

**MOSCAR MOORS – Derwent, Bamford & Stanage Moorland Interim Management Plan**

*1 December 2023 – end of HLS agreement extension*

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## **Management Plan**

### **SSSIs: Eastern Peak District Moors and the Dark Peak**

**SAC/SPA/Ramsar:** South Pennine Moors Special Area of Conservation (SAC)  
Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) Special Protection Area (SPA)

**Land Manager(s):** [REDACTED] (HLS agreement Holder and grazier), Moscar Moor LLP (Owners and Grouse Moor managers).

**HLS Agreement start date:** 1 December 2012

### **1. Introduction**

The Moorland Management Plan which was agreed at the start of the HLS agreement in 2012 expired on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017. A follow up/revised MMP was developed in discussion with the Estate carrying through to November 2022 (the end of the first HLS Agreement extension). This current version (drafted in association with a proposal to extend the HLS agreement for a further 5 years) will cover management until the end of the extended HLS (anticipated on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2028) and should be considered in association with the HLS agreement provided by Rural Payments Agency (AG00409466)

The plan attached here is the Management Plan referred to in the HLS Agreement and is to be read in conjunction with the Agreement.

The overall purpose of this management plan is to set out the agreed moorland management that will deliver:

Favourable condition on this part of the SSSIs, in a way which is consistent with the owner/occupier's objectives of managing grouse shooting and agricultural business.

In particular it will:

- Briefly describe the nature conservation importance of the Land
- Describe what constitutes "favourable condition"
- Point out the objectives of management to achieve favourable condition in the context of the grouse moor and agricultural business objectives
- Identify and set down the agreed management actions to deliver the objectives
- Identify any other agreed management which does not conflict with the objectives.

Any variations or amendments to this Plan will be agreed in writing between the parties, signed by both parties and attached to this Plan, and will thereafter be treated as part of this Plan.

This Plan applies to the Land described in the Agreement.

### **2. Nature Conservation Importance**

## 2.1 Importance of the SSSI

**The Eastern Peak District Moors SSSI** is of special interest for their breeding birds, upland vegetation, lower plants, invertebrates and geological features. The combination of blanket bog, wet and dry heaths, acid grasslands and small flushes, together with gritstone edges, cliffs and boulder slopes, streams and moorland reservoirs, and fringing woodland represents the full range of upland vegetation characteristic of the South Pennines and supports several important species assemblages.

The site has good populations or in some cases the only population of several regionally scarce higher plants and animals, including species at the edge of their national range. The site also provides important habitat for lower plants, including several nationally notable species. It has some of the best localities for lichens on millstone grits and peat in the Peak District and the woodland on the moorland edge supports a good assemblage of bryophytes. The moorland and moorland edge mosaic supports diverse assemblages of insects including many that are nationally scarce.

The upland breeding bird assemblage is of great regional importance and contributes significantly to national importance of the South Pennines. The site supports most of the upland breeding birds found in the region. Some parts of the site are particularly diverse holding many species at high numbers, and overall there is a nationally important number of breeding merlin (1.5 - 2.4% of the British population), a species listed in the European Commission Birds Directive as requiring special conservation measures. The site is also important for certain over-wintering and passage birds.

**The Dark Peak SSSI qualifies** for the following habitats and species:

### Habitats

- Sub-alpine dwarf shrub heath (various vegetation types)
- Blanket bog and valley bog (various vegetation types)
- Short sedge acidic fen, upland
- Tall herb vegetation, upland
- Acid grassland, upland (various vegetation types)
- Species rich bracken
- Upland oak wood (various vegetation types)

### Species

- Aggregations of breeding birds - golden plover, merlin, short-eared owl and curlew
- Upland breeding bird assemblage - including- red grouse, curlew
- Invertebrate assemblage: heathland, montane

The main moorland area of the Peak District, known as the Dark Peak, lies to the north of the central limestone dome of the White Peak and extends through the Counties of West and South Yorkshire to the boundary of the National Park at Stanage. The peatlands of the Dark Peak show the full range of ombrogenous (rain-fed) and

soligenous (groundwater-fed) mire formations found within the region, they contain variable proportions of cotton-grasses (*Eriophorum* spp) and dwarf shrubs such as crowberry, heather, and bilberry. A probable result of high levels of atmospheric pollution, wildfires and other management is that the blanket mires of the Dark Peak are poor in bog mosses and other bryophytes sensitive to pollution or disturbance.

Below the watersheds, the vegetation of the lower moorland areas largely consists of heathland dominated by heather, with areas of acidic grassland, and these areas display the full range of acidophilous dwarf shrub heath and acid grassland found in the region. Moscar Moors as with other heather moors have been regularly burnt to provide a supply of nutritious shoots for both red grouse and sheep. Hypnaceous mosses are characteristically absent from the heather communities of the Dark Peak, except in some old stands of heather, particularly on steep cloughs and occasionally in bilberry heath. Cowberry is locally frequent amongst bilberry, particularly east of the Derwent Valley where in some areas it exceeds bilberry to become completely dominant, a most unusual condition in Britain, and bearberry (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*) is present at several locations in the Derwent valley including the Moscar Moors; its southern-most station in Britain. Wet heaths are of limited extent in the Dark Peak. Small stands of co-dominant heather, cross-leaved heath, and purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*), are found in several areas on the Derwent Moors.

The most common types of mire and flush are dominated by rushes, particularly soft rush, or by common cotton grass, and these typically support star sedge, the bog moss (*Sphagnum fallax*) and the common star-moss; together with a range of other vascular plants such as marsh violet, bog asphodel and marsh pennywort.

The vast blanket mires of the Dark Peak plateaux support nationally important breeding populations of golden plover and dunlin as well as very significant numbers of meadow pipit, the most common passerine throughout the area. On the better draining slopes below the plateaux blanket mire, areas of heath and acid grassland support significant numbers of breeding curlew, red grouse, merlin and short-eared owl. Red grouse are strongly associated with heather-dominated vegetation and are common throughout the area, though their stronghold appears to be towards the east of the Dark Peak. The heather moors of the Dark Peak provide the breeding habitat for an expanding and nationally important population of merlin. They nest in stands of old leggy heather often near the head of valleys where they can command a view over the surrounding moorland. Although short-eared owls are still a rare breeding bird of the area and the size of the population fluctuates between years, it is probable that there has been an increase in the population and the numbers which have bred in recent years are of national importance. Peregrine, like merlin, have enjoyed a post-pesticide recovery and are increasing in numbers but they still remain a rare breeding bird throughout the Dark Peak. Some cloughs and gritstone edges, with their associated boulder strewn slopes with bracken, support significant populations of ring ouzel.

The woodlands of the Dark Peak support small numbers of woodland and woodland edge birds such as tree pipit, redstart and green woodpecker. In addition, wood warbler and pied flycatcher breed on a regular basis in Ladybower Wood.

Trapping of invertebrates, mainly in the 1970s and 1980s, has begun to reveal a rich and varied upland fauna. The site has a particularly good beetle fauna. Seven nationally scarce species have been recorded in a variety of habitats.

## 2.2 Importance of the SAC and SPA

SAC: This site covers the key moorland blocks of the Southern Pennines from Ilkley Moor in the north to the Peak District in the south. The moorlands are on a rolling dissected plateau formed from rocks of Millstone Grit at altitudes of between 300m – 600m and a high point of over 630m at Kinder Scout. The greater part of the gritstone is overlain by blanket peat with the coarse gravelly mineral soils occurring only on the lower slopes. The moorlands as a whole support a breeding bird community of national and international importance.

The site is representative of upland dry heath which covers extensive areas, occupies the lower slopes of the moors on mineral soils or where peat is thin, and occurs in transitions to acid grassland, wet heath and blanket bogs. The upland heath of the South Pennines is strongly dominated by *Calluna vulgaris* – *Deschampsia flexuosa* heath and *C. vulgaris* – *Vaccinium myrtillus* heath. More rarely *C. vulgaris* – *Ulex gallii* heath and *C. vulgaris* – *Erica cinerea* heath are found. On the higher, more exposed ground *V. myrtillus* – *D. flexuosa* heath becomes more prominent. The smaller area of wet heath is characterised by cross-leaved heath *Erica tetralix* and purple moor grass *Molinia careulea*. The site also supports extensive areas of acid grassland largely derived from dry and wet heath. In the cloughs, or valleys, which extend into the heather moorlands, a greater mix of dwarf shrubs can be found together with more lichens and mosses. The moors support a rich invertebrate fauna, especially moths, and important bird assemblages.

This site also contains areas of blanket bog, although the bog vegetation communities are botanically poor. Hare's-tail cotton grass *Eriophorum vaginatum* is often overwhelmingly dominant and the usual bog-building *Sphagnum* mosses are scarce. Where the blanket peats are slightly drier, heather *C. vulgaris*, crowberry *Empetrum nigrum* and bilberry *V. myrtillus* become more prominent. The cranberry *Vaccinium oxycoccus* and the uncommon cloudberry *Rubus chamaemorus* is locally abundant in bog vegetation. Bog pools provide diversity and are often characterised by common cotton grass *E. angustifolium*. Substantial areas of the bog surface are eroding, and there are extensive areas of bare peat. In some areas erosion may be a natural process reflecting the great age (up to 9000 years) of the South Pennine peats.

Around the fringes of the upland heath and areas of bog are blocks of old sessile oak woods, usually on slopes. These tend to be dryer than those further north and west, such that the bryophyte communities are less developed (although this lowered diversity may in some instances have been exaggerated by the effects of 19<sup>th</sup> century air pollution). Other components of the ground flora such as grasses, dwarf shrubs and ferns are common. Small areas of alder woodland along stream-sides add to the overall richness of the woods.

The moorland also supports a range of flush and fen habitats associated with bogs, cloughs, rivers and streams. Although generally small scale features they have a specialised flora and fauna, which makes a great contribution to the overall biodiversity

of the moors. Acid flushes are the most common type and these include transition mires and quaking bogs characterised by a luxuriant carpet of bog mosses *Sphagnum* spp., rushes and sedges.

SPA: The South Pennine Moors SPA includes the major moorland blocks of the South Pennines from Ilkley in the north to Leek and Matlock in the south. It covers extensive tracts of semi-natural moorland habitats including upland heath and blanket mire. The site is of European importance for several upland breeding species, including birds of prey and waders. Both Merlin *Falco columbarius* and Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria* spend some of their time feeding outside the SPA on adjacent areas of in-by-land. The northern end of the South Pennine Moors SPA is within 10 km of the North Pennine Moors SPA which supports a similar assemblage of upland breeding species.

This site qualifies under **Article 4.1** of the Directive (79/409/EEC) by supporting populations of European importance of the following species listed on Annex I of the Directive:

### **During the breeding season;**

Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria*, 752 pairs representing at least 3.3% of the breeding population in Great Britain (Count as at 1990)

Merlin *Falco columbarius*, 77 pairs representing at least 5.9% of the breeding population in Great Britain

Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*, 25 pairs representing at least 2.5% of the breeding population in Great Britain

The suite of SPAs has recently been reviewed. Once the findings of the review are implemented, the following species are likely to be added. However, Government policy is to offer these species the protection as SPA qualifying species until such time.

Peregrine *Falco peregrinus*, 16 pairs representing at least 1.4% of the breeding population in Great Britain

Dunlin *Calidris alpina schinzii*, 140 pairs representing at least 1.3% of the breeding Baltic/UK/Ireland population

## 2.3 Background

### 2.3.1 Land managers' interests and objectives:

To maintain and enhance the grouse moor, sustain an upland sheep farm and conserve the landscape and conservation interest of the area

### 2.3.2 SSSI/SAC/SPA condition:

Appendix 1 shows the condition of each monitoring unit as assessed by Natural England. For more detailed site unit comments further information can be obtained from Natural England's website on [www.naturalengland.org.uk](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk)

Table 1: SSSI units by habitat condition

Bamford and Stangage units

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Feature Interests</b>	<b>Condition Assessment</b>	<b>Comments</b>
25	Acid Flushes	Favourable	
26	Blanket Bog	Unfavourable recovering	
26	Birds	Favourable	
27	Birds	Favourable	
28	Acid Flushes	Unfavourable recovering	
28	Birds	Favourable	
29	Woodland	Unfavourable recovering	
30	Dry Heath	Favourable	
30	Birds	Favourable	
30	Acid Flushes	Favourable	
31	Birds	Favourable	
33	Blanket Bog	Unfavourable recovering	
33	Birds	Favourable	
35	Dry Heath	Unfavourable recovering	
36	Woodland	Unfavourable recovering	The woodland has been fenced to exclude grazing and allow regeneration
37	Heathland	Unfavourable recovering	
37	Birds	Favourable	
38	Blanket Bog	Favourable	
38	Birds	Favourable	
39	Birds	Unfavourable recovering	
40	Blanket bog	Unfavourable recovering	
40	Birds	Favourable	
41	Dry Heath	Favourable	
42	Blanket bog	Unfavourable recovering	
42	Birds	Favourable	
43	Birds	Favourable	
44	Blanket Bog	Favourable	

Derwent Units

<b>SSSI Unit (see map)</b>	<b>Feature Interests</b>	<b>Condition Assessment</b>	<b>Comments</b>
106	Dry Heath	Unfavourable recovering	Lack of plant species diversity.
106	Acid Flushes	Favourable	

106	Birds	Favourable	
106	Blanket Bog	Unfavourable recovering	Gully erosion, partially addressed by blocking under HLS agreement
107	Dry Heath	Unfavourable recovering	Lack of plant species diversity and some encroachment of invasive species. Effects of past burning & grazing not reversed
107	Acid Flushes	Favourable	
107	Birds	Favourable	
109	Blanket Bog	Unfavourable recovering	Lack of plant species diversity.
109	Birds	Favourable	Leave more areas unburnt for merlin & short-eared owl
110	Blanket Bog	Unfavourable recovering	Lack of plant species diversity & gully erosion. Partially addressed by works carried out under HLS agreement
110	Birds	Favourable	Some need for more diverse structure & re-wetting



### 3. Management Aims and Objectives

#### 3.1 Management Plan Aim

The aim is to manage the site to deliver favourable condition for all interest features for which the SSSI, SAC and SPA have been designated, whilst seeking to do this in a way that is consistent with the owner's business and other objectives.

Feature/habitat	Description of favourable condition
Blanket bog	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Frequent occurrence of at least six of the following species with at least three making up 50% of the sward: bog rosemary, heather, sundews, cross-leaved heath, crowberry, hare's tail cottongrass, common cottongrass, bog asphodel, pleurocarpus mosses, cloudberry, non-crustose lichens, <i>Sphagnum</i> spp., deergrass, bilberry, cranberry, cowberry.</li> <li>• Non-native species should be no more than occasional throughout the sward.</li> <li>• Scattered trees and shrubs should make up no more than 10% of the cover.</li> <li>• More improved grasses should not be frequent.</li> <li>• Grazing should only be light with no heavy browsing of shoots.</li> <li>• There should be no observable signs of burning. Burning for purposes of restoration or fire management will be consented separately.</li> <li>• Less than 10% of the total area should show signs of drainage.</li> <li>• There should be very little bare or disturbed ground.</li> </ul>
Dry heath	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least 75% of the sward should be made up of species that include heather, cross-leaved heath, crowberry, cowberry, cranberry, and bilberry.</li> <li>• At least two of the above species should be present and at least one species of moss or liverwort or non-crustose lichen should be present (excluding <i>Polytrichum</i> spp. and <i>Campylopus</i> spp.).</li> <li>• There should be no more than a low occurrence of non-native species, invasive "weedy" species or bracken.</li> <li>• Scrub and scattered native trees should not make up more than 20% of the vegetation cover.</li> <li>• Soft rush should not represent more than 10% of the vegetation cover.</li> <li>• There should be no burning into sensitive areas e.g. bryophyte-rich areas, steep slopes, within 5-10 metres of a watercourse.</li> <li>• At least 10% of the heather should be subject to no intense</li> </ul>

	<p>disturbance e.g. fire or heavy grazing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grazing should be light and less than 10% of the ground cover be made up of bare ground.</li> </ul>
Wet heath	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cross-leaved heath should be present.</li> <li>• At least 25% of vegetation should consist of sedges, sundews, non-crustose lichens, bog mosses or deer grass and at least 25% should also consist of heather, crowberry, cross-leaved heath, cranberry, cowberry, bilberry, bog myrtle or creeping willow.</li> <li>• There should be no more than a low occurrence of non-native species, invasive “weedy” species or bracken.</li> <li>• Scrub and scattered native trees should not make up more than 20% of the vegetation cover and soft rush should not represent more than 10% of the vegetation cover.</li> <li>• There should be no observable signs of burning into the moss, liverwort or lichen layer or exposure of peat surface due to burning and no burning into sensitive areas e.g. bryophyte-rich areas, steep slopes, within 5-10 metres of a watercourse.</li> <li>• At least 10% of the heath should be subject to no intense disturbance e.g. fire or heavy grazing.</li> <li>• Grazing should be light and less than 10% of the ground cover be made up of bare ground.</li> <li>• Less than 10% of the heath should show signs of drainage.</li> </ul>
Acid flushes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small sedges and bog mosses should be frequent.</li> <li>• Soft rush should not dominate the sward.</li> <li>• Grazing should be light and less than 10% of the area should show signs of drainage or heavy trampling.</li> </ul>
Woodland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Natural regeneration</li> <li>• Enhanced mixed age structure – currently largely even-aged</li> <li>• Enhanced understorey</li> <li>• Maintenance of existing group of non-regenerating Scots pine</li> </ul>
Snipe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dense cover (approximately 80% cover overall) of tall (20-100cm) vegetation over wet and muddy ground.</li> <li>• Surface pools, ditches or channels for feeding should comprise some 20-30% of the area.</li> <li>• Low stock densities (less than 0.6LU/ha) during the breeding season to reduce losses to trampling.</li> </ul>
Golden plover	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A mix of short (feeding) and medium vegetation for nesting. There should be about a 1:3 ratio of short (less than 5cm) to medium (10-15cm) vegetation in a mosaic, within breeding areas.</li> <li>• Areas that are open with short vegetation used for roosting.</li> </ul>


Curlew	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A mix of short (feeding) and long vegetation for nesting. There should be about a 1:3 ratio of short (less than 5cm) to long (25-100cm) vegetation in a mosaic, within breeding areas.</li> <li>• Low stock densities (less than 0.6LU/ha) during the breeding season to reduce losses to trampling.</li> </ul>
Lapwing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The sward should be predominantly short (less than 15 cm) for nesting with adjacent wet areas for feeding.</li> <li>• Surface pools, ditches or channels that remain soggy in the early summer should cover 20-30% of the area.</li> <li>• Low stock densities (less than 0.6LU/ha) during the breeding season to reduce losses to trampling.</li> </ul>
Merlin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medium to tall ground vegetation (30-70cm) with scattered trees.</li> </ul>
Short-eared owl	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Predominantly short to medium ground vegetation (0.3-1m) with or without some scrub cover.</li> </ul>
Ring ouzel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mix of short (&lt;2cm) and taller (&gt;20cm) vegetation (in gullies and on rocky slopes) in a mosaic within the nesting area.</li> <li>• Abundance of fruit-bearing plants e.g. crowberry, bilberry.</li> </ul>

### 3.2.1 Detailed Management Objectives and Actions



Table 2 – Detailed Management Objectives and Actions – to achieve SSSI/SAC/SPA favourable condition


#### Bamford and Stange Moors

Habitat or Species of interest on the SSSI	Description	Objectives	Management required	Map No. ref and units nos where feature found
<b>Blanket bog types and associated species features:</b>				
Sphagnum/Cotton-grass blanket bog	Permanently wet deep peat with high cover of cotton-grasses and sphagnum together with dwarf shrubs	Maintain and enhance current extent of approx 50ha wet, active, Sphagnum/Eriophorum blanket bog (see map)	No burning or cutting	44, 40, 42 part 26, 33 & 38
Poorly vegetated peat	Deep peat areas with little or no ground layer vegetation beneath species poor canopy or areas of erosion	Identify sensitive areas and implement management to enhance these areas	Encourage ground layer vegetation to re-establish - no burning or cutting for the life of the plan	33 part 26 & 38
Dry bog heather dominated	Heather dominated deep peat habitat	Maintain low level, evenly distributed grazing pressure across habitat  Maintain areas of long heather	Maintain hefted flocks; Re-wetting, No burning. Separate SSSI consent is required for any cutting or burning that is part of restoration management. Additionally, a Burning licence will be required for any burning on deep peat (40cm or over).	44, 33 & 38
Cotton grass/dwarf shrub blanket bog with Sphagnum	Blanket bog rich in characteristic species and showing evidence of high water saturation throughout year	Prevent overgrazing on bog outside regeneration area	Identify possible grazing hotspots and adjust grazing levels No burning or cutting	26, 40, 42, 44
Breeding golden plover	Open flat moorland habitat (chiefly blanket bog) is main area of	Maintain golden plover habitat in favourable condition which is wet short to medium vegetation with no trees	Re-wetting, No burning or cutting	33 & 38


	golden plover breeding habitat. Most found in unit 33. Some breeding habitat in 38 and 44			
Breeding dunlin	Unit 44 – level plateau area is main area of interest	Maintain dunlin habitat in favourable condition	No burning or cutting	44
Blanket bog with degenerating and regenerating heather	Heather dominated deep peat with distinct uneven surface pattern old heather plants breaking up, new heather growth and significant moss layer	Maintain areas of older mature/degenerate heather	These areas should be maintained as areas of old heather. Steps can be taken to protect from accidental fire (if required) by the use of cut firebreaks through separate SSSI consent. Burning of firebreaks on deep peat (40cm and over) will be subject to obtaining separate SSSI consent and a Burning licence.	26, 33, 38, 42
Wet bog heather dominated	Species poor heather dominated vegetation over wet peat	Increase species diversity within species poor areas	No burning or cutting	33 & 26
<b>Dry Heath</b>				
Dry heath, heather dominated	Dwarf shrubs over thin peat provide habitat for grouse, golden plover, merlin and other bird species	Maintain diverse structurally varied heath with mix of open areas and longer mature to over-mature heather for nesting	1. Maintain pattern of small (0.3 – 0.5 ha) well distributed burns on 7-15 year rotation depending upon altitude, soil and aspect. 2. Continue light grazing with stock management to encourage widest use of area.	28, 30, 35 & 37 
Dry heath	Dry heath, mixed heath species with grass and bracken	Maintain natural formation, retain grazing, prevent bracken encroachment	Keep out of burning rotation and control bracken Introduce other dwarf shrub species	26, 27, 28, 41
Species poor dry heath	Vegetation dominated by single species of dwarf shrub	Enhance diversity of heath species	Consider active enhancement of shrub diversity	30, 37

Species poor dry heath	Structure determined by intervention	Introduce natural element	Away from scrub areas select non-intervention areas for no burn from areas of long heather	30, 35, 37
Species poor dry heath	Lack of ground layer exposes organic soil following burning	Minimise area of peat exposed	Retain ground/litter layer through careful cool burning or cutting	30, 35, 37
Bracken encroaching onto dry heath	Bracken patches are reducing extent of dry heath	Maintain extent of dry heath and retain old stands of bracken	Identify spreading fronts of bracken with viable under storey and treat these areas with planned programme of control	28, 37
Scrub encroaching onto dry heath	Scrub development at the west and east of the holding is reducing the extent of dry heath	Maintain extent of dry heath and open habitat	Identify areas for control of rhododendron and birch and undertake programme of control. Should map these indicatively at least	37
Overgrazed and degraded dry heath	Species poor acid and wet grassland	Regenerate dwarf shrub heath community	Positive intervention to restore heather moorland – re-seeding, exclusion of stock etc	26
<b>Acid Grassland</b>				
Species poor short acid grassland	Short acid grassland in mosaic with dwarf shrub, bracken, flush and scrub provides structural diversity, invertebrate and vole habitat and feeding areas for birds	Reduce dominance of bracken Enhance dwarf shrub layer development, particularly in areas in and around Hordron Edge as ring ouzel habitat	Prevent further spread of bracken by spraying advancing front of identified beds with suitable herbicide e.g. Asulox. Remove selected bracken beds if no danger of erosion and no bird interest (areas to be agreed with landowner/manager). Restore as appropriate to dry heath/acid grassland mosaic. Ensure more even spread of grazing throughout area by opening up bracken beds	27, 28, 29, 4 & 5
Species poor short acid grassland	The short acid grassland areas may be favourable for feeding ring ouzel nesting e.g., below Hordron Edge.	Maintain selected short grassland areas	Continue grazing these areas Control spread of scrub	27




Tussocky wet/acid grassland	Dominated by dense Molinia  Potential interest for short-eared owl	Maintain as short-eared owl habitat for present. Restoration work to increase the shrub cover may be considered in future needs to be looked at more closely to establish long-term management objectives	No burn area – vegetation is not suitable for burning due to lack of dwarf shrub cover	43, 5
<b>Bracken</b>				
Dense bracken	Narrow unit on reasonably steep clough sides either side of stream	Maintain and enhance species diversity	No burn area – vegetation is not suitable for burning due to lack of dwarf shrub cover Ensure continued light grazing	25 
Dense over litter, or over grass or heath or woodland flora	Large diverse unit with numerous flushes throughout. Flushes vary from small features running down slope, to larger, more extensive areas of wet vegetation in areas where there is a change in slope.	Maintain and enhance open nature of flushes	Ensure bracken is not encroaching onto open, wet flush areas Consider control if bracken found to be encroaching	28
Dense over litter, or over grass or heath or woodland flora	Numerous dense bracken beds Patches of dwarf shrub dominated ground	Maintain and enhance species and structural diversity	Consider bracken control if found to be encroaching onto shrub dominated ground. Do not burn	29
<b>Other features or habitats</b>				
Woodland	Semi-natural broad leaved woodland with area of Scot's pine	Increase area cover of semi-natural woodland within clough by natural regeneration Enhance mixed age structure – currently largely even-aged Enhance understorey Maintain existing group of non-regenerating Scots pine	Continue to manage without grazing to allow natural regeneration	29, 36 

Acidic flushes	Large diverse unit with numerous flushes throughout. Flushes vary from small features running down slope, to larger, more extensive areas of wet vegetation in areas where there is a change in slope.	Maintain and enhance open nature of flushes	Ensure bracken is not encroaching onto open, wet flush areas  Consider control if bracken found to be encroaching	28, 5 
Bird breeding habitat	Only assessed for bird interest but there is still some dry heath interest with a diverse dwarf shrub community present. Current management maintains the shrub layer as a short sward favourable for lapwing.	Maintain the short sward suitable for lapwing  Consider if wader scrapes would enhance the area for breeding waders  Maintain low stocking levels at bird breeding season	Current grazing levels are maintaining a short sward – monitor to ensure extent of dwarf shrub is not declining.  Construct wader scrapes if considered beneficial  Currently in enclosed rough grazing tier so levels should be low in spring	31, 39, 40, 4

### Derwent Moor

Habitat	Description	Objectives	Management required	Map ref Unit No
<b>Blanket bog</b>				
Blanket Bog (Heather dominated dry bog)	Deep peat habitat with heather dominated vegetation	Identify sensitive areas e.g. areas with no ground layer, areas of erosion etc and implement management to enhance these areas	Encourage ground layer vegetation to re-establish - no burning. Separate SSSI consent will be required for any cutting  Undertake selected gully blocking in eroded areas.	106 (part)  Map5
		Maintain areas of older mature/degenerate heather as nest sites for merlin/short-eared owl and to maintain pipit habitat	Continue no-burn (and no cut) policy over these areas. They should be maintained as areas of old heather and steps taken to protect from accidental fire by the use of firebreaks (separate SSSI consent is required)	109, 110



		Maintain golden plover habitat in favourable condition	Continue policy of re-wetting to improve GP habitat.	
<b>Dry heath</b>				
Dry Dwarf Shrub Heath (sub-alpine dry heath)	Dwarf shrubs over thin peat provide habitat for grouse, golden plover, merlin and other bird species	Maintain diverse structurally varied heath with mix of open areas and longer heather for nesting birds	Continue light grazing with active stock management to encourage widest possible use of the area.	106, 107 
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Species poor heath</li> </ul>	Enhance diversity of heath species	Consider active enhancement of shrub diversity (for example bell heather occurs on the site away from burning)	106, 107
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Structure determined by intervention</li> </ul>	Introduce natural element	Away from scrub areas select none intervention areas for no burn from areas of long heather	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of ground layer exposes organic soil following burning</li> </ul>	Minimise area of peat exposed	Retain ground/litter layer through careful cool burning or cutting	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bracken patches are reducing extent of dry heath</li> </ul>	Maintain extent of dry heath and retain old stands of bracken	Identify spreading fronts of bracken with viable under storey and treat these areas with planned programme of control	
<b>Mire grassland and acid flushes</b>				
Short sedge acidic fen	Flushes.	Maintain and enhance open nature of flushes	Ensure bracken is not encroaching onto open, wet flush areas  Protect from drainage	106, 107 
<b>Bracken</b>				
Dense bracken over bracken litter	Numerous dense bracken beds	Maintain and enhance species and structural diversity	Do not burn	106, 107 
Scattered bracken over other vegetation	Patches of dwarf shrub dominated ground	Maintain open ground in conjunction with bracken stands as good habitat for ring ouzel, stonechat and whinchat	Consider bracken control if found to be encroaching onto shrub dominated ground.	

### 3.2 Assessment of Favourable Condition

In order to assess the success of management activities, Natural England will carry out an assessment of the condition of the interest features on the Land before and during the life time of the Agreement. The Agreement Land is divided into management units according to tenure and habitat types and or topographical features. Within each unit all interest features will normally be monitored as a minimum on a six yearly cycle using the appropriate Common Standard Monitoring Guidance and Methodology tailored if appropriate to the relevant units. The assessment will be discussed with the Land Manager to review progress over the delivery of the management objectives following the assessment. Any potential changes to management will be discussed and agreed with the Land Manager.

## 4. Management Prescriptions

The Land Manager will manage the Land as follows:

### 4.1 Burning: Land within the Burning Rotation

The map at Appendix 3 shows areas of heather moorland that will be managed by rotational burning. For the purposes of this consent, burning is restricted to areas of Dry heath only with no burning (or cutting) where there is deep peat, except where appropriate consents and licences have been obtained.

NB. Areas of the moor with no or low dwarf heath shrub cover are considered to be outside the burning rotation, including most land dominated by bracken or rush and areas of grassland. These areas are shown on the map at Appendix 3.

#### 4.1.1 Dry heath

##### Derwent Moors

Areas of dry heath on Derwent Moors, the area, shown in ochre hatching on Map 3a, totalling 320 hectares will continue to be burnt (or cut) on a rotation of between **7-10 years**. Within this area, the maximum area of dry heath to be burnt in the previous 5 year management plan period was 169 ha. This equates to an average annual total of 33.8ha. A minimum of 10% of the burnable vegetation in excess of 30cm in height will be retained.

##### Bamford and Stanage Moors

Areas of dry heath on Bamford and Stanage Moors below the conduit, as shown in ochre on Map 3b, totalling 145 hectares, will continue to be burnt (or cut) on a rotation of between **7- 10 years**. Within this area, the maximum area of dry heath to be burnt in the previous five year management plan was be 76.5ha. This equates to an annual average of 15.3ha. A minimum of 10% of the burnable vegetation in excess of 30cm in height will be retained.

Areas of dry heath on Bamford and Stanage Moors above the conduit and on Bamford Moor (but not over deep peat), as shown in blue on Map 3b, totalling 342 hectares, will be burnt (or cut) on a rotation of between **8-12 years**. Within this area, the maximum area of dry heath to be burnt in the five year management plan will be 154 ha. This equates to an annual average of 30.78 ha. The amount burnt each year can be varied above and below this average provided the total hectarage consented over the five year period is not exceeded. A minimum of 10% of the burnable vegetation in excess of 30cm in height will be retained.

Areas of dry heath on Bamford and Stanage Moors above the conduit (but not over deep peat) to the west of Churl clough, as shown in blue crossing on Map 3b, totalling 68 hectares, will be burnt on a rotation of between **9-14 years**. Within this area the maximum area of dry heath to be burnt (or cut) in the five year management plan will be 21.52 ha. This equates to an annual average of 4.3 ha. The amount burnt each year can be varied above and below this average provided the total hectareage consented over the five year period is not exceeded. A minimum of 10% of the burnable vegetation in excess of 30cm in height will be retained.

In areas known to be used by ground nesting birds of prey, or that hold particular vegetation features, an appropriate longer burning rotation may be desirable to maintain suitable nesting or habitat conditions. In these cases the rotation and locations will be agreed and described (Appendix 3).

#### 4.1.2 Blanket Bog

Burning and cutting on blanket bog are not consented within this moorland management plan. However cutting may be considered and consented separately through a S28E notice.

#### 4.1.3 Wet Heath

There is also particular concern to see only very careful burning (or cutting) on areas of wet heath (vegetation that generally covers shallower peat) to avoid damaging the peat resource as well as for maintaining or restoring the delicate surface vegetation. Burning (or cutting) should only take place when heather is a minimum of 30cm in (unstretched) height and where Calluna is dominant (75% cover or greater).

Areas of wet heath as shown on Maps 3 will not be burnt.

##### 4.1.4.1 Burning (or cutting) around Butts on dry heath

The area 30m in front and 30m behind shooting butts can be burned (or cut) on a more frequent basis than indicated in the rotation in the previous section - to assist with pick-up of shot grouse. Burning/cutting will only take place in areas where the heather cover reaches **50% or more** in the proposed burn/cut area and where the heather is **not less than 30cm/1ft in height**. All other burning guidelines apply.

##### 4.1.4.2 Cutting around Butts on blanket bog

It is important to note that although burning around butts was permitted under the original HLS Moorland Management plan (ending in 2017), this is not the case in this plan. Cutting may be employed, subject to consideration of archaeological interest and avoidance of vehicle damage to wet habitats. The area 30m in front and 30m behind shooting butts can be cut - to assist with pick-up of shot grouse. Cutting will only take place in areas where the heather cover reaches **50% or more** in the proposed area. Cutting should be followed up with restoration inoculation of Sphagnum and other Blanket bog indicators in plug form.

4.1.5 It is agreed that for each burn/cut on dry heath the following will be adhered to:

- Burning/cutting will only take place in areas where the heather cover reaches **50% or more** in the proposed burn area and where the heather is **not less than 30cm/1ft in height and where burning is consistent with the agreed rotation**

- Burn/cut size will be managed with the objective of restricting individual burns to ideally less than 30 metres wide; however the maximum width will be 55 metres. This is consistent with guidance from the Game Conservancy Trust. The maximum area of each burn will be no more than two hectares.
- Sometimes catch-up burns are desired by moorland managers where there has not been much burning for a number of years. Any proposals for catch-up burning outside the consented burning hectareage will be considered. Any such proposals because they are not part of this Agreement will need separate consent from Natural England.
- Burning will only be carried out when conditions allow for quick cool burns. A cool burn is one which removes the dwarf-shrub canopy yet leaves behind a proportion of 'stick' and does not cause damage to the moss layer or expose the peat surface. Hotter, slower burns can kill the moss and lichen layer and plants like cowberry and bilberry and if severe it can burn into the peat surface causing erosion and affecting the integrity of the sensitive habitat. The moss or lichen or litter layer should not be damaged by burning, such that the moss layer will not recover within a year. When conditions do not allow for this, fires will not be started.
- Burning/cutting is only allowed between 1 October and 15 April. Caution should be followed during periods of dry weather and burning should not be undertaken even within this period where bird nesting activity has been noted in proposed burn areas.
- Any accidental burns will count towards the total amount consented over the agreement period. If accidental burns /arson result in the burning or cutting total being exceeded early, then the management plan should be reviewed with Natural England.
- Heather and Grass etc. Burning (England) Regulations 2007 / Defra 'Heather and Grass Burning Code' (2007 version). All burning will follow the Regulations (and subsequent amendments) and should be in accordance with the Code (and any future revisions thereof) unless otherwise specified within this management plan. The Heather and Grass Burning Code and Regulations can be found on the DEFRA website [www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk). Further guidance, e.g. supplementary detailed guidance notes, will be available on the Natural England website [www.naturalengland.org.uk](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk).
- Sufficient personnel and equipment will be available to control burning for example to extinguish any fires that prove to be too hot or that are in danger of getting out of control. Ideally there should be a bowser/sprayer available or a suitable all-terrain vehicle and radio contact between keepers. Keepers should be assisted by at least one other person at all times.
- The Land Manager will inform Natural England as soon as possible and within a week of any accidental burns that do not follow the practices listed above.
- The Land Manager or employees will regularly review with Natural England heather growth rates, using local knowledge and all available information e.g. aerial photography. This will inform joint understanding and assessment of burning rotations and facilitate future planning. If details of heather burning can be recorded digitally (e.g. through the use of GPS) this would be very useful.

## 4.2 Land outside the Burning/cutting Rotation (in addition to blanket bog).

4.2.1 To achieve favourable condition and sustainable moorland management the following types of land will normally be excluded from the burning rotation (there may be circumstances where carefully controlled burning in an area usually outside the burning rotation may be appropriate for one or more good management reasons, including delivery of SSSI favourable condition (e.g. to prevent conversion of heath to woodland). Where these circumstances can be predicted and adequately described they may be agreed with NE. Otherwise any proposals will be the subject of separate consultation and consent. The following categories are considered:

- Areas sensitive to disturbance and damage by fire, 'Sensitive Areas'.
- Areas of heath, which it is agreed, should not be burnt- as a guide these should, in combination with heath in the 'Sensitive Areas' represent at least 10% of the heathland area over the relevant SSSI. Other areas not to be burnt (e.g. grassland, wetland habitats).
- Areas where it is agreed there should be no burning

There will be no burning or cutting on 'sensitive' and other areas mapped in Appendix 3 and described below.

4.2.2 Sensitive Areas: The 'sensitive' areas have been mapped based on definitions below and in discussion with the Land Manager. As other important 'sensitive' areas are located these will be discussed between Natural England and the estate and agreed areas will be added to the map in Appendix 3. However, it is unlikely that it will be possible to map all 'sensitive' areas. Where they are encountered but are unmapped every effort will be made to avoid burning into them.

'Sensitive' areas include:

- Flushes and mires including areas around springs, pools, wet hollows and those rich in bog mosses with abundant and or almost continuous cover of Sphagnum species, other mosses, liverworts and or lichens, where burning is likely to damage the interest. Such areas contain species which are sensitive to burning and often occur only at a small scale. NB There should be no cutting over these areas either.
- Areas with native trees or shrubs or immediately adjacent to planting enclosures.
- Areas where soils are less than 5 centimetres deep or ground made up of scree or where there is high incidence of exposed rock.
- Areas with a noticeably uneven structure, at the spatial scale one metre square or less. In heathland this unevenness is most commonly found in very old heather stands, often comprising large and spreading dwarf shrub bushes. The dwarf shrub canopy will not be completely continuous and some of its upper surface may be twice as high as other parts. NB There should be no cutting over these areas either.
- There should be no burning within 5-10m either side of a watercourse, from the edge of the watercourse where the following apply:

- to protect those that have a well-developed bankside structure/cover;
- to protect those where bankside erosion is an issue;
- to protect those, including active grips, which have a significant hydrological function taking water off the moor.
- to maintain/create suitable habitat for breeding birds.

Burning up to the edge of these watercourses may significantly increase the runoff and securing a buffer of unburnt ground immediately around these watercourses should reduce the impact of runoff and diffuse pollution. These will be identified and agreed with the land manager on the ground. In particular there is a need to agree those ditches which are active i.e. those which are actively transporting water, contributing to erosion and the presence of bare peat surfaces and ongoing carbon loss.

- steep slopes and gullies greater than 1 in 2 on dry heath. NB There should be no cutting over these areas either.
- areas of heather moorland and bog, as agreed between Natural England and the Land Manager as not obviously recently burnt, so as to conserve fire-sensitive species or bird habitat that might be lost by a resumption of burning. NB There should be no cutting over these areas either.
- areas in which rare, fire-sensitive species occur. NB There should be no cutting over these areas either without additional consent.

#### 4.2.3 Other areas not to be burnt or cut:

- bracken-dominated areas - no burning within 15 metres of bracken-dominated areas, unless as part of an agreed bracken management programme.
- areas of grassland and rush dominated areas.

### 4.3 Drainage

Hydrological integrity of moorland habitats is an important part of sustainable moorland management. It is therefore agreed that there will be no new drainage works or ditching/gripping carried out on the Land.

Artificial (e.g. ditches) and other man-induced (e.g. erosion gullies) drainage across areas of moorland and in particular blanket bog can lead to significant changes in the hydrology, morphology and ecology of the habitat. During the course of this agreement the Land Manager may continue to block gullies as determined and agreed with Natural England on the Land or permit them to be blocked. See appendix 5. Natural England will provide the specification for these works which are to be funded through a Higher Level Stewardship scheme. Alternative funding for restoration works may be secured, the methodologies/ specifications agreed and consented separately.

#### 4.4 Vehicles

Vehicles will not cross the 'sensitive areas' as highlighted on Appendix 3 and HER features.. Outside these areas the use of vehicles is permitted provided it will not result in rutting or damage or disturbance to surface vegetation which is likely to persist (not naturally recover) beyond 12 months . Special care should be taken to avoid wet and boggy areas. The use of wheeled or tracked vehicles in connection with grouse moor management will be largely restricted to mapped tracks as shown on Appendix 6, although low ground pressure vehicles like argocats are likely to be used more widely (eg for direct dosing) but only where their use will not cause rutting or any vegetation damage which would not be expected to recover naturally within 12 months.

During the bird breeding season 1 April to 31 July vehicles used off established routes and tracks will be kept to a minimum to avoid bird disturbance and damage to nest sites. Where it is current practice not to use vehicles during the bird breeding season this will continue.

#### 4.5 Tracks

Natural England appreciate that tracks may sometimes be necessary to facilitate management on grouse moors including both shooting and grazing management and that they can therefore be required in some situations to achieve or maintain appropriate management.

The creation, improvement or upgrade of existing tracks will require separate consultation and consent from Natural England. Maintenance i.e. the filling in of ruts and potholes on a clearly surfaced track, with the same material as that of the surfacing can be agreed as part of this plan. If there is a degree of uncertainty about the level of improvement of the proposed work then NE will be consulted ahead of works.

Please note that separate permissions are likely to be required for new tracks or track improvements.

#### 4.6 Grazing

Sustainable grazing has an important role in the integrated management of the moorland vegetation including maintaining and enhancing its special interest. This contribution may be divided into three main areas: a) grazing of dwarf shrubs can extend the life cycle of the heather, b) grazing of grass and cotton-grass regrowth in recent burns assists with the regeneration of pioneer heather and c) grazing reduces the development of scrub.

The type of grazing regime is crucial in achieving the above while not overgrazing or adversely affecting dwarf shrub development. Key aspects are the level of grazing i.e. stocking rate and the timing of grazing. Signs of overgrazing of dwarf shrubs include the growth form of the plants and the percentage of flowering plants. Winter grazing can be damaging to dwarf shrub species as sheep will favour these in preference to grasses that become unpalatable at the end of the growing season. Grazing in the winter leaves dwarf shrubs open to frost damage and weakens the plant.

The moorland in this plan is all entered into the Higher Level Stewardship agreement and the grazing regime was considered to be appropriate to maintain and where necessary restore the

special interest. However, there is some localised overgrazing, you should ensure that sheep do not concentrate in one area, particularly on new burns, and are pushed through the moor to ensure even grazing. You should also ensure that sheep are shepherded away from areas of Wet Heath and Blanket Bog to prevent overgrazing and subsequent damage to these sensitive areas.

