



2022

# Annual review

people's  
trust for  
**endangered**  
species



# What a difference a year makes

Our mission is to save our wildlife for the future.

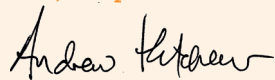
Our wildlife is disappearing. Almost two thirds of species in the UK declined in the past 50 years. Over 65,000 species are on the international alert list. There's nothing natural or inevitable about this. It can be stopped. And we can all play a part. That's why People's Trust for Endangered Species exists.





**“In a busy year, we’ve significantly extended our surveying and monitoring of endangered species and habitats in Britain, published the latest status assessment of hedgehogs, reintroduced dormice in Lancashire, and expanded wildlife-friendly training and advice to landowners and managers. Our conservation research grants are supporting exceptional conservation work worldwide. Helping us were thousands of amazing people volunteering their time, enthusiasm and donations. It wouldn’t be possible without you. Thank you.”**

**Dr Andrew Kitchener**  
Chair, People’s Trust for Endangered Species



Our other trustees are Dr David Bullock,  
Sylvia Kahn Freund and Dr Tony Mitchell-Jones.

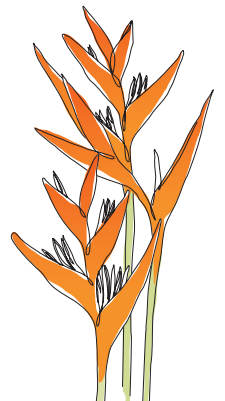


## Our approach

Conserving endangered wild animals and the places where they live is a huge task. We make our limited resources work hard, using scientific evidence to judge where action's most needed and where we'll have the greatest impact.

We work with landowners, local communities, scientists and the public and take swift, sustainable action before it's too late. From hedgehogs and stag beetles in our gardens, to slow lorises in Indonesian rainforests, we work with passion to save them all.

We can't do it alone so we use our expertise and experience to inspire thousands of volunteers to monitor wildlife and improve their surroundings for nature.





# Wildlife in the UK

With one in five wild mammals threatened in Britain, it's vital we know how their numbers change over time so we can act to protect wildlife.



## Successes and plans for mammals

- ▶ Our *Living with Mammals* survey has collected over 350,000 records of wild mammals at almost 6000 sites since it began. For the first time it ran throughout the year, laying the ground for a more comprehensive picture of how urban mammal populations are changing.
- ▶ The *State of Britain's Hedgehogs 2022*, published with The British Hedgehog Preservation Society, revealed the latest status of hedgehogs drawing on data from PTES, British Trust for Ornithology, and Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust. The decline continues in rural landscapes, but urban populations may be recovering following a historic decline. Funds are being sought for a pilot National Hedgehog Monitoring Programme.
- ▶ We awarded research grants and internships to scientists at leading universities and conservation organisations, addressing a range of questions and challenges such as:
  - > investigating where hazel dormice hibernate to minimise the impact of winter woodland management
  - > bolstering the captive population of wildcats in Scotland for release into the wild
  - > using footprint tunnels to see how dormice move through woodland as conifers are cleared for broad-leaved species
  - > translocating red squirrels to the Highlands to spread their numbers westwards in Scotland
  - > identifying which woodland management practices support the greatest diversity of bat species
- ▶ We continue to support The Rt Hon Chris Grayling, MP, as 'species champion' for hedgehogs in Westminster, and The Rt Hon Hilary Benn, MP, for water voles.





## Focus on dormice

The continuing decline in hazel dormouse populations is concerning. We reintroduced a second dormouse population in Lancashire, close to last year's, to create a robust metapopulation as they meet and breed.

We manage the long-running National Dormouse Monitoring Programme and run an extensive training programme for conservationists, ecologists and land managers about the ecology and habitat requirements of dormice.

### SUCCESSES AND PLANS

- > Trialling use of dormouse footprint tunnels alongside hedgerow surveying to relate dormouse occupancy to hedge condition
- > Training ecological consultants to survey and manage areas for dormice
- > Teaching volunteers to use dormouse footprint tunnels and helping landowners improve their hedgerow management

## Focus on hedgehogs

PTES and The British Hedgehog Preservation Society are developing a national hedgehog conservation strategy, facilitated by the IUCN. Involving many stakeholders and researchers, it will have clear targets and a framework for creating local conservation action plans.

