Forest Enterprise Scotland

Managing the National Forest Estate



Fife Woods – Summary of Proposals

The Fife Woods Land Management Plan covers three Forest Enterprise Scotland (FES) woodlands in Fife, situated east of the M90 and west of Kirkcaldy in the vicinity of the A92 – Benarty (60ha), Cardenden (139 ha) & Cullaloe (35 ha). The plan envisages a continuation of the current management regime whereby much of the woodland is managed under Low Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS), although clearfelling will continue in some areas. Overall species diversity will increase, with the introduction of more productive broadleaves and some alternate conifer species to compensate for the loss of pine and larch due to the threat of disease and maximise the potential habitat benefit for red squirrel.

The primary objectives for the plan area are to continue the sustainable production of timber, continue to develop native woodland networks and develop access & recreation opportunities whilst reducing anti-social behaviour.

Woodland changes

Species breakdown	2015	2024
Primary species: Productive conifers	55%	40%
Secondary species: Productive broadleaves	13%	16%
Amenity woodland (native broadleaves)	20%	29%
Open space	12%	15%
Total Plan Area: 234 ha		

Key Proposals

Planned Operations	2015-2024
Felling	66 ha
Thinning	105 ha
Restock	80 ha ¹

Consultation and Further Information

During development of this plan widespread consultation was undertaken, including consultation with neighbouring communities and the involvement of a wide range of organisations including Historic Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage, Scottish Environment Protection Agency, RSPB and Fife Council.

For further information on the plan please contact scottishlowlands@forestry.gsi.gov.uk.

¹ Includes restock of some areas felled prior to plan period