



Irish Forestry Unit Trust

Halls MU

By Cloone & Carrigallen, Co. Leitrim

MANAGEMENT PLAN

2022 – 2041

(Plan Period: 2022 -2026)

2. GENERAL INTRODUCTION, OWNERSHIP AND LANDUSE HISTORY.

Halls Management Unit (MU) comprises 31 properties totalling 487.6ha. This MU is based on geographical location as all blocks are in the same locality of southwest County Leitrim. The sites within the MU were previously enclosed marginal grazing. Neighbouring land use is private forestry and enclosed marginal grazing. Drumlin topography with small loughs. Present neighbouring land use comprises enclosed marginal grazing and similar-age forestry. Minor road frontage.

Forest properties being reviewed:

1. Halls – 35.80ha. Established circa 1985.
2. Cornulla – 38.80ha. Established circa 1989.

All forested land is owned by freehold title by the Irish Forestry Unit Trust (IForUT). Legal folios are held on file. A private residence is present within Halls with a legal RoW over part of the forest.

New properties to be added to the MU:

3. Killahurk – 20.18ha. Established circa 1989.
4. Drumna – 7.65ha. Established circa 1995.
5. Aghawillin – 10.21ha. Established circa 1999.
6. Lisgillock Glebe 2 – 6.99ha. Established circa 1990.
7. Tully South – 14.38ha. Established circa 1998.
8. Sunnaghconner – 10.70ha. Established circa 2003.
9. Corriga – 15.76ha. Established circa 1998.

10. Gortnacammdarragh – 13.86ha. Established circa 1999.
11. Annaghmacullen – 13.03ha. Established circa 1999.
12. Ballykiltyfea – 6.81ha. Established circa 2001.
13. Lisgillock Glebe – 16.94ha. Established circa 2000.
14. Killameen – 14.57ha. Established circa 1997.
15. Halls 3 – 5.22ha. Established circa 1999.
16. Druminshin Glebe 2 – 10.57ha. Established circa 1995.
17. Cornulla 2 – 16.57ha. Established circa 1995.
18. Agharann – 9.90ha. Established circa 1990.
19. Anskert – 8.52ha. Established circa 1992.
20. Carrickavoher – 10.78ha. Established circa 1991.
21. Clooncoose – 15.12ha. Established circa 1990.
22. Diffin – 25.74ha. Established circa 1993.
23. Doochorran – 31.70ha. Established circa 1990.
24. Druminshin Glebe – 19.26ha. Established circa 1990/1992/1993.
25. Gortnalougher – 22.66ha. Established circa 1991/1992.
26. Halls 2 – 10.33ha. Established circa 1993.
27. Tooma – 10.57ha. Established circa 1992.
28. Toome – 10.98ha. Established circa 1992.
29. Corriga 2 – 13.20ha. Established circa 2002.
30. Gortnacammdarragh 2 – 7.35ha. Established 2001.
31. Halls 5 – 33.47ha. Established circa 1998/2001.

Elevation

- Halls – 100 metres to 65 metres
- Cornulla – 100 metres to 65 metres
- Killahurk – 90 metres to 75 metres
- Drumna – 90 metres to 70 metres
- Aghawillin – 90 metres to 60 metres
- Lisgillock Glebe 2 – 85 metres to 60 metres
- Tully South – 155 metres to 105 metres
- Sunnaghconner – 95 metres to 60 metres
- Corriga – 140 metres to 100 metres
- Gortnacammdarragh – 170 metres to 130 metres
- Annaghmacullen – 80 metres to 55 metres
- Ballykiltyfea – 110 metres to 80 metres
- Lisgillock Glebe – 100 metres to 60 metres
- Killameen – 110 metres to 80 metres
- Halls 3 – 90 metres to 70 metres
- Druminshin Glebe 2 – 100 metres to 80 metres
- Cornulla 2 – 80 metres to 60 metres
- Agharann – 100 metres to 70 metres
- Anskert – 60 metres to 50 metres
- Carrickavoher – 90 metres to 60 metres
- Clooncoose – 90 metres to 70 metres
- Diffin – 100 metres to 75 metres
- Doochorran – 100 metres to 60 metres

- Druminshin Glebe 100 metres to 80 metres
- Gortnalougher – 80 metres to 50 metres
- Halls 2 – 90 metres to 60 metres
- Tooma – 90 metres to 60 metres
- Toome – 70 metres to 60 metres
- Corriga 2 – 150 metres to 110 metres
- Gortnacamdarragh 2 – 130 metres to 110 metres
- Halls 5 – 100 metres to 60 metres

Statutory Land Designations

There are no forest sites situated in a NPWS (National Parks & Wildlife Service) designated area with protected status.

Water/Fisheries Sensitivities:

The forest sites within the Halls MU are in the following catchments and sub catchments:

- Upper Shannon Catchment
 - Black [SouthLeitrim]_SC_010 sub catchment
 - Cloone [LoughRinn]_SC_010 sub catchment
- Erne Catchment
 - Cullies_SC_010 sub catchment

See Map 9 – Water Catchments within Halls MU.

