



**envirotech**

Ecological Consultants  
Environmental and Rural Chartered Surveyors

## Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP)

Planning Consent 3/2025/0502

Erection of a concrete ring slurry tank with synthetic canopy

Radholme Laund Farm Hall Hill Whitewell BB7 3DF



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## ACCURACY OF REPORT

This report has been compiled based on the methodology as detailed and the professional experience of the surveyor. Whilst the report reflects the situation found as accurately as possible, all of the protected species this survey covers are wild and can move freely from site to site. Their presence or absence detailed in this report does not entirely preclude the possibility of a different past, current or future use of the site surveyed.

We would ask all clients acting upon the contents of this report to show due diligence when undertaking work on their site and/or in their interaction with protected species. If protected species are found during a work programme, and continuing the work programme could result in their disturbance, injury or death, either directly or indirectly an offence may be committed. If in doubt, stop work and seek further professional advice.

## Quality and Environmental Assurance

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<b>Item</b>	<b>Details</b>
Project Name	Radholme Laund Farm
Site Location	Whitewell Estate, Cow Ark, Clitheroe, BB7 3DF
Planning Reference	3/2025/0502
Landowner	Mr Verity
Developer/Applicant	Mr Verity
Ecological Consultant	Envirotech NW Ltd
HMMP Version	1.0
Date	12/01/2026
Responsible Parties	See Section 8 (Governance & Funding)
Author	Bradley Foster
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## 1. NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

The Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) prepared by Envirotech NW Ltd outlines the ecological enhancement and long-term management of land associated with “**Erection of a concrete ring slurry tank with synthetic canopy**”. The plan spans **30 years** and aims to promote biodiversity and improve ecological value through targeted habitat creation and management.

Key proposals include:

- **New Scrub Planting:** At least 0.0848ha of mixed scrub with a target condition score of at least **Moderate** is to be established to the south-east corner of the site. Scrub is to consist of native species such as Hawthorn, Hazel, Blackthorn and Gorse. Regular inspections, coppicing and replacement will be carried out within the first five years.
- **Monitoring and Reporting:** All habitats will be monitored, with formal reports submitted to the Local Planning Authority in years 2, 5, 7, 10, 20 and 30 to ensure compliance and assess ecological success.
- **Long-Term Management:** The site owner will be responsible for habitat management, with technical support from Envirotech NW Ltd as needed.

The plan aims to enhance the site's biodiversity, ensuring that new and retained habitats contribute positively to the local environment while supporting protected species.

## 2. INTRODUCTION

The following Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) has been prepared by Envirotech and details the habitat creation proposals and the subsequent future management of areas of green infrastructure associated with “Erection of a concrete ring slurry tank with synthetic canopy” at “Radholme Laund Farm Hall Hill Whitewell BB7 3DF”.

This management plan covers thirty years management and provides information on the management of retained and newly-created habitats in order to ensure their establishment and safeguard their long-term biodiversity value.

The management plan and objectives should be reviewed after 3 years and adjusted if required but indicative management requirements are specified for a full 30 years.

The plan should be read in conjunction with the landscape plans and ecology surveys to provide additional context of the site.

### 3. BASELINE HABITAT SUMMARY

Habitat Type (UKHab)	Area (ha)	Distinctiveness	Condition	Notes
Developed land; sealed surface	0.1103	Very Low	N/A	Retained
Modified Grassland (poor)	0.2921	Low	Poor	0.0392ha retained, with the remaining area lost to development

Table 1- Baseline Habitat

### 4. FACTORS INFLUENCING MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS

#### ***Habitat Creation***

All habitat creation will comprise native species appropriate to the local area and or be of benefit to wildlife.

New scrub planting will be undertaken to the south-east corner of the site boundary.

Developed land/sealed surface habitat is created and this has no condition score or management requirement.

#### ***Existing and Retained Habitats***

Approximately 0.0392ha of modified grassland will be retained in its current “poor” condition. This habitat needs only be maintained in its existing broad habitat type to meet “poor” condition and no specific management is required.

All existing developed land; sealed surface is to be retained and requires no management requirement.

#### ***Enhanced Habitats***

There are no enhanced habitats.

## 5. OBJECTIVES AND HABITAT CREATION, ENHANCEMENT AND MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTIONS

The following section provides the prescriptions and management objectives of the proposed and retained habitats. The management plan and objectives should be reviewed after 3 years and adjusted if required. The management plan will run for 30 years.

*Some habitats have a default condition score they need therefore only be created and then retained as the required general habitat type and do not need to be subject to detailed management. This habitat is “developed land sealed surface”*

Habitat Type	Area (ha)	Target Distinctiveness	Target Condition	Time to Target (years)	Difficulty/Risk
New Scrub Planting	0.0848	Medium	Moderate	5	Low

**Table 2- Habitat Objectives**

### **New Scrub Planting**

*This planting is intended to provide habitat and species enhancement. Condition score to be at least MODERATE*

#### **Management Objective: Create and maintain functional mixed scrub**

- 1) The parcel represents a good example of its habitat type - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description
- 2) There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA5) and species indicative of suboptimal condition<sup>6</sup> make up less than 5% of ground cover.
- 3) There are clearings and glades or rides present within the scrub providing sheltered edges.

Sizes: Planted as 60-80cm high BR or 2LC at 1 per sq.m in single species groups of 3-5no. Planting will be undertaken between the months of November and March, preferably prior to January.

Annual inspection will be undertaken. Any scrub identified as diseased, dead or diseased within the first 5 years will be replaced on a like-for-like basis. During the inspection pruning will be undertaken as required to remove any dead or diseased wood and promote healthy growth and natural shape. The base of the scrub should be kept clear of vegetation through the targeted application of an approved herbicide until the canopy closes (expected 3 - 5 years)

Management will continue for 30 years.



**Figure 1- *Mixed scrub planting***

## 6. MONITORING

Role	Organisation/Individual	Responsibilities
Landowner	Mr Verity	Day-to-day habitat management
Ecological Consultant	Envirotech NW Ltd	Technical advice, ecological surveys, monitoring reports
Contractor	Mr Verity	Habitat creation, planting, and maintenance works
Local Planning Authority (LPA)	Ribble Valley Borough Council	Review and approval of monitoring reports, compliance enforcement

**Table 3 - Monitoring**

In order to ensure that the habitats created and retained within the site reach and maintain their maximum value to nature conservation, all habitats should be monitored every three years to check establishment. Results of this monitoring, together with ongoing checks during routine works should be used to inform changes to annual work prescriptions, with the management plan reviewed towards the end of the five-year rolling plan and work programme period. The prescriptions provided here are for overall guidance and should be flexible depending on success of management. Prescriptions should be altered if required.

Reports will be submitted to the Local Planning Authority (LPA) in years 2, 5, 7, 10, 20 and 30, detailing the condition and progress of all created and retained habitats. These reports will include the results of ecological monitoring, confirmation of whether habitats meet target conditions, any management adjustments made, and evidence of any remedial actions undertaken. This ensures transparency and accountability throughout the 30-year management period.

Each monitoring report to the LPA will include:

1. Summary of management works undertaken since last report.
2. Results of ecological monitoring (tables + maps).
3. Assessment of whether habitats are meeting target conditions.
4. Photographic evidence (fixed-point monitoring locations).
5. Recommendations for adaptive management.
6. Statement of compliance with HMMP.

### Monitoring Indicators by Habitat Type

Habitat Type	Indicator(s)	Methodology	Success Threshold
Mixed Scrub	Survival rate, canopy cover, presence of age classes, invasive removal	Visual inspection- including walkover and fixed-point photos	≥90% survival after 5 yrs, age class diversity

**Table 4- Habitat summary**

Habitat	Operations/ Works	Year	Anticipated Timing of Visits/ Operations (months)												Frequency, notes		
			J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D			
Scrub Planting	Ground preparation	1															Following earthworks, strim and spray planting strip with herbicide at least 3 weeks prior to planting.
	Planting	1															Plant in random pattern along the prepared strip in a random species mix.
	Vegetation clearance	1-3															Targeted application of a non-residual herbicide at the base of each tree.
	Review	1-5															Mark and remove dead/diseased plants replace in the following growing season.
	Annual Trim	1-3															Light trimming to encourage dense growth.
	Annual Cut	4 -30															One third of all the scrub on-site to be cut on a year rotation avoiding heavy frosts.
General maintenance	Litter picking	1-30															During each maintenance visit to site
Reporting	Report to LPA	2, 5, 7, 10, 20 and 30															Report to LPA on conditions of habitats

Table 5- Programme of works

## 7. REMEDIATION AND REINSTATEMENT METHODOLOGY

In the event that any habitat or ecological feature specified within the Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) fails to meet the required condition(s) at any time during the 30-year management period, the following remediation and reinstatement methodology will be implemented to ensure the habitat is restored to the target ecological value.

### A. Habitat Management Risk Register

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation / Contingency
Drought affecting tree planting	Medium	High	Irrigation during dry periods, replace failed stock
Invasive species (e.g., Himalayan balsam)	Low	Medium	Early detection & eradication programme
Vandalism or grazing damage	Medium	Medium	Protective fencing, rapid replacement of lost stock
Pollution (fertiliser runoff, slurry)	Medium	High	Buffer strips, fencing, appropriate slurry application, dialogue with adjacent landowners
Funding shortfall	Low	High	Secured via planning condition
Climate change (extreme weather)	Medium	Medium	Adaptive management to allow more resilient species

Table 6 - Risk Register

### B. Trigger for Remediation

A failure to maintain the required condition will be identified through:

- Routine **monitoring inspections**.
- Reports submitted to the **Local Planning Authority (LPA)** in years 2, 5, 7, 10, 20 and 30.
- Observations from site management personnel.
- Any unforeseen external factors that cause deterioration of habitat condition.

### C. Notification Process

Upon identifying a failure or significant decline in habitat quality, the following steps will be undertaken:

- The **Local Planning Authority (LPA)** will be notified in writing within **10 working days** of identifying the issue.
- A summary report will be submitted detailing the nature of the failure, affected habitat(s), and any immediate risks to biodiversity.

## D. Remediation Action Plan

A written **Remediation Action Plan** will be prepared and submitted to the LPA for approval. The plan will include:

- Description of the affected habitat(s).
- Baseline condition and target condition score.
- Cause of failure or degradation.
- Detailed remedial measures.
- Implementation schedule (within **3 months** of LPA approval).
- Monitoring programme to assess the effectiveness of remediation.

## E. Remedial Measures

Remedial measures will be tailored to the specific habitat type as follows:

### *New Scrub Planting*

- Replacement of dead or diseased shrubs with like-for-like native species.
- Soil improvement (e.g., mulching, fertiliser application).
- Adjustment of irrigation schedules during dry periods.
- Removal of invasive vegetation and bramble from around shrub bases.
- Application of non-residual herbicide to control competing vegetation.
- Re-staking and re-tying where necessary.
- Coppicing of woody vegetation every 3-5 years

## F. Reinstatement Period

Following the completion of remedial works, a **12-month reinstatement period** will be applied during which:

- Monthly inspections will be undertaken.
- Any failed planting will be replaced.
- Ongoing remedial measures will be applied as necessary.

## G. Reporting and Approval

A **Remediation Completion Report** will be submitted to the LPA upon completion of remedial works. This report will include:

- Photographic evidence of reinstated habitats.
- Results of monitoring surveys.
- Confirmation that target condition(s) have been met.
- Details of any ongoing management requirements.

## **H. Ongoing Monitoring**

Following reinstatement, the habitat will continue to be monitored in years 2, 5, 7, 10, 20 and 30 as part of the HMMP, with additional inspections carried out during the first **12 months** post-reinstatement to confirm successful recovery.

This methodology ensures that all habitats are managed and maintained to their specified ecological value, contributing to the long-term biodiversity objectives of the HMMP.

## **8. GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK**

- Annual management works will be carried out by the landowner/appointed contractor.
- Ecologist will carry out monitoring surveys in reporting years.
- Reports will be submitted to the LPA in years 2, 5, 7, 10, 20, 30.
- Adaptive management decisions will be agreed between the landowner, consultant, and LPA.

## **9. FUNDING & SECURITY**

### **Funding & Security Mechanism**

- The habitat creation, enhancement, and 30-year management will be funded through planning condition compliance budget.
- The landowner commits to ensuring funds are available annually to cover management costs.
- The agreement ensures long-term delivery of biodiversity net gain and compliance with the Environment Act (2021).

# 10. POST DEVELOPMENT HABITAT MAPS

