Recent RSPB research in alpine environments

Monitoring:

National Montane bird survey

- Focus on Dotterel, but all species surveyed.
- 337 km² alpine habitats covered across UK during 2011.
- Repeat of surveys carried out in 1987/88 and 1999.
- Hayhow et al (2015) Dotterel declined by 57% since 1987.

Snow Bunting national survey

- Baseline survey carried out in 2011, but independently to MBS.
- Hayhow et al. (in press) 60 territories (95% CI: 48-83) estimated.



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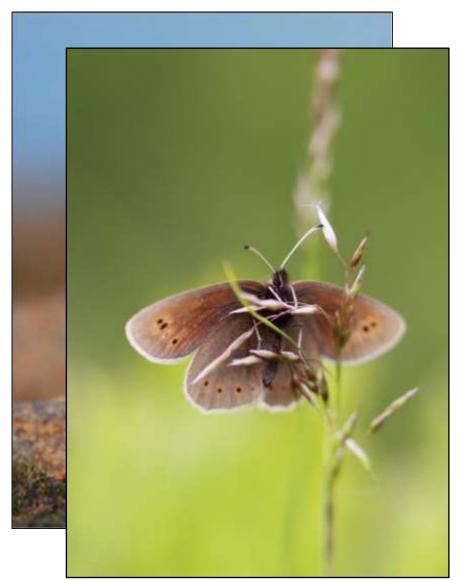
Detailed species research:

Dotterel

- Working with Rene, RSPB were NERC Case partner on Alistair Baxter's PhD.
- Surveys and intensive ecological fieldwork carried out between 2012-15, providing contrast to SNH's MEP.

Mountain Ringlet

- Intensive autecological at Lake District and Ben Lawers (2015-17).
- RSPB Case partner on PhD at Lancaster looking at mechanisms underpinning climate change impacts (starting 2018).



Recent RSPB research in alpine environments

Other relevant research:

- Mountain Hares
 - Characterising trends in grouse moor and alpine sites.
- Land use intensity
 - Muirburn mapping project (Douglas et al. 2015).

RSPB reserves:

- Manage alpine habitats within Abernethy reserve.
- Bid to Endangered Landscapes Fund for forest regeneration at Abernethy (also wider Cairngorm Connect area), including alpine scrub regeneration.

