



Dull Weem and Glassie Vision, concept and management objectives

Vision

A commercially important forest which retains its characteristic structure whilst becoming more diverse and resilient for the future, and which provides a high quality environment for both biodiversity and the visitor experience. Over the next twenty years, there will be an increase in native Scots pine and broadleaves as planted ancient woodland sites (PAWS) are restored on the southern slopes of Dull and Weem, while deep peats and native woodlands will start to be restored in the upper sections of Dull and Glassie forests.

Concept

The concept maps illustrates how the plan concept incorporates the important constraints and opportunities into the management objectives. The forest has been zoned into timber production, non productive broadleaf, peatland/native woodland mosaic, and priority open habitats, with riparian planting linking habitats where possible.

A sustainable supply of timber will be maintained by managing the future species choice to concentrate on timber and wood products where possible, and also by diversifying species and planning windfirm edges to improve future resilience. The mature Sitka spruce and larch at risk of Ramorum disease will be planned for harvesting which will gradually improve the age structure of the forests. A new strategic fence will be installed to protect restocking.

Felling on planted ancient woodland sites (PAWS) will be restocked in Dull and Weem with native mixed broadleaves, connecting to existing areas of broadleaves, strengthening habitat network connectivity in both forests and increasing landscape visual diversity through the seasons. Priority open habitats will begin to be buffered by non invasive broadleaf and conifer species (such as Norway spruce) to reduce the risk of Sitka spruce naturally regenerating. Planted areas of deep peat will gradually be restored to a mosaic of peatland and native Scots pine and broadleaved woodland.

A new quarry will be opened in Glassie to provide materials for upgrading the existing road network, and new roads to the north of Glassie and Dull/Camserney will be built to provide access.

Management Objectives		
Number	Objectives (including environmental, economic and social considerations)	Indicator of objective being met
1	Timber: ensure quality and volume of timber production is maintained. Improve windblow resilience through coupe design and species selection	Coupes are felled and restocked as per the phases set out in this plan.
2	Forest health: adapt to and mitigate risks to forests from pests and diseases, in particular Ramorum disease (<i>Phytophthora ramorum</i>), and increased risk of storm events	Removal of larch in Dull as per the phases in this document. Additional larch coupes in Glassie identified to be removed in the event of a Statutory Plant Health Notice. More diverse species at restock, and designed edges to be more diverse structurally.
3	Landscape: manage felling and restocking sensitively	Felling and restocking as per this plan. Increase species diversity on south slopes of Dull and Weem. Smaller coupes designed in Killiechassie, with greater species diversity at restock.
4	People: maintain a good level of recreation provision. Identify and plan management for public and private water supplies. Ensure heritage sites are managed appropriately.	Continue to manage highly visited areas with lower intensity management. Design felling and restocking around private water supplies and designated sites using best practice guidelines.
5	Biodiversity: areas of planted deep peats, PAWS and priority open habitat start to be restored. Increase species diversity and improve habitat network connectivity.	Felling and restocking is per the proposals in this plan. More detailed restock designs to be developed at work plan stage once coupes have been felled.
6	Wildlife management: ensure herbivore management is in place before restocking.	New strategic fence across southern Glassie is installed prior to restock.