



# Woodland improvement pre-application form

Only complete this form if you've been invited to submit a pre-application form for woodland management actions under Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier (CSHT).

Complete the form electronically by selecting a text field and typing or selecting applicable checkboxes. Do not print this form.

## Before you apply

You must have a current Woodland Management Plan (WMP) approved by the Forestry Commission to apply. Your WMP must be in place for the 10-year length of your agreement.

If your WMP is due to expire during your agreement, you must have a new one in place before it ends. The Forestry Commission recommends you apply the year before it ends.

Find out [how to create a WMP](#) if you don't already have one.

## Species management

If you plan to apply for funding for species management, you must have a species management plan (SMP) approved by the Forestry Commission or Natural England.

Your pre-application will not be approved without this.

Read 'Section 4: species management' for more information.

## Section 1: your details

Full name:

Woodland or business name:

What is your single business identifier (SBI) number?

How would you like the Forestry Commission to contact you?

Provide your contact details and select your preferred method of contact.

Email address:

Phone number:

What is the name of your WMP?

What is your WMP number?

What date was your WMP approved?

## Section 2: your intended CSH application

Provide the central Ordnance Survey (OS) grid reference of the land you plan to apply for:

How many land parcels do you plan to include in your application?

How many hectares (ha) of land does this cover?

If the land is owned by National Trust, attach a list of the land parcels you plan to include in your application

What CSHT funding do you plan to apply for?

Select all that apply:

## **Actions and supplements**

CWD2: Woodland improvement

CWS2: Manage and restore plantations on ancient woodland sites (PAWS) supplement

CWS5: Improve woodland resilience supplement

CWS8: Manage native woodland including ancient semi-natural woodlands (ASNW) supplement

CES6: Maintain features for wildfire management (fire belts) supplement

CUP18: Manage features for wildlife management (fire and fuel breaks) supplement

CPAC1: Open access

CPAC2: Access for people with reduced mobility

CPAC3: Bridleway and cycle route access

CPAC4: Footpath access

CPAC5: Upgrading Countryside and Rights of Way 'open access land' and public rights of way for cyclists and horse riders

CPAC6: Upgrading Countryside and Rights of Way 'open access land' and public rights of way for people with reduced mobility

CSP2: Rewetting supplement

CSP3: Bracken control supplement

CSP9: Support for threatened species

CSP12: Rhododendron control and management supplement

CSP13: Invasive plant species control and management (lower rate)

CSP14: Invasive plant species control and management (intermediate rate)

CSP15: Invasive plant species control and management (upper rate)

CSP20: Edible dormouse control and management

CSP21: American mink control and management

CSW22: Connect river and floodplain habitats

CWS1: Deer control and management

CWS3: Grey squirrel control and management  
CWS7: Manage historic features in woodlands supplement  
CWS9: Manage woodlands for flood and drought mitigation supplement  
CWS10: 2-zone rides supplement  
CWS11: 3-zone rides supplement

## **Capital items**

AC1: Access capital items  
AC2: Countryside educational access visits accreditation  
BN2: Stone-faced bank restoration  
BN12: Stone wall restoration  
BN13: Top wiring-stone wall  
BN14: Stone wall supplement - stone from quarry  
BN15: Stone wall supplement - difficult sites  
BN16: Repair stone walls  
FG1: Fencing  
FG2: Sheep netting  
FG4: Rabbit fencing supplement  
FG5: Fencing supplement - difficult sites  
FG9: Deer fencing  
FG10: Temporary deer fencing  
FG11: Deer exclosure plot  
FG12: Wooden field gate  
FG13: Stone gate post  
FG14: Badger gate  
FG15: Water gates  
FG16: Deer pedestrian gate  
FG17: Deer vehicle gate  
FM2: Carry out customised capital works to manage specific sites or species

