

Species Factsheet

the
species
recovery
trust

Hagenella clathrata



Window-winged Caddis Fly

Red List Status:
Endangered

Threat of extinction:
Very High

Main Threats: Drying out of their habitat, the encroachment of trees into their habitat, wildfires, and the opening of tussock habitat by livestock trampling the ground

Description: The adults have mottled orange and black wings, that appear darker in flight. The larvae have a uniform head colour, to help to camouflage them in the shaded peaty bogs they live in.

Lifecycle: Egg masses are laid in wet areas, under a leaf litter layer. The larvae hatch a few weeks after laying and hide in the surrounding damp litter. They reach their full size by spring and adults emerge and fly between May and early June in the south, and June and early July in the north.

Habitat: These caddis flies commonly live in damp, tussocky vegetation, and are only found in a few raised bogs and heathlands in the UK. It inhabits areas with an abundance of purple moor grass, pools available to them in autumn and early summer, and trees and shrubbery (for larval food, cast-making material, and sites for adults to swarm).

Distribution: Populations are found in two sites near Aviemore, one in Galloway, two on the Shropshire Welsh border, three in Staffordshire, and two in Surrey.

Status: Classified as Endangered in the UK, which means it is facing very high risk of extinction.

Legal protection: It is listed as "a species of principal importance" under Section 41 of the NERC Act (2006) and is included on the UK BAP list of priority species (2007).

Reasons for decline: The biggest threats to window-winged caddis flies are the drying out of their habitat, the encroachment of trees into their boggy habitat, wildfires, and the opening of tussock habitat by livestock trampling the ground.

What we are doing:

- Establishing a monitoring network across all sites
- Working with landowners to ensure that suitable habitats are maintained and sites are protected.

