

**Name:****Swollen spire snail***Mercuria [Pseudamnicola] confusa***UK status:**

UK SCC (formerly long-listed). Endangered, RDB1 (Bratton, 1991). Edge of global range. Declining.

**London status:**

Very rare (1 site); historic decline.

**Protected status:**

None

**Relevant London HAPs:**

Tidal Thames; Reedbeds

**Citation:**

The distribution of this rare snail is most likely restricted by its very exacting ecological requirements. It prefers slightly brackish water at the upper reaches of estuaries, where it lives in soft mud that is exposed at low tide. Moreover this must be in a sheltered situation, for example at the base of reed or sedge beds. Nationally, it is only found on the East Anglian Broads, the Thames Estuary and on the River Arun in Sussex. In Greater London the snail was formerly found in various eastern Thames-side locations from Greenwich through to Erith, but today is currently known from only one site in Barking Creek on the lower River Roding (LB Barking & Dagenham). This is within the River Thames Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation.

Managing agency; Environment Agency



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**Conservation priorities:**

- Monitor and maintain known population
- Protect and maintain any new populations emerging from further survey

**References:**

Bratton, J H (ed.). (1991). *British Red Data Books: 3. Invertebrates other than insects*. JNCC

Kerney, M. (1999). *Atlas of the Land and Freshwater Molluscs of Britain and Ireland*. Harley Books