

## RSPB Flail Collector

The Site Manager for the RSPB applied for a specialist flail collector for use on variety of sites with wildflower interest.

The flail collector collects cut material as it's mown allowing it to be removed from site, thus maintaining the low nutrient status of the sites and preventing a thatch developing, which might impede the growth of delicate plants.

It can also be used to enhance wildflowers through the collection of green hay for spreading on species poor recipient sites, the collection of heather seeds for transplanting onto heathland restoration sites, and for controlling bracken growth without the use of herbicide. By cutting the plant when in full frond, an alternative way to control without the use of herbicide.

FiPL was able to support this project as the intended use of the machinery is for a number of different locations with different landowners, spreading the landscape and wildlife benefits beyond a single landowner and therefore representing good value for money.

### FIPL Outcomes

**NATURE** Existing habitat is better managed  
There is an increase in biodiversity.  
There is a greater area of wildlife rich habitat.

**PLACE** The quality and character of the landscape is reinforced or enhanced.



Flail collector on a grassland site



Cutting and removing bracken









