

The Statutory Biodiversity Metric -Technical Annex 1: Condition Assessment Sheets and Methodology

February 2024

Instructions

The method for assessing habitat condition is split into three main steps, all of which are outlined in detail below:

STEP 1: Considerations before assessing condition

STEP 2: Choosing the right condition sheet

STEP 3: Using condition sheets

Step 1: Considerations before assessing condition

The following points must be considered **before** undertaking a condition assessment:

- Condition assessments must be undertaken by a competent person (hereafter referred to as assessors), as defined in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide. They should be undertaken at the optimum time of year for the assessed habitat(s).
- Assessors must have access to condition sheets (see **Tabs 1-25**) and the survey cover sheet during the survey (see **SURVEY COVER SHEET** tab). These may be either digital or hard copies.
- The habitat type of the parcel(s) to be assessed must be determined before consideration can be given to its condition as this enables the assessor to select the correct condition sheet (see **HABITAT DEFINITIONS** tab). Most (but not all) biodiversity metric terrestrial habitat types are equivalent to Level 4 in UKHab, therefore some metric habitats encompass UKHab Level 5 sub-divisions. When classifying a habitat, the assessor should classify and record it to the most accurate and appropriate level. Although a Level 5, or equivalent habitat may need converting to a metric habitat type when using the
- The location and extent of the habitat parcel(s) to be assessed must be mapped, either on digital or paper maps. Following condition assessment, mapped habitat parcels should be split according to their condition.
- Each habitat parcel to be assessed must be assigned a unique reference ID.

Step 2: Choosing the right condition sheet

See **SELECTING CONDITION SHEET** tab which lists the habitat types found in the biodiversity metric and indicates which condition sheet should be used for each habitat type. Some condition sheets are unique to a single habitat type; others cover a range of habitat types within the same broad habitat category.

How to use: locate the relevant habitat type in the first column (Habitat type), then refer to the second column (Condition sheet) to determine which habitat condition sheet should be used to assess that particular habitat type. The third and fourth columns (Link to sheet) contain links which can be clicked on to navigate directly to the required condition sheet, for ease of

- ▶ Some habitats are allocated a fixed condition score in the biodiversity metric and do not require a condition assessment for the metric to be completed. For certain low and medium distinctiveness habitats there is a fixed option in the metric -
- ▶ Habitat descriptions in **bold** are Priority Habitats.

Step 3: Using condition sheets (Tabs 1-25)

The following instructions and points of clarification apply to most condition assessment sheets:

- Only choose one condition sheet per habitat type. Once the condition sheet has been chosen, the condition assessment can be carried out on relevant sheets A or B, which are the same except that for A - information for one habitat parcel can be recorded, whereas for B - information for up to 10 habitat parcels can be recorded. Each condition sheet is set to print at A4 and can be used as a paper form.
- Assess the habitat parcel against each condition assessment criterion, recording a 'pass' or 'fail' for each criterion assessed, unless otherwise directed by categories available on the sheet.
- If a habitat parcel is failing all criteria, it may be that the habitat type has been recorded incorrectly and the wrong condition sheet is being used. Assessors should refer to the habitat description links at the top of the condition sheet to ensure that the habitat type is correctly identified.
- If condition varies within a parcel during the assessment then start a new condition assessment. Split the original parcel to ensure that each individual parcel comprises an area of habitat of a consistent type and condition.
- Some condition assessment sheets have 'essential' criteria. Essential criteria must be passed to achieve a particular condition state.
- Some condition assessment sheets list species that are indicative of suboptimal condition status. These lists are not exhaustive. An assessor may exercise professional judgement and consider additional species within this category, such as [GB non-native species secretariat](#)
- Any relevant evidence for passing or failing criteria, or for a particular score, should be captured within the habitat survey notes and or by taking photographs. Photographs and notes should be referenced on the condition sheet.
- Record any survey limitations on the condition sheet, such as access restrictions or timing restrictions. If survey limitations prevent any criteria from being confidently and accurately assessed, adopt a precautionary approach when passing or failing

- i. If a definitive pass or fail cannot be assigned through baseline survey, assume the criterion is passed.
- ii. When monitoring post-intervention habitat, fail criteria which cannot be assessed due to survey limitations.

i) Once all applicable condition criteria have been assessed, assign a result of Good, Moderate or Poor condition following

- i. The 'Fairly Good' or 'Fairly Poor' condition categories are intermediate categories for site-specific features of condition not captured in the standard condition assessment. They should only be applied through application of professional judgement, and sound ecological evidence must be provided to justify the use of these categories. If used, these categories can only be used to adjust the results of a standard metric condition assessment one condition category above or below its result. For example, you cannot go from a standard outcome of 'Poor' to an adjustment to 'Fairly Good' (nor from 'Good' to

The condition assessment survey is a good opportunity to identify any potential opportunities for habitat restoration or enhancement. Note potential opportunities for these within the condition sheet.

The **CA SUMMARY SHEET** can be filled out after the survey to summarise information about the condition assessments, including:

- The site or location of the condition assessment survey
- The number of condition sheets used

Notes on Using Condition Sheets

Additional habitat-specific instructions for non-standard condition assessment sheets are provided below:

Using the 'Woodland' condition sheet

The Woodland condition sheet has been adapted from the 'Woodland Condition Survey' developed by the England Woodland Biodiversity Group (EWBG). All supplementary information needed to complete a Woodland condition assessment for the purpose of the biodiversity metric is provided or referenced within the Woodland condition sheet.

