

Appendix VIII: Private Water Supply

The purpose of this document is to provide information of known private water supplies (PWS) in the area, detail their interaction with the Fleet Basin block (if any), and present the mitigations that will be adopted throughout the delivery of the land management plan proposals.

This document demonstrates alignment with key Scottish Forestry policies, namely the UK Forestry Standard (UKFS) and UKFS Forest and Water guidelines.

FLS obtained details of water supply infrastructure within the general area of the Fleet Basin from the local authority (Dumfries and Galloway Council). Via desk study, supplies were checked and ground truthed by FLS staff and/or via consultation with water supply users for comment on the potential impact likely to be caused by forestry and/or peatland operations.

Note that the evidence base for peatland hydrology, functioning, and afforested peatland modifications is currently limited. The information presented here is therefore subject to revision based on evolving scientific knowledge and experience in order to deliver best practice.

There is two water supply points to Meikle Cullendoch with extraction from the Back Strand burn and to Drumruck.

For the Meikle Cullendoch supply there are no planned operations during the period of this plan (2023-33) to either fell or restore the peatland complex associated with the headwaters of the Back Strand burn, the future habitats map nevertheless includes provision for additional broadleaf areas and open ground areas (potentially for future peatland restoration) for mitigation and protection of the supply.

For the Drumruck supply there is limited to no interaction with operations proposed within this plan period (2023-33)

Potential interaction with clear felling, thinning, restocking, and/or peatland restoration operations beyond the scope of this land management plan will be considered as part of subsequent plan revisions and in accordance with the UK Forestry Standard, latest scientific research, and FLS's legal obligations. Water supply owners and users will also be consulted and future plan revisions will be submitted to Scottish Forestry for evaluation.

The table below describes the water supply, expert opinion, details potential impact from LMP proposals and describes how these will be mitigated throughout plan delivery.

See also **Appendix VIII B Map 1** Private Water Supplies

Fleet Basin LMP

Private Water Supplies at Fleet Basin			
Property Map reference	Supply description	Supply location source (including expert comment)	Relevance to Fleet Basin LMP 2023-33 and proposed mitigation(s)
Meikle Cullendoch NX 5588 6513	Spring/Surface water fed abstracts at NX5618 6521 Demarcated supply pipeline runs adjacent to but does not interact with the Back Strand Burn beyond the point of abstraction. Owner/occupier at Meikle Cullendoch confirmed supply.	Dumfries & Galloway Council PWS register No expert comment sought. There is a peatland complex at the headwaters of the Back Strand Burn potentially covering an area of Upland Sphagnum bog, intermediate and flushed blanket bogs. On the FLS holding, the peatland complex has been restocked with second rotation conifer and broadleaf. Whilst the future habitats map proposes significant areas of open ground (potentially for restoration) and broadleaf in the area to mitigate and protect the supply, there are no plans to restore the peatland complex during the period of this plan.	All PWS infrastructure is mapped and included on FLS private water supply GIS layer. No interaction with operations proposed within this plan as pipeline runs through open ground within coupe 50047 which is currently proposed for harvesting in 2044/45. FLS will continue to work in accordance with the UKFS, UKFS Forest and Water guidelines, Forestry and Water Scotland: Know the Rules 2 nd ed., the FLS South Region Pollution Control Plan, and its legal obligations to protect the supply.
Drumruck NX 5783 6390	Spring fed supply not on FLS land. Owner/occupier at Drumruck confirmed supply.	Dumfries & Galloway Council PWS register No expert comment sought. The future habitats map proposes significant areas of open ground and broadleaf to mitigate and protect the area adjacent to the supply.	Contact with owner will be fulfilled before any operations in the area to establish infrastructure on the ground. All PWS infrastructure will be mapped and included on FLS private water supply GIS layer. Whilst either harvesting or restocking operations in coupe 50018 (2026/27) could have a potential impact on the PWS, the coupe is some distance from the supply/abstraction point so the impact should be marginal. Whilst it is understood that part of the primary water source may be situated within the land management unit, it is considered that any felling or restock operations will be outside the buffer of the abstraction point and any mitigation will be more pertinent to the wider catchment area. Subsequent restocking of 50018 will be open space, broadleaf and Scots Pine. Mitigations will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No fording of watercourses. Where crossing is absolutely necessary, log bridges or steel plates will be used. • No brash left within watercourses or drains. • Adequate brash mats will be used over soft ground during forwarding operations. • Any relevant infrastructure or buffers to be taped accordingly during operations.

Private Water Supplies at Fleet Basin

			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Only discontinuous mounding within coupes prior to restock, with only flat planting allowed within any buffer area.• No use of chemical or pesticide within the buffer.• No handling or storage of fuel, chemicals, or oils on land draining to the supply.• An emergency contact and plan discussed and shared with the end user ahead of operations. <p>FLS will continue to work in accordance with the UKFS, UKFS Forest and Water guidelines, Forestry and Water Scotland: Know the Rules 2nd ed., the FLS South Region Pollution Control Plan, and its legal obligations to protect the supply.</p>
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