

**PERFORMANCE AGAINST SPENDING REVIEW 2007 INDICATORS FOR 2008 – 2011:  
INTERIM UPDATE AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2010**

Aim	Indicator 2008 - 11	Performance at 30 September 2010
<b>Delivering the Strategy for England's Trees, Woodlands and Forests</b>		
Aim 1 Protect & Enhance the Resource	Maintain the <b>area of certified woodland at or above 332,000 ha</b> - as an indicator of wider sustainable forest management.	On target. The area of certified woodland is 342,668 ha (interim update).
Aim 2 Climate Change	Increase the number of boilers that use <b>wood for heat generation</b> (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 an estimated 78MWth by summer 2010.
Aim 3 Land & Natural Environment	A net increase of 7,200 ha (provisional) in the <b>area of native woodland and other semi-natural</b> habitats restored from forest (for which a target will be set during 2008–09) through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>minimising</b> losses of native woodland;</li> <li>• <b>restoring</b> PAWS to native woodland;</li> <li>• <b>converting</b> other plantations to native species;</li> <li>• <b>creating</b> new woodland of native species; and</li> <li>• <b>restoring open habitats</b> through reduction or removal of plantations, woodland or scrub.</li> </ul>	Target adjusted to reflect Grants and Regulations work only. The net increase in the 2.5 years since April 2008 stands at 5,731ha. This is approaching the rate required to ensure achievement of the adjusted target of 7,200ha. A strategy for open habitats on the Public Forest Estate is being developed in a way that will take account of wider developments in forestry policy.
	Increase the area of all <b>Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)</b> where FC has statutory responsibilities which are in favourable or recovering condition to 95% by December 2010 (see note 1).	There has been an increase to 94% of the area of relevant SSSIs in favourable or recovering condition. 99% of both woodland and non-woodland SSSIs owned by Forestry Commission England are in target condition.
	Reverse the long-term decline in the number of <b>woodland birds by 2015</b> as measured annually against underlying trends using the Woodland Birds Index – as a proxy for wider biodiversity.	The most up to date data available is at 31 March 2010: 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	Increase the percentage of the population in priority areas with <b>access to woodland</b> according to access standards from 62% to 66% (relating to an additional 750,000 people having access) – as an indicator of woodlands' contribution to <b>Quality of Place</b> .	The most up to date data available is at March 2010: On target. Increased to 64.6% (relating to an additional 490,000 people having access).
Aim 4 Quality of Life – Communities & Places	Develop a methodology, set a target, then measure an increase in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* visits to and <b>engagement with local woodland</b>;</li> <li>* quality of experience; and</li> <li>* personal and social benefit</li> </ul> for a series of selected sites, as an indicator of woodlands' contribution to <b>Quality of Life</b> .	On target. In this half year a workshop was held to fine-tune indicator design, and Internal Audit has approved the indicator. On-site and catchment surveying at the three 'Flagship' case study sites is now complete. Data analysis is ongoing and the final report is due in March 2011.

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Aim 5 Working Woodlands	Develop and implement a regular <b>business confidence survey</b> from which will be set future targets for improvement – to improve the quality and quantity of sector information.	Survey withdrawn due to resource reductions, following re-evaluation of its business case. Research into existing business confidence surveys and available good practice completed.
<b>Improving How We Work</b>		
Customer Service	Provide excellent service to the customers of our <b>Grants and Regulations</b> to be measured by achieving 85% of <b>transactions within standard times</b> .	Some slippage. Performance for the 2.5 years to 30 September 2010 is at 75% due to absorption of Farm Woodland schemes.
	Achieve a recommendation standard of at least 75% at <b>all</b> of the visitor centres surveyed – demonstrating our <b>customers readily recommend our sites to their friends</b> – as an indicator of excellent customer service.	Data from the three surveys in 2010 not yet available.
Developing Our People	Deliver <b>Diversity training</b> to 'all' staff – as an indicator of our objective to embed diversity across the organisation.	On target. 91% of staff in post at 30 September 2010 had been trained. The target including an allowance for staff turnover and staff away for prolonged periods of time, e.g. on maternity leave, is 88% of 'all' staff.
	Continue our good record by maintaining <b>working days absence per staff year</b> 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. 5.3 days per annum for the first half of 2010-11 (annualised but not seasonally adjusted figure).
Delivering Sustainability	Attain <b>Environmental Management System</b> accreditation ISO14001 – or similar (subject to business requirements) – as an indicator of our movement towards <b>greater corporate sustainability</b> .	On target. External assessors have awarded the Forestry Commission ISO 14001 for its Environmental Management System, and three sites, including the largest site in England, have also been assessed as fully meeting the requirements of the Standard. Work is continuing to roll out guidance and training on EMS for all staff. Once complete, further sites in England are due to be externally assessed against the Standard in 2011-12. In the intervening period, an internal audit programme continues to ensure that sites are being managed in accordance with the Standard.
Delivering Value for Money	Develop a system, measure and a target, then increase the proportion of <b>grants and regulation transactions carried out on-line</b> – as an indicator of efficiency.	Further progress made. EWGS applications can now be made electronically. Claim forms can also be produced automatically and emailed to claimants. All payments continue to be made automatically through BACS, and more information, including e-consultation is available to customers via the website. Electronic map request services should be available in 2011, subject to an upgrade to the information services infrastructure.

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	<b>Manage the public forest estate within an agreed net cost per hectare</b> - as an indicator of efficiency. The target for 2010-11 is £88.65 per hectare and will be re-set for the subsequent financial year.	On target. The net cost of managing the Public Forest Estate, based on the September forecast, is £88.07 per hectare.

Note 1: These include all SSSIs on the public forest estate and woodland SSSIs on other land