

Woodland Incentives and Regulations 2019

A low-angle photograph of a forest with tall, slender trees reaching towards a blue sky with scattered white clouds. The foreground is filled with lush green ferns.

Kate Hawley MICFor
Field Manager - North East
Forestry Commission

Contents



Planning your woodland:

- Woodland Creation Planning Grant

Planting your woodland:

- Woodland Carbon Fund
- Urban Tree Challenge Fund
- High Speed 2 Woodland Fund
- Woodland Creation Grant (including Woodland Creation Maintenance)

Managing your woodland:

- Woodland Management Plan Grant
- Woodland Improvement Grant
- Woodland Tree Health Grant
- Felling licence online

Non-RDPE funded incentives
RDPE-funded incentives
(Countryside Stewardship)
Forestry Regulations

Planning your Woodland

Woodland Creation Planning Grant



Designing new woodland: Woodland Creation Planning Grant

Designing new productive, multi-purpose woodlands

This grant provides funding to prepare a Woodland Creation Design Plan which is UK Forestry Standard (UKFS) compliant. Landowners, land managers and public bodies can apply to the Forestry Commission to support the planning of **large-scale (10ha+), multi-purpose, productive woodland creation.**

Open year round

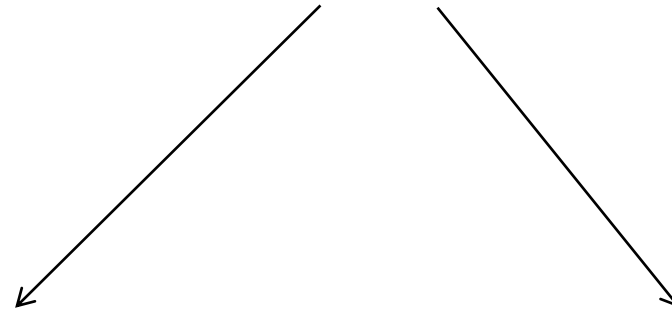


Woodland Creation Planning Grant



Final product –

Woodland Creation Design Plan



Written document

+

Final design plan

(incorporating a planting map)

£1000 one-off payment for a stage 1 checklist, then £150/ha to create the design plan. 70% contribution towards specialist surveys needed. Funding capped at £30,000.

Creating your Woodland



1. Woodland Carbon Fund



Creating new woodland: Woodland Carbon Fund

Creating large scale, productive woodland that supports carbon storage and delivers wider benefits



This grant offers capital funding for the creation of new, productive woodland for carbon sequestration. This includes:

- **costs of planting trees**
- **costs of protection items including tree guards, fencing and gates**
- **installation of forest roads**

Min area: **10ha.**

Open year round

Who can apply?



- Anyone planning woodland creation in England with a productive focus and at least 10 ha (gross) of new planting in a contiguous block
- Cross-border proposals accepted, with payment made on land in England only
- Joint applications from multiple owners at landscape-scale accepted (with appropriate consents)

Who can't apply?



- Currently, public bodies (other than NPs and LAs) cannot apply unless the land is managed by a private company. New State Aid Notification will change this.
- Work that is required under e.g. planning consent is not eligible for WCF funding.

2. Urban Tree Challenge Fund



Expanding urban forests: The Urban Tree Challenge Fund

Planting trees for people in our towns and cities



This fund is open for two years (opened May 2019) and provides capital funding to plant and establish large and small trees in urban and peri-urban areas. The fund will provide three years of establishment payments following planting of the trees.

No minimum area but there is a minimum value. 50% of standard costs will be paid.

Application windows apply.

2. Urban Tree Challenge Fund



- £10m overall budget
- Budget comes from Defra, Forestry Commission delivering the fund
- 1st year: **13 successful applications**
- Twice oversubscribed for larger trees (often street trees) and undersubscribed for smaller trees in peri-urban areas.

3. HS2 Woodland Fund



HS2

Creating new woodland:
HS2 Woodland Fund



This fund provides funding for woodland creation and restoration of plantations on ancient woodland sites (PAWS) on land within a 25-mile zone of phase one of the HS2 route from London to the West Midlands.

Payment/ha:

£8500 – native woodland creation

£4000 – PAWS restoration

Open all year round.

4. Woodland Creation Grant (Countryside Stewardship)



Countryside Stewardship Manual:

Woodland Creation Grant

Applies to all Woodland Creation Grant agreements commencing after 9th September 2018

Published 10th September 2018

This grant provides payment to supply, plant, weed and protect young trees. The woodland must contribute to local biodiversity and water objectives.

