



# Appendix I - Description of Woodlands

## Topography and Landscape

Appendix X is a Landscape Visual Assessment prepared by a landscape architect. There are no landscape designations for the Plan area.

Map 11 shows the SNH Landscape Character Types relevant to the MMF area.

## Geology and Soils

Soils types within the forest block are shown on Map 9, underlying geology is shown on Map 9.1.

## Climate

Map 10 shows the climate types and DAMS score for the plan area.

## Hydrology

Map 2 shows all watercourses, open water, and recorded water supplies. Appendix IX - Hydrology contains more in-depth discussion and information.

## Windthrow

Map 10 illustrates the DAMS measurements for the plan area.

## Public access

Map 12 shows the location of promoted trails and visitor zones.

## Historic environment

Historic environment records for the forest are reported in Appendix VIII.

## Biodiversity

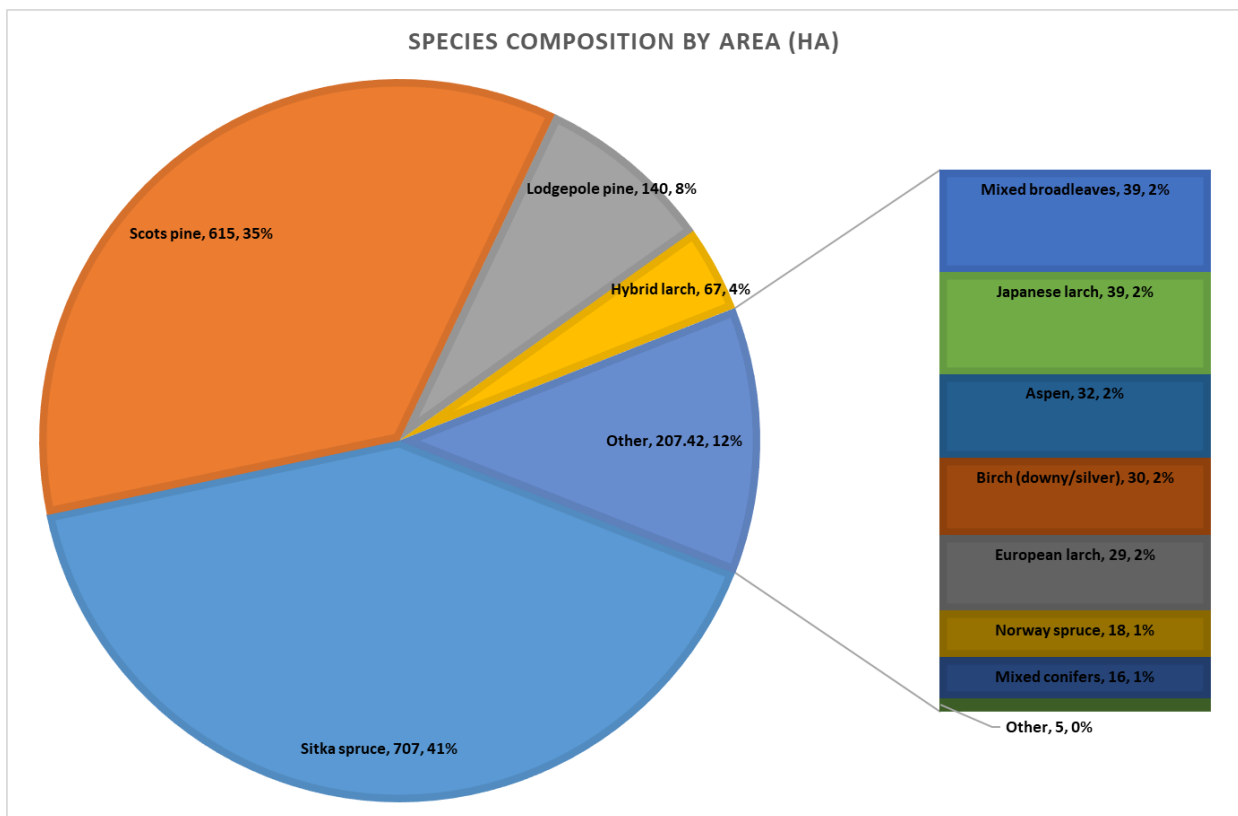
Appendix VIII is a record of the significant environmental features of the plan area.

