Forestry and Land Scotland
Coilltearachd agus Fearann Alba

Scootmore Land Management Plan 2025 - 2035

LMP-11-2025

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Our land management plans bring together key information, enable us to evaluate options and plan responsibly for the future. We welcome comments on these plans at any time.

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Applicant's details	
Applicant:	Forestry and Land Scotland
Address:	Huntly Office, Portsoy Road, Huntly, AB54 4SJ
Agent's name:	Euan Stewart
Agent's position:	Forestry Consultant
Agent's contact number:	07581042793
Agent's email:	Euan.stewart2@forestryandland.gov.scot

I hereby apply for a permission to fell the trees described in this application and I certify that:

I have notified all stakeholders that may be affected by the felling in this application and sought their views prior to submitting this application.

I am authorised to sign legal contracts on behalf of Forestry and Land Scotland.

Any necessary consents from any other person(s) if required, have been obtained.

I have made the necessary checks with the local planning authorities regarding Tree Preservation Orders and Conservation Areas.

I hereby acknowledge that Scottish Ministers may process any of my personal data contained in or relating to this application in accordance with the terms of Scottish Forestry's Privacy Notice, a copy of which is available at www.forestry.gov.scot.

Where applicable and appropriate I have submitted an EIA screening opinion form for operations contained within this application under the Forestry (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017.

I have read and understand this application fully and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information given in this application is complete, true, and accurate.

I accept that any false or misleading information provided in this application constitutes an offence and may result in any felling permission based on this application being revoked at any time.

I have read and understand Scottish Forestry's Privacy Notice, a copy of which is available at https://forestry.gov.scot/privacy-complaints-freedom-of-information-and-requests-for-information.

Signed, Pp Regional Manager		Signed, Pp Conservator	
FLS Region		SF Conservancy	
Date		Date of Approval	
		Date Approval Ends	
		Plan Ref. No.	

A. Description of Woodlands

A.1 Property Details

Property (LMP) Name:	**Scootmore**
Grid Reference (main entrance):	NJ 1795 3882
Nearest town or locality:	Marypark
Local Authority:	Moray Council

A.2 Location and Background

Scootmore is a well-established and productive forest prominently sited in the valley of the River Spey southwest of Charlestown of Aberlour. (See **Map 1 Location & Viewpoints**).

The forest covers a total area of 458ha. The forest is predominantly coniferous, dominated by plantation origin sitka spruce and Scots pine. Much of the forest block has long been forested with records dating back to at least 1870. More recently, in the 1980's, the northwestern section was acquired and planted.

A.3 Existing Schemes and Permissions

Type: Forest Design Plan
Ref. No: FDP 11/2014
Details: The previous Forest Design Plan ran from 2014 to 2024 and expired on 30-04-2024.

A.4 Stakeholder Engagement

Below is a summary of the main points raised by stakeholders during Scoping (and where they are addressed in the plan). The full consultation record can be found in Appendix 1.

1. Private Water Supplies (PWS) (Section C.2.15)
2. Special Landscape Area (SLA) (Section C.2.15)
3. Spey Special Area of Conservation (SAC) (Section C.2.11)

A.5 Long Term Vision and Management Objectives

Vision

Scootmore forest will remain a key productive block providing high quality timber for local markets. Continuous thinning and continuous cover forestry (CCF) systems are

used where possible to facilitate production whilst limiting environmental and landscape impact.
Along the Allt a'Gheallaidh significant native riparian buffers will be established over time to improve the water quality of the SAC, establish an ecological corridor and to buffer the SAC from forest operations. This, along with the establishment of broadleaved areas along the forest edges, will further improve landscape value.

Over time, a network of habitats managed for environmental value will develop, connecting the Natural Reserve along the Allt a'Gheallaidh with riparian woodlands managed as Long-Term Retentions (LTR), the more open peaty area in the north and the broadleaved woodland edges in the south.

The forest block is not actively promoted but is well-used by the community for recreation.

Management Objectives

Objective 1: Maximise CCF
Indicator of objective being met: All stands with the potential for CCF will be thinned at the appropriate time along the silvicultural system specified in the plan

Objective 2: Establish broad riparian buffers along Allt a'Gheallaidh
Indicator of objective being met: Any areas where felling and restocking takes place along the watercourse will be established with native riparian woodland

Objective 3: Safeguard landscape value
Indicator of objective being met: Operations will have to be carried out as per plan to safeguard landscape value

A.6 General Site Description

A.6.1 Topography and Landscape

See **Map 3 – Concept**.

The forest of Scootmore sits on top of two hills namely, Hill of Dalnapot (or Delnapot) and Scoot More. These are high, smooth sided, domed hills which are visually prominent from the Spey Valley and the A95. They are the most dominant landscape feature of this forest and are separated by the deep valley of the Allt a'Gheallaidh.

Scootmore forest lies partly within the 'Broad Farmed Valley' landscape character area as identified in the Moray Local Landscape Designation Review (Carol Anderson Landscape Associates, 2018) and the Landscape Character Assessments by

NatureScot (NatureScot, 2025). This landscape character is heavily characterised by the River Spey and the fertile agriculture within the rivers' floodplain but the assessment also highlights the extensive areas of dark conifer forests on the hillsides and more varied woodland lower down.
From the peaks of both hills to the northwest the landscape character is classified as 'Open Rolling Upland' (NatureScot, 2025). This landscape character type makes little mention of forests and how they contribute to the landscape.

The southeastern section of the block is part of the Spey Valley Special Landscape Area (SLA) which is designated for 'The diverse and handsome landscape of broad gently weaving river, floodplain farmland, wooded valley sides and distinctive settlements …' (Carol Anderson Landscape Associates, 2018).

A.6.2 Geology and Soils
See Map 8 – Soils

The solid geology underlying the site is composed entirely of Quartzite from the Knockando Quartzite Formation overlaid with a range of deposits. The major drift deposit is Diamicton till, with localised deposits of Undifferentiated Alluvium and River Terrace sand, silt and clay in the upper section of the Allt a'Gheallaidh watercourse corridor.

This gives rise to a mixture of poorly drained soils on hill tops, plateaux and in flat areas such as peaty gleys and ironpans. Better drained hillsides consist of podzols with some brown earths where nutrient levels are higher and drainage sufficient.

The hilltops on both Scoot More and Dalnapot are characterised by low fertility. Fertility levels increase quickly as altitude decreases resulting in good yield classes particularly on the lower southeastern side of the block.

A.6.3 Climate

The current local climate is highlighted on the table below. Over the next decades the accumulated temperature in Scootmore is expected to rise. At the same time the annual precipitation is expected to fall leading to an exponential increase in the moisture deficit. Extreme weather is forecast to increase with a higher chance of winter flooding, summer droughts and storm events.

