

NI farming community urged to have their say on future forest plans

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The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) and Forest Service has urged farmers and those in the rural community to have their say on future forest plans for two in the west of Northern Ireland.

The areas being reviewed stretch from Strabane to Caledon and Moneymore to Kesh. These engagements are part of a process where all eight Forestry Planning Areas in Northern Ireland are being reviewed.

Calling on the farming community to respond to the engagement, Planning Forester, Breandan Mulholland said: "Forestry planning facilitates the delivery of the many services our forests and woodlands provide, such as timber production, carbon sequestration, biodiversity, and recreational opportunities.

"The Forest Service seeks greater involvement of people in the revision of its forest plans that will consider Forest Service forests and include references to non-Forest Service forests and woodlands," Mulholland added.

"Forests are a vital natural resource which belong to us all, and it is particularly important that those living and working in the rural community have their say on the development of forest plans."

The consultation runs until September 27, 2019.

Source: <https://www.agriland.ie/farming-news/ni-farming-community-urged-to-have-their-say-on-future-forest-plans/>