

Grant Aid for woodlands

English Woodland Grant Scheme (EWGS): EWGS opened in 2005, consists of 6 grants for the creation and stewardship of woodlands and is operated by the Forestry Commission. Introductory information is available at: www.forestry.gov.uk/ewgs. One of the targets of EWGS is the protection of Ancient Semi- Natural Woodland and the restoration of Ancient Woodland Sites (AWS). There are 3 grants within EWGS that will contribute to the physical management and desirable change in AWS: *Woodland Regeneration Grant, Woodland Management Grant and Woodland Improvement Grant.*

Environmental Stewardship (ES): DEFRA -RDS operate ES, a new Agri-Environment scheme which encourages good farming practice. These are 'whole farm' scheme's and small farm woodlands are eligible for capital and annual payments. Further information is available on www.defra.gov.uk/erdp/schemes

Places on the seminar are **free** to woodland owners/managers and BAP partners, **but must be pre-booked**

This seminar is being organised by the Lowland Derbyshire Biodiversity Partnership and has been financed by the Forestry Commission. Other organisations involved in the running of the seminar are:

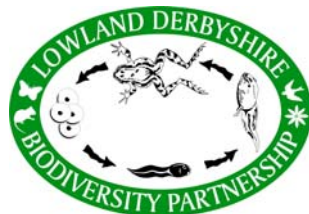


(Please note that regrettably the training room is on the second floor and as the mill is a historic building there is no lift provision)

If you would like to book a place on this seminar please fill in the attached booking form or download one from the Derbyshire Biodiversity website at www.derbyshirebiodiversity.org.uk/news/events.php

and return it **by 24th April 2006** to ;
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www.derbyshirebiodiversity.org.uk

ANCIENT WOODLANDS THEIR MANAGEMENT AND IMPORTANCE



**A seminar for ancient woodland
owners and managers**

Saturday 6th May 2006

10 - 3.30pm

Cromford Mill, Cromford

Ancient woodlands are considered to be woodlands that have been existence since at least 1600. They are our link with the historic environment. In Derbyshire we have over 2,900ha of ancient woodland, 1,800ha of which is under sympathetic management, much of this grant aided.

The aim of this seminar is to inform woodland owners of the importance of ancient woodland providing an opportunity to talk to like minded individuals and share experience over management techniques.

Programme

9.30am Arrival and coffee

10am Presentations:

- Ancient Woodlands in Derbyshire
- Grant aid for management
- Restoration of Plantations on Ancient Woodland sites (PAWS)

11.15 Tea/Coffee

11.30 Choice of workshops:

1. Surveying ancient woodlands
2. Woodland management
3. Archaeological significance of ancient woodlands

12.30 Lunch

1.30 Choice of site visits:

1. Shining Cliff Woods
2. Derwent Valley
3. Bow Wood

3.30 Tea and finish

Choice of Workshops:

Surveying Ancient Woodland sites: Woodland structure and vegetation composition can provide information to indicate the ancient origins and past management of a wood. The workshop will aim to provide an insight into the plant species associated with Ancient Woodland Sites and woodland survey methodology.

Archaeological significance of ancient woodlands: The workshop will aim to give an overview on the types of archaeology to be found in ancient woodland, focussing more on features associated with Ancient Woodland in the area notably early industrial activity around coppice and charcoal manufacture, lead smelting and old trackways. Discussion will evolve around what importance do historic features have, how to recognise them and what can be done to preserve or enhance the features within a wood. Hopefully if there is time we could cover the first steps involved in carrying out historical research on your woodland.

Woodland management: There are many choices you can face when you own a woodland and one of the most difficult is what management, if any, you should carry out on the site. The workshop will look at the different types of woodland management for different situations and offer you the opportunity to ask others about your woodland management dilemmas.

Choice of Site Visits:

Shining Cliff Woods is one of the largest areas of ancient semi-natural woodland in Lowland Derbyshire. There are areas of ancient oak and sweet chestnut coppice, beech and conifer plantations, and wet woodland. Much of the wood is now managed by Forest Enterprise, who have a restoration plan for the woodland. The visit will look at the site management, including rhododendron clearance and veteran trees.

As part of English Nature's Species Recovery Programme a woodland within the **Derwent Valley** was chosen in 2003 as an appropriate woodland to introduce dormice. The woodland is in private ownership and is managed for dormice under a Woodland Grant Scheme. The visit will look at the site management and how the dormice population is being monitored.

Bow Wood owned and managed by the Woodland Trust is a good example of ancient semi natural woodland on gritstone with a long history of early industrial activity. The visit will look at the management of the site including the approach to non-native species.