**CONFIDENTIAL**

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Interviewer(s):

Respondent(s):

P33: No problem, yes.

**INT: Okay. Right. So my first question is how long have you been doing any wildlife recording? And how did you start?**

P33: Well it’s probably round about twenty years or so. It’s probably when I started being a member of [wildlife charity], which was round about the year 2000, might have been a bit earlier in fact. Obviously, I- I developed an interest in butterfly’s and that’s why I joined [wildlife charity]. And from that point onwards I used to go out to different places to record butterflies. Sometimes with groups. Sometimes just on my own. I don’t know how it started in terms of butterflies. But some- a bit later on I developed an interest in moths. And then I- I started on moth trapping in the garden. Probably about 2006 that was.

**INT: Okay. So would you say you always had a kind of, broader interest in natural history? Which then led on to the recording?**

P33: Oh definitely yes. I’ve had an interest in natural history the whole of my life really to be honest. Yes. I suppose when I- even when I was a kid, you know I used to take interest in the sort of natural environment. And then it’s just- just continued ever since. I- I’m a member of [unclear 0:01:37] and I do- I do [unclear 0:01:40] 90s I’ve been a- a life member there for a very long time now. And you know I took- had an interest in plants because I’ve- I’ve actually got a degree in botany.

**INT: Oh, okay. Very nice.**

P33: So that’s where my sort of interest originally lay, was in plants. But you know, developed over- over time.

**INT: So in terms of the recording then. Do you do any recording of plants or other species or is just the kind of butterflies and moths that you do actual recording of?**

P33: Um, I- I [unclear 0:02:13] in the national [s/l camp 0:02:15] monitoring scheme that’s run by a [unclear 0:02:18]. So I do a survey of particular area, twice a year. I’ve done that for the last five years. I’ve done other minor sort of recording for- for plant life as well as if it’s something on mistletoe and cowslips and various things like that, over the years, many years ago. But, yes, sometimes- sometimes [unclear 0:02:41].

**INT: Bit more targeted of particular species?**

P33: It can be, yes, quite targeted, yes. That’s right, yes.

**INT: And so what kind of geographic area do you cover with your recording? Is it kind of, like your local patch or is it across the county? Or wider than that?**

P33: Um, well – We’ve actually just moved from [Town], which is sort of [county] and down to [county]. But we have like, we’ve had property in both areas and I’ve been sort of focusing, certainly moth trapping in [county] [clears throat] as well as in [county]. Butterfly recording- I’ve been members of [county] and [county] Butterfly Group and also the [River][unclear 0:03:36] other groups as well across the country, [county], [county]. And I do recording whenever I’m in the area and I go to specific sites and that’s part of the issue with what I find with recorders actually, is that they go to specific sites to see specific things, because they know that they’re gonna see them. Which is well – It’s good for the recorder because that’s what they want. That’s their interest. But maybe they’re not necessarily um, looking at the wider landscape and other places that they could go to.

**INT: Okay. So- so when you’re gonna go and do some recording then, how do- do you choose where to go?**

P33: Generally speaking it by reputation as to what you might see. If I wanted to see for instances a specific butterfly species for instances a Pearl-bordered Fritillary or small Pearl-boarded. I only know of one site that I can easily access to go and see it. So that’s where I go to see it. And if I wanted to see a group of other species that are- are on the wing at a particular time, then I go to others, because you have a chance to see those. So it can be quite targeted in terms of where I’m going, to see things.

**INT: So do you kind of like to- Do you have a set of species that you would like to see every year and you plan your visits according to flight periods, of those species?**

P33: Yes. It depends on the availability and time, and where I am. But yes. There have been times where I’ve tried to see virtually everything as- as the year progresses. Obviously, it’s likely it’s you know, spread over the whole year. To see certain species you’ve got to be in certain places at the right time. So I have done that in the past and I managed to see quite a number of species. And other years of course, time is not available, so I just have to go and see things as and when I can. I suppose that’s a limiting thing, time and effort [clearing throat]. The effort you put basically in [unclear 0:05:54].