Instead of allocating a pass or fail to each criterion, each of the criteria within the woodland condition sheets are allocated a score. These scores are summed, and the total sum is used to assign a final condition score.

Using the 'Lakes' condition sheet

The Freshwater Biological Association's 'Habitat Naturalness Assessment' (HNA) is used to assess the condition of a lake. All supplementary information needed to complete a HNA is provided within the Lake condition sheet.

The average of the HNA scores is used to assign a final condition score.

Using the 'Coastal' and 'Intertidal' habitat condition sheets

For most coastal and intertidal habitats, instead of allocating a 'pass' or 'fail' to each criterion, each of the criteria within the condition sheets are allocated a score. These scores are summed, and the total sum is used to assign a final condition score.

Using the 'Hedgerow' condition sheet

The condition sheet for hedgerows has been adapted from the Defra Hedgerow Survey Handbook. All supplementary information needed to complete a hedgerow condition assessment is provided within the Hedgerow condition sheet.

Each condition criterion is assigned to one of five functional groups. The condition of a hedgerow is assessed according to the number of criteria passed within these functional groups.

| Statutory Biodiversity Metric broad habitat | Statutory Biodiversity Metric habitat | Classification where definition derived | Habitat name in source classification |
|--|---|---|--|
| Cropland | Arable field margins cultivated annually | UKHab | Arable field margins cultivated annually |
| | <i>Arable field margins game bird mix</i> | UKHab | Arable field margins wild bird mix |
| | Arable field margins pollen and nectar | UKHab | Arable field margins pollen and nectar |
| | Arable field margins tussocky | UKHab | Arable field margins tussocky |
| | Cereal crops | UKHab | Cereal crops |
| | Winter stubble | UKHab | Winter stubble |
| | Horticulture | UKHab | Horticulture |
| | Intensive orchards | UKHab | Intensive orchards |
| | Non-cereal crops | UKHab | Non-cereal crops |
| | Temporary grass and clover leys | UKHab | Temporary grass and clover leys |
| | Grassland | Traditional orchards | UKHab |
| Bracken | | UKHab | Bracken |
| <i>Floodplain wetland mosaic and CFGM</i> | | UKHab | Floodplain wetland mosaic |
| Lowland calcareous grassland | | UKHab | Lowland calcareous grassland |
| Lowland dry acid grassland | | UKHab | Lowland dry acid grassland |
| Lowland meadows | | UKHab | Lowland meadows |
| Modified grassland | | UKHab | Modified grassland |
| Other lowland acid grassland | | UKHab | Other lowland acid grassland |
| Other neutral grassland | | UKHab | Other neutral grassland |

| Statutory Biodiversity Metric broad habitat | Statutory Biodiversity Metric habitat | Classification where definition derived | Habitat name in source classification |
|---|--|---|--|
| | Tall herb communities (H6430) | Use Habitats Directive Annex 1 definition | Tall herb communities (H6430) |
| | Upland acid grassland | UKHab | Upland acid grassland |
| | Upland calcareous grassland | UKHab | Upland calcareous grassland |
| | Upland hay meadows | UKHab | Upland hay meadows |
| Heathland and shrub | Blackthorn scrub | UKHab | Blackthorn scrub |
| | Bramble scrub | UKHab | Bramble scrub |
| | Gorse scrub | UKHab | Gorse scrub |
| | Hawthorn scrub | UKHab | Hawthorn scrub |
| | Hazel scrub | UKHab | Hazel scrub |
| | Lowland heathland | UKHab | Lowland heathland |
| | Mixed scrub | UKHab | Mixed scrub |
| | Mountain heaths and willow scrub | UKHab | Mountain heaths and willow scrub |
| | Rhododendron scrub | UKHab | Rhododendron scrub |
| | Willow scrub | UKHab | Willow scrub |
| | Dunes with sea buckthorn (H2160) | Habitats Directive Annex 1 | Dunes with sea buckthorn (H2160) |
| | Other sea buckthorn scrub | UKHab | Other sea buckthorn scrub |
| | Upland heathland | UKHab | Upland heathland |
| Individual tree | Rural tree | Metric-specific | N/A |
| | Urban tree | Metric-specific | N/A |
| Lakes | Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating water bodies | UKHab | Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating water bodies |
| | Ornamental lake or pond | UKHab | Ornamental lakes or ponds |

| Statutory Biodiversity Metric broad habitat | Statutory Biodiversity Metric habitat | Classification where definition derived | Habitat name in source classification |
|---|--|--|--|
| | High alkalinity lakes | Water Framework Directive (WFD) Lakes typology | N/A |
| | Low alkalinity lakes | WFD Lakes typology | N/A |
| | Marl lakes | WFD Lakes typology | N/A |
| | Moderate alkalinity lakes | WFD Lakes typology | N/A |
| | Peat lakes | WFD Lakes typology | N/A |
| | Ponds (priority habitat) | UKHab | Ponds (priority habitat) |
| | Ponds (non-priority habitat) | UKHab | Pond (non-priority) |
| | Reservoirs | UKHab/WFD Lakes typology* | Reservoir |
| | <i>Temporary lakes ponds and pools (H3170)</i> | UKHab* | Mediterranean temporary ponds (H3170) |
| Sparsely vegetated land | Calaminarian grasslands | UKHab | Calaminarian grasslands |
| | <i>Coastal sand dunes</i> | UKHab | Sand dunes |
| | Coastal vegetated shingle | UKHab | Coastal vegetated shingle |
| | <i>Ruderal/Ephemeral</i> | UKHab | Ruderal or ephemeral |
| | Tall forbs | UKHab | Tall forbs |
| | Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats | UKHab | Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats |
| | Limestone pavement | UKHab | Limestone pavement |

