






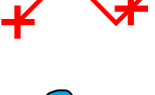



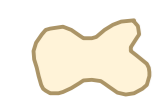
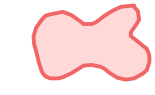







## Moray & Aberdeenshire Forest District Pitfichie & Corrennie

### Analysis and Concept Map

Date: May 2017

Scale: 1:18,000 at A1

O.S. Grid Ref NJ 642 140

-  Scheduled monument
-  A 944
-  B roads
-  Forest roads
-  Tracks
-  Powerline
-  River Don
-  Watercourses
-  Water pipeline
-  Boundary
-  Interactive visitor zone – Buffer around trail
-  Welcome zone – Key arrival or destination point
-  Broadleaves
-  FCS natural reserve
-  Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site
-  Felled areas
-  Windblow
-  Surrounding woodland

The northern slopes of Pitfichie and the south east of Corrennie have poor soils such as Iron pans or podzols. Pitfichie's northern slopes are steep and also facing north reducing their exposure to sun light making the ground colder. In some of these places where Scots Pines have been planted they have not adapted well to the local soil and climatic conditions.

The choice of restock in these areas will aim to plant species better adapted to the local conditions such as Sitka spruce. With productivity being the primary objective this will increase the commercial value of the forest and encourage production of high quality timber.

Three Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) are located in Pitfichie forest. These PAWS areas are mainly composed of scots pines and larch. There are also other non native species present in the PAWS such as spruces and firs.

The UK Forestry Standard guidelines aim to try and restore PAWS sites back into native woodland. Those areas could be converted into a woodland composed of native species such as Oak, Birch or Pine. A minimum of 10% of non-native species will be accepted at the end of the restoration within the PAWS area with the existing scots pines being maintained where possible. Thinning operations will focus on removing non native conifers and encouraging native species to grow.

Some areas of the forest have a high recreation value. This is the case at the north end of Pitfichie forest for example. Here you can find tracks and car parks along with a wider age range of trees and a greater diversity of species.

The management of these parts of Pitfichie and Corrennie will be maintained and monitored in order to provide a greater forest experience to the public. The species chosen should create a nice atmosphere for walking, running, riding or cycling. The preferred species would be native such as scots pine.

The central area of this woodland has good quality soils such as brown earths. This type of soil is not widely represented over Moray and Aberdeenshire forest district. However, species that do not need brown earth to reach a good yield class have been planted in the past over this area.

The future species choices will aim to diversify the site whilst producing a high quality timber with Douglas fir or broadleaves as an example. This area has good potential to get a fast growth rate for those type of species. Also, this will help to meet the FES national objectives of diversification and resilience. However, the existing standing trees will not be felled before they reach their optimal commercial value in order to get the best financial outcome.

Pitfichie and Corrennie forest can produce trees of good quality timber such as Larch or Douglas fir. The site has soil and climatic conditions for good growing condition to occur.

Such areas can present good potential for a Low Impact Silvicultural System (LISS). Where conditions are met to obtain natural regeneration such as a thin vegetation layer or easy terrain LISS will be considered.

Scotland's National Forest Estate is responsibly managed to the UK Woodland Assurance Standard.



0 500 1,000 2,000 Meters