Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan



Site Name:	Nea Meadows
Date:	23/08/2026
Version:	2

Author:

Client:

HIGHCLIFFE & WALKFORD PARISH COUNCIL ESTD 2019

Template Document User Guide

Please delete this guidance page upon completion.

Template User Guide

You can use the Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan Template (HMMPT) for on-site or off-site biodiversity net gain projects. It is suitable for sites of varying sizes and complexity, from small and simple to large and complex. It provides a series of tables, figures and textboxes. Complete these to demonstrate how habitat creation, enhancement and management will be undertaken. Not every box will be relevant to every project. Omit those considered not relevant to your project, applying professional judgement.

Companion Document

The Companion Document contains templates for each broad habitat type used in the statutory biodiversity metric. It also assists authors in completing the 'Environmental Information', 'Creation, Enhancement and Management' and 'Monitoring' sections. To tailor the plan for your site, insert the relevant standardised forms from the Companion Document into your main HMMPT.

Site Baseline and Environmental Information

Considering the site's characteristics, choose the relevant baseline site conditions and background environmental information to include in your management plan. This is essential in informing the design of your project and shows the reviewer you have considered these in the proposals for the site. These include the proposed habitat creation and enhancement. Also, what is appropriate to include or exclude, or to point the reviewer to relevant information that has provided elsewhere as part of the application. Use the 'Baseline and Environmental Checklist PB-T01' to record relevant references, or reasons if not included.

HMMP Checklist (separate document)

This checklist is a summary of the HMMP Template headings. Author and reviewer can scan the list to check which HMMP details to include, or that have been included, in the submitted plan. You can also list and link to relevant supporting documents to accompany the templated details if required. This helps avoid duplication of information. The reviewer can then easily check which information to expect to see in the HMMPT and which to review in an alternative linked document.

Formatting

The HMMPT format is intended as a guide. The Template uses standard Microsoft Word formatting that has not be locked for editing. You can therefore adjust it to tailor your HMMP as required for the specific site and according to your preferences. For example, you can change text box sizes to reduce blank space in the template.

There are opportunities to provide and reference additional photographs and plans as separate appendices if required. Provide the reference number of the appropriate appendix, or location if included in a separate report, using the appropriate box within the template.

Text in grey is provided as a prompt. Replace grey text with your own words. Remember to change to black text **then delete any remaining grey 'prompt' text.**

You can delete blue text as this is for guidance purposes only.

Each text box in this HMMPT has a unique ID to assist reviewers. Do not change the reference code of any Boxes or Tables.

Supporting documents

- HMMPT Companion Document
- Statutory Biodiversity Metric tools and guides
- Biodiversity Net Gain Guidance

Using the Companion Document

The Companion Document includes additional boxes and tables that must be manually copied into this template using the copy-and-paste function. To streamline the copying and pasting process, you can minimise the heading by selecting the arrow on the left. Once the arrow is selected, when you copy, you will also copy any accompanying boxes or tables.

It is the author's responsibility to decide what additional information is appropriate to include.

Template published by Natural England.

We acknowledge the significant input from the HMMPT user-testers and production on Natural England's behalf by FPCR Environment and Design.

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Version Control

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

Version	Issue Status	Prepared by / Date	Approved by / Date
1	First issue to client (incomplete)	CGO 01/06/2026	
2	Complete draft	CGO 23/08/2026	

Document Details

Provide ownership, copyright and licensing information within this table.

Authorship Details
Produced by Dr C.P. Gleed-Owen MCIEEM, CGO Ecology Ltd (CGO) on behalf of Highcliffe & Walkford Parish Council (HWPC). All photographs by Chris Gleed-Owen unless otherwise stated. CGO retains copyright of this document and its contents, but willingly shares it with HWPC for the purposes of habitat management, nature conservation, and amenity.

1. Project Background

Summarise the key aspects of your management plan in this section. Table PB-B01 can be extended to suit the specific needs of individual projects.

Site Overview PB-B01	
Project type	Other (potential habitat bank)
Development Name and Address	n/a
BNG Project Name and Address	n/a
Author Organisation	CGO Ecology Ltd
Landowner	Highcliffe & Walkford Parish Council
Land Manager	n/a
Responsible person/organisation for creating or enhancing the habitat	Highcliffe & Walkford Parish Council
Period covered by this management plan	1st September 2026 to 30th June 2061 (35 years), comprising five years enhancement followed by 30 years of maintenance.
Planning authority	BCP Council
Planning reference (if applicable)	n/a
BNG register reference (if applicable)	n/a
Central OS grid reference	SZ 2023 9381
Metric revision/title	SBM – Nea Meadows baseline v2 01.06.2026
Are any Irreplaceable Habitats present onsite	Yes: ☒ No: ☐

Summary of Management Plan

Habitats to be Retained, Created and Enhanced PB-B02

Nea Meadows LNR (Local Nature Reserve) is a suburban site covering 5.43ha centred on SZ 20237 93812, in Highcliffe, Dorset.

Three broad habitat types account for most of Nea Meadows by area: grassland, water, and woodland. In UKHab terms, these are 'w1g Other broadleaved woodland', 'g3c Other neutral grassland', and 'r1g Other standing water'. The woodland has been divided into eight parcels, the neutral grassland into three, and the standing water into two (Nea Lake and the Wildlife Pond). There are also areas of 'f2d Aquatic marginal vegetation', 'f2f Other wetlands', 'g4 Modified grassland', 'h3d Bramble scrub', 'h3h Mixed scrub', and ornamental hedges ('h2b Non-native and ornamental hedgerow').

Two small watercourses ('r2b Other rivers and streams') travers the site: the Chewton Common Stream from the east, and the Bure Brook from the north. The Stream is the main feeder for Nea Lake, as the Brook bypasses the Lake, except in high flow conditions. Technically the Lake outflow is still the Chewton Common Stream, but it joins the Bure Brook just outside the site boundary.

Public access is facilitated by an asphalt drive, car park, and footpath ('u1b Developed land sealed surface'), as well as gravel paths, footbridges, and bare-ground paths/desire lines ('u1c Artificial unvegetated unsealed surface').

The management strategy will align with national and local nature recovery policies, support the site's designations, and accommodate its amenity uses. It is an LNR, a Site of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI, ref SZ29/015), a public park, and it has a fishing lake. The landowner's vision is to rewild as far as is possible within the suburban location. As there is no planning oversight, and currently no statutory BNG commitment, management will be guided by ecological advice, stakeholder consultation, and Parish Council oversight.

All habitat types will be retained, and most will be enhanced. Some area modifications will occur, linked to creation and enhancement of other habitats. All woodland parcels, standing water, and meadow grassland areas will be enhanced. Other habitats will be enhanced where possible. Four veteran pedunculate oaks (*Quercus robur*), and one veteran silver birch (*Betula pendula*), are 'irreplaceable habitat'.

Some habitat enhancement has already occurred. A small area of 'w2c Other coniferous woodland' beside the car park was felled in March 2024, and replanted with native saplings in March 2026. It currently has less than 20% tree cover, but is expected to qualify as w1g Other broadleaved woodland within five years. In recent years, six Schedule 9 Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) were eradicated by BCP Council rangers: duck potato (*Sagittaria latifolia*), giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*), Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*), Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*), New Zealand pigmyweed (*Crassula helmsii*), thorn-apple (*Datura stramonium*).

Tree removal around the Lake will improve water quality, provide new niches, and enable creation of new riparian habitat. In the main woodland blocks, ash dieback will force the felling of some trees, but the resulting glades and deadwood are positive effects.

The Meadow has potential for enhancement, and will be managed carefully to achieve this. Phased dredging of the Lake is proposed, but will pose a challenge to ensure recreation of any

swamp/marginal habitats lost. In the Meadow, localised scrapes are proposed, in a rotational programme, to create ephemeral habitats.

A significant consideration is the potential value of registering the site as a habitat bank. This Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) allows for five years of front-loaded habitat restoration, creation, and enhancement to reach respective target conditions; followed by 30 years of maintenance management.

Timescales for Actions PB-B03

September 2026 to June 2061

Monitoring Requirements PB-B04

Annual monitoring in years 1-5, every five years from years 10-35. To include updated UKHab survey, condition assessment, and Statutory Biodiversity Metric (SBM).

Required Consents and Licences PB-B05

Tbc

Funding PB-B06

tbc

Legal Agreement PB-B07

tbc

Site Boundary Plan PB-F01



Nea Meadows - LNR site boundary

Legend

Nea Meadows LNR

Site Centroid - SZ 20237 93812
Site Area - 5.42ha

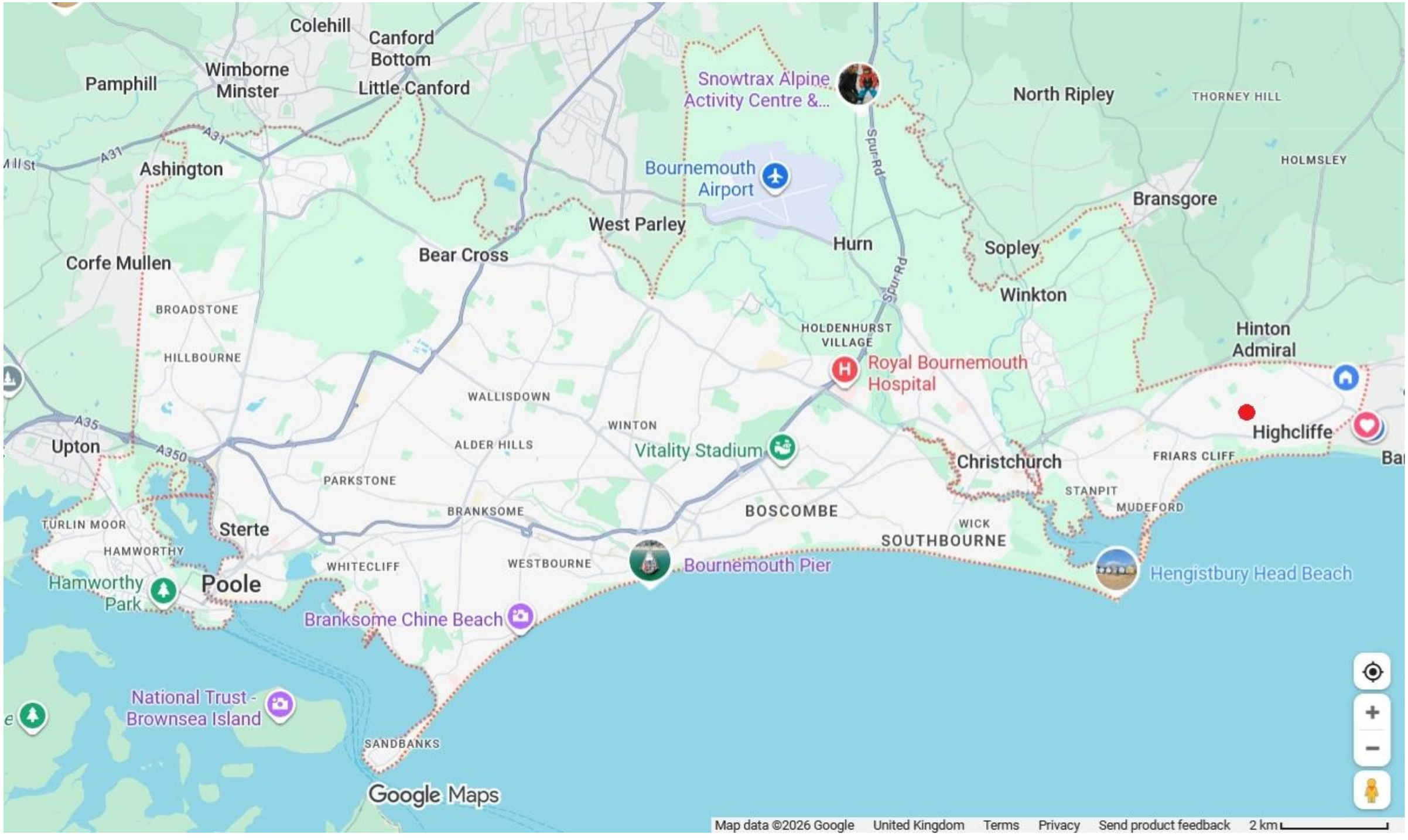
CGO ecology

Draw Date:
27/05/2026

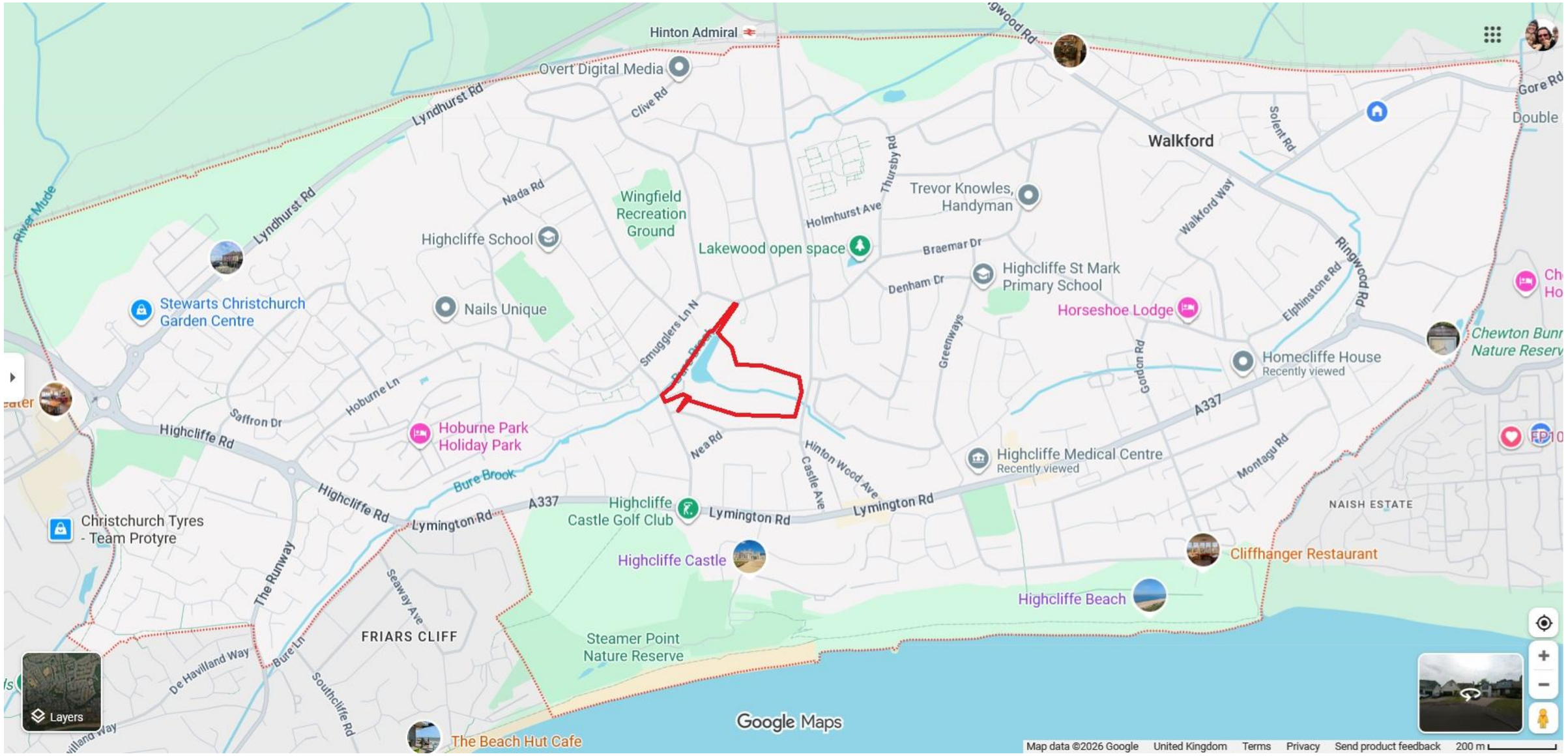
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Site Context Plan PB-F02

Plan showing BCP Council boundary and Nea Meadows location (red dot). Ideally to be replaced by plan also showing HWPC boundary, Nea Meadows LNR, and other greenspaces owned/managed by HWPC.



