



# NATIVE WOODLAND CONSERVATION SCHEME 2014-2020 FORM 1

(APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL) (Vers.11April18 / see Cir. 05/18)

For office use

File Number		FO Number	
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**IMPORTANT NOTES:**

- This Form 1 incorporates the Native Woodland Plan Template & changes to NWS Conservation detailed in Circular 05/2018. For instructions & guidance on completing the form, see the *red italic text* beneath each question & also (pending updating) pages 44-46 of the document *Native Woodland Conservation Scheme (September 2015)* (referred to as the 'Scheme Manual').
- This Form 1 is designed to be completed onscreen, printed off, signed (by the Applicant, the NWS Forester and the NWS Ecologist) & submitted to the Department in hard copy.
- ALL QUESTIONS UNDER EACH SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED.

## SECTION A: APPLICANT & SITE DETAILS

*Please complete in **BLOCK CAPITALS***

Applicant Details	
1. Surname	2. First name(s)
3. Company / Organisation <i>(If applicable)</i>	
4. Postal address	
5. Name of landowner <i>(If different from above)</i>	
6. Telephone	7. E-mail
8. Date of birth (DD/MM/YYYY)	9. PPS Number
10. Farm / Herd Number	11. VAT Number
12. CRO Number	13. Tax District
14. Occupation    Farmer <input type="checkbox"/> / Non-Farmer <input type="checkbox"/>	
15. Ownership of Land    Full Owner <input type="checkbox"/> / Joint Owner <input type="checkbox"/> / Lessee <input type="checkbox"/>	

Details of the NWS Forester & NWS Ecologist		
	NWS Forester	NWS Ecologist
Name		
Address		
Company name <i>(If relevant)</i>		
Phone Number		
E-mail		
Dates & venue of the NWS Training Course completed		

## NWS Conservation Category

Tick the relevant NWS Conservation category being applied for under this application. **NOTE, tick one box only.**

High Forest *(previously 'Private High Forest' & 'Public Woodland', now amalgamated.)*

*Can include existing high forest woodland regarded as being native in tree composition but requiring restoration work, & projects proposing the replacement of an existing (or recently-felled) non-native conifer stand (typically mature, even-aged & predominantly monoculture in nature) with native woodland, via clearfelling & planting & / or natural regeneration.*

Emergent Woodland

*Can include existing woody 'scrub' comprising mainly pioneer species naturally regenerating onsite, & representing early-stage native woodland. To be eligible, the emergent woodland must be predominantly native, must have an average canopy height of at least 4 metres, & must be situated on mineral soil.*

Which of the criteria listed for the category selected above (see Scheme Manual) is met by this application?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Has work of a similar nature been supported by the Department in the previous 15 years? If 'Yes', give details.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Is this NWS Conservation application being considered as part of a NeighbourWood development? If 'Yes', give details.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Is tree felling envisaged under this NWS Conservation application? <i>Where required, an application for a Felling Licence should ideally be submitted prior to, or in tandem with, the NWS Conservation Form 1.</i> <i>For further information, see <a href="http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/forests-service/tree-felling/tree-felling/">www.agriculture.gov.ie/forests-service/tree-felling/tree-felling/</a></i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

<p>Estimate the income to be earned from harvesting marketable timber.</p> <p><i>(Where a marketable quantity of timber is realised from thinning / felling undertaken as part of an approved Native Woodland Plan, the quantity (in cubic metres) of timber must be documented &amp; details submitted to the Forest Service, together with evidence of timber-related income (including invoices &amp; receipts). Similarly, where a marketable quantity of timber is realised for the owner's use, or used by a third party but not sold, the quantity of timber must be documented &amp; details submitted, together with an estimate of its indicative value. The DAFM may reduce the grant payable accordingly, reflecting the value of the timber realised &amp; (where relevant) the normal costs associated with standard replanting.)</i></p>	€
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Site Location	
County	Nearest village
Townland(s)	6 inch OS Map number
District Electoral Division	Area applied for under this NWS Cons. application
Folio Number	<i>(Note maximum limit of 12 ha per application)</i>

