

Wark Forest Design Plan

Introduction

The Wark Forest design plan covers 10,467 hectares of the southern area of the Kielder Forest. The terrain of the area is generally of rolling hills running East to West through the plan area. The dominant view is external to the forest, it being the view look North from Hadrian’s wall to the southern boundary of the forest. The forest by effectively surrounding Stonehaugh village act as both a gate way and backdrop to the village. The wind hazard class of the plan area is generally high (the majority being design as class 5), opportunities to employ continuous cover forestry are therefore limited. The majority of crops are growing well (achieving yield class 12), and are a mixture of younger second rotation crops, and first rotation crops of which a significant proportion are at or past the date of economic maturity. The following table lays out the main features driving the revision of the design plan, and their influence on the felling and restocking plans

Achievements since last revision

1. View from Hadrian’s Wall world heritage site: the restructuring of the southern boundary visible from the Wall continues to be restructures as felling and restocking take place. As can be seen the forest boundary is no longer the harsh straight line of the original forest and will be soften further as restructuring progresses
2. Ancient monument : the two scheduled ancient monument, Blackaburn shieling (smr 25123) and Small burn shielings (smr 25134, 25135), continue to be protected.
3. Moorland boundary : Moorland Boundary : an element of open woodland is being established at the forest open moor interface
4. Area of Ancient semi natural woodland (ASNW) and ancient replanted woodland (PAWs): The ANSW site at Stonehaugh remain as native woodland
5. Border mires: SSSI border mires that where afforested have now been clear of forest cover drains blocked and cleared of any natural regeneration. All are now in unfavorable recovering condition and meet the Public Service Agreement (PSA) 2010 target
6. Right of way are being left unplanted at restocking, the width of the unplanted land along rights of way will he varied, but never less than 3m for footpaths and 4m for bridleways. Trees planted adjacent to public rights of way will be pruned as required to maintain free access

Alterations to felling and restocking proposals

Felling proposal: some minor changes to coupe boundaries, and the scheduled felling of two coupe has been altered to smooth production, and the area previously designated for management as continuous cover at Pundershaw rationalized due to the onset of windthrow.

Restocking proposal : Redistribute the restocking of Sitka spruce and other conifer in light of the moratorium on restocking with Lodgepole pine due to the disease Red Band Needle Blight