| Statutory Biodiversity Metric broad habitat | Statutory Biodiversity Metric habitat | Classification where definition derived | Habitat name in source classification |
|---|--|---|---|
| | Maritime cliff and slopes | UKHab | Maritime cliff and slopes |
| | <i>Other inland rock and scree</i> | UKHab | Other inland rock |
| Urban | Allotments | UKHab | Allotments |
| | Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface | UKHab | Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface |
| | Bioswale | UKHab | Bioswale |
| | Biodiverse green roof | UKHab | Biodiverse green roof |
| | Built linear features | UKHab | Built linear features |
| | Cemeteries and churchyards | UKHab | Cemeteries and churchyards |
| | Developed land; sealed surface | UKHab | Developed land; sealed surface |
| | Biodiverse green roof | UKHab | Biodiverse green roof |
| | Facade-bound green wall | UKHab | Facade-bound green wall |
| | <i>Ground based green wall</i> | UKHab | Ground-based green wall |
| | Ground level planters | UKHab | Ground level planters |
| | Intensive green roof | UKHab | Intensive green roof |
| | Introduced shrub | UKHab | Introduced shrub |
| | Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land | UKHab | Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land |
| | Other green roof | UKHab | Other green roof |
| | Rain garden | UKHab | Rain garden |
| | <i>Actively worked sand pit quarry or open cast mine</i> | UKHab | Active sand pit or quarry or open cast mine |
| | Sustainable drainage system (SuDS) | UKHab | Sustainable drainage system |
| | Unvegetated garden | UKHab | Unvegetated garden |
| | Vacant or derelict land | UKHab | Vacant or derelict land |

| Statutory Biodiversity Metric broad habitat | Statutory Biodiversity Metric habitat | Classification where definition derived | Habitat name in source classification |
|---|--|---|---|
| | Bare ground | UKHab | Bare ground |
| | Vegetated garden | UKHab | Vegetated garden |
| Wetland | Blanket bog | UKHab | Blanket bog |
| | Depressions on peat substrates (H7150) | UKHab | Depressions on peat substrates (H7150) |
| | <i>Fens (upland and lowland)</i> | UKHab | Lowland fens; Upland flushes fens and swamps; Other wetlands |
| | Lowland raised bog | UKHab | Lowland raised bog |
| | <i>Wetland – Oceanic valley mire [1] (D2.1)</i> | EUNIS | Oceanic valley bog |
| | Purple moor grass and rush pastures | UKHab | Purple moor grass and rush pastures |
| | Reedbeds | UKHab | Reedbeds |
| | <i>Transition mires and quaking bogs (H7140)</i> | UKHab | Transition mires and quaking bogs - lowland (H7140) Transition mires and quaking bogs - upland (H7140) |
| Woodland and forest | Felled | UKHab | Felled |
| | Lowland beech and yew woodland | UKHab | Lowland beech and yew woodland |
| | Lowland mixed deciduous woodland | UKHab | Lowland mixed deciduous woodland |
| | Native pine woodlands | UKHab | Native pine woodlands |
| | Other coniferous woodland | UKHab | Other coniferous woodland |
| | Other Scot's pine woodland | UKHab | Other Scot's pine woodland |
| | <i>Other woodland; broadleaved</i> | UKHab | Other broadleaved woodland |
| | Other woodland; mixed | UKHab | Other woodland; mixed |
| | Upland birchwoods | UKHab | Upland birchwoods |
| | Upland mixed ashwoods | UKHab | Upland mixed ashwoods |
| | Upland oakwood | UKHab | Upland oakwood |
| | Wet woodland | UKHab | Wet woodland |
| | Wood-pasture and parkland | UKHab | Wood-pasture and parkland |
| Coastal lagoons | <i>Coastal lagoons</i> | EUNIS | Saline coastal lagoons |

| Statutory Biodiversity Metric broad habitat | Statutory Biodiversity Metric habitat | Classification where definition derived | Habitat name in source classification |
|--|---|--|---|
| Coastal saltmarsh | <i>Saltmarshes and saline reedbeds</i> | EUNIS | Coastal saltmarshes and saline reedbeds |
| | <i>Artificial saltmarshes and saline reedbeds</i> | Adapted from EUNIS - see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric | |
| Rocky shore | High energy littoral rock | EUNIS | High energy littoral rock |
| | <i>High energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk</i> | Subset of EUNIS habitat based on substrate | High energy littoral rock |
| | Moderate energy littoral rock | EUNIS | Moderate energy littoral rock |
| | <i>Moderate energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk</i> | Subset of EUNIS habitat based on substrate | Moderate energy littoral rock |
| | Low energy littoral rock | EUNIS | Low energy littoral rock |
| | <i>Low energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk</i> | Subset of EUNIS habitat based on substrate | Low energy littoral rock |
| | Features of littoral rock | EUNIS | Features of littoral rock |
| | <i>Features of littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk</i> | Subset of EUNIS habitat based on substrate | Features of littoral rock |
| Intertidal sediment | Littoral coarse sediment | EUNIS | Littoral coarse sediment |
| | <i>Littoral sand</i> | EUNIS | Littoral sand and muddy sand |
| | <i>Littoral muddy sand</i> | EUNIS | Littoral sand and muddy sand |
| | Littoral mud | EUNIS | Littoral mud |
| | Littoral mixed sediments | EUNIS | Littoral mixed sediments |
| | <i>Littoral seagrass</i> | EUNIS | Littoral sediments dominated by aquatic angiosperms |
| | <i>Littoral seagrass on peat, clay or chalk</i> | Subset of EUNIS habitat based on substrate | Littoral sediments dominated by aquatic angiosperms |

