

# Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan

|            |                                 |
|------------|---------------------------------|
| Site Name: | South of Yarm Lane, Great Ayton |
| Date:      | 15/05/2025                      |
| Version:   | 2.0                             |



Author:



Client:



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Version Control

The version control is used for updates to the content. Record the initial version and further version control details in this table each time the management plan is altered throughout the management and monitoring period.

| Version | Issue Status | Prepared by / Date | Approved by / Date |
|---------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1.0     | Draft        | SH / 25.03.25      | IH / 01.04.25      |
|         | Issue        | SH / 09/05/25      | IH / 15.05.25      |
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|         |              |                    |                    |

Document Details

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| Authorship Details                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
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# 1. Project Background

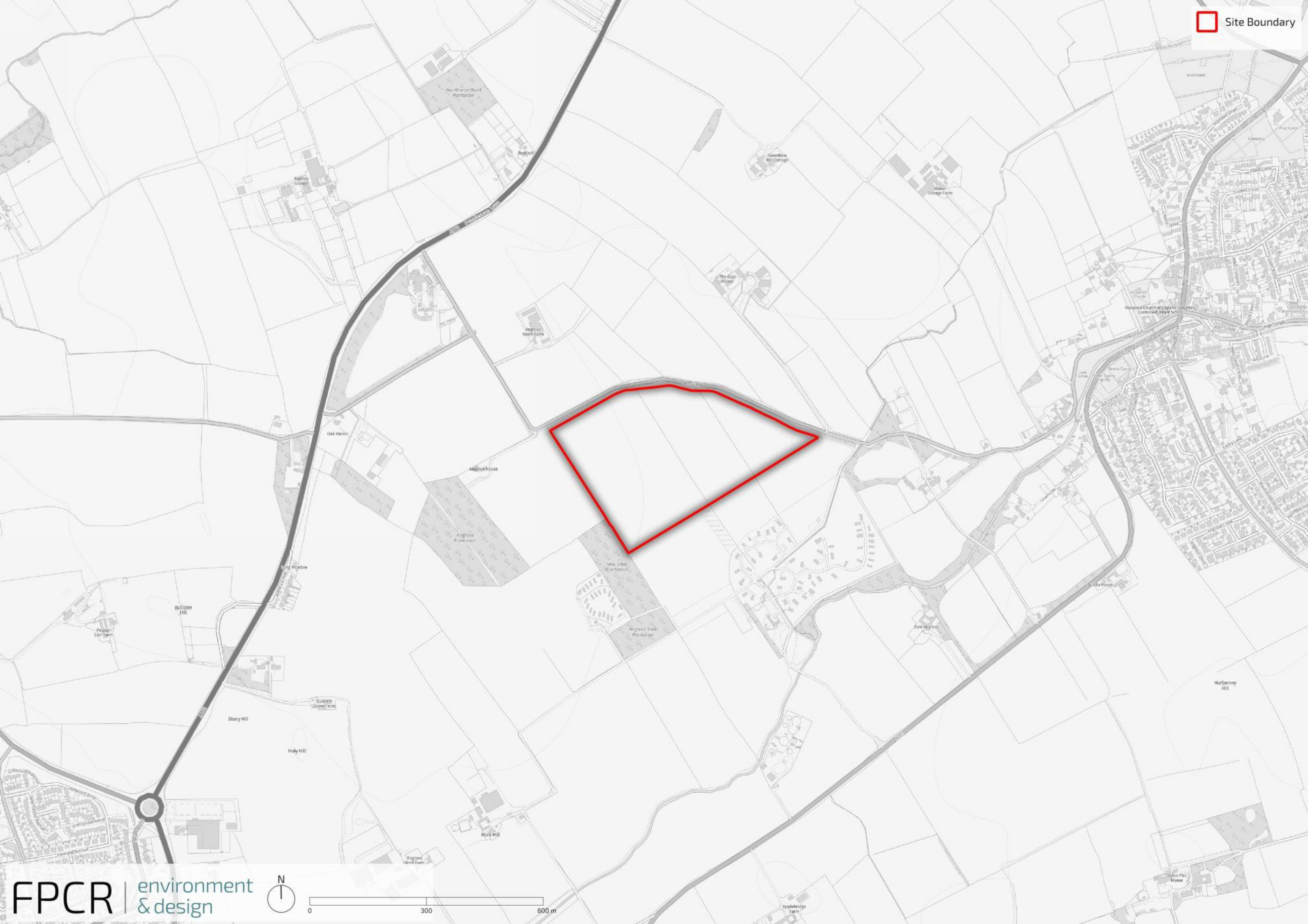
| Site Overview PB-B01                                                  |                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Project type                                                          | Habitat Bank and Nutrient Bank                                        |
| Development Name and Address                                          | N/A                                                                   |
| BNG Project Name and Address                                          | South of Yarm Lane Great Ayton                                        |
| Author Organisation                                                   | FPCR Environment & Design Ltd                                         |
| Landowner                                                             |                                                                       |
| Land Manager                                                          |                                                                       |
| Responsible person/organisation for creating or enhancing the habitat | Wild Capital                                                          |
| Period covered by this management plan                                | Establishment works +30 years for BNG and perpetuity for nutrients    |
| Planning authority                                                    | North Yorkshire Council                                               |
| Planning reference (if applicable)                                    | N/A                                                                   |
| BNG register reference (if applicable)                                | N/A                                                                   |
| Central OS grid reference                                             | -1.162098,54.486075                                                   |
| Metric revision/title                                                 | Statutory biodiversity metric from February 2025                      |
| Are any Irreplaceable Habitats present onsite                         | Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

## Summary of Management Plan

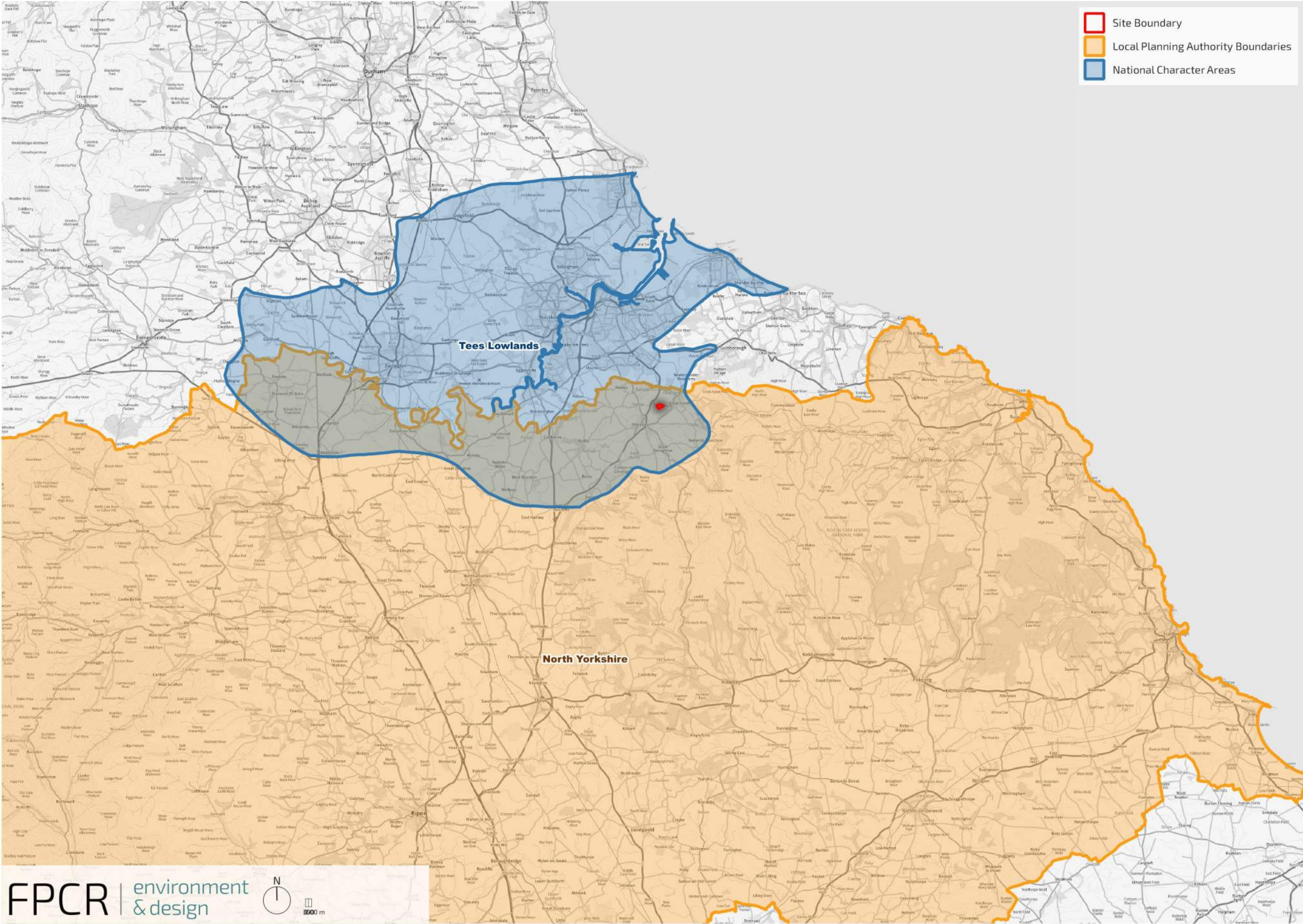
| Habitats to be Retained, Created and Enhanced PB-B02                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>FPCR Environment and Design Ltd have prepared this Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) on behalf of Wild Capital to support the establishment of a Habitat Bank. The proposals include a range of habitat creation/enhancement measures which will be undertaken across the site to generate biodiversity units. These include measures to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Creation of new mixed scrub habitat over existing cropland fields. The initial planting design will incorporate glades, rides, and clearings, the habitat will be managed in the long term to maintain these open areas and to deliver a structurally diverse native scrub community.</li><li>• Creation of traditional orchard with associated grassland across over existing cropland fields though planting of a range of native tree species producing a range of nuts and fruits.</li><li>• Creation of native species-rich hedgerows around the periphery of the Site</li><li>• Enhancement of existing hedgerow habitats across the site to improve native woody species diversity, reduce gappiness and introduce standards.</li><li>• Retention of a single existing species-rich hedgerow (H3)</li></ul> |
| Timescales for Actions PB-B03                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <p>The proposals will commence on the notification to the LPA/RB of the first establishment works of the first “Parcel”. The Parcel is defined as being a notification to the LPA/RB that a habitat phase will be completed in accordance with the parameters stated in the legal agreement. Each phase will be carried out in accordance with the prescriptions identified in this HMMP.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Monitoring Requirements PB-B04                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <p>Monitoring will initially commence annually immediately following habitat establishment, before moving to monitoring every five. The key aim of monitoring will be to track the success of targets for habitat creation/enhancement and to trigger remedial measures where necessary.</p> <p>This is an adaptive management plan; over time, it may be necessary to adjust management measures according to the success of the outcomes. This will be a process of monitoring, evaluating, and modifying the plan as required to reach the same desired outcomes. The responsible authority will be consulted if any significant changes are required.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Required Consents and Licences PB-B05                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <p>Afforestation consent from the Forestry Commission may also be required to facilitate scrub, traditional orchard and tree planting.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Funding PB-B06                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

|                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wild Capital will finance the scheme in accordance with their endowments policy and the finance structure identified in the legal agreement agreed with the legal body. |
| <b>Legal Agreement</b> PB-B07                                                                                                                                           |
| To be secured under s106 agreement or conservation covenant.                                                                                                            |

Site Boundary Plan PB-F01



Site Context Plan PB-F02



Phasing strategy

|                                                                                                                    |                                                                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Will the proposed work measures be delivered in phases? PB-B08                                                     | Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <p>The habitats will be delivered in phases or as a whole in accordance with the terms of the legal agreement.</p> |                                                                       |

As one of the leading consultancies in the advancement and delivery of BNG, FPCR has worked with a broad range of landowners, Local Authorities, and government bodies to establish banks of biodiversity units. The experienced team at FPCR has a proven record and competency in delivering Habitat similar schemes.

This HMMP has been prepared by Sharleen Hanlon. Sharleen is a Senior Ecologist with over 15 years’ experience working for FPCR undertaking a range of protected species surveys. Sharleen’s specialisms include all excepts of project management and written work from production of Preliminary Ecology Appraisals to more complex EclAs for ES chapters and shadows Habitat Regulation Assessment.

Quality Assurance was undertaken by Ian Hunter MCIEEM. Ian is an Associate Ecologist with fourteen years’ experience working in the environmental sector, specialising in all aspects of botany, habitat surveys and Biodiversity Net Gain. He is one of the key members who established the regional office for the practice in York, from where he currently leads on botany, habitat surveying and Biodiversity Net Gain. A specialist in all aspect of Biodiversity Net Gain delivery from preliminary site surveys to the production of bespoke habitat management and monitoring plans. He has an emphasis on feasibility assessments for the establishment of strategic habitat banks, where he is able to utilise his expertise in habitat surveying and management.

