

<b>Document Name</b>	<b>Project Initiation Document</b>
----------------------	------------------------------------

<b>Project</b>	<b>Woodland Carbon Task Force Project 5: Making land available</b>
<b>Master file</b>	<<file:///T:/Policy and Programmes Group/9 Climate Change/Woodland Carbon Taskforce/WCTF Governance/WCTF Constructing the Programme/Project 5 Making land available

<b>Distribution</b>	<table> <tr> <td>Dominic Driver</td> <td>Programme Senior Responsible Officer (SRO)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mark Broadmeadow</td> <td>Technical support</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nigel Hobday</td> <td>Project Support</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jonathan Spencer</td> <td>Interim Project SRO</td> </tr> </table>	Dominic Driver	Programme Senior Responsible Officer (SRO)	Mark Broadmeadow	Technical support	Nigel Hobday	Project Support	Jonathan Spencer	Interim Project SRO
Dominic Driver	Programme Senior Responsible Officer (SRO)								
Mark Broadmeadow	Technical support								
Nigel Hobday	Project Support								
Jonathan Spencer	Interim Project SRO								

### Change History

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Nature of revision</b>	<b>Author(s)</b>
1	05/05/10	First Outline	DD
1.1	26/05/10	Edited by NH	NH
2	01/06/10	Edited by DD	DD
3	2 and 5/7/10	Redrafted JWS	JWS

## Woodland Carbon Task Force Project 5:- Making land available

Project Start Date	12 May 2010
Project Completion Date	31 March 2012

### 1. **Project Purpose:**

Finding ways of ensuring that the assurance frameworks, finances, and policies result in land being made available for woodland creation.

### 2. **Background:**

**This is one of six projects within a programme being run by the Woodland Carbon Task Force**

The WCTF is a multi-disciplinary team to establish the conditions for significant private sector investment in woodland creation alongside increased supply and demand of woodfuel and greater uptake of sustainable forest management practice.

### 3. **Project mandate:**

The project has been agreed by the Programme Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) with delegated authority from the Programme Sponsor.

### 4. **Project Outcomes:**

The outcomes of the project are:

- to translate the strong in principle support for more tree planting into strong practical support for more woodland creation; and
- the conditions are in place for a major increase in land being made available for woodland creation.
- To understand the availability of land for afforestation as a reflection of landowner interests and motives. The nature and scale of land available on the open market, the extent of farmland currently in institutional and public ownership (alongside their avowed energy or CC policies) and the mechanisms and instruments by which land use change might effect woodland establishment under different land tenures will be quantified and regionally identified.
- To explore options and scale for supporting woodland creation and woodland usage across AONB (and NP) considering policies on landscape change, woodfuel usage, CC and energy usage, and the opportunities given landscape character
- To explore mechanisms to support land aquisition and leasing by organisations already committed to forest and woodland creation e.g. FE, Woodland Trust, Wildlife Trusts NP and others.

### 5. **Critical success factors**

If the Programme is to be deemed a success it must have achieved the outcomes set out above and also have established:

Quantitative and geographical understanding of the extent and nature of opportunities for afforestation and woodland creation.

Clear appreciation of the motivation of private and institutional landowners that might lead to land use change (and future usage of woodland) and the financial, fiscal and personally motivational instruments or incentives that might effect change in different land tenure/institutional situations.

## 6. Project Scope

The project scope will explore and report on:

The extent and location of Grade 3 and 4 Agricultural land and its suitability for a wide range of woodland options (from native woods as fuel woodlots to timber production stands) of interest to different classes of landowners.

The nature of land tenure across the country notably:

- the extent of owner occupier held farm businesses
- the extent of Govt held farmland e.g. (MoD Schedule 1 land on training areas)
- the extent of local Govt owned land
- the extent of land owned by non farming private owners (particularly in south east and SW England)
- the extent of land currently owned by institutions such as Pension funds and other investment bodies
- the extent of land owned by colleges, universities, the Church Commissioners and other institutions.
- The extent and land ownership patterns across Green Belt land in London (and elsewhere) and mechanisms for its release to woodland establishment

The relationship between the above classes of land holdings and any existing policy commitments, financial incentives, energy requirements or statutory obligations that might internally drive a move from farmland to woodland.

