Table 9.1: Review of Condition assessment

Agency / authors	Habitat	Attribute	Sample targets	Method	Notes
EN, CCW, SNH, EHS, JNCC - Kirby et al 2001	Woodland	Extent	No loss of ancient woodland area No decline in the area that is considered semi-natural	Map / aerial photographs	Attributes generic but targets site specific.
		Natural processes and structural development	At least current level of structural diversity maintained Well developed ride structure Ground flora present over at least 50% of area	Structured walk with series of observation stops (typically ten) to be marked on the map prior to visit - evenly spaced or to take account of expected variation.	All attributes must be judged to be in acceptable state to consider a feature is in favourable condition
		Regeneration potential	No more than 20% of regeneration area restocked by planting Any planting material to be of local stock At least 75% of stools showing regrowth at least 1m high at the end of the first summer of cutting	These represent main assessment points , but condition of wood in-between should also be taken into account. Woodland around each stop (approx. (50x50m) should be considered. Notes made at each observation stop. Recorder then makes overall judgment	
		Composition (trees and shrubs)	At least current level os site-native species maintained >95% native species in all layers	about condition of each attribute	
		Quality indicators	At least 80% of the woodland areas referable to relevant NVC communities Good population of wild service tree maintained		
EN - Robertson & Jefferson, 2000	Lowland grassland e.g. from CG2 condition assessment	*Extent	No loss without prior consent	Baseline map / aerial photography / transects for critical boundaries	Attributes and targets generic
		*Sward composition: grass herb ratio	40-90% herbs	Sward composition and structure: Structured walk stopping at pre-determined number of points (typically	* Extent and sward composition are termed mandatory feature to be considered in favourable condition

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Agency / authors	Habitat	Attribute	Sample targets	Method	Notes
		*Sward composition: frequency of positive indicator species/ taxa	At least four species/taxa frequent and three occasional throughout the sward	20). 3-4m area in front of or around recorder searched for indicator species. Other attributes typically assessed for	attributes - all must be within the targets set for the feature
		*Sward composition: cover of individual -tve indicator species e.g. *B. Pinnaturm, B. erecta*	Neither species at more than 10% cover	the site as a whole	to be in favourable condition
		*Sward composition: frequency and percentage cover of negative indicator species / taxa	No species/taxa more than occasional throughout the sward or singly or together more than 5% cover		Sward structure- discretionary attributes - these
		*Sward composition: frequency and percentage cover of all scrub and tree species	No more than 5% cover		are recorded as part of the assessment but do not contribute to the
		Sward structure: average height	2-10 cm	Visual assessment of height made with centimetre scale included on recording form as a guide.	the decision i.e. - favourable vs. unfavourable
		Sward structure: litter in more or less continuous layer, distributed in patches or in one larger area	Total extent no more than 25% of the sward		
		Sward structure: extent of bare ground	No more than 10%		
		Sward structure: rabbit grazing and disturbance levels	No more than 0.05ha i.e.. approximately 20x20 metres		
	Selected additional attributes for other grassland types				
	CG1	Sward composition: % cover of lichens	Cover greater than 5%		

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	Species-rich parched grassland (CG7a,b,d,e,. U1b,c,d,f)	Sward composition: % cover of *Rhododendron* spp.	No more than 1% cover		
		Sward composition: % cover of coarse grasses e.g. *Holcus lanatus, Dactylis glomerata*	No more than 10% cover		
	Lichen grassland (CG7,U1a)	Sward composition: presence, identity and extent (abundance) of rare and scarce lichen species (specific to site)	Continued presence of rare and scarce species and no decline in extent (abundance)		
SNH	Lowland grassland generic attribute and targets shown	*Extent	No loss without SNH consent	Map	*Extent and sward composition - mandatory attributes
		*Sward composition: characteristic species	Specified number of f species from a given list of characteristic species to be present at a given minimum abundance	Attributes assessed by eye for the field as a whole, but a structured walk with 10 stops for a small feature (under 5ha)	Others - indicative attributes
		*Sward composition: grass to forb ratio	Between 40% and 90% forbs	20 or more for a large feature is suggested to increase accuracy. Relevant species in vicinity of stop* to be	
		*Sward composition: undesirable species	Specified maximum abundance of undesirable species	listed and an assessment of abundance made using the DAFOR scale. * No indication of area to be covered	
		Sward structure: vegetation height	Between specified minimum and maximum heights depending on the community		

