Climate Action Performance Payment Scheme & Climate Resilient Reforestation Pilot Scheme



Kevin O'Connell, Teagasc Forestry Development Officer



Northeast Forestry Group AGM 17th October Topics-

 Climate Action Performance Payment Scheme CAPP

- Climate Resilient Reforestation Pilot Scheme
- Further information on these schemes are available on DAFM website



Forestry Schemes

Native Forests (Forest Type 1)

Forests for Water (Forest Type 2)

Forests on Public Lands (Forest Type 3)

NeighbourWoods (Forest Type 4)

Emergent Forests (Forest Type 5)

Pure Broadleaves - oak or beech (Forest Type 6)

Other Broadleaves (Forest Type 7)

Agroforestry (Forest Type 8)

Seed Orchards (Forest Type 9)

Continuous Cover Forestry (Forest Type 10)

Mixed High Forests with conifers and broadleaves (Forest Type 11)

Mixed High Forests with spruce and broadleaves (Forest Type 12)



Additional support measures

- Fencing Grant
- Deer Tree Shelter, Hare and Deer Fencing Scheme
- Environment Report Grant
- Woodland Environmental Fund



Existing forests

- Woodland Improvement Scheme 2023-2027
- Native Woodland Conservation Scheme 2023-2027
- Forest Roads Scheme 2023-2027
- Deer Tree Shelter, Hare and Deer Fencing Scheme
- Reconstitution Ash Dieback Scheme 2023–2027
- Climate Action Performance Payment ash dieback
- Climate Resilient Reforestation Pilot Scheme



Climate Action Performance Payment Scheme

- A payment of €5,000/ha, paid in 3 instalments
 - 1 x instalment of €2500
 - 2 x instalments of €1,250
 - (payments are exempt from income tax but are liable for PRSI & USC,)
- Only to grant aided Ash forest owners, who clear & replant their sites through one of the Ash Dieback Reconstitution Schemes are eligible
- Only current owner can apply



Ash Dieback Reconstitution Schemes to qualify for CAPP

- Reconstitution Scheme Ash Dieback 2013
- Reconstitution & Underplanting Scheme (Ash Dieback) 2020
- Interim Reconstitution Scheme for Ash Dieback 2023
- Reconstitution for Ash Dieback Scheme 2023-2027



Who is entitled to claim the payment

- All Forest Owners who:-
 - Currently own an Ash forest that was established through grant aid.
 - Either have or will clear their Ash and replant
- NB/ Ash planted as an additional broadleaf component in conifer plots is not eligible
- NB/ Owners must enter an Ash Dieback Reconstitution Scheme before the end of 2027 to be considered for CAPP



How to apply for CAPP instalments

- A registered forester is not required to apply for payments
- Apply online through <u>www.agfood.ie</u>
- The scheme opened for applications on 15th August 2024
- Dept. Agriculture, Food & Marine (Forestry Division) will commence payments before the end of the year
- For owners who cannot apply online, contact DAFM (Forestry Division)
 - forestry.cappayments@agriculture.gov.ie



Climate Resilient Reforestation Pilot Scheme

- 3 options for forest owners considering a move to close to nature forest management at reforestation stage. The options are arranged under 3 elements:
 - Element 1: Reforestation for Continuous Cover Forestry (CCF)
 - Element 2: Reforestation for Native Forests
 - Element 3: Reforestation for Biodiversity & Water

(Pilot Scheme – annual funding limit of 525 ha)



Reforestation for Continuous Cover Forestry

- The planting and management of the replacement forest using CCF principals and practices.
- Grant and Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) rates:
 - Grant: €1,800/ha
 - PES: €150/ha for 7 years



Reforestation for Native Forests

- The replacement of the existing conifer crop with native forest (Native Forest Framework)
- The new native forest will be permanent and managed under CCF principals
- Grant and Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) rates:
- High Ecological Priority Areas
 All Other Sites
 - Grant: €4,000/ha
 €2,225/ha
 - PES: €500/ha* for 7 years



Reforestation for Biodiversity & Water

- The creation of a semi-natural zone to provide protection to water and enhance biodiversity.
- Grant and Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) rates:
 - Grant: €2,500/ha
 - PES: €350/ha for 7 years



Applying

- Apply through a registered forester
- More than one element can be applied for on the site, but they must be in individual plots
- The maximum area per application is 12 ha.
 Applications for Element 3 are limited to an area ≤ 5ha
- One application can be made per forest owner per year



Felling Licence

Have a valid Felling Licence

or

- Have applied to DAFM for a Felling Licence
- Must provide the TFL reference number in your application
- Changes to replanting options i.e. species selection may be required



Scenarios that are ineligible for the scheme

- Where an owner proposes to thin their forest only for clearfells
- If the land is subject to a replanting order
- If the forest has suffered from fire damage
- If the forest has already been clearfelled



Scenarios that may be eligible under the scheme

- Have a felling Licence but not yet clearfelled it may be possible to change the replanting species to join the scheme if it is not a material change:
 - contact DAFM felling section. Make reference in your application that you contacted the felling section



Scenarios that may be eligible under the scheme

- Requested a change of species on the felling licence, but it would be a material change:
 - must apply for a new felling licence with details of the new planting species



Scenarios that may be eligible under the scheme

- Have not received a decision on the felling licence, but want to change the replanting species selection so as to be accepted on to the scheme:
 - Contact the felling section with the proposed change of species



Not accepted to the scheme

 If the replanting species have been changed but the owner is not accepted to the Climate Resilient Reforestation Scheme then it may be possible to change back to the original replanting.





