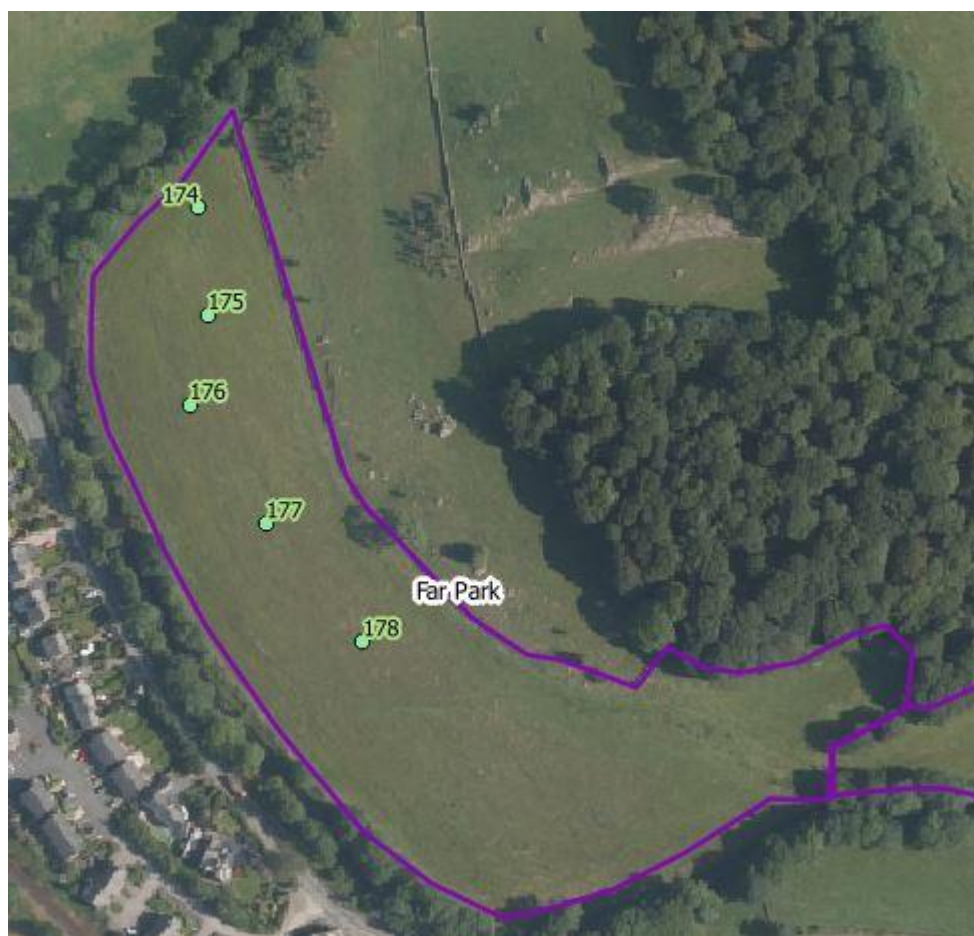



Site Visit Assessment Form – Far Park 1, Cumbria



Site Name Far Park 1	Grid Ref SD473979	County Cumbria	
River Kent	Ownership Private	Designation None	Size (ha) 3.12
Date 5 th July 2017	Meeting with No one	Managed by Private	
Management and History			
Agri environment agreement			
AG00352474			
Current management			
Hay cut and aftermath graze.			
Restoration			
Technique used/Dates			
A hay cut was restored in about 2010 when the site was surveyed. Brush harvested seed was applied after the fields were harrowed, however the fields were so wet that the seed had to be stored before being sown, ended up with the stored seed being sown in patches. The owner doesn't think it worked therefore as he can't see evidence of clumps of plants.			

Hydrology		South Cumbria Rivers Trust removed 500 yards of flood bank around Field 1 so field should now flood more easily.
Flooding regime Water management Soil-water levels (indicated by auger hole/any other data)		
Historical information		
During the war, some of these fields were ploughed for potatoes, but this stopped in the 1950's. Hay was taken in the mid-50's but the field has just been grazed since then. Not been improved other than small amount of slurry. Been just grazed for about 50 years therefore.		
Current site interest		Attach excel spreadsheet for botanical data
This field has a good species diversity, averaging 17.6 species/m ² . The Ellenberg indicator value for soil nutrients (N=4.48), indicates a low soil fertility. However the Ellenberg score for wetness (F=5.42) indicates the site is relatively wet. This degree of soil wetness is resulting in plant communities similar to an MG8 Kingcup-carnation sedge meadow <i>Cynosurus cristatus-Carex panicea-Caltha palustris</i> , or MG4 Burnet floodplain meadow <i>Alopecurus pratensis-Sanguisorba officinalis</i> grassland (Typical) sub-community. Plants including Autumn hawkbit <i>Leonthodon autumnalis</i> , ribwort plantain <i>Plantago lanceolata</i> , meadow buttercup <i>Ranunculus acris</i> and red clover <i>Trifolium pratense</i> dominate in patches on the field. Great burnet <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i> has established in this field, but at a very low cover. Grasses are distributed more evenly and with lower abundance.		
Phosphorus levels		Not known
Soil profiles		
		Soil profile at quadrat 177 <i>A horizon</i> 0 – 10 cm – silty loamy sand <i>B horizon</i> 10 – 15 cm – silty loam with gravel 15 – 30 cm – 50% gravel with sand and silt <i>C horizon</i> Below 30 cm – gravel. Auger does not go further

Site manager aspirations/objectives
Species rich meadow
Management recommendations
Continued consistent management of this field as an annually cut meadow will encourage this field to become even more species rich in time.

	Far Park	
	Field 1	Field 2
Ellenberg F (moisture tolerance)	5.42	5.18
Ellenberg N (fertility)	4.48	4.18
Ellenberg R (Reaction)	6.16	5.6
Species/quadrat (mean and range /1 m x 1 m)	17.6 (16-19)	19.4 (15-22)
NVC (top 2 MAVIS subcommunities)	MG8 MG4b	MG8 MG8d