



FP Farmer ID:

Date:

Total Score: __/100

Plot Number:

Surveyor:

(A+B+C)

Peatland Type: Raised Bog ☐ Cutover Bog ☐

*circle the correct score. Eg: 0.8

A. Ecological Integrity.

Score: __/55

A.1

How many **positive** indicator species are present in the plot? (please tick any that apply).

Low 0-4 0	Medium 5-6 2	High 7-8 5	Very high 9+ 10	
Shrub Layer	1. Bilberry ☐	2. Bog Myrtle ☐	3. Cross-leaved Heather ☐	4. Ling Heather ☐
Sedge/ Herb Layer	5. Bog Asphodel ☐	6. Bog Bean ☐	7. Bog Cotton ☐	8. Deer Grass ☐
	9. Lousewort ☐	10. Sundews ☐	11. White-Beaked Sedge ☐	
Moss Layer	12. Non-crustose (bushy) ☐	13. Sphagnum Moss ☐		

A.2

What is the combined cover of Sphagnum moss throughout the plot?

Rare 0-5% 0	Frequent 6-20% 10	Abundant 20-40% 15	Dominant >40% 20
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A.3

Tick any **negative** indicators present on the plot.

Negative Indicators	Bramble ☐	Conifers or Deciduous trees (where encroaching) ☐	European Gorse ☐
	Nettle ☐	Alien invasives (e.g. Rhododendron, Pitcher Plant, Japanese Knotweed) ☐	Bracken ☐

What is the combined cover of all **negative** indicators/weeds throughout the plot?

High >25% -15	Medium 11-25% -10	Med - Low 1-10% 0	Absent or <1% 10
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A.4

Presence of **non-native** invasive species within the plot (e.g. Rhododendron, Pitcher Plant, Japanese Knotweed etc.) *Invading trees such as birch or pine not included here.

Present -10	Absent 0
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A.5

Quality of vegetation structure?

Very Poor	Poor	Moderate	Good
Vegetation height is uniformly low. Often lacking moss and shrub layers. Often resulting from overgrazing or recent peat cutting. OR Vegetation often dominated by tall, bushy Ling Heather, Bracken, purple moor-grass or invading trees. Sphagnum generally absent. Bare peat may or may not be present. Bog surface generally dry and hard. Often resulting from drainage.	On raised bog, Sphagnum mosses present, but rare to occasional. Bog surface dry and hard but with some occasional wetter patches (often with algae). Bog surface generally flat but often sloped (hummock and hollow complexes absent)	Sphagnum occurs frequently and surface of bog can be hard or soft but not quaking. Bare peat occurs occasionally.	Vegetation generally open, Sphagnum mosses dominant in the ground layer. Bog surface very soft and wet. Often quaking. Well developed hummock, hollow and pool complexes usually present on high bog. Well structured vegetation with all 3 layers (moss, sedge/ herb and shrub) well represented. Bare peat absent or very rare.
-15	-10	10	15

B. Hydrological Integrity.

Score: __ / 30

B.1

Presence of typical wet raised bog communities (Sphagnum-dominated). May include wet features such as bog pools or flushes.

Absent	Rare	Common
0	5	15

B.2

Surface hydrology and artificial drainage features (including boundary drains).

Significantly altered bog hydrology	Moderately altered bog hydrology	Slightly altered bog hydrology	Moderately intact bog hydrology	Intact bog hydrology
Frequent widespread free flowing drains on plot with notable effect on surrounding vegetation of bog (>20% of plot affected).	Free flowing drains on plot with notable effect on surrounding vegetation of bog.	Drains present on plot although are somewhat impeded and little effect on surrounding bog.	Bog surface largely intact, although some evidence of historic disturbance (cutting, drainage, erosion channels) across any part of plot. Vegetation and hydrology largely recovered / stabilised.	Intact bog surface, no evidence of past drainage or disturbance
-30	-15	0	10	15



C. Threats to Site Integrity.

Score: __/15

C.1

Is there evidence of damage due to burning?

High

Evidence of recent extensive burning causing significant damage to moss layer (eroding/dead hummocks) (>10% of plot affected)

-15

Medium

Evidence of some recent burning, but no damage to moss layer (up to 10% of plot affected)

-5

None

No evidence of recent burning.

5

C.2

What is the extent of bare soil and erosion?

** exclude temporary bare peat resulting from recent restoration – this should be categorized as Low*

High

Areas of bare and eroding soil found at intervals along regularly used routes and / or evidence of sheet / rill erosion or gullyng. Significant rutting caused by vehicles/machinery. Excessive poaching. >10% bare and eroding soil in plot

-20

Medium

Areas of bare and eroding soil found at intervals along regularly used routes and / or evidence of sheet / rill erosion or gullyng. Significant rutting caused by vehicles/machinery. Excessive poaching. >1-10% bare and eroding soil in plot.

-10

Low

Bare soil present but only very occasionally e.g. along regularly used routes. Little or no signs of erosion. May also be a few isolated bare patches and some damage from vehicles or animals. Very restricted in distribution and not excessive i.e. <1% of the plot. No areas larger than 0.1ha with more than 10% bare peat.

0

None

Little or no bare soil seen over the assessment area other than isolated hoof prints. Some bare soil at 'pinch' points along regularly used routes (e.g. gateways, gaps in walls) is acceptable as long as no signs of erosion are visible

10

C.3

Is there damage due to supplementary feeding?

High

Damage at multiple feeding sites OR presence of feeding sites at vulnerable location (i.e. near watercourses) Or >5% of area damaged, Or damage extending >30m from a feeding site.

-15

Medium

Damage from single supplementary feeding site, accounting for <5% of plot and extending <30m from feeding site.

-5

None

No damage evident.

0



C.4

Turbary

Very High	High	Medium	None
Peat cutting activities within the current season	Most recent cutting activities occurred last year affecting >10% of plot.	Most recent cutting activities occurred last year affecting <10% of plot.	No peat cutting activity for >2 years.
-30	-15	-5	0

C.5

Is there any evidence of other damaging activities to vegetation or soil?

If **yes**, list in the space provided below. Examples may include: dumping (organic or inorganic), pollution or damage to soil, active quarry / sand pit, litter, slurry/farmyard manure etc.

High >50%	Medium 6-50%	Low <5%	None
-30	-20	-10	0

If **Yes** in C.5, Please list here: _____

Management Advice/ Comments: _____
