

GRAMPIAN REGIONAL FORESTRY FORUM ACTION PLAN

FORUM THEME	Scottish Forestry Strategy (SFS) Themes and Grampian Implementation Plan Priorities	TASKS	OUTCOMES & BENEFITS	ROLE OF FORUM	PROGRESS	TIMESCALE
<p>1. Producing Quality Timber and Supporting Quality Forest Management.</p> <p>(Govt strategic objective - Wealthier)</p>	<p>Theme 2 Timber. Promoting predictable and stable timber supplies.</p> <p>Improved information on the quantity and quality of timber in Grampian's forests.</p>	<p>Complete the first two parts of the Scots pine (SP) timber quality in North Scotland project, including a survey of current utilisation and timber quality assessment</p>	<p>Better information for existing industry, potential new markets and growers.</p>	<p>Sub-group JK, CP. Working with the project steering group review and monitor the progress of the Scots pine project.. Working closely with Regional Cluster Group ensure findings well promulgated to industry. Key partners Forest Research, Processors, Growers & LECs</p>	<p>Survey of users and growers completed, testing methods for assessing log quality and market development study underway. Associated work/projects in SP developing.</p>	<p>2 years</p>
<p>2. Supporting silvicultural practice that will produce quality timber and contribute to environmental and social benefits.</p> <p>(Govt strategic objective - Greener)</p>	<p>Theme 7 Biodiversity. Reverse biodiversity decline by targeted action.</p> <p>Support native woodland expansion and management, helping to deliver regional biodiversity priorities.</p>	<p>Identify key habitats & species for Grampian. Update woodland audit information. Develop a Grampian Forest Habitat Network model. Support creation of 170ha of native woodland and 70ha of riparian woodland. Report on the achievement of Habitat Action Plan targets in Grampian.</p>	<p>To define Grampian's contribution to Scottish Biodiversity Strategy & target future actions</p>	<p>Sub-group IF, UU, DB. To steer and seek necessary resources. Key partners SNW, LBAP and NESBReC</p>	<p>Report produced by Scottish Native Woods (SNW) on Grampian progress against HAP targets and milestones.</p>	<p>1 year</p>

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<p>3. Increased Community Engagement & Public Awareness of Forestry.</p> <p>Focus on: Development of Woods in and Around Towns Initiative</p> <p>(Govt strategic objective – Healthier/Fairer/Safer & stronger/Smarter)</p>	<p>Theme 5 Access and health. Helping to improve the nation's health.</p> <p>Delivering Grampian's contribution to the forests for health programme.</p>	<p>Promote WIAT within the local authorities.</p> <p>Establish two health walks partnerships employing co-ordinators.</p> <p>Launch the "Discover Culbin" visitor facilities.</p>	<p>Increased public benefits from urban woodlands close to communities, greater community involvement and support of the delivery of LA woodland strategies</p>	<p>Sub-group MR, JR. Promote within LA's via community planning partnerships. Work with Conservancy to establish an Active Woods Co-ordinator for Grampian. Key partners LA's, Paths to Health and NHS Grampian</p>	<p>WIAT initiative focusing on Aberdeen and satellite towns with project officer and partnership in place. Paths to Health co-ordinators recruited in Moray and Aberdeen.</p>	<p>1 year</p>
<p>4. Expanding the Forests of Grampian.</p> <p>Focus on: Setting targets for woodland expansion and monitoring progress</p> <p>(Govt strategic objective – Greener)</p>	<p>Theme1 Climate change. Increasing carbon sequestration and retention</p> <p>Theme 3 Business Development. Contributing to rural development.</p> <p>Theme 5 Access and health. Making access easier.</p> <p>Theme 7 Biodiversity. Creating new native woodlands.</p>	<p>Develop a Grampian Forest Habitat Network model.</p> <p>Support creation of 170ha of native woodland and 70ha of riparian woodland.</p>	<p>Integration of strategies and defining quantity and quality targets or aspirations to aid delivery of the expansion goals in the LA woodland strategies</p>	<p>Sub-group HM,IF, DM,IR. Monitor strategies and Macaulay Report and to consider priorities/targets for expansion in Grampian. Work with Conservancy on revision of SFGS, the development of regional aspects to Land Management Contracts; of a new challenge fund and development of a Forest Habitat Network (FHN)</p>	<p>Grampian Locational Premium revised. Draft riparian challenge prepared. HB and Forest Research developing FHN model.</p>	<p>2 years</p>

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<p>5.Adaptation to change. Focus on: Integrated land management (Govt strategic objective – Wealthier)</p>	<p>Theme 3 Business Development. Contributing to rural development.</p> <p>Expansion and active management of farm woodlands that support local businesses and farm diversification with a focus on developing woodfuel.</p>	<p>Develop a Grampian Forest Initiative focused on rural economic diversification.</p>	<p>Integrated approach to land management releasing rural development opportunities. Builds on the investment and engagement in the Grampian Forest. Helps deliver LA woodland strategies and rural development.</p>	<p>Sub-group HM,IR,PGD to scope the future Grampian Forest Initiative. Key partners SEERAD, FWAG, SAC, Las.</p>	<p>Initiative aims and actions defined. Co-ordinator seconded from SEERAD.</p>	<p>2 years</p>
<p>6.Adaptation to change. Focus on: Integrated land management</p>	<p>Principle of long-term planning</p>	<p>Advise and endorse Moray and Aberdeenshire Forest District Strategic Plans</p>	<p>Provides a clear strategy for managing the national forest reflecting national and local policies and priorities.</p>	<p>Sub-group EB,MR,CP,UU,PGD to provide the Forum input to draft plans.</p>	<p>Presentation by FE to the Forum on FD Strategic Plans sub-group considering drafts.</p>	<p>1 year</p>

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7. Communications	Principle of joining up.	Produce a communications strategy. Provide responses to consultations on SRDP, SFS and SFGS and CNP Plan.	Raised awareness, greater opportunity for people to engage & participate in forestry	Sub-group EB,MR,CP,UU,PGD Prepare strategy. Support the Conservancy in organising SFS public meetings. Profile of Chair in P & J. Develop formal links with the 3 Community Planning Partnerships.	Major input to regional discussion of SFS review and prepared forum response. Also SRDP response. Article in P&J. Developing communication s strategy Links developed with community planning partnership. Invitation to speak at SRPBA NE Regional meeting.	Ongoing

FCS staff and other agencies as appropriate will actively support sub-groups.

Regional Forums have the following roles:

- Advising on regional implementation of the Scottish Forestry Strategy and providing a regional perspective on the Strategy's future development

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- Developing close relationships with the forest industries regional cluster groups
- Promoting the principle of local forestry frameworks, indicative forestry strategies, and other woodland strategies, their development and implementation
- Advising FCS on the suitability of frameworks and strategies which are in preparation
- Advising on how the Scottish Forestry Grant Scheme and Partnership Fund can be locally focused to better meet local needs
- Advising Forest Enterprise Scotland on, and endorsing, Forest District Strategic Plans
- Where possible, providing linkages with Community Planning Partnerships

Regional Forums are proactive in establishing regional priorities.