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Agency / authors	Habitat	Attribute	Sample targets	Method	Notes
		Sward structure: Litter	Litter mat covers no more than a specified maximum (usually 25%) depending on the community		
		Sward structure: bare ground	Bare ground covers no more than a specified maximum (usually 5% of the sward) depending on the community		
		**Rare species	Specified lower limit of abundance of rare/scarce species		**These last 2 attributes assessed only where
		**Additional features of conservation interest	To be determined on a site by site basis e.g. density of ant hills		appropriate or where resources allow
EN - Alonso (2001)	Lowland heathland	Extent	No un-consented loss of area		
		Bare ground	1 -10% cover. NB for dry heath this target can be increased if some birds of species interest (e.g. stone curlews, woodlarks, nightjars) are present	Structured walk (W shaped) with at least 10 pre-determined stops (although 20 recommended). 4 m2 area assessed at each stop.	Attributes mandatory except good quality indicators
		Vegetation structure - Dwarf shrub cover	Dry - 25% - 90% *Calluna vulgaris* and other dwarf shrubs. Wet - >25% ercioids and >10% *Sphagnum* cover	Percentage cover of each key species group (e.g. dwarf shrubs, graminoids etc.) assessed at each stop	Attributes - generic, but targets may be tailored to individual conditions
		Vegetation structure - *Ulex* spp. cover	<50% of the site. Dry - <25% . Wet - <10%	plus other attributes - e.g.. bare ground	Lists of negative indicators and quality indicaotrs to be tailored to individual sites.
		Vegetation structure - *Molinia caerulea* cover	Wet - <50% of site		

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Agency / authors	Habitat	Attribute	Sample targets	Method	Notes
		Vegetation structure - *Calluna vulgaris* cover	Dry - pioneer - 10-40%; Building/mature - 20-80%; Degenerate - <30%; Dead - <10% . Wet - pioneer - >25%; Building/mature - >50%; Degenerate - <25%		
		Vegetation composition - Dwarf shrubs	At least 2 species at least abundant		
		Vegetation composition - Graminoids	At least 1 species at least frequent and 2 species at least occasional throughout the sward		
		Vegetation composition - Forbs	At least 2 species at least occasional throughout the sward		
		Vegetation composition - Bryophytes, lichens	Dry ->10% bryophyte when naturally present. >5% *Cladonia* (if specific to the site). Wet - >10% Sphagna (except *S. papillosum* which indicates blanket bog)		
		Negative indicators - species if over the target threshold - list to be tailored to each site	Dry - e.g. *Rhododendron* and exotic species <1%. Trees <15%, tree seedlings or other species of scrub<1%. *P. aquilinum* <10% in dense canopy. Wet - <10% trees, tree seedlings or scrub, <5% *P.aq.*		
		Negative indicators - signs of disturbance - list to be tailored to each site	Dry - e.g. <10% showing sings of overgrazing or accidental fires, <1% showing signs of erosion. Wet e.g. - <1% of habitat with signs of overgrazing, <1% high intensity fires, 10-20 yr rotation cycle of controlled burning		
		Quality indicators - list to be tailored to each site e.g. rare species, pools edge			

