



Black Hairstreak, Monks Wood '22

It's disheartening to think that butterflies and moths have been in decline throughout the last century, increasingly so since the early 1970's. The reason why it's more important than ever to protect their fragile habitats.

Several species that breed on our islands are living at the extent of their worldwide limits making them vulnerable to any changes in climatic conditions. Butterflies have become important indicators as to the ecological health of their habitats, particularly the more sensitive environments. The general consensus for their decline seems largely due to the deterioration and loss of their habitats.

CONSERVATION

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I've been a member of **Butterfly Conservation** for several years. The charity dedicated to protecting butterflies and moths largely through the management of their habitats.

Based in East Lulworth in Dorset, with a large membership and the help of thousands of volunteers **Butterfly Conservation** manages around 35 reserves spread around the country primarily for butterflies and moths. Since 1976 it has coordinated the monitoring of butterfly numbers, gathering important data that is helping scientists and entomologists better understand the impact climate change and other factors are having on our butterfly and moth populations and so important for monitoring bio diversity which effects us all.

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