

Forestry Commission England CSR07 Performance Targets: Progress from April 2009 to March 2010

Aim	Target 2008 - 11	Performance in Year to 31 March 2010
Delivering the Strategy for England's Trees, Woods and Forests		
Aim 1 Protect & Enhance the Resource	Target: Maintain the area of certified woodland at or above 332,000 ha - as an indicator of wider sustainable forest management.	On target. The area of certified woodland is at 343,000ha. Target revised in-year to reflect newly available improved data on the 2008 baseline position.
Aim 2 Climate Change	Target: Increase the number of boilers that use wood for heat generation (with a total installed capacity of 10 MWth) -- as an indicator of the uptake of woodfuel as a renewable source of energy.	Target exceeded-- total installed capacity has increased by at least 39MWth since April 2008.
Aim 3 Land & Natural Environment	<p>Target 1: A net increase of 7,200 ha (provisional) in the area of native woodland and other semi-natural habitats restored from forest (for which a target will be set during 2008–09) through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • minimising losses of native woodland; • restoring PAWS to native woodland; • converting other plantations to native species; • creating new woodland of native species; and • restoring open habitats through reduction or removal of plantations, woodland or scrub. 	Target adjusted. As a result of re-surveying of the baseline resource it has not been possible to isolate and measure the impact of on-going work on restoration, conversion and loss on the Forestry Commission Public Forest Estate (PFE). The target has therefore been adjusted to only reflect Grants and Regulations work. The net increase of 2,222ha in year is approaching the rate required to ensure achievement of the adjusted target of 7,200ha. The policy on when to convert woodland to open habitat in England has been published at www.forestry.gov.uk/england-openhabitats . It does not set a target but states that 1,000ha per year of conversion would be appropriate if the rate of woodland creation also increases. A strategy for open habitats on the PFE will be developed in accordance with the policy, taking into account costs, current commitments, and conclusions from the study of the long-term role of the estate.
	Target 2: Increase the area of all Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) where FC has statutory responsibilities which are in favourable or recovering condition to 95% by December 2010. (These include all SSSIs on the Public Forest Estate and woodland SSSIs on other land)	On target. There has been an increase to 92.2% of the area of relevant SSSIs in favourable or recovering condition. Good progress in the past year in relation to non-woodland SSSIs on the Public Forest Estate means that overall 98.5% of all SSSIs on the estate are in target condition.
	Target 3: Reverse the long-term decline in the number of woodland birds by 2015 as measured annually against underlying trends using the Woodland Birds Index – as a proxy for wider biodiversity.	Partial progress. Populations for woodland 'generalists' have increased whilst populations of woodland 'specialists' have declined marginally. Overall the number of woodland birds has remained stable (2008 data).
Aim 4 Quality of Life – Communities & Places	Target 1: Increase the percentage of the population in priority areas with access to woodland according to access standards from 62% to 66% (relating to an additional 750,000 people having access)-- as an indicator of woodlands' contribution to Quality of Place .	On target. Increased to 64.6% (relating to an additional 490,000 people having access).

Aim	Target 2008 - 11	Performance in Year to 31 March 2010
Aim 4 Quality of Life – Communities & Places	Target 2: Develop a methodology, set a target, then measure an increase in: * visits to and engagement with local woodland ; * quality of experience; and * personal and social benefit for a series of selected sites, as an indicator of woodlands' contribution to Quality of Life .	On target. On-site surveys have taken place again at three selected sites. On track to set a target and measure progress by March 2011. A public opinion survey carried out in 2009 provided complementary data.
Aim 5 Working Woodlands	Target: Develop and implement a regular business confidence survey from which will be set future targets for improvement – to improve the quality and quantity of sector information.	Business case for the survey being re-evaluated. Research is being conducted into existing business confidence surveys and available good practice.
Improving How We Work		
Customer Service	Target 1: Provide excellent service to the customers of our Grants and Regulations to be measured by achieving 85% of transactions within standard times .	Some slippage. 75% due to absorption of Farm Woodland schemes.
	Target 2: Achieve a recommendation standard of at least 75% at all of the visitor centres surveyed – demonstrating our customers readily recommend our sites to their friends – as an indicator of excellent customer service.	Missed target in year. Of the three sites surveyed two scored well with 89% each. One site, despite reasonable customer support, fell below the minimum required with 65%. Three further surveys due to be carried out during 2010.
Developing Our People	Target 1: Deliver Diversity training to 'all' staff – as an indicator of our objective to embed diversity across the organisation.	Target exceeded. 95% of staff has been trained. The target is 88% of 'all' staff and includes an allowance for staff turnover and staff away for prolonged periods of time, e.g. on maternity leave.
	Target 2: Continue our good record by maintaining working days absence per staff year at or below 6.2 – in recognition of the strong connection between sickness absence, promoting the health and well-being of staff and delivering an engaged and motivated workforce.	On target. 6.2 days for the 2009-10 year.
Delivering Sustainability	Target: Attain Environmental Management System accreditation ISO14001 – or similar (subject to business requirements) – as an indicator of our movement towards greater corporate sustainability .	On target. Work has progressed towards completing development of an Environmental Management System (EMS). External assessors have been appointed and a Stage 1 assessment completed. Training of internal assessors and auditors due in 2010. Full accreditation to ISO 14001 expected in 2011.
Delivering Value for Money	Target 1: Develop a system, measure and a target, then increase the proportion of grants and regulation transactions carried out on-line – as an indicator of efficiency.	Some slippage. Due to competing priorities and uncertainty about the delivery platform, analysis of further e-business opportunities has been moved into 2010-11. All England Woodland Grant Scheme, Woodland Grant Scheme, and Farm Woodlands payments are now made via BACS.
	Target 2: Manage the public forest estate within an agreed net cost per hectare - as an indicator of efficiency. The target for 2009-10 is £88.52 per hectare and will be re-set for the subsequent financial year.	Target achieved. £88.55 is within the +/-5% limits specified within the target description. The figure may be subject to change following NAO review of the accounts.