

Summary of Glen Nevis Land Management Plan 2015 - 2025 Proposals

Glen Nevis Forest lies to the south of the town of Fort William and faces the principal approach to Ben Nevis. The final sections of the West Highland Way pass through the forest. The land covered by the plan is a mixture of commercial forest, native woodland and open habitat rising from the sheltered floor of Glen Nevis to Mullach nan Coirean at over 3000ft. The area is of high scenic value and popular for recreation. Cow Hill is readily accessible from the town.

The plan objectives are to increase the amount of native woodland and create more natural woodland that complements the dramatic landscape of the Glen. Commercial conifer and broadleaf will be focused on the more sheltered sites. 160ha of new woodland will be established at Blar a Chaorainn. The open hill will be managed for agricultural production and to enhance its conservation value.

The Glen Nevis land management plan was approved on 20th August 2015 and covers the period from 2015 to 2025.

Total Plan Area	2,521ha
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Species breakdown	Current	End of the plan period
Primary species: Spruce	45%	31%
Secondary species: other conifer	10%	15%
Native broadleaf	21%	30%
Open space	24%	24%

The new planting area will be an additional 143ha of native species and 18ha of spruce.

Planned operations	
Felling	209ha
Thinning	0ha
Restock	180ha
New planting	161ha
Road construction	0 m
Road upgrade	0 m

Significant environment/ Conservation features	
Designated sites	National Scenic Area
Vulnerable species populations	Black grouse, red squirrel, chequered skipper, pearl-bordered fritillary
A listed buildings	Dun Deardail iron age fort
Minimum intervention & natural reserve	11.0% of woodland area

Critical Success Factors

- Successful regeneration of native species of trees in the areas for the expansion of native woodland habitats
- Achieving the right balance between agricultural production and habitat improvement for biodiversity on the open hill
- The stability of the current productive conifer crop to allow the phased removal of the crop
- Successful establishment of new native and commercial woodland at Blar a Chaorainn

Consultation and Further Information

During the development of this plan we have consulted publically including meetings with the local community representatives and stakeholders known to have an interest in this plan area. For further information on the plan please contact the Forest Planning team at Forestry Commission Scotland on 0300 067 6870 or lochaber@forestry.gsi.gov.uk.



