

Forestry and Curlew in Scotland

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- Focus on woodland creation
- Policy drivers
- Forestry Grant Scheme (FGS)
- Application and assessment process
- biodiversity/curlew
- Future outlook



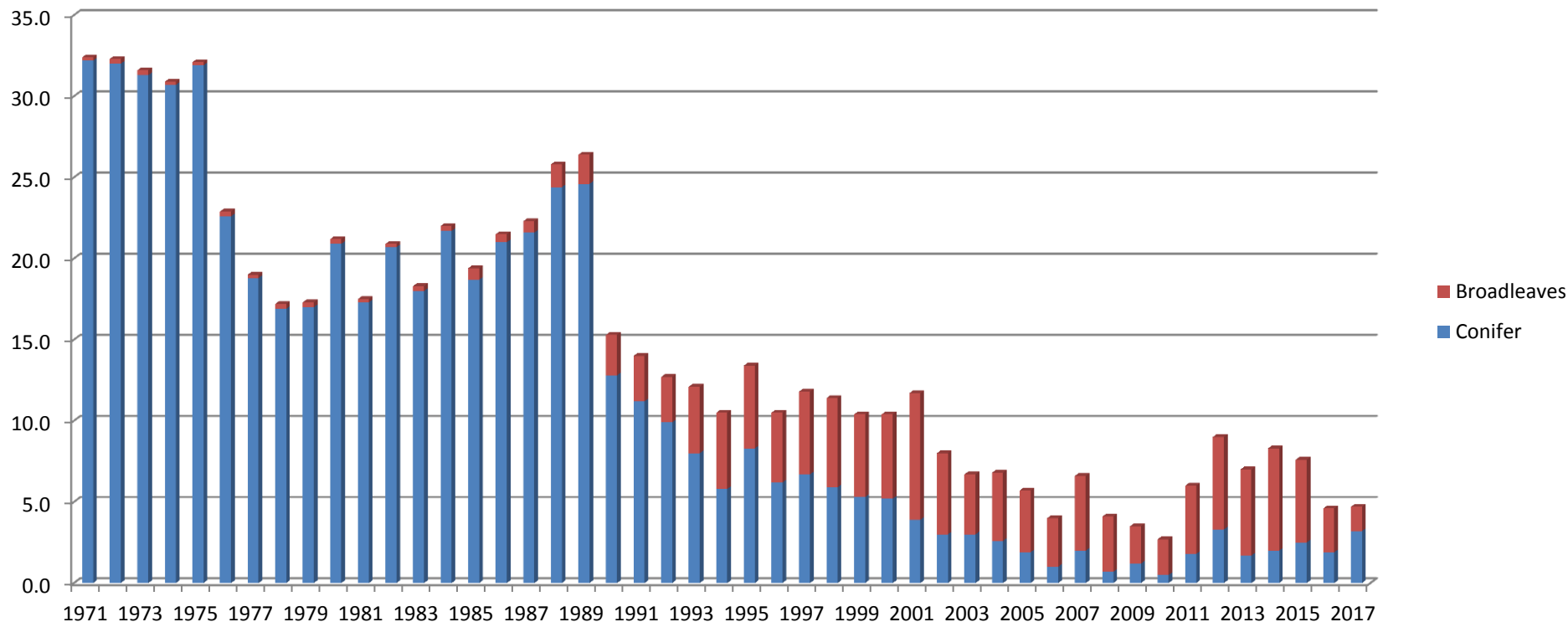
- **Climate Change Plan**
 - Increasing woodland creation targets:
 - 2018 – 10,000ha/year
 - 2021 – 12,000ha/year
 - 2023 – 14,000ha/year
 - 2025 – 15,000ha/year
 - Increasing woodland cover from 18% to 21% of Scotland's land area by 2032

CLIMATE CHANGE PLAN
The Third Report on Proposals
and Policies 2018-2032

February 2018



Woodland Creation in Scotland, 1971 - 2017 (thousand hectares)



- Area To Date – Since 2015
 - Over 800 approved applications
 - 22,000 ha approved –of which 10,000ha planted
 - Spread across Scotland mainly on agri land class 5
- Type of projects
 - 40% native – 60% conifer
 - 35% of area from 40 larger (>100ha)projects
 - 50% from 250 medium 20-100 ha projects
 - 15% from 500 smaller 0.25-20ha projects

- Woodland Creation
 - Nine options
 - £1,040 - £6,720/ha (av £4,661)
 - Protection costs
- Sheep and trees
 - Woodland creation with forest infrastructure
 - 10 – 50ha conifer
 - 30m road/ha
- Agroforestry

9 WOODLAND CREATION GRANTS

to suit most needs.



