



PRESS RELEASE

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NEW ERA FOR ONE OF STIRLING'S SPECIAL PEATLANDS

Wildlife charity Butterfly Conservation Scotland has embarked on a new phase of peatland restoration at its Wester Moss nature reserve at Fallin, near Stirling.

The reserve, which is managed jointly with the owners, Stirling Council, is in 'unfavourable condition' according to the country's nature conservation advisors, Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) and is in danger of drying out. This would mean the loss of its unique flora and fauna of rare butterflies, spiders and plants.

Past attempts to drain the Moss are still having an effect, so, with funding from the Clackmannanshire and Stirling Environment Trust invading scrub will be removed and dams installed.

The Moss will be studied carefully over the next few years, while future plans could include improving access for local people. Recent surveys have added to the tally of moths found on the reserve, including the beautiful Canary-shouldered Thorn and the uncommon Lesser Treble-bar.

More information is at http://www.butterfly-conservation.org/text/5494/wester_moss.html

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Images

Attached view of Canary-shouldered Thorn © Neil Gregory /Butterfly Conservation.
More images are available from scotland@butterfly-conservation.org

Notes for Editors

- Butterfly Conservation is the largest insect conservation charity in Europe with 16,000 members in the UK, and over 1,000 in Scotland. Its aim is the conservation of butterflies, moths and their habitats. It runs conservation programmes on over 60 threatened species of butterfly and moth and manages over 30 nature reserves. Further information www.butterfly-conservation.org
- In Scotland Butterfly Conservation receives grant-aid from Scottish Natural Heritage to support volunteers who collect data, provide advice to landowners and others, and promote the conservation of butterflies, moths and their habitats www.butterflyconservation.org/scotland

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