

Other management

Whilst grazing and some scrub cutting are likely to be the only management required and recommended there are a number of other techniques which may apply in certain circumstances.

Burning

Burning is a recognised technique for managing Marsh Fritillary habitat however it can kill caterpillars and other wildlife and if it is necessary then the following should be considered:

- Only burn on sites with a recent history of burning.
- Only burn between January/March.
- Avoid burning more than one third of a field in a year.
- Cool, quick fires are best but are difficult to control so cut firebreaks or use natural fire breaks such as wet areas or ditches.
- Any burning undertaken must be in line with 'The Heather and Grass burning Code'.

Mowing

Mowing is unsuitable for sites where Marsh Fritillary are known to breed but can be a useful tool to restore sites to a more suitable status if they have become overgrown and very tussocky. Once in a more favourable state then the ongoing management should revert to grazing.

Should you require any further advice regarding the management of your Local Wildlife Site please do not hesitate to contact your local Wildlife Trust:

Gwent Wildlife Trust

Tel: 01600 740600

e-mail: info@gwentwildlife.org

Wildlife Trust of South & West Wales

Tel: 01656 724100

e-mail: info@welshwildlife.org

Other toolkits available are:

No.1 Neutral Grassland (Hay Meadow)

No.2 Neutral Grassland (Pasture)

No.3 Acid Grassland

No.4 Calcareous Grassland

No.5 Marshy Grassland

No.7 Heath

No.8 Hedgerows

No.9 Saltmarsh & Coastal Grazing Marsh

No.10 Ponds & Lakes

No.11 Scrub control

No.12 Bracken control

No.13 Invasive weed control (natives – thistle, dock etc.)

No.14 Invasive weed control (aliens – Japanese Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam etc.)

Further useful documents include:

- ❖ Advice on managing grasslands for invertebrates: www.buglife.org.uk/sites/default/files/Grassland_web.pdf
- ❖ Advice on managing grasslands that are in environmental schemes: www.eblex.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/managementguidelinesforgasslandinenvironmentalschemes_210710-final-report.pdf
- ❖ Further advice on grazing: www.grazinganimalsproject.org.uk/
- ❖ Marsh Fritillary information: www.butterfly-conservation.org/files/marsh_fritillary-psf.pdf
- ❖ Heather & Grass Burning Code: www.wales.gov.uk/topics/environmentcountryside/farmingandcountryside/plantsseedsbiotechnology/heathergrassburning/heatherandgrassburningpi/burningcode/?lang=en

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