The ambitions and role of Forest Enterprise, the Woodland Trust and other environmental NGO's in delivering the creation of woodland and forest, particularly in areas where wider social or ecosystem service benefits might otherwise be difficult to achieve (i.e. where scale and location are critical in delivering wider objectives than might be delivered by private interests).

The role of Forest Enterprise in supporting the change from farmland to woodland and forest via

- Land purchase and woodland establishment and consequent sale
- Land lease and woodland establishment and subsequent return to landowner
- Skills provision in woodland design, public consultation and establishment

The land tenure opportunities, challenges and obstacles involved in addressing land use change within the above categories.

## 7. Project Deliverables

<p>1. GIS based data system available to all FC Regions (via roll out of NW England Uplift calculator modified for WCTF use)</p>	<p>Development of NW Woodland Manifesto Uplift Calculator and roll out to all FC Regions, modified to Regional requirements and populated with appropriate data.</p> <p>This will scope potential within all Landscape character areas, and provide framework for data on land use and tenure information.</p> <p>Extended by WCTF input to cover land tenure types as well as land classification and use (as in current model)</p> <p>Partnership project with “Civic Society” organisation in NW; project operator to take NW further and to roll out in form suited to WCTF needs and to other Regions, plus production of national overview.</p> <p>Essential background info. So initiated and delivered early.</p> <p>This project overlaps with Project 3. in providing the material basis and the vehicle for collation of the high level spatial framework envisaged.</p> <p><b>Outcome: all FC Regions equipped with appropriate GIS data sets designed for unlocking land for woodland creation and targeting effort and resources.</b></p>
<p>2. Evaluation of needs from landowner perspective (via SW England pilot with CLA/NFU partners).</p>	<p>Based on pilot in SW. Understanding motivation of owners, of what landowners are likely to require for woodland creation projects to be attractive to them, including testing of proposed mechanisms; mostly one to one meetings, liaison with CLA, NFU, discussions and presentations.</p> <p>Financial assessment of grant incentives etc (as arising from project 1) against prevailing financial situation of landowner/holder typology and competing incentives (eg dairy farming, HLS incentives, ageing farmer profiles etc.). Integrated into Uplift calculator where possible.</p> <p>Energy costs of farming situations to be explored and models built into uplift calculator to determine potential for uptake of woodfuel use (and other alternative energy options by other agencies?) and potential for woodland planting as local farm/estate based energy sources.</p> <p>Partnership with CLA and NFU coordinated by Exeter University or Cirencester College. Grant support to NFU/CLA preferred route or if necessary grant to Carbon Trust (plus any support they are able to provide)</p> <p>Note that this project overlaps with Project 2 Finance for Woodland Creation and needs to be undertaken in close co-operation with Project 2 officers.</p>

