

APPENDIX B : Strategic Priorities Identified in the draft Argyll and Bute Woodland and Forestry Strategy

Ref	Strategic Priorities by Theme.	Actions	Full Ref
A	Climate change		
1	Encourage the net expansion of woodland cover in Argyll and Bute in order to further contribute to national targets for carbon sequestration	<p>Ensure that forest restructuring results in no net loss of woodland</p> <p>Ensure that woodland removal associated with developments such as windfarms is compensated for at a ratio of at least 1:1 in terms of area and quality of woodland</p> <p>Prioritise opportunities for woodland and forest expansion, including productive woodland, native woodland, habitat networks and farm woodlands, avoiding carbon-rich peat soils</p> <p>Work in partnership with the agricultural sector to encourage an integrated approach to woodland expansion on agricultural land and to address key barriers including the influence of tenure on incentives</p>	<p>A1.1</p> <p>A1.2</p> <p>A1.3</p> <p>A1.4</p>
2	Support development of biomass sector as a locally available, low carbon source of heat and power	<p>Appoint a Biomass Information Officer to raise awareness and promote the use of locally produced biomass as a source of heat and power</p> <p>Public sector organisations to prioritise the take up of woodfuel boilers in public buildings – promotion and procurement</p> <p>Promote and develop district wide biomass CHP schemes in public and private developments</p> <p>Explore the feasibility of retrofitting district wide biomass CHP schemes within existing settlements</p> <p>Encourage developers to include the option of biomass space and water heating in new housing. This should include provision for storage of cut logs, woodchip or wood pellets</p> <p>Support the development of a network of biomass heating advisers, suppliers and installers</p> <p>Encourage householders to install biomass boilers and log burning stoves to reduce reliance on coal and other fossil fuels</p> <p>Support the supply of biomass as a source of energy making use of timber from forest thinnings, harvesting and processing as well as specific energy crops such as short and long rotation forestry.</p>	<p>A2.1</p> <p>A2.2</p> <p>A2.3</p> <p>A2.4</p> <p>A2.5</p> <p>A2.6</p> <p>A2.7</p> <p>A2.8</p>
3	Support the use of locally produced timber building products particularly where this reduces the requirement for energy intensive materials which need to be imported into Argyll and Bute	Promote good examples of timber construction from within Argyll and Bute and across Scotland more widely	A3.1
		Support the wider use of acoustic tools which allow the quality of timber to be assessed before or soon after felling, allowing local selection and use to be targeted to specific applications, including construction.	A3.2
4	Ensure that woodland and forest management takes account of the need to adapt to a changing climate	Follow best practice guidance on species choice, site selection and management, and the construction and management of forest infrastructure	A4.1
5	Support the role of woodland and forests in contributing to climate change adaptation strategies	Encourage the use of woodland where this helps reduce the risk of flooding (e.g. by planting at key locations in river catchments to intercept and slow run-off).	A5.1

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		Encourage the use of woodland where this contributes to slope stabilisation, particularly along transport corridors and adjacent to settlements.	A5.2
B	Timber		
6	Encourage the net expansion of woodland cover in Argyll and Bute with in order to further contribute to national targets for woodland cover	Ensure that forest restructuring results in no net loss of woodland	B6.1
		Prioritise opportunities for woodland and forest expansion	B6.2
		Work to overcome key barriers to woodland expansion on the islands. Explore the potential for an islands 'premium' or 'challenge fund' to help address financial disparities.	B6.3
		Support the development of a niche market based on cultivation of quality broadleaves	B6.4
7	Encourage greater use of locally produced timber and wood products in Argyll and Bute	Raise awareness and promote the use of locally produced timber products	B7.1
		Support the wider use of acoustic tools which allow the quality of timber to be assessed before or soon after felling, allowing local selection and use to be targeted to specific applications, including construction.	B7.2
8	Support continued public/private sector partnership in the forestry sector through the Timber Transport group and through delivery of the Woodland and Forestry Strategy	Support the work of the Argyll Timber Transport Group in developing economic transport solutions which minimise impacts on communities and the transport infrastructure in Argyll and Bute	B8.1
		Support the operation and expansion of the Timberlink project	B8.2
		Support the use of locally produced timber products within Argyll, reducing the requirement for transport to external processing facilities.	B8.3
C	Business Development		
9	Work with timber producers and local businesses to add and retain value to the timber product within Argyll and Bute	Support the development of the biomass market (demand and supply) in Argyll and Bute (see <i>Climate Change</i> , above)	C9.1
		Support the wider use of local timber in construction (see <i>Timber</i> , above)	C9.2
		Support the development of niche sector focused on hardwood production, processing and use within Argyll and Bute	C9.3
10	Work with land managers to expand woodland cover in agricultural areas, thereby contributing to diversification of the rural economy	Encourage the development of demonstration Working Farm Woods to encourage land managers (particularly farming tenants) to undertake woodland management and creation and better integration with the farming sector	C10.1
		Address the low investment in woodland creation, particularly among tenant farmers	C10.2
		Promote the development of habitat networks in lowland agricultural areas, particularly where they deliver practical as well as financial benefits for land managers	C10.3
11	Further develop forest and woodlands' contribution to tourism and recreation in Argyll and Bute	Work with key tree, woodland & forest visitor attractions and the local tourism sector to brand, promote, market, and celebrate the forests of Argyll as a coherent 'package' which reflect the high quality of the environment in Argyll and Bute and the range of recreation opportunities available.	C11.1

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		Explore the potential for specialist recreation activities and events based on Argyll and Bute's woodland resource. Examples could include nature based tourism, mountain biking, horseriding and the further development of longer distance routes (see <i>Access and Health</i>)	C11.2
12	Development of a skilled workforce in Argyll and Bute, geared to future forest management and processing requirements, but also reflecting the development of biomass sector and specialist niche activities.	Expand and deliver the opportunities for Modern Apprenticeships and training to help ensure a skilled local workforce is available in the forestry sector	C12.1
D Community development			
13	Support further community involvement in the ownership and management of woodlands, and in the creation of woodland based educational and social enterprises	Help develop local level or community based enterprises that seek either in collaboration with forest managers or via direct ownership to utilise woodlands or woodland products, particularly where these can be linked so social enterprise, training or the development of rural skills	D13.1
		Help support local ownership and management of woodlands by communities across Argyll and Bute by identifying and enabling local interested groups	D13.2
		Encourage the creation of Forest Crofts in appropriate locations where there is evidence of demand and where this will deliver local social, economic and environmental benefits.	D13.3
		Encourage the further development of Forest Schools as a means of increasing community awareness and involvement in woodlands in Argyll and Bute	D13.4
E Access and Health			
14	Further develop the role of woodlands and forests in contributing to outdoor access and recreation	Improve the accessibility of woodlands through partnership and suitable collaboration – particularly in woodlands linked to settlements that have socially excluded populations	E14.1
		Plan the provision of car parking to allow people to access woodlands and forests, particularly in areas remote from settlements.	E14.2
		Develop provision for horseriding, where appropriate making use of forest tracks and roads	E14.3
		Develop the network of longer distance routes for walkers, cyclists and mountain bikers, particularly where they run through or connect areas of forest and woodland.	E14.4
		Identify opportunities for the creation of woodland camp sites in key locations and linked to longer distance routes.	E14.5
		Explore the potential for specialist forms of woodland recreation including fungi foraging, geocaching, orienteering and field sports.	E14.6
15	Promote the health and social benefits that woodland and forests can bring for both local people and visitors to Argyll and Bute.	Work with communities to help to develop better local path networks in woodlands and forestry around communities as well as ensuring that existing networks are managed and promoted. This includes making information available on signage, leaflets and on the web to attract potential visitors. Where possible priority should be given to providing all abilities paths to allow less able users to enjoy woodlands.	E15.1