Ownership & Site Use	
Are you the full owner of the site? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>  If 'No', please tick the appropriate boxes: Part-owner <input type="checkbox"/> Leased <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Management Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/>  If 'Partnership', please specify with whom <i>(Written consent of owner(s) to be provided)</i>	<b>Constraints of site</b> (tick as appropriate): None <input type="checkbox"/> Turbary <input type="checkbox"/> Right-of-Way <input type="checkbox"/> Grazing <input type="checkbox"/>  <b>Access</b> Do you have adequate access to manage the site? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Permission to use <input type="checkbox"/> <i>(Supply written consent)</i>

## SECTION B: WIDER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

		Tick Yes / No, as appropriate
<b>1. Water quality</b>	Is the site within a Fisheries Sensitive Area, >5 ha in area & hydrologically connected?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Is the site outside a Fisheries Sensitive Area, >40 ha in area & hydrologically connected?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Is the site >10 ha in area & within the catchment area of a Local Authority designated water scheme?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>2. Designated habitats</b>	Is the site within a NHA, pNHA, SAC, SPA or National Park? <i>If so, specify Site Code(s)</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	If the site is within a NHA, is a completed Notifiable Action Form / Action Requiring Consent Form (consent from NPWS) attached?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	If the site is within a Hen Harrier SPA, will operations occur between the 1 <sup>st</sup> April & 15 <sup>th</sup> August inclusive?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Is the site within a NPWS referral zone for a NHA, pNHA, SAC or SPA? <i>If so, specify Site Code(s)</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Is the site within 3 km upstream of, & hydrologically connected to, a NHA, pNHA, SAC, SPA or National Park? <i>If so, specify Site Code(s)</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Is the site within a Freshwater Pearl Mussel catchment?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Is the site within a Freshwater Pearl Mussel 6 km zone? <i>If so, the Forestry &amp; Freshwater Pearl Mussel Form A &amp; Form B (completed) must be included as part of the application.</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Does the site contain a current REPS plan habitat?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>3. Archaeology</b>	Does the site contain an archaeological site or feature with intensive public usage?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Does the site contain or adjoin a listed archaeological site or monument?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>4. Landscape</b>	Is the site within a prime scenic area in the County Development Plan?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Are there any other high amenity landscape considerations?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>5. Other environmental considerations</b>	Does any other environmental consideration(s) apply? <i>If so, specify</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

## SECTION C: SITE OVERVIEW

### 1. Site details

- State the **elevation range** (metres) for the site.
- Describe the average **slope**, noting any localised variation.
- Describe the **aspect** (North, South, East, West), noting any localised variation.
- Describe the **degree of exposure** (not exposed, moderately exposed, exposed), noting any localised variation.
- Is this site **prone to flooding**? If so, describe extent, frequency & duration.

INSERT RESPONSE TO C.1

### 2. Soil assessment

- From the walkover soil survey(\*), identify the main soil type(s) (i.e. brown earth, podzol, gley), & describe drainage & approximate fertility (base-poor/rich, acid, calcareous, etc.).
- If more than one soil type is present, illustrate the approximate extent of each on a **Soil Map**.

*\* See Annex 3 of the DAFM document Native Woodland Establishment GPC9 & GPC10: Silvicultural Standards. Note, soil pH papers are useful as a ready-aid to help soil identification.*

INSERT RESPONSE TO C.2

### 3. Adjacent habitat types & land uses

Describe the general habitat types & land uses adjoining the site.

*For habitat types, use the 2<sup>nd</sup> level classification codes listed in pages 14-15 of the Heritage Council's A Guide to Habitats in Ireland (Fossitt, 2000). E.g. "GA Improved Grassland to the north, with dairy farming; WD Highly Modified / Non-Native Woodland to the east, commercially managed conifer plantation..."*

INSERT RESPONSE TO C.3

#### 4. Important habitats & species

Tick Yes / No, as appropriate. If 'Yes', describe & indicate the location & extent on the **Existing Habitat Map**, as relevant.

