

Dear Sir/Madam,

Castlemilk Estate Long-Term Forest Plan Renewal

Scottish Forestry has a Forestry Grant Scheme which supports woodland owners who are looking to renew Long-Term Forest Plans (LTFP) for the management of their woodlands. A LTFP is a 20 year strategic management plan that brings together the management objectives, the environmental, economic and social functions and the silvicultural prescriptions into a comprehensive plan to deliver long term benefits through sustainable forest management.

Castlemilk Estate has been accepted by Scottish Forestry to renew the LTFP, subject to a full consultation process. The initial stage of the consultation process is to contact stakeholders to enable them to raise any issues they feel may be relevant, so they can be addressed in the planning process and included in the Scoping Report.

The purpose of the Scoping Report is:

1. To give the applicant the opportunity to present the objectives of the Forest Plan.
2. To allow the stakeholders to:
 - Raise any relevant issues pertaining to the woodlands;
 - Provide the applicant with any relevant information which may assist in the preparation of the plan; and
 - To identify any issues which should be considered in the preparation of the plan.
 - Any other details, in particular, any information on **private water supplies**.

Please find attached a concept plan, which highlights the main objectives of the forest plan. A brief description of the forest and a list of the main objectives is detailed below.

Scottish Forestry have agreed that the Forest Plan scoping can be carried out by email and post, however, if you would like to arrange a site visit, please let us know.

We would be grateful if you could please reply to this letter by **June 6th, 2025**. Responses should be emailed to ellie@dga-forestry.co.uk or posted to our office at the address shown above.

If you do not reply, we will assume that you do not wish to submit any comments.

Yours sincerely,



Elinor Smith

Members:

A.B. Anderson, BSc, MBA, MICFor
J.A.H. Anderson, BArch, MSc (For)

DGA Forestry LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in Scotland, No. SO304847 whose registered office is at Lochanhead Wood, Lochanhead, Dumfries, DG2 8JB



Castlemilk Estate

Site Description

Castlemilk Estate is located near Lockerbie in Dumfries and Galloway, the estate contains over 2,000ha of forestry within its Estate boundary of 12,000ha. The forestry is comprised of multiple individual blocks or coupes ranging from 0.1ha to 32.6ha. The surrounding land within the estate is comprised mainly of agricultural land and rural housing. The Estate is important in the local area due to its biodiversity and heritage value. The woodlands within the Estate are varied with plantations of commercial conifer crops such as Sitka spruce and areas of ancient and native woodland.

Management Objectives

The primary management objectives are: -

- Management of the woodlands on a commercial basis;
- Maximising the value of the standing crops through production of quality saw log material; and
- Maintain a diversity of species and age classes in accordance with the requirements of the UK Forestry Standard.

Secondary management objectives include: -

- Protection and enhancement, where possible, of the landscape, amenity, cultural and natural heritage features of significance in the woodlands.

