



Lussa Land Management Plan Summary

Lussa LMP was approved on 19-2-2018 and runs for 10 years.

Vision

The Land Management Plan (LMP) for Lussa covers an area of 7,999ha, previously separate Forest Design Plan areas of West Lussa (2482Ha), East Lussa (4808Ha) & Guesdale (709Ha). The LMP area stretches from the West side of Kintyre across to the East encompassing the catchment of Lussa Loch. While Sitka Spruce is the dominant productive species due to site constraints, opportunities do exist to diversify both species and age structure. The forest has a comprehensive road network which has enabled restructuring to be carried out across most of the mature forest area. Large areas of the LMP have been significantly windblown. A Strategic In Forest Haul Route passes through the forest between the A83 in the West and B642 in the East. Much of the forest area comprises of predominantly similarly aged Sitka Spruce which has been significantly impacted on by windblow over the past 10 years. Given the amount of felling to harvest much of this windblow a number of 2nd rotation crops are now successfully establishing, though it may require another rotation to fully implement a more robust and resilient coupe structure. Species diversity is also a priority improving the linkage between riparian corridors as is open ground across the forest where it contributes to bio-diversity and landscape. The LMP area contributes significantly to meeting the District's timber production targets. An additional 9.6Km of new roading will be required to implement this next phase of the Land Management Plan. Two agricultural leases exist within the forest located around the northern and western fringes of Lussa Loch at Gobagrennan, Corrylach, Collusca and Bordadubh predominantly for sheep pasture and equestrian grazing. This offers some interaction between forestry and adjacent agricultural enterprises. Stock fencing and sheep trespass remain important factors within the LMP area in relation to the success of restock establishment.

The Beinn an Tuirc windfarm developments (I & II) are located to the northern edge of the forest to the east of Beinn an Tuirc and on Braid Hill. They contribute significantly to the Scottish Government's renewable energy targets. Beinn an Tuirc III (BATIII) located to the south on Meall Buidhe and an area of high ground between A'Chruach and Sgreadan Hill now has planning approval and construction is due to start within the LMP approval period. The felling phases and restocking design associated with this windfarm have been fully considered and form an integrated part of the windfarm development utilising the proposed roads infrastructure for future felling and forest management. Should this development not go ahead then additional forest roads will have to be considered and constructed. Tangy windfarm lies to the south west corner of the LMP area and has recently been approved through planning for re-powering with both larger and additional turbines, four of which will be located on FES ground. As with BAT III the felling and restocking design has been fully considered and forms an integral part of this LMP. A micro-wind development is proposed for Achadaduie in Barr Glen and an export cable will run East to West through part of the LMP area, predominantly through the fallow ground of Beinn an Tuirc II and beyond down through Bord Mor into Saddell Glen. Lussa Dam Hydro Power Catchment – the main water body within the LMP area is Lussa Loch. This is a man-made loch flooded in the late 40's to generate Hydro power. The



Loch is now also designated as an SPA/SSSI habitat for Greenland White Fronted Geese. Two micro-hydro schemes are operational within the LMP area at Kilkeddan farm on the south eastern boundary and Lephincorrach march burn which is part of Torrisdale estate on the north eastern boundary.

There are significant peat areas, particularly in the upper areas covered by this LMP, which require further assessment identify areas best suited to restoration or where establishment of a further rotation crop conflicts with this policy. Peat bog restoration is due to be undertaken across areas of Sgreadan Hill as part of the Beinn an Tuirc III windfarm development. An additional area has been identified on the Tangy II windfarm development. Further restoration is planned for targeted areas of checked crops on deep peat that contribute to habitat networks and climate change targets.

The primary objectives for the plan area are:

- Retain the productive capacity of the forest while balancing other factors.
- Improve the forest landscape and its impact on the Kintyre Way route and forest roads.
- Continue current levels of deer control which have enabled regeneration to occur in many areas.
- Clear accessible windblow.
- Increase current species diversity expanding through the riparian corridors and increasing linkage.
- Maintain external stock fences in partnership with neighbours and control sheep trespass.
- Continue to work with partners to enhance the riparian environments for water quality and fish ecology.
- Monitor invasive species particularly Rhododendron in the Saddell area and control as required.
- Monitor current peat restoration work and identify future opportunities during post felling operational planning. Future opportunities would be identified based on the FC Practice Guide “Deciding future management options for afforested deep peatland” & supplementary guidance.
- Protect public & private water supplies within the forest.
- Balance renewables schemes with management for productive forest and other multiple benefits.



Total Plan Area	7,999 hectares (ha)
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Summary of Land Management Plan Proposals

Species Breakdown (Gross Area)	Current 2018 (ha)	Current 2018 (%)	End of Plan Period 2027 (ha)	End of Plan Period 2027 (%)
Sitka Spruce	4639.42	58	4319.46	54
Norway Spruce	79.99	1	159.98	2
Larches	159.98	2	79.99	1
Firs	79.99	1	0	0
Pines	239.97	3	159.98	2
Western Hemlock	0	0	79.99	1
Broadleaves	79.99	1	79.99	1
Native broadleaf	79.99	1	399.95	5
Felled/failed	319.96	4	319.96	4
Agriculture	79.99	1	79.99	1
Open space	799.9	10	799.9	10
Other Land	1439.82	18	1519.81	19
Total	7999	100	7999	100



Planned Operations	2017– 2026 plan period
<p>Felling</p> <p>Restocking</p> <p>Peatland restoration</p> <p>Natural regeneration</p> <p>Road construction</p>	<p>2355ha</p> <p>1604ha</p> <p>88ha</p> <p>118ha</p> <p>9.6km</p>
Significant Environment / Conservation Features	
<p>Designated Sites</p> <p>Areas of Panoramic Quality (APQ) - East Kintyre Coast</p> <p>Special Protection Area (SPA) – Kintyre Goose Roosts</p> <p>Special Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI) – Kintyre Goose Lochs</p> <p>Special Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI) – Bellochantuy & Tangy Gorges</p> <p>Saddell – Local Nature Conservation Site</p> <p>Scheduled Monument (SM)</p> <p>Scheduled Monument (SM)</p> <p>Scheduled Monument (SM)</p> <p>Scheduled Monument (SM)</p> <p>Scheduled Monument (SM)</p>	<p>This designation covers a small area (13ha) of the LMP on the Ballochgair picnic site and carpark on the eastern boundary.</p> <p>These two designations cover the Lussa Loch & Tangy Loch water bodies and adjacent areas. Its feature category is Birds the Greenland white-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>), non-breeding. A management plan exists for this designation and its current status is favorable.</p> <p>This designation covers a small area on the western boundary. Its feature category is Geological</p> <p>This designation covers an area of 27ha, 16ha of which falls within the Lussa Forest LMP area.</p> <p>Ardnacross Chambered Cairn</p> <p>Cup & Ring Marked Stone</p> <p>Dun a’ Bhuic – Dun</p> <p>Gort Na H-Ulaidhe Chambered Cairn</p> <p>McKay’s Cross Standing Stone</p>



Critical Success Factors:

- 2335ha Felling
- 1604ha Restocking
- 118ha Natural regeneration
- 88ha Peatland restoration
- Enhance riparian linkages.
- Clear accessible windblow.
- Monitor Invasive species within the plan area in particular Rhododendron which continues to establish particularly in the Saddell Glen area. Japanese Knotweed proves to be less of an issue however this will be monitored and controlled as required.
- Renewables developments – BAT I, II & III, Tangy I & II, Lussa Hydro Scheme and Kilkeddan and Torrisdale Micro Hydro schemes. All these projects have been fully considered and integrate fully within the proposed LMP area and forest environment. Additionally they make a significant contribution to the Scottish Governments Renewable Energy targets.
- Protection of open habitat species and priority habitats. Lussa Loch (Kintyre Goose Roosts) SPA/SSSI continues to be managed under a management agreement in partnership with Scottish Natural Heritage

Consultation and Further Information:

Council area: Argyll & Bute council

Community council: Campbeltown Community Council, West Kintyre Community Council, East Kintyre Community Council

Consultation: Public consultation May 2017

For further information on the Plan, please contact:

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Location Map

