



the  
species  
recovery  
trust

2020 Species Report

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# Marsh Clubmoss

*(Lycopodiella inundata)*

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The Lake District

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This project is generously funded by the Halpin and  
Banister Charitable Trusts



## Project

This work forms part of our national programme to monitor and enhance Marsh Clubmoss across England and Wales. More information on this work can be found on The Species Recovery Trust website.

Surveys were undertaken in the Lake District in August 2018.

## Partners

We are hugely grateful to the Freshwater Habitats Trust for their site data from previous visits.

## Funders

We are hugely grateful to the following trust for supporting this project:

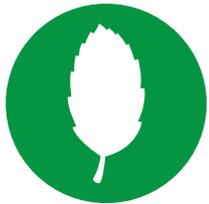
*The Halpin Charitable Trust*

*The Banister Charitable Trust*

# Summary



Marsh Clubmoss currently occurs at 3 extant sites within the Lake District National Park with an additional extinct site on Wan Fell SSSI.

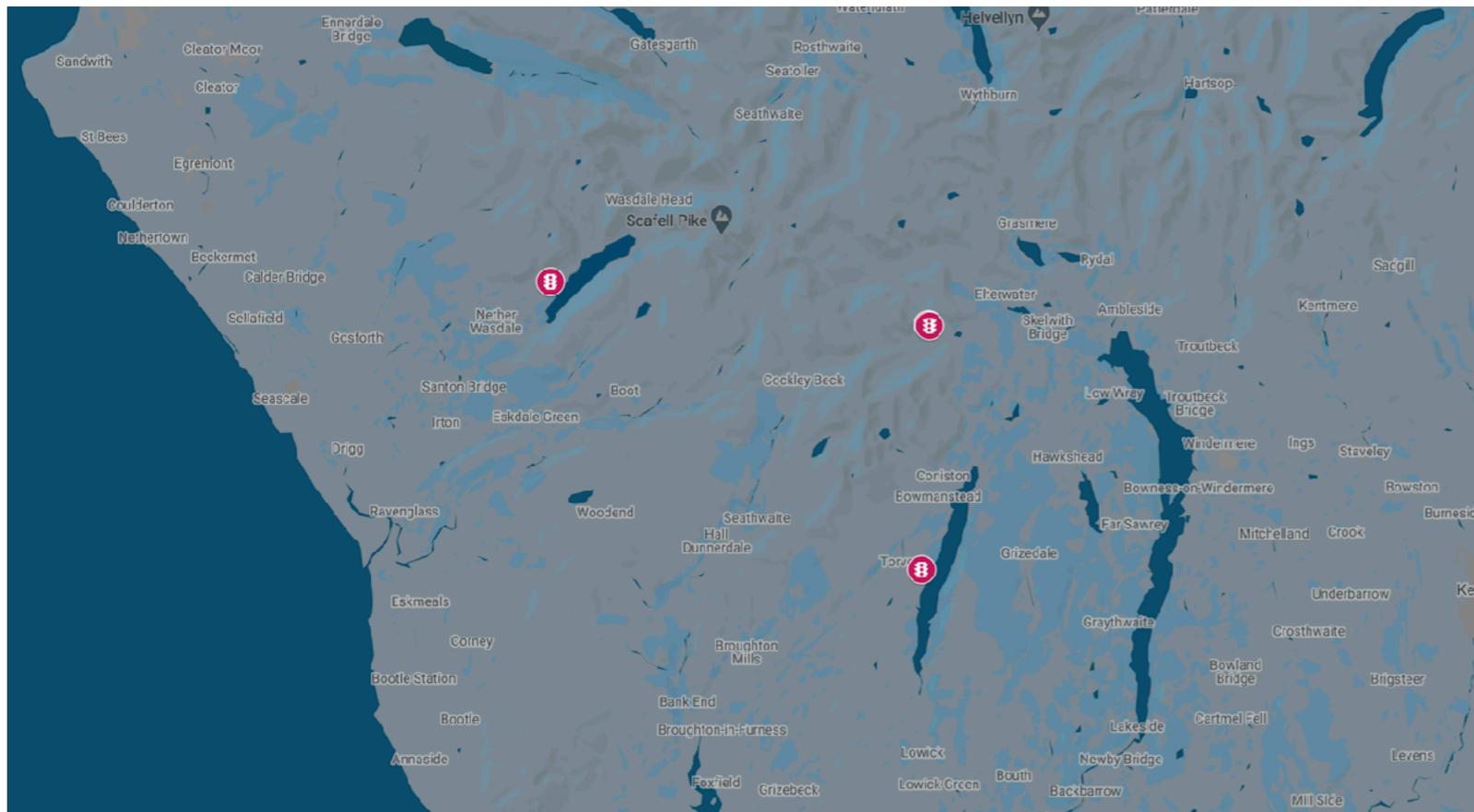


All the extant sites are considered to be under no immediate threat, are under suitable management and appear to offer good opportunities for the expansion of populations



# Sites Summary

Site	Grid Ref	2020 August count
Greendale (Wastwater)	NY 14787 05612	740
Fell Foot (Blea Tarn)	NY 29650 03652	23350
Torver Back Common (Coniston)	SD 29283 93845	1266





**Greendale (Wastwater)**



## Population

**740** (moderate levels of fruiting)

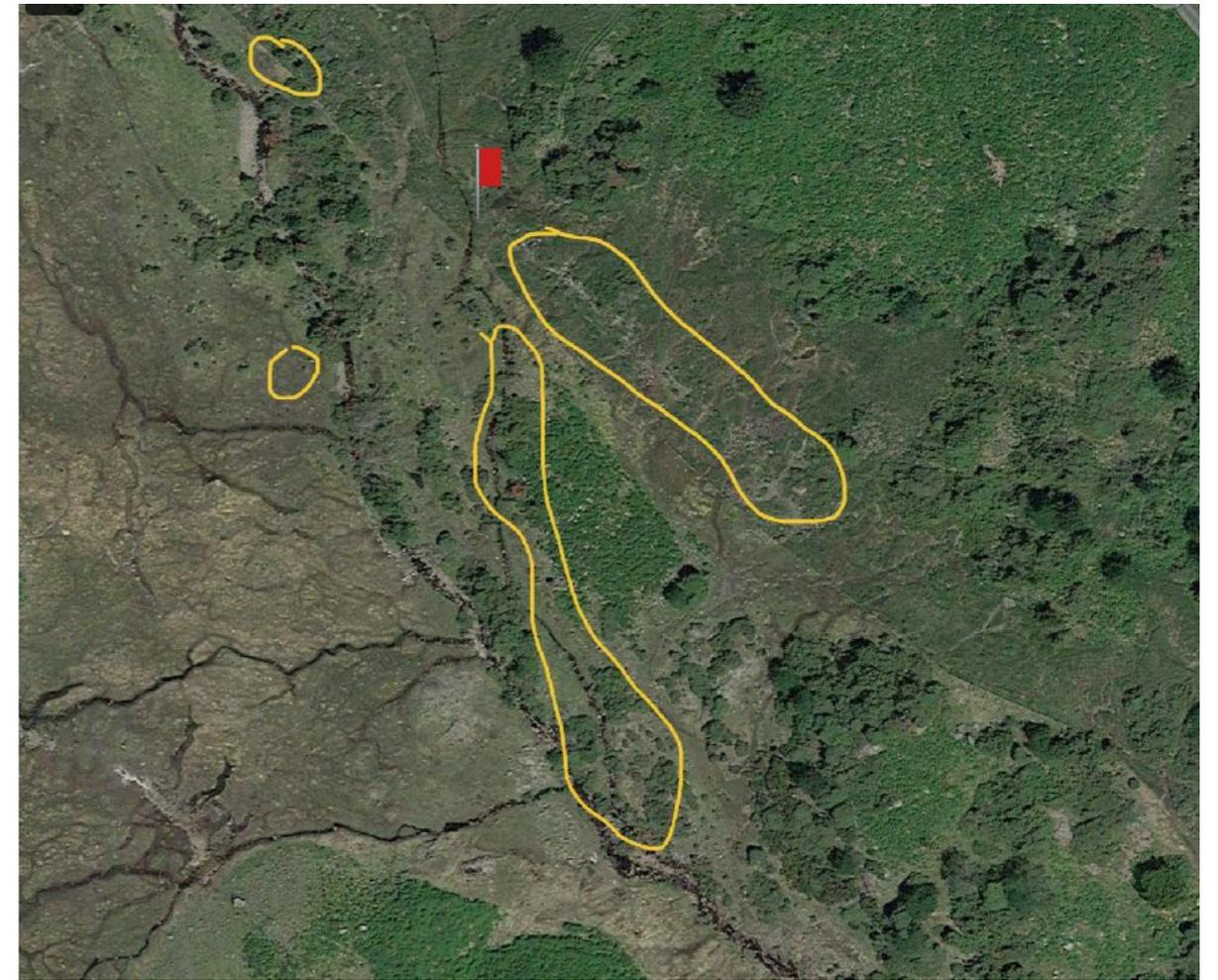
Population on sides of southern split of rivulet c. 3m north of road north of rock outcrop. Population runs 25m to NY 14802 05601 with good amount of bare open ground allowing population to spread in both directions..

