



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan

For use with
Small Sites Metric
(Statutory Biodiversity Metric)

Site Name:	Colliers Farm
Date:	07/06/2025
Version:	R01
Small Sites Criteria Met	The site fulfils the criteria for use of the Small Sites Metric (Statutory Biodiversity Metric) calculation tool. Yes ☒ No ☐ If 'No' use the Main HMMP Template for the full statutory biodiversity metric instead of this one.

Author:

Client:

Template Document User Guide

Context – The Small Sites Metric

The Small Sites Metric Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan Template (SSM HMMPT) is designed to complement The Small Sites Metric (Statutory Biodiversity Metric) (SSM) calculation tool. It follows the same criteria as the SSM.

The SSM calculation tool can only be applied to ‘small sites’ as defined in [The Small Sites Metric \(Statutory Biodiversity Metric\) User Guide](#).

This means:

- residential development where the number of dwellings is between 1 and 9 on a site of an area 1 hectare or less, or if the number of dwellings is unknown, the site area is less than 0.5 hectares, or
- commercial development where floor space created is less than 1,000 square metres or total site area is less than 1 hectare, or
- development that is not the winning and working of minerals or the use of land for mineral-working deposits, or
- development that is not waste development

It is not possible to use the SSM, and SSM HMMPT, on all sites defined as ‘small sites’. The following criteria also need to be met to use the SSM:

- where only the habitats available in the SSM are present on-site
- where no priority habitats are present on-site (except some hedgerows and arable field margins that are medium distinctiveness)
- where no statutory protected sites or habitats are present
- where no European protected species are present

Supporting documents

[SSM HMMPT Habitat Guide](#)

Tools and Guidance

[GOV.UK Statutory biodiversity metric \(small sites\) tools and guides](#)
[GOV.UK Government Collections Biodiversity Net Gain \(BNG\)-Guidance](#)

Template User Guide

This template provides a series of tables, figures and text boxes. Complete these to show how you’ll create, enhance, manage, and monitor the biodiversity net gain (BNG) habitats.

Small Sites HMMPT Habitat Guide

The accompanying [Habitat Guide](#) provides descriptions of proposed habitat types and conditions allowed in the Small Sites Metric (SSM). These are to assist authors in preparing the habitat creation, enhancement, management and monitoring activities and instructions (the ‘prescriptions’) in sections 3 (SM-T02) and 4 (SM-T04), to achieve the required BNG outcomes. The guide includes target habitat descriptions for a range of typical habitats that can be assessed through the SSM calculation tool. The descriptions illustrate what target habitats should look like in line with the range of conditions possible in the SSM.

Use the guide to help you prepare your plan to achieve the outcomes needed for the habitat(s) selected in your metric calculation. Factor the site-specific conditions of your site into the design. Refer to reputable sources and competent professionals to inform the creation and management methods most suitable to deliver the specific habitat outcomes targeted.

Formatting

The Template uses standard Microsoft Word formatting that has not been locked for editing. Adjust it, as required, to tailor your HMMP for the specific site and according to your preferences. You can increase or reduce the text box sizes, or increase or reduce the size of images, to fit the requirements of your plan.

You can provide and reference additional photographs and plans as separate appendices if required. Provide the reference number of the appropriate appendix. If necessary to include in a separate report, reference the location using the appropriate box within the template. Provide at least one photograph for each relevant area habitat, hedgerow or watercourse feature.

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.

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

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 Ltd.

Checklist of Contents SM-T01

Please complete the table below to confirm the sections in this Template that have been completed.

Checklist of Contents Completed		Sections completed (please tick)
1.	Project Background	
1a	Project Information	☒
1b	Planning Condition	☒
1c	Roles and Responsibilities	☒
1d	Site Boundary Plan	☒
1e	Land Use Summary	☒
1f	Site Photos	☒
1g	Site Proposals Plan	☒
2.	Management Plan Aims and Objectives	
2a	Site Aims and Objectives	☒
2b	Retained and Enhanced Habitats Protection Measures	☒
2c	Habitat Management Proposals	☒
3.	Establishment and Management	
3a	Creation, Enhancement and Management Targets and Prescriptions	☒
4.	Monitoring	
4a	Monitoring Strategy for Each Habitat, Hedgerow and Watercourse Present On-Site	☒

Version Control SM-T02

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 adapted throughout the management and monitoring period.

