

**Ref: 2015S40/150**

**Sent:** 09 January 2015 21:50

**To:** Nature Conservation

**Subject:** Annual incineration of our upland and mismanagement of hedgerows

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to state my opposition to the annual burning of vegetation on Irish mountain-tops and the over-cutting of hedgerows in rural Ireland. Burning is bad for biodiversity, does not allow for regeneration and is a source of pollution. Hedgerows, in the absence of Irish forests which were cut down hundreds of years ago, are the major source of biodiversity in the Irish landscape. They provide homes and food for many insects, animals and birds and must not be cut back excessively during the year. They are also good for tourism. Hedgerows need to be managed properly.

Thanks & regards,