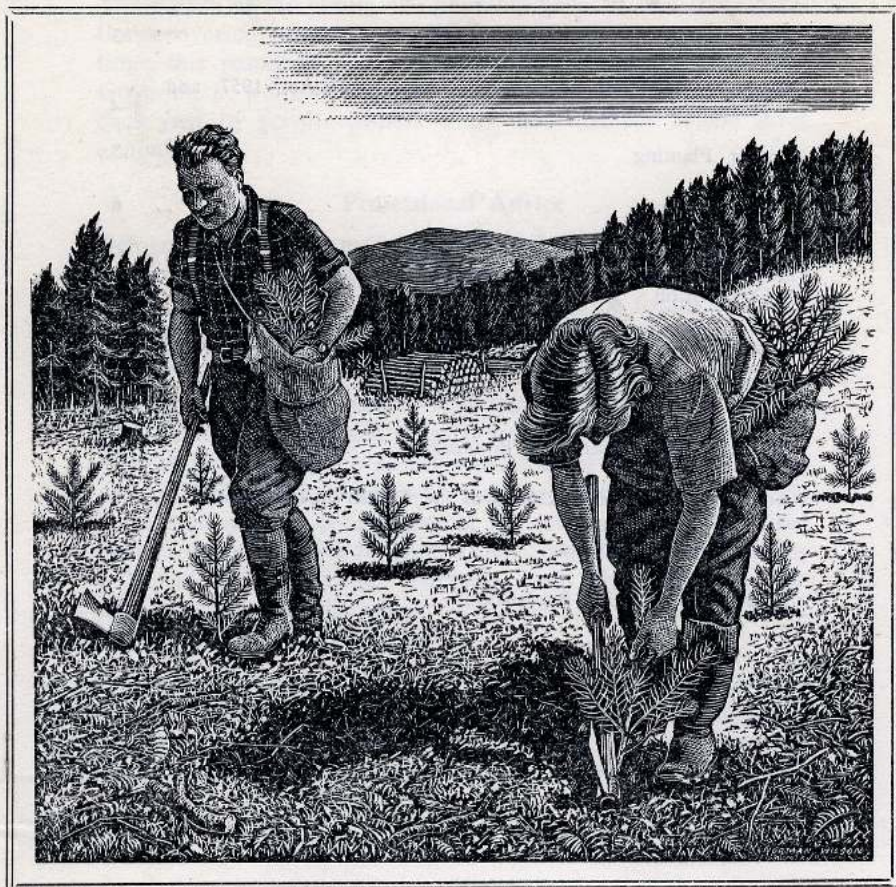


FORESTRY COMMISSION

GRANTS FOR WOODLAND OWNERS

Revised May 1969



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GRANTS FOR WOODLAND OWNERS

Introduction

THE FORESTRY COMMISSION provides financial and technical assistance to woodland owners in a number of ways, in order to help them to restore their existing woods to full production and also to plant new ones. The various forms which this aid may take, and the amounts currently payable, are set out below. The nature of the grants, the amounts payable, and the regulations covering payment are subject to revision from time to time; this pamphlet gives the position at 1st May, 1969. The Government welcomes the increasing acreage of timber planted each year by private owners which now exceeds 37,000 acres annually.

Professional Advice

Before commencing any scheme of work that is likely to attract a grant, owners are strongly advised to consult their appropriate Conservator of Forests, whose address will be found on pages 9-11. Free professional advice on the general suitability of any scheme will gladly be given by the Conservator.

The Commission cannot, however, undertake the detailed management of a scheme, or such tasks as the preparation of a Plan of Operations, the actual replanting of woodlands, or the sale of timber. An owner who requires help in these respects is recommended to consult one of the associations of woodland owners, a co-operative forestry society, a forestry consultant, or a firm of land agents that undertakes such work; there are also a number of concerns which will undertake tree planting and maintenance on a contract basis.

