

Northumberland Stream © NBP Photographer John Williamson

Working with Wildlife

Water Rock-bristle (*Seligeria carniolica*) Species Action Plan

Plan Co-ordinator	Rivers & Wetlands Group
Plan Author	Elaine Jaggs
Plan Lead	Environment Agency
Latest version	November 2009

Description

Water rock-bristle is a minute moss growing in solitary to gregarious patches up to 3-4 millimetres high. It grows mainly on periodically or permanently moist, shaded, calcareous rocks in or near streams in small ravines, growing up to an altitude of about 100 metres. It has long thin leaves looking like tufts of dark green or blackish hair.

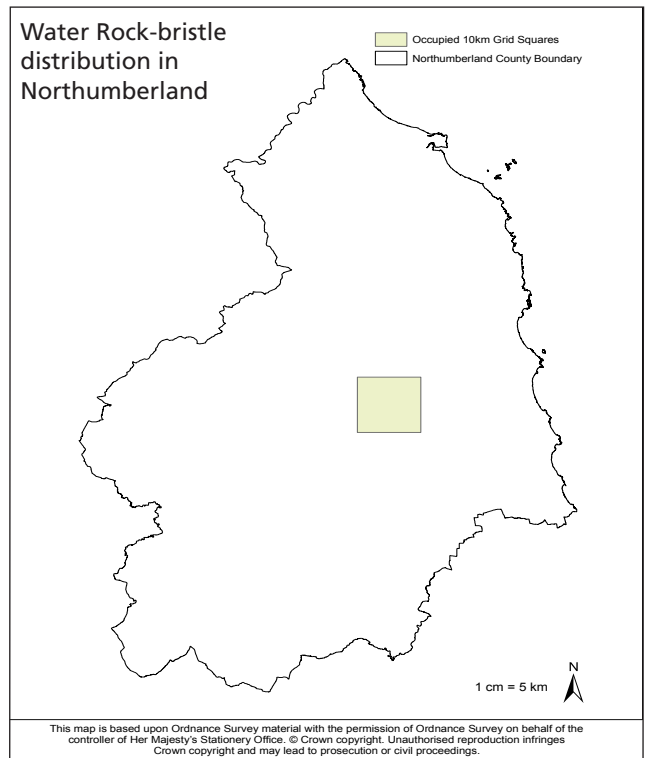
This is the only species of its genus in Europe, and is also endemic to Europe. In Britain, it has been recorded from only two sites in Roxburgh and Northumberland; it was seen at the latter locality in 1996, 2002 and 2006. Material was collected from the Scottish site in 1948, but was not correctly identified until later. Water rock-bristle is now believed to be extinct at Roxburgh.

Conservation Status

UK Red Data List, critically endangered
UK Biodiversity Action Plan Species
North East Biodiversity Action Plan Species

Current Extent in Northumberland

In the UK the water rock-bristle is currently only known from a single site in Northumberland. The plant grows in two areas at this site.



Current Factors Causing Loss or Decline

- Cattle grazing preventing tree regeneration
- Trampling and nutrient enrichment by cattle
- Changes in water quality and quantity
- Inappropriate collection

Associated Action Plans

Rivers & Streams

Water Rock-bristle (*Saligeria carniolica*) Species Action Plan

Further Information

This water rock-bristle action plan links to the water rock-bristle UK BAP action plan, whose lead partner is Plantlife.

Targets

Maintain the current range of the Water Rock Bristle in Northumberland of 1 ten kilometre grid square by 2015

Code	Priority Actions	Date
WRB A01	Carry out characterisation of the conditions of the site where the species is found, including nutrient status of the water courses	2008
WRB A02	Implement appropriate site management based on the outcomes of the characterisation process	2009
WRB A03	Carry out surveys for the species at two adjacent sites	2010
WRB A04	Assess the feasibility of reintroduction at other sites to expand the species' range	2010