

# Important Notice

To:- All Holders of Licences to Hunt Wild Deer on Coillte Lands



2016/17

Dear licence holder,

As the 2016/17 deer hunting season is due to commence shortly, I am writing to remind you of your obligations and responsibilities with respect to implementing appropriate safety control measures prior to, and while exercising these licensed rights.

During previous hunting seasons, I continued to receive reports of persons hunting without obtaining **prior agreement** from the forest operations manager, and / or, not erecting the required **prohibition signage** at all usual points of entry to the lands. Considering the high levels of usage of Coillte lands by operations staff/contractors and the general public, this is a concern for the Company and a matter which is taken very seriously indeed. These requirements are clearly outlined in Section 15, sub-sections j, and k, of the licence agreement, and as with all terms and conditions of the licence, compliance is mandatory.

All authorisations granted by Coillte to enter its lands to hunt deer are conditional on full compliance with licence conditions and failure to do so renders such permissions immediately invalid. Unauthorised hunting and /or firearms use by an individual is an offence under Section 44 of the Wildlife Acts 1976 - 2012 and Sections 17 & 23, of **S.I. No 151 of 2009 FORESTRY ACT 1988 (SECTION 37) (COILLTE TEORANTA) BYE-LAWS 2009.**

As the licence holder, it is your responsibility to make all of you nominated hunters aware of Coillte's licence conditions and its Code of Practice for Sustainable Hunting (see the hunting section on [www.coillteoutdoors.ie](http://www.coillteoutdoors.ie)). It is also your responsibility to co-ordinate the safe and responsible use of these rights and to liaise directly with the Forest Manager prior to exercising the rights. It is Coillte's policy to only deal directly with the licence holder on all matters relating to the licence.

## **Your licence is dependant on the manner in which these rights are exercised.**

Illegal hunting continues to be an issue countrywide. All authorised hunters should carry a copy of their stalking permit, deer hunting licence and firearms licence and when requested, present these to a member of Coillte staff, an Garda Síochána, or a National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) ranger. If you suspect illegal hunting is in progress please immediately contact an Garda Síochána, and the NPWS, and report the incident immediately to your local Forest Manager on the next working day.

If you require a copy of your licence agreement or a printed copy of Coillte's Code of Practice for sustainable hunting, please contact your local licence administrator. Thanking you in advance for your continued co-operation, and wishing you a safe and enjoyable hunting season.

Regards,

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Barry Coad,  
Deer, Game and Sporting Rights Manager