

Shapefile Guidance

For Rural Payments Wales (RPW) Woodland Planting Schemes

Introduction

From November 2021, Geographical Information (GI) Shapefiles containing areas selected under Woodland Planting schemes will now be issued in place of GeoPDF maps. Shapefiles will enable Woodland Planners to import selected Expression of Interest (EOI) boundary data into their GI system.

This will allow Planners to use their own preferred GI software for creation of plan mapping.

Section 1 – Issue of Shapefiles

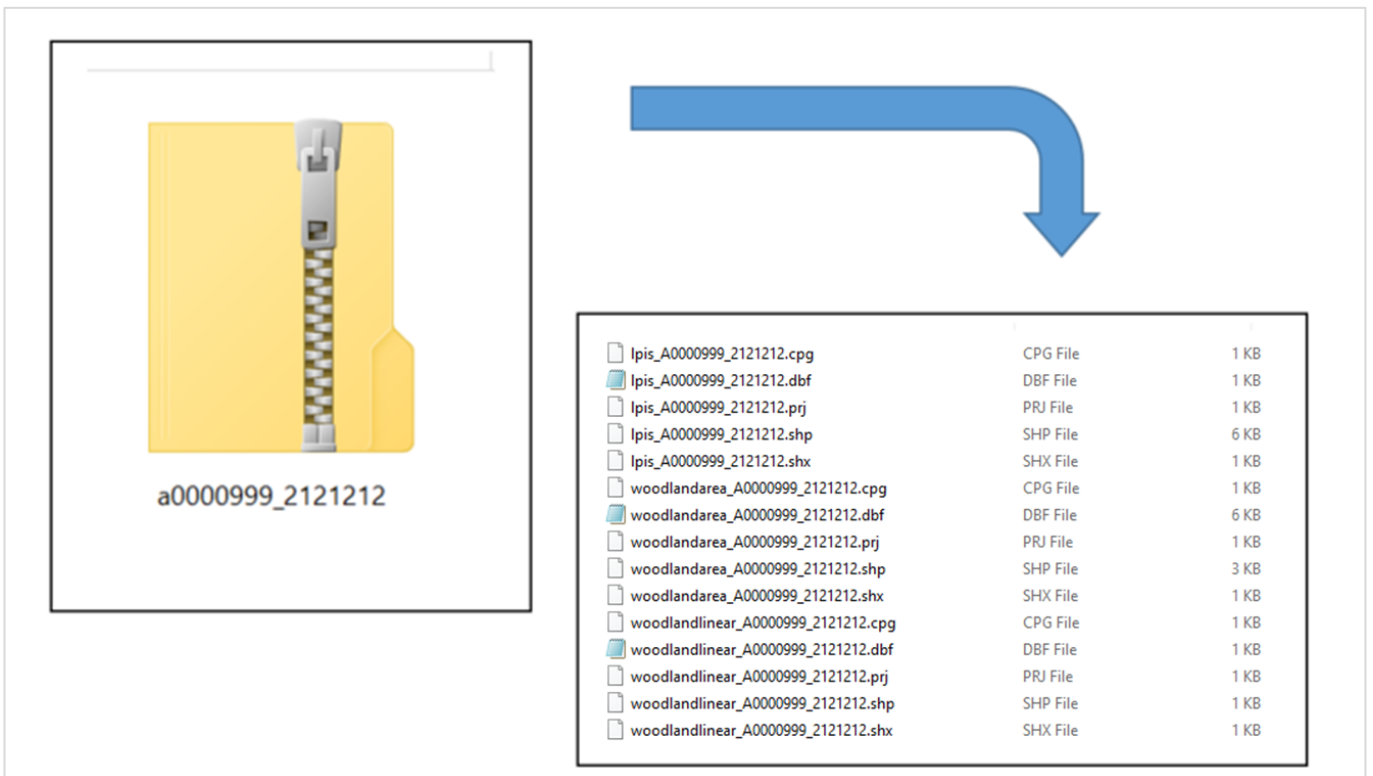
When will Shapefiles be issued?

