SFI Moorland Assessment

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Viv Lewis
viv.lewis@outlook.com

Tracy May
theresa.may@btinternet.com

SFI Test and Trial

FOUNDATION FOR COMMON LAND

A gathering of those with a stake in pastoral commons and their future

- Managed by Foundation for Common Land funded by Defra
- 3 commons taking part
  - Brant Fell (Cumbria)
  - Long Mynd (Shropshire)
  - Peter Tavy (Dartmoor)
- DEFRA is paying each Association £16.45 per hectare (split into 4 quarterly payments) for taking part
- Each Common has a Local Facilitator who is being paid from the Test & Trail funds to support the test and trial process

SFI Moorland Assessment payments

- £10.30/ha for moorland
  + £6.15/ha for commons
- + £265 per year
- + £20 per ha up to 50 ha

- 3-year agreement

SFI Moorland Assessment what you have to do

1. **<u>Survey</u> the moorland – identify and record soil and vegetation on each 10-ha block**
2. **<u>Assess</u> the condition of the following public goods: Carbon: storage and capture, flood mitigation, clean water, and biodiversity**
3. **<u>Identify</u> opportunities to maintain, enhance, restore the public goods on your common**

Getting ready to apply for SFI Assessment

You must have

- ❑ commoners' association (“single entity” in Defra speak)
- ❑SBI and field parcels
- ❑Bank account
- ❑Sufficient management control for 3 years
- ❑Enforceable internal agreement

Sufficient management control

Get your registers up-to-date

Contact everyone on the register - tell them the Association intends to apply for SFI

CAN BE A BIG JOB

Creating a live register

- **Start** with official registers from your local Commons Registration Authority
- **Transpose** the register to an Excel spreadsheet
- **Sort** the data
- **Send out** letters to valid entries (a lot have been cancelled, replaced or modified) to inform about SFI and check details of common rights

exercisable over the whole or any part of the land described in the land section of this register unit.

West Riding County Council

Register unit No. C.L.26

Edition No. 1

Register of COMMON LAND

See Overleaf for Notes

RIGHTS SECTION—Sheet No. 1

1 No. and date of entry	2 No. and date of application	3 Name and address of every applicant for registration, and the capacity in which he applied	4 Particulars of the right of common, and of the land over which it is exercisable	5 Particulars of the land (if any) to which the right is attached
1 28th November, 1967 (See entry No. 95 below)	104 22th July, 1967	Frances Mary Brunskill and George Alfred Penrith Brunskill of 8 Railway Terrace, Lowgill near Kendal, Westmorland (owners)	1. To graze sheep at all times not exceeding 200. 2. To take bracken over the whole of land comprised in this Register Unit ~~(Registration provisional)~~	Brant Syke Farm, Howgill, Near Sedbergh shown edged red on the Supplemental Map bearing the number of this registration. Cancelled see Entry Nos. 104, 105 + 106 below
2 28th June 1968 (See entry No. 95 below)	315 29th January 1968	Emily Ellen Whitwell, Hillside, Wennington, Nr. Lancaster. LA2 8PE Owner	To graze 120 sheep and their followers (i.e. offspring) from birth until weaning, over the whole of the land comprised in this register unit. ~~(Registration provisional)~~	The Hill, Marthwaite, Sedbergh, shown edged red on the supplemental map bearing the number of this registration. Cancelled and replaced by Entries 221, 222, 223 and 224 below
3 28th June 1968 (See entry No. 5 below)	470 2nd April 1968	John Fleming Parkin, Beckside Farm, Sedbergh, Yorkshire Owner	1. A right to take bracken. 2. To graze 150 sheep or hoggs or sheep or hoggs together to a limit of 150 over the whole of the land comprised in this register unit. ~~(Registration provisional)~~	Beckside, Sedbergh as shown edged red on the supplement map bearing the number of this registration.
4 25th April, 1969	1603 9th July, 1968	Myles Jackson, Capplethwaite Hall, Sedbergh. (Owner)	To graze 100 sheep over the whole of the land comprised in this register unit. ~~(Registration provisional)~~	Northwaite, Ravenstonedale, Westmorland comprising field numbers 1455, 1456, 1457, 1458 1473 and 1474 on 25 inch O.S. sheet 48/1

