

Individual Project Summary Report 2006/07

1. Project summary and information about the grant holder

Project title	Cut and Come Again		AONB Proj. No:	067/17
Overall objectives of the project	The project outcome will be the establishment of secure fuelwood supply points for the AONB area (some of which will be FSC certified). Green Wood Centre (GWC) will work with existing contractors to assist the efficiency of operations through shared machinery purchase and improving marketing to ensure local people can source their firewood easily and simply. GWC also wishes to support some woodland owners and fuelwood contractors to achieve FSC standards, and to ensure that fuelwood is harvested and extracted in ways which will maximise environmental benefit. GWC will also promote the availability of wood fuel heating systems, and help to train woodfuel suppliers in the needs of modern woodfuel boilers and their maintenance, working with Midland Wood Fuels.			
Start date	13/06/2006	End date	31/03/2007	
SDF grant holder <i>(your organisation)</i>	Green Wood Centre			
Contact details <i>(your name, address, telephone and email)</i>	Andy Grundy or Judy Walker, Green Wood Centre, Station Road, Coalbrookdale, Telford, TF8 7DR. 01952 432769 or email:andy@heartwoods.co.uk or director@greenwoodcentre.org.uk			

2. Funding information

SDF funding received this year	£ 10,000	SDF funding received last year <i>(if any)</i>	£ 10,000
Total cost of the project this year	£ 29,926	Any special funding arrangements <i>(such as staged payments or financial conditions required by funders)</i>	No
Sources of other funding <i>(funding body or volunteer activity)</i>	Value of other funding where contributed in cash	Estimate of value (£ equivalent) where contributed in kind	
Volunteer time	£ 0	£ 9,900	
Volunteer supervisor staff time	£ 0	£ £5,365	
Heritage Lottery Fund	£ £3,385	£ 0	
Vocational Training Scheme (DEFRA)	£ £1,000	£ 0	
Green Wood Centre core funds	£276	£ 0	

3. Achievements of the project

What were the specific objectives that you set for the project in the grant application form?	How well were the objectives met?	What issues affected the achievement of the objectives?
Survey existing woodfuel suppliers, to assess existing operations and the need for support to produce log supplies	Met well. Survey carried out by a volunteer at GWC and focussed on log fuel businesses. The project officer conducted the interview with Midlands Wood Fuel director.	Woodfuel suppliers can be difficult to get hold of.
Establish a FSC certified woodfuel suppliers group	FSC Chain of custody certification group for small wood-using businesses established.	Over bureaucratic nature of certification
Promote and market suppliers of woodfuel and woodfuel heating systems, to achieve an increase in sales of logs and log burners	Case study factsheet prepared. Significant publicity achieved. A lot of signposting and answering of general enquiries.	Under funded Heartwoods project – more resources and funding needed.

What were the specific objectives that you set for the project in the grant application form?	How well were the objectives met?	What issues affected the achievement of the objectives?
Support the FSC certification of local woodlands, with systems established and at least 1 woodland certified.	Not achieved.	Certification of small woodlands is a highly controversial and difficult area at present. As a result of this work the Heartwoods project officer is now sitting on the Small and Low Intensity Managed Forests (SLIMF) Working Group of UKWA (UK Woodland Assurance Scheme).
Cut 2ha for woodfuel and restore a coppice rotation	Achieved 1.75 ha. Coppice restoration achieved at: Edge Wood, Westhope (1ha) Wrekin Plantation (.35ha) Audience Wood, Tick Estate (.4ha)	
Share purchase of extraction and/or delivery vehicles as required, depending on results of survey of log suppliers	Not achieved	The woodfuel survey concluded that shared machinery purchase, suggested in the project bid, was not desirable to the log suppliers of the AONB area.
Hold at least 1 training course on woodfuel systems	Exceeded target: Woodfuel training course held on March 17 th at Green Wood Centre by Ewan Bent of Marches Wood Energy Network and Midlands Wood Fuel. Also achieved additional courses on coppicing, hedgelaying and timber assessment.	
Engage at least 12 volunteers in woodland management and ecological survey, a total of 80 volunteer days	Engaged 15 volunteers in woodland management and ecological survey. Achieved a total of 189 days.	The number of volunteer days greatly exceeded the target thanks to additional volunteer recruitment and use of probation service. Partnership work with Shropshire Wildlife Trusts Wrekin Forest Project included practical task days on the Wrekin Plantation site.

4. Lessons learned

What were the key lessons you learned during the project?	Certification of small woodlands is a highly controversial and difficult area at present. As a result of this work the Heartwoods project officer is now sitting on the Small and Low Intensity Managed Forests (SLIMF) Working Group of UKWA (UK Woodland Assurance Scheme).
What would you do differently next time?	Too many small project elements. In future, deal with it in a more modular way and break the project up in to 3 years. End date for claims is a difficult time of year when dealing with woodland operations.
Do you have any further comments?	As a result of this project the Heartwoods officer is working closely with AONB staff to develop future woodland projects.