



APPLYING FOR PERMITS TO CARRY OUT AERIAL SPRAYING

INTRODUCTION

1 General Points

- 1.1 This summary has been adapted from the information issued by the Chemicals Regulation Division (CRD) to cover the application of asulam for bracken control.
- 1.2 Full details are available on the [CRD website](#); there are links to download the different versions of the Application Plan and to other information at the bottom of the page.
- 1.3 Anyone carrying out aerial spraying must make sure that:
 - 1.3.1 The spraying is done in line with an approved Application Plan; and
 - 1.3.2 CRD have issued a permit for the specific spray operations.
- 1.4 A separate section of this summary describes the different requirements in each part of the UK.

2 Application Plan

- 2.1 The Application Plan must be completed by aerial spraying operators and submitted to CRD.
 - 2.1.1 The Plan must contain details that will allow CRD to consider approval of the Plan and whether to issue a permit for any spray operations carried out in line with it.
 - 2.1.2 Application plans should only be sent to CRD: aerial.spraying.permits@hse.gov.uk

3 Timing

- 3.1 CRD will aim to process requests to approve Application Plans and issue permits within 10 working days.
 - 3.1.1 A request will not be deemed to have been 'submitted' until all the necessary details have been received by CRD.
 - 3.1.2 Where CRD has to take account of the views of conservation agencies (typically where spraying takes place in or close to a conservation area), it will be necessary to 'stop the clock'. A period of 28 days is allowed for a response from the conservation agencies.

4 General Mapping Requirements

- 4.1 These requirements apply to Application Plans from all parts of the UK.
- 4.2 A map detailing the area to be sprayed should be submitted for each job. Maps should be at a scale of 1:25,000, as a minimum, and be of sufficient quality and provide enough detail for someone unfamiliar with the area to identify the proposed spraying locations. They should include information to enable the location to be identified (for example, grid lines, annotated with eastings and northings or a point annotated with a grid reference) and a scale or scale bar.
- 4.3 The map should include information to enable the location to be identified (for example, grid lines, annotated with eastings and northings or a point annotated with a grid reference) and a scale or scale bar.

ENGLAND

5 Spraying land not previously considered by permitting arrangements

- 5.1 Complete the template Application Plan.
- 5.2 Maps showing the location of water bodies and conservation areas are available by contacting the Environment Agency's Permit Support Centre, Quadrant 2, 99 Parkway Avenue, Parkway Business Park, Sheffield S9 4WF. E-mail: psc-waterquality@environment-agency.gov.uk. For details of the general map requirements see section 4.
- 5.3 Completing separate Plans for land: in or within 150m of a conservation area; and not in or within 150m of a conservation area, and providing Appendices in Word format will speed up the process of issuing permits.
- 5.4 Applications should be submitted to: aerial.spraying.permits@hse.gov.uk. Please title your e-mail: Aerial Application Plan.
- 5.5 If submitting Applications in hard copy format or on disc, three copies should be provided.
- 5.6 CRD will need to contact Natural England where spraying takes place in or within 150m of a conservation area. Permits will be copied to Natural England when issued.

6 Spraying land treated / permitted last year as part of a multi-annual programme

- 6.1 This would be if the first treatment had failed to reduce the canopy cover to any noticeable degree on the land to be sprayed:
 - 6.1.1 Was included in a permit issued in the previous year as part of a multi-annual control programme that had previously been permitted;
 - 6.1.2 Which had not been sprayed;
 - 6.1.3 Had not been subject to any significant change (e.g. burnt) since the previous year; and

- 6.1.4 Is still covered by the same consents, agreements and management arrangements that were in place in the previous year.
- 6.2 Complete the update template letter.
 - 6.2.1 Add details of the reference number of the previous permit.
 - 6.2.2 You will see that the template letter also includes a declaration that Best Available Technology will be used.
 - 6.2.3 You should also include details of any other changes to the previous permit (for example, Certificate numbers).
- 6.3 Letters should be submitted to: aerial.spraying.permits@hse.gov.uk. Please title your email: Aerial Application Plan.
- 6.4 CRD is not required to consult conservation authorities in such cases so will be able to permit such cases fairly readily. Updated permits will be copied to Natural England when issued.

SCOTLAND

7 Spraying land not previously considered by permitting arrangements

- 7.1 Complete the template Application Plan.
- 7.2 Maps showing the location of water bodies are available by emailing Scottish Water at protectdwsources@scottishwater.co.uk. For details of the map requirements see section 4.
- 7.3 The location of conservation areas can be identified at: <https://sitelink.nature.scot/home>.
- 7.4 Applications should be submitted to: aerial.spraying.permits@hse.gov.uk. Please title your email: Aerial Application Plan. Application Plans will be copied to Scottish Water upon receipt and permits will be copied to SNH upon issue.
- 7.5 Where the spraying is:
 - 7.5.1 In or within 150m of a SSSI only and covered by Agri-Environment Climate Scheme options or a Management Agreement referring to bracken control, complete Appendix C of the Application Plan. CRD can permit such cases without recourse to SNH, and will copy permits to SNH.
 - 7.5.2 In or within 150m of a SSSI or a Natura site and agreement to spray has previously been given under the SEARS system, complete Appendix B of the Application Plan. CRD can permit such cases without recourse to SNH, and will copy permits to SNH.
 - 7.5.3 In or within 150m a site which is: both a SSSI and Natura site; or solely a Natura site and covered by relevant Agri-Environment Climate Scheme options or Management Agreement referring to bracken control, complete Appendix C of the Application Plan. CRD will notify the local SNH office of the intention to permit spraying and the local SNH officer

will consider this. CRD will base its decision to permit spraying on the advice of the local officer, copying permits to SNH.

