

**From:** Hillside Organic & Holistic Farm [REDACTED]

**Sent:** [REDACTED]

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Rewilding in CAP

Dear [REDACTED],

I am a farmer living in County Roscommon. I have been farming here since I left school in 1976. I farmed conventionally up to 2002 and since then, I have been farming organically.

I want to make a suggestion/proposal that rewilding be made available as a possibility in the next CAP round. By rewilding I mean that stock numbers be reduced to a level that the lands can start to return to growing the vegetation that would naturally grow. This would result in the a natural agro-forestry/native woodland habitat.

Here are some points that, in my opinion, show the advantages of rewilding:

- Rewilded land will produce more oxygen.
- Increase biodiversity and resilience of land.
- Improve soil fertility.
- Improve water retention capacity of soil, preventing run off and flooding.
- Improve carbon sequestering ability of soil.
- Reduce cattle numbers, resulting in lower methane levels.
- Help Ireland to reduce harmful emissions and meet our targets.
- Reduction of fines Ireland will have to pay for not reaching our emissions targets.

This is just a short outline of what I have in mind.

I am prepared to rewild most of my land and I know other farmers that would do it with some or all of their land.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. I am available and willing to discuss this in more detail with you at any time.

Sean Butler  
[REDACTED]