		Tick Yes / No, as appropriate
1.	Is the site(s) within a Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Area (SPA), a Natural Heritage Area (NHA) or proposed Natural Heritage Area (pNHA), a Nature Reserve, a National Park or a Refuge for Flora & Fauna?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
2.	In non-designated areas, is there a habitat listed in Annex I of the Habitats Directive, known to be present or observed within the plot(s)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
3.	Is the site within one of the Priority & Freshwater Pearl Mussel (FPM) catchments?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
4.	Is the site within the 6 km zone of any other Freshwater Pearl Mussel Catchment?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
5.	Is there an Annex IV species or its habitat (if within the species range) known to be present or observed onsite?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
6.	Is there an Annex II species & / or its habitat known to be present or observed onsite?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
7.	Is the site located on sandstone geology in West Cork or Kerry, as illustrated in Figure 1 of the Forest Service <i>Forestry &amp; Kerry Slug Guidelines</i> ?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
8.	Is there a population of a species protected under the Flora Protection Order 2015 (S.I.356 of 2015) known to be present or observed onsite?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

## 5. Other sensitivities

- Is there any other environmental or social sensitivity(-ies) relevant to the project, which should be considered during the development & implementation of this Native Woodland Plan? \_\_\_\_\_
- Describe this sensitivity(-ies) & how it will be protected & (if possible) enhanced by this project. \_\_\_\_\_

*Additional environmental sensitivities include inter alia hydrological connectivity with a sensitive watercourse, potential ex situ impacts regarding nearby NATURA sites, the location of the project within a sensitive landscape, & the current use of the site as a popular local amenity.*

*The incorporation of these sensitivities within the Native Woodland Plan may avoid the need for further information being sought by DAFM. For example, consideration of a downstream NATURA site & the inclusion in the plan of additional safeguards to avoid any impact, may allow DAFM to screen out the project for the purposes of Appropriate Assessment.*

INSERT RESPONSE TO C.5

## 6. Land use history

Describe site use, both current & during recent decades. *E.g. commercial timber production, angling, public amenity & recreation.*

Describe site history, including the origin of the existing forest cover, & previous land use(s). Note any archaeological or historical features onsite (as these indicate human presence & potential site impact).

*Sources include local knowledge, management records, plans & inventories, aerial photographs, historical records & maps, land use history, scientific studies, old historic landscape paintings, & references in historical writings. Onsite features such as existing ground flora & evidence of previous silvicultural management, can also yield vital information about the site's history.*

*For further guidance, see Woodlands of Ireland Information Notes No. 1 (Cartographic & Historical Sources for Native Woodlands) & No. 2 (A History of Woodland Management in Ireland: An Overview) (Byrnes, 2007a&b).*

INSERT RESPONSE TO C.6



## SECTION D: ECOLOGICAL SURVEY

### 1. Timing of the ecological fieldwork

On what date(s) was the ecological fieldwork carried out?

*Note that the ecological fieldwork should ideally be carried out from mid-May to the end of September. Dates outside of this period may be acceptable in limited circumstances – check with DAFM (i.e. katharine.duff@agriculture.gov.ie) before proceeding outside of these dates.*

INSERT RESPONSE TO D.1

### 2. General ecological overview

Provide an overview of the general ecology of the site.

INSERT RESPONSE TO D.2

### 3. Existing habitats

Using the 3<sup>rd</sup> level classification codes on pages 14-15 of *A Guide to Habitats in Ireland* (Fossitt, 2000), identify existing habitats on the site.

*Note, due to the nature of NWS Conservation projects generally, the primary habitat is most likely to be under Woodland & Scrub (e.g. WN2 Oak-ash-hazel woodland, WD4 Conifer Plantation, WL1 Hedgerows, WS1 Scrub). However, other habitats may be present (including open habitats & various freshwater habitats adjoining or crossing the site), & these must be captured.*

For each existing habitat:

- illustrate its extent on the **Existing Habitat Map** (*noting that habitats too small to map clearly may be included as individual biodiversity features – see below*);
- provide a short description;
- where a habitat corresponds to an Annex I habitat under the Habitats Directive, this should be indicated & shown on the **Existing Habitat Map**, using the appropriate Annex I code; &
- using the DAFOR Scale, record & tabulate individual species & their relative abundances within the flora community, & note other species known to be present onsite but not observed during the survey.

INSERT RESPONSE TO D.3

## 4. Biodiversity features

Illustrate on the **Existing Habitat Map** other biodiversity features onsite, & provide a short description in map legend.

*E.g. veteran trees (incl. non-native), damp hollows, rocky outcrops, important animal sites (nests, holts, burrows, bat roosts, etc.), large standing or fallen deadwood, Red Data Book species, regionally or locally rare species, stone walls.*

## 5. Threats

Describe the nature & severity of existing & / or potential threats that need to be addressed in this project to ensure successful native woodland development.

*E.g. grazing pressure, invasive species onsite & in the surrounding area, senescent canopy, poor understorey & inadequate recruitment, windblow, adjoining development, dumping & burning, recreational pressure.*

**NOTE** *If deer is identified as a threat & support for deer fencing is being sought, provide evidence. See Woodlands of Ireland's Native Woodland Information Note No.7, The Management of Deer in Native Woodlands for details.*

INSERT RESPONSE TO D.5

## 6. Proposed native woodland type

**Identifying the most appropriate native woodland type(s) to promote onsite is a critical ecological decision & will influence various management decisions (e.g. species selection for planting).**

Based on soil, ground vegetation, existing tree cover, elevation, climate & other relevant factors (including available research & records) & using the <b>Native Woodland Scheme Framework</b> (see Circular 05/2018), tick which of the Scenarios 1-5 applies to the site.	
Scenario 1: Podzols / Oak-Birch-Holly Woodland	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scenario 2: Brown podzolics / Oak-Birch-Holly with Hazel Woodland	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scenario 3: Brown earths / Oak-Ash-Hazel Woodland	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scenario 4: Gleys / Alder-Oak-Ash Woodland	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scenario 5: Highly Modified Peat & Peaty Podzols / Pioneer Birch Woodland	<input type="checkbox"/>

If more than one scenario applies, illustrate distribution on the **Proposed Woodland Map**.

*Note, when selecting which scenario applies, take into account the likely effect of any planned drain blocking / damming, as this will almost certainly create wetter conditions within localised areas onsite.*

## 7. Non-woodland habitats & other open spaces

Illustrate on the **Proposed Woodland Map** any non-woodland habitats & other open spaces intended for inclusion as part of the 15% Areas for Biodiversity Enhancement (ABEs), & provide a short description in map legend.

*These include: existing open habitats to be retained, setbacks regarding water, archaeology, public roads, dwellings, etc., new open habitats (e.g. localised wetland areas likely to emerge as a result of drain blocking), open spaces required for management purposes (e.g. ridelines installed for access & deer control).*

*In the case of projects involving the reforestation of clearfelled sites, this operation provides an opportunity to reinstate open habitats that may have existed prior to the planting of the conifer crop. This can be informed by references to historical sources (e.g. 6 inch OS Maps). By reinstating former site conditions, drain blocking measures may lead to the restoration of localised wetland areas.*

## 8. Biodiversity features

Illustrate on the **Proposed Woodland Map** particular biodiversity features to be retained, as identified in D.4.

## SECTION E: OBJECTIVES

Section E sets out the medium- to long-term vision & the short-term objectives for the site. It must take into account all factors identified in preceding sections of the Native Woodland Plan, including the most appropriate native woodland type(s) to be promoted, weaknesses & threats, the retention & protection of existing & adjacent habitats & biodiversity features, & wider environmental considerations (such as the protection of water quality & instream ecosystems).

The following **must** be included:

- the Applicant's primary objectives for the site; &
  - ecological priorities for the woodland, including the most appropriate native woodland type(s) to be promoted onsite;
  - how weaknesses & threats are to be addressed; &
  - how adjacent habitats & wider environmental sensitivities are to be protected, & where possible, enhanced.

Other issues may also be included, where relevant, e.g.

