

## Clunes & Loch Arkaig

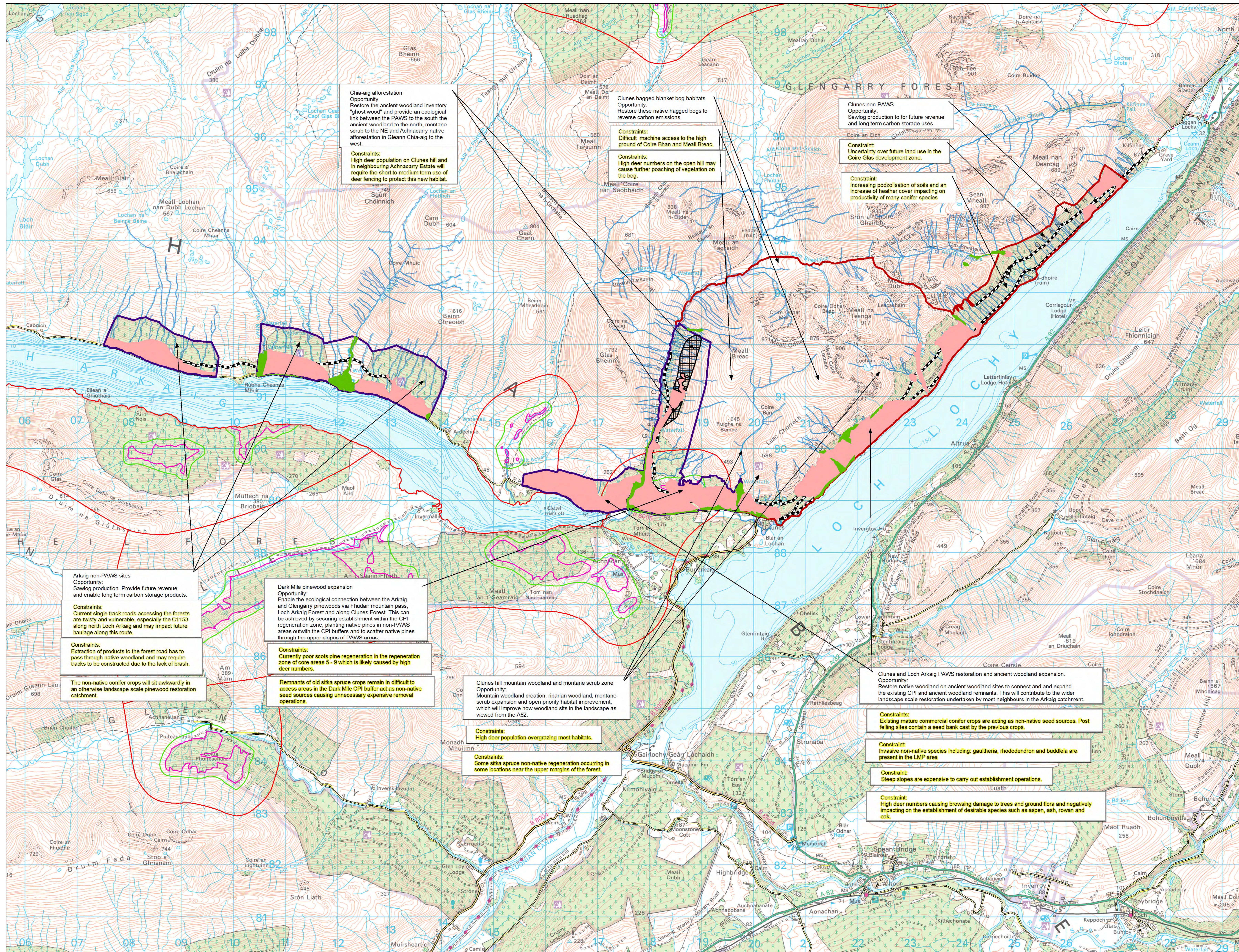
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Scale @ A0: 1:25,000

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### Legend

- ASNW
- Blocks**
- Clunes
- Loch Arkaig
- Minor Roads (GB)**
- Minor Roads (GB)
- Secondary Roads (GB)**
- Secondary Roads (GB)
- PAWS
- Caledonian Pinewood Inventory (Scot.)**
- Cal Pine Buffer Zone
- Cal Pine Planted Area
- Cal Pine Regeneration Zone
- Caledonian Pinewood
- Forest Roads**
- Forest Roads
- Watercourses



**Chia-aiq afforestation Opportunity**  
Restore the ancient woodland inventory "ghost wood" and provide an ecological link between the PAWS to the south, montane scrub to the NE and Achnachary native afforestation in Gleann Chia-aiq to the west.

**Constraints:**  
High deer population on Clunes hill and in neighbouring Achnachary Estate will require the short to medium term use of deer fencing to protect this new habitat.

**Clunes haggad blanket bog habitats Opportunity**  
Restore these native haggad bogs to reverse carbon emissions.

**Constraints:**  
Difficult machine access to the high ground of Coire Ehan and Meall Breac.

**Constraints:**  
High deer numbers on the open hill may cause further poaching of vegetation on the bog.

**Clunes non-PAWS Opportunity**  
Sawlog production for future revenue and long term carbon storage uses

**Constraint:**  
Uncertainty over future land use in the Coire Glas development zone.

**Constraint:**  
Increasing podzolisation of soils and an increase of heather cover impacting on productivity of many conifer species

**Arkaig non-PAWS sites Opportunity**  
Sawlog production. Provide future revenue and enable long term carbon storage products.

**Constraints:**  
Current single track roads accessing the forests are twisty and vulnerable, especially the C1153 along north Loch Arkaig and may impact future haulage along this route.

**Constraints:**  
Extraction of products to the forest road has to pass through native woodland and may require tracks to be constructed due to the lack of brash.

The non-native conifer crops will sit awkwardly in an otherwise landscape scale pinewood restoration catchment.

**Dark Mile pinewood expansion Opportunity**  
Enable the ecological connection between the Arkaig and Glengarry pinewoods via Fhuidair mountain pass, Loch Arkaig Forest and along Clunes Forest. This can be achieved by securing establishment within the CPI regeneration zone, planting native pines in non-PAWS areas outwith the CPI buffers and to scatter native pines through the upper slopes of PAWS areas.

**Constraints:**  
Currently poor scots pine regeneration in the regeneration zone of core areas 5 - 9 which is likely caused by high deer numbers.

Remnants of old sitka spruce crops remain in difficult to access areas in the Dark Mile CPI buffer act as non-native seed sources causing unnecessary expensive removal operations.

**Clunes hill mountain woodland and montane scrub zone Opportunity**  
Mountain woodland creation, riparian woodland, montane scrub expansion and open priority habitat improvement, which will improve how woodland sits in the landscape as viewed from the A82.

**Constraints:**  
High deer population overgrazing most habitats.

**Constraints:**  
Some sitka spruce non-native regeneration occurring in some locations near the upper margins of the forest.

**Clunes and Loch Arkaig PAWS restoration and ancient woodland expansion Opportunity**  
Restore native woodland on ancient woodland sites to connect and expand the existing CPI and ancient woodland remnants. This will contribute to the wider landscape scale restoration undertaken by most neighbours in the Arkaig catchment.

**Constraints:**  
Existing mature commercial conifer crops are acting as non-native seed sources. Post felling sites contain a seed bank cast by the previous crops.

**Constraint:**  
Invasive non-native species including: gaultheria, rhododendron and buddleia are present in the LMP area

**Constraint:**  
Sleep slopes are expensive to carry out establishment operations.

**Constraint:**  
High deer numbers causing browsing damage to trees and ground flora and negatively impacting on the establishment of desirable species such as aspen, ash, rowan and oak.

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