

Ardmolich Land Management Plan Summary

Ardmolich Forest lies on the South Eastern edge of Loch Moidart, close to the small village of Kinlochmoidart. It is a small outlying forest which lies adjacent to the A861, however, currently there is no roading within the forest to facilitate harvesting operations. This forest is most visible from boats on Loch Moidart., and although it is not clearly visible from the public road, the mid-scale backdrop it forms in the local views are an important feature in this rugged rocky landscape. The topography is relatively steep with a Northerly aspect making this a mostly sheltered site. Elevation rises from sea level to 150 metres in the South. Conifer species are dominant and around 60% of the area is defined as an ancient woodland site. Recreational facilities include a small car park, a loop trail and a connection with the Silver Walk core path/right of way to Shielfoot. The climate is mild, wet and windy and the soils vary from brown earth to rankers through to peaty gleys.

Ardmolich LMP was approved on 20/05/2014 and runs for 10 years. The main aims for Ardmolich Forest are:

- Native woodland restoration
- Maintenance and enhancement of landscape values
- Maintenance of environment and habitat quality
- Maintenance of known heritage features

The primary objectives for the plan area are

- To fell 37.8 ha of conifers, 26.4 ha from an area of Ancient Woodland (AW).
- To allow open/successional regeneration of 8.8 ha.
- To complete 20 ha of restocking.
- To continue management of currently restored 33 ha of native woodland.
- To designate 7.5 ha as a natural reserve.
- To maintain NSA/ SSSI in favourable condition.

Total Plan Area	92 hectares (ha)	



Summary of Land Management Plan Proposals

Species Breakdown	(current)	(end of plan period)
Sitka spruce	34 ha	7.5 ha
Birch and other broadleaves	17.5 ha	64.9 ha
Scots pine	0 ha	10.8 ha
Lodgepole pine	3.5 ha	0 ha
Larch and other conifers	2 ha	0 ha
Open space	35 ha	8.8 ha

Planned Operations	2014– 2024 plan period
Felling	37.8 ha
Restocking	37.8 ha
Road construction	250 metres
Significant Environment / Conservation Features	
Designated sites:	
SSSI	Loch Moidart
SAC	Loch Moidart and Loch Shiel Woods
NSA	Morar, Moidart and Ardnamurchan
Natural Reserve	7.5ha
Priority Species 1	Otter
Priority Species 2	Cardinal beetle
Priority Species 3	Raven



Critical Success Factors:

 Economic timber production is dependent on the construction of 250 metres of forest road

Consultation and Further Information:

Council area: Highland Community Council:

Consultation: events / consultees:

Statutory Consultees:

SNH – 23/08/2013 & 25/11/2013 SEPA – 23/08/2013 & 25/11/2013 Historic Scotland – 23/08/2013 Highland Council (Planning & Transport) – 25/11/2013

Other Consultees:

Local neighbour – 23/08/2013 Dalilea Farm – 23/08/2013 Glenmoidart Estate – 23/08/2013 Moidart DMG – 23/08/2013 BSW – 23/11/2013

Public consultation:

"Lochaber Life" advert – February 2013

For further information on the Plan, please contact:

Planning team,
Forestry and Land Scotland,
West Region,
Torlundy,
Fort William,
PH33 6SW

0300 067 6870 Enquiries.west@forestryandland.gov.scot