Plan showing approximate boundary of Nea Meadows LNR.



Phasing strategy

Will the proposed work measures be delivered in phases? PB-B08 **Yes: ☒ No: ☐**

This HMMP assumes that the site may be registered as a habitat bank in the future. The management will be phased for the first five years, after which all creation and enhancement to targets will be complete. The following 30 years will be maintenance to qualify for habitat banking. This HMMP covers the whole Nea Meadows LNR site.

Management to enhance the w1g Other woodland broadleaved will be spread over five autumn/winter seasons from 2026-2027 to 2031-2032. Parcels of woodland on the north and south sides of Chewton Common Stream, along the south and west site boundaries, and around the Lake are currently in 'moderate' condition, and management will target 'good' condition. Woodland along the north and southwest fringes of the site is in 'poor' condition, and management will target 'moderate'. No further enhancement is planned for recently planted woodland by the car park. Woodland enhancement will be conducted in a five-year phase of selective tree removal, INNS shrub removal, deadwood creation, glade creation, and planting of new saplings. Most will be front-loaded in the first season, but tree-felling will be spread over time to reduce the impact on visual amenity and wildlife. Tree cover surrounding the Lake will be reduced by 50% over five years (10% per year), beginning on the east shore. This will be coupled with other interventions to the Lake, Meadow, and other habitat types.

The Meadow is the largest parcel of g3c Other neutral grassland on site. This and two smaller parcels will be enhanced from moderate to good condition. The interventions will begin in summer 2026, repeated annually with some spatial variations over time. Existing management comprises a single late-summer cut, which will continue, augmented by other interventions. Selective spring and summer mowing will be used to achieve sward diversity, targeting areas in rotation. Selective seed harvesting and redistribution will be used to increase species richness. This will be supplemented by overseeding with suitable mixes and single species. Scrapes will be created to provide bare ground and ephemeral habitats in suitable areas.

The Lake is currently in poor condition, and will be enhanced to moderate by desilting, riparian tree removal, and wetland habitat interventions. The Wildlife Pond will be enhanced from moderate to good by tree removal and desilting. The watercourses will benefit from woodland enhancement, especially INNS removal, but also glade creation. Desilting of the Lake will enhance flow and water quality in the Chewton Common Stream.

Roles and Responsibilities

Provide details of the responsible persons and organisation(s) for delivering this management plan.

Ecologist or Other Professional Responsible for HMMP PB-B09				
Name or Initials		Dr Chris Gleed-Owen MCIEEM		
Organisation		CGO Ecology Ltd		
Responsibility	Start Date:	January 2024	End Date:	n/a

Provision of ecological consultancy support, by a suitable experienced and qualified ecologist, to assist the landowner/manager. This includes a range of surveys conducted between January 2024 and May 2026 which have informed this HMMP. These services will be retained at the agreement of both parties. If the relationship ends, or the ecologist ceases to provide these services, the landowner/manager will engage another suitably experienced and qualified ecologist to ensure continued implementation of this HMMP.

Statement of Competency

Dr Gleed-Owen is a suitably-qualified and experienced ecologist with the following credentials: professional ecologist since 2002; ecological consultant since 2008; full member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management since joining in 2008; Field Identification Skills Certificate level 4 since 2017; UKHab and BNG practitioner since 2021; Natural England survey licences for five species and mitigation licences for four species. His clients include local authorities, government departments, statutory agencies, non-governmental organisations, and private landowners.

Landowner or Land Manager PB-B10				
Name or Initials		Highcliffe & Walkford Parish Council		
Organisation		Highcliffe & Walkford Parish Council		
Responsibility	Start Date:	September 2026	End Date:	June 2061

The landowner will implement this HMMP, and accepts responsibility for its delivery as follows:

1) Conduct the required management interventions between July 2026 to June 2061, to achieve and maintain the recommended habitat types, extents, and conditions. This is particularly important if the site is registered as a habitat bank (to sell or trade surplus units).
2) Conduct annual monitoring to inform the above.
3) Conduct maintenance management and/or other corrective actions as necessary to maintain or regain the target conditions.
4) Maintain the necessary records, registrations, and communications required by any agreement governing this HMMP.
5) Ensure that sufficient ring-fenced funding is retained for these commitments for the life of this HMMP.

Statement of Competency

Landowner - Demonstrate management and monitoring competency and, or, relevant site knowledge and skills through relevant training, qualifications or experience, or a combination of these.

Management Organisation(s) Responsible for Implementing the HMMP PB-B11				
Name or Initials		n/a		
Organisation		n/a		
Responsibility	Start Date:		End Date:	
Management will be implemented by the landowner.				
Statement of Competency				

LPA or Responsible Body for Reviewing HMMP PB-B12				
Name or Initials		n/a		
Organisation		BCP Council		
Responsibility	Start Date:	n/a	End Date:	n/a
n/a				

Land Use Summary

Overview of Baseline Site Use PB-B13

The site is a public park in a suburban residential area of Highcliffe. It is very popular with dog-walkers and families. The Lake is stocked and fished under agreement with Christchurch Angling Club (CAC). The site shares its car park with, and is contiguous with, Highcliffe Bowling Club. Many residential properties surround the site have gates to give informal access from their rear gardens. The site used to be owned/managed by BCP Council, but ownership was transferred to HWPC in 2019. The Friends of Nea Meadows (FoNM) group is active, and other special interest wildlife groups visit the site regularly.

Overview of Proposed Site Use PB-B14

The site will remain a nature reserve and public amenity site, with a concerted effort to enhance its biodiversity value in line with nature recovery policies and the rewilding agenda.

Site Context Photos PB-F03

Three overview photographs of the site in its current form: Lake viewed from southwest shore; veteran oak in Meadow; general view of Meadow, informal footpaths, and woodland fringes.







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

Consider the Baseline and Environmental Information listed below. These are likely to be appropriate factors informing your proposals and project design. They can provide the reviewer with important contextual information for the management prescriptions provided later in this document. Use your professional judgement to determine which factors are relevant to your specific project.

Please use the check box to indicate which are included in your plan. For any not included, provide brief reasons why the factor is not relevant to your project using your professional judgement. Where this information is provided elsewhere, you can reference existing reports and, or, plans that have informed your decisions. For the templates for each heading see pages 3-20 of the Companion Document.

Baseline and Environmental Information	**Prompts for when these may be relevant.** This is not an exhaustive list. Use your professional judgement to determine which are required for your HMMP	**Check box if included**	**Document Reference or Reason if not included**
Statutory / Non-statutory Designated Sites	The site has statutory (LNR) and non-statutory designation (SNCI) which give it legal and *de facto* protection. No other protected sites will be affected by the proposed management.	☒	SNCI information sheet
Protected and Notable Species	Bats forage and commute on site, and could roosts in trees which may be felled. Otter occasionally visits the site. Hedgehog is likely, but no other protected mammals are present. A range of common birds, including red-listed and amber-listed species, forage and nest on site. No reptiles and no protected amphibians are present. No protected fish are present, but notable threatened species are present. A wide range of invertebrate groups occupy the various habitats, likely to include rare or threatened species, and potentially including protected species. At least one protected plant is present; other protected/notable plants and fungi may be present.	☒	CGO species survey reports 2024-2026
Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS)	At least seven Schedule 9 INNS plants and animals are present currently: curly waterweed, grey squirrel, montbretia, North American signal crayfish, rhododendron, three-cornered leek, variegated yellow archangel. At least six others have been eradicated in recent years: duck potato, giant hogweed, Himalayan balsam, Japanese knotweed, New Zealand pigmyweed, thorn-apple. Other non-Schedule 9 INNS present include: cherry laurel, cotoneasters, false spiraea, Himalayan honeysuckle, Japanese honeysuckle, red-osier dogwood, snowberry.		CGO INNS survey report 2026
Biological Records Plan - Sites and Species	n/a	☐	n/a
Baseline Habitats Survey	CGO baseline UKHab survey 2024, updated May 2026.	☒	CGO UKHab survey report 2026
Public Access	The site is a popular public park with extensive dog-walking routes, fishing lake, and parking for adjacent bowling club.	☐	n/a
Climate	No site-specific climate considerations identified currently.	☐	n/a
Geology and Topography	The site is in a shallow fluvial valley on Tertiary sands and gravels.	☐	n/a

Agricultural Land Status	None. The site was historically a hay meadow and private estate, then a public park.	☐	n/a
Soils and Substrates	The soil is sandy to loamy, with a slightly acid pH (neutral in floral/habitat terms). Other sandy areas nearby are more acid, and support dry heathland.	☐	n/a
Contaminated Land	There are no known contaminated land constraints.	☐	n/a
Hydrology and Drainage	Nea Lake is an artificially dammed reservoir created in the 1970s or 1980s. The Bure Brook is culverted, and has a defunct (open) sluice gate with an overflow channel to the Lake. The Chewton Common Stream is partly culverted. Local geology is freely draining.	☐	n/a
Flood Risk Zones	Flooding is not likely to present a constraint.	☐	n/a
Landscape Character and Designations	The National Character Area is New Forest. The current and proposed management are in keeping with this.	☐	n/a
Historic Land Use	Previous land use as a park caused soil enrichment and species impoverishment. Tree planting around the Lake has caused excessive leaf-drop, silting, and anaerobic conditions. Urban runoff pollution via the watercourses is also suspected. Angling use of the Lake is a potential conflict with wildlife and habitat quality goals.	☐	n/a
Historic Environment and Earth Heritage	n/a	☐	n/a
Other – please specify	n/a	☐	n/a

Baseline and Environmental Information

See the Companion Document pages 3-20 for the baseline and environmental information insert forms.

The HMMPT Companion Document contains a template for each environmental information category. Use these templates to set out how you have considered relevant constraints and opportunities as part of the design process, to promote the success of this management plan. Copy in the relevant templates from the Companion Document for each environmental information category to be included. Optional: Include these sheets at the end of your plan or as an appendix, referencing the location in Table PB-T01 above.

n/a

2. Planned Management Activities

Provide the site-wide aims and objectives. These should consider the Project Background information section outlined above as well as the outcomes of the Metric.

Management Plan Aims and Objectives PM-B01

The overall aim of this HMMP is to optimise the site's value for nature alongside its public amenity value. The objectives are to:

1) Implement a workable 35-year plan for habitat management; comprising five years of upfront creation, restoration, and enhancement; followed by 30 years of maintenance at target levels.
2) Where possible, to increase the baseline value of habitats, as measured by the Statutory Biodiversity Metric and condition-assessment system, to target levels that are as high as reasonably possible.
3) To promote public understanding and appreciation of the site's habitats and biodiversity, through managed access and facilitation.

Principles Informed by Design Stage

The project's BNG target(s) should be set and documented early in the design process. Outline how background and baseline information influenced key design principles for the project from an early stage. This can provide useful context for the proposed retention, creation and enhancement measures.

Design Principles Informed by Baseline Information PM-B02

The baseline assessment exercise has been conducted by CGO between January 2024 and May 2026. The site was previously managed by Christchurch Borough Council (CBC) countryside team (now part of BCP Council). The previous Management Plan ran from 2012-2017, but management continued along the same lines until transfer of ownership to HWPC in 2019. DWT designated the site an SNCI in 2013. The current HMMP has drawn from the previous MP, SNCI documentation, floral lists and advice from CBC rangers, including that passed on by FoNM.

The updated habitat baseline has changed somewhat since 2012/2013, partly due to natural succession, but also reflecting changing methods. The UK Habitat Classification system (UKHab) habitat-mapping system has replaced the 'Phase 1 Habitat' system in the UK, and is aligned with policy and statutory requirements. Artefactual differences between current and previous habitat assessments are partly due to professional judgement. Justification is given where relevant.

The following management principles will be implemented:

- All seven w1g Other broadleaved woodland parcels will be enhanced from current condition. In five cases, this is moderate to good, in two parcels it is poor to moderate. Subdivision of parcels allows for specific targeted management, reference, and safeguards.
- One w2c Other coniferous woodland parcel (poor condition, recently felled) will be enhanced to w1g Other broadleaved woodland in moderate condition.
- All three g3c Other neutral grassland parcels will be enhanced; one from moderate to good, two from poor to good.
- All r1g Other standing water parcels will be enhanced: the Lake from poor to moderate, the Wildlife Pond from moderate to good.
- All r2b Other rivers and streams will be retained in current condition, or enhanced where possible. Full condition assessment has not yet been completed.
- All g4 Modified grassland parcels will be retained in current moderate condition, and may be targeted for enhancement.
- All h3d Bramble scrub and h3h Mixed scrub parcels will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. They will be controlled or reduced to prevent encroachment into grassland habitats, to enhance adjacent woodland, or to create other habitats.
- All f2d Aquatic marginal vegetation will be maintained or enhanced from moderate to good.
- One parcel of f2f Other wetlands will be retained in moderate condition. A second parcel may be lost due to Lake desilting, in which case replacement habitat will be created and maintained in the newly created adjacent position.
- All remaining parcels are either built or they border private gardens. No interventions are proposed, except to control encroachment where necessary.

Habitat and Condition Targets PM-T01

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

Baseline Habitat Type	Target Habitat Type	Parcel / Feature Refs	Baseline Condition	Targeted Condition	Years to Targeted Condition	Condition Assessment Targets	Comments
g3c Other neutral grassland	g3c Other neutral grassland	1,2,3	Moderate, Poor	Good	3	B – sward height variation C – bare ground E – damage/enrichment, INNS F – species richness	B – Mow strips so 20%+ is <7cm tall. C – Create scrapes so 1-5% bare ground. E – Reduce dog waste, vigilance for INNS. F – Overseeding, selective redistribution.
r1g Other standing water	r1g Other standing water	1,2	Poor, Moderate	Moderate, Good	5	A – water quality C – algae/duckweed F – INNS H – aquatic plants I – tree shading	A – Desilt, reduce leaf-fall, create unshaded riparian habitat, control pollution where possible, enhance aquatic flora. C – Control if >10% cover. I – Vigilance/eradication of INNS. H – Promote until 50%+ cover. I – Tree removal so <50% water shaded.
w1g Other broadleaved woodland	w1g Other broadleaved woodland	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	Moderate, Poor	Good, Moderate	5	A – tree age distribution C – INNS cover E – non-native tree/shrub cover G – regeneration K – veteran trees L - deadwood	A – Plant saplings to enhance. C – Eradicate or reduce INNS cover. E – Reduce non-native cover. G – Reduce scrub/nettle in glades/edges. K – Veteranise trees where needed. L – Fell/reduce dead ash and non-natives.
w2c Other coniferous woodland	w1g Other broadleaved woodland	8	Poor	Moderate	5	C – INNS cover G – regeneration H – tree health L - deadwood	C – Vigilance for new INNS. G – Replace any dead whips/standards. H – Monitor, react as necessary. L – Introduce deadwood from elsewhere. [This parcel currently has insufficient tree canopy to qualify as woodland, but will do so within five years.]
f2d Aquatic marginal vegetation	f2d Aquatic marginal vegetation	1	Moderate	Good	5	B – floral composition, indicator species C – water quality D – scrub cover	B – Enhance flora, reduce undesirables. C – Desilt Lake, reduce leaf-fall, control pollution.