## History

Records of scattered plants from both sides of the road, although in 2004 only 1 spike was located



**Fell Foot (Blea Tarn)**



## Population

**23350** (high levels of fruiting)

12550 plants east of fence. 8850 west of fence. 1450 following runnel to south. 500 plants west of beck. SW extent at NY 29738 03570

Plants in dense mats, mostly associated with seepage lines with bare peat and rocks, and in areas of open damp vegetation. The population ends quite abruptly at both sides where vegetation grades into dense Molinia.



## History

2004 Pretty frequent over several hundred metres on the east side of Bleamoss Beck, with a little bit on the west side too. The main colonies are on the east side of Blea Moss Beck south of the wooden footbridge in and around the edge of seepage zone

## Context

This population is considered to be the largest in England and Wales, significantly larger than Bovington Tank Ranges in Dorset (19,360) and Park Pit in Cornwall (13600)

## Outlook

The grazing levels on this site appear ideal for the plants, but monitoring should be carried out to ensure Molinia sward at edges does no encroach into site



**Torver Back Common (Coniston)**



## Population

**1266** (low levels of fruiting)

5 clumps growing on edge of small island surrounded by runnels. Good availability of open ground and suitable habitat surrounding the plants, so population should be able to expand.

1 - 235, 2 - 11, 3 - 570, 4 - 390, 5 - 60

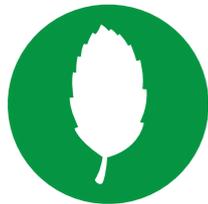
Growing in patches of slightly open ground with *Narthecium*, *Erica tetralix*, *Sphagnum*, *Rhynchospora alba*, *Pinguicula vulgaris*, *Eleocharis multicaulis*, *Molinia caerulea*, *Carex demissa* and *Juncus articulatus*.

# Looking forward

Project aims 2020-2030



Monitor the sites on a 5-year basis.  
Widen search radius to look for  
additional sub-sites.



Ensure habitat is being maintained



Survey the historic sites at Wan Fell to  
try and re-locate plants and see if  
habitat can be enhanced



The Species Recovery Trust is a charity set up to tackle the loss of some of the rarest species in the UK.

There are over nine hundred native species in the UK that are classed as under threat, with several hundreds more currently widespread but known to be in significant decline. The countryside is now bereft of many species that were a familiar sight a mere generation ago.

A small number of these species are on the absolute brink of existence, poised to become extinct in our lifetimes; our goal is to stop them vanishing.

Our aim is to remove 50 species from the edge of extinction in the UK by the year 2050. In addition we are reconnecting people with wildlife and the natural world through training programmes and awareness raising.



A photograph of a forest floor in spring. The ground is covered with a dense carpet of purple bluebells. In the foreground, a large, weathered tree stump lies on the ground, partially covered in moss. The background is filled with tall, slender trees with fresh green leaves, suggesting a young forest or woodland. Sunlight filters through the canopy, creating dappled light on the ground.

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