



Irish Forestry Unit Trust

Dromahair MU
By Dromahair, Co. Leitrim
MANAGEMENT PLAN
2022 – 2041 (Period 2022-2026)

2. GENERAL INTRODUCTION, OWNERSHIP AND LANDUSE HISTORY.

Dromahair MU comprises 22 forest blocks within the same locality. Total MU area amounts to 580ha. MU defined by species type, management objectives and geographical location.

Legal folios are held on file. Prior to forest establishment land provided enclosed marginal grazing. Neighbouring landuse enclosed marginal grazing. Drumlin topography over all forests blocks.

Forest properties being reviewed:

1. Killarga 74.1ha. Established by ■■■ in 1985/87/89/04. 98032K sub 5 replanted 2016.
2. Tully Hill 32.1ha. Established by ■■■ in 1986. Sub 2 & 3 replanted in 2018 & 2022 respectively. Sub 1 clearfelled in 2022.
3. Corglancy 16.1ha. Established by ■■■ in 1987. Sub 2 replanted in 2022.

New property being added to the MU:

4. Derreens 14.7ha. Established in 2005. This site was acquired by IForUT in ?.
5. Socknalougher 10.8ha. Established in 2015.
6. Sheskin 10.4ha. Established in 2018. This site was acquired by IForUT in 2014.
7. Seltan 12.1ha. Established in 2008. This site was acquired by IForUT in 2016.
8. Lisdrumgran 44.3ha. Established in 1989. This site was acquired by IForUT in 2016.
9. Drumduffy 15.9ha. Established in 1997. This site was acquired by IForUT in

2016.

- 10.** Conaghill 17.8ha. Established in 2000. This site was acquired by IForUT in 2016.
- 11.** Cleighran 21.2ha. Established in 1997. This site was acquired by IForUT in 2016.
- 12.** Rathbaun 14.3ha. Established in 2000. This site was acquired by IForUT in 2016.
- 13.** Beagh 12.1ha. Established in 1992. This site was acquired by IForUT in 2018.
- 14.** Cloonbannive 107.7ha. Established in 1990/1991/1993/1996/1997. This site was acquired by IForUT in 2018.
- 15.** Corglancey 11.8ha. Established in 1992. This site was acquired by IForUT in 2018.
- 16.** Corratiomore Glebe 11.2ha. Established in 1992/1998. This site was acquired by IForUT in 2018.
- 17.** Darkvalley Socks 27.2ha. Established in 1992/1998/2000. This site was acquired by IForUT in 2018.
- 18.** Drumduff 19.1ha. Established in 1992/1995. This site was acquired by IForUT in 2018.
- 19.** Drumillion Cornamarve 29ha. Established in 1988. This site was acquired by IForUT in 2018. Property has been clearfelled and replanted 2022.
- 20.** Greagh 14.2ha. Established in 1992. This site was acquired by IForUT in 2018.
- 21.** Greaghnaslieve 51.9ha. Established in 1993. This site was acquired by IForUT in 2018.
- 22.** Corusconny 10.8ha. Established in 1986. This site was acquired by IForUT in 2018. Sub 3 replanted in 2022.

Elevation

Ranges between 50m to 220m

Statutory Land Designations

Corry Mountain Bog NHA SITECODE 002321 runs along the Southern boundary of Seltan.

Owengar Wood pNHA SITECODE 001419 touches the Eastern boundary of Derreens. Sub 1 in Corusconny lies within Lough Gill SAC SITECODE 001976. This SAC runs along the boundary of Darkvalley Socks also.

Water/Fisheries Sensitivities:

This MU lies within Garravogue and Upper Shannon water catchments.

Margaritifera

There are no properties in the Dromahair MU within Margaritifera areas.

Old Woodland Sites (OWS):

There is some OWS in Tully Hill. A report was done to reassess the area in November 2020. There is a substantial amount of OWS in Drumillion Cornamarve and a report is present from July 2020.

Archaeology/Historical/Cultural:

There is numerous recorded archaeology within these properties including enclosures and a bullaun stone as well as various cultural features.



4. SOIL TYPES.

Drumlin landscape consisting of poorly drained sloping gleys with unflushed hollows forming deep peat. Most of planting on mounded ground. Poor drainage in on western face of Tully Hill causing windblow.

5. SUMMARY OF THE LANDSCAPE VALUE OF THE FOREST.

Low Felling Impact due to drumlin landscape, no significant view points, public roads or statutory designations. **Low. Afforestation Sensitivity** - General locality heavily afforested and new afforestation would be viewed as requiring additional planning.

From a felling perspective the local landscape is closed in drumlins with short views. General locality rural and sparsely populated.

Good cover of mature broadleaf boundary trees and areas of broadleaf scrub exist within many of the forest properties reducing landscape impact. Drumlin landscape has small field units high density of hedgerow trees which are a dominant features. To mitigate potential felling impacts the felling plan (Map 6) has applied a coupe restructuring sequence to diversify crop age structure. Sitka spruce is the preferred species to meet economic objectives. Coupe separation and smaller size is used to mitigate felling impacts. Restock design in Map 7 focuses MB and UP areas around public road frontages and watercourses. NS is used to replant LTRs which over the longer term will develop into non-intervention areas and provide Red squirrel habitat and habitat linkage.

6. MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES.

- 1) To maximise economic output from the forest at local and national level.
- 2) To manage FMU in accordance with the principals of the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) and international benchmarks of the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes (PEFC).
- 3) To manage timber production in a sustainable way.
- 4) To maintain and enhance the landscape value of the forest.
- 5) To protect existing biodiversity and where opportunities arise enhance and further promote new biodiversity.
- 6) To manage forest activities with due regard to local, regional and national stakeholder interests.
- 7) To promote continuous professional development at management level.

