

Environmental Farming Scheme Higher Level



EFS Planner Instructions



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk



**INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE**

Date: 04 September 2017

Scheme: Environmental Farming Scheme (EFS) Higher (H)

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1 BACKGROUND

1.1 The Environmental Farming Scheme (EFS) is a voluntary scheme that pays farmers and land managers to carry out environmentally beneficial farming practices over and above mandatory requirements. Scheme agreements will normally last for 5 years.

1.2 The EFS aims to:

- restore, preserve and enhance biodiversity;
- improve water management and water quality;
- reduce soil erosion and improve soil management;
- foster carbon conservation and sequestration in agriculture; and
- reduce greenhouse gas and ammonia emissions from agriculture.

1.3 Eligibility requirements: The applicant must hold a DAERA Farm Business ID Category 1 or 2. The applicant must have at least 3 ha of eligible land (as per LPIS Maximum Eligible Area [MEA]) and have management control of the land for the duration of the EFS.

1.4 Core Requirements: The business must meet the Cross-Compliance verifiable standards (keeping the land in Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition, and complying with Statutory Management Requirements) on all the agricultural area of their holding. Scheme training must be completed and Integrated Pest Management must be followed to manage pests with minimal environmental risk. Records must be kept as evidence of implementation of the Scheme.

1.5 Payments: Claims will be on the Single Application Form submitted through the Geo-Spatial Aid Application (GSAA). There will be five annual payments. Payments are calculated using the approved payments rates which include the essential Non-Productive Investments (capital items), the recurring annual management required for each EFS Option and additional optional Non-Productive Investments. A limited number of additional optional Non-Productive Investments are calculated on the basis of actual cost.

1.6 Scheme Structure

| | |
|--|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;">EFS(Wider)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Land outside designated areas and priority habitats/species• Applicant chooses Options and fields• Options focus on biodiversity, climate and water quality | <p style="text-align: center;">EFS(Higher)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Designated land or priority habitats or species• Site-specific Remedial Management Plans (ssRMP) specify Options• Wider level Options may be included, where appropriate |
| <p style="text-align: center;">EFS(Group)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Currently under development• For collaborative work among groups of farmers or commons (shared grazing) | <p style="text-align: center;">EFS Wider Standalone Options</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organic Management or Conversion• Traditional Native Breeds – Irish Moiled Cattle• Establishment of Native Woodland less than 5ha |

1.7 EFS(H) Application process:

- 1.7.1 Applications must be made online during specific opening periods. These will be completed through the Government Gateway. To apply for a Government Gateway account: www2.dardni.gov.uk/gatewayweb/internet/login_1.aspx
- 1.7.2 When applying to EFS(H) tranche 1, applicants are advised to include all EFS(H) land that they have management control over for the duration of the Scheme agreement, i.e. from 1 January 2018 for a period of five years.
- 1.7.3 DAERA will inform EFS(H) applicants that their Higher level application has been received.
- 1.7.4 All EFS(H) applications will be subject to conservation designation prioritisation by DAERA. Once this process is completed, applicants will be informed if they have been successful and can proceed to the next stage or if their application has been unsuccessful.

1.7.5 If successful at the prioritisation stage, the applicant must engage an EFS planner external to DAERA (hereafter referred to as the 'EFS Planner').

1.7.6 EFS Planner requirements, as set by DAERA, must be met. An EFS Planner

- must be the holder of a suitable qualification such as a Bachelors degree in Environmental Science, Ecology or Biological Science or an equivalent deemed suitable by DAERA and/or a member of a recognised environmental professional body or a Chartered Environmentalist as specified by the Society of the Environment;
- must be able to provide evidence of previous experience of developing habitat management plans; and
- must be able to provide evidence of previous experience of providing environmental advice and support to agricultural businesses in relation to land management.

EFS Planners will need to register to the Government Gateway to use DAERA's EFS IT programme. Scheme applicants must provide the required permissions in order for the EFS Planner to access the online EFS programme pertaining to EFS(H) ssRMPs by completing and submitting an EFS Planner authorisation form. The nominations form for an authorised person to act as an EFS Planner can be accessed on the DAERA website at: www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/nomination-form-authorized-person-act-efs-planner

1.7.7 Applicants and their EFS Planner are advised to agree a fee for the ssRMP and associated documentation. The EFS Planner will invoice the farmer for their services. The farmer can recover 100% of this invoiced amount if at or below the maximum rate permissible once the plan has been accepted by DAERA and the costs are considered acceptable within certain limits. In all cases the amount that can be claimed by the applicant is capped at 20% of the total agreement value over the five year period of the scheme. In addition there are limits in relation to the size of the site with more time being permitted

for larger sites. A maximum hourly rate which is considered to reflect current mid-market price has been set by DAERA. The maximum rate for development of a plan is subject to change in accordance with market conditions or other factors that may arise.

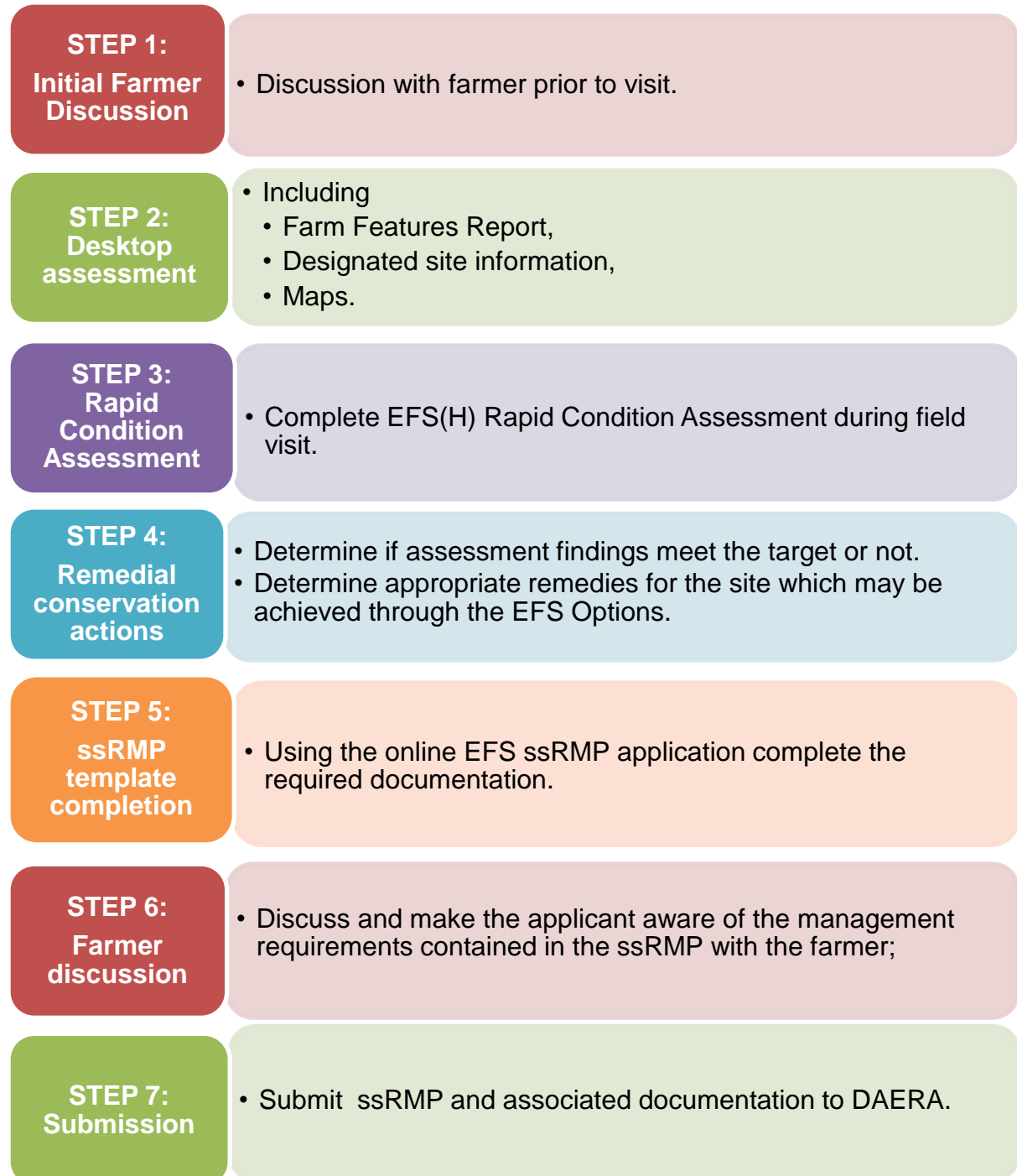
- 1.8 A site specific Remedial Management Plan (ssRMP), EFS(H) map and associated supporting documentation as appropriate, must be completed by the EFS Planner in consultation with the applicant for all land included in the initial application to EFS(H) agreement.
- 1.9 The EFS Planner must assess each field included in the EFS(H) application using the relevant EFS Rapid Condition Assessment (RapidCA) and determine the EFS priority habitat type(s) present. The findings of the EFS RapidCA which cover a range of attributes, for example vegetation height and herb/sedge cover, are used to determine management solutions linked to the appropriate selection of EFS Options and NPIs for the habitat within the field. The selected EFS Options and NPIs which, when implemented under the EFS(H) agreement, aim to bring the field under favourable management. Sections 2 - 9 of this document provides additional detail on the ssRMP preparation process.
- 1.10 The ssRMP drawn up for EFS(H) applicants will include Options from Tables 1- 4 in Annex A.
- 1.11 The ssRMP details the EFS Remedial Management Options and capital items required for each field in a management unit. A management unit is a field or a group of fields which are managed as one unit by the farmer, for example a group of fields grazed together. The ssRMP will include management requirements, such as; timing of grazing, an average stocking rate, scrub control, rush control, erection of protective fencing and gates.
- 1.12 Depending on what is required to bring the land under favourable management, EFS Planner can select from a wide range of Remedial Management Options and Non-productive Investments (NPIs)/ capital items,

as listed in Annex A, which will be included in the site specific Remedial Management Plan (ssRMP).

- 1.13 The EFS Planner, in consultation with the applicant, can also select from the EFS(W) Options (Annex A) and capital items (Annex A) if appropriate for the land. See Section 6.6 of this document for further information in relation to the applicability of EFS(W) Options to be included in an ssRMP.
- 1.14 Any EFS(H) agreement with a total value greater than £40,000 over the 5 year period will be referred to the Scheme Manager for prior approval before a Scheme agreement can be issued. DAERA may reject or revise any EFS(H) ssRMP which it does not deem to meet Scheme objectives and priorities and therefore does not represent value for money.
- 1.15 Separate consent from DAERA to carry out specified operations on a designated site is not required at the preparation stage of the ssRMP. The draft series of measures included in the ssRMP and any potential impact on site features will be considered by DAERA. The final EFS agreement is deemed to be the written permission (consent) for the measures included in the approved ssRMP.

2 THE ssRMP PREPARATION PROCESS

2.1 The following steps must be followed in the preparation and submission of the ssRMP.



**STEP 1:
Initial Farmer
Discussion**

- Discussion with farmer prior to visit.

3. STEP 1: INITIAL FARMER DISCUSSION

3.1 Engagement with the farmer is key in this process. Prior to completing the field visit, discuss the general EFS requirements with the farmer, his/ her initial aspirations of EFS(H) and the past management of the EFS(H) land.

3.2 Past management information must include:

- the grazing regime (livestock type grazed; grazing period; approximate stocking rate); and
- where supplementary feeding has been provided - describe method, location and if any damage to the habitat is evident; and
- any other site management actions completed.

3.3 In addition, the issue of potential double funding linked to other incomes for environmental works gained by the farmer must be discussed and noted in the ssRMP.

3.4 Determine if any hazards exist on the area, dangerous stock, wet flushes etc.

STEP 2: Desktop assessment

- Including
 - Farm Features Report,
 - Designated site information,
 - Maps.

4. STEP 2: DESKTOP ASSESSMENT

4.1 Complete a desktop survey before any field visit including the preparation elements stated on the EFS RapidCA documentation.

4.2 The following sources of information are recommended.

Farm Features Report (available via the EFS portal)

A DAERA report generated on the various GIS layers to provide information including:

- Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)
- SAC - Aerial N sensitive sites
- Special Protection Areas (SPA)
- Ramsar
- Biological Areas of Special Scientific Interest (BASSI)
- BASSI - Sensitive designated small lakes and fen catchments
- BASSI – Nitrogen sensitive
- Peatland layer
- Raised Bog and Blanket Bog layer
- Ancient Woodland Inventory (AWI)
- New Forestry Woodland layer
- Sensitive semi-natural grassland areas
- Wader grassland areas
- Grassland - HELP and other wader areas
- Farmland bird - Yellowhammer
- Grassland - Swan fields
- Archaeological (general)
- Archaeological (protected)
- Built Heritage Historic Parks and Gardens
- Townland boundaries
- River Centreline
- WFD Rivers
- WFD Lakes
- WFD Critical Risk Source Areas
- WFD Critical Risk Intensive Agriculture
- DWI Private Water Supplies

Designated site information

(available DAERA online at www.daera-ni.gov.uk/topics/biodiversity-land-and-landscapes/protected-areas)

- site maps;
- citation document;
- conservation objectives; and
- views about Management document.

The NIEA Protected Areas Web Viewer is also available online at www.daera-ni.gov.uk/services/protected-areas-web-viewer. You can view the locations of designated sites from the NIEA based on mapping provided by OSNI.

NIEA monitoring data

The most recent NIEA monitoring data (for example habitat points within designated sites, Marsh Fritillary and Parkland data) will be available on the new NIEA Natural Environment Web Viewer. This will replace the current NIEA Protected Areas Web Viewer which is available online at www.daera-ni.gov.uk/services/protected-areas-web-viewer. You will be able to view the locations of designated sites and have access to other NIEA data based on mapping provided by OSNI.

Maps

View:

- applicant's DAERA farm map on the Government Gateway; and
- available ortho maps online e.g. Google Maps.

EFS Habitat descriptors

Documents which provide the background for each priority habitat including their definition, the NVC communities, and positive and negative indicators.

EFS Habitat classification keys

Habitat keys for Grassland, Moorland and Coastal habitats which can assist with habitat identification and these are included in the relevant Rapid CAs.

**STEP 3:
Rapid
Condition
Assessment**

- Complete EFS(H) Rapid Condition Assessment during field visit.

5. STEP 3: RAPID CONDITION ASSESSMENT

5.1 The EFS(H) Rapid CA and associated habitat descriptors are available in a separate publication for the following broad habitat groups:

- Moorland
- Lowland raised bog
- Grassland
- Coastal
- Fen and reedbeds
- Woodland and Parkland
- Lapwing fallow plots

5.2 Breeding Wader and Marsh Fritillary site considerations have been incorporated into the EFS RapidCAs listed above.

5.3 The RapidCAs (available on the EFS Planner Portal) must be completed by the EFS Planner who shall submit the ssRMP as instructed in the assessment document. The EFS Planner must follow the procedure as stated in the RapidCA documents.

5.4 This assessment process must be applied to all Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 land. The sampling points should be selected systematically to give an even distribution and care should be taken to ensure that there are representative samples taken in all habitat types present. This distribution can be achieved by following the pattern of a letter 'W' and taking samples at regularly spaced intervals. In the case of moorland habitats the depth of peat is assessed at each sample point to assist with determining the type of moorland.

- 5.5 Habitat identification advice is available in the habitat descriptors publication and the habitat classification keys which are included in the associated RapidCA document. Positive, negative and in some cases core habitat indicators are provided for each habitat. Plant identification guides should be used to identify plants, to determine habitat types and their condition.
- 5.6 Habitat points from designated site (Biological ASSIs and SACs) habitat condition assessment data are available for most Tier 1 and Tier 2 land. We plan to make the most recent NIEA monitoring data available. Habitat points from designated site (Biological ASSIs and SACs) habitat condition assessment data are available for most Tier 1 and Tier 2 land. The habitat points indicate the habitat type recorded in that specific location at the time of the survey. These will be available on the new NIEA Natural Environment web viewer. This web viewer will replace the current NIEA Protected Areas Web Viewer which is available online at www.daera-ni.gov.uk/services/protected-areas-web-viewer.
- 5.7 At each quadrat attributes such as vegetation height, positive indicator species frequency and negative species cover should be recorded, and field attributes such as scrub/tree encroachment should be determined for the entire field. Each relevant field assessment stage should be completed. It must be noted that the findings or results of any RapidCA does not confer eligibility for BPS or any other Area-based Scheme.
- 5.8 Each quadrat must be marked on a map and this must be included with the ssRMP submission to DAERA. Global positioning systems (GPS) may help with accuracy when marking the quadrat position on the map, especially in the uplands. GPS co-ordinates do not have to be noted on the map or supplied in an alternative format. All completed assessment documentation must accompany the EFS ssRMP submitted to DAERA. Where there is a mosaic of habitats present, the area of each habitat should be estimated in order to determine the average stocking rates and grazing period for mosaic habitats (Annex D).

5.9 A glossary of terms has been provided in Annex C, this provides more details and guidance on the measurement of attributes in the RapidCA, for example vegetation height and peat depth.

5.10 Note any general observations for example, wildlife observed, undesirable features such as rubbish etc. in the notes section of the RapidCA document. Also note if there is any indication of intensification, abandonment or water pollution.

5.11 Photographic evidence can be included where appropriate. If photographic evidence is to be included, the location the photo was taken and direction in which the photo was taken must be recorded on an accompanying map. All completed Rapid CA documentation must accompany the EFS ssRMP submitted to DAERA.

5.12 It is important to note that vegetation height, including heather height, does not confer eligibility for other Area-based Schemes, including Basic Payment Scheme.

STEP 4:
**Remedial
conservation
actions**

- Determine if assessment findings meet the target or not.
- Determine appropriate remedies for the site which may be achieved through the EFS Options.

6. STEP 4: REMEDIAL CONSERVATION ACTIONS

6.1 Using the interpretation section of the Rapid Condition Assessment document, the averages (per habitat type) should be compared against the attribute targets to determine if the habitat is 'meeting' or 'failing' the target.

6.2 Consider the management solutions or remedy for the habitat/feature which could be delivered by the appropriate use of EFS(H) Options and NPIs, and bring the field under favourable management. Management solutions are provided for each attribute. For example in the grassland RapidCA for vegetation height attribute the solution for meeting the target height is to apply standard EFS Remedial Management Option of the habitat type to ensure the habitat condition is maintained. If the vegetation height is less than the target height range and therefore failing the target then the solution is to apply the standard EFS Remedial Management Option for habitat type. In addition you may also consider a reduction of current grazing levels in Year 1. Relevant NPIs are also recommended where applicable, for example rush and/or scrub control.

6.3 Management Units.

At this stage you should group individual fields together into management units. A management unit can be a single field or a group of fields which are managed as one unit by the farmer, for example a group of fields grazed together.

6.4 Management of a mosaic of habitats.

On sites where a mosaic of habitats (i.e. more than one habitat type present in a management unit) is present and where it will be impractical to manage each habitat individually and/or delineate on the ground, the management unit may be managed as a mosaic. An appropriate grazing period and stocking density to meet the conservation needs of the site must be determined using the table in Annex D.

6.5 Using this information, in discussion with the applicant, determine the appropriate EFS(H) Options and NPIs for each management unit.

6.6 Determining appropriate EFS options and/or NPIs.

Applicability: When determining the appropriate EFS Options and NPIs, the EFS Planner must take account of the EFS(H) applicability checker spreadsheet. The EFS(H) applicability checker spreadsheet lists whether EFS(W) Options and NPIs are suitable for inclusion in connection with an EFS habitat type, or in some cases whether caution should be exercised in making the decision as to whether an EFS Option and/or NPI is appropriate on a particular EFS habitat type.

For example, the EFS Option 'Planting new hedgerows including two fences' may not be appropriate on a particular habitat type and in all cases this Option is not appropriate unless there is an existing boundary or remnant boundary present.

Completion time: Reference must be made to the EFS Information Sheet pertaining to each NPI where information about the completion time for each NPI is stated. It should be noted that if selected, 'Follow-up rush control' must apply to year 2, year 3, year 4 and year 5 to the same area. However, the EFS Planner must select the year and area of the following NPIs to be completed.

- (i) Scrub control – follow-up treatment - stems less than 7 cm diameter.
- (ii) Scrub control – follow-up treatment - stems more than 7 cm diameter.
- (iii) Follow-up treatment of bracken – mechanised or chemical.
- (iv) Rhododendron and laurel control – Follow-up spraying regrowth control.

Where an actual cost NPI includes follow-up treatment the costs to be incurred in relation to follow-up treatment in each individual year must be stated separately in the quotations provided during the ssRMP and associated documentation submission process.

The sub-division of habitat areas by introducing new 'stock-proof fencing' needs careful consideration and will only be permitted in exceptional cases where sound reasoning for the sub-dividing of an existing field can be presented.

The 'Fence removal' NPI is not available in the same location as any EFS protective fencing Option (Stock-proof fencing, Permanent electric fencing, Post and rail fencing, Deer fence). This Option must only be used in cases where removal of a previously erected stock-proof fence is necessary to achieve appropriate management of an EFS(H) site.

EFS Planners must consider the Health and Safety and animal welfare implications associated with completing works required to deliver Options and/or NPIs. For example works to be completed within areas of maritime cliff and slope may pose a health and safety risk and/or an animal welfare issue.

6.7 Breeding Wader and Marsh Fritillary sites

Species – specific advice in relation to Marsh Fritillary sites and Breeding Wader sites has been developed and is available online at www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/species-specific-advice. Where a Breeding Wader site and Marsh Fritillary site is identified by an EFS Planner, they must refer to the species-specific advice and include the appropriate advice in the 'Further Advice' section of the ssRMP which relates to the relevant management unit.

**STEP 5:
ssRMP
template
completion**

- Using the online EFS ssRMP application complete the required documentation.

7. STEP 5: SSRMP TEMPLATE COMPLETION

7.1 EFS ssRMP Programme

Using the EFS programme via the Government Gateway, prepare the EFS ssRMP and associated map for each management unit in the application. The system is intuitive and follows a step by step process through the preparation of the ssRMP.

7.2 EFS management map

All ssRMPs must be accompanied by an EFS management map developed using the online facility.

This map must be created by the EFS Planner and clearly showing the location of:

- the proposed EFS Options and
- the location of the proposed EFS Non-Productive Investment (NPI) items.

If 'Creation of Riparian buffers' Option is included in a field, remember to allocate the area of the field used by this linear option to the 'No Higher Option' (NHO) code. For example, if 100m of 'Creation of Riparian buffer – 10 metre – ungrazed' is included and area of 0.10ha must be allocated to the NHO code.

7.3 Management requirements:

Scheme participants must follow all the Management requirements pertaining to the Options included in the ssRMP.

The management requirements must address the following:

- Livestock type, grazing period and approximate stocking rate and other requirements to protect the site.
- If permitted, details about supplementary feeding.
- Control of scrub, invasive species, rush and bracken.

Standard management requirements for each of the Remedial Management Option regimes for all habitat types in terms of grazing period, average stocking rate & livestock types appropriate have been drafted for use by the EFS Planner. Any deviation from the standard management requirements must be justifiable and in line with the 'Management Solutions' provided to aid the interpretation of the site assessment. Supporting evidence must be provided to DAERA on request.

