

# We're on the hunt for the Chestnut Click Beetle

## What does the beetle look like?

Click beetles get their name because when threatened or turned over they jump into the air with a loud click. The Chestnut Click Beetle (*Anostirus castaneus*) is an orangey brown colour and is about 8-10 mm long. As you can see in the photos, the segment behind the head is covered in golden hairs and it has a black tip at the rear end of the body. And you can't miss the males' fantastic, feathered antennae – just like a stag's antlers!

## Why is this beetle important?

Bugs such as the Chestnut Click Beetle are highly threatened, and need protecting just like tigers and red squirrels. Almost 100 years ago the beetle could be found as far apart as South Wales and the Durham coast. However, only two populations of this beetle were recorded in the 1980s on the south coast of the Isle of Wight and at Birk Crag in Harrogate. Work is currently being planned to improve beetle habitat at Birk Crag and we need help to find out what invertebrates are currently living here.

## Where should I look for the beetle?

The beetles can be found on exposed rocks, bare ground and at the base of grass tufts, typically on sandy soil in a sheltered, sunny place. A good tip is to look on taller plants, where the beetle can also be found climbing. The best months to see them are April and May.

## What to do if you find a Chestnut Click Beetle?

There are over 70 species of click beetles in the UK - many of which are brown, but don't worry if you're not sure - just download the **iRecord App** and record your findings, or for more information visit [buglife.org.uk/projects/chestnut-click-beetle/](https://buglife.org.uk/projects/chestnut-click-beetle/)

For more information about volunteering in our parks and open spaces please email [parkscommunity@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:parkscommunity@northyorks.gov.uk)



Male



Female