

BNG Condition Assessment Report

Item Code	Object ID	Habitat type	Note	Condition Score
HA	17	Woodland and forest - Wet woodland	<p>Woodland (Lowland beech and yew woodland, Lowland mixed deciduous woodland, Native pine woodlands, Other coniferous woodland, Other Scots pine woodland, Other woodland; broadleaved, Other woodland; mixed, Upland birchwoods, Upland mixed ashwoods, Upland oakwood, Wet woodland)</p> <p>A. Age distribution of trees</p> <p>Good (3): Three age-classes present.</p> <p>Moderate (2): Two age-classes present.</p> <p>Poor (1): One age-class present.</p> <p>Score: 1</p> <p>Notes/Justification: One age distribution</p> <p>B. Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage</p> <p>Good: No significant browsing damage evident in woodland.</p> <p>Moderate: Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland.</p> <p>Poor: Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland.</p> <p>Score: 3</p> <p>Notes/Justification: No significant browsing damage evident in woodland</p> <p>C. Invasive plant species</p> <p>Good: No invasive species present in woodland.</p> <p>Moderate: Rhododendron ponticum or Prunus laurocerasus not present, other invasive species <10% cover.</p> <p>Poor: Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species >10% cover.</p> <p>Score: 3</p> <p>Notes/Justification: No invasive plant species</p> <p>D. Number of native tree species</p> <p>Good: Five or more native tree or shrub species found across woodland parcel.</p> <p>Moderate: Three to four native tree or shrub species found across woodland parcel.</p>	

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HA	17	Woodland and forest - Wet woodland	<p>Poor: Two or fewer native tree or shrub species across woodland parcel.</p> <p>Score: 1</p> <p>Notes/Justification: One tree species</p> <p>E. Cover of native tree and shrub species</p> <p>Good: >80% of canopy trees and >80% of understory shrubs are native.</p> <p>Moderate: 50–80% of canopy trees and 50–80% of understory shrubs are native.</p> <p>Poor: <50% of canopy trees and <50% of understory shrubs are native.</p> <p>Score: 3</p> <p>Notes/Justification: Native species</p> <p>F. Open space within woodland</p> <p>Good: 10–20% of woodland has areas of temporary open space (0–20% if woodland <10ha).</p> <p>Moderate: 21–40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space.</p> <p>Poor: <10% or >40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space (unless <10ha).</p> <p>Score: 3</p> <p>Notes/Justification: Less than 10 ha</p> <p>G. Woodland regeneration</p> <p>Good: All three classes present – trees 4–7 cm DBH, saplings, and seedlings or advanced coppice regrowth.</p> <p>Moderate: One or two classes present.</p> <p>Poor: No classes or coppice regrowth present.</p> <p>Score: 1</p> <p>Notes/Justification: No regeneration</p> <p>H. Tree health</p> <p>Good: Tree mortality <10%, no pests or diseases, no crown dieback.</p> <p>Moderate: 11–25% mortality and/or crown dieback or low-risk pest/disease present.</p> <p>Poor: >25% mortality and/or high-risk pest/disease present.</p>	

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HA	17	Woodland and forest - Wet woodland	<p>Score: 3</p> <p>Notes/Justification: Healthy trees</p> <p>I. Vegetation and ground flora</p> <p>Good: Recognisable NVC plant community at ground layer, with ancient woodland flora specialists.</p> <p>Moderate: Recognisable woodland NVC plant community present.</p> <p>Poor: No recognisable woodland NVC plant community present.</p> <p>Score: 1</p> <p>Notes/Justification: No recognisable NVC</p> <p>J. Woodland vertical structure</p> <p>Good: Three or more storeys across all survey plots or a complex woodland.</p> <p>Moderate: Two storeys across all survey plots.</p> <p>Poor: One or fewer storeys across all survey plots.</p> <p>Score: 1</p> <p>Notes/Justification: One storey</p> <p>K. Veteran trees</p> <p>Good: Two or more veteran trees per hectare.</p> <p>Moderate: One veteran tree per hectare.</p> <p>Poor: No veteran trees present.</p> <p>Score: 1</p> <p>Notes/Justification: No veteran trees</p> <p>L. Amount of deadwood</p> <p>Good: ≥50% of plots have deadwood (e.g. standing, large branches, stumps, cavities).</p> <p>Moderate: 25–49% of plots have deadwood.</p> <p>Poor: <25% of plots have deadwood.</p> <p>Score: 1</p>	