Roles and Responsibilities

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |             |                                               |           |                                                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ecologist or Other Professional Responsible for HMMP PB-B09                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |             |                                               |           |                                                                   |
| Name or Initials                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |             | An agent on behalf of Wild Capital            |           |                                                                   |
| Organisation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |             | Wild Capital                                  |           |                                                                   |
| Responsibility                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Start Date: | Commencement of the first establishment works | End Date: | 30 years following the completion of the last establishment works |
| <p>FPCR are responsible for overseeing the preparation of this HMMP and for providing ecological advice on the delivery of the habitat establishment and management prescriptions provided. They will also be responsible for ensuring the landowner/management organisation is aware of protected and/or notable species constraints potentially present on Site.</p> |             |                                               |           |                                                                   |
| Statement of Competency                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |             |                                               |           |                                                                   |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |             |                                               |           |                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Landowner or Land Manager PB-B10                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |             |                                               |           |                                                                   |
| Name or Initials                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |             |                                               |           |                                                                   |
| Organisation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |             | Wild Capital                                  |           |                                                                   |
| Responsibility                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Start Date: | Commencement of the first establishment works | End Date: | 30 years following the completion of the last establishment works |
| <p>Wild Capital will be responsible for the delivery of the habitat creation, enhancement and management prescriptions detailed within this report. They will also be responsible for ensuring that ongoing monitoring is undertaken and that monitoring reports are provided to LPA/RB on the dates specified within the document.</p> |             |                                               |           |                                                                   |
| Statement of Competency                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |             |                                               |           |                                                                   |
| <p>Wild capital is a leading developer of both Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) and NutrientNeutrality (NN) credits, combining financing with ecological delivery to enhance regeneration of UK biodiversity, at scale. They have expertise in environmental restoration, large-scale development, planning and finance.</p>                 |             |                                               |           |                                                                   |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |             |                                               |           |                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The team provide the complete range of biodiversity net gain services, in order to make the process simple, reduce risk, cost and secure the requirement for long term management in order to generate effective biodiversity habitat creation and enhancement across the UK. Important to this is their expertise in establishing habitat across the UK, to provide a range of habitat units across the UK. |             |                                               |           |                                                                   |
| Management Organisation(s) Responsible for Implementing the HMMP PB-B11                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |             |                                               |           |                                                                   |
| Name or Initials                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |             | N/A                                           |           |                                                                   |
| Organisation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |             | Wild Capital                                  |           |                                                                   |
| Responsibility                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Start Date: | Commencement of the first establishment works | End Date: | 30 years following the completion of the last establishment works |
| Responsible for implementing the management onsite in accordance with the measures set out in this management plan. This will include undertaking management measures such as traditional grassland, hedgerow, scrub and arboricultural practices.                                                                                                                                                           |             |                                               |           |                                                                   |
| Statement of Competency                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |             |                                               |           |                                                                   |
| Responsible management team will require appropriate certification , licenses and equipment to undertake the management required.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |             |                                               |           |                                                                   |
| LPA or Responsible Body for Reviewing HMMP PB-B12                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |             |                                               |           |                                                                   |
| Name or Initials                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |             |                                               |           |                                                                   |
| Organisation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |             |                                               |           |                                                                   |
| Responsibility                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Start Date: |                                               | End Date: |                                                                   |
| Summarise the agreed relevant responsibilities of the LPA or Responsible Body in the review, auditing and, or, long-term involvement in the implementation of this HMMP (if applicable)                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |             |                                               |           |                                                                   |

Land Use Summary

Overview of Baseline Site Use PB-B13

The Site (15.89ha) is located between Great Ayton and Stokesley close to the northern border of North Yorkshire. The majority of the on Site habitat comprised of cereal crops with hedgerows. An area of broadleaved woodland was present adjacent to the western boundary beyond which it is surround by open countryside.

A single SSSI – Langbaurgh Ridge – is located c. 1.9km north-east of the Site. The North York Moors SAC/SPA is located c 4.6km east of the Site. Teesmouth & Cleveland Coast SPA and Ramsar is located c.11.5km north at the closest point.

Overview of Proposed Site Use PB-B14

This HMMP has been informed by a Biodiversity Net Gain Feasibility Assessment which highlighted the potential for the creation of new habitats and enhancements to the Site, due to the majority of low baseline habitats onsite. It is additionally of low strategic significance.

The proposed enhancements and habitat creation within the Site will assist in supporting landscape-scale nature recovery. The arable cropland is proposed to be lost and the areas used to create mixed scrub mosaic and traditional orchard. New hedgerows will be created around the periphery on the Site, while existing hedgerows will be retained or enhanced.

Site Context Photos PB-F03



Site Baseline, Environmental Information and Associated Impacts Checklist PB-T01

| Baseline and Environmental Information      | Prompts for when these may be relevant.<br>This is not an exhaustive list. Use your professional judgement to determine which are required for your HMMP | Check box if included               | Document Reference or Reason if not included                      |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Statutory / Non-statutory Designated Sites  | Will your proposals lead to direct or indirect effects on designated sites?                                                                              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                                                                   |
| Protected and Notable Species               | Does the presence or proximity of specific species on or near your site present any constraints or opportunities to project design or management?        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                                                                   |
| Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS)          | Are any INNS present onsite that could affect the proposals?                                                                                             | No                                  |                                                                   |
| Biological Records Plan - Sites and Species | Does the presence of designated sites or specific species on or near the site present any constraints or opportunities to proposals?                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                                                                   |
| Baseline Habitats Survey                    | Is this current and important HMMP information located in a separate document? If so, provide details on where it is located.                            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                                                                   |
| Public Access                               | Has public access, or proposals to allow public access, influenced your management prescriptions? If so, how?                                            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | There is currently no public access to Site and none is proposed. |
| Climate                                     | Are local climate conditions and, or, climate change likely to impact the target habitat retention, creation or enhancement?                             | <input type="checkbox"/>            |                                                                   |
| Geology and Topography                      | Any geological or topographical constraints or opportunities?                                                                                            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                                                                   |
| Agricultural Land Status                    | Does the site support any land favourable for agricultural management? Could this affect the proposals?                                                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                                                                   |
| Soils and Substrates                        | Do soils and substrates present any constraints or opportunities?                                                                                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                                                                   |
| Contaminated Land                           | If there is any contaminated land, will this present any constraints?                                                                                    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | No known contaminated land issues                                 |
| Hydrology and Drainage                      | Will the site hydrology present any constraints or opportunities?                                                                                        | <input type="checkbox"/>            |                                                                   |
| Flood Risk Zones                            | Is the site within a flood risk zone? Will that present any site management risks?                                                                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                                                                   |
| Landscape Character and Designations        | Does the landscape character of the site present any constraints or opportunities?                                                                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                                                                   |
| Historic Land Use                           | Does the historic land use present any constraints or opportunities?                                                                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                                                                   |
| Historic Environment and Earth Heritage     | Are there any historic environment designations? What are the implications for your plan?                                                                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                                                                   |

Baseline and Environmental Information

Biological Records

Designated Sites (BI-T01)

| Site Name        | Designation       | Distance from Project Site | Potential Impact from Project |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| North York Moors | SAC/SPA           | 4.6km east                 | Neutral                       |
| Langbaurgh Ridge | SSSI – Geological | 1.9km north-east           | Neutral                       |

| Summary of Designated Sites (BI-B01)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>A single SSSI – Langbaurgh Ridge – is located c. 1.9km north-east of the Site. This is designated for its geological rather than ecological importance.</p> <p>One internationally designated site located within 10km of the Site, the North York Moors SAC/SPA is located c 4.6km east of the Site. Teesmouth &amp; Cleveland Coast SPA and Ramsar is located c.11.5km north at the closest point.</p> <p>There are no non-statutory sites within 1km of the redline boundary.</p> <p>The Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS), which would define the strategic significance of habitats within the region, is yet to be published. The Site is not mapped under any relevant strategic spatial biodiversity policy.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Constraints and Opportunities for Project (BI-B02)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <p>Given the distance from the Site to the closest statutory and non-statutory designated Site, it is considered that there are no constraints to the proposals.</p> <p>The Site lies within the Tees catchment, this provided an opportunity to provided mitigation on Site for nutrient pollution of developments within the catchment area. As such is was decided during the design process that habitats created should be manageable without the use of grazing to reduce nutrient input as much as possible.</p> <p>Proposals will increase the habitat distinctiveness and overall species diversity within the site, as well as reducing nutrient inputs in perpetuity. This will provide improved connectivity in the landscape and contribute to nature recovery locally. However, the site is not mapped under any relevant strategic spatial biodiversity policy and so all proposed habitat interventions were assigned as low strategic significance. This will be reviewed on publication of the draft LNRS, due in spring 2025.</p> |

Protected and Notable Species (BI-T02)

| Species                                                | Dates              | Conservation Status        | Distance of Closest Record | Potential Impact from Project |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Common pipistrelle<br><i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i> | Latest record 2024 | SPI, Regs, WCA, Sch5       | c.1.3km south west         | Positive                      |
| Hedgehog<br><i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>                 | 2024               | SPI, LBAP                  | c. 500m west               | Positive                      |
| Otter<br><i>Lutra Lutra</i>                            | 2023               | SPI, Regs, WCA Sch 5, LBAP | c. 460m east               | Positive                      |
| Brown hare<br><i>Lepus europaeus</i>                   | 2023               | SPI, LBAP                  | c.1.3km east               | Negligible                    |
| Pole cat<br><i>Mustela putorius</i>                    | 2023               | SPI                        | c.1.9km South              | Positive                      |
| Great crested newt<br><i>Triturus cristatus</i>        | 2024               | SPI, WCA Sch5, LBAP, Regs  | c.1.7km north east         | Positive                      |
| Smooth newt<br><i>Lissotriton vulgaris</i>             | 2024               | WCA Sch5                   | c.1.7km north east         | Positive                      |
| Brown trout<br><i>Salmo Trutta</i>                     | 2023               | SPI, LBAP                  | c.1.1Km south west         | Positive                      |
| Eel<br><i>Anguilla anguilla</i>                        | 2023               | SPI, LBAP                  | c.1.1Km south west         | Positive                      |
| Barn Owl<br><i>Tyto alba</i>                           | 2024               | WCA sch 1                  | c. 1.9km west 2024         | Positive                      |
| Swift<br><i>Apus apus</i>                              | 2023               | Red                        | c. 1.4km east 2023         | Positive                      |

Summary of Protected and Notable Species (BI-B03)

The table above shows a summary of protected and notable species records obtained from Environmental Records Information Centre North-East, covering the last 20 years.

No records were returned for the Site itself.

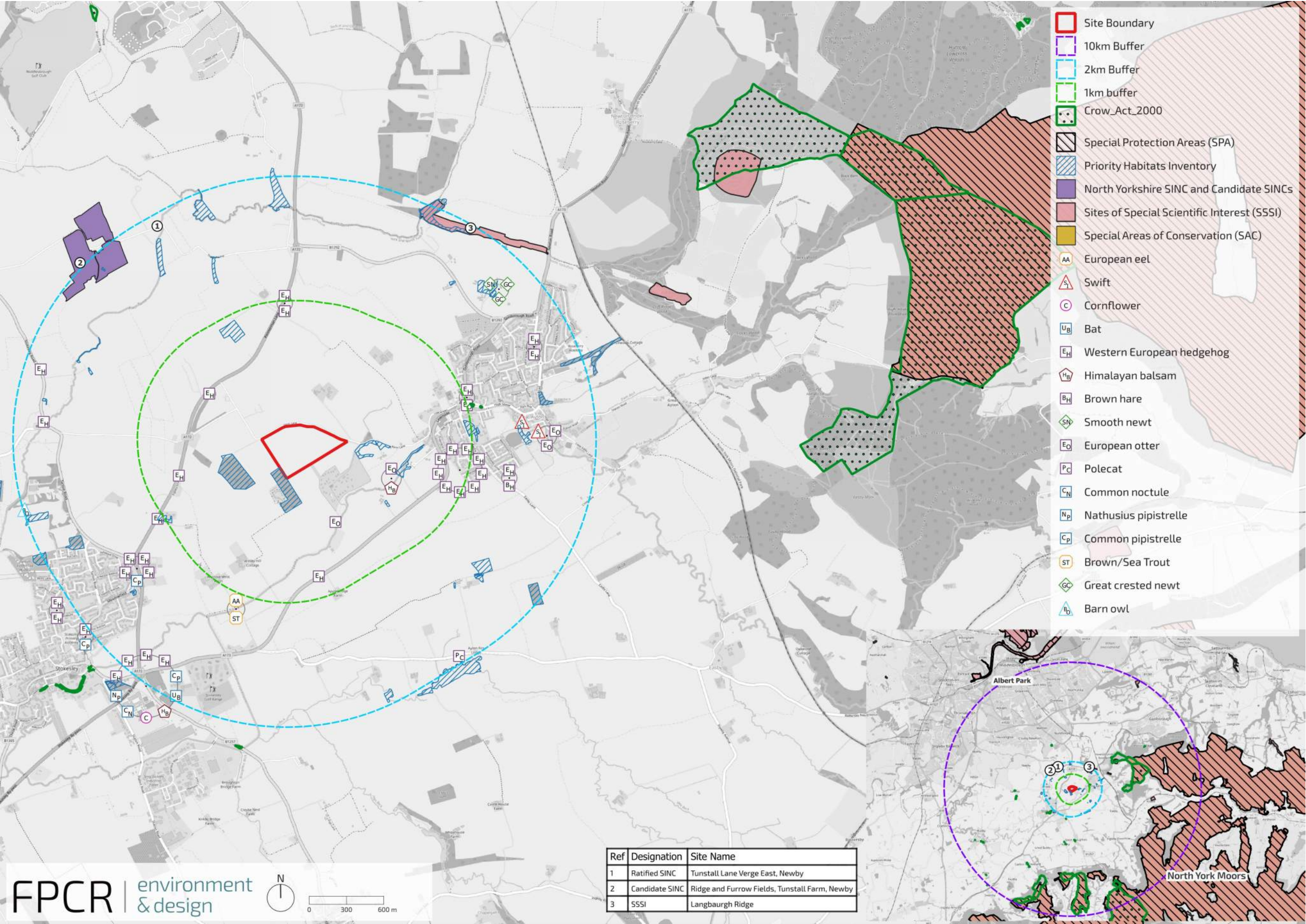
Constraints and Opportunities for Project (BI-B04)

The planting of shrubs while maintaining open space areas throughout the habitat would provide benefits to a range of other farmland bird species that favour hedgerow and shrub habitats.

Great crested newt records were returned over 1.7km of the Site boundary. There are no ponds visible on online OS maps within 250m of the site boundary. And there are no GCN licence returns or GCN pond survey results (21017-2019) within 2km of the site available on MAGIC. It is therefore considered that there will be no impacts to GCN. However, the conversion of arable land to shrub is likely to increase the amount and quality of suitable terrestrial habitat available for this species, particularly during the hibernation period if there distribution changes in the future.

In the long term, once the created habitats have established, the project will have a positive impact on the majority of protected and notable species which have been recorded in the area. Enhancements of habitats and species diversity will positively influence protected species, providing more shelter within the scrub areas and transitional habitats. Furthermore, varied flora species will enhance foraging opportunities for protected species.

