional ecologists. In the first instance, I noted that it was often the case that citizen science data has more errors in it than its professionally-collected equivalent. These errors come in two main forms: false positives and false negatives. False positives, which occur when a species is recorded as present in a location when in actuality it was absent, are primarily a result of species misidentifications.

These generally occur more commonly in citizen science datasets purely as a result of identifiers having, on average, less training and relative lack of expertise in species ID. False positives, whilst they are problematic, are generally not too frequent.

False negatives, on the other hand, where a species is wrongly recorded (or assumed) absent, are in contrast, fundamentally abundant in CS data. This is, as mentioned, a flaw with data collection being 'presence-only'. Not only this, but CS data is heavily biased.

Bias comes in several forms. Data is often biased spatially, given that citizens tend to record in areas which are, for example, accessible (e.g. near roads or footpaths), near their homes (and by extension therefore near urban areas) or in areas of natural interest or beauty (e.g. national parks, wildlife reserves). Data is thus clustered in these areas, a reflection not of underlying biodiversity patterns but merely of recorders' habits and preferences.

Accommodating for this bias is critical - not doing so risks severely misinterpreting the data. In addition, CS data is often biased temporally (e.g. data is clustered around weekends and daylight hours), biased between different observers (who have different levels of expertise) and biased between different species on account of their 'detectability' (a function of their appearance, behaviour and preferred habitats).

To work around these challenges, a range of techniques have been proposed. I summarised these in my report.

Dealing with errors, for example, is possible if

one first 'cleans' the data (which can be done algorithmically). It is also possible to statistically account for the fact that detection is imperfect.

As for dealing with the fact that data is presence-only, ecologists have developed a range of computational techniques (e.g. MaxEnt, point-process models) which work with the known data and try to best extrapolate from it to estimate species distributions over a wider area, thus accounting for uncertainty in the data. Finally, accounting for bias has been made possible by statistical techniques which aim to model the processes underlying bias and account for these in the models.

There is a lot of literature on this topic, and thus my research realistically only scratches the surface. Nevertheless I found the experience very intellectually stimulating, and I hope that my work will be helpful for informing future actions that are undertaken when it comes to working with citizen science within TVERC future.

Micro-Internships with TVERC

Are you a student, interested in studying the role of citizen science data in supporting biological recording, conservation and other issues relating to biodiversity in Oxfordshire and Berkshire? Working as part of a small team, our micro-internships are a great opportunity to support vital research and also looks great on your CV. Previous examples of micro-internship research conducted through TVERC include:

- *'A Review of Methods for Analysing Species Distribution Data'*
- *'Badger Set Distribution' and 'Targeting Butterfly Recording'*
- *'Horizon Scanning for Invasive Species'*

We advertise all internship opportunities via our social media channels and the Oxford Careers Service Portal, so keep an eye out and/or email us with any questions

Prioritising Pollinators

Chloe-Mae Kilby TVERC Administration Officer

Pollinators of all species support ecosystem function through enhancing the reproductive processes of wild and crop species of plant. Specifically, they facilitate the movement of pollen between patches promoting the abundance and diversity of flowering plants across an ecosystem and maintaining landscape heterogeneity. Many species of plant have specialised their reproductive processes to specific pollinators, whilst others are served by generalist groups of species. In essence, this means that maintaining a diversity of pollinating insects is crucial for the largest amount of pollination services across a landscape as a whole.

In Europe, it is estimated that 80% of wildflowers and 84% of crops are reliant on pollination services (Bug Life 2023). Perhaps the most charismatic pollinators (and the ones which come most to mind) are the bees and butterflies, but pollinating insects also include beetles, spiders, wasps and flies.

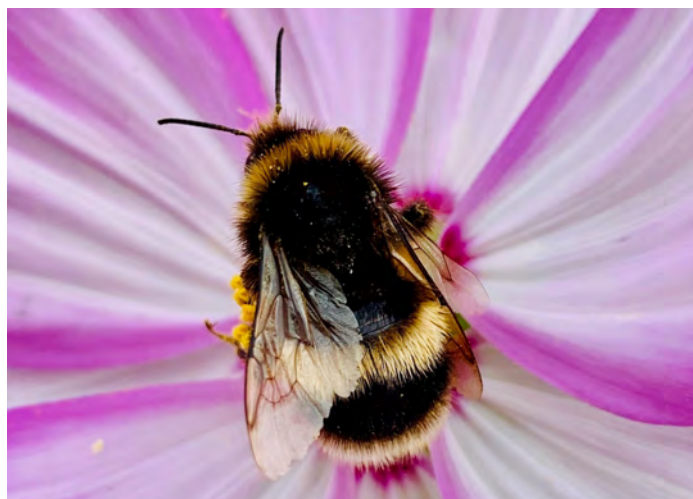
In their report on the status of UK pollinating insects, the UK government found a 21% decline in pollination indicators between 1980 and 2019. Similarly, the 2022 Bugs Matter Survey indicated a sharp (>60%) decline in flying insects surveyed between 2004 and 2022.

