



Plascow

Land Management Plan

2024-2034

South Region

Plan Reference No:

Plan Approval Date: 11/12/2024

Plan Expiry Date: 11/12/2034

We manage Scotland's national forests and land to the United Kingdom Woodland Assurance Standard – the standard endorsed in the UK by the international Forest Stewardship Council® and the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification. We are independently audited.

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.



A. Description of Woodlands

A.1 Property Details

Property (LMP) Name:	Plascow (FDP220)
Grid Reference (main entrance):	NX 8840 6093
Nearest town or locality:	Dalbeattie
Local Authority:	Dumfries and Galloway

A.2 Location and Background

Plascow Land Management Plan Unit is a forest block covering 1039.76 ha. It is located in Dumfries and Galloway, approximately 2.5 km east of the village of Kirkgunzeon and forms part of FLS South Region. It comprises of second rotation conifer forest with some remnants of first rotation. The block is 8 miles southwest of Dumfries, southern Scotland's largest town and is surrounded by private woodland creation, open hill farmland and small settlements. A woodland creation area was added to the block at Fulgunzeon in 2004. It is part of Scotland's national forests and land, owned by Scottish Ministers on behalf of the people of Scotland, and managed by Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS).

See **Map 1**.

A.3 Existing Schemes and Permissions

Type: Land Management Plan

Ref. No: FDP220

Details: Previously part of the Kinharvie and Southwick Forest Plan 29/08/2014 – 28/08/2024. As of this revision Kinharvie and Southwick and Plascow are now two separate LMP areas.

Type: EIA Determination

Ref. No: EIA 034901905

Details: Plascow road line amendment which contains proposals for, 0.45 hectares of forest roads (450m x 10m wide corridor) which did not require EIA consent. Work in the application valid till 22/12/2026.

Type: EIA Determination

Ref. No: EIA 034901817

Details: Plascow road line amendment which contains proposals for 1.36 hectares of forest roads (1360m x 10m) which did not require EIA consent. Work in the application valid till 20/7/2025.

A.4 Stakeholder Engagement

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 I.

1. Balance of timber production and biodiversity promotion - increase retention of mature/veteran trees, increase species diversity and low impact silviculture. (Section C.1, C.2.3, C.2.4, C.2.5, C.2.11)
2. Riparian zones and open area management to control of conifer regeneration and rhododendron (Section C.2.11, C.2.13, C.2.15)
3. Thinning – reintroduction of thinning across block but especially in Falgunzeon woodland creation area (Section C.2.2, C.2.5) (Raised in internal scoping meeting).

A.5 Long Term Vision and Management Objectives

Vision

The Plascow block will continue to provide a valuable, sustainably managed forest using clearfell, thinning and low impact silvicultural systems. Areas of mature long-term retentions and minimum intervention across the block will retain a varied forest structure through the next plan and beyond, whilst the second rotation crop develops. Continuing a program of coupe restructuring and species/age class diversification will supply a range of ecosystem services including timber supply and greater habitat biodiversity.

Management Objectives

Objective 1 - Resilience: Recover timber in a significant proportion of windblown coupes before further degradation and loss of income and redesign felling order and coupe shape to help prevent further windblow.

Indicator of objective being met: In-phase completion of the Phase 1 coupes containing significant windblow and adherence to the restructured management coupe felling which is designed to provide protection from the prevailing wind where possible.

Objective 2 - Sustainable timber: Continue to restructure the age class and diversify species. Initiate a transition to Low Impact Silvicultural Systems where wind, soils and crop age allow via implementation of a thinning program to ensure production of quality saw logs and other timber products.

Indicator of objective being met: Continued provision of sustainable timber to market over the term of the plan via clearfelling and thinning. Restructuring and resizing of coupes to promote wind firmness and reduce clearfell coupe size in the next rotation.

Objective 3 - Biodiversity: Maintain and enhance the species richness of the woodland and open habitats to benefit biodiversity and the landscape setting by continuing to create and

maintain broadleaf riparian corridors and transitioning areas around Roundfell and Maidenpap to mixed woodland and open space.

Indicator of objective being met: Continue creation of broadleaf riparian corridor along length of Drumcow and Glaisters Burn. Initiate creation of peatland edge woodland transition zone adjacent to Long Fell. Increased long term retention areas linking to other habitats along riparian zones. Efforts towards reductions of conifer regeneration within the open areas on hilltops during the plan term. Creation of native broadleaved area around Roundfell summit.

A.6 General Site Description

A.6.1 Topography and Landscape

Plascow is approximately 4km east of Dalbeattie and 6km north of Mersehead Sands on the Solway Coast. The block has a predominately southwest aspect with an elevation ranging from 95m to 314m. It comprises of gradual slopes down to valley bottoms, mainly west-facing, with some visible higher summits at 'Round Fell' and 'Maidenpap'. The northeastern edge of the block runs up to the open hill ground of 'Long Fell'. There are three main watercourses (Glaisters Burn, Drumcow Burn and Southwick Burn) and several smaller tributaries within the block.

Plascow falls within two NatureScot Landscape Character Types (LCT):

- Coastal Uplands (LCT 179) – characterised by rugged granite hills, rough grazing and rocky outcrops.
- Drumlin Pastures (LCT 169) – characterised by elongated smooth mounds, improved pasture and small to medium scale fields and farmsteads.

Although not within the National Scenic Area the block does fall partially within the Regional Scenic Area - Solway Coast as delineated by Dumfries and Galloway Local Authority.