CONIFER



DIVERSE
CONIFER



BROADLEAVES



NATIVE
SCOTS PINE



NATIVE
UPLAND BIRCH



NATIVE
BROADLEAVES



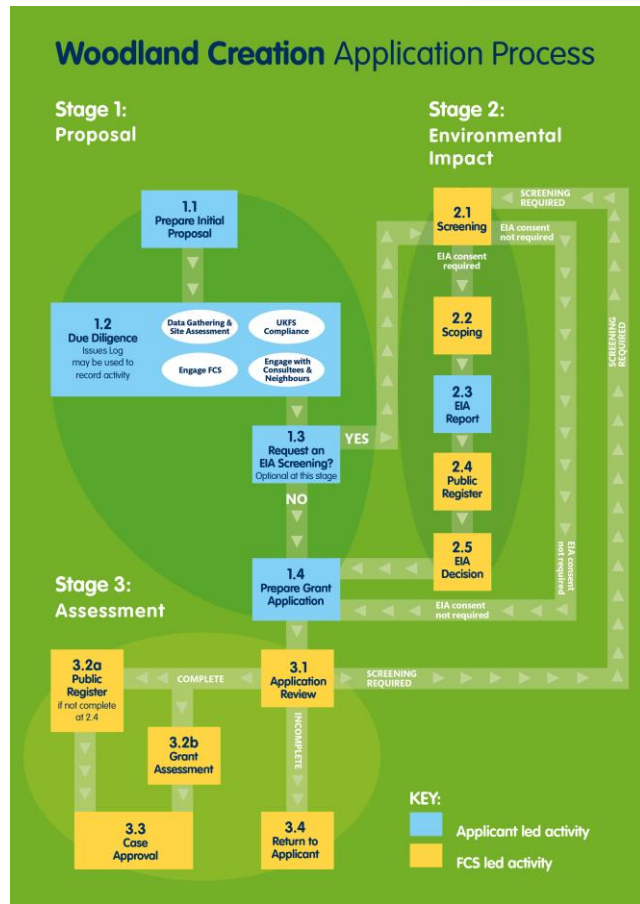
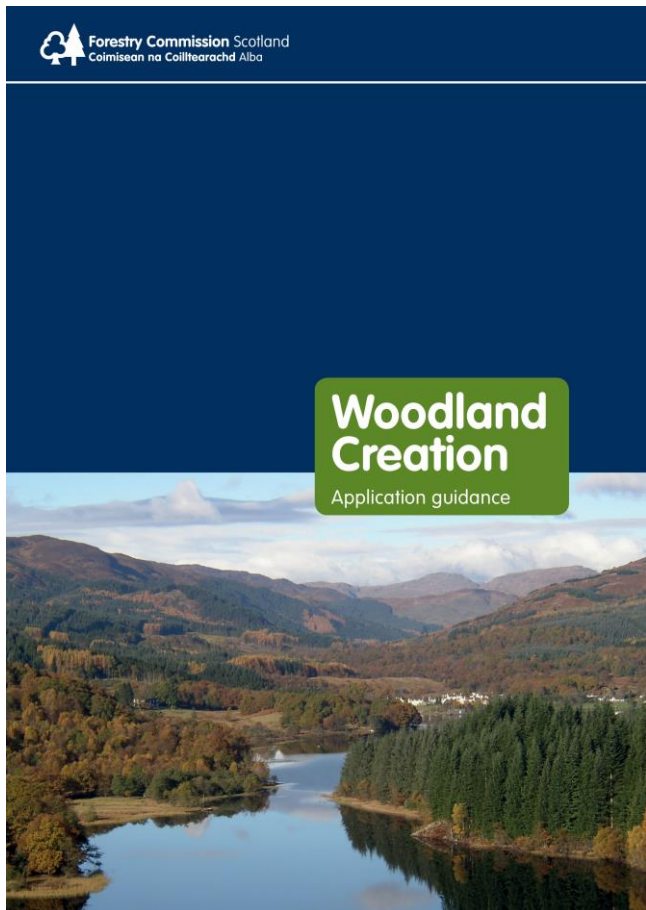
NATIVE
LOW-DENSITY
BROADLEAVES



