

Land Use Policy Group

*The UK statutory
conservation, countryside
and environment agencies*



More trees without the trouble?

Keith Kirby

The agencies want to see more trees

- For biodiversity reasons
- Landscape reasons
- Carbon sequestration reasons, etc

- But increased woodland creation raises concerns
 - How do we ensure it is not like this?



Location of important sites better known now

- SSSI system now more complete
- Second tier sites (BAP) often mapped
- Information more easily available (GIS, NBN)
- More confidence that good sites will not be damaged
- Clearer regulation framework



Moving on from Indicative Forestry Strategies

- IFS – single layer maps, static
- GIS allows different layers to be combined
 - Woodland biodiversity
 - Open habitat biodiversity
 - Landscape
 - Historic environment
 - Access (people, timber lorries)
- Different options can be explored.



New woods should be better designed

- UKFS and guidelines as basic requirements
- UKWAS, Carbon Forestry standards
- CCF moves, more mixed species
- Kielder et al. not all 'bad'!
- Cons Agencies recognise production need



Resources are limited

- Neither foresters, nor conservation bodies can afford unnecessary conflict.
- There is space for different types of tree and woodland cover, so let's find it.

