

**Timber production**  
Promote sustainable timber production through revised felling and restocking plans that continue to diversify the woodland's age structure and species composition in line with the UK Forestry Standard. Expand and maintain the existing forest road network to facilitate timely forest management intervention.

**Open hill top**  
Manage the Merrick Kells SSSI / SAC as per the Designated Site Management Plan. Maintain adjacent hill tops as open space and continue to soften the forest edge by restocking with a range of site suitable tree species and by conforming to land form.

**External woodland views**  
Gradually improve views and visitor experience along the Carrick Forest Drive by presenting a range of colours, textures, and a varying forest structure. Restock with a variety of tree species and alter the upper forest edge to achieve better landscape fit. Where site conditions allow, target conversion to Low Impact Silviculture Systems.

**Riparian zone**  
Manage catchments to help meet the objectives of the Loch Doon SSSI Designated Site Management Plan. Increase open space and broadleaf establishment, using natural features to enhance habitat linkage for species such as Black Grouse. Investigate the potential for peatland restoration and/or peatland edge woodland in areas where the environmental benefit will be greatest.

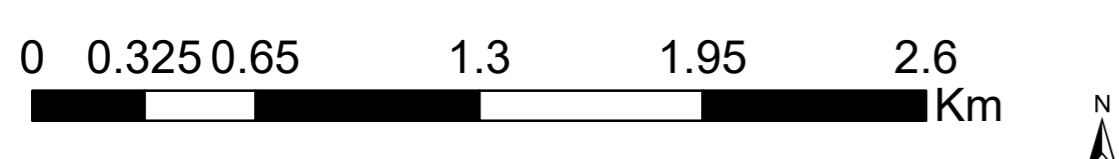
**Key management objectives for Gala Lane land management plan 2024-2034**  
1. Sustainable timber production  
2. Improve general woodland resilience by enhancing species richness and structural diversity  
3. Management of the Merrick Kells SSSI / SAC as per the Designated Site Management Plan

Map 3: Concept DRAFT  
Gala Lane LMP 2024-2034

Scale @ A1: 1:22,000  
Date: November 2023

Author: C. Finch

- Legend**
- Forest Roads
  - Merrick Kells SSSI / SAC
  - Core Timber Production
  - Core Riparian Zone
  - Open Hill Tops
  - Gala Lane Block
  - Areas with key external views of the woodland



Reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of HMSO. © Crown copyright and database right [2023]. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence number [100021242]. © Getmapping Plc and Bluesky International Limited 2023.

Scotland's National Forest Estate is responsibly managed to the UK Woodland Assurance Standard.