Forms of Application for the various grant schemes, and the requisite forms for the Plan of Operations, are obtainable from the Conservator of Forests for the district concerned. No work should be started until the scheme is approved.

The Dedication Scheme

This scheme, which was launched in 1947 and has already been adopted by over 3,200 estates, involving over 940,000 acres of woodland, provides the most comprehensive form of assistance. Briefly, the owner enters into a Covenant or Agreement with the Forestry Commission, under which he undertakes to manage his woodlands for the main purpose of timber production in accordance with an agreed Plan of Operations, and to ensure skilled supervision. In return he receives, under the Basis II provisions which have been most generally adopted, the following financial grants:

- (1) A Planting Grant, currently £23 3s. 6d. per acre, for every acre satisfactorily planted, replanted, or otherwise restocked, after the date of dedication. Partial planting is treated *pro rata*.
- (2) An annual Management Grant, in respect of all effectively managed woodlands, which for this purpose include those existing at the date of dedication, plus in most cases a further area determined by the agreed Plan of Operations, to cover replanting and extensions. The amount of grant is currently at the rates of 21s. 3d. per acre for the first 100 acres, 14s. 3d. for the second 100 acres, and 8s. 9d. for the remainder, on any one estate.

Alternatively, an owner may elect, at the outset, to receive assistance under the Basis I arrangement. He will then receive 25 per cent of the approved net annual expenditure on the dedicated woodlands, until such time as they become self-supporting. If he adopts this Basis, he must keep accounts in a prescribed form.

An owner who dedicates his woodlands binds himself and his successors in title not to use the lands so dedicated for any purposes other than forestry. Provision is however made for a relaxation of this requirement should exceptional circumstances arise. When a Dedicated estate changes hands, the successor in title is invited to continue to manage the woods under the approved Plan of Operations, and if he undertakes to do so he becomes entitled to the appropriate grants.

The requirement that the woods shall be managed for timber production does not mean the exclusion of sport or the disregard of amenity, but rather their reconciliation with the needs of good silviculture. To meet the requirement of skilled supervision, it is normally desirable that a trained forester be employed; but this is not essential if the owner himself, or his agent, has the requisite silvicultural knowledge and time available. Inspections by Forestry Commission officers, at annual intervals or more frequently if the need arises, are an integral part of the scheme; such visits have been found mutually valuable for the exchange of technical information and the discussion of problems.

Any reasonable area of woodland will be considered for the Dedication Scheme or for the allied Approved Woodlands Scheme, described below.

Approved Woodlands Scheme

This scheme is intended to meet the needs of those owners who are prepared to manage their woodlands in accordance with a Plan of Operations, approved by the Forestry Commission, but who cannot, or do not wish to, enter into the long-term legally binding arrangements that are an integral part of the Dedication Scheme. Under the Approved Woodlands Scheme a Planting Grant is payable at the rate appropriate to the Dedication Scheme, and is currently £23 3s. 6d. per acre; £17 7s. 6d. of this is paid in the year of planting, and the balance of £5 16s. is paid five years later, provided the plantations have been properly maintained. No Management Grant is paid. Some 760 owners, with 175,000 acres of woodlands, are already taking part in this scheme.

Small Woods Planting Grant

Although most small woods or pieces of ground suitable for tree planting will be considered for the Dedication or Approved Woodlands Schemes, many owners wish to replant such areas without including them in a comprehensive plan of management. A grant at the current rate of £23 3s. 6d. per acre is available for approved planting, replanting or natural regeneration in such places. The first instalment of £17 7s. 6d. per acre becomes payable in the year of planting. The balance of £5 16s. is payable five years later, provided the plantation has been

properly established and maintained. There are, however, no Management Grants.

Lands eligible for Small Woods Planting Grants are:

(I) *On any estate (irrespective of the total woodland area):*

(a) Detached blocks less than 5 acres in extent.

(b) Narrow strips and belts, e.g., those averaging 3 chains (198 feet) or less in width, which are detached or are only joined to larger blocks of woodland at one end.

