



## English Woodland Grant Scheme

# Addendum to EWGS 7 Guidance: Woodland Creation Grant

1st May 2010

<b>Introduction</b>	The EWGS7 Booklet (version 6, published May 2009) provides the main rules for this grant. This addendum highlights changes for 2010 and provides some points of clarification
<b>Timings and Budget for 2010</b>	<p><b>Application window</b></p> <p>We are accepting applications for the 2010 regional Additional Contributions from the <u>1<sup>st</sup> May 2010</u>.</p> <p>The <u>application deadline is 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010</u>.</p> <p><b>Planting and Claim Years</b></p> <p>Applications can include planting between Autumn 2010 and Spring 2013, with claims years 2010/2011, 2011/2012, 2012/2013 and 2013/2014. We normally expect some work to take place in the coming planting season i.e. by Spring 2011.</p> <p><b>Budget availability</b></p> <p>Budget is managed to ensure both national and regional targets are met. We want to fully commit the creation budget for 10/11 and 11/12, approximately half of 12/13 and a small proportion of the 13/14 budget – this is in line with FC England’s Budget Management Policy (<a href="#">Operations Note 7</a>)</p>

<p><b>Farm Woodland Payment Rates</b></p>	<p>The EU approved our proposed new rates earlier this year so the rates for 2010 are:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Land type / location</th> <th>Rate for Farmers</th> <th>Rate for Non Farmers</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Arable land in the lowlands</td> <td>£300/ha/yr</td> <td>€150/ha/yr cap</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Improved grassland in the lowlands</td> <td>£200/ha/yr</td> <td>€150/ha/yr cap</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unimproved land or land in the uplands</td> <td>£60/ha/yr</td> <td>£60/ha/yr or €150/ha/yr, whichever is lower</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The definition of 'farmer' is someone who devotes an essential part of their working time to agricultural activities and derive at least 25% of their income from farming, taking account of all the land they farm in the UK.</p> <p>Please note that if land is transferred to a new owner, their payment rate will be determined by their 'farmer' status e.g. if a farmer who received £300/ha/yr sells the land to a non-farmer, the new owner will have their payments capped at €150/ha/yr.</p>	Land type / location	Rate for Farmers	Rate for Non Farmers	Arable land in the lowlands	£300/ha/yr	€150/ha/yr cap	Improved grassland in the lowlands	£200/ha/yr	€150/ha/yr cap	Unimproved land or land in the uplands	£60/ha/yr	£60/ha/yr or €150/ha/yr, whichever is lower						
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<p><b>Score Forms for 2010 and Fast Track Scores</b></p>	<p>For all applications submitted between 1<sup>st</sup> May 2010 and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010, the 2010 score form for the appropriate region must be used – it says this clearly at the top of the score forms. The regional fast track scores for 2010 are:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Region</th> <th>Fast Track Score</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>East of England</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>East Midlands</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>North East</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>North West</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>South East</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>South West</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>West Midlands</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yorkshire &amp; The Humber</td> <td>14</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Region	Fast Track Score	East of England	6	East Midlands	14	North East	14	North West	14	South East	14	South West	14	West Midlands	15	Yorkshire & The Humber	14
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<p><b>Farm Woodland Payment and Single Payment Compatibility</b></p>	<p>Under revised EU rules, if you are eligible for Single Payment Scheme on the land to be planted, you can continue to claim SPS as well as Farm Woodland Payments</p>																		

<p><b>EWGS Woodland Creation &amp; Carbon Funding</b></p>	<p>Carbon finance can provide an additional funding stream for woodland creation. Where EWGS funded schemes also receive carbon finance, it is important that statements are not made regarding the carbon benefits that are incorrect and risk bringing disrepute to the Scheme, applicant or Forestry Commission.</p> <p>It is not possible at the present time for carbon offsets to be generated by forestry/tree planting projects taking place in the UK that satisfy the requirements of international carbon markets. To provide clarity over this issue and consistency with the Government’s position on carbon offsetting, the Forestry Commission will not administer grant-aid to projects that also receive funding by claiming that they generate tradable carbon offsets.</p> <p>FC wish to encourage private funding of woodland creation and grant-aid will continue to be administered to projects also receiving carbon funding as long as communication of the carbon benefits associated with woodland creation are consistent with the UK Government’s position, as outlined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is acknowledged that the project will contribute to the UK meeting its future climate change commitments;</li> <li>• The terms carbon offset, offsetting, carbon trading or carbon credits are not used;</li> <li>• That those investing in the project are not under the impression that the carbon savings have already been made.</li> </ul> <p>The submission of a WCG application will be taken as acceptance of these requirements as a condition of contract. The conditions apply to applications for grant-aid received after its publication and do not apply retrospectively.</p> <p>The detailed requirements that will apply in 2010, together with background and further information are set out in <a href="#">Operations Note 20</a> “Position on co-funding of woodland creation through EWGS and carbon finance”.</p>
<p><b>Regional Additional Contributions available for 2010</b></p>	<p>A summary of the regional additional contributions (AC) available for applications received after 1<sup>st</sup> May 2010 is available at <a href="#">Appendix 1</a>. One or more AC may be applied, up to a maximum payment of £2000/ha. Full details are available in the regional guidance, which is on the website, or contact your local FC office for further information and advice</p>