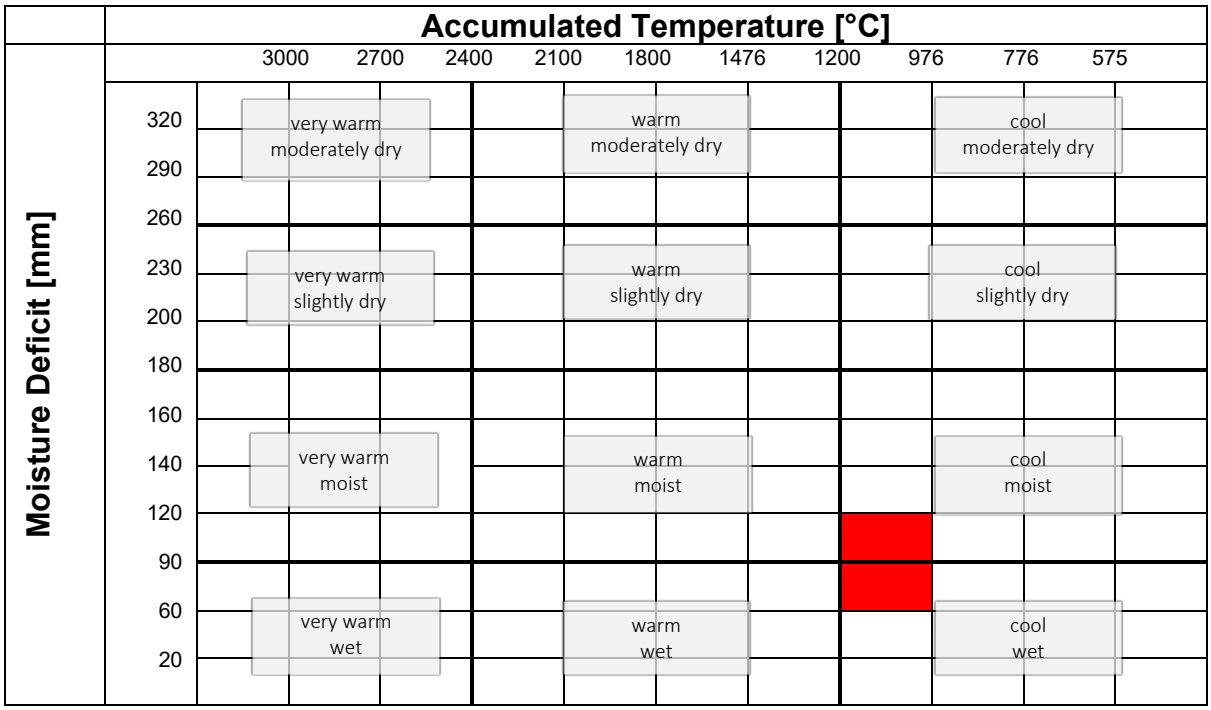


Figure 1: Climatic zone of Scootmore highlighted in red.

A.6.4 Hydrology

See **Map 3 – Concept**

The Allt a'Gheallaidh, owned by the Ballindalloch Estate, runs through the middle of the forest, with smaller 'feeder' burns draining into it such as the Stripe of Roy. The Allt a'Gheallaidh is a tributary of the River Spey, which lies out with the forest, and both are designated as part of the River Spey Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

Both the Allt a'Gheallaidh and the River Spey are classified 'Good' in the Water Classification Hub (SEPA, 2024) and the long-term objective is for that to remain the same. There is no flooding history and SEPA flood maps indicate limited chance of flooding within the block.

There are two PWS impacting the block, one passes through and has the source above the block, the other one springing within the block.

A.6.5 Windthrow

The Scootmore block has been spared the worst of the storm damage that occurred throughout most of eastern and central Scotland in the last years. Currently there are several small areas of windblow amounting to a total of less than 5% of the block.

The wind throw risk is measured by the DAMS score for the forest area. DAMS is the Detailed Aspect Method of Scoring. This represents the amount of physically damaging wind that forest stands experience in the year. DAMS in the block ranges from 15 on the high ground to 9 in the lowest sections along the Allt a'Gheallaidh meaning there is

good opportunity for thinning and Continuous Cover Forestry (CCF) where rooting is not severely inhibited.

A.6.6 Adjacent Land Use

Adjacent land use consists of open hills with sporting interest to the west and north and agriculture, woodland and the river Spey to the east and south. The Allt a'Gheallaidh, along with four feet of the bank on either side of the burn, is owned by Ballindalloch estate.

The area is not part of a Deer Management Group.

A.6.7 Access

Public access in the block is limited mainly to local usage. There are no promoted sites or waymarked trails in the block. The Speyside Way runs along the southeastern side of the block out with Forestry and Land Scotland ownership.

A.6.8 Historic Environment

Scootmore does not contain any scheduled monuments. It does however contain several locally important heritage features, such as remnants of historic land use, scattered throughout the block.

A.6.9 Biodiversity

The Scootmore block contains parts of the River Spey SAC and is just over 150 meters upstream from the River Spey Special Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI). The qualifying interests and features of the SAC and SSSI are otter, freshwater pearl mussel, sea lamprey and Atlantic salmon. The site also sits within the Capercaillie Core Area of the Spey valley.

Most of the block is designated as Long-Established Plantation Origin (LEPO) on the Ancient Woodland Inventory (AWI). Several priority open habitats are found which are demonstrated on **Map 3 – Concept.**

Sightings of red squirrel, capercaillie and several raptor species have been recorded, as well as badgers and their sets are found within the block as well as wood ants.

A.6.10 Invasive Species

There are no records of invasive non-native species in the block.

A.7 Woodland Description

Map 2 – Current Species shows the current tree species composition and pattern.

The Scootmore block has had a long history of forest cover with the management by the Forestry Commission dating back to the early 30's. Initial commercial planting was dominated by Scots pine with significant elements of larch and spruce. These crops can still be found on Dalnapot and areas of Scoot More. They have been well thinned resulting in mature, high quality, Scots pine and larch stands. Several areas on Scoot More that were historically Scots pine have been felled and converted to Sitka spruce. On the slopes the spruce has done well whereas, on top of the hill, growth is poor because of nutrient deficiency.

The northwestern section of the block was acquired in the 1980's and planted largely with Sitka spruce.

Significant areas of the block consist of Forest Research experiment plots such as progeny trials, clonal trials and forest health plots. In these plots management has been constrained by research and often no thinning has taken place as a result. Several of the larger Sitka spruce plantings that replaced Scots pine north of Scoot More have also not been thinned and are now passed their thinning window.

The block also contains significant areas of Natural Reserve (NS), Long Term Retention (LTR)and Minimum Intervention (MI) along forest edges and the Allt a'Gheallaidh.

Table 1: Area by species

Plan area by species						
Species	Current Area (ha)	%	Year 10 Area (ha)	%	Year 20 Area (ha)	%
Sitka spruce	183.5	40%	157.5	34%	107.1	23%
Scots pine	131.5	29%	115.2	25%	148.7	32%
Native broadleaves	47.6	10%	59.5	13%	69.8	15%
Larches	27.9	6%	21.8	5%	19.3	4%
Other conifers	22.2	5%	38.5	8%	53.5	12%
Norway spruce	17.3	4%	11.4	2%	9.6	2%
Beech	2.1	0%	1.7	0%	2.1	0%

Plan area by species						
Felled	24	5%	45.8	10%	34.2	7%
Open	18.1	4%	18.4	4%	25.5	6%
Difference from report area (ha) because of multiple stories	-15.8	-3%	-11.4	-2%	-11.4	-2%
Total	**458.4**	**100**	**458.4**	**100**	**458.4**	**100**

