The Statutory Biodiversity Metric -Technical Annex 1: C

July 2024 (v

Instructions

The method for assessing habitat condition is split into three main steps, all of which are outline

STEP 1: Considerations before assessing condition

STEP 2: Choosing the right condition sheet

STEP 3: Using condition sheets

Step 1: Considerations before assessing condition

The following points must be considered before undertaking a condition assessment:

a) Condition assessments must be undertaken by a competent person (hereafter referred to as asses the optimum time of year for the assessed habitat(s).

b) Assessors must have access to condition sheets (see Tabs 1-25) and the survey cover sheet durin

c) The habitat type of the parcel(s) to be assessed must be determined before consideration can be g HABITAT DEFINITIONS tab). Most (but not all) biodiversity metric terrestrial habitat types are equivaler divisions. When classifying a habitat, the assessor should classify and record it to the most accurate an habitat type when using the metric, when assessing its condition the most accurate description should b as the Level 4 description, depending on the habitat type.

d) The location and extent of the habitat parcel(s) to be assessed must be mapped, either on digital o according to their condition.

e) Each habitat parcel to be assessed must be assigned a unique reference ID.

Step 2: Choosing the right condition sheet

See SELECTING CONDITION SHEET tab which lists the habitat types found in the biodiversity metric a sheets are unique to a single habitat type; others cover a range of habitat types within the same broad h

How to use: locate the relevant habitat type in the first column (Habitat type), then refer to the se used to assess that particular habitat type. The third and fourth columns (Link to sheet) contain ease of navigation. Please note the following important points:

►Some habitats are allocated a fixed condition score in the biodiversity metric and do not require a cor habitats there is a fixed option in the metric - 'Condition Assessment N/A'; for very low distinctiveness h

►Habitat descriptions in bold are Priority Habitats.

Step 3: Using condition sheets (Tabs 1-25)

The following instructions and points of clarification apply to most condition assessment sheets:

a) Only choose one condition sheet per habitat type. Once the condition sheet has been chosen, the co that for A - information for one habitat parcel can be recorded, whereas for B - information for up to 10 h paper form.

b) Assess the habitat parcel against each condition assessment criterion, recording a ‘pass’ or ‘fail’ for e

c) If a habitat parcel is failing all criteria, it may be that the habitat type has been recorded incorrectly ar links at the top of the condition sheet to ensure that the habitat type is correctly identified.

d) If condition varies within a parcel during the assessment then start a new condition assessment. Spli consistent type and condition.

e) Some condition assessment sheets have ‘essential’ criteria. Essential criteria must be passed to ach

f) Some condition assessment sheets list species that are indicative of suboptimal condition status. The additional species within this category, such as those of geographical relevance. Report any high-risk n GB non-native species secretariat

g) Any relevant evidence for passing or failing criteria, or for a particular score, should be captured with referenced on the condition sheet.

h) Record any survey limitations on the condition sheet, such as access restrictions or timing restriction adopt a precautionary approach when passing or failing criteria. Ensure any constraints are made clear

i. If a definitive pass or fail cannot be assigned through baseline survey, assume the criterion is pas

ii. When monitoring post-intervention habitat, fail criteria which cannot be assessed due to survey lir

i) Once all applicable condition criteria have been assessed, assign a result of Good, Moderate or Poor

i. The ‘Fairly Good’ or ‘Fairly Poor’ condition categories are intermediate categories for site-specific applied through application of professional judgement, and sound ecological evidence must be provide results of a standard metric condition assessment one condition category above or below its result. For (nor from ‘Good’ to ‘Fairly Poor’).

The condition assessment survey is a good opportunity to identify any potential opportunities for habitat

The CA SUMMARY SHEET can be filled out after the survey to summarise information about the condi

- The site or location of the condition assessment survey
- The number of condition sheets used
- The number and type of habitat parcels surveyed and the condition they achieved

Notes on Using Condition Sheets

Additional habitat-specific instructions for non-standard condition assessment sheets are provided belo

Using the 'Woodland' condition sheet

The Woodland condition sheet has been adapted from the ‘Woodland Condition Survey’ developed by t
complete a Woodland condition assessment for the purpose of the biodiversity metric is provided or refe

Instead of allocating a pass or fail to each criterion, each of the criteria within the woodland condition sh
final condition score.

Using the 'Lakes' condition sheet

The Freshwater Biological Association’s ‘Habitat Naturalness Assessment’ (HNA) is used to assess the
the Lake condition sheet.

The average of the HNA scores is used to assign a final condition score.

Using the 'Coastal' and 'Intertidal' habitat condition sheets

For most coastal and intertidal habitats, instead of allocating a 'pass' or 'fail' to each criterion, each of th
total sum is used to assign a final condition score.

Using the 'Hedgerow' condition sheet

The condition sheet for hedgerows has been adapted from the Defra Hedgerow Survey Handbook. All s
within the Hedgerow condition sheet.

Each condition criterion is assigned to one of five functional groups. The condition of a hedgerow is ass

Habitat Definitions

Links to habitat classification systems used by the Statutory Biodiversity Metric are below:

UK Habitat Classification System definitions

EUNIS habitat definitions

Water Framework Directive Lakes Typologies

Annex I habitats

Statutory Biodiversity Metric broad habitat	Statutory Biodiversity Metric habitat	Classification where definition derived	Habitat name in source classification	Other definition or notes
Cropland	Arable field margins cultivated annually	UKHab	Arable field margins cultivated annually	None
	Arable field margins game bird mix	UKHab	Arable field margins wild bird mix	The metric habitat type differs from the UKHab name.
	Arable field margins pollen and nectar	UKHab	Arable field margins pollen and nectar	None
	Arable field margins tussocky	UKHab	Arable field margins tussocky	None
	Cereal crops	UKHab	Cereal crops	None
	Winter stubble	UKHab	Winter stubble	None
	Horticulture	UKHab	Horticulture	None
	Intensive orchards	UKHab	Intensive orchards	None
	Non-cereal crops	UKHab	Non-cereal crops	None
	Temporary grass and clover leys	UKHab	Temporary grass and clover leys	None
Grassland	Traditional orchards	UKHab	Traditional orchards	None
	Bracken	UKHab	Bracken	None
	Floodplain wetland mosaic and CFGM	UKHab	Floodplain wetland mosaic	The metric habitat type differs from the UKHab name. Use as defined in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide
	Lowland calcareous grassland	UKHab	Lowland calcareous grassland	None

	Lowland dry acid grassland	UKHab	Lowland dry acid grassland	None
	Lowland meadows	UKHab	Lowland meadows	None
	Modified grassland	UKHab	Modified grassland	None
	Other lowland acid grassland	UKHab	Other lowland acid grassland	None
	Other neutral grassland	UKHab	Other neutral grassland	None
	Tall herb communities (H6430)	Use Habitats Directive Annex 1 definition	Tall herb communities (H6430)	None
	Upland acid grassland	UKHab	Upland acid grassland	None
	Upland calcareous grassland	UKHab	Upland calcareous grassland	None
	Upland hay meadows	UKHab	Upland hay meadows	None
Heathland and shrub	Blackthorn scrub	UKHab	Blackthorn scrub	None
	Bramble scrub	UKHab	Bramble scrub	None
	Gorse scrub	UKHab	Gorse scrub	None
	Hawthorn scrub	UKHab	Hawthorn scrub	None
	Hazel scrub	UKHab	Hazel scrub	None
	Lowland heathland	UKHab	Lowland heathland	None
	Mixed scrub	UKHab	Mixed scrub	None
	Mountain heaths and willow scrub	UKHab	Mountain heaths and willow scrub	None
	Rhododendron scrub	UKHab	Rhododendron scrub	None
	Willow scrub	UKHab	Willow scrub	None
	Dunes with sea buckthorn (H2160)	Habitats Directive Annex 1	Dunes with sea buckthorn (H2160)	All other sea buckthorn scrub should be recorded as ‘Other sea buckthorn scrub’
	Other sea buckthorn scrub	UKHab	Other sea buckthorn scrub	None
	Upland heathland	UKHab	Upland heathland	None
Individual tree	**Rural tree**	Metric-specific	N/A	None

	Urban tree	Metric-specific	N/A	None
Lakes	Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating water bodies	UKHab	Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating water bodies	None
	Ornamental lake or pond	UKHab	Ornamental lakes or ponds	None
	High alkalinity lakes	Water Framework Directive (WFD) Lakes typology	N/A	≥ 2ha
	Low alkalinity lakes	WFD Lakes typology	N/A	≥ 2ha
	Marl lakes	WFD Lakes typology	N/A	≥ 2ha
	Moderate alkalinity lakes	WFD Lakes typology	N/A	≥ 2ha
	Peat lakes	WFD Lakes typology	N/A	≥ 2ha
	Ponds (priority habitat)	UKHab	Ponds (priority habitat)	< 2ha
	Ponds (non-priority habitat)	UKHab	Pond (non-priority)	< 2ha
	Reservoirs	UKHab/WFD Lakes typology*	Reservoir	*Some larger reservoirs are covered by the WFD Lakes typology.
	Temporary lakes ponds and pools (H3170)	UKHab*	Mediterranean temporary ponds (H3170)	The metric habitat type differs from the UKHab name. *All temporary water bodies not meeting this definition should be recorded as the appropriate pond or lake habitat type.
Sparsely vegetated land	Calaminarian grasslands	UKHab	Calaminarian grasslands	None

	Coastal sand dunes	UKHab	Sand dunes	The metric habitat type differs from the UKHab name.
	Coastal vegetated shingle	UKHab	Coastal vegetated shingle	None
	Ruderal/Ephemeral	UKHab	Ruderal or ephemeral	The metric habitat type differs from the UKHab name
	Tall forbs	UKHab	Tall forbs	None
	Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats	UKHab	Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats	None
	Limestone pavement	UKHab	Limestone pavement	None
	Maritime cliff and slopes	UKHab	Maritime cliff and slopes	None
	Other inland rock and scree	UKHab	Other inland rock	The metric habitat type differs from the UKHab name
Urban	Allotments	UKHab	Allotments	None
	Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface	UKHab	Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface	None
	Bioswale	UKHab	Bioswale	None
	Biodiverse green roof	UKHab	Biodiverse green roof	None
	Built linear features	UKHab	Built linear features	None
	Cemeteries and churchyards	UKHab	Cemeteries and churchyards	None
	Developed land; sealed surface	UKHab	Developed land; sealed surface	None
	Biodiverse green roof	UKHab	Biodiverse green roof	None
	Facade-bound green wall	UKHab	Facade-bound green wall	None
	Ground based green wall	UKHab	Ground-based green wall	None
	Ground level planters	UKHab	Ground level planters	None
	Intensive green roof	UKHab	Intensive green roof	None
	Introduced shrub	UKHab	Introduced shrub	None
	Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land	UKHab	Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land	None
	Other green roof	UKHab	Other green roof	None
	Rain garden	UKHab	Rain garden	None

	Actively worked sand pit quarry or open cast mine	UKHab	Active sand pit or quarry or open cast mine	The metric habitat type differs from the UKHab name. This classification relates to non-vegetated working areas only.
	Sustainable drainage system (SuDS)	UKHab	Sustainable drainage system	None
	Unvegetated garden	UKHab	Unvegetated garden	None
	Vacant or derelict land	UKHab	Vacant or derelict land	None
	Bare ground	UKHab	Bare ground	None
	Vegetated garden	UKHab	Vegetated garden	None
Wetland	Blanket bog	UKHab	Blanket bog	None
	Depressions on peat substrates (H7150)	UKHab	Depressions on peat substrates (H7150)	None
	Fens (upland and lowland)	UKHab	Lowland fens; Upland flushes fens and swamps; Other wetlands	The metric habitat type differs from the UKHab name
	Lowland raised bog	UKHab	Lowland raised bog	None
	Wetland – Oceanic valley mire [1] (D2.1)	EUNIS	Oceanic valley bog	None
	Purple moor grass and rush pastures	UKHab	Purple moor grass and rush pastures	None
	Reedbeds	UKHab	Reedbeds	None
	Transition mires and quaking bogs (H7140)	UKHab	Transition mires and quaking bogs - lowland (H7140) Transition mires and quaking bogs - upland (H7140)	The metric habitat type differs from the UKHab name
Woodland and forest	Felled	UKHab	Felled	None
	Lowland beech and yew woodland	UKHab	Lowland beech and yew woodland	None
	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	UKHab	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	None

	Native pine woodlands	UKHab	Native pine woodlands	None
	Other coniferous woodland	UKHab	Other coniferous woodland	None
	Other Scot's pine woodland	UKHab	Other Scot's pine woodland	None
	Other woodland; broadleaved	UKHab	Other broadleaved woodland	The metric habitat type differs from the UKHab name
	Other woodland; mixed	UKHab	Other woodland; mixed	None
	Upland birchwoods	UKHab	Upland birchwoods	None
	Upland mixed ashwoods	UKHab	Upland mixed ashwoods	None
	Upland oakwood	UKHab	Upland oakwood	None
	Wet woodland	UKHab	Wet woodland	None
	Wood-pasture and parkland	UKHab	Wood-pasture and parkland	None
Coastal lagoons	*Coastal lagoons*	EUNIS	Saline coastal lagoons	None
Coastal saltmarsh	*Saltmarshes and saline reedbeds*	EUNIS	Coastal saltmarshes and saline reedbeds	None
	Artificial saltmarshes and saline reedbeds	Adapted from EUNIS - see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric		None
Rocky shore	High energy littoral rock	EUNIS	High energy littoral rock	None
	High energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk	Subset of EUNIS habitat based on substrate	High energy littoral rock	None
	Moderate energy littoral rock	EUNIS	Moderate energy littoral rock	None
	Moderate energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk	Subset of EUNIS habitat based on substrate	Moderate energy littoral rock	None
	Low energy littoral rock	EUNIS	Low energy littoral rock	None
	Low energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk	Subset of EUNIS habitat based on substrate	Low energy littoral rock	None
	Features of littoral rock	EUNIS	Features of littoral rock	None

	Features of littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk	Subset of EUNIS habitat based on substrate	Features of littoral rock	None
Intertidal sediment	Littoral coarse sediment	EUNIS	Littoral coarse sediment	None
	Littoral sand	EUNIS	Littoral sand and muddy sand	None
	Littoral muddy sand	EUNIS	Littoral sand and muddy sand	None
	Littoral mud	EUNIS	Littoral mud	None
	Littoral mixed sediments	EUNIS	Littoral mixed sediments	None
	Littoral seagrass	EUNIS	Littoral sediments dominated by aquatic angiosperms	None
	Littoral seagrass on peat, clay or chalk	Subset of EUNIS habitat based on substrate	Littoral sediments dominated by aquatic angiosperms	None
	Littoral biogenic reefs - Mussels	Subset of EUNIS habitat based on reef forming species	Littoral biogenic reefs	None
	Littoral biogenic reefs - Sabellaria	Subset of EUNIS habitat based on reef forming species	Littoral biogenic reefs	None
	Features of littoral sediment	EUNIS	Features of littoral sediment	None
	Artificial littoral coarse sediment	Adapted from EUNIS - see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric		None
	Artificial littoral muddy sand	Adapted from EUNIS - see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric		None
	Artificial littoral mud	Adapted from EUNIS - see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric		None
	Artificial littoral sand	Adapted from EUNIS - see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric		None

	Artificial littoral mixed sediments	Adapted from EUNIS - see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric		None
	Artificial littoral seagrass	Adapted from EUNIS - see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric		None
	Artificial littoral biogenic reefs	Adapted from EUNIS - see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric		None
Intertidal hard structures	*Artificial hard structures*	Adapted from EUNIS - see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric		None
	Artificial features of hard structures	Adapted from EUNIS - see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric		None
	Artificial hard structures with integrated greening of grey infrastructure (IGGI)	Adapted from EUNIS - see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric		None
Hedgerows and Lines of trees	*Species-rich native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch*	UKHab	Species-rich native hedgerow	Combined UKHab codes: h2a5 70 h2a5 191 h2a5 70 191
	Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	UKHab	Species-rich native hedgerow	Combined UKHab codes: h2a5 190
	Species-rich native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch	UKHab	Species-rich native hedgerow	Combined UKHab codes: h2a5 190 70 h2a5 190 191 h2a5 190 70 191
	Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch	UKHab	Native hedgerow	Combined UKHab codes: h2a 190 70 h2a 190 191 h2a 190 70 191
	Species-rich native hedgerow	UKHab	Species-rich native hedgerow	UKHab code: h2a5
	Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch	UKHab	Native hedgerow	Combined UKHab codes: h2a 70 h2a 191 h2a 70 191

	Native hedgerow with trees	UKHab	Native hedgerow	Combined UKHab codes: h2a 190
	Ecologically valuable line of trees	UKHab	Ecologically valuable line of trees	Combined UKHab codes: w~ 1175
	Ecologically valuable line of trees - associated with bank or ditch	UKHab	Ecologically valuable line of trees	Combined UKHab codes: w~ 1175 70 w~ 1175 191 w~ 1175 70 191
	Native hedgerow	UKHab	Native hedgerow	Combined UKHab codes: h2a h2a6
	Line of trees	UKHab	Line of trees	UKHab code: w~ 1174
	Line of trees - associated with bank or ditch	UKHab	Line of trees	Combined UKHab codes: w~ 1174 70 w~ 1174 191 w~ 1174 70191
	Non-native and ornamental hedgerow	UKHab	Non-native and ornamental hedgerow	UKHab code: h2b
Watercourse	Priority habitat	UKHab	Rivers (priority habitat)	Use as defined in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide.
	Other rivers and streams	UKHab	Other rivers and streams	Use as defined in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide.
	Ditches	Metric-specific	Ditch	Use as defined in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide.
	Canals	UKHab	Canals	Use as defined in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide.
	Culvert	N/A	N/A	Use as defined in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide.
	Watercourse footprint	Metric-specific	N/A	Use as defined in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide.

Tips on using the table below:

Italics - habitat name in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric does not correspond exactly to that used in sou

Bold - definition is specific to the Statutory Biodiversity Metric.

Instructions:

The table below sets out which condition sheet to use for e

Habitat type (Habitats in bold are Priority Habitats)

Area habitats
Croplar
Cropland - Arable field margins game bird mix
Cropland - Arable field margins pollen and nectar
Cropland - Arable field margins tussocky
Cropland - Cereal crops
Cropland - Winter stubble
Cropland – Horticulture
Cropland - Intensive orchards
Cropland - Non-cereal crops
Cropland - Temporary grass and clover leys
Broad habitat type: Grassland
Grassland - Floodplain wetland mosaic and CFGM
Grassland - Lowland calcareous grassland
Grassland - Lowland dry acid grassland
Grassland - Lowland meadows
Grassland - Modified grassland
Grassland - Other lowland acid grassland
Grassland - Other neutral grassland
Grassland - Tall herb communities (H6430)
Grassland - Traditional orchards
Grassland - Upland acid grassland
Grassland - Upland calcareous grassland
Grassland - Upland hay meadows
Broad habitat type: Heathland and scrub
H
Heathland and shrub - Bramble scrub
Heathland and shrub - Gorse scrub
Heathland and shrub - Hawthorn scrub
Heathland and shrub - Hazel scrub
Heathland and shrub - Lowland heathland
Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub

Heathland and shrub - Mountain heaths and willow scrub
Heathland and shrub - Rhododendron scrub
Heathland and shrub – Dunes with sea buckthorn (H2160)
Heathland and shrub – Other sea buckthorn scrub
Heathland and shrub - Upland heathland
Heathland and shrub – Willow scrub
Broad habitat type: Lakes
Lakes -
Lakes - High alkalinity lakes
Lakes - Low alkalinity lakes
Lakes - Marl lakes
Lakes - Moderate alkalinity lakes
Lakes - Ornamental lake or pond
Lakes - Peat lakes
Lakes - Ponds (priority habitat)
Lakes - Ponds (non-priority habitat)
Lakes - Reservoirs
Lakes - Temporary lakes ponds and pools (H3170)
Broad habitat type: Sparsely vegetated land
Sparsel
Sparsely vegetated land - Coastal sand dunes
Sparsely vegetated land - Coastal vegetated shingle
Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral
Sparsely vegetated land – Tall forbs
Sparsely vegetated land - Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats
Sparsely vegetated land - Limestone pavement
Sparsely vegetated land - Maritime cliff and slopes
Sparsely vegetated land - Other inland rock and scree
Broad habitat type: Urban
Urban - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface
Urban - Bioswale
Urban - Biodiverse green roof
Urban - Built linear features
Urban - Cemeteries and churchyards
Urban - Developed land; sealed surface
Urban - Facade-bound green wall
Urban - Ground based green wall

Urban - Ground level planters
Urban - Intensive green roof
Urban - Introduced shrub
Urban - Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land
Urban - Other green roof
Urban - Rain garden
Urban - Actively worked sand pit, quarry or open cast mine
Urban - Sustainable drainage system (SuDS)
Urban - Unvegetated garden
Urban – Vacant or derelict land
Urban – Bare ground
Urban - Vegetated garden
Broad habitat type: Wetland
Wetland - Depressions on peat substrates (H7150)
Wetland - Fens (upland and lowland)
Wetland - Lowland raised bog
Wetland – Oceanic valley mire [1] (D2.1)
Wetland - Purple moor grass and rush pastures
Wetland – Reedbeds
Wetland - Transition mires and quaking bogs (H7140)
Broad habitat type: Woodland
Woodland and forest - Lowland beech and yew woodland
Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
Woodland and forest - Native pine woodlands
Woodland and forest - Other coniferous woodland
Woodland and forest - Other Scot's pine woodland
Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved
Woodland and forest - Other woodland; mixed
Woodland and forest - Upland birchwoods
Woodland and forest - Upland mixed ashwoods
Woodland and forest - Upland oakwood
Woodland and forest - Wet woodland
Woodland and forest - Wood-pasture and parkland
Broad habitat type: Coastal lagoons
Broad habitat type: Coastal saltmarsh
Coastal s
Coastal saltmarsh - Artificial saltmarshes and saline

Broad habitat type: Intertidal hard structures
Intertid
Intertidal hard structures - Artificial features of hard
Intertidal hard structures - Artificial hard structures with integrated greening of grey infrastructure (IGGI)
Broad habitat type: Intertidal sediment
Inter
Intertidal sediment - Littoral sand
Intertidal sediment - Littoral muddy sand
Intertidal sediment - Littoral mud
Intertidal sediment - Littoral mixed sediments
Intertidal sediment - Features of littoral sediment
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral coarse sediment
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral mixed sediments
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral mud
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral muddy sand
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral sand
Intertidal sediment - Littoral seagrass
Intertidal sediment - Littoral seagrass - on peat, clay or chalk
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral seagrass
Intertidal sediment - Littoral biogenic reefs - Mussels
Intertidal sediment - Littoral biogenic reefs – Sabellaria
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral biogenic reefs
Broad habitat type: Rocky shore
R
Rocky shore - Moderate energy littoral rock
Rocky shore - Low energy littoral rock
Rocky shore - Features of littoral rock
Rocky Shore - Features of littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk
Rocky shore - High energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk
Rocky shore - Moderate energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk
Rocky shore - Low energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk
Broad habitat type: Individual trees
Individual trees – Urban tree
Hedgerows and Lines of trees habitats
Broad h

Hec
Hedgerows and lines of trees - Line of trees - associated with
Hedgerows and lines of trees – Ecologically valuable line of trees
Hedgerows and lines of trees - Ecologically valuable line of trees - associated with bank or ditch
Hedgerows and lines of trees – Non-native and ornamental hedgerow
Hedgerows and lines of trees - Native hedgerow
Hedgerows and lines of trees - Native hedgerow - associated
Hedgerows and lines of trees - Native hedgerow with trees
Hedgerows and lines of trees - Native hedgerow with trees -
Hedgerows and lines of trees - Species-rich native hedgerow
Hedgerows and lines of trees - Species-rich native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch
Hedgerows and lines of trees - Species-rich native hedgerow with trees
Hedgerows and lines of trees - Species-rich native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch
Watercourse habitats
Watercourse – Culvert
Watercourse – Priority habitat, Other rivers and streams, Canals

each habitat type. Priority Habitats (as defined in NERC Section 41) are indi

Condition sheet	o sheet (1 habitat p

Broad habitat type: Cropland

nd - Arable field margins cultivated annually

Grassland - Bracken

See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide for details	Tab 23A
Grassland Medium/High/Very High distinctiveness	Tab 6A
Grassland Low distinctiveness	Tab 5A
Grassland Medium/High/Very High distinctiveness	Tab 6A
Orchard	Tab 17A
Grassland Medium/High/Very High distinctiveness	Tab 6A

eathland and shrub - Blackthorn scrub

Condition Assessment N/A	N/A
Scrub	Tab 20A
Heathland	Tab 7A
Scrub	Tab 20A

Use Heathland condition sheet for Mountain heaths OR	Tab 7A
Scrub condition sheet for Willow scrub	Tab 20A
Condition Assessment N/A	N/A
Scrub	Tab 20A
Condition Assessment N/A	N/A
Heathland	Tab 7A
Scrub	Tab 20A

Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating water bodies

Lakes OR	Tab 14A
Ponds	Tab 18A
Lakes	Tab 14A
Ponds	Tab 18A
Lakes	Tab 14A
Use Lake condition sheet for Temporary lakes OR Pond condition sheet for Temporary ponds and pools	Tab 18A

ly vegetated land - Calaminarian grasslands

Coastal	Tab 1A
Urban	Tab 22A
Sparsely vegetated land	Tab 21A
Limestone pavement	Tab 15A
Coastal	Tab 1A
Sparsely vegetated land	Tab 21A

Urban - Allotments

N/A - Other	N/A
Urban	Tab 22A
N/A - Other	N/A
Use Urban condition sheet as default.	Tab 22A
N/A - Other	N/A
Urban	Tab 22A
Condition Assessment N/A	N/A

Condition Assessment N/A	N/A
Urban	Tab 22A
Condition Assessment N/A	N/A
Urban	Tab 22A
Condition Assessment N/A	N/A
Urban	Tab 22A
Condition Assessment N/A	N/A
Urban	Tab 22A
N/A - Other	N/A
Urban	Tab 22A
Condition Assessment N/A	N/A
Wetland - Blanket bog	
Woodland and forest - Felled	
Woodland	Tab 24A
Wood-pasture and parkland	Tab 25A
Coastal lagoons - Coastal lagoons	
saltmarsh - Saltmarshes and saline reedbeds	

dal hard structures - Artificial hard structures

rtidal sediment - Littoral coarse sediment

Intertidal seagrass	Tab 12A
Intertidal biogenic reefs	Tab 10A

Rocky shore - High energy littoral rock

Individual trees – Rural tree

habitat type: Hedgerows and lines of trees

dgerows and lines of trees - Line of trees	
No assessment required - condition fixed at Poor	N/A
Hedgerow	Tab 8A

Broad habitat type: Watercourse	
Watercourse – Ditches	
No assessment required - condition fixed at Poor	N/A
River Condition Assessment required - not included within	N/A

icated in bold text.

sheet (up to 10 habitat parcels)

Tab 23B
Tab 6B
Tab 5B
Tab 6B
Tab 17B
Tab 6B
N/A
Tab 20B
Tab 7B
Tab 20B

Tab 7B
Tab 20B
N/A
Tab 20B
N/A
Tab 7B
Tab 20B
Tab 14B
Tab 18B
Tab 14B
Tab 18B
Tab 14B
Tab 18B
Tab 1B
Tab 22B
Tab 21B
Tab 15B
Tab 1B
Tab 21B
N/A
Tab 22B
N/A
Tab 22B
N/A
Tab 22B
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Tab 22B
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Tab 22B
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Tab 22B
N/A
Tab 22B
N/A
Tab 22B
N/A
Tab 24B
Tab 25B

Tab 12B

Tab 10B

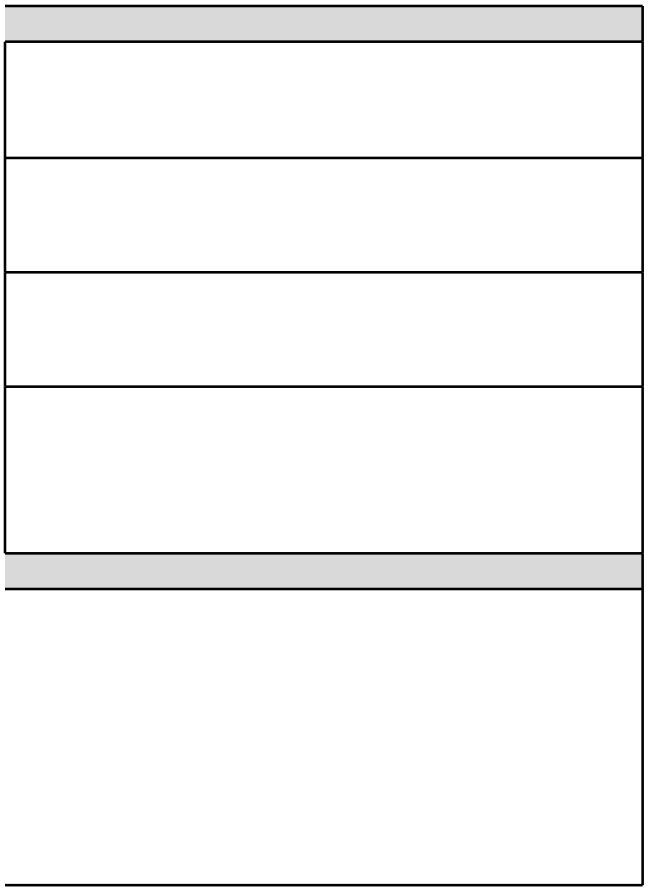
N/A

Tab 8B

N/A

N/A

Survey Cover Sheet		
Survey date/s		**Site name or location**
Weather conditions		**Project or development name**
Surveyor name		**On-site or off-site**
Survey reference		**Reason for assessment (if not baseline condition survey)**
Notes		



Site or location	Condition sheets	Total number of condition sheets used, or habitat parcels	Number of parcels of each condition achieved					Notes
			Good	Fairly Good	Moderate	Fairly Poor	Poor	
	Coastal							
	Coastal lagoons							
	Coastal saltmarsh							
	Ditches							
	Grassland low distinctiveness							
	Grassland medium, high, very high distinctiveness							

	Heathland							
	Hedgerow							
	Individual trees							
	Intertidal biogenic reefs							
	Intertidal hard structures							
	Intertidal seagrass							

	Intertidal sediment							
	Lakes							
	Limestone pavement							
	Line of trees							
	Orchard							
	Ponds							

	Rocky shore							
	Scrub							
	Sparsely vegetated land							
	Urban							
	Wetland							
	Woodland							

	Wood-pasture and parkland							

Condition Sheet: COASTAL Habitat Type

UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Types
Sparsely vegetated land - Coastal sand dunes **Sparsely vegetated land - Coastal vegetated shingle** **Sparsely vegetated land - Maritime cliff and slopes**
Habitat Description

See UKHab

On-site or off-site, site name and location	
Limitations (if applicable)	
Grid reference	
Condition Assessment Criteria	
A	The parcel represents a good example of its specific habitat type, with characteristic indicator species present in the typical successional stages, transitions and or mosaics, at sufficient cover and frequency to be a good example.1 Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.
B	Vegetation structure (sward height variation, zonation) is varied and not uniform.

C	Naturally open ground or bare surfaces are present as part of a sequence of colonisation and succession.
D	Coastal processes needed to support the habitat are functional and are not modified by hard engineering or other forms of negative intervention.
E	The landform reflects the interaction of coastal processes and geology, and there is a varied topography present supporting the relevant range of habitat types.
F	There is an absence of invasive non-native species2 (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA3). Combined cover of species indicative of suboptimal condition4 and physical damage (such as excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, damaging levels of access, or any other damaging management activities) accounts for less than 5% of total area.
G	Any scrub (including bramble Rubus fruticosus agg.) present accounts for less than 10% of the area within the habitat or bare substrate matrix. Blocks of scrub or woodland, which might be desirable in their own right should be classified and mapped separately.
H	Water quality and quantity (for example, seasonal fluctuations in dune slacks or seepages on cliff slopes) is sufficient to support the range of water-dependent parts of the habitat.
Essential criterion achieved (Yes or No)	
Number of criteria passed	
Condition Assessment Result (out of 8 criteria)	**Condition Assessment Score**

Passes 7 or 8 criteria including essential criterion A	Good (3)
Passes 5 or 6 criteria; OR Passes 7 criteria excluding essential criterion A	Moderate (2)
Passes 4 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 - Professional judgement should be used alongside the UKHab de

Footnote 2 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the inva risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.

Footnote 3 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Footnote 4 - General coastal species indicative of suboptimal condition: cree vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, Salix alba hybrids, sea buckthorn Hippophae rhamnoides (only outside its re

Grassland species indicative of suboptimal condition: creeping thistle Cirsiu dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle repens, greater plantain Plantago major and cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestr

Heathland species indicative of suboptimal condition: bracken Pteridium aqu

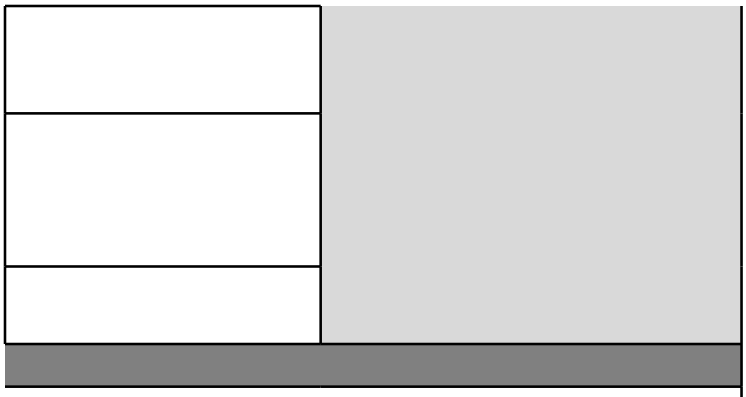
There may be additional relevant species local to the region and or site

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Survey date and Surveyor name	
Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Habitat parcel reference	

Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)

Score Achieved ×/ ✓	



escription.

f invasive non-native species varies across the
asive non-native species with a size relative to its

eping thistle Cirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium
, common nettle Urtica dioica, bramble, white willow
estricted native range) and non-native garden plants.

um arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled
Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup Ranunculus
ris.

uilinum.

Condition Sheet: COASTAL Habitat Type

UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Types

Sparsely vegetated land - Coastal sand dunes
Sparsely vegetated land - Coastal vegetated shingle
Sparsely vegetated land - Maritime cliff and slopes

Habitat Description

See UKHab

On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name**	
Limitations (if applicable)		**Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)**	
		Habitat parcel r	
		Grid reference	
Condition Assessment Criteria			
		Criterion passe	
A	The parcel represents a good example of its specific habitat type, with characteristic indicator species present in the typical successional stages, transitions and or mosaics, at sufficient cover and frequency to be a good example.1 Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.		
B	Vegetation structure (sward height variation, zonation) is varied and not uniform.		

C	Naturally open ground or bare surfaces are present as part of a sequence of colonisation and succession.		
D	Coastal processes needed to support the habitat are functional and are not modified by hard engineering or other forms of negative intervention.		
E	The landform reflects the interaction of coastal processes and geology, and there is a varied topography present supporting the relevant range of habitat types.		
F	There is an absence of invasive non-native species2 (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA3). Combined cover of species indicative of suboptimal condition4 and physical damage (such as excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, damaging levels of access, or any other damaging management activities) accounts for less than 5% of total area.		
G	Any scrub (including bramble Rubus fruticosus agg.) present accounts for less than 10% of the area within the habitat or bare substrate matrix. Blocks of scrub or woodland, which might be desirable in their own right should be classified and mapped separately.		
H	Water quality and quantity (for example, seasonal fluctuations in dune slacks or seepages on cliff slopes) is sufficient to support the range of water-dependent parts of the habitat.		
Essential criterion achieved (Yes or No)			
Number of criteria passed			
Condition Assessment Result (out of 8 criteria)	**Condition Assessment Score**	**Score Achieve**	

Passes 7 or 8 criteria including essential criterion A	Good (3)		
Passes 5 or 6 criteria; OR Passes 7 criteria excluding essential criterion A	Moderate (2)		
Passes 4 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)		

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Notes

Footnote 1 - Professional judgement should be used alongside the UKHab description.

Footnote 2 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-na applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk

Footnote 3 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Footnote 4 - General coastal species indicative of suboptimal condition: creeping thistle Cirs broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle Urtica dioica, bramble, white willow S restricted native range), and non-native garden plants.

Grassland species indicative of suboptimal condition: creeping thistle Cirsium arvense, spea Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, gr

Heathland species indicative of suboptimal condition: bracken Pteridium aquilinum.

reference								
ed (Yes or No)								Notes (such as justification)

d ×/✓								

ative species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly,
of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.

sium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus,
Salix alba hybrids, sea buckthorn Hippophae rhamnoides (only outside its

ar thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock
reater plantain Plantago major and cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris.

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: COASTAL LAGOONS Habitat Type		
EUNIS Habitat Type		
Coastal lagoons		
On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name**
Limitations (if applicable)		**Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)**
Grid reference		**Habitat parcel reference**
Habitat Description		

The coastal lagoons EUNIS habitat description is available here:
EUNIS -Factsheet for Coastal lagoons (europa.eu)

Habitat Attributes to Record

The following information should be recorded within the condition assessment sheet:
• Extent of lagoon waterbody1;
• Description of presence of typical communities and biotopes;
• Description of species diversity and community composition2;
• Salinity in parts per thousand (ppt);
• Presence and abundance of non-native species;
• Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical modifications present
• Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enrichment;
• Presence and density of non-natural structures and direct human impacts;
• Assessment of litter;
• Visual record of water clarity;
• Observations of the functioning and state of the isolating barrier; and
• Observations of the functioning and state of the lagoon banks.

Condition Assessment Criteria		
Indicator	**Good (3 points)**	**Moderate (2 points)**

A	**Presence and abundance of invasive non-native species**	Not more than one invasive non-native species is 'Occasional' on the SACFOR scale3; or is occupying more than 1% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 4.	No invasive non-native species are present above 'Frequent' on the SACFOR scale3; or they occupy between 1-10% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 4.
B	**Water Quality**	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing5.	Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. Elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing5.
C	**Non-natural structures and direct human impacts**	No evidence of impacts from direct human activities, or they occupy <1% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies 1-10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).
D	**Litter (when examining a beach strandline, mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)**	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 6 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to between 21 and 47 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 6 for details.
E	**Salinity**	Salinity is between 15 - 40 ppt.	Salinity values are close to (but still within) the ends of range acceptable for lagoons (15 - 40 ppt).
F	**Isolating barrier**	Fully functional and permitting tidal exchange.	Slightly damaged but some water exchange still occurring.

