Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs





# What you need to do if you receive a Statutory Plant Health Notice

If you receive a Statutory Plant Health Notice (SPHN), it means a notifiable tree pest or disease has been found on the land you own or manage.

The *lps typographus* beetle poses a major threat to spruce trees. When infestations are confirmed, landowners will be served an SPHN, requiring urgent forestry operations. Many landowners are unaware of what this involves, the timeline for responding, and the support available. This content aims to explain the process, reduce confusion, and support compliance.

### Here's what you need to do >>

Plant Health surveillance identifies spruce at risk of infestation

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*Ips typographus* is confirmed (

Plant Health Officer inspection finds suspicious evidence of infestation (beetles, galleries) and sends sample to Forest Research for identification



# SPHNs are served to spruce owners

SPHNs are served on spruce within 1km of confirmed outbreaks



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Forestry Commission Woodland Officer makes contact to inform of available grants

An agreement must be

in place first before any grant-funded activities start. Prompt submission of the grant application will enable faster processing.

Coordinate with Woodland Officer

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Application submitted by the landowner

> Typically processed in 2–6 weeks

> > Agent/contractor provides method statement for approval by Plant Health Forestry



Grant agreement is offered and accepted

Widen access

SPHN operations can commence

**8b** 

**8**a

or

No grant needed to support felling

Destroy infested or suspected to be infested material within 6 weeks.

Follow SPHN timeframes for removing stressed and healthy trees, which will vary depending on the site and level of infestation.



Adhere to applicable legislation, regulations, and best practice in line with UK Forestry Standard.

Possible **infrastructure work may be needed** (e.g., widen access from main road, create stacking area, upgrade track)

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Material identified as low risk can be moved as roundwood to an Authorised Processor

Material identified as high risk on your SPHN must be chipped on site prior to movement

> 13 Reinstatement of rides and rutted areas

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#### Harvesting:

Felling, extraction and chipping of high risk material



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Harvesting residue greater than 8cm in diameter must be destroyed by mulching, chipping or raking & burning

#### Mulching/burning residues



## SPHN compliance inspection by Plant Health Forestry

Followed by approval

Trap installation/replanting area



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Installation of stakemounted eradication traps in the spring following the operations

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Replanting of felled area (winter following SPHN felling) with installation of any necessary protection (e.g., tree shelters, fencing) For three years, with fortnightly access required during the spring and summer months

Maintenance of planted trees

Speak to your local Woodland Officer for tailored support and visit <u>Gov.uk/Ips-Response</u> for guidance and grants.

www.gov.uk/government/organisations/forestry-commission

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