

NPI Name: Machinery for management of fen and reedbed tall vegetation

NPI Code: AMT

NPI Payment: Year 1: Actual cost

NPI Aim(s): To assist with the management of wetland sites to increase their biodiversity value. Machinery for management of fen and reedbed tall vegetation will help to maintain an open wetland habitat.

Scheme Applicability: Wider – EFS(W) Higher – EFS(H) Group – EFS(G)

This NPI is: Permanent Rotational

NPI Description and Outcome: 'Machinery for management of fen and reedbed tall vegetation' is eligible where it will maintain and enhance the biodiversity value of wetland EFS(H) sites and is included in the site specific Remedial Management Plan (ssRMP). The machinery purchased under this NPI will be used to control tall, thick reeds, sedges, grasses and herbs.

No. of machines 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.

Pre-approval documentation:

You must apply for and receive written pre-approval for all capital items which are paid on an actual cost basis (see EFS Terms and Conditions).

Requirements and Controls:

Code	Non-productive investment requirements (capital works)	Control type ¹		
		Admin	CwRS	OTSC
AMT1C	The claim form, invoices and receipts must be returned by the end of Year 1.	✓		
AMT2C	The invoices and receipts must meet the required Specification.	✓		
AMT3C	The claimed 'Machinery for management of fen and reedbed tall vegetation' must comply with the Specification as detailed below.	✓		✓
AMT4C	Field records must be kept detailing Integrated Pest Management (IPM) requirements and the purchase date for 'Machinery for management of fen and reedbed tall vegetation'.	✓		

¹ The possible control types for each requirement may be:

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

Specification:

- the 'Machinery for management of fen and reedbed tall vegetation' purchased must be new;
- 'Machinery for management of fen and reedbed tall vegetation' must meet the relevant British Standards and safety standards;
- the 'Machinery for management of fen and reedbed tall vegetation' must meet the Specification detailed in the ssRMP.

Further Advice:

Small hand-operated mowers are best suited to small basin fens such as those found in the drumlin belts of Northern Ireland. Pedestrian-driven mowers with reciprocating blades are suitable for conservation mowing. They can cope with tall, thick reeds, sedges, grasses and herbs.

All health and safety guidelines should be adhered to when the 'Machinery for management of fen and reedbed tall vegetation' is being operated and maintained. Thus, the operator should be properly trained. For further information on Health and Safety guidelines, please check the attached Health and Safety Executive Northern Ireland links:

<http://www.hseni.gov.uk/guidance/industries/agriculture-3-column.htm>

<https://www.hseni.gov.uk/articles/equipment-work>