

## Bun Allt Eachain.



*Bun Allt Eachain – showing ground flora, double stemmed oak and epiphytes.*

### KEY FEATURES

#### Area

Total 27.2ha

Designated area 27.2ha

#### Woodland types (habitat extent)

ASNW 2.5ha

PAWS 22.3ha

Open

#### Woodland description

Here, there are remnants of oak and birch wood with some rowan and holly. **Regeneration of birch is apparent on some of the open ground. Some 'Atlantic' ferns and epiphytes are of specific interest.** A typical broadleaf ground flora survives under these woodland remnants. The conifer clearance in progress is allowing far more light to reach the ground flora. There are uninterrupted transitions from the rocky coast with small intertidal patches of saltmarsh and iris beds into oak and birch woodland. The wood is entirely within the SSSI.

#### History of management

The woodland was acquired from the Board of Agriculture for Scotland in 1951 as part of a larger transfer including An Cnap, Bun Allt Eachain, Ardery and Camus a Choirce.

#### Conifer removal

Halo-thinning 2005.

#### Conservation features

Hairy wood ant *Formica lugubris*

## Lichen assemblages

The Nationally Rare, Near Threatened *Menegazzia subsimilis* was recorded at NM735632 in 1966, along with a number of other species, including five Nationally Scarce species (two of which *Fuscopannaria sampaiana* and *Leptogium brebissonii* are considered Near Threatened).

Six Nationally Scarce lichens, are recorded the containing 1-km square NM7363, including most of the NS species mentioned above.

*Menegazzia subsimilis* occurs as an epiphyte on birch and ash, so would benefit from management for these species where appropriate.

## Bryophytes

The Sunart ravine survey covered the western burn within this block, which was category C with the four ORIS species (*Aphanolejeunea microscopica*, *Drepanolejeunea hamatifolia*, *Harpalejeunea molleri* & *Radula aquilegia*). The burn to the east of this block does not appear to have been surveyed, but is in close proximity to the Allt Eachain, a Category A watercourse just to the east of the site with the same species as above plus *Plagiochila exigua* and *Colura calyptrifolia*.

Other surveys have recorded 111 bryophytes throughout this block. This includes seven ORIS species, 24 Oceanic Species, and one Nationally Scarce Species (*Hageniella micans*).

## Heritage features

Recessed platforms, hut and house foundations.

Oak trees derived from maiden stems, singled coppice and multi-stemmed neglected coppice, occur throughout the woodlands. Very occasional senile pollarded trees suggest an earlier woodland management regime, possibly dating from the late medieval period.

## PAWS

Above the road the woodland is classified as PAWS, although the majority is now clear of non-native conifers and has a high ecological potential (16ha). The remaining conifer areas (6.5ha) are also of high ecological potential but remain threatened by shading from the standing crop.

Below the road the area of ASNW (2.5ha) is of high ecological potential and secure.

Species	Area	P year
Open	9.1	
Birch	4.1	1960
Lodgepole pine	0.6	1963
Mixed Broadleaves	7.4	1900
Mixed conifer	3.2	1963
Oak	0.6	1940
Scots pine	0.2	1963
Sitka spruce	2.0	1963

### Other

Water supply on the western burn.

Public road within the forest.

Overhead power line above the road has created an island of woodland that can only be managed with co-operation from SSE and the roads department.

The woodland is situated within the strategic deer fence.

### MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS

#### LT AWS management

There is scope for management of the woodland, as there is a track traversing the site, which is suitable for small machinery.

Closer to the egress and around the area that still has non-native conifers, management could be continued for timber production from native species using low impact systems. The remainder of the woodland will be managed with biodiversity as the highest priority.

The management areas need to be fine-tuned, in order to take into account potential expansion of bryophyte colonies around ravines and ideally create non-intervention buffers.

#### Initial operations

Some work is needed to improve the lower section of the track and create a harvesting facility with a forwarder track identified through the native woodland, in order to allow the felling of the conifer stand to the north-west. A route located immediately to the west of the category C watercourse will avoid the most ecologically sensitive areas. The immediate environs of the watercourse will need to be protected including native trees adjacent to the watercourse. The boulders scattered through the area form an important substrate for bryophytes and an operational plan will be required to protect them, through machine moving if necessary, before the harvesting facility can be constructed. If possible, the conifer will also be removed from the remainder of the woodland but this is dependent on the co-operation from SSE and the roads department at the same time.

#### Proposed felling coupes

Coupe	Av Planting year	Av YC	Area Gross	Age MMAI	Fell year	Proposed Fell year
87142	1963	4	6.6ha	63	2026	Phase 2

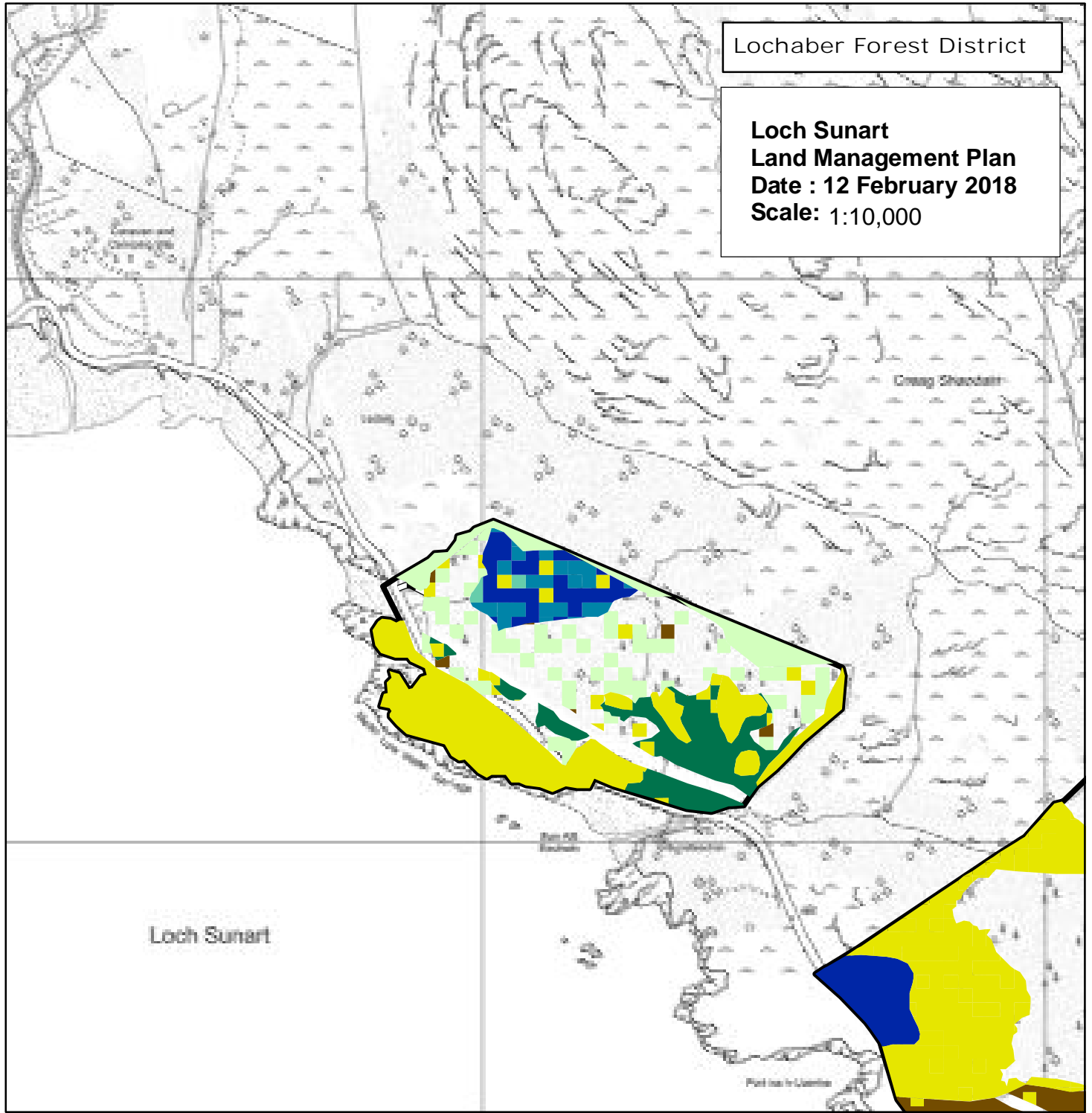
All based on SS NT 1.7m models

#### Proposed forest roads

Period	Road number	Length	Coupe
Phase 2	SU51	100m	87142

The area identified for future timber production would benefit from respacing during the period of the plan.

No monitoring at present, as regeneration has established successfully.



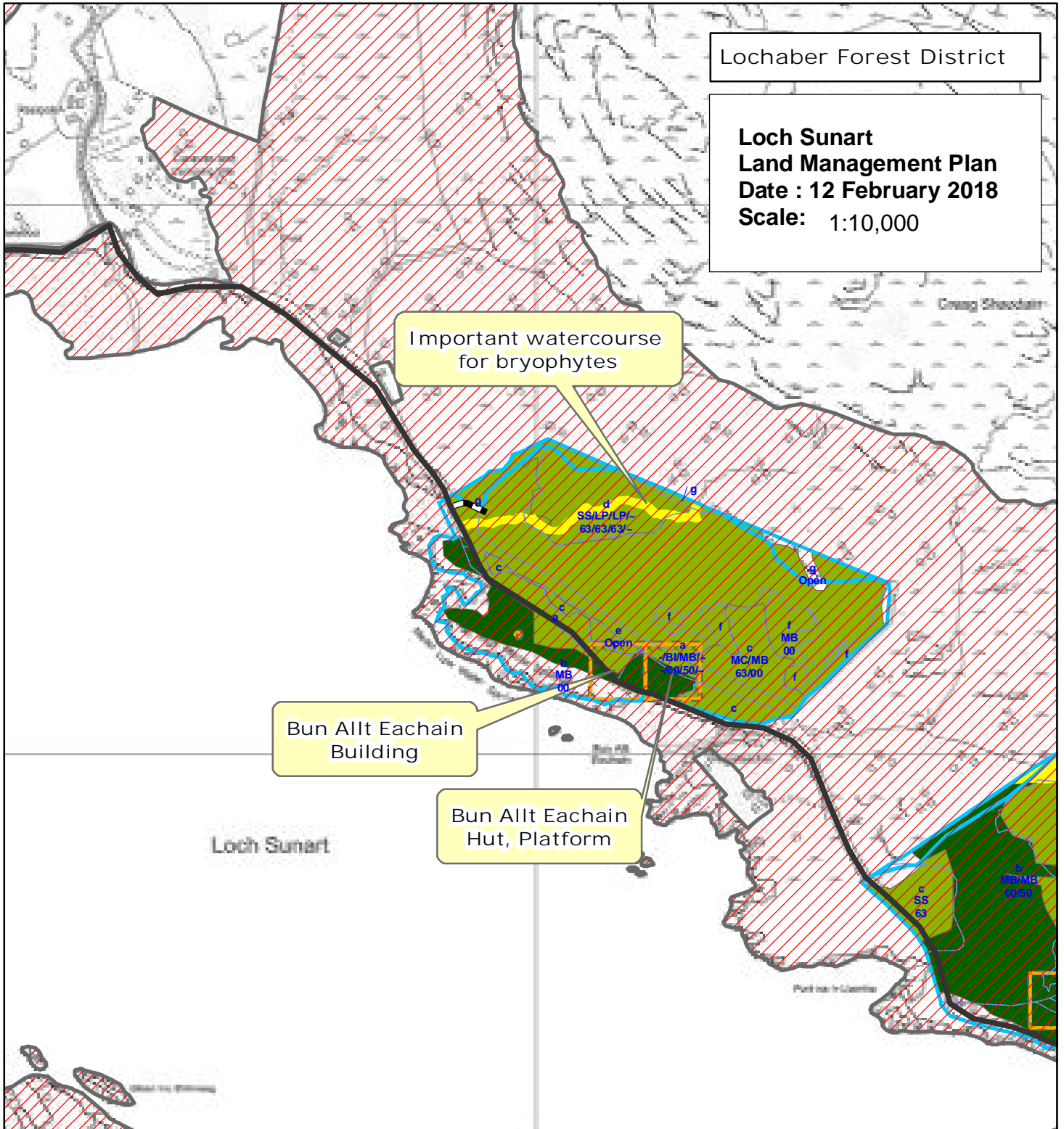
Lochaber Forest District

**Loch Sunart  
Land Management Plan**  
Date : 12 February 2018  
Scale: 1:10,000

**Bun Allt Eachain  
Current Species**

- Scots pine
- Other pines
- Spruces
- Larches
- Other Conifer
- Oak
- Birch
- Beech
- Other broadleaves
- LMP Boundary
- Forest Roads





**Bun Allt Eachain**

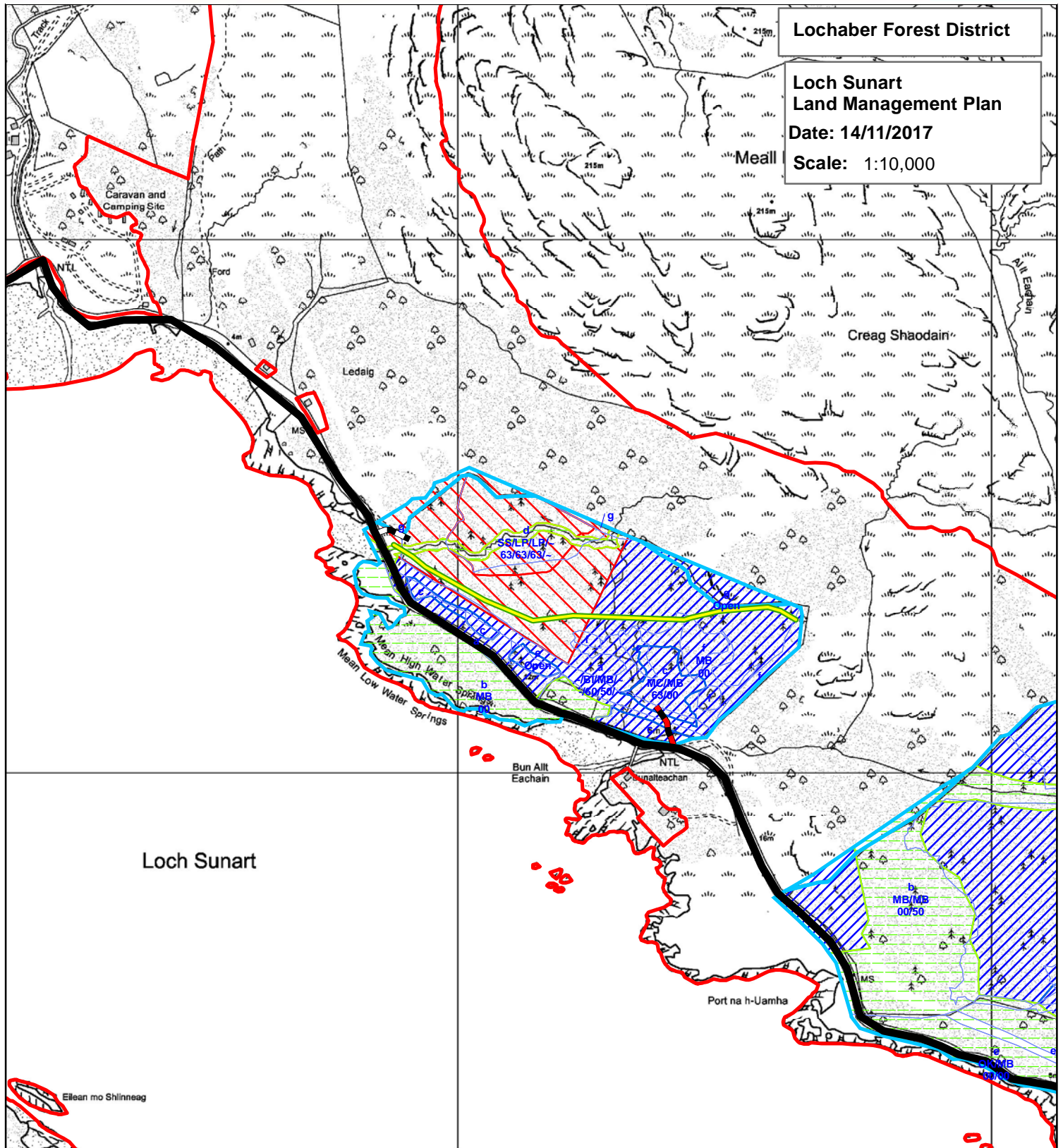
**AWS, SSSI, Conservation And Heritage Features**

<b>AWS</b>	A861 Road	<b>DESIGNATION TYPE</b>
<b>Classification</b>	National Forest Estate	Scheduled Monument
Ancient Semi-Natural Woodlands	Sub-Compartments	Heritage Features Point
Open Ground	Conservation features	Heritage Features Line
PAWS	Forest Roads	Heritage Features Polygon
Planted Site Native Woodland	SSSI	



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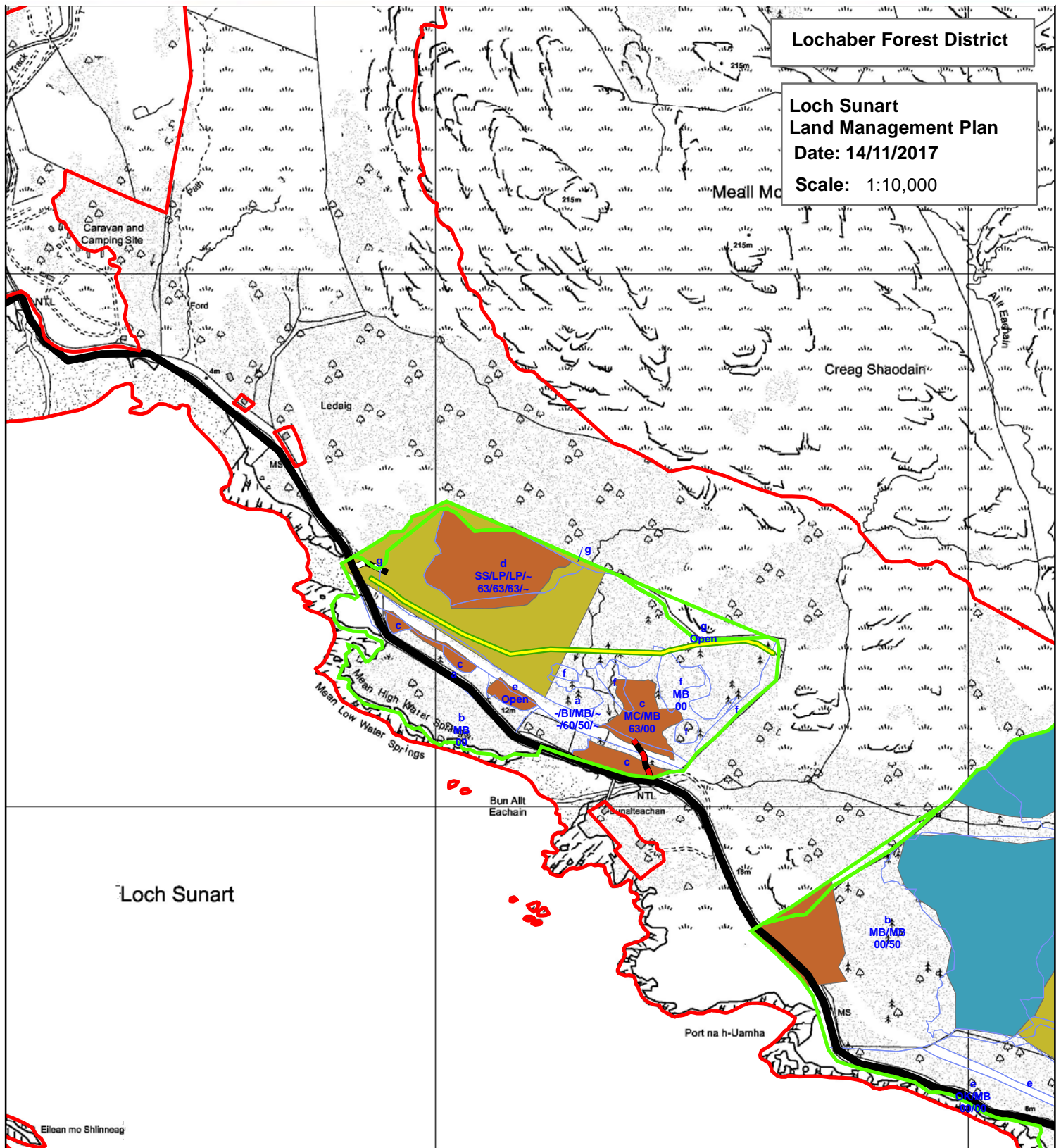


**Lochaber Forest District**  
**Loch Sunart**  
**Land Management Plan**  
**Date: 14/11/2017**  
**Scale: 1:10,000**

**Bun allt Eachain**

- |  |                        |                           |
|--|------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Long term AWS management models</b> | SSSI                   | Forest Roads              |
| <b>Model</b>                           | National Forest Estate | Planned Road Segments     |
| 1 - Minimum intervention (inc Nat Res) | Sub-Compartments       | Existing ATV Access Track |
| 2 - LISS for biodiversity              | A861 Road              | Existing Recreation Route |
| 3 - LISS for timber                    |                        |                           |





**Lochaber Forest District**

**Loch Sunart  
Land Management Plan**

**Date: 14/11/2017**

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Loch Sunart

**Bun allt Eachain  
10 Year Management**

**10 Year Management**

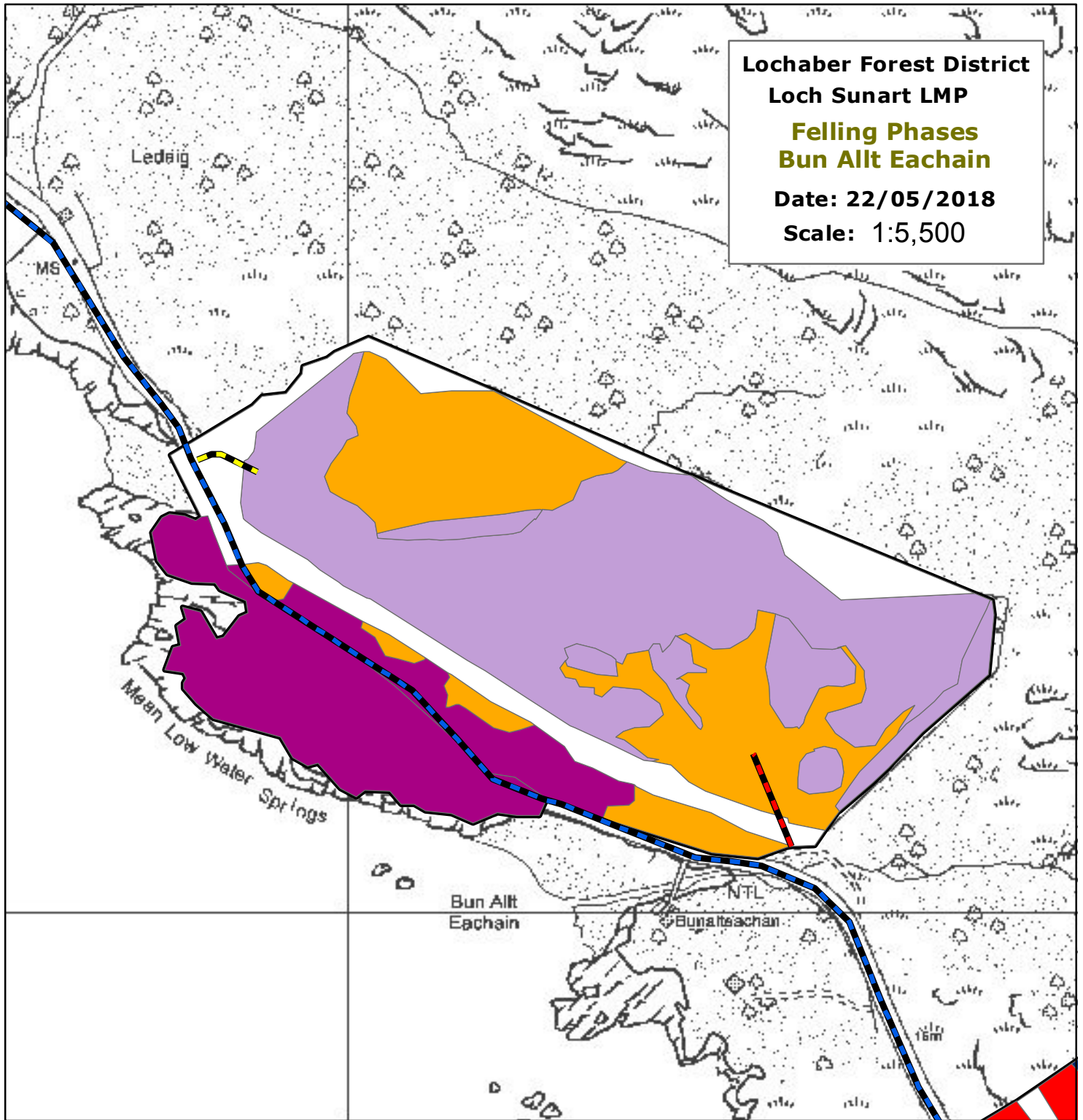
**Operation**

- Clearfell conifers
- Enrichment plant
- Re-space broadleaves
- Selective fell of conifers

- SSSI
- National Forest Estate
- Sub-Compartments
- A861 Road
- Existing ATV Access Track
- Existing Recreation Route
- Planned Road Segments
- Forest Roads



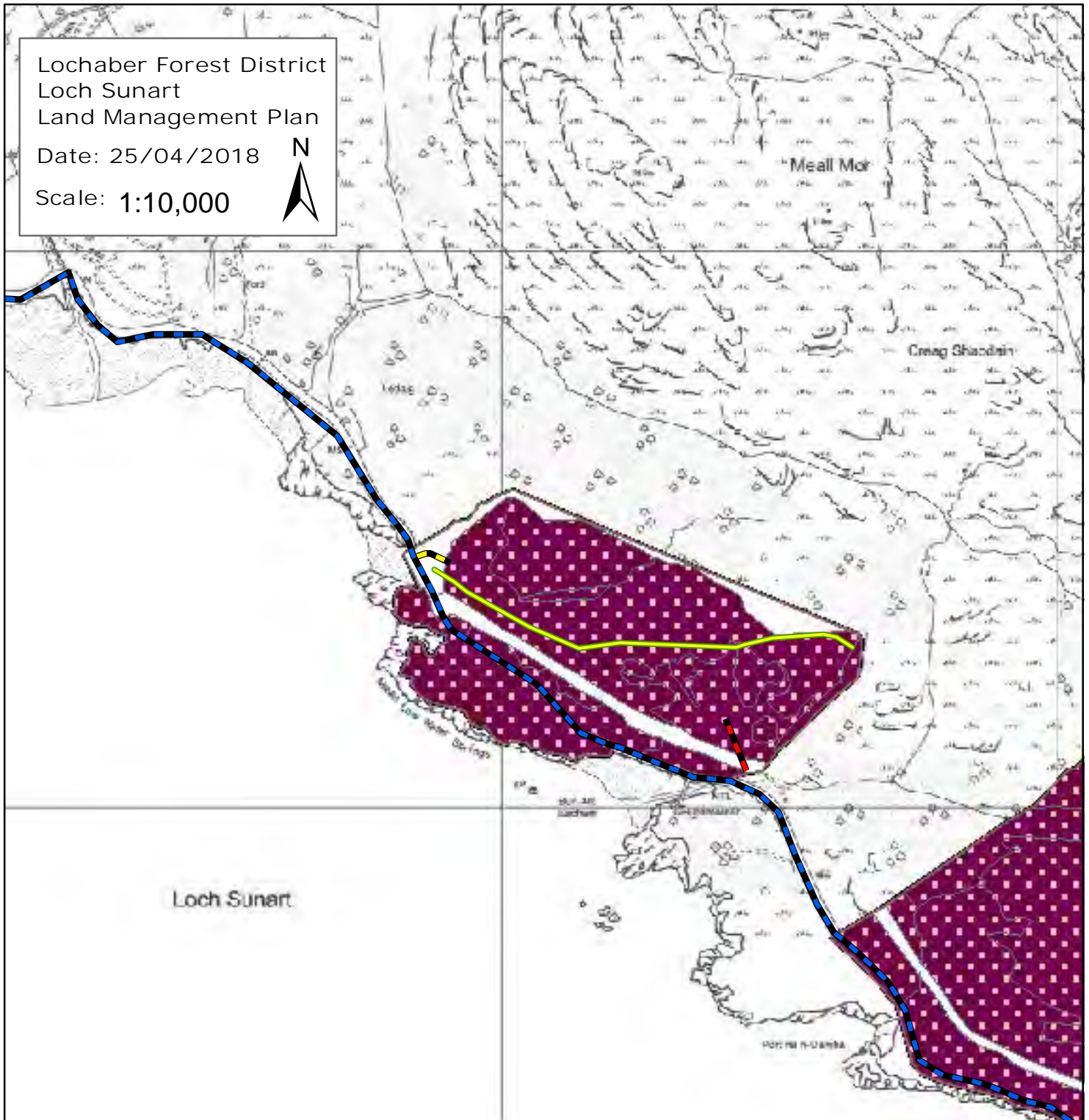




**Lochaber Forest District**  
**Loch Sunart LMP**  
**Felling Phases**  
**Bun Allt Eachain**  
**Date: 22/05/2018**  
**Scale: 1:5,500**

- Phase 1 felling (2018 - 2022)
- Phase 2 felling (2023 - 2027)
- Phase 3 felling (2028 - 2032)
- Phase 4 felling (2033 - 2037)
- Phase 5 felling (2038 - 2042)
- Phase 6 felling (2043 - 2047)
- Phase 7 felling (2048 - 2052)
- After 2052
- Natural reserve
- Long term retention
- Minimum Intervention
- Low impact silviculture
- Open
- LMP Boundary
- A861 Road
- B8007
- Forest Roads
- Planned Road Segments





**Restock  
Bun Alt Eachain**

- |                      |                           |                       |
|----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Birch/Broadleaf      | planting_area             | Forest Roads          |
| Broadleaf/Scots Pine | LMP Boundary              | Planned Road Segments |
| Douglas Fir/Birch    | Sunart_tracks             | A861 Road             |
| Norway Spruce        | Existing ATV Access Track | B8007                 |
| Oak                  |                           |                       |
| Oak/Birch            |                           |                       |
| Open                 |                           |                       |
| Scots Pine           |                           |                       |
| Scots Pine/Birch     |                           |                       |