

Map 3 - Concept Map (consultation)

Scale @ A3: 1:45,000

Date: 22/04/2025

Legend

-  Peat
-  Knock of Luce LMP area
-  Watercourses
-  Forest Roads
-  Scheduled Monuments
-  Heritage
-  Sites of Special Scientific Interest

0 0.2 0.4 0.8 1.2 1.6 Km



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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).



Knock of Luce LMP Objectives:

1. To select areas of afforested peatland most likely to respond positively to peatland restoration.
2. Sustainable timber production with a focus on reducing Larch coverage and maintaining of water quality.
3. Maintain conservation status of Scheduled Ancient Monuments.

Peatlands

Analysis: Peat covers 66% (1346Ha) of the LMP area and is the most dominant soil type. Peatlands within the Knock of Luce block are varied in type, ranging from flushed hydrologically disconnected peats, blanket peatlands and raised peatlands. Most peat is afforested or has been felled during the previous LMP period. Due to the spatially fragmented and geomorphically diverse nature of the LMP area, the resilience and condition of each peatland is varied. Most afforested areas on peat in the LMP area have little potential for future commercial plantation and are good candidates for peatland restoration.

Concept: We aim to identify areas which are most likely to respond well to peatland restoration. Selection will be carried out through site and desk surveys. We aim to assess areas for restoration's potential impact on condition locally and across the wider peatland. External consultation and desk-based analysis will also be used to ensure maximum benefit on wider ecosystem services (e.g. improvements in water quality). Following this, targeted areas will be harvested and restored during the LMP period with the aim of placing them on a trajectory towards functioning peatland.

Sustainable Timber Production

Analysis: The LMP area is stocked largely in the 1970s with commercial conifer in its first rotation. Due to the very wet soils and windy nature of the site much of this crop has grown poorly and is impacted by windblow. Phytophthora ramorum, a fungal disease has significantly impacted the Larch crop found throughout the site. Much of the LMP area falls within the sensitive River Bladnoch catchment, which has Special Area of Conservation (SAC) status. Consequently, sustainable forestry is needed to contribute towards good water quality and a favourable condition in the SAC.

Concept: To carefully consider soil type, wind strength and other environmental factors when selecting restock species, to ensure more appropriate species selection. Where environmental sensitivities do not lend themselves to restocking consider other management designations, such as peatland restoration. Where possible, focus on reducing Larch coverage, which occurs in pockets across the site. These actions will benefit the water quality in the Bladnoch SAC and other water courses flowing from the LMP area.

Historic environment

Analysis: The LMP area contains three scheduled ancient monuments: Dounan Mor (map point 1), the remains of a mid-18th century settlement; Craignarget cairn of Bronze age origin (point 2); and, White Loch enclosure, potentially a Bronze age cairn in west Annabaglish (point 3). Unscheduled monuments can also be found, predominantly focused in Craignarget and south Craigenveoch.

Concept: To design the LMP felling and replanting scheme in a way which will continue to protect and conserve these significant historic assets. This will include careful consideration of any monument specific management plans and full compliance with UKFS5 and UKWAS land management guidelines.

