

Tall-growing herbaceous vegetation

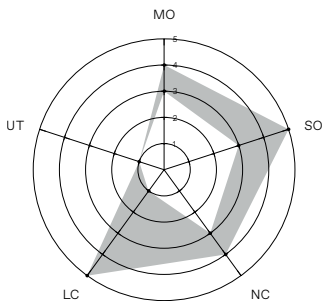


Tall herbaceous vegetation provides shelter, opportunities for reproduction, habitat, and food sources for numerous animal species.

Definition

Tall herbaceous vegetation consisting mainly of tall-growing, perennial plants, whose aboveground parts die off during winter but regrow each year. This is a habitat type particularly rich in structure and diversity.

Site requirements



- Moisture (MO)
- 1 Dry
 - 2 Fresh
 - 3 Moist
 - 4 Wet
 - 5 Always/part. inundated

- Soil (SO)
- 1 Raw soil
 - 2 Mineral soil (gravelly)
 - 3 Medium humus content
 - 4 Rich in humus
 - 5 Litter-rich humus (duff)

- Nutrient content (NC)
- 1 Very low
 - 2 Low
 - 3 Moderately low/rich
 - 4 Rich
 - 5 Very rich

- Light conditions (LC)
- 1 Full sun
 - 2
 - 3 Semi-shade
 - 4
 - 5 Shade

- Utilization (UT)
- 1 Passive nature experience
 - 2
 - 3 Active utilization temporarily possible
 - 4
 - 5 Active utilization possible

Principles

Fulfilling these guidelines promotes the biodiversity of this habitat type.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Seeds and planting material | <ul style="list-style-type: none">> 80% native and site-appropriateAs autochthonous as possibleHigh species diversity0% invasive non-native species |
| Maintenance | <ul style="list-style-type: none">If possible, managing the entire area according to the principles of near-natural maintenanceMow every 2 years in sections |

Advanced requirements

By fulfilling these requirements, the biodiversity of this habitat type is additionally promoted.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Seeds and planting material | <ul style="list-style-type: none">100% native and site-appropriateOnly wild and local, no cultivated forms |
| Minimum size | <ul style="list-style-type: none">> 5 m² |
| Structure | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Contains small-scale structures |
| Maintenance | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Entire area in accordance with the principles of near-natural maintenance |

Biodiversity effect

If the habitat is planned, realized, and maintained as described, it has the following potential to benefit biodiversity:

high = ●●●●● low = ● negative = (●)

- | | |
|-------------------------|------|
| Ecological connectivity | ●●● |
| Habitat for wildlife | ●●●● |
| Habitat for wild plants | ●●●● |
| Ecological compensation | ●●●● |



Planning

- Assess soil and site conditions to select suitable sites, integrate naturally waterlogged areas
- Ensure sufficient water availability for the site
- Use existing material for soil substrate
- Use native, regionally typical, site-appropriate seed and planting material and aim for high plant diversity
- Provide small-scale structures
- Consider future maintenance in the planning process

Implementation

- Do not disturb the soil more than 3 cm deep before sowing
- After soil preparation, allow soil to settle for > 4 weeks and remove emerging weed plants before sowing
- Prepare a fine-textured seedbed
- Use seeds and planting material from native and site-appropriate plant species
- Obtain seeds and planting material from regional suppliers, ideally with a high genetic diversity
- Professional sowing in autumn
- No irrigation or fertilization after sowing
- Cleaning cuts in the sowing year

Maintenance

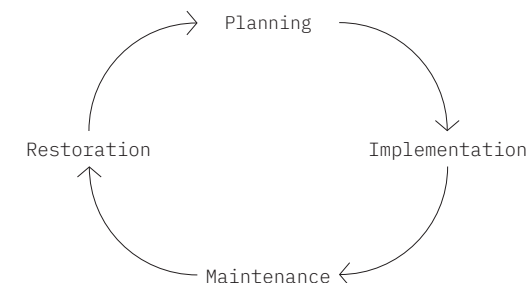
- Carry out visual inspections, remove invasive alien species and woody plants
- Mow every 2 years in sections with a bar mower, between November and January
- Maintain and create small-scale structures
- No use of pesticides

Restoration

- Preserve valuable plants
- Sod transfer where possible
- Reutilize topsoil where possible
- Reutilize small-scale structures where possible

Climatic requirements

The soil should be well supplied with water most of the time and the location should ideally be in semi- to full shade, for example close to buildings, to ideally develop a dense vegetation. Despite high water demand, plan without irrigation during dry phases. Not suitable for arid and particularly summer dry climates.



Tall-growing herbaceous vegetation

Tall herbaceous vegetation provides shelter, opportunities for reproduction, habitat, and food sources for numerous animal species.





Tall herbaceous vegetation by the roadside in Zurich, Switzerland (Daniela Kienzler)



Tall-growing herbaceous vegetation dominated by ferns in a park in Zurich Switzerland (Daniela Kienzler)



Rosebay willowherb, *Epilobium angustifolium* (Adobe Stock)



Woodland forget-me-not, *Myosotis sylvatica* (Adobe Stock)