



KEY

- Grid reference point
- Woodland Creation Scheme Boundary
- Original Search Area
- Mast
- Core Path
- Timber Haulage Road
- Scheduled Ancient Monument
- Woodland Creation Concepts**
 - Sitka spruce
 - Diverse conifer
 - Broadleaved / Mixed woodland
 - Native broadleaves
 - Ancient woodland / Natural regeneration
 - Open ground

Land use

The ground is placed in Land Capability for Agriculture classes 5 and 6, but there are large areas of good-quality grassland. Roughly 45% of the property will be excluded from the application site. The majority of the improved grazing will be retained in agricultural use.

Private Water Supplies

Two farms are fed from PWS rising within the land-holding. The supplies will be investigated by a hydrologist, and protected against negative impacts as requested.

Recreation

The property is bisected east-west by a little used core path, and is visible from the Southern Upland Way (at a distance) and the Annandale Way (more intimately). Low key access will be facilitated along existing and proposed tracks, with all-user access gates fitted where required. The design will consider both intimate and long-distance views from core paths.

Ecology - Birds

The Breeding Birds survey identified a number of 'amber' and 'red' listed species, including 2 pairs of curlew. The curlew territories will be excluded from the application area. The proposals will be designed to benefit a range of woodland and woodland edge species.

Ecology - Habitats

A detailed NVC habitats survey has been completed, with numerous valued habitats identified. Most of the valued habitats will be excluded from the application site. Those within the site will be fully protected within areas of open ground and buffered against hydrological impacts.

Deep peat

There are three sizeable tracts of deep peat, which have been grip drained. Deep peat will be safeguarded, and restoration opportunities investigated.

Landscape

Despite the size of the property, visual sensitivities are limited by the lack of receptors in the immediate area. Longer distant views are available from the north and east. Potentially harsh edges will be broken up by the exclusion of land from the application. Species diversity will be focused on the undulating and more visible ground in the north.

Ecology - Ancient Woodland

Stidriggs Wood is recorded as an ASNW. It is structurally diverse and in reasonable condition, but grazing is preventing regeneration. The woodland will be protected within a deer fence, with natural regeneration encouraged, and its expansion ensured by native woodland planting on surrounding ground.

Archaeology - General

There is considerable archaeological interest on the property, mostly focused on the land surrounding the Scheduled Ancient Monuments. The key areas of interest will be on ground excluded from the application area (with access facilitated and interpretation provided), with features within the application site appropriately protected within an open ground setting.

Archaeology - Scheduled Monuments

There are four SAMs within the property, including a prehistoric fort on Stidriggs Hill and a settlement by the Eyre Burn. All SAMs will be protected, with three fully excluded from the application area. Full intervisibility between the hill fort and settlement will be retained, as will intervisibility between the hill fort and linked features beyond the property.

Timber Haulage

The southern edge of the site borders the Ae Forest Timber Haulage Route, and the property is also accessible in the north from the public road network. All timber will be extracted via the Ae Forest Road, with an internal track running the length of the site. This will also open up recreational opportunities.

Timber Production

Timber production is the primary objective. The majority of the application site is classed as F5, with some F4 land. Soils are of variable fertility. Sitka spruce will form the core of the productive woodland, but the presence of good quality land in the north provides the opportunity for a degree of species diversity.

STIDRIGGS FARM

Woodland Creation Concepts Map

Scale - 1:12,500 @ A3
NGR - NY 294 546
Date - Jul 2025

