

## UPLAND DRY ACIDIC GRASSLAND HABITAT STATEMENT

### Conservation objectives

- To restore at least 10 % of upland dry acidic grassland to other communities such as heath, scrub, woodland and wetland.

### Conservation measures

- Encourage appropriate management of acid grassland to allow regeneration of dwarf shrub and scrub communities through targeting of agri-environment schemes.
- Restore or create new native woodland communities on acid grassland at the moorland edge through the appropriate targeting of woodland grant schemes (see Woodlands & Scrub, pages C-65 to C-86).
- Consider allowing one or two large areas of acidic grassland to develop into an essentially unmanaged naturalistic landscape, composed principally of mosaics of open woodland, heath, bog and wetland through the use of grant schemes or local nature reserves as appropriate.

## BRACKEN HABITAT STATEMENT

### Conservation objectives

- To ensure that bracken encroachment does not lead to the loss of other habitats of greater biodiversity value.
- To recognise that bracken can be an important habitat for biodiversity conservation in appropriate locations.

### Conservation measures

- Control bracken using appropriate methods where it is encroaching onto habitats of higher biodiversity value. The methods chosen should not adversely affect other plant communities or species.
- Bracken control should be avoided in areas that support species of conservation concern such as short-eared owl, ring ouzel, twite, high brown or pearl-bordered fritillary butterflies or snakes. Chemical control should also be avoided along watercourses in accordance with Environment Agency requirements.
- Bracken in gills and steep areas should not be controlled.
- Where control is carried out follow-up treatment should be carried out. This should ideally include controlling or removing stock to allow re-colonisation by appropriate plants and seedlings.