**INT: So is it- so sometimes you can be travelling quite far and wide then to see the species that you want to see?**

P33: Yes. That is- that is an issue actually, yes. In fact I can remember a few years ago, because I remember about the [s/l counts pratch 0:06:11] [wildlife charity], there’s certain places that I can go to in [county], and this is like forty to forty-five miles away from where I live. You know you want to go and see a specific butterfly, for instances I remember going to see a Purple Emperor, and of course when I got there, I realised that that there’s chance to go and see it at all. Because it hadn’t emerged.

**INT: Oh dear [laughs].**

P33: [Unclear 0:06:37] I drove ninety-five- ninety mile round trip and didn’t see what I went to see.

**INT: Oh dear.**

P33: But that- that actually- I realised then I’d made quite a mistake, I shouldn’t be doing that. And I haven’t done that ever since. I- I tend to limit my recording to sites which are close to hand, or if I’m travelling somewhere and I know there’s a site on the way, then I might do a detour to go and have a look at something. But I don’t make specific journeys to see something where, you know there’s a chance I’m not going to see it anyway.

**INT: Yes. Then do you have kind of, local sites that you like to visit regularly as well?**

P33: Yes. I do actually. Well I did. Where I was living in [county], I used to go places just a couple of miles away or so. They weren’t- they weren’t sort of sites that you’d recognise as being a butterfly site. They just happened to be a site where I know I could see a few butterflies. They’re just public access areas and you know, I used to go to those quite frequently you know, to some years ago you know, quite – virtually every week. Or certainly every month and see them, the change and pattern of species available.

**INT: And when you go to those sort of sites, or any site, are you making a full list of species that you see and submitting those records? Or are you just submitting records of particularly interesting things? Or perhaps you’re not submitting records at all?**

P33: No. I always record what I see. Not just what I see, but how many. And if I come across something else, not just butterflies or moths, if I see dragonflies, or ladybirds or sometimes things like a common lizard I saw last year somewhere. You know, if I record things like that, then I try and keep a record of those and [clears throat] submit those. Well the- the only record system I know of doing that at the moment is iRecord. So I tend to do that.

**INT: And is that for your- do you-**

P33: Whereas my butterfly- sorry my butterfly records are usually going on to my map based system. And so is my moths. And then I submit those on an annual basis eventually to the [unclear 0:09:07] recorders.

**INT: Yes. And is- is your moth trapping just in your garden or do you go further afield for that as well?**

P33: I’ve been intending to go further afield for some considerable time. But I haven’t yet got mobile. I do it in gardens and so I’ve been doing in [county] and [county] but I also take it whenever it whenever I go on holiday, you know within the country. I do it. And record wherever I am.

**INT: Yes. But it’s easier when you’re at a particular location isn’t it. The logistics get a bit tricky when you’ve got to take it somewhere [laughs] that’s not-**

P33: Well that’s right you need to have mobile equipment and so far, I’ve just not invested in that. Maybe I’ve got the time now. Because hopefully I- I might have more time to devote to that sort of thing, but. It’s still- it’s still not done yet.

**[0:10:00]**

**INT: Yes. And in terms of when you’re kind of choosing sites to go to, for the butterflies and other things, what information are you using to choose the sites that your visiting? Where are you kind of getting that information from, about what- where might be a good place to go?**

P33: Some of it’s local knowledge and some of it is from other recorders. I- you know, I have access to web sites and people are submitting their sightings and I know where they’ve seen these things. So I’ve- and also you get organised trips to various places and I- I know where they are from- from that source. Yes, so various- you know, also blogs you know, you can find out from moth- moth recording blogs. One in [county] and one in [region]. You can see where people are seeing various things. So- you know, there’s various sources of information really, that determines where I go.