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Kielder Forest

Location map

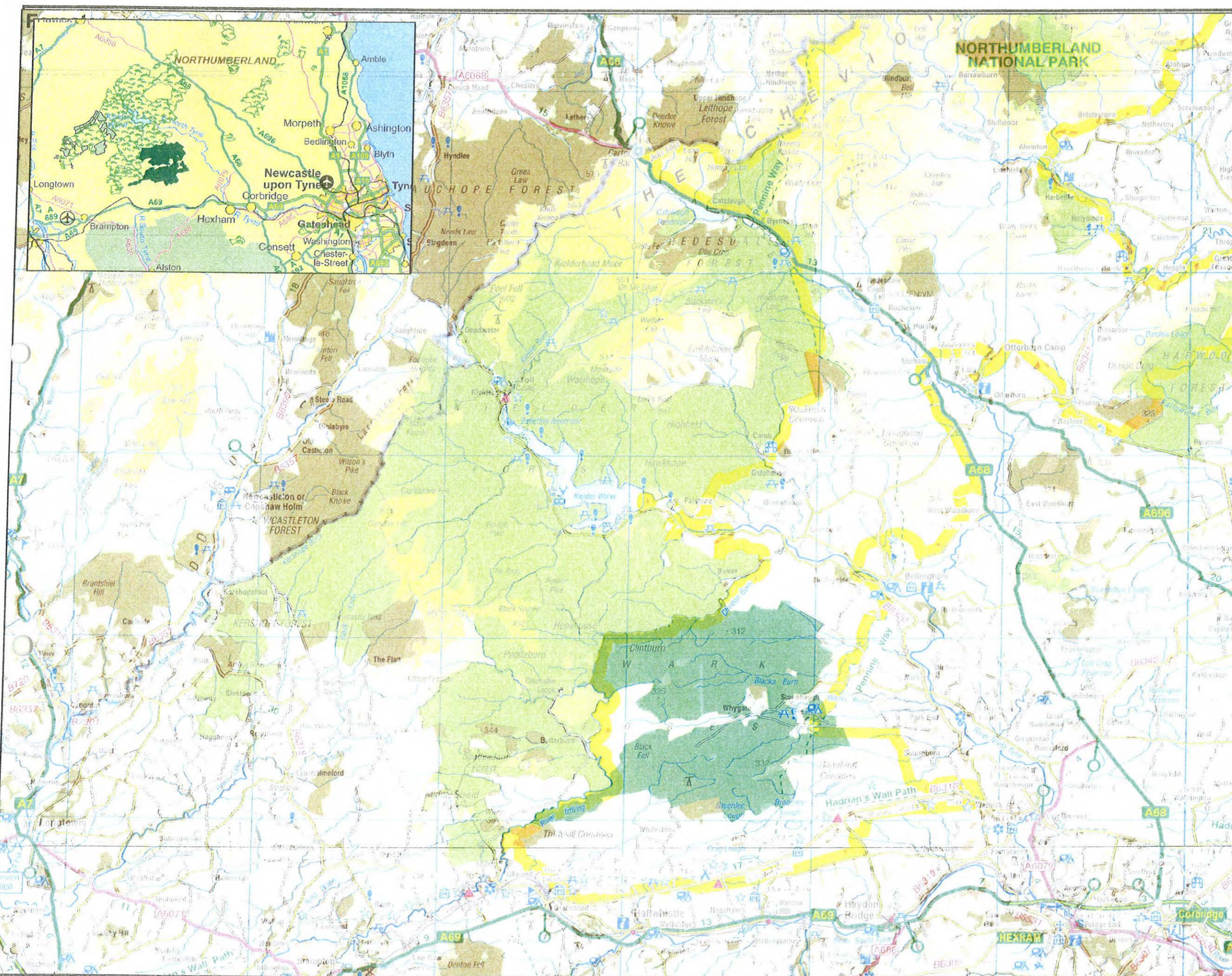
Legend

-  Plan area
-  Other FC land
-  Other woodland

Scale
Date

1:200,000
Jan 2011

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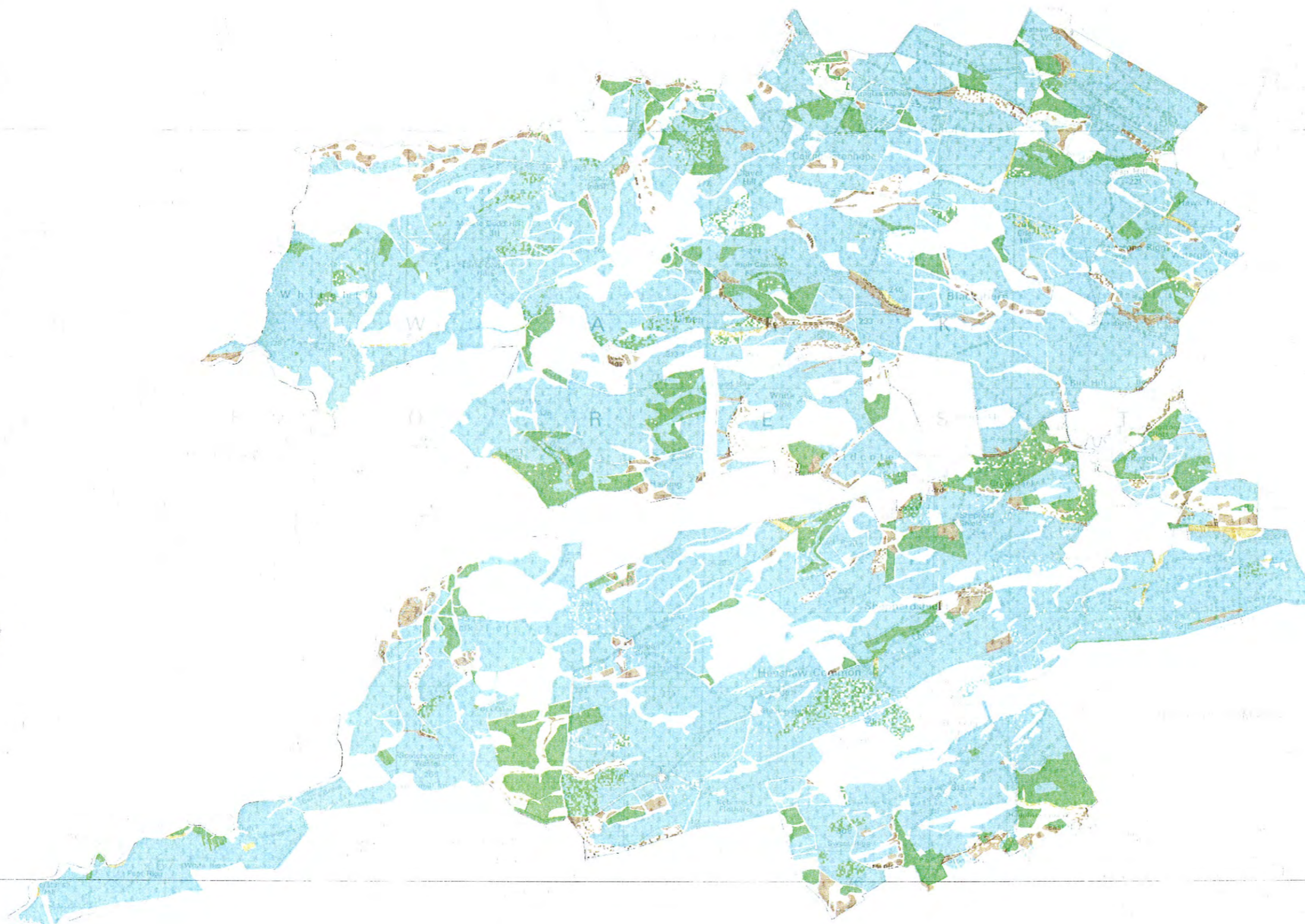
Current Species

Legend

Components

Species

-  Broadleaf
-  Sitka spruce
-  Other evergreen conifer
-  Larch



Scale
Date

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Planting Year

Legend

Components

PLYR

-
- Legend for the time periods of the data:
- Pre1930
 - 1930 - 39
 - 1940 - 49
 - 1950- 59
 - 1960 - 69
 - 1970 - 79
 - 1980 - 89
 - 1990 - 99
 - Post 1999