(c) Detached blocks of bad access, not exceeding 15 acres if of good shape, but up to 30 acres if the shape is bad.

(II) *On an estate with a total woodland area of less than 150 acres:*

All blocks irrespective of size, shape and accessibility, provided that there is no individual accessible wood of good shape exceeding 35 acres in extent.

A minimum area of one acre, in one block, must be planted each year and all schemes must have been approved before planting begins. The grant is not payable in respect of an area for which a shelterbelt grant is being made under the Agriculture Act, 1967 (see below).

Each year some 1,300 owners receive these Small Woods Grants. Each plants, on average, about 3 acres, making 4,000 acres in all.

Grants for Shelterbelts under the Agriculture Act, 1967, and the Horticulture Act, 1960

As an alternative to the Small Woods Grant, grants of up to one-quarter of the cost of establishing shelterbelts on any farm or horticultural holding may be made under an Improvement Scheme authorised under the above Acts. Where a Hill Land Improvement Scheme is concerned, the grant may amount to half the cost. In some circumstances such grants may amount to more than Small Woods Grants. Details are obtainable from the Agricultural Departments whose addresses are:

For England and Wales: Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Whitehall Place, London, S.W.1.

For Scotland: Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Broomhouse Drive, Saughton, Edinburgh, 11.

Poplar Planting

The usual acreage grants are available, provided the Conservator is satisfied that the land concerned is more suitable for poplars than for other tree species, and provided also that only approved varieties of poplars are used.

The approved varieties of poplar which are eligible for planting grants are:

Populus canescens

Populus 'Casale 78' (see Note 1)

Populus 'Eugenei'

Populus 'Gelrica'

Populus 'Heidemij' (formerly *P. deltoides* var. *missouriensis*
(Dutch origin)

Populus 'Laevigata'

Populus 'Marilandica'

Populus 'Robusta'

Populus 'Serotina'

Populus tacamahaca x *trichocarpa* 32

Populus 'Berolinensis'

NOTES:

1. Eligible for planting grants only in East, South-east, and South-west England Conservancies, and New Forest (where milder conditions prevail).
2. Spacing for all varieties must not be less than 24 feet x 24 feet.

Felling Licences

A licence is usually required for the felling, or sale for felling, of growing trees, under the Forestry Act, 1967. This Act (copies of which may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, price 4s. 6d., or 4s. 10d. post free) should be consulted for the legal definitions of exceptions from licensing, but it may be noted here that the main exceptions listed are :—

- (a) Trees in gardens, and fruit trees.
- (b) Any trees below 3 inches in diameter, measured five feet from the ground.
- (c) Underwood below 6 inches in diameter, measured five feet from the ground.
- (d) Thinnings below 4 inches in diameter, measured five feet from the ground.
- (e) Dedicated Woodlands, provided the felling is in accordance with the agreed Plan of Operations, and the positive covenants of the Deed or Agreement are applicable.

In addition, an owner may fell up to 825 cubic feet of timber (hoppus measure) per quarter of a calendar year, for use on his own property, without a felling licence. Of this quantity he may, if he wishes, sell without licence or other formal permission up to 150 cubic feet.

In nearly all other circumstances a Felling Licence is required, and application should be made to the appropriate Conservator of Forests, who will arrange for the trees to be inspected. Where, as is usually the case, it is in the national interest that the ground shall be restocked, the Commission is empowered to impose Replanting Conditions on the issue of a felling licence. Replanting to be carried out in accordance with such conditions may qualify for grant aid under the Small Woods Planting Grant Scheme or, where appropriate, the Dedication or Approved Woodlands Schemes.

N.B.—If a *Tree Preservation Order* is in force for the trees concerned, it is usually necessary for the local planning authority to be consulted, and exceptions (a) to (d) above may not apply.

Purchase, Lease or Feu of Woodlands by the Forestry Commission

Where an owner is unable, for any reason, to proceed with the planting and management of his woodlands or potential woodlands, on his own account, the Forestry Commission is ready to consider their acquisition—either by purchase, long lease or feu—on terms to be mutually agreed. Enquiries should be directed to the appropriate Conservator, whose address will be found on pages 9 to 11.

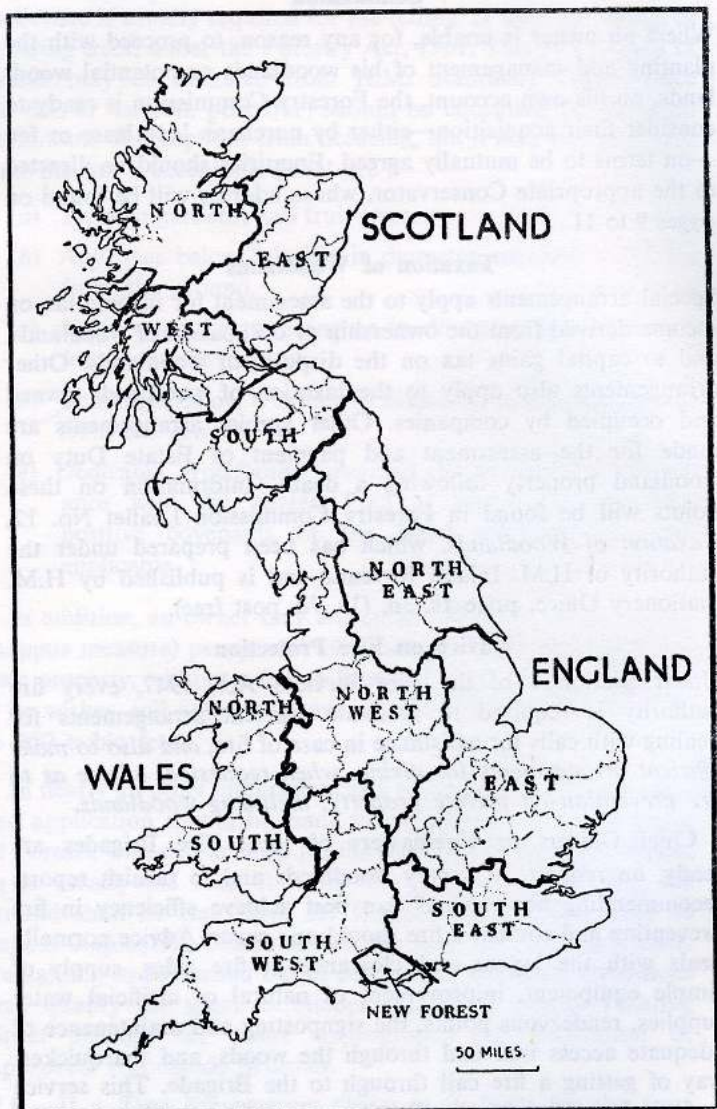
Taxation of Woodlands

Special arrangements apply to the assessment for income tax on income derived from the ownership or occupation of woodlands, and to capital gains tax on the disposal of woodlands. Other arrangements also apply to the taxation of woodlands owned and occupied by companies. Other special arrangements are made for the assessment and payment of Estate Duty on woodland property following a death. Information on these points will be found in Forestry Commission Leaflet No. 12, *Taxation of Woodlands*, which has been prepared under the authority of H.M. Inland Revenue and is published by H.M. Stationery Office, price 1s. 3d. (1s. 7d. post free).

Advice on Fire Protection

Under Section 1 of the Fire Services Act, 1947, every fire authority is required to maintain efficient arrangements for dealing with calls for assistance in case of fire, *and also to make efficient arrangements for giving, when requested, advice as to fire prevention on private property, including woodlands.*

Chief Officers or Firemasters of local Fire Brigades are ready, on request, to survey woodlands and to furnish reports recommending how owners can best achieve efficiency in fire prevention and combat a fire should one occur. Advice normally deals with the layout and clearance of fire rides, supply of simple equipment, improvement of natural or artificial water supplies, rendezvous points, the signposting and maintenance of adequate access into and through the woods, and the quickest way of getting a fire call through to the Brigade. This service is free. Insurance of woodlands against fire can be arranged through the usual commercial channels; preferential rates are often quoted for Dedicated and Approved Woodlands.



