



What people
told us

June 2023

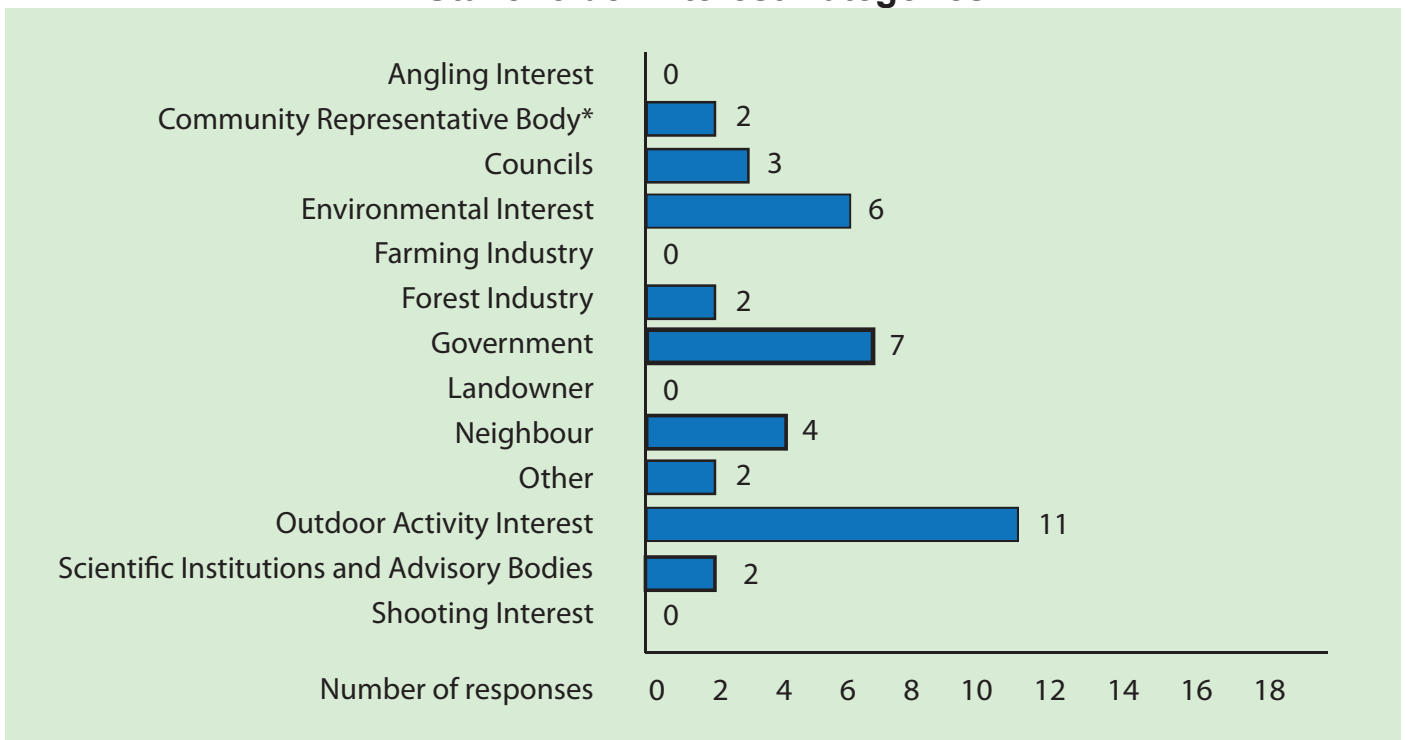
Scoping a new forestry plan for forests and woodland in
East Fermanagh and East Tyrone

Summary of responses to the East Fermanagh/East Tyrone Forestry Planning Area scoping consultation

Forest Service, an Executive Agency of the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA), conducted a scoping consultation for the East Fermanagh / East Tyrone Forestry Planning Area. The consultation started on 27 June 2019 and ended on 27 September 2019. The reason for the consultation was to ask people and organisations to help with the development of a new forestry plan for the East Fermanagh / East Tyrone Forestry Planning Area. The consultation was designed to reflect the wide-ranging social, environmental, and economic aspects of forestry in a way that would be both of interest to stakeholders and relevant to forestry planning. The consultation is part of a review of the eight Forestry Planning Areas that cover all of Northern Ireland. The East Fermanagh / East Tyrone scoping consultation document and other forestry planning documents can be viewed via <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/forest-planning>