7.4 Further advice

Scheme participants must be provided with further advice related to each Remedial Management Option. Standard further advice for each of the Remedial Management Option regimes for all habitat types has been drafted for use by the EFS Planner. Any deviation from the standard further advice must be justified and in line with the 'Management Solutions' provided to aid the interpretation of the site assessment. Supporting evidence must be provided to DAERA on request.

7.5 Record Keeping requirements

All EFS participants must keep records relating to activities undertaken as part of the Scheme. Records are required to demonstrate compliance with a range of management requirements for each EFS Option. Standard record keeping requirements for each of the remedial management Option regimes for all habitat types has been drafted for use by the EFS Planner. No deviation from the standard record keeping requirements are permitted.

7.6 A record of engagement with statutory bodies and/or other organisations

If any Statutory Bodies have been contacted by the EFS Planner in association with the ssRMP preparation the name of the Statutory Body or other organisation, a brief description of the nature of the referral, the date sent, the date a reply was received and a summary of the response must be recorded. In addition, copies of the initial enquiry and the reply received must be submitted to DAERA with the ssRMP.

7.7 Other funding sources

Works undertaken through EFS(H) will not be eligible if they already receive funding from another source. The EFS Planner must establish from the applicant if any other funding sources are availed of or if other agreements prohibit funding resulting from participation in EFS(H), for example *in perpetuity* agreements. All other funding sources must be detailed, as per discussion with the farmer. List the name of the source of other funding, the date the funding commenced, the date the funding will end and a description of the funding.

7.8 Traditional Native Breeds Option (Irish Moiled)

If the applicant wishes to apply for the 'Traditional Native Breeds' Option this may be included in the ssRMP application. Animals which form part of the applicants EFS(W) agreement must not be included in the EFS(H) ssRMP and will contribute to the maximum of 16 Livestock Units of Irish Moiled Cattle permitted per Business ID.

7.9 EFS Organic management and conversion Options

If the applicant wishes to apply for EFS Organic conversion / management Options, please note that these are not available on EFS(H) land which will be subject to any Remedial Management Option pertaining to a habitat type.

7.10 EFS management summary timetable

Complete the EFS management summary table which should summarise all EFS Option works required each year in a clear and concise manner on the land entered into the EFS(H) agreement.

7.11 EFS(H) Specialist Plan

Where any of the following Options / NPIs are included in the ssRMP, an EFS Specialist plan must also be completed by the EFS Planner and submitted to supplement the information already contained in the ssRMP.

7.11.1 The EFS Options / NPIs which require an EFS Specialist Plan are:

- Creation of scrapes
- Creation of wetlands
- Bankside reprofiling
- Structures/ work to raise water levels.
- Stockbridge
- Ditch blocking
- Pasture pump and associated pipework where water source is not a flowing watercourse
- Tree felling for biodiversity
- Tree surgery
- Tree pollarding
- Restorative pruning of traditional orchards
- Predator perch removal
- Machinery for management of tall fen and reedbed vegetation
- Control of invasive non-native plants (rhododendron, laurel, Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed, Himalayan Balsam)
- Heather regeneration

7.11.2 A copy of the EFS Specialist Plan pro forma may be found at Annex E.

7.11.3 Section 6 of the pro forma contained in Annex E lists the supporting information which is required for each of these EFS Options / NPIs. In some cases, quotations may be required. These must comply with the requirements as stated in the EFS(H) Terms and Conditions.

7.11.4 All supporting documentation must be submitted with the EFS Specialist Plan.

**STEP 6:
Farmer
discussion**

- Discuss and make the applicant aware of the management requirements contained in the ssRMP with the farmer;

8. STEP 6: FARMER DISCUSSION

8.1 Once the ssRMP template has been completed, the EFS Planner must discuss the ssRMP content (including the Management Requirements) and the associated record keeping requirements with the applicant.

8.2 The ssRMP content must be explained.

8.3 If there are any issues or concerns raised by the applicant in relation to the ssRMP and general EFS terms and conditions, these must be addressed by the EFS Planner at this stage.

STEP 7: Submission

- Submit ssRMP and associated documentation to DAERA.

9. STEP 7: SUBMISSION

9.1 The following documentation must be submitted via the EFS portal to DAERA:

- completed EFS(H) ssRMP form;
- EFS management map including EFS Options and NPIs;
- completed EFS Rapid Condition Assessment sheets and associated maps;
- a map showing each EFS Rapid Condition Assessment sample point and quadrat location marked;
- NPI actual cost item quotation(s), where applicable;
- photograph(s) and a map displaying location of photograph(s) (if applicable).
- An EFS(H) specialist plan (if applicable)

9.2 Any documents which are submitted, including planner evidence, must be given an appropriate title which include the following information:

- Business ID
- Business name
- Name of document
- Date

9.3 DAERA will provide a deadline for the online submission of these documents.

9.4 EFS Planner declaration

The EFS Planner must agree with the 'Planner declaration' prior to submitting the ssRMP. At the end of this stage the EFS Planner must agree to the following declaration.

“I have the specified qualifications to complete the ssRMP. I have visited all of the land which is included in this ssRMP. I have adhered to the procedures pertaining to the development of this ssRMP including all aspects of the site condition assessment, site condition remedies and the completion of the ssRMP template. I prepared the ssRMP myself and agreed it with the applicant. The applicant is aware of and has agreed to the management requirements that will be specified in the subsequent Higher Scheme agreement.”

9.5 Following submission of the ssRMP, DAERA will complete administrative checks and a quality control / consent process before the EFS(H) agreement is generated and issued to the applicant. Tranche 1 EFS(H) agreements signed by the applicant will start on 01 January 2018.

9.6 Where omissions are detected at the administrative checks stage, the ssRMP and associated documentation will be returned to the EFS Planner for completion and resubmission with a time bound period on one occasion only.

9.7 Where an ssRMP and/or associated documentation is rejected at the quality control stage, the EFS Planner shall be contacted and provided with a time bound opportunity to amend the ssRMP and / or associated documentation on one occasion.

9.8 If after re-submission by the EFS Planner, the quality control is not passed, the ssRMP and/or associated documentation shall be rejected by DAERA and no EFS(H) agreement shall be offered to the applicant.

10. EFS(H) GUIDANCE: ALLOCATING A REMEDIAL MANAGEMENT OPTION AND AN ASSOCIATED NPI TO THE SAME FIELD AS PART OF THE ssRMP

- 10.1 In the EFS(H) ssRMP program all EFS Options and NPIs are divided into three categories:
- (i) Area Options (includes Remedial Management Options, EFS(W) Options and the 'No Higher Option' code which are measured in area);
 - (ii) Linear Options (EFS(W) Options which are measured in length); and
 - (iii) NPIs (which are measured in a range of units).
- 10.2 Area Options must be applied within each field equal to the total field area, i.e. the area of Remedial Management Options and other area options may exceed the Maximum Eligible Area (MEA) of the field but must not exceed the total field area.
- 10.3 The Remedial Management Option for the habitat type(s) can only be applied to the relevant area within the field and cannot exceed the total field area. Each year the annual claim cannot exceed the LPIS MEA for the field. If ineligible features are removed and the land recovers to meet the BPS eligibility requirements, a business can complete a 'Farmer Notified Change / FNC' form to increase their MEA and permit the claim to be increased to the new MEA. DAERA may increase or decrease the MEA as the result of inspection findings.
- 10.4 An additional optional NPI may also be added to the same area as a Remedial Management Option suitable to the habitat type. It should be applied to the relevant area within the field and may include 'temporary ineligible feature' areas identified on the map, i.e. areas outside the MEA.

10.5 Example 1:

| <i>Field Information</i> | |
|--|---|
| Total field area (ha) | 1.77 |
| MEA (ha) | 1.74 |
| LPIS deduction (ha) | 0.03 (hard feature / lane) |
| Further observations | All field (except hard feature/lane) infested by dense rush |
| <i>EFS Options:</i> | |
| Remedial Mgt Option – Purple moorgrass and rush pasture (ha) | 1.77 |
| EFS Options: Primary rush control (ha) | 1.74 (area of rush infestation) |
| EFS Options: Follow-up rush control (ha) | 1.74 (area of rush infestation) |

Even though the total area of ‘Purple moorgrass and rush pasture remedial management’ Option is 1.77ha, the participant is only eligible to claim the eligible area each year up to and not exceeding the MEA of the field.

10.6 Example 2:

| <i>Field Information</i> | |
|---|--|
| Total field area (ha) | 0.61 |
| MEA (ha) | 0.57 |
| LPIS deduction (ha) | 0.04 (scrub) |
| Further observations | Actual dense scrub in field is 0.10ha i.e. part of scrub area is in MEA and part deducted from total field size. |
| <i>EFS Options:</i> | |
| Remedial Mgt Option – breeding wader (ha) | 0.61 |
| EFS Options: Scrub control – light, less than 7cm diameter, manual cut (ha) | 0.10 |
| EFS Options: Follow-up scrub control, follow-up treatment – less than 7cm diameter (ha) | 0.10 |

Even though the total area of ‘Breeding wader Remedial Management’ Option is 0.61ha, the participant is only eligible to claim the eligible area each year up to and not exceeding the MEA of the field.

If scrub is controlled and the area recovers to the required eligibility standard for BPS, the farmer can complete a ‘Farmer Notified Change/FNC’ form to DAERA to increase the MEA when the area meets the land eligibility requirements. This will permit an increase to his/her EFS claim up to the new MEA.

10.5 Example 3:

| <i>Field Information</i> | |
|---|--|
| Total field area (ha) | 0.69 |
| MEA (ha) | 0.57 |
| LPIS deduction (ha) | 0.10 (scrub), 0.02 (hard feature / lane) |
| Further observations | Actual dense scrub in field is 0.10ha |
| <i>EFS Options:</i> | |
| Remedial Mgt Option – purple moorgrass & rush pasture (ha) | 0.69 |
| EFS Options: Scrub control – light, less than 7cm diameter, manual cut (ha) | 0.10 |
| EFS Options: Follow-up scrub control, follow-up treatment – less than 7cm diameter (ha) | 0.10 |

As before the participant is only eligible to claim the eligible area each year up to and not exceeding the MEA of the field.

11 EFS(H) GUIDANCE: NON-PRIORITY HABITAT LAND WITHIN AN EFS(H) FIELD.

- 11.1 A number of EFS(H) fields include areas of non-priority habitat land. However, the EFS Planner must account for the total area of each field included in the ssRMP.
- 11.2 This section of the EFS Planner instructions describes how an EFS Planner will address this issue within the ssRMP using the 'No higher option' (NHO) code.
- 11.3 Areas within biological Areas of Special Scientific Interest (BASSI) and/or Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

Priority habitats within BASSIs and/or SACs must be under favourable management for the EFS habitat type in line with the reason(s) for designation and what is determined as the appropriate management solutions resulting from the Rapid Condition Assessment completed on the land.

In situations where non-priority habitat land is located within an area designated as BASSI or SAC, and

- i. where there is an obvious designated site boundary anomaly; and/or
 - ii. where there is no data point available on the NIEA EFS viewer to verify the habitat present from the most recent NIEA monitoring; and
 - iii. where there is no evidence of reclamation/intensification on historic orthos since designation/earliest ortho available; and
 - iv. the area is beyond recovery or restoring the potential priority habitat through appropriate Remedial Management Options and NPIs
- the following points must be considered.
- Is the top 5 cm soil is not soft enough for breeding waders and therefore unsuitable for the Breeding Wader Remedial Management Option?
 - Is the area is not suitable for Remedial Management (coastal floodplain and grazing marsh) Option?
 - Is the applicant prepared to manage the whole field as per any relevant Remedial Management Option for the habitat type present in the rest of the field?

If the answer to all of the above questions is 'No', then this area must be included in the ssRMP as 'No Higher Option' (NHO) to ensure that the total area of each field is included in the ssRMP. The Planner must ensure that the

NHO option is only used after all other options have been exhausted. Consideration should be given to relevant EFS(W) Options on this area. Where the reason(s) for designation is linked to a waterway, for example freshwater pearl mussel, the appropriate EFS Riparian Buffer must be established and maintained for the duration of the EFS(H) agreement. Where an existing stock-proof riparian buffer is currently receiving funding from another source the area within this buffer should be included in the ssRMP as 'NHO'. For example, for Fresh Water Pearl Mussel sites riparian buffers maybe required.

11.4 Areas within Special Protection Area (SPA) with an associated underlying BASSI/SAC

Where an underlying BASSI and/or SAC overlaps a SPA, the guidance relating to BASSI/SAC applies.

11.5 Areas within Special Protection Area (SPA) with no associated underlying BASSI/SAC

Where there is no underlying BASSI and/or SAC associated with an SPA, priority habitats within the SPA must be under favourable management associated with the EFS habitat type connected to the reason(s) for designation and what is determined as the appropriate management solutions resulting from the Rapid Condition Assessment completed on the land.

In situations where non-priority habitat land is located within an area designated as SPA with no underpinning BASSI or SAC, and

- i. where there is an obvious designated site boundary anomaly; and/or
- ii. where there is no data point available on the NIEA EFS viewer to verify the habitat present from the most recent NIEA monitoring; and
- iii. where there is no evidence of reclamation/intensification on historic orthos since designation/earliest ortho available; and
- iv. the area is beyond recovery or restoring the potential priority habitat through appropriate Remedial Management Options and NPIs

the following points must be considered.

- Is the top 5 cm soil is not soft enough for breeding waders and therefore unsuitable for the Breeding Wader Remedial Management Option?
- Is the area is not suitable for Remedial Management (coastal floodplain and grazing marsh) Option?
- Is the applicant prepared to manage the whole field as per any relevant Remedial Management Option for the habitat type present in the rest of the field?

If the answer to all of the above questions is 'No', then this area must be included in the ssRMP as 'No Higher Option' (NHO) to ensure that the total area of each field is included in the ssRMP. The Planner must ensure that the NHO

option is only used after all other options have been exhausted. Consideration should be given to relevant EFS(W) Options on this area.

11.6 Areas within Ramsar

Where a Ramsar area overlaps an underlying BASSI and/or SAC and/or SPA, the above guidance relating to BASSI /SAC / SPA applies.

Where there is no underlying BASSI and/or SAC and/or SPA associated with a Ramsar, priority habitats within the Ramsar must be under favourable management associated with the EFS habitat type connected to the reason(s) for designation and what is determined as the appropriate management solutions resulting from the Rapid Condition Assessment completed on the land. In situations where non-priority habitat land is located within an area designated as Ramsar with no underpinning BASSI or SAC or SPA, and

- i. where there is an obvious designated site boundary anomaly; and/or
 - ii. where there is no data point available on the NIEA EFS viewer to verify the habitat present from the most recent NIEA monitoring; and
 - iii. where there is no evidence of reclamation/intensification on historic orthos since designation/earliest ortho available; and
 - iv. the area is beyond recovery or restoring the potential priority habitat through appropriate Remedial Management Options and NPIs
- the following points must be considered.

- Is the top 5 cm soil is not soft enough for breeding waders and therefore unsuitable for the Breeding Wader Remedial Management Option?
- Is the area is not suitable for Remedial Management (coastal floodplain and grazing marsh) Option?
- Is the applicant prepared to manage the whole field as per any relevant Remedial Management Option for the habitat type present in the rest of the field?

If the answer to all of the above questions is 'No', then this area must be included in the ssRMP as 'No Higher Option' (NHO) to ensure that the total area of each field is included in the ssRMP. The Planner must ensure that the NHO option is only used after all other options have been exhausted. Consideration should be given to relevant EFS(W) Options on this area.

11.7 Areas within EFS(H) Tier 3 land

All priority habitats present with EFS(H) Tier 3 land must be under favourable management associated with the EFS habitat type and what is determined as the appropriate management solutions resulting from the Rapid Condition Assessment completed on the land.

In situations where non-priority habitat land is located within a EFS(H) Tier 3 area and the area is beyond recovery or restoring the potential priority habitat through appropriate Remedial Management Options and NPIs

- the top 5 cm soil is not soft enough for breeding waders and therefore unsuitable for the Breeding Wader Remedial Management Option; or
- the area is not suitable for Remedial Management (coastal floodplain and grazing marsh) Option; or

- the applicant is not prepared to manage the whole field as per any relevant Remedial Management Option for the habitat type present in the rest of the field;

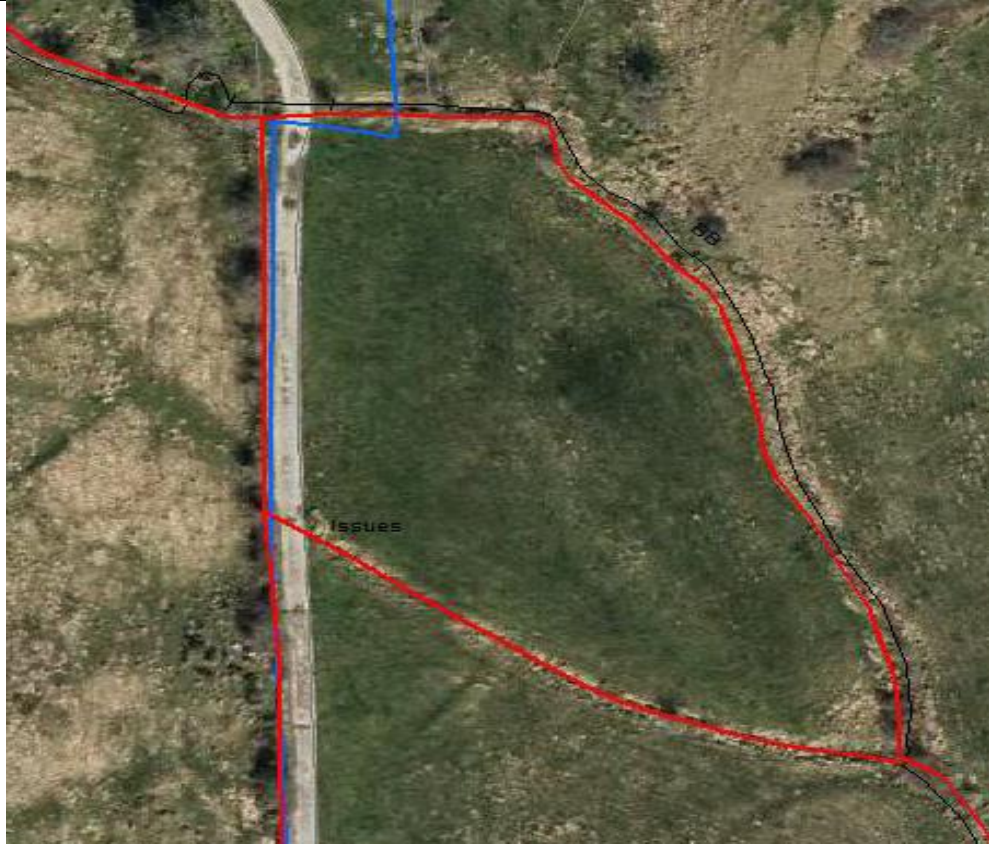
then this area must be included in the ssRMP as 'No Higher Options' (NHO) to ensure that the total area of each field is included in the ssRMP. The Planner must ensure that the NHO option is only used after all other options have been exhausted. Consideration should be given to relevant EFS(W) Options on this area.

11.8 Examples


The following contains examples of the above rules to aid clarification of appropriate EFS(H) area options.

Please note that the fields used in the examples are fictitious and may not be an accurate reflection of the real-world situation as they have not been ground-truthed.


Example 11.8.1

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| EFS(H) Tier: 2 | Total Area: 1.65 ha | |
| Designation: BASSI only | Reason for designation: Calcareous grassland (and earth science features) | |
| Priority habitat present? No | Evidence of reclamation or intensification? No | |
| Current management: Single cut of baled silage, slurry applied after silage cut, light dressing of chemical N. in late spring. | | |
|  | EFS(H) Agreement | |
| | EFS Area Options | Remedial Management – Calcareous grassland Option (<i>either all year or restricted</i>) – 1.65 ha |
| | EFS Linear Options | Consideration should be given to all EFS Linear Options, as per applicability table. |
| NPIs | Consideration should be given to all NPIs, as per applicability table. | |


Example 11.8.2

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| EFS(H) Tier: 2 | Total Area: 2.28 ha | |
| Designation: part overlaps BASSI <i>(denoted by blue line)</i> | Reason for designation: Woodland | |
| Priority habitat present? Yes - woodland | Evidence of reclamation or intensification? No | |
| Current management: Grassland area: Grazed with sheep, light application of chemical N. in late spring. Woodland land: Open to access by livestock. No history of supplementary feeding in woodland. | | |
|  | EFS(H) Agreement | |
| | EFS Area Options | Remedial management – Woodland (<i>type as defined by Woodland Rapid Condition Assessment</i>) – grazed or ungrazed – 0.20 ha |
| | | ‘No higher option’: 2.08 ha |
| | EFS Linear Options | Consideration should be given to all EFS Linear Options, as per applicability table. |
| NPIs | Consideration should be given to all NPIs, as per applicability table. | |


Example 11.8.3

| | | | | | | | |
|--|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|--|-------------|--|
| EFS(H) Tier: 1 | Total Area: 1.28 ha | | | | | | |
| Designation: part overlaps SAC/BASSI (<i>denoted by blue line</i>) | Reason for designation: Fresh water pearl mussel | | | | | | |
| Priority habitat present? No | Evidence of reclamation or intensification? No | | | | | | |
| Current management: Grazed by livestock with slurry applied in spring. Fence present along river approximately 5 metres from top of bank (ungrazed margin in NESA agreement). | | | | | | | |
|  | EFS(H) Agreement | | | | | | |
| | <table border="1"> <tr> <td>EFS Area Options</td> <td>'No higher option': 1.28 ha.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EFS Linear Options</td> <td>Riparian margin – 10 metres – ungrazed (125 m). Consideration should be given to other EFS Linear Options, as per applicability table.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NPIs</td> <td>Consideration should be given to all NPIs, as per applicability table.</td> </tr> </table> | EFS Area Options | 'No higher option': 1.28 ha. | EFS Linear Options | Riparian margin – 10 metres – ungrazed (125 m). Consideration should be given to other EFS Linear Options, as per applicability table. | NPIs | Consideration should be given to all NPIs, as per applicability table. |
| | EFS Area Options | 'No higher option': 1.28 ha. | | | | | |
| EFS Linear Options | Riparian margin – 10 metres – ungrazed (125 m). Consideration should be given to other EFS Linear Options, as per applicability table. | | | | | | |
| NPIs | Consideration should be given to all NPIs, as per applicability table. | | | | | | |

Example 11.8.4

| | | | |
|---|---------------------------|---|--|
| EFS(H) Tier: 1 | | Total Area: 1.74 ha | |
| Designation: SPA only, no overlap with BASSI or SAC | | Reason for designation: Hen harrier | |
| Priority habitat present? Moorland in part of field only. | | Evidence of reclamation or intensification? No | |
| Current management: <i>Moorland area:</i> Grazed by sheep, moorland habitat present. Burned in 2012. <i>Grassland area:</i> One cut of baled silage. Chemical fertiliser applied in spring. Aftergrass grazed by cattle. Top 5cm suitable for Breeding waders. | | | |
|  | EFS(H) Agreement | | |
| | EFS Area Options | Remedial Management Option for appropriate moorland type: 1.08 ha Remedial Management – Breeding wader OR Remedial Management – Purple moorgrass and rush pasture: 0.66 ha. | |
| | EFS Linear Options | Consideration should be given to other EFS Linear Options, as per applicability table. | |
| | NPIs | Consideration should be given to all NPIs, as per applicability table. | |

Example 11.8.5

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| EFS(H) Tier: 2 | Total Area: 6.82 ha. | |
| Designation: Part overlaps ASSI, denoted by blue line. Potential mapping anomaly relating to ASSI boundary. | Reason for designation: Woodland | |
| Priority habitat present? No | Evidence of reclamation or intensification? No | |
| Current management: Arable use | | |
|  | EFS(H) Agreement | |
| | EFS Area Options | NHO: 6.82 ha. Consideration should be given to the EFS Options relating to arable land. |
| | EFS Linear Options | Consideration should be given to other EFS Linear Options, as per applicability table. |
| | NPIs | Consideration should be given to all NPIs, as per applicability table. |

11.9 Where EFS(W) Options are applied to the 'NHO' area, only a limited range of additional optional NPIs (as available under EFS(W) applications) are available in association with the EFS(W) Option. This is detailed in the table below.