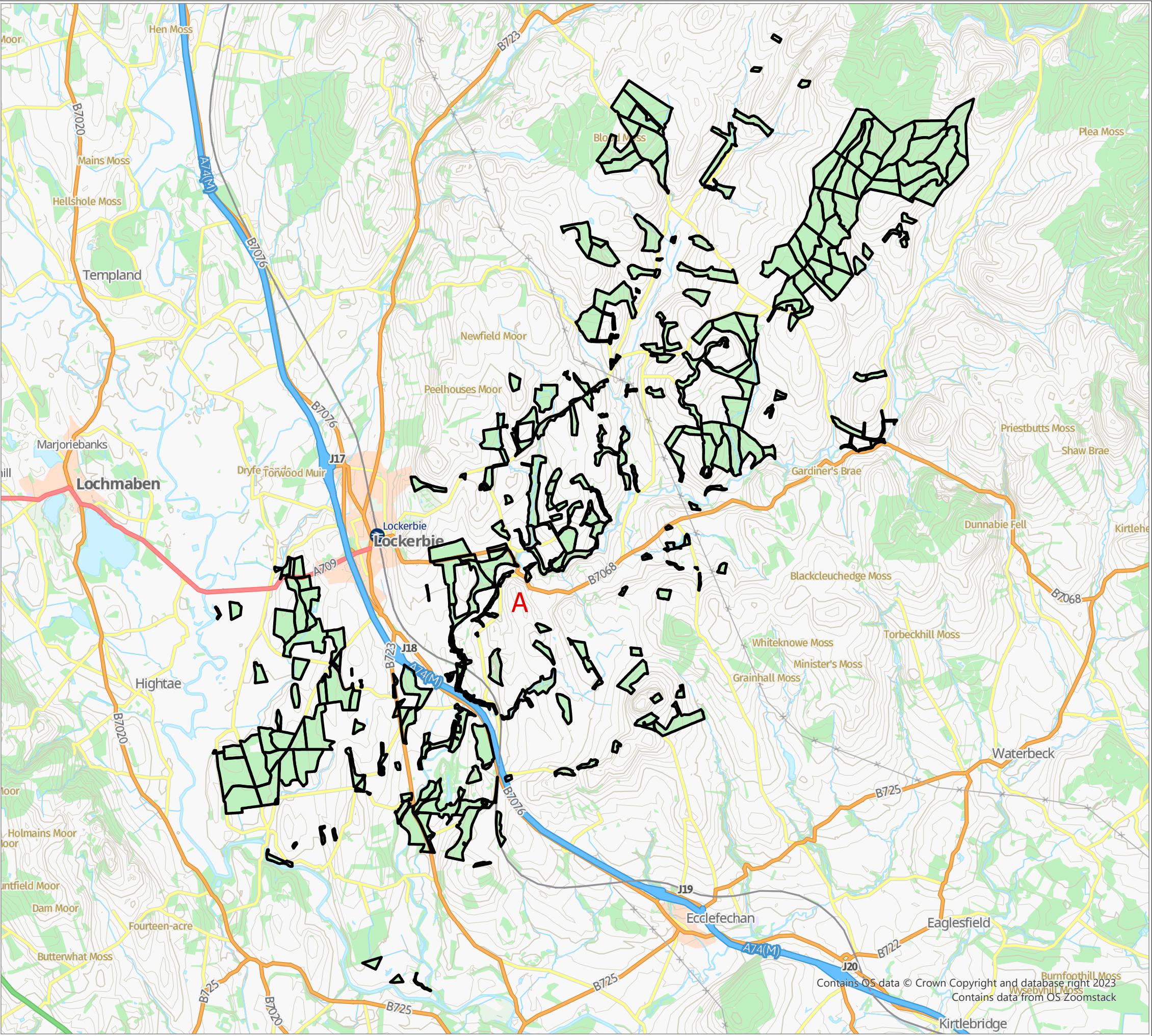
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Castlemilk Estates
Location Map