G	**Physical damage of lagoon banks**	No physical damage present7.	Only small, isolated patches of physical damage present7.
H	**Water clarity**	Water is clear.	Water clarity is reduced.
			To

Condition Assessment Result

TOTAL SCORE 18-24 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION

TOTAL SCORE 12-17 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION

TOTAL SCORE 8-11 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 – The extent of the lagoon waterbody should be recorded at high tide. This should September) and gives an indication of the amount of water that is present at all times of year.

Footnote 2 - Examples of species adapted to lagoons can be found in Bamber (2010): BAMB Directive [online]. Natural England Commissioned Reports, Number 039. Available from: Coastal saline lagoons and the Water Framework Directive - NECR039

For assessment of species characteristic of anoxic environments, for example presence of Ca found on the JNCC website at: JNCC (No date) SACFOR abundance scale used for both litto

sacfor.pdf (jncc.gov.uk)

Footnote 3 - Abundances estimated using SACFOR scales details available here: JNCC (No taxa from 1990 onwards [online]. Available from:
sacfor.pdf (jncc.gov.uk)

Use the non-native species list available here:
Microsoft Word - UK_Marine_NIS_priority_list_2020 (nonnativespecies.org)
DEFRA (2022) UK Marine Non-Indigenous Species Priority List (updated 2020) [online]. Avai
Marine Pathways Group » NNSS (nonnativespecies.org)

Footnote 4 - High-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition at time of publication include
• Ficopomatus enigmaticus -Trumpet tube worm
• Styela clava - Asian tunicate; leathery sea squirt, club tunicate
• Corella eumyota - Orange-tipped sea squirt
• Grateloupia turuturu - Devil's tongue weed, gracie, red menace and red tide
• Undaria pinnatifida - Asian kelp, wakame
• Schizoporella japonica - Orange ripple bryozoan
•Sargassum muticum - Wire weed
• Hemigrapsus sanguineus - Asian shore crab

Please check for updates of high-risk species.

Footnote 5 - Peak bloom time is July – September.

Footnote 6 - Please use the method as set out in Nelms et al (2017) to identify litter m−1 min-
Collect litter along a linear transect parallel with the strandline, located between the back of th
Assign gathered items of litter to one of 101 item categories, and further classify them into 12
sanitary, faeces, paper, wood, glass, pottery or ceramic) using MCS classifications. Following
from the beach. Litter identification guides may be useful, please see Nelms et al (2017) for m
NELMS, S.E. ET AL. (2017) Marine anthropogenic litter on British beaches: A 10-year nationv
Environment [online], 579. Available from:
(PDF) Marine anthropogenic litter on British beaches: A 10-year nationwide assessment using
The indicator thresholds for litter are based on the methods in Van Loon et al. (2020), which i
for the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) by the MSFD Technical Group on Marir

VAN LOON, W. ET AL. (2020). A European Threshold Value and Assessment Method for Ma
European Union, Luxembourg. [online] Available from:
(PDF) A European Threshold Value and Assessment Method for Macro Litter on Coastlines (

Footnote 7 - Sources of physical damage include: excessive poaching, damage from machine

One or more invasive non-native species ‘Abundant’ on the SACFOR scale3; they occupy more than 10% of the habitat; or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 4.		
Visual evidence of high algal growth that is indicative of nutrient enrichment. Signs of eutrophication that would impede bird feeding. Consider seasonality of survey timing5.		
Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies >10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).		
Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter exceeds 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to more than 47 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 6 for details.		
Salinity values are either hypersaline >40 ppt or hyposaline <15 ppt.		
Not functioning. No water exchange occurring making the lagoon hyposaline.		

Evidence of significant physical damage7.		
Water is turbid and water clarity is poor (not just after heavy rain).		
otal Score (out of a possible 24)		
	Result Achieved	

d be assessed at the end of the summer (late August – early
. It should be noted that some lagoons are naturally very shallow.

ER, R.N. (2010) Coastal saline lagoons and the Water Framework

apitellid worms, further information on the SACFOR scale can be
oral and sublittoral taxa from 1990 onwards [online]. Available from:

date) SACFOR abundance scale used for both littoral and sublittoral

ilable on:

:

−1 person−1, which is summarised below:
ne beach and the strandline. The transect should be 100 m long.
! material groups (plastic, polystyrene, rubber, cloth, metal, medical,
g this, record and sum all anthropogenic litter items and remove them
nore details on the method:
wide assessment using citizen science data. Science of the Total

g citizen science data (researchgate.net)

is guidance developed within the Common Implementation Strategy
ne Litter.

acro Litter on Coastlines. EUR 30347 EN, Publications Office of the

researchgate.net)

ery use, damaging management or public access activities.

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: COASTAL LAGOONS Habitat Type	
EUNIS Habitat Type	
Coastal lagoons	
On-site or off-site, site name and location	
Limitations (if applicable)	
Habitat Description	
The coastal lagoons EUNIS habitat description is available here: EUNIS -Factsheet for Coastal lagoons (europa.eu)	
Habitat Attributes to Record	
The following information should be recorded within the condition assessm • Extent of lagoon waterbody1; • Description of presence of typical communities and biotopes; • Description of species diversity and community composition2; • Salinity in parts per thousand (ppt); • Presence and abundance of non-native species; • Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical mo • Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enri • Presence and density of non-natural structures and direct human impacts • Assessment of litter; • Visual record of water clarity; • Observations of the functioning and state of the isolating barrier; and • Observations of the functioning and state of the lagoon banks.	
Condition Assessment Criteria	

Indicator	Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)

A	**Presence and abundance of invasive non-native species**	Not more than one invasive non-native species is 'Occasional' on the SACFOR scale3; or is occupying more than 1% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 4.	No invasive non-native species are present above 'Frequent' on the SACFOR scale3; or they occupy between 1-10% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 4.
B	**Water Quality**	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing5.	Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. Elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing5.
C	**Non-natural structures and direct human impacts**	No evidence of impacts from direct human activities, or they occupy <1% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies 1-10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).
D	**Litter (when examining a beach strandline, mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)**	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m−1 min−1 person−1 equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 6 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1 equivalent to between 21 and 47 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 6 for details.
E	**Salinity**	Salinity is between 15 - 40 ppt.	Salinity values are close to (but still within) the ends of range acceptable for lagoons (15 - 40 ppt).

F	**Isolating barrier**	Fully functional and permitting tidal exchange.	Slightly damaged but some water exchange still occurring.
G	**Physical damage of lagoon banks**	No physical damage present7.	Only small, isolated patches of physical damage present7.
H	**Water clarity**	Water is clear.	Water clarity is reduced.
			Tot

Condition Assessment Result

TOTAL SCORE 18-24 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION

TOTAL SCORE 12-17 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION

TOTAL SCORE 8-11 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 – The extent of the lagoon waterbody should be recorded at hig
water that is present at all times of year. It should be noted that some lago

Footnote 2 - Examples of species adapted to lagoons can be found in Bam
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Footnote 3 - Abundances estimated using SACFOR scales details availabl
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Use the non-native species list available here:

Microsoft Word - UK_Marine_NIS_priority_list_2020 (nonnativespecies.org

DEFRA (2022) UK Marine Non-Indigenous Species Priority List (updated 2

Marine Pathways Group » NNSS (nonnativespecies.org)

Footnote 4 - High-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition at time of

- Ficopomatus enigmaticus -Trumpet tube worm
- Styela clava - Asian tunicate; leathery sea squirt, club tunicate
- Corella eumyota - Orange-tipped sea squirt
- Grateloupia turuturu - Devil's tongue weed, gracie, red menace and red t
- Undaria pinnatifida - Asian kelp, wakame
- Schizoporella japonica - Orange ripple bryozoan
- Sargassum muticum - Wire weed
- Hemigrapsus sanguineus - Asian shore crab

Please check for updates of high-risk species.

Footnote 5 - Peak bloom time is July – September.

Footnote 6 - Please use the method as set out in Nelms et al (2017) to ide
Collect litter along a linear transect parallel with the strandline, located bet
categories, and further classify them into 12 material groups (plastic, polys
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NELMS, S.E. ET AL. (2017) Marine anthropogenic litter on British beaches

(PDF) Marine anthropogenic litter on British beaches: A 10-year nationwide

The indicator thresholds for litter are based on the methods in Van Loon et
(MSFD) by the MSFD Technical Group on Marine Litter.

VAN LOON, W. ET AL. (2020). A European Threshold Value and Assessn
(PDF) A European Threshold Value and Assessment Method for Macro Lit

Footnote 7 - Sources of physical damage include: excessive poaching, dar

	Survey date and Surveyor name	
	Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	

ıent sheet:	**Habitat parcel reference**							
odifications present; ichment; s;	**Grid reference**							
Poor (1 point)	**Score per criterion**							

One or more invasive non-native species ‘Abundant’ on the SACFOR scale3; they occupy more than 10% of the habitat; or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 4.								
Visual evidence of high algal growth that is indicative of nutrient enrichment. Signs of eutrophication that would impede bird feeding. Consider seasonality of survey timing5.								
Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies >10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).								
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Salinity values are either hypersaline >40 ppt or hyposaline <15 ppt.								

Not functioning. No water exchange occurring making the lagoon hyposaline.								
Evidence of significant physical damage7.								
Water is turbid and water clarity is poor (not just after heavy rain).								
al Score (out of a possible 24)								
	Result Achieved							

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nber (2010): BAMBER, R.N. (2010) Coastal saline lagoons and the Water Framework Directive [on

aturalengland.org.uk)
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1990 onwards [online]. Available from:

le here: JNCC (No date) SACFOR abundance scale used for both littoral and sublittoral taxa from

2020) [online]. Available on:

publication include:

tide

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s: A 10-year nationwide assessment using citizen science data. Science of the Total Environment [

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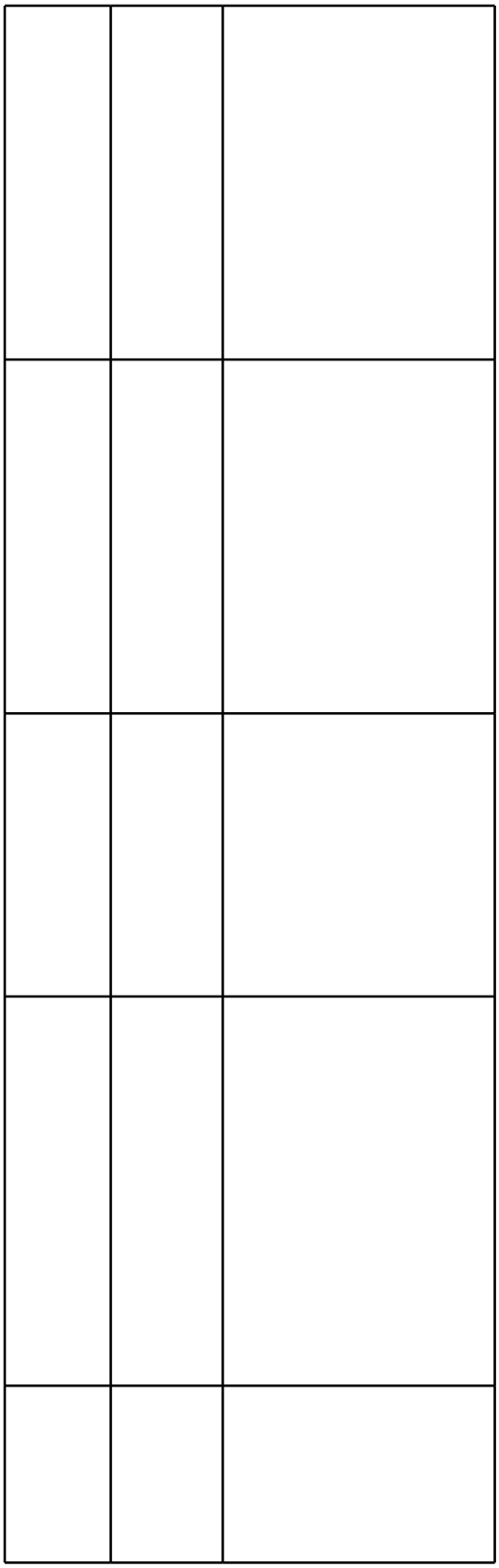
t al. (2020), which is guidance developed within the Common Implementation Strategy for the Mari

ment Method for Macro Litter on Coastlines. EUR 30347 EN, Publications Office of the European U
tter on Coastlines

mage from machinery use, damaging management or public access activities.

	Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab



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JNCC website at: JNCC (No date)

1990 onwards [online]. Available from:

ed items of litter to one of 101 item
ng MCS classifications. Following this,
he method:
[online], 579. Available from:

ine Strategy Framework Directive

Union, Luxembourg. [online] Available

Condition Sheet: COASTAL SALTMARSH Habitat Type	
EUNIS Habitat Types	
Saltmarshes and saline reedbeds **Artificial saltmarshes and saline reedbeds**	
On-site or off-site, site name and location	
Limitations (if applicable)	
Grid reference	
Habitat Description	

EUNIS -Factsheet for Coastal saltmarshes and saline reedbeds (europa.eu)

Habitat Attributes to Record

The following information should be recorded within the condition assessment sheet
• List of biological communities and species - including whether they are representat
• Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical modification
• Observations on zonation and transitions to other habitats, including variations in v
• Observations of naturally open ground or bare surfaces such as creeks or pans be
• Presence and abundance of non-native species;
• Assessment of litter; and
• Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enrichment.

Condition Assessment Criteria

Indicator		Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)
A	**Coastal processes**	Coastal processes are functioning naturally. No evidence of human physical modifications which are clearly impacting the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting up to 25% of the habitat.

B	**Presence and abundance of invasive non-native species**	Not more than one invasive non-native species is 'Occasional' on the SACFOR scale or is occupying more than 1% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 2 for details.	No invasive non-native species are present above 'Frequent' on the SACFOR scale or they occupy between 1-10% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 2 for details.
C	**Water Quality**	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing3.	Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. Elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing3.
D	**Non-natural structures and direct human impacts**	No evidence of impacts from direct human activities, or they occupy <1% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies 1-10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).
E	**Litter (when examining a beach strandline, mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)**	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 4.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1 equivalent to between 21 and 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 4.
F	**Zonation and transition to other habitats**	Zonation of vegetation or communities is clear and continuous5. Distribution of the feature and transition to other habitats, including associated transitional habitats within the site is reflective of expected natural distribution seaward and landward.	Up to 2 of the expected zones are absent or significantly impacted by human modification of the shoreline, and transitions to other habitats are restricted in less than 20% of the habitat boundaries5.
Condition Assessment Result			

TOTAL SCORE 14 - 18 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION
TOTAL SCORE 9 - 13 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION
TOTAL SCORE 6 - 8 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 - Assessment of grazing levels:
• Light grazing - most of the standing crop is not removed
• Moderate grazing - standing crop almost completely removed
• Heavy grazing - height < 10 cm, all standing crop removed
• Abandoned grazing – tall, matted vegetation, no standing crop removed

Footnote 2 - Abundances estimated using SACFOR scales details available here: JI
sublittoral taxa from 1990 onwards [online]. Available from:

sacfor.pdf (jncc.gov.uk)
Use the non-native species list available here:
Microsoft Word - UK_Marine_NIS_priority_list_2020 (nonnativespecies.org)
DEFRA (2022) UK Marine Non-Indigenous Species Priority List (updated 2020) [onli
Marine Pathways Group » NNSS (nonnativespecies.org)

High-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition at time of publication include:
• Hemigrapsus spp. – Asian Shore crabs (H. sanguineus, H. takanoi or H. penicillatu
Please check for updates of high-risk species.

Footnote 3 - Peak bloom time is July – September.

Footnote 4 - Please use the method as set out in Nelms et al (2017) to identify litter
Collect litter along a linear transect parallel with the strandline, located between the
long. Assign gathered items of litter to one of 101 item categories, and further classi
metal, medical, sanitary, faeces, paper, wood, glass, pottery/ceramic) using to MCS
items and remove them from the beach. Litter identification guides may be useful, pl
NELMS, S.E. ET AL. (2017) Marine anthropogenic litter on British beaches: A 10-ye
Total Environment [online], 579. Available from:

(PDF) Marine anthropogenic litter on British beaches: A 10-year nationwide assessn

The indicator thresholds for litter are based on the methods in Van Loon et al (2020)
Strategy for the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) by the MSFD Technic

VAN LOON, W. ET AL. (2020). A European Threshold Value and Assessment Meth
of the European Union, Luxembourg. [online] Available from:

(PDF) A European Threshold Value and Assessment Method for Macro Litter on Co

Footnote 5 - Vegetation zones can be described differently but these are the most lil
1. Pioneer – open communities with one or more of the following – Spartina spp., Sa
the lowest neap tides. 290-c.600 submersions per year.
2. Low marsh – generally closed communities with at least Puccinellia maritima and
by most tides. 350-400 submergences per year. Middle marsh – generally closed co
low marsh species; zone covered only by spring tides. 150 to 220 submergences pe
4. High marsh – generally closed communities with one or more of the following – Fe
marsh species. Zone covered only by highest spring tides. Minimum 25 submergenc
5. Transition zone – vegetation intermediate between the high marsh and adjoining
storm events but can have salt spray influence from strong onshore winds.

Survey date and Surveyor name	
Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Habitat parcel reference	

t:
tive or characteristic of disturbance and or pollution;
s present;
egetation structure and sward height1;
ing present in a mosaic with vegetated areas;

Poor (1 point)	**Score per indicator**	**Notes (such as justification)**
Artificial structures present, for example groynes that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting more than 25% of the habitat.		

One or more invasive non-native species present at an ‘Abundant’ level on the SACFOR scale; they occupy more than 10% of the habitat; or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 2 for details.		
Visual evidence of high algal growth that is indicative of nutrient enrichment. Signs of eutrophication that would impede bird feeding. Consider seasonality of survey timing3.		
Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies >10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).		
Following the MCS beach litter survey method the number of items of litter exceeds 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1 equivalent to more than 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 4.		
Zonation of vegetation or communities is not clearly visible or is significantly impacted by human modification of the shoreline5. Or transitions to other habitats are restricted in more than 20% of the habitat boundaries.		
Total score (out of a possible 18)		
	Result Achieved	

NCC (No date) SACFOR abundance scale used for both littoral and

ine]. Available on:

ıs)

m−1 min−1 person−1, which is summarised below:
back of the beach and the strandline. The transect should be 100m
ify them into 12 material groups (plastic, polystyrene, rubber, cloth,
classifications. Following this, record and sum all anthropogenic litter
lease see Nelms et al (2017) for more details on the method:
ear nationwide assessment using citizen science data. Science of the

ment using citizen science data (researchgate.net)

), which is guidance developed within the Common Implementation
cal Group on Marine Litter.

ıod for Macro Litter on Coastlines. EUR 30347 EN, Publications Office

astlines (researchgate.net)

kely to be found (seaward to landward):
alicornia spp. and / or Aster tripolium. Zone covered by all tides except

Atriplex portulacoides as well as the previous species; zone covered
ommunities with Limonium spp. and / or Plantago maritima, as well as
er year.
estuca rubra, Armeria maritima, Elytrigia spp., as well as the middle
ces, maximum 150 submergences per year.
non-halophytic areas. Zone covered only occasionally during extreme

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: COASTAL SALTMARSH Habitat Type	
EUNIS Habitat Types	
Saltmarshes and saline reedbeds **Artificial saltmarshes and saline reedbeds**	
On-site or off-site, site name and location	
Limitations (if applicable)	

Habitat Description

EUNIS -Factsheet for Coastal saltmarshes and saline reedbeds (europa.eu)

Habitat Attributes to Record

The following information should be recorded within the condition assessment sheet
• List of biological communities and species - including whether they are representat
and or pollution;
• Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical modification
• Observations on zonation and transitions to other habitats, including variations in v
height1;

• Observations of naturally open ground or bare surfaces such as creeks or pans be
vegetated areas;
• Presence and abundance of non-native species;
• Assessment of litter; and
• Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enrichment.

Condition Assessment Criteria

Indicator		Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)
A	**Coastal processes**	Coastal processes are functioning naturally. No evidence of human physical modifications which are clearly impacting the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting up to 25% of the habitat.

B	**Presence and abundance of invasive non-native species**	Not more than one invasive non-native species is 'Occasional' on the SACFOR scale or is occupying more than 1% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 2 for details.	No invasive non-native species are present above 'Frequent' on the SACFOR scale or they occupy between 1-10% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 2 for details.
C	**Water Quality**	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing3.	Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. Elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing3.
D	**Non-natural structures and direct human impacts**	No evidence of impacts from direct human activities, or they occupy <1% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies 1-10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).
E	**Litter (when examining a beach strandline, mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)**	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 4.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1 equivalent to between 21 and 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 4.
F	**Zonation and transition to other habitats**	Zonation of vegetation or communities is clear and continuous5. Distribution of the feature and transition to other habitats, including associated transitional habitats within the site is reflective of expected natural distribution seaward and landward.	Up to 2 of the expected zones are absent or significantly impacted by human modification of the shoreline, and transitions to other habitats are restricted in less than 20% of the habitat boundaries5.
Condition Assessment Result			

TOTAL SCORE 14 - 18 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION

TOTAL SCORE 9 - 13 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION

TOTAL SCORE 6 - 8 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 - Assessment of grazing levels:
• Light grazing - most of the standing crop is not removed
• Moderate grazing - standing crop almost completely removed
• Heavy grazing - height < 10 cm, all standing crop removed
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Footnote 2 - Abundances estimated using SACFOR scales details available here: JI

sacfor.pdf (jncc.gov.uk)
Use the non-native species list available here:
Microsoft Word - UK_Marine_NIS_priority_list_2020 (nonnativespecies.org)
DEFRA (2022) UK Marine Non-Indigenous Species Priority List (updated 2020) [onli
Marine Pathways Group » NNSS (nonnativespecies.org)
High-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition at time of publication include:
• Hemigrapsus spp. – Asian Shore crabs (H. sanguineus, H. takanoi or H. penicillatu
Please check for updates of high-risk species.

Footnote 3 - Peak bloom time is July – September.

Footnote 4 - Please use the method as set out in Nelms et al (2017) to identify litter
Collect litter along a linear transect parallel with the strandline, located between the
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1. Pioneer – open communities with one or more of the following – Spartina spp., Sa
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4. High marsh – generally closed communities with one or more of the following – Fe Minimum 25 submergences, maximum 150 submergences per year.
5. Transition zone – vegetation intermediate between the high marsh and adjoining onshore winds.

Survey date and Surveyor name	
Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	

t: tive or characteristic of disturbance s present; /egetation structure and sward eing present in a mosaic with	**Habitat parcel reference**							
	Grid reference							

Poor (1 point)	**Score per indicator**							
Artificial structures present, for example groynes that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting more than 25% of the habitat.								

One or more invasive non-native species present at an 'Abundant' level on the SACFOR scale; they occupy more than 10% of the habitat; or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 2 for details.								
Visual evidence of high algal growth that is indicative of nutrient enrichment. Signs of eutrophication that would impede bird feeding. Consider seasonality of survey timing3.								
Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies >10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).								
Following the MCS beach litter survey method the number of items of litter exceeds 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1 equivalent to more than 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 4.								
Zonation of vegetation or communities is not clearly visible or is significantly impacted by human modification of the shoreline5. Or transitions to other habitats are restricted in more than 20% of the habitat boundaries.								
Total score (out of a possible 18)								
	Result Achieved							

NCC (No date) SACFOR abundance scale used for both littoral and sublittoral taxa from 1990 onw

ine]. Available on:

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m−1 min−1 person−1, which is summarised below:
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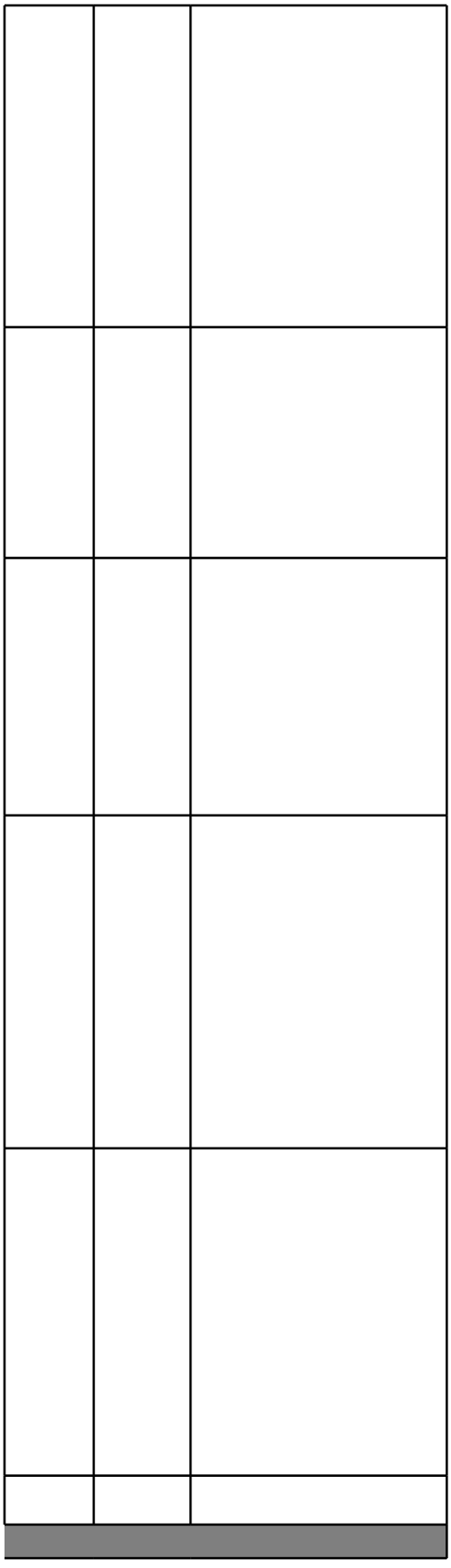
›astlines (researchgate.net)

kely to be found (seaward to landward):
alicornia spp. and / or Aster tripolium. Zone covered by all tides except the lowest neap tides. 290-
Atriplex portulacoides as well as the previous species; zone covered by most tides. 350-400 subm
ell as low marsh species; zone covered only by spring tides. 150 to 220 submergences per year.
estuca rubra, Armeria maritima, Elytrigia spp., as well as the middle marsh species. Zone covered

non-halophytic areas. Zone covered only occasionally during extreme storm events but can have s

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab





ards [online]. Available from:

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s. Following this, record and sum all

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gy Framework Directive (MSFD) by

embourg. [online] Available from:

-c.600 submersions per year.
nergences per year. Middle marsh –

only by highest spring tides.

salt spray influence from strong

Condition Sheet: DITCH Habitat Type	
Habitat Type	
Watercourses - Ditches	
Habitat Description	
See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide.	

On-site or off-site, site name and location	
Limitations (if applicable)	
Grid reference	

Condition Assessment Criteria	
A	The ditch is of good water quality, with clear water (low turbidity) indicating no obvious signs of pollution.
B	A range of emergent, submerged and floating-leaved plants are present. As a guide >10 species of emergent, floating or submerged plants present in a 20 m ditch length.
C	There is less than 10% cover of filamentous algae and or duckweed Lemna spp. (these are signs of eutrophication).
D	A fringe of aquatic marginal vegetation is present along more than 75% of the ditch.

E	Physical damage is evident along less than 5% of the ditch, with examples of damage including: excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, or any other damaging management activities.
F	Sufficient water levels are maintained - as a guide a minimum summer depth of approximately 50 cm in minor ditches and 1 m in main drains.
G	Less than 10% of the ditch is heavily shaded.
H	There is an absence of non-native plant and animal species1.

Number of criteria passed

Condition Assessment Result (out of 8 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score
Passes 8 criteria	Good (3)
Passes 6 or 7 criteria	Moderate (2)
Passes 5 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 – This includes any species listed on the Water Framework Direct
UKTAG (2021) Classification of aquatic alien species according to their level
UKTAG classification of alien species working paper v8.pdf (wfduk.org)

• Frequently occurring non-native plant species include water fern Azolla filicu
Myriophyllum aquaticum, floating pennywort Hydrocotyle ranunculoides, Japa
mantegazzianum (on the bank).

• Frequently occurring non-native animals include signal crayfish Pacifastacus
Dikerogammarus villosus, demon shrimp Dikerogammarus haemobaphes, an

Survey date and Surveyor name	
Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Habitat parcel reference	
Criterion passed (Yes or No)	**Notes (such as justification)**

Score Achieved ×/✓	

tive UKTAG GB High Impact Species List: Water Framework Directive (WFD)
of impact [online]. Available from:

uloides, Australian swamp stonecrop Crassula helmsii, parrot's feather
anese knotweed Reynoutria japonica and giant hogweed Heracleum

s leniusculus, zebra mussel Dreissena polymorpha, killer shrimp
nd carp Cyprinus carpio.

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: DITCH Habitat Type					
Habitat Type					
Watercourses - Ditches					
Habitat Description					
See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide.					
On-site or off-site, site name and location			**Survey date and Surveyor name**		
Limitations (if applicable)			**Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)**		
			Habitat parcel reference		
			Grid reference		
Condition Assessment Criteria					
			Criterion passed (Yes or No)		
A	The ditch is of good water quality, with clear water (low turbidity) indicating no obvious signs of pollution.				
B	A range of emergent, submerged and floating-leaved plants are present. As a guide >10 species of emergent, floating or submerged plants present in a 20 m ditch length.				
C	There is less than 10% cover of filamentous algae and or duckweed Lemna spp. (these are signs of eutrophication).				

D	A fringe of aquatic marginal vegetation is present along more than 75% of the ditch.				
E	Physical damage is evident along less than 5% of the ditch, with examples of damage including: excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, or any other damaging management activities.				
F	Sufficient water levels are maintained - as a guide a minimum summer depth of approximately 50 cm in minor ditches and 1 m in main drains.				
G	Less than 10% of the ditch is heavily shaded.				
H	There is an absence of non-native plant and animal species1.				
	Number of criteria passed				

Condition Assessment Result (out of 8 criteria)	**Condition Assessment Score**	**Score Achieved ×/✓**			
Passes 8 criteria	Good (3)				
Passes 6 or 7 criteria	Moderate (2)				
Passes 5 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)				

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

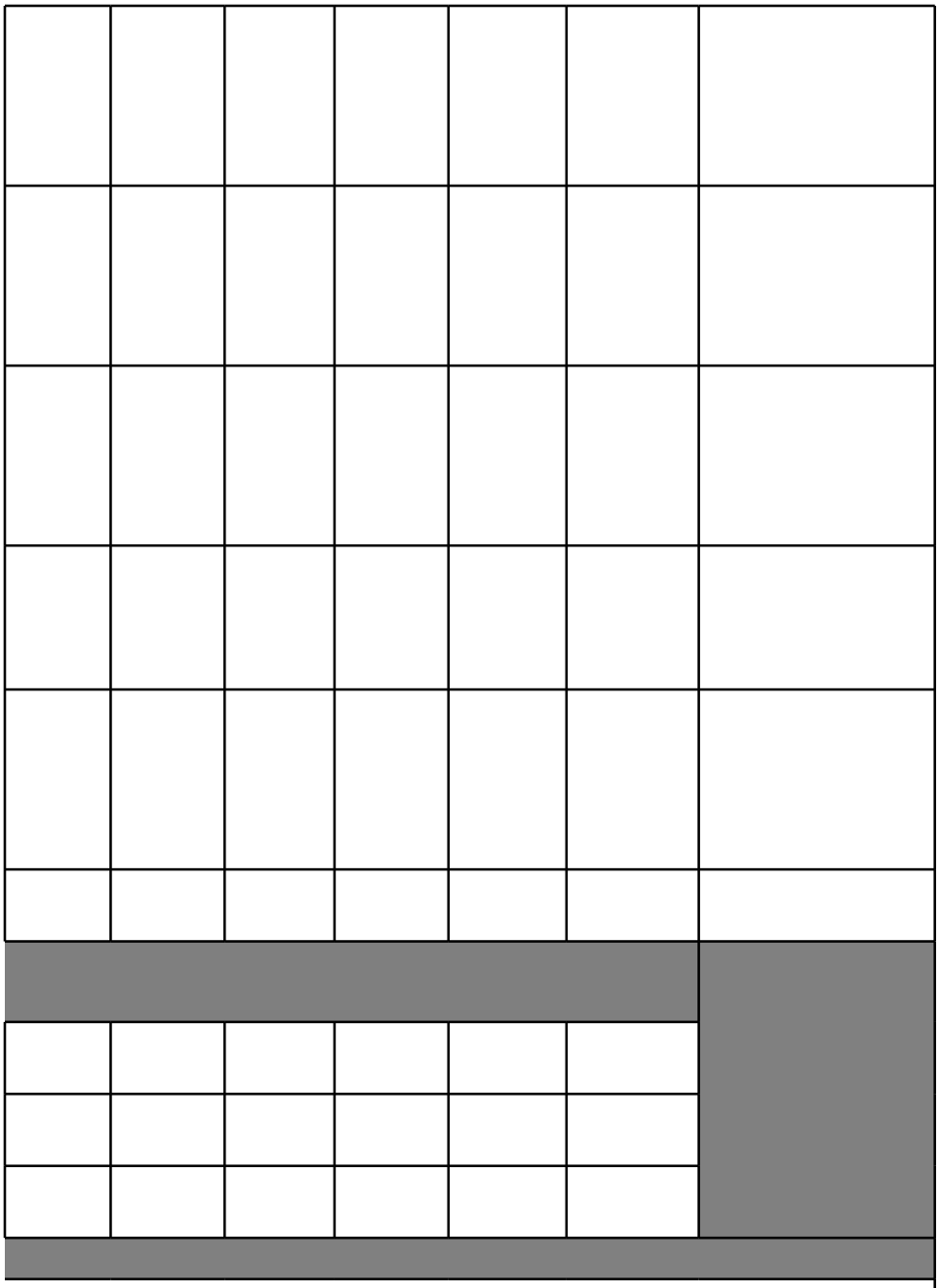
Footnotes

Footnote 1 – This includes any species listed on the Water Framework Directive UKTAG GB High I
Classification of aquatic alien species according to their level of impact [online]. Available from:

UKTAG classification of alien species working paper v8.pdf (wfduk.org)

• Frequently occurring non-native plant species include water fern Azolla filiculoides, Australian swa
aquaticum, floating pennywort Hydrocotyle ranunculoides, Japanese knotweed Reynoutria japonica

• Frequently occurring non-native animals include signal crayfish Pacifastacus leniusculus, zebra m
demon shrimp Dikerogammarus haemobaphes, and carp Cyprinus carpio.



Impact Species List: Water Framework Directive (WFD) UKTAG (2021)

amp stonecrop Crassula helmsii, parrot's feather Myriophyllum
a and giant hogweed Heracleum mantegazzianum (on the bank).

nussel Dreissena polymorpha, killer shrimp Dikerogammarus villosus,

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Type (low distinctiveness)	
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type	
Grassland - Modified grassland	
On-site or off-site, site name and location	on-site & off-site (same grassland) Winchester House, Toll Bar Lane, Keyston, PE28 0RB
Limitations (if applicable)	N/A
Grid reference	TL 04535 75613
Habitat Description	
Short Improved Grass (Modified Grass- low species diversity). Improvement by horse grazing.	

ukhab – UK Habitat Classification

Condition Assessment Criteria	
A	There are 6-8 vascular plant species per m2 present, including at least 2 forbs (these may include those listed in Footnote 1). Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition. Where the vascular plant species present are characteristic of medium, high or very high distinctiveness grassland, or there are 9 or more of these characteristic species per m2 (excluding those listed in Footnote 1), please review the full UKHab description to assess whether the grassland should instead be classified as a higher distinctiveness grassland. Where a grassland is classed as medium, high, or very high distinctiveness, please use the relevant condition sheet.
B	Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and breed.

C	Any scrub present accounts for less than 20% of the total grassland area. (Some scattered scrub such as bramble Rubus fruticosus agg. may be present). Note - patches of scrub with continuous (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant scrub habitat type.
D	Physical damage is evident in less than 5% of total grassland area. Examples of physical damage include excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels of access, or any other damaging management activities.
E	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of rabbit warrens)2.
F	Cover of bracken Pteridium aquilinum is less than 20%.
G	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species3 (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA4).

Essential criteri	
Nu	
Condition Assessment Result (out of 7 criteria)	**Condition Assessment Score**
Passes 6 or 7 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Good (3)
Passes 4 or 5 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Moderate (2)
Passes 3 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 4 - 6 criteria (excluding criterion A)	Poor (1)
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score	

N/A.

Footnotes

Footnote 1 – Creeping thistle Cirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex cris
Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, greater plantain Plantago major, white clover T

Footnote 2 – For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing establish
exceeding 10% cover.

Footnote 3 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native spe
applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread

Footnote 4 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Survey date and Surveyor name	1st November 2024 by experienced ecologist Tommy Root BSc (Hons) ACIEEM
Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Habitat parcel reference	1

Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
No	Low species diversity across the whole site and certainly within the 1m2 plots.
No	Roughly similar height with grazing and/or cutting

Yes	No scrub
Yes	Little damage present
Yes	little bare ground
Yes	No bracken
Yes	No invasive plants
on achieved (Yes or No)	No
umber of criteria passed	5
Score Achieved ×/✓	
Yes	

spus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle
Trifolium repens and cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris.

hment of new species, or localised patches where not

cies varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly,
d into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Type (low distinctiveness)	
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type	
Grassland - Modified grassland	
Habitat Description	
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification	
On-site or off-site, site name and location	
Limitations (if applicable)	
Condition Assessment Criteria	
A	There are 6-8 vascular plant species per m2 present, including at least 2 forbs (these may include those listed in Footnote 1). Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition. Where the vascular plant species present are characteristic of medium, high or very high distinctiveness grassland, or there are 9 or more of these characteristic species per m2 (excluding those listed in Footnote 1), please review the full UKHab description to assess whether the grassland should instead be classified as a higher distinctiveness grassland. Where a grassland is classed as medium, high, or very high distinctiveness, please use the relevant condition sheet.
B	Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and breed.

C	Any scrub present accounts for less than 20% of the total grassland area. (Some scattered scrub such as bramble Rubus fruticosus agg. may be present). Note - patches of scrub with continuous (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant scrub habitat type.
D	Physical damage is evident in less than 5% of total grassland area. Examples of physical damage include excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels of access, or any other damaging management activities.
E	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of rabbit warrens)2.
F	Cover of bracken Pteridium aquilinum is less than 20%.
G	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species3 (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA4).