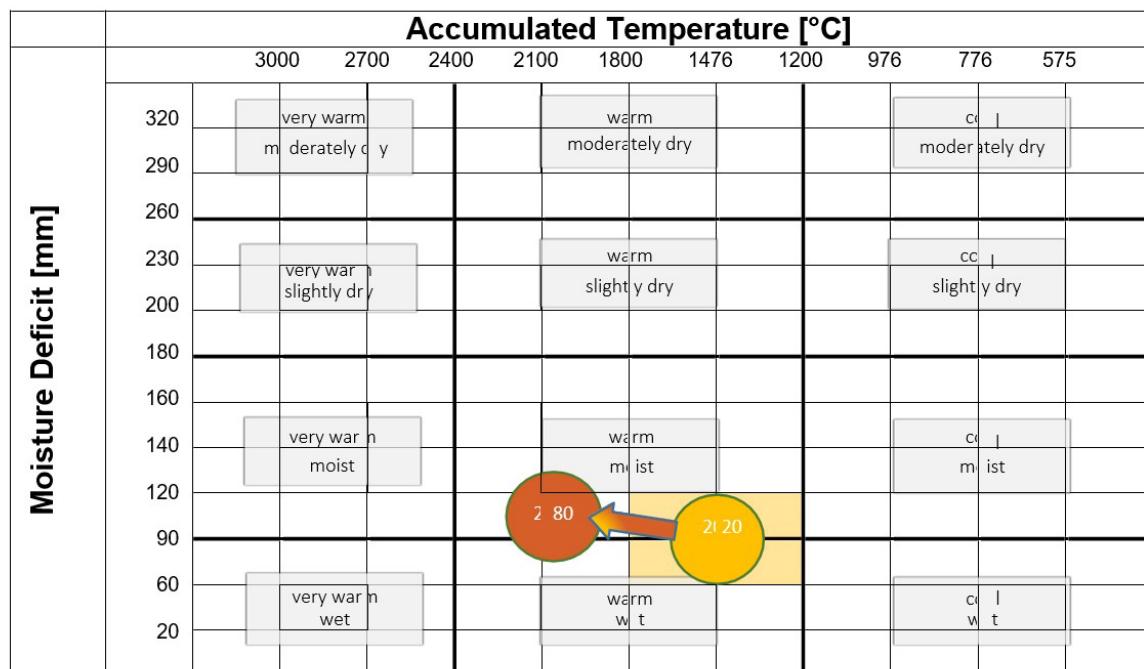
A.6.2 Geology and Soils

Geology is composed of igneous bedrock formed during the Devonian period. There are superficial deposits in a sparse mosaic across the block. These are all sedimentary deposits, peat, glaciofluvial and alluvium in nature, formed during the Quaternary period.

Soil types within the forest block are shown on Map 8. These mainly consist of surface water gleys, with ironpans on hill sides and brown earth soils around the Falgunzeon woodland site. There is a small amount of scenario A peat soils in basins and in some of the gullies.

A.6.3 Climate

The current climate at Plascow is warm/moist to wet. The climate is projected to transition towards warm and moist by 2080. 'Climatic Zones' grid showing current climate type in yellow and projected in orange.



In southwest Scotland the accumulated temperature and moisture deficit is expected to rise making it warmer, causing drier summers with potentially wetter winters which may result in more seasonally waterlogged soils.

A.6.4 Hydrology

Map 2 shows all watercourses and open water. The forest sits in the Solway Tweed river basin district.

Water quality:

The bodies of surface waters recorded quality (as identified by the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency's [SEPA] Water Hub) in the plan area are:

Name: Glaisters Burn (ID: 10590)

Overall Condition: Good

Name: Southwick Burn (ID: 10595)

Overall Condition: Good

The waterbody catchments (as identified by SEPA) in the plan area:

Name: Glaisters Burn (ID: 10590)

Overall Condition: Good

Name: Southwick Burn (ID: 10595)

Overall Condition: Good

Name: Kirkgunzeon Lane (ID: 10589)

Overall Condition: Moderate

Flooding:

SEPA Flood Risk Management Plans – Solway Local District Plan

Operational Target Area Catchments (Information from SEPAs Flood Risk Management Datasheet)

Catchments: Dalbeattie

Target Areas (TA): Dalbeattie (ID:131)

Relevant TA objectives: Consider whole catchments and coastlines and work with natural processes and the environment to deliver outcomes.

Water supplies:

See **Appendix IV - Private Water Supplies**

There are no Drinking Water Protected Areas (DWPA) within the plan boundary.

A.6.5 Windthrow

The area has been susceptible to windthrow. This looks, however, to be predominantly along unthinned brown edges that have been exposed after clearfelling/SPHNS or Storm Arwen damage. The plan has been reviewed to find opportunities to provide green edges along management coupe boundaries and re-order the felling sequence to strengthen future coupe stability. The DAMS score ranges between 10 in the sheltered lower elevations to 17 on the higher, more exposed parts of the site. Some of the area has been successfully thinned in the past, producing quality saw logs, so areas will be identified in the second rotation for further investigation for possible thinning in this plan revision.

A.6.6 Adjacent Land Use

The adjacent land use mainly consists of open hill tops, agricultural grazing, some private woodland and other rural businesses enterprises. The FLS owned Kinharvie Block is adjacent to Plascow but separated by the open hill ground of Long Fell. These forests are serviced by separate entrances and can only be accessed from each other by foot.

A.6.7 Access

There is currently no formal recreation within the Plascow block. There is a core path running from an entrance at Glaisters Burn on the western boundary through the forest down to the main entrance in the south.

The Dumfries and District Gliding Club lease an area within the forest block for their activity and have access to the site along the forest roads from the main entrance.

A.6.8 Historic Environment

There are no designated sites within the Plascow LMP boundary. There are several known undesignated historic environment features in the plan area, mainly comprising old farmsteads, cairns and field boundaries.

See **Map 9** and **Appendix II – Historic Environment Records for details.**

A.6.9 Biodiversity

There are no Ancient Woodland or Plantation on ancient woodland sites.

Priority Species associated with the block include:

- Black Grouse *Lyrurus tetrix*
- Red squirrel *Sciurus vulgaris*
- Otter *Lutra lutra*
- Adder *Vipera berus*
- Badgers *Meles meles*
- Birds - Various raptors, are present within the LMP area. Historic sightings of Nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus* within the LMP area.

Open Habitats present on the site are:

- Blanket bog
- Upland heathland
- Purple rush moor grass pasture

Deadwood: There are currently several windblown areas within the block. Additionally, there is deadwood accumulating in LTR coupe 47094 due to standing deadwood resulting from larch that has succumbed to *P. ramorum* and windblown mature trees.

A.6.10 Invasive Species

There is some slow-growing conifer regeneration encroaching on open hill tops. However, the extent of this is minimal, it will be monitored and dealt with as appropriate by FLS, when resources allow.

There is *Rhododendron ponticum* regeneration along the south-west boundary edge to either side of the main entrance. This will be controlled and eradicated by FLS, when resources allow.

A.7 Woodland Description

The current tree composition is mainly consists of Sitka spruce and other conifers with some minor broadleaves. There is a reasonable spread of age class except for veteran trees. The proportion of Sitka spruce will reduce over the plan period to be replaced with increased percentages of mixed conifers and broadleaves. As a commercially productive forest Sitka spruce remains the most common species at year 20, while the ongoing aim will be to continue to diversify and improve resilience within the restrictions of soils and herbivore control.

Map 2 shows the current tree species composition and pattern.

Table 1: Area by species

Plan area by species						
Species	Current Area (ha)	%	Year 10 Area (ha)	%	Year 20 Area (ha)	%
Sitka spruce	557.3	58%	517.7	54%	440.8	46%
Other conifers	78.8	8%	158	16%	198.6	21%
Native broadleaves	58.6	6%	90.4	9%	132.5	14%
Other broadleaves	10.5	1%	10	1%	8.5	1%
Open ground	178.9	19%	173.6	18%	167.4	17%
Fallow	80.9	8%	15.3	2%	17.2	2%
Total*	965.0	100%	965.0	100%	965.0	100%

* 73.5 ha has been removed from the overall LMP area as this represents the area occupied by the current commercial agreements (Falgunzeon Starter Farm and Falgunzeon Gliding club).