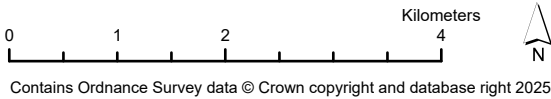
BRN: 119967 MLC: 75/323/0027

Author: E Smith
Date: 18/03/2025
Scale 1:70,000

Legend

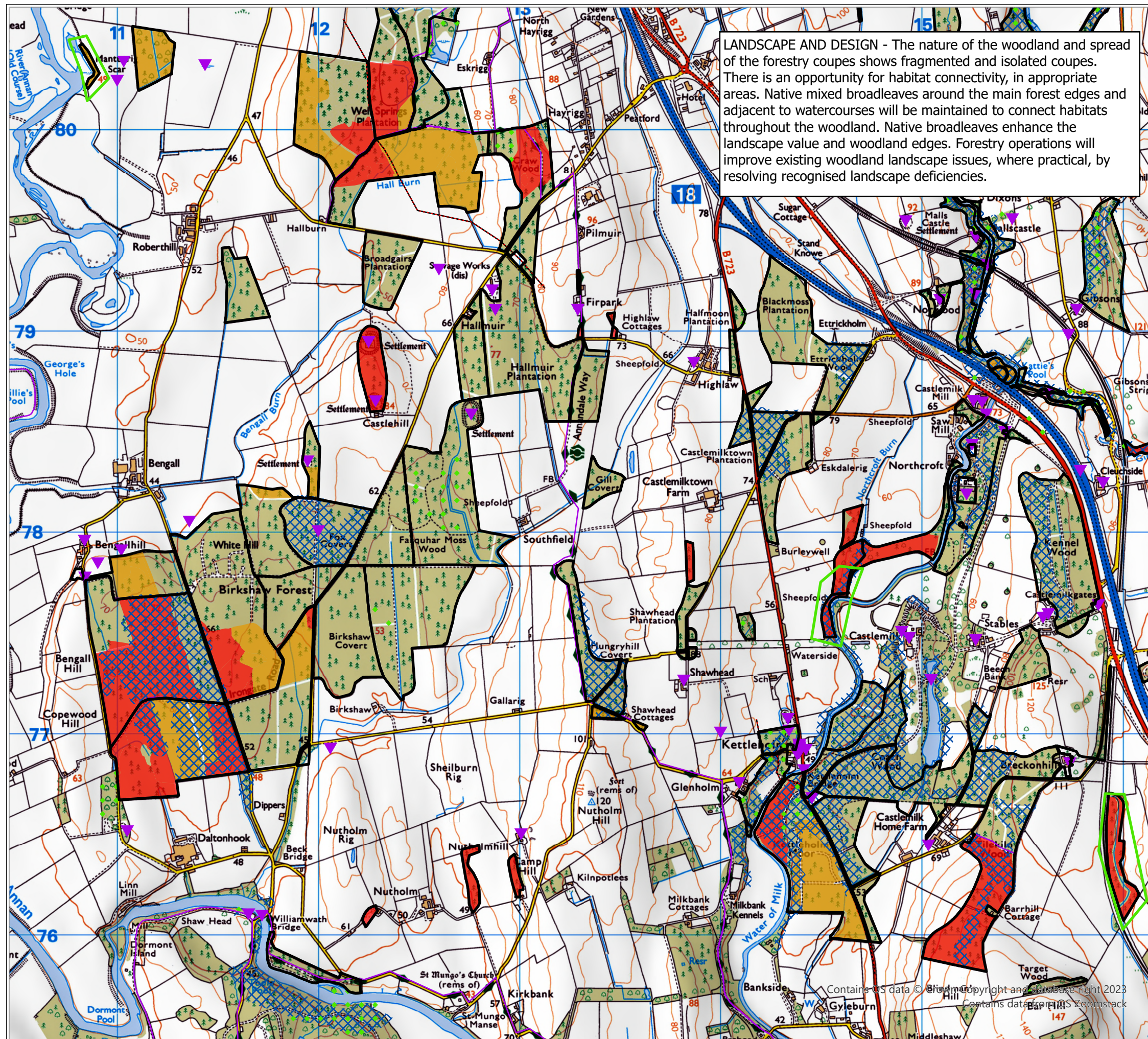
 Compartments

Grid Reference: NY 14950 77476



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LANDSCAPE AND DESIGN - The nature of the woodland and spread of the forestry coupes shows fragmented and isolated coupes. There is an opportunity for habitat connectivity, in appropriate areas. Native mixed broadleaves around the main forest edges and adjacent to watercourses will be maintained to connect habitats throughout the woodland. Native broadleaves enhance the landscape value and woodland edges. Forestry operations will improve existing woodland landscape issues, where practical, by resolving recognised landscape deficiencies.