Table 11.9.i. Additional optional NPIs available where EFS(W) Options are applied to the 'NHO' area:


| Option Code | EFS(W) Option | Additional eligible capital items (NPIs) |
|--------------------|---|---|
| TEB | Creation of tree enhanced boundaries | Stock-proof fencing. Permanent electric fencing. |
| LAY | Hedge laying including two protective fences | None |
| SSW | Traditional stone wall rebuilding – Single skin | None |
| DSW | Traditional stone wall rebuilding – Double skin | None |
| PAN | Creation of Pollinator margins – 10 m width – Pollen and nectar | None |
| WFM | Creation of Pollinator margins 10 m width – Annual wildflower | None |
| RGM | Creation of Arable margins – 6 m width – Rough grass | None |
| CUM | Creation of Arable Margins – 6m width – Cultivated uncropped | None |
| WFC | Provision of Winter feed crop for wild birds | None |
| RWS | Retention of Winter stubble | None |
| CTO | Creation of Traditional orchard | Stock-proof fencing. Gate and gate posts. Parkland/fruit/standard native tree guards. Drinking trough. Drinking trough base. Water trough pipe work. Pasture pump and associated pipe work. |
| IMC | Traditional Native breeds | None. |
| WSF | Watercourse stabilisation with fencing | Drinking trough. Drinking trough base. Water trough pipe work. Pasture pump and associated pipe work. |

| Option Code | EFS(W) Option | Additional eligible capital items (NPIs) |
|--------------------|--|---|
| RBS | Creation of Riparian buffers – 2 m width – Ungrazed | Gate and posts. Drinking trough. Drinking trough base. Water trough pipe work. Pasture pump and associated pipe work. |
| BNT | Creation of Riparian buffers – 2 m width – Planted with native trees | Gate and posts. Drinking trough. Drinking trough base. Water trough pipe work. Pasture pump and associated pipe work. |
| RBW | Creation of Riparian buffers – 10 m width – Ungrazed | Gate and posts. Drinking trough. Drinking trough base. Water trough pipe work. Pasture pump and associated pipe work. |
| BWT | Creation of Riparian buffers – 10 m width – planted with native trees' | Gate and posts. Drinking trough. Drinking trough base. Water trough pipe work. Pasture pump and associated pipe work. |
| ENW | Establishing of Native woodland less than 5 ha | Stock-proof fencing. Gate and posts. Drinking trough. Drinking trough base. Water trough pipe work. Pasture pump and associated pipe work. |
| EAF | Establishment of Agroforestry | Stock-proof fencing. Gate and posts. Drinking trough. Drinking trough base. Water trough pipe work. Pasture pump and associated pipe work. |

| Option Code | EFS(W) Option | Additional eligible capital items (NPIs) |
|--------------------|--|--|
| NRW | Natural regeneration of Native woodland | Stock-proof fencing. Gates and posts. Drinking trough. Drinking trough base. Water trough pipe work. Pasture pump and associated pipe work. |
| NTC | Planting Native tree corridors | Stock-proof fencing. Gate and posts. Drinking trough. Drinking trough base. Water trough pipe work. Pasture pump and associated pipe work. |
| PNH | Planting new Hedgerows including two protective fences | None |

11.10 If the applicant is only prepared to manage the Natura 2000 / Biological ASSI part of the field as per the relevant Remedial Management Option and there is scattered scrub present in the 'NHO' area outside the Biological ASSI area that scattered scrub is NOT eligible for the Scrub control Option.

11.11 Example

| | | | |
|---|---|--|---------|
|  | | | |
| <i>Field Information</i> | | | |
| Total field area | 2.50 ha | Natura 2000 & Biological ASSI area | 0.65 ha |
| | | Non-priority habitat area outside Natura 2000 & Biological ASSI area | 1.85 ha |
| Further observations | Improved area cut for silage with Biological ASSI area grazed. Area of scattered scrub. | | |
| <i>EFS Options:</i> | | | |
| Remedial Mgt plan – purple moorgrass and rush pasture | 0.65 ha | | |
| 'No Higher Options' (NHO) | 1.65 ha | | |
| Establishment of Native woodland less than 5 ha | 0.20 ha | | |
| <p>Since the improved land is not designated as Natura 2000 / Biological ASSI, then the scattered scrub is not eligible for the scrub control Option. However the scattered scrub area, if included in the MEA of the field, is eligible for the 'Establishment of native woodland less than 5 ha' Option or 'Regeneration of Native Woodland' Option and therefore the additional optional NPIs are permitted in association with that Option.</p> | | | |

11.12 If the applicant is only prepared to manage the Natura 2000 / Biological ASSI part of the field as per the relevant Remedial Management Option and no EFS(W) Options are applied to the improved grassland, only a limited range of additional optional NPIs are available on the non-priority habitat area.

These are:

- Stock-proof fencing
- Gate and 2 gate posts - stock-proof fence
- Deer fence
- Gate and 2 gate posts - deer fence
- Permanent electric fence
- Outrigger electric fence for stock fence
- Drinking trough
- Drinking trough base
- Water trough pipe work
- Pasture pump and associated pipe work

11.13 Example



Field Information

| | | | |
|----------------------|--|--|---------|
| Total field area | 2.35 ha | Natura 2000 & Biological ASSI area | 1.60 ha |
| | | Improved land outside Natura 2000 & Biological ASSI area | 0.75 ha |
| Further observations | <p>Non-priority habitat area is grazed with Biological ASSI area. Applicant does not agree to manage total field as breeding wader.</p> <p>Boundary fence in poor repair. Boundary fence required to protect priority habitat.</p> | | |

EFS Options:

| | |
|---|---------|
| Remedial Mgt plan – breeding wader | 1.60 ha |
| 'No Higher Options' (NHO) | 0.75 ha |
| Stock-proof fencing | 300 m |
| Gate and two gate posts – Stock-proof fence | 1 |

12 WILDLIFE LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR EFS PLANNERS

- 12.1 Much of our wildlife is protected to some degree by the law. The most obvious way of protecting wildlife is to make it an offence for people to kill, injure, or take birds and other animals, or to destroy or uproot plants, but this is not enough by itself. The law, therefore, sometimes goes further and prohibits the disturbance of some wild creatures, and their nests or resting places, and the collecting of some plants.
- 12.2 EFS Planners must ensure that their activities do not contravene the wildlife legislation, namely the Wildlife (NI) Order 1985 as amended. Details here: www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/wildlife-law
- 12.3 While undertaking the Rapid CAs, EFS Planners must not destructively sample any Schedule 8* plant for purpose identification and care must be taken while surveying to avoid damage to any Schedule 8 plants through trampling. (*Wildlife (NI) Order 1985 As amended, Schedule 8 Plants which are protected under article 14.1(a) and 14.2.)
- 12.4 EFS Planners and other suitably experienced persons may apply to the NIEA Wildlife Team for a licence to collect small samples of Schedule 8 plants for identification where destructive sampling is absolutely necessary to conduct a positive identification. Applicants must demonstrate why these methods are applicable.
- 12.5 The completion of the EFS process [including field surveys] will bring EFS Planners into habitats which support a wide range of protected species. While all nesting birds are legally protected, ground nesting birds are at particular risk of disturbance and destruction. Although the scope of the initial farm surveys does not include detailed bird surveys, EFS Planners must ensure that their works do not cause unnecessary disturbance.

- 12.6 Any additional follow-up surveys which include bird censuses during the breeding season must apply for a Wildlife licence. Surveyors, including EFS Planners must detail their experience and proposed methodology at the time of application.
- 12.7 EFS Planners must be aware that certain habitats support protected invertebrates. The marsh fritillary butterfly, a key indicator species for this scheme, is particularly vulnerable to disturbance while in its web colony stage, where the eggs develop into young caterpillars in clumps amongst the vegetation. Knowledge of the species, its habitat and timing of surveyors visits are essential to minimise disruption to this species.
- 12.8 If there is a requirement to undertake follow-up detailed surveys which include marsh fritillary census, EFS Planners must apply for a Wildlife licence. Surveyors must detail their experience and proposed methodology at the time of application.
- 12.9 Guidance for adhering to the wildlife legislation can be found here:
www.daera-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/doe/daera-2016-wildlife-law-and-you.pdf
- 12.10 The NIEA Wildlife Team can be contacted by email E (Jon.Lees@daera-ni.gov.uk) or by telephone (028 905 69551).

ANNEX A: EFS Options and Non-productive Investment (NPI) / capital items
Options

Table 1: EFS Higher Level Remedial Management Options

| Code | Remedial management Options | Payment / ha / yr | |
|-------------|--|--------------------------|-----|
| UHG | Moorland (Upland Heath) remedial management | Up to 50 ha | £40 |
| | | 50.01 – 100 ha | £20 |
| | | more than 100 ha | £10 |
| LHG | Moorland (Lowland Heath) remedial management | Up to 50 ha | £40 |
| | | 50.01 – 100 ha | £20 |
| | | more than 100 ha | £10 |
| MHG | Moorland(Montane heath) remedial management | Up to 50 ha | £40 |
| | | 50.01 – 100 ha | £20 |
| | | more than 100 ha | £10 |
| BBG | Moorland(Blanket Bog) remedial management | Up to 50 ha | £40 |
| | | 50.01 – 100 ha | £20 |
| | | more than 100 ha | £10 |
| ILR | Intact lowland raised bog remedial management | Up to 50 ha | £40 |
| | | 50.01 – 100 ha | £20 |
| | | more than 100 ha | £10 |
| PRG | Purple moorgrass and rush pasture remedial management | £180 | |
| HAY | Lowland meadow and purple moorgrass rush pasture remedial management - cut for hay | £230 | |
| CAG | Calcareous grassland remedial management - all year grazing | £230 | |
| CRG | Calcareous grassland remedial management - restricted grazing | £195 | |
| LPA | Limestone pavement remedial management - all year grazing | £230 | |
| LPR | Limestone pavement remedial management - restricted grazing | £195 | |
| LMA | Lowland meadow remedial management - all year grazing | £230 | |
| LMR | Lowland meadow remedial management - restricted grazing | £195 | |
| LDA | Lowland dry acid grassland remedial management - all year grazing | £260 | |
| LDR | Lowland dry acid grassland remedial management - restricted grazing | £230 | |
| CSD | Costal sand dunes remedial management | £235 | |
| CSM | Costal salt marsh remedial management | £45 | |
| CFR | Coastal and flood plain grazing marsh remedial management | £180 | |

| Code | Remedial management Options | Payment / ha / yr | |
|-------------|---|---|-----|
| MCA | Maritime cliff and slope remedial management - all year grazing | £55 | |
| MCR | Maritime cliff and slope remedial management - restricted | £80 | |
| PKG | Parkland remedial management | £45 | |
| WAU | Ungrazed woodland (Mixed ash) remedial management | Up to 10 ha | £65 |
| | | 10.01 – 20 ha | £40 |
| | | more than 20 ha | £20 |
| WOU | Ungrazed oakwood remedial management | Up to 10 ha | £65 |
| | | 10.01 – 20 ha | £40 |
| | | more than 20 ha | £20 |
| WWU | Ungrazed woodland (wet) remedial management | Up to 10 ha | £65 |
| | | 10.01 – 20 ha | £40 |
| | | more than 20ha | £20 |
| WAG | Grazed woodland (Mixed ash) remedial management | Up to 10 ha | £65 |
| | | 10.01 – 20 ha | £40 |
| | | more than 20 ha | £20 |
| WOG | Grazed oakwood remedial management | Up to 10 ha | £65 |
| | | 10.01 – 20 ha | £40 |
| | | more than 20 ha | £20 |
| WWG | Grazed woodland (wet) remedial management | Up to 10 ha | £65 |
| | | 10.01 – 20 ha | £40 |
| | | more than 20 ha | £20 |
| BWG | Breeding wader remedial management | £195 | |
| RBG | Reedbed remedial management | £50 | |
| FNG | Fen remedial management | £50 | |
| LFP | Lapwing fallow plot | £699 <i>(Where Greening reductions apply: £0.00)</i> | |

Table 2: EFS Higher Level Non-productive Investment (NPI) / capital items

| Code | Capital Items available for EFS Higher Level | Completion Date | Payment |
|-------------|--|---|--------------------|
| SLM | Scrub control light, stems less than 7 cm diameter, machine cut | End of Year 1 | £979.13 / ha |
| SLH | Scrub control light, stems less than 7 cm diameter, manual cut | End of Year 1 | £1271.83 / ha |
| SHM | Scrub control heavy, stems greater than 7 cm diameter, machine cut | End of Year 1 | £1942.80 / ha |
| SHR | Scrub control heavy, stems greater than 7 cm diameter, manual cut | End of Year 1 | £2528.20 / ha |
| SLF | Scrub control – follow-up treatment – stems less than 7 cm diameter | As detailed in the ssRMP in Years 2,3,4 and 5 | £104.85 / ha |
| SHF | Scrub control – follow-up treatment – stems more than 7 cm diameter | As detailed in the ssRMP in Years 2,3,4 and 5 | £183.49 / ha |
| TFB | Tree felling for biodiversity | End of Year 1 | £600.00 / ha |
| PRC | Primary Rush control | End of Year 1 | £89.34 / ha |
| RFC | Follow-up rush control (Year 2 – 5) | End of Year 2, 3, 4 & 5 | £35 / ha (Yrs 2-5) |
| BPT | Primary treatment of bracken – mechanised or chemical | End of Year 1 | £216.35 / ha |
| BFU | Follow-up treatment of bracken – mechanised or chemical | As detailed in the ssRMP in Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 | £108.30 / ha |
| RLP | Rhododendron and laurel – primary control | End of Year 1 | £5049.57 / ha |
| RLF | Rhododendron and laurel control - Follow-up spraying regrowth control | As detailed in the ssRMP in Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 | £90 / ha / yr |
| ARI | Rhododendron and laurel control – control by stem injection* | End of Year 1 | Actual costs |
| AJK | Primary and follow-up treatments of invasive non-native plants – Japanese Knotweed | 31 August in the specified year of agreement | Actual costs |
| AGH | Primary and follow-up treatments of invasive non-native plants – Giant Hogweed | 1 July in the specified year of the agreement | Actual costs |
| AHB | Primary and follow-up treatments of invasive non-native plants – Himalayan Balsam | 1 June in the specified year of the agreement | Actual costs |
| AWC | Creation of wetlands | End of Year 1 | Actual costs |

| Code | Capital Items available for EFS Higher Level | Completion Date | Payment |
|-------------|---|------------------------|----------------------------|
| COS | Creation of scrapes | End of Year 1 | £2.77 / m ² |
| ABR | Bankside reprofiling | End of Year 1 | Actual costs |
| ARW | Structures/work to raise water levels | End of Year 1 | Actual costs |
| DBS | Ditch blocking – plastic piling dams (small dam) | End of Year 1 | £62 / dam |
| DBM | Ditch blocking – plastic piling dams (medium dam) | End of Year 1 | £151 / dam |
| DBL | Ditch blocking – plastic piling dams (large dam) | End of Year 1 | £385.16 / dam |
| HRB | Heather regeneration - Controlled burning | End of Year 1 | £142.30 / ha |
| HRF | Heather regeneration – Flailing | End of Year 1 | £58.68 / ha |
| APR | Predator Perch removal | End of Year 1 | Actual costs |
| PCT | Predator control traps (Larsen trap) | End of Year 1 | £82.00 / trap |
| AMT | Machinery for management of fen & reedbed tall vegetation | End of Year 1 | Actual costs |
| ARP | Restorative pruning of traditional orchards | End of Year 1 | Actual costs |
| ATS | Tree surgery | End of Year 1 | Actual costs |
| ATP | Tree pollarding | End of Year 1 | Actual costs |
| PRF | Post and rail fencing | End of Year 1 | £18.00 / m |
| RPF | Rabbit proof fencing | End of Year 1 | £5.90 / m |
| SPF | Stock-proof fencing | End of Year 1 | £6.00 / m |
| PEF | Permanent electric fencing (including energiser) | End of Year 1 | £5.00 / m |
| GPS | Gate and two gate posts – stock-proof fence | End of Year 1 | £190.44 / gate + two posts |
| DTR | Drinking Trough | End of Year 1 | £41.00 each |
| DTB | Drinking Trough Base | End of Year 1 | £30.54 each |
| DTP | Water trough pipe work | End of Year 1 | £7.77 / m |
| PAP | Pasture Pump and associated pipe work | End of Year 1 | £285 / pump |
| SNT | Parkland/Fruit/ Standard native tree guard | End of Year 1 | £143.40 / guard |

* These capital items are area-based and may be used outside the Maximum Eligible Area of the field.

| Code | Capital Items available for EFS Higher Level | Completion Date | Payment |
|-------------|---|------------------------|-----------------------|
| SNS | Parkland/Fruit / Standard native tree stake | End of Year 1 | £4.50 / stake |
| DEF | Deer fence | End of Year 1 | £8.50 / m |
| FRL | Fence removal | End of Year 1 | £2.50 / m |
| GPD | Gate and two gate posts – deer fence | End of Year 1 | £215 / gate + 2 posts |
| OEF | Outrigger electric fence for stock fence | End of Year 1 | £0.85 / m |
| SPE | Solar power energiser for electric fence | End of Year 1 | £352.26 / energiser |
| SPT | Standard parkland tree | End of Year 1 | £25 / tree |
| SFT | Standard fruit tree | End of Year 1 | £15.06 / tree |
| NTW | Native tree whip | End of Year 1 | £0.86 / whip |
| TGS | 1.2 m tubular tree guard and stake | End of Year 1 | £4.02 / guard |
| TGC | Spiral tree guard and cane | End of Year 1 | £0.39 / guard & cane |
| BAT | Woodcrete bat box | End of Year 1 | £60.00 / box |
| RSF | Red squirrel feeder | End of Year 1 | £84.00 / feeder |
| BBL | Large bird box | End of Year 1 | £15.00 / box |
| BBS | Small bird box | End of Year 1 | £12.00 / box |
| BOB | Barn owl box | End of Year 1 | £15.00 / box |
| SBO | Solitary bee box | End of Year 1 | £30.00 / box |
| ASB | Stock bridge | End of Year 1 | Actual costs |

TABLE 3: EFS(W) Options

(These Options are also available for use as part of the ssRMP, where appropriate.)

| Option Name | Code | Option size (when included in an ssRMP) | | Completion Deadline | Payment | Permanent (P) Rotational (R) | |
|---|----------------------|---|---|--|--|--|---|
| | | Min | Max* | | | | |
| Creation of Tree enhanced boundaries | TEB | 100 m | Not applicable | 1st June in Year 1 | £1.28 / m (Yr 1) | P | |
| Hedge laying including two protective fences | LAY | 10 m | Not applicable | 1st June in Year 1 | £16.04 / m (Yr 1) | P | |
| Traditional stone wall rebuilding – Single skin | SSW | 2 m | Not applicable | 1st June in Year 1 | £13.02 / m (Yr 1) | P | |
| Traditional stone wall rebuilding – Double skin | DSW | 2 m | Not applicable | 1st June in Year 1 | £22.95 / m (Yr 1) | P | |
| Retention of winter stubble | RWS | 0.10 ha | Not applicable | End Year 1 | £85 / ha / yr (Where Greening reductions apply: £80.00) | R | |
| Provision of winter feed crop for wild birds | WFC | 0.10 ha | Not applicable (Max 1.00 ha / land parcel) | End Year 1 | £590 / ha / yr (Where Greening reductions apply: £278.00) | R | |
| Creation of Pollinator margins (10 m wide) | Pollen & nectar | PAN | 0.10 ha | Not applicable (Max 0.5 ha / land parcel) | End Year 1 | £465 / ha / yr | P |
| | Annual wildflower | WFM | 0.10 ha | Not applicable | End each year | £2530 / ha / yr | R |
| Creation of arable margins (6 m width) | Rough grass | RGM | 0.10 ha | Not applicable | 1st September in Year 1 | £841.50 / ha (Yr 1) £707.00 (Yrs 2 - 5) | P |
| | Cultivated uncropped | CUM | 0.10 ha | Not applicable | 1st June in each Year | £702 / ha / yr | R |
| Creation of traditional Orchard | CTO | 0.05 ha | Not applicable | 1st June in Year 1 | £3832.68 / ha (Yr1) £110 / ha (Yr 2 - 5) | P | |

| Option Name | Code | Option size (when included in an ssRMP) | | Completion Deadline | Payment | Permanent (P) Rotational(R) | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|----------------|---------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| | | Min | Max* | | | | |
| Establishment of Agroforestry | EAF | 0.10 ha | Not applicable | End of Year 1 | £1637.00 / ha (Yr 1) £65 / ha (Yr 2-5) | P | |
| Natural regeneration of Native Woodland | NRW | 0.10 ha | Not applicable | End of Year 1 | £360 / ha / yr (Where Greening reductions apply: £5.00 / yr) | P | |
| Hedge Planting including two protective fences | PNH | 10 m | Not applicable | End of Year 1 | £15.83 / m (Yr 1) | P | |
| Planting Native tree corridors | NTC | 0.10 ha | Not applicable | End of Year 1 | £2146.90 / ha (Yr 1) (Where Greening reductions apply: £1796.90 / ha in Yr 1) £465 / ha (Yr 2-5) (Where Greening reductions apply: £115.00 / ha in Yrs 2-5) | P | |
| Watercourse stabilisation with fencing | WSF | 50m | Not applicable | End of Year 1 | £6.00 / m (Yr1) | P | |
| Creation of Riparian buffers | 2 m wide ungrazed | RBS | 10m | Not applicable | 1st June in Year 1 | £6.07 / m (Yr1) £0.07 / m (Yr 2-5) | P |
| | 2 m wide planted with native trees | BNT | 10m | Not applicable | 1st June in Year 1 | £6.31 / m (Yr1) £0.07 / m (Yr 2-5) | P |
| | 10 m wide ungrazed | RBW | 10m | Not applicable | 1st June in Year 1 | £7.63 / m (Yr1) £0.36 / m (Yr2-5) | P |
| | 10 m wide planted with native trees | BWT | 10m | Not applicable | 1st June in Year 1 | £8.13 / m (Yr1) £0.36 / m (Yr2-5) | P |

EFS Stand-alone Options

| Option Name | | Code | Option size | | Completion Deadline | Payment | Permanent (P) Rotational(R) |
|---|--------------------------|------|------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| | | | Min | Max | | | |
| Establishment of Native Woodland less than 5 ha | | ENW | 0.10 ha | 5 ha | End year 1 | £2625 / ha (Yr 1) (Where Greening reductions apply: £2272.00 / ha in Yr 1) £516 / ha (Yr 2-5) (Where Greening reductions apply: £163 / ha in Yrs 2-5) | P |
| Organic Conversion | Arable | OCA | 3 ha (combination of OCA & OCG) | Not applicable | EFS start date | £149.00 / ha / yr (0 ha - 60 ha) £45.00 / ha / yr (over 60 ha) | P |
| | Grassland | OCG | | | EFS start date | £144 / ha / yr (0 ha - 60 ha) £45 / ha / yr (over 60 ha) | P |
| | Horticulture | OCH | 1 ha (combination of OCH & OCT) | | EFS start date | £358 / ha / yr (0 ha - 6 ha*) £149 / ha / yr (over 6 ha*) | P |
| | Horticulture – Top fruit | OCT | | | EFS start date | £358 / ha / yr (0 ha - 6 ha*) £149 / ha / yr (over 6 ha*) | P |
| Organic Management | Arable | OMA | 3 ha (combination of OCA & OCG) | Not applicable | EFS start date | £53 / ha / yr (0 ha - 60 ha) £20 / ha / yr (over 60 ha) | P |
| | Grassland | OMG | | | EFS start date | £53 / ha / yr (0 ha - 60 ha) £20 / ha / yr (over 60 ha) | P |
| | Horticulture | OMH | 1 ha (combination of OMH & OMT) | | EFS start date | £197 / ha / yr (0 ha - 6 ha**) £53 / ha / yr (over 6 ha**) | P |
| | Horticulture – Top fruit | OMT | | | EFS start date | £197 / ha / yr (0 ha - 6 ha**) £53 / ha / yr (over 6 ha**) | P |
| Traditional Native breeds (Irish Moiled cattle) | | IMC | 0.80 LU | 16 LU | End year 1 | £95 / LU / yr | R |

* The payment bands of 0 ha to 6 ha and over 6ha relating to OCH and OCT are a combination of the area of OCH plus OCT.

