

The site was formerly agricultural ground used primarily for grazing with an internal matrix of linear field boundaries made up of drainage ditches, stock-fencing and hawthorn hedgerows.

3 farm gates access site from the public road, 2 to the east and 1 to the west, poor sight lines mean that none of these are suitable for timber access.

Excellent views from higher ground of Ailsa Craig, Goatfell on Arran and the tower of Kilwinning Abbey

Soils are predominantly gleyed with better alluvial soils along the River Garnock flood plain. The site is relatively sheltered.

Twin line 132kV overhead power supply runs only just over the north east tip.

Mature tree species line the western bank out-with our ownership, these include Beech, Ash & Sycamore. Examples of willow, sycamore, ash, elm, hawthorn and alder found along Garnock River. A mix of hawthorn, willow and sycamore run up Rough Burn.

A dismantled rail line runs under the weight restricted road bridge on Blair Rd. SLFD don't own the section under the road which is currently sectioned off by steel palisade fencing but do have a right of access. Just to the west of the bridge over the dismantles rail line is a wetland habitat which has developed in the hollow dug out to create the Sustrans cycle path.

Japanese knotweed, Giant Hogweed and Himalayan balsam have all been found along the banks of the Garnock River.

Area to south east of site is predominantly Juncus.

A sewage pipe runs along the lower ground on the eastern bank of the Garnock River with inspection hatches along its length.

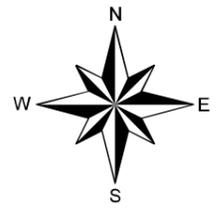
The site has areas of priority lowland meadow and improved grassland habitat.

The site is within a few hundred metres of the northern edge of Kilwinning with residential streets and footpaths linking to the sustrans link.

The sustrans cycle way runs along southern edge of western area over a stone viaduct which was also part of the former railway line.

Th site is only really viewed from along the cycle path, glimpsed views from the minor public road (Blair Rd) which bisects the site and from the track on the western bank of the river Garnock and from the rear of houses on Northacre & from Ardoch Farm.

Scottish Lowlands FD
WOODGREEN
SURVEY & KEY FEATURES
Scale: 5,000 @ A3
0 30 60 120 180 240 Meters
20 May 2016



Legend

	Woodgreen
	Local Nature Conservation Site
	Native woodland
	Core paths
	Sustrans
	Power (overhead)
	Water

Woodgreen Concept Map

Key

-  Management Area
-  Productive Broadleaves
-  Native Wet Woodland
-  Woody Shrubs
-  Potential Access Road
-  Potential Trails
-  Views



Site conditions are suitable to allow the majority of the site to be planted with productive broadleaves. Various species are site suited so the most appropriate species will be used to develop a crop which will be productive, healthy and adapted to predicted climate change. The crop will likely require appropriate protection from browsing damage.

Planted areas will be designed so as to minimise the impact on views, both of the site and the wider surrounds - from within and around the site.

The link between the 2 sections of the site under the road along the dismantled railway will be re-established to facilitate future operational management as well as recreational use.

Control non-native invasive species in the riparian zone and where areas exist out-with our ownership which risk spreading to our site we will explore opportunities to coordinate management.

Planted areas will be designed so as to retain and/or frame various views currently available within the site using low growing species of woody shrubs where appropriate, so views remain uninterrupted and diversity is enhanced.

By referencing the health and vigour of surrounding species as well as using Ecological Site Classification broadleaved species appropriate to the site will be planted to be managed, predominantly, as a productive crop.

Appropriate buffers to protect utilities will be established and these will be judiciously lined with low growing shrub species to soften hard crop edges as well as in places functioning as informal recreation routes.

RIVER GARNOCK

Retain the priority meadow habitat (NVC type MG5) along the western slope running along the river bank to preserve this habitat and enhance the biodiversity of the site as well as providing visual interest in the summer months.

GARNOCK VIADUCT

The planting layout will allow a designed ride to be upgraded in future to a forest road for both operational access and timber haulage.

A new woodland close to a large population designed with the community in mind will provide a pleasant recreational green space to enjoy the benefits of the natural environment and encourage woodland engagement and education.

Planting areas will be designed to fit well within the wider landscape and retain features of habitat and heritage interest e.g. hedgerow habitat will be retained and assimilated into the wider woodland design.

Carefully designed planting shapes will create a network of rides which will facilitate and encourage informal recreational access by the local community with the possibility to upgrade these to formal paths in future.

KILWINNING

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