Shapefiles will be issued to each customer via RPW Online following successful selection under a woodland planting scheme. The Shapefile will be issued within a .zip file container.

What is included in the Shapefile?

The Shapefile .zip contains three layers – the first layer holds boundary details of the Land Parcel Identification System (LPIS) field parcels selected under the EOI, the second layer is a blank template for planners to map polygon (planting area) data, and the third layer is a blank template for planners to map linear (fencing) data.

The .zip file contents will appear as follows:



Ipis_A0000999_2121212.cpg	CPG File	1 KB
Ipis_A0000999_2121212.dbf	DBF File	1 KB
Ipis_A0000999_2121212.prj	PRJ File	1 KB
Ipis_A0000999_2121212.shp	SHP File	6 KB
Ipis_A0000999_2121212.shx	SHX File	1 KB
woodlandarea_A0000999_2121212.cpg	CPG File	1 KB
woodlandarea_A0000999_2121212.dbf	DBF File	6 KB
woodlandarea_A0000999_2121212.prj	PRJ File	1 KB
woodlandarea_A0000999_2121212.shp	SHP File	3 KB
woodlandarea_A0000999_2121212.shx	SHX File	1 KB
woodlandlinear_A0000999_2121212.cpg	CPG File	1 KB
woodlandlinear_A0000999_2121212.dbf	DBF File	1 KB
woodlandlinear_A0000999_2121212.prj	PRJ File	1 KB
woodlandlinear_A0000999_2121212.shp	SHP File	1 KB
woodlandlinear_A0000999_2121212.shx	SHX File	1 KB

Important note – when the Shapefile .zip is downloaded from RPW Online, please ensure you retain the filename shown in the RPW Online message, along with any version number shown – i.e., A0000000_7777777.zip or A0000000_7777777_1.0.zip

The .zip file has the naming convention **CRN_EOIRreference.zip** and will contain the following shape layers:

- **Selected LPIS Field parcels - *lpis_CRN_EOIRreference.shp***

This layer contains the field parcel boundary areas of the parcels that were selected following successful Expression of Interest. This layer must not be edited.

- **Blank Woodland Area Template - *woodlandarea_CRN_EOIRreference.shp***

The planner will need to map all planting area polygons in this layer.

- **Blank Woodland Linear Template - *woodlandlinear_CRN_EOIRreference.shp***

The planner will need to map all fencing linear features in this layer.

Section 2 - Marking-up the Shapefile

Planners should only add their mark-up to the blank Area and Linear template layers. Please do not add additional layers.

Planners must not make changes to the field parcel boundaries in the ***lpis_CRN_EOIRreference*** layer. These boundaries denote the area selected under the scheme.

Woodland Opportunity Map (WOM)

