



# Summary of Land Management Plan Proposals

Patna forest includes two adjacent forest blocks covering a total of 705 ha which are split by a minor county road (C11). Patna forest occupies a hillside position to the west of the village of Patna on the A713 between Dalmellington and Ayr. Predominantly, the area comprises of conifer forest interspersed with broadleaved species with some agricultural land to the west of the block. It is part of Scotland's national forests and land, owned by Scottish Ministers on behalf of the people of Scotland, and managed by Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS).

The Patna Land Management Plan (LMP) defines the management prescription for the next ten years (2022-32) and presents the vision for the long-term management of the area. The main management objectives in this plan focus on sustainable timber production, sympathetic landscape design, and sustainable community involvement.

Composition of Plan Area	Area (ha)	Percentage of plan area (%)
Woodland Area	598.6	84.8
External Open Ground Area	106.6	15.2
Total Plan Area	705.2	100

Species Breakdown	2022 (current)	(ha / %)	2032 (end plan period)	(ha / %)
Primary Species: Sitka Spruce	272.2	48%	236.6	41%
Secondary Species: Native Broadleaves	51.4	9%	80.6	14%
Secondary Species: Other Conifers	71.6	13%	78.7	14%

Species Breakdown	2022 (current)	(ha / %)	2032 (end plan period)	(ha / %)
Fallow	86.5	15%	83.9	14%
Open space	87.3	15%	100.8	17%

Planned Operations	2022 – 2032 plan period
Felling	108.2 ha
Thinning	0 ha
Planting	84.7 ha
Road construction	940 m
Road upgrade	0 m

Significant Environment / Conservation Features	
Special Protection Area (SPA)	No
Deep peat soil (>50 cm thickness)	3ha of 10b soils present( Upland Sphagnum Bog), very wet and part of a wider connected flush (9b) Currently some of the area is managed as open and will remain so. Outstanding areas will remain as managed open after once the current crop is removed.
Biosphere reserve	Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere
Environmentally Sensitive Area (Scotland)	No
Minimum Intervention (MI) / Natural Reserve / Long Term Retention (LTR)	LTR 28.2 ha (4.0 %) MI 18.7 ha (2.7 %)

## Critical Success Factors

- Planting carried out sustainably, to meet the stocking density requirements.
- Broadleaves and soft conifers must be protected from damage, and beaten up where required, to ensure successful establishment.
- Restructuring of the forest by redesigning management coupes and increase species diversity, whilst being sensitive to the local topography.
- Enhance broadleaf area, targeting riparian zones and boundaries to adjacent land to tie-in with local landscape and increase connectivity.

## Consultation and Further Information

During the development of this plan we have consulted with the local community representatives and stakeholders known to have an interest in this plan area. For further information on the plan please contact: [enquiries.south@forestryandland.gov.scot](mailto:enquiries.south@forestryandland.gov.scot)