

Field Trip 4: Two Moors Project



- **Declining butterfly species on Dartmoor and Exmoor.**
- **Landscape scale approach to priority areas for butterflies.**
- **Restoring large well-connected areas of habitat.**
- **Land management advice, agri-environment grant and training.**

Butterfly Conservation Landscape Scale Partnership Project

What were the top three challenges faced by this project?

1. Multiple land ownerships and trying to get consistent approach.
2. practicalities of getting right grazing at right times for the key butterfly species (many complicated factors).
3. Economic drivers – changes of stock, loss of extensive.

NB Micromanagement needed because habitats fragmented.

How were these challenges overcome?

- Building good relationships with landowners – regular visits, feedback on butterfly monitoring.
- Partnership working with other organisations.
- Length of project.
- Building understanding of objectives – workshops etc.
- Dartmoor Pony heritage project, DNP flying herd; project brokered animal exchanges.

Where did the project get its advice from and how easy was it to obtain?

- Project St Gp (NE, DNP, BC, ENP, EA) and partner bodies
- Butterfly Conservation
- Project experience
- Farmers
- Links with other project areas

Also.....

- Long term future:
 - How to connect patches of habitat – is it possible?
 - High Brown – probably sufficient (moorland)
 - Marsh fritillaries – only little pockets
- Need exit strategy – landowners don't need project.