

The forest and open habitats provide valuable habitat for a variety of protected and other animal and bird species including goshawk. Red squirrels are present despite the threat of grey squirrels, and pine martin are becoming more abundant.

Private water supplies are present throughout the site both within and close to the site boundary. A GDPR sensitive map has been submitted to Scottish Forestry detailing these. A redacted version is available upon request.

Yair sits within the Tweed, Ettrick and Yarrow Confluences Special Landscape Area. Three Landscape Character Assessment Areas are present; LCA 116: Upland Valley with Woodland to the north. LCA 93: Southern Uplands with Scattered Forest, centrally and south. LCA 118: Settled Upland Fringe Valley to the far east

Galashiels Population c. 13000

Clovenfords Population c. 600

Glenkinnon car park and trails

The western and northern slopes of Craig Hill exhibit a transitional Low Impact Management Approach with a group selection type shelterwood system.

Yair meadow Conservation grazing area

River Tweed SSSI & SAC. All watercourses feed into the River Tweed. Many of these are important for salmon and trout spawning.

Natural Reserve designated in 2016 and reviewed in 2021. Some storm damage from Storm Arwen retained for deadwood habitat.

Glenkinnon SSSI Notable veteran trees and communities of rare lichens and bryophytes.

Storm Arwen and subsequent storms have impacted relatively small areas within the block (c. 2%) however these have a significant operational and landscape impact.

Craig Hill hilltop is highly visible from Clovenfords and along both the A72 & A707

The Sustrans NCN Route 1 takes in a part of the Yair

Access points to the North and East of the forest block. These egress onto approved Timber Transport Routes

A scheduled settlement heritage feature is located centrally within the Yair block. Other locally important features are within and neighbouring the site.

Lindinny incorporates Ancient Woodland of Semi Natural origin and Long Established Woodland of Plantation Origin. Part of this is under PAWS restoration.

Core paths most notably the Southern Upland Way go through the site. Rights of Way feed into path networks within the Yair and Scottish Borders Council promoted paths are also present within and neighbouring.

Three Brethren; sculpture and landmark

Plant diseases and pests pose a threat to Yair forest. Of particular concern is Phytophthora ramorum that has already infected sites in the Yair and throughout the wider Tweed Valley. Ash dieback, Hymenoscyphus fraxinus, is also a concern, especially in Lindinny Wood.

A number of unofficial mountain bike trails are present throughout the forest.

Extensive areas of Upland Heathland (UK BAP habitat) on upper ridges and plateau, linking with neighbouring open habitat and providing habitat for black grouse and other species.

Soils present are primarily mineral based with Brown Earths being the most frequent primary soil type.

Yair has a relatively diverse assemblage of tree species with a Shannon Index score of 1.8.

Steep ground is present throughout Yair forest and poses challenging harvesting terrain

Larch is present (c. 6%) within the forest area which is susceptible to Phytophthora ramorum. Some of this is presently under a Statutory Plant Health Notice.

Yair sits at the eastern end of Tweed Valley Forest Park which provides an important setting for formal recreation facilities and informal access for walking, horse riding, cycling and other activities.

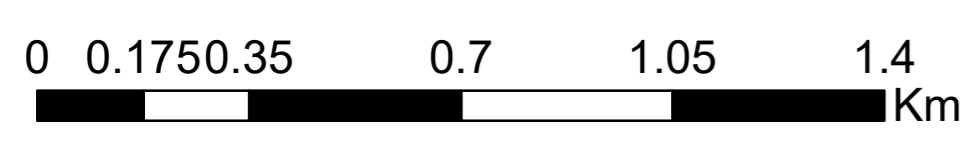
Yair is largely sheltered with DAMS scores averaging 12 across the site.

Yair is an important forest for timber production consisting of predominantly softwood timber.

Yair Map 2: Key Features

Scale @ A1: 1:12,500
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- FLS Blocks
- Larch
- Storm damage
- Core Path
- Right of Way
- SBC Promoted path
- FLS Trails
- Forest Roads
- Watercourses
- Water Pipelines
- Ancient (of semi-natural origin)
- Long-Established (of plantation origin)
- Other (on Roy map)
- Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site
- Heritage feature
- Upland Heathland Priority Habitat
- Natural Reserve
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Special Area of Conservation
- LCT 93: Southern Uplands with Scattered Forest
- LCT 103: Undulating Upland Fringe
- LCT 118: Upland Fringe Valley with Settlements
- LCT 116: Upland Valley with Woodland
- Garden and Designed Landscape



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