



Rest & Be Thankful Land Management Plan

M6: Planting Design

Legend

- 400m. Soil Constraint begins to limit species choice
- 450m. Exposure Constraint begins to limit species choice

Zones

- Wide Range NBL
- Restricted NBL
- Very Restricted NBL

Proposed planting densities will generally vary between 3000 stems/Ha to 1200 stems/Ha, but planting outside of these ranges may be appropriate with higher densities on wet flushes and lower densities on rankers and rock outcrops. Outwith unstable slopes open ground is likely to be in the region of 20% of the planting area.

Zone boundaries are dictated by vegetation cover and landform. Drainage and soils vary considerably over short distances, and during planting operations the micro siting of species appropriate to the specific location is important.

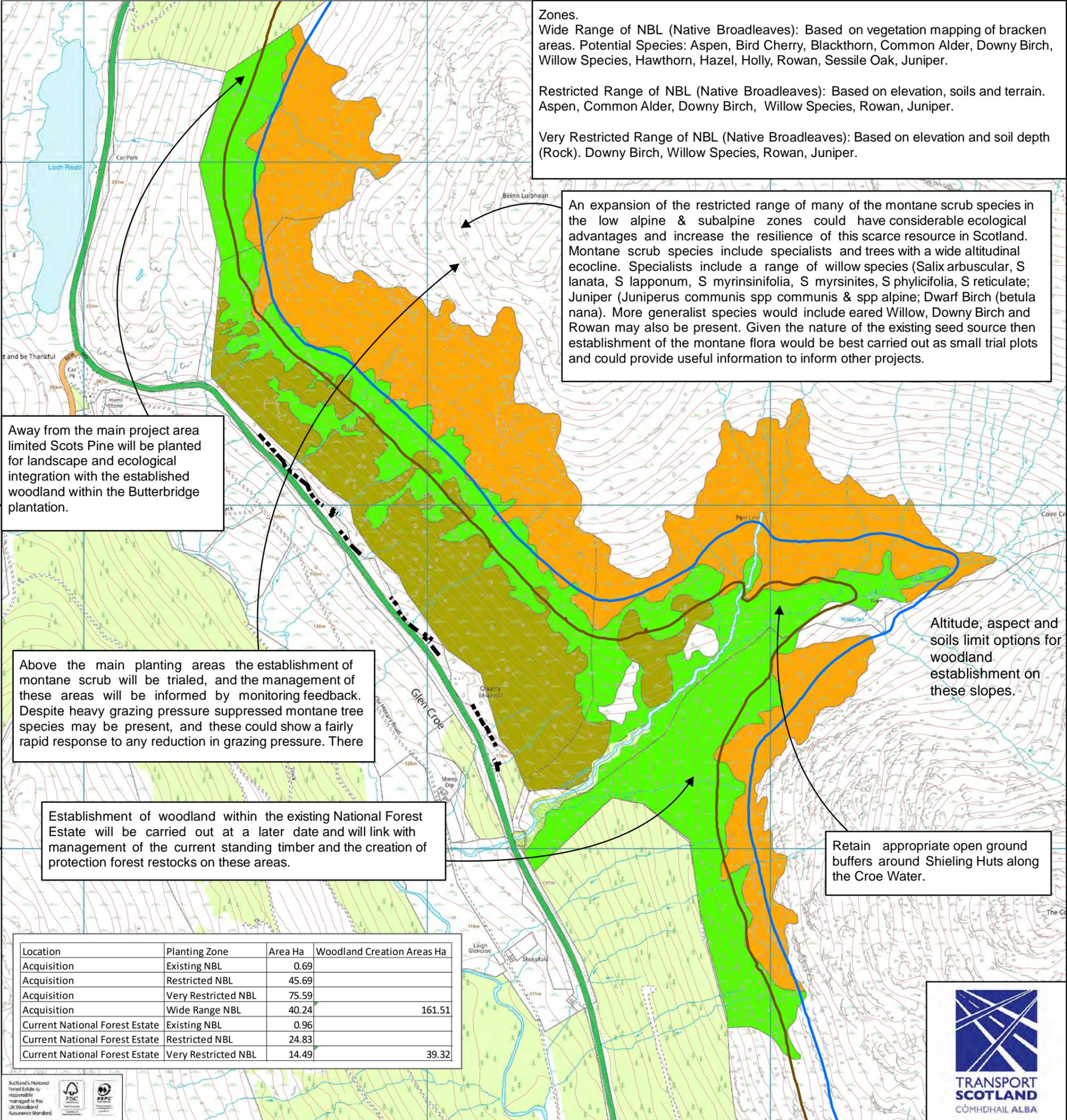
Planting is proposed to take place during the 2019/2020 planting season and subsequent years.



Scale: 1:11,000 @ A3

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Zones.
Wide Range of NBL (Native Broadleaves): Based on vegetation mapping of bracken areas. Potential Species: Aspen, Bird Cherry, Blackthorn, Common Alder, Downy Birch, Willow Species, Hawthorn, Hazel, Holly, Rowan, Sessile Oak, Juniper.
Restricted Range of NBL (Native Broadleaves): Based on elevation, soils and terrain. Aspen, Common Alder, Downy Birch, Willow Species, Rowan, Juniper.
Very Restricted Range of NBL (Native Broadleaves): Based on elevation and soil depth (Rock). Downy Birch, Willow Species, Rowan, Juniper.

An expansion of the restricted range of many of the montane scrub species in the low alpine & subalpine zones could have considerable ecological advantages and increase the resilience of this scarce resource in Scotland. Montane scrub species include specialists and trees with a wide altitudinal ecocline. Specialists include a range of willow species (*Salix arbuscular*, *S lanata*, *S lapponum*, *S myrsinifolia*, *S myrsinites*, *S phylicifolia*, *S reticulata*; Juniper (*Juniperus communis* spp *communis* & spp *alpine*; Dwarf Birch (*betula nana*). More generalist species would include eared Willow, Downy Birch and Rowan may also be present. Given the nature of the existing seed source then establishment of the montane flora would be best carried out as small trial plots and could provide useful information to inform other projects.

Away from the main project area limited Scots Pine will be planted for landscape and ecological integration with the established woodland within the Butterbridge plantation.

Above the main planting areas the establishment of montane scrub will be trialed, and the management of these areas will be informed by monitoring feedback. Despite heavy grazing pressure suppressed montane tree species may be present, and these could show a fairly rapid response to any reduction in grazing pressure. There

Establishment of woodland within the existing National Forest Estate will be carried out at a later date and will link with management of the current standing timber and the creation of protection forest restocks on these areas.

Altitude, aspect and soils limit options for woodland establishment on these slopes.

Retain appropriate open ground buffers around Shieling Huts along the Croe Water.

Location	Planting Zone	Area Ha	Woodland Creation Areas Ha
Acquisition	Existing NBL	0.69	
Acquisition	Restricted NBL	45.69	
Acquisition	Very Restricted NBL	75.59	
Acquisition	Wide Range NBL	40.24	161.51
Current National Forest Estate	Existing NBL	0.96	
Current National Forest Estate	Restricted NBL	24.83	
Current National Forest Estate	Very Restricted NBL	14.49	39.32