

REF: 2015S40/0044

From:

Sent: 07 January 2015 16:44

To: Nature Conservation

Subject: Review of Section 40

Dear Heather Humphries,

I am writing to you about the above topic. I am a great lover and enthusiast of Nature of all kinds and value it very much as part of the Heritage that I have and we have inherited from our ancestors. We are a very privileged people to have such wonderful Insects, Animals, Flowers and Birds living in a diversity of Habitats on our Island.

I see that you will be reviewing the legal controls on Hedgecutting and Hill Burning.

One of these i.e. the Hedgecutting concerns our Hedgerows, where a wealth of our wildlife lives. We don't have an enormous amount of Broad leaf Woodland in Ireland and Hedgerows help compensate for that in a small way. Land owners and County Councils are the 2 main owners of our Hedges and some of them want to increase the amount of time that they are legally allowed to cut the Roadside Hedges. At present they can do so from Mar 1st to August 31st. I think the Land Owners and County Councils have plenty of time to do their cutting during this period - it's 6 months after all. Some of them are seeking to find excuses to increase this period. I don't think it is necessary. I see that the Wicklow Uplands Council have called for extending controlled burning through March into April - because they argue that the land is too wet to burn. How about doing it in Sept. or Oct or November? - a period which is usually drier than March or April. "Where there's a will there's a way." The same applies to our Hill Burning.

Please Protect our Wild Life and the places it lives in.

Hoping that you will consider my opinions,

Yours sincerely,