Essential criterion achieved (Yes or No)	
Number of criteria passed	
Condition Assessment Result (out of 7 criteria)	**Condition Assessment Score**
Passes 6 or 7 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Good (3)
Passes 4 or 5 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Moderate (2)

Passes 3 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 4 - 6 criteria (excluding criterion A)	Poor (1)

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 – Creeping thistle Cirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex c
repens, greater plantain Plantago major, white clover Trifolium repens and cow parsley Anthriscus

Footnote 2 – For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing estab

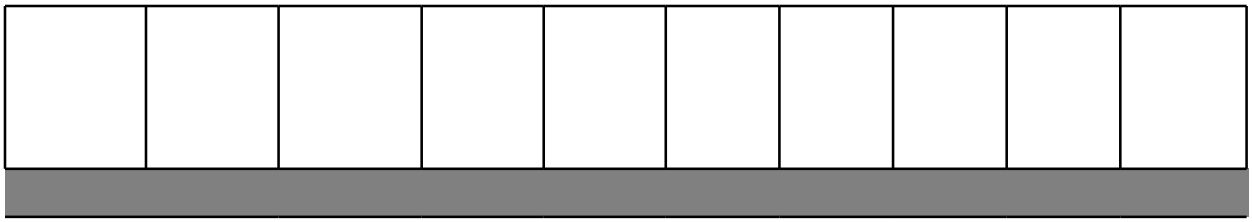
Footnote 3 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native s
native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judg

Footnote 4 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Survey date and Surveyor name	
Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	

Habitat parcel reference									
Grid reference									
Criterion passed (Yes or No)									

Score Achieved ×/ ✓									



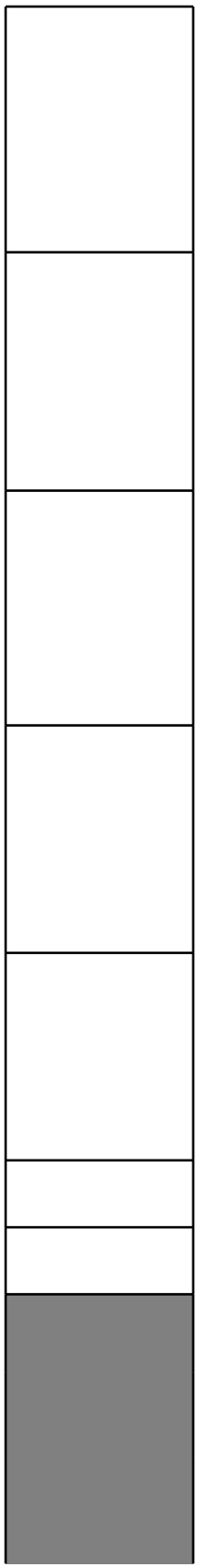
crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup
s sylvestris.

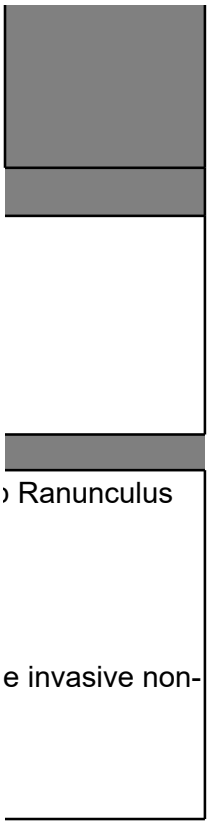
olishment of new species, or localised patches where not exceeding 10% cover.

species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the
gement.

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Notes (such as justification)




› Ranunculus
e invasive non-

Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Type (medium, high and very high distinctivene
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Types
Grassland - Lowland calcareous grassland **Grassland - Lowland dry acid grassland** **Grassland - Lowland meadows** **Grassland - Other lowland acid grassland** **Grassland - Other neutral grassland** **Grassland - Tall herb communities (H6430) [Not to be confused with the Tall forbs sec** **Grassland - Upland acid grassland** **Grassland - Upland calcareous grassland** **Grassland - Upland hay meadows** **Sparsely vegetated land - Calaminarian grassland**

On-site or off-site, site name and location	
Limitations (if applicable)	
Grid reference	

Habitat Description

ukhab – UK Habitat Classification

	Condition Assessment Criteria
A	The parcel represents a good example of its habitat type, with a consistently high proportion of characteristic indicator species present relevant to the specific habitat type (and relative to Footnote 3 suboptimal species which may be listed in the UKHab description).1 Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition for non-acid grassland types only.
B	Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for insects, birds and small mammals to live and breed.

C	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 5%, including localised areas, for example, rabbit warrens2.
D	Cover of bracken Pteridium aquilinum is less than 20% and cover of scrub (including bramble Rubus fruticosus agg.) is less than 5%.
E	Combined cover of species indicative of suboptimal condition3 and physical damage (such as excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, damaging levels of access, or any other damaging management activities) accounts for less than 5% of total area. If any invasive non-native plant species4 (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA5) are present, this criterion is automatically failed.
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for all non-acid grassland types	
F	There are 10 or more vascular plant species per m2 present, including forbs that are characteristic of the habitat type (species referenced in Footnote 3 and 5 cannot contribute towards this count). Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition for non-acid grassland types only.
Essential criterion for Good condition achieved (for non-acid grassland) (Yes or No)	
Number of criteria passed	

Condition Assessment Result	Condition Assessment Score
Acid grassland types (Result out of 5 criteria)	
Passes 5 criteria	Good (3)
Passes 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)
Passes 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)
Non-acid grassland types (Result out of 6 criteria)	

Passes 5 or 6 criteria, including essential criterion A and additional criterion F.	Good (3)
Passes 3 - 5 criteria, including essential criterion A.	Moderate (2)
Passes 2 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 3 or 4 criteria excluding criterion A and F.	Poor (1)

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Notes

Footnote 1 - Professional judgement should be used alongside the UKHab description

Footnote 2 – For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allo not exceeding 5% cover.

Footnote 3 - Species indicative of suboptimal condition for this habitat type include: cr Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, c Ranunculus repens, greater plantain Plantago major, white clover Trifolium repens and be additional relevant species local to the region and or site.

Footnote 4 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native s into adjacent habitat, by applying professional judgement.

Footnote 5 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

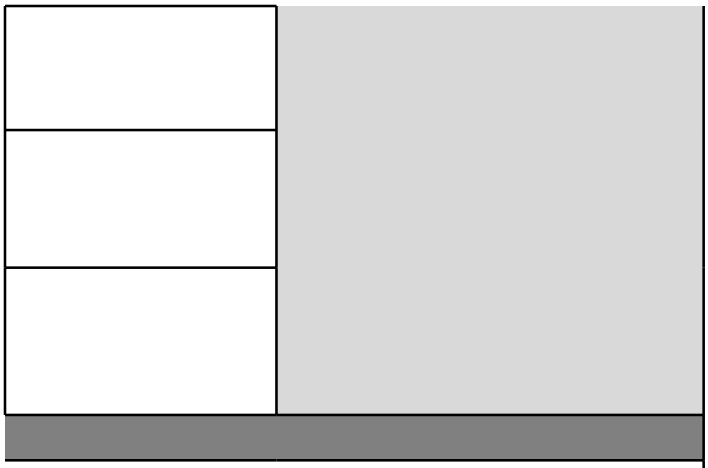
ess)	Return to 'Selecting condition sheet' tab

ondary code – see UKHab guidance for details.]

Survey date and Surveyor name	
Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Habitat parcel reference	

Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)

Score Achieved **×/ ✓**	



n.

owing for plant colonisation, or localised patches

reeping thistle Cirsium arvense, spear thistle
common nettle Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup
d cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris. There may

non-native species varies across the habitat,
pecies with a size relative to its risk of spread

Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Type (medium, high and very high distinctiveness)
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Types
Grassland - Lowland calcareous grassland **Grassland - Lowland dry acid grassland** **Grassland - Lowland meadows** **Grassland - Other lowland acid grassland** **Grassland - Other neutral grassland** **Grassland - Tall herb communities (H6430) [Not to be confused with the Tall forbs secondary co** **Grassland - Upland acid grassland** **Grassland - Upland calcareous grassland** **Grassland - Upland hay meadows** **Sparsely vegetated land - Calaminarian grassland**
Habitat Description
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification

On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name** **Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)**
Limitations (if applicable)		**Habitat parcel refere**
Condition Assessment Criteria		**Grid reference** **Criterion passed (Ye**

A	The parcel represents a good example of its habitat type, with a consistently high proportion of characteristic indicator species present relevant to the specific habitat type (and relative to Footnote 3 suboptimal species which may be listed in the UKHab description).1 Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition for non-acid grassland types only.		
B	Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for insects, birds and small mammals to live and breed.		
C	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 5%, including localised areas, for example, rabbit warrens2.		
D	Cover of bracken Pteridium aquilinum is less than 20% and cover of scrub (including bramble Rubus fruticosus agg.) is less than 5%.		
E	Combined cover of species indicative of suboptimal condition3 and physical damage (such as excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, damaging levels of access, or any other damaging management activities) accounts for less than 5% of total area. If any invasive non-native plant species4 (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA5) are present, this criterion is automatically failed.		
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for all non-acid grassland types			

F	There are 10 or more vascular plant species per m2 present, including forbs that are characteristic of the habitat type (species referenced in Footnote 3 and 5 cannot contribute towards this count). Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition for non-acid grassland types only.		

Essential criterion for Good condition achieved (for non-acid grassland) (Yes or No)		
Number of criteria passed		

Condition Assessment Result	**Condition Assessment Score**	**Score Achieved ×/✓**	
Acid grassland types (Result out of 5 criteria)			
Passes 5 criteria	Good (3)		
Passes 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)		
Passes 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)		
Non-acid grassland types (Result out of 6 criteria)			
Passes 5 or 6 criteria, including essential criterion A and additional criterion F.	Good (3)		
Passes 3 - 5 criteria, including essential criterion A.	Moderate (2)		
Passes 2 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 3 or 4 criteria excluding criterion A and F.	Poor (1)		

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Notes

Footnote 1 - Professional judgement should be used alongside the UKHab description.

Footnote 2 – For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing for

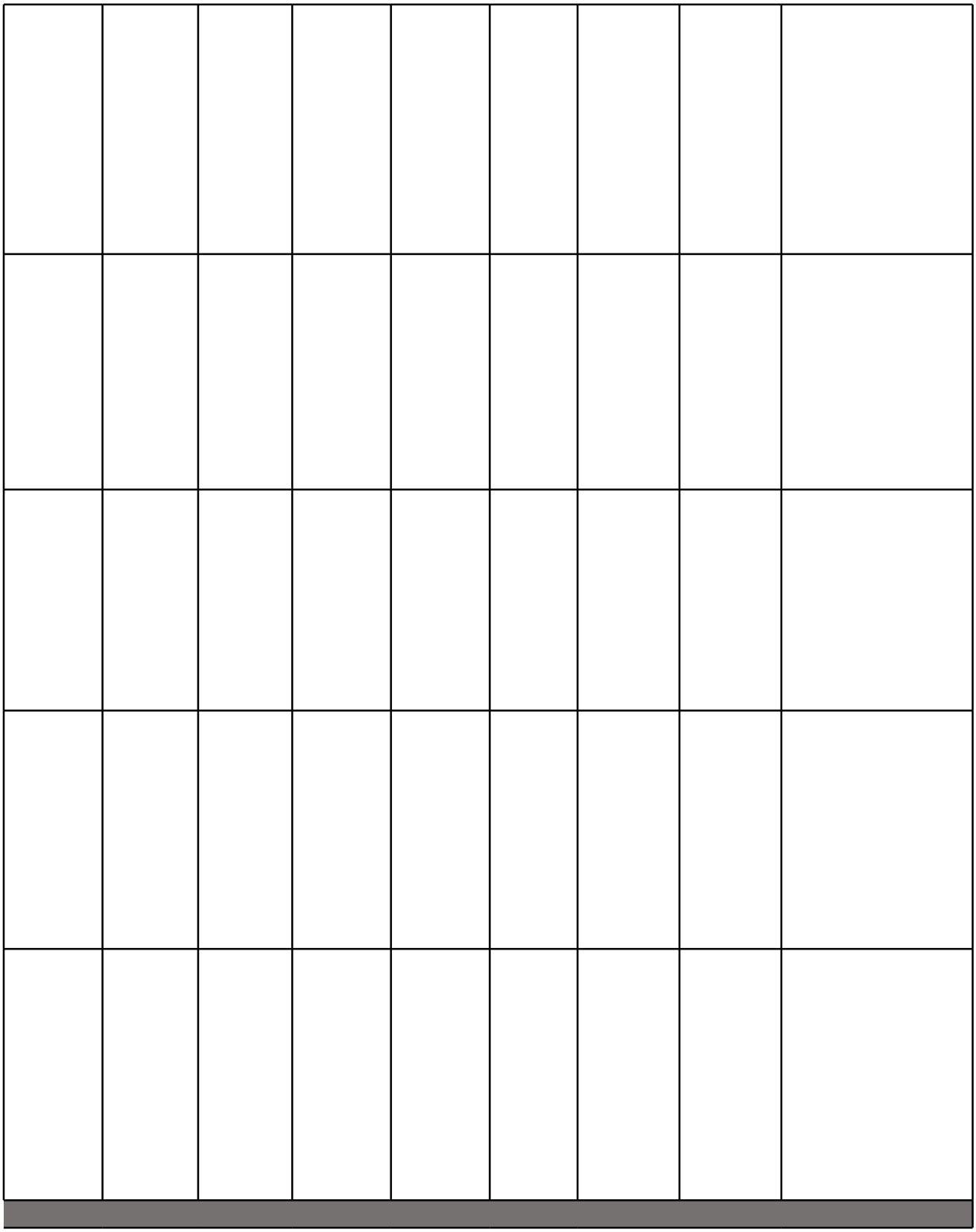
Footnote 3 - Species indicative of suboptimal condition for this habitat type include: creeping th leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common nettle Urtica dioica, creeping buttercup Ranunculus r Anthriscus sylvestris. There may be additional relevant species local to the region and or site.

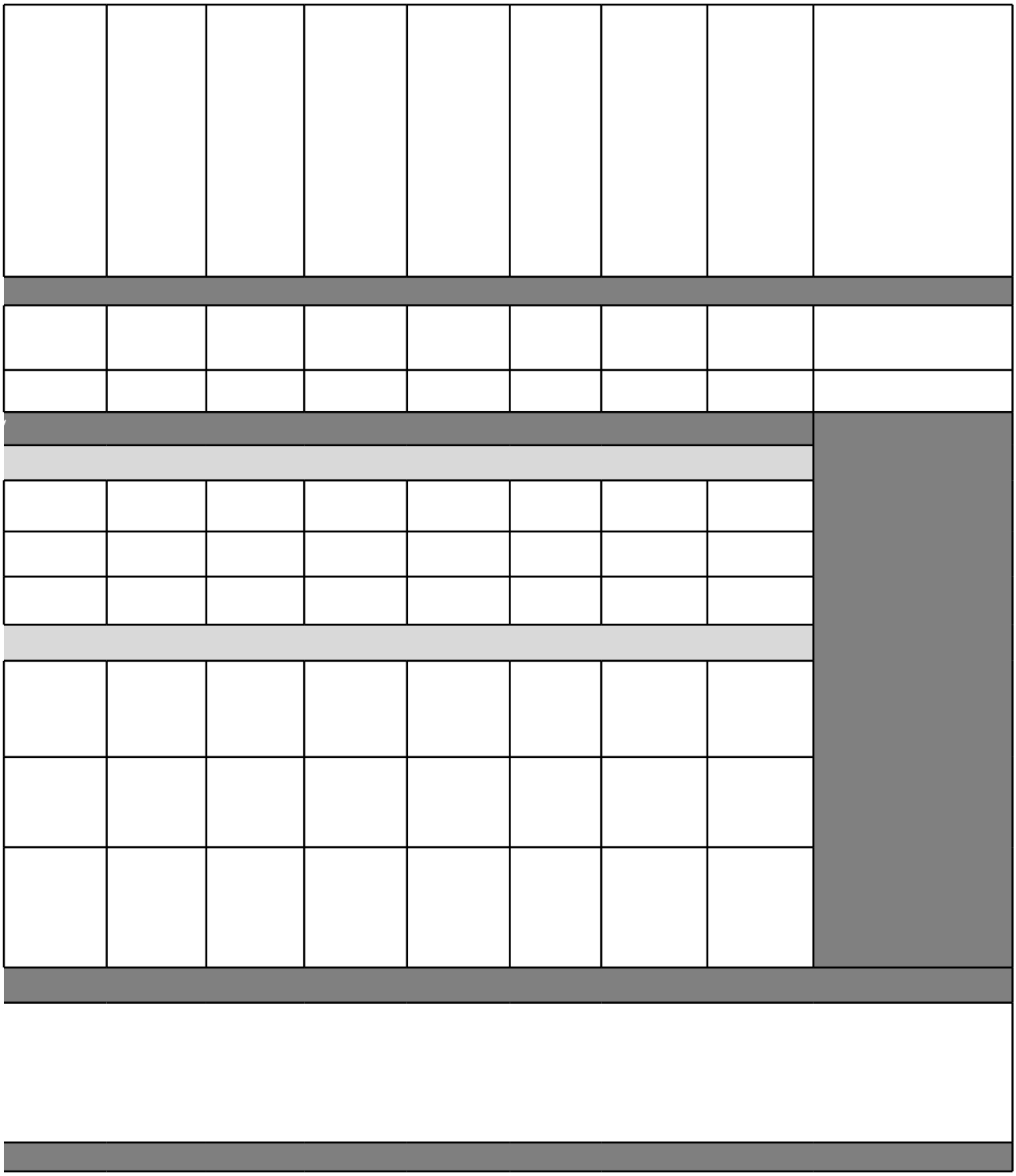
Footnote 4 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-nativ around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent hab

Footnote 5 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

ode – see UKHab guidance for details.]

ence								
es or No)								Notes (such as justification)





plant colonisation, or localised patches not exceeding 5% cover.

ıistle Cirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-repens, greater plantain Plantago major, white clover Trifolium repens and cow parsley

ve species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone bitat, by applying professional judgement.

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: HEATHLAND Habitat Type

UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Types

Heathland and shrub - Lowland heathland
Heathland and shrub - Mountain heaths and willow scrub
Heathland and shrub - Upland heathland

Habitat Description

ukhab – UK Habitat Classification

On-site or off-site, site name and location	
Limitations (if applicable)	
Grid reference	

Condition Assessment Criteria

A	The parcel represents a good example of its habitat type - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description, with vascular and non-vascular characteristic indicator species consistently present.1 Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.
B	There are at least two dwarf shrub species Frequent2, and cover of dwarf shrubs is between 25-75% for lowland heathland, 50-75% for upland dry heath, or >20% for upland wet heath. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.
C	All heather Calluna vulgaris age-classes (pioneer, degenerate and mature) present with at least 10% pioneer heather in the lowlands or at least 10% degenerate or mature in the uplands. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.

D	Unshaded bare ground is between 1-10%. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.
E	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species listed on Schedule 9 of WCA3 and shallon Gaultheria shallon4. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.
F	No signs of disturbance of sensitive areas5, including managed burns.
G	No more than 33% of heather shoots have been recently grazed, or flowering heather plants are at least Frequent2 in autumn.
H	The canopy cover of scattered trees and or scrub (not including gorse Ulex spp.) is: •less than 20% for upland heaths; •less than 15% for lowland dry heaths; and •less than 10% for lowland wet heaths.
I	Total gorse cover is less than 50%, with common gorse Ulex europaeus less than 25%.
J	The cover of bracken Pteridium aquilinum is less than 5%6.
K	No signs of any damaging activities7 or contamination to the habitat such as: artificial drains, peat extraction, silt, leachate or eutrophication.

Essential criteria for achieving Good condition achieved (Yes or No)	
Number of criteria passed	
Condition Assessment Result (out of 11 criteria)	**Condition Assessment Score**
Passes 9 - 11 criteria including all essential criteria A - E.	Good (3)
Passes 7 or 8 criteria; OR Passes 9 - 10 criteria but fails any essential criteria (criteria A - E).	Moderate (2)
Passes 6 or fewer criteria.	Poor (1)
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score	
Footnotes	

Footnote 1 – Professional judgement should be used alongside the UKHab desc

Footnote 2 – According to the relative abundance DAFOR scale – Dominant, Abu

Footnote 3 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Footnote 4 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of inv into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.

Footnote 5 – Professional judgement should be used to assess this and evidenc of this spreadsheet.
Definition of sensitive areas:
(a) Vegetation severely wind-clipped, mostly forming a mat less than 10 cm thicl
(b) Areas where soils are thin and less than 5 cm deep.
(c) Hill slopes greater than 1 in 2 (26o), and all the sides of gullies.
(d) Ground with abundant, and or an almost continuous carpet of Sphagnum mc and or lichens.
(e) Areas with noticeably uneven structure, at a spatial scale of around 1 m2 or l heather stands) will relate to distinct, often large, spreading dwarf shrub bushes continuous, and some of its upper surface may be twice as high as other parts.
(f) Pools, wet hollows, peat haggs and erosion gullies within 10 m of the edge of

Footnote 6 – Cover of bracken may exceed 5% where there is an identified biodi Pennines as nesting sites for twite Linaria flavirostris.

Footnote 7 – Damaging activities include: accidental or unmanaged fires; managed fir use or storage; and damaging levels of public access resulting in trampling and or litte

Survey date and Surveyor name	
Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Habitat parcel reference	
Criterion passed (Yes or No)	**Notes (such as justification)**

Score Achieved ×/ ✓	

cription.

undant, Frequent, Occasional or Rare.

vasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split species with a size relative to its risk of spread into

ce should be provided according to the INSTRUCTIONS Tab

k.

oss Sphagnum spp., bilberry Vaccinium myrtillus, liverworts

less. The unevenness (more commonly found in very old s. The dwarf shrub canopy will not be completely Layering is likely to be present and may be common. f watercourses.

iversity benefit, for example bracken beds in the South

es on wet heath; excessive poaching; damage from machinery er.

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: HEATHLAND Habitat Type

UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Types

Heathland and shrub - Lowland heathland
Heathland and shrub - Mountain heaths and willow scrub
Heathland and shrub - Upland heathland

Habitat Description

ukhab – UK Habitat Classification

On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date** **Surveyor na** **Survey refe** **relating to a** **survey)**
Limitations (if applicable)		**Habitat parc** **Grid referen**

	Condition Assessment Criteria	**Criterion pa**
A	The parcel represents a good example of its habitat type - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description, with vascular and non-vascular characteristic indicator species consistently present.1 Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.	
B	There are at least two dwarf shrub species Frequent2, and cover of dwarf shrubs is between 25-75% for lowland heathland, 50-75% for upland dry heath, or >20% for upland wet heath. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.	

C	All heather Calluna vulgaris age-classes (pioneer, degenerate and mature) present with at least 10% pioneer heather in the lowlands or at least 10% degenerate or mature in the uplands. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.	
D	Unshaded bare ground is between 1-10%. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.	
E	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species listed on Schedule 9 of WCA3 and shallon Gaultheria shallon4. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.	
F	No signs of disturbance of sensitive areas5, including managed burns.	
G	No more than 33% of heather shoots have been recently grazed, or flowering heather plants are at least Frequent2 in autumn.	
H	The canopy cover of scattered trees and or scrub (not including gorse Ulex spp.) is: •less than 20% for upland heaths; •less than 15% for lowland dry heaths; and •less than 10% for lowland wet heaths.	
I	Total gorse cover is less than 50%, with common gorse Ulex europaeus less than 25%.	
J	The cover of bracken Pteridium aquilinum is less than 5%6.	

K	No signs of any damaging activities7 or contamination to the habitat such as: artificial drains, peat extraction, silt, leachate or eutrophication.	
Essential criteria for achieving Good condition achieved (Yes or No)		
Number of criteria passed		

Condition Assessment Result (out of 11 criteria)	**Condition Assessment Score**	**Score Achi**
Passes 9 - 11 criteria including all essential criteria A - E.	Good (3)	
Passes 7 or 8 criteria; OR Passes 9 - 10 criteria but fails any essential criteria (criteria A - E).	Moderate (2)	
Passes 6 or fewer criteria.	Poor (1)	

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 – Professional judgement should be used alongside the UKHab description.

Footnote 2 – According to the relative abundance DAFOR scale – Dominant, Abundant, Fre

Footnote 3 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Footnote 4 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-
invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, us

Footnote 5 – Professional judgement should be used to assess this and evidence should be
Definition of sensitive areas:
(a) Vegetation severely wind-clipped, mostly forming a mat less than 10 cm thick.
(b) Areas where soils are thin and less than 5 cm deep.
(c) Hill slopes greater than 1 in 2 (26o), and all the sides of gullies.
(d) Ground with abundant, and or an almost continuous carpet of Sphagnum moss Sphagn
(e) Areas with noticeably uneven structure, at a spatial scale of around 1 m2 or less. The u
dwarf shrub bushes. The dwarf shrub canopy will not be completely continuous, and some
common.
(f) Pools, wet hollows, peat haggs and erosion gullies within 10 m of the edge of watercours

Footnote 6 – Cover of bracken may exceed 5% where there is an identified biodiversity ben

Footnote 7 – Damaging activities include: accidental or unmanaged fires; managed fires on

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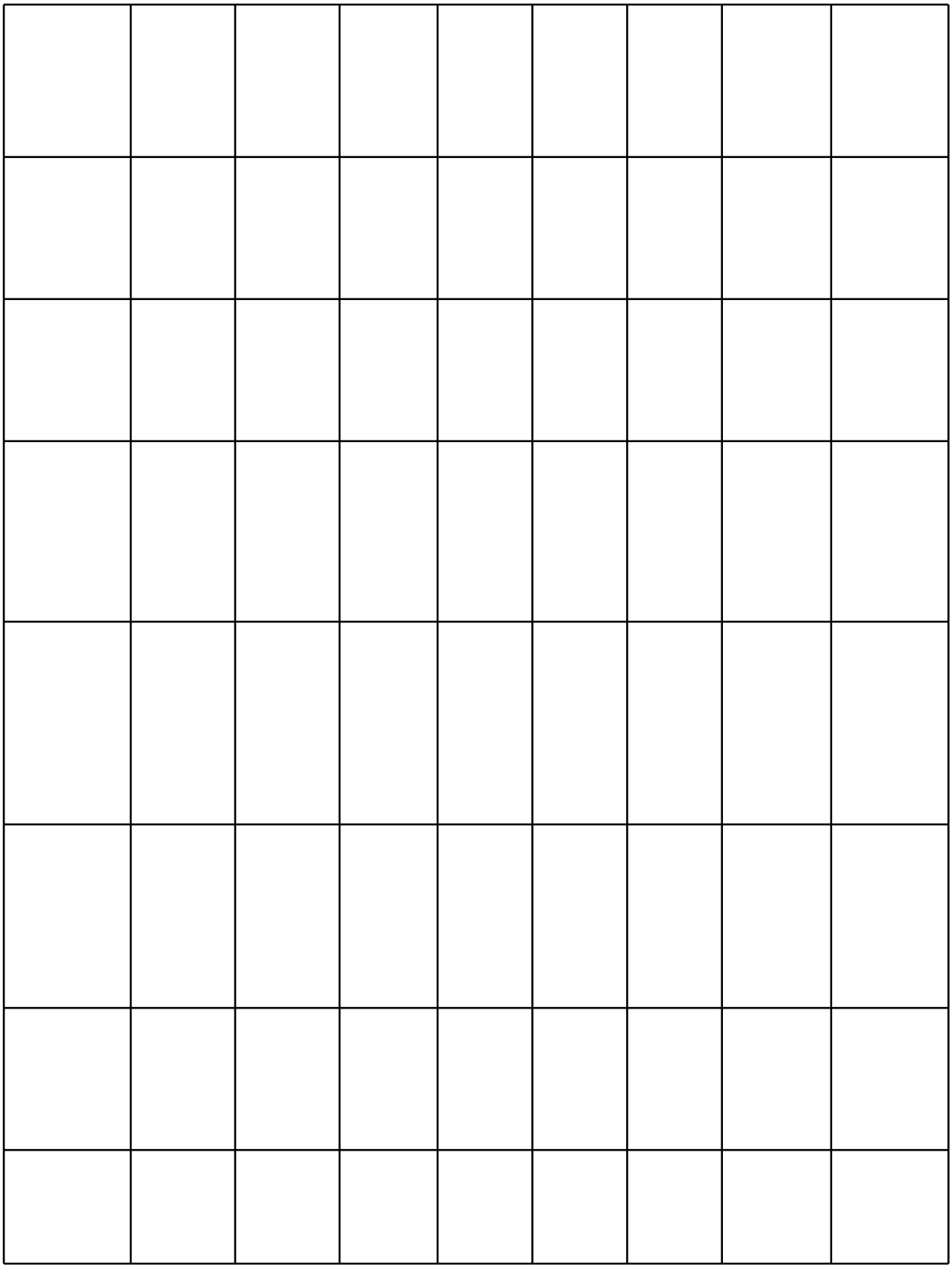

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quent, Occasional or Rare.

native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer
sing professional judgement.

e provided according to the INSTRUCTIONS Tab of this spreadsheet.

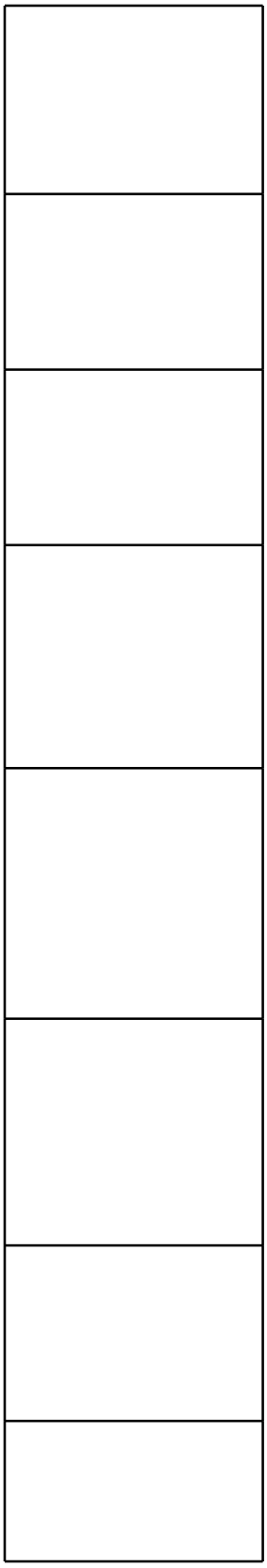
um spp., bilberry Vaccinium myrtillus, liverworts and or lichens.
nevenness (more commonly found in very old heather stands) will relate to distinct, often
of its upper surface may be twice as high as other parts. Layering is likely to be present

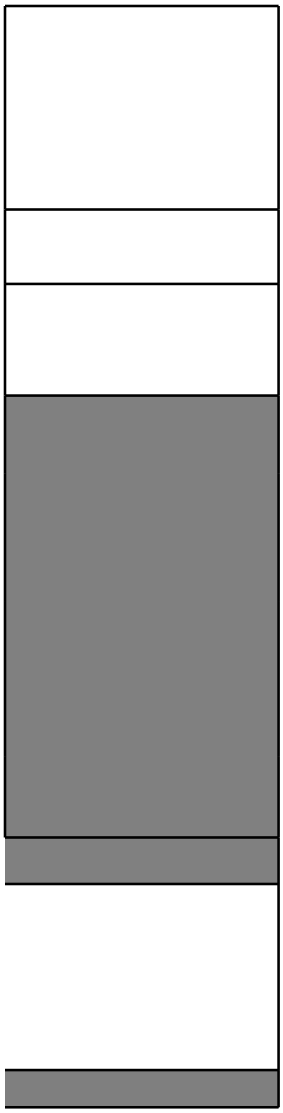
ses.

efit, for example bracken beds in the South Pennines as nesting sites for twite Linaria fla

wet heath; excessive poaching; damage from machinery use or storage; and damaging

	Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab
Notes (such as justification)	





zone around the

n large, spreading
and may be

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levels of public

Condition sheet: HEDGEROW Habitat Types
Habitat Type
Native hedgerow **Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch** **Native hedgerow with trees** **Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch** **Species-rich native hedgerow** **Species-rich native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch** **Species-rich native hedgerow with trees** **Species-rich native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch**
Habitat Description

ukhab – UK Habitat Classification

On-site or off-site, site name and location	
Limitations (if applicable)	
Grid reference	

Condition Assessment Details
A series of ten attributes, representing key physical characteristics are used for this assessmen of a hedgerow is assessed according to the number of attributes from these functional groups w This assessment is based on the Hedgerow Survey Handbook1 and Favourable Conservation S Handbook. Best practice would be to record the species, age, spacing and other key information about all t key features of the hedgerow.

Hedgerow favourable condition attributes		
Attributes and functional groupings (A, B, C, D and E)	**Criteria - the minimum requirements for 'favourable condition'**	**Criteria description**
Core groups - applicable to all hedgerow types		

A1.	Height	>1.5 m average along length	The average height of wo to the top of the shoots, e any gaps or isolated tree Newly laid or coppiced h management and pass th years (if undertaken acco A newly planted hedgero >1.5 m height).
A2.	Width	>1.5 m average along length	The average width of wo of the canopy, excluding Outgrowths (such as bla included in the width esti Laid, coppiced, cut and r good management and p four years (if undertaken
B1.	Gap - hedge base	Gap between ground and base of canopy <0.5 m for >90% of length	This is the vertical 'gappi hedgerow, and its distan growth. Certain exceptions to this the Hedgerow Survey Ha
B2.	Gap - hedge canopy continuity	Gaps make up <10% of total length; and No canopy gaps >5 m	This is the horizontal 'gap hedgerow. Gaps are com matter how small). Access points and gates are not subject to the >5 gate).

C1.	Undisturbed ground and perennial vegetation	>1 m width of undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation for >90% of length: · Measured from outer edge of hedgerow; and · Is present on one side of the hedgerow (at least).	This is the level of disturb the base of the hedgerov Undisturbed ground is pr length, greater than 1 m least one side of the hed This criterion recognises boundary habitat with the species. Cultivation, hea etc. can limit available ha
C2.	Nutrient-enriched perennial vegetation	Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of the area of undisturbed ground.	The indicator species us aparine and docks Rume together, does not excee
D1.	Invasive and neophyte species	>90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free of invasive non-native plant species (including those listed on Schedule 9 of WCA3) and recently introduced species.	Recently introduced spec the UK since AD 1500 (n natives. For information JNCC website4, as well Atlas of the British and Ir the status of species. Fo species see the GB Non-
D2.	Current damage	>90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage caused by human activities.	This criterion addresses or lead to deterioration in This could include evider or inappropriate manage hedgerow cutting).
Additional group - applicable to hedgerows with trees only			
E1.	Tree class	There is more than one age-class (or morphology) of tree present (for example: young, mature, veteran and or ancient8), and there is on average at least one mature, ancient or veteran tree present per 20 - 50m of hedgerow.	This criterion addresses morphologies which allo opportunities for different

E2.	Tree health	At least 95% of hedgerow trees are in a healthy condition (excluding veteran features valuable for wildlife). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity.	This criterion identifies if compromises the surviva

The hedgerow condition assessment generates a weighting (score) ranging from 1 - 3, which is tables below.

Condition categories for hedgerows without trees		
Category	**Category Requirements**	**Metric Score**
Good	No more than 2 failures in total; AND No more than 1 failure in any functional group.	3
Moderate	No more than 4 failures in total; AND Does not fail both attributes in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and C2 = Moderate condition).	2
Poor	Fails a total of more than 4 attributes; OR Fails both attributes in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 = Poor condition).	1
	Score achieved:	

Condition categories for hedgerows with trees		
Category	**Category Requirements**	**Metric score**
Good	No more than 2 failures in total; AND No more than 1 failure in any functional group.	3
Moderate	No more than 5 failures in total; AND Does not fail both attributes in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1, C2 and E1 = Moderate condition).	2

Poor	Fails a total of more than 5 attributes; OR Fails both attributes in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 = Poor condition).	1
	Score achieved:	

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 – DEFRA (2007) Hedgerow Survey Handbook. A standard procedure for local surve
layout (hedgelink.org.uk)

Footnote 2 – STALEY, J.T. ET AL. (2020) Definition of Favourable Conservation Status for Hed
Definition of Favourable Conservation Status for Hedgerows - RP2943 (naturalengland.org.uk)

Footnote 3 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Footnote 4 – CHEFFINGS, C. M. et al. (2005) The Vascular Plant Red Data List for Great Britai
The Vascular Plant Red Data List for Great Britain (Species Status No. 7) | JNCC Resource Hu

Footnote 5 – BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF BRITAIN AND IRELAND (BSBI). Definitions: wild, nati
Definitions: wild, native or alien? – Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland (bsbi.org)

Footnote 6 – BSBI and Biological Records Centre (BRC) (2022) Online Atlas of the British and I
Acknowledgements | Online Atlas of the British and Irish Flora (brc.ac.uk)

Footnote 7 – GB NON-NATIVE SPECIES SECRETARIAT (GBNNSS) (2022) Available on:
Home » NNSS (nonnativespecies.org)

Footnote 8 – See gov.uk standing advice on ancient and veteran trees. Available from:
Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England (publishing.service.g
and
Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisions - GOV

Survey date and Surveyor name	
Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Habitat parcel reference	

ıt. Each attribute is assigned to one of five functional groups (A – E) and the condition vhich pass or fail the ‘favourable condition’ criteria.

