|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NPI Name:** | **Parkland/Fruit/Standard native tree guard** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **NPI Code:** | **SNS** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | |  | | | | | | | | | | |
| **NPI Payment:** | Year 1: | | £147.00 per guard | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **NPI Aim(s):** | To protect newly created EFS Options and to facilitate remedial  management of EFS(H) sites. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | | | |  | |  | | | |  |  |  | |
| **Scheme Applicability:** | Wider – EFS(W) | | | |  | | Higher – EFS(H) | | | | **✓** | Group – EFS(G) | **✓** | |
|  |  | | |  | |  | | |
| **This NPI is:** | Permanent | | | **✓** | | Rotational | | | **✓** | |  | | |
|  |  | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **NPI Description and Outcome:** | ‘Parkland/Fruit/Standard native tree guards’ are eligible in any EFS(W)  Option where they are available as an approved additional capital works  item. This NPI is eligible where it will maintain and enhance the  biodiversity value of EFS(H) sites and is included in the site specific  Remedial Management Plan (ssRMP). The ‘Parkland/Fruit/Standard  native tree guard’ will protect newly planted parkland/fruit/standard trees  from damage by grazing animals and wild animals and facilitate  implementation of the ssRMP. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **No. of traps Permitted:** | **Minimum** | 1 | | | | | | **Maximum** | | Not Applicable\* | | | |

\*The number of ‘Parkland/Fruit/Standard native tree guards’ applied for must be indicative of the EFS Option area or length they are associated with.

**Requirements and Controls:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Code** | **Non-productive investment requirements (capital works)** | **Control type1** | | |
| **Admin** | **CwRS** | **OTSC** |
| **SNT1C** | ‘Parkland/Fruit/Standard ‘native tree guards’ must be erected by the  end of Year 1. | **✓** |  | **✓** |
| **SNT2C** | The claimed number of ‘Parkland/Fruit/ Standard ‘native tree guard/s’  must be erected in the in the field(s) where they have been approved. | **✓** |  | **✓** |
| **SNT3C** | New materials must be used. | **✓** |  | **✓** |
| **SNT4C** | The ‘Parkland/Fruit/Standard native tree guard’ must be stock-proof  and rabbit-proof. |  |  | **✓** |
| **SNT5C** | The newly erected ‘Parkland/Fruit/ Standard ‘native tree guards’ must  be erected to comply with the Specification detailed below. |  |  | **✓** |
| **SNT6C** | Field records must be kept detailing location, number and date  erected for each ‘Parkland/Fruit/Standard native tree guard’. | **✓** |  | **✓** |

The possible control types for each requirement may be:

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

**Specification:**

* The ‘Parkland/Fruit/Standard native tree guard’ must:
* be a post and rail fence comprising of 4 rails 32 mm (depth) x 90 mm (width) sawn timber;
* be at least 1.20 m high from the ground to the top of the top rail;
* have posts at least 95 mm x 95 mm sawn timber and set at centres not greater than 1.80 m;
* form a perimeter of at least 6.00 m around the newly planted parkland/fruit/standard tree;
* be constructed using new, pressure treated timber;
* have one row of barbed/plain wire along the top and one row of barbed/plain wire along the bottom with woven wire and rabbit-proof fencing attached;
* include rabbit-proof fencing with galvanised wire netting at least 1.05 m wide with mesh no larger than 31 mm;
* have the top of the rabbit-proof fencing fixed to the tree guard at least 0.75 m from the ground;
* have the rabbit-proof fencing fastened to the tree guard fencing and the bottom edge of the rabbit-proof fencing must be buried and secured in the ground;
* have all fencing wire properly strained and secured; and
* be erected and maintained as detailed in the ssRMP for EFS(H) sites.

**Further Advice:**

Approval should be sought from DFI Transport NI, before a ‘Parkland/Fruit/Standard tree

guard’ is erected along a roadway.

The guard posts should be at least 1.80 m long.

To allow for future adjustments and to prevent damage to the galvanising, staples must be

driven in at an angle, but not fully home.

The bottom edge of the rabbit-proof fencing should be buried in the ground to a depth of 150

mm. Do not attach rabbit-proof fencing to trees, hedgerows or electricity poles.