

Future Local Biodiversity Hotspot? Štítary!

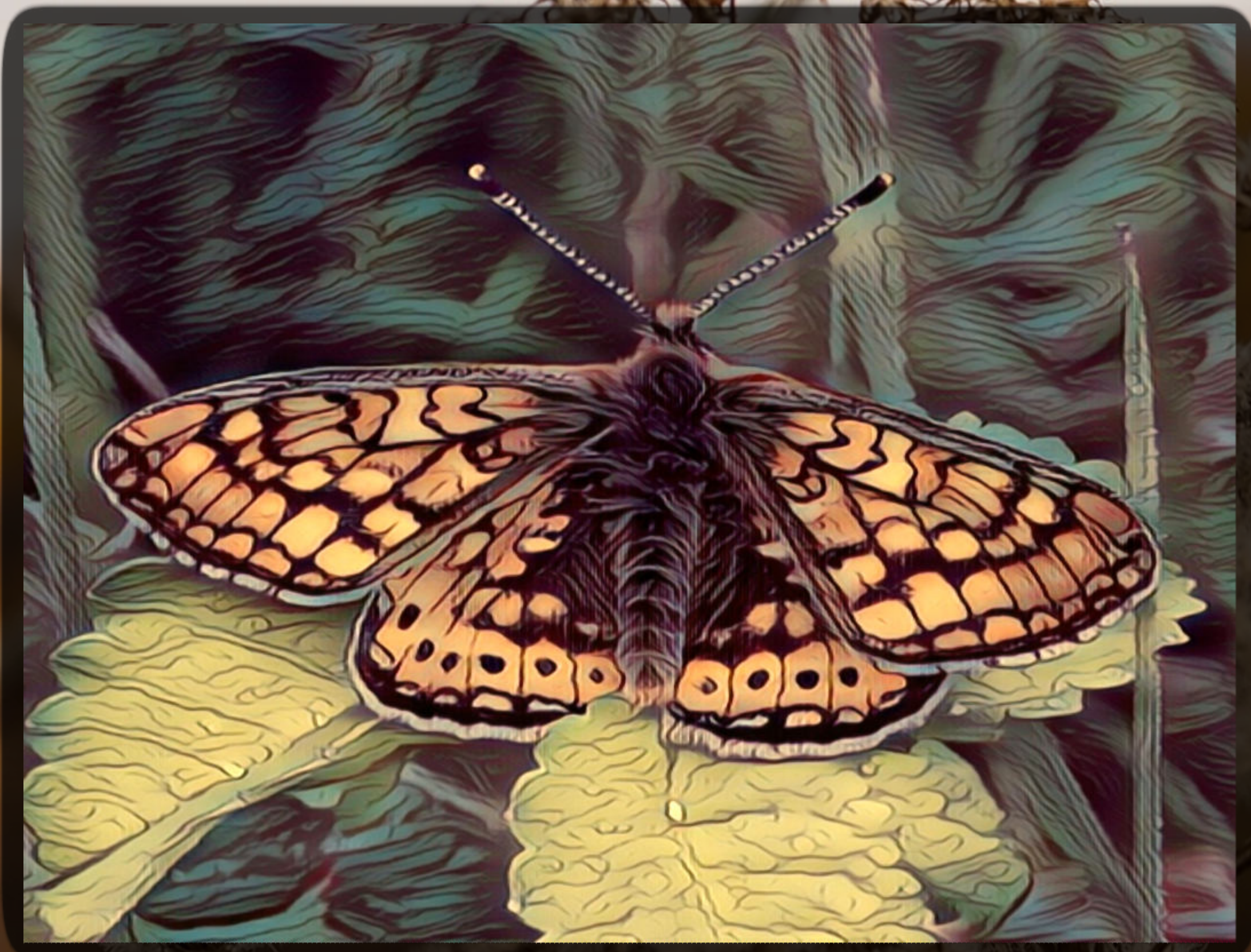


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Introduction

Štítary

- Village defunct due to the Expulsion of Germans from Czechoslovakia (1945)
- Area of the former Iron Curtain
- Drainage basin of Hraniční Stream

