



Site Management Past and Present

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Project Site Manager



8 May 2008

LIFE04 NAT/IE/000121
"Restoring Raised Bog in Ireland"

coilte¹



Managing 2 Raised Bog LIFE sites

- Project site No. 7 Drumalough Bog
- Project site No. 8 Cloonshanville Bog

■ Areas involved	Drumalough	43.2 ha
	Cloonshanville	34.2 ha
	Total area	77.4 ha



Map of Drumalough Bog Project site



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Map of Cloonshanville Bog Project site



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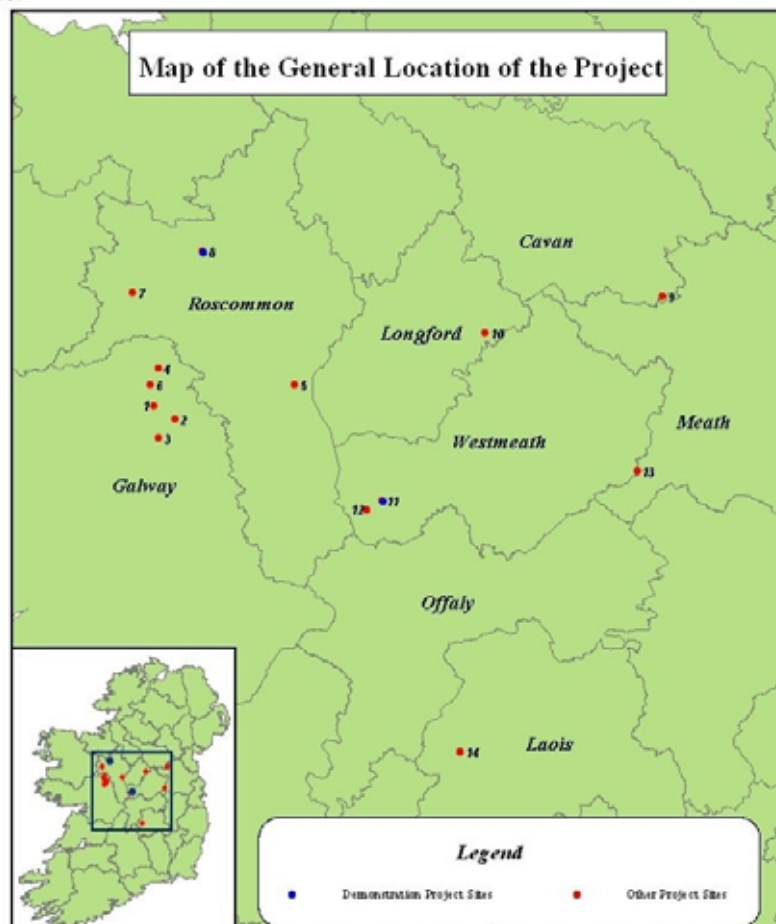
LIFE Sites / Coillte & Biodiversity

All 14 Raised Bog LIFE sites are in SAC's
All designated areas both NHA's and SAC's are
included in Coillte's biodiversity areas
Biodiversity areas – 15% of Coillte estate
Primary objective – managed for biodiversity into
the future



Main objective

- Wetting-up of project sites – this has been achieved by removing plantations, and blocking drains to raise water levels sufficiently (within 10cm of the surface) to encourage the growth of the peat forming sphagnum mosses



- Map of all 14 project sites, spread throughout the Midlands
- Sites 7 & 8 in Co. Roscommon



Aerial Photograph of section of Cloonshanville Bog taken in 2000



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Plantation on Cloonshanville Bog



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Main Project Actions Sites 7 & 8

Action	Drumalough	Cloonshanville
Commercial Harvesting	16.8 ha	5 ha
Fell to waste	15.2 ha	17 ha
Land survey for location of dams	32 ha	30.7 ha
Fencing	220 m	Nil
Firelines	720 m	1000 m
Install dams	32 ha	30.7 ha



Commercial felling



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Project Actions



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Main monitoring Actions

Action	Drumalough	Cloonshanville
Dipwell installed	10	12
Quadrats	5	7
Water Quality monitoring	Nil	1
Vegetation control (ha)	6 ha	5 ha
Check & repair dams	Ongoing	Ongoing



Water quality / level monitoring



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Cloonshanville Bog – Demonstration site

- Access good, close to population centres of Frenchpark Village and Town of Boyle
- Car Park, Boardwalk and Interpretative signage
- Focus of PR Campaign for the Raised Bog Restoration project



Construction of Car Park and boardwalk at Cloonshanville Bog



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Local Community Involvement

- Frenchpark Tidy Towns Committee – since the beginning of the project
- Shown great interest in the work being carried out at Cloonshanville Bog – used as an amenity
- Patrolling the area to control dumping. Pay tribute in particular to Hilary Tully and her committee for their hard work



Visitors to Cloonshanville Bog

- Many visitors to Cloonshanville demonstration site in the last couple of years include :-
- **Project Management Group,**
 - **Project Advisory Panel - (which has representation from Teagasc, Irish Peatland Conservation Council, Birdwatch, The Heritage Council, Fisheries Board, etc)**
 - **The International Steering Group from UCD's Bogland Project and lots of others**



Visitors to Cloonshanville Bog



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Ongoing Work

- Vegetation control – regenerating pine and birch
- Check and repair dams
- Monitoring of water levels and vegetation quadrats by the Project Ecologist



The “Restoring Raised Bog in Ireland”

- Turning back the clock!
- These sites are of Irish and European importance – Raised Bog is scarce habitat – 51% of active raised bog remaining in the EU is in Ireland – we need to treasure it



Bog plants



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Pool system at Drumalough Bog



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