

# The role of the County Recorder



**Butterfly  
Conservation**

Saving butterflies, moths and our environment

**RECOVER. TRANSFORM. INSPIRE.**

**SAVING BUTTERFLIES AND MOTHS**

**OUR 2021-2026**

**STRATEGY**



## Purpose of the County Recorder

- Act as the focal point for recording in their area, which will normally be individual counties, but may sometimes be larger areas
- Promote butterfly and/or moth recording and conservation in their area
- Act as intermediaries between many thousand recorders and the central recording schemes
- Ensure the quality of butterfly and moth records submitted to the Butterflies for the New Millennium (BNM) and the National Moth Recording Scheme (NMRS)

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## What do County Recorders do?

- Local experts
- Verify records from the recording community
- Encourage recording & promote schemes
- Provide feedback to recorders
- Promote butterflies and moths
- Collate and manage local datasets in accordance with GDPR and BCs data policies
- Local reporting to BC Branches, LERCs and other local groups
- Submit records to NMRS & BNM  
*target date 31<sup>st</sup> March, although data are accepted year round*

## Additional optional duties

- Provide encouragement, information, support and feedback to local recorders (e.g., through direct communication, writing newsletters, reports and articles, web pages, meetings etc.)
- Liaise with relevant local groups (e.g., natural history societies, biological records centres etc.)
- Engage with local communities, landowners and the wider public
- Promote lepidoptera recording by providing comments for local media on request
- Provide lepidoptera data and/or interpretation of data to users such as local and regional biodiversity partnerships, biological records centres and other interested partners

