

RECOMMENDATION OF DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, KOTTAYAM

The Executive Engineer, KRFB, PMU Kottayam has proposed for the diversion of 0.27 ha of forest land in eleven bits for the purpose of reconstruction of existing road into hill highway for better connectivity among hill districts. The land lies in Erumely Village of Kottayam District. The land proposed has been inspected on 23.04.2022 and 26.05.2022. The proposed land is lying in Karikkattoor Reserve Forest of Erumely Range of Kottayam Forest Division.

The eleven bits of land lies on either side of Plachery - Erumely road and the width of the bits are marginal. The tree enumeration details shows that there are 440 trees majority of being teak, Maruthy, Macaranga, Mahogany etc. The nature of vegetation is moist deciduous type. The area has not yet recorded the presence of large carnivores or elephant, Guar etc.

The proposed bits of land do not pass-through Wildlife Sanctuary, National Park, Elephant Corridor, Tiger Reserve or Biosphere Reserve. During my inspection, it is found that the requirement of forest land as proposed by the user agency is the barest minimum required for the project and is necessary for the purpose applied for. The ecological impact caused due to diversion is negligible as the proposed land lies adjacent to the already existing road and the minimum land is proposed. Under the above circumstances, the proposal for diversion is recommended for acceptance.

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N. Rajesh IFS
Divisional Forest Officer,
Kottayam Forest Division