

Appendix 1 Contacts Sheet

Landowners should complete this contacts sheet using local information.

FIRE STATION

GARDA STATION

NPWS RANGER

**DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE**

CO. COUNCIL

COILLTE FORESTER

OTHERS

Appendix 3 Burning Plan Blank Template

PRESCRIBED BURNING PLAN

This plan must be completed in advance of the intended burning period, and a copy forwarded to your local Fire and Rescue Service. It is always advisable to discuss your burning requirements in advance with Fire and Rescue Service when planning operations. A copy of the plan must be kept to hand at all times by the burning supervisor during prescribed burning operations.

AN GARDA SIOCHANA MUST BE NOTIFIED IN WRITING 7-35 DAYS IN ADVANCE OF PRESCRIBED BURNING OPERATIONS.

1. LOCATION DETAILS

LANDOWNER NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

MOBILE NUMBER _____

LOCATION OF PLANNED BURN _____

(MARKED IN RED CIRCLE ON MAP) _____

PURPOSE OF PRESCRIBED BURN

Tick as appropriate

<input type="checkbox"/>	Grazing/Forage Improvement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fuel Load Reduction
<input type="checkbox"/>	Habitat Management
<input type="checkbox"/>	Protective Burning
<input type="checkbox"/>	Permitted Wastes Disposal

TOTAL AREA INTENDED TO BURN _____ HA or _____ ACRES

PLANNED BURNING DATES _____ TO _____

REQUIRED WEATHER CONDITIONS

REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE
(Fire Control Centre) TELEPHONE NUMBER

NEAREST GARDA STATION AND
TELEPHONE NUMBER

**ONLY BURN WHEN PREPARATIONS ARE COMPLETE AND CONDITIONS ARE SAFE TO BURN
IF IN DOUBT, DO NOT BURN**

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2. PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS

BURN SUPERVISOR NAME _____

CONTACT DETAILS

FIRST AIDER NAME _____

NUMBER OF OTHER PERSONNEL _____

NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

3. EQUIPMENT

LIST REQUIRED EQUIPMENT REQUIRED –
WATER TANKERS, ATV'S, PUMPS, ETC.

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4. NEIGHBOURING LANDOWNER DETAILS

Details of Neighbours who may be affected by prescribed burning operations and smoke emissions. Ensure all neighbours are fully notified in advance of prescribed burning operations. FOREST/WOODLAND OWNERS MUST BE NOTIFIED IN WRITING 7-35 DAYS IN ADVANCE OF PRESCRIBED BURNING OPERATIONS – IT IS THE LAW.

NEIGHBOURING LANDOWNER 1

CONTACT DETAILS

NEIGHBOURING LANDOWNER 2

CONTACT DETAILS

NEIGHBOURING LANDOWNER 3

CONTACT DETAILS

WHERE ADDITIONAL NEIGHBOURING LANDOWNERS ARE INVOLVED ATTACH DETAILS ON SEPARATE PAGE

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SMOKE MANAGEMENT

Describe how smoke emissions will be managed to avoid potential dangers to the public e.g. road users, airports etc.; and how smoke nuisance can best be minimised e.g. suitable wind direction, vegetation conditions etc.

CONTINGENCY PLANNING

In the event of a loss of control of prescribed burns or other accident, the emergency services and relevant land management authorities must be notified immediately. The task of Fire and Rescue Services will be made much easier where they have advance knowledge of the terrain and access features of the area in question, hence the need to ensure that your local Fire and Rescue Service receive a copy of your plan in advance.

Where control of a prescribed fire is lost, fire service mobilisation should be requested using the normal 999/112 Emergency Service system, and not via the Regional Communications Centre.

Other Useful Contact Details:

National Parks And Wildlife
Service Conservation Ranger

Department of Agriculture/
Forest Service Inspector

Coillte Forest Manager

Private Forestry Managers

Health and Safety Authority

Mountain Rescue

MAPPING

Prescribed Burning plan must be accompanied by 1:10560 OS Maps or DAFF Orthophoto showing the planned location of the fire, the location of prescribed burning blocks and showing the order in which these blocks will be treated. Critical areas such as safety hazards and fire free areas must be clearly marked on the map. Highlight any areas that may pose a risk to fire control such as steep slopes, highly flammable vegetation such as bracken or gorse, or areas particularly exposed to wind.

