

**Species choice**

Sitka spruce is the most suited commercial timber tree in this forest, except where soil conditions are poor. Scots pine and Norway spruce are suitable on the drier slopes. Seed sources for native broadleaves are limited, so planting will normally be required. The existing deer fence is not deer-proof, which will need to be addressed whenever any future planting is intended.

Some additional use of mixtures has been employed where associated with the public right of way through Glen Forsa and around archaeological sites.

**A849 Corridor**

Original species diversity amenity plantings were considered to have been too ambitious, with some failures, particularly for broadleaved plantings. Improved species choice will hopefully improve the forest edge. Areas of larch may be affected by P.ramorum and require early felling, so early introduction of broadleaved edges with Scots pine may be helpful. Planting below the A849 will leave vistas to help break up the potential future corridor tunnel effect that might arise from current plantings.

**Upper edges**

Land registration will see some changes to the boundary in the near future. Upper wooded edges have been landscaped, removing checked areas, shortening some fingers and from peat hags on top of Cnoc nan Scoib.

**Allt Molach SSSI**

Replanting agreed with SNH provided the physical condition of, access to and visibility of the geological features is maintained. Keeping a wooded slope will also reduce risk of slope instability events arising that could both affect the A849 and geological features. Species choice seeks to create a long rotation, using broadleaves and some Scots pine for amenity, although future windblow events can not be ruled out on this site. The area is highly visible from the A849 with a popular informal parking area at the foot of the hill.

**SS/LP Self-thinning mixtures**

More marginal areas above the lower riparian zone which appear to have received a patchy aerial fertiliser application in the past are given this mixture to improve growth. This may be subject to further review depending on peat depths and future growth rates.

**Steep or incised watercourses**

Numerous watercourses flow steeply down off the higher slopes. These have been given mandatory open buffers. Opportunity has also been taken to adjust the straight upper edge by opening up these watercourses at the upper forest edge.

**Lower riparian areas**

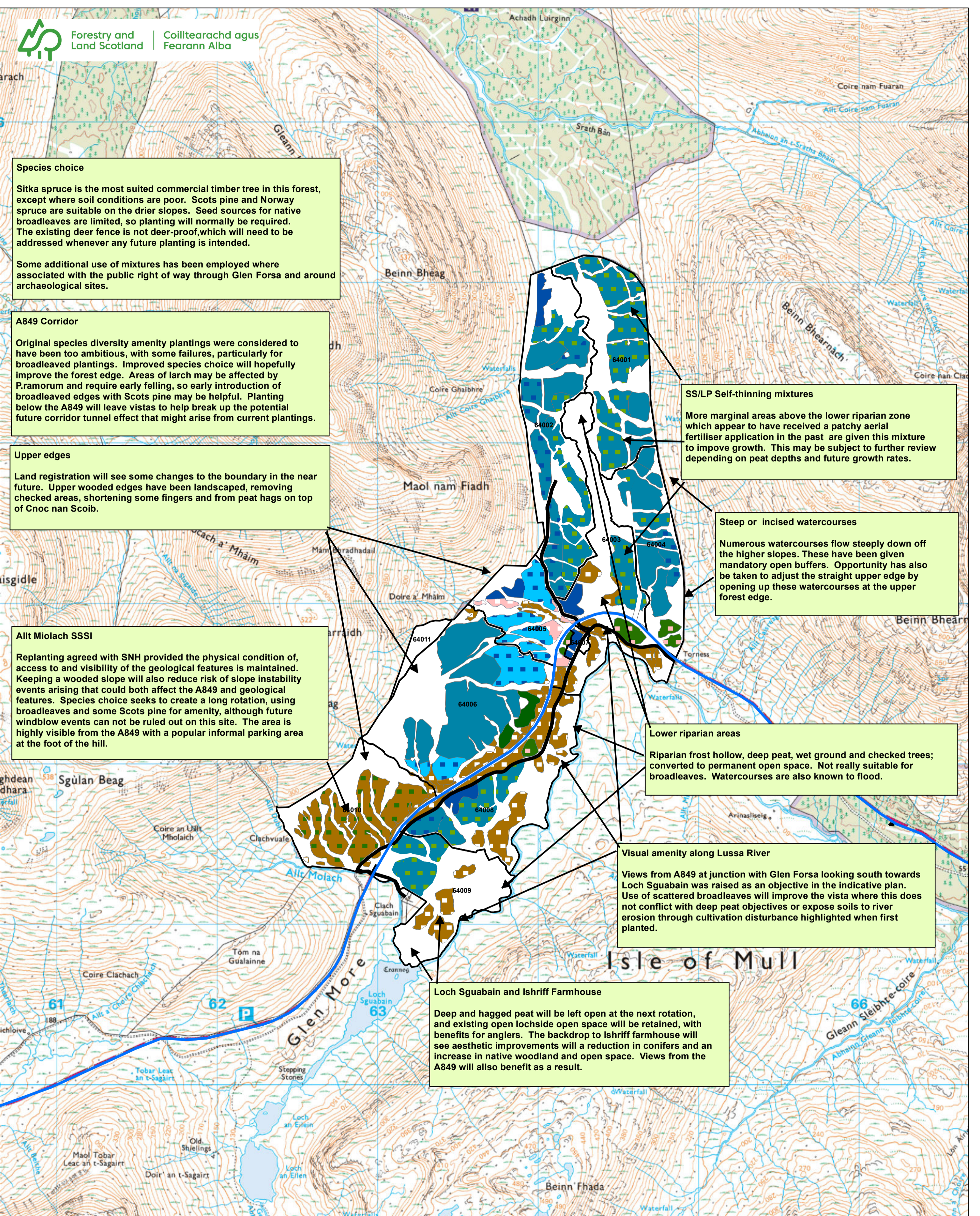
Riparian frost hollow, deep peat, wet ground and checked trees; converted to permanent open space. Not really suitable for broadleaves. Watercourses are also known to flood.

**Visual amenity along Lussa River**

Views from A849 at junction with Glen Forsa looking south towards Loch Sguabain was raised as an objective in the indicative plan. Use of scattered broadleaves will improve the vista where this does not conflict with deep peat objectives or expose soils to river erosion through cultivation disturbance highlighted when first planted.

**Loch Sguabain and Ishriff Farmhouse**

Deep and hagged peat will be left open at the next rotation, and existing open lochside open space will be retained, with benefits for anglers. The backdrop to Ishriff farmhouse will see aesthetic improvements with a reduction in conifers and an increase in native woodland and open space. Views from the A849 will also benefit as a result.



Map 5.5B Future Species and Habitats Concept Map - Ishriff

Scale @ A2: 1:15,000  
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Author: R.Wilson

**Legend**

- public\_roads
- Forest Roads
- Management coupes
- MB
- MB/OPEN
- MB/SP
- MC
- NS/MC
- BI/OPEN
- SP
- SP/BI
- SS
- SS/LP Self-thinning mixture
- SS/MC
- OPEN

**Future species**

**SPECIES**