

Butterfly Survey. 26/4/2021 to 13/9/2021

Although over recent years FA has received records of butterflies seen on the reserve this has been very sporadic and did not provide the necessary information relating to area seen, habitat, weather conditions etc. Therefore, this information has never provided useful primary data that can be used in relation to the habitat management of the reserve; for example has a population decrease /increase been notice following management practices such as clearance/ mowing/ hedge laying?

To provide useable data a season long survey scheme has been set up and is now in operation. This survey is based upon the Butterfly Conservation guidelines, recording date, week, start and finish times, ave temperature, % sunshine, wind direction and wind speed. The survey is a single transect (see map below) split into five zones. These zones, although not specific habitats are areas managed in different ways.

It is hoped that the data produced will highlight the species active, where they are and in what densities. This can then give insights into possible management to improve numbers of species and abundance.

I am not, at this point going to comment on initial results totals (26/3 - 26/5) except to say they have been affected by unseasonably cold and windy weather preventing many species flying. The attached chart shows the minimum level of data but used in conjunction with the map does already start to highlight some species hot spots.

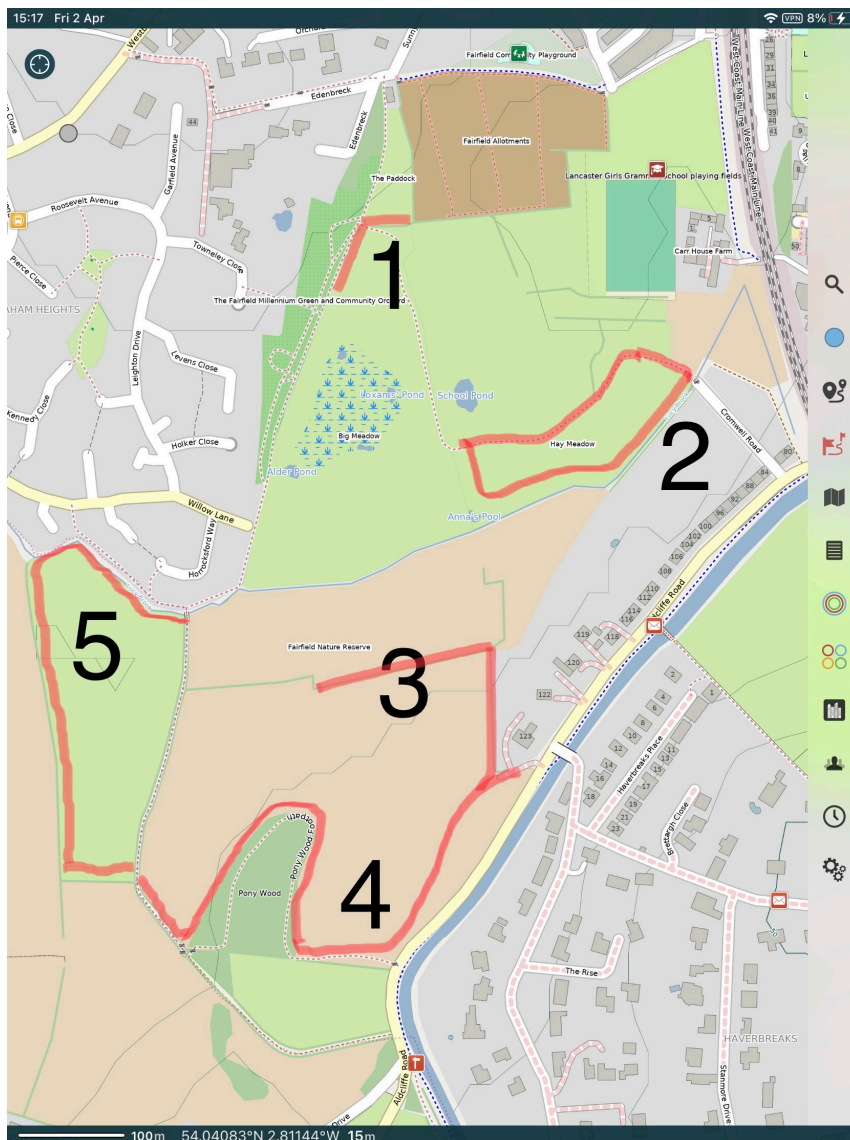


Table 1

	zone 1	zone 2	zone 3	zone 4	zone 5
Small Skipper	0	0	0	0	0
Large Skipper	0	0	0	0	0
Dingy Skipper	0	0	0	0	0
Clouded Yellow	0	0	0	0	0
Brimstone	0	0	0	1	0
Large white	4	5	5	12	4
Small White	1	1	1	11	0
Orange Tip	6	11	4	12	3
Small Copper	0	0	0	0	0
Small blue	0	0	0	0	0
Common Blue	0	0	0	0	0
Holly Blue	0	0	1	0	0
Red Admiral	0	0	0	0	0
Painted Lady	0	0	0	0	0
Sm Tortoiseshell	0	0	4	25	1
Peacock	1	3	0	0	0
Comma	0	0	0	0	0
Speckled Wood	2	0	2	1	0
Wall	0	0	0	0	0
Grayling	0	0	0	0	0
Gatekeeper	0	0	0	0	0
Meadow brown	0	0	0	0	0
Ringlet	0	0	0	0	0
Small heath	0	0	0	0	0
Grn Veined White	2	7	0	0	0