

Policy Developments affecting Lepidoptera and their Habitats: Opportunities



Sue Collins, European Policy
Advisor BCE

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Structure of Presentation

- BCE Recovery Strategy and Actions
- State of butterflies and threats
- International and EU Policy Contexts
- Protected Areas and Prime Butterfly Areas
- Outlook for EU CAP Reform?
- Look ahead to BCE Priorities

Butterfly Recovery - BCE Objectives and Actions



- BCE Strategy and Action Plan for butterflies
- Headline Target – halt losses and promote recovery of butterflies and their habitats
- Science and evidence
- Monitoring and Indicators
- Policy influencing
- Practical conservation action
- Reporting, Engaging and Capacity Building

State and Threats

- Declines well known
- Evidence from monitoring clear
- Insect Biomass declines – wake up call
- Unsustainable practices in sectors
- Biodiversity dependent on Agricultural ecosystems in worst conservation status
- Intensive agriculture; pesticides
- Abandonment

Grasslands - the most threatened terrestrial ecosystem

Grassland type and Habitats Directive Annex 1 reference number	<u>Calcerous</u> 6170	<u>Nardus</u> 6230	Steppe 6240	Steppe 6250	<u>Molinia</u> 6410	Lowland Hay Meadows 6510	Mountain Hay meadows 6520	Wood Pasture 6530					
Alpine	U1	U2	U2	U2+	U2	U2	U1	U2	U1	U2-			
Atlantic	U2+	U2	U1	-	U2	FV	U2	U2+	-				
Boreal	-	U2	-	-	U2-	FV	U2	U1	FV	U2-	U2	U1	
Continental	U1	U2	U1	FV	U2	U1	U2+	U2	U1	U2	U1	U2-	
<u>Macaronesian</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Mediterranean	U1	FV	U1	FV	-	-	U1	FV	U2	U1	FV	U2	-
<u>Pannonian</u>	-	U2	U2	U1	U2	U1	U2	U1	U2	U1	U2	-	

Conservation status of some Natura 2000 grasslands by Biogeographic zone,

Source : EEA 2010 Article 17 database CIRCA

Key to Conservation Status:

U2 = Unfavourable – Bad,

U1 = Unfavourable – Inadequate,

FV = Favourable

International Context

- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- CBD Signatories – EU, EU Member States and most European countries outside EU are signatories and have National Biodiversity Strategies that address
- Aichi Targets eg Halt biodiversity Loss, Sustainable Agriculture and Forestry
- Berne Convention and Emerald network of Protected Areas

EU Policy Context

- EU Biodiversity Strategy
- EU Targets
 1. Complete Natura 2000 network
 2. Green Infrastructure and Restoration
 3. Increase contribution of Agriculture and Forestry to Biodiversity
- Mid term Review in 2015/16 showed no progress in increasing contribution of agriculture to biodiversity

EU Context

- Natura 2000 Network of Protected Areas
 - Habitats Directive saved from abolition
 - Focus on improved implementation, enforcement, integration and financing
 - better management
- Sectoral Policy Reform, especially Common Agriculture Policy
- EU Pollinator Initiative
- EU Parliamentary Pilot Project on Butterfly Monitoring and Indicators

Protected Areas and Management

Protected Areas in Natura 2000 network,
Emerald Sites outside EU, National designations

- priority now is to influence management and Management Plans

Prime Butterfly Areas PBAs

- is there potential to use these more in designing and promoting conservation action?
- can we use monitoring and distribution data to add to the PBA evidence base?

CAP Reform

- EU Commission Communication published yesterday – some hopes for biodiversity...
- Transition to more Sustainable Agriculture
- Support to implementation of EU Environmental Objectives
- More Flexibility for Member States
- CAP Strategic Plans by MS approved by EU
- NGOs asking for Ring Fenced money for biodiversity and climate action

Looking Ahead with BCE

- Monitoring, Reporting, Indicators – new schemes, new volunteers, more transects, more data, more analyses, new indicators, more influence ... better outcomes for butterflies and their habitats
- CAP Reform 2020-2027
- Natura 2000 implementation – sufficiency, protection and management plans?
- Emerald Network
- Capacity building

**Here's to the future
for butterflies...**



**and the chance for
future generations to
enjoy them!**





Thank You

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