201000 202000 203000

731000 730000 729000 728000

Wildlife

Otter, raptors (including Scheduled 1 species), red squirrel, pine marten and other species associated with mixed conifer and broadleaf forests have the potential to be present. There are numerous wood ant nests in the southern part of the forest. Forest operations could have negative impacts particularly during sensitive breeding periods. Pre-operational wildlife walkover surveys will be carried out by Forest Managers to minimise the risk of disturbance to species and habitats and/or to identify whether any protection measures or licensing is required. There is potential to identify areas that may be suitable for conversion to native woodland, long term retention or management under lower impact silvicultural techniques, which may enhance habitat in the future for nesting raptors, red squirrels and pine marten. Expanding the extent and connectivity of habitats, such as broadleaf and riparian corridors, will provide opportunity for species such as otter to expand their range.

Timber transport

During periods of felling, timber haulage will utilise the internal forest road network and will access the public highway using the agreed timber transport route along the A85. The timber haulage map indicates access points and estimated timber volumes. The existing forest road network will be maintained using material sourced within the forest and no new roads or extensions are planned at this time. Timber transport will follow the 'Road Haulage of Round Timber Code of Practice'.

Services and Infrastructure

During forest operations relevant legislation, guidance and best practice will be adhered to with regard to utilities, such as the OHPL on the site. Access gates will be maintained. There is no requirement to provide buffering around the disused water supply.

Designated Sites

Ichrachan is bordered to the west by Glen Etive SAC/SSSI. There is potential for conifer seeding, particularly Sitka spruce becoming established within the designated area. Through discussion with NatureScot a minimum 100m buffer from proposed areas of Sitka spruce to the SAC boundary has been agreed. This will provide an opportunity to further expand native woodland following phased felling in compartments 8 and 10. Deer management in Ichrachan is also important in helping to reduce deer impacts in the SAC/SSSI.

ASNW

There are extensive areas of existing ASNW within the forest, particularly along the western boundary. There are also other areas identified on the Ancient Woodland Inventory within the forest and there is an opportunity to enhance and expand some of these areas as part of the restructuring of the forest. Where ASNW features remain, such as veteran trees, remnant ground flora and standing deadwood, these areas will be targeted, as informed by site survey and observations, so that the best areas for restoration are prioritised.

Herbivores

The resident Red and Roe deer population have the potential to cause damage to both planted trees and natural regeneration. Deer are actively managed and a deer management plan will support the objectives of forest management including taking opportunity for collaborative deer management with neighbouring forest owners. There is an existing boundary deer fence, but this is in poor repair and is porous to deer. Some localised deer fencing may be required to protect particularly palatable species such as native broadleaves and Scots pine.

Water environment

There are various riparian areas within the forest which will be buffered in line with UKFS requirements. There is also an opportunity to enhance these features through the inclusion of native broadleaf and open ground to create dappled shade and to improve habitat connectivity.

Historic Environment

There are a number of recorded unscheduled historic features in the forest, including for example, charcoal platforms, an historic cart track, old field enclosures and building remains. These features are already appropriately buffered and will be protected in-situ. If previously unknown features are discovered, either pre or during operations, then the County Heritage Advisor will be informed and advice followed as appropriate.

UKFS

Ichrachan was originally planted in the early 1980's and the southern part of the forest is mostly even aged originating from the initial period of afforestation. Restructuring of the forest has been underway throughout the period of the previous plan, and there are younger crops and areas awaiting restocking. These remaining mature crops have reached economic maturity and wind blow is having a negative impact. These crops will be prioritised for felling during the period of this plan. The current species percentages are non-UKFS compliant (noting that areas awaiting restocking were previously planted with Sitka spruce). Restructuring provides an opportunity to integrate a wider choice of species diversity including native woodland (NBL and SP). Some localised areas of deep peat have been identified and these will be buffered by open ground in the future design.

SCOTTISH WOODLANDS

Ichrachan Forest
Long Term Forest Plan

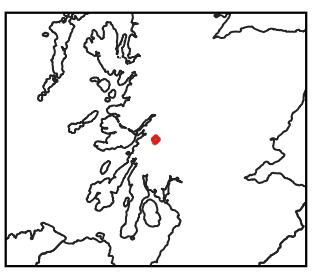
Constraints and Opportunities

BRN: 231115
MLC: 68/171/0126

Created on: 15/10/2026

Legend

- Estate Boundary
- Compartment Boundary
- Potential Peat Areas
- Glen Etive SAC_SSSI
- Ancient Woodland Inventory
- Disused water supply
- Unscheduled historic feature
- Wood ant nests
- Forest road
- Deer Fence
- Overhead powerline
- Watercourse <2m
- Unscheduled historic feature



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Scale correct at A3
Centre Point: 202068, 729444

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