Table 9.1: Review of Condition assessment

Agency / authors	Habitat	Attribute	Sample targets	Method	Notes
EN - Backsall, Manley and Rebane	Uplands - *Calluna* sub-montane dry dwarf-shrub heath	Dwarf shrub cover	Dwarf shrubs are dominant over grass species. Minimum of 75% cover of dwarf shrubs, excluding recently burnt stands.	Two methods suggested: 1) The walk-over survey method - provides a general overview of vegetation condition on a site; and 2) raster and facet methods	All attributes must be judged to be in acceptable state to consider a feature is in favourable condition
		Dwarf shrub diversity	At least two dwarf-shrub species should be frequent and widespread in the sward. No one dwarf-shrub species should be dominant to the exclusion of all others.	which divide the site into survey units. Only former will be described here. Quick survey - structured W walk of the site undertaken - covering a minimum of	A weighted scoring system is used to distinguish between
		Bryophyte / lichen abundance	Bryophytes (excluding *Polytrichum* spp. and/or *Campylopus* spp.) and/or "bushy" *Cladonia* spp. lichens (*C.impexa* and *C. arbuscula*) should be at least frequent and forming patches below, or in more open swards, between the dwarf-shrubs.	20% of the management unit and habitat within. Vegetation condition assessed at 10 randomly located points and 5 in any subsidiary habitats (10 in each if habitats are of similar proportions).	different degrees of unfavourable condition. Thus points are given for each attribute failed.
		Age structure	Either 1) all age classes of *Calluna* present with at least 25% of the management unit in the late mature/degenerate class or 25% or more excluded from the burning rotation or; 2) the whole management unit is unburnt	Assessment walk must cover both 20% of the unit margin and 20% of core area as impacts are likely to differ in these. Route should be recorded in baseline assessment and followed in subsequent	Additional weighting given to attributes considered to be of particular importance in determining
		Grazing impact	Grazing impacts should be light (an absolute max. of 5% of the grazing unit may show signs of current moderate or heavy grazing. NB series of indicators of light grazing given	visits.	condition. These are sub-divided with more points given for poorer examples of the condition.
	Ulex gallii sub-montane dry dwarf-shrub heath	Dwarf shrub cover	Dwarf shrubs (Cal*luna, Erica* spp., *Vaccinium* spp., *Empetrum* and *Ulex gallii)* are dominant over grass species. Minimum of 75% cover of dwarf shrubs, excluding recently burnt stands.	As above	

Table 9.1: Review of Condition assessment

Agency / authors	Habitat	Attribute	Sample targets	Method	Notes
		Dwarf shrub diversity	At least two dwarf-shrub species should be frequent and widespread in the sward. No one dwarf-shrub species should be dominant to the exclusion of all others.		
		Cover of *Ulex gallii*	*Ulex gallii* should not exceed 50% cover, neither over whole stand of *Ulex gallii* dry heath nor within individual age class stands where burning is practised		
		Age structure	All age classes of *dwarf-shrub* present with at least 25% of the management unit in the late mature/degenerate class or 25% or more excluded from the burning rotation. Stands which are never burnt should be present on level or gently sloping ground.		
		Grazing impact	Grazing impacts should be light (an absolute max. of 5% of the grazing unit may show signs of current moderate or heavy grazing. NB series of indicators of light grazing given		
	Wet dwarf-shrub heath	Dwarf shrub cover	Sward composed of a variety of higher plants and bryophytes. Dwarf-shrubs should not dominate the sward and there should be a minimum of 25% cover of species other than dwarf-shrubs.	As above	
		Dwarf shrub diversity	At least two dwarf-shrub species should be frequent and widespread in the sward. No one dwarf-shrub species should be dominant to the exclusion of all others.		
		Bryophyte / lichen abundance	Bryophytes (excluding *Polytrichum* spp. and/or *Campylopus* spp.) should be at least frequent and forming patches below, or in more open swards, between the dwarf-shrubs.		

