



Environmental Impact Assessment Section,  
Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine,  
Johnstown Castle Estate,  
Wexford,  
Co. Wexford

**By Registered Post**

15 July 2020

**NPWS Ref: NA0465**

A Chara,

Please find attached, an application received by this Department on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2020 from \_\_\_\_\_ seeking the consent of the Minister for Culture, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht, under Regulation 30 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011-2015, to carry out:

works to remove scrub and bushes in order to allow animals to graze this land. Spot spray weeds within the River Moy Special Area of Conservation (SAC) (SAC-Site Code: 002298). plots on attached map, approx. 2.6 acres of these plots

This Department has reviewed the application and, for the following reasons, is of the opinion that the carrying out of works to remove scrub and bushes in order to allow animals to graze this land. Spot spray weeds within the River Moy Special Area of Conservation (SAC) (SAC-Site Code: 002298). plots on attached map, approx. 2.6 acres of these plots \_\_\_\_\_ is an activity that comes under the European Communities (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Agriculture) Regulations 2011-2013:

1. plots on attached map, approx. 2.6 acres of these plots \_\_\_\_\_ falls within the Regulation 3(1)(b) project category, “commencing to use uncultivated land or semi-natural areas for intensive agriculture”, and



- a. would be occurring within the European site, River Moy Special Area of Conservation (SAC) (SAC-Site Code: 002298) **and** would be occurring within or would impact qualifying interest Annex I habitat and/or the habitat of Annex II species coming with the Habitats Directive , or supporting habitat, within the SAC.
  - b. would involve excavations, clearance, habitat loss or alteration, etc.
  - c. would be likely to have a significant effect on the SAC in view of its conservation objectives individually, or in combination with other plans or projects, including other on-farm activities, or the possibility of such an effect cannot be excluded
  - d. would be likely to have a significant effect on aspects of the environment, including biodiversity, flora, and fauna (including watercourse, lake, surface waters, aquatic habitats/species)
2. result in as described in Regulation 3(1) of the Regulations and the proposed activity would also be likely, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, to have a significant effect on a European Site or on a Natural Heritage Area.

This Department has contacted the applicant in relation to the above, and the applicant has expressed a wish for this Department to refer the application to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. The applicant has been advised that your Department may require further information.

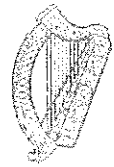
The application is referred for your determination. In the event that your Department reaches a determination that the activity does not fall under your legislation, please advise the undersigned at your earliest convenience.

If you require any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

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Assumpta Carthy  
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Appendix 1: Map of three activities being applied for.

