

White Admiral (*Limenitis camilla*)

Areas and status: Southern England and the Welsh Borders. Distribution and abundance have fluctuated during past century. Significant declines in abundance (-59%) 1976-2014.

Woodland type: Lowland Broadleaved Woodland, PAWS.

Preferred habitat niches: Rides, glades, edges, clear-fell, coppice and wet woodland. Breeds 1-2m above ground on thin straggly strands of Honeysuckle close to ride, glade and wood edges; favours mature or neglected woodlands; thicket stage conifer plantations are also used.

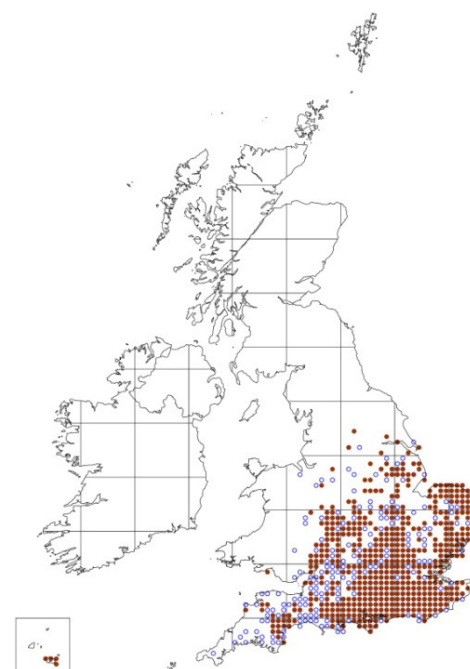
Potential habitat management issues associated with decline:

- Loss of semi-shaded open space habitat in the absence of ride, glade and edge management
- Abandonment of coppicing
- Loss of Honeysuckle due to browsing by livestock/deer, overshading by dense canopy and damage during thinning operations
- Habitat fragmentation and loss of connectivity leading to isolation of surviving populations



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Potential habitat management solutions:	
Prescription	Comment
Rides, Glades	Cut in 3 zones: 1 regularly for access, 2 on a 4-7 yr rotation & 3 on a 8-20 yr rotation. Widen and enlarge if necessary; width should be >1.5 times the height of nearby trees; scallop ride edges to create sheltered conditions. Either retain trees/shrubs with growths of Honeysuckle or do not remove Honeysuckle roots when felling trees/shrubs. Creating new east-west rides and box junctions within woods provides valuable links to existing breeding areas
Rotational coppice/Small group clear-fell	Coppice 30x30m to 40x40m coupes on 12-30yrs rotations. Clear-fell 30x30m to 40x40m coupes on 25-40 yrs cycles. Retain a few standards/shrubs within the coupe if they have Honeysuckle.
Selective felling	Retain areas of deciduous shrubs/trees growing beside rides and glades of PAWS and conifer plantations. Fell conifers shading the deciduous trees/shrubs growing beside rides and glades; alternatively, kill rather than fell standing conifers (e.g. ring barking). Retain conifers with Honeysuckle.
Grazing	Where livestock/deer are having a negative impact on coppice re-growth, erect stock-proof/deer-proof exclosures. Deer control will also be required if they are causing significant problems. Where grazing/browsing is light brash individual stumps.
Woodland creation (native species)	On areas of low ecological interest, enlarge existing woodland or connect fragmented woodlands. When planning new woodlands, ensure good networks of rides 10-20m wide, running east-west and north-south (to have some ride margins in semi-shade) and glades (20x20m to 40x40m). Plant diverse mix of locally native trees and shrubs. Plant Honeysuckle alongside rides, glades and woodland edges.
Connectivity	Manage woodlands on a landscape-scale by widening rides which connect clearings within woods and link up with rides/clearings in adjacent or nearby woods.



● Pre 2005
 ● 2005 – 2014
 Source: Butterfly Conservation