SMALL
OR FARM
WOODLAND



NATIVE
BROADLEAVES
IN N & W ISLES




UKFS Requirements for Forests and Biodiversity

Protected habitats and species



1

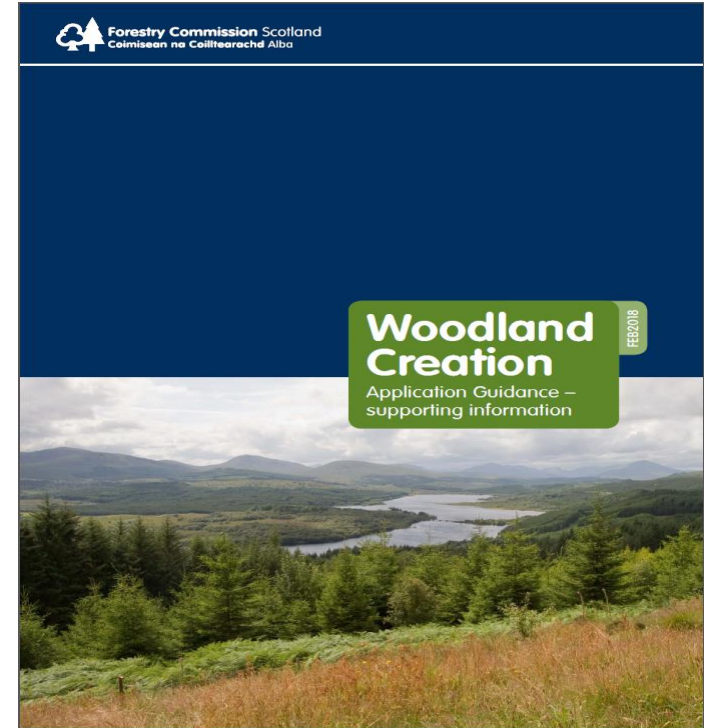
Appropriate protection and conservation must be afforded where sites, habitats and species are subject to the legal provisions of EU Directives and UK and country legislation. Advice can be obtained from the relevant authorities on minimising potentially adverse effects for management activity likely to affect them. An appropriate assessment for a Natura 2000 site should be undertaken as part of a Habitats Regulations Appraisal required under the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended). 



4

Particular consideration should be given to conserving, enhancing or restoring priority habitats and species identified in the statutory lists of priority species and habitats for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, through the delivery of country biodiversity strategies and local level plans.

1. To recognise (and map) the location of features incl species that will require **protection/mitigation** or provide opportunities.
2. Determine if there are existing survey data.
3. Stratify the site to recognise those areas with a feature of interest.





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	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q
	Main group	Taxon group	Scientific Name	Common name	Conservation action needed	Avoid negative impacts	Watching brief only	Link to Species Records on NBN Gateway		Threatened species	Legally protected species		S1 - on UKBAP list	S2 - Internatnl. Obligation	S3 - Rare in the UK (<16 10km sqs)	S4 - <6 Scottish 10km sqs	S5 - >25% Scottish Decline
1	Mammals	land mammal	Felis silvestris	Wildcat	Yes	Yes		NBN map			EPS ^{1,2,3}		Yes				Yes
5	Mammals	land mammal	Lepus europaeus	Brown Hare	Yes			NBN map				Yes					Yes
6	Mammals	land mammal	Lepus timidus	Mountain Hare		Yes		NBN map			HR 1994 ³						Yes
7	Mammals	land mammal	Lutra lutra	Otter		Yes		NBN map	NT	EPS ^{1,2,3}		Yes	Yes				
8	Mammals	land mammal	Martes martes	Pine Marten		Yes		NBN map		HR 1994 ^{2,3}		Yes					
9	Mammals	land mammal	Microtus arvalis	Orkney Vole			Yes	NBN map							Yes		
10	Mammals	land mammal	Mustela putorius	Polecat		Yes		NBN map			HR 1994 ³	Yes					


