

The background of the slide is a photograph of a dense forest of tall, slender trees, likely pines or firs, with green foliage. The trees are spaced closely together, and the ground is covered with low-lying vegetation and ferns. The lighting suggests a bright, sunny day.

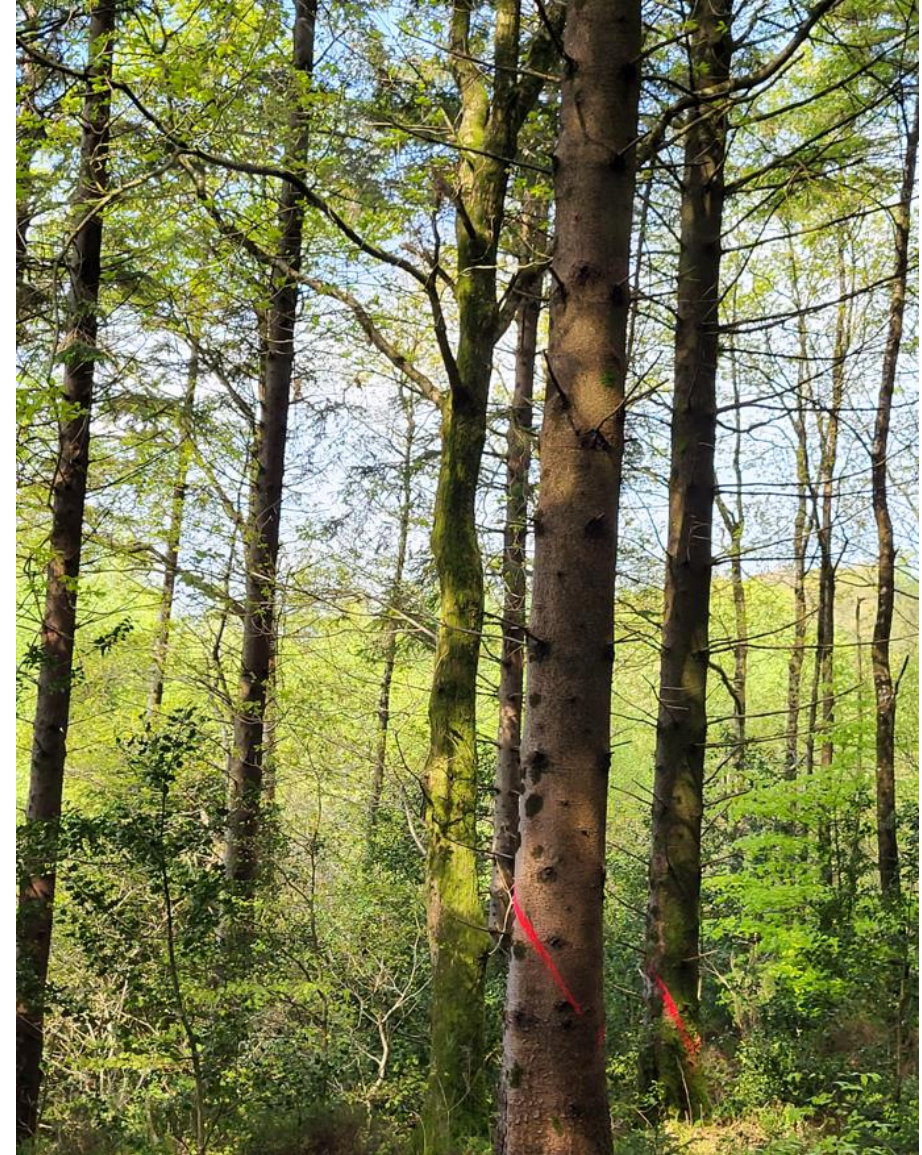
# CCF in Practice in the State Forests

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# Outline

- Coillte's strategic vision
- CCF management in our state forests
  - Coillte
  - NPWS
- Case studies
- Challenges & opportunities



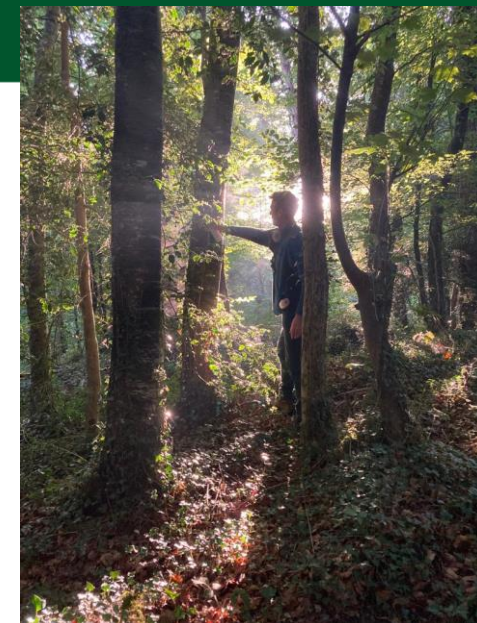
- Ireland's semi-state forestry company
- Manages 440,000 hectares of primarily forested lands (state forests)
  - Currently 20% of the estate managed primarily for nature (90,000ha)
  - 30% to be managed primarily for nature by the end of 2025

