



Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme

Application form

Before you begin:

Contact the Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) Officer at the Blackdown Hills AONB

Read and understand the application guidance. You can find more information in the 'Guidance for Applicants' at www.blackdownhillsaonb.org.uk/get-involved/farming-in-protected-landscapes

The application form

The application form is made up of a number of sections. Please ensure you fill in all the required sections.

Required	
Before you begin	Consents and Permissions
Section 1	Applicant details
Section 2	Project details
Section 3	Project application
Section 4	Project costs
Section 5 (optional)	For Collaborative farmer group applications only
Section 6	Declaration and close of application
Supporting documents	

Annex A	Project costs table
Annex B	Not registered for VAT form

Before you begin

Consents and Permissions

Before you apply for your project, you must make sure that you will be able to obtain all the consents and permissions required.

You are responsible for arranging all relevant consents, permissions, exemptions and written advice needed for your application. You will not be offered an agreement without all the necessary consents and permissions being in place.

To make sure you submit a valid application:

- identify the consents and permissions you need as soon as you start your application. This will depend on any designations attached to the land included in the application and on the activities and items that you are applying for in your application. You can speak to your farm engagement officer for advice on this.
- contact relevant organisations for advice and consents, where required
- be able to provide your Protected Landscape with the evidence needed to support your application.

You may be unaware of some of the consents and permissions you need until after you have received advice. You should talk to your farm engagement lead about the relevant organisations to contact for advice and to gain consent or permission.

Section 1: Applicant details

Main contact		
Full name	Mr Simon Schwerdt	
Daytime telephone number	[REDACTED]	
Email address	[REDACTED]	
Business / Land Holding name <i>If a collaborative application, please list the lead farmer (the contract holder's) name</i>	S&S Schwerdt	
Position in business	Partner	
Business / Land Holding address and postcode <i>If a collaborative application, please list the lead farmer (the contract holder's)</i>	Gilletts Farm Yarcombe Honiton Devon EX149AZ	
Website address (if applicable)	N/A	
Is your land holding located in an area classified as a Severely Disadvantaged	Yes	
	No	X

<p>classified as a Severely Disadvantaged Area (SDA)?</p> <p><i>Please tick</i></p> <p>If this is a collaborative farmer group application, please state how many land holdings are in an SDA</p>	<p>Please state how many land holdings are in an SDA if this is a collaborative farmer group application</p>	N/A
<p>What is the size of your <u>total</u> land holding(s) (in hectares)?</p>	20.60	
<p>If this is a farmer group application, please list the size of the land holdings of all farms part of this application.</p>	<i>Please insert new rows if necessary.</i>	
	N/A	
	ha	
	ha	
	ha	
	ha	
<p>Which option best describes you?</p> <p><i>Please tick.</i></p>	Landowner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Tenant	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other (please state)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>What are the main activities of your business?</p> <p><i>Please tick all that apply</i></p>	Dairy	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Sheep	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Beef	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Arable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Forestry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Public access	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Diversification	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other (please state)	Grass Keep

Have you or your business previously received funding from the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme? <i>Please tick yes or no</i>	Yes	
	No	X
Is yes, please specify the total amount of the FiPL grant(s) received and the project reference number(s).		
To help us publicise the programme in the future, please tell us how you first heard about it. Please select one option only for our reporting purposes. <i>Please tick</i>	Word of mouth	
	Protected Landscape website	
	Protected Landscape event	
	Social media	
	Defra	
	Other (please state)	FWAG

Section 2: Project details

Location of this project		
You will need to ensure that you attach a map of the project to your application. The map will need to include the holding boundary and the location of the items/activity for which you are requesting funding.		
Location postcode (required)	EX149AZ	
Please list the single Business Identifier (SBI) number of the holding and/or of the land involved in the application and	SBI	Parcel ID - RLR
	<i>Please insert new rows if necessary</i>	
	111762882	ST2607 3953
		ST26071240
	ST26077131	

