

Ref: 2015S40/146

Sent: 09 January 2015 20:26

To: Nature Conservation

Subject: submission for the review of section 40 of wildlife act

To Whom it may concern

As a young farmer I welcome this chance to have an input on legislation that will have a major impact on my future (as I farm on land that requires controlled burning annually). My response to the questions posed are below.

- (a) **Burning of vegetation:** The dates should be extended until at least the 2nd week in April. This would allow for an increase in suitable conditions for burning like dry vegetation and a calm day. An extension to the 2nd week in April would give a better chance of getting these
- (b) **Having burning and hedgecutting kept to the same periods:** As the conditions for burning and hedgecutting are totally different I see no need to keep the closed periods the same
- (c) **Different Rules for different areas:** in the case your example of enclosed vs unenclosed land I would have to say no as there are some enclosed sections of land that would benefit from the same treatment unenclosed areas should get. I would suggest the different areas be defined by altitude and latitude as is easily discovered that spring comes to life later at altitude and the further north you are.
- (d) **Derogations:** Yes In cases where weather conditions don't allow for safe or adequate burning during the open period
- (e) **Minister extending burning period:** As the environment changes so should we and more importantly the legislation adapt to reflect any change

Thanks for your attention