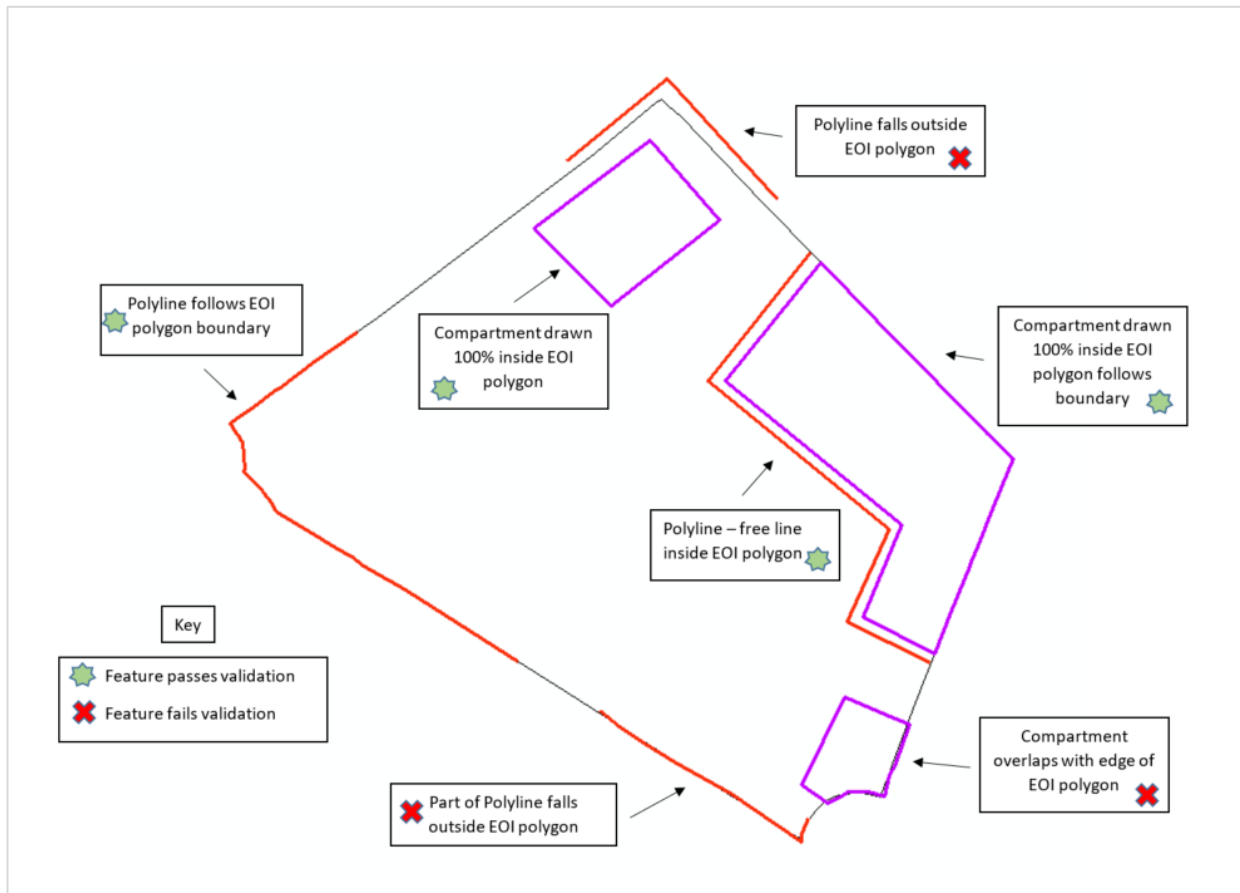
Welsh Government have reviewed and updated their [Woodland Opportunity Map](#) (WOM) web-map browser which now sits on the Welsh Government's GeoPortal – DataMapWales. This is an online viewer which provides a general guide to landowners and aims to identify areas of Wales which are most suited to new woodland creation. The map also includes information to show areas that are potentially sensitive to new woodland creation and signposts further guidance on consultation with the appropriate authority. The map is relevant to **all** woodland creation proposals whether public or privately funded and is used in the assessment of applications for Welsh Government planting schemes. Its aim is to ensure that trees are planted in the right place for maximum benefit.

To assist Woodland Planners in preparation of woodland plans, all constraints and sensitivities connected with the selected planting area can be found and downloaded from the WOM.

A complete user guide has been produced to provide you with an introduction to the updated WOM and shows how it works to support decision making on new woodland planting in Wales. The link can be found at gov.wales/woodland-opportunity-map-user-guide

Guidelines for mapping Area and Linear features

All polygons and linear features must be mapped within selected Field Parcel boundaries – the image below shows guidelines for mapping that should be adhered to:



Should I use Single or Multi Part Polygons?

All mapped polygons or linear features must be single part only. You must not add multiple (non-contiguous) polygons or linear features into the same FID as these will be rejected by our GI validation software.