Chart 1: Area by species

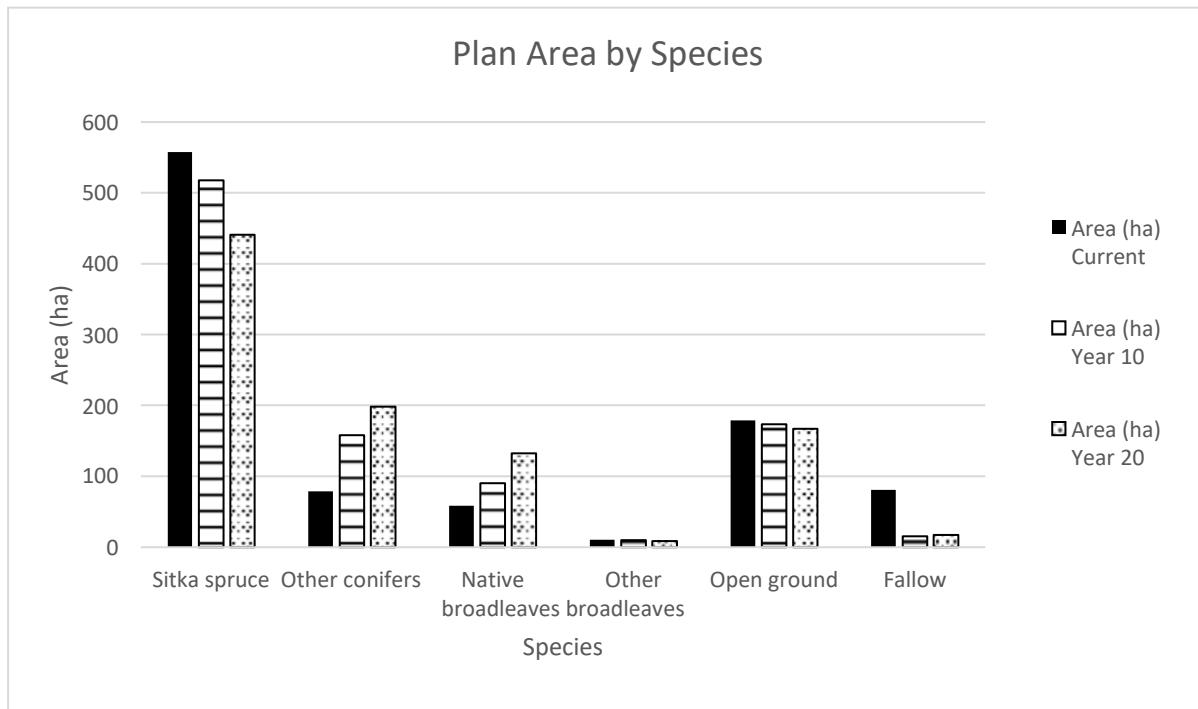
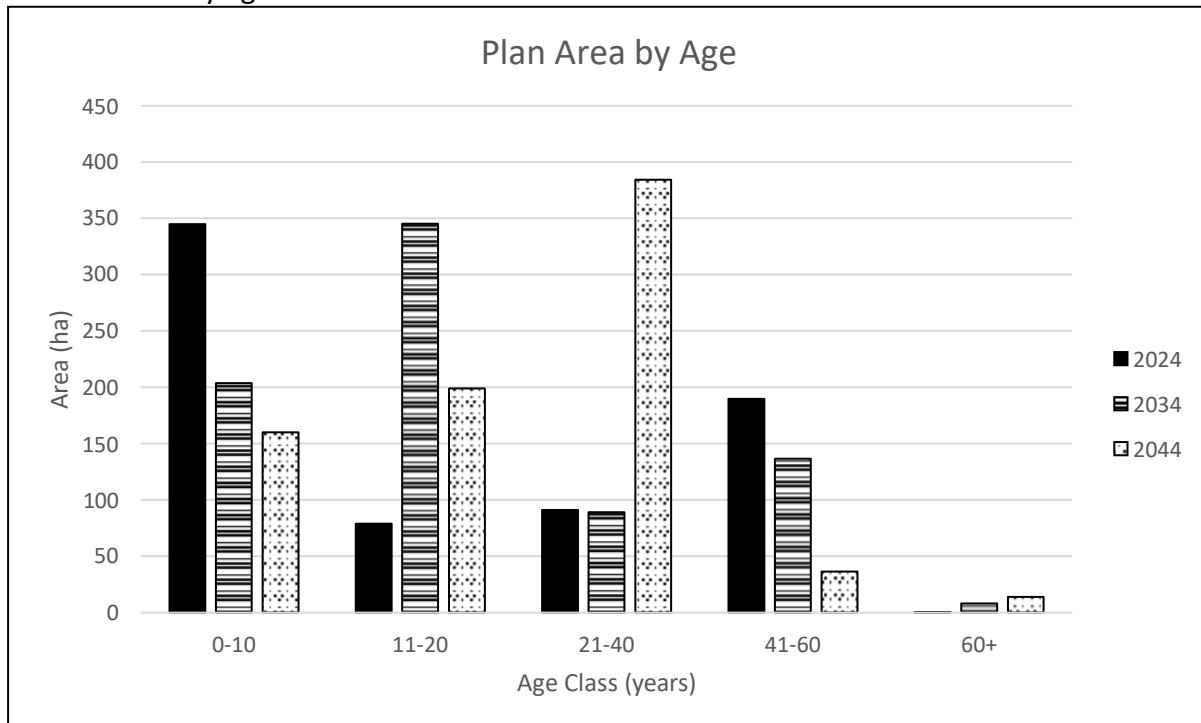


Table 2: Area by age

Plan area by age						
Age Class (years)	Current Area (ha)	%	Year 10 Area (ha)	%	Year 20 Area (ha)	%
0 – 10	345.1	49%	203.6	26%	159.9	20%
11 – 20	79.1	11%	345.3	44%	198.9	25%
21 – 40	91.2	13%	89.1	11%	384.2	48%
41 – 60	189.9	27%	136.6	17%	36.3	5%
60+	0.6	0%	8.1	1%	14	2%
Total	705.9	100	782.7	100	793.3	100

Chart 2: Area by age



A.8 Plant Health

Tree diseases reported in Plascow include *Phytophthora ramorum* which is now widespread on larch across the region. Several infected areas have already been felled to comply with Statutory Plant Health Notices (SPHN).

Dothistroma Needle Blight (DNB) has been identified on Scots Pine crops across the Region. The pine in Plascow is likely infected, although mortality is currently low.

Ash dieback *Chalara fraxinea* is present within the forest, though its scale and proximity to any infrastructure is minimal. Monitoring is ongoing and identified specimens will be treated as per the FCS published Chalara Action Plan for Scotland in 2013.

Hylobius abietis, the Large pine weevil, is found in this plan area and throughout the region.

Dendroctonus micans: The Great spruce bark beetle is reportedly also present in the block.

