



Centre for
Ecology & Hydrology
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL



To whom it may concern

The bearer of this letter is a volunteer fieldworker searching for Brown Hairstreak eggs as part of the UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme (UKBMS), organised and funded by Butterfly Conservation (BC), the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH), British Trust for Ornithology (BTO), and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC).

The Brown Hairstreak is a Priority Species for conservation in England and Wales, and up-to-date information is needed on its population status. The survey involves counting eggs along hedges, woodland rides and in scrub on one or two days during the winter months within randomly selected 1-km squares. You are receiving this letter as you own/manage land that covers all or part of the survey square that has been randomly selected. The bearer of this letter has volunteered to take part in the survey with the request that he/she seeks permission to cross private land in order for fieldwork to be carried out.

The survey will involve at least two and a maximum of five visits to each square over the late spring and summer months - setting up a route, then counting butterflies and potentially other insects along it. For the 1-km long survey lines, the most practical route will be chosen following paths or field edges to avoid damaging crops. The survey work should take place over a short period (less than two hours) during the day (generally between 9.30 and 4.30) and only in warm weather when butterflies are active.

The data generated from the survey will be used by Butterfly Conservation and its partners to inform national species trends and biodiversity conservation. Data will be made available for research, education and public information, and to be made generally available for re-use for any other legal purpose under the terms of the Open Government Licence (<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/>) and may be made generally available for re-use for any other legal purpose apart from in exceptional cases where the data are sensitive. Please get in touch with Butterfly Conservation if you have any concerns.

Any help you can give the bearer in gaining permission to access privately owned land would be very much appreciated. Subject to your agreement, we are collecting your name and contact information in order to request access to carry out a butterfly survey on your land in future years. We will also keep with your personal data any additional information you have provided regarding any access restrictions. Your personal data will be stored securely on a UKBMS database while butterfly monitoring is being carried out on your land, for five years after the last survey and then deleted. The data will be accessible by the volunteer surveying your land, any new volunteer intending to take over surveying the site, and UKBMS Partnership staff, for the purposes of running the UKBMS and the specific purposes set out above. It will not be used for any other purposes. For reassurance, our full privacy statement covering how your personal data will be held appropriately and securely can be viewed here <http://www.ukbms.org/privacy-notice>.

Please do not hesitate to contact us at the address below if you would like further information.

Yours sincerely

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Butterfly Conservation

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