



Sir Faesyfed  
Radnorshire

## Rhos Pasture Restoration Project

### Rhos Products Feasibility Study

5<sup>th</sup> July 2021

#### Background

Rhôs pasture is species rich marshy grassland, traditionally managed by extensive cattle grazing. It is a frequent component of the landscape of Mid Wales, though it is undervalued for its species richness and ecosystem services potential. Focussed on the area surrounding Rhayader, this project aims to restore biodiversity and raise the cultural value of rhôs pastures with both landowners and communities.

The project plans to:

- Survey and monitor the restoration of rhôs pasture.
- Improve the biodiversity, soil structure, carbon and water storage of rhôs pasture.
- Survey and monitor the biodiversity and evaluate the management methods applied.
- Help sustain farm businesses by investigating markets for products and developing tourism facilities.
- Use arts and heritage activities to engage the public, create a positive identity for rhôs pasture and provide educational, health and well-being benefits.
- Monitor and evaluate outcomes and use this information to inform others.

The Rhôs Pasture Restoration Project is a two year funded project funded by the Welsh Government Sustainable Management Scheme. This collaborative project is managed by Radnorshire Wildlife Trust and is supported by CARAD Rhayader Museum and Rhayader by Nature.

More information on the project can be found at [www.rwtwales.org](http://www.rwtwales.org)



## Brief for Tender

Radnorshire Wildlife Trust wish to engage a contractor to undertake a feasibility study to explore the possible constraints, opportunities and solutions for the development of a sustainable local market for produce from rhos pasture. This will include:

- **Assessing the viability of a local market for rhos beef.** This will include meeting with local farmers and the supply chain – butchers, retailers, marketing firms and hospitality - to understand the opportunities and constraints associated with creating a local market for rhos beef. This will involve identifying practical solutions for taking this from field to plate and researching how other projects have succeeded.
- **Researching the potential for a market for a range of products from rhos pasture .** This will include identifying food or retail products other than rhos beef and assessing its viability for market.
- **Explore ways in which an identity for the area can be created, based on a farming landscape that still holds wildlife rich habitats,** and understand how this identity could help market produce and create a strong brand.
- **Suggest ways in which the products can gain accreditation,** for example, a minimum amount of time that the cattle need to graze on the rhos in order to qualify as Rhos pasture products.

The focus of the study will be within the Rhos Pasture Restoration Project area. This lies between Rhayader, Nantmel, Newbridge-on-Wye and Llanwrthwl. The project already has good links with many farmers and landowners within this area (and can provide contact details).

You will have a good understanding of farming enterprises, the supply chain and have a knowledge of other national as well as local food market/schemes. You will be able to suggest or develop ideas that will be of interest to landowners in Mid Wales and will encourage management of rhos pasture which is beneficial to wildlife.

### Contract details

The fixed price for the contract is £5000. This needs to include VAT if applicable.

Your tender document needs to include:

- Your day rate, and how you anticipate that the budget will be spent
- How you plan to deliver the contract and timescale
- Your skills and experience that make you a good candidate for this contract



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Closing date for a tender is 6<sup>th</sup> August 2021. Shortlisting will take place in the week of 9<sup>th</sup> August 2021, and a decision will be made by the 20<sup>th</sup> August 2021. The Report needs to be completed by 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022 with a first draft for discussion by 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

Please email your tender to Lucy Morton, Project Manager - [lucy@rwtwales.org](mailto:lucy@rwtwales.org)

Tender documents will be assessed by Lucy Morton, Project Manager, James Hitchcock, CEO of RWT and Jenny Mottershead, Community Arts and Heritage Officer and member of the Steering Group.

An invoice for 50% of the payment can be submitted after 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021 if RWT is satisfied with progress.

Radnorshire Wildlife Trust are committed to promoting equality, diversity and inclusion in all our work and we are determined that this opportunity is accessible to everyone. More information is available on our equal opportunities approach at request



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