Biological Records Plan - Sites and Species (BI-F01)



## Baseline Habitats Survey

| Ecologist responsible for baseline surveys (BI-T03)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Name or Initials                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Ian Hunter                    |
| Organisation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | FPCR                          |
| Survey Date                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 5 <sup>th</sup> February 2025 |
| Statement of Competency                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                               |
| <p>Ian is a skilled field botanist with over fourteen years’ experience of habitat surveying, who currently holds a BSBI FISC level 5, experienced in Habitat Surveying across all habitat types, with particular expertise in woodland and grassland classification. He is experienced in using mapping software (QGIS and Qfield) and the Defra Biodiversity Metric. He leads training of FPCR ecologists in UKHab/NVC and habitat classification for net gain assessments.</p> <p>He previously worked for five years surveying and mapping of woodlands as a habitat surveyor on the Forestry Commission’s Native Woodland Survey of Scotland (NWSS) recording community composition, NVC communities, structure and potential pressures on woodland condition.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                               |
| Survey conditions and limitations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                               |
| <p>Habitats were recorded broadly following the UKHab classification system and assessed for their condition using methodology as detailed within the Statutory Metric Technical Annexes. Given the type of habitats present a survey at this time of year was considered sufficient. The habitats present on site consist of predominantly arable habitats which do not require a detailed condition assessment. Hedgerows are able to be classified, and robust condition assessments collected for them in the winter period. During the survey condition were bright with no rain and little wind. No limitations were recorded during the survey.</p> <p>The UKHab habitat baseline map has been reproduced from detailed field notes and informed by aerial imagery, OS mapping and site maps provided by the client. The accuracy of this figure is therefore ultimately guided by the accuracy of these sources and can only be relied upon to a certain degree of resolution.</p> |                               |

## Habitat Degradation

| Are there any signs or evidence that the baseline habitats have been purposefully degraded since 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2020? (BI-B05) |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>There are no signs or evidence that the baseline habitats have been purposefully degraded since 30th January 2020.</p>                |
| If habitats have been purposefully degraded, provide details of how this has been accounted for (BI-B06)                                 |
| <p>N/A</p>                                                                                                                               |

Baseline Habitat Descriptions and Condition

Habitats (BI-T04)

| Parcel Refs | Habitat Type and Code | Irreplaceable | Priority | Description and Condition Justification                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Condition | Area (ha) |
|-------------|-----------------------|---------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 1           | Cereal Crop c1c       | No            | No       | <p>The Site comprised of three arable field which are currently used for cereal crops. Field margins were around 1m in width and comprised of a rough grassland community characterised by common couch <i>Elytrigia repens</i>, Yorkshire-fog <i>Holcus lanatus</i> and false oat-grass <i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>. Herbaceous cover was limited to ruderal species such as common nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i>, cleavers <i>Galium aparine</i> and cow parsley <i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>. Arable field margins are a BAP habitat, however given the size, management and composition of the margins recorded on site, they are not considered BAP quality habitat and have been mapped as a component of the wider cropland habitat.</p> <p>In crop vegetation was sparse limited to rare to occasional groundsel <i>Senecio vulgaris</i>, creeping buttercup <i>Ranunculus repens</i>, yarrow <i>Achillea millefolium</i>, broad-leaved dock <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>, creeping thistle <i>Cirsium arvense</i> and annual meadow-grass <i>Poa annua</i></p> <p>This habitat does not have a condition assessment</p> | N/A       | 15.89     |

Hedgerows (BI-T05)

| Feature Refs | Habitat Type and Code                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Irreplaceable | Priority | Description and Condition Justification                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                             |              | Condition | Area (ha) |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| H1           | H2a Native hedgerow                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | No            | Yes      | <div>H1 was a native hedgerow which ran through the central section of the site. It contained two mature standards, but didn’t have sufficient standards to qualify as a hedgerow with trees. It contained a total of seven woody species but was dominated by Hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> and only averaged 2.33 species per 30m sample point. Sections of this hedgerows shown to have been laid in the past. The hedgerow was assessed as being in poor condition, failing due to its height, width, horizontal gapiness and nutrient enriched ground flora.</div> |                                                                                             |              | Poor      |           |
|              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |               |          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                             |              |           |           |
|              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |               |          | Condition Assessment Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                             | Pass or Fail |           |           |
|              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |               |          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                             | H1           |           |           |
|              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |               |          | A1.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Height<br>>1.5 m average along length                                                       | Fail         |           |           |
|              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |               |          | A2.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Width<br>>1.5 m average along length                                                        | Fail         |           |           |
|              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |               |          | B1.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Gap – hedge base<br>Gap between ground and base of canopy <0.5 m for >90% of length         | Pass         |           |           |
|              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |               |          | B2.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Gap – hedge canopy continuity<br>Gaps make up <10% of total length; and No canopy gaps >5 m | Fail         |           |           |
| C1.          | Undisturbed ground & perennial vegetation<br>>1 m width of undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation for >90% of length:<br>· Measured from outer edge of hedgerow; and<br>· Is present on one side of the hedgerow (at least). | Fail          |          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                             |              |           |           |

|                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |              |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                               |                                                                                                                                                                |              |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |                                             |      |     |                                                                                            |      |     |                                                                                                    |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |  |      |      |  |
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|                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |              |     | <table><tr><td>C2.</td><td><b>Nutrient-enriched perennial vegetation</b><br/>Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate &lt;20% cover of the area of disturbed ground.</td><td>Fail</td></tr><tr><td>D1.</td><td><b>Invasive and neophyte species</b><br/>&gt;90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free od invasive non-native plant species (including those listed on Schedule 9 of the WCA) and recently introduced species.</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>D2.</td><td><b>Current damage</b><br/>&gt;90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage cause by human activities.</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Condition</td><td>Poor</td></tr></table>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | C2.                           | <b>Nutrient-enriched perennial vegetation</b><br>Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of the area of disturbed ground. | Fail         | D1. | <b>Invasive and neophyte species</b><br>>90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free od invasive non-native plant species (including those listed on Schedule 9 of the WCA) and recently introduced species. | Pass | D2. | <b>Current damage</b><br>>90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage cause by human activities. | Pass | Condition |                                             | Poor |     |                                                                                            |      |     |                                                                                                    |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |  |      |      |  |
| C2.                           | <b>Nutrient-enriched perennial vegetation</b><br>Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of the area of disturbed ground.                                                                                           | Fail         |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                               |                                                                                                                                                                |              |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |                                             |      |     |                                                                                            |      |     |                                                                                                    |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |  |      |      |  |
| D1.                           | <b>Invasive and neophyte species</b><br>>90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free od invasive non-native plant species (including those listed on Schedule 9 of the WCA) and recently introduced species.                                      | Pass         |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                               |                                                                                                                                                                |              |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |                                             |      |     |                                                                                            |      |     |                                                                                                    |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |  |      |      |  |
| D2.                           | <b>Current damage</b><br>>90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage cause by human activities.                                                                                                                                         | Pass         |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                               |                                                                                                                                                                |              |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |                                             |      |     |                                                                                            |      |     |                                                                                                    |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |  |      |      |  |
| Condition                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Poor         |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                               |                                                                                                                                                                |              |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |                                             |      |     |                                                                                            |      |     |                                                                                                    |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |  |      |      |  |
| H2                            | H2a Native hedgerow with associatated ditch                                                                                                                                                                                                              | No           | Yes | <p>H2 ran along the field compartment to the east of H1. Hawthorn was characteristic and although it contained a total of seven woody species, an average of three was recorded within the 30m sample points. A dry ditch was also recorded in association with this hedgerow, which featured frequent great willowherb <i>Epilobium hirsutum</i> and reed canary-grass <i>Phalaris arundinacea</i> along its banks. The hedgerow had a taller and wider structure and as such was assessed as being in good condition, failing only on horizontal gaps and nutrient enriched ground flora.</p> <table><tr><td colspan="2">Condition Assessment Criteria</td><td>Pass or Fail</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2"></td><td>H2</td></tr><tr><td>A1.</td><td><b>Height</b><br/>&gt;1.5 m average along length</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>A2.</td><td><b>Width</b><br/>&gt;1.5 m average along length</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>B1.</td><td><b>Gap – hedge base</b><br/>Gap between ground and base of canopy &lt;0.5 m for &gt;90% of length</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>B2.</td><td><b>Gap – hedge canopy continuity</b><br/>Gaps make up &lt;10% of total length; and No canopy gaps &gt;5 m</td><td>Fail</td></tr><tr><td>C1.</td><td><b>Undisturbed ground &amp; perennial vegetation</b><br/>&gt;1 m width of undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation for &gt;90% of length:<br/>· Measured from outer edge of hedgerow; and<br/>· Is present on one side of the hedgerow (at least).</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>C2.</td><td><b>Nutrient-enriched perennial vegetation</b><br/>Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate &lt;20% cover of the area of disturbed ground.</td><td>Fail</td></tr><tr><td>D1.</td><td><b>Invasive and neophyte species</b><br/>&gt;90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free od invasive non-native plant species (including those listed on Schedule 9 of the WCA) and recently introduced species.</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>D2.</td><td><b>Current damage</b><br/>&gt;90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage cause by human activities.</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Condition</td><td>Good</td></tr></table> | Condition Assessment Criteria |                                                                                                                                                                | Pass or Fail |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | H2   | A1. | <b>Height</b><br>>1.5 m average along length                                                                     | Pass | A2.       | <b>Width</b><br>>1.5 m average along length | Pass | B1. | <b>Gap – hedge base</b><br>Gap between ground and base of canopy <0.5 m for >90% of length | Pass | B2. | <b>Gap – hedge canopy continuity</b><br>Gaps make up <10% of total length; and No canopy gaps >5 m | Fail | C1. | <b>Undisturbed ground &amp; perennial vegetation</b><br>>1 m width of undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation for >90% of length:<br>· Measured from outer edge of hedgerow; and<br>· Is present on one side of the hedgerow (at least). | Pass | C2. | <b>Nutrient-enriched perennial vegetation</b><br>Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of the area of disturbed ground. | Fail | D1. | <b>Invasive and neophyte species</b><br>>90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free od invasive non-native plant species (including those listed on Schedule 9 of the WCA) and recently introduced species. | Pass | D2. | <b>Current damage</b><br>>90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage cause by human activities. | Pass | Condition |  | Good | Good |  |
| Condition Assessment Criteria |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Pass or Fail |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                               |                                                                                                                                                                |              |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |                                             |      |     |                                                                                            |      |     |                                                                                                    |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |  |      |      |  |
|                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | H2           |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                               |                                                                                                                                                                |              |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |                                             |      |     |                                                                                            |      |     |                                                                                                    |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |  |      |      |  |
| A1.                           | <b>Height</b><br>>1.5 m average along length                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Pass         |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                               |                                                                                                                                                                |              |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |                                             |      |     |                                                                                            |      |     |                                                                                                    |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |  |      |      |  |
| A2.                           | <b>Width</b><br>>1.5 m average along length                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Pass         |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                               |                                                                                                                                                                |              |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |                                             |      |     |                                                                                            |      |     |                                                                                                    |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |  |      |      |  |
| B1.                           | <b>Gap – hedge base</b><br>Gap between ground and base of canopy <0.5 m for >90% of length                                                                                                                                                               | Pass         |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                               |                                                                                                                                                                |              |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |                                             |      |     |                                                                                            |      |     |                                                                                                    |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |  |      |      |  |
| B2.                           | <b>Gap – hedge canopy continuity</b><br>Gaps make up <10% of total length; and No canopy gaps >5 m                                                                                                                                                       | Fail         |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                               |                                                                                                                                                                |              |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |                                             |      |     |                                                                                            |      |     |                                                                                                    |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |  |      |      |  |
| C1.                           | <b>Undisturbed ground &amp; perennial vegetation</b><br>>1 m width of undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation for >90% of length:<br>· Measured from outer edge of hedgerow; and<br>· Is present on one side of the hedgerow (at least). | Pass         |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                               |                                                                                                                                                                |              |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |                                             |      |     |                                                                                            |      |     |                                                                                                    |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |  |      |      |  |
| C2.                           | <b>Nutrient-enriched perennial vegetation</b><br>Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of the area of disturbed ground.                                                                                           | Fail         |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                               |                                                                                                                                                                |              |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |                                             |      |     |                                                                                            |      |     |                                                                                                    |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |  |      |      |  |
| D1.                           | <b>Invasive and neophyte species</b><br>>90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free od invasive non-native plant species (including those listed on Schedule 9 of the WCA) and recently introduced species.                                      | Pass         |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                               |                                                                                                                                                                |              |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |                                             |      |     |                                                                                            |      |     |                                                                                                    |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |  |      |      |  |
| D2.                           | <b>Current damage</b><br>>90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage cause by human activities.                                                                                                                                         | Pass         |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                               |                                                                                                                                                                |              |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |                                             |      |     |                                                                                            |      |     |                                                                                                    |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |  |      |      |  |
| Condition                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Good         |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                               |                                                                                                                                                                |              |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |                                             |      |     |                                                                                            |      |     |                                                                                                    |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |  |      |      |  |
| H3                            | H2a5 Species rich native hedgerow                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | No           | Yes | <p>Finally, hedgerow H3 ran along the western Site Boundary. It was classified as species rich due to presence of 9 species and an average of 4.33 species per 30m sample points. Hawthorn and blackthorn <i>Prunus spinosa</i> were frequently recorded with hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i>, field maple <i>Acer campestre</i>, apple <i>Malus domestica</i>, ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> and wych elm <i>Ulmus glabra</i>. The hedgerow was assessed to be in good condition, failing only on nutrient enriched vegetation.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Good                          |                                                                                                                                                                |              |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |                                             |      |     |                                                                                            |      |     |                                                                                                    |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                |      |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |     |                                                                                                                  |      |           |  |      |      |  |

|           |  |  |  |  |                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |              |  |  |  |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--|--|--|
|           |  |  |  |  | Condition Assessment Criteria |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Pass or Fail |  |  |  |
|           |  |  |  |  |                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | H3           |  |  |  |
|           |  |  |  |  | A1.                           | Height<br>>1.5 m average along length                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Pass         |  |  |  |
|           |  |  |  |  | A2.                           | Width<br>>1.5 m average along length                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Pass         |  |  |  |
|           |  |  |  |  | B1.                           | Gap – hedge base<br>Gap between ground and base of canopy <0.5 m for >90% of length                                                                                                                                                           | Pass         |  |  |  |
|           |  |  |  |  | B2.                           | Gap – hedge canopy continuity<br>Gaps make up <10% of total length; and No canopy gaps >5 m                                                                                                                                                   | Pass         |  |  |  |
|           |  |  |  |  | C1.                           | Undisturbed ground & perennial vegetation<br>>1 m width of undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation for >90% of length:<br>· Measured from outer edge of hedgerow; and<br>· Is present on one side of the hedgerow (at least). | Pass         |  |  |  |
|           |  |  |  |  | C2.                           | Nutrient-enriched perennial vegetation<br>Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of the area of disturbed ground.                                                                                       | fail         |  |  |  |
|           |  |  |  |  | D1.                           | Invasive and neophyte species<br>>90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free od invasive non-native plant species (including those listed on Schedule 9 of the WCA) and recently introduced species.                                  | Pass         |  |  |  |
|           |  |  |  |  | D2.                           | Current damage<br>>90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage cause by human activities.                                                                                                                                     | Pass         |  |  |  |
| Condition |  |  |  |  |                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Good         |  |  |  |

Priority and Irreplaceable Habitats

Summary of Priority and Irreplaceable Habitats (BI-B07)

There are no irreplaceable habitats located within the Site boundary.

