Oak Processionary Moth (OPM): OPM Toolkit Briefing

Andrew Hoppit– Forestry Commission

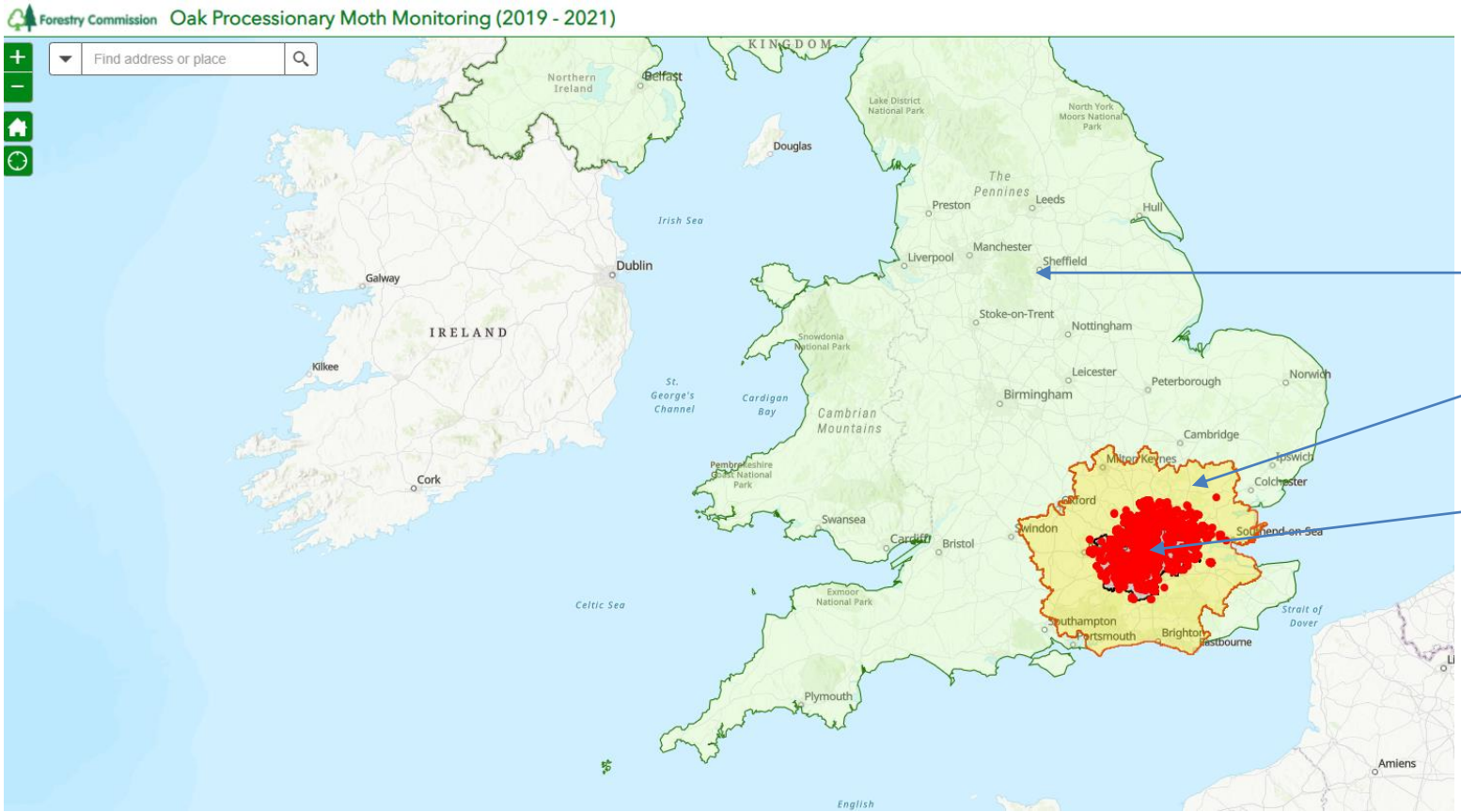
New Websites

New Websites went live on 14th January

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/managing-oak-processionary-moth-in-england

