

North Clydesdale Forests – Summary of Proposals

The ‘North Clydesdale Forests’ comprise the forest blocks of Heathland, Woodmuir, Kingshill, West Forth & The Mosses. With the exception of West Forth these blocks have served as significant productive forests within Scottish Lowlands Forest District, producing large volumes of standard quality timber.

The primary objective of the land management plan is to continue the sustainable production of timber, enhance native woodland habitat networks and to develop and maintain high quality access and recreation infrastructure.
(see tables below).

Key Proposals

Total Plan Area	2,205 Ha
Planned operations	2017-2027 plan period
Felling	344 Ha
Thinning	31 Ha
Restock	284 Ha
Woodland Creation	22.3 Ha
Habitat Restoration	176 Ha
Road Construction	788 m

Land use changes

Land use	2017	2027
Primary species: Sitka spruce	47%	37%
Secondary species: other conifers	15%	13%
Broadleaves	6%	8%
Open, Successional, Felled, Other	32%	42%

The key considerations in producing this plan were tree health, crop quality, habitat connectivity, transport corridors and potential renewable developments. The design enhances and retains riparian and peat edge habitat, diversifies the species and age range of the crop whilst conserving heritage features. In 2024 we amended the plan, increasing ‘open mire’ habitat restoration from 45 to 176 hectares.

Consultation and Further Information

Scottish Lowlands Forest District consulted with local neighbours via postcard drop, onsite posters and a press release whilst Central Scotland Conservancy consulted on the plan with statutory stakeholders.

For further information on the plan please contact scottishlowlands@forestry.gsi.gov.uk.