Chart 1: Area by species

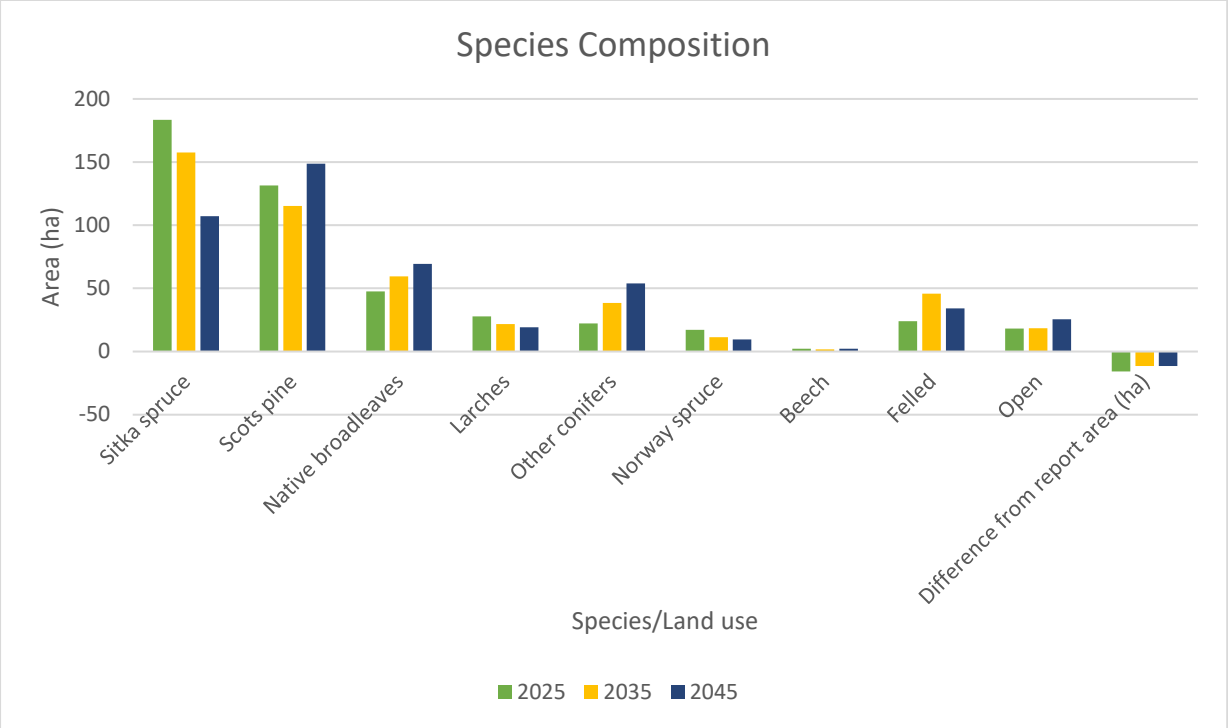
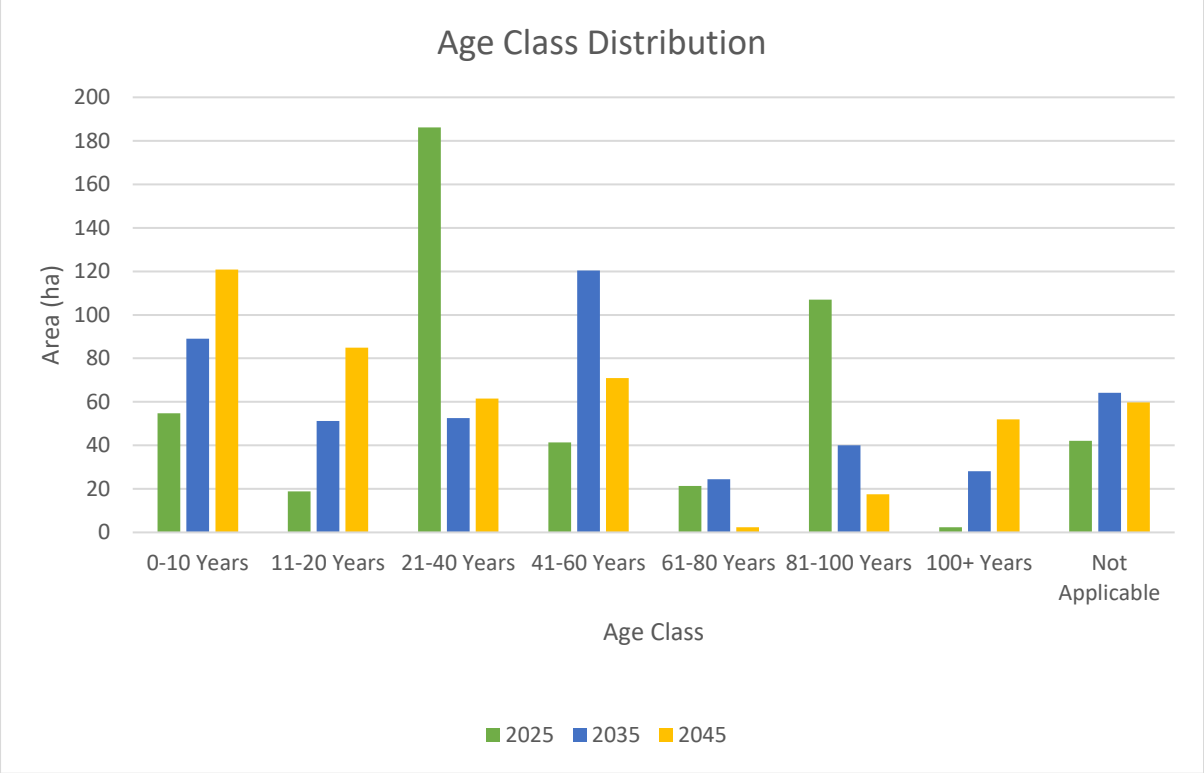


Table 2: Area by age

Plan area by Age						
Age Class (years)	Current Area (ha)	%	Year 10 Area (ha)	%	Year 20 Area (ha)	%
0-10 Years	54.7	12%	89	19%	120.8	26%
11-20 Years	18.8	4%	51.2	11%	85	19%
21-40 Years	186.2	41%	52.6	11%	61.5	13%
41-60 Years	41.4	9%	120.4	26%	71	15%

Plan area by Age						
61-80 Years	21.4	5%	24.5	5%	2.3	1%
81-100 Years	107	23%	40	9%	17.5	4%
100+ Years	2.3	1%	28.1	6%	52	11%
Not Applicable	42.1	9%	64.2	14%	59.8	13%
Difference from report area (ha) because of multiple stories	-15.7	-3%	-11.5	-3%	-11.6	-3%
Total	**458.4**	**100**	**458.4**	**100**	**458.4**	100

Chart 2: Area by age



A.8 Plant Health

There are no major plant health issues within the Scootmore block. There are no records of recent Statutory Plant Health Notices (SPHNs) because of *Phytophthora ramorum and Dendodroctonus micans* in the area. The block sits within the Priority Action Zone (PAZ) for larch (Scottish Forestry, 2022) meaning SPHNs require a swift follow-up. In the long-term it is however expected that larch can continue to be grown this far east. Within the Forestry and Land Scotland Larch Strategy the block is found in

the PAZ ‘less vulnerable zone’. In this zone pre-emptive felling will be an exception rather than the rule. There is no felling target set or strategic access provision proposals for these areas.

Considering the history of woodland cover, the fertility and the pH level, butt rot, particularly *Heterobasidion annosum*, is a threat to productive forestry in the block. Forest management will need to be mindful of the risks of butt trot through careful thinning, limiting damage to trees, and application of urea on cut stumps.

B. Analysis of Information

B.1 Constraints and Opportunities – and Concept

Table 3: Opportunities and Constraints by factor

Constraints and Opportunities		
Factor	Constraints	Opportunities
Timber	Historically unthinned crops now too unstable to thin. Steep ground along Allt a'Gheallaidh.	Felling will give opportunity to change species composition. Block with good growth, low exposure, and good access.
Designated site	Operational constraints within SAC and buffer.	Felling along watercourses and SAC will allow for redesign and long-term benefit for water quality.
Water supplies	Private Water Supply infrastructure and PWS intake within the block.	Felling along infrastructure will allow for redesign and long-term protection along infrastructure.
Biodiversity	LEPO designation potentially constraining species choice and management.	Mature Scots pine habitat, open ground, and significant Natural Reserve present along with red squirrel and historically Capercaillie.
Landscape	SLA potentially constraining coupe shapes and sizes.	Felling will enable redesign to compliment SLA and safeguard landscape value.
Deer	High deer population leading to limited species choice, need for protection (fencing/tubes) or increased cull.	Continuing with deer culling will reduce the amount of additional measures such as fencing or tubes required.

Concept

Map 3 - Concept illustrates how the plan concept incorporates the important constraints and opportunities into the management objectives.

The focus of this block is timber production. Where management will be done using CCF systems. This will reduce the visual and environmental impact of timber production. Some stands are past their first thinning age and therefore are no longer a candidate for management under CCF. These areas will be clearfelled where mature and subsequent species choice will carefully consider site conditions and climate change to ensure a resilient and productive forest going forward.

If felling takes place near the Allt a'Gheallaidh or PWS infrastructure establishment of native broadleaved buffers will follow this to protect water quality and enhance habitats.

The NR, SAC, mature Scots pine habitats and open ground in the northwest of the plan provide a significant opportunity for environment and biodiversity. In this area the long-term focus will be on these values.

Felling proposals will be in line with landscape principles to minimise landscape impact and, if possible, remediate existing features not in line with the SLA or landscape principles. At restock, species choice will ensure long-term safeguarding and enhancement of the SLA.

As a result of the deer pressure, the most palatable species will either be protected through tubes or enclosures or sited there where deer management is most achievable. Within LEPO areas any ancient woodland features will be identified and protected.

C. Management Proposals

C.1 Silvicultural Practice

The future management in the Scootmore block will be a continuation of the historic management. The focus in the coming decades will be timely thinning to ensure stable and well-developed crops allowing for CCF.

Felling will be conducted to remove unstable and/or overmature crops or where a species change is desirable. Mature Scots pine and larch crops will require a CCF intervention focussed on regeneration which will either be done through a group shelterwood or uniform shelterwood system.

Restock will take place with a larger percentage broadleaved species along watercourses and forest edges to enhance stability, improve environmental value, and split management units where possible. Species selection will be done based on site suitability considering the soil, exposure, aspect and expected changes in climate to ensure a resilient forest.

C.2 Prescriptions

See Map 4 – Management Coupes

C.2.1 Felling

Sites proposed for clear felling in the plan period are identified as Phase 1 and Phase 2 management coupes. Refer to **Table 4** for scale of felling.

Stands adjoining felled areas will be retained until the restocking of the first coupe has reached a minimum height of 2m. Phase 1 and 2 clearfell coupes identified in this plan with known adjacency issues are listed below with the planned approach to achieving height separation. For any future clearfell coupes where adjacency is not possible, and there is no exemption under the Scottish Forestry Act, an amendment will be discussed and agreed with Scottish Forestry before the coupe is felled.

Coupes 11879/11395: Felling of 11879 will commence when the restock in coupe 11395 has reached 2 meters in height. If in 2031 the adjacent restock has not reached the appropriate height, felling will be postponed.

Coupes 11490/11898: The northern section of coupe 11490 has sustained windblow blocking the main access north from the forest entrance. To fell to a windfirm edge the coupe is taken up to restock coupe 11898. Restock of coupe 11490 will commence when trees in coupe 11898 are, on average, 2 meters in height. The coupes will

furthermore be separated in the future by an area of low-density native broadleaves to protect the PWS infrastructure in the area.

In coupe 11578, northeast of Dalnapot, a seed tree felling will be carried out. The area consists of a mixture of Scots pine, Norway spruce, Sitka spruce and lodgepole pine. In this area the focus of the felling is the removal of the Sitka spruce and Lodgepole pine. This will result in a general reduction of the basal area along with small clearfells where pure Sitka or lodgepole is found. Regeneration on gleys will likely consist of an element of Sitka spruce and lodgepole pine but the intervention will reduce the future in-seeding of these species into the area along the SAC below. Future management will prefer Scots pine and Norway spruce over Sitka spruce and lodgepole pine through regular thinning.

Brash mats (or alternative measures) will be used to protect sensitive soils. There will be minimal soil disturbance and machine movement on sites with clayey soils to reduce the risk of compaction or damage to the soil structure. Felling residue will usually be left on site to allow nutrient recycling, with consideration for the practicalities of restocking.

Many sites within Scootmore will be felled using harvester/forwarder combinations. A limited amount of winch work (either skyline or t-winch) will be required for the felling above the Allt a'Gheallaidh. An element of hand felling is required to fell large edge trees, challenging shaped trees and/or trees along infrastructure of steep banks.

Any other planned tree felling (e.g. selective felling, felling of individual trees, or felling of coppice) is shown on **Map 5** – **Thinning Coupes**.

Table 4: Felling Gross figures

Scale of Proposed Felling Areas										
Total Plan Area			485.4 ha							
Felling	Phase 1	%	Phase 2	%	Phase 3	%	Phase 4	%	LTR/NR/ CCF/MI	%
Area (ha)	27.4	6	29.9	6.5	29.1	6.3	67.8	14.8	199.82	43.6

Other tree felling in exceptional circumstances

FLS will normally seek to map and identify all planned tree felling in advance through the LMP process.

However, there are some circumstances requiring small scale tree felling where this may not be possible and where it may be impractical to apply for separate felling permission due to the risks or impacts of delaying the felling.

Felling permission is therefore sought for the LMP approval period to cover the following circumstances:

Individual trees, rows of trees or small groups of trees that are impacting on important infrastructure (as defined below*), either because they are now encroaching on or have been destabilised or made unsafe by wind, physical damage, or impeded drainage.

*Infrastructure includes forest roads, footpaths, access (vehicle, cycle, horse walking) routes, buildings, utilities and services, and drains.

The maximum volume of felling in exceptional circumstances over the plan area covered by this approval is 75 cubic metres per calendar year.

A record of the volume felled in this way will be maintained and will be considered during the five-year Land Management Plan review.

[N.B. Trees may be felled without permission if they: are of less than 10 cm diameter at breast height (1.3 m); pose immediate danger to persons or property; are completely dead; or are part of Authorised Planning Permission works or wayleave agreements].

C.2.2 Thinning

Potential sites for thinning in the plan period are identified on **Map 5 – Thinning Coupes**. **Table 5** indicates the potential area.

Thinning will normally be carried out at, or below, the level of marginal thinning intensity (i.e. removing no more than 70% of the maximum MAI, or YC, per year). Higher intensities (no more than 140 % of maximum MAI, or YC, per year) may be applied where thinning has been delayed, larger tree sizes are being sought or as part of a LISS prescription. In all cases work plans will define the detailed thinning prescription before work is carried out and operations will be monitored by checking pre and post thinning basal areas for the key crop components.

Table 5: Thinning

Thinning Areas	
Species	**Thinning (ha)**
Sitka spruce	134.3
Scots pine	124.1
Birch	23.1
Larch	22.9
Oak	10.6
Norway spruce	6.5
Mixed Broadleaves	12.0
Mixed Conifers	9.7
Total	343.1

C.2.3 Low Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS)

Areas identified for LISS management are shown on **Map 4 – Management Coupes** the accompanying next intervention date is shown on **Map 5 – Thinning Coupes.**

In Scootmore a mixture of CCF systems will be used. The principal areas requiring CCF interventions are the mature Scots pine and larch plantation on top of Dalnapot and on the side of Scoot More. Considering the light demand of both species significant intervention is needed to get the required regeneration for the next rotation. This will be attempted using group and uniform shelterwood systems. More detail regarding the systems is provided below.

Group Shelterwood
On top of Dalnapot and due south of Scoot More regeneration will be attempted through group shelterwood system (Coupes 11190 and 11344). This system uses small clearfells to achieve the necessary light levels and disturbance for successful regeneration of Scots pine and larch. Initial group fellings will be place furthest from the points of access (forest road) and where possible fellings will take place starting in the northeast working southwest against the prevailing wind direction. If necessary, soil disturbance will take place post-felling to create the necessary ground disturbance. As a rule, gaps within Group Shelterwood systems will not exceed 0.5 ha to ensure the

maximum benefit of the CCF system is maintained. Full regeneration of the stand will take place over 4 phases.

Uniform Shelterwood
On the western flank of Scoot More a uniform shelterwood system will be attempted (Coupe 11284). Here Sitka spruce regeneration is threatening to dominate the existing Scots pine. A single intervention focussing on regenerating high quantities of Scots pine and larch is more successful than regeneration over a longer period as specified in the group shelterwood system. This CCF intervention will consist of removal of Sitka spruce both from the canopy and understorey as well as dropping the basal area of the Scots pine and larch to approximately 15m2/ha, taking care to leave well developed and stable trees. This should allow for enough light on the ground for both species to start regenerating. Ground disturbance is essential and if necessary post-felling soil disturbance will be conducted to promote regeneration.

C.2.4 Long Term Retentions (LTR) / Natural Reserves (NR)

Stands identified as LTR and Natural Reserve are shown on **Map 4 – Management Coupes.**

Scootmore contains several areas designated as NR or LTR. Most prevalent among these are the two NRs in the western part of the block along and north of the Allt a'Gheallaidh. Both are semi-natural and consist of a mixture of birch, Scots pine, other native broadleaves, and regeneration of non-native species such as Sitka spruce. No operations are planned but a thinning permission is applied for in this land management plan to cover the potential for non-native removal in this area. An isolated area of Sitka spruce in coupe 11593 will at one point need to be forwarded through the NR to be able to convert the entire area to native species. However, this is not planned within the current land management plan period.

The NR's tie into LTR's further downstream on the north side of the Allt a'Gheallaidh and an area of LTR and Minimum Intervention (MI) to the north. The focus of these areas is the establishment of biodiverse low-density woodland with a large component of native broadleaved species. This will protect aquatic ecosystems in the Allt a'Gheallaidh and prevent degradation of the organic soils.