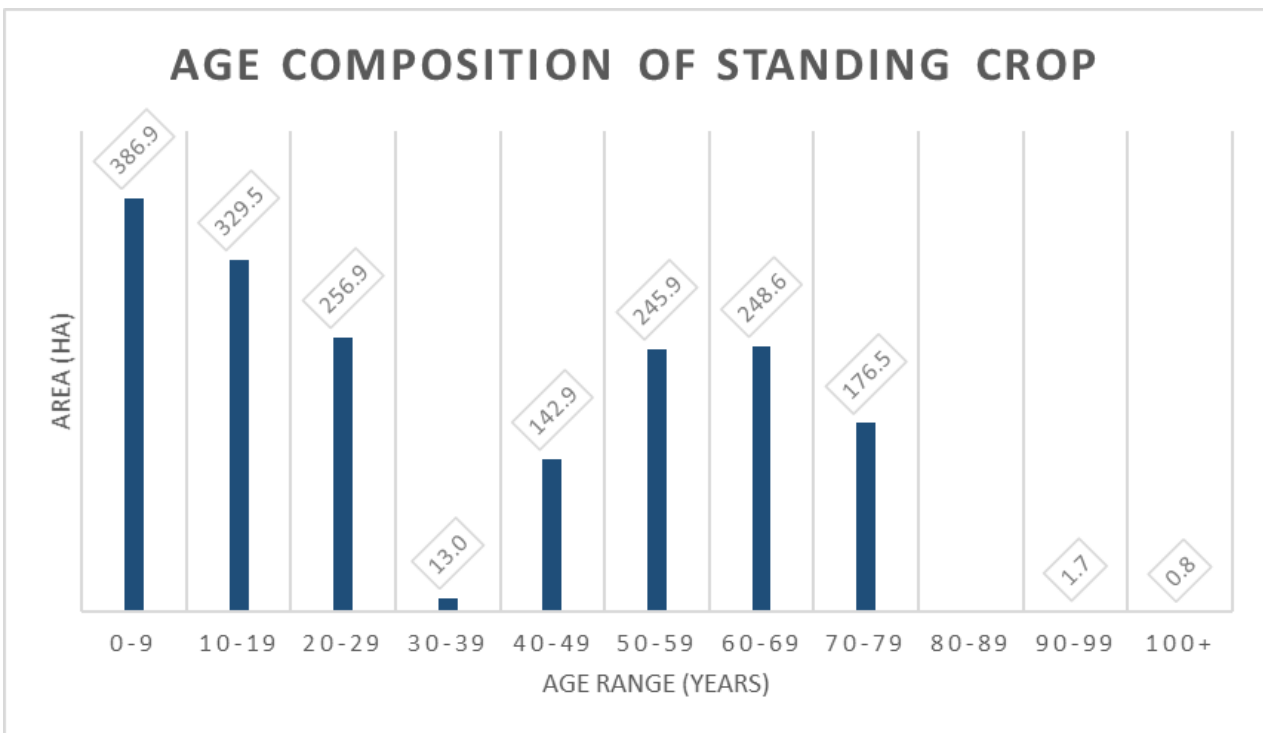
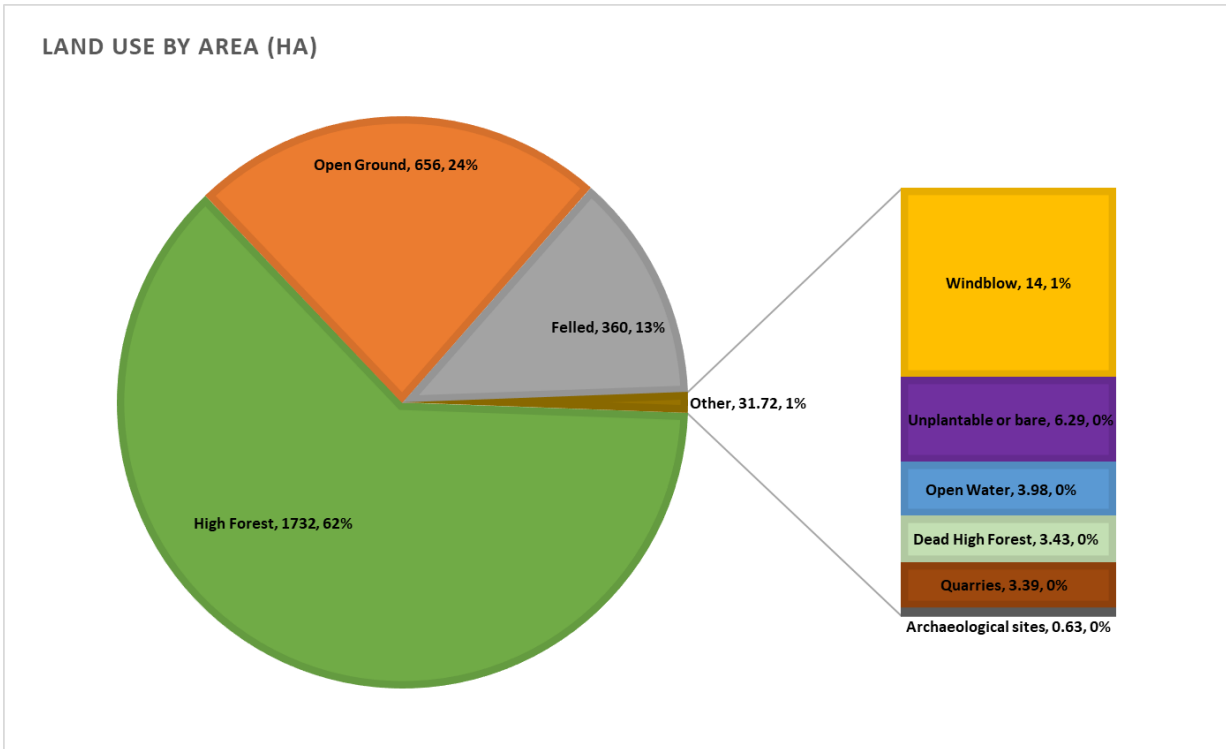
## Invasive species