**INT: And is it- but your kind of, decision making is still quite focused around species? Is that right? That you’re thinking where could I- where I could go to see that particular species? Or is it, I want to go to a new and interesting site? Is that the driver?**

P33: Um. I think- I think it’s usually that we want to go and see a certain species you know. For instances at this time of year, the spring butterflies are beginning to emerge, and in fact I saw an email from the [county] Butterfly Group just yesterday, that somebody’d seen a Green Hairstreak-

**INT: Oh, wow.**

P33: - on a particular site. And I know that there’s a local site that I go to where I’m likely to see Green Hairstreak [unclear 0:12:08]. So that’s- that’s the sort of thing that you know, I basically I- I’ve been by myself as you know. I want to go and see certain things. So I go to sites to see those.

**INT: And are you interested at all in kind of finding new places for things? Or are you more- you prefer to go to places where you’re likely to see them?**

P33: Well, no. If- I would like to go to different places to be honest. And it’s knowing where they are and how to get there. And whether you- you know where you get access from. Again, this [county] email system that they’ve got, you very often get somebody sending an email, they’ve been to several different sites and you know, they’ve seen different things at different places and they’ve spent perhaps the whole day going from one site to another. I don’t know where they are. I just have a look at my book of maps. And I don’t know how to get to them and find the access points. You know, that- that’s the difficulty.

**INT: Yes. Do you find that a bit of a barrier then? And- Yes-**

P33: It is actually yes. You just go just driving around and you think, oh that looks an interesting place, how do I get there? You know. Only if you can find out how to get there.

**INT: Yes. And so what kind of information would help you with that, do you think? Would it be kind of specific, you know more about the logistics of yes, this is where you would park, and this is how you would access it, and it is public access and that kind of thing?**

P33: Yes, I think so, yes. Certainly if It’s public access, parking, where you actually gain access to the site and- and the extent of the site. Yes, that sort of thing, would be very helpful.

**INT: And do you do any of the structured butterfly recording? So the UK- you know the transect walks? Do you do any of that?**

P33: Unfortunately no. I’ve never actually got into that. I think, mainly because of time, time really you know, it’s just not been possible for me to devote the time. There’s been other commitments that have prevented me from getting involved in with it. And sometimes also some of the groups I’m involved in are the actual count exercises are some distance away anyway, from where I can actually access to do it. And It’s never actually figured in my, sort of recording life really.

**INT: And do you get support from anyone in terms of recording or, help with identification or anything like that? Do you have a mentor, or any- anyone that offers you any technical help or anything like that?**

P33: Um, yes. You know if I got any issues with identification certainly on moths, I would contact the local county moth recorder or there are specific people that are able to help out which save my time costs [laughs]. And you know there might be other- other people available as well. Or other sources of information. I can’t really [unclear 0:15:38] incredibly [unclear 0:15:40] because it’s- it’s got people there constantly submitting photographs of things that they don’t know what they are, are not sure what they are. And you’ve got people that know what they’re looking at and are able to help out with the identifications. And you can learn an awful lot from that.

**INT: It’s amazing how much time people are willing to commit isn’t it, to helping other people. I’m always quite inspired by that. The- the generosity of people who have this knowledge and willing to- yes.**

P33: Oh yes. There are specific people that you know, devote an awful lot of time. And It’s like I’ve noticed actually with iRecord, you know I submit a few records from- to iRecord and then you get people obviously have to go into the system to verify what you’ve seen. What you’ve recorded. And very often it’s the same people that you know, you’ve seen elsewhere helping out on walks and things like that, you know. So it’s amazing really.

**INT: It is amazing.**

P33: Well, one other thing about that actually. I remember I was [s/l keening 0:16:48] with a moth recorder down in [county] and I’d already submitted my moth records from a holiday down there. I put on my map based system and then I submitted some butterfly records and he came back on iRecord as being the butterfly recorder as well.

**INT: [Laughs]**

P33: But, but when I- I questioned him. I said, how do you prefer to get your records? Through- you know from map making? You know, in an Excel spreadsheet? Or through iRecord? And he came back to me and he said, I prefer records submitted by any means other than iRecord. So I don’t know what the problem is there, but he didn’t like iRecord at all.

**INT: Yes. The- I think- well yes, that’s not the first time [laughs] I’ve heard that. I don’t know what it is-**

P33: Sounds like.

**INT: - specifically about the system. But I think there’s almost a [huff] too many systems I think isn’t it. And like you say, when- when people are willing to devote a lot of time to kind of verifying records. It must be frustrating to have them come in via lots of different means, I guess. But, yes.**

P33: Well that is- I do find that that incredibly frustrating actually, because you know, I submit records to county recorders and I know for a fact that the county recorder like at [county], he gets the records from everybody in that area, and he’s the only person who knows what those records are. Because he keeps them on his own- on his own computer, on map [unclear 0:18:26] and nobody else can access them. And I know for a fact also, that when I contacted [WILDLIFE RECORDS] you know, [wildlife records], I- I wanted to find their- what had been recorded on my address in [Town]. So I looked it up and I found there’s was nothing. At all.

**INT: Oh, really.**

P33: No butterflies, no moths, no nothing. My wife has been recording birds on that site for years as well, through [CONSERVATION CHARITY] and there was absolutely nothing. So I contacted the [WILDLIFE RECORDS] and they said, um well they do get records from [CONSERVATION CHARITY] and things like that. But they don’t- it’s not a comprehensive system. There’s a not a national dataset anywhere that I can see, anyway. Which is incredibly frustrating.

**INT: Yes. So in terms of kind of how you would like your data to be used then. Is that- is that a bit of a frustration that you think the data then not being able to be used in the way you would like it to be used?**

P33: Well I- some of the data, quite honestly, I’m not even sure anybody can access it. Let alone use it. I don’t know where it’s- where it’s held and if you can access some of the stuff. Or what they do with it anyway.

**INT: So would you like- So do you get feedback when you submit your records then, via these various means?**

**[0:19:55]**

P33: I get feedback from county recorders, usually if there’s some query or something wrong on the records I’ve submitted. But generally speaking I don’t get anything at all. I think with [county] they’ve got a system on their website whereby you can, if you log into their website, you can see records across the county. And you can see whose recorded and where. But that’s just for particular species. But that’s the only one I’ve come across, where you can actually see what’s been recorded. But even that’s not comprehensive. And you can’t analyse anything. You can’t- you can’t do much with it, apart from just look at individual records for species.

**INT: So in terms of feedback then. Is there- what would you like to get that you’re not getting?**

P33: Um. Well I’d- I’d like to find out generally what’s been recorded across the county for instance. You know I’m submitting records to the county recorder; he’s getting them all. But I’ve got no idea what other people are recording, where they’re recording. I don’t even know- I can’t even find out where other [s/l wasp 0:21:22] might be. They might be just down the road from me for all I know. No, but I haven’t a clue. So I don’t know who else is contribution and where they are, and what their finding.

**INT: And do- what kind of, would you hope that your data is being used for? Or do you-**

P33: Well hopefully, hopefully over time you know, you’re gonna get some sort of trend as to whether species are you know, dwindling away or [unclear 0:21:59] being resurgent in terms of climate change or something. You know, some sort of [unclear 0:22:04] in terms of distribution and abundance mainly. But whether that’s being analysed by anybody, I really don’t know.

**INT: Yes. It’s interesting isn’t it. Because I mean, I do think all of that- all of that sort goes on, but it doesn’t necessarily get fed back to the people who were originally collecting the data. It seems to be a bit of a gap, you know that loop needs to be closed, to pass that information back on.**

P33: Well yes. Yes, I think- I think this is part of the issue is that, once data has been submitted, whoever gets the information, seems to you know, they- they take possession of it and keep it. And then nobody else can get anywhere near it [laughs]. Such as me anyway. But, um. Which is a bit annoying to be honest.

**INT: Yes. So do you use the data that you’ve collected yourself for anything? Do you kind of look at trends from year to year for your garden? For example, for the moths? Do you do any interrogation of the data yourself?**

P33: I- I have done a little bit. Again, it’s down to time I’m afraid. I- you know the map based system I’ve got does enable me to do all sorts of things with it. But it’s- it’s finding the time to do it. And I’d like to be able to do that sort of thing, but to be honest I’m- I’m on single sites. If- I’d imagine it’s pretty limited as to what you can actually determine. Because some of the records that you get are like one offs or- or again it’s for limited numbers. But you don’t know whether that’s you know, a trend or anything- it could develop into a trend or anything. Because you can’t compare it with anything else.

**INT: So seeing your data in the context of other people’s data would be something that would be of interest?**

P33: It would be. Very. Yes, it would be very interesting, yes. For instances I know for a fact that down where- in [county] where I am now, there are people that are located not very far away. And they are recording and I don’t know what they are recording, and there’s no way of me finding out. Except if I go into the website and look at specific species, I might find something out but that’s about it. There’s no way of find out what else is going on in- in the locality.

**INT: Yes. And if you did find that information, would it be so that you could use that data yourself to find places to go to? Or is there is kind of a social element to it as well? Kind of feeling part of the community of other people. Or you know, potentially meeting up with people who are also recording in your area?**

P33: That- that is an important factor, yes. I think that there is strength for developing local groups. I- because people find it difficult, I think to communicate with one another, even though the other people are recording in the area, [unclear 0:25:24] perhaps target certain areas or certain habitats, to get records. There is a group in [county], The [county] Moth Group, in the southern part of the county that were in fact targeting certain areas and doing that on a monthly basis, that’s through the, sort of like, the spring and summer, autumn period. But- and obviously people did turn up for that. From- from across the county. But that- that’s the only one that I know of, or got involved with. Where you actually meet other- other moth recorders.

**INT: And that’s something that you would- you would take the opportunity to do if it- if it arose, to kind of actually go out with other people and take part in those groups?**

P33: Oh yes. Definitely yes. I- I don’t think, well last year was a write off!

**INT: Yes [laughs].**

P33: And the year before, yes, I went to a number of their events. And met up with a few- few other moth lovers there, yes. And obviously this year, I’m not sure what’s happened this year at all. I’ve not heard anything at all, so probably nothing. But yes, that would be very helpful to actually meet up with people.

**INT: And is it- is it learning from other people that- that is part of that- that as well?**

P33: Yes. Yes, definitely, learning from people, yes. And just sharing experiences as well you know, that sharing what you’ve seen and what they’ve seen and all this sort of thing, you know. And where they’ve been and all that sort of thing, is all very helpful.

**INT: So given you don’t- you kind of don’t feel like you get particularly good feedback on what your data are being used for. What is it that motivates you to carry on recording?**

P33: Well, basically, I have an innate interest in the wildlife and in certain types of species and so I just carry on doing what I like to do.

**INT: Yes. It’s kind of more- more down to just personal interests and it being a hobby sort of thing. Is that- would you say that’s the kind of primary motivation?**

P33: It seems to be, yes. I think that’s what’s kept me going anyway. I just have an interest in- in doing it you know, and seeing things. Being out in the countryside you know, just going in different [unclear 0:27:59] is- is therapeutic as far as anything else.

**INT: Yes. It certainly is. It certainly is [laughs]. And going back to a point that you touched on just then, in terms of targeting new places for records. Is that something that you would be willing to do if- if somebody asked you to visit a particular place? Is that something you would be willing to act on?**

P33: Yes. Oh yes, I’d do that yes. Obviously if I need equipment you know, for- for mothing or something like that, then obviously I’d have to invest in something in particular. But yes, certainly with butterflies and things like that yes, definitely, no problem at all.

**INT: And are there- are there barriers to the types of site you would go to. Like if it was, if it was a site that needed some records, or needed somebody to visit but wasn’t likely to turn up very much of particular interest. Would you be willing to do that, just because it needed some records [laughs]? Or would you prefer to go to places where you’re more likely to see something?**

P33: [Sighs] Well I think to be honest yes, I- I would be prepared to go to sites that have potential. You know, that we don’t know much about them. You know, and it could be that when you turn up, you find that it’s a- it’s a very good site or sometimes you find that there’s not very much there at all. Yes, so I would be quite happy to do that.

