Barred Tooth-striped (Trichopteryx polycommata)

Areas and status: Breckland, southern and north-western England and parts of Scotland, with occasional records elsewhere (including western Scotland). The moth was formally more widely distributed and has probably declined in recent decades. Recently discovered at a site in south Wales.

Woodland type: Lowland Broadleaved Woodland and Scrub

Preferred habitat niches: Rides, glades, edges; clear fell, coppice, scrub mosaic, disturbed ground and open areas. Seemingly has a preference for young bushes of Wild Privet (<25cm above ground) and in the more northerly areas of its range, on low scrubby Ash.

Potential habitat management issues associated with decline:

 Unknown though it is possible that a decline in woodland management has resulted in lack of continuity of young Wild Privet growing in sunny conditions.

Potential management solutions:	
Prescription	Comment
Rides, Glades	Cut in 3 zones: 1 regularly for access, 2 on a 4-7 yr rotation & 3 on an 8-20 yr rotation to produce a mosaic of varying heights/age classes of short grassland, tall grassland and also ensure a continual supply of young Wild Privet. Widen rides and enlarge glades if necessary; widths should be >1.5 times the height of nearby trees. Creating new east-west rides and box junctions within woods can be valuable especially where they link existing breeding areas.
Scrub	Cut scrub patches on 5-10yr rotation when cover exceeds 20% by area. Cut areas of tall grassland annually to prevent scrub encroachment.
Grazing	Maintain more open habitat by lightly grazing with cattle/ponies during autumn and winter.
Woodland creation (native species, natural regeneration and/or variable density)	Create new areas of woodland/scrub mosaic on areas of low ecological value within and adjacent to woodland. Plant diverse mix of locally native trees and shrubs; ensure extensive network of wide rides (especially those running east-west), glades and edges; plant a relatively high proportion (10-20%) of Wild Privet along the sunny margins of wide rides, glades and edges. Alternatively, allow natural succession on grassland areas. Employ rotational cutting to provide a continual supply of young Wild Privet.



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Pre 2000
2000 - 2014
Source: Butterfly Conservation