



Appendix V

Glen Roy Deer Management Plan (DMP)

Background

This DMP outlines the deer management issues and priorities in the National Forest Estate holdings in the Glen Roy LMP area, which are managed by Forestry and Land Scotland. The DMP presents the objectives and key targets for the next 10 years. It is a supporting document for the Glen Roy Land Management Plan (LMP) and should be used in conjunction with the FLS Deer Management Strategy.

Glen Roy forest lies at the southern end of Glen Roy, between 100 m and 350 m altitude on a tributary valley of Glen Spean. The forest, which is located immediately North of the village of Roy Bridge, extends to 1,984 ha and covers open ground and forest, with 542 ha of tree cover. The extensive open ground (73% of the landholding) surrounding the woodland is owned by FLS but is crofted and grazed by two Crofting Associations (Inveroy Crofters and Bohuntine Crofters).

The forest is primarily commercial conifers, most of which was planted between 1964 and 1977, although there is some second rotation planting. Commercial crops are dominated by Sitka spruce and Lodgepole pine but where feasible, future restock will include a wider diversity of alternative conifer species. There is some extent of Ancient Semi Natural Woodland (ASNW) and Plantation on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) mostly on riparian zones. The whole LMP area lies within the Parallel Roads of Lochaber SSSI.

Commercial conifer production remains the prime objective in this forest but protection of ASNW; restoration of PAWS; establishment of riparian broadleaved woodland; creation of woodland edge habitat; improvement of visual amenity where possible (through reprofiled upper margins); restoration and management of peatland and protection of the designated Parallel Roads features are also key objectives.

In line with the Scottish Government's consultation on Scotland's Strategic Framework for Biodiversity "Tackling the Nature Emergency" FLS recognises that reducing herbivore impacts is one of the most effective ways to reduce biodiversity loss and enable regeneration at scale. This is relevant to this LMP area where plans include protection of ASNW; expansion of native broadleaves in riparian areas; and peatland restoration or development of peatland edge woodland habitat.

National & Local objectives

Contributing to [Scottish Forestry - Forestry Strategy](#) (also includes Climate Change)

Adaptation and resilience are strategic drivers for delivery of Scotland's Forestry Strategy (2019 – 2029) objectives. Deer and other herbivores are an identified threat to woodland establishment and management, which in turn impacts forest resilience to pests, diseases and other pressures and the ability to adapt to a changing climate and environment. Priorities for action include the need to mitigate the risks posed by deer and other herbivores.

Deer will be managed to help ensure Scotland has a healthy, diverse ecosystem, contributing to our climate change objectives, whilst also contributing to our national and local economy in line with Scottish Government objectives and public interest.

- Lower deer densities to 2-7 per km² to ensure the above objectives can be met sustainably.
- Ensure all designated sites are in favorable condition
- Achieve less than 10% leader browsing damage on all first year restock coupes.
- Ensure Stocking Density Assessment at year 5 achieves productive forest objectives of 2500 per hectare.
- Ensure all designated sites are in favorable condition meaning that the features for which SSSIs or Natura sites are designated are in satisfactory condition; or are recovering, with the necessary management measures in place, such that NatureScot predicts, using expert judgement, that the land will in due course reach favourable condition.

Deer Management Strategy [Deer management strategy - Forestry and Land Scotland](#)

Deer will be managed to help ensure Scotland has a healthy, diverse ecosystem, contributing to our climate change objectives, whilst also contributing to our national and local economy in line with Scottish Government objectives and public interest.

Management of the deer population will be done in a professional, humane and cost-effective way, ensuring the physical wellbeing of the remaining deer populations within the forest boundaries. Venison income will be optimised and opportunities to create revenue from recreational deer management permissions (RDMP) will be taken, but without compromising the over-riding issue of minimising negative impacts by grazing herbivores. FLS will work with relevant organisations, NatureScot and neighbours to recognize objectives for all parties.

Preventative management will be undertaken, regarding the spread of non-native deer species into new areas. Compliance with legislation, certification and quality assurance schemes will add value to both the forest estate and venison products that come from it.

Scottish Biodiversity Strategy [Biodiversity strategy: consultation - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

The proposed outcome for Scotland's Rural Environment – Farmland, Woodlands and Forestry, Soils and Uplands by 2045 is to have: A range of nature recovery activity that enables a sustainable natural regeneration of woodlands; greater diversity of woodland species and age structure, increased woodland cover and woodland connectivity; soils as a nature-based solution for issues contributing to restoration of degraded ecosystems; deer range management contribute to high standards of sustainable land use in upland areas that supports regenerating habitat and wildlife interests.