All hedgerows consisting predominantly (i.e. 80% or more cover) of at least one woody UK native species are covered by this priority habitat. As all hedgerows on site comprised entirely of native species they meet this definition.

Potential Constraints and Opportunities for Project (BI-B08)

There is potential to enhance the hedgerows within the Site. Hedgerows H1 and H2 could be enhanced to species rich hedgerows through re-laying and additional planting to increase woody diversity. New hedgerows will be planted around the perimeter of the Site providing further enhancements. The increase in the diversity of habitats on sites and the edge effect created between the scrub and traditional orchard habitats will provide a varied vegetation structure, a food source and shelter for wide range of wildlife.

Baseline Habitats Plan (BI-F02)



Baseline Distinctiveness and Condition Plan (BI-F03)



Baseline Habitats Photos (BI-F04)



Land Tenure and Public Access

| Relevant Land Tenure Information (EI-B01)                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Land ownership will remain with the current landowner.                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Potential Impact to Scheme (EI-B02)                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| All management prescriptions detailed within this management plan will be the responsibility of the current landowner. Therefore, there will be no constraints to completing the management prescriptions in relation to land tenure |
| Public Access Information (EI-B03)                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| There will be no public access to the Site.                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Potential Impact to Scheme (EI-B04)                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| As there is no public access proposed for the Site there is no impact to the scheme from it.                                                                                                                                         |

Land Tenure and Public Access Plan (EI-F01)



Geology and Topography

| Geological Information (EI-B07)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The bedrock beneath the Site comprises entirely of Redcar Mudstone Formation. Sand and Gravel River Terrace Deposits.                                                                                                                                               |
| Potential Impact to Scheme (EI-B08)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Bedrock types across the Site are typical of those throughout the region and are unlikely to have any negative impacts on the proposals. This bedrock type leads to clay/ sandy soils that do not retain high nutrient loads which overall will benefit the scheme. |
| Topography (EI-B09)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| The Site sits at 80m above sea level and is extremely flat. The is a slight downwards gradient across the Site from west to east.                                                                                                                                   |
| Potential Impact to Scheme (EI-B10)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| The proposed habitats and the topography of the Site are both representative of the general area. Therefore, there will be no potential impact to the scheme due to topography.                                                                                     |

Geology and Topography Plan (EI-F02)



Agricultural Land Status

Agricultural Land Status (EI-B11)

Best and most versatile land includes grades 1 to grade 3a. Depending on the subgrade of the land within the Site, the Site may comprise best and most versatile land.

The Site's southern extent is in Agricultural Land Grade 2 and is therefore Very Good Quality agricultural land. Grade 2 land is defined as:

*“This land has minor limitations which affect crop yield, cultivations or harvesting. It can support a wide range of agricultural and horticultural crops but there can be some reduced flexibility on land within the grade, which causes difficulty in the production of more demanding crops e.g. winter harvested vegetables and arable root crops. This land is high yielding but may be lower or more variable than Grade 1.”*

The majority of the Site is Agricultural Land Grade 3 and is therefore Good to Moderate Quality agricultural land. Grade 3 land is defined as:

*“This land has moderate limitations that affect the choice of crops to be grown, timing and type of cultivation, harvesting or yield. The yield of more demanding crops grown on this land is generally lower or more variable than on Grade 1 and 2”.*

Potential Impact on Project (EI-B12)

The Site comprises predominantly grade 3 agricultural land, with a small section grade 2. It is considered that the proposals therefore may pose a risk of impacting areas of best and most versatile agricultural land.

However, proposals provide an opportunity for the land to support sustainable food production by the creation of a traditional orchard across two thirds of the Site.

Agricultural Land Status Plan (EI-F03)



Landscape Character and Designations

Summary of Landscape Character and Designations (EI-B21)

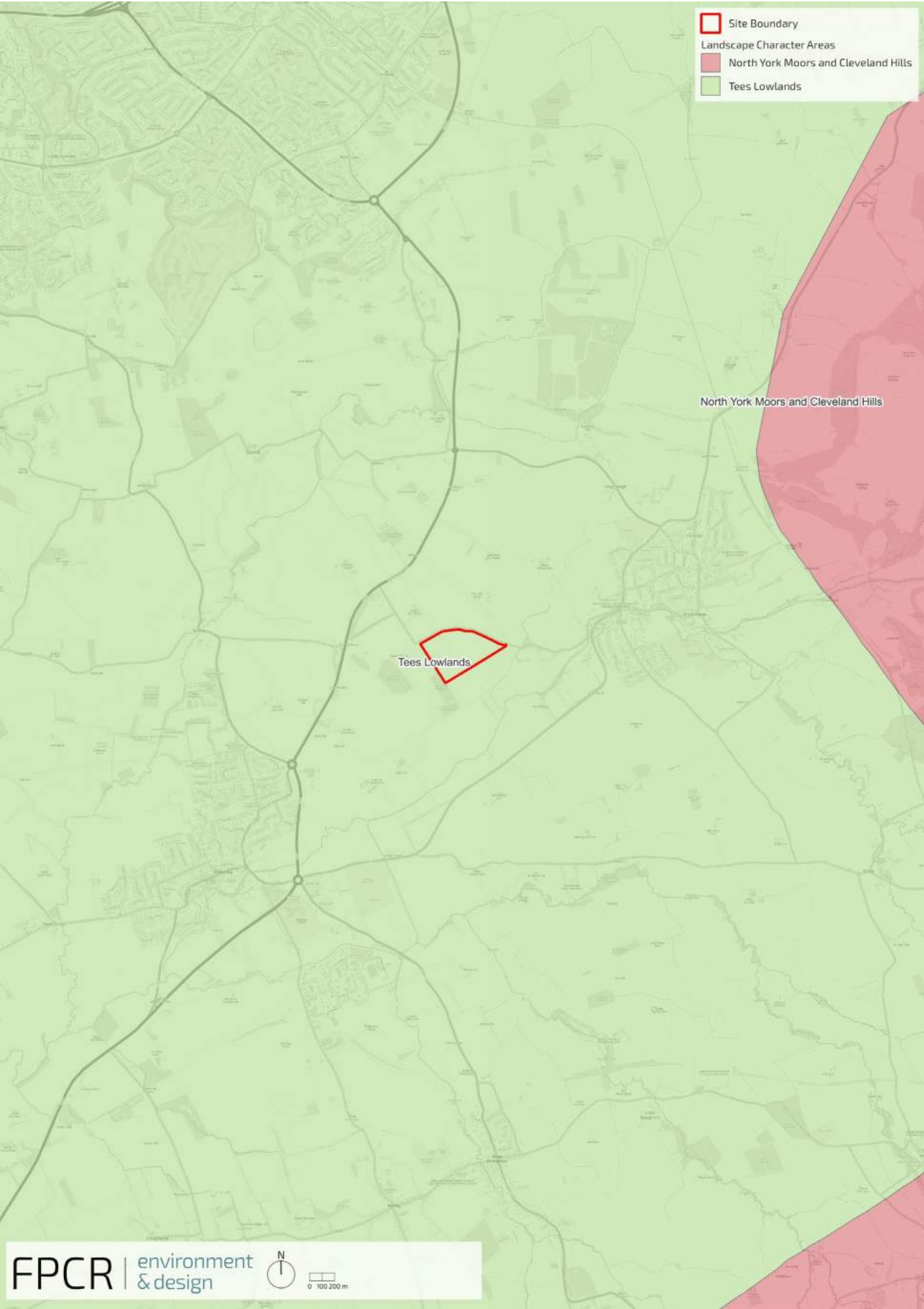
The Site is part of the Tees Lowlands National Character Area. The statements of Environmental Opportunity provided by Natural England include:

- SEO 1- Protect and enhance the unique landscape of the Tees Estuary with its mosaic of internationally important intertidal, wetland and brownfield habitats.
- SEO 2 - Incorporate semi-natural habitats within the farmed environment, and use innovative farming techniques in order to improve the value of food provision alongside biodiversity, flood water storage capacity, and the ability of the landscape to adapt to the impacts of climate change.
- SEO 3 - Ensure that there is a well-connected network of high-quality green infrastructure throughout the Tees Lowlands which will enable people to understand and enjoy the natural environment, as well as providing a range of other benefits including biodiversity enhancement, food provision and flood risk mitigation .

Potential Impact on Project (EI-B21)

This project includes a range of opportunities to contribute significantly to the NCA environmental opportunities through the creation and enhancement of a mosaic of habitats, which would align with SEO2.

Landscape Character and Designations Plan (EI-F08)



## 2. Planned Management Activities

### Management Plan Aims and Objectives PM-B01

Primary management objectives describe the overall ecological aims and outcomes of the project. The objectives are achieved by following the prescribed management prescriptions in this management plan. The management prescriptions will be adaptable throughout the life of the project, adjusted in response to changing conditions where necessary to achieve the objectives. The management objectives are directly connected to the habitat descriptions and condition assessments outlined in part 1 which underpin the Biodiversity Unit value of the Site. The management objectives are the deliverable outcomes which are monitored against in the monitoring plan.

This management plan will define the actions required to:

- Enhance existing habitats,
- Create new habitats.
- Provide the principles for the ongoing management to achieve the management objectives for the duration of the project.

The proposed habitat creation will include the planting of a new scrub mosaic and an area of traditional orchard within the existing cropland fields, new hedgerows, as well as the enhancement of hedgerows H1 and H2. The habitat creation and enhancement are described in further detail below.

### Proposed Management

#### Area Habitats

- Cereal crop fields will be used to create an expansive area of mixed scrub and traditional orchard at a 60:40 ratio. These will be created using a diverse range of native scrub and tree species and managed to promote habitat heterogeneity and biodiversity throughout. The area of traditional orchard will maintain an open landscape providing views of the surrounding area. The scrub will be managed for wildlife, by creating glades/rides and well-developed edges by creating a buffer where tall tussocky grassland and scattered scrub areas can grow.

#### Hedgerow

- Hedgerows H1 and H2 could be enhanced to species rich hedgerows through re-laying and additional planting to increase woody diversity in good condition.
- Creation of 1.3km of species rich native hedgerows in good condition.

The plan will deliver these habitats to the agreed condition and timespan to satisfy the requirements of biodiversity net gain and provide the offsite units for development.

- Secondary objectives of this management plan are to aim for over-delivery and additionality by default, achieved by following the best available evidence for habitat establishment and management. Adaptable approaches to the management and monitoring plans should allow a higher standard than the management objectives dictate to be achieved within and beyond the agreement timescales.

Following the end of the 30-year management period the land will not be brought back in agricultural production.

Principles Informed by Design Stage

| Design Principles Informed by Baseline Information PM-B02                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>The key principles that have guided the site include landscape character, soil conditions and climate. Each has been carefully considered at the design stage of the habitat creation proposals to ensure their feasibility and likelihood of success.</p> <p><b>Designated Sites</b></p> <p>Proposals will increase the habitat distinctiveness and overall species diversity within the site, as well as reducing nutrient inputs in perpetuity. This will provide improved connectivity in the landscape and contribute to nature recovery locally.</p> <p><b>Landscape Character</b></p> <p>The design of habitat creation and management will create habitats that accord and match with the Tees Lowlands National Character Area and its desired opportunities. Post delivery, the project will enhance the character area based on the Statements of Environmental Opportunity 2 of the Tees Lowland NCA.</p> <p><b>Agricultural Land Status</b></p> <p>The Site comprises predominantly grade 3 agricultural land, with a small section grade 2. It is considered that the proposals therefore may pose a risk of impacting areas of best and most versatile agricultural land.</p> <p>However, proposals provide an opportunity for the land to support sustainable food production by the creation of a traditional orchard across two thirds of the Site.</p> <p>The Site lies within the Tees catchment, this provided an opportunity to provided mitigation on Site for nutrient pollution of developments within the catchment area. As such is was decided during the design process that habitats created should be manageable without the use of grazing to reduce nutrient input as much as possible.</p> |

Habitat and Condition Targets PM-T01

This table presents a summary record of what you have agreed to deliver based on the biodiversity metric. These habitat condition targets form the basis of what the management plan is setting out to achieve. Include the relevant ‘Area’, ‘Hedgerow’, and ‘Watercourse’ types to be implemented and managed throughout the period of 30 years or more.