All sites should be visited by the applicant for a “Ground truthing”

Level of inspection dependant on site:

Size
Complexity
Sensitivity

Verify desk based assessment

Identify missing data

 **giving nature a home**

RSPB DATA REQUEST FORM

OFFICE USE

This Data Request Form enables you to specify the data you need for your purpose. We will use the information you provide to assess the appropriate data for supply. We will respond within 10 working days of receipt of this form to confirm whether the data are available, normally by issuing a Data Supply Contract specifying the data that can be supplied and their conditions of use. There may be a charge made to cover the time we spend assessing and fulfilling your request if this is substantial or if you are using the data for commercial purposes.

We will make every attempt to fulfil all reasonable requests for data and to supply data within 30 days of the signed return of our Data Supply Contract.

When applicable, charges relate to the time taken by RSPB to extract and supply the data. The charges consist of £150+VAT for the first hour taken plus £75+VAT per hour for the second and subsequent hours. If the data requested are already wholly available via the NBN Gateway but you prefer to request the data direct from the RSPB, the charges are £150+VAT per hour for each and every hour taken to supply the data.

Please note that many RSPB datasets are now available through the NBN Gateway (see: www.nbn.org.uk). You may prefer to access data through via the NBN as no charges are applied and the data may be immediately available for you to download. It is not yet possible to supply geographic subsets of datasets via the NBN.

1 DETAILS OF PERSON/ORGANISATION REQUESTING RSPB DATA
Your details are held on file so that we can administer your request and retain your request history. If you are requesting access to a jointly owned or licensed dataset, we may share the information provided below with those co-owners or licensors.

CONTACT NAME

ADDRESS

DELIVERY ADDRESS IF DIFFERENT

POSTCODE

POSTCODE

EMAIL

TELEPHONE

MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL BODIES OR OTHER ACCREDITATION (including membership numbers):

Corncrake	CE	Red	Not recorded. Passage birds a low possibility in spring.	The possibility of corncrake using this site on passage is remote. There are numerous other areas of marshy grassland in the wider area and it is very unlikely that this species would be affected.
Curlew	CU	Red	Not recorded. Breeding is considered possible.	See text above.
Goldfinch	GO	Green	Small post-breeding flock noted. May breed in small numbers.	A common a widespread species. This species will likely increase in the long term following planting.
Grasshopper Warbler	GW	Red	Not recorded on site. May breed in wetter areas.	If present as a breeding bird, this species is likely to be associated with the margins of the wetter areas such as the peatlands. These areas will be retained as open ground. There may be some loss of habitat for this species.
Jay	J.	Green	Recorded on site. Likely to breed in existing woodland either on site or nearby.	A common a widespread species. This species will likely increase in the long term following planting.

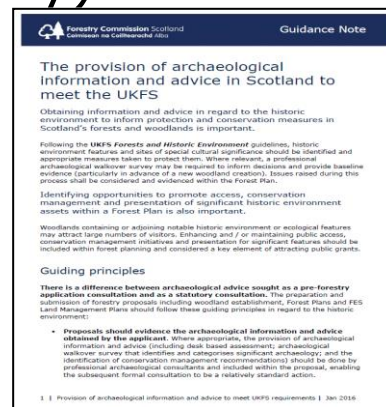
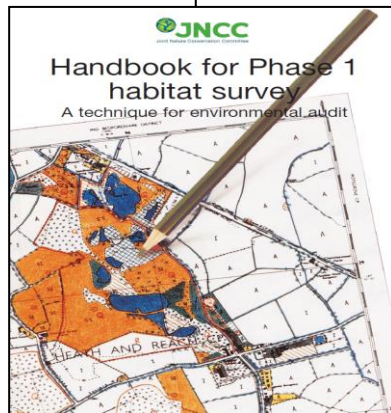
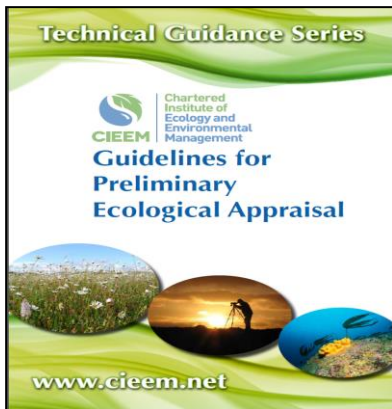
Areas of potential GWDTE

Would flag the potential need for breeding habitat survey and early consultation with RSPB.

