

Electricity Network Resilience & Forestry Briefing

21st August 2025

“The ability to withstand and reduce the magnitude and/or duration of disruptive events, which includes the capability to anticipate, absorb, adapt to and/or rapidly recover from such an event”

IEEE Task Force-TR65 – “The Definition and Quantification of Resilience”
IEEE - Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers

Background

Extent of forestry on our overhead network excluding LV:

Voltage	Network km's	Total Forest	% Network in Forest
10 & 20kV (MV)	85,006	3,112	3.7%
38kV	5,623	263	4.7%
110kV	4,750	298	6.3%
220kV	1,820	72	4.0%
400kV	435	38	8.7%
Total	97,634	3,782	3.9%

* Numbers subject to review

Total 1799 Medium Voltage Outlets (85,006 kms)

Forestry owned by:

- Coillte
- Private Forestry (farmers/Individual Landowner)
- Pension/Private Equity funds
- Companies buying forestry to offset carbon



Winter 2025 Grid Resilience Plan – Update on Key Areas

1. Making the Network Safe & Identifying Weakened Network

1.1 Post storm network inspection and Defect Clearance

2. Resourcing

2.1 Growing our Resources

3. Forestry Corridors

3.1 Prioritisation of Critical Corridors for Winter 2025

3.2 Implementation of Addressing Corridors

3.3 Stakeholder Engagement

4. Preparing for the Next Storm

4.1 Materials & Spares

4.2 European Support MOU's

4.3 Storm Review



1.1 Post Storm Network Inspection & Defect Clearance

Status Q2 2025	Planned Post Storm Inspection	Completed Post Storm Inspection
Transmission Network	~7000km	4994km (73%)
38kV Network	~5600km	5565km (98%)
MV Network	~3500km	3500km (100%)

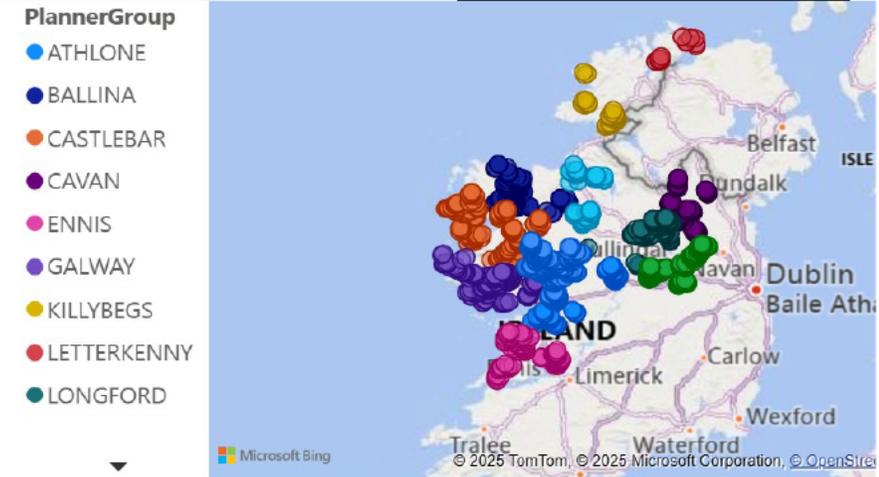


Fig 1: Dashboard Developed for Tracking Progress

Post Storm Network Inspection is progressing well, on target

- Targeted in worst affected areas during Storm Éowyn
- Regular / Normal planned annual programme is progressing nationally

Defect and hazard clearance is underway

- Large vegetation clearance will commence once additional timber contractors are fully secured



