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 inKottakudi RF of Theni Division by TWAD Board, Bodinaiyakanur, Theni District.

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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, Kodikanal 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

PART - III

[to be filled by concerned Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests]

17.	Whether site, where the forest land involved is located has been inspected by concerned Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Yes / No) if yes, the date of inspection & observations made in form of inspection note to be enclosed.	B	Yes. Inspected by the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests on 20.08.2020 and inspection notes enclosed.
18.	Whether the concerned Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests agree with the information given in Part B and the recommendation of District Forest Officer.	•	Yes
19.	Specific Recommendation of concerned Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests for acceptance	:	The proposed area 0.5 ha of forest land diversion for the construction of check dam for water supply Scheme project does not have any important monuments of Archeological, Heritage site, Defense establishment etc., and the project is location specific and the area requested for the project is barest minimum. A proposal has been sent to Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden, Chennai vide Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Madurai. Ref.No. D/9653/2019, Dt.21.01.2021 for obtaining clearance of NBWL, since the proposed project site falls within the tiger corridor as per the DSS mapping of Tiger corridors available in www.ntca.gov.in and the corridor is between the Mathikettan Shola National Park and Pambadum Shola National Park of Kerala state. Hence, I recommend the proposal may be considered on receipt of the clearance of National Board of Wildlife.

Signature

Name

: Yogesh Dwivedi, IFS,

Office Seal

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests

MADURAI-625 002

Date: 04.07. 202) Place: Madurai.