



Carron Valley 2026 LMP Appendix I – Land Management Plan Consultation Record

Consultee	Type	Date contacted	Date responded	Consultee response/comments	FLS response
All adjacent landowners	Letter drop	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
All households within c.1km of LMP boundary	Letter drop	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Carron Valley Community Woodland Group / Valley Renewables	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Carron Valley Fishery	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Central Amphibian and Reptile Group	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A

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Stirling & Tayside Timber Transport Group Project Officer	Email and via Teams	30/03/2025 09/05/2025	30/03/2025 07/11/2025	Confirmed that the potential timber transport mapping error on the B818 at Todholes had been raised with Stirling Council and the Agreed Routes Map would be updated as appropriate.	Noted and many thanks for rectifying the mapping error.
Clan Ranald Trust	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Communications Mast Operators	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
East Dunbartonshire Council	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Eurowind Energy Limited	Email and Via Teams	09/05/2025 (and etc.)	Various	No issues raised with LMP proposals. Keen to work with FLS on the potential habitat management plan for the windfarm development.	We will continue to engage with the developers as and when this project progresses and are happy to incorporate the potential habitat management/restoration areas into the wider LMP design.
Falkirk Council	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Fintry Community Council	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Forth Rivers Trust	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A

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Historic Environment Scotland	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Cllr Heather Brannen-McVey – North Lanarkshire Council	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Cllr Denis Johnston – North Lanarkshire Council	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Cllr Jean Jones – North Lanarkshire Council	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Cllr Gerry McGarvey – Stirling (Forth & Endrick)	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Cllr Paul Henke – Stirling (Forth & Endrick)	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Cllr Rosmary Fraser – Stirling (Forth & Endrick)	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Cllr Jen Preston – Stirling (West)	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A

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Cllr Neil Benny – Stirling (West)	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Cllr Scott Framer – Stirling (West)	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Cllr Fiona Collie – Falkirk (Denny & Banknock)	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Cllr Paul Garner – Falkirk (Denny & Banknock)	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Cllr Alf Kelly – Falkirk (Denny & Banknock)	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Cllr Brian McCabe – Falkirk (Denny & Banknock)	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Developing Mountain Biking in Scotland	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
North Lanarkshire Council	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Scottish Badgers	Email	09/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A

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Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)	Email	09/05/2025	09/05/2025	SEPA submitted a standard response with comments relating to habitat enhancement, pollution control, removal of waste, protection of water supplies, removal of fish barriers, and general adherence to regulatory requirements and best practice guidelines in planning and operations.	Noted. Many of the points raised relate to operational practice and are not relevant considerations at the Land Management Plan level, however all operations will adhere to the relevant up-to-date best practice guidelines. It is further noted that Scottish Water deem the level of detail and overall strategy for protecting the water catchments to be acceptable.
NatureScot	Email	09/05/2025	09/05/2025	Thank you for your email regarding Invitation to comment - Carron Valley Forest Land Management Plan. As of 4 February 2025, NatureScot is using a new platform called InformedDECISION for all our statutory consultations, pre-application consultations and SSSI Consents. This platform will clarify whether you need to apply or not and enable us to provide you a faster and more consistent response. Please resubmit your application via the InformedDECISION link, which can	The LMP concept materials were submitted via InformedDECISION on the 12/05/2025.