Fig 2 & 3: Samples of vegetation hazards identified

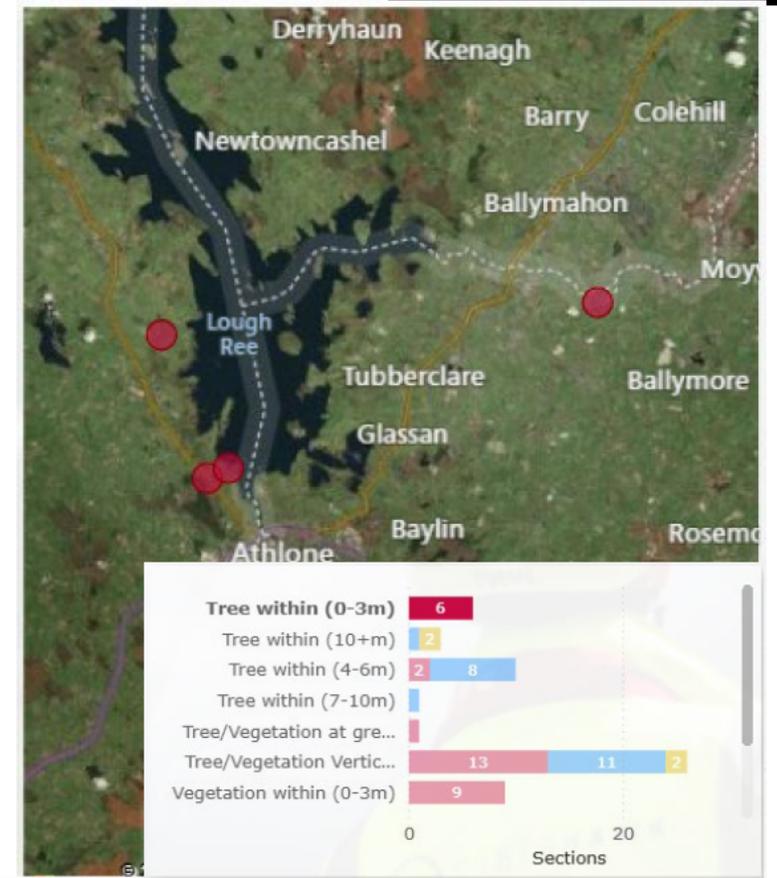
3.1 Forestry - Prioritisation of Critical Corridors

SECTION 443 - COILTEFOREST

19/05/2025

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Map view showing the location of the forest within a larger geographic context.



VEGETATION CONCERNS REPORT TOTAL RESULTS: 332

FILTER RESULTS...

SITE NAME	SECTION ID	SECTION LATITUDE	SECTION LONGITUDE	ASSET CIRCUIT	FORESTRY TYPE	FORESTRY CODE	COLLECTION DATE	STATUS	INSPECTOR NOTES
Winter Resilience 2025 - ATHLONE	Section 443			LOUGHREA-KILRICKLE E28	CoilteForest		19/5/2025	REPORTED - CONCERN	Closest tall trees on wester corridor of section approx. 3m f
Winter Resilience 2025 - ATHLONE	Section 443			LOUGHREA-KILRICKLE E28	CoilteForest		19/5/2025	REPORTED - CONCERN	Closest tall trees on wester corridor of section approx. 3m f

Forestry - Prioritisation of Critical Corridors

Planner Group	Length of MV in Coillte Forestry (km)	Length of MV in Private Forestry (km)
Athlone	17.0	34.0
Ballina	23.1	48.1
Castlebar	11.5	24.4
Cavan	12.7	31.0
Ennis	23.8	91.6
Galway	7.2	10.4
Killybegs	30.0	36.1
Letterkenny	5.4	7.3
Longford	11.9	45.2
Mullingar	4.7	17.4
Sligo	53.8	134.8
Tuam	6.8	21.7
Total	208	502

