

The nature conservation value of scrub in Britain

Appendix 5.2 Summary of ESA management prescriptions relevant to scrub in England and Scotland.

ESA	Tier	Scheme Prescriptions	Information sheet - Conservation Plan	
			Tier	Work code
ENGLAND				
Predominantly lowland				
Avon Valley	Tier 1C. Scrub and willow carr contribute to creating a varied lowland landscape of high value. Wet grassland. Proportion of scrub assessed as part of Conditions of Entry	-	7. Management of scrub	Management of scrub
Blackdown Hills	Tier 1D. Unimproved pasture and rough land. Under management is leading to scrub encroachment and lack of environmental interest	-	7. Control of scrub	Control of scrub
Breckland	Tier 3. River valley grassland. Objective - to maintain a mosaic of habitats, including scrub	-	7. Management of scrub	Management of scrub
Broads	Fen Tier. Scrub management may be needed	-	7. Control of scrub	Control of scrub
Clun	-	-	7. Management of scrub	Management of scrub
Cotswold Hills	Tier 1A. Arable and ley grassland all land. Farmland within the ESA contains many important elements, including areas of scrub	Tier 1A. All land. 11. Manage scrub	7. Management of scrub	Management of scrub
Essex Coast	-	Tier 1. Permanent grassland. 16. Obtain written advice on scrub management	7. Control of scrub	Control of scrub
Pennine Dales	-	-	1. Protection of historic features	Scrub management on free-standing features of archaeological interest
Shropshire Hills	Tier 1A. Arable and ley grassland all land. Scrub and rush management - Scrub can provide a habitat for management, but if left unchecked areas spread and may become dense. Management may be required	Tier 1A All land. Scrub management.	7. Control of scrub	Control of scrub
Shropshire Hills	Tier 1B. Permanent grassland. Grassland management - undergrazing can lead to the spread of scrub	-	7. Control of scrub	-
Somerset Levels and Moors	-	-	7. Management of scrub	Scrub management on free-standing features of archaeological interest
South Downs	Tier 1. Permanent grassland on the chalk prevent loss of chalk grassland through scrub encroachment. Scrub management - Scrub management section: scrub is widespread in some parts of the Downs, and provides valuable food sources for birds and invertebrates. When left uncontrolled, it can spread rapidly and become dense and shade out the valuable grassland and wildflower communities. Implement scrub management	Tier 1. Permanent grassland on the chalk. 16. Scrub management programme must be agreed. Tier 2. Permanent grassland in the river valleys. 34. Scrub management programme must be agreed	7. Management of scrub	Management of scrub

South Wessex Downs	Tier 1 Part 1. Arable and ley grassland (all land). Farmland contains many important elements, including areas of scrub	Tier 1 Part 1. All land. 5. Do not allow any scrub to become established without the Ministry's prior written approval	7. Removal of scrub	Removal of scrub. Scrub management on free-standing features of archaeological interest
South West Peak	Tier 1 part 2. Enclosed permanent grassland. Grassland management - under grazing can lead to spread of scrub	-	<i>Information unavailable</i>	<i>Information unavailable</i>
Suffolk River Valleys	Fen Tier. Management - scrub will need to be managed	-	7. Management of scrub	Management of scrub
Test Valley	Tier 1C. Scrub and willow carr contribute to creating a varied lowland landscape of high value. Wet grassland. Proportion of scrub assessed as part of Conditions of Entry	-	7. Management of scrub.	Management of scrub.
Upper Thames Tributaries	-	-	7. Control of scrub	Control of scrub
West Penwith	-	Tier 1. All land additional prescriptions for rough land only. 15. Any burning of scrub must be done in accordance with a programme agreed in advance	7. Management of scrub	Management of scrub
"	Tier 1C. Extensive permanent grassland. Scrub management - scrub is widespread in many parts of the Cotswolds and provides a valuable source of cover and food for birds and invertebrates. If left uncontrolled it can spread rapidly and become dense and shade out the valuable grassland and wildflower communities. Scrub control may be necessary	-	-	-
"	Tier 1 Part 3. Scrub management - scrub is widespread in some parts of the Downs, and provides valuable food sources for birds and invertebrates. When left uncontrolled, it can spread rapidly and become dense and shade out the valuable grassland and wildflower communities. Implement scrub management if necessary	-	-	-
"	-	Tier 1D. Unimproved pasture and enclosed rough land. 36. Agree a grassland management plan, including any scrub management necessary	-	-
"	-	Tier 1. Permanent grassland. Written advice on scrub management.	-	Fen restoration to enable a return to Broadland fen management.
Predominantly upland				
Dartmoor	Common conditions for all land receiving ESA payments: scrub. Too much scrub can be a management problem. However, scrub can provide important habitats for rare butterflies, such as fritillaries, and other animals.	Tier 1A. All Land. 13. Manage scrub	7. Control of scrub	Control of scrub
"	Tier 1D. Unimproved pasture and enclosed rough land, e.g. scrub	Tier 1D. Unimproved pasture and enclosed rough land. Grassland management programme will include any necessary scrub management		

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	"	Tier 1E. Moorland. A moorland management plan is required, which includes scrub management	Tier 1E. Moorland. Do not apply herbicides except to carry out stump treatment of cleared scrub. Agree a moorland management programme to include any necessary scrub management		
Exmoor		Common conditions for all land receiving ESA payments: scrub. Scrub can be an important habitat, but too much can be a problem. Plans for scrub control must be agreed before any work done	Tier 1 part 1 - All land. Do not remove scrub except with the Ministry's prior written approval	7. Control of scrub	Control of scrub
	"	"	Tier 1 Part 2B - Low input permanent grassland. Do not apply herbicides to cleared scrub. Do not burn any scrub without the Ministry's written approval. Tier 1 Part 3 - enclosed unimproved permanent grassland. Do not burn any scrub without the Ministry's written approval.		
	"	"	Tier 1 Part 4 - Moorland. Agree an integrated plan of moorland management. This may include a programme of scrub control		
Lake District		Tier 1A. Arable and ley grassland (all land). Scrub such as juniper and gorse are important in the landscape and as wildlife habitats. Management of scrub must be carried out in accordance with an agreed programme	Tier 1 Part 1. All land. Scrub management in agreement with Project Officer	-	-
North Peak		Tier 1C. Moorland	Tier 1C. 39. Agree a plan of moorland management. This may include a programme of scrub control	7. Control of scrub	Control of scrub
Shropshire Hills		Tier 1D. Moorland	Tier 1D. 38. Agree a plan of moorland management. This will include any necessary scrub management	7. Control of scrub	Control of scrub

SCOTLAND

Predominantly upland

<i>Area or county</i>	<i>Tier and requirements</i>	<i>Additional details</i>
Argyll Islands	Tier 1. 1. Avoid damaging shrubs by ploughing, new drainage, modifying existing drains, mechanical peat cutting, levelling, re-seeding or cultivating or by clearing shrubs	Definition of scrub – low growing woody vegetation
"	Tier 1. 2. Avoid damaging shrubs by poaching, feeding practices or overgrazing	Environmental damage caused by overgrazing, as indicated by a deterioration in the structure and cover of, for example, dwarf shrubs, will occur before agricultural production starts to suffer due to overstocking
"	Tier 1. 3. Do not apply herbicides to shrubs, except that herbicides may be applied to <i>Rhododendron</i>	
"	Tier 1. 4. Make any Muirburn in accordance with SNH standards	Do not burn areas of whins, broom or juniper. Do not burn into areas of scrub woodland
"	Tier 1. 6. Avoid damaging or destroying any features or areas of historic or archaeological interest	Avoid damage from gorse, scrub and woody plants
"	Tier 2. 12 (mandatory). Prepare a grazing plan to conserve, enhance or extend areas of scrub	In native woodland the first aim should be to encourage natural regeneration by native trees and shrubs
"	Tier 2. 15 (mandatory). Grazing plan to conserve, regenerate, maintain or enhance areas of heather	May include a muirburn programme (Do not burn areas of whins, broom or juniper. Do not burn into areas of scrub woodland)
"	Tier 2. 18 (optional). Measures to improve the condition of features or areas of historic or archaeological interest	The removal of scrub is encouraged To prevent recolonisation by scrub, etc, a grazing plan should be prepared.
Breadalbane	Tier 1. 1. Avoid damaging shrubs by ploughing, new drainage, modifying existing drains, mechanical peat cutting, levelling, re-seeding or cultivating or by clearing shrubs	Definition of scrub – low growing woody vegetation
"	Tier 1. 2. Avoid damaging shrubs by poaching, feeding practices or overgrazing	Environmental damage caused by overgrazing, as indicated by a deterioration in the structure and cover of, for example, dwarf shrubs, will occur before agricultural production starts to suffer due to overstocking
"	Tier 1. 3. Do not apply herbicides to shrubs	
"	Tier 1. 4. Make any Muirburn in accordance with SNH standards	Do not burn areas of whins, broom or juniper. Do not burn into areas of scrub woodland
"	Tier 1. 5. Do not remove any scrub, unless authorised to do so	-
"	Tier 1. 6. Avoid damaging or destroying any features or areas of historic or archaeological interest	Avoid damage from gorse, scrub and woody plants
"	Tier 2. 10 (mandatory). Prepare a grazing plan to conserve, enhance or extend areas of scrub	In native woodland the first aim should be to encourage natural regeneration by native trees and shrubs
"	Tier 2. 11 (mandatory). Prepare a grazing plan to conserve, enhance or extend areas of wetland	Moderate grazing during the autumn is valuable and should be encouraged in order to prevent invasion of trees and shrubs
"	Tier 2. 13 (optional). Grazing plan to conserve, regenerate, maintain or enhance areas of heather	May include a muirburn programme (Do not burn areas of whins, broom or juniper. Do not burn into areas of scrub woodland)
"	Tier 2. 16 (optional). Measures to improve the condition of features or areas of historic or archaeological interest	The removal of scrub is encouraged To prevent recolonisation by scrub, etc, a grazing plan should be prepared

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Cairngorms Straths	Tier 1. 1. Avoid damaging shrubs by ploughing, new drainage, modifying existing drains, mechanical peat cutting, levelling, re-seeding or cultivating or by clearing shrubs	Definition of scrub – low growing woody vegetation of small trees and shrubs including linear scrub along field margins containing dog rose, gorse, broom, blackthorn, etc
"	Tier 1. 2. Avoid damaging shrubs by poaching, feeding practices or overgrazing	Environmental damage caused by overgrazing, as indicated by a deterioration in the structure and cover of, for example, dwarf shrubs, will occur before agricultural production starts to suffer due to overstocking
"	Tier 1. 3. Do not apply herbicides to shrubs	
"	Tier 1. 4. Make any Muirburn in accordance with SNH standards	Do not burn areas of whins, broom or juniper. Do not burn into areas of scrub woodland.
"	Tier 1. 6. Avoid damaging or destroying any features or areas of historic or archaeological interest	Avoid damage from gorse, scrub and woody plants
"	Tier 2. 10 (mandatory). Prepare a grazing plan to conserve, enhance or extend areas of scrub	In native woodland the first aim should be to encourage natural regeneration by native trees and shrubs
"	Tier 2. 11 (mandatory). Prepare a grazing plan to conserve, enhance or extend areas of wetland	Moderate grazing during the autumn is valuable and should be encouraged in order to prevent invasion of trees and shrubs
"	Tier 2. 13 (optional). Grazing plan to conserve, regenerate, maintain or enhance areas of heather	May include a muirburn programme (Do not burn areas of whins, broom or juniper. Do not burn into areas of scrub woodland.)
Central Borders	Tier 1. 1. Avoid damaging shrubs by ploughing, new drainage, modifying existing drains, mechanical peat cutting, levelling, re-seeding or cultivating or by clearing shrubs.	Definition of scrub – low growing woody vegetation
"	Tier 1. 2. Avoid damaging shrubs by poaching, feeding practices or overgrazing	Environmental damage caused by overgrazing, as indicated by a deterioration in the structure and cover of, for example, dwarf shrubs, will occur before agricultural production starts to suffer due to overstocking
"	Tier 1. 3. Do not apply herbicides to shrubs	
"	Tier 1. 4. Make any Muirburn in accordance with SNH standards	Do not burn areas of whins, broom or juniper. Do not burn into areas of scrub woodland
"	Tier 1. 6. Avoid damaging or destroying any features or areas of historic or archaeological interest	Avoid damage from gorse, scrub and woody plants
"	Tier 2. 10 (mandatory). Prepare a grazing plan to conserve, enhance or extend areas of scrub	In native woodland the first aim should be to encourage natural regeneration by native trees and shrubs
"	Tier 2. 16 (optional). Measures to improve the condition of features or areas of historic or archaeological interest	The removal of scrub is encouraged To prevent recolonisation by scrub, etc, a grazing plan should be prepared
Central Southern Upland	Tier 1. 1. Avoid damaging shrubs by ploughing, new drainage, modifying existing drains, mechanical peat cutting, levelling, re-seeding or cultivating or by clearing shrubs	Definition of scrub – low growing woody vegetation
"	Tier 1. 2. Avoid damaging shrubs by poaching, feeding practices or overgrazing	Environmental damage caused by overgrazing, as indicated by a deterioration in the structure and cover of, for example, dwarf shrubs, will occur before agricultural production starts to suffer due to overstocking
"	Tier 1. 3. Do not apply herbicides to shrubs	
"	Tier 1. 4. Make any Muirburn in accordance with SNH standards	Do not burn areas of whins, broom or juniper. Do not burn into areas of scrub woodland.
"	Tier 1. 5. Do not remove any scrub unless authorised to do so.	
"	Tier 1. 6. Avoid damaging or destroying any features or areas of historic or archaeological interest	Avoid damage from gorse, scrub and woody plants
"	Tier 2. 10 (mandatory). Grazing plan to conserve, regenerate, maintain or enhance areas of heather	May include a muirburn programme (Do not burn areas of whins, broom or juniper. Do not burn into areas of scrub woodland)
"	Tier 2. 11 (mandatory). Prepare a grazing plan to conserve, enhance or extend areas of scrub	In native woodland the first aim should be to encourage natural regeneration by native trees and shrubs
"	Tier 2. 13 (optional). Measures to improve the condition of features or areas of historic or archaeological interest	The removal of scrub is encouraged To prevent recolonisation by scrub, etc, a grazing plan should be prepared

Loch Lomond	Tier 1. 1. Avoid damaging shrubs by ploughing, new drainage, modifying existing drains, mechanical peat cutting, levelling, re-seeding or cultivating or by clearing shrubs	Definition of scrub – low growing woody vegetation
"	Tier 1. 2. Avoid damaging shrubs by poaching, feeding practices or overgrazing	Environmental damage caused by overgrazing, as indicated by a deterioration in the structure and cover of, for example, dwarf shrubs, will occur before agricultural production starts to suffer due to overstocking
"	Tier 1. 3. Do not apply herbicides to shrubs	
"	Tier 1. 4. Make any Muirburn in accordance with SNH standards	Do not burn areas of whins, broom or juniper. Do not burn into areas of scrub woodland
"	Tier 1. 5. Do not remove any scrub unless authorised to do so	
"	Tier 1. 6. Avoid damaging or destroying any features or areas of historic or archaeological interest	Avoid damage from gorse, scrub and woody plants
"	Tier 2. 10 (mandatory). Prepare a grazing plan to conserve, enhance or extend areas of scrub	In native woodland the first aim should be to encourage natural regeneration by native trees and shrubs
"	Tier 2. 11 (mandatory). Prepare a grazing plan to conserve, enhance or extend areas of wetland	Moderate grazing during the autumn is valuable and should be encouraged in order to prevent invasion of trees and shrubs
"	Tier 2. 13 (optional). Grazing plan to conserve, regenerate, maintain or enhance areas of heather	May include a muirburn programme (Do not burn areas of whins, broom or juniper. Do not burn into areas of scrub woodland.)
"	Tier 2. 15 (optional). Measures to improve the condition of features or areas of historic or archaeological interest	The removal of scrub is encouraged. To prevent recolonisation by scrub, etc, a grazing plan should be prepared
Machair of the Uists and Benbecula, Barra and Vatersay	Tier 1. 3. Avoid damaging or destroying any features or areas of historic or archaeological interest	Avoid damage from gorse, scrub and woody plants
"	Tier 2. 11 (optional). Measures to improve the condition of features or areas of historic or archaeological interest	The removal of scrub is encouraged To prevent recolonisation by scrub, etc, a grazing plan should be prepared
Shetland Islands (Common grazings committees only)	Tier 1. 1. Avoid damaging shrubs by ploughing, new drainage, modifying existing drains, mechanical peat cutting, levelling, re-seeding or cultivating or by clearing shrubs	
"	Tier 1. 2. Avoid damaging shrubs by poaching, feeding practices or overgrazing	Environmental damage caused by overgrazing, as indicated by a deterioration in the structure and cover of, for example, dwarf shrubs, will occur before agricultural production starts to suffer due to overstocking
"	Tier 1. 3. Do not apply herbicides to shrubs	
"	Tier 1. 4. Make any Muirburn in accordance with SNH standards	Do not burn areas of whins, broom or juniper. Do not burn into areas of scrub woodland.
"	Tier 1. 6. Avoid damaging or destroying any features or areas of historic or archaeological interest	Avoid damage from scrub
"	Tier 2. 13 (mandatory). Prepare a grazing plan and other measures necessary to conserve or enhance areas of trees and shrubs	
"	Tier 2. 15 (optional). Measures to improve the condition of features or areas of historic or archaeological interest	The removal of scrub is encouraged To prevent recolonisation by scrub, etc, a grazing plan should be prepared

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Shetland Islands (farmers and crofters)	Tier 1. 1. Avoid damaging shrubs by ploughing, new drainage, modifying existing drains, mechanical peat cutting, levelling, re-seeding or cultivating or by clearing shrubs.	
	" Tier 1. 2. Avoid damaging shrubs by poaching, feeding practices or overgrazing	Environmental damage caused by overgrazing, as indicated by a deterioration in the structure and cover of, for example, dwarf shrubs, will occur before agricultural production starts to suffer due to overstocking
	" Tier 1. 4. Make any Muirburn in accordance with SNH standards	Do not burn areas of whins, broom or juniper. Do not burn into areas of scrub woodland.
	" Tier 1. 6. Avoid damaging or destroying any features or areas of historic or archaeological interest	Avoid damage from scrub
	" Tier 2. 14 (mandatory). Prepare a grazing plan to conserve or enhance areas of shrubs	
	" Tier 2. 15 (optional). Grazing plan to conserve, regenerate, maintain or enhance areas of heather	May include a muirburn programme (Do not burn areas of whins, broom or juniper. Do not burn into areas of scrub woodland)
	" Tier 2. 17 (optional). Measures to improve the condition of features or areas of historic or archaeological interest	The removal of scrub is encouraged To prevent recolonisation by scrub, etc, a grazing plan should be prepared
Stewartry	Tier 1. 1. Avoid damaging shrubs by ploughing, new drainage, modifying existing drains, mechanical peat cutting, levelling, re-seeding or cultivating or by clearing shrubs	Definition of scrub – low growing woody vegetation
	" Tier 1. 2. Avoid damaging shrubs by poaching, feeding practices or overgrazing	Environmental damage caused by overgrazing, as indicated by a deterioration in the structure and cover of, for example, dwarf shrubs, will occur before agricultural production starts to suffer due to overstocking
	" Tier 1. 3. Do not apply herbicides to shrubs	
	" Tier 1. 4. Make any Muirburn in accordance with SNH standards	Do not burn areas of whins, broom or juniper. Do not burn into areas of scrub woodland
	" Tier 1. 6. Avoid damaging or destroying any features or areas of historic or archaeological interest	Avoid damage from gorse, scrub and woody plants
	" Tier 2. 10 (mandatory). Prepare a grazing plan to conserve, enhance or extend areas of scrub	In native woodland the first aim should be to encourage natural regeneration by native trees and shrubs
	" Tier 2. 16 (optional). Measures to improve the condition of features or areas of historic or archaeological interest	The removal of scrub is encouraged To prevent recolonisation by scrub, etc, a grazing plan should be prepared
Western Southern Uplands	Tier 1. 1. Avoid damaging shrubs by ploughing, new drainage, modifying existing drains, mechanical peat cutting, levelling, re-seeding or cultivating or by clearing shrubs	Definition of scrub – low growing woody vegetation
	" Tier 1. 2. Avoid damaging shrubs by poaching, feeding practices or overgrazing	Environmental damage caused by overgrazing, as indicated by a deterioration in the structure and cover of, for example, dwarf shrubs, will occur before agricultural production starts to suffer due to overstocking
	" Tier 1. 3. Do not apply herbicides to shrubs	
	" Tier 1. 4. Make any Muirburn in accordance with SNH standards	Do not burn areas of whins, broom or juniper. Do not burn into areas of scrub woodland.
	" Tier 1. 5. Do not remove any scrub unless authorised to do so.	
	" Tier 1. 6. Avoid damaging or destroying any features or areas of historic or archaeological interest	Avoid damage from gorse, scrub and woody plants
	" Tier 2. 10 (mandatory). Grazing plan to conserve, regenerate, maintain or enhance areas of heather	May include a muirburn programme (Do not burn areas of whins, broom or juniper. Do not burn into areas of scrub woodland)
	" Tier 2. 11 (mandatory). Prepare a grazing plan to conserve, enhance or extend areas of scrub	In native woodland the first aim should be to encourage natural regeneration by native trees and shrubs
	" Tier 2. 13 (optional). Measures to improve the condition of features or areas of historic or archaeological interest	The removal of scrub is encouraged To prevent recolonisation by scrub, etc, a grazing plan should be prepared