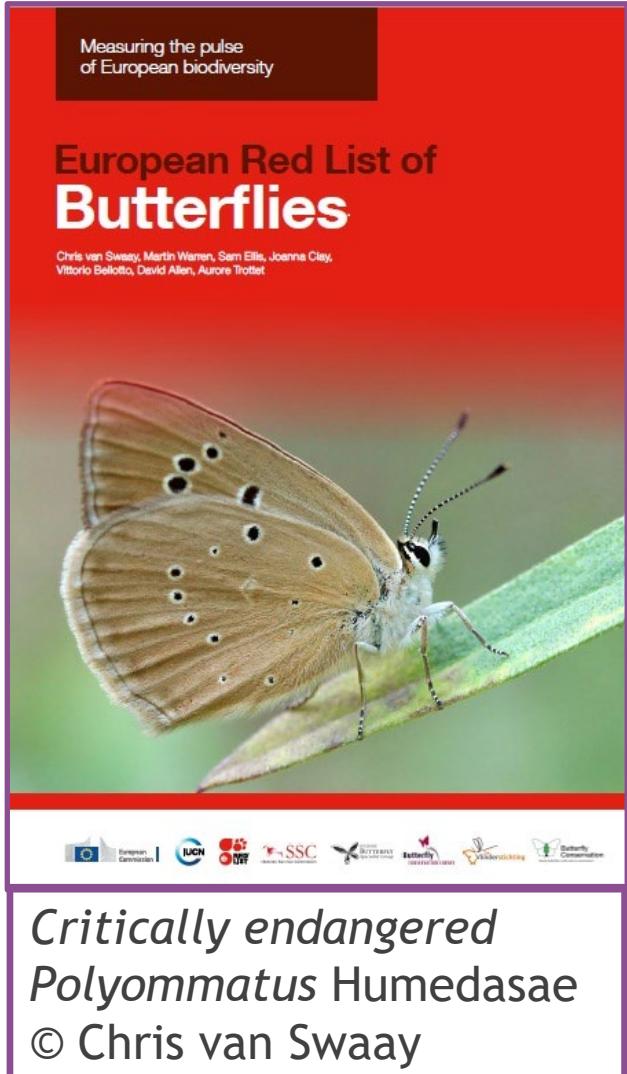


NRR and rare species monitoring



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Rare Pollinator Species - EU legislation & funding

- ▶ The Habitats Directive 1992 protects rare habitats and species, including 25 butterflies and 5 moths. However, there are no bees or hoverflies species, monitoring has been poor, and the species lists are out-of-date.
- ▶ The EU has funded the 4 European Red lists in the last 11 years: *Bees 2014; Hoverflies 2025; Butterflies 2025; and Moths (due in 2026)*
- ▶ The EU has funded 3 species action plans for rare pollinators, published in 2023:
 - Canarian Islands endemic pollinators of the Laurel Forest zone
 - Teasel-plant specialised bees in Europe
 - Hoverflies specialised to veteran trees in Europe

Pollinators on the edge: our European hoverflies

The European Red List of Hoverflies

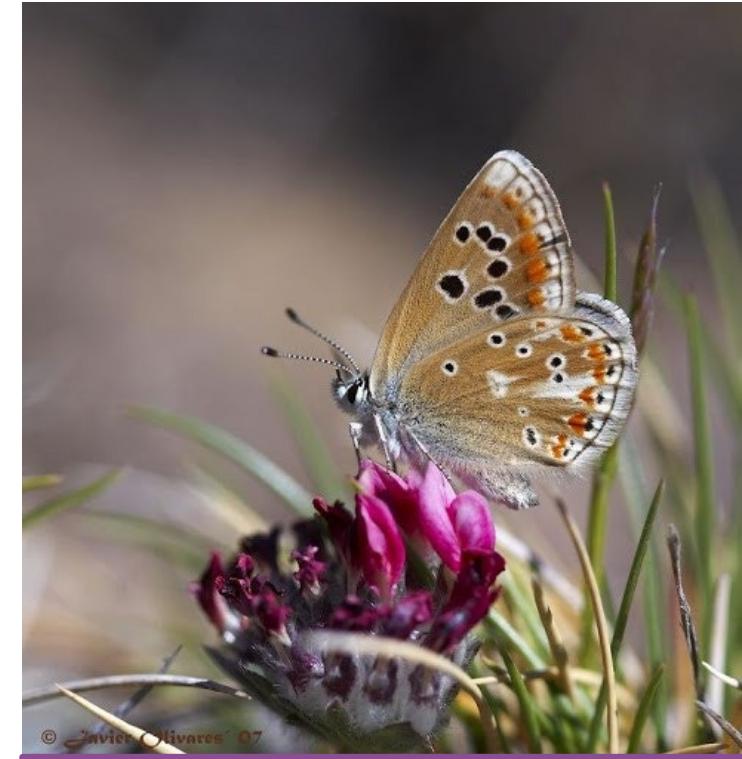
A. Vukšić, F. Gilbert, G. Flirin, E. Englefield, Z. Varga, C.C. Ferreira, F. Egger, S. Woolcock, M. Böhm, R. Mengy, A. Seymark, W. van Steenis, A. Anicet, R. Földesi, A. Grković, L. Mazarének, Z. Nedeljković, G.W.A. Pennards, C. Pérez, S. Radenković, A. Ricarte, S. Rojo, G. Stihl, L.-J. van der Ert, J. van Steenis, A. Barkalov, A. Campoy, M. Janjicović, L. Lilić, I. Lilić, X. Mengual, D. Milić, M. Milković, T. Nielsen, G. Popov, T. Rončić, A. Šekić, M. Speight, T. Tok, A. van Eijk, S. Veselić, A. Anicet, P. Bowmes, M. De Groot, M.A. Marcos-García, J. Hadraea, X. Lai, S. Malatžan, G. Neve, D. Obrnet Vidaković, S. Popov, J.T. Smith, F. Van De Meuzelaar and N. Veltkamp



Least concern
Chrysotoxum bicinctum,
(male) © Frank Vassen

NRR Delegated Act EU 2025/2188

- ▶ Article 7 Data collection protocol for rare pollinator species
- ▶ Member States shall carry out targeted monitoring of all bee, hoverfly and butterfly species that are assessed as critically endangered, in the European Red List or a National Red List
- ▶ Species shall be monitored by targeted field visits at least once per year at known locations of the species, establishing presence or absence. Member States may discontinue the monitoring of a species in a given year once its presence has been established at least at one location
- ▶ Monitoring will start in December 2026 (in practice, Spring 2027)



© Javier Olivares 07
Endangered - Nevada Blue
Polyommatus golgos © Miguel Munguira

ERL Critically Endangered Butterflies

Only 5 EU27 butterfly species are Critically Endangered

Species	EU Member State
Piedmont Anomalous Blue <i>Polyommatus humedasae</i>	Italy
Ponza Grayling <i>Hipparchia sordini</i>	Italy
Karpathos Grayling <i>Hipparchia christenseni</i>	Greece
Nevada Grayling <i>Pseudochazara williamsi</i>	Spain
Bosnian Blue <i>Agriades dardanus</i>	Bulgaria, Greece



Critically endangered
Pseudochazara williamsi
© Sam Ellis

There are 2 other CR species: Pallas' Heath *Coenonympha Phryne*, in Ukraine and Russia; and Macedonian Grayling *Pseudochazara cingovskii*, in North Macedonia

ERL Critically Endangered (CR) Pollinators

Taxa	CR species in EU27	Total species in EU27
Bees	6	1900
Butterflies	5	431
Hoverflies	41	859
Moths (approx)	24	2845

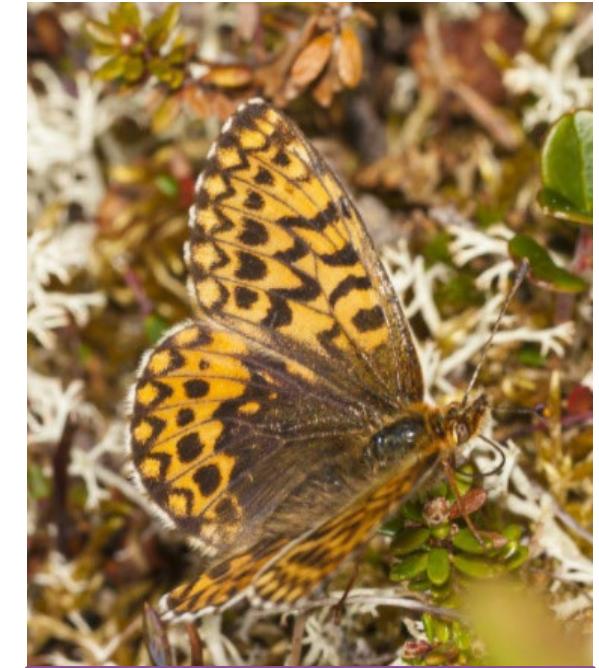
So, Article 7 monitoring will be mainly for hoverflies and moths



Critically endangered - *Psodos baldensis*
(Italy) © Egbert Friedrich

Issues to consider

- ▶ The Art. 7 requirements to **only monitor critically endangered species** and only to find a species at one location each year are minimalist. *How do we encourage Member States to carry out more rare species monitoring?*
- ▶ Art. 7 monitoring could **be carried out by academics** as part of their research and using students to monitor remote areas. Funding academics might be more cost-effective for Member States than using paid professional surveyors
- ▶ The location of rare species may have to be kept secret to prevent collectors
- ▶ BCE Partners have substantial experience of monitoring rare butterflies. *How do we make that experience available to Member States?*
- ▶ *Do the European bee, hoverfly and moth experts have experience of monitoring rare species? Do we need to learn from them and vice-versa?*



Endangered - Frejya's Fritillary *Boloria freija*
© Nils Ryholm