

# Weathering the Storm

## Checklist for farmers and land managers

This checklist, included in the full version of Weathering the Storm, can be used to ensure that you have covered all elements needed to adapt your farm or area of land to climate change. The full version of the document provides more information and links to further sources to help you explore the topics further and inform your responses.

If you do not have time to work your way through the full document and the planning process described, then this checklist might be helpful as a standalone resource to prompt you to think through some of the issues and consider what to do differently.

<b>Soils</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
1. Is the condition and health of your soil routinely monitored?			
2. Is any action taken to reduce and avoid soil compaction?			
3. Is organic matter regularly added to your fields?			
4. Has direct drilling and/or minimum tillage been investigated as an option to reduce soil disturbance and machinery costs?			
5. Are chemical inputs matched to crop requirements to help ensure good nutrient balance?			
6. Is crop rotation used to help improve soil health and fertility and combat pests, weeds and diseases?			
7. Is bare soil protected by continuous plant cover?			
8. Has tree planting been considered in order to help restore degraded soils?			
9. Is good drainage maintained across the farm?			
<b>Water</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
10. If you use mains or abstracted water for irrigation, have you had any problems of drought or water restrictions in the recent past?			
11. Have you investigated options and feasibility of increasing water storage, e.g. rainwater harvesting?			
12. Have there been any issues with flooding in the past?			
13. Are you aware of any planned or potential flood risk management schemes on your land or nearby within the same river catchment?			
14. Are there any flood prevention measures in place, e.g. a slurry pit?			
15. Are you experiencing any issues with high nutrient levels in streams, rivers or water bodies on or adjacent to your land?			
<b>Woodland and Forestry</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
16. Are you aware of the risks to trees, woods and forests from climate change and the associated impacts (drought, flooding, fire, pests and pathogens)?			

17. Have opportunities for planting new woodland been explored?			
18. Is agroforestry a potential option to consider?			
19. Could the resilience of existing or new woodland be improved?			
<b>Wildlife and Biodiversity</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
20. Do you monitor the diversity of wildlife on the farm (even informally)?			
21. Could you monitor and map the extent and quality of your natural habitats?			
22. Could they be improved and extended, including linking up with neighbouring farms?			
23. Have you investigated opportunities to fund improvements through the <a href="#">Environmental Land Management</a> and <a href="#">Biodiversity Net Gain</a> schemes?			
24. Have you made contact with your <a href="#">responsible authority for Local Nature Recovery</a> ?			
<b>People</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
25. Has the health and safety of people on the farm been assessed in the light of extreme weather conditions?			
26. Have there been any weather-related accidents in recent years?			
27. Is there a contingency plan for what people need to do (or not do) in the event of an emergency like a major flood, storm or wildfire?			
28. Is everyone aware of the contingency plan and where it is kept so that it can be accessed by anyone?			
<b>Farm buildings, infrastructure and access</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
29. Have the farm buildings and infrastructure been damaged or adversely affected by extreme weather in recent years (high winds, heavy rain, heatwave, wildfire, etc.)?			
30. Have adequate repairs been carried out such that damage will not reoccur during a similar or more extreme event in future?			
31. Is there regular checking and pro-active maintenance of buildings and infrastructure to ensure they are able to withstand more frequent and more extreme events in future?			
32. Is there potential housing/mineral extraction/infrastructure planned or being investigated on your land?			
<b>Livestock</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
33. Have any livestock come to harm as a result of extreme weather in recent years (either directly or as a result of pests or diseases)?			
34. Have any changes been made as a result to help reduce risk in future?			
35. Has a risk assessment been made for all livestock to ensure there is adequate protection in place from all forms of extreme weather?			
36. Have you considered different breeds or species that might cope better in extreme conditions?			
<b>Crops</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
37. Have any of your crops been lost/ damaged as a result of extreme weather events (either directly or as a result of pests or diseases)?			

38. Do you monitor crop yields and record how they have been affected by any extreme weather?			
39. Have you researched, considered or tried growing different crops that may be more resilient to heatwaves/drought or heavy rain/flooding?			
40. Have you been affected by wildfires at all, or do you know the risk from wildfires?			
<b>Permitting</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
41. Do you understand the importance of climate risk considerations when undertaking any activities that require an environmental permit?			