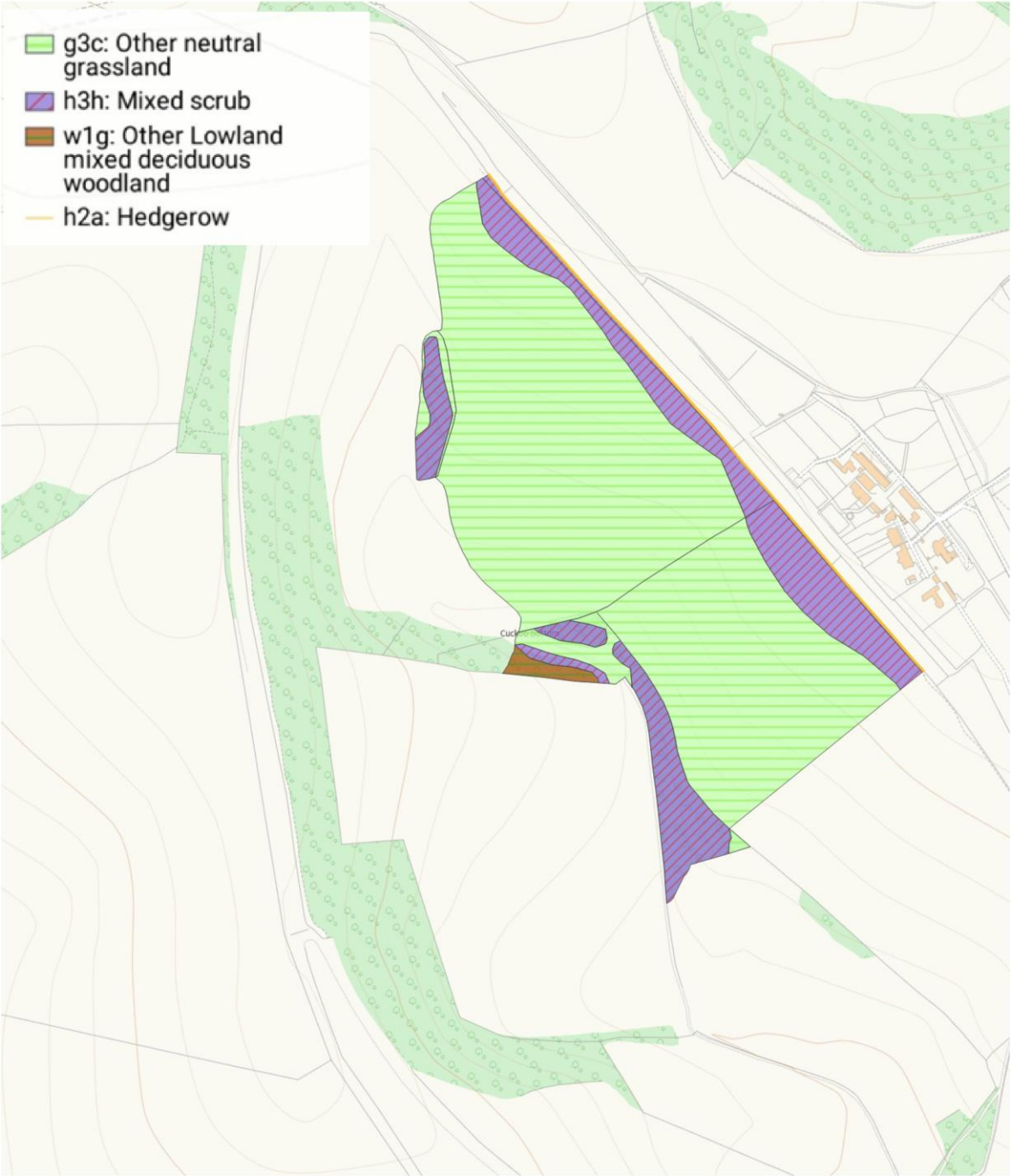




Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

BNG Habitat Monitoring Report

Site Name	Iford Estate
Planning Reference	N/A
Register Reference	BGS-290224001
Consent or Licence Reference	N/A
Site Owner	J & H Robinson Iford Estate
Author	NC ACIEEM & AM MCIEEM CLM
Date of Report	14 /08 /2025
Monitoring Year	2



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200 m
Scale 1:7068 (at A4)
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Consultant: CLM



Client: J & H Robinson
Iford Estate



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Document Details

Authorship Details MR-B01

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V1	Draft for internal review	NC 30/ 07/ 2025	
V1.2	For issue to client	NC 06/ 08/ 2025	AM 14/ 08/ 2025

1.Introduction

Survey Details

Organisation Responsible for Monitoring Surveys MR-T02	
Name or Initials	AM & NC
Organisation	CLM
Survey date(s)	22/ 07/ 2025
Statement of competency	
AM : - MCIEEM qualified - A competent person as defined by the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Guidance - Director at CLM Ltd conducting Preliminary Ecological Appraisals, Phase 1 Habitat Surveys, UKHabs Baseline Habitat Surveys, Environmental Impact Assessment (Agriculture), all utilising skills and knowledge relating to habitat identification and botanical surveys. As well as creating Habitat Management and Monitoring Plans and BNG Post Management proposals for Schemes and Projects. Demonstrated level of competence as defines by BSI BS 8683:2021 ‘Process for designing and implementing Biodiversity Net Gain – Specification’. NC: - ACIEEM qualified - A competent person as defined by the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Guidance - Farm and Environment Consultant at CLM Ltd conducting Preliminary Ecological Appraisals, Phase 1 Habitat Surveys, UKHabs Baseline Habitat Surveys, Environmental Impact Assessment (Agriculture), all utilising skills and knowledge relating to habitat identification and botanical surveys. As well as creating Habitat Management and Monitoring Plans and BNG Post Management proposals for Schemes and Projects. Demonstrated level of competence as defines by BSI BS 8683:2021 ‘Process for designing and implementing Biodiversity Net Gain – Specification’	
Surveys completed	
All Habitats identified were classified using UKHabs V2 framework.	
Survey conditions and limitations	
The Site was visited on the 22nd of July by Alex Macdonald MCIEEM, and Neve Clatworthy ACIEEM of CLM Ltd. Habitats were classified based on the UKHab Version 2 definitions, species recorded within each quadrat surveyed were given a DOMIN score. In addition, condition scores were given to habitats surveyed using the Statutory Condition Assessment Sheets. Habitats were mapped using the UK Hab survey methodology. A minimum mapping unit (MMU) of 400m² for habitat polygons and 20m for linear habitats was used when surveying and mapping for broad habitat types, with smaller MMU utilised where a clear distinction in broad habitat type was observed.	

