

## **A design brief for Glenwhan LMP**

The Glenwhan management unit, covering around 653.0ha, is an isolated forest block to the extreme west of the region lying around 9km east of Stranraer, Dumfries and Galloway. It is part of Scotland's national forests and land owned by the Scottish Ministers on behalf of the people of Scotland and managed by Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS).

The Glenwhan Land Management Plan (LMP) defines the management prescriptions for the next 10 years (2020-2030) and presents the vision for a long term management of the area.

The main management objectives in this small scale plan focus on sustainable timber production, biodiversity (habitat creation for Black Grouse) and access and health.

An Analysis and Concept map has been produced to complement this design brief. It presents the draft management objectives and highlights the opportunities and constraints for key issues.

The concept for the LMP focuses on delivering relevant National Policy and has been developed around the following key drivers:

- Scotland's Forestry Strategy 2019-2029
- Forestry and Land Scotland Corporate Plan 2019-2022

The plan will contribute to the first three outcomes of the Forestry and Land Scotland Corporate Plan (outcomes 4 and 5 relate to the organisational structure and business performance of FLS) as shown in the following table (operational actions not relevant to this plan have been greyed out.

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Outcomes from the FLS corporate plan	Operational Actions for delivery under Outcomes include:	LMP Actions / Prescriptions
<b>Outcome 1: Supporting a sustainable rural economy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Managing the national forests and land in accordance with the UK Woodland Assurance Scheme (UKWAS) to ensure that timber and other products produced by FLS are guaranteed to be from a sustainably managed resource</li> <li>Developing our forest planning processes to ensure long-term sustainable productivity of the national forests and land</li> <li>Providing a sustainable supply of timber to Scotland's timber processing sector</li> <li>Implementing the Restocking Strategy for the national forests and land and develop a new plant and seed supply strategy</li> <li>Supporting Scottish tourism and the visitor economy through the provision of visitor attractions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Create</i> a land management plan which meets UKFS/UKWAS requirements and where possible guidelines.</li> <li><i>Meet</i> production forecast commitment through revised felling and thinning plans.</li> <li><i>Enhance</i> the productive yield by selecting the correct species for site type restocking in line with district goals for diversity, especially in larch restock sites.</li> <li><i>Focus</i> the area within the forest block which is part of the district thinning programme to enhance stand stability, timber quality and provide a wider range of products.</li> <li><i>Implement</i> road construction maintenance programme and quarry development/maintenance/restoration required to service proposed harvesting operations</li> <li><i>Manage</i> resident deer population with wildlife team resource and external contractors</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting commercial activity on the national forests and land including agricultural management, rural housing and renewable energy opportunities, all of which help to sustain rural communities</li> <li>Support the venison processing sector through our deer management</li> </ul>	
<b>Outcome 2: Looking after Scotland's national forests and land</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Managing the national forests and land to further the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity</li> <li>Maintaining and enhancing our work on peatland restoration</li> <li>Collaborating with partners on integrated landscape scale approaches to habitat management and restoration</li> <li>Taking specific conservation actions for vulnerable priority species (e.g. red squirrel, black grouse)</li> <li>Delivering an increased contribution towards the Scottish Government's renewable energy targets</li> <li>Supporting policy development and research and act as a testbed for new and innovative approaches to forestry and land management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Improve</i> resilience through smaller coupe size and increased use of woodland managed under alternative to clearfell, LISS and other continuous cover systems where appropriate.</li> <li><i>Increase</i> use of natural regeneration in our restocking.</li> <li><i>Control</i> invasive species as per FES and regional INNS guidelines.</li> <li><i>Continue</i> with <i>P. ramorum</i> management as per district guidance, including felling of dead trees to reduce risk of <i>Ips cembrae</i></li> <li><i>Increase</i> area of native BL throughout plan area for added biodiversity, targeting a permanent BL woodland infrastructure along riparian zones and connecting to external Ancient Semi Natural Woodland to the east and south.</li> <li><i>Create</i> additional permanent open habitat for Red Deer management to the southern boundaries.</li> <li>Northern and Eastern edges block are visually prominent as viewed from surrounding county road network (unclassified road to New Luce and Stranraer to Girvan railway line;</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing an asset management approach to the historic environment within Scotland's forests and land</li> <li>Working with neighbouring land managers to undertake landscape-scale control of ground flora and improve habitats</li> </ul>	<p><i>maintain and enhance</i> local landscape through additional species diversity, open space integrated management and revised coupe shapes to better suit landform.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Manage</i> watercourses and private water supplies within LMP unit in keeping with UKWAS standards, Water Framework Directive and Forest and Water guidelines to <i>maintain and improve</i> water quality.</li> <li>The block is not core for Black Grouse (priority species); <i>maintain</i> lek and nesting areas for Black Grouse and <i>enhance</i> habitat through creation of woodland fringe</li> <li>The block is not part of the priority area for Red squirrel (priority species); <i>maintain and enhance</i> area for Red Squirrel</li> <li><i>Manage</i> minor heritage features as per FES guidelines</li> <li><i>Incorporate</i> Research and Development into Land Management Plans including monitoring of <i>P. Ramorum</i> retaining any ongoing research plots, and allowing for new study sites to be created as opportunities allow.</li> </ul>
<b>Outcome 3: National forests and land for visitors and communities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintaining walking and biking trails to promote fun in the outdoors, focussing on improving entry level experiences for everyone to enjoy and gain health benefits</li> <li>Continuing to remove barriers to ensure that people from all backgrounds can and do access the full</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to <i>consult</i> with local communities and stakeholders through Land Management Plan process.</li> <li><i>Maintain and Enhance</i> views of the forest along Southern Upland Way.</li> <li><i>Maintain</i> general accessibility for block.</li> <li><i>Facilitate</i> energy infrastructure as required by national policy.</li> </ul>

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	<p>range of benefits of the national forests and land</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enabling outdoor learning and encouraging schools and community groups to make use of the national forests and land</li><li>• Facilitating renewable energy opportunities in order to encourage community benefits</li><li>• Incentivising renewable developers to offer community ownership opportunities in renewable energy developments on the national forests and land</li><li>• Continuing to engage communities in decisions relating to the management of the national forests and land</li><li>• Continuing to support community empowerment by enabling communities to make use of the national forests and land to benefit their communities</li></ul>	
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