

Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND H

UK Habitat Classification (U

Grassland – Lowland calcareo

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

[ukhab – UK Habitat Classificatio](#)

Condition Assessment Criteria

A	The parcel rep proportion of habitat type (the UKHab desc Note – this cr acid grassland
B	Sward height i is more than 7 birds and smal
C	Cover of bare rabbit warrens
D	Cover of brack bramble <i>Rubus</i>
E	Combined cover (such as exces access, or any total area. If any invasiv present, this

Additional Criterion - must be	
F	There are 10 or more characteristic
E	
Condition Assessment Result	
Acid grassland types (Result	
Passes 5 criteria	
Passes 3 or 4 criteria	
Passes 2 or fewer criteria	
Non-acid grassland types (Re	
Passes 5 or 6 criteria, including essential criterion A and additional criterion F.	
Passes 3 - 5 criteria, including essential criterion A.	
Passes 2 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 3 or 4 criteria excluding criterion A and F.	
Suggested enhancement interv	
Notes	
Footnote 1 - Professional ju	

Habitat Type (medium, high and very high distinctiveness)

KHab) Habitat Types

us grassland

Blacksmith's Lane, Reed	Survey date and Surveyor name
	Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)
TL 35788 36344	Habitat parcel

a	Criterion passed (Yes or No)
presents a good example of its habitat type, with a consistently high characteristic indicator species present relevant to the specific (and relative to Footnote 3 suboptimal species which may be listed in description). ¹	No
Criterion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition for non-plant types only	
s varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% > 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for insects, and mammals to live and breed.	Yes
ground is between 1% and 5%, including localised areas, for example, moss.	Yes
When <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> is less than 20% and cover of scrub (including <i>fruticosus</i> agg.) is less than 5%.	Yes
of species indicative of suboptimal condition ³ and physical damage (extensive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, damaging levels of other damaging management activities) accounts for less than 5% of	Yes
the non-native plant species ⁴ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ⁵) are present, the criterion is automatically failed.	

assessed for all non-acid grassland types	
or more vascular plant species per m ² present, including forbs that are of the habitat type (species referenced in Footnote 3 and 5 cannot	No
Essential criterion for Good condition achieved (for non-acid grassland) (Yes or No)	No
Number of criteria passed	5
Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/√
out of 5 criteria)	
Good (3)	
Moderate (2)	
Poor (1)	
ult out of 6 criteria)	
Good (3)	
Moderate (2)	
Poor (1)	Poor
entions to improve condition score	
agement should be used alongside the UKhab description.	

	Return to 'Selecting condition sheet' tab
07/08/2024 & 20/08/2025 Rebecca Cattell; 20/05/25 Dr Matthew Denny	
Grassland Reed	
Notes (such as justification)	
Although scrub starting to encroach, mainly on southern side of field.	

[illegible]

Condition Sheet: SCRUB Habitat Type		
Habitat Types		
Heathland and shrub – Blackthorn scrub		
Heathland and shrub – Gorse scrub		
Habitat Description		
Parcel of blackthorn scrub in NW corner of the Site. Has two other scrub species present which have developed from unmanaged boundary hedgerow		
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	Blacksmith's Lane, Reed	Survey date and Surveyor name
Limitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)
Grid reference	TL 35699 36364	Habitat parcel reference
Condition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)
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 species ² , – No single species comprises more than 75% of the cover (except hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i> , common juniper <i>Juniperus communis</i> , sea buckthorn <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i> (only in its restricted native range), or box <i>Buxus</i>)	No
B	Seedlings, saplings, young shrubs and mature (or ancient or veteran ³) shrubs are all present.	Yes
C	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species ⁴ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ⁵) and species indicative of suboptimal condition ⁶ make up less than 5% of ground cover.	Yes

D	The scrub has a well-developed edge with scattered scrub and tall grassland and or forbs present between the scrub and adjacent habitat.	Yes
E	There are clearings, glades or rides present within the scrub, providing sheltered edges.	No
Number of criteria passed		
Condition Assessment Result (out of 5 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved x/✓
Passes 5 criteria	Good (3)	
Passes 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)	Moderate
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 descriptive Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England (publishing Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisions)		
Footnote 4 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive		