Several other areas of LTR consist of the broadleaved planting on the southeastern edges of the forest block. These will be thinned regularly with the aim to develop wind firm, high quality broadleaved woodland.

C.2.5 Restocking Proposals / Natural Regeneration

Planned restocking of felled areas, and proposals for the future habitats and tree species over the whole plan area are shown on **Map 6 – Future Habitats and Species**. See **Table 7** for areas, establishment, and mix proportions. Timing of restocking will comply with the plan tolerance table shown in section C.4.

Stocking densities will be at least 2500 stems per ha (sph) for conifers and 1600 sph for broadleaves unless stipulated otherwise in **Appendix 4 – Restock Prescriptions**. If the restock or natural regeneration should fail to reach these levels the site will be beaten-up to the required planting density. If the stocking density exceeds the stipulated densities, respacing might be conducted to ensure the site objectives are fulfilled. This will be assessed at year 3 and year 5 after planting with beat-up by at least year 5.

Native broadleaves of local origin such as birch, aspen, oak and willow will be preferred if available. If not available, then trees from an alternative origin will be used provided this origin makes them suitable to grow and thrive in the prevailing site conditions. Where Sitka spruce is to be used for restocking, we will endeavor to use improved SS transplants, provided the nursey is able to supply them in sufficient quantities. If appropriate sites present themselves, i.e. good soils, low risk of Hylobius attack and the potential of yield class 14 or higher crops, then VPSS will be used if available. Over and above this, only certified material will be used for species covered by the Forest Reproductive Material Regulations.

All areas identified for restocking by natural regeneration will be recorded and programmed for inspection in accordance with the East Region Policy on Restocking Felled Ground. This policy sets out that, for Natural Regeneration, the sites are to be under effective management by year 4 after felling. At this point it is necessary to have trees across the site at a suitable density with a reasonable expectation of establishment to 30cm within 2 years. Where this is unlikely to occur after monitoring at years 3-4, the site will be changed to restocking by planting.

Enrichment planting might be used to ensure the target stocking densities of minimum 2500 stems per hectare for conifers and 1600 stems per hectare for broadleaves are achieved if, on inspection, it is thought there is insufficient natural regeneration present to achieve restocking without intervention.

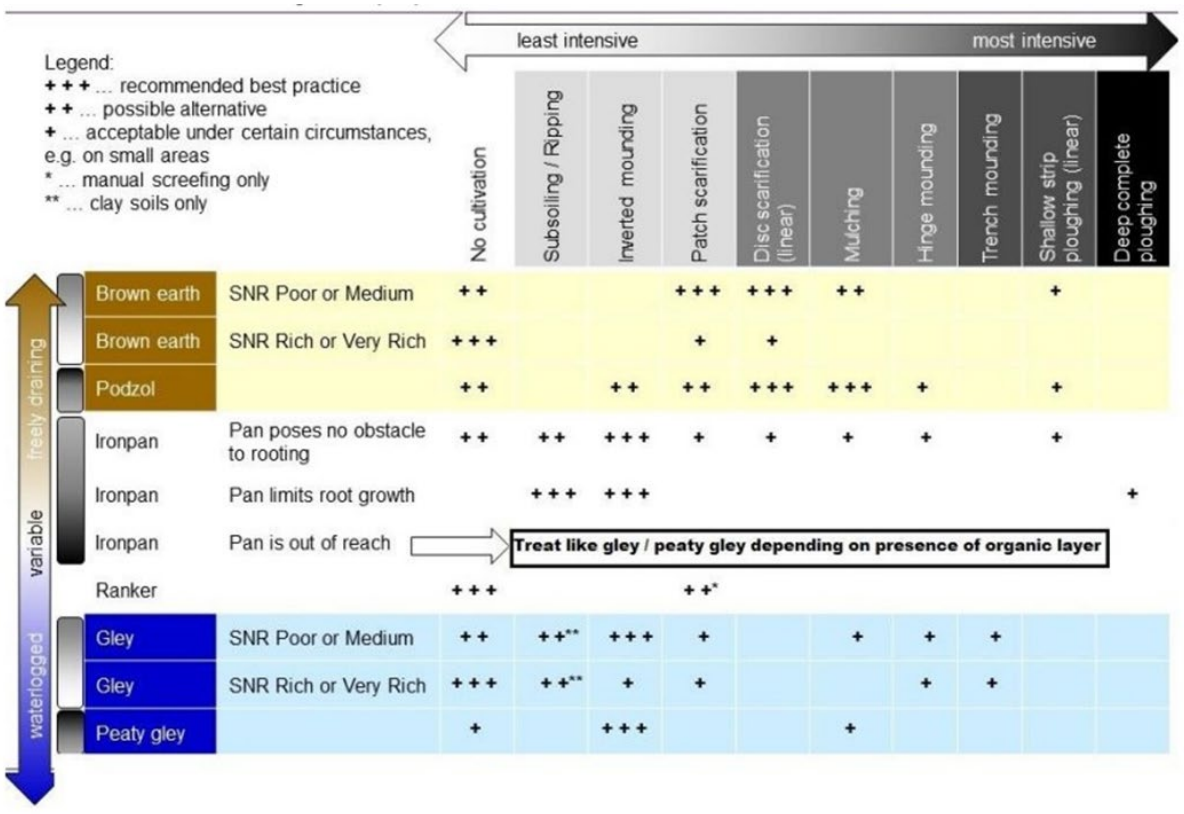
The choice of ground preparation for each site will be decided at the operation planning stage by the relevant establishment forester. Ground preparation techniques can vary greatly even across individual sites, so the most up to date advice will be applied at the time of the operation to ensure that soil structure and water quality is preserved whilst

also providing an optimal environment for establishment depending on the species and site conditions. Forest and Water Guidelines, UK Forest Standard and UKWAS can all be used to help with the decision-making process if required.

Forest Research's **Field Guide to Soil Cultivation** (Jens Haufe, 2019) and Scottish Forestry's **Cultivation for upland productive woodland creation sites** will be referenced where necessary to help aid in the specific choice applied across any restock sites. The below table is a good indication of what ground preparation techniques will be applied, with the "Best Practice" option the target if possible. The majority of restock operations within the plan period take place on Podzols and Surface-water Gleys, best practice options set out below:

- Podzols: Disk scarification or mulching if weed competition is high, no cultivation if site conditions suitable.
- Surface water gleys: Inverted mounding or no cultivation, depending on nutrient availability on individual sites.

Table 6: Soil type and preferred ground preparation method



FLS is following a chemical reduction strategy. This involves limiting chemical applications only to occasions when they are essential. To allow this strategy to be followed the Hylobius management support system will be applied and the minimum recommended period used prior to restocking. This reduced fallow period will also reduce the potential need for herbicide applications to restocked areas.

Table 7: Restocking

Felling Phase	Map Identifier (coupe number)	Species to be planted. - or established through natural regeneration (nr)	Area (ha)*
1	11855	**Only southern area, northern area planted. Continue monitoring and supplement if necessary, by 2026.** Sitka spruce (nr) Other conifers (nr) Mixed broadleaves (nr)	 1.38 0.39 .20.
1	11855	**Continue monitoring and supplement if necessary, by 2026.** Scots pine (nr) Mixed broadleaves (nr)	4.52 1.51
1	11957	Sitka spruce Other conifers Mixed broadleaves	1.51 0.43 0.21
1	11898	Sitka spruce Other conifers Mixed broadleaves Birch	0.92 0.26 0.13 0.54
1	11395	Mixed broadleaves (Riparian area) Douglas fir Other conifers Mixed broadleaves	3.74 1.46 0.42 0.21
1	11490	Sitka spruce Other conifers Mixed broadleaves Mixed broadleaves (Riparian area)	4.46 1.27 0.64 0.52
2	11577	Scots pine Other conifers Mixed broadleaves Mixed broadleaves (Riparian area) Sitka spruce Other conifers Mixed broadleaves	3.21 0.92 0.46 2.50 2.07 0.59 0.30
2	11578	Sitka spruce Other conifers Mixed broadleaves	6.05 1.73 0.86
2	11791	Mixed Conifer (Research Plots)	16.56

Felling Phase	Map Identifier (coupe number)	Species to be planted. - or established through natural regeneration (nr)	Area (ha)*
3	11879	Sitka spruce Other conifers Mixed broadleaves Douglas fir Other conifers Mixed broadleaves Oak	5.72 1.63 0.82 2.35 0.81 0.41 0.49
		Total Restocking Area (ha)	64.20

*net area to be planted excluding designed open ground

C.2.6 Protection

Management of deer is an underpinning activity essential for the delivery of benefits from Scotland's National Forest Estate. The aim is to manage healthy wild deer populations and manage deer impacts across the Estate consistent with the carrying capacity of the land and successful delivery of FLS land management objectives. Deer Management Plans direct the priorities for management and are available on request, the Deer Management Plan for Scootmore can be found in **Appendix 7 – Deer Management Plan**.

