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04 JUN 2009

FORESTRY COMMISSION  
ENGLAND NATIONAL OFFICE

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Your Ref:  
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Dear Dominic Driver,

01/06/2009

**RE: Open Habitats Consultation**

Thank you for your invitation to comment on the open habitat's consultation. We have not been able to obtain a member's response so I am writing this letter as an officer comment:

- Concerned about the cost of maintaining open habitats not being fully costed.
- Concerned that this is a forestry policy and not a land use policy whilst expansion of heathland etc maybe desirable it should not be at the expense of woodland. Norfolk is already in a state of woodland loss; this policy could increase that.
- There is an apparent lack of scientific justification for the proposals throughout the consultation.
- We certainly do agree that there should be a presumption against the removal of ancient semi-natural woodland.
- We are also concerned about the potential loss of saw log supply to local saw mills leading to the potential loss of confidence in this sector.

Thank you once again.

Yours sincerely,

