



MORAY ESTATES

Lord Moray Acc
& Maintenance
Trust 2005 -
Long Term
Forest Plan -
Stakeholder
Scoping



Aim of the Scoping Process

Most forests & timber plantations in Scotland, be they publicly or privately owned, are managed under Scottish Forestry's system of approved Long-term Forest Plans.

Forest Plans cover a +20yr period and are formally and publicly reviewed every 10yrs. During this process, the areas to be harvested (felled and/or thinned) are identified and the areas to be replanted (species and stocking regime) are also agreed upon and shared with statutory stakeholders (Community Council, Local Authority, Nature Scot, Historic Scotland, SEPA) as well as the immediate neighbours and other such as relevant NGOs like RSPB.

The aim of this scoping process is for information to be gathered relating to both potential opportunities and potential issues so that they can be identified and considered in the final version of the Forest Plan which is then submitted for Scottish Forestry's approval.

An approved Forest Plan also allows access to potential grant funding to contribute towards a range of activities such as: provision/maintenance of footpaths, improving connectivity of native woodland, managed woodland grazing to improve habitats, management of designated sites, Continuous Cover Silviculture. (Details of which are here: <https://www.ruralpayments.org/publicsite/futures/topics/all-schemes/forestry-grant-scheme/>)

The final Forest Plan also needs to comply with the UK Forestry Standard which is the 'rulebook' for sustainable forest management across the UK (<https://forestry.gov.scot/sustainable-forestry/ukfs-Scotland>)

The following information slides describe the current woodland and the woodland management activities that we undertake. The maps towards the end of the presentation show what we propose to fell and replant during the 20yrs period of the Forest Plan, along with other relevant information.

We have put together a short presentation which can be found in the **News Section** of the Moray Estates website <https://www.morayestates.co.uk/news/>. This describes the current woodland and the woodland management activities that we undertake. The maps towards the end of the presentation show what we propose to fell and replant during the 20yrs period of the Forest Plan, along with other relevant information.

If you would like to comment on the forest plans and add information that may help us identify opportunities or constraints, please email: ben.clinch@morayestates.co.uk



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We are looking to complete the public scoping process by **31st of March 2023**.

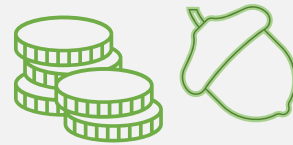


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Management objectives



For the woodland to provide the owner with regular positive net income from a carbon neutral business.



For the woodlands to retain Financial Capital and enhance Natural Capital value by maintaining a mix of tree crop ages and species grown in a way that benefits biodiversity.



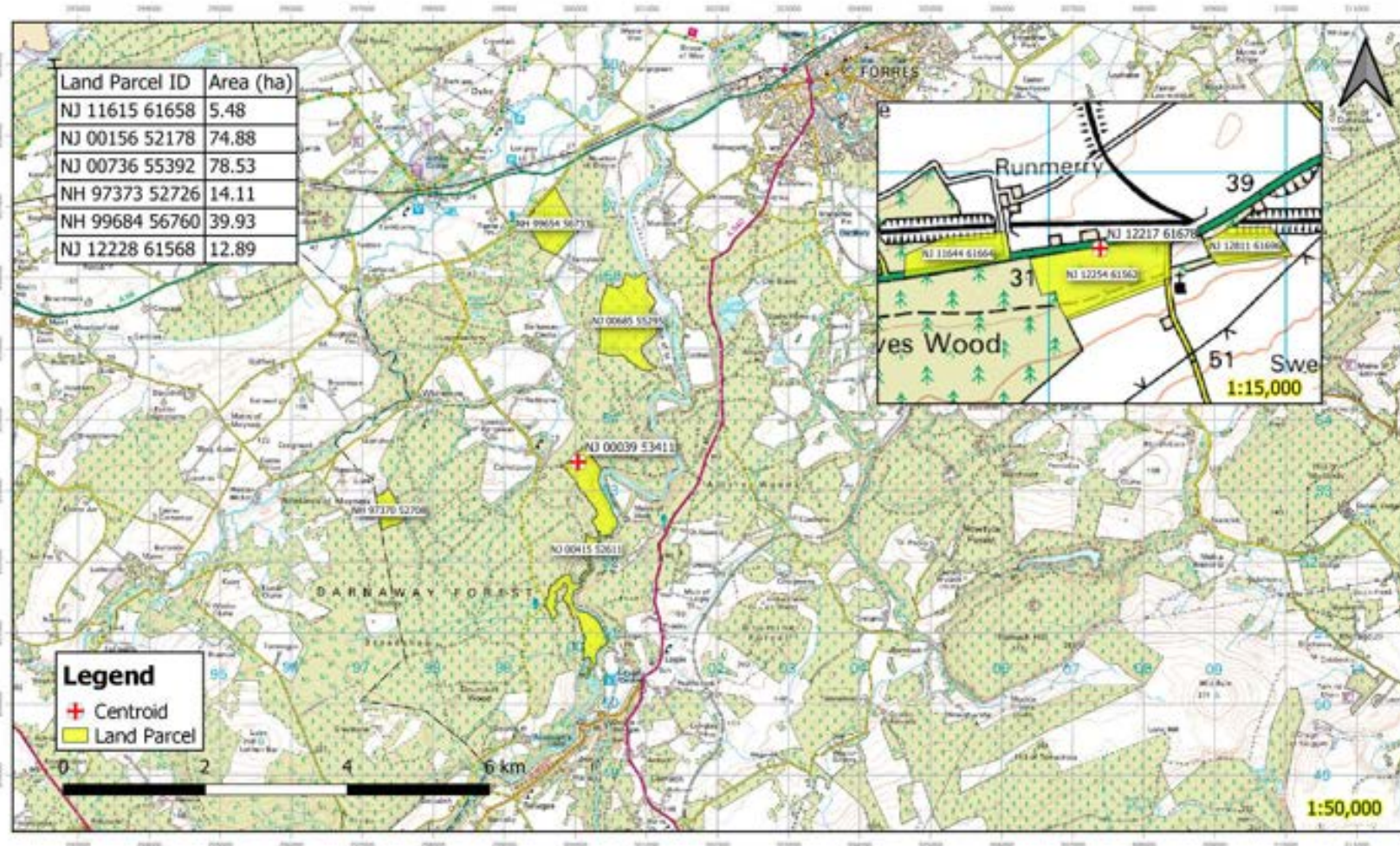
To ensure that woodland management takes into account and conserves sensitive species, ecosystems, protects water and amenity/recreation, enhancing these where practicable.



MORAY ESTATES

Background information

Location: Moray Estates Woodlands are split into several family ownerships. This Forest Plan pertains the woodlands at Darnaway and Alves owned by **Lord Moray Acc & Maintenance Trust 2005**. Note the areas shaded yellow on the map.



Location

Moray Trust LTFP

31 Aug 2022

Revision A

Created by:
Cressie Taylor

Checked by:
Cressie Taylor

This plan is based on:
New Woodland Survey
Map with the
location of the centroid
of each woodland block
by
Cressie Taylor
10/04/2022



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Background site information

Background information

- Elevation, Aspect & Location

The woodland areas at Darnaway are predominantly slightly North-East facing and range in elevation from 25 to 120 metres above mean sea level. The woodland areas at Alves are relatively flat, with an elevation of around 35m with no dominant aspect. The Forest Plan area is located within a mixed landscape of farmland and woodland, with Darnaway located 3km South-West of Forres and Alves located 5km East of Forres.

- Geology

The lithology consists of glacial deposits such as till, sand, and gravel. The bedrock, where it is close to the surface is largely composed of sandstone formations and small areas of psammite and semipelite (both metasedimentary).

- Climate (current and future predicted)

The current average annual rainfall is 700-750mm. The local climate is classified by Forest Research as 'Mild - Sheltered - Moist' in the ground around the River Findhorn at Darnaway, and 'Mild - Sheltered- Moist' at Alves. Climatic predictions for 2080 in this part of central Scotland show moderate climatic change to warmer conditions, but not the much more dramatic temperature and precipitation climatic changes expected in southern England and much of mainland Europe (see: <https://climatematch.org.uk/>)

- Soils

As a result of the historic climate and lithology, most of the woodland areas have podzolic, freely draining, sandy soils. There are also a few small areas containing peaty ironpan soils, which is partly a result of localised topography.

- Water bodies and watercourses

The main body of water that is close to this LTFP area is the River Findhorn, though numerous smaller burns run through the plan area including the Dunearn Burn.

- Woodlands

The current woodland is made up of stands with where the primary species in the upper canopy are Scots Pine (38%), Douglas Fir (30%) with mixed broadleaf of Beech and Oak making up (14%). In addition, there are many other species present that occupy small areas and throughout the understory.

The woodlands are managed under the UK Woodland Assurance Scheme (UKWAS), an accreditation scheme that ensures woodlands are managed sustainably.



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Background information: Historical management and extent of woodland cover

Background information

Before 1750

Common to much of Scotland, the majority of the ancient woodland had been lost long before 1750 to both extensive farming and unsustainable exploitation of the native forest. Some of the Darnaway Forest was protected as a result of it being a royal hunting forest. Some of this remnant forest (particularly adjacent to the Findhorn Gorge) is within this Forest Plan area.

1750s -1800s

During the period of the 'Scottish Enlightenment' the Ninth Earl of Moray who was known as 'The Tree Planter' greatly expanded the forest area of Darnaway and outlying areas. He planted Oaks, Beech, Scots Pine, Larch and other conifers, sometimes within the ancient forest (described at the time as 'improving them'), but extensively adjacent to the remnant ancient forest.

1800s -1918

Over the next hundred years the forest developed and expanded further. The species composition changed to grow more productive timber. This timber resource was exploited during the Great War (WW1).

1919 -1990s

In line with post war National Forest Policy objectives there was a push to grow more trees for a Strategic Timber Reserve. This long-term Government policy ran until the 1990's, and saw the push of Plantation Forestry on what was often described as 'derelict woodland' but is now described as Ancient Woodland (native woodland prior to 1750 and 1860). Silvicultural thinning was extensively used to maintain supply of timber.

1990s - Present

Today, the majority woodland is made up Douglas Fir and Scots Pine of varying ages with some broadleaved woodland primarily consisting of mature Oak and Beech plus semi mature Beech. Given the age of the plantations much of them are classed by Nature Scot as Long-Established Woodland of Plantation Origin (LEPO) and as a result of thinning have a wide variety other species present.

Since the mid 1970s, up until the last 10yrs there has been little market for beech firewood and as a result the beech understorey has begin to dominate some sensitive areas of the forest. There has been a recent move to actively thin the Beech to safeguard important aspects of the woodland, particularly to promote increased biodiversity amongst the Oak stands.



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Background information: Historical description of woodland and woodland management:

This description of the woodlands in the 1798 statistical account of Dyke and Moy, County of Elgin, informs us that the area had uncommonly high levels of tree cover during this period.

Background information

Woods.—Few coast parishes are so well provided with variety of natural and planted trees. The larger allars are in request for building boats and small sloops. Birch finds a ready sale for peat-carts, and other implements of husbandry of the cheaper kinds, to supply the neighbouring markets. Ash, elm, beech, plain-tree, and such oaks as can be had, are taken off by water-carriage; and firs, for roofing, farking, and flooring of houses, are fawn out here, and carried off by the like conveyance. Ships, with coals and lime from Newcastle and Sunderland, may shortly carry back cargoes of fir-deal and slabs, for boxing the shafts of mines. It has probably encouraged the plantation of wood in this parish, that the Earl of Moray has a thriving beech at Earlsmill, that measures 14 feet 7 inches; and an ash measuring 14 feet 10 inches in the girth. Experiments were made before the middle of the last century, of planting a few ashes in the vicinity of great houses; but for the first judicious and spirited exertion on a larger scale, in planting and improving an estate, this parish and county has been much indebted to the example of a Lady, of most respectable memory, Mary Sleigh*, the wife of Alexander Brodie of that ilk, Lord Lyon.

Orchards.

