## ACRES Chough SCORECARD

Farmer name: Field number: Business ID: Surveyor: Survey date:

**Total Score:** (A+B+C)

/100

## **Total score A: A** Ecological integrity /90 (sum of A1 to A5) **A1** What is the number of **positive indicators** in the field? Low: 0-5 Medium: 6-8 High: 9+ 20 Tick all positive indicators present below. Note all positive indicators present as you walk a 'W' through the field. Positive indicators: Lady's Smock Oxeye daisy Umbels large (Umbels large (cuckoo flower) and/or common valerian Purple loosestrife Armeria (Sea thrift/Sea pink) and/or common hogweed) Lesser spearwort Plantain (Buck's horn or sea) Umbels small (Pignut, Yarrow Bedstraws & stitchworts Louseworts Ragged robin & Wild carrot) (Common & Marsh) Birdsfoot trefoil Scabious (Devil's-bit & field) Vetches/vetchlings Carline thistle Marsh cinquefoil Sedges Violets (all), Harebell Cowslips & Primrose Marsh marigold Selfheal & Bugle Wild thyme Marsh pennywort Eyebrights Sorrel (Sheep & Common) Yellow composites (Cats Marsh thistle Forget-me-nots ears, Hawkweeds, Hawkbits & Small Rushes (Woodrush Meadowsweet Heathers Goats-beard) - **not** dandelion Spike rush, Heath rush) Kidney vetch Meadow thistle Yellow flag iris Sphagnum & Branched Knapweeds Mints (all) Yellow rattle (Hay rattle) mosses Orchids Lady's mantle Tormentil (Common & English) **A2** What is the combined **cover of all A3** What is the combined **cover of negative positive indicators** (listed above) indicators/weeds throughout the field? throughout the field? Tick if present: Docks (NOT small sorrels) Thistles (Creeping & spear) (Cover is the proportion of the field taken up Perennial Rye-grass Ragwort Nettles Other by all positive indicators present) **High >25%:** Occurring in dense patches or abundant Low: None present or you can take several steps 0 -20 throughout the field. Very visible in the sward. without encountering any positive indicators at all. Moderate: You encounter a positive indicator Moderate 5-25%: Occurring in medium to large with every few steps taken. patches in the field. Readily visible in the sward. High: You encounter positive indicators with Low <5%: None or scattered or small clumps of negative 20 every step taken. indicators. Where present, cover should be less than 5% A4 Vegetation structure A5 Landscape elements Low: Absence of, earth mounds, stone **Low:** Sward height uniformly tall (>20 cm) 0 0 walls, exposed rock, scree. throughout site OR large unvegetated areas. Moderate: Sward height 10 - 20 cm throughout Moderate: Occasional occurence of earth 15 site (occasionally <10cm). Small patches of bare soil. mounds, stone walls, exposed rock and/or scree. **Good:** Sward is < 10 cm in height, many areas < 5 **Good:** Regular occurence of earth mounds 20 cm. Occasional to frequent small patches of bare soil. and/or exposed rock Total score B: Threats & future prospects /10 (sum of B1 to B6) **B1** Is there any evidence of damaging activities to **B2** What is the level of risk to habitat, vegetation, or archaeology? the quality of natural water -30 **High:** Damage occurring across a large area (≥21%) or of a serious nature if confined. bodies within, adjacent to and Moderate: Damage occurring across a moderate area (≥6-20%) downstream of the field due to or of a moderate nature if confined. pressures relating to flow, sediment, nutrients or other **Low:** Damage occurring across a small area (≤5%) or of a minor nature if confined. -10 pollutants? None: No damaging activities. The source - pathway - receptor **Damaging activities:** (tick relevant damage & describe in comments) model should inform the assessment (see quidance). Damage from supplementary feeding $\lceil$ Quarrying Boundary damage Damage to archaeological features Removal of mature scrub/trees Burning High: Low: Other (please specify): Inappropriate herbicide use Dumping None: **Moderate:** March 2023 | ACRES Chough assessment Scorecard | Page 1 of 2

		may also be extending out significantly from the main tting and soil disturbance caused by vehicle/tractor access.	-20
points. Bare soil may exte		regation areas, with minor soil loss occurring at a few and/or water points. Minor rutting and soil disturbance	-10
	ess restricted to regular stock paths, 'pinch' poi g regularly used routes or areas with minor soil		10
<b>B4</b> What is the cov	er of <b>non-native invasive species</b> ?	Non-native invasive species: (tick if present)	
<b>High:</b> Abundant. Some forming dense clumps, many seedlings. <b>-30</b>		Rhododendron Himalayan balsam  Cotoneaster Himalayan knotweed	
Moderate: Frequent. Some flowering, many seedlings present20		Hottentot fig Himalayan knotweed	
Low: Scattered. Plants mostly small and not flowering10		Giant Hogweed Japanese Knotweed	
None: No non-native inv	vasive species present. 0	Other (please specify):	
<b>B5</b> What is the ext	ent of <b>spreading immature scrub</b> ?		
(This can be brambles, seedlings, scrub and trees generally lower than 1m in height and with a stem diameter of <5cm. Do not include established scrub).	High: >25% of the field has immature scrub cover, some well-established saplings may be present. Field is likely to show few signs of management, such as signs of recent grazing or signs of livestock.		-20
	<b>Moderate:</b> Cover of immature scrub in patches or individuals with overall cover of between 11-25% with particularly briars/brambles coming in.		-10
	<b>Low:</b> Small patches of immature scrub or individual seedlings of immature scrub with overall cover of less than 10%. Grass growth easily seen underneath the scrub.		0
<b>B6</b> What is the cover of <b>bracken</b> ?	<b>High:</b> Dense stands of bracken covering ov	er half or more of the field, forming closed canopy.	-20
	Moderate: Bracken forming dense stands	covering parts of the field, mostly forming closed canopy.	-10
	<b>Low:</b> Bracken absent or some scattered fronds and none forming closed canopy. Can include some isolated small patches or some larger patches on steep slopes.		0
Common manag	ement recommendations to pick	from:	
	nt management of this high quality gra		
		s. Consult with CP team regarding solutions.	
	urrence and spread of immature scruk		
	ative to ring feeders, if necessary.		
Use stock to gra	ze field more evenly.		

☐ Tourist damage, burning/litter/dumping/ vehicle tracks. Consult with CP team regarding solutions.



Reduce fertiliser inputs.No management advice.

Other management advice: