

# Western Isles Native Woodland Restoration Survey Report

restoration & enhancement of native woodland resources >



SCOTTISH  
NATURAL  
HERITAGE





*Native woodland, Bowglass, Isle of Harris*

## Acknowledgements

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the Western  
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cover in  
prehistory...







## Summary

**Native Woodland in the Western Isles is a fragmented resource that requires management in order to preserve habitats for future biodiversity. From a survey of the resource undertaken in 2007, a number of key sites have been identified for their biological value and their feasibility in terms of restoration and enhancement. This document sets out a number of recommendations for the future management of these key sites.**

*Opposite: Leay fern  
Below: Sapling among bracken*



## Context

Remnant native woodland in the Western Isles is a subject that has drawn strong interest from ecologists, archaeologists and the general public alike, due to its well documented scarcity within recent history. This fascination is also fuelled by the knowledge that the Western Isles once had extensive woodland cover in pre history, between the last ice age and 3500 years B.P. (Before Present), evidenced by the discovery of tree macrofossils and arboreal pollen preserved within the islands peat.

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Western Isles  
context

## Background

The Western Isles Woodland Strategy was formally launched in January 2004 with the aim of encouraging the use of trees, shrubs and woodlands to enhance the environment and maximise a range of sustainable benefits to the Western Isles community. The strategy was drawn up by Comhairle nan Eilean Siar in conjunction with representatives of the Western Isles Local Biodiversity Partnership and the Forestry Commission Scotland. It identifies the survey of the existing native woodland resource as one of the priorities for action.

Complementing the Woodland Strategy is the Native Woodland Habitat Action Plan (HAP), launched in May 2004, which forms part of the Western Isles Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP). The HAP also identifies the survey of semi-natural woodland as one of its key objectives.

In 2007 Comhairle nan Eilean Siar undertook a survey of the native woodland resource. The purpose of the survey was to provide baseline

information for future actions and to identify key areas for protection and expansion. The recommendations contained in this document will support delivery of the Woodland Strategy and the Native Woodland HAP.



Lungwort (a lichen)



Aspen regeneration



## Methodology

The initial phase of the survey involved a map based exercise using historical records from the Botanical Society of the British Isles (BSBI) (sites listed at Appendix 1). Records held by Scottish Natural Heritage and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar were also researched as was topography and place names likely to indicate the presence of native woodland. From this extensive list, fifty sites were prioritised for more detailed survey (Appendix 2). The detailed survey work was based on the National Vegetation Classification (NVC) woodland identification key. NVC is a classification system developed in the 1980's to help enable ecologists and land managers to identify, analyse and map sites composed of several different habitat sites including woodland (Hall et al., 2001). All woodland sites classified by the NVC have a W or Woodland prefix. NVC woodland classifications present in the Western Isles include:

- W1 Grey Willow, Marsh Bedstraw**
- W4 Downy Birch, Purple Moor-grass**
- W9 Ash – Rowan, Dog's Mercury**
- W11 Sessile Oak-Downy Birch, Wood Sorrel**
- W17 Sessile Oak-Downy Birch, Greater Fork-moss**

In addition to sites listed in Appendices 1 and 2 further remnant woodland areas were recorded through implementation of the Scottish Forestry Grant Scheme (SFGS) operated between April 2004 and March 2008 (See Appendix 3). Where appropriate these remnants have been included within geographic areas to aid understanding of native woodland restoration activity through the SFGS Scheme building a picture of core areas of activity.

From the detailed survey results core areas of NBL frequency and value have been highlighted (Map 17) to raise awareness of their importance within the Western Isles context, and with a view to encouraging the appropriate land-managers to carry out restoration in these areas as a matter of priority. The key sites within these core areas are described in detail in the following sections. These areas can then be utilised for seed harvesting for production of seedlings from seed zone 103 (native to Western Isles).

## Native Woodland Development to Date

Native woodland restoration and development was limited in the Western Isles prior to the production of the Native Woodland Habitat Action Plan. Native woodland habitat has been a relatively unknown quantity, with the exception being the work of SNH and the BSBI, in particular by Stewart Angus (SNH). Native woodland sites identified and designated by SNH prior to the 2007 survey are as follows:

**Loch Orasay, Lewis – Grid Ref: NB 387 283, Designation: SSSI**

**Loch Laxavat, Lewis – Grid Ref: NB 251 376, Designation: SSSI**

**Allt Voligair, South Uist – Grid Ref: NF 799 293, Designation: SSSI**

**Loch Druidibeg, South Uist – Grid Ref: NF 782 378, Designation: NNR & SSSI**

These sites are not described in detail in this document as they are already subject to management prescribed by SNH.





# KEY SITES

The key sites have been grouped geographically based on the Western Isles island chain. The individual reports give background information on flora, soil type and archaeology, as well as the place name. Each report is also accompanied by a map to illustrate the site along with a brief recommendation as to the possibility of future management where no current management is in place.



Aspen stand, Tolsta, Isle of Lewis



## 1. Allt Gil Bhigurra

**Location:** Allt Gil Bhigurra, Isle of Lewis.

**Grid Ref:** NB 2693 0824

**Designations:** South Lewis, Harris & North Uist NSA.

**Archaeology:** Unknown.

**Tree Species:** Rowan, Downy birch, Holly, Aspen, Sallow Willow, Goat Willow.

**Flora:** Bell Heather, Common Polypody, Great Wood Rush, *Calluna Vulgaris*, Blackberry, Blaeberry, Hard Fern, Primrose, Oblong leaved Sundew, Wood Sorrel, Honeysuckle.

**Geology:** Lewisian Gneiss.

**Soils:** Peaty podzol, alluvial deposits, scree, brown earth, noncalcareous gleys, peaty gleys and peaty rankers.

**Topography:** North Easterly facing gully with steep gorge.

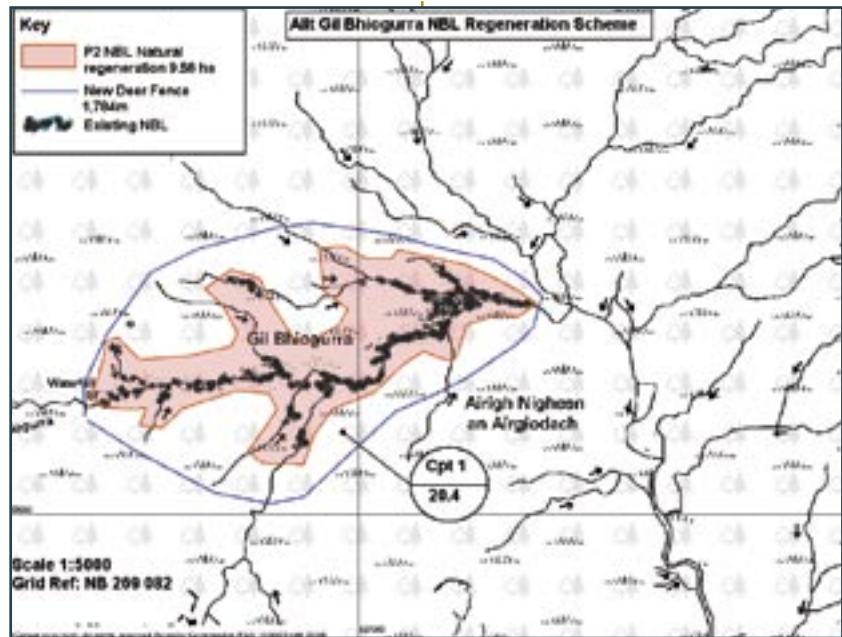
**Area:** 9.58 ha W17.

### General

In tandem with Mullach na Ron (see site report 2) approximately 8km north east from this site, Gil Bhigurra is an extremely important native woodland site under the W17 NVC classification due to the varied range of tree species present. The site is very remote and lacks any form of vehicle access at present, although there are several paths at the end of Loch Shealg 3700m north east of the site.

### Recommendations

Protect existing woodland remnants from grazing animals with the erection of a perimeter deer fence. Supplement species range with the addition of Sessile Oak and Hazel.



Map 1 Allt Gil Bhigurra



Native woodland at Allt Gil Bhigurra





## 2. Mullach nan Ron

**Location:** Mullach nan Ron, Isle of Lewis

**Grid Ref:** NB 354 100

**Designations:** None

**Archaeology:** None.

**Tree Species:** Rowan, Downy Birch, Holly, Aspen, Sallow Willow

**Flora:** Bell Heather, Common Polypody, Great Wood Rush, *Calluna Vulgaris*, Bracken, Blackberry, Blaeberry, Hard Fern, Primrose, Purple swamp brittlegill, A brittlegill, Witches'-Broom, Lungwort.

**Geology:** Lewisian Gneiss

**Soils:** Peaty podzol, scree, brown earth, noncalcareous gleys, peaty gleys, peaty rankers.

**Topography:** North facing coastal slope, deep riparian gully running south to north.

**Area:** 1.5 ha W17.

### General

Mullach nan Ron is one of a handful of sites in the Western Isles to comprise the flora necessary to be given a NVC classification. The site lies within the Pairc Deer Forest but has been left ungrazed by livestock for the past 20 years leading to natural regeneration of native woodland, especially Downy birch. There are Red Deer present in the area and fraying is evident throughout the woodland, therefore for regeneration to continue a deer fence would be required.

Survey results have shown the Pairc Deer Forest to be extremely valuable in terms of remnant native woodland. Therefore the area should receive some form of protection. This could take the form of either a grant or grants, for example through the Scottish Rural Development Programme (SRDP), Rural Development Contracts.

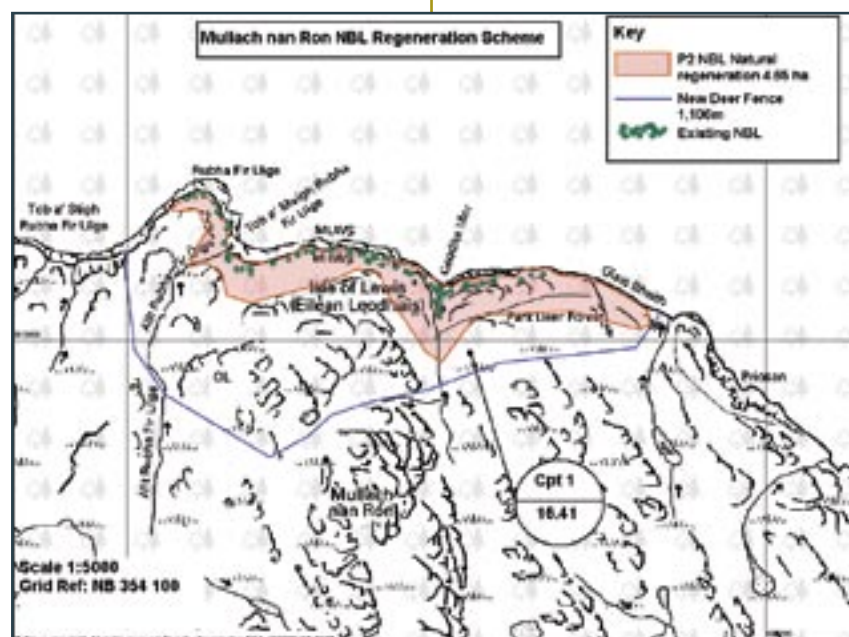
### Recommendations

Ring fence with heavy-duty deer fence as indicated in map 2 and allow to regenerate over a 15-25 year period.



Downy birch regeneration at Mullach nan Ron

Map 2







### 3. Cul Creag & Bruinagil

**Location:** Cul Creag & Bruinagil.

**Grid Ref:** NB 286 160, start NB 278 155, finish NB 278 157

**Designations:** None.

**Archaeology:** Settlements at Linne na H-atadh and Bruinagil and a field system at Allt Glas.

**Place name:** Cul Creag translates to back of the hill, rock or crag. Bruinagil can translate as Bruin – meaning kettle, cauldron or belly (making a rattling noise) and Gil translating as watercourse on a mountainside. Therefore the village name is likely to refer to the large pools in the burn churning in spate.

**Tree Species:** Rowan, Aspen, Hazel, Downy Birch, Grey Willow, Sallow Willow.

**Flora:** Bell Heather, Common Polypody, Great Wood Rush, *Calluna vulgaris*, Honeysuckle, Broad Buckler Fern, Hard Fern, Blackberry, Bracken, Blaeberry,

Old Mans Beard, Primrose, *Sphagnum auriculatum schimp. var inundatum*, Dog Violet, Devils-bit Scabious.

**Geology:** Lewisian Gneiss.

**Soils:** Peaty podzol, Brown earth, noncalcareous gleys, peaty gleys.

**Topography:** Cul Creag lies on a north facing slope 100m above sea level on a 50m cliff face. Bruinagil is a steep sided gully running from south to north, culminating at the disused village of

Bruinagil. Both schemes lie on the eastern tip of Loch Seaforth.

**Area:** Cul Creag currently covers 0.5ha of mixed NBL with a diverse age structure, from 80 yrs to 1 year old seedlings. Bruinagil lies along a long gorge approximately 300m long by 10m in width with NBL on both banks, totalling around 0.3ha. Again age structure is reasonably diverse with old mast trees of 80+ yrs and young 1st year seedlings.

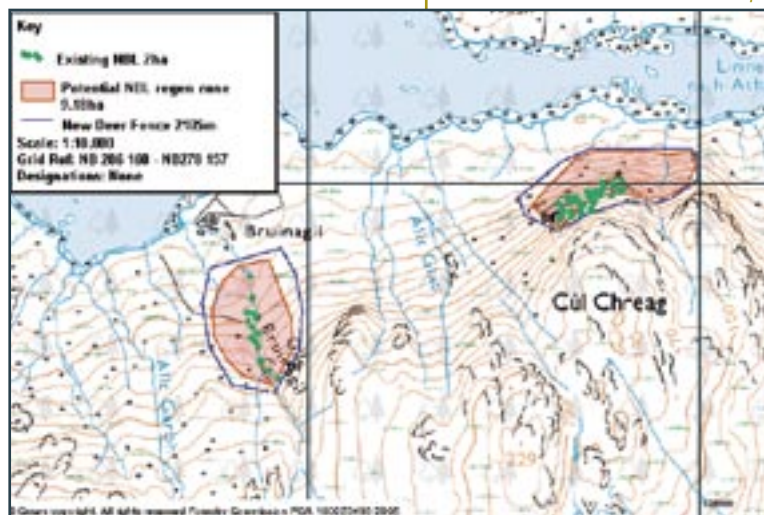
#### General

The Eisken Estate/ Pairc is a key area for future woodland restoration due to the comparative volume of undiluted genetic material available in a Western Isles context. Of these sites Cul Creag and Bruinagil represent a viable opportunity for a regeneration project due to their accessibility from the road.

#### Recommendations

The logistics of these two remnant woodlands make them ideal for protection and expansion. Although not shown on the OS map there is an access track from the Eisken road at Seaforth Head all the way to Bruinagil. Deer are present in the area so fencing would be necessary to ensure regeneration. Supplementary planting with Sessile Oak could benefit the species mosaic.

Map 3



## 4. Loch Claidh and Loch Brolluim

**Location:** Loch Claidh, Isle of Lewis.

**Grid Ref:** NB 259 062

NB 260 061

NB 265 052 Geodha Gorm

NB 276 029 Creag Ruadh

**Designations:** South Lewis, Harris & North Uist NSA.

**Archaeology:** Sheilings, possible settlement at Tob Smuaisibhig.

**Tree Species:** Rowan, Down Birch, Holly, Aspen, Sallow Willow, Hazel.

**Flora:** Bell Heather, Common Polypody, Great Wood Rush, Purple Moorgrass, Deer Grass, Heather, Bracken, Blackberry, Blaeberry, Hard Fern, Primrose, Lungwort.

**Geology:** Lewisian Gneiss.

**Soils:** Peaty podzol, Scree, brown earth, noncalcareous gleys, peaty gleys, peaty rankers.

**Topography:** South westerly coastal slope, deep riparian gully running west to east.

**Area:** 2ha W17.

### General

This area of Lewis is perhaps the most remote region of the Western Isles in terms of access via land and lies approximately 14km south west of the village of Orinsay, and 10km south west of Eisken Lodge. As a result of the site's geography it was one of the first areas to be impacted by the reduction in sheep grazing over the past 25yrs, making it an ideal candidate for natural woodland regeneration. The areas remote geography and steep topography have led to regeneration of W17/W11 woodland in small pockets at points 1 and 2 marked on Map 4. Mature Downy Birch of around 80-100 yrs in age form the source of seed for regeneration of the Downy

Birch, which typically remains viable up to 50m from the parent tree.

Continuing south along the eastern shore of Loch Claidh, two further pockets of NBL are present. These are Geodha Gorm and Creag Ruadh. The Gaelic word Gorm refers to the colour blue or green, or to a grassy plain; this could be accounted for by the presence of Aspen on site, which stands out clearly from long distances. The second site, Creag Ruadh, can refer to the colour red or the presence of Red Deer. The latter would seem more likely as the area has traditionally been associated with the hunting of Red Deer. Creag Ruadh is, along with Cul Creag & Bruinagil (site no 3), the most diverse native woodland site in Lewis and Harris. This is almost entirely down to the site's topography, which comprises a series of cliffs and crags with woodland colonising the small ledges (see photo below). Although this extreme topography has ensured the survival of this woodland, it also makes enhancement of the woodland logistically impossible. However, the woodland would be valuable as a seed stand for collection of material for reestablishment on other sites.

### Recommendations

As mentioned earlier the logistics of Loch Claidh make woodland projects extremely difficult, nonetheless the plots marked 1 and 2 on Map 4 would be suitable for ring-fencing for natural regeneration. Geodha Gorm and Creag Ruadh are certainly unsuitable for woodland development but should be registered as seed stands for collection and propagation of Downy Birch, Hazel and Aspen.



Mixed woodland in Loch Claidh





**Location:** Loch Brolluim, Isle of Lewis.

**Grid Ref:**

NB 310 030 Creag na Gaoith  
NB 307 035 Creag na Coillteach  
NB 308 045 Coire Buidhe

**Designations:** South Lewis, Harris & North Uist NSA.

**Archaeology:** Sheilings, Township at Ceann Chrionaig.

**Tree Species:** Rowan, Downy Birch, Holly, Aspen, Sallow Willow.

**Flora:** Bell Heather, Common Polypody, Great Wood Rush, Purple Moorgrass, Deer Grass, *Calluna Vulgaris*, Bracken, Blackberry, Blaeberry, Hard Fern, Primrose, Lungwort, Wild Angelica, Ivy, Dog Rose.

**Geology:** Lewisian Gneiss.

**Soils:** Peaty podzol, Scree, brown earth.

**Topography:** Easterly coastal slope, crags and gullies.

**Area:** 1-2ha W11

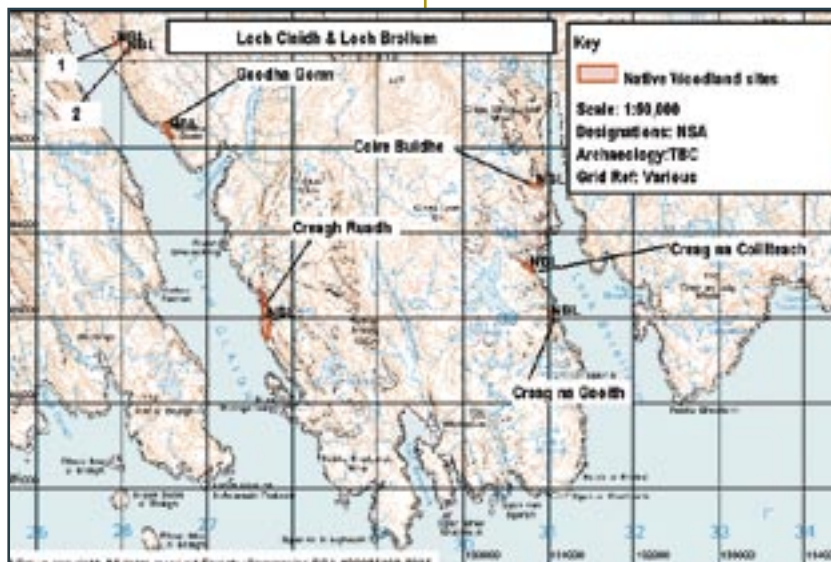
**General**

Loch Brolluim was the justification for a coastal survey in such a remote site due to its tree related place names. The Gaelic Coilltich and Coillteach (Afforest and Woodland) are common on the western shore of Loch Brolluim with place names such as Allt na Coilltich, Coillteach and Creag na Coillteach all within a 30ha area. This, in tandem with the steep coastal geography of the site, seemed to indicate on the map-based study that this site should support woodland of some description. Fortunately this proved to be justified with remnant W11/W17 Downy Birch woodland present on surprisingly accessible crags (right). As typical of remote sites in southeast Lewis, the woodland seems to have developed from seed from a lone chasmophytic tree, with mixed age regeneration between 5 and 25 years of age. However, the age of the younger seedlings is hard to pinpoint as grazing by red deer has taken place.

**Recommendations**

A small ring fence could have a huge impact on this site. Topography, soil type and wind direction are all suitable for a natural regeneration scheme.

Map 4



Downy birch above Loch Brolluim







*Hazel grove at Crobeag*





## 5. Cromore, Crobeag & Eilean Chalium Chillie

**Location:** Cromore, Crobeag & Eilean Chalium Chille, Isle of Lewis.

**Grid Ref:** NB 383 279

**Designations:** None.

**Archaeology:** Scheduled Ancient Monuments, and miscellaneous dykes and sheilings.

**Place name:**

“Cromore” - Large Cattle or Sheep fold.

“Crobeag” - Small Cattle or Sheep fold.

“Eilean Chalium Chille” - St Columbus Temple Island.

**Tree species:** Rowan, Aspen, Downy birch, Grey willow, Sallow willow, Hazel, Holly, Creeping willow.

**Flora:**

**Meall na Moine** - Yellow iris, Bramble, Silver weed, Soft rush, Bracken, White clover, *Calluna*, Bell heather, Creeping soft grass, Creeping buttercup, Primrose, Dog rose, Heath bedstraw, Honeysuckle, Wood sage, Lungwort, Bog myrtle, Hard fern, Marsh orchid, Great woodrush, Meadowsweet.

**Meall na Eoin** – Wood sorrel, Bracken, Common Polypody, Sorrel, English stonecrop, Wood sage, Broad buckler Fern, Honeysuckle, *Calluna*, Scaly male fern.

**Geology:** Lewisian Gneiss.

**Soils:** Moraines, Glacial Tills, Iron pans, Peaty podzol, Brown earth, noncalcareous gleys, peaty gleys.

**Topography:** Undulating terrain between two prominent hills (Meall na Moine and Meall na Eoin) resulting in freely drained slopes and a valley running East to West terminating at Crobeag (See Map 5).

**Area:** The total area of Crobeag and Eilean Chalium Chille is 149.14 ha with the individual areas measuring 56.23 and 92.91 ha respectively.

### General

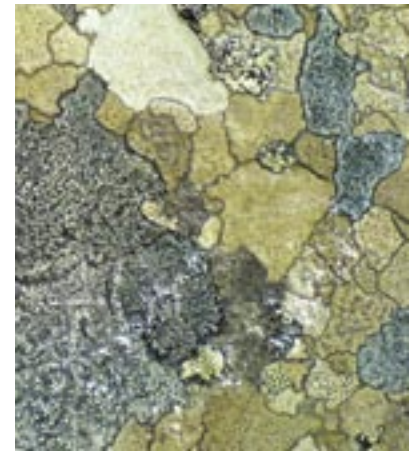
Flora on site gives a strong indication of the sites woodland future potential and past woodland cover. On map 5 there are three areas highlighted for regeneration, the first of these is Meall na Moine, covering 13.24ha. Meall na Moine based on the initial survey is best suited to the NVC W17 designation and contains the largest Hazel grove in the Western Isles.

The second area for regeneration is Meall na Eoin. The site's precursor vegetation is varied with open *Calluna* moorland and bracken on the scree slopes, and NVC W11 woodland cover. Thirdly comes the small coastal regeneration zone on Eilean Chalium Chillie. This site is the least suitable for regeneration due to the logistics of the site and the poorer soil quality and site topography.

### Recommendations

Map 5 highlights three key areas for regeneration and planting, totalling 19.75 ha of potential NBL. Meall na Moine and Meall na Eoin are highly desirable potential sites in terms of regeneration with supplementary planting with Common Alder and Sessile Oak. The site also benefits from being a low risk area in terms of deer damage so establishment costs would be lessened due to the use of stock fence as opposed to deer fencing.

Lichen



Map 5



Downy birch at Loch Shuardail



Sallow Willow



## 6. Loch Shuardail & Loch Leurbost

**Location:** Loch Shuardail, Loch Leurbost, Isle of Lewis.

**Grid Ref:** NB 37901 24045

**Designations:** None.

**Archaeology:** Scheduled Ancient Monuments, and miscellaneous dykes and sheilings.

**Place name:** "Coille Shuardail" Swordle Wood, forest or Grove.

**Tree Species:** Rowan, Aspen, Downy birch, Grey willow, Sallow willow, Hazel, creeping willow.

**Flora:** Bramble, Silver weed, Soft rush, Bracken, *Calluna*, Bell heather, Creeping soft grass, Primrose, Dog rose, Heath bedstraw, Honeysuckle, Bog myrtle, Hard fern, Great woodrush, Common Polypody, wood Sorrel, Dog violet, Velvet bent.

**Geology:** Lewisian Gneiss.

**Soils:** Moraines, Glacial Tills, Iron pans, Peaty podzol, Brown earth, noncalcareous gleys, peaty gleys.

**Topography:** Undulating terrain with coastal tidal lochs.

**Area:** Coille Shuardail as indicated on the 1st ed. Ordnance Survey Map of 1850-52 (Map 7) covers approximately 7.04ha.

### General

Historically this woodland is extremely important in providing the only catalogued link to woodland cover in the 19th century. The Woodland is mentioned in the New Statistical Account of Scotland (NSA) 1845, As

*"a stunted scraggy copsewood of birch of small extent, in a point of this parish called Swordle."*





It is also clearly indicated on the 1st ed. Ordnance Survey Map dated 1850-52 (Map 7) whose boundary has been superimposed on the present OS Map (Map 6).

Woodland remnants are not limited to this site alone with remnant copses of Aspen, Downy birch, Rowan and Sallow willow present from Loch Leurbost Head at Strath Glas and

at Croigarry to Swordle. This makes the southern shore of Loch Leurbost promising in terms of a large scale woodland restoration project similar in scale to the Loch Seaforth Project. (Site no. 10).

**Recommendations**

Research the feasibility of a large scale native woodland restoration project of around 200ha, along the southern shoreline of Loch Leurbost. The main concern for a project of this scale would be deer management, with fencing on a large scale being economically unattractive. Therefore deer control would have to be foremost in any long term restoration plans.

Map 6



Map 7





## 7. Loch Orasay

**Location:** Loch Orasay, Isle of Lewis.

**Grid Ref:** NB 383 279

**Designations:** Loch Orasay SSSI.

**Archaeology:** None Identified.

**Place name :** Orasaigh, Norse for 'Ebb Island', Raerinis (The village) can mean Nook, promontory or mound.

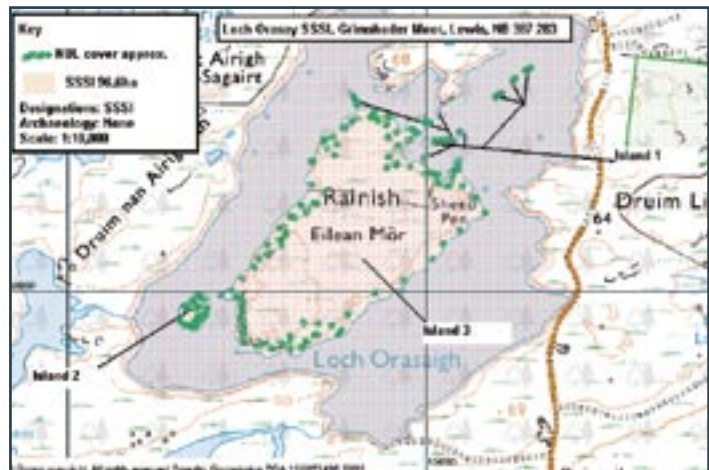
**Tree Species:** Rowan, Aspen, Downy birch, Grey willow, Sallow willow.

**Flora:** Bell Heather, Common Polypody, Great Wood Rush, *Calluna Vulgaris*, Honey suckle, Broad buckler fern, Hard Fern, Royal Fern, Blackberry, Bracken, Blaeberry, Lungwort, Old Mans Beard, Primrose.

**Geology:** Lewisian Gneiss.

**Soils:** Peaty podzol, Brown earth, noncalcareous gleys, peaty gleys.

**Topography:** Chain of islands all supporting woodland cover in particular the island to the south west of Rainish Eilean Mor. The smaller



Map 8

islands seem to be suffering from decreased area due to a rise in the water level of Loch Orasay

**Area:** Rainish Island (Map 8) is approximately 27ha in size with all the smaller islands covering around 1ha (Collectively titled island 1). The most important of these islands lies to the south west and is 0.59ha in size (Island 2).

### General

The whole of Loch Orasay has a blanket SSSI covering the islands and the oligotrophic loch (See Map 8). The habitat was first notified in 1974 under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. Following this it was given SSSI status in 1983 under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.



Island 2 woodland cover





As with so many woodland sites or suitable sites for woodland establishment in the Western Isles not all of the major recommended tree species are present to give an accurate NVC classification. Therefore NVC characterisation must be given through assessing optimal precursor vegetation and major/minor recommended tree species. Based on this format the Loch Orasay SSSI Island 1 varies in canopy cover levels and the trees relative states of health, with many dying back due to the rise in water levels. The first island in the chain at grid ref: NB 39281 28617 is suffering from the effects of increased water levels with Downy birch in particular suffering from anaerobic conditions. As the islands get closer to Rainish Eilean Mor their topography increases in altitude, giving rise to improved conditions for plant growth.

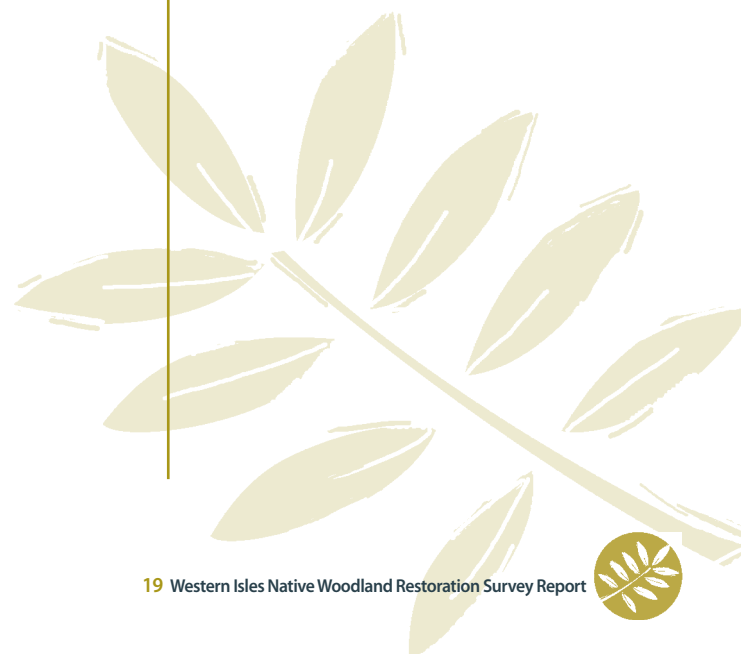
Woodland on Island 2 would be classified as W17.

No management is necessary on island 2 as the woodland structure is diverse in terms of age structure and species composition (opposite photo). However, the stand would be useful in regards to seed propagation of native species.

Island 3 is yet to be surveyed but from a brief circumnavigation appears to be host to prolific Rowan regeneration. There is also a stand of Aspen on a cliff face at NB 384 279, which is out of reach of grazing animals, which were traditionally over wintered on the Island.



*Ferns*



## 8. Loch Buaille Bhig

**Location:** Loch Buaille Bhig, Isle of Lewis.

**Grid Ref:** NB 423 293 – NB 419 293

**Designations:** None.

**Archaeology:** Sheilings, Dyke.

**Place Name:** 'Loch Buaille Bhig'  
Loch of the small sheep fold or black cattle fold.

**Tree Species:** Rowan, Grey willow, and Eared willow.

**Flora:** Lungwort, Old Man's Beard, Bracken, *Calluna*, Bramble, Dog Rose, Blaeberry, Great Wood-Rush, Common Polypody, Hard Fern, Broad Buckler Fern, Wood Sorrel, Bog Myrtle, Primrose.

**Geology:** Lewisian Gneiss.

**Soils:** Peaty podzol, Scree, Brown earth, noncalcareous gleys, peaty gleys.

**Topography:** North facing Loch side slope with riparian gullies running southwards.

**Area:** 1.6 ha of the shoreline at present has fragmented woodland cover.

### General

The site has excellent NBL regeneration potential and would probably come under W11/W17/W9 if species such as Sessile oak were present. The site has been planted along the North shore of the Loch on both sides of Abhainn Leireabhaigh by Soval Estate who have the fishing rights to the system. There is also a Salmonid hatchery along with considerable river engineering in the form of gabions and bridges designed for angling at the Tob Leireabhaigh end of the river.

Management of bracken would be a major factor in management of the site as at present it prevents regeneration of Rowan and Willow. As this is a riparian site a mechanical control method should be employed such as whipping of fronds in May. This should be repeated two to three times per annum with the aim of starving the



Ancient Rowan DBH 35cm at Loch Buaille Bhig



Map 9

plants system of rhizomes of nutrients. There is limited regeneration of Rowan under the Bracken but its growth is restricted. Exclusion of grazing species such as Red Deer and livestock would be necessary to enable successful establishment.

### Recommendations

This scheme would provide an ideal link from Grimshader/Leurbost to the Lews Castle Grounds NBL woodland pockets and provide much needed support for Salmonid species present. Fencing the scheme would be the only real alternative as deer are regularly present on the Grimshader moor.





## 9. Tarbert Oak, Craobhag, Isle of Harris

**Location:** Craobhag, near Tarbert.

**Grid Ref:** NG 158 995

**Height:** 4m

**Crown:** 20m

**Age Est:** 150 years.

**Species:** English oak.

**Flora:** Heather, Bramble, Dog Rose, Great Wood-Rush, Common Polypody, Hard Fern, Broad Buckler Fern, Wood Sorrel, Primrose.

**Designations:** South Lewis, Harris & North Uist NSA.

**Topography:** Cliffs and crags.

**Soils:** Peaty podzol, Scree, Brown earth, noncalcareous gleys, peaty gleys.

**Area:** 1.08 ha

**NVC:** W11/W17

### General Notes

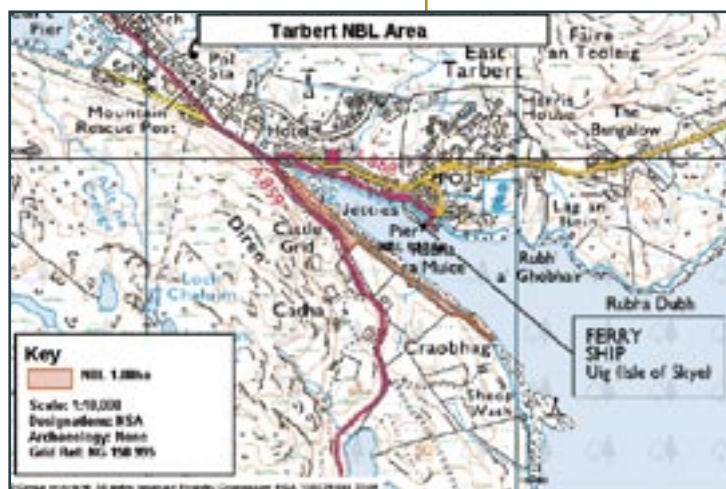
Due to exposure the foliage of this oak initially resembles Sessile oak. However, on closer inspection key features such as short leaf petioles, acorns on 4-8cm stalks lead to the conclusion that this is an introduced Pedunculate oak. The Gaelic place name 'Craobhag' translates as small tree in English so the site has been recognised in the past for woodland activity. This area of coastline from the Tarbert jetty to Direcleit hosts a broad range of native tree species including: Aspen, Downy birch, Hazel, Grey willow, Sallow willow, Rowan, Holly.

### Recommendations

This area is extremely valuable in terms of NBL restoration and protection. The site is easily accessible and would be relatively simple to protect due to the steep topography and close proximity to the sea. Ideally this site would be fenced off from grazing stock and planted with additional NBL species in low tree cover areas.



NBL regeneration at Craobhag, Tarbert.



Map 10



## 10. Rhenigeadal and Loch Seaforth

### Location:

Rhenigeadal Common Grazings

**Grid Ref:** NB 205 017

**Height:** 2-6m

**Crown:** Varied.

**Age Est:** 2yrs – 100yrs

**Species:** Downy birch, Aspen, Hazel, Holly, Sallow willow, Rowan.

**Flora:** *Calluna*, Bramble, Dog Rose, Great Wood-Rush, Common Polypody, Hard Fern, Broad Buckler Fern, Wood Sorrel, Primrose.

**Designations:** South Lewis, Harris & North Uist NSA.



Map 11



NBL regeneration at Rhenigeadal, Harris

**Topography:** Cliffs and crags.

**Soils:** Peaty podzol, Scree, Brown earth, noncalcareous gleys, peaty gleys.

**Area:** 2ha

**NVC:** W11/W17

### General Notes

An outstanding site comprising all of the key native woodland species present in the Western Isles. The core area of woodland is situated in close proximity to the abandoned village of Linginis, clinging to the steep coastal cliff out of reach of grazing livestock (See picture opposite).

### Recommendations

This site forms part of the Harris Development Ltd (HDL) Heritage Lottery Application (HLF) submitted in March 2008. As indicated by Map 11, there are areas of new planting and areas of regeneration planned to help create a sustainable native woodland resource. This could be ring fenced by a perimeter deer fence to prevent access by grazing animals.





## 11. Loch Plocrapoil

**Location:** Loch Plocrapoil.

**Grid Ref:** NG 175 934

**Height:** 2-4m

**Crown:** Varied

**Age Est:** 1yr – 50yrs

**Species:** Aspen, Sallow willow, Rowan.

**Flora:** *Calluna*, Bramble, Dog Rose, Great Wood-Rush, Common Polypody, Hard Fern, Broad Buckler Fern, Wood Sorrel, Primrose.

**Designations:** South Lewis, Harris & North Uist NSA.

**Topography:** Loch side and various fresh water islands.

**Soils:** Peaty podzol, noncalcareous gleys, peaty gleys.

**NVC:** W11/W17

### General Notes

Loch Plocrapoil hosts a large number of Rowan, along its southern and eastern banks, and is typical of fragmented riparian woodland in the Western Isles. There has already been one NBL SFGS created on the southern shore by the crofting tenant of 3 Scadabhagh. The details of the SFGS project are:

### Site description and details of the SFGS project

**Soil Type:** Peaty Podzol, Peat and glacial clay.

**Vegetation:** *Calluna*, Rowan, Sallow Willow, Yellow Iris, Compact Rush, Soft Rush, Blaeberry, Honeysuckle, Sedges, Primrose and grasses.

**Aspect:** Sheltered gully and Easterly facing slope on Loch Shoreline.

**Exposure:** Medium.

**Archaeology:** dwellings indicated on map.

**Designations:** South Lewis, Harris & North Uist NSA.

**Grid Ref:** NG 174 927

**Elevation:** 20 – 30m

**Area:** 2.31 ha

**Stocking Density:** 3000 stems per ha

Natural regeneration and planting of following NBL: Aspen, Common alder, Downy birch, Hazel, Sessile oak, Rowan, Willow and Holly. All from seed zones 103-105.

It is intended that the scheme will provide a seed source for future expansion of native woodland in the Harris area in line with the objectives of the Western Isles Woodland Strategy and Habitat Action Plan (HAP). Additional planting will be performed using other native broadleaf species currently not present in this area, but which can be found in other areas of the island. These will include Downy Birch, Holly and Common Alder. Planting will aim to create a mosaic of native species in a random pattern of distribution.

The islands on Loch Plocrapoil also have a good seed source for regeneration for native woodland, something the tenant is keen to explore. The loch already boasts the best NBL cover on the south east coast of Harris as identified during the survey, and has high future potential, which will be catalysed by this project.