						F - INNS	D – Monitor, manage scrub as necessary. F – Vigilance/eradication of INNS.
f2f Other wetlands	f2f Other wetlands	1,2	Moderate	Moderate	5	B – floral composition, indicator species C – water quality D – scrub cover F - INNS	B – Enhance flora, control hemlock water-dropwort. C – Desilt Lake, reduce leaf-fall, control pollution. D – Monitor, manage scrub as necessary. F – Vigilance/eradication of INNS.
r2b Other rivers and streams	r2b Other rivers and streams	1,2,3,4	Tbc [River Condition Assessment not included in current scope].	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc
h3d Bramble scrub	h3d Bramble scrub	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	Moderate	Moderate	n/a	A – species composition, non-natives B – age variation C – INNS	A – Reduce non-natives to <80%, planting if needed to achieve 3+ native woody species, cap dominance at 75% cover. B – Planting/seeding for regeneration. C – Vigilance/eradication of INNS.
h3h Mixed scrub	h3h Mixed scrub	1,2,3,4,5,6	Poor, Moderate	Poor, Moderate	n/a	A – species composition, non-natives B – age variation C – INNS	A – Reduce non-natives to <80%, planting if needed to achieve 3+ native woody species, cap dominance at 75% cover. B – Planting/seeding for regeneration. C – Vigilance/eradication of INNS.
h2b Non-native and ornamental hedgerow	h2b Non-native and ornamental hedgerow	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
g4 Modified grassland	g4 Modified grassland	tbc	Moderate	Moderate	n/a	A – species richness G - INNS	A – Monitor, ensure 6+ species/m^2. G - Vigilance/eradication of INNS.
u1b Developed land, sealed surface	u1b Developed land, sealed surface	1,2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
u1c Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface	u1c Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Habitat and Condition Targets Further Comments

Endeavour to desilt the Lake. Engage with CAC to gather information on Lake fauna and flora, and to discuss opportunities for enhancing Lake water quality. Seek to reduce enrichment from dog waste alongside public footpaths.

Habitat Retention

Provide a concise description of the habitats that are to be retained in their baseline condition. Habitats being retained may still require ongoing measures to maintain their baseline condition.

Measures to be Implemented to Protect Retained Habitats PM-03

Grass areas mown for amenity (g4) will continue under current management. Sealed and artificial surfaces (u1b, u1c) will be retained unchanged, and condition assessment is not applicable. Perimeter shrubs bordering private properties (h2b) will remain under current amenity/private management, without attempt to influence third parties unless invasive species are involved.

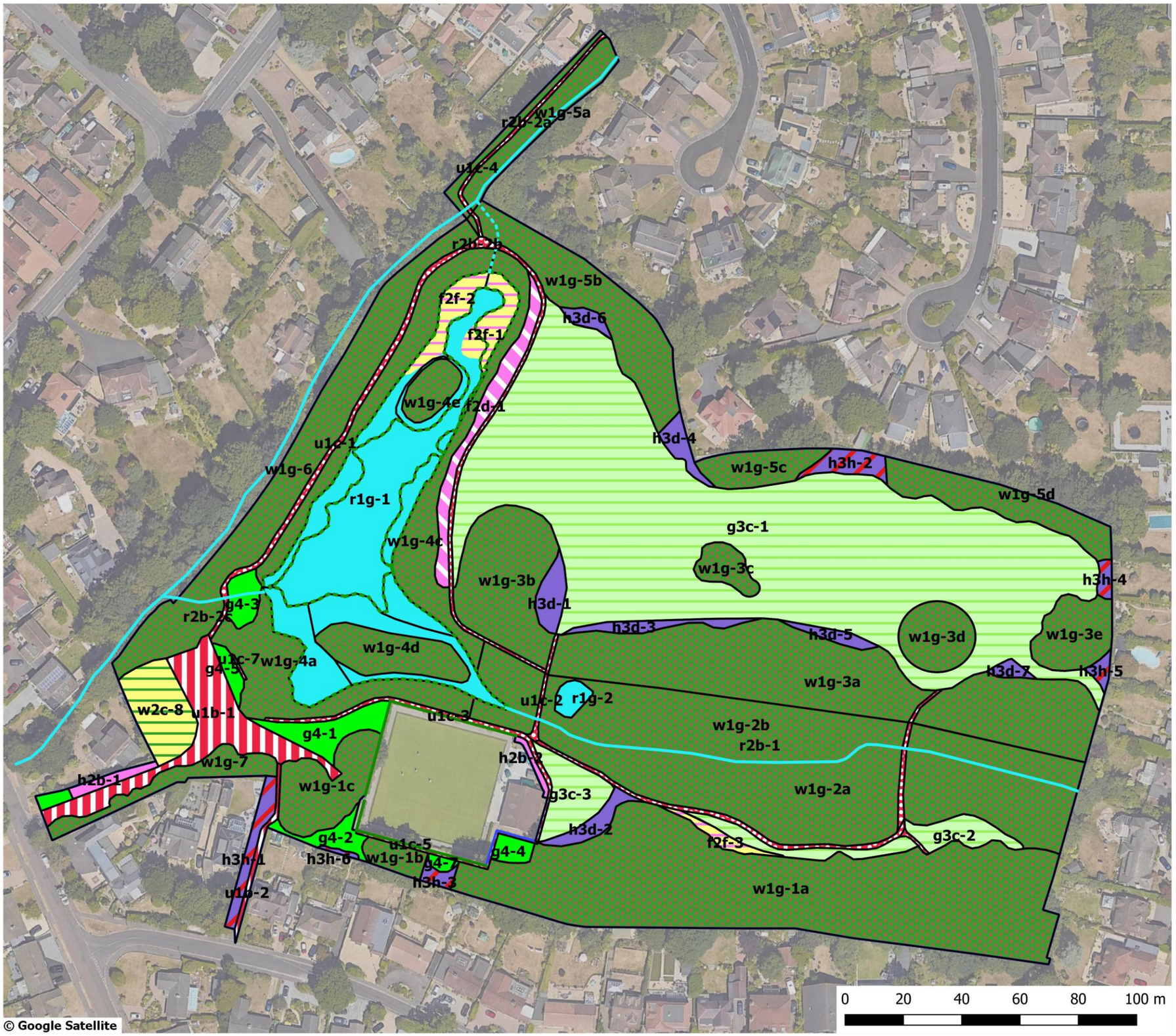
Specification of Protective Measures to be Used PM-04

Monitoring and control of antisocial behaviour in woodland will continue.

Habitat Retention Plan PM-F01

Plan showing habitats to be retained, including those to be enhanced, and habitats be created under this HMMP. A larger version, with all parcels labelled with a unique reference, is presented on the next page. See respective sections for habitat-specific parcel plans. Click or tap here to enter text.





Nea Meadows - baseline UKHab plan

Legend

- Nea Meadows LNR

UK Habitat Classification

- f2d Aquatic marginal vegetation
- f2f Other wetlands
- g3c Other neutral grassland
- g4 Modified grassland
- h2b Non-native and ornamental hedgerow
- h3d Bramble scrub
- h3h Mixed scrub
- r1g Other standing water
- u1b Developed land; sealed surface
- u1c Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface
- w1g Other broadleaved woodland
- w2c Other coniferous woodland
- h2b Non-native and ornamental hedgerow
- r2b Other rivers and streams
- r2b Other rivers and streams (overflow channel)
- Management parcels
- Tree canopy

Site Centroid - SZ 20237 93812
Site Area - 5.42ha

CGO ecology

Draw Date: 03/06/2026

Scale: 1:1200 (@A3)

Creation, Enhancement and Management Targets and Prescriptions: Grassland (Medium, High, and Very High Distinctiveness)



Nea Meadows - meadow management parcels

Legend

- Nea Meadows LNR
- Meadow management parcels

Site Centroid - SZ 20237 93812
Site Area - 5.42ha

CGO ecology

Draw Date:
28/05/2026

Scale:
1:1400 (@A3)

N

Creation, Enhancement and Management Summary (GH-T01)

The Meadow and two smaller grassland parcels have been classified as ‘g4 Other neutral grassland’, a medium-distinctiveness habitat. Baseline condition assessment results (May 2026) are shown below, using SBM habitat condition assessment sheets ‘Sheet 6. Grassland Med High and V. High’.

		Parcel		
Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND (med/high/v.high distinctiveness)		**1**	**2**	**3**
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). **Note - essential for Moderate or Good condition for non-acid grassland types only.**	Yes	Yes	Yes
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.	No	No	No
C	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 5%, including localised areas, for example, rabbit warrens.	Yes	No	No
D	Cover of bracken *Pteridium aquilinum* is less than 20%, and cover of scrub (including bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg) is less than 5%.	Yes	No	No
E	Combined cover of species indicative of suboptimal condition 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 INNS plants (WCA Sch 9) present, automatically failed.	Yes	Yes	Yes
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for all non-acid grassland types				
F	10 or more vascular plant species per sqm, including forbs characteristic of the habitat type. **Note - essential for Good condition only for non-acid grassland types.**	No	No	No

		Parcel		
Condition Assessment Result	**Category**	**1**	**2**	**3**
Acid grassland types (Result out of 5 criteria)				
Passes 5 criteria	Good			
Passes 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate			
Passes 2 or fewer criteria	Poor			
Non-acid grassland types (Result out of 6 criteria)				
Passes 5 or 6 criteria, including essential criterion A and	Good			
Passes 3 - 5 criteria, including essential criterion A.	Moderate	Mod		
Passes 2 or fewer criteria.	Poor		Poor	Poor

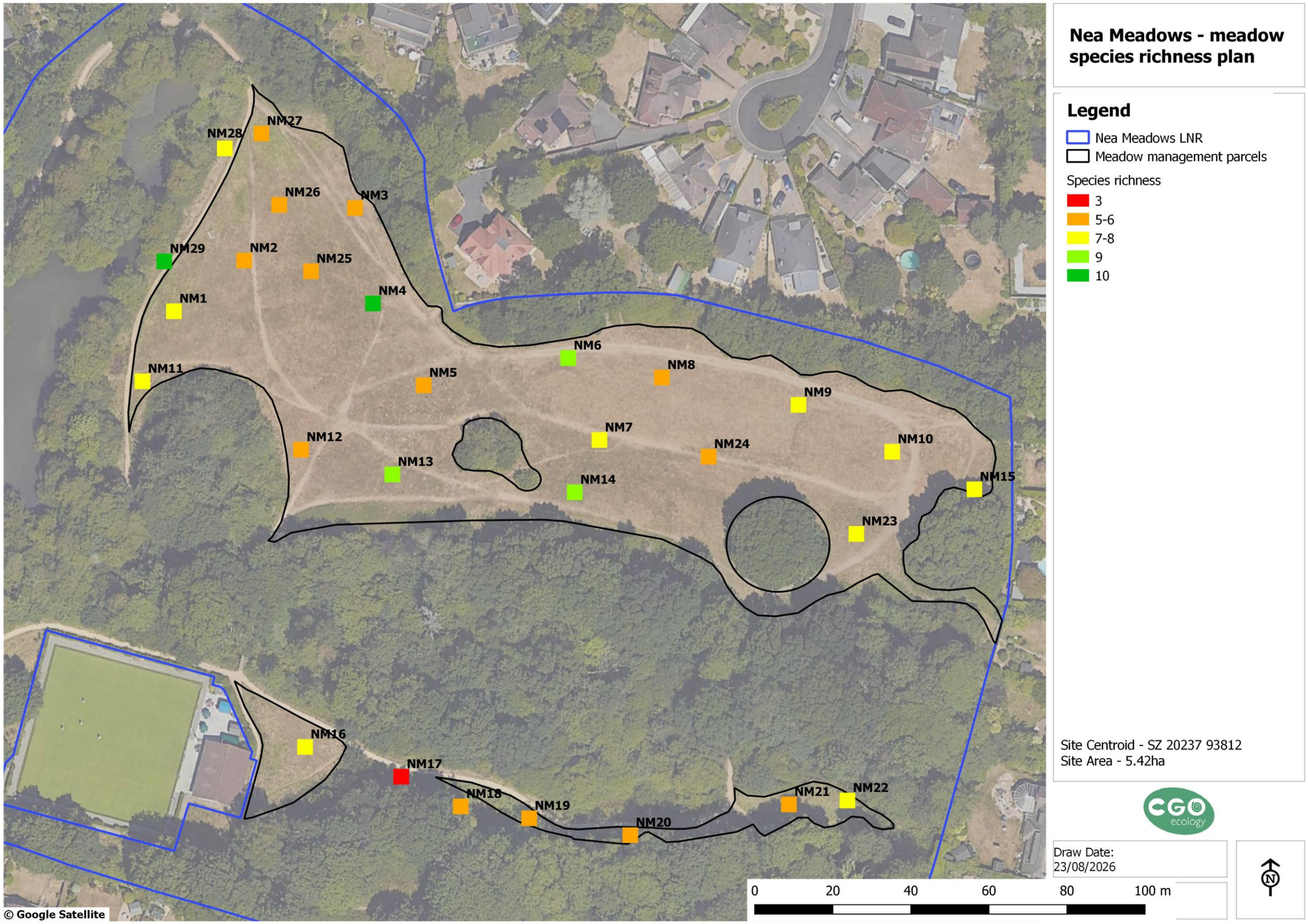
Target condition is ‘good’ for all three parcels. To achieve this, parcel 1 must pass at least one additional criterion. Parcels 2 and 3 must pass at least three additional criteria.

Target Habitat				g3c Other neutral grassland		
Condition Assessment Criteria		**Targeted**	**Relevant Parcels**	**Creation Approach**	**Enhancement Approach**	**Management Approach**
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. Note – this criterion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition for non-acid grassland types only.	Yes	1,2,3	n/a	Parcels 1 and 3 meet this criterion currently; parcel 2 is borderline compliant. Passing criterion F is the prerequisite for confirming and maintaining a pass for all three parcels.	Monitor, respond accordingly.
B	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 insects, birds and small mammals to live and breed.	Yes	1,2,3	n/a	Mow 25% of each parcel in late spring, to create patches or sinuous strips with sward <7cm tall.	Rotate locations/routes each year, to diversify sward, and avoid excessive impacts on flora or invertebrate fauna.
C	Cover of bare ground between 1% and 5%, including localised areas, for example, rabbit warrens.	Yes	1,2,3	n/a	Create shallow scrapes in dry, damp, shaded, and unshaded areas, to cover at least 1% by area. Parcel 1 arguably meets this criterion already, but only through compacted ground with public footfall. The aim of this criterion is to encourage pioneer plants and invertebrates, which are not benefited by compacted footpaths.	Rotate locations annually. Likely to need new scrapes every year, as previous scrapes colonise and pass through stages of succession.
D	Cover of bracken *Pteridium aquilinum* less than 20% and cover of scrub (including bramble) less than 5%.	Yes	1,2,3	n/a	Control/reduce scrub encroachment around all parcels. Currently, the Meadow passes this criterion; the glades fail. This criterion only deals with control and prevention of further encroachment. Scrub parcels beyond meadow boundaries are dealt with separately.	Monitor, respond accordingly.
E	Combined cover of species indicative of suboptimal condition and physical damage (such as excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, damaging levels of access, or any other damaging activities) accounts for less than 5% of total area. If any invasive non-native species (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA) are present, this criterion is automatically failed.	Yes	1,2,3	n/a	Awareness-raising regarding dog waste. Introduce novel controls if possible. Vigilance for new INNS infestations; prompt control/eradication.	Monitor, especially path edges suffering from enrichment.
F	There are 10 or more vascular plant species per m^2 present, including forbs that are characteristic of the habitat type. Note – this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition for non-acid grassland types only.	Yes	1,2,3	n/a	Option 1 - Selective seed harvesting and redistribution to enhance species-poor areas. Option 2 - Overseed with appropriate single species and/or species mixes. Option 3 – A combination of both methods. Coordinate with interventions for criteria B and C to seek opportunities/synergies. Currently all three parcels have fewer than 10 species/m^2.	Monitor, respond accordingly.