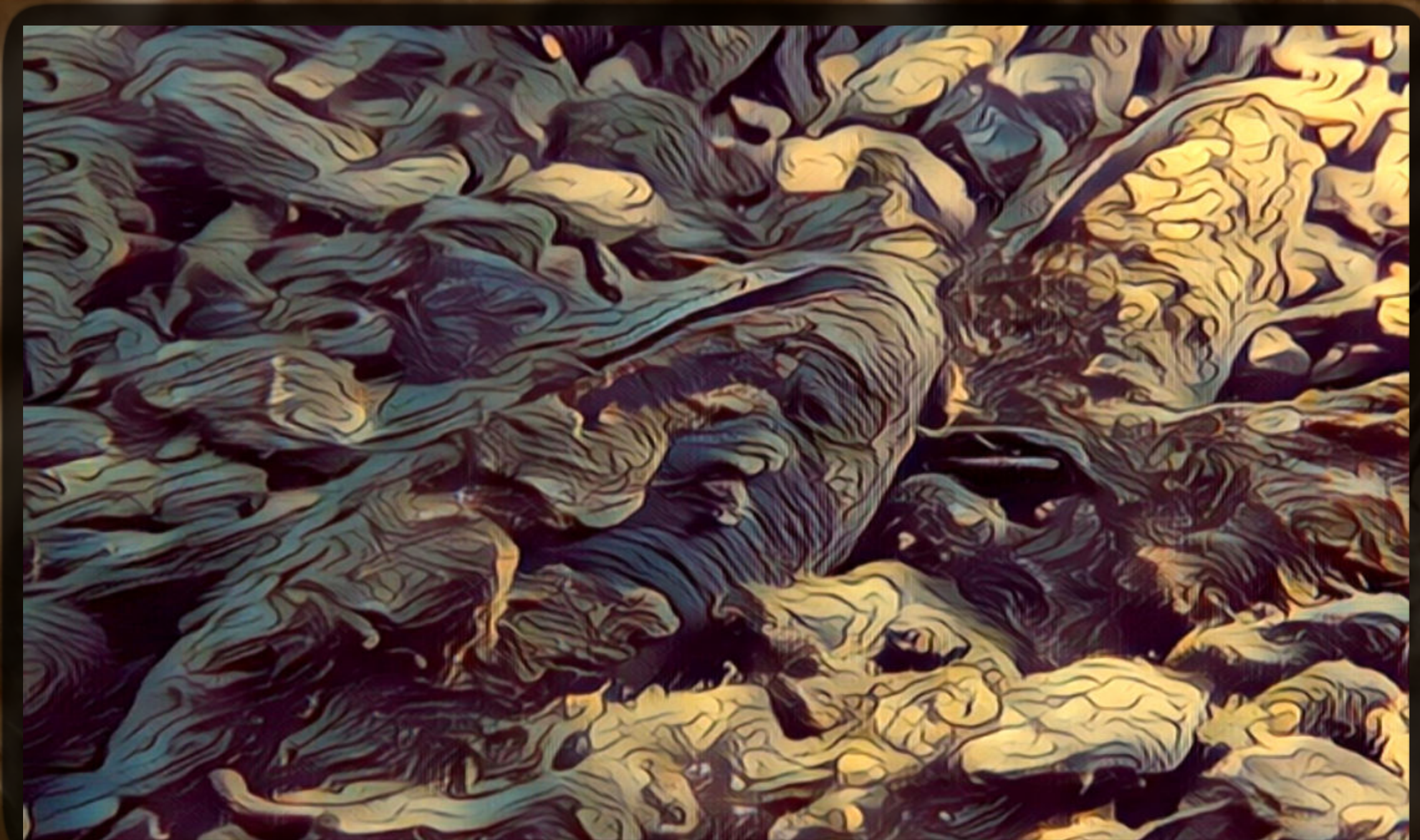


Project Area

- Wet meadows threatened by invasive and expansive species
- Potentially suitable habitats for the marsh fritillary butterfly (*Euphydryas aurinia*)
- Vernal pools releasing detritus – the only food of the freshwater pearl mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera*) – into the watercourse

Management

- Grazing – Exmoor ponies
- Mowing and fire management – Restoration of native meadow communities
- Clearance – Removal of non-native poplar trees growing over wet meadows
- Restoring an old abandoned orchard – Planting local fruit tree varieties
- Closing drainage channels



Objectives

- Restoration of degraded wet meadow communities
- Improvement of conditions for the marsh fritillary (*Euphydryas aurinia*) and the freshwater pearl mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera*)
- Improvement of the water balance of the area
- Environmental education

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Štítary – Centre of Local Biodiversity