| Statutory Biodiversity Metric broad habitat | Statutory Biodiversity Metric habitat | Classification where definition derived | Habitat name in source classification |
|--|--|--|--|
| | <i>Littoral biogenic reefs - Mussels</i> | Subset of EUNIS habitat based on reef forming species | Littoral biogenic reefs |
| | <i>Littoral biogenic reefs - Sabellaria</i> | Subset of EUNIS habitat based on reef forming species | Littoral biogenic reefs |
| | Features of littoral sediment | EUNIS | Features of littoral sediment |
| | <i>Artificial littoral coarse sediment</i> | Adapted from EUNIS - see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric | |
| | <i>Artificial littoral muddy sand</i> | Adapted from EUNIS - see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric | |
| | <i>Artificial littoral mud</i> | Adapted from EUNIS - see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric | |
| | <i>Artificial littoral sand</i> | Adapted from EUNIS - see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric | |
| | <i>Artificial littoral mixed sediments</i> | Adapted from EUNIS - see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric | |
| | <i>Artificial littoral seagrass</i> | Adapted from EUNIS - see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric | |
| | <i>Artificial littoral biogenic reefs</i> | Adapted from EUNIS - see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric | |
| Intertidal hard structures | <i>Artificial hard structures</i> | Adapted from EUNIS - see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric | |
| | <i>Artificial features of hard structures</i> | Adapted from EUNIS - see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric | |
| | <i>Artificial hard structures with integrated greening of grey infrastructure (IGGI)</i> | Adapted from EUNIS - see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric | |

| Statutory Biodiversity Metric broad habitat | Statutory Biodiversity Metric habitat | Classification where definition derived | Habitat name in source classification |
|--|--|--|--|
| Hedgerows and Lines of trees | <i>Species-rich native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch</i> | UKHab | Species-rich native hedgerow |
| | <i>Species-rich native hedgerow with trees</i> | UKHab | Species-rich native hedgerow |
| | <i>Species-rich native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch</i> | UKHab | Species-rich native hedgerow |
| | <i>Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch</i> | UKHab | Native hedgerow |
| | Species-rich native hedgerow | UKHab | Species-rich native hedgerow |
| | <i>Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch</i> | UKHab | Native hedgerow |
| | <i>Native hedgerow with trees</i> | UKHab | Native hedgerow |
| | Ecologically valuable line of trees | UKHab | Ecologically valuable line of trees |
| | <i>Ecologically valuable line of trees - associated with bank or ditch</i> | UKHab | Ecologically valuable line of trees |
| | Native hedgerow | UKHab | Native hedgerow |
| | Line of trees | UKHab | Line of trees |
| | <i>Line of trees - associated with bank or ditch</i> | UKHab | Line of trees |
| | Non-native and ornamental hedgerow | UKHab | Non-native and ornamental hedgerow |
| Watercourse | Priority habitat | UKHab | Rivers (priority habitat) |
| | Other rivers and streams | UKHab | Other rivers and streams |

| Statutory Biodiversity Metric broad habitat | Statutory Biodiversity Metric habitat | Classification where definition derived | Habitat name in source classification |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| | Ditches | Metric-specific | Ditch |
| | Canals | UKHab | Canals |
| | Culvert | N/A | N/A |

| Other definition or notes |
|--|
| ≥ 2ha |
| < 2ha |
| < 2ha |
| *Some larger reservoirs are covered by the WFD Lakes typology. |
| The metric habitat type differs from the UKHab name. *All temporary water bodies not meeting this definition should be recorded as the appropriate pond or lake habitat type. |
| None |
| The metric habitat type differs from the UKHab name. |
| None |
| The metric habitat type differs from the UKHab name |
| None |
| None |
| None |

| Other definition or notes |
|----------------------------------|
| None |

| Other definition or notes |
|--|
| Combined UKHab codes: h2a5 70 h2a5 191 h2a5 70 191 |
| Combined UKHab codes: h2a5 190 |
| Combined UKHab codes: h2a5 190 70 h2a5 190 191 h2a5 190 70 191 |
| Combined UKHab codes: h2a 190 70 h2a 190 191 h2a 190 70 191 |
| UKHab code: h2a5 |
| Combined UKHab codes: h2a 70 h2a 191 h2a 70 191 |
| Combined UKHab codes: h2a 190 |
| Combined UKHab codes: w~ 1175 |
| Combined UKHab codes: w~ 1175 70 w~ 1175 191 w~ 1175 70 191 |
| Combined UKHab codes: h2a h2a6 |
| UKHab code: w~ 1174 |
| Combined UKHab codes: w~ 1174 70 w~ 1174 191 w~ 1174 70191 |
| UKHab code: h2b |
| Use as defined in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide. |
| Use as defined in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide. |

