

Action Plan Objectives & Targets	Actions	2007 Target trend & progress (Peter Sanders)	2007 Plan trend & progress (Peter Sanders)	2008 Target trend and progress	2008 Plan trend & progress:
<p>A. Maintain the size of all populations known to be remaining in the sub-region in 2001-2 2002-2015</p>	<p>PL1 PL2 SM1 SM2 SM3 SM5 SM6 A1 RM1 RM2 RM3 RM4 CP1</p>	<p>↓↓ Target not achieved.</p> <p>Most of the areas main water vole population has now been lost due to mink predation and to a lesser extent very poor habitat maintenance.</p> <p>Since 2001-2 the water vole population in the area has crashed by an estimated 85%.</p> <p>Although possibly too late to save the main water vole colonies on the Anker in Nuneaton and around Wolvey a mink control programme is in place.</p> <p>A comprehensive water vole survey will be conducted in Coventry to check all known populations, locate any new and report to improve habitat management and connectivity.</p> <p>The current water vole situation in the south of the county is not known. The sites recorded positive in the last survey (2003) need re-surveying.</p>	<p>↓</p> <p><b>Overall this is a very negative picture for water voles.</b></p> <p><b>A detailed survey of the British Waterways-owned Makin's Fishery confirmed that the largest water population in the area has all but been lost. Just a few individual animals remain in what was their stronghold around the Wolvey area.</b></p> <p><b>All known colonies on the canals now appear to be extinct. Elsewhere what few animals remain continue to be threatened by mink, poor habitat maintenance, lack of safe connective corridors and isolation.</b></p> <p><b>The future for water voles in Coventry and Warwickshire looks very bleak. The situation is critical, so bad they could be extinct in a few years unless there is a change for the better.</b></p>	<p>↓↓ Target not achieved.</p> <p>The species continues to decline with the loss of 2 out of the 5 known populations.</p>	<p>↓</p> <p><b>It remains a very negative picture for water voles.</b></p>

<p>B. Increase population size and range by promoting expansion in the vicinity of existing key water vole populations in the sub-region (i.e. in and around Coventry, Nuneaton and headwaters flowing off the Cotswold Hills) By 2010</p>	<p>SM2 SM4 A1 CP1</p>	<p>↓ <b>Target not achieved.</b></p> <p>Unless mink can be controlled around existing populations this target will not be met. With the main populations already lost Around Wolvey and the state of populations elsewhere not known the situation is critical.</p> <p>A project to improve the habitat and connectivity of the Birmingham and Fazeley Canal near Kingsbury Water Park will commence in 2007</p>		<p>↓ <b>Target not achieved.</b></p> <p>In the new Environmental Stewardship Scheme launched in 2005, there are management options for the habitats which water vole use or those adjacent to such habitats which have an influence on the former.</p> <p>Advice has been given during planning responses for CCC, NWBC, SDC, WDC, RBC.</p> <p>Water voles may colonise RSPB Middleton Lakes reserve and already feature in publicity about the site and related policy advocacy. Regular monitoring of water vole populations will be carried out.</p>	
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