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**Sent:** 03 March 2015 13:45

**To:** Alan Kelly Office; Nature Conservation (Heritage); Customer Service

**Subject:** Fwd: extension to the hedge cutting season proposed-Tues Feb17-letter to the editor  
Minister heather Humpreheys and Alan Kelly

Dear Ministers agus a Chairde - the letter below was printed in the Letters section of the Roscommon Herald 24th Feb.

However - i wish to request that the proposed motion (-extension of hedgecutting season to 18th March) should not be implemented.As a farmer myself i know that if you give an inch they want a mile.In other words this will in effect prolong the extension into April because as you are well aware they continue fecklessly to cut for another period of one to two weks after the deadline.The extension of the hedgecutting season to 18th March (note the day) is ridiculous -this is a national holiday St Patricks day so legally it is impossible to implement or enforce. I appeal to you the Minsters responsible to reject the proposal .

sincerely

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Date: Wed, Feb 18, 2015 at 2:33 PM

Subject: extension to the hedge cutting season proposed-Tues Feb17-letter to the editor

To: [letters@roscommonherald.com](mailto:letters@roscommonherald.com)

Dear Editor, the above motion called by Councillor John Naughten is erroneous with increased consequences for the falling farm-bird populations and spiralling biodiversity crisis.Hedgerows act as essential corridors for Wildlife as well as curtailing disease vectors in the agri-environment system. The county councillors,county councils with the IFA and with the Dept of Agriculture needs to recognise that nature conservation is part of their remit too. An Taisce recently commented on the reallocation by the Dept of Agriculture of the 400m Euro originally earmarked for spending on Ireland's most important and most threatened Wildlife areas - *Natura 2000 Sites* which is adversely affecting farmers and wildlife. This motion will also be seen as another hijack of

the legislation in place as defined in Section 46 of the Wildlife (Amendment) Act and Section 40 and a further assault on the stepping- stones zones of nature conservation.

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