Status document2. For further clarification please refer to the Hedgerow Survey

:rees present along a hedgerow within the 'Habitat Description' box, as well as other

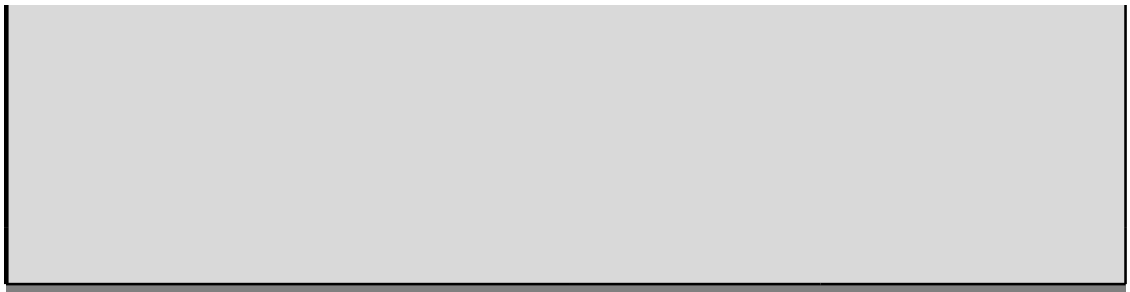
	Criterion passed (Yes or No)	**Notes (such as justification)**

oody growth estimated from base of stem excluding any bank beneath the hedgerow, es. edgerows are indicative of good his criterion for up to a maximum of four ording to good practice). ow does not pass this criterion (unless it is		
ody growth estimated at the widest point gaps and isolated trees. ckthorn Prunus spinosa suckers) are only imate when they are >0.5 m in height. newly planted hedgerows are indicative of pass this criterion for up to a maximum of according to good practice).		
iness' of the woody component of the ce from the ground to the lowest leafy s criterion are acceptable (see page 65 of andbook).		
ppiness' of the woody component of the nplete breaks in the woody canopy (no contribute to the overall 'gappiness' but m criterion (as this is the typical size of a		

bance (excluding wildlife disturbance) at w. resent for at least 90% of the hedgerow in width and must be present along at lgerow. the value of the hedgerow base as a e capacity to support a wide range of vily trodden footpaths, poached ground abitat niches.		
ed are nettles Urtica spp., cleavers Galium ex spp. Their presence, either singly or ed the 20% cover threshold.		
cies refer to plants that have naturalised in neophytes). Archaeophytes count as on archaeophytes and neophytes see the as the BSBI website5 where the 'Online rish Flora'6 contains an up-to-date list of r information on invasive non-native -Native Secretariat website7.		
damaging activities that may have led to n other attributes. nce of pollution, piles of manure or rubble, ement practices (for example, excessive		
if there are a range of age-classes or w for replacement of trees and provide t species.		

the trees are subject to damage which l and health of the individual specimens.		

used within the Statutory Biodiversity Metric. The scores for each are set out in the



eys in the UK. [online] Available on:

dgerows. [online] Available on:

in. Species Status 7: 1-116. [online] Available on:
b
ive or alien? [online] Available on:

Irish Flora. [online] Available on:

ov.uk)

/.UK (www.gov.uk)

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition sheet: HEDGEROW Habitat Types

Habitat Type

Native hedgerow
Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch
Native hedgerow with trees
Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch
Species-rich native hedgerow
Species-rich native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch

Habitat Description

ukhab – UK Habitat Classification

On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name**	
Limitations (if applicable)		**Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)**	

Condition Assessment Details

A series of ten attributes, representing key physical characteristics are used for this assessment. Eac
condition of a hedgerow is assessed according to the number of attributes from these functional grou

This assessment is based on the Hedgerow Survey Handbook1 and Favourable Conservation Status
Survey Handbook.

Best practice would be to record the species, age, spacing and other key information about all trees
other key features of the hedgerow.

Hedgerow favourable condition attributes

Attributes and functional groupings (A, B, C, D and E)	**Criteria - the minimum requirements for 'favourable condition'**	**Criteria description**	**Habitat parcel**	
			Grid reference	

Core groups - applicable to all hedgerow types				Criterion pass	
A1.	Height	>1.5 m average along length	The average height of woody growth estimated from base of stem to the top of the shoots, excluding any bank beneath the hedgerow, any gaps or isolated trees. Newly laid or coppiced hedgerows are indicative of good management and pass this criterion for up to a maximum of four years (if undertaken according to good practice). A newly planted hedgerow does not pass this criterion (unless it is >1.5 m height).		
A2.	Width	>1.5 m average along length	The average width of woody growth estimated at the widest point of the canopy, excluding gaps and isolated trees. Outgrowths (such as blackthorn Prunus spinosa suckers) are only included in the width estimate when they are >0.5 m in height. Laid, coppiced, cut and newly planted hedgerows are indicative of good management and pass this criterion for up to a maximum of four years (if undertaken according to good practice).		
B1.	Gap - hedge base	Gap between ground and base of canopy <0.5 m for >90% of length	This is the vertical ‘gappiness’ of the woody component of the hedgerow, and its distance from the ground to the lowest leafy growth. Certain exceptions to this criterion are acceptable (see page 65 of the Hedgerow Survey Handbook).		

B2.	Gap - hedge canopy continuity	Gaps make up <10% of total length; and No canopy gaps >5 m	This is the horizontal 'gappiness' of the woody component of the hedgerow. Gaps are complete breaks in the woody canopy (no matter how small). Access points and gates contribute to the overall 'gappiness' but are not subject to the >5 m criterion (as this is the typical size of a gate).		
C1.	Undisturbed ground and perennial vegetation	>1 m width of undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation for >90% of length: · Measured from outer edge of hedgerow; and · Is present on one side of the hedgerow (at least).	This is the level of disturbance (excluding wildlife disturbance) at the base of the hedgerow. Undisturbed ground is present for at least 90% of the hedgerow length, greater than 1 m in width and must be present along at least one side of the hedgerow. This criterion recognises the value of the hedgerow base as a boundary habitat with the capacity to support a wide range of species. Cultivation, heavily trodden footpaths, poached ground etc. can limit available habitat niches.		
C2.	Nutrient-enriched perennial vegetation	Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of the area of undisturbed ground.	The indicator species used are nettles Urtica spp., cleavers Galium aparine and docks Rumex spp. Their presence, either singly or together, does not exceed the 20% cover threshold.		

D1.	Invasive and neophyte species	>90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free of invasive non-native plant species (including those listed on Schedule 9 of WCA3) and recently introduced species.	Recently introduced species refer to plants that have naturalised in the UK since AD 1500 (neophytes). Archaeophytes count as natives. For information on archaeophytes and neophytes see the JNCC website4, as well as the BSBI website5 where the 'Online Atlas of the British and Irish Flora'6 contains an up-to-date list of the status of species. For information on invasive non-native species see the GB Non-Native Secretariat website7.		
D2.	Current damage	>90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage caused by human activities.	This criterion addresses damaging activities that may have led to or lead to deterioration in other attributes. This could include evidence of pollution, piles of manure or rubble, or inappropriate management practices (for example, excessive hedgerow cutting).		
Additional group - applicable to hedgerows with trees only					
E1.	Tree class	There is more than one age-class (or morphology) of tree present (for example: young, mature, veteran and or ancient8), and there is on average at least one mature, ancient or veteran tree present per 20 - 50m of hedgerow.	This criterion addresses if there are a range of age-classes or morphologies which allow for replacement of trees and provide opportunities for different species.		
E2.	Tree health	At least 95% of hedgerow trees are in a healthy condition (excluding veteran features valuable for wildlife). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity.	This criterion identifies if the trees are subject to damage which compromises the survival and health of the individual specimens.		

The hedgerow condition assessment generates a weighting (score) ranging from 1 - 3, which is used in the tables below.

Condition categories for hedgerows without trees		
Category	**Category Requirements**	**Metric Score**
Good	No more than 2 failures in total; AND No more than 1 failure in any functional group.	3
Moderate	No more than 4 failures in total; AND Does not fail both attributes in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and C2 = Moderate condition).	2
Poor	Fails a total of more than 4 attributes; OR Fails both attributes in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 = Poor condition).	1
	Score achieved:	

Condition categories for hedgerows with trees		
Category	**Category Requirements**	**Metric score**
Good	No more than 2 failures in total; AND No more than 1 failure in any functional group.	3
Moderate	No more than 5 failures in total; AND Does not fail both attributes in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1, C2 and E1 = Moderate condition).	2
Poor	Fails a total of more than 5 attributes; OR Fails both attributes in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 = Poor condition).	1
	Score achieved:	

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 – DEFRA (2007) Hedgerow Survey Handbook. A standard procedure for local surveys in
layout (hedgelink.org.uk)

Footnote 2 – STALEY, J.T. ET AL. (2020) Definition of Favourable Conservation Status for Hedgerov
Definition of Favourable Conservation Status for Hedgerows - RP2943 (naturalengland.org.uk)

Footnote 3 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Footnote 4 – CHEFFINGS, C. M. et al. (2005) The Vascular Plant Red Data List for Great Britain. Sp
The Vascular Plant Red Data List for Great Britain (Species Status No. 7) | JNCC Resource Hub

Footnote 5 – BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF BRITAIN AND IRELAND (BSBI). Definitions: wild, native or
Definitions: wild, native or alien? – Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland (bsbi.org)

Footnote 6 – BSBI and Biological Records Centre (BRC) (2022) Online Atlas of the British and Irish F
Acknowledgements | Online Atlas of the British and Irish Flora (brc.ac.uk)

Footnote 7 – GB NON-NATIVE SPECIES SECRETARIAT (GBNNSS) (2022) Available on:
Home » NNSS (nonnativespecies.org)

Footnote 8 – See gov.uk standing advice on ancient and veteran trees. Available from:
Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England (publishing.service.gov.uk
and
Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisions - GOV.UK (

ch attribute is assigned to one of five functional groups (A – E) and the
ups which pass or fail the ‘favourable condition’ criteria.

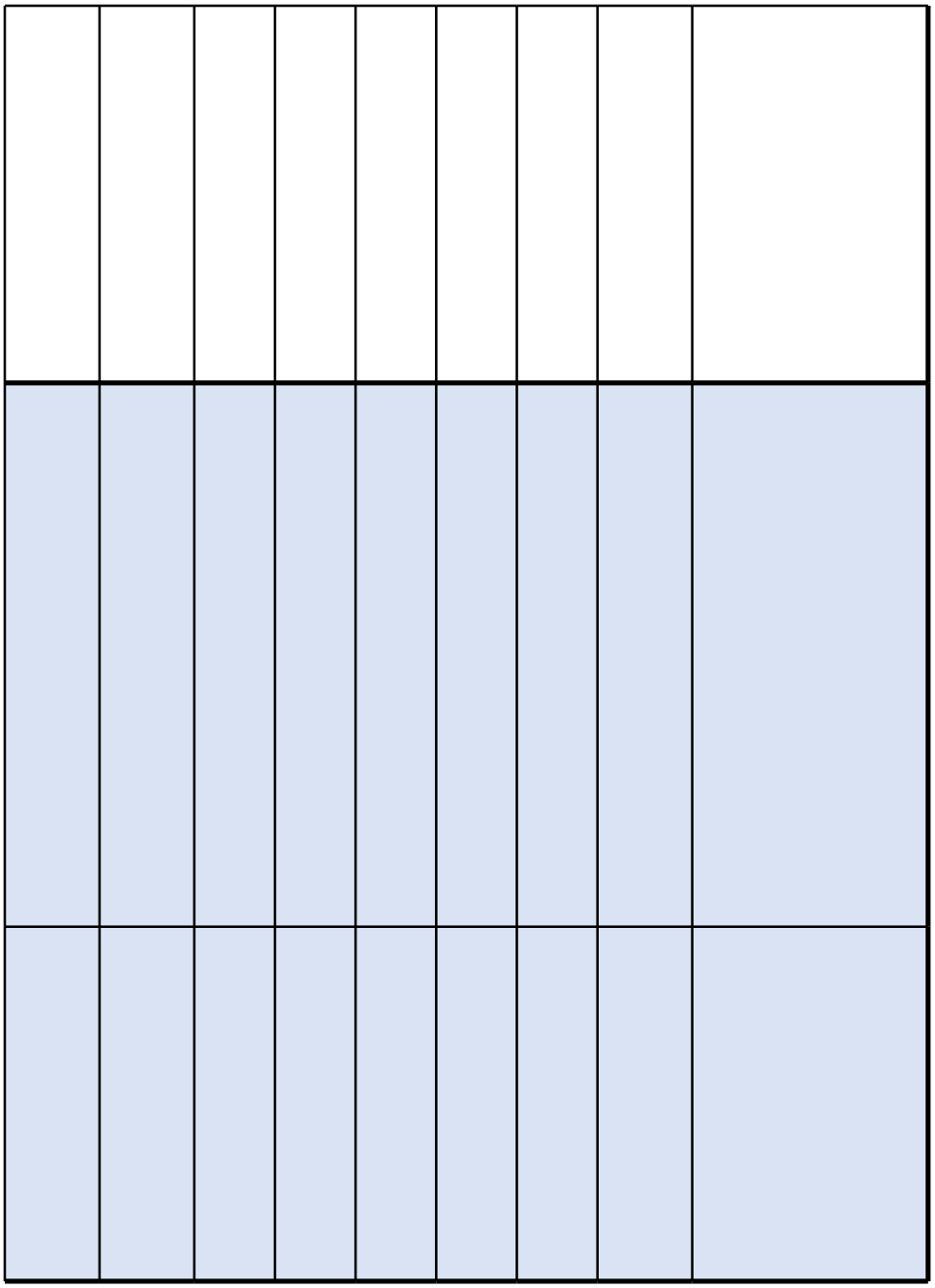
s document2. For further clarification please refer to the Hedgerow

present along a hedgerow within the 'Habitat Description' box, as well as

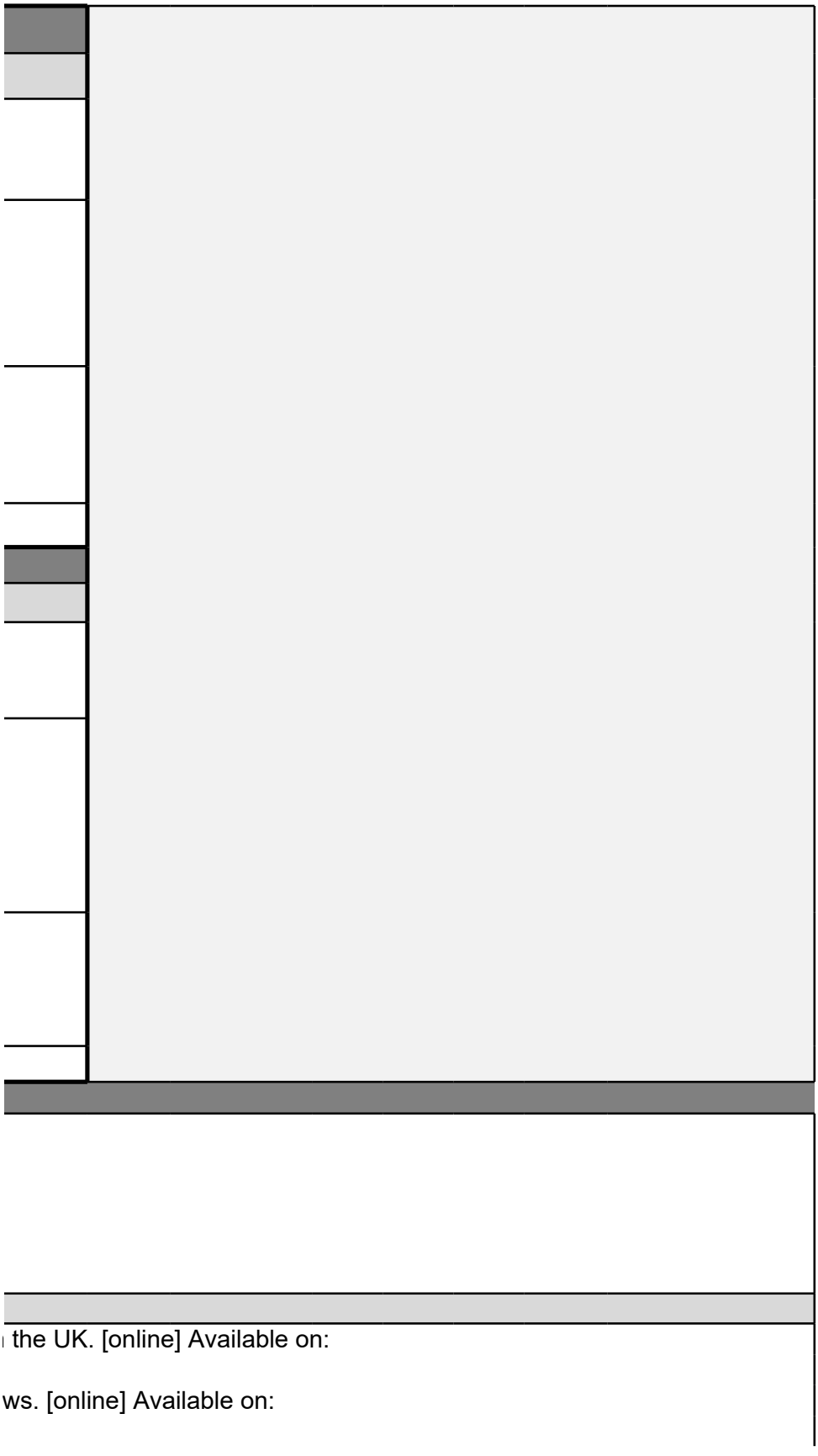
reference

e

sed (Yes or No)								Notes (such as justification)



d within the Statutory Biodiversity Metric. The scores for each are set out



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· alien? [online] Available on:

Flora. [online] Available on:

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Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: INDIVIDUAL TREES Habitat Type

Habitat Types

Individual trees – Urban trees
Individual trees – Rural trees
Complete a condition sheet for each tree or block of trees.

Please see the separate Line of trees condition sheet for a line of rural trees. You habitat type in rural locations.

Habitat Description

Individual trees (description applied to the urban or rural environment):
Young trees over 7.5 cm in diameter at breast height whose canopies are not touching

Urban Perimeter / Linear Blocks and Groups (description applied to the urban environm
Groups or stands of trees (size requirement as defined above) within and around the p
railways and canals, and also former field boundary trees incorporated into developme
that don't match the descriptions for woodland may be assessed within this category.

On-site or off-site, site name and location	
Limitations (if applicable)	
Grid reference	

Condition Assessment Criteria	
A	The tree is a native species (or at least 70% within the block are native species).
B	The tree canopy is predominantly continuous, with gaps in canopy cover making up <10% of total area and no individual gap being >5 m wide (individual trees automatically pass this criterion).
C	The tree is mature (or more than 50% within the block are mature)1.

D	There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by human activities (such as vandalism, herbicide or detrimental agricultural activity). And there is no current regular pruning regime, so the trees retain >75% of expected canopy for their age range and height.
E	Natural ecological niches for vertebrates and invertebrates are present, such as presence of deadwood, cavities, ivy or loose bark.
F	More than 20% of the tree canopy area is oversailing vegetation beneath.

Number of criteria passed

Condition Assessment Result (out of 6 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score
Passes 5 or 6 criteria	Good (3)
Passes 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)
Passes 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)

Note that 'Fairly Good and Fairly Poor' condition categories are not available for this br

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score2

Footnotes

Footnote 1 - See gov.uk standing advice on ancient and veteran trees. Available from:
Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England (publishing.s
and:
Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisio

Footnote 2 - Enhancement of this habitat type is only possible by improving the habitat enhance individual tree/s through meeting just one or two of those Criteria, nor by mee

u should only use the Line of trees condition assessment and record that

ment only):
erimeter of urban land. This includes those along urban streets, highways,
nts. Canopies should predominantly overlap continuously. Groups of urban trees

Survey date and Surveyor name	
Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Habitat parcel reference	
Criterion passed (Yes or No)	**Notes (such as justification)**

Score Achieved ×/ ✓	
road habitat type.	
service.gov.uk)	
ns - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)	
t so that it meets all Criteria B, D and F. It is not possible or appropriate to eting Criteria A, C or E.	

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: INDIVIDUAL TREES Habitat Type

Habitat Types

Individual trees – Urban trees
Individual trees – Rural trees
Complete a condition sheet for each tree or block of trees.

Please see the separate Line of trees condition sheet for a line of rural trees. You should onl habitat type in rural locations.

Habitat Description

Individual trees (description applied to the urban or rural environment):
Young trees over 7.5 cm in diameter at breast height whose canopies are not touching.

Urban Perimeter / Linear Blocks and Groups (description applied to the urban environment only):
Groups or stands of trees (size requirement as defined above) within and around the perimeter of u and canals, and also former field boundary trees incorporated into developments. Canopies should match the descriptions for woodland may be assessed within this category.

On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name**		
		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)		
Limitations (if applicable)		**Habitat parcel refere**		
		Grid reference		
Condition Assessment Criteria		**Criterion passed (Ye**		
A	The tree is a native species (or at least 70% within the block are native species).			

B	The tree canopy is predominantly continuous, with gaps in canopy cover making up <10% of total area and no individual gap being >5 m wide (individual trees automatically pass this criterion).			
C	The tree is mature (or more than 50% within the block are mature)1.			
D	There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by human activities (such as vandalism, herbicide or detrimental agricultural activity). And there is no current regular pruning regime, so the trees retain >75% of expected canopy for their age range and height.			
E	Natural ecological niches for vertebrates and invertebrates are present, such as presence of deadwood, cavities, ivy or loose bark.			
F	More than 20% of the tree canopy area is oversailing vegetation beneath.			
	Number of criteria passed			

Condition Assessment Result (out of 6 criteria)	**Condition Assessment Score**	**Score Achieved ×/ ✓**		
Passes 5 or 6 criteria	Good (3)			
Passes 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)			
Passes 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)			

Note that ‘Fairly Good and Fairly Poor’ condition categories are not available for this broad habitat ty

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score2

Footnotes

Footnote 1 - See gov.uk standing advice on ancient and veteran trees. Available from:

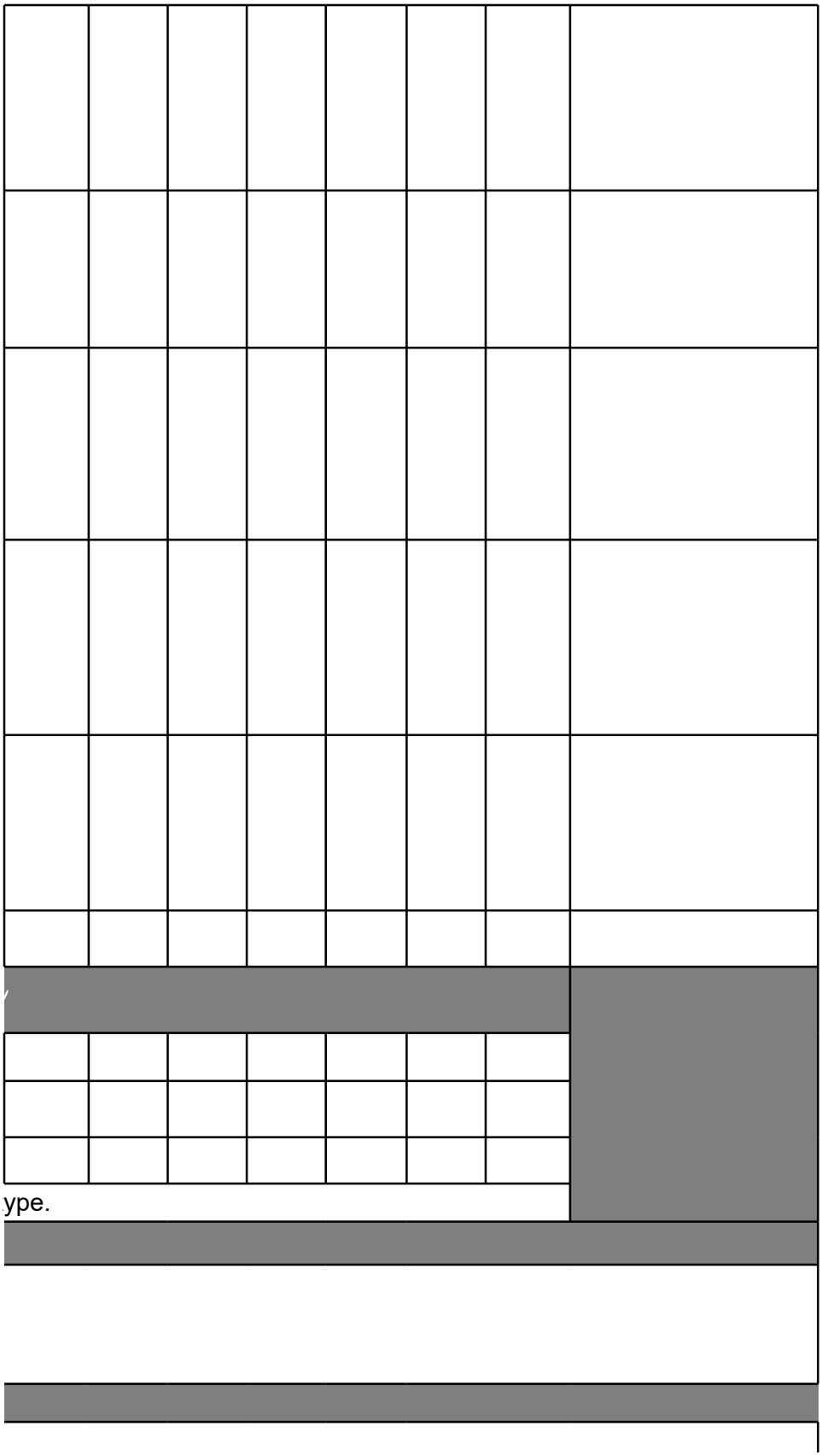
Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England (publishing.service.gov.u
and:
Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisions - GOV.UK

Footnote 2 - Enhancement of this habitat type is only possible by improving the habitat so that it me
individual tree/s through meeting just one or two of those Criteria, nor by meeting Criteria A, C or E.

y use the Line of trees condition assessment and record that

rban land. This includes those along urban streets, highways, railways
predominantly overlap continuously. Groups of urban trees that don't

ence							
es or No)							**Notes (such as justification)**



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eets all Criteria B, D and F. It is not possible or appropriate to enhance

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: INTERTIDAL BIOGENIC REEFS Habitat Type

EUNIS Habitat Types

Littoral biogenic reefs - Mussels
Littoral biogenic reefs - Sabellaria
Artificial littoral biogenic reefs

Habitat Description

See tab G1 of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric and the below:
Littoral biogenic reefs - JNCC Marine Habitat Classification

On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name**
Limitations (if applicable)		**Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)**
Grid reference		**Habitat parcel reference**

Habitat Attributes to Record

The following information should be recorded within the condition assessment sheet:
• Percentage cover of recognisable biogenic reef structures across the bed;
• Distribution of the habitat seaward and landward limits and extent;
• Description of presence of typical communities and biotopes;
• Description of species diversity and community composition;
• Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical modifications p
• Presence and abundance of non-native species;
• Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enrichment;
• Presence and density of non-natural structures and direct human impacts;
• Assessment of litter;
• Whether the habitat distribution is constrained by human modification; and
• Water Framework Directive (WFD) classification of overlying water.

Condition Assessment Criteria

Indicator	Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)

A	**Coastal processes**	Coastal processes are functioning naturally. No evidence of human physical modifications which are impacting the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes, that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting up to 25% of the habitat.
B	**Presence and abundance of invasive non-native species**	Not more than one invasive non-native species is 'Occasional' on the SACFOR scale or is occupying more than 1% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for details.	No invasive non-native species are present above 'Frequent' on the SACFOR scale or they occupy between 1-10% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for details.
C	**Water Quality**	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.	Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. Elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.
D	**Non-natural structures and direct human impacts**	No evidence of impacts from direct human activities, or they occupy <1% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies 1-10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).
E	**Litter (when examining a beach strandline / mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)**	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to between 21 and 47 items of litter per per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.
			Total S
Condition Assessment Result			

TOTAL SCORE 12-15 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION

TOTAL SCORE 8-11 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION

TOTAL SCORE 5-7 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 - Abundances estimated using SACFOR scales details available here: JNC littoral and sublittoral taxa from 1990 onwards [online]. Available from:
sacfor.pdf (jncc.gov.uk)
Use the non-native species list available here:
Microsoft Word - UK_Marine_NIS_priority_list_2020 (nonnativespecies.org)

DEFRA (2022) UK Marine Non-Indigenous Species Priority List (updated 2020) [online]
Marine Pathways Group » NNSS (nonnativespecies.org)

High-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition at time of publication include:
• Didemnum vexillum – Carpet sea squirt
• Hemigrapsus spp. – Asian Shore crabs (H. sanguineus, H. takanoi or H. penicillatus)
Please check for updates of high-risk species.

Footnote 2 - Peak bloom time is July – September.

Footnote 3 - Please use the method as set out in Nelms et al (2017) to identify litter m− Collect litter along a linear transect parallel with the strandline, located between the bac 100 m long. Assign gathered items of litter to one of 101 item categories, and further cl rubber, cloth, metal, medical, sanitary, faeces, paper, wood, glass, pottery or ceramic) all anthropogenic litter items and remove them from the beach. Litter identification guid details on the method:

NELMS, S.E. ET AL. (2017) Marine anthropogenic litter on British beaches: A 10-year r Science of the Total Environment [online], 579. Available from:
(PDF) Marine anthropogenic litter on British beaches: A 10-year nationwide assessmer

The indicator thresholds for litter are based on the methods in Van Loon et al (2020), w Implementation Strategy for the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) by the M VAN LOON, W. ET AL. (2020). A European Threshold Value and Assessment Method Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg. [online] Available from:
(PDF) A European Threshold Value and Assessment Method for Macro Litter on Coast

Return to 'Selecting condition sheet' tab

resent;

Poor (1 point)	Score per criterion	Notes (such as justification)

Artificial structures present, for example groynes, that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting more than 25% of the habitat.		
One or more invasive non-native species are present at an ‘Abundant’ level on the SACFOR scale; they occupy more than 10% of the habitat; or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 1 for details.		
Visual evidence of high algal growth that is indicative of nutrient enrichment. Signs of eutrophication that would impede bird feeding. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.		
Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies >10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).		
Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter exceeds 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to more than 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.		
Score (out of a possible 15)		
	Result Achieved	

C (No date) SACFOR abundance scale used for both

]. Available on:

-1 min−1 person−1, which is summarised below:
ck of the beach and the strandline. The transect should be
assify them into 12 material groups (plastic, polystyrene,
using MCS classifications. Following this, record and sum
es may be useful, please see Nelms et al (2017) for more

nationwide assessment using citizen science data.

nt using citizen science data (researchgate.net)

/hich is guidance developed within the Common
/SFD Technical Group on Marine Litter.
for Macro Litter on Coastlines. EUR 30347 EN,

tlines (researchgate.net)

Condition Sheet: INTERTIDAL BIOGENIC REEFS Habitat Type

EUNIS Habitat Types

Littoral biogenic reefs - Mussels
Littoral biogenic reefs - Sabellaria
Artificial littoral biogenic reefs

Habitat Description

On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name**
Limitations (if applicable)		**Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)**

See tab G1 of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric and the below:

Littoral biogenic reefs - JNCC Marine Habitat Classification

Habitat Attributes to Record

The following information should be recorded within the condition assessment shee
- Percentage cover of recognisable biogenic reef structures across the bed;
- Distribution of the habitat seaward and landward limits and extent;
- Description of presence of typical communities and biotopes;
- Description of species diversity and community composition;
- Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical modification
- Presence and abundance of non-native species;
- Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enrichment;
- Presence and density of non-natural structures and direct human impacts;
- Assessment of litter;
- Whether the habitat distribution is constrained by human modification; and
- Water Framework Directive (WFD) classification of overlying water.

Condition Assessment Criteria

Indicator	Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)

A	**Coastal processes**	Coastal processes are functioning naturally. No evidence of human physical modifications which are impacting the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes, that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting up to 25% of the habitat.
B	**Presence and abundance of invasive non-native species**	Not more than one invasive non-native species is 'Occasional' on the SACFOR scale or is occupying more than 1% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for details.	No invasive non-native species are present above 'Frequent' on the SACFOR scale or they occupy between 1-10% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for details.
C	**Water Quality**	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.	Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. Elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.
D	**Non-natural structures and direct human impacts**	No evidence of impacts from direct human activities, or they occupy <1% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies 1-10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).

E	**Litter (when examining a beach strandline / mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)**	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to between 21 and 47 items of litter per per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.
			Total Sco

Condition Assessment Result

TOTAL SCORE 12-15 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION

TOTAL SCORE 8-11 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION

TOTAL SCORE 5-7 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 - Abundances estimated using SACFOR scales details available here: J
from:
sacfor.pdf (jncc.gov.uk)
Use the non-native species list available here:
Microsoft Word - UK_Marine_NIS_priority_list_2020 (nonnativespecies.org)
DEFRA (2022) UK Marine Non-Indigenous Species Priority List (updated 2020) [onl
Marine Pathways Group » NNSS (nonnativespecies.org)
High-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition at time of publication include:
• Didemnum vexillum – Carpet sea squirt
• Hemigrapsus spp. – Asian Shore crabs (H. sanguineus, H. takanoi or H. penicillatu
Please check for updates of high-risk species.

Footnote 2 - Peak bloom time is July – September.

Footnote 3 - Please use the method as set out in Nelms et al (2017) to identify litter
Collect litter along a linear transect parallel with the strandline, located between the
categories, and further classify them into 12 material groups (plastic, polystyrene, ru
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NELMS, S.E. ET AL. (2017) Marine anthropogenic litter on British beaches: A 10-ye

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VAN LOON, W. ET AL. (2020). A European Threshold Value and Assessment Meth
Available from:
(PDF) A European Threshold Value and Assessment Method for Macro Litter on Co

t:	**Habitat parcel reference**								
s present;	**Grid reference**								

Poor (1 point)	**Score per criterion**

Artificial structures present, for example groynes, that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting more than 25% of the habitat.									
One or more invasive non-native species are present at an ‘Abundant’ level on the SACFOR scale; they occupy more than 10% of the habitat; or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 1 for details.									
Visual evidence of high algal growth that is indicative of nutrient enrichment. Signs of eutrophication that would impede bird feeding. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.									
Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies >10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).									

Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter exceeds 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to more than 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.									
re (out of a possible 15)									
	Result Achieved								

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back of the beach and the strandline. The transect should be 100 m long. Assign gathered items of lit
ubber, cloth, metal, medical, sanitary, faeces, paper, wood, glass, pottery or ceramic) using MCS class
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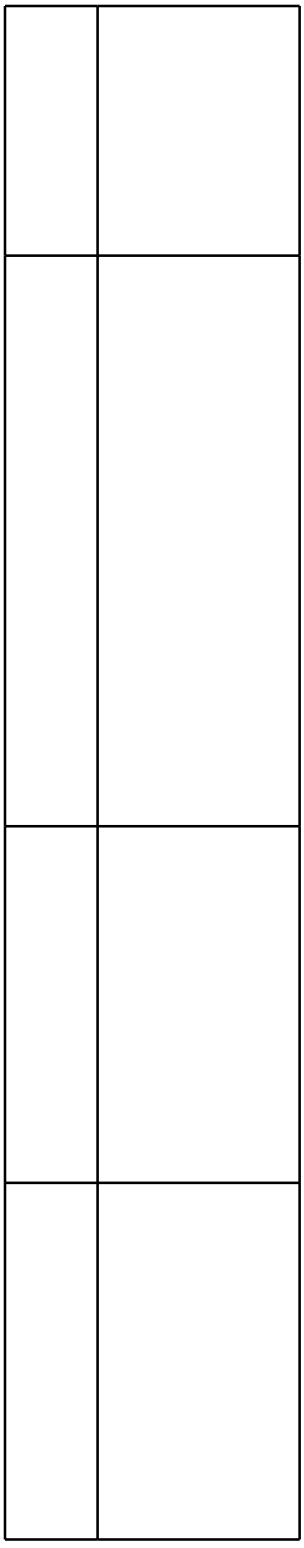
ment using citizen science data (researchgate.net)

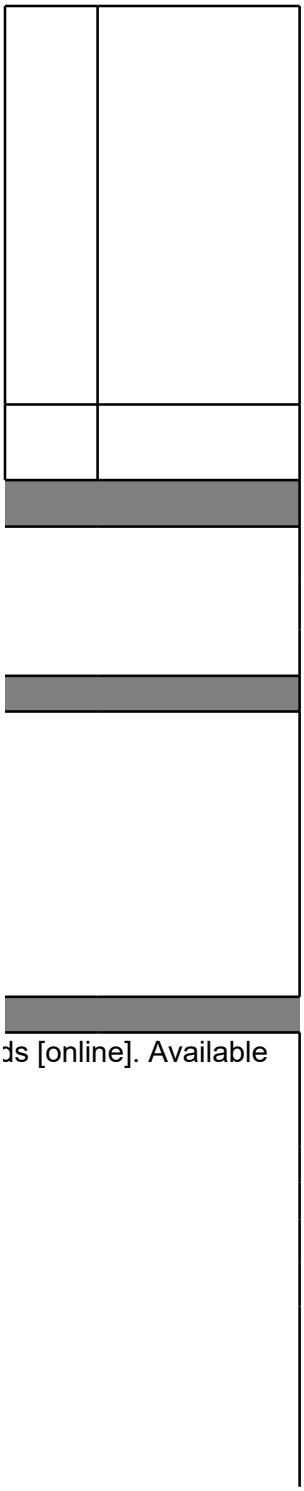
), which is guidance developed within the Common Implementation Strategy for the Marine Strategy F

nod for Macro Litter on Coastlines. EUR 30347 EN, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxem

oastlines (researchgate.net)

	Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab





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Condition Sheet: INTERTIDAL HARD STRUCTURES Habitat Type

Artificial Habitat Types

Intertidal hard structures - Artificial hard structures
Intertidal hard structures - Artificial features of hard structures
Intertidal hard structures - Artificial hard structures with integrated greening o

On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name**
Limitations (if applicable)		**Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)**
Grid reference		**Habitat parcel reference**

Habitat Description

See tab G1 of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric.

Habitat Attributes to Record

The following information should be recorded within the condition assessment sheet
• Description of presence of typical communities and biotopes;
• Description of species diversity and community composition;
• Presence and abundance of non-native species;
• Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical modifications
• Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enrichment;
• Water Framework Directive (WFD) classification of overlying water; and
• Assessment of litter.

Condition Assessment Criteria

	Indicator	**Good (3 points)**	**Moderate (2 points)**
A	**Coastal processes**	Coastal processes are functioning naturally. No evidence of human physical modifications which are clearly impacting the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting up to 25% of the habitat.