	<p><b>Outcome: FC and all FC Regions equipped with tools necessary to understand financial situations of landowners (and tenants) and provided with incentives/approaches suited to supporting change to woodland and/or woodfuel use in agricultural situations.</b></p>
<p>3. Market segmentation &amp; appetite studies from an owner perspective. Practical trial based on project outcomes above and approaches to landowners in Blackdown Hills AONB Somerset.</p>	<p>Field trial to evaluate and quantify practical barriers to take up of woodland creation projects from landowner perspectives and to secure direct experience of application of the WCTF campaign in the field.</p> <p>Grant support to AONB to co-ordinate approaches to landowners to establish woodland planting, usage of wood as fuel from existing woods and trees, and uptake of woodfuel technology in landscape integrated approach.</p> <p>Officer based project in established project; funded by grant to appropriate body. Could be achieved by FC staff member on secondment or via extension of contract to existing member of staff in Blackdowns.</p> <p><b>Outcome: Direct FC/Project officer experience in effecting change of use from farmland to woodland and uptake of woodfuel technology.</b></p>
<p>4. Land use policies of current land holding institutions</p>	<p>This project will explore policy framework for institutional landholders and potential for land use change to woodland and wood fuel usage.</p> <p>A wide range of organisations (as listed above) to be evaluated. The links between policy, landholding, existing energy usage and other policy aims (such as planning obligations for recreation, green employment etc) to be imaginatively explored.</p> <p>For example: many Local Authorities (e.g. Warwickshire Council, Hants County Council, Cambridgeshire CC), have significant areas of land that could be suitable for woodland planting. Afforestation could reduce maintenance costs, resolve planning issues and encourage LA to manage own woodland and supply woodfuel for own local wood heat systems. Communicating the role of both woodfuel and woodland creation to reduce GHG emissions reported through NI185 and NI186 (per capita and LA GHG emissions). Recommendations for subsequent actions for FC to emerge.</p> <p>Other key institutions are MoD, Duchy of Cornwall, Crown Estate and National Trust. A similar assessment of AONB and National Park policy and application is also necessary.</p> <p>Project to be pursued via grant support to other Civic Society organisation (eg National Park Assn.), a seconded FC staff member or combination of both.</p> <p><b>Outcome: FC access to a comprehensive guide to woodland,</b></p>

	<b>land use and energy policies of key institutions involved in land management.</b>
5. Land availability through purchase...what land becomes available and where?	<p>This short project is intended to quantify the availability of land via purchase (and its suitability for afforestation of various kinds) as an essential adjunct to Project 2 which will explore the potential for Carbon monies and Green Investment funding coming into afforestation projects.</p> <p>This project will clearly inform both the extent of funding need per annum for financial support for woodland creation projects and the nature of projects it may be in a position to support. It will also explore the scale (re land type and cost) and the potential for directing afforestation to key areas delivering ecosystem services.</p> <p>This project to be grant supported or delivered in tandem with project 2 above via at qualified organisation such as Exeter University or Cirencester College, or via a third party such as the Woodland Trust or The Carbon Trust.</p> <p><b>Outcome: FC access to a clear understanding of the annual availability, scale of land parcels, location and nature of land for purchase and planting via sources of carbon funding and other green investments</b></p>
The role of state intervention: a clear understanding of the role of the state in driving forward woodland creation from provision of expertise to direct intervention for forest establishment and design	<p>This project will explore the role of Forest Enterprise in supporting the change from farmland to woodland and forest via</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land purchase and woodland establishment and consequent sale</li> <li>• Land lease and woodland establishment and subsequent return to landowner</li> <li>• Skills provision in woodland design, public consultation and establishment</li> </ul> <p>This project will be achieved through direct support to FE in exchange for seconded staff member to undertake study of costs, skills etc. and charging models to investors.</p> <p><b>Outcome: a clear understanding of what FC can offer investment companies and others with respect to access to our expertise and skills with respect to forest establishment, design and consultation with stakeholders.</b></p>
	An additional 'wood officer' resource to allow proactive engagement with land owners/managers to promote woodland creation; to advice on/facilitate grant applications and Environmental Statements as appropriate.

## 8. Assumptions / Constraints

### 8.1 Financial

**2010/11: £125k**

2011/12: £75k (to be confirmed)

8.2 **Time** – earliest start date 1 April 2010, end date 31 March 2012

### 8.3 **Resources**

Staff: Project SRO.

Call on Programme Office (give indication):

**At least 12 months of project development time, grant design and specification development, project supervision and travel, over the two years of project (plus associated overheads)**

### 9. **Interfaces**

As for Programme Initiation Document.

