**Wildlife Facts for National Parks**

4 July 2016

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<th>Special species: the wonderful plants and creatures you can find in National Parks</th>
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<td>- The Broads is home to Britain’s largest native butterfly, the brightly-coloured Swallowtail</td>
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<td>- Dartmoor is the only place in Britain where you can find the Bog Hoverfly, a species that mimics the appearance of a bee</td>
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<td>- The rare amphibious River Jelly Lichen thrives in the clean waters of Exmoor’s River Barle</td>
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<td>- Ospreys returned to the Lake District in 2001 and have bred there every year since</td>
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<td>- The New Forest is home to the largest breeding population of Dartford Warbler in the UK</td>
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<td>- Autumn visitors to the North York Moors coast can spot Minke, Fin, Sei, Pilot and Humpback Whales</td>
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<td>- Northumberland contains the best site in England for rare species of colourful Waxcap Fungi</td>
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<td>- The Peak District is the only place in the world where the Derbyshire Feather-Moss grows</td>
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<td>- The Alcathoe bat, only discovered in the UK in 2010, can be found in the woodlands of the South Downs</td>
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<td>- The Yorkshire Dales holds the only wild site in the country for the beautiful Lady’s-Slipper Orchid</td>
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*A Swallow Tail Butterfly in the Norfolk Broads*
Precious places: National Parks are concentrated pockets of our most important habitats

- The Broads is Britain’s largest protected wetland, with wildlife-rich fen, estuary and grazing marsh
- The southernmost blanket bogs in Europe are found in Dartmoor
- Exmoor has irreplaceable ancient woodlands, and the longest stretch of coastal woodland in England
- The high fells of the Lake District are England’s stronghold for montane habitats and arctic-alpine plants
- The New Forest holds the most extensive area of lowland heathland remaining in Europe
- The North York Moors protects the largest continuous expanse of heather moorland in England
- The cleanest rivers in England are sourced in the hills of Northumberland
- The upland ash woodlands of the Peak District are the largest of their type in Great Britain, and of international importance
- The chalk grassland found in the South Downs supports 30-40 species in just one square metre
- Almost 1/3 of England’s remaining upland hay meadows, rich in wildflowers, are in the Yorkshire Dales

*Coastal Heather Moorland in the North York Moors*
Nurturing nature: How National Park Authorities and their partners are giving wildlife a helping hand

- The Broads Authority uses special lightweight vehicles to manage wetland areas, and the waste vegetation cuttings generated are used to improve farmers’ soils and create bioenergy
- Thanks to recent blanket bog restoration works co-ordinated by Dartmoor National Park Authority, breeding dunlin have increased by 37%
- Exmoor National Park Authority is part of the Exmoor Knotweed Control Project, safeguarding habitats including rivers, streams and meadows by treating invasive knotweeds on over 1,000 sites
- The Arctic Alpine project, jointly led by the Lake District National Park Authority, is studying and protecting the special montane heath habitat
- The New Forest National Park Authority has surveyed over 20,000ha of habitat for heathland birds and breeding waders
- The North York Moors National Park Authority’s Farm Scheme spent £7m over 25 years on funding farmers to carry out conservation work
- The Border Uplands project, led by Northumberland National Park Authority and partners, is connecting up bogs, moorland and grassland habitats to improve their value for wildlife
- 650ha of clough woodland has been created through projects supported by the Peak District National Park Authority over the last 3 years
- The Nature Improvement Area led by the South Downs National Park Authority has restored nearly 1,000ha of chalk grassland since 2012
- The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority has an ambitious native woodland programme that has already seen over 700ha planted

For more information please visit www.nationalparksengland.org.uk