Progress Summary

Summary of Progress Made Since Implementation Period MR-B02

A grass seed mix has been established within the areas targeted for g3c: Other neutral grassland. This is now cut and grazed by cattle on rotation using electric fencing, to ensure the habitat is evenly grazed and does not contain large amounts of injurious weeds/ scrub species.

In the areas targeted for h3h: Mixed scrub, whips of woody shrub and scrub species have been planted within a grassland seed mix. The whips were then surrounded with a circle of mulch with the aims of suppressing weeds and reducing competition with grass and weed species. This area has also been rabbit fenced to reduce the chances of herbivore damage on young whips.

During the first year of the enhancement of the area of w1f Lowland deciduous woodland on site at the Houndean investment site one the pheasant pens were removed to reduce bare ground within the woodland and to ensure the overall woodland enhancement and management is even across the site.

Th H2a5: Species rich native hedgerow targeted for enhancement has been allowed to thicken up and grow taller following a 2-5 year cutting rotation.

As the project is still in its infancy with created habitats not yet fully established and habitats being enhanced at very early stages, all habitats should continue to be managed according to the practices outlined within the HMMP.

Site Wide Successes and Challenges

Successes MR-B03

The areas of g3c Other neutral grassland ,h3h Mixed scrub ,w1f Lowland deciduous woodland and H2a5 Species rich native hedgerow are progressing as intended.

A grass seed mix has been established within the areas targeted for g3c: Other neutral grassland, this has been managed through both cutting and grazing, to achieve a varied sward height.

Whips of scrub and shrub species have been planted within a grassland seed mix with accompanying mulch to suppress competition from other flora to create new areas of h3h, while within existing areas of h3h mixed scrub, clearance works have been undertaken to increase age structure and open clearings.

Pheasant pens have been removed to reduce bare ground within the area of existing w1f Lowland mixed deciduous woodland.

H2a5 Species rich native hedgerow has been allowed to thicken up and grow in height following the 2-5 year cutting rotation.

Challenges MR-B04

Project challenges include ensuring h3h mixed scrub is not dominated by the grass mix sown beneath whips, and controlling excessive herbivore damage to the Other neutral grassland, Mixed scrub, Lowland mixed deciduous woodland and Species rich native hedgerow habitats.

As the project is still in very early stages with created habitats not yet fully established and habitats being enhanced at the early stages of enhancement works no urgent action is required and all habitats should continue to be managed according to the practices outlined within the HMMP. Where management techniques are not achieving the required characteristics of a habitat type, consultation with the advisor to advise of ways of remedying the situation through adaptations to management, will be undertaken. Where external factors, outside of the control of the project managers threaten the BNG objectives, then these will be discussed with the responsible authority to agree appropriate changes to management.

General Site Photographs MR-F01



2. Progress Towards Habitat Condition Targets

Methodology

Survey Methodology Equipment:

- Map of the site showing the area to be monitored
- UK Habs V2 condition assessment forms suitable for the site
- Weather writer
- Pencil / pen
- ID books and hand lens
- GPS // What three words

Methodology:

On entering the site, go to the area that has been identified for survey using the prepared map. A quick walk-over of the part of the site you want to survey would suffice so that you can find your bearings and locate 'representative' samples of vegetation.

The choice of where to centre each 2x2m (for grassland) 2X2m, (for scrub), 10x10 (for woodland) quadrat is subjective. It should be placed in what you consider to be a uniform stand of vegetation – that is an area that is representative of the overall site.

The selection of location for the quadrat should not be swayed by trying to get a particularly rich composition of species or particular structure, such as concentrating in areas with a finer sward compared to those with a coarser sward. This would alter the results. There will always be some variation in sward across a site, and obvious boundaries between different types of grassland should be avoided. However, boundaries between grassland are usually more gradual, and can be hard to avoid.

After identifying the similar areas of vegetation composition and structure at the site, you will need to undertake 3-5 quadrats within each similar stand of vegetation. At the top of the record sheet enter an 8-figure or 10-figure grid reference/ What 3 words location of the quadrat. All plants should be recorded from each quadrat and a coverage scale estimating the percentage coverage of a species. The species identified should then be listed according to their abundance using the DOMIN scale.

Other useful information to record includes general information about site management, such as animals grazing, burning etc.

