



Clunes Land Management Plan Summary

Clunes Forest lies on the Western banks of Loch Lochy in the Southern section of the Great Glen. It lies adjacent to the hamlet of Clunes and Achnacarry Estate about 18km NE of Fort William. The topography is generally steep with a considerable amount of open mountain ground, some of which contains montane heath and scrub species and other open Priority Habitats. Within the forested area there is 219ha of PAWS – Planation on Ancient Woodland Sites. The climate is typically wet ranging from 2032 – 2286 mm annually. The forest is highly visible from the A82 trunk road which lies on the Eastern side of Loch Lochy. Soils are relatively fertile and free drainage on the lower slopes making it very suitable for a diverse range of commercial conifer species. It is accessed by minor public roads from both from the North and South. The main forest road forms part of the Great Glen Way.

Clunes LMP was approved on 02/02/2011 and runs for 10 years. The aims for this plan include:

- Gradual transformation of PAWS back to native woodland through the continuation of a system of phased clearfell coupes followed by a process of natural regeneration using existing native woodland as a seed source
- Maximisation of available commercial restocking area outwith PAWS through keeping the upper margin at the altitude it is at present and designing restock coupes to sit comfortably in the landscape
- An emphasis on the planting of premium conifer species taking advantage of the fertile brown earth soils and low DAMS scores prevalent across the lower slopes of the forest.

The primary objectives for the plan area are

- To produce 48,309m³ of timber
- To remove 50.45ha of commercial non-native trees from PAWS areas
- To re-establish native woodland on felled PAWS
- To restock 31.91ha of commercial productive woodland.

Total Plan Area	2068 hectares (ha)
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Summary of Land Management Plan Proposals

Species Breakdown	(current)	(end of plan period)
Sitka spruce	204.5 ha	194 ha
Birch and other broadleaves	68 ha	125 ha
Scots pine	15.5 ha	3.5 ha
Lodgepole pine	1 ha	0.1 ha
Larch and other conifers	121 ha	101 ha
Open space	1657 ha	164.4 ha



Planned Operations	2011– 2021 plan period
Felling Restocking	91.07 ha 31.91 ha
Significant Environment / Conservation Features	
Designated sites	None
Natural reserve	32.7 ha
Priority Habitat 1 Priority Habitat 2 Priority Species 1 Priority Species 2	Montane scrub Upland Birch woodland Chequered skipper Red Squirrel

Critical Success Factors:

- The harvesting of 48,309m³ of timber is critical to ensuring that the other objectives of the plan can be met
- Through the felling of the coupes to produce this timber volume, 50.45ha of PAWS will have the non-native commercial conifers removed and thus, the process of restoration back to native woodland can implemented.
- On the non-PAWS, the harvesting will subsequently lead on to the restocking of 31.91ha of commercial productive woodland.

Consultation and Further Information:

Council area: Highland Council

Community Council: Spean Bridge, Roy Bridge and Achnacarry

Community Council and Glen Garry Community Council

Consultation: events / consultees

For further information on the Plan, please contact:

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