

**National Park Trees  
& Woodland Strategy**

# Appendix 3

**Designated Site assessment  
in relation to sensitivity  
to woodland creation**

**2019 – 2039**

**Table 1 - Screening of Preferred/Potential areas for native woodland expansion for impacts on European sites**

Site name	Qualifying Interest	Location of 'Preferred' and 'Potential' areas for native woodland expansion in relation to European site	Potential effects	Mitigation requirements for proposals
<b>Ben Heasgarnich SAC</b>	Base-rich fens ( <i>Alkaline fens</i> )	No preferred or potential areas are identified within or adjacent to SAC as all of the site within the National Park lies above the 500m contour line <sup>1</sup> .  The nearest preferred area lies around 0.7km away from the SAC and the nearest potential area lies around 1.2km away.	There will be no direct impacts on the qualifying interests of the SAC as no preferred/potential areas for native woodland expansion are identified within the SAC. Given the separation distance between the preferred/potential areas and the SAC, any native woodland expansion in these areas will not give rise to a likely significant effect on the qualifying interests of the SAC (e.g. through seed dispersal).  <b>No likely significant effect</b>	No mitigation required
	Alpine and subalpine calcareous grasslands			
	High-altitude plant communities associated with areas of water seepage ( <i>Alpine pioneer formations of the Caricion bicoloris-atrofuscae</i> )			
	Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks ( <i>Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation</i> )			
	Tall herb communities ( <i>Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains</i> ) and of the montane to alpine levels			
	Montane acid grasslands ( <i>Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands</i> )			
	Plants in crevices on acid rocks ( <i>Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation</i> )			
	Species-rich grassland with mat-grass in upland areas ( <i>Species-rich Nardus grassland, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas and submountain areas in continental Europe</i> )			
	Mountain willow scrub ( <i>Sub-Arctic Salix spp. Scrub</i> )			

<sup>1</sup>The spatial analysis used to identify preferred/potential areas for native woodland creation excluded all land above the 500m contour line – see Appendix 1 for further details of the spatial analysis.

**Table 1 - Screening of Preferred/Potential areas for native woodland expansion for impacts on European sites**

Site name	Qualifying Interest	Location of 'Preferred' and 'Potential' areas for native woodland expansion in relation to European site	Potential effects	Mitigation requirements for proposals
<b>Loch Lomond Woods SAC</b>	Western acidic oak woodland ( <i>Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles</i> )	There are preferred and potential areas for native woodland expansion within the boundary of the SAC.	<p><b>EXPANSION THROUGH NATURAL REGENERATION</b></p> <p><b>Western acidic oak woodland</b></p> <p>Expanding native woodland within/adjacent to the SAC through natural regeneration will be beneficial for the western acidic oak qualifying interest of the site. This approach will ensure that any native woodland expansion will be made up of species of appropriate provenance and avoid the risk of introducing pathogens via planting stock.</p> <p><b>No likely significant effect</b></p> <p><b>Otter</b></p> <p>Native woodland expansion through natural regeneration will enhance the habitat available to otters by providing improved cover and additional opportunities for holts.</p> <p><b>No likely significant effect</b></p> <p><b>EXPANSION THROUGH PLANTING</b></p> <p><b>Western acidic oak woodland</b></p> <p>Whilst expanding native woodland within/adjacent to the SAC by planting could be beneficial for the western acidic oak qualifying interest of the site, there is a risk of introducing inappropriate species and pathogens via planting stock.</p> <p><b>Likely significant effect</b></p> <p><b>Otter</b></p> <p>Whilst native woodland expansion will enhance the habitat available to otters by providing improved cover and additional opportunities for holts, there is a small risk of disturbance to otters shelters through any planting activity within/adjacent to the SAC.</p> <p>Compliance with the UK Forestry Standard (Forests and Water) and Controlled Activities Regulations General Binding Rules (20, 21) will ensure that there are no negative impacts on water quality from planting proposals within or adjacent to the site.</p> <p><b>Likely significant effect</b></p>	<p>Planting within or adjacent to the Loch Lomond Woods SAC will only be considered where it can be demonstrated that this is consistent with the Conservation Objectives of the site and appropriate planting stock can be obtained.</p> <p>Any proposals for native woodland planting within/adjacent to Loch Lomond Woods SAC must also be supported by an otter survey and species protection plan.</p>
	Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> )			

