

Forest of Bowland Farmer Group

Contact List for advice within the AONB

Forestry Commission –

Contact: **Peter Knox**

Business Development Advisor for the North of Bowland

Telephone: 07920 531 732

Email: Peter.Knox@forestrycommission.gov.uk

Contact: **Chris McGloin**

Business Development Advisor for the South of Bowland

Telephone: 07464 539 467

Email: chris.mcgloin@forestrycommission.gov.uk

Forestry Commission Business Development Advisors offer advice to farmers and landowners looking to become more environmentally and financially resilient in the face of land management policy changes. Where owners and farmers are looking to incorporate trees into their land, on a large or small scale, they can offer advice and support with desktop due diligence, advice on funding schemes and revenue streams as well as details on the next steps that should be taken to achieve the objectives.

Woodland Trust –

Contact: **Hannah Marshall**

Outreach Adviser - Northern Forest

Telephone: 03437 705 463

Email: HannahMarshall@woodlandtrust.org.uk

Hannah can advise on woodland and hedgerow creation at all scales, site visits available for woodland creation that is a minimum of 0.5ha in total (can be split across different areas of the farm). She can complete constraints checks on behalf of landowners including on priority habitats present, breeding bird suitability, archaeology, peaty soils and other ecologically important areas. Hannah can also help in decision making over most appropriate grants and funding available for woodland and hedgerow creation and complete site designs and species mixes for sites suitable for Woodland Trust funding.

Environment Agency –

Contact: **Sue Larty**

Senior Officer for Cumbria and Lancashire Agricultural Regulatory Team; OR

Contact: **Jackie Monk**

Senior Agricultural Officer for the Ribble & Douglas Catchment ('TARA' project)

Telephone: 03708 506506

Email: CLA_ARIO@environment-agency.gov.uk

If you are planning to build new storage for silage, slurry or agricultural fuel oil, or make substantial changes to an existing store, you must tell the Environment Agency at least 14 days before you start. You can also contact Sue or Jackie with general environment agency queries. More details can be found here

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/storing-silage-slurry-and-agricultural-fuel-oil>

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RSPB –

Contact: **Philip Miller or Hilary McGuire**

Conservation Officers

Telephone: Philip 07506 281576 or Hilary 07971 753456

Email: philip.miller@rspb.org.uk or Hilary.McGuire@rspb.org.uk

At the RSPB we are happy to help provide free farmland advice and support to help encourage and protect wildlife on farms. We can help support farmers with applications into stewardship or one-off habitat management grants. We have a special interest in breeding Wading Birds including Curlew, Lapwing Oystercatcher, Redshank and Snipe, we have an annual survey taking place on around 70 farms in Bowland undertaken by Volunteers. This data is hugely important to farmers trying to access new stewardship schemes whilst helping us to provide advice tailored specifically to each farm.

Natural England

North West mailbox is csf.northwest@naturalengland.org.uk where your email will be directed to the relevant officer, or for direct contacts please see below.

Contact: **Lynsey Mitchell**

Catchment Sensitive Farming Adviser – Ribble Catchment

Telephone: 07787 147 668 (Monday – Thursday, 8am – 6pm)

Email: Lynsey.Mitchell@naturalengland.org.uk

Contact: **Kirsty Burrow**

Catchment Sensitive Farming Adviser – Lune Catchment

Telephone: 07789 282 897

Email: Kirsty.Burrow@naturalengland.org.uk

Contact: **Michael Graham**

Catchment Sensitive Farming North West & Cheshire to Lancashire Uplands

Telephone: 07770 700 830

Email: michael.graham@naturalengland.org.uk

Catchment Sensitive Farming provides locally informed, confidential, on-farm advice to help you make decisions on soil management, nutrient, slurry, and manure management, ammonia emission reduction, farm infrastructure and machinery set-up, pesticide handling, water resources and natural flood management, local environmental priorities, land management, and agricultural transition advice including grants. More information can be found here [Catchment Sensitive Farming: advice for farmers and land managers - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/catchment-sensitive-farming)

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Forest of Bowland AONB

Contact: Sarah Robinson, Tarja Wilson, Sarah Whitwell or Emily Brazington
Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme Officers

Telephone: 01200 448 000

Email: Sarah.Robinson@lancashire.gov.uk or Tarja.Wilson2@lancashire.gov.uk or
Sarah.Whitwell2@lancashire.gov.uk or Emily.Brazington@lancashire.gov.uk

The Farming in Protected Landscapes programme runs until March 2025. It can help fund projects that support nature recovery, mitigate the impacts of climate change, provide opportunities for people to discover, enjoy and understand the landscape and cultural heritage, or support nature-friendly, sustainable farm businesses. This is a programme of funding for one-off projects covering these areas of work, not an agri-environment scheme. If you are interested and would like to arrange a discussion then please register your interest on the link below, where more detailed information can be found [Farming in Protected Landscapes in the Forest of Bowland | Forest of Bowland AONB](#)

Forest of Bowland AONB

Contact: Sarah Dornan
Countryside Access Officer
Mobile: 07917 836 606
Email: Sarah.Dornan@lancashire.gov.uk

Sarah can offer advice concerning access routes, way markers and your rights and responsibilities with maintenance to public access routes.

Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust –

Contact: Carol Edmondson
Bowland Hay Time Project Officer
Mobile: 07775 793283
Email: Carol.Edmondson@lancashire.gov.uk

Working with landowners and communities to restore and enhance wildflower meadows in the Forest of Bowland AONB. Carol can provide advice and support and may be able to provide funding for the restoration of grasslands to species-rich hay meadows.

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Ribble Rivers Trust

Contact: **Heather Whalley**

Senior Farm Advisor

Mobile: 07794 229 794

Office: 01200 444452

Email: heather@ribbletrust.com

Heather works with landowners to deliver environmental mitigation methods to target Natural Flood Management and Diffuse Water Pollution. Heather assists farmers with Countryside Stewardship applications, Sustainable Farming Incentive applications, and tries to source funding to support landowners delivering infrastructure to help reduce agricultural pollution and provide public goods through natural flood management opportunities. Competent to provide agricultural consultancy, she aims to support farmers with business planning, budgets, applying for grants, and using farmland economically for environmental outcomes. Heather is also FACTs qualified advisor for nutrient and soil management advice and planning.

Kathryn (details below) can also offer free and confidential farm advice and reports to farmers within the Ribble Catchment.

Ribble Rivers Trust

Contact: **Kathryn Oddie**

Head of Land Management

Mobile: 07398 622010

Office: 01200 444452

Email Kathryn.oddie@ribbletrust.com

Wyre Rivers Trust

Telephone: 07930 200 059 (Thomas Myerscough)

Contacts as below:

- Water and Habitat Quality and any other queries – **Thomas Myerscough (General Manager)** tom@wyriverstrust.org
- Farm Advice & Soil Management – **Dr Heather Stott** heather@wyriverstrust.org
- Natural Flood Management – **Sam Hopes** sam@wyriverstrust.org
- Woodland Creation – **Sam Marshall** sam.marshall@wyriverstrust.org

The Wyre Rivers Trust are happy to provide free and confidential advice on a range of topics to farmers within the Wyre Catchment. We have a wide range of knowledge and experience in working with farmers and farming communities in the Wyre Catchment to provide advice which highlight financial and environmental win/wins that can be made on farms. We have successfully provided funding to farmers for a range of projects and would be delighted to help with any query, no matter how big or small.

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Lune Rivers Trust

Contact: **Louisa Blundell or Jemma Wilson**

Farm Advisors / Project Officers

Telephone: Louisa on 07814 694129 or Jemma on 07949196695

Email: louisa@luneriverstrust.org.uk or jemma@luneriverstrust.org.uk

~Other useful contacts for support and advice~

Pendle & Ribble Valley Rural Task Force

Direct Contact: **PS 6518 Kevin Day**

Telephone: 07970 600214

General Email: ribblevalleyrtf@lancashire.police.uk

Please do report any crime, the more crimes that are logged, the bigger the case created for the rural task force to do something about it. You can sign up to alerts for rural crime in your area here [Home Page - Stay In The Know](#)

RABI –[The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution \(RABI\)](#)

Freephone Helpline: 0800 188 4444

Email: help@rabi.org.uk

Direct email for our regional support Manager Tom Newby is tom.newby@rabi.org.uk

RABI are a fantastic Charity and can help you deal with your own personal circumstances by offering you tailored support in the form of bespoke grants, help and advice. Please contact them to discuss your personal situation and they will try and support you as best they can. They also offer -

- In-person or online counselling and support, specifically aimed at farming people and without having to wait for NHS referrals.
 - Training grants to help you up-skill, examples include - tree surgery, hedge-laying, butchery, livestock foot-trimming, pregnancy scanning, etc, along with computer skills such as website design and IT programming. RABI have also supported individuals to gain HGV licences and complete forklift truck operator courses.
 - RABI can provide grants to support you during the cost of living crisis, or to help fund a temporary employee to cover you or your worker through times when you are unable to work (due to ill health/injury etc).
 - Return to School grant of £250 for those whose main source of income comes from farming, to help with costs of school uniform etc. (payment is per household not per child, opens June – September.)
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TB Advisory Service

National Helpline: 01306 779410

Email: info@tbas.org.uk

The TB Advisory Service is a DEFRA funded project that offers FREE, bespoke, practical, and cost-effective advice to all eligible farmers in England to help reduce the risks associated with TB.

The Farming Community Network

National helpline: 03000 111 999

Email helpline: help@fcn.org.uk

The Farming Community Network run a confidential helpline which is open every day of the year 7am - 11pm with volunteers providing free, confidential, pastoral and practical support to anyone within the farming community. Their volunteers, many of whom are involved in farming, or have close links with agriculture, have a great understanding of the issues that farmers, farm workers and farming families regularly face. They can offer a wide range of support from help with paperwork, to acting as family mediators, and even supporting farmers through legal issues – or you might just need someone to listen. This is a fantastic voluntary organisation and charity that supports farmers and families within the farming community through difficult times.

Field Nurse is a small charity supporting healthcare in rural areas. They provide 'drop-in' medical clinics at local auction marts, offering health advice and basic checks such as blood pressure, and a friendly face to chat to for anyone struggling with their mental health or just feeling lonely.

Drop-in Clinics at -

- Clitheroe Auction Mart & Brock Auction Mart every Tuesday from 10:30am to 12.30pm
- Gisburn Auction Mart every Thursday & Saturday on sales days
- Craven Cattle Marts in Skipton at the fortnightly store cattle sales on a Wednesday