

Murdostoun & Mossband – Summary of Proposals

These forest blocks are located on two separate Lowland Raised Bogs (LRB), both have been assessed as suitable for restoration. The primary objectives of the land management plan are to improve carbon sequestration through the restoration of the LRB by clearing the non-productive conifer and enhancing/preserving the remaining areas of ancient plantation woodland incorporating broadleaved timber production where site conditions and access allow. Productive conifer areas are to be marketed and restocked with native broadleaves to assist the connection/expansion of native woodland and ancient plantation woodland areas.

Total Plan Area	196.3 Ha
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Woodland changes

Planned operations	2015-2025 plan period
Clearance of Non-productive woodland and LRB restoration	118.6 Ha
Harvesting Productive woodland	38.5 Ha
Preservation/Restoration of ancient plantation woodland	25.4 ha

The key considerations in producing this plan are to contribute the Scottish Governments targets for climate change through carbon sequestration and renewable energy and to address the recommendations made in the Forest Enterprise Scotland's Strategy for Lowland Raised Bogs 2012.

The Murdostoun block and the adjacent James Hutton Institute land to the south of the block are currently being considered for a windfarm development with a planning decision expected in early 2017.

Land use	2015	2025
Open space	26%	63%
Mixed broadleaves	60%	30%
Mixed/Retained native conifers	14%	7%

Other management interventions include:

- Access improvements, where practical
- Reducing non-native conifer species
- Grazing of bog habitat to control woodland regeneration

Consultation and Further Information

During development of this plan widespread consultation was undertaken, including consultation with neighbouring communities whilst Central Scotland Conservancy consulted on the plan with statutory stakeholders such as Historic Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage, Scottish Environment Protection Agency, RSPB and North Lanarkshire Council and determined that and environmental

impact assessment was not required for plan approval. For further information on the plan please contact scottishlowlands@forestry.gsi.gov.uk.