

Habitat management for the Marsh Mallow Moth

The overall aim is to maintain a continual supply of the foodplant Marsh Mallow.

- ◆ Heavy grazing of ditch-side vegetation by livestock should be avoided, and wide uncut headlands should be left along field margins in fields adjacent to watercourses. Temporary electric fencing is recommended as a means of controlling the distribution of grazing.
- ◆ Wide-scale dredging of water courses and regrading of ditch banks should be avoided. Similarly, bank-side mowing should be limited in scale where possible. Such operations should be small-scale and on rotation over a number of years.

Please contact Butterfly Conservation if the species is suspected to be present on a site.

How to survey/monitor

The best methods are searching the foodplant and surrounding area for adults by torchlight after dark, and light-trapping for adults.



top Marsh Mallow, the larval foodplant
bottom Ideal habitat often occurs along drainage ditches



Butterfly Conservation

Saving butterflies, moths and their habitats

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The scheme includes Higher Level Stewardship, which supports management for targeted butterflies, moths and other biodiversity.