Indicate location of dwellings, ownership boundaries, suitable assembly points and where available, suitable water reservoirs for fire-fighting vehicles. Show clearly all roads and access tracks and mark whether they are suitable to be traversed by Fire tenders or smaller vehicles, 4x4 or ATV's.

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APPENDIX 4 Frequently Asked Questions

Q: *When can I burn growing vegetation?*

A: Under **Section 40 of the Wildlife Act 1976**, as amended by the **Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000**, landowners are **prohibited** from burning growing vegetation on land not yet cultivated, between **1st March and 31st August** of any given year.

Q: *What is the safe distance to burn near woodland?*

A: Safe distance is dependent on the level of fire protection in place such as firebreaks and the burning conditions prevailing at the time of burning. Under **Section 39 of the Wildlife Act 1976 (as amended)**, it is prohibited to burn vegetation growing within **one mile** of a wood which you do not own, without giving written notice at least 7 days in advance to your local Garda Station, and the forest owner, who has the right to object by counter-notice.

Q: *What are the penalties for illegal burning?*

A: Under **Section 74 of the Wildlife Act 1976** as amended by the **Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000** fines for breaches of the Act range from **£500 (€635) to £50,000 (€63,490)** and prison terms from **3 months to 2 years** or both a fine and a prison term.

Any person engaged in illegal burning may also be held responsible for any injury or damage caused by the fire, and the local Fire and Rescue Service may issue a call out charge for costs associated with illegal fires.

Q: *Are there implications for burning agricultural land in regard to the Department's Support Payments for Farmers and cross-compliance?*

A: Under the **Good Agricultural and Environmental Conditions (GAEC)** associated with cross-compliance, the burning of growing vegetation on cultivated or non-cultivated land (including permanent pasture), without approval, is prohibited and could lead to penalties under these schemes (e.g. Single Payment, Disadvantaged Areas).

More information on current legislation can be obtained at www.oireachtas.ie

APPENDIX 5 Do's and Dont's

DO:	DO <u>NOT</u> :
OBEY THE LAW	Do not burn growing vegetation on land not yet cultivated between 1 st March and 31 st August in any year.
WATCH THE WEATHER	Do not burn if the weather is unsuitable for controlled burning. Obtain weather forecasts as close to the time of burning as possible.
Avoid backburning, or only use with extreme caution, due to the risk of irreversible damage to the vegetation and underlying peat. Soil and litter layers should be wet to touch before burning.	Do not burn when the moss and plant litter on the ground surface has completely dried out.
Burn in <u>light</u> wind conditions.	Do not burn if the wind is too strong for the fuel types involved.
Keep fires small and controllable.	Do not burn if the flames are likely to be longer than 3 metres, or about 10 feet. Do not allow the width of the burn to exceed 50 metres (about 54 yards).
Make sure that the equipment for extinguishing the fire is on hand before the burning begins.	Do not burn unless you know how and where the fire will be extinguished. Do not burn uphill on steep slopes.
Prior to planning a prescribed burning operation, ensure you have adequate insurance cover.	Do not burn without insurance, you may be liable personally for any losses incurred.
On the day of the burn, inform adjoining landowners, forest owners and the Regional Fire Control Centre of your plans for the day. At the end of the burn, let them know when all fires have been extinguished.	Do not burn within one mile of a forest you do not own, without giving written notice at least 7 days in advance to your local Garda Station and the forest owner, <u>who has the right to object by counter-notice.</u>
Ensure that workers are supervised, understand the burn plan and emergency procedures and have access to clean drinking water so that they do not suffer from heat exhaustion.	Do not leave the site without ensuring that all operatives are accounted for.
Avoid burning sensitive areas or other areas that may lead to loss of control and fire escape.	Do not burn in the following areas: hedgerows, woodland, National Monuments, thin eroding soils, summits and ridges.