

# *Thyridanthrax fenestratus* (Mottled Bee-Fly)

Full report outputted on the 01/08/2003 11:42:36

## 1. Status of the habitat / species

Please give your most accurate assessment of the status of your species or habitat for the UK and for each country. Leave the row blank where the species or habitat does not occur in that country.

	Amount:	Units:	Year:	Accuracy:	Reference for data:
UK	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
E	27	Sites/ Populations	2002	Partial or sample survey	BENHS Heathland Flies UK Action Plan Project Reports to English Nature 1999-2002. (4th Report 2002 in prep.)
NI	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
S	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
W	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

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## 2. Trend in Biological Status

Please give your best estimate of the current trend for your species or habitat for the UK, and each appropriate country, using the following categories. Please give an estimate unless there is absolutely no information on which to assess status.


	Trend:	Accuracy:	Reference for data:
UK	Stable	Partial or sample survey	BENHS Heathland Flies UK Action Plan Project Reports to English Nature 1999-2002. (4th Report 2002 in prep.)
E	Stable	Partial or sample survey	BENHS Heathland Flies UK Action Plan Project Reports to English Nature 1999-2002. (4th Report 2002 in prep.)
NI			
S			
W			

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### 3. Status of knowledge

To what extent is our scientific knowledge of the habitat / species (e.g research information, autecological knowledge, knowledge for effective re-introduction or habitat restoration/re-creation) sufficient to deliver the plan targets?

Please give an assessment for the UK overall but if there is significant difference in knowledge between different countries this should be noted.

<b>Status of knowledge:</b>	Know ledge sufficient to make some impact, but more research needed. 
<b>Notes:</b>	<div><p>The sphecid w asp <i>Ammophila pubescens</i> Curtis, has been confirmed as the host for this fly's development, probably as a parasitoid of the w asp pupa but this latter aspect of this fly's life history has yet to be confirmed. Accordingly we need to manage heathland sites for this solitary w asp to successfully conserve t beefly. This w asp collects moth larvae to stock multiple single celled nests, w hich it progressively provisions w ith fresh larvae somehow remembering the location of each nest. In doing this each nest is re-opened allow ing both oviposition of the sand-covered eggs by this beefly, both directly into the host's nest hol and nearby under <i>Calluna</i> or <i>Erica</i> sp., grow ing adjacent to the sandy soil paths and clearings in the heather cover that the w as frequents.</p></div>

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### 4. Progress on targets

Each of the revised targets from the 2001 Targets Review is listed below.

For each one please give a qualitative assessment of progress for the UK and each country. You can also enter quantitative information on progress by entering data in each of the target boxes and entering the current amount in the amount box. For more information see Help.

**T1: Ensure all known sites support viable populations by 2010.**

<b>Target start date:</b>	1999
<b>Target end date:</b>	2010
<b>Target units:</b>	Sites/ Populations ▼

	Progress	Target	Current	Accuracy	Monitoring
<b>UK</b>	Some progress (on schedule) ▼				
<b>E</b>	Some progress (on schedule) ▼	79	27	Partial or sample survey ▼	Under consideration ▼
<b>NI</b>					
<b>S</b>					
<b>W</b>					

## 5. Current factors affecting the habitat

When your plan was published the factors (threats) that were thought to be causing loss or decline were listed (in section 2). Re-assessing the current situation may help prioritise actions for your species or habitat. In addition, this enables identification of the main threats to biodiversity across all plans. It is useful to assess whether the importance of different factors is changing and whether there are new issues emerging.

The threat section from the original plan is duplicated below, and a first attempt at categorising the threats has been made. Please confirm that you agree with the categorisation of the original threats identified in the plan (by deleting any wrongly categorised threats and adding the correct category). Please also add to the list any significant threats that have emerged recently, being mindful of environmental issues that have increased in profile or been recognised since plan publication (e.g. climate change). Once you are happy that the list contains all the threats identified in the published plan together with any new ones, please rank them in order of severity (1= highest threat). If the situation has changed and one of the published threats is no longer significant, please leave this in the list but give this rank = 0.

### Current factors affecting the habitat from the original publication:

- 2.1 Inappropriate heathland management.
- 2.2 Encroachment by scrub and trees.
- 2.3 Uncontrolled heathland fires.
- 2.4 Damage to paths and open areas by increasing recreational use, especially horse riding, or by intense military use.

### Keyworded factors:

To add factors click the add button, to delete factors check the delete box and then click the delete button.

Delete:	Rank:	Keyword:
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Habitat loss / degradation - infrastructure development   Housing infrastructure
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Habitat loss / degradation - infrastructure development   Transport infrastructure
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Habitat loss / degradation - management practice   Fires
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Habitat loss / degradation - management practice   Inappropriate heathland management
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Habitat loss / degradation - management practice   Lack of disturbance
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Habitat loss / degradation - management practice   Loss of open areas
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Habitat loss / degradation - management practice   Scrub encroachment
<input type="checkbox"/>	4	Human disturbance   Military use / disturbance
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Human disturbance   Trampling (physical damage)

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## 6. Constraints (optional)

Select the three most significant constraints to achieving the targets of the plan, and indicate the order of priority (1-3 with 1 being the most significant constraint). Only include constraints that are acting as a real blockage to delivering the plan targets or leading to a substantial delay in their delivery. For each constraint, please indicate whether you feel that it is within the ability of the lead partner or steering group to resolve the constraint.

