

Felling Licence

Draft Baseline Conditions

Site Operations:

Oil & Fuel - The licence holder must ensure that all oil & fuel are stored and used in a way that prevents the risks of leakage and pollution.

Situation - The Licence Holder must ensure that all forest operations should be pre-planned and continuously managed to

- minimise damage to the soil structure and soil function
- avoid runoff into watercourses

Chemicals (which includes pesticides; herbicides; and fertilisers) - Must be used by a competent person in accordance with user guidance and avoid harm to the environment or pollution of water.

Operations – Operational and contingency plans must be in place before major operations such as harvesting, and engineering works take place. These should cover actual and potential risks to the forest, wildlife, waterbodies and biosecurity (pests and diseases).

Manufactured waste - Ensure all manufactured waste such as grease cartridges, planting bags etc., is appropriately stored during the works and appropriately disposed of.

Incident reporting - Any incidents relating to fuel, oil, runoff or chemical pollution must be reported within 24 hours using the hotline number 0300 065 3000.

Site features and species :

Historic Features:

The licence holder must not damage scheduled ancient monuments on site. Any objects found that come within the scope of the law for archaeological finds must be reported to the relevant authority, CADW.

Veteran Trees:

The licence holder must identify retain, manage and avoid damage to existing veteran trees.

Deadwood:

Licence holders must retain a proportion of standing and fallen deadwood within the woodland with a view to retaining an average of 20 cubic meters per hectare.

European Protected Species

- Prior to works commencing, the area should be checked for presence of EPS. If any evidence of EPS and/or their breeding/resting places are found, a suitably qualified and experienced individual, preferably an ecologist, should be contacted for advice before works commencing in that area.

- During the course of the works, the area should be checked for the presence of EPS and if any evidence of EPS and/or their breeding/resting places are found, works must cease and a suitably qualified and experienced individual, preferably an ecologist, should be contacted for advice before recommencing works in that area.

** Felling Licence holders

Where you have applied for and received an EPS licence to undertake these works. Please follow the guidance within the method statement if the species for which you hold a licence is identified on site before or during the operation, no further consideration is required.

Animals and Plants Protected under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (“UK Protected Animals”) –

Schedule 5 Animals:

- Prior to works commencing, the area should be checked for presence of UK Protected Animals. If any evidence of UK Protected Animals and/or any structure or place which any such animal uses for shelter or protection are found, a suitably qualified and experienced individual, preferably an ecologist, should be contacted for advice before works commence in that area.
- During the course of the works, the area should be checked for the presence of UK Protected Animals and if any evidence of UK Protected Animals and/or any structure or place which any such animal uses for shelter or protection are found, works must cease and a suitably qualified and experienced individual, preferably an ecologist, should be contacted for advice before works recommence in that area.

Schedule 8 Plants

Prior to works commencing, the area should be checked for presence of UK protected plants. If any there is any evidence of Schedule 8 UK Protected plants the licence holder must not intentionally or recklessly pick, uproot or destroy:

(i) any wild plant included in Schedule 8; or

(ii) any seed or spore attached to any such wild plant.

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Bird Nests - You must ensure a check is undertaken across the felling area and its edges before the start of tree felling operations to locate active bird nests. If there is evidence of an active bird nest, then ensure that no harm is caused. In the case of schedule one birds, appropriate buffers must be put in place to ensure no harm or disturbance to active nests (Note – Nests of Osprey, White-Tailed Eagle and Golden Eagle are protected year-round even when the nest is not in use).

Badgers - Prior to works commencing, the area should be checked for presence of badgers, If any evidence of badgers and/or their breeding/resting places are found, badger guidance should be consulted and action taken accordingly. Contact a qualified and experienced individual, preferably an ecologist if necessary.

Required notifications:

Natural Resources Wales shall be notified within 14 days for operational sites and 28 days before commencement of works on non-operational sites for the following:

a) Where the licence holder is a registered company:

- Any change in the licence holders trading name, registered name or registered office address: and
- Any steps taken with a view to the licence holders going into administration, entering into a company voluntary arrangement or being wound up

b) Where the licence holder is a corporate body other than a registered company:

- any change in the licence holders name or address: and
- any steps taken with a view to the dissolution of the licence holders.

c) In any other case:

- the death of any of the named licence holder (where the licence holders consist of more than one named individual);
- any change in the licence holders name (s) or address(es); and
- any steps taken with a view to the licence holders, or any of them, going into bankruptcy, entering into a composition or arrangement with creditors, or , in the case them being in a partnership, dissolving the partnership.