Our Balanced Ambitions		
for Climate	1	100,000 Ha new Forests by 2050
	2	10m tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> store increase by 2050
	3	30,000 Ha Peatland redesigned by 2050
	4	1 Gigawatt Renewable energy by 2030
for Nature	5	30% primarily for Nature by 2025
	6	50% primarily for Nature in long-term
for Wood	7	25 million m <sup>3</sup> timber by 2030
	8	80% timber frame homes by 2050
for People	9	€100m in Visitor destinations by 2030
	10	Doubling Recreation areas to 500
	11	1,200 new jobs in rural communities



# CCF Management in Our State Forests

- Coillte
  - Increase in CCF implementation in recent years as part of **BIOForest project & Dublin Mountains Makeover**
  - Supported by training and mentoring for staff & contractors, and by practice
  - Coillte prioritises sites for CCF that have a high ecological value and/or high amenity value
- NPWS
  - Starting to implement CCF as a management tool in forests including sites in Killarney, Wicklow and Glenveagh National Parks



- Management of biodiversity areas across Coillte estate
- Sites are selected for CCF based on their ecological value and silvicultural suitability
- Range of forest types and most are late transformation
- Management objective is to diversify forest structure and composition, and to promote ecological processes (e.g. natural regeneration)
- Timber production also a feature
- Particular focus in CCF intervention on enhancing biodiversity value e.g. creating deadwood, protecting veteran trees, favoring native/ minor species etc.
- C. 1400ha CCF thinning in last 5 years





# Case study 1: Glenart, Co. Wicklow

- Mixed forest with Norway spruce and oak
- 36ha CCF thinning 2023
- 27m<sup>3</sup> timber volume/ha





## Case study 2: Rosturra, Co. Galway

- Sitka spruce dominated conifer forest with pockets of old oak woodland
- 16ha CCF thinning 2023
- 62m<sup>3</sup> timber volume/ha





## Case study 3: Emo, Co. Laois

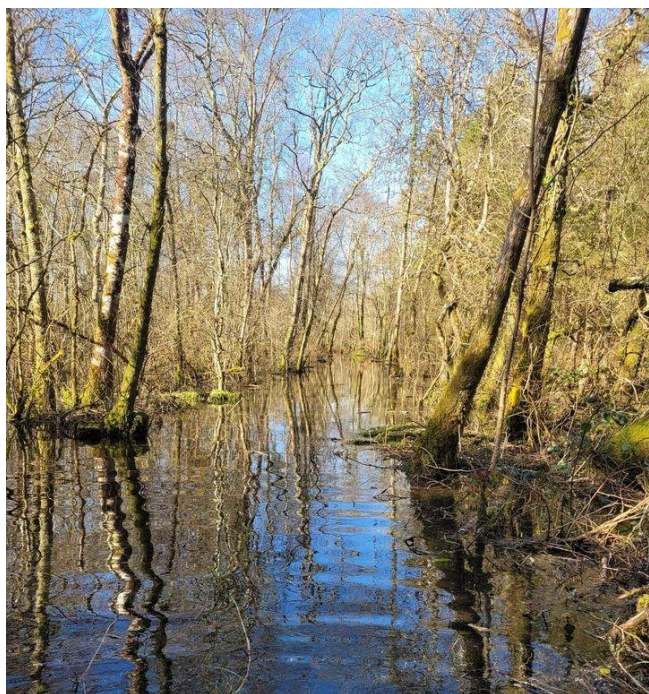
- Douglas fir dominated conifer forest with some sitka spruce and beech
- 36ha CCF thinning 2023
- 57m<sup>3</sup> timber volume/ha





## Case study 4: Hazelwood, Co. Sligo

- Native alluvial forest and mixed beech & oak forest
- CCF thinning 2023, 11ha fell-to-waste & 46ha timber volume 33m<sup>3</sup>/ha
- Some underplanting with native species in beech-dominated and ash dieback areas





# Case study 5: Forests for People- Dublin Mountain Makeover

- Nine Coillte properties (900ha) on Dublin's doorstep are being transitioned into multi-generational forests managed under CCF principles.
- Aim: to enrich forests recreational appeal for people, enhance habitats for wildlife, improve the wider landscape's aesthetic appeal, improve climate resilience
- Over last 5 years – 190ha CCF thinning
- Project commenced in 2020 and will continue for the next few decades.





# Challenges & opportunities

## • Challenges

- Late transformation
- Deer impacts
- Public access
- Communications
- Timing restrictions

## • Opportunities

- CCF can deliver multiple benefits of forests for nature, people, climate and wood
- Potential to restore ecological processes in many of our forests as part of nature restoration
- Key tool in the delivery of the Coillte strategy





Thanks!

