

NPI Name: Woodcrete bat box

NPI Code: BAT

NPI Payment: Year 1: £60.00 per box

NPI Aim(s): To facilitate remedial management of EFS(H) sites and contribute to the protection of bats.

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

This NPI is: Permanent Rotational

NPI Description and Outcome: 'Woodcrete bat boxes' are eligible where they will maintain and enhance the biodiversity value of EFS(H) sites and are included in the site specific Remedial Management Plan (ssRMP). 'Woodcrete bat boxes' will provide roosting, nesting and hibernation sites for bats and facilitate implementation of the ssRMP.

Number 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.

Requirements and Controls:

Code	Non-productive investment requirements (capital works)	Control type ¹		
		Admin	CwRS	OTSC
BAT1C	All 'Woodcrete bat boxes' must be erected by the end of Year 1.	✓		✓
BAT2C	New 'Woodcrete bat boxes' must be used.	✓		✓
BAT3C	The claimed number of 'Woodcrete bat boxes' must be erected in the correct location where they have been approved.	✓		✓
BAT4C	The claimed number of 'Woodcrete bat boxes' must be erected to the Specification outlined below.			✓
BAT5C	Field records must be kept detailing number, location and date erected for each 'Woodcrete bat box'.	✓		✓

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 'Woodcrete bat box' must:

- be constructed of a mixture of wood and concrete;
- have an entrance slit between 15 - 20 mm wide and there should be no gaps where the sides and top join;
- have a permanent top that cannot open; and
- be erected and maintained as detailed in the ssRMP, for EFS(H) sites.

Further Advice:

'Woodcrete' is a mixture of wood and concrete. The 'Woodcrete bat box' should be located where bats are known to feed, sheltered from strong winds and only exposed to the sun for part of the day.

The 'Woodcrete bat box' should be attached to a suitable structure, for example a tree or building. The overall height of the 'Woodcrete bat box' should be at least 3 m from the ground to the bottom of the box.

When securing the 'Woodcrete bat box' to a tree, use a strap or hang the box from a branch.

Do not attach 'Woodcrete bat boxes' to electricity poles.

'Woodcrete bat boxes' should be regularly maintained.

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.