



English Woodland Grant Scheme

Email Alert 7th May 2009

EWGS – We're now open for Woodland Creation and Woodland Regeneration Grant Applications!

Woodland Regeneration Grant (WRG)

We are now open for WRG applications with claim years 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 and as usual will commit regional funds on a first come first served basis. There have been no changes to the rules or payment rates.

Woodland Creation Grant (WCG)

We are now open for WCG applications. There are funds still available for planting and claiming in 2009/2010 in most regions, but the main funding available is for 2010/2011, 2011/2012 and 2012/2013

Forms and Guidance

This year you need to refer to 2 pieces of guidance – the national guidance (EWGS 7) and the regional guidance (EWGS 7a) for your particular region. The regional guidance provides information on what regional additional contributions are available and how to complete the regional score form.

Revised national guidance and forms are available from www.forestry.gov.uk/ewgs-wcg or your local FC office.

Printed copies of the new forms and national guidance will be available by 9th May. Regional guidance and the score forms are also available on the WCG webpage.

Fast track score

The fast track scores for 2009 are:

East England	6	East Midlands	14
North East	14	North West	15
South East	17	South West	14
West Midlands	14	Yorkshire & the Humber	14

Additional Contributions

Up to £2000 per hectare on top of the basic planting grant is now available where new woodlands meet national and regional priorities. These priorities are explained in detail in each of the regional guidance notes but a summary is below.

Farm Woodland Payments (FWP) – new rates and SPS eligibility

As explained in the [last email alert](#), the FWP rate structure has been simplified and now allows owners to continue claiming support under the Single Payment Scheme (SPS). We hope to receive approval of the new rates from EU in the Summer so contracts can be issued as soon as possible

Finally, apologies for a minor mistake in the last email alert. The new rate of FWP for arable land planted in less favoured areas is £200, not £230 as quoted. Based on EWGS applications to date, this category accounts for less than 0.5% of the total FWP area and should have minimal impact.

Summary of Regional Additional Contributions (AC)

A maximum of £2000 per hectare is available which may be achieved through more than one AC. Please note this is a summary only and detailed eligibility is contained in the regional guidance.

Region	Payment Rate	Target
East of England	£2000	New woodland with public access in Quality of Place priority areas
	£2000	New native woodland next to an existing native woodland in one of the Ancient Woodland cluster areas
East Midlands	£2000	New woodland with public access in Quality of Place priority areas
	£2000	New woodland in priority birds areas
North East	£2000	New woodland with public access in Quality of Place priority areas
	£2000	New native woodland in Northumberland National Park
	£1000	New native woodland in Quality of Place priority areas
North West	£1000	All applications passing the regional scoring round
	£1000	New woodland with public access in Quality of Place priority areas
	£1000	New woodland in a priority area – National Parks, AONBs, Bird and butterfly priority areas, Uplands (as identified on Rural Communities maps), Bassenthwaite Lake catchment area
	£1000	New native woodland near existing ancient woodland
South East	£2000	New woodland with public access in Quality of Place priority areas
	£2000	New native woodland in the JIGSAW area of the Isle of Wight (subject to a different scoring form and judging process)
South West	£2000	New woodland with public access in Quality of Place priority areas
	£2000	New native woodland near a mapped habitat network in the SW Ancient Woodland Priority Areas
	£100-£2000	Variable contribution in the South West Forest target area
West Midlands	£2000	New native woodland in the Feckenham and Needwood & Churnet Valley target areas
	£1000	New woodland with public access in Quality of Place priority areas
	£500	New woodland in Quality of Place priority areas, Forest of Mercia or in Woods Close to people areas
Yorkshire & the Humber	£2000	New woodland with public access in Quality of Place priority areas
	£2000	New woodland in priority birds areas
All	£500	New woodland with public access outside Quality of Place areas, where there is an identified access demand
	£500	Woodland near populations of 100,000

OPERATIONS NOTE ON CONTINUOUS COVER FORESTRY (CCF) SUPPORT

Operations Note 21 explains how EWGS can support woodlands managed through CCF approaches using the current suite of EWGS grants

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