Additional Management Prescriptions (GH-B01)

Contact will be maintained with the site's former managers at BCP Council, for counsel on previous practices, successes, and failures. Anthills, especially in central parts of parcel 1 will be excluded from mowing and other intrusive physical management. Any location which is identified as supporting a notable or scarce plant will also be excluded from mowing (if appropriate), and may be surrounded by low wooden stakes or other suitable means.

The locations of meadow grassland (g3c Other neutral grassland) survey quadrats in 2024 and 2026 are shown below. Each quadrat is represented by a square, thematically coloured to reflect species richness per square metre. Quadrats which fall outside the boundaries of meadow parcels are wetland categories (f2d Aquatic marginal vegetation, f2f Other wetlands).



Nea Meadows - meadow species richness plan

Legend

- Nea Meadows LNR
- Meadow management parcels

Species richness

- 3
- 5-6
- 7-8
- 9
- 10

Site Centroid - SZ 20237 93812
Site Area - 5.42ha

Draw Date:
23/08/2026

Grassland (Medium, High, and Very High Distinctiveness)

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

The below table provides detailed prescriptions for management of each meadow grassland (g3c Other neutral grassland) parcel, with justification based on BNG condition assessment criteria. Lettering of the actions in the first column corresponds to these criteria. Parcel 1 is currently in moderate condition, and must pass one or more additional criteria to reach good condition. Parcels 2 and 3 are currently poor, and must pass three criteria to reach good condition.

Action	Relevant Parcels	Timing	Prescriptions
A - Annual habitat monitoring	1,2,3	Two visits per year, spanning mid- to late spring (April-May) and mid-summer (June-July), spaced at least two months apart.	Annual monitoring of UKHab type and condition to satisfy condition assessment criterion A, including species richness assessment using NVC method (2m x 2m quadrat) and BNG method (1m x 1m quadrat). Results will be used to gauge success and progress towards targets. Where necessary, results will inform modifications to management prescriptions on an annual basis. Baseline survey (2024, 2026) assessed 22 quadrats for parcel 1 (Meadow), six quadrats for parcel 2 (Glade), and one quadrat for parcel 3 (Triangle). Ongoing monitoring will be as representative as possible: at least 15 quadrats for parcel 1, three for parcel 2, and one for parcel 3.
B - Grass cutting	1,2,3	Whole parcels - One late summer cut every year (mid-August to early September). 25% of each parcel - One late spring cut every year (mid-April to May).	Annual cut-and-collect of all meadow grassland on site, in late summer after plants have set seed, to remove nutrients, prevent scrub growth, prevent tussock formation, and control dominance by undesirable species. It is essential to collect arisings effectively, as nutrient enrichment favours undesirable species. This action is to preserve the habitat type (criterion A), and contribute to its condition (criterion B). Annual partial hard cut-and-collect (approximately 5cm height over 25% of each parcel). This will be achieved by mowing 25% of each parcel in late spring, ideally in sinuous strips to maximise length of edge habitat (ecotones). For parcel 1, existing desire-lines will be included in the 25%, therefore mowing only needs to cover 15-20%. The pattern of selective mowing will be varied each year, to ensure management is diverse and widely spread. The aim is to create a diverse sward, which is a favourable characteristic embedded in BNG condition assessment (criterion B), requiring at least 20% of a parcel to be below 7cm tall, and at least 20% over 7cm tall. The recommended cut of 25% (including desire lines where present) should achieve this goal without excessive visual impact. Mowing routes will be rotated each year, to diversify sward, and avoid excessive impacts on floral reproduction or the invertebrate fauna in any area. In parcel 2, the selective mowing is recommended to target stands of hemlock water dropwort (*Oenanthe crocata*) which are excessively dominant. Parcel 3 is small, and mowing should seek to coincide with peripheral areas used by dog-walkers.
C - Mechanical scrapes	1,2,3	Once a year during late autumn, winter, or early spring (November to March).	Mechanically create shallow bare-ground scrapes, approximately 5-10m long and 1-3m wide, to cover at least 1% of each parcel's area. This is to meet condition assessment criterion C which requires between 1% and 5% bare ground cover, to encourage pioneer plant and invertebrate species. Arisings will be left around the edges of each scrape, creating desirable microtopography. New scrapes will be needed each year, as previous scrapes will tend to become vegetated, as more plants colonise them, and the flora passes through stages of succession. Scrape locations will be varied each year, but can use previous locations on rotation every two or more years. Bare ground created by walker/dog-walker desire-lines will be excluded from the target area, as its constant use is not conducive to colonisation by pioneer plants and invertebrates. Parcel 1 has scope for many scrapes of varying size. A bare ground requirement of 2% is around 230 sqm in total, which could comprise eight scrapes of 10m x 3m, 46 scrapes of 5m x 1m, or a mixture of sizes and shapes. Scrapes must be created in a representative range of conditions, including dry and damp areas, shaded and unshaded areas, as far as possible. Scrapes in lower-lying areas to the west of parcel 1 would be advantageous to create temporary wet areas.

			Parcel 2 (572 sqm) is mostly shaded for part of the day, seasonally wet, and dominated by tall herbs. Hemlock water dropwort has reached undesirable dominance along the shaded southern edge, and will be targeted for scrapes. In this case, scrapes should target the maximum 5% bare ground cover. This equates to 28 sqm, for example a scrape of approximately 9m x 3m. Parcel 3 is small (472 sqm), and a single scrape of 5m x 2m would achieve 2% bare ground cover, ideally located centrally, away from the surrounding paths.
D - Scrub control	1,2,3	Once a year in the autumn (September to November)	All three parcels have significant scrub-encroachment problems around their fringes, which must be tackled by control and prevention measures. No parcels have scrub within them; all scrub is located along outer edges, adjacent to woodland blocks. The primary aim is to prevent any reduction in meadow area caused by scrub encroachment. Condition assessment criterion D requires scrub cover to be under 5% by area of each parcel, and bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) cover to be under 20% (not currently a problem at Nea Meadows). The key metric to monitor is the width of annual encroachment around the fringes of each meadow parcel. If the length of affected perimeter multiplied by the width of recent encroachment exceeds 5% of the baseline parcel area, remedial scrub control is needed. However, to tackle scrub encroachment proactively, rather than 'firefighting', scrub must be cut back to the previous summer's position along all meadow perimeters. Established blocks of scrub beyond the fringes of the meadow parcels are treated as separate scrub parcels, and are dealt with in the relevant sections of this HMMP. Therefore, the baseline perimeters of the meadow parcels follow existing ecotones, regardless of whether these boundaries could realistically be changed by future scrub clearance. Currently, parcel 1 passes criterion D, but parcels 2 and 3 fail it, as they do not have such clear ecotonal scrub boundaries. Parcel 1 requires straightforward monitoring and scrub control to maintain its boundary. [Scrub reduction may also be conducted beyond the boundary, in scrub parcels, as part of non-meadow works]. Parcel 2 has tentative invasions of bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg) and other woody species, including tree saplings, along its fringes. To maintain its current boundary, this must be controlled annually before it becomes established as continuous scrub. Shrubs will be cut, and saplings pulled. Parcel 3 has tentative scrub and sapling invasion along its southeast margin, which should be controlled annually to maintain the boundary, by cutting and pulling as appropriate.
E - Reducing human impacts	1,2,3	Constant, ongoing	Condition assessment criterion E requires damage caused by humans to be less than 5% by area, and specifically mentions damage from livestock, machinery, and human access. The criterion is also automatically failed if any INNS plants are present. At Nea Meadows, the main impacts are nutrient enrichment by dog waste, and ground compaction and floral suppression by people and dogs. Enrichment from dog waste is visible alongside informal footpaths/desire-lines, totalling around 1% of parcel 1, and 5-10% of parcels 2 and 3. Compaction from footfall affects around 5% of parcel 1, none of parcel 2 (which has a made footpath running its length), and 10% of parcel 3. No INNS are currently present in any of the three parcels. The recommended remedial action to reduce dog waste and enrichment, is awareness-raising regarding dog waste, and encouraging new walking routes (in tandem with selective grass cuts for criterion B). Heavily compacted areas could be rotovated, with signposted deviations to alternative mown routes. Coordination with selective grass cuts would greatly assist this. Interpretation should be provided on the site notice boards, by temporary signage, and by general Parish communication means. Suggestions should be invited for other novel ways to reduce dog waste, and alleviate over-compacted areas. Vigilance must be maintained for new INNS plant infestations, which must then be promptly eradicated. Path edges should be monitored for dog waste and nutrient enrichment.
F - Seed harvesting, redistribution, and supplementary overseeding	1,2,3	Harvesting/redistribution - Years 1-3, coordinated with Apr/May and Aug/Sep grass cuts.	The UKHab definition of medium-distinctiveness and high-distinctiveness grassland such as g3c Other neutral grassland requires species richness to be at least 10 eligible plant species (no INNS or other negative indicator species) per square metre. Condition assessment criterion F measures this, and compliance is a prerequisite for criterion A. If a grassland is measured (by quadrat assessment) to have an average species richness below 10 species per square metre (10spp/m^2), it

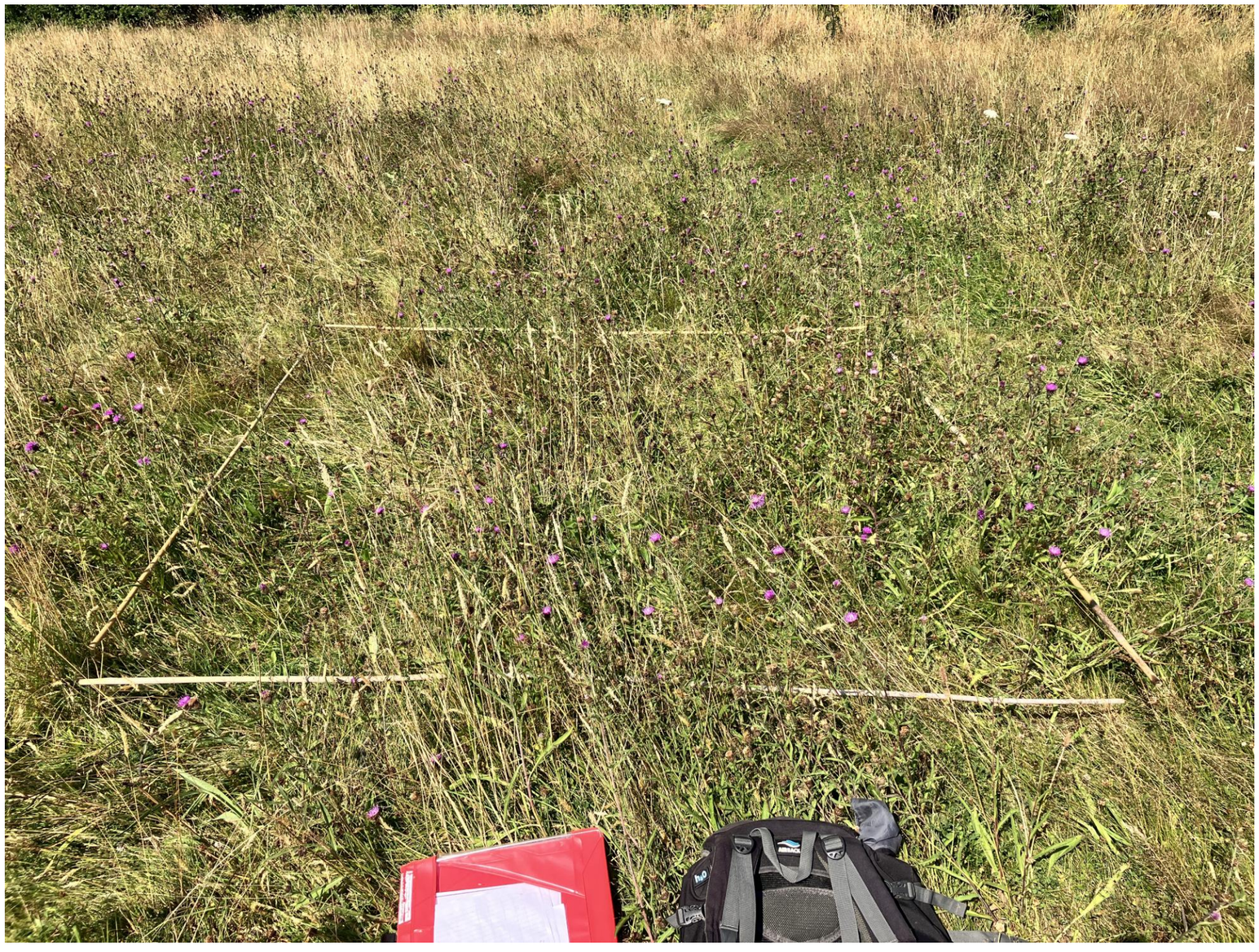
		Supplementary overseeding – Years 1-3, as required, following suppliers' instructions.	may remain a medium-distinctiveness type in moderate or poor condition, and it may be demoted to g4 Modified grassland if it fails other criteria. Currently, none of the three meadow parcels reach or exceed the 10spp/m^2 threshold, therefore all fail criterion F. Parcel 1 ranges between five and 10 species per square metre, with an average of seven, based on survey of 20 quadrats (10 in 2024, 10 in 2026). No quadrat exceeded the minimum threshold for medium-distinctiveness grassland types. Only one quadrat (5% of the total) is currently compliant, and none have any spare capacity (resilience) for stochastic losses. Three have nine species; five have eight species; two have seven; five have six; and four have only five species per square metre. Most areas of the main Meadow are therefore significantly below the required threshold. There is no distinct pattern to this. Parcel 2's richness, surveyed at four quadrats in 2026, ranges from five to seven species, with an average of 5.5. Parcel 3 has a species richness of eight, based on one quadrat in 2026. Parcels 1 and 3 meet the overall definition for the habitat type (satisfying criterion A); parcels 2 is borderline. Remedial action is required to increase the species richness across all three parcels. This will be a significant challenge for much of parcel 1, as its best-quality areas are scattered and patchy. Parcel 3 will be the simplest to enhance, needing only two additional species per square metre. Parcel 2 requires further consideration as to whether enhancement is achievable and worthwhile. There are three options for enhancing species richness in all parcels to meet, and ideally exceed, the required threshold: • Option 1 – Selectively harvest seed from species-rich areas on site, and redistribute by overseeding to species-poor areas. This would be coordinated with interventions for criteria B and C, to optimise and synergise. This would be the most natural option, avoiding seed purchase costs, but it would be labour-intensive and require careful planning. It would need to be spread over several years, and is unlikely to achieve sufficient species richness across all three parcels. • Option 2 - Purchase or otherwise obtain seed from off-site sources, then prepare and overseed the target meadow areas. Preparation would be intrusive, seed mixes are costly, and it is a blunt instrument. Nevertheless, it is relatively simple, and can bring swift results. • Option 3 – A combination of options 1 and 2, according to variations in need across the site. Option 1 would be readily achievable in parcel 3 and parts of parcel 1 that almost meet the richness threshold currently. It would involve selectively harvesting and redistributing seed within and between meadow parcels, targeting species gaps. [Exact strategy/specification to be decided if this option is selected]. This needs to be done carefully and strategically, to avoid spreading undesirable species, and to optimise opportunities for enhancement. Harvesting and redistribution must be done in coordination with the spring selective grass cut and/or the late-summer wholesale cut, with suitable donor and receptor areas identified in advance. Harvesting will target areas with desirable species or higher species richness; redistribution will seek to enhance areas lacking in those species, but able to support them. Harvesting could be done by topping at flower height for the relevant species, attempting to avoid excess chaff. However, to maximise the volume of seed collected, and minimise non-seed material, mechanical separation may be needed. Option 2 would be the only option for parcel 2 and parts of parcel 1. It must involve location-appropriate, habitat-appropriate native species that each parcel is lacking in certain areas or overall. This is likely to require species mixes, possibly supplemented by single species. Ideally, the off-site seeds will be sourced locally from land under conservation management; otherwise, they will be sourced from a reputable conservation-literate UK supplier. Ground preparation for seed mixes generally requires hard cutting and scarifying before overseeding, potentially in addition to other cuts. The cost-benefit of this needs to be understood. Option 3 would be the most pragmatic solution for parcel 1, avoiding the need to purchase seed for the whole area. Harvesting and redistribution could target the richest areas, and off-site seed could be deployed elsewhere.

