

An Roinn Cultúir,  
Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta  
Department of Culture,  
Heritage and the Gaeltacht



Felling Section  
Forest Service  
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine  
Johnstown Castle Estate  
Co. Wexford

**By Registered Post**

2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020

**NPWS Ref: GF00234**

*(Please quote the above reference in all relevant correspondences)*

**RE- Felling of trees within Lower River Shannon SAC (Site Code: 002165) by**

Dear Sirs,


We have received a report of woodland clearance along the Annagh River, part of the Lower River Shannon, Special Area of Conservation (SAC) (Site Code: 002165).

National Parks and Wildlife Services carried out two site visits to investigate this claim on 8<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019. The tree removal took place over a large area, approximately 0.633 Hectares, within a Natura 2000 site. Approximately 98 tree were removed from the SAC and drain clearance may have caused a potential reduction in water quality within the SAC. This work was conducted without the consent of the Minister of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

As the Forestry Service is the national regulatory body for the felling of trees please can you advise if a felling licence was required or granted, if not can you please follow up with this breach under the 2014 Forestry Acts.

If you have any queries, or need further information about this matter, please contact the undersigned on (053) 9117323, or email [Assumpta.Carthy@chg.gov.ie](mailto:Assumpta.Carthy@chg.gov.ie).

Yours sincerely,



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