Citizen Science is a powerful tool for supporting pollinator populations. There are

many methods for recording pollinators.

FIT counts are a great way to start and you can also get involved in local and national pollinator monitoring schemes such as Butterfly Conservations Big Butterfly Count, The Bug Life Bugs Matter survey, Bumblebee Conservation Trust's Bumblebee walks and the UK Pollinator Monitoring Scheme (PoMs).

You can also send records of pollinating insects to us at TVERC, either through our simple recording form or as an excel spreadsheet with photos. You can also submit directly to irecord. Whatever the form, records are valued and valuable and help support our understanding of pollinator population trends across landscapes, habitats and ecosystems.



Bombus Terrestris: Chloe-Mae Kilby 2021

River Thame Conservation Trust: The Stadhampton Mill Fish Pass

Chels Hothem Project Officer

In an effort to improve resilience of fish populations in the Chalgrove Brook (a tributary of the River Thame and rare chalk stream), The River Thame Conservation Trust has completed a landmark project to open up previously isolated reaches of the Chalgrove. A historic mill structure presented a completely impassable barrier to fish movement upstream, inhibiting downstream populations from accessing different habitats essential for their life cycle. RTCT's solution, The Stadhampton Mill Fish Pass, created a new channel which bypasses the old mill structure, enabling fish to freely move up and downstream to access preferred habitat for spawning and feeding at different times of the year. Additionally, the ability of fish to move freely enables them to seek refuge from potential pollution incidents and extreme flow conditions like floods or droughts further exacerbated by climate change.

The Chalgrove Brook is a rare chalk stream and is home to the River Thame's only confirmed self-sustaining wild brown trout population. The project was entirely funded by the Water and Environment Investment Fund (WEIF) through the Environment Agency (EA), which allowed RTCT to deliver the project for a fraction of the cost of a similar scheme delivered by EA or by a private sector consultancy. This restoration effort is expected to yield significant benefits for trout and other species native to the Chalgrove Brook.

During the construction phase, the River Thame Conservation Trust, with the support of the Environment Agency and local volunteers, successfully caught 12 native brown trout from upstream and downstream of the old weir and translocated them into the newly constructed channel. This exciting discovery confirms the presence of brown trout populations which until

now had been separated. Moreover, this new fish pass is poised to benefit other species, as the bypass channel was designed to facilitate the passage of all fish species and age classes, regardless of low flow or high flow conditions. Removal of this barrier to fish passage marks an important milestone in River Thame Conservation Trust's efforts to make the entire length of the Chalgrove Brook passable to fish. A single obstacle remains within the village of Chalgrove, yet the River Thame Conservation Trust is already taking proactive measures to address this challenge.

The entire site is currently undergoing ecologically informed landscaping efforts. This includes seeding of native floodplain meadow plants, planting of aquatic plants, tree planting, and hedgerow establishment. River Thame Conservation Trust, with guidance from Rick Bennet, owner of Babylon Plants in Watlington, is coordinating teams of volunteers to hand plant these species around the site. Aquatic and emergent plants, like water crowfoot, water parsnip, water forget-me-not, and yellow flag iris, will locally be sourced from sections of the Chalgrove Brook upstream. Two rare black poplars, a male and female, will also be introduced to the site this autumn. The black poplar is one of the most endangered



Oxon-LNP: Update and Progress

The Oxfordshire Local Nature Partnership (OLNP) is making great progress in its three focus areas of natural capital investment, nature recovery and people & nature. The chair and manager have been in post for over a year now, and with the board, working groups, and forum and have been working hard to deliver its aim of working together to radically enhance nature, its positive impact on our climate and the priority it is given, helping to make Oxfordshire a county where people and nature thrive.

In June, the OLNP hosted a fantastic stakeholder engagement session for the new Local Nature Recovery Strategies which generated a range of suggested priorities. Oxfordshire County Council are the responsible body for delivery of these vital tools for driving nature recovery and a project manager is now in post. The OLNP will co-ordinate the ongoing engagement with stakeholders. It is also advocating for a stronger role for LNRS in the planning system, and in June were pleased to be invited to discuss this with a minister from the Department for Levelling-Up, Housing and Communities

With mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) due to come into effect, the OLNP is collating the evidence required to support a policy of 20% biodiversity net gain, and encouraging LPAs to adopt this policy. With support from the Leverhulme Centre of Nature Recovery, the partnership have also commissioned a report into the potential revenue that could be generated over the next ten years through purchase of BNG offsets by developers in Oxfordshire and the extent to which this could contribute to the estimated costs of nature recovery. The findings suggest that even with a policy of 20% BNG, significant additional funding streams will need to be secured if the government is to deliver its international commitment to protect 30% of England's land and sea for nature by 2030. [You can read the report here.](#)

The partnership has also succeeded in adopting the River Thames corridor as a new Conservation Target Area (CTA), secured £100,000 funding for a project around land based carbon sequestration in support of Oxfordshire's Net Zero Route Map and Action Plan, worked on a draft Nature Finance Strategy for the county, and recruited a project manager who will be championing green social prescribing and working to promote equitable access to nature and the implementation of Natural [England's Green Infrastructure Framework](#).