Other Supporting Information

Supporting Information (GH-B02)

The below photograph was taken at quadrat NM4, surveyed in 2024, which had an average richness of 10 species per square metre. The quadrat measures 2m x 2m (marked by bamboo canes). Species richness was measured in the northwest 1m x 1m part of it. The photographer was looking north. Quadrat NM4 only just met the richness threshold for medium-distinctiveness grassland types. A significantly higher species richness should be targeted across all three meadow parcels, to give a comfortable margin for floral variation over time.

What Does Success Look Like? (GH-F01)



Pond (Lake, Wildlife Pond)



Nea Meadows - waterbody management parcels

Legend

- Nea Meadows LNR
- Waterbody management parcels

Site Centroid - SZ 20237 93812
Site Area - 5.42ha

CGO ecology

Draw Date: 27/05/2026

Scale: 1:1400 (@A3)

N

Creation, Enhancement and Management Summary (PO-T01)

Condition assessment (Jan 2026) using SBM condition sheet 'Sheet 18 - Pond'. Parcel 1 (1st column) is the Lake. Fishing, shaded, leaf-fall, silted up, anaerobic, turbid, polluted. Parcel 2 (2nd column) is the Wildlife Pond. Small, no fish, encroached by trees, adjacent to seminatural minor watercourse, probably flooded occasionally, extensive emergent plant cover, previously subjected to INNS removal.

	Core Criteria - applicable to all ponds (woodland[1] and non-woodland):											
A	The pond is of good water quality, with clear water (low turbidity) indicating no obvious signs of pollution. Turbidity is acceptable if the pond is grazed by livestock.	No	Yes									Lake is turbid
B	There is semi-natural habitat (moderate distinctiveness or above) completely surrounding the pond, for at least 10 m from the pond edge for its entire perimeter.	Yes	Yes									
C	Less than 10% of the water surface is covered with duckweed *Lemna* spp. or filamentous algae.	Yes	Yes									
D	The pond is not artificially connected to other waterbodies, such as agricultural ditches or artificial pipework.	No	Yes									Lake is connected to culverted stream, and is dammed.
E	Pond water levels can fluctuate naturally throughout the year. No obvious artificial dams[2], pumps or pipework.	No	Yes									Wildlife pond is recharged by stream regularly.
F	There is an absence of listed non-native plant and animal species[3].	No	Yes									Lake has signal crayfish and carp. Wildlife pond may have crayfish, but probably not.
G	The pond is not artificially stocked with fish. If the pond naturally contains fish, it is a native fish assemblage at low densities.	No	Yes									Lake is probably artificially stocked by CAG.
	Additional Criteria - must be assessed for all non-woodland ponds:											
H	Emergent, submerged or floating plants (excluding duckweed)[4] cover at least 50% of the pond area which is less than 3 m deep.	No	Yes									Lake has c.5% emergent cover. Wildlife pond has around 50% emergent cover.
I	The pond surface is no more than 50% shaded by adjacent trees and scrub.	No	No									Both c.60% shade cover.
	Number of criteria passed	2	8									

Condition Assessment Result	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/✓									
Results for woodland ponds which require assessment of 7 core criteria											
Passes 7 criteria	Good (3)										
Passes 5 or 6 criteria	Moderate (2)										
Passes 4 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)										
Results for non-woodland ponds which require assessment of 9 criteria											
Passes 9 criteria	Good (3)										
Passes 6 to 8 criteria	Moderate (2)		Pond								
Passes 5 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)	Lake									

Parcel 1 – Lake, currently in poor condition. Target condition is moderate (good is unachievable), requiring at least four additional passes (criteria A,F,H,I) which will be challenging if achievable.

Parcel 2 - Wildlife Pond, currently in moderate condition. Target condition is good, requiring one additional pass, which is achievable (criterion I).

Target Habitat:			**Pond (definition includes Lake)**			
Condition Assessment Criteria		**Targeted**	**Relevant Parcels**	**Creation Approach**	**Enhancement Approach**	**Management Approach**
A	The pond is of good water quality, with clear water (low turbidity) indicating no obvious signs of pollution. Turbidity is acceptable if the pond is grazed by livestock.	Yes No	1 2		The Lake currently fails this criterion, but could pass it if sufficient tree removal and desilting occur, alongside pollution-prevention measures (related to angling and urban runoff).	The Wildlife Pond currently passes this criterion, and is not expected to change.
B	There is semi-natural habitat (moderate distinctiveness or above) completely surrounding the pond, for at least 10 m from the pond edge for its entire perimeter.	No	1,2			Both parcels are surrounded by woodland and meadow, meeting this criterion already. This will not change.
C	Less than 10% of the water surface is covered with duckweed *Lemna* spp. or filamentous algae.	No	1,2			Both parcels meet this criterion currently.
D	The pond is not artificially connected to other waterbodies, such as agricultural ditches or artificial pipework.	No	1,2			The Lake fails this criterion, and will not be changed, as it supports a flood-prevention function. The Wildlife Pond passes it, and will not change.
E	Pond water levels can fluctuate naturally throughout the year. No obvious artificial dams, pumps or pipework.	No	1,2			The Lake fails this criterion, and will not be changed. The Wildlife Pond passes it, and will continue to do so.

F	There is an absence of listed non-native plant and animal species.	Yes No	1 2		The Lake fails this criterion due to presence of INNS plants (waterweed species) and invertebrates (signal crayfish). Eradication would be difficult and potentially costly, but not impossible.	The Wildlife Pond is currently INNS-free, and with vigilance will remain so.
G	The pond is not artificially stocked with fish. If the pond naturally contains fish, it is a native fish assemblage at low densities.	No	1,2			The Lake is stocked with fish for coarse angling, failing this criterion, and under current arrangements this is not likely to change. The Wildlife Pond passes it, and is likely to continue to do so.
H	In non-woodland ponds: emergent, submerged or floating plants (excluding duckweed)[3] cover at least 50% of the pond area which is less than 3 m deep. (only applicable to non-woodland ponds)	Yes No	1 2		The Lake fails this criterion (5% emergent cover), but with significant riparian tree removal, desilting, and other interventions, emergent plants could achieve 50% cover.	The Wildlife Pond passes this criterion, and will continue to do so, with reactive management interventions if required.
I	The pond surface of non-woodland ponds is no more than 50% shaded by adjacent trees and scrub. (only applicable to non-woodland ponds)	Yes	1,2		Both waterbodies fail this criterion due to excessive shading (60%) from riparian trees. Removal of trees will be conducted to achieve a pass for both parcels.	

Additional Management Prescriptions (PO-B01)

Improved oversight of the CAC angling use of the Lake is required. No information is currently available on the stocking and baiting practices used, the levels of use, fish species catches, and other information which CAC could provide if asked. Such information must be shared with all parties involved in the delivery of this HMMP.

Pond

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

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

Action	Relevant Parcels	Timing	Prescriptions
A – Improve water quality	1		The Lake is heavily shaded by trees planted within the last 50 years, and this has caused excessive leaf-fall, severe siltation, and anaerobic conditions. To reverse this, 50% of shoreline trees will be removed over the first five years, at a rate of approximately 10% of trees per year. This will commence at the northeast/north shores of the Lake, where wetland habitat enhancements are proposed, and potentially where access will be needed for desilting works. Riparian wetland creation will be conducted (as described in respective sections), with native shoreline planting, and interventions to encourage desirable native submerged, floating, and emergent plants. Pollution-prevention measures related to angling and urban runoff will also be targeted by engaging with CAC and the Environment Agency. Once tree removal, desilting works, wetland enhancements, and pollution mitigation occur, water quality will improve significantly.

F – Eradicate INNS plants and invertebrates	1		The Lake fails this criterion due to presence of INNS plants (waterweed species) and invertebrates (signal crayfish). Eradication will be difficult and potentially costly, but not impossible. Crayfish control/eradication can be achieved by netting and trapping. INNS plant control/eradication will require dredging as part of desilting, and biosecurity measures, including awareness-raising for anglers.
H – Increase emergent plant cover	1		Removal of 50% of shoreline trees around the Lake will remove shading, and reduce leaf-fall. Pollution-control and prevention measures will improve water quality. Riparian wetland creation will be conducted in shade-free areas. The combined effect will be a significant improvement in water quality, thus allowing planting of native riparian and aquatic plants (submerged, floating, and emergent). Emergent cover of at least 50% can thereby be achieved.
I – Reduce tree shading	1,2		Both waterbodies fail this criterion due to excessive shading of shorelines (60%) by riparian trees. Removal of trees will be conducted to achieve a pass for both parcels. For the Lake (parcel 1), a five-year programme will remove trees incrementally, 10% of current trees per year, starting at the north/northeast margins of the Lake. For the Wildlife Pond (parcel 2), all adjacent trees casting shade over the pond shore will be removed or sufficiently pruned back to reduce shading well below 50%. This will be an ongoing management task for parcel 2.

Other Supporting Information

Supporting Information (PO-B02)
An example of a good quality pond is shown in the photograph below of a pond created by Freshwater Habitats Trust and partners at Pinkhill Meadow, Oxford. Note the extent of emergent vegetation (at least 50% cover) around its shoreline. Photo courtesy of FHT.

What Does Success Look Like? (PO-F01)



Woodland

Creation, Enhancement and Management Summary (WO-T01)



Nea Meadows - woodland managment parcels

Legend

- Nea Meadows LNR
- Woodland management parcels

Site Centroid - SZ 20237 93812
Site Area - 5.42ha

CGO ecology

Draw Date: 27/05/2026

Scale: 1:1400 (@A3)

N

Woodland on site has been divided into eight parcels, all of them w1g Other broadleaved woodland. Six are in moderate condition currently, two are in poor condition. Five of the six moderate parcels will be enhanced to good; one must remain moderate as only the passage of time will advance it further. Two parcels in poor condition are bordering residential properties, and cannot realistically achieve good, so will be enhanced to moderate. Condition assessment results are shown below, measured using SBM 'Sheet 24 – Woodland'.

Condition Sheet: WOODLAND Habitat Type					**Parcel**							
Indicator criteria		**Good (3 points)**	**Moderate (2 points)**	**Poor (1 point)**	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**
A	**Age distribution of trees**	Three age-classes present.	Two age-classes present.	One age-class present.	3	3	3	3	2	3	2	1
B	**Herbivore damage**	No significant browsing damage evident in woodland.	Evidence of significant browsing pressure in <40% of whole woodland.	Evidence of significant browsing pressure in 40%+ of whole woodland.	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
C	**INNS plants**	No invasive species present in woodland.	Rhododendron *Rhododendron ponticum* or cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus* not present, and other invasive species <10% cover.	Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species ≥10% cover.	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	3
D	**Native tree species**	Five or more native tree or shrub species found across woodland parcel.	Three to four native tree or shrub species found across woodland parcel.	Two or less native tree or shrub species across woodland parcel.	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3
E	**Cover of native trees & shrubs**	>80% of canopy trees and >80% of understory shrubs are native.	50 - 80% of canopy trees and 50 - 80% of understory shrubs are native.	<50% of canopy trees and <50% of understory shrubs are native.	2	1	2	2	1	1	2	3
F	**Open space within woodland**	10 - 20% of woodland has areas of temporary open space. Unless woodland is <10ha, in which case 0 - 20% temporary open space is permitted.	21 - 40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space.	<10% or >40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space. But for woodland <10ha, use Good category.	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
G	**Woodland regeneration**	All 3 classes present; trees 4 - 7 cm Diameter at Breast Height (DBH), saplings and seedlings or advanced coppice regrowth.	One or two classes only present in woodland.	No classes or coppice regrowth present in woodland.	3	3	3	2	2	3	1	2
H	**Tree health**	Tree mortality 10% or less, no pests or diseases and no crown dieback.	11% to 25% tree mortality and or crown dieback or low-risk pest or disease present.	Over 25% tree mortality and or any high-risk pest or disease present.	1	2	3	3	3	3	3	3
I	**Vegetation & ground flora**	Recognisable NVC plant community at ground, strongly characterised by ancient woodland flora specialists.	Recognisable woodland NVC plant community at ground layer present.	No recognisable woodland NVC plant community at ground layer present.	1	3	2	1	1	1	1	1
J	**Vertical structure**	Three or more storeys across all survey plots, or a complex woodland.	Two storeys across all survey plots.	One or less storey across all survey plots.	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1
K	**Veterans**	Two or more veteran trees per hectare.	One veteran tree per hectare.	No veteran trees present in woodland.	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
L	**Deadwood**	50% of all plots have deadwood, such as standing and fallen, large dead branches or stems, branch stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities.	Between 25% and 50% of all survey plots have deadwood, such as standing and fallen deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities.	<25% of survey plots have deadwood, such as standing and fallen, large dead branches or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities.	3	3	3	1	1	2	1	2
M	**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.	1 hectare or more of nutrient enrichment, and or 20% or more of woodland area has damaged ground.	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	1
				Total Score (out of a possible 39)	**28**	**31**	**32**	**28**	**24**	**28**	**24**	**27**

Footnotes below refer to the EWBG woodland condition assessment details: EWBG (No date). Assessing your Woodland's Condition [online]. Available from:
Woodland Wildlife Toolkit (sylva.org.uk)
The woodland condition assessment survey methodology is outlined in the EWBG toolkit. However the criteria on this sheet are those specific to the Statutory Biodiversity Metric and must be used when assessing woodland condition.
Footnote 1 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 1 for more information. If tree species is not a birch Betula sp., cherry Prunus sp. or Sorbus sp.: 0 - 20 years (Young); 21 - 150 years (Intermediate); and >150 years (Old). For birch, cherry or Sorbus species; 0 - 20 years = Young; 21 - 60 years =Intermediate; >60 years = Old. A recognisable age-class should be a consistent recognisable layer across the woodland or stand being assessed. Presence of a few saplings would not indicate that the woodland has an 'age-class' of young trees. Footnote 2 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 2 for more information. Browsing pressure is considered to be significant where >20% of vegetation visible within each survey plot shows damage from any type of browsing pressure listed. Footnote 3 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 3 for more information. Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly. Check for the presence of all plant species listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), particularly the following invasive non-native species: American skunk cabbage Lysichiton americanus; Himalayan balsam Impatiens glandulifera; Japanese knotweed Reynoutria japonica; cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus; shallon Gaultheria shallon; snowberry Symphoricarpos albus; variegated yellow archangel Lamiastrum galeobdolon subsp. argentatum; rhododendron Rhododendron ponticum; and tree-of-heaven Alianthus altissima. Footnote 4 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 4 and Table 2 for more information. The number of different native tree or shrub species including young trees and shrubs. A list of commonly found native tree and shrub species is provided in Table 2. Not all species listed are native to all parts of the UK. Note a list of commonly found non-native tree species are also included and should be recorded if present. Footnote 5 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 5 and for more information. The abundance of native tree species in upper (>5 m) and understorey (up to 5 m) layers including young trees and shrubs.
Footnote 6 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 6 for more information. Open space within woodland in this context is temporary open space in which trees can be expected to regenerate (for example, glades, rides, footpaths, areas of clear-fell). This differs from permanent open space where tree regeneration is not possible or desirable (for example, tarmac, buildings, rivers). Area is at least 10 m wide with less than 20% covered by shrubs or trees. Footnote 7 – Given the increased ratio of edge habitat to woodland where the woodland is <10ha. Footnote 8 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 8 for more information. This indicator measures regeneration potential of the woodland by considering three classes: seedlings; saplings; and young trees of 4-7 cm DBH. All three classes would fall in the 'young' category of the 'age distribution of trees' indicator, but the regeneration indicator gathers additional information by considering regeneration potential - if seedlings, saplings and young trees are all present that means natural regeneration processes are happening. Footnote 9 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 9 for more information and Table 3 for a list of diseases and pests and their risk level. Footnote 10 - See EWBG method INDICATOR 10 directing to NVC key for more information. The 'UKHab to NVC translation table' in the UK Habitat Classification resources may also be useful to assess this.
Footnote 11 – This criterion looks at structural diversity and is useful to understand in conjunction with the age of trees in a woodland. Vertical structure is defined as the number of canopy storeys present. Possible storey values are: 1) Upper; 2) Complex: recorded when the stand is composed of multiple tree heights that cannot easily be stratified into broad height bands (such as upper, middle or lower); 3) Middle; 4) Lower; and 5) Shrub layer. There might be no storeys where the woodland has been felled. See EWBG INDICATOR 11 for more information. Footnote 12 - 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.service.gov.uk)
and:
Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisions - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
EWBG INDICATOR 12 is the relevant indicator.