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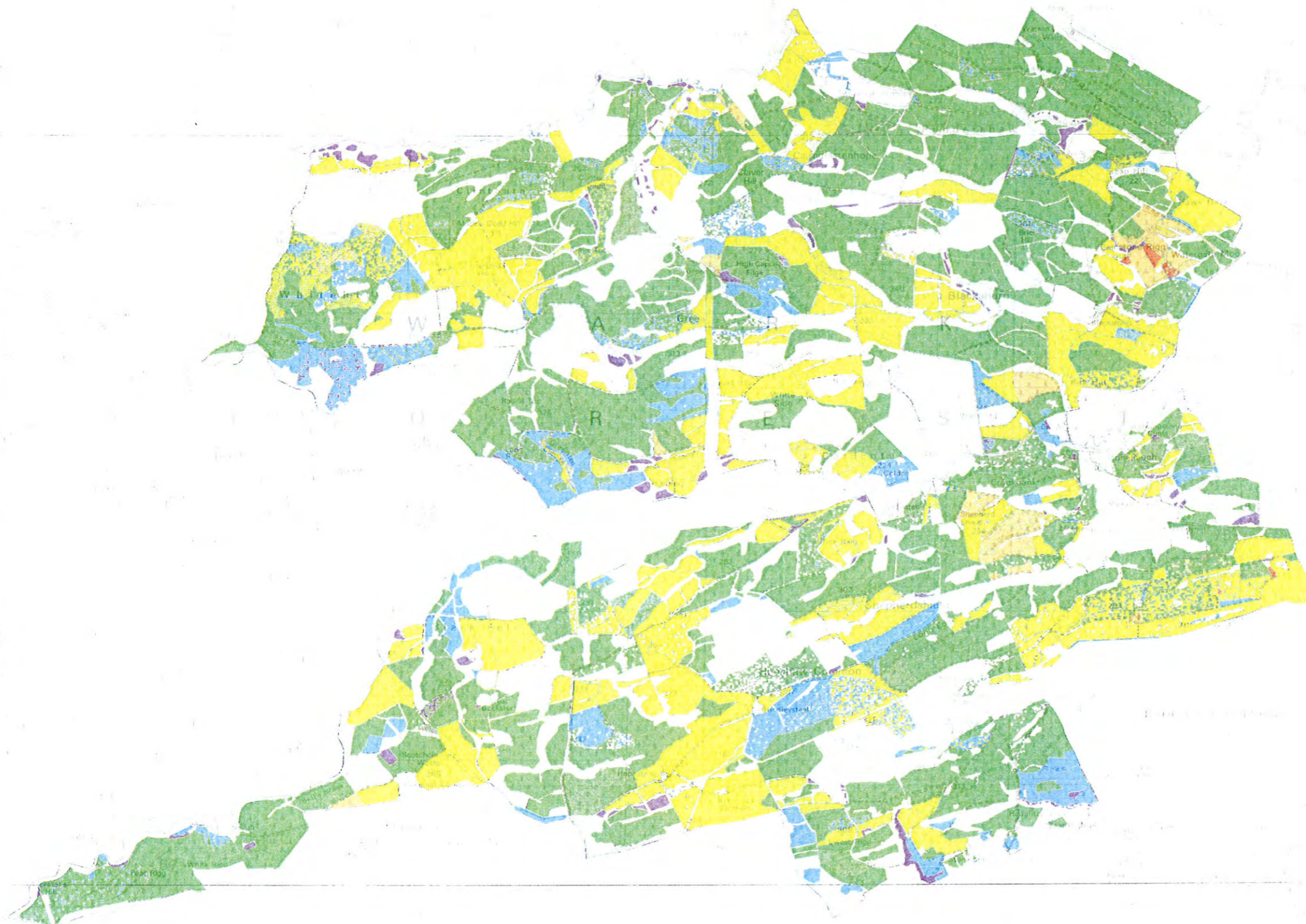
Yield Class