B	**Presence and abundance of invasive non-native species**	Not more than one invasive non-native species is 'Occasional' on the SACFOR scale or is occupying more than 1% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for details.	No invasive non-native species are present above 'Frequent' on the SACFOR scale or they occupy between 1-10% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for details.
C	**Water Quality**	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.	Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. Elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.
D	**Litter (when examining a beach strandline, mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)**	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to between 21 and 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.
E	**Amount of colonisation**	More than three different communities of flora or fauna present.	Two or three different communities of flora or fauna present.
			Total Sco

Condition Assessment Result
TOTAL SCORE 12-15 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION
TOTAL SCORE 8-11 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION
TOTAL SCORE 5-7 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 - Abundances estimated using SACFOR scales details available here: JN
littoral and sublittoral taxa from 1990 onwards [online]. Available from:
sacfor.pdf (jncc.gov.uk)
Use the non-native species list available here:
Microsoft Word - UK_Marine_NIS_priority_list_2020 (nonnativespecies.org)
DEFRA (2022) UK Marine Non-Indigenous Species Priority List (updated 2020) [onli
Marine Pathways Group » NNSS (nonnativespecies.org)
High-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition at time of publication include:
• Didemnum vexillum – Carpet sea squirt
• Hemigrapsus spp. – Asian Shore crabs (H. sanguineus, H. takanoi or H. penicillatu
• Ficopomatus enigmaticus - Trumpet tube worm
• Corella eumyota – Orange-tipped sea squirt
• Grateloupia turuturu – Devil's tongue weed, gracie, red menace and red tide
• Schizoporella japonica – Orange ripple bryozoan
Please check for updates of high-risk species.

Footnote 2 - Peak bloom time is July – September

Footnote 3 - Please use the method as set out in Nelms et al (2017) to identify litter i
Collect litter along a linear transect parallel with the strandline, located between the l
be 100 m long. Assign gathered items of litter to one of 101 item categories, and furt
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record and sum all anthropogenic litter items and remove them from the beach. Litte
(2017) for more details on the method:
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Return to 'Selecting condition sheet' tab

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s present;

Poor (1 point)	Score per criterion	Notes (such as justification)
Artificial structures present, for example groynes that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting more than 25% of the habitat.		

One or more invasive non-native species present at an ‘Abundant’ level on the SACFOR scale; they occupy more than 10% of the habitat; or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 1 for details.		
Visual evidence of high algal growth that is indicative of nutrient enrichment. Signs of eutrophication that would impede bird feeding. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.		
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One or no communities of flora or fauna present.		
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ther classify them into 12 material groups (plastic,
ery/ceramic) using MCS classifications. Following this,
r identification guides may be useful, please see Nelms et al

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e MSFD Technical Group on Marine Litter.
od for Macro Litter on Coastlines. EUR 30347 EN,

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Condition Sheet: INTERTIDAL HARD STRUCTURES Habitat Type

Artificial Habitat Types

Intertidal hard structures - Artificial hard structures
Intertidal hard structures - Artificial features of hard structures
Intertidal hard structures - Artificial hard structures with integrated greening o

On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name**
Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)		**Limitations (if applicable)**

Habitat Description

See tab G1 of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric.

Habitat Attributes to Record

The following information should be recorded within the condition assessment sheet
• Description of presence of typical communities and biotopes;
• Description of species diversity and community composition;
• Presence and abundance of non-native species;
• Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical modifications
• Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enrichment;
• Water Framework Directive (WFD) classification of overlying water; and
• Assessment of litter.

Condition Assessment Criteria

Indicator		**Good (3 points)**	**Moderate (2 points)**
A	**Coastal processes**	Coastal processes are functioning naturally. No evidence of human physical modifications which are clearly impacting the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting up to 25% of the habitat.

B	**Presence and abundance of invasive non-native species**	Not more than one invasive non-native species is 'Occasional' on the SACFOR scale or is occupying more than 1% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for details.	No invasive non-native species are present above 'Frequent' on the SACFOR scale or they occupy between 1-10% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for details.
C	**Water Quality**	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.	Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. Elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.
D	**Litter (when examining a beach strandline, mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)**	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to between 21 and 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.
E	**Amount of colonisation**	More than three different communities of flora or fauna present.	Two or three different communities of flora or fauna present.
			Total Sco

Condition Assessment Result
TOTAL SCORE 12-15 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION
TOTAL SCORE 8-11 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION
TOTAL SCORE 5-7 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes
Footnote 1 - Abundances estimated using SACFOR scales details available here: JN Available from: sacfor.pdf (jncc.gov.uk) Use the non-native species list available here: Microsoft Word - UK_Marine_NIS_priority_list_2020 (nonnativespecies.org) DEFRA (2022) UK Marine Non-Indigenous Species Priority List (updated 2020) [onli Marine Pathways Group » NNSS (nonnativespecies.org)
High-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition at time of publication include: • Didemnum vexillum – Carpet sea squirt • Hemigrapsus spp. – Asian Shore crabs (H. sanguineus, H. takanoi or H. penicillatu • Ficopomatus enigmaticus - Trumpet tube worm • Corella eumyota – Orange-tipped sea squirt • Grateloupia turuturu – Devil's tongue weed, gracie, red menace and red tide • Schizoporella japonica – Orange ripple bryozoan Please check for updates of high-risk species.
Footnote 2 - Peak bloom time is July – September
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f grey infrastructure (IGGI)

:	**Habitat parcel reference**									
s present;	**Grid reference**									
Poor (1 point)	**Score per criterion**									
Artificial structures present, for example groynes that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting more than 25% of the habitat.										

One or more invasive non-native species present at an ‘Abundant’ level on the SACFOR scale; they occupy more than 10% of the habitat; or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 1 for details.										
Visual evidence of high algal growth that is indicative of nutrient enrichment. Signs of eutrophication that would impede bird feeding. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.										
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One or no communities of flora or fauna present.										
re (out of a possible 15)										
	Result Achieved									

NCC (No date) SACFOR abundance scale used for both littoral and sublittoral taxa from 1990 onw

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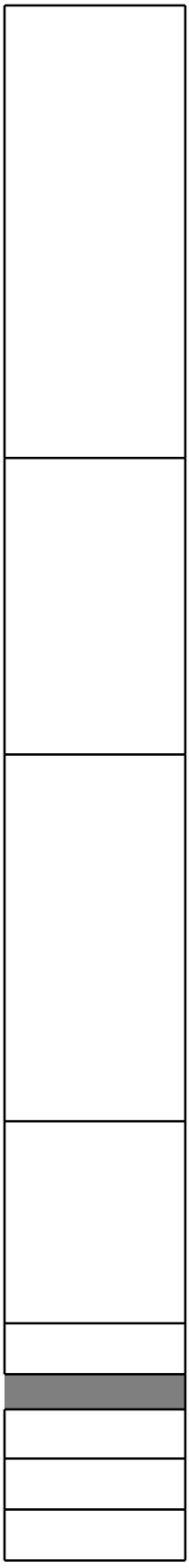
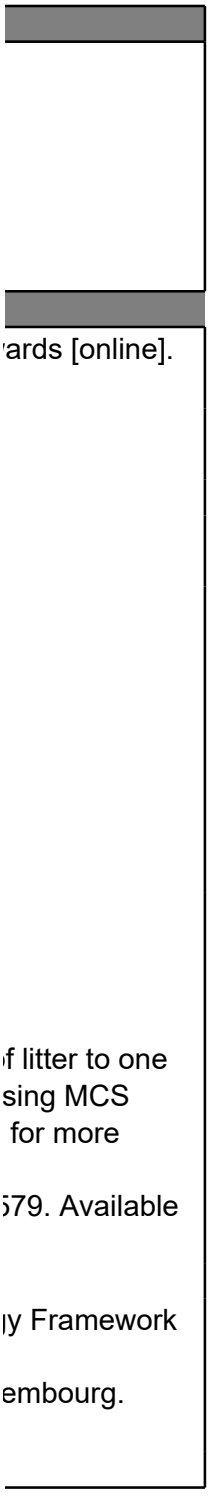
Notes (such as justification)





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Condition Sheet: INTERTIDAL SEAGRASS Habitat Type

Habitat Types

Intertidal sediment - Littoral seagrass
Intertidal sediment - Littoral seagrass - on peat, clay or chalk
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral seagrass

On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name**
Limitations (if applicable)		**Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)**
Grid reference		**Habitat parcel reference**

Habitat Description

See tab G1 of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric and the below:
JNCC littoral seagrass bed habitat description

Habitat Attributes to Record

The following information should be recorded within the condition assessment sheet:
• Percentage cover of seagrass across the bed;
• Distribution of the seagrass landward, seaward and extent should be recorded;
• Description of presence of typical communities and biotopes;
• Description of species diversity and community composition;
• Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical modifications
• Presence and abundance of non-native species;
• Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enrichment;
• Water Framework Directive (WFD) classification of overlying water;
• Presence and density of non-natural structures and direct human impacts;
• Assessment of litter; and
• Evidence of visible rhizomes.

Condition Assessment Criteria

Indicator	Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)

A	**Coastal processes**	Coastal processes are functioning naturally. No evidence of human physical modifications which are clearly impacting the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes, that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting up to 25% of the habitat.
B	**Presence and abundance of invasive non-native species**	Not more than one invasive non-native species is 'Occasional' on the SACFOR scale or is occupying more than 1% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for details.	No invasive non-native species are present above 'Frequent' on the SACFOR scale or they occupy between 1-10% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for list.
C	**Water Quality**	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.	Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. Elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.
D	**Non-natural structures and direct human impacts**	No evidence of impacts from direct human activities, or they occupy <1% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies 1-10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).

E	**Litter (when examining a beach strandline, mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)**	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to between 21 and 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.
			Total sco

Condition Assessment Result

TOTAL SCORE 12 - 15 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION

TOTAL SCORE 8 - 11 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION

TOTAL SCORE 5 - 7 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 - Abundances estimated using SACFOR scales details available here: JN littoral and sublittoral taxa from 1990 onwards [online]. Available from: sacfor.pdf (jncc.gov.uk)

Use the non-native species list available here: Microsoft Word - UK_Marine_NIS_priority_list_2020 (nonnativespecies.org)

DEFRA (2022) UK Marine Non-Indigenous Species Priority List (updated 2020) [onlir Marine Pathways Group » NNSS (nonnativespecies.org)

High-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition at time of publication include:
• Didemnum vexillum – Carpet sea squirt
• Hemigrapsus spp. – Asian Shore crabs (H. sanguineus, H. takanoi or H. penicillatus
• Eriocheir sinensis – Chinese mitten crab
Please check for updates of high-risk species.

Footnote 2 - Peak bloom time is July – September.

Footnote 3 - Please use the method as set out in Nelms et al (2017) to identify litter n
Collect litter along a linear transect parallel with the strandline, located between the b
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Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

; present;

Poor (1 point)	Score per criterion	Notes (such as justification)

Artificial structures present, for example groynes, that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting more than 25% of the habitat.		
One or more invasive non-native species present at an 'Abundant' level on the SACFOR scale; they occupy more than 10% of the habitat; or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 1 for details.		
Visual evidence of high algal growth that is indicative of nutrient enrichment. Signs of eutrophication that would impede bird feeding. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.		
Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies >10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).		

Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter exceeds 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to more than 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.		

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	Result Achieved

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Condition Sheet: INTERTIDAL SEAGRASS Habitat Type

Habitat Types

Intertidal sediment - Littoral seagrass
Intertidal sediment - Littoral seagrass - on peat, clay or chalk
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral seagrass

On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name**
Limitations (if applicable)		**Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)**

Habitat Description

See tab G1 of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric and the below:

JNCC littoral seagrass bed habitat description

Habitat Attributes to Record

The following information should be recorded within the condition assessment sheet:
• Percentage cover of seagrass across the bed;
• Distribution of the seagrass landward, seaward and extent should be recorded;
• Description of presence of typical communities and biotopes;
• Description of species diversity and community composition;
• Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical modifications
• Presence and abundance of non-native species;
• Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enrichment;
• Water Framework Directive (WFD) classification of overlying water;
• Presence and density of non-natural structures and direct human impacts;
• Assessment of litter; and
• Evidence of visible rhizomes.

Condition Assessment Criteria

Indicator	**Good (3 points)**	**Moderate (2 points)**

A	**Coastal processes**	Coastal processes are functioning naturally. No evidence of human physical modifications which are clearly impacting the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes, that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting up to 25% of the habitat.
B	**Presence and abundance of invasive non-native species**	Not more than one invasive non-native species is 'Occasional' on the SACFOR scale or is occupying more than 1% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for details.	No invasive non-native species are present above 'Frequent' on the SACFOR scale or they occupy between 1-10% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for list.
C	**Water Quality**	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.	Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. Elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.
D	**Non-natural structures and direct human impacts**	No evidence of impacts from direct human activities, or they occupy <1% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies 1-10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).

E	**Litter (when examining a beach strandline, mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)**	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to between 21 and 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.
			Total Sco

Condition Assessment Result

TOTAL SCORE 12 - 15 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION

TOTAL SCORE 8 - 11 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION

TOTAL SCORE 5 - 7 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 - Abundances estimated using SACFOR scales details available here: JN
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Use the non-native species list available here:
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Please check for updates of high-risk species.

Footnote 2 - Peak bloom time is July – September.

Footnote 3 - Please use the method as set out in Nelms et al (2017) to identify litter n
Collect litter along a linear transect parallel with the strandline, located between the b
and further classify them into 12 material groups (plastic, polystyrene, rubber, cloth, r
anthropogenic litter items and remove them from the beach. Litter identification guide

NELMS, S.E. ET AL. (2017) Marine anthropogenic litter on British beaches: A 10-yea
(PDF) Marine anthropogenic litter on British beaches: A 10-year nationwide assessm

The indicator thresholds for litter are based on the methods in Van Loon et al (2020),
MSFD Technical Group on Marine Litter.
VAN LOON, W. ET AL. (2020). A European Threshold Value and Assessment Metho

(PDF) A European Threshold Value and Assessment Method for Macro Litter on Coa

	Habitat parcel reference							
s present;								
	Grid reference							
Poor (1 point)	**Score per criterion**							

Artificial structures present, for example groynes, that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting more than 25% of the habitat.								
One or more invasive non-native species present at an 'Abundant' level on the SACFOR scale; they occupy more than 10% of the habitat; or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 1 for details.								
Visual evidence of high algal growth that is indicative of nutrient enrichment. Signs of eutrophication that would impede bird feeding. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.								
Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies >10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).								

Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter exceeds 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to more than 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.								
re (out of a possible 15)								
	Result Achieved							

ICC (No date) SACFOR abundance scale used for both littoral and sublittoral taxa from 1990 onwa

ne]. Available on:

s)

n−1 min−1 person−1, which is summarised below:
back of the beach and the strandline. The transect should be 100 m long. Assign gathered items of
metal, medical, sanitary, faeces, paper, wood, glass, pottery or ceramic) using MCS classifications.
es may be useful, please see Nelms et al (2017) for more details on the method:

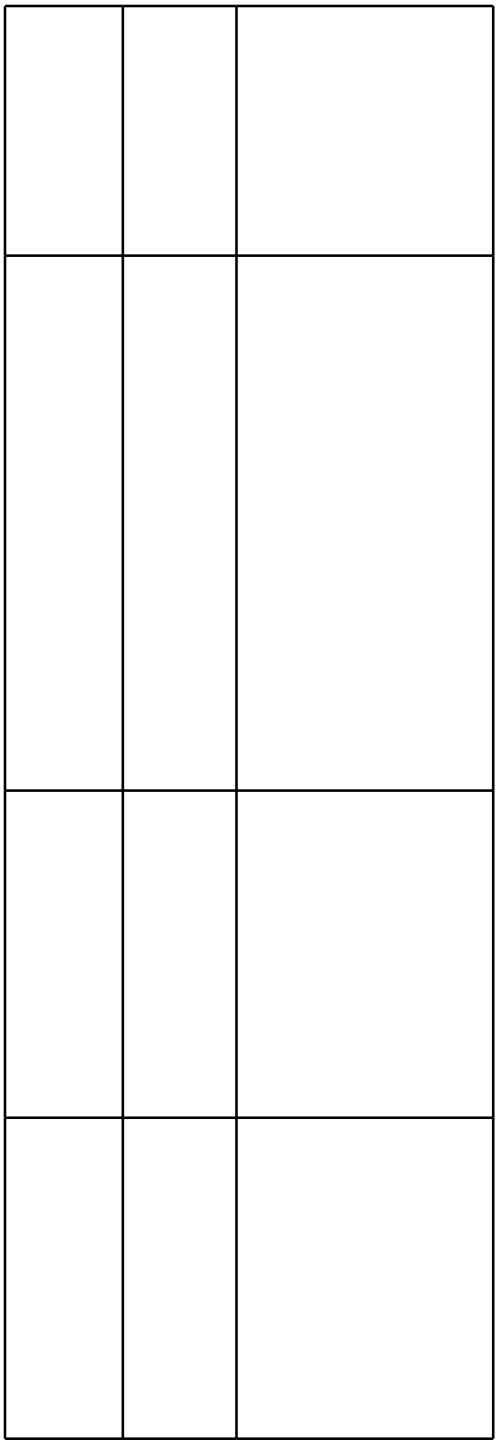
ar nationwide assessment using citizen science data. Science of The Total Environment [online], 57
ıent using citizen science data (researchgate.net)

, which is guidance developed within the Common Implementation Strategy for the Marine Strategy

ɔd for Macro Litter on Coastlines. EUR 30347 EN, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxer

astlines (researchgate.net)

	Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab



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litter to one of 101 item categories,
Following this, record and sum all

’9. Available from:

' Framework Directive (MSFD) by the

mbourg. [online] Available from:

Condition Sheet: INTERTIDAL SEDIMENT Habitat Type

Habitat Types

Littoral coarse sediment
Littoral sand
Littoral muddy sand
Littoral mud
Littoral mixed sediments
Features of littoral sediment
Artificial littoral coarse sediment
Artificial littoral mixed sediments
Artificial littoral mud
Artificial littoral muddy sand
Artificial littoral sand

On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name**
Limitations (if applicable)		**Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)**
Grid reference		**Habitat parcel reference**

Habitat Description

See tab G1 of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric and the below:
EUNIS littoral sediment description

Habitat Attributes to Record

The following information should be recorded within the condition assessment sheet:
• Description of sediment character;
• Description of presence of typical communities and biotopes;
• Description of species diversity and community composition;
• Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical modifications pr
• Observations on transitions to other habitats;
• Assessment of litter;
• Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enrichment;
• Water Framework Directive (WFD) classification of overlying water; and
• Description of zonation.

Condition Assessment Criteria			
Indicator		**Good (3 points)**	**Moderate (2 points)**
A	**Coastal processes**	Coastal processes are functioning naturally. No evidence of human physical modifications which are clearly impacting the habitat.	Artificial structures present e.g. groynes, that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting up to 25% of the habitat.
B	**Presence and abundance of invasive non-native species**	Not more than one invasive non-native species is 'Occasional' on the SACFOR scale or is occupying more than 1% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for details.	No invasive non-native species are present above 'Frequent' on the SACFOR scale or they occupy between 1-10% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for details.
C	**Water Quality**	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.	Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. Elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.

D	**Non-natural structures and direct human impacts**	No evidence of impacts from direct human activities, or they occupy <1% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies 1-10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).
E	**Litter (when examining a beach strandline, mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)**	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to between 21 and 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.
			Total Sc

Condition Assessment Result

TOTAL SCORE 12-15 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION
TOTAL SCORE 8-11 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION
TOTAL SCORE 5-7 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 - Abundances estimated using SACFOR scales details available here: JNC
and sublittoral taxa from 1990 onwards [online]. Available from:
sacfor.pdf (jncc.gov.uk)

Use the non-native species list available here:
Microsoft Word - UK_Marine_NIS_priority_list_2020 (nonnativespecies.org)

DEFRA (2022) UK Marine Non-Indigenous Species Priority List (updated 2020) [online]
Marine Pathways Group » NNSS (nonnativespecies.org)

• Ficopomatus enigmaticus - Trumpet tube worm
• Styela clava - Asian tunicate; leathery sea squirt, club tunicate
• Corella eumyota - Orange-tipped sea squirt
• Grateloupia turuturu - Devil's tongue weed, gracie, red menace and red tide
Intertidal mixed sediment A2.4
• Ficopomatus enigmaticus - Trumpet tube worm
Always check for updates of high-risk species.

Footnote 2 - Peak bloom time is July – September.

Footnote 3 - Please use the method as set out in Nelms et al (2017) to identify litter m−
Collect litter along a linear transect parallel with the strandline, located between the bac
100 m long. Assign gathered items of litter to one of 101 item categories, and further cla
rubber, cloth, metal, medical, sanitary, faeces, paper, wood, glass, pottery or ceramic) u
anthropogenic litter items and remove them from the beach. Litter identification guides r
on the method:

NELMS, S.E. ET AL. (2017) Marine anthropogenic litter on British beaches: A 10-year r
The Total Environment [online], 579. Available from:
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Implementation Strategy for the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) by the M

VAN LOON, W. ET AL. (2020). A European Threshold Value and Assessment Method f
Office of the European Union, Luxembourg. [online] Available from:
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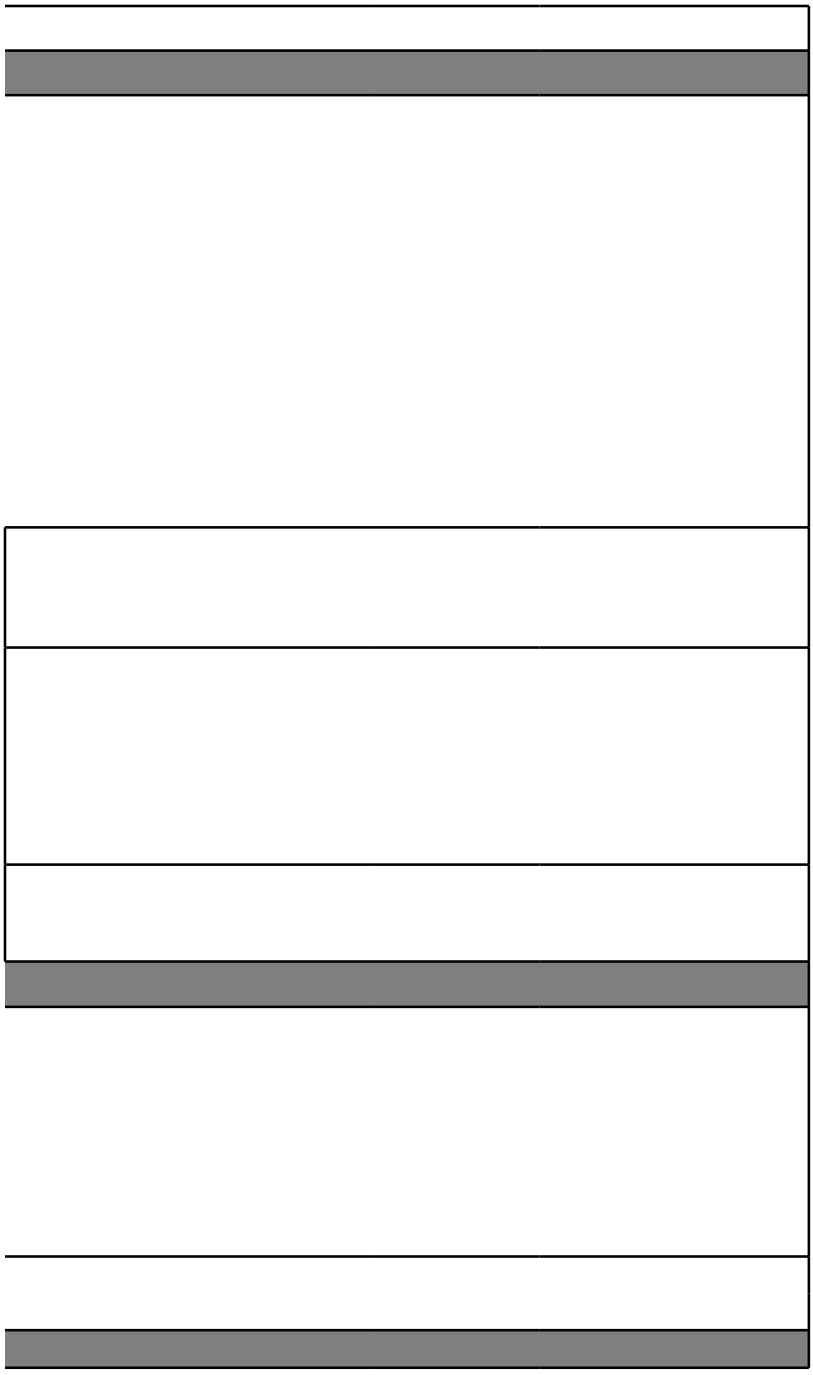

resent;

Poor (1 point)	Score per criterion	Notes (such as justification)
Artificial structures present e.g. groynes, that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting more than 25% of the habitat.		
One or more invasive non-native species are present at an ‘Abundant’ level on the SACFOR scale; they occupy more than 10% of the habitat; or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 1 for details.		
Visual evidence of high algal growth that is indicative of nutrient enrichment. Signs of eutrophication that would impede bird feeding. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.		

Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies >10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).		
Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter exceeds 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to more than 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.		
core (out of a possible 15)		

Result Achieved

C (No date) SACFOR abundance scale used for both littoral

. Available on:

1 min−1 person−1, which is summarised below:
:k of the beach and the strandline. The transect should be
assify them into 12 material groups (plastic, polystyrene,
using MCS classifications. Following this, record and sum all
may be useful, please see Nelms et al (2017) for more details

nationwide assessment using citizen science data. Science of

t using citizen science data (researchgate.net)
hich is guidance developed within the Common
ISFD Technical Group on Marine Litter.

for Macro Litter on Coastlines. EUR 30347 EN, Publications

lines (researchgate.net)

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: INTERTIDAL SEDIMENT Habitat Type	
Habitat Types	
Littoral coarse sediment **Littoral sand** **Littoral muddy sand** **Littoral mud** **Littoral mixed sediments** **Features of littoral sediment** **Artificial littoral coarse sediment** **Artificial littoral mixed sediments** **Artificial littoral mud** **Artificial littoral muddy sand** **Artificial littoral sand**	
On-site or off-site, site name and location	
Limitations (if applicable)	
Habitat Description	
See tab G1 of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric and the below: EUNIS littoral sediment description	
Habitat Attributes to Record	
The following information should be recorded within the condition assessment s • Description of sediment character; • Description of presence of typical communities and biotopes; • Description of species diversity and community composition; • Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical modifica • Observations on transitions to other habitats; • Assessment of litter; • Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enrichme • Water Framework Directive (WFD) classification of overlying water; and • Description of zonation.	

Condition Assessment Criteria		
Indicator	**Good (3 points)**	**Moderate (2 points)**

A	**Coastal processes**	Coastal processes are functioning naturally. No evidence of human physical modifications which are clearly impacting the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes, that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting up to 25% of the habitat.
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C	**Water Quality**	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.	Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. Elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing2.
D	**Non-natural structures and direct human impacts**	No evidence of impacts from direct human activities, or they occupy <1% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies 1-10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).

E	**Litter (when examining a beach strandline, mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)**	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to between 21 and 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.
			Total Sco

Condition Assessment Result

TOTAL SCORE 12-15 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION

TOTAL SCORE 8-11 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION

TOTAL SCORE 5-7 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 - Abundances estimated using SACFOR scales details available her
sacfor.pdf (jncc.gov.uk)
Use the non-native species list available here:
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DEFRA (2022) UK Marine Non-Indigenous Species Priority List (updated 2020)
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• Ficopomatus enigmaticus - Trumpet tube worm
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MSFD Technical Group on Marine Litter.
VAN LOON, W. ET AL. (2020). A European Threshold Value and Assessment M

(PDF) A European Threshold Value and Assessment Method for Macro Litter or

	Survey date and Surveyor name	
	Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	

sheet:	**Habitat parcel reference**						
ations present;	**Grid reference**						
ent;							

Poor (1 point)	**Score per criterion**

Artificial structures present for example groynes, that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting more than 25% of the habitat.							
One or more invasive non-native species are present at an ‘Abundant’ level on the SACFOR scale; they occupy more than 10% of the habitat; or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 1 for details.							
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re (out of a possible 15)							
	Result Achieved						

re: JNCC (No date) SACFOR abundance scale used for both littoral and sublittoral taxa from 19

[online]. Available on:

litter m−1 min−1 person−1, which is summarised below:
the back of the beach and the strandline. The transect should be 100 m long. Assign gathered it
loth, metal, medical, sanitary, faeces, paper, wood, glass, pottery or ceramic) using MCS classifi
guides may be useful, please see Nelms et al (2017) for more details on the method:
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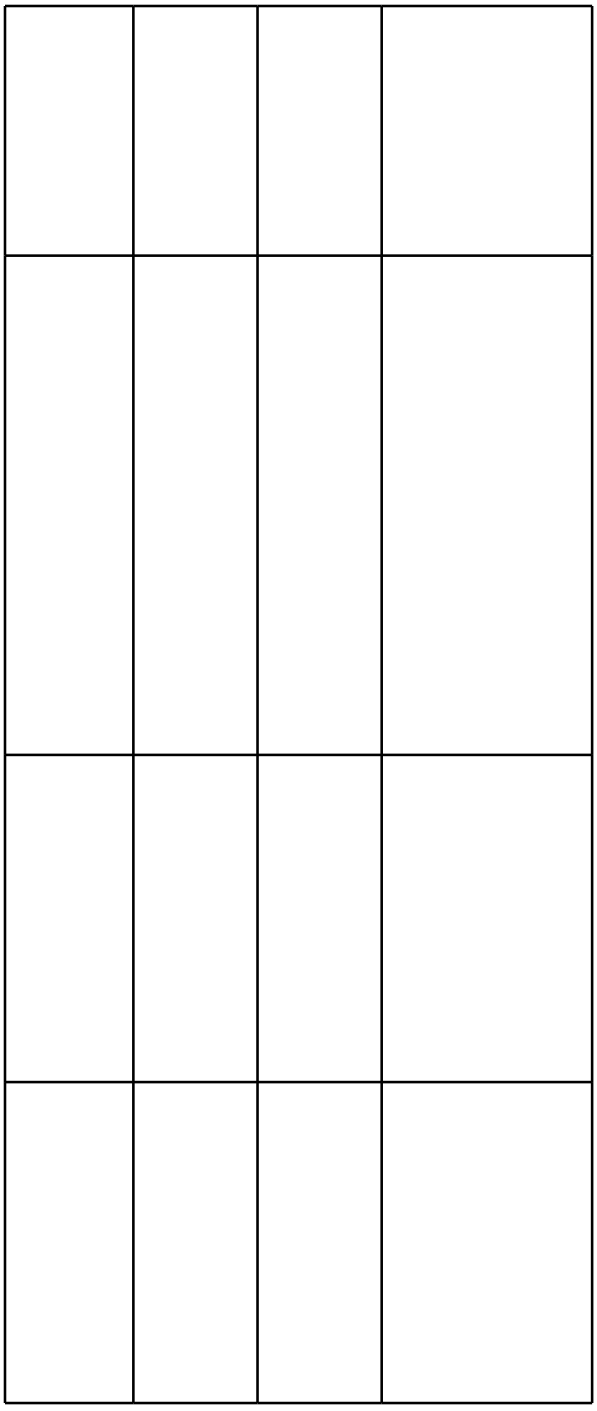
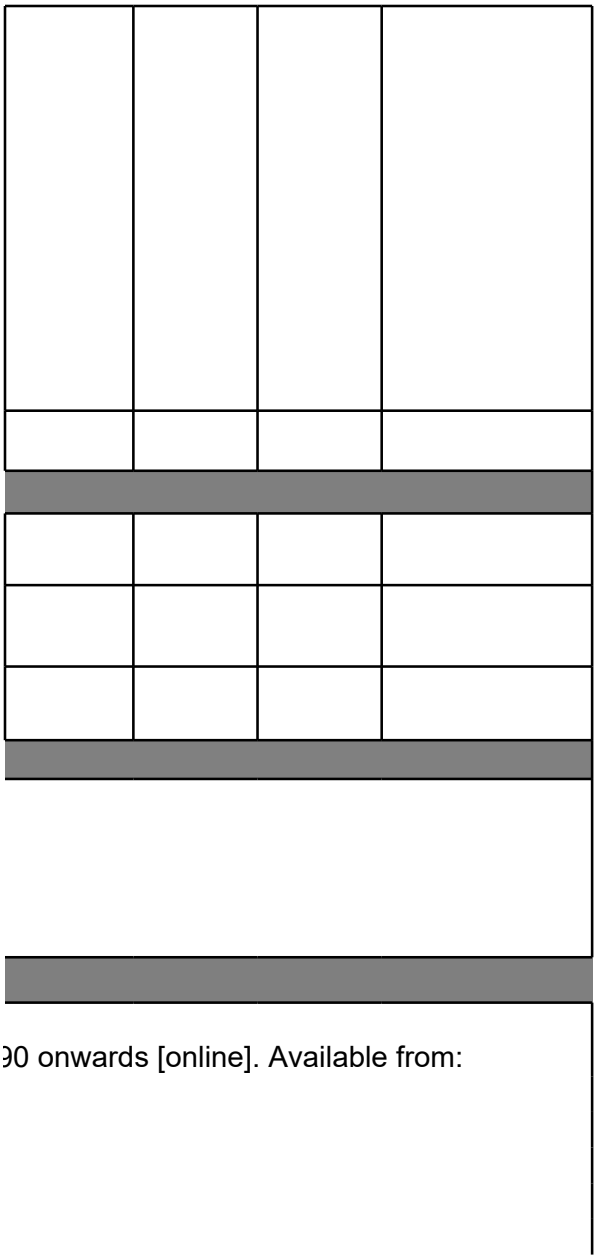
sessment using citizen science data (researchgate.net)
2020), which is guidance developed within the Common Implementation Strategy for the Marine S

Method for Macro Litter on Coastlines. EUR 30347 EN, Publications Office of the European Unio

n Coastlines (researchgate.net)

Return to 'Selecting condition sheet' tab





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tems of litter to one of 101 item categories,
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nline], 579. Available from:

Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) by the

n, Luxembourg. [online] Available from:

Condition Sheet: LAKE Habitat Type

Habitat Types

Lakes - Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating waterbodi
Lakes - Ornamental lake or pond [Use this conditic
Lakes - High alkalinity lakes
Lakes - Low alkalinity lakes
Lakes - Marl lakes
Lakes - Moderate alkalinity lakes
Lakes - Peat lakes
Lakes - Reservoirs
Lakes - Temporary lakes ponds and pools (H3170)
pools]

Habitat Description

See Water Framework Directive:
WFD Lakes typologies description
For 'Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating waterbodies', 'Res
UKHab

Condition Assessment Criteria

The Freshwater Biological Association 'Habitat Natura
chemical, and biological naturalness) are averaged to
use in the metric (see below).

There are other elements considered in the lake natura

Details of the methodology for assessing naturalness c
Contribute naturalness data – Discovering Priority Hab

The key documents are:
Lake naturalness assessment – guidance document (
Annex I – Printable lake naturalness survey form to us
Annex II – Physical naturalness photographs (PDF)
Annex-III - Hydrological naturalness photographs (PDF
Annex IV – Chemical naturalness photographs (PDF)
Annex V – Plant functional group photographs (PDF)
Annex VI – Further species recording (PDF)

We encourage recording of data on lakes on the Fresh
Contribute data – Discovering Priority Habitats in Engl

On-site or off-site, site name and location
Limitations (if applicable)
Grid reference
Average 'Habitat Naturalness Assessment' Class
1 Natural
2
3
4
5 Least natural
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve

es

on sheet for Ornamental lakes, or use Pond condition sheet for Ornamental ponds and

[Use this condition sheet for Temporary lakes, or use Pond condition sheet for Temp

servoirs' and ‘Temporary lakes, ponds and pools' see UK Habitat Classification:

lness Assessment’ is used to assess the condition of lakes. Scores for four attributes (physic
generate an overall 'habitat naturalness assessment score' which can then be translated int

alness assessment, but these are not included when calculating the condition assessment s

of lakes are available at:

bitats in England

(PDF)

se in field (PDF)

F)

hwater Biological Association ‘Habitat Naturalness Assessment’ website portal:

and (wpengine.com)

	Survey date and Surveyor name
	Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)
	Habitat parcel reference
Condition Assessment Score	**Score Achieved**
Good (3)	
Fairly good (2.5)	
Moderate (2)	
Fairly poor (1.5)	
Poor (1)	
condition score	

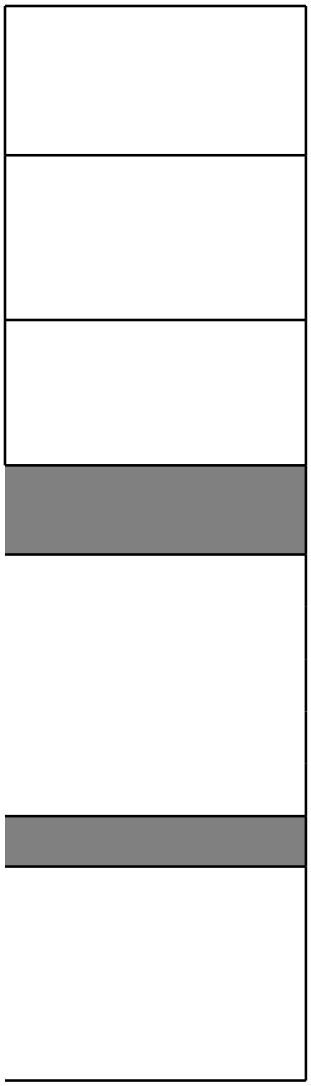
Return to 'Selecting condition sheet' tab

d pools]

orary ponds and

cal, hydrological,
o a condition score for

core.



Condition Sheet: LAKE Habitat Type

Habitat Types

Lakes - Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating waterbodies
Lakes - Ornamental lake or pond [Use this condition sheet for Ornamental lakes, or use Por
Lakes - High alkalinity lakes
Lakes - Low alkalinity lakes
Lakes - Marl lakes
Lakes - Moderate alkalinity lakes
Lakes - Peat lakes
Lakes - Reservoirs
Lakes - Temporary lakes ponds and pools (H3170) [Use this condition sheet for Temporary

Habitat Description

See Water Framework Directive:
WFD Lakes typologies description
For 'Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating waterbodies', 'Reservoirs' and ‘Temporary lakes, ponds and p
UKHab

Condition Assessment Criteria

The Freshwater Biological Association ‘Habitat Naturalness Assessment’ is used to assess the cor
biological naturalness) are averaged to generate an overall 'habitat naturalness assessment score
below).

