

Pond management (areas more than 100 sq m) (WT5)

Higher Tier

£183 per pond

Where to use this option

Only:

on priority ponds (these are defined on the [Freshwater Habitats Trust website](http://freshwaterhabitats.org.uk/projects/pond-hap/priority-pond-criteria/), <http://freshwaterhabitats.org.uk/projects/pond-hap/priority-pond-criteria/>)

on other ponds with flora and fauna of nature conservation importance, good quality water, and natural water levels

when the neighbouring land is under a management option that restricts fertilisers, manures and pesticides

Where this option cannot be used

in combination with pond management capital items

on ponds of area less than 100 square metres or greater than 1 ha

How this option will benefit the environment

It will protect and enhance larger ponds of high wildlife value.

REQUIREMENTS

Agreement holders are likely to need to:

manage vegetation in the pond

control scrub and invasive non-native plants

retain overhanging trees and bushes and deadwood

graze or cut the margins of the pond

carry out the work within the dates agreed with the adviser

maintain clear, unpolluted water

maintain the current water regime

The agreement will set out what must not be done. It is likely agreement holders will not be allowed to:

introduce any plants or animals (including fish and waterfowl) to the pond

deepen or change the original profile of the pond

infill the pond

Keeping records

Agreement holders are likely to need to keep the following records and supply them on request:

field operations at the parcel level, including associated invoices

You should also be aware that at the start of each claim year, a percentage of agreement holders will be

asked to take and submit the following photographic records:

photographs of the pond

Applicants are likely to have to send the following with their application:

a photograph of the pond

an assessment of existing biological interest

The detailed requirements for this option will be tailored to the Higher Tier site. Applicants should discuss and agree these requirements with their adviser.