### 10. **Outline Business Case: why this project is needed?**

Other elements of the WCTF will put in place the mechanisms to encourage woodland creation and woodfuel but they will have little impact if land is not made available. Land is a scarce resource in England in particular and the ability for the WCTF to result in an acceleration in woodland creation that fits the aspirations in the UK Low Carbon Transition Plan depends on landowners coming forward.

### 11. **Tolerances**

As for Programme Initiation Document.

### 12. **Stakeholders:**

As for Programme Initiation Document.

### 13. **Communications Plan**

As for Programme Initiation Document.

### 14. **Project Plan**

There are two stages to the project:

- i. scoping the project specs and commissioning the work (July to November 2010);
- ii. Supervising the collation and dissemination of the material (Nov 2010 to March 2012 diminishing as appropriate;
- iii. Promoting its understanding and application across FC Regions( and Districts) (July 2011 – March 2012).

Stage 1 includes the following actions

- engagement – bilateral meetings with individuals, companies and organisations with relevant interest and expertise.
- Short review of existing knowledge and evidence wrt to contract spec development

- Workshop to examine the findings of the study and agree actions going forward.

## **15. Project governance:**

15.1 **Project SRO** –Jonathan Spencer – roles and responsibilities to be confirmed.

### **15.2 Controls/Governance**

Team meetings to agree actions and review progress (team to be decided).

3-monthly progress and monitoring report to programme manager

Ongoing review, particularly in early stages

## **16. Risks**

A summary of risks are detailed in the Risk Register - Annex 2



## Annex 1 – Budget

<p>1. GIS based data system available to all FC Regions (roll out of NW England Uplift calculator modified for WCTF use)</p> <p>Estimated costs based on one officer for 18 months plus £2K per Region Uplift project development costs and £4K travel costs. C£80K FY 10/11 Sept to March £20 salary; £16 development per Region; £2K travel <b>Total FY10/11 £38K</b> FY 11/12 £40K salary, £2K travel costs. <b>Total FY 11/12 £42K covered in project 3</b></p>
<p>2. Evaluation of needs from landowner perspective.( SW England pilot with CLA/NFU partners).</p> <p>3. Estimated cost of package in total c£30K. Postponed to FY 11/12 but based on support being available this FY. <b>Total FY10/11 £30K</b></p>
<p>4. Market segmentation &amp; appetite studies from an owner perspective. Practical trial based on project outcomes above and approaches to landowners in Blackdown Hills AONB Somerset.</p> <p>Estimated cost based on officer plus overheads c£45K per annum; <b>Total FY10/11 £20K, Total FY11/12 £45K</b></p>
<p>4. Land use policies of current land holding institutions</p> <p>based on one support payment to Institution to cover project 4 and 5 together; <b>Total FY11/12 £20K</b></p>
<p>5. Land availability through purchase...what land becomes available and where?</p> <p>Assuming same contract as above to cover nboth issues <b>£nil</b></p>
<p>6. The role of Forest Enterprise</p> <p>Contribution to FE staff costs for secondment to task c£15K <b>Total FY10/11 £15K</b> <b>(if postponed to next FY... Total FY10/11 £15K)</b></p>

**Total estimated budget for FY 2010/11 £123K**

**Total estimated budget for FY 2010/11 £87K**

## Annex 2 - Risk Register Definitions.

### KEY

Impact		Scores				
		Catastrophic	5	5	10	15
Major	4	4	8	12	16	20
Moderate	3	3	6	9	12	15
Minor	2	2	4	6	8	10
Insignificant	1	1	2	3	4	5
		1	2	3	4	5
		Remote	Unlikely	Possible	Probable	Highly probable
		<b>Likelihood</b>				

### RISK CATEGORY DEFINITIONS

Finance Any Ecor  
 Policy Any Polic  
 Fundamental Any risks  
 Support Services Risks rea  
 Emerging Issues New risk:  
 Reputational Any risk the  
 Delivery Any risk aff  
 Health and Safety Any risk aff

Risk ID#	Risk category	What could go wrong	Likelihood	Impact	Risk level	Response and Control	Owner
1							