Legend

Components

YLDC

	22 plus
	18 to 20
	14 to 16
	10 to 12
	6 to 8
	2 to 4
	0



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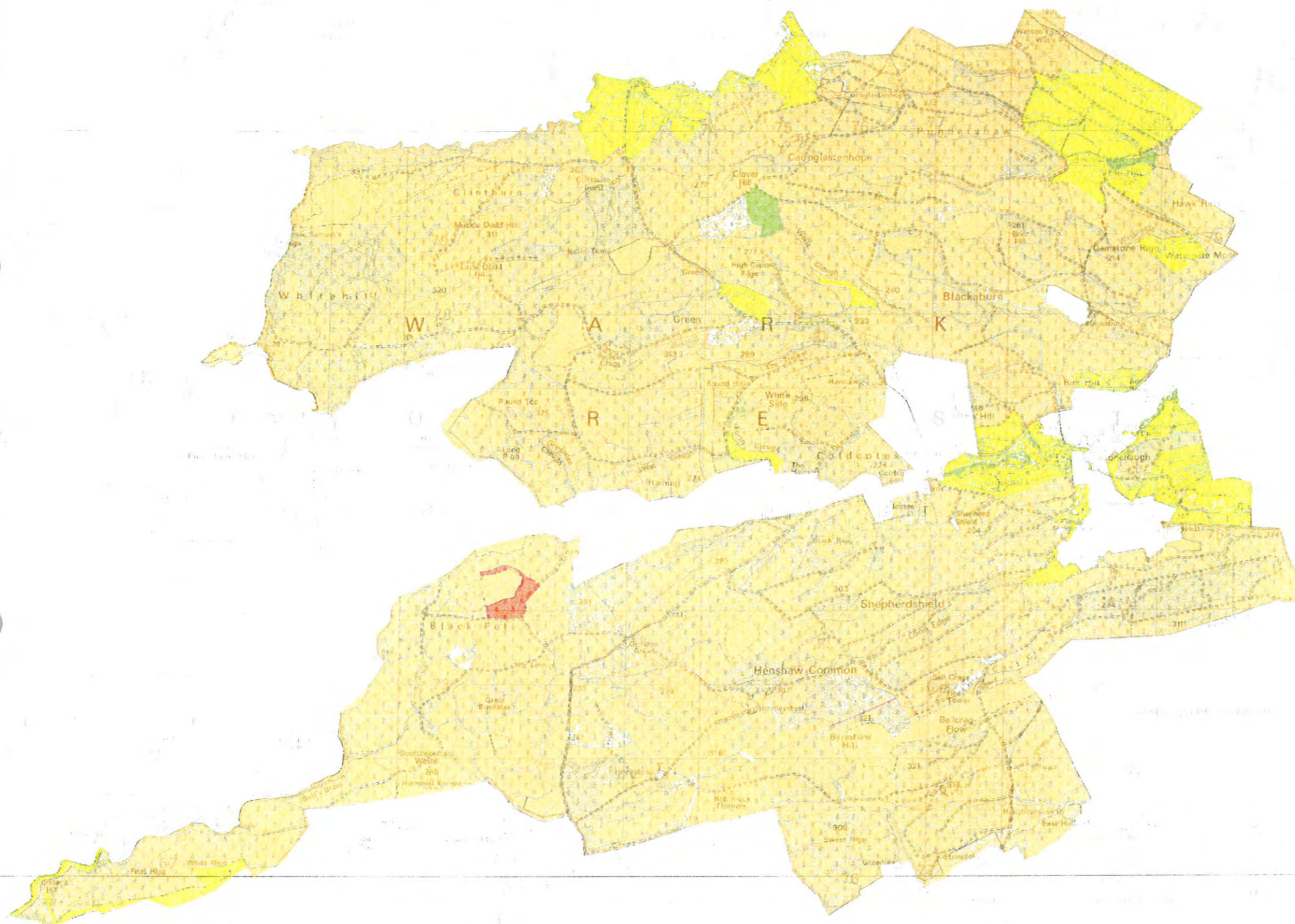
Windhazard Class

