Summary of Montreathmont Land Management Plan 2015-2025 Proposals

The forest of Montreathmont is located in a region which is heavily influenced by agriculture and has limited woodland cover. It is notable for its good quality Scots pine stands of which most are classified as CCF. Strong levels of birch and spruce regeneration punctuating restock sites as well as forming an understorey in established pine stands. With good internal roads and close proximity to markets. Owing to a high water table, windblow has been a recurring problem which has prompted plan amendments in the past. Early thinning interventions are planned in an effort to improve crop stability as well as enhance silvicultural quality.

Total Plan Area	996 ha	

Species breakdown	Current	End of the plan period
Primary species: SS	39%	35%
Secondary species: SP	30%	31%
Native broadleaf	6%	9%
Open space	12%	12%

Planned operations	
Felling	45 ha
Thinning	509 ha
Restock	45 ha
New planting	0 ha
Road construction	0 m
Road upgrade	0 m

Significant environment/ Conservation features	
Designated sites	No scheduled heritage features. No statutory areas of designated land inside the block. Neighbouring River South Esk SAC.
Vulnerable species populations	Presence of red squirrel, raptors, nightjar.
A listed buildings	None
Minimum intervention & natural reserve	0.6% of plantation

Critical Success Factors

- Appropriate adaptation to the ongoing windblow
- Management to take account of the wet soils and poor drainage
- Commitment to appropriate thinning identifying the areas which can be thinned and managed through CCF and accounting for areas which cannot be thinned but clearfelled instead
- Monitoring the scale and severity of the DNB on pine,
- Appropriate deer control measures as Montreathmont does not have deer fences.
- The drainage ditches must be kept open to maintain appropriate waterflow

Consultation and Further Information

During the development of this plan we have consulted publically including meetings with the local community representatives and stakeholders known to have an interest in this plan area. For further information on the plan please contact Arttu Varis, Planning Forester & Programme Manager, Forestry Commission Scotland on 0300 067 6380 or arttu.varis@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

Protecting and expanding Scotland's forests and woodlands, and increasing their value to society and the environment.