* This excellent Lady, who had full liberty to manage matters at home, while her husband attended his duty in several different Parliaments, had acquired liberal and comprehensive views of the benefit and mutual relations of agriculture, manufactures, and commerce. She had seen much of the world before she came here. When she saw the situation of the country, she pitied it; she knew the value of people on an estate, and studied to make them industrious, by contriving work, and giving them wages and bread for their services. The men she employed in levelling, trenching, draining, and raising fences; and trained the women to industry, by establishing a school for spinning, and for dispensing premiums. She raised quantities of flax, encouraged her tenants to cultivate it, and built them a mill, for beating and scutching it. She enclosed and subdivided an extensive mains substantially; trained up the hedges with uncommon care, and, further, sheltered the enclosures, with belts planted with great variety of trees. Her gardens, orchards, and nurseries, surpassed everything, but Dunkeld and Blair, beneath Tay. From these, she was fond of providing her neighbours gratis, who had a mind to make experiments in planting. She made new roads; straightened old ones, planting them on both sides; put trees in the gardens of every farmstead, and raised sylvan scenes all around her. The profit of this has been already realized, and will endure for many years to come. Planting has now become a favourite object. The Earl of Moray is doing great things, and has improved, upon her method. He intermixes all kinds of trees, with pines for shelter. His plantations about Darnaway are uncommonly thriving. He cuts out the firs whenever they can be

Dyke and Moy, County of Elgin, OSA, Vol. XX, 1798

Woods.-

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Background
information: Past
tree cover levels in
local area

Background information

The 1st Edition OS Map shows the extent of the woodland cover in the area in the mid-late 1800s. The map clearly shows extensive tree cover on and around Darnaway. Surrounding areas are also well wooded, including neighbouring Altyre to the East, and Lethen to the South-West.





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Background Information: Past Management

Present extent of woodland cover at Darnaway and Alves

Background information

The current OS Landranger Map (*less elegant than a Harvey Map and with small errors*) shows the current extent of woodland/plantation in the local area. This level of tree cover is partly due to the historical status of Darnaway as a royal hunting forest, which meant that the forest was protected when many others in the area were being felled.



Woodland Area Darnaway and Alves

Moray Trust

20 Jan 2021

Revision A

Drawn by

Checked by

Scale

Author

Date



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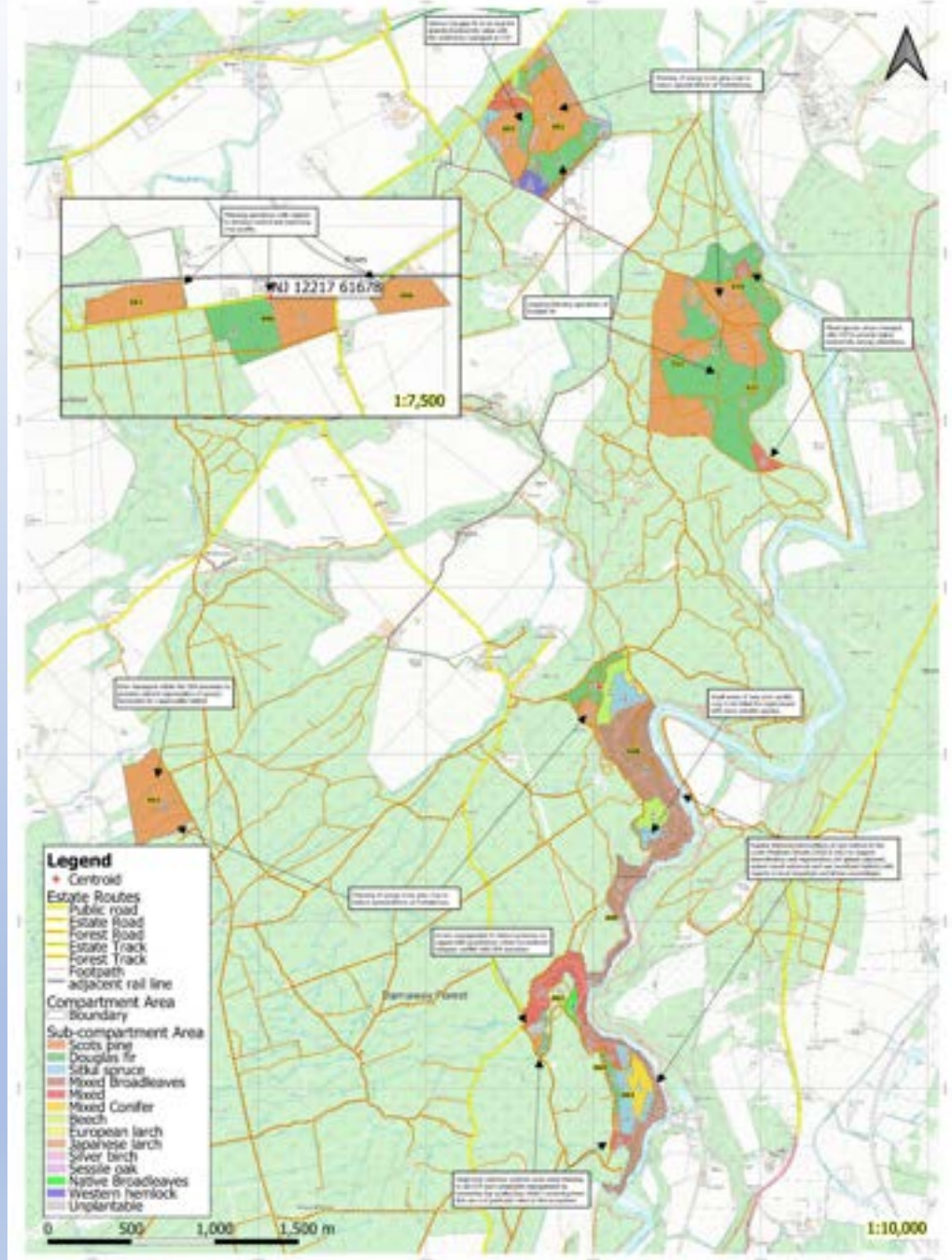
Review of Forest Plan for the next 10yrs

Is there information or suggestions that you have that would help us put together a better Forest Plan?

The current review of Moray Trust Forest Plan

This Pre-Scoping Opportunities & Constraints Map highlights what we have identified.

We would like to know what information you can add for us to consider in this planning process.





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Being part of the Community

Whilst the woodland areas are not close to centres of population, some of the woods are intersected with reasonably popular walking routes that serve the wider local population as well as visitors to the area.

Unlike other woodlands managed for other entities within Moray Estates that are located close to villages and peri urban areas, there is little regular communication with Community Councils. Instead there is more often communication with key user groups that are more likely to be recreation focussed. Information regarding forest operations are pre-signed on the ground and local press and social media is used to communicate planned activities.

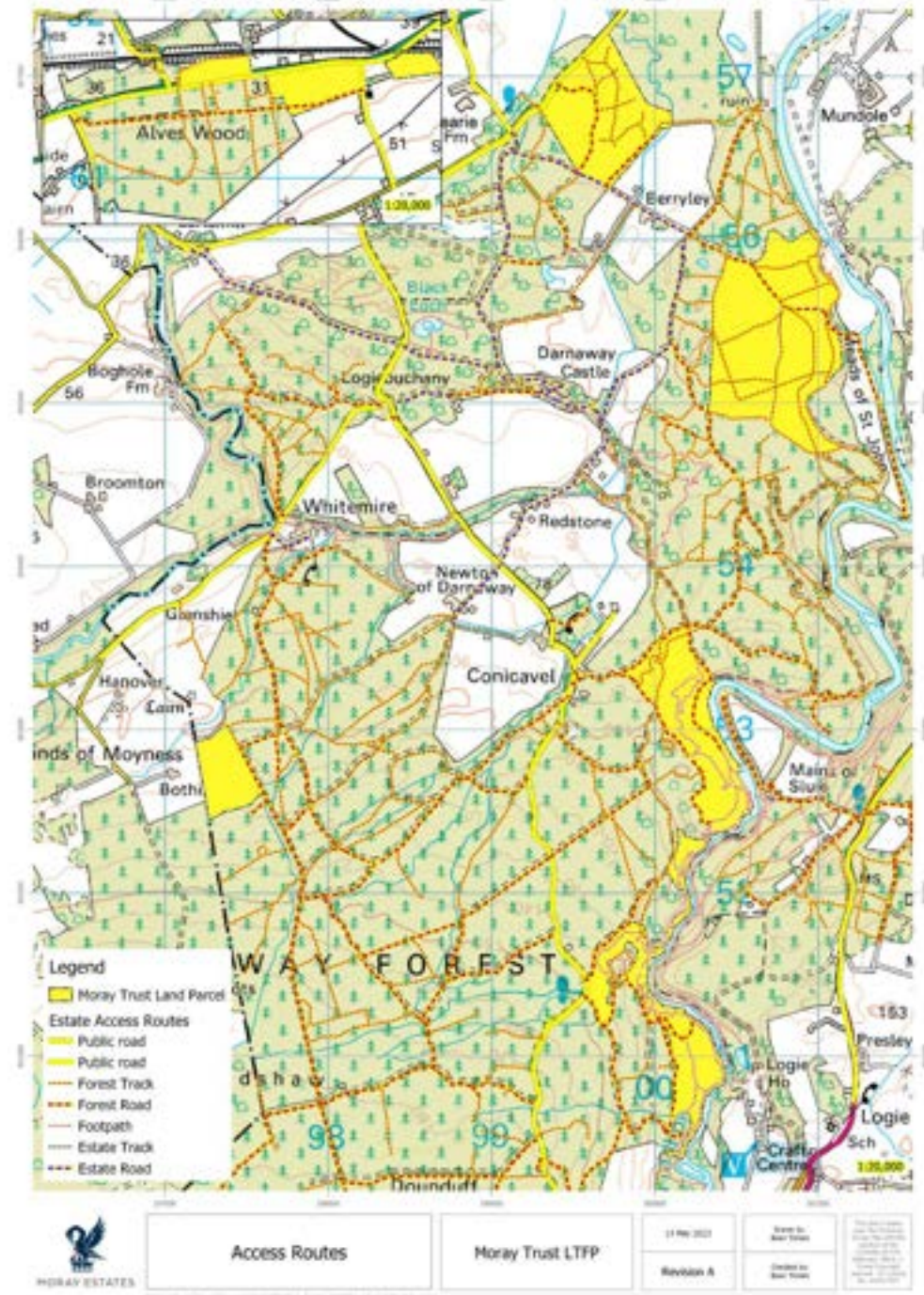
It is also worth noting that our workforce, both directly employed estate staff and forestry contractors, live in the local community.



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Public Access Provision

This map shows the extent of the of the public access routes on Darnaway and at Alves





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Public Access Provision

There is a network of forest/estate roads, tracks and footpaths across the estate.

The access infrastructure aids forest operations but is also well used by recreational users. The network is maintained by estate staff, cutting back roadside vegetation, and roads are maintained using locally sourced stone from Darnaway.

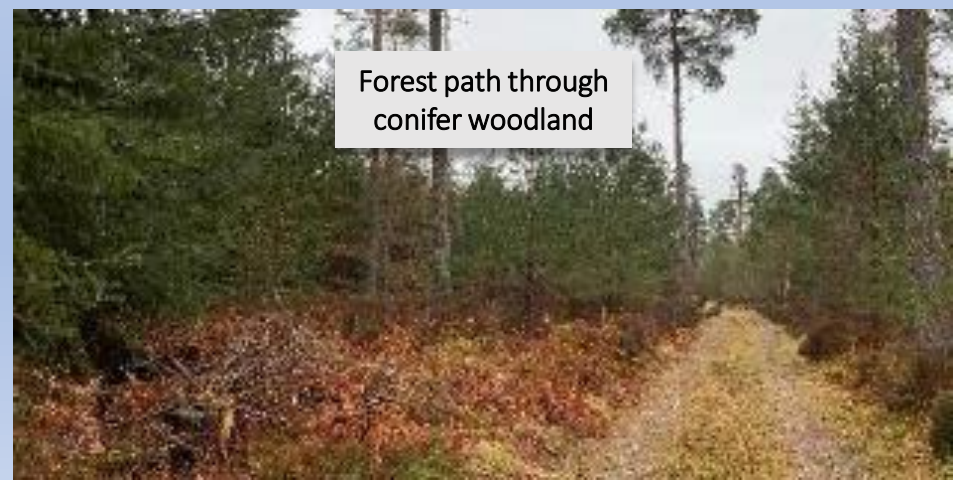
Footpaths are unsurfaced unless required by site conditions. In some cases, boardwalks are used, or stone is laid to minimise footpath erosion and habitat damage. Dunearn Burn carpark provides parking and access for users of the many footpaths along the river Findhorn.



Unsurfaced footpath in broadleaved woodland



Dunearn Burn carpark



Forest path through conifer woodland



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Public Access Provision

The numerous paths and forest roads throughout the woodland that facilitate many activities such as walking, cycling, horse riding, orienteering, dog sledding, and photography. The woodlands are enjoyed by members of the public year-round.



