

OBJECTIVE	TARGET	PROGRESS	PLAN STATUS	
			2008-2010	2011-2019
A. To maintain the size and range of the known Warwickshire population of the red wood ant by appropriate management.	ongoing	On the basis of two years of recording by the Forestry Commission (now Forestry England) in 2012 and 2014, the red wood ant population at Arley Wood appeared to be stable and perhaps increasing in range. However, more recent records have not been received.	↑	↑
B. To increase population size and range by translocation to other sites, following extensive research into their suitability.	2020	No known progress.		
Key to status: 2010: ↑ Any improvement ↔ No change ↓ Decline 2019: ↑ Good progress ↑ Some progress ↔ No change ↓ Decline				

PROPOSED ACTIONS	BY	REPORTED PROGRESS	ACTION STATUS
			↑ ↑ ↔ ↓
PL1. Ensure that the Forest Design Plan continues to consider the needs of the red wood ant.	ongoing	In progress. Due to the mobility of the ant nests, regular surveys will be undertaken to monitor their spread and growth to ensure that forestry operations, including restocking, do not adversely affect population growth. Some restocking with conifers (4ha) for the ants was planned in 2014.	↑
SM1. Ensure that the current Forest Design Plan for Arley Wood is implemented to account for the needs of the red wood ant, in particular, protection for the nest sites.	ongoing	In progress Forestry England (FE): the Forest Design Plan involves the management of the current areas of broadleaves using a selective felling programme that will ensure that there is a continuous broadleaf cover.	↑
SM2. Continue the restoration of at least one site (e.g. Hay Wood, Waverley Wood) to good condition for the ant, following research (see RM2).	2016-2020	In progress. Butterfly Conservation Warwickshire (BCW): has carried out management at Hay Wood to improve conditions for the ants by allowing more light to enter, particularly at the edges of rides where the nests are often located: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • by the cutting of 2 x 4 yr. and 1 x 6 yr. rotations of scrub edge to widen the main rides. • by 9ha. of coppicing. 	↑
SM3. Re-introduce the ant to one historic site e.g. Hay Wood, by the translocation of 2 whole nests in the spring.	2020	No progress.	↔

SM4. Check other woodland sites for relic populations of the ant.	2020	No progress.	↔
RM1. Continue regular monitoring of Arley Wood; record changes in distribution and number and responses to management activities in the wood.	annual	Some progress. FE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2012: 17 nests were recorded. • 2014: 19/20 nests were found, 16/17 of which were definitely active, during management to improve the habitat for the wood ant, clearing bracken from around nests along the main path to allow more light onto them for warmth. It is believed that more nests will be found in the second section of the wood towards the pond. Nests were GPS mapped. • 2015: further mapping and management were to take place but no records have been received since 2014. 	↑
RM2. Research records for all woodlands in the county to find historic sites.	2014	A little progress. This was begun in 2014 by the County Recorder but not completed.	↑
RM3. Research conditions at historic sites (see RM2) to ensure conditions are suitable for translocation and check feasibility prior to any translocation work. Produce a 3-year plan for a reintroduction project and apply for funding.	2015	No progress until RM2 is completed. Other possible sites are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monwode Lea Farm next to Arley Wood which has 3 small woods. BCW is trying to persuade them to go into stewardship so these woods could be a potential site. • Ufton Fields (a Warwickshire Wildlife Reserve) has woodland where some conifers will remain in situ for the foreseeable future due to presence of associated fungi and rare plants. 	↔
RM4. Monitor the results of any translocation at both donor and recipient woods for at least 5 years.	2025	No progress until SM3 achieved.	↔
CP1. Ensure that the County Council ecologists and Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) team are informed of any revisions to the management plan for Arley Wood.	ongoing	In progress. Warwickshire Biological Record Centre: is not aware of any change.	↑