

2024

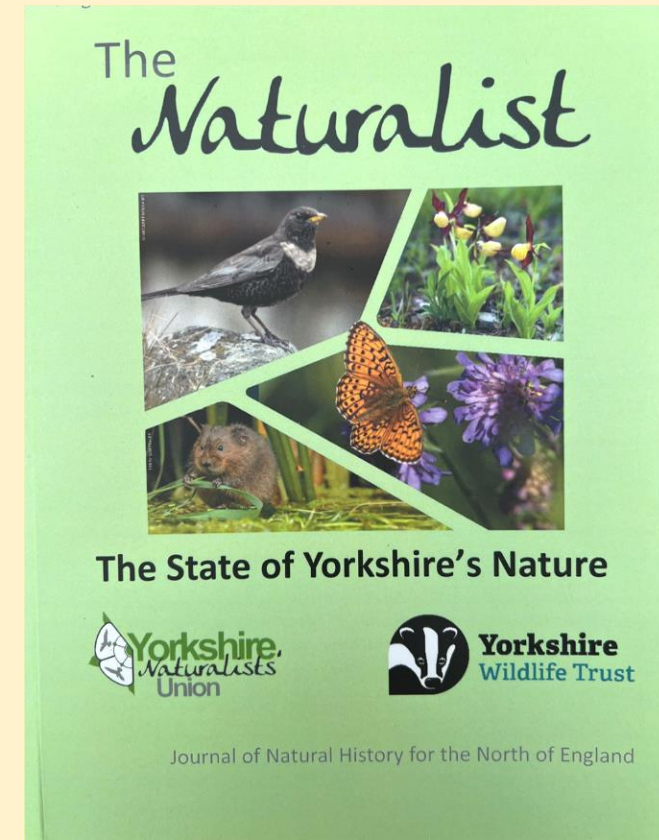


# State of Yorkshire's Nature

What we know about nature and wildlife in Yorkshire

# The State of Nature in Yorkshire

*Vicky Wilkins  
(standing in for  
Alastair Fitter)*



# What's happening in Yorkshire?

- Are species becoming more or less abundant?
  - Are species becoming more or less widespread?
  - Which habitats are most important for sustaining biodiversity in Yorkshire?
  - Can we use these data to decide whether conservation is working and to guide work?
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- A restricted group of species were examined: Birds, Plants, Butterflies and Moths
  - Other groups had not enough information or too few species



Photo: Anthony Hurd

# Results

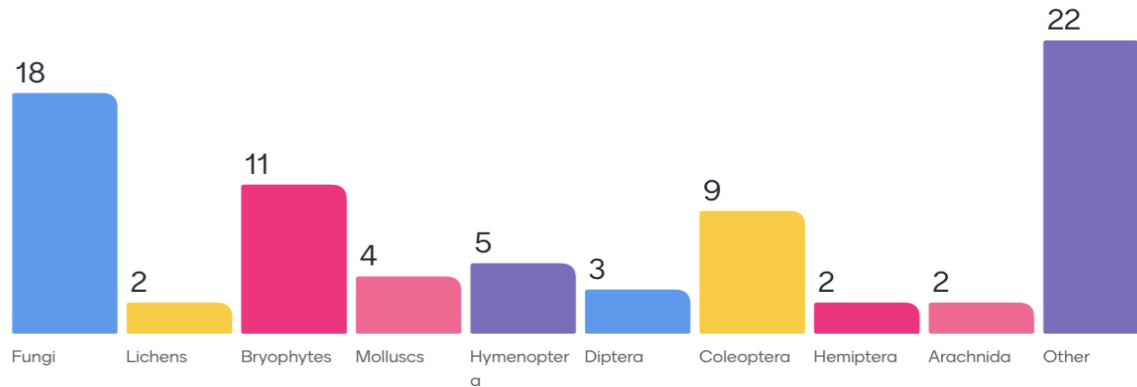
- Lost = weighted average 8% if there are (or were) 45000 species in Yorkshire, we have already **lost 3000 species**
- Threatened species (Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable) GB = 16%, Yorkshire = 8%
- 18% of species are declining by at least 25% but as many species are increasing as declining
- No overall change in total species but declining species are rarer nationally than increasing species



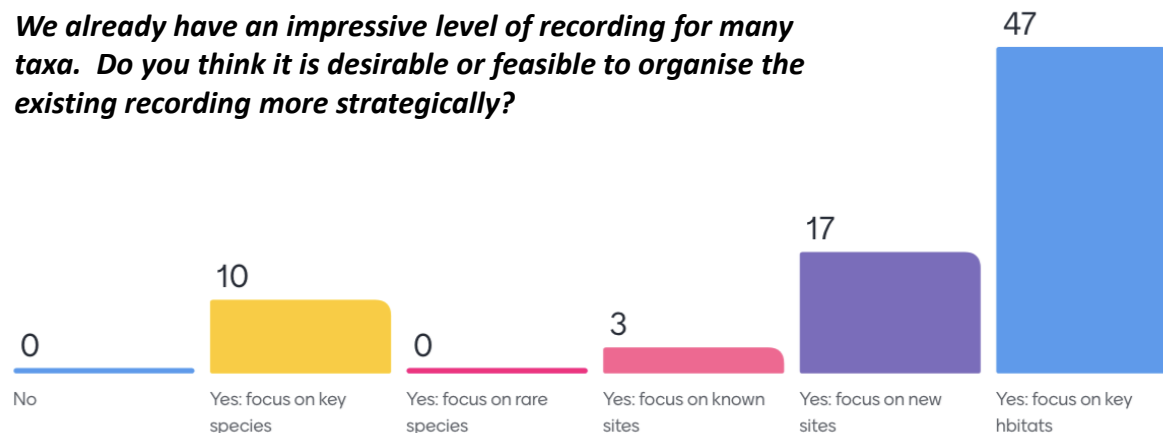
*Dryopteris cristata* at Catfield Fen, Norfolk  
Image Len Worthington

