



Kent and Medway Strategy Area Description outline January 2024

1. The landscape of Kent and Medway

Introduction to the seven distinct character areas of the county using NCA, supplemented within input on natural environment from AONBs.

2. What makes Kent and Medway's nature so special

2.1 Kent's natural resource

An overview of the county's natural features, including facts and figures.
Feature Areas of Particular Importance for Biodiversity – APIB.
Could also include in this section some of the narrative/quotes from public surveys.

2.2 Kent's habitats

Reference to the breadth of habitats and include KHS map.
Habitats of local and national significance or that support scarce or declining species.

Evidence source: KHS

2.3 Kent's species

Reference to the wealth of species found in Kent.
Species of national importance.

Evidence source: KMBRC, KBS, SRTAG

3. A changing landscape

3.1 Changes in the distribution/extent of habitats and species.

3.1.1 Habitats

Summary of key findings from land cover change analysis from KHS (with link to full analysis).

3.1.2 Species

Summary of key findings from SoNiK (with link to full analysis in Chapter 5 – The state of Kent's species). SRTAG to review when drafted.

3.2 Influences on Kent's habitats and species

To cover both current and anticipated future pressures.

To be informed by:

- SoNiK
- Narrative on pressures in KBS
- NCA
- Work by SRTAG to identify pressures for species
- Session one of first series of workshops
- Local plan review

4. Opportunities for recovery

4.1 Nature recovery wins for the county – a celebration of what has and can be achieved.

Summary of some notable achievements and successful projects using SoNiK as basis (with link to complete Chapter 4 – Conservation).

To also look at Action for Nature mapping undertaken by project.

4.2 Local targets for nature

To provide a summary of ambitions and targets of local authorities and other partners that could support or be supported by the LNRS. Full local plan review to be appended.

Source: local plan and other strategy review

4.3 National targets for nature

To provide a summary of the Environment Improvement Plan targets to be supported by the LNRS.

To provide a summary of any proposals from national bodies in terms of how the LNRS can support their targets.

Source: national plan review

4.4 What next?

Broad nature recovery opportunities, including opportunities for nature based solutions and how nature recovery might support other environmental goals.

To also consider opportunities that changing climate might present.

Source: NCA, KBS, NBS report and first series of workshops

Detailed overview of the strategy area (to be appended)