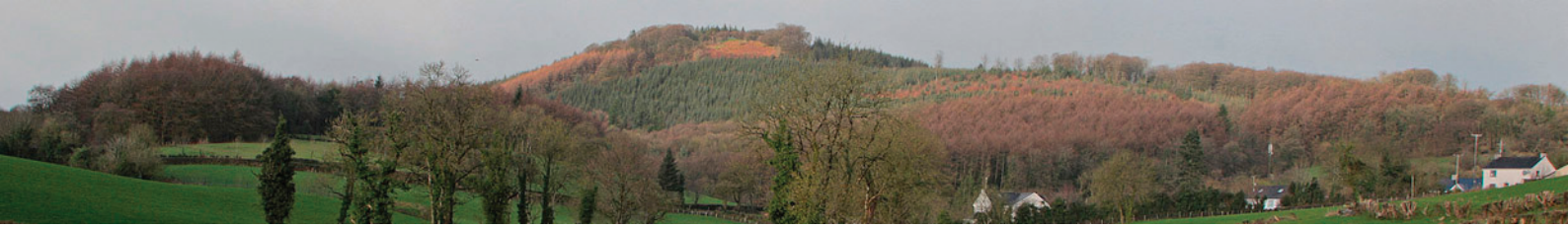
This summary report provides feedback on the results of the consultation to those who contributed, and others who may be interested in participating in future consultations. In total, 39 responses were received from representatives of organisations, groups, and private individuals, as shown in the chart below. Organisations and groups who responded are listed in Appendix I.

Stakeholder Interest Categories



How Forest Service will make use of Consultation Responses

Stakeholders' responses to the scoping document will help the forestry planning team develop a draft forestry plan for the East Fermanagh / East Tyrone Forestry Planning Area that meets the requirements of the UK Forestry Standard. Feedback from stakeholders is used to identify areas of competing priorities and to indicate where a balance will have to be found to reflect stakeholders' interests.



Summary of Responses by Scoping Topic

Topic 1 - Enhancing Landscapes

The significant impact of forests and woodlands on the landscape of East Fermanagh/East Tyrone was demonstrated by stakeholder responses to the consultation. Stakeholders commented on how forests can enhance the landscape and facilitate recreational opportunities. Comments were received in relation to impacts of clearfelling, stakeholder engagement, sources of information and landscapes of particular interest.

Stakeholders offered suggestions regarding how new and existing forests can further enhance the landscape. Cappagh Village Regeneration Group (CVRG) agreed that visual impacts of forests are important and can be improved by modifying the design of a forest to compliment the local landscape. However, Drenagh Sawmills Ltd., whilst welcoming the improvement of forests on the landscape, cautioned that softening boundaries by removing conifers requires afforestation elsewhere to sustain conifer supply to the sawmill industry.

The ability of forests and woodlands to improve the landscape and increase recreational potential was highlighted by CVRG, who suggested that the tourism potential of Altmore Forest could be increased by a well-designed forest. Similarly, Mid Ulster District Council (MUDC) noted that good forest design compliments outdoor recreation.

The Woodland Trust suggested that the impact of clear felling on the landscape can be mitigated by using continuous cover forestry (which is synonymous with low impact silvicultural systems).

Several stakeholders, including MUDC and NIEA Natural Environment Division, emphasised the importance of meaningful stakeholder engagement when identifying viewpoints and in the revision of forest design plans. CVRG suggested that Forest Service should engage with the local community to identify the most important views.

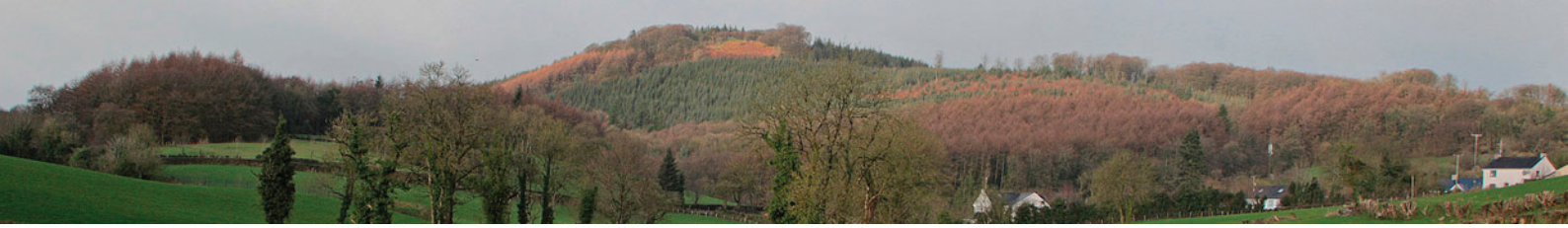
Stakeholders highlighted the importance of using high quality information when revising plans. The Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management and the Woodland Trust agreed about the importance of the Northern Ireland Regional Landscape Character Assessment when developing forest plans.

Several stakeholders highlighted forests and views of particular interest to them such as views within Slieve Beagh, a mountainous area straddling counties Fermanagh, Tyrone and Monaghan. A few stakeholders raised concerns regarding the loss of views. They felt that landscapes dominated by conifers can create a feeling of isolation.

Topic 2 - Protecting Rivers and Lakes

Stakeholder responses to the consultation showed a wide interest in the impact of forests and woodlands on water quality. Responses included comments on riparian woodland, the need to mitigate the effect of forest operations on water quality, flood risk mitigation, stakeholder engagement and sources of information for forestry planning.

Stakeholders welcomed the creation of riparian woodland and gave advice regarding how and where this should be done. The Woodland Trust called for a strategic catchment wide approach to the planning of riparian woodland. NIEA Water Management Unit (NIEA WMU) said that



riparian woodland should be planted considering altitude, species provenance, shading and local fish stocks. However, while welcoming increased riparian woodland, Mid Ulster District Council (MUDC) cautioned that too much shading from trees can be a problem for some aquatic species and said that naturally regenerating conifers within water buffers should be monitored and controlled if necessary.

