

| Lough Carra LIFE Scrub/Woodland Assessment Scorecard |                    |  | Total Score<br>(A+B+C) |
|--|--------------------|--|------------------------|
| Farmer Name: _____                                   | Surveyor: _____    |  |                        |
| Business ID: _____                                   | Survey date: _____ |  |                        |
| Field number: _____                                  |                    |  |                        |
| <b>Habitat Type:</b>                                 |                    |  |                        |
| Scrub  | Woodland           |  |                        |
| <b>Soil Type :</b>                                   |                    |  |                        |
| Mineral Soil   | Peat Soil          |  |                        |

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>A. Ecological integrity</b> | <b>Total Score A:</b><br>(Sum of A1-S or A1-W) |
|--------------------------------|--|

Typical Scrub & Woodland species: (tick those present) /100

| Scrub woody plant & Woodland species present (*indicates non- native decidous trees) |  |                  |  |
|--|--|------------------|--|
| Alder  |  | Beech*           |  |
| Ash  |  | Holly            |  |
| Birch  |  | Oak              |  |
| Blackthorn   |  | Rowan            |  |
| Bog Myrtle   |  | Scotts Pine      |  |
| Bracken  |  | Spruce           |  |
| Bramble  |  | Sycamore*        |  |
| Hazel  |  | Horse Chestnut*  |  |
| Elder  |  | Spanish Chesnut* |  |
| Gorse/Furze  |  | Hornbeam*        |  |
| Whitethorn   |  | Spindle          |  |
| Willow   |  | Other:           |  |
| Guelder Rose   |  |                  |  |

**A.1 Score either A1-S OR A1-W**

|                                 |                                     |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| A1-S for SCRUB dominated plots: | <b>Total Score A1-S:</b><br>(A1-Sa) |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|

/100

| A1-Sa Describe the diversity & structure of the SCRUB present? |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
| Poor   | Moderate                                     | Good  | Very Good   |
| Gorse dominated scrub.   | Two native species from table above present. | Three native species from the table above common throughout plot. | Four or more native species from the table above common throughout plot. Variation in vegetation height and structure throughout. |
| 0  | 50   | 75  | 100   |

OR

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| A1-W for WOODLAND dominated plots: | <b>Total Score A1-W</b><br>(Sum of A1-Wa to A1-Wc) |
|------------------------------------|--|

/100

| A1-Wa Describe the woodland CANOPY layer? |                                      |   |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| Poor                                      | Moderate                             | Good  |
| Native woodland with frequent non-        | Native woodland with occasional non- | Native woodland with no non-native (conifers or |
| 0   | 30                                   | 70  |

| A1-Wb Describe the woodland SHRUB layer? |          |      |
|--|----------|------|
| Poor                                     | Moderate | Good |
|  |          |      |