Legend

Components

WHCL

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6



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Economic Felling

Legend

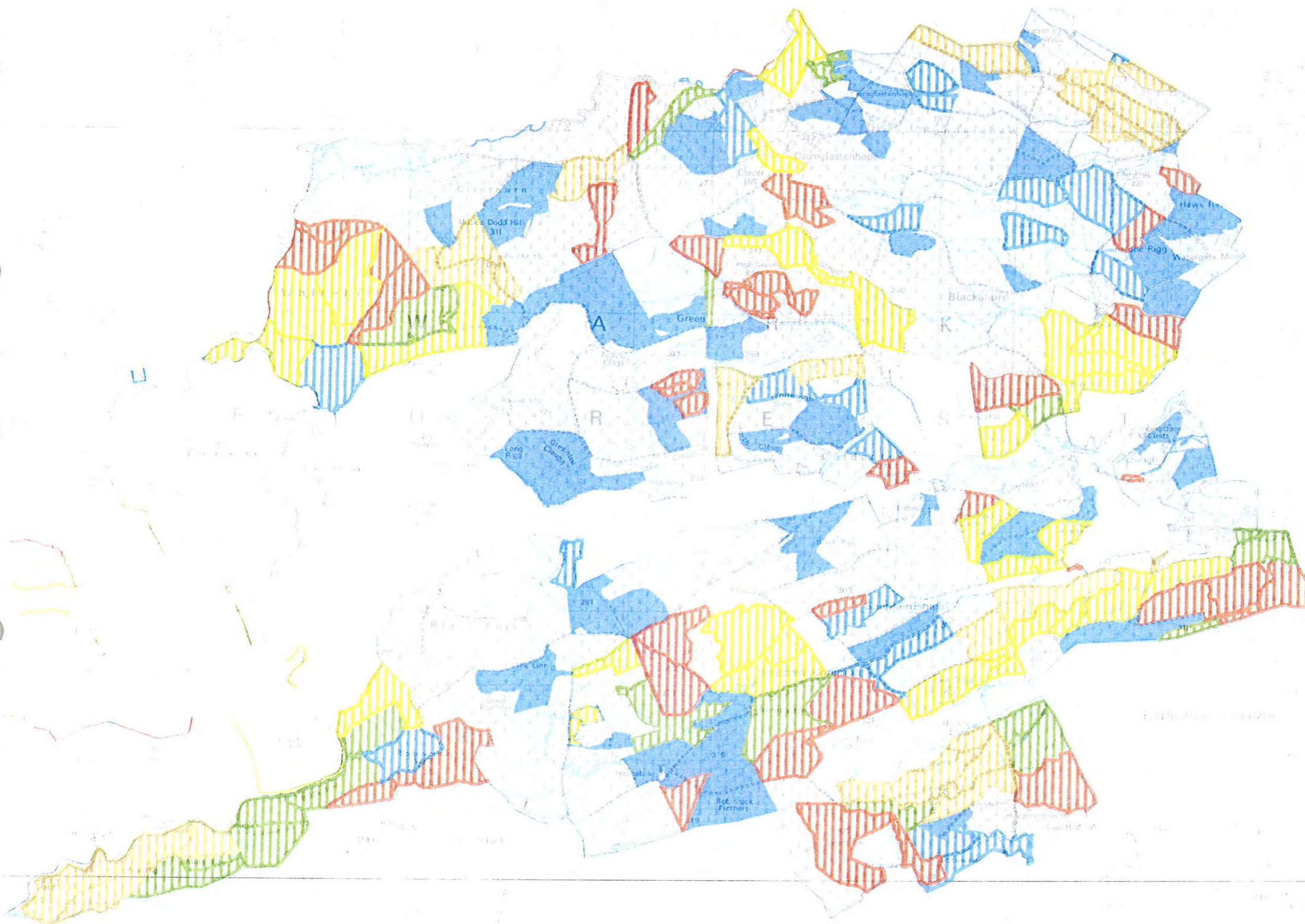
Coupes OPTIMALYR

- beyond economic
- 2012 - 2016
- 2017 - 2021
- 2022 - 2026
- 2027 - 2031
- 2032 - 2036
- >2036
- Continuous cover

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Landform

Legend

landform

-  Major Ridges and Spurs
-  Minor Ridges and Spurs
-  Major Hollows and Gullies
-  Minor Hollows and Gullies

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Conservation

Legend

archaeology

- + Listed building
- + Scheduled monument
- + Unscheduled monument

water_courses

- Major watercourses
- Minor watercourses
- archaeology_line
- Conservation Site Point
- Conservation Site Line
- Conservation Site Polygon
- SAC
- NNR
- SSSI
- border mires

asnw

STATUS

- ASNW
- PAWS

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Other Resources

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-  Recreation site
-  FC trails
-  Footpath
-  Bridleway
-  BOAT
-  Restricted byway
-  Water pipeline
-  Powerline Overhead
-  Powerline Underground
-  Gas Pipeline
-  Class A
-  Other FC Roads

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Forester

The main watercourses running through the Forest form the main structural feature. Additional open space and broadleaf planting can emphasise these. Conifer regeneration will be allowed in small pockets so long as this does not affect the overall visual and ecological integrity.