To underpin the strategy, a trial National Hedgehog Monitoring Programme is planned with partners at Nottingham Trent University, Institute of Zoology and University of Durham, and volunteers using camera traps to generate population density estimates at different sites across Britain.

Leading fencing manufacturer, Birkdale, partnered with Hedgehog Street to produce a 'hedgehog hole' that can be fixed to gravelboards, retaining access for hedgehogs without compromising the structure or strength of the fence.

A competition launched through Hedgehog Street celebrated Britain's Biggest Hedgehog Street in Keyworth, Nottinghamshire, connecting 42 gardens with a resulting healthy hedgehog population.

### SUCCESSES AND PLANS

- > Recruiting over 14,600 new Hedgehog Champions and adding 22,800 more hedgehog sightings to our Big Hedgehog Map
- > Updating our hedgehog ecology and management course for green-space managers
- > Sharing the latest research findings with hundreds of enthusiasts at hedgehog events

**HEDGEHOG STREET** 

**CITY OF WILDLIFE**





## SUCCESSES AND PLANS

- > Training volunteers how to survey water voles effectively
- > Surveying 101 more sites than last year
- > Finding presence or signs of water voles at 85 of the 216 sites monitored
- > Trialling floating latrine rafts to detect water voles, proving an effective water vole detection method in hard-to-reach habitats

## Focus on water voles

Predation by American mink and the loss of healthy riverbanks drove a dramatic decline in water voles in less than 50 years. Our National Water Vole Monitoring Programme helps us find out where the remaining water voles are. As the data build, they are guiding conservation efforts and supporting strategic actions for water voles.

We created training courses for volunteers, ecologists and land managers about the ecology, field signs, survey techniques and habitat requirements of water voles to launch next survey season. And, working with the London Water Vole Recovery Project, we will train community groups and volunteers on water vole monitoring and mink management.



## Focus on invertebrates

We focus our invertebrate work on those that depend on dead wood habitats. Among the thousands of records received through our long-running *Great Stag Hunt*, was a surprise one from Keswick in Cumbria, a county where we've never recorded stag beetles before. We'll focus more closely on Cumbria next year.

Working with the Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) partnership, we helped produce a species action plan for noble chafers in the AONB.

## SUCCESSES AND PLANS

- > Over 11,000 stag beetle sightings recorded in the *Great Stag Hunt*
- > 12 volunteers each walked multiple transects for a European monitoring survey, designed to measure stag beetle abundance across their range



# Restoring landscapes

## SUCCESSES AND PLANS

- > Coppicing hazel, planting trees and managing rides
- > Moving dormouse boxes into easier positions for our regular monitoring of the site
- > Completing a woodland management plan to underpin grant applications

## Focus on ancient woodland

Our woodland nature reserve on the Isle of Wight is home to rare mammals including red squirrels, dormice and bats, but also thousands of invertebrate species. Annual butterfly, dragonfly and moth surveys, carried out by dedicated volunteers, help to increase our knowledge about this unique place.



## Focus on hedgerows

Together with The Tree Council, the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group and others, we're engaging the farming community and wildlife volunteers to protect and restore hedgerows.

Our *Healthy Hedgerows* app provides hedge owners with bespoke hedgerow management advice in response to six easy questions. Also, conservation volunteer effort through the *Great British Hedgerow Survey* is building a picture of the state of our hedgerows more generally. A collaboration with Norfolk Wildlife Trust will result in guidance for land managers, creating landscape-scale hedgerow management plans.