**INT: And what sort of distance do you think you would be willing to travel? If somebody asked you to go somewhere?**

P33: Well I think I mentioned before, I wouldn’t want to travel too far. Because I don’t think it’s really productive to do that. But certainly with like a 20 mile radius I suppose, it’s you know, that sort of area, which would be fine. [Unclear 0:29:58] you know, in terms of getting to sites with [county] Mothing.

**[0:30:05]**

**INT: And other particular organisations or individuals that you would be more willing to act on those kind of requests from?**

P33: Well I suppose that the groups that I’m already involved with. So like the butterfly groups, the county groups and certainly to those. If I- other groups, yes fine, yes. If there are any, I don’t know what they are, you see, so that’s the issue.

**INT: Yes. I’m just looking at my questions because I think that’s everything on my list. Yes, I think so, so is there anything else that you wanted to say about your recording? How you go about recording? Any frustrations or motivations that you haven’t covered?**

P33: I’m just [unclear 0:31:08] works only. I mean [unclear 0:31:09] data mentioned. There is one thing about recorders I suppose, in that, very often they are targeting certain groups. Mainly I suppose because they’ve got either an interest in them, or their skills and [unclear 0:31:32] are limited to that sort of range of species. But unfortunately all it means is that people will go to a site and see things that might be of significance, but not record them, or not even like appreciate that they’re significant at all. I don’t know you could do about that really [laughs]. I guess you know- that is one of the things- there’s an awful lot of effort that goes out there. People go our and record certain things but they ignore lots of other stuff.

**INT: Yes. And you sound like you’ve got quite a decent breadth of knowledge when it comes to species groups, is that right? You’ve kind of got-**

P33: Reasonable- reasonable I think yes. It’s- sometimes I have to take a photograph, for instance dragonflies and, if you can get a photo. And then I’d have to take a photograph, and then- then check it out you know, and submit it, and get it verified. But, yes, very often I can see things that you know, like beetles and bees and things like that. And I’ve got no idea sometimes what they are.

**INT: And for those sort of things do you try and take a photo and find somebody who might be able to help you id them or- or do you just kind of let them go?**

P33: The temptation is to just let them go. But if there are specific things that sort of stand out, then I’ll take a photograph and try and get somebody to identify it. If I can. I- I understand there is this [unclear 0:33:03] site but I’m not sure whether that’s potentially useful. I’m not sure whether you’ve got expertise that are actually viewing that site and helping out, to be honest.

**INT: Yes. But that- would that be of interest to you? So if somebody said, well while you’re visiting this site looking for butterflies could you also look for grasshoppers, for example? Would that-**

P33: Oh yes. Yes. I do occasionally see some of the larger grasshoppers or crickets and things and you know, I might take a photograph or something, if I can. Or- or just you know, observe them. But yes, I certainly would do that sort of thing. Yes, but again it’s a question of how you go about identifying them.

**INT: Yes. You would need that support. You would need to make sure that-**

P33: Yes. So I think as I say, I started- I’m not sure if it’s very useful, I don’t use it very much, but I’m not sure that’s a particularly good site to- to get id.

**INT: Okay. Yes. No that’s really helpful because that- that’s something that we’re looking at in this project, is- or basically that really. Is not only the kind of the places that people could visit, but also what they are recording while they are there. So like you say, there’s people going to these sites and making the effort to record butterflies for example. But are there other things they could potentially, usefully collect information on while they are there?**

P33: Yes, because- From my experience is that people are completely oblivious to anything else apart from butterflies or whatever. They just, you know they’re completely focused on- on one thing. And nothing else.

**INT: Yes. Yes. That’s really interesting.**

P33: Another thing about keeping records of course, is you’ve gotta be mindful of protection rare species. Obviously, you need to be able to avoid publicising the specific locations where these are. So you know, whatever records are being released to people, then that sort of thing needs to be kept in mind.

**INT: Yes. Have you- have you had concerns with that yourself then? Have you ever had cases where you’ve observed a rare species and you haven’t submitted a record? Or do you just kind of trust that that’s managed within the system?**

P33: I- I think the places that I’ve been sending records to, I think would be fine. You know, county records, so. I’m not sure that I would- I have put anything that I record, which would be considered to be rare. No, I don’t think it would be a problem there. It could be a problem I suppose, if all this information was readily available.