CL Number: 26 CL Name: Brant Fell **The Common Rights Register**

Type of Interest	Entry No	Application No.	Name and Address of Applicant: Title	Initial	Name	Address 1	Address 2	Address 3	Town	County	Postcode	No and Type of Common Rights: Ewes	Hoggs	Cattle	Ponies	Geese	Other	Followers in addition (Yes / No)	Details of Land to which rights are attached (if any)	Declaration (if Any)	Confirmed or Cancelled
	1	104	cancelled see Entry nos 104, 105, 106																		
	2	319	replaced by Entry nos 221 - 224																		
	3	470	Mr	John Fleming	Parkin	Beckside Farm		Sedbergh		Cumbria		150					Bracken		Beckside, Sedbergh		
	4	1603	Mr	Myles	Jackson	Capplethwaite Hill		Sedbergh		Cumbria		100							Northwaite Ravenstonedale comprising field numbers 1		
	5	1994	Mr	John Ronald	Clement	Waskew Head		Tebay	Penrith	Cumbria		250							Wasker Head, as shown edged red on supplemental map		
	6	1803	cancelled and replaced see Entry nos 264, 265, 266																		
	7	1460	by order from Commons Comission void																		
	8	1692	Mr	Joseph	Gibson	Cross Hall F	Cautley	Sedbergh		Cumbria		90							comprising OS field numbers 1177, 1168, 1167, 1178, 11		
	9	1464	Mr	John William	Metcalfe	Beckside Fa	Cautley	Sedbergh		Cumbria		275		10	5						
	10	1933	Mr	Thomas	Scarr	Dales View		Sedbergh		Cumbria		50			2		Right to cut bracken.	Yes, including	comprising OS field numbers 1670, 1673, 1673a, 1675, 1		
	11	1934	cancelled and replaced see Entry nos 199, 200, 201																		
	12	1935	cancelled and replaced by Entries 193, 194 and 195																		
	13	1947	cancelled and replaced by Entries 212, 213 and 214																		
	14	1937	Mr	James	Mattinson	Ash Hining	Marthwaite	Sedbergh		Cumbria		50			1		Right to cut bracken.	Yes, including	comprising of OS field nos 568, 572, 573, 578, and 531		
	15	1938	Mr & Mrs	James & Janet	Postlethwai	Bramaskew	Howgill	Sedbergh		Cumbria		110					Right to cut bracken.	Yes, including	comprising of OS field nos 452, 453, 451,442, 468, 470,		
	16	1939	cancelled and replaced by Entries 203 and 204																		
	17	1944	Mr	Geoffrey Moore	Sedgewick	Lock Bank Farm		Sedbergh		Cumbria		170			4		Right to cut bracken.	Yes, including	comprising of OS field nos 593,591,594 -9, 600, 590, 64		
	18	1944	Mr	Geoffrey Moore	Sedgewick	Lock Bank Farm		Sedbergh		Cumbria		12					Right to cut and take pear, bracken and rus		comprising of OS field nos 664 on OS sheet 48/15 and 6		
	19	1945	Mr	Nicholas Ian	Richards	Crook O'Lun	Howgill	Sedbergh		Cumbria		200					Right to take bracken for bedding. Right to		comprising of OS field nos 153, 154, 157-177, 179, 180,		
	20	1963	cancelled and replaced by entries 256, 257 and 258														Right to cut and take turf bracken and rushes. Right to take loose stones.				
	21	1948	Mr	A A	Capstick &	Hole House	Howgill	Sedbergh		Cumbria		330			2		Right to cut and take bracken and rushes f		comprising of OS field nos 281, 282, 294, 296, 300-301-		
	22	1949	Messrs	G H	Capstick &	Birkhaw	Howgill	Sedbergh		Cumbria		60			2		Right to cut and take	Yes, including	comprising of OS field nos 327 - 29, 347, 331-36, 347 2		
	23	1950	Messrs	G H	Capstick &	Birkhaw	Howgill	Sedbergh		Cumbria		220			2		Right to cut and take	Yes, including	comprising of OS field nos 389, 391, 392, 393, 395 -401		
	24	1951	cancelled and replaced by Entries 116, 117 and 118																		
	25	1952	Mr	John Pallister	Kirkbride	Borrett Farr	Marthwaite	Sedbergh		Cumbria		120			2		Right to cut and take bracken and rushes fo		comprising of OS field nos1684-90, 1767, 1768, 1770-7		
	26	1953	Mrs	L	Joyce	Birks Farm	Cautley	Sedbergh		Yorkshire		60			2		Right to take bracken and rushes for bedde		comprising of OS field nos 1068, 1071, 1072, 1075, 107		
	27	1955	cancelled and replaced by entries 215, 216, and 217																		
	28	1956	cancelled and replaced by entries 113, 114 and 115																		
	29	1957	Mr	Ronald	Luffman	Bantyghyll	Howgill	Sedbergh		Cumbria		160			2		Right to cut and take	Yes, including	comprising of OS field nos 206 -10, 232-34, 252, 231, 2		

