SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: BALLYKEEFE WOODLAND

SITE CODE: 000400

Ballykeefe Wood is an ash-oak-elm woodland (*Corylo-Fraxinetum*) on a prominent limestone hill in Co. Kilkenny. The area had been inter-planted with a mixture of conifers and Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) which have been largely removed, but uneconomic stands remain scattered throughout the area. Bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) is a prominent species of the field layer along with Bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*).

This is one of the largest such woods in the south-east region. Despite considerable disturbance it has the potential of recovering to valuable woodland and should be considered of national importance.

6.11.2009