Moray Estates sell salmon fishing on the Lower Findhorn, some of which is accessed via the Moray Trust woodlands.

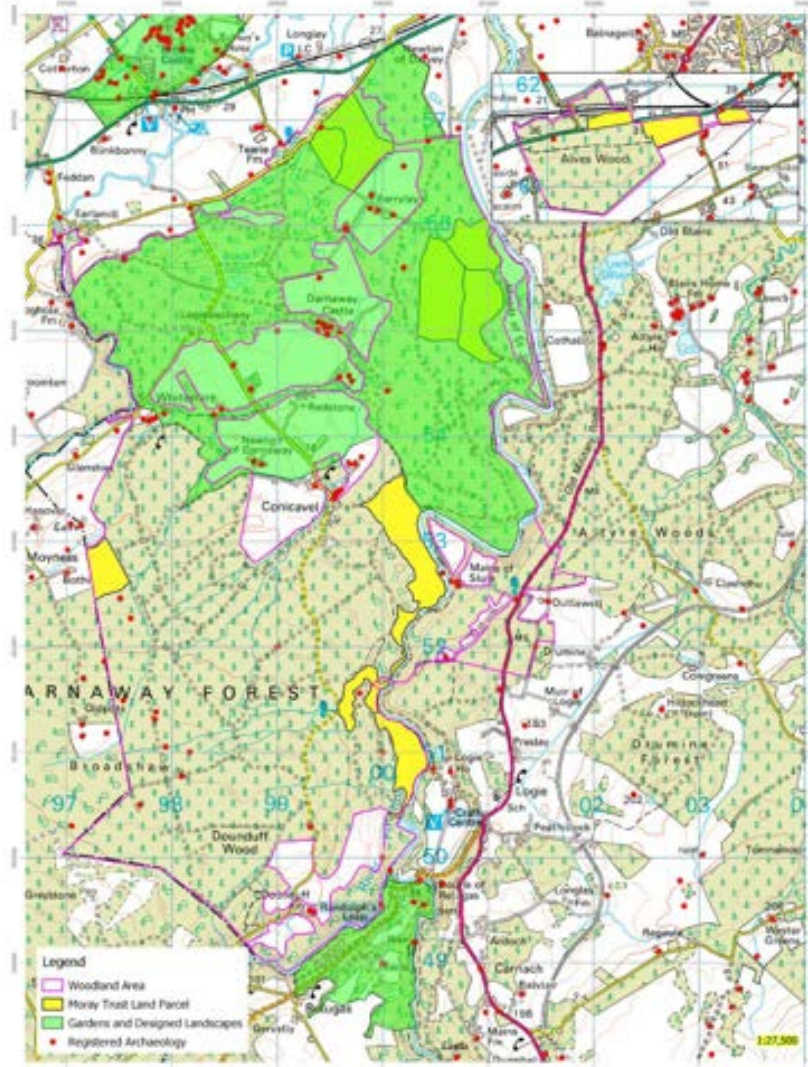
There is also a small seasonal pheasant shoot that is organised by the estate and provides further recreational facilities.



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Archaeological Features

The online archaeological records of sites and surveys are used to help avoid damage to sites within the woodland.



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Archaeology and Designed Landscapes

Moray Trust LTFP

11746 001

Revision A

Drawn by: [Name]

Checked by: [Name]

Forests & historic environment information and advice



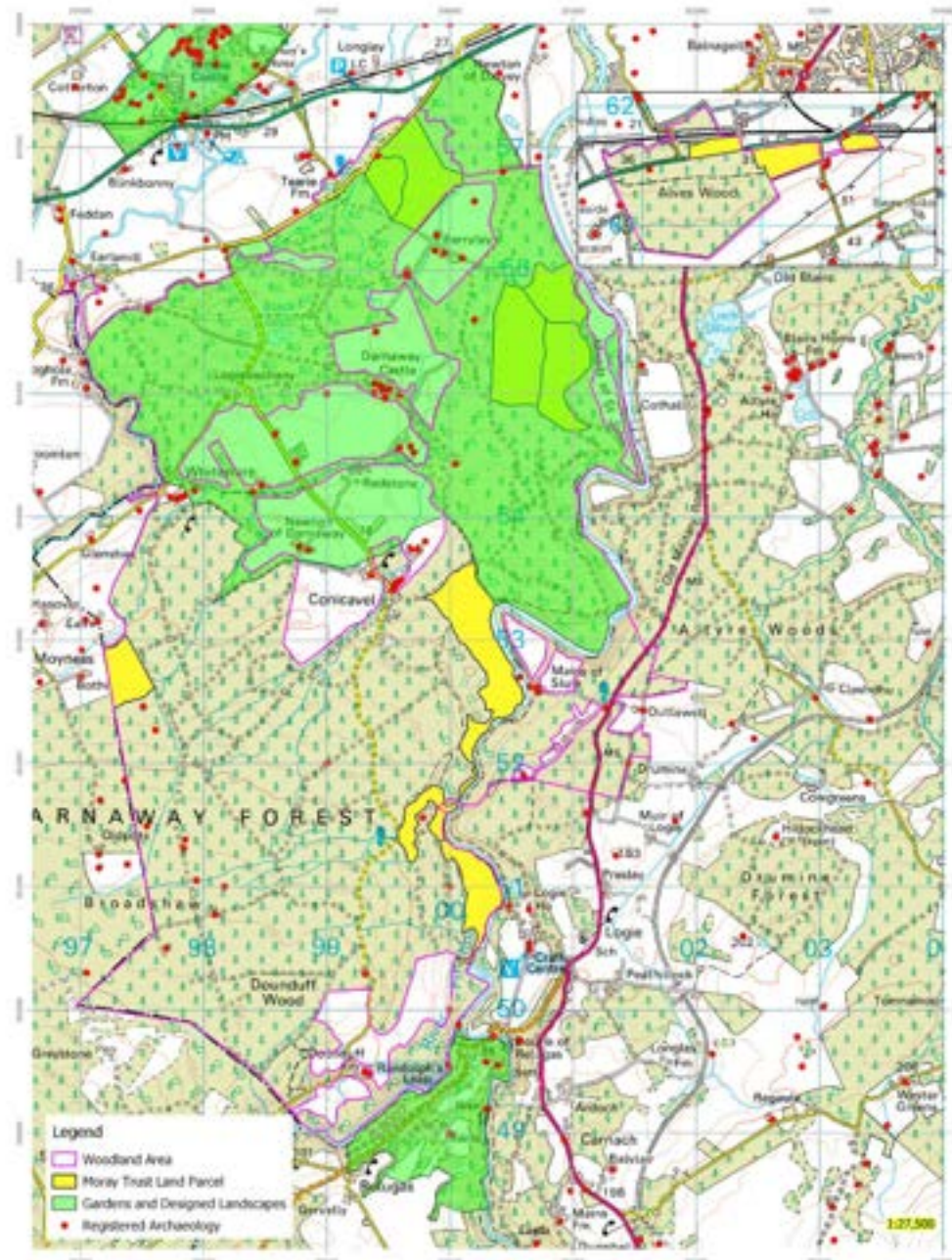
A summary of what forest and woodland managers should consider in relation to the historic environment, providing links to all the sources of information that they should be aware of and how, if required, advice can be obtained from a suitable qualified archaeological professional.



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Historical Designations

A large area surrounding Darnaway Castle is designated by Historic Environment Scotland as a 'Garden & Designed Landscape'. The management of this landscape requires careful thinning and a sensitive replacement planting programme to maintain the *genius loci* of the place.



Archaeology and Designed Landscapes

Moray Trust LTTP

17 Nov 2021
Revision 3

Drawn by:
Map Design:
Checked by:
Scale:



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Tree Pathogens

Impacts within Moray Trust Woodlands

There are many tree pathogens that we contend with in the management of our woodlands.

Some, like *Heterobasidion annosum*, we seek to minimize to limit long-term production losses using urea stump treatments during harvesting (used to change pH of stumps).

Others are notifiable diseases such as *Phytophthora ramorum* (infects Larch) and requires phytosanitary felling of infected and adjacent trees.

Dothistroma Needle Blight (DNB) is increasingly present in young Pine stands. In many areas it has significantly reduced growth rates and has left canopies more open than is expected at this early stage.

Heavy and early thinning promotes greater airflow within the crown and is a strategy that will be employed to lessen the impact of DNB.



A freshly urea treated Douglas Fir stump



Weak crowns as a result of DNB in thicket stage Pine



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Tree Pathogens

Impacts within Moray Trust Woodlands

Chalara is a serious disease affecting Ash trees it is caused by the fungal pathogen *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*. It is estimated that >90% of Scotland's Ash will be lost to this recently introduced pathogen. It's often rapid impact on the structural integrity and inherent strength of Ash trees is a major issue especially when the trees are close to people and property.

We aim to monitor the health of the trees in the woodlands and those close to roads, paths and buildings to protect people and property from tree failures.

We aim to find a balance as deadwood (created by pathogens) is an important ecological feature within the woods and on veteran trees.

Damage to Ash trees from Chalara

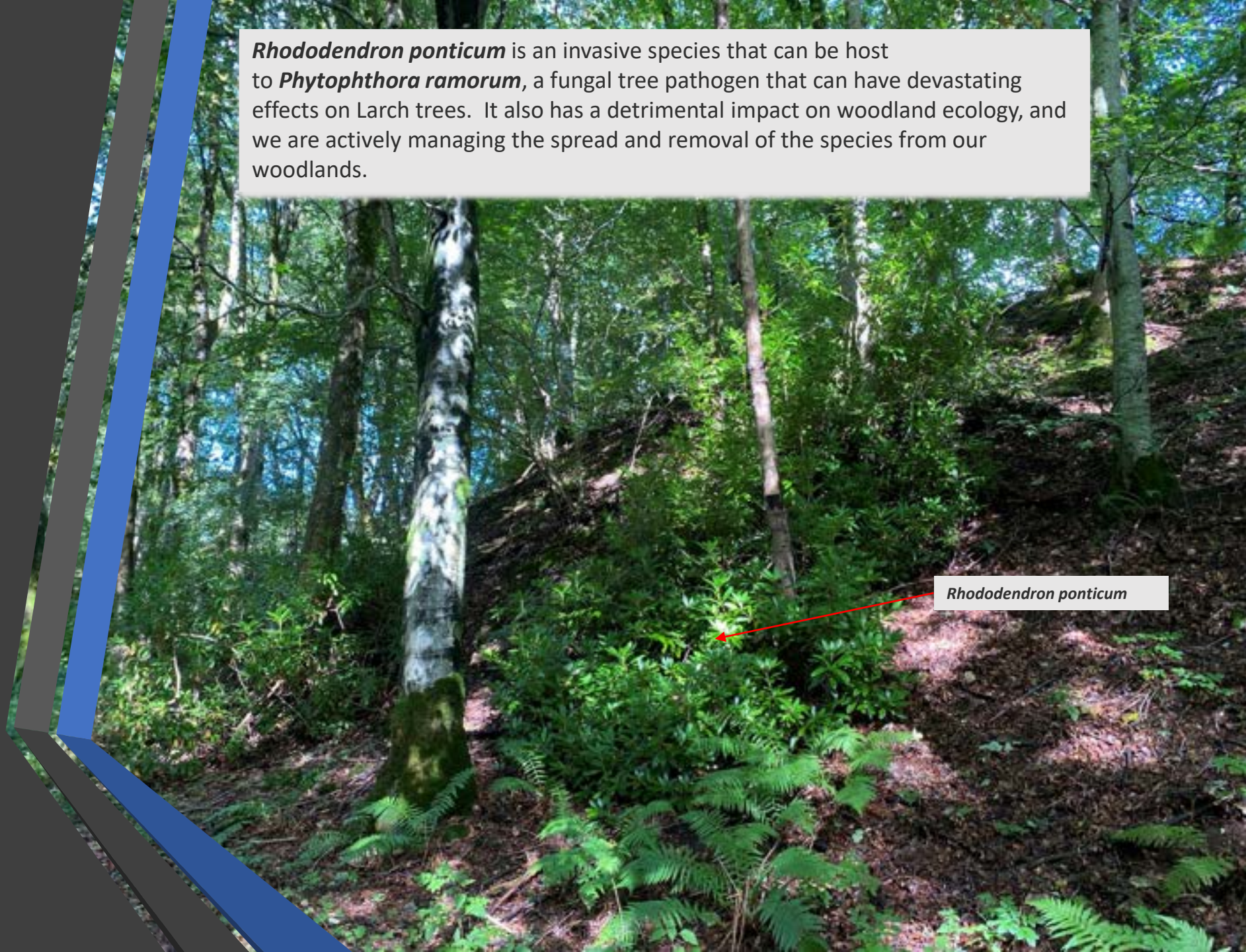




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Management and
eradication of
invasive species
plant species

Rhododendron ponticum is an invasive species that can be host to *Phytophthora ramorum*, a fungal tree pathogen that can have devastating effects on Larch trees. It also has a detrimental impact on woodland ecology, and we are actively managing the spread and removal of the species from our woodlands.