# The County Recorder Network

County Moth Recorders – Vice County boundaries

County Butterflies – non-standardised boundaries

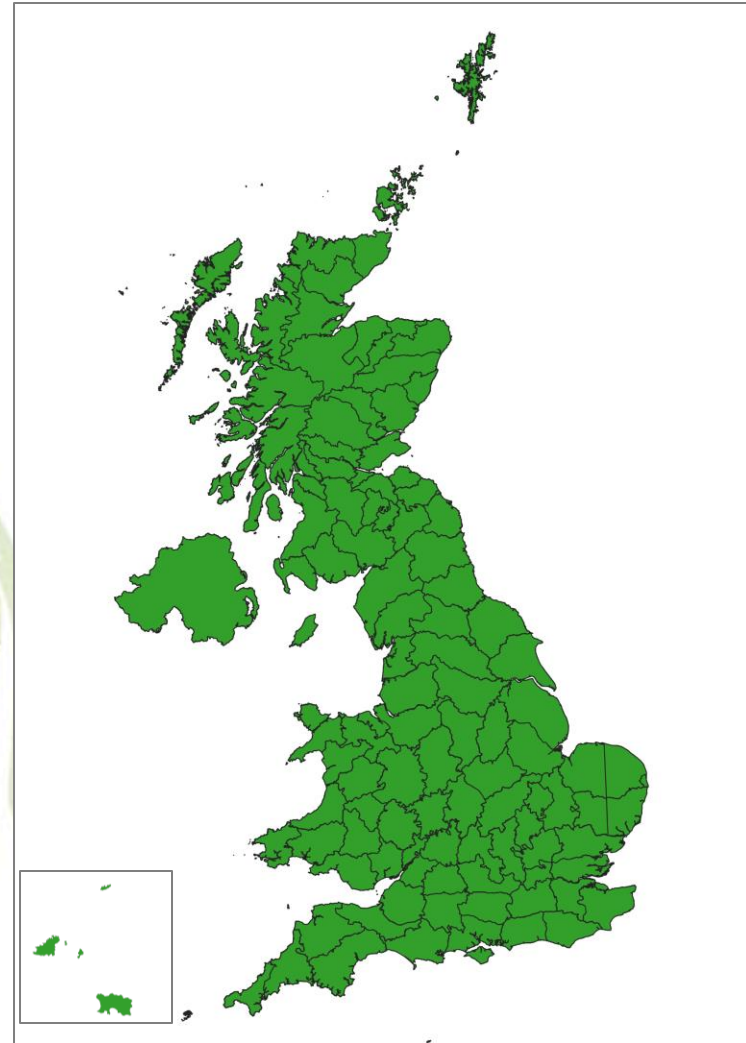
Administrative areas

Branches

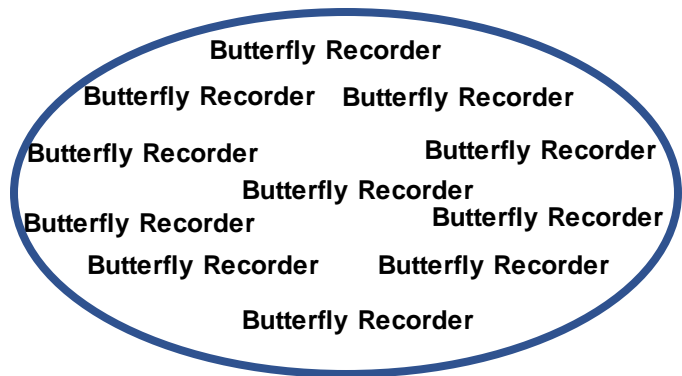
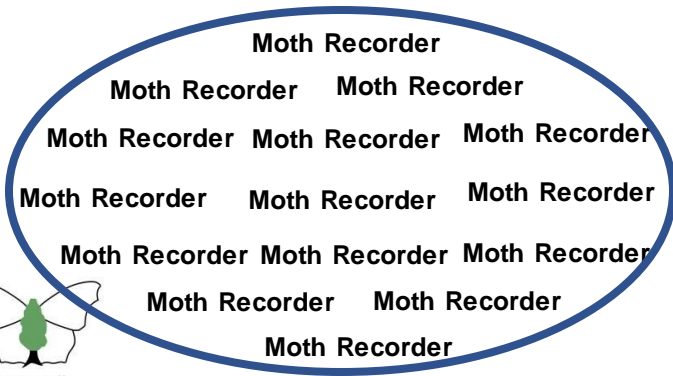
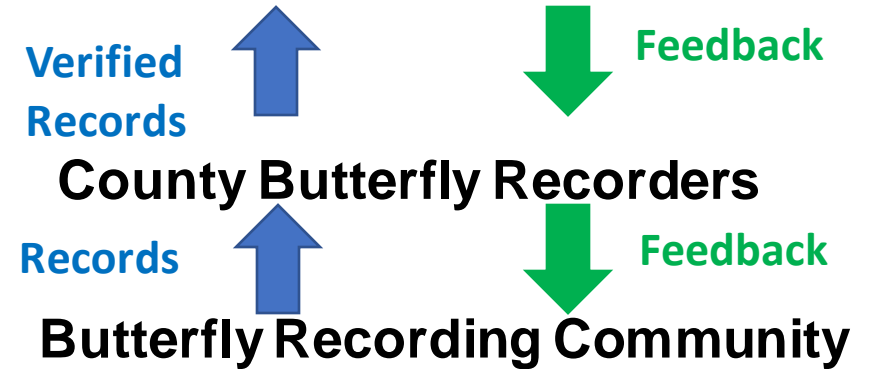
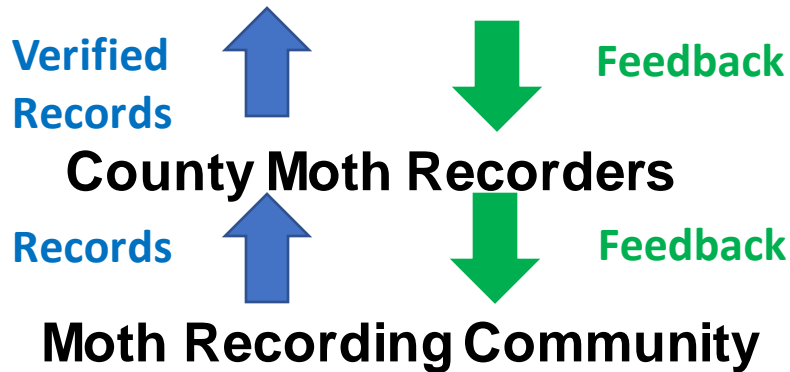
Vice-counties