|   |   |  |   |
|---|---|--|---|
| Shrub layer absent or consists of non-  | Shrub layer present.  | Well developed   |   |
| 0   | 10  | 15   |   |
| <b>A1-Wc Describe the woodland FIELD layer?</b>   |   |  |   |
| <b>Poor</b>   | <b>Moderate</b>   | <b>Good</b>  |   |
| The field layer is absent or consists of  | Field layer present with  | Field layer supports good diversity  |   |
| 0   | 10  | 15   |   |
| <b>B. Hydological integrity (carbon capture)</b>  |   |  | <b>Total Score B</b>                    |
|   |   |  | /0                                      |
| <b>B.1 To what extent are there any artificial drainage features within the plot?</b>   |   |  |   |
| <b>Drained Woodland</b>   | <b>Partly Drained Woodland</b>  | <b>Historic Drainage evident</b>   | <b>No drainage</b>                      |
| Frequent widespread free flowing drains affecting >20% of the plot.   | Free flowing drains affecting <20% of the plot.   | Drains present but flow is impeded.  | No artificial drainage within the plot. |
| -30   | -15   | -5   | 0                                       |
| <b>C. Threats &amp; Pressures</b>   |   |  |   |
|   |   |  | <b>Total Score C</b>                    |
|   |   |  | C1 to C4                                |
|   |   |  | /10                                     |
| <b>C.1 Is there any evidence of damaging activities to habitat, vegetation, or archaeology?</b>   |   |  |   |
| <b>High</b>   | <b>Moderate</b>   | <b>Low</b>   | <b>None</b>                             |
| Damage occurring across a large area or of a serious nature if confined.  | Damage occurring across a moderate sized area or of a moderate nature if confined.  | Damage occurring across a small area or of a minor nature if confined.                                       | No damaging activities.                 |
| -30   | -20   | -10  | 0                                       |
| <b>Damaging activities:</b>   |   |  |   |
| <i>(tick relevant damage or describe in comments)</i>   |   |  |   |
|   | Supplementary Feeding   | Damage to archaeological features  | Herbicide use                           |
|   | Dumping   | Quarrying  | Other (please specify)                  |
|   | Boundary damage   | Burning  |   |
| <b>C.2 What is the level of risk to the quality of natural water bodies within, adjacent to and downstream of the field due to pressures relating to flow, sediment, nutrients or other pollutants?</b>   |   |  |   |
| <i>The source - pathway - receptor model should inform the assessment (see guidance).</i>   |   |  |   |
| <b>High</b>   | <b>Moderate</b>   | <b>Low</b>   | <b>None</b>                             |
| -25   | -15   | -5   | 0                                       |
| <b>C.3 What is the extent of bare soil and erosion?</b>   |   |  |   |
| <b>High</b>   | <b>Moderate</b>   | <b>Low</b>   |   |
| Areas of bare and eroding soil resulting in exposure of the underlying rock seen at regular intervals along main stock paths particularly those leading to main feed sites or water points. Excessive areas of bare soil within main grazing area and bare soil extending out | Bare soil mainly along regularly used routes or areas with minor soil loss occurring at a few points. Minor rutting and soil disturbance caused by occasional vehicle access may be present. Bare soil may extend a short distance beyond the main feed site or water points. | Bare soil more or less restricted to regular stock paths, 'pinch' points & congregation areas. No soil loss. |   |
| -20   | -10   | 0  |   |
| <b>C4. What is the cover of non-native invasive species?</b>  |   |  |   |
| <b>High</b>   | <b>Moderate</b>   | <b>Low</b>   | <b>None</b>                             |
| Abundant, some forming dense clumps, many seedlings.  | Frequent. Some flowering, many seedlings present.   | Plants scattered and mostly small and not flowering.   | No non-native invasive species present. |
| -30   | -20   | -20  | 0                                       |
| <i>Non-native invasive species:<br/>(tick if present)</i>   |   | Rhododendron   |   |
|   |   | Himalayan Honeysuckle  |   |
|   |   | Himalayan Knotweed   |   |
|   |   | Japanese Knotweed  |   |
|   |   | Giant Hogweed  |   |
|   |   | Himalayan Balsam   |   |

|  |                        |  |
|--|------------------------|--|
|  | Cotoneaster            |  |
|  | Other (please specify) |  |

**Specific field management advice/comments:**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Common management recommendations to pick from:</b>  |  |
| Continue current management of this high quality scrub/woodland field.                                    |  |
| Control the occurrence and spread of invasive species. Consult with CP team regarding solutions.          |  |
| Consider using supporting actions to slow or impede the flow of drains.                                   |  |
| Consider raising watertable to restore peat soil, supporting actions are available.                       |  |
| Use stock to graze field more evenly.   |  |
| Improve stock management. You may wish to avail of supporting actions e.g. Fencing / drinking facilities. |  |
| Move feeders / troughs regularly and keep away from drains and rivers.                                    |  |
| No management advice.   |  |
| Other management advice   |  |