



Insects

New England Buckmoth

Hemileuca lucina

Priority 3 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

Class: Insects (*Insecta*)

Order: Butterflies, Skippers, And Moths (*Lepidoptera*)

Family: Emperor, Atlas, Moon And Silk Moths (*Saturniidae*)

General comments:

endemic to New England; some regional concern for potential declines

Species Conservation Range Maps:

Town Map: [Hemileuca lucina Towns.pdf](#)

Subwatershed Map: [Hemileuca lucina HUC12.pdf](#)

SGCN Priority Ranking - Designation Criteria:

Regional Endemic:

Hemileuca lucina's global geographic range is at least 90% contained within the area defined by USFWS Region 5, the Canadian Maritime Provinces, and southeastern Quebec (south of the St. Lawrence River).

Habitat Associations:

Formation: Freshwater Marsh

Macrogroup: Eastern North American Marsh, Wet Meadow & Shrubland

Formation: Grassland & Shrubland

Macrogroup: Ruderal Shrubland & Grassland

Threats

No Threats Currently Assigned to New England Buckmoth or other Priority 3 SGCN.

Species Level Conservation Actions:

No Species Specific Conservation Actions Currently Assigned to New England Buckmoth or other Priority 3 SGCN.

Conservation Actions Associated with the Peatland Lepidoptera Guild:

Conservation Action	Category	Biological Priority	Type
Complete a statewide butterfly atlas and use it to increase public and partner awareness of the state's Lepidoptera and their conservation challenges	Research	high	on-going

New England Buckmoth *Hemileuca lucina*

Priority 3 SGCN

**Threat(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action**

- Education & Outreach
- Lack of knowledge

Conservation Action	Category	Biological Priority	Type
MDIFW needs greater staff capacity for survey and conservation of SGCN invertebrates	Policy	critical	new

Threat(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

- Education & Outreach
- Lack of knowledge
- Resource Needs

Conservation Action	Category	Biological Priority	Type
Communication with Maine Forest Service and Bureau of Pest Control are necessary to prevent unintended mortality from aerial pesticide spraying (e.g., for spruce budworm)	Policy	moderate	new

Threat(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

- Other Threat

Conservation Action	Category	Biological Priority	Type
Complete forestry Best Management Practices for distribution to cooperative landowners and forest management interests.	Species Management	high	new

Threat(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

- Other Threat
- Roads and Railroads
- Logging and Wood Harvesting

Broad Taxonomic Group Conservation Actions:

Additional relevant conservation actions for this species are assigned within broader taxonomic groups in Maine's Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4.

Habitat Based Conservation Actions:

Additional conservation actions that may benefit habitat(s) associated with this species can be found in Maine's Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4. Click on the Habitat Grouping of interest to launch a habitat based report summarizing relevant conservation actions and associated SGCN.

The Wildlife Action Plan was developed through a lengthy participatory process with state agencies, targeted conservation partners, and the general public. The Plan is non-regulatory. The species, threats, and voluntary conservation actions identified in the Plan complement, but do not replace, existing work