



Morvern Land Management Plan

M7 Analysis and Concept (relabeled to M3)

- Legend**
- Morvern LMP Boundary
 - Proposed Roads
 - Existing Roads
 - Current Species**
 - Native Mixed/Other Broadleaves
 - Birch
 - Douglas Fir
 - Larch
 - Lodgepole Pine
 - Other/Mixed Conifers
 - Norway Spruce
 - Oak
 - Scots Pine
 - Sitka Spruce
 - Other/Mixed Broadleaves

Note on Text Box Colour:
Blue - Silvicultural Comment
Green - Conservation Comment
Purple - Community and Culture Comment

1,000 Meters
Scale: 1:35,000 @ A2

Areas of Barr have shown good regeneration of a wide range of NBL species. Seek to establish NBL and restore PAWS by natural regeneration in the first instance. Monitor and consider targeted fenced planting of NBL where natural regeneration isn't working. Enhance NBL riparian linkages and links with adjacent NBL woodland areas.

Prioritise, subject to resource availability, the restocking of the extensive felled areas to avoid adjacency issue, reduce weed competition and reduce the unproductive time in the silvicultural rotation.

Seek to enhance the setting of the Scheduled Township by increasing tree species and structural diversity at restocking. Continue light grazing to maintain the open ground habitats. Safeguard archaeology and enhance the setting and linkages between features at restocking.

Restore peat ranker areas to mainly open ground and NBL.

Restore areas identified as suitable for peat restoration and enhance the woodland margin in the vicinity with NBL where feasible.

Restore footpath link during restocking, and seek to extend ranger paths on restock sites generally to create more informal path linkages and circular routes.

Restock failed Lodgepole pine areas on mineral soils with Sitka spruce in order to compensate for loss of this productive species in other parts of the forest.

Fell to recycle diseased Larch due to steep, rocky slopes and environmental sensitivities.

Retain areas of mature Norway spruce as long term retentions where these occur in sheltered areas. These areas are likely to self thin, which would enhance stand stability. Mature conifer areas provide habitat for Red squirrel and raptor nesting sites and are an ecological attribute limited in extent across the forest.

Restock with productive broadleaves in the proximity of Lochaline to provide an aesthetically pleasing woodland that could be adapted to work with the Forest Croft concept. The site is fairly sheltered and has good soils.

Identify and protect water supplies across the forest by the design of riparian buffers and during operational management.

The restock design is founded on the principle of an intact, maintained and functional deer fence, with good deer control within the LMP area. This should allow the establishment of areas of softer Mixed conifers across the forest which enables the design to better reflect landform and avoid blocky boundaries arising from the limitations of fence construction. This approach should also facilitate natural regeneration of NBL across wider areas. Ensuring that NBL regen isn't outcompeted by Sitka spruce regeneration in areas where NBL is the target establishment species will require monitoring and management. Planted NBL areas are likely to require internal deer fencing to become established.

Vary coupe sizes and scale these to landform and location on the slope. Coupes along the lower forest margin being generally smaller and scaling up further up the slope. Seek to disperse and vary as far as possible the felling phases across the forest subject to the constraints of crop height, windfirm edges, previously felled areas etc. Ensure a 2m height differential in adjacent felling coupes by felling early and late in sequential adjacent coupes. Consider delayed restocking where necessary to achieve the 2m differential. Relate coupe margins to landform and landscape scale where feasible.

While this area is marginal for Continuous Cover Forestry (CCF) it represents the only area which has been successfully thinned and stood up. The soils are generally suitable and road access and slope are good. Monitor suitability for CCF in light of windblow and adapt management accordingly.

Diversify the range of productive species planted with targeted areas of productive broadleaves and diverse conifers on areas of better soils and lower exposure. Maintain the core productive element of Sitka spruce to maintain the contribution of the forest to the local and National economy. Sitka spruce is ideally suited to this forest and displays a very high rate of carbon capture, the timber products produced are a sustainable substitute for energy intensive materials such as carbon and steel.