| Baseline Habitat Type                           | Target Habitat Type                                          | Parcel / Feature Refs | Baseline Condition | Targeted Condition | Years to Targeted Condition | Condition Assessment Targets                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Comments                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cereal crops                                    | Mixed scrub                                                  |                       | N/A                | Good               | 10                          | Good condition will be targeting by achieving a pass in criteria A, B, C, D and E.                                                                                                                                                               | Good condition is achieved when all criteria are passed.                                                                                       |
| Cereal crops                                    | Traditional orchard                                          |                       | N/A                | Moderate           | 20                          | Moderate condition will be targeted by achieving a pass in criteria C, D, E, F, G, and H.<br><br>The requirements for standing deadwood and ancient/veteran trees within core criteria A & B will not be targeted in this young orchard habitat. | Moderate Condition will be achieved when four or more criteria are passed or six or more are passed, but an essential criterion is failed.     |
| Native hedgerow                                 | Species-rich native hedgerow                                 | H1                    | Poor               | Good               | 5                           | Good condition will be targeted by achieving a pass in all criteria, with allowance for failure                                                                                                                                                  | Good condition will be achieved when there are no more than 2 failures in total; and it does not fail both attributes in any functional group. |
| Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch | Species Rich Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch | H2                    | Good               | Good               | 5                           | Good condition will be targeted by achieving a pass in all criteria, with allowance for failure                                                                                                                                                  | Good condition will be achieved when there are no more than 2 failures in total; and it does not fail both attributes in any functional group. |
| Species-rich native hedgerow                    | Species-rich native hedgerow                                 | H3                    | Good               | Good               | N/A                         | Good condition will be maintained by achieving a pass in all criteria, with allowance for failure                                                                                                                                                | Maintain good condition through on going management                                                                                            |
| To be created                                   | Species-rich native hedgerow                                 | H4 and H5             | N/A                | Good               | 5                           | Good condition will be targeted by achieving a pass in all criteria, with allowance for failure                                                                                                                                                  | Good condition will be achieved when there are no more than 2 failures in total; and it does not fail both attributes in any functional group. |

Habitat Retention

Measures to be Implemented to Protect Retained Habitats PM-03

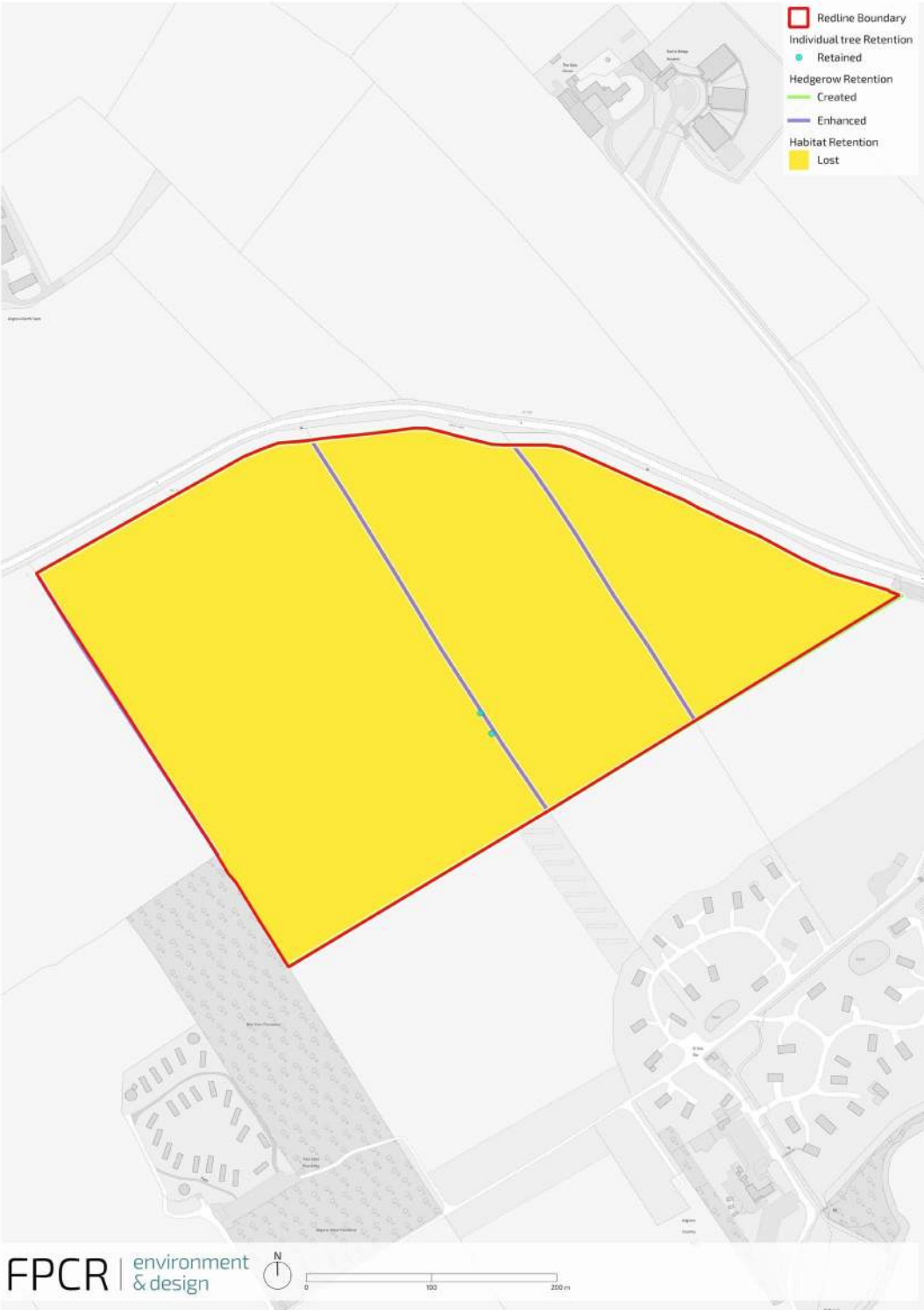
The only retained habitat will be hedgerows H3.

As the proposals are for habitat creation and management in order to create a habitat bank site, the risk of retained habitats being damaged intentionally or accidentally are relatively low. It is therefore not considered necessary nor appropriate to implement protective measures such as additional fencing around protective habitats. Indeed, additional fencing could be detrimental to the aims of this project by restricting movements of protected or notable species such as badgers.

Specification of Protective Measures to be Used PM-04

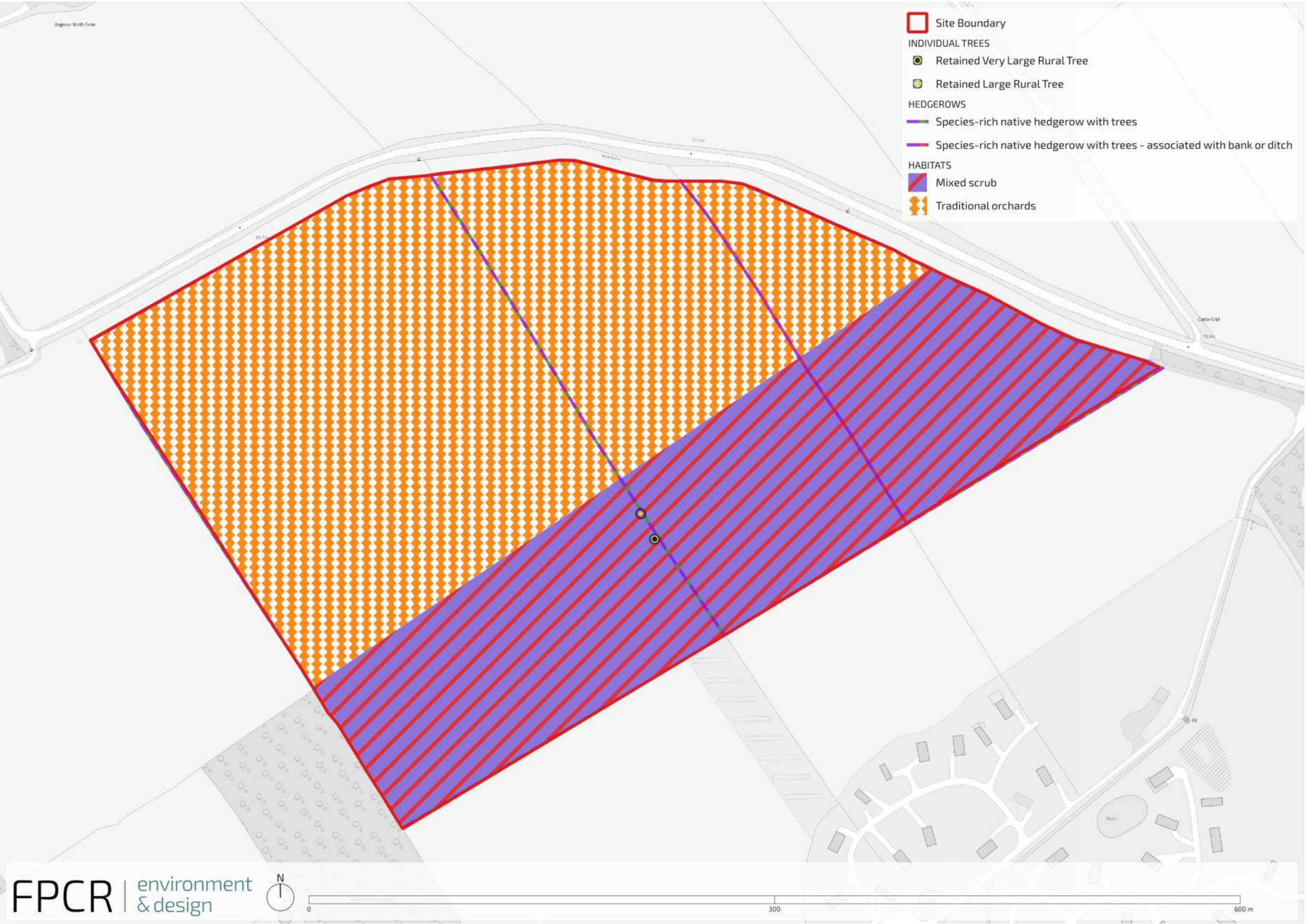
N/A

Habitat Retention Plan PM-F01

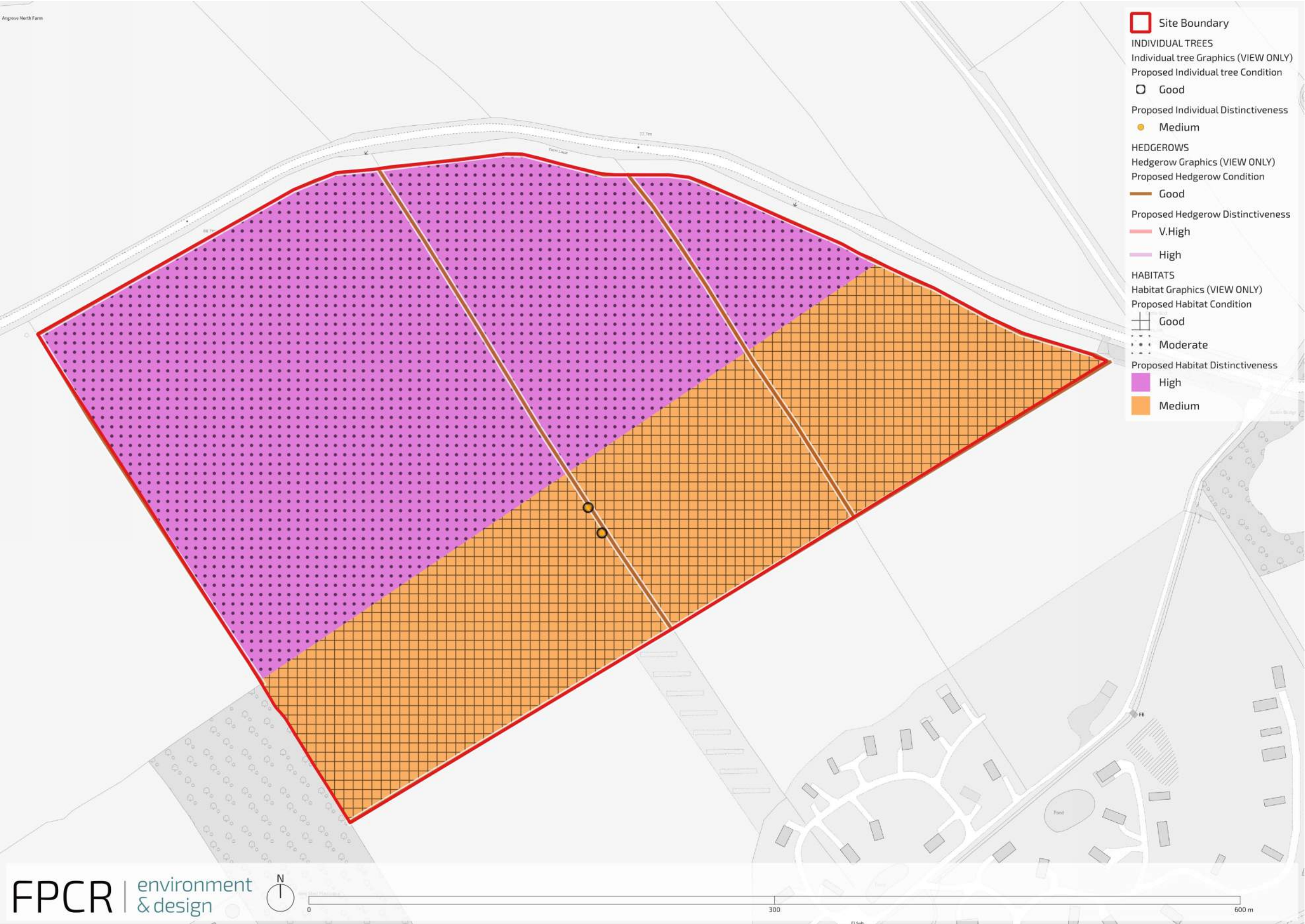


Creation, Enhancement and Management Targets and Prescriptions

Habitat Creation, Enhancement and Management Plan EM-F01



Proposed Habitats Condition and Distinctiveness Plan EM-F02



Scrub

Creation, Enhancement and Management Summary (SC-T01)

| Target Habitat:               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |          |                  |                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Condition Assessment Criteria |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Targeted | Relevant Parcels | Creation Approach                                                                                                                                                                          | Management Approach                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| A                             | <p>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).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- At least 80% of scrub is native,</li><li>- There are at least three native woody species,</li><li>- 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).</li></ul> | Yes      | All              | This will be achieved by planting a minimum of five native shrub species. The aim is to establish each scrub block, with no one species comprising more than 50% of the planted specimens. | <p>Scrub will be managed through a combination of periodic thinning and rotational coppicing on a 7 year cycle, with no more than a fifth of the total scrub area of the site cleared at any one time.</p> <p>Hawthorn and blackthorn will be managed through regular failing and/or cutting out following establishment to prevent them becoming too tall and dominating the canopies of scrub blocks. These species will also be selectively thinned where it is considered appropriate.</p> <p>These two different management approaches will help to create a structurally diverse habitat</p> |
| B                             | Seedlings, saplings, young shrubs and mature (or ancient or veteran) shrubs are all present.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Yes      | All              | N/A                                                                                                                                                                                        | Rotational coppicing of scrub will ensure that diverse age ranges are present across the site. Individual scrub blocks will be rotationally coppiced as well to ensure that in addition to the site wide resource of scrub supporting a diverse age range, this will also be the case within each scrub block present across the site.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| C                             | There is an absence of invasive non-native species (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA) and species indicative of suboptimal condition make up less than 5% of ground cover.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Yes      | All              | <p>No fertiliser will be used during planting of the scrub to prevent eutrophication of the soil.</p> <p>All scrub planting will utilise native species only.</p>                          | Regular monitoring will track the presence of invasive non-native species or those indicative of sub-optimal condition and will trigger remedial action where necessary to remove or reduce their presence respectively.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 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      | All              | To aid in the establishment of diverse edges, hawthorn and blackthorn (which do not respond well to coppicing) should be planted more centrally within scrub blocks                        | Scrub edges will be managed with an annual hay cut or cut and collect harvest. Rotational coppicing of scrub blocks will aim to create scalloped edges and bays along the boundaries between scrub and grasslands to maximise the ecotone habitats present.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| E                             | There are clearings, glades or rides present within the scrub, providing sheltered edges.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Yes      | All              | The initial planting design will incorporate glades, rides and scalloped edges, up to a maximum of 30% of the scrub area.                                                                  | <p>Rotational coppicing will aim to maintain clearings throughout scrub blocks to ensure these remain continuously present, albeit in different locations within each scrub blocks after each coppicing year.</p> <p>Rides will be maintained through the annual mowing management employed elsewhere onsite to manage grasslands.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