Table 9.1: Review of Condition assessment

Agency / authors	Habitat	Attribute	Sample targets	Method	Notes
		Age structure	Either 1) all age classes of *Calluna* present with at least 33% of the management unit in the late mature/degenerate class or 33% or more excluded from the burning rotation or; 2) the whole management unit is unburnt		
		Graminoid cover	Purple moor grass *M.caerulea* , deer grass *S. cespitosus* , wavy hair grass *D. flexuosa*, heath rush *J. squarrosus* or other graminoids should not dominate over other species. Total cover of graminoids should not exceed 50%.		
		Grazing impact	Grazing impacts should be light (an absolute max. of 5% of the grazing unit may show signs of current moderate or heavy grazing. NB series of indicators of light grazing given		
	Blanket and upland raised mire	Bryophyte abundance	Bryophytes would be abundant and must include *Sphagnum* spp. *Sphagnum* spp. must be both frequent and widespread in the stand and not restricted to hollows, forming at least occasional lawns or hummocks.	As above	
		Dwarf shrub cover	Except in wetter areas where *Sphagnum* spp. are abundant and forming lawns, cover of dwarf shrubs must be greater than 33%		
		Dwarf shrub diversity	At least two dwarf-shrub species should be frequent and widespread in the sward. No one dwarf-shrub species should be dominant to the		
		Graminoid cover	Hare's tail grass *E. vaginatum*, purple moor grass, deer grass , wavy hair grass, heath rush or other graminoids should not dominate over dwarf shrubs. Total cover of graminoids should not exceed 50% unless		

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Agency / authors	Habitat	Attribute	Sample targets	Method	Notes
			Sphagnum spp. are abundant / co-dominant and forming lawns below the graminoids		
		Extent of bare ground or ground covered by algal mats etc.	Little or no bare ground, or bare ground carpeted by *Raconitrum lanuginosum, Polytrichum* spp., *Campylopus* spp., crust forming lichens or algal mats (found only after widespread and intensive searching)		
		Erosion features associated with human impacts	No erosion, other than very localised instances, associated with human impacts		
		Active peat extraction	Peat extraction absent (areas of cut peat which have revegetated with good mire vegetation which meets the other attributes for favourable vegetation may be acceptable.		
		Grazing impact	Grazing impacts should be light (an absolute max. of 5% of the grazing unit may show signs of current moderate or heavy grazing. NB series of indicators of light grazing given		
Burch, Mitchley, Buckley and Watt 1999	Woodland (newly planted)	Tree establishment	Planted trees established. Failures less than 10%. Tree height - at least some 1m tall by years 2-3, most 2-3m by year 10. Closed canopy conditions starting to form over part of the planted area.	A "general appraisal" methodology is adopted for relatively straightforward habitats (e.g. woodland, hedgerows, field margins, ponds). For this, the recorder carries out a W walk (or in the	NB targets are set for 10 years of the restoration cycle (years 1; 2-3; 5 and 10). In some cases these are the same thoughout.

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Agency / authors	Habitat	Attribute	Sample targets	Method	Notes
		Tree establishment: browsing damage	Majority if leaders free of browsing damage	case of hedgerows / field margins etc. - a linear walk) and assesses the attribute condition for the site as a whole.	NB site characteristics are also included on the recording form for each
		Woody species diversity	Diverse range of species present including some shrubby species. No one species dominating the mix	Space is also included on the recording form for notes to justify condition assessment and to provide any additional relevant information	feature - these detail important features of potentially successful restoration sites
		Woody species colonization (divided into margin and core where source adjacent)	Years 1-4 naturally regenerated woody species present. Years 5-10 naturally regenerated woody species at least occasional. Later targets for core than margin		
		Woodland / woodland edge (non-woody) species colonisation	Years 1-4 shade tolerant woodland species present. Year 5 shade tolerant woodland species at least occasional. Year 10 - shade tolerant woodland species at least frequent in gorund flora Later targets for core than margin		NB Monitoring attributes and targets are also adjusted according to method of restoration and starting point e.g. arable vs. improved pasture
		Weed control around planted trees	Low infestation of weeds around planted trees - Years 1-4 - planted trees not swamped by competing vegetation. Years 5-10 - all planted trees overtopping surrounding vegetation		
		Vegetation matrix between trees	Years 1-4 - matrix of vegetation established between planted whips. Years 5-10 - not applicable.		

