

Craighoyle SSSI and other extensive areas of existing native broadleaves and plantation on ancient woodland sites on both sides of Glen Finart and south of Ardentinny.
Protect and maintain SSSI and other existing native woodland. Restore or enhance PAWS.

Area north of Knap is relatively isolated with complex topography. Extensive windblow and areas of existing ancient sem-natural woodland and PAWS. Prolific Sitka spruce natural regeneration in previously felled areas.
Devise a clearfell system to safely remove windblow and other remaining stands of non-native conifer. Restore PAWS, protect ancient woodland, but maintain productive potential using non-native conifer, including natural regeneration where feasible.

Much of road network, is in poor condition. Assess road requirements, upgrade where necessary or seek alternative solutions to extraction where this is impractical or considered too costly.

Very steep, frequently rocky and bouldery, slopes throughout the LMP area. Difficult harvesting conditions, and some risk of erosion.
Use skilled operators and careful management of steep slope operations to mitigate risk of erosion. Early restocking will help minimise run off.

Spawning salmonids use rivers and larger burns. Follow Forest and Water Guidelines and ensure that watercourses are protected from damage.

Protected birds of prey range over site. Seek opportunities to improve habitat for birds of prey.

Ardentinny beach is a popular attraction and is the starting point for several trails of various lengths. Maintain and enhance visitor facilities at car park. Maintain existing trail network.

Historically overgrazing, by domesticated and non-domesticated stock, has led to degradation of open hill habitat. In places Sitka spruce regeneration is encroaching onto open hill.
Look for opportunities to improve open habitat. Establish a deer management programme that helps improve open as well as forest habitat. Some potential for woodland expansion. Consider managing Sitka regeneration if this compromises high priority communities.

Several private water supplies in plan area and Drinking Water Protected Area in north western section. Several existing hydro schemes with associated infrastructure.
Follow Forest and Water Guidelines at all times, avoid disruption to private supplies and contamination in DWPA's. Protect hydro scheme facilities.

Some relatively large areas of even-aged, non-native conifer. Variable productivity.
Use topography and crop boundaries to develop a forest structure. Strengthen this by using restocking as an opportunity to diversify species whilst maintaining productivity.

Plan area is within the Cowal red squirrel stronghold and the species occurs throughout the plan area.
Existing natural barriers deter grey squirrels, providing more freedom in species choice at restocking.

Larch stands of variable size found throughout LMP area, often difficult to access in isolation from surrounding crop.
Take account of larch in designing felling coupe structure aiming to remove a significant proportion of this in the first phase of felling. Use species other than larch to provide species and landscape diversity at restocking.

Rhododendron found throughout plan area in variable densities; threatens existing native woodland and restock sites.
Establish appropriate control measures in association with felling operations. Assess and prioritise other areas for potential to control or eradicate.

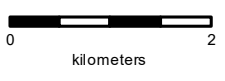
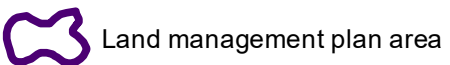
Relatively mild and wet climate, increasingly cooler and exposed above 250m. Sitka spruce is the most suitable productive species on many sites but there are significant opportunities for alternative species where soils are suitable.
At restocking seek to maximise productive potential using Sitka spruce as the predominant species. Consider using alternative species where conditions allow and increased diversity will bring added benefits.

Glen Finart Land Management Plan M1 Analysis and Concept

Scale @ A3: 1:75,000

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