Scrub

Creation, Enhancement and Management Detailed Methods (SC-T02)

| Action                                       | Relevant parcels | Timing                                           | Prescriptions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ground Preparation                           | All              | Establishment Works (1 year)                     | Apply herbicide to control weed growth/docks prior to planting (if required). An appropriate herbicide will be selected by an appropriately qualified contractor. Any chemicals will be used in accordance with the product label.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Introduce native scrub whip planting         | All              | Establishment Works (1 year)                     | <p>Planting will be undertaken extensively within newly proposed scrub mosaic.</p> <p>The seedbed will be prepared as deemed the most appropriate by the management contractor, which may include cultivating the ground. Evidence of existing soil compaction will be remediated before planting to ensure the soil is able to support establishment and growth.</p> <p>Native scrub species planted between November and March in naturalistic pattern including gaps for glades/rides/clearings (covering 70-80% of total area) and protected from rabbits with spiral guards as conditions on site require.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Planting should be in groups with 1-4 species of similar growth rates planted together.</li><li>Gaps between adjacent clumps will be varied from 5m to 20m or more</li><li>Planting density will be varied between groups, ranging from 2m spacing (2500 stems/ha) to 3.5m spacing (800 stems/ha).</li><li>Scallop the edges of the scrub by planting patches of scrub in semi-circles with open ground in between.</li><li>Unplanted gaps should be left to create areas of open ground.</li><li>Hawthorn and blackthorn will be planted in small single-species clumps in the centre of the scrub blocks, away from the planned locations for glades, rides and clearing. Blocks of each of these two species will be sufficiently spaced apart to prevent either from dominating the canopy.</li><li>Other than the above species should be mixed and planted randomly.</li><li>Plant with hand tools, such as spades – do not plough or cultivate</li></ul> <p>Species to be planted include species from the table below.</p> <p>The glades and open areas will be sown with a native fine leaved grass seed mix.</p> <p>The planting pit dug will be a shallow square, larger than the root ball of the whip. Backfilling of soil will utilise existing excavated soils only with <u>no</u> compost or fertiliser application. It will be important to ensure the tree is not planted lower than the surrounding ground level. The aim of planting will be to ensure that the level that the tree base meets the soil level will be slightly above ground level, aiming for 25mm above.</p> <p>Spiral guards will be installed around establishing whips to prevent them becoming browsed.</p> |
| Establishment – Weed suppression if required | All              | Following Establishment Works (1 year) to year 5 | Spray a 1m diameter circle around each tree using an appropriate herbicide, glyphosate is typically used. Typically, one application is made in spring and, depending on the vigour of the weeds, another in mid-late summer.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Spot treating pernicious weeds               | All              | Year 2-5                                         | Spot treatment of species indicative of sub-optimal condition will be undertaken on existing scrub blocks in year 1 to reduce the competitiveness of pernicious species. This will be undertaken again in years 2-5 as required.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

|                                  |     |                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Scrub edge and glades management |     | Years 2-30                              | The margins of the scrub and the herbaceous vegetation within the scalloped edges, rides and glades, will be subject to an annual cut, by any available cut and collect mechanism, where possible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Trimming                         | All | Years 5, 8, 11, 14, 17, 20, 23, 27, 30. | Trim dense stands, particularly of hawthorn and blackthorn as required to maintain edges with a graded margin down to the field layer (tapering edge from canopy height to 20cm). Trimming will take place from November to early March using a tractor mounted flail. Ideally avoid cutting shrubs with berries until after Christmas for birds and mammals.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Coppicing and Thinning           | All | Year 8, 15, 22, 29                      | <p>A programme of selective thinning and coppicing will begin in year 8, to maintain the scalloped edges and glades created in year one and where appropriate open up new areas. This will be undertaken in select areas through scrub blocks to enhance ground flora and continue the presence of glades at an approximate coverage of 70-80% scrub and 20-30% glades.</p> <p>In total, no more than 1/5<sup>th</sup> of the total scrub resource in total should be thinned / coppiced each cycle.</p> <p>Stools subject to coppice management will be cut just above ground level with clean, slightly sloping cuts to encourage water to drain off the cut surfaces. Coppicing should be undertaken in the period November-early March. Brash arisings from coppicing will be used to surround or cover cut stools to protect them from deer browse (1-2m wide rings), with any surplus chipped and spread thinly through the scrub.</p> |

Scrub Species Lists (SC-T03)

| Common Name  | Scientific Name           | Abundance / % | Comments     |
|--------------|---------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Hawthorn     | <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> | 20%           | Native Whips |
| Hazel        | <i>Corylus avellana</i>   | 20%           |              |
| Blackthorn   | <i>Prunus spinosa</i>     | 15%           |              |
| Dogwood      | <i>Cornus sanguinea</i>   | 15%           |              |
| Field maple  | <i>Acer campestre</i>     | 5%            |              |
| Guelder rose | <i>Viburnum opulus</i>    | 5%            |              |
| Holly        | <i>Ilex aquilinum</i>     | 5%            |              |
| Spindle      | <i>Euonymus europaeus</i> | 5%            |              |
| Grey willow  | <i>Salix cinerea</i>      | 5%            |              |
| Elder        | <i>Sambucus nigra</i>     | 3%            |              |

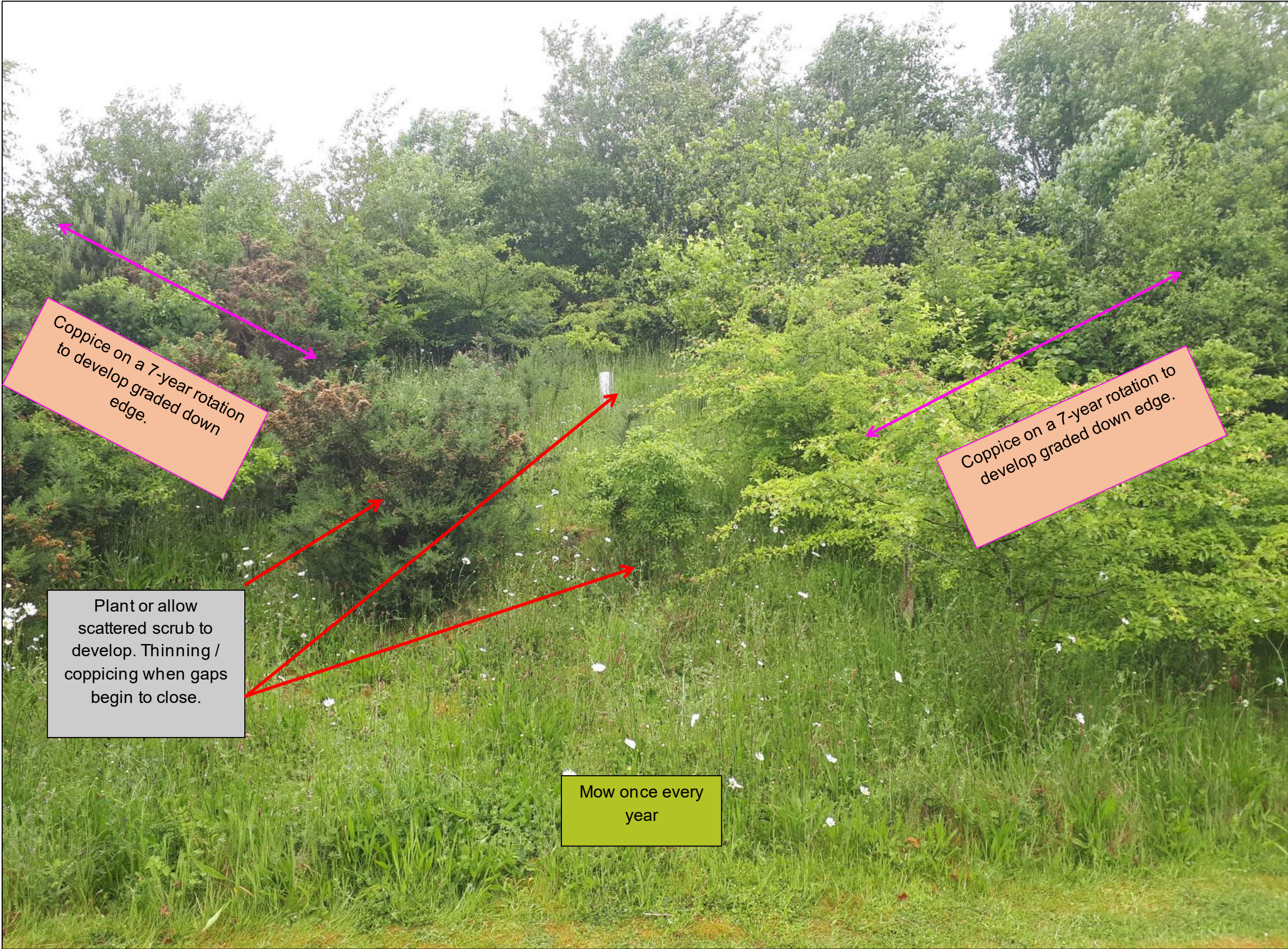
|             |                              |    |  |
|-------------|------------------------------|----|--|
| Honeysuckle | <i>Lonicera periclymenum</i> | 2% |  |
|-------------|------------------------------|----|--|

Other Supporting Information

What Does Success Look Like? (SC-F01)



Example Scalloped edge scrub habitat



Orchard

Creation, Enhancement and Management Summary (OR-T01)

| Target Habitat:               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |          |                     |                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Condition Assessment Criteria |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Targeted | Relevant<br>Parcels | Creation Approach                                                                                                                                                                          | Management Approach                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| A                             | Presence of ancient and or veteran trees.<br><b>Note – this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | No       | All                 | This criterion will not be targeted due to the limited time frame available within this management plan (30 years) which will not be sufficient to allow a tree to grow to veteran status. | General arboricultural management will ensure the tree health is maintained as they grow. Where these is opportunities to provide retain and create natural ecological features in the tree growth form the specimens will be supported.                                                                                                                                                  |
| B                             | Presence of deadwood in or on trees, or on the ground: at least 20% of mature trees have deadwood associated with them.<br><br>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.<br><br><b>Note – this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.</b> | No       | All                 | This criterion will not be targeted due to the limited time frame available within this management plan (30 years) which will not be sufficient to grow a mature tree with deadwood.       | While the trees are not expected to produce the abundance of deadwood to target this criteria, management will ensure that deadwood is maintained throughout this habitat where it naturally forms.<br><br>Where deadwood is showing signs of disease it will be removed from the site to protect the future growth and health of the trees.                                              |
| 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.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Yes      | All                 | Scrub planting will not be included within the orchard planting regime.                                                                                                                    | Management of grassland amongst fruit trees on an annual basis through a cut and collect regime will control the abundance of scrub in between the fruit trees. Management will aim to limit encroachment from encroaching from the areas of new scrub creation.<br><br>Where monitoring demonstrated significant scrub establishment, appropriate remedial measures will be implemented. |
| D                             | There is evidence of formative and or restorative pruning to maintain longevity of trees.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Yes      | All                 | N/A                                                                                                                                                                                        | Formative pruning will be undertaken from year 1 for 3-4 years to shape the tree.<br><br>Trees will be monitored for any signs of damage, with restorative pruning undertaken where required.                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 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.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Yes      | All                 | Trees will be fenced off during the first 10+ years of growth to protect from wild grazing animals.                                                                                        | Trees will be monitored to ensure the trees do not show excessive signs of damage from browsing, bark stripping or rubbing.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

|   |                                                                                                                                                                           |     |     |                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| F | Grassland is not overgrazed, poaching is not evident around the trees, with no more than 10% of trees poached under the canopy.                                           | Yes | All | N/A                                                                                                                                                                        | The orchard will be managed through a cut and collect regime.                                                                                                                                                            |
| G | Species richness of the grassland is equivalent to a medium, high, or very high distinctiveness grassland.                                                                | Yes | All | The field will be prepared prior to the sowing of a native species-rich grassland seed-mix to encourage the establishment of a sward analogous to other neutral grassland. | The grassland will be managed through a cut and collect regime to develop and maintain species diversity.                                                                                                                |
| H | There is an absence of invasive non-native species (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA) and species indicative of suboptimal condition make up less than 10% of ground cover. | Yes | All | N/A                                                                                                                                                                        | Regular monitoring will track the presence of invasive non-native species or those indicative of sub-optimal condition and will trigger remedial action where necessary to remove or reduce their presence respectively. |

