

How to prepare a Forest Fire Plan

April 2023

Prepare a Fire Plan

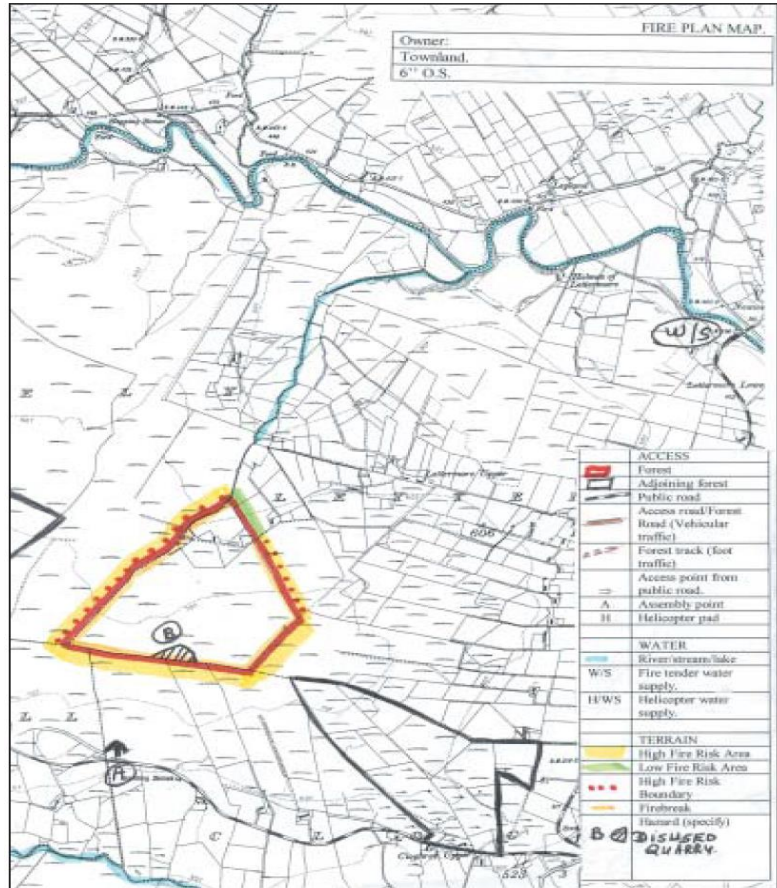
Your fire plan should consist of contact details of people who can be called upon to help if a fire occurs, the location of necessary equipment and any hazards (see table below) and a fire plan map showing access, site features, the nearest water source and any hazards.

OWNER	DESCRIPTION
Name	
Address	
Contract No.	
LOCATION OF FOREST	
Townland	
County	
6" O.S. No.	
CONTACT NUMBERS	
Forest Owners No's.	
Fire Brigade No.	
Foresters contact details	Name: Mobile:
Neighbours contact details:	Name: Mobile:
Other contact details:	Name: Mobile: Name: Mobile:
LOCATION OF FIRE EQUIPMENT	
HAZARDS (specify)	

Fire plan map

Forest access is vital for fire prevention and control, a fire can spread very rapidly during a period of high risk so it is important that people can access your plantation quickly. Your fire plan map should illustrate the following information:

ACCESS
Forest
Adjacent Forests
Public Road
Access road/forest road (vehicular traffic)
Forest track (foot traffic)
Access point from public road
Assembly point
Helicopter pad
WATER
River, streams and lakes
Fire brigade water supply
Helicopter water supply
TERRAIN
Low fire risk area
High fire risk area
Firebreak
Hazard (specify)



Reduce the risk of forest fire

The following actions are recommended to reduce the risk of fire and to protect your investment:

- Firebreaks should be well maintained and checked at least once a year. A firebreak should constitute a fuel free zone of 6 metres in width, which are normally located along the external boundaries of the plantation. The presence of any flammable vegetation, such as purple moor grass, furze or heather, adjacent to the forest is a strong indication of risk and that a firebreak is required.
- Under the Afforestation and Woodland Creation scheme forest owner are obligated to replant where a forest is damaged by a fire. Therefore forest owners should consider the financial consequences and ensure that adequate insurance including reconstitution costs are in place.
- Prepare your fire plan and review it regularly. List key contract numbers and discuss procedures with family members.
- Raise awareness that it is illegal under the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000 to burn vegetation on uncultivated land between 1st March and 31st August.