the Parcel ID(s) of all the land involved in the application. Please state in RLR format (e.g.,		
The land where this project is being delivered		
If this project will be delivered on a farm/land, please provide the area in hectares of the farm holding <u>where the project activity will be delivered</u> .		.86
If this project will be delivered on land classified as Severely Disadvantaged Area (SDA), please state the area in hectares of the SDA land <u>where the project activity will</u>		ha
Double funding		
<p>A project cannot receive funding <u>for activities or works</u> that are already being funded by another Government scheme or programme as this would be double funding.</p> <p>This could include activities or work that you are applying for or have previously received funding from another Government scheme or programme.</p> <p>Examples might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Stewardship Countryside Stewardship Scheme Farming Investment Fund Protected Landscape schemes Growth Programme LEADER Countryside Productivity Green Recovery Challenge Fund 		
Have you (or the owner or tenant of the land affected by the application) received or applied for any other funding for the same activities or works that you are applying for in this programme?	Yes	
	No	X
If yes, your Protected Landscape will need to explore the reason for your response with you further.		
Protected Sites		

Will this project be delivered on a protected site, for example a SSSI? <i>Please tick</i>	Yes	
	No	X
If yes, please provide details of the site and protection.		
Name of Site		
Site reference (if known)		
Type of protection		

Section 3: Project application

This project	
Project title	Pond Creation, Pond Restoration and Woodland Hedge Restoration at Gilletts Farm
Please give a short description of this project	We intend to clear and restore an existing woodland pond creating light and habitat, create a new wildlife pond in an existing wet scrub and lay woodland hedges to let in light.
Expected start date DD/MM/YYYY	20/01/24
Expected completion date DD/MM/YYYY	31/12/24

Project Outcomes

Figure 1: Location

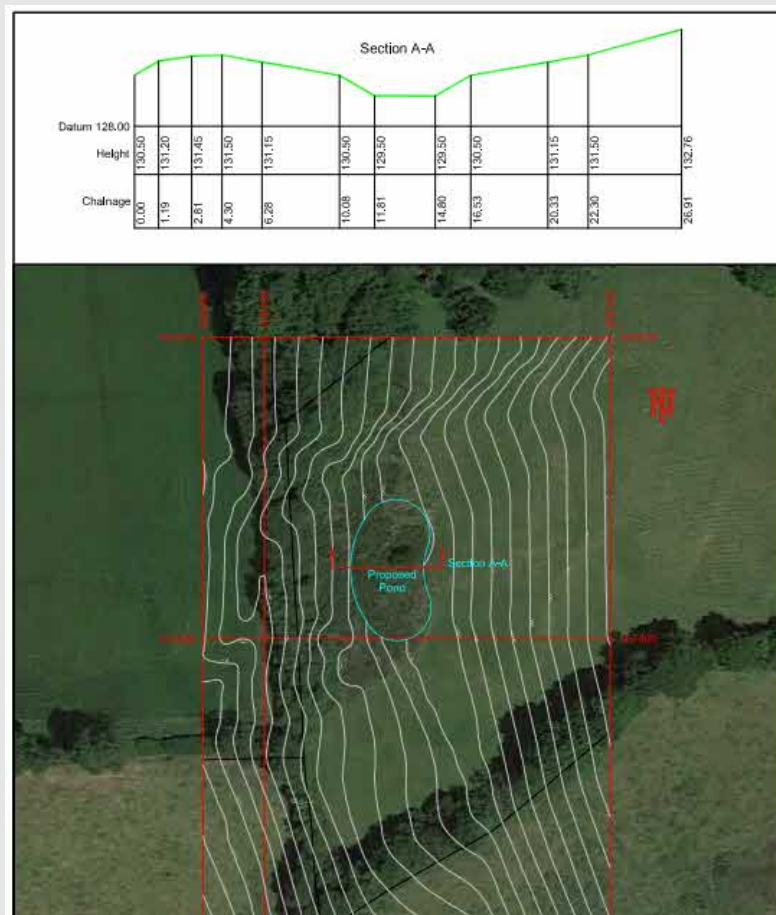


Project summary

Figure 2: Location of options



Figure 3: Pond creation profile



Please provide an overview of your project.

Please tell us about your project ensuring that you cover all the activities that will be part of your project and each stage that will be taken for this project from start to finish.

This application is the first FiPI at Gillerts Farm, and will form a 2 year agreement. The owner is new to Gillerts Farm and wishes to manage the whole holding for nature conservation, and is investing in habitat management and restoration.

Year 1 Hedge laying

Year 2 pond creation and restoration

See attached design statement. Planning approval has been applied for.

Pond creation:

This new pond creation will enhance local flora and fauna, creating a resilient ecosystem by boosting local biodiversity, and greatly improve wildlife connectivity. It will support the natural environment through natural flood management, with the purpose only to benefit wildlife and people's connection with wildlife. The proposed area seems wet throughout the year and the several test holes that have been excavated remain full of water. This pond supports DEFRA's Farming in Protected Landscapes scheme, namely conserving wildlife, and delivery of wildlife benefits. In my professional opinion there will be no negative or detrimental effect on the local wildlife, trees or neighboring properties nor will it harm the character or appearance of the existing landscape. Therefore, making a positive contribution to enhance the biodiversity interests of the area. This project will also contribute to regional and national targets for the Pond Habitat Action Plan, Rewilding Devon, and The Million Ponds Project. It is proposed to create the new wildlife pond to around 350m², measuring 30m at its longest and 15m its widest points.

Pond restoration:

This pond is showing signs of eutrophication which can contribute towards low biodiversity. The surface of the pond is choked with >75% invasive macrophyte species including couch grass, and the INNS Himalayan balsam. Although not detrimental to water quality, the remaining surface is covered in duckweed preventing light. <5% of marginal growth is aquatic, instead being nettle, dock, and bramble. This pond will be greatly improved by restoring the banksides, improving light, creating deeper areas, increasing water ingress and surface movement by making good of the existing overflow, creating areas for wildlife refuge, and adding beneficial aquatic flora for accumulating

<p>What is the demand for this project and need for delivering it in the proposed location?</p>	<p>The owner is new to Gillerts Farm and wishes to manage the whole holding for nature conservation and is investing in habitat management and restoration. Gillerts farm sits at the top of the Yarty catchment to the east of the Blackdown Hills AONB.</p>
<p>What do you expect this project will achieve?</p>	<p>Hedgelaying will regenerate hedges, add biodiversity and landscape value and contribute to stockproofing of boundaries.</p> <p>The pond projects will create valuable new wildlife features, while also providing a useful contribution to flood storage.</p>

Protected Landscape Management Plans and Priorities

This project must contribute towards the priorities of the Protected Landscape the project will be delivering in. You should read the guidance at www.blackdownhillsaonb.org.uk/get-involved/farming-in-protected-landscapes before answering this question.

<p>How will this project contribute towards the local priorities/management plan of the Blackdown Hills AONB, with reference to specific priorities?</p>	<p>The project addresses the following FiPL Outcomes:</p> <p><i>FiPL 1.2 - Flood risk is reduced</i> <i>FiPL 1.4 - The landscape is more resilient to climate change</i> <i>FiPL 2.1 - There is a greater area of habitat improved for biodiversity</i> <i>FiPL 2.2 - There is an increase in biodiversity</i> <i>FiPL 2.4 - Existing habitat is better managed</i> <i>FiPL 4.1 - The quality and character of the landscape is reinforced or enhanced</i></p> <p>The project helps deliver the following AONB Management Plan policies:</p> <p><i>NC2 - Improve land management in respect of the control of surface water run-off, to mitigate against flooding during more extreme weather events. Where appropriate within the landscape, seek to reinstate or improve the management of woodland, wetland and hedges to slow and store run-off</i> <i>BG1 - Take a strategic landscape-scale based approach to the creation, restoration and maintenance of habitats within the AONB (focussing on designated and undesignated priority sites) in order to ensure resilience to climate change and other pressures.</i> <i>LC7 Opportunities will be sought to strengthen landscape character by improving the condition of landscape features in poor condition and reinstating landscape features identified as missing or fragmented</i></p> <p>The project addresses the following Nature Recovery Plan priorities:</p> <p><i>NRA1 - Measures to slow the flow of flood waters off the land, through Nature Based Solutions including tree planting, natural regeneration, leaky dams, additional water storage, hedgerow restoration, improvement of soil infiltration.</i> <i>NRA6 - Restoration or creation of new wildlife habitats such as ponds and</i></p>
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Programme outcomes

There are several outcomes that this programme is aiming to deliver on, across four key themes: Climate, Nature, People and Place. The project must deliver against at least one of the programme outcomes. You can find out more about the themes and outcomes in the accompanying 'Guidance for Applicants'.

