SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: KILTEEL WOOD

SITE CODE: 001394

This site is located about 10km north-east of Naas and immediately east of the village of Kilteel. The wood is situated on a hill which rises to 248m.

The site is a small heathy wood mostly of oak (*Quercus* spp.) and Downy Birch (*Betula pubescens*). Other trees present include Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). In a clearing gorse (*Ulex europaeus*, *U. gallii*) and Heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) occur.

The ground vegetation is restricted, with the following species – Bilberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*), Bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*), Greater Stitchwort (*Stellaria holostea*), Wood Sage (*Teucrium scorodonia*), Heath Bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*), Red Fescue (*Festuca rubra*), Wavy Hair-grass (*Deschampsia flexuosa*) and Creeping Soft-grass (*Holcus mollis*).

There were no signs of regeneration within the wood, probably due to grazing by sheep. There was evidence of timber removal, mostly individual branches but some entire trees. Some dumping of domestic refuse has also occurred.

This site is a fine example of a largely deciduous wood. Its elevated position gives it scenic value.

19.11.2009