SRDP 2014 – 2020 Forestry Grant Scheme:
Support for New Planting & Woodland Management

Julie Paton
CSGN Woodland Creation Programme Manager
Forestry Commission Scotland
Why Plant Trees?

- Firewood / chip-wood for on-site boiler
- Improve shelter and biosecurity for livestock
- Alternative income stream
- Reduce diffuse pollution
- Soil stabilisation
- Water infiltration

- Create sporting & recreation opportunities
- Amenity and landscape value
- Growing future land asset
- No income tax on timber sales or grants
- No capital gains tax on growth in value of trees
- 100% relief on inheritance tax
Scottish Rural Development Programme (SRDP) 2014-20 Pillar II funding mechanism

Budget of £252M = £36M/year

Opened for business in March 2015

Administered by Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS) and RPID

Online application process

Competitive scheme with ongoing approvals process
Forestry Grant Scheme

Scotland’s woodlands and forests are a vital national resource and play an important role in rural development and sustainable land use.

As well as helping to reduce the impacts of climate change and providing timber for industry, our forests attract visitors and provide opportunities for public enjoyment.

The Forestry Grant Scheme (FGS) will support:

- the creation of new woodlands – contributing towards the Scottish Government target of 10,000 hectares of new woodlands per year
- the sustainable management of existing woodlands

During the Scottish Rural Development Programme 2014–2020, £252 million will be available through the scheme.

You can apply for support under eight categories:

- for the creation of woodland
- for the management of existing woodland

Within some of these categories, there is a range of funding options which relate to specific types of project or work.

Eight categories of support

Full eligibility criteria and scoring available online

www.ruralpayments.org/publicsite/futures/topics/all-schemes/forestry-grant-scheme/
Woodland Creation Options

Across Scotland, nine planting models to choose from:

- Conifer *
- Diverse Conifer *
- Broadleaves *
- Native Scots Pine
- Native Upland Birch *
- Native Broadleaves *
- Native Low Density Broadleaves
- Small or Farm Woodland *
- Northern and Western Isles *

* Eligible for CSGN Contribution

Grant Rate = Initial Planting (Capital Payment) + Maintenance (x 5 yrs)
Capital Items: fencing, tree protection, bracken control etc.

All payments based on standard costs
## Woodland Creation Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Woodland Creation Option</th>
<th>Standard Area Payments</th>
<th>Target Area Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Initial planting rate (£/ha)</td>
<td>Annual maintenance rate (£/ha/year) for five years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conifer</td>
<td>1920</td>
<td>208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diverse Conifer</td>
<td>2160</td>
<td>336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadleaves</td>
<td>2880</td>
<td>528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Upland Birch</td>
<td>1840</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Broadleaves</td>
<td>1840</td>
<td>272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Low-density Broadleaves</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small or Farm Woodland</td>
<td>2400</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In addition to standard costs, may be eligible for:

- CSGN Contribution on top of Initial Planting rates (£2,500 or £750/ha)

- Target Area payments (10% uplift)
  - Conifer; Diverse Conifer; Broadleaves in FWS “preferred” or “potential” areas;
  - Woodlands for Water

- Additional payments for use of genetically-improved Sitka spruce

BPS entitlement will be retained on afforested land for 20 years
CSGN Contribution

Applies to six Woodland Creation planting options
Capped at 40ha per application

To be eligible to apply, application must
• Be eligible for the relevant Woodland Creation planting option
• Be located within the CSGN Contribution area
• Support the delivery of the relevant Forestry & Woodland Strategy

Full technical help and guidance on FCS website:

http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/supporting/grants-and-regulations/forestry-grants/csgn-contribution
Assessing Your Eligibility

http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/supporting/communication-consultation/map-viewer-guidance
Refer to relevant Forestry & Woodland Strategy – site suitable for softwood, mixed and native woodland expansion.
### 8.1ha Conifer in Core CSGN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial Planting Grant: 8.1ha @ £2,160/ha</td>
<td>£ 17,496</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSGN Contribution 8.1ha @ £2,500/ha</td>
<td>£ 20,250</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer fencing (1653m @ £6.80/m)</td>
<td>£ 11,240</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rabbit proofing (1653m@ £1.60/m)</td>
<td>£ 2,645</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer Gate x 2</td>
<td>£ 344</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vole Guards (891 @ 19p)</td>
<td>£ 169</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 52,144</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 1,895</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 1,895</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 1,895</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 1,895</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 1,895</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance (@ £234/ha/yr for 5 yrs)</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>£ 1,895</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 1,895</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 1,895</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 1,895</strong></td>
<td><strong>£ 1,895</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Grant</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>£ 61,619</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Points to Consider