Orchard

Creation, Enhancement and Management Detailed Methods (OR-T02)

Provide detailed prescriptions for the creation and management of the habitat.

| Action                                                  | Relevant<br>Parcels | Timing                       | Prescriptions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ground preparation and sowing of species-rich grassland | All                 | Establishment Works (1 year) | <p>The seedbed will be prepared as deemed the most appropriate by the management contractor, likely to be cultivating the ground.</p> <p>Apply green hay. Once a suitable donor site has been selected (the donor site should be as local as possible), a green hay crop should be cut and collected as wildflowers and grasses at the donor site start to shed their seed (typically late July to Early August). The green hay crop should be cut and collected using a drum or disc mower. A mower conditioner should not be used. A forage harvester can be used to collect the hay, or the hay can be baled. The hay must be transferred and spread the same day that it is collected. If a baler is used, it should be transferred to the receptor site for spreading within an hour of being baled. The green hay should ideally be cut and transported on a cool and cloudy day.</p> <p>If the green hay has been collected using a forage harvester, it should be blown directly into a muck spreader, and this can be used to spread the hay on the receptor site. If bales have been collected, the green hay can be spread using a muck spreader, by hand, with a chopper or with a hay turner.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>If seed mix sowing is the chosen method. Broadcast the seed mix. A UK sourced seed mix will be used, from a local supplier where possible, as it will contain a mix of wildflower species characteristic of the local neutral soils; suitable seed mixes include Emorsgate Meadow Mixture for Loamy Soils will be used, with seed. Seed will be sown at a rate that is recommended by the supplier. Sowing must be undertaken in still wind conditions when the soil is saturated but not flooded. After sowing, seed will be bedded in by rolling.</p> <p>The selected seed mix or green hay must contain yellow-rattle to help reduce competitiveness of existing grasses.</p> |

|                                |     |                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------|-----|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Grassland Aftercare Management | All | Establishment Works (1 year) | Initiate a long-term management. Take a spring cut and collect by any mechanism available, and then allow the sward to establish over summer, with no cuts between March and August. Take a late summer (late July/August) cut at the first opportunity that weather conditions allow and after wildflowers have been allowed to set seed (particularly annual species). Exact cutting dates will be determined by weather conditions, and all cuts should be collected to reduce nutrient availability                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Tree planting                  | All | Establishment Works (1 year) | <p>In the winter following grass seed sowing, fruit trees will be planted. Trees should be sought from a reputable local supplier and contain a variety of trees from the Rosaceae family, primarily apple <i>Malus sp.</i></p> <p>Trees will be planted where there is sufficient space for them to grow to full maturity with 8-10 m between rows and 7-9 m between trees within the rows.</p> <p>Bare-rooted fruit trees should be planted from November to March with at least 100 trees planted per hectare.</p> <p>The planting pit dug will be a shallow hole, no more than 50cm deep and dug immediately before planting to prevent it filling with water. The base of the planting pit will be broken up to encourage aeration to the depth of a garden fork prior to tree planting. Backfilling of soil will utilise existing excavated soils only with <u>no</u> compost or fertiliser application. Existing sub soils and top soils should be kept separate during excavation, with the subsoil backfilled first before topping with topsoil. Lightly firm down the back fill, avoiding compaction.</p> <p>The tree should be placed in the hole, so the root collar is level with the top of the hole. After planting, trees will be watered if deemed necessary by the management contractor.</p> |
| Aftercare                      | All | Years 2-5                    | <p>Trees will be watered regularly during their first year after planting where soil becomes dry.</p> <p>Plantings will be inspected quarterly through the first two growing seasons following planting, with any failures replaced in the next planting season.</p> <p>Weeds can be controlled around the bases of trees and shrubs using non-residual herbicide during establishment. The use of herbicides will be avoided thereafter unless strictly necessary. The aim will be to keep a 1-1.5m weed free diameter around the tree for the first 2 years after planting.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Grassland management           | All | Year 2+                      | <p>During establishment, the orchard will be fenced and mown 1-2 times a year when weather conditions allow on a flexible basis from July onwards. If site and sward conditions allow, a late season cut should be taken one year in four from late August to September. In all cases arisings should be removed, to remove additional nutrients.</p> <p>Following establishment of the fruit trees, fencing can be removed.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Pruning                        | All | Year 2+                      | <p>Formative pruning should be undertaken from the first winter using hand tools to ensure the growth and shape of the tree.</p> <p>Maintenance pruning will be required in subsequent years to ensure continued crops of fruit.</p> <p>Specialist arboricultural advice should be sought on the specifics of orchard pruning.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Maintenance                    | All | Year 7+                      | <p>Scrub control should be ongoing from year 7 to ensure the cover of scrub is &lt;10%, using hand-tools including brush cutters and chainsaws. Small areas of scrub will however be encouraged as this can boost diversity and this measure will only seek to prevent it becoming dominant.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

Orchard Species Lists (OR-TO3)

| Common Name | Scientific Name                          | Abundance / % | Comments                                                                                       |
|-------------|------------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Apple       | <i>Malus domestica</i>                   | 20%           | Plant at least 8-10m between rows and 7-9m in the row at planting density of 100-150 trees/ha. |
| Plum        | <i>Prunus domestica</i>                  | 20%           | Plant at 6-8m spacing and planting density of 185-260 trees/ha.                                |
| Pear        | <i>Pyrus communis</i>                    | 15%           | Plant 10-20m apart and planting density of 100-150 trees/ha.                                   |
| Wild Cherry | <i>Prunus avium</i>                      | 15%           | Plant at 10-12m spacing and planting density of 100-150 trees/ha.                              |
| Damson      | <i>Prunus domestica subsp. insititia</i> | 10%           | Plant at 6-8m spacing and planting density of 185-260 trees/ha.                                |
| Quince      | <i>Cydonia oblonga</i>                   | 5%            | Plant 10-20m apart and planting density of 100-150 trees/ha.                                   |
| Walnut      | <i>Juglans regia</i>                     | 5%            | Plant at 10-12m spacing and planting density of 100-150 trees/ha.                              |
| Hazelnut    | <i>Corylus avellana</i>                  | 5%            | Plant at least 5m spacing or about 400 trees per ha.                                           |
| Rowan       | <i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>                  | 5%            | Plant at least 5m spacing or about 400 trees per ha.                                           |

Neutral Grassland

| Common name        | Scientific name             | Abundance / % | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Crested dog’s tail | <i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>  | 56.00%        | The species listed and abundances given are of Emorsgate Meadow Mixture for Loamy Soils. A green hay donor of similar species composition can be used. This will be discussed with the named ecologist for the Site. |
| Red fescue         | <i>Festuca rubra</i>        | 10.4%         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Common bent        | <i>Agrostis capillaris</i>  | 8.00%         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Quaking grass      | <i>Briza media</i>          | 3.20%         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Common knapweed    | <i>Centaurea nigra</i>      | 2.80%         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Ribwort plantain   | <i>Plantago lanceolata</i>  | 2.40%         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Musk mallow        | <i>Malva moschata</i>       | 2.20%         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Oxeye daisy        | <i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i> | 1.80%         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

|                     |                              |       |  |
|---------------------|------------------------------|-------|--|
| Sweet Vernal grass  | <i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i> | 1.60% |  |
| Field scabious      | <i>Knautia arvensis</i>      | 1.50% |  |
| Lady’s bedstraw     | <i>Galium verum</i>          | 1.50% |  |
| Salad burnet        | <i>Poterium sanguisorba</i>  | 1.20% |  |
| Yellow rattle       | <i>Rhinanthus minor</i>      | 1.00% |  |
| Cowslip             | <i>Primula versis</i>        | 0.80% |  |
| Yellow oat-grass    | <i>Trisetum flavescens</i>   | 0.80% |  |
| Yarrow              | <i>Achillea millefolium</i>  | 0.60% |  |
| Agrimony            | <i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>   | 0.60% |  |
| Wild carrot         | <i>Daucus carota</i>         | 0.60% |  |
| Meadow crane’s-bill | <i>Geranium pratense</i>     | 0.60% |  |

|                   |                             |       |  |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|-------|--|
| Self-heal         | <i>Prunella vulgaris</i>    | 0.40% |  |
| Betony            | <i>Betonica officinalis</i> | 0.40% |  |
| Bladder campion   | <i>Silene vulgaris</i>      | 0.40% |  |
| Tufted vetch      | <i>Vicia cracca</i>         | 0.40% |  |
| Birdsfoot trefoil | <i>Lotus corniculatus</i>   | 0.20% |  |
| Meadow buttercup  | <i>Ranunculus acris</i>     | 0.20% |  |
| Rough hawkbit     | <i>Leontodon hispidus</i>   | 0.10% |  |
| Bulbous buttercup | <i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>  | 0.10% |  |

Other Supporting Information

| Supporting Information (OR-B02)                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Fruit tree varieties historically grown or indigenous to the area should preferably be used to plant orchards in order to preserve historic continuity, genetic variety and cultural heritage and to reinforce local distinctiveness. |

What Does Success Look Like? (OR-F01)



Hedgerow

Creation, Enhancement and Management Summary (HD-T01)

| Target Hedgerow Type:         |                                                                                                                                             |           | Species-rich native hedgerow with trees and species-rich native hedgerow with trees—associated with bank or ditch. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Condition Assessment Criteria |                                                                                                                                             | Targeted? | Relevant Features                                                                                                  | Creation Approach                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Enhancement Approach                                                                                                                                                                                               | Management Approach                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| A1                            | Height<br>>1.5m average along length.                                                                                                       | Yes       | H1, H2, H3, H4, H5                                                                                                 | To increase distinctiveness to species rich hedgerows, the existing hedgerows, will be either laid, coppiced or grubbed out locally, as appropriate, and supplemented with additional planting and standards every 30m.<br><br>Gaps in existing species poor hedgerows will be gapped up with supplementary species and standards every 30m<br><br>Planting will use a range of native species as outlined in the table below. | Hedgerows H1, H2, H3 onsite already above 1.5m in height on average across length.                                                                                                                                 | Management will support and promote the growth of the hedgerow structure and diversity. This will target bushy, outgrown hedgerows.<br><br>Hedgerows will be manged through rotational cutting, with no more than 1/3 <sup>rd</sup> of the total hedgerow resource trimmed each year<br><br>Management by side trimming in ‘A’ profile and shaped to promote the development of wide, healthy hedgerow bases.<br><br>. |
| A2                            | Width<br>>1.5m average along length.                                                                                                        | Yes       | H1, H2, H3, H4, H5                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Hedgerows H1, H2, H3 onsite were less than 1.5m in width on average across length. The hedgerows will be enhanced through management promoting growth and underplanting to widen.                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| B3                            | Gap – hedge base<br><br>Gap between ground and base of canopy <0.5m for >90% of length.                                                     | Yes       | H1, H2, H3, H4, H5                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Hedgerows onsite already satisfy this criterion with the exception of H2. Gaps in this hedgerow will be planted up with a range of native tree and shrub species, targeting at least 5 species per 30m on average. | Management will support and promote the continued growth of the hedgerow structure and diversity.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| B2                            | Gap – hedgerow canopy continuity<br><br>Gaps make up <10% of total length; and no canopy gaps >5m.                                          | Yes       | H1, H2, H3, H4, H5                                                                                                 | A combination of laying of existing shrubs and/or new planting will ensure minimal gaps                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Hedgerow gaps will be planted up with a range of native tree and shrub species, targeting at least 5 species per 30m on average.                                                                                   | Management to ensure species diversity is maintained along the hedgerow length, replacing specimens on a like of like basis where failures occur or gaps form.<br><br>Monitoring of browsing impact on the hedgerows, to check certain species aren’t adversely impacted.                                                                                                                                              |
| C1                            | Undisturbed ground and perennial vegetation<br><br>>1m width of undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation for >90% of length: | Yes       | H1, H2, H3, H4, H5                                                                                                 | Grassland buffer strips will ensure at least one side of the hedgerow has a minimum of 1m width of perennial vegetation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Annual cut and collect of hedgerow margins will complement this criterion and boost the diversity of hedgerow ground flora.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

|    |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |     |                    |                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                               |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>measured from outer edge of hedgerow, and</li><li>is present on one side of the hedge (at least)</li></ul>                                                         |     |                    |                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                               |
| C2 | Nutrient-enriched perennial vegetation<br>Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of the area of undisturbed ground.                                                | Yes | H1, H2, H3, H4, H5 | While it is considered that the appropriate management will help to reduce undesirable species, this criterion has not been targeted due to the inherent risks associated with achieving it |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                               |
| D1 | Invasive and neophyte species<br>>90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free of invasive non-native plant species (including those listed on Schedule 9 of WCA) and recently introduced species. | Yes | H1, H2, H3, H4, H5 | N/A                                                                                                                                                                                         | All hedgerows onsite already satisfy this criterion. Additional hedgerow planting will only involve native tree and shrub planting.                                                                                                | Regular monitoring and management will be implemented to ensure non-native and invasive species do not grow within the hedgerows or associated ditches and grassland buffers. |
| D2 | Current damage<br>>90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage caused by human activities.                                                                                               | Yes | H1, H2, H3, H4, H5 |                                                                                                                                                                                             | All hedgerows onsite already satisfy this criterion. The site is private and therefore will not be impacted by any human activities other than the favourable management measures proposed which will not lead to hedgerow damage. |                                                                                                                                                                               |

Hedgerow

Creation, Enhancement and Management Methods (HD-T02)

Provide detailed prescriptions for the creation and management of the habitat.

