

Spey Mouth Land Management Plan Summary

Spey Mouth Forest is situated adjacent to the village of Fochabers and is split by the A96 and A98 trunk roads.

The main objectives of the forest are: -

- Maintain the forest as a recreational hub within the forest district.
- Use silviculture which is beneficial for the environment, biodiversity and recreation whilst creating a forest with a sustainable timber yield; where the preference will be a low impact silviculture system where conditions are suitable.
- Establish Scots Pine on the most appropriate sites, but elsewhere take opportunities to diversify in order to create a forest more robust to disease and climate change.
- Restore deep peat areas associated with Moss of Cairnty and Gow Moss where this complies with current FCS peatland guidance.
- Manage watercourses appropriately so measured consideration can be given to catchment area, flooding and erosion. Areas located by SSSI, SAC, SPA and RAMSAR designated areas should be naturalised.

Total plan area	4025 ha
------------------------	---------

Species breakdown	2016 (current)	2026 (end of plan period)
Primary species: Scots pine	46%	49%
Secondary species: Sitka spruce	15%	15%
Other conifers	15%	15%
Broadleaves	3%	4%
Open & felled areas	21%	17%

Planned operations	2016 – 2026 plan period
Felling	302 ha
Restocking	284 ha

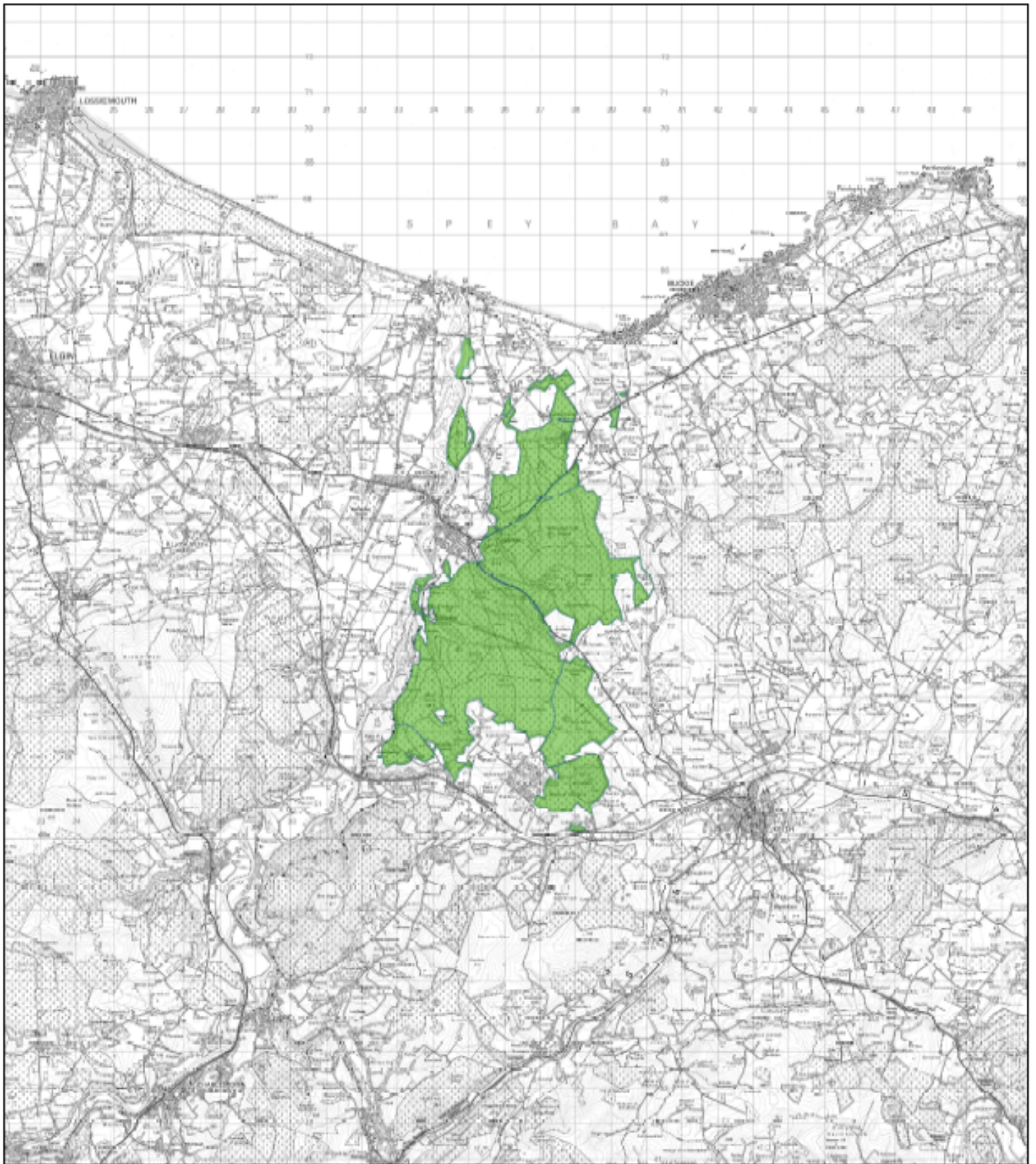
Significant Environment/ Conservation Features	
Special Area of Conservation (SAC) x2	River Spey & Lower river Spey/Spey bay
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) x2	River Spey & Lower river Spey
Special Protected Area (SPA)	Moray & Nairn coast
RAMSAR site	Moray & Nairn coast
Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS)	Culriach

Critical success factors:

- Undertake felling and restocking within sensible periods to allow for continued restructuring of the forest.
- Undertake the planned thinning programme in order to improve crop quality.
- Carry out LISS prescriptions for biodiversity, environment and recreational benefits.
- Manage moorland area identified for Heathland restoration, specifically at Moss of Cairnty and Gow Moss.
- Remove invasive non-native species in Culriach as per SSSI plan.
- Establish quality broadleaves with consideration to- the Red squirrel stronghold to be managed as per Forestry Commission Practice Note2- Managing Forests as Red Squirrel Strongholds.
- Construct the planned forest roads to improve access within the forest and undertake a prior-notification.
- Maintain access and integrity of scheduled ancient monument- Meikle Drumlach bridge.
- Continue to liaise with Speyside Fisheries Trust and SEPA in regards to future management of Fochabers burn.

Consultation and Further Information:

During the development of this plan we have consulted publically including local community representatives and stakeholders known to have an interest in this plan area. For further information on the plan please contact Iain Walker, Planning Forester, Forestry Commission Scotland on 07876 456654 or ian.walker@forestry.gsi.gov.uk



Legend
 Spey Mouth boundary

 **Forestry Commission Scotland**
 Comhairle na Coilltearachd Alba

Moray & Aberdeenshire Forest District

Spey Mouth Land Management Plan

Map 1: Location Map (print at A1 Portrait)

Scale: 1:25,000

Date: April 2016



Scotland's National
 Forest Programme is
 managed in the
 UK Woodland
 Assurance Standard




Reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of
 HMGO. © Crown copyright and database right (2016). All rights
 reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence number: 100012162

