



Biodiversity Management Plan

Farm Name:

Location:

Date:



1. Biodiversity Management Plan

1.1 Objectives

A Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) is a implementation plan for conserving, restoration and enhancement of biodiversity value of a farm. The BMP sets the objectives and describes the management actions necessary to deliver the desired outcomes. The actions should be specific, measurable, achievable, and time-bound.

The objective of the Farm Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) is to conserve and enhance biodiversity on and around the farm.

The Farmer must ensure that decisions made in relation to direct production practices such as animal husbandry, cultivation, and crop protection take account of this BMP and its objective to conserve and enhance the biodiversity on and around the farm.

1.2 Farm Details

Brief description: size, location (grid reference), soils, livestock, crops, rotation, cultivation techniques etc.



1.3 Landscape

Protected Areas (PA) and Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) contribute significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity. It is important that Farmers are aware if they are operating in an PA or KBA and that they do not negatively impact these sites. A PA is a geographically defined area which is designated or regulated and managed to achieve specific conservation objectives. They can include the following: Nature Reserves; Wilderness Areas; National Parks; Natural Monuments; Habitat Management Areas; Protected Landscapes; and Protected areas with sustainable use of natural resources.

Confirm whether the farm is located either in a Protected Area or Key Biodiversity Areas, and identify the biodiversity values for which the site has been designated.

Protected Areas are shown on the following web portal: <https://www.protectedplanet.net/>.

World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas provides a searchable map of Key Biodiversity Areas at the following website: <http://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/site/mapsearch>.

Also confirm which river catchment(s) the Farm is situated.

1.3.1 Protected Areas:

1.3.2 Key Biodiversity Areas:



1.3.3 *River Catchments*

1.4 **Farm Map**

As part of the BMP, the Farm must develop a map of the Farm that clearly identifies areas important for biodiversity, including natural ecosystems, native vegetation and water bodies; any ecosystems known to support protected, threatened or endemic species; animal migratory corridors; and any areas of degraded land.

Natural ecosystems are defined as ecosystems that substantially resembles one that is or would be found in a given area in the absence of major human impacts. This includes human-managed ecosystems where much of the natural species composition, structure, and ecological function are still present. This can include ecosystems that might have been subject to major impacts in the past (for instance by agricultural cultivation, tree plantations, or intensive logging), but where it has re-attained a natural species composition, structure and ecological function. It can also include managed natural ecosystems where much of the ecosystem's composition, structure, and ecological function are present; such as managed natural forests and native grasslands or rangelands that are, or have historically been, grazed by livestock. Natural ecosystems may be partially degraded by anthropogenic or natural causes (e.g., harvesting, fire, climate change, invasive species), but have not been converted to another land use.

The following are all considered to represent natural ecosystems and should be defined on the Farm map:

- All types of natural forests (e.g. broadleaf, needleleaf, evergreen, deciduous and semi evergreen),
- All types of natural water body: lakes, ponds, springs, rivers and streams, whether permanent or seasonal.
- Other wetlands, where soils are waterlogged for most of the year (e.g. swamps, fens and peat bogs), or land which is periodically flooded (e.g. flood plains).



- Shrubland, savanna and Paramo
- Grasslands comprising predominantly of native plant species – likely to include land classified under RMS as Land Classes 4 and 5.
- Areas of non-forest natural vegetation within areas of forest.

2. Biodiversity on the Farm

2.1 Natural Ecosystems on the Farm

List all of the natural ecosystems on the Farm and record their extent and condition in terms of percentage vegetation cover and percentage of native species at the initial completion of the BMP, to act as a baseline for future monitoring (see Section 1.9).

Natural Ecosystem	Extent (ha)	Vegetation coverage (%)	Percentage native species %

2.2 Important Species on the Farm

Protected species are any species that are protected from harm under legislation in the country in which the Farm is located. Threatened species include any species categorized as Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable by the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species: <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>.

An endemic species is any species whose global range is restricted to a limited geographical area (either a country or less than 50,000 km²). Keystone species are species whose influence on ecosystem function and diversity are disproportionate to their numerical abundance. These can include large mammalian predators, large herbivores, or key pollinators and seed dispersers.

List the known protected, threatened, endemic, and keystone species and identify which ecosystems on the Farm support each species.



Species name	Species Category (Protected, threatened, endemic, keystone species)	Ecosystems important for the species

2.3 Alien Invasive Species and Degraded Land

Any areas of degraded land and invasive species shall be identified in this section of the BMP. One of the aims of the BMP should be to restore degraded areas as part of the restoration actions (section 3).



3. Actions

An essential element of the defined actions to manage, restore and enhance ecosystem will be consideration of the appropriate grazing management in each area of the Farm, taking into account the relevant land class of each pasture, the presence of native vegetation and Natural Ecosystems.

3.1.1 Conservation Actions

Specify conservation measures for each of the natural ecosystems and important species on the Farm. Cross reference with the Farm Map.

Habitat / Species	Map Reference / Location	Action Required	Frequency	Date for completion	Person responsible

3.1.2 Restoration Measures

Specify restoration measures for each of the natural ecosystems and important species on the Farm. Include measures to avoid the spread of manage alien invasive species of flora or fauna and eradicate them from natural ecosystems. Also specify measures to restore degraded areas of the Farm

Habitat / Species	Map Reference / Location	Action Required	Frequency	Date for completion	Person responsible



Habitat / Species	Map Reference / Location	Action Required	Frequency	Date for completion	Person responsible

3.1.3 Enhancement measures

Specify enhancement measures for each of the natural ecosystems and important species on the Farm.

Habitat / Species	Map Reference / Location	Action Required	Frequency	Date for completion	Person responsible



4. Monitoring

It is important to monitor of the extent and condition of the areas important for biodiversity each year to inform the review of the actions specified above, to ensure that the desired outcomes are being attained. The management actions should be adapted in light of the monitoring results. The Table in Section 1.5 should be used as a baseline for annual monitoring of natural ecosystems. The extent of alien invasive plant species and degraded land should also be monitored. The results of the actions Further guidance is provided the RMS Monitoring Point Guidance document.

4.1 Review

The BMP should be reviewed annually and updated at least every five years

	Date of next review	Completed (Y/N)
Annual Review - 1		
Annual Review -2		
Annual Review - 3		
Annual Review - 4		
Five-year Update		



5. Sources of Advice

It is recommended that local biodiversity experts are consulted for advice on the relevant biodiversity values to include in the BMP, as well as to provide suggestions on measures to protect, restore and enhance areas important for biodiversity. Record a summary of the advice received. If the local expert provided a separate report, this can be referenced here.

Advice Required	Organization	Date