Black grouse

Through mire clearances, diversifying the forest edge, the introductions of a proportion of open woodland, and transient open space through clearfelling. Look to provide a forest structure with the potential to support a black grouse

Red squirrels

Ensure that the clearfelling and restocking proposals do not compromise the potential Red squirrel conservation value of Spadeadam.

Border Mires

Clear the former extent of the mires at clearfelling and leave open through subsequent rotations.

Ancient monuments

A number of ancient monuments are present within the plan area these can be opened up at clearfelling and maintained as open space through subsequent rotations

Ancient Woodland Sites

Maintain or re-establish native broadleaf tree species

Non-Forestry Commission plantation which obscures views of part of Wark Forest

Approximate zone of greatest recreational use in Wark Forest. On the more stable sites take opportunities to employ continuous cover management, notably around the Stanehaugh area. Consider the shape of felling coups especially where the Pennine Way traverses the forest

Area of highest visibility from Housesteads section of Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site. Felling here needs to be carefully considered within the constraints imposed by wind hazard and crop age. Restocking to include open space and broadleaves, and provide greater degree of interlock and relation to landform and scale for future felling



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Design Concept

Legend

concept

LABEL

- Ancient woodland
- Hadrian's wall setting
- Forest moorland interface
- Non FC woodland
- Main recreation zone
- Border mires
- Main watercourses
- archaeology

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Felling Proposals

Legend

FELLING_YE

-  2007 - 2011
-  2012 - 2016
-  2017 - 2021
-  2022 - 2026
-  2027 - 2031
-  2032 - 2036
-  >2036
-  CCF/Min Intervention
-  Other FC Roads
-  Class A
-  Proposed roads



Forestry Commission

FOREST ENTERPRISE DESIGN PLAN

No 109 Name work

Amendment No 1 Dated 29/7/11

Approved by [Signature]

Name/Grade R. J. Law RB3

Date 29/7/11

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

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Restocking Proposals

Legend

Revised restocking Species

-  Larch
-  Larch Broadleaves
-  Larch Sitka spruce
-  Larch / Other conifer
-  Broadleaf
-  Other conifer
-  Mixed woodland
-  Open woodland
-  Sitka Lodgepole
-  Sitka spruce



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FOREST ENTERPRISE DESIGN PLAN