B. Analysis of Information

B.1 Constraints and Opportunities – and Concept

Constraints and Opportunities		
Factor	Constraints	Opportunities
Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protection challenges of young trees due to migration of roe deer from neighbouring land. Deer control resources are limited. Some neighbours are encouraging numbers for sporting reasons.• Requirement of new roading to access woodland creation area for continuing management.• High levels of spruce regeneration may hamper diversification efforts in some areas.• Access challenges to some areas may reduce future management options.• Low levels of rhododendron in southern boundary woodland area.• Badgers on northwest boundary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opportunity to adjust rotation length of second rotation stands to improve overall forest age structure.• Opportunities to enhance improved and semi-improved grassland through appropriate grazing prescription leases to preserve fragmented priority open habitats.• Improved access in woodland creation areas would allow better management of sensitive areas.• Good levels of spruce regeneration and moderate DAMS scores suggest good potential for future LISS to be implemented in some areas.• Expansion of riparian corridors, restocking with native broadleaves and control of conifer regeneration.• Opportunity to create native broadleaved woodland/open peat habitat corridor along Glaisters Burn/Drumcow Burn via progressive removal of current spruce crops and infected larch.• Peregrines previously present on Round Fell and Black Grouse previously present on Maiden Pap. Opportunity to encourage their return by maintaining the open nature of the slopes of Maiden Pap and Round Fell for biodiversity benefits.• Nightjar previously present near the Gliding club. Opportunity to

		encourage return by maintaining open ground around runway edges and open/low density habitats across LMP area.
Climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soil types and exposed areas will limit suitable species choice. Future climate may result in warmer drier summers and more wet winters presenting seasonal water availability issues for drought prone, shallow rooting species on freely draining soils. Stability of shallow rooting species on sandy ironpans with shallow peat layers may be negatively affected by drier summers and more wet winters. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunities to improve resilience via restock design to diversify species where possible. Re-ordering of some felling coupes may reduce future wind damage. Opportunities to increase thinning programme and extend rotation length of 2nd rotation forest to future improved stand age structure. Good regeneration potential and acceptable DAMS score provide opportunities for future LISS management in some areas, helping to maintain soil integrity and reduce drought stress. Mixed stands will promote greater stand stability via differing rooting patterns.
Landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long term vision to achieve positive effects on the wider landscape views, so unlikely to be fully realised during this plan revision. Difficulty in access to some areas along southwestern edge. Loss of larch reduces visual diversity and autumn colours. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunities to implement Low Impact Silvicultural Systems and diversify species to develop the external views from public roads and the impact on local landscape views. Opportunity to pull back conifer edge from Roundfell and install a transitional broadleaf zone to open hillside.
Timber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearfell will continue to be used in unsuitable sites for alternatives to clearfell, such as those that are exposed and have unsuitable soil/species combinations. The felling order has been compromised due to windblow and SPHNs leaving some 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunity to carry out first thinning on a number of coupes (including the woodland creation area) within the plan period to allow future potential conversion to Low Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS). Low to moderate wind exposure and high natural regeneration

Timber (cont.)	<p>exposed mature crops and difficult decisions regarding future felling sequences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The generally poor-quality soils reduce diversification options. • Windblow areas and infected larch stands require felling causing disruption to the existing plan structure. 	<p>presence provides good potential for conversion to LISS to maximise future saw log content.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Options to reduce future clearfell coupe sizes to mitigate possible drought, soil erosion and pest issues. • Opportunity to re-order felling coupes to reduce future windblow damage.
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two main burns (Glaisters and Southwick) and a high number of smaller watercourses run through Plascow and require protection during future operations. • Overall status of Glaisters Burn and Southwick Burn are rated Good (SEPA, 2022). • The overall groundwater condition for the area is also rated as Good. • High number of private water supplies (PWS) around the block. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity to maintain good water quality and maintain good neighbour relations via the adherence to Forestry and Water Guidelines to protect watercourses and PWSs during operations. • Introduction and expansion of broadleaved riparian zones following felling of existing conifer stands provides opportunity to maintain and improve water quality on site and prevent acidification. • Opportunity to reduce the size of clearfalls and implement LISS where possible to reduce possible erosion and siltation risks.
Roads and haulage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible route restrictions on any new road required for management access in woodland creation area due to priority open habitats. • Current road building budget restrictions. • Restricted timber transport route may limit daily haulage numbers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the main block there is a good forest road network and existing quarry will provide site-won material will help to reduce costs and facilitate maintenance required over the term of this plan. • Opportunity to use smaller coupe sizes to aid stand diversification and mitigate route transport limitations.
Agreements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starter farm and gliding club lease agreement restrict operations in those areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide regular income and present possible future agroforestry benefits.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible limited impacts on access and future works. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The gliding club diversifies recreation opportunities within the block.
Historic environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of archaeological features within the block classed as having regional importance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunity to review importance and opportunities for future protection as coupes with heritage features are felled.

Concept

Sustainable timber production will be prioritised in Plascow. Stand resilience and climate change adaption will be improved via active management to increase the proportion of quality sawlogs produced. Thinning and low impact silvicultural systems will be increasingly utilised in combination with species and stand age diversification whilst restructuring some of the coupes and the felling order to improve wind firmness.

Biodiversity will be boosted by stand age and species restructuring and the creation of wildlife corridors along riparian zones, specifically along Glaisters/Drumcow Burn and Southwick Burn. The woodland creation area planted in 2014 will be proactively managed and opportunities to be identified for access to allow future crop development.

Commercial activity in the Plascow block will continue to be supported through continued provision of a starter farm to provide agricultural management and the gliding club to provide recreation opportunities.

Improvements will be made to enhance the designated landscape characteristics of the forest block particularly at Roundfell. Retaining key viewpoints along the A710, A711 and other minor public roads surrounding the composite.

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

C. Management Proposals

C.1 Silvicultural Practice

The prevailing silvicultural practice used within the block will be clear felling as per the previous plan, however the aim of more sheltered younger stands will be eventual transition to low impact silvicultural systems via timely thinning interventions. Stands suitability for conversion to LISS will be re-appraised at each plan revision. To improve the age structure of the first rotation efforts have been made to increase areas of Long-Term Retention thus retaining some mature standing trees and providing deadwood habitat. The long-term vision is that parts of the Falgunzeon woodland creation area, areas around the main entrance and other sheltered locations will be managed via Low Impact Silvicultural

systems where there will be significant environmental and landscape advantages of the diverse structure.

C.2 Prescriptions

C.2.1 Felling

Sites proposed for clear felling in the plan period are identified as Phase 1 and Phase 2 management coupes on Map 4. Refer to Table 3 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.

Phase	Coupe No	Adjacency issues	Mitigation
1	47096	47053, 47011, 47052	47096 is 80% windblown and requires felling as soon as possible to avoid further degradation of the timber therefore is planned for felling during Phase 1. 47053, 47011 and 47052 were restocked in 2023. Restocking will be delayed until 28/29 to allow 6 years separation between planting years.
1	47098	47010	47098 is 25% windblown and contains diseased larch therefore requires felling in Phase 1. 47010 is due for restock in 24/25. Restock will be delayed in 47098 until 2030/31 to allow separation.
1	47004	47010	47004 is mostly diseased larch and therefore requires felling in Phase 1. 47004 and 47010 are divided by a watercourse. Restocking will be with OK & SP and so provide separation via differing growth rates.

