

Scottish Oil Beetle Hunt

Buglife needs your help to find some of Scotland's charismatic, but often overlooked inhabitants



Violet Oil Beetle © John Walters



Short-necked Oil Beetle © Suzanne Burgess

As part of our partnership programme, **Species on the Edge**, members of the public are asked to look out for these amazing beetles and record any sightings in Scotland.

Oil beetles are large, black beetles, with only three species found in Scotland: the Black, Violet and Short-necked Oil Beetle. Black and Violet Oil Beetles can measure up to 30mm in length, with Short-necked Oil Beetles reaching up to 24mm. They may be seen in flower-rich grasslands, heathland and coastal areas from March to June.

We welcome any records, recent or historical. Please submit records using the iRecord app (with multiple photos if possible), or send in details to scotland@buglife.org.uk. Let us know what you find using **#OilBeetleHunt** on social media! A handy identification guide and further details can be found at the following links:

buglife.org.uk/scottish-oil-beetle-hunt

coleoptera.org.uk/meloidae/home



Species on the Edge is an ambitious four-year programme for species recovery in Scotland that aims to take action for 37 declining and threatened species across Scotland's coasts and islands. It is a partnership programme of eight organisations, funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund. The partnership consists of Amphibian and Reptile Conservation, Bat Conservation Trust, Buglife, Bumblebee Conservation Trust, Butterfly Conservation, NatureScot, Plantlife and RSPB Scotland. For more information, please visit www.speciesontheedge.co.uk.

