

European Protected Species Checklist for Felling Licence Applications

Please complete all sections of the Checklist

The following **checklist** is to help forest owners & managers ensure that they are complying with European legislation relating to European Protected Species when carrying out forest operations.

It is a requirement under The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (Section 40) that public bodies such as Natural Resources Wales give due consideration to Section 41 species and habitats before giving permission to carry out potentially damaging operations. The checklist will be used by Natural Resources Wales staff to meet our NERC duties.

Where the work cannot be carried out in-line with current best practice guidelines, a licence to disturb may be required. In such instances, NRW will not issue felling permission until you have received your licence from the NRW Species Licensing Team.

This checklist must be used in conjunction with the 'traffic lights' decision support document **and** the relevant species guidance notes. These are available on the EPS pages of the Forestry Commission Wales (FCW) website or by request from NRW Forestry Regulations Team. You may be required to provide a works method statement in circumstances where it is not clear that an EP species will not be disturbed.

You must complete **all** sections of the Checklist

Part 1 - Site Details

Grid Reference:	SO 007291
Area:	4.41 ha
Name of Wood: Farm
Name of Applicant:

Part 2

1. Are you within, or close to, the known mapped range of any of the European Protected Species (EPS), excluding bats (which are potentially everywhere)?

Add Yes ('Y') or No ('N') as appropriate

Dormice	
Otters	Yes
Great crested newts	
Sand lizards	
Natterjack toads	
Other EPS (name)	

2. Does your woodland contain any of the following habitats?

Add Yes ('Y') or No ('N') as appropriate

Habitat suitable for bats (i.e. trees with holes and crevices that might be used by bats?)	No
Habitat suitable for dormice?	No
Rivers, ponds, lakes in which otters might be found?	Yes
Ponds which might be occupied by great crested newts?	No

3. Please indicate which sources of information you have used to establish the presence/absence of EPS on the site or nearby.

Add Yes ('Y') or No ('N') as appropriate

National Biodiversity Network (www.nbn.org.uk)	Yes
Local Biological Records Centre	
Local Wildlife Trust	
Other. e.g. local knowledge	Glastir Objective Layer

4. Have your inspections or any expert surveys found any signs or evidence of the presence of EPS species breeding and resting places?

Add Yes ('Y') or No ('N') as appropriate

Signs of the presence of EPS species (breeding and resting)	No
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If you have answered YES to any of the above then the species concerned MUST be considered below

5. Do the proposed operations comply with Good Practice for the EPS species that have been found (or are likely to be found) in your wood?

Add Yes ('Y') or No ('N') as appropriate

Do the proposed operations comply with Good Practice for the EPS species	Yes
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Describe below the good practice to be applied or any modifications

Please add details (use reverse of form to expand as required):

The woodlands will be lightly thinned over a 5 year period. All the woodland will be stock excluded. Disturbance to the woodland will be minimised by leaving 50% of the woodland as non intervention.

Existing fallen trees will be left undisturbed.

Brash piles will be left in the woodland to provide ground cover.

If 'Yes'



A licence is NOT required
Go to point 6 & 7 below

If 'No'



A licence **IS** required **BEFORE** carrying out the work and before permission to fell is granted

The following sections should be completed and retained for your records before contractors go into the wood.

Note: This may be several months or even years after the initial assessment. As such, Owners/Agents should make sure the information given to contractors is kept up to date.

THIS SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED REGARDLESS OF WHETHER A LICENCE IS REQUIRED OR NOT.

6. Has the information been or will the information be communicated to operators?

This information must include the location of breeding sites and sensitive areas.

Site Information	Yes/No*
Included in documentation (e.g. contract, letter of instruction, site assessment or other management plan)?	Y
Shown to operators and/or their supervisor?	Y
Marked with paint or hazard tape?	Y
Shown on the site plan?	Y

* Add Yes (Y) or No (N) as appropriate

If you have stated No in the table above, you may commit an offence if you do not tell operators about protected species

7. Have any arrangements been made or will arrangements be made for supervision to ensure Good Practice guidance is complied with during the operations?

Y * Add Yes (Y) or No (N) as appropriate

If you have stated No in the table above, you may commit an offence if you do not tell operators about protected species

Please record any further information that may be relevant, this may help us determine whether the felling proposals meet UK Forestry Standards