

The People's Millennium Forests Derrygorry, Co. Monaghan Favour Royal, Co. Tyrone

The **People's Millennium Forests** is the largest-ever project in Ireland aimed at restoring and managing our native woodlands. **Native woodlands** are forests or woodlands made up of tree species that occur naturally in Ireland, such as oak, ash, elm, Scots pine, yew and birch.

Once an intimate part of our culture, Ireland's native woodlands were in danger of becoming a lost legacy and this project, with the support of AIB and the National Millennium Committee, is a hugely successful step to redress centuries of over exploitation, neglect and clearance of our native forests.

To coincide with the celebration of the third Millennium in 2000, sixteen woodlands around Ireland, comprising fifteen hundred acres, were chosen as the **People's Millennium Forests**, and were dedicated in perpetuity to the people of Ireland. 1.3 million young trees of native species were planted on the sites – a tree for every household in Ireland. The millennium trees were planted in sections of the area shown as Young, Mixed Native Woodland on the accompanying map. These saplings have developed into a young, vibrant, **native woodland community**, rich in both plant and animal life. It will take centuries for these forests to reach ecological maturity. Naturally, some of the trees you see here today will disappear from the developing forest, while others will survive to maturity. Many more young trees will join the developing woodland through natural processes over time.

Derrygorry and **Favour Royal** occur beside one another, on either side of the border, approximately 15km north of Monaghan town. Both of these woodlands were once part of the Favour Royal Demesne, granted as "royal favour" by King Charles I to Sir Thomas Ridgeway in 1610. Derrygorry, when translated from Irish, means 'oakwood of the goats'. This area is rich in folklore. Near here, at a deep valley called *Altadawin*, it is said that St Patrick assembled the first of his followers.

Today, the former estate is owned jointly by the Forest Service Northern Ireland (Favour Royal) and Coillte (Derrygorry). The millennium bridge (see accompanying map) - connects both sites and symbolises the co-operation between the two forestry organisations in developing these sites as part of the People's Millennium Forests project.

In the early 19th century, much of the area was old oak woodland. In the 1940s, conifers were planted throughout the site, but some oak trees remained. As you walk through the woods you will see many young trees of oak, ash, alder and birch planted amongst the remaining veteran oaks. During spring and summer, bluebell, foxglove and common dog violet blossom here. Signs of fallow deer, badger and fox may be seen on your walk, and you may hear the calls of birds like treecreeper, woodcock and sparrowhawk.

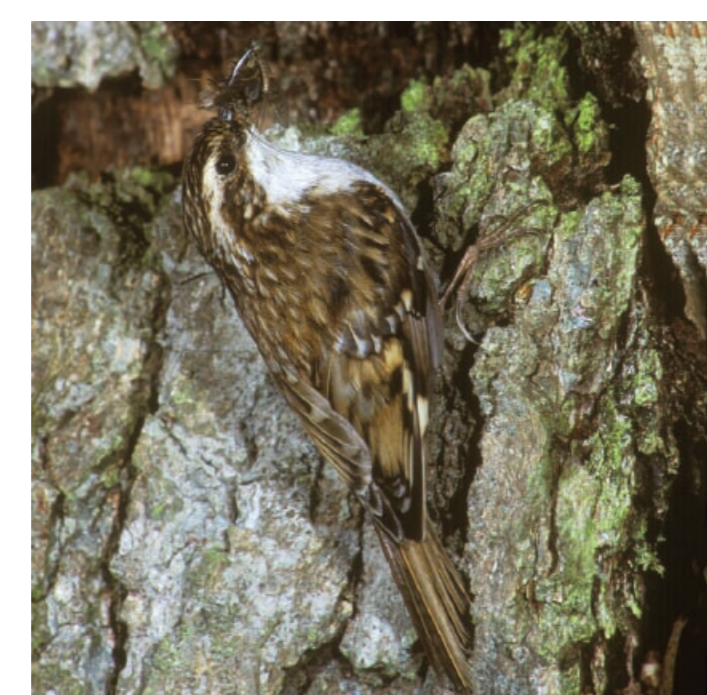
We hope you enjoy your visit.