Version	Issue Status	Prepared by / Date	Approved by / Date
R01	Accepted for Use	J G	O G

Document Details

Provide ownership, copyright and licensing information within this table.

Authorship Details SM-B01
N/A

1. Project Background

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

Project information SM-T01	
Project type	Erection of an agricultural livestock building
Development Name and Address	Colliers Farm, Whalley Old Road, Billington, BB7 9LF
Author	Jane Grime
Landowner	Jane Grime
Land Management Organisation	Jane Grime (Colliers Farm)
Period covered by this management plan	30 years
Planning authority	Ribble Valley Borough Council
Planning reference	3/2025/0027
Central OS grid reference	SD 72078 35186
Total Site Area	1670m ²

Planning Condition

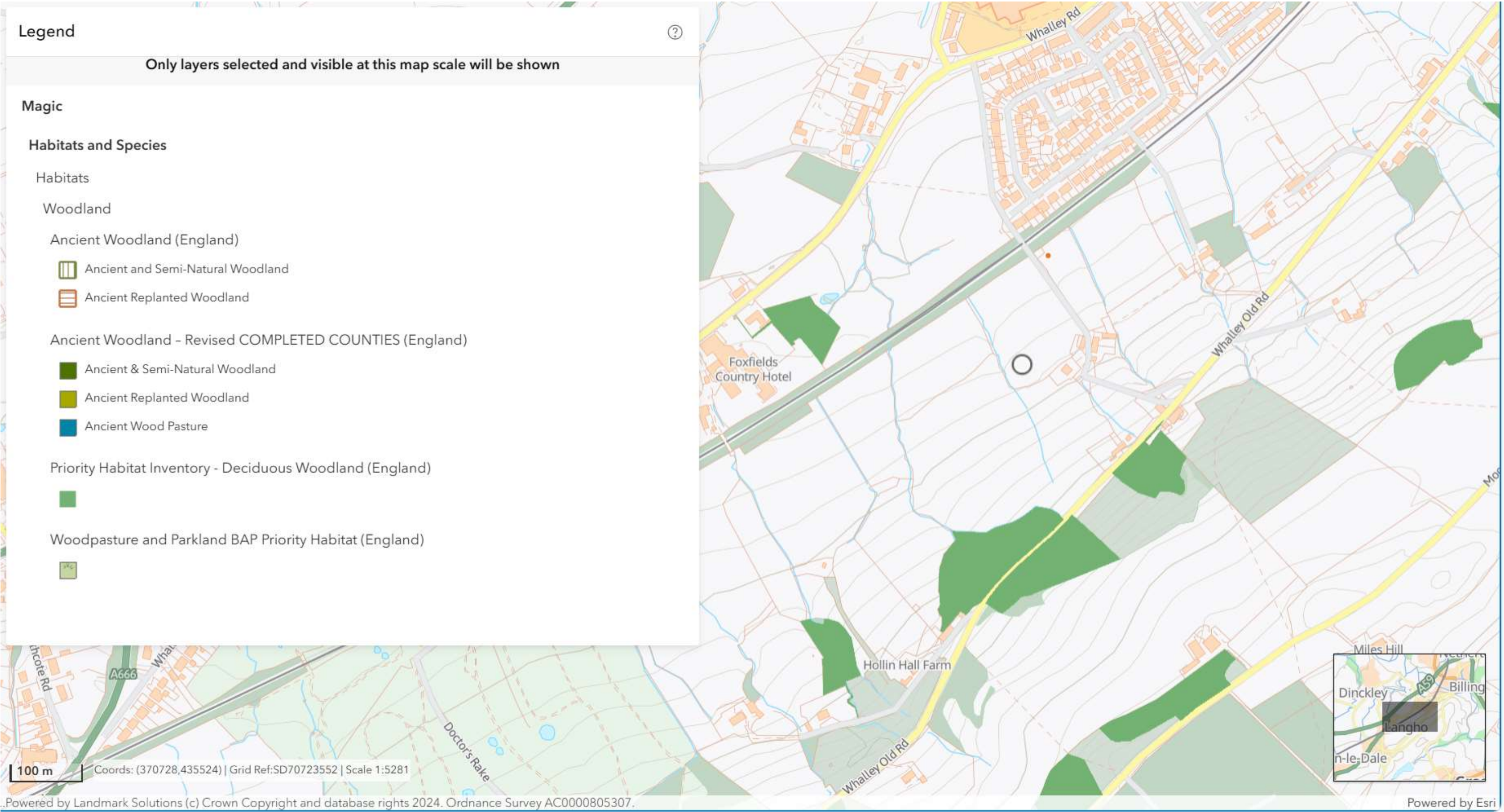
Details of Planning Conditions to be Discharged by this Document SM-B02
Condition 6