The results categories are shown below left. The table on the right shows the baseline results categories for each parcel at Nea Meadows, followed by target scores, and shortfall to reach them.

Woodland condition categories

Good	Total score >32 (33 to 39)
Moderate	Total score 26 to 32
Poor	Total score <26 (13 to 25)

Shortfall to reach target condition

Baseline score 2026	28	31	32	28	24	28	24	27
Minimum target score	33	33	33	33	26	33	26	26
Shortfall to inform management	5	2	1	5	2	5	2	n/a

The below table highlight the recommended criteria to target, and the management interventions required, for each parcel. These must be translated into bespoke action for each parcel. Some condition assessment criteria are excluded because they are already met by all parcels, or because they require passage of time, and cannot be solved by intervention. Criterion M is not targeted because excessive damage and enrichment of woodland soil cannot realistically be corrected.

Criteria		Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	Invasive plant species	No invasive species3 present in woodland.	Rhododendron Rhododendron ponticum or cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus not present, and other invasive species3 <10% cover.	Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species3 ≥10% cover.	Poor to Moderate	Poor to Moderate	Poor to Moderate	Moderate to Good	Poor to Moderate	Poor to Moderate	Moderate to Good	n/a
D	Number of native tree species	Five or more native tree or shrub species4 found across woodland parcel.	Three to four native tree or shrub species4 found across woodland parcel.	Two or fewer native tree or shrub species4 across woodland parcel.	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Moderate to Good	n/a
E	Cover of native tree and shrub species	>80% of canopy trees and >80% of understory shrubs are native5.	50 - 80% of canopy trees and 50 - 80% of understory shrubs are native5.	<50% of canopy trees and <50% of understory shrubs are native5.	Moderate to Good	**Poor to Good**	Moderate to Good	Moderate to Good	n/a	**Poor to Good**	Moderate to Good	n/a
G	Woodland regeneration	All three classes present in woodland8; trees 4 - 7 cm Diameter at Breast Height (DBH), saplings and seedlings or advanced coppice regrowth.	One or two classes only present in woodland8.	No classes or coppice regrowth present in woodland8.	n/a	n/a	n/a	Moderate to Good	Moderate to Good	n/a	**Poor to Good**	Moderate to Good
H	Tree health	Tree mortality 10% or less, no pests or diseases and no crown dieback9.	11% to 25% tree mortality and or crown dieback or low-risk pest or disease present9.	Greater than 25% tree mortality and or any high-risk pest or disease present9.	**Poor to Good**	Moderate to Good	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
I	Vegetation and ground flora	Recognisable NVC plant community10 at ground layer present, strongly characterised by ancient woodland flora specialists.	Recognisable woodland NVC plant community10 at ground layer present.	No recognisable woodland NVC plant community10 at ground layer present.	Poor to Moderate or Good	n/a	Moderate to Good	Poor to Moderate or Good	Poor to Moderate or Good	Poor to Moderate or Good	Poor to Moderate or Good	Poor to Moderate or Good
L	Amount of deadwood	50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing and fallen deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, branch stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities13.	Between 25% and 50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing and fallen deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities13.	Less than 25% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing and fallen deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities13.	n/a	n/a	n/a	**Poor to Good**	**Poor to Good**	Moderate to Good	**Poor to Good**	Moderate to Good

In all eight parcels, the target condition is achievable by management interventions within the first five years of this HMMP. For some parcels, the required score can be reached easily by applying one or two interventions. However, an aspirational approach is recommended, to achieve the highest realistically achievable score for each parcel. This would bring about the greatest benefit to biodiversity, and give woodland parcels greater resilience against future threats. A woodland manager must recognise the constraints on aspirations, particularly those that are insurmountable. Some obstacles to enhancement are outside the control of a woodland manager, such as INNS infestations from neighbouring properties, airborne tree disease, time needed for young trees to mature, and lack of resources.

Parcels 1, 4, and 6 will be more challenging than the others, as they require at least five additional points over several criteria to achieve the minimum score for good condition. This is primarily due to extensive INNS shrub understorey, non-native canopy trees, and tree disease (Chalara dieback) affecting ash trees (*Fraxinus excelsior*). Parcels 5 and 7 suffer some of the same problems, but their location and amenity value for neighbouring residents restrict their potential for enhancement.

Management approaches to uplift condition for relevant parcels are outlined in the table below.

Target Habitat:			**w1g Other broadleaved woodland**				
Condition Assessment Criteria			**Target Score**	**Relevant Parcels**	**Creation Approach**	**Enhancement Approach**	**Management Approach**
C	Invasive plant species	No invasive species present in woodland	3	4,7		Parcel 8 is currently INNS-free, but vigilance for thorn-apple reappearance must be maintained. Parcels 4 and 7 are moderate currently, but have no Sch9 plants, & sufficiently low INNS cover for good to be achievable. Parcels 1,2,3,5,6 are poor, as they have Sch9/other INNS plants >10% cover. INNS control is achievable, but eradication may be unrealistic, hence the target of moderate.	
		Rhododendron *Rhododendrion ponticum* or cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus* not present, other invasive species <10% cover	2	1,2,3,5,6			
		Rhododendron or laurel present, or other invasive species) >10% cover					
D	Number of native trees species	Five or more native tree or shrub species found across woodland parcel	3	7		Currently parcel 7 is moderate, but could easily be supplemented with native trees to achieve good. All other parcels attain good already.	
		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	1,**2**,3,4,**6**,7		Parcel 8 is already good. Parcels 1,3,4,7 are moderate, but non-native trees & shrubs could be reduced <20% to achieve good. Parcels 2,5,6 score poor. In parcels 2 & 6, this is due to INNS shrubs which could be reduced <20% to achieve good. Reduction of INNS shrubs in parcel 5 could achieve moderate, but good would require tree removal with an unacceptable visual amenity impact for neighbours.	
		50 – 80% of canopy trees and 50-80% of understorey shrubs are native	2	5			
		<50% of canopy trees and <50% understorey shrubs are native					

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	4,5,**7**,8		Parcels 1,2,3,6 are good already. Parcel 7 is poor, parcels 4,5,8 are moderate, but all could achieve good with native tree seedling & sapling planting. Locations would be unshaded fringes or glades created by felling for criteria E & H.	
		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	**1**,2		Parcel 1 is ash-dominated, and poor due to >25% cover dead or dying from ash dieback. Parcel 2 has 11-25% cover of diseased ash, scoring moderate. With selective removal of dead ash, parcel 2 could ascend to good. Parcel 1 could achieve moderate or good, depending on the degree of felling, with respect to amenity considerations vs inevitability. Tree removal would create glades for sapling planting. Parcels 3-8 have few or no ash, achieving good already.	
		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	3		Parcel 2 is already good, with ancient woodland indicators (ramsons, wood anemone), native bluebell, ferns, liverworts, mosses. Adjacent parcel 3 is moderate, with occasional ancient woodland indicators, and could be easily enhanced by translocation of soil, plants, or seed from parcel 2. Parcels 1 & 4-8 are poor, and attaining moderate or good would involve off-site seed mixes, which could be regarded as too artificial. Any seeding could target gaps left by INNS scrub removal.	
		Recognisable NVC plant community at ground layer present	2 or 3	1,4,5,6,7,8			
		No recognisable NVC plant community at ground layer present.					
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.	3	**4**,**5**,6,**7**,8		Parcels 1,2,3 already achieve good, as they have sufficient deadwood. Parcels 4,5,7 are currently poor, and parcels 6 & 8 are moderate, but all could attain good by deadwood creation or introduction. Felling for criteria E & H will generate adequate material for fallen or piled deadwood. Deadwood can also be shifted between parcels.	
		Between 25% and 50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or steams, 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 steams, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities.				Where safe to do so (avoiding public paths), standing deadwood can also be created.	

Additional Management Prescriptions (WO-B01)

Installation of habitat enhancements is recommended to target threatened species. A suitable range of batboxes in suitable disease-free trees would enhance local roost capacity within woodland around the site. This would need to be preceded by a preliminary roost assessment to identify existing roost potential, and target areas for enhancement. A range of bird nestboxes should be installed in suitable trees around the site, primarily targeting yellow-listed and red-listed species that are, or could be, present locally. Installation of wicker-dome hedgehog shelters is also recommended in suitably undisturbed areas of woodland and scrub. Veteran trees must be appropriately safeguarded and managed. Their locations are shown below.



Nea Meadows - veteran trees

Legend

Nea Meadows LNR
Veteran trees
V1 – Pedunculate oak
V2 – Pedunculate oak
V3 – Pedunculate oak
V4 – Pedunculate oak
V5 – Silver birch

Site Centroid - SZ 20237 93812
Site Area - 5.42ha

CGO ecology

Draw Date: 27/05/2026

Scale: 1:1400 (@A3)

Woodland

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

The below detailed management prescriptions are lettered corresponding to the relevant woodland condition assessment criteria. Relevant parcels are coloured according to target category (green =good, yellow = moderate). Bold indicates parcels ascending two categories (low to good); normal font indicates parcels ascending one category (poor to moderate, moderate to good).

Action	Relevant Parcels	Timing	Prescriptions
C – Control or eradicate INNS plants	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	Oct-Feb in year 1; repeated as necessary in years 2-5	Parcels 4 & 7 currently moderate, with no Sch9 plants, so good achievable by reducing other INNS plants to <10% cover. Some trees overhang from neighbouring residential properties, therefore only trees/shrubs/ground flora within HWPC ownership will be targeted. Any non-native shrubs will be removed, & planting of native shrubs/small trees will be conducted beneath overhanging trees. Parcels 1,2,3,5,6 are currently poor, due to a range of Sch9/other INNS plants >10% cover, including rhododendron, cherry laurel, snowberry, false-spiraea, Japanese/Siberian elm, Italian Lord-n-Ladies, red-osier dogwood, Spanish bluebell, Japanese honeysuckle, Himalayan honeysuckle, & other garden escapes. Each parcel must be targeted with INNS scrub/plant removal until their cover is well below 10% (suggested target 5% or below). Eradication will be considered, but may be difficult, not cost-effective, & unsustainable.
D – Plant additional native tree species	7	Feb-Apr according to growers' instructions, in years 1-5 (in locations vacated by tree felling & shrub removal)	Currently parcel 7 is moderate, but will achieve good if supplemented by at least two additional native tree/shrub species (at least four species is recommended). This ties in neatly with criterion C above. Whips of native shrubs will be planted along the length of parcel 7, where existing gaps & new gaps from INNS removal allow. Recommended species: blackthorn, dog-rose, elder, guelder-rose, hazel, holly, spindle. These will effectively create a short section of native species-rich hedgerow, whilst remaining part of parcel 7. Where space allows, standards of small native trees may also be planted: crab-apple, gean (wild cherry), rowan.
E – Reduce cover of non-native trees	1,**2**,3,4,5,**6**,7	Oct-Feb in years 1-3, ideally spread over three years to lessen visual impact	Parcel 8 is already good. Parcels 1,3,4,7 are moderate, but non-native trees & shrubs could be reduced <20% to achieve good. Parcels 2,5,6 score poor. In parcels 2 & 6, this is due to INNS shrubs which could be reduced <20% to achieve good. Reduction of INNS shrubs in parcel 5 could achieve moderate, but good would require tree removal with an unacceptable visual amenity impact for neighbours.
G – Plant native tree seedlings & saplings	4,5,**7**,8	Mar-Apr according to nursery instructions, in years 1-5 (in locations vacated by tree felling & shrub removal)	Parcel 7 has poor tree/shrub regeneration, & must be supplemented with numerous seedlings/saplings of at least four native tree/shrubs species. Parcels 4,5,8 have moderate regeneration, & must be supplemented with at least two native woody species per parcel, although at least four per parcel is recommended. Locations must be relatively unshaded, such as woodland fringes, or glades created by felling for criteria E & H. Locations must be selected in coordination with works for criterion D. Areas of dense nettle & bramble should also be cleared, & nutrient-rich litter/topsoil scraped off, to help reverse dominance of those species. Seedlings/saplings of the following species will be planted, with species alternated/mixed to suit locations. A mix of standards & whips is recommended, one to five per square metre according to specimen size. Trees: ash, beech, cherry-plum, crab-apple, English elm, gean (wild cherry), field maple, goat willow, hazel, holly, hornbeam, rowan. Shrubs: blackthorn, box, butcher's broom, dog-rose, elder, field rose, gorse, guelder-rose, spindle, wayfaring tree, wild privet. As many woody species as possible should be added to each parcel.
H – Remove dead & dying ash trees	**1**,2	Oct-Feb in years 1-5, spread over five years to lessen visual impact & respond to ongoing tree decline	Parcel 1 is ash-dominated, with most or all suffering from ash dieback (>25% of canopy cover). Selective removal of dead/dying ash is necessary, & will enable parcel 1 to achieve moderate or good, depending on the degree of felling. Visual amenity impacts must be considered alongside the inevitability of all or nearly all ash trees predicted to be dead within the next five years anyway. Parcel 2 has11-25% cover of diseased ash, & could attain good with selective removal of dead/dying ash. This would create glades facilitating sapling planting to satisfy criterion G. Standards/saplings should also be planted to diversify parcel 2's woody species for biodiversity purposes & disease resilience.
I – Translocate or seed with desirable ground flora	1,3,4,5,6,7,8	May-Jun – parcel 2 seed to parcel 3 Oct-Feb – parcel 2 soil/plants to parcel 3 Feb-Apr – externally sourced seed to parcels 1 & 4-8	Parcel 2 (good) has ancient woodland indicators (ramsons, wood anemone) & other desirable native ground flora (bluebell, ferns) which could assist uplifting parcel 3 to good, alongside reduction of undesirable species. Seed collection from native bluebell (carefully identified), ramsons, & wood anemone is recommended from parcel 2, to be broadcast by hand on parcel 3. Translocation of plants & soil, from parts of parcel 2 which could withstand it, to suitable locations in parcel 3, is also recommended. Donor locations should contain desirable grasses, herbs & ferns. Liverwort/moss translocation is not recommended, as parcel 3 is elevated & drier.

			Parcels 1 & 4-8 are poor, & attaining moderate or good would involve off-site seed mixes, which could be regarded as too artificial, especially if seeking to add Ancient Woodland indicators (which must be carefully recorded as deliberately introduced to the site). Any seeding could target gaps left by INNS scrub removal & removal/scraping of any dense nettle & bramble areas.
L – Create deadwood features	**4**,**5**,6,**7**,8	Oct-Feb in years 1-5, sourced from felling for criteria E & H	Parcels 4-8 do not have sufficient deadwood. Parcels 4,5,7 are currently poor; parcels 6 & 8 are moderate. Management must involve deadwood creation or introduction to parcels 4-8. Tree-felling for criteria E & H will generate adequate material to leave as fallen deadwood, or to stack as piles of brash or logs. Deadwood feature frequency will be dictated by felling to some degree, but features should be created (if not already present) at least every 20m horizontal direction. Deadwood should be shifted between parcels if needed to meet the target of good for all parcels. Standing deadwood can also be where public safety will not be compromised if a limb or tree falls in the future. Standing deadwood is often created by ring-barking & reducing trees to monoliths, but this is not necessary where dead/dying ash can be used. A good example is the prominent 'skeleton' of a previously reduced dead cedar-of-Lebanon on the border of parcels 2b/3a. It stands above almost all other canopy trees on site. Also, a large pedunculate oak in parcel 2b remains where it fell across the Chewton Common Stream into parcel 2a in 2025.

Other Supporting Information

Supporting Information (WO-B02)
n/a

What Does Success Look Like? (WO-F01) [Temporary photographs]



Ancient woodland ground flora [photo from The Wildlife Trusts].



Ancient woodland with carpet of flowering wild garlic/ramsons [photo from The Woodland Trust].

Watercourses



Nea Meadows - watercourse management units

Legend

- Nea Meadows LNR
- Watercourse management units
- Watercourse management units (overflow channel)

1 – Chewton Common Stream
2a – Bure Brook
2b – Bure Brook overflow to Lake
2c – Lake outlet

Site Centroid - SZ 20237 93812
Site Area - 5.42ha

CGO ecology

Draw Date: 28/05/2026

Scale: 1:1400 (@A3)

N

Creation, Enhancement and Management Summary

[Watercourse assessment is not within the current scope, therefore the following sections have not been completed. CGO has the required RCA/MoRPh) training/accreditation, and could conduct a watercourse assessment if required.]

Provide details of the approach to delivering each of the targeted Watercourse characteristics and/or RCA indices.

Summary of Watercourse Enhancement Proposals (WC-B01)
Please provide a summary overview of management interventions that will be implemented onsite to enhance the watercourse(s) present.
Will the length of the watercourse be altered as part of the enhancement? (WC-B02) Yes: ☐ No:☐
If yes, provide a description of the proposed interventions to the watercourse length that have been included to enhance the River Unit score.
Will enhancements target improvements to watercourse encroachment? (WC-B03) Yes: ☐ No:☐
If yes, provide a description of the proposed interventions to improve the watercourse encroachment score that have been included to enhance the River Unit score.
Will enhancements target improvements to riparian encroachment? (WC-B04) Yes: ☐ No:☐
If yes, provide a description of the proposed interventions to improve the riparian encroachment score that have been included to enhance the River Unit score.
Will enhancements target improving distinctiveness of the watercourse (WC-B05) Yes: ☐ No:☐
If yes, provide a description of the proposed interventions to enhance the distinctiveness of the watercourse.
Will enhancements target improving condition of the watercourse (WC-B06) Yes: ☐ No:☐
If yes, provide a description of the proposed interventions to enhance the condition of the watercourse and complete table WC-T01.

Watercourse Condition Enhancements (WC-T01)	
Watercourse ID:	
Watercourse Baseline Condition:	
Is the Watercourse Baseline Overdeep?	Yes: ☐ No:☐
Watercourse Proposed Condition:	

Will the Proposed Watercourse be Overdeep?	Yes: ☐ No:☐		
Condition Assessment Criteria		**RCA Index Values**	
RCA Index ID*	**RCA Index Name**	**Baseline Score**	**Proposed Score**
Bank Top			
B1 (+)	Bank top vegetation structure		
B2 (+)	Bank top tree feature richness		
B3 (+)	Bank top water-related features		
B4 (-)	Bank top NNIPS cover		
B5 (-)	Bank top managed ground cover		
Bank face			
C1 (+)	Bank face riparian vegetation structure		
C2 (+)	Bank face tree feature richness		
C3 (+)	Bank face natural bank profile extent		
C4 (+)	Bank face natural bank profile richness		
C5 (+)	Bank face natural bank material		
C6 (-)	Bank face bare sediment extent		
C7 (-)	Bank face artificial bank profile extent		
C8 (-)	Bank face reinforcement extent		
C9 (-)	Bank face reinforcement material		
C10 (-)	Bank face NNIPS cover		
Channel Margin			
D1 (+)	Channel margin aquatic vegetation		
D2 (+)	Channel margin aquatic morphotype		
D3 (+)	Channel margin physical feature extent		
D4 (+)	Channel margin physical feature		
D5 (-)	Channel Margin artificial features		
Channel Bed			
E1 (+)	Channel aquatic Morphotype richness		
E2 (+)	Channel bed tree features richness		
E3 (+)	Channel bed hydraulic features richness		
E4 (+)	Channel bed nature features richness		
E5 (+)	Channel bed natural features richness		
E6 (-)	Channel bed material richness		
E7 (-)	Channel bed siltation		
E8 (-)	Channel bed reinforcement extent		
E9 (-)	Channel bed reinforcement severity		
E10 (-)	Channel bed artificial features severity		
E11 (-)	Channel bed NNIPS extent		
E12 (-)	Channel bed filamentous algae extent		

*where (+) are positive scoring indices and (-) are negative scoring

Watercourses

Enhancement and Management Summary (WC-T02)

Provide details of the approach to delivering each of the targeted enhancements. Provide the relevant RCA indices and/or other enhancement opportunities targeted (i.e. riparian encroachment) along with an overview of the enhancement and/or management approach that will be implemented to achieve the targeted enhancements. Please do not present detailed prescriptions in this table as these should be provided in WC-T03. Rather, provide a descriptive overview of the approach.

Watercourse ID:			
Management Prescriptions – Please provide below an overview of the enhancement and management approaches to achieve the above score			
Enhancement Method/RCA Indices Targeted	**Creation Approach**	**Enhancement Approach**	**Management Approach**
n/a within current scope			

Enhancement and Management Detailed Methods (WC-T03)

Provide detailed prescriptions for the enhancement and management targets for the watercourse.

Watercourse ID:		
Action	**Timing**	**Prescriptions**

Wetland

Creation, Enhancement and Management Summary (WE-T01)

Condition assessment of the four wetland parcels (one f2d Aquatic marginal vegetation, three f2f Other wetlands) is presented below, using SBM 'Sheet 23 – Wetland'.

Condition Sheet: WETLAND Habitat Type						
On-site or off-site, site name and location	Nea Meadows, Highcliffe – no BNG or habitat banking currently.	**Survey date and Surveyor name**			cgo May 2026	
		Survey reference			Updated MP/HMMP	
Limitations	n/a	**Habitat parcel references**				
		f2d-1	f2f-1	f2f-2	f2f-3	
		Criterion passed (Yes or No)				**Notes (such as justification)**
Core Criteria - must be assessed for **all wetland habitat types**:						
A	The water table is at, or near the surface throughout the year - this could be open water or saturation of soil at the surface. There is no artificial drainage, unless specifically to maintain water levels as specified above. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.	No	Yes	Yes	No	Cannot be controlled at any parcel.
B	The parcel represents a good example of its specific habitat type - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description, with vascular and non-vascular characteristic indicator species consistently present.[1]	No	No	No	No	None of them perfectly fit a UKHab category. Parcel f2f-3 does not border a waterbody, but no other category fits its flora & seasonally wet ground.
C	The water supplies (groundwater, surface water and or rainwater) to the wetland are of good water quality, with clear water (low turbidity) indicating no obvious signs of pollution.	No	No	No	Yes	Lake is turbid, anaerobic, polluted.
D	Cover of scrub and scattered trees are less than 10%.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
E	Cover of bare ground is less than 5%.	Yes	No	No	Yes	Lake parcels have bare mud.
F	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species[2] (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA[3]) and species indicative of suboptimal condition[4] make up less than 5% of ground cover.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
	Essential criterion achieved (required for Good condition) Yes or No:	No	Yes	Yes	No	
	Number of criteria passed	3	3	3	4	
Condition Assessment Result	**Condition Assessment Score**	**Score Achieved ×/✓**				
Results for habitats requiring assessment of 6 criteria (Depression on peat substrates (H7150) and Oceanic valley mire [1] (D2.1)):						
Passes 5-6 core criteria, incl A.	Good (3)					
Passes 3-4 core criteria; or passes 5 but fails A.	Moderate (2)	Mod	Mod	Mod	Mod	
Passes 2 or fewer core criteria.	Poor (1)					

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

All four parcels are in moderate condition, but could realistically achieve good condition with management interventions. This would need one additional pass for f2f-3, and two additional passes f2d-1, f2f-1, f2f-2.

Parcels f2d-1 and f2f-3: Conduct an annual late-summer cut-and-collect, to control/reduce hemlock water-dropwort, open up the vegetation cover, reduce enrichment, and enable natural growth of other species. Supplementary over-seeding with a location-appropriate wetland mix may be used. Scrape localised areas to bare ground on an annual rotation.

Parcels f2f-1 and f2f-2: Reduce riparian tree cover by 50%, to remove shading, reduce leaf-fall, reverse anaerobic conditions, and improve Lake water quality. Desilt the Lake. Reprofile both parcels when Lake is desilted, and seed with appropriate wetland/pond-edge mix (such as Emorsgate EP1), potentially including seed harvested from the site.

Footnotes
Footnote 1 – Professional judgement should be used alongside the UKHab description. **Footnote 2** – 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 3** – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). **Footnote 4** – Species indicative of suboptimal condition for this habitat type include: creeping thistle *Cirsium arvense*, spear thistle *Cirsium vulgare*, common nettle *Urtica dioica*, docks *Rumex* spp., and common ragwort *Jacobaea vulgaris*. There may be additional relevant species local to the region and or site. **Footnote 5** – According to the relative abundance DAFOR scale – Dominant, Abundant, Frequent, Occasional or Rare. **Footnote 6** – Ericaceous dwarf shrubs include: crowberry *Empetrum nigrum*, cowberry *Vaccinium vitis-idaea*, bilberry *Vaccinium myrtillus*, cranberry *Vaccinium oxycoccos*, heather *Calluna vulgaris*, cross-leaved heath *Erica tetralix*, and bell heather *Erica cinerea*. There may be additional relevant species local to the region and or site. **Footnote 7** – For fens, specify what fen type is present using base-status and trophic status - alkaline, neutral, or acidic; eutrophic, mesotrophic or oligotrophic.

Target Habitat:			**f2d Aquatic marginal vegetation** **f2f Other wetlands**			
Condition Assessment Criteria		**Targeted**	**Relevant Parcels**	**Creation Approach**	**Enhancement Approach**	**Management Approach**
A	The water table is at, or near the surface throughout the year – this could be open water or saturation of soil at the surface. There is no artificial drainage, unless specifically to maintain water levels as specified above. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.	No	n/a	n/a	n/a	Watertable cannot realistically be altered at any parcel.
B	The parcel represents a good example of its specific habitat type – the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description, with vascular and non-vascular characteristic indicator species consistently present.	Yes	f2d-1 f2f-1 f2f-2 f2f-3	n/a	None of the parcels are an exact fit for their UKHab or BNG category currently. Management will seek to enhance them, to diversify their flora, and help to develop the appropriate recognisable wetland type, as well as benefit biodiversity. Parcels f2d-1 and f2f-3: Conduct an annual late-summer cut-and-collect, to control/reduce hemlock water-dropwort, open up the vegetation cover, reduce enrichment, and enable natural growth of other species. Supplementary over-seeding with a location-appropriate wetland/riparian mix (such as Emorsgate EP1) may be used. Scrape localised areas to bare ground on an annual rotation. Parcels f2f-1 and f2f-2: Reduce riparian tree cover by 50%, to remove shading, reduce leaf-fall, reverse anaerobic conditions, and improve Lake water quality. Desilt the Lake. Reprofile both parcels when Lake is desilted, and seed with appropriate wetland/pond-edge mix (such as Emorsgate EP1), potentially including seed harvested from the site.	
C	The water supplies (groundwater, surface water and or rainwater) to the wetland are of good water quality, with clear water (low turbidity) indicating no obvious signs of pollution.	Yes	f2d-1 f2f-1 f2f-2	n/a	Reduce riparian tree cover around Lake shore by 50%, to remove shading, reduce leaf-fall, reverse anaerobic conditions, and improve Lake water quality. Desilt the Lake. This is an essential criterion for these three parcels to pass.	

D	Cover of scrub and scattered trees are less than 10%.	No	n/a	n/a	n/a	Control scrub if exceeds 10% cover.
E	Cover of bare ground is less than 5%.	Yes	f2f-1 f2f-2		Reprofile these mud banks when Lake is desilted, and seed with appropriate wetland/pond-edge mix (such as Emorsgate EP1), potentially including seed harvested from the site. This is not an essential criterion for any parcel to pass, but beneficial nonetheless.	
F	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	n/a	n/a	n/a	Vigilance for new INNS infestations, with rapid control/eradication measures.

Additional Management Prescriptions (WE-B01)

The extents, locations, and types of wetland around the Lake are likely to be change when the Lake is desilted. Management strategy will evolve to reflect this in due course. Desilting and reprofiling of the Lake shoreline offers significant opportunity for future wetland creation and enhancement.

Wetland

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

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

Action	Relevant Parcels	Timing	Prescriptions
B – Seek better fit for the respective habitat type	f2d-1 f2f-1 f2f-2 f2f-3	Ongoing, years 1-5 – Review wetland management strategy when Lake is desilted Annually, mid-Aug to mid-Sep – Cut-and-collect in f2d-2 & f2f-3 Oct-Feb, years 1-5 - Lakeside tree removal, shoreline reprofiling Feb-Apr – Wetland seeding	None of the parcels are an exact fit for their UKHab or BNG category currently. Management will seek to enhance them, to diversify their flora, and help to develop the appropriate recognisable wetland type, as well as benefit biodiversity. Parcels f2d-1 and f2f-3: Conduct an annual late-summer cut-and-collect, to control/reduce hemlock water-dropwort, open up the vegetation cover, reduce enrichment, and enable natural growth of other species. Supplementary over-seeding with a location-appropriate wetland/riparian mix (such as Emorsgate EP1) may be used. Scrape localised areas to bare ground on an annual rotation. Parcels f2f-1 and f2f-2: Reduce riparian tree cover by 50%, to remove shading, reduce leaf-fall, reverse anaerobic conditions, and improve Lake water quality. Desilt the Lake. Reprofile both parcels when Lake is desilted, and seed with appropriate wetland/pond-edge mix (such as Emorsgate EP1), potentially including seed harvested from the site.
C – Improve water quality	f2d-1 f2f-1 f2f-2	Oct-Feb, years 1-5 - Lakeside tree removal (10% per year, until tree shading reduced by 50%)	Reduce riparian tree cover around Lake shore by 50%, at a rate of 10% per year for the first five years. This is to remove shading from the Lake, reduce leaf-fall, reverse anaerobic conditions, and improve Lake water quality. Desilt the Lake. Reprofile shorelines as appropriate, and synergise with wetland seeding. This is an essential criterion for these three parcels to pass.