Several stakeholders referred to the importance of water bodies and riparian woodland for recreation. MUDC said that the availability of quality rivers and lakes forms an essential element of the outdoor recreation offering and that the development of water-based activities are a key aspect of MUDC's Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan.

Some stakeholders highlighted the potential negative impact of existing forests and woodland on water quality. Both the Woodland Trust and the Northern Ireland Environment Link (NIEL) commented that forestry practices in the 1960s and 1970s may not have met modern sustainable forestry practices, leaving a legacy to be addressed. They went on to comment that good forest design includes riparian woodland and buffer areas that help to protect and enhance water quality.

The Woodland Trust and NIEA WMU advised that the careful management of clear felled sites is required to reduce the potential for water quality declines from any released sediment and nutrients. NIEA WMU said that it is important that buffer areas are of a sufficient size to ensure that forestry activities do not impact on waterways. NIEA WMU highlighted that where water bodies are failing under the Water Framework Directive extra precautions may be necessary.

The Woodland Trust noted how sustainable forest management has multiple benefits for water quality, and specifically in mitigating flood risk. However, the Department for Infrastructure cautioned that new woodlands on flood plain areas will increase flood levels locally. The Department referred to guidelines produced by its Rivers Environmental Team on planting trees in buffer strips adjacent to designated watercourses.

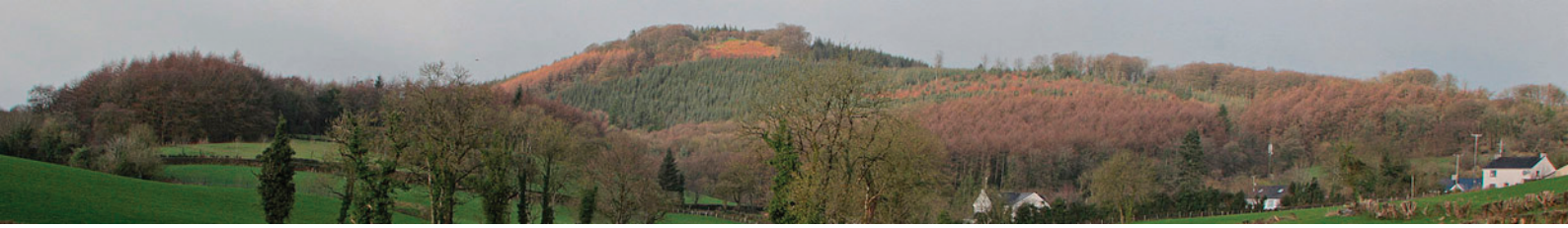
Stakeholders, including the Woodland Trust, highlighted the importance of stakeholder engagement. The Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) said that Forest Service should liaise with relevant bodies to review innovative mechanisms and forest design to reduce sediment entering watercourses. NIEA Natural Environment Division said that they wish to engage with Forest Service to ensure that rivers and lakes are not impacted by forestry operations.

Discussing the importance of good data to inform forestry planning, NIEA Natural Environment Division said that they hold biological survey data for rivers and lakes. Similarly, NIEA WMU said they hold hydrological connectivity mapping data which could help target specific areas for water and nutrient interception. The Woodland Trust agreed about the importance of good data and the sharing of data sets however, they cautioned that on-site assessments are still required.

Topic 3 - Enabling Enjoyment of Forests by Local People and Visitors

The recreational potential of forests within East Fermanagh / East Tyrone was of high interest to stakeholders. Stakeholder comments focused on partnership work to deliver recreation facilities, the benefits of forest-based recreation to people's health, forest-based recreation as an economic driver, and potential conflicting demands from stakeholders.

A range of stakeholders, including the Woodland Trust, welcomed Forest Service's commitment to improving recreational access to the public estate. Mid Ulster District Council (MUDC) noted that the Council has a key role in working with Forest Service to develop forest-based recreation. The



Council said that they have prioritised development of forests including Knockmany and Brantry. The Council also noted plans to develop other forests including Pomeroy, Iniscarn, Altmore and Moydamlaght. However, MUDC raised concerns regarding annual charges from Forest Service and cautioned that this may act as a barrier to future projects.

Cappagh Village Regeneration Group (CVRG) agreed that Forest Service needs to work with all relevant partners to ensure people are encouraged to make more use of the forests. CVRG commented that forest-based recreation can act as a catalyst for economic growth by attracting inward investment and generating employment.

A wide range of stakeholders noted the benefit of forests for peoples' physical and mental wellbeing. CVRG noted that there is increasing research evidence that green spaces and the natural environment can have a positive impact on physical and mental health, which in turn can contribute to a reduction on the demand for healthcare services.

Stakeholders' responses highlighted the different and sometimes competing demands made of forests. MUDC, while welcoming increased recreational use of forests, cautioned that some users' expectations are not always compatible with forest management or biodiversity.

Similarly, the Woodland Trust said that it is vital that the correct balance is struck between ensuring people and visitors can enjoy accessing woodlands and protecting those areas of woodland that have historical, biodiversity or habitat importance. Ancient and long-established woodland areas should be prioritised for low-impact activities, for example walking but not mountain-biking.

Drenagh Sawmills Ltd welcomed the benefits of encouraging access to forests and said that well planned forests can be a space for people to enjoy without having a detrimental impact on the forestry and wood processing industries. However, they cautioned that increased public access may require increased health and safety measures that may lead to a curtailing of forestry operations if inappropriate access is granted.

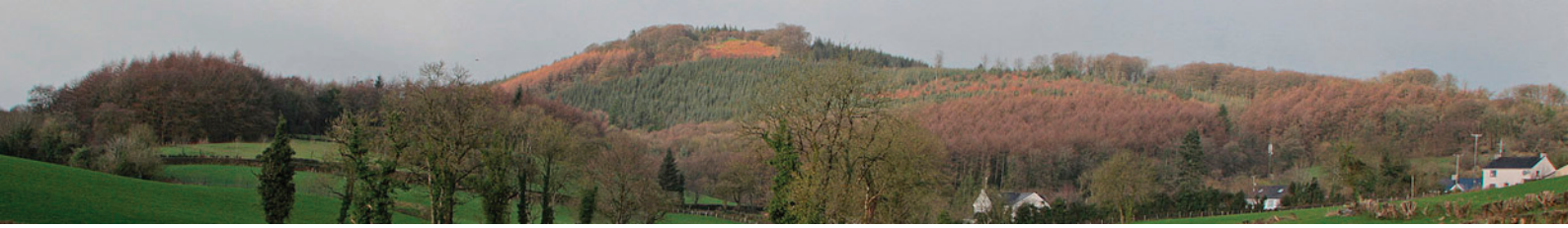
A few responses raised stakeholder engagement issues. NIEA Natural Environment Division (NED), noting that they have statutory responsibilities in relation to countryside access and enjoyment, said that they wish to engage with Forest Service in relation to increasing access to the countryside. The Department for Communities, Historic Environment Division (HED) requested that if any works are due to take place in the vicinity of monuments that Forest Service continues to consult with HED in advance. Similarly, the Department for Infrastructure, Roads, said that they would welcome the opportunity to share views and information. This includes giving advice regarding access, maintenance, and repair.

NI Environment Link (NIEL) said that consideration should be given to the establishment of a steering group to engage stakeholders, including statutory and non-statutory landowners, in the development and implementation of a robust forest plan.

A number of stakeholders raised issues in relation to specific forests in the East Fermanagh / East Tyrone Forestry Planning Area, and suggested recreational improvements. Suggestions included improved loop paths, cycle tracks, improved car parking and woodland adventure such as rope courses.

The Department for Communities HED said that they would welcome the incorporation of the historic environment into future forest plans. HED suggested that monuments should be incorporated into trails in a number of locations such as in Dunmoyle Forest, where the Dunmoyle Enclosure and Tower, stands amongst a section of mixed woodland.

Several stakeholders, including Stewartstown Community Group (SCG), voiced concern regarding



recreation facilities in Drumcairne Forest. Stakeholders requested new or refurbished facilities including an enclosed children's playpark, improved path surfaces, car parking and infrastructure such as benches.

CVRG highlighted the potential for developing recreational facilities, in conjunction with Northern Ireland Water, in Altmore Forest and the surrounding area. They suggested this offers the opportunity to incorporate both blue and green infrastructure, creating opportunities for recreation, creative industries, and forest schools.

Clogher Valley Walking Club said that they would like Lumfords Glen and its waterfall, which is part of Knockmany Forest, to be accessible again for walking trails.

The 10th Tyrone Killeeshil Scouts appreciated their use of Parkanaur Forest and said that they would like better camping facilities for scouts, such as a composting toilet facility.

Pomeroy Forest attracted significant stakeholder comments. The increased use of the forest was welcomed, and stakeholders asked for improved facilities, including paths more suitable for pushchairs and childrens cycling. The importance of local history was noted, as was the desire to maintain old names for the trails. Concerns were raised regarding dog control, dog waste and inappropriate parking.

Fardross Forest was highlighted as somewhere that would benefit from recreational improvements, including the repair a foot bridge. Similarly, Favour Royal Forest was highlighted as having a lot of potential for tourism, and it was suggested that the recreational offering would be improved with a mountain bike trail.

A frequent visitor to Drum Manor Forest, said that the recreational opportunities could be increased by upgrading path surfaces, and by replacing the labels for 'the plots', which is an area with a unique range of tree species.

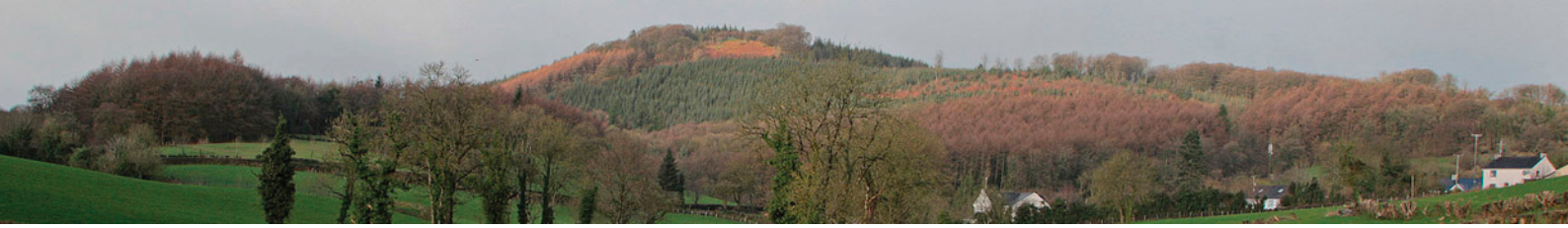
A stakeholder expressed their disappointment that Touring In The Trees sites were no longer available in Ballyboley and Gosford forests and hoped that this would not happen with the facilities in Parkanaur Forest.

Topic 4 - Promoting Afforestation and Sustainable Forestry

There was widespread support for increased afforestation. Stakeholders pointed to multiple benefits of afforestation including increased biodiversity, recreational opportunities, flood risk mitigation and carbon sequestration. Comments were given in relation to sustainable forest management and sources of information for forestry planning.

A range of stakeholders including Mid Ulster District Council (MUDC), Northern Ireland Environment Link, the Woodland Trust and the RSPB agreed with the need to expand woodland cover. They said that native woodland should be prioritised, and that afforestation should connect existing native woodlands. However, the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management noted that increasing connectivity should be assessed both in terms of the potential benefits to ecological features and in respect of potential risks such as facilitating the spread of invasive species.

Stakeholders cautioned that the location of new woodlands needs to be carefully considered. The RSPB noted that changes to land use will have implications for other land uses and that new woodland development needs to recognise the sensitivities of landscape change and the cultural associations that landscape evokes.



Noting the evidenced public support for Government to financially incentivise afforestation, the Woodland Trust said that to achieve increased afforestation forest and agriculture policy must be more closely aligned. They also noted that it must be appropriately resourced, both financially and with the necessary personnel resource.

Both Balcas Timber Ltd and Drenagh Sawmills Ltd highlighted that Northern Ireland has the lowest forest cover of any region in the UK or Ireland, yet growing conditions in Northern Ireland are highly suitable for conifers. The wood processors both pointed out that a supply of sustainably managed timber is vital to support the industry and to maintain rural employment.

Several stakeholders, including MUDC and Cappagh Village Regeneration Group, agreed that sustainably managed forests make a valuable contribution to biodiversity, water quality, landscapes, economic development, and sustainable rural communities.

DAERA, NIEA, Natural Environment Division stated that they have statutory responsibilities regarding biodiversity and landscape, and that they hold data of relevance to sustainable forestry.

Topic 5 - Supplying Sustainable Wood Products

There were a variety of stakeholder responses received in relation to supplying sustainable wood products. Responses were in relation to the wood processing industry, landscapes, the environment, sources of information for forestry planning and engaging with stakeholders.

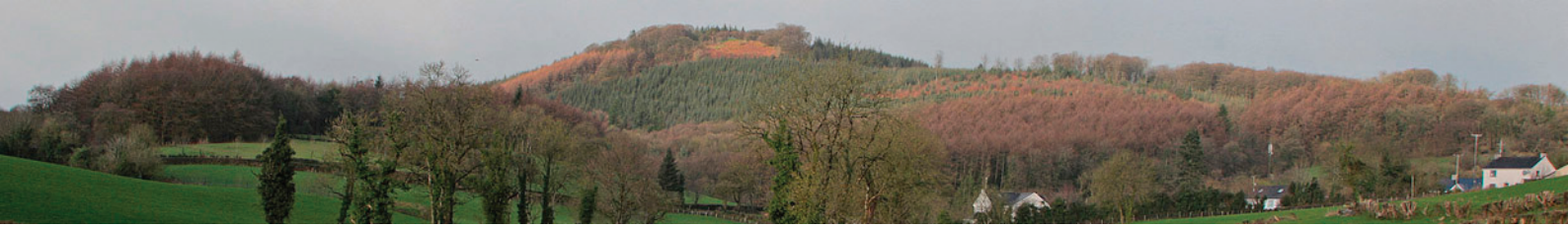
Drenagh Sawmills Ltd and Balcas Timber Ltd both pointed to the importance of wood processing to the Northern Ireland economy and their roles as significant stakeholders in relation to forest plans. Balcas Timber Ltd emphasised the investments made in the wood processing sector and resulting jobs, which require a supply of sustainably managed timber.

Drenagh Sawmills Ltd commented that continuous cover forestry, achieved through low impact silvicultural systems, may result in the average size of trees harvested increasing significantly. They stated that the sawmilling sector does not have the infrastructure to process significant amounts of large diameter trees and that further discussion was required.

Mid Ulster District Council (MUDC) said that tree harvesting should continue to be managed to avoid adverse environmental impacts and that timber production from thinning should be maximised to reduce risk to the environment caused by clearfelling. Similarly, Cappagh Village Regeneration Group recognised the importance of sustainable wood production to supply the wood processing industry but cautioned that when clearfelling is being planned consideration should be given to all social, physical, economic, and environmental aspects. The Woodland Trust urged a review of clearfell in some circumstances.

A few stakeholders responded regarding data that may help when revising forest plans. The Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management welcomed the proposed use of GIS for harvesting plans and suggested that this should also be used to analyse the potential wider landscape or catchment scale implications for biodiversity. Similarly, MUDC supports using GIS tools and datasets to improve the design of felling coupes. NIEA Natural Environment Division (NED) noted that they hold data in relation to the safeguarding of designated nature conservation sites, protected species and landscapes.

NED said that they wish to engage with Forest Service further to ensure the safeguarding of designated nature conservation sites, protected species and landscapes. The Department



for Infrastructure (DfI) noted that consultation with DfI will be required to consider the potential impacts of timber haulage on roads and roadside drains, including preferred haulage routes and consideration of passing areas.

Topic 6 - Regenerating Forest Land

Stakeholder comments in relation to regenerating forest land included the impact upon the environment, future timber supply to the wood processing industry, and sources of data for forestry planning.

Both Mid Ulster District Council (MUDC) and Cappagh Village Regeneration Group noted that regeneration of forest land after felling gives an opportunity to improve the design of the forest to meet longer term objectives.

MUDC agreed with the opportunities presented in the consultation document to review and revise forest design to include more native broadleaved species and open ground. The Council went on to say that the forest design should allow for linkages between areas of native woodland to enable movement of species across the landscape. The Council supported assessing the suitability of current planned water buffer areas for the establishment of new native woodland and encouraged this approach throughout forests. The Council supported the use of natural regeneration and, where necessary, supplementing it by planting.

Balcas Timber Ltd and Drenagh Sawmills Ltd expressed support for sustainably regenerating forests and highlighted the importance of future timber supply. Drenagh Sawmills Ltd noted that Sitka spruce is an important species as it is relatively fast growing and suitable to the soil conditions in Northern Ireland. Drenagh Sawmills Ltd observed that if forests are not replanted with fast growing conifers more timber will have to be imported.

DAERA, NIEA, Natural Environment Division (NED) noted that they have statutory responsibilities in relation to the safeguarding of designated nature conservation sites, protected species and landscapes, and that they hold data in relation to these. NED went on to say that they wish to engage with Forest Service in relation to the appropriate regeneration of forest land.

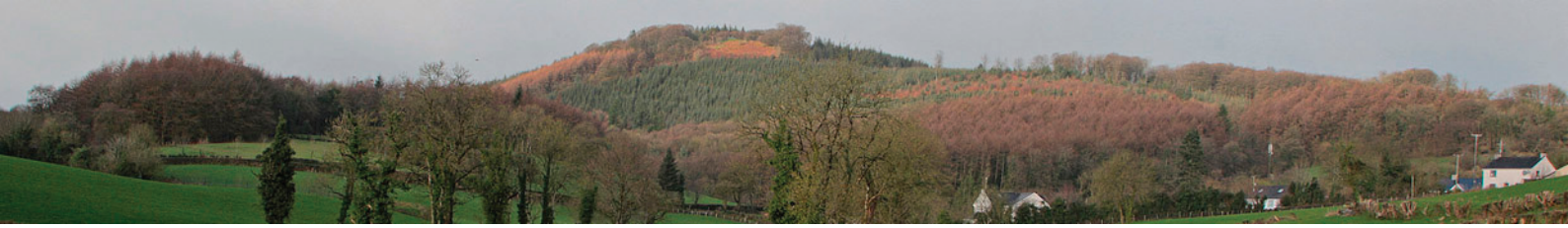
Stakeholders commented about forests of particular interest, for example a stakeholder commented that the regeneration of Drumcairne Forest gives an opportunity to enhance the forest.

Topic 7 - Growing Trees Sustainably

Stakeholders' comments in relation to growing trees sustainably included monitoring forests, the use of fertilisers, tree diseases, deer management, and sources of information for forest plans.

Mid Ulster District Council said that it is essential that trees are grown sustainably, and the health and vitality of forests are monitored. This will allow effective responses to be made to threats from anti-social behaviour, the effects of fire, pests, storm damage and reduction of soil fertility. However, the Council expressed concern about the possible use of fertilisers and said that natural regeneration and planting of tree species best suited to the site should be considered.

The Woodland Trust said that tree disease and pests are amongst the biggest threats facing our forests and woodlands. The Woodland Trust called for a 'fortress Ireland' approach to biosecurity, and urged government support for the development of native tree nurseries in Northern Ireland.



Drenagh Sawmills Ltd noted that the tree disease *Phytophthora ramorum* had killed most larch trees in Northern Ireland and cautioned that if it had affected spruce species the impact upon the wood processing industry would have been disastrous.

The Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management observed that protecting soils and soil biodiversity is essential for the sustainable growth of trees and to reduce the use of chemical fertiliser. While the Northern Ireland Environment Link (NIEL) said that small, fragmented areas of native woodland may be at an increased risk from tree diseases and climate change. NIEL called for these areas to be protected through woodland expansion and restoration. NIEL also highlighted the increasing numbers of deer and said that greater action to manage deer populations was required.

DAERA, NIEA, Natural Environment Division (NED) noted that they have statutory responsibilities in relation to the safeguarding of designated nature conservation sites, protected species and landscapes. NED said that they hold relevant data and wish to engage with Forest Service.

Topic 8 - Minimising the use of Pesticides and Fertilisers

Stakeholders welcomed the reduction in pesticide and fertiliser use however, stakeholders were concerned about the potential negative impacts of pesticides and fertilisers.

DAERA NIEA Water Management Unit said that careful management is required when applying pesticides and fertilisers to prevent damage to the aquatic environment. They stated that even trace amounts of pesticides entering a river can have a devastating impact on aquatic insects, potentially leading to Water Framework Directive failures.

Mid Ulster District Council supported the opportunity to contribute to the minimisation of pesticide use by planning the sequencing of felling years and increasing the area of forest managed under low impact silvicultural systems. The Council said that, where fertilisers must be used, sufficient buffer zones to adjacent habitats and water bodies should be in place. They also recommended not replanting areas of low fertility which would otherwise require significant use of fertilisers.

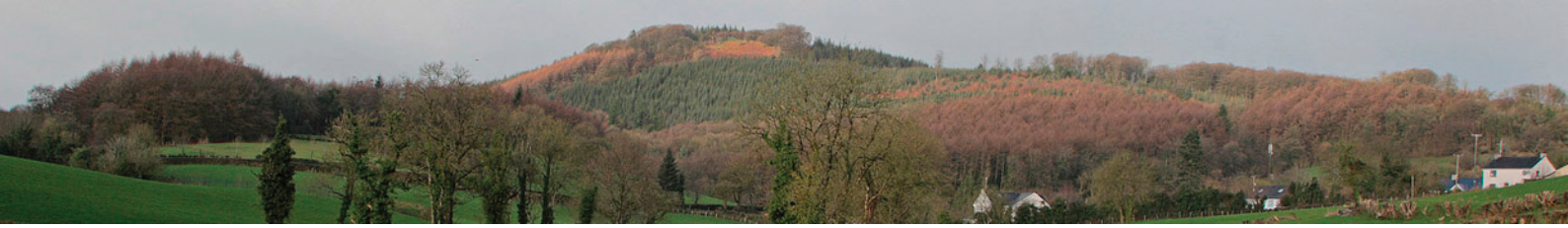
The Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) welcomed the commitment to minimising the use of pesticides and fertilisers and said that they would like to see a commitment to assessing current and future impacts of both pesticides and fertilisers on catchments.

CIEEM noted that fertiliser applied as an aerial spray can often drift outside the boundaries of the forest onto non-target vegetation which can have a detrimental impact on habitats that are naturally low in nutrients (notably peatlands and heathlands). CIEEM recommended that measures should be taken to reduce the effects of fertiliser drift on adjacent non-forested habitats.

DAERA, NIEA Natural Environment Division (NED) has statutory responsibilities in relation to the safeguarding of designated nature conservation sites and protected species. NED holds relevant survey data and wishes to engage with Forest Service in relation to the impact of pesticides and fertilisers.

Topic 9 - Targeting Invasive Species

Stakeholders, including Cappagh Village Regeneration Group, recognised the need to control invasive species that are a threat to healthy forests and woodland and the wider environment.



Stakeholder comments were in relation to monitoring, targeted control and invasive species of concern.

DAERA NIEA Water Management Unit welcomed the removal of any alien invasive plants and advised that focusing on upper catchments would provide the greatest benefit by preventing downstream spread.

Mid Ulster District Council agreed with controlling non-native invasive species and said that it is important that Forest Service use data to monitor the occurrence of invasive plant species in forests and prioritise the areas where control is required.

The Woodland Trust called for a landscape scale strategy to eradicate alien invasive species and supported proactive management of invasives by Forest Service, particularly on clearfelled sites where colonisation by invasive species is more likely. The Woodland Trust called for government assistance for the removal of invasive species on private land.

The RSPB highlighted that non-native trees should be removed from plantations on ancient woodland and from priority open ground habitats.

The Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management advised that action should not be restricted to the referenced key species for control but should also include other widely occurring species such as Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam.

DAERA, NIEA, Natural Environment Division (NED) noted that they have a statutory responsibility in relation to the eradication and management of invasive species. NED holds relevant data and wishes to engage with Forest Service in relation to the eradication and management of invasive species.

Topic 10 - Protecting Habitats and Species

Stakeholders noted how forests can directly and indirectly affect habitats and species. Comments were received in relation to forest practices, priority habitats and data sources.

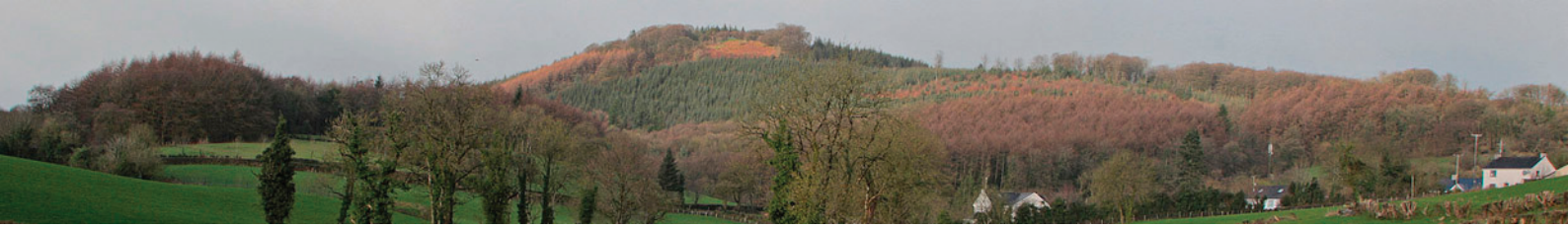
The Woodland Trust, NI Environment Link and the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, welcomed the recognition of the role forests and woodlands play in biodiversity. They emphasised that forest plans should consider all habitats and species, NI priority habitats and European habitats.

The RSPB noted that breeding wader populations have been in decline throughout Europe since at least the 1970s. In Northern Ireland, declines in formerly widespread species including lapwing, curlew and snipe have been notable in the post-war period. The ranges of these formerly widespread species have declined due to lost or reduced suitable wetland habitat. The RSPB called on Forest Service to manage and restore sites in a sustainable and appropriate manner.

The Institute of Northern Ireland Beekeepers advised that when forest plans are being reviewed it should be done with due regard to the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.

Drenagh Sawmills Ltd supported the protection of species and habitats and said that where increasing open habitat resulted in the removal of forest there should be afforestation in suitable locations.

DAERA, NIEA, Natural Environment Division (NED) has statutory responsibilities in relation



to protecting habitats and species. NED holds survey data and wishes to engage with Forest Service.

A range of stakeholders, many who live close to forests, highlighted species that were once found in their local area but no longer are such as red grouse, curlew, and corncrake. Other stakeholders reported 'new' species in local areas such as jays, raptors, ravens, red squirrels, and hen harriers.

Topic 11 - Restoring Peatland Habitats

Stakeholders recognised the importance of restoring peatland habitats. Comments were in relation to the benefits of peatlands and sources of information for forestry planning.

A range of stakeholders, including NI Environment Link, the Woodland Trust, Cappagh Village Regeneration Group and the RSPB, noted that peatlands are highly valuable habitats. They can support a specialised range of plants and animals, act as major stores of soil carbon, and provide several important ecosystem services, including carbon storage and sequestration, water regulation and flood risk mitigation.

DAERA, NIEA, Water Management Unit noted that peatland restoration has the potential to reduce the amount of nutrients and metals leaching into nearby waterways. This could lead to improvements in water quality under the Water Framework Directive.

Mid Ulster District Council supported the Forest Service approach in identifying and prioritising areas of afforested peat for restoration to open habitat and said that consideration should be given to sites which would create linkages between isolated peatland sites. The Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management recommended that identification of candidate areas for restoration should be carried out in consultation with NIEA and relevant stakeholders.

The RSPB welcomed the inclusion of restoring peatland habitats within the scoping consultation and said that there is evidence that peatlands are amenable to restoration and that it is generally possible to create conditions for growth and recovery of bog species. The RSPB said that it is important that the scale of peatland restoration in Northern Ireland is increased so that the benefits and services provided by functioning peatlands are realised on a landscape scale.

Drenagh Sawmills Ltd and Balcas Timber Ltd agreed with the importance of peatland habitat restoration and noted that the timber industry has experience that can assist in peatland restoration. Drenagh Sawmills Ltd noted that afforestation on peatland sites has ceased and that Forest Service protects important peatland sites which are located within its forests.

Stakeholders who live close to forests also noted the potential for peatland restoration, for example on foothills of the Sliabh Beagh mountain.

DAERA, NIEA, Natural Environment Division (NED) said that they have statutory responsibilities in relation to protecting peatland habitats and their associated species. NED noted that they hold data in relation to peatland habitats and wish to engage with Forest Service.

Appendix

List of organisations who responded to the East Fermanagh / East Tyrone Forestry Planning Area Scoping Consultation

10th Tyrone Killeeshil Scouts

Balcas Timber Ltd

Cappagh Village Regeneration Group

Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM)

Clogher Valley Walking Club

DAERA, NIEA, Water Management Unit

DAERA, NIEA, Natural Environment Division

DAERA, Rural Affairs Division (West)

Department for Communities, Historic Environment Division

Department for Infrastructure, Departmental Coordination Unit (Rivers and Roads)

Drenagh Sawmills Ltd

Institute of Northern Ireland Beekeepers

Mid Ulster District Council

Northern Ireland Environment Link (NIEL)

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) Northern Ireland

Stewartstown Community Group

The Woodland Trust Northern Ireland