Rhododendron ponticum



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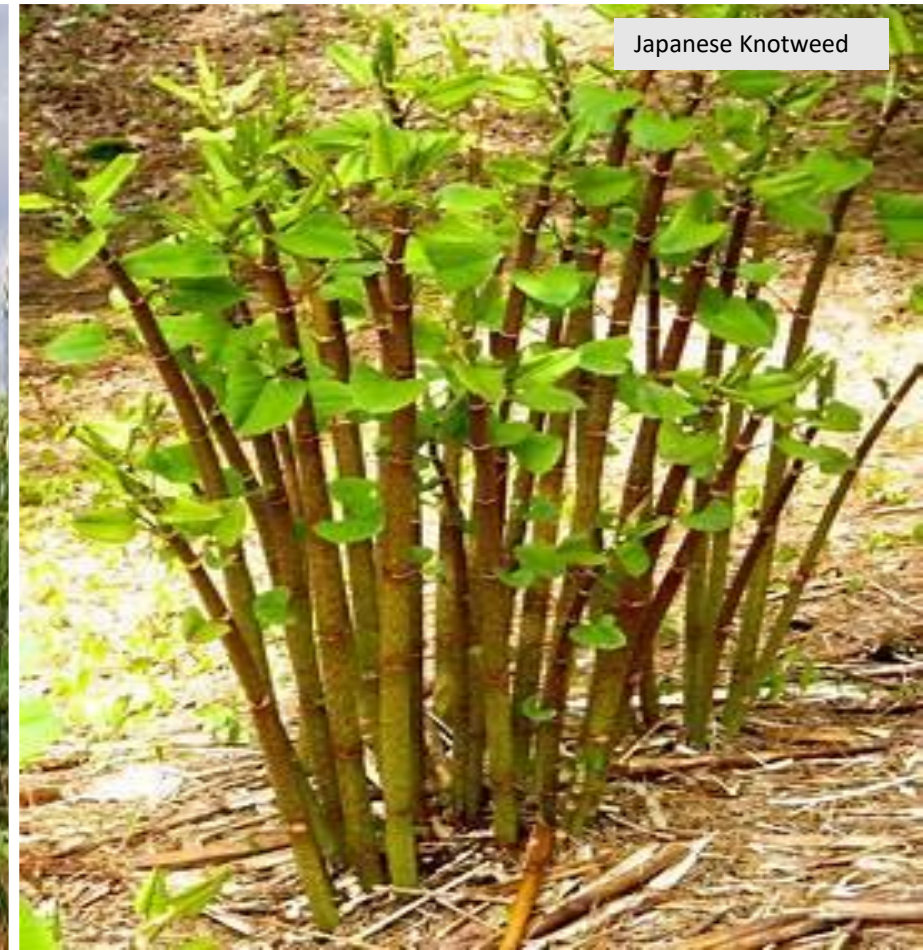
Management and eradication of invasive species plant species

Giant Hogweed and Japanese Knotweed are both invasive species that we are actively trying to help remove from this area before it becomes a larger problem.

Management of these species in the area is currently being led by the Findhorn, Nairn and Lossie Fisheries Trust.



Giant Hogweed -
The sap from this plant is dangerous and can cause large blisters on the skin. Don't attempt to cut unless you are wearing appropriate clothing.



Japanese Knotweed



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Deer Management

Both Roe and Red deer are managed at Darnaway, and Roe deer are managed at Alves to prevent serious damage to forestry crops, native woodland, and agricultural crops.


Multiple roads are close to or pass through the LTFP area, including the A96, the main trunk road between Inverness and Aberdeen. Deer must be controlled in the vicinity of these roads to reduce the risk of Deer Vehicle Collisions (DVCs).

Between 200 and 250 deer are culled annually across the entirety of Darnaway and Alves, under all ownerships. There is no commercial stalking let, as our aim is to maintain a low deer density to allow natural regeneration of trees to develop.


Mixed age and increasingly mixed species woodland provide ideal conditions for Roe and increasingly Red deer to thrive, a mosaic of woodland ages and species creates great Bed & Breakfast conditions for them. The design of the woodlands needs to include a network of open space and deer lawns to help facilitate effective culling and maintain a sustainably low deer population. For more general information on managing deer in the lowlands see the Lowland Deer Network Scotland website: <https://www.ldns.org.uk/>



Bark stripped by roe deer is a relatively minor issue, but damage by red deer can cause serious economic harm.



This is a Beech tree that has been affected by repeated browsing from deer, severely stunting its growth.



A Roe Buck enjoying some newly planted Sitka Spruce and Rowan.




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Deer Management


Deer are culled by trained estate staff and then transported to the brand-new on-site larder at Darnaway, where the carcasses are prepared to be collected by the game dealer who butchers and sells venison into local, national, and international markets.

Estate staff are fully trained and qualified to properly handle and prepare the meat for human consumption in line with government regulations and industry best practice.

Non-lead bullets are used for culling deer on the estate, ensuring that the venison produced is of the highest quality.



Modern larder to ensure it can be kept clean and hygienic, ensuring the highest food standards are met.



The Deer are hung in a temperature-controlled chiller to await collection.



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Biodiversity & habitats

Many of the areas of commercial conifer timber within the forest are currently being restructured, or have already been restructured, to provide a mosaic of age and species structures. This varied structure improves the habitats within the woodland and provides many benefits for a range of species. Riparian zones around watercourses are planted with native tree species such as Alder, Willow, Rowan and Birch.



A mixed age stand of Scots Pine with some mature Sitka Spruce and Beech.

A young mixed species native broadleaf stand with an open structure.





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Biodiversity & habitats

Whilst timber production is a primary objective of the woodland management, promoting and improving biodiversity provision within the woodlands is also an important objective.



Areas of Juniper are encouraged to expand through deer management, providing areas of good scrub habitat.

Species of fungi such as the 'Chicken of the woods' are present throughout the woodland.





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Biodiversity & habitats

Veteran trees are protected during forest operations due to the high biodiversity and cultural value they hold.

The woodlands support a wide variety of animal species such as Badgers, Pine Martens, and Red Squirrels. Mitigation measures such as buffer zones are used during forest operations to protect these species from disturbance.



Veteran Scots Pine tree
above the Findhorn Gorge



Badger setts within
conifer woodland

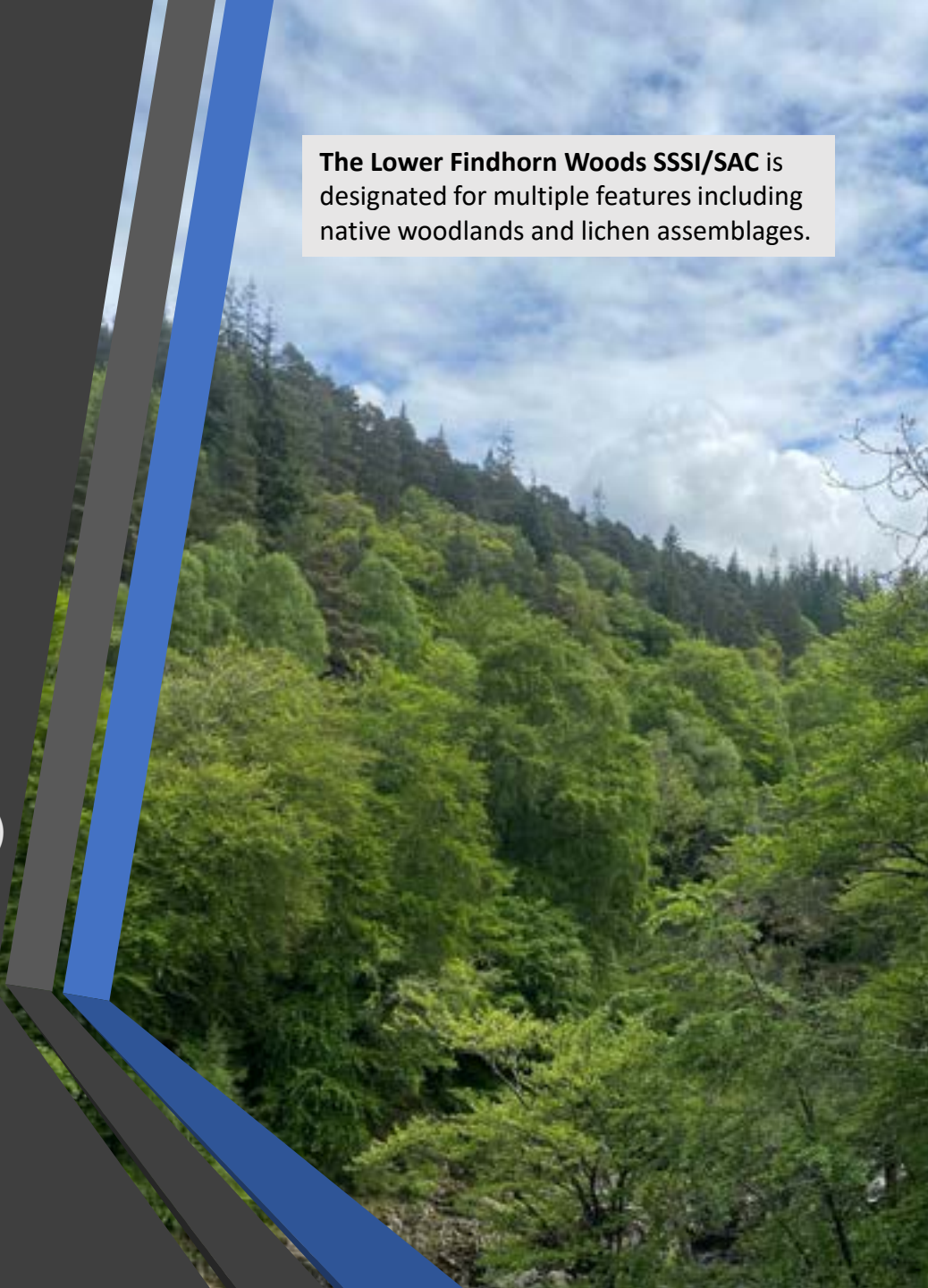


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Biodiversity Designations

The estate woodland contains
three separate biodiversity
designations

- (i) Lower Findhorn Woods SSSI
(Site of Special Scientific Interest)
- (ii) Lower Findhorn Woods SAC
(Special Area of Conservation)
- (iii) Darnaway and Lethen Forest
SPA (Special Area of Protection)



The Lower Findhorn Woods SSSI/SAC is
designated for multiple features including
native woodlands and lichen assemblages.



**The Darnaway and Lethen Forest
SPA** is designated for Capercaillie,
a large woodland grouse species.



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Biodiversity Designations

The Lower Findhorn Woods SSSI designation relates to the following features

- : Upland oak woodland
- : Upland mixed ash woodland
- : Wet woodland
- : Oligotrophic river/stream
- : Bryophyte assemblage
- : Lichen assemblage

The Lower Findhorn Woods SAC designation relates to Mixed woodland on base-rich soils associated with rocky slopes. Both designations are classed as being in unfavorable condition due to negative pressure from non-native species (Beech).

The Lower Findhorn Woods SSSI/SAC is approximately 181.4 ha, of which 40 ha is contained within the Moray Trust ownership.

Over the last decade or so, a range of activities have been undertaken to reduce the negative pressure from non-native Beech trees within the SSSI/SAC. Following the approval of this plan, these activities are set to resume.

The area supports a wide range of native tree species, along with important bryophyte and lichen communities.



Lungwort lichen is abundant along the less shaded trees within the microclimate of the Lower Findhorn Gorge.



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Biodiversity Designations

Darnaway and Lethen Forest SPA is an important habitat for Capercaillie. The current assessment of the site is that it is in unfavorable condition due to the declining population of Capercaillie. This is due to several reasons including predation, seasonal climate, sub optimal ground flora, and human disturbance during the breeding season. Current management of the woodland aims to improve the habitat for Capercaillie through thinning of timber stands, predator control and possible future woodland grazing of cattle, a practice that provides multiple benefits for Capercaillie.