For the collection of missing evidence for Water, Soils, Habitats, and Species a ground survey is necessary: walkover or extended Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) Phase 1 survey are options.

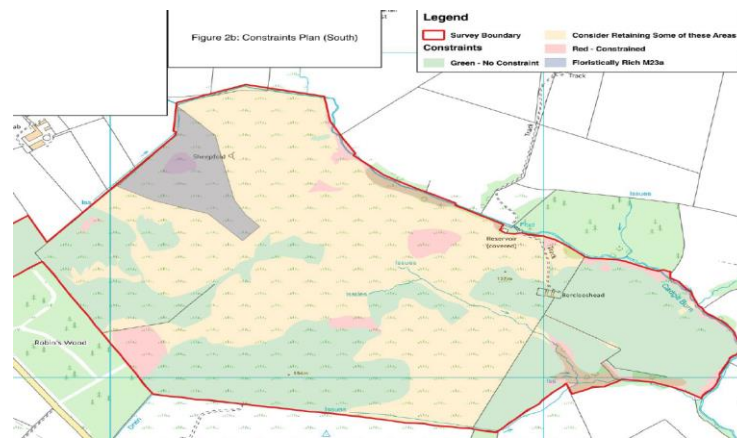
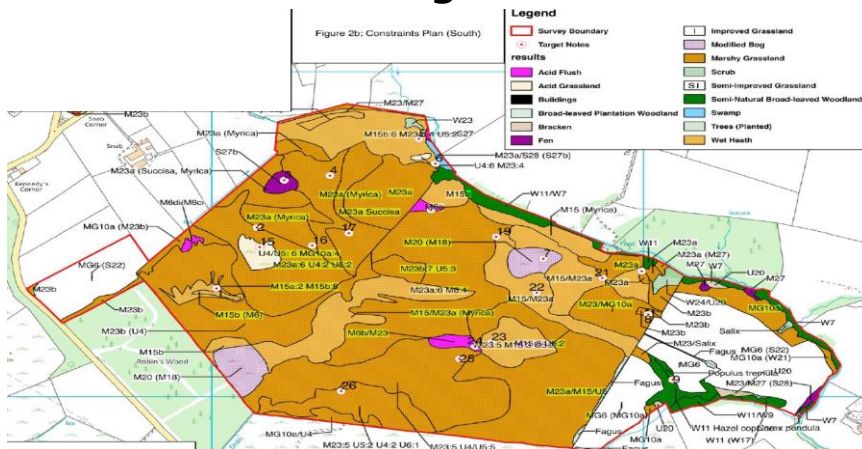
1) Existing data sources:
Desk Based Assessment

2) Ground Truthing: (for example Walkover Survey or Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey).



For sites with **significant sensitivity** a single map should combine all this desk and survey information into an assimilated Red/Amber/Green map of Habitat Sensitivity: with

Red being sites that must be protected or surveyed in detail,
Amber where new information will be required, and
Green being sites with no issues, features or constraints.



- Three most likely options:
- 1) protect the area (don't plant it/buffer),
- 2) more detailed surveys to clarify the issue (e.g. breeding),
- 3) mitigate impact by habitat management or predator control.
- There are no hard and fast rules – depends on site circumstances
- Needs early engagement with FCS and RSPB

- Strong policy driver and SG commitment for woodland creation
- New woodland creation application process developed with input from RSPB and SNH
- Increased emphasis on careful site/species assessment and early engagement
- FCS role to ensure WC Projects resolve issues
- To protect curlews in key areas we expect to see restrictions on planting or other mitigation eg habitat management