FY1: Deer high seat

FY2: Woodland infrastructure

FY3: Squirrel traps and maintenance

FY4: Create 2-zone rides in woodland

FY5: Create 3-zone rides in woodland

FY6: Restore coppicing in woodland

FY7: Assessing woodland condition

FY8: Supplement for a freestanding deer high seat

HE1: Historic and archaeological feature protection

HE3: Removal of eyesore

RP3: Watercourse crossings

RP6: Installation of piped culverts in ditches

RP9: Earth banks and soil bunds

RP12: Check dams

RP32: Small leaky woody dams

RP33: Large leaky woody dams

SB1: Scrub control and felling diseased trees

SB2: Scrub control - difficult sites

SB4: Chemical bracken control

SB5: Mechanical bracken control

SB6: Rhododendron control

SM1: Training to control and manage deer

SM2: Training to control and manage American mink

SM3: Training to control and manage non-native plants

SM4: Traps for American mink

SM5: Traps for edible doormouse

SM6: Use monitoring equipment to manage invasive species

TE10: Coppicing bankside trees

TE11: Tree surgery

TE12: Stump grinding

TE16: Use tree surgery to 'hinge' a tree into a watercourse

TE17: Tree surgery for veteran trees

VED1: Educational access visits

WB1: Small wildlife box

WB2: Medium wildlife box

WB3: Large wildlife box

WN1: Grip blocking drainage channels

WN2: Creation of scrapes and gutters

WN3: Ditch, dyke and rhine restoration

WN4: Ditch, dyke and rhine creation

WN8: Timber sluice

WN9: Brick, stone or concrete sluice

WN10: Construction of water penning structures

WN11: Install temporary water storage features

WN12: Create or restore ponds up to 2 hectares

## Section 3: check your WMP

You must use the [WMP checking guide](#) to make sure your plan supports your intended CSHT application. This can be found under the 'Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier' heading of the guidance on [how to create a WMP](#).

Does the funding you have selected align with your WMP?

Yes

No

If you answered 'no', what changes would you need to make to your WMP?

## Section 4: species management

You must have a species management plan (approved by the Forestry Commission or Natural England) if you want to apply for funding for the management of:

- American mink
- deer
- edible dormouse
- grey squirrel
- invasive plant species (not including Rhododendron)

You will need a plan for each species you want to manage.

You may be able to [apply for PA7: Species management plan](#) to help pay for this. If you apply for PA7, do not start writing your plan until it is approved.

Even if you do not apply for PA7, you must [use one of the PA7 templates](#) to create your plan.

Do you need to create species management plans as part of your pre-application?

Yes

No

## Section 5: actions for water

You must have an implementation plan or feasibility study (agreed with the Forestry Commission or Natural England) if you plan to apply for:

- CSP2: Rewetting supplement
- CWS9: Manage woodlands for flood and drought mitigation supplement

You may be able to [apply for a capital grants plan](#) to help pay for a feasibility study or implementation plan.

Do you have an agreed implementation plan or feasibility study?

Yes

No

## Section 6: historic environment

Did you identify any designated heritage assets in your WMP?

For example, scheduled monuments.

Yes

No

Did you identify any non-designated heritage assets in your WMP?

For example, Selected Heritage Inventory for Natural England (SHINE) features.

Yes

No

## Section 7: protected sites or other designations

Did you identify any [protected sites or other designations](#) in your WMP?

For example, areas of outstanding natural beauty (AONBs), sites of special scientific interest (SSSIs), special areas of conservation (SACs), Ramsar sites, or national parks.

Yes

No

## Section 8: ask for advice from the Forestry Commission

Would you like more information or advice about the pre-application process (this could include a request for changes to your WMP)?

Yes

No

What advice do you need?



## Section 9: declaration

I confirm I have answered every question on this form and it can be reviewed by the Forestry Commission.

Yes

No

Name:

Role:

For example, landowner, tenant, agent.

Signature:

Date:

## Submit your form

When you have completed your form and checked your answers:

- reply to the email sent to you by the Rural Payments Agency with the subject: "Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier: invitation to start pre-application"
- add [GRNationalteam@forestrycommission.gov.uk](mailto:GRNationalteam@forestrycommission.gov.uk) in the "CC" email address bar
- add your completed form as an attachment

## What happens next

The Forestry Commission will review your form. They will:

- contact you if they have any questions
- let you know if your form is approved
- provide advice on the last page of this form and return it to you

You should use this advice when making your CSHT application - we may reject applications that do not follow the advice given.

## Privacy notice

The Forestry Commission will handle all personal information in accordance with our [personal information charter](#).

## Advice and comments from the Forestry Commission

**To be completed by the Forestry Commission after you submit your application.**

I confirm this form has been reviewed and, subject to any necessary consents required, can be progressed to a CSHT application.

Yes

No

Woodland officer's name:

Woodland officer's signature:

Date:

Field manager's name:

Field manager's signature:

Date: