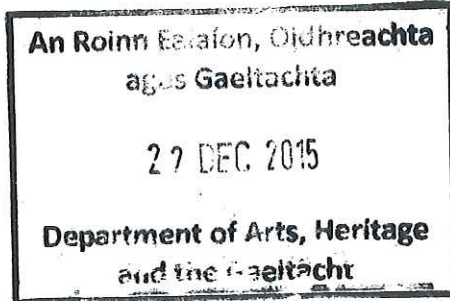




Kerry Blackface Sheep Breeders Association



Coolmagort.
Beaufort.
Killarney.
Co Kerry.

19/12/14

Review of Section 40
Department of Art Heritage and the Gaeltacht
7 Ely place
Dublin 2

To whom it Concerns.

The Kerry Blackface Sheep Breeders was founded in 1953.
The Association was founded on the Advice of the Department of Agriculture.
And the County committee of Agriculture (Teagasc)
who provided financial assistance at the time.
The mission statement at the time was to improve the breeding and the quality of the sheep
grazing the mountains of Kerry and west Cork.
Today the association is still Active with Fifty Plus members.
The vast majority are farming mountain areas.
Since the year 2000 when the closed period was changed from the 15th of April back to the
last day p of February our members are finding it more difficult to maintain these areas in a
good agricultural and envoirmental state.

The present position as the law stands are not suitable to burn before the first of March and
If someone do burn after the 1st of March they are deemed a criminal.
If this situation continues it is leading to a disastorous situation and serious damage will
result from wild fires destroying wild life habitate and forestry.
In response to your advertisment in the Farmers Journal dated sixth of December Two
Thousand and Fourteen. Seeking the views of the public on changes that might be deemed
necessary to Section 40 of the wild life act.

Hedgecutting.

Our members are satisfied that the present dates are workable.



Kerry Blackface Sheep Breeders Association



Burning of Vegetation

- A. As burning is a traditional and essential tool to good farm management the date in mountain areas should be extended to the 15th of April before that date getting optimum conditions can vary from year to year.
- B. The dates for hedgecutting and burning should be different as they are two completely different exercises.
- C. The same rules should apply to enclosed and unenclosed ground as there can be more variation within areas rather than between areas see (A above).
- D. If the rules governing the controlled burning in mountain and upland areas (up to the 15th of April) are sensible and practical we see no need for derogation options.
- E. Provided the rules governing burning of mountain and upland areas are practical and workable and the closed period do not commence until the 16th of April we would agree to have this rule written into a legislative act.

Signed Michael Dennehy
Secretary Michael Dennehy

Signed Dan McCarthy
Chairman Dan McCarthy

Signed Martin Ashe
Treasurer Martin Ashe