| |
|---|
| Other definition or notes |
| Use as defined in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide. |
| Use as defined in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide. |
| Use as defined in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide. |

| Habitat type (Habitats in bold are Priority Habitats) | Condition sheet |
|---|---|
| Area habitats | |
| Broad habitat type: Cropland | |
| Cropland - Arable field margins cultivated annually | Condition Assessment N/A |
| Cropland - Arable field margins game bird mix | |
| Cropland - Arable field margins pollen and nectar | |
| Cropland - Arable field margins tussocky | |
| Cropland - Cereal crops | |
| Cropland - Winter stubble | |
| Cropland - Horticulture | |
| Cropland - Intensive orchards | |
| Cropland - Non-cereal crops | |
| Cropland - Temporary grass and clover leys | |
| Broad habitat type: Grassland | |
| Grassland - Bracken | Condition Assessment N/A |
| Grassland - Floodplain wetland mosaic and CFGM | See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide for details on recording. |
| Grassland - Lowland calcareous grassland | Grassland Medium/High/Very High distinctiveness |
| Grassland - Lowland dry acid grassland | |
| Grassland - Lowland meadows | |
| Grassland - Modified grassland | Grassland Low distinctiveness |
| Grassland - Other lowland acid grassland | Grassland Medium/High/Very High distinctiveness |
| Grassland - Other neutral grassland | |
| Grassland - Tall herb communities (H6430) | |
| Grassland - Traditional orchards | Orchard |
| Grassland - Upland acid grassland | Grassland Medium/High/Very High distinctiveness |
| Grassland - Upland calcareous grassland | |
| Grassland - Upland hay meadows | |
| Broad habitat type: Heathland and scrub | |
| Heathland and shrub - Blackthorn scrub | Scrub |
| Heathland and shrub - Bramble scrub | Condition Assessment N/A |
| Heathland and shrub - Gorse scrub | Scrub |
| Heathland and shrub - Hawthorn scrub | |
| Heathland and shrub - Hazel scrub | |
| Heathland and shrub - Lowland heathland | |
| Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub | Scrub |
| Heathland and shrub - Mountain heaths and willow scrub | Use Heathland condition sheet for Mountain heaths OR Scrub condition sheet for Willow scrub |
| Heathland and shrub - Rhododendron scrub | Condition Assessment N/A |
| Heathland and shrub - Dunes with sea buckthorn (H2160) | Scrub |
| Heathland and shrub - Other sea buckthorn scrub | Condition Assessment N/A |
| Heathland and shrub - Upland heathland | Heathland |
| Heathland and shrub - Willow scrub | Scrub |
| Broad habitat type: Lakes | |
| Lakes - Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating water bodies | Lakes |
| Lakes - High alkalinity lakes | |
| Lakes - Low alkalinity lakes | |
| Lakes - Marl lakes | |
| Lakes - Moderate alkalinity lakes | |
| Lakes - Ornamental lake or pond | Lakes OR Ponds |
| Lakes - Peat lakes | Lakes |
| Lakes - Ponds (priority habitat) | Ponds |
| Lakes - Ponds (non-priority habitat) | |
| Lakes - Reservoirs | Lakes |
| Lakes - Temporary lakes ponds and pools (H3170) | Use Lake condition sheet for Temporary lakes OR Pond condition sheet for Temporary ponds and pools |

| Habitat type (Habitats in bold are Priority Habitats) | Condition sheet |
|---|--|
| Broad habitat type: Sparsely vegetated land | |
| Sparsely vegetated land - Calaminarian grasslands | Grassland Medium/High/Very High distinctiveness |
| Sparsely vegetated land - Coastal sand dunes | Coastal |
| Sparsely vegetated land - Coastal vegetated shingle | |
| Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral | Urban |
| Sparsely vegetated land - Tall forbs | |
| Sparsely vegetated land - Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats | Sparsely vegetated land |
| Sparsely vegetated land - Limestone pavement | Limestone pavement |
| Sparsely vegetated land - Maritime cliff and slopes | Coastal |
| Sparsely vegetated land - Other inland rock and scree | Sparsely vegetated land |
| Broad habitat type: Urban | |
| Urban - Allotments | Urban |
| Urban - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface | N/A - Other |
| Urban - Bioswale | Urban |
| Urban - Biodiverse green roof | |
| Urban - Built linear features | N/A - Other |
| Urban - Cemeteries and churchyards | Use Urban condition sheet as default. |
| Urban - Developed land; sealed surface | N/A - Other |
| Urban - Facade-bound green wall | Urban |
| Urban - Ground based green wall | |
| Urban - Ground level planters | Condition Assessment N/A |
| Urban - Intensive green roof | Urban |
| Urban - Introduced shrub | Condition Assessment N/A |
| Urban - Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land | Urban |
| Urban - Other green roof | Condition Assessment N/A |
| Urban - Rain garden | Urban |
| Urban - Actively worked sand pit, quarry or open cast mine | Condition Assessment N/A |
| Urban - Sustainable drainage system (SuDS) | Urban |
| Urban - Unvegetated garden | N/A - Other |
| Urban - Vacant or derelict land | Urban |
| Urban - Bare ground | |
| Urban - Vegetated garden | Condition Assessment N/A |
| Broad habitat type: Wetland | |
| Wetland - Blanket bog | Wetland |
| Wetland - Depressions on peat substrates (H7150) | |
| Wetland - Fens (upland and lowland) | |
| Wetland - Lowland raised bog | |
| Wetland - Oceanic valley mire [1] (D2.1) | |
| Wetland - Purple moor grass and rush pastures | |
| Wetland - Reedbeds | |
| Wetland - Transition mires and quaking bogs (H7140) | |
| Broad habitat type: Woodland | |
| Woodland and forest - Felled | No assessment required - condition fixed at Good |
| Woodland and forest - Lowland beech and yew woodland | Woodland |
| Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland | |
| Woodland and forest - Native pine woodlands | |
| Woodland and forest - Other coniferous woodland | |
| Woodland and forest - Other Scot's pine woodland | |
| Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved | |
| Woodland and forest - Other woodland; mixed | |
| Woodland and forest - Upland birchwoods | |
| Woodland and forest - Upland mixed ashwoods | |
| Woodland and forest - Upland oakwood | |
| Woodland and forest - Wet woodland | |
| Woodland and forest - Wood-pasture and parkland | Wood-pasture and parkland |