Thresholds apply:

- Minimum application area 3ha;
- Minimum block size 0.5ha.

Or, if planting to address water quality and flood risk:

- Minimum application area 1ha;
- Minimum block size 0.1ha.

Open all year round.

4. Woodland Creation Grant (Countryside Stewardship)



- Offers a selection of capital items for tree planting, protection and woodland infrastructure
- Applications are competitive and are scored
- After planting, eligible agreement holders will be invited to apply for **woodland creation maintenance ('WD1')** – a 10 year option which is part of the Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier. This is a £200/ha/yr payment.

4. Woodland Creation Grant (Countryside Stewardship)



Type	Code	Item	£ rate	Aim
One-off payments	TE4	Tree planting	£1.28/tree	To supply, plant and weed young trees and protect with a 0.6m spiral guard
	TE5	Individual tree shelter	£1.60/unit	To protect young trees with either a 1.2m or 1.8m tree shelter
	FG1	Fencing	£4/m	Method of stock control, to help habitat management or protect environmental features
	FG2	Sheep netting	£4.90/m	Exclude sheep to protect environmental features
	FG4	Rabbit fencing	£2.50/m	Supplement to fencing (FG1) or sheep netting (FG2) to exclude rabbits to help protect environmental features
	FG5	Fencing supplement – difficult site	£1.24/m	Supplement to fencing (FG1) to cover the extra costs of fencing on a difficult site
	FG9	Deer fencing	£7.20/m	To protect newly created woodland from deer browsing
	FG12	Wooden field gate or wooden wings	£390/gate	Facilitate stock management and keep livestock out of watercourses. Can only be used with a management option
	FG14	Badger gate	£135/gate	Provide badgers unrestricted access either side of a newly erected fence, which crosses known badger routes
	FG15	Water gates	£240/gate	Use across streams in conjunction with other stock control options
Multi-year option	WD1	Woodland creation – maintenance payments	£200/ha/year	Support successful planting of new woodland through activities such as replacing individual trees that die, maintaining fencing and removing competing vegetation

Single application form on GOV.UK



This application form can be used to apply for the following Countryside Stewardship Capital Grants:

- Hedgerows and boundaries Capital Grants
- Woodland creation Capital Grants
- Woodland management plan Capital Grants
- Woodland tree health Capital Grants (from 24th February only)

A separate annex, available from the [CS Capital Grants](#) page also needs to be completed for each Capital Grant application. The table below shows which annex needs to be completed for each Capital Grant type.

Capital Grant	Annexes to complete (separate to this form)			
	1	2	3	4
Hedgerows and boundaries	✓			
Woodland creation		✓		
Woodland management plan			✓	
Woodland tree health				✓

If you wish to apply for more than one Capital Grant, you must complete a separate application form and annex for each.

Managing your Woodland

1. Woodland Management Plan Grant (Countryside Stewardship)



Woodland Management Plan grant manual: Countryside Stewardship (from August 2019)

From: [Rural Payments Agency](#)
Published: 2 August 2019
Updated: 26 September 2019, [see all updates](#)

Search this manual



[Contents](#) > [How to apply](#)

How to apply

This chapter gives the information you need to apply for support to create a Woodland Management Plan through Countryside Stewardship.

This grant provides support to produce a Woodland Management Plan which is compliant with the UK Forestry Standard (UKFS); confirming that the woodland is managed sustainably.

The plan is approved by the Forestry Commission (FC) and **also serves as a basis for a felling permission.**

A UKFS plan approved by the FC is an **eligibility requirement** for a Higher Tier application for woodland and must validate the items applied for.

Open all year round.

1. Woodland Management Plan Grant (Countryside Stewardship)



THRESHOLD	PAYMENT
First 100 hectares (ha)	£20/ha (min payment £1000)
Over 100 hectares (ha)	£10 per ha

Woodlands must be over 3ha to receive this grant.

The amount paid will be calculated on the entire area of woodland on the property and can include up to 20% newly planted woodland (under ten years old at the time of application). Any newly planted woodland over 20% will be deducted from the total area for payment but must still be covered in the management plan.

Open all year round.