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Site name	Qualifying Interest	Location of 'Preferred' and 'Potential' areas for native woodland expansion in relation to European site	Potential effects	Mitigation requirements for proposals
<b>Endrick Water SAC</b>	River lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> )	There are preferred areas identified directly adjacent to the SAC and potential areas within the SAC.	Native woodland expansion along riparian corridors can have a range of benefits, including reducing diffuse pollution and flood risk, moderating water temperature, and supporting fish populations.	No mitigation required
	Brook lamprey ( <i>Lampetra planeri</i> )	Further preferred and potential areas are identified within the wider catchment of the SAC.	Compliance with the UK Forestry Standard (Forests and Water) and Controlled Activities Regulations General Binding Rules (20, 21) will ensure that there are no negative impacts on the water quality of the SAC from planting proposals within or adjacent to the site. <b>No likely significant effect</b>	
	Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> )			
<b>Trossachs Woods SAC</b>	Western acidic oak woodland ( <i>Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles</i> )	Preferred and potential areas identified within the boundary of the SAC	<p><b>EXPANSION THROUGH NATURAL REGENERATION</b></p> <p>Expanding native woodland within/adjacent to the SAC through natural regeneration will be beneficial for the western acidic oak qualifying interest of the site. This approach will ensure that any native woodland expansion will be made up of species of appropriate provenance and avoid the risk of introducing pathogens via planting stock. <b>No likely significant effect</b></p> <p><b>EXPANSION THROUGH PLANTING</b></p> <p>Whilst expanding native woodland within/adjacent to the SAC by planting could be beneficial for the western acidic oak qualifying interest of the site, there is a risk of introducing inappropriate species and pathogens via planting stock. <b>Likely significant effect</b></p>	Planting within or adjacent to the Trossachs Woods SAC will only be considered where it can be demonstrated that this is consistent with the Conservation Objectives of the site and appropriate planting stock can be obtained.

**Table 1 - Screening of Preferred/Potential areas for native woodland expansion for impacts on European sites**

Site name	Qualifying Interest	Location of 'Preferred' and 'Potential' areas for native woodland expansion in relation to European site	Potential effects	Mitigation requirements for proposals
<b>Ben Lui SAC</b>	Base-rich fens ( <i>Alkaline fens</i> )	There are preferred areas identified directly adjacent to the SAC boundary and potential areas identified within the boundary.	Whilst some native woodland expansion within the SAC could be beneficial for the qualifying interests and wider biodiversity aims, it could also result in the loss of qualifying habitat through woodland encroachment into qualifying habitats. <b>Likely significant effect</b>	Any proposals for native woodland expansion within/adjacent to Ben Lui SAC must be supported by an NVC survey to demonstrate that the qualifying habitats will not be directly affected by the proposals and include management measures to ensure that woodland does not encroach onto sensitive qualifying habitats.
	Alpine and subalpine calcareous grasslands			
	High-altitude plant communities associated with areas of water seepage* ( <i>Alpine pioneer formations of the Caricion bicoloris-atrofuscae*</i> )			
	Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks ( <i>Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation</i> )			
	Tall herb communities ( <i>Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels</i> )			
	Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath (Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> )			
	Montane acid grasslands ( <i>Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands</i> )			
	Plants in crevices on acid rocks ( <i>Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation</i> )			
	Acidic scree ( <i>Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels - Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani</i> )			
	Species-rich grassland with mat-grass in upland areas ( <i>Species-rich Nardus grassland, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas in continental Europe)*</i> )			
	Mountain willow scrub ( <i>Sub-Arctic Salix spp. Scrub</i> )			

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Site name	Qualifying Interest	Location of 'Preferred' and 'Potential' areas for native woodland expansion in relation to European site	Potential effects	Mitigation requirements for proposals
<b>Meall na Samnha SAC</b>	Alpine and subalpine calcareous grasslands	There are no preferred areas identified within SAC and the closest preferred area lies around 120m away from the boundary.  Potential areas are identified within the SAC boundary.	Whilst some native woodland expansion within the SAC could be beneficial for the qualifying interests and wider biodiversity aims, it could also result in the loss of qualifying habitat through woodland encroachment into qualifying habitats. <b>Likely significant effect</b>	Any proposals for native woodland expansion within/adjacent to Meall na Samnha SAC must be supported by an NVC survey to demonstrate that the qualifying habitats will not be directly affected by the proposals and include management measures to ensure that woodland does not encroach onto sensitive qualifying habitats.
	Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks ( <i>Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation</i> )			
	Tall herb communities ( <i>Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels</i> )			
	Montane acid grasslands ( <i>Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands</i> )			
	Species-rich grassland with mat-grass in upland areas (Species-rich <i>Nardus</i> grassland, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas and submountain areas in continental Europe**)			
	Mountain willow scrub ( <i>Sub-Arctic Salix spp. Scrub</i> )			
<b>River Tay SAC</b>	River lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> )	Preferred and potential areas identified within SAC.	<b>Salmon &amp; lamprey</b> Native woodland expansion along riparian corridors can have a range of benefits, including reducing diffuse pollution and flood risk, moderating water temperature, and supporting fish populations.  Compliance with the UK Forestry Standard (Forests and Water) and Controlled Activities Regulations General Binding Rules (20, 21) will ensure that there are no negative impacts on the water quality of the SAC from planting proposals within or adjacent to the site. <b>No likely significant effect</b>  <b>Otter</b> Native woodland expansion along riparian corridors will enhance the habitat available to otters by providing improved cover and additional opportunities for holts. However, there is a small risk of disturbance to otters shelters through planting activity within/adjacent to the SAC.  Compliance with the UK Forestry Standard (Forests and Water) and Controlled Activities Regulations General Binding Rules (20, 21) will ensure that there are no negative impacts on the water quality of the SAC from planting proposals within or adjacent to the site. <b>Likely significant effect</b>	Any proposals for native woodland planting within/ adjacent to the River Tay SAC must be supported by an otter survey and species protection plan.
	Brook lamprey ( <i>Lampetra planeri</i> )	Further preferred and potential areas are identified within the wider catchment of the SAC.		
	Sea lamprey ( <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> )			
	Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> )			
	Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> )			
	Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels ( <i>Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea</i> )			

