

Farmer ID:	Surveyor:	Total Score (A+B+C) /100
Plot number:	Survey date:	

Habitat type:
 Scrub
 Woodland

Scrub: Areas that are dominated by at least 50% cover of shrubs, stunted trees or brambles.
Woodland: Canopy generally greater than 5 m in height, or 4 m in the case of wet or bog areas.

Soil type:
 Mineral soil
 Peat soil

A Ecological integrity	Total Score A (sum of A1-S or A1-W) /70
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Typical **SCRUB** species:
(tick those present)

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alder | <input type="checkbox"/> Bracken | <input type="checkbox"/> Whitethorn |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ash | <input type="checkbox"/> Bramble | <input type="checkbox"/> Hawthorn |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birch | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazel | <input type="checkbox"/> Willow |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blackthorn | <input type="checkbox"/> Elder | <input type="checkbox"/> Dog rose |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bog myrtle | <input type="checkbox"/> Gorse/furze | <input type="checkbox"/> Guelder rose |

Typical **WOODLAND** species:
(tick those present)

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Beech | <input type="checkbox"/> Scot's pine | <input type="checkbox"/> *Spanish chestnut |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Holly | <input type="checkbox"/> *Spruce | <input type="checkbox"/> *Hornbeam |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oak | <input type="checkbox"/> *Sycamore | <input type="checkbox"/> Spindle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rowan | <input type="checkbox"/> *Horse chestnut | <input type="checkbox"/> Other <i>(please specify)</i> : |

**Non-native species*

A1 Score either A1-S OR A1-W

A1-S for **SCRUB**-dominated plots: which description best describes the diversity and structure of the scrub present?

Poor: Gorse-dominated scrub.	0
Moderate: Two native species from the table above.	25
Good: Three native species from table above common throughout plot.	40
Very good: Four or more native species from table above common throughout plot. There must be variation in vegetation height and good structure throughout the plot.	60

A1-W for **WOODLAND**-dominated plots:

Wa – Which description best describes the woodland **CANOPY** layer?

Wb – Which description best describes the woodland **SHRUB** layer?

Wc – Which description best describes the woodland **FIELD** layer?

Poor: Native woodland with frequent non-native (<i>conifer or deciduous</i>) trees present.	0	Shrub layer absent or consists of non-native species.	0	The field layer is absent or consist of non-native species.	0
Moderate: Native woodland with occasional non-native (<i>conifer or deciduous</i>) trees present.	10	Shrub layer present.	10	The field layer is present with low level of species and structural diversity	10
Good: Native woodland with no non-native (<i>conifer or deciduous</i>) trees present.	20	Well-developed shrub layer present.	20	Field layer supports good diversity of native species, with mosses, ferns and herbs present	20

A2 Ash Die Back

- Is ash present in the woodland/Scrub Yes No
- Is there evidence of ash die back disease Yes No
- Are there visually healthy ash trees present Yes No

A3 Impacts from Herbivores

Is the **woodland/scrub impacted** by effects of recent **trampling, browsing or grazing by large herbivores** (deer, cattle, sheep, goats, horses, pigs) on ground cover, trees, and other plant indicators:

Yes: There is obvious impact from herbivores, tick those that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> Bark stripping, fraying and/or stem breakage <input type="checkbox"/> Obvious browsing on basal shoots, lower shoots, seedling and saplings <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of palatable species such as Angelica, Bog myrtle, Bramble, Broom, Common Bent, Red Fescue and other grasses, Buckler Fern and Male fern, Meadowsweet and Valerian. <input type="checkbox"/> Ground 'poached' by trampling or rooting, presence of pathways, wallows, scrapes etc.	0
No: There is no obvious impact from herbivores. Livestock are excluded and the presence of large wild herbivores has been restricted or has been well managed.	10

B Hydrological integrity	Total Score B: /30
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B1 To what extent are there any **surface artificial drainage features** within the plot? Assess the **WORST 30 m of drain in the plot**. Only assess artificial drains and heavily modified watercourses, ignore unmapped natural streams, see guidance.

Functional: Drains predominantly free flowing (though may be dry at the time of survey), largely unvegetated and unblocked.	-30
Part functional: Drains present but flow is partially impeded (by vegetation etc.).	10
Non-functional: Drains absent or present but non-functioning. No flow, highly vegetated and/or dammed.	30

C Threats & pressures	Total Score C (sum of C1 to C3):
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C1 Is there any **evidence of damaging activities** to habitat or vegetation throughout the plot? (excluding the 20 m adjacent to any watercourse)

High: Damage occurring across a large area ($\geq 21\%$) or of a serious nature if confined	-30
Moderate: Damage occurring across a moderate area ($\geq 6-20\%$) or of a moderate nature if confined.	-20
Low: Damage occurring across a small area ($\leq 5\%$) or of a minor nature if confined.	-10
None: No damaging activities.	0

Damaging activities:

(tick relevant and describe in comments)

- Damage from supplementary feeding
- Inappropriate herbicide use
- Quarrying
- Burning
- Dumping/rubbish
- Removal of mature scrub/trees
- Other (please specify)

C2 What is the extent of **bare soil & erosion** throughout the plot?

High: Excessive areas of bare soil within the body of the field. Bare soil may also be extending out significantly from the main feed sites and/or water troughs and/or livestock access points, where poaching evident. Significant rutting and soil disturbance caused by vehicle/tractor access.	-30
Moderate: Bare soil mainly along regularly used stock routes or congregation areas, with minor soil loss occurring at a few points. Bare soil may extend a short distance beyond the main feed site and/or water points and/or livestock access points. Minor rutting and soil disturbance caused by occasional vehicle/tractor access may be present.	-10
Low: Bare soil more or less restricted to regular stock paths, 'pinch' points & small congregation areas. No soil loss.	0

C3 What is the cover of **non-native invasive species** throughout the plot?

High: Abundant. Some forming dense clumps, many seedlings.	-20
Moderate: Frequent. Some flowering, many seedlings present.	-10
Low: Scattered. Plants mostly small and not flowering.	-5
None: No non-native invasive species present.	0

Non-native invasive species: (tick if present)

- Cherry laurel
- Cotoneaster
- Giant hogweed
- Giant rhubarb
- Himalayan balsam
- Himalayan honeysuckle
- Himalayan knotweed
- Japanese knotweed
- Montbretia
- Old man's beard/Traveller's joy
- Rhododendron
- Self-sown conifers
- Winter heliotrope
- Other (please specify):

Common management recommendations:

- Continue current management of this high quality scrub/woodland.
- Control the occurrence and spread of invasive species.
- Control the occurrence and spread of encroaching scrub, supporting actions are available.
- Consider using supporting actions of slow or impede the flow of drains.
- Improve stock management. e.g. Fencing/drinking facilities
- No management advice
- Other (see comments box)

Management recommendation(s):