**Further Advice** The EWGS website [www.forestry.gov.uk/ewgs](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/ewgs) contains all the information needed to apply for grant support. If you do not have access to the internet, you can request any of the information from your local Forestry Commission office.

We recommend getting professional advice from an agent experienced in woodland management using CCF systems. A list of national and regional professional organisations is provided at [www.forestry.gov.uk/england-advice](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/england-advice) or available from your local FC office.

**Versions** Version 6.1 issued 1<sup>st</sup> May 2010

## Appendix 1 - Summary of Regional Additional Contributions for 2010

Region	Simple summary & Payment Rate (£/Ha)	Details (presume general WCG rules apply unless stated otherwise)
<b>East of England</b>	New woodland with public access in a Quality of Place priority area <b>£2000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New woodland is within QoP Areas</li> <li>- Provide public access. The wood must be designed to provide high quality access, be accessible for free, quiet enjoyment by the public (including dogs on leads) during daylight hours for 11 months of each year, and access must be permitted for 30 years from first payment of grant.</li> </ul>
	Native woodland expansion in an ancient woodland cluster area <b>£2000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- At least 50% of the woodland must lie within the boundary of a cluster area (see guidance).</li> <li>- The new woodland must be close to an existing, well established ancient semi-natural woodland (normally within 30m, but up to 100m if the intervening land use is dominated by semi-natural habitat). At the discretion of the FC, we may allow the additional contribution to be applied to expanding sites of exceptionally high conservation value even if they are not categorised as ancient semi-natural woodland.</li> <li>- The proposed woodland must use site native broadleaves in accordance with Forestry Commission "Guidance for the management of ancient and native woodlands".</li> <li>- New semi-natural woodland should ideally be established by natural seeding and colonisation. If planting is necessary, the design of the new woodland should follow the good practice set out in the Forestry Commission publication "Creating new native woodlands" Bulletin 112 (Gordon S Patterson, 1994) or any subsequent relevant guidance. Where cultural heritage issues are important, it is likely that Bulletin 112 may be applied more flexibly.</li> </ul>
<b>East Midlands</b>	New woodland with public access in a Quality of Place priority area <b>£2000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New woodland is within QoP Areas.</li> <li>- Provide public access. The wood must be designed to provide high quality access, be accessible for free, quiet enjoyment by the public (including dogs on leads) during daylight hours for 11 months of each year, and access must be permitted for 30 years from first payment of grant.</li> </ul>
	Reversing woodland bird decline <b>£2000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The application must specify which of the bird species the work will benefit.</li> <li>- The woodland must be located in one of the target areas for the species chosen (visit RSPB web site) and be within the East Midlands Woodland Bird Additional Contribution Priority Areas shown (see guidance).</li> <li>- The woodland must be designed to benefit the chosen species and comprise at least 80% native species.</li> </ul>
<b>North East</b>	New woodland with public access in a Quality of Place priority area <b>£2000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New woodland is within QoP Areas</li> <li>- Provide public access. The wood must be designed to provide high quality access, be accessible for free, quiet enjoyment by the public (including dogs on leads) during daylight hours for 11 months of each year, and access must be permitted for 30 years from first payment of grant.</li> </ul>
	New native woodland in Northumberland National Park or in a Quality of Place priority area <b>£2000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Planting of new native woodland within Northumberland National Park and Quality of place Priority areas where the principles of Forestry Commission Bulletin 112 Creating New Native Woodlands must be followed when matching species with site.</li> </ul>

