



## Irish Forestry Unit Trust

<b>Sravannies Forest</b>
By Glenfarne, Co Leitrim
<b>MANAGEMENT PLAN</b>
2022 – 2041 (Period 2022-2026)



## **2. GENERAL INTRODUCTION, OWNERSHIP AND LANDUSE HISTORY.**

Sravannies comprises nine forest blocks totalling 176.4ha. Prior to forest establishment land was enclosed marginal grazing. Neighbouring landuse hill farm and forestry. As there are still personal possessions of the last farmer (planted 1981) in the house at Sravannies, this forest is noted as having significant heritage value for persons formerly associated with the land holding. IForUT is not aware of any historical enquiries or visits to the dwelling.

This MU is highly scenic and the landscape is dominated by Barleart and Lackagh Bogs on a mountainous plateau.

### **Forest properties being reviewed:**

1. Sravannies 8.76ha. Established in 1981 and replanted in 2021.

### **New property being added to the MU:**

2. Ardvarney 2 12.13ha. Established in 2022.
3. Aghavanny 28.5ha. Established in 2005.
4. Cornacloy 19ha. Established in 1995.
5. Annaghboy 45.9ha. Established in 2002.
6. Aughrim 20ha. Established in 1998.
7. Dergvone 16.4ha. Established in 2004.
8. Coollegreane 8.6ha. Established in 2008.
9. Lisnanorris 16.8ha. Established in 1989.

**Statutory Land Designations**

Boleybrack Mountain SAC SITECODE 002032 runs along the Southern part of Aughrim.

**Water/Fisheries Sensitivities:**

This MU lies within Garravogue, Erne West, Lough Melvin and Upper Shannon water catchments. Refer to Map 9.

**Archaeology/Historical/Cultural:**

There is a cairn and a ringfort in Annaghboy with numerous other features surrounding the forest, while there is another ringfort in Lisnanorris. Refer to Map 4.

**4. SOIL TYPES.**

Mountain landscape on peaty gleys.

**5. SUMMARY OF THE LANDSCAPE VALUE OF THE FOREST.****Low Felling Impact with no Afforestation Sensitivity Refer to Map 3.**

All forest blocks are classed as low felling impact on the IForUT system due partly to the extensive forested landscape and small size of the IForUT holdings. Whenever felling licences are submitted to the Forest Service, they will correspond with relevant local and statutory bodies to investigate any potential landscape sensitivities. The Forest Service Moderate Landscape Sensitivity class, as defined for afforestation planning covers the

three upland properties which will require some sensitivity given to the restocking planning in this MU.

To address the potential landscape impact issues caused by future clearfelling, the felling plan (Map 6) has applied a significant coupe restructuring plan to reduce clearfell size and introduce coupe separation. The long-term restructuring plan (Map 7) outlines future restructuring species which is limited to Sitka spruce based on soil types and management objectives. Biodiversity enhancement in Map 7 is focused on the creation of additional open ground and expansion of broadleaf planting. Species choice is specifically matched to soil type and exposure.

## **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		

**5 Year Monitoring Report Summary. Sravannies**

	Objective	Was it achieved?	How this information was applied to 5 year Management Plan review?
1	Economic Return	Sravannies was a No thin crop due to late acquisition. Clearfelled in 2020 as Crop was growing above YC24. Forest roaded in 2007.	Sravannies was felled in 2020 in its entirety. The newer properties in the FMU, while productive, have not had many oppourtunites where an economic return could be gleaned. Properties such as Cornacloy, Annaghboy, Aughrim and Coollegreane have not been thinned and most of this is due to access which requires resolution. Lissnanorrus has been thinned however despite low volumes being removed, windblow has come into this crop and this windblow will diminish the economic return on the final crop.
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	No thin crop and standing volumes are expected to be higher than standard forecasting models.	Sravannies property was clearfelled in its entirety in 2020. There were limited options in this MU to break up the felling any further due to the size of the property, the whole of the crop having the same plant year. To delay felling for a section and creating open edges increases risks of timber becoming windblown and losing value. Likewise, Cornacloy will have to be felled in one block but this is due to access issues. There are also access issues in other properties such as Cornacloy, Annaghboy, Aughrim and Coollegreane which is holding up thinning operations. With the exception of Lisnanorris, there is no clearfelling scheduled in the FMU over the next 5 years due to the age profile of the forests.
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. Felling Plan (Map6) and Restructuring Plan (Map7) designed to mitigate future felling impacts. In as far as possible, felling coupes have been designed to be as small as possible to mitigate the impact of felling on the landscape. However for operational reasons Cornacloy will have to be removed in one go due to access issued.
5	Biodiversity Enhancement	No biodiversity enhancement to date due to no thin regime.	The main opportunity thus far to improve and enhance biodiversity has been post clearfell in Sravannies. This consists mainly of open ground which is left along watercourses bounded by some broadleaves and some lines of broadleaves and open spaces by the county roads. 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. Full stakeholder consultation completed for plan review.	During plan review a more comprehensive stakeholder consultation has been conducted compared to the 1 <sup>st</sup> plan preparation process. Refer to stakeholder spreadsheet.
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 ██████████ is 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 and updating of best practice.
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