

## **English Woodland Grant Scheme**

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### Woodland Improvement Grant 80%

# Rhododendron removal from woodlands in Cornwall

**Introduction** This leaflet provides guidance on how to apply for this regionally focused grant. It supplements the generic guidance on Woodland Improvement Grant, which is available from the [EWGS website](#).

**Background** Cornwall's ancient and native woodlands are quintessential features of its much loved landscape, providing irreplaceable habitats for a range of woodland species as well as opportunities for producing timber and a place for quiet recreation.

Rhododendron represents a threat to the long term health and survival of our ancient and other woodlands and there are dense areas in Cornwall. Where it occurs in high densities it alters the nature of the wood and prevents natural processes of woodland regeneration from happening. Removing rhododendron from both ancient and other woodlands greatly reduces the risk to trees of infection from Phytophthora diseases.

From May 2009, £200,000 is available for claim year 2009/2010 and £500,000 available for claim year 2010/2011 to remove rhododendron, administered on a first come first served basis.

**Eligibility** In order to be eligible for this grant applicants must meet the following:

- The general criteria and conditions for Woodland Improvement Grant (WIG) apply – refer to the [WIG guidance](#) for further details
- This grant is available for the removal of rhododendron from woodlands in Cornwall with the exception of Forestry Commission, Natural England and Defence Estates owned woodlands, and woodlands infected with Phytophthora spp.
- The objectives of this grant are outcome focused so rhododendron will be completely removed from areas covered by the agreement. Initial clearance and subsequent follow up spraying operations will be agreed and incorporated into one agreement.

**Payment** An 80% contribution will be offered towards the standard costs in the table below. The codes in blue should be used to refer to each operation on your application.

Table 1 - Operations that are supported under this regional grant

Working conditions	Treatment type £/hectare cost (net area of rhododendron)			
	Hand cut, treat stump	Machine Flail	Stem Injection	Follow up spray
Under 2.5m, easy to moderate slope	£3,000 (X2)	£2,400 (X6)	£1,500 (X7)	£400 (V17)
Over 2.5m, moderate slope	£4,000 (X3)			
Under 2.5m, severe slope/conditions	£5,000 (X4)	-	£2,000 (X8)	
Over 2.5m, severe slope/conditions	£6,000 (X5)	-		

**How to apply** We are now open for applications on a first come first served basis until grant funds are fully committed

When applying for this grant you should email a completed copy of the “WIG Calculator” which is available for download from [www.forestry.gov.uk/ewgs-wig](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/ewgs-wig), or complete the paper form EWGS 5. When filling in the WIG calculator, enter the appropriate code e.g. “X2” and it will automatically start to fill in the operation details

This fund is administered through and subject to the normal criteria of the English Woodland Grant Scheme. Guidance, application forms and the WIG cost calculator are available from [www.forestry.gov.uk](http://www.forestry.gov.uk)

If you want to find out more or are considering an application you can talk to Richard Paton, Woodland Officer for Cornwall, contact [richard.paton@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:richard.paton@forestry.gsi.gov.uk) or 01626 890666

**Further information** General details on the English Woodland Grant Scheme are available in a pack that can be obtained from your local FC office, or downloadable from the FC website [www.forestry.gov.uk/ewgs](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/ewgs)

Supplementary information on EWGS is also available in the EWGS document library on the FC website [www.forestry.gov.uk/england-documents](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/england-documents). For general advice on EWGS you can contact either your local FC office or the EWGS helpline (01223 346004)