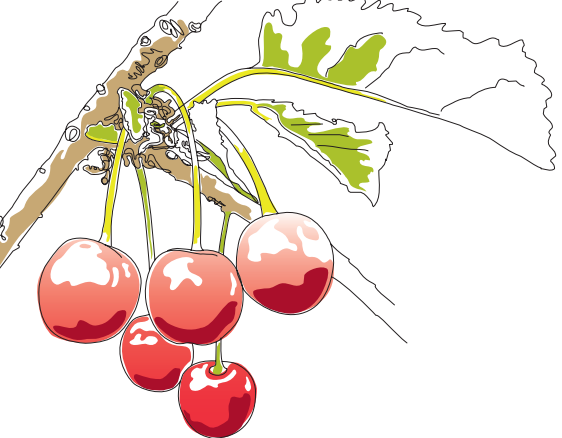
We run hedgerow survey training, produce resource materials and take every opportunity to promote the importance of hedges for wildlife, optimal hedgerow management for wildlife and long-term health. And we supported National Hedgerow Week in September.



## SUCCESSES AND PLANS

- > Over 90 km of hedgerow surveyed and management advice generated for 1192 hedges
- > 36 hedgerow sessions run with conservation groups, tree wardens and farmers
- > A hedgerow management booklet for farmers and a hedgerow tree and shrub ID guide published for surveyors and widely distributed
- > *Healthy Hedgerows* app promoted at Oxford Real Farming Conference and the Arboriculturalists Association's Bats and Trees Conference
- > Content published on the new *Hedgeline* website and *Hedge Hub* learning platform





## Focus on orchards

Like managed coppice woodlands and grazing meadows, traditionally managed orchards are important refugia for thousands of species of wildlife. A mosaic of other habitats, including grasslands, woodland edge and hedgerows, orchards make an ideal home for everything from lichens and mosses, through a myriad of tiny insects, to birds, bats and larger mammals.

Cherished for their cultural heritage and wealth of old and new varieties of orchard fruit, public interest in orchards has never been higher. This is why, through our curation of the national orchard inventories and membership of the UK Orchard Network, we work with governments, the public and land managers alike to protect and promote orchard use, planting and protection.

At Rough Hill, our own traditional orchard in Worcestershire, we began a gradual process of rejuvenating the hedgerow, removing old barbed wire, cutting some trees so they can regrow and be laid in future. Gaps will be planted up next year.



### SUCCESSES AND PLANS

- > Refreshing the now ten-year old traditional orchard inventory that marks these priority habitats on the national map
- > Supporting Orchard Blossom Day in April promoting events throughout the British Isles





## Wildlife worldwide



**Bayarajargal Agvaantseren** secures protected land for snow leopards in Mongolia, by harnessing the active participation of local communities.

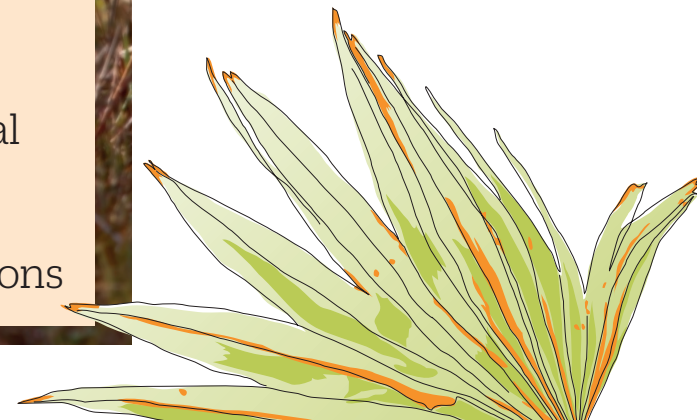


**Mohammad Farhadinia** protects Persian leopards in Iran, through better law enforcement, anti-poaching effort and controlling contagious diseases.



In Tanzania, **Amy Dickman** tackles human conflict with lions and other carnivores by engaging local villagers to defend livestock and monitor threatened wildlife in return for healthcare and educational benefits for their families.

Our Conservation Partnerships support exceptional conservationists working in challenging situations







**Anna Nekaris** protects slow lorises in Indonesia from the wild pet trade and works with local farmers to counter habitat loss by planting organic coffee crops.



And **Adi Barocas** collects evidence of the potentially disastrous impact on giant otters of mercury contamination and riverbank destruction from illegal gold mining in Manu National Park in Peru.