# Next steps SoYN assessing recovery

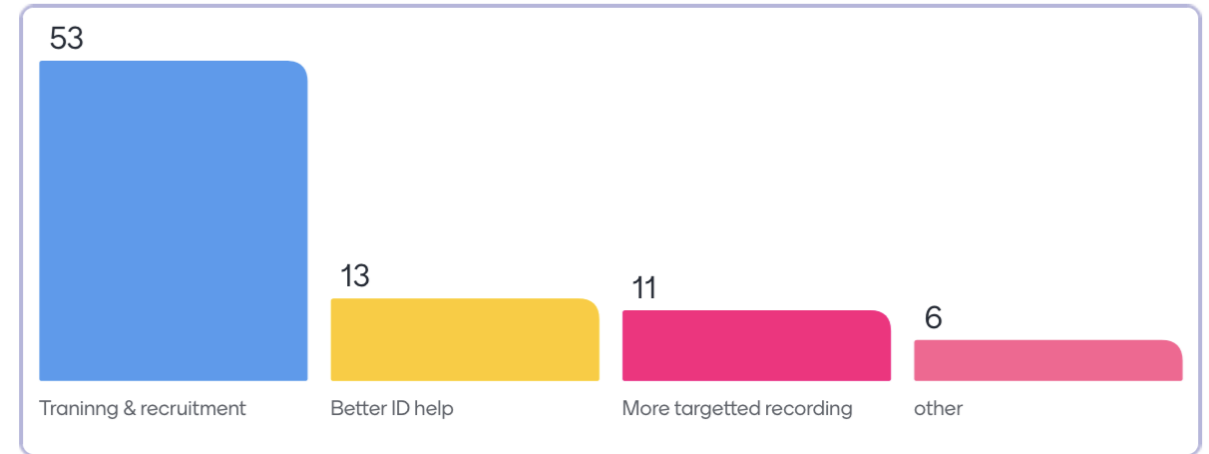
Can you identify a taxon with good numbers of species for which it would be possible to get good quality data across Yorkshire in the near future?



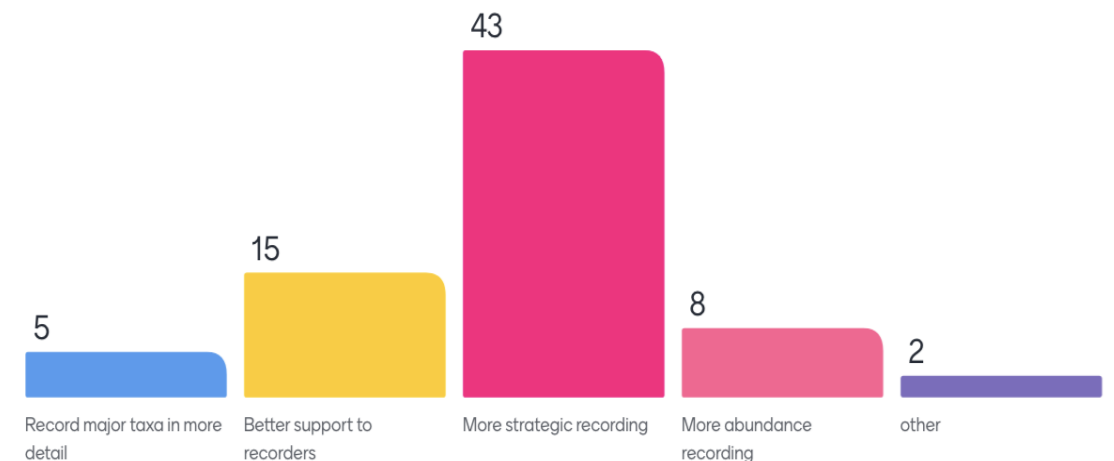
We already have an impressive level of recording for many taxa. Do you think it is desirable or feasible to organise the existing recording more strategically?



What would be needed to achieve the step-change in recording required?



If you had to prioritise these possible actions, what would be your highest priority?



# What's next?

- Consistencies and change within the YNU: Different approaches by different group recorders (invertebrate group survey)
- New technologies are being embraced by some particularly ID apps and acoustic monitoring
- Via ID apps there is a new set of recorders being engaged with by a few of the group recorders in the YNU
- **Excited** by wider engagement, capacity tech provides, **Concerns** about loss of skills (microscopy, reference collections), limitation of species covered