



Greater Lincolnshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Species Assemblages 2026

Aiden Davies (Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership)

Introduction

This document identifies species important to Greater Lincolnshire. They are shown both by taxonomic classification (Table 1) and by habitat assemblage (Table 2). **Species assemblages** are groups of species that coexist in a particular habitat, which are often used to assess ecological health or conservation value.

Assemblages

Taxonomy-based species assemblages

Amphibians (3)	Pool frog, Natterjack Toad, Great Crested Newt
Birds (36)	Kingfisher, Linnet, Grey Wagtail, Lesser Black-backed gull, Pochard, Bar-tailed Godwit, Bittern, Black-tailed Godwit, Common Tern, Corn Bunting, Corncrake, Crane, Curlew, Dunlin, Garganey, Herring Gull, House Martin, Lapwing, Little Tern, Marsh Tit, Nightingale, Oystercatcher, Quail, Redshank, Ringed Plover, Shelduck, Skylark, Snipe, Spoonbill, Spotted Crake, Swift, Tree Sparrow, Turtle Dove, Woodlark, Yellow Wagtail, Yellowhammer
Bony fish (3)	European Eel, Spined Loach, Brown/Sea Trout
Bryozoan (1)	Crystal Moss-animal
Crustacean (2)	Lagoon Sand Shrimp, White-clawed Crayfish
Fern (1)	Pillwort
Algae (Stoneworts) (2)	Tassel Stonewort, Greater Tassel Stonewort
Flowering plants (67)	Night-flowering catchfly, Sea wormwood, Opposite-leaved golden saxifrage, Large bittercress, Wild liquorice, Yellow archangel subsp. galeobdolon, Tall-stemmed thrift, Boston (branched) horsetail, Ribbon-leaved Water-plantain, Green-winged Orchid, Purple Milk-vetch, Lesser Water-plantain, Flat-sedge, Slender Hare's-ear, Divided Sedge, Cornflower, Basil Thyme, Frog Orchid, Hound's-tongue, Mezereon, Maiden Pink, Common Cudweed, Sea-heath, Wall Bedstraw, Petty Whin, Early Gentian, Heath Cudweed, Opposite-leaved Pondweed, Sea Barley, Frogbit, Smooth Cat's-ear, Round-fruited Rush, Marsh Pea, Fine-leaved Sandwort, Whorled Water-milfoil, Burnt Orchid, Tubular Water-dropwort, Narrow-leaved Water-dropwort, Man Orchid, Greater Broomrape, Tasteless Water-pepper, Grass-wrack Pondweed, Flat-stalked Pondweed, Hoary Cinquefoil, Pasqueflower, Corn Buttercup, Saltwort, Shepherd's-needle, Annual Knawel, Greater Water-parsnip, Corn Spurrey, Marsh Stitchwort, Shepherd's Cress, Spreading Hedge-parsley, Sulphur Clover, Slender Tare, Heath Dog-violet, Wild Pansy, Prickly poppy, Rough poppy, Long-headed poppy, Large-flowered hemp nettle, Dwarf spurge, Field woundwort, Field gromwell, Henbane, Black poplar
Fungus(2)	Sandy Stiltball, Tiny Earthstar

Insect – butterfly (9)	Large Heath, Grizzled Skipper, Dingy skipper. Marsh Fritillary, Duke of Burgundy, Grayling, Wall, Black Hairstreak, Brown Hairstreak
Insect – hymenopteran (2)	Tormentil Mining Bee, Sea Aster Mining Bee
Insect – moth (3)	Forester, Marsh Moth, Goat Moth
Insect - true fly (Diptera) (1)	Dark-winged Soldier Fly (and deadwood dipterans)
Mollusc (2)	Witham orb mussel, Mud Pond Snail
Moss (7)	Baltic Bog-Moss, Knowlton's Thread-moss, Baltic Bryum, Sand Thread-moss, Rusty Fork-moss, Curled Hook Moss, Compact bog-moss
Terrestrial mammal (6)	Eurasian beaver, Serotine, European Water Vole, Western Barbastelle, Hazel Dormouse, Leisler's Bat

Habitat-based species assemblages (species in more than one habitat are underlined)

The species assemblages used for the Greater Lincolnshire LNRS were made following extensive workshops where experts collaborated with local knowledge to form assemblages of the key species for Greater Lincolnshire.

