



Presentation to the  
Citizen's Assembly  
on Biodiversity Loss

15<sup>th</sup> October 2022

## Our **PURPOSE**














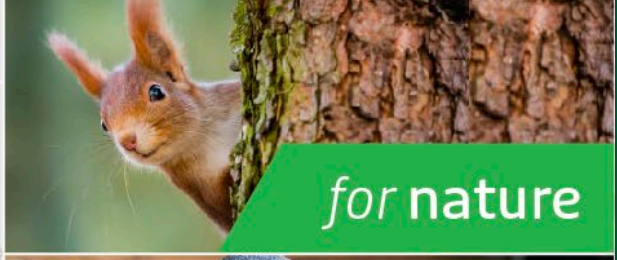





To manage the  
state forests on  
behalf of the  
people of Ireland

## Our **MISSION**

To deliver the  
multiple benefits  
of our forests to  
society



# Role of Forests: The Multiple Values of Forests

UN GOALS		FOREST VALUES		OBJECTIVES
<div>3</div> <div>GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</div> <div></div> <div>6</div> <div>CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION</div> <div></div> <div>7</div> <div>AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY</div> <div></div> <div>8</div> <div>DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</div> <div></div> <div>9</div> <div>INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE</div> <div></div> <div>11</div> <div>SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES</div> <div></div> <div>12</div> <div>RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION</div> <div></div> <div>13</div> <div>CLIMATE ACTION</div> <div></div> <div>15</div> <div>LIFE ON LAND</div> <div></div>	Good Health & Wellbeing		Climate Change Mitigation	 <div>for climate</div>
	Clean Water & Sanitation		Water & Soil Protection	
	Affordable & Clean Energy		Habitats for Nature & Wildlife	 <div>for nature</div>
	Work & Economic Growth		Sustainable Products	 <div>for wood</div>
	Innovation & Infrastructure		Health & Wellbeing	
	Sustainable Construction		Rural Economy & Job Creation	 <div>for people</div>
	Consumption & Production			
	Climate Action			
	Life on Land			



# Forests for Nature: Increasing Biodiversity

20%

Currently 90,000 ha is managed primarily for Biodiversity

## Forest Habitats:

- Ancient Woodland
- Native Woodlands

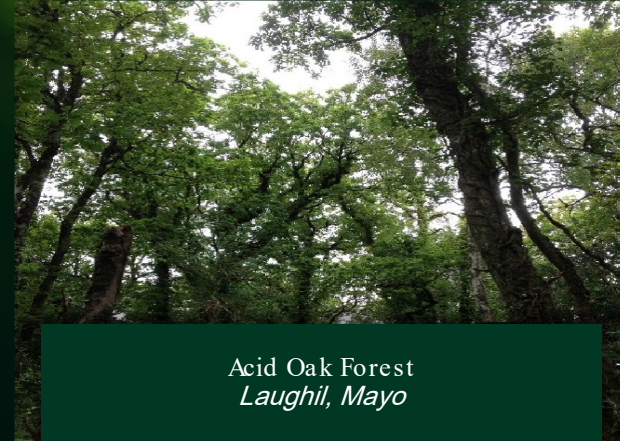
## Open Habitats:

- Wet Heathland
- Limestone Pavements

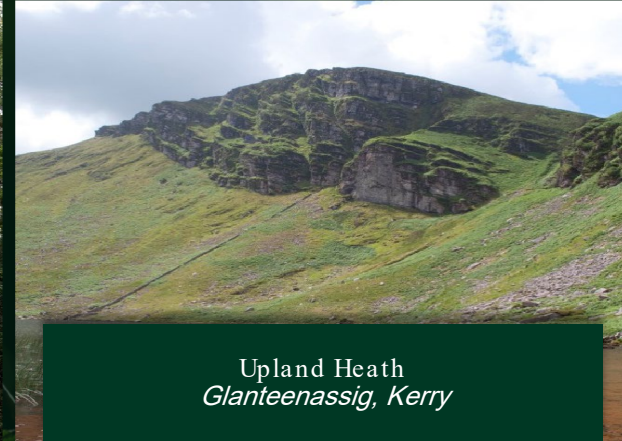
30%

Near-term increase of 44,000 ha from potential High Biodiversity Areas

- Old Woodland Sites
- Sensitive Areas  
e.g. freshwater pearl mussel forests
- Designated Area  
e.g. SACs, SPAs, NHAs



