

Agri-Environment Climate Scheme (AECS)

Scoring for wader applications for established grassland projects out with designated sites submitted in 2021

1: Continuity

Seeks to secure well established management practices within wader projects. Award 5 points for those applicants returning from an expiring 2015 or 2016 prefixed contract which included management for waders. For clarity no score will be awarded to applicants who refused the opportunity in 2020 to extend their contract for a further year

Continuity Points	Points per category
Continuing management for waders through AECS with no break in contract	5 points
Entering AECS for the first time or with a break in AECS management	0 points

Continuity points awarded	
----------------------------------	--

2: Collaboration

Seeks to reward projects for waders with a larger collective scheme effort

In addition to applicant	Points per category
1 collaborator	2
2 collaborators	3
3 collaborators	4
4 collaborators	5
5 collaborators	6
6 collaborators	7
7 or more collaborators	8

To award points each collaborator must

- hold an active AECS from the 2017, 2018 and 2019 application rounds or be a new or returning applicant to AECS in 2021.
- And the locations involved must be within 5km of the applicants holding at the nearest point as the wader flies.

Collaboration points awarded	
-------------------------------------	--

3: Vulnerable Priority Species

Seeks to reward plans where there is wider wader diversity. One point awarded for each vulnerable priority species breeding on the holding. This information must either be confirmed by staff from the wader project or else you must submit survey

records (from within the last 5 years) from BTO or from an NGO/project officer/ecologist.

Wader species breeding on the holding	1 point per species
Curlew	
Lapwing	
Redshank	
Oystercatcher	
Snipe	

Vulnerable Priority Species points awarded Only to be awarded if the wader project officer has confirmed VPS in the wader management plan	
---	--

4: Suitability

Seeks to reward plans where the proposed sites meet the optimum requirements. One score is awarded across all fields included in the application.

Boundary Features	Points
No trees or hedgerows within 30m of the proposed management area	4
Some trees or hedgerows within 30m of the proposed management (buffer removed from claim area)	2
Sites are bound by hedgerows and/or have contiguous woodland	minus 2 points

Suitability points awarded	
-----------------------------------	--

5: Grazing management for wader grazed grassland fields

Seeks to rewards plans which lessen the risk of trampling by livestock to nests

Proposed management	Points
For all fields entered into management Livestock are excluded for the designated period followed by a period of grazing	4
For all fields entered into management Livestock are restricted by up to one LU/ha for the designated period followed by a period of grazing	0
Mixture of above in application with grazing exclusion the dominant management	2

Grazing management points	
----------------------------------	--

Revised: February 2021

Agri-Environment Climate Scheme - 2021



Total points awarded	
----------------------	--