



Appendix III – Tree Health Contingency Plans

Introduction and overview

Currently, the main threats to tree health within the South East Fife Woods are ash dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*), *Phytophthora ramorum* (infecting species of larch), and *Dothistroma* needle blight (*Dothistroma septosporum*) (infecting species of pine). All three diseases are present within the woodlands and can cause significant mortality of the affected tree species, however it is *Phytophthora* and *Dothistroma* the present the most significant threats, given the relatively extensive quantity of both larch and pine in these woodlands. This appendix therefore outlines contingency felling proposals to be implemented as required to control the spread of these diseases and/or remove seriously infected trees. Ash is less common and can therefore be managed in line with FLS policy (prioritising tree safety) and Scottish Forestry guidance (*'The management of individual ash trees affected by ash dieback'*).

Monitoring for tree health issues will be carried out on an ad-hoc basis and at the LMP mid-term review.

Contingency Management Proposals (*Phytophthora*)

Benarty

Coupe **04006** (3.77ha) long-term retention to clearfell (Phase 1 or Phase 2) and extract. Access via existing forest road and old trackway. Forwarder extraction to and stacking along roadside. Forest road reinforcement (and subsequent repairs) will be required (c.0.4km). Restock by planting (SOK).

Coupe **04007** (9.56ha) LISS group selection and **04008** (2.76ha) long-term retention to LISS fell/thinning approval; fell to recycle larch and required other species. Access for felling only, no extraction; likely to be motor-manual fell to waste. Restock by planting or natural regeneration (MB).

Pitcairn

Coupe **03001** (33.76ha) LISS strip shelterwood (outwith plan period) and/or **03002** (38.09ha) clearfell (outwith plan period) to clearfell (Phase 1 or Phase 2) and extract; or thin if appropriate to level of infection and resource availability. Main access via Torres Loan: Torres Loan upgrade and numerous new spurs required to access crop. New access across gas/oil pipeline(s) required for access to western block. Significant extraction distance from south eastern block. Restock by planting – to be re-assessed and revised if necessary at time of infection.

Cardenden

Coupe **01017** (10.07ha) LISS irregular shelterwood (outwith plan period) to to LISS fell/thinning approval; fell to recycle larch and required other species. (Access ready via Sunnyside Road.) Restock by planting (SC or SOK); or natural regeneration (BE/SYC/MB).

Coupe **01005** (3.59ha) clearfell (outwith plan period) to clearfell (Phase 1 or Phase 2) and extract. Access planned for delivery of adjacent woodland creation; otherwise extraction will have to be across open field. Restock by planting (DF/NS).

Coupe **01006** (13.57ha) clearfell (outwith plan period) approved for thinning. Current (assumed) access from unclassified road via A92 underpass should be checked with Area Land Agent. New spur(s) may be required to facilitate plant delivery and product stacking/extraction. Restock by planting (NS with Bi nurse).

Cullaloe

Coupe **02002** (5.79ha) long-term retention to clearfell (Phase 1 or Phase 2) and extract. Access ready via existing forest road off A909 and existing turning/stacking area. May require minor upgrades and/or additional infrastructure (e.g. ramps). Restock by planting (DF/NS/MB).

Contingency management proposals (Dothistroma)

Cardenden

Coupe **01012** (5.59ha) long-term retention to clearfell (Phase 1 or Phase 2) and extract. (Amalgamation of three disparate stands, one predominantly SS, to achieve economies of scale.) Haulage access ready via Cardenden main entrance (NT 2332 9319) to one stand (SS); otherwise forwarder-only access to remainder. Recommended upgrade/rebuild of road between NT 2309 9357 and NT 2330 9383 with associated turning head and forwarder extraction to this location. Restock by panting (MC), and/or natural regeneration (Bi).

Coupe **01275** (26.20ha) LISS irregular shelterwood (outwith plan period) to LISS fell/thinning approval with preference for extraction according to volume and timber value. Forwarder access only; haulage access available from NT 2309 9357. Recommended upgrade/rebuild of road between NT 2309 9357 and NT 2330 9383 with associated turning head to gain improved stacking and haulage access. Restock natural regeneration (Bi) and/or planting (MC).

Cullaloe

Coupe **02003** (9.90ha) LISS group selection (outwith plan period) to LISS fell/thinning approval with preference for extraction according to volume and timber value. Haulage access ready via existing forest road off A909 and existing turning/stacking area at NT 1873 8894, with forwarder only access to/from this point. May require minor upgrades and/or additional infrastructure (e.g. ramps). Restock by planting (DF/NS/MB).