



Lochbank & Marmeadow

Introduction

Lochbank is located around 600m north of Lochmaben and Marmeadow is located around 1.4km south of Lochmaben, Dumfries & Galloway, the woodlands are a productive coniferous plantation with some broadleaved areas. Productive conifer blocks were planted in 1964, and 1976, with broadleaved area being younger. The main species planted are Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*) and Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*). Age of productive conifers is around 57 and 45 years.

Several areas of the coniferous woodland are now approaching commercial maturity. The creation of the management plan will lay out the planned program of felling and restocking for the woodlands to ensure the timely and economic extraction of marketable timber and maintenance of the productivity and diversity of the forests for the future.

The management plan will provide a long term (10-20 years) strategic overview to ensure that the re-design and management of the forest meets the standards set out in the UK Forestry Standard (UKFS). This property may also elect to be managed to the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS) and become a member of the Scottish Woodlands FSC Group Certification Scheme. The FP will encompass the entire landholding which will enable all management issues to be fully addressed.

Management Objectives

The Owners' objectives of management can be summarised as follows:

- To maximise the financial return from the sustainable production of timber while adhering to the UK Forestry and UKWAS standards of woodland management.
- To consider the full impacts of commercial forestry on the environment by managing the forest in accordance with good environmental practice as laid down in the UK Forestry Standard and the UK Woodland Assurance Standard.

This will involve:

1. Maximising timber production and maintain the productivity of the forest
2. Diversifying the woodland composition and structure to benefit species and habitat diversity and improve/maintain forest resilience and landscape interests.
3. Considering and monitoring designated sites, species and habitats during strategic planning and operations.

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