

Long-leaved *Anomodon*, a moss *Anomodon longifolius*

WHAT IS THE LONG LEAVED ANOMODON?

The long-leaved *Anomodon* is a delicate, inconspicuous moss, which grows in shaded ravines.

CURRENT STATUS:

The long-leaved *Anomodon* has only been found in four, widely separated sites in Britain since the 1950s, one of these sites is in County Durham. Formerly, the species appears to have been more common on the Yorkshire-Durham border, an area that may have been its stronghold.

The single remaining Durham site is near Egglestone Abbey, where it has been known for many years. A thorough survey in 1996 showed that the plant was locally abundant over more than half a kilometre of riverbank in six sub-sites.

WHY IS THE LONG-LEAVED ANOMODON OF CONSERVATION IMPORTANCE?

The long-leaved *Anomodon* is one of Britain's most endangered moss species. It appears to have been undergoing a serious decline throughout the twentieth century.

THE LONG-LEAVED ANOMODON IS AT RISK FROM:

Changes in habitat, including loss and decay of tree cover which shades the plants and provides essential humidity.

Competition from ivy.

THE LONG-LEAVED ANOMODON BENEFITS FROM:

Five yearly monitoring.

Undertake positive habitat management at the currently known site e.g. replenishment of tree cover.

Undertake surveys of other suitable habitat between Barnard Castle and Egglestone Abbey.