

















Moray & Aberdeenshire Forest District
Bennachie

Management Map

Date: January 2017
Scale: 1:18,000 at A1
O.S. Grid Ref NJ 670217

-  Roads
-  Phase 1 felling (2017 - 2021)
-  Phase 2 felling (2022 - 2026)
-  Phase 3 felling (2027 - 2031)
-  Phase 4 felling (2032 - 2036)
-  Phase 5 felling (2037 - 2041)
-  Phase 6 felling (2042 - 2046)
-  Phase 7 felling (2047 - 2051)
-  After 2051
-  Natural reserve
-  Minimum intervention
-  Long term retention
-  Low impact silviculture
-  Open/other

Most of the trees on Bennachie were planted in the 1950s. Unfortunately this intensive period of planting is now having an impact on the current, as well as the future management of the forest. The trees have now reached their best commercial value but are also now at high risk of windblow. To help reduce this risk a number of clearfells are planned over the 10 year time period of this plan. These clearfells are designed to fit into the landscape while restructuring the age classes of the forest.

Natural reserve, minimum and long term retention areas will be established in order to increase the conservation value of the site. The areas selected have no important commercial value of the site. The characteristics of these areas also have low commercial value for growing timber which helps minimise any financial costs of removing these areas from productivity.

Low Impact Silviculture areas will be selected where the soil, the slope and the source tree are favorable to natural regeneration as well as where deer control can be managed to appropriate levels.

The clearfells are designed:

- To fit in the landscape,
- To avoid winblow following the wind direction.

If the strongest wind is blowing from the West to the East, the clearfells will therefore preferably start from the East going West.