Roles and Responsibilities

Provide details of the responsible people and organisation(s) delivering this management plan and the legal and funding mechanisms in place to secure the habitat outcomes proposed.

Author Responsible for Preparing HMMP SM-B03			
Name or Initials / Role		Jane Grime	
Organisation		Colliers Farm	
Responsibility	Start Date	07/06/2025	End Date 07/06/2055
Statement of Competency			
Advice has been sought from organisations about the proposed BNG and that information has been used to compile this document.			
Landowner / Management Organisation Responsible for Delivering HMMP SM-B04			
Name or Initials / Role		Jane Grime	
Organisation		Colliers Farm	
Responsibility	Start Date	07/06/2025	End Date 07/06/2055
Statement of Competency			
Advice has been sought from organisations about the proposed BNG and implementation.			





Land Use

Description of Site Use - Baseline SM-B05

The current land consists of modified grassland which has historically and currently grazed by livestock as part of an agricultural enterprise. There are no specific management operations currently in effect on this land relevant to this application.

Description of Site Use - Proposed SM-B06

The area outlined in the Site Boundary plan for the proposed BNG will be planted with woodland classified as ‘Other woodland; broadleaved’. The area outlined for the proposed building will have a steel building erected on it and this grassland will be lost.



Site Photos SM-F03

Please include two overview photographs of the site in its current form here. Include additional photographs in the appendix if needed. You can adjust the size of these to suit your management plan. Tick if additional photographs are provided in the Appendices ☐ Reference:

Site Proposals Plan SM-F04

As a minimum, show all the proposed habitats to be retained, created or enhanced.

The map could be on an aerial photo, or a sketch map showing mapped habitat polygons. Include parcel references if possible. It is also helpful to include a north arrow and scale.



2. Management Plan Aims and Objectives

Overview of Proposed Habitat Aims and Objectives SM-B07
The enhancement of modified grassland via the planting of saplings to create a broadleaved woodland will introduce a new habitat to the farm as currently no woodland is within the farm holding. This new habitat will provide nesting and food opportunities. Existing hedgerows will link the proposed BNG woodland to a new woodland trust site therefore, creating new wildlife corridors; carbon will also be sequestered.
Retained and Enhanced Habitats Protection Measures SM-B08
Stock and rabbit fencing will be erected to protect the saplings from the livestock on the farm and rabbits. Protection from deer was not deemed necessary due to the low frequency of visiting deer; saplings lost due to deer will be restocked in the following planting season. Invasive plants such as Himalayan Balsam pose a short-term threat to the establishment of the project. This will be mitigated with monitoring and hand pulling.
Summary of Adaptive Management Approaches SM-B09
Immediate management methods will include the mulching around newly planting saplings with bark to reduce weed burden and increase moisture retention. In periods of drought during the initial years of establishment irrigation may be utilised. Hand weeding will be undertaken to boost the survival and growth rates of saplings. Longer term management methods will include protection the woodland from browsing damage by livestock and deer. This could be through the means of livestock or electric fencing.

