

NPI Name: Tree felling for biodiversity

NPI Code: TFB

NPI Payment: Year 1: £600.00 per ha

NPI Aim(s): To facilitate remedial management of EFS(H) sites by felling and removing volunteer trees to increase the biodiversity value of the sites.

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

This NPI is: Permanent Rotational

NPI Description and Outcome: 'Tree felling for biodiversity' 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 felling for biodiversity' will remove volunteer trees to improve the site condition.

Area Permitted: **Minimum** 0.01 **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 type ¹		
		Admin	CwRS	OTSC
TFB1C	All 'Tree felling for biodiversity' must be completed by the end of Year 1.	✓		✓
TFB2C	The claimed area of 'Tree felling for biodiversity' must be completed in the correct location in the field(s) where it has been approved.	✓		✓
TFB3C	The claimed area of 'Tree felling for biodiversity' must be completed to the Specification outlined below.			✓
TFB4C	Field records must be kept detailing Integrated Pest Management (IPM) requirements, location, date(s) completed and name of qualified person who completed the 'Tree felling for biodiversity'.	✓		✓

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 felling for biodiversity' must be carried out by a suitably qualified chainsaw operator/tree surgeon (see Further Advice web link);
- 'Tree felling for biodiversity' must be carried out between 1st September and 28th/29th February;
- there must be little or no damage to the site when felling trees for biodiversity; and
- 'Tree felling for biodiversity' must be completed as detailed in the ssRMP.

Consents:

Please check the attached link to decide if a felling licence is required when carrying out 'Tree felling for biodiversity':

<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/felling-licences>

If a licence is required, a copy of the licence must accompany your EFS application.

Trees in a conservation area are automatically protected as if a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) is in place. However, in a conservation area, anyone proposing to carry out tree felling must inform the Local Council six weeks in advance of the intended works.

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 felling trees for biodiversity. 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>