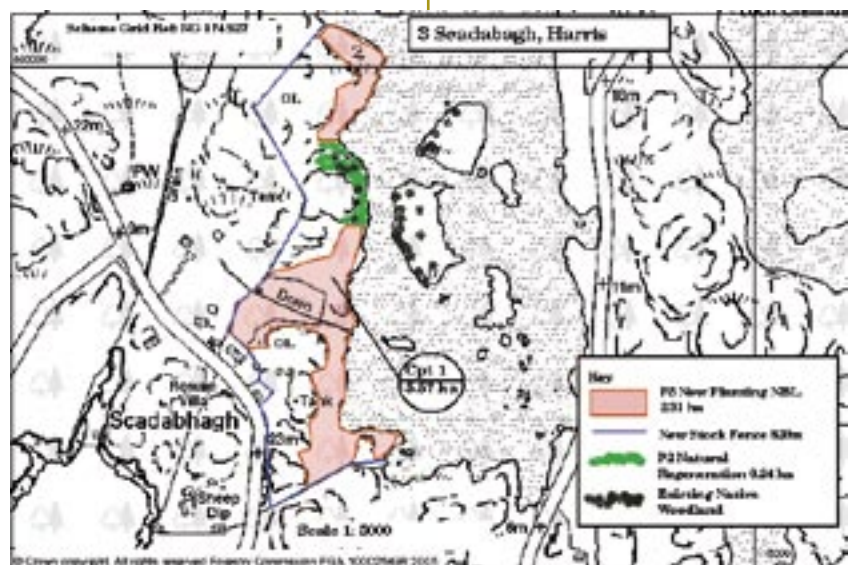


Aspen at Dibidale, Isle of Lewis

### Recommendations

The site is currently under contract (2008), however it is recommended that hand mounding will be used for the majority of the ground preparation due to the sites close proximity to the loch.

Map 12



## 12. Bowglass

**Location:** Bowglass, Isle of Harris.

**Grid Ref:** NB 175 119, NB 192 123

Bowglass and Ardvourlie form the core area of native woodland development in Harris over the past decade. To the south of Bowglass is the 100ha Ardvourlie Community Woodland established between 1999 and 2001 through WGS/ Millennium Forest for Scotland Trust (MFST) funding.

To the west lies the newly established 12ha Langadale River riparian woodland, created by the North Harris Trust via SFGS funding in 2007. There are also key native remnant woodland pockets in the area which come under the Beinn Luithaid Woodland proposal. This scheme comprises two riparian areas that will be ring fenced and left to regenerate over a 15 year period. The water courses in question are Abhainn a Mhuil and Allt Gill Luisga (see map 13), whose precursor vegetation leads to a W11 classification under NVC.

In addition to natural regeneration Abhainn a Mhuil will have a small element of new planting (2500 stems) with species usually associated with W11 woodland but not present on this particular site. Typically this supplementary planting will involve the establishment of species listed as native to the Western Isles such as Ash, Sessile Oak and Common Alder, but do not occur naturally anymore.

The scheme intends to provide a seed source for future expansion of native woodland in the Harris area as part of the Western Isles Woodland Strategy and LBAP. Originally the project was to have three riparian areas with a new planting scheme along the Abhainn Bhoigadail river to help arrest the high levels of erosion present due to high grazing pressure. However, this part of the scheme did not proceed.



Map 13

The Allt Gill Luisga compartment is the highest known wooded area in the Western Isles at present and stands at an altitude of 150m-300m.

### Site description and details of the proposed project

**Soil Type:** Peaty Podzol, Peat and glacial clay, alluvial gravel.

**Vegetation:** *Calluna*, Rowan, Aspen, Sallow Willow, Honeysuckle, sedges, Primrose and grasses.

**Aspect:** Sheltered gully on Easterly facing slope.

**Exposure:** Medium.

**Archaeology:** dwellings indicated on map.

**Designation:** South Lewis, Harris & North Uist NSA.

**Additional planting will be performed using:** Downy Birch, Holly and Common Alder, Sessile Oak and Common Ash.

Planting will aim to create a mosaic of native species in a random pattern of distribution. Hand preparation will be used for all planting areas due to the schemes riparian proximity.

Map 13 highlights the areas importance in terms of creating a viable network of native woodland habitats with distances of hundreds of metres between woodland fragments as opposed to the almost treeless landscape prior to 2000.







*Rowan regeneration and Aspen at Bowglass,  
Isle of Harris*





South Uist has three native woodland sites of significance; Meall Mor, Allt Voligair (SSSI) and Loch Druidibeg (NNR). Of these sites only Meall Mor remains undesignated, however the woodland is managed via a Woodland Grant Scheme native woodland contract, implemented in 2000 (Map14).

### 13. Meall Mor

**Location:** Meall Mor, Loch Eynort.

**Grid Ref:** NF 808 275

**Height:** 2-5m

**Crown:** Varied.

**Age Est:** 5yr – 80yrs

**Species:** Aspen, Sallow willow, Rowan, Downy birch, Sessile Oak, Common Alder.

**Flora:** *Calluna*, Bramble, Dog Rose, Great Wood-Rush, Common Polypody, Hard Fern, Broad Buckler Fern, Wood Sorrel, Primrose.

**Designations:** None.

**Topography:** Coastal Loch system.

**Soils:** Peaty podzol, noncalcareous gleys, peaty gleys

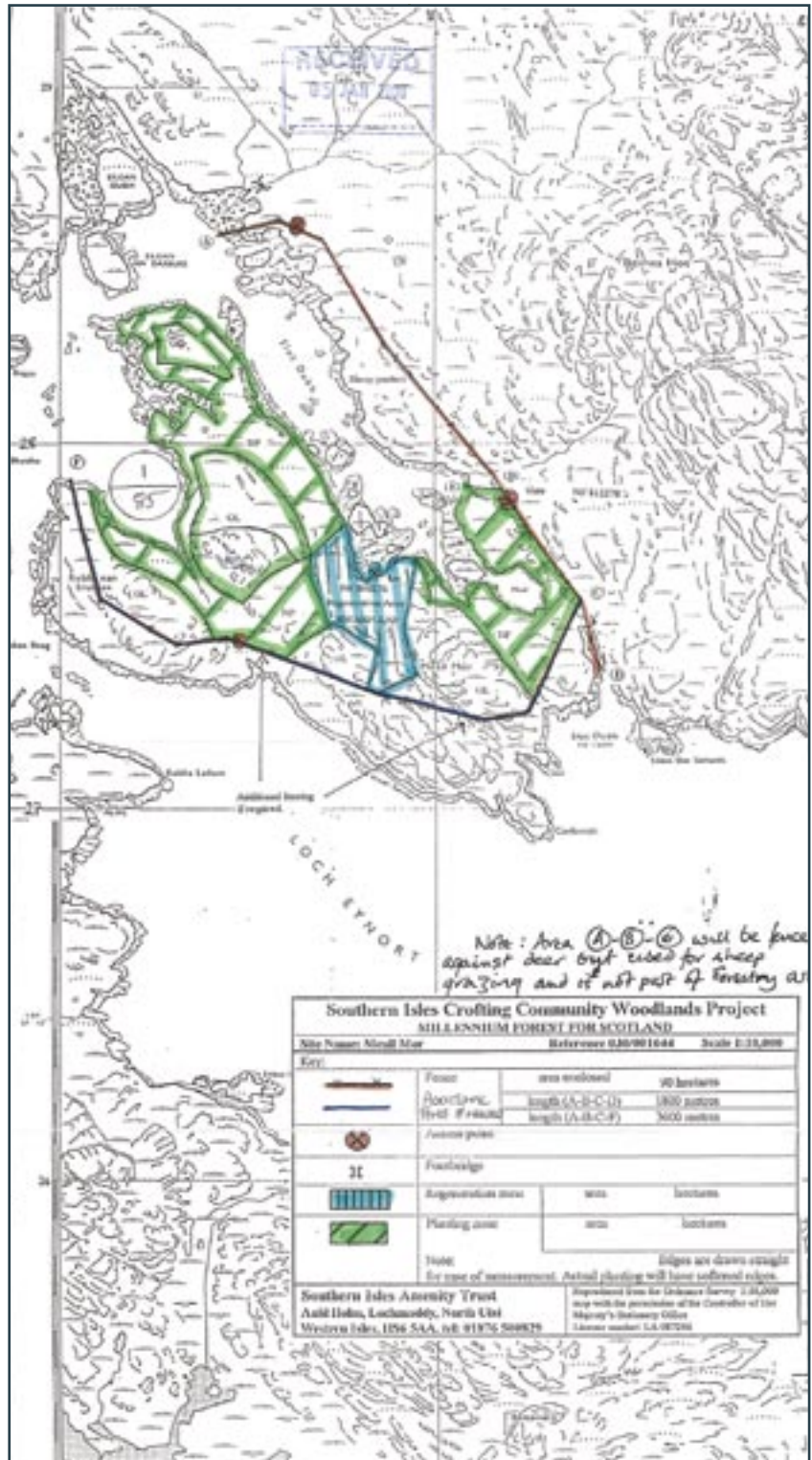
**Area:** 87ha fenced, 38.9ha planted, 6.3ha natural regeneration.

**NVC:** W11/W17

The scheme was one of six native woodland projects delivered by the Southern Isles Amenity Trust (SIAT). Through SIAT new native woodland community woodlands were also established at:

- Northbay (2.4ha), Barra
- Spanish (2.64ha), North Uist
- Carinish (102.48ha), North Uist
- Nunton (9.37ha), Benbecula
- Rarinish (49.7ha), Benbecula

The project was funded by Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS) and the Millennium Forest for Scotland Trust (MFST) and was ambitious and



Map 14

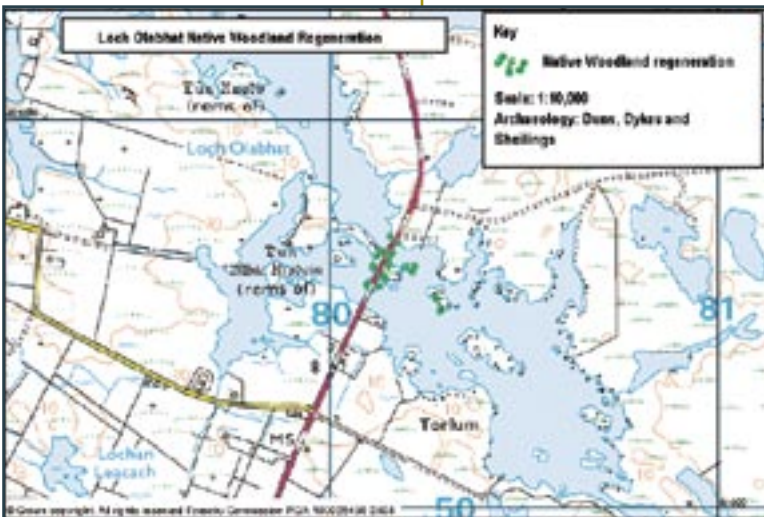




Meall Mor



Sallow and Grey Willow at Loch Olabhat.



