



**Limited Species Range**  
 Diversify range of species used to include productive broadleaves, native woodland and alternate conifer species where appropriate.

**Semi-natural Forest Habitat Networks**  
 - Diversify species range in existing blocks to develop networks within current plantations  
 - Link up with new and established woodlands on neighbouring ground.  
 - Extend networks across open central area through sensitive new planting.

**Pests + Diseases**  
 - Avoid planting species currently at risk (Scots pine, Larch + Ash)  
 - Consider early felling of existing Larch stands  
 - Diversify species range to mitigate against future risk.  
 - Use trees of suitable provenance to mitigate against susceptibility to pathogens and climatic stressors.

**Climate / Soils / Elevation**  
 - Utilise ESC principles and future climate data when considering species suitability.  
 - Use exposure tolerant and/or slower-growing species on the most vulnerable areas of the site to reduce windthrow risk.  
 - Consider use of nursing mixtures in productive areas.  
 - Avoid planting on areas of deep peat (0.5m+)  
 - Re-position restocking to avoid replanting areas ill suited to woodland

**Lochs + Reservoirs**  
 - Comply with all relevant Forestry + Water guidelines  
 - Ensure adequate buffer zones are maintained, with appropriate species planted immediately adjacent to water bodies.  
 - Diversify species range in vicinity to improve amenity value

**Watercourses**  
 - Open up watercourses in existing woodland and develop extensive riparian networks across site.  
 - Consider potential of suitable unplanted areas for use as deer glades

**Browsing Damage**  
 - Stock proofing existing march fences will significantly reduce potential browsing damage by livestock.  
 - Mark fences within 1km of any Black grouse lek  
 - Plan ride network and deer glades into design to allow access for deer management, particularly in areas to be stocked with species vulnerable to browsing.  
 - Take robust approach to initial deer control through focussed effort to reduce background population and help establishment during vulnerable years.

**Archaeology**  
 Protect sites from operations and where appropriate utilise design to improve setting.

**Landscape**  
 - Soften current hard edges through suitable landscape design and species choice, visually improving the fit of the site within the wider area.  
 - Careful design on most visible south facing slopes  
 - Create well shaped woodlands which better reflect landform and natural features  
 - Retain 'wilderness' feel of central area

**Community**  
 - Create community woodland in area south of A82, involving local community in design and planting.  
 - Build links with community and local schools

**Biodiversity**  
 - Where appropriate incorporate open ground, mature stands, edge habitat etc into design to preserve and extend range of suitable habitats for protected species.  
 - Once felled, manage Knockupple to revert to Blanket bog, linking up open habitat on Dumbarton Muir with adjacent SSSI to the west.  
 - Management of priority habitats will be focused on areas where it will provide the most ecological benefits, such as riparian and wet woodland areas, blanket bog, natural reserves, long term retentions, and grazing open habitats.

**Harvesting Access**  
 - Adjust timing of felling programme to take account of road construction  
 - Keep productive crops off most remote/inaccessible areas.

**Restructuring / Age Diversity**  
 - Where possible, incorporate windfirm boundaries into coupe design, diversify age classes to reduce vulnerability and consider use of exposure-tolerant and/or slower growing species in most exposed areas.  
 - Consider longer term retention of existing stable stands to range.

**Utilities**  
 Careful design to allow suitable access, and utilise shrubs and lower growing trees in the vicinity of wayleaves to reduce landscape impact.

**Designated Areas**  
 - Avoid planting in designated areas, and adjust species choice in buffer zones as appropriate.  
 - Careful design of planting will help to preserve views out from the course of the Antonine Wall through the use of lower density planting and shrubs. Woodland design on lower slopes will need to be sensitive to landscape impact on the buffer zone.

**Recreation**  
 - Exclude existing footpaths from new planting areas.  
 - Link internal recreation routes to wider network.  
 - Enhance key internal and external views along recreation routes.  
 - Careful design in entrance zones can make key recreation entrances more appealing through varied species choice, retention of older trees etc  
 - Diversify planting at suitable locations along corridor of John Muir Trail.  
 - Where appropriate work with operations and the wildlife management team to explore multi user tracks.

**Ride Networks**  
 Incorporate extensive ride network during restocking to allow more effective future management access.

**Legend**

- Kilpatrick Hills
- Paths**
- ..... Existing walkers route
- John Muir Trail (proposed route)
- Potential walkers route
- ..... Existing MTB route
- Roads**
- Existing road
- Approved road (not yet constructed)
- Planned road