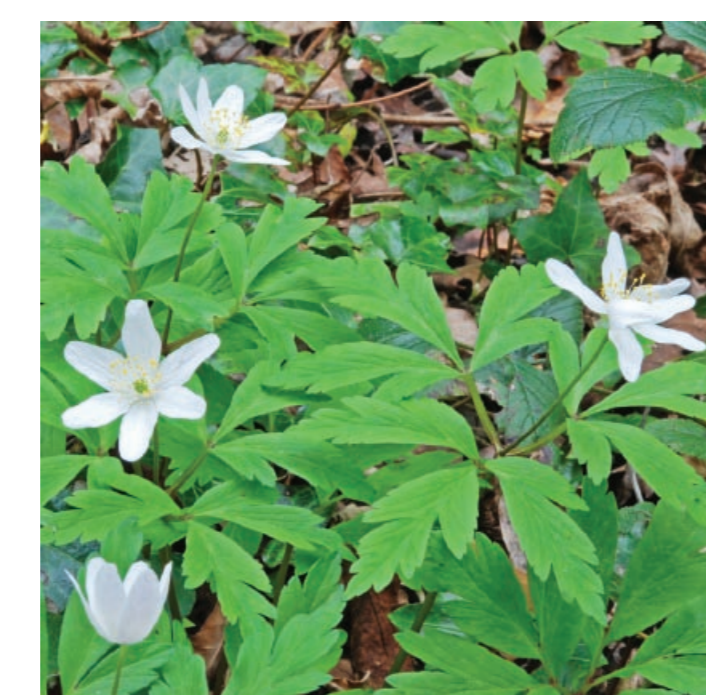
Iora Rua
Red Squirrel



An Cloigín Gorm
Bluebell



An Snag
Tree Creeper



Lus na Gaoithe
Wood Anemone

urraithe ag
sponsored by



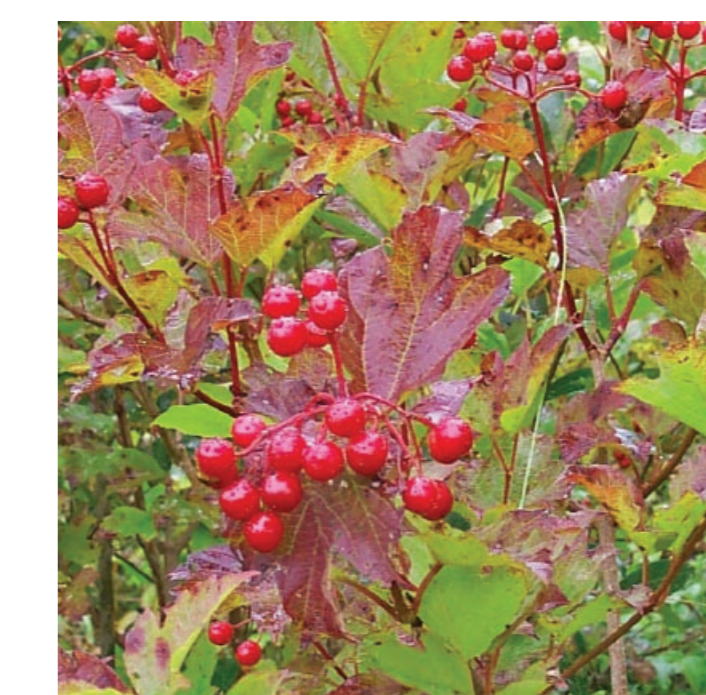
á bhainistiú ag
managed by



i gcomhpháirtíocht le
in partnership with
Coilleanacha Dúchasacha



An Dair Nearnghasánach
Sessile Oak



Caor Chon
Guelder Rose



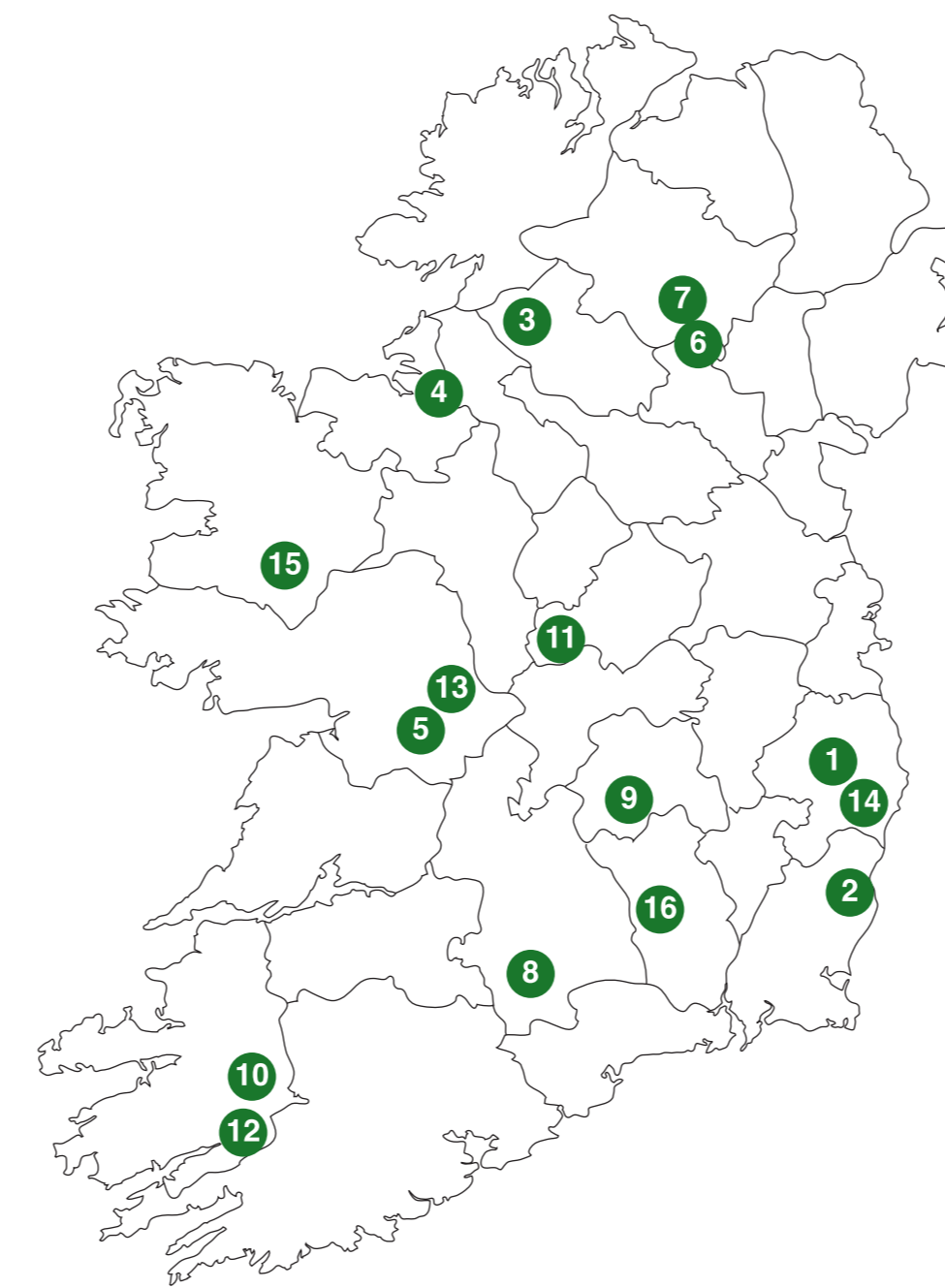
Cat Crainn
Pine Marten



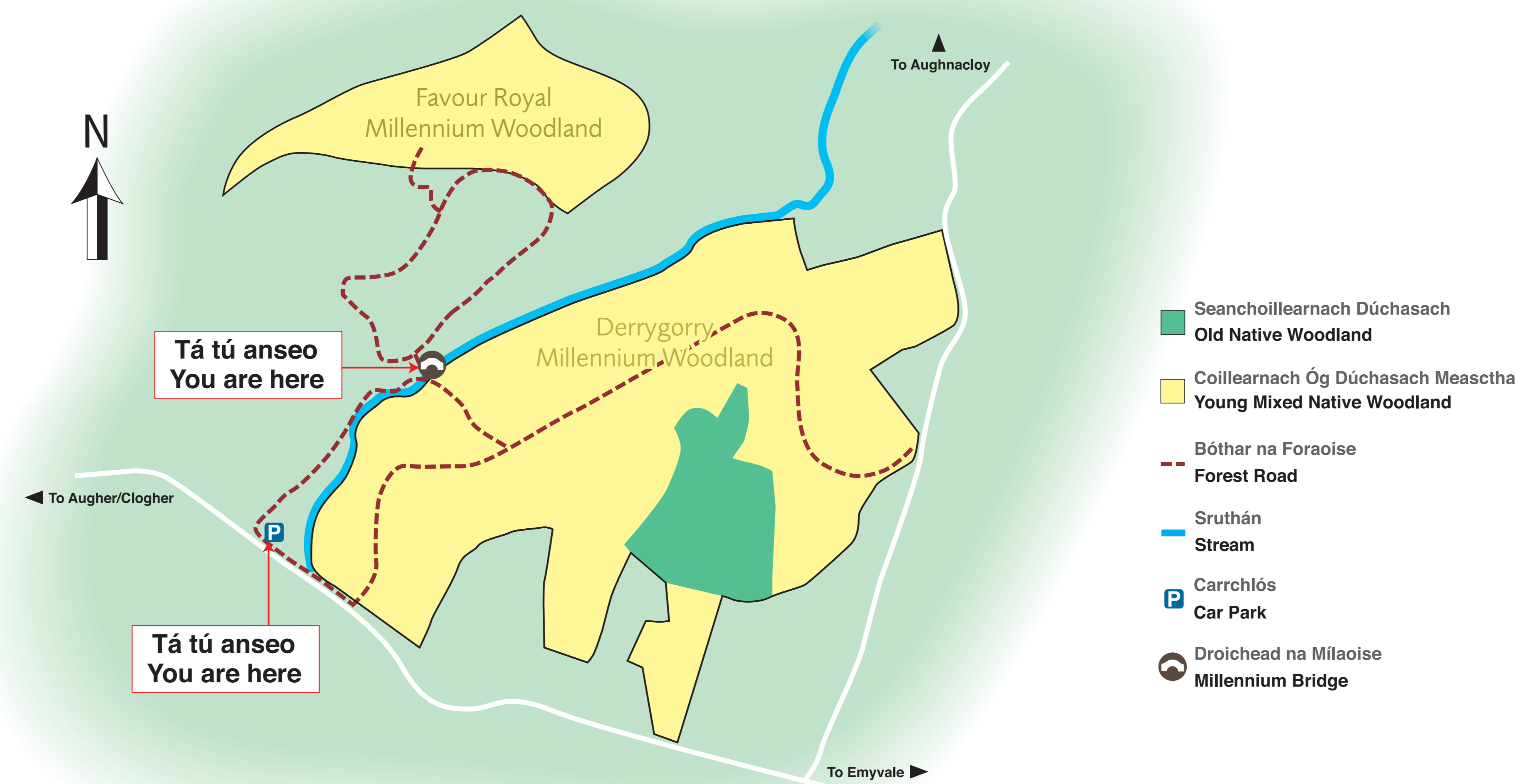
Cuilleann
Holly



1. Ballygannon, Co Wicklow
2. Camolin, Co Wexford