** The payment bands of 0 ha to 6 ha and over 6ha relating to OMH and OMT are a combination of the area of OMH plus OMT.

ANNEX B: Glossary of Scheme terms

For the purposes of the scheme:

Agreement Document: the document which describes the Grant to be paid to the agreement holder and the EFS Options and/or capital items to be undertaken

Agreement ‘End Date’: the date on which the Agreement comes to an end, as set out in the Agreement Document.

Agreement Holder: the name and members of the DAERA farm Business ID that submitted the EFS(H) application.

Agreement Land: the land described in the Agreement Document and identified on the Agreement Map(s).

Agreement ‘Start Date’: the date on which the Agreement commences, as set out in the Agreement Document.

Agricultural land is any area of land in Northern Ireland which is registered as a parcel on the Land Parcel Identification System (LPIS). These areas may include land which is deemed to be ineligible for Direct Payments.

Annual Payment Claim refers to a claim for EFS payment submitted under the Basic Payment Scheme Application in accordance with Articles 12 to 14 of Commission Regulations (EU) No) 809/2014.

Agroforestry: is a land use management system in which trees or shrubs are grown around or among crops or pastureland.

Areas of Special Scientific Interest are designated sites that are protected under Northern Ireland for their nature and earth science value. They are selected based on specific qualifying features, which include earth science, habitats and species.

Authority: Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA).

Biodiversity: The variety of life on earth.

Capital items: are Non-Productive Investments and are in two categories, 'Essential Capital items' and those which are 'Additional Capital Items'. Essential Capital items describe the work that an Agreement Holder is required to undertake as set out in the Agreement Document. Additional capital items must be completed if listed in a ssRMP.

Controls: refer to the method of checking EFS requirements compliance. Checking may be carried out by administration, Control with Remote Sensing (CwRS) or by On-the-Spot Checks (OTSC).

Ecological Focus Areas: are a greening requirement for arable farmers who submit a claim under the Basic Payment Scheme.

Eligibility: refers to the elements which are essential to allow an agreement to take place, the disrespect of which will result in the exclusion from the Scheme.

Eligibility criteria are the requirements that the beneficiaries have to respect usually at the stage of entering into a support measure and throughout the duration of the support, but for which they are not paid for.

Ex-post Check: Compliance checks which are completed after payment is made and can be conducted for five years after the 'End date' of the Scheme.

Field boundaries: include dry stone walls, ditches, earth banks, hedges and rows of trees.

Government Gateway account: An account held on the online system used for a range of Government services.

Greening : is a compulsory element of the Basic Payment Scheme that is beneficial to the environment and climate.

Habitat: means the natural home or environment of an animal, plant or other organism.

Integrated Pest Management: is a process used to solve pest problems while minimising the risk to people and the environment

Livestock unit (LU): refers to a unit of measurement for livestock

Cattle more than 24mths – 1 LU

Irish Moiled cattle more than 24 mths – 0.8 LU

Cattle 6-24mths – 0.6 LU

Irish Moiled cattle 6 -24 mths – 0.4 LU

Sheep over 1 yr – 0.15 LU

Ewes and lambs – 0.20 LU

Lambs after weaning – 0.10 LU

Management unit: A management unit can be a single field or a group of fields which are managed as one unit by the farmer, for example a group of fields grazed together.

Non-Productive Investments: are **capital items**

Noxious weeds: are listed under the Noxious Weeds Order 1977 and include wild oat (*Avena fatua* L.); thistle (*Cirsium vulgare* (Savi) Ten.); *Cirsium arvense* (L.) Scop.), dock (*Rumex obtusifolius* L; *Rumex crispus* L.) and ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea* L.)

Management requirements: Compulsory requirements to establish, maintain and / or deliver an EFS Option or NPI.

Moor grip: Shallow drainage ditches historically cut into moorland, approximately 50cm deep and spaced 15 - 30 m apart.

Pesticides and herbicides: include all herbicides, pesticides, insecticides (including spent sheep dip), fungicides, molluscicides and nematicides.

RAMSAR: are wetland sites of international importance designated under the Ramsar Convention.

Riparian buffer: is the marginal area along a waterway and standing waters, such as lakes and ponds.

Special Area of Conservation (SAC): is a site designated under the Habitats Directive (1992/43/EEC).

site specific Remedial Management Plan (ssRMP) is a plan completed for land managed under the EFS(H) and EFS(G) which shall take into consideration local site conditions and is tailored to the needs of the site.

Special Protection Area (SPA): is a designation under the Birds' Directive (2009/147/EC).

Waterway or watercourse: is a dry sheugh, wet sheugh, stream, river, lake or waterway which is at least 1 metre wide.

Abbreviations

ASSI: Area of Special Scientific Interest

BASSI: Biological Area of Special Scientific Interest

BPS: Basic Payment Scheme

CwRS: Control with Remote Sensing

DAERA: Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs

DWI: Drinking Water Inspectorate

EC: European Community

EFS: Environmental Farming Scheme

EFS(H): Environmental Farming Scheme (Higher) level

EFS(G): Environmental Farming Scheme (Group) level

EFS(W): Environmental Farming Scheme (Wider) level

EU: European Union

GPS: Global Positioning System

GSAA: Geo-spatial aid application

IPM: Integrated Pest Management

LPIS: Land Parcel Identification System

MEA: Maximum Eligible Area

MNR: Marine Nature Reserve

NESA: New Environmentally Sensitive Areas Scheme

NICMS: Northern Ireland Countryside Management Scheme

NPI: Non-Productive Investment

NNR: National Nature Reserve

OTSC: On the Spot Check

RapidCA: Rapid Condition Assessment

ssRMP: site specific Remedial Management Plan

SAC: Special Area of Conservation

SAF: Single Application Form

SPA: Special Protection Area

WFD: Water Framework Directive

ANNEX C: Glossary of Terms for the EFS Rapid Condition Assessments

As far as the eye can determine: A measurement used in the woodland assessment, when determining the frequency of non-native invasive species do within the 10 m x10 m quadrat and also within the visible vicinity of the plot.

Ancient trees: Ancient trees often have very large girths compared to surrounding trees of a similar species, a short squat appearance and a hollow trunk. Many ancient trees also have large amounts of dead wood which remain attached to the tree or may fall to the ground. As trees age, their upper canopy starts to die back and they take on a 'stag-horn' appearance.

Bare ground: This represents the percentage of bare ground (excluding rocks or open water) which is observed without parting any vegetation. It is an indication of grazing pressure.

Barking: Damage to the bark of trees and saplings within the woodland stand. This is from animal browsing (feeding on buds, shoots and foliage) and bark stripping from main stems or branches (gnawing or rubbing by wild animals). Refer to Photo 1 below.

Canopy cover: This is the cover of the trees greater than 5 m high, which make up the canopy. Where Hazel predominates, the mature Hazel stools form a lower canopy with very few scattered standard Ash trees. In such instances, take the Hazel as the canopy. Canopy cover is estimated within the 10 m x 10 m quadrat.

Core indicators: Appropriate lists are provided in the relevant Habitat Descriptors. These are species which are diagnostic of the habitat type and have been selected to help separate priority habitats from one another. Some core indicator species are uncommon, but if they are present then it helps confirm the habitat.

Cut over: Cutover bog describes any site where some of the peat has been removed by hand or by mechanical means leaving some depth of peat behind.

Dwarf shrub: This includes Heather *Calluna vulgaris*, Cross-leaved Heath *Erica tetralix*, Bell Heather *Erica cinerea*, Bog Myrtle *Myrica gale*, Bilberry *Vaccinium myrtillus*, Crowberry *Empetrum nigrum* and Bog Cranberry *Vaccinium oxycoccos*.

Dwarf shrub height: Please refer to the vegetation height definition.

Flushes: Areas where water from underground flows out onto the surface to create an area of saturated ground, rather than a well-defined channel. They can be areas of open, stony ground with only sparse plant cover or have a complete and often dense cover of flowering plants, usually sedges or rushes, with mosses and liverworts forming a ground layer under this canopy. Upland flushes are incorporated into the Upland flushes, fens and swamps Northern Ireland priority habitat.

Groundwater elevation: This is a measure of the height of the water table at the time of survey and is recorded by assessing how wet the site is underfoot. Test with foot and choose one of the following categories: (M= floating mat, D= dry, A= ankle depth, K= knee depth).

Habitat mosaic: More than one habitat type present in a field.

Herb/ sedge cover: Is the combined percentage cover of herbs, sedges and small wood-rushes.

Heavy grazing: Record the presence or absence of signs of heavy grazing which include poaching, dung and distinct heather growth forms. Prolonged high levels of grazing by herbivores tend to produce distinct growth forms of heather. These can be classified as 'carpet', 'topiary' and 'drumstick' (or 'mop') forms. Occasional heather plants may exhibit these growth forms even when grazing is not heavy. If in doubt, it is therefore important to check for browsed shoots. The following figure illustrates chronic heavy damage. Refer to Figure.2.

Hydrological concerns: Concerns that an area of bog or peatland is drying out, usually due to drainage.

Invasive species: See non-native invasive species definition below.

Litter cover: Is the build-up of a layer of dead, thatchy material. Where sites are well grazed or cut, you would expect little or no litter. The other extreme is very dense, often tussocky swards, where litter can build up to a very high cover. Litter is a useful attribute to record, since it gives an indication of grazing / mowing trends that cannot be detected by sward height.

Negative indicators: Appropriate lists are provided in the relevant Habitat Descriptors. These are species which indicate poor condition of priority habitats. Some species may be natural components in low numbers but in high cover are negative indicators. They may signal agricultural pressures such as; high fertility through fertiliser application or stock feeding, high grazing levels and associated poaching, low grazing levels, nutrient-rich run-off, and lack of management of noxious weeds or invasive species.

Non-native invasive species: Non-native species are species which have been intentionally or unintentionally introduced to Northern Ireland. Invasive species are non-native (or alien) species whose introduction and/or spread threatens biodiversity. Once established these species can have a wide range of economic, social and ecological impacts.

In the woodland assessment this is the abundance of tree, shrub and ground flora species such as Sycamore, Beech, Conifers, and shrub species Laurel, *Rhododendron*, Snowberry and Indian Balsam (Himalayan Balsam). It is estimated within the 10 m x10 m quadrat within the visible vicinity of the plot i.e. as far as the eye can determine.

Open-grown trees: A tree grown with little or no competition from other trees, so that its roots and crown spread without constraint.

Overgrazing: Grazing land with livestock in such numbers as to damage the growth quality or species composition of the vegetation. See 'Heavy grazing' definition for Moorland above.

Peat depth: This can be measured using a narrow rod pushed into the peat. Ideally a calibrated and marked stick or auger is used. The depth to which the rod sinks indicates depth. If the peat depth is greater than 0.5m the local habitat is Blanket bog if it is less than 0.5m it indicates the habitat is Heathland.

Poaching: Damage caused by livestock churning up soft ground. Recorded as the percentage of the woodland floor that is bare as a result of trampling. Recorded within the stand. Refer to Photo 2 below.

Positive indicators: Appropriate lists are provided in the relevant Habitat Descriptors. The lists are designed to include species typical of habitats in good condition. Total plant species richness can be deceptive as a measure of biodiversity, as higher species numbers may be an indicator of nutrient enrichment or disturbance. Additional species may be out of place and indicate poor condition. By using species that are agreed positive indicators, or 'characteristic' species a better understanding is gained of habitat condition.

Regeneration: This is the frequency of native tree canopy saplings (25-200cm in height). Invasive species such as Sycamore or Beech will be recorded as Non-native invasive (see above). Regeneration is estimated within the 10 m x 10 m quadrat.

Shrub cover: This is the combined cover of shrubs and trees between 2 m-5 m in height which make up the understorey. Shrub cover is estimated within the 10 m x 10 m quadrat. The lower branches of canopy trees are not considered part of the understorey.

Scrub / tree encroachment: Record the combined cover of scrub/tree occurring within the field.

Species composition - Frequency of non-native / invasive species: See Non-native / invasive species above.

Succession: the natural progression of changes in an ecological community that occur over time.

Swamp: Swamps are permanently waterlogged, species-poor vegetation types, generally dominated by bulky emergent which are characteristic of open-water transitions. In the context of EFS the term Reedbeds is used to encompass both Reedbed and Swamp communities.

Sward height: Please refer to the vegetation height definition below.

Underlying habitat: the habitat type natural to an area before damage or modification.

Vegetation height: This is the average height (in cm) of the vegetation. It is measured placing a hand/ or piece of paper lightly on the vegetation at the level below which about 80% of the vegetation is estimated by the eye to be growing (ignoring the tallest such as flowering stems or tall rush species) then reading this height against a ruler or marked stick. An average can be determined by taking for example 5 measurements in each quadrat. [Please Note: The findings of the EFS Rapid Condition Assessment do not confer eligibility for DAERA Area-based Schemes.]



Figure 1: Measuring vegetation height.

Veteran trees: The term Veteran tree refers to the tree's physical state, not its age. It will have some characteristics of an Ancient tree e.g. large amounts of deadwood, hollowing, fallen limbs etc.



| Photo 1. An example of Barking. | Photo 2. An example of Poaching. |
|--|---|
|  |  |

Figure 2. Heavy grazing – Schematic representations of Heather growth forms.
 Adapted from JNCC Common Standards Monitoring - Issue date: February 2004

‘Carpet’ heather: ‘Carpet’ heather is found where sustained heavy grazing on seedlings produces a dense mat-like growth form. ‘Carpet’ forms of heather can occur in coastal situations, even when browsing is not heavy. *Erica cinerea* plants may also exhibit this growth form.

‘Topiary’ heather: Persistent heavy grazing on older, branched plants, may produce heather plants with dense, compact canopies, in which the size of bushes is considerably reduced. Note: in wind-pruned vegetation, this may be difficult to separate and other indicators of overgrazing, such as uprooted *Calluna* should be looked for.

‘Drumstick’ or ‘mop’ heather: Prolonged heavy grazing on mature plants may also produce ‘drumstick’ or ‘mop’ heather bushes in which the heather canopy is reduced to small, compact masses of intertwined and contorted shoots on the ends of scattered long, bare stems. Note that tall drumsticklike heather can occur on wet heaths when browsing is not heavy. This can be checked by looking for browsed shoots and contorted shoot growth.



ANNEX D: Calculation of average stocking rate / grazing period for mosaic habitats.

Where more than one habitat greater than 0.01 ha is present with the field, i.e. a mosaic of habitat types are present, an appropriate grazing regime must be determined using the table below.

1. Determine the area of each habitat present in the field and enter the figures into column A of the table below.
2. Complete Column B (average stocking rate permitted during the grazing period) using the information contained in the standard management requirements regime.
3. Calculate the average livestock units permitted during the grazing period in Column C by multiplying Column A by column B.
4. Total column C to determine the maximum livestock units permitted during the grazing period by multiplying column A by Column B.
5. Total Column A to determine the total area / value F.
6. Total Column C to determine value G.
7. To determine the average stocking rate permitted on the mosaic habitat area, divide value F by value G.
8. Complete the grazing period start date and end date in column D & E.
9. Using the information in column D & E determine an appropriate grazing period and stocking density to meet the conservation needs of the site. Enter this information at the bottom of the table.

Calculation of average stocking rate / grazing period for mosaic habitats.

| Business ID | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|--|--|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Management Unit No. | | FSN | Field nos | | |
| Vegetation type | Area (ha) | Average stocking rate permitted during grazing period on each habitat type (LU / ha) | Average livestock units permitted during the grazing period (LU) | Grazing period start date | Grazing period end date |
| | A | B | A X B = C | D | E |
| Upland heath | | | | | |
| Lowland heath | | | | | |
| Montane heath | | | | | |
| Blanket bog | | | | | |
| Lowland raised bog | | | | | |
| Lowland dry acid grassland | | | | | |
| Purple moor-grass & rush pasture | | | | | |
| Lowland meadow | | | | | |
| Calcareous grassland | | | | | |
| Limestone pavement | | | | | |
| Coastal and flood plain grazing marsh | | | | | |
| Sand dunes | | | | | |
| Coastal salt marsh | | | | | |
| Maritime cliff and slope | | | | | |
| Parkland | | | | | |
| Grazed mixed ash woodland | | | | | |
| Grazed oakwood | | | | | |
| Grazed wet woodland | | | | | |
| Breeding wader site | | | | | |
| Fens | | | | | |
| Reedbeds | | | | | |
| | F | | G | | |

| | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------|--|
| Average stocking rate permitted during grazing period (LU/ha) | | = $G \div F$ | |
| Grazing start date | | Grazing end date | |
| Comments: | | | |
| | | | |

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| ANNEX E: EFS(H) Specialist Plan pro forma |
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EFS Specialist Plan

| | |
|--|--|
| Business ID: | |
| Business Name: | |
| Date of plan: | |
| Name person(s) completing this EFS specialist plan: | |

Please tick the EFS(H) NPI Option you are applying for:

| Tick | Option Name |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Creation of scrapes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Creation of wetlands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Bankside reprofiling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Structures/ work to raise water levels |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Stockbridge |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Ditch blocking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Pasture pump and associated pipework where water source is not a flowing watercourse |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tree felling for biodiversity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tree surgery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tree pollarding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Restorative pruning of traditional orchards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Predator perch removal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Machinery for management of tall fen and reedbed vegetation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Control of invasive non-native plants (rhododendron, laurel, Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed, Himalayan Balsam) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Heather regeneration |

Please ensure you meet the Option requirements as detailed in the associated information sheet before completing your plan

| |
|---|
| Section 1 – General Site Information |
| 1.1 Details of site where the EFS Option is proposed |
| <i>If applicable state the name of the site, Farm Survey No. and Field No., area proposed for management, type of habitat (e.g. purple moorgrass and rush pasture, breeding wader ,lowland raised bog etc), any adjacent habitats and any designations covering the site (e.g. ASSI, SAC, SPA).</i> |
| |
| 1.2 Details of land condition |
| <i>Describe the condition of the site including any vegetation, watercourses and drains etc.</i> |
| |

Section 2 – Current Management

2.1 Current management

Please detail any current management that is carried out on the site.

2.2 Past management and any previous funding obtained for this management

Please provide details of any existing / expired management practices including management agreements or agri-environment funding received for similar management on the site. Details should include the management agreement start and end dates.

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| Section 3 – Management Requirements |
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|---------------------------------------|
| 3.1 Schedule of proposed works |
|---------------------------------------|

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| <i>Provide a schedule of proposed works to be completed under this Option, clearly indicating proposed start/finish dates (see associated EFS information sheets)</i> |
|---|

| |
|-------------------|
| 3.2 Method |
|-------------------|

| |
|---|
| <i>Describe how the Option will be procured, constructed / created, and what if any vehicular access is required.</i> |
|---|

Section 4 - Key Constraints to Management

Some habitats can be damaged if management is not carried out in a sensitive manner. Please detail any sensitivities relevant to the proposed works and how any negative impacts will be mitigated.

Examples include:

- wet areas vulnerable to vehicle tracking. Select vehicle routes to avoid damage*
- timing of works to avoid bird breeding season where disturbance of protected species is possible*
- Installation of fish pass in association with stock bridge to provide safe passage*

Section 5 – Summary Work Programme

Please provide a timetable of work proposed and when it will be undertaken.

