

Name:**Juniper***Juniperus communis***UK status:**[UK BAP Priority](#). Significant and sustained regional decline**London status:**

Very rare (3 sites). Historic decline

Protected status:

W&CA S.13(b); general protection from uprooting without owners' permission. 'Species of principal importance for the conservation of biological diversity in England' (CRoW Act, 2000)

Relevant London HAPs:

Chalk grassland; Wasteland

Citation:

Juniper is one of three native conifers, occurring in a wide range of habitats. It has declined substantially in the UK, especially the south, mainly due to habitat neglect and mismanagement. In London this decline has taken greatest affect in the chalk of the North Downs, where the scrub communities in which juniper regenerates have been lost to woodland succession. There are single trees remaining at two downland sites, at Downe Bank in LB Bromley and Riddlesdown in LB Croydon (both SSSI). A third (female) tree has established itself on wasteland in Erith, LB Bexley. Introductions have been undertaken at the London Wetland Centre and on Hampstead Heath. Managing authorities; Corporation of London (Riddlesdown), Kent Wildlife Trust (Downe Bank).



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Conservation priorities:

- Maintain presence through favourable management of remaining sites [addresses UK SAP target **T1**]
- Implement downland re-introduction programme as appropriate
- Protect any new populations emerging from further survey

References:

- Burton R M, 1983. *Flora of the London Area*. LNHS
- Cheffings CM & Farrell L (Eds.), 2005. *The Vascular Plant Red Data List for Great Britain*. JNCC
- [Plantlife species dossier - Juniperus communis](#)
- Preston CD, Pearman DA & Dines TD (Edit.), 2002. *New Atlas of the British and Irish Flora*. Oxford
- Stewart A, Pearman DA & Preston CD, 1994. *Scarce Plants in Britain*. JNCC