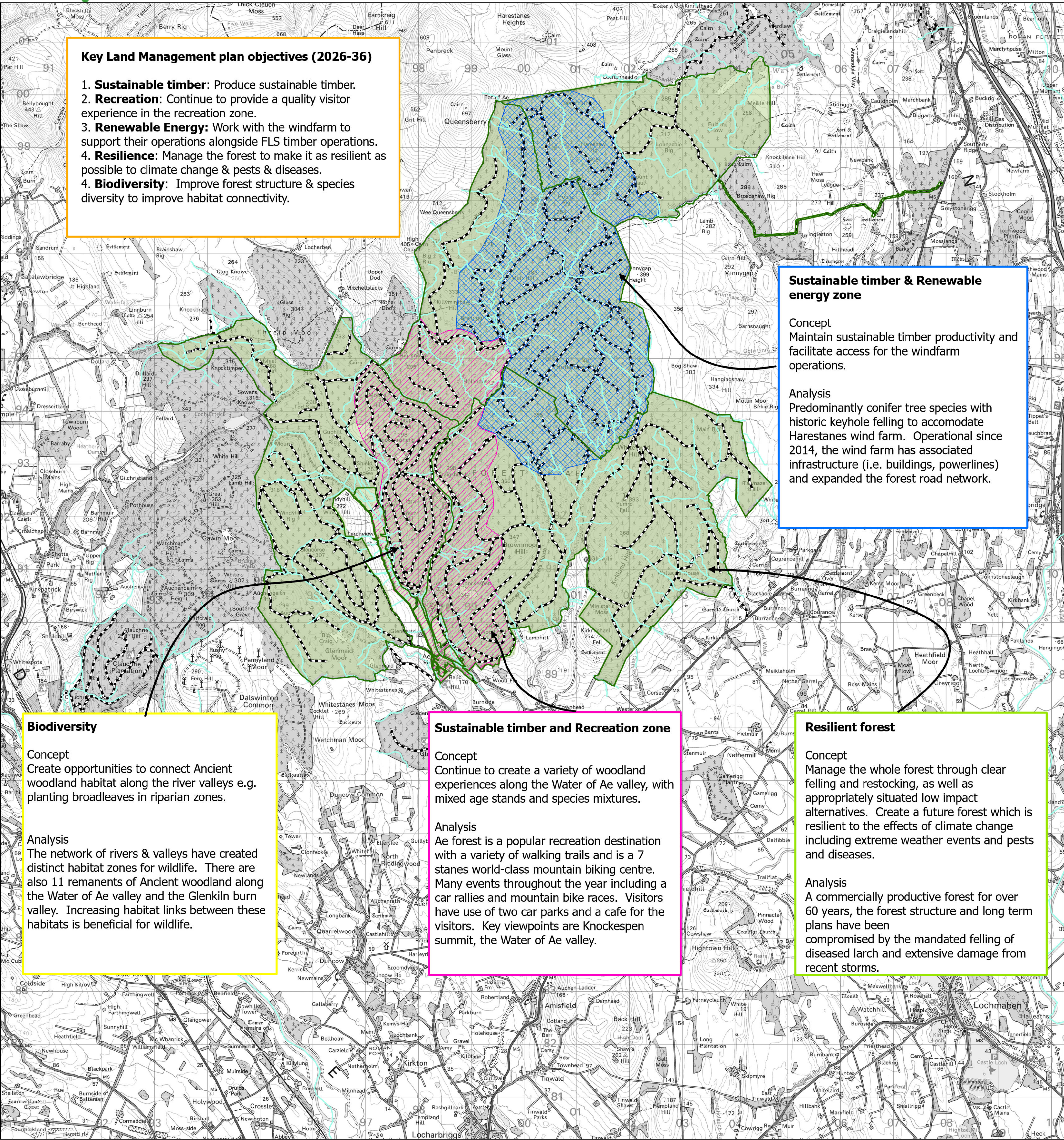




Key Land Management plan objectives (2026-36)

1. **Sustainable timber:** Produce sustainable timber.
2. **Recreation:** Continue to provide a quality visitor experience in the recreation zone.
3. **Renewable Energy:** Work with the windfarm to support their operations alongside FLS timber operations.
4. **Resilience:** Manage the forest to make it as resilient as possible to climate change & pests & diseases.
4. **Biodiversity:** Improve forest structure & species diversity to improve habitat connectivity.

Sustainable timber & Renewable energy zone

Concept
Maintain sustainable timber productivity and facilitate access for the windfarm operations.

Analysis
Predominantly conifer tree species with historic keyhole felling to accomodate Harestanes wind farm. Operational since 2014, the wind farm has associated infrastructure (i.e. buildings, powerlines) and expanded the forest road network.

Biodiversity

Concept
Create opportunities to connect Ancient woodland habitat along the river valleys e.g. planting broadleaves in riparian zones.

Analysis
The network of rivers & valleys have created distinct habitat zones for wildlife. There are also 11 remanents of Ancient woodland along the Water of Ae valley and the Glenkiln burn valley. Increasing habitat links between these habitats is beneficial for wildlife.

Sustainable timber and Recreation zone

Concept
Continue to create a variety of woodland experiences along the Water of Ae valley, with mixed age stands and species mixtures.

Analysis
Ae forest is a popular recreation destination with a variety of walking trails and is a 7 stanes world-class mountain biking centre. Many events throughout the year including a car rallies and mountain bike races. Visitors have use of two car parks and a cafe for the visitors. Key viewpoints are Knockespen summit, the Water of Ae valley.

Resilient forest

Concept
Manage the whole forest through clear felling and restocking, as well as appropriately situated low impact alternatives. Create a future forest which is resilient to the effects of climate change including extreme weather events and pests and diseases.

Analysis
A commercially productive forest for over 60 years, the forest structure and long term plans have been compromised by the mandated felling of diseased larch and extensive damage from recent storms.

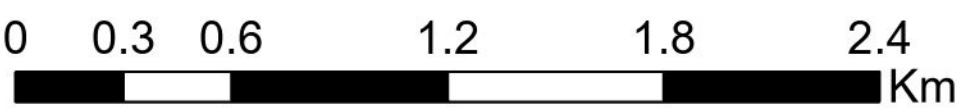
**Ae Composite Forest LMP
Map 3 DRAFT Concept**

Scale @ A1: 1:35,000

Date: 11/7/2025

Legend

- Forest Roads
- Watercourses
- Blocks
- Resilient forest zone
- Sustainable timber and recreation zone
- Sustainable timber and renewable energy zone



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Declaration by FLS as an Operator.
All timber arising from the FLS National Forests and Land represents a negligible risk under EUTR (No 995/210).

Scotland's national forests and land are responsibly managed to the UK Woodland Assurance Standard.