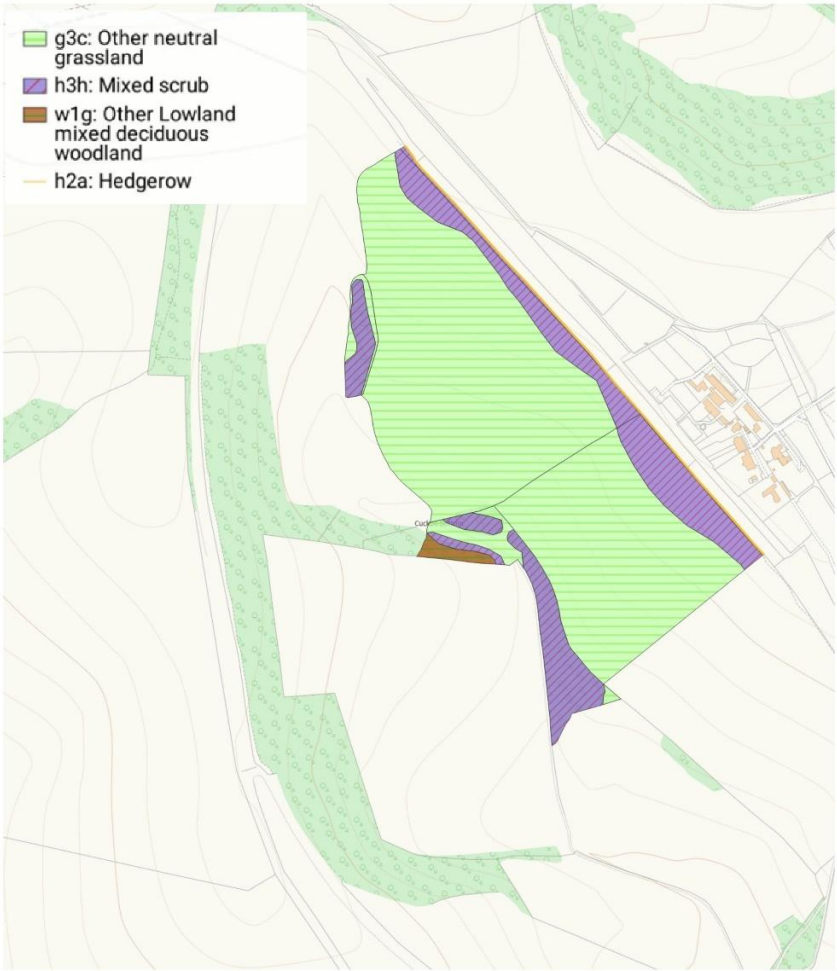
The condition of each habitat present will be recorded using the BNG Statutory Metric Habitat Condition Assessment Sheets. Photographs should be taken to record the current state of each habitat; these are to be included within the monitoring report. The habitat management methods used during the lead up to and at the time of survey should be recorded (eg. Cattle grazing, recently topped etc) to assess how successful the management techniques are at achieving desired habitat types and conditions.

Following the field survey, data collected will be collated and reported within the Annual Monitoring Plan.

DOMIN Scale

Cover	Domin
91-100%	10
76-90%	9
51-75%	8
34-50%	7
26-33%	6
11-25%	5
4-10%	4
<4% (many individuals)	3
<4% (several individuals)	2
<4% (few individuals)	1

Monitoring Plan MT-F01



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Monitoring Strategy

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

The monitoring reports will be filled out at years 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 30. Further general annual monitoring will also be completed but will not form part of the more formal monitoring report.

Monitoring reports should consist of an updated species list for each habitat area, photographs of the current state of each habitat and completion of habitat condition sheets for each habitat area.

Monitoring Methods and Intervals MS-T01

Habitat Type	Monitoring Methods	Monitoring Interval and Timing
g3c: Other neutral grassland	Monitoring reports will be filled out at years 2 5 10 20 30. Undertake quadrat sampling to identify the number of species per m², compile a non-exhaustive species list, complete condition assessment sheets. Monitoring reports should include any management works which have been undertaken since the last report, to establish which methods are being used to achieve the target condition of each habitat type.	Monitoring reports will be filled out at years 2 5 10 20 30, site surveys to be completed between May and August. Annual surveys of species following the NVC method should be undertaken to establish species abundance.
w1f: Lowland deciduous woodland	Monitoring reports will be filled out at years 2 5 10 20 30. Identify species present and complete condition assessment sheets for the habitat type. Monitoring reports should include any management works which have been undertaken since the last report, to establish which methods are being used to achieve the target condition of each habitat type.	Monitoring reports will be filled out at years 2 5 10 20 30, site surveys to be completed between May and August. Annual surveys of species should be undertaken to establish species abundance.
h3h: Mixed scrub	Monitoring reports will be filled out at years 2 5 10 20 30. Identify species present and complete condition assessment sheets for the habitat type.	Monitoring reports will be filled out at years 2 5 10 20 30, site surveys to be completed between May and August.

	Monitoring reports should include any management works which have been undertaken since the last report, to establish which methods are being used to achieve the target condition of each habitat type.	Annual surveys should be undertaken for the full length of the agreement.
H2a5: Species Rich Native Hedgerow	Monitoring reports will be filled out at years 2 5 10 20 30. Identify species present and complete condition assessment for the habitat type. Monitoring reports should include any management works which have been undertaken since the last report, to establish which methods are being used to achieve the target condition of each habitat type.	Monitoring reports will be filled out at years 2 5 10 20 30, site surveys to be completed between May and August. Annual surveys should be undertaken for the full length of the agreement.

Monitoring Reports

Monitoring Report Schedule MS-T02

Organisation Responsible for Submitting the Monitoring Reports	Organisation Receiving and Responsible for Reviewing Reports
CLM	tbc

Project Year	Month Report to be Submitted	Month Management Plan to be reviewed	Comments
2	September	September or October	Report on results of initial habitat creation and enhancement works
5	September	September or October	Report on results of ongoing habitat creation and enhancement works.
10	September	September or October	Report on results of ongoing habitat creation and enhancement works.
20	September	September or October	Report on results of ongoing habitat creation and enhancement works.

30	September	September or October	Report on results of ongoing habitat creation and enhancement works.
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Adaptive Management

Summary of Adaptive Management Approaches (MS-B02)

Habitat management principles outlined in the Companion Document are designed to deliver the desired habitat creation and enhancement, these are assuming current or recent climate conditions. When these conditions change, so will the management. While it is not yet known how these will change exactly, although some thought has been given to this in the Companion Document, monitoring will have to identify where habitat creation and enhancement is being affected.

Monitoring of habitats throughout the year as well as more thoroughly on an annual basis, alongside the official monitoring surveys carried out in years 2, 5, 10, 20, and 30, will help to identify long term and progressive changes to the habitats and pick up where changes and adaptations to the management need to be made, more rapidly. Any changes made will be covered in the stated Monitoring reports, but it will be necessary to continuously monitor the habitats progress to ensure timely adaptations are made to achieve the required habitat types.

Where management techniques have been outlined, these will be monitored to determine their effect on achieving the desired outcomes. Where management techniques are not achieving the required characteristics of a habitat type consultation with the advisor, to advise of ways of remedying the situation through adaptations to management, will be undertaken. Where external factors, outside of the control of the project managers threatened the BNG objectives, then these will be discussed with the responsible authority to agree appropriate changes to management.