- 7.5.4 In or within 150m of a site which is a SSSI or Natura site, or both, and this is not covered by relevant Agri-Environment Climate Scheme options referring to bracken control, complete Appendix D of the Application Plan. CRD will notify the local SNH office of the intention to permit spraying and the local SNH officer will consider this. CRD will base its decision to permit spraying (with or without conditions) or refuse the request on the advice of the local officer and copy the permit to SNH.
- 7.5.5 More than 150m from the boundary of a SSSI or Natura site, complete Appendix A of the Application Plan. CRD will issue a permit in such cases without recourse to SNH, and will copy details of permits to SNH.

- 7.6 Providing Appendices in Word format will speed up processing of the permit.
- 7.7 If submitting Applications in hard copy format or on disc, three copies should be provided.

8 Spraying land treated/permited last year as part of a multi-annual programme

- 8.1 This would be if the first treatment had failed to reduce the canopy cover to any noticeable degree on the land to be sprayed:
 - 8.1.1 Was included in a permit issued in the previous year as part of a multi-annual control programme that had previously been permitted;
 - 8.1.2 Which had not been sprayed;
 - 8.1.3 Had not been subject to any significant change (e.g. burnt) since the previous year; and
 - 8.1.4 Is still covered by the same consents, agreements and management arrangements that were in place in the previous year.
- 8.2 Complete the update template letter.
 - 8.2.1 Add details of the reference number of the previous permit. You will see that the template letter also includes a declaration that Best Available Technology will be used.
 - 8.2.2 You should also include details of any other changes to the previous permit (for example, Certificate numbers).
- 8.3 Letters should be submitted to: aerial.spraying.permits@hse.gov.uk. Please title your email: Aerial Application Plan.
- 8.4 CRD is not required to consult conservation authorities in such cases so will be able to permit such cases fairly readily. Letters will be copied to Scottish Water upon receipt and updated permits copied to SNH upon issue.

WALES

9 Spraying land not previously considered by permitting arrangements

- 9.1 Complete the template Application Plan.

- 9.2 Maps showing the location of water bodies and conservation areas are available by emailing: permitreceiptcentre@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk. Highlight that maps are for aerial spraying applications. For details of the map requirements see section 4.
- 9.3 Completing separate Plans for land: in or within 150m of a conservation area; not in or within 150m of a conservation area, and providing Appendices in Word format will speed up the process of issuing permits.
- 9.4 Applications should be submitted to: aerial.spraying.permits@hse.gov.uk. Please title your email: Aerial Application Plan. Application Plans will be copied to Welsh Water - WaterSource@dwrcymru.com - upon receipt and permits copied to Welsh Water upon issue.
- 9.5 If submitting Applications in hard copy format or on disc, three copies should be provided.
- 9.6 CRD will need to consult Natural Resources Wales where spraying takes place in or within 150m of a conservation area. Permits will be copied to Natural Resources Wales when issued.

10 Spraying land treated/permitted last year as part of a multi-annual programme.

- 10.1 This would be if the first treatment had failed to reduce the canopy cover to any noticeable degree on the land to be sprayed:
- 10.1.1 Was included in a permit issued in in the previous year as part of a multi-annual control programme that had previously been permitted;
 - 10.1.2 Which had not been sprayed;
 - 10.1.3 Had not been subject to any significant change (e.g. burnt) since the previous year; and
 - 10.1.4 Is still covered by the same consents, agreements and management arrangements that were in place in the previous year.
- 10.2 Complete the update template letter.
- 10.2.1 Add details of the reference number of the previous permit. You will see that the template letter also includes a declaration that Best Available Technology will be used.
 - 10.2.2 You should also include details of any other changes to the previous permit (for example, Certificate numbers).
 - 10.2.3 Letters should be submitted to: aerial.spraying.permits@hse.gov.uk. Please title your email: Aerial Application Plan.
 - 10.2.4 CRD is not required to consult conservation authorities in such cases so will be able to permit such cases fairly readily. Letters will be copied to Dwr Cymru (Welsh Water) upon receipt and updated permits copied to Natural Resources Wales upon issue.

NORTHERN IRELAND

11 All Land

- 11.1 Complete the template Application Plan.
- 11.2 Maps showing the location of water bodies are available at <https://apps.daira-ni.gov.uk/WaterInformationRequest/>.
- 11.3 Maps showing the location of conservation areas are available at <https://www.daira-ni.gov.uk/services/natural-environment-map-viewer>.
- 11.4 For details of the map requirements see section 4.
- 11.5 Completing separate Plans for land: in or within 150m of a conservation area; not in or within 150m of a conservation area; and providing Appendices in Word format will speed up the process of issuing permits.
- 11.6 Applications should be submitted to: aerial.spraying.permits@hse.gov.uk. Please title your email: Aerial Application Plan.
- 11.7 If submitting Applications in hard copy format or on disc, three copies should be provided.
- 11.8 CRD will need to consult DAERA where spraying takes place in or within 150m of a conservation area. Permits will be copied to DAERA when issued.