No 109 Name WARK

Amendment No Dated

Approved by 

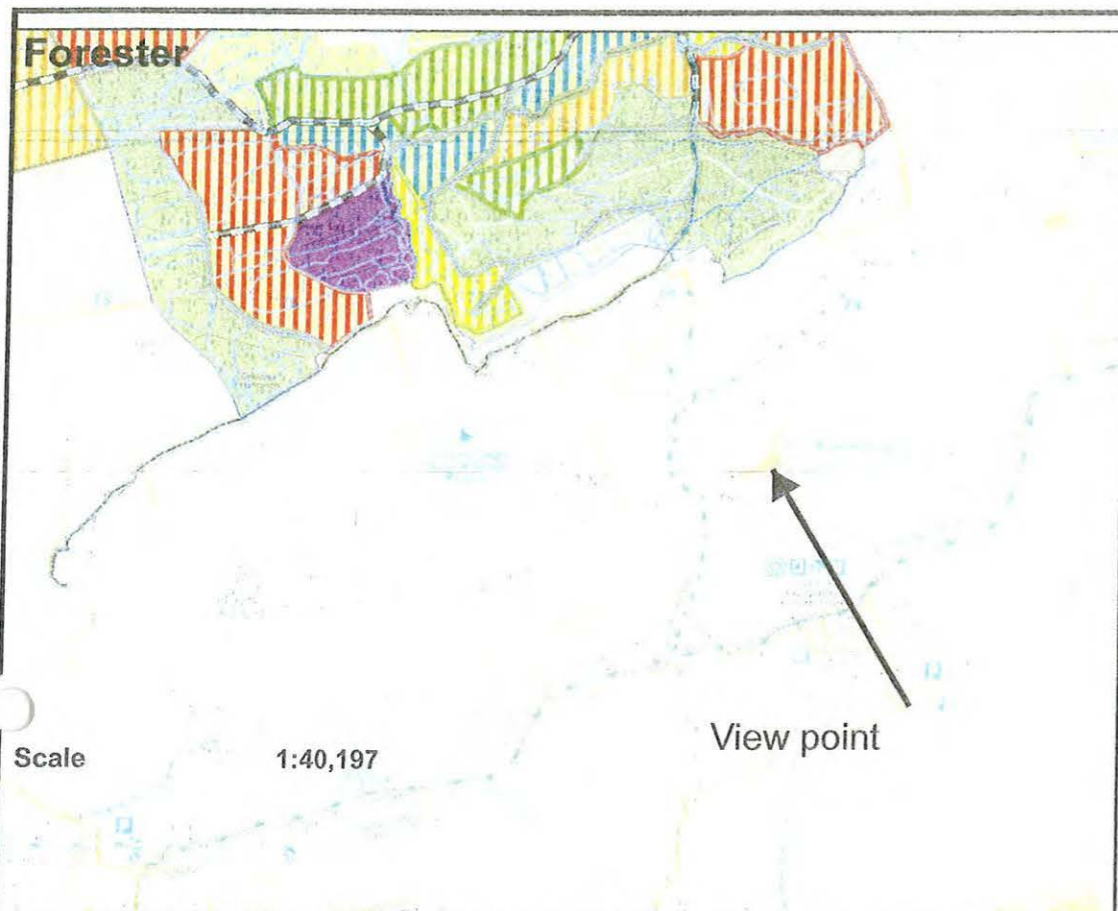
Name/Grade R.T. Low

Date 29/7/11

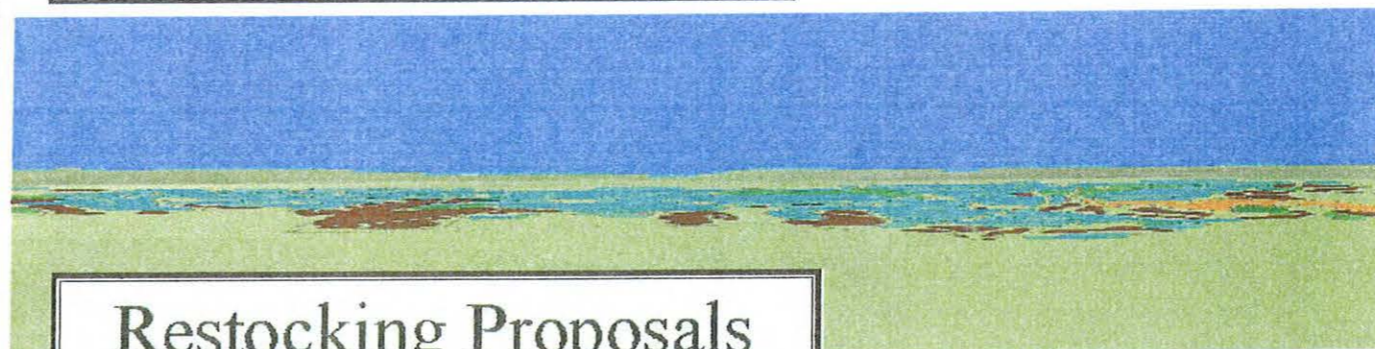
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View from Housesteads



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Kielder Forest

Views



The southern section of Wark forest is visible from the Roman wall notably from the popular attraction of Housesteads Roman fort. The harsh straight external boundaries of the original first rotation forest are now being broken by the restructuring at restocking, this will continue as the remaining first rotation crops are harvested

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