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<b>River Teith SAC</b>	River lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> )	Preferred and potential areas identified within the SAC	<p>Native woodland expansion along riparian corridors can have a range of benefits, including reducing diffuse pollution and flood risk, moderating water temperature, and supporting fish populations.</p> <p>Compliance with the UK Forestry Standard (Forests and Water) and Controlled Activities Regulations General Binding Rules (20, 21) will ensure that there are no negative impacts on the water quality of the SAC through planting proposals within or adjacent to the site.</p> <p><b>No likely significant effect</b></p>	No mitigation required
	Brook lamprey ( <i>Lampetra planeri</i> )			
	Sea lamprey ( <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> )			
	Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> )			
<b>Loch Lomond SPA</b>	Greenland white-fronted goose ( <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> ), non-breeding	<p>The mainland section of the SPA has been classified as sensitive on the opportunities map along with the important feeding fields<sup>2</sup> for the Greenland white-fronted geese outwith the SPA including a 400m buffer around these fields.</p>	<p><b>Greenland white-fronted goose</b></p> <p>Greenland white-fronted geese roost on the mainland section of the SPA and primarily feed on agricultural fields outwith the SPA boundary. They are particularly susceptible to disturbance and require large open areas with clear sight lines for foraging and roosting.</p> <p>Native woodland expansion within/adjacent to feeding/roosting areas could impact on sightlines and reduce the suitability of feeding/roosting sites.</p> <p>To minimise potential impacts on the Greenland white-fronted geese qualifying interest of the SPA, the mainland section of the SPA and important feeding fields outwith the SPA (including a 400m buffer around these fields) have been classified as sensitive on the opportunities map. However, as the feeding areas used by the geese can vary from year to year, there is a risk of impacts on any new feeding areas that lie outwith the existing sensitive areas.</p> <p><b>Likely significant effect</b></p>	<p><b>Greenland white-fronted goose</b></p> <p>SNH and RSPB must be consulted on any proposals for native woodland expansion in the south Loch Lomond area (i.e. between Balloch and the SPA) to confirm whether the proposals will have any implications for new feeding areas that have established since the mapping of sensitive areas was carried out in 2019. This will help to establish the suitability of the location for woodland creation.</p>

<sup>2</sup> Identified using RSPB survey data for the 2018/19 wintering season and historic data

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Site name	Qualifying Interest	Location of 'Preferred' and 'Potential' areas for native woodland expansion in relation to European site	Potential effects	Mitigation requirements for proposals
<b>Loch Lomond SPA</b>	Capercaillie ( <i>Tetrao urogallus</i> ), breeding	The mainland section of the SPA has been classified as sensitive on the opportunities map along with the important feeding fields <sup>2</sup> for the Greenland white-fronted geese outwith the SPA including a 400m buffer around these fields.	<p><b>Capercaillie</b></p> <p>Capercaillie historically bred on the four Luss islands and they require mature woodland with a well-developed understory and low levels of disturbance, especially during their breeding season in the spring and summer months.</p> <p>There have only been occasional sightings of capercaillie in recent years and the SPA no longer supports a viable population.</p> <p>Native woodland expansion is likely to be beneficial to capercaillie but any works carried out on the Luss islands during the spring and summer months could result in disturbance during the breeding season.</p> <p>There is also a risk of capercaillie colliding with any deer or stock fencing required for native woodland expansion in these areas.</p> <p><b>Likely significant effect</b></p>	<p><b>Capercaillie</b></p> <p>SNH must be consulted on any proposals for native woodland expansion on the four Luss islands to determine the need for mitigation measures for the capercaillie qualifying interest. Mitigation is likely to include ensuring that any fencing is designed in accordance with current best practice guidance and, depending on the status of the capercaillie population, scheduling woodland expansion activities outwith the breeding season (March to August inclusive).</p>

<sup>2</sup> Identified using RSPB survey data for the 2018/19 wintering season and historic data



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Site name	Qualifying Interest	Location of 'Preferred' and 'Potential' areas for native woodland expansion in relation to European site	Potential effects	Mitigation requirements for proposals
<b>Glen Etive and Glen Fyne SPA</b>	Golden eagle ( <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> ), breeding	The Golden eagle range report <sup>3</sup> has been used to refine the opportunities map to direct native woodland expansion proposals to areas that would protect/enhance the existing prey resource for golden eagle.	<p>Whilst appropriately designed/targeted native woodland expansion proposals can enhance the prey resource for golden eagle, poorly designed proposals can reduce the abundance and availability of prey. To address this issue, the Golden eagle range report has been used to refine the opportunities map to direct native woodland expansion proposals to areas that would protect/enhance the existing prey resource for golden eagle.</p> <p>Planting or associated activities carried out during the breeding season could result in the disturbance of breeding golden eagle.</p> <p><b>Likely significant effect</b></p>	<p>SNH must be consulted on any proposals for native woodland expansion within/adjacent to the SPA to confirm the level of supporting information required for any proposal.</p> <p>All operational activities within 1km of any nest site must be timed to avoid the most sensitive period between 1st February and 31st August (inclusive). All access routes for woodland management or creation must not pass within 1km of any nest site between February and August.</p> <p>All woodland proposals within the SPA must include a minimum 20% internal glades</p>