Grassland (medium, high, and very high distinctiveness)

Progress Towards Habitat and Condition Targets (MH-T01)

Condition Assessment Criteria		Targeted?	Relevant parcels	Year:	2
				Target met?	Management Activity Updates
Target Habitat:	g3c: Other neutral grassland	Yes / No	Enter parcel number	Yes / No	Provide details of the actions relevant to this habitat or condition criteria that must be implemented from this monitoring period onwards. What, if any, adaptive management changes will be implemented to continue delivering targets.
1	There are 6-8 vascular plant species per m ² present, including at least 2 forbs. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition. Where the vascular plant species present are characteristic of medium, high or very high distinctiveness grassland, or there are 9 or more of these characteristic species per m ² , please review the full UKHab description to assess whether the grassland should be classified as a higher distinctiveness grassland. Where a grassland is classed as medium, high or very high distinctiveness, please use the relevant condition sheet.	Yes	TQ3811 6537, TQ3910 2575, TQ3810 5458	Yes	The seed mix containing a variety of mixes of local provenance and other grassland mix were sown in the spring of 2023. A combination of cutting and grazing using cattle and sheep is seeing the gradual decline of dominant grass species, allowing for a variety of species to establish within the sward.
2	Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20 per cent is more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and breed.	Yes	TQ3811 6537, TQ3910 2575, TQ3810 5458	No	Since the last monitoring report (Summer 2024), The grassland was cut in September 2024 with arisings removed. In February 2025 the site was grazed using sheep, livestock were then removed in April. Following this monitoring survey the sward is due to be cut again and arisings removed. The combination of cutting and grazing is targeting a reduction in dominant grass species and creating a varied sward.
3	Any scrub present accounts for less than 20% of the total grassland area. (Some scattered scrub	Yes	TQ3811 6537, TQ3910	Yes	Scrub encroachment from the existing areas of scrub enhancement is being controlled by grazing animals, this will continue to be monitored and any encroachment into areas of grassland will be controlled.

	such as bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg. may be present). Note - patches of scrub with continuous (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant scrub habitat type.		2575, TQ3810 5458		
4	Physical damage is evident in less than 5% of total grassland area Examples of physical damage include excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels of access, or any other damaging management activities.	Yes	TQ3811 6537, TQ3910 2575, TQ3810 5458	Yes	Appropriate stocking rates (<0.75 LU per ha) are being used to avoid any poaching from cattle on the site in addition to avoiding bringing machinery onto site during periods of prolonged wet weather.
5	Cover of bare ground between 1% and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of rabbit warrens.)	Yes	TQ3811 6537, TQ3910 2575, TQ3810 5458	Yes	Bare ground currently sits between 1 and 10 percent of the entire grassland area, with stocking rates frequently monitored when livestock are on site to avoid poaching.

Grassland (medium, high, and very high distinctiveness)

General Progress

Comments on progress towards project goals (MH-B01)

A grass seed mix has been established within the areas targeted for g3c: Other neutral grassland. This is managed through cutting and grazing by cattle and sheep on rotation using electric fencing, to ensure the grassland is evenly grazed and does not contain large amounts in injurious weeds/ scrub species. As nutrient levels gradually drop, less individual plants resembling cultivars are present, with local native species beginning to colonise such as Salad burnet *Sanguisorba minor* Quaking grass *Brixia media* and Ladies bedstraw *Galium verum*.

Actions required in next management period (MH-B02)

Continue to rotationally graze the areas of g3c using cattle and sheep alongside a cutting regime. Any areas with scrub developing such as field boundaries should be grazed for longer to reduce the risk of succession by opportunistic scrub species.

Photographs of Progress (MH-F01)



Scrub

Progress Towards Habitat and Condition Targets (MS-T01)

Condition Assessment Criteria		Targeted?	Relevant parcels	Year :	2
				Target met?	Management Activity Updates
Target Habitat:	H3h: Mixed Scrub	Yes / No	Enter parcel number	Yes / No	Provide details of the actions relevant to this habitat or condition criteria that must be implemented from this monitoring period onwards. What, if any, adaptive management changes will be implemented to continue delivering targets.
A	The parcel represents a good example of its habitat type – the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description (where in its natural range). At least 80% of scrub is native, There are at least three native woody species, 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).	Yes	TQ3811 6323, TQ3811 6537, TQ3910 2575, TQ3810 5458	No	Scrub is made up of more than three native species. Much of the planting has been smothered by the grassland seed mix but scrub is beginning to emerge from this area.
B	Seedlings, saplings, young shrubs and mature (or ancient or veteran) shrubs are all present.	Yes	TQ3811 6323, TQ3811 6537, TQ3910 2575, TQ3810 5458	No	Areas of scrub creation are currently of one age class as they are still in a state of becoming established. Areas of existing scrub being enhanced currently lack diversity of age structure, this is being tackled through clearing areas within the scrub, opening the canopy allowing light to reach the soil so that young seedlings and saplings might come through. Once fully established scrub will be managed, cutting 1/15 th of the overall area annually so that it is structurally diverse, with a network of rides running throughout.
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	TQ3811 6323, TQ3811 6537, TQ3910	Yes	There are no invasive non-native species currently within the scrub creation area at investment site one. If invasive non-native species become an issue they will need to be controlled by spraying or injecting with approved herbicides.

			2575, TQ3810 5458		
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	TQ3811 6323, TQ3811 6537, TQ3910 2575, TQ3810 5458	No	As the scrub has not yet had chance to fully establish, therefore it does not have a gradual edge. When the scrub reaches maturity, cattle should be allowed to lightly graze into the edge of the scrub or a regime of rotational cutting of the scrub edge should be implemented to create an ecotone of value to reptiles.
E	There are clearings, glades or rides present within the scrub, providing sheltered edges.	Yes	TQ3811 6323, TQ3811 6537, TQ3910 2575, TQ3810 5458	Yes	Currently the scrub does not contain any consistent clearings, glades or rides. In areas of newly planted scrub, temporary open space should be created once the scrub has been able to establish, creating a structurally diverse habitat with niches appropriate for a variety of species. The first year of enhancement saw clearance works undertaken to create open space within the scrub, the arisings were subsequently stacked within part of the cleared area to create brash piles.

