

Biodiversity

Halting the Sixth Mass Extinction Event



Beaver Kits - Born in Devon, July 2014. A sight not seen in England for Centuries

The issue of biodiversity is central to the British identity. Since the earliest days of television, the wildlife documentary has captured our imaginations and fired up our zeal for protecting the natural world. It is important to recognise the value of both individual species and whole ecologies and protect them accordingly.

Lib Dem Policy Papers:

PP26 - Living in the Greenhouse, Policies to Tackle Climate Change, (pub. 1997)

5.0.7: Biodiversity. Countryside protection policies need to adapt to the increasing number of species placed at risk from climate change. The reform of the CAP which Liberal Democrats envisage would ensure that increased resources became available for the protection of rare species and habitats. Legal protection for vulnerable areas also needs to be strengthened.

PP31 - Keeping the Balance, Policies on Genetic Modification, (pub. 1999)

5.2.5 includes: We call for: a) All countries to sign the Convention on Biological Diversity, and for it to be given effective enforcement powers. b) Issues concerning TRIPS and genetic patenting to be reviewed as part of the WTO 'Millennium Round'

PP52 - Rural Futures, (pub. 2002)

4.0 The Liberal Democrats are developing integrated policies to ensure truly sustainable and flourishing farming and land use for strong local communities, and a healthy, unpolluted, safe and biodiverse environment for those who live in and visit the countryside.

4.7.3 The Liberal Democrats call for a National Pesticide Reduction Strategy, with clear targets for reduction in usage and encourage local authorities to draw up Pesticide Reduction strategies.

PP93 - Our Natural Heritage, Policies on the Natural Environment, (pub. 2009)

1.0.1: Whether it's the rolling green hills of our rural landscape or the diversity of wildlife in an urban garden, Liberal Democrats recognise that a healthy natural environment is crucial to our quality of life.

PP102 - A New Purpose For Politics: Quality of Life (pub. 2011)

5.6.3: Appropriate consideration for facilities such as local nature reserves and wildlife corridors

PP109 - Green Growth and Green Jobs: Transition to a Zero Carbon Britain (pub. 2013)

5.2.1 Biomass lends itself most readily to smaller scale domestic and industrial use, using material derived from the local landscape, such as roadside and habitat management for biodiversity

conservation. From 2020 support from the Renewable Heat Incentive should be given only to these kinds of supplies.

PP113 - Prosperous, Sustainable and Secure: Renewing the European Union for the 21st Century (pub 2013)

5.2.16 Liberal Democrats endorse support for rural communities and businesses through the CAP, particularly those in upland and less favoured areas, specifically in order to protect and enhance biodiversity, landscape and heritage, water management and local economic activity including tourism.

Challenge:

07 Winter	p1	The Forgotten Crisis
08 Spring	p2	The New Green Agenda Is Mental
08 Summer	p1	Mainstreaming Environmental Action
08 Autumn	p18	What Will The Next War Be About?
09 Summer	p4	A Local Green Way Out Of Recession
09 Autumn	p5	A Green Tick for the Libdems, p7 Our Natural Heritage, The Verdict, p10 Campaigning for the Natural Environment
10 Summer	p14	Keeping the Swifts Flying
10 Winter	p6	Biodiversity - The Hidden Threat To Us All
11 Spring	p21	Save Our Wood
11 Summer	p21	Silent Forests
11 Autumn	p12	Lost Pride
12 Summer	p19	A Sustainable Future For Fish
12 Autumn	p12	The wings to fly: Prioritising Biodiversity, p18 Reserve Judgment
13 Spring	p6	Farming Floods and Forests, p22 First Step
13 Summer	p12	Pfffff! Dolphins and Whales, p22 Bees in Crisis
13 Winter	p18	Alien Invasion
14 Spring	p11	Speculating on Extinction
14 Summer	p10	Global Sanctuary

Resources:

The Wildlife Trusts Biodiversity Benchmark <http://www.wildlifetrusts.org/biodiversitybenchmark>
Cambridge and Peterborough Biodiversity Partnership <http://www.cpbiodiversity.org.uk/>
The Convention on Biological Diversity <http://www.cbd.int/>
UN Decade on Biodiversity <http://www.decadeonbiodiversity.net/>
The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity <http://www.teebweb.org/>
Natural England <http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/>
The Natural History Museum <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/nature-online/biodiversity/>
DEFRA UK BAP site <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=5155>
The National Biodiversity Network <http://www.nbn.org.uk/>
The Biodiversity Planning Toolkit <http://www.biodiversityplanningtoolkit.com/>
The Forum for the Future Sustainable Cities Index
<http://www.forumforthefuture.org/project/sustainable-cities-index/overview>