<sup>3</sup> Austin, S., Fielding, A. H. and Haworth, P. F. 2015. G/IS/D Golden eagle range report – Natural Heritage Zone 14 “Argyll West and Islands”. Scottish Natural Heritage Commissioned Report No. 834

**Table 2 - Broad scale assessment of the sensitivity of SSSI features to native woodland expansion**

SSSI Feature Categories	Sensitivity of feature category to native woodland expansion	Potential impacts and mitigation measures
<b>Birds</b>	<b>Uncertain</b>	<p>Native woodland expansion can have positive and negative impacts on bird interests depending on the requirements of individual species.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b> Retain within preferred/potential areas but individual proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect the bird interest of the site.</p>
<b>Earth sciences</b>	<b>Negative</b>	<p>Native woodland expansion within earth science sites can obscure views of important exposures and landforms. Larger tree roots can also disrupt buried interests.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b> Classify as sensitive on the opportunities map unless another notified interest of the site would benefit from native woodland expansion. If any sites with earth science interests are retained on the opportunities map, individual proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect the earth science interests of the SSSI.</p>
<b>Fish</b>	<b>Positive</b>	<p>Native woodland expansion along watercourses and around lochs can have a range of benefits for fish including reducing diffuse pollution and moderating water temperature.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b> Retain preferred/potential areas but any proposals for SSSIs with features that are also potentially sensitive to native woodland expansion will need to demonstrate that these interests will be protected.</p>
<b>Freshwater habitats</b>	<b>Positive</b>	<p>Although unlikely to be identified on the opportunities map (the model excluded areas of open water), native woodland expansion around waterbodies can have a range of benefits including reducing diffuse pollution and moderating water temperature.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b> Retain preferred/potential areas but any proposals for SSSIs with features that are also potentially sensitive to native woodland expansion will need to demonstrate that these interests will be protected.</p>
<b>Invertebrates</b>	<b>Uncertain</b>	<p>Native woodland expansion can have positive and negative impacts on invertebrate interests depending on the requirements of individual species.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b> Retain within preferred/potential areas but individual proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect the invertebrate interest of the site.</p>
<b>Lowland grassland</b>	<b>Negative</b>	<p>Lowland grassland habitats are sensitive to colonisation by trees and scrub. This can reduce the quality and extent of the habitat.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b> Classify as sensitive on opportunities map unless another notified interest of the site would benefit from native woodland expansion. If any sites with lowland grassland interests are retained on the opportunities map, individual proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect the lowland grassland interests of the SSSI.</p>

**Table 2 - Broad scale assessment of the sensitivity of SSSI features to native woodland expansion**

SSSI Feature Categories	Sensitivity of feature category to native woodland expansion	Potential impacts and mitigation measures
Non-vascular plants	Uncertain	<p>Whilst native woodland expansion is likely to be beneficial for most bryophyte and lichen interests, there is also potential for negative impacts (e.g. dense thickets of regeneration can shade out important lichen communities and excluding stock can result in a dense herb and dwarf shrub layer which can cover important bryophyte communities on rocks and tree bases).</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b> Retain within preferred/potential areas but individual proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect the non-vascular plant interest of the SSSI.</p>
Upland habitats	Uncertain	<p>Whilst some native woodland expansion could be beneficial for upland habitat interests, and wider biodiversity aims, it could also result in habitat loss through woodland encroachment into notified habitats.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b> Retain within preferred/potential areas but individual proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect the upland habitat interest of the SSSI.</p>
Vascular plants	Uncertain	<p>Native woodland expansion can have positive and negative impacts on vascular plant interests depending on the requirements of individual species.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b> Retain within preferred/potential areas but individual proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect the vascular plant interest of the SSSI.</p>
Wetlands	Negative	<p>Wetland habitats are sensitive to colonisation by trees and scrub as this can reduce the quality and extent of these habitats.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b> Classify as sensitive on the opportunities map unless another notified interest of the site would benefit from native woodland expansion. If any sites with wetland interests are retained on the opportunities map, individual proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect the wetland interests of the SSSI.</p>
Woodland	Positive	<p>Native woodland expansion will be beneficial for woodland SSSI features.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b> Retain preferred/potential areas but any proposals for SSSIs with features that are also potentially sensitive to native woodland expansion will need to demonstrate that these interests will be protected.</p>

**Table 3 - Screening of SSSIs that overlap with Preferred/Potential areas for native woodland expansion**

Site name	Feature Name	Feature Category	Sensitivity of feature category to native woodland expansion	Retain Preferred/Potential areas within SSSI or classify as sensitive	Issues to be addressed by proposals
<b>Beinn an Lochain SSSI</b>	Upland assemblage	Upland habitat	Uncertain	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI. This may include a requirement for ongoing management to ensure that woodland does not encroach onto sensitive habitats.
	Tall herb ledge	Upland habitat	Uncertain		
	Siliceous scree (includes boulder fields)	Upland habitat	Uncertain		
<b>Ben A'an and Brenachoile Woods SSSI</b>	Upland oak woodland	Woodland	Positive	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	As detailed in the Strategy, natural regeneration is the preferred means of expanding native woodland within/adjacent to designated sites. Planting will only be considered where it can be demonstrated that this is consistent with maintaining or enhancing the interests of the site and appropriate planting stock can be obtained.
<b>Ben Lomond SSSI</b>	Subalpine dry heath	Upland habitat	Uncertain	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI. This may include a requirement for ongoing management to ensure that woodland does not encroach onto sensitive habitats.
	Vascular plant assemblage	Vascular plants	Uncertain		
	Upland assemblage	Upland habitat	Uncertain		
	Snowbed	Upland habitat	Uncertain		
	Invertebrate assemblage	Invertebrates	Uncertain		
<b>Ben Lui SSSI</b>	Vascular plant assemblage	Vascular plants	Uncertain	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI. This may include a requirement for ongoing management to ensure that woodland does not encroach onto sensitive habitats/areas.
	Upland assemblage	Upland habitat	Uncertain		
	Dalradian	Earth sciences	Negative		
	Mineralogy of Scotland	Earth sciences	Negative		
	Invertebrate assemblage	Invertebrates	Uncertain		
<b>Ben More - Stob Binnein SSSI</b>	Tall herb ledge	Upland habitat	Uncertain	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI. This may include a requirement for ongoing management to ensure that woodland does not encroach onto sensitive habitats.
	Alpine heath	Upland habitat	Uncertain		
	Alpine moss heath and associated vegetation	Upland habitat	Uncertain		
	Vascular plant assemblage	Vascular plants	Uncertain		
	Lichen assemblage	Non-vascular plants	Uncertain		

**Table 3 - Screening of SSSIs that overlap with Preferred/Potential areas for native woodland expansion**

Site name	Feature Name	Feature Category	Sensitivity of feature category to native woodland expansion	Retain Preferred/Potential areas within SSSI or classify as sensitive	Issues to be addressed by proposals
<b>Ben Vorlich SSSI</b>	Subalpine wet heath	Upland habitat	Uncertain	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI. This may include a requirement for ongoing management to ensure that woodland does not encroach onto sensitive habitats.
	Alpine flush	Upland habitat	Uncertain		
	Tall herb ledge	Upland habitat	Uncertain		
<b>Black Water Marshes SSSI</b>	Flood-plain fen	Wetlands	Negative	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI. This may include a requirement for ongoing management to ensure that woodland does not encroach onto sensitive habitats.
	Oligotrophic loch	Freshwater habitats	Positive		
	Open water transition fen	Wetlands	Negative		
<b>Blairbeich Bog SSSI</b>	Raised bog	Wetlands	Negative	Classify as <b>sensitive</b>	Native woodland expansion within this SSSI is not supported.
<b>Boturich Woodlands</b>	Upland mixed ash woodland	Woodland	Positive	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	As detailed in the Strategy, natural regeneration is the preferred means of expanding native woodland within/adjacent to designated sites. Planting will only be considered where it can be demonstrated that this is consistent with maintaining or enhancing the interests of the site and appropriate planting stock can be obtained.
	Wet woodland	Woodland	Positive		
<b>Brig o' Turk Mires SSSI</b>	Valley fen	Wetlands	Negative	Classify as <b>sensitive</b>	Native woodland expansion within this SSSI is not supported.
<b>Caldarvan Loch</b>	Eutrophic loch	Freshwater habitats	Positive	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect the Eutrophic loch feature, particularly during any woodland operations.
<b>Coille Chriche SSSI</b>	Wet woodland	Woodland	Positive	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	As detailed in the Strategy, natural regeneration is the preferred means of expanding native woodland within/adjacent to designated sites. Planting will only be considered where it can be demonstrated that this is consistent with maintaining or enhancing the interests of the site and appropriate planting stock can be obtained.
<b>Coille Coire Chuilc SSSI</b>	Native pinewood	Woodland	Positive	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI.
	Fly assemblage	Invertebrates	Uncertain		
	Beetle assemblage	Invertebrates	Uncertain		