Darnaway and Lethen Forest SPA is approximately 1,830 ha, of which 147 ha is contained within the Moray Trust ownership.

The area is made up of mixed conifer woodland with a high percentage of Scots Pine. The ground flora is predominantly made up of Heather species, Blaeberry and Bracken.

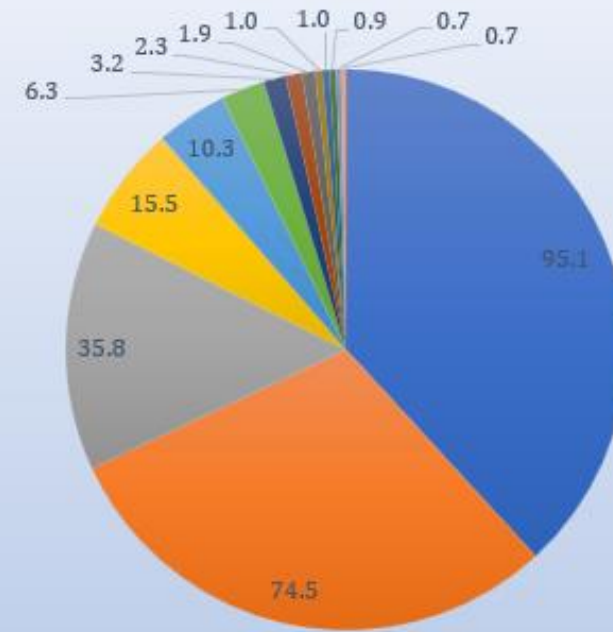




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Current Species Distribution

Area Occupied by Species (ha)



- Scots pine
- Douglas fir
- Mixed Broadleaves
- Mixed
- Sitka spruce
- Beech
- Mixed Conifer
- Japanese larch
- Western hemlock
- Native Broadleaves
- Sessile oak
- Unplatable
- European larch
- Silver birch

*The charts show the relationship between species and area Using data gleaned from the compartment records .
 The style in which the records are written that only the primary species of each sub compartment is considered. Any secondary or minor species can not be expressed here.



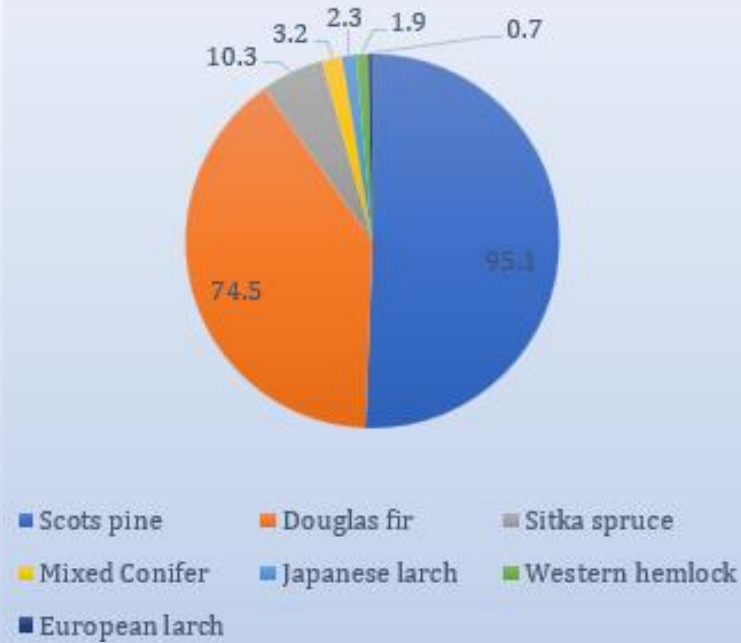
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Species Distribution

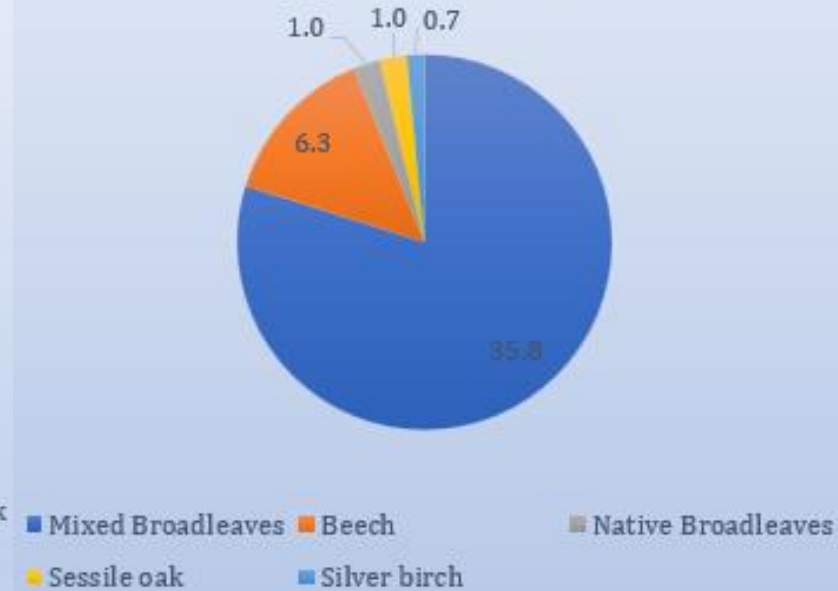
Group by commercially important conifer species and broadleaved species.

There is some scope to manage some of the broadleaved species as commercial timber trees too, though this will only be possible on the better ground.

Area Occupied by Conifers (ha)



Area Occupied by Broadleaves (ha)



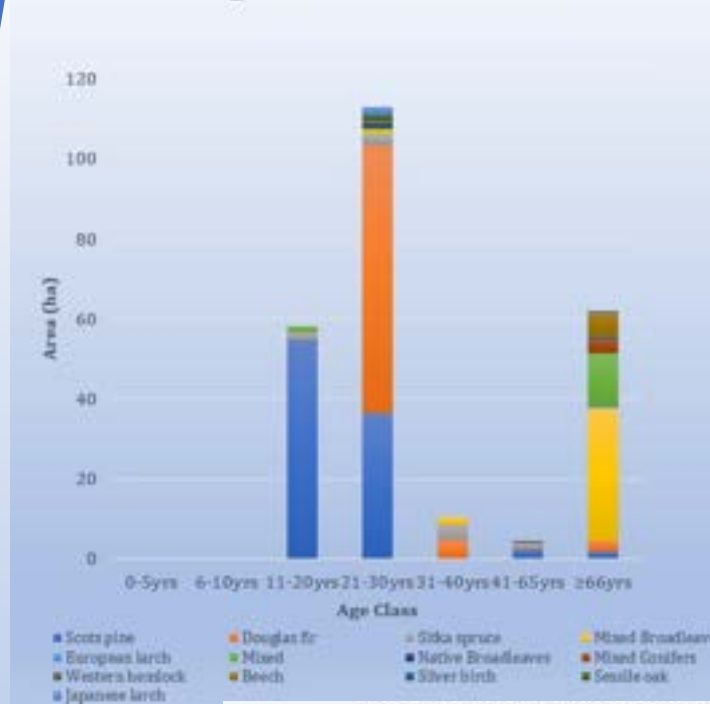
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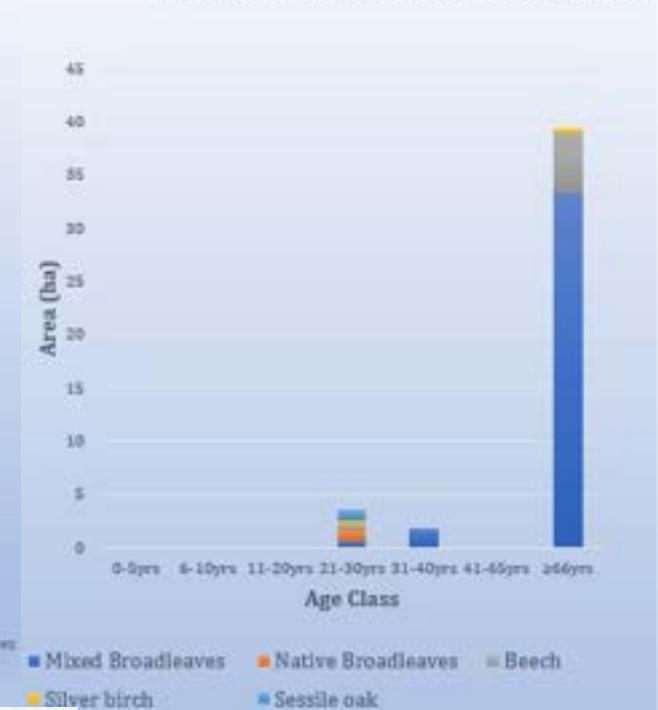
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Age Class Distribution

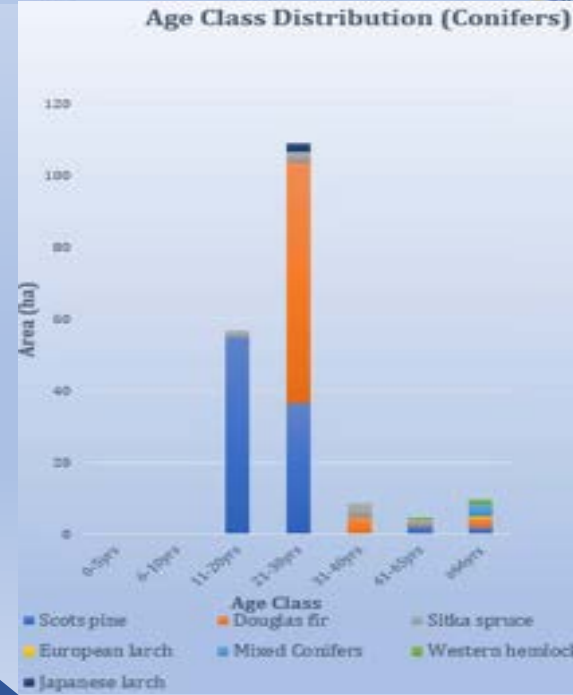
Age Class Distribution



Age Class Distribution (Broadleaves)



Age Class Distribution (Conifers)



* The charts show the relationship between species, age class, and area, using data gleaned from the compartment records. As before, the charts only express the primary species and, therefore, primary age. The age classes were derived from generally accepted stages of conifer growth (i.e. establishment, early thicket, thicket, early pole, mid pole, late pole, over mature.).



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Forest Operations

Forest operations such as felling, thinning and restocking enable the management objectives (timber production, biodiversity provision etc.) of the woodland to be met.





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Continuous Cover Silviculture

The Continuous Cover
Forestry Map shows the
areas where we are aiming
to manage under
Continuous Cover
Silvicultural Systems.

An area of mature Douglas Fir that has been recently thinned,
and is managed under a Continuous Cover Forestry scheme.





