SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: GLENANNA WOOD

SITE CODE: 001698

Just before it reaches the Waterford coast 4km west of Mine Head, the Ballymacart River runs through a steep wooded gorge carved out of the Old red sandstone that forms precipitous coastal cliffs here. Glennana Wood lies in this steep gorge.

Despite the river occupying the valley, the woodland is dry by nature, and contains a rich variety of deciduous native trees, especially Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), and Hazel (*Corylus avellana*), with elm (*Ulmus* spp.), oak (*Quercus* spp.), Elder (*Sambucus nigra*), Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) and some non-native Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*). More open areas of developing scrub have been included in the site because they currently provide a valuable contrast to, and transition into, the closed canopy areas. The ground flora is currently rather trampled by stock but seems to be of typical woodland fern and moss species.

Despite the attentions of cattle and sheep, protected by its steep gradients, this site has remained in a notably natural condition, and thus, although small, it is one of the few representatives of typical semi-natural woodland left in the area.

25.11.2009