**Vital role in supporting BCs science**



# Recording Community



## Collation of data for their area – a myriad of data formats



MapMate<sup>®</sup>



Levana

Paper data  
Branch online data capture systems  
Social Media



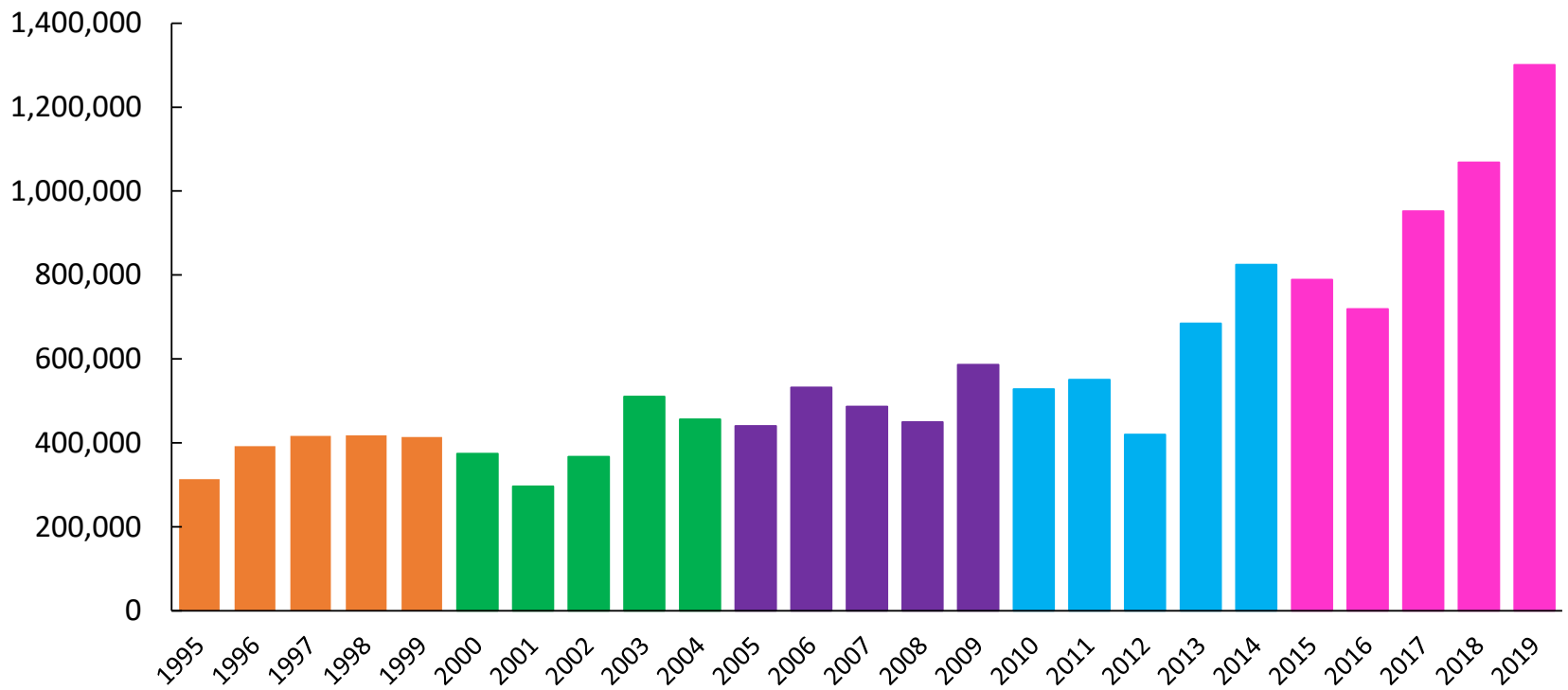
## Verification of these records to ensure data quality