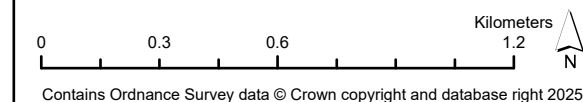
Castlemilk Estate Concept Map 1

BRN: 119967 MLC: 75/323/0027

Author: E Smith
Date: 03/04/2025
Scale 1:19,200

Legend

- Compartments
- Gas Pipeline
- Core path
- Private Water Supply
- Archaeology
- Native Woodland
- Ancient Woodland
- Phase 1
- Phase 2
- Potential restructuring of riparian zones



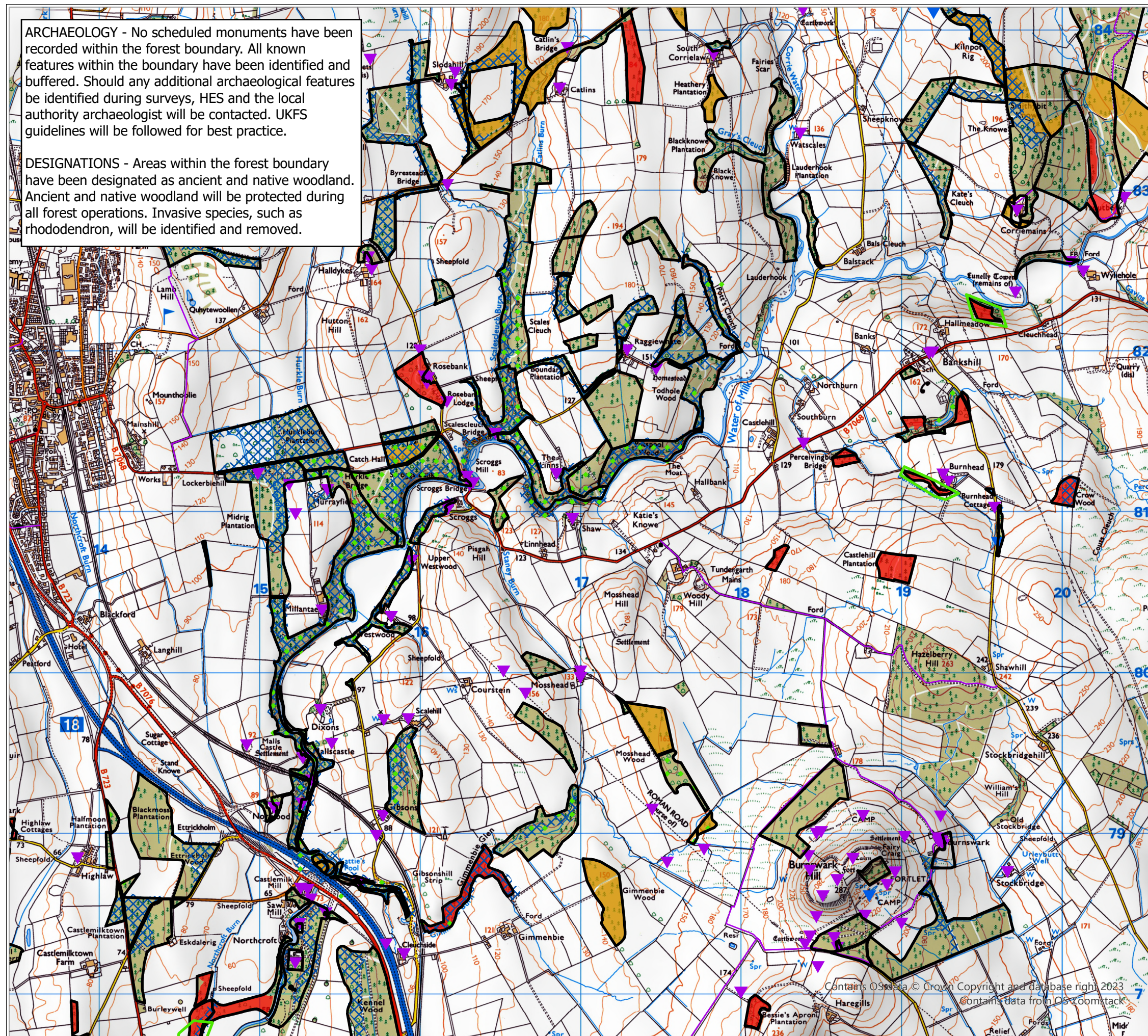
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ARCHAEOLOGY - No scheduled monuments have been recorded within the forest boundary. All known features within the boundary have been identified and buffered. Should any additional archaeological features be identified during surveys, HES and the local authority archaeologist will be contacted. UKFS guidelines will be followed for best practice.

