



APPENDIX 1 – Habitat Condition Assessment Sheets

CONDITION ASSESSMENT SHEET FOR USE WITH STATUTORY BIODIVERSITY METRIC (SBM)- AREA BASED HABITATS			
Date	16/06/25	Unique polygon reference	
Surveyor name(s)	Ben Small	SBM habitat type	Other neutral grassland
Condition assessment required? (Y/N)			Yes
Onsite or offsite?	Onsite	Condition sheet used	Grassland Medium/High/Very High
Limitations (if applicable)	N/A		
Habitat description			
The northern field is dominated by Yorkshire fog <i>Holcus lanatus</i>, with sweet vernal-grass <i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i> and meadow foxtail <i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> frequent. Chamomile <i>Chamaemelum nobile</i>, curled dock <i>Rumex crispus</i>, timothy <i>Phleum pratense</i>, perennial rye-grass <i>Lolium perenne</i>, cock's-foot <i>Dactylis glomerata</i>, creeping buttercup <i>Ranunculus repens</i>, creeping bent <i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>, creeping thistle <i>Cirsium arvense</i>, lesser stitchwort <i>Stellaria graminea</i>, false oat-grass <i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>, bird's-foot trefoil <i>Lotus corniculatus</i>, red clover <i>Trifolium pratense</i>, blackthorn <i>Prunus spinosa</i>, fescue <i>Festuca</i> sp., knapweed <i>Centaurea</i> sp. and tansy <i>Tanacetum vulgare</i> were also identified.			
Condition assessment results			
Condition Criteria Assessment for Grasslandhigh A. The grassland is a good representation of the habitat type it has been identified as, based on its UKHab description - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches the characteristics of the specific grassland habitat type. Indicator species listed by UKHab for the specific grassland habitat type are consistently present. B. Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20 per cent is more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for insects, birds and small mammals to live and breed. C. Cover of bare ground between 1% and 5%, including localised areas, for example, rabbit warrens. D. Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> less than 20% and cover of scrub (including bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg) less than 5%. E. Combined cover of species indicative of sub-optimal condition and physical damage (such as excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, damaging levels of access, or any other damaging management activities) accounts for less than 5% of total area. F. There are 10 or more vascular plant species per m2 present, including forbs that are characteristic of the habitat type (species referenced in criterion 5 above cannot contribute towards this count).			
			TRUE
			TRUE
			TRUE
			TRUE
			FALSE
			FALSE

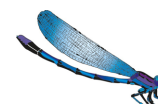


Photo ref			
	Are any criteria non-negotiable? (Y/N) If Yes are they passed?	Yes – Passed A but failed F	Condition (Good/ Moderate/ Poor): Moderate

CONDITION ASSESSMENT SHEET FOR USE WITH STATUTORY BIODIVERSITY METRIC (SBM)- AREA BASED HABITATS			
Date	16/06/25	Unique polygon reference	
Surveyor name(s)	Ben Small	SBM habitat type	Other neutral grassland
Condition assessment required? (Y/N)			Yes
Onsite or offsite?	Onsite	Condition sheet used	Grassland Medium/High/Very High
Limitations (if applicable)	N/A		
Habitat description			
The southern field is also dominated by Yorkshire fog as well as sweet vernal-grass, with knapweed and creeping bent frequent. Other species identified include meadow buttercup <i>Ranunculus acris</i>, creeping buttercup, red clover, cock's-foot, blackthorn, white clover <i>Trifolium repens</i>, false oat-grass, ragwort <i>Jacobaea</i> sp., creeping thistle, lesser stitchwort, dwarf spurge <i>Euphorbia exigua</i>, bird's-foot trefoil, creeping cinquefoil <i>Potentilla reptans</i> and chamomile.			
Condition assessment results			