Coastal	Coastal sand dunes (10)	<i>Knowlton's Thread-moss, Baltic Bryum, Sand Thread-moss, Natterjack Toad, <u>Shelduck</u>, Sandy Stiltball, Tiny Earthstar, <u>Henbane</u>, <u>Marsh Moth</u>, <u>Wall butterfly</u></i>
	Coastal salt marsh (6)	<i><u>Sea wormwood</u>, Redshank, <u>Skylark</u>, <u>Sea-heath</u>, <u>Sea Barley</u>, <u>Sea Aster Mining Bee</u></i>
	Intertidal mudflats (4)	<i><u>Bar-tailed godwit</u>, <u>Black-tailed godwit</u>, <u>Dunlin</u>, <u>Ringed plover</u></i>
	Beach (4)	<i><u>Little Tern</u>, <u>Oystercatcher</u>, <u>Ringed Plover</u>, <u>Saltwort</u></i>
	Sea banks (4)	<i><u>Boston (branched) horsetail</u>, <u>Slender Hare's-ear</u>, <u>Sea Barley</u>, <u>Sea Aster Mining Bee</u></i>
	Saline lagoons (10)	<i><u>Lagoon Sand Shrimp</u>, <u>Black-tailed Godwit</u>, <u>Common Tern</u>, <u>Dunlin</u>, <u>Ringed Plover</u>, <u>Spoonbill</u>, <u>Oystercatcher</u>, <u>Shelduck</u>, <u>Grey plover</u>, <u>Curlew</u></i>
Farmland	Arable field margins (20)	<i><u>Night-flowering catchfly</u>, <u>Cornflower</u>, <u>Common Cudweed</u>, <u>Corn Buttercup</u>, <u>Shepherd's-needle</u>, <u>Annual Knawel</u>, <u>Corn Spurrey</u>, <u>Spreading Hedge-parsley</u>, <u>Slender Tare</u>, <u>Wild Pansy</u>, <u>Prickly poppy</u>, <u>Rough poppy</u>, <u>Long-headed poppy</u>, <u>Large-flowered hemp nettle</u>, <u>Dwarf spurge</u>, <u>Field woundwort</u>, <u>Field gromwell</u>, <u>Corn bunting</u>, <u>Tree sparrow</u>, <u>Yellowhammer</u></i>
	Arable fields (3)	<i><u>Lapwing</u>, <u>Quail</u>, <u>Skylark</u></i>

	Hedgerows (4)	<i>Yellowhammer, Brown hairstreak, Hazel dormouse, Turtle dove</i>
	Traditional orchards (0)	No species associated with this habitat
	Scrub (3)	<i>Linnet, Nightingale, Turtle Dove</i>
Freshwater	Chalk streams and limestone becks (9)	<i>Kingfisher, European Eel, Eurasian beaver, Grey Wagtail, Spined Loach, Brown/Sea Trout, White-clawed Crayfish, Dark-winged Soldier Fly, European Water Vole</i>
	Lowland rivers (7)	<i>Witham orb mussel, European Eel, Spined Loach, Ribbon-leaved Water-plantain, Flat-stalked Pondweed, Tasteless Water-pepper, European Water Vole, Black poplar</i>
	Lakes (3)	<i>Common tern, Garganey, European Water vole</i>
	Ponds (6)	<i>Pool frog, Great Crested Newt, Pillwort, Lesser Water-plantain, Mud Pond Snail, European Water Vole</i>
	Species-rich fen ditches (8)	<i>Opposite-leaved Pondweed, Frogbit, Greater Water-parsnip, Marsh Stitchwort, Lesser Water-plantain, European Water Vole, Great Tassel Stonewort, Tassel Stonewort</i>
	Blow wells (3)	<i>Crystal Moss-animal, Mud Pond Snail, European Water Vole</i>
	Springs and seepages (6)	<i>Opposite-leaved Golden saxifrage, Large bittercress, Flat sedge, Mezereon, Dark-winged soldier fly, Curled Hook Moss</i>
Grasslands	Calcareous grassland (21)	<i>Wild liquorice, Tall-stemmed thrift, Green-winged Orchid, Purple Milk-vetch, Basil Thyme, Frog Orchid, Hound's-tongue, Maiden Pink, Early Gentian, Fine-leaved Sandwort, Burnt Orchid, Man Orchid, Greater Broomrape, Pasqueflower, Sulphur Clover, Henbane, Grizzled Skipper, Duke of Burgundy, Grayling, Curlew, Skylark</i>
	Neutral grassland (8))	<i>Corncrake, Lapwing, Quail, Skylark, Sulphur Clover, Green-winged orchid, Tall-stemmed thrift, Marsh Fritillary</i>
	Floodplain wetland mosaic (ex Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh) (19)	<i>Natterjack Toad, Crane, Curlew, Lapwing, Oystercatcher, Redshank, Shelduck, Skylark, Snipe, Spoonbill, Spotted Crake, Yellow Wagtail, Divided Sedge, Round-fruited Rush, Marsh Pea, Narrow-leaved Water-dropwort, Tasteless Water-pepper, Marsh Stitchwort, Marsh Fritillary, Black poplar</i>
Heath and	Dry heath (12)	<i>Woodlark, Common Cudweed, Wall Bedstraw, Petty Whin, Heath Cudweed, Hoary Cinquefoil, Annual Knawel, Shepherd's Cress, Heath Dog-</i>