Scrub

GENERAL PROGRESS

Comments on progress towards project goals (MH-B01)

In year one of the project, whips of scrub species were planted out on top of a grassland seed mix. The whips were then surrounded with a circle of mulch with the aims of suppressing weeds and reducing competition with grass and weed species. This area has also been rabbit fenced to reduce the chances of herbivore damage on young whips.

Scrub is made up of more than three native species. Much of the scrub planting has been smothered by the grassland seed mix but scrub is beginning to emerge from this area.

Actions required in next management period (MH-B02)

Where scrub plants are failing add another larger area of mulch around scrub planting to avoid whips being smothered by grass species growing alongside scrub plants.

Maintain the rabbit fencing surrounding the scrub planting, in areas it has been lifted by badgers and foxes potentially allowing rabbits to enter the scrub planting area.

Photographs of Progress (MS-F01)



Woodland

Progress Towards Habitat and Condition Targets (MI-T01)

Condition Assessment Criteria			Target Score	Relevant parcels	Year :	2
					Target met?	Management Activity Updates
Target Habitat:		W1f: Lowland deciduous woodland	1 / 2 / 3	Enter parcel number	Yes / No	Provide details of the actions relevant to this habitat or condition criteria that must be implemented from this monitoring period onwards. What, if any, adaptive management changes will be implemented to continue delivering targets.
A	Age distribution of trees	Three age classes present	3	TQ3810 5458	No	The woodland proposed for enhancement at Houndean investment site 1 lacks structural diversity due to few age classes being present. It is proposed to introduce a programme of thinning in order to increase the structural diversity of the woodland specifically targeting areas where one age class is present.
		Two age classes present				
		One age class present				
B	Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage	No significant browsing damage evident in woodland	3	TQ3810 5458	No	Herbivore damage is present within the woodland on site, 8 Fallow bucks were seen at the time of survey, this should be combatted through carrying out a programme of deer monitoring and management. With the aim of reducing pressure from browsing , allowing the ground flora to recover.
		Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland				
		Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland				
C	Invasive plant species	No invasive species present in woodland	3	TQ3810 5458	Yes	At the time of survey there were no invasive non-native species present within the woodland at Houndean investment site one. Where invasives occur control using approved
		Rhododendron <i>Rhododendrion ponticum</i> or cherry laurel <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i> not present, other invasive species <10% cover				

		Rhododendron or laurel present, or other invasive species) 10% cover				methods and chemicals, dependant on the species in question, will be carried out.
D	Number of native trees species	Five or more native tree or shrub species found across woodland parcel	3	TQ3810 5458	Yes	Five or more species were found in all quadrats surveyed during the site visit. This could be increased through woodland management techniques including thinning and two zone ride management, opening up the woodland floor to increased levels of sunlight.
		Three to four native tree or shrub species found across woodland parcel				
		Two or less native tree or shrub species present across woodland parcel				
E	Cover of native tree and shrub species	>80% of canopy trees and >80% of understorey shrubs are native	3	TQ3810 5458	Yes	All trees and shrubs recorded within the woodland were of native species.
		50 – 80% of canopy trees and 50-80% of understorey shrubs are native				
		<50% of canopy trees and <50% understorey shrubs are native				
F	Open space within woodland	10-20% of woodland has areas of temporary open space. Unless woodland <10ha in which case 0-20% temporary open space is permitted.	3	TQ3810 5458	No	At the time of survey the woodland lacked areas of temporary open space. This area of woodland would benefit from implementation of light thinning works, to open up the canopy and increase light reaching the woodland floor.
		21-40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space				
		<10% or >40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space. But if woodland <10ha has <10% temporary open space, please see Good category.				

G	Woodland regeneration	All three classes present in woodland; trees 4-7cm Diameter at Breast Height (DBH), saplings and seedlings or advanced coppice regrowth	3	TQ3810 5458	No	Introduction of a programme of thinning and clearance of nettle and some bramble would encourage re-growth and increase the number of age classes present in the long term.
		One or two classes only present in woodland				
		No classes or coppice regrowth present in woodland				
H	Tree health	Tree mortality less than 10%, no pests or diseases and no crown dieback	3	TQ3810 5458	Yes	All trees monitored at the time of survey were disease free, trees should continue to be monitored and any identified individuals with diseases or crown dieback should be felled.
		11% to 25% mortality and/or crown dieback or low risk pest or disease present				
		Greater than 25% tree mortality and or any high risk pest or disease present				
I	Vegetation and ground flora	Recognisable NVC plant community at ground layer present, strongly characterised by ancient woodland flora specialists.	3	TQ3810 5458	No	Fertile soil as evidenced by the presence of a carpet of nettle, bramble, and ground ivy. Deer control should be carried out to reduce impacts on ground flora.
		Recognisable NVC plant community at ground layer present				
		No recognisable NVC plant community at ground layer present.				
J	Woodland vertical structure	Three or more storeys across all survey plots or a complex woodland.	3	TQ3810 5458	No	The woodland proposed for enhancement at Houndean investment site one lacks structural diversity. This area of woodland would benefit from implementation of light thinning works to increase the structural diversity of the woodland specifically targeting areas where one age class is present.
		Two storeys across all survey plots				
		One of less storey across all survey plots				
K	Veteran trees	Two of more veteran per hectare	3	TQ3810 5458	No	No veteran trees were identified at the time of survey, however there were many mature trees which could be targeted and allowed to develop into veteran trees. Suitable
		One veteran tree per hectare				

		No veteran trees present in woodland				trees include the Walnut <i>Juglans regia</i> in parcel TQ3810 5458.
L	Amount of deadwood	50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities. Between 25% and 50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities. Less than 25% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities.	3	TQ3810 5458	No	At the time of survey deadwood was observed in the form of fallen branches and occasional standing deadwood. A portion of the standing and fallen deadwood within the woodland should be left to provide a food source for invertebrates and birds, nesting habitats, and a nutrient-rich habitat for fungi.
M	Woodland disturbance	No nutrient enrichment or damaged ground evident Less than 1 hectare in total of nutrient enrichment across woodland area and or less than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground More than 1 hectare of nutrient enrichment and or more than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground	3	TQ3810 5458	No	Removal of the Pheasant pens and deer control will reduce woodland disturbance on site and allow for ground flora to colonise areas exposed to sunlight.