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

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 a 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. Table 4 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.

C.2.3 Low Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS)

Areas identified for LISS management are shown on Map 4. Although too exposed in some areas, the DAMS scores should allow thinning in much of the block. There is currently good evidence of regeneration in several mature coupes where windblow or SPHN felling has allowed enough light to the forest floor. Combined, this suggests significant opportunity within Plascow for future conversion to LISS, and although not practical in the mature stands it is possible for the younger crops if managed appropriately. This option for future management will be created by timely and regular thinning in identified coupes. Coupes identified as suitable for LISS conversion and requiring a thinning intervention within the plan period have been outlined in the table below. The restocking has been designed to promote mixtures which will improve overall stability via differing rooting patterns and compatible shade tolerances. Coupes identified for potential future conversion to LISS include 47038, 47049, 47048, 47044 and 47016 but require no interventions within this plan period. Coupes identified for LISS conversion will be reappraised at each LMP revision for continued feasibility.

Coupe no. (area)	Species/Planting year	Proposed LISS	Management Prescription
47007 (14.55ha)	NS (85%) & BI (15%) / 2015	Group shelterwood (See FDT 1.2.2 – NS)	Select 150-250 FC trees and begin crown thinning at 10-12m TH. Continue thinning at 3m height intervals. Assess regen potential. To promote regen harvest in groups to reduce BA to 35m ² /h.
47054 (4.0ha)	SS (95%) & NMB (5%) / 2008	Uniform shelterwood (see FDT 1.1.1 – SS)	First thinning at 10-12m TH. Thin every 3m increase in TH thereafter. Select 150 final crop trees p.ha. Reduce Ba to 30m ² to establish regen prior to final felling.
47062 (1.61ha)	SS (100%) / 2008	Uniform shelterwood (see FDT 1.1.1 – SS)	First thinning at 10-12m TH. Thin every 3m increase in TH thereafter. Select 150 final crop trees p.ha. Reduce Ba to 30m ² to establish regen prior to final felling.
47024 (5.30ha)	NS (60%), DF (30%), MB (10%) / 2014	Group shelterwood (see FDT 1.2.4 – NS & XCST)	Select 150-250 FC trees and begin crown thinning at 10-12m TH. Assess regen potential. To promote regen harvest to reduce BA to 30-35m ² /h.

Coupe no. (area)	Species/Planting year	Proposed LISS	Management Prescription
47040 (10.84ha)	SS (30%), DF (20%), SP (10%), NS (10%), WRC (10%), OK (10%) & MB (10%) / 2014	Group selection (see FDT 1.1.3 – SS & DF)	Begin crown thinning at 10-12m TH. Manage light levels via targeted thinning for each species and fell small groups as reach target DBH.
47025 (3.31ha)	NS (100%) / 2014	Group shelterwood (see FDT 1.2.4 NS & XCST)	Select 150-250 FC trees and begin crown thinning at 10-12m TH. Near harvesting assess regen potential. To promote regen harvest to reduce BA to 35m ² /h.
47100 (7.40ha)	SS (100%) / 2014	Strip shelterwood (see FDT 1.1.2 SS)	Start crown thinning at 10-12m TH. Select 150-250 FC trees. At harvesting reduce strips to BA of 30 m ² /ha to promote regen prior to final felling. Strips of less than 50m working N to S.
47022 (14.52ha)	SS (100%) / 2014	Strip shelterwood (see FDT 1.1.2 SS)	Start crown thinning at 10-12m TH. Select 150-250 FC trees. At harvesting begin strips in each stand concurrently. Reduce strips to BA of 30 m ² /ha to promote regen prior to final felling. Strips of less than 50m working N to S.
47005 (21.12ha)	SS (100%) / 2007	Uniform shelterwood (see FDT 1.1.1 SS)	Select 150-250 FC trees and begin crown thinning at 10-12m TH. Continue at 3m height intervals Assess regen potential. To promote regen harvest to reduce BA to 30m ² /h.

Minimum intervention coupes to be managed for biodiversity are: 47001, 47097, 47027, 47013, 47058, 47070 and 47069.

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

Stands identified as LTR and Natural Reserve are shown on Map 4. These include coupes 47020, 47094, 47099 and 47012.

There are no natural reserves within the block.

Areas of long-term retention exist across Plascow, particularly where permanent forest cover is lacking and other areas of high biodiversity value. They have been established to create suitable habitat for adoption by mobile rare species (e.g. raptors). It has been desirable to retain these existing stand areas beyond normal economic maturity for environmental benefits but there is no imperative to retain permanent woodland cover on the site once the existing stand has fulfilled its objective. These areas also retain an element of windblown dead wood, in some cases, providing a diverse and dynamic habitat as different organisms require different kinds of deadwood.

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. See Table 5 for areas, establishment, and mixture proportions. Timing of restocking will comply with the plan tolerance table shown in section C.4.

Where required, the choice of ground cultivation technique will consider the short-term benefits for establishment against any long-term side effects on tree stability, access for future forest operations and the environment. There will be a preference for the least intensive technique.

Stocking densities will be at least 2500 stems per ha for conifers and 1600 sph for broadleaves unless justified elsewhere in this plan. If the restock or natural regeneration should fail to reach these levels the site will be beaten-up to the required planting density. This will be assessed at year 3 and year 5 after planting with beat-up by at least year 5.

There will be a preference for natural regeneration of native woodland areas. Any non-productive broadleaf planting will be native to the area and will complement existing naturally growing scrub and woodland to give the most ecological value.

The Restocking Strategy for Scotland's National Forest Estate explains that we will minimise chemical usage in restocking (insecticides and herbicides) by considering options at the site scale and using tactics such as delayed planting to achieve this.

Table 3: Felling

Scale of Proposed Felling Areas										
Total Plan Area			965.0 ha*							
Felling	Phase 1	%	Phase 2	%	Phase 3	%	Phase 4	%	LTR	%
Area (ha)	108.4	11.2	22.1	2.13	71.1	7.3	65.9	6.8	1.6	0.2

*73.5 ha has been removed from the overall LMP area as this represents the area occupied by the current commercial agreements (Falgunzeon Starter Farm and Falgunzeon Gliding club).

Table 3a: Felling by species type

Species Type	Phase 1	Phase 2
Conifers	108.4	22.1
Broadleaves	0	0

Table 4: Thinning

Thinning over the first 10 years of the plan	
Total area where thinning may be undertaken during the plan period	103.2ha

NB: All silvicultural first thinnings (37ha in Phase 1 and 66.2ha in Phase 2).