FLS Corporate Plan 2022 – 2025: [Corporate Plan 2022-2025 | Forestry and Land Scotland](#)

Outcome 2 of the FLS Corporate Plan 2022 – 2025: Looking after Scotland's national forests and land is most relevant to this Deer Management Plan and specifically:

- Tackling the twin crises of climate change and biodiversity loss
 - Helping the Scottish Government to meet forest and woodland management and creation targets
 - Increasing our contribution to the Peatland Action programme
 - Managing the national forests and land to further the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity
 - Working beyond designated sites at the landscape scale with partners where we can
 - Increasing ancient woodland restoration
- Protecting our forests and land from other threats
 - Implementing a programme to improve the resilience of the national forests and land to the impacts of climate change and tree health threats
 - Continuing to implement the FLS Deer Management strategy while working in partnership with others to support the Scottish Government's response to the Independent Panel's recommendations on deer management in Scotland
- Working at the landscape scale and in partnership, to make a bigger difference
- Collaborating with partners on integrated landscape scale approaches to habitat management and restoration, using our capabilities to complement and support the work of others.

Local Objectives:

The main objective of deer management within the West Region is to manage deer populations at a level that is compatible with FLS environment and other management objectives. The aim is to:

- prevent unacceptable damage to commercial tree crops
- protect young establishing planted and naturally regenerating conifer and broadleaved trees
- maintain or enhance biodiversity in key areas, including ancient woodland restoration
- protect all designated sites
- work beyond designated sites at the landscape scale with partners where we can – for example in Scotland's rainforests
- manage sites on steep and unstable slopes
- protect soil health and stability

- contribute to the Peatland Action Programme

What are we going to protect?

During delivery of the LMP:

- 61.98 ha native broadleaves restock (53.73 ha planted; 8.25 ha natural regeneration)
- 100.14 ha conifer restock, including 8.15 ha Scots pine and 31.96 ha other alternative conifer species
- Restoration of 8.7 ha PAWS, most of which will be achieved during the Plan lifetime
- Long term protection of 63 ha of ASNW (65% of which is on croft land)

See section 3 in the Glen Loy LMP

Deer Species (and other herbivores/feral pigs)

In Glen Roy, Red and Sika deer are common and Roe are present in smaller numbers. For the purposes of this DMP, figures for Roe and Sika are grouped together.

The most recent Deer Population Assessment (DPA) for Glen Roy was undertaken in 2019 by Strath Caulaidh, using the Faecal count method. This covered the Spean complex but presented the results for specific areas within that separately. This estimated a starting density of 23.3 deer/km² (all species) at Inverroy. Based on cull figures, this equates to 14.8 Red deer / km² and 8.4 Roe / Sika deer / km².

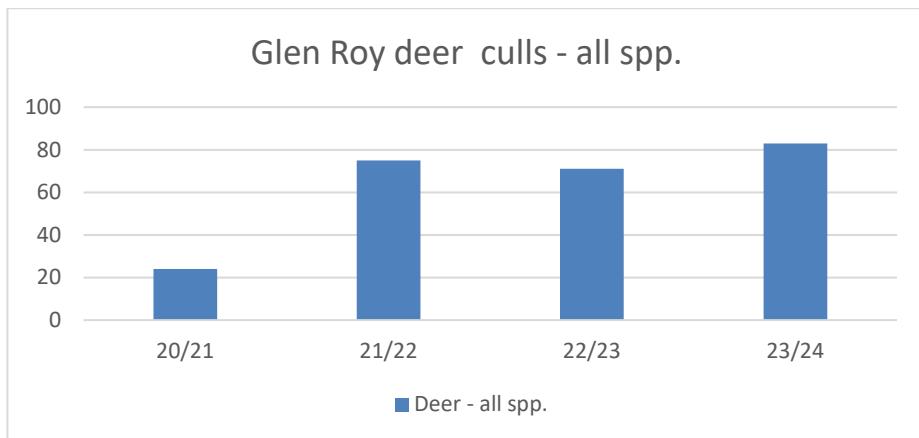
Feral pigs are present in Glen Roy but there is no information on population size. There is ingress of both sheep and cattle into the forest from the adjacent croft ground.

What have we done to date?

The numbers of Red and Sika deer culled over the past four years has increased. Significantly more stags/ bucks were culled than hinds / does: cull sex ratios over the four years are 63% stags (Red deer) and 56% stags / bucks (Sika / Roe).

Glen Roy cull figures:

	Red F	Red M	Roe / Sika F	Roe / Sika M	All species
20/21	0	0	9	15	24
21/22	11	26	7	21	75
22/23	8	22	19	22	71
23/24	19	18	20	26	83



Deer damage is monitored through Nearest Neighbour and Herbivore Impact Assessments. These surveys indicate low deer browsing pressure to date, although the proposed establishment of broadleaves in the coupes in the eastern part of the main block and along riparian zones may be vulnerable to higher browsing levels than have been recorded with this survey to date. Cull figures indicate an increase in Sika numbers and these are present in higher numbers in the East, where large areas of broadleaved restock are planned.

