

Callart Land Management Plan Summary

Callart LMP area covers 286 ha on the northern shore of Loch Leven, approximately two miles East of North Ballachulish and directly opposite and across the loch from Ballachulish and Glencoe. Surrounding land use on three sides is open hill with livestock grazing; the lower margin is bounded by the public road (B863) connecting North Ballachulish and Kinlochleven.

The forest has been managed for sustainable conifer timber production; the first rotation conifers were planted in the early 1940's and the 2nd rotation underway in the 1990's with felling and restocking conifers. A large proportion of the forested area is PAWS, mainly planted with commercial conifers leaving remnants of native broadleaved woodland mainly along burn-sides as well as scattered throughout the plantation. The site includes various ASNW indicator species as well as old specimens of oak, ash and alder. Priorities have since changed, to expand the native woodland area through planting and natural regeneration with more limited areas of conifer stocking and eventual conversion to native woodland. Soils are relatively poor but variable, reflecting the underlying geology - ranging from quartzite schist in the western section to lime bearing schist of Ballachulish slates on the eastern side. Species choice is limited by soil conditions and windthrow risk, which is high on the upper slopes.

The local landscape character is "settled lochs" – the forest lies within the Ben Nevis and Glencoe National Scenic Area and is highly visible from the villages of Glencoe and Ballachulish, forming a major part of the landscape when emerging from Glencoe. Two private properties lie adjacent to the eastern boundary of the forest and draw their water supplies from within the forest. There is a small privately owned cottage within the LMP boundary and a small area leased to a local business for drying woodfuel. There is no formal recreation provision in the forest but forest roads allow walkers and cyclists spectacular views across the loch to the mountains of Glencoe.

Work has been carried out previously to lower the upper timber line and this is ongoing, to ensure that the forest fits the landform more effectively and that production focuses on cost effective areas and away from marginal ground and steep slopes. Further priorities will be to restock with native broadleaves, eventually converting to native woodland and managing some of this as productive forestry; improving habitat diversity and connections to surrounding habitats and open hill.

LMP was approved on 11/11/2009 and runs for 10 years.



The primary objectives for the plan area are

- Restoration of the PAWS and expansion of native woodland
- Improve the landscape setting of the forest so that it better reflects the landform
- Increase habitat diversity and create linkages with the open hill
- Sustain the economic return from timber over the next rotation and produce sustainable and marketable timber and wood products

Total Plan Area	286.4 hectares (ha)

Summary of Land Management Plan Proposals

Species Breakdown	(current)	(end of plan period)
Sitka spruce	95 ha (33%)	65 ha (22%)
Birch and other broadleaves	34 ha (12%)	68 ha (24%)
Scots pine		0.1 ha
Lodgepole pine		0.1 ha
Larch and other conifers	83 ha (29%)	49 ha (17%)
Open space	74 ha (26%)	103 ha (36%)



Planned Operations	2009– 2019 plan period
Felling	30.5 ha
Thinning	15 ha
Restocking	13 118
New planting	
Road construction	
Road upgrades	
Significant Environment / Conservation Features	
Designated sites	Ben Nevis and Glencoe
	National Scenic Area
	34 ha SNW / 267 ha
	PAWS
Minimum Intervention	
Natural Reserve	
Caledonian Pine Wood	
Priority Species	Red squirrel

Critical Success Factors:

- Deer control to enable successful establishment of young planted and naturally regenerating trees
- Felling on steep and unstable slopes
- Manage regeneration of non- native and / or invasive species

Consultation and Further Information:

Council area and Community Council: Highland Council; Nether Lochaber Community Council, Ballachulish Community Council and Glencoe and Glen Etive Community Council Consultation: stakeholder analysis was conducted and copies of the design plan and documents sent to stakeholders at the scoping and draft stages. Written comments received in addition to phone calls and meetings.

Consultees: Highland Council, SEPA, SNH, Scottish Water, Deer Commission, Historic Scotland, Community Councils, neighbouring farms/landowners /businesses/domestic properties.

For further information on the Plan, please contact:

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Location Map

