



# Grants & Regulations Bulletin: Issue 33

## 21 February 2011

### No open ground in Glastir Woodland Creation plans

#### 1. The Glastir Business Rules state that:

The stocking density shown in the planting specifications is based on number of stems per gross hectare and the presumption is that the woodland will be fully stocked with trees. Unplantable/open ground areas within the woodland (i.e. open ground for habitat land etc) over 0.1ha must be mapped and excluded from the grant aided area. Scattered and unmappable open ground (i.e. less than 0.1ha) can be included within the planting area up to a total of 15% of the gross area. In these situations the plant spacing must be adjusted (closer) to ensure that 2500 or 1600 (as specification) stems per hectare are evenly planted across the gross planting area. Failure to achieve the specified stocking density across the gross area of the scheme will result in grant reclaim.

#### 2. Existing trees

Existing trees on the site that cover over 0.1ha must be mapped out and excluded from the grant aided area. Scattered and unmappable existing trees can be included within the planting area but the total open ground and scattered trees must not exceed 15% of the gross area. In these situations the plant spacing must be adjusted (closer) to ensure that 2500 or 1600 (as specification) stems per hectare are evenly planted across the gross planting area. Failure to achieve the specified stocking density across the gross area of the scheme will result in grant reclaim.

#### 3. New Applications – Glastir Woodland Creation and BWW cases with new planting

For new applications the species list in the 'new planting screen' must not include open ground. This must be referred to in the description along with the total number of trees to be planted. E.g. for a 2 ha site – 10% of the site is made up of unmappable rocky outcrops. Total number of trees to be used is 5,000 and the spacing between trees will be 1.9m

#### Land in Tir Gofal

Where land is part of a Tir Gofal farm but not receiving payments then this can be entered into the Glastir woodland creation scheme, usually this is the improved land. However there is a conflict of interest for habitat land where this is receiving payments under the Tir

Gofal scheme. This land cannot be entered into another agri-environment scheme such as Glastir woodland creation until the Tir Gofal agreement expires.

The Tir Gofal Scheme Manager has confirmed that they are no longer accepting amendments to Tir Gofal agreements as the Tir Gofal scheme has now closed. This is a decision that is within their control, and is similar to our decision to no longer accept certain amendments to approved BWW schemes.

If you have potential applications that are on land receiving payments under Tir Gofal then you will need to wait until that agreement has expired before applying for Glastir woodland creation grants.

## GLOS Performance

Please advise [bww.ts@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:bww.ts@forestry.gsi.gov.uk) if you are aware of BWW cases that will not be progressing. We can then close these which means that they will not appear in your 'My work' screens in GLOS and will speed up the refresh time for this screen.

## Glastir reference library – new documents

The following four new documents have been published in our Glastir reference library:

CCW Consultation form for woodland creation in Amber Zones  
Archaeological Trust consent request form for woodland creation in Amber Zones  
Guidance on planting on Common Land  
Guidance open land in Glastir Woodland creation

These documents can be seen on-line at

<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/website/forestry.nsf/byunique/inf-d-8awk9a>

## Woodland Carbon Code Seminars

A reminder to book a place on one of the two Woodland Carbon Code seminars (See Bulletin 32 for full details).

The dates for these events are:

**31st March** - Lantra, Royal Welsh Showground, Llanelwedd, Builth Wells, Powys, LD2 3WY

**1st April** - Conwy Rural Development Centre Llanwrst LL26 0DF

If you are interested in attending then please confirm which event you want to attend by contacting [jane.holloway@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:jane.holloway@forestry.gsi.gov.uk).

**Staff changes:** Woodland officer Andy Wills will be leaving us shortly on promotion to the role of Valleys Regional Park Officer based at Resolven. We wish Andy all the best in his new role.