

**SELM MUIR FOREST LMP 2022-32**  
**ANALYSIS MAP 8:**

**CONSTRAINTS & OPPORTUNITIES**

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Scale at A3:1:7,500

Date: 15/01/2022

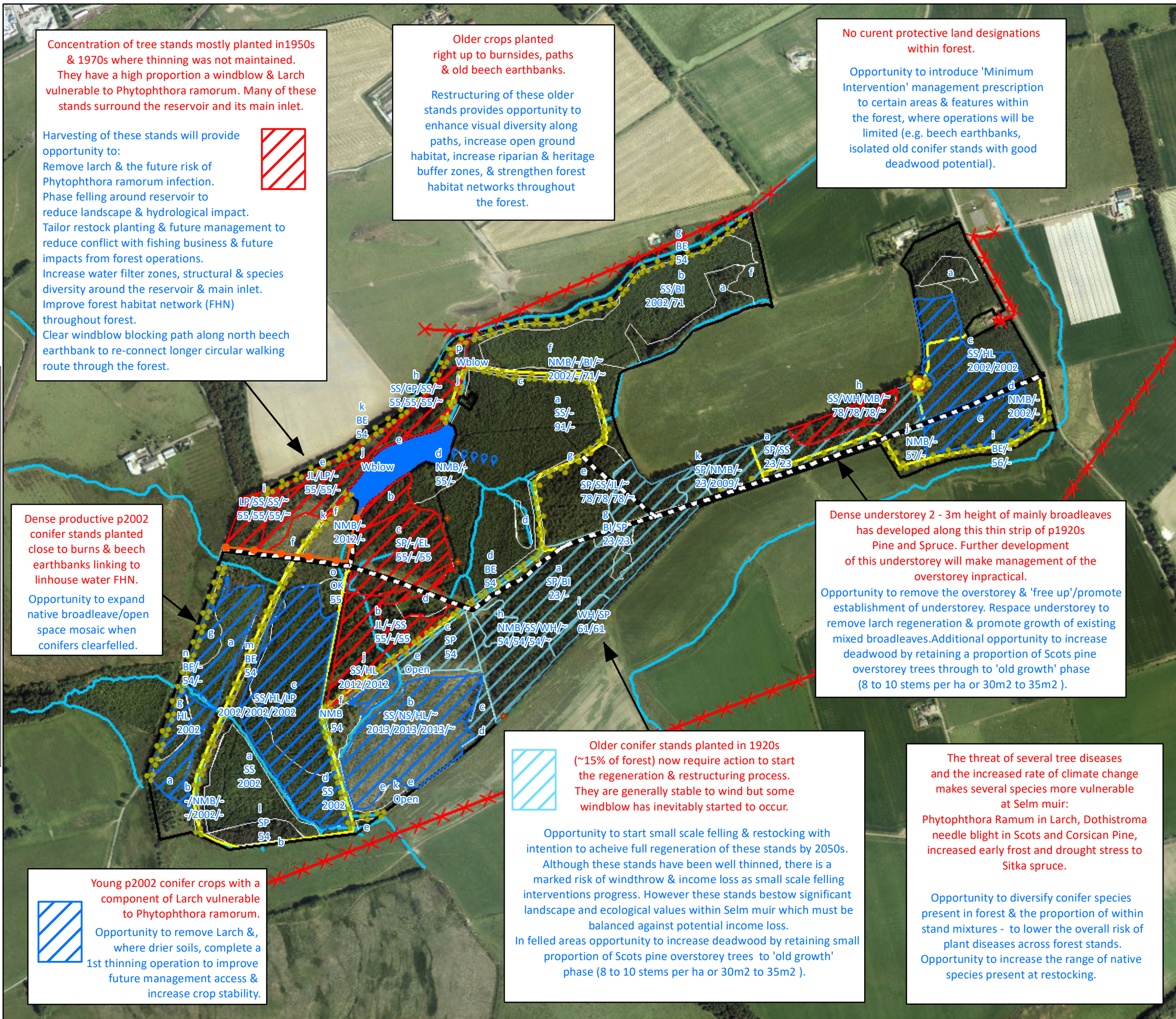


**Legend**

- Underground reservoir inlet clay
- Overhead telephone or fibreoptic
- Electricity Powerlines**
- Type**
- Overhead
- Forest Roads
- Beech Earthbanks
- Heritage Impact Zones
- 1st thinning opportunity remove Larch
- Windblow spreading through stands
- Older potential LISS conifers mostly 100 years
- Known Path Network
- Sub-compartments
- Private Fisheries
- Selm muir Key Burns-Drains

0 0.075 0.15 0.3 Kilometers

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Concentration of tree stands mostly planted in 1950s & 1970s where thinning was not maintained. They have a high proportion a windblow & Larch vulnerable to Phytophthora ramorum. Many of these stands surround the reservoir and its main inlet.

Harvesting of these stands will provide opportunity to:  
Remove larch & the future risk of Phytophthora ramorum infection.  
Phase felling around reservoir to reduce landscape & hydrological impact.  
Tailor restock planting & future management to reduce conflict with fishing business & future impacts from forest operations.  
Increase water filter zones, structural & species diversity around the reservoir & main inlet.  
Improve forest habitat network (FHN) throughout forest.  
Clear windblow blocking path along north beech earthbank to re-connect longer circular walking route through the forest.



Older crops planted right up to burnside, paths & old beech earthbanks.  
Restructuring of these older stands provides opportunity to enhance visual diversity along paths, increase open ground habitat, increase riparian & heritage buffer zones, & strengthen forest habitat networks throughout the forest.

No curent protective land designations within forest.  
Opportunity to introduce 'Minimum Intervention' management prescription to certain areas & features within the forest, where operations will be limited (e.g. beech earthbanks, isolated old conifer stands with good deadwood potential).

Dense productive p2002 conifer stands planted close to burns & beech earthbanks linking to linhouse water FHN.  
