

## Restock plan

Forestry Commission

March 2009

SCALE

0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.75 1 Km

**Scree & Potterlands FDP design principles**

- National Scenic Area - Both the internal and external landscape to be sensitively designed.
- Retain mature mixed crops in windfirm areas, particularly around main access points.
- Ancient Woodland Sites - restore AWS through thinning and encouraging native species regeneration.
- Structural diversity - increase structural diversity by delaying felling beyond most economic date.
- Species selection - match species to site and management objectives
- Forest Habitat Network - build on existing areas of native species particularly along riparian zones and the upper forest boundary, to create links throughout the forest.

The well drained nutrient rich soils of the northern part of Potterland hill are well suited to the production of a high quality, fast growing coniferous plantation. Douglas fir and Sitka spruce will dominate this area.

The reintroduction of coppice management along this south western slope will continue. The coupes on either side of the forest road will be converted through thinning and very small scale felling to an intimate mixture of conifers and broadleaves echoing an historic landscape.

The current crop on this steep face on the eastern side of Potterlands hill already contains a large proportion of mature and semi-mature broadleaves, as the conifers are removed through thinning this slope will gradually change into a native broadleaved area.

The OS map shows the extent of the first rotation crop and the initial phase of modifying the upper margin

Tree line lowered to remove straight line up hill

The current abrupt upper margin will be improved at restocking by modifying the forest edge to reflect the landform and planting Scots pine at wide spacing to 'soften' the transition from dense forest to open hill

Scots pine planted at low density around rocky outcrops on upper slopes that will provide a rich habitat for native species.

Existing broadleaf/open space wildlife network will be enhanced by creating links along riparian zones between unplanted areas within the forest.

On this south western slope large relatively uniform coniferous shapes are appropriate to the scale of the landscape.

The "crown" of trees on top of Potterland has been removed and will be left predominantly bare to compliment the Scree and surrounding hill tops. A small area of 100 year old Scots pine next to the quarry will be retained because of its significant contribution to the biodiversity potential of the forest.

Broadleaf areas used to link AWS across public road

Enlarged Broadleaved area contains AWS and will be managed as a single unit

This sheltered area is well suited to the establishment of high quality broadleaf species - this change from coniferous forest to broadleaf woodland will be managed through LISS, ie thinning and very small fellings coupes