3. Castletrechdale, Co Fermanagh
4. Cullentra, Co Sligo
5. Derrygill, Co Galway
6. Derrygorry, Co Monaghan
7. Favour Royal, Co Tyrone
8. Glengarra, Co Tipperary
9. Laccas, Co Laois
10. Muckross, Co Kerry
11. Portlick, Co Westmeath
12. Rossacree na Ioo, Co Kerry
13. Rositurra, Co Galway
14. Shelton, Co Wicklow
15. Tourmeadey, Co Mayo
16. Woodlands, Co Kilkenny



1. Baile na gCánóinach, Co. Chill Mhantáin
2. Cam Eolainn, Co. Loch Garman
3. Castletrechdale, Co. Fhear Manach
4. Cullentra, Co. Shligigh
5. Doire Ghill, Co. na Gaillimhe
6. Doire Ghofraidh, Co. Mhuineacháin
7. Achadh Maoil, Co. Thír Eogháin
8. Gleann Garaoidh, Co. Thiobraid Árann
9. Laccas, Co. Laoise
10. Mucros, Co. Chiarraí
11. Portlick, Co. na hIarmhí
12. Ros an Chrú na Lúis, Co. Chiarraí
13. Ros Dora, Co. na Gaillimhe
14. Shelton, Co. Chill Mhantáin
15. Tuair Mhíche Eadsigh, Co. Mhaigh Eo
16. Baile na Coille, Co. Chill Chainnigh



- Seanchoillearnach Dúchasach
Old Native Woodland
- Coillearnach Óg Dúchasach Measctha
Young Mixed Native Woodland
- Bóthar na Foraoise
Forest Road
- Sruthán
Stream
- Carrchlós
Car Park
- Droichead na Mílaoise
Millennium Bridge