# Increase in butterfly recording

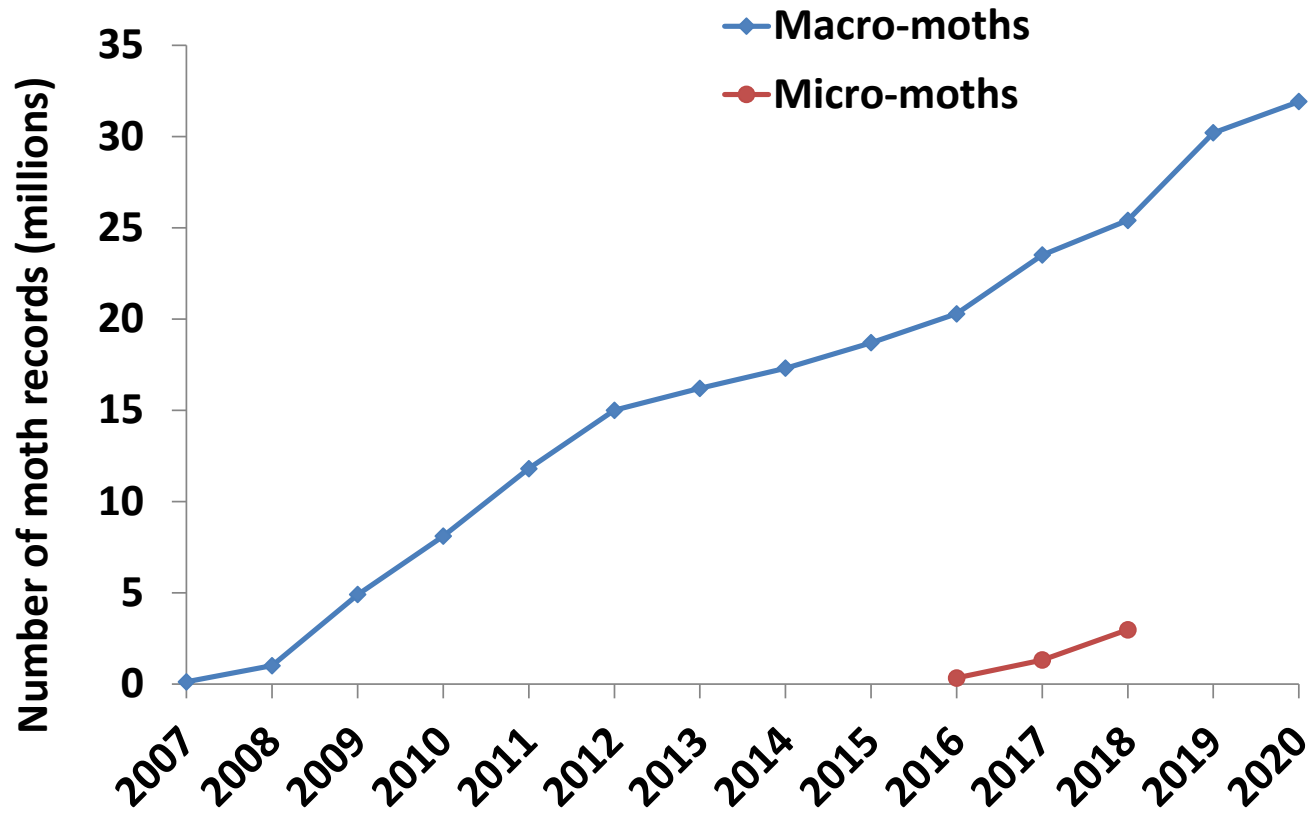


**Butterflies for the  
New Millennium**





# Increase in moth recording



## Sharing the workload

Establish local teams to share the workload

Data collation Assistant(s)

Verification Assistant(s)

Work to strengths



## An ideal County Recorder will be or will have

- Proficient at butterfly and/or moth identification - or be willing to work with others to learn this
- A knowledge of species flight times and distributions or access to this information
- A willingness to learn more about butterflies and/or moths
- Enjoy working with others, be approachable and supportive to other recorders or verifiers
- Personal computer password protected with up-to-date antivirus software and internet connection
- Able to represent Butterfly Conservation and its values

## Opportunities for you

- The chance to contribute to Butterfly Conservation's world class recording schemes, and ultimately science and research
- An increased understanding of butterfly and or/moth populations in your area
- A deeper understanding and expertise in butterfly and/or moth identification
- Develop or utilise skills in mentoring and supporting others
- Training and support from the Recording Team including iRecord and QGIS
- References (provided you have met the expectations of the role) to support applications
- Reimbursement of out of pocket expenses for performing your duties as County Recorder

Thank you!

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