The deer population in Scootmore consists of a mixture of roe and red deer with resident populations of both and transient red deer coming in from the open ground depending on weather conditions. Browsing pressure is high in the natural reserve and low to medium in the rest of the block. Deer control will be conducted by FLS employees and/or contractor stalkers, and a mixture of daytime and night-time stalking will be used.

Deer cull plans are prepared for each Deer Management Unit and are the responsibility of the Wildlife Ranger Manager (WRM). Cull figures fluctuate but predicted culls are based on Estimated Deer Utilisation (EDU) conducted by an FLS Wildlife Ranger.

The aim is to manage deer density safely and humanely at a level which is consistent with acceptable impacts on forests and other habitats. This is likely to be at a density level of 5 deer per km2.

C.2.7 Fence erection / removal

There are currently no plans for perimeter fencing the blocks. Small scale enclosures or tubes might be used to establish particularly palatable species. These protection measures will be of temporary nature and will be removed once the broadleaves have sufficiently established. The protection measures will be sited there were access, and construction is easiest and where the benefits of broadleaves are highest.
In case of fencing, because of the temporary nature, a low specification fence will be used to keep costs to a minimum. Bird markers will be used in the block to avoid bird strike considering the potential presence of Capercaillie and black grouse. FLS will regularly check protection measures to ensure they provide sufficient protection. Materials will be removed from site once no longer necessary and where possible recycled. If recycling is not feasible, they will be disposed of through appropriate waste disposal channels.

C.2.8 Road Operations

Map 7 -Timber Haulage shows the existing forest road network and any associated quarries, timber haulage egress points, and any local 'Agreed Timber Transport Routes'. There are two egress points from the council roads over Ballindalloch ground into the FLS block. These will be maintained in conjunction with Ballindalloch estate depending on usage by the parties.

Although agreed routes, some of the B9102 route and all the B9138 route is too narrow for 2-way timber traffic so the following general restrictions apply:

a) No more than one timber lorry to be on the section of the B9102 that is west of Bridge of Cally, or on the B9138, at any time.
b) The minimum spacing between timber lorry movements to always be 30 minutes, with no more than 15 vehicles per day between April and October.
c) Extraction preferably avoiding the main winter months between November and March and accordingly the maximum number of timber movements per day would be restricted to 10 during this period, in addition to the 30-minute interval. Over these winter months haulage would also require to be ceased immediately after any periods of prolonged freeze or heavy rain and advice should be sought from the road authority regarding haulage resumption.
d) Haulier to implement an advisory maximum speed limit of 30mph on the B9102 west of Bridge of Cally, and on the B9138.
e) Moray Council Roads Maintenance to be notified at least 4 weeks in advance of any proposed haulage commencement date.
f) The haulier, agent, and landowner to monitor the condition of all roads during the haulage operations and must advise Moray Council Roads Maintenance

section or in absentia the named cc recipient of any concerns about road surface condition as soon as possible.

g) The haulier, agent and landowner, to monitor the public road and ensure that any mud or other detritus on the public road because of timber extraction operations should be swept up as soon as reasonably possible and as a minimum by the end of each working day.

C.2.9 Public Access

Visitors are welcome to explore FLS land and will only be asked to avoid routes while certain work is going on that will create serious or less obvious hazards for a period (e.g. tree felling). Scotland's outdoors provides great opportunities for open-air recreation and education, with great benefits for people's enjoyment, and their health and well-being. The Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 ensures everyone has statutory access rights to most of Scotland's outdoors, if these rights are exercised responsibly, with respect for people's privacy, safety and livelihoods, and for Scotland's environment. Equally, land managers must manage their land and water responsibly in relation to access rights, and FLS will only restrict public access where it is necessary and will keep disruption to a minimum.

C.2.10 Historic Environment

Our Land Management Planning Process is informed by desk-based assessment, stakeholder consultation and professional archaeological walkover surveys where required.

Our key priorities for archaeology and the historic environment are to undertake conservation management, condition monitoring and archaeological recording at our significant historic assets; and to seek opportunities to work in partnership to help to deliver *Our Past, Our Future: the Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland* and *Scotland's Archaeology Strategy*. Significant heritage features will be protected and managed following the *UK Forestry Standard 5th Edition* (2024) and *UKWAS* (2024). Harvesting coupes, access roads and fence lines will be surveyed prior to any work being undertaken in order to ensure that upstanding heritage features can be marked out and avoided. At establishment and restocking, work prescriptions remove relevant heritage features from ground disturbing operations and replanting. Where appropriate, significant heritage features are recorded by archaeological measured survey, see active conservation management and may be presented to the public with interpretation panels and access paths. Opportunities to enhance the setting of important sites and landscapes will be considered on a case-by-case basis (such as the views to and from a significant designated historic asset).

The *Regional Historic Asset Management Plan* includes conservation management intentions for those designated historic assets in Scotland's national forests. Details of

all known heritage features are held within the *Forester Web Heritage Data* (built using national and regional historic environment records) and included within specific operational *Work Plans* to ensure damage is avoided. Designated historic assets, significant heritage features and relevant heritage features will be depicted on all relevant operational maps.

Map 9 - Historic Environment and **Appendix 2 – Historic Environment Records** provide more information about the heritage features within and adjacent to the plan area. These features are of local importance only and will be protected as per the *FLS Archaeology and the Historic Environment Guidance Note (2025)*.

C.2.11 Biodiversity

UK Forestry Standard guidance is to manage a minimum of 15% of the forest management unit with conservation and the enhancement of biodiversity as a major objective. The figure for this plan is 49%.

As there is a presence of otter in the block Guidance Note 35.c 'Forest operations and otters in Scotland' (Scottish Forestry, 2009) will be adhered to.

Proposals have been assessed in relation to the capercaillie core area and the historic capercaillie records. As can be seen from **Table 1** in section **A.7** the area of Scots pine will increase because of the proposals. This is largely due to a move from Sitka spruce to Scots pine on the top of Scoot More in phase 3 of the plan. Areas of mature Scots pine will be managed through continuous thinning and regenerated using CCF methods as specified in section **C.2.3** to minimize impact on capercaillie habitat.

Allt a 'Gheallaidh SAC

To protect the SAC the practice guide 'Managing forest operations to protect the water environment' (Forest Research, 2019), 'Diffuse Pollution General Binding Rules' (SEPA, 2005) and the UKFS chapters on Forestry and Water will be adhered to. Furthermore **Appendix 6 – Designated Site Management Plan** has been agreed with NatureScot and will be adhered to.

At workplan stage an operational plan will be made detailing site-specific measures to adequately reduce the risk of sediments or other pollutants entering watercourses during forest operations.

LEPO

As per **Maps 3 - Concept** and **A.6.9**, most of the block is covered under LEPO.

As part of forming a more robust approach to our management of LEPO areas and to ensure they are being managed as per guidance in the relevant section of the UKFS, we are carrying out several management steps as detailed below.

All areas designated as PAWS and LEPO will be assessed using the criteria in the table below to ensure that the current LMP proposals are appropriate and any additional LEPO areas that are known but not covered in existing databases will be added. In Scootmore several areas of LEPO have already been assessed.

