



National Plant Monitoring Scheme

Spring 2023

Dear _____,

A 1km square on your land has been selected randomly to be surveyed by a volunteer, who is taking part in the National Plant Monitoring Scheme (NPMS). This UK wide scheme involves hundreds of volunteers carrying out surveys of wildflowers and their habitats to provide robust evidence of which widespread plants are increasing or declining, as well as indicating the changing state of our most valued habitats. The NPMS is organized and funded by the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland, Plantlife, the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (Northern Ireland), and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (www.npms.org.uk).

Our volunteer, _____, is seeking permission to have access to your land, for the purpose of this survey. The scheme typically involves volunteers making a recce site visit and two survey visits during the spring/summer. When visiting they will record wild plants at around 5 small plots within their 1km square. When selecting their plot locations, they will liaise with you to make sure they are suitable and take into account any access constraints or other concerns that you make them aware of (e.g. around safety, biosecurity, minimising disturbance to livestock etc). The intention is that they will repeat the survey each year, so it will be an ongoing commitment. Each volunteer is covered by our Public Liability Insurance.

The data generated from the survey will be used by the NPMS to inform national species trends and biodiversity conservation. Data will be made available for research, education and public information, and be made generally available for re-use for any other legal purpose under the terms of the Open Government Licence (<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/>) except in exceptional cases where the data are sensitive.

We would be very grateful for your co-operation and hope that you will agree to allow access to your land. Please can you confirm your agreement by telephoning our volunteer on _____.

A brief note on privacy - we are collecting your name and contact details (where provided) to allow us to get in touch to request access in future years. We may also keep a record of any additional information you provide, e.g. regarding any access restrictions. The NPMS takes privacy issues seriously - please see our privacy notice (available at <https://www.npms.org.uk/privacy-policy>) for information on how your personal data will be held appropriately and securely.

If you have any queries or concerns regarding the survey then please do visit the NPMS website or get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Rachel Murphy

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