Thinning area by species (ha)	Phase 1	Phase 2
SS	57.89	32.94
NS	0	2.35
RC	0	0.44
DF	0	3.07
OK	0	0.44
NMB	0.21	0
Total by phase (ha)	64.4	35.3
Total by plan period (ha)	99.7	

Table 5: Restocking

Felling Phase	Map Identifier (coupe number)	Species to be planted - or established through natural regeneration (nr)	Area (ha)*
1 (fallow)	47010	SS 100% NMB 70% (Open 30%) NMB 100% (Low density – 500 stems p.ha)	9.02 2.01 (0.86) 1.57
1 (fallow)	47014	SS 50%, SP 30%, LP 20% NS 100% NMB 70% (Open 30%) NS 100% SS 50%, LP 30%, SP 20% BE 100%	36.48 13.76 3.42 (1.47) 4.2 2.41 0.92
1 (fallow)	47017	SS 100% NMB 100% (Low density – 500 stems p.ha) SP 100%	6.42 2.56 2.47
1	47004	SOK 60%, SP 40%	5.33
1	47019	NS 60%, BI 20%, ASP 20%	6.54
1	47023	SP 80%, SOK 20% RC 100% NS 100%	2.29 0.81 0.67
1	47096	SS 100% NS 100% NMB 70% (Open 30%) NMB 50% (Open 50%)	14.36 10.09 1.89 (0.81) 0.15 (0.15)
1	47008	SS 50%, LP 50%	13.76
2	47098	SS 50%, LP 30%, SP 20% NMB 100% (Low density – 500 stems p.ha) SS 80%, BI 20% NMB 70% (Open 30%)	35.6 5.06 4.49 1.15 (0.49)
2	47003	SS 50%, LP 30%, SP 20% NMB 70% (Open 30%)	17.92 1.96 (0.84)
Total Restocking Area (ha)			207.3

*net area to be planted excluding designed open ground. Areas within parenthesis relate to a component of the restock areas to be designed to be successional open areas.

C.2.6 Protection

Management of deer is an underpinning activity essential for the delivery of benefits from Scotland's National Forests and Land. 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.

There are moderate to high numbers of deer within the Plascow block and also has the addition of wild boar to protect against. Whilst efforts to minimise populations are managed by FLS there are issues with surrounding land enabling the wider population of deer and boar to access the National Forest Estate.

C.2.7 Fence erection / removal

1.4km deer fencing required around SOK/SP in coupe 47004.

C.2.8 Road Operations

Map 7 shows the existing forest road network and any associated quarries, timber haulage egress points, and any local 'Agreed Timber Transport Routes'. Any planned new roads or quarry expansions in the plan period are also indicated on this map. The lengths of planned new roads are given on the map and are reflected in the EIA determination submitted with the plan (see Appendix IV).

The public road that runs along the southern edge of the Plascow block is a 'restricted route' and has previously been limited to carrying a set number of timber lorry loads per day. This will be born in mind when programming felling coupes within a Phase period.

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.

Plascow has low visitor numbers, as such there are no current plans to expand public access infrastructure in this location, although stakeholder responses in this regard have been passed to the local FLS Visitor Services Team.

Woodland Management in Visitor Zones

Visitor Zones have been identified in areas where FLS encourage and manage access or where the woodland managed by FLS interacts with popular visitor sites or access routes. Where present these are shown on **Map 3**.

In these areas, single trees or small groups of trees will be removed when necessary to protect facilities, infrastructure and trails, or to enhance the setting of features, or to maintain existing views.

Woodland in these zones will also be thinned, or trees re-spaced, for safety reasons (including to increase visibility to ensure that sites are welcoming and feel safe) and where it is necessary to enhance the experience of the forest setting, through the development of large trees, or preferential removal of trees to favor a particular species.

C.2.10 Historic Environment

The Regional Historic Asset Management Plan includes conservation management intentions for designated historic assets on Scotland's National Forests and Land. Details of all known historic environment features are held in FLS's Heritage Dataset and included within work plans for specific operations to ensure damage is avoided. Significant historic environment features will be depicted on all relevant operational maps. Areas of historic environment interest will be checked both on FLS's records and also with the Council's HER prior to the commencement of forestry activities. Any upstanding features will be clearly marked, both on the ground and on operational maps. Care will be taken to avoid any damage to surviving structural elements.

Map 9 and **Appendix II** provide more information about the historic environment features within and adjacent to the plan area.

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 33%.

Black Grouse *Lyrurus tetrix*:

Though not active now, historically black grouse leks were present on open hill tops. The LMP will build on previous work by maintaining habitat linkages between internal open space and the moorland edge.

Nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus*:

Though not active now, historically nightjar were present on open ground around the gliding club. The LMP will build on previous work by maintaining habitat linkages between internal open space and the moorland edge and creating transition woodland edge habitat.

Red squirrel *Sciurus vulgaris*:

This area is not a stronghold though the species is present within the area and

efforts have been made to further encourage the species through habitat provision, retaining mature trees, increasing areas of Scots pine, Norway spruce and small seeded broadleaved species, and reducing coupe sizes.

Badgers *Meles meles*:

Badgers are present in the block. Forestry Practice Guide 9 Forest Operations and Badger Setts is followed as appropriate.

Birds:

Various raptors are present within the LMP area. Peregrines have previously nested on Roundfell. The plan provides a mosaic of habitats providing a range resources for different bird species which will increase as the plan is delivered.

Open Habitats:

Priority habitats include blanket bog, upland heathland and purple rush moor grass pasture which is mainly present in the Falgunzeon woodland creation area. Peatland areas within the Plascow block are minimal with deep peats <10 ha, fragmented, and most are located on the open hill. Some peat types are edaphically unsuited to woodland and there will be no restocking of commercial conifer on deep peats.

Some areas have regenerating spruce present, especially on the upper slopes of Long Hill which requires management.

Prior to restocking, the areas will be assessed for evidence to support replanting as per the FC Practice Guidance. If evidence is found to clearly support good growth of YC 8 or more, they will be restocked.

All forest management operations involve a planning process before work commences which includes checks for wildlife and important habitats. Work plans will be adjusted if necessary to avoid disturbance, and opportunities to further protect species or enhance habitats will be identified.

Deadwood:

Opportunities for retaining or creating deadwood will be identified during the planning of all felling works, favouring areas with the highest deadwood ecological potential (typically within riparian corridors). Valuable deadwood and deadwood areas will be marked on contract maps. Where it is safe to do so, and does not compromise LMP objectives, standing mature dead trees will be retained as these offer excellent potential for a range of species. Riparian areas present the best ecological potential for deadwood retention. This process has begun in 47094 and will continue. Similar opportunities will be identified when felling coupes 47096, 47004, 47098 and 47003 in areas with high ecological deadwood potential.

C.2.12 Tree Health

As Plascow is within the SF *P.ramorum* on Larch Action Plan (July 2022) Management zone, removal of all “live” larch is required by April 2032. There is 15.65 ha remaining of larch within the block. 11.68 ha of this will be felled as part of clearfell coupes within the 1st and 2nd phase of the plan. Restocking of these sites will be compliant with SF Larch Tolerance Table, see **Appendix III**. 3.76 ha of the remaining larch is overwhelmingly dead and located in remote, difficult to access areas and form part of Long-Term Retention coupes contributing deadwood habitat. The remaining 0.21 ha is regeneration located in Minimum Intervention coupes.