Land North of Sun Lane, Riseley – BIODIVERSITY IMPACT CALCULATION

Condition Criteria Assessment for Grasslandhigh			
A. The grassland is a good representation of the habitat type it has been identified as, based on its UKHab description - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches the characteristics of the specific grassland habitat type. Indicator species listed by UKHab for the specific grassland habitat type are consistently present.			TRUE
B. Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20 per cent is more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for insects, birds and small mammals to live and breed.			TRUE
C. Cover of bare ground between 1% and 5%, including localised areas, for example, rabbit warrens.			TRUE
D. Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> less than 20% and cover of scrub (including bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg) less than 5%.			TRUE
E. Combined cover of species indicative of sub-optimal condition and physical damage (such as excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, damaging levels of access, or any other damaging management activities) accounts for less than 5% of total area.			FALSE
F. There are 10 or more vascular plant species per m2 present, including forbs that are characteristic of the habitat type (species referenced in criterion 5 above cannot contribute towards this count).			FALSE
Notes 8 species identified			
Photo ref			
Are any criteria non-negotiable? (Y/N) If Yes are they passed?	Yes – Passed A but failed F	Condition (Good/ Moderate/ Poor):	Moderate



CONDITION ASSESSMENT SHEET FOR USE WITH STATUTORY BIODIVERSITY METRIC (SBM)- AREA BASED HABITATS

Date	16/06/25	Unique polygon reference	
Surveyor name(s)	Ben Small	SBM habitat type	Other neutral grassland
Condition assessment required? (Y/N)			Yes
Onsite or offsite?	Onsite	Condition sheet used	Grassland Medium/High/Very High
Limitations (if applicable)	N/A		

Habitat description

At the southern corner of the southern field, a small strip of recently mown grassland leads to an access gate on the southern boundary. In this section, false oat-grass, common nettle *Urtica dioica*, bush vetch *Vicia sepium*, curled dock, fern *Dryopsida* sp., Yorkshire fog, herb-robert *Geranium robertianum*, cock's-foot, creeping buttercup, cleavers *Galium aparine* and creeping bent were all identified.

Condition assessment results

Condition Criteria Assessment for Grasslandhigh

A. The grassland is a good representation of the habitat type it has been identified as, based on its UKHab description - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches the characteristics of the specific grassland habitat type. Indicator species listed by UKHab for the specific grassland habitat type are consistently present.

FALSE

B. Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20 per cent is more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for insects, birds and small mammals to live and breed.

FALSE

Notes
Recently mown

C. Cover of bare ground between 1% and 5%, including localised areas, for example, rabbit warrens.

FALSE

D. Cover of bracken *Pteridium aquilinum* less than 20% and cover of scrub (including bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg) less than 5%.

TRUE

E. Combined cover of species indicative of sub-optimal condition and physical damage (such as excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, damaging levels of access, or any other damaging management activities) accounts for less than 5% of total area.

TRUE

F. There are 10 or more vascular plant species per m2 present, including forbs that are characteristic of the habitat type (species referenced in criterion 5 above cannot contribute towards this count).

FALSE

Photo ref





Are any criteria non-negotiable? (Y/N) If Yes are they passed?	Yes – Did not pass both A & F	Condition (Good/Moderate/Poor) :	Poor
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CONDITION ASSESSMENT SHEET FOR USE WITH STATUTORY BIODIVERSITY METRIC (SBM)- AREA BASED HABITATS

Date	16/06/25	Unique polygon reference	
Surveyor name(s)	Ben Small	SBM habitat type	Mixed Scrub
Condition assessment required? (Y/N)			Yes
Onsite or offsite?	Onsite	Condition sheet used	Scrub
Limitations (if applicable)	N/A		

Habitat description

A band of scrub extends along the eastern boundary immediately adjacent to the two fields and contains blackthorn, bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, bindweed *Convolvulus* sp., common nettle and remote sedge *Carex remota*.

Condition assessment results

Condition Criteria Assessment for Scrub		Total Score: 4
A. The scrub is a good representation of the habitat type it has been identified as, based on its UKHab description (where in its natural range). The appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches the characteristics of the specific scrub type. At least 80% of scrub is native, and there are at least three native woody species, with no single species comprising more than 75% of the cover (except hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i> , common juniper <i>Juniperus communis</i> , sea buckthorn <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i> or box <i>Buxus sempervirens</i> , which can be up to 100% cover).		FALSE
B. Seedlings, saplings, young shrubs and mature (or ancient or veteran) shrubs are all present.		TRUE
C. There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA) and species indicative of sub-optimal condition make up less than 5% of ground cover.		TRUE
D. The scrub has a well-developed edge with scattered scrub and tall grassland and/or herbs present between the scrub and adjacent habitat(s).		TRUE
E. There are clearings, glades or rides present within the scrub, providing sheltered edges.		TRUE



Photo ref			
Are any criteria non-negotiable? (Y/N) If Yes are they passed?	N/A	Condition (Good/Moderate/Poor) :	Moderate

CONDITION ASSESSMENT SHEET FOR USE WITH STATUTORY BIODIVERSITY METRIC (SBM)- AREA BASED HABITATS			
Date	16/06/25	Unique polygon reference	
Surveyor name(s)	Ben Small	SBM habitat type	Rural Tree
Condition assessment required? (Y/N)			Yes
Onsite or offsite?	Onsite	Condition sheet used	Individual Trees
Limitations (if applicable)	N/A		
Habitat description			
A dead elm tree is present in the northern corner of the northern field.			



Condition assessment results	
Condition Criteria Assessment for Individual trees	Total Score: 4
A. The tree is a native species (or at least 70% within the block are native species).	TRUE
B. The tree canopy is predominantly continuous, with gaps in canopy cover making up <10% of total area and no individual gap being >5 m wide	TRUE
C. The tree is mature (or more than 50% within the block are mature).	FALSE
D. There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by human activities (such as vandalism, herbicide or detrimental agricultural activity). And there is no current regular pruning regime, so the trees retain >75% of expected canopy for their age range and height.	TRUE
E. Natural ecological niches for vertebrates and invertebrates are present, such as presence of deadwood, cavities, ivy or loose bark.	FALSE
F. More than 20% of the tree canopy area is overhanging vegetation beneath.	TRUE



Photo ref			
Are any criteria non-negotiable? (Y/N) If Yes are they passed?	N/A	Condition (Good/Moderate/Poor) :	Moderate

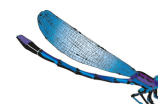


CONDITION ASSESSMENT SHEET FOR USE WITH STATUTORY BIODIVERSITY METRIC (SBM)- AREA BASED HABITATS																			
Date	16/06/25	Unique polygon reference																	
Surveyor name(s)	Ben Small	SBM habitat type	Native Hedgerow																
Condition assessment required? (Y/N)			Yes																
Onsite or offsite?	Onsite	Condition sheet used	Hedgerow																
Limitations (if applicable)	N/A																		
Habitat description																			
A hedgerow runs along the northern and western boundaries of the site; bramble dominates in the northern section with elm <i>Ulmus procera</i> abundant but later dominating in the western section, with hazel frequent throughout. Also present is holly <i>Ilex aquifolium</i>, black bryony <i>Talis communis</i>, dogwood <i>Cornus sanguinea</i>, blackthorn, pedunculate oak, elder <i>Sambucus nigra</i>, wild privet <i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>, fern <i>Dryopsida</i> sp. and box <i>Buxus sempervirens</i>.																			
Condition assessment results																			
Condition Criteria Assessment for Hedgerow <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>A1. Is height >1.5m average along length?</td> <td>TRUE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A2. Is width >1.5m along length?</td> <td>TRUE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B1. Is ground to canopy base gap <0.5m for >90% of length?</td> <td>TRUE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B2. Are canopy gaps <10% total length AND no canopy gaps >5m?</td> <td>TRUE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C1. Is there >1m width undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation >90% length?</td> <td>TRUE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C2. Do plants indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of undisturbed ground?</td> <td>FALSE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D1. >90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free of invasive non-native and neophyte species?</td> <td>TRUE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D2. >90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage caused by human activities?</td> <td>TRUE</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				A1. Is height >1.5m average along length?	TRUE	A2. Is width >1.5m along length?	TRUE	B1. Is ground to canopy base gap <0.5m for >90% of length?	TRUE	B2. Are canopy gaps <10% total length AND no canopy gaps >5m?	TRUE	C1. Is there >1m width undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation >90% length?	TRUE	C2. Do plants indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of undisturbed ground?	FALSE	D1. >90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free of invasive non-native and neophyte species?	TRUE	D2. >90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage caused by human activities?	TRUE
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D2. >90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage caused by human activities?	TRUE																		
Photo ref																			



Are any criteria non-negotiable? (Y/N) If Yes are they passed?	Yes- No two failures in one functional group	Condition (Good/ Moderate/ Poor):	Good
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CONDITION ASSESSMENT SHEET FOR USE WITH STATUTORY BIODIVERSITY METRIC (SBM)- AREA BASED HABITATS			
Date	16/06/25	Unique polygon reference	
Surveyor name(s)	Ben Small	SBM habitat type	Native Hedgerow with Trees
Condition assessment required? (Y/N)			Yes
Onsite or offsite?	Onsite	Condition sheet used	Hedgerow
Limitations (if applicable)	N/A		
Habitat description			
A section of hedgerow present on the southern boundary which forms part of larger connected hedgerow running along the southern boundary immediately off-site. This section comprises bramble, blackthorn, hazel, dogwood, field maple, dog-rose <i>Rosa canina</i>, common nettle and ground-ivy <i>Glechoma hederacea</i> as well as non-native Persian ivy <i>Hedera colchica</i>.			
Condition assessment results			
Condition Criteria Assessment for Hedgerow			
A1. Is height >1.5m average along length?			TRUE
A2. Is width >1.5m along length?			TRUE
B1. Is ground to canopy base gap <0.5m for >90% of length?			TRUE
B2. Are canopy gaps <10% total length AND no canopy gaps >5m?			FALSE
C1. Is there >1m width undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation >90% length?			TRUE
C2. Do plants indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of undisturbed ground?			TRUE



D1. >90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free of invasive non-native and neophyte species?	TRUE
D2. >90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage caused by human activities?	TRUE
E1. There is more than one age-class (or morphology) of tree present (for example: young, mature, veteran and or ancient), and there is on average at least one mature, ancient or veteran tree present per 20 - 50m of hedgerow.	FALSE
E2. At least 95% of hedgerow trees are in a healthy condition (excluding veteran features valuable for wildlife). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity?	FALSE



Are any criteria non-negotiable? (Y/N) If Yes are they passed?	Yes- Two failures in functional group E	Condition (Good/Moderate/Poor):	Moderate
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CONDITION ASSESSMENT SHEET FOR USE WITH STATUTORY BIODIVERSITY METRIC (SBM)- AREA BASED HABITATS			
Date	16/06/25	Unique polygon reference	
Surveyor name(s)	Ben Small	SBM habitat type	Native Hedgerow
Condition assessment required? (Y/N)			Yes
Onsite or offsite?	Onsite	Condition sheet used	Hedgerow
Limitations (if applicable)	N/A		



Habitat description																			
A section of bramble present on the southern boundary which forms part of larger connected hedgerow running along the southern boundary immediately off-site.																			
Condition assessment results																			
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Photo ref																			
	Are any criteria non-negotiable? (Y/N) If Yes are they passed?	Yes- No two failures in one functional group	Condition (Good/Moderate/Poor) : Good																



CONDITION ASSESSMENT SHEET FOR USE WITH STATUTORY BIODIVERSITY METRIC (SBM)- AREA BASED HABITATS			
Date	16/06/25	Unique polygon reference	
Surveyor name(s)	Ben Small	SBM habitat type	Line of Trees
Condition assessment required? (Y/N)			Yes
Onsite or offsite?	Onsite	Condition sheet used	Line of Trees
Limitations (if applicable)	N/A		
Habitat description			
A line of trees extends from the scrub and runs north-east to south-west through the centre of the site, separating the two fields. The canopy layer comprises a mix of ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>, horse chestnut <i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>, pedunculate oak <i>Quercus robur</i> and field maple <i>Acer campestre</i>. Blackthorn dominates the understorey with hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i>, bramble and hazel additionally present.			
Condition assessment results			
Condition Criteria Assessment for Lineoftrees			Total Score: 4
A. At least 70% of trees are native species			TRUE
B. Tree canopy is predominantly continuous with gaps in canopy cover making up <10% of total area and no individual gap being >5 m wide.			TRUE
C. One or more trees has veteran features and or natural ecological niches for vertebrates and invertebrates, such as presence of standing and attached deadwood, cavities, ivy or loose bark.			FALSE
D. There is an undisturbed naturally-vegetated strip of at least 6 m on both sides to protect the line of trees from farming and other human activities (excluding grazing). Where veteran trees are present, root protection areas should follow standing advice.			TRUE
E. At least 95% of the trees are in a healthy condition (deadwood or veteran features valuable for wildlife are excluded from this). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity.			TRUE



Photo ref			
Are any criteria non-negotiable? (Y/N) If Yes are they passed?	N/A	Condition (Good/Moderate/Poor) :	Moderate