

3. Analysis and Concept Map

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Scale @ A0: 1:15,000

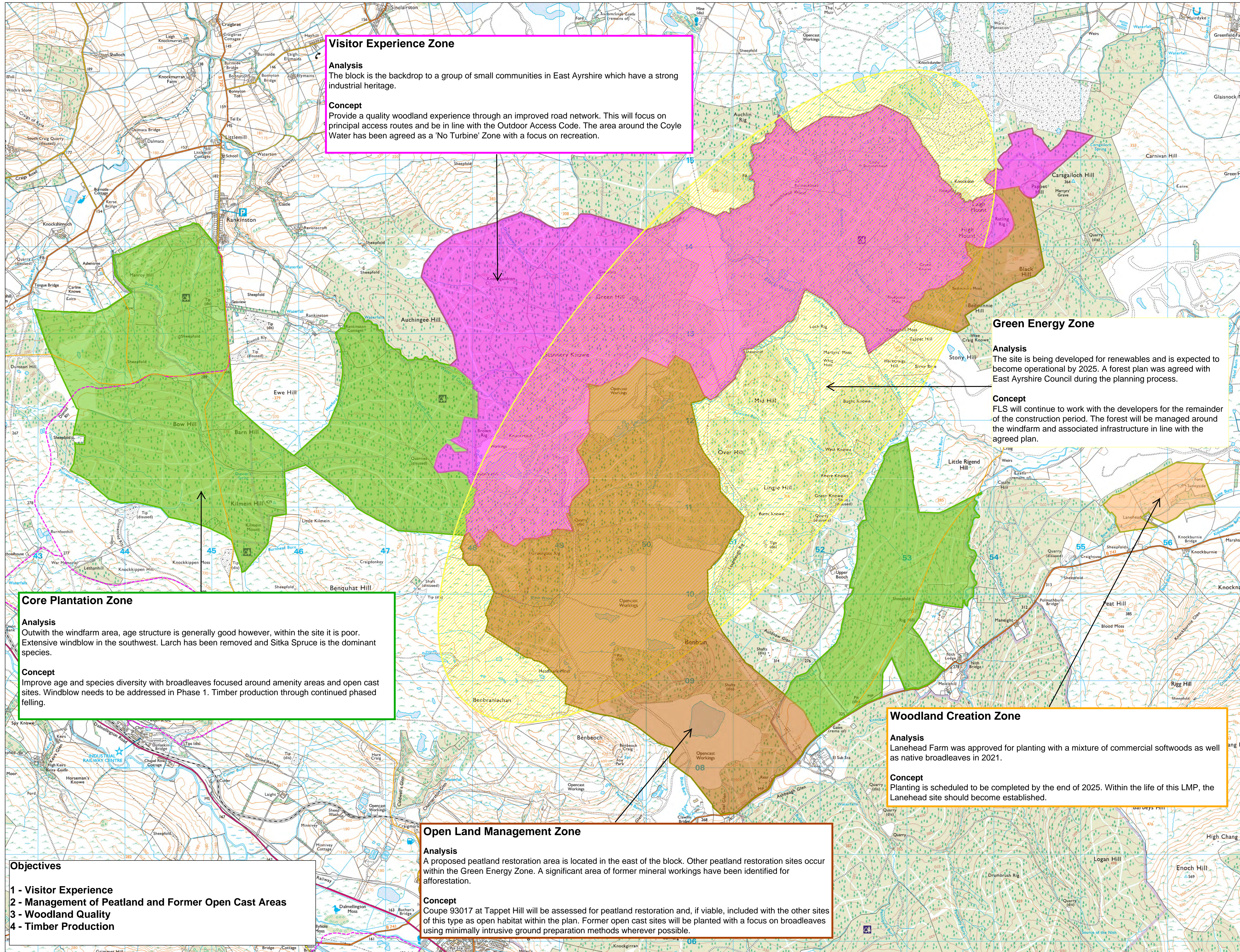
Date: 02/08/2024

Legend

ScotWays Rights of Way

- Vindicated
- Assented
- Claimed
- Other Route (Potential RoW)
- Lost
- Core Paths

- Open Land Management Zone
- Green Energy Zone
- Visitor Experience Zone
- Core Plantation Zone
- Woodland Creation Zone
- North Kyle Forest Block



Visitor Experience Zone

Analysis
The block is the backdrop to a group of small communities in East Ayrshire which have a strong industrial heritage.

Concept
Provide a quality woodland experience through an improved road network. This will focus on principal access routes and be in line with the Outdoor Access Code. The area around the Coyle Water has been agreed as a 'No Turbine' Zone with a focus on recreation.

Green Energy Zone

Analysis
The site is being developed for renewables and is expected to become operational by 2025. A forest plan was agreed with East Ayrshire Council during the planning process.

Concept
FLS will continue to work with the developers for the remainder of the construction period. The forest will be managed around the windfarm and associated infrastructure in line with the agreed plan.

Core Plantation Zone

Analysis
Outwith the windfarm area, age structure is generally good however, within the site it is poor. Extensive windblow in the southwest. Larch has been removed and Sitka Spruce is the dominant species.

Concept
Improve age and species diversity with broadleaves focused around amenity areas and open cast sites. Windblow needs to be addressed in Phase 1. Timber production through continued phased felling.

Woodland Creation Zone

Analysis
Lanehead Farm was approved for planting with a mixture of commercial softwoods as well as native broadleaves in 2021.

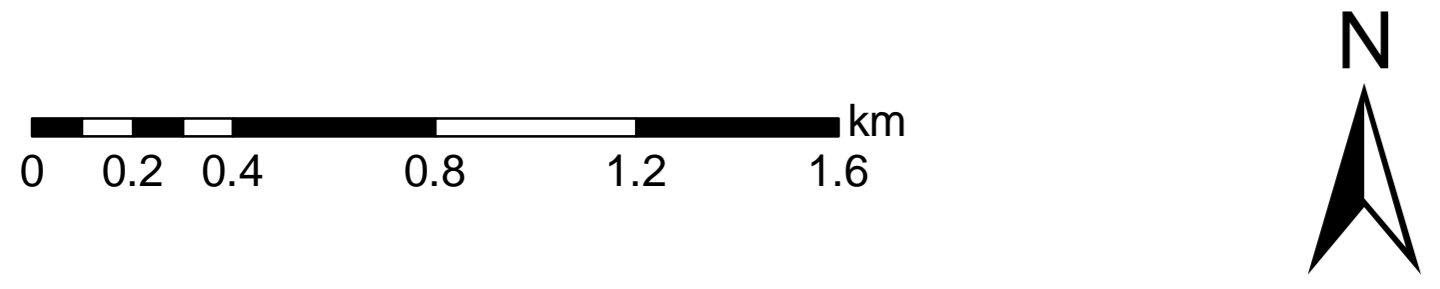
Concept
Planting is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2025. Within the life of this LMP, the Lanehead site should become established.

Open Land Management Zone

Analysis
A proposed peatland restoration area is located in the east of the block. Other peatland restoration sites occur within the Green Energy Zone. A significant area of former mineral workings have been identified for afforestation.

Concept
Coupe 93017 at Tappet Hill will be assessed for peatland restoration and, if viable, included with the other sites of this type as open habitat within the plan. Former open cast sites will be planted with a focus on broadleaves using minimally intrusive ground preparation methods wherever possible.

- Objectives**
- 1 - Visitor Experience
 - 2 - Management of Peatland and Former Open Cast Areas
 - 3 - Woodland Quality
 - 4 - Timber Production



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