	Return to 'Selecting conditic
sent, and doesn't have any rides or glades. Assumed to	
amnoides) - Special Areas of Conservation (jncc.gov.uk)	
07/08/2024 & 20/08/2025 Rebecca Cattell; 20/05/25 Dr Matthew Denny	
Scrub Reed	
Notes (such as justification)	
Blackthorn >75% cover Possibly 3 native woody species, depending on the plum Sp. Blackthorn, plum (?) and field maple	
Some stinging nettle	

Area small
3
on. and ons - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) non-native species varies across the habitat, split into

on sheet' tab

Condition Sheet: URBAN Habitat	
Habitat Types	
Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal	
Habitat Description	
Primarily ruderal vegetation	
See the Statutory Biodiversity M	
On-site or off-site, site name and location	
Limitations (if applicable)	
Grid reference	
Condition Assessment Criteria	
Core Criteria – must be asse	
A	Vegetation str single structu area.
B	The habitat pa providing nect
C	Invasive non-n wildlife (usin Note – to achi species (rathe
Additional Criterion – must	
D	The parcel sho
Additional Criteria – must b	
E1	Plant species
E2	or native wild The vegetation
Additional Criterion – must	
F	The roof has a 70% of the roo
Additional Criterion – must	
G	The roof has a and sedums or
Condition Assessment Result	
results for habitats requir (SuDS and Green roofs):	

• Passes all 3 core criteria;
AND
• Meets the requirements for Good condition within criterion C.

• Passes 2 of 3 core criteria;
• Passes 0 or 1 of 3 core criteria

Results for **Green roofs** and (requiring assessment of 4 criteria)

• Passes all 5 core criteria

• Passes 2 or 3 of 4 criteria

• Passes 0 or 1 of 4 criteria

Results for **Bioswale or SuDS**

• Passes all 5 core criteria

• Passes 3 or 4 of 5 criteria

• Passes 2 or fewer of 5 criteria

Suggested enhancement interval

Footnotes

Footnote 1 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
[Home » NNSS \(nonnative species\)](#)
and Natural England Access to
[Horizon-scanning for invasive non-native species](#)
For criterion C – For green roofs, consider the potential of the roof. It is also a consideration for
[Alternative plants » NNSS \(nonnative species\)](#)

at Type

deral/Ephemeral

, with some intermittent bare ground, forming mosaic, on soil mound

etric User Guide for green roofs and UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) for other habitats:

Blacksmith's Lane, Reed

TL 35788 36344

a

ssed for **all urban habitat types**:

ucture is varied, providing opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live, eat and
ral habitat component or vegetation type does not account for more than 80% of the total habi

urcel contains different plant species that are beneficial for wildlife, for example flowering
ar sources for a range of invertebrates at different times of year.

ative plant species (listed on Schedule 9 of WCA¹) and others which are to the detriment of n
g professional judgement)² cover less than 5% of the total vegetated area³.

leve Good condition, this criterion must be satisfied by a complete absence of invasive non-na
r than <5% cover).

be assessed for **Open mosaic habitat on previously developed land** only:

ws spatial variation and forms a mosaic of bare substrate PLUS:

e assessed for **Bioswale and SuDS** habitat types only:

are mostly native. If non-native species are present, they should not be detrimental to the n
life⁴

is comprised of plant species suited to wetland or riparian situations.

be assessed for **Intensive green roofs** only:

t minimum of 50% native and non-native wildflowers.

f area is soil and vegetation (including water features)

be assessed for **Biodiverse green roofs** only:

t varied depth of 80 – 150 mm, at least 50% is at 150 mm and is planted and seeded with wild
is pre-prepared with sedums and wildflowers

Essential criteria relevant

Condition Assessment Score

ng assessment of 5 core criteria only (all listed urban habitats except Open mosaic habitat o

Good (3)

Moderate (2)

Poor (1)

Open mosaic habitat on previously developed land

Criteria only = core criteria plus additional criterion specified for habitat type).