| Action                                                                        | Relevant Features | Timing                       | Prescriptions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Hedge planting, gapping up and increasing species richness of existing hedges | All               | Establishment Works (1 year) | <p>Native trees and shrub species will be planted in two staggered rows approximately 30cm apart, aiming to plant around 4-6 plants per metre. New planted should be protected with canes and spiral guards to prevent being browsed in the early stages. Overall, a minimum average of 5 species per 30m should be achieved along hedgerow.</p> <p>Any evidence of existing soil compaction along the hedgerow will be remediated before planting to ensure the soil is able to support new growth.</p> <p>Small planting pits will be dug as shallow squares with the base of the planting pit will be broken up to encourage aeration to the depth of a garden fork prior to planting. Backfilling of soil will utilise existing excavated soils only with <u>no</u> compost or fertiliser application. Existing sub soils and top soils should be kept separate during excavation, with the subsoil backfilled first before topping with topsoil. Lightly firm down the back fill, avoiding compaction.</p> <p>It will be important to ensure that plants are not planted lower than the surrounding ground level. The aim of planting will be to ensure that the level that the tree/shrub base meets the soil level will be slightly above ground level, aiming for 25mm above.</p> <p>After planting, water the any areas of new hedgerow/tree planting.</p> <p>Hedgerow bases will be sprayed or mulched using wood chippings or bark. Mulching will aim for a 1m diameter around the trees to prevent weed establishment. The depth of the mulch will be between 50-75mm.</p> <p><u>Laid sections</u> Any sections appropriate for hedge laying, any saplings or suckers from the base of hedge will be removed. On the stems which are to be cut and laid, remove all dead wood and any growth that is out of line with the hedge. Trim excess brush from the nearside of the hedge. Any elder present should be coppiced as it is a species which does not respond well to laying.</p> <p>The laid stems should be cut at between 3-10cm above the ground. Cut through the stem so it can be lowered into place leaving sufficient cambium and sapwood uncut.</p> <p>The laid stems should be staked, with stakes of 4cm diameter used. Stakes should be inserted to 50cm depth into the ground, leaving 10cm above the top of the hedge. The brushy tops of the cut stems should be woven in between the stakes. If required the stakes should be binded with 3m long sections of hazel or willow 25mm in diameter.</p> <p>Additional planting in these section will follow the above, but in a single row, planted 30cm outside the laid hedgeline</p> <p><u>Coppiced sections</u> - Stools subject to coppice management will be cut just above ground level with clean, slightly sloping cuts to encourage water to drain off the cut surfaces. Coppicing should be undertaken in the period November-early March.</p> <p>Additional planting in these section will follow the above, but in a single row, planted 30cm from the coppiced stools.</p> |

|                           |                     |                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Management – Weed Control | H1-H3               | All Years                                            | The hedgerow buffers should be monitored for the prevalence of species indicative of sub-optimal condition, bracken, and scrub. The use of herbicides to control pernicious species such as thistles and nettles should be avoided as it will harm other broad-leaved plants. Targeted strimming before seeds set should be introduced over successive years with all arisings removed, where this is not successful spot treatment with herbicide should be implemented as a last resort. Monitoring will take place between April and September.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Short term management     | Newly planted hedge | Years 2-5                                            | The planted hedgerow should be trimmed lightly for first few years, as necessary to encourage branching.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Long Term Management      | H1-H3               | Year 5+<br>Hedgerow Management (November – February) | <p>Hedgerows will be managed on a rotational basis with one third the total hedgerow resource cut each year, during late winter, after fruiting and prior to the bird nesting season (March).</p> <p>The hedges should be mechanically trimmed to gradually develop a flat topped A-shape to a height of at least 2.5m with a width of 2m, allowing height and width to increase a little each time. If a hard knuckle forms at cutting height, raise height over subsequent cuts.</p> <p>Where species die back in the hedge, they should be replaced on a like for like basis to maintain woody species diversity, unless conditions suggest soil/conditions are unsuitable for that species.</p> <p>Monitoring for invasive species, natural tree loss and undesirable species will be required to ensure that the hedgerows maintain their function, structure and diversity onsite.</p> |

Hedgerow Species Lists (HD-T03)

| Common Name  | Scientific Name    | Abundance / % | Comments |
|--------------|--------------------|---------------|----------|
| Hawthorn     | Crataegus monogyna | 40%           |          |
| Hazel        | Corylus avellana   | 15%           |          |
| Blackthorn   | Prunus spinosa     | 10%           |          |
| Field Maple  | Acer campestre     | 10%           |          |
| Blackthorn   | Prunus spinosa     | 5%            |          |
| Guelder Rose | Viburnum opulus    | 5%            |          |
| Holly        | Ilex aquifolium    | 5%            |          |
| Spindle      | Euonymus europaeus | 5%            |          |

|         |                  |    |  |
|---------|------------------|----|--|
| Dogwood | Cornus sanguinea | 5% |  |
|---------|------------------|----|--|

What Does Success Look Like? (HD-F01)



Habitat Creation and Management – Risk Register and Remedial Measures PM-T02

| Risk Identification Date | Habitat Type | Risk Factor                                                  | Trigger for Action                                                                                                                                                                                 | Remedial Measure                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Project Life Term        | All habitats | Establishment of invasive non-native species                 | Monitoring identifies the presence of any invasive non-native species                                                                                                                              | Initiate a programme of eradication of invasive non-native species. Specialist advice should be sought to ensure the appropriate eradication measures for any species identified.                                   |
| Project Life Term        | All habitats | Flooding events                                              | Monitoring of vegetation diversity loss, increase in poach ground, additional pollution and invasive species following extreme flooding events.                                                    | Review adaptive management measures to respond to the varying impacts expected from flooding appropriately.                                                                                                         |
| Project Life Term        | Mixed Scrub  | Failed specimens in created scrub areas                      | Failed specimens observed during years 2-5.                                                                                                                                                        | Replacement planting with like for like species of failed specimens, unless conditions suggest soil/conditions are unsuitable for that species.                                                                     |
| Project Life Term        | Mixed Scrub  | Insufficient variation of age classes                        | Where less than 5% cover over the scrub area of each block is represented by saplings <u>and</u> less than 80% is represented by mature scrub. The remaining scrub should comprise immature scrub. | Selective thinning of scrub to allow natural regeneration to occur. Where natural regeneration is unsuccessful, additional planting of native species should be introduced.                                         |
| Project Life Term        | Mixed Scrub  | Overdominance of one species within the canopy               | Where one species of scrub within a scrub block represents more than 50% of canopy cover.                                                                                                          | Selective thinning of dominant species to allow other species to establish within the canopy.                                                                                                                       |
| Project Life Term        | Mixed Scrub  | Insufficient species diversity                               | Where blocks of scrub include less than three species.                                                                                                                                             | Selective thinning and the introduction of additional species. A minimum of two additional species should be planted to improve the chances of ensuring the canopy of each blocks includes more than three species. |
| Project Life Term        | Mixed Scrub  | Poorly developed edge habitats                               | Where the edges of scrub do not grade into adjacent habitats in a diffuse way including scattered scrub and tall grassland/herbs.                                                                  | Reduce management of scrub habitats to allow more diverse edges, with scattered scrub allowed to establish and taller grasses able to develop. These may require more targeted management with hand tools.          |
| Project Life Term        | Mixed scrub  | Establishment of species indicative of sub-optimal condition | Where species indicative of sub-optimal comprise >5% of sward                                                                                                                                      | Initiate a program of spot-spraying species indicative of sub-optimal condition using glyphosate herbicide.                                                                                                         |
| Project Life Term        | Mixed Scrub  | Encroachment of scrub into adjacent grasslands               | Where the edges of scrub become more densely scrub and this habitat begins to creep into grasslands to an extent that they begin to reduce the overall                                             | Initiate a program of dense scrub removal where this habitat has begun to creep into grassland habitats. This should not be undertaken where only scattered                                                         |

|                   |                               |                                                                                           |                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                        |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                   |                               |                                                                                           | extent of grasslands on site. This may be a particular problem with blackthorn suckering  | scrub is present at the edges of the boundaries between these habitats and should only be undertaken where more <u>dense</u> scrub establishes.        |
| Project Life Term | Traditional Orchard/hedgerows | Failed specimens                                                                          | Failed specimens observed at any point during the management plan period.                 | Replacement planting with like for like species of failed specimens, unless conditions suggest soil/conditions are unsuitable for that species.        |
| Project Life Term | Traditional Orchard/hedgerows | Damage to established trees from deer                                                     | More than 5% of trees are showing signs of damage by browsing, bark stripping or rubbing. | Create a deer management plan.                                                                                                                         |
| Project Life Term | Traditional Orchard           | Species richness of the grassland is not equivalent to a medium distinctiveness grassland | Perennial rye-grass is recorded at a frequency of dominant or abundant beyond year 5.     | Initiate a second round of seeding following the prescriptions provided for the grassland field compartment(s) which are falling short of this target. |

### 3. Monitoring Schedule

#### Monitoring Strategy

**Provide details of the monitoring strategy to encourage successful implementation of the management plan (MS-B01)**

The site will be monitored at varying degrees from establishment through to its long-term management. The site will be monitored annually for the first two years, by competent ecologists to review how the establishment of the proposed habitats is progressing. The key observations during this period will be to determine whether habitats are successfully establishing and whether or not replacement planting or reseeding may be required.

Following establishment longer-term management will take place, with monitoring also be undertaken every 5 years. The key elements of this monitoring will be to review whether the long-term management practices are achieving (and then maintaining) the targeted condition scores for the proposals. During this period, adaptive management measures will be reviewed to determine whether there are any opportunities to alter management to encourage additional habitat enhancements.

The pond and existing rural and lines of trees will be monitored throughout the 30-year period as they are already established habitats which will not be enhanced through the proposals. Monitoring will ensure that the habitats are conserved with additional remedial management measure to be implemented where risk factors occur.

It is expected that the 30-year monitoring period will commence following the completion of the establishment works. Where there is a delay in the establishment works, this monitoring strategy will extend to year 35 (if required) to allow for 30 years monitoring to be completed.

#### Monitoring Methods and Intervals MS-T01

| Habitat Type | Monitoring Methods                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Monitoring Interval and Timing                                                                          |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mixed Scrub  | During years 1-5 of the management plan period, individual specimen scrub plants will be monitored for their health. The abundance of species indicative of sub-optimal condition and the presence of non-native invasive species will also be reviewed. | Years 1, 2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35<br><br>Scrub monitoring will be undertaken between May-September. |

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                               |
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|                     | <p>Throughoutthe remainder of managementperiod, scrub will be monitored for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The numberof native scrub canopy species in each block</li><li>• The percentage cover of various age ranges of scrub throughout scrub blocks</li><li>• Percentage cover of species indicative of sub-optimal condition</li><li>• Presence of non-native invasive species</li><li>• The character of edge habitats</li></ul> <p>The presence of clearings, glades and rides</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                               |
| Traditional Orchard | <p>During the establishment phase of the grassland within the orchard (Years 1-10), monitoring will focus on determining the DAFOR abundances of plants present throughoutthe sward and whether a sufficient number of species within the seed mixes/green hay used have established. It will also be important to monitor the percentage coverage of palatable grasses. The trees will be monitored for their health, success of formative pruning and any signs of damage. The levels of scrub across the orchard will also be monitored.</p> <p>During years 10-30, orchard will be monitored by reviewing the following factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tree health</li><li>• Species diversity per m<sup>2</sup></li><li>• Percentage cover of bare ground</li><li>• Percentage cover of scrub/bracken</li><li>• Percentage cover of species indicative of sub-optimal condition</li><li>• Presence of non-native invasive species</li><li>• DAFOR Abundances of wildflowers, sedges and rushes</li><li>• Sward height diversity</li><li>• Level of poaching or trampling damage</li></ul> <p>Orchard monitoring will be undertaken between May-August.</p> | <p>Years 1, 2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35</p> <p>Orchard monitoring will be undertaken between May-August.</p> |

|           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                 |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Hedgerows | <p>Throughout the management plan period, the existing hedgerows will be monitored for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hedgerow structure (Height and width)</li><li>• Hedgerow gaps</li><li>• Grassland buffer size</li><li>• Nutrient enrichment</li><li>• Invasive and neophyte species presence</li></ul> <p>Signs of damage (including excessive browsing and grassland poaching)</p> | <p>Years 1, 2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35</p> <p>Hedgerow monitoring should take place between May – August.</p> |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Monitoring Reports

Monitoring Report Schedule MS-T02

| Organisation Responsible for Submitting the Monitoring Reports | Organisation Receiving and Responsible for Reviewing Reports |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wild Capital                                                   |                                                              |

| Project Year                  | Month Report to be Submitted | Month Management Plan to be reviewed                                                                                                                                                                      | Comments                                                            |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Establishment                 | Years 2-4                    | Yearly site walkover with progress report. Reports will be submitted to the LPA/RB during the establishment phase by January of the following year with updates to the management plan made as necessary. | Report on results of initial grassland and scrub creation measures. |
| Post-establishment management | Year 5                       | January 2029                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                     |
| Post-establishment management | Year 10                      | January 2034                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                     |
| Long-term management          | Year 15                      | January 2039                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                     |
| Long-term management          | Year 20                      | January 2044                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                     |
| Long-term management          | Year 25                      | January 2049                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                     |
| Final Report                  | Year 30                      | January 2054                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                     |

Adaptive Management

Summary of Adaptive Management Approaches (MS-B02)

Adaptive management is a systematic approach to natural resource management that involves monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of management actions then adjusting as necessary to improve outcomes over time. It is an iterative process in which management actions are followed by targeted monitoring outcomes. These, in turn, inform the ongoing management.

Monitoring results inform necessary management changes to promote achieving BNG targets stated in the statutory biodiversity metric and HMMP. The monitoring can pick up any unexpected, external influences. Some examples are dealing with a new plant disease, an invasive species that is thriving due to climate change, or changes to site access due to site flooding.

Observations and notes from day-to-day management are important for delivering adaptive management. Consider how this information will be captured and fed into changes in management prescriptions, then through to subsequent monitoring reports.

Regular robust monitoring, and reporting to the responsible authority, should identify issues early on. Then you can make conscious decisions to implement effective actions. If the BNG objectives are affected by external factors, it is important to agree decisions on changes to the management prescriptions and targets with the responsible authority. Following the review, record any changes in this management plan and schedule.

To ensure its effectiveness, this management plan will undergo regular updates and reviews every five years. The monitoring reports will provide feedback on the implementation of the plan, and any necessary changes will be made accordingly. Additionally, the plan will identify and address any previously unknown risks that may arise.

It is important to note that any significant changes to management prescriptions that could alter the expected outcomes will be discussed and agreed upon with the relevant authority before implementation.