Adding layer information

Each polygon or linear feature will need to have attributes added according to the type. It is the responsibility of those creating the plan to ensure the careful and accurate capture of all features and attributes.

Examples of the required attribute information are shown below. Please ensure the data you capture in these tables corresponds with the submitted Woodland Plan:

Area – Planting Polygon

Field name in Shape file	Description	Example of format required
FID	Field ID (Auto generated)	1
CRN	Customer Reference Number	A0000000
APPID	EOI Reference	7777777
OSSHEET	Ordinance Survey Sheet Number	SN1234
NGFIELD	National grid Field Number	1234
SPECIES1 - 20	Tree species – up to 20 rows	Rowan
PERCENT1 - 20	Percentage of area – up to 20 rows	99
GRANTCODE	Option Type, e.g. 801 for Biodiversity	801
SCHWINDOW	Scheme window	11
USERNAME	Editor / Company name	name / company
DATE	Date	YYYY-MM-DD
UNIQUEID	Use to refer to item in the Plan.	1

woodlandarea	
USERNAME	Ronny Jones
(Derived)	
(Actions)	
ID	NULL
CRN	A0000000
APPID	3492455
OSSHEET	SN7820
NGFIELD	1111
SPECIES1	Alder
PERCENT1	20
SPECIES2	Oak
PERCENT2	20
SPECIES3	Willow
PERCENT3	20
SPECIES4	Rowan
PERCENT4	20
SPECIES5	Birch
PERCENT5	20
GRANTCODE	801
SCHWINDOW	10
USERNAME	Ronny Jones
DATE	2021-10-08
UNIQUEID	3

Linear – Fencing Line

Field Name in Shape file	Description	Example of format required
FID	Field ID (Auto generated)	1
CRN	Customer Reference Number	A0000000
APPID	EOI Reference	7777777
OSHEET	Ordinance Survey Sheet Number	SN1234
NGFIELD	National grid Field Number	1234
LINETYPE	Option Type, e.g. 595 Fencing	595
UNIQUEID	Use to refer to item in the Plan.	1
GRANTCODE	Option Type, e.g. 595 Fencing	595
SCHWINDOW	Scheme window	2021
USERNAME	Editor / Company name	name / company
DATE	Date	YYYY-MM-DD

woodlandlinear	
USERNAME	Ronny Jones
(Derived)	
(Actions)	
ID	3
CRN	A0000000
APPID	4141441
OSSHEET	SN2345
NGFIELD	7839
LINETYPE	595
UNIQUEID	3
GRANTCODE	595
SCHWINDOW	10
USERNAME	Ronny Jones
DATE	2021-10-08

Important note: You must not alter the rows/columns within the attribute tables, this includes removal of unused species/percent rows. Doing so will mean the submitted Shapefile will fail validation in our GI software.

Section 3 - Returning the Shapefile to RPW

When all planting/fencing and attribute table details have been created, all three layers (*Ipis*, *woodlandarea*, *woodlandlinear*) must be exported back into the exact same Shapefile format inside a .zip file container, keeping all naming conventions intact and as they were received from RPW. If in doubt, please compare your completed and saved Shapefile to the original Shapefile sent to the customer from RPW.

Please note that there **must not** be any extra layers above the required *Ipis*, *woodlandarea*, *woodlandlinear* layers saved into the Shapefile .zip. If there are any extra layers, the Shapefile will fail the Validation process.

The filename of the returned .zip file must be the same as was sent to the customer (including a version number if applicable).

The Shapefile .zip should be returned via the customer's RPW Online account, along with the signed Woodland Plan and any other supporting documents.

Shapefile Validation

Once returned to RPW, the Shapefile will be validated - this will firstly check that the file structure and naming conventions are correct, then check for geometry errors and that all mapped features are within selected field parcel boundary extents. In cases where RPW validation fails, the Shapefile will be returned to the customer via RPW Online for amendment by the Woodland Planner.

Shapefiles will not be referred to NRW for verification until all validation has been passed.