Table 9.1: Review of Condition assessment

Agency / authors	Habitat	Attribute	Sample targets	Method	Notes
	Coppiced and planted hedgerow	Regeneration of coppice	Good regrowth of planted stools. Year 1 - at least 80% of coppiced stools showing evidence of healthy regrowth. Year 2-3 regrowth at least 60cm high in 80% of coppice stools. Year 5 - Regrowth at least 1m high and adjacent plants overlapping		
		Establishment of planted whips - where applicable	Whips planted in gaps ca. 1m or more. Year 1 - whips surviving and not swamped by weeds. Years 2-3 whips branching with evidence of pruning. Year 5- whips well branched, adjacent plants overlapping		
		Diversity of woody species	At least 3 woody species evident in 10m length		
		Extensive herbaceous vegetation at base of hedge	Herbaceous vegetation forms an extension of the hedge at least 0.5m high		
		Diverse herbaceous vegetation at base of hedge - particularly tall grasses, composites and nettles	Year 1 - At least 3 herbaceous species present at base of hedge. Years 2 - 10 - At least 5 herbaceous species present at base of hedge.		
	Restored laid hedgerows	Details available in Burch et al (1999)			
	New arable field margins - seeded	Details available in Burch et al (1999)			
	New arable field margins - natural regeneration	Details available in Burch et al (1999)			

Table 9.1: Review of Condition assessment

Agency / authors	Habitat	Attribute	Sample targets	Method	Notes
	Sown grass field margins	Details available in Burch et al (1999)			
	Riverside margins - from improved pasture	Details available in Burch et al (1999)			
	Ditch restoration	Details available in Burch et al (1999)			
	Coastal grazing marsh	Details available in Burch et al (1999)			
	Pond restoration	Variable side profile	Pond sides showing variable profile with at least 30% gently shelving. Shallow sloping area with open mud habitat present.		
		Open water	Years 2-10 open water remaining in at least one third of the pond		
		Pond free from excessive shading, particularly on the southern side	No trees or large shrubs on southern edge of pool which will shade water		
		Diversity of aquatic macrophytes in open water and edge. e.g. sedges, *Spaganium erectum, Hydrocharis morsus-ranae, Potomogeton* spp.	Year 1 - at least 1 aquatic macrophyte species (emergent or submerged) evident. Years 2-3 - at least 3 aq. mac. (emergent submerged or free floating) evident. Year 5 - at least 5 aq. mac. evident Year 10 - at least 7 aq. mac. evident		
		Diversity of bankside vegetation, including tall grasses, shrubs or trees for at least 5m from pond edge	Year 1 - matrix of vegetation exists around pond edge or has been sown / planted. Years 2 - 10 - Buffer of at least 5m of vegetation between pond edge and surrounding land		
		Non native invasive species absent e.g. *Heracleum mantegazzium, Reynoutria japonica*	Non native invasive species absent		

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Agency / authors	Habitat	Attribute	Sample targets	Method	Notes
		Abundance of potentially dominant submerged and free floating species (PDF) e.g. blanket weed, *Lemna minor*	Years 2 -10 - PDF covering no more than 20% of pond surface		
		Abundance of potentially dominant emergent species (PDE) e.g. *Phalaris arundinacea, Glyceria maxima, Phragmites australis, Typha spp*	Years 2 -10 - PDE individually not more than one third of total emergent vegetation		
	Heathland recreation by strewing	Bare sandy ground	Yr 1 - At least frequent patches of bare sandy ground visible from above. Yrs 2-10 Occasional to frequent patches of bare sandy ground visible from above	For more complex habitats (e.g. grassland, heathland) a more structured sample-based methodology is adopted.	
		Evidence of heather strewing	Yr 1- Heather fragments present on soil surface showing evidence of strewing	This reflects the greater difficulty in such habitats to make an overall assessment of the site without a more	
		Matrix of heather established	Yr. 1Heather seedlings obvious on close inspection in at least 60% of sampling positions. Yrs 2-3 heather frequent in at least 80% of sampling positions. Yrs 5-10 heather abundant in at least 80% of sampling positions	focused examination of the vegetation. In this methodology a W walk is made of the site with equally spaced "sampling positions", typically at 10 points along the walk. The sampling position is defined as the 1m semi-circle of	
		Dwarf ericaceous shrubs (in addition to *Calluna*)	Yrs 5-10 dwarf ericaceous shrubs present	of vegetation directly in front of the recorder. At each sampling position the condition of the attributes are	
		Heathland grasses e.g.. *D. flexuosa*, sedges and rushes	Yrs 2--3 heathland grasses etc. present. Yr 5 - heathland grasses etc. present in at least 20% of sampling positions. yr 10 - present in at least 40% of sampling positions	assessed and an abundance score (DAFOS) recorder where required. Some attributes are assessed for the site as a whole (e.g. litter cover) although it is expected that this	