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				be accessed here. Guidance on how to use the platform is also on this page. We will process your application when received through InformedDECISION. If you require further information, please contact informed@nature.scot .	
NatureScot InformedDECISION		12/05/2025	23/05/2025	<u>Summary of points raised:</u> The primary issue noted was the potential for ‘improper construction practices or operations’ to impact on the qualifying features of the Endrick Water SAC; however it was also noted that adherence to relevant aspects of the UK Forestry Standard would be sufficient to prevent any adverse impacts on the integrity of the site. It was noted the proposals would be unlikely to affect any nearby SSSIs. It was noted that a number of LNCSs are present and it is for the relevant Local Authorities to comment on these sites. It was noted protected species are present and the relevant wildlife and forestry operations guidance notes should be adhered to.	<u>Summary response:</u> All operations will adhere to the UKFS and other/associated requirements and best practice guidelines and it is noted this is deemed sufficient to prevent adverse impacts on the relevant protected sites and protected species. We understand and agree that LNCSs are the responsibility of the relevant Local Authorities and note that Stirling Council are supportive of the proposals and deem these appropriate in the context of the Stirling and Clackmannanshire Forestry and Woodland Strategy 2019. No responses were received from other Local Authorities.

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				Support was expressed for the proposed habitat networks, although there was a desire to see this achieved over shorter timescales; and for larger areas of native woodland and open ground with the removal of conifer regeneration from these areas. Noted that there is a proposed windfarm development in the Cairnoch block and this should be considered in the LMP design.	The LMP provides additional detail on the proposed habitat areas, and when these will be established in relation to felling programs; and identifies areas for habitat management (including the removal of conifer regeneration over the next 10 years. We disagree that the proposed timescales for establishing this network are inappropriate, or that a larger area of native tree planting/open ground is required. Regarding timescales, the level of felling which would be required to establish the full habitat network over a much shorter time period would be impractical and would not comply with sustainable forest management expectations as set out in the UKFS; in addition to having potentially significant negative impacts on a range of priority species which rely on mature coniferous forest.

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					With regards to scale, Carron Valley is a significant productive forest, and a primary objective of this LMP is to maintain a significant volume of softwood timber production going forward, while maintaining and where possible improving the additional ecosystem services/environmental benefits which this forest provides. The proposed areas of native woodland and open ground together comprise over 27% of the LMP area which is well in excess of the requirements set out in the UK Forestry Standard and UK Woodland Assurance Standard. Regarding the proposed Cairnoch hill windfarm we would clarify that this is not an FLS project and at the time of writing the proposal has not been submitted for Planning Approval. However, FLS continue to work with the developers to ensure that any development proposals, including

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					associated biodiversity enhancement works, align with LMP aspirations and vice versa.
Scottish Power Energy Networks	Email	09/05/2025	12/05/2025	Please send any future forestry related correspondence to forestry specific email address.	Correspondance forwarded to forestry specific email address on 12/05/2025.
Scottish Power Energy Networks	Email	12/05/2025	None received	None received	N/A
Central Scotland Raptor Study Group	Email	09/05/2025	19/05/2025	<u>Summary of points raised:</u> It was noted that Carron Valley is an important area for breeding raptors, in particular osprey and goshawk, which should be given consideration including by the retention of nest sites, and areas of mature trees (i.e. long-term retentions (LTRs)). Many osprey nest sites were lost due to exposure and high winds in winter 2024/25 and an increase in artificial platforms and larger retained blocks would be considered beneficial, including to limit recreational disturbance. Riparian areas critical for	<u>Summary response:</u> We note and are aware that Carron Valley provides habitat for a range of raptor species such as osprey and goshawk. We are aware that retaining exposed nest trees can present a range of issues and for this reason, generally we are moving away from retention of single trees and towards retention of larger windfirm blocks. However this will not be achievable in every situation (e.g. if areas are not suitably windfirm); and in these cases, where appropriate and on a case-by-case basis, we may consider the

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				fish spawning are also considered a priority for management as this will provide continued food source for fish-eating raptors such as osprey. The current LTRs are generally considered too small and the RSG would like to see larger areas of retained woodland between 30 and 50 hectares in size, especially around Goshawk sites. These larger retentions are suggested to improve resilience to storm damage and to provide suitable core habitat areas for woodland raptors. The east side of the block especially has a lack of mature woodland and we would like to see more retentions in this area. The development of a 'soft edged broadleaved / native conifer buffer' and the maintenance of open habitats with the removal of Sitka spruce regeneration should be a priority to	installation of alternative nesting platforms in suitable nearby locations. Regarding long-term retentions, we note the advice regarding suggested scale of LTRs for woodland raptors and have considered this as part of the LMP development. We asked for some clarification on this suggestion due to known examples where such species are nesting in significantly smaller blocks but did not receive any response to this at the time of writing. For clarification, we will not retain LTRs or nest sites indefinitely, but instead aim to provide a succession of suitable LTR areas to provide a continuity of mature woodland habitat over the long-term. We note concerns regarding the eastern part of the forest and have sought to retain patches of mature forest in this area where possible. This area also contains areas of young

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				benefit black grouse, merlin and hen harrier in adjacent open habitats. The RSG recommend that owl boxes are installed to attract barn and tawny owls, and to provide alternative nesting sites for the latter species outwith productive conifer areas. There is a desire for more diversity of coniferous species, with a reduction in Sitka spruce and more native woodland, which is suggested to benefit the widest range of breeding bird species, including raptors.	woodland which will mature over the next 10 years and have the potential to provide suitable habitat going forward. With regards to stability, maintaining a stable forest structure and minimising the risk of windthrow is a key aspect of the LMP. However, we would caution that many areas which are identified for LTR will be vulnerable to windthrow on account of their age and the underlying soil types. With regards to owl boxes, we believe there are already an appropriate number of tawny boxes installed in the forest, although we may consider erecting additional boxes in the future. With regards to riparian and wider habitat management, the LMP describes our approach to habitat enhancement and the protection of the water environment at a strategic level, including within riparian zones.

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					The LMP also demonstrates the continued diversification the forest composition over time; including a range of coniferous species and native woodland.
Scottish Water	Email and via Teams	09/05/2025 (and etc.)	26/05/2025	<u>Summary of points raised at the concept stage:</u> The LMP is located in drinking water catchments for Carron Valley and Loch Lomond, where Scottish Water abstraction points are located, and protecting water quality in these areas is crucial. The plan consistently emphasises the protection of the water environment through a range of measures and these are generally deemed adequate to protect both water quality and water yield within these catchments. FLS have also expressed interest in working with Scottish Water to establish new areas of native woodland around the loch shore.	Noted and thanks for the comments. Reference to the 'Guidance on Forestry Activities Near Scottish Water Assets' has been added to the LMP text (section c.2.8). As noted, the LMP addresses water quality management at a strategic scale and operations will continue to comply with the appropriate standards. FLS will maintain existing working relationships with Scottish Water, including appropriate liaison prior to and during operations.

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				In addition to adherence to the UKFS, the plan should also reference the 'Guidance on Forestry Activities Near SW Assets' and this should be implemented during operations. Scottish Water assets are also present in the LMP area, and verification of these can be obtained locally from Scottish Water personnel before any given forestry operation. All of Water processes, standards and policies in relation to dealing with asset conflicts must be complied with. <u>Summary of points raised during the LMP process:</u> Scottish Water are happy with the LMP proposals and note the improvements to forest design incorporating appropriate buffer zones being established as the forest is progressively restructured.	

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Local Resident	Email and in person	09/05/2025 (and etc.)	31/05/2025	<u>Summary of points raised:</u> A desire was expressed to see a greater proportion of native broadleaves relative to spruce, more mixtures rather than single-species stands, and more effective maintenance plans for riparian corridors and broadleaf boundaries some of which are being overgrown with spruce regeneration. The clearance of windblow blocking a right of way was requested, in addition to the maintenance of ATV tracks and linkage of ATV tracks and forest roads to provide additional walking routes. The reversal of peat drainage 'schemes' was also suggested.	The LMP proposals demonstrate increasing forest diversity; including the establishment of native woodland and a range of coniferous species. However, as noted in the LMP and concept information, Sitka spruce will remain a major species throughout the forest due to unchangeable soil and climatic constraints. The LMP outlines our strategic proposals for habitat enhancement, including within riparian zones; and removal of conifer regeneration. The area of windblow highlighted as blocking a right of way has been assessed and is considered unsafe to clear by motor-manual methods, and as such will require the clearfelling of a larger area. This has been identified for felling within the next 10 years and in the meantime, we are aware that other routes are available.

