



Butterfly Conservation

Saving butterflies, moths and our environment

Butterfly Conservation

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President Sir David Attenborough CH, FRS

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Purchase of Eshiels Long Wood

Dear Peebles Community Trust

Butterfly Conservation is keen to support the initiative of Peebles Community Trust (PCT) in their CATS proposal for purchasing Eshiels Long Wood.

The wood is the only known site in Scotland with an extant population of the Currant Shoot Borer *Lampronia capitella*. It is included on the Scottish Biodiversity List and has recently been categorised as a high priority species in Butterfly Conservation Scotland's new Scottish Conservation Strategy. In England and Wales it is listed as a Section 41 and 42 species respectively as part of the NERC Act, 2006. Although possibly under-recorded, records from 2000 onwards are only known from Kent, Surrey, Norfolk, Worcestershire, Shropshire, Staffordshire and Glamorgan. This Scottish population is, therefore, of considerable significance in Great Britain.

In addition, it is extremely encouraging to note that PCT have the conservation of this moth and its habitat, old currant bushes, as one of its core objectives in its management plan, in effect creating a reserve for this species which should help secure its long-term survival in Scotland.

We would, therefore, like to take this opportunity to wish you every success in this endeavour, both for the conservation of the species in question but also for the community.

Yours sincerely



Mark Parsons

Head of Moth Conservation