

FIELD VISIT TO BANC BWLCH TRE BANNAU

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Banc Bwlch Tre Bannau is a small steeply sided hill situated near Porthyrhyd, Llanwrda which was visited by the Sites and Monuments Record staff on 30 July 1987 in response to a proposal to afforest by a Mrs M Dugaid of Bwlch Tre Bannau.

The hill, 20 hectares in area, was extremely rocky and steeply sloping on all sides and at the time of visiting was covered almost completely by a dense blanket of bracken, which thrives on acidic soil. The rock-type which outcrops and is strewn over the whole mountain is a poorly sorted quartz-rich conglomerate of Upper Ordovician / Lower Silurian origin. There is at least one small disused quarry at the foot of the hill on its western side, but overall there seems to have been little exploitation of the stone. In view of the ground conditions, it was not surprising to find that, for the greater part, the hill seems to have been used exclusively as rough grazing land - The steepness and extremely rocky nature of the ground having deterred most attempts at cultivation. No evidence for enclosure of the hill was found. However, at the central section of the narrow, irregular hill plateau, there was definite evidence of agricultural clearance of a small (c.1500 sq M), level, approximately circular area of ground, somewhat lower and sheltered by the surrounding terrain (PRN 13185). The most striking feature of this small area was the almost complete lack of stone which was distributed extensively elsewhere across the hilltop. On the periphery of the cleared area were a small number of clearance cairns - Three examples were positively identified as such, the largest being 2 metres in diameter and up to about 0.6 metres high, the smallest being 1.5 metres in diameter and about 0.5 metres in height. Presumably other stone removed during clearance operations was thrown amongst the surrounding outcrops. Interestingly, the clearance cairns were almost completely grown over by mosses and grasses which were very well established upon a soil covering of a few centimetres. This suggests that the cairns are the result of an early attempt at cultivation on the mountain. No such activity is known to the present residents. Also notable was the scarcity of bracken within the cleared area and the untypical predominance of rye grass, again hinting that this area had once been cultivated.

On the North-West facing side of the mountain set into the hillslope was a small, approximately square, level area (c. 7m across) which was clear of stones (SN 7159 3710). This location would seem credible as a hut platform site, but this remains in doubt as a possible natural feature because of the lack of any stone building foundations which would be expected to have survived at this location (PRN 13184).

After the visit, it was learnt from Mrs Dugaid that Dyfed County Council have insisted that the hilltop, an area of about 10 hectares, should remain unplanted before a grant will be allocated. It is therefore safe to assume that the only certain site of archaeological interest will be preserved. It is a pity that this area was not visited earlier in the year before the bracken started growing although taking the ground conditions into account, it would seem likely that the most significant archaeology was identified.

13185

Clearane cairn



CYNGOR SIR  
**DYFED**  
COUNTY COUNCIL

ADRAN GYMMLUNIO Y SIR  
40 Heol Spilman, Caerdyddin, Dyfed, SA31 1LQ  
COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
40 Spilman Street, Carmarthen, Dyfed, SA31 1LQ  
Tel: Caerdyddin/Carmarthen (0267) 233333

Swyddog Cynllunio y Sir  
DAVID P. BOWN, B.Sc., M.R.T.P.I.  
County Planning Officer

Eich Cyl/Your Ref:

Fy Nghyl/My Ref: RPB/FC7

3.2.87.

Gofynwch am/Please ask for:

Mr. R.P. Bartosz (Ymest./Ext.457

BWLCM-TRE-BANAU  
LLANDOVERY.

C.R 715372

CONSULTATIONS : ~~FELLING LICENCE APPLICATIONS~~  
~~FORESTRY GRANT SCHEME/BROADLEAVED WOOD AND GRANT SCHEME~~

Under the provisions for consultation with Planning and other Authorities on proposals for felling and new planting, the Forestry Commission has forwarded a copy of the attached application for observations :-

Proposal ..20.0..ha....new...planting....17..ha...conifers.  
and...3..ha...broadleaves.....

Observations are required by the Forestry Commission by

.....17.2.87.....

Would you please forward any observations you may wish to make to this department at the earliest opportunity.

For your information the County Council :

1. ~~Does not wish to make any observations.~~
2. ~~Wishes to pursue the matter further.~~
3. ~~Wishes to make the following observations :-~~

Yours faithfully,

pp. D.P. BOWN.

County Planning Officer

FORESTRY GRANT SCHEME  
APPLICATION FORM

## IMPORTANT:

CLAIMS FOR GRANT WILL NOT  
BE CONSIDERED IF PLANTING IS  
CARRIED OUT BEFORE  
APPROVAL IS GIVEN. SEE PAGE  
4, CONDITION 7.

(To be completed in duplicate)

For  
FC  
Use

REFERENCE NO

## PART ONE

Please use block  
capitalsNAME OF PROPERTY BULCH-TRE-BANAUCOUNTY/REGION DYFEDDISTRICT LLANDOVERY

## PART TWO

## DECLARATION

To be completed  
by all  
applicants (see  
Condition 2 in  
case of joint  
owners/lessees).

I/We hereby apply to enter the Forestry Grant Scheme (hereinafter called "the Scheme") in respect of the area or areas of land outlined in black on the attached map (see Condition 3 on page 4).

I/We undertake to carry out the work specified in section D of the Plan of Operations and to comply in all respects with and be bound by the Conditions of the Scheme set out in page 4, which I/we have read.

I/We confirm that the information in this application is correct and complete to the best of my/our knowledge and belief and that there are no legal or other restrictions which would prevent the specified work being carried out.

\* Delete if not  
required

\* I/We authorised my/our agent as shown below to act on my/our behalf and to receive any grants due in respect of the specified work.

\* I/We have obtained and enclose the written consent of my/our landlord(s) to my/our entering the Scheme and carrying out the specified work.

† This form need  
not be signed  
until considera-  
tion of the  
application by  
the Forestry  
Commission has  
been completed.

NAME AND ADDRESS  
(please use block capitals)

MS. M. DUGUID  
BULCH TRE-BANAU  
PARTHRYD  
DYFED

† SIGNATURE AND DATE

STATUS OF APPLICANT(S) OWNER

Economic Forestry Group Ltd. OWNER or LESSEE

NAME AND ADDRESS OF AGENT (if any)

Forestry Operations,  
Wales & West of England Division,  
Brewery Road,  
Carmarthen,  
Dyfed, SA31 1TF

## PART THREE

APPROVAL BY  
FORESTRY  
COMMISSIONERS

This application is approved by the Forestry Commissioners under the powers granted to them in Section 1 of the Forestry Act 1979, and the land covered by it is hereby accepted into the Scheme in accordance with the Conditions of the Scheme set out on page 4 hereof.

SIGNATURE

DATE

NAME AND RANK

For and on behalf of the Forestry Commissioners

# PLAN OF OPERATIONS

5 YEAR PERIOD COVERED BY PLAN

1 OCTOBER 87..... TO 30 SEPTEMBER 92.....

## A. Objectives of the Scheme

To manage the woodland area in such a way as to produce a utilisable crop of timber by sound forestry practice, and  
to secure good land use (including effective integration with agriculture);  
to secure environmental benefits;  
to provide such opportunities for recreation, including provision for public access, as may be appropriate (see also Condition 5).

## B. Summary Area Statement

|   | Hectares<br>(To nearest 0.1 hectare) | Marking<br>on Map |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| i. Total area covered by scheme as outlined in black  | 20.5                                 |                   |
| ii. Area already bearing trees (shown shaded)   | —                                    |                   |
| iii. Area of woodland to be thinned   | —                                    |                   |
| iv. Area of woodland to be clear felled   | —                                    |                   |
| v. Area of bare land to be planted with trees (new planting)  | 20.0                                 |                   |
| vi. Area of felled woodland to be replanted with trees (restocking),<br>including land to be clear felled within the period of the plan | —                                    |                   |

NOTE: Please ensure that the National Grid Reference is shown on the plan (see Condition 3).

## Existing Designations

In order to facilitate the consultation procedures prior to approval, please tick the relevant boxes below and give details if any of the following apply to the area covered by the scheme or any part of it. Where agriculture/horticulture grants have been received in respect of the area within the past two years or where it is the subject of a current agricultural development plan, please state the date of grant payment or of an approval, Agriculture Department reference number and issuing Divisional Office.

|  |                          |                                     |                          |                                 |                          |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| National Park (England and Wales)                      | <input type="checkbox"/> | Site of Special Scientific Interest | <input type="checkbox"/> | Agricultural tenancy            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (England and Wales) | <input type="checkbox"/> | National Nature Reserve             | <input type="checkbox"/> | Agriculture/Horticulture Grants | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| National Scenic Area (Scotland)                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Conditional Felling Licence         | <input type="checkbox"/> | Agricultural Development Plan   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Conservation Area (under the Civic Amenities Act)      | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tree Preservation Order             | <input type="checkbox"/> |                                 |                          |

## Schedule of Work

### NOTES ON COMPLETION OF SCHEDULE ON PAGE 3

- The totals of columns 2 to 9 must agree with the areas shown at Items iii. to vi. of section B of this plan.
- Brief details of species to be planted and the number of plants to be used per hectare, and species and age of crops to be thinned or felled, should be shown in column 10.
- Column 11 will be completed by the Forestry Commission at the time the application is approved.
- Where clear felling is proposed, the applicant may be required to restock the area. In that event he will be asked to submit restocking proposals for approval if these have not already been provided.
- Any variation or departure from this plan once approved will require the prior written agreement of the Forestry Commissioners.
- Additional sheets for continuation of the Schedule of Work are available on request.

| NAME (OR<br>OTHER<br>DESIGNATION)<br>OF WOOD OR<br>PLANTATION | AREA TO BE WORKED DURING PERIOD OF THE PLAN<br>(To nearest 0.1 hectare) |                  |            |                  |          |                  |          |                  | DETAILS OF WORK   | GRANT<br>BAND<br>(for<br>FC<br>use) |
|---|---|------------------|------------|------------------|----------|------------------|----------|------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
|   | NEW PLANTING  |                  | RESTOCKING |                  | THINNING |                  | FELLING  |                  |   |                                     |
|   | Conifers  | Broad-<br>leaves | Conifers   | Broad-<br>leaves | Conifers | Broad-<br>leaves | Conifers | Broad-<br>leaves |   |                                     |
| 1   | 2   | 3                | 4          | 5                | 6        | 7                | 8        | 9                | 10  | 11                                  |
| BULLY TRE BARNWAY.  | 17.0  | 3.0              |            |                  |          |                  |          |                  | The land is rocky +<br>generally free draining.<br>North west fringe<br>and smaller areas<br>on the SE boundary<br>will be planted with<br>OAK, BIRCH and a SP<br>mix of 25%.<br>An irregular edge<br>will be given to this<br>planting.<br>The remainder will<br>be planted with FI<br>and DF on the lower<br>slopes and SP/SP<br>the more exposed<br>top.<br>The ground will<br>be ripped where<br>possible @ 2m.<br>centres and planting<br>will be @ 2250/HA.<br>Small rock outcrop<br>and the track along<br>the NW. boundary<br>will be left unplanted. |                                     |
| TOTALS  | 17.0  | 3.0              |            |                  |          |                  |          |                  |   |                                     |

SS SP. / OKBI/SP. / JL / DF. - □