Acid Oak Forest  
*Laughil, Mayo*



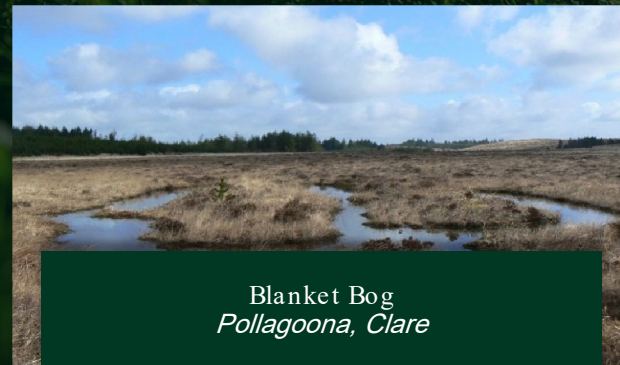
Upland Heath  
*Glanteenassig, Kerry*



Veteran Beech  
*Portumna, Galway*



Thinned Beech Forest  
*Knockbarron, Offaly*



Blanket Bog  
*Pollagoona, Clare*



Scots Pine Forest  
*Kilshane, Tipperary*



# Forests for Nature: Biodiversity Challenges



## Forests for Nature: Increasing Biodiversity

20%

Existing Biodiversity

30%

Near-term Increase

50%

Longer-term increase  
of 70,000 ha to create  
new habitats through  
Forest Redesign

- Redesigning Peatlands (Rewet or Rewild)
- High Recreation-Use Forests
- Transition of Legacy Areas



# Forests for Nature: The Role of Coillte Nature



## RESTORING BIODIVERSITY

Restoring important biodiversity areas by investing in major habitat improvements



## REGENERATING URBAN FORESTS

Regenerating and creating new urban forests for the benefit of people and nature

**COILLTE**  
*nature*



## REHABILITATING ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

Rehabilitating ecosystem services by bringing sensitive or degraded lands into better health



## AFFORESTING LANDSCAPES

Afforesting our landscapes by planting new native woodlands



# Balancing Multiple Objectives

## The Right Objective in the Right Place with the Right Trees

### Forests for Climate



**Create 100,000 ha of new forests**, half of which will be native woodlands, that sink 18M tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> by 2050

Manage the existing Forest Estate to **increase the carbon store by 10M tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> by 2050**



**Redesign 30,000 ha of Peatland Forests** for climate and ecological benefits by 2050

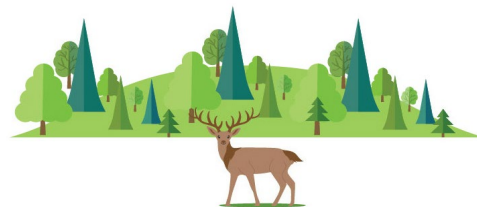


**Generate 1 Gigawatt renewable** Wind Energy to power 500,000 homes by 2030

### Forests for Nature



**Enhance and restore biodiversity** by increasing the area managed primarily for Nature from 20% to 30% by 2025



**Transform areas of our forests** so that 50% of estate is managed primarily for Nature in the long-term

### Forests for Wood



**Produce 25 million cubic metres of certified Irish timber** to support the construction of 300,000 homes by 2030



**Promote the use and benefits of wood products** to increase the level of timber homes from 20% to 80% by 2050

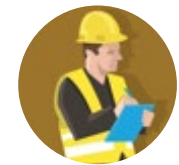
### Forests for People



**Enable the investment of €100 million** in world-class Visitor Destinations to support growth in tourism and recreation by 2030



**Double the number of Recreation Areas** to 500, benefiting local communities and people's wellbeing



**Create 1,200 new jobs** in rural communities to support the just transition to a low carbon economy





Thank You