## SUCCESSES WORLDWIDE

- > Creating a conservation network across Tanzania, Kenya and Zambia to protect lions and other large carnivores on a landscape scale
- > Training enough rangers at Tost Nature Reserve's management centre in Mongolia to monitor the vast area regularly and effectively
- > Establishing an international collaboration from all Persian leopard range states to protect these animals across borders
- > Adapting gold-mining in Peru to maintain fish stocks for threatened giant otters
- > Marking ten years of slow loris work in Java and the enormous insights gained into slow loris family life and behaviours



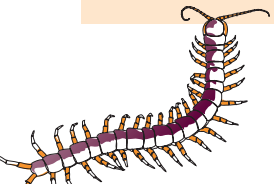
# Insight Awards

We support projects that offer real insight into a conservation problem – work that makes a lasting difference. We targeted some of the world's most endangered, and some lesser-known threatened species:

- > Asian giant tortoises in India
- > Cambodian crocodiles
- > Cichlid fish in Uganda
- > Gorillas in Cameroon
- > Golden langurs in India
- > Hirola, zebra and giraffes in Kenya
- > Roach's mouse-tailed dormouse in Bulgaria
- > Vicente's poison frogs in Panama
- > African wild dogs in Kenya

## SUCCESSES WORLDWIDE

- > Releasing captive-bred northern river terrapins into the wild in the Sundarbans in India
- > Engaging local communities to find and count highly threatened brown-headed spider monkeys in Colombia
- > Providing emergency funding in Kenya during the drought to buy food and water for hirola, zebra, giraffes and livestock
- > Breeding fingerling fish to restock low populations of tilapia in Uganda





A photograph of two young women standing in a lush green forest. The woman on the left is wearing a plaid shirt and has her hair tied back. The woman on the right is wearing a dark blue fleece jacket with the logo 'people's trust for endangered species' on the chest and is holding a small, light-brown animal (possibly a vole or shrew) inside a clear plastic bag. Both women are smiling at the camera.

## Standing up for wildlife

Volunteers, individual supporters, expert advisors and our committed staff and trustees are all critical to us making a real and lasting difference to wildlife.

Thank you to all our volunteers in our shop in Egham, at our nature reserves, doing wildlife surveys, and supporting us through fundraising events. 1,421 news articles appeared in the press in 2021 (our best yet!). 742 items featured PTES and 679 featured our work through Hedgehog Street. Together we have over 102,568 people following us across Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube.

### **Thanks to our corporate and other financial partners**

Barry M • Bad Wolf Productions  
Big Wild Thought  
Michael O'Mara Books  
Animex • CJ Wildlife • Seedball  
Creature Candy • Taylor Wimpey  
Holidaycottages • Wild Life Drawing  
Head2Heart Books • Wildcare  
Tahlia Paiga • Amy Turrell Illustration  
and artists Penel Kirk and Kate Priestman

### **And to our supporters of Hedgehog Street**

Birkdale plc • Hopkins Homes  
Taylor Wimpey

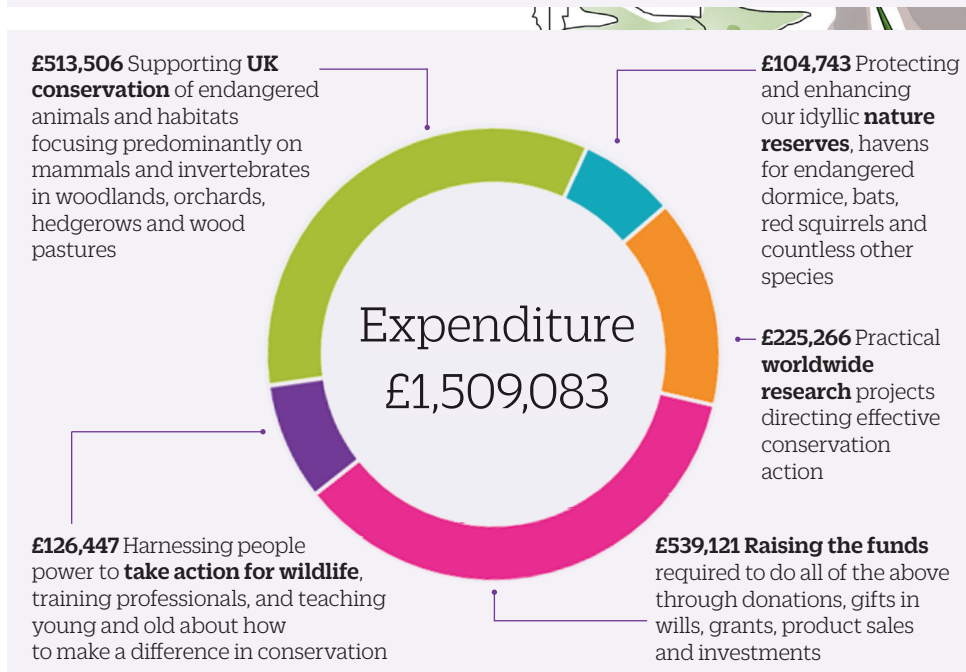
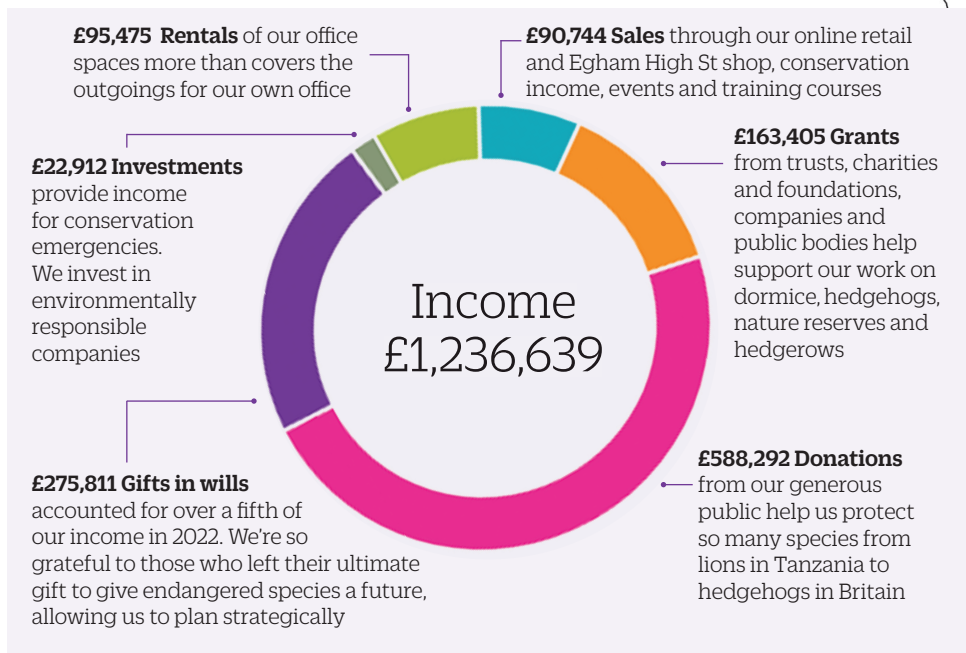
### **Thank you to the charitable trusts and foundations that supported us during this challenging year**

Daisie Rich Trust  
David Cutforth Charitable Trust  
Dr A Banister • Hamamelis Trust  
Henocq Law Trust  
Keith Ewart Charitable Trust  
Mrs Jean S Innes Charitable Trust  
Mrs Mary A Salmon  
RG Hills Charitable Trust  
RO Kinnison Charitable Trust  
Stephen Cockburn Charitable Trust  
The Antrobus Bewlay Charitable Trust  
The Derek and Clare Stevens Trust  
The Mullion Trust • The Oakdale Trust  
The Rowland Trust Fund  
The Tisbury Telegraph Trust  
The Walker 597 Trust  
Walter Guinness Charitable Trust