Woodland

General Progress

Comments on progress towards project goals (MI-B01)

Little progress has been made in the first two years of enhancement works with some thinning works carried out. Further thinning works will need to be carried out in the winter months to work towards increasing the structural diversity of this woodland.

Actions required in next management period (MI-B02)

Introduce a thinning routine within the existing woodland on site to increase structural diversity and open up the woodland floor for ground flora to establish.

Establishment of two zone rides that both enable woodland management and benefit biodiversity by increasing the structural diversity of the woodland.

Identify and mark trees displaying veteran features/ with potential to become veteran trees to be allowed to develop into one.

Photographs of Progress (MI-F01)



Hedgerow

Progress Towards Habitat and Condition Targets (MG-T01)

Condition Assessment Criteria		Targeted?	Relevant parcels	Year:	Management Activity Updates
				Target met?	
Target Habitat:	H2a5: Species Rich Native Hedgerow	Yes / No	Enter parcel number	Yes / No	Provide details of the actions relevant to this habitat or condition criteria that must be implemented from this monitoring period onwards. What, if any, adaptive management changes will be implemented to continue delivering targets.
A1	Height >1.5m average along length.	Yes	TQ3811 6537	yes	The hedge is of a healthy height and continues to be managed on a 2-5 years cutting rotation to increase its overall height.
A2	Width >1.5m average along length.	Yes	TQ3811 6537	no	The hedge has increased in width and continues to be managed on a 2-5 years cutting rotation to enhance its width.
B1	Gap – hedge base Gap between ground and base of canopy <0.5m for >90% of length.	Yes	TQ3811 6537	yes	There is a healthy gap of less than 0.5m between the ground and the base of the hedge canopy.
B2	Gap – hedgerow canopy continuity Gaps make up <10% of total length; and no canopy gaps >5m.	Yes	TQ3811 6537	yes	There are a small amount of gaps within the hedge however these are from a couple of failed hedge plants from the time of planting and are representative of less than 10% of its length. These gaps will be filled with new whips and by the increased canopy cover as a result of cutting on a 2-5 year rotation.
C1	Undisturbed ground and perennial vegetation >1m width of undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation for >90% of length: measured from outer edge of hedgerow, and is present on one side of the hedge (at least)	Yes	TQ3811 6537	no	While the majority of the sward underneath the hedgerow is undisturbed, it is partially disturbed by frequent ramblers along the footpath running adjacent to the hedge.
C2	Nutrient-enriched perennial vegetation Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of the area of undisturbed ground.	Yes	TQ3811 6537	yes	Any plant species indicative of enriched soils (ie goose grass, nettle etc) were under the 20% threshold, ground flora will continue to be managed to ensure they do not dominate the sward below the hedgerow.
D1	Invasive and neophyte species >90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free of invasive non-native plant species (including those listed on Schedule 9 of WCA) and recently introduced species.	Yes	TQ3811 6537	yes	No invasive or non-native species were recorded at the time of survey – if any were to colonise the hedgerow or its ground flora, they would be dealt with as outlined within the HMMP.
D2	Current damage >90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage caused by human activities.	Yes	TQ3811 6537	no	The presence of native mammals using the hedgerow is evident from small gaps present at the base of the hedgerow, this is difficult to avoid. Additional human influences from frequent ramblers and dog walkers using the footpath running adjacent to the hedge is resulting in some disturbed ground and small amounts of ground flora.
E1	Tree class (applicable to hedgerows with trees only) There is more than one age-class (or morphology) of tree present (for example: young, mature, veteran and or ancient), and there is on average at least one mature, ancient or veteran tree present per 20 – 50m of hedgerow.	No	n/a	n/a	n/a

E2	E2. Tree health (applicable to hedgerows with trees only) At least 95% of hedgerow trees are in a healthy condition (excluding veteran features valuable for wildlife). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity.	No	n/a	n/a	n/a
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Hedgerow

General Progress

Comments on progress towards project goals (MI-B01)

The hedge has increased in width and continues to be managed on rotation to enhance its width. There is a gap of less than 0.5m between the ground and the base of the hedge canopy, but ground flora is still lacking in diversity and mainly consists of species indicative of nutrient enrichment.

Actions required in next management period (MI-B02)

Continue to cut once every 2-5 years. When cutting only cut back half of the hedges on farm at a time as cutting annually can be damaging to existing populations of invertebrates.

Continue to control weeds while maintaining grasses and hedge bottom flora by physical or chemical control methods, where possible avoiding chemical control to avoid damage to desirable species.

Hedgerow gapping up should be carried out along the hedge using a range of native species, where previous whips failed to establish, this should be carried out following details outlined within the HMMP.

Photographs of Progress (MI-F01)



3. Monitoring Report Conclusions

Key Future Actions MR-B05

For areas of G3c Other neutral grassland:

- Continue to graze using electric fencing and cut on rotation.
- Any areas identified with scrub encroachment should be grazed at a higher intensity to reduce the risk of succession by opportunistic scrub species.

For areas of H3h Mixed scrub:

- Continue to monitor scrub planting areas and insure scrub reaches maturity.
- Maintain the rabbit fencing surrounding the scrub planting to prevent herbivore damage.
- Existing scrub should continue to undergo management in the form of scrub bashing and creation of open space within mature stands of scrub should be encouraged to increase structural diversity.

For areas of w1f: Lowland deciduous woodland:

- Identify and mark trees displaying veteran features/ with potential to become veteran trees.
- Introduce a thinning routine within the existing woodland to increase structural diversity and allow more ground flora to establish.

For H2a5: Species Rich Native Hedgerow:

- Continue to manage on a 2-5 year cutting rotation.
- Continue to control weeds while maintaining grasses and hedge bottom flora by physical or chemical control methods.
- Gapping up the areas in the hedge where previous plantings had failed to establish, using a variety of native species.