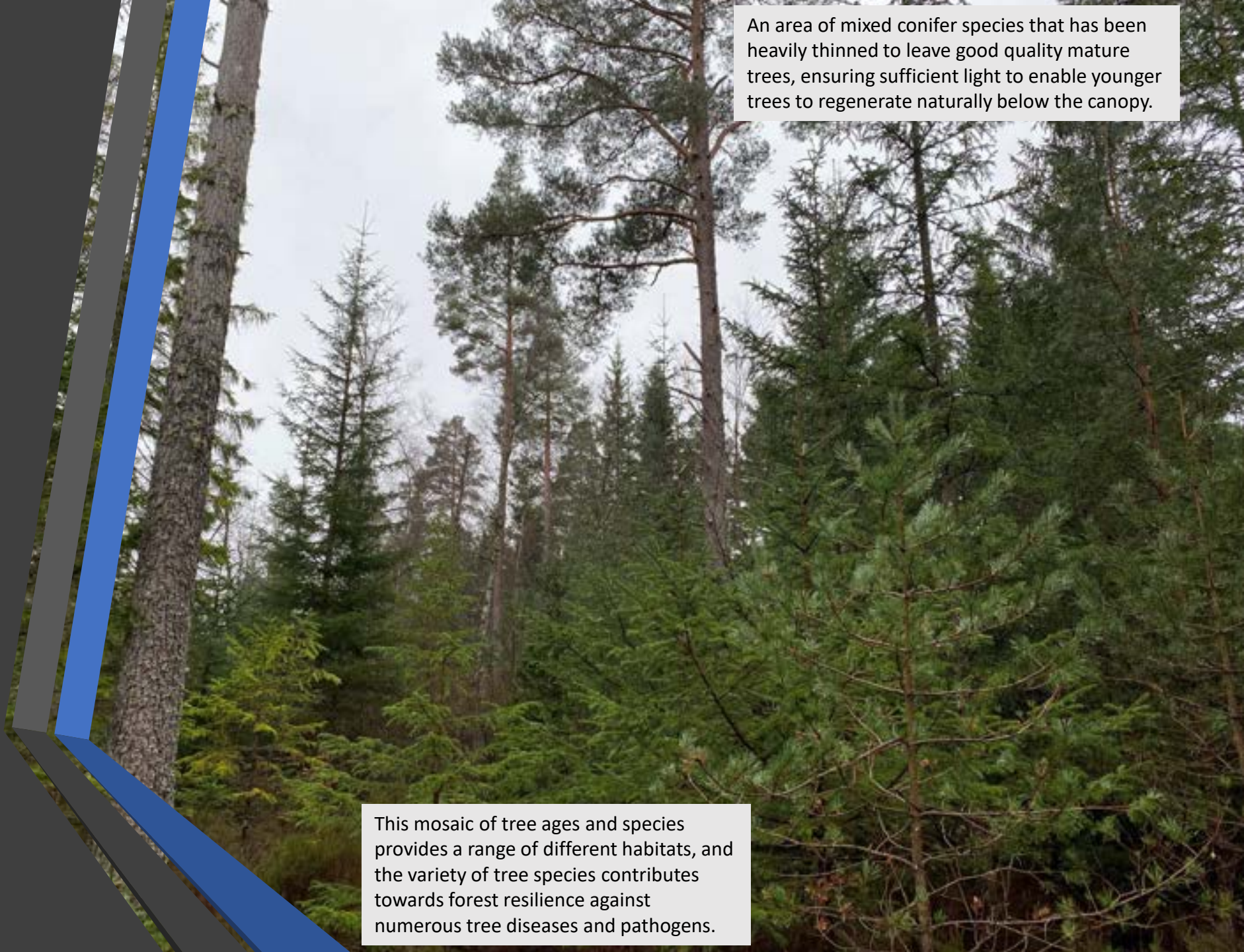
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Continuous Cover Silviculture

Creating a mosaic of tree
species and ages through
thinning and deer
management

An area of mixed conifer species that has been heavily thinned to leave good quality mature trees, ensuring sufficient light to enable younger trees to regenerate naturally below the canopy.

This mosaic of tree ages and species provides a range of different habitats, and the variety of tree species contributes towards forest resilience against numerous tree diseases and pathogens.





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Silvicultural Thinning

Providing flexible options rather than only binary choices available to un-thinned stands



Dense (un-thinned) Douglas fir that is out-competing most other forms of vegetation, leading to a reduction in biodiversity. If left un-thinned the crop will yield less sawlogs and the biodiversity within the stand will remain at a lower level due to a lack of light. The lack of structural diversity will further impact the levels of biodiversity.

After thinning the remaining trees have more room to grow, and more light penetrates to the forest floor, allowing for a greater diversity of plant life and habitat provision. As can be seen from this image, branches from the felled trees (brash) are left on the ground to slowly decompose and recycle nutrients back into the soil.





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Thinning

Thinning of Pine stands to reduce impact of DNB and increase timber quality



Areas of thicket stage Pine are suffering from Dothistroma Needle Blight (DNB), causing low growth rates. These areas of young Pine will be thinned to increase airflow through the stand, reducing the impact of DNB.

In Cpt 002 there is a mixture of Lodgepole and Scots Pine. The Lodgepole will be gradually reduced through thinning in favour of Scots Pine, allowing this species to flourish and produce high quality timber whilst providing valuable native woodland habitat.





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Removal of Beech to promote Oak

Dense stands of Beech can
often shade out mature and
veteran Oak trees.



Veteran Oak that has been
shaded out by Beech trees



Dense Beech canopy and
leaf litter shades out many
ground flora species,
maintaining a sparse level
of ground vegetation



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Findhorn Gorge Native Woodland Restoration

Restoring the native
woodland habitat
throughout the Lower
Findhorn Gorge SAC and
SSSI through non-native
species removal

Work has been undertaken along some areas of the Findhorn Gorge to remove non-native species (Beech) in order to improve and restore the condition of the native woodland.



A view down into the gorge where Beech has been removed



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Findhorn Gorge Native Woodland Restoration



These photos show areas where the removal of Beech has begun, allowing more room for the remaining Oaks.

Methods used to remove the beech have included conventional felling and deadwood creation through ring-barking and the use of herbicide Ecoplugs.





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Felling and restocking

Replacement of less suitable species



The Spruce in Cpts 048 and 063 was planted prior to the Findhorn Gorge being designated as a SSSI and SAC. This Spruce is due to be felled and replaced with a species more suitable for the close proximity of the stand to the Findhorn Gorge SSSI/SAC. The Spruce is close enough to regenerate into the gorge area (see below), interfering with habitat restoration works being carried out.

Under normal circumstances these stand of Spruce would have been thinned already, however due to difficulties relating to access have prevented this. As a result, the stand is now too unstable to thin and must be clearfelled.





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Felling and
restocking

Replacement of less suitable
species



An area of Western Hemlock close to the Tearie Walks (Cpt 002) is due to be felled and restocked with species more suitable to the area, potentially Oak. Western Hemlock casts a heavy shade and regenerates under other species, in a similar way to Beech, often shading out light demanding species such as Scots Pine and Oak.

Adjacent to the stand is an overhead powerline, which has prevented the Western Hemlock from being thinned, causing the dense canopy cover and regeneration to become an issue for other tree species.





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Maps

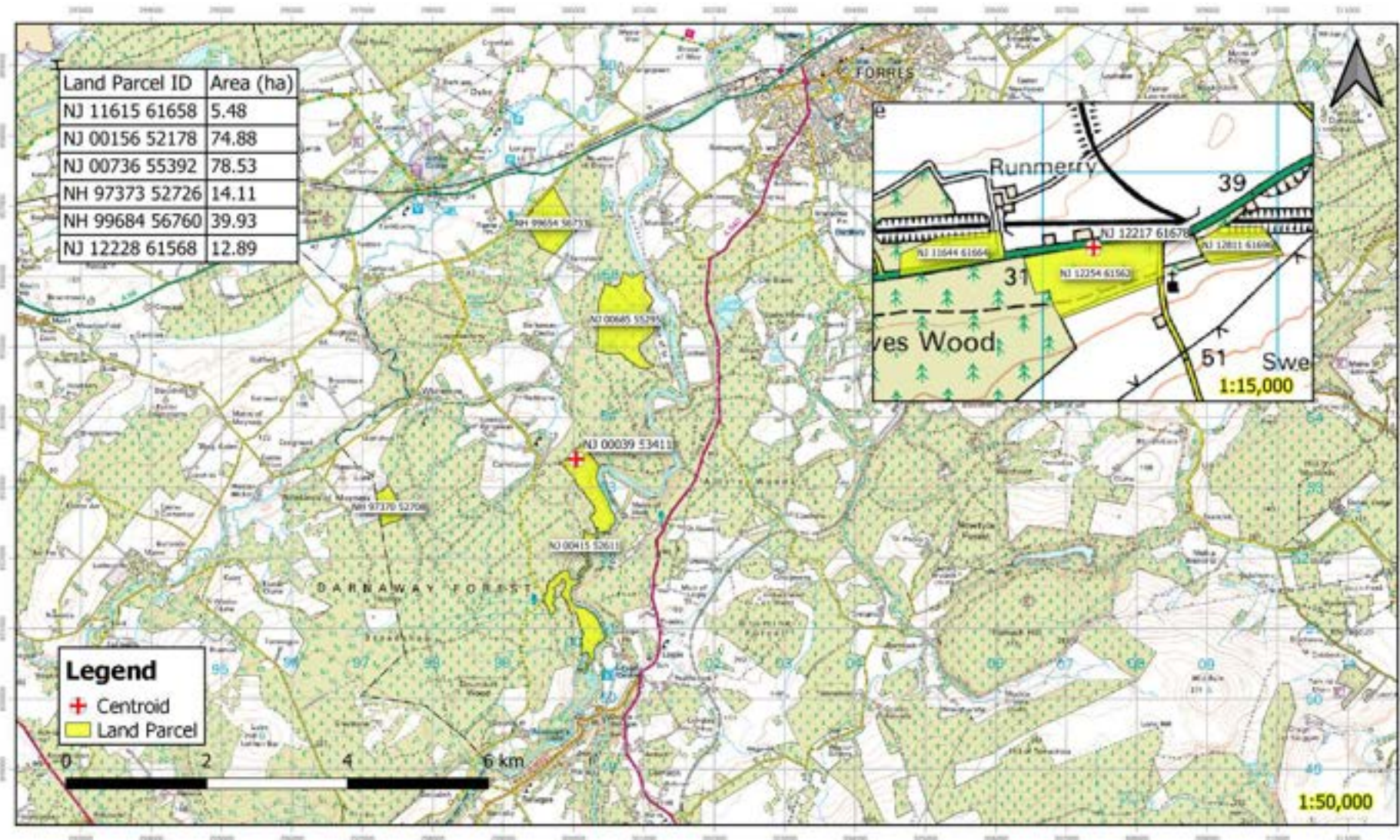
High resolution versions
of these maps are
available to view on the
webpage





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LTFP
Location



Location

Moray Trust LTFP

11 Aug 2022

Revision A

Drawn by
Covey 1044

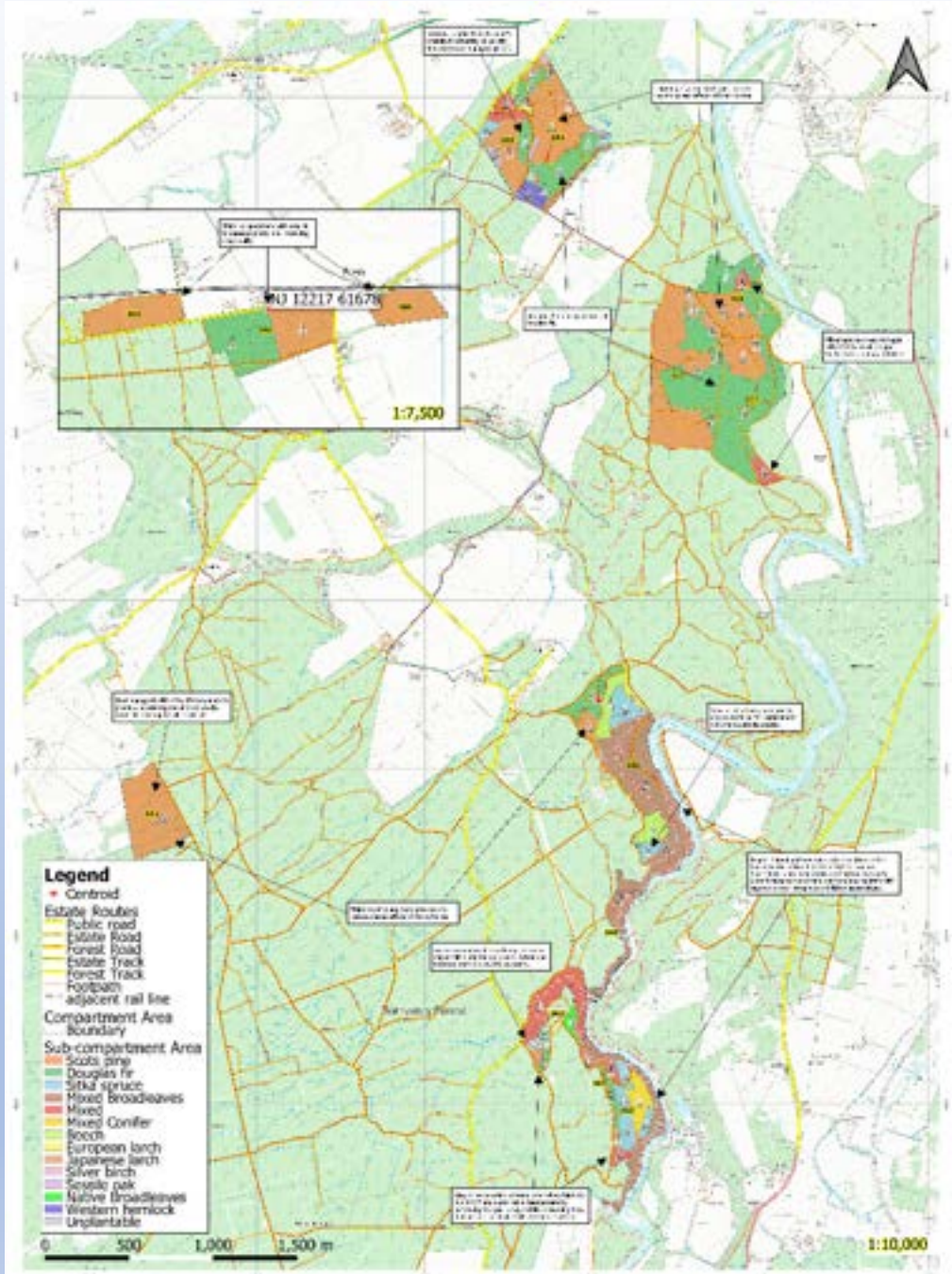
Checked by
Covey 1044

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It is not to be used for
any other purpose without
the written consent of
Moray Estates Ltd.