Section 6 – Supporting Information

| Option | Supporting information required | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|------------|--|--|
| | Quotation | Plan / map | Rivers Agency or Loughs Agency consent, <i>if applicable</i> | Hydrologist report (HR) Chartered Engineer Plan(EP) |
| Creation of Scrapes | | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Creation of Wetlands | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ (HR) |
| Bankside reprofiling | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Structures/ work to raise water levels | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ (EP) |
| Stockbridge | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ (EP) |
| Ditch blocking - plastic piling dams | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ (HR) |

| Option | Supporting information required | | | | |
|--|---|------------|--|--|---|
| | Quotation detailing specification of equipment or services provided | Plan / map | Rivers Agency or Loughs Agency consent | Hydrologist report (HR) Chartered Engineer Plan (EP) | Copy of Chainsaw Operator / tree surgeon qualification (CQ). Tree felling licence (TF) and Tree preservation Order(TPO), <i>if applicable</i> |
| Pasture pump and associated pipework where water source is not a flowing watercourse | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Tree felling for biodiversity | | ✓ | | | ✓ (CQ;TF; TPO) |
| Tree surgery | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ (CQ;TPO) |
| Tree pollarding | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ (CQ;TPO) |
| Restorative pruning of traditional Orchards | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ (CQ;TPO) |
| Predator perch removal | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ (CQ;TF; TPO) |
| Machinery for management of tall fen and reedbed vegetation | ✓ | | | | |

| Option | Supporting information required | | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------|--|---|---|
| | Quotation detailing specification of equipment or services provided | Plan / map | Rivers Agency or Loughs Agency consent | Hydrologist report (HR) Chartered Engineer Plan(EP) | Copy of Chainsaw Operator / tree surgeon qualification (CQ). Tree felling licence (TF) and Tree preservation Order(TPO), <i>if applicable</i> |
| Control of invasive non-native plants (rhododendron, laurel, Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed, Himalayan Balsam) | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| Heather regeneration | | ✓ (Agreed with NIFRS) | | | |
| <p>N.B. Provide map(s) (at an appropriate scale) showing where the proposed management activities -will take place. For example, in the case of ditch blocking – This should include the ditches to be blocked, the direction of flow and the approximate location of proposed new dams. Include the location of dams or sluices installed under previous management.</p> <p>Indicate whether any further supporting information not detailed above has been supplied in support of the application e.g. planning permission.</p> | | | | | |

ANNEX F: EFS Options - Standard management requirements, further advice and record requirements.

| Management requirements common to all RMP options (DOES NOT APPLY TO LAPWING FALLOW PLOTS) | | |
|---|--|---|
| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Drainage: New drainage is not permitted. Existing field drainage which is piped may be maintained, except on moorland, heathland or sensitive wetland sites where no changes to existing drainage are permitted. However, reseeding of the area using an improved grassland mixture containing perennial ryegrass is not permitted, except where the existing sward is improved grassland. Sheughs and open drains in and around grassland may be cleaned to maintain effective drainage. Deepening or widening of the sheugh is not permitted. The resulting dredging/spoil must be spread thinly over the 5 - 6 metre strip adjacent to the sheugh. Maintenance of existing internal sheughs and / or internal open drains is not permitted on moorland, heathland or sensitive wetland sites.</p> <p>Field storage: The storage of hay, silage (either baled or in a temporary clamp) or any organic or inorganic fertiliser is not permitted, except on improved grassland.</p> <p>Land improvements: Ploughing, cultivation, reseeding of any nature, or liming is not permitted except on an existing intensively managed improved sward and is only permitted beyond 10 m from the edge of the canopy of a parkland tree. New drainage, dumping, infilling or burning of any vegetation including bushes (other than at the agreed location marked as 'B' on the EFS management map) or any other activity which will result in damage to the area is not permitted. Tree planting is not permitted, except where included in the ssRMP.</p> <p>Weed control: Decisions on the use of chemical control will be based on IPM principles and health and safety considerations of the site. Applications of herbicides and pesticides are not permitted except for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the treatment of noxious weeds (which must be controlled in accordance with the Noxious Weeds (Northern Ireland) Order 1977); or • the control of non-native invasive species with approved herbicides applied using a spot sprayer only; or • the control of bracken. | <p>Drainage: Natural regeneration of the sward is the preferred option of sward restoration following repair of existing drainage. It is preferable to carry out sheugh maintenance and cleaning during the autumn to late winter period. Clear away only vegetation and silt from sheughs, leaving the vegetation untouched along one side of the sheugh at cleaning. Keep a balance of trees, shrubs and fringing vegetation, where present, to maintain the natural appearance of the sheugh in the landscape. When cleaning out sheughs, retain as many water loving plants as possible in the sheugh.</p> <p>Weed control: Noxious weeds are wild oat (<i>Avena fatua</i> L.); thistle (<i>Cirsium vulgare</i> (Savi) Ten.); <i>Cirsium arvense</i> (L. Scop.), dock (<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> L.; <i>Rumex crispus</i> L.) and ragwort (<i>Senecio jacobaea</i> L.). Non-native invasive species include Rhododendron, Giant hogweed, Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam.</p> <p>Other actions: Observe all relevant Health and Safety guidelines when carrying out works on the RMP area including operating machinery or using hand tools when completing works. Works should not be carried out when ground conditions are wet in order to minimise damage to the site. It is your responsibility to ensure you comply with the Waste Management Regulations (NI) 2006 and Cross-Compliance requirements. It is not recommended that silage is fed as a supplementary feed as this may result in localised poaching and enrichment of the underlying vegetation. Remember your wildlife law obligations which are summarised in the document available at: www.daera-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/dae/daera-2016-wildlife-law-and-you.pdf</p> | <p>Weed control: EFS IPM records (Records as required as part of Cross-Compliance SMR4 will be used to verify this requirement.)</p> |

| Moorlands (Upland heath) Remedial Management Option (UHG) | | |
|--|---|---|
| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: Land must be maintained by grazing. No grazing from 1 November to 28/29 February. <i>If sheep only grazing</i> – 1 March to 31 October at an average stocking rate not exceeding 0.25 LU/ha in each year. <i>If sheep & cattle grazing</i> – 1 March to 31 May, sheep only, at an average stocking rate not exceeding 0.25 LU/ha in each year. 1 June to 31 August, cattle & sheep, at an average stocking rate not exceeding 0.20 LU/ha in each year. 1 September to 31 October, sheep only, at an average stocking rate not exceeding 0.25 LU/ha in each year. <i>If cattle only grazing</i> – 1 June to 31 August at an average stocking rate not exceeding 0.20 LU/ha in each year. Undergrazing and overgrazing including severe poaching are not permitted. Supplementary feeder(s) is/are not permitted on the site.</p> <p>Peat cutting is prohibited, except where consented by DAERA and/or DAERA consented existing turbary rights.</p> <p>Controlled/prescribed burning of heather and associated flailing is permitted where included as an EFS NPI (as detailed on the EFS map and within this ssRMP) and as part of a wildfire risk management plan agreed with the Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS). Flailing which is not associated with burning is permitted where included as an EFS NPI (as detailed on the EFS map and within this ssRMP). Any additional flailing or burning outside of this ssRMP will require DAERA consent.</p> <p>Land applications: The application of any organic or chemical fertiliser is not permitted.</p> <p>Bracken control: Encroaching bracken (that is bracken which was not present at the beginning of the Scheme) control must be carried out, each year, if present.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub (that is scrub which was not firmly established at the beginning of the Scheme) must be controlled each year, as required, including rhododendron and conifer seedlings/saplings. Mechanical grubbing out of encroaching scrub is not permitted. Standing scrub must not be burned. The removal of Western gorse (<i>Ulex gallii</i>), bog myrtle (<i>Myrica gale</i>) and creeping willow (<i>Salix repens</i>) is not permitted.</p> <p>Tree planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Stock should be shepherded across the site regularly, to aid distribution of grazing pressure. Where upland flushes form part of this habitat, they should be grazed appropriately to keep the vegetation cover open.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide in line with IPM requirements; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at the agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. | <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from.</p> <p>Peat Cutting: Record permitted peat cutting (date, volume and cutting method).</p> <p>Controlled/prescribed burning of heather: Records detailing works completed (date, location, area) outside of NPI.</p> <p>Bracken control: Record bracken control activity.</p> <p>Scrub control: Record scrub control activity.</p> |

| Moorlands (Lowland heath) Remedial Management Option (LHG) | | |
|---|--|---|
| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: Land must be maintained by grazing. No grazing from 1 November to 28/29 February. Sheep and/or cattle grazing – 1 March to 31 October at an average stocking rate not exceeding 0.25 LU/ha in each year. Undergrazing and overgrazing including severe poaching are not permitted. Supplementary feeder(s) is/are not permitted on the site.</p> <p>Peat cutting is prohibited, except where consented by DAERA and/or DAERA consented existing turbary rights.</p> <p>Controlled/prescribed burning of heather and associated flailing is permitted where included as an EFS NPI (as detailed on the EFS map and within this ssRMP) and as part of a wildfire risk management plan agreed with the Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS). Flailing which is not associated with burning is permitted where included as an EFS NPI (as detailed on the EFS map and within this ssRMP). Any additional flailing or burning outside of this ssRMP will require DAERA consent.</p> <p>Land applications: The application of any organic or chemical fertiliser is not permitted.</p> <p>Bracken control: Encroaching bracken (that is bracken which was not present at the beginning of the Scheme) control must be carried out, each year, if present.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub (that is scrub which was not firmly established at the beginning of the Scheme) must be controlled each year, as required, including rhododendron and conifer seedlings/saplings. Mechanical grubbing out of encroaching scrub is not permitted. Standing scrub must not be burned. The removal of Western gorse (<i>Ulex gallii</i>), bog myrtle (<i>Myrica gale</i>) and creeping willow (<i>Salix repens</i>) is not permitted.</p> <p>Tree planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Stock should be shepherded across the site, regularly, to aid distribution of grazing pressure. Where upland flushes form part of this habitat, they should be grazed appropriately to keep the vegetation cover open.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide in line with IPM requirements; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at the agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. | <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from.</p> <p>Peat Cutting: Record permitted peat cutting (date, volume and cutting method).</p> <p>Controlled/prescribed burning of heather: Records detailing works completed (date, location, area) outside of NPI.</p> <p>Bracken control: Record bracken control activity.</p> <p>Scrub control: Record scrub control activity.</p> |

| Moorlands (Montane heath) Remedial Management Option (MHG) | | |
|---|---|---|
| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: Land must be maintained by grazing. No grazing from 1 Nov to 28/29 February. Sheep only grazing – 1 March to 31 October at an average stocking rate not exceeding 0.075 LU/ha in each year. Undergrazing and overgrazing including severe poaching are not permitted. Supplementary feeder(s) is/are not permitted on the site.</p> <p>Peat cutting is prohibited.</p> <p>Heather burning or flailing is prohibited.</p> <p>Scrub control is prohibited.</p> <p>Tree planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Stock should be shepherded across the site, regularly, to aid distribution of grazing pressure.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from.</p> |

| Moorlands (Blanket bog) Remedial Management Option (BBG) | | |
|--|--|--|
| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: Land must be maintained by grazing. No grazing from 1 November to 28/29 February. Sheep only grazing – 1 March to 31 October at an average stocking rate not exceeding 0.075 LU/ha in each year. Undergrazing and overgrazing including severe poaching are not permitted. Supplementary feeder(s) is/are not permitted on the site.</p> <p>Peat cutting is prohibited, except where consented by DAERA and/or DAERA consented existing turbary rights.</p> <p>Heather Burning/ Flailing: Burning is prohibited. Flailing is ONLY permitted where included as an EFS NPI (as detailed on the EFS map and within this ssRMP) and as part of a wildfire risk management plan agreed with the Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS). Any additional flailing will require DAERA consent.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub (that is scrub which was not firmly established at the beginning of the Scheme) must be controlled each year, as required, including rhododendron and conifer seedlings/saplings. Mechanical grubbing out of encroaching scrub is not permitted. Standing scrub must not be burned. The removal of Western gorse (<i>Ulex gallii</i>), bog myrtle (<i>Myrica gale</i>) and creeping willow (<i>Salix repens</i>) is not permitted.</p> <p>Tree planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Stock should be shepherded across the site, regularly, to aid distribution of grazing pressure. Where upland flushes form part of this habitat, they should be grazed appropriately to keep the vegetation cover open.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide in line with IPM requirements; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at the agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. | <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from.</p> <p>Peat cutting: Record permitted peat cutting (date, volume and cutting method).</p> <p>Heather Burning/ Flailing: Records detailing works completed (date, location, area) outside of NPI.</p> <p>Scrub control: Record scrub control activity.</p> |

| Moorlands (Intact lowland raised bog) Remedial Management Option (ILR) | | |
|--|--|---|
| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: No grazing by livestock is permitted. Supplementary feeder(s) is/are not permitted on the site.</p> <p>Peat cutting is prohibited, except where consented by DAERA and/or DAERA consented existing turbary rights.</p> <p>Heather burning or flailing is prohibited.</p> <p>Rush control: Chemical rush control is not permitted. Routine rush control can only be carried out by cutting between 1 January and 15 March and/or 15 July and 31 December each year.</p> <p>Land applications: The application of any organic or chemical fertiliser is not permitted.</p> <p>Scrub control: Carry out routine control of encroaching scrub (that is scrub which was not firmly established at the beginning of the Scheme) each year, as required, including rhododendron and conifer seedlings/saplings. Mechanical grubbing out of scrub is not permitted. Standing scrub must not be burned. The removal of Western gorse (<i>Ulex gallii</i>), bog myrtle (<i>Myrica gale</i>) and creeping willow (<i>Salix repens</i>) is not permitted.</p> <p>Tree planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Rush control: Rushes should be cut close to the ground, i.e. less than 20 centimetres from ground level, where this does not constitute a Health and Safety risk. The best time for control is early to mid-summer when growth rate of soft rush is highest. Grazing or heavy rolling of the area after cutting will help to reduce regrowth of the rushes. Avoid creating wheel ruts as this can damage the soil structure and the sward. Wheel rutting also encourages the establishment of invasive weeds. Avoid overgrazing and poaching because these damage soil structure and the sward and create conditions for seedlings to grow. Cut rushes should ideally be removed by baling, raking or burning (burn at the point marked 'B' on the EFS map). Where this is not possible, graze with cattle immediately after cutting to help break up the mat of cut rush. Burning waste plant material requires an exemption under the Waste Management (NI) Regulations 2006.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at the agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. <p>The Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 and the associated Forestry (Felling of Trees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 resulted in the introduction of felling licences from 17 June 2014. The removal of scrub may require a felling licence.</p> | <p>Peat cutting: Record permitted peat cutting (date, volume and cutting method)</p> <p>Rush control: Record field numbers where rush control completed and date(s) of work.</p> <p>Scrub control: Record field numbers where scrub control completed and date(s) of work.</p> |

| Purple Moorgrass & Rush Pasture Remedial Management Option (PRG) | | |
|--|---|---|
| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: Land must be maintained by grazing. The site must be managed by grazing extensively between 1 May and 31 December at an average stocking rate not exceeding 1 LU/ha in each year. No grazing is permitted between 1 January to 30 April inclusive. Undergrazing and overgrazing including severe poaching are not permitted. Supplementary feeder(s) is/are not permitted on the site. Excess grass may be saved for hay or silage but must not be cut until after 15 July. Cutting on a known marsh fritillary breeding site is not permitted without prior permission of DAERA.</p> <p>Land applications: The application of any organic or chemical fertiliser is not permitted.</p> <p>Rush control: Chemical rush control is not permitted. Routine soft rush control must be carried out by cutting between 1 January and 15 March and/or 15 July and 31 December each year.</p> <p>Scrub control: Carry out routine control of encroaching scrub (that is scrub which was not firmly established at the beginning of the Scheme) each year, as required, including rhododendron and conifer seedlings/saplings. Mechanical grubbing out of scrub is not permitted. Standing scrub must not be burned. The removal of Western gorse (<i>Ulex gallii</i>), bog myrtle (<i>Myrica gale</i>) and creeping willow (<i>Salix repens</i>) is not permitted.</p> <p>Tree planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Livestock should be removed in adverse weather conditions to minimise poaching/overgrazing. Where breeding waders are a site feature or occur regularly on the site, consider deferring substantive grazing until 1 July. On known or potential marsh fritillary sites, sheep grazing should be avoided. Cattle grazing is preferential. Where a marsh fritillary site is identified, consider stocking reduction around devil's-bit scabious flowering time, which is usually from mid-August to mid-October and aim to create a sward with a varied vegetation height. Additional species-specific advice and support relating to breeding wader and marsh fritillary will be provided. Where upland flushes form part of this habitat, they should be grazed appropriately to keep the vegetation cover open.</p> <p>Rush control: Rushes should be cut close to the ground, i.e. less than 20 centimetres from ground level, where this does not constitute a Health and Safety risk. The best time for control is early to mid-summer when growth rate of soft rush is highest. Grazing or heavy rolling of the area after cutting will help to reduce regrowth of the rushes. Avoid creating wheel ruts as this can damage the soil structure and the sward. Wheel rutting also encourages the establishment of invasive weeds. Avoid overgrazing and poaching because these damage soil structure and the sward and create conditions for seedlings to grow. Ideally cut rushes should be removed by baling or raking where not flailed. Where this is not possible, graze with cattle immediately after cutting to help break up the mat of cut rush. On a marsh fritillary site, rushes should not be cut around devil's-bit scabious flowering time, which is usually from mid-August to mid-October.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at the agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. <p>The Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 and the associated Forestry (Felling of Trees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 resulted in the introduction of felling licences from 17 June 2014. The removal of scrub may require a felling licence.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from. If silage or hay is made, cutting date must be recorded.</p> <p>Rush control: Date(s) rush control completed. field number(s) where rush cutting was completed.</p> <p>Scrub control: Record field numbers where scrub control completed and date(s) of work.</p> |

| Calcareous Grassland (all year grazing) Remedial Management Option (CAG) | | |
|---|---|--|
| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: The site must be managed by grazing extensively all year at an average stocking rate not exceeding 0.5 LU/ha in each year. Undergrazing and overgrazing including severe poaching are not permitted. Supplementary feeder(s) is/are not permitted on the site.</p> <p>Land applications: The application of any organic or chemical fertiliser is not permitted.</p> <p>Bracken control: Encroaching bracken (that is bracken which was not present at the beginning of the Scheme) control must be carried out each year, if present.</p> <p>Rush control: Chemical rush control is not permitted. Routine soft rush control must be carried out by cutting between 1 January and 15 March and/or 15 July and 31 December each year.</p> <p>Scrub control: Carry out routine control of encroaching scrub (that is scrub which was not firmly established at the beginning of the Scheme) each year, as required, including rhododendron and conifer seedlings/saplings. Mechanical grubbing out of scrub is not permitted. Standing scrub must not be burned. The removal of juniper is not permitted. The removal of hazel is not permitted without prior permission of DAERA.</p> <p>Tree planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Livestock should be removed in adverse weather conditions to minimise poaching/overgrazing. Where a marsh fritillary site is identified, consider stocking reduction around devil's-bit scabious flowering time, which is usually from mid-August to mid-October. Additional species-specific advice and support relating to marsh fritillary will be provided. Where upland flushes form part of this habitat, they should be grazed appropriately to keep the vegetation cover open.</p> <p>Rush control: Rushes should be cut close to the ground, i.e. less than 20 centimetres from ground level, where this does not constitute a Health and Safety risk. The best time for control is early (from 15 July) to mid-summer when growth rate of soft rush is highest. Grazing or heavy rolling of the area after cutting will help to reduce regrowth of the rushes. Avoid creating wheel ruts as this can damage the soil structure and the sward. Wheel rutting also encourages the establishment of invasive weeds. Avoid overgrazing and poaching because these damage soil structure and the sward and create conditions for seedlings to grow. Ideally cut rushes should be removed by baling or raking where not flailed. Where this is not possible, graze with cattle immediately after cutting to help break up the mat of cut rush. On a marsh fritillary site, rushes should not be cut around devil's-bit scabious flowering time, which is usually from mid-August to mid-October.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide; and <p>scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at the agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. The Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 and the associated Forestry (Felling of Trees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 resulted in the introduction of felling licences from 17 June 2014. The removal of scrub may require a felling licence.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from.</p> <p>Bracken control: Record bracken control activity.</p> <p>Rush control: Date(s) rush control completed, Field number(s) where rush cutting was completed.</p> <p>Scrub control: Record field numbers where scrub control completed and date(s) of work.</p> |

| Calcareous Grassland (restricted grazing) Remedial Management Option (CRG) | | |
|---|---|--|
| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: The site must be managed by grazing extensively between 1 August and 30 April at an average stocking rate not exceeding 0.75 LU/ha in each year with no grazing permitted between 1 May and 31 July. Undergrazing and overgrazing including severe poaching are not permitted. Supplementary feeder(s) is/are not permitted on the site.</p> <p>Land applications: The application of any organic or chemical fertiliser is not permitted.</p> <p>Bracken control: Encroaching bracken (that is bracken which was not present at the beginning of the Scheme) control must be carried out each year, if present.</p> <p>Rush control: Chemical rush control is not permitted. Routine soft rush control must be carried out by cutting between 1 January and 15 March and/or 15 July and 31 December each year.</p> <p>Scrub control: Carry out routine control of encroaching scrub (that is scrub which was not firmly established at the beginning of the Scheme) each year, as required, including rhododendron and conifer seedlings/saplings. Mechanical grubbing out of scrub is not permitted. Standing scrub must not be burned. The removal of juniper is not permitted. The removal of hazel is not permitted without prior permission of DAERA.</p> <p>Tree planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Livestock should be removed in adverse weather conditions to minimise poaching/overgrazing.</p> <p>Rush control: Rushes should be cut close to the ground, i.e. less than 20 centimetres from ground level, where this does not constitute a Health and Safety risk. The best time for control is early (from 15 July) to mid-summer when growth rate of soft rush is highest. Grazing or heavy rolling of the area after cutting will help to reduce regrowth of the rushes. Avoid creating wheel ruts as this can damage the soil structure and the sward. Wheel rutting also encourages the establishment of invasive weeds. Avoid overgrazing and poaching because these damage soil structure and the sward and create conditions for seedlings to grow. Ideally cut rushes should be removed by baling or raking where not flailed. Where this is not possible, graze with cattle immediately after cutting to help break up the mat of cut rush. On a marsh fritillary site, rushes should not be cut around devil's-bit scabious flowering time, which is usually from mid-August to mid-October. Additional species-specific advice and support relating to marsh fritillary will be provided.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at an agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. <p>The Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 and the associated Forestry (Felling of Trees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 resulted in the introduction of felling licences from 17 June 2014. The removal of scrub may require a felling licence.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from.</p> <p>Bracken control: Record bracken control activity.</p> <p>Rush control: Date(s) rush control completed, field number(s) where rush cutting was completed.</p> <p>Scrub control: Record field numbers where scrub control completed and date(s) of work.</p> |

| Lowland Meadow (all year grazing) Remedial Management Option (LMA) | | |
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| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: The site must be managed by grazing extensively all year at an average stocking rate not exceeding 0.5 LU/ha in each year. Undergrazing and overgrazing including severe poaching are not permitted. Supplementary feeder(s) is/are not permitted on the site. Excess grass may be saved for hay or silage but must not be cut until after 15 July.</p> <p>Land applications: The application of any organic or chemical fertiliser is not permitted.</p> <p>Bracken control: Encroaching bracken (that is bracken which was not present at the beginning of the Scheme) control must be carried out each year, if present.</p> <p>Rush control: Chemical rush control is not permitted. Routine soft rush control must be carried out by cutting between 1 January and 15 March and/or 15 July and 31 December each year.</p> <p>Scrub control: Carry out routine control of encroaching scrub (that is scrub which was not firmly established at the beginning of the Scheme) each year, as required, including rhododendron and conifer seedlings/saplings. Mechanical grubbing out of scrub is not permitted. Standing scrub must not be burned. The removal of Western gorse (<i>Ulex gallii</i>), bog myrtle (<i>Myrica gale</i>) and creeping willow (<i>Salix repens</i>) is not permitted.</p> <p>Tree planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Cattle grazing is preferential. Livestock should be removed in adverse weather conditions to minimise poaching/overgrazing.</p> <p>Rush control: Rushes should be cut close to the ground, i.e. less than 20 centimetres from ground level, where this does not constitute a Health and Safety risk. The best time for control is early (from 15 July) to mid-summer when growth rate of soft rush is highest. Grazing or heavy rolling of the area after cutting will help to reduce regrowth of the rushes. Avoid creating wheel ruts as this can damage the soil structure and the sward. Wheel rutting also encourages the establishment of invasive weeds. Avoid overgrazing and poaching because these damage soil structure and the sward and create conditions for seedlings to grow. Ideally cut rushes should be removed by baling or raking where not flailed. Where this is not possible, graze with cattle immediately after cutting to help break up the mat of cut rush. On a marsh fritillary site, rushes should not be cut around devil's-bit scabious flowering time, which is usually from mid-August to mid-October. Additional species-specific advice and support relating to marsh fritillary will be provided.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at an agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. <p>The Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 and the associated Forestry (Felling of Trees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 resulted in the introduction of felling licences from 17 June 2014. The removal of scrub may require a felling licence.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from.</p> <p>Bracken control: Record bracken control activity.</p> <p>Rush control: Date(s) rush control completed, field number(s) where rush cutting was completed.</p> <p>Scrub control: Record field numbers where scrub control completed and date(s) of work.</p> |