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Agency / authors	Habitat	Attribute	Sample targets	Method	Notes
		Bryophytes and lichens	Yrs 2-3 lichens and mosses present. Yr 5 - lichens and mosses present in at least 20% of sampling positions. Yr 10 - present in at least 40% of sampling positions	judgment will to a large extent be based on observation at the sampling positions	
		Abundance of *Pteridium aqualinum*	*Pteridium* no more than sparse at 80% of sampling positions or more		
		Tree seedlings (e.g. birch and pine)	Tree seedlings absent at 70% of sampling positions or more		
		Abundance of potentially dominant grasses (PDG) e.g. *Agrostis* spp., *Holcus mollis*	PDG no more than occasional at 80% of sampling positions or more		
		Abundance of pernicious weed species (PWS) e.g. *Cirsium arvense, C. vulgare, Urtica dioica*	PWS absent or no more than occasional at 90% of sampling positions or more		
	Restored limestone grassland	Sward structure	Open sward		
		Sward structure - bare ground	Occasional to frequent small patches of bare ground (i.e. 1-2cm) visible when the vegetation is parted		
		Sward height	Years 1-4 - patches of short sward (<5cm) at least occasional Yr 5 - patches of short sward at 50% of sampling positions or more. Yr 10 - 80 % of sampling positions		
		Vegetation composition - forb - rich sward	Yrs. 1-4 Patches of forb-rich sward at least present. Yr. 5 forb rich sward present at 40% of sampling positions. Yr. 10 - present at 80% of sampling positions		

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Agency / authors	Habitat	Attribute	Sample targets	Method	Notes
		Vegetation composition - limestone grassland forbs (LGF) frequent	Yr. 1 - at least 6 LGF present. Yrs. 2-3 at least 10 LGF present. Yr. 5 - at least 6 LGF at 80% of sampling positions. Yr 10 - at least 8 LGF at 80% of sampling positions		
		Vegetation composition - Diverse matrix of limestone grasses (LGS)	Yr. 1 - at least 4 LGS present. Yrs. 2-3 at least 6 LGS present. Yr. 5 - at least 2 LGS at 80% of sampling positions. Yr 10 - at least 4 LGS at 80% of sampling positions		
		Shrub species - limited regrowth	Regrowth of shrubby species no more than sparse.		
		Vegetation composition - low abundance of potentially dominating grasses (PDG)	PDG no more than occasional at 80% of sampling positions		
		Vegetation composition - low infestation of pernicious weed species (PWS)	PWS absent or no more than occasional in 90% or more of sampling positions		
		Vegetation composition - no large clonal patches (>0.5m) of *T. repens* and other leguminous species	Yrs. 1-9 - large clonal patches no more than sparse. Yr. 10 - no large clonal patches.		
	Alluvial grassland	Details available in Burch et al (1999)			
	Restored neutral grassland	Ditto			
	Restored neutral hay meadow	Ditto			
	Restored damp grassland	Ditto			
	Neutral grassland creation	Ditto			

