

Consultation and Public Register for Woodlands, Forest Planning and Short Rotation Coppice

Applications that contain Woodland Creation Options and/or the Woodland Improvement Grant - Long Term Forest Planning Option and/or the Short Rotation Coppice Options must be sent to appropriate consultees and placed on the Public Register for 28 days.

The facility to place cases on the Public Register has not been built into the RDC-RP IT system in Phase 1 therefore the existing Forestry Commission Scotland's Public Register must be used for this purpose. To allow this to happen, cases that include the aforementioned Options must be allocated to FCS staff.

Cases containing the Woodland Creation and Short Rotation Coppice Options must be sent out for consultation and placed on the Public Register whilst the case is at status Proposal Submitted.

Cases containing the Woodland Improvement Grant - Long Term Forest Planning should be sent out for consultation and placed on the Public Register:

- after the initial proposal has been approved by the RPAC; and

- after FCS has received the draft Forest Plan.

The draft Forest Plan can then be consulted upon (and placed on the Public Register) before the Forest Plan is approved by FCS.

To enable FCS staff to place RDC cases on the Public Register two new scheme types have been added to the Public Register details screen PWS1165 in WGS.

To access the Public Register Details screen in WGS FCS staff must:-

- Log into WGS

- Select Option 1 "WGS Applications (Live)"

- Select "WGS Menu" (shortcut W)

- Select "Applications" (shortcut A)

- Select "Consult and Notify" (shortcut N)

- Select "Public Register Details" (shortcut P)

- Complete the screen details using the new codes listed below. A grid reference must be entered for each case to enable a circle to be placed on the map within the Public Register

- Once the contract is confirmed within the RDC_RP system enter the approval date on the Public Register screen within WGS to allow the approved case details to appear on the Public Register

WGS Public Register scheme types for each Option are detailed below:-

Option	Scheme Type on screen PWS1165	Description
Woodland Creation Productive Conifer - Low Cost	RPW	Rural Priority Woodland Creation
Woodland Creation - Productive Conifer - High Cost	RPW	Rural Priority Woodland Creation
Woodland Creation - Productive Broadleaf Woodland	RPW	Rural Priority Woodland Creation
Woodland Creation - Native Woodland Planting	RPW	Rural Priority Woodland Creation
Woodland Creation - Native Woodland Natural Regeneration	RPW	Rural Priority Woodland Creation
Woodland Creation - Mixed Conifer/ Broadleaved Woodland	RPW	Rural Priority Woodland Creation
Short Rotation Coppice Crops of Willow or Poplar in LFA	RPW	Rural Priority Woodland Creation
Short Rotation Coppice Crops of Willow or Poplar in Non LFA	RPW	Rural Priority Woodland Creation
Woodland Improvement Grant - Long Term Forest Planning	RPF	Rural Priority Forest Plan

Local Consultation arrangements used for SFGS should be adhered to.

The only variation to this is RPID no longer require to be notified/consulted:

- Copies of the RDC Proposal report should be sent to relevant consultees, along with a copy of the Outcome Plan and maps. Please note: For Woodland Creation cases requiring consultation between 7th July and end of July, a copy of the Outcome Plan and Maps are sufficient for Consultation, as long as the Environment Outcome Plan for Woodland Creation is completed and contact details for the applicant/agent are available.
- Covering letter detailing the consultation period. Local letters used for SFGS consultation should be adapted. The Scottish Government headed paper should be used with Rural Development Contracts - Rural Priorities clearly noted, along with the Case name and reference.

- Details of who has been consulted and the date of PR should be recorded on the Notepad within the online data capture system. (These details may need to be added to the system after end of July for Woodland Creation cases)
- The document references of consultation letters should be recorded under Supporting information, in the Online data capture system (These details may need to be added to the system after end of July for Woodland Creation cases)
- A summary of the Consultee responses should be recorded on the Notepad within the Online Data capture system (These details may need to be added to the system after end of July for Woodland Creation cases)