Map 15

Aspens and Grey and Sallow Willow. Perhaps the most prominent of these riparian sites lies on the A865 road at Loch Olabhat, Benbecula (NF 801 506, Map 15). The road crosses the Loch via a causeway, which has led to willow seeding in areas inaccessible to grazing livestock, giving a clear indication of the potential for NBL regeneration in the absence of livestock.

innovative in terms of a community body establishing native woodlands in the Western Isles. Woodland establishment took place between 2000 and 2003 and was overseen by a full time Project Officer (Jon Hollingdale) during that period. The end results of the project were mixed, with the scheme at Rarinish failing to establish due to lack of deer management. Nonetheless, the woodlands at Northbay and Meall Mor

have been established successfully as the sites were better suited to woodland establishment. The Project has also proved invaluable in terms of raising the awareness of woodland development in the Western Isles and the benefits it can bring to communities.

In addition to the key sites already surveyed by SNH there are numerous single trees on small islands throughout Uist such as Rowans,



## 14. Loch Obe

**Location:** Loch Obe, Isle of Barra.

**Grid Ref:** NF 708 017

**Designations:** None.

**Archaeology:** Unknown.

**Tree Species:** Rowan, Downy Birch, Sallow Willow.

**Flora:** Bell Heather, Common Polypody, Great Wood Rush, Bracken, Common Heather, Blackberry, Hard Fern, Primrose, Wood Sorrel, Honeysuckle.

**Geology:** Lewisian Gneiss.

**Soils:** Peaty podzol, Alluvial deposits, Scree, brown earth, noncalcareous gleys, peaty gleys, and peaty rankers.

**Topography:** North Easterly facing gully at sea level.

**Area:** 0.25ha, W11.

### General

Loch Obe represents the most southerly Birch Woodland remnants in the Western Isles known at present. It consists of three mature but dwarf Downy birches, along with Rowans and Willow Carr (above right). The birches in question are approximately 3m in height with a diameter at breast height of 8-10cm, but their form would suggest that they could be 50 years plus in age. Indeed Downy birch were identified by the Botanical Society for The British Isles in 1941, which makes it likely that these are in fact the same trees, taking into consideration grazing history in the area.

In addition to the mature birch there is also Downy birch natural regeneration present, with multiple saplings between 1-5 years within 10m of the parent stems.

Along with Balnabodach and Lochan nam Faoileann (NF 708014) and Loch an Ali (NF 716013) this part of Barra represents an important area in terms of possible native woodland expansion and protection, with all three sites



Loch Obe, Isle of Barra



Map 16

within a 50 hectare area. Additionally there is a fine Aspen stand running parallel with the road in Northbay at Grid Reference NF 702 032, which spreads for approximately 20m, whilst reaching a height of 5m.

### Recommendations

Given the obvious lack of native remnant woodland in existence in Barra this area represents an ideal chance to create a compact W11 native woodland. The site should be protected from grazing animals to allow native regeneration, but should also be further stocked with native woodland species not present in Barra, but nonetheless important to the W11 classification.





## Conclusions

Native woodland cover in the Western Isles can now be divided into four key core areas of interest based on data gathered during the survey (see Map 17). The areas have been designated as core areas due to their varied site flora, in particular the range of woodland species present in one particular site. Other fragmented woodlands exist such as the Aspen stands at Tolsta (NB 531 501, NB 536 508), however, they lack the variety of tree species found in the suggested core areas. These core areas are:

- Core Area 1 – Loch Eynort, South Uist.
- Core Area 2 – Loch Seaforth, North Harris.
- Core Area 3 – South Lochs – Loch Seaforth, Loch Sealg, Loch Erisort, Loch Claidh & Loch Brollum.
- Core Area 4 – North Lochs – Loch Leurbost, Croigarry, Keose Glebe.

Although there are important native woodland sites outlying these areas (Appendix 1, 2 and 3) they are less suitable for development due to their site characteristics. All four core areas lie on the Eastern shoreline of the Western Isles, and are situated in very similar sites in terms of the prevailing wind, topography and soil fertility. In addition all of the core areas are remote in terms of their proximity to existing man made settlements, with the exception being Crobeag. Although, all the remnant woodlands lie close to historical settlements most of these were unoccupied by the beginning of the 19th century.

There are also numerous Oligotrophic sites situated on small islands throughout the peatlands of Lewis and of North Uist, typical examples of which are the two SSSI's of Loch Laxavat and Loch Orasay discussed previously. However, time constraints and access to these sites make research over a small timescale very difficult, but something worthy of further research nonetheless.

Finally, Aspen remains an intriguing native woodland species relatively common in Western Isles. The species does not propagate by seed this far north, due to the cool maritime climate. This has indeed been the case since the change in climate 3500 years B.P. leading to the possibility that the existing Aspen stands could be vegetative clones of Aspens from that time. Given the relative rarity of the species in Scotland an argument could be made for research into the Aspen population of the Western Isles to help the possibility of mapping ancient woodland cover in the Isles. Fine examples of Aspen in the Western Isles can be found at Tolsta (Grid Ref: NB 531 501, NB536 508) and Crulabhig (Grid Ref: NB 170 334) both in the Isle of Lewis.



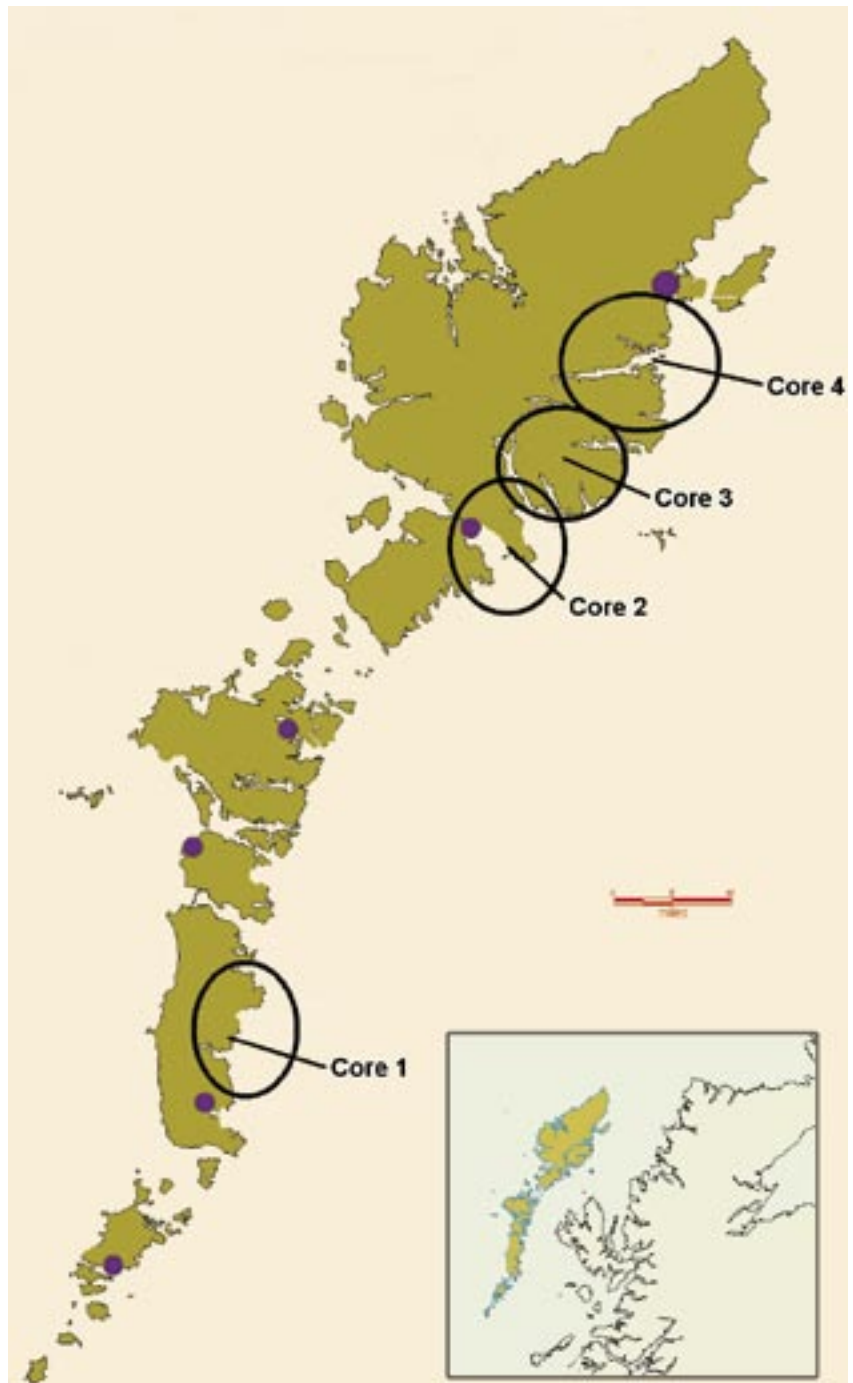
*Dibdale, between Ness and Tolsta, Isle of Lewis*



## Western Isles Native Woodland Core Development Areas

Based on data obtained through the native woodland survey it is now evident that the Lochs area has the highest frequency of NBL fragments within the Western Isles and forms two of the core areas of the NBL restoration strategy (See Core areas 3 and 4).

- Core Area 1 – Loch Eynort, South Uist.
- Core Area 2 – Loch Seaforth, North Harris.
- Core Area 3 – South Lochs – Loch Seaforth, Loch Sealg, Loch Erisort, Loch Claidh & Loch Brollum.
- Core Area 4 – North Lochs – Loch Leurbost, Croigarry, Keose Glebe.



Map 17





Angus, S. 2001 *The Outer Hebrides: Moor and Machair*.

White Horse Press, Cambridge.

Fitter, A., Fitter, R. 1984 *Collins Guide to the Grasses, Sedges, Rushes and Ferns of Britain and Northern Europe*. HarperCollins, London.

Hall, J.E., Kirby, K.J., Whitbread, A.M. 2004 *National Vegetation Classification: Field guide to woodland*. Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough.

Rodwell, J., Patterson, G. 2001. *Creating New Native Woodlands*. Forestry Commission Bulletin 112, HMSO, London.

Rose, F. 1991 *The Wild Flower Key, British Isles – N.W. Europe*. Frederick Warne Publishers Ltd, London.

Smout, T.C., MacDonald, A. R., Watson, F. 2007 *A History of the Native Woodlands of Scotland, 1500 – 1920*. Edinburgh University Press.