E – Reduce bare ground cover	f2f-1 f2f-2	Tbc, when Lake is desilted	Reprofile these mud banks when Lake is desilted, and seed with appropriate wetland/pond-edge mix (such as Emorsgate EP1), potentially including seed harvested from the site. This is not an essential criterion for any parcel to pass, but beneficial nonetheless.

Wetland Species Lists (WE-T03)

Detailed species list for wetland to be created [Tbc when timing, extent, and specification of Lake desilting are agreed. It is likely that replacement swamp/wetland will be needed to offset unavoidable temporary loss of f2f Other wetlands parcels 1 and 2 in the north end of the Lake, due to desilting operations.]

Common Name	Scientific Name	Abundance / %	Comments
Tbc			

Other Supporting Information

Supporting Information (WE-B02)
n/a

What Does Success Look Like? (WE-F01) [Photos to be sourced/added].

Scrub

Creation, Enhancement and Management Summary (SC-T01)

Condition assessment was conducted for an aggregation of all scrub blocks in January 2026, using SBM 'Sheet 19 – Scrub' as detailed below.

Condition Sheet: SCRUB Habitat Type			
On-site or off-site, site name and location	Nea Meadows (no current BNG commitment)	**Surveyor, date**	cgo 14/01/2026
Limitations (if applicable)	All areas of scrub were aggregated for this assessment, but it is not considered a significant limitation.	**Survey reference**	Updated MP/HMMP
Grid reference	n/a	**Habitat parcel reference**	n/a

Condition Assessment Criteria		**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 *Corylus avellana*, common juniper *Juniperus communis*, sea buckthorn *Hippophae rhamnoides* (only in its restricted native range), or box *Buxus sempervirens*, which can be up to 100% cover).	No	Most patches are bramble-dominated, with some cover of other natives and non-natives. None are diverse with native shrubs. Some are dominated by INNS shrubs.
B	Seedlings, saplings, young shrubs and mature (or ancient or veteran[3]) shrubs are all present.	No	Not relevant for rambling species.
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.	Yes	No Sch.9 plants, but other INNS garden escapes such as Japanese honeysuckle are present.
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	Not really relevant, as patches are small and/or narrow. Edges are generally sinuous though.
E	There are clearings, glades or rides present within the scrub, providing sheltered edges.	Yes	Not really relevant, as patches are small and/or narrow. Edges are generally sinuous though.

		Number of criteria passed
Condition Assessment Result (out of 5 criteria)	**Condition Assessment Score**	**Score Achieved ×/✓**
Passes 5 criteria	Good (3)	
Passes 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)	Moderate
Passes 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)	

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Enhancement from moderate to good may be achievable, but is not a high priority compared to other goals for woodland, water/wetland, and meadow habitats across the site. Control non-natives in line with INNS control/eradication agenda. Prevent further scrub encroachment into meadow fringes. Reduce scrub area, and scallop residual scrub edges to create sinuous ecotonal habitat.

Footnotes

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

Footnote 2 – Native woody species as defined and listed in the Hedgerow Survey Handbook: DEFRA (2007) *Hedgerow Survey Handbook: A standard procedure for local surveys in the UK.* 2nd ed. [online]. Defra, London. PB1195. Available from: Hedgerow Survey Handbook (publishing.service.gov.uk).

Footnote 3 – See gov.uk standing advice on ancient and veteran species. Available from:

Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England (publishing.service.gov.uk) and

Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisions - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

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, using professional judgement.

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

Footnote 6 – Species indicative of suboptimal condition for this habitat type may include: non-native conifers, tree-of-heaven *Alianthus altissima*, holm oak *Quercus ilex*, European turkey oak *Quercus cerris*, cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus*, snowberry *Symphoricarpos* spp., shallon *Gaultheria shallon*, American skunk cabbage *Lysichiton americanus*, buddleia *Buddleja* spp., cotoneaster *Cotoneaster* spp., Spanish bluebell *Hyacinthoides hispanica* and hybrid bluebells *Hyacinthoides x massartiana*. There may be additional relevant species local to the region and or site.

Scrub is present along the fringes of some meadow and woodland areas at Nea Meadows, providing an ecotone between meadow and woodland, but also a threat as it encroaches meadow and woodland ground flora. Scrub parcels could be condition-assessed individually, but as enhancement is not cost-beneficial in most cases, this has not been conducted for this HMMP. Scrub at Nea Meadows is expanding and encroaching other habitats; therefore, control and reduction are the primary aims, rather than enhancement of retained scrub. Some areas of scrub could be removed and scraped to create temporary shallow scrapes. Scrub which is infested with INNS shrubs should also be targeted for INNS control in any case, and may bring condition enhancements too.

Target Habitat:			**h3d Bramble scrub** **h3h Mixed scrub**			
Condition Assessment Criteria		**Targeted**	**Relevant Parcels**	**Creation approach**	**Enhancement Approach**	**Management Approach**
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 *Corylus avellana,* common juniper *Juniperus communis,* sea buckthorn *Hippophae*	No	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

	rhamnoides or box *Buxus sempervirens,* which can be up to 100% cover).					
B	Seedlings, saplings, young shrubs and mature (or ancient or veteran) shrubs are all present.	No	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
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.	No	n/a	n/a	n/a	Vigilance for new Sch9 INNS infestations. Seek to control & reduce other INNS shrubs in scrub parcels, especially where beneficial/synergistic with interventions for adjacent meadow or woodland parcels.
D	The scrub has a well-developed edge with scattered scrub and tall grassland and or forbs present between the scrub and adjacent habitat.	No	n/a	n/a	n/a	Remove scrub and topsoil, in patches on rotation, as a means of controlling encroachment into other habitats.
E	There are clearings, glades or rides present within the scrub, providing sheltered edges.	No	n/a	n/a	n/a	Remove scrub and topsoil, in patches on rotation, as a means of controlling encroachment into other habitats.

Additional Management Prescriptions (SC-B01)

Scrub removal could also be used to create localised bare-ground scrapes.

Scrub

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

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

Action	Relevant parcels	Timing	Prescriptions
C -	all	Ongoing Oct-Feb annually	Vigilance for new Sch9 INNS infestations. Control/eradicate Sch9 INNS promptly. Control other INNS shrubs, especially where beneficial/synergistic with interventions on adjacent meadow or woodland parcels.
D -	all	Oct-Feb annually	Remove scrub and topsoil, in patches on rotation, as a means of controlling encroachment into other habitats. Recommended to be conducted over 10% by area of each scrub parcel per year.
E -	all	Oct-Feb annually	Remove scrub and topsoil, in patches on rotation, as a means of controlling encroachment into other habitats. Recommended to be conducted over 10% by area of each scrub parcel per year.

Other Supporting Information

Supporting Information (SC-B02)
n/a

What Does Success Look Like? (SC-F01) [Photos n/a]

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

Provide a site-wide risk register associated with creating, enhancing and/or managing each habitat type. Consider your approach to delivering the BNG targets in case the management prescriptions do not deliver as expected.

This is a pre-emptive list. The list of potential risks should be as comprehensive as possible to provide confidence in the delivery of the management plan objectives. Complete each habitat's management targets and prescriptions first, then consider the likelihood of the risk occurring and what impacts it may have if it was to occur. Consider how these may feed back into monitoring requirements.

Risk Identification Date	Habitat Type	Risk Factor	Trigger for Action	Remedial Measure
Annual monitoring	All	Habitat does not meet UKHab type or BNG target condition.	Type/condition falls below requirement.	Review management. Increase enhancement efforts, and/or target additional criteria.
Annual monitoring	All	Enhancement progress behind schedule.	Individual criterion targets failed.	Communicate with those responsible. Remedy. Proportionally increase efforts in the following year.
Ongoing vigilance	All	Sch9 INNS infestation which could hamper enhancement, and damage integrity of habitats.	New INNS infestation identified.	Prompt implementation of control and eradication measures, as appropriate.
Others to be added				

3. Monitoring Schedule

To deliver BNG, a robust strategy is critical to monitor successes and challenges. Routine monitoring informs progress and facilitates the required management plan updates at set intervals.

Monitoring Strategy

Provide details of the monitoring strategy to encourage successful implementation of the management plan (MS-B01)
Annual monitoring for the first five years (enhancement period), then every five years for the next 30 years (maintenance period). Monitoring feedback will reinforce or modify existing strategy, as necessary to maintain the target habitat types, extents, and conditions. Management vision may evolve over time, and this Plan must allow for modifications to prescriptions. Presence-absence of INNS will be monitored along with UKHab categories, and species lists. Health and vigour of newly planted saplings will be monitored each year for the first five years. Thereafter, monitoring will be every five years from Y10 to Y30, with adaptive management to maintain good condition, or restore it quickly if condition has declined.

Monitoring Methods and Intervals MS-T01

Details of the methods that will be used to adequately monitor progress towards the targets stated in this HMMP for respective habitat types and parcels. The site is not currently under any BNG constraints or habitat banking scheme, but this may be revisited in the future.

Monitoring methods and frequency need to be considered according to habitat type. The text below is only for illustrative purposes. Plan according to your own project and habitat requirements.

Habitat Type	Monitoring Methods	Monitoring Interval and Timing
Meadow grassland	Conduct walkovers (Apr/May, Jun/Jul) of main Meadow and smaller parcels to check UKHab type, record floral species richness at representative quadrats, and assess condition using SBM sheet. Check progress against targeted criteria (especially relating to species richness, sward height variation, bare ground, scrub encroachment). Check seeded areas for establishment. Check for INNS presence.	Annually years 1-5, then every five years (years 10-35).
Lake/Wildlife Pond	Conduct walkover (ideally spring) of waterbody shores to check UKHab type, and assess condition using SBM sheet. Check progress against targeted criteria (especially relating to water quality, shading, aquatic flora and fauna). Check for INNS presence.	Annually years 1-5, then every five years (years 10-35).
Woodland	Conduct walkover (ideally spring/summer) to check UKHab type, record species (tree, scrub, ground flora), and assess condition using SBM sheet. Check progress against targeted criteria (especially species richness, age-structure, regeneration, vertical structure, deadwood, INNS). Check planted saplings for health and vigour. Record INNS presence and extent.	Annually years 1-5, then every five years (years 10-35).
Wetland, scrub, watercourses	Walkovers to update the UKHab type, extent, condition.	Annually years 1-5, then every five years (years 10-35).
Other areas, such as ‘amenity grassland’, paths, car park, boundaries with adjacent residential properties).	Informal checks when attending site for formal habitat monitoring.	Annually years 1-5, then every five years (years 10-35).

Monitoring Reports

Following completion of habitat creation and initial enhancement works, prepare for your monitoring report for the Local Planning Authority or Responsible Body. You should monitor each habitat type comprising the BNG project. Provide sufficient detail for the reviewing authority to assess the progress. The 'Monitoring Report Template' can help you do this. The requirements and regularity with which the monitoring reports are required are at the discretion of the LPA or Responsible Body. Prepare the monitoring requirements below.

Monitoring Report Schedule MS-T02

Provide details of the person or organisation that will be responsible for submitting the monitoring reports. Also state the responsible organisation for receiving and reviewing the reports.

Organisation Responsible for Submitting the Monitoring Reports	Organisation Receiving and Responsible for Reviewing Reports
CGO Ecology Ltd	Highcliffe & Walkford Parish Council

Provide details of when the monitoring surveys and reports will be undertaken and submitted. You can extend the table and adjust according to your required schedule.

Project Year	Month Report to be Submitted	Month Management Plan to be reviewed	Comments
Y1	tbc	tbc	Assess habitat type, floral list, and condition after first season of management interventions.
Y2	tbc	tbc	Check that Y1 enhancements have been completed and executed correctly. Update baseline floral list and SBM condition assessment. Check for INNS. Identify any *ad hoc* management needs.
Y3	tbc	tbc	Update baseline floral list and SBM condition assessment. Check survival and vigour of planted saplings. Check INNS presence/extent and encroachment by undesirable native plants (eg bramble, nettle).
Y4	tbc	tbc	Update baseline floral list and SBM condition assessment. Check survival and vigour of planted saplings. Check for INNS and/or encroachment by undesirable native plants (eg nettle, tall ruderals).
Y5	tbc	tbc	Update baseline floral list and SBM condition assessment. If condition lower than target, identify management interventions needed to restore condition. Pre-emptively assess likely condition over the next five years, and identify any management interventions likely to be needed to maintain good condition.
Y10	tbc	tbc	Update baseline floral list and SBM condition assessment. If condition lower than target, identify management interventions needed to restore condition. Pre-emptively assess likely condition over next five years, and identify any management interventions needed to maintain good condition. Examples may include tree removal/reduction, ground vegetation clearance, further sapling planting.
Y15	tbc	tbc	Update baseline floral list and SBM condition assessment. If condition lower than target, identify management interventions needed to restore condition. Pre-emptively assess likely condition over next five years, and identify any management interventions needed to maintain good condition. Examples may include tree removal/reduction, ground vegetation clearance, further sapling planting.
Y20	tbc	tbc	Update baseline floral list and SBM condition assessment. If condition lower than target, identify management interventions needed to restore condition. Pre-emptively assess likely condition over next five years, and identify any management interventions needed to maintain good condition. Examples may include tree removal/reduction, ground vegetation clearance, further sapling planting.
Y25	tbc	tbc	Update baseline floral list and SBM condition assessment. If condition lower than target, identify management interventions needed to restore condition. Pre-emptively assess likely condition over next five years, and identify any management interventions needed to maintain good condition. Examples may include tree removal/reduction, ground vegetation clearance, further sapling planting.
Y30	tbc	tbc	Update baseline floral list and SBM condition assessment. If condition lower than target, identify management interventions needed to restore

			condition. Pre-emptively assess likely condition over next five years, and identify any management interventions needed to maintain good condition. Examples may include tree removal/reduction, ground vegetation clearance, further sapling planting.
Y35	tbc	tbc	Update baseline floral list and SBM condition assessment. If condition lower than target, identify management interventions needed to restore condition. Pre-emptively assess likely condition over next five years, and identify any management interventions needed to maintain good condition. Examples may include tree removal/reduction, ground vegetation clearance, further sapling planting.

Adaptive Management

Summary of Adaptive Management Approaches (MS-B02)

HWPC commits to implementing this HMMP, and acting upon recommendations from monitoring and/or *ad hoc* observations. The risk register in this HMMP should be viewed as preliminary, as further risks may arise from novel influences, for example due to climate change, changes in public use, and changes in hydrology.

Most of the risk currently identified relates to INNS infestations, scrub encroachment, planting/seeding success, aquatic pollution, and public activities. If grassland, woodland, or other habitats are excessively encroached by native or non-native plants, remedial management action will be required. If any young planted trees die or become diseased, they must be replaced. Any incidents of antisocial behaviour must be dealt with appropriately to safeguard habitats.

If any new INNS infestations are discovered, the appropriate management must be employed swiftly to eradicate them. Existing INNS that are established and difficult or impossible to eradicate will be subjected to control instead, typically tied-in to a condition target for the host habitat.

Ash dieback is endemic and severe across the UK. If any tree(s) succumb to other infection, the type of disease, pathogen, and/or likely vector must be identified. The Forestry Commission or Animal and Plant Health Agency must be notified of any reportable disease. This could include pathogens introduced by arboricultural work. Biosecurity precautions must be reviewed regularly, and action taken where necessary.