



Case Study: Adaptation – new woodland planting in West Dunbartonshire

Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS) acquired Cochno Hill in West Dunbartonshire in 2007 under the Scottish Government's repositioning programme, which allows FCS to sell surplus land to then buy new land for climate change planting and other social and environmental benefits. Through this programme, FCS are contributing to Scottish Government objectives and are also meeting the aims of the FCS Scottish Forestry Strategy which are to ensure that Scotland's forests, woods and trees are helping to fight the effects of climate change, as well as improving people's health, supporting the economy and enhancing Scotland's environmental quality.

Benefits for our climate

The site is 200ha in size and has been designed to maximise its potential for mitigating the effects of climate change. Around 165ha of the site will be covered by native trees, including oak, rowan and birch. Over 445,000 native trees have been planted since 2007. By 2050, the trees on the site will lock away approximately 1,500 tonnes CO₂ each



year and the site will have soaked up around 55,000 tonnes of CO₂.

As well as the contribution to tackling climate change, the trees planted at Cochno Hill will also benefit the local

community and wildlife. By turning the site into a community woodland, Cochno Hill will provide an excellent area for outdoor recreation for the local people, and a thriving habitat for the local wildlife.