

Table 3: Condition Criteria for med, high and very high distinctiveness grassland.

Criteria	Criteria Description
A	The parcel represents a good example of its habitat type, with a consistently high proportion of characteristic indicator species present relevant to the specific habitat type (and relative to Footnote 3 suboptimal species which may be listed in the UKHab description).¹ Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition for non-acid grassland types only.
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 insects, birds and small mammals to live and breed.
C	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 5%, including localised areas, for example, rabbit warrens ² .
D	Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> is less than 20% and cover of scrub (including bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.) is less than 5%.
E	Combined cover of species indicative of suboptimal condition³ and physical damage (such as excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, damaging levels of access, or any other damaging management activities) accounts for less than 5% of total area. If any invasive non-native plant species⁴ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA⁵) are present, this criterion is automatically failed.
F	There are 10 or more vascular plant species per m² present, including forbs that are characteristic of the habitat type (species referenced in Footnote 3 and 5 cannot contribute towards this count). Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition for non-acid grassland types only.

Footnote 1 - Professional judgement should be used alongside the UKHab description.

Footnote 2 – For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing for plant colonisation, or localised patches not exceeding 5% cover.

Footnote 3 - Species indicative of suboptimal condition for this habitat type include: 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*. There may be additional relevant species local to the region and or site.

Footnote 4 – 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, by applying professional judgement.

Footnote 5 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Appendix C: Habitats changes

Table 4: All habitats retained, enhanced, created and habitat units delivered

Baseline Habitat	Area (Ha)	Baseline Condition	Baseline Total BU	Habitats retained (Ha)	Habitats enhanced (Ha)	Habitats created (Ha)	Habitat Units Delivered
Developed land; sealed surface	0.595	N/A	0.00	0.595	N/A	0.471	0.00
Other neutral grassland	0.458	Poor	2.02	0.00	0.3042	0.00	2.28
Other neutral grassland	0.059	Moderate	0.54	0.059	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other neutral grassland	0.508	Fairly Poor	3.35	0.00	0.4475	0.00	3.69
Other neutral grassland	0.439	Moderate	3.86	0.314	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bramble scrub	0.022	N/A	0.10	0.022	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other neutral grassland	0.092	Fairly Poor	0.63	0.00	0.075	0.00	0.65
Other neutral grassland	0.224	Poor	1.03	0.00	0.11	0.00	0.86
Rural tree	0.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0163	0.05
Hedgerow	0.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	271 m	2.36
Off-site Enhancement							
Other neutral grassland	0.333	Fairly Poor	2.20	0.00	0.333	0.00	3.63
Other neutral grassland	0.04	Poor	0.16	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.38
Other neutral grassland	0.11	Fairly Good	1.27	0.00	0.11	0.00	1.48