Carbon Landscape Water Vole Survey Habitat Survey

Recorder name(s)		1km square e.g. SD5703		Site name	
Survey side of water body e.g. north, south (mark on map)				Date e.g. 05/05/2018	

Site information (tick as appropriate)

Have Water Voles been re-introduced at the site?	Yes	No	Unknown
Does mink control take place at the site?	Yes	No	Unknown

Habitat types for each 100m transect section (complete as many sections as required for the survey)

	100m transect section grid reference	Waterbody type	Vegetation type(s) and abundance (within 2m of the surveyed bank)
1			
2			
3			
4			
5 start			
5 end			

Waterbody types

Pond (less than 50m2)	Lined reservoir	River slow to medium running	Canal
Small waterbody (50 - 450m2)	Gravel pits / sand pits	River fast running	Ditch with water
Lake / unlined reservoir	Stream (<3m wide)	River (>3m wide)	

Vegetation types

Marginal and inundation	This category encompasses all narrow strips of emergent vegetation occurring on the (often steep) margins of lowland watercourses, where the water table is permanently high. Bands of tall vegetation wider than 5m should be classified as swamp.
Swamp	Swamp contains tall emergent vegetation typical of the transition between open water and exposed land. Swamps are generally in standing water for a large part of the year. A reedbed containing common reed (Phragmites australis) is an example of swamp. Other vegetation types include: tall sedges and Bulrush.
Mire (including Bogs and Fen)	This broad habitat type is characterised by a variety of vegetation types on peaty or mineral soils where the water-table is usually at, or just below the surface. Bogs habitats are rain water fed and often contain peat forming Sphagnum mosses. Cotton grass and purple moor grass may be present and bog pools may also be present. Mires and Fens are fed by ground water, flowing water or periodic inundation. Sedges, rushes and sphagnum are typical of these habitats. As these habitats can be difficult to differentiate, they can be recorded collectively as 'mire'. Very wet areas containing tall swamp vegetation e.g. tall sedges or common reed (Phragmites australis) should be recorded as swamp. Carr or wet woodland should be recorded in woodland categories.
Flushes and springs	Flushes occur on gently sloping ground, are often linear or triangular and may include water courses. Typical vegetation will include a ground layer of Sphagnum mosses and / or other bryophytes (mosses and liverworts), together with small sedges and rushes. If the area is dominated by grasses and Soft Rush, together with herbs (non-grassy) plants, this habitat should be recorded as Marsh / marshy grassland.
Grassland and marsh	Includes all areas of herbaceous vegetation dominated by grasses. It also includes certain wet communities containing some reed and sedge species and other marsh plants. Grasslands containing greater than 25% cover of Heather species, gorse and bilberry are classed as heathland.
Arable / cultivated ground	Cropland, horticultural land, including crops managed for silage
Heathland	Heather species, gorse and bilberry. Grasslands containing greater than 25% cover of these dwarf shrub heaths are classed as heathland.
Scrub	Vegetation dominated by locally native shrubs, usually less than 5m tall, occasionally with a few scattered trees. (e.g. Hazel, Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Bramble, shrub willow species,). Stands of young trees or stump regrowth less than 5m high, where these represent more than 50% of the immature canopy cover.

END OF INFORMATION