



IForUT

Investing for a Sustainable Future

Irish Forestry Unit Trust

Kiltynaskellan MU
By Killashandra, Cavan Town & Bailieborough, Co. Cavan
MANAGEMENT PLAN
2025 – 2044 (Plan Period: 2025 – 2029)

GENERAL INTRODUCTION, OWNERSHIP AND LANDUSE HISTORY.

Kiltynaskellan Management Unit (MU) comprises 11 properties totalling 193.0ha. This MU is based on geographical location in east County Cavan. Prior to forest establishment, the primary land use was unimproved grassland and rough grazing. The properties are adjoined by commercial forest plantations and agricultural holdings comprised of improved grassland and rough grazing.

Forest properties being reviewed:

1. Kiltynaskellan – 65.47ha. Established circa 1997.
2. Ned & Raleigh – 27.82ha. Established circa 2000.
3. Drumbee – 7.73ha. Established circa 2003.
4. Drumcassidy – 14.08ha. Established circa 2001.
5. Burren – 10.32ha. Established circa 2001.
6. Seeoran – 8.2ha. Established circa 2020.
7. Rathcorrick – 10.61ha. Established circa 2021.
8. Lecks – 15.49ha. Established circa 2020.
9. Cornasker – 9.64ha. Established circa 2001.
10. Knocknalosset – 9.38ha. Established circa 2022.

New property to be added to the MU:

11. Killygorman – 14.25ha. Established circa 2024.

All forested land is owned by freehold title by the Irish Forestry Unit Trust (IForUT). Legal folios are held on file.

Elevation

- Kiltynaskellan – 110 metres to 60 metres.
- Ned & Raleigh – 100 metres to 70 metres.
- Drumbee – 120 metres to 100 metres.
- Drumcassidy – 100 metres to 90 metres.
- Burren – 90 metres to 70 metres.
- Seeoran – 200 metres to 165 metres.
- Rathcorrick – 180 metres to 125 metres.
- Lecks – 180 metres to 120 metres.
- Cornasker – 100 metres to 70 metres.
- Knocknalosset – 110 metres to 95 metres.

- Killygorman – 95 metres to 70 metres.

Statutory Land Designations

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

Water/Fisheries Sensitivities:

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

- Boyne Catchment
 - Blackwater [Kells]_SC_010 sub catchment
- Erne Catchment
 - Annalee_SC_010 sub catchment
 - Annalee_SC_020 sub catchment
 - Blackwater [Newtowngore]_SC_020
 - Cavan_SC_010
 - Cullies_SC_010
 - Erne_SC_010
 - Woodford [Cavan]_SC_010

Margaritifera (Fresh Water Pearl Mussel)

Knocknalosset and Lecks are situated in the Erne – Annalee FWPM zone.

Erne – Annalee FWPM is a catchment with previous records of Margaritifera (Fresh Water Pearl Mussel). Status unknown. IForUT will adhere to the Forest and Water Quality Guidelines - all ground operations are to take all precautions and mitigation to avoid ground damage, siltation, or any pollution entering watercourses.

Old Woodland Sites (OWS):

There are no OWS/potential OWS situated in the Kiltynaskellan MU.

Archaeology/Historical/Cultural:

There are two features of archaeological, historical, and cultural significance situated in Drumbee in the Kiltynaskellan MU and are marked on all operational maps and will be

protected. These features are recorded on the 'Sites and Monuments Record' (<https://maps.archaeology.ie/HistoricEnvironment/>).

The Forest Service advises on protection and outlines mitigation measures when IForUT applies for a license to conduct 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.

SOIL TYPES.

There are three soil types across the Kiltynaskellan MU Forest sites.

- Brown earth is the primary soil type within the MU with surface water gley, and peat soils also distributed across the forest sites.

SUMMARY OF THE LANDSCAPE VALUE OF THE FOREST.

Low Felling Impact with Low Afforestation Sensitivity

All forest blocks are classed as low to moderate 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 the Forest Service 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 has applied a significant coupe restructuring plan to reduce clearfell size and introduce coupe separation. Long-term restructuring plan outlines future restructuring species, which are limited to Sitka spruce and Norway spruce based on soil types and management objectives. Biodiversity enhancement is focused on the creation of additional open ground and the expansion of broadleaved woodland. Species choice is specifically matched to soil type and exposure.

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.

(IForUT's FSC licence code : FSC-C003194)

Summary of silvicultural systems to be used.

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. **Kenmare MU**

	Objective	Was it achieved?	How was this information applied to 5-year Management Plan review?
1	Economic Return	Kiltynaskellan, Ned & Raleigh, Drumcassidy, Burren – were 1st thinned in the past five years. Drumbee and Cornasker may be thinned in the next plan period subject to RoW access. On the night and early morning hours of 23rd and 24th of January 2025, several properties within the MU suffered catastrophic windblow due to Storm Eowyn.	Further thinning may be carried out on various sites across the FMU subject to crop stability and access. No clearfelling planned within the next plan period as six properties were planted between 1997 and 2003. Four sites were planted in the last three years under the Forest Service afforestation scheme. Windblow clearance/salvage operations are scheduled to take place in 2025 and 2026.
2	Certification Standards	Certification standards and IForUT systems applied over the plan period. Managers working off FMM	Continue as before and update FMM as required.

3	Timber production	Decent quality crops with high YC overall. Timber production had been maximised through thinning where possible. There may be further thinning works across the FMU subject to access and crop stability.	Strong DBH growth in thinned crops and significant volume increment and the crop appears to be stable. There will be minimal clearfelling over the next 5-year period, given the scale of windblow clearances. Felling coupes have been designed to be as small as possible to minimise any potential landscape impacts. Felling coupes have also been separated 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 because of delaying felling beyond a critical top height.
4	Landscape	Two new landscape layers were added to the 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 the Sensitivities Map in MP. All properties classified as having Low sensitivity according to LU classification. All were classified as low in FS classification apart from a specific area in Kiltynaskellan into the High Sensitivity Category.

5	Biodiversity Enhancement	Biodiversity areas have been identified and classified across the FMU on IForUT's GIS system. There have been limited opportunities to enhance biodiversity as no felling and reforestation operations have taken place in this FMU, however, four sites within the MU – Kiltynaskellan, Ned & Raleigh, Drumcassidy, Burren – were 1st thinned in the past five years.	There will be opportunities for continued biodiversity enhancement at the reforestation phase following the clearance of the crops severely damaged by Storm Eowyn. Native broadleaves will be planted, and specific areas will be left unplanted to create a mixture of native woodland and open habitat. In accordance with the standard for Felling and Reforestation (2019), 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. Under the Forest Service afforestation scheme, Seeoran, Rathcorrick, Lecks, Knocknalosset and Killygorman were planted in the past five years. Planting setbacks from the public roads, forest road, watercourses/aquatic zones, neighbouring houses, and property boundaries were created with several rows of native broadleaves planted between the setback and the commercial crop. The enhancement and/or creation of biodiversity features will continue with all reforestation and afforestation operations as illustrated in the Long-Term Restructuring Plan for the Kiltynaskellan FMU. In terms of species of note in the FMU, there is a badger sett in the drain bank adjoining the sycamore plantation in Drumcassidy.
6	Stakeholder	General quiet locality. Good relationships with neighbours and RoW holders.	During the plan review, a comprehensive stakeholder consultation was conducted. See Stakeholder files.

7	Professional Development	managed. 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.