Adaptive Management

Are any Adaptations to the Management Plans Targets and, or, Prescriptions Required? MR-B06

Habitat management principles outlined in the Companion Document are designed to deliver the desired habitat creation and enhancement, these are assuming current or recent climate conditions. When these change, the management techniques will be adapted to the new climate conditions. While it is not yet known how these will change exactly, although some thought has been given to this in the Companion Document, continuous monitoring will identify where habitat creation and enhancement is being affected.

Where management techniques are not achieving the required characteristics of a habitat type, consultation with the advisor to advise of ways of remedying the situation through adaptations to management, will be undertaken. Where external factors, outside of the control of the project managers threatens the BNG objectives, these will be discussed with the responsible authority to agree appropriate changes to management. At the time of survey no major changes to management were identified as potentially beneficial to the project, as the habitats reach the established stage management may require alteration to reach target condition.

The areas of Other neutral grassland should continue to be grazed using electric fencing and cut on rotation. Any scrub developing within the grassland, such as at field boundaries should be grazed for longer to reduce the risk of succession by opportunistic scrub species. The enhancement of areas of h3h Mixed scrub should continue in accordance with the HMMP documents, including management of vegetation surrounding individual scrub plants to avoid whips being smothered by dominant grass species. Maintenance of the rabbit fencing surrounding the scrub creation should be maintained to protect the young plants from herbivore damage while they establish. The management of the w1f: Lowland deciduous woodland habitat should include identifying and marking trees displaying veteran features/ with potential to become veteran trees in addition to the introduction of a thinning routine to increase structural diversity and allow more light to reach the woodland floor. The H2a5: Species Rich Native Hedgerow on site should continue to be managed on a 2-5 year cutting rotation to allow the hedge to thicken. Weeds should be controlled at the hedge bottom where practical without damaging beneficial ground flora in addition to gapping up the areas in the hedge where previous plantings had failed to establish, this should be carried out using a variety of native species as outlined within the HMMP.

4.Activity Register

Creation MR-T03

Date	Works Completed	Who Delivered Works	Who is Liable for Delivery	Signed Off by Ecologist	Ecologist Company & Name	Comments

Enhancement MR-T04

Date	Works Completed	Who Delivered Works	Who is Liable for Delivery	Signed Off by Ecologist	Ecologist Company & Name	Comments

Management MR-T05

Date	Works Completed	Who Delivered Works	Who is Liable for Delivery	Signed Off by Ecologist	Ecologist Company & Name	Comments

Monitoring MR-T06

Date	Works Completed	Who Delivered Works	Who is Liable for Delivery	Signed Off by Ecologist	Ecologist Company & Name	Comments
15/08/2024	Year 1 annual monitoring	AM MCIEEM	AM MCIEEM	AM MCIEEM	CLM	
31/07/2025	Year 2 annual monitoring	AM MCIEEM	AM MCIEEM	AM MCIEEM	CLM	

References

JNCC. (2006). *National Vegetation Classification: Users’ handbook*.

UKHab Ltd (2023). *UK Habitat Classification Version 2.0* (at: <https://www.ukhab.ora>)

G3c Other neutral grassland

Quadrat no	Species	DOMIN
1	White clover	4
	Ribwort plantain	3
	Yarrow	3
	Birds foot trefoil	2
	Oxeye daisy	2
	Crested dogstail	5
	Perennial ryegrass	2
	Red fescue	4
	Sweet vernal grass	4
	Red clover	1
	Cocksfoot	5
	Common Catsear	2
2	Sainfoin	5
	Ribwort plantain	4
	Yarrow	4
	Birds foot trefoil	5
	Red clover	5
	Yarrow	5

	Oxeye daisy	1
	Mouse ear	4
	Black knapweed	2
	Self-heal	4
	Common bent	5
	Perennial ryegrass	4
	Wild carrot	1
	Red fescue	2
3	Black knapweed	2
	Self-heal	2
	Ribwort plantain	4
	Red clover	3
	Yarrow	4
	Birds foot trefoil	2
	Oxeye daisy	4
	Sainfoin	1
	Perennial ryegrass	3
	Sweet vernal	3
	Crested dogs tail	4
	Creeping bent	5
	Cocksfoot	5

	Red fescue	3
	Common bent	4
4	White clover	3
	Cats ear	1
	Ribwort plantain	4
	Wild carrot	2
	Red clover	4
	Birds foot trefoil	2
	Sainfoin	1
	Yarrow	4
	White campion	1
	Black knapweed	2
	Common vetch	1
	Self-heal	3
	Rough stalked meadow grass	4
	Crested dogs tail	4
	Red fescue	4
5	Mouse ear	1
	Black medic	4
	Sainfoin	2
	Crested dogs tail	4

	White campion	1
	Red clover	4
	White clover	2
	Birds foot trefoil	2
	White campion	1
	Ribwort plantain	3
	Yarrow	4
	Musk mallow	1
	Creeping bent	1
	Perennial ryegrass	3
	Soft brome	1
	Red fescue	2
6	Red clover	5
	Creeping bent	4
	Ribwort plantain	3
	Oxeye daisy	4
	Yarrow	4
	Birds foot trefoil	3
	Wild carrot	3
	White campion	2
	Sainfoin	1

	Red fescue	4
	Musk mallow	3
	Crested dogs tail	3
	Black knapweed	2
7	Sainfoin	2
	White clover	3
	Common cats ear	1
	Ribwort plantain	4
	Yarrow	3
	Red fescue	3
	Crested dogs tail	4
	Cocksfoot	1
	Birds foot trefoil	2
	Common bent	5
	Oxeye daisy	3
	Yorkshire fog	3
	Perennial ryegrass	3
	Red campion	1
	Musk mallow	1
8	Sainfoin	2
	White clover	3

	Common cats ear	1
	Ribwort plantain	4
	Yarrow	3
	Red fescue	3
	Crested dogs tail	4
	Cocksfoot	4
	Birds foot trefoil	3
	Common bent	4
	Oxeye daisy	3
	Sweet vernal grass	3
	Yorkshire fog	1
	Perennial ryegrass	2
	Red campion	2
	Musk mallow	3
9	Common bent	5
	Creeping bent	4
	Ribwort plantain	3
	Oxeye daisy	4
	Yarrow	4
	Birds foot trefoil	3
	Black knapweed	2