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					ATV tracks and forest roads are primarily to serve forest management purposes and will be suitably maintained as such, although all areas of the forest are accessible to responsible access under SOAC. We consider the current recreational provision within Carron Valley to be suitable for the vast majority of visitors, however we are always willing to work with local communities or other partners to improve access and recreation opportunities as resources allow. With regards to drainage, no areas of Carron Valley are considered to be of suitable habitat quality and scale to justify peat restoration. Therefore, any existing drainage within these areas will be managed in accordance with the UKFS and associated guidance.
Local Resident	Email and via phone	09/05/2025 (and etc.)	06/06/2025	Concern was raised over an area of spruce which has repeatedly suffered windblown trees impacting a	We have included the removal of these trees in the LMP to help prevent future issues. The area will be re-

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				powerline and property boundaries and causing disruption to residents.	planted with low-growing native shrubs which will present much less of a hazard and improve the amenity and biodiversity value of this area going forward.
Local Resident	Verbal and via letter	09/05/2025 25/07/2025	25/07/2025	Resident confirmed they have a private water supply located in the forest but were not sure where the source was from. The resident committed to check their titles and confirm the location and rights to the supply.	We have not received a response from the resident at the time of writing and will follow up with a subsequent letter.
Local Resident	Verbal and via letter	09/05/2025 25/07/2025	25/07/2025	Resident confirmed they have rights to a private water supply from the forest, but that this is not operational and they are currently supplied from a borehole outwith the LMP boundary.	We confirmed with the resident that we would map the location of both their former and current supplies for future reference but that proposed operations should not impact the current supply.
Stirling Council	Email	09/05/2025	10/06/2025	<u>Summary of points raised:</u> It was noted that the objectives and outline concept/management proposals presented in the LMP concept documentation are considered to generally align with the	Noted that the LMP is considered in alignment with the F&WS. The LMP notes the relevant archaeological features, which will be protected as per UKFS and UKWAS requirements. It is noted that the non-scheduled

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				vision of the Stirling and Clackmannanshire Forestry and Woodland Strategy 2019. It was further noted that the concept documentation contained little detail on archaeology and that all known sites should be marked and thought given to improving their setting and interpretation. The presence of a core path (9078Bb/71) and right of way (CS64) was highlighted, in addition to general access from the Todholes area, around Meikle Bin and along the loch shore. Any new fencing should consider access, including the installation of appropriate information signage. It was also noted that ongoing forest management activities may impact or restrict access and in this instance the Local Authority may need to be informed.	heritage features present are of local significance only and during our scoping and consultation process we have recorded no expressions interest in the advertisement or enhancement of these sites, therefore this is not considered a priority. We conduct regular site condition monitoring and maintenance as required for the two scheduled features present; and that interpretation is present at Sir John de Graham's Castle and that the condition of this site has been actively improved over the past 10 years through active management. Regarding interest in renewable energy developments, we would note that these projects are led by external developers and not by FLS; and therefore we would consider any such engagement with Stirling Council to be primarily the responsibility of the developers.

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				Ongoing windfarm development interest was noted in the Cairnoch area, and early engagement with FLS would be appreciated in this regard. It was also noted that Stirling Council is early in the process of renewing the Local Development Plan and may be revising the Forest and Woodland Strategy, and early engagement with FLS on these would be appreciated	With regards to the development of the Local Development Plan and the potential renewal of the Forest and Woodland Strategy, we are happy to engage with the Council on these in the context of Carron Valley and other sites.