| Lowland Meadow (restricted grazing) Remedial Management Option (LMR) | | |
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| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: The site must be managed by grazing extensively between 1 August and 30 April at an average stocking rate of 0.75 LU/ha in each year with no grazing permitted between 1 May and 31 July. Undergrazing and overgrazing including severe poaching are not permitted. Supplementary feeder(s) is/are not permitted on the site. Excess grass may be saved for hay or silage but must not be cut until after 15 July.</p> <p>Land applications: The application of any organic or chemical fertiliser is not permitted.</p> <p>Bracken control: Encroaching bracken (that is bracken which was not present at the beginning of the Scheme) control must be carried out each year, if present.</p> <p>Rush control: Chemical rush control is not permitted. Routine soft rush control must be carried out by cutting between 1 January and 15 March and/or 15 July and 31 December each year.</p> <p>Scrub control: Carry out routine control of encroaching scrub (that is scrub which was not firmly established at the beginning of the Scheme) each year, as required, including rhododendron and conifer seedlings/saplings. Mechanical grubbing out of scrub is not permitted. Standing scrub must not be burned. The removal of Western gorse (<i>Ulex gallii</i>), bog myrtle (<i>Myrica gale</i>) and creeping willow (<i>Salix repens</i>) is not permitted.</p> <p>Tree planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Cattle grazing is preferential. Livestock should be removed in adverse weather conditions to minimise poaching/overgrazing.</p> <p>Rush control: Rushes should be cut close to the ground, i.e. less than 20 centimetres from ground level, where this does not constitute a Health and Safety risk. The best time for control is early (from 15 July) to mid-summer when growth rate of soft rush is highest. Grazing or heavy rolling of the area after cutting will help to reduce regrowth of the rushes. Avoid creating wheel ruts as this can damage the soil structure and the sward. Wheel rutting also encourages the establishment of invasive weeds. Avoid overgrazing and poaching because these damage soil structure and the sward and create conditions for seedlings to grow. Ideally cut rushes should be removed by baling or raking where not flailed. Where this is not possible, graze with cattle immediately after cutting to help break up the mat of cut rush. On a marsh fritillary site, rushes should not be cut around devil's-bit scabious flowering time, which is usually from mid-August to mid-October. Additional species-specific advice and support relating to marsh fritillary will be provided.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at an agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. <p>The Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 and the associated Forestry (Felling of Trees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 resulted in the introduction of felling licences from 17 June 2014. The removal of scrub may require a felling licence.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from.</p> <p>Bracken control: Record bracken control activity.</p> <p>Rush control: Date(s) rush control completed, field number(s) where rush cutting was completed.</p> <p>Scrub control: Record field numbers where scrub control completed and date(s) of work.</p> |

| Lowland dry acid grassland (all year grazing) Remedial Management Option (LDA) | | |
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| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: The site must be managed by grazing extensively all year at an average stocking rate not exceeding 0.4 LU/ha in each year. Undergrazing and overgrazing including severe poaching are not permitted. Supplementary feeder(s) is/are not permitted on the site.</p> <p>Land applications: The application of any organic or chemical fertiliser is not permitted.</p> <p>Bracken control: Encroaching bracken (that is bracken which was not present at the beginning of the Scheme) control must be carried out each year, if present.</p> <p>Rush control: Chemical rush control is not permitted. Routine soft rush control must be carried out by cutting between 1 January and 15 March and/or 15 July and 31 December each year.</p> <p>Scrub control: Carry out routine control of encroaching scrub (that is scrub which was not firmly established at the beginning of the Scheme) each year, as required, including rhododendron and conifer seedlings/saplings. Mechanical grubbing out of scrub is not permitted. Standing scrub must not be burned. The removal of Western gorse (<i>Ulex gallii</i>), bog myrtle (<i>Myrica gale</i>) and creeping willow (<i>Salix repens</i>) is not permitted.</p> <p>Tree planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Livestock should be removed in adverse weather conditions to minimise poaching/overgrazing. Additional species-specific advice and support relating to marsh fritillary will be provided.</p> <p>Rush control: Rushes should be cut close to the ground, i.e. less than 20 centimetres from ground level, where this does not constitute a Health and Safety risk. The best time for control is early (from 15 July) to mid-summer when growth rate of soft rush is highest. Grazing or heavy rolling of the area after cutting will help to reduce regrowth of the rushes. Avoid creating wheel ruts as this can damage the soil structure and the sward. Wheel rutting also encourages the establishment of invasive weeds. Avoid overgrazing and poaching because these damage soil structure and the sward and create conditions for seedlings to grow. Ideally cut rushes should be removed by baling or raking where not flailed. Where this is not possible, graze with cattle immediately after cutting to help break up the mat of cut rush. On a marsh fritillary site, rushes should not be cut around devil's-bit scabious flowering time, which is usually from mid-August to mid-October.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at an agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. <p>The Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 and the associated Forestry (Felling of Trees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 resulted in the introduction of felling licences from 17 June 2014. The removal of scrub may require a felling licence.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from.</p> <p>Bracken control: Record bracken control activity.</p> <p>Rush control: Date(s) rush control completed, field number(s) where rush cutting was completed.</p> <p>Scrub control: Record field numbers where scrub control completed and date(s) of work.</p> |

| Lowland dry acid grassland (restricted grazing) Remedial Management Option (LDR) | | |
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| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: The site must be managed by grazing extensively between 1 August and 30 April at an average stocking rate not exceeding 0.6 LU/ha in each year with no grazing permitted between 1 May and 31 July. Undergrazing and overgrazing including severe poaching are not permitted. Supplementary feeder(s) is/are not permitted on the site.</p> <p>Land applications: The application of any organic or chemical fertiliser is not permitted.</p> <p>Bracken control: Encroaching bracken (that is bracken which was not present at the beginning of the Scheme) control must be carried out each year, if present.</p> <p>Rush control: Chemical rush control is not permitted. Routine soft rush control must be carried out by cutting between 1 January and 15 March and/or 15 July and 31 December each year.</p> <p>Scrub control: Carry out routine control of encroaching scrub (that is scrub which was not firmly established at the beginning of the Scheme) each year, as required, including rhododendron and conifer seedlings/saplings. Mechanical grubbing out of scrub is not permitted. Standing scrub must not be burned. The removal of Western gorse (<i>Ulex gallii</i>), bog myrtle (<i>Myrica gale</i>) and creeping willow (<i>Salix repens</i>) is not permitted.</p> <p>Tree planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Livestock should be removed in adverse weather conditions to minimise poaching/overgrazing.</p> <p>Rush control: Rushes should be cut close to the ground, i.e. less than 20 centimetres from ground level, where this does not constitute a Health and Safety risk. The best time for control is early (from 15 July) to mid-summer when growth rate of soft rush is highest. Grazing or heavy rolling of the area after cutting will help to reduce regrowth of the rushes. Avoid creating wheel ruts as this can damage the soil structure and the sward. Wheel rutting also encourages the establishment of invasive weeds. Avoid overgrazing and poaching because these damage soil structure and the sward and create conditions for seedlings to grow. Ideally cut rushes should be removed by baling or raking where not flailed. Where this is not possible, graze with cattle immediately after cutting to help break up the mat of cut rush. On a marsh fritillary site, rushes should not be cut around devil's-bit scabious flowering time, which is usually from mid-August to mid-October. Additional species-specific advice and support relating to marsh fritillary will be provided.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at an agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. <p>The Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 and the associated Forestry (Felling of Trees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 resulted in the introduction of felling licences from 17 June 2014. The removal of scrub may require a felling licence.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from.</p> <p>Bracken control: Record bracken control activity.</p> <p>Rush control: Date(s) rush control completed, field number(s) where rush cutting was completed.</p> <p>Scrub control: Record field numbers where scrub control completed and date(s) of work.</p> |

| Lowland meadow and Purple Moorgrass & Rush Pasture (Cut for Hay) Remedial Management Option (HAY) | | |
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| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Cutting Practice: Cut the hay meadow on or after 1 July each year. Conserve the cut sward as hay. If the weather is bad and the participant wishes to make big bale silage, seek verbal permission from DAERA management/adviser before big bale silage is made. If this permission is granted, the sward must be turned/tedded at least once before baling to encourage the return of seed to the sward. Written permission to make big bale silage will be sent to the Scheme participant by email or post. Conserve the cut sward as hay at least twice in any three year period.</p> <p>Grazing regime: No grazing is permitted from 1 November to the date cut for hay. The aftermath must be grazed. Undergrazing and overgrazing including severe poaching are not permitted. Supplementary feeder(s) is/are not permitted on the site.</p> <p>Land applications: Where applicable, maximum application of farmyard manure is 2.5tonnes/ha/year. Applications of slurry and/or poultry litter are not permitted. The application of any chemical fertiliser is not permitted without the prior written permission of DAERA. Seek verbal permission from DAERA management/adviser before any application of chemical fertiliser. If this permission is granted, written permission for application of chemical fertiliser will be sent to the Scheme participant by email or post.</p> <p>Bracken control: Encroaching bracken (that is bracken which was not present at the beginning of the Scheme) control must be carried out each year, if present.</p> <p>Scrub control: Carry out routine control of encroaching scrub (that is scrub which was not firmly established at the beginning of the Scheme) each year, as required, including rhododendron and conifer seedlings/saplings. Mechanical grubbing out of scrub is not permitted. Standing scrub must not be burned. The removal of Western gorse (<i>Ulex gallii</i>), bog myrtle (<i>Myrica gale</i>) and creeping willow (<i>Salix repens</i>) is not permitted.</p> <p>Tree planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Cutting Practice: Where feasible, allow one late cut during the 5 year agreement. Additional species-specific advice and support relating to breeding wader and marsh fritillary will be provided.</p> <p>Grazing regime: The grazing of the aftermath prevents the grasses from becoming too lush. Livestock should be removed in adverse weather conditions to minimise poaching/overgrazing.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at an agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. <p>The Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 and the associated Forestry (Felling of Trees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 resulted in the introduction of felling licences from 17 June 2014. The removal of scrub may require a felling licence.</p> | <p>Cutting Practice: Date cut. Copy of permission to make big bale silage, where applicable.</p> <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from.</p> <p>Land applications: Field numbers where fertiliser (organic or chemical) was applied, date(s) of application, quantity of fertiliser (organic or chemical) applied to each field.</p> <p>Bracken control: Record bracken control activity.</p> <p>Scrub control: Record field numbers where scrub control completed and date(s) of work.</p> |

| Coastal and flood plain grazing marsh (restricted grazing) Remedial Management Option (CFR) | | |
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| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: The site must be managed by grazing extensively between 1 May and 31 December at a maximum average stocking rate of 1.0 LU/ha in each year with no grazing permitted between 1 January and 30 April. Undergrazing and overgrazing including severe poaching are not permitted. Supplementary feeder(s) is/are not permitted on the site.</p> <p>Land applications: The application of any organic or chemical fertiliser is not permitted.</p> <p>Rush control: Chemical rush control is not permitted. Routine soft rush control must be carried out by cutting between 1 January and 15 March and/or 15 July and 31 December each year.</p> <p>Scrub control: Carry out routine control of encroaching scrub (that is scrub which was not firmly established at the beginning of the Scheme) each year, as required, including rhododendron and conifer seedlings/saplings. Mechanical grubbing out of scrub is not permitted. Standing scrub must not be burned. The removal of Western gorse (<i>Ulex gallii</i>), bog myrtle (<i>Myrica gale</i>) and creeping willow (<i>Salix repens</i>) is not permitted.</p> <p>Tree planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Livestock should be removed in adverse weather conditions to minimise poaching/overgrazing.</p> <p>Rush control: Rushes should be cut close to the ground, i.e. less than 20 centimetres from ground level, where this does not constitute a Health and Safety risk. The best time for control is early (from 15 July) to mid-summer when growth rate of soft rush is highest. Grazing or heavy rolling of the area after cutting will help to reduce regrowth of the rushes. Avoid creating wheel ruts as this can damage the soil structure and the sward. Wheel rutting also encourages the establishment of invasive weeds. Avoid overgrazing and poaching because these damage soil structure and the sward and create conditions for seedlings to grow. Ideally cut rushes should be removed by baling or raking where not flailed. Where this is not possible, graze with cattle immediately after cutting to help break up the mat of cut rush. On a marsh fritillary site, rushes should not be cut around devil's-bit scabious flowering time, which is usually from mid-August to mid-October. Additional species-specific advice and support relating to breeding wader and marsh fritillary will be provided.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at an agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. <p>The Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 and the associated Forestry (Felling of Trees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 resulted in the introduction of felling licences from 17 June 2014. The removal of scrub may require a felling licence.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from.</p> <p>Rush control: Date(s) rush control completed, field number(s) where rush cutting was completed.</p> <p>Scrub control: Record field numbers where scrub control completed and date(s) of work.</p> |

| Breeding Wader Remedial Management Option (BWG) | | |
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| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: From 15 April to 15 July the average stocking rate must not exceed 0.75 LU/ha for cattle or sheep. From 16 July to 14 April there are no stocking density restrictions. If lapwing is known to breed on the site, grazing must start by 15 March. Undergrazing and overgrazing including severe poaching are not permitted. Supplementary feeding sites used between 15 April and 15 July require the permission of DAERA and are only permitted at the agreed location. Verbal permission must be sought from DAERA management/adviser before a supplementary feeding site is used. If this permission is granted, written permission confirming this decision will be sent to the Scheme participant by email or post.</p> <p>Silage may be harvested from the breeding wader site but the fields must not be closed up from grazing until after 1 July.</p> <p>Land applications: The application of lime and/or any organic (except Farmyard manure) or chemical fertiliser is not permitted between 01 February and 15 July. Farmyard manure application(s) is not permitted between 15 April and 15 July.</p> <p>Rush control: Chemical rush control is not permitted. Routine soft rush control must be carried out by cutting between 1 January and 15 March and/or 15 July and 31 December each year.</p> <p>Scrub control: Carry out routine control of encroaching scrub (that is scrub which was not firmly established at the beginning of the Scheme) each year, as required, including rhododendron and conifer seedlings/saplings. Mechanical grubbing out of scrub is not permitted. Standing scrub must not be burned. The removal of Western gorse (<i>Ulex gallii</i>), bog myrtle (<i>Myrica gale</i>) and creeping willow (<i>Salix repens</i>) is not permitted.</p> <p>Field operations are not permitted between 15 April and 15 July.</p> <p>Tree or hedge planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Livestock should be removed in adverse weather conditions to minimise poaching/overgrazing. It is preferable to graze with cattle at some point during the grazing period, if possible. From 15 April to 15 July, sward height should not exceed 30 cm. If lapwing is known to breed on the site, aim for a sward height of 3 cm during this period. From 16 July to 14 April, there are no stocking density restrictions, but cattle should be used for grazing at some point during this period, if possible. Aim to create a medium sward of less than 15 cm with taller tussocks 30 cm or above for nesting by mid-April. Heavier grazing after 15 July is recommended to remove rank grasses and create a mixture of tussocks and open areas for next year's breeding season. Cattle must not be released directly on to breeding wader sites after being wintered indoors. Additional species-specific advice and support relating to breeding wader and marsh fritillary will be provided.</p> <p>Rush control: Rushes should be cut close to the ground, i.e. less than 20 centimetres from ground level, where this does not constitute a Health and Safety risk. The best time for control is early (from 15 July) to mid-summer when growth rate of soft rush is highest. Grazing or heavy rolling of the area after cutting will help to reduce regrowth of the rushes. Avoid creating wheel ruts as this can damage the soil structure and the sward. Wheel rutting also encourages the establishment of invasive weeds. Avoid overgrazing and poaching because these damage soil structure and the sward and create conditions for seedlings to grow. Ideally cut rushes should be removed by baling or raking where not flailed. Where this is not possible, graze with cattle immediately after cutting to help break up the mat of cut rush.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at an agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. <p>The Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 and the associated Forestry (Felling of Trees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 resulted in the introduction of felling licences from 17 June 2014. The removal of scrub may require a felling licence.</p> <p>Water levels in sheughs and drains should be maintained as close as possible to bank height during the period 1 March to 30 June to create a soft ground if this is within the farmer's control.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from. Copy of permission to use supplementary feeding site(s) between 15 April and 15 July, where applicable.</p> <p>Land applications: Field numbers where fertiliser (organic or chemical) was applied, date(s) of application, quantity of fertiliser (organic or chemical) applied to each field.</p> <p>Rush control: Date(s) rush control completed, field number(s) where rush cutting was completed.</p> <p>Scrub control: Record field numbers where scrub control completed and date(s) of work.</p> |

| Limestone Pavement (all year grazing) Remedial Management Option (LPA) | | |
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| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: The site must be managed by grazing extensively all year at an average stocking rate of 0.5 LU/ha in each year. Undergrazing and overgrazing including severe poaching are not permitted. Supplementary feeder(s) is/are not permitted on the site.</p> <p>Land applications: The application of any organic or chemical fertiliser is not permitted.</p> <p>Bracken control: Encroaching bracken (that is bracken which was not present at the beginning of the Scheme) control must be carried out each year, if present.</p> <p>Rush control: Chemical rush control is not permitted. Routine soft rush control must be carried out by cutting between 1 January and 15 March and/or 15 July and 31 December, each year.</p> <p>Scrub control: Carry out routine control of encroaching scrub (that is scrub which was not firmly established at the beginning of the Scheme) each year, as required, including rhododendron and conifer seedlings/saplings. Mechanical grubbing out of scrub is not permitted. Standing scrub must not be burned. The removal of juniper is not permitted. The removal of hazel is not permitted without prior permission of DAERA.</p> <p>Tree planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Livestock should be removed in adverse weather conditions to minimise poaching/overgrazing.</p> <p>Rush control: Rushes should be cut close to the ground, i.e. less than 20 centimetres from ground level, where this does not constitute a Health and Safety risk. The best time for control is early (after 15 July) to mid-summer when growth rate of soft rush is highest. Grazing or heavy rolling of the area after cutting will help to reduce regrowth of the rushes. Avoid creating wheel ruts as this can damage the soil structure and the sward. Wheel rutting also encourages the establishment of invasive weeds. Avoid overgrazing and poaching because these damage soil structure and the sward and create conditions for seedlings to grow. Ideally cut rushes should be removed by baling or raking where not flailed. Where this is not possible, graze with cattle immediately after cutting to help break up the mat of cut rush. On a marsh fritillary site, rushes should not be cut around devil's-bit scabious flowering time, which is usually from mid-August to mid-October.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at an agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. <p>The Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 and the associated Forestry (Felling of Trees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 resulted in the introduction of felling licences from 17 June 2014. The removal of scrub may require a felling licence.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from.</p> <p>Bracken control: Record bracken control activity.</p> <p>Rush control: Date(s) rush control completed, field number(s) where rush cutting was completed.</p> <p>Scrub control: Record field numbers where scrub control completed and date(s) of work.</p> |

| Limestone Pavement (restricted grazing) Remedial Management Option (LPR) | | |
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| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: The site must be managed by grazing extensively between 1 August and 30 April at an average stocking rate of 0.75 LU/ha in each year with no grazing permitted between 1 May and 31 July. Undergrazing and overgrazing including severe poaching are not permitted. Supplementary feeder(s) is/are not permitted on the site.</p> <p>Land applications: The application of any organic or chemical fertiliser is not permitted.</p> <p>Bracken control: Encroaching bracken (that is bracken which was not present at the beginning of the Scheme) control must be carried out each year, if present.</p> <p>Rush control: Chemical rush control is not permitted. Routine soft rush control must be carried out by cutting between 1 January and 15 March and/or 15 July and 31 December each year.</p> <p>Scrub control: Carry out routine control of encroaching scrub (that is scrub which was not firmly established at the beginning of the Scheme) each year, as required, including rhododendron and conifer seedlings/saplings. Mechanical grubbing out of scrub is not permitted. Standing scrub must not be burned. The removal of juniper is not permitted. The removal of hazel is not permitted without prior permission of DAERA.</p> <p>Tree planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Livestock should be removed in adverse weather conditions to minimise poaching/overgrazing.</p> <p>Rush control: Rushes should be cut close to the ground, i.e. less than 20 centimetres from ground level, where this does not constitute a Health and Safety risk. The best time for control is early (from 15 July) to mid-summer when growth rate of soft rush is highest. Grazing or heavy rolling of the area after cutting will help to reduce regrowth of the rushes. Avoid creating wheel ruts as this can damage the soil structure and the sward. Wheel rutting also encourages the establishment of invasive weeds. Avoid overgrazing and poaching because these damage soil structure and the sward and create conditions for seedlings to grow. Ideally cut rushes should be removed by baling or raking where not flailed. Where this is not possible, graze with cattle immediately after cutting to help break up the mat of cut rush. On a marsh fritillary site, rushes should not be cut around devil's-bit scabious flowering time, which is usually from mid-August to mid-October.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at an agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. <p>The Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 and the associated Forestry (Felling of Trees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 resulted in the introduction of felling licences from 17 June 2014. The removal of scrub may require a felling licence.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from.</p> <p>Bracken control: Record bracken control activity.</p> <p>Rush control: Date(s) rush control completed, field number(s) where rush cutting was completed.</p> <p>Scrub control: Record field numbers where scrub control completed and date(s) of work.</p> |

| Coastal sand dunes Remedial Management Option (CSD) | | |
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| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: The site must be managed by grazing extensively (cattle and/or sheep) between 16 August and 31 March at a maximum average stocking rate of 0.5 LU/ha in each year. No grazing is permitted between 1 April and 15 August. Undergrazing and overgrazing including severe poaching are not permitted. Supplementary feeder(s) is/are not permitted on the site.</p> <p>Land applications: The application of any organic or chemical fertiliser is not permitted.</p> <p>Bracken control: Encroaching bracken (that is bracken which was not present at the beginning of the Scheme) control must be carried out each year, if present.</p> <p>Scrub control: Carry out routine control of encroaching scrub (that is scrub which was not firmly established at the beginning of the Scheme) each year, as required, including rhododendron and conifer seedlings/saplings. Mechanical grubbing out of scrub is not permitted. Standing scrub must not be burned. The removal of Western gorse (<i>Ulex gallii</i>), bog myrtle (<i>Myrica gale</i>) and creeping willow (<i>Salix repens</i>) is not permitted.</p> <p>Tree planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Livestock should be removed in adverse weather conditions to minimise poaching/overgrazing. Additional species-specific advice and support relating to marsh fritillary will be provided.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at an agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. <p>The Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 and the associated Forestry (Felling of Trees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 resulted in the introduction of felling licences from 17 June 2014. The removal of scrub may require a felling licence.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from.</p> <p>Bracken control: Record bracken control activity.</p> <p>Scrub control: Record field numbers where scrub control completed and date(s) of work.</p> |

