

Name: **A cardinal click beetle**

Ampedus cardinalis

UK status: Rare, RDB2 (Shirt, 1987). Species of Conservation Concern (formerly long-listed)

London status: Rare resident (3 sites)

Protected status: None

Relevant London HAPs: Woodland; Open landscapes with ancient trees

Citation:

This nationally rare click beetle has a stronghold in the Thames basin, occurring at several ancient parkland sites within the London Boroughs of Richmond and Waltham Forest. It belongs to a group of beetles characterised by the audible click made when jerking the body rapidly upwards as a defensive strategy to avoid predation. The beetle is dependent on very old "Veteran" trees, with the larvae developing in the associated dead wood. Known sites include Richmond and Bushy Parks, and at Barn Hoppett in Epping Forest. Richmond Park is a National Nature Reserve and both this and Epping Forest are SAC/SSSI. All sites are also within Sites of Metropolitan Importance for nature conservation. Managing authorities; The Royal Parks, City of London



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- Conservation priorities:**
- Monitor and maintain populations through sympathetic habitat management
 - Protect any new populations emerging from further survey

References:

[UK BAP - Grouped statement for saproxylic beetles](#)
[Buglife habitat management website](#)

Shirt, D B (ed.). (1987). *British Red Data Books: 2. Insects*. JNCC