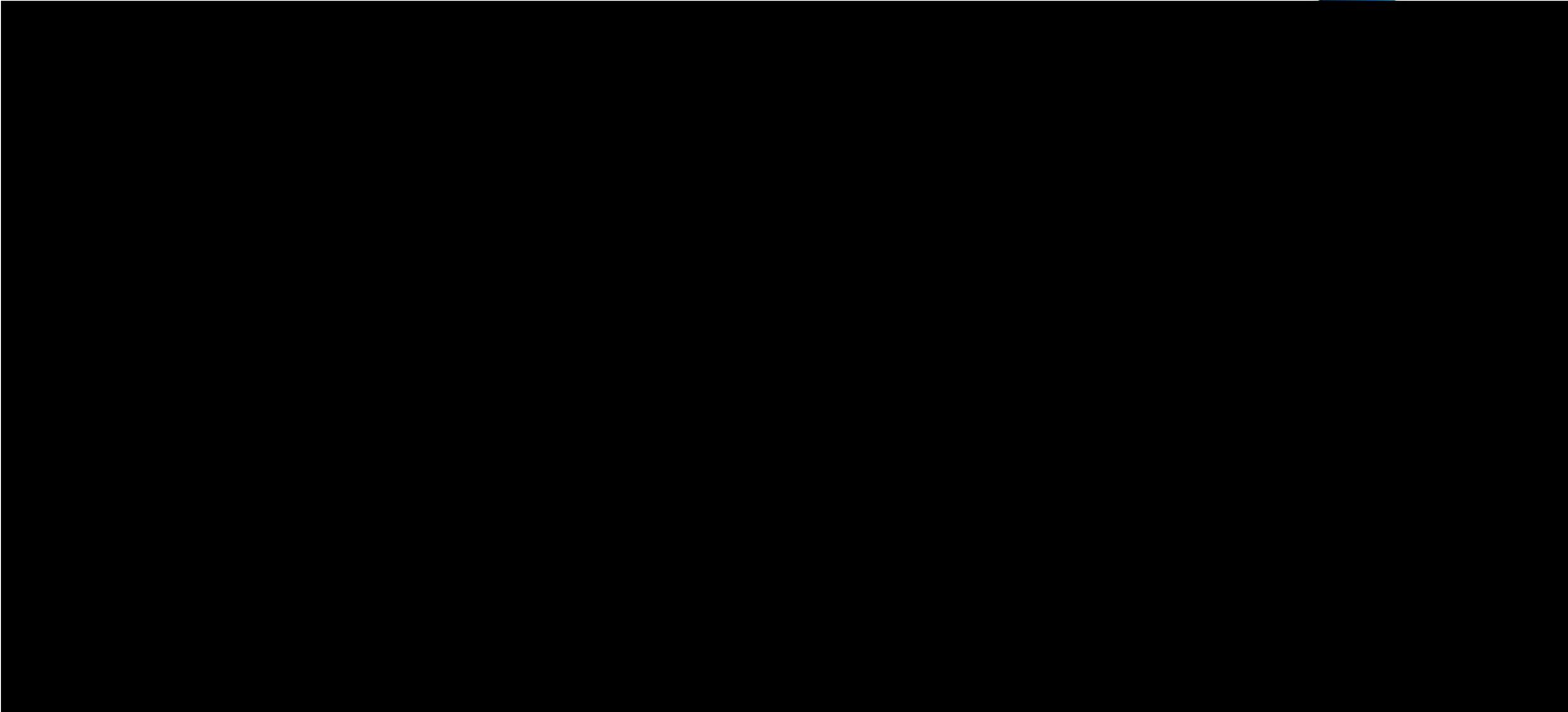


Extract from Winter 25 Grid Resilience Plan

- ✓ 377km prioritised for Drone Survey
- ✓ Surveys completed
- ✓ Target to clear 44kms of P1 before end of 2025

Corridor compromised with trees growing into exclusion zone

Forestry - Addressing Corridors



- Heads of Bill Approved by Cabinet will progress in next term to Drafting stage
- Engagement in 8 of 12 Planner Groups has commenced
- Significant increase in engagement expected
- Forestry Consultants have been selected to support the process
- International Review to commence in coming weeks
- High volume of open engagement (over 80%)
- Key stakeholders including DAFM & DECC regularly updated on Winter Plan
- 1st Harvesting commenced – Tonroe - Charlestown 38kV. Line
 - Private sites completed 19th August 2025
 - Coillte Sites commencing September 2025

Tonroe – Charlestown 38kV. Line

Name	Owner	Status	Cut (m)
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	In Progress	330
			328
		Complete	203
		Complete	61
			200
		Complete	88
		In Progress	373
		In Progress	194



[REDACTED] – 34 Tonroe
Charlestown 38kV. line
29th July 2025



[REDACTED] – 52 Tonroe
Charlestown 38kV. line
31st July 2025