14. Summary of silvicultural systems to be used.

System	Conifers	Broadleaves
Clear fell	✓	
Selective fell		
Thinning to MTI (potnl)	✓	
Line thinning only		
Non thin regime	✓	
Non intervention		✓
Natural regeneration		✓
Replanting	✓	✓
Other		

5 Year Monitoring Report Summary.

	Objective	Was it achieved?	How this information was applied to 5 year Management Plan review?
1	Economic Return	All three of the old properties have had Clearfells carried out. Standing volumes were high in these crops as all three had been thinned	All of the old properties have had some element of clearfells carried out and have delivered a good rate of return in general. The new properties which have been added to the FMU are generally slightly younger. Several of these such as Socknalougher, Sheski, Coscusconny and Drummillion have had clearfells carried out. Much of this was to offset the chance of further serious windblow occurring in these crops. Some of the other new properties do have windblow occurring in increasing amounts and TFLs will have to be applied for these eg. Greaghnaslieve. Aside from these, the new properties which have been added to the FMU, approximately half have been thinned already which is important from an economic perspective as thinning will help to add value to the crop. Some properties such as Greagh do have difficult access issues which will have to be worked out before any operations can commence. Some of the restock crops have had a difficult number of years and have taken a little longer to get away. Drought, weevil and two seasons of late spring frost have increased the amount of restock maintenance required on 2 nd rotation crops
2	Certification Standards	Certification standards and IForUT systems applied over plan period. Managers working off FMM	Certification standards and IForUT systems applied over plan period. Managers working off FMM. Continue as before and update FMM as required.

3	Timber production	Good crops of high YC trees. Clearfells have commenced in the properties which fall into older ages classes and in areas where wind damage has occurred.	Many of the properties have received thinnings. In general this is a very productive MU. Fell years have had to be changed in due to creeping blow sweeping in to some properties due to the increasing amount of winter storms. Generally speaking there is not much catastrophic windblow but rather smaller areas and many stems are falling after every storm. Major windblow is highly undesirable here as crops would be of good value. There will be consistent felling each year over the next ten years in this MU and rate of felling will rise and fall marginally between years. Felling coupes have been sub divided in most properties to facilitate crop restructuring and to lessen landscape impact. This will have the added benefit of keeping a stable and steady production of timber from the Management unit which is preferable to a glut of timber production in any given year. Some work will have to be done in relation to properties such as Greagh and Lisdrumgan to resolve access issues in order to remove crops from those properties.
4	Landscape	Two new landscape layers added to designations GIS layer. Forest Service layer taken off National Development plan for new planting and Landscape Unit appraisals based on Coillte LUs.	Landscape sensitivity classified as low. Felling coupes are staggered to lessen impact of clearfelling on the landscape. Surrounding landscape is described as a Drumlin landscape and it is heavily forested.

5	Biodiversity Enhancement	<p>Soil types facilitate nat. regen. of broadleaves particularly when disturbed. Very dispersed and difficult to quantify. Several broadleaf patches in Tullyhill have old woodland type ground flora which are to be protected. Old Woodland also recorded in Drumillion.</p>	<p>Tullyhill areas with old woodland features will continue to be managed as non intervention – they remain still intact and have been reassessed by an ecologist in 2021. There has been no major changes in the structure of these areas. They continue to have OW flora but the last report notes some less species of AWVP's. This is most likely to do with the time of year the site visit was carried out (November) as less vascular plant would be visible. Drumillion Cornamarve was also noted for having some signs of Old Woodland. Prior to the crop being clearfelled an assessment was carried out and it was found that the site was of poor quality overall in terms of old woodland habitat. However some areas have been retained – namely the UP/scrub area to the south and some open spaces and broadleaves were introduced along the roadside. Features of note arising from the ecologists assessment have been noted as features on operational maps eg. veteran trees and scrub. Post clearfell this site has had a plot of broadleaves planted in the plot adjacent to neighbouring households. On Corcusconny some extra broadleaves have been planted in plots which overlook the public road and some unplanted setbacks have been left in relation to the stream on site. In relation to Corglancey, again setbacks and increased broadleaf planting have been concentrated along the stream and the Ringfort has been further protected by means of a 20m setback and a strip of broadleaves.</p> <p>Several species of note have been recorded across the MU, these include, Buzzards, Otter, Pine Martin, Red Deer and Red Squirrel. Open space and biodiversity will further increase over the next rotation due to changes in the required national standards. These standards will require increased broadleaves and open space alongside county roads and dwelling houses at restocking stage.</p>
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6	Stakeholder	Historical problems with dumping in Tullyhill and have worked closely with CoCo litter warden.	During plan review a more comprehensive stakeholder consultation has been conducted compared to the 1 st plan preparation process. Try to resolve culture of dumping around Killarga with neighbours. They are ringing into the office or the manager to inform of dumping taking place. During plan review a more comprehensive stakeholder consultation has been completed. Forest notices/ local community groups and national groups. Most if not all of stakeholder issues can be resolved simply.
7	Professional Development	████████ managed. Forest Managers are members of SIF and attend lectures and field days as part of continuous professional development.	Retendering of whole portfolio into regional management units in 2010 to simplify overall forest level management and FSC compliance. New centralised network server (████████) was introduced for managing FMM and IForUT database.
8	Forward Planning	Retain existing MU and added new property acquisitions.	Continue with current practices and review FMM if necessary.