



Irish Forestry Unit Trust

Knockmaroe MU
Inch Milestone, Co. Tipperary
MANAGEMENT PLAN
2009 – 2028
(Period 4: 2021 -2025)

2. GENERAL INTRODUCTION, OWNERSHIP AND LANDUSE HISTORY.

Knockmaroe Forest MU comprises of 12 separate forest blocks totalling 359.4ha.
Neighbouring landuse is improved agricultural pasture

Forest properties being reviewed:

1. Knockmaroe 1, 33.39ha was established in 1991. Sub-compartment 3 was clearfelled and replanted in 2021.
2. Knockmaroe 2, 40.37ha is the older block and was established in 1967. Several areas of Knockmaroe 2 were felled and replanted in 1997 as a result of windthrow. This has helped bring forward the restructuring process. Part of subcompartment 1 was felled and replanted in 2021.

New property being added to the MU:

3. Knockmaroe 3, 35.13ha. Established in 1989.
4. Turraheen Upper, 9.15ha. Established in 1999.
5. Rossoulty, 7.89ha. Established in 1989.
6. Drumbane, 69.71ha. Established in 1998 with some areas replanted in 2018.
7. Coolanga Upper, 13.75ha. Established in 1997.
8. Carrowkeale, 8.08ha. Established in 2000.
9. Commonealine, 27.92ha. Established in 2014.
10. Curraghmarky, 78.81ha. Established in 1992.
11. Foilycleara, 20.26ha. Established in 1996.

12. Foilycleary Established in 1992.

4. SOIL TYPES.

The main areas of Mackina FMU are Deep well drained mineral. Derived from mainly non-calcareous parent materials. Soil Group - Acid Brown Earths, Brown Podzolics while the SE part is poorly drained Soil Group - Surface water Gleys, Ground water Gley. Kyalglass is made up of the same soil types.

5. SUMMARY OF THE LANDSCAPE VALUE OF THE FOREST.

Low Felling Impact with Low Afforestation Sensitivity - Refer to Map 3.

Low Felling Impact with Low Afforestation Sensitivity - Refer to Map 3. Forest located on a gently flat low lying landscape with no significant view points or elevated positions. General locality sparsely populated reducing the potential impact of the forest. Forest close to R691 but no significant viewpoints or landscape impact at present or in foreseeable future caused by forest operations. No serious issues to be addressed by either Felling Plan (Map5) or Restock design (Map7).

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.

(IForUTs FSC licence code: FSC-C003194)

16. Felling.

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

20. 5 Year Monitoring Report Summary. Knockmaroe 1 & 2

	Objective	Was it achieved?	How this information was applied to 5 year Management Plan review?
1	Economic Return	Knockmaroe was thinned. Thinned areas are a mix of 2 nd and subsequent thinnings. The most recent being carried out in early 2013, improving crop quality and potential future revenues.	No significant changes to plan for next five year period. Decision has been made not to thin this management unit any further.
2	FSC Standards	FSC standards and IForUT systems applied over plan period. Managers working off FMM	Continue as before and update FMM as required.
3	Timber production	Some parts have received subsequent thinning, good volume increment and DBH growth.	Previously this property was planned for further subsequent thinning in 2016 and 2020. The thinning cycles and crop stability were reviewed and the decision was made not to thin any further. This decision was made as windthrow was becoming a concern. Windthrow will greatly devalue the crop. Clearfelling has commenced in Knockmaroe in 2013/2014 and 2017. The next clearfells will be in 2020 and 2021. The 2020 block is becoming rattled with windthrow and the 2021 block was brought forward to accommodate a stakeholder.
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.	New landscape Map added to MP. New felling coupe design added to MP which keeps coupes separated. Classified as having a mix of landscape sensitivities. FS classification refers to both sites as high sensitivity and LU gives Knockmaroe 1 a low sensitivity and 2 as a medium. Felling coupes are broken up as well as possible. Windblow is coming through some felling coupes which is restructuring the forest.
5	Biodiversity Enhancement	Existing biodiversity very limited due to thinned monoculture.	Restructuring plan Map7 addresses biodiversity requirements. Main opportunities for enhancement will occur after clear-fell stage with more Broadleaf planting being planned and increased open spaces being introduced post clear-fell.
6	Stakeholder	Forest has low level local stakeholder relationships.	During plan review, conducted a more comprehensive stakeholder consultation has been completed. Regional press/ forest notices/ local community groups and local statutory bodies consulted. See stakeholder folder
7	Professional Development	████████ managed.	Retendering of whole portfolio into regional management units in 2010 to simplify overall forest level management and FSC compliance. New centralised network server ██████████ is being used for managing FMM and IForUT database.

8	Forward Planning	Continue with current standards and work practices and review on a continuous basis to implement industry best practice.	Carry out reviews of Forest Management Manual and introduce annual manager training and updating of best practice.
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