

## Wildfire Risk Scoresheet

This scoresheet is to give an indication as to whether there is a high risk of a severe wildfire occurring on your land and therefore whether you need to consider producing a:

- **Wildfire Response Plan** – to effectively manage a wildfire incident, if one should occur, and/or a;
- **Wildfire Management Plan** – to reduce risk of fire starting and reduce its impact.

This scoresheet is intended as a simple tool that encourages consideration of wildfire risk. If you are already aware of, and plan for, wildfire on your land, you should consider the more in-depth risk assessment process instead of this first step.

Note: Use a separate scoresheet for each parcel of land, or group of parcels, where there is comparable risk and similar factors apply.

<b>Site name:</b>	
<b>Name of persons completing the risk assessment:</b>	
<b>Agreement Reference and agreement holder:</b> (If relevant)	
<b>Date of Completion of assessment:</b>	
<b>Review date:</b> (within 5 years or less where changes which could alter the score occur)	

Section	Question	Score if answer to question is 'yes'	Score	Notes
<b>Wildfire history</b>	Has there been a wildfire (including a controlled burn that has got out of control) on the land in the past 20 years?	35		
	Has there been a wildfire (including a controlled burn that has got out of control) on your immediate neighbours' land in the past 20 years?	25		
<b>Fires started by third parties using the land e.g. public, organised groups</b>	Do third parties currently light fires or cause fires to start on your land (e.g. Arson, campers, disposable BBQ's, discarded cigarettes, due to military training)?	40		
	Do third parties currently light fires or cause fires to start on your neighbours' land (e.g. arson, campers, disposable BBQ's, discarded cigarettes, due to military training)?	30		
<b>Current management burning</b>	Does controlled/prescribed burning take place on your land? This includes burning of heather/grass/gorse/brash.	40		
	Does controlled burning take place on your neighbours' land? This includes burning of heather/grass/gorse/brash.	20		
<b>Introduction of controlled burning</b>	Are there plans to introduce controlled burning in the next five years on your land after a period of more than 5 years of no burning being undertaken?	40		
	Are there plans to introduce controlled burning on your neighbour's land after a period of more than 5 years of no burning being undertaken?	25		
<b>Changes in land management practices over the <u>last 20 years</u></b>	Was controlled/prescribed burning undertaken on your land but now stopped?	35		
	Was controlled burning undertaken on your immediate neighbour's land but now stopped?	20		
	Has grazing been significantly reduced during the growing season on moorland, heathland or grassland? (You should answer 'yes' to this question, if you expect there to be a change in the vegetation structure and/or type of cover in the next 5 years.)	30		

Section	Question	Score if answer to question is 'yes'	Score	Notes
<b>Changes in land management practices over the <u>last 20 years</u> (cont)</b>	Has grazing been significantly reduced during the growing season on moorland, heathland or grassland on your immediate neighbour's ground?	15		
<b>Crops and stored materials</b>	Do you harvest ripened or desiccated crops that may be dry enough to burn in a normal summer?	10		
	Do you have cropped land close to sources of fires – e.g. barbecues, garden waste fires, industry?	10		
	Do you store straw, hay or other crops that may be liable to spontaneously combust with a risk of fire spreading to crops or other vegetation?	5		
<b>Possibility of third-party fires</b>	Are there car parks, other access points / areas where users' behaviour suggests there is a high possibility of a fire being started?	35		
<b>Fuel load: peat</b>	Do you have any large areas (>10ha) of peat that could burn during extremely dry periods?	10		
<b>Fuel load: vegetation in open habitats</b>	Do you have any moorland / heathland / grassland / bracken (more than 2.5 acres / 1ha) that is never grazed / cut / managed?	10		
<b>Fuel load: vegetation in open habitats</b>	Do you have any moorland / heathland / grassland / bracken (more than 25 acres / 10ha) that is never grazed / cut / managed?	20		
<b>Fuel load: vegetation in open habitats</b>	Do you have any moorland / heathland / grassland / bracken (more than 50 acres / 20ha) that is never grazed/cut/managed?	40		
<b>Fuel load: scrub &amp; woodland</b>	Do you have any areas of scrub, including gorse over 0.5 acres (0.2ha)?	10		
	Have you planted any woodlands or allowed woodland or scrub to develop on your land in the past 20 years, or are you going to plant some in the next 2 years?	10		

Section	Question	Score if answer to question is 'yes'	Score	Notes
<b>Fuel load: scrub &amp; woodland (cont)</b>	Have any woodlands been clear felled on your land in the last 10 years, leaving woody debris that has not been removed. (Note if this area has been replanted and so you answered yes to the question above, no need to count again)	10		
<b>Fuel load: neighbouring ground</b>	Does your neighbour(s) have areas of moorland / heathland / grassland / scrub / woodland adjacent to your boundary that could enable a fire to spread onto your land?	10		
<b>Impact of wildfire</b>	On / adjacent to your land, do you have any sites of national / regional importance (e.g. settlements, major roads, SSSI) and/or important infrastructure (e.g. electricity substation/generation, gas pipeline, communications mast)?	30		
	Do you have any large areas (>20ha) of peat that could burn during dry conditions?	30		
<b>Add up all the above columns to give Total Wildfire Risk Score</b>				
<b>Any other comments</b>				

If the total **Wildfire Risk Score** is **40 or more** you should consider producing a **Wildfire Response Plan** and a **Wildfire Management Plan**, which will include a more comprehensive risk assessment to show how the risks are mitigated and managed.