

Environmentally Sensitive Areas

SCHEME PRESCRIPTIONS

WEST PENWITH ESA

NB. If you carry out any work contrary to the scheme's objectives, for example the destruction of features such as walls, buildings or hedges, or the ploughing of valuable grassland, shortly before applying to join or rejoin the scheme, the Department is likely to reject your application.

The Department may modify the prescriptions set out below, to introduce additional requirements or amend existing ones, where this will help to protect and/or enhance habitats and species which are of importance within the designated area. Such modifications may be made for the lifespan of the agreement or from time to time, by means of a written agreement with you which will form part of your ESA agreement for the term specified.

TIER 1 – ALL LAND

1. Maintain existing field patterns and do not remove any hedges, walls or the lynchets on which they stand, or part thereof.
2. Do not widen gateways or remove gate posts.
3. Maintain stockproof hedges and walls in a stockproof condition using traditional methods and materials.
4. Do not erect any permanent fences.
5. Maintain existing ponds and streams.
6. Do not remove large boulders from your land.
7. Do not damage or destroy any features of historic interest.
8. Any weatherproof traditional farm buildings which you own or are responsible for, must be maintained in a weatherproof condition using traditional materials.
9. Obtain written advice on siting and materials before constructing buildings, roads or any other engineering operations which do not require planning permission or prior notification determination by the Local Planning Authority.
10. Do not plant trees without prior consent.
11. You must abide by the Codes of Good Agricultural Practice for the Protection of Water, Soil and Air, published by the Department (references PB 0587, PB 0617 and PB 0618) as amended from time to time.

ADDITIONAL PRESCRIPTIONS FOR ROUGH LAND ONLY

Rough land includes all heathland, wetland, semi-natural grassland and scrub.

12. Maintain rough land and do not excavate, plough, level or re-seed. No form of cultivation is allowed.
13. Do not install any new drainage system or substantially modify any existing system.
14. Graze with cattle but do not cause poaching, under-grazing or over-grazing.
15. Where necessary any heather, grass or scrub burning must be done in accordance with a programme agreed in advance.
16. Restrict supplementary feeding of livestock to areas agreed in advance.
17. Do not apply any type of inorganic or organic fertiliser.
18. Do not apply lime, slag or any other substance to reduce the acidity of the soil.
19. Do not use fungicides or insecticides.

20. Do not apply herbicides except to control bracken, spear thistle, creeping or field thistle, curled dock, broadleaved dock or ragwort. When applying herbicides always use a weed wiper or spot treatment. Where bracken cannot be controlled by mechanical means asulam must be used.

21. Do not erect temporary fencing.

FIELD MARGIN SUPPLEMENT

22. For a supplementary payment do not plough or apply pesticides or fertilisers on land within 1 metre of any field boundary.

TIER 2 – WINTER STUBBLES

Observe prescriptions 1-11 plus additional prescriptions set out below.

23. Plough, cultivate and sow spring cereal crop but not before 15 March.
24. Do not apply any insecticides – fungicides, herbicides, and growth regulators may be used in agreement with Project Officer.
25. Harvest the crop, remove the straw, but leave the stubble until 15 March the following year.
26. Do not apply pesticides, organic or inorganic fertiliser between crop harvest and 15 March the following year.

PUBLIC ACCESS TIER

27. Make the access route available for public access at no charge.
28. Maintain a free passage over the access route.
29. Do not erect new fences on or adjacent to the access route without the prior written approval of the Department.
30. Keep the access route and fields crossed by it free of litter and other refuse.
31. Exclude bulls from the access route and fields crossed by it, except for bulls which do not exceed the age of 10 months or are not of a recognised dairy breed and are at large in any field or enclosure in which cows and heifers are also at large.
32. Agree with the Department in writing in advance the public liability insurance cover which you will maintain for the duration of the access agreement.
33. Provide and maintain adequate means of entry to the access route.
34. Affix and maintain appropriate signboards and waymarking.

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35. Do not permit any of the following activities on the access route or on fields crossed by it: camping, caravanning, lighting of fires, organised games or sports, riding of motor vehicles (except those used for agricultural operations on the land) without the Department's prior written approval.
36. Agree with the Department in writing whether the riding of horses or cycles may be permitted on the access route.
37. If you wish to apply for temporary closure of the access route you must agree this with the Department in writing in advance. Where temporary closure is permitted you must post signs giving notice of the intended closure and the reasons for it at each entry point to the access route at least two weeks in advance of the date of closure.