Year	coupes	species	% crop dieback	% SS deer damage	% soft con deer damage	% BL deer damage	% all crop deer damage
2013	34274	SS/ SC	4	3.1	4.7		3.2
2010	34158	SS/ BL		10			
2012	34146	SS/ SC	0	5.8	7.2		6
2019	34448; 34546	SS	28	7.3			7.3

SC = soft conifers; SS = Sitka spruce; BL = broadleaves

Sheep and cattle are entering coupes, mainly in the northern part of the forest where the boundaries are not stock proof. There is an internal livestock fence aligned East-West that was constructed to protect restock coupes in the southern part of the forest but cattle have been observed in this area. There is a deer fence around the small coupe of mixed broadleaves within the forest; the broadleaves in the south-east zone of the River Roy riparian area is partly stock fenced.

Deer management is carried out by contractors. There are few opportunities to cull deer along the riparian native woodland along the River Roy as this is croft land and is grazed by livestock; these areas provide cover for deer (particularly Sika) that move in from the East.

There is effectively, no fence along the north - western boundaries of the forested area and construction of a livestock fence here is a priority. Existing stock fences in the eastern part of the main block are variable but generally in poor condition and need to be replaced.

Surrounding land use is a combination of crofting ground; sporting estates; small commercial conifer blocks and areas of native woodland. Deer migration to and from East, West and North sides is likely, and particularly from the East.

Geography

The Landscape Character Type that covers Glen Roy is classified by NatureScot as Smooth Moorland Ridges, which comprise gently rolling hills that are found alongside the wide glaciated valleys of the Great Glen. Gently rolling hills have smooth elongated ridge profiles characterized by a simple, large scale landscape pattern dictated by uniform landcover and uncomplicated landform, reflecting glacial action rather than geology. Smooth open slopes are highly visible, with species-rich meadows in places, giving way to grass covered plateaus with exposed peat hags. There is a scattering of large conifer blocks on hillsides and broadleaved woods on lower slopes and watercourses.

The main topographical and geographical challenges for deer control are the large gullies in the north-west and eastern part of the forest. Also, there are no safe places to shoot along the River Roy riparian zone as most of this is croft land. Proximity to neighbouring land and the public road, presence of livestock and limited visibility also present safety implications.

A forest road runs through the middle of the forest from the main entrance at the South. A new road to access coupes on the eastern part of the main block is planned for the first phase of the LMP. Another road that will access coupes in the northern part of the forest will be scheduled much later in the rotation (outwith the LMP period). Currently, ATV access to upper slopes and in the north-west of the forest is difficult. The new roads will bring significant improvements for deer management and more ATV tracks will be planned within coupes post-felling.

See section 2.2 of the Glen Roy LMP: key challenges

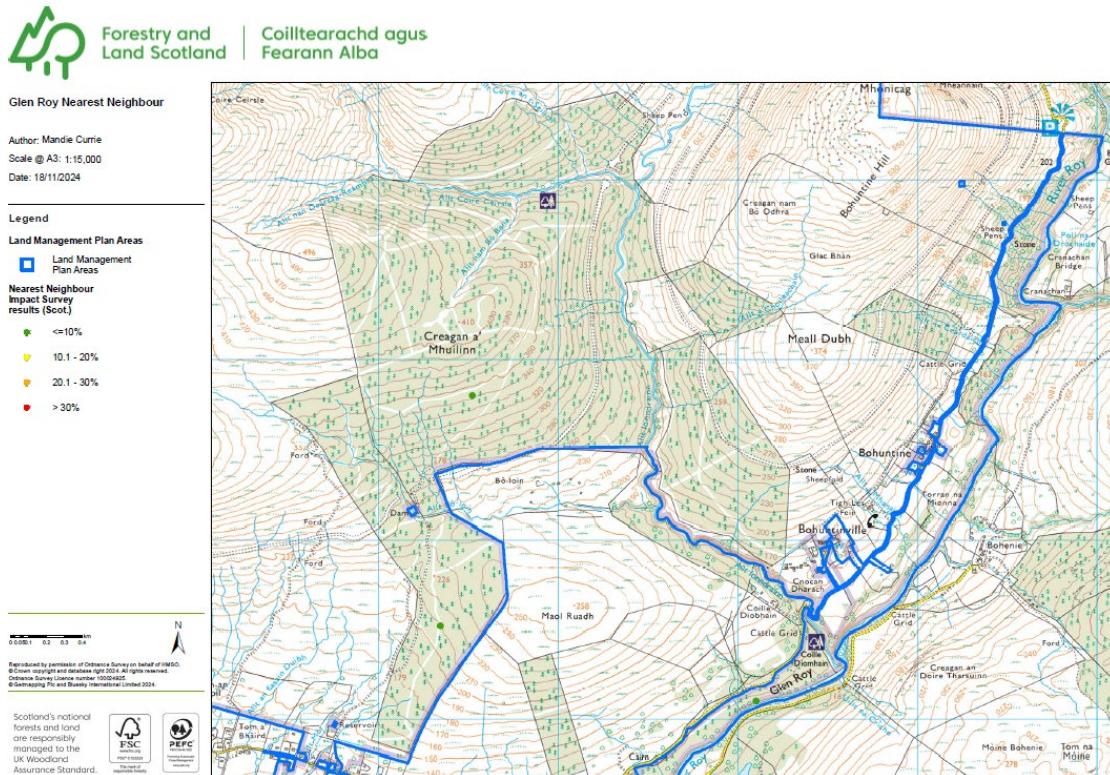
Have an evidence based approach

As described, population assessments conducted in Glen Roy to-date have been based on the faecal count method, with the last assessment carried out in 2019.

Deer impacts are measured by FLS using various surveys: Nearest Neighbour (NN); Herbivore Impact Assessments (HIA); natural regeneration surveys; Stocking Density Assessments (SDA); ASNW and PAWS surveys.

Nearest Neighbour Surveys:

The map below shows the results from the Nearest Neighbour Surveys, which are designed in a systematic way to ensure accuracy and consistency in measurements across the crop (see also, the table presented previously). Low levels of deer browsing are recorded (although only two sampling points are included).



Native Woodland Survey for Scotland (NWSS) HIA:

Herbivore Impacts were also recorded in the Native Woodland Survey for Scotland (NWSS). These maps shows areas of herbivore damage in native woodland sites, which includes damage to trees and woodland flora. This survey indicates high to very high levels of damage in Glen Roy LMP area, as well as on neighbouring ground. To note – livestock ingress may be responsible for some of this browsing damage.

NWSS Herbivore Impacts

Author: Mandie Currie
Scale @ A3: 1:25,000
Date: 18/11/2024

Legend

NWSS Herbivore Impact

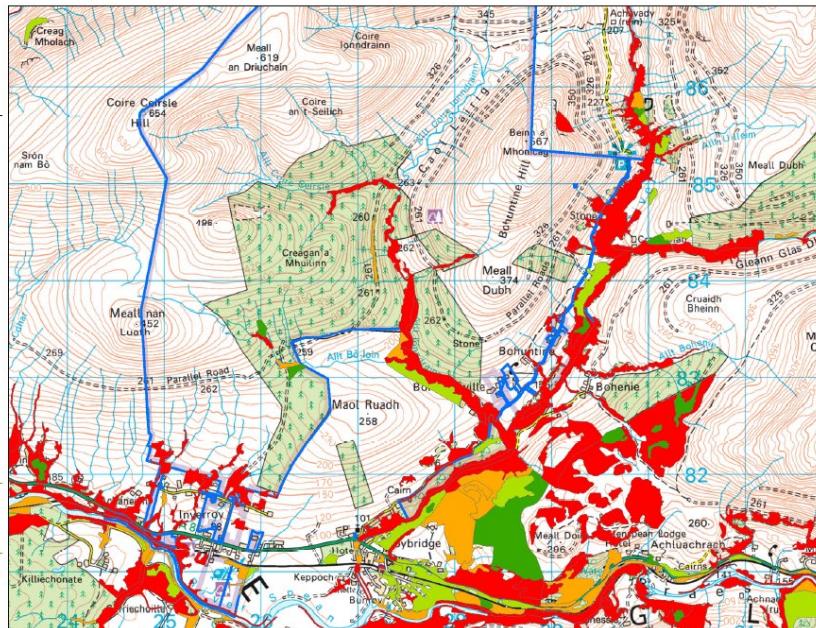
- Low
- Medium
- High
- Very High

Land Management Plan Areas

- Land Management Plan Areas

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Scotland's national
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managed to the
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Assurance Standard.



Map 2: NWSS survey - levels of herbivore damage on native woodland sites (Herbivore Impact Assessments)

Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW) surveys:

ASNW surveys also capture herbivore impact. There are high levels of browsing throughout the ASNW, which includes sheep grazing riparian woodland on crofts along the River Roy, as well as sheep and cattle ingress into the forest. Deer (particularly Sika) are also present.

ASNW- Herbivore Impacts

Author: Mandie Currie
Scale @ A3: 1:15,000
Date: 18/11/2024

Legend

ASNW

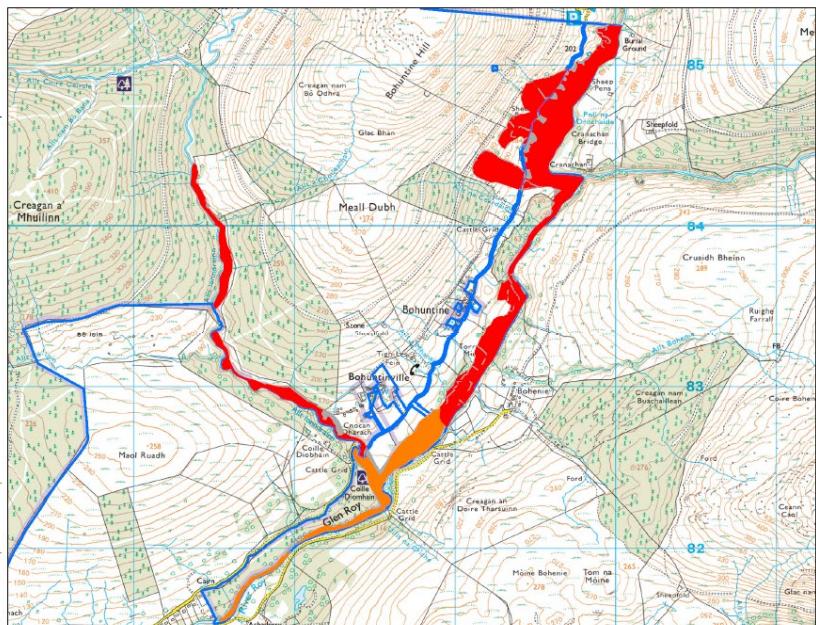
- All other values
- High
- Medium
- Very High
- Very High/High

Land Management Plan Areas

- Land Management Plan Areas

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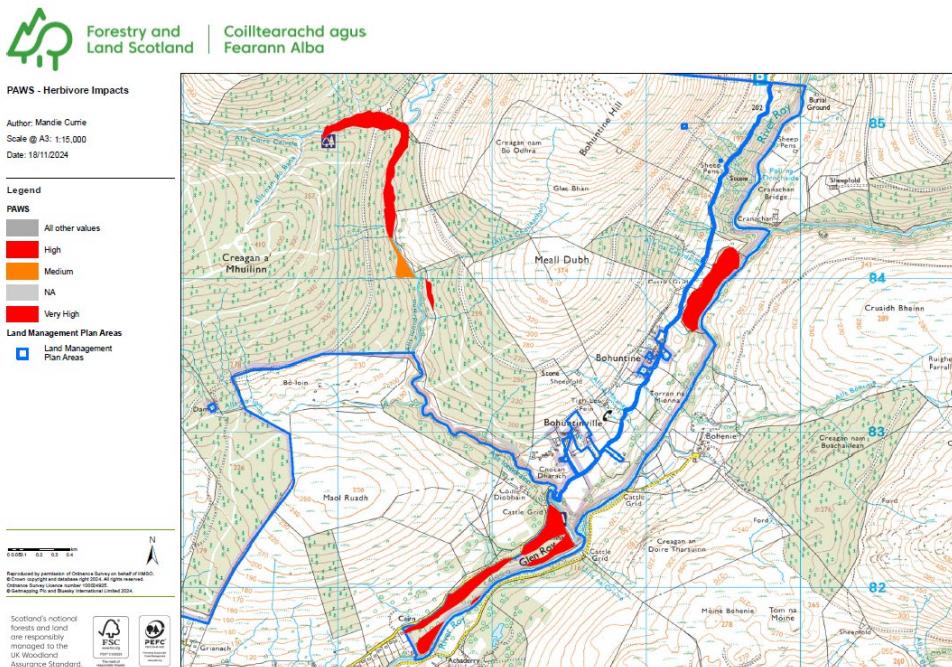
Scotland's national
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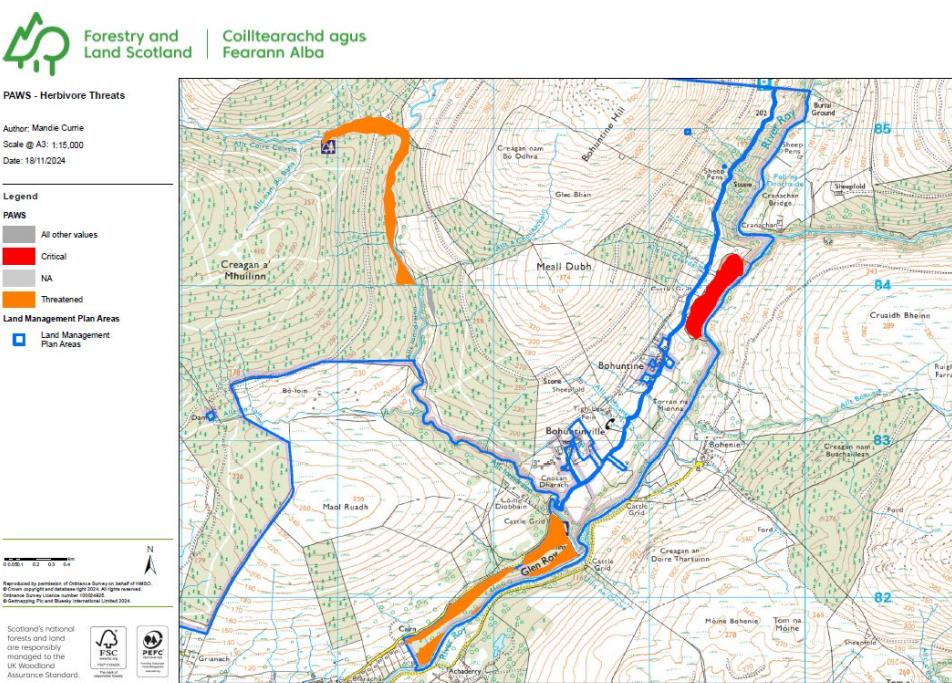
Map 3: Herbivore impacts in Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW)

Plantation on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) surveys:

PAWS surveys capture the herbivore impacts and threats to woodland features in sites that are restored or establishing as native woodland and sites that will be restored from non-native to native species. The map below shows areas of PAWS with medium to high / very high levels of herbivore impacts.



PAWS surveys also record herbivore threats:



Maps 4 a & b: Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) showing high impacts of herbivore browsing (4a) and medium to high threat levels from browsing (4b)

Currently, some areas of ASNW and PAWS along the Allt Lonndrain are protected, to an extent, by internal livestock fences, although there is ingress of cattle and sheep.

Stocking Density Assessments are also routinely carried out at years 1 and 5 of a planted woodland's stage of establishment. These assessments determine if the crop is growing successfully and at the stocking density appropriate to agreed site objectives. These assessments now incorporate HIA and thus can help identify where appropriate deer management operations are required.

Objective	FLS Target(s)	Assessment method
Produce quality timber of all conifer species	2,500 live stems per ha at Year 1 of re-stocks	Crops assessed in the 1st year by the FM team
	No more than 10% of leading shoots on new trees browsed by deer in Year 1 and Year 2	Crops assessed annually after their 1st year by Strath Caulaiddh as part of the national 'Nearest Neighbour' survey
	2,500 live stems per ha at Year 5 on re-stocks	Crops assessed in the 5th year by the planning team
	Less than 20% stem forked trees at Year 5 on re-stocks	Crops assessed in the 5th year by the planning team
Protect the environment	Deliver 'Favourable Condition' of designated sites (e.g. SSSI, SAC)	Habitat assessed by the Environment Team as required
	Protect native woodland or expand (PAWS)	Native woodland assessed by the Environment Team as required
	Establish planted broadleaf trees at 1,600 stems per ha at Year 5 on re-stock sites	Planted trees assessed in the 5th year by the planning team
	Establishment of native woodland through natural regeneration	Assessed between yr 5 and yr 10 following felling by the planning team

The FLS wildlife team have invested in drones and although at an early stage of use, these have produced useful real time information on the numbers and distribution of deer throughout FLS properties. This method can identify deer through much of the tree canopy. It may be adopted as the most reliable method of population assessment and may be carried out several times annually to gauge overall deer density.

Link to Deer Dashboard

Most of data is used to create this DMP can be found in the Deer Dashboard

Population Modeling and Future Culls

Population models were prepared, working from the Deer Population Assessment produced by Strath Caulaidh in 2019. Cull figures to date starting from the DPA date were used and forward projections prepared using a cull rate of 35% (Red) and 25% (Roe/Sika) and based on recruitment rates of 44% Red deer and 43% for Roe / Sika deer. The sex ratios proposed by the DPA and based on previous cull figures were 34% female, 66% male (Red deer) and 33% female, 67% male (Roe / Sika). Net migration (immigration / mortality) are set at 5% for Red deer and 10% for Sika/Roe. Based on sex ratios, this equates to 1.7% F / 3.3% M (Red) and 3.3% F / 6.7% M (Sika / Roe).

Red deer:

Financial Year (FY)	Population at 1st April (Start FY)	Population at 1st April (Start FY)	Total Population	No per 100ha 1st April	Kid % of pop at 1st April	Recruitment Female	Recruitment Male	Total Recruitment	Est Annual Mortality/Im migration %	Female Immigration/mortality	Est Annual Mortality/Im migration %	Male Immigration/mortality
2024	121	236	357	18.0	44	27	27	53	1.7	2	3.3	8
2025	92	168	260	13.1	44	20	20	41	1.7	2	3.3	6
2026	74	126	200	10.1	44	16	16	33	1.7	1	3.3	4
2027	60	95	155	7.8	44	13	13	26	1.7	1	3.3	3
2028	48	72	120	6.1	44	11	11	21	1.7	1	3.3	2
2029	39	56	94	4.7	44	8	8	17	1.7	1	3.3	2
2030	31	43	74	3.7	44	7	7	14	1.7	1	3.3	1
2031	25	33	58	2.9	44	5	5	11	1.7	0	3.3	1
2032	20	26	46	2.3	44	4	4	9	1.7	0	3.3	1
2033	16	20	36	1.8	44	4	4	7	1.7	0	3.3	1

Female pop 31st Aug	Male pop 31st Aug	Population 31st Aug	No per 100ha 31st Aug	Set % Cull	Female Cull	Male Cull	Total Cull	% Cull Achieved	Female Pop at 31st March (End FY)	Male Pop at 31st March (End FY)	Total Pop 31st March
150	270	420	21.2	35.0	58	102	160	38.1	92	168	260
114	194	308	15.5	35.0	40	68	108	35.0	74	126	200
92	147	238	12.0	35.0	32	51	83	35.0	60	95	155
74	112	185	9.3	35.0	26	39	65	35.0	48	72	120
59	85	145	7.3	35.0	21	30	51	35.0	39	56	94
48	66	114	5.7	35.0	17	23	40	35.0	31	43	74
38	51	89	4.5	35.0	13	18	31	35.0	25	33	58
31	40	71	3.6	35.0	11	14	25	35.0	20	26	46
25	31	56	2.8	35.0	9	11	20	35.0	16	20	36
20	24	44	2.2	30.0	6	7	13	30.0	14	17	31

Sika / Roe deer:

Financial Year (FY)	Population at 1st April (Start FY)	Population at 1st April (Start FY)	Total Population	No per 100ha 1st April	Kid % of pop at 1st April	Recruitment Female	Recruitment Male	Total Recruitment	Est Annual Mortality/Im migration %	Female Immigration/mortality	Est Annual Mortality/Im migration %	Male Immigration/mortality
2024	45	90	135	6.8	43	10	10	19	3.3	1	6.7	6
2025	47	89	136	6.8	43	10	10	20	3.3	2	6.7	6
2026	44	79	122	6.2	43	9	9	19	3.3	1	6.7	5
2027	41	70	111	5.6	43	9	9	18	3.3	1	6.7	5
2028	38	63	101	5.1	43	8	8	16	3.3	1	6.7	4
2029	36	56	92	4.6	43	8	8	15	3.3	1	6.7	4
2030	33	51	84	4.2	43	7	7	14	3.3	1	6.7	3
2031	31	46	77	3.9	43	7	7	13	3.3	1	6.7	3
2032	29	42	71	3.6	43	6	6	13	3.3	1	6.7	3
2033	27	38	66	3.3	43	6	6	12	3.3	1	6.7	3

Est Annual Mortality/Im migration %	Male Immigration/mortality	Female pop 31st Aug	Male pop 31st Aug	Population 31st Aug	No per 100ha 31st Aug	Set % Cull	Female Cull	Male Cull	Total Cull	% Cull Achieved	Female Pop at 31st March (End FY)	Male Pop at 31st March (End FY)	Total Pop 31st March
6.7	6	56	106	162	8.1	25.0	9	17	26	16.1	47	89	136
6.7	6	58	105	163	8.2	25.0	15	26	41	25.0	44	79	122
6.7	5	54	93	148	7.4	25.0	14	23	37	25.0	41	70	111
6.7	5	51	84	134	6.8	25.0	13	21	34	25.0	38	63	101
6.7	4	48	75	123	6.2	25.0	12	19	31	25.0	36	56	92
6.7	4	45	68	112	5.7	25.0	11	17	28	25.0	33	51	84
6.7	3	42	61	103	5.2	25.0	10	15	26	25.0	31	46	77
6.7	3	39	56	95	4.8	25.0	10	14	24	25.0	29	42	71
6.7	3	37	51	88	4.4	25.0	9	13	22	25.0	27	38	66
6.7	3	34	47	81	4.1	25.0	9	12	20	25.0	26	35	61

Total Summary:

All species

Glen Roy	
Yr 1 EUD km2 @ 1st April	24.8
Start Yr Population 1st April	492.032
Area (ha)	1984

Cull Target

Cull Target			
Yr	Female	Male	Total
Yr 1	67	119	186
Yr 2	54	94	149
Yr 3	46	75	120
Yr 4	39	60	98
Yr 5	33	49	81
Yr 6	28	40	68
Yr 7	24	33	57
Yr 8	21	28	48
Yr 9	18	24	41
Yr 10	15	19	34

WMU Population

Financial Year (FY)	Population 1st March	Population 1st March	Total Population	No per 100ha 1st April
Yr 1	139	257	396	20.0
Yr 2	118	205	323	16.3
Yr 3	100	165	266	13.4
Yr 4	86	135	221	11.2
Yr 5	74	112	186	9.4
Yr 6	64	94	158	8.0
Yr 7	56	79	135	6.8
Yr 8	49	68	117	5.9
Yr 9	44	58	102	5.1
Yr 10	40	52	92	4.6

Species Population	Red	Roe	Sika	Fallow
Yr 1	260	136	0	0
Yr 2	200	122	0	0
Yr 3	155	111	0	0
Yr 4	120	101	0	0
Yr 5	94	92	0	0
Yr 6	74	84	0	0
Yr 7	58	77	0	0
Yr 8	46	71	0	0
Yr 9	36	66	0	0
Yr 10	31	61	0	0

Cull targets revised

The Deer Population Assessment prepared by Strath Caluaidh in 2019 groups Roe and Sika in the dung count methodology, hence the same approach was used in the Deer Population Model. However, this does not match past experience of cull activity in this block, where Sika culls are as high as those for Red deer; and Sika are the most likely species seen in the lower levels of the block. It appears that the DPA under-represents Sika deer; this could have occurred due to an overlap of Sika stag dung with Red hind dung in identification (similar size and appearance).

The dung counts have been used to set the overall cull figures. But it is proposed that the species split within the cull should be based on past culling and the relative population size ratios of the three represented species – i.e. 40% Red, 40% Sika and 20% Roe.

The proposed cull targets are thus:

Year	Red	Sika	Roe
1	75	75	36
2	60	60	29
3	48	48	24
4	39	39	20
5	33	33	15
6	27	27	14
7	23	23	11
8	19	19	10
9	17	17	7
10	14	14	6

Based on these estimates, a cull ratio of 35% Red and 25% Sika / Roe would achieve a deer population density (all species) of less than 5 deer / km² by year 9 or 10. With sufficient resources, a higher cull may be achieved, which would achieve the desired density sooner. The aim is to remove all Sika deer present in the LMP area, although in-migration from neighbouring ground is continuous, so control will be ongoing.

Protection Options – cull/fence/tubes

Deer culling within the Glen Roy LMP area is carried out by contractors. Key challenges include some inaccessible ground in the north-western part of the forest; potentially high levels of migration from neighbouring ground and the lack of safe places to shoot along the eastern part of the LMP area, where the higher numbers of Sika deer are found. Movement of deer into the FLS ground is highly dependent on activity in nearby sporting estates and on the adjacent croft ground.

Deer culling is required, to achieve sustainable population levels that promote habitat recovery as well as creating healthy deer populations.

New livestock fences are required along the western, and parts of the eastern and southern boundaries. Various lengths elsewhere need to be replaced or repaired. *See LMP Section 3.2: Establishment; Appendix IX: Fences type and condition and Map 16: Fences.*

How will objectives be met? Staff, contractor?

FLS are obliged to manage deer to sustainable levels under the Scottish Forestry Strategy and Biodiversity Strategy, as well to achieve compliance with the UK Forestry Standard and the UK Woodland Assurance Standard.

FLS aims to manage a deer population of 2-7 deer/km² in national forests; ideally less than 5 deer/km². Although Sitka spruce will remain the main commercial species, alternative conifers will be included in restock where conditions are suitable and these species are more vulnerable to herbivore impacts.

Protection of areas of ASNW and the restoration of PAWS along the Allt Lonndrain, as well as the regeneration of native broadleaves along gullies and watercourses are highly dependent on reducing browsing pressure and maintaining sustainable deer populations. Lower deer population densities (2- 3 deer / km²) are generally required for successful establishment of broadleaved species.

Successful establishment of broadleaves in the coupes in the eastern part of the main block, which are designed to better protect and reveal the Parallel Road features, will be dependent on new livestock fences on the boundary with croft ground.

Protection of the ASNW in the River Roy riparian zone will depend on any action taken by the crofters.

Objectives will be met through:

- Culls carried out by contractors, overseen by the FLS wildlife management team, and enhanced activity around young restock coupes and areas planned for natural regeneration
- Use of drone counts where feasible, to provide accurate and real time information on deer numbers and deer behaviour, to inform and provide flexibility in management
- New livestock fences in the western and parts of the eastern and southern boundaries of the forested area and repair of livestock fences elsewhere. PAWS along the River Roy will need to be fenced once the existing conifer crop is felled
- Upgrade and maintenance of existing ATV tracks throughout the LMP area
- Creation of new ATV tracks in felled coupes - where possible, creating links to existing paths to benefit public access
- Annual review (wildlife, FM and planning teams) to monitor progress on restocking and management of sensitive habitats and to analyse results of beat-up surveys, nearest neighbour and SDA surveys.

This DMP will be reviewed regularly, as a minimum at years 5 and 10, to consider if the proposed actions have led to reductions in herbivore pressure and if these impacts are sufficient to promote acceptable growth of desired species.

Infrastructure? Roads/ATV tracks/glades/larders/equipment

The three forest blocks are served by the FLS deer larder at Torlundy (Leanachan).

The LMP has only one road, which passes from the forest entrance northwards through the middle of the main forest area. A new road is planned (and approved) to access coupes in the eastern part of the main forest block. In future (beyond the timescale of this Plan) a further road will be constructed to reach coupes in the northern part of the forest.

A small number of ATV tracks have been constructed in restock coupes; some existing rides are also used. Post- harvesting, further tracks will be considered within coupes where topography allows, to facilitate establishment operations including deer management. Track upgrades will also be considered, where required.

Access for deer control, to the coupes identified for clear fell in the far East of the LMP area is limited. The PAWS along the River Roy riparian zone is surrounded by croft land under ASNW that is being grazed. An isolated coupe (34156) is surrounded by crofting ground.

Collaborative working opportunities

Effective deer management is required to restore and protect native woodland on FLS land. As part of the Deer Working Group Recommendations, opportunities will be sought where FLS can take a collaborative approach to achieving Deer Management Objectives. This will include working with immediate neighbours / DMG to identify where there is a mutual benefit to cross boundary culling agreements. Such opportunities are limited in Glen Roy at present. However,

FLS will continue to liaise with the crofting community and other neighbours on deer management, to provide mutual benefits.

DMG present

Glen Roy lies within the Monadhliaths DMG but is a very small element within a huge geographical area that includes neighbouring estates of significant scale, with both sporting and nature conservation objectives. A large deer population occurs across this huge area.

Venison

FLS subscribes to the Scottish Quality Wild Venison (SQWV) scheme. All venison is quality assured and sold to Highland Game via the Torlundy larder.