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Agency / authors	Habitat	Attribute	Sample targets	Method	Notes
	Limestone grassland creation	Ditto			
	Acid grassland creation	Ditto			
JNCC - Generic favourable condition table	Ditches	Water availability	Maintain characteristic levels in relation to both freeboard and water depth	"Survey representative areas of the site" - no more indicated	
		Water quality	<10% cover of filamentous algae. High water clarity <30% cover of *Lemna, Azolla* (May to October)		
		Water quality - Salinity (where appropriate)	Existing salinity gradient maintained across site.		
		Plant community	Frequent occurrence of characteristic plant species. Infrequent occurrence of indicators of unfavourable condition e.g. *Glyceria, Elodea*		
		Habitat structure - Channel form	At least 75% of ditch with non-trapezoidal cross-section (from trampling of margins or the creation of berms during ditch maintenance)		
		Habitat structure -Extent / composition of in-channel vegetation	Mix of early, mid and late successional vegetation across the site.		
		Habitat structure - Extent/ composition of bankside vegetation	No more than 20% shading of channel by coarse ruderal vegetation, scrub or hedges		
		Biological disturbance	Fish introductions should not interfere with the ability of the ditch system to support characteristic flora or fauna		

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Agency / authors	Habitat	Attribute	Sample targets	Method	Notes
Glaves et al - draft	Moorland - "Moorland Appraisal Project	Dwarf shrub cover	NB no targets defined in project so far	A computer generated grid of 105 points was superimposed on a map of the site and 100 positions selected for	
		Dwarf shrub height		sampling. Sample positions were located in the field using GPS or	
		Heather cover		compass bearings and a 1m x 1m quadrat (with 0.5m sub-divisions)	
		Heather growth forms indicative of heavy grazing		in front of the recorder	
		Bilberry cover			
		Bilberry height			
		Dominant graminod species			
		Sward height			
		Sward height relating to dominant graminoid species			
		detached heather			
		other detached vegetation			
		Presence of species indicative of heavy grazing / poaching			
		Bare ground			
		Cattle / pony faecal events			
		Sheep faecal events			

Table 9.1: Review of Condition assessment

Agency / authors	Habitat	Attribute	Sample targets	Method	Notes
CCW 2002 - Tir Gofal	Establish new broad-leaved woodland and scrub	Survival of planted trees / shrubs	Years 4/5 - at least 75% of planted trees / shrubs surviving, yrs. 9/10 at least 60%	Sampling strategy yet to be fully resolved but current testing involves a W-shaped walk (linear for hedges etc.) with 20 sampling positions (10 or 5 for	Monitoring is carried out at the commencement of the agreement, in years 4/5 and years 9/10
		Natural regeneration	Yrs. 4/5 at least some signs of natural regeneration. Yrs. 9/10 natural regeneration present throughout and some saplings >1m	woodland) equally spaced. These to be recorded using GPS to enable relocation in subsequent years	Targets for long-term i.e.. after the 10yr period are also stated
	Orchards and parklands	Presence of old fruit trees	Short -term ie. up to yr 10 - no reduction from starting condition. Long-term - 5% of trees present should be old	Sampling position typically 1mx1m but 50mx50m for woodlands is suggested	
		Associated habitats	At least 5% of orchard area - taller grassland		
	Restore semi-improved grassland from arable land or improved grassland	Frequency / cover of agricultural species	Yrs. 4/5 no increase in the cover or frequency of *L. perenne* or *P. pratense* (where present). None of listed species (incl. *T. repens* etc.) to be abundant in long-term, although 1 or more may be present at high frequency		
		Natural regeneration of forbs	Long -term - forb-rich sward. Field margin -Yrs. 4/5 at least 2 forbs present at 60% positions, yrs. 9/10 - 4 at 80%. Field core - Yrs. 4/5 at least 1 forb present at 60% positions, yrs. 9/10 - 2 at 80%.		
		Frequency / cover of weed species	Yrs. 4/5 - weeds no more than constant, yrs. 9/10 no more than frequent. Long-term - weeds rare.		

Table 9.1: Review of Condition assessment

Agency / authors	Habitat	Attribute	Sample targets	Method	Notes
		Cover of bare ground	Scattered small patches of bare ground not to exceed 10% cover in at least 80% of sampling units		
		Extent of litter layer	Yrs 4/5 and on - No more than 20% of sampling unite should have a continuous mat of litter		
		Establishment of sown forbs (if applicable)	Long-term - forb-rich sward. Yrs. 4/5 50% of sown forbs present at 50% of sampling positions. Yrs. 9/10 - 50% at 80% of sampling positions.		
	NB many other habitats covered				