

Environmentally Sensitive Areas Information Sheet

Upper Thames Tributaries ESA

This sheet contains essential information for farmers about the Upper Thames Tributaries ESA. It should be read in conjunction with the booklet *Guidelines for Farmers*.

You will need to refer to this information when making an application for a Management Agreement or Conservation Plan (Forms ERDP/GEN1 and ERDP/ESA1) in the Upper Thames Tributaries ESA.

Defra Rural Development Service

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Tiers and Payment Rates

Tier 1A – Permanent Grassland	£35 per ha	Headland Supplement	£20 per ha
Tier 1B – Extensive Permanent Grassland	£105 per ha	Stock Exclusion Supplement	£50 per ha
Tier 2 – Wet Grassland	£270 per ha	Hay Making Supplement	£55 per ha
Tier 3A – Reversion of Arable Land to Extensive Permanent Grassland	£310 per ha	Hedgerow Restoration Supplement	£7/m
Tier 3B – Reversion of Arable Land to Wet Grassland	£435 per ha	Public Access Tier	£350 per ha
Tier 3C – Arable Margin Buffer Strips	£400 per ha	Former Tier 2 – Wet Grassland (for existing agreement holders only)	£155 per ha
		Former Tier 3B – Reversion of Arable Land to Wet Grassland – (for existing agreement holders only)	£330 per ha



Conservation Plans (Rates as from 1 January 2004)

For those items with a Standard Payment Rate, payment at the corresponding percentage of actual costs may be given at the Department's discretion where the necessary costs of the work are exceptionally high.

Defra Work Code	Eligible Item	Standard Payment Rates	Percentage Grant
1	Protection of Historic and Archaeological Features	–	80
3	Hedge Planting and restoration of non-stockproof hedges		40
	– hedge planting	£5/m	
	– protective fencing: sheep fencing	£1.80/m	
	post and wire fencing	£1.20/m	
4	Hedge laying	£5/m	50
	– protective fencing: sheep fencing	£1.80/m	
	post and wire fencing	£1.20/m	
5	Creation of Ponds	–	50
6	Restoration of Ponds	–	50
7	Control of Scrub	–	50
	– 25% density	£228/ha	
	– 25% to 75% density	£376/ha	
	– over 75% density	£583/ha	
	A single payment is available for management of scrub on small free-standing features of archaeological interest	£50	
9	The rebuilding of dry stone walls	£16/m	40
	– £30/m supplement payable where significant quantities of stone need to be brought in		
10	Renovation of farm buildings using traditional materials	–	40
11	Hedge coppicing	£5/m	40
	– protective fencing: sheep fencing	£1.80/m	
	post and wire fencing	£1.20/m	
12	Creation of Scrapes	–	80
13	Creation, reinstatement or re-profiling of dykes, ditches and foot-drains	–	80
14	Provision of water penning structures and Other Works to Control Water Levels	–	80
16	Restoration of fen habitats and reedbeds	–	50
22	Provision of water supplies and fencing associated with the reintroduction of grazing		40
	– supply	£2/m	
	– trough	£85 each	
	– post and wire fencing	£1.20/m	
	– sheep fencing	£1.80/m	
25	Re-introduction of Willow Pollarding	£89/tree	80
40	Provision and restoration of gates for public access		80
	– bridle gate	£220 each	
	– kissing gate	£245 each	
	– kissing gate for the disabled	£290 each	
41	Provision and restoration of stiles for public access		80
	– timber stile	£100 each	
	– ladder stile	£125 each	
	– step-over stile in stone wall	£115 each	
	– step-through stile in stone wall	£85 each	
42	Provision and restoration of footbridges for public access	£315 each	80
44	Provision of silt traps in water courses	–	80
45	Fencing to protect habitats		80
	– post and wire fencing	£1.20/m	
	– sheep fencing	£1.80/m	
48	Purchase of a diverse seed mix for arable reversion	–	100
50	Other works for the restoration or enhancement of wildlife habitats	–	80