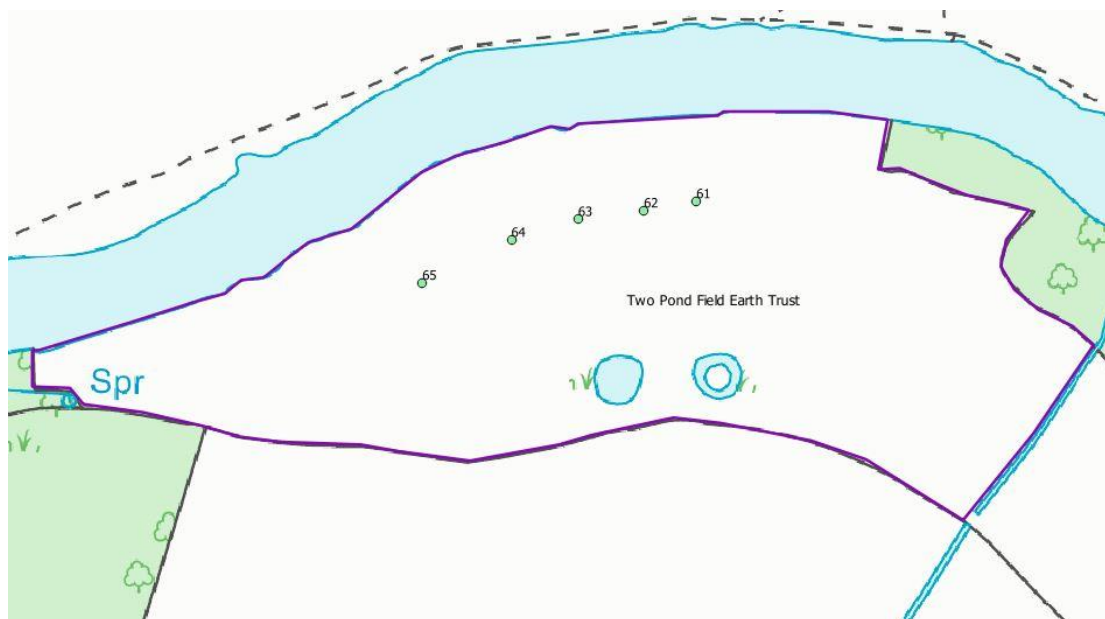



**Site Visit Assessment Form – The Earth Trust Two Ponds Field
Oxfordshire**



Site Name Two Pond Field	Grid Ref SU 584 932	County Oxfordshire	
River Thames	Ownership The Earth Trust	Designation None	Size (ha) 5.93
Date 19 th May 2017	Meeting with No one	Managed by The Earth Trust	
Management and History			
Previously pasture. Forms part of the River of Life project which has involved re-modelling of river and floodplain in some areas, combined with sowing wildflower areas.			
Agri environment agreement			
AG00402391 (HK7?)			
Current management			
Manged on rotation, with 2 years grazed and third year hay cut.			
Restoration			
Technique used/Dates			
Sowed commercial seed in 2016, on previously species poor field. Not sure of actual method.			
Hydrology		Floods regularly.	
Flooding regime			
Water management			
Soil-water levels (indicated by auger hole/any other data)			

Historical information	
Current site interest	Attach excel spreadsheet for botanical data
<p>The field is heavily dominated by two grasses, perennial rye-grass <i>Lolium perenne</i> and rough-stalked meadow-grass <i>Poa trivialis</i> (up to 70% ground cover). The most similar NVC community is to MG7. A small presence of yellow rattle <i>Rhinanthus minor</i> in the community hasn't yet made much difference to the dominance of grasses. The Ellenberg indicator value for soil fertility (N=6.18), is high and is reflected in the dominance of grass in the sward. A seedling of great burnet <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i> was found on one of the survey quadrats indicating that target species did germinate on the field. However, with the current abundance and density of grasses such seedlings are unlikely survive the competition.</p>	
Phosphorus levels	Not known
Soil profiles	
	<p>Soil at quadrat 63</p> <p><i>A horizon</i> 0 – 10 cm silty loam, dark-brown</p> <p><i>B horizon</i> 10 – 20 cm – transition to clay loam 20 – 60 cm – light brown clay loam, plenty of organic matter, remains of the thick roots? 60 cm – iron appears in the profile 60 – 120 cm – light-brown silty clay loam with iron, organic matter plentiful down to the bottom of the profile, 3% of small gravel.</p>
Site manager aspirations/objectives	
Species rich grassland?	
Management recommendations	
A double hay cut is recommended for the next 2-3 years to reduce the vigour of grasses and provide herbs and smaller species of grass with an opportunity to establish themselves in the community.	

The Earth Trust			
	Two Pond Field	The Waterboard	Ferry Field
Ellenberg F (moisture tolerance)	5.38	5.2	4.96
Ellenberg N (fertility)	6.18	5.24	5.2
Ellenberg R (Reaction)	6.04	6.28	6.4
Species/quadrat (mean and range /1 m x 1 m)	13 (12-14)	17 (15-19)	21 (16-25)
NVC (top 2 MAVIS subcommunities)	MG7D MG7	MG7D MG4v2	MG4a MG4v2