Westfield Land Management Plan Summary

Westfield Land Management Plan (LMP) was approved on 14 February 2025 and runs for 10 years.

Vision

Westfield LMP area is comprised of two blocks which together cover a total area of 132.5 ha. Located to the west of Blackridge, just off the A89 between Airdrie and Bathgate (see **M1** – **Location Map**), our staff planted this forest as part of a woodland creation project 10 years ago.

Westfield is intended to be primarily a site to produce quality softwood timber to reduce the need for imports and boost the national economy. Additionally, it is the aim of this site to increase the biodiversity value of the surrounding area by creating connectivity between woodland habitats, as well as providing valuable nesting sites for birds.

Objectives

- Establishment of crop for softwood log production
- Improved access to the main block
- Increased biodiversity and habitat value
- Improved Landscape character

Summary of Land Management Plan Proposals

	Current (2025)		Year 10 (2035)	
Species	Area (ha)	%	Area (ha)	%
Sitka Spruce	23.1	17.5	22.4	16.9
Other Conifers	22.1	16.7	22.1	16.7
Mixed Broadleaves	18.8	14.2	19.1	14.4
Open	68.5	51.6	68.9	52

Planned Operations:

- Felling = 2.1 ha
- Restocking = 2.1 ha
- New road construction = 680m

Critical Success Factors

- Continued growth of coniferous forest areas with little to no damage evident at the end of the LMP period.
- Creation of a new entrance to the main block which is independent of other landowners, as well as the construction of a new road.
- Continued establishment of all existing woodland and an increased presence of associated wildlife species.
- Successful establishment of new broadleaf area to visually connect existing broadleaf areas and better reflect the existing framework of the surrounding landscape.

Consultation and further information

Council areas: West Lothian Council North Lanarkshire Council

Consultation: FLS' public consultation on this LMP occurred between 16 July 2024 and 12 August 2024

For further information on the plan, please contact: Central Region, Forestry and Land Scotland, Five Sisters House, Five Sisters Business Park, West Calder, EH55 8PN Email: <u>enguiries.central@forestryandland.gov.scot</u>