| Habitat type (Habitats in bold are Priority Habitats) | Condition sheet |
|--|--|
| Broad habitat type: Coastal lagoons | |
| Coastal lagoons - Coastal lagoons | Coastal lagoons |
| Broad habitat type: Coastal saltmarsh | |
| Coastal saltmarsh - Saltmarshes and saline reedbeds | Coastal saltmarsh |
| Coastal saltmarsh - Artificial saltmarshes and saline reedbeds | |
| Broad habitat type: Intertidal hard structures | |
| Intertidal hard structures - Artificial hard structures | Intertidal hard structures |
| Intertidal hard structures - Artificial features of hard structures | |
| Intertidal hard structures - Artificial hard structures with integrated greening of grey infrastructure (IGI) | |
| Broad habitat type: Intertidal sediment | |
| Intertidal sediment - Littoral coarse sediment | Intertidal sediment |
| Intertidal sediment - Littoral sand | |
| Intertidal sediment - Littoral muddy sand | |
| Intertidal sediment - Littoral mud | |
| Intertidal sediment - Littoral mixed sediments | |
| Intertidal sediment - Features of littoral sediment | |
| Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral coarse sediment | |
| Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral mixed sediments | |
| Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral mud | |
| Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral muddy sand | |
| Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral sand | |
| Intertidal sediment - Littoral seagrass | Intertidal seagrass |
| Intertidal sediment - Littoral seagrass - on peat, clay or chalk | |
| Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral seagrass | Intertidal biogenic reefs |
| Intertidal sediment - Littoral biogenic reefs - Mussels | |
| Intertidal sediment - Littoral biogenic reefs - Sabellaria | |
| Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral biogenic reefs | |
| Broad habitat type: Rocky shore | |
| Rocky shore - High energy littoral rock | Rocky shore |
| Rocky shore - Moderate energy littoral rock | |
| Rocky shore - Low energy littoral rock | |
| Rocky shore - Features of littoral rock | |
| Rocky Shore - Features of littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk | |
| Rocky shore - High energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk | |
| Rocky shore - Moderate energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk | |
| Rocky shore - Low energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk | |
| Broad habitat type: Individual trees | |
| Individual trees – Rural tree | Individual trees |
| Individual trees – Urban tree | |
| Hedgerows and Lines of trees habitats | |
| Broad habitat type: Hedgerows and lines of trees | |
| Hedgerows and lines of trees - Line of trees | Line of trees |
| Hedgerows and lines of trees - Line of trees - associated with bank or ditch | |
| Hedgerows and lines of trees – Ecologically valuable line of trees | |
| Hedgerows and lines of trees - Ecologically valuable line of trees - associated with bank or ditch | |
| Hedgerows and lines of trees – Non-native and ornamental hedgerow | No assessment required - condition fixed at Poor |

| Habitat type (Habitats in bold are Priority Habitats) | Condition sheet |
|--|-----------------|
| Hedgerows and lines of trees - Native hedgerow | |
| Hedgerows and lines of trees - Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch | |
| Hedgerows and lines of trees - Native hedgerow with trees | |
| Hedgerows and lines of trees - Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch | |

Hedgerow

| Survey Cover Sheet | | | |
|---------------------------|---|---|---------------------|
| Survey date/s | 13/05/2024 | Site name or location | Healey Lane, Batley |
| Weather conditions | 15°C with 0% cloud cover and a light breeze (Beaufort Scale 2). There was no rain | Project or development name | Healey Lane, Batley |
| Surveyor name | Katie Hadwin | On-site or off-site | On-site |
| Survey reference | | Reason for assessment (if not baseline condition survey) | |
| Notes | | | |
| | | | |

| Site or location | Condition sheets | Total number of condition sheets used, or habitat parcels | Number of parcels of each condition achieved | | | | | Notes |
|------------------|---|---|--|-------------|----------|-------------|------|-------|
| | | | Good | Fairly Good | Moderate | Fairly Poor | Poor | |
| | Coastal | | | | | | | |
| | Coastal lagoons | | | | | | | |
| | Coastal saltmarsh | | | | | | | |
| | Ditches | | | | | | | |
| | Grassland low distinctiveness | | | | | | | |
| | Grassland medium, high, very high distinctiveness | | | | | | | |
| | Heathland | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Hedgerow | | | | | | | |
| | Individual trees | | | | | | | |
| | Intertidal biogenic reefs | | | | | | | |
| | Intertidal hard structures | | | | | | | |
| | Intertidal seagrass | | | | | | | |
| | Intertidal sediment | | | | | | | |
| | Lakes | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Limestone pavement | | | | | | | |
| | Line of trees | | | | | | | |
| | Orchard | | | | | | | |
| | Ponds | | | | | | | |
| | Rocky shore | | | | | | | |
| | Scrub | | | | | | | |
| | Sparsely vegetated land | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Urban | | | | | | | |
| | Wetland | | | | | | | |
| | Woodland | | | | | | | |
| | Wood-pasture and parkland | | | | | | | |

| Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Type (low distinctiveness) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|----------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|-----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|-------------------------------|--|
| UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Grassland - Modified grassland | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Habitat Description | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ukhab – UK Habitat Classification | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| On-site or off-site, site name and location | On-site Healey Lane | | | | Survey date and Surveyor name | 13-06-24 Katie Hadwin | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey) | | | | | | | | | |
| Limitations (if applicable) | | | | | Habitat parcel reference | | | | | | | | Notes (such as justification) | |
| | | | | | g4 with 510, 81 | g4 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Grid reference | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | see map | see map | | | | | | | | | |
| Condition Assessment Criteria | | | | Criterion passed (Yes or No) | | | | | | | | | | |
| A | There are 6-8 vascular plant species per m ² present, including at least 2 forbs (these may include those listed in Footnote 1). 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 (excluding those listed in Footnote 1), please review the full UKHab description to assess whether the grassland should instead be classified as a higher distinctiveness grassland. Where a grassland is classed as medium, high, or very high distinctiveness, please use the relevant condition sheet. | | | | Y | N | | | | | | | | |
| B | Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and breed. | | | | Y | N | | | | | | | | |
| C | Any scrub present accounts for less than 20% of the total grassland area. (Some scattered scrub 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. | | | | Y | Y | | | | | | | | |
| D | Physical damage is evident in less than 5% of total grassland area. Examples of physical damage include excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels of access, or any other damaging management activities. | | | | N | Y | | | | | | | | |
| E | Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of rabbit warrens) ² . | | | | N | Y | | | | | | | | |
| F | Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> is less than 20%. | | | | Y | Y | | | | | | | | |
| G | There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species ³ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ⁴). | | | | Y | Y | | | | | | | | |
| Essential criterion achieved (Yes or No) | | | | Y | N | | | | | | | | | |
| Number of criteria passed | | | | 5 | 5 | | | | | | | | | |
| Condition Assessment Result (out of 7 criteria) | | Condition Assessment Score | | Score Achieved *√ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Passes 6 or 7 criteria including passing essential criterion A | | Good (3) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Passes 4 or 5 criteria including passing essential criterion A | | Moderate (2) | | X | | | | | | | | | | |
| Passes 3 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 4 - 6 criteria (excluding criterion A) | | Poor (1) | | | X | | | | | | | | | |
| Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Footnotes

Footnote 1 – Creeping thistle *Cirsium arvense* , spear thistle *Cirsium vulgare* , curled dock *Rumex crispus* , broad-leaved dock *Rumex obtusifolius* , common nettle *Urtica dioica* , creeping buttercup *Ranunculus repens* , greater plantain *Plantago major* , white clover *Trifolium repens* and cow parsley *Anthriscus sylvestris* .

Footnote 2 – For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing establishment of new species, or localised patches where not exceeding 10% cover.

Footnote 3 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.

Footnote 4 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

| Condition Sheet: INDIVIDUAL TREES Habitat Type | |
|--|---|
| Habitat Types | |
| Individual trees – Urban trees | |
| Habitat Description | |
| Individual trees (description applied to the urban or rural environment): | |
| On-site or off-site, site name and location | On site Healey Lane |
| Limitations (if applicable) | |
| Grid reference | |
| Condition Assessment Criteria | |
| A | The tree is a native species (or at least 70% within the block) |
| B | The tree canopy is predominantly continuous, with gaps in |
| C | The tree is mature (or more than 50% within the block are |
| D | There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree |
| E | Natural ecological niches for vertebrates and invertebrates |
| F | More than 20% of the tree canopy area is oversailing |
| Number of criteria passed | |
| Condition Assessment Result (out of 6 criteria) | Condition Assessment Score |
| Passes 5 or 6 criteria | Good (3) |
| Passes 3 or 4 criteria | Moderate (2) |
| Passes 2 or fewer criteria | Poor (1) |
| Note that 'Fairly Good and Fairly Poor' condition categories are not available for this broad h | |
| Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score² | |
| Footnotes | |
| Footnote 1 - See gov.uk standing advice on ancient and veteran trees. Available from: Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England (publishing.servic and: Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisions - G | |
| Footnote 2 - Enhancement of this habitat type is only possible by improving the habitat so th | |