Please indicate the outcomes that the project will deliver against and how they will be delivered.

<i>Column A</i>	<i>Column B</i>	<i>Column C</i>
Theme	FiPL programme outcomes	<p>The FiPL programme has a series of outcomes it seeks to achieve (as detailed in Column B).</p> <p>The majority of projects will not deliver for every theme and outcome.</p> <p>For the themes that are relevant to your project, you must make clear which outcomes the project will deliver against.</p> <p>Fill in the relevant boxes with details of</p>
Climate	C1: More carbon is stored and/or sequestered	
	C2: Flood risk has been reduced	The project will create additional flood storage in the Yarty system.
	C3: Better understanding among farmers, land managers and the public as to what different habitats and	
	C4: The landscape is more resilient to climate change	The additional flood storage will help alleviate the impacts of more intense rainfall effects locally.
Nature	N1: There is a greater area of wildlife rich habitat	The project will create new freshwater and wetland wildlife habitat.
	N2: There is greater connectivity between habitats	Restoring hedgerows and linking ponds.
	N3: Existing habitat is better managed for biodiversity	Hedge laying promotes enhanced cover and connectivity.

	N4: There is an increase in biodiversity	The additional new habitat will diversify the niches for biodiversity. Standing open water is a habitat in its own right and natural colonisation of these ponds is expected,
People	PE1: There are more opportunities for people to explore, enjoy and	
	PE2: There are increased opportunities for more diverse audiences to explore, enjoy and understand the	
	PE3: There is greater public engagement in land	
Place	PL1: The quality and character of the landscape is reinforced or enhanced	Hedges are a key feature of the AONB. Their long term health is vital if they are to remain prominent and useful features
	PL2: Historic structures and features are conserved,	
	PL3: There is an increase in the resilience of nature friendly sustainable farm	

Ability to deliver	
<p>Who will be involved in delivering the project?</p> <p>Please explain how they will contribute to the project's delivery.</p>	<p>Owner/Partner lives and will be on site during the works and will be monitoring all stages of the renovation and creation of the Ponds. The owner has extensive experience in creating lakes and ponds on both his own properties and other properties.</p>
<p>How will you ensure that the project delivers to your anticipated timeframe and within each financial year?</p> <p>Please make clear the steps you will need to take to achieve your key milestones and successfully deliver your project.</p>	<p>The length of the works are expected to be measures in days and not months. Any over run will be self funded.</p> <p>It is intended that the works will be carried out during a dry spell to ensure the project milestones are met and to successfully deliver the project.</p>
<p>Tell us how you will baseline your starting point and how you plan to measure the progress the project is making against its intended FiPL outputs/outcomes.</p>	<p>The baseline for the creation project is the current open field of pasture, without any wetland or water features.</p> <p>The baseline for restoration pond project is existing over shaded pond.</p> <p>The baseline for the hedge restoration is the overstood hedge line.</p> <p>Photos will be taken before the works begin, and after they are finished.</p>
Sustainability and legacy of projects	
<p>What will happen to the project once the funding ends?</p> <p>Describe how the project will: have a lasting positive impact for the Protected Landscape and others continue for the longer term increase the sustainable resilience of your farm</p>	<p>The ponds will be allowed to settle and establish, they will then be maintained, to prevent invasive weed growth and re growth of bank side trees.</p> <p>The lasting positive impacts are for encouraging wildlife and fauna as well as slowing the flow of surface water for the benefit of surrounding fields and the River Yarty below.</p>

Evaluation

In submitting this application, you confirm that you will work with your local Protected Landscape team to participate in a proportionate project evaluation and, if required, feed into programme evaluation led by the programme external evaluation team.

You may choose to opt out of the evaluation at any time by contacting your Protected Landscapes officer.

Section 4: Project costs

Please complete Annex A.

You must discuss the project and seek support from your Farming in Protected Landscapes officer to complete this section.

