HS2 Capital Item – Invasive Species Control List A

How much will be paid

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Slope of site</th>
<th>Plant height</th>
<th>Payment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level or gentle slope (0 to 11 degree incline)</td>
<td>Average height is less than 2.5m tall</td>
<td>£3,500 per hectare (ha)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate slope (12 to 18 degree incline)</td>
<td>Between 2.5m to 4m tall</td>
<td>£4,000 per ha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steep or very steep slope (19 degrees or more)</td>
<td>Average height is over 4m tall</td>
<td>£5,500 per ha</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The higher rate will apply where the site is classed in 1 or more of these categories, for example if the site is on a steep slope with an average height of less than 2.5m.

Where to use this item

This item can be used within the target area for PAWs restoration.

This item supports control of the following species:

- Rhododendron
- Cherry Laurel
- Holly

Requirements

Agreement holders are likely to need to:

- check the slope on the ground - it cannot be based solely on map contours
- cut all live material from the stump, allowing access for chemical spraying of any re-growth
• treat all stumps with a suitable herbicide on the day of being cut and in frost free and rain free conditions - rain should not be forecast for at least 6 hours
• dispose of cut material so that it allows access to stumps for chemical spraying of any re-growth
• control any injurious weed species, when the site regenerates, if there is a risk of spread to pasture land (used by grazing livestock or conserved for forage)
• chemically treat re-growth with a recommended herbicide - follow the manufacturer’s guidance on application rates and safety requirements
• keep the operations in line with recommendations in the Forestry Commission practice guide Managing and controlling invasive rhododendron
• Protect any native ground flora that may be within the target area.

Removing infected rhododendron

When removing rhododendron infected with Phytophthora ramorum or Phytophthora kernoviae, agreement holders must:

• clean or disinfect clothing, equipment and vehicles according to advice given in the Forestry Commission biosecurity guidance
• use disinfectants that have gone through a Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) safety assessment as well as an environmental assessment

Burning waste material

Agreement holders may need to discuss whether to burn cut waste material with their local Forestry Commission or Natural England adviser. If told to burn it, agreement holders must:

• agree in advance where the burn site will be
• build bonfires far enough away from trees (at least 10m from the crown of any tree) to avoid damaging them
• make sure that burning sites and piles of wood are not on patches of ground where they could damage species-rich grassland, anthills or other ecological or archaeological features
• clean up the site as soon as possible after burning - burning on a metal sheet reduces damage to the soil and makes it easier to remove ash from the site

Timing

To be undertaken within the first year of the agreement.

Keeping records

Agreement holders will need to keep the following records and supply them on request

• any consents or permissions connected with the work
• receipted invoices, or bank statements where a receipted invoice is unavailable