*Hazel*



## Native tree records from the Botanical Society of the British Isles (BSBI)

Alder *Alnus glutinosa*

Date	Hectad	Grid ref	Collector	Locality	Status
1950	NA91	NA91		Scarp	
1959	NA91	NA91	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Hushinish & Scarp, North Harris	
21 Jul 96	NB00	NB00	Pankhurst, Dr R.J., Smith, P.A.	Forest of Harris, North Harris	
1941	NB10	NB1500	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Harris, Tarbert, North Harris	
19 Jul 96	NB12	NB12	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Little Loch Roag, Uig	
24 Aug 80	NB31	NB31	Chater, A.O., Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Eishken, Loch Odhain	Introduced
1950	NB32	NB32		South East Lewis	
26 Jul 02	NB42	NB4229	Pankhurst, Dr R.J., Smith, P.A.	Tob Leiravay, South East Lewis	
25 Aug 80	NB43	NB43	Chater, A.O., Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Stornoway Castle Grounds	Introduced
15 Jul 97	NB43	NB43	Pankhurst, Dr R.J., Cunningham, W.A.J.	Stornoway Castle, South East Lewis	Introduced
23 May 03	NB43	NB43	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Stornoway Castle, South East Lewis	Introduced
13 Jul 99	NB45	NB4156	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Borve, by bridge, Northern North Lewis	
10 Jul 99	NB45	NB45	Smith, P.A., Orledge, G.	Beach at Melbost Borve, Five Penny Borve, Loch Baravat, Northern North Lewis	
12 Sep 01	NB54	NB5244	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Glen Tolsta, Northern North Lewis	
29 Jul 98	NF70	NF70	Dupree, D., Gaskell, L., Velander, C., Orledge, G.	Northbay area, Barra	Introduced
30 Jul 98	NF70	NF70	Cheffings, C., Anstey, F., Fallowfield, Mrs K.	Ardmore peninsula, Barra	
1941	NF70	NF7003	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Northbay, Barra	Introduced
18 Jul 36	NF70	NF7003	E.U.Biol.Soc.	Northbay plantation, Barra	Introduced
16 Aug 83	NF70	NF7003	Chater, A.O.	Northbay	Introduced
28 May 04	NF70	NF70B	Smith, P.A.	Northbay, Bruairnish, Barra	Introduced
21 Sep 01	NF71	NF7919	Abbott, P.	Lochboisdale rough grass, South Uist	
17 Jun 00	NF72	NF72	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	South Uist	
23 May 04	NF72	NF72Z	Smith, P.A.	North Loch Aineort to Allt Volagir, South Uist	Introduced
22 May 98	NF72	NF7828	Pilling, E.	Loch Eynort, South Uist	Introduced
27 Jul 98	NF72	NF7828	Pilling, E.	Loch Eynort, South Uist	Introduced
17 May 99	NF72	NF7828	Pilling, E.	Loch Eynort, South Uist	Introduced
16 Sep 03	NF73	NF770389	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	South Uist, Stilligarry House, South Uist	Introduced
24 Jul 47	NF73	NF7930	Wilmott, A.J., Campbell, M.S., Warburg, E.F., Crabbe, J.A.	Gorge of Allt Volagir, South Uist	possibly native, extinct
1937	NF87	NF87		North Uist	
1968	NF87	NF87		North Uist	
12 Jun 36	NF87	NF8876	Campbell, M.S.	Goulaby Burn, North Uist	native?
1941	NF87	NF8877	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Newton, North Uist	native?
1941	NF96	NF9168	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Lochmaddy, North Uist	
1935	NF96	NF96		North Uist	
1894	NG08	NG0483	Shoolbred, W.A.	Streamside, Rodel Glen, South Harris	Introduced
Aug 1841	NG08	NG0484	Balfour, J.H., Babington, C.C.	Glen of Roddal (Rodel), South Harris	Introduced
2 Jul 79	NG08	NG08	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Rodel	Introduced





**Alder** *Alnus glutinosa*

Date	Hectad	Grid ref	Collector	Locality	Status
19 Sep 96	NG08	NG08	Pilling, E., Smith, R.A.H.	Rodel	Introduced
15 Sep 02	NG08	NG08	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	South Harris	
1954	NG09	NG0699	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Luskentyre, along stream, South Harris	Introduced
1946	NG09	NG09		South Harris	
25 Jul 98	NG19	NG19	Pilling, E.	Tarbert, North Harris	Introduced
17 Sep 02	NG19	NG19	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	South Harris	
1930	NL69	NL69		Barra	Introduced
1935	NL69	NL69		Barra	Introduced
1987	NL69	NL69	Wilson, K.	Barra, Southend & Vatersay, Barra	Introduced
Jul 98			Bungard, Dr S.J.	South Uist, South Uist	



# APPENDIX 1

## Downy birch *Betula pubescens*

Date	Hectad	Grid ref	Collector	Locality	Status
1950	NA91	NA91		Scarp	
1959	NA91	NA91	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Hushinish & Scarp, North Harris	
20 Jul 99	NB00	NB0408	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Amhuinnsuidhe, North Harris	
1957	NB03	NB0934	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Uigean, on cliff, Uig	
1935	NB10	NB10		North Harris	
1956	NB10	NB1100	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Geo Beag, South Harris	
5 Aug 04	NB10	NB10A	Smith, P.A.	Gunisdale River gorge	Native
19 Jul 96	NB12	NB12	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Little Loch Roag, Uig	
1935	NB14	NB14		Southern North Lewis	
1950	NB14	NB14		Southern North Lewis	
30 Jul 02	NB20	NB20	Pankhurst, Dr R.J., Smith, P.A.	Loch Seaforth to Loch Claidh, Park	
1956	NB20	NB2200	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Molinginish, North Harris	
6 Aug 04	NB20	NB22260177	Smith, P.A.	Linginish	Native
11 Aug 97	NB20	NB2906	Smith, P.A.	Ravine of Allt Gil Bhigurra, Park	Native
11 Aug 97	NB21	NB21	Smith, P.A.	Head of Loch Shell to Beannan Mor, Park	Native
24 Aug 80	NB21	NB2910	Chater, A.O., Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Head of Loch Shell, Loch Shell	Native
1948	NB24	NB24		Southern North Lewis	
1948	NB24	NB24		Southern North Lewis	
1900	NB30	NB30		Park	
1 Aug 02	NB30	NB30	Pankhurst, Dr R.J., Smith, P.A.	South East Park, Park	
24 Aug 80	NB31	NB31	Chater, A.O., Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Head of Loch Shell, Park	Native
1985	NB32	NB3928		Loch Orosay, on small Island, South East Lewis	
1948	NB34	NB34		Southern North Lewis	
1948	NB35	NB35		Northern North Lewis	
1956	NB43	NB4132	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Stornoway Woods, Stornoway Castle Grounds	
25 Aug 80	NB43	NB4133	Chater, A.O., Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Stornoway Castle, South East Lewis	
25 Aug 80	NB43	NB43	Chater, A.O., Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Stornoway Castle Grounds	
15 Jul 97	NB43	NB43	Pankhurst, Dr R.J., Cunningham, W.A.J.	Stornoway Castle, South East Lewis	
1935	NB44	NB44		Northern North Lewis	
1948	NB45	NB45		Northern North Lewis	
1948	NB54	NB54		Northern North Lewis	
1948	NB54	NB54		Northern North Lewis	
1948	NB56	NB56		Northern North Lewis	
16 Aug 83	NF70	NF70	Pankhurst, Dr R.J., Chater, A.O., Chorley, P.M., Cannon, J.F.M., Cannon, M.J.	Balnabodach	Native
16 Aug 83	NF70	NF70	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Balnabodach, Barra	Native
30 Jul 98	NF70	NF70	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Bruernish village, Barra	
30 Jul 98	NF70	NF70	Farrell, L., Kendrew, J.	Bruernish peninsula, Barra	
30 Jul 98	NF70	NF70	Smith, P.A.	Balnabodach and Lochan nam Faioleann, Barra	Native





## Downy birch *Betula pubescens*

Date	Hectad	Grid ref	Collector	Locality	Status
24 Jul 01	NF70	NF70	Smith, P.A., Orledge, G.	Balnabodach, Barra	Native
1941	NF70	NF7101	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Loch Obe, Barra	
15 Jul 36	NF70	NF7101	E.U.Biol.Soc.	Margin of Loch an Ail, Barra	
8 Aug 95	NF70	NF716014	Day, J.J., Wallace, G.	Loch an Ail, Barra	
1950	NF72	NF72		South Uist	
19 Jun 00	NF72	NF7929	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Allt Volagir, South Uist	Native
8 Jul 79	NF73	NF73	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Central South Uist, South Uist	
17 May 98	NF73	NF73	Pilling, E.	Loch Druidibeg, South Uist	
1941	NF73	NF7930	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Allt Volagir, South Uist	Native
9 Jul 79	NF73	NF7930	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Allt Volagir	Native
9 Jul 79	NF73	NF7930	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Allt Volagir, South Uist	Native
1 Jul 94	NF73	NF794383	Stevenson, E., Stewart, E.	Island in Loch Druidibeg	
1 Jul 94	NF73	NF794383	Walker, A., Pankhurst, Mrs, Stewart, E., Stevenson, E., Ross, Mrs, Aglen, P.	Island, Loch Druidibeg N.N.R.	
30 Jun 94	NF82	NF8127	Stewart, E., Walker, A., Aglen, P.	Meall Mhor	Native
1939	NF82	NF82	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Natural wood North side Loch Eynort, South Uist	
3 May 03	NF82	NF82D	Smith, P.A., Orledge, G.	Meall Mor, South Uist	Introduced
1941	NF83	NF8234	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	North of Mt. Hecla, South Uist	
1 Jul 94	NF83	NF83	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Loch Skiport to Loch Spotal & Beinn na h-Aire, Loch Spotal	
21 Jun 00	NF84	NF843484	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Loch Langavat, Benbecula	
30 Jul 47	NF84	NF873461	Wilmott, A.J., Campbell, M.S., Warburg, E.F., Crabbe, J.A.	Wiay, Benbecula	
1937	NF84	NF8746	Campbell, M.S.	Wiay, Benbecula	
12 Jul 97	NG09	NG0695	Pankhurst, Dr R.J., Smith, R.A.H., Pilling, E.	Glen Seilebost, South Harris	
1956	NG19	NG1098	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Glen Geirsdale, South Harris	
1956	NG19	NG1897	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Isle of Scotasay, Scalpay and Scotasay	
1935	NG19	NG19		South Harris	
1950	NG19	NG19		South Harris	
1930	NL69	NL69		Barra	
1935	NL69	NL69		Barra	



