



Scottish
Forestry
Coilltearachd
na h-Alba

NORTH EAST SCOTLAND AGRICULTURE ADVISORY GROUP

DATE 26th January 2022

Scottish Forestry is the Scottish Government agency responsible for forestry policy, support and regulation

S e Coilltearachd na h-Alba a' bhuidheann-ghnìomha aig Riaghaltas na h-Alba a tha an urra ri poileasaidh, taic agus riaghladh do choilltearachd



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
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Background

- Scottish Forestry is the Scottish Government Agency responsible for Forest Policy, Support (Forestry Grant Scheme) and Regulation (EIA / Felling Permissions) of the forestry sector in Scotland
- Came into being on 1st April 2019
- Used to be Forestry Commission Scotland.
- The Forestry and land Scotland (management) act places a burden upon Scottish Ministers to promote Sustainable Forest Management. Therefore an exemption for allowing the clearance of windblow without a restocking requirement was removed.





Storm Arwen

- First big storm since windblow was included in the need to obtain a felling permission.
- Forestry sector is not a level 1 emergency responder. We are generally not trained to work alongside railways, adjacent to public highways, under live powerlines or in rivers. Local authorities, rail authorities, emergency services and OHPL network operators mount the initial emergency response.





Scottish Forestry Response

- Working with CONFOR and the sector
- Fast tracked felling permission applications
- Bolstered resources in NE and SE Scotland to help with this effort
- Provided further flexibility on larger woodlands with long term forest plans
- Coordinated sector response with CONFOR to facilitate and promote sector discussions for the benefit of:
 - Coordinated timber marketing
 - Liaison around the use of public highways with TTG's
 - Health, safety and well being
 - Provided satellite data on an interactive map





Scottish Forestry Response

To date across Scotland

238 felling permission requests

155 already approved

Area submitted is 3000 hectares = 1000 000 cu.m

Turn around time – 10 days on average

Next Steps.

Working with Confor and the sector to create guidance for farmers and small land owners to help them work through dealing with windblow

Safety first and foremost