**Table 3 - Screening of SSSIs that overlap with Preferred/Potential areas for native woodland expansion**

Site name	Feature Name	Feature Category	Sensitivity of feature category to native woodland expansion	Retain Preferred/Potential areas within SSSI or classify as sensitive	Issues to be addressed by proposals
<b>Conic Hill SSSI</b>	Upland oak woodland	Woodland	Positive	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI. This may include a requirement for ongoing management to ensure that woodland does not encroach onto sensitive habitats/areas.
	Subalpine calcareous grassland	Upland habitat	Uncertain		
	Alkaline fen	Upland habitat	Uncertain		
	Moth assemblage	Invertebrates	Uncertain		
	Ordovician Igneous	Earth sciences	Negative		
	Beetle assemblage	Invertebrates	Uncertain		
	Wet woodland	Woodland	Positive		
<b>Craig Royston Woods SSSI</b>	Upland oak woodland	Woodland	Positive	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI.
	Moth assemblage	Invertebrates	Uncertain		
<b>Craighoyle Woodland SSSI</b>	Bryophyte assemblage	Non-vascular plants	Uncertain	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI.
	Lichen assemblage	Non-vascular plants	Uncertain		
<b>Cuilvona and Craigmore Woods SSSI</b>	Upland oak woodland	Woodland	Positive	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	As detailed in the Strategy, natural regeneration is the preferred means of expanding native woodland within/adjacent to designated sites. Planting will only be considered where it can be demonstrated that this is consistent with maintaining or enhancing the interests of the site and appropriate planting stock can be obtained.
<b>Dalveich Meadow SSSI</b>	Lowland calcareous grassland	Lowland grassland	Negative	Classify as <b>sensitive</b>	Native woodland expansion within this SSSI is not supported.
	Lowland neutral grassland	Lowland grassland	Negative		
<b>Drumore Wood SSSI</b>	Upland oak woodland	Woodland	Positive	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	As detailed in the Strategy, natural regeneration is the preferred means of expanding native woodland within/adjacent to designated sites. Planting will only be considered where it can be demonstrated that this is consistent with maintaining or enhancing the interests of the site and appropriate planting stock can be obtained.
<b>Eдинample Meadow SSSI</b>	Lowland neutral grassland	Lowland grassland	Negative	Classify as <b>sensitive</b>	Native woodland expansion within this SSSI is not supported.

**Table 3 - Screening of SSSIs that overlap with Preferred/Potential areas for native woodland expansion**

Site name	Feature Name	Feature Category	Sensitivity of feature category to native woodland expansion	Retain Preferred/Potential areas within SSSI or classify as sensitive	Issues to be addressed by proposals
<b>Edinchip Wood SSSI</b>	Upland oak woodland	Woodland	Positive	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	As detailed in the Strategy, natural regeneration is the preferred means of expanding native woodland within/adjacent to designated sites. Planting will only be considered where it can be demonstrated that this is consistent with maintaining or enhancing the interests of the site and appropriate planting stock can be obtained.
	Wet woodland	Woodland	Positive		
<b>Endrick Mouth and Islands SSSI</b>	Upland oak woodland	Woodland	Positive	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI except those areas identified as Sensitive through the HRA of the TWS.	Greenland white-fronted and greylag geese roost on the mainland section of the SSSI and primarily feed on agricultural fields' outwith the SSSI boundary. These areas have been classified as sensitive in response to the HRA of the TWS and this will ensure that there are no impacts on the Greenland white-fronted and greylag geese features of the SSSI. This will also ensure the protection of wetland areas that are important for some of the species included in the breeding bird assemblage of the SSSI.  Proposals will still need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI and this may include a requirement for ongoing management to ensure that woodland does not encroach onto sensitive habitats/areas.  Natural regeneration is the preferred means of expanding native woodland within/adjacent to designated sites to ensure species of appropriate provenance and avoid the risk of introducing pathogens via planting stock. Planting will only be considered where it can be demonstrated that this is consistent with maintaining or enhancing the interests of the site and appropriate planting stock can be obtained (increased species diversity might be desirable in some circumstances).
	Hydromorphological mire range	Wetlands	Negative		
	Vascular plant assemblage	Vascular plants	Uncertain		
	Bryophyte assemblage	Non-vascular plants	Uncertain		
	Breeding bird assemblage	Birds	Uncertain		
	Greenland white-fronted goose ( <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> ), non-breeding	Birds	Uncertain		
	Greylag goose ( <i>Anser anser</i> ), non-breeding	Birds	Uncertain		
	Beetle assemblage	Invertebrates	Uncertain		
	Fluvial Geomorphology of Scotland	Earth sciences	Negative		
<b>Fairy Knowe and Doon Hill SSSI</b>	Upland oak woodland	Woodland	Positive	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	As detailed in the Strategy, natural regeneration is the preferred means of expanding native woodland within/adjacent to designated sites. Planting will only be considered where it can be demonstrated that this is consistent with maintaining or enhancing the interests of the site and appropriate planting stock can be obtained.

**Table 3 - Screening of SSSIs that overlap with Preferred/Potential areas for native woodland expansion**

Site name	Feature Name	Feature Category	Sensitivity of feature category to native woodland expansion	Retain Preferred/Potential areas within SSSI or classify as sensitive	Issues to be addressed by proposals
<b>Falls of Dochart SSSI</b>	Fluvial Geomorphology of Scotland	Earth sciences	Negative	Classify as <b>sensitive</b>	Native woodland expansion within this SSSI is not supported.
<b>Garabal Hill SSSI</b>	Caledonian Igneous	Earth sciences	Negative	Classify as <b>sensitive</b>	Native woodland expansion within this SSSI is not supported.
<b>Gartfarran Woods SSSI</b>	Wet woodland	Woodland	Positive	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI and this may include a requirement for ongoing management to ensure that woodland does not encroach onto sensitive habitats.
	Lowland neutral grassland	Lowland grassland	Negative		
<b>Geal and Dubh Lochs SSSI</b>	Oligotrophic loch	Freshwater habitats	Positive	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI and this may include a requirement for ongoing management to ensure that woodland does not encroach onto sensitive habitats.
	Hydromorphological mire range	Wetlands	Negative		
<b>Glen Falloch Pinewood SSSI</b>	Native pinewood	Woodland	Positive	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	As detailed in the Strategy, natural regeneration is the preferred means of expanding native woodland within/adjacent to designated sites. Planting will only be considered where it can be demonstrated that this is consistent with maintaining or enhancing the interests of the site and appropriate planting stock can be obtained.
<b>Glen Falloch Woods SSSI</b>	Upland oak woodland	Woodland	Positive	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	As detailed in the Strategy, natural regeneration is the preferred means of expanding native woodland within/adjacent to designated sites. Planting will only be considered where it can be demonstrated that this is consistent with maintaining or enhancing the interests of the site and appropriate planting stock can be obtained.
<b>Glen Loin SSSI</b>	Upland oak woodland	Woodland	Positive	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	As detailed in the Strategy, natural regeneration is the preferred means of expanding native woodland within/adjacent to designated sites. Planting will only be considered where it can be demonstrated that this is consistent with maintaining or enhancing the interests of the site and appropriate planting stock can be obtained.
	Upland mixed ash woodland	Woodland	Positive		



