

Management Objectives for Dyemill (draft)

- Maintain sustainable timber production
- Management for priority species (e.g. Hen harrier, grouse etc) through increasing areas of low density forest edge habitat
- Address issues around forest stability by reviewing the management of exposed coupes, and coupes with windblown crops, to improve resilience in light of the changing climate and increasing storm risk
- Target removal of remaining larch species and restock with suitable alternatives
- Maintain a quality experience for visitors by managing recreational facilities and access, and by establishing diverse and attractive woodlands within visitor zones

Visitor Zones

Green areas on map

Analysis: Dyemill welcomes visitors to an entrance area with a carpark and picnic site, and offers a variety of walking trails from this 'welcome zone'. A core path runs through the block connecting to long-distance walking or cycling routes around the island.

Concept: Maintain a safe and enjoyable visitor experience along the core path, recreational trails and picnic areas in Dyemill block. Within core visitor zones, present a variety of woodland experiences through variation in species and structure of woodland.

Visual Amenity Zone Yellow area of the map

Analysis: The woodlands within Dyemill are in close proximity to some residential and commercial properties within Lamlash, and visible from much of the village.

Concept: This 'Visual Amenity Zone' lies between the village and the commercial plantations within the block. This area will be planted with a range of species which will provide a varied, interesting, softer edge to the woodlands in highly-visible areas. Note that 'Biodiversity

enhancement' areas also offer similar visual appeal due to the diverse range of species and structures within.

Core Timber Production Zone Teal-blue area of the map

Analysis: This forest block contributes to the Region's ongoing commercial softwood timber production.

Concept: Continue to provide sustainable timber production from the block with plantation areas that include Sitka Spruce and other mixed conifer species where suitable. Aim to improve the age-structure of the woodland. Continue to maintain infrastructure for future operations.

Woodland Fringe Habitat

Light-blue area of the map

Analysis: A transitional zone between the open moorlands within the SPA/SSSI and plantation areas to benefit resident species such as Hen Harriers.

Concept: A mosaic of habitats is required to provide breeding and feeding opportunities for Hen Harriers and other wildlife. Target creation of low density woodland edge habitat which will include a variety of species and structures.

Biodiversity Enhancement Zone

Orange area of the map

Analysis: A mosaic of habitats to benefit wildlife and improve resilience of woodlands through the inclusion of a range of species and structures.

Concept: This area will contain a diverse species mix, including conifers and native tree species (mostly broadleaves with some Scots Pine) and some open areas. It will be managed for biodiversity and conservation objectives. Creation of 'habitat corridors' will enable movement of wildlife between suitable habitats.