



## Concept map text

### Plan objective - timber production

Sitka spruce will remain the most resilient and profitable species to plant in Lussa. Adding Lodgepole pine as a nurse in mixture with Sitka spruce will be used on lower nutrient sites. Suitable preferred minor conifer species will be planted to contribute a minimum of 10% of the forest area with additional diversity and landscape benefits, to comply with the UKFS.

### Plan objective – forest health resilience

The plan will continue to support the removal of larch as part of our forest health resilience strategy and to meet statutory deadlines for larch felling as far as possible.

### Plan objective – protection of designated sites

An open 100 m buffer will be established around Lussa Loch over time to protect the Kintyre Goose Roosts SPA/SSSI. This will be aided by the felling of the two remaining mature stands of timber on the eastern side of the loch and felling the larch stands along the shore as part of the disease resilience measures needed to deal with *Phytophthora ramorum*. Scheduled Ancient Monument management plan objectives will be reflected in the plan.

## Plan objective - peatland restoration

Peatland restoration will focus on areas containing poorly performing crops and existing open hill tops, subject to funding. Restoration areas will take into account windfarm developments and mitigation. Restored peatland will contribute towards both internal and external open habitat networks in the general area.

## Plan aspiration – access improvement

Forest road extensions to access programmed coupes will be constructed within the plan period. The final road network will be fit for purpose and achievable both financially and on the ground.

## Plan objective – protection of water supplies and hydro-electric schemes

Water supplies and their associated catchments will be identified and accounted for in the plan design. The Forest and Water guidelines will be adhered to in respect of all water sensitivities.

## Plan aspiration - biodiversity enhancement

All Ancient Woodland sites will be restored within the next 10 to 15 years. Buffers will be created when and where possible to protect sensitive areas, such as riparian corridors and native woodland.

## Plan aspiration – land holding adjustments

The plan will reflect the proposed excambion with Argyll Estates to help deliver peatland restoration consolidation and remove remaining conifers in the area.

## Plan aspiration – landscape enhancement

More visible parts of the forest will provide the focus for species diversification. A minimum of 5% broadleaves will be established, primarily on the less exposed eastern edges of the forest, and to comply with UKFS.