

BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION CUMBRIA BRANCH

MOUNTAIN RINGLET SURVEY SQUARES 2011 – NOTES FOR SURVEYORS

The km squares listed below are priority for any surveys in 2011.

The areas to be surveyed fall into 3 groups (in colour below, but also suffixed (1), (2) or (3) for those with black & white printers etc). Also, for administration and data handling purposes we've divided them into two major groupings, areas lying to the west of the main A591 Kendal to Keswick road and areas lying to the east of it.

1. Grid squares that have previous positive sightings (shown in red) (1)
2. Grid squares adjacent to the above (shown in blue) (2)
3. Grid squares that are previously unrecorded but may have potential to hold Mountain Ringlet populations (shown in green) (3)

The objective of these surveys is to try to determine the geographical spread of some known colonies, but also to survey areas that have suitable geology and which may hold previously unrecorded Mountain Ringlet populations.

All the km grid squares listed below lie in the 100-km square: NY

(A) AREAS TO WEST OF A591 (CONTACT; STEVE CLARKE)

AREA 1 - LANGDALE

- 2608 Martcrag Moor / Stake Pass (2)
- 2607 (north-east corner only) Part of Martcrag Moor (2)
- 2707 Pike O' Stickle(1)
- 2708 West of Thunacar Knott (1)
- 2806 (northern edge) Raven Crag (1)
- 2807 Harrison Stickle (2)
- 2808 (western half only) Head of Bright Beck (1)
- 2709 High White Stones (2)
- 2809 High Raise (1)
- 2710 (eastern half only) Brown Crag (2)
- 2810 (western half only) Greenup Edge (2)
- 2811 (eastern edge only) (3)
- 2812 (western edge only) east of Ullscarf (3)
- 2912 (western edge only) Ullscarf (3)

AREA 6 - UPPER ESKDALE

- 2405 Crinkle Crag (1)
- 2406 Bowfell (2)
- 2305 Lower slopes of Esk Pike, low elevation survey by mid June (2)
- 2205 Lower slopes of Esk Pike, low elevation survey by mid June (2)
- 2206 Lower slopes of Esk Pike, low elevation survey by mid June (2)

AREA 7 - SEATHWAITE FELL

2209 Seathwaite Fell (1)
2210 Seathwaite Fell (1)

AREA 8 - DERWENT FELLS

2318 (south-east corner only, around Maiden Moor summit) (1)
2317 Narrow Moor (1)
2316 High Spy (1)
2315 South slopes of High Spy (1)
2314 (north-western corner only) (2)
2214 South slopes of Dale Head (1)
2215 Dale Head summit area (1)

AREA 9 - ALLEN CRAGS / GLARAMARA

2308 Allen Crag (2)
2409 High House Tarn (1)
2410 Glaramara (1)
2510 (north-west corner only) (2)
2511 Rosthwaite Fell (2)
2512 Bessyboot (3)
2411 Raven Crag (2)

(B) AREAS TO EAST OF A591 (CONTACT; MARTIN TORDOFF)

AREA 2 - HELVELLYN

3416 Keppel Cove (1)
3516 (north-west corner only) (2)
3318 Western slopes of Stybarrow Dodd only (3)
3418 Stybarrow Dodd (2)
3518 Green Side (2)
3318 Gentle slopes north of Sticks Pass only (3)
3319 Watson's Dodd (3)
3419 North slope of Stybarrow Dodd only (3)
3320 Little Dodd / western slopes of Great Dodd (3)
3420 Great Dodd (3)
3321 Calfhow Pike (3)
3322 Clough Head (3)

AREA 3 - ST SUNDAY CRAG

3813 (north-western half only) Lords Seat (3)
3713 Gavel Pike (3)

AREA 4 - RED SCREES

3908 Red Screes summit area (2)
3909 (south-western corner down to about 2000` / 610m altitude only) (2)
3809 South-facing slopes in area Scandale Pass/Little Hart Crag/Black Brow (3)

AREA 5 - CAUDALE MOOR

4110 Caudale Moor summit plateau (2)

AREA 10 - HIGH STREET

4313 Rest Dodd (2)

4312 (north-east corner only) The Knott (2)

4411 (western edge only) High Street summit plateau (2)

4410 (south-western half only) Southern slopes High Street & Mardale Ill Bell (3)

4409 (north-east corner only) Slope from Mardale Ill Bell to Nan Bield Pass (3)

4310 Head of Hayeswater valley (3)

4309 (western half only) Thornthwaite Crag & slope to Froswick (3)

4210 (eastern edge only) Ridge from Thornthwaite Crag to Gray Crag (2)

AREA 11 - ILL BELL RIDGE, KENTMERE

4305 South slopes of Yoke (3)

4306 Yoke (3)

4307 Ill Bell (3)

4308 Froswick (3)

AREA 12 - KENTMERE PIKE RIDGE

4509 (south-east corner only) Harter Fell summit plateau (3)

4508 (eastern edge only) The Knowe (3)

4607 Kentmere Pike (3)

4706 (western half only) Shipman Knotts (3)

4705 South slopes of Shipman Knotts (3)

Recorders should choose from any / all of the above areas and do as many or as few of the stated squares as they feel able and willing to do. It is better to do a few squares thoroughly. Please keep an eye open too for Mountain Ringlets when walking to or from your square(s). Though they've normally been recorded only in areas with Mat grass and above around 500 metres altitude we'd be especially interested in any records not conforming to this.

It is likely that more than one recorder will visit each site but this doesn't matter as the visits are quite likely to be at different times in the flight season and cover different routes within squares.

IMPORTANT

Data recording is important so please fill in a record sheet available on our website for each of your walks even if you have no sightings of Mountain Ringlet. Nil returns still provide us with valuable information.

Surveys should only be carried out between the second week of June and third week of July in warm weather (15 degrees C plus) and there should be some sunshine or sunny periods. The Met Office Lake District Mountain Weather web page is usually pretty accurate.

Weather: Sunshine and / or warm weather is important to the Mountain Ringlet; please take a small thermometer with you to record the temperature periodically during your walk through each km square (fridge thermometers from a hardware shop are handy). Also estimate the % time sunshine and wind strength.

Route taken: Record on a map, or on your return describe in note form on the record sheet.

Sightings: Please record the number, or your best estimate, of Mountain Ringlets seen, and most importantly their position as accurately as possible. Ideally plot using a GPS if you have one, otherwise estimate 6-figure grid ref or at least be confident of which km grid square you are in.

If you are not experienced in identifying the Mountain Ringlet and you locate butterflies in one of the 'Green squares' above please take a digital photo if possible so that ID can be verified.

ALLOCATION OF WALKS TO RECORDERS

As stated above, please feel free to do whatever squares you have the time, capability and interest to do.

It is very helpful for us to know the results of your walk so that other recorders are aware of areas covered and butterflies seen, so if possible please drop us a quick email as soon as possible after your walk. Also, please return all completed record forms to us as soon as possible after the survey, as follows:

For survey areas to west of A591:

Email clarkelowcray@btinternet.com or post completed form to:
Steve Clarke, Lowcray, Gosforth, Seascale, Cumbria CA20 1EB.

For survey areas to east of A591:

Email mt@vmst.fsnet.co.uk or post completed form to:
Martin Tordoff, 1 Fletcher Drive, Kendal, Cumbria, LA9 7DL

Many thanks for your interest and help, and enjoy your summer.

Best wishes

Steve Clarke and Martin Tordoff, Butterfly Conservation, Cumbria Branch