As part of the districts chemical minimisation strategy, the *Hylobius* Management Support System (HMSS) is used to measure *Hylobius* numbers on clearfell sites. This may suggest a fallow period between felling and re-stocking may result in restocking not taking place within two years of felling (see Tolerance Table in **Appendix III**).

Stump treatment with urea post felling may be required, for *Heterobasidion annosum*, in the areas of poorer site types.

When designing the restock of this plan, species have been appropriately matched to sites, and efforts have been made to diversify the range of species and silvicultural systems used where appropriate, including greater use of mixtures to reduce future impacts of climate affects.

C.2.13 Invasive Species

There is some conifer regeneration in some environmentally sensitive areas. There is also *Rhododendron ponticum* present in coupe 47058 near the entrance to the block. However, the extent of these areas is minimal and will be monitored and dealt with as appropriate by FLS, when resources allow.

Monitoring of INNS is ongoing, and any invasive species identified will be treated as per the Region’s INNS Policy and this includes the use of biosecurity measures, which are also highlighted before operations begin, at the work plan stages.

C.2.14 New Planting

No new woodland is proposed in this plan revision.

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.

Soils

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. Where required, the choice of ground cultivation technique will consider the short-term benefits for establishment against any long-term side effects on tree stability, access for future forest operations and the environment. There will be a preference for the least intensive technique.

Landscape

Plascow sits the within the Landscape Character Types of the Coastal Uplands – LCT 179, and to a lesser extent, within the Drumlin Pastures – LCT 169, along the eastern boundary of the block. The block is also within the Dumfries and Galloway Councils Regional Scenic Area of the Solway coast, which also relates to the landscape character types.

The landscape views have been reviewed during the scoping and concept of this plan in consultation with the FLS Landscape Architects. The long-term vision for the future forest has been designed with landscape views in mind and the felling, subsequent restocking and management of the forest will have positive effects on the views onto the block and therefore its wider setting in the landscape.

Hydrology

Efforts to maintain water quality within the land management plan will be realised through continued implementation of riparian zones along water courses that include increasing broadleaf percentages, copses and glades. The Riverwoods Initiative (<https://www.riverwoods.org.uk>) principles have also been incorporated into the plan where possible to promote and provide a valuable habitat corridor for the important ecosystems in these areas.

As standard, and to support the improvement to water quality of the area all forestry operations will meet the requirements of the UKFS Guidelines on Forests and Water and follow the good forestry practice advocated by the Forestry & Water Scotland initiative. All necessary precautions will be taken to avoid water quality deterioration, including robust preparation and dissemination of emergency and work planning particulars before any operations begin.

The Dalbeattie catchment is an Objective Target Areas (OTA) downstream of two of the main waterbody catchments (Kirkgunzeon Lane and Glaisters Burn) within the plan area as highlighted in SEPA's Flood Risk Management Plan – Solway Tweed. The Dalbeattie catchment flows southeast from the block towards the Dalbeattie OTA (TA 131).

FLS has considered its effect on flood risk and peak flows further downstream at the relevant OTA. The acceptable scale of felling in the forest, along with measures to enhance the diverse age structure and riparian corridors is likely to have an overall beneficial impact on downstream flood risk and may contribute to flood alleviation.

Relevant actions needed to help TA objectives in the FRMP include the use of Natural Flood Management (NFM) within the relevant catchments. Restock areas in the plan will be well-thought-out and watercourses given significant riparian corridors where appropriate to support these objectives. It is anticipated that our operations within the Plascow LMP will have no negative impact on the existing flooding risk within the drainage areas.

Utilities, Renewables and other developments

No known renewable developments proposed or existing.

Known utilities in the block include a mast, overhead powerlines, water pipelines and private water supply infrastructure.

For further information on Private Water Supplies and mitigation put in place at the Land Management Plan stage, see **Appendix IV** Private Water Supplies (Confidential)

Commercial agreements

There are two commercial agreements within the Plascow block, Falgunzeon Gliding Club and Falgunzeon Starter Farm.

The Gliding Club have a leased airfield located within the block with associated hanger and buildings comprising an area approximately 21 ha.

The starter farm is leased by a tenant farmer and comprises 53.93 ha adjacent to and within the woodland creation area in the southwest end of the block.

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

Table 6 – EIA projects

Total area (hectares) for each project type and details by sensitive or non-sensitive area.									
Type of Project	Sensitive Area		Non-sensitive Area		Total				
Afforestation	%Con	%BL	%Con	%BL	ha				
Deforestation	%Con	%BL	%Con	%BL	ha				
Forest Roads	ha		1.23ha		1.23ha				
Quarries	ha		0.36ha		0.36ha				
Provide further details on your project if required.									
<p>This is a proposal to build one forest road (1.23km with a 30m maximum corridor), to allow access for timber harvesting of trees, thinning and allow future restocking / maintenance. This is a permanent structure.</p> <p>The private way will be constructed to meet the specification detailed in the 'Timber Transport Forum - design and use of structural pavement of unsealed roads 2014' (TTF Guidance) and the requirements of the UK Forestry Standard. The 'Forest roads' figure above shows the total area of road construction (linear distance x 10m corridor).</p> <p>All trees will be removed within the road corridor (standard road width of 4.3m plus 15m on both sides).</p> <p>To facilitate the road building above material will be won from an extension to an existing quarry. Operations will adhere to Forestry and Land Scotland Civil Engineering Construction Specifications and the UKFS, with relevant licences sought where necessary. The forest quarry figure above shows the total area of excavation required.</p> <p>The location of the planned roads and quarries is shown on 'Map 7: Timber haulage' of the Plascow LMP revision.</p>									

C.4 Tolerance Table

See Appendix III.

Maps & Appendices

Map 1 – Location

Map 2 – Current tree species

Map 3 – Concept

Map 4 – Management (Felling)
Map 5 – Thinning
Map 6 – Future habitats and species (Restock)
Map 7 – Timber haulage
Map 8 – Soils
Map 9 – Historic environment
Map 10 – Lease Agreements
Map 11 – DAMS (Windiness)
Map 12A – Private Water Supplies - CONFIDENTIAL
Map 12B – PWS S01 - CONFIDENTIAL
Map 12C – PWS S02 - CONFIDENTIAL
Map 12D – PWS S03 - CONFIDENTIAL
Map 12E – PWS S04 - CONFIDENTIAL
Map 12F – PWS S05 - CONFIDENTIAL
Map 12G – PWS S06 - CONFIDENTIAL
Map 12H – PWS S07 - CONFIDENTIAL
Map 12I – PWS S08 - CONFIDENTIAL
Map 12J – PWS S09 - CONFIDENTIAL
Map 12K – PWS S10 - CONFIDENTIAL
Map 12L – PWS S12 - CONFIDENTIAL
Map 12M – PWS S13 - CONFIDENTIAL
Map 12 N – PWS S14 & S15 - CONFIDENTIAL
Map 12O – PWS S16 - CONFIDENTIAL
Map 12P – PWS S17 & S18 - CONFIDENTIAL
Map 12Q – PWS S19 - CONFIDENTIAL
Map 12R – PWS S20 - CONFIDENTIAL
Map 12S – PWS S21 & S22 - CONFIDENTIAL

Appendix I – Consultation record
Appendix II – Historic environment records
Appendix III – Tolerance table
Appendix IV - Private Water Supplies

Appendix I: 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.