- opportunities for compatible wood & non-wood products & services (e.g. hardwood production in non-water sensitive areas of the site); &
- additional considerations, e.g. the protection of water, public access & amenity, the use of the woodland as an 'outdoor classroom' by local schools, & woodland research.

### 1. Medium- to long-term vision

What is the medium- to long-term vision for the site up to year 50?

*E.g. The realisation of a particular woodland type & permanent protective buffer for the protection of water quality & instream ecosystems.*

INSERT RESPONSE TO E.1

### 2. Short-term objectives

In order of priority, describe the short-term objectives to be achieved within the initial 4-year period of this NWS Conservation project. **Note that grant & / or premium payments will depend on these short-term objectives being met.**

*Specific details are required, for example:*

- "To clearfell 9 ha of Sitka spruce forest & to reforest with new native woodland (Scenario 2), through a combination of group planting of sessile oak & natural regeneration."
- "To undertake forest drain blocking throughout the site, using appropriate slow-water dams & other appropriate measures, in order to reinstate natural hydrological conditions onsite."
- "To ensure ground cover is established as quickly as possible within the water setback."
- "To clear invasive species such as rhododendron from approx. 4 ha in the northwest corner of the site."
- "To remove deer grazing through the erection of deer fencing & appropriate culling."
- "To facilitate successful natural regeneration on approx. 3 ha of the site, immediately focused upslope of the water setback."

INSERT RESPONSE TO E.2

## SECTION F: OPERATIONS

Section F sets out proposed operations (*what will be done, when & where?*),  
based on the short-term objectives specified in Section E.

### 1. Operational proposals

Complete the following Operations Table, detailing the proposed operations & the estimated costs for all works to be completed before Form 2 submission.

*Note, all species planted must reflect the specifications set out in the NWS Framework for the scenario(s) in question, as set out in Circular 05/2018.*

Illustrate on the **Operations Map** the location & extent of each operation.

*E.g. areas earmarked for invasive species removal, areas designated for natural regeneration, centre-points for proposed group planting, areas along aquatic zones & existing land drains to be retained with water setbacks, areas to undergo drain blocking, etc.*

## NWS Conservation Operations Table

Operation to be completed <i>before</i> Form 2 submission	Description of the operation	Quantity <i>Using relevant units (e.g. area of treatment, metres of fencing, no. of plants, number of days)</i>	Estimated cost (ex.VAT) up to Form 2 submission (unless otherwise instructed)* <i>*Enclose original quotations, where applicable (costs exclusive of VAT)</i>
Preparation of Form 1 (incorporating Native Woodland Plan) by NWS Forester & NWS Ecologist			
New fencing <i>Specify type: stock or deer; IS 436 or non-IS 436; alternatives such as A-frame fencing</i>			
Upgrade existing fence(s) <i>Including alternatives such as stone wall repair</i>			
Control / removal of non-native species (e.g. beech, sycamore) <i>Specify target species, no. of trees / distribution / area, method (e.g. felling, ring barking)</i>			
Control / removal of invasive species (e.g. rhododendron) <i>Specify target species, distribution / area, method (e.g. stem injection), application rates (if applicable)</i>			
Hydrological & water protection measures (e.g. drain blocking / slow-water damming / removal of brash from water setbacks)			

Ground preparation, where appropriate (e.g. light scarification to facilitate natural regeneration, invert mounding)			
Purchase of native planting stock			
Planting <i>Specify type (e.g. understorey planting, group planting, coupe planting) &amp; method used (angle notch, pit, slit, other)</i>			
Stocking <i>If non-standard spacing, give details</i>			
Tree guards (including deer guards)			
Fertiliser <i>If proposed, specify exact prescription &amp; timing</i>			
Vegetation management <i>Describe treatment area, method, herbicide &amp; application rates (if relevant)</i>			<b>Give costs for:</b> <b>Year 0</b> <b>Year 1</b> <b>Year 2</b> <b>Year 3</b>
Road / track access <i>Present or required?</i>			
Restoration of former coppice			
Other operations <i>Describe, as appropriate</i>			

## 2. Operations to be completed by Form 3 submission (or by Year 6, in the case of 'Emergent Woodland')

Using a yearly schedule, describe & cost the operations to be completed **after Form 2 operations have been completed & before Form 3 submission (or before Year 6 for Emergent Woodland)**. Note that specific details are required (as above).

As appropriate, illustrate the location / extent of each operation, using the **Operation Map**, if these differ significantly from those relating to Form 2 submission.

INSERT RESPONSE TO F.2

## 3. Medium- to long-term operations

In general terms, describe management operations envisaged up to year 50.

*E.g. respacing & early thinning, where timber production is a co-objective; appropriate control of woody regrowth within the water setback on a 10-year cycle, to prevent tunnelling; 2-yearly monitoring & follow-up control of invasive species.*

INSERT RESPONSE TO F.3

## 4. Other information

Include any other information relevant to this Native Woodland Plan.

*For example, if further applications under NWS Conservation (or indeed, applications under Native Woodland Establishment GPC9 & / or GPC10) are envisaged in the coming years for adjacent & other sites within the same property, give details outlining the overarching vision, objectives & the timeframe involved, & how this application complements these.*

*For example, details of adjacent conifer stands to be removed sequentially, the location of willow trees proposed for use as a source for cuttings, etc.*

INSERT RESPONSE TO F.4

## 5. References

Fully reference any documents referred to in this Native Woodland Plan.

*E.g. botanical & zoological surveys, species requiring special protection (i.e. freshwater pearl mussels, salmonids, otter, etc.), old land use records, estate plans, historical estate & / or Ordnance Survey maps, previous management plans, EPA water quality monitoring data, research literature.*

INSERT RESPONSE TO F.5



**SECTION G: BUSINESS TYPE & ECONOMIC ACTIVITY**  
**(TO BE COMPLETED BY THE APPLICANT)**

**1. Type of Business / Enterprise**

*(See Annex I of Commission Regulation (EC) No. 800/2008 for definitions)*

Small/ Medium-sized Enterprise (<250 employees) (SME)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Large Company	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> <i>If 'Yes', provide documents as listed in attached Appendix</i>

**2. Incentive Effect (SME) Declaration**

The work described herein would not have been undertaken if it was not for the financial support provided under State Aid rules. Without this Aid, there would be no change to current activities.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
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**3. Economic Activity of Beneficiary**

<b>1.0 AGRICULTURE</b>		
1.1	Growing of non-perennial crops	
1.2	Growing of perennial crops	
1.3	Plant propagation	
1.4	Animal production	
1.5	Mixed farming	
1.6	Support activities to agriculture and post-harvest crop activities	
1.7	Hunting, trapping and related service activities	
<b>2.0 FORESTRY</b>		
2.1	Silvicultural and other forestry activities	
2.2	Logging	
2.3	Gathering of wild growing non-wood products	
2.4	Support services to forestry	
<b>3.0 OTHER</b> <i>(please provide description)</i>		

Have you made an application for funding to any other State or EU body in respect of this project? If 'yes' provide details.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
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## SECTION H: DECLARATION, CONSENT & APPLICATION

### 1. Declaration by the NWS Forester

- The NWS Ecologist & I have completed each question set out in all sections of this Form 1, & attach all relevant maps, as specified throughout, consistent with the mapping conventions set out in the *Forestry Standards Manual* & with instructions set out in the NWS Conservation Scheme Manual, pages 44-46.
- I have assessed all plots through a field assessment.
- I declare that the proposal as detailed meets the conditions of the NWS Conservation, as set out in the Scheme Manual, the *Forestry Standards Manual*, & subsequent updates & revisions.
- I declare that I have complied with all necessary protocols & procedures, & with all silvicultural, environmental & other standards, as outlined in Department publications & updates to Registered Foresters.
- I declare that I am registered as a NWS Forester on the Department's Register of Foresters & Forestry Companies that I am entitled on the basis of my registration to submit this NWS Conservation application.
- I accept that any false information provided may make this application/approval invalid in whole or part.
- I hereby request approval of this proposal.