	New woodland in the Durham & Northumberland Pennine Fringe priority area <b>£1000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Planting new woodlands In the Northumberland and Durham Pennine Fringe (an area between the A1 and the Northumberland National Park or North Pennines AONB boundaries). The design of new woodlands must be appropriate to the location and meet landscape guidelines for the area.</li> </ul>
<b>North West</b>	North West RFF Woodland Creation Manifesto <b>£1000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Have at least 50% of the new woodland area within either Lancashire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside or Cheshire.</li> </ul>
	New woodland with public access in a Quality of Place priority area <b>£1000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New woodland is within QoP Areas.</li> <li>- Provide public access. The wood must be designed to provide high quality access, be accessible for free, quiet enjoyment by the public (including dogs on leads) during daylight hours for 11 months of each year, and access must be permitted for 30 years from first payment of grant.</li> </ul>
	New woodland in regional priority areas <b>£1000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Appropriate new woodland must be within one of the following priority areas:</li> <li>- National Park, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, The Uplands.</li> </ul>
	New woodlands for biodiversity and Natural Resource protection <b>£1000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New woodlands within bird and butterfly target areas or as endorsed by RSPB.</li> <li>- New woodlands within the catchments of Windermere and Bassenthwaite Lakes</li> </ul>
	Ancient woodland expansion <b>£1000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New native woodland is within 30 metres of an existing ancient woodland.</li> </ul>
<b>South East</b>	New woodland with public access in a Quality of Place priority area <b>£2000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New woodland is within QoP Areas.</li> <li>- Provide public access. The wood must be designed to provide high quality access, be accessible for free, quiet enjoyment by the public (including dogs on leads) during daylight hours for 11 months of each year, and access must be permitted for 30 years from first payment of grant.</li> </ul>
	Isle of Wight defragmentation <b>£2000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The new woodland must be within the two target areas on the Isle of Wight shown (see guidance).</li> <li>- Work must directly support the red squirrel. The JIGSAW judging panel is at liberty to decline support for applications which do not deliver a significant ecological benefit.</li> <li>- Every application must be scored off against the unique JIGSAW scoring form.</li> <li>- Successful applications must pass a judging round. Every application for JIGSAW will be judged by a panel of members made up of a people from each of the following organisations; Isle of Wight Council, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, National Trust, Natural England and Forestry Commission.</li> </ul>
<b>South West</b>	Ancient Woodland Priority Areas <b>£2000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Be located within the Cotswolds, Dartmoor, Exmoor or Cranborne AWPAs (see guidance).</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Be located within or contiguous with a mapped habitat network (as shown on the Forestry Commission's Land Information Search).</li> <li>- Mirror an appropriate native woodland type as described in Forestry Commission Bulletin 112.</li> </ul>
	Restoring Nature <b>£1200</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Restore an area of ancient woodland or open habitat from conifer plantation at least one third the size of the proposed new conifer plantation, within three years prior to this application.</li> <li>- An upper limit of 20 hectares is placed on this AC.</li> </ul>
	New woodland with public access in a Quality of Place priority area <b>£2000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Create new woodland within QoP Areas.</li> <li>- Provide public access. The wood must be designed to provide high quality access, be accessible for free, quiet enjoyment by the public (including dogs on leads) during daylight hours for 11 months of each year, and access must be permitted for 30 years from first payment of grant.</li> </ul>
<b>West Midlands</b>	Woodland Opportunity Map priority areas <b>£2000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New woodland will be created within the priority areas shown on the West Midlands Woodland Opportunity Map – Priority Areas. (see guidance).</li> <li>- Woodlands will contain more than 1100 trees per hectare [average] and be of New Native, Small Standard, Standard or Community in type (see WCG guidance for details).</li> <li>- Proposals that include the Special Broadleaves specification are eligible for this grant payment, but: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Only where the woodland proposal area is made up of at least 50% woodland type meeting with New Native, Small Standard, Standard or Community Woodland specifications.</li> <li>- The Special Broadleaves part of the proposal is not eligible for the AC.</li> <li>- The Special Broadleaves part must be scored separately (EWGS 7a).</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>For all of the West Midlands ACs, the overall design of the woodland proposal will be led by, and meet the requirements of the County Landscape Character Assessment and Woodland Guidelines (where they exist) in terms of choice of locally appropriate tree species, and suitable scale and location within the identified landscape character type.</p> <p>Links to the County Landscape Character Assessment Guidance documents are included in the guidance for assistance. Applicants should use this guidance to inform their woodland proposals. Where appropriate, applicants should seek further information from the appropriate planning office, or from the Forestry Commission woodland officer for the area.</p>
	Ancient Woodland Landscapes – restoration areas <b>£2000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New Native Woodland will be created within the priority areas shown on the Ancient Woodland Landscapes restoration map (see guidance).</li> <li>- Applications will be for creating native woodlands that follow the good practice set out in the Forestry Commission publication "Creating new native woodlands" Bulletin 112 (Gordon S Patterson, 1994).</li> <li>- At least 80% of the tree and shrub species to be planted are locally native.</li> <li>- Proposal links, where appropriate, woodland creation to existing woodland sites or to other semi natural habitats. Generally proposals should be within 30m of existing ancient woodland sites, but up to 100m if the intervening land use is dominated by semi-natural habitat.</li> </ul>