FORESTRY COMMISSION CONSERVANCY BOUNDARIES

Addresses of the Main Offices of the Forestry Commission

Headquarters :

CHAIRMAN: L. A. W. Jenkins.

DIRECTOR GENERAL: J. A. Dickson.

Forestry Commission.

25 Savile Row,

London, W1X 2AY

(01-734 0221).

Conservators of Forests :

ENGLAND

NORTH WEST

J. S. R. Chard,
Forestry Commission,
Dee Hills Park,
Chester.
(0244 24006)

Cumberland, Westmorland, Lancashire, part West Riding of Yorkshire (Lune and Ribble Valleys), Cheshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire.

NORTH EAST

G. E. Godwin,
Forestry Commission,
Briar House,
Fulford Road, York,
YO1 4DB.
(0904 24684)

Northumberland, Durham, Yorkshire (except that part of West Riding in Lune and Ribble Valleys).

EAST

G. W. Backhouse,
Forestry Commission,
Block D,
Brooklands Avenue,
Cambridge.
(0223 54495)

Lincoln, Rutland, Norfolk, Cambridge, Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire, Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire, Essex, Suffolk and Huntingdonshire.

SOUTH EAST

C. A. J. Barrington,
Forestry Commission,
"Danesfield",
Grange Road,
Woking, Surrey.
(0486-2 61071)

Berkshire, London, Middlesex, Kent,
Sussex, Surrey and Hampshire (ex-
cept New Forest and Isle of Wight).

SOUTH WEST

G. D. Rouse,
Forestry Commission,
Flowers Hill,
Bristolington,
Bristol, 4.
(0272 78311)

Herefordshire, Gloucestershire, Wilt-
shire, Dorset (west of Salisbury—
Blandford—Poole road), Worcester-
shire, Somerset, Devon and Cornwall.

DEPUTY SURVEYOR,

NEW FOREST

D. A. Mithen,
Forestry Commission,
The Queen's House,
Lyndhurst, Hants.,
SO4 7NH.
(0421-28 2801)

Part Hampshire (New Forest and Isle
of Wight), part Dorset (east of Salis-
bury—Blandford—Poole road).

SCOTLAND

NORTH

H. A. Maxwell,
Forestry Commission,
60 Church Street,
Inverness.
(0463 32811)

Caithness, Sutherland, Ross and Cro-
marty, Inverness, part Argyll (Mull
and areas west of Loch Linnhe),
Nairn (except north-east corner),
Moray (southern areas only), Orkney,
Shetland.

EAST

G. I. MacKenzie,
Forestry Commission,
6 Queen's Gate,
Aberdeen, AB9 2NQ.
(0224 33361)

Nairn (north-east corner only),
Moray (except southern areas), Banff,
Aberdeen, Kincardine, Angus, Kinross,
Fife (except south-west corner),
part Perth (areas north and east of
Crieff).

SOUTH

J. E. James,
Forestry Commission,
Greystone Park,
55/57 Moffat Road,
Dumfries.
(0387 2425)

Midlothian, East Lothian, Berwick,
Roxburgh, Selkirk, Peebles, Dumfries,
Kirkcudbright, Wigtown, part
Ayr (south of Kilmarnock), part
Lanarkshire (south-east of Lanark).

WEST

G. G. Stewart,
Forestry Commission,
20 Renfrew Street,
Glasgow, C.2.
(041-332 7261)

Argyll (except Mull and areas west of
Loch Linnhe), part Perth (areas west
of Crieff), Stirling, Dunbarton, Renfrew,
Clackmannan, part Fife (south-west
corner only), part Ayr (north of
Kilmarnock), part Lanarkshire (north-
west of Lanark), West Lothian, Bute.

