



Whitelee Forest LMP – Summary of Proposals

At approx. 5884 Ha Whitelee Forest is the biggest productive forest within the former Scottish Lowlands Forest District, now part of Central Region, producing large volumes of standard quality timber. The intention is to maintain this function whilst continuing to diversify the structural and biological diversity of the blocks. Recent tree health concerns over various pines and the larch species have necessitated a re-evaluation of the previously planned species diversification for the block supporting the continued judicious use of Sitka Spruce predominantly in mixture with Lodgepole pine. The proportion of native broadleaves within the forest will be increased and the move, initiated in previous plans, to create semi natural Forest Habitat Networks along the main riparian corridors continues.

The primary objectives for the plan are to continue the sustainable production of timber, enhance native woodland habitat networks and to maintain high quality access and recreation infrastructure.

Key proposals

Total Plan Area	5,884 Ha
Planned operations	2020-2030 plan period
Felling	1012 Ha
Thinning	0 Ha
Restock	854 Ha
Woodland Creation	40.8 Ha
Habitat Restoration	32.9 Ha
Road Construction	0.9 Ha
Quarry Expansion	1.4 Ha

Land use changes

Land use	2020	2030
Primary species: Sitka spruce	2910	2527
Secondary species: other conifers	233	413
Broadleaves	162	265
Open, Successional, Felled, Other	2580	2679

The key considerations in producing this plan were crop quality, habitat connectivity as well as its restoration and crop effects on wind turbine efficiency. The design enhances and retains riparian habitat and diversifies the species and age range of the crop whilst conserving heritage features.

Consultation and Further Information

Central Region consulted with local neighbours via postcard drop, onsite posters and a press release whilst Central Scotland Conservancy consulted on the plan with wider stakeholders.

For further information on the plan please contact enquiries.central@forestryandland.gov.scot