

Management Plan for Highnam Butterfly Crescent - drawn up March 2021 by Butterfly Conservation, Gloucestershire Branch

Works to be carried out in conjunction with summary report details submitted to Tewkesbury Borough Council January 2021

	October to February		April to September
Annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Head back the vertical perimeter of the bramble stand and approximately 1 metre surround on the ground to check outward regrowth Reduce 'butterfly roost' shrubs to 1m height Re-cut sides of insect bays in blackthorn and ground level regrowth to keep area open Try to target a small area of ankle high bramble regrowth each winter to completely remove by digging out the roots Grassland / chequered patch cutting only when necessary for grass regeneration - leaving anthills, plenty of tussocks for overwintering larvae and some tall stems 	March - see note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ideally cut back fresh bramble regrowth from previously cleared winter works Aug/Sep - some thinning/pulling of ragwort just after flowering and before seeding. Leave plants with Cinnabar caterpillars and leave a proportion for late nectar
In Years 1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start laying of rear wildlife hedge (in 3 sections spread over 5-6 years) - not to coincide with tree thinning in abutting woodland, which would remove too much shelter at once. Consider contacting Gloucester Vale Conservation Volunteers http://www.gvcv.org.uk/ who carry out works for a small charge and have expertise and tools Cut off suckering growth under the grey alders <p>As yet uncleared sapling tree growth:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thinning of corner woodland and removal of ash saplings to reduce dense shade to benefit Speckled Woods (summary report map appendix 1) Removal of outstanding blackthorn pockets - marked red on summary report map (appendix 1) Some reduction in height of blackthorn around the insect bays to a height of approx. 1 to 1.5 metres. (again carry out gradually, not in one clearance) 	March - see note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Erection of visitors' board to inform and educate Creative workshops for the Community to design and make marker posts to demarcate this grassland habitat Liaise with Co. Jill Smith re Ubico raising the cut of the playing field turf to a height of 15 cm on a 1-2 metre strip in front of the Crescent (refer to report)



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In years 4-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete hedge laying works (see years 1-3) Southern boundary shelter belt: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove overgrown bramble back to the boundary, and dead/dying ash trees and saplings This could be carried out in 2 sections to avoid loss of shelter and cover • Erect post and wire fencing at field boundary to continue down from play area • Replant boundary with mixed native hedgerow - include buckthorn for Brimstones • Plant small native trees - birch, maple, hawthorn, hazel, wayfarer etc. to bulk up the shelter belt. Include some willow to assist with drainage 	March - see note	

- March - maintenance work is seasonally dependent. Warmer springs, with earlier larval activity, can make March too late for winter works
- It is important that the site is not over-managed to avoid a detrimental impact on the habitat