



Irish Forestry Unit Trust

Kilmihil MU
Corraclare, Kilmihil Co. Clare
MANAGEMENT PLAN
2013 – 2032 (Period 3 2021 -2025)

2. GENERAL INTRODUCTION, OWNERSHIP AND LANDUSE HISTORY.

Kilmihil MU comprises of eleven separate forest blocks totalling 245ha. This forest MU is based on geographical location in South West County Clare. Legal folios are held on file. Prior to forest establishment area provided marginal farm land. Neighbouring landuse - marginal grazing, rough pasture, bog, cutover blanket bog, limited young/semi mature forestry.

Forest properties being reviewed:

1. Kilmihil 33.2ha. Established 1988.
2. Dangananella 26.4ha. Established 1990.

New property being added to the MU:

3. Derrynalecka 7.53ha. Established in 1994.
4. Drumdigus 8.8ha. Established in 1993 & 2007.
5. Lack West 11.65ha. Established in 1992.
6. Bolooghra 13.57ha.
7. Lacken 19.26ha.
8. Erribul 20.86ha.
9. Slievedooley 28.77ha.
10. Cooga 35.8ha.
11. Moanmore South 38.78ha.

Water/Fisheries Sensitivities:

All ground operations will take all precautions and mitigation to avoid ground damage, siltation, or any pollution entering watercourses.

Archaeology/Historical/Cultural:

There is a recorded enclosure within Erribul which scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP.

4. SOIL TYPES.

Surface water gleys/ peaty gleys, quite flat sites but with localised areas of deeper peat in unflushed hollows, especially in Kilmihil.

5. SUMMARY OF THE LANDSCAPE VALUE OF THE FOREST.

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

The general locality is sparsely population with no significant transport routes adjacent, minor county roads (not R roads) so local traffic only. The MU is characterised by flat exposed topography as found in this part of southwest Clare close to the Atlantic ocean (wind turbines visible from Dangananella). The landscape is historically heavily grazed with very little natural woodland cover or even individual specimen/ hedgerow trees. The emphasis of natural features in the restructuring process is therefore limited.

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	✓	
Line thinning only		
Non thin regime	✓	
Non intervention		✓
Natural regeneration		✓
Replanting	✓	
Other		

20. 5 Year Monitoring Report Summary. **Kilmihil**

	Objective	Was it achieved?	How this information was applied to 5 year Management Plan review?
1	Economic Return	Last operations that were carried out here was a second thinning in 2013. In 2014 this property was damaged by storm Darwin.	This property has been storm damaged and there are still small pockets of windblow throughout the site.
2	FSC Standards	FSC Standards FSC standards and IForUT systems applied over plan period.	Managers working off FMM V6. Continue as before and update FMM as required.
3	Timber production	In 2013 a thinning was carried out but in 2014 there was windblow caused by storm Darwin. The areas of windblow were felled in 2015. No further thinning to be carried out here in this rotation	There are some pockets of windblow throughout this property. The worst affected areas have been brought forward for clearfell in 2020.
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.
5	Biodiversity Enhancement	Opportunities to enhance biodiversity have been limited to occasional thinning along internal ditches etc.	Biodiversity enhancement in this property will take place in the second rotation. Biodiversity areas will be increased through increased planting of mixed broadleaves around forest boundaries.

6	Stakeholder	No issues with stakeholders following plan review. Request from neighbouring landowner to remove some trees.	During plan review completed full stakeholder consultation - advert in Clare Champion, local community group, forest notice and local based statutory bodies.
7	Professional Development	managed. Ongoing development of the IForUT FMM and database over the period.	Retendering of whole portfolio into regional management units in 2010 to simplify overall forest level management and FSC compliance. New centralised network 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 annual reviews of Forest Management Manual and annual reviews with forest managers.

5 Year Monitoring Report Summary. **Danganella**

	Objective	Was it achieved?	How this information was applied to 5 year Management Plan review?
1	Economic Return	Road was built here in 2011 and the first thinning was carried out in 2013. The property was subsequently damaged in 2014 following storm Darwin	This property has been storm damaged and there are still small pockets of windblow throughout the site. No further thinning in this property.
2	FSC Standards	FSC Standards FSC standards and IForUT systems applied over plan period.	Managers working off FMM V6. Continue as before and update FMM as required.
3	Timber production	1 st thinning was carried out in 2013. There will be no further thinning going forward. Areas of storm damage were felled in 2015.	Pockets of windblow remain throughout this property. The next clearfell is scheduled in 2024, if windblow worsens this will be taken out earlier. Due to flooding, some of sub 4 (to the west of the property is yet to be replanted.
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.
5	Biodiversity Enhancement	Opportunities to enhance biodiversity have been limited to occasional thinning along internal ditches etc.	The main opportunity to enhance biodiversity is in the second rotation. Open space and mixed broadleaf areas will be created along boundaries with county roads and rivers.
6	Stakeholder	No issues with stakeholders following plan review. Request from neighbouring landowner to remove some trees.	During plan review completed full stakeholder consultation - advert in Clare Champion, local community group, forest notice and local based statutory bodies.
7	Professional Development	██████████ managed. Ongoing development of the IForUT FMM and database over the period.	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 annual reviews of Forest Management Manual and annual reviews with forest managers.