

1.1 CALLY WOODS LMP

1.2 Issues	Challenges and Objectives
Cally Woods contains the infrastructure remnants of a nationally important Designed Landscape designation and other key heritage features	Conservation and enhancement of all evidenced Designed Landscape features to be implemented. Management of all key heritage features according to agreed Heritage asset management plan, Cally Woods LMP and local management plan.
Cally Woods blocks provide a recognised Recreation attraction for the area with its network of tracks and trails (FLS trails, Core path and National Cycle Network routes).	Maintain and as resources permit enhance the existing suite of facilities. Minimising disruption to the recreation infrastructure during any harvesting operation is critical; alternative to clearfell operations are currently the order of the day throughout the LMP unit however some targeted clearfelling for <i>P ramorum</i> infestation is planned in the short or medium term.
Community involvement and neighbours	Continued close liaison with local Community group(s) to incorporate (as far as possible) their aspirations within the FLS plan framework through LMP consultation process and Communities and Communication manager. Timber haulage transport plan to mitigate vehicle movement along/ past hotel, farm buildings and other residential properties should be implemented.
Maintenance, enhancement and restoration of Ancient Semi Natural Woodland areas (LEPO) present in both of the blocks.	Ongoing removal of conifer and site restoration through implementation of recognised PAWS management plans (Syllodioch Wood and Bar Hill) Broadleaf thinning to favour native species throughout (especially in PAWS / LEPO areas)
Gatehouse of Fleet village lies in a Potentially Vulnerable Area for flooding (PVA 14/18) essentially for the tidal effect of the Water of Fleet on the village.	The Water of Fleet flows through Gatehouse of Fleet village close to but not within the boundaries of the LMP unit. Minimising the risk of serious pollution and the potential for flooding during any harvesting operation is critical; alternative to clearfell operations are currently the order of the day throughout the LMP unit however targeted clearfelling for <i>P ramorum</i> infestation is planned in the short or medium term.

Within the Fleet Valley National Scenic Area (NSA) Cally Woods blocks have a significant landscape impact being both highly visible from the A75 (T) road and providing the backdrop to the village of Gatehouse of Fleet.	<p>Whilst Group shelterwood rather than clearfell is currently proposed to maintain permanent tree cover as far as possible, clearfell areas to remove <i>P ramorum</i> infected larch will impact on the landscape. Options for conversion of parts of the block to broadleaves rather than conifers exist (to further minimise future operational impacts to the block) however SP restock (for visual diversity and Red Squirrel food supply) will also be considered.</p> <p>Ongoing Conservation and enhancement of landscape character and scenic qualities (potential for reinstatement of views as characterised by HJ Moule prints to be reviewed)</p>
Species diversity. (Infected larch removal ?) Red squirrel conservation INNS	<p>Increasing (and protecting) species diversity, particularly the imminent proposed increase in BL and possible small seeded native conifer (Scots Pine) to the south as a result of the larch removal, may prove challenging given the access restrictions due to the proximity of the village and other commercial concerns (see Deer management below).</p> <p>With high proportion of existing large seeded BL and reasonable connectivity to surrounding BL woodland the block is highly vulnerable to Grey squirrel colonisation (enhanced control measures may be required).</p> <p>Ongoing control of <i>R ponticum</i> within designed landscape</p>
Timber production	<p>Whilst the plan area is not considered a core area for timber production opportunities for the expansion / development of a broadleaf hardwood sector exist.</p> <p>Thinning is proposed throughout the block (consider retention of European Larch north of A75 - <i>P ramorum</i> incidence monitor)</p> <p>Roads upgrading to facilitate harvesting programme will be necessary.</p>
DEER MANAGEMENT	Challenges and Objectives
High density of Roe Deer present throughout block giving rise to negative browsing impacts, high incidence of road traffic incidents (RTI) and issues over transferrable disease	<p>Effective culling is a key consideration with continuous immigration from surrounding farm land and constraints over the adjacent A75(T) road and encounters with recreating public.</p> <p>A general reduction in deer numbers will reduce browsing damage levels and address the potential for disease transmission and RTIs.</p> <p>LMP design will identify specific areas for focused deer management.</p>