WALES

NORTH

J. H. James,
Forestry Commission,
Victoria House,
Victoria Terrace,
Aberystwyth.
(0970 2367)

Anglesey, Caernarvon, Denbigh, Flint,
Merioneth, Montgomery, Radnor,
Cardigan (except south-west and
south-east).

SOUTH

J. W. L. Zehetmayr,
V.R.D.,
Forestry Commission,
Churchill House,
Churchill Way,
Cardiff.
(0222 40661)

Pembroke, Carmarthen, Brecknock,
Glamorgan, Monmouth, south-western
and south-eastern parts of
Cardigan.

Director, Research :

G. D. Holmes,
Forest Research Station,
Alice Holt Lodge,
Wrecclesham,
Farnham,
Surrey.

(0420-4 2255).

Chief Education and Training Officer :

C. D. Begley.
Forestry Commission,
Priestley Road,
Basingstoke, Hants.

(0256 3181).

Other Useful Addresses :

- (a) Royal Forestry Society of England, Wales and Northern Ireland,
49 Russell Square, London, W.C.1 (01-636 4892).
- (b) Royal Scottish Forestry Society, 25 Drumsheugh Gardens,
Edinburgh, 3 (031-225 7402).
- (c) Timber Growers' Organisation Ltd. (for England and Wales),
35 Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1 (01-235 3281).
- (d) Scottish Woodland Owners' Association, Ltd., 6 Chester Street,
Edinburgh, 3 (031-225 1905).
- (e) Society of Foresters of Great Britain, 18 Northumberland Avenue,
London, W.C.2 (01-930 7209).
- (f) Commonwealth Forestry Association, 18 Northumberland Avenue,
London, W.C.2 (01-930 7209).
- (g) Commonwealth Forestry Bureau, at: Commonwealth Forestry
Institute, South Parks Road, Oxford (0092 57891).
- (h) Forest Seed Association, Forest Research Station, Alice Holt
Lodge, Wrecclesham, Farnham, Surrey (0420-4 2255).
- (i) Association of British Tree Surgeons and Arborists, 11 Wings
Road, Upper Hale, Farnham, Surrey (0251-3 5924).

FORESTRY COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS

of Special Interest to Woodland Owners

Forestry Practice (Bulletin 14)	-	5s. 6d. (6s. 2d. post free)
The Cultivation of the Cricket Bat Willow (Bulletin 17)	- -	7s. 6d. (8s. 0d. post free)
Exotic Forest Trees in Great Britain (Bulletin 30)	- - -	17s. 6d. (18s. 8d. post free)
Pruning Conifers (Bulletin 35)	-	6s. 6d. (7s. 2d. post free)
The Plan of Operations — for Dedicated and Approved Woodlands (Booklet 7)	- - -	4s. 0d. (4s. 4d. post free)
Felling and Converting Thinnings by Hand (Booklet 9)	- - -	2s. 6d. (2s. 10d. post free)
Extraction of Conifer Thinnings (Booklet 11)	- - -	5s. 0d. (5s. 6d. post free)
Double Drum Winch Technique (Booklet 12)	- - -	3s. 0d. (3s. 4d. post free)
Timber Extraction by Light Agricultural Tractor (Booklet 19)	- -	5s. 0d. (5s. 6d. post free)
Shelterbelts for Western Hill Farms (Forest Record 22)	- - -	4s. 6d. (4s. 10d. post free)
Poplar Cultivation (Leaflet 27)	-	2s. 0d. (2s. 4d. post free)

obtainable from

HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

49 High Holborn, London, W.C.1, 13a Castle Street, Edinburgh, or through any bookseller. A complete list (Sectional List No. 31) will be sent on request by the Forestry Commission, 25 Savile Row, London, W1X 2AY

Further copies of this pamphlet are obtainable, free and post free, from the Forestry Commission, 25 Savile Row, London, W1X 2AY