**Table 2 Grazing calendar**

<b>Unit(s)</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Sheep numbers and timing</b>
<b>Dark Peak 106, 107, 108, 109, 110 Derwent Moor</b>	624.44 ha	<b>HL10</b>	<p>Summer (mid April to mid September): 400 small breed ewes plus lambs and 140 hogs            Winter (mid September to mid April): 400 small breed ewes</p> <p>This equates to an overall average stocking rate of 0.054 LU/ha (0.048 LU/ha in the winter and 0.061 LU/ha in the summer). Grazing rates for blanket bog have been based at a summer grazing rate of 0.018 LU/ha and rates for Dry heath have been based on a summer grazing rate of 0.051 LU/ha</p>
<b>EPDM 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44 Bamford and Stanage Moors</b>	1560.18 ha	<b>HL10</b>	<p>Summer (mid April – mid September): 800 small breed ewes plus lambs and 300 hogs            Winter (mid September to mid April): 800 small breed ewes</p> <p>The block of dry heath previously excluded from grazing will now be included in the grazing programme although it will remain closed to grazing during the winter period (1 Nov-28<sup>th</sup> Feb).</p> <p>This equates to an overall average stocking rate of 0.047 LU/ha (0.041 LU/ha in the winter and 0.053 LU/ha in the summer). Grazing rates for blanket bog have been based at a summer grazing rate of 0.018 LU/ha and rates for Dry heath have been based on a summer grazing rate of 0.051 LU/ha</p>
<b>EDPM 4&amp;5 Parson's Piece</b>	39.88 ha	<b>HL10</b>	<p>Cattle will be introduced to Parson's Piece from 2014. Grazing between April and September at a rate of 0.07LU/ha. It's envisaged that small, native breed stock will be used but British shorthorn (at appropriate levels) would also be considered acceptable. 0.07LU/ha equates to 8 small/ 5 large breed suckler cattle plus followers between April and September or 12 small/ 8 large breed cattle under 2 years between April and September.</p>



Locations for supplementary feeding should be agreed with Natural England.

The stock will be encouraged to rake across the moor to ensure that the sheep do not spend too much time in one place and cause damage to the vegetation by heavy grazing or trampling. The wide distribution of feed blocks may help to achieve a good overall grazing pattern. Block sites could be used in rotation to ensure that vegetation is not damaged. Where required, a maximum of 1 feed block site per 50 ewes will be used at any one time. In particular the use of feed blocks is encouraged to ensure that grazing sheep rake across the area away from new cuts and burns.

#### 4.8 Fertilisers (organic and inorganic)

The application and storage of manure, fertilisers or lime is not permitted on the Land.

#### 4.9 Pesticides, Herbicides, Insecticides and Fungicides

It is agreed that pesticides, herbicides, insecticides and fungicides will not generally be used on the land. The exceptions are:

- The Land Manager may control bracken using asulox (if current legislation allows) or other appropriate chemicals as agreed. This will be undertaken in accordance with appendix 5.

Herbicides will not be used on or near Sensitive areas (See section 4.2.2), appropriate buffers will be applied in all cases and will chemicals will not be applied on steep slopes or gullies greater than 1 in 2 unless separately agreed and consented.

If the intention is to control weeds in or near water, then the consent of the Environment Agency will be obtained before spraying. For aerial spraying, if the land to be treated is adjacent to or within 250m of water then the Environment Agency will be consulted at least 72 hours in advance.

#### 4.10 Pest Control

The lawful control of all legitimate 'pest' species may be carried out e.g. fox, carrion crow, stoat, magpie, mink, rabbit and weasel.

#### 4.11 Shooting and Sporting

The Land Manager may cut bilberry and heather turfs for the routine maintenance of existing grouse butts.

Proposals for new lines of grouse butts or hurdles and the replacement of hurdles with permanent butts will require further consultation and consent from Natural England over the manner of construction, timing of operation, detail of location and the use of access routes. This could also be subject to consent from English Heritage and consultation with PDNPA.

The Land Manager may use natural quartz grit and medicated grit and undertake direct dosing of grouse.

Grit stations will be maintained across the moor at no more than 100m intervals

- Grit is made available in a box or tray. Trays can be supported on a couple of turned over turfs dug by hand and/or raised on small piles of stones.
- The footprint of each station will not be more than 50% bigger than the size of the tray.
- Grit stations will be set out according to GWCT guidelines of 1kg of grit every 100m within a grid format.
- Grit stations will be sited and managed to avoid the discharge of materials into the wider environment, particularly watercourses, water bodies and ground water.
- Wherever possible, grit stations will not be sited on sensitive habitat features identified on the Estate.
- Grit stations will not be placed on or near to historic sites.
- All machinery to be used in the topping up of grit stations will be low ground pressure vehicles to reduce any impacts to the ground and vegetation. Where necessary, particular stations will be visited on foot to prevent damage by vehicles.

All placing of grit trays (but excluding topping up with grit) will be conducted between 1 July to 1 April and providing that there are no nesting birds in the locations of the works

#### 4.12 Trees, hedges, bushes, banks, walls and fences

The Land Manager will be responsible for the maintenance of any trees, hedges, bushes, banks, wall and fences or other boundaries that fall within the Land Managers liability on the Agreement Land.

#### 4.13 Archaeology.

- No heather cutting on any of the scheduled areas (risk of damage to cairns etc). In specific situations it may be possible for EH to agree a cut firebreak route through a scheduled area but this would require explicit agreement.
- No peat cutting on any of the scheduled areas (directly damaging) small scale cutting to repair existing butts is acceptable if kept off sensitive locations such as these.
- On non designated areas of archaeological interest there should be no cutting of heather or peat where the significance of the feature may be harmed.

- On areas of dry heath cool heather burns under close supervision are acceptable on the scheduled areas as long as damage is avoided.
- Works to scheduled monuments include amongst other works: levelling, digging, tipping, flooding, tree planting and cultivation (in the absence of class consent) and adding or installing structures or equipment. Works to scheduled monuments are only possible with Scheduled Monument Consent and metal detecting equipment can only be operated on Scheduled Areas with an EH license.
- Inappropriate use of broad spectrum herbicides may destroy vegetation which is binding together the fabric of monuments and cause damage.
- Bracken and birch infestation are both damaging to the archaeological fabric of monuments through root / rhizome action and strategies to control through spraying trampling / strimming should be carefully thought through.
- Inappropriate use of motor vehicles presents a considerable risk to the significance of scheduled monuments and other important archaeological features and off track driving should generally be planned and minimised in such areas with damage avoided.
- Inappropriate works to water bodies and features also presents risk to designed landscape and archaeological assets.

**Schedule 1**

**Annual Management works programme**

<b>Specific Works Prescription</b>	<b>Location within site</b>	<b>Extent – area, length, etc</b>	<b>Timing</b>	<b>Annual Payment</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
Heather burning/cutting	Area shown on Maps 3a and 3b (Dry heath only)		1 Oct – 15 April	None	Land Owner
Scrub removal	Unit 37	Removal of encroaching scrub particularly non-natives (Rhododendron).	September to January inclusive	None currently	Land Manager/Owner (as agreed within separate consent)

**Schedule 2**

<b>RLR field numbers</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Description</b>
	<b>Hectares</b>	
SK23861823 Main Bamford parcel	1560.18 ha	Heather Moorland
SK20880948 Main Derwent parcel	624.44 ha	Heather Moorland
SK22887914 Parsons piece parcel	40.3 ha	Heather Moorland

