

Kilpatrick Hills – Summary of Proposals

The Kilpatrick Hills are currently split fairly evenly between (primarily conifer) forest and open ground. The design envisages that the overall forested area will increase only slightly, with additional new planting being counterbalanced by the removal of woodland on some areas of blanket bog and upland heath. Overall species diversity will increase significantly, with the introduction of a broader range of conifers, productive broadleaves and a wide range of native woodland types. This increased biodiversity will benefit the broad range of flora and fauna found across the site. Recreational usage of the Kilpatrick Hills has increased substantially over the last few years, and the proposals have been carefully designed to accommodate likely continued increases in future.

The primary objectives for the plan area are to continue the sustainable production of timber, create & expand native woodland networks and develop high quality access and recreation opportunities.

Woodland changes

Species breakdown	2015	2024
Primary species: Sitka spruce	26%	18%
Secondary species: other conifers/productive broadleaves	11%	13%
Native broadleaf	9%	14%
Open space	53%	54%
Total Plan Area: 3,494 ha		

Key Proposals

Planned Operations	2015-2024
Felling	902 ha
Thinning	-
New planting	400.7 ha
Restock	579.8 ha
Road construction	12,100m
Footpath construction (John Muir Way)	2,800 m
Bog restoration	135 ha

Significant Environment/Conservation features	
UN World Heritage Site	Antonine Wall
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	Dumbarton Muir, Loch Humphrey Burn & Glenarbuck
Scheduled Monuments	Long Cairn at Gallangad Burn
Ancient Woodland	11 ha
Minimum Intervention/Natural Reserve	243 ha

Consultation and Further Information

During development of this plan widespread consultation was undertaken, including four public consultation events and the involvement of a wide range of organisations including Historic Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage, Scottish Environment Protection Agency, RSPB and East Dunbartonshire, West Dunbartonshire & Stirling Councils.

For further information on the plan please contact scottishlowlands@forestry.gsi.gov.uk.