

41

**Field Inspection/Recommendation of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/  
Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FAC), Madurai Circle, Madurai  
regarding diversion of 0.50Ha. of forest land for the construction of a Check Dam  
across Kottakudi-Sambalar river in Kottakudi RF of Theni Division by TWAD Board,  
Bodinaiyakanur, Theni District.**

Inspected the area proposed for diversion of 0.50Ha. for the construction of Check Dam across Sambalar river in Kottakudi RF, Kurangani South beat, Munthal Section, Bodi Range of Theni Division by TWAD Board, Theni District on 20.08.2020 along with District Forest Officer, Theni, Forest Range staff of Bodi Range. The extent of proposed diversion of forest land is 0.50ha. This proposal has been requested for the improvement of Water supply arrangement scheme by Bodinaiyakanur Municipality of Theni District. The proposed project is to be located a few meters downstream of a check dam initially constructed for supplying water to Bodinaiyakanur Municipality across the same Kottakudi – Sambalar river in Kottakudi Reserve Forest.

The project site does not fall under the Eco Sensitive Zone of Megamalai Wildlife Sanctuary and Kodaikanal Wildlife Sanctuary and the aerial distance of Wildlife Sanctuary, Kodaikanal is about 4.22 Km away from this project site. There is no felling of trees involved in the proposed project. This is an essential project for supply of drinking water to the Bodinaiyakanur Municipality.

The proposed diversion of forest land of 0.50ha is the minimum land area required for the project and it is recommended that permission may be accorded for the proposal under the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 subject to the following conditions:

1. Adequate facilities may be provided for provision of drinking water for wildlife as mammals in the said area especially during the pinch season of the year.
2. Necessary arrangements should be made to maintain the Zero level of the Check dam to be proposed at the minimum to avoid submerging of vast forest area even during rainy season.
3. The construction debris should not be dumped anywhere nearby or inside the forest area.
4. Shelters for the construction personnel should not be allowed inside the forest area.
5. Suitable information boards should be erected warning people not to take bath in the proposed check dam to be constructed at the site.

  
**PCCF (Research & Education) and  
APCCF (FAC)  
Madurai Circle**