		<i>violet, <u>Grayling</u>, <u>Tormentil Mining Bee</u>, <u>Forester moth</u></i>
	Wet heath (1)	<i><u>Rusty Fork-moss</u>, <u>Compact bog-moss</u></i>
	Acid grassland (7)	<i><u>Wall Bedstraw</u>, <u>Petty Whin</u>, <u>Heath Cudweed</u>, <u>Hoary Cinquefoil</u>, <u>Annual Knawel</u>, <u>Shepherd's Cress</u>, <u>Heath Dog-violet</u></i>
Wetlands	Reedbed (4)	<i><u>Pochard</u>, <u>Bittern</u>, <u>Garganey</u>, <u>Greater Water Parsnip</u></i>
	Lowland fen (4)	<i><u>Snipe</u>, <u>Spotted Crake</u>, <u>Garganey</u>, <u>Greater Water-par snip</u>, <u>Marsh stitchwort</u></i>
	Peat bog (4)	<i><u>Snipe</u>, <u>Baltic Bog-Moss</u>, <u>Spoonbill</u>, <u>Large Heath</u></i>
Woodland	Mixed deciduous woodland (9)	<i><u>Hazel dormouse</u>, <u>Eurasian beaver</u>, <u>Serotine</u>, <u>Leisler's and Barbastelle bats</u>, <u>Black Hairstreak</u>, <u>Yellow Archangel ssp. galeobdolon</u>, <u>Marsh tit</u>, <u>Dingy skipper</u></i>
	Wet woodland (2)	<i><u>Mezereon</u>, <u>Goat moth</u></i>
	Wood pasture (0)	<i>Note: Important for Dead wood diptera (35 species)</i>
Mosaic habitats	Dynamic mosaic sites (rewilding) illustrative species	<i><u>Pool frog</u>, <u>Linnet</u>, <u>Large bittercress</u>, <u>Wild liquorice</u>, <u>Green-winged Orchid</u>, <u>Purple Milk-vetch</u>, <u>Flat-sedge</u>, <u>Basil Thyme</u>, <u>Frog Orchid</u>, <u>Hound's-tongue</u>, <u>Maiden Pink</u>, <u>Early Gentian</u>, <u>Fine-leaved Sandwort</u>, <u>Burnt Orchid</u>, <u>Man Orchid</u>, <u>Greater Broomrape</u>, <u>Pasqueflower</u>, <u>Sulphur Clover</u>, <u>European Water Vole</u>, <u>Eurasian beaver</u>, <u>Great Crested Newt</u>, <u>Corn Bunting</u>, <u>Nightingale</u>, <u>Tree Sparrow</u>, <u>Turtle Dove</u></i>
	Post industrial habitat mosaic (8)	<i><u>Grayling butterfly</u>, <u>Wall Butterfly</u>, <u>Wall Bedstraw</u>, <u>Basil thyme</u>, <u>Hound's-tongue</u>, <u>Common Cudweed</u>, <u>Smooth Cat's-ear</u>, <u>Grizzled skipper</u></i>
Urban/ buildings	Building rooftops (3)	<i><u>Lesser Black-backed gull</u>, <u>Herring Gull</u>, <u>Oystercatcher</u></i>
	Roof spaces/eaves (2)	<i><u>House martin</u>, <u>Swift</u></i>