	<p><b>New woodland with public access in a Quality of Place priority area £2000</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Proposal is in a Quality of Place (QoP) priority area, or within the Forest of Mercia Community Forest (see Figure 3 below or view both on the Land Information Search).</li> <li>- Proposal is for New Native, Small Standard, Standard or Community Woodland specification that creates high quality, accessible woodland and meets Community Woodland design guidelines and local needs.</li> <li>- Proposal is accessible for free, quiet enjoyment by the public (including dogs on leads) during daylight hours for 11 months of each year, and remains so for 30 years from first payment of grant.</li> <li>- Proposals that include the Special Broadleaves specification are eligible for this grant payment, but: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Only where the woodland proposal area is made up of at least 50% woodland type meeting with New Native, Small Standard, Standard or Community Woodland specifications.</li> <li>- The Special Broadleaves part of the proposal is not eligible for the AC.</li> <li>- The Special Broadleaves part must be scored separately (EWGS 7a).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p><b>Rural public access provision £1000</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Proposal is outside the existing AC priority areas. These are Quality of Place, Community Forest, Woods Close to People, Woodland Opportunity Map priority areas and Ancient Woodland Landscapes restoration areas. (see Figures 1, 2 and 3 below and view all on the Land Information Search).</li> <li>- Proposal is in an area where less than 1 hectare of accessible woodland per 500 residents exists within 8km of the proposal site.</li> <li>- There is a community demand to provide additional and high quality accessible woodland to meet either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- excessive, and ongoing visitor demand for free and quiet enjoyment of an existing woodland location, or where.</li> <li>- a complete lack of accessible woodland persists, within 8km.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Proposal is for New Native, Small Standard, Standard or Community Woodland specification that creates high quality, accessible woodland and meets Community Woodland design guidelines and local needs.</li> <li>- Proposal is accessible for free, quiet enjoyment by the public (including dogs on leads) during daylight hours for 11 months of each year, and remains so for 30 years from first payment of grant.</li> <li>- Proposals that include the Special Broadleaves specification are eligible for this grant payment, but: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Only where the woodland proposal area is made up of at least 50% woodland type meeting with New Native, Small Standard, Standard or Community Woodland specifications.</li> <li>- The Special Broadleaves part of the proposal is not eligible for the AC.</li> <li>- The Special Broadleaves part must be scored separately (EWGS 7a).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Yorkshire &amp; The Humber</b></p>	<p><b>Reversing woodland bird decline £2000</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The application must specify which of the bird species the work will benefit.</li> <li>- The woodland must be located in one of the target areas for the species chosen (visit RSPB web site above) and be within the Yorkshire &amp; the Humber Woodland Bird Additional Contribution Priority Areas of South Yorkshire.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Note: the Peak District part of South Yorkshire is eligible but administered by the East Midlands FC office.</li> <li>- The woodland must be designed to benefit the chosen species and comprise at least 80% native species.</li> <li>- In order to assess the effectiveness of this grant and to compare with similar initiatives, applicants must agree to periodic monitoring of the woodland.</li> </ul>
	<b>New woodland with public access in a Quality of Place priority area £2000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New woodland will be created within QoP areas.</li> <li>- The woodland must be designed to provide high quality access, be accessible for free, quiet enjoyment by the public (including dogs on leads) during daylight hours for 11 months of each year, and access must be permitted for 30 years from first payment of grant.</li> </ul>
	<b>Ancient Woodland Priority Areas £2000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Be contiguous with an Ancient Woodland Site (as defined by Natural England Ancient Woodland Inventory (Provisional) for England).</li> <li>- Must be located in the CANDO (Cultural and Natural Development Opportunity) priority area (see figure 1) or South and West Yorkshire, west of the A1(M).</li> <li>- Match an appropriate native woodland type as described in Forestry Commission Bulletin 112.</li> </ul>