**And thank you to our dedicated staff working tirelessly for endangered species everywhere.**



# Financial overview 2022



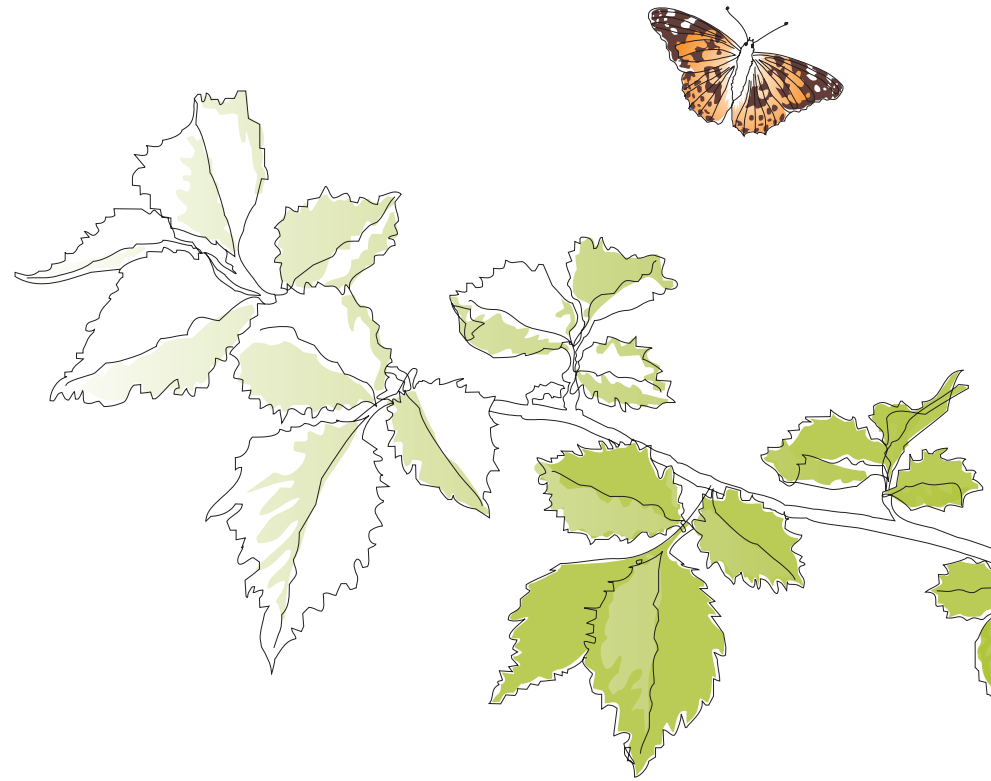




## Looking forward

Due to the exceptional loyalty and generosity of our supporters during an economically volatile year, our income in 2022 is a great source of pride. There is much to look forward to in the coming year.

- > a five-year Conservation Partnership on saiga antelope
- > awarding conservation internships, grants to tackle key areas of conservation concern and commissioning research to support key areas of our work
- > launching a national programme to measure abundance and underpin a new, national conservation strategy for hedgehogs
- > training hedgerow owners and potential surveyors to survey hedges and improve management
- > holding a conference to celebrate the tireless work of our hundreds of dormouse monitors
- > rolling out training for water vole surveyors, and further testing water vole latrine rafts
- > refreshing the traditional orchard inventory that marks these priority habitats on the national map
- > revamping the *Mammals on Roads* survey website
- > further investigating stag beetle presence reported in Cumbria



## Over £8 million

There's sadly no shortage of urgent work to protect endangered species from the imminent threat of extinction. The challenge of the continuing pandemic is considerable. Just to maintain our effort at the current level, we need to raise more than £8 million over the next five years. Please contribute if you can: **[ptes.org/donate](https://ptes.org/donate)**



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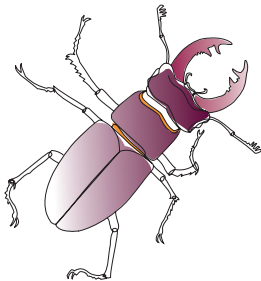
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# people's trust for endangered species

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