	White campion	2
	Sainfoin	3
	Red fescue	4
	Musk mallow	3
	Crested dogs tail	3
	Sweet vernal grass	4
10	Black knapweed	3
	Self-heal	2
	Ribwort plantain	4
	Red clover	3
	Yarrow	4
	Birds foot trefoil	2
	Oxeye daisy	4
	Sainfoin	3
	Perennial ryegrass	4
	Sweet vernal grass	4
	Crested dogs tail	3
	Creeping bent	2
	Cocksfoot	4
	Common bent	4
11	Oxeye daisy	3

	White clover	2
	Cocksfoot	4
	Yorkshire fog	4
	Sweet vernal grass	3
	Creeping bent	2
	Common bent	4
	Sainfoin	2
	Yarrow	3
	Birds foot trefoil	2
	Salad Burnet	4
12	Black knapweed	2
	Self-heal	2
	Ribwort plantain	4
	Red clover	3
	Yarrow	4
	Birds foot trefoil	2
	Oxeye daisy	4
	Sainfoin	1
	Perennial ryegrass	3
	Sweet vernal	2
	Crested dogs tail	4

	Creeping bent	4
	Cocksfoot	4
	Red fescue	3
	Common bent	2
13	Cocksfoot	4
	Common bent	4
	Red fescue	3
	Sweet vernal	3
	Crested dogs tail	3
	Oxeye daisy	3
	White clover	2
	Sainfoin	3
	Yarrow	3
	Birds foot trefoil	3
14	Small flowering timothy	3
	Ribwort plantain	2
	Cocksfoot	2
	Common bent	4
	Oxeye daisy	3
	White clover	2
	Self-heal	2

	Birds foot trefoil	4
	Sweet vernal	4
	Musk mallow	3
	White campion	2
	Red clover	2
15	Birds foot trefoil	4
	Sweet vernal	4
	Small flowering timothy	3
	Red clover	2
	Sainfoin	3
	Yarrow	3
	Common bent	4
	Red fescue	3
	Black knapweed	3
	Self-heal	3
	Musk mallow	2
16	Common bent	4
	Creeping bent	3
	Yarrow	3
	Oxeye daisy	4
	Ribwort plantain	3

	Birds foot trefoil	3
	Black knapweed	2
	Sainfoin	2
	White campion	2
17	Sainfoin	2
	Musk mallow	3
	Crested dogs tail	3
	Sweet vernal grass	4
	Common bent	4
	Cocksfoot	4
18	Birds foot trefoil	2
	Ribwort plantain	2
	Red clover	1
	Oxeye daisy	2
	White clover	4
	Crested dogs tail	3
	Cocksfoot	4
19	Selfheal	3
	Oxeye daisy	3
	Yarrow	1
	Cocksfoot	4

	Yorkshire fog	4
	Sweet vernal grass	3
	Creeping bent	2
	Birds foot trefoil	2
20	Ribwort plantain	2
	Oxeye daisy	3
	White clover	3
	Musk mallow	3
	Crested dogs tail	3
	Sweet vernal grass	4
	Common bent	4
	Cocksfoot	4

H3h Mixed scrub

Quadrat no	Species	DOMIN
21	Hawthorn	6
	Elder	3
	Nettle	4
	Bramble	4
	Hogweed	1
	Hedge mustard	1
	Deadly nightshade	1
	Cleavers	3
	Clematis	3
	Spear thistle	1
22	Hawthorn	5
	Bramble	3
	Nettle	2
	Elder	3
	Cleavers	4
	Clematis	2
23	Hawthorn	4
	Elder	2
	Nettle	3

	Bramble	3
	Deadly nightshade	2
	Cleavers	2
	Hogweed	1
	Clematis	3
	Ground ivy	2
24	Hawthorn	4
	Elder	3
	Nettle	3
	Bramble	2
	Deadly nightshade	2
25	Hawthorn	5
	Elder	4
	Ground ivy	3
	Bramble	2
	Nettle	2
26	Hawthorn	4
	Elder	2
	Ground ivy	3
	Bramble	2
	Cleavers	2

	Clematis	2
27	Hawthorn	4
	Elder	2
	Ground ivy	3
	Blackthorn	3
	Bramble	2
	Nettle	2
28	Dog wood	3
	Blackthorn	3
	Wayfaring tree	2
29	Blackthorn	2
	Purging buckthorn	2
	Guelder rose	2
30	Gorse	2
	Blackthorn	2
31	Wayfaring tree	2
	Dog wood	2
32	Gorse	3
	Blackthorn	2
33	Wayfaring tree	2
	Purging buckthorn	2

	Gorse	2
34	Blackthorn	3
	Wayfaring tree	2
36	Gorse	3
	Blackthorn	2
37	Blackthorn	3
	Wayfaring tree	2
38	Hawthorn	4
	Elder	2
	Bramble	3
	Enchanters nightshade	2
	Blackthorn	4
39	Blackthorn	4
	Hawthorn	4
	Elder	2
	Bramble	3
	Enchanters nightshade	2
40	Blackthorn	2
	Bramble	2
	Hawthorn	4
	Enchanters nightshade	2

	Elder	2
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W1f Lowland deciduous woodland

Quadrat no	Species	DOMIN
41	Walnut	1
	Ground Ivy	2
	Nettle	3
	Hawthorn	7
	Bramble	4
	Wood avens	2
42	Nettle	3
	Hawthorn	7
	Bramble	3
	Wood avens	2
	Ground Ivy	2
43	Hawthorn	6
	Bramble	3
	Wood avens	2
	Ground Ivy	2
	Nettle	4
	Blackthorn	3
44	Nettle	3
	Hawthorn	7

	Bramble	3
	Wood avens	2
	Ground Ivy	2
	Blackthorn	5
45	Hawthorn	6
	Blackthorn	5
	Bramble	3
	Wood avens	2
	Ground Ivy	2
	Nettle	3

H2a5: Species rich native hedgerow

Quadrat no	Species	DOMIN
46	Blackthorn	5
	Hawthorn	7
	Hazel	2
	Oak	2
	Dog Rose	3
	Cleavers	3
	Bramble	4

	Common Beech	4
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