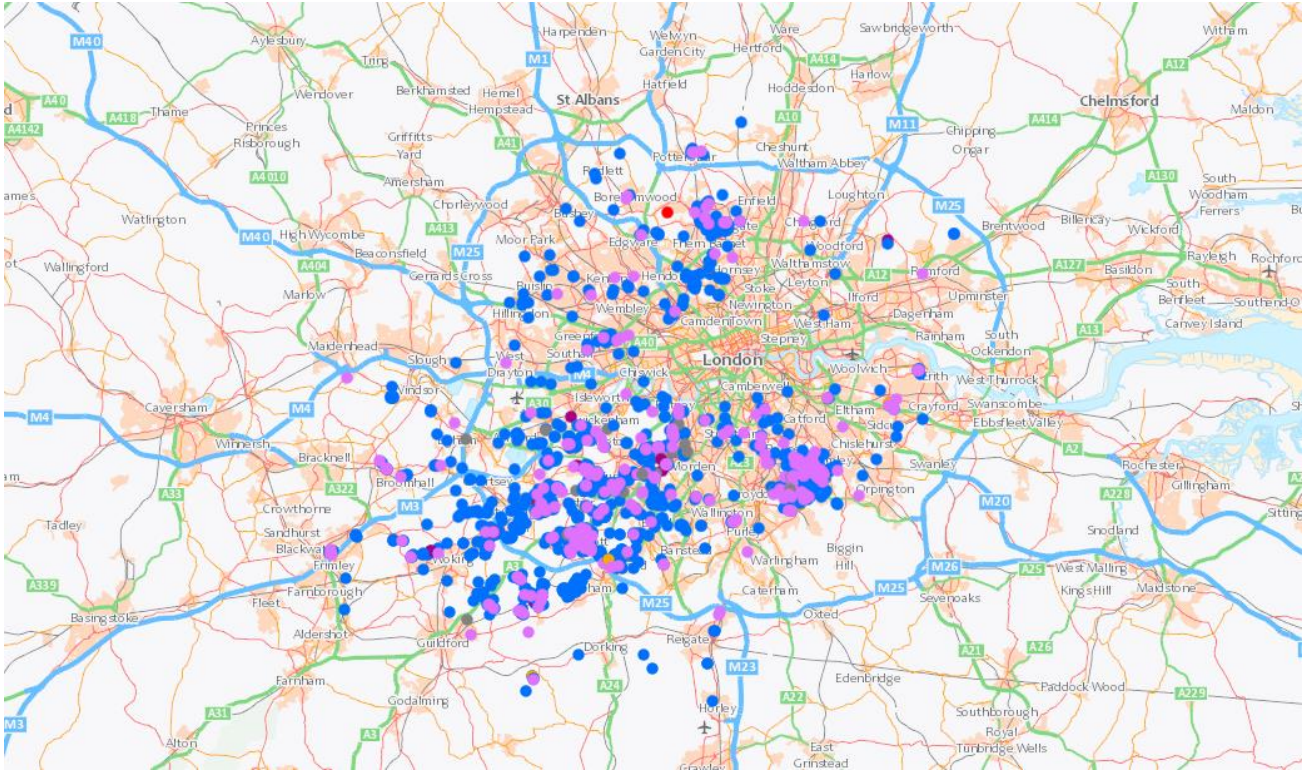
https://opmhub.fera.co.uk/

Publicly accessible OPM map



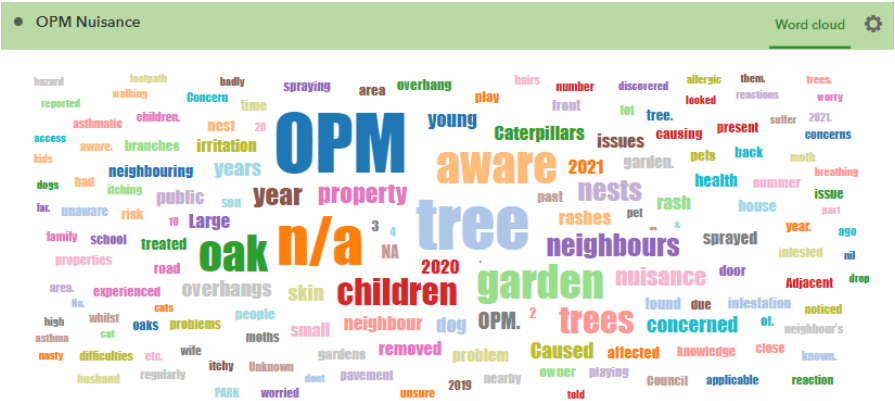
Forestry Commission

Established area



- Over 700 calls
- Over 1141 emails sent out
- 3910 letters
- Press Release
- Newsletter
- Closing 21st Feb

Some responses from the EoI


OPM Nuisance
Word cloud
OPM
aware
tree
garden
n/a
oak
children
trees
neighbours
nuisance
concerned
Caterpillars
issues
causing
present
nests
property
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young
2021
2020
OPM.
Caused
affected
problem
removed
neighbour
dog
small
skin
overhangs
irritation
nest
years
neighbouring
public
Large
treated
school
family
properties
road
experienced
oaks
problems
people
moths
gardens
difficulties
wife
itchy
Unknown
husband
regularly
PARK
worried
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2019
nearby
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Council
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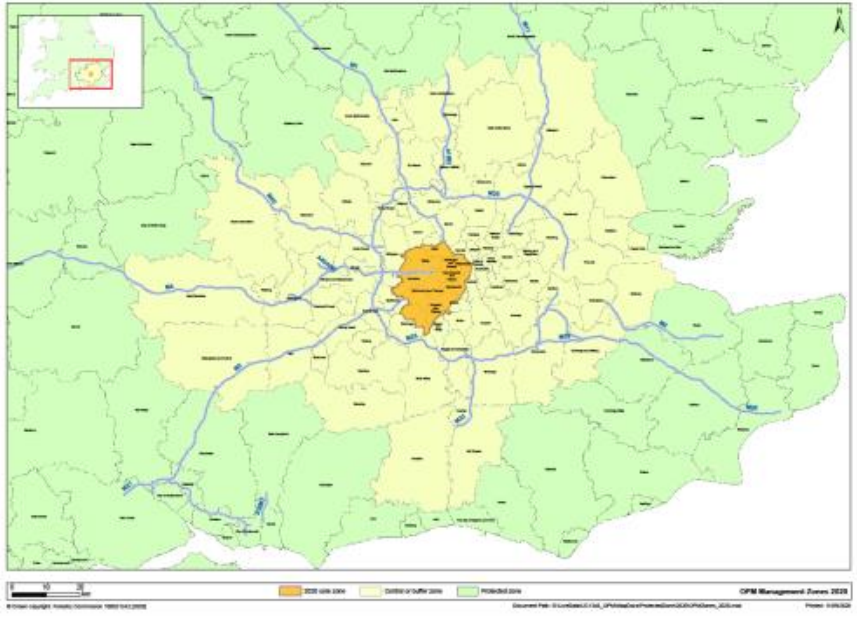
dog
removed
problem

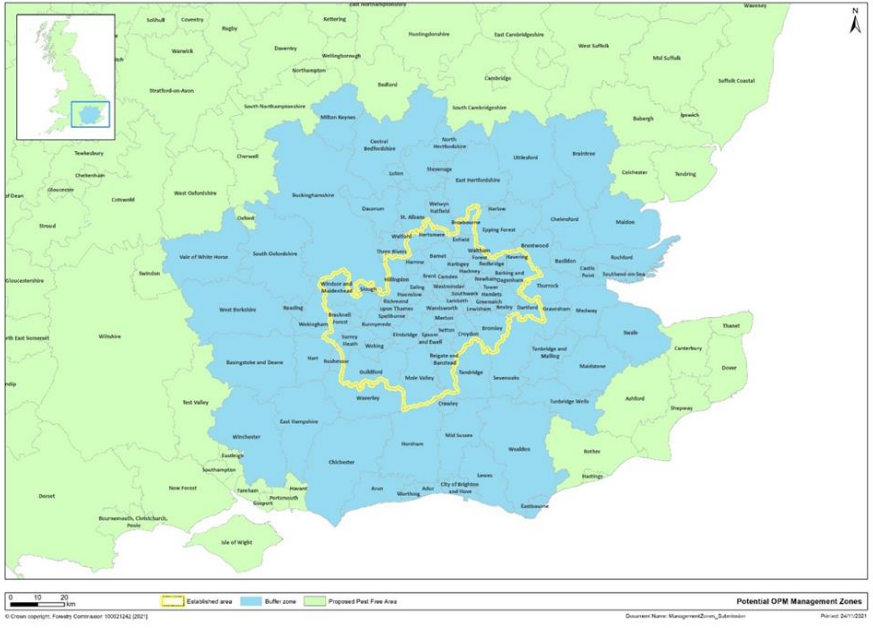
Considerations

Buffer Zone

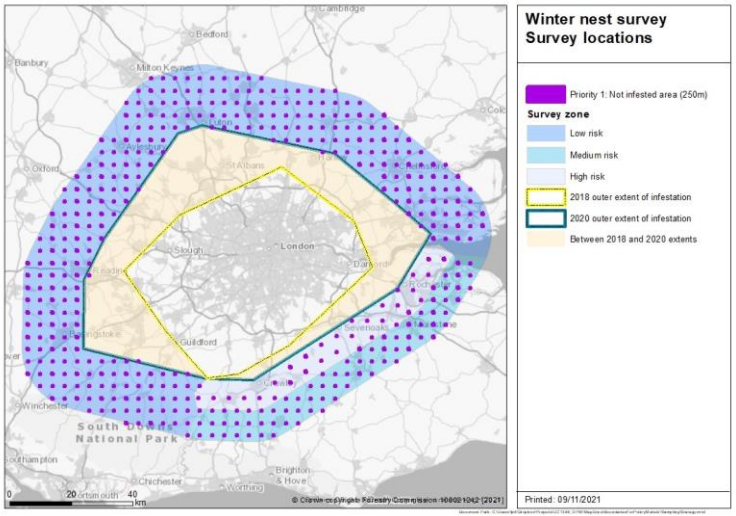
Before

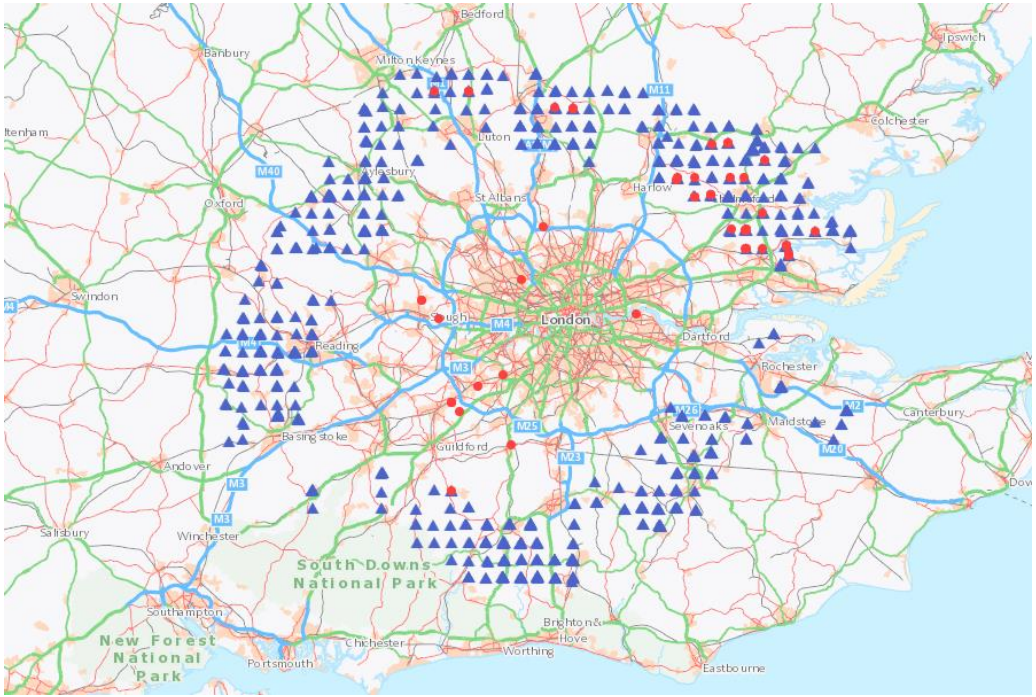


Now



Winter Survey Jan-Mar 2022





Up to 7th February

Statutory Plant Health Notices

Forestry Commission

Land owner name(s) Company
Address line 1
Address line 2
Address line 3
Postcode

Site2

03 February 2022
Ref: Site _/ Site id

Dear Sir/Madam

Oak processionary moth Statutory Notice under the Official Controls (Plant Health and Genetically Modified Organisms) Regulations 2019

Site Name

I am writing to notify you that the Forestry Commission has evidence of oak processionary moth (OPM) on or within 50 metres of the location named above. As you may be aware, OPM caterpillars are pests which are a hazard to the health of oak trees, people and animals (www.forestresearch.gov.uk/opm). I want to tell you what action will now be required.

You have the responsibility to ensure the affected tree(s) are sprayed twice between 1 April and 30 June 2022. However, as in previous years, we are offering for this work to be carried out at no cost to you if you use our approved Forestry Commission contractors (Advanced Tree Services or Bartlett Tree Experts). The exact timing of the operations will be dependent on caterpillar and oak leaf emergence.

If you wish to take up this offer, please contact Advanced Tree Services or Bartlett Tree Experts to arrange safe and suitable access to the site. Annex A contains details of which contactor is carrying out works in your area

Statutory Plant Health Notice

NOTICE UNDER REGULATION 15 OF THE OFFICIAL CONTROLS (PLANT HEALTH AND GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2019 ("THE 2019 REGULATIONS") PRESCRIBING MEASURES TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF OAK PROCESSIONARY MOTH

Section 1 – Declaration

The Forestry Commission has evidence of oak processionary moth (OPM) on or within 50 metres of the locations described in section 3 of this Notice.

I have reasonable grounds for suspecting that oak processionary moth (*Thaumetopoea processionea*) is present or is likely to be present on the premises at the address referred to in section 3 ("the premises"). Oak processionary moth is a tree pest, which is not normally present in Great Britain and is a controlled plant pest for the purposes of the 2019 Regulations, and the premises is within the oak processionary moth buffer zone or Pest Free Area (see www.forestresearch.gov.uk/opm 'OPM manual - 3. management zones').

This Notice is served on you, the person named in section 2 of the Notice, as the occupier or other person in charge of the premises.

Under the powers conferred by regulation 15 of the 2019 Regulations, you are required to take the following action to prevent the spread of oak processionary moth into the Pest Free Area established for this pest:

1 - you are required to ensure that the action referred to in section 4a of this Notice is taken within the specified timeframes or by the specified dates.

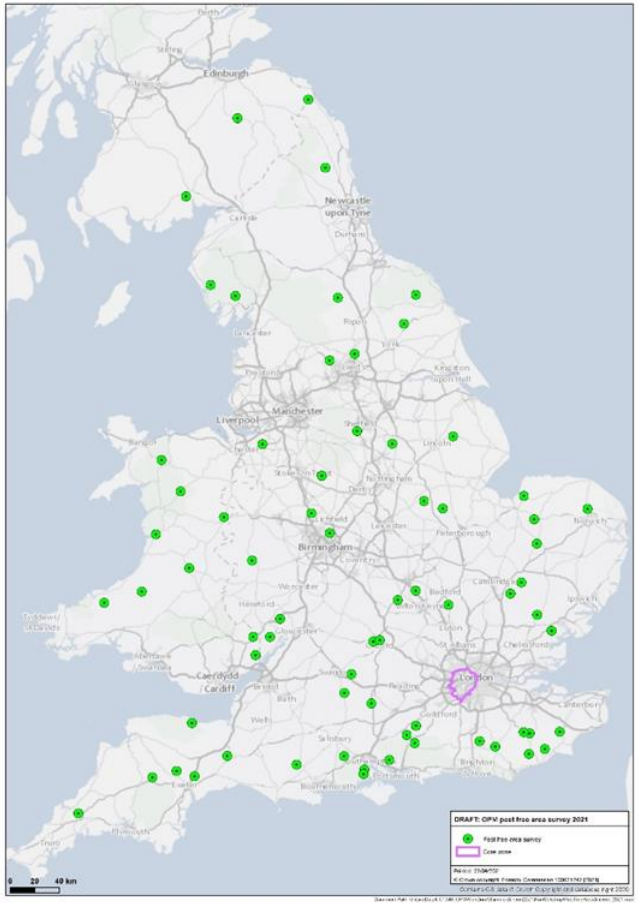
2 – you are prohibited from removing any of the relevant material referred to in section 4b of this Notice without the prior written authority of an Inspector;

Under the powers conferred by regulation 15 of the 2019 Regulations I further require you to notify me no later than **1 September 2022** with details of the steps taken in order to comply with section 4a of this Notice. An inspection may be carried out subsequently by an inspector in order to confirm that the conditions have been complied with and that no signs or symptoms of the presence of oak processionary moth at any stage of its existence remain.

I hereby notify you that it is an offence under Regulation 39 of the 2019 Regulations to contravene or fail to comply with any provision or condition imposed by this Notice punishable, on summary conviction, by a fine.

This Notice shall remain in force until **31 July 2023** unless amended or revoked by an inspector.

Pest Free Area



- Surveillance required to declare PFA
- To be able to declare a PFA we need to have surveillance beyond the established and buffer zones.
- Increase from 57 to 356 in England