



IForUT

Investing for a Sustainable Future

Irish Forestry Unit Trust

Tinode MU
Blessington, Co. Wicklow
MANAGEMENT PLAN
2025 – 2044 (Plan Period 1: 2025 -2029)

GENERAL INTRODUCTION, OWNERSHIP AND LANDUSE HISTORY.

Tinode MU comprises of 3 separate forest blocks totalling 107.47ha.

Forest properties being reviewed:

1. Carrigacurra, 38.27ha. Established in 1996 with SS. Acquired by IForUT in 2018.
2. Lockstown Upper, 48.45ha. Established between 1993 and 2008. Acquired by IForUT in 2018.

New property being added to the MU:

1. Granabeg Upper, 20.74ha. Established in 1990 with SS. Acquired by IForUT in 2022.

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

Elevation

Site elevation is between 223 – 403m

Statutory Land Designations

There are no properties within Statutory Land Designations. Carrigacurra bounds Wicklow Mountains SAC but does not enter it.

Water/Fisheries Sensitivities:

The forest sites within the Tinode MU are in the following catchment(s) and sub-catchment(s): Liffey, Avonmore and Dargle

Margaritifera

Both Lockstown Upper and Granabeg Upper are within Margaritifera sensitive areas: Catchments of other extant populations. See map 4

Old Woodland Sites (OWS):

There is no OWS in the Tinode MU.

Archaeology/Historical/Cultural:

There are no recorded monuments within the sites. Refer to Map 4.

SOIL TYPES.

Predominantly shallow soils derived from non-calcareous rock or gravels

SUMMARY OF THE LANDSCAPE VALUE OF THE FOREST.

High Felling Impact with High Afforestation Sensitivity - Refer to Map 3. The properties are in areas of outstanding natural beauty – Mountain Uplands

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. 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 being 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. **Tinode MU**

	Objective	Was it achieved?	How was this information applied to 5-year Management Plan review?
1	Economic Return	Thinning in properties during 2020/2023 with more planned over the next few years. Properties are fully roaded.	Tinode MU is typically a strong productive MU. No significant changes to plan for next five-year period.
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	Subsequent thin are envisaged in 2025 and 2027.	Clear-fells will not be scheduled until 2031 in Granabeg, possibly earlier depending on volume increment.
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. Coupes have been kept as small as possible.
5	Biodiversity Enhancement	Biodiversity areas have been identified and classified across the FMU on IForUT's GIS system. As crops are entering stages of felling and restocking, increased broadleaves and open spaces are being created.	<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.</p> <p>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>

6	Stakeholder	General a quiet locality. Little interaction with neighbours.	Comprehensive stakeholder consultation has been conducted.
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.