There are other elements considered in the lake naturalness assessment, but these are not includ

Details of the methodology for assessing naturalness of lakes are available at:
Contribute naturalness data – Discovering Priority Habitats in England

The key documents are:

Lake naturalness assessment – guidance document (PDF)

Annex I – Printable lake naturalness survey form to use in field (PDF)

Annex II – Physical naturalness photographs (PDF)

Annex - III Hydrological naturalness photographs (PDF)

Annex IV – Chemical naturalness photographs (PDF)

Annex V – Plant functional group photographs (PDF)

Annex VI – Further species recording (PDF)

We encourage recording of data on lakes on the Freshwater Biological Association ‘Habitat Natura

Contribute data – Discovering Priority Habitats in England (wpengine.com)

On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Su name**	
		Survey reference (if to a wider survey)	
		Habitat parcel refere	
Limitations (if applicable)			
		Grid reference	
Average 'Habitat Naturalness Assessment' Class	**Condition Assessment Score**	**Score Achieved**	
1 Natural	Good (3)		
2	Fairly good (2.5)		
3	Moderate (2)		
4	Fairly poor (1.5)		
5 Least natural	Poor (1)		
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			

ıd condition sheet for Ornamental ponds and pools]

lakes, or use Pond condition sheet for Temporary ponds and pools]

ools' see UK Habitat Classification:

ndition of lakes. Scores for four attributes (physical, hydrological, chemical, and
' which can then be translated into a condition score for use in the metric (see

ed when calculating the condition assessment score.

alness Assessment' website portal:

rveyor	
relating	

ence							

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: LIMESTONE PAVEMENT Habitat Type		
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type		
Sparsely vegetated land - Limestone pavement		
Habitat Description		
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification		
On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name**
Limitations (if applicable)		**Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)**
Grid reference		**Habitat parcel reference**

	Condition Assessment Criteria	**Criterion passed (Yes or No)**
A	Cover of typical emergent pavement flora and clint-top vegetation accounts for at least 25% of total vegetation cover (the area excluding bare rock).	
B	Cover of invasive non-native species (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA)1 is less than 1%. Non-native species in this instance include beech Fagus sylvatica and sycamore Acer pseudoplatanus2.	
C	Species indicative of suboptimal condition3 make up less than 1% of vegetated ground cover.	
D	Less than 25% of live leaves (broadleaved plants), fronds (ferns) or shoots (dwarf shrubs) show signs of grazing or browsing.	

E	There is no evidence of damage to the pavement surface.	
	Number of criteria passed	

Condition Assessment Result (out of 5 criteria)	**Condition Assessment Score**	**Criterion passed (Yes or No)**
Passes 5 criteria	Good (3)	
Passes 4 criteria	Moderate (2)	
Passes 3 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)	

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

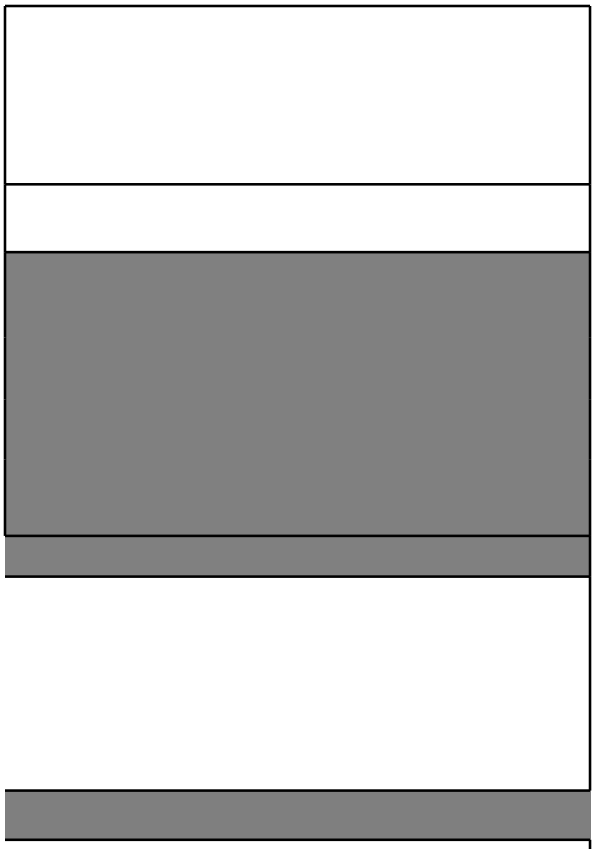
Footnotes

Footnote 1 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Footnote 2 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-nati into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.

Footnote 3 – Species indicative of suboptimal condition for this habitat type include: perennial Arrhenatherum elatius, crested dog's-tail Cynosurus cristatus, bramble Rubus fruticosus agg., thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, co nettle Urtica dioica, other pernicious perennial species. There may be additional relevant spec

	Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab
Notes (such as justification)	



ive species varies across the habitat, split
a size relative to its risk of spread into

l rye-grass Lolium perenne, false oat-grass
, creeping thistle Cirsium arvense, spear
ommon ragwort Jacobaea vulgaris, common
cies local to the region and or site.

Condition Sheet: LIMESTONE PAVEMENT Habitat Type						
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type						
Sparsely vegetated land - Limestone pavement						
Habitat Description						
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification						
On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name**				
		Survey reference (if relating to a wider				
Limitations (if applicable)		**Habitat parcel reference**				
		Grid reference				
Condition Assessment Criteria		**Criterion passed (Yes or No)**				
A	Cover of typical emergent pavement flora and clint-top vegetation accounts for at least 25% of total vegetation cover (the area excluding bare rock).					
B	Cover of invasive non-native species (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA)1 is less than 1%. Non-native species in this instance include beech Fagus sylvatica and sycamore Acer pseudoplatanus2.					
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E	There is no evidence of damage to the pavement surface.					
	Number of criteria passed					

Condition Assessment Result (out of 5 criteria)	**Condition Assessment Score**	**Score Achieved ×/ ✓**				
Passes 5 criteria	Good (3)					
Passes 4 criteria	Moderate (2)					
Passes 3 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)					

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

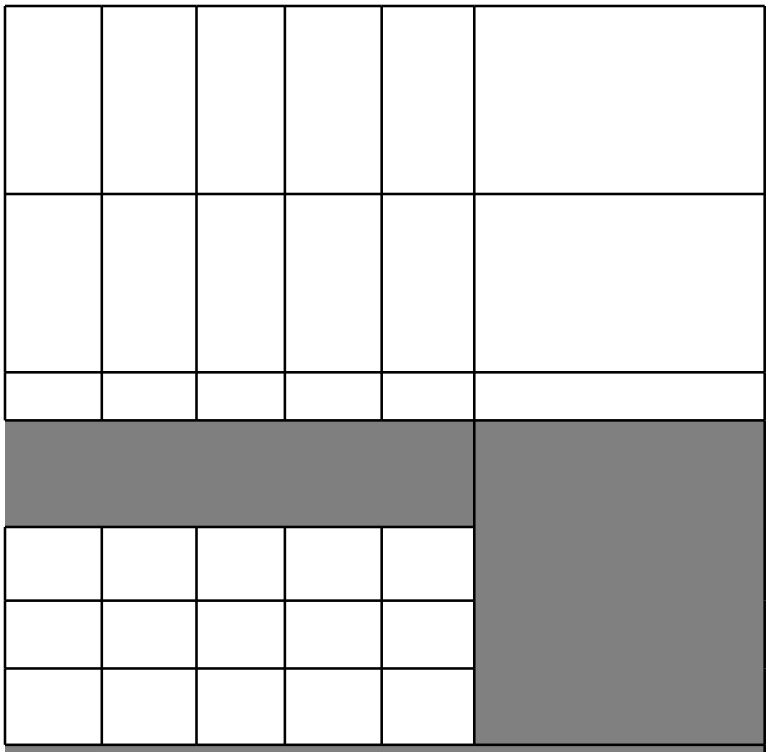
Footnote 1 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Footnote 2 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native specie applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread ir

Footnote 3 – Species indicative of suboptimal condition for this habitat type include: perennial rye-grass crested dog's-tail Cynosurus cristatus, bramble Rubus fruticosus agg., creeping thistle Cirsium arvense crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius, common ragwort Jacobaea vulgaris, common nettle Ur be additional relevant species local to the region and or site.

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

					Notes (such as justification)



es varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly,
nto adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.

s Lolium perenne, false oat-grass Arrhenatherum elatius,
, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex
tica dioica, other pernicious perennial species. There may

Condition Sheet: LINE OF TREES Habitat Type

Habitat Types

Line of trees
Line of trees – associated with bank or ditch
Ecologically valuable line of trees
Ecologically valuable line of trees – associated with bank or ditch

Please see the separate Individual trees condition sheet for linear blocks and gr
Line of trees condition assessment and record this habitat type in rural location

Habitat Description

See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide.
This assessment is based on the Hedgerow Survey Handbook1. For further clarificatic
Where ancient and veteran trees are present within the line of trees, see Footnote 2 fc

On-site or off-site, site name and location	
Limitations (if applicable)	
Grid reference	

Condition Assessment Criteria	
A	At least 70% of trees are native species.
B	Tree canopy is predominantly continuous with gaps in canopy cover making up <10% of total area and no individual gap being >5 m wide.
C	One or more trees has veteran features and or natural ecological niches for vertebrates and invertebrates, such as presence of standing and attached deadwood, cavities, ivy or loose bark.
D	There is an undisturbed naturally-vegetated strip of at least 6 m on both sides to protect the line of trees from farming and other human activities (excluding grazing). Where veteran trees are present, root protection areas should follow standing advice2.

E	At least 95% of the trees are in a healthy condition (deadwood or veteran features valuable for wildlife are excluded from this). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity.

Condition Assessment Result (out of 5 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score
Passes 5 criteria	Good (3)
Passes 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)
Passes 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 – DEFRA (2007) Hedgerow Survey Handbook: A standard procedure for l
Available from: Hedgerow Survey Handbook (publishing.service.gov.uk).

Footnote 2 – Where ancient and veteran trees are present, see gov.uk standing advic
Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England (publishing.
and:
Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisic

roups of trees in an urban setting. You should only use this
ıs.

ons please refer to the Handbook.
or standing advice.

Survey date and Surveyor name	
Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Habitat parcel reference	

Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)

umber of criteria passed	
Score Achieved ×/✓	

ocal surveys in the UK. 2nd ed [online]. Defra, London. PB1195.

ce on ancient and veteran trees. Available from:
.service.gov.uk)

ons - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: LINE OF TREES Habitat Type

Habitat Types

Line of trees
Line of trees – associated with bank or ditch
Ecologically valuable line of trees
Ecologically valuable line of trees – associated with bank or ditch

Please see the separate Individual trees condition sheet for linear blocks and groups of trees ir
trees condition assessment and record this habitat type in rural locations.

Habitat Description

See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide.
This assessment is based on the Hedgerow Survey Handbook1. For further clarifications please refer
Where ancient and veteran trees are present within the line of trees, see Footnote 2 for standing advic

On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name**	
		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Limitations (if applicable)		**Habitat parcel reference**	
		Grid reference	

	Condition Assessment Criteria	**Criterion passed (Yes or No)**			
A	At least 70% of trees are native species.				

B	Tree canopy is predominantly continuous with gaps in canopy cover making up <10% of total area and no individual gap being >5 m wide.				
C	One or more trees has veteran features and or natural ecological niches for vertebrates and invertebrates, such as presence of standing and attached deadwood, cavities, ivy or loose bark.				
D	There is an undisturbed naturally-vegetated strip of at least 6 m on both sides to protect the line of trees from farming and other human activities (excluding grazing). Where veteran trees are present, root protection areas should follow standing advice2.				
E	At least 95% of the trees are in a healthy condition (deadwood or veteran features valuable for wildlife are excluded from this). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity.				
	Number of criteria passed				

Condition Assessment Result (out of 5 criteria)	**Condition Assessment Score**	**Score Achieved ×/✓**			
Passes 5 criteria	Good (3)				
Passes 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)				
Passes 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)				

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 – DEFRA (2007) Hedgerow Survey Handbook: A standard procedure for local surveys in th
from: Hedgerow Survey Handbook (publishing.service.gov.uk).

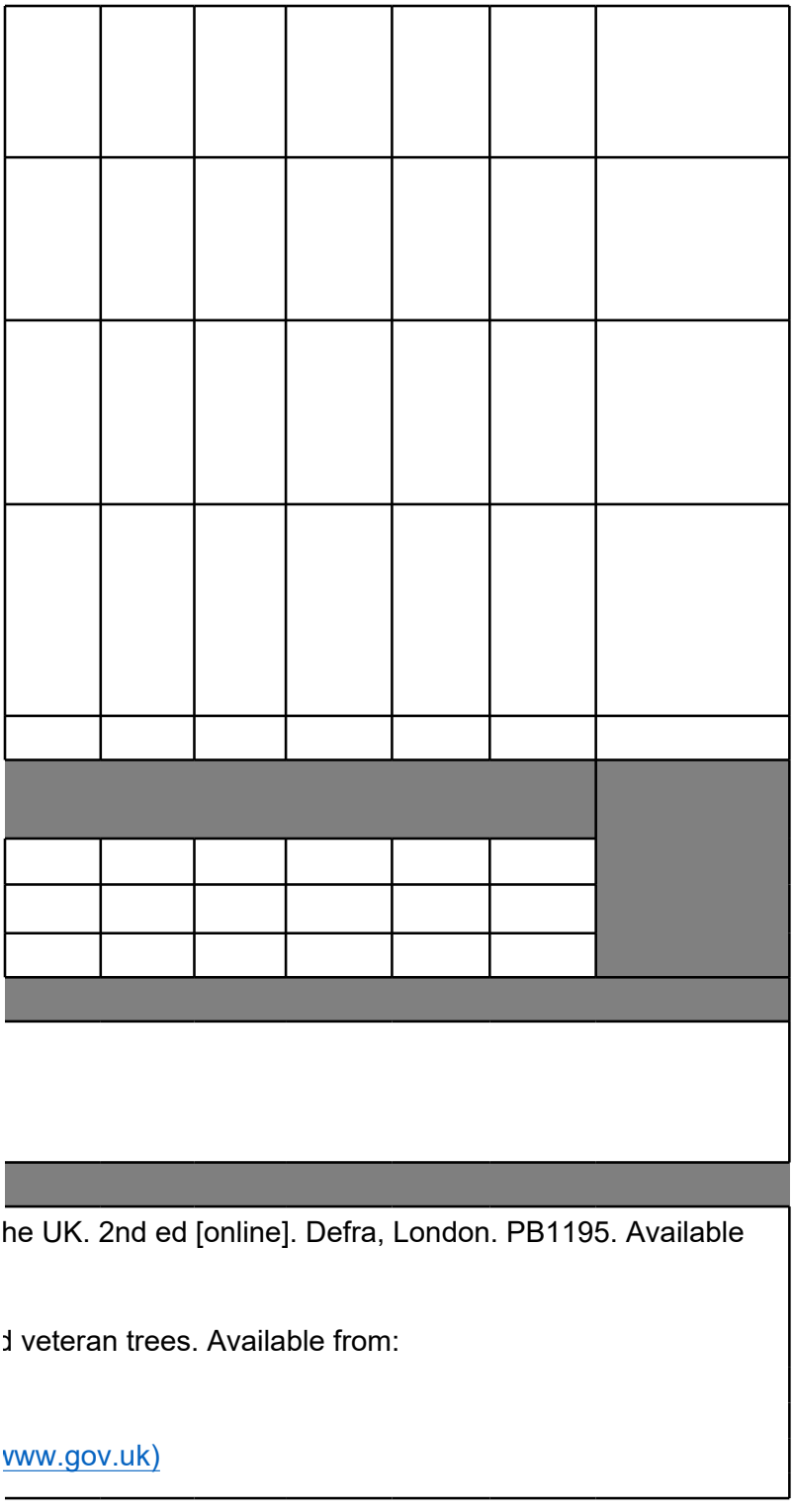
Footnote 2 – Where ancient and veteran trees are present, see gov.uk standing advice on ancient anc
Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England (publishing.service.gov.uk)
and:
Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisions - GOV.UK (w

Return to 'Selecting condition sheet' tab

n an urban setting. You should only use this Line of

to the Handbook.
ce.

						Notes (such as justification)



he UK. 2nd ed [online]. Defra, London. PB1195. Available

d veteran trees. Available from:

www.gov.uk)

Condition Sheet: ORCHARD Habitat Type	
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type	
Grassland - Traditional orchard	
Habitat Description	
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification	
On-site or off-site, site name and location	
Limitations (if applicable)	
Grid reference	
Condition Assessment Criteria	
A	Presence of ancient1 and or veteran1 trees. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.
B	Presence of deadwood in or on trees, or on the ground: at least 20% of mature trees have deadwood associated with them. Some examples of deadwood are: standing, attached and fallen trees or limbs; dead stems; branches and branch stubs greater than 10 cm diameter; and internal cavities. The types and distribution of deadwood provide a range of habitats suitable to support a wide assemblage of saproxylic invertebrates. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.
C	Less than 5% of fruit trees are smothered by scrub. Small patches of dense scrub and or scattered scrub growing between trees can be beneficial to biodiversity, however these occupy less than 10% of ground cover.

D	There is evidence of formative and or restorative pruning to maintain longevity of trees.
E	At least 95% of the trees are free from damage caused by humans or animals, for example browsing, bark stripping or rubbing on non-adjusted ties.
F	Grassland is not overgrazed, poaching is not evident around the trees, with no more than 10% of trees poached under the canopy.
G	Species richness of the grassland is equivalent to a medium, high, or very high distinctiveness grassland.
H	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species2 (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA3) and species indicative of suboptimal condition4 make up less than 10% of ground cover.

Essential criteria achieved (required for good condition - Yes or No)

Number of criteria passed

Condition Assessment Result (out of 8 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score
Passes 6- 8 criteria, including essential criteria A and B.	Good (3)
Passes 4 or 5 criteria; OR Passes 6 or 7 criteria but fails an essential criterion.	Moderate (2)
Passes 3 or fewer criteria.	Poor (1)

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 - See gov.uk standing advice on ancient and veteran trees. Availab
Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England (pul

and:
Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning

Footnote 2 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of in
parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native spe
by applying professional judgement.

Footnote 3 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Footnote 4 - Species indicative of suboptimal condition for this habitat type inc
vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus, broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius ar
species local to the region and or site.

Survey date and Surveyor name	
Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Habitat parcel reference	
Criterion passed (Yes or No)	**Notes (such as justification)**

Score Achieved ×/ ✓	

ble from:
blishing.service.gov.uk)

g decisions - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

ıvasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into
ecies with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat,

lude: creeping thistle Cirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium
ıd common nettle Urtica dioica. There may be additional relevant

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: ORCHARD Habitat Type			
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type			
Grassland - Traditional orchard			
Habitat Description			
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification			
On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name**	
		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Limitations (if applicable)		**Habitat parcel re**	
		Grid reference	
Condition Assessment Criteria			
		Criterion passed	
A	Presence of ancient1 and or veteran1 trees. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.		
B	Presence of deadwood in or on trees, or on the ground: at least 20% of mature trees have deadwood associated with them. Some examples of deadwood are: standing, attached and fallen trees or limbs; dead stems; branches and branch stubs greater than 10 cm diameter; and internal cavities. The types and distribution of deadwood provide a range of habitats suitable to support a wide assemblage of saproxylic invertebrates. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.		

C	Less than 5% of fruit trees are smothered by scrub. Small patches of dense scrub and or scattered scrub growing between trees can be beneficial to biodiversity, however these occupy less than 10% of ground cover.		
D	There is evidence of formative and or restorative pruning to maintain longevity of trees.		
E	At least 95% of the trees are free from damage caused by humans or animals, for example browsing, bark stripping or rubbing on non-adjusted ties.		
F	Grassland is not overgrazed, poaching is not evident around the trees, with no more than 10% of trees poached under the canopy.		
G	Species richness of the grassland is equivalent to a medium, high, or very high distinctiveness grassland.		
H	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species2 (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA3) and species indicative of suboptimal condition4 make up less than 10% of ground cover.		
Essential criteria achieved (required for Good condition - Yes or No)			
Number of criteria passed			

Condition Assessment Result (out of 8 criteria)	**Condition Assessment Score**	**Score Achieved**	
Passes 6- 8 criteria, including essential criteria A and B.	Good (3)		
Passes 4 or 5 criteria; OR Passes 6 or 7 criteria but fails an essential criterion.	Moderate (2)		
Passes 3 or fewer criteria.	Poor (1)		
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			

Footnotes

Footnote 1 - See gov.uk standing advice on ancient and veteran trees. Available from:
Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England (publishing.service.go
and:
Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisions - GOV

Footnote 2 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native
zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacer

Footnote 3 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Footnote 4 - Species indicative of suboptimal condition for this habitat type include: creeping this
broad-leaved dock Rumex obtusifolius and common nettle Urtica dioica. There may be additiona

eference								
l (Yes or No)								**Notes (such as justification)**

×/ ✓								

ɔv.uk)

'.UK (www.gov.uk)

ɛ species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer
nt habitat, using professional judgement.

stle Cirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, curled dock Rumex crispus,
al relevant species local to the region and or site.

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: POND Habitat Type

Habitat Type
Lakes - Ponds (priority habitat)
Lakes - Ponds (non-priority habitat)
Lakes - Temporary lakes ponds and pools (H3170) [Use this condition shee condition sheet for Temporary lakes]
Lakes - Ornamental lake or pond [Use this condition sheet for Ornamental lakes]

Habitat Description

ukhab – UK Habitat Classification

On-site or off-site, site name and location	
Limitations (if applicable)	
Grid reference	

Condition Assessment Criteria	
Core Criteria - applicable to all ponds (woodland1 and non-woodland):	
A	The pond is of good water quality, with clear water (low turbidity) indicating no obvious signs of pollution. Turbidity is acceptable if the pond is grazed by livestock.
B	There is semi-natural habitat (moderate distinctiveness or above) completely surrounding the pond, for at least 10 m from the pond edge for its entire perimeter.
C	Less than 10% of the water surface is covered with duckweed Lemna spp. or filamentous algae.

D	The pond is not artificially connected to other waterbodies, such as agricultural ditches or artificial pipework.
E	Pond water levels can fluctuate naturally throughout the year. No obvious artificial dams2, pumps or pipework.
F	There is an absence of listed non-native plant and animal species3.
G	The pond is not artificially stocked with fish. If the pond naturally contains fish, it is a native fish assemblage at low densities.
Additional Criteria - must be assessed for all non-woodland ponds:	
H	Emergent, submerged or floating plants (excluding duckweed)4 cover at least 50% of the pond area which is less than 3 m deep.
I	The pond surface is no more than 50% shaded by adjacent trees and scrub.

Number of criteria passed	
Condition Assessment Result	**Condition Assessment Score**
Results for woodland ponds which require assessment of 7 core criteria	
Passes 7 criteria	Good (3)
Passes 5 or 6 criteria	Moderate (2)
Passes 4 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)
Results for non-woodland ponds which require assessment of 9 criteria	
Passes 9 criteria	Good (3)
Passes 6 to 8 criteria	Moderate (2)
Passes 5 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnote 1 - A woodland pond will be surrounded on all sides by woodland habit

Footnote 2 – This excludes natural dams such as those created by Eurasian bea

Footnote 3 - Any species included on the Water Framework Directive (WFD) UK
WFD UKTAG (2021) Classification of aquatic alien species according to their lev
UKTAG classification of alien species working paper v8.pdf (wfduk.org)

• Frequently occurring non-native plant species include water fern Azolla filiculoic
parrot's feather Myriophyllum aquaticum, floating pennywort Hydrocotyle ranuncu
giant hogweed Heracleum mantegazzianum (on the bank).
• Frequently occurring non-native animals include signal crayfish Pacifastacus le
shrimp Dikerogammarus villosus, demon shrimp Dikerogammarus haemobaphes

Footnote 4 - If the pond is seasonal (as in, it dries out in most summers) then em

Return to 'Selecting condition sheet' tab

et for Temporary ponds and pools, use Lake

ponds, use Lake condition sheet for Ornamental

Survey date and Surveyor name	
Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Habitat parcel reference	

Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)

Score Achieved ×/ ✓	

at.

aver Castor fiber.

TAG GB High Impact Species List should be absent:
el of impact [online]. Available from:

des, Australian swamp stonecrop Crassula helmsii,
uloides and Japanese knotweed Reynoutria japonica,

niusculus, zebra mussels Dreissena polymorpha, killer
s, carp Cyprinus carpio.

nergent species alone are likely to be found.

Condition Sheet: POND Habitat Type

Habitat Type

Lakes - Ponds (priority habitat)
Lakes - Ponds (non-priority habitat)
Lakes - Temporary lakes ponds and pools (H3170) [Use this condition sheet for Temporary pon
Lakes - Ornamental lake or pond [Use this condition sheet for Ornamental ponds, use Lake con

Habitat Description

ukhab – UK Habitat Classification

On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name**	
		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Limitations (if applicable)		**Habitat parcel reference**	
		Grid reference	

	Condition Assessment Criteria	**Criterion passed (Yes or**		
Core Criteria - applicable to all ponds (woodland1 and non-woodland):				
A	The pond is of good water quality, with clear water (low turbidity) indicating no obvious signs of pollution. Turbidity is acceptable if the pond is grazed by livestock.			
B	There is semi-natural habitat (moderate distinctiveness or above) completely surrounding the pond, for at least 10 m from the pond edge for its entire perimeter.			

C	Less than 10% of the water surface is covered with duckweed Lemna spp. or filamentous algae.			
D	The pond is not artificially connected to other waterbodies, such as agricultural ditches or artificial pipework.			
E	Pond water levels can fluctuate naturally throughout the year. No obvious artificial dams2, pumps or pipework.			
F	There is an absence of listed non-native plant and animal species3.			
G	The pond is not artificially stocked with fish. If the pond naturally contains fish, it is a native fish assemblage at low densities.			
Additional Criteria - must be assessed for all non-woodland ponds:				
H	Emergent, submerged or floating plants (excluding duckweed)4 cover at least 50% of the pond area which is less than 3 m deep.			
I	The pond surface is no more than 50% shaded by adjacent trees and scrub.			
	Number of criteria passed			

Condition Assessment Result	**Condition Assessment Score**	**Score Achieved ×/✓**		
Results for woodland ponds which require assessment of 7 core criteria				
Passes 7 criteria	Good (3)			
Passes 5 or 6 criteria	Moderate (2)			
Passes 4 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)			
Results for non-woodland ponds which require assessment of 9 criteria				

Passes 9 criteria	Good (3)			
Passes 6 to 8 criteria	Moderate (2)			
Passes 5 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)			
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score				

Footnote 1 - A woodland pond will be surrounded on all sides by woodland habitat.

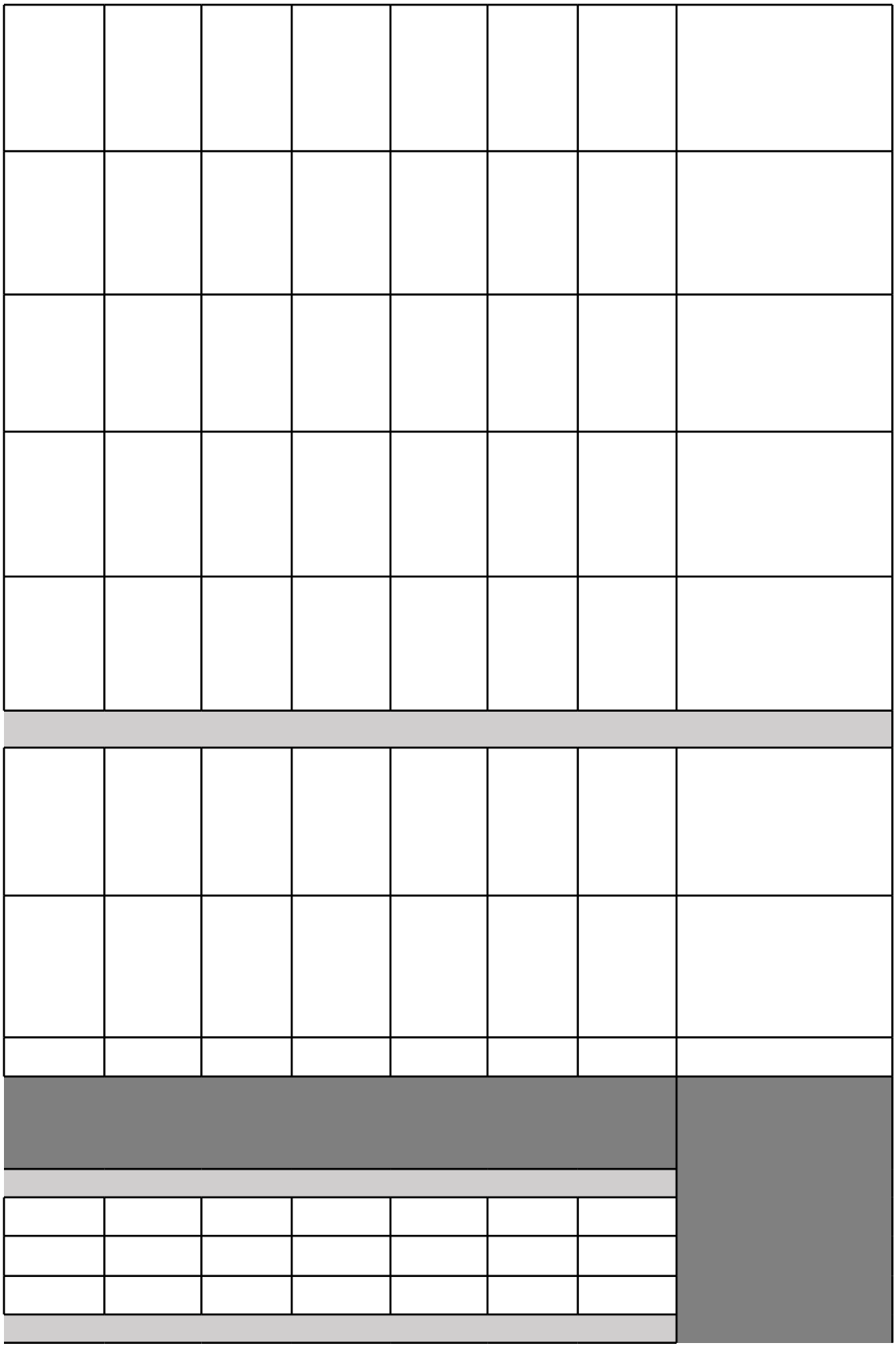
Footnote 2 – This excludes natural dams such as those created by Eurasian beaver Castor fiber.

Footnote 3 - Any species included on the Water Framework Directive (WFD) UKTAG GB High Impact S
species according to their level of impact [online]. Available from:
UKTAG classification of alien species working paper v8.pdf (wfduk.org)
• Frequently occurring non-native plant species include water fern Azolla filiculoides, Australian swamp
pennywort Hydrocotyle ranunculoides and Japanese knotweed Reynoutria japonica, giant hogweed He
• Frequently occurring non-native animals include signal crayfish Pacifastacus leniusculus, zebra muss
Dikerogammarus haemobaphes, carp Cyprinus carpio.

Footnote 4 - If the pond is seasonal (as in, it dries out in most summers) then emergent species alone a

ıds and pools, use Lake condition sheet for Temporary lakes] **dition sheet for Ornamental lakes]**

No)							**Notes (such as justification)**



Species List should be absent: WFD UKTAG (2021) Classification of aquatic alien

stonecrop Crassula helmsii, parrot's feather Myriophyllum aquaticum, floating
eracleum mantegazzianum (on the bank).
els Dreissena polymorpha, killer shrimp Dikerogammarus villosus, demon shrimp

are likely to be found.

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: ROCKY SHORE Habitat Type

Habitat Types

Rocky shore - High energy littoral rock
Rocky shore - Moderate energy littoral rock
Rocky shore - Low energy littoral rock
Rocky shore - Features of littoral rock
Rocky shore - High energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk
Rocky shore - Moderate energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk
Rocky shore - Low energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk
Rocky shore - Features of littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk

On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name**
Limitations (if applicable)		**Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)**
Grid reference		**Habitat parcel reference**

Habitat Description

EUNIS -Factsheet for Features of littoral rock (europa.eu)

Habitat Attributes to Record

The following information should be recorded within the condition assessment sheet:
• Description of presence of typical communities and biotopes across the full vertical extent of tl
• Description of species diversity and community composition across the full vertical extent of th
• Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical modifications present;
• Presence and abundance of non-native species;
• Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enrichment;
• Presence and density of non-natural structures and direct human impacts;
• Assessment of litter; and
• Water Framework Directive (WFD) classification of overlying water.

Condition Assessment Criteria

Indicator	**Good (3 points)**	**Moderate (2 point)**

A	**Coastal processes**	Coastal processes are functioning naturally. No evidence of human physical modifications which are clearly impacting the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting up to 25% of the habitat.
B	**Presence and abundance of invasive non-native species**	Not more than one invasive non-native species is 'Occasional' on the SACFOR scale or is occupying more than 1% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 2 for details.	No invasive non-native species are present above 'Frequent' on the SACFOR scale or they occupy between 1-10% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 2 for details.
C	**Water Quality**	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing3.	Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing3.
D	**Non-natural structures and direct human impacts**	No evidence of impacts from direct human activities, or they occupy <1% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies 1-10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).
E	**Litter (when examining a beach strandline, mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)**	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 4 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to between 21 and 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 4 for details.
			T
Condition Assessment Result			
TOTAL SCORE 12-15 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION			
TOTAL SCORE 8-11 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION			
TOTAL SCORE 5-7 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION			

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes
Footnote 1 – Distribution patterns of rocky shore communities are shaped by environmental stre terrestrial conditions at the top of the shore. This results in species being present in clearly cons impact distribution patterns. This results in differing zonation patterns in either sheltered or wav variable at a local scale. Surveys should therefore record all condition assessment criteria acro ET AL. (2014) Marine Strategy Framework Directive Indicators for UK rocky Shores Part 1: Defi JNCC, JNCC Peterborough. Available from: Marine Strategy Framework Directive Indicators for UK Rocky Shores - Part 1: Defining and val
Footnote 2 - Details on abundances estimated using SACFOR scale available here: JNCC (No 1990 onwards [online]. Available from: sacfor.pdf (jncc.gov.uk) Use the non-native species list available here: Microsoft Word - UK_Marine_NIS_priority_list_2020 (nonnativespecies.org)
DEFRA (2022) UK Marine Non-Indigenous Species Priority List (updated 2020) [online]. Availat Marine Pathways Group » NNSS (nonnativespecies.org)
High-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition at time of publication include (please check • Didemnum vexillum – Carpet sea squirt • Hemigrapsus spp. – Asian Shore crabs (H. sanguineus, H. takanoi or H. penicillatus) • Corella eumyota – Orange-tipped sea squirt • Grateloupia turuturu – Devil's tongue weed, gracie, red menace and red tide • Schizoporella japonica – Orange ripple bryozoan
Footnote 3 - Peak bloom time is July – September.
Footnote 4 - Please use the method as set out in Nelms et al (2017) to identify litter m−1 min−1 Collect litter along a linear transect parallel with the strandline, located between the back of the items of litter to one of 101 item categories, and further classify them into 12 material groups (pl glass, pottery or ceramic) using MCS classifications. Following this, record and sum all anthrop may be useful, please see Nelms et al (2017) for more details on the method: NELMS, S.E. ET AL. (2017) Marine anthropogenic litter on British beaches: A 10-year nationwi [online], 579. Available from: (PDF) Marine anthropogenic litter on British beaches: A 10-year nationwide assessment using c
The indicator thresholds for litter are based on the methods in Van Loon et al (2020), which is g Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) by the MSFD Technical Group on Marine Litter. VAN LOON, W. ET AL. (2020). A European Threshold Value and Assessment Method for Macr Luxembourg. [online] Available from: (PDF) A European Threshold Value and Assessment Method for Macro Litter on Coastlines (re

Artificial structures present, for example groynes that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting more than 25% of the habitat.		
One or more invasive non-native species present at an 'Abundant' level on the SACFOR scale, they occupy more than 10% of the habitat or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 2 for details.		
Visual evidence of high algal growth that is indicative of nutrient enrichment. Signs of eutrophication that would impede bird feeding. Consider seasonality of survey timing3.		
Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies >10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).		
Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter exceeds 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to more than 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 4 for details.		
otal score (out of a possible 15)		
	Result Achieved	

ess gradients, in particular the vertical gradient from the low tide line up to
spicuous zones. Other environmental stresses, like exposure to wave action, also
e-exposed shores, and in rocky shores often being temporally and spatially highly
ss the full vertical and horizontal extent of the shore. Reference: BURROWS, M.T.,
ining and validating the indicators. JNCC Report, No. 522, SAMS/MBA/NOCS for

lidating the indicators (jncc.gov.uk)

date) SACFOR abundance scale used for both littoral and sublittoral taxa from

ble on:

. for updates of high-risk species):

person−1, which is summarised below:
beach and the strandline. The transect should be 100 m long. Assign gathered
lastic, polystyrene, rubber, cloth, metal, medical, sanitary, faeces, paper, wood,
ogenic litter items and remove them from the beach. Litter identification guides

de assessment using citizen science data. Science of The Total Environment

citizen science data (researchgate.net)
guidance developed within the Common Implementation Strategy for the Marine

ro Litter on Coastlines. EUR 30347 EN, Publications Office of the European Union,

searchgate.net)

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: ROCKY SHORE Habitat Type

Habitat Types

Rocky shore - High energy littoral rock
Rocky shore - Moderate energy littoral rock
Rocky shore - Low energy littoral rock
Rocky shore - Features of littoral rock
Rocky shore - High energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk
Rocky shore - Moderate energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk
Rocky shore - Low energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk
Rocky shore - Features of littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk

On-site or off-site, site name and location	
Limitations (if applicable)	

Habitat Description

EUNIS -Factsheet for Features of littoral rock (europa.eu)

Habitat Attributes to Record

The following information should be recorded within the condition assessment sheet:
• Description of presence of typical communities and biotopes across the full vertical exten
• Description of species diversity and community composition across the full vertical extent
• Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical modifications pres
• Presence and abundance of non-native species;
• Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enrichment;
• Presence and density of non-natural structures and direct human impacts;
• Assessment of litter; and
• Water Framework Directive (WFD) classification of overlying water.

Condition Assessment Criteria

Indicator	**Good (3 points)**	**Moderate (2 point)**

A	**Coastal processes**	Coastal processes are functioning naturally. No evidence of human physical modifications which are clearly impacting the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting up to 25% of the habitat.
B	**Presence and abundance of invasive non-native species**	Not more than one invasive non-native species is 'Occasional' on the SACFOR scale or is occupying more than 1% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 2 for details.	No invasive non-native species are present above 'Frequent' on the SACFOR scale or they occupy between 1-10% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 2 for details.
C	**Water Quality**	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing3.	Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing3.
D	**Non-natural structures and direct human impacts**	No evidence of impacts from direct human activities, or they occupy <1% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies 1-10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).
E	**Litter (when examining a beach strandline, mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)**	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 4 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to between 21 and 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 4 for details.
			Total s
Condition Assessment Result			

TOTAL SCORE 12-15 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION

TOTAL SCORE 8-11 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION

TOTAL SCORE 5-7 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 – Distribution patterns of rocky shore communities are shaped by environmenta
results in species being present in clearly conspicuous zones. Other environmental stresse
exposed shores, and in rocky shores often being temporally and spatially highly variable a
shore. Reference: BURROWS, M.T., ET AL. (2014) Marine Strategy Framework Directive
JNCC Peterborough. Available from:
Marine Strategy Framework Directive Indicators for UK Rocky Shores - Part 1: Defining ar

Footnote 2 - Details on abundances estimated using SACFOR scale available here: JNCC
sacfor.pdf (jncc.gov.uk)
Use the non-native species list available here:
Microsoft Word - UK_Marine_NIS_priority_list_2020 (nonnativespecies.org)
DEFRA (2022) UK Marine Non-Indigenous Species Priority List (updated 2020) [online]. A
Marine Pathways Group » NNSS (nonnativespecies.org)

High-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition at time of publication include (please c
• Didemnum vexillum – Carpet sea squirt
• Hemigrapsus spp. – Asian Shore crabs (H. sanguineus, H. takanoi or H. penicillatus)
• Corella eumyota – Orange-tipped sea squirt
• Grateloupia turuturu – Devil's tongue weed, gracie, red menace and red tide
• Schizoporella japonica – Orange ripple bryozoan

Footnote 3 - Peak bloom time is July – September.

Footnote 4 - Please use the method as set out in Nelms et al (2017) to identify litter m−1 n
Collect litter along a linear transect parallel with the strandline, located between the back c
further classify them into 12 material groups (plastic, polystyrene, rubber, cloth, metal, me
anthropogenic litter items and remove them from the beach. Litter identification guides ma
NELMS, S.E. ET AL. (2017) Marine anthropogenic litter on British beaches: A 10-year nati
(PDF) Marine anthropogenic litter on British beaches: A 10-year nationwide assessment u
The indicator thresholds for litter are based on the methods in Van Loon et al (2020), whic
MSFD Technical Group on Marine Litter.
VAN LOON, W. ET AL. (2020). A European Threshold Value and Assessment Method for

(PDF) A European Threshold Value and Assessment Method for Macro Litter on Coastline

Survey date and Surveyor name	
Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	

ıt of the shore1; t of the shore1; ent;	**Habitat parcel reference**							
	Grid reference							
Poor (1)	**Score per indicator**							

Artificial structures present, for example groynes that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting more than 25% of the habitat.								
One or more invasive non-native species present at an 'Abundant' level on the SACFOR scale, they occupy more than 10% of the habitat or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 2 for details.								
Visual evidence of high algal growth that is indicative of nutrient enrichment. Signs of eutrophication that would impede bird feeding. Consider seasonality of survey timing3.								
Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies >10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).								
Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter exceeds 0.0078 m−1 min−1 person−1, equivalent to more than 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 4 for details.								
score (out of a possible 15)								
	Result Achieved							

al stress gradients, in particular the vertical gradient from the low tide line up to terrestrial conditions a
es, like exposure to wave action, also impact distribution patterns. This results in differing zonation pa
t a local scale. Surveys should therefore record all condition assessment criteria across the full vertic
Indicators for UK rocky Shores Part 1: Defining and validating the indicators. JNCC Report, No. 522,

nd validating the indicators (jncc.gov.uk)

C (No date) SACFOR abundance scale used for both littoral and sublittoral taxa from 1990 onwards [c

vailable on:

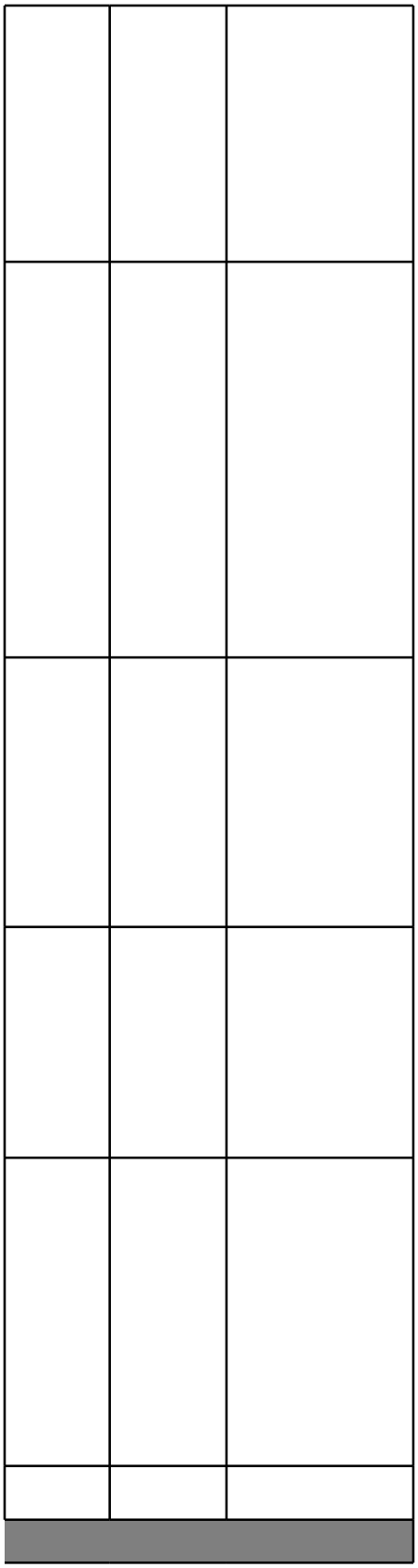
check for updates of high-risk species):

nin−1 person−1, which is summarised below:
of the beach and the strandline. The transect should be 100 m long. Assign gathered items of litter to
dical, sanitary, faeces, paper, wood, glass, pottery or ceramic) using MCS classifications. Following tl
y be useful, please see Nelms et al (2017) for more details on the method:
ionwide assessment using citizen science data. Science of The Total Environment [online], 579. Avai
sing citizen science data (researchgate.net)
h is guidance developed within the Common Implementation Strategy for the Marine Strategy Frame

Macro Litter on Coastlines. EUR 30347 EN, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg

es (researchgate.net)

	Return to 'Selecting condition sheet' tab



at the top of the shore. This
atterns in either sheltered or wave-
al and horizontal extent of the
SAMS/MBA/NOCS for JNCC,

online]. Available from:

one of 101 item categories, and
his, record and sum all

lable from:

work Directive (MSFD) by the

. [online] Available from:



Condition Sheet: SCRUB Habitat Type	
Habitat Types	
Heathland and shrub - Blackthorn scrub **Heathland and shrub - Gorse scrub** **Heathland and shrub - Hawthorn scrub** **Heathland and shrub - Hazel scrub** **Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub** **Heathland and shrub - Dunes with sea buckthorn (H2160)** **Heathland and shrub - Willow scrub**	
Habitat Description	
For Dunes with sea buckthorn see:	Dunes with sea-buckthorn (Dunes with Hippop Conservation (jncc.gov.uk)
For other scrub types see:	ukhab – UK Habitat Classification
On-site or off-site, site name and location	
Limitations (if applicable)	
Grid reference	

Condition Assessment Criteria	
A	The parcel represents a good example of its habitat type - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description (where in its natural range).1 - At least 80% of scrub is native, - There are at least three native woody species2, - No single species comprises more than 75% of the cover (except hazel Corylus avellana, common juniper Juniperus communis, sea buckthorn Hippophae rhamnoides (only in its restricted native range), or box Buxus sempervirens, which can be up to 100% cover).
B	Seedlings, saplings, young shrubs and mature (or ancient or veteran3) shrubs are all present.

C	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species4 (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA5) and species indicative of suboptimal condition6 make up less than 5% of ground cover.
D	The scrub has a well-developed edge with scattered scrub and tall grassland and or forbs present between the scrub and adjacent habitat.
E	There are clearings, glades or rides present within the scrub, providing sheltered edges.

Numbe

Condition Assessment Result (out of 5 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score
Passes 5 criteria	Good (3)
Passes 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)
Passes 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 – Professional judgement should be used alongside the UKHab descript

Footnote 2 – Native woody species as defined and listed in the Hedgerow Survey H
Handbook: A standard procedure for local surveys in the UK. 2nd ed. [online]. Defra
Survey Handbook (publishing.service.gov.uk).

Footnote 3 – See gov.uk standing advice on ancient and veteran species. Available

Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England (publishir

Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning deci

Footnote 4 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasiv
split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native
into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.

Footnote 5 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Footnote 6 – Species indicative of suboptimal condition for this habitat type may inc
Alianthus altissima, holm oak Quercus ilex, European turkey oak Quercus cerris, ch
Symphoricarpos spp., shallon Gaultheria shallon, American skunk cabbage Lysichit
cotoneaster Cotoneaster spp., Spanish bluebell Hyacinthoides hispanica and hybric
may be additional relevant species local to the region and or site.

Return to 'Selecting condition sheet' tab

phae rhamnoides) - Special Areas of

Survey date and Surveyor name	
Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Habitat parcel reference	

Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)

er of criteria passed	
Score Achieved ×/ ✓	

tion.

Handbook: DEFRA (2007) Hedgerow Survey
a, London. PB1195. Available from: Hedgerow

e from:

ng.service.gov.uk) and
isions - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

ve non-native species varies across the habitat,
e species with a size relative to its risk of spread

clude: non-native conifers, tree-of-heaven
herry laurel Prunus laurocerasus, snowberry
ton americanus, buddleia Buddleja spp.,
d bluebells Hyacinthoides x massartiana. There

Condition Sheet: SCRUB Habitat Type		
Habitat Types		
Heathland and shrub - Blackthorn scrub **Heathland and shrub - Gorse scrub** **Heathland and shrub - Hawthorn scrub** **Heathland and shrub - Hazel scrub** **Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub** **Heathland and shrub - Dunes with sea buckthorn (H2160)** **Heathland and shrub - Willow scrub**		
Habitat Description		
For Dunes with sea buckthorn see:	Dunes with sea-buckthorn (Dunes with Hippophae rhamnoides	
For other scrub types see:	ukhab – UK Habitat Classification	
On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date an** **Surveyor name**
		Survey referen **relating to a wi** **survey)**
Limitations (if applicable)		**Habitat parcel r**
		Grid reference
Condition Assessment Criteria		**Criterion passe**

A	The parcel represents a good example of its habitat type - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description (where in its natural range).1 - At least 80% of scrub is native, - There are at least three native woody species2, - No single species comprises more than 75% of the cover (except hazel Corylus avellana, common juniper Juniperus communis, sea buckthorn Hippophae rhamnoides (only in its restricted native range), or box Buxus sempervirens, which can be up to 100% cover).		
B	Seedlings, saplings, young shrubs and mature (or ancient or veteran3) shrubs are all present.		
C	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species4 (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA5) and species indicative of suboptimal condition6 make up less than 5% of ground cover.		
D	The scrub has a well-developed edge with scattered scrub and tall grassland and or forbs present between the scrub and adjacent habitat.		
E	There are clearings, glades or rides present within the scrub, providing sheltered edges.		
	Number of criteria passed		

Condition Assessment Result (out of 5 criteria)	**Condition Assessment Score**	**Score Achieved**	
Passes 5 criteria	Good (3)		
Passes 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)		
Passes 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)		

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 – Professional judgement should be used alongside the UKHab description.

Footnote 2 – Native woody species as defined and listed in the Hedgerow Survey Handbook: DEFR
the UK. 2nd ed. [online]. Defra, London. PB1195. Available from: Hedgerow Survey Handbook (publ

Footnote 3 – See gov.uk standing advice on ancient and veteran species. Available from:

Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England (publishing.service.gov.uk
Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisions - GOV.UK

Footnote 4 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native spe
zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent ha

Footnote 5 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Footnote 6 – Species indicative of suboptimal condition for this habitat type may include: non-native
turkey oak Quercus cerris, cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus, snowberry Symphoricarpos spp., shal
buddleia Buddleja spp., cotoneaster Cotoneaster spp., Spanish bluebell Hyacinthoides hispanica an
relevant species local to the region and or site.

s) - Special Areas of Conservation (jncc.gov.uk)

d e	
ce (if der	

reference								

d (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)

d ×/✓								

:A (2007) Hedgerow Survey Handbook: A standard procedure for local surveys in
lishing.service.gov.uk).

k) and
(www.gov.uk)

ecies varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer
abitat, using professional judgement.

conifers, tree-of-heaven Alianthus altissima, holm oak Quercus ilex, European
llon Gaultheria shallon, American skunk cabbage Lysichiton americanus,
ıd hybrid bluebells Hyacinthoides x massartiana. There may be additional

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: SPARSELY VEGETATED LAND Habitat Type	
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Types	
Sparsely vegetated land - Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats **Sparsely vegetated land - Other inland rock and scree**	
Habitat Description	
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification	
On-site or off-site, site name and location	
Limitations (if applicable)	
Grid reference	

	Condition Assessment Criteria
A	The parcel represents a good example of its specific sparsely vegetated habitat type - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description, with characteristic indicator species consistently present.1
B	The cover of bracken Pteridium aquilinum, scrub and trees is less than 25%.
C	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species2 (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA3) and species indicative of suboptimal condition4 make up less than 5% of vegetated ground cover.
D	Vegetation cover of vascular and non-vascular plants is between 5 and 50%.

	N
Condition Assessment Result (out of 4 criteria)	**Condition Assessment Score**

Passes 4 criteria	Good (3)
Passes 3 criteria	Moderate (2)
Passes 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

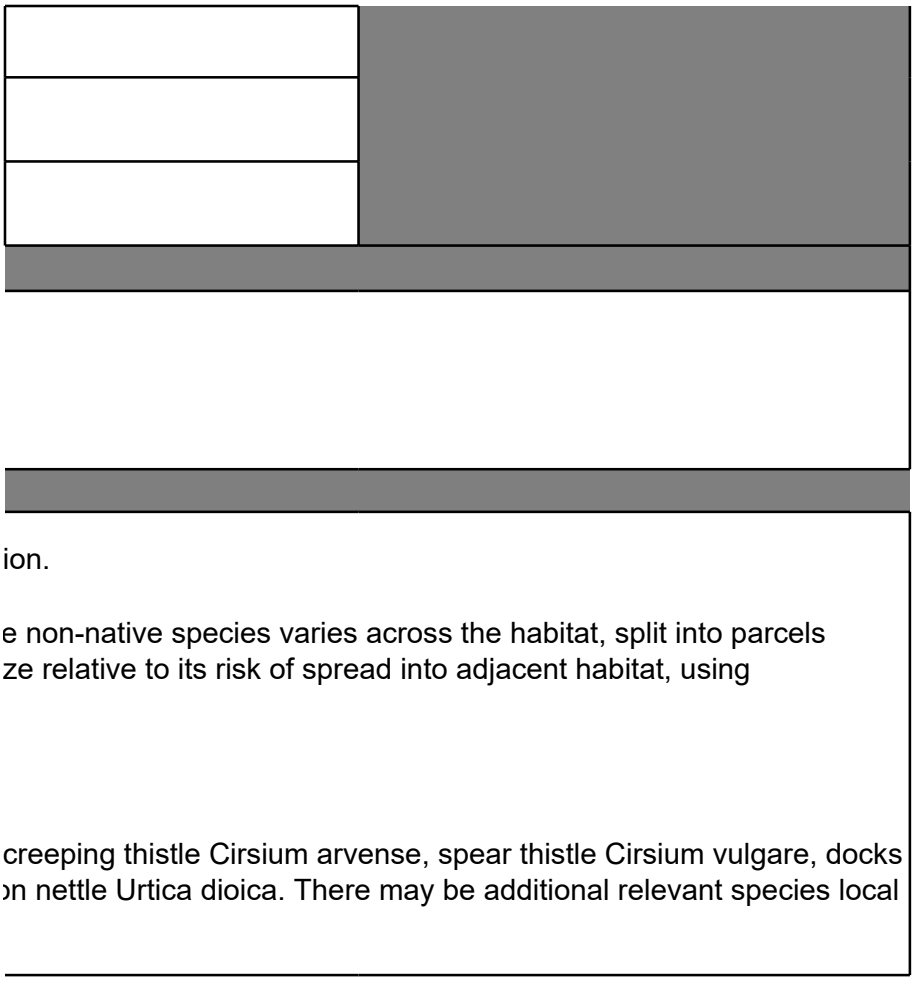
Footnote 1 – Professional judgement should be used alongside the UKHab descripti

Footnote 2 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a siz professional judgement.

Footnote 3 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Footnote 4 - Species indicative of suboptimal condition for this habitat type include: c Rumex spp., brambles Rubus spp., common ragwort Jacobaea vulgaris and commo to the region and or site.

Survey date and Surveyor name	
Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Habitat parcel reference	
Criterion passed (Yes or No)	**Notes (such as justification)**
umber of criteria passed	
Score Achieved ×/✓	



ion.

e non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels
ze relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using

creeping thistle Cirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, docks
ɔn nettle Urtica dioica. There may be additional relevant species local

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: SPARSELY VEGETATED LAND Habitat Type

UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Types

Sparsely vegetated land - Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats
Sparsely vegetated land - Other inland rock and scree

Habitat Description

ukhab – UK Habitat Classification

On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey da name** / **Survey re relating to**
Limitations (if applicable)		**Habitat pa** / **Grid refer**

	Condition Assessment Criteria	**Criterion**
A	The parcel represents a good example of its specific sparsely vegetated habitat type - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description, with characteristic indicator species consistently present.1	
B	The cover of bracken Pteridium aquilinum, scrub and trees is less than 25%.	
C	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species2 (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA3) and species indicative of suboptimal condition4 make up less than 5% of vegetated ground cover.	

D	Vegetation cover of vascular and non-vascular plants is between 5 and 50%.	
	Number of criteria passed	

Condition Assessment Result (out of 4 criteria)	**Condition Assessment Score**	**Score Ach**
Passes 4 criteria	Good (3)	
Passes 3 criteria	Moderate (2)	
Passes 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)	

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 – Professional judgement should be used alongside the UKHab description.

Footnote 2 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-nativ
invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using

Footnote 3 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Footnote 4 – Species indicative of suboptimal condition for this habitat type include: creeping th
ragwort Jacobaea vulgaris and common nettle Urtica dioica. There may be additional relevant s

ate and Surveyor	
eference (if o a wider survey)	

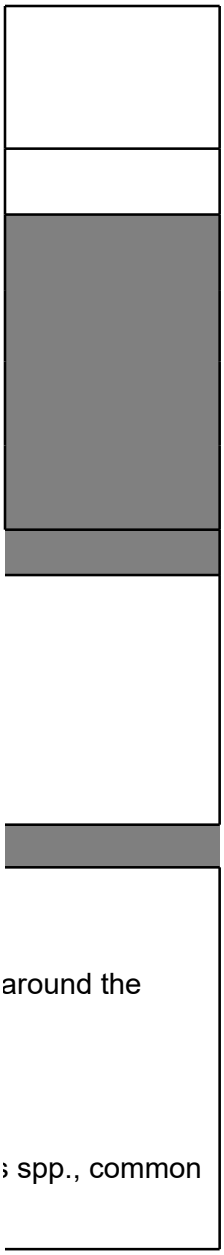
arcel reference								
rence								
passed (Yes or No)								

hieved ×/ ✓								

ve species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone a
professional judgement.

histle Cirsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, docks Rumex spp., brambles Rubus
species local to the region and or site.

	Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab
Notes (such as justification)	



around the

s spp., common

Condition Sheet: URBAN Habitat Type

Habitat Types

Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral
Sparsely vegetated land - Tall forbs
Urban - Allotments
Urban - Biodiverse green roof
Urban - Bioswale
Urban - Cemeteries and churchyards
Urban - Facade-bound green wall
Urban - Ground based green wall
Urban - Intensive green roof
Urban - Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land
Urban - Rain garden
Urban - Sustainable drainage system (SuDS)
Urban - Vacant or derelict land
Urban - Bare ground

Habitat Description

See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide for green roofs and UK Habitat Classifica habitats:

On-site or off-site, site name and location	
Limitations (if applicable)	
Grid reference	

Condition Assessment Criteria

Core Criteria - must be assessed for all urban habitat types:

A	Vegetation structure is varied, providing opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live, eat and breed. A single structural habitat component or vegetation type does not account for more than 80% of the total habitat area.

B	The habitat parcel contains different plant species that are beneficial for wildlife, for example flowering species providing nectar sources for a range of invertebrates at different times of year.
C	Invasive non-native plant species (listed on Schedule 9 of WCA1) and others which are to the detriment of native wildlife (using professional judgement)2 cover less than 5% of the total vegetated area3. Note - to achieve Good condition, this criterion must be satisfied by a complete absence of invasive non-native species (rather than <5% cover).
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Open mosaic habitat on previously developed	
D	The parcel shows spatial variation and forms a mosaic of bare substrate PLUS: - At least four early successional communities (a) to (i); Communities: (a) annuals; (b) mosses/liverworts; (c) lichens; (d) ruderals; (e) inundation species; (f) open grassland; (g) flower-rich grassland; (h) heathland, (i) pools.
Additional Criteria - must be assessed for Bioswale and SuDS habitat types only:	
E1	Plant species are mostly native. If non-native species are present, they should not be detrimental to the habitat or native wildlife4.
E2	The vegetation is comprised of plant species suited to wetland or riparian situations.
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Intensive green roofs only:	
F	The roof has a minimum of 50% native and non-native wildflowers. 70% of the roof area is soil and vegetation (including water features).
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Biodiverse green roofs only:	
G	The roof has a varied depth of 80 – 150 mm; at least 50% is at 150 mm and is planted and seeded with wildflowers and sedums or is pre-prepared with sedums and wildflowers. Note – to achieve Good condition some additional habitat, such as sand piles, stones, logs etc. are present.
Essential criteria relevant for habitat ty	

Nu	
Condition Assessment Result	**Condition Assessment Score**
Results for habitats requiring assessment of 3 core criteria only (all listed urban habitats ex habitat on previously developed land, Bioswale, SuDS and Green roofs):	
• Passes all 3 core criteria; AND • Meets the requirements for Good condition within criterion C.	Good (3)
• Passes 2 of 3 core criteria; OR • Passes 3 of 3 core criteria but does not meet the requirements for Good condition within criterion C.	Moderate (2)
• Passes 0 or 1 of 3 core criteria.	Poor (1)
Results for Green roofs and Open mosaic habitat on previously developed land (requiring assessment of 4 criteria only - core criteria plus additional criterion specified for	
• Passes all 3 core criteria; AND • Meets the requirements for Good condition within criterion C; AND • Passes additional criterion relevant to specific habitat type (D, F or G).	Good (3)
• Passes 2 or 3 of 4 criteria; OR • Passes 4 of 4 criteria but does not meet the requirements for Good condition within criterion C.	Moderate (2)
• Passes 0 or 1 of 4 criteria.	Poor (1)
Results for Bioswale or SuDS (requiring assessment of 5 criteria - core criteria plus additi habitat type):	

• Passes all 3 core criteria; AND • Meets the requirements for Good condition within criterion C; AND • Passes all additional criteria relevant to specific habitat type (Group E)	Good (3)
• Passes 3 or 4 of 5 criteria; OR • Passes 5 of 5 criteria but does not meet the requirements for Good condition within criterion C.	Moderate (2)
• Passes 2 or fewer of 5 criteria.	Poor (1)

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Footnote 2 – Sources of information about detrimental non-native species can be found or website:

Home » NNSS (nonnativespecies.org)

and Natural England Access to Evidence page should also be checked for up-to-date infor Horizon-scanning for invasive non-native plants in Great Britain - NECR053 (naturalenglar

For criterion C – For green roof habitat types only – buddleia Buddleja davidii should be as impairs the health of the local ecosystem and reduces the biodiversity potential of the roof seeded correctly in subsequent years.

Footnote 3 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non- parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a using professional judgement.

Footnote 4 – Use professional judgement. Sources of information about non-native specie found on the GBNNSS website:

Alternative plants » NNSS (nonnativespecies.org)

Return to 'Selecting condition sheet' tab

ation (UKHab) for other	UKHab – UK Habitat Classification
Survey date and Surveyor name	
Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Habitat parcel reference	
Criterion passed (Yes or No)	**Notes (such as justification)**

land only:	

umber of criteria passed	
Score Achieved ×/ ✓	
xcept Open mosaic	
habitat type):	
onal criteria specified for	



ɳ the GB Non-native Species Secretariat (GBNNSS)

rmation:
nd.org.uk)
ssessed alongside Schedule 9 species. This species
. It is also a sign that a roof has not been planted and

·native species varies across the habitat, split into
size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat,

es that are not detrimental to native wildlife can be

Condition Sheet: URBAN Habitat Type

Habitat Types

Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral
Sparsely vegetated land - Tall forbs
Urban - Allotments
Urban - Biodiverse green roof
Urban - Bioswale
Urban - Cemeteries and churchyards
Urban - Facade-bound green wall
Urban - Ground based green wall
Urban - Intensive green roof
Urban - Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land
Urban - Rain garden
Urban - Sustainable drainage system (SuDS)
Urban - Vacant or derelict land
Urban - Bare ground

Habitat Description

See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide for green roofs, and UK Habitat Classification (U

On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey d Surveyor**
		Survey re relating t survey)
Limitations (if applicable)		**Habitat p**
		Grid refe
Condition Assessment Criteria		**Criterion**
Core Criteria - must be assessed for all urban habitat types:		

A	Vegetation structure is varied, providing opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live, eat and breed. A single structural habitat component or vegetation type does not account for more than 80% of the total habitat area.	
B	The habitat parcel contains different plant species that are beneficial for wildlife, for example flowering species providing nectar sources for a range of invertebrates at different times of year.	
C	Invasive non-native plant species (listed on Schedule 9 of WCA1) and others which are to the detriment of native wildlife (using professional judgement)2 cover less than 5% of the total vegetated area3. Note - to achieve Good condition, this criterion must be satisfied by a complete absence of invasive non-native species (rather than <5% cover).	
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Open mosaic habitat on previously developed land only:		
D	The parcel shows spatial variation and forms a mosaic of bare substrate PLUS: - At least four early successional communities (a) to (i); Communities: (a) annuals; (b) mosses/liverworts; (c) lichens; (d) ruderals; (e) inundation species; (f) open grassland; (g) flower-rich grassland; (h) heathland, (i) pools.	
Additional Criteria - must be assessed for Bioswale and SuDS habitat types only:		
E1	Plant species are mostly native. If non-native species are present, they should not be detrimental to the habitat or native wildlife4.	
E2	The vegetation is comprised of plant species suited to wetland or riparian situations.	
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Intensive green roofs only:		
F	The roof has a minimum of 50% native and non-native wildflowers. 70% of the roof area is soil and vegetation (including water features).	
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Biodiverse green roofs only:		

G	The roof has a varied depth of 80 – 150 mm; at least 50% is at 150 mm and is planted and seeded with wildflowers and sedums or is pre-prepared with sedums and wildflowers. Note – to achieve Good condition, some additional habitat, such as sand piles, stones, logs etc. are present.	
Essential criteria relevant for habitat type achieved (Yes or No)		
Number of criteria passed		
Condition Assessment Result	**Condition Assessment Score**	**Score Ac**
Results for habitats requiring assessment of 3 core criteria only (all listed urban habitats except Ope		
• Passes all 3 core criteria; AND • Meets the requirements for Good condition within criterion C.	Good (3)	
• Passes 2 of 3 core criteria; OR • Passes 3 of 3 core criteria but does not meet the requirements for Good condition within criterion C.	Moderate (2)	
• Passes 0 or 1 of 3 core criteria.	Poor (1)	
Results for Green roofs and Open mosaic habitat on previously developed land (requiring assessment of 4 criteria only - core criteria plus additional criterion specified for habitat typ		
• Passes all 3 core criteria; AND • Meets the requirements for Good condition within criterion C; AND • Passes additional criterion relevant to specific habitat type (D, F or G).	Good (3)	
• Passes 2 or 3 of 4 criteria; OR • Passes 4 of 4 criteria but does not meet the requirements for Good condition within criterion C.	Moderate (2)	
• Passes 0 or 1 of 4 criteria.	Poor (1)	
Results for Bioswale or SuDS (requiring assessment of 5 criteria - core criteria plus additional criteri		

• Passes all 3 core criteria; AND • Meets the requirements for Good condition within criterion C; AND • Passes all additional criteria relevant to specific habitat type (Group E)	Good (3)	
• Passes 3 or 4 of 5 criteria; OR • Passes 5 of 5 criteria but does not meet the requirements for Good condition within criterion C.	Moderate (2)	
• Passes 2 or fewer of 5 criteria.	Poor (1)	

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Footnote 2 – Sources of information about detrimental non-native species can be found on the GB N
Home » NNSS (nonnativespecies.org)
and Natural England Access to Evidence page should also be checked for up-to-date information:
Horizon-scanning for invasive non-native plants in Great Britain - NECR053 (naturalengland.org.uk)
For criterion C – For green roof habitat types only – buddleia Buddleja davidii should be assessed al
the biodiversity potential of the roof. It is also a sign that a roof has not been planted and seeded co

Footnote 3 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native spe
invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using profe

Footnote 4 – Use professional judgement. Sources of information about non-native species that are
Alternative plants » NNSS (nonnativespecies.org)

JKHab) for other habitats:	ukhab – UK Habitat Classification
late and r name	
eference (if o a wider	

parcel reference									
rence									

passed (Yes or No)	**Notes (such as justification)**

chieved ×/✓

en mosaic habitat on previously developed land, Bioswale, SuDS and Green roofs):

pe):

a specified for habitat type):

Non-native Species Secretariat (GBNNSS) website:

longside Schedule 9 species. This species impairs the health of the local ecosystem and reduces rrectly in subsequent years.

ecies varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the ssional judgement.

not detrimental to native wildlife can be found on the GBNNSS website:

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: WETLAND Habitat Type

Habitat Types

Grassland - Floodplain wetland mosaic and CFGM - See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User G
Wetland - Blanket bog
Wetland - Depression on peat substrates (H7150)
Wetland - Fens (upland and lowland)
Wetland - Lowland raised bog
Wetland - Oceanic valley mire [1] (D2.1)
Wetland - Purple moor grass and rush pastures
Wetland - Reedbeds
Wetland - Transition mires and quaking bogs (H7140)

Habitat Description

For Oceanic valley mires - see EUNIS

See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide for Floodplain wetland mosaic (FWM) and coastal and also see the below:

Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh UK BAP Priority Habitat description
Priority Habitat Inventory (England) - data.gov.uk

All other wetland habitats - see UK Habitat Classification (UKHab):

UKHab

On-site or off-site, site name and location	
Limitations (if applicable)	
Grid reference	

Condition Assessment Criteria

Core Criteria - must be assessed for all wetland habitat types:

A	The water table is at, or near the surface throughout the year - this could be open water or saturation of soil at the surface. There is no artificial drainage, unless specifically to maintain water levels as specified above. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.
B	The parcel represents a good example of its specific habitat type - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description, with vascular and non-vascular characteristic indicator species consistently present.1

C	The water supplies (groundwater, surface water and or rainwater) to the wetland are of good water quality, with clear water (low turbidity) indicating no obvious signs of pollution.
D	Cover of scrub and scattered trees are less than 10%.
E	Cover of bare ground is less than 5%.
F	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species2 (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA3) and species indicative of suboptimal condition4 make up less than 5% of ground cover.
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Fen and Purple moor grass and rush pasture habitats only:	
G	No more than 25% of the habitat area has a continuous cover of litter (such as dead vegetation) preventing regeneration.
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Bog habitats only:	
H	Sphagnum moss Sphagnum spp. and cottongrasses Eriophorum spp. are at least Frequent5. Cover of ericaceous dwarf shrubs6 is less than 75%.
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Reedbed habitats only:	
I	The reedbed has a diverse structure with between 60% and 80% reeds Phragmites australis. Other areas may include open water (at least 10%), species-rich fen and or wet woodland.
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Floodplain wetland mosaic and CFGM only:	
J	All ditches recorded within the habitat achieve Good condition as assessed using the Ditch condition sheet.
Essential criterion achieved (required for Good co	
Numbe	
Condition Assessment Result	**Condition Assessment Score**
Results for habitats requiring assessment of 6 criteria (Depression on peat substrates (H7150) a mire [1] (D2.1)):	
•Passes 5 or 6 core criteria, including criterion A.	Good (3)

•Passes 3 or 4 core criteria; OR •Passes 5 core criteria but fails criterion A.	Moderate (2)
•Passes 2 or fewer core criteria.	Poor (1)
Results for habitats requiring assessment of 7 criteria - core criteria and additional criterion spe type - all habitat types except Depression on peat substrates (H7150) and Oceanic valley mire [1	
•Passes 5 or 6 core criteria including criterion A; AND •Passes additional criterion G, H, I or J (choose the one specified for the habitat type).	Good (3)
•Passes 4 or 5 of 7 criteria; OR •Passes 6 of 7 criteria but fails criterion A or additional criterion G, H, I or J (choose the one specified for the habitat type).	Moderate (2)
•Passes 3 or fewer criteria.	Poor (1)
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score	
Footnotes	

Footnote 1 – Professional judgement should be used alongside the UKHab description.

Footnote 2 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native specie
accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk
professional judgement.

Footnote 3 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Footnote 4 – Species indicative of suboptimal condition for this habitat type include: creeping thistle Cirs
common nettle Urtica dioica, docks Rumex spp., and common ragwort Jacobaea vulgaris. There may b
and or site.

Footnote 5 – According to the relative abundance DAFOR scale – Dominant, Abundant, Frequent, Occa

Footnote 6 – Ericaceous dwarf shrubs include: crowberry Empetrum nigrum, cowberry Vaccinium vitis-i
Vaccinium oxycoccos, heather Calluna vulgaris, cross-leaved heath Erica tetralix, and bell heather Erica
species local to the region and or site.

Footnote 7 – For fens, specify what fen type is present using base-status and trophic status - alkaline, r
oligotrophic.

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Guide.

d floodplain grazing marsh (CFGM). For CFGM

Survey date and Surveyor name	
Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Habitat parcel reference	
Criterion passed (Yes or No)	**Notes (such as justification)**

ndition) Yes or No:	
r of criteria passed	
Score Achieved ×/ ✓	
nd Oceanic valley	

ecified for habitat] (D2.1):	

es varies across the habitat, split into parcels
k of spread into adjacent habitat, using

rsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare,
be additional relevant species local to the region

asional or Rare.

idaea, bilberry Vaccinium myrtillus, cranberry
ea cinerea. There may be additional relevant

neutral, or acidic; eutrophic, mesotrophic or

Condition Sheet: WETLAND Habitat Type

Habitat Types

Grassland - Floodplain wetland mosaic and CFGM - See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User G
Wetland - Blanket bog
Wetland - Depression on peat substrates (H7150)
Wetland - Fens (upland and lowland)
Wetland - Lowland raised bog
Wetland - Oceanic valley mire [1] (D2.1)
Wetland - Purple moor grass and rush pastures
Wetland - Reedbeds
Wetland - Transition mires and quaking bogs (H7140)

Habitat Description

For Oceanic valley mires - see EUNIS

See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide for Floodplain wetland mosaic (FWM) and coastal anc

Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh UK BAP Priority Habitat description

Priority Habitat Inventory (England) - data.gov.uk

All other wetland habitats - see UK Habitat Classification (UKHab):

UKHab

On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name**
		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)
Limitations (if applicable)		**Habitat parcel refere**
		Grid reference
Condition Assessment Criteria		**Criterion passed (Ye**
Core Criteria - must be assessed for all wetland habitat types:		

A	The water table is at, or near the surface throughout the year - this could be open water or saturation of soil at the surface. There is no artificial drainage, unless specifically to maintain water levels as specified above. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.			
B	The parcel represents a good example of its specific habitat type - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description, with vascular and non-vascular characteristic indicator species consistently present.1			
C	The water supplies (groundwater, surface water and or rainwater) to the wetland are of good water quality, with clear water (low turbidity) indicating no obvious signs of pollution.			
D	Cover of scrub and scattered trees are less than 10%.			
E	Cover of bare ground is less than 5%.			
F	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species2 (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA3) and species indicative of suboptimal condition4 make up less than 5% of ground cover.			
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Fen and Purple moor grass and rush pasture habitats only:				
G	No more than 25% of the habitat area has a continuous cover of litter (such as dead vegetation) preventing regeneration.			
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Bog habitats only:				
H	Sphagnum moss Sphagnum spp. and cottongrasses Eriophorum spp. are at least Frequent5. Cover of ericaceous dwarf shrubs6 is less than 75%.			
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Reedbed habitats only:				
I	The reedbed has a diverse structure with between 60% and 80% reeds Phragmites australis. Other areas may include open water (at least 10%), species-rich fen and or wet woodland.			
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Floodplain wetland mosaic and CFGM only:				

J	All ditches recorded within the habitat achieve Good condition as assessed using the Ditch condition sheet.			
Essential criterion achieved (required for Good condition) Yes or No:				
Number of criteria passed				
Condition Assessment Result	**Condition Assessment Score**	**Score Achieved ×/✓**		
Results for habitats requiring assessment of 6 criteria (Depression on peat substrates (H7150) a				
•Passes 5 or 6 core criteria, including criterion A.	Good (3)			
•Passes 3 or 4 core criteria; OR •Passes 5 core criteria but fails criterion A.	Moderate (2)			
•Passes 2 or fewer core criteria.	Poor (1)			
Results for habitats requiring assessment of 7 criteria - core criteria and additional criterion spe all habitat types except Depression on peat substrates (H7150) and Oceanic valley mire [1] (D2.1				
•Passes 5 or 6 core criteria including criterion A; AND •Passes additional criterion G, H, I or J (choose the one specified for the habitat type).	Good (3)			
•Passes 4 or 5 of 7 criteria; OR •Passes 6 of 7 criteria but fails criterion A or additional criterion G, H, I or J (choose the one specified for the habitat type).	Moderate (2)			
•Passes 3 or fewer criteria.	Poor (1)			
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score				
Footnotes				

Footnote 1 – Professional judgement should be used alongside the UKHab description.

Footnote 2 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native specie
buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacen

Footnote 3 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Footnote 4 – Species indicative of suboptimal condition for this habitat type include: creeping thistle Cir
dioica, docks Rumex spp., and common ragwort Jacobaea vulgaris. There may be additional relevant s

Footnote 5 – According to the relative abundance DAFOR scale – Dominant, Abundant, Frequent, Occ

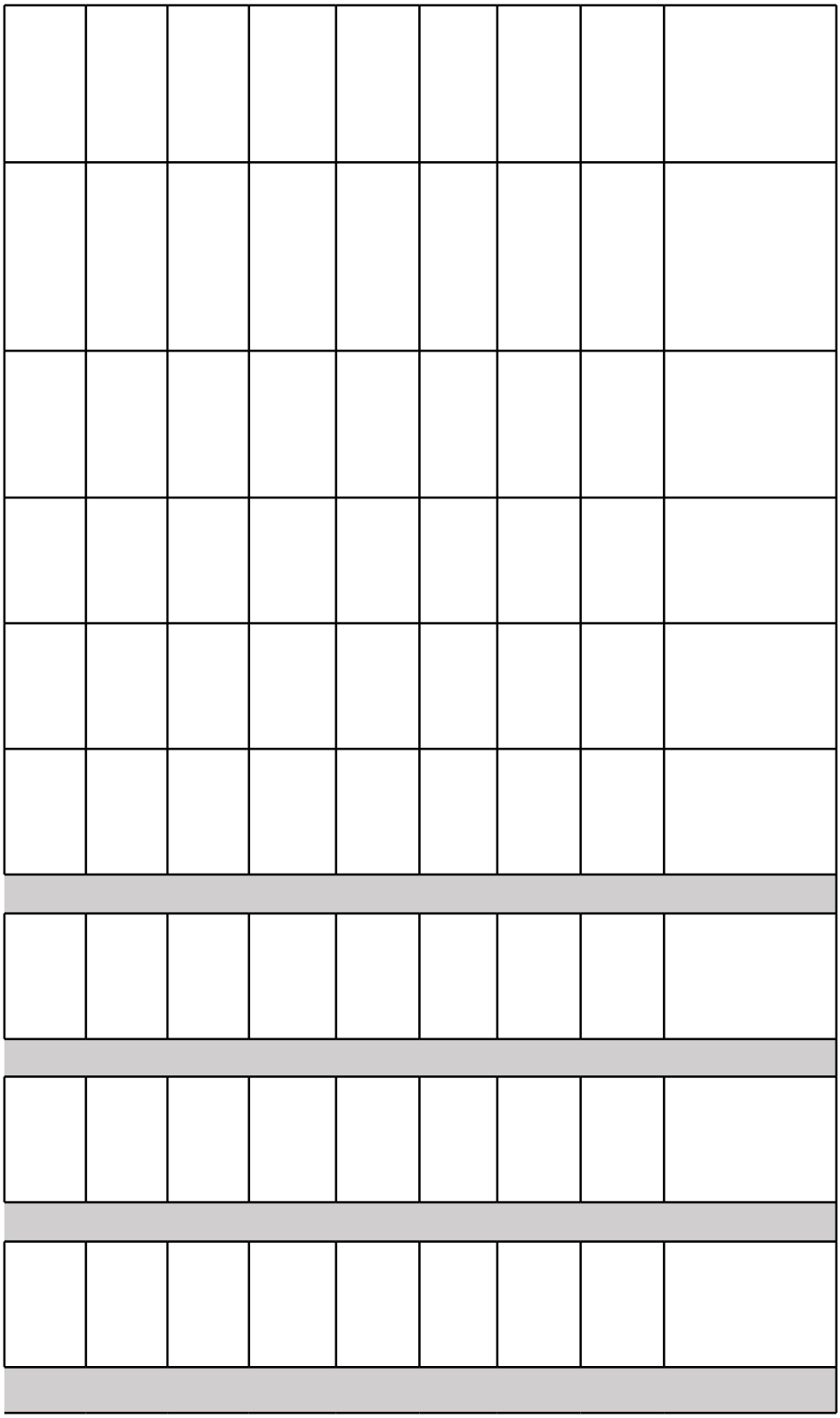
Footnote 6 – Ericaceous dwarf shrubs include: crowberry Empetrum nigrum, cowberry Vaccinium vitis-i
heather Calluna vulgaris, cross-leaved heath Erica tetralix, and bell heather Erica cinerea. There may b

Footnote 7 – For fens, specify what fen type is present using base-status and trophic status - alkaline, r

Guide.

d floodplain grazing marsh (CFGM). For CFGM also see the below:

ence								
es or No)								Notes (such as justification)



and Oceanic valley mire [1] (D2.1)):

ecified for habitat type -
1):

es varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a
t habitat, using professional judgement.

rsium arvense, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, common nettle Urtica
species local to the region and or site.

casional or Rare.

idaea, bilberry Vaccinium myrtillus, cranberry Vaccinium oxycoccos,
be additional relevant species local to the region and or site.

neutral, or acidic; eutrophic, mesotrophic or oligotrophic.

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: WOODLAND Habitat Type
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Types
Woodland and forest - Lowland beech and yew woodland **Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland** **Woodland and forest - Native pine woodlands** **Woodland and forest - Other coniferous woodland** **Woodland and forest - Other Scot's pine woodland** **Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved** **Woodland and forest - Other woodland; mixed** **Woodland and forest - Upland birchwoods** **Woodland and forest - Upland mixed ashwoods** **Woodland and forest - Upland oakwood** **Woodland and forest - Wet woodland**
Habitat Description

ukhab – UK Habitat Classification

This condition sheet is based on the England Woodland Biodiversity Group (EWBG

Woodland Wildlife Toolkit (sylva.org.uk)

IMPORTANT: This biodiversity metric woodland condition assessment must be use
The outputs of this condition assessment are not equivalent to, nor are they compa
because the EWBG assessment has been adapted for the biodiversity metric, inclu
land cover around woodland) and Indicator 14 (Size of woodland), and minor chan

On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name**
Limitations (if applicable)		**Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)**
Grid reference		**Habitat parcel reference**
Condition Assessment Criteria		
Indicator	**Good (3 points)**	**Moderate (2 points)**

A	**Age distribution of trees**	Three age-classes1 present.	Two age-classes1 present.
B	**Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage**	No significant browsing damage evident in woodland2.	Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in less than 40% of whole woodland2.
C	**Invasive plant species**	No invasive species3 present in woodland.	Rhododendron Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, and other invasive species3 <10% cover.
D	**Number of native tree species**	Five or more native tree or shrub species4 found across woodland parcel.	Three to four native tree or shrub species4 found across woodland parcel.
E	**Cover of native tree and shrub species**	>80% of canopy trees and >80% of understory shrubs are native5.	50 - 80% of canopy trees and 50 - 80% of understory shrubs are native5.
F	**Open space within woodland**	10 - 20% of woodland has areas of temporary open space6. Unless woodland is <10ha, in which case 0 - 20% temporary open space is permitted7.	21 - 40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space6.
G	**Woodland regeneration**	All three classes present in woodland8; trees 4 - 7 cm Diameter at Breast Height (DBH), saplings and seedlings or advanced coppice regrowth.	One or two classes only present in woodland8.
H	**Tree health**	Tree mortality 10% or less, no pests or diseases and no crown dieback9.	11% to 25% tree mortality and or crown dieback or low-risk pest or disease present9.

I	**Vegetation and ground flora**	Recognisable NVC plant community10 at ground layer present, strongly characterised by ancient woodland flora specialists.	Recognisable woodland NVC plant community10 at ground layer present.
J	**Woodland vertical structure**	Three or more storeys across all survey plots, or a complex woodland11.	Two storeys across all survey plots11.
K	**Veteran trees**	Two or more veteran trees12 per hectare.	One veteran tree12 per hectare.
L	**Amount of deadwood**	50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing and fallen deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, branch stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities13.	Between 25% and 50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing and fallen deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities13.
M	**Woodland disturbance**	No nutrient enrichment or damaged ground evident14.	Less than 1 hectare in total of nutrient enrichment across woodland area, and or less than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground14.
			Total Score

Condition Assessment Result
Total score >32 (33 to 39)
Total score 26 to 32
Total score <26 (13 to 25)

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnotes below refer to the EWBG woodland condition assessment details: EWB
Available from:

Woodland Wildlife Toolkit (sylva.org.uk)

The woodland condition assessment survey methodology is outlined in the EWBG
the Statutory Biodiversity Metric and must be used when assessing woodland cond

Footnote 1 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 1 for more information. If tree specie
20 years (Young); 21 - 150 years (Intermediate); and >150 years (Old). For birch, c
=Intermediate; >60 years = Old. A recognisable age-class should be a consistent r
assessed. Presence of a few saplings would not indicate that the woodland has an

Footnote 2 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 2 for more information. Browsing pre
visible within each survey plot shows damage from any type of browsing pressure

Footnote 3 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 3 for more information. Assess this f
native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly.

Check for the presence of all plant species listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and
invasive non-native species: American skunk cabbage Lysichiton americanus; Him
Reynoutria japonica; cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus; shallon Gaultheria shallon
Lamiastrum galeobdolon subsp. argentatum; rhododendron Rhododendron ponticu

Footnote 4 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 4 and Table 2 for more information.
young trees and shrubs. A list of commonly found native tree and shrub species is
of the UK. Note a list of commonly found non-native tree species are also included

Footnote 5 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 5 and for more information. The abu
(up to 5 m) layers including young trees and shrubs.

Footnote 6 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 6 for more information. Open space
which trees can be expected to regenerate (for example, glades, rides, footpaths, a
where tree regeneration is not possible or desirable (for example, tarmac, buildings
by shrubs or trees.

Footnote 7 – Given the increased ratio of edge habitat to woodland where the woo

Footnote 8 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 8 for more information. This indicato
considering three classes: seedlings; saplings; and young trees of 4-7 cm DBH. Al
distribution of trees' indicator, but the regeneration indicator gathers additional info
saplings and young trees are all present that means natural regeneration processe

Footnote 9 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 9 for more information and Table 3 f

Footnote 10 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 10 directing to NVC key for more ir
Habitat Classification resources may also be useful to assess this.

Footnote 11 – This criterion looks at structural diversity and is useful to understand
structure is defined as the number of canopy storeys present. Possible storey valu
composed of multiple tree heights that cannot easily be stratified into broad height
and 5) Shrub layer. There might be no storeys where the woodland has been felle

Footnote 12 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 12 for more information. See gov.u

Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England (publish
and:
Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning dec
EWBG INDICATOR 12 is the relevant indicator.

Footnote 13 – See EWBG method INDICATOR 13 for more information. This inclu
(<1 m tall) >20 cm diameter at narrowest point and >50 cm long. Also includes sta
trees. Diameter is measured at the narrowest point on the stem. Minimum diamete

Footnote 14 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 15 for more information. Examples
compaction from trampling, machinery, animal poaching or litter.

G) Woodland Condition Survey Method, available here:

ed to assess woodland being input into the biodiversity metric.
arable with the scores from the EWBG condition assessment,
uding the removal of EWBG Indicator 7 (Proportion of favourable
ges to other indicators.

Poor (1 point)	**Score per indicator**	**Notes (such as justification)**

One age-class1 present.		
Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland2.		
Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species3 ≥10% cover.		
Two or less native tree or shrub species4 across woodland parcel.		
<50% of canopy trees and <50% of understory shrubs are native5.		
<10% or >40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space6. But if woodland <10ha has <10% temporary open space, please see Good category7.		
No classes or coppice regrowth present in woodland8.		
Greater than 25% tree mortality and or any high-risk pest or disease present9.		

No recognisable woodland NVC plant community10 at ground layer present.		
One or less storey across all survey plots11.		
No veteran trees12 present in woodland.		
Less than 25% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing and fallen deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities13.		
1 hectare or more of nutrient enrichment, and or 20% or more of woodland area has damaged ground14.		
e (out of a possible 39)		

Condition Assessment Score	Result Achieved
Good (3)	
Moderate (2)	
Poor (1)	

G (No date). Assessing your Woodland's Condition [online].

toolkit. However the criteria on this sheet are those specific to
dition.

es is not a birch Betula sp., cherry Prunus sp. or Sorbus sp.: 0 –
cherry or Sorbus species; 0 - 20 years = Young; 21 - 60 years
ecognisable layer across the woodland or stand being
ı 'age-class' of young trees.

essure is considered to be significant where >20% of vegetation
listed.

for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-

l Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), particularly the following
nalayan balsam Impatiens glandulifera; Japanese knotweed
ı; snowberry Symphoricarpos albus; variegated yellow archangel
um; and tree-of-heaven Alianthus altissima.

The number of different native tree or shrub species including
provided in Table 2. Not all species listed are native to all parts
l and should be recorded if present.

ındance of native tree species in upper (>5 m) and understorey

within woodland in this context is temporary open space in
areas of clear-fell). This differs from permanent open space
s, rivers). Area is at least 10 m wide with less than 20% covered

ɔdland is <10ha.

ɔr measures regeneration potential of the woodland by
l three classes would fall in the 'young' category of the 'age
ɹmation by considering regeneration potential - if seedlings,
es are happening.

for a list of diseases and pests and their risk level.

nformation. The 'UKHab to NVC translation table' in the UK

d in conjunction with the age of trees in a woodland. Vertical
es are: 1) Upper; 2) Complex: recorded when the stand is
bands (such as upper, middle or lower); 3) Middle; 4) Lower;
d. See EWBG INDICATOR 11 for more information.

ık standing advice on ancient and veteran trees. Available from:

ing.service.gov.uk)

cisions - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

ıdes logs, large dead branches on the forest floor and stumps
nding dead trees (>1 m tall) and also deadwood on standing live
ɛr of 20 cm.

of disturbance are: significant nutrient enrichment; soil

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: WOODLAND Habitat Type

UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Types

Woodland and forest - Lowland beech and yew woodland
Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
Woodland and forest - Native pine woodlands
Woodland and forest - Other coniferous woodland
Woodland and forest - Other Scot's pine woodland
Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved
Woodland and forest - Other woodland; mixed
Woodland and forest - Upland birchwoods
Woodland and forest - Upland mixed ashwoods
Woodland and forest - Upland oakwood
Woodland and forest - Wet woodland

Habitat Description

ukhab – UK Habitat Classification
This condition sheet is based on the England Woodland Biodiversity Group (EWBG) Woodland (
Woodland Wildlife Toolkit (sylva.org.uk)

IMPORTANT: This biodiversity metric woodland condition assessment must be used to assess v
are not equivalent to, nor are they comparable with the scores from the EWBG condition assess
including the removal of EWBG Indicator 7 (Proportion of favourable land cover around woodlan

On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name**		**Habitat**
Limitations (if applicable)		**Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)**		**Grid re**

Condition Assessment Criteria

	Indicator	**Good (3 points)**	**Moderate (2 points)**	**Poor (1 point)**	**Score**
A	**Age distribution of trees**	Three age-classes1 present.	Two age-classes1 present.	One age-class1 present.	

B	**Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage**	No significant browsing damage evident in woodland2.	Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in less than 40% of whole woodland2.	Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland2.	
C	**Invasive plant species**	No invasive species3 present in woodland.	Rhododendron Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, and other invasive species3 <10% cover.	Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species3 ≥10% cover.	
D	**Number of native tree species**	Five or more native tree or shrub species4 found across woodland parcel.	Three to four native tree or shrub species4 found across woodland parcel.	Two or less native tree or shrub species4 across woodland parcel.	
E	**Cover of native tree and shrub species**	>80% of canopy trees and >80% of understory shrubs are native5.	50 - 80% of canopy trees and 50 - 80% of understory shrubs are native5.	<50% of canopy trees and <50% of understory shrubs are native5.	
F	**Open space within woodland**	10 - 20% of woodland has areas of temporary open space6. Unless woodland is <10ha, in which case 0 - 20% temporary open space is permitted7.	21 - 40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space6.	<10% or >40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space6. But if woodland <10ha has <10% temporary open space, please see Good category7.	
G	**Woodland regeneration**	All three classes present in woodland8; trees 4 - 7 cm Diameter at Breast Height (DBH), saplings and seedlings or advanced coppice regrowth.	One or two classes only present in woodland8.	No classes or coppice regrowth present in woodland8.	

H	**Tree health**	Tree mortality 10% or less, no pests or diseases and no crown dieback9.	11% to 25% tree mortality and or crown dieback or low-risk pest or disease present9.	Greater than 25% tree mortality and or any high-risk pest or disease present9.	
I	**Vegetation and ground flora**	Recognisable NVC plant community10 at ground layer present, strongly characterised by ancient woodland flora specialists.	Recognisable woodland NVC plant community10 at ground layer present.	No recognisable woodland NVC plant community10 at ground layer present.	
J	**Woodland vertical structure**	Three or more storeys across all survey plots, or a complex woodland11.	Two storeys across all survey plots11.	One or less storey across all survey plots11.	
K	**Veteran trees**	Two or more veteran trees12 per hectare.	One veteran tree12 per hectare.	No veteran trees12 present in woodland.	
L	**Amount of deadwood**	50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing and fallen deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, branch stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities13.	Between 25% and 50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing and fallen deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities13.	Less than 25% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing and fallen deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities13.	
M	**Woodland disturbance**	No nutrient enrichment or damaged ground evident14.	Less than 1 hectare in total of nutrient enrichment across woodland area, and or less than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground14.	1 hectare or more of nutrient enrichment, and or 20% or more of woodland area has damaged ground14.	
				Total Score (out of a possible 39)	

Condition Assessment Result	Condition Assessment Score	Result
Total score >32 (33 to 39)	Good (3)	
Total score 26 to 32	Moderate (2)	
Total score <26 (13 to 25)	Poor (1)	

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnotes below refer to the EWBG woodland condition assessment details: EWBG (No date). A
Woodland Wildlife Toolkit (sylva.org.uk)
The woodland condition assessment survey methodology is outlined in the EWBG toolkit. Howe
be used when assessing woodland condition.

Footnote 1 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 1 for more information. If tree species is not a birc
(Intermediate); and >150 years (Old). For birch, cherry or Sorbus species; 0 - 20 years = Young;
consistent recognisable layer across the woodland or stand being assessed. Presence of a few

Footnote 2 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 2 for more information. Browsing pressure is cons
damage from any type of browsing pressure listed.

Footnote 3 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 3 for more information. Assess this for each distin
split into parcels accordingly.

Check for the presence of all plant species listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside A
skunk cabbage Lysichiton americanus; Himalayan balsam Impatiens glandulifera; Japanese knc
snowberry Symphoricarpos albus; variegated yellow archangel Lamiastrum galeobdolon subsp.
altissima.

Footnote 4 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 4 and Table 2 for more information. The number c
commonly found native tree and shrub species is provided in Table 2. Not all species listed are
included and should be recorded if present.

Footnote 5 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 5 and for more information. The abundance of nat
and shrubs.

Footnote 6 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 6 for more information. Open space within woodla
(for example, glades, rides, footpaths, areas of clear-fell). This differs from permanent open spac
rivers). Area is at least 10 m wide with less than 20% covered by shrubs or trees.

Footnote 7 – Given the increased ratio of edge habitat to woodland where the woodland is <10h

Footnote 8 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 8 for more information. This indicator measures re
and young trees of 4-7 cm DBH. All three classes would fall in the ‘young’ category of the 'age d
by considering regeneration potential - if seedlings, saplings and young trees are all present that

Footnote 9 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 9 for more information and Table 3 for a list of dis

Footnote 10 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 10 directing to NVC key for more information. Th
useful to assess this.

Footnote 11 – This criterion looks at structural diversity and is useful to understand in conjunctio
storeys present. Possible storey values are: 1) Upper; 2) Complex: recorded when the stand is c
(such as upper, middle or lower); 3) Middle; 4) Lower; and 5) Shrub layer. There might be no sto
information.

Footnote 12 - See gov.uk standing advice on ancient and veteran trees. Available from:
Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England (publishing.service.go
and:
Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisions - GOV.
EWBG INDICATOR 12 is the relevant indicator.

Footnote 13 – See EWBG method INDICATOR 13 for more information. This includes logs, larg
point and >50 cm long. Also includes standing dead trees (>1 m tall) and also deadwood on star
diameter of 20 cm.

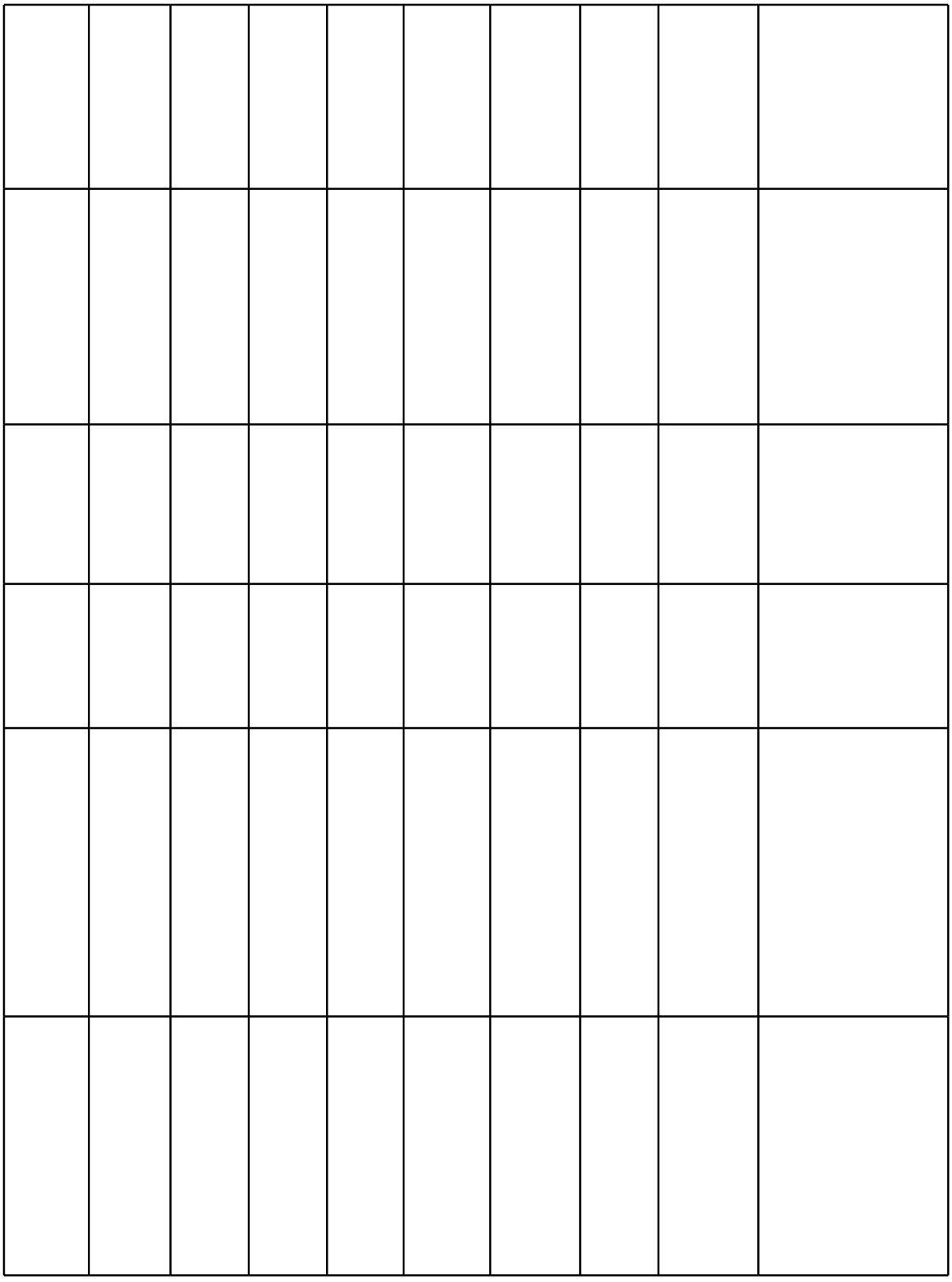
Footnote 14 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 15 for more information. Examples of disturbanc
poaching or litter.

Condition Survey Method, available here:

woodland being input into the biodiversity metric. The outputs of this condition assessment
sment, because the EWBG assessment has been adapted for the biodiversity metric,
ıd) and Indicator 14 (Size of woodland), and minor changes to other indicators.

t parcel reference									
eference									

per indicator									Notes (such as justification)



Achieved									

Assessing your Woodland's Condition [online]. Available from:

ver the criteria on this sheet are those specific to the Statutory Biodiversity Metric and must

ch Betula sp., cherry Prunus sp. or Sorbus sp.: 0 - 20 years (Young); 21 - 150 years
; 21 - 60 years =Intermediate; >60 years = Old. A recognisable age-class should be a
saplings would not indicate that the woodland has an ‘age-class’ of young trees.

sidered to be significant where >20% of vegetation visible within each survey plot shows

ıct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat,

Act 1981 (as amended), particularly the following invasive non-native species: American
otweed Reynoutria japonica; cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus; shallon Gaultheria shallon;
argentatum; rhododendron Rhododendron ponticum; and tree-of-heaven Alianthus

of different native tree or shrub species including young trees and shrubs. A list of
native to all parts of the UK. Note a list of commonly found non-native tree species are also

tive tree species in upper (>5 m) and understorey (up to 5 m) layers including young trees

and in this context is temporary open space in which trees can be expected to regenerate
ce where tree regeneration is not possible or desirable (for example, tarmac, buildings,

a.

egeneration potential of the woodland by considering three classes: seedlings; saplings;
listribution of trees' indicator, but the regeneration indicator gathers additional information
t means natural regeneration processes are happening.

eases and pests and their risk level.

e 'UKHab to NVC translation table' in the UK Habitat Classification resources may also be

n with the age of trees in a woodland. Vertical structure is defined as the number of canopy
composed of multiple tree heights that cannot easily be stratified into broad height bands
reys where the woodland has been felled. See EWBG INDICATOR 11 for more

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e dead branches on the forest floor and stumps (<1 m tall) >20 cm diameter at narrowest
nding live trees. Diameter is measured at the narrowest point on the stem. Minimum

e are: significant nutrient enrichment; soil compaction from trampling, machinery, animal

Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Condition Sheet: WOOD-PASTURE AND PARKLAND Habitat Type
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type
Woodland and forest - Wood-pasture and parkland
Habitat Description

ukhab – UK Habitat Classification

On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name**
Limitations (if applicable)		**Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)**
Grid reference		**Habitat parcel reference**

	Condition Assessment Criteria	**Criterion passed (Yes or No)**
A	Presence of ancient and or veteran trees1. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.	
B	Three different life-stages (for example young, mature or veteran) of open grown or pollarded trees1 are present, to ensure replacement and continuity of tree cohort, veteran characteristics and habitat.	
C	Native scrub is present with a variety of heights, widths, shapes and species compositions - as planted or naturally established individual plants, or clumps of trees or shrubs2.	
D	Frequent3 presence of decaying wood providing ecological niches – such as standing, attached and fallen deadwood (for example, dead stems, branches and branch stubs), trees with heart-rot, or hollowing in the trunk or major limbs. Decay features might be revealed by certain types of fungal fruiting bodies.	

E	There is no evidence of recent adverse impact on tree health by human activities, livestock, wild animals, pests or diseases (this excludes veteran features valuable for wildlife). For example, no evidence of poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, ground compaction, grazing damage to bark and roots, competition or shading from surrounding trees.	
F	Ground cover comprises open habitats, for example grassland or heathland, which are unimproved or semi-improved (medium distinctiveness or higher).	
G	Ground cover is subject to an appropriate management regime providing structural diversity for vertebrates and invertebrates, which is not being or threatened by infill of trees and scrub, by natural establishment or forestry plantation, native or non-native. See Footnote 4 for details.	
H	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species5 (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA6), and species indicative of suboptimal condition7 make up less than 5% cover (this excludes ancient and veteran trees).	
	Number of criteria passed	

Condition Assessment Result (out of 8 criteria)	**Condition Assessment Score**	**Score Achieved ×/✓**
Passes 7 or 8 criteria and meets criterion A	Good (3)	
Passes 5 or 6 criteria OR Passes 7 criteria but fails criterion A	Moderate (2)	
Passes 4 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)	

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Footnote 1 – See gov.uk standing advice on ancient and veteran trees. Available from:
Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England (publishing.service.gov.uk
and:
Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisions - GOV.UK
'Veteran' is not an age-class of tree, but in a habitat context refers to those trees having veteran cha
may be any age.

Footnote 2 - The composition of native scrub provides opportunities for natural tree regeneration an affecting the integrity of the habitat mosaic.

Footnote 3 - According to the relative abundance DAFOR scale – Dominant, Abundant, Frequent, O

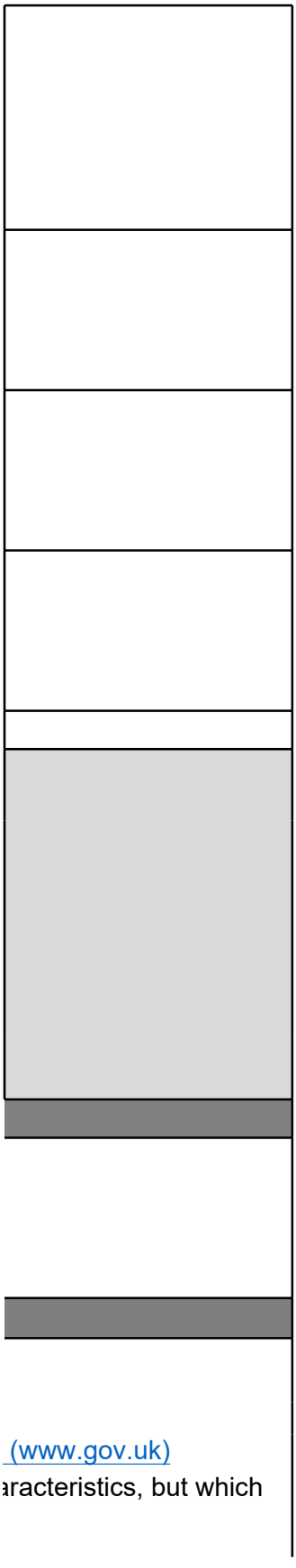
Footnote 4 - Examples evidencing a management regime that creates open habitat ground cover wi include: grassland with varied sward height, or heathland with a range of age-classes of heather Ca dwarf shrubs.

Footnote 5 - Assess this for each distinct habitat block. If the distribution of invasive non-native spec habitat, define blocks accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species wi risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement. Since wood-pasture and parklan comprising a variety of plant structures and heights, careful consideration should be used when split parcels; moreover, splitting a habitat into blocks does not change its habitat type.

Footnote 6 - Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Footnote 7 - Species indicative of suboptimal condition for this habitat type may include: non-native Ailanthus altissima, Ailanthus spp., holm oak Quercus ilex, European turkey oak Quercus cerris, che laurocerasus, shallon Gaultheria shallon, American skunk cabbage Lysichiton americanus, snowber spp., buddleia Buddleja spp., cotoneaster Cotoneaster spp., Spanish bluebell Hyacinthoides hispani Hyacinthoides x massartiana. There may be additional relevant species local to the region and or sit

	Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab
Notes (such as justification)	



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:ies varies across the
th a size relative to its
d is a mosaic habitat
tting a habitat into

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erry laurel Prunus
ry Symphoricarpos
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te.

Condition Sheet: WOOD-PASTURE AND PARKLAND Habitat Type				
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type				
Woodland and forest - Wood-pasture and parkland				
Habitat Description				
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification				
On-site or off-site, site name and location		**Survey date and Surveyor name**		
		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)		
Limitations (if applicable)		**Habitat parcel refere**		
		Grid reference		
Condition Assessment Criteria		**Criterion passed (Ye**		
A	Presence of ancient and or veteran trees1. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.			
B	Three different life-stages (for example young, mature or veteran) of open grown or pollarded trees1 are present, to ensure replacement and continuity of tree cohort, veteran characteristics and habitat.			
C	Native scrub is present with a variety of heights, widths, shapes and species compositions - as planted or naturally-established individual plants, or clumps of trees or shrubs2.			
D	Frequent3 presence of decaying wood providing ecological niches – such as standing, attached and fallen deadwood (for example, dead stems, branches and branch stubs), trees with heart-rot, or hollowing in the trunk or major limbs. Decay features might be revealed by certain types of fungal fruiting bodies.			

E	There is no evidence of recent adverse impact on tree health by human activities, livestock, wild animals, pests or diseases (this excludes veteran features valuable for wildlife). For example, no evidence of poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, ground compaction, grazing damage to bark and roots, competition or shading from surrounding trees.			
F	Ground cover comprises open habitats, for example grassland or heathland, which are unimproved or semi-improved (medium distinctiveness or higher).			
G	Ground cover is subject to an appropriate management regime providing structural diversity for vertebrates and invertebrates, which is not being or threatened by infill of trees and scrub, by natural establishment or forestry plantation, native or non-native. See Footnote 4 for details.			
H	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species5 (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA6), and species indicative of suboptimal condition7 make up less than 5% cover (this excludes ancient and veteran trees).			
	Number of criteria passed			

Condition Assessment Result (out of 8 criteria)	**Condition Assessment Score**	**Score Achieved ×/✓**		
Passes 7 or 8 criteria and meets criterion A	Good (3)			
Passes 5 or 6 criteria OR Passes 7 criteria but fails criterion A	Moderate (2)			
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Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

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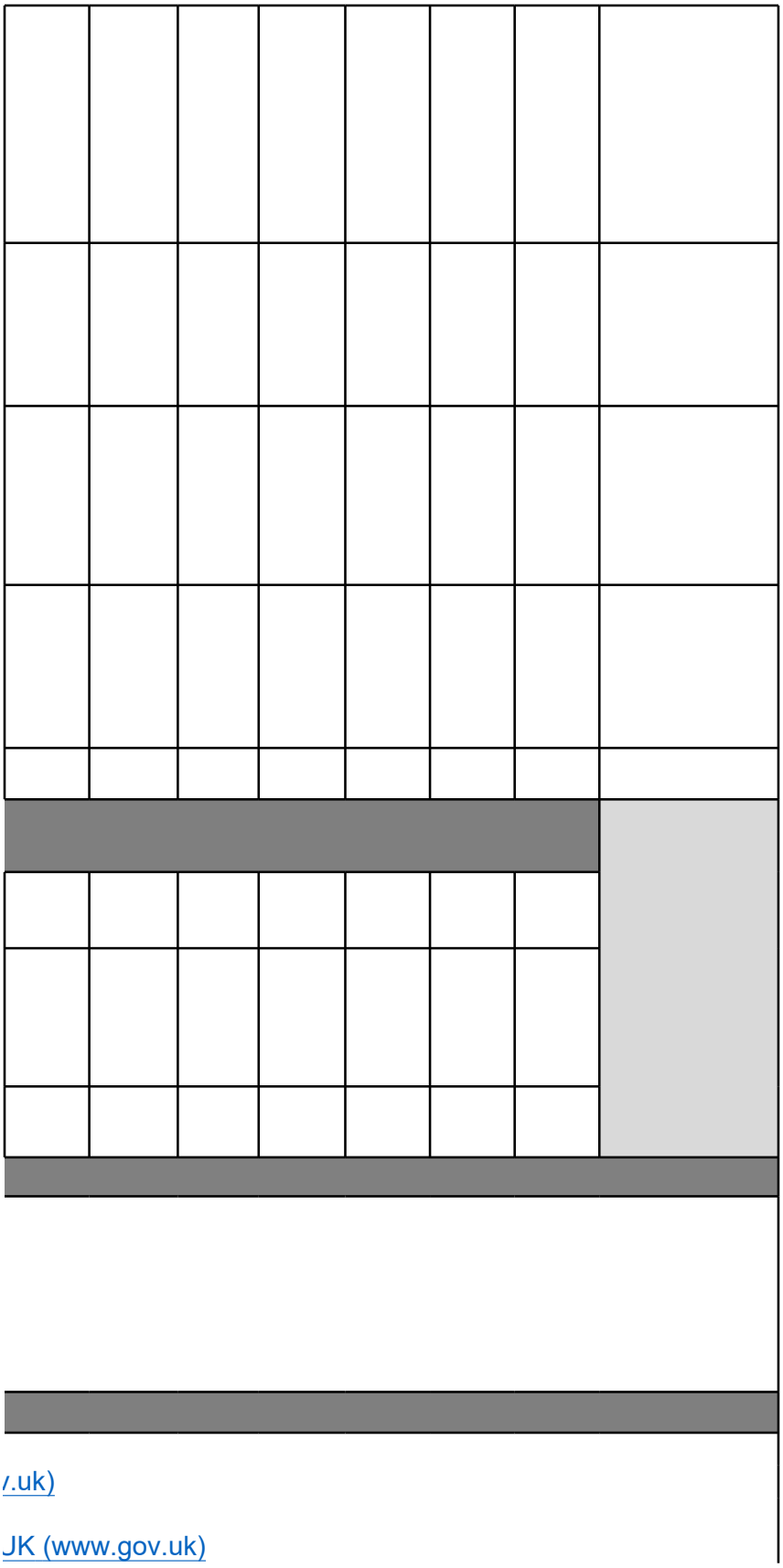
es or No)							Notes (such as justification)



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spp., Spanish bluebell Hyacinthoides hispanica and hybrid
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Return to ‘Selecting condition sheet’ tab

Version
Version 1.0.0
Version 1.0.1

Changes made
Initial draft statutory version
Individual trees tab – added wording to say ‘Please see the separate Line of Trees condition sheet for rural trees. You should assessment and record that habitat type in rural locations.’
Individual trees tab – Changed ‘Canopies must overlap continuously’ to ‘Canopies should predominantly overlap continuousl
Coastal tab – wording added to the list of ‘General coastal species indicative of suboptimal condition’ to say ‘sea buckthorn (range)’
Scrub tab – wording added to Criterion A to say sea buckthorn can be 100% cover ‘(only in its restricted native range)’
Instructions tab – changed date at top of sheet from ‘November 2023’ to ‘February 2024’
Habitat definitions tab – removed reference to ‘see Technical Annex 2’ from the table. Cells C11, C131 – C140.
Hedgerow tab – ‘See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Technical Annex 2 and UK Habitat Classification’ removed, leaving just
Intertidal biogenic reefs tab – changed ‘see the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Technical Annex 2’ to say ‘see tab G1 of the Sta
Intertidal hard structures tab – changed ‘see the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Technical Annex 2’ to say ‘see tab G1 of the St
Intertidal seagrass tab– changed ‘see the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Technical Annex 2’ to say ‘see tab G1 of the Statutory
Intertidal sediment tab– changed ‘see the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Technical Annex 2’ to say ‘see tab G1 of the Statutor
Pond tab– removed ‘For ponds (non-priority) – see the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Technical Annex 2.’
Habitat Definitions tab – cell E48 – removed reference to ‘<2ha’ for Ornamental lake or pond.
Habitat Definitions tab – cell E54, E55 – changed ‘<=2ha’, from Ponds (priority) and Ponds (non-priority) to ‘<2ha’.
Habitat Definitions tab - row 55 – removed references to Ponds (non-priority) having a definition different to that in UKHab.

Date released
29th November 2023