• Planting on deep peat (>50cm) is not permitted under the FGS

• Minimum area of 0.25ha (Conifer & Diverse Conifers minimum of 2ha). Minimum width = 15m

• Shape influences cost where fencing involved: long and narrow more expensive than square and affects scoring

• Initial Planting payment made retrospectively BUT fencing can be claimed separately

• Large area threshold >300ha

• Not eligible: Christmas trees, planting in existing woods, Short Rotation Coppice, fast-growing species for energy crops
• At Year 5, the woodland must be planted and established as per the planting option criteria

• In the event of crop failure or damage, the applicant is liable for all remedial costs to achieve establishment

• Contract terms should be fulfilled or risk of reclaim/non-payment

• Initial planting costs must be claimed after planting and incurred as out-of-pocket expense

• New planting must remain as woodland for 20 years
Two options to support creation of small scale woodlands on agricultural pasture or forage land.

Allows for an integrated approach to land management where there is a mix of trees and sheep grazing.

Options relate to planting density at either:

- 400 trees per hectare
- 200 trees per hectare
Woodland Improvement Grant

Support for forest management, activity to enhance the environment and the public’s enjoyment of existing woodlands.

Planning:

• Long Term Forest Plan
• Forest Plan Renewal
• Woodlands In and Around Towns (WIAT) Urban Woodland Management Plan
• Woodland Grazing Plan
• Deer Management Plan

Habitats and Species

Restructuring Regeneration

Low Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS)

Woodlands In and Around Towns (WIAT)
Sustainable Management of Forests

Support for the management of existing forests and woodlands with a high environmental value.

- Native Woodlands
- Livestock Exclusion
- Woodland Grazing
- Low Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS)
- Public Access WIAT
- Public Access Rural Woods
- Species Conservation:
  - Grey Squirrel Control
  - Predator Control for Capercaillie and Black Grouse
  - Reducing Deer Impact
Supports investments in new specialised equipment to enable cost-effective small-scale mechanised harvesting operations in small woodlands but with minimal environmental impact.

Business must: process less than 10,000 tonnes of timber per annum; employ fewer than 10 people; have an annual turnover under EUR 2 million.

Based on actual costs with a maximum contribution of 40% (Minimum = £2,500, maximum £35,000)

Applicants can work individually or collaboratively.

Annual application rounds

Next closing date: 17th June 2016
Support for new access infrastructure that will bring small scale, undermanaged woodlands or inaccessible woodlands back into active management

Woodland up to 50 ha (except cases where low-level water crossings are being replaced)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Construction</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Construction of forest road</td>
<td>£25.80 per linear metre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction of lay-bys, turning areas, and loading bays</td>
<td>£6.60 per m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bell-mouth junction</td>
<td>£32.40 per m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement of low level water crossings</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Annual application rounds

Next closing date: 17th June 2016 for 2016 Claim Year
Forestry Co-operation

£250/day for up to 40 days

Support for project coordinator to facilitate and co-ordinate landscape-scale collaboration between two or more landowners to produce plans and applications

Support for projects which:

- improve water quality or mitigate against the risk of flooding
- encourage the planting or active management of farm / croft woodlands
- deliver landscape-scale expansion of forest habitat networks
- landscape-scale woodland deer management
- increase the contribution of woodlands to the local economy

Next Closing Date: 17th June 2016
Five FCS Conservancy Offices across Scotland responsible for administration of FGS

Woodland Officers in each Conservancy cover individual areas and cases

http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/supporting/management/conservancies
Forestry Grant Scheme guidance and eligibility:
https://www.ruralpayments.org/publicsite/futures/topics/all-schemes/forestry-grant-scheme/

FCS Technical help and further information:
http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/supporting/grants-and-regulations/forestry-grants

Contact details for your local FCS Conservancy:
http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/supporting/management/conservancies
FGS supports:
• New woodland creation
• Management of existing woodland
• Forest infrastructure, processing etc.

! Competitive scheme with limited budgets !

Forestry is a realistic diversification option which can support and compliment existing rural businesses
Host Farms wanted for farm woodland events in Ayrshire, Central Scotland and parts of Fife.

Host farms will be independently surveyed to identify new planting and woodland management opportunities to support existing and future business objectives.

The survey findings will be shared during a half-day farm event to be held during 2016.

For more information or to register your interest, e-mail julie.paton@forestry.gsi.gov.uk or call 0300 067 6253.

www.forestry.gov.uk/scotlandgrants