| Coastal salt marsh (restricted grazing) Remedial Management Option | | |
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| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: The site must be managed by grazing extensively between 1 October and 31 March at a maximum average stocking rate of 0.3 LU/ha in each year with no grazing permitted between 1 April and 30 September. Undergrazing and overgrazing including severe poaching are not permitted. Supplementary feeder(s) is/are not permitted on the site.</p> <p>Land applications: The application of any organic or chemical fertiliser is not permitted.</p> <p>Tree planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Livestock should be removed in adverse weather conditions to minimise poaching/overgrazing.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from.</p> |

| Maritime cliff and slopes (all year grazing) Remedial Management Option (MCA) | | |
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| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: The site must be managed by grazing extensively at a maximum average stocking rate of 0.45 LU/ha in each year. There is no period when grazing is not permitted. Undergrazing and overgrazing including severe poaching are not permitted. Supplementary feeder(s) is/are not permitted on the site.</p> <p>Land applications: The application of any organic or chemical fertiliser is not permitted.</p> <p>Bracken control: Encroaching bracken (that is bracken which was not present at the beginning of the Scheme) control must be carried out each year, if present.</p> <p>Scrub control: Carry out routine control of encroaching scrub (that is scrub which was not firmly established at the beginning of the Scheme) each year, as required, including rhododendron and conifer seedlings/saplings. Mechanical grubbing out of scrub is not permitted. Standing scrub must not be burned. The removal of Western gorse (<i>Ulex gallii</i>), bog myrtle (<i>Myrica gale</i>) and creeping willow (<i>Salix repens</i>) is not permitted.</p> <p>Tree planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Livestock should be removed in adverse weather conditions to minimise poaching/overgrazing.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at an agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. <p>The Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 and the associated Forestry (Felling of Trees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 resulted in the introduction of felling licences from 17 June 2014. The removal of scrub may require a felling licence.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from.</p> <p>Bracken control: Record bracken control activity.</p> <p>Scrub control: Record field numbers where scrub control completed and date(s) of work.</p> |

| Maritime cliff and slopes (restricted grazing) Remedial Management Option (MCR) | | |
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| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: The site must be managed by grazing extensively between 1 August and 30 April at a maximum average stocking rate of 0.6 LU/ha in each year with no grazing permitted between 1 May and 31 July. Undergrazing and overgrazing including severe poaching are not permitted. Supplementary feeder(s) is/are not permitted on the site.</p> <p>Land applications: The application of any organic or chemical fertiliser is not permitted.</p> <p>Bracken control: Encroaching bracken (that is bracken which was not present at the beginning of the Scheme) control must be carried out each year, if present.</p> <p>Scrub control: Carry out routine control of encroaching scrub (that is scrub which was not firmly established at the beginning of the Scheme) each year, as required, including rhododendron and conifer seedlings/saplings. Mechanical grubbing out of scrub is not permitted. Standing scrub must not be burned. The removal of Western gorse (<i>Ulex gallii</i>), bog myrtle (<i>Myrica gale</i>) and creeping willow (<i>Salix repens</i>) is not permitted.</p> <p>Tree planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Livestock should be removed in adverse weather conditions to minimise poaching/overgrazing.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at an agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. <p>The Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 and the associated Forestry (Felling of Trees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 resulted in the introduction of felling licences from 17 June 2014. The removal of scrub may require a felling licence.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from.</p> <p>Bracken control: Record bracken control activity.</p> <p>Scrub control: Record field numbers where scrub control completed and date(s) of work.</p> |

| Parkland Remedial Management Option (PKG) | | |
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| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Tree management: Tree felling and/or surgery is only permitted with the prior written approval of DAERA or, where there is a health and safety emergency. Retain fallen and standing dead wood except where this poses a health and safety risk or where this has been agreed in a DAERA zoning plan. If emergency works are completed, DAERA must be informed in writing within 2 weeks of the work being carried out. Tree planting is not permitted unless included in your ssRMP.</p> <p>Grazing regime: The site must be maintained by grazing. No undergrazing or overgrazing is permitted.</p> <p>Supplementary feeders are not permitted under the canopy or within 10 m from the edge of the canopy of a parkland tree.</p> <p>Land applications: The application of any organic or chemical fertiliser, lime, insecticides, pesticides, sheep dip or application of any other material is not permitted under the canopy or within 10 m from the edge of the canopy of a parkland tree.</p> <p>Bracken control is not permitted under the canopy or within 10 m from the edge of the canopy of a parkland tree. However, bracken control is permitted outside this area and must be carried out each year, as required.</p> <p>Rush control: Chemical rush control is not permitted. Routine soft rush control must be carried out by cutting between 1 January and 15 March and/or 15 July and 31 December each year.</p> <p>Scrub control: Carry out routine control of encroaching scrub (that is scrub which was not firmly established at the beginning of the Scheme) each year, as required, including invasive non-native species. Mechanical grubbing out of scrub is not permitted. Standing scrub must not be burned.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Livestock should be removed in adverse weather conditions to minimise poaching/overgrazing, paying particular attention to localised damage to the area under the tree canopy.</p> <p>Rush control: Rushes should be cut close to the ground, i.e. less than 20 centimetres from ground level, where this does not constitute a Health and Safety risk. The best time for control is early (after 15 July) to mid-summer when growth rate of soft rush is highest. Grazing or heavy rolling of the area after cutting will help to reduce regrowth of the rushes. Avoid creating wheel ruts as this can damage the soil structure and the sward. Wheel rutting also encourages the establishment of invasive weeds. Avoid overgrazing and poaching because these damage soil structure and the sward and create conditions for seedlings to grow. Ideally cut rushes should be removed by baling or raking where not flailed. Where this is not possible, graze with cattle immediately after cutting to help break up the mat of cut rush.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub (including seedlings/saplings of sycamore, beech and conifers, rhododendron, laurel, knotweeds, Giant hogweed, Himalayan balsam, snowberry, Pheasant berry, Salmonberry, Cotoneaster and various other garden escapees) may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at an agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. <p>The Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 and the associated Forestry (Felling of Trees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 resulted in the introduction of felling licences from 17 June 2014. The removal of scrub may require a felling licence.</p> | <p>Tree management: Record any tree management / surgery.</p> <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from.</p> <p>Land applications: Field numbers where fertiliser (organic or chemical) was applied, date(s) of application, quantity of fertiliser (organic or chemical) applied to each field.</p> <p>Bracken control: Record bracken control activity.</p> <p>Rush control: Date(s) rush control completed, field number(s) where rush cutting was completed.</p> <p>Scrub control: Record field numbers where scrub control completed and date(s) of work.</p> |

| Ungrazed mixed ash woodland Remedial Management Option (WAU) / Ungrazed oak woodland Remedial Management Option (WOU) / Ungrazed wet woodland Remedial Management Option (WWU) | | |
|---|---|---|
| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: Livestock must be excluded at all times.</p> <p>Land applications: The application of any organic or chemical fertiliser, lime, insecticides, pesticides, sheep dip or application of any other material is not permitted.</p> <p>Bracken control must be carried out each year, as required.</p> <p>Non-native invasive species control: Carry out routine annual non-native invasive canopy species control, each year as required and complete follow-up treatments each year.</p> <p>Supplementary feeder(s) in the woodland area is/are not permitted.</p> <p>Retain important features, such as old vehicular tracks, natural open space and existing ponds.</p> | <p>Non-native invasive species control: Non-native invasive canopy/tree species include sycamore, beech and conifers (except Scots pine). Non-native invasive shrub and field layer species include rhododendron, laurel, knotweeds, Giant hogweed, Himalayan balsam, snowberry, Pheasant berry, Salmonberry, Cotoneaster and various other garden escapees. Seedlings/saplings of sycamore, beech and conifers are also included in this definition. Invasive scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at the agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. <p>Felling licences: The Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 and the associated Forestry (Felling of Trees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 resulted in the introduction of felling licences from 17 June 2014. The removal of mature trees may require a felling licence.</p> | <p>Bracken control: Record bracken control activity.</p> <p>Non-native invasive species control: Record Non-native invasive species control activities.</p> |

| Grazed mixed ash woodland Remedial Management Option (WAG) / Grazed oak woodland Remedial Management Option (WOG) / Grazed wet woodland Remedial Management Option (WWG) | | |
|---|---|---|
| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: Extensive grazing is permitted from 1 June to 30 September with an average stocking rate not exceeding 0.5 LU/ha in each year. No grazing permitted from 1 October to 31 May.</p> <p>Bracken control must be carried out each year, as required.</p> <p>Non-native invasive species control: Carry out routine annual non-native invasive canopy species control, each year as required and complete follow-up treatments each year.</p> <p>Supplementary feeder(s) in the woodland area is/are not permitted.</p> <p>Retain important features, such as old vehicular tracks, natural open space and existing ponds.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Livestock should be removed in adverse weather conditions to minimise poaching/overgrazing.</p> <p>Non-native invasive species control: Non-native invasive canopy/tree species include sycamore, beech and conifers (except Scots pine). Non-native invasive shrub and field layer species include rhododendron, laurel, knotweeds, Giant hogweed, Himalayan balsam, snowberry, Pheasant berry, Salmonberry, Cotoneaster and various other garden escapees. Seedlings/saplings of sycamore, beech and conifers are also included in this definition. Invasive scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at the agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. <p>Felling licences: The Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 and the associated Forestry (Felling of Trees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 resulted in the introduction of felling licences from 17 June 2014. The removal of mature trees may require a felling licence.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from.</p> <p>Bracken control: Record bracken control activity.</p> <p>Non-native invasive species control: Record Non-native invasive species control activities.</p> |

| Reedbed Remedial Management Option (RBG) | | |
|---|---|---|
| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: The site must be managed by grazing extensively between 1 June and 31 December at an average stocking rate not exceeding 0.075 LU/ha in each year where ground conditions permit grazing. No grazing is permitted between 15 April to 31 May, inclusively. Undergrazing and overgrazing including severe poaching are not permitted. Supplementary feeder(s) is/are not permitted on the site.</p> <p>Land applications: The application of lime and/or any organic or chemical fertiliser is not permitted.</p> <p>Rush/reed control: Chemical rush/reed control is not permitted. Routine rush control must be carried out by cutting between 1 January and 15 March and/or 15 July and 31 December each year.</p> <p>Scrub control: Carry out routine annual invasive scrub control each year, as required. Mechanical grubbing out of scrub is not permitted. Standing scrub must not be burned.</p> <p>Tree planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Livestock should be removed in adverse weather and/or bad ground conditions to minimise poaching/overgrazing.</p> <p>Rush/reed control: Rushes should be cut close to the ground, i.e. less than 20 centimetres from ground level, where this does not constitute a Health and Safety risk. The best time for control is early (from 15 July) to mid-summer when growth rate of soft rush is highest. Grazing or heavy rolling of the area after cutting will help to reduce regrowth of the rushes. Avoid creating wheel ruts as this can damage the soil structure and the sward. Wheel rutting also encourages the establishment of invasive weeds. Avoid overgrazing and poaching because these damage soil structure and the sward and create conditions for seedlings to grow. Ideally cut rushes should be removed by baling or raking where not flailed. Where this is not possible, graze with cattle immediately after cutting to help break up the mat of cut rush.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at an agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. <p>The Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 and the associated Forestry (Felling of Trees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 resulted in the introduction of felling licences from 17 June 2014. The removal of scrub may require a felling licence.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from.</p> <p>Rush/reed control: Date(s) rush control completed, field number(s) where rush cutting was completed.</p> <p>Scrub control: Record field numbers where scrub control completed and date(s) of work.</p> |

| Fen Remedial Management Option (FNG) | | |
|---|---|---|
| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Grazing regime: The site must be managed by grazing extensively between 1 June and 31 December at an average stocking rate not exceeding 0.075 LU/ha in each year where ground conditions permit grazing. No grazing is permitted between 15 April to 31 May, inclusively. Undergrazing and overgrazing including severe poaching are not permitted. Supplementary feeder(s) is/are not permitted on the site.</p> <p>Land applications: The application of lime and/or any organic or chemical fertiliser is not permitted.</p> <p>Rush/reed control: Chemical rush/reed control is not permitted. Routine rush control must be carried out by cutting between 1 January and 15 March and/or 15 July and 31 December each year.</p> <p>Scrub control: Carry out routine annual invasive scrub control each year, as required. Mechanical grubbing out of scrub is not permitted. Standing scrub must not be burned. The removal of Western gorse (<i>Ulex gallii</i>) is not permitted.</p> <p>Tree planting is not permitted.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Livestock should be removed in adverse weather and/or bad ground conditions to minimise poaching/overgrazing.</p> <p>Rush/reed control: Rushes should be cut close to the ground, i.e. less than 20 centimetres from ground level, where this does not constitute a Health and Safety risk. The best time for control is early (from 15 July) to mid-summer when growth rate of soft rush is highest. Grazing or heavy rolling of the area after cutting will help to reduce regrowth of the rushes. Avoid creating wheel ruts as this can damage the soil structure and the sward. Wheel rutting also encourages the establishment of invasive weeds. Avoid overgrazing and poaching because these damage soil structure and the sward and create conditions for seedlings to grow. Ideally cut rushes should be removed by baling or raking where not flailed. Where this is not possible, graze with cattle immediately after cutting to help break up the mat of cut rush. On a marsh fritillary site, rushes should not be cut around devil's-bit scabious flowering time, which is usually from mid-August to mid-October.</p> <p>Scrub control: Encroaching scrub may be controlled by cutting. It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scrub stems are cut as close as possible to ground level; • cut stems are treated with an approved herbicide; and • scrub cuttings are removed from the site or burned at an agreed location as marked on the EFS Management Map. <p>The Forestry Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 and the associated Forestry (Felling of Trees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 resulted in the introduction of felling licences from 17 June 2014. The removal of scrub may require a felling licence.</p> | <p>Grazing regime: Date grazing started, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers grazed. Date grazing ended, livestock type, number of stock & field numbers stock removed from.</p> <p>Rush/reed control: Date(s) rush control completed, field number(s) where rush cutting was completed.</p> <p>Scrub control: Record field numbers where scrub control completed and date(s) of work.</p> |

| Lapwing fallow plot (LFP) | | |
|---|---|---|
| Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
| <p>Creation of lapwing fallow plot: The fallow plot must be in place by 20 March. The fallow plot must be kept in place until 31 July.</p> <p>Other actions: Fallow plots must not be used for access, turning, storage of materials or any other activity. Following cultivation, no operations (further cultivation, rolling, cutting, grazing, drainage, spraying or application of pesticides, FYM, sewage sludge, fertiliser/lime or any other material) are not permitted on the fallow plot.</p> | <p>Creation of lapwing fallow plot: Fallow plots are best created by cultivations between 15 February and 20 March or during the previous autumn.</p> <p>Other actions: Observe all relevant Health and Safety guidelines when carrying out works on the lapwing fallow plot including operating machinery or using hand tools when completing works. Works should not be carried out when ground conditions are wet in order to minimise damage to the site. It is your responsibility to ensure you comply with the Waste Management Regulations (NI) 2006 and Cross-Compliance requirements.</p> | <p>Creation of Lapwing fallow plot: Date fallow plot established. The length of retention.</p> |

| Option / NPI name | Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
|---|---|--|--|
| Planting native tree corridors (NTC) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Planting native tree corridors (NTC)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Planting native tree corridors (NTC)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Planting native tree corridors (NTC)' Option. |
| Natural regeneration of native woodland (NRW) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Natural regeneration of native woodland (NRW)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Natural regeneration of native woodland (NRW)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Natural regeneration of native woodland (NRW)' Option. |
| Establishment of agroforestry (EAF) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Establishment of agroforestry (EAF)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Establishment of agroforestry (EAF)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Establishment of agroforestry (EAF)' Option. |
| Creation of traditional orchard (CTO) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of traditional orchard (CTO)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of traditional orchard (CTO)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Creation of traditional orchard (CTO)' Option. |
| Retention of winter stubble (RWS) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Retention of winter stubble (RWS)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Retention of winter stubble (RWS)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Retention of winter stubble (RWS)' Option. |
| Provision of winter feed crop for wild birds (WFC) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Provision of winter feed crop for wild birds (WFC)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Provision of winter feed crop for wild birds (WFC)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Provision of winter feed crop for wild birds (WFC)' Option. |
| Creation of 6m arable margins Cultivated uncropped (CUM) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of 6m arable margins Cultivated uncropped (CUM)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of 6m arable margins Cultivated uncropped (CUM)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Creation of 6m arable margins Cultivated uncropped (CUM)' Option. |
| Creation of arable margin – 6 metre width - rough grass (RGM) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of arable margin – 6 metre width - rough grass (RGM)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of arable margin – 6 metre width - rough grass (RGM)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Creation of arable margin – 6 metre width - rough grass (RGM)' Option. |
| Creation of pollinator margin – 10 metre width – annual wildflower (WFM) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of pollinator margin – 10 metre width – annual wildflower (WFM)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of pollinator margin – 10 metre width – annual wildflower (WFM)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Creation of pollinator margin – 10 metre width – annual wildflower (WFM)' Option. |
| Creation of pollinator margin – 10 metre width – pollen and nectar (PAN) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of pollinator margin – 10 metre width – pollen and nectar (PAN)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of pollinator margin – 10 metre width – pollen and nectar (PAN)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Creation of pollinator margin – 10 metre width – pollen and nectar (PAN)' Option. |
| Traditional dry stone wall rebuilding Double skin (DSW) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Traditional dry stone wall rebuilding Double skin (DSW)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Traditional dry stone wall rebuilding Double skin (DSW)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Traditional dry stone wall rebuilding Double skin (DSW)' Option. |
| Traditional dry stone wall rebuilding Single skin (SSW) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Traditional dry stone wall rebuilding Single skin (SSW)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Traditional dry stone wall rebuilding Single skin (SSW)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Traditional dry stone wall rebuilding Single skin (SSW)' Option. |
| Creation of tree enhanced boundaries (TEB) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of tree enhanced boundaries (TEB)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of tree enhanced boundaries (TEB)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Creation of tree enhanced boundaries (TEB)' Option. |
| Creation of 10 m riparian buffer - Planted with native trees (BWT) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of 10 m riparian buffer - Planted with native trees (BWT)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of 10m riparian buffer - Planted with native trees (BWT)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Creation of 10m riparian buffer - Planted with native trees (BWT)' Option. |
| Creation of 10 m riparian buffer - Ungrazed (RBW) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of 10 m riparian buffer - Ungrazed (RBW)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of 10m riparian buffer - Ungrazed (RBW)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Creation of 10m riparian buffer - Ungrazed (RBW)' Option. |
| Creation of 2 m riparian buffer - Planted with native trees (BNT) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of 2 m riparian buffer - Planted with native trees (BNT)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of 2m riparian buffer - Planted with native trees (BNT)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Creation of 2m riparian buffer - Planted with native trees (BNT)' Option. |

| Option / NPI name | Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
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| Creation of 2 m riparian buffer – Ungrazed (RBS) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of 2 m riparian buffer – Ungrazed (RBS)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of 2m riparian buffer – Ungrazed (RBS)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Creation of 2m riparian buffer – Ungrazed (RBS)' Option. |
| Watercourse stabilisation with fencing (WSF) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Watercourse stabilisation with fencing (WSF)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Watercourse stabilisation with fencing (WSF)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Watercourse stabilisation with fencing (WSF)' Option. |
| Planting new hedgerows including two protective fences (PNH) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Planting new hedgerows including two protective fences (PNH)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Planting new hedgerows including two protective fences (PNH)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Planting new hedgerows including two protective fences (PNH)' Option. |
| Hedge laying including two protective fences (LAY) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Hedge laying including two protective fences (LAY)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Hedge laying including two protective fences (LAY)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Hedge laying including two protective fences (LAY)' Option. |
| Establishment of native woodland less than 5ha (ENW) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Establishment of native woodland less than 5ha (ENW)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Establishment of native woodland less than 5ha (ENW)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Establishment of native woodland less than 5ha (ENW)' Option. |
| Organic management – Horticulture (OMH) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Organic management – Horticulture (OMH)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Organic management – Horticulture (OMH)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Organic management – Horticulture (OMH)' Option. |
| Organic management – Horticulture – Top Fruit (OMT) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Organic management – Horticulture – Top Fruit (OMT)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Organic management – Horticulture – Top Fruit (OMT)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Organic management – Horticulture – Top Fruit (OMT)' Option. |
| Organic management – Grassland (OMG) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Organic management – Grassland (OMG)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Organic management – Grassland (OMG)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Organic management – Grassland (OMG)' Option. |
| Organic management – Arable (OMA) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Organic management – Arable (OMA)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Organic management – Arable (OMA)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Organic management – Arable (OMA)' Option. |
| Organic conversion – Horticulture (OCH) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Organic conversion – Horticulture (OCH)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Organic conversion – Horticulture (OCH)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Organic conversion – Horticulture (OCH)' Option. |
| Organic conversion – Horticulture – Top Fruit (OCT) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Organic conversion – Horticulture – Top Fruit (OCT)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Organic conversion – Horticulture – Top Fruit (OCT)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Organic conversion – Horticulture – Top Fruit (OCT)' Option. |
| Organic conversion – Grassland (OCG) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Organic conversion – Grassland (OCG)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Organic conversion – Grassland (OCG)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Organic conversion – Grassland (OCG)' Option. |
| Organic conversion – Arable (OCA) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Organic conversion – Arable (OCA)' Option. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Organic conversion – Arable (OCA)' Option. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Organic conversion – Arable (OCA)' Option. |
| Parkland / Fruit / Standard native tree guard (SNT) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Parkland / Fruit / Standard native tree guard (SNT)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Parkland / Fruit / Standard native tree guard (SNT)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Parkland / Fruit / Standard native tree guard (SNT)' NPI. |
| Pasture pump and associated pipework (PAP) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Pasture pump and associated pipework (PAP)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Pasture pump and associated pipework (PAP)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Pasture pump and associated pipework (PAP)' NPI. |
| Water trough pipe work (DTP) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Water trough pipe work (DTP)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Water trough pipe work (DTP)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Water trough pipe work (DTP)' NPI. |