Date(s) of field assessment	
Name of NWS Forester <i>(Block letters)</i>	
Signature	
Date of report	

## 2. Declaration by the NWS Ecologist

- The NWS Forester & I have completed each question set out in all sections of this Form 1, & attach all relevant maps, as specified throughout, consistent with the mapping conventions set out in the *Forestry Standards Manual* & with instructions set out in the NWS Conservation Scheme Manual, pages 44-46.
- I have assessed all plots through a field assessment.
- I declare that the proposal as detailed meets the conditions of the NWS Conservation, as set out in the Scheme Manual, the *Forestry Standards Manual*, & subsequent updates & revisions.
- I declare that I am registered as a NWS Ecologist with the Department & that I am entitled on the basis of my registration to submit this NWS Conservation application.
- I accept that any false information provided may make this application/approval invalid in whole or part.

Date(s) of field assessment

Name of NWS Ecologist (*Block letters*)

Signature

Date of report

### 3. Declaration by the Applicant

1. The details given on this form are correct to the best of my knowledge.
2. I / We are over 18 years of age.
3. I / We hereby apply for approval of this NWS Conservation proposal. I understand that I must not undertake any forestry work, preliminary or otherwise, before I receive written approval from DAFM. Otherwise this will constitute an unapproved development & there will be no entitlement to aid.
4. I / We understand that an Applicant cannot claim aid in respect to any area that is included in his/her claim under any other area-linked EU scheme in the same calendar year, except where the Applicant has fulfilled national rules for these schemes
5. I / We consent to the release of non-personal information supplied by me in respect of this application, as required to comply with current environmental consultation procedures & Freedom of Information Acts.
6. I / We undertake to furnish relevant documentation in relation to ownership of the lands in question & I understand that this documentation may be required before any aid will be paid.
7. I / We agree to be contacted by the Department in respect of forestry educational, training and promotional events.
8. I / We are responsible for the successful realisation of this NWS Conservation project & I acknowledge that the Department will not be held liable for any issues that may arise, regardless of any Department inspection that this site may receive.
9. I / We agree that my details can be released to Teagasc or other state agencies and/or third level institutions who may subsequently communicate with me, in relation to forestry educational, training and development events, research, promotional material and the harvesting of timber.
10. I/We understand that in accordance with the *European Union Guidelines for State aid in the agriculture and forestry sector and in rural areas 2014 – 2020*, data of beneficiaries of funding under the Forestry Programme 2014 – 2020 will be published and may be processed by auditing and investigating bodies of the European Union. This information will be published on the Department’s website and will include the full text of the notified aid scheme and its implementing provisions, the granting authority, the names of the individual beneficiaries, the scheme type and amount of aid granted to each beneficiary, the region at Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics level II in which the beneficiary is located and the principal economic sector in which the beneficiary has its activities, at NACE group level (Statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community). This will only apply to beneficiaries where the cumulative aid amount granted at financial approval is greater than €60,000 for beneficiaries active in the primary agriculture production and €500,000 for others for the amount of aid granted at the time of financial approval discounted at the rate at the time. Such information will be published after the granting decision has been taken and will be kept for at least 10 years and shall be available for the general public without restrictions. These records must be maintained for 10 years from the date of award of the aid and must be provided to the Commission upon request. I/We also understand that all personal data will be processed in accordance with the Data Protection Acts 1988 to 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).
11. I / We undertake to retain all invoices & receipts for 6 years after final payment, during which time, the Department may seek to examine & verify.