Table 8: LEPO assessment criteria

ECOLOGICAL POTENTIAL	OLD PLANTATION FEATURES ONLY	OLD SEMI-NATURAL FEATURES INCLUDED
High		A few remarkable ancient/veteran trees/notable woodland flora and/or frequent c. 150-year-old native trees and other old woodland remnants (e.g. abundant woodland specialist flora) within the plantation. And/or, in a substantial native woodland network
Medium	Frequent c. 150-year-old non-native trees embedded within younger plantation	Occasional c. 150-year-old native trees, occasional patches of woodland specialist flora and / or in a fragmented native woodland network. [1]
Low	Rare or occasional c. 150-year-old non-native trees embedded within younger plantation [2]	No obvious signs of the old semi-natural woodland and isolated from a native woodland habitat network [1, 2]

1. For Medium and Low Ecological Potential sites with native/semi-natural features, there could be old plantation features as well.
2. Those LEPO that were in the HCV sub-set and have been added to the PAWS layer, can be managed conventionally if they have Low Ecological Potential. If there are rare or occasional c.

After assessment, the future management is decided based on the following advice from FLS' Native Woodland Ecologist:

"There is no imperative to convert to native species if the LEPO is currently dominated by non-natives. As with PAWS restoration, there is a strong preference for LISS management to maintain woodland conditions – avoiding huge changes to light levels, loss of humidity and increase in the water table – all consequences of clear-felling. The

guiding principle should be to undertake sustainable management that will protect features of interest in the long-term.

As with PAWS restoration, sites with High Ecological Potential and Critical threats are the priority for management. LEPO with High Ecological potential will include features normally associated with ancient woodland sites and an increase in native species over time will normally be appropriate to embed veteran native trees and other flora in a wider native woodland matrix. This will be best achieved by favouring interesting features in repeated thinning operations.

The Ecological Potential of LEPO with frequent non-native veteran trees and no other features of biological interest will be Medium, therefore management of these sites should not take precedence over the highest value LEPO and true PAWS with frequent semi-natural veteran trees/rare native woodland flora."

For this plan, the regional environment teams and planning staff has made a general assessment to ensure the LMP proposals are appropriate.

In summary, many of the blocks designated as LEPO have limited ancient woodland remnants. Areas with non-native plantation and/or restock sites are therefore assumed to be of low ecological potential. Areas which, for the last century, have had native Scots pine plantation on them, are deemed of medium ecological potential.

Any areas of high or medium ecological potential will be assessed as part of the pre-felling checks carried out by FLS staff and any opportunities for retentions of high ecological value trees, habitats or deadwood reserves will be identified and built into the work planning process for any upcoming operations.

Restock species on all restock sites in Scootmore have been chosen with a long rotation in mind and are planned to be managed under LISS systems in the future as biodiversity values increase as woodlands mature.

<u>Deadwood</u>
Deadwood will be managed in accordance with the FCS Practice Guide: Managing Deadwood in forests and woodlands (Humphrey and Bailet, 2012) and supplemented by the FLS Guidance note: Deadwood Management – Summary Guidance for FLS Staff (Kortland, 2016).

Key principles applied:

- Retain and create as much deadwood as possible and create new deadwood on a continuing basis.

- Retain and create as many kinds of deadwood as possible.
- Favour native tree species when creating and retaining deadwood.
- Favour the retention and creation of large-diameter deadwood
- Retain and create high stumps and snags (standing deadwood) within woodland and permanent open areas (but not on clear fells that will be restocked)
- Design the distribution of deadwood to maximise connectivity at the woodland management unit and coupe scale, ensuring they are not in obtrusive locations within the landscape.

Map 10 – Deadwood Ecological Potential shows the ecological deadwood potential of Scootmore, based on the following criteria:

Table 9: Description of Deadwood Ecological Potential classes

Deadwood Ecological Potential (DEP) class	FES woodland management categories included in this DEP class
High	Natural reserves, ancient semi-natural woodlands, native pinewoods, riparian buffers along watercourses, PAWS with high ecological potential, wood pasture
Medium	Minimum intervention areas of broadleaved woodlands, PAWS, LEPOs, long-term retentions, LISS coupes
Low	All other stands (i.e. stands where timber production is the priority)

Table 10: Description of management prescriptions for each DEP class

(DEP) class	Deadwood Management Prescription
High	1. Retain all existing veteran trees and deadwood apart from that which is a health and safety risk or where it would be highly obtrusive in the landscape. 2. Retain all wind blow apart from that which is a health and safety risk. 3. Deadwood distributed throughout the coupe. 4. Seek opportunities to create particularly valuable deadwood e.g. import some large-diameter logs from nearby coupes when they are thinned or clear felled.
Medium	1. Retain all existing veteran trees and deadwood apart from that which is a health and safety risk along recreation trails. 2. Only harvest windblow of significant value or which poses a health and safety risk. 3. Seek opportunities to create particularly valuable new deadwood e.g. when felling tall trees, retain some large diameter logs at the edge of the coupe.

(DEP) class	Deadwood Management Prescription
	4. Where windblow is harvested, retain some blown trees in a group as 'future deadwood' where not obtrusive in the landscape
Low	*During thinning* 1. Retain all existing deadwood apart from that which is a health and safety risk. 2. Take obvious opportunities to create particularly valuable new deadwood e.g. when felling tall trees, retain one or two large diameter logs at the edge of the coupe. 3. Where wind blow is harvested, take opportunities to retain a few blown trees in a group as 'future deadwood' in a location that will not restrict future operations and that is not obtrusive in the landscape e.g. in the corner of a coupe. *During clear felling* 1. Retain all deadwood and living trees in areas that are uneconomic or too difficult to harvest (e.g. wet, steep, or rocky areas) where it is not obtrusive in the landscape. 2. Where an obvious opportunity arises, create new deadwood in a location that will not restrict future operations e.g. a pile of logs and brash in the corner or along the edge of a coupe. *Additional notes for Low DEP class areas* 1. Deadwood should only be retained in areas that will not restrict future operations. 2. Standing deadwood (snags) should not be retained on clearfells, except in areas that will not restrict future operations and that do not pose a health and safety risk e.g. in the corner of a coupe. 3. Large diameter (>20cm) deadwood logs and snags are particularly scarce in the NFE. Take opportunities to retain this kind of deadwood. When harvesting large diameter trees, seek opportunities to retain some standing deadwood, if it is safe to do so, and consider retaining a few large diameter logs on site in a location that will not restrict future operations. 4. Large diameter deadwood from native broadleaves is particularly scarce. When harvesting large diameter native broadleaves, retain standing deadwood, if it is safe to do so, and retain some large diameter logs on site in a location that will not restrict future operations. 1. 5. Deadwood should only be retained in areas which are not deemed to be in obtrusive locations i.e. open hillsides in landscape sensitive areas

C.2.12 Tree Health

There are few specific concerns around tree health in Scootmore. Therefore, tree health will be managed through improving species and age diversification and ensuring appropriate species selection taking soils and climate change into account. As set out in **C.1** tree species will be carefully matched to soil type, this ensures resilience and reduces the opportunities for pathogens.

As noted in **A.8** there is a presence and risk of butt and root rot fungi. To minimise the impact of these pathogens, forest management will take care to minimise damage to stems and roots during forestry and civils operations. Furthermore, urea will be sprayed on stumps during felling or thinning operations to inhibit colonisation by *Heterobasidion annosum* where production is a future objective.

The large pine weevil (Hylobius abiatis) is likely to be another major tree health issue encountered in this plan. The Hylobius Management Support System (HMSS) will be used to determine the best way to manage clear-fall sites for successful, cost effective and environmentally friendly restocking. This system will be used along with past results and experience to determine the optimal time to restock while minimising the use of chemicals. Restocking will take place as soon after felling as possible with two years being the usual period, but this could be delayed up to five years.

Up to this point, there have been no Statutory Plant Health Notices (SPHN) served within the Scootmore LMP area related to Phytophthora ramorum. However, as part of the planning process, areas containing larch have been identified and checked to ensure that there would be no significant issues with access or adjacency should an SPHN be served within the plan period. In particular, the need for new forest roads which may require a long lead time was investigated.
It was found that, should the need for emergency felling of larch be required, the felling and extraction of timber is feasible at short notice and should be able to be completed with an acceptable impact on landscape and adjacency.