Old Woodland Sites (OWS):

There are no OWS/potential OWS in Halls MU.

Archaeology/Historical/Cultural:

There is 1 feature of archaeological, historical and cultural significance situated in Halls Forest (980270) within the Halls MU which is marked on all operational maps and will be protected as such. These features are recorded on the 'Sites and Monuments Record' (<https://maps.archaeology.ie/HistoricEnvironment/>). Refer to Map 4.

The Forest Service give advice on protection and outline mitigation measures when IForUT apply for a licence to carry out any harvesting operation in the vicinity of any monument. Also, as standard procedure, any old farmhouse/cottage or other buildings and stone walls/significant ditches are considered as more recent cultural heritage and are protected during harvesting and roading operations.

4. SOIL TYPES.

There are four soil types across the Halls MU Forest sites.

- Peat is the primary soil type within the MU with surface water gley, alluvial, and brown podzols also distributed across the forest sites.

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 use.

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

20. 5 Year Monitoring Report Summary. Halls MU

	Objective	Was it achieved?	How was this information applied to 5-year Management Plan review?
1	Economic Return	Halls 1st thinned 2003 and 2nd thinned 2008. Cornulla 1st thinned 2008 at the road end. Thinning removal below forecast volume but crop carrying higher volumes. Crops growing very well but windblow starting in Halls. Further 2nd and third thinnings were carried out in late 2013 and into early 2014. Clearfells have commenced in older properties and in some new additions.	Investment return was excellent, particularly in 2014 when the clearfell in Halls achieved an excellent price. The Clearfell in 2017 achieved a decent price but less so due to windblow in that crop. Clearfells in Halls and Cornulla were brought forward due to windthrow which was occurring within the crops. Windthrow has affected the economic return in these properties somewhat. Many of the new acquisitions have been previously thinned Clooncoose, Doochorran, Carrickavoher and Anskert are just a few examples). This has improved crop quality in general and increased average tree size. However, many of these crops have been affected by sporadic wind damage. Killahurk and Tomme for example have had windblow clearfells take place. Due to stability concerns, there are no plans to further thin at present due to concerns over stability.
2	Certification Standards	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 quality crops with high YC overall.	Felling commenced has commenced in this FMU. Felling in Halls was brought forward due to high YC and stability. The main objective for the crops over this plan period will be to maintain and prolong crop stability in regards to windthrow. There are currently many areas of sporadic windthrow in the FMU. Felling coupes have also been separated out as much as possible to allow for time delays between felling coupes and to try to ensure that there is not a glut of felling in any five-year period. However, delaying felling or bringing felling forward any further would result in severe economic losses from either a too small tree size or wind-damage as a result of delaying felling beyond a critical top height. In general, felling in this FMU is relatively stable and steady. The new acquisitions have improved timber production prospects due to their age profile. The plant years on many of these properties are in the 90's and 00's as opposed to the 80's.
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 layer added to Sensitivities Map in MP. Landscape character classified as LOW. Closed in Drumlin landscape across FMU. No significant landscape impacts expected.

5	Biodiversity Enhancement	<p>Biodiversity areas have been identified and classified on IForUT's GIS system. Good existing biodiversity features with unplanted swamp area in Halls and Drumna surrounding a small pond.</p>	<p>Opportunities for biodiversity enhancement will continue to occur at the reforestation phase following the felling of the first rotation crops. Native broadleaves will be planted, and specific areas left unplanted to create a mixture of native woodland and open habitat. As per the new standard for Felling and Reforestation, there will be uninterrupted water/aquatic zone, habitat, archaeological, public road, and utilised building (i.e. dwelling houses) setbacks created where required, and native broadleaves and Scots pine planted where practicable.</p> <p>Agharann, Cornulla, Halls, Killahurk, and Toome were felled and replanted in the previous plan period (2019 – 2023). Setbacks have been put in place from neighbouring houses and farm buildings in Agharann and Killahurk. In every site, planting setbacks from public roads/forest roads, watercourses/aquatic zones, and property boundaries were created with several rows of native broadleaves planted between the setback and commercial crop. In Halls Forest, existing hedgerows have been allowed to develop by not planting adjacent to them and existing broadleaved trees and scrub were retained in Agharann and Toome. The enhancement and/or creation of biodiversity features will continue with all replanting operations as illustrated in the Long-Term Restructuring Plan for the Halls FMU. There are some Ash plots in this FMU but all of these have been affected by ash dieback. These will eventually be cleared and the vast majority will be planted with broadleaves.</p>
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			In terms of species of note in the FMU, there are several records and sightings of hare, red squirrels, badgers, and pine marten across several properties.
6	Stakeholder	No stakeholder replies to date. Good relationships with neighbours and RoW holders.	Continue to log any stakeholder issues. County council main stakeholder with roading issues. There is a greater growing interest in forestry in general in this region.
7	Professional Development	managed. Ongoing development of the IForUT FMM and database over the period. 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 () has been introduced 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 manager training and updating of best practice.