

NPI Name: Tree surgery

NPI Code: ATS

NPI Payment: Year 1: Actual costs

NPI Aim(s): To care for and maintain trees in order to enhance the landscape and maintain the trees' biodiversity and historic value.

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

This NPI is: Permanent Rotational

NPI Description and Outcome: 'Tree surgery' is eligible where it will maintain and enhance the landscape and biodiversity value of EFS(H) sites and is included in the site specific Remedial Management Plan (ssRMP). 'Tree surgery' will restore and prolong the life of mature trees.

No. of trees 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
ATS1C	The claim form, invoices and receipts must be returned by the end of Year 1.	✓		
ATS2C	The invoices and receipts must meet the required Specification.	✓		
ATS3C	The claimed 'Tree surgery' must be completed in the correct location in the field(s) where it has been approved.	✓		✓
ATS4C	The claimed 'Tree surgery' must be completed to the Specification detailed below.	✓		✓
ATS5C	Field records must be kept detailing Integrated Pest Management (IPM) requirements, date(s) completed, location and name of the qualified person who completed the tree surgery.	✓		✓

¹ The possible control types for each requirement may be:

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

Specification:

- 'Tree surgery' must be carried out by a suitably qualified tree surgeon (see Further Advice web link);
- the 'Tree surgery' must be carried out between 1st September and 28th /29th February; and
- the work must be completed as detailed in the ssRMP.

Consents:

If a tree is protected by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO), the Local Council's consent is required before tree surgery can be carried out. Your local area planning office will be able to provide information on protected trees and the location of conservation areas in your area.

For information on the TPO, please check the attached link:

<http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/index/information-and-services/property-and-housing/repairs-planning-and-building-regulations/the-planning-system/tree-management-and-preservation.htm>

Further Advice:

All health and safety guidelines should be adhered to when tree surgery is being completed. For further information on Health and Safety guidelines, please check the attached link to Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER 98):

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

and

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