



TANSY BEETLE PROJECT PROJECT SUCCESSSES

The Tansy Beetle (*Chrysolina graminis*) is an endangered species that was once widespread through the UK but has now declined. The Tansy Beetle Project was aimed at reconnecting the local community with the beetle to help increase population numbers.

AIMS OF THE PROJECT

The main aim of the Tansy Beetle Project was to engage members of the public in Tansy Beetle protection. Other project aims included...



Planting Tansy in large clumps to provide a home for the Tansy Beetle.



Create areas of suitable habitat to protect the Tansy Beetle from flooding.



Educate landowners to help preserve the Tansy.

WHY THE PROJECT WAS NEEDED

Tansy Beetle numbers have fallen so much it has now been designated as a conservation priority species in the UK.



Currently, the only known British populations are along a 45 km stretch of the River Ouse in central Yorkshire, and at Woodwalton Fen, Cambridgeshire, where it was rediscovered in 2014 after a 40 year absence of record.



The beetle can be used as an indicator of healthy riverbank habitat as it demonstrate a higher quality, diverse ecosystem.

CAUSES OF DECLINE

The decline of the Tansy Beetle has been due to a number of reasons, many of which are down to humans.



Climate Change leading to increased summer flooding.



Land-use change for farming and other activities.



Invasive species such as Himalayan Balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*) outcompeting the Tansy.

Fertilisers, pesticides and overgrazing.

SUCCESSSES OF THE PROJECT

The Tansy Beetle Project has been a wonderful success in raising awareness of the Tansy Beetle and increasing numbers in the York area. Below are some of the highlights.

The project recruited 42 Champions and many more volunteers.



Created a species management sheet to help land owners better manage their plot for the Tansy and Tansy Beetle.



Hosted 14 work parties to restore land so it becomes better suited to the Tansy.



Delivered talks to schools and the local community.

The project helped contribute to an increase of...

16,000

extra Tansy Beetles counted by 30 volunteers along a 45km stretch of the River Ouse increasing from 24,000 in 2015 to 40,000 in 2016.

TANSY BEETLE PROJECT PARTNERS...



Learn more at www.buglife.org.uk/tansy-beetle-hub.

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