



Irish Forestry Unit Trust

Moneengaugagh Forest
By Glenade, Co Leitrim
MANAGEMENT PLAN
2022 – 2041
(Period 2022-2026)

2. GENERAL INTRODUCTION, OWNERSHIP AND LANDUSE HISTORY.

Moneengaugh comprises of two forest blocks totalling 53.1ha. Prior to forest establishment land was enclosed marginal grazing. Neighbouring landuse hill farm and forestry.

The general locality is highly scenic and has both conservation and heritage value. The sites neighbour directly onto the Ben Bulbin, Gleniff and Glenade Complex which is a designated SAC and NHA.

Forest properties being reviewed:

1. Moneengaugh 27.6ha. Established in 1988/1992. Acquired [REDACTED] in 1987.

New property being added to the MU:

2. Carrowduff 25.6ha. Established in 2000. This site was acquired by IForUT in 2015.

Elevation

Ranges between 110m to 220m

Statutory Land Designations

SITECODE 000623 Ben Bulbin, Gleniff And Glenade Complex SAC

SITECODE 004187Sligo/Leitrim Uplands SPA. Special interest - Chough and Peregrine

Water/Fisheries Sensitivities:

These two properties lie within Duff_SC_010. All of the subcatchments in the MU have a waterbody status of "good" with Macroinvertebrates being the main driver behind this status.

Margaritifera

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

Old Woodland Sites (OWS):

There is no OWS/potential OWS in the Moneengaugh MU.

Archaeology/Historical/Cultural:

There is no recorded archaeology within these properties. There are numerous non recorded features including old stone ruins and a stone enclosure.

5. SUMMARY OF THE LANDSCAPE VALUE OF THE FOREST.

Moderate Felling Impact with High. Afforestation Sensitivity

Moneengaugagh sits at the lower end of Glenade as is positioned on the lower elevations of the Ben Bulbin Mountains. The landscape is classified as mountainous. Landuse is poor unenclosed grazing, much of which is communal. General locality sparsely populated and sits on a level with the R280 at a distance of 2km.

Natural features include such wooded riparian on western boundary and numerous broadleaf scrub areas and over mature hedgerows on the lower elevations. On higher elevations within the forest there are no features of any landscape value.

To mitigate felling impact, four felling coupes are details in Map 6. This is designed to diversify crop age structure and spread out timber production. The tree line has also been lower to reduce landscape impact with SP and MB introduced. Sitka spruce remains the preferred species to meet economic objectives. Longer term the SP will be managed as non-intervention - main objective being Red squirrel habitat and habitat linkage.

All biodiversity features are identified on the Hazards & Sensitivities Map and where opportunities exist, trees will be cleared back during thinning operations.

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)

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. **Moneengaughagh MU**

	Objective	Was it achieved?	How this information was applied to 5 year Management Plan review?
1	Economic Return	Moneengaughagh 2 nd /3 rd thinned late 2014, somewhat earlier than planned originally. Minor windblow around lay-bys in early 2011. 2 nd thinning returns less than expected.	No further thinning in Moneengaughagh to ensure crop stability and mitigate against the risk of windthrow. There has been no economic return since the thinning in 2014. The return was a little less than expected as the thinning was light due to the wet nature of the site. An attempt at a further thinning was carried out in 2019 but it was called off due to concerns over ground conditions and availability of brash. Carrowduff is a new addition to the MU. The road was constructed in 2019 and grant funding was received for this. The first thinning was carried out here in the same year. The thinning will improve the crop and improve its economic return into the future
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	Moneengaughagh 1 st thin was late and 2 nd thinning was a little early. For the second thinning therefore the volume removed was less than forecasted 510m ³ removed as opposed to 705 forecasted.	In Moneengaughagh, the felling year of better crops on lower slopes has been brought forward to begin restructuring earlier and reduce coupe sizes. Carrowduff again is an even aged crop though the growth varies somewhat. This has moderately helped the crop restructuring plan. The felling coupes here have been broken up as much as is possible to facilitate restructuring and to have a more consistent production of timber over a number of years rather than a glut in any given year.
4	Landscape	Forest landscape character assessment Medium.	Felling Plan (Map6) and Restructuring Plan (Map7) mitigate future felling impacts and to diminish the effect of felling on the landscape. As mentioned above coupes have been planned and broken into smaller areas to facilitate forest restructuring. It is difficult to break the coupes down into further smaller areas due to the topography here.

5	Biodiversity Enhancement	Biodiversity enhancement to date has been thinning out around hedgerows and occasional drains.	Plan to retain broadleaf seed trees as possible for next rotation broadleaf enhancement. In the future plans, the Treeline will be reduced and more MB planned for this area. Open space and biodiversity will 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.
6	Stakeholder	Quiet locality. No neighbouring dwelling. County Council consulted over road building and timber haulage. Timber transport main statutory stakeholder issue. Full stakeholder consultation completed for plan review. No responses to date.	During plan review a more comprehensive stakeholder consultation has been conducted compared to the 1 st plan preparation process. Refer to stakeholder spreadsheet. Water supply pipe and tank identified through consultation with stakeholders in Carrowduff.
7	Professional Development	██████████ managed. All managers are MSIF and members of various other forestry interest organisations.	Retendering of whole portfolio into regional management units was completed in late 2010. New centralised network server (██████████) is in place and being used to coordinate and simplify the storage and access to FMM records.
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 updating of best practice.