1. Woodland Management Plan Grant (Countryside Stewardship)



This application form can be used to apply for the following Countryside Stewardship Capital Grants:

- Hedgerows and boundaries Capital Grants
- Woodland creation Capital Grants
- Woodland management plan Capital Grants
- Woodland tree health Capital Grants (from 24th February only)

A separate annex, available from the [CS Capital Grants](#) page also needs to be completed for each Capital Grant application. The table below shows which annex needs to be completed for each Capital Grant type.

Capital Grant	Annexes to complete (separate to this form)			
	1	2	3	4
Hedgerows and boundaries	✓			
Woodland creation		✓		
Woodland management plan			✓	
Woodland tree health				✓

If you wish to apply for more than one Capital Grant, you must complete a separate application form and annex for each.

1. Woodland Management Plan Grant (Countryside Stewardship)



Woodland Management Plan grant applications can be made using the **online system** at www.ruralpayments.service.gov.uk.

This system gives applicants the ability to:

- Apply for certain capital grants
- View all land parcels registered to the SBI
- View/Print Agreement
- Claim payments online

2. Woodland Improvement Grant (Countryside Stewardship)



Countryside Stewardship:

Higher Tier Manual

Applies to all Higher Tier multi-year agreements commencing on 1 January 2019

Published 15 January 2018

Revised on 2 March 2018

This grant is to improve the biodiversity of woodland and/or make the woodland more resilient to climate change.

Applications for Woodland Improvement are made under Countryside Stewardship's Higher Tier, using the Woodland Improvement option (WD2) and/or capital items, including Woodland Infrastructure (FY2).

Application windows apply.

2. Woodland Improvement Grant (Countryside Stewardship)



Capital items that can be used stand alone or in association with WD2	Capital items that can only be used in association with WD2	Supplementary capital items that can only be associated with other capital items
FG1 – Fencing FG2 – Sheep netting FG9 – Deer fencing FG10 – Temporary deer fencing FG11 – Deer enclosure plot FY2 – Woodland Infrastructure RP32 – Small leaky woody dam (1m to 2.99m) RP33 – Large leaky woody Dam (3.0m to 5m) BN13 – Wall top netting Stand-alone only: SB1 – Scrub control & felling diseased trees SB2 – Scrub control - difficult sites SB6 – Rhododendron Control	RP5 – Cross drains WN5 – Pond management (first 100 sq m) WB1 – Small wildlife box WB2 – Medium wildlife box WB3 – Large wildlife box RP3 – Watercourse crossings RP6 – Installation of piped culverts in ditches FY1 – Deer high seat WN8 – Timber sluice SB4 – Chemical bracken control SB5 – Mechanical bracken control	FG4 – Rabbit fencing supplement FG5 – Fencing supplement - difficult sites FG12 – Wooden field gate FG14 – Badger gate FG15 – Water gates

Further details for each capital item can be found through the Countryside Stewardship online grants finder tool at: www.gov.uk/countryside-stewardship-grants

3. Woodland Tree Health Grant (Countryside Stewardship)



Woodland Tree Health grant manual: Countryside Stewardship (From August 2019)

From: [Rural Payments Agency](#)
Published: 2 August 2019
Updated: 26 September 2019, [see all updates](#)

Search this manual



Contents

The Woodland Tree Health grant is part of Countryside Stewardship. It's a capital grant under which you can apply for support for Woodland Tree Health Restoration and/or Woodland Tree Health Improvement.

This grant provide support for the following:

- Tree Health **Restoration** provides support for restocking woodland after felling due to a tree health issue.
- Tree Health **Improvement** provides support for the removal of diseased trees and infected rhododendron

Applications are not competitive.

Open all year round.

3. Woodland Tree Health Grant (Countryside Stewardship)



Tree Health Restoration:

- Supports restocking a woodland following felling due to a tree health issue
- Support is only available if trees are infected by ash dieback, *Phytophthora ramorum* or sweet chestnut blight (*Cryphonectria parasitica*)

Tree Health Improvement:

- Supports removing rhododendron and felling diseased trees
- Current focus is removal of immature larch infected with *Phytophthora ramorum*

3. Woodland Tree Health Grant (Countryside Stewardship)



This application form can be used to apply for the following Countryside Stewardship Capital Grants:

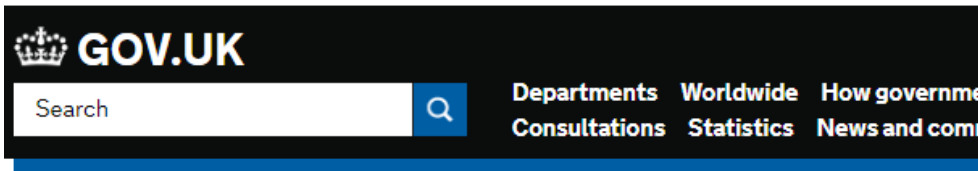
- Hedgerows and boundaries Capital Grants
- Woodland creation Capital Grants
- Woodland management plan Capital Grants
- Woodland tree health Capital Grants (from 24th February only)

A separate annex, available from the [CS Capital Grants](#) page also needs to be completed for each Capital Grant application. The table below shows which annex needs to be completed for each Capital Grant type.

