

NPI Name: Structures/work to raise water levels

NPI Code: ARW

NPI Payment: Year 1: Actual costs

NPI Aim(s): To create wetland areas by raising water levels in order to benefit a wide variety of wildlife. These wetland areas will provide valuable habitats for breeding waders and insects such as leatherjackets and midges.

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

This NPI is: Permanent Rotational

NPI Description and Outcome: 'Structures/work to raise water levels' 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). This NPI will benefit a wide variety of wildlife including birds, plants and insects. Furthermore, the wetland areas will provide valuable feeding for waders such as snipe, lapwing, curlew and redshank.

Cost 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
ARW1C	The claim form, invoices and receipts must be returned by the end of Year 1.	✓		
ARW2C	Invoices and receipts must meet the required Specification.	✓		
ARW3C	The claimed 'Structures/work to raise water levels' must be completed in the correct location in the field(s) where they have been approved.	✓		✓
ARW4C	The claimed 'Structures/work to raise water levels' must be completed to the Specification detailed below.			✓
ARW5C	Field records must be kept detailing Integrated Pest Management (IPM) requirements, location and date(s) completed for 'Structures/work to raise water levels'.	✓		

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 sluice and, if necessary, associated pipe work constructed must be capable of holding water and regulating the flow through an aperture size that can be easily adjusted;
- the sluice gate and associated pipe work must be managed in order to retain water in the desired wetland area during the specified time; and
- 'Structures/work to raise water levels' must be carried out as detailed in the ssRMP.

Rivers Agency Consent:

Consent from Rivers Agency is required if the structures/work to raise water levels is to be carried out. An application form for consent to carry out the work can be downloaded from the link below:

<https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/publications/schedule-6-application-consent-undertake-works-watercourse>

This permission and any accompanying conditions must be included in the ssRMP.

Loughs Agency permit:

Within the Foyle and Carlingford areas, any in stream or bank works on rivers which may impact on the river bed material from the freshwater portion of any river may require a permit issued under Article 46 and 47 of the Foyle Fisheries Act (Northern Ireland) 1952. An application form and further information can be downloaded from the link below:

<http://www.loughs-agency.org/application-for-section-4647-permit/>

This permit and any accompanying conditions must be included in your application, where applicable. In addition any such works will require Loughs Agency supervision/inspection.

Further Advice:

'Structures/work to raise water levels' should be regularly inspected and maintained. The work should only affect the proposed site and should not cause drainage problems upstream or downstream.

All health and safety guidelines should be adhered to when the wetland is being constructed. For further information on Health and Safety guidelines, please check the attached links to the Health and Safety Executive NI:

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

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