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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NPI Name:** | **Stock proof Fencing** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **NPI Code:** | SPF | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | |  | | | | | | | | | | |
| **NPI Payment:** | Year 1: | | £6.90 per m | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **NPI Aim(s):** | To protect newly created EFS Options, facilitate remedial management  of EFS(H) sites and contribute to the protection of soil and water. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | | | |  | |  | | | |  |  |  | |
| **Scheme Applicability:** | Wider – EFS(W) | | | | **✓** | | Higher – EFS(H) | | | | **✓** | Group – EFS(G) | **✓** | |
|  |  | | |  | |  | | |
| **This NPI is:** | Permanent | | | **✓** | | Rotational | | |  | |  | | |
|  |  | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **NPI Description and Outcome:** | ‘Stock-proof fencing’ is eligible in any EFS(W) Option where it is available as an approved additional optional 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). ‘Stock-proof fencing’ will help control grazing livestock, protect environmental features and facilitate implementation of the ssRMP. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Length Permitted:** | **Minimum** | 1 m | | | | | | **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** |
| **SPF1C** | All ‘Stock-proof fencing’ must be completed by the end of Year 1. | **✓** | **✓** | **✓** |
| **SPF2C** | The claimed length of ‘Stock-proof fencing’ must be erected in the  correct location in the field(s) where it has been approved | **✓** | **✓** | **✓** |
| **SPF3C** | The claimed length of ‘Stock-proof fencing’ must be erected to the  Specification outlined below. | **✓** |  | **✓** |
| **SPF5C** | Field records must be kept detailing location, length and date erected for the ‘Stock-proof fencing’. | **✓** |  | **✓** |

The possible control types for each requirement may be:

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

**Specification:**

* All remnant fence material must be removed before erecting the ‘Stock- proof
* fencing’.
* New materials must be used for ‘Stock-proof fencing’.
* The fence must be erected to BS 1722-2:2006.
* The minimum standard for ‘Stock-proof fencing’ is galvanised woven wire and three
* strands line wire or five strands line wire.
* The overall height of the fence must be at least 1.20 m from the ground to the top
* wire.
* Straining posts must be equivalent in strength and durability to 125 mm top diameter
* round timber or 125 mm x 125 mm sawn timbers.
* Straining posts must be set at centres not exceeding 150 m or at each change in
* direction or gradient.
* Struts must be equivalent in strength and durability to 75 mm top diameter round
* timber or 75 mm x 75 mm sawn timber.
* Struts must be mortised into the straining post.
* Intermediate posts must be equivalent in strength and durability to 75 mm top
* diameter round timber or 75 mm x 75 mm sawn timber and set at centres not
* exceeding 3.00 m.
* Intermediate wooden posts must be at least 1.83 m long.
* All posts must be free of bark.
* Posts must have a potential minimum 15 year life, clearly indicated on
* manufacturer’s literature/invoice or on application of a subsequent treatment again
* clearly indicated on manufacturer’s literature/invoice. Where wooden posts have
* been treated with a preservative, this must have been applied by the manufacturer.
* Use strands of galvanised 4 mm mild plain steel wire or 2.5 mm barbed wire.
* The ‘Stock-proof fencing’ must be properly strained and secured to posts with
* galvanised staples or appropriate fastenings (such as galvanised wire or bespoke
* fasteners).
* ‘Stock-proof fencing’ must be erected as detailed in the ssRMP, for EFS(H) sites.

**Further Advice:**

‘Stock-proof fencing’ is already included as an essential capital works item in relevant

EFS(W) Options.

If you intend to complete this NPI on a march boundary you should ensure that you have

fully discussed and agreed that you can carry out the NPI requirements and controls on the

march boundary with the person who has control of the neighbouring land.

Straining posts should be at least 2.10 m long when not set in concrete and at least 1.87 m

long when set in concrete.

Struts should be set at least 450 mm into the ground.

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

driven in at an angle, but not fully home.

Approval should be sought from DFI TransportNI before new ‘Stock-proof fencing’ is erected

along a roadway.

Do not attach the ‘Stock-proof fencing’ to trees, hedgerows or electricity poles and do not

block or restrict rights of way.

**Health and Safety**

Due to the carcinogenic properties of creosote, it is only authorised for industrial and

professional use where adequate risk mitigation measures can be taken. It was withdrawn

from public use in 2003.

If using creosote treated posts request and read the product data sheet from the supplier

and comply fully with any health and safety precautions listed. DAERA recommends at a

minimum that the following precautions should be taken:

* Avoid direct contact with skin.
* Handle with impervious gloves.
* Wear a dust mask and eye protection when sawing or machining.
* Dispose of off-cuts, sawdust etc safely.
* Waste wood may be disposed of by burning subject to any local rules on burning in
* the open or via your local waste disposal facility.
* Creosoted timber should not be used where there is risk of frequent (i.e., often occurring, habitual or constant) skin contact nor where it may come into contact with or contaminate animal or human foodstuff.

Further information is available at: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/biocides/copr/creosote.htm>

**Environmental**

There are also significant environmental risks when wood treated with creosote comes into

contact with soil or water. Therefore, creosote should be applied to posts by the manufacturer and fully dried / cured before use, to minimise the risk of soil and water

contamination.

In addition, posts treated with creosote can be unsuitable in some circumstances. This is

because creosote is a biocide which could have an adverse environmental impact on certain

sites. For example, creosote treated posts erected along a riverbank close to pearl mussel

beds could impact negatively on a protected species. NIEA, in certain sensitive environmentally designated sites, have specified the use of untreated posts. In such cases,

DAERA may specify the use of an alternative post.