**Table 3 - Screening of SSSIs that overlap with Preferred/Potential areas for native woodland expansion**

Site name	Feature Name	Feature Category	Sensitivity of feature category to native woodland expansion	Retain Preferred/Potential areas within SSSI or classify as sensitive	Issues to be addressed by proposals
<b>Hells Glen SSSI</b>	Upland oak woodland	Woodland	Positive	Retain preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI.
	Bryophyte assemblage	Non-vascular plants	Uncertain		
	Lichen assemblage	Non-vascular plants	Uncertain		
<b>Inchcruin SSSI</b>	Capercaillie ( <i>Tetrao urogallus</i> ), breeding	Birds	Uncertain	Retain preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Native woodland expansion is likely to be beneficial to capercaillie and mitigation measures identified for Loch Lomond SPA in the HRA of the TWS will ensure that there are no impacts on breeding Capercaillie feature of the SSSI.
<b>Inchlonaig SSSI</b>	Upland oak woodland	Woodland	Positive	Retain preferred/potential areas within SSSI	As detailed in the Strategy, natural regeneration is the preferred means of expanding native woodland within/adjacent to designated sites. Planting will only be considered where it can be demonstrated that this is consistent with maintaining or enhancing the interests of the site and appropriate planting stock can be obtained.
<b>Inchmoan SSSI</b>	Raised bog	Wetlands	Negative	Classify as sensitive	Native woodland expansion within this SSSI is not supported.
<b>Inchmurrin SSSI</b>	Wet woodland	Woodland	Positive	Retain preferred/potential areas within SSSI	As detailed in the Strategy, natural regeneration is the preferred means of expanding native woodland within/adjacent to designated sites. Planting will only be considered where it can be demonstrated that this is consistent with maintaining or enhancing the interests of the site and appropriate planting stock can be obtained.
<b>Inchtavannach and Inchconnachan SSSI</b>	Upland oak woodland	Woodland	Positive	Retain preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Native woodland expansion is likely to be beneficial to capercaillie and mitigation measures identified for Loch Lomond SPA in the HRA of the TWS will ensure that there are no impacts on breeding Capercaillie feature of the SSSI.
	Capercaillie ( <i>Tetrao urogallus</i> ), breeding	Birds	Uncertain		
<b>Innishewan Wood SSSI</b>	Upland oak woodland	Woodland	Positive	Retain preferred/potential areas within SSSI	As detailed in the Strategy, natural regeneration is the preferred means of expanding native woodland within/adjacent to designated sites. Planting will only be considered where it can be demonstrated that this is consistent with maintaining or enhancing the interests of the site and appropriate planting stock can be obtained.

**Table 3 - Screening of SSSIs that overlap with Preferred/Potential areas for native woodland expansion**

Site name	Feature Name	Feature Category	Sensitivity of feature category to native woodland expansion	Retain Preferred/Potential areas within SSSI or classify as sensitive	Issues to be addressed by proposals
<b>Lake of Menteith SSSI</b>	Mesotrophic loch	Freshwater habitats	Positive	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI. This may include a requirement for ongoing management to ensure that woodland does not encroach onto sensitive habitats/areas.
	Vascular plant assemblage	Vascular plants	Uncertain		
	Pink-footed goose ( <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i> ), non-breeding	Birds	Uncertain		
	Quaternary of Scotland	Earth sciences	Negative		
<b>Leny Quarry SSSI</b>	Cambrian	Earth sciences	Negative	Classify as <b>sensitive</b>	Native woodland expansion within this SSSI is not supported.
<b>Lime Craig Quarry SSSI</b>	Arenig - Llanvirn	Earth sciences	Negative	Classify as <b>sensitive</b>	Native woodland expansion within this SSSI is not supported.
<b>Loch Eck SSSI</b>	Flood-plain fen	Wetlands	Negative	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI. This may include a requirement for ongoing management to ensure that woodland does not encroach onto sensitive habitats/areas.
	Oligotrophic loch	Freshwater habitats	Positive		
	Bryophyte assemblage	Non-vascular plants	Uncertain		
	Fish assemblage	Fish	Positive		
	Common whitefish ( <i>Coregonus lavaretus</i> )	Fish	Positive		
	Arctic charr ( <i>Salvelinus alpinus</i> )	Fish	Positive		
<b>Loch Lubnag Marshes SSSI</b>	Open water transition fen	Wetlands	Negative	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI. This may include a requirement for ongoing management to ensure that woodland does not encroach onto sensitive habitats/areas.
	Freshwater pearl mussel ( <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> )	Invertebrates	Uncertain		
	Flies	Invertebrates	Uncertain		
	Fluvial Geomorphology of Scotland	Earth sciences	Negative		
<b>Loch Macanrie Fens SSSI</b>	Hydromorphological mire range	Wetlands	Negative	Classify as <b>sensitive</b>	Native woodland expansion within this SSSI is not supported.
	Raised bog	Wetlands	Negative		
<b>Loch Tay Marshes SSSI</b>	Wet woodland	Woodland	Positive	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI. This may include a requirement for ongoing management to ensure that woodland does not encroach onto sensitive habitats/areas.
	Transition open fen	Wetlands	Negative		

