SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: LOUGH GRANEY WOODS

SITE CODE: 001714

This site is situated on the south-east shore of Lough Graney, and about 5km north of Feakle. It is located on Silurian rocks exposed in the heart of an old red sandstone anticline.

The wood is a native mixed woodland of Downy Birch (*Betula pubescens*), Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*), Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), Hazel (*Corylus avellana*), oak (*Quercus* spp.) and Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*).

The ground flora is well developed, with Wood-sedge (*Carex sylvatica*), Sanicle (*Sanicula europaea*), Bugle (*Ajuga reptans*), Bilberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*), Primrose (*Primula vulgaris*), Wavy Bitter-cress (*Cardamine flexuosa*), Polyploidy (*Polypodium vulgare*), Hard Fern (*Blechnum spicant*), Broad Buckler-fern (*Dryopteris dilatata*) and Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*).

In places there are springs with a characteristic flora of Floating Sweet-grass (*Glyceria fluitans*), Grey Willow (*Salix cinerea*) and rushes (*Juncus* spp.). The lake shore is lined by Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), Alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) and further willow (*Salix* spp.).

This site is a good example of acid woodland where succession and regeneration is occurring naturally.

25.11.2009