Foraoiseacha Mílaoise an Phobail Doire Ghofraidh, Co. Mhuineacháin Achadh Maoil, Co. Thír Eogháin

Foraoiseacha Mílaoise an Phobail an tionscadal is mó riamh in Éirinn atá dírithe ar choillearnach dúchasach na tíre a athbheoú agus a bhainistiú. Is éard is coillearnach dúchasach ann ná foraoiseacha nó coillearnach ina bhfuil speiceas a bhaineann go nádúrtha leis an tír seo, speiceas mar dair, fuinseoig, leamhán, péine Albanach, iúr agus beith.

Cuid dlúth de chultúr na tíre tráth, tá coillearnach dúchasach na hÉireann anois i mbaol dul in éag agus is céim mhór chun cinn é an tionscadal seo, le tacaíocht ó AIB agus ó Choiste Náisiúnta na Mílaoise, le haghaidh a thabhairt ar an bhfaillí agus ar an dúshaothrú a rinneadh orthu leis na céadta bliain.

Tráth a rabhtas ag ceiliúradh na tríú Mílaoise in 2000 roghnaíodh sé choillearnach déag ar fud na hÉireann, cúig chéad déag acra ar fad, ar Fhoroiseacha Mílaoise an Phobail a fhágfar anois le hoidhreacht go brách ag muintir na hÉireann. Cuireadh 1.3 milliún crann de speiceas dúchasach ar na láithreacha - crann in aghaidh gach líon tí sa tír. In áiteanna sa limistéar ar a dtugtar Coillearnach Óg Dúchasach Measctha ar an léarscáil a théann leis seo a cuireadh crainn na mílaoise. Tá na crainn óga sin anois óg, láidir agus ar **choillearnach dúchasach** a bhfuil saibhreas plandaí agus ainmhithe ag baint leo. Glacfaidh sé na céadta bliain ar na foraoiseacha sin aibiú ó thaobh na héiceolaíochta de. Ar ndóigh ní mhairfidh roinnt de na crainn atá le feiceáil anseo inniu ach mairfidh cuid eile acu go mbeidh siad lán-aibí. Le himeacht ama fásfaidh crainn óga eile go nádúrtha sa choillearnach.

Tá Doire Ghofraidh agus Achadh Maoil ag síneadh le chéile, ar gach aon taobh den teorainn, timpeall is 15km ó thuaidh de bhaile Mhuineacháin. Bhí an dá choillearnach seo tráth ar chuid de 'Favour Royal Demesne', fabhar ríoga a bhronn Rí Séarlas I ar Sir Thomas Ridgeway in 1610. Ciallaíonn Doire Ghofraidh 'doire na ngabhar'. Tá saibhreas béaloideasa ag baint leis an gceantar. Gar de seo tá gleann ar a dtugtar Altadawin an áit a thug Naomh Pádraig a chéad lucht leaúna le chéile a deirtear.

Is le Seirbhís Foraoiseachta Thuaisceart Éireann (Achadh Maoil) agus Coillte (Doire Ghofraidh) an seaneastát anois. Ceanglaíonn Droichead na Mílaoise (féach léarscáil atá leis seo) an dá thaobh agus is comhartha é ar an gcomhoibriú idir an dá eagraíocht foraoiseachta leis na láithreacha seo a fhorbairt mar chuid de thionscadal Foraoiseacha Mílaoise an Phobail.

Ba choillearnach darach a bhí i bhformhór an cheantair seo i dtús na 19ú aoise. Cuireadh buaircínigh ar fud na láithreach sna 1940idí ach d'fhan cuid de na crainn darach. Ar do chuairt sa choill feicfidh tú go leor crann óg darach, fuinseoige, fearnóige agus beithe i measc na seanchrann darach atá fanta. Bíonn coinne cora, an lus mór agus an tsailchuach chon faoi bhláth ann san earrach agus sa samhradh. Ag siúl duit ann d'fhéadfá a theacht ar lorg an fhia bhuí, an bhroic agus an tsionnaigh nó ceol na n-éan mar an snag, an creabhar nó an spioróg a chloisteáil.

Tá súil againn go mbainfidh tú sult as do chuairt.

www.millenniumforests.com
www.coillte.ie