



Updated guidance for butterfly and moth recorders relating to Coronavirus Covid-19

01/06/2020

Further significant changes relating to outdoor activities have been made to the government restrictions that were brought in March to reduce the spread of coronavirus. Across the UK, the key message remains to stay at home as much as possible and to follow social distancing rules. However, the specific details vary from country to country.

In **England** and **Northern Ireland**, it is now possible for butterfly and moth recording to resume for people who are not shielding or self-isolating.

In **Scotland**, it is also now possible for people who are not shielding or self-isolating to resume butterfly and moth recording. However, [guidance in Scotland](#) remains more restrictive in terms of travelling for leisure purposes, so you should only record at sites within your local area (roughly 5 miles from home).

In England, Northern Ireland and Scotland, recorders must, at all times, continue to observe the appropriate social distancing guidelines for their country. This includes remaining at least two metres away from anyone outside your household. If you have coronavirus symptoms, or if you or any of your household are self-isolating, you should stay at home. Restrictions on the number of people from other households that you can meet vary across the three countries so check the current guidance from the websites below.

You should also be aware that nature reserves and other sites may not be open to the public or may be maintaining local restrictions that do not permit butterfly and moth recording. Further [advice on staying safe outdoors](#) is available.

In **Wales**, more stringent restrictions on outdoor activities remain in place. Under these conditions, Butterfly Conservation strongly advises that you do not leave home in order to record butterflies and moths. Recording of butterflies and moths seen at home, or when leaving home for permitted purposes (in line with current advice from the Welsh Government), can continue.

We will continue to monitor advice from the UK Government and the devolved administrations, and will produce revised guidance when the time is right. Please check for any updates at www.butterfly-conservation.org. If you have any queries regarding this advice, please contact the recording team at recording@butterfly-conservation.org

Thank you for your continued co-operation.

Please continue to follow the latest guidance from your appropriate administration:

England: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Scotland: <https://www.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19>

Wales: <https://gov.wales/coronavirus>

Northern Ireland: <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/campaigns/coronavirus-covid-19>