Greater Thames Estuary

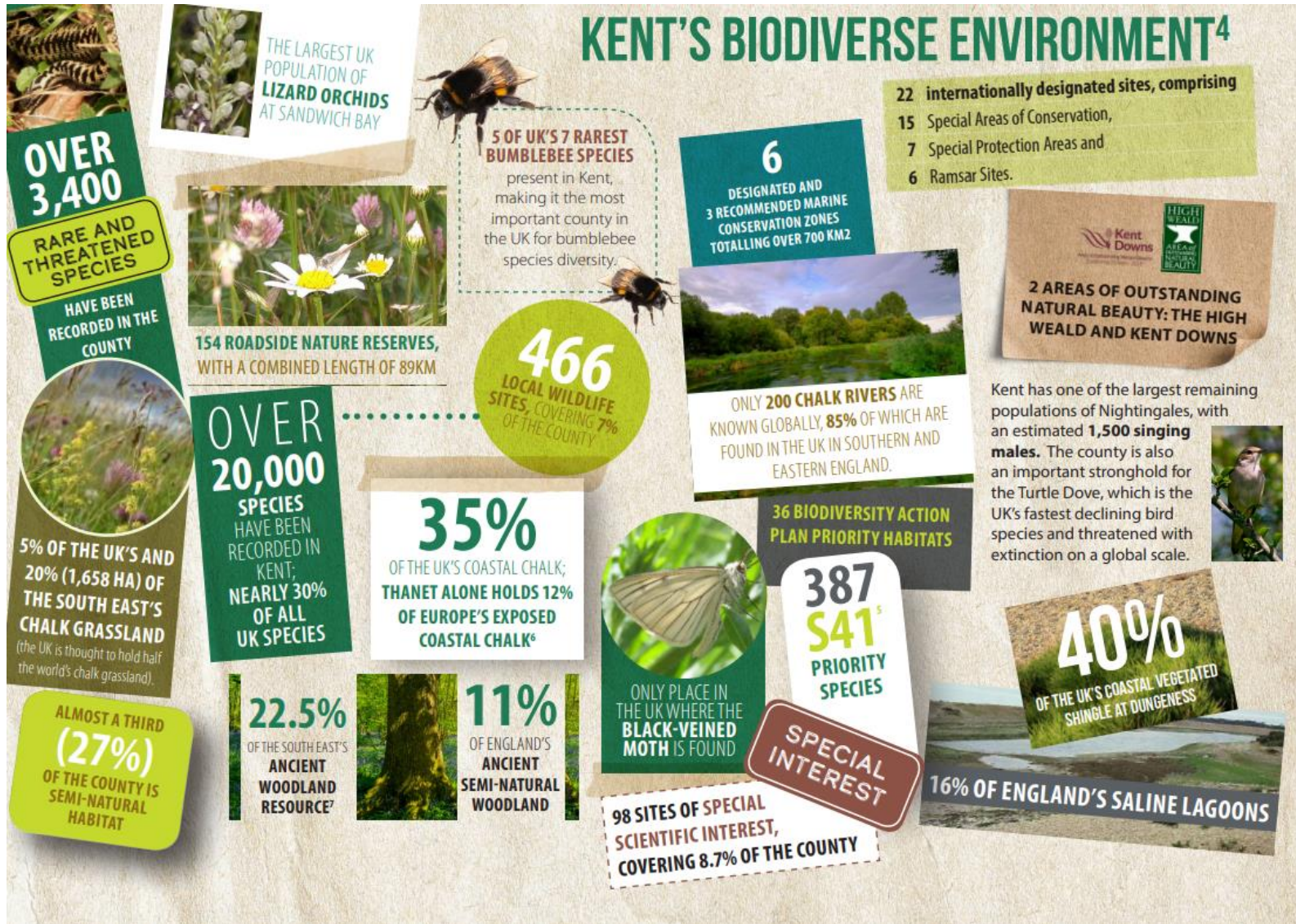
- Geology: NCA
- Landscape: NCA and AONBs
- Key habitats: NCA, KHS and SoNiK
- Key species: NCA, SoNiK and SRTAG
- Notable changes and pressures for this area: KHS, NCA, SoNiK, KBS, SRTAG, local plan review
- Notable opportunities for this area: NBS report, local plan review and first series of workshops

Content repeated for:

- North Kent Plain
- North Downs
- Wealden Greensand
- Low Weald
- High Weald
- Romney Marshes

Sources:
NCA – National Character Areas KHS – Kent Habitat Survey KBS – Kent Biodiversity Strategy KMBRC – Kent & Medway Biological Records Centre SRTAG – Species Recovery Technical Advisory Group NBS – Nature Based Solutions in Kent

Note 1 – Kent Biodiversity Strategy graphic



Note 2 – Kent Biodiversity Strategy priority habitats

- Lowland Beech and Yew Woodland
- Lowland Mixed Broadleaved Woodland
- Chalk grassland
- Lowland meadow
- Lowland dry acid grassland / Lowland heathland
- Hedgerows
- Brownfield
- Traditional orchard
- Rivers
- Chalk streams
- Ponds
- Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh
- Intertidal mudflats and coastal saltmarsh
- Wet woodland
- Vegetated shingle
- Intertidal chalk and subtidal chalk
- Subtidal mud

Note 3 - Kent Biodiversity Strategy priority species

Shrill Carder Bee
Turtle Dove
Nightingale
Swift
Adder
Adonis Blue
Heath Fritillary
Dwarf or Kentish Milkwort
European eel
Lapwing
Sandwich tern
Water vole
True Fox-sedge