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		Develop Green Gym and Active Woods in association with communities particularly in areas that have populations with poor health	E15.2
		Explore the creation of a Countryside Trust or Ranger Service based on partnership of public agencies with the aim of working with private land owners and communities across Argyll and Bute to promote and integrated approach to managed access and recreation	E15.3
F	Environmental quality		
16	Manage forests and woodlands to conserve enhance water and soils	Continue to work in public/private sector partnership to implement the relevant forest guidelines designed to minimise point source and diffuse pollution	F16.1
		Support the objectives of River Basin Management through partnership working between the forestry sector and relevant agencies via the Argyll and Lochaber Area River Basin Advisory Group	F16.2
		Encourage the use of woodland where this contributes to slope stabilisation, particularly along transport corridors and adjacent to settlements.	F16.3
17	Manage forests and woodlands to conserve and enhance Argyll and Bute's landscape and cultural heritage and people's appreciation and enjoyment of them	Ensure that the special qualities of nationally and locally important landscapes are conserved and enhanced in woodland and forest management and creation	F17.1
		Promote wider appreciation of the contribution of woodland and forests to the character and quality of the landscape	F17.2
		Ensure that woodland and forest management and creation conserve and enhance important elements of the historic environment	F17.3
		Promote wider appreciation of the contribution of woodland and forests to the historic environment	F17.4
G	Biodiversity		
18	Support the management and where appropriate the restoration of semi-natural woodland	Continue the process of diversifying and restructuring forest, prioritising key locations where there is greatest need or potential benefit particularly the restoration of former ancient native woodland	G18.1
19	Support the control of invasive species where these threaten semi-natural woodland habitats	Tackle the threat to semi-natural woodland habitats and other key woodland sites such as arboreta and designed woodland gardens from invasive rhododendron and Phytopthera	G19.1
20	Ensure that woodland and forest expansion and management make a positive contribution to Argyll's biodiversity and people's understanding and appreciation of it	Improve linkages between woodlands to increase forest habitat networks. This should be undertaken with consideration for other key habitats, on a site by site basis	G20.1
		Expand native woodlands, particularly where this can support the development of habitat networks	G20.2
		Diversify the mix of tree species and woodland edge habitats in existing plantations through woodland restructuring	G20.3
		Promote wider appreciation of the contribution of woodland and forest habitats and species	G20.4
21	Ensure that woodland and forest expansion and management protect internationally, nationally and locally important habitats and species.	Protect and enhance all woodland Natura 2000 sites, and ensure that new woodlands and forests do not affect the integrity of other Natura 2000 sites	G21.1

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		Ensure that woodland and forest expansion and management contributes to the protection and enhancement all other nationally important biodiversity sites where relevant	G21.2
		Promote key actions to protect the status of red squirrels in Argyll and Bute in line with the Scottish Squirrel Strategy	G21.3
		Support implementation of the Argyll and Bute local biodiversity action plan as it relates to woodland species	G21.4

APPENDIX B : SEA OBJECTIVES

SEA Topic	Reference	SEA Objectives
Biodiversity	1	To help implement the objectives of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy (see SEA objectives a to e below)
	1a	To halt the loss of biodiversity and continue to reverse previous losses through targeted action for species and habitats
	1b	To increase awareness, understanding and enjoyment of biodiversity and engage many more people in conservation and enhancement.
	1c	To restore and enhance biodiversity in all our urban and rural environments through better planning, design and practice.
	1d	To develop an effective management framework that ensures that biodiversity is taken into account in all decision-making
	1e	To ensure that the best new and existing knowledge on biodiversity is available to all policy makers and practitioners.
Population and human health	2	To increase the opportunities for access to and enjoyment of forests and woodlands by all sectors of society
	3	To promote sustainable tourism and recreation in relation to the forestry sector
	4	To promote the role of woodland and forestry in contributing to health, quality of life and wellbeing
	5	To encourage sustainable timber transport
	6	To maximise the contribution of the forestry sector to the viability of rural communities
Air	7	To minimise the air quality impacts of timber transport
	8	To maximise the role of woodlands and forestry in contributing to air quality
Climate	9	To increase the potential of the forestry sector in contributing to Scotland's renewable energy resources
	10	To further increase the role of woodland and forestry in achieving carbon sequestration
	11	To promote woodland and forestry planning and management that takes account of the need to adapt to climate change
Soil	12	To promote forestry and woodland planning and management that contributes positively to sustainable soil management
Water	13	To promote forestry and woodland management which contributes positively to the sustainable management of the water environment and achievement of the River Basin Management Plan objectives
Material Assets	14	To promote the integration and co-ordination of forestry and woodland with other land uses.
	15	To promote the delivery of renewable energy in accord with the Development Plan
Cultural Heritage	16	To protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment, including archaeological remains.
	17	To increase awareness and understanding of cultural heritage related to woodlands
Landscape/townscape and amenity	18	To increase the contribution of forests and trees to scenic values, including distinctiveness and diversity of the landscape.

SEA topic	SEA Objective		Assessment commentary			
	Ref	Objective	A : Climate Change	B : Timber	C : Business Development	D : Community Development
Biodiversity, flora and fauna	1	To help implement the objectives of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy (see SEA objectives a to e below)	Increasing woodland cover could have positive impacts for biodiversity or negative dependent on location and nature. Majority of priorities related to Climate change will have a neutral impact.	Potential for expansion to have positive or negative impact on biodiversity. Other actions neutral impact	Increasing woodland cover and improving skills should have positive impact on biodiversity. Inappropriate expansion has the potential to harm	Neutral Impact
	1a	To halt the loss of biodiversity and continue to reverse previous losses through targeted action for species and habitats	Increasing woodland cover could have positive impacts for biodiversity. Majority of priorities related to Climate change will have a neutral impact.	Potential for expansion to have positive or negative impact on biodiversity. Other actions neutral impact	Increasing woodland cover and improving skills should have positive impact on biodiversity. Inappropriate expansion has the potential to harm	Neutral Impact
	1b	To increase awareness, understanding and enjoyment of biodiversity and engage many more people in conservation and enhancement.	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Increases in use of woodland for tourism and recreation could lead to improvement of resource and awareness of it but could also impact upon the resource.	Increasing community involvement in relation in particular to education within woodlands
	1c	To restore and enhance biodiversity in all our urban and rural environments through better planning, design and practice.	Increasing woodland cover could have positive impacts for biodiversity. Majority of priorities related to Climate change will have a neutral impact.	Increasing woodland cover could have positive impacts for biodiversity. Majority of priorities related to timber will have a neutral impact in respect of this objective.	Mainly neutral impact but skilled workforce should have more awareness of biodiversity issues	Neutral Impact
	1d	To develop an effective management framework that ensures that biodiversity is taken into account in all decision-making	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Mainly neutral impact but skilled workforce should have more awareness of biodiversity issues	Neutral Impact
	1e	To ensure that the best new and existing knowledge on biodiversity is available to all policy makers and practitioners.	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Mainly neutral impact but skilled workforce should have more awareness of biodiversity issues	Neutral Impact
Population and human health	2	To increase the opportunities for access to and enjoyment of forests and woodlands by all sectors of society	Climate change priorities generally have a neutral impact in terms of increasing access	Expansion of resource should improve access, including related to haul routes. However, there are potential issues related to pedestrians and haul lorries.	Aims to further develop forest and woodlands contribution to tourism and recreation in Argyll and Bute in expanded resource	Increased community involvement
	3	To promote sustainable tourism and recreation in relation to the forestry sector	Climate change priorities generally have a neutral impact in terms of promoting tourism	Expanded resource available for tourism and recreation. But potential conflicts with productive elements	Aims to further develop forest and woodlands contribution to tourism and recreation in Argyll and Bute in expanded resource	Increased community involvement
	4	To promote the role of woodland and forestry in contributing to health, quality of life and wellbeing	Increased employment from related activities and prevention of flooding/landslip	Increased employment and recreation opportunities within expanded resource	Support for local businesses and increased employment opportunities can improve wellbeing	Increased community involvement in the woodland environment can be of benefit to health
	5	To encourage sustainable timber transport	Neutral impact	Positive role of Timber Transport Group	Potential to reduce the need to export	Neutral Impact
	6	To maximise the contribution of the forestry sector to the viability of rural communities	Positive impact related to employment	Improves economic contribution to help sustain rural communities	Support for local employment, increase in forest related activity, improved skills	increased community involvement in particular in relation to social enterprises which have a positive impact on viability of rural communities
	Air	7	To minimise the air quality impacts of timber transport	Neutral impact	Positive impacts related to the timber transport group	Potential to reduce export requirements
8		To maximise the role of woodlands and forestry in contributing to air quality	Neutral impact	Positive impacts related to increase in afforestation and timber transport group actions	Net increase in woodland will have positive impact	Neutral Impact
Climate	9	To increase the potential of the forestry sector in contributing to Scotland's renewable energy resources	positive impacts in terms of biomass but other priorities neutral	Potential to contribute locally to biomass	Potential to increase resource available for biomass industry	Possible through community involvement in social enterprises linked to biomass sector
	10	To further increase the role of woodland and forestry in achieving carbon sequestration	Positive impacts in terms of carbon sequestration but some priorities neutral	Net increase will be positive for carbon sequestration	Net increase will contribute to carbon sequestration	Neutral Impact
	11	To promote woodland and forestry planning and management that takes account of the need to adapt to climate change	Positive impacts related to increase in planting, biomass, management, flooding and slope stabilisation.	Net increase liable to have positive impact	Improved skills and increased cover will be positive benefit in terms of climate change adaptation	Neutral Impact
Water and soil	12	To promote forestry and woodland planning and management that contributes positively to sustainable soil management	Support for slope stabilisation. Other priorities neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Mainly neutral impact although improved skills in workforce will have positive impact.	Neutral Impact
	13	To promote forestry and woodland management which contributes positively to the sustainable management of the water environment and achievement of the River Basin Management Plan objectives	Support re flooding. Other priorities neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Mainly neutral impact although improved skills in workforce and farm woodland planting can have positive impact.	Neutral Impact
Material assets	14	To promote the integration and co-ordination of forestry and woodland with other land uses.	Integration with renewable energy and building industry	Co-ordination and integration with building industry, transport and access	Integration with building industry, agriculture, tourism.	Integration with community needs and requirements e.g. forest crofts
Energy, minerals, waste, land use, forestry, agriculture, tourism	15	To promote the delivery of renewable energy in accord with the Development Plan	Supports development plan but increased planting may have impact on windfarms. Other factors neutral impact	Net increase in cover may be positive in terms of wood supply but potential negative effect related to wind farms	Increase in supply of wood but potential negative effects related to wind renewables	Neutral Impact
Cultural heritage	16	To protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment, including archaeological remains.	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact
	17	To increase awareness and understanding of cultural heritage related to woodlands	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact
Landscape/townscape and amenity	18	To increase the contribution of forests and trees to scenic values, including distinctiveness and diversity of the landscape.	Some uncertainties as to impact. Additional planting may enhance or detract from landscape.	Potential benefits of additional afforestation in landscape and use of local timber for building. Potential negative effects if landscape is not taken into account appropriately	Potential benefits of additional afforestation in landscape and use of local timber for building. Potential negative effects if landscape is not taken into account appropriately	Neutral Impact

SEA topic	SEA Objective					Evaluation (++)/+/0/-/---)						
	Ref	Objective	E : Access and Health	F : Environmental Quality	G : Biodiversity	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Biodiversity, flora and fauna	1	To help implement the objectives of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy (see SEA objectives a to e below)	Increased access and use has potential to harm biodiversity but also has potential to increase awareness and understanding of the resource	Priorities relating to soil, water and landscape will have a positive impact on biodiversity	Management and restoration of semi natural woodland, control of INNS, ensure expansion of forest contributes to biodiversity, safeguard important sites	0	+/-	+/-	0	+/-	++	++
	1a	To halt the loss of biodiversity and continue to reverse previous losses through targeted action for species and habitats	Inappropriately managed access would damage biodiversity	Priorities relating to soil, water and landscape will have a positive impact on biodiversity	Management and restoration of semi natural woodland, control of INNS, ensure expansion of forest contributes to biodiversity, safeguard important sites	0	+/-	+/-	0	-	++	++
	1b	To increase awareness, understanding and enjoyment of biodiversity and engage many more people in conservation and enhancement.	Increased access has the potential to increase awareness of the biodiversity resource	Priorities relating to soil, water and landscape raise awareness related to biodiversity	actions related to biodiversity will raise awareness and understanding of this matter	0	0	+/-	++	+	++	++
	1c	To restore and enhance biodiversity in all our urban and rural environments through better planning, design and practice.	Neutral impact	Supporting the conserving/enhancing of soils, water and landscape in line with best practice will have positive outcomes	Management and restoration of semi natural woodland, control of INNS, ensure expansion of forest contributes to biodiversity, safeguard important sites	0	0	0	0	0	++	++
	1d	To develop an effective management framework that ensures that biodiversity is taken into account in all decision-making	Neutral impact	Benefits to biodiversity from support for actions relating to soil and water	Priorities provide framework within which biodiversity is taken into account in decision making	0	0	0	0	0	+	++
	1e	To ensure that the best new and existing knowledge on biodiversity is available to all policy makers and practitioners.	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Priorities provide framework within which biodiversity is taken into account in decision making.	0	0	0	0	0	0	++
Population and human health	2	To increase the opportunities for access to and enjoyment of forests and woodlands by all sectors of society	Aim is to support development of woodland and forestry resource to meet this objective	Manging forests to enhance landscape and cultural heritage will have a positive impact on peoples enjoyment of the resource	Restoration of woods, removal of INNS should all increase enjoyment of resource	0	+/-	++	++	++	++	++
	3	To promote sustainable tourism and recreation in relation to the forestry sector	Aim is to support development of woodland and forestry resource to meet this objective	Improvements to landscape and cultural heritage will be supportive of tourism objective	Restoration of woods, removal of INNS should improve opportunities for tourism and recreation	0	+/-	++	++	++	+	++
	4	To promote the role of woodland and forestry in contributing to health, quality of life and wellbeing	Aim is to support development of woodland and forestry resource to meet this objective	Improved environment and ecological status of water will have positive impact	Potential for increased access to newly restored woodlands	+	+	++	++	++	+	+
	5	To encourage sustainable timber transport	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	0	++	+	0	0	0	0
	6	To maximise the contribution of the forestry sector to the viability of rural communities	Enhanced access and recreation should support employment in area. Significant proportion of employment in Argyll and Bute is related to the tourism sector	Enhancement of landscape and cultural heritage will have positive impact on tourism and recreation - a key element in the viability of rural communities	Employment generated through restoration and INNS control programmes and any increases in tourism/recreation.	+	++	++	++	++	+	+
	Air	7	To minimise the air quality impacts of timber transport	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	0	++	+	0	0	0
8		To maximise the role of woodlands and forestry in contributing to air quality	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	0	+	+	0	0	0	0
Climate	9	To increase the potential of the forestry sector in contributing to Scotland's renewable energy resources	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	++	+	+	+	0	0	0
	10	To further increase the role of woodland and forestry in achieving carbon sequestration	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	++	+	++	0	0	0	0
	11	To promote woodland and forestry planning and management that takes account of the need to adapt to climate change	Neutral impact	Forestry management related to soil, water and landscape - positive in terms of adaption to climate change	Neutral Impact	++	+	+	0	0	+	0
Water and soil	12	To promote forestry and woodland planning and management that contributes positively to sustainable soil management	Neutral impact	Priority aims to conserve and enhance soil.	Soil management is integral to restoration of semi natural woodland. Removal of INNS - unknown impact on soil management	0	0	0	0	0	++	?
	13	To promote forestry and woodland management which contributes positively to the sustainable management of the water environment and achievement of the River Basin Management Plan objectives	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Woodland expansion that takes account of biodiversity issues should enhance/maintain good ecological status of water	0	0	0	0	0	0	+
Material assets	14	To promote the integration and coordination of forestry and woodland with other land uses.	Integration with tourism, recreation and social sectors	Integration with River Basin Management Plan process, cultural heritage and landscape aims	Integrates with biodiversity, safeguarding of species and habitats	++	+	++	++	++	+	+
Energy, minerals, waste, land use, forestry, agriculture, tourism	15	To promote the delivery of renewable energy in accord with the Development Plan	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	0	+/-	+/-	0	0	0	0
Cultural heritage	16	To protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment, including archaeological remains.	Improved/increased access may put archaeological resource at risk but may also encourage enhancement of historic environment as part of overall woodland experience	Aim of one of the priorities is to manage forests and woodland to conserve and enhance cultural heritage	Restoration of semi natural woodland could impact on archaeological remains. Lack of care in INNS control could lead to damage of cultural heritage. Removal of INNS could help safeguard cultural heritage	0	0	0	0	+/-	++	+/-
	17	To increase awareness and understanding of cultural heritage related to woodlands	Improved/increased access may put archaeological resource at risk but may also encourage increased awareness of historic environment e.g. Bonawe Iron works	Aim of one of the priorities is to manage forests and woodland to conserve and enhance cultural heritage	Neutral Impact	0	0	0	0	+/-	++	0
Landscape/townscape and amenity	18	To increase the contribution of forests and trees to scenic values, including distinctiveness and diversity of the landscape.	Neutral impact	Aim of one of the priorities is to manage forests and woodland to conserve and enhance landscape	Restoration of semi natural woodland and control of INNS should have positive impacts in terms of the landscape	+/-	+/-	+/-	0	0	++	++

SEA topic	SEA Objective		A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	B6
Biodiversity, flora and fauna	1	To help implement the objectives of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy (see SEA objectives a to e below)	Increasing woodland cover is liable to have positive benefits for biodiversity. Inappropriate expansion could impact on biodiversity	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	manage forests to help with adaptation to climate change should limit impacts on biodiversity but outcome is uncertain	Neutral Impact	Increasing woodland cover is liable to have positive benefits for biodiversity. Inappropriate expansion could impact on biodiversity
	1a	To halt the loss of biodiversity and continue to reverse previous losses through targeted action for species and habitats	Potential positive effect through increased woodland cover stemming loss of biodiversity. Potential negative impact with inappropriate expansion affecting existing biodiversity and leading to further loss.	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	manage forests to help with adaptation to climate change should limit impacts on biodiversity but outcome is uncertain	Neutral impact	Potential positive effect through increased woodland cover stemming loss of biodiversity. Potential negative impact with inappropriate expansion affecting existing biodiversity and leading to further loss.
	1b	To increase awareness, understanding and enjoyment of biodiversity and engage many more people in conservation and enhancement.	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact
	1c	To restore and enhance biodiversity in all our urban and rural environments through better planning, design and practice.	Potential positive effect through increased woodland cover stemming loss of biodiversity. Potential negative impact with inappropriate expansion affecting existing biodiversity and leading to further loss.	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	manage forests to help with adaptation to climate change should limit impacts on biodiversity but outcome is uncertain	Neutral impact	Potential positive effect through increased woodland cover stemming loss of biodiversity. Potential negative impact with inappropriate expansion affecting existing biodiversity and leading to further loss.
	1d	To develop an effective management framework that ensures that biodiversity is taken into account in all decision-making	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	manage forests to help with adaptation to climate change should limit impacts on biodiversity but outcome is uncertain	Neutral impact	Neutral impact
	1e	To ensure that the best new and existing knowledge on biodiversity is available to all policy makers and practitioners.	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact
Population and human health	2	To increase the opportunities for access to and enjoyment of forests and woodlands by all sectors of society	Net expansion of woodland should result in additional opportunities for access to woodland.	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Net expansion of woodland should result in additional opportunities for access to woodland.
	3	To promote sustainable tourism and recreation in relation to the forestry sector	Net expansion of woodland should result in additional opportunities related to tourism and recreation	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Net expansion of woodland should result in additional opportunities related to tourism and recreation
	4	To promote the role of woodland and forestry in contributing to health, quality of life and wellbeing	Potential for increased related employment opportunities	Increased local availability of low carbon fuel source could contribute positively to quality of life	support for local businesses/employment can have a positive impact on wellbeing	Neutral impact	Assisting with climate change adaptation can support quality of life (assisting in reducing flooding/land slip)	Potential for increased related employment opportunities
	5	To encourage sustainable timber transport	Neutral impact	Encouraging local use of timber may reduce levels of timber transport	Potential to reduce the need for export/import	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact
	6	To maximise the contribution of the forestry sector to the viability of rural communities	Positive impact from associated increase in forest related activity	Local biomass development will help support viability of rural communities	Support for local industry/employment	Adapting to climate change will support a continued forest resource	Assisting with climate change adaptation can support quality of life (assisting in reducing flooding/land slip)	Positive impact from associated increase in forest related activity
	Air	7	To minimise the air quality impacts of timber transport	Neutral impact	Encouraging local use of timber may reduce levels of timber transport	Potential to reduce the need for export/import	Neutral impact	Neutral impact
8		To maximise the role of woodlands and forestry in contributing to air quality	Net increase will have positive impact	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Net increase will have positive impact
Climate	9	To increase the potential of the forestry sector in contributing to Scotland's renewable energy resources	Net increase may increase resource available for renewables	Support for local biomass	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Net increase may increase resource available for renewables
	10	To further increase the role of woodland and forestry in achieving carbon sequestration	Net increase will contribute positively to achieving carbon sequestration	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Net increase will contribute positively to achieving carbon sequestration
	11	To promote woodland and forestry planning and management that takes account of the need to adapt to climate change	Net increase will have positive impacts in assisting with adaptation to climate change	Promoting change to sustainable fuel type through support for local biomass	Neutral Impact	Aim of this priority	Supporting the role forestry can play	Net increase will have positive impacts in assisting with adaptation to climate change
Water and soil	12	To promote forestry and woodland planning and management that contributes positively to sustainable soil management	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Support for role re slope stabilisation	Neutral impact
	13	To promote forestry and woodland management which contributes positively to the sustainable management of the water environment and achievement of the River Basin Management Plan objectives	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Support for role re flooding	Neutral impact
Material assets	14	To promote the integration and co-ordination of forestry and woodland with other land uses.	Neutral impact	Integrates forestry with energy industry	Integration with the building industry	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact
	15	To promote the delivery of renewable energy in accord with the Development Plan	Net increase may have positive impact related to increase in supply but could impact on capacity for wind farms. The difference between the benefits of carbon sequestration and additional biomass resource versus the loss of wind energy are unknown.	Supports Development Plan objective	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Net increase may have positive impact related to increase in supply but could impact on capacity for wind farms. The difference between the benefits of carbon sequestration and additional biomass resource versus the loss of wind energy are unknown.
Cultural heritage	16	To protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment, including archaeological remains.	Potential positive effect of additional woodland to recreate original setting of historic environment. Potential negative effect if archaeological remains are damaged.	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Net increase may have no effect or improve setting. May impact on historic environment and damage historic resource.
	17							
		To increase awareness and understanding of cultural heritage related to woodlands	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact
Landscape/townscape and amenity	18	To increase the contribution of forests and trees to scenic values, including distinctiveness and diversity of the landscape.	Potential positive effect of additional forest cover in landscape. Potential negative impact with inappropriate expansion impacting on landscape.	Neutral impact	Use of local timber better reflects surrounding environment	Scenery liable to change due to adaptation to climate change. Woodland can still be a positive element within this if managed appropriately - outcome uncertain	Using forestry to tackle issues related to flooding and slope stabilisation has implications for landscape which are unknown	Potential positive effect of additional forest cover in landscape. Potential negative impact with inappropriate expansion impacting on landscape.

SEA topic	SEA Objective		B7	B8	C9	C10	Assessment commentary		
							C11	C12	
Biodiversity, flora and fauna	1	To help implement the objectives of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy (see SEA objectives a to e below)	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact		Increasing woodland cover is liable to have positive benefits for biodiversity. Inappropriate expansion could impact on biodiversity	Neutral impact	Improving skills of forestry workforce should enhance skills and understanding in relation to biodiversity issues
	1a	To halt the loss of biodiversity and continue to reverse previous losses through targeted action for species and habitats	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact		Potential positive effect through increased woodland cover stemming loss of biodiversity. Potential negative impact with inappropriate expansion affecting existing biodiversity and leading to further loss.	Neutral impact	Neutral impact
	1b	To increase awareness, understanding and enjoyment of biodiversity and engage many more people in conservation and enhancement.	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact		Neutral impact	Potential positive impact from increased use of woodland for recreation and tourism. Potential negative impact from increased number pressures on resource	Skilled workforce will have more awareness of biodiversity issues
	1c	To restore and enhance biodiversity in all our urban and rural environments through better planning, design and practice.	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact		Potential positive effect through increased woodland cover stemming loss of biodiversity. Potential negative impact with inappropriate expansion affecting existing biodiversity and leading to further loss.	Neutral impact	Skilled workforce will have more awareness of biodiversity issues
	1d	To develop an effective management framework that ensures that biodiversity is taken into account in all decision-making	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact		Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Skilled workforce will have more awareness of biodiversity issues
	1e	To ensure that the best new and existing knowledge on biodiversity is available to all policy makers and practitioners.	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact		Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Skilled workforce will have more awareness of biodiversity issues
Population and human health	2	To increase the opportunities for access to and enjoyment of forests and woodlands by all sectors of society	Neutral Impact	Potential for access to forests via timber transport routes. Potential for timber transport to inhibit pedestrian access	Neutral Impact		Net expansion of woodland should result in additional opportunities for access to woodland.	Aim is to further develop forest and woodlands' contribution to tourism and recreation in Argyll and Bute	Neutral impact
	3	To promote sustainable tourism and recreation in relation to the forestry sector	Neutral Impact	Potential for access to forests via timber transport routes. Potential for timber transport to inhibit pedestrian access	Neutral Impact		Net expansion of woodland should result in additional opportunities related to tourism and recreation	Aim is to further develop forest and woodlands' contribution to tourism and recreation in Argyll and Bute	Neutral impact
	4	To promote the role of woodland and forestry in contributing to health, quality of life and wellbeing	support for local businesses/employment can have a positive impact on wellbeing	Timber Transport Routes can remove timber traffic from public roads and avoid settlements.	support for local businesses/employment can have a positive impact on wellbeing	Potential for increased related employment opportunities		Aim is to further develop forest and woodlands' contribution to tourism and recreation in Argyll and Bute	Improving skills will lead to enhanced employment opportunities - improving quality of life
	5	To encourage sustainable timber transport	Potential to reduce the need for export/import	Timber Transport Group seeks to encourage more sustainable timber transport	Potential to reduce the need for export/import		Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact
	6	To maximise the contribution of the forestry sector to the viability of rural communities	Support for local industry/employment	Through management of a potentially negative impact	Support for local industry/employment		Positive impact from associated increase in forest related activity	Additional tourism and recreation will help support economy of Argyll and Bute which is heavily reliant on tourism sector	Improving skills will lead to enhanced employment opportunities - improving quality of life
	Air	7	To minimise the air quality impacts of timber transport	Potential to reduce the need for export/import	Timber Transport Group seeks to encourage more sustainable timber transport	Potential to reduce the need for export/import		Neutral impact	Neutral impact
8		To maximise the role of woodlands and forestry in contributing to air quality	Neutral Impact	Timber Transport Group seeks to encourage more sustainable timber transport	Neutral Impact		Net increase will have positive impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact
Climate	9	To increase the potential of the forestry sector in contributing to Scotland's renewable energy resources	Potential to contribute locally produced wood to biomass industry	Improved transportation will benefit this sector	Potential to contribute locally produced wood to biomass industry		Net increase may increase resource available for renewables	Neutral impact	Improving skills in relation to biomass will improve the potential of this sector
	10	To further increase the role of woodland and forestry in achieving carbon sequestration	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact		Net increase will contribute positively to achieving carbon sequestration	Neutral impact	Neutral impact
	11	To promote woodland and forestry planning and management that takes account of the need to adapt to climate change	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact		Net increase will have positive impacts in assisting with adaptation to climate change	Neutral impact	Improving skills means creating a workforce that understand these issues. Positive benefit
Water and soil	12	To promote forestry and woodland planning and management that contributes positively to sustainable soil management	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact		Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Improving skills means creating a workforce that understand these issues. Positive benefit
	13	To promote forestry and woodland management which contributes positively to the sustainable management of the water environment and achievement of the River Basin Management Plan objectives	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact		Appropriate farm woodland planting can help improve ecological status of water	Neutral impact	Improving skills means creating a workforce that understand these issues. Positive benefit
Material assets	14	To promote the integration and co-ordination of forestry and woodland with other land uses.	Integration with the building industry	Co-ordination of forestry transport with other land uses. Integration with access.	Integration with the building and other industries		Promotes integration with agricultural use	Positive impact integrating forestry and woodland activity with another main sector of economy (tourism) in Argyll and Bute	Improving skills means creating a workforce that understand these issues. Positive benefit
	15	To promote the delivery of renewable energy in accord with the Development Plan	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact		Increase may have positive impact related to increase in supply but could impact on capacity for wind farms. The difference between the benefits of carbon sequestration and additional biomass resource versus the loss of wind energy are unknown.	Neutral impact	Delivery of biomass - assisted by improved skills in this area
Cultural heritage	16	To protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment, including archaeological remains.	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact		Neutral impact	Positive impact related to potential to enhance archaeological remains related to woodlands with tourism orientation e.g. Bonawe Iron Works	Improving skills of forestry workers can assist in protecting archaeological remains by improving identification and safeguarding of important finds within forests.
	17	To increase awareness and understanding of cultural heritage related to woodlands	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact		Neutral impact	Positive impact related to archaeological remains related to woodlands with tourism orientation e.g. Bonawe Iron Works	Improving skills of forestry workers would include improving identification and safeguarding of important archaeological finds within forests.
Landscape/townscape and amenity	18	To increase the contribution of forests and trees to scenic values, including distinctiveness and diversity of the landscape.	Use of local timber better reflects surrounding environment	Neutral Impact	Use of local timber better reflects surrounding environment		Potential positive effect of additional forest cover in landscape. Potential negative impact with inappropriate expansion impacting on landscape.	Neutral impact	Improving skills of forestry workers in terms of landscape would lead to improved consideration of impact that forestry can have on the landscape.

SEA topic	SEA Objective		D13	E14	E15	F16	F17	G18
Biodiversity, flora and fauna	1	To help implement the objectives of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy (see SEA objectives a to e below)	Neutral Impact	Increased access and recreation in woodlands has the potential to harm biodiversity but also has the potential to increase awareness and understanding of the resource	Increased use of woodlands has the potential to harm biodiversity but also has the potential to increase awareness and understanding of the resource	Conserving soil and water will have a positive impact on biodiversity	Conserving and enhancing the landscape through forestry/woodland activities may enhance biodiversity	Management and restoration of semi natural woodland will have a positive effect in terms of this objective
	1a	To halt the loss of biodiversity and continue to reverse previous losses through targeted action for species and habitats	Neutral Impact	Increased access and recreation within woodland environment which is inappropriately managed may place additional pressure on biodiversity resource	Increased use of woodlands has the potential to harm biodiversity	Conserving and enhancing soil and water resource will have a positive impact on biodiversity	Conserving and enhancing the landscape through forestry/woodland activities may assist with reversing the loss of biodiversity	restoration of semi natural woodland will have positive impact in terms of this objective
	1b	To increase awareness, understanding and enjoyment of biodiversity and engage many more people in conservation and enhancement.	Increasing community involvement in relation in particular to education within woodlands	Increased access and recreation within woodland environment may increase awareness and understanding of biodiversity resource	Increased use of the woodland environment may increase awareness and understanding of biodiversity resource	Conserving and enhancing soil and water resource will engage more people in this activity	Neutral impact	Restoration activities will engage more people in conservation
	1c	To restore and enhance biodiversity in all our urban and rural environments through better planning, design and practice.	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Conserving soils and water in line with best practice	Conserving and enhancing the landscape through forestry/woodland activities may assist with reversing the loss of biodiversity	Aim is to restore and enhance semi natural woodland
	1d	To develop an effective management framework that ensures that biodiversity is taken into account in all decision-making	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Conserving soils and water will take account of biodiversity	Neutral impact	Management of semi natural woodland
	1e	To ensure that the best new and existing knowledge on biodiversity is available to all policy makers and practitioners.	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Management of semi natural woodland - need to use best practice
Population and human health	2	To increase the opportunities for access to and enjoyment of forests and woodlands by all sectors of society	Increased community involvement	Develop role of woodlands and forests to contribute to this objective	Develops the role of woodlands and forests to contribute to this objective	Neutral Impact	Managing forests to enhance landscape and cultural heritage will have a positive impact on peoples enjoyment of forests	Restoration of semi natural woodland will increase opportunities available for people to access and enjoy this resource
	3	To promote sustainable tourism and recreation in relation to the forestry sector	Increased community involvement	Develop role of woodlands and forests to contribute to this objective	Develops the role of woodlands and forests to contribute to this objective	Neutral Impact	Potential for tourism and recreation will be enhanced by improvements to landscape and cultural heritage	Increased tourism and recreation related to the newly restored semi natural woodland
	4	To promote the role of woodland and forestry in contributing to health, quality of life and wellbeing	Increased community involvement in the woodland environment can be of benefit to health	Develop role of woodlands and forests to contribute to this objective	Develops the role of woodlands and forests to contribute specifically to this objective	Conserving and enhancing the ecological status of water could have positive health benefits	Improved environment will be a positive benefit to general quality of life	Increased access newly restored semi natural woodland can contribute to improved health and quality of life
	5	To encourage sustainable timber transport	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact
	6	To maximise the contribution of the forestry sector to the viability of rural communities	increased community involvement in particular in relation to social enterprises which have a positive impact on viability of rural communities	Enhanced access and recreation in woodlands should support tourism/recreation sector in Argyll and Bute, which is significant proportion of employment in rural areas.	Promoting the use of woodlands should support tourism/recreation sector in Argyll and Bute, which is significant proportion of employment in rural areas.	Neutral Impact	Enhancement of landscape and cultural heritage will have a positive impact on tourism and recreation - a key element in viability of rural communities in Argyll	Increased activity related to woodlands would assist with viability of rural communities
	Air	7	To minimise the air quality impacts of timber transport	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact
8		To maximise the role of woodlands and forestry in contributing to air quality	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact
Climate	9	To increase the potential of the forestry sector in contributing to Scotland's renewable energy resources	Possible through community involvement in social enterprises linked to biomass sector	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact
	10	To further increase the role of woodland and forestry in achieving carbon sequestration	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact
	11	To promote woodland and forestry planning and management that takes account of the need to adapt to climate change	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	Conserving and enhancing soil and water will assist with adaptation to climate change	Landscape will be affected by climate change. Management of forestry in terms of landscape will be positive in terms of this objective	Neutral Impact
Water and soil	12	To promote forestry and woodland planning and management that contributes positively to sustainable soil management	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	This priority aims to conserve and enhance soil	Neutral impact	Soil would be managed sustainably within a restored semi natural woodland
	13	To promote forestry and woodland management which contributes positively to the sustainable management of the water environment and achievement of the River Basin Management Plan objectives	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral impact	This priority aims to conserve and enhance the ecological status of water	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact
Material assets	14	To promote the integration and co-ordination of forestry and woodland with other land uses.	Integration with community needs and requirements e.g. forest crofts	Integration with tourism/recreation sectors	Integration with social and tourism sectors	Integrates with river basin management and soil use	Integration of forestry with cultural heritage and landscape	Integration with biodiversity objectives
	15	To promote the delivery of renewable energy in accord with the Development Plan	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral impact	Neutral Impact
Cultural heritage	16	To protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment, including archaeological remains.	Neutral Impact	Improved access may put archaeological resource at risk. Improved access may also encourage enhancement of historic environment to provide visitor attractions	Increased access may put archaeological resource at risk. But increased access may also encourage enhancement of historic environment as part of the overall woodland experience	Neutral Impact	Aim of priority is to manage forests to conserve and enhance cultural heritage	Restoration of semi natural woodland may impact on archaeological remains
	17	To increase awareness and understanding of cultural heritage related to woodlands	Neutral Impact	Improved access may put archaeological resource at risk. Improved access may also improve awareness of historic environment, in particular to such attractions as Bonawe Iron Works	Increased access may put archaeological resource at risk. Increased access may also improve awareness of historic environment, in particular to such attractions as Bonawe Iron Works	Neutral Impact	Aim of priority is to manage forests to conserve and enhance cultural heritage	Neutral Impact
Landscape/townscape and amenity	18	To increase the contribution of forests and trees to scenic values, including distinctiveness and diversity of the landscape.	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Aim of priority is to manage forests to conserve and enhance landscape	Appropriate restoration of semi natural woodland should enhance the landscape

SEA topic	SEA Objective				Evaluation										
		G19	G20	G21	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	B6	B7	B8	C9	C10	
Biodiversity, flora and fauna	1	To help implement the objectives of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy (see SEA objectives a to e below)	Positive impact	Positive impact	Generally supportive of this objective	+/-	0	0	?	0	+/-	0	0	0	+/-
	1a	To halt the loss of biodiversity and continue to reverse previous losses through targeted action for species and habitats	controlling Invasive Non Native Species (INNS) should help with the loss of biodiversity. Rhododendron Ponticum is a particular issue in Argyll and Bute, which reduces biodiversity	Ensure expansion of forest positively contributes to biodiversity	Ensure expansion safeguards important sites - prevents further loss of biodiversity	+/-	0	0	?	0	+/-	0	0	0	+/-
	1b	To increase awareness, understanding and enjoyment of biodiversity and engage many more people in conservation and enhancement.	Control of invasive species includes awareness raising of impact these have on biodiversity	ensure expansion of forest positively contributes to peoples understanding of biodiversity	Ensure expansion safeguards important sites - increases awareness of biodiversity	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1c	To restore and enhance biodiversity in all our urban and rural environments through better planning, design and practice.	Better planning and design related to control of INNS	Ensure expansion of forest positively contributes to biodiversity	Neutral Impact	+/-	0	0	?	0	+/-	0	0	0	+/-
	1d	To develop an effective management framework that ensures that biodiversity is taken into account in all decision-making	Control of INNS takes biodiversity into account	Biodiversity to be taken into account when considering expansion	biodiversity of protected sites is safeguarded from forestry expansion	0	0	0	?	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1e	To ensure that the best new and existing knowledge on biodiversity is available to all policy makers and practitioners.	Control of INNS takes biodiversity into account	Seeks to promote biodiversity	Neutral Impact	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Population and human health	2	To increase the opportunities for access to and enjoyment of forests and woodlands by all sectors of society	Control of INNS can help with access to woodlands. Significant Rhododendron growth can inhibit access	Increasing biodiversity and understanding of this should increase peoples enjoyment of the forest environment	Neutral Impact	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	+/-	0	+
	3	To promote sustainable tourism and recreation in relation to the forestry sector	Neutral Impact	Increasing biodiversity and understanding of this should help promote recreation in the forest environment	Neutral Impact	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	+/-	0	+
	4	To promote the role of woodland and forestry in contributing to health, quality of life and wellbeing	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+
	5	To encourage sustainable timber transport	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	++	+	0
	6	To maximise the contribution of the forestry sector to the viability of rural communities	Programmes for eradication of INNS may generate additional employment in rural locations	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	+	++	++	+	+	+	++	+	++	+
	Air	7	To minimise the air quality impacts of timber transport	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	++	+
8		To maximise the role of woodlands and forestry in contributing to air quality	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	+
Climate	9	To increase the potential of the forestry sector in contributing to Scotland's renewable energy resources	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	+	++	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+
	10	To further increase the role of woodland and forestry in achieving carbon sequestration	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	++	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	++
	11	To promote woodland and forestry planning and management that takes account of the need to adapt to climate change	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	+	++	0	++	++	+	0	0	0	+
Water and soil	12	To promote forestry and woodland planning and management that contributes positively to sustainable soil management	Unknown Impact	Woodland expansion that takes account of biodiversity should contribute positively to soil management	Neutral Impact	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0
	13	To promote forestry and woodland management which contributes positively to the sustainable management of the water environment and achievement of the River Basin Management Plan objectives	Neutral Impact	Woodland expansion that takes account of biodiversity should contribute positively to the ecological status of water	Neutral Impact	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	+
Material assets	14	To promote the integration and co-ordination of forestry and woodland with other land uses.	Integrates with improving biodiversity	Integrates with improving biodiversity	Co-ordinated with safeguarding of habitat and species	0	++	++	0	0	0	++	+	++	+
	15	To promote the delivery of renewable energy in accord with the Development Plan	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	?	++	0	0	0	?	0	0	0	?
Cultural heritage	16	To protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment, including archaeological remains.	Rhododendron overgrowth may damage archaeological remains. Its removal, if not tackled appropriately may likewise damage archaeological remains	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	+/-	0	0	0	0	+/-	0	0	0	+/-
	17	To increase awareness and understanding of cultural heritage related to woodlands	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	Neutral Impact	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Landscape/townscape and amenity	18	To increase the contribution of forests and trees to scenic values, including distinctiveness and diversity of the landscape.	Control of INNS should enhance the landscape by stopping degradation of woodlands in landscape.	Enhanced biodiversity of woodlands should be a positive contribution to the landscape	Neutral Impact	+/-	0	+	?	?	+/-	+	0	+	+/-

SEA topic	SEA Objective	n (++)/+/0/+/or-/-/--)																		
		C11	C12	D13	E14	E15	F16	F17	G18	G19	G20	G21	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	B6		
Biodiversity, flora and fauna	1	To help implement the objectives of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy (see SEA objectives a to e below)	0	+	0	+/-	+/-	++	+	++	++	++	+	SP20, SP21, Forestry Commission Guidance, LBAP, EIA process						SP20, SP21, Forestry Commission Guidance, LBAP, EIA process
	1a	To halt the loss of biodiversity and continue to reverse previous losses through targeted action for species and habitats	0	0	0	-	-	++	+	++	++	++	+	SP20, SP21, Forestry Commission Guidance, LBAP						SP20, SP21, Forestry Commission Guidance, LBAP
	1b	To increase awareness, understanding and enjoyment of biodiversity and engage many more people in conservation and enhancement.	+/-	+	++	+	+	++	0	++	++	++	+							
	1c	To restore and enhance biodiversity in all our urban and rural environments through better planning, design and practice.	0	+	0	0	0	++	+	++	++	++	0	SP20, SP21, Forestry Commission Guidance, LBAP						SP20, SP21, Forestry Commission Guidance, LBAP
	1d	To develop an effective management framework that ensures that biodiversity is taken into account in all decision-making	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	++	++	++	+							
	1e	To ensure that the best new and existing knowledge on biodiversity is available to all policy makers and practitioners.	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	+	0							
Population and human health	2	To increase the opportunities for access to and enjoyment of forests and woodlands by all sectors of society	++	0	++	++	++	0	++	++	+	+	0							
	3	To promote sustainable tourism and recreation in relation to the forestry sector	++	0	++	++	++	0	+	++	0	+	0							
	4	To promote the role of woodland and forestry in contributing to health, quality of life and wellbeing	++	+	++	++	++	+	+	+	0	0	0							
	5	To encourage sustainable timber transport	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0							
	6	To maximise the contribution of the forestry sector to the viability of rural communities	++	+	++	++	+	0	+	+	+	0	0							
	Air	7	To minimise the air quality impacts of timber transport	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						
8		To maximise the role of woodlands and forestry in contributing to air quality	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0							
Climate	9	To increase the potential of the forestry sector in contributing to Scotland's renewable energy resources	0	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0							
	10	To further increase the role of woodland and forestry in achieving carbon sequestration	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0							
	11	To promote woodland and forestry planning and management that takes account of the need to adapt to climate change	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0							
Water and soil	12	To promote forestry and woodland planning and management that contributes positively to sustainable soil management	0	+	0	0	0	++	0	+	?	+	0							
	13	To promote forestry and woodland management which contributes positively to the sustainable management of the water environment and achievement of the River Basin Management Plan objectives	0	+	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	+	0							
Material assets	14	To promote the integration and co-ordination of forestry and woodland with other land uses.	++	+	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+							
	15	To promote the delivery of renewable energy in accord with the Development Plan	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0							
Cultural heritage	16	To protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment, including archaeological remains.	+	+	0	+/-	+/-	0	++	-	+/-	0	0	SP17, Forestry Commission Guidance						SP17, Forestry Commission Guidance
	17	To increase awareness and understanding of cultural heritage related to woodlands	++	+	0	+/-	+/-	0	++	0	0	0	0							
Landscape/townscape and amenity	18	To increase the contribution of forests and trees to scenic values, including distinctiveness and diversity of the landscape.	0	+	0	0	0	0	++	++	+	+	0	SP17, Forestry Commission Guidance						SP17, Forestry Commission Guidance

SEA topic	SEA Objective		
			G21
Biodiversity, flora and fauna	1	To help implement the objectives of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy (see SEA objectives a to e below)	
	1a	To halt the loss of biodiversity and continue to reverse previous losses through targeted action for species and habitats	
	1b	To increase awareness, understanding and enjoyment of biodiversity and engage many more people in conservation and enhancement.	
	1c	To restore and enhance biodiversity in all our urban and rural environments through better planning, design and practice.	
	1d	To develop an effective management framework that ensures that biodiversity is taken into account in all decision-making	
	1e	To ensure that the best new and existing knowledge on biodiversity is available to all policy makers and practitioners.	
Population and human health	2	To increase the opportunities for access to and enjoyment of forests and woodlands by all sectors of society	
	3	To promote sustainable tourism and recreation in relation to the forestry sector	
	4	To promote the role of woodland and forestry in contributing to health, quality of life and wellbeing	
	5	To encourage sustainable timber transport	
	6	To maximise the contribution of the forestry sector to the viability of rural communities	
	Air	7	To minimise the air quality impacts of timber transport
8		To maximise the role of woodlands and forestry in contributing to air quality	
Climate	9	To increase the potential of the forestry sector in contributing to Scotland's renewable energy resources	
	10	To further increase the role of woodland and forestry in achieving carbon sequestration	
	11	To promote woodland and forestry planning and management that takes account of the need to adapt to climate change	
Water and soil	12	To promote forestry and woodland planning and management that contributes positively to sustainable soil management	
	13	To promote forestry and woodland management which contributes positively to the sustainable management of the water environment and achievement of the River Basin Management Plan objectives	
Material assets Energy, minerals, waste, land use, forestry, agriculture, tourism	14	To promote the integration and co-ordination of forestry and woodland with other land uses.	
	15	To promote the delivery of renewable energy in accord with the Development Plan	
Cultural heritage	16	To protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment, including archaeological remains.	
	17		
		To increase awareness and understanding of cultural heritage related to woodlands	
Landscape/townscape and amenity	18	To increase the contribution of forests and trees to scenic values, including distinctiveness and diversity of the landscape.	

SEA topic	SEA Objective	APPENDIX B : Action Assessment												
		A3.1	A3.2	A4.1	A5.1	A5.2	B6.1	B6.2	B6.3	B6.4	B7.1	B7.2	B8.1	
Biodiversity, flora and fauna	1	To help implement the objectives of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy (see SEA objectives a to e below)	0	0	++	0	0	+	++	0	0	0	0	0
	1a	To halt the loss of biodiversity and continue to reverse previous losses through targeted action for species and habitats	0	0	++	0	0	++	++	+	+	0	0	0
	1b	To increase awareness, understanding and enjoyment of biodiversity and engage many more people in conservation and enhancement.	0	0	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0
	1c	To restore and enhance biodiversity in all our urban and rural environments through better planning, design and practice.	0	0	++	0	0	0	++	+	+	0	0	0
	1d	To develop an effective management framework that ensures that biodiversity is taken into account in all decision-making	0	0	++	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0
	1e	To ensure that the best new and existing knowledge on biodiversity is available to all policy makers and practitioners.	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Population and human health	2	To increase the opportunities for access to and enjoyment of forests and woodlands by all sectors of society	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	++	+	0	0	+
	3	To promote sustainable tourism and recreation in relation to the forestry sector	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	++	+	0	0	0
	4	To promote the role of woodland and forestry in contributing to health, quality of life and wellbeing	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	++	++	+	+	++
	5	To encourage sustainable timber transport	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	++
	6	To maximise the contribution of the forestry sector to the viability of rural communities	++	++	++	+	+	+	+	++	++	++	++	++
	Air	7	To minimise the air quality impacts of timber transport	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+
8		To maximise the role of woodlands and forestry in contributing to air quality	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	++
Climate	9	To increase the potential of the forestry sector in contributing to Scotland's renewable energy resources	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	++	0	+
	10	To further increase the role of woodland and forestry in achieving carbon sequestration	+	+	+	0	+	+	++	++	+	0	0	0
	11	To promote woodland and forestry planning and management that takes account of the need to adapt to climate change	0	0	++	++	++	0	0	+	0	0	0	0
Water and soil	12	To promote forestry and woodland planning and management that contributes positively to sustainable soil management	0	0	++	+	++	0	++	0	0	0	0	0
	13	To promote forestry and woodland management which contributes positively to the sustainable management of the water environment and achievement of the River Basin Management Plan objectives	0	0	++	++	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0
Material assets	14	To promote the integration and co-ordination of forestry and woodland with other land uses.	++	++	+	+	+	0	+	+	++	++	++	++
	15	To promote the delivery of renewable energy in accord with the Development Plan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	+	0	0
Cultural heritage	16	To protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment, including archaeological remains.	0	0	++	0	0	0	+/-	0	0	0	0	0
	17	To increase awareness and understanding of cultural heritage related to woodlands	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Landscape/townscape and amenity	18	To increase the contribution of forests and trees to scenic values, including distinctiveness and diversity of the landscape.	+	+	++	0	0	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	0	0	0

SEA topic	SEA Objective	APPENDIX B : Action Assessment													
		B8.2	B8.3	C9.1	C9.2	C9.3	C10.1	C10.2	C10.3	C11.1	C11.2	C12.1	D13.1		
Biodiversity, flora and fauna	1	To help implement the objectives of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy (see SEA objectives a to e below)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	+	0
	1a	To halt the loss of biodiversity and continue to reverse previous losses through targeted action for species and habitats	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	++	0	0	+	0	
	1b	To increase awareness, understanding and enjoyment of biodiversity and engage many more people in conservation and enhancement.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	+	++	+	
	1c	To restore and enhance biodiversity in all our urban and rural environments through better planning, design and practice.	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	++	0	0	+	0	
	1d	To develop an effective management framework that ensures that biodiversity is taken into account in all decision-making	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	
	1e	To ensure that the best new and existing knowledge on biodiversity is available to all policy makers and practitioners.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	
Population and human health	2	To increase the opportunities for access to and enjoyment of forests and woodlands by all sectors of society	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	++	++	0	++	
	3	To promote sustainable tourism and recreation in relation to the forestry sector	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	++	'++	0	+	
	4	To promote the role of woodland and forestry in contributing to health, quality of life and wellbeing	+	+	+	+	++	++	++	+	++	'++	++	++	
	5	To encourage sustainable timber transport	++	++	+	++	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	6	To maximise the contribution of the forestry sector to the viability of rural communities	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	+	++	'++	++	++	
	Air	7	To minimise the air quality impacts of timber transport	++	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0
8		To maximise the role of woodlands and forestry in contributing to air quality	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Climate	9	To increase the potential of the forestry sector in contributing to Scotland's renewable energy resources	+	++	++	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	
	10	To further increase the role of woodland and forestry in achieving carbon sequestration	0	0	0	0	+	++	++	++	0	0	+	0	
	11	To promote woodland and forestry planning and management that takes account of the need to adapt to climate change	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	
Water and soil	12	To promote forestry and woodland planning and management that contributes positively to sustainable soil management	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	
	13	To promote forestry and woodland management which contributes positively to the sustainable management of the water environment and achievement of the River Basin Management Plan objectives	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	
Material assets	14	To promote the integration and co-ordination of forestry and woodland with other land uses.	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	+	++	++	'++	+	++
Energy, minerals, waste, land use, forestry, agriculture, tourism	15	To promote the delivery of renewable energy in accord with the Development Plan	0	+	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Cultural heritage	16	To protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment, including archaeological remains.	0	0	0	0	0	+/-	0	+/-	++	'++	+	0	
	17	To increase awareness and understanding of cultural heritage related to woodlands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	'++	+	0	
Landscape/townscape and amenity	18	To increase the contribution of forests and trees to scenic values, including distinctiveness and diversity of the landscape.	0	0	0	0	+/-	+/-	0	+/-	+	+	+	0	

SEA topic	SEA Objective	APPENDIX B : Action Assessment												
		F16.1	F16.2	F16.3	F17.1	F17.2	F17.3	F17.4	G18.1	G19.1	G20.1	G20.2	G20.3	
Biodiversity, flora and fauna	1	To help implement the objectives of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy (see SEA objectives a to e below)	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	++	++	++	++	++
	1a	To halt the loss of biodiversity and continue to reverse previous losses through targeted action for species and habitats	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	++	++	++	++	++
	1b	To increase awareness, understanding and enjoyment of biodiversity and engage many more people in conservation and enhancement.	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	++	++	++	++	++
	1c	To restore and enhance biodiversity in all our urban and rural environments through better planning, design and practice.	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	++	++	++	++	++
	1d	To develop an effective management framework that ensures that biodiversity is taken into account in all decision-making	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+
	1e	To ensure that the best new and existing knowledge on biodiversity is available to all policy makers and practitioners.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+
Population and human health	2	To increase the opportunities for access to and enjoyment of forests and woodlands by all sectors of society	0	0	0	+	++	+	++	+	+	+	+	+
	3	To promote sustainable tourism and recreation in relation to the forestry sector	0	0	0	0	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+
	4	To promote the role of woodland and forestry in contributing to health, quality of life and wellbeing	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+
	5	To encourage sustainable timber transport	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	6	To maximise the contribution of the forestry sector to the viability of rural communities	0	0	+	+	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+
	Air	7	To minimise the air quality impacts of timber transport	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8		To maximise the role of woodlands and forestry in contributing to air quality	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Climate	9	To increase the potential of the forestry sector in contributing to Scotland's renewable energy resources	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	10	To further increase the role of woodland and forestry in achieving carbon sequestration	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	11	To promote woodland and forestry planning and management that takes account of the need to adapt to climate change	0	0	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Water and soil	12	To promote forestry and woodland planning and management that contributes positively to sustainable soil management	0	0	++	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0
	13	To promote forestry and woodland management which contributes positively to the sustainable management of the water environment and achievement of the River Basin Management Plan objectives	++	++	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0
Material assets	14	To promote the integration and co-ordination of forestry and woodland with other land uses.	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+
	15	To promote the delivery of renewable energy in accord with the Development Plan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cultural heritage	16	To protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment, including archaeological remains.	0	0	0	+	0	++	+	0	0	0	0	0
	17	To increase awareness and understanding of cultural heritage related to woodlands	0	0	0	0	0	+	++	0	0	0	0	0
Landscape/townscape and amenity	18	To increase the contribution of forests and trees to scenic values, including distinctiveness and diversity of the landscape.	0	0	0	++	+	0	0	++	+	+	++	++

SEA topic	SEA Objective	APPENDIX B : Action Assessment					
		G20.4	G21.1	G21.2	G21.3	G21.4	
Biodiversity, flora and fauna	1	To help implement the objectives of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy (see SEA objectives a to e below)	+	++	++	++	++
	1a	To halt the loss of biodiversity and continue to reverse previous losses through targeted action for species and habitats	0	++	++	++	++
	1b	To increase awareness, understanding and enjoyment of biodiversity and engage many more people in conservation and enhancement.	++	+	++	++	++
	1c	To restore and enhance biodiversity in all our urban and rural environments through better planning, design and practice.	+	+	++	+	++
	1d	To develop an effective management framework that ensures that biodiversity is taken into account in all decision-making	+	+	+	+	+
	1e	To ensure that the best new and existing knowledge on biodiversity is available to all policy makers and practitioners.	+	0	+	0	+
Population and human health	2	To increase the opportunities for access to and enjoyment of forests and woodlands by all sectors of society	+	+	+	+	+
	3	To promote sustainable tourism and recreation in relation to the forestry sector	+	+	+	+	+
	4	To promote the role of woodland and forestry in contributing to health, quality of life and wellbeing	0	0	+	+	+
	5	To encourage sustainable timber transport	0	0	0	0	0
	6	To maximise the contribution of the forestry sector to the viability of rural communities	+	+	+	+	+
	Air	7	To minimise the air quality impacts of timber transport	0	0	0	0
8		To maximise the role of woodlands and forestry in contributing to air quality	0	0	0	0	0
Climate	9	To increase the potential of the forestry sector in contributing to Scotland's renewable energy resources	0	0	0	0	0
	10	To further increase the role of woodland and forestry in achieving carbon sequestration	0	0	0	0	0
	11	To promote woodland and forestry planning and management that takes account of the need to adapt to climate change	0	0	0	0	+
Water and soil	12	To promote forestry and woodland planning and management that contributes positively to sustainable soil management	0	0	0	0	+
	13	To promote forestry and woodland management which contributes positively to the sustainable management of the water environment and achievement of the River Basin Management Plan objectives	0	0	0	0	+
Material assets Energy, minerals, waste, land use, forestry, agriculture, tourism	14	To promote the integration and co-ordination of forestry and woodland with other land uses.	0	+	+	+	+
	15	To promote the delivery of renewable energy in accord with the Development Plan	0	0	0	0	0
Cultural heritage	16	To protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment, including archaeological remains.	0	0	0	0	0
	17	To increase awareness and understanding of cultural heritage related to woodlands	0	0	0	0	0
Landscape/townscape and amenity	18	To increase the contribution of forests and trees to scenic values, including distinctiveness and diversity of the landscape.	+	++	+	0	+