|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **NPI Name:** | **1.2 m tubular tree guard and stake** |
|  |  |
| **NPI Code:** | **TGS** |
|  |  |  |
| **NPI Payment:** | Year 1: | £4.26 per tubular guard and stake |
|  |  |
| **NPI Aim(s):** | To protect newly planted trees from damage by grazing animals in EFS(H) sites. |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Scheme Applicability:** | Wider – EFS(W) |  | Higher – EFS(H) | **✓** | Group – EFS(G) | **✓** |
|  |  |  |  |
| **This NPI is:** | Permanent | **✓** | Rotational |  |  |
|  |  |
| **NPI Description and Outcome:** | ‘1.2 m tubular tree guards and stakes’ are eligible where they will maintain and enhance the biodiversity value of EFS(H) sites and are included in the site specific Remedial Management Plan (ssRMP). The ‘1.2 m tubular tree guards and stakes’ will protect newly planted trees, particularly from rabbit damage. |
|  |  |
| **Number Permitted:** | **Minimum** | 1 | **Maximum**  | **Not Applicable\*** |

\*DAERA reserves the right to limit a Higher Level agreement value where it considers appropriate to ensure value for money.

**Requirements and Controls:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Code** | **Non-productive investment requirements (capital works)** | **Control type1** |
| **Admin** | **CwRS** | **OTSC** |
| **TGS1C** | All ‘1.2 m tubular tree guards and stakes’ must be erected by the end of Year 1. | **✓** |  | **✓** |
| **TGS2C** | The claimed number of ‘1.2 m tubular tree guards and stakes’ must be erected in the field(s) where they have been approved. | **✓** |  | **✓** |
| **TGS3C** | New ‘1.2 m tubular tree guards and stakes’ must be used.  | **✓** |  | **✓** |
| **TGS4C** | The claimed number of ‘1.2 m tubular tree guards and stakes’ must comply with the Specification outlined below. |  |  | **✓** |
| **TGS5C** | Field records must be kept detailing Integrated Pest Management (IPM) requirements, location, number and date(s) erected for the ‘1.2 m tubular tree guards and stakes’.  | **✓** |  | **✓** |

 The possible control types for each requirement may be:

‘Admin’ – administrative checks, ‘CwRS’ – Control with Remote Sensing, ‘OTSC’ – On-the-Spot Check

**Specification:**

The **‘**1.2 m tubular tree guards and stakes’ must:

* be erected and maintained as detailed in the ssRMP;
* be at least 1.2 m high and 80 - 100 mm diameter; and
* have stakes which are a minimum of 1.20 cm x 1.20 cm x 1.20 m long and are free of bark, tanalised or treated with an approved preservative; and
* be erected and maintained as detailed in the ssRMP for EFS(H) sites.

**Further Advice:**

Approval should be sought from DFI TransportNI before new tree guards and stakes are erected along a roadway.