



### Morvern Land Management Plan

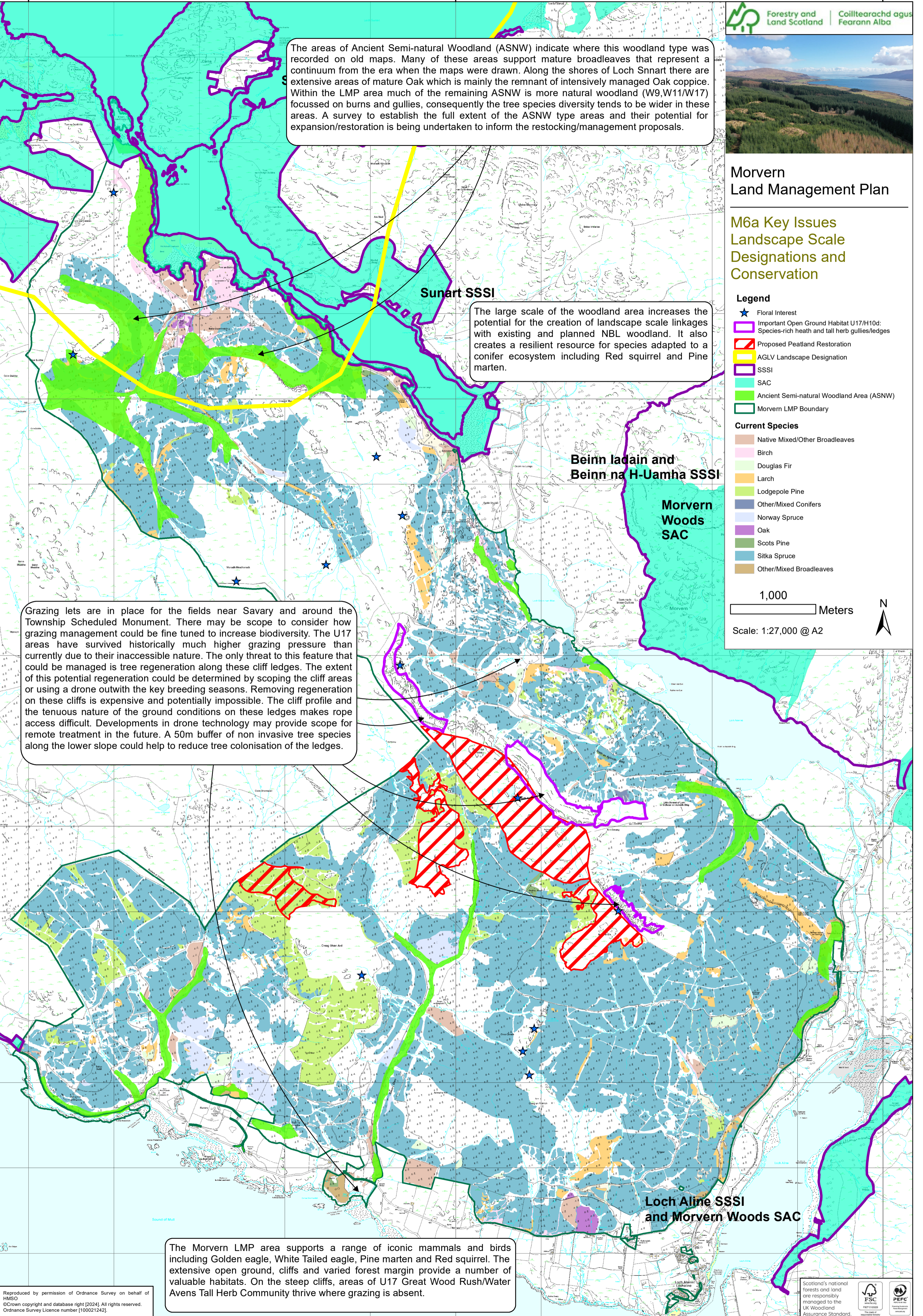
### M6a Key Issues Landscape Scale Designations and Conservation

The areas of Ancient Semi-natural Woodland (ASNW) indicate where this woodland type was recorded on old maps. Many of these areas support mature broadleaves that represent a continuum from the era when the maps were drawn. Along the shores of Loch Snnart there are extensive areas of mature Oak which is mainly the remnant of intensively managed Oak coppice. Within the LMP area much of the remaining ASNW is more natural woodland (W9,W11/W17) focussed on burns and gullies, consequently the tree species diversity tends to be wider in these areas. A survey to establish the full extent of the ASNW type areas and their potential for expansion/restoration is being undertaken to inform the restocking/management proposals.

The large scale of the woodland area increases the potential for the creation of landscape scale linkages with existing and planned NBL woodland. It also creates a resilient resource for species adapted to a conifer ecosystem including Red squirrel and Pine marten.

Grazing lets are in place for the fields near Savary and around the Township Scheduled Monument. There may be scope to consider how grazing management could be fine tuned to increase biodiversity. The U17 areas have survived historically much higher grazing pressure than currently due to their inaccessible nature. The only threat to this feature that could be managed is tree regeneration along these cliff ledges. The extent of this potential regeneration could be determined by scoping the cliff areas or using a drone outwith the key breeding seasons. Removing regeneration on these cliffs is expensive and potentially impossible. The cliff profile and the tenuous nature of the ground conditions on these ledges makes rope access difficult. Developments in drone technology may provide scope for remote treatment in the future. A 50m buffer of non invasive tree species along the lower slope could help to reduce tree colonisation of the ledges.

The Morvern LMP area supports a range of iconic mammals and birds including Golden eagle, White Tailed eagle, Pine marten and Red squirrel. The extensive open ground, cliffs and varied forest margin provide a number of valuable habitats. On the steep cliffs, areas of U17 Great Wood Rush/Water Avens Tall Herb Community thrive where grazing is absent.



**Legend**

- ★ Floral Interest
- Important Open Ground Habitat U17/H10d: Species-rich heath and tall herb gullies/ledges
- ▨ Proposed Peatland Restoration
- ▨ AGLV Landscape Designation
- SSSI
- SAC
- Ancient Semi-natural Woodland Area (ASNW)
- Morvern LMP Boundary

**Current Species**

- Native Mixed/Other Broadleaves
- Birch
- Douglas Fir
- Larch
- Lodgepole Pine
- Other/Mixed Conifers
- Norway Spruce
- Oak
- Scots Pine
- Sitka Spruce
- Other/Mixed Broadleaves

1,000 Meters

Scale: 1:27,000 @ A2