

Carnock & Dean – Summary of Proposals

Carnock & Dean Plantation are two management areas situated in south-west Fife; lying north and south respectively of the villages of Carnock and Gowkhall on the A907, Dunfermline to Alloa, road.

The plan proposes both sites are managed under Low Impact Silvicultural Systems (LISS). The long-term aim of this approach to management is to provide multiple benefits. As well as producing timber, the development of a varied stand structure will result in a high number of potential niches; thus enhancing biodiversity. Furthermore, a multi-species, structurally diverse forest, combined with a lack of clear-felling, should enhance the aesthetic of both areas for the public.

A common feature of both management areas is that conifer areas will progressively move from light demanding species such as Larch and Scots Pine, both of which are currently at risk from pathogens, to more shade tolerant species better suited to LISS.

Key Proposals

	Area
Dean	79.5 ha
Carnock	48.9 ha
Total	128.4 ha

Planned operations	2019-2029 plan period
Mini-coupe felling(ha)	3.49 ha
Thinning (ha)	31.8 ha
Restock (ha)	2.35 ha

Woodland changes

Land use	2019		2029	
	Carnock	Dean	Carnock	Dean
Conifers	31.1	38.5	31.1	38.5
Broadleaves	11.6	32.2	11.6	32.2
Open	6.2	8.8	6.2	8.8

The main considerations in producing this plan were how to best utilise silviculture to diversify and enhance current species and structural diversity, whilst giving a clear focus to management

going forwards. The adopted approach should preserve the amenity and biodiversity value of each management unit.

Consultation and Further Information

Scottish Lowlands Forest District consulted with local stakeholders via drop in events, onsite posters and websites whilst Central Scotland Conservancy consulted on the plan with statutory stakeholders.

For further information on the plan please contact scottishlowlands@forestry.gsi.gov.uk.