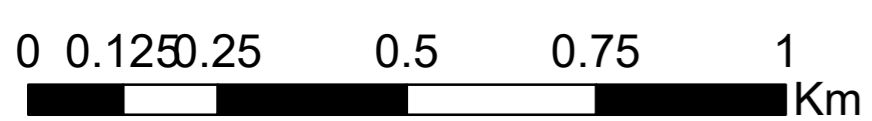


Forth Mosses LMP - Key Features/Considerations

Scale @ A1: 1:9,990
Date: 16/10/2023
Author: u321351

Legend

- Blocks
Conifers
Broadleaves
Special Areas of Conservation
Sites of Special Scientific Interest
National Park Boundaries
Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS)
Cardross drier ground
Heritage
Core Paths
Consultation Route
Excluded Route
Forest Roads



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Analysis
Cardross is associated with lowland raised bogs, existing woodland, and it is environmentally sensitive due to the associated SSSI's. Currently this area is associated with limited access.

Concept
Maintain existing Natural Reserve designation in Cardross in order to uphold environmental and biodiversity benefits associated with Lake of Menteith SSSI. However, in the future undertake peat surveys and appropriate liaison with Nature Scot and Scottish Forestry in order to see if there is scope for any peatland restoration.

Analysis
Some areas of bog are not a good proposition for restoration and are more likely to be associated with natural regeneration of trees.

Concept
Allow establishment, primarily through natural regeneration, of wet/edge woodland on those areas of bog not suitable for restoration.

Analysis
Areas of ancient woodland include stands of Norway spruce. There are additional scattered groups of broadleaf trees along riparian zones as well as on some drier soils.

Concept
Retain all native woodland and encourage its spread by natural regeneration onto riparian areas and drier fringe areas. Retain Norway spruce in short to medium term as habitat for resident red squirrel population.

Analysis
Flanders Moss has previously been associated with difficult and costly harvesting conditions, especially in boggy and checked areas, that required roading upgrades. However, there is now only one main area left to be felled, and the planned roading from the previous plan has been implemented.

Concept
Clearfell and remove as much timber and woody debris as possible. Fell to re-cycle or fall areas where harvesting is considered too difficult. Where needed upgrade existing forest roads and tracks, so that remaining produce can be extracted to roadside. Construct temporary forwarder tracks, where feasible, to facilitate harvesting. Use winch systems to extract from more distant parts of this section.

Analysis
The younger crop in the south of Cardross includes pockets of larch, which are susceptible to Phytophthora ramorum, is located on drier ground that already has an existing access of the public road.

Concept
It is envisaged that thinning will take place in the south part of Cardross. Should the larch crop remain uninfected until the first thinning intervention then all Larch should be clearfelled and removed during that operation.

Analysis
There is potential to restore both existing plantation and previously felled areas on deep peat to functioning peatland systems for the benefit of carbon storage, biodiversity, and water quality.

Concept
Restore and maintain lowland raised bog where this is feasible. This will involve blocking drains in key locations and monitoring, and removing tree regeneration where necessary.

Analysis
There is potential for natural regeneration of conifers on both raised bog restoration and native woodland areas.

Concept
If conifers regenerate on site these will be periodically felled to waste if they threaten the integrity of either the raised bog, edge woodland and other native woodland fringe areas.

Analysis
Adjacent SSSI/SAC area is associated with lowland raised bog.

