



Coillte Teoranta

Forest Management Plan

Keeper Hill

TY03

2006 to 2010

District Manager

District

Gerry Murphy

S2



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Introduction

Forest: TY03 Keeper Hill
District: S2 District Manager Gerry Murphy

Keeper Hill forest is situated in Keeper hill forest is situated in the slieve felim mountain range east of Limerick city and is located in the Shannon river catchment area. The forest area owned by Coillte is 3,345 hectares in size is dominated by Keeper hill itself and is made up mainly of upland forest. The summit of keeper and some of the surrounding area is designated as NHA with a tota area of 308 hectares.

The main soil type in Keeper Hill are are high level peats approximately 50% with the remainder made up predominately of Gleys and podzols.

The main towns and villages located in the catchment area of Keeper Hill forest are Limerick city 10 miles to the west, Newport and situated within the forest catchment and Nenagh to the East, and Rearcross village to the west

The management focus for the forest is concerned with production forestry with 79% of the forest having timber production as an objective. This is due to the soil types and the elevation at which most of the crops are growing at, there are limited oppertunities for species diversification because of those factors. However some 680 hectares or 20% of the total forest area is being managed for Biodiversity, with 16.4% designated as NHA?SAC. The primary focus on the expansion of the forest area will be primarily farm partnerships with the current level of 3.3% expected to increase. There is one old Woodland site in the forest that in the long term will be restored to through small coupe felling of excotics and replacement with native species

In the period 2006-2009 the average annual clearfell will be 42 hectares or 1.5% of total stocked area. The toal area to be clearfelled in the four year period is 166 hectares or 6% of total stocked area. The average clearfell area will fall to 27.9 hectares for the the period 2010-2014, and will fall further to 20.8 hectares for the period 2016-2019. For the period 2020-2024 the clearfell area will increase as the second rotation of crops mature in the forest.

Total clearfell volume for the period 2006 - 2010 is 55,000m³

The forest contains 9 and 0 experiment plots. Proposed SPs (if any) containing either seedstands or experiment plots will be marked SD or EX as appropriate in tables 2.6 and 2.7



Table 1 Area by Objective

<u>OBJECTIVE</u>	<u>AREA (ha)</u>	<u>%</u>
Timber Production	2,669.1	79.0%
Biodiversity	679.0	20.1%
Non-forest Commercial	4.2	0.1%
Seed Stand	26.0	0.8%
Total	3,378.2	100.0%



Table 2 Area by Special Consideration

Forest:	TY03	Keeper Hill	
<u>SPECIAL CONSIDERATION</u>		<u>AREA (ha)</u>	<u>%</u>
Farm Partnership		113.3	3.4%
None		2,601.5	77.0%
Old Woodland Site		68.5	2.0%
Potential Sale		40.0	1.2%
Statutory Designation		554.9	16.4%
Total		3,378.2	100.0%



Table 3 Area by Fell Year

Forest: TY03

Keeper Hill

<u>FELL YEAR</u>	<u>AREA (ha)</u>	<u>ANNUAL AVERAGE</u>
2006	10.4	
2007	15.2	
2008	57.5	
2009	84.2	
<u>5 Year Total and Average</u>	<u>167.2</u>	<u>20.90</u>
2010	24.0	
2011	54.1	
2012	14.8	
2013	33.7	
2014	12.9	
<u>5 Year Total and Average</u>	<u>139.5</u>	<u>13.95</u>
2015	0.0	
2016	23.4	



<u>FELL YEAR</u>	<u>AREA (ha)</u>	<u>ANNUAL AVERAGE</u>
2017	23.1	
2018	39.1	
2019	17.1	
<u>5 Year Total and Average</u>	<u>102.7</u>	<u>11.41</u>
2020	121.1	
2021	42.4	
2022	43.3	
2023	70.9	
2024	76.1	
<u>5 Year Total and Average</u>	<u>353.8</u>	<u>39.31</u>

Table 4 Area by Species Group

Forest:	TY03	Keeper Hill	
	<u>SPECIES GROUP</u>	<u>AREA (ha)</u>	<u>%</u>
	ALD	1.7	0.1
	ASH	7.5	0.3
	BE	8.0	0.3
	BI	7.4	0.3
	DF	6.9	0.3
	FIR	12.5	0.5
	LAR	73.3	2.7
	LP	153.0	5.6
	NS	44.8	1.7
	OAK	1.9	0.1
	OB	9.4	0.3
	OC	1.3	0.0
	OP	3.8	0.1
	SS	2,376.4	87.8
		2,708.0	100.0



124	TY03-8	Timber Production	None	10.6	1.6	6.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.9	0.0
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Total MU Area 57.5

2009

MU	Map Cutting	Objective	Special Considerations	MU Area (ha)	Open	Spruce	LP	SP	Area (ha)								
									LAR	FIR	OC	Oak	BE	Ash	BI	Ald	OB

5	TY03-1	Timber Production	None	7.7	1.1	4.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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144	TY03-6	Timber Production	None	43.1	6.5	33.0	0.0	0.0	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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87	TY03-9	Timber Production	None	20.5	3.1	14.8	0.0	0.0	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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105	TY03-9	Timber Production	None	10.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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193	TY03-13	Timber Production	None	2.8	0.4	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
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Total MU Area 84.2

2010

MU	Map Cutting	Objective	Special Considerations	MU Area (ha)	Open	Spruce	LP	SP	Area (ha)								
									LAR	FIR	OC	Oak	BE	Ash	BI	Ald	OB

75	TY03-5	Timber Production	None	9.2	1.4	7.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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116	TY03-7	Timber Production	None	14.8	2.2	10.7	0.0	0.0	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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Total MU Area 24.0