# APPENDIX 1

## Holly *Ilex aquifolium*

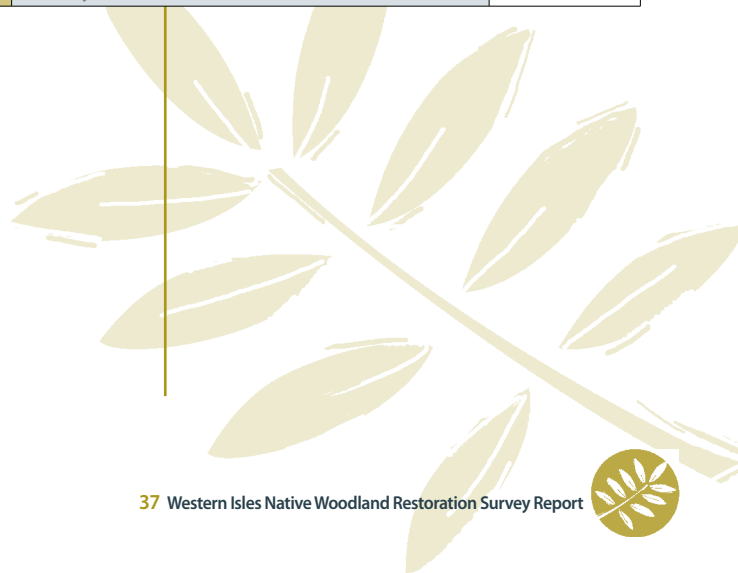
Date	Hectad	Grid ref	Collector	Locality	Status
1935	NB00	NB00		North Harris	Native
1956	NB00	NB00	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	North Harris	Native
1935	NB03	NB03		Uig	Native
6 Aug 00	NB03	NB03	Smith, P.A., Orledge, G.	Suinaival, Uig	Native
1940	NB03	NB0634	Clark, W.A., Harrison, J.Heslop.	Glen Valtos, cliffs, Uig	Native
1941	NB03	NB0634	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Glen Valtos, Uig	Native
1956	NB03	NB0634	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Glen Valtos, Uig	Native
23 Jul 46	NB03	NB0730	Warburg, E.F.	Suinaival, 1 plant on rock, Uig	Native
1948	NB03	NB0831	Wilmott, A.J.	West side Suinaival, Uig	Native
23 Jul 46	NB03	NB0831	Warburg, E.F.	Suinaival, Uig	Native
1950	NB10	NB10		North Harris	Native
13 JUL 1891	NB10	NB10	Duncan, W.S.	North Harris	Native
1956	NB10	NB1009	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Sron Scourst, North Harris	Native
1956	NB10	NB1102	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	West Loch Tarbert, South Harris	Native
5 Aug 04	NB10	NB13530003	Smith, P.A.	Aird Sticleit	Native
1956	NB10	NB1801	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Loch Laxadale, North Harris	Native
4 Jul 79	NB11	NB11	Cannon, J.F.M., Chorley, P.M., Mullin, J.M.	Loch Langavat South East & Abhain a Mhuil, South East Loch Langavat	Native
4 Jul 79	NB11	NB11	Cannon, J.F.M., Chorley, P.M.	Loch Langavat, crags, South East side, South East Lewis	Native
15 Jul 38	NB11	NB1110	Campbell, J.W.	Strone Scourst (forest), North Harris	Native
11 Jul 99	NB11	NB11K	Smith, P.A.	Creag na Lubaig, Uig	Native
1956	NB11	NB1415	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Griosamol, North Harris	Native
1956	NB12	NB12	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Uig	Native
22 Jul 96	NB20	NB20	Pankhurst, Dr R.J., Smith, P.A.	Rhenigidale, North Harris	Native
30 Jul 02	NB20	NB20	Pankhurst, Dr R.J., Smith, P.A.	Loch Seaforth to Loch Claidh, Park	Native
1956	NB20	NB2200	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Molinginish, North Harris	Native
6 Aug 04	NB20	NB22010178	Smith, P.A.	Liniginish	Native
6 Aug 04	NB20	NB21790179	Smith, P.A.	Geo Mhic Allein	Native
6 Aug 04	NB20	NB21700189	Smith, P.A.	Gill Mhic Allein	Native
6 Aug 04	NB20	NB21670196	Smith, P.A.	Gill Mhic Allein	Native
11 Aug 97	NB20	NB2906	Smith, P.A.	Ravine of Allt Gil Bhigurra, Park	Native
29 Jul 02	NB21	NB21	Pankhurst, Dr R.J., Smith, P.A.	Loch Seaforth Island, Park	Native
23 May 03	NB21	NB21W	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Loch Thormaid, Park	Native
9 Aug 97	NB21	NB282124	Smith, P.A.	Cliffs at North East of Beinn na h-Uamha, Park	Native
29 Jul 04	NB21	NB28191234	Pankhurst, Dr R.J., Smith, P.A.	Craig na h-Uamha	Native
24 Aug 80	NB21	NB2910	Chater, A.O., Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Head of Loch Shell, Loch Shell	Native
13 Jul 99	NB23	NB2133	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Callanish, Southern North Lewis	Introduced
1 Aug 02	NB30	NB30	Pankhurst, Dr R.J., Smith, P.A.	South East Park, Park	Native
24 Aug 80	NB31	NB31	Chater, A.O., Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Eishken, Loch Odhain	Native





## Holly *Ilex aquifolium*

Date	Hectad	Grid ref	Collector	Locality	Status
24 Aug 80	NB31	NB3211	Pankhurst, Dr R.J., Chater, A.O.	Eishken, Park	Native
24 Aug 80	NB31	NB3410	Pankhurst, Dr R.J., Chater, A.O.	Head of Loch Shell, cliffs, Park	Native
10 Aug 97	NB41	NB41	Smith, P.A.	East Park, Park	Native
18 Sep 95	NB41	NB412180	Day, J.J., Stewart, N.F.	Loch a Ghruagaich, Park	Native
1950	NB43	NB43		Northern North Lewis	Native
29 Jul 98	NF70	NF70	Dupree, D., Gaskell, L., Velander, C., Orledge, G.	Northbay area, Barra	Introduced
28 May 04	NF70	NF70B	Smith, P.A.	Northbay, Bruairnish, Barra	Introduced
23 May 04	NF72	NF72Z	Smith, P.A.	North Loch Aineort to Allt Volagir, South Uist	Introduced
22 May 98	NF72	NF7828	Pilling, E.	Loch Eynort, South Uist	Introduced
27 Jul 98	NF72	NF7828	Pilling, E.	Loch Eynort, South Uist	Introduced
17 May 99	NF72	NF7828	Pilling, E.	Loch Eynort, South Uist	Introduced
3 May 03	NF82	NF82D	Smith, P.A., Orledge, G.	Meall Mor, South Uist	Native
Aug 1841	NG08	NG0483	Balfour, J.H., Babington, C.C.	Near Roddal (Rodel), South Harris	Native
1956	NG08	NG08	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	South Harris	Native
1957	NG09	NG0593	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Bulabhall, South Harris	Native
12 Jul 97	NG09	NG0695	Pankhurst, Dr R.J., Smith, R.A.H., Pilling, E.	Glen Seilebost, South Harris	Native
1956	NG09	NG0898	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Abhainn Benn na Gill, South Harris	Native
Apr 98	NG09	NG09	Crawley, Prof M.J.	Scarista & Seilebost, South Harris	Native
9 Aug 39	NG19	NG1096	Wilmott, A.J.	Loch Laxdale, rocks to South South Harris	Native
1940	NG19	NG1191	Campbell, J.W.	Near Geocrab, South Harris	Native
1956	NG19	NG1191	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Geocrab, South Harris	Native
1956	NG19	NG1595	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Cnoc na h-Uamha, South Harris	Native
10 Jul 97	NG19	NG1599	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	East Loch Tarbert, South side at Tarbert, South Harris	Native
1939	NG19	NG19	Clark, W.A.	Cliffs, South side East Loch Tarbert, South Harris	Native
1941	NG19	NG19	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Cliffs, South shore East Loch Tarbert, South Harris	Native
1956	NG19	NG19	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	East Loch Tarbert, South Harris	Native
17 Sep 02	NG19	NG19	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	South Harris	Native
1894			Shoolbred, W.A.	South Harris, cliffs, South Harris	Native
1956			Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Ardvey, South Harris	Native



# APPENDIX 1

## Hazel *Corylus avellana*

Date	Hectad	Grid ref	Collector	Locality	Status
1892	NA91	NA91		Scarp	Native
1959	NA91	NA91	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Hushinish & Scarp, North Harris	Native
3 Aug 00	NA91	NA91	Smith, P.A., Orledge, G., Meredith, C., Lee, F.	Scarp	Native
1950	NA91	NA9615	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Scarp	Native
18 Jul 96	NA92	NA92	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Coast South of Uig, Uig	Native
1935	NB03	NB03		Uig	Native
6 Aug 00	NB03	NB03	Smith, P.A., Orledge, G.	Suainaval, Uig	Native
1940	NB03	NB0634	Clark, W.A., Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Glen Valtos, Uig	
1950	NB03	NB0634	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Glen Valtos, Uig	
21 Jul 96	NB10	NB10	Pankhurst, Dr R.J., Smith, P.A.	North of Tarbert, North Harris	Native
1950	NB10	NB1403	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Glen Skeaudale, North Harris	Native
1939	NB10	NB1503	Clark, W.A.	Skeaudale River, North Harris	Native
1935	NB11	NB11		Uig	Native
29 Jul 01	NB13	NB1034	Evans, I.M., Evans, P.A.	Uigen to Reef, Uig	Native
1939	NB13	NB1035	Crabbe, J.A.	Loch near Berie Sands, Uig	Native
1940	NB13	NB13	Clark, W.A., Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Great Bernera, cliffs on shore, Great Bernera, Little Bernera	Native
1950	NB13	NB13	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Great Bernera, Great Bernera, Little Bernera	Native
18 Jul 95	NB13	NB13	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Great Bernera	Native
16 Jul 96	NB13	NB13	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Berie, Uig	Native
11 Jul 38	NB13	NB1633	Campbell, M.S.	Earshader, Uig	Native
18 Jul 95	NB14	NB