



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

# Grey squirrel species management plan (PA7)

Template

## When to use this plan

Use this plan template to create a 10-year plan to manage grey squirrel on your holding that are either:

- causing a problem to priority species or priority habitats
- at risk of causing a problem to priority species or priority habitats

You should:

- get your plan template approved by a woodland officer at your local Forestry Commission area office and make any changes they recommend
- update your species management plan regularly – it will be considered a live document from day one

As a voluntary action, you may want to record any activities you undertake as part of your plan on a national database, such as [INNSMapper](#) or [iRecord](#). These free applications can be used to record the presence of invasive species and confirm their identification.

Find full details about the [grey squirrel control and management action](#), and associated capital items.

## Your details

Species management plan reference number

The reference number is assigned to you by either:

- the Rural Payments Agency when you applied for your capital grants plan
- Forestry Commission, if you are using the plan without a funded capital grants item agreement

Applicant name

Email address

Telephone number

Single business identifier (SBI) number

If you are a member of a Facilitation Fund or other collaborative group that supports coordination, please list other SBI numbers whose actions are linked to yours

Holding address

Total size of your holding in hectares

Agent name (if used)

Agent email address (if used)

Agent telephone number (if used)

## Changes to your plan

Use this table to record any changes to your plan. Complete the first 2 columns only.

The woodland officer will complete the final 3 columns when you send your plan for approval. They may recommend changes to your plan. It is your responsibility to make these changes and update your plan accordingly.

Date of changes	Changes you made	Changes recommended by the Forestry Commission	Woodland officer name	Date of review

## Habitats where you will manage grey squirrel

Total number of hectares that you intend to undertake control of on your holding across all habitat types.

For each habitat type, indicate the number of hectares you intend to undertake control on and any designations.

Designations are areas of land that are protected because of their natural or cultural importance. They include sites of special scientific interest (SSSI), special areas of conservation (SAC) and scheduled monuments. Find [protected areas of countryside](#).

Habitat type	Total area of the habitat on your holding	Area you intend to undertake control on	Give details of any designations
Woodlands (hectares)			
Agroforestry, wood pasture and orchards (hectares)			

If you intend to conduct control on other habitats not listed above, give the habitat type, area and any designations.

<b>Habitat type</b>	<b>Total area of the habitat on your holding</b>	<b>Area you intend to undertake control on</b>	<b>Give details of any designations</b>

## Map where you will manage grey squirrel

You must create a map of 1:25,000 scale of the area that you intend to manage grey squirrel. The map must:

- have a suitable title
- clearly display the location and boundaries of any habitats and features
- indicate parcel boundaries and give parcel IDs
- show the intended location of any management activity
- show the intended location of any monitoring activity

You can provide a map using any method. We have provided guidance on how to print a map using the [Rural Payment service](#).

### Print a map using the Rural Payment Service

You can print a map of your land parcels using the [Rural Payment service](#).

1. Sign in to the [Rural Payment service](#).
2. From the 'Business overview' screen, click 'Land' then 'View land'.
3. To view individual land parcel details, select the land parcel you need.
4. The 'Parcel details' screen shows you a digital map and details of the land parcel.
5. Press 'Print'.



## Impact of grey squirrel on your holding

Estimate the:

- number of grey squirrel present on your holding
- native priority species whose numbers may be impacted by the presence of grey squirrels on your holding

Species	Estimate the maximum number on your holding at any one time (number of individuals per hectare)	Estimate if the number is increasing, decreasing or staying the same
Grey squirrel ( <i>Sciurus carolinensis</i> )		
Red squirrel ( <i>Sciurus vulgaris</i> )		
Pine marten ( <i>Martes martes</i> )		

Give the level of impact grey squirrel are having on your holding.

What is being impacted	Level of impact (choose none, low, medium or high)	Is the impact increasing, decreasing or staying the same	Give details of the impact
Priority habitat (including woodland and uplands)			
Priority species (including animal, plants and fungi)			
Crop (including agricultural and timber crops)			

## Control and monitoring actions

Provide information about the control and monitoring actions you intend to undertake.

You should aim for:

- approximately one squirrel trap per hectare
- a minimum of one trapping session per year

You should allocate approximately:

- 1.5 hours per trap per trapping session for kill traps
- 2 hours per trap per trapping session for live traps

<b>Control and monitoring method</b>	<b>Estimate the total hours you will use this method (multiply the number of hours by the number of people)</b>	<b>Give details of the method (for example, time of year, number and type of trap to be used, inspection and maintenance schedule)</b>
<b>Live trapping</b>		
<b>Lethal trapping (non-red squirrel areas only)</b>		
<b>Shooting at bait stations</b>		

<b>Drey poking</b>		
<b>Other control method not listed above</b>		
<b>Habitat impact assessment</b>		
<b>Other monitoring method not listed above as agreed with the Forestry Commission</b>		

## Management activity

Use the table to:

- estimate the number of grey squirrel you will manage for each year of your agreement
- record the actual activity you have undertaken during each year of your agreement

You may be asked for this information at any time during your agreement. You should update it regularly.

Expected and actual cull per year	Females	Males	Total
Year 1 expected cull			
Year 1 actual cull			
Year 2 expected cull			
Year 2 actual cull			
Year 3 expected cull			
Year 3 actual cull			
Year 4 expected cull			
Year 4 actual cull			

<b>Year 5 expected cull</b>			
<b>Year 5 actual cull</b>			
<b>Year 6 expected cull</b>			
<b>Year 6 actual cull</b>			
<b>Year 7 expected cull</b>			
<b>Year 7 actual cull</b>			
<b>Year 8 expected cull</b>			
<b>Year 8 actual cull</b>			
<b>Year 9 expected cull</b>			
<b>Year 9 actual cull</b>			
<b>Year 10 expected cull</b>			
<b>Year 10 actual cull</b>			

## Approval of the plan

Do not complete this section. Your local Forestry Commission woodland officer will sign to approve your plan.

In signing below, it means:

- the Forestry Commission has approved the general intention of the plan
- the plan can be used to support a claim for a capital grants plan application

Approval of the plan by the Forestry Commission does not negate the need to gain SSSI consents or licenses to deliver activities within the plan. Consents and licences should be sought separately, after which you may need to update this plan to reflect any requirements.

Forestry Commission woodland officer signature (a typed signature is acceptable)

Date