



DOD FARM – WOODLAND CREATION PROPOSAL

Scottish Woodlands Ltd. are developing woodland creation proposals for land at Dod Farm, near Hawick, in the Scottish Borders.

The primary objective behind the woodland planting is timber production, in tandem with secondary objectives such as: carbon capture, habitat protection, native woodland expansion, and safeguarding of archaeological interests.

Following initial scoping and consultation on our concept design, we have now produced a detailed design and have submitted an Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Opinion Request (EIA SOR) to Scottish Forestry. This allows Scottish Forestry to assess whether or not the project is likely to have a significant environmental impact under the Forestry EIA Regulations 2017. If so, then we would be required to produce an Environmental Impact Assessment. If the regulator is content that the project wouldn't have a significant impact, then in essence we would have approval to proceed as proposed: subsequently submitting a Forestry Grant Scheme application to Scottish Forestry to obtain grant support to aid the expansion of Scotland's woodland cover in line with government targets and provide a sustainable inhouse resource of timber for future generations.

The detailed design includes for the creation of 74 hectares (ha) of new woodland on the 124 ha property. There are 13 ha of existing woodland on site, and the balance of ground (37 ha) will remain open. Much of the open ground is intended to protect habitats of interest and features of archaeological value, as well as softening the woodlands appearance in the landscape. Roughly 20% of the proposed planting will be broadleaved.

The proposals includes for the erection of perimeter deer-fencing to protect vulnerable species. Public access will be fully available, but won't be actively promoted. Gates will be fitted to provide access through the deer fences at a number of locations.

Future timber haulage will use the C24 road northwards towards Hawick and the A7 trunk road.

A full list of the relevant documents used in the EIA SOR is contained below, including a range of specialist surveys used to inform the design and these are available to view.

Should you have any comments and observations please them to:-

alicia.mctavish@scottishwoodlands.co.uk

It would be appreciated if initial comments or questions could be submitted by the **7th of August**. All comments and other feedback will be made available to Scottish Forestry, along with any actions we undertake to address the feedback. Scottish Forestry do not formally consult at the EIA SOR stage, but they would want to know that all major issues raised have been satisfactorily addressed.



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Documents

Operations Plan

Annex 1 - Impact Assessments

Issues Log

Maps

Map 1	Location, Context and Viewpoints	1:20,000 scale
Map 2a	General Constraints and Opportunities	1:7,500 scale
Map 2b	Ecological Constraints	1:7,500 scale
Map 2c	Soils	1:7,500 scale
Map 3	Landscape Analysis	1:7,500 scale
Map 4	Concepts	1:7,500 scale
Map 5	Woodland Design	1:7,500 scale
Map 6	Fencing and Access	1:7,500 scale

Appendices

Appendix 1	Ecological Assessment (inc. habitats, birds and protected species) (Max and Sian Carstairs Ecology)
Appendix 2	Archaeology Survey (Calluna Archaeology)
Appendix 4	Drinking Water Protected Areas - Impact Assessment (MHLS)
Appendix 5	Deer Management Plan (MHLS)
Appendix 6	Landscape Analysis - Visual Perspectives (MHLS)
Appendix 7	Agricultural Impact Assessment (MHLS)