

WIND FARM
SS regeneration under wind farm is prolific and affecting upland habitats. It could be claimed as woodland, respaced, cleared for biomass or open land or planted with BLs.

LARCH
Areas of difficult to fell or isolated Larch need to be identified and a plan as to how to fell them if there is a SPHN for *Phytophthora ramorum*, established

WIND HAZARD CLASS
Most of Wind Hazard Class 5 (second highest) is along the boundary and is already open land. High wind hazard class negates the ability to thin.

EDGE HABITATS
Upland edge of the forest has UKBAP priority habitats such as peatland, heaths and grasslands, requiring low deer numbers to flourish. Some peatland restoration is programmed in.

DIFFICULT STEEP GROUND COUPES
A strategic plan is needed to fell and restock the difficult steep ground coupes

POOR ACCESS
Currently there is poor access to the edge of the forest with a proposed road, but most of this area is open habitats. The proposed road needs reviewing

POOR PERFORMING BROADLEAVES
Areas mapped as BLs are performing badly, out competed by unmaintained SS regeneration and grazed by deer

WIND BLOW
The amount of wind blow, especially after Storm Arwen, has skewed the previous programme for roads, felling, restocking, thinning and other works.

POOR SITKA SPRUCE GROWTH
Poor SS growth along western edge on peaty soils.

EUROPEAN PROTECTED SPECIES
EPS need sensitively managed forestry

NATURAL RESERVES
Natural reserves are good for raptors even with windblown Larch

FUTURE SPECIES
SS is currently growing well in some areas, but new planting is not fertilised or drained as previous crops were. Climate models show the East getting drier, less suitable for SS, potential creating more opportunity for diverse species increasing the resilience to pests and diseases.

STEEP GROUND WORKING/LARCH
Areas of steep ground cause felling to be particularly challenging. Some of the steep ground has Larch growing on it and whilst this area is not required to have an active programme of Larch removal, there will need to be consideration as to how to remove this if need be, in a timely manner.

PAWS AND BIG TREE GLEN
The Drumtochty Glen is a priority for restoring PAWS but also has magnificent specimen conifers. These trees need retaining whilst ensuring regeneration from them is controlled within the PAWS area.

WAYLEAVES
Wayleaves to be widened removing trees and potentially creating a vulnerable brown edge. However, widening of wayleave may give an opportunity to restore PAWS in the priority PAWS area

BOUNDARY ISSUE
Very harsh edge to the forest runs along the top of the ridge of Strathfinella Hill and could be vulnerable to windblow

WIND BLOW
Amount of wind blow especially after Storm Arwen has skewed the programme of works for roads, clearing the wind blow, felling programme, thinning, replanting and other works. This has particularly affected South Drumtochty.

CONTINUOUS COVER FORESTRY/ LONG TERM RETENTION
Existing CCF and LTR areas need reviewing post Storm Arwen Some areas have missed their thinning window or are now more exposed due to adjacent wind blow

ACCESS AND HAULAGE ACCESS
All access points and haulage rights of access need to be reviewed

RIPARIAN AREAS
Most riparian areas have filled with SS regeneration, and are now non compliant with UKWAS as the open area is too narrow

THINNING/DOTHISTROMA NEEDLE BLIGHT
Areas of Pine were successfully previously thinned to reduce the spread of DNB. However thinning programme has stalled due to pressures of clearing wind blow from Storm Arwen. Review of thinning programme is needed.

WATER QUALITY STATUS
The Luther Water is a moderate water quality status

FLOOD RISK AUCHENBLAE
See Overall Context Map

OVERSIZED TIMBER
There is a high proportion of SS over YC24, which needs to be programmed for felling before it is too big for the sawmills, especially if it is in a high Wind Hazard class area

RED SQUIRRELS
Red squirrel habitats may have been fragmented by the extent of wind blow

DRUMTOCHTY ZONE
As well as its' south edge being highly visible, in the LLA and used by visitors, this area has more diverse species and priority PAWS. The current wind blow may offer opportunities to build on the diversity of species

Map 2a MEARNS ISSUES - GLEN FARQUHAR AND DRUMTOCHTY

Scale @ A0: 1:12,500
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0 0.1 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8



- Wind Turbines
- Wind blow
- FLS boundary Means
- Forestry access
- Forestry access major
- Forestry access major and public access
- Forestry access non-existent
- Forestry and public access
- Public access
- Unknown
- visual boundary issue
- SEPA river overall status -High

- SEPA river overall status -Good
- SEPA river overall status -Moderate
- SEPA river overall status -Poor
- SEPA river overall status -Bad
- Claimed Right of Way
- Planned Roads
- Class A Forest Road
- Class B Forest Road
- Class C Forest Road
- Restricted Forest Road
- Unclassified Forest Road
- Gas Pipelines
- SSEN overhead line
- Scheduled Monuments
- poor growth

- Poor growth BL
- SS regen in open areas
- poor access
- Larch
- Sleep_Ground
- Tree Yield Class 24-26
- Tree Yield Class 28-30

- Ancient (of semi-natural origin)
- Long-Established (of plantation origin)
- Other (on Roy map)
- Wind hazard class 4
- Wind hazard class 5

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