Habitat Management Proposals

Habitat Baseline Description SM-B10
Modified grassland with a low distinctiveness in moderate condition
Retained Habitats SM-B11
No habitats will be retained only enhanced
Enhanced Habitats SM-B12
The aim of the habitat enhancement occurring in the proposed BNG is to establish broadleaf woodland on the farm as currently no woodland exists within the holding. This will enable the sequestration of carbon and also provide a new habitat on the farm.
Created Habitats SM-B13
N/A see above

3. Creation, Enhancement and Management

Creation, Enhancement and Management Targets and Prescriptions SM-T02

Complete the planned prescriptions for each area habitat, hedgerows and watercourse proposed on-site in the table below to confirm how created and enhanced habitats will be established and managed. Include details on how retained habitats will be managed. At a minimum, list each area habitat, hedgerow or watercourse entered into the Small Sites Metric (Statutory Biodiversity Metric) calculation tool in the ‘Habitat/Feature Type’ column in the table below (SM-T02) and provide specific creation or enhancement and management prescriptions. If preferred, provide multiple rows for the same habitat/feature type where different prescriptions are to be used in different parcels/features, hedgerows or watercourse. Refer to the SSM HMMPT [Habitat Guide](#) for additional guidance on target habitat types and conditions to guide your prescriptions. If appending any additional documents that contain prescriptions or work schedules, please tick here and provide a reference: ☐ Reference: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Habitat/Feature Type	Target Condition	Parcel/ Feature Ref	Habitat Creation or Enhancement and Management Prescriptions
Other woodland; broadleaved	Good	Proposed BNG	Fencing of the site with stock and rabbit fencing. This will occur before the commencement of planting.
Other woodland; broadleaved	Good	Proposed BNG	Tree species will represent what is in the local area notably Oak, Beech and Sycamore. Smaller trees will be planted including Holly, Hawthorn, Field Maple and Rowan. Scrub species will be planted to establish an undergrowth including: Dog Rose, Dogwood and Blackthorn.
Other woodland; broadleaved	Good	Proposed BNG	Planting will be undertaken with bare root saplings when they are dormant between November – March. Planting density will be a minimum of 1,100 trees per hectare
Other woodland; broadleaved	Moderate	Proposed BNG	Restocking of lost saplings occurring within the first 5 years to maintain the minimum planting density.
Weeding	Good	Proposed BNG	Regular weeding of the area to reduce competition for nutrients and water.

Risk Register and Proposed Remedial Measures SM-T03

Complete the risk register by identifying likely risks that could impede the successful delivery of target habitats, hedgerows or watercourses. List all risks that could reasonably be anticipated. This should not be an exhaustive list as it will not be possible to anticipate all potential risks.

Risk Factor	Habitat/Hedgerow/Watercourse Type	Trigger for Action	Remedial Measure
Establishment	Broadleaved woodland.	Dead saplings	Saplings to be replaced during the next bare root planting season
Drought	Broadleaved woodland	Drought as recognised by the Met Office	Irrigation of saplings if possible. Lost saplings to be restocked the following planting season
Browsing of saplings / trees	Broadleaved woodland	Visible damage to saplings	Fencing and possible culling of deer.

Invasive plants	Broadleaved woodland	Presence of invasive plants within and around the vicinity of the woodland site.	Hand pulling and herbicides if required of invasive plants.
Disease	Broadleaved woodland	Signs of distress in saplings	Contact will be made with an arboriculturist to establish the best remedial measure

4. Monitoring

Monitoring Strategy for Each Habitat, Hedgerow and Watercourse Present On-Site SM-T04

Provide details of the methods you will use to monitor the progress towards the targets stated in the management plan and as agreed with the Local Planning Authority.

Habitat/Feature Type	Monitoring Methods	Monitoring Interval and Timing
Other woodland; broadleaved	Time to closed canopy will also be recorded. These surveys will be undertaken in person on the site.	The monitoring for the presence of a closed canopy will be undertaken monthly.
Other woodland; broadleaved	Survival rate of saplings as a percentage along with associated growth rates. These surveys will be undertaken in person on site.	Monitoring will be undertaken monthly to check the establishment of saplings. A review will be undertaken in the autumn about the need for replanting if losses have occurred.

Monitoring Reporting SM-B14

Organisation Responsible for Submitting the Monitoring Reports	Colliers Farm (Jane Grime)	Organisation Receiving and Responsible for Reviewing Reports	Ribble Valley Borough Council
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- 1 – Completion of sapling planting
- 2 – Establishment of a closed canopy
- 3 – After 30 years