



THE HEATHER TRUST

Promoting Integrated Moorland Management

Formation of a Bracken Control Group

- 1 In response to the banning of Asulam, the principal bracken control agent, it has been decided to form a Bracken Control Group, which will be coordinated by the Trust. The Group will circulate up-to-date information about the impact of this ban and the opportunities to continue controlling bracken.
- 2 The overall aims of the Bracken Control Group will be to:
 - 2.1 embrace all parts of the bracken control industry;
 - 2.2 provide a single point of contact for information about the impact of the ban of Asulam and other bracken control issues; and
 - 2.3 support the application process for interim measures and the re-registration of Asulam.
- 3 In summary the situation is that Asulam will be banned in Europe on 31 December 2011, although there will be a use-up period for a further 12 months that expires on 31 December 2012.
- 4 United Phosphorus Ltd (UPL), are the holders of the current registration of Asulam, which is the active ingredient of their product Asulox. Although it will be a lengthy and costly process, UPL has undertaken to apply for re-registration of the product, but assuming this is successful, it is unlikely that re-registration can be completed before 2016.
- 5 While the re-registration process is continuing, it may be possible to obtain Emergency Authorisations to allow limited use of Asulam during a 120 day period, each year.
- 6 To coordinate the activities of the Group, it is envisaged that a steering group will be established and that this will represent the different parts of the industry. A larger communications group will be used to disseminate information and feedback details of any issues of concern.
- 7 Any requests to join the communications group will be welcomed. A website www.brackencontrol.co.uk is available for the Group to use and this will be developed further and an eNewsletter system will be used to provide regular updates.
- 8 More information will be circulated as it becomes available.

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