C.2.13 Invasive Species

As mentioned, there are currently no records of invasive non-native species. If invasive non-native species appear the FLS Environment team will assess the risks and develop a program of removal. If initial removal has not adequately dealt with the population subsequent operations will be carried out to ensure eradication.

C.2.14 New Planting

N/A

C.2.15 Other

Wildfire

FLS continues to work closely with Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) to prevent and tackle wildfires that threaten Scotland's National Forests and Land. FLS support SFRS in their lead role for fire prevention and suppression through creating annual fire plans, maintaining a duty rota, and providing additional logistical support. FLS's primary objective is always to protect people's health, safety and wellbeing.

Landscape

As mentioned in section **A.6.1** the Scootmore block is a dominant feature in the landscape and part of the block sits within the Spey Valley SLA.

Specific guidance is set out in the Moray Local Landscape Designation Review (Carol Anderson Landscape Associates, 2018). This document highlights that one of the sensitivities to change is:

- Felling and restocking woodlands on prominent valley sides, such as Ben Aigan, which would be highly visible from major roads and settlement.

With management guidance stating that:

- Woodland felling and restocking should take cognizance of effects on the character and views from the Spey Valley with continuous cover methods being encouraged in more sensitive riverside locations. More uniform and angular coniferous plantations should be enhanced when restocking by replanting to improved boundaries which respond to landform and using a greater proportion of native broadleaves and open space

Both hills are currently entirely covered in woodland with the forest edges blending into the farmland with broadleaves along many of the forest boundaries. The ownership boundaries of the block mean that a large part of the forest in management of FLS borders adjacent woodland managed by Ballindalloch. This is particularly the case for the south and east side of Dalnapot and the north and northwestern side of Scootmore. The northern and western boundaries of the block consist of hard transitions into the open hill, but these are not visible and out with the Spey Valley SLA. On the southeastern side of Scoot More the FLS managed block borders an area of agriculture. Small scale felling has taken place in the last decade which has resulted in visible fell and restock areas as can be seen in **Appendix 5 – Visualisations** and **Map 1 – Location & Viewpoints**.

To minimise landscape, impact the guidance as set out in the Moray Local Landscape Designation Review will be followed and CCF will be used wherever possible. This eliminates the need for clearfell and restock which is the most visible operation in

forest management. Where felling and restocking is required, the proposals have been carefully assessed. Felling shapes have been visualised and where necessary boundaries have been adjusted to ensure proposals are in line with landscape principles. Visualisations of the management proposals and future landscapes can be found in **Appendix 5 – Visualisations**.

Where felling takes place the restock will be used as an opportunity to compliment and safeguard the landscape value of the block. Important landscape features such as the broadleaves on the forest edges will be retained and built on to establish long term buffers blending the productive conifer crops on the higher slopes with the adjacent forest and/or the agricultural landscape below leading to the Spey Valley. For example, the proposed restock of coupe 11879 expands the oak along the forest edge where the forest borders on agriculture to compliment landscape quality.

Utilities, Renewables, and other developments

There are currently no known development proposals for the Scootmore block.

An existing telecoms mast, with associated power supply, is located at the entrance to Scoot More. No works are proposed near the telecoms mast.

Hydrology / Private Water Supplies

Elements related to the private water supplies are confidential and are only shared with relevant parties.

C.3 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Permitted Development Notifications

N/A

C.4 Tolerance Table

See **Appendix 3 – Tolerance Table.**

Appendices

Map 1 – Location
Map 2 – Current tree species
Map 3 – Concept
Map 4 – Management Coupes
Map 5 – Thinning Coupes
Map 6 – Future habitats and species (Restock)
Map 7 – Timber haulage
Map 8 – Soils
Map 9 – Historic environment
Map 10 – Deadwood Ecological Potential
Map 11 – Private Water Supplies (Confidential)
Map 12 – Thinning Approval Area

Appendix 1 – Consultation record
Appendix 2 – Historic environment records
Appendix 3 – Tolerance table
Appendix 4 – Restock Prescriptions
Appendix 5 – Visualisations
Appendix 6 – Designated Site Management Plan SAC
Appendix 7 – Deer Management Plan
Appendix 8 – Private Water Supplies (Confidential)

Appendix 1: Consultation record

See section A.4 for a summary of the main points raised below by stakeholders and where they are addressed in the plan. As part of the consultation process a public consultation was held on Wednesday the 5th of March.

Issue	Raised by	Requirement / Recommendation / Concern / Aspiration	FLS Response
SAC/Otter/Capercaillie	NatureScot	- Recommend plan to adhere to 'Forest and Water' elements of UKFS. - At operational stage site specific measures to be identified to reduce risk of siltation in relation to SAC. - Scottish Forestry guidance in relation to otter should be followed - Riparian planting is welcomed - Proposals to manage the wood to improve habitat for capercaillie is welcomed	- Included in plan text - Included in plan text - Included in plan text
Private Water Supplies	Council	- 'Protecting private water supplies during forestry activities' (Forestry Water Scotland, 2018) to be followed	- Included in plan text
Roads	Council	- Series of general restrictions to be followed detailed in C.2.8.	- Included in plan text
Windblow/Recreation/Environment	Neighbour	- Request for removal of windblow in north of the block - Request for maintaining low level recreation - Highlighting environmental values of the block	- Included in plan - No change proposed
Riparian Woodland	Spey Catchment Initiative	- Suggests a proactive approach to riparian establishment	- Included in plan
Habitat	RSPB	- Recommends looking for opportunities to enhance habitat through expanding Scots pine and broadleaved components as well as peatlands and wetlands. - Recommends creation of a network of open habitat. - Requests fence markers to be specified in the plan to protect black grouse and capercaillie	- Plan included an area with focus on ecological values with a mosaic of open and semi-open habitat - Included in plan

Issue	Raised by	Requirement / Recommendation / Concern / Aspiration	FLS Response
Archaeology	Council	- Highlighting a number of heritage features not identified on the first version of the Key Features map	- Included in plan
Water	SEPA	- Response highlighting industry standards and best practise regarding soil, water, water supplies and waste management. Detail can be provided on request	- Industry best practise included in plan text
Access	Community Council	- Request for parking facilities - Request for signage to be moved to side of council road - Request for access through to Dalnapot across restock site - Welcoming increased broadleaved component	- FLS currently not in a position to develop facilities - Land is not owned by FLS therefore this would be inappropriate - Passed on request to FM forester to see if this can be sorted at restock. Usage will be the main method through which informal paths will develop in the block
Private water supplies	Neighbouring estate	- Highlighted current water supply sources and their location and usage - Highlighted need for a buffer on water supply infrastructure	- Included in plan - Included in plan
Miscellaneous	Neighbouring estate	- Requested more information regarding SAC and deer management	- Provided
The following stakeholders responded with no comment or no issues: Scottish Water,			
The following stakeholders were contacted during scoping but did not respond: Speyside Way, Tulchan Estate, Cromdale and Advie Community Council, Highland Council			

Appendix 2: Historic Environment records

Map ref	Designation	Name	Feature Description	Grid Reference	Area (ha)
1	Undesignated	Croftintaggart	Remains of longhouses, situated on a gentle N-facing slope	NJ 1547 3782	13.1
2	Undesignated	Glen Gheallaidh	Footings of longhouses and enclosures, situated on a moderate SE-facing slope	NJ 1580 3887	6.94
3	Undesignated	N/A	Peat Extraction	NJ 1649 3921	<0.1ha
4	Undesignated	Croftmore	Field Boundary	NJ 1745 3939	n/a
5	Undesignated	Gortons	Gortons lynchetted enclosure banks	NJ 1795 3903	0.31
6	Undesignated	Scootmore	A lynchetted trackway	NJ 1771 3845 – NJ 1748 3817	n/a
7	Undesignated	Scootmore	A substantial hollow-way	NJ 1744 3808 – NJ 1725 3800	n/a
8	Undesignated	N/A	Platform	NJ 1708 3766	<0.1ha
9	Undesignated	Gheallaidh Burn	A very substantial dyke composed of large boulders seems to define an area between the burn and the steep scarp to the E.	NJ 1702 3801 – NJ 1706 3787	n/a
10	Undesignated	Scootmore	Clearance Mound	NJ 1694 3873	<0.1ha