



# **WESTER KINLEITH WOODLAND CREATION PROPOSALS**

Rosebery Estates, assisted by Scottish Woodlands Ltd., have produced draft proposals for a woodland creation scheme at Wester Kinleith, by Balerno.

The views of the local community and site users are being sought to contribute to the development of the project.

# Context

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The **Scottish Government** supports woodland creation as part of future land use in Scotland. This will contribute to:

- Fulfil targets on **Climate Change** (carbon sequestration – 18,000 ha of new woodland per annum)
- Fulfil targets on **Biodiversity**
- Help underpin a **Sustainable Supply of Wood Products** to the Scottish forestry industry

The 'Lothians Forestry and Woodland Strategy' indicates that the site location is in a '**preferred area**' for woodland expansion.

The 'Pentland Hills Regional Park Strategic Management Plan' identifies appropriate woodland expansion as means of supporting the local economy.

# Objectives

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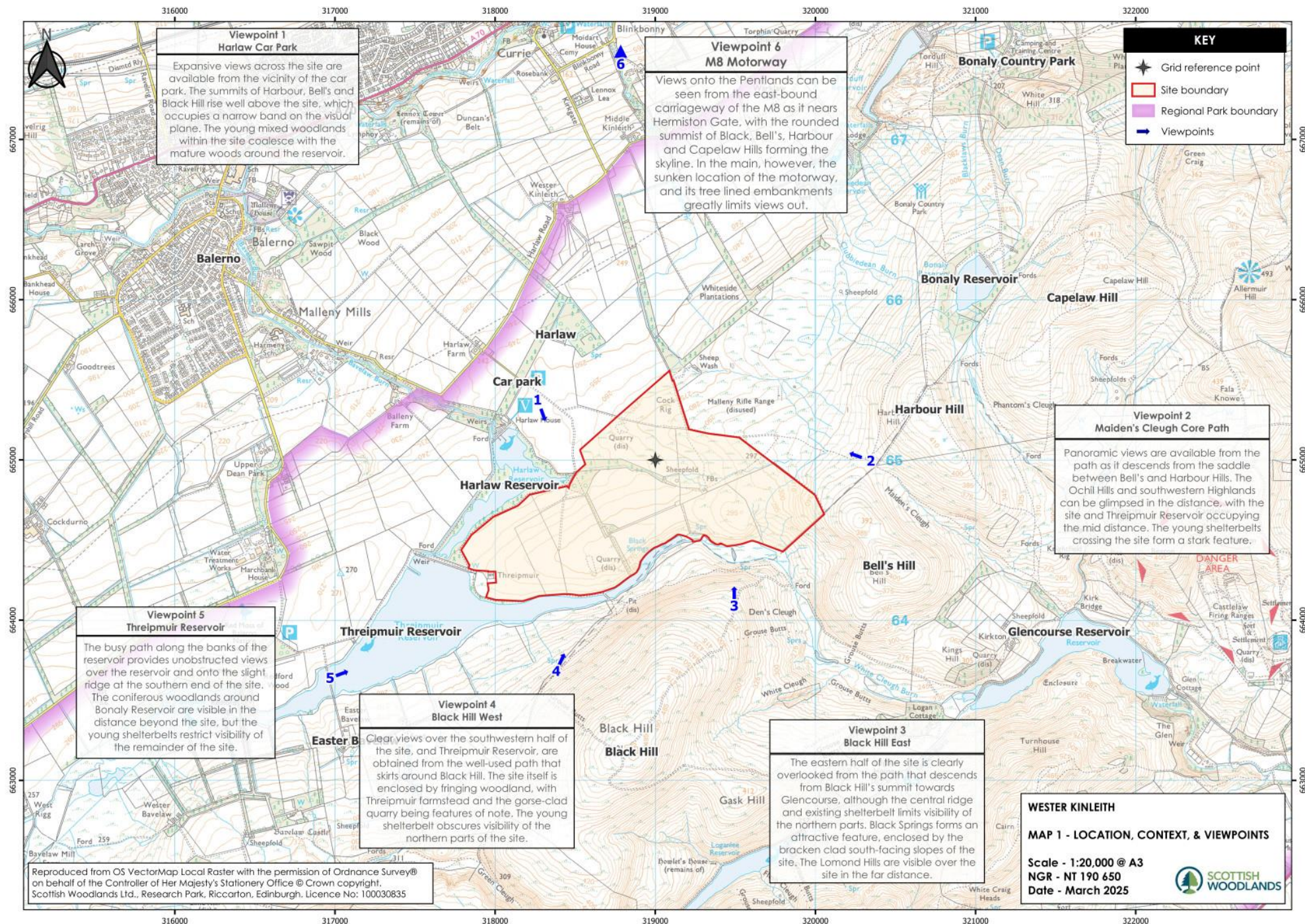
## **The primary objective is:**

- to produce timber in the medium and long term through the establishment of productive woodlands.

## **Secondary objectives are:**

- to develop an enhanced, wooded landscape, achieved through the creation of sensitively designed woodlands
- to protect and enhance existing recreational provision
- to protect and enhance biodiversity values
- to combat climate change through carbon sequestration
- to protect key areas of identified cultural heritage interest.







# Design & Application Process

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The design process has included specialist survey and assessment of:

- **Soils and Peat**
  - No areas of deep peat were found
  - Soils are generally fertile, capable of supporting a wide range of species
  - No ploughing is proposed
- **Habitats, Birds and Animals**
  - Independent specialist Habitats, Birds and Protected Species surveys have been completed
  - Any habitats of identified regional and local interest will be protected and retained in open ground
  - New habitats will be created, notably through establishment of new native woodlands
  - Existing floristic interest on Bell's Hill will be sustained by continued grazing

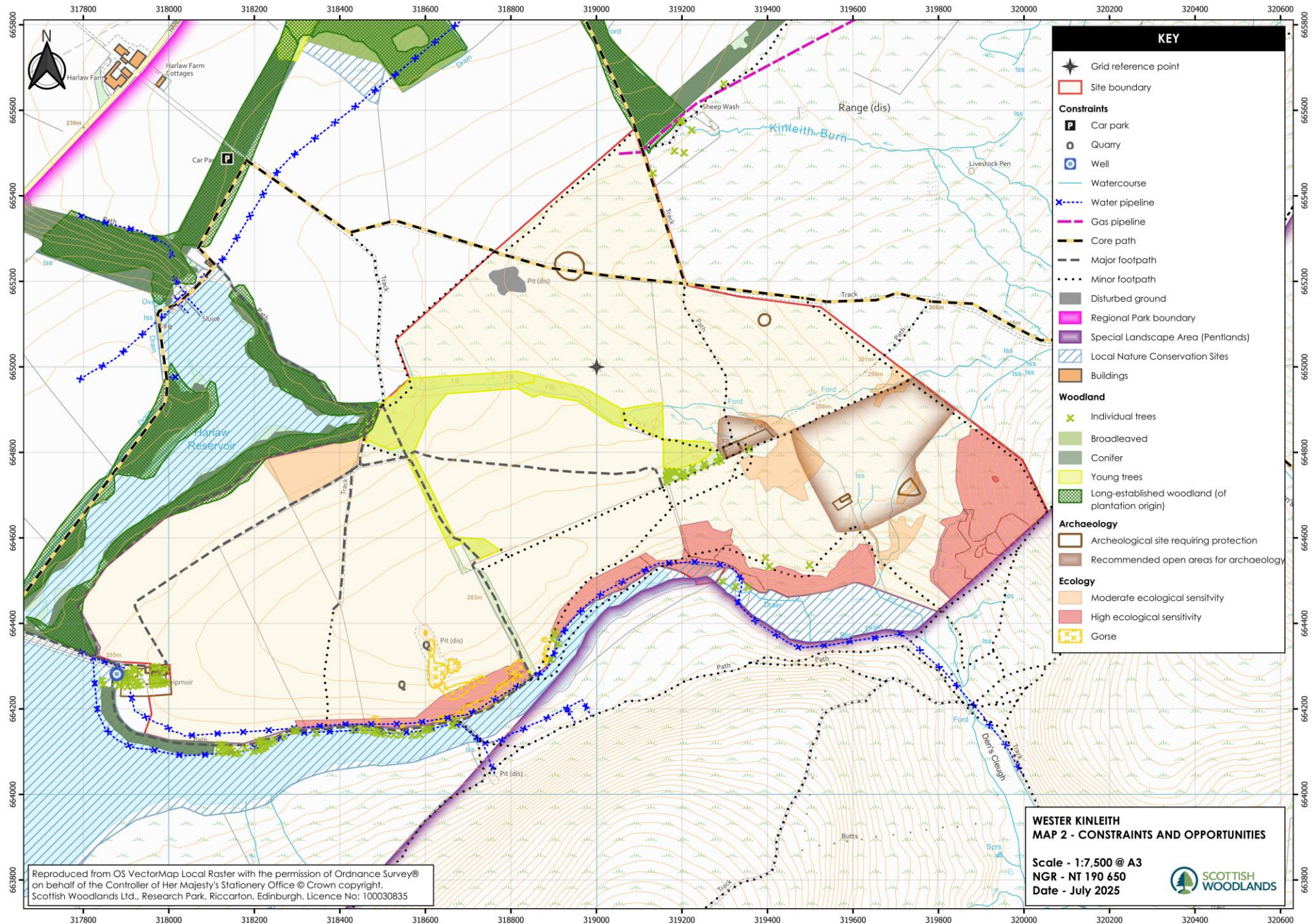
# Design & Application Process

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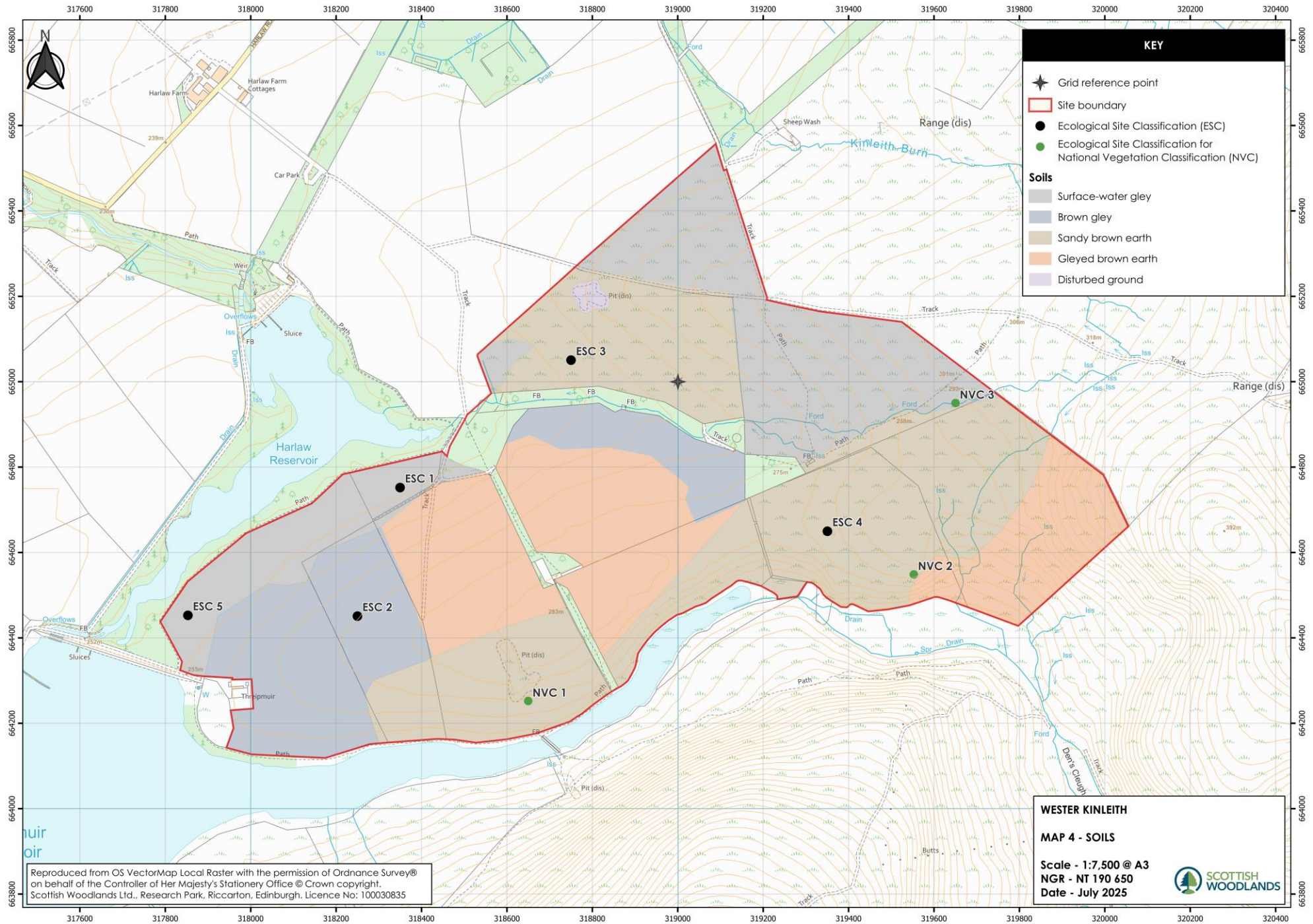
The design process has included specialist survey and assessment of:

- **Cultural Heritage**
  - All identified features of interest will be protected as recommended in the independent specialist report
  - It is hoped to involve local archaeologists in further investigative works
- **Landscape**
  - The woodland has been designed to fit with the local topography and to include a range of woodland types and open ground
  - Efforts have been made to mirror the character of the existing woods
  - Visual perspectives have been generated to show the impact of the proposals on the future landscape

Copies of these specialist surveys are available to view at this consultation event.

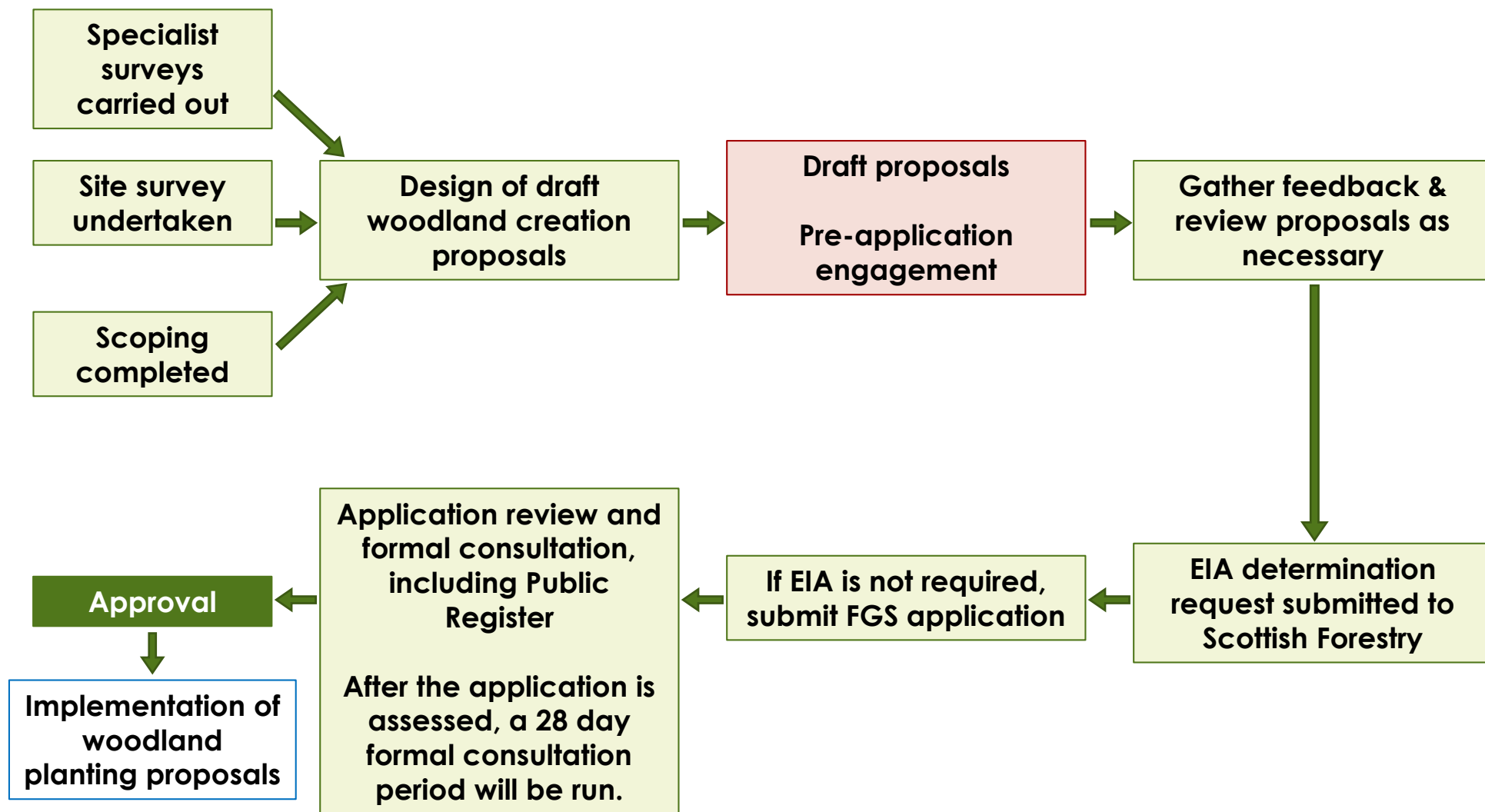


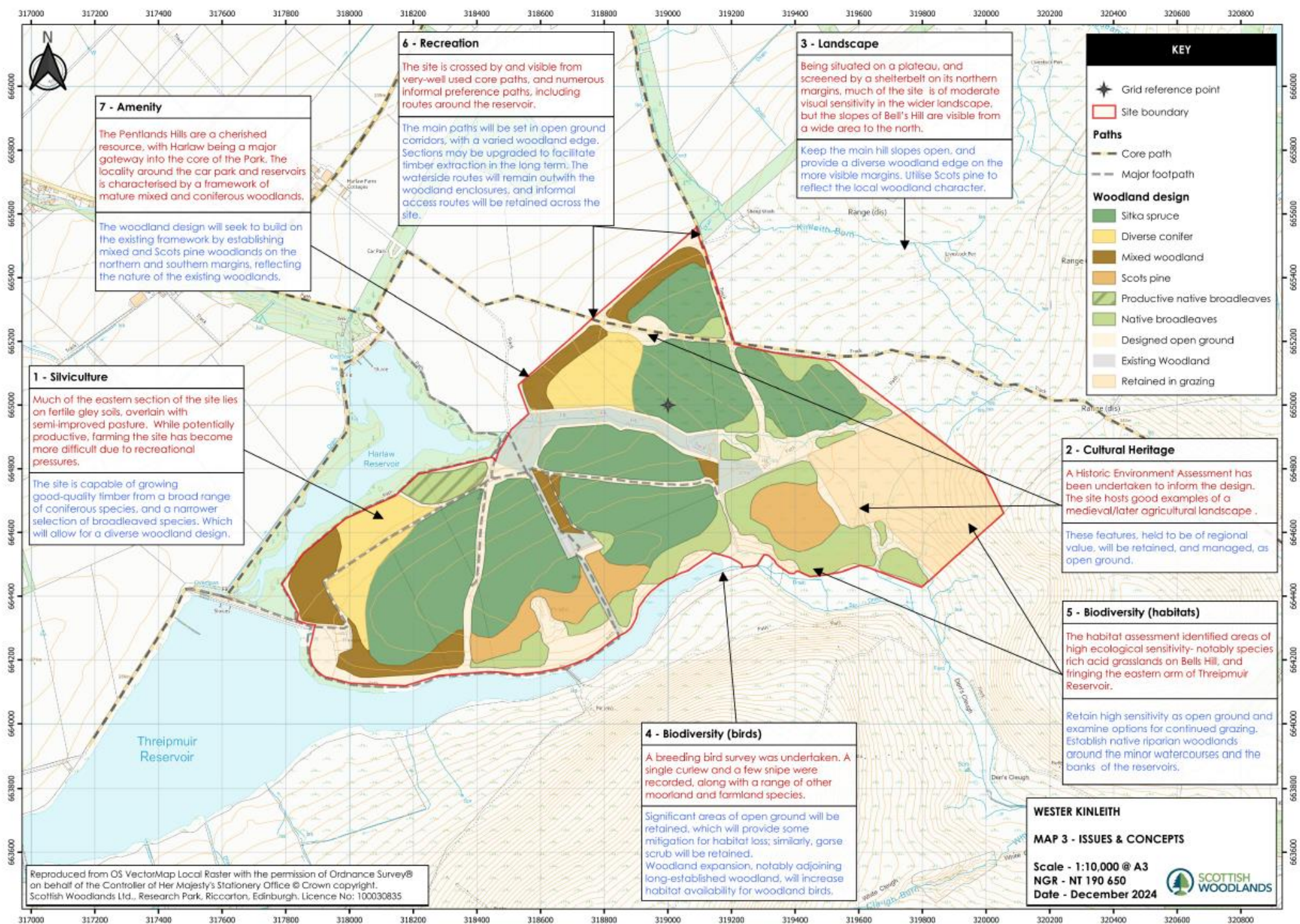






# Design & Application Process







# Proposal Summary

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<b>Total Site Area</b>	<b>150 ha</b>	<b>100 %</b>
Retained in agriculture	17 ha	11 %
Planted	106 ha	70 %
Existing woodland	7 ha	5 %
Open (within scheme)	20 ha	14 %
 <b>Woodland cover within 5km</b>	 <b>811 ha</b>	 <b>11 %</b>
Woodland cover within Pentlands	920 ha	10 %
Woodland cover in Scotland	1.4 m ha	19 %

# Proposal Summary

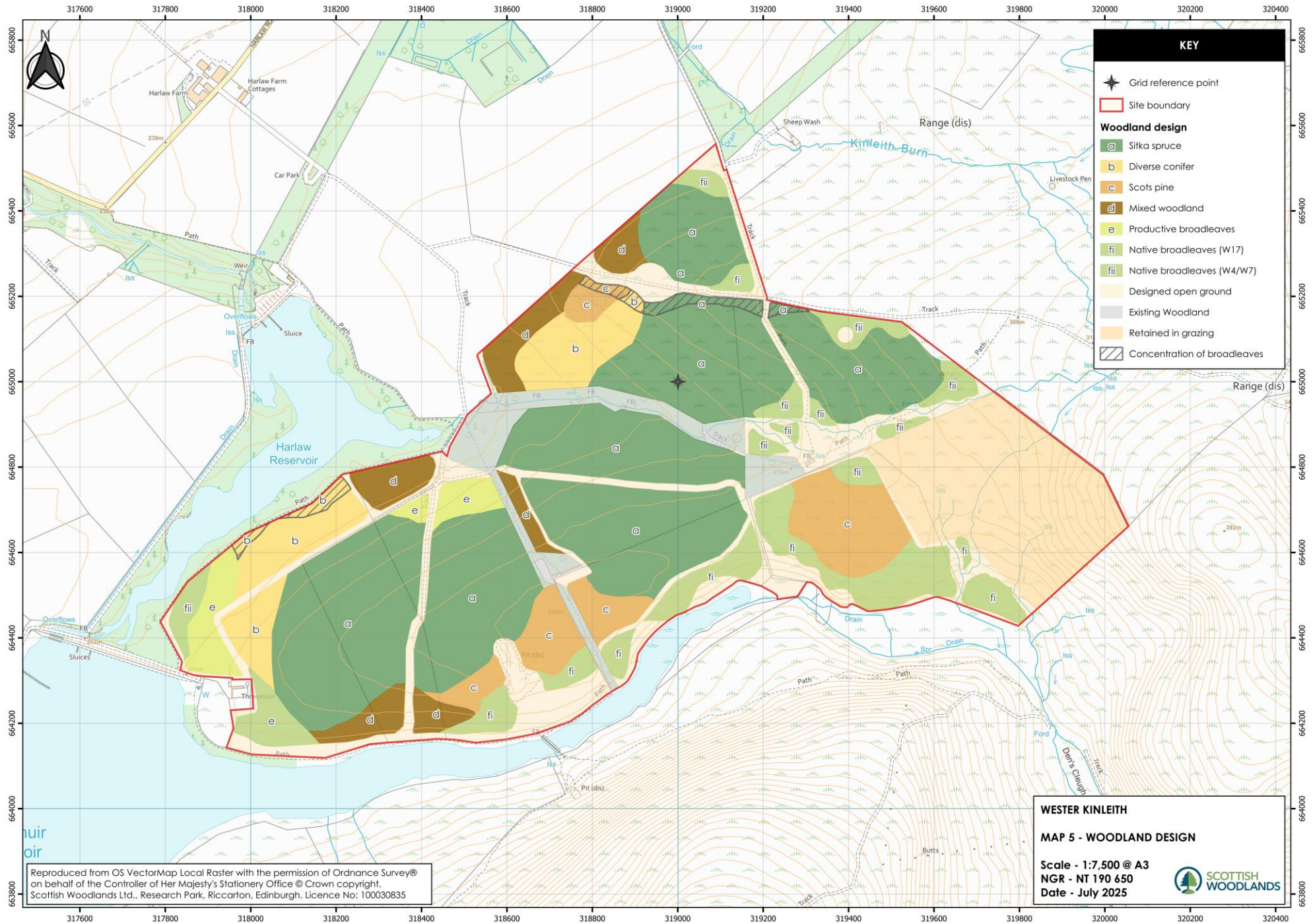
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Planting Mixes	Planting mix area (ha)	Conifer % in mix	Conifer area (ha)	Broadleaf % in mix	Broadleaf area (ha)
Sitka spruce	59	97.5%	58	2.5%	1.5
Diverse Conifer	9	90%	8	10%	1
Scots pine	11	90%	10	10%	1
Mixed woodland	8	40%	3	60%	5
Productive broadleaves	4	0%	0	100%	4
Native broadleaves (W11)	7	0%	0	100%	7
Native broadleaves (W4)	10	0%	0	100%	10
Total	108		79		29.5

***Conifer overall 74 %***

***Broadleaf overall 26 %***





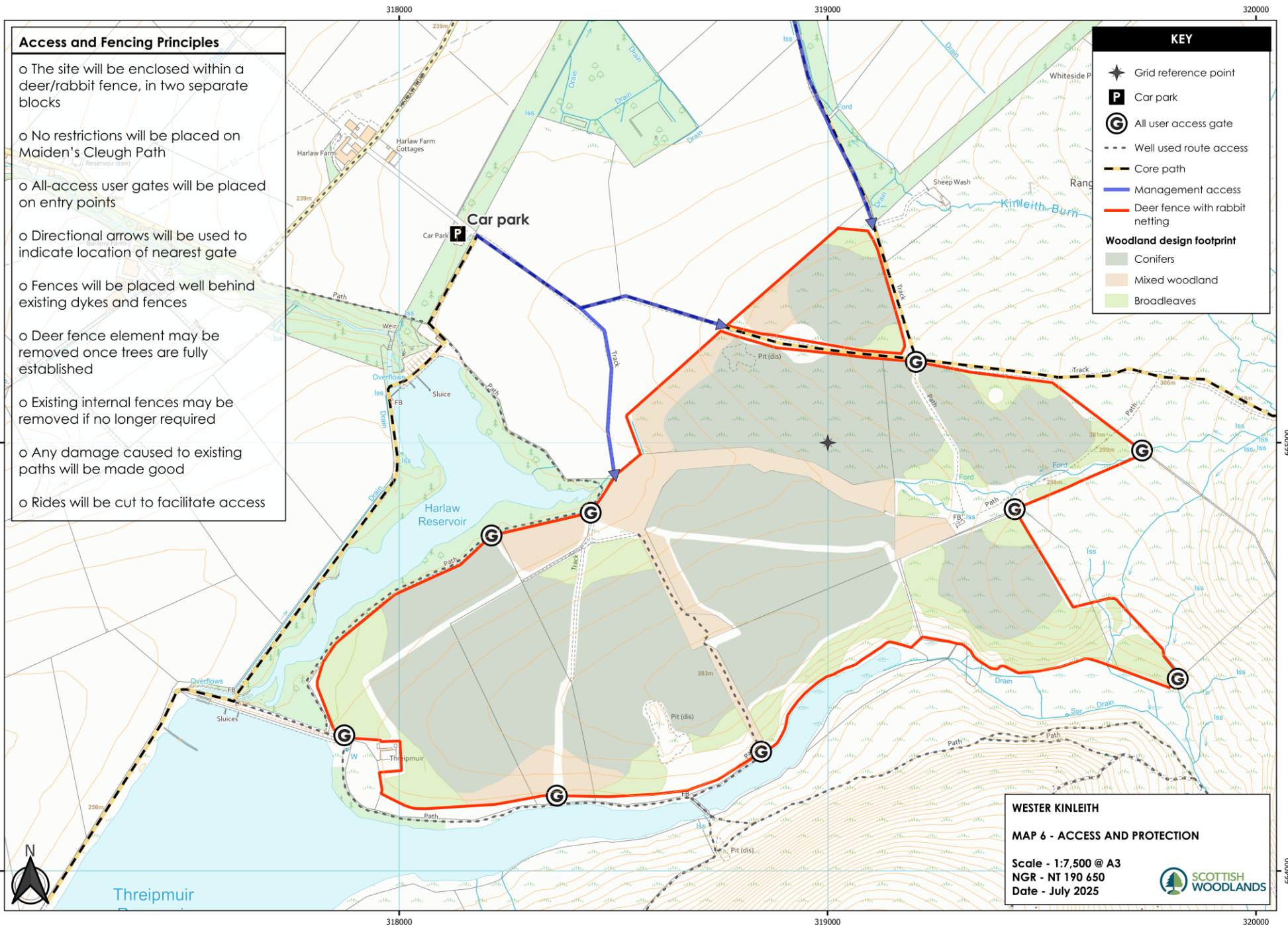


## Access and Fencing Principles

- o The site will be enclosed within a deer/rabbit fence, in two separate blocks
- o No restrictions will be placed on Maiden's Cleugh Path
- o All-access user gates will be placed on entry points
- o Directional arrows will be used to indicate location of nearest gate
- o Fences will be placed well behind existing dykes and fences
- o Deer fence element may be removed once trees are fully established
- o Existing internal fences may be removed if no longer required
- o Any damage caused to existing paths will be made good
- o Rides will be cut to facilitate access

## KEY

- ★ Grid reference point
- P Car park
- G All user access gate
- - - Well used route access
- Core path
- Management access
- Deer fence with rabbit netting
- Woodland design footprint**
  - Conifers
  - Mixed woodland
  - Broadleaves



WESTER KINLEITH

MAP 6 - ACCESS AND PROTECTION

Scale - 1:7,500 @ A3  
NGR - NT 190 650  
Date - July 2025





# Other Information

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## **Timing**

- If approval is granted by Scottish Forestry, woodland establishment works would be likely to be undertaken in winter 25/26 or 26/27

## **Employment**

- An Agricultural Impact Assessment has been undertaken
- There will be no impact on agricultural employment, and there will be a minor increase in forestry employment.

## **Community**

- It is hope to involve the community through working cooperatively with the City of Edinburgh Council's Ranger staff and Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society.

## **Landscape**

- Visual representations of the future woodland have been created and are available to view.

# How to Comment

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Your questions, comments and feedback on the proposals are welcome.

A feedback form has been made available should you wish to use it. Please leave the completed form in the box provided, or post it to Harry Morgan (address below)

Should you wish further information please contact:-

**Harry Morgan**

**Scottish Woodlands Ltd.**

**Priorwood**

**Melrose**

**TD6 9EG**

**Email: [harry.morgan@scottishwoodlands.co.uk](mailto:harry.morgan@scottishwoodlands.co.uk)**

A note of all comments received will be passed on to Scottish Forestry, along with details of any design amendments proposed.

If you wish to copy Scottish Forestry into your correspondence, their contact details are:

**Scottish Forestry, Central Scotland Conservancy, Caird Park, Hamilton**

**ML3 OQA ([centralscotland.cons@forestry.gov.scot](mailto:centralscotland.cons@forestry.gov.scot))**



# Feedback Form

FEEDBACK FORM

## DUMYAT ESTATE WOODLAND CREATION PROPOSALS

Thank you for taking the time to consider our woodland creation proposals for Dumyat Estate. To assist us, we would be grateful if you could provide us with your comments.

Feel free to ask any questions that you have.

1. Are you from the local area (Stirlingshire or Clackmannanshire)?

2. To what extent do you agree with our draft proposals?

Strongly disagree   Disagree   Neutral   Agree   Strongly agree

3. Are you likely to make use of the proposed woodlands?

4. What aspects of the proposals do you like?

5. What aspects of the proposals do you dislike?

6. What aspects of the proposals would you like to see improved?

FEEDBACK FORM

7. Please add any other comments.

8. If you have any specific questions that we couldn't answer fully today, please write them here, along with your contact details, and we will get back to you:

Contact details (optional):

Name:

Email address:

Address:

Thank you for your contribution.

Please leave this sheet at the display  
area for collection, or alternatively  
return to the address opposite:

Mark Hamilton Landscape Services  
8 Kirkton Avenue  
Bathgate  
EH48 1EN  
[andy@mhlandscapeservices.co.uk](mailto:andy@mhlandscapeservices.co.uk)