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| A green and blue circle  Description automatically generated | RDS Spring Agriculture andForestry Awards**Irish Forest & Woodland Awards** 2023/2024 Application Form |  |

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| **Native Woodland Conservation Awards Category*** Aims to recognise excellence in the conservation and management of native forests and semi-natural woodlands which are regarded as ancient or long established\* and managed in a sustainable way that is both beneficial to biodiversity and the local economy.
* **Entry is open to** public and private sector woodland owners and managers.
* The winner in each section will receive **€2,000** and an **RDS Spring Awards Trophy**
* Each runner-up will receive **€1,000** and an **RDS Certificate of Merit**
* Application Deadline – **12pm, August 25, 2023**

With an overall prize fund of €34,000, the RDS Spring Awards celebrate and promote the principles of climate-smart agriculture. Building on a name from the past, but firmly focused on the future of the sector, the Awards will recognise the very best farmers, foresters, agri-entrepreneurs and innovators in Ireland. The 2023/24 Irish Forest and Woodland Awards will be presented as part of the RDS Spring Awards in the RDS Concert Hall in May 2024. |

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| **Name of Owner**  |  |
| **Address** |  |
| **Home Phone Number** |  |
| **Mobile Phone Number** |  |
| **Email Address** |  |
| **Address of Site** (if different from home address) |  |
| **Name of Forest Manager / Advisor** (if applicable) |  |
| **Please remember to include images, a site map and a clear location map with your application. Also provide the name of the nearest town/village and distance from same.** Please Note: Failure to include a clear location map will result in your application being rejected. |

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| **Total Area conserved and managed**Note: The area entered in this category must be a minimum of two hectares, there is no maximum area. |  |
| **Origin of the woodland**Note: \*Areas must be ancient or long established as described in ‘*A provisional inventory of ancient and long‐established woodland in Ireland’* (NPWS 2010) pages 5-6 in the link below: https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/publications/pdf/IWM46.pdf  |  |
| **Species Composition**The entry must include a block of woodland composed predominantly of native tree species. Entries should include:Species list, Site Situation, Area, Internal features, Surface cover, Vegetation communities, Deadwood, Site boundary, Adjacent land cover, Grazing regime, Natural Regeneration, Invasive Shrubs and a Site SummaryView more detail of these criteria at section 2.2 on pages 15-18 of the National Survey of Native Woodlands (NSNW) 2003-2008 link: <http://www.botanicalenvironmental.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/Volume-I.pdf>An informative summary of the NSNW Survey can be viewed here: <https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/general/nsnw-summary-findings.pdf> |

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| **Access**Please indicate if inspection paths have been made through the forest/woodland | **Yes** |  |
| **No** |  |

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| **Management Plan**Please note that a valid Native Woodland Conservation application must include a Management plan. Please remember to attach your Management plan with your application to be considered for the 2023/2024 Awards.  | **Yes** |  |
| **No** |  |
| **Tell us about your Forest/Woodland**Please describe your forest/woodland and tell us why you think your entry would make a worthy winner of this award. |
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| **Have you previously entered the Irish Forest and Woodland Awards?** |
| Yes/No. |  |
| If yes please give details. |  |

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| **Completed Entry Form, Layout Plan, and Location Map, should be returned to:** RDS Irish Forest and Woodland Awards RDS, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4Or via email to forestry@rds.ie**On or Before: 12pm, Friday, August 25, 2023.**Please note the judges may wish, but are not obliged, to inspect a woodland following a study of the completed entry form.For further information please contact the RDS on +353 (0)87 1877253, or email forestry@rds.ie*The data you provide in this form will be processed for your entry to the RDS Irish Forest and Woodland Awards. The RDS Irish Forest and Woodland Awards is an event run and managed by the RDS.* *The purpose for the processing of personal data relating to you (“Data”) is to assess and evaluate your entry. Processing of your Data is done with your consent, or pursuant to our contract, or for pre-contractual steps, or done in the legitimate interest of the RDS to assist in the provision of its chartable aims.**By providing your information, you confirm your agreement to this processing. Please note that you are responsible for informing the RDS of any subsequent changes to this Data. For further details of how we process your Data, the categories of persons to who we disclose your Data, and all other matters contained in Articles 12-14 of the General Data Protection Regulation, please visit* [*www.rds.ie/privacy*](http://www.rds.ie/privacy) *to view the RDS Privacy Policy.*The RDS would like to acknowledge the support of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) and Woodlands of Ireland in the delivery of the Native Woodland Conservation Awards. Woodlands of Ireland are funded by National Parks and Wildlife Service, the Heritage Council and DAFM.A close-up of a logo  Description automatically generatedA logo with green leaves  Description automatically generated A close up of a sign  Description automatically generatedA green letters on a black background  Description automatically generated |