Some rhododendron is present in the Farr loch area but the plan area is generally free of invasive species.

## Woodland composition

The current species composition of the forest is illustrated on Map 8.





## Plant health

There are no major plant health issues in the block. Resin-top (*Peridermium pini*) is present at low levels throughout, but does not show signs of becoming endemic.

*Phytophthora ramorum* - The plan area is bisected by the A9, which serves as the boundary between two *P. ramorum* impact zones. Whilst there have been no incidences within the plan area, there are numerous stands of both recently planted and mature larch. FLS's national larch

strategy is to make sure our mature larch is accessible and any other species that may need to be removed are approved at LMP stage.

## Infrastructure

Map 7 shows the proposed potential works within the plan area.

**Forest Roads** The forest is well serviced with roads, and shouldn't need any extensive road building during the plans duration. A turning point will be installed along the main road to service the felling works in Meall Mor. The proposed road to the east side of Farr loch is in anticipation of receiving an SPHN in the mature larch at the south of the block.

**Quarries** We have one quarrying site in the plan area, in Meall Mor, which is currently closed. In anticipation of civil engineering work within the block, and in other blocks local to the plan area, we have identified three potential options for quarrying. One is reopening and extending the existing quarry, and the other two are new sites on the north side of the A9.

**Public infrastructure** The plan area is bisected by the A9, the major trunk road north from the central belt. To the south of the plan area dualling of the road has taken place, and it was anticipated that dualling would commence on the stretch through the plan area by the end of 2023. At the time of writing a new contractor is being sought, and so it is unclear when this stretch will be dualled. Dualling will result in the loss of some forested areas and peat bog areas, the extent of which will only become clear once the plans of the contractor have been formalised.

There are several powerline wayleaves running through the plan area, and a major windfarm on the hills above. There is a hydro generation scheme in operation at the southern end of the Farr block.

There are several private water supplies near to the plan area. These were located as part of the planning process. Further discussion is located in the Hydrology appendix.

**Recreation** The only formal public car park and recreational trails are located in Littlemill. The public however do make use of Moy and Inverarnie woods informally.