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Concept Map



Concept 1

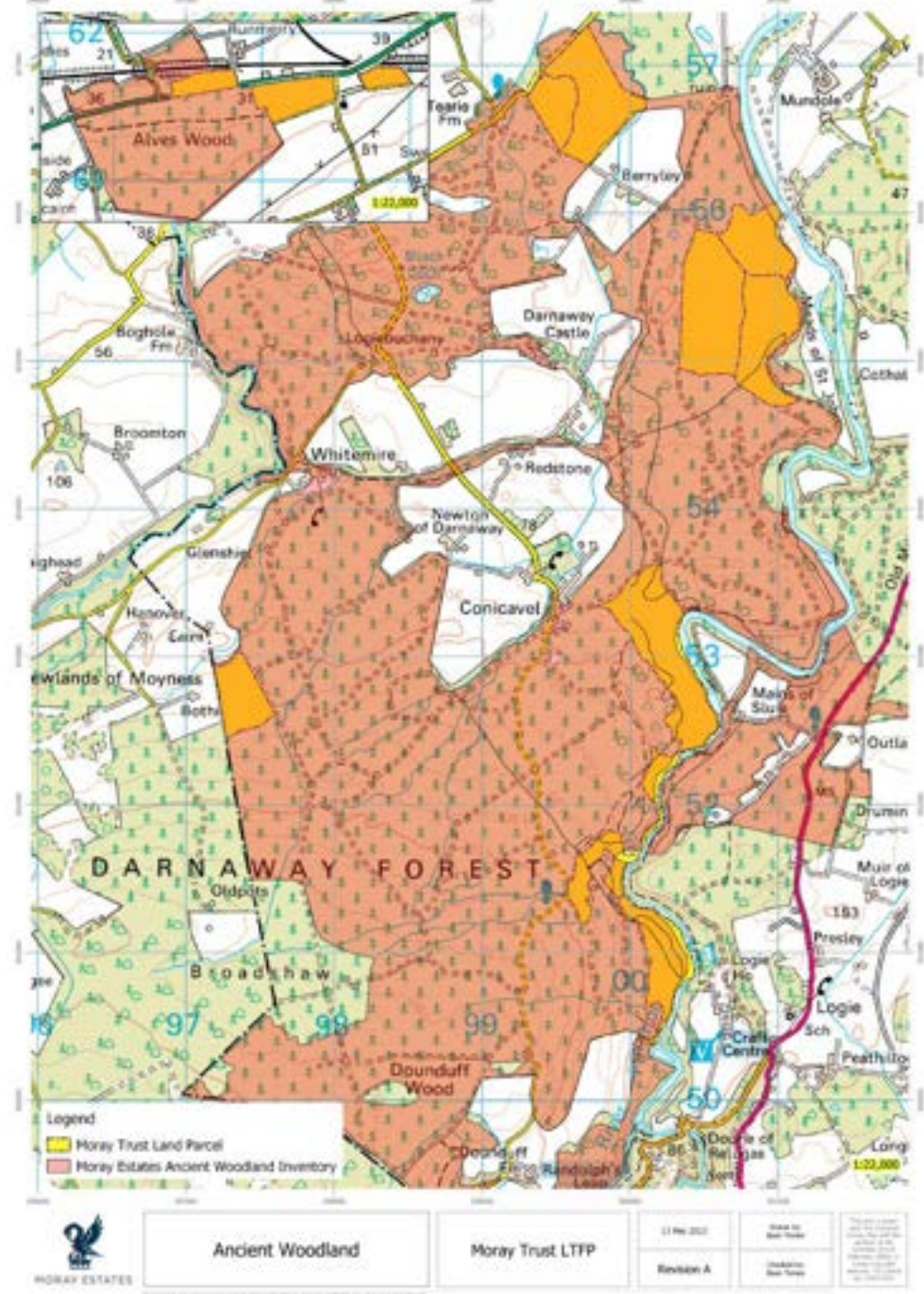
Moray Trust LTFP

| | |
|--------|----------|
| Scale | 1:10,000 |
| Date | 2011 |
| Author | 81% |



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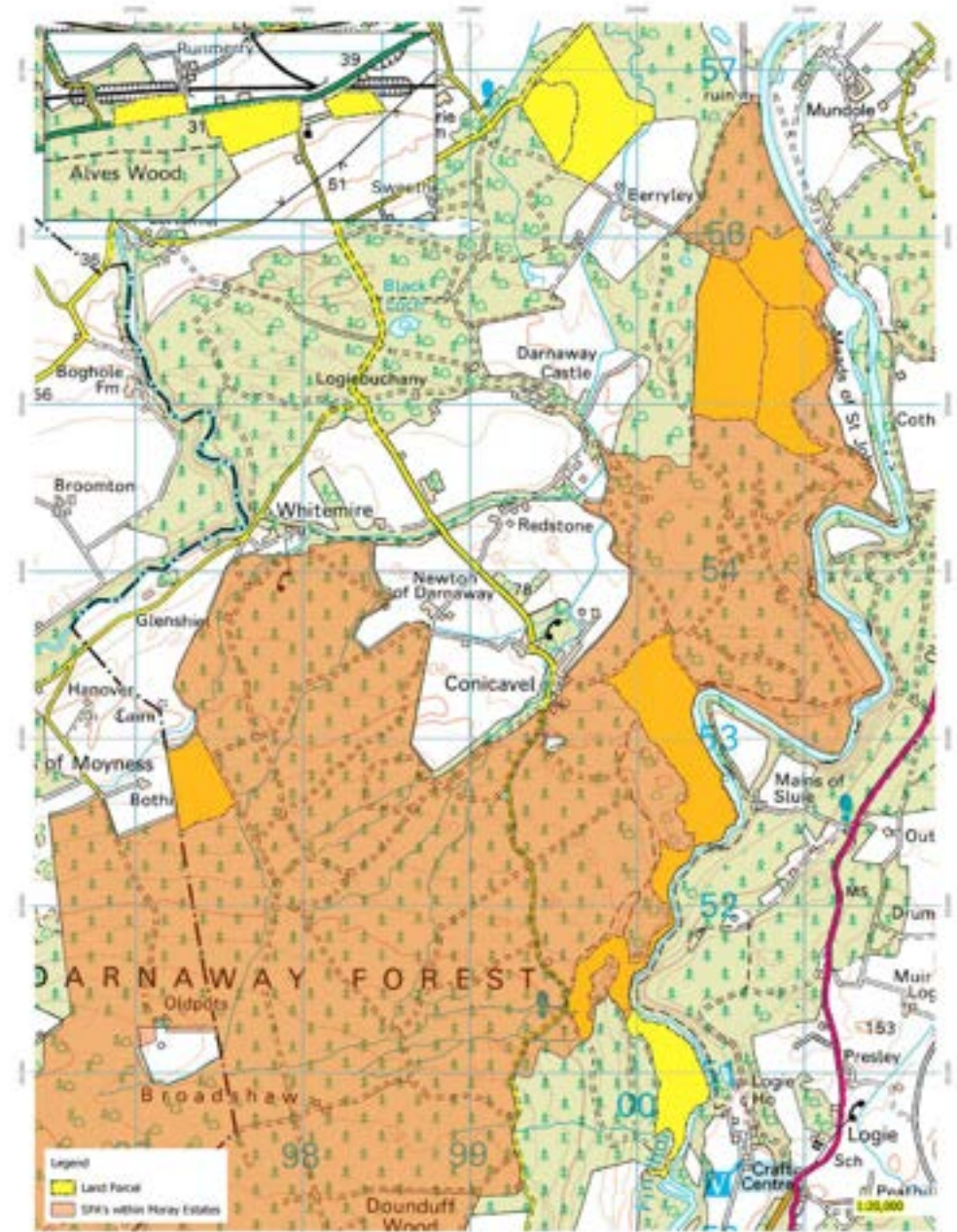
Ancient Woodland Inventory





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Biodiversity Designations

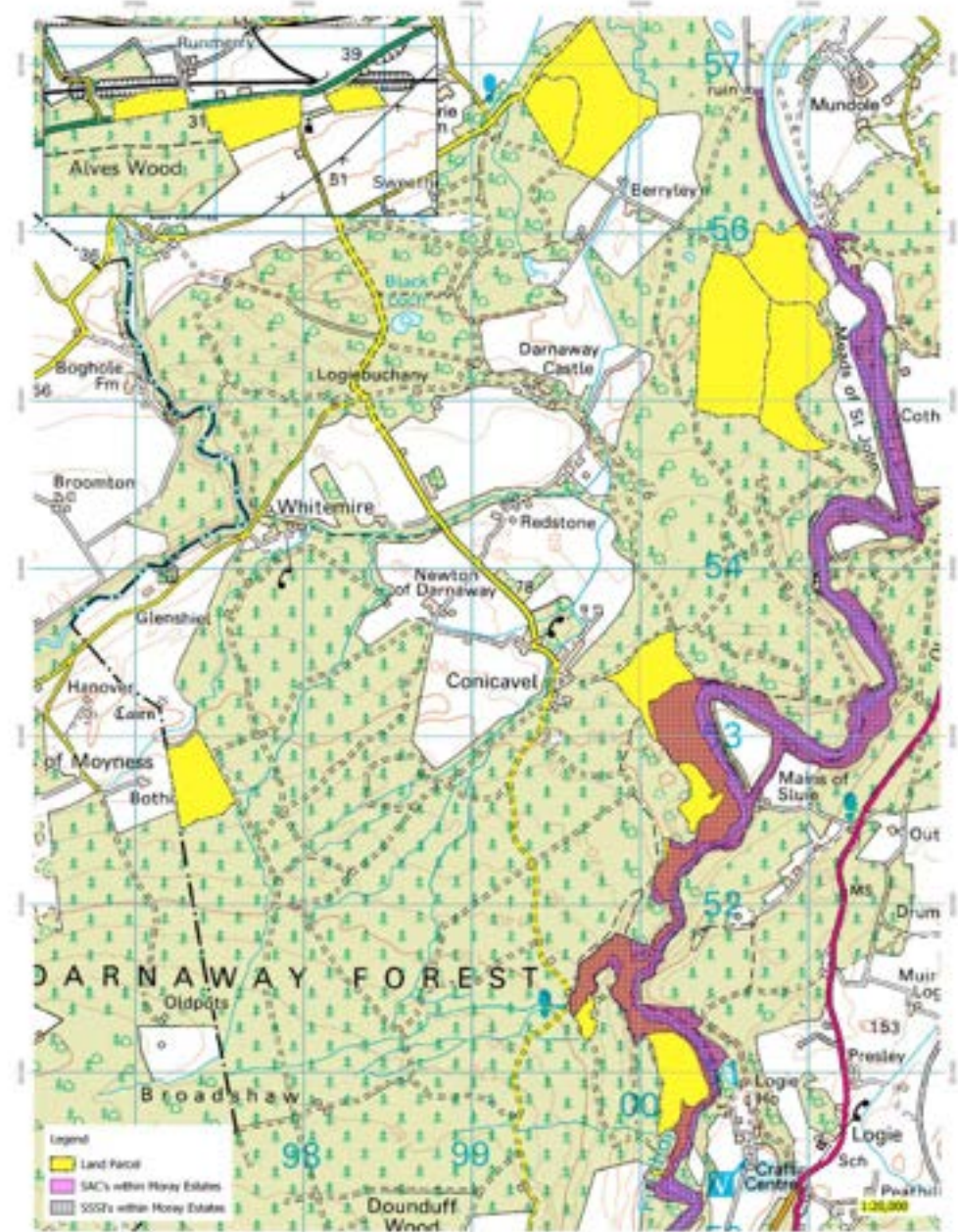


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| Special Protection Areas | Moray Trust LTFP | 11 Feb 2021 | Scale 1:50,000 |
| | | Revision A | Map Date: 11 Feb 2021 |



