

Kilmichael LMP



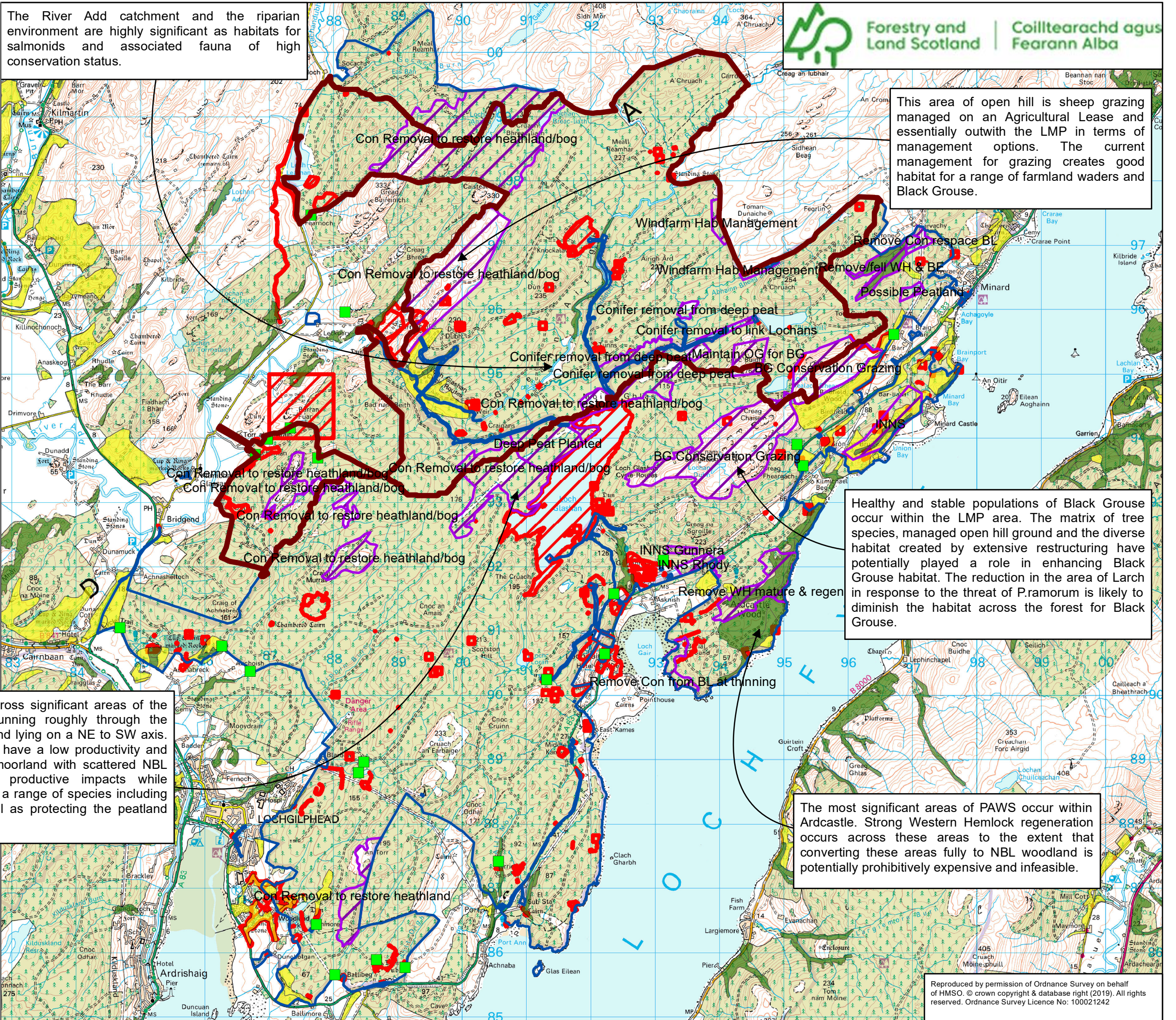
M5 Environmental Constraints & Opportunities

Legend

-  River Add Catchment within LMP Area
-  Private Water Supply
-  Kilmichael LMP Boundary
-  Indicative areas identified as having potential for prioritising ecological enhancements
-  Ancient Woodland Site
-  LEPO (Long Established of Plantation Origin)
-  Archaeology (HER)

The River Add catchment and the riparian environment are highly significant as habitats for salmonids and associated fauna of high conservation status.

This area of open hill is sheep grazing managed on an Agricultural Lease and essentially outwith the LMP in terms of management options. The current management for grazing creates good habitat for a range of farmland waders and Black Grouse.



Deep peats occur across significant areas of the Forest in a band running roughly through the centre of the forest and lying on a NE to SW axis. Many of these areas have a low productivity and restoration to open moorland with scattered NBL would have limited productive impacts while enhancing habitat for a range of species including Black Grouse as well as protecting the peatland carbon sink.

Healthy and stable populations of Black Grouse occur within the LMP area. The matrix of tree species, managed open hill ground and the diverse habitat created by extensive restructuring have potentially played a role in enhancing Black Grouse habitat. The reduction in the area of Larch in response to the threat of *P. ramorum* is likely to diminish the habitat across the forest for Black Grouse.

The most significant areas of PAWS occur within Ardcastle. Strong Western Hemlock regeneration occurs across these areas to the extent that converting these areas fully to NBL woodland is potentially prohibitively expensive and infeasible.

2

Kilometers

Scale: 1:57,000 @ A3



Scotland's National Forest Estate is responsibly managed to the UK Woodland Assurance Standard.