Good (3)

Moderate (2)

Poor (1)

(requiring assessment of **5 criteria** - core criteria plus additional criteria specified for

Good (3)

Moderate (2)

Poor (1)

entions to improve condition score

tryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Evidence page should also be checked for up-to-date information:

[on-native plants in Great Britain - NECR053 \(naturalengland.org.uk\)](http://naturalengland.org.uk)

Habitat types only – Buddleia Buddleja davidii should be assessed alongside Schedule 9 species. This sp
sign that a roof has not been planted and seeded correctly in subsequent years

nativespecies.org

	UKHab – UK Habitat Classification
Survey date and Surveyor name	07/08/2024 & 20/08/2025 Rebecca Cattell; 20/05/25 Dr Matthew Denny
Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Habitat parcel reference	Northern road verge (southern edge of site)
Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
Yes	Regularly cut along road edge, but still with varied structure close to hedge in some sections
Yes	
Yes	
Habitat type achieved (Yes or No)	Yes
Number of criteria passed	1
Score Achieved X/√	
Highly developed land, bio-swale,	

GOOD

type) :

hairs the health of the local ecosystem and reduces the biodiversity

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

Species-rich native hedgerow with trees - associated with dry ditch along southern site boundary (Parcel 10)

[ukhab – UK Habitat Classification](#)

On-site or off-site, site name Blacksmith's Lane, Reed

Limitations (if applicable)

Condition Assessment Details

A series of ten attributes, representing key physical characteristics are used for this assessment. Each attribute is scored as 'favourable' or 'unfavourable' based on the number of attributes from these functional groups which pass or fail the 'favourable condition' criteria.

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
A2.	Width	>1.5 m average along length
B1.	Gap - hedge base	Gap between ground and base of canopy <0.5 m for >90% of length
B2.	Gap - hedge canopy continuity	Gaps make up <10% of total length; and No canopy gaps >5 m
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).
C2.	Nutrient-enriched perennial vegetation	Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of the area of undisturbed ground.
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 WCA ³) and recently introduced species.

D2.	Current damage	>90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage caused by human activities.	This criterion adds attributes.
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 ancient ⁸), and there is on average at least one mature, ancient or veteran tree present per 20 - 50m of hedgerow.	This criterion adds replacement of trees
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 health of the individual trees

The hedgerow condition assessment generates a weighting (score) ranging from 1 - 3, which is used with the following condition categories:

Condition categories for hedgerows without trees

Category	Category Requirements
Good	NO more than 2 failures in total,
Moderate	AND NO more than 4 failures in total,
Poor	AND fails a total of more than 4 attributes,
	OR

Condition categories for hedgerows with trees

Category	Category Requirements
Good	NO more than 2 failures in total,
Moderate	AND NO more than 3 failures in total,
Poor	AND fails a total of more than 3 attributes,
	OR

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

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

Footnote 2 – STALEY, J.T. ET AL. (2020) *Definition of Favourable Conservation Status for Hedgerows* (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. Species Status No. 7* | JNCC Resource Hub (jncc.gov.uk)

Footnote 5 – BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF BRITAIN AND IRELAND (BSBI). *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 Flora* (brc.ac.uk)

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

Footnote 8 – See gov.uk standing advice on ancient and veteran trees. Available from: publishing.service.gov.uk

|and

el 1); native hedgerow along eastern boundary (Parcel 2)