**INT: Definitely. Yes.**

P33: There’s another issue actually I find rather frustrating is that, certainly when I was the [River]branch. They have a five year cycle of recording butterflies across their area. Basically over that five years they encourage people to go out and record the species that they’ve seen in a 10km squares. But- every year you know, you go to their meeting [unclear 0:36:28] and they say, oh no, you’ve got to [s/l trial 0:36:30] this area because we have like the species recorded and this map or whatever. But to be honest I used to do some of that, but in the end, I thought, quite honestly, what are you doing is just recording effort. Recorder effort. Not recording anything useful at all about the distribution or the species that you’re looking at. An awful lot of effort is put in for absolutely nothing as far as I could see. In that particular exercise.

**INT: Because the aim is to put a dot on a map basically.**

P33: It is yes. That’s all it is. And you know, it’s basically, yes, you’ve got one- you’ve seen one, oh you’ve seen one to five, or one to ten or whatever it is, then [unclear 0:37:13]. You know, and it’s just filling up a map. But that doesn’t tell you anything, as far as I’m concerned. Because usually when we’ve got species that are you know, on the wing all over the place. They are not specific to a particular location or anything. I mean it’s completely meaningless as far as I’m concerned.

**INT: Mmm, so in your mind what that- should that targeting be based around then? Rather than it just being, we need to visit all of these 10km squares. If you were to target recording effort. What sort of places do you think it should be targeted at?**

P33: Well [sigh] I think you need to get some idea of where certain species are located you know, you’re not really interested in things that sort of, fly everywhere. But- but it’s those species which are a limited by the requirements, in terms of habitat and find out where they are located and whether they’re isolated or whether there’s metapopulations or whatever. And so you’ve got more idea about how you can assist in their survival and- and perhaps you know, increasing their distribution or abundance. You know, it just seems to me that an awful lot of effort just goes into recording stuff, just for the sake of it.

**INT: Yes, without thinking about you could learn about, like you say the ecology of a species or how It’s behaving, like you say at a local or a landscape level. Which could then inform some management or, yes.**

P33: Yes.

**INT: Yes. Like you say, there’s- there’s a huge amount of effort that goes on but [laughs] it’s, I guess it’s thinking about how it can be channelled, so it’s of most use.**

P33: Yes. I think that somehow or other it needs to be better channelled because I- I would say there’s an awful lot of recording going on. And I’m not sure that that effort has really you know, contributed very much to anything really. Which is a great shame.

**INT: Yes. And are you interested at all in- in the kind of scientific side of how data are used? You know like, you were talking about calculating abundances and trends and things like that. Are you- are you interested in that kind of more nitty gritty of how the data are used? Or are you more interested in- in just there being a kind of outcome for species conservation?**

**[0:40:01]**

P33: I think I’m more interested about the outcome, yes. Species conservation. I’m not particularly keen on doing statistical analysis myself and that sort of thing. But obviously, you wanna get the information to those people that are capable of doing it. And getting some information from that analysis to assist you know, the biodiversity generally.

**INT: Yes. That’s really interesting. Was there anything else that you wanted to say, that you haven’t said yet?**

P33: No. I think I’ve probably covered most things that I wanted to, to be honest, yes. So where do we go from here then? What happens- what do you do? What- what’s the outcomes likely to be from this project?

**INT: So the next stage is at the moment we are currently developing an- well we’re calling it an app, but it’s gonna be a website and you can see it. I think it’s gonna be an app that you can download on your phone as well. The idea being it will make recommendations to people of places that they can visit base on data needs. So, trying to move on from the level, of we want to fill this square on a map, to this is a place that would really help us to improve the models that we are trying to make, that show the distribution of species. So the idea is that you would be able to go on to that website, or that app. And put in some information about yourself, potentially if you wanted to, like where you’re located and how far you’re willing to travel and which species group your interested for example. And then that- the app would give you some kind of personalised recommendations in terms of places that you could visit. Where data are needed. But the process is- we’re very much trying to kind of codesign it with the recording community, so it’s something that will be of use to them as well as it is the scientists who will be using the data. And so that it’s designed in a way that it is something that is easy for people to use. So we’ve got a sign up, kind of mailing list, that I can send you the link to if you’re interested in it.**

P33: Yes.

**INT: Where people will be able to be involved in that kind of codesign process, so we might set- kind of show you some prototypes and things like that, and say- like just to get some brief feedback from you and things like that. So- and maybe then start to trial the app as it gets launched later in the year. So you- there’s no obligation for you to be involved in anything, by signing up. So the signup list will also be just kind of, hearing about the project and what we’re up to, and how it’s developing and things like that. But there also will be opportunities to get involved if you would like to. And if you’ve got the time.**

P33: Yes. Yes, I- certainly I’d actually you know, get signed up to that so I know what’s happening and if I can contribute then, you know I certainly would. Yes.

**INT: Lovely. Well I will send you that link now then after we finish the call and yes, and you can sign up and then hopefully we’ll have some mailings going out fairly soon and in terms of then these interviews that I’ve done. They’re- information form these will also go into the design of the tools, in terms of understanding, kind of- kind of what motivates people, and how they operate and things like that. So that will all feed into that as well, hopefully. And then I will be kind of writing these interviews up, to hopefully be published somewhere as well. So- so that information will be used in that way as well.**

P33: Okay. Am I right, that you’re not just targeting butterflies, moths and grasshoppers? Or is this likely to be expanded to other groups as well?

**INT: So this- in the two phases of this project- [tut] two phases, sorry the two years of this project, we are focusing just on butterflies, moths and grasshoppers. But the idea is that we develop something that could be applied to any species group and you know, obviously it’s depending on getting future funding. But certainly the kind of desire is there. If it’s all successful and it works [laughs] with these- with these test species groups. That we would then think about developing something further.**

P33: Right. And once you’ve got his app up and running then. How- how’s that gonna maintained in the future if it’s only a two year project?

**INT: Well, that’s a good question. Um. Which I don’t think I have an answer to at the moment. But it’s a good one to [laughs] find out about. So CEH as you probably know host a lot of apps. So, they- they kind of have that inhouse capability. So that is a good question. Whether it’s something that they see as them being able to maintain beyond the life of this project, without any specific further project funding. I’m not sure. I will ask that, because that is a good question.**

P33: Right. Okay. And- and how- how are going to promulgate your app then. Is it- is it through [wildlife charity] and things like that? Or is it individuals that have responded to this project already?

**INT: So that’s something that we want to talk to the recording community about as well. Is where they would like to kind, of receive that information from. So in this- this kind of first year, because it’s very much about kind of, testing an initial version. I think it’s going be primarily through the people that we’ve interviewed and other contacts that we’ve got through county records and things like that. And probably through [wildlife charity]. But then beyond that, I think it is sort of open to discussion about how it’s kind of promoted. And I think that will- that will partly depend on where people in the recording community want to receive that information from. So that’s kind of part of this kind of, codesign process as well.**

P33: Yes. Okay. Right well, I’ll be interested to see the outcome of your- your efforts then.

**INT: Yes [laughs]. Yes well-**

P33: Sounds like- sounds like you’ve got a lot of work do.

**INT: Yes. Thankfully not just me [laughs]. And there’s people beavering away doing all the modelling side of things and the digital design side of things. So, yes. It’s all- it’s a big team effort at the moment. So, but yes. I will- I will send you that- that sign up link and, yes.**

P33: Yes, please. Yes.

**INT: And then you’ll be informed about the next stages.**

P33: Okay, brilliant.

**INT: Thank you so much for your time. It was really interesting to talk to you.**

P33: No. Thank you very much. It’s been very, very interesting. Thank you very much.

**INT: Good, yes. And yes, we’ll be in touch soon.**

P33: Okay then. Thanks very much.

**INT: Okay. Thank you.**

P33: Cheers then. Goodbye. Bye-bye.

**Audio ends: [0:48:34]**