DESIGNATIONS - Areas within the forest boundary have been designated as ancient and native woodland. Ancient and native woodland will be protected during all forest operations. Invasive species, such as rhododendron, will be identified and removed.



Castlemilk Estates Concept Map 2

BRN: 119967 MLC: 75/323/0027

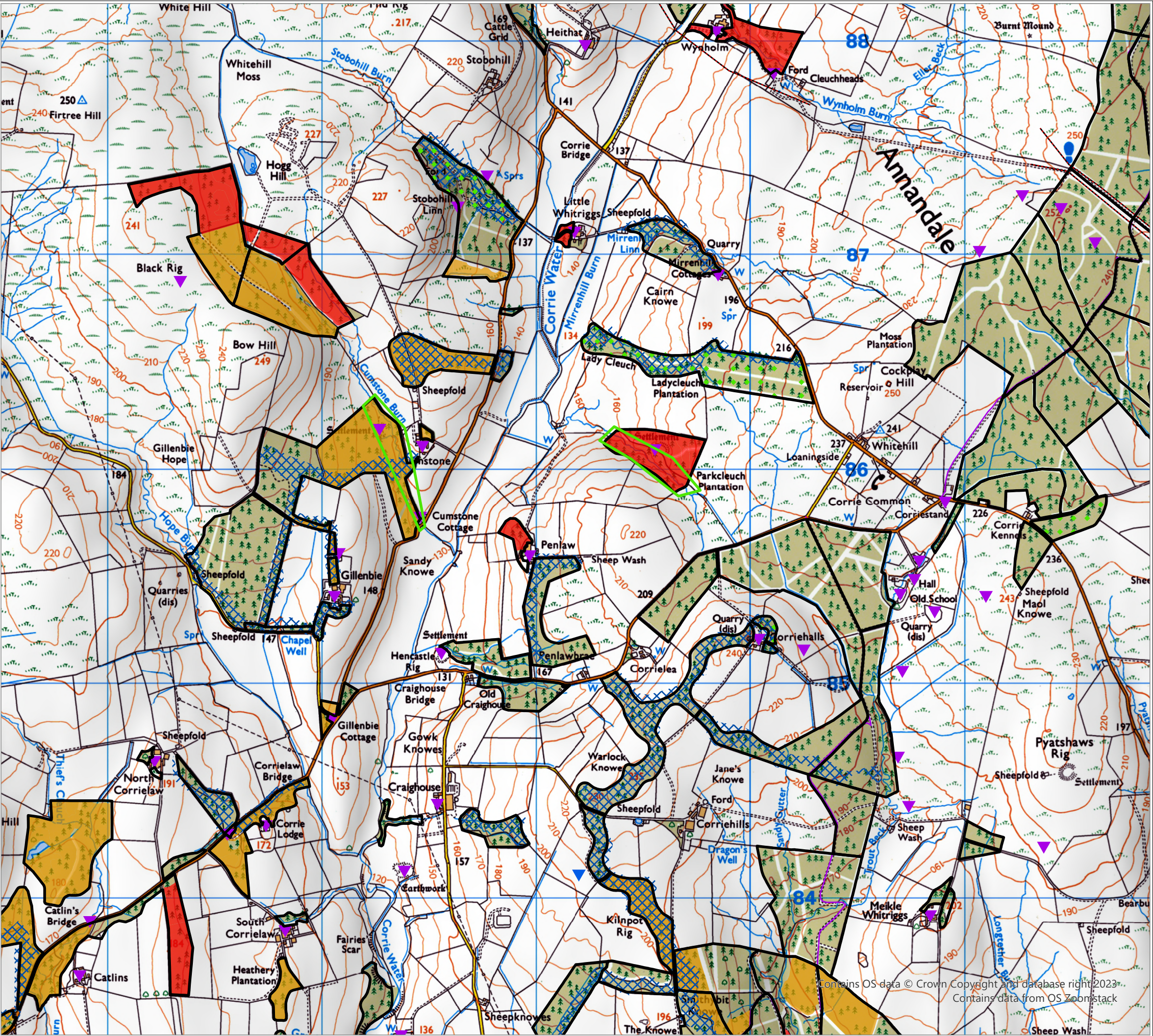
Author: E Smith
Date: 03/04/2025
Scale 1:24,000

