



Management Objectives:

1. Ensure a sustainable supply of high quality timber, supplying local timber markets, securing timber income, and providing employment in the forest industries;
2. Plan and design a resilient and healthy forest, mitigating the risks posed by climate change and a growing number of pests and diseases;
3. Improve the biodiversity value of the forest, caring for priority habitats and species, and enhancing the overall value through expansion of riparian broadleaf areas and developing a better balance and connectivity between forest and open habitat. Continue restoration of ancient woodland (PAWS) on the east side of the forest;
4. Maintain good water quality throughout the forest, protecting water supplies;
5. Provide a resource for community and wider public access, and develop an attractive landscape as a backdrop to Moffat and the surrounding area.

Despite some challenging soils and site conditions, there are opportunities within the well-established forest to grow a sustainable supply of softwood for sawlogs and other timber products.

Fell the remaining northern coupes that have reached their maximum economic felling age, and are increasingly prone to windblow. Carry out subsequent thinning and aim to first thin suitable coupes early to develop stability and optimise future timber value.

Beyond the PAWS restoration area, there is limited scope for diversification of productive conifer species, but options for some variety include Scots pine and Norway spruce.

Sitka spruce will continue to be the dominant productive conifer species but opportunities to plant alternative species such as Nobles fir, Norway spruce and Scots pine will be sought, where these can offer additional benefits.

As part of forest re-structuring, some forest edge habitat work has been carried out, to improve habitat for black grouse and other wildlife.

Ensure successful establishment of low density native broadleaves, juniper and Scots pine, and remove non-native regeneration.

The forest sits within Moffat Hills Local Landscape Area and, together with neighbouring private forestry, provides a backdrop to Moffat and the surrounding area.

Continue with forest re-structuring that is sympathetic to the landform. Target species diversification, especially broadleaf expansion on the more visible slopes of Auldton Hill.

Long Term Retention and Natural Reserve with conifers of mixed age including previously thinned P1949 Sitka spruce, including windblow.

Link these areas and expand the area of mature conifers to be managed as Natural Reserve or Minimum Intervention.

Although not a major visitor destination in its own right, Craigeburn Forest is important to the local community and visitors for recreation. Visitor parking and a waymarked trail are provided at the main forest entrance, and informal access from Moffat links with the forest road and trail network.

Continue to maintain formal and informal public access. Identify opportunities to enhance the visitor experience through on-going management of the forest, such as opening up and maintaining views and increasing structural and species diversity close to access route - improving 'welcome' and 'interactive' visitor zones.

Watercourses throughout the forest and associated catchments feed several sensitive private water supplies and a fish farm. Some also flow into Moffat Water, an important salmonid spawning river.

Protect all watercourses and PWS catchments from forest operations, and continue to develop the riparian habitat network as a protective buffer.

Larch felled from PAWS area, leaving stands of other mature conifers including western hemlock. Western hemlock and Sitka spruce natural regeneration is threatening successful PAWS restoration.

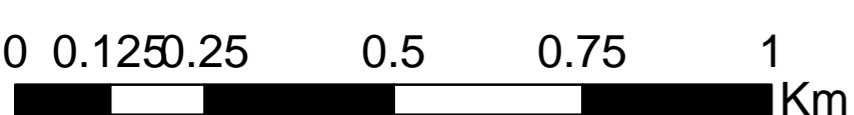
Fell mature western hemlock and Sitka spruce that is a seed source for unwanted natural regeneration. Clear all western hemlock and Sitka spruce regeneration in PAWS area. Leave other mature conifers in PAWS area for next 10 years at least to provide visual and structural diversity, as well as habitat for raptors, red squirrels and other wildlife.

Craigeburn Land Management Plan Map 3 - Analysis & Concept

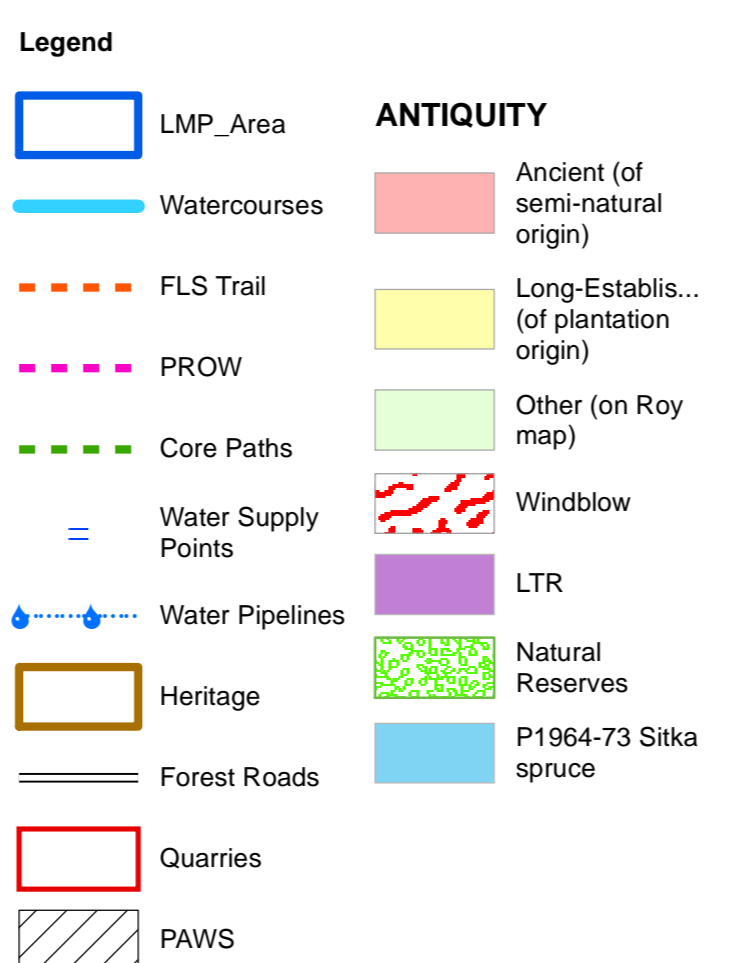
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