



RURAL STEWARDSHIP SCHEME: RANKING OF SCHEME APPLICATIONS RANKING SCORE SHEET

If you are an ESA Scheme leaver, it would be helpful if you would complete the questions below, answering YES/NO and including any details required. The Department will use this information for statistical purposes only. You DO NOT need to enter the ranking points unless the value of this application exceeds the value of your ESA Scheme second five year plan (including the value of your Tier 1 payment).

For each question, a points score is indicated in brackets. Once the threshold ranking score is announced, you will be able to judge whether or not your application is likely to be accepted into the Scheme. It will also be necessary to re-assess the ranking scores following inspection of the holding or croft.

* Delete as appropriate

POINTS

1. Do the proposals in the application include appropriate management to benefit any of the following:

a) Internationally and Nationally designated (or proposed) sites?
i.e. Natura 2000 sites (SPAs/SACs), Ramsar wetland sites, NVZs & SSSIs

Name:

YES(2)/NO(0)*

b) Nationally designated sites not included in 1(a) above such as National Park or National Nature Reserve

YES(1)/NO(0)*

Name of site(s):
.....
.....
.....

2. Do the proposals include appropriate management to benefit any of the following?:

a) Up to 15 UK Priority Biodiversity Action Plan Habitats or Species

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- 1 – 5 HABITATS/SPECIES (5 pts)
- 6 – 10 HABITATS/SPECIES (6 pts)
- 11+ HABITATS/SPECIES (7 pts)

POINTS (c/f)

POINTS (b/f)

2. Continued

b(i) up to 8 Habitats identified in the LBAP "List of 30" and **not** covered in 2(a) above:

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.....
.....

2 points per HABITAT

(ii) up to 10 Species identified in the LBAP "List of 30" and **not** covered in 2(a) above:

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.....
.....
.....
.....

0.5 points per SPECIES

3. Does the application contain proposals to adopt the following options:

- (i) Grass Margins or Beetlebanks in Arable Fields YES(2)/NO(0)*
- (ii) Conservation Headlands or Unharvested Crop YES(2)/NO(0)*
- (iii) Introduction or Retention of Extensive Cropping (LFA only) YES(2)/NO(0)*
- (iv) Spring Cropping (non-LFA only) YES(2)/NO(0)*
- (v) Creation and management of Species-rich Grassland (if no other species-rich grassland exists on the holding) YES(1)/NO(0)*
- (vi) Creation and management of Wetland (if no other wetland exists on the holding) YES(1)/NO(0)*

POINTS (c/f)

POINTS (b/f)

4. Does the application involve joint management of an **existing** or proposed habitat/feature (listed below) that spans the boundary with a neighbouring holding?

(i) Wetland

YES(2)/NO(0)*

(ii) Water Margin

YES(2)/NO(0)*

(iii) Lowland Raised Bog

YES(2)/NO(0)*

(iv) Scrub

YES(1)/NO(0)*

(v) Extended Hedgerow

YES(1)/NO(0)*

(vi) Species-rich Grassland

YES(1)/NO(0)*

(vii) Archaeological site

YES(1)/NO(0)*

If **“Yes”**, specify prescription(s) and neighbouring holding(s):

Prescription.....Holding No:.....

Prescription.Holding No:.....

Prescription.....Holding No:.....

Prescription.....Holding No:.....

Prescription.....Holding No:.....

Prescription.....Holding No:.....

5.** (i) Does the application involve the joint management of a flood plain?

YES(2)/NO(0)*

Holding No:.....

Holding No:.....

Holding No:.....

Holding No:.....

Holding No:.....

POINTS (c/f)

5. Continued

POINTS (b/f)

(ii) Is this submission one of at least four current applications in the current application round proposing adoption of option, *Conservation Management Plan with Special Measures for Small Units*?

YES(2)/NO(0)*

Holding No:

Holding No:.....

Holding No:.....

Holding No:.....

Holding No:.....

Holding No:.....

6. (i) Do you have a professionally-prepared Waste Management Plan in place for your holding?

YES(2)/NO(0)*

(ii) Do you practise Nutrient Budgeting on your holding?

YES(2)/NO(0)*

7. Is the IACS business involved in one or more of the following schemes:

(Tick appropriate box)

Environmentally Sensitive Area

Habitats Scheme

Countryside Premium Scheme

Farm Woodland Premium Scheme (or FWS)

SFGS: Farmland Premium

Rural Stewardship Scheme

or registered with UKROFS
(United Kingdom Register of Organic Food Standards)?

Any other environmental scheme?
(e.g. through SNH, Local Authority, Forestry Commission)

YES(2)/NO(0)*

POINTS (c/f)

POINTS (b/f)

8. Does the application contain proposals for management of historic and/or archaeological sites on the holding?

(a) Up to 3 sites

YES(2)/NO(0)*

(b) More than 3 sites

YES(3)/NO(0)*

9. How many hectares of enclosed in-bye land are on the holding (excl. apportionments)?

Amount: Ha

0ha (0 points)

0.01ha to 10ha. (12 points)

10.01ha. to 30ha. (5 points)

30.01ha. to 50ha. (3 points)

over 50ha. (0 points)

10. Is the application from a Common Grazings Committee?

YES(10)/NO(0)*

11. The total of all management (excluding stock disposal) and capital payments (before annualisation) included in this application is:

(a) Under £20,000

YES(10)

(b) £20,000 to £40,000

YES(0)

(c) Over £40,000

YES(-10)

12. **ESA Scheme Leavers**

(a) Are you applying to continue the management included in an existing ESA Scheme agreement which is coming to the end of 10 years?

YES/NO

(b) Does the value of this RSS application exceed the value of your ESA scheme second five year plan (including the value of Tier 1 payment)?

YES/NO

Application Ranking Score Total:

Acceptance Threshold Ranking Score (when announced):

Points above/below threshold:

Does the ranking threshold allow entry into the scheme?

YES/NO

** Where joint management of a flood plain is proposed or this submission is one of at least four current applications to adopt the option, *Conservation Management Plan with Special Measures for Small Units*, all applications including the joint item will automatically be given the same total ranking score as that awarded to the best application.