Name of Beneficiary <i>(Block letters)</i>	
Position in Organisation <i>(If relevant)</i>	
Signature(*)	
Date	

*\* Where the NWS Conservation application is made on behalf of more than one person, all parties must sign. Where the application is made on behalf of a Corporate Body or other legal entity, the form must be signed by an “authorised person” (e.g. Company Secretary, Chief Executive, etc.)*

## Checklist

*Before submitting to the Approvals Section, Forestry Division, Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine, Johnstown Castle Estate, Co. Wexford, ensure the following:*

Form signed & dated by the Applicant(s)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Form signed & dated by the NWS Forester & the NWS Ecologist	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
All sections & questions of this Form 1 completed	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
All required maps are attached, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Location Map</li><li>○ Soil Map</li><li>○ Existing Habitat Map</li><li>○ Proposed Woodland Map</li><li>○ Operations Map</li></ul>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Additional supporting documentation is included, as required ( <i>e.g. FPM Forms A &amp; B, if relevant</i> )	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

## **Appendix**

### **Demonstration of the Incentive Effect & Proportionate Aid**

*Applicable to Large Companies only*

#### **Incentive Effect**

Support under this scheme is 100% exchequer funded and can only be regarded as compatible with the internal market, if it has an incentive effect. An incentive effect is present when the aid changes the behaviour of an undertaking in a way it engages in additional activity contributing to the development of the sector which it would not have engaged in without the aid or would only have engaged in such activity in a restricted or different manner. The aid must not subsidise the costs of an activity that an undertaking would have incurred in any event and must not compensate for the normal business risk of an economic activity.

Large Companies must provide documentary evidence of the incentive effect in order to be eligible for support under this scheme. The EU defines a large company as one with a headcount of more than 250 people; turnover greater than €50 m; or a balance sheet greater than €43m. If a company is part of a group, the employee, turnover, annual balance sheet and ownership limits apply to the group. It is up to the applicant to properly declare themselves as a large company. The Definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises is recorded in Annex I of Agriculture Block Exemption Regulation (ABER). Failure to make an accurate declaration may result in the immediate cessation of aid along with the recovery of all aid which has been given along with interest at the appropriate rate.

Large companies must submit an internal company document (separate to the Form 1) showing that the company has analysed the viability of the project – with and without aid(\*) – and showing the “incentive effect”. The document must clearly state what would have happened without the support available under this scheme. That means that the documentation (internal report) produced by the company must establish that the aid will cause at least one of the following:

- A material increase in the size of the project, or
- A material increase in the scope of the project, or
- A material increase in the total amount spent on the project,

DAFM requires that the company document shows a credible analysis and demonstration of the incentive effect. The document should contain an analysis which answers the following questions:

- Would the project proceed without State Aid assistance?
- Would the level of project expenditure be less without State Aid support? If so, indicate by how much?

This information should indicate changes in the project size, scope and total spend.

This incentive effect document should be submitted with the Form 1. The application will only be deemed to have been accepted as valid once the company has been advised by DAFM that the incentive document meets the requirements set out above and is fully compliant with the European Union Guidelines for state aid in the agriculture and forestry sector and in rural areas 2014 – 2020.

(\* Without aid is the known as the counterfactual)

#### **Proportionate Aid**

Aid granted under this scheme must be proportionate. Support is considered proportional only if the same result could not be achieved with less aid, in other words if the amount of aid is limited to the minimum

necessary. The aid amount should not exceed the minimum necessary to render the project sufficiently profitable, for example should not lead to increase its IRR beyond the normal rates of return applied by the undertaking concerned in other investment projects of a similar kind or, when available, to increase its IRR beyond the cost of capital of the undertaking as a whole or beyond the rates of return commonly observed in the sector concerned. For example the IRR should be comparable with returns experienced by entities which are not large companies. Where the IRR exceeds this reference figure then the application may be refused.

Large Companies must provide documentary evidence that the aid is proportionate. This can be achieved by submitting an IRR and NPV analysis of the investment with aid and without aid with the Form 1. Only applications which are deemed proportionate will be grant aided by DAFM.

The **General Data Protection Regulation** (GDPR) came into force across the European Union on 25th May, 2018. It affects the way in which businesses and organisations, such as Forestry Division and the Forestry Inspectorate of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, process personal data for all EU citizens. GDPR gives people greater control over how their data are collected and processed. Personal data are any information that can identify an individual, such as name, address, land parcel information, etc. For more information on GDPR and how it affects you, please see a detailed information note on the Department's website at [www.agriculture.gov.ie](http://www.agriculture.gov.ie), under Forestry; Grants and Premium Schemes.