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| --- | --- |
| **NPI Name:** | **Solitary Bee Box** |
|  |  |
| **NPI Code:** | **SBO** |
|  |  |  |
| **NPI Payment:** | Year 1: | £34.00 per box |
|  |  |
| **NPI Aim(s):** | To facilitate remedial management of targeted sites and provide breedingopportunities for the declining bee population. |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Scheme Applicability:** | Wider – EFS(W) |  | Higher – EFS(H) | **✓** | Group – EFS(G) | **✓** |
|  |  |  |  |
| **This NPI is:** | Permanent | **✓** | Rotational | **✓** |  |
|  |  |
| **NPI Description and Outcome:** | This NPI is eligible where it will maintain and enhance the biodiversityvalue of targeted sites and is included in the site specific RemedialManagement Plan (ssRMP). ‘Solitary bee boxes’ will provide nestingsites for the bee population and facilitate implementation of the ssRMP. |
|  |  |
| **No. of traps 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** |
| **SBO1** | All ‘Solitary bee boxes’ must be erected by the end of Year 1. | **✓** |  | **✓** |
| **SBO2** | New ‘Solitary bee boxes’ must be used | **✓** |  | **✓** |
| **SBO3** | The claimed number of ‘Solitary bee boxes’ must be erected in thefields(s) where they have been approved. | **✓** |  | **✓** |
| **SBO4** | The claimed number of ‘Solitary bee boxes’ must be erected to theSpecification outlined below |  |  | **✓** |
| **SBO5** | Field records must be kept detailing number, location and dateerected for each ‘Solitary bee box’. | **✓** |  | **✓** |

 The possible control types for each requirement may be:

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

**Specification:**

The ‘Solitary bee box’ must:

* Have an open front but a back must be present;
* Be weatherproof with small drainage holes in the floor;
* Be made of untreated wood, if constructed using timber;
* Contain at least four compartments containing drilled hardwood blocks (holes mixed diameters 5 - 12 mm) and/or sections of bamboo stem and /or paper drinking straws;
* Be erected and maintained as detailed in the ssRMP for EFS(H) sites.

**Further Advice:**

The box should ideally be at least 500 mm x 500 mm x 200 mm.

Boxes should be located in a dry, sunny and sheltered position close to a pollen and nectar

forage area.

Do not attach ‘Solitary bee boxes’ to electricity poles. ‘Solitary bee boxes’ should be

attached to a building, tree or free standing post at least 50 centimetres above the ground.

When attaching to a tree, use a strap.

Place a different material in each compartment if possible.