Legend

- Compartments
- Gas Pipeline
- Core path
- Private Water Supply
- Archaeology
- Native Woodland
- Ancient Woodland
- Phase 1
- Phase 2
- Potential restructuring of riparian zones

0 0.38 0.75 1.5 Kilometers
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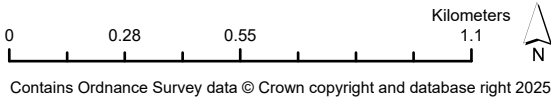
Castlemilk Estates Concept Map 3

BRN: 119967 MLC: 75/323/0027

Author: E Smith
Date: 03/04/2025
Scale 1:18,000

Legend

- Compartments
- Gas Pipeline
- Core path
- Private Water Supply
- Archaeology
- Native Woodland
- Ancient Woodland
- Phase 1
- Phase 2
- Potential restructuring of riparian zones



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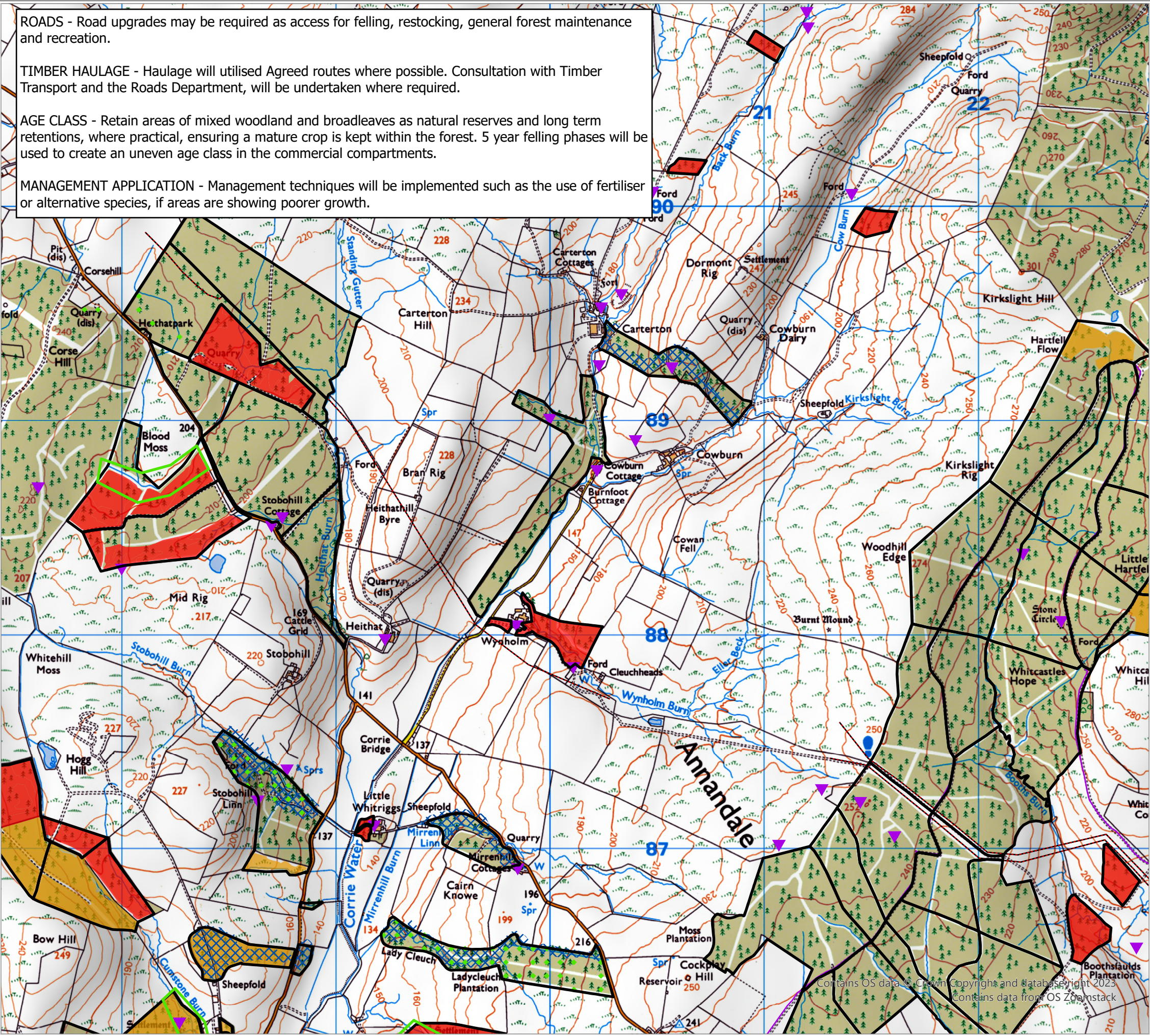


ROADS - Road upgrades may be required as access for felling, restocking, general forest maintenance and recreation.

TIMBER HAULAGE - Haulage will utilised Agreed routes where possible. Consultation with Timber Transport and the Roads Department, will be undertaken where required.

AGE CLASS - Retain areas of mixed woodland and broadleaves as natural reserves and long term retentions, where practical, ensuring a mature crop is kept within the forest. 5 year felling phases will be used to create an uneven age class in the commercial compartments.

MANAGEMENT APPLICATION - Management techniques will be implemented such as the use of fertiliser or alternative species, if areas are showing poorer growth.



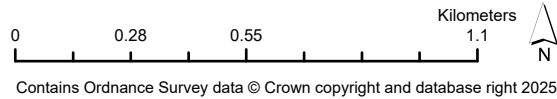
Castlemilk Estates Concept Map 4

BRN: 119967 MLC: 75/323/0027

Author: E Smith
Date: 03/04/2025
Scale 1:18,000

Legend

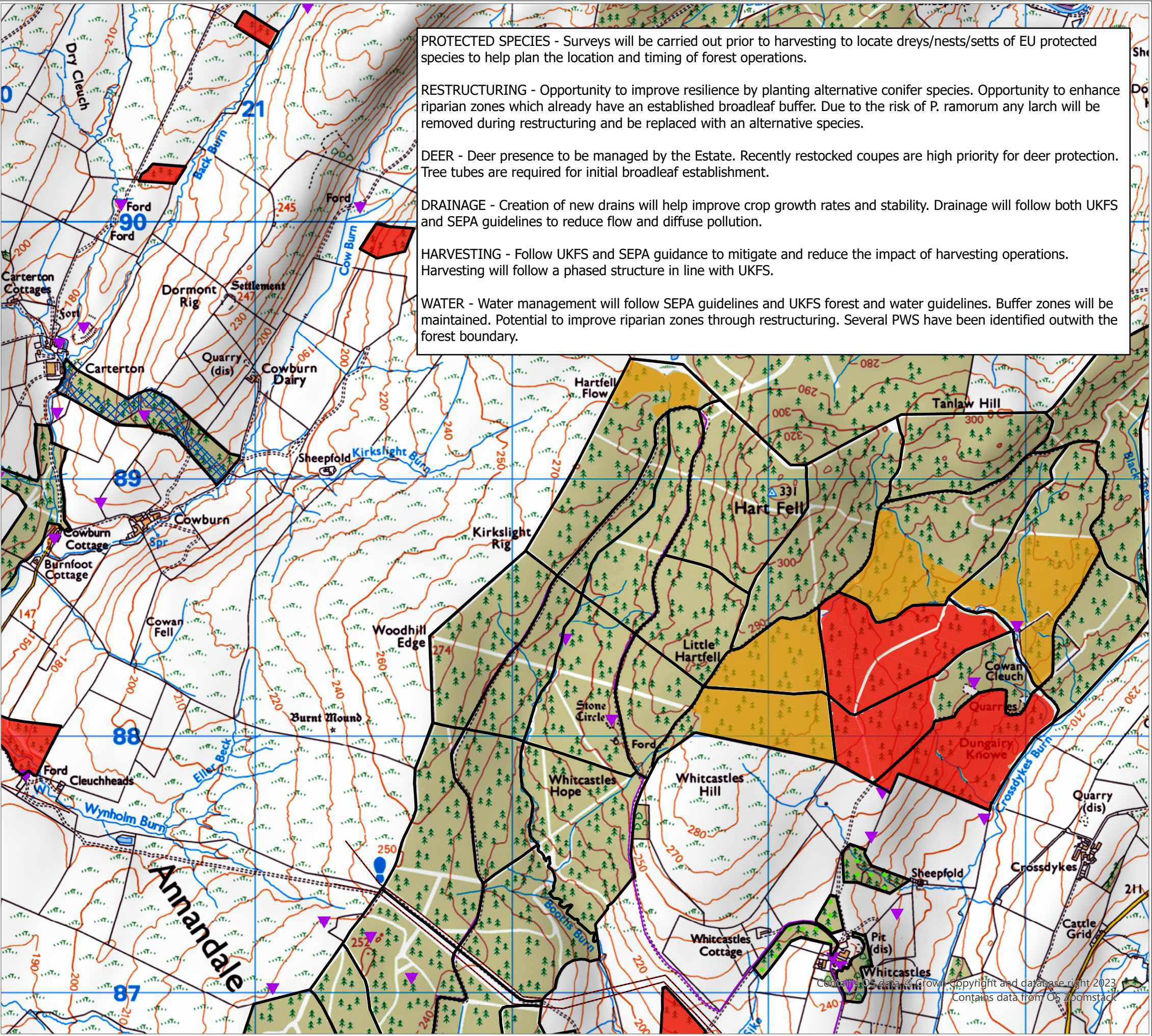
- Compartments
- Gas Pipeline
- Core path
- Private Water Supply
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- Native Woodland
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PROTECTED SPECIES - Surveys will be carried out prior to harvesting to locate dreys/nests/setts of EU protected species to help plan the location and timing of forest operations.

RESTRUCTURING - Opportunity to improve resilience by planting alternative conifer species. Opportunity to enhance riparian zones which already have an established broadleaf buffer. Due to the risk of P. ramorum any larch will be removed during restructuring and be replaced with an alternative species.

DEER - Deer presence to be managed by the Estate. Recently restocked coupes are high priority for deer protection. Tree tubes are required for initial broadleaf establishment.

DRAINAGE - Creation of new drains will help improve crop growth rates and stability. Drainage will follow both UKFS and SEPA guidelines to reduce flow and diffuse pollution.

HARVESTING - Follow UKFS and SEPA guidance to mitigate and reduce the impact of harvesting operations. Harvesting will follow a phased structure in line with UKFS.

WATER - Water management will follow SEPA guidelines and UKFS forest and water guidelines. Buffer zones will be maintained. Potential to improve riparian zones through restructuring. Several PWS have been identified outwith the forest boundary.

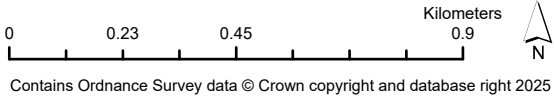
Castlemilk Estates Concept Map 5

BRN: 119967 MLC: 75/323/0027

Author: E Smith
Date: 03/04/2025
Scale 1:15,000

Legend

- Compartments
- Gas Pipeline
- Core path
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- Archaeology
- Native Woodland
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