You can find Excel templates in the Common Land toolkit

Example: Getting an up-to-date register

(Dartmoor already has a live register)

Brant Fell

- **276** entries for Brant Fell in Commons Register
- **148** entries valid (the rest cancelled and replaced)
- **68** rights owners (some have multiple entries)

Long Mynd

- **254** entries in Commons Register
- **129** entries valid (the rest cancelled and replaced or modified)
- **110** rights owners (some have multiple entries)

Letters sent out to all rights owners to inform intention to enter SFI, including a table of the rights they hold to confirm if correct/or amend.

Brant – 30 responses, Long Mynd - 41

Templates available on FCL website Common Land Toolkit: https://foundationforcommonland.org.uk/common-land-toolkit

Model Internal Agreement for SFI

Agreement between

- Commoners' Association
- Individual members
- The Owner

Setting eligibility criteria to join SFI Moorland Assessment

EXAMPLE

1. Have a Single Business Identifier (SBI)
2. Be/ become a member of X Commoners' Association
3. Have a minimum of 50 grazing rights
4. Be able to attend meetings
5. Sign the Internal Agreement for Entry into SFI

THESE NEED TO BE ADAPTED TO THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF YOUR COMMON

DIVIDING UP THE FUNDS VARIOUS WAYS TO DO THIS –

- For the administration of this agreement - £6.15 per hectare per annum.
- To the owner/s - £.....
- To the surveyors - £30 per point per annum. (not including VAT)
- For attending meetings – payment per meeting **or** for attending a percentage of the meetings each year
- General Contingency Fund - £..... to be held as a reserve and topped up each year as necessary.
- At the end of each year any remaining unspent money to be paid to all members **or** to all members who participated in discussions to evaluate the public goods potential and identify opportunities for those public goods
- On a pro rata basis calculated by dividing the remaining unspent money by the number of members **or** the number of rights held by the members

Survey of the Surveyors

“Was it straightforward to decide which answer to choose from the Drop-Down menus while sampling?”

Generally easy but could be difficult sometimes to maintain consistency across all survey points

It was difficult to start with but got easier the more we got done

Some difficulties deciding on which land description to use

I feel that its fair

Poor value on difficult terrain

Some people could make money quickly and easily

If the points could all be reached by vehicle, the £30 would be ample

Knowing what you know now would you chose to do the surveying again?

I'd definitely give it a go again, but time is always an issue on the farm

When surveying in the wind and rain, phones dont like it, even in waterproof clipboard (mini plastic tent) was a pain as water everywhere, and screen not responding normally.

Works very well but does require signal for GPS. Not so easy on the couple of points where signal not available

If it makes a contribution to helping the environment, I'm definitely interested in continuing

Definitely better than a clipboard and pen!