

Administrative Datasets Used for National Statistics:

FC Planting Data

Name of National Statistic and contact:	The dataset contributes to statistics on new planting and restocking, providing figures for the Forestry Commission estate in Scotland for conifers and broadleaves in: • Woodland Area, Planting and Restocking. • Forestry Statistics. • Forestry Facts & Figures.
	 The dataset is also used in the following non-National Statistics outputs: The source is used indirectly for tables of forest area and of forest establishment and reforestation in international reporting Forest Resources Assessment and State of Europe's Forests, and in Sustainable Forest Management Indicators, via the annual statistics in NS publications. The source is used in Forestry Commission Annual Reports and in other corporate publications (including the Scottish Forestry Strategy Indicators) to report on the activities of the Forestry Commission. Contact: Sheila Ward, e-mail Sheila.ward@forestry.gsi.gov.uk, tel 0300 067 5236
Name of contributing dataset and what it contributes:	FC planting data provides figures on the area of new planting and restocking on Forestry Commission land. Information used in the production of Official Statistics are: • Type of planting (new planting/ restocking) and • Type of woodland (conifer/ broadleaf).
Brief description of data and dataset:	FC planting data is owned and maintained by Forestry Commission National Offices in Scotland. Data held includes area, location and species.
	For England and Wales, the data is obtained from the subcompartment database (see separate Statement of Administrative Sources for this data source).

How the data is collected:

New Planting (Direct Workforce) and <u>Restocking – FE Scotland</u>

Forest Districts collect planting area figures usually by means of a supervisor walking around the planting boundary with a GPS, 'way-marking' accurately the outline of the ground which has been newly restocked. This GPS data is then downloaded directly onto GIS providing an accurate measure and map of the net planted area. This information is then used by District as the return figure entered into the Cognos Planning System where it is picked up at country level.

New Planting via Framework Contract

Within the contract, Districts provide the contractor with a GIS shape-file which accurately depicts the area and shape to be planted. The contractor uses GIS and GPS to then accurately translate the planting boundaries directly onto the ground, onsite. The planting boundaries are then checked by FCS staff during their monitoring of the contract to ensure that the specification within the contract has been met. Once the completed new planting is verified by FCS field staff this information is then used to update Cognos.

Original purpose of dataset and any other publications from the data:

The data are used by Forestry Commission/ Forest Enterprise staff throughout the year, to assist in managing the estate. They also feed into forest planning systems used by the Forest Districts, and into management information systems used by Forest Districts and by Forestry Commission/ Forest Enterprise management. They are also used by Forestry Commission Scotland for monitoring progress against corporate plans.

Security of the data – how it is managed:

Access to the data is restricted to appropriate officers within Forest Districts and National Offices throughout the year, for maintenance of the database and operational and planning purposes.

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Is supporting metadata available for this dataset?:	Forestry Commission Scotland have metadata for the end of year process collecting sub compartments and component tables.
How do we get access?:	There is an agreement with the Forestry Commission Scotland to provide the relevant aggregate data by mid-May. Data are provided by e-mail.
Quality assurance:	The Statistics team compare the data received with the figures for previous years and any apparent inconsistencies are queried.