



Summary of Proposals

This land management plan provides a long term vision for Blairadam forest and specifically details management proposals for the next 10 years (2024-2034). The forest is located to the north-west of Fife County (see [Map 1](#)) and covers 1335.25 hectares. It also falls within the 'Central Scotland Green Network' boundary and contributes to several of this project's workstreams.

Management objectives for the forest are listed below and were agreed after consultation with local communities, external organisations and FLS staff. Many themes of the previous plan are still relevant but key additions include peat mire restoration and proactive management of plant health threats.

Management objectives:

- Provide a sustainable supply of conifer and broadleaved timber products.
- Maintain recreational assets and community engagement.
- Diversify tree species and forest structure to increase forest resilience.
- Restore priority open peat habitats.
- Gradually move to lower impact forest management systems in visitor zones, recognising the value of these areas for local communities and tourism.
- Protect & enhance heritage assets focusing on the designed landscapes linked to Blairadam Estate.
- Protect and enhance wildlife and hydrological assets.
- Manage and mitigate impacts of tree pests and diseases (e.g. *Phytophthora ramorum* in larch).
- Work in partnership to create woodland on vacant and derelict land.



10 year plan of operations (2024-2034):

Operation Type	Area (net)
Clearfell Phase 1	118.52 hectares
Clearfell Phase 2	113.27 hectares
LISS ¹ felling	5.6 hectares
10 year LMP net felling (incl. LISS felling):	237.39 hectares (17.78% of LMP area)
Commercial thinning areas (incl. LISS areas)	149.44 hectares
Conservation thinning (i.e. remove non-native tree species from native woodland such as along riparian zones).	109.06 hectares
Pre-commercial thinning (broadleaved & conifers)	7.84 hectares
Total Thinning Area:	266.34 hectares
Restock	241.27 hectares²
LISS Restock	7.95 hectares³
Peat mire restoration (deforestation)	65.33 hectares
Woodland Creation	43.64 hectares
New Road Construction	3.433 hectares (3.433 km)
Existing Road Upgrade	0.958 km

In addition to work listed above, the management proposals include a range of conservation, deer management & visitor services works (subject to available budget).

¹ LISS = Lower Impact Silvicultural Systems Including group selection, shelterwood or underplanting, small coupe felling, coppice or coppice with standards, minimum intervention and single tree selection systems.

² Includes existing felled/fallow areas from previous plan and excludes peat mire restoration (65.33ha).

³ Includes underplanting.