

# STRATEGIC GOALS & ACTION GUIDE



## Develop a vision for railways and biodiversity

Set out ambitions and commitment to conserving and enhancing biodiversity accompanied by a timeline to deliver changes. This will contribute to rail becoming the most environmentally friendly mode of transport.



## Enable a cultural change to prioritise nature and the environment

Embed conservation and enhancement of biodiversity at every business level, alongside safety, performance and other environmental targets, such as achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions.



## Recognise the positive role railways have in conserving biodiversity

Engage with policy makers to ensure the beneficial role railways can have on biodiversity is recognised and incorporated into national and European Union nature conservation policies.



## Value biodiversity and natural assets

Monitor and manage the status and condition of habitats and biodiversity associated with railways.



## Put in place the specialist skills

Acquire specialist capabilities and competencies in ecology to fully understand these assets and deliver appropriate management actions.



## Establish management plans to protect and enhance biodiversity

Develop innovative approaches to managing biodiversity assets, taking account of both the lineside and interactions with the wider landscape, and including nature-based solutions specific to railways.



## Implement the biodiversity mitigation hierarchy

Limit the negative impacts of railway development activities by following the principles of avoiding, minimising, restoring or offsetting impacts on biodiversity.



## Monitor the outcomes of biodiversity management

Adopt consistent and repeatable approaches to monitoring the outcomes of land use management to conserve and enhance biodiversity. This is key to setting ambitious targets for biodiversity assets and improving their management, and for corporate accountability.



## Take collective action for biodiversity

Work together to deliver landscape-scale benefits for biodiversity through the provision of wildlife corridors and enhanced landscape permeability for species movement.



## Make a commitment to biodiversity net gain

Set ambitious targets for conserving and enhancing biodiversity, with no net loss of biodiversity by 2030, and net gain by 2050, with progress assessed through regular monitoring.



## Partnership working

Seek partnerships with stakeholders to deliver benefits to biodiversity at scale and in the long term.



## Share best practices

Publish and share best-practice guidelines for managing and conserving biodiversity management with one another and with stakeholders to improve their effectiveness.



## Improve communications

Use a wide range of communication tools to openly communicate plans for, and approaches to, biodiversity management with employees, passengers, society and neighbours, and to disseminate progress and achievements.



European Railways: Strategy and Actions for Biodiversity,  
Ecological Effects of Railways on Wildlife (rEVERSE) Project  
UIC Sustainability, May 2022

