

Legend

- Agreed Route
- Consultation Route
- Severely Restricted Route
- Excluded Route
- - - Core Paths
- Forest Roads
- Sub-compartments
- Felled or fell year requires review (2011 - 2020)
- Phase 1 felling (2021 - 2025)
- Phase 2 felling (2026 - 2030)
- Phase 3 felling (2031 - 2035)
- Phase 4 felling (2036 - 2040)
- Phase 5 felling (2041 - 2045)
- Phase 6 felling (2046 - 2050)
- Phase 7 felling (2051 - 2055)
- After 2055
- Long Term Retention (Fell after Phase 3)
- Natural Reserve
- Minimum Intervention
- Coppice
- Low Impact Silviculture
- Open
- Blocks



North Region

Inverness Woodlands Land Management Plan Map 4b Culloden Management Map

Culloden Woods is not prominent in the landscape and does not provide many internal views. Good internal design of the forest with tall Douglas Fir trees as an identifying feature is therefore key. As a consequence we will **not** manage the main part of the block in a standard, clearfell focused style. Instead, we will retain tree cover for amenity purposes ("social forestry") long term, whilst transforming and renewing the forest. More details can be found on **Map 6b - Thinning**. We will, however, react to windblow events and remove trees in the affected areas.

Wet site conditions do not allow for low impact forest management at the eastern end of Culloden Muir. In addition, there is hardly any recreational traffic:
 - we will continue to apply an industrial-scale clear fell approach
 - good road infrastructure and proximity to markets make management more profitable

LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN APPROVAL

Name Inverness Woodlands
 Ref 030/517/407
 Approval Date 26-Mar-2021
 End Date 25-Mar-2031

Signature:
 Name Keir Smith
 On behalf of Scottish Forestry

Some of the informal recreational infrastructure has deteriorated (i.e. bridges and culverts) and pose a hazard to the public. Due to limited resources we cannot maintain all informal infrastructure therefore unsafe structures will be removed and we will work with the public and the Culloden Partnership to find ways to repair and maintain any retained structures.

The railway in **Culloden Muir** marks the divide in our forest management approach:
 - to the west, we will manage for people, using a CCF approach wherever possible
 - to the east, standard forest management will continue to be practiced

Although identified as a Continuous Cover Forestry (CCF) area with group selection potential, the Sitka spruce/Douglas fir coupe north of the railway line, and east of the felled coupe, will be very exposed to windblow. If significant windblow occurs, this coupe might have to be redesigned to a clearfell site;

Cullernie Coupe:
 - conifers will be removed to eliminate the risk of fallen trees on the railway line
 - windblow will be removed
 - strips of open land will be established along the fenceline when restocking the site
 - due to the proximity to Balloch careful planning and proper consultation with the community will be required
 - we will also investigate extraction of timber via Moray Estate

This area will be managed by the Scottish School of Forestry (SSF); the school will use the grounds to train forestry and arboricultural students in work practices and CCF management as well as for wider environmental and scientific study; we will monitor and review the SSF management plan annually together with representatives of the school to ensure UKWAS requirements are being met;

Where woodland is adjacent to residential properties;
 - younger crop will be heavily thinned along boundary to create a buffer between forest edge and residential areas
 - regular monitoring of mature trees along these woodland boundaries will be carried out by a licensed arboriculturist;
 - surveyed trees that pose a hazard to the residents or their properties will be removed.

Open area across Culloden road will be widened to prepare the infrastructure needed to clearfell the Cullernie coupe

Shrubs form impenetrable barriers along the roadside of the major connection between Balloch and Smithton:
 - we will remove roadside vegetation to reestablish safety and improve the visitor experience

Dalcross powerline coupe will be clear felled and thinned by FES during the next 5 years; we will then hand it over to SSF for further management

Dog fouling is a major problem, posing a threat to health and well being; a dog-free area close to the car park has been developed where children's play and educational events are encouraged.

Wide network of marked and unmarked trails provides ample scope for recreation for a high number of people, especially from the Smithton and Balloch residential areas:
 - The formal path network and the main car park facilities will continue to be maintained and kept free from debris.

Increased windblow has occurred after the last thinning event; we will replace Scots pine with a species more suitable to very wet site conditions

Forest road network allows frequent public access around forest area adjacent to Sunnyside:
 - we will manage this part of the Culloden Muir block for amenity and retain forest cover wherever possible.

Sitka spruce keeps seeding onto adjacent National Trust of Scotland (NTS) land. This will be reduced by working natural regeneration of native species only

All three Culloden Forest Blocks form part of an extensive network of woodland which interlocks farmland, crofts and small settlements. We will continue to manage these woodlands in conjunction with partners, such as the Culloden Forest Partnership, a community initiative set-up to use the forest resource for education, research, recreation and community capacity building.

We will investigate opportunities for a "Branching Out" project together with the NHS

West Hill forest block has suffered from large-scale windblow:
 - we will retain the remaining forest cover as long as possible, and continue to remove windblow where it occurs

Catchment area of the Red Burn (indicated by blue line):
 During high water events the Red Burn has caused flooding in the residential area to the north of the catchment. The public woodlands within and around the catchment area will be managed by Continuous Cover Forestry (CCF) to minimise the pace of run-off water and help reduce flood events. We will investigate further flood risk mitigation opportunities with the Culloden Forest Partnership.

Map 4b

Author: u321895
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