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|---|--------------------------------------|
| Survey date and Surveyor name | |
| Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey) | |
| Habitat parcel reference | T5 and T10 |
| Criterion passed (Yes or No) | Notes (such as justification) |
| Y | |
| Y | |
| N | |
| N | |
| Y | |
| Y | |
| 4 | |
| Score Achieved ×/√ | |
| | |
| X | |
| | |
| habitat type. | |

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that it meets all Criteria B, D and F. It is not possible or

Condition Sheet: LINE OF TREES Habitat Type

Habitat Types

Line of trees
 Line of trees – associated with bank or ditch
 Ecologically valuable line of trees
 Ecologically valuable line of trees – associated with bank or ditch

Please see the separate Individual trees condition sheet for linear blocks and groups of trees in an urban setting. You should only use this Line of trees condition assessment and record this habitat type in rural locations.

Habitat Description

See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide.
 This assessment is based on the Hedgerow Survey Handbook¹. For further clarifications please refer to the Handbook.
 Where ancient and veteran trees are present within the line of trees, see Footnote 2 for standing advice.

See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide.
 This assessment is based on the Hedgerow Survey Handbook¹. For further clarifications please refer to the Handbook.
 Where ancient and veteran trees are present within the line of trees, see Footnote 2 for standing advice.

| | | | |
|--|---------------------|---|-----------------------|
| On-site or off-site, site name and location | On-site Healey Lane | Survey date and Surveyor name | 13-06-24 Katie Hadwin |
| Limitations (if applicable) | | Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey) | |
| Grid reference | see map | Habitat parcel reference | FOT1 |

| Condition Assessment Criteria | | Criterion passed (Yes or No) | Notes (such as justification) |
|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| A | At least 70% of trees are native species. | Y | |
| B | Tree canopy is predominantly continuous with gaps in canopy cover making up <10% of total area and no individual gap being >5 m wide. | Y | |
| C | One or more trees has veteran features and or natural ecological niches for vertebrates and invertebrates, such as presence of standing and attached deadwood, cavities, ivy or loose bark. | Y | |
| D | There is an undisturbed naturally-vegetated strip of at least 6 m on both sides to protect the line of trees from farming and other human activities (excluding grazing). Where veteran trees are present, root protection areas should follow standing advice ² . | N | |
| E | At least 95% of the trees are in a healthy condition (deadwood or veteran features valuable for wildlife are excluded from this). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity. | Y | |

Number of criteria passed 4

| Condition Assessment Result (out of 5 criteria) | Condition Assessment Score | Score Achieved ×/√ |
|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Passes 5 criteria | Good (3) | |
| Passes 3 or 4 criteria | Moderate (2) | X |
| Passes 2 or fewer criteria | Poor (1) | |

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

| Condition Sheet: SCRUB Habitat Type | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|-------------------------------|--------------------|------------|--|--|--|--|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Habitat Types | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Heathland and shrub - Blackthorn scrub Heathland and shrub - Gorse scrub Heathland and shrub - Hawthorn scrub Heathland and shrub - Hazel scrub Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub Heathland and shrub - Dunes with sea buckthorn (H2160) Heathland and shrub - Willow scrub | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Habitat Description | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| h3h - mixed scrub; h3a - blackthorn scrub | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| For Dunes with sea buckthorn see: | | Dunes with sea-buckthorn (Dunes with Hippophae rhamnoides) - Special Areas of Conservation (jncc.gov.uk) | | | | | | | | | | |
| For other scrub types see: | | ukhab – UK Habitat Classification | | | | | | | | | | |
| On-site or off-site, site name and location | On-site | | Survey date and Surveyor name | | 13/06/2024 | | | | | | | |
| | Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Limitations (if applicable) | Habitat parcel reference | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | h3h | h3a | | | | | | | | | | |
| Condition Assessment Criteria | Grid reference | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | see map | see map | | | | | | | | | | |
| Criterion passed (Yes or No) | | | | | | | | | | Notes (such as justification) | | |
| A | The parcel represents a good example of its habitat type - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description (where in its natural range). ¹ - At least 80% of scrub is native, - There are at least three native woody species ² , - No single species comprises more than 75% of the cover (except hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i> , common juniper <i>Juniperus communis</i> , sea buckthorn <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i> (only in its restricted native range), or box <i>Buxus sempervirens</i> , which can be up to 100% cover). | | Y | N | | | | | | | | |
| B | Seedlings, saplings, young shrubs and mature (or ancient or veteran ³) shrubs are all present. | | N | N | | | | | | | | |
| C | There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species ⁴ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ⁵) and species indicative of suboptimal condition ⁶ make up less than 5% of ground cover. | | Y | Y | | | | | | | | |
| D | The scrub has a well-developed edge with scattered scrub and tall grassland and/or forbs present between the scrub and adjacent habitat. | | N | N | | | | | | | | |
| E | There are clearings, glades or rides present within the scrub, providing sheltered edges. | | N | N | | | | | | | | |
| Number of criteria passed | | | 2 | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| Condition Assessment Result (out of 5 criteria) | | Condition Assessment Score | | Score Achieved ×/√ | | | | | | | | |
| Passes 5 criteria | | Good (3) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Passes 3 or 4 criteria | | Moderate (2) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Passes 2 or fewer criteria | | Poor (1) | | X | X | | | | | | | |
| Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |