BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION UPPER THAMES BRANCH

Grizzled Skipper Report 2022

Grizzled Skipper at Aston Upthorpe Downs, 30 Apr 2022 (© David Hastings)

The Grizzled Skipper is quite widely but thinly distributed in the Upper Thames region, with sightings reported from Ardley Quarry and Calvert Jubilee in the north, Greenham Common and Upton Nurvet in the south, and the Ivinghoe Beacon complex in the east. The Chilterns north and west of High Wycombe and the Aston Upthorpe/Lardon Chase/Hartslock region on the Berkshire Downs are the primary sites in the region.

The first reported Grizzled Skipper sighting was at Incombe Hole (Ivinghoe Hills) on April 10th. There were four double-figure counts this year:
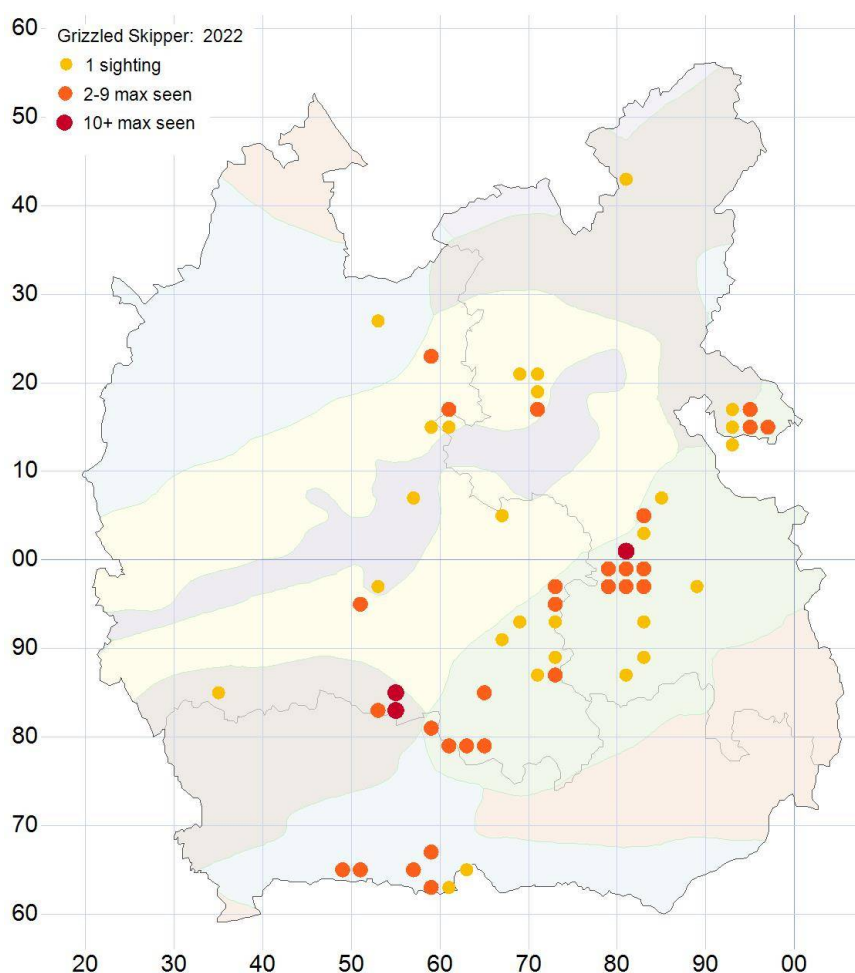
- 24th April : 12 at Aston Upthorpe Downs, Oxon

- 30th April : 16 at Aston Upthorpe Downs, Oxon

- 5th May : 13 at Saunderton, Bucks

- 22nd May : 10 at Aston Upthorpe Downs, Oxon

A Grizzly was seen in the Floodplain Forest Nature Reserve, Bucks (SP8142) - a new record for that 10km square. There were also eight new 2km square records.

The last reported sighting was at Lids Down, Oxon on 28th June. The flight period lasted 80 days.

Thanks to all those who submitted their records.

Distribution map 2022:

Grizzled Skipper: 2022
- 1 sighting
- 2-9 max seen
- 10+ max seen

Flight periods:

2003	12th April to 21st June	(71 days)	**2013**	30th April to 30th June	(61 days)
2004	27th April to 20th June	(55 days)	**2014**	10th April to 24th June	(76 days)
2005	29th April to 27th June	(60 days)	**2015**	15th April to 3rd July	(80 days)
2006	27th April to 21th June	(56 days)	**2016**	20th April to 24th June	(66 days)
2007	14th April to 14th June	(62 days)	**2017**	8th April to 7th June	(60 days)
2008	3rd May to 17th June	(46 days)	**2018**	3rd May to 15th June	(44 days)
2009	13th April to 28th June	(77 days)	**2019**	17th April to 7th July	(80 days)
2010	17th April to 11th July	(86 days)	**2020**	15th April to 25th June	(67 days)
2011	3rd April to 26th June	(85 days)	**2021**	2nd April to 7th July	(96 days)
2012	25th March to 28th June	(96 days)	**2022**	10th April to 28th June	(80 days)

David Hastings
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