## Constraint 1:

Constraint keyword:

Research, survey and information | Baseline survey - required

Country:

UK  E  NI  S  
 W

Solution:

Priority 1. Further survey is needed on 52 sites that formerly held this species between 1860 and the present day. These are particularly in the New Forest, Dorset, Berkshire and Sussex areas. The Lead Partner will accelerate survey in Dorset, Surrey and Berkshire but does not have sufficient funds or surveyors in the project to enable visits to all the old sites in the New Forest and Sussex.

Solution type:

Survey / monitoring

Able to resolve:

## Constraint 2:

Constraint keyword:

Species and habitat management | Grazing regime - causing problems

Country:

UK  E  NI  S  
 W

**Solution:**

Priority 2. (Where implemented). Grazing proposals on low land heathland in southern England. Where these are proposed I consider this will be a considerable threat to the biology of this species. This will particularly be evident if summer grazing is proposed and implemented without proper research into the impacts on heathland invertebrates. This fly species' depends on a host wasp whose prey for its own larvae depend on the success of various moth species who lay their eggs in the heather canopy. In turn these moth eggs hatch and turn into larvae that feed externally on the higher Calluna vulgaris shoots. These upper stems of the Ling would be considerably poached by summer grazing animals, possibly leading to a reduction in the prey density. I have made representations to the Heathland HAP group but I am not sure that they are fully acknowledged by all participants and heathland managers in general. This issue is not in any way under the control of the Lead-Partner and thus must be resolved at a higher level, perhaps in English Nature?

**Solution type:**
 Legislation and policies
**Able to resolve:**

**Constraint 3:****Constraint keyword:**

**Country:**
 UK  E  NI  S  
 W
**Solution:**

**Solution type:**

**Able to resolve:**



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## 7. Steering Group

Please list all organisations that are represented on the steering group for your species/habitat (include all organisations that have contributed either directly or by correspondence within the last 3 years). Where a steering group does not exist please leave this form blank.

To add organisations click the add button, to delete organisations check the delete box and then click the delete button.

**Delete: Organisation:**



British Entomological and Natural History Society



English Nature

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## 8. Other Groups/Organisations

Please list any additional groups/organisations that are actively involved in implementing your action plan. (This is to try to assess which groups are involved where there is no steering group and any additional contributors). If you do not have any other organisations involved, [click here](#).

To add organisations click the add button, to delete organisations check the delete box and then click the delete button.

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## 9. Linkages to LBAPs

a) Which of the following most accurately describes your interaction with LBAPs, up to now?

Little or no contact with LBAPs.

b) If you have been in contact with LBAPs how was it initiated?

c) Irrespective of current contact, how important do you consider LBAP co-ordinated action will be in achieving the targets of the plan? Select from category:

Important

d) If you consider LBAP action to be anything other than unimportant, which of the following forms of engagement do you think would be appropriate? (Note, you may tick more than one category.)

- Indirect contact (e.g. posting information on UKBAP website, sharing work programmes, meeting schedules, articles in Biodiversity News, newsletter)
- Provision of generic information on habitat and/or species (e.g. advice and guidance on habitat/species ecology and management)
- Direct provision of advice (e.g. proactive approach to LBAP, response to consultations from LBAPs, advice on LBAP target setting)

- Reciprocal attendance at meetings
- Development of collaborative projects

**Other (please specify):**

I consider a one day field trip to a heathland site involving the broader entomological, conservation and LBAP community, would be desirable but as the Lead Partner we lack the funds, time or expertise to make all the arrangements for such an event.

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## 10. Successes (optional)

Have there been key successes in the implementation of your plan that should be drawn to the attention of government, the wider BAP partnership, or the public? Please give a brief description (i.e. 2-3 sentences) of up to three successes and allocate a topic area to each of them:

<b>Success 1:</b>	
<b>Description:</b>	<b>Country:</b>

We have established a new technique using buried brass marker point identifiers to locate nest holes of the solitary wasp in summer. This enables them to be re-found in the subsequent winter with the use of a metal detector, when evidence of the hole is no longer visible. This technique has been used to successfully identify the host of the bee fly by excavation of the original nest hole to find the pupa of the host from which this fly species was reared.

UK  E  NI  S  W

#### Keyword:

Research, survey and information | Autecology - improved knowledge

### Success 2:

#### Description:

All the work described has been conducted by mainly amateur entomologists using their spare time.

#### Country:

UK  E  NI  S  W

#### Keyword:

Action plan process | Steering group established

### Success 3:

<b>Description:</b>	<b>Country:</b>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> UK <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> NI <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> W
<b>Keyword:</b>	
<input type="text"/>	

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Thankyou for answering the questions. You have not yet completed all of the questions. You can go back and answer the additional ones or edit the ones you have already answered whenever you want.

**Sign-off:**

When you have completed all of the questions that you are able to, you must sign off your reporting.

I agree that the steering group (if present) have agreed the information in this report and that the following contact point has also signed it off:

<b>Contact point:</b>	<input type="text"/>	<b>email:</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Your name:</b>	<input type="text"/>		
<b>Date:</b>	<input type="text"/>		

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