



Irish Forestry Unit Trust

Monbay MU
Gorey, Co. Wexford
MANAGEMENT PLAN
2009 – 2028
(Period 4: 2021 -2025)

2. GENERAL INTRODUCTION, OWNERSHIP AND LANDUSE HISTORY.

Monbay Forest MU comprises of 2 separate forest blocks totalling 73ha.

Forest properties being reviewed:

1. Monbay, 31.9ha. The 1st plantings were in 1963, of which to date 21.7ha has been felled and restocked.

New property being added to the MU:

2. Monbay 2, 3.21ha. Established circa 1992 with mostly SS.
3. Monaleehill, 37.95ha. Planted in 1995 with mostly SS and a small area of NS.

Slaney River Valley (SAC & pNHA 000781 [Slaney River Valley SAC | National Parks & Wildlife Service \(npws.ie\)](#)) runs through the MU approximately 1.8km from Monaleehill and 5km from the Monbay properties.

4. SOIL TYPES.

Monbay and Monbay 2 soil - podzol with varying depths of peat. Well drained.

Monaleehill Shallow well drained mineral. Derived from mainly non-calcareous parent materials – Soil group: Lithosols, Regosols.

5. SUMMARY OF THE LANDSCAPE VALUE OF THE FOREST.

Moderate Felling Impact with Moderate Afforestation Sensitivity - Refer to Map 3.

Although in a generally sparsely populated area the forest is prominent within a 4km radius. The neighbouring land poor hill grazing and the Moderate Afforestation impact relates to a change of landuse. Map 6 shows felling plan which aims to reduce future coupe size and create greater separation. DF planting as shown on Map 7 will further help to mitigate landscape impact of the forest.

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. **Monbay**

	Objective	Was it achieved?	How this information was applied to 5 year Management Plan review?
1	Economic Return	Property is fully roaded and last clearfell was 2014.	No significant changes to plan for next five-year period.
2	FSC Standards	FSC standards and IForUT systems applied over plan period. Managers working off FMM	Continue as before and update FMM as required.
3	Timber production	Clearfell on eastern side of the property in 2014.	Clear-fells won't be scheduled until 2030 in the stronger sections of the property and thereafter no further clearfells will be taking place in the MU within the planning period.
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 Map added to MP. New felling coupe design added to MP which keeps coupes separated. Classified as having medium landscape sensitivity according to IForUT LU's and high according to FS classification. Forest is on a prominent hill and is visible from the surrounding area. DF added in for species diversity and Coupes separated as well as possible.
5	Biodiversity Enhancement	Limited opportunities to enhance biodiversity	Restructuring plan Map7 addresses biodiversity requirements. Main opportunities to enhance biodiversity occurring after clearfell with replanting. Species diversity enhanced through using DF/SS mix and planting broadleaves along boundaries

6	Stakeholder	Forest has low level local stakeholder relationships.	During plan review, conducted a more comprehensive stakeholder consultation has been completed. Regional press/ forest notices/ local community groups and local statutory bodies consulted. See stakeholder folder.
7	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 [REDACTED] is being used 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 introduce annual manager training and updating of best practice.