

# Rural Sustainable Drainage Systems – Wetland

**This is an old version of the page**

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For recent changes to this guidance, please see the [bottom of the page](#).

## Aim

The aim of this item is to improve water quality by creating a wetland to intercept and treat run-off that currently discharges direct to a watercourse or freshwater drain\*. Wetlands can improve water quality through natural processes, including filtration, retention, biological breakdown and plant uptake.

\*Wetlands designed in accordance with the Constructed Farm Wetland Design Manual for Scotland and Northern Ireland, 2008 can be used to intercept run-off, which does not currently discharge direct to a watercourse or freshwater drain providing it complies with the requirements below.

## Eligibility

Any land is eligible, provided that it meets all of the requirements set out below.

Wetlands that receive field run-off only must be combined with the capital option for [Rural Sustainable Drainage Systems - Sediment Traps and Bunds](#).

Wetlands that only receive roof run-off can be standalone, but those that run-off from a steading must be combined with the capital option for:

- [Rural Sustainable Drainage Systems - Sediment Traps and Bunds](#)
- [Rural Sustainable Drainage Systems - Swale](#)

## Spatial targeting



[Map of target area – Rural Sustainable Drainage Systems – Wetland \(PDF, Size: 1.6 MB\)](#)

doc\_external\_url: <https://www.ruralpaymentsandservices.org/media/resources/72748-SRDP-Update-Dec2016---WQ-Rural-SuDS---Wetland.pdf> This item is available within the target area shown on this map.

You can check if this item is available on your holding [here](#).

## Application requirements

You must prepare a plan which must include a map of the relevant fields / steading identifying the location of the proposed rural sustainable drainage system feature.

For rural sustainable drainage system features accepting run-off from a steading, the plan must include a calculation of the size of the rural sustainable drainage system feature(s) including the amount of run-off draining to it (treatment volume).

You must also produce a diffuse pollution steading assessment.

## Requirements

Only run-off which does not fall within the definition of slurry may be conveyed to a wetland, unless the run-off is of a type permitted by The Control of Pollution (Silage, Slurry and Agricultural Fuel Oil) (Scotland) Regulations 2003 as amended to be conveyed to a constructed farm wetland, and the wetland has been designed and constructed in line with the Constructed Farm Wetland Design Manual for

Scotland and Northern Ireland, 2008 as evidenced by a sign-off from the Scottish Environment Protection Agency.

Additionally:

- run-off from pesticide handling or washdown areas must not be conveyed to a wetland
- fencing must be provided to protect people and livestock
- existing wetlands must not be used
- you must obtain planning permission, or have confirmation that planning permission is not required for your proposed wetland
- where a proprietary lining is used, a receipt for the liner will be required
- where a rural sustainable drainage system swale or sediment trap is being used in conjunction with the wetland, the wetland must be created downstream of the swale or sediment trap

## Payment

You can claim:

- £9 per square metre for wetland with a proprietary lining
- £5 per square metre for wetland with a soil lining

## Inspections

The inspectors will check:

- the location and extent of the wetland
- that there is a receipt for a proprietary liner
- only run-off that does not fall within the definition of slurry is conveyed to a wetland (unless it is a Constructed Farm Wetland)
- run-off from pesticide handling or wash-down areas is not conveyed to a wetland
- fencing has been provided to protect people and livestock
- existing wetlands are not used

## Additional guidance

[Supporting guidance is available for this option.](#)

## Recent changes

Section	Change
<a href="#">Aim</a>	Clarification of requirements.
<a href="#">Eligibility</a>	Clarification for field run-off and roof run-off Wetlands added.
<a href="#">Application requirements</a>	Additional information added.
<a href="#">Requirements</a>	Extra bullet point added.
Spatial targeting	Updated targeting map added
<a href="#">Inspections</a>	Fourth bullet point updated.

## Previous versions

[Previous versions of this page](#)

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