Survey date and Surveyor name	07/08/2024 & 20
Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	

attribute is assigned to one of five functional groups (A – E) and the condition of a hedgerow

ption	Habitat parcel
	1
	Grid reference
	TL 35791 36314
	Criterion passed
nt of woody growth estimated from base of stem to the top of the shoots, or beneath the hedgerow, any gaps or isolated trees.	Yes
For woody growth estimated at the widest point of the canopy, excluding gaps	Yes
il 'gappiness' of the woody component of the hedgerow, and its distance from the rest leafy growth.	Yes
ntal 'gappiness' of the woody component of the hedgerow. Gaps are complete body canopy (no matter how small).	Yes
of disturbance (excluding wildlife disturbance) at the base of the hedgerow.	
nd is present for at least 90% of the hedgerow length, greater than 1 m in width ent along at least one side of the hedgerow.	Yes
cies used are nettles <i>Urtica</i> spp., cleavers <i>Galium aparine</i> and docks <i>Rumex</i> spp. either singly or together, does not exceed the 20% cover threshold.	Yes
ed species refer to plants that have naturalised in the UK since AD 1500. haeophytes count as natives. For information on archaeophytes and neophytes bsite ⁴ , as well as the BSBI website ⁵ where the 'Online Atlas of the British and ins an up-to-date list of the status of species. For information on invasive non- e the GB Non-Native Secretariat website ⁷	Yes

resses damaging activities that may have led to or lead to deterioration in other	Yes
resses if there are a range of age-classes or morphologies which allow for ees and provide opportunities for different species.	Yes
ntifies if the trees are subject to damage which compromises the survival and ividual specimens.	Yes

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

	Metric Score
	3
	2
	1
Score achieved:	3
	Metric score
	3
	2
	1
Score achieved:	3

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0/08/2025 Rebecca Cattell;	
ow is assessed according to the	
reference	
2	
ed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
Yes	
No	
Yes	
No	
Yes	
Yes	
Yes	

Yes	

|

Condition Sheet: LINE OF TREES Habitat Type	
Habitat Types	
Line of trees	
Line of trees = associated with bank or ditch	
Habitat Description	
Ecologically valuable line of trees along northern site boundary, some	
See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide. This assessment is based on the Hedgerow Survey Handbook ¹ . For further Where ancient and veteran trees are present within the line of trees,	
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 sp
B	Tree canopy is predominantly contin of total area and no individual gap
C	One or more trees has veteran featu vertebrates and invertebrates, such deadwood, cavities, ivy or loose ba
D	There is an undisturbed naturally-v to protect the line of trees from f grazing). Where veteran trees are p standing advice ² .
E	At least 95% of the trees are in a features valuable for wildlife are evidence of an adverse impact on tr animals, pests or diseases, or huma
Condition Assessment Result (out of 5 criteria)	
Passes 5 criteria	
Passes 3 or 4 criteria	
Passes 2 or fewer criteria	
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score	

Footnotes

Footnote 1 – DEFRA (2007) *Hedgerow Survey Handbook: A standard procedure*
[Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England \(pub](#)
and:
[Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning](#)

e mature specimens

For clarifications please refer to the Handbook.
see Footnote 2 for standing advice.

Blacksmith's Lane, Reed	Survey date and Surveyor name
	Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)
TL 35788 36344	Habitat parcel reference
	Criterion passed (Yes or No)
Species.	Yes
Continuous with gaps in canopy cover making up <10% of being >5 m wide.	Yes
Structures and or natural ecological niches for presence of standing and attached bark.	Yes
Vegetated strip of at least 6 m on both sides farming and other human activities (excluding present, root protection areas should follow	Yes
Healthy condition (deadwood or veteran excluded from this). There is little or no tree health by damage from livestock or wild animal activity.	Yes
Number of criteria passed	
Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved X/√
Good (3)	Good
Moderate (2)	
Poor (1)	

ure for local surveys in the UK. 2nd ed [online]. Defra, London. PB1195. Available from: [Hedgerublishing.service.gov.uk](http://hedgerublishing.service.gov.uk)

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

07/08/2024 & 20/08/2025 Rebecca Cattell; 20/05/25 Dr Matthew Denny
Northern boundary line of trees
Notes (such as justification)
During the final visit in Aug 25, the adjacent land to the north (off-site) had been cleared so one side then comprised bare ground. However, in Jan 2020 it was clearly vegetated on both sides as it was in our earlier surveys.