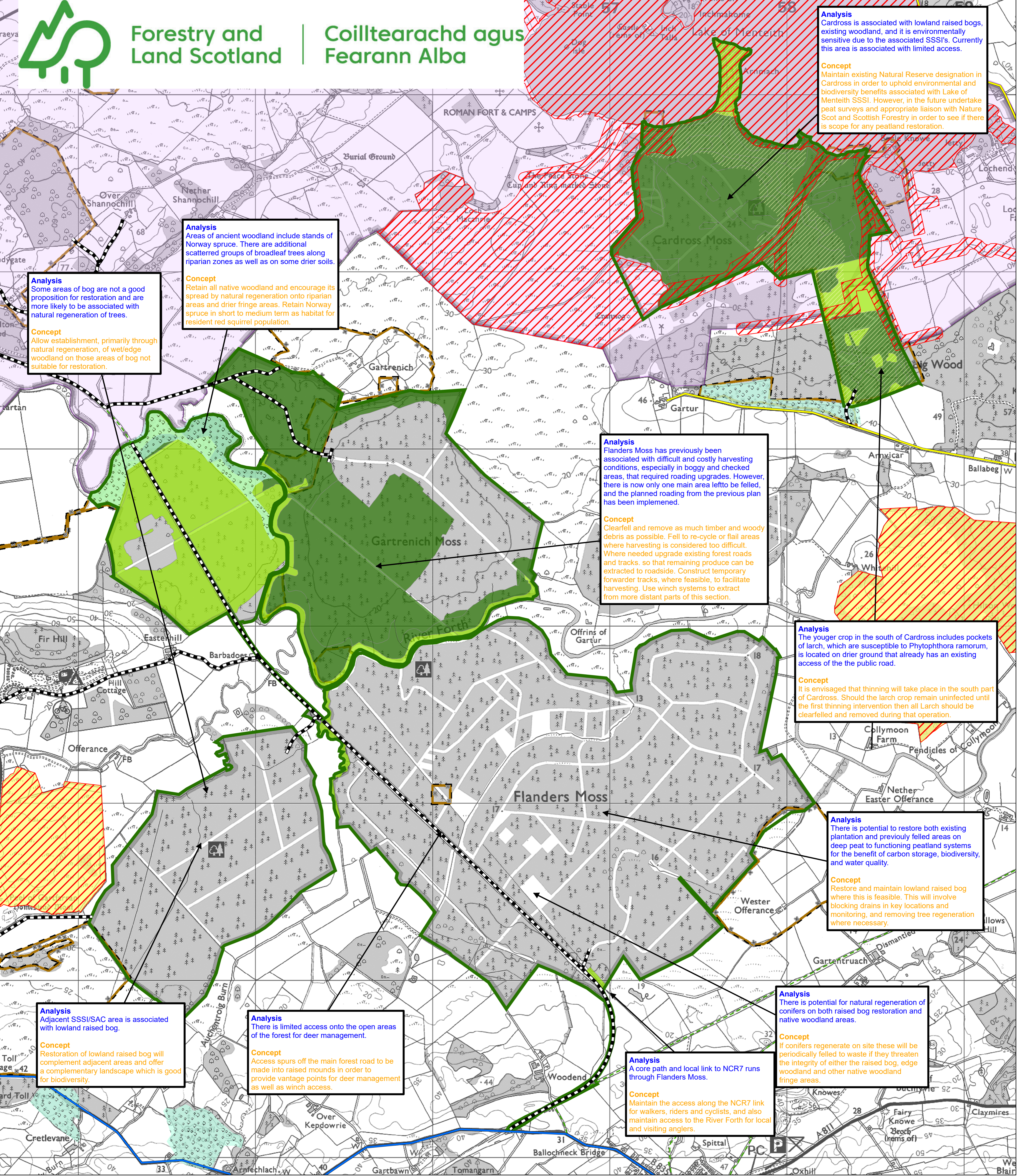
Concept
Restoration of lowland raised bog will complement adjacent areas and offer a complementary landscape which is good for biodiversity.

Analysis
There is limited access onto the open areas of the forest for deer management.

Concept
Access spurs off the main forest road to be made into raised mounds in order to provide vantage points for deer management as well as winch access.

Analysis
A core path and local link to NCR7 runs through Flanders Moss.

Concept
Maintain the access along the NCR7 link for walkers, riders and cyclists, and also maintain access to the River Forth for local and visiting anglers.

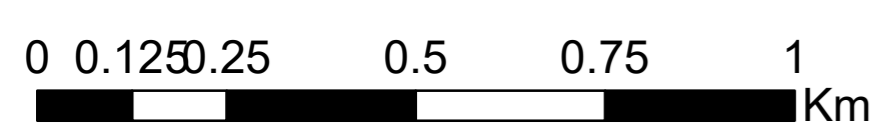


Forth Mosses LMP - Concept

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Legend

- Blocks
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