

Volunteers' help needed to locate sites with Forester *Adscita statices*



Butterfly Conservation Wales
Gwarchod Glöynnod Byw Cymru

Saving butterflies, moths and our environment Yn achub glöynnod byw, gwyfynod a'n hamgylchedd ni

If you visit a site below, please let us know whether or not you see this species

How you can help

The Forester is day-flying moth, so it is often recorded by chance. It flies in sunny weather and rests on vegetation when conditions are overcast. We would like to encourage people use their knowledge of their local landscape to identify and survey **sites that support habitat and plant species where this moth may occur.**

We also want to encourage anyone who currently walks a transect to look for this species while undertaking their transects. If you have seen this moth at a site before, we would also encourage you to revisit to see if it is still present. This will help us better understand the current status and distribution of this moth.

BC priority landscapes (see map) are a good place to start – these are some where the Forester occurs:

- **West Coast Dunes (Harlech and Dyffryn)** – known sites include Harlech
- **Elan Valley** – known site at Gilfach Farm Meadows
- **Wye Valley and Southern Woodlands (Wales)** - known sites include MoD Caerwent
- **Carmarthenshire Limestone Ridge** – known sites include Mynydd Llangynderyn
- **South Wales Coal Measures** – known sites include Mynydd Meio and Caerau

However, we would encourage anyone out for a daytime walk in sunny conditions to keep an eye open for the Forester in suitable habitats.

Top and middle: Forester, G Tordoff



CONTACT US: Please let us know when you have visited a site, whether or not you saw Forester. Please email via our [webpage contact form](#) with subject line 'Forester', or via this link [email](#).

Distribution in Wales

Formerly widely distributed throughout Wales but recorded distribution has declined. Forester is identified by Butterfly Conservation Wales' as a High Priority moth. It is still recorded throughout Wales from Harlech in the north to Caerwent in the south and recently on the Pembrokeshire coast.

Flight period: The adult flies from mid-May to end of June with the flying peak in mid-June.

Identification: The male's wingspan is 25-31 and the female's 22-25mm. It is a small beautiful, distinctive moth with a strong submetallic green sheen to forewings and body. There are three British Forester moths, the Forester Moth, Cistus Forester and Scarce Forester which are superficially almost identical and difficult to distinguish, but the Scarce Forester is not found in Wales. The Cistus Forester is confined only to the Great Orme area of north Wales and is generally smaller than the Forester.

Habitats and food plants: Despite its name, it uses a variety of open habitats such as damp grassland, limestone grassland, heathland, coastal sand dunes and has recently been found on colliery spoil tips. Females lay eggs in June and July on host plants Common Sorrel and Sheep's Sorrel. Adults are known to nectar on a variety of plants including Bramble, Ragged Robin, Scabious, clovers and Viper's-bugloss (but probably use an even wider variety including willowherb).

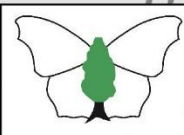
Find out more about the [Forester](#)

Forester habitat at Rhydycymerau: G. Tordoff



Thank you!

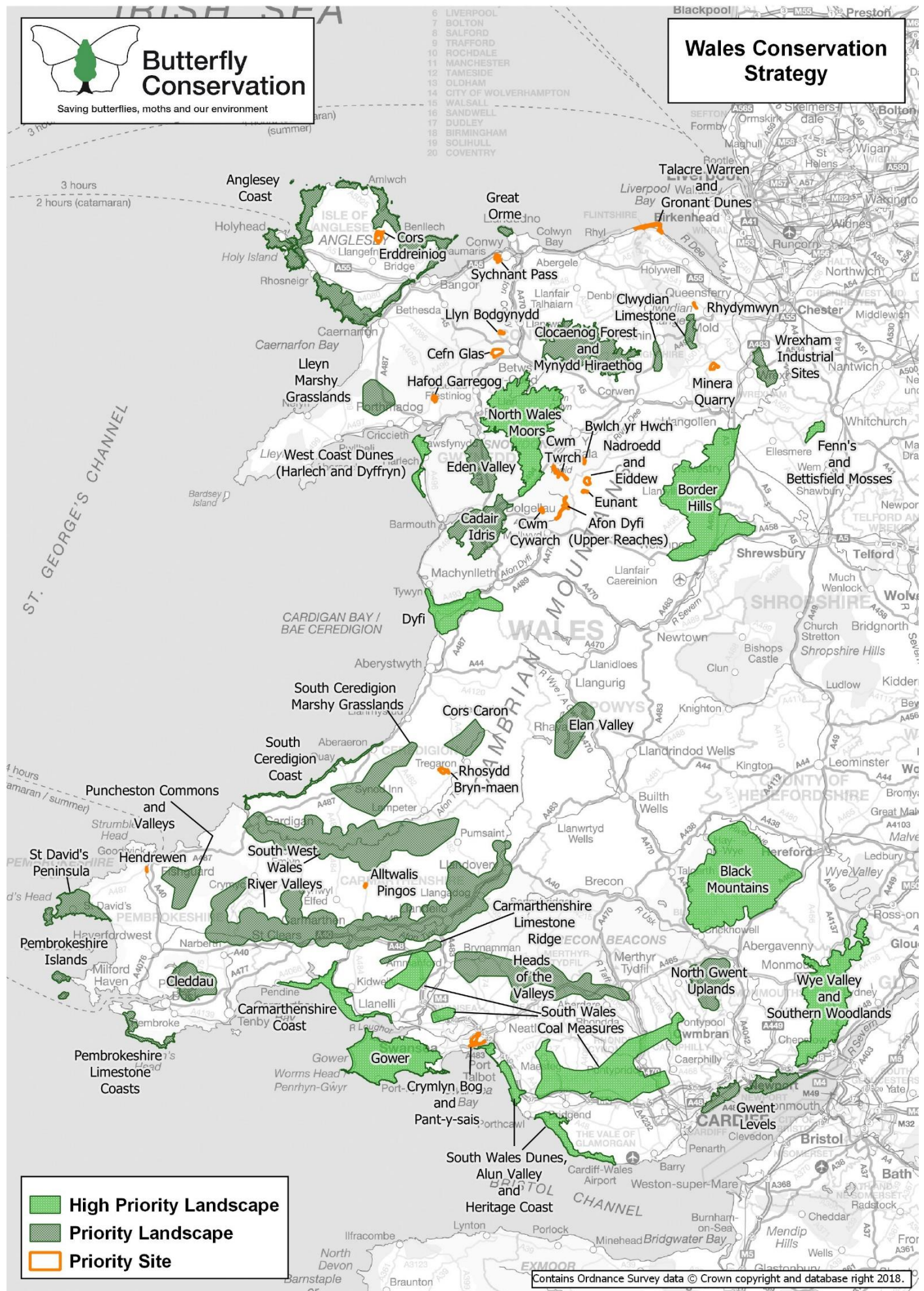
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Butterfly Conservation

Saving butterflies, moths and our environment

Wales Conservation Strategy



- High Priority Landscape
- Priority Landscape
- Priority Site

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