

Mainshill – Summary of Proposals

Mainshill is the site of a former surface mine or open cast mine. It's northern and eastern boundaries are formed by the A70 and the B7078, beyond which lies the M74. To the west the boundary is formed by woodland, which borders the Eggerton Burn, whilst to the south the site borders open into undulating moorland.

The primary objective of the land management plan is to create new, predominantly productive coniferous woodland, with a smaller component of mixed species trees as well as broadleaved element throughout; which is in keeping with the surrounding landscape. Retention of features such as the large headwall, showing exposed geological strata, highlights the underground geology which is of educational interest both in the natural landscape as well as for the sites historical setting in industrial use. Open water habitat, with the creation of further wetland areas, aim to enhance the biodiversity potential of the site.

This plan sets out the

The main proposal for the site during the ten year plan period is the creation of new woodland (see tables below).

Key Proposals

Total Plan Area	135 Ha
Planned operations	2020-2022 plan period
Restocking	20.8ha
new planting	75.83ha
Total	96.63ha

Land use changes

Land use	% Area	Area (ha)
Woodland creation within the restoration area	56	75.83
Existing Productive conifer Forest (Restocking)	15	20.8
Amenity area (Open grass)	12	15.61
Open water (Void & Settlement Ponds)	9	11.46
Car park and Road	2	2.13
Geological exposure	2	2.08
Wetlands	1	1.74
Footpaths	2	3.72
Managed Open ground	1	1.84
Total	100	135.21

The key considerations in producing this plan were the potential effects on: landscape, views & access, habitat and utilities. The design retained/enhance important views, areas of important open wetland habitat and minimised linear and geometric planting shapes judiciously locating broadleaves and shrubs as safety features as well as to highlight landform features.

To establish the trees the area will likely need a component of deer fencing.

Consultation and Further Information

Scottish Lowlands Forest District consulted with local neighbours in conjunction with Scottish Mines Restoration Trust (SMRT), through community council meetings whilst Central Scotland Conservancy consulted on the plan with statutory stakeholders.

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