

Farming in the uplands for wildlife

Make the most of Environmental Stewardship in the uplands

Moorland 1




Many species of upland bird use areas of heather moorland, tussocky grassland and wet flushes to breed throughout the summer.

Moorland edge 2




These areas are particularly important for breeding waders and black grouse (in the north) providing chick rearing habitat through the spring and into the summer months.

Hay meadows (and other in-bye grassland) 3

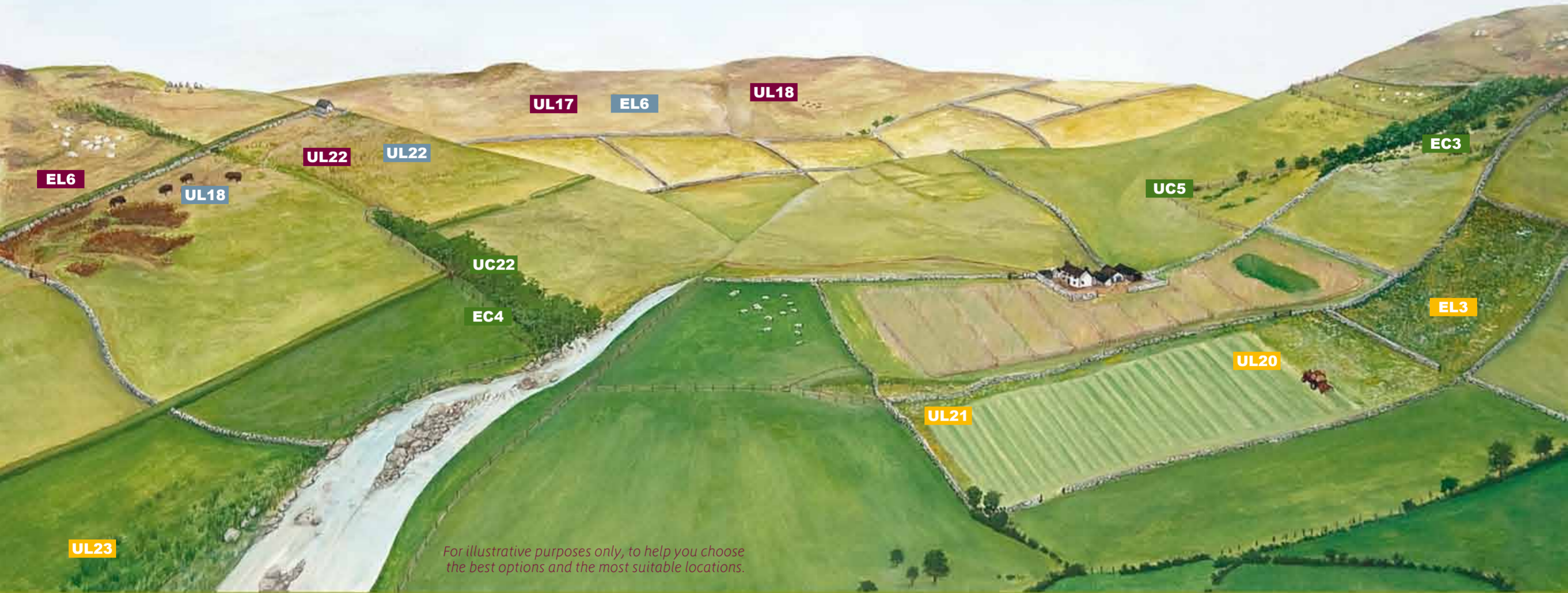


Hay meadows cut in late summer are often diverse in flowering plants. Tall uncut areas can provide useful habitat for butterflies and other invertebrates.

Small native woodland and scrub 4



Areas of native gill woodland are important for spring flowers and woodland birds. Fritillary butterflies may often be found in open bracken glades.



The options shown in the table below are commonly the best choices for wildlife. Other options could also make a valuable contribution. For Uplands ELS and Uplands OELS, there are also a number of compulsory land management requirements which must be met and for which points will be allocated. The ELS and OELS handbooks contain details of all the options and the compulsory requirements for Uplands ELS and Uplands OELS. Natural England advisers can provide more information if required.

UPLANDS ELS AND UPLANDS OELS COMPULSORY REQUIREMENTS		
Code	Requirement	Points/£ per ha
UX1	Moorland commons and shared grazing requirements	£5
UOX2/UX2	Upland grassland and arable requirements	11
UOX3/UX3	Moorland requirements	15

ELS, OELS, UPLANDS ELS AND UPLANDS OELS OPTIONS							
Code	Option	Points	SDA above Moorland Line	SDA below Moorland Line	Outside SDA	Best practice	Upland wildlife that will benefit
1 Moorland							
EL6	Unenclosed moorland rough grazing	5 per ha	Y*	-	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect habitats through minimising the impact of supplementary feeding and not undertaking any further drainage work and aim to maintain different ages & heights of heather. Follow the Heather & Grass Burning Code to minimise damage where conducted. Allow taller areas of vegetation to develop to provide insects and seeds and potential nesting habitat for wildlife. 	Breeding waders, twite
UL17/UOL17	No supplementary feeding on moorland	4 per ha	Y	-	-		
UL18/UOL18	Cattle grazing on upland grassland and moorland	30 per ha	Y	Y	-		
UL22/UOL22	Management of enclosed rough grazing for birds	35 per ha	Y*	-	-		
2 Moorland edge							
EL6	Unenclosed moorland rough grazing	5 per ha	Y*	-	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage a variety of sward heights (particularly in the spring) for breeding waders & other wildlife. Allow taller areas of vegetation to develop to provide insects, seeds and potential nesting habitat for wildlife. Use stock to break up stands of bracken to provide open areas for fritillary butterflies. 	Black grouse, breeding waders, fritillary butterflies
UL18/UOL18	Cattle grazing on upland grassland and moorland	30 per ha	Y	Y	-		
UL22/UOL22	Management of enclosed rough grazing for birds	35 per ha	Y*	-	-		
3 Hay meadows (and other in-bye grassland)							
EL3/OL3	Permanent grassland with very low inputs in SDAs	60 per ha	-	Y	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choose hay making to give plants a chance to flower and increase abundance of seeds in the summer for birds. Cut hay meadows late in the summer, ideally follow with aftermath grazing by cattle to increase diversity. Use no cutting strips to allow taller areas of vegetation to develop to provide insects, seeds and potential nesting habitat for wildlife. 	Hay meadow flowers, farmland birds, brown hare, twite, breeding waders
UL20/UOL20	Hay making	60 per ha	-	Y	-		
UL21/UOL21	No cutting strip within meadows	250 per ha	-	Y	-		
UL23/UOL23	Management of upland grassland for birds	37 per ha	-	Y	-		
4 Small native woodlands and scrub							
EC3/OC3	Maintenance of woodland fences	4 per 100 m	Y	Y	Y	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exclude livestock from small woodlands and retain dead wood to enhance diversity. 	Woodland birds, fritillary butterflies, dormice
EC4/OC4	Management of woodland edges	380 per ha	Y	Y	Y		
UC5/UOC5	Sheep fencing around small woodlands	50 per 100 m	-	Y	-		
UC22/UOC22	Woodland livestock exclusion	75 per ha	-	Y	-		

*Parcels less than 15 ha only

Upland wildlife you may see on your farm that will benefit from Uplands ELS and Uplands OELS



Black grouse – North Pennines only Breeding waders Fritillary butterflies Twite – Pennines only Hay meadows Woodlands birds

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