Opportunity to expand native broadleave/open space mosaic when conifers clearfelled.

Dense understory 2 - 3m height of mainly broadleaves has developed along this thin strip of p1920s Pine and Spruce. Further development of this understory will make management of the overstorey impractical.  
Opportunity to remove the overstorey & 'free up'/promote establishment of understory. Respace understory to remove larch regeneration & promote growth of existing mixed broadleaves. Additional opportunity to increase deadwood by retaining a proportion of Scots pine overstorey trees through to 'old growth' phase (8 to 10 stems per ha or 30m2 to 35m2 ).

Older conifer stands planted in 1920s (~15% of forest) now require action to start the regeneration & restructuring process. They are generally stable to wind but some windblow has inevitably started to occur.  
Opportunity to start small scale felling & restocking with intention to acheive full regeneration of these stands by 2050s. Although these stands have been well thinned, there is a marked risk of windthrow & income loss as small scale felling interventions progress. However these stands bestow significant landscape and ecological values within Selm muir which must be balanced against potential income loss.  
In felled areas opportunity to increase deadwood by retaining small proportion of Scots pine overstorey trees to 'old growth' phase (8 to 10 stems per ha or 30m2 to 35m2 ).

The threat of several tree diseases and the increased rate of climate change makes several species more vulnerable at Selm muir:  
Phytophthora Ramum in Larch, Dothistroma needle blight in Scots and Corsican Pine, increased early frost and drought stress to Sitka spruce.  
Opportunity to diversify conifer species present in forest & the proportion of within stand mixtures - to lower the overall risk of plant diseases across forest stands.  
Opportunity to increase the range of native species present at restocking.

Young p2002 conifer crops with a component of Larch vulnerable to Phytophthora ramorum.  
Opportunity to remove Larch & where drier soils, complete a 1st thinning operation to improve future management access & increase crop stability.