

**Narrow leaf helleborine (*Cephalanthera longifolia*)**

**Areas and status:** A nationally scarce, vulnerable plant found in scattered locations in north Wales, west Scotland and Hampshire. Section 41 species, Ancient Woodland Indicator (AWI).

**Woodland type:** Broadleaved woodland

**Preferred habitat niches:** Mature woodland on well drained, alkaline soils, in permanent, small, sheltered glades where light levels are high and competing vegetation is removed frequently. The plant takes many years to flower.

**Potential habitat management issues associated with decline**

- Woodland succession shading out open canopied woodland
- Plant collectors, although incidences now rare



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<b>Potential habitat management solutions:</b>	
<i>Prescription</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Glade creation/retention	Promote open canopy over small, permanent glades.
Reduce competition from other vegetation	Strimming after summer or light grazing with cattle in winter
Bee populations are encouraged	To ensure flowers are pollinated it is important to maintain good nectar source for bees to produce pollen at the same time the flowers are open.
Woodland management	Woody growth (scrub) cut in winter and other vegetation cut/grazed early spring
Deer	The plant is vulnerable to deer browsing protection/fencing may be needed.

