

Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme

High Weald AONB Partnership Grant Awards: 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023



Business name	Location	Items and activities supported	Agreement Start Date	Agreement End Date	Grant award
Bellhurst Trust	Maynards Green, East Sussex	Installation of 4 large and 6 small leaky woody dams to hold back water to alleviate downstream flooding, help maintain gill woodland microclimate and create new areas of wet woodland.	16/06/2022	31/12/2022	£4,860
Bigges Farm	Cuckfield, West Sussex	Hedge planting (190m), fence protection (330m) and 1 field gate to restore a historic hedgerow and create habitat that connects two woodlands.	24/05/2022	31/03/2022	£4,211
Brickpits Organic Farm	Sheffield Green, East Sussex	Laying of 2 hedges (95m and 88m) with staking and binding in Southern England style to make hedges stock-proof and increase wildlife value.	16/06/2022	31/03/2023	£3,539
Buckhurst Estate	Withyham, East Sussex	Deer larder and meat processing unit to be used by the estate and local stalkers to improve woodland biodiversity on an 840ha estate, including over 300ha of semi and ancient woodland and 25ha of good quality semi-improved grassland.	24/06/2022	29/02/2024	£33,860
Burgham Sheep	Etchingam, East Sussex	Laying of two hedges (480m) using a bespoke approach that will reset and rejuvenate the hedges whilst retaining more hedge material (living and dead) to maintain habitat and provide protection from deer browsing.	08/08/2022	01/02/2023	£6,490
Chiddingly LLP	West Hoathly, West Sussex	Replacement of 8 stiles with sprung gates on three PRoWs which bisect Chiddinglye Farm to facilitate public access, especially for those with impaired mobility, the elderly and those walking with young children in pushchairs.	24/08/2022	31/03/2024	£1,588

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Cockhaise Farm	Fletching, East Sussex	Planting of 9 new hedges (1420m) to improve biodiversity. Purchase of a wood chipper to process coppice brash into compost that will increase fungi in farm pastures.	04/11/2022	31/03/2024	£40,592
Coldharbour Farm	Ticehurst, East Sussex	Planting and fencing of new hedges (822m) along existing post and rail horse paddock fences. Planting 7 heritage variety fruit trees in hedges to provide feed for wildbirds and planting of native shrub species to create a field corner copse.	07/09/2022	31/03/2024	£26,823
Country Trust	Locations across the AONB	Delivery of 11 farm visits (on four holdings) for over 300 primary school children from nine schools based in more disadvantaged communities in and around the High Weald.	07/09/2022	31/03/2023	£13,677
E&D Phizacklea	Turners Hill, West Sussex	Installation of a network of 11 deer high-seats and purchase of thermal imaging binoculars to enable delivery of a deer management plan for a 215ha estate.	22/09/2022	28/02/2023	£4,100
F&L Reeve	Playden, East Sussex	Installation of 2267m of plastic polypipe and 11 drinking troughs to enable introduction of a rotational sheep grazing system to 13 field parcels on a 92ha farm.	14/09/2022	31/03/2023	£9,186
Fresh Meadows Farms	Dallington, East Sussex	Installation of 3 deer high seats to enable deer management. Purchase of a deer chiller, cradles and other equipment to enable venison production and local sales.	27/09/2022	28/02/2023	£3,576
Hands of Hope	Hawkhurst, Kent	Glazing of a 400m ² greenhouse to create a community growing space; purchase of a flail collect mower to enable wildflower grassland management; purchase of a wood chipper to create mulch on site; stock fencing (514m) to protect newly laid hedges.	14/09/2022	31/03/2023	£10,871
High Weald AONB Partnership	Locations across the AONB	A time-limited project to increase culling of fallow does in two areas of the High Weald with high deer numbers. Collaborative management and monitoring over 4,000ha will be driven by a per carcass payment, events and an annual drone survey.	30/09/2022	28/02/2023	£200,440