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Site name	Feature Name	Feature Category	Sensitivity of feature category to native woodland expansion	Retain Preferred/Potential areas within SSSI or classify as sensitive	Issues to be addressed by proposals
<b>Lochan Lairig Cheile SSSI</b>	Open water transition fen	Wetlands	Negative	Retain preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI. This may include a requirement for ongoing management to ensure that woodland does not encroach onto sensitive habitats/areas.
	Valley fen	Wetlands	Negative		
	Oligotrophic loch	Freshwater habitats	Positive		
<b>Meall na Samhna SSSI</b>	Vascular plant assemblage	Vascular plants	Uncertain	Retain preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI. This may include a requirement for ongoing management to ensure that woodland does not encroach onto sensitive habitats/areas.
	Bryophyte assemblage	Non-vascular plants	Uncertain		
	Lichen assemblage	Non-vascular plants	Uncertain		
	Upland assemblage	Upland habitat	Uncertain		
	Northern emerald dragonfly ( <i>Somatochlora arctica</i> )	Invertebrates	Uncertain		
<b>Mollands SSSI</b>	Quaternary of Scotland	Earth sciences	Negative	Classify as <b>sensitive</b>	Native woodland expansion within this SSSI is not supported.
<b>Pass of Leny Flushes SSSI</b>	Upland oak woodland	Woodland	Positive	Retain preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI. This may include a requirement for ongoing management to ensure that woodland does not encroach onto sensitive habitats/areas.
	Springs (including flushes)	Wetlands	Negative		
<b>Pollochro Woods SSSI</b>	Bryophyte assemblage	Non-vascular plants	Uncertain	Retain preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI.
	Lichen assemblage	Non-vascular plants	Uncertain		
	Wet woodland	Woodland	Positive		
	Wood pasture and parkland	Woodland	Positive		
<b>Portnellan - Ross Priory - Claddochside SSSI</b>	Quaternary of Scotland	Earth sciences	Negative	Classify as <b>sensitive</b>	Native woodland expansion within this SSSI is not supported.
<b>River Dochart Meadows SSSI</b>	Lowland neutral grassland	Lowland grassland	Negative	Classify as <b>sensitive</b>	Native woodland expansion within this SSSI is not supported.
	Fen meadow	Lowland grassland	Negative		
<b>Ross Park SSSI</b>	Lichen assemblage	Non-vascular plants	Uncertain	Retain preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI. This may include a requirement for ongoing management to ensure that woodland does not encroach onto sensitive habitats/areas.
	Scottish dock ( <i>Rumex aquaticus</i> )	Vascular plants	Uncertain		

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Site name	Feature Name	Feature Category	Sensitivity of feature category to native woodland expansion	Retain Preferred/Potential areas within SSSI or classify as sensitive	Issues to be addressed by proposals
<b>Ross Park - Lochshore Woodland SSSI</b>	Vascular plant assemblage	Vascular plants	Uncertain	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI. This may include a requirement for ongoing management to ensure that woodland does not encroach onto sensitive habitats/areas.
<b>Rowardennan Woodlands SSSI</b>	Upland oak woodland	Woodland	Positive	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	As detailed in the Strategy, natural regeneration is the preferred means of expanding native woodland within/adjacent to designated sites. Planting will only be considered where it can be demonstrated that this is consistent with maintaining or enhancing the interests of the site and appropriate planting stock can be obtained.
<b>Stronvar Marshes SSSI</b>	Wet woodland	Woodland	Positive	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	Proposals will need to demonstrate that they will protect all notified features of the SSSI. This may include a requirement for ongoing management to ensure that woodland does not encroach onto sensitive habitats/areas.
	Open water transition fen	Wetlands	Negative		
	Loch trophic range	Freshwater habitats	Positive		
<b>West Loch Lomondside Woodlands SSSI</b>	Upland oak woodland	Woodland	Positive	<b>Retain</b> preferred/potential areas within SSSI	As detailed in the Strategy, natural regeneration is the preferred means of expanding native woodland within/adjacent to designated sites. Planting will only be considered where it can be demonstrated that this is consistent with maintaining or enhancing the interests of the site and appropriate planting stock can be obtained.





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