



Gartly: LMP Summary

The Gartly Land Management Plan (LMP) comprises of a single forest block, covering 1221.5 hectares (ha) Figure 1.

Analysis of the available information has led to the following objectives for the Gartly LMP area.

Primary objectives

Objective 1: Ensure that the forest continues to contribute to Region's timber production targets. There are opportunities to produce a significant amount of timber through a combination of clearfell and thinning activities. A future resource can also be guaranteed by restocking with primarily productive species.

Objective 2: Increase resilience and biodiversity value by adding more diverse range of species. The presence of diseases affecting several tree species and the poor soils present in Gartly may mean that suitable restock species will be limited in large areas of the block. There will be a focus on identifying suitable areas for additional species diversity, which will build resilience to probable pest and disease impact in the future and help mitigate the impact of other issues associated with a changing climate.

Secondary Objectives

Identify and implement management operations to help achieve carbon capture and biodiversity targets. This will include investigating known areas of deep peat within the block and carrying out restoration work where it is likely to increase the carbon capture potential of the area.

Protect and improve the water environment. Gartly forms part of the watershed for several locally important watercourses, with some tributaries originating from within the block. Feasible steps will be taken to ensure water quality is maintained or improved and that operations do not have a negative impact on flood risk downstream.

Maintain and improve habitat for all priority species found within the block. As well as the known presence of red squirrel and pine martin, Gartly also forms part of the Strathbogie Wildcat Priority Area so in-depth consultation with conservation experts will be sought to ensure the block is managed in a sensitive manner.

Maintain current levels of recreational use. The local population already use the woodlands for recreation, this should be sustained by conducting forest operations sensitively and maintaining current facilities.

Protect or improve priority habitats. There are several priority open habitats within Gartly which should be protected or improved where possible, including: upland heath, acid grassland and open water.

The proposed management operations that will result from the objectives are summarised in Table 1.

Table 1: proposed management operations 2023-2032

Proposed Operations	2023 – 2033
Clearfell	226.3ha
Thinning	768.2ha
Restock	239.5ha
Road construction	0m
Road upgrade	0m
Peat restoration	68.9ha

Felling within the Gartly LMP area includes 65.16ha of deforestation for Blanket Bog peatland restoration and landscape scale habitat restoration.

As a result of our objectives, tree species and the area they cover will change over the next 10 years (2023 – 2033) and is summarised in Table 2.

Table 2: change in species composition over the next 10 years (2023 - 2033).

Species	Area (ha) 2023	% Cover 2023	Area (ha) 2033	% Cover 2033
Sitka spruce	762.4	62.4	636.7	52.1
Larch	122.9	10.1	99.0	8.1
Lodgepole pine	69.1	5.7	64.8	5.3
Norway spruce	27.1	2.2	28.1	2.3
Scots pine	33.1	2.7	118.3	9.7
Birch	7.9	0.6	54.3	4.5
Alder	6.5	0.5	11.3	0.9
Mixed conifers	2.1	0.2	2.1	0.2
Mixed broadleaves	5.9	0.5	22.2	1.8
Open/Other	141.5	11.6	184.7	15.1
Felled/Failed	43.0	3.5	0	0
Total	1221.5	100	1221.5	100



Forestry and
Land Scotland

Coilltearachd agus
Fearann Alba


Gartly Land Management Plan 2023

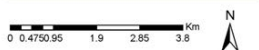
Map 1: Location

Scale @ A2: 1:50,000

Date: November 2022

Legend

 Gartly LMP Area



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

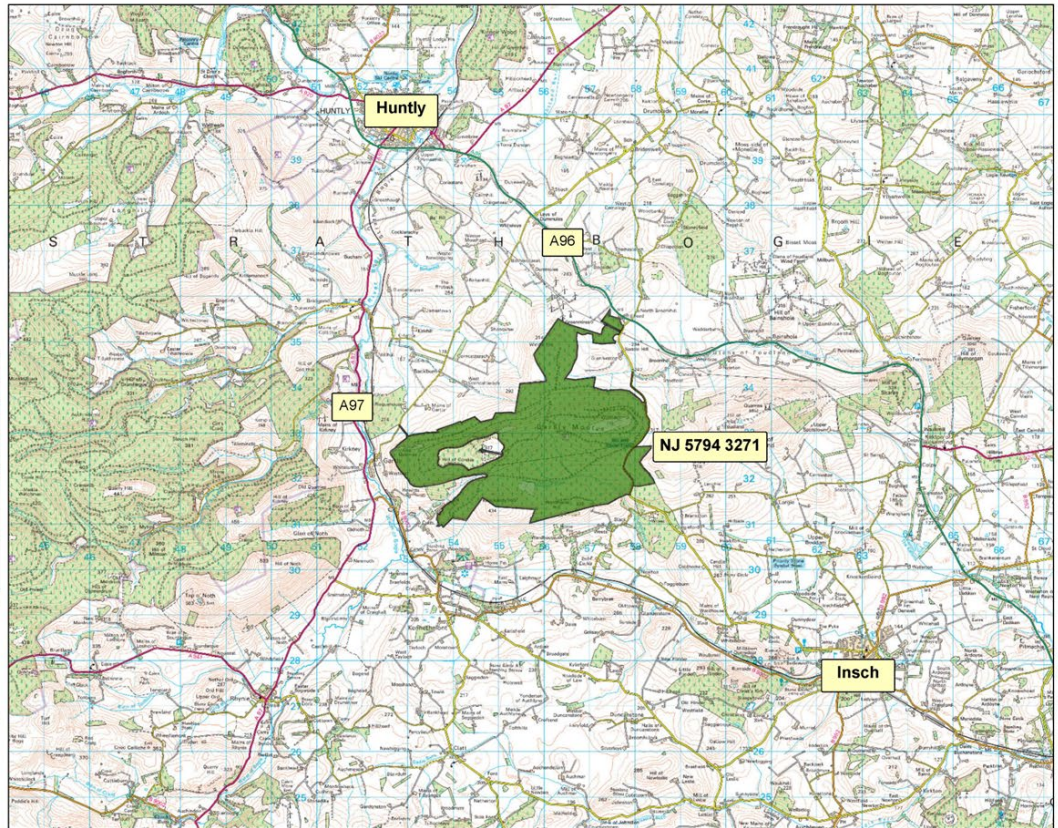


Figure 1: Gartly forest block location.