



This is a visualisation of how we think Mark Hill and Tornat could look like in the future - what do you think?

Tornat has been woodland for hundreds of years - much of it recorded as semi-natural woodland on maps from 1750. Non-native conifers planted in the past have now mostly been removed and the establishment of permanent broadleaved woodland is being encouraged through natural regeneration and enrichment planting.

A fringe of permanent native woodland along this edge (following the line of small knolls) will compliment recent tree planting in the community nature reserve, and improve native woodland links along the coast

Veteran trees including Sycamore, Scots Pine and Oak can be found along the valley sides, often in association with the remains of old buildings and stone dykes. All of these features will be protected.

The coniferous woodland will be grown for timber products over long rotations (50+ years). It will be divided into smaller areas that will be felled at different times creating an uneven age and diverse structure

Public access is valued and responsible users are welcome to explore the forest. FLS will work with neighbours to enhance recreation links

Dead wood is an important habitat for many wildlife species. The forest will contain trees that are dead and dying, standing and fallen, large and small (where it is safe to leave them)

The mosaic habitat of open ground and shrubs currently found on adjacent NTS land will be extended along this steep slope

The location, shape, size and transition of different woodland types reflects landform and adjacent land use. This adds to the local mixture of diverse landscape types which is a key quality of the East Stewartry Coast National Scenic Area

A wide buffer of broadleaved woodland will soften the hard conifer 'edge' and also reduce undesirable seed dispersal onto NTS ground

The valley offers some of the most sheltered parts of the forest for conifers to grow into old and large trees, but it is also important to protect the watercourses here, and so native woodland will be a key feature in the riparian corridors

Management Objectives

- Provide a welcoming and relaxing environment for the local community and visitors to enjoy, working with neighbours to enhance connectivity.
- Strengthen native woodland links in the wider landscape, working with neighbours to maximise the benefits.
- Plant 'alternative' conifer tree species such as Douglas Fir and Norway Spruce on suitable sites for quality timber products.
- Ensure the forest contributes to the special qualities of the East Stewartry Coast National Scenic Area, and the wider landscape.
- Clear windblown trees, with careful consideration for any implications on wider forest stability and sensitive wildlife.
- Fell the remaining Larch trees to support efforts to tackle Larch die-back disease.
- Continue to monitor and manage native woodland establishment in Tornat (particularly in the PAWS area), providing timely support if required.

Concept (Draft)

Scale @ A1: 1:5,000

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Author: u321477

	Plan Area		Future Tree Species
	Forest Road		Conifer
	Watercourses		Mixed broadleaves
	Popular Access Points		Oak
	Core Paths		Scattered shrubs
	Popular Desire Lines		Scots Pine
	Jubilee Path		Sycamore
	Kippford Community Nature Reserve		
	National Trust for Scotland		