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Biodiversity Designations



Special Areas of Conservation/
Sites of Special Scientific Interest

Moray Trust LTP

10 Feb 2021

Version 1

Revision A

Author

Checked

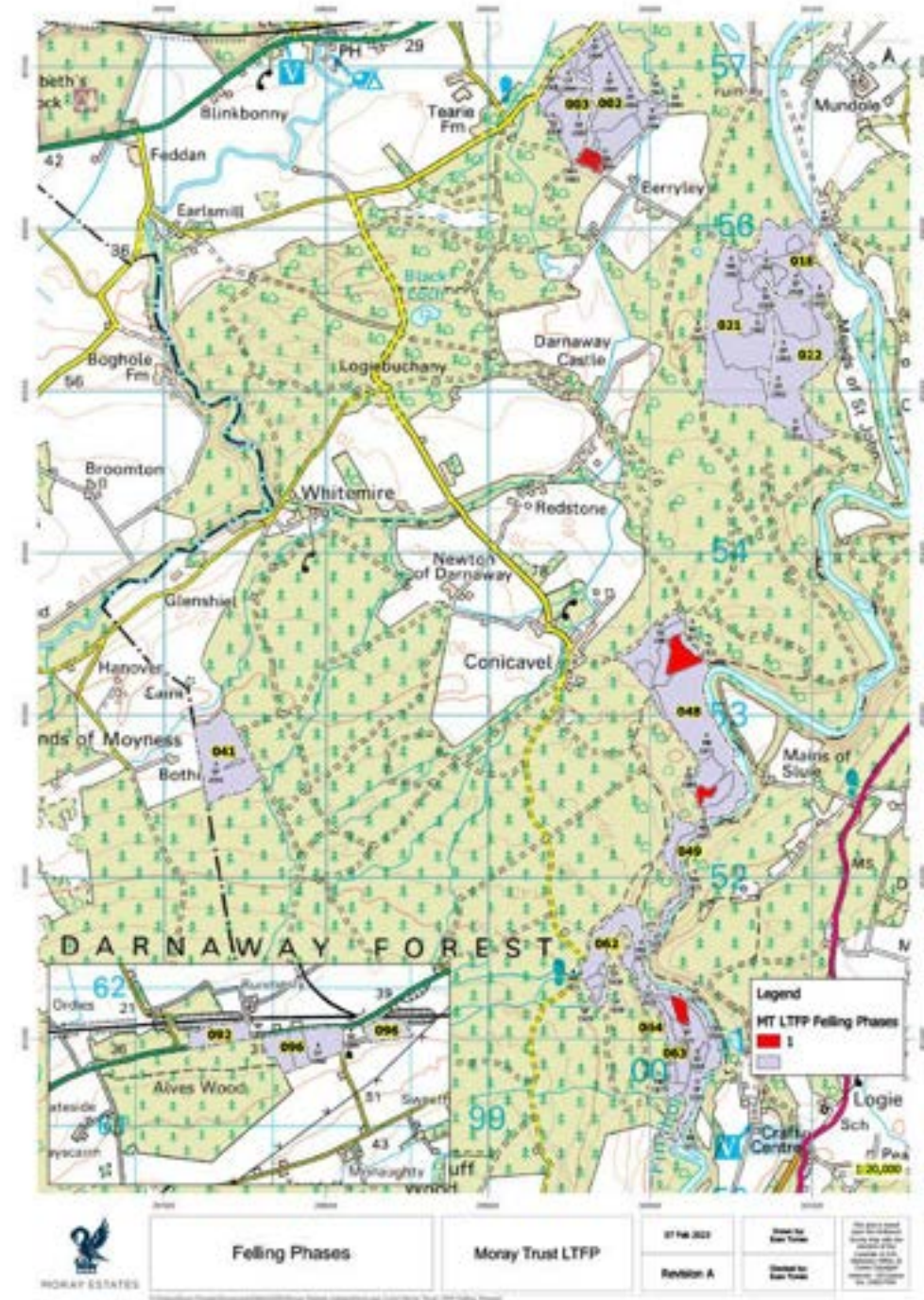
Approved

Date



MORAY ESTATES

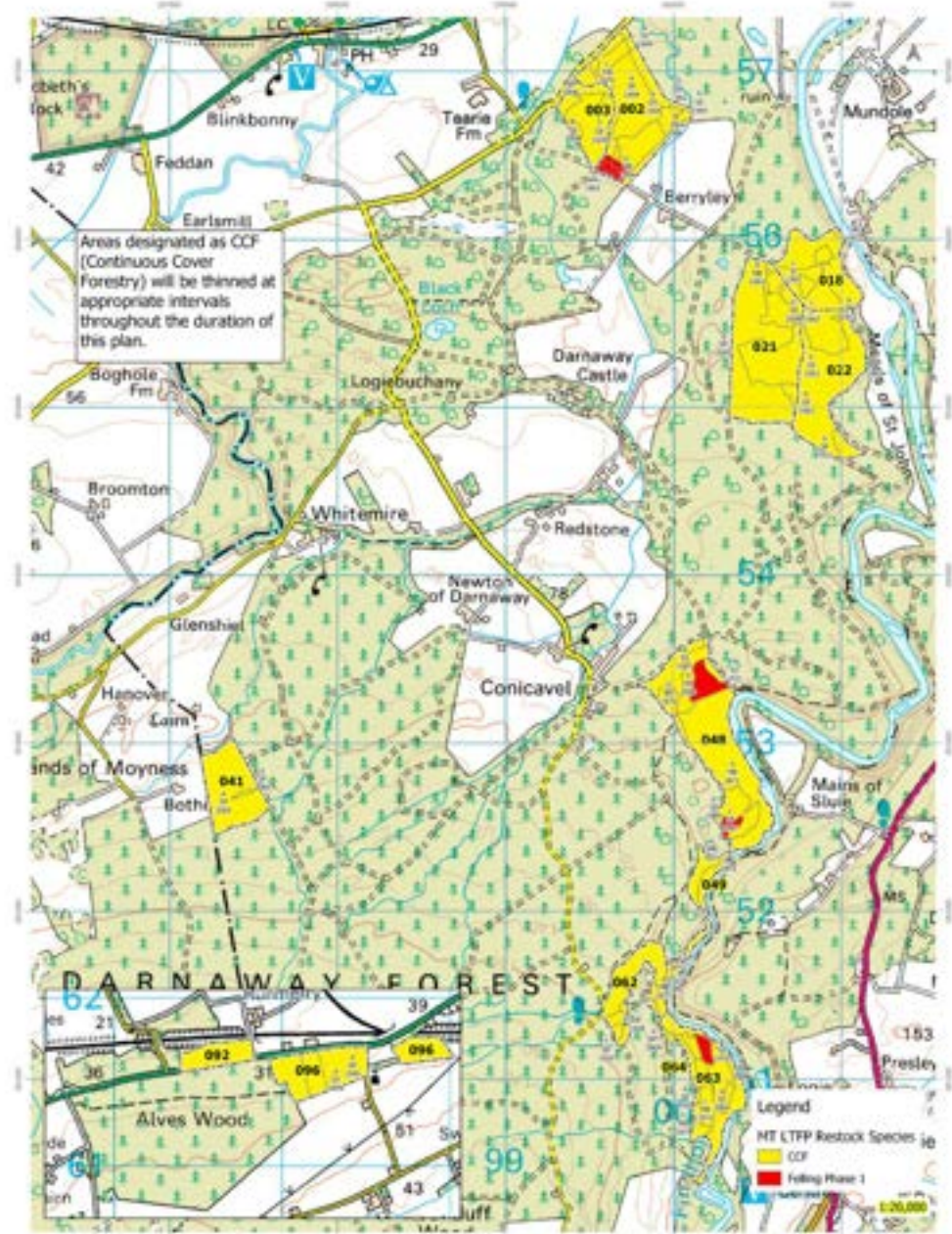
Felling Phases Map





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Continuous Cover Areas Map



Continuous Cover Forest Management

Moray Trust LTFP

17 Nov 2021
Revision A

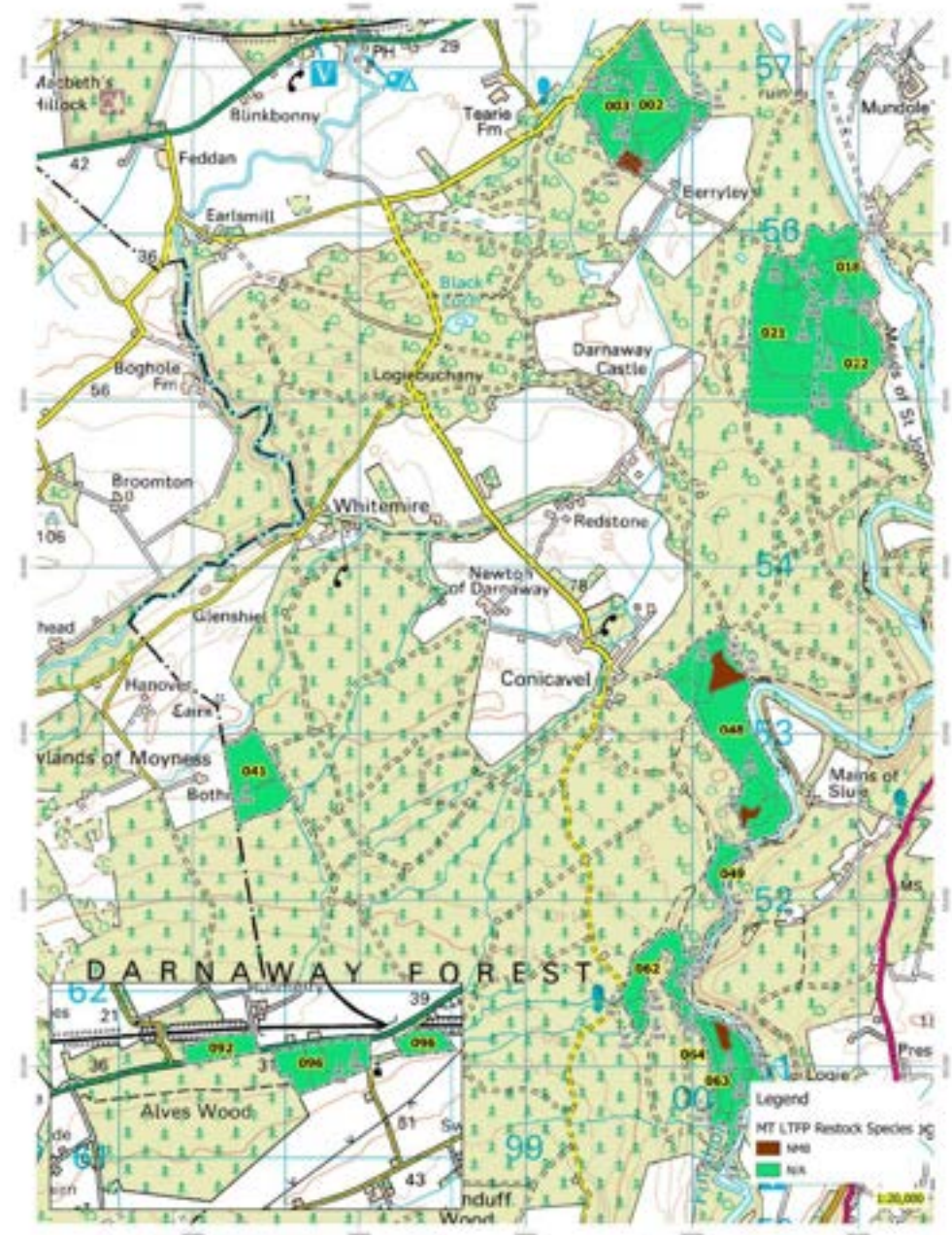
Drawn by:
Dan Taylor

Checked by:
Dan Taylor



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Restocking Map



Restock Map

Moray Trust LTFP

10/14/2011
Revision A

Scale: 1:20,000



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Feedback

We would like to hear your what you have to say about our proposals.

If you would like to comment on the Forest Plans and add information that may help us identify further opportunities or constraints that we should consider, please email: ben.clinch@morayestates.co.uk

We are looking to complete the public scoping process by 31st of March 2023.