The OLNP is now online— visit <https://www.olnp.org.uk/>

The Power of Citizen Science: Local and National Recording Schemes

Whatever your interest or time of year, there are many ways to get involved in Biological Recording; all of which help support a greater understanding of population trends and patterns. It also helps with research on the effects of climate change, fragmentation and habitat loss on rare or endangered species, as well as the most common ones. As well as submitting your records to us at TVERC, here are some ideas for national recording

Invertebrates

- ◆ National Moth Recording Scheme [Home | National Moth Recording Scheme Online](#)
- ◆ UK Pollinator Monitoring Scheme [Welcome to the UK Pollinator Monitoring Scheme \(PoMS\) | PoMS \(ukpoms.org.uk\)](#)
- ◆ UK Ladybird Survey [UK Ladybird Survey | UK Beetle Recording \(coleoptera.org.uk\)](#)
- ◆ British Dragonfly Monitoring Scheme [Site Monitoring of Dragonflies and Damselflies - British Dragonfly Society \(british-dragonflies.org.uk\)](#)
- ◆ The Big Butterfly Count [Big Butterfly Count \(butterfly-conservation.org\)](#)
- ◆ The Great Stag Hunt [Stag Beetles - record your sightings for the Great Stag Hunt - PTES](#)
- ◆ Spider and Harvestman Recording Scheme [Spider Recording Scheme \(britishspiders.org.uk\)](#)

Mammals

- ◆ Bat Conservation Trust Surveys [Field Survey - Explore NBMP Surveys - Bat Conservation Trust \(bats.org.uk\)](#)
- ◆ Big Hedgehog Map [BIG Hedgehog Map](#)
- ◆ Nuts Hunts for Hazel Dormice Monitoring [Dormouse nut hunt - People's Trust for Endangered Species \(ptes.org\)](#)

Birds

- ◆ Big Garden Bird Watch [Big Garden Birdwatch | The RSPB](#)
- ◆ British Ornithological Society's Bird Track App [About the BirdTrack app | BTO - British Trust for Ornithology](#)
- ◆ Predatory Bird Monitoring Scheme [The Predatory Bird Monitoring Scheme \(ceh.ac.uk\)](#)

Reptiles and Amphibians

- ◆ National Amphibian and Reptile Monitoring Programme [National Amphibian and Reptile Monitoring Programme \(arc-trust.org\)](#)
- ◆ Toad Crossings [Find your nearest toad crossing \(froglife.org\)](#)
- ◆ Make the Adder Count [Record a survey - Record Pool](#)



About TVERC

Enabling data-driven decisions to better enhance and protect our natural environment

Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC) is a 'not for profit' organisation covering Berkshire and Oxfordshire. We are run by a partnership and are one of a national network of local records centres. We are a member of the Association of Local Records Centres (ALERC) and the National Biodiversity Network (NBN).

Our funding partners include all the local authorities in Oxfordshire & Berkshire plus the Environment Agency.

We also work closely with the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust.

WHAT WE DO

We provide our funding partners with annually updated species and sites information as GIS tables, and undertake surveys of local wildlife sites. We also carry out data analysis for the monitoring of local authority Local Plans. We provide information to parish councils, local people, conservation bodies, land-owners, students and commercial organisations such as ecological consultants and utilities companies via data searches, data licensing and data exchanges. We provide other services such as ecological surveys, data analysis & presentation and training.

Get involved!

Please continue (or begin) to submit your records to TVERC. The more data we have, the better we are able to help protect our local wildlife. Thank you!

<https://www.tverc.org/cms/content/share-your-records>

Our Records

We hold over 4.5 million records of flora and fauna in Berkshire and Oxfordshire plus information about Local Wildlife Sites and Geological Sites, NERC Act S41 Habitats of Principal Importance and Ecological Networks. We collect this data from the general public, skilled volunteer/amateur recorders, professionals working for wildlife charities and for government agencies and ecological consultants.

WHAT THE INFORMATION IS USED FOR

- By planning authorities and developers to make informed decision on the design and location of sustainable development
- To help farmers, land-owners and conservation organisations manage land in the best way to enhance biodiversity
- By nature partnerships to direct wildlife conservation work
- By teachers, students and scientists for

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