Issue	Raised by	Requirement / Recommendation / Concern / Aspiration
Balance of wildlife and timber	Public	Positive feedback on the concept and objectives regarding the aims to balance wildlife and timber production.
Riparian zones, pollution, private water supplies	SEPA	The plan should follow best practice guidance regarding water and soil management and endeavour to locate and protect all private water supplies that may be impacted.
The following stakeholders responded with no comment or no issues:		
Historic Environment Scotland Scottish Water		
The following stakeholders were contacted during scoping but did not respond:		
Community Council - Clovend and Southwick, Community Council – Kirkbean, Community Council - New Abbey, Community Council – Kirkgunzeon, CONFOR, Crichton Carbon Centre, Dumfries and District Gliding Club, Dumfries & Galloway Council (Water), Dumfries & Galloway Regional Council (Access), Dumfries & Galloway Regional Council (Archaeology), Dumfries & Galloway Regional Council (Environment), Dumfries & Galloway Regional Council (Roads), Dumfries and Galloway Regional Council (Environment/Resilience/Flooding), Glaisters Farms Ltd, NatureScot, Raptor Study Group, RSPB, Scottish Forestry, Scottish Power Energy Networks, Scottish Wildlife Trust, Timber Transport Forum, Vincent Wildlife Trust, Visit Scotland.		

Appendix II: Historic Environment records

Historic Environment Records						
Map ref	Designation	Name	Feature Description	Grid Reference	Importance	Area (ha)
1	Undesignated	Glaisters	Cairn – cairnfield	NX888656	Uncategorised	1
2	Undesignated	Glaisters	Cairn – cairns in clearing of forestry	NX888652	Regional Importance	0.9
3	Undesignated	Sheil Burn	Farmstead & Field System	NX889645	Regional Importance	10.62
4	Undesignated	Falgunzeon Enclosure	Sheepfold - A possible prehistoric enclosure measuring 22m in diameter over a low earthen bank 2.5m in thickness and up to 0.5m in height. The enclosure is situated at NX 8799 6190 and is adjacent to a number of clearance cairns and a possible hut circle.	NX879618	Regional Importance	1.83
5	Undesignated	Falgunzeon Hill Cairnfield E	Cairnfield - A group of at least 17 likely prehistoric clearance cairns, measuring between 1m and 2m in diameter and up to 0.5m in height.	NX885623	Regional Importance	0.67
6	Undesignated	Falgunzeon Hill Cairnfield	Cairn(S), Cord Rig, Field Boundary(S), Rig and Furrow - A large group of cairns are spread over an extensive area. Field banks, enclosing two small patches of rig, are visible to the W of the cairns. Possible cord rig lies within the cairnfield.	NX881632	Regional Importance	33.45

Historic Environment Records						
Map ref	Designation	Name	Feature Description	Grid Reference	Importance	Area (ha)
7	Undesignated	HLA Relict Area	Settlement - A settlement and field system. Settlement measures 34m x 40m within a wall estimated at c3.0m wide. Interior is having two levels, raised area to NW. To the E lies a system of field banks.	NX872629	Regional Importance	9.52
8	Undesignated	Plascow Rig	Cairnfield - A group, (approximately 100) of small cairns (circular) has been located on the plateau of Plascow Rig. Could not be located in the forestry in 1978.	NX890625	Uncategorised	1
9	Undesignated	HLA Relict Area	Later Prehistoric Settlement and Agriculture – no further information available.	NX884622	Uncategorised	0.7

Appendix III: Tolerance tables

	Maps Required (Y/N)	Adjustment to felling period *	Adjustment to felling coupe boundaries **	Timing of Restocking	Changes to Restocking species	Changes to road lines	Designed open ground ** ***	Windblow Clearance ****
FC Approval normally not required	N	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fell date can be moved within 5 year period where separation or other constraints are met. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to 10% of coupe area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to 3 planting seasons after felling. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change within species group e.g. evergreen conifers or broadleaves. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase by up to 5% of coupe area 	
Approval by exchange of letters and map	Y	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advance felling of Phase 2 coupe into Phase 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to 15% of coupe area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Between 3 and 5 planting seasons after felling, subject to the wider forest and habitat structure not being significantly compromised. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional felling of trees not agreed in plan. Departures of > 60m in either direction from centre line of road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase by up to 10% of coupe area Any reduction in open space of coupe area by planting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to 5ha
Approval by formal plan amendment may be required	Y	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Felling delayed into second or later 5 year period. Advance felling (phase 3 or beyond) into current or 2nd 5 year period. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than 15% of coupe area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than 5 planting seasons after felling, subject to the wider forest and habitat structure not being significantly compromised. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change from specified native species. Change Between species group. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above, depending on sensitivity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In excess of 10% of coupe area. Colonisation of open space agreed as critical. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than 5ha.

NOTES:

* Felling sequence must not compromise UKFS, in particular felling coupe adjacency

** No more than 1ha, without consultation with FCS, where the location is defined as 'sensitive' within the Environmental Impact Assessment (Forestry) 1999 Regulations (EIA)

*** Tolerance subject to an overriding maximum 20% open space

**** Where windblow occurs FCS should be informed of extent prior to clearance and consulted on where clearance of any standing trees is required

Larch Tolerance Table

	Adjustment to Felling period	Timing of Restocking and species component	Felling of larch within a mixed coupe	Changes to Road Lines
FC Approval normally not required	Fell date for phase 2 can be moved forward where larch comprises 50% or more of the coupe species component.	changes to restocking proposal that exclude larch and closely related species in the same genus, eg Sitka and Norway Spruce. Up to 3 planting seasons after felling		
Approval normally by exchange of letters and map	Felling moved between phases 1 and 2 where larch comprises less than 50% of the coupe species component	Changes to restocking proposals that include larch or closely related species in the same genus, eg Sitka and Norway Spruce. Between 3 and 5 planting seasons after felling	Areas of pure larch up to 20% of coupe area within phase 1 and 2 can be felled to remove the sporulating host, with restocking deferred until the rest of the crop is felled. Where the Larch constitutes more than 20% of the coupe component, then the whole coupe must be felled and restocked together.	New road lines (subject to EIA screening opinion) or tracks within existing approved plans necessary to allow the extraction of Larch material. Where necessary Prior Approval should be dealt with directly with the relevant Regional Council
Approval by formal plan amendment is required	Advance felling into current or 2 nd phase for pre-emptive larch removal			Where a new public highway entrance or exist is required. Where necessary Prior Approval should be dealt with directly with the relevant Regional Council

Larch felled in the autumn and winter, when the presence of P ram cannot be assessed visually must be treated as infected and will therefore require a movement licence. When carrying out operations where the clearance has not been on the Public Register or through the consultation procedure it is important that due diligence is undertaken to identify sites that will require to be protected.