

Ref: 2015S40/129

To: heather.humphreys@oir.ie
Date: 06/01/2015 17:58
Subject: Hedgerow cutting request submission

From:
Subject: Hedgerow cutting request submission

Message Body:

Dear Heather,

In an article on dec 16th in the Irish Examiner you required submissions on hedgerow cuttings. I am an archaeologist and ecologist, and have done some studies in this in this area, particularly in the Cork and Kerry region. Very briefly I would like to say a few things. Winter Heliothrope (*Petasites fragrans*) poses a major problem... it is spreading everywhere and is completely out of control and is screening out native biodiversity. At present it seems to me nothing has been done about it by local councils, many people working for them not even recognizing this plant from butterbur. Secondly, in many instances I have seen the most indicator species in and around archaeological sites, particularly ringforts. More stringent controls should be made to protect hedgerows surrounding and encompassing these archaeological sites. I could go on but I'll finish by saying Mr. Danny Healy-Rae and his family have shown in the past that they have little interest in Irelands Biodiversit

y and their campaigning to disregard Irelands landscape and environment (digging sand dunes for building materials and proposing building through sensitive SAC site in Ballyvourney) hedgerows by roadside verges are very suspect. Also, I am presently unemployed and I would love to work in this area... so if there are any jobs available in this area please would you let me know who to contact.

Yours sincerely,