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The Woodland League
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Press Release

Dedicated To Restoring The Relationship
Between People & Their Native Woodlands.

Amidst the general ballyhoo surrounding the new Millennium, Coillte, the semi state body set up in 1989 to look after the nation's forests, announced the setting up of the grandiosely titled, "People's Millennium Forests".

Over 1.2 million households in Ireland, were sent a certificate, telling them the particular type of native Irish tree (the seed gathered, we were told by Irish schoolchildren), being planted in their name, and its location, in one of 16 different chosen woodlands. The certificate alleged ownership "in perpetuity" to each person.

Less than two months ago, buried in the bowels of the McCarthy report, is a recommendation that Coillte be sold - lock stock and smoking barrel - to gain a few bob for the desperadoes in government.

This went virtually unnoticed and unreported on, amidst the general meltdown, long predicted by anyone with more than two brain cells of the Irish "economy".

If Coillte is sold off this means a Russian oligarch, a Chinese resource hunter or an American pulp paper company, could own one and a half million acres of Irish forests, including mountains, lakes, rivers and some of Europe's very last raised bogs. The hunting and fishing licenses that Coillte obtained from the old Land Commission estates will be sold as well, and all of these 1.2 million trees, so generously gifted, for ever and ever, to each and all of us.

What's going on?

Please help stop this latest fire sale of Ireland's environmental treasures and join the Where's My Tree Campaign?

Take action!

Contact Coillte by email at pr@coillte.ie and ask them where your tree is?

and when can you go visit it?

Contact your local elected representatives on this issue as well.

Go see www.millenniumforests.com for more background info.

The potential buyers, whoever they may be are probably salivating at the thought of getting their hands on some of Ireland's most beautiful wild and ecologically fragile lands, but if you're there with your certificate and your tree - what can they do.

Coillte, and its paymaster the Minister for Finance, can't send us all to the log factory. Can they?

Where's My Tree?

Write today and support the www.WoodlandLeague.org vision for genuine community native woodlands and a new forestry policy with the emphasis on our native trees, for all of the known benefits.

To send us your message of support and any results and pictures of your tree hunt email wheresmytree@gmail.com

Further information can be found at www.myspace.com/woodlandleague