



RURAL STEWARDSHIP SCHEME

MOORLAND MANAGEMENT PLAN

(For Common Grazings Committees only. Please note that a Stocking Information Proforma (copies are enclosed) should be completed by each participating grazier in the RSS Common Grazings undertaking.)

Name of common grazings:

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Name of common grazings committee clerk:

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Address:

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Name of business:

Code Number (Main IACS No):

NOTES ON COMPLETION

1. The Plan must cover at least 10 hectares of moorland. There is no upper limit.
2. A completed Moorland Management Plan must accompany an RSS application which includes any of the moorland options. The Moorland Management Plan is intended to provide a description of the current extent, condition and use of the common grazings. It should also detail any proposed changes to the management required to improve the quality and extent of the heather and other vegetation of conservation interest. Where stock disposal is proposed, flock details are required for the common grazing in question in the year of application and for each participating grazier's IACS business - declared on the grazier's business' SAP claims. These figures are required in order to establish the number of ewes to be removed from the common grazing and each participating grazier's business and the number to be retained during participation in the RSS.
3. The Management Plan must be accompanied by a map, normally at 1:10,000 or 1:25,000 scale showing separately those areas of common grazing:
 - (a) which are in good condition (MG)
 - (b) where the vegetation is overgrown or undergrazed (MU)
 - (c) where the vegetation is suppressed and in need of regeneration (MS)

These areas should be labelled MG (1, 2, 3 etc), MU and MS as appropriate. The map should also identify sacrifice/feeding areas and clearly show the proposed Muirburn Programme, any fencing and the **maximum extent** of area(s) to be covered by a Bracken Eradication Programme (BEP). Heft locations must also be shown together with the number of sheep on each heft in the year of application and following stock disposal.

4. The Plan is divided into five sections. Section 1 seeks details on the overall extent and location of the common grazing.

Sections 2, 3 and 4 seek information about areas of common grazings in each of the 3 categories described above. As well as details of location and area, a full description of the vegetation and its condition is required. There should also be a summary of the current management, including grazing patterns and details of any shepherding and muirburn carried out. Any proposed changes to this management should also be detailed, particularly those which involve management options or capital works eligible for assistance under RSS. Section 5 and the stocking information proformas (one to be completed by each participating grazier) seek information on livestock numbers where stock disposal for the benefit of moorland vegetation is proposed.
5. When completing Section 5, it is important to note that the business is required to dispose of a sufficient number of sheep to reduce the flock of ewes and gimmers it maintains to an agreed size. If the number of ewes and gimmers maintained in the flock was the highest in the year of application, the participating business will be obliged to dispose of even more ewes than will be covered by the area-based stock disposal payment in order to achieve the agreed *Reduced Flock Size*.
6. If, following disposal of the agreed number of ewes, a SAP producer's flock is reduced to less than 10 eligible sheep, that producer will not be entitled to claim SAP on the animals remaining in the flock.
7. The LFASS payment to which a producer is entitled may be affected following the disposal of sheep.

SECTION 1 - DETAILS OF ALL MOORLAND ON THE COMMON GRAZINGS

Total area on Common Grazings (Ha):

Total area to be managed under RSS Moorland Management Plan (Ha):

Location Reference(s) on map:

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FID Number(s):

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SECTION 2 - MOORLAND IN GOOD CONDITION

Total Area (Ha):

Location Reference(s) on map:

FID Number(s):

Description of vegetation:

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Existing management (including stocking, grazing patterns, supplementary feeding practices and muirburn):

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Proposed changes to management (e.g. Improving supplementary feeding practices):

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SECTION 3 - UNDERGRAZED/OVERGROWN MOORLAND

Total Area (Ha):

Location Reference(s) on map:

FID Number(s):

Description of vegetation:

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Existing management (including stocking, grazing patterns, supplementary feeding practices and muirburn):

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Proposed changes to management (e.g. herding required to support changes to grazing regime):

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SECTION 4 - SUPPRESSED MOORLAND IN NEED OF REGENERATION

Total Area (Ha):

Location Reference(s) on map:

FID Number(s):

Description of vegetation:

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Existing management (including stocking, grazing patterns, supplementary feeding practices and muirburn):

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Proposed changes to management (Over and above normal hill stock husbandry. Where stock disposal is proposed, full details should be given in section 5):

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COMMON GRAZINGS COMMITTEE APPLICATION

SECTION 5 - STOCKING INFORMATION

(to be completed only where stock disposal is proposed)

Please complete Tables A, B and C below providing baseline information and details of the stock disposal measures you propose for the common grazings entered into the scheme under this application.

A - Baseline information: Common Grazings

1. Please enter Code Number for Common Grazings Committee:
2. **In the year of the application**, please enter flock details relating to the common grazings to be entered into the scheme:

(i)

Grazier's Name	Grazier's Main Farm Code No.	Grazier's BRN (Office Use Only)	Nos. of Sheep on Common Grazings			
			Ewes	Gmrs	Total	Ewe Hoggs

(ii)

SAP Scheme Year	Common Grazings Flock			
	Ewes	Gimmers	Total	Ewe Hoggs

B - Stock disposal for the benefit of moorland vegetation

3. Please enter the total number of *ewes and gimmers* to be removed from the common grazings for the duration of the participation in the RSS, in return for a stock disposal payment, i.e. the sum of Stock Reduction figures for the participating shareholders:

Common Grazings Stock Reduction figure:

