



# Glen Orchy and Glen Lochy

## Land Management Plan Summary 2024-2034 West Region

**Plan Reference No:**

**Plan Approval Date: 08/01/2024**

**Plan Expiry Date: 08/01/2034**

We manage Scotland's national forests and land to the United Kingdom Woodland Assurance Standard – the standard endorsed in the UK by the international Forest Stewardship Council® and the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification. We are independently audited.

Our land management plans bring together key information, enable us to evaluate options and plan responsibly for the future. We welcome comments on these plans at any time.



# Glen Orchy Glen Lochy Land Management Plan Summary

Glen Orchy Glen Lochy (GOGL) Land Management Plan (LMP) was approved on 8-1-2024 and runs for 10 years.

## Vision

Glen Orchy Glen Lochy LMP area comprises a landscape scale unit of 9743Ha (See Map 1). The plan area comprises of seven forest blocks; Auch, Glen Orchy, Succoth, Glen Lochy North, Glen Lochy North (addition), Glen Lochy South and Glen Lochy South (addition). It is located to the north of Loch Awe between Dalmally, Tyndrum and Bridge of Orchy. The LMP area is bounded by the A82(T), A85 and the Glasgo-Oban railway line. The plan area contains important Caledonian pinewoods and major watercourses, River Orchy and River Lochy.

Due to the location it is a popular area for locals and tourists to visit, with facilities at Bridge of Orchy, Glen Orchy and Glen Lochy. The West Highland Way runs through the Auch block, and many mountain access paths run up through all the blocks.

The forest blocks of Glen Lochy North and Glen Lochy South have little road infrastructure, resulting in these areas being mainly even aged and Sitka spruce, larch species. Much of the forest area comprises of predominantly similarly aged Sitka Spruce (52%), with ~ 29% of the area open ground. A number of areas have been felled and 2nd rotation crops now successfully establishing in Succoth block and southern Glen Orchy, though it may require another rotation to fully implement a more robust and resilient coupe and age structure. Species diversity is a priority as is improving the linkage and connectivity between riparian corridors and open ground across the forest where it contributes to bio-diversity and landscape. The LMP area also contributes to meeting the District's timber production targets. There are renewables schemes within the plan area, both commercial and private, mainly hydro. A large powerline runs through the Succoth block.

The forest area is predominantly surrounded by open hill, with areas of private commercial forest adjoining also. This offers some limited interaction between forestry and agriculture/sporting estates. Deer fencing and stock fencing will remain important factors within the LMP area in relation to the success of restock establishment.

GOGL LMP is a key area for Forestry and Land Scotland's (FLS) West Region in terms of timber production, but also in terms of habitat restoration, deer management and habitat management. It provides opportunities for increasing and expanding the Caledonian pinewoods, montane and riparian habitats, and as an area for local communities and visitors to enjoy.

The primary objectives for the plan area are:

- Sustainable productive forest, ~2437Ha felling and ~1691Ha restocking
- Diversify species range, taking into account resilience from threats of future climate change and disease
- Improve public road resilience- A85 & A82
- Improve railway resilience
- Aid *Phytophthora ramorum* resilience through felling of mature larch
- Caledonian pinewood protection and enhancement and Planted Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) restoration
- Peatland restoration, ~212Ha
- Protect and enhance cultural assets
- Enhance water quality of rivers, protect/enhance water features, fisheries and private water supplies
- Protect and enhance key wildlife species & develop habitat networks
- Adopt Low Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS) where practical

<b>Total Plan Area</b>	9743 hectares (ha)
------------------------	--------------------

## Summary of Land Management Plan Proposals

<b>Species Group</b>	<b>Current - 2023</b>		<b>Year 10 - 2033</b>	
	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>%</b>
Sitka Spruce	3245	52	1896	30
Diverse conifer	701.4	11	750	13.4
Mixed Broadleaves	465.95	7.5	990.74	15.9
Open	3359	34.5	3388	34.8

<b>Planned Operations</b>	<b>2024- 2033 plan period</b>
Felling Thinning Restocking Road construction	~2437Ha ~400Ha ~1691Ha 11.2km
<b>Significant Environment / Conservation Features</b>	
Designated sites (See Map 4)	5 Scheduled Monuments (SM) and Numerous Unscheduled Monuments (USM)
Natural Reserve (See Map 9)	7 NR areas
Priority habitats/species	Priority habitats & priority species

## Critical Success Factors:

- Timber production of 2437Ha.
- 1691Ha restocking.
- 34.34Ha natural regeneration.
- Construct 11.2km new road.
- Ensure road access into the Glen Lochy North & Glen Lochy south blocks from the existing road network in Succoth block.
- Ensure conifer crops removed surrounding the Caledonian pinewoods and plant native broadleaves, protecting and enhancing the pinewoods.
- Ensure all new/replacement water crossings be sized to accommodate the 1 in 200 year flood event.
- Improve the resilience of A82 along the road corridor through removal of conifers.
- Improve the resilience of A85 by removing roadside conifers and dangerous broadleaves.
- Diversify the current species structure where site conditions allow to improve future forest resilience in relation to climate change, pests and diseases.
- Control invasive species and monitor plan area for other invasive species.
- Restore 212Ha deep peat areas identified as habitat restoration areas, highlighting other areas identified during operations.
- Seek to improve the water quality status of water bodies by ensuring full compliance with UKFS Forest & Water Guidelines and best industry practice.
- Restore priority PAWS through clearfell, removal of conifers off Low Impact Silvicultural System (LISS) areas and protecting remnants.

## **Consultation and Further Information:**

Council area: Argyll & Bute Council

Community council: Glen Orchy & Innishail Community Council and  
Strathfillan Community Council

Consultation: Public consultation October and November 2022

For further information on the Plan, please contact:

West Region, Forestry and Land Scotland, Whitegates, Lochgilphead. 0300 067 6650.

Email: [enquiries.west@forestryandland.gov.scot](mailto:enquiries.west@forestryandland.gov.scot)