Capital Grant	Annexes to complete (separate to this form)			
	1	2	3	4
Hedgerows and boundaries	✓			
Woodland creation		✓		
Woodland management plan			✓	
Woodland tree health				✓

If you wish to apply for more than one Capital Grant, you must complete a separate application form and annex for each.

Felling Licence online



[Home](#) > [Environmental management](#) > [Forestry](#)

Guidance

Apply online for a felling licence

Use this guide to apply for a licence to fell growing trees using our Felling Licence Online service

Published 24 October 2018

Last updated 1 August 2019 — [see all updates](#)

From: [Forestry Commission](#)

Applies to: **England** (see guidance for [Northern Ireland](#), [Scotland](#), and [Wales](#))

How to apply

Two thirds of applications are currently coming in through Felling Licence Online (paper application still available but online preferred).

Applicants can track their licence at each stage.

Open all year round.

Felling Licence online

The screenshot shows the "Felling Licence Online 1.1.0" web application. At the top, there's a header with the Forestry Commission logo, user information "fc_internal_agent", and links for "Help" and "Log out". Below this is a search bar with the text "Filter by owner..." and "Search for FLA", and a green "SEARCH" button. The main content area is divided into two panels: "My Applications" and "My Properties".
My Applications

Status	Ref	Property
New Application	/17/2018	Green Wood
New Application	/18/2018	Ragley
New Application	/20/2018	promised land
New Application	/21/2018	Green Wood
New Application	/23/2018	Ragley
New Application	/24/2018	Ragley APF
New Application	/25/2018	Ragley APF

My Properties

Property Name:

Operations	Ref	Owner
	Annon Wood	A Anon
	Big House	James Bond
	blue house	A Anon
	Blue Wood	James Bond
	Bond	A Anon
	Bryan's Wood	James Bond

At the bottom, it says "Felling Licence Online 1.1.0" and "Powered by carto".

If you have made a felling licence application since January 2018 we will be able to save you time by transferring your land profile (mapping and property profile data) to your user account.

Helpdesk and all enquiries:

fellinglicenceonline@forestrycommission.gov.uk

Felling Licence online



Grants & Regulations Operations Note

Operations Note 045

Updated: 25 Apr 2019

Felling Licence Online – user guide

A user guide to create and submit a felling licence application online

[Access Felling Licence Online here](#)

1 First time users

Use link at the bottom of the login page to register.

• [Need access ? Register here](#)

To successfully register a user account complete all fields with an asterisk (*).

You will be required to select an account type; either an **Agent** or **Owner**.

A screenshot of the "Login or register" form. The form has a title "Login or register" at the top. Below the title, there are two input fields: "Username or e-mail address *" and "Password *". The "Username or e-mail address" field has a small envelope icon on the left. Below the "Password" field, there is a red button labeled "Log In". At the bottom of the form, there are two links: "Forgot Password?" and "Need access ? Register here". A blue arrow points from the "Need access ? Register here" link in the text above to the "Need access ? Register here" link in the form.

Felling Licence online



Search



Applying for a Felling Licence on the online service

209 views • May 23, 2019

1 0 SHARE SAVE ...

Just to refresh...!



Planning your woodland:

- Woodland Creation Planning Grant

Planting your woodland:

- Woodland Carbon Fund
- Urban Tree Challenge Fund
- High Speed 2 Woodland Fund
- Woodland Creation Grant (including Woodland Creation Maintenance)

Non-RDPE funded incentives
RDPE-funded incentives
(Countryside Stewardship)
Forestry Regulations

Managing your woodland:

- Woodland Management Plan Grant
- Woodland Improvement Grant
- Woodland Tree Health Grant
- Felling licence online

Any questions?

Would you like to find out about future training and events with the Forestry Commission? Email Yorkshirenortheast@forestrycommission.gov.uk and ask to be added to the email list!