| Option / NPI name | Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
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| Drinking trough Base (DTB) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Drinking trough Base (DTB)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Drinking trough Base (DTB)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Drinking trough Base (DTB)' NPI. |
| Drinking trough (DTR) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Drinking trough (DTR)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Drinking trough (DTR)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Drinking trough (DTR)' NPI. |
| Gate and two gate posts - stock-proof fence (GPS) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Gate and two gate posts - stock-proof fence (GPS)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Gate and two gate posts - stock-proof fence (GPS)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Gate and two gate posts - stock-proof fence (GPS)' NPI. |
| Permanent electric fencing (including energiser) (PEF) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Permanent electric fencing (including energiser) (PEF)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Permanent electric fencing (including energiser) (PEF)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Permanent electric fencing (including energiser) (PEF)' NPI. |
| Stock-proof fencing (SPF) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Stock-proof fencing (SPF)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Stock-proof fencing (SPF)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Stock-proof fencing (SPF)' NPI. |
| Parkland / Fruit / Standard native tree stake (SNS) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Parkland / Fruit / Standard native tree stake (SNS)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Parkland / Fruit / Standard native tree stake (SNS)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Parkland / Fruit / Standard native tree stake (SNS)' NPI. |
| Primary Rush control (PRC) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Primary Rush control (PRC)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Primary Rush control (PRC)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Primary Rush control (PRC)' NPI. |
| Follow-up Rush control (RFC) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Follow-up Rush control (RFC)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Follow-up Rush control (RFC)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Follow-up Rush control (RFC)' NPI. |
| Scrub control light, less than 7cm diameter, machine cut (SLM) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Scrub control light, less than 7cm diameter, machine cut (SLM)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Scrub control light, less than 7cm diameter, machine cut (SLM)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Scrub control light, less than 7cm diameter, machine cut (SLM)' NPI. |
| Scrub control heavy, greater than 7cm diameter, machine cut (SHM) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Scrub control heavy, greater than 7cm diameter, machine cut (SHM)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Scrub control heavy, greater than 7cm diameter, machine cut (SHM)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Scrub control heavy, greater than 7cm diameter, machine cut (SHM)' NPI. |
| Scrub control light, less than 7cm diameter, manual cut (SLH) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Scrub control light, less than 7cm diameter, manual cut (SLH)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Scrub control light, less than 7cm diameter, manual cut (SLH)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Scrub control light, less than 7cm diameter, manual cut (SLH)' NPI. |
| Scrub control heavy, greater than 7cm diameter, manual cut (SHR) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Scrub control heavy, greater than 7cm diameter, manual cut (SHR)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Scrub control heavy, greater than 7cm diameter, manual cut (SHR)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Scrub control heavy, greater than 7cm diameter, manual cut (SHR)' NPI. |
| Scrub control - Follow-up treatment - sites with less than 7cm diameter scrub control (SLF) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Scrub control - Follow-up treatment - sites with less than 7cm diameter scrub control (SLF)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Scrub control - Follow-up treatment - sites with less than 7cm diameter scrub control (SLF)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Scrub control - Follow-up treatment - sites with less than 7cm diameter scrub control (SLF)' NPI. |

| Option / NPI name | Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
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| Scrub control - Follow-up treatment - sites with greater than 7cm diameter scrub control (SHF) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Scrub control - Follow-up treatment - sites with greater than 7cm diameter scrub control (SHF)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Scrub control - Follow-up treatment - sites with greater than 7cm diameter scrub control (SHF)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Scrub control - Follow-up treatment - sites with greater than 7cm diameter scrub control (SHF)' NPI. |
| Primary treatment of Bracken - mechanised or chemical (BPT) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Primary treatment of Bracken - mechanised or chemical (BPT)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Primary treatment of Bracken - mechanised or chemical (BPT)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Primary treatment of Bracken - mechanised or chemical (BPT)' NPI. |
| Follow-up treatment of Bracken - mechanised or chemical (BFU) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Follow-up treatment of Bracken - mechanised or chemical (BFU)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Follow-up treatment of Bracken - mechanised or chemical (BFU)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Follow-up treatment of Bracken - mechanised or chemical (BFU)' NPI. |
| Post and rail fencing (PRF) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Post and rail fencing (PRF)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Post and rail fencing (PRF)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Post and rail fencing (PRF)' NPI. |
| Deer fence (DEF) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Deer fence (DEF)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Deer fence (DEF)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Deer fence (DEF)' NPI. |
| Fence removal (FRL) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Fence removal (FRL)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Fence removal (FRL)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Fence removal (FRL)' NPI. |
| Gate and 2 gate posts - deer fence (GPD) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Gate and 2 gate posts - deer fence (GPD)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Gate and 2 gate posts - deer fence (GPD)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Gate and 2 gate posts - deer fence (GPD)' NPI. |
| Solar powered energiser for electric fence (SPE) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Solar powered energiser for electric fence (SPE)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Solar powered energiser for electric fence (SPE)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Solar powered energiser for electric fence (SPE)' NPI. |
| Outrigger electric fence for stock fence (OEF) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Outrigger electric fence for stock fence (OEF)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Outrigger electric fence for stock fence (OEF)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Outrigger electric fence for stock fence (OEF)' NPI. |
| Tree guards (1.2m tubular guard + stake) (TGS) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Tree guards (1.2m tubular guard + stake) (TGS)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Tree guards (1.2m tubular guard + stake) (TGS)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Tree guards (1.2m tubular guard + stake) (TGS)' NPI. |
| Spiral tree guard and cane (TGC) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Spiral tree guard and cane (TGC)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Spiral tree guard and cane (TGC)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Spiral tree guard and cane (TGC)' NPI. |
| Woodcrete bat box (BAT) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Woodcrete bat box (BAT)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Woodcrete bat box (BAT)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Woodcrete bat box (BAT)' NPI. |
| Red squirrel feeder (RSF) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Red squirrel feeder (RSF)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Red squirrel feeder (RSF)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Red squirrel feeder (RSF)' NPI. |
| Bird box (small) (BBS) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Bird box (small) (BBS)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Bird box (small) (BBS)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Bird box (small) (BBS)' NPI. |

| Option / NPI name | Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
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| Bird box (large) (BBL) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Bird box (large) (BBL)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Bird box (large) (BBL)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Bird box (large) (BBL)' NPI. |
| Barn owl box (BOB) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Barn owl box (BOB)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Barn owl box (BOB)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Barn owl box (BOB)' NPI. |
| Standard parkland/native trees (SPT) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Standard parkland/native trees (SPT)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Standard parkland/native trees (SPT)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Standard parkland/native trees (SPT)' NPI. |
| Standard fruit trees (SFT) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Standard fruit trees (SFT)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Standard fruit trees (SFT)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Standard fruit trees (SFT)' NPI. |
| Native tree whip (NTW) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Native tree whip (NTW)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Native tree whip (NTW)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Native tree whip (NTW)' NPI. |
| Predator control traps (Larsen trap) (PCT) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Predator control traps (Larsen trap) (PCT)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Predator control traps (Larsen trap) (PCT)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Predator control traps (Larsen trap) (PCT)' NPI. |
| Solitary bee box (SBO) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Solitary bee box (SBO)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Solitary bee box (SBO)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Solitary bee box (SBO)' NPI. |
| Rabbit-proof fencing (RPF) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Rabbit-proof fencing (RPF)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the Information Sheet for the 'Rabbit-proof fencing (RPF)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Rabbit-proof fencing (RPF)' NPI. |
| Invasive species control of Rhododendron and Laurel - Primary control (RLP) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and the Information Sheet for the 'Invasive species control of Rhododendron and Laurel - Primary control' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and in the Information Sheet for the 'Invasive species control of Rhododendron and Laurel - Primary control' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Invasive species control of Rhododendron and Laurel - Primary control' NPI. |
| Rhododendron and laurel control – control by stem injection (ARI) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and the Information Sheet for the 'Rhododendron and laurel control – control by stem injection (ARI)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and in the Information Sheet for the 'Rhododendron and laurel control – control by stem injection (ARI)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Rhododendron and laurel control – control by stem injection (ARI)' NPI. |
| Invasive species control of Rhododendron and Laurel - Follow-up spraying regrowth control (RLF) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and the Information Sheet for the 'Invasive species control of Rhododendron and Laurel - Follow-up spraying regrowth control (RLF)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and in the Information Sheet for the 'Invasive species control of Rhododendron and Laurel - Follow-up spraying regrowth control (RLF)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Invasive species control of Rhododendron and Laurel - Follow-up spraying regrowth control (RLF)' NPI. |
| Primary and follow-up treatments of invasive non-native plants – Japanese Knotweed (AJK) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and the Information Sheet for the 'Primary and follow-up treatments of invasive non-native plants – Japanese Knotweed (AJK)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and in the Information Sheet for the 'Primary and follow-up treatments of invasive non-native plants – Japanese Knotweed (AJK)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Primary and follow-up treatments of invasive non-native plants – Japanese Knotweed (AJK)' NPI. |
| Primary and follow-up treatments of invasive non-native plants – Giant Hogweed (AGH) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and the Information Sheet for the 'Primary and follow-up treatments of invasive non-native plants – Giant Hogweed (AGH)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and in the Information Sheet for the 'Primary and follow-up treatments of invasive non-native plants – Giant Hogweed (AGH)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Primary and follow-up treatments of invasive non-native plants – Giant Hogweed (AGH)' NPI. |
| Primary and follow-up treatments of invasive non-native plants – Himalayan Balsam (AHB) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and the Information Sheet for the 'Primary and follow-up treatments of invasive non-native plants – Himalayan Balsam (AHB)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and in the Information Sheet for the 'Primary and follow-up treatments of invasive non-native plants – Himalayan Balsam (AHB)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Primary and follow-up treatments of invasive non-native plants – Himalayan Balsam (AHB)' NPI. |
| Heather regeneration - Controlled burning (HRB) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and the Information Sheet for the 'Heather regeneration - Controlled burning (HRB)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and in the Information Sheet for the 'Heather regeneration - Controlled burning (HRB)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Heather regeneration - Controlled burning (HRB)' NPI. |

| Option / NPI name | Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
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| Heather regeneration – Flailing (HRF) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and the Information Sheet for the 'Heather regeneration – Flailing (HRF)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and in the Information Sheet for the 'Heather regeneration – Flailing (HRF)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Heather regeneration – Flailing (HRF)' NPI. |
| Restorative pruning of traditional orchards (ARP) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and the Information Sheet for the 'Restorative pruning of traditional orchards (ARP)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and in the Information Sheet for the 'Restorative pruning of traditional orchards (ARP)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Restorative pruning of traditional orchards (ARP)' NPI. |
| Structures/work to raise water levels (ARW) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and the Information Sheet for the 'Structures/work to raise water levels (ARW)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and in the Information Sheet for the 'Structures/work to raise water levels (ARW)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Structures/work to raise water levels (ARW)' NPI. |
| Ditch blocking – plastic piling dams (small dam) (DBS) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and the Information Sheet for the 'Ditch blocking – plastic piling dams (small dam) (DBS)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and in the Information Sheet for the 'Ditch blocking – plastic piling dams (small dam) (DBS)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Ditch blocking – plastic piling dams (small dam) (DBS)' NPI. |
| Ditch blocking – plastic piling dams (medium dam) (DBM) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and the Information Sheet for the 'Ditch blocking – plastic piling dams (medium dam) (DBM)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and in the Information Sheet for the 'Ditch blocking – plastic piling dams (medium dam) (DBM)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Ditch blocking – plastic piling dams (medium dam) (DBM)' NPI. |
| Ditch blocking – plastic piling dams (large dam) (DBL) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and the Information Sheet for the 'Ditch blocking – plastic piling dams (large dam) (DBL)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and in the Information Sheet for the 'Ditch blocking – plastic piling dams (large dam) (DBL)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Ditch blocking – plastic piling dams (large dam) (DBL)' NPI. |
| Stock bridge (ASB) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and the Information Sheet for the 'Stock bridge (ASB)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and in the Information Sheet for the 'Stock bridge (ASB)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Stock bridge (ASB)' NPI. |
| Bankside reprofiling (ABR) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and the Information Sheet for the 'Bankside reprofiling (ABR)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and in the Information Sheet for the 'Bankside reprofiling (ABR)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Bankside reprofiling (ABR)' NPI. |
| Creation of scrapes (COS) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of scrapes (COS)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and in the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of scrapes (COS)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Creation of scrapes (COS)' NPI. |
| Tree surgery (ATS) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and the Information Sheet for the 'Tree surgery (ATS)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and in the Information Sheet for the 'Tree surgery (ATS)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Tree surgery (ATS)' NPI. |
| Tree pollarding (ATP) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and the Information Sheet for the 'Tree pollarding (ATP)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and in the Information Sheet for the 'Tree pollarding (ATP)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Tree pollarding (ATP)' NPI. |
| Predator Perch removal (APR) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and the Information Sheet for the 'Predator Perch removal (APR)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and in the Information Sheet for the 'Predator Perch removal (APR)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Predator Perch removal (APR)' NPI. |
| Machinery for management of fen and reedbed tall vegetation (AMT) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and the Information Sheet for the 'Machinery for management of fen and reedbed tall vegetation (AMT)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and in the Information Sheet for the 'Machinery for management of fen and reedbed tall vegetation (AMT)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Machinery for management of fen and reedbed tall vegetation (AMT)' NPI. |
| Creation of wetlands (AWC) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of wetlands (AWC)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and in the Information Sheet for the 'Creation of wetlands (AWC)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Creation of wetlands (AWC)' NPI. |

| Option / NPI name | Management Requirements | Advice | Records |
|--|--|--|--|
| Tree felling for biodiversity (TFB) | Adhere to all the Management requirements as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and the Information Sheet for the 'Tree felling for biodiversity (TFB)' NPI. | It is recommended that you follow all the further advice as stated in the EFS Specialist plan associated with this NPI and in the Information Sheet for the 'Tree felling for biodiversity (TFB)' NPI. | Record all activities completed in association with the 'Tree felling for biodiversity (TFB)' NPI. |

ANNEX G: EFS Options and NPIs – Listed in alphabetical order of Option / NPI Code

The following table may provide a useful reference guide when completing the EFS map.

| Option Code | Option Name | Category | Sub-category |
|-------------|---|---------------|--|
| ABR | Bankside reprofiling | NPI | Actual Cost Item |
| AGH | Primary or follow-up treatments of invasive non-native plants - Giant Hogweed | NPI | Giant Hogweed/ Himalayan balsam/ Japanese knotweed |
| AHB | Primary or follow-up treatments of invasive non-native plants - Himalayan balsam | NPI | Giant Hogweed/ Himalayan balsam/ Japanese knotweed |
| AJK | Primary or follow-up treatments of invasive non-native plants - Japanese knotweed | NPI | Giant Hogweed/ Himalayan balsam/ Japanese knotweed |
| AMT | Machinery for management of fen & reedbed tall vegetation | NPI | Actual Cost Item |
| APR | Predator perch removal | NPI | Actual Cost Item |
| ARI | Rhododendron and laurel control - control by stem injection | NPI | Actual Cost Item |
| ARP | Restorative pruning of traditional orchards | NPI | Actual Cost Item |
| ARW | Structures/work to raise water levels | NPI | Actual Cost Item |
| ASB | Stock bridge | NPI | Actual Cost Item |
| ATP | Tree pollarding | NPI | Actual Cost Item |
| ATS | Tree surgery | NPI | Actual Cost Item |
| AWC | Creation of wetlands | NPI | Actual Cost Item |
| BAT | Woodcrete bat box | NPI | Boxes |
| BBG | Moorland (blanket bog) remedial management | Area option | Remedial Management |
| BBL | Large bird box | NPI | Boxes |
| BBS | Small bird box | NPI | Boxes |
| BFU | Follow-up treatment of bracken - mechanised or chemical | NPI | Bracken control |
| BNT | Creation of Riparian buffers - 2 metre width - planted with native trees | Linear Option | (None) |
| BOB | Barn owl box | NPI | Boxes |
| BPT | Primary treatment of bracken - mechanised or chemical | NPI | Bracken control |
| BWG | Breeding wader remedial management | Area option | Remedial Management |
| BWT | Creation of Riparian buffers - 10 metre width - planted with native trees | Linear Option | (None) |
| CAG | Calcareous grassland remedial management - all year grazing | Area option | Remedial Management |
| CFR | Coastal and flood plain grazing marsh remedial management | Area option | Remedial Management |
| COS | Creation of scrapes | NPI | Other |
| CRG | Calcareous grassland remedial management - restricted grazing | Area option | Remedial Management |
| CSD | Coastal sand dunes remedial management | Area option | Remedial Management |
| CSM | Coastal salt marsh remedial management | Area option | Remedial Management |
| CTO | Creation of traditional orchard | Area option | Tree Planting |
| CUM | Creation of Arable margins - 6 metre width - cultivated uncropped | Area option | Arable |
| DBL | Ditch blocking - plastic piling dams (large) | NPI | Water Supply/Water Level |
| DBM | Ditch blocking - plastic piling dams (medium) | NPI | Water Supply/Water Level |
| DBS | Ditch blocking - plastic piling dams (small) | NPI | Water Supply/Water Level |
| DEF | Deer fencing | NPI | Fencing |
| DSW | Traditional dry stone wall rebuilding - double skin | Linear Option | (None) |
| DTB | Drinking trough base | NPI | Water Supply/Water Level |
| DTP | Water trough pipework | NPI | Water Supply/Water Level |
| DTR | Drinking trough | NPI | Water Supply/Water Level |
| EAF | Establishment of agroforestry | Area option | Tree Planting |
| ENW | Establishment of native woodland less than 5 ha | Area option | Tree Planting |
| FNG | Fen remedial management | Area option | Remedial Management |
| FRL | Fence removal | NPI | Fencing |
| GPD | Gate and two gate posts - deer fence | NPI | Fencing |
| GPS | Gate and two gate posts - stock-proof fence | NPI | Fencing |
| HAY | Lowland meadow and purple moorgrass rush pasture - cut for hay | Area option | Remedial Management |
| HRB | Heather regeneration - controlled burning | NPI | Heather regeneration |
| HRF | Heather regeneration - flailing | NPI | Heather regeneration |
| ILR | Moorland (Intact lowland raised bog) remedial management | Area option | Remedial Management |
| LAY | Hedge laying including two protective fences | Linear Option | (None) |
| LDA | Lowland dry acid grassland remedial management - all year grazing | Area option | Remedial Management |
| LDR | Lowland dry acid grassland remedial management - restricted grazing | Area option | Remedial Management |
| LFP | Lapwing fallow plot | Area option | Other |
| LHG | Moorland (lowland heath) remedial management | Area option | Remedial Management |
| LMA | Lowland meadow remedial management - all year grazing | Area option | Remedial Management |
| LMR | Lowland meadow remedial management - restricted grazing | Area option | Remedial Management |
| LPA | Limestone pavement remedial management - all year grazing | Area option | Remedial Management |
| LPR | Limestone pavement remedial management - restricted grazing | Area option | Remedial Management |

| Option Code | Option Name | Category | Sub-category |
|-------------|---|---------------|--------------------------------|
| MCA | Maritime cliff and slope remedial management - all year grazing | Area option | Remedial Management |
| MCR | Maritime cliff and slope remedial management - restricted grazing | Area option | Remedial Management |
| MHG | Moorland (montane heath) remedial management | Area option | Remedial Management |
| NHO | No Higher Option | Area option | Other |
| NRW | Natural regeneration of native woodland | Area option | Tree Planting |
| NTC | Planting native tree corridors | Area option | Tree Planting |
| NTW | Native tree whip | NPI | Trees/Guards |
| OCA | Organic conversion - Arable | Area option | Organic |
| OCG | Organic conversion - Grassland | Area option | Organic |
| OCH | Organic conversion - Horticulture | Area option | Organic |
| OCT | Organic conversion - Horticulture - Top fruit | Area option | Organic |
| OEF | Outrigger electric fence for stock fence | NPI | Fencing |
| OMA | Organic management - Arable | Area option | Organic |
| OMG | Organic management - Grassland | Area option | Organic |
| OMH | Organic management - Horticulture | Area option | Organic |
| OMT | Organic management - Horticulture - Top fruit | Area option | Organic |
| PAN | Creation of pollinator margins - 10 metre width - Pollen and nectar | Area option | Arable |
| PAP | Pasture pump and associated pipe work | NPI | Water Supply/Water Level |
| PCT | Predator control trap - Larsen trap | NPI | Other |
| PEF | Permanent electric fencing (including energiser) | NPI | Fencing |
| PKG | Parkland remedial management | Area option | Remedial Management |
| PNH | Planting new Hedgerows including two protective fences | Linear Option | (None) |
| PRC | Primary rush control | NPI | Rush control |
| PRF | Post and rail fencing | NPI | Fencing |
| PRG | Purple moorgrass and rush pasture remedial management | Area option | Remedial Management |
| RBG | Reedbed remedial management | Area option | Remedial Management |
| RBS | Creation of Riparian buffers - 2 metre width - ungrazed | Linear Option | (None) |
| RBW | Creation of Riparian buffers - 10 metre width - ungrazed | Linear Option | (None) |
| RFC | Follow-up rush control | NPI | Rush control |
| RGM | Creation of arable margins - 6 metre width - rough grass | Area option | Arable |
| RLF | Invasive species control of rhododendron and laurel - follow-up spraying regrowth control | NPI | Invasive Species/Scrub Control |
| RLP | Invasive species control of rhododendron and laurel - primary control | NPI | Invasive Species/Scrub Control |
| RPF | Rabbit-proof fencing | NPI | Fencing |
| RSF | Red squirrel feeder | NPI | Other |
| RWS | Retention of winter stubble | Area option | Arable |
| SBO | Solitary bee box | NPI | Boxes |
| SFT | Standard fruit tree | NPI | Trees/Guards |
| SHF | Scrub control - Follow up treatment- stems greater than 7 cm diameter | NPI | Invasive Species/Scrub Control |
| SHM | Scrub control heavy, stems greater than 7 cm diameter, machine cut | NPI | Invasive Species/Scrub Control |
| SHR | Scrub control heavy, stems greater than 7 cm diameter, manual cut | NPI | Invasive Species/Scrub Control |
| SLF | Scrub control - Follow up treatment - stems less than 7cm diameter | NPI | Invasive Species/Scrub Control |
| SLH | Scrub control light, stems less than 7 cm diameter, manual cut | NPI | Invasive Species/Scrub Control |
| SLM | Scrub control light, stems less than 7 cm diameter, machine cut | NPI | Invasive Species/Scrub Control |
| SNS | Parkland/Fruit/Standard native tree stake | NPI | Trees/Guards |
| SNT | Parkland/Fruit/Standard native tree guard | NPI | Trees/Guards |
| SPE | Solar powered energiser for electric fence | NPI | Fencing |
| SPF | Stock proof fencing | NPI | Fencing |
| SPT | Standard parkland tree | NPI | Trees/Guards |
| SSW | Traditional dry stone wall rebuilding - single skin | Linear Option | (None) |
| TEB | Creation of tree-enhanced boundaries | Linear Option | (None) |
| TFB | Tree felling for biodiversity | NPI | Other |
| TGC | Spiral tree guard and cane | NPI | Trees/Guards |
| TGS | 1.2 metre tubular tree guard and stake | NPI | Trees/Guards |
| UHG | Moorland (upland heath) remedial management | Area option | Remedial Management |
| WAG | Grazed mixed ash woodland remedial management | Area option | Remedial Management |
| WAU | Ungrazed mixed ash woodland remedial management | Area option | Remedial Management |
| WFC | Provision of winter feed crop for wild birds | Area option | Arable |
| WFM | Creation of pollinator margins - 10 metre width - annual wildflower | Area option | Arable |
| WOG | Grazed oak woodland remedial management | Area option | Remedial Management |
| WOU | Ungrazed oak woodland remedial management | Area option | Remedial Management |
| WSF | Watercourse stablisation with fencing | Linear Option | (None) |
| WWG | Grazed wet woodland remedial management | Area option | Remedial Management |
| WWU | Ungrazed wet woodland remedial management | Area option | Remedial Management |