Project costs and funding

Quotes

If any of your project costs are based on an actual cost basis, please list the quote(s) you have or the sources of benchmarked cost(s) in the Application Template Annex A. You must include copies of the quote(s) / benchmarked cost(s) with your application.

Where an activity has a CS equivalent, costs must be at the same payment rate and the same intervention rate. Please ensure you make clear why the chosen specification and costs are necessary to achieve the project outcomes. Funding will be based on the lowest quote. Where the chosen supplier of a product or service is not the cheapest available, please also provide a clear explanation as to why you have opted for the higher quotation.

For further information on the requirements for quotes, please refer to the

Match funding

If this project includes any match funding, please describe what this is and attach details including value, terms and source(s) of funding with your application.

Please note match funding in the programme refers to third party funding only and does not include your own funds or contribution to the project.

The total value of the match funding should be entered in both Annex A and the Project Funding Summary table in this application template.

VAT

If you are able to reclaim VAT from HMRC, please exclude VAT from the figures given in this project costs section and Annex A.

If you are not VAT registered, you will be able to include VAT in the project costs and your grant request, but you must complete Annex B (Not Registered for VAT Form) and include as part of your application.

Are you VAT registered?	Yes	X	No	
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If yes, please state your VAT number.	822192449
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Project funding summary

You must ensure you complete Annex A to provide a full account of your costs to accompany your application.

To note: "Match Funding" applies to third party funding only and does not include any contribution of your own funds to the project.

Description	23/24	24/25	Total
Total Applicant Contribution to Project (£)			
Total Match Funding (£)			
Total FiPL Grant Request (£)			
Total Project Cost (£)			

Please only complete this section if this is a collaborative farmer group (a group of farmers) application.

Section 5 – Collaborative farmer group applications

In order to progress your collaborative group application, you will need to have or secure a partnership agreement (s) with all participants in the project’s collaborative farmer group and yourself/your organisation (the third party). You must enclose a copy of the partnership agreement (s) for the application to continue.

Please select one of the following options to outline why you are applying on behalf of the collaborative farmer group.

Please tick.

Where the application references ‘you’ that will apply to who is completing the application on behalf of the collaborate group.

I am the lead applicant, part of the collaborative farmer group and acting on their behalf. I will be distributing the resources to the group, managing the application process and reporting on the progress of the project.

N/A

I am a third party, not part of the collaborative farmer group but acting on their behalf as the applicant. The third party will distribute the resources to the group, manage the application process and report on the progress of the project.

N/A

Please state the names and roles of those within the collaborative farm group delivering the applied for project:

Name

Project role

Please insert new rows where necessary

If your group has a constitution, please email/include this with your application.

Section 6: Declaration and close of application

I declare that the information given in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge, and that if any of the information changes, I will inform the Blackdown Hills AONB immediately.

I confirm that I have the necessary land management control or approval, as stipulated in the guidance for applicants, to be able to fulfil the requirements of all activities applied for in this application.

I confirm that I have full authority and capacity to represent and bind the applicant(s) and business named at Section 1 ‘Applicant details’.

Name...Mr Simon Schwerdt.....

Position...Partner.....

Signed.....

Date.....3/11/23.....

Privacy Statement

In submitting your application and declaring the information in your application correct, you consent to the [insert PL organisation name] sharing any information provided to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) – including their arm’s length bodies, including Rural Payments Agency, Natural England, and Forestry Commission – for the monitoring of the programme and to complete dual funding check processes.

With respect to the processing of Your personal data, [insert PL organisation name], Defra and its arm’s length bodies will implement and maintain appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure a level of security appropriate to that risk,

including, as appropriate, the measures referred to in Article 32(1) (a), (b), (c) and (d) of the retained EU law version of the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679), transposed into UK Law by the Data Protection, Privacy and Electronic Communications (Amendments etc) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019).

What to do next?

You must sign your application form before it can be processed. If you have added an electronic signature to the declaration then you can email it to mark.edwards@devon.gov.uk. If you cannot add an electronic signature you should print and sign this application and send it to the Blackdown Hills AONB Partnership, Riverside, Hemyock, Devon EX15 3SH.