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Hunters Farm	Robertsbridge, East Sussex	Creation of bigger, wider hedges along historic field boundaries, and protection of an ancient oak, through 496m of fencing to prevent browsing damage from Hebridean sheep. With gapping-up (35m) and planting of hedgerow trees (8).	09/11/2022	28/02/2024	£4,797
Mark Smith	Furner's Green, East Sussex	Installation of 2 deer high seats to help reduce fallow deer numbers and improve the woodland habitat of the 25ha Searles estate.	09/11/2022	28/02/2023	£530
Mark Smith	Heathfield, East Sussex	Purchase and strategic location of six high seats to enable best practice deer management of grassland and woodland on the 343ha Lady Wrenbury estate.	13/12/2022	28/02/2024	£1,800
Matter of Britain	Mayfield, East Sussex	To explore climate change impacts on 8 rural workers through producing 12 short, 5 minute films of their daily agricultural work. These films are part of a larger project to forge relationships between agricultural and non-agricultural workers and new residents.	07/11/2022	28/02/2023	£2,475
Mountfield Court Estate	Robertsbridge, East Sussex	Stock-proof fencing (1.61km) to prevent grazing of 30ha of ancient woodland and allow regeneration. Installation of solar pump, two 5000L water tanks, in-field standpipes, two mobile water troughs and 2.65km of water pipe to reduce stock drinking from and polluting waterways and enable grazing of 28ha.	02/12/2022	28/02/2024	£25,533
Penns Estate Venison Ltd	Groombridge, Kent	Collaborative deer management days, working with landowners and stalkers within two project areas, to improve woodland biodiversity within 5,784ha of landscape, including 1,975ha of ancient woodland and 8 SSSIs.	02/12/2022	28/02/2023	£83,280
Peppering Enterprises	Battle, East Sussex	Enhancement of 4.3ha of semi-improved grassland with yellow rattle, coppicing of 0.15ha woodland and purchase of a small baler to help with grassland conservation management and winter forage.	02/12/2022	28/02/2024	£9,669
Pickeridge Farm Partnership	Ardingly, West Sussex	Planting and protection of a lost hedge (170m), including installation of 2 field gates. Purchase of a 100cm wide flail cutter for in-house, environmentally friendly management of 2762m of hedges.	07/12/2022	28/02/2023	£7,126

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Plaw Hatch Farm	Sharpthorne, East Sussex	Attendance on a 4-day 3LM Fundamentals of Holistic Management course for 9 staff to help with the creation of a long term regenerative biodynamic farm management plan. Hedge planting (240m) with fence protection (484m), and tree planting (600) and fencing (240m) to restore a 0.25ha shaw.	16/03/2023	31/03/2023	£14,427
Rectory Park	Horsmonden, Kent	Production of a carbon and biodiversity baseline for a 49ha estate being managed to increase carbon sequestration and create a haven for wildlife.	27/01/2023	28/02/2024	£3,764
Redleaf Estate	Chiddingstone Causeway, Kent	Installation of a network of 14 high seats to enable control of fallow deer numbers and better management and protection of 445ha of farmland and woodland.	27/01/2023	28/02/2024	£4,200
Redleaf Estate	Chiddingstone Causeway, Kent	Thermal spotter to enable surveys across a 445ha estate; part of a wider project to recover wild species populations and control predator numbers.	01/03/2023	30/06/2023	£960
Risden Farm	Hawkhurst, Kent	Native hedge planting and fence protection (1227m) along historic field boundaries, fencing of 0.66ha woodland shaw to allow natural regeneration, and planting and protection of 56 in-field trees. Two farm walks for the farming community.	21/02/2023	31/03/2023	£40,235
Stonehouse Farm	Mark Cross, East Sussex	Soil tests and production of a regenerative grazing plan to help with pasture improvements and the introduction of a herd of 10 Jersey cows.	28/04/2023	31/01/2024	£1,080
Swallowtail Hill Farm	Rye, East Sussex	Enhancement of a small nature reserve through 830m of hedge-laying alongside a public path as part of a bigger project involving grassland enhancement and erection of dormouse and bat boxes.	02/03/2023	31/03/2024	£10,624
Willards Farm	Etchingam, East Sussex	Restoration of a High Weald farm to nature-friendly and carbon-neutral farming through stock fencing (3884m), planting 144m of new hedge, laying a 155m hedge, creating a 3.8ha arable reversion wildflower meadow, commissioning a deer management plan and providing toilet and shower facilities.	02/03/2023	31/03/2024	£30,914

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Woodland Trust	Locations across the AONB	A development project to help owners of small woodlands manage invasive rhododendron involving preparation of costed eradication plans and collaborative sourcing of contractors.	02/03/2023	31/03/2024	£4,900

31 projects with a total grant award of £610,127