



UK Centre for
Ecology & Hydrology



To whom it may concern

The bearer of this letter is a volunteer fieldworker taking part in the Wider Countryside Butterfly Survey 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 aim of the survey is to assess the status of butterflies in the general countryside outside of nature reserves and protected habitats. The survey method involves counting butterflies along two parallel 1-km long survey lines, located 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 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/>) 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. The Wider Countryside Butterfly Survey takes place on an annual basis. We are collecting your name and contact details (where provided) to allow to get in touch to request access in future years. We will also keep a record of any additional information you have provided regarding any access restriction. The UKBMS takes privacy issues seriously - please see our privacy notice (available at <http://www.ukbms.org/privacy-notice>) for information on how your personal data will be held appropriately and securely. Any help you can give the bearer in gaining permission to access privately owned land would be very much appreciated.

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

Yours sincerely

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Butterfly Conservation

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