Putting butterflies on the conservation agenda in Ireland: the Irish Red List & the Irish Butterfly Monitoring Scheme

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Marsh Fritillary

Large Heath

The Irish Red List







Large Heath *Coenonympha tullia*

- Vulnerable in Ireland
- Vulnerable in Europe
- Blanket bogs and raised bogs
- Threats:
 - Drainage
 - Afforestation
 - Peat extraction
- Assessed under criteria A3c

•A population reduction suspected in the future based on decline in habitat quality



Marsh fritillary Euphydryas aurinia

- Vulnerable in Ireland
- Protected under Habitats
 Directive
- •Assessed under criterion A2c •Decline in habitat
- 17 sites monitored by volunteers
- Funded monitoring also
- Priority needs to focus on those species not legally protected

 If they are legally protected – they get attention!



Annex I Habitat	Future prospects	Overall	Butterflies
1230 Vegetated sea cliffs	Poor	Poor	Wall
2130 Fixed dunes (grey dunes)	Bad	Bad	Dark Green Fritillary; Small Blue; Wall; Marsh fritillary
2150 Decalcified dune heath	Poor	Bad	Grayling
2190 Humid dune slacks	Bad	Bad	Dark Green Fritillary; Marsh Fritillary
21A0 Machair	Bad	Bad	Dark Green Fritillary; Small Blue; Wall; Marsh Fritillary
4010 Wet heath	Bad	Bad	Marsh Fritillary
4030 Dry heath	Poor	Poor	Dark Green Fritillary; Wall
6210 Orchid rich/calcareous grassland	Bad	Bad	Dark Green Fritillary; Pearl-bordered Fritillary; Small Blue; Wall; Marsh Fritillary
6230 Species-rich <i>Nardus</i> upland grassland	Bad	Bad	Mountain Ringlet
6410 <i>Molinia</i> meadows	Bad	Bad	Marsh Fritillary
7110 Raised bog (active)	Bad	Bad	Large Heath
7120 Degraded raised bogs	Poor	Poor	Wall; Large Heath; Marsh Fritillary
7130 Blanket bog (active)	Poor	Bad	Large Heath
7140 Transition mires	Bad	Bad	Marsh Fritillary
7230 Alkaline fens	Bad	Bad	Marsh Fritillary
8240 Limestone pavement	Poor	Poor	Dark Green Fritillary; Pearl-bordered Fritillary; Small Blue; Wall



Vulnerable Near Threatened

Not threatened

Ireland's biodiversity in 2010



Proportion of assessed species under threat of extinction (data from the 6 IUCN Red Lists published to date)













Year











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