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HA	17	Woodland and forest - Wet woodland	<p>Notes/Justification: No deadwood</p> <p>M. Woodland disturbance</p> <p>Good: No nutrient enrichment or damaged ground evident.</p> <p>Moderate: <1 ha nutrient enrichment and/or <20% of area with damaged ground.</p> <p>Poor: >1 ha nutrient enrichment and/or >20% of area with damaged ground.</p> <p>Score: 1</p> <p>Notes/Justification: Nettles present</p> <p>Condition Assessment Result: 23 – Poor</p> <p>Good: Total score >32 (33 to 39)</p> <p>Moderate: Total score 26 to 32</p> <p>Poor: Total score <26 (13 to 25)</p>	
HA	18	Grassland - Modified grassland	<p>Grassland (Grassland – Modified Grassland)</p> <p>A. There are 6–8 vascular plant species per m² present, including at least 2 forbs. 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, 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. Criterion passed (Y/N): N Notes/Justification: Less than 6 species per m²</p> <p>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. Criterion passed (Y/N): N Notes/Justification: No sward height variation</p> <p>C. Some scattered scrub (including bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.) may be present, but scrub accounts for less than 20% of total grassland area. Note – patches of scrub with continuous (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant scrub habitat type. Criterion passed (Y/N): Y Notes/Justification: No scattered scrub</p> <p>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. Criterion passed (Y/N): Y Notes/Justification: No damage</p> <p>E. Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of rabbit warrens).</p>	Poor

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HA	18	Grassland - Modified grassland	<p>Criterion passed (Y/N): Y Notes/Justification: Limited bare ground</p> <p>F. Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> is less than 20%. Criterion passed (Y/N): Y Notes/Justification: No bracken</p> <p>G. There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species (Sch. 9). Criterion passed (Y/N): Y Notes/Justification: No invasive species</p> <p>Condition Assessment Result – Poor as fails A Good – Passes 6 or 7 criteria including passing essential criterion A Moderate – Passes 4 or 5 criteria including passing essential criterion A Low – Passes 3 or fewer criteria OR passes 4–6 criteria (excluding criterion A)</p>	Poor
HA	1	Grassland - Other neutral grassland	<p>Grassland (Med-VHigh)</p> <p>A. The grassland is a good representation of the habitat type it has been identified as, based on its UKHab description – the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely match the characteristics of the specific grassland habitat type. Indicator species listed by UKHab for the specific grassland habitat type are consistently present. Note – this criterion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition for non-acid grassland types only. Criterion passed (Y/N): Y Notes/Justification: A range of species including Common bent (<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>), yarrow (<i>Achillea millefolium</i>), common ragwort (<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>), Timothy (<i>Phleum pratense</i>), Yorkshire fog (<i>Holcus lanatus</i>), hairy sedge (<i>Carex hirta</i>), creeping thistles (<i>Cirsium arvense</i>), common nettles (<i>Urtica dioica</i>), meadow grass (<i>Poa annua</i>), cock's-foot (<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>), common rush (<i>Juncus effusus</i>), broadleaved dock (<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>), curly dock (<i>Rumex crispus</i>), red fescue (<i>Festuca rubra</i>), creeping buttercup (<i>Ranunculus repens</i>), red sorrel (<i>Rumex acetosella</i>), ribwort plantain (<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>), creeping cinquefoil (<i>Potentilla reptans</i>), Brome spp (<i>Bromus</i>), dove's-foot cranesbill (<i>Geranium molle</i>), nodding thistle (<i>Carduus nutans</i>).</p> <p>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. Criterion passed (Y/N): Y Notes/Justification: Variable sward height across the site.</p> <p>C. Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 5%, including localised areas, for example, rabbit warrens. Criterion passed (Y/N): Y Notes/Justification: Small areas of bare ground across the site.</p> <p>D. Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> is less than 20% and cover of scrub (including bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.) is less than 5%. Criterion passed (Y/N): Y Notes/Justification: Limited bracken and scrub.</p> <p>E. Combined cover of species indicative of sub-optimal condition and physical damage (such as excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, damaging levels of access, or any other damaging management activities) accounts for less than 5% of total area. If any invasive non-native plant species (Sch. 9) are present, this criterion is automatically failed. Criterion passed (Y/N): Y Notes/Justification: No invasive non-native species and limited physical damage.</p> <p>F. (Additional Criterion – must be assessed for all non-acid grassland types) There are 10 or more vascular plant species per m² present, including forbs that are characteristic of the habitat type (species referenced in Footnotes 2 and 4 cannot</p>	Moderate

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HA	1	Grassland - Other neutral grassland	<p>contribute towards this count). Note – this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition for non-acid grassland types only. Criterion passed (Y/N): N Notes/Justification: Less than 10 species per m².</p> <p>Passes 5/6 – Fails F – Moderate</p>	Moderate
HA	25	Heathland and shrub - Blackthorn scrub	<p>Scrub A. The scrub is a good representation of the habitat type it has been identified as, based on its UKHab description (where in its natural range). The appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches the characteristics of the specific scrub type. At least 80% of scrub is native, and there are at least three native woody species, with no single species comprising more than 75% of the cover (except hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i>, common juniper <i>Juniperus communis</i>, sea buckthorn <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i> or box <i>Buxus sempervirens</i>, which can be up to 100% cover). Criterion passed (Y/N): N Notes/Justification: Over 75% blackthorn</p> <p>B. Seedlings, saplings, young shrubs and mature (or ancient or veteran) shrubs are all present. Criterion passed (Y/N): N Notes/Justification: Missing seedlings, saplings and young</p> <p>C. There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species (Sch. 9) and species indicative of sub-optimal condition make up less than 5% of ground cover. Criterion passed (Y/N): Y Notes/Justification: Absence of invasive non-native plant species (Sch. 9) and species indicative of sub-optimal condition make up less than 5% of ground cover</p> <p>D. The scrub has a well-developed edge with scattered scrub and tall grassland and/or forbs present between the scrub and adjacent habitat. Criterion passed (Y/N): Y Notes/Justification: Other neutral grassland adjacent</p> <p>E. There are clearings, glades or rides present within the scrub, providing sheltered edges. Criterion passed (Y/N): N Notes/Justification: Dense with no clearings</p> <p>Passes 2/5 – Poor</p>	Poor
HA	2	Sparsely vegetated land - Tall forbs	<p>Urban 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. Criterion passed (Y/N): N Notes/Justification: Limited vegetation structure</p> <p>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. Criterion passed (Y/N): N Notes/Justification: Limited species diversity</p> <p>C. Invasive non-native plant species (Sch. 9) and others which are to the detriment of native wildlife (using professional</p>	Poor

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HA	2	Sparsely vegetated land - Tall forbs	<p>judgement) cover less than 5% of the total vegetated area. Note – to achieve Good condition, this criterion must be satisfied by a complete absence of invasive non-native species (rather than <5% cover). Criterion passed (Y/N): Y Notes/Justification: No non-native invasive species</p> <p>Passes 1/3 – Poor</p>	Poor
HL	10	Hedgerow - Ecologically valuable line of trees	<p>Line of Trees A. At least 70% of trees are native species. Criterion passed (Y/N): Y Notes/Justification: Native trees</p> <p>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. Criterion passed (Y/N): N Notes/Justification: Gaps more than 5 m wide</p> <p>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. Criterion passed (Y/N): Y Notes/Justification: Cavities in trees</p> <p>D. There is an undisturbed naturally-vegetated strip of at least 6 m on both sides to protect the line of trees from farming and other human activities (excluding grazing). Where veteran trees are present, root protection areas should follow standing advice. Criterion passed (Y/N): N Notes/Justification: Road on one side</p> <p>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. Criterion passed (Y/N): Y Notes/Justification: Good tree health</p>	Moderate
HL	5	Watercourse - Ditches	<p>Ditch A. The ditch is of good water quality, with clear water (low turbidity) indicating no obvious signs of pollution. Criterion passed(Y/N): Y Notes/Justification: no signs of pollution</p> <p>Ditch A. The ditch is of good water quality, with clear water (low turbidity) indicating no obvious signs of pollution. Criterion passed (Y/N): Y Notes/Justification: No signs of pollution</p> <p>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. Criterion passed (Y/N): N Notes/Justification: Limited species present</p> <p>C. There is less than 10% cover of filamentous algae and/or duckweed Lemna spp. (these are signs of eutrophication).</p>	Poor

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HL	5	Watercourse - Ditches	<p>Criterion passed (Y/N): Y Notes/Justification: Less than 10% duckweed</p> <p>D. A fringe of aquatic marginal vegetation is present along more than 75% of the ditch. Criterion passed (Y/N): N Notes/Justification: No aquatic vegetation</p> <p>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. Criterion passed (Y/N): Y Notes/Justification: No damage</p> <p>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. Criterion passed (Y/N): N Notes/Justification: Low levels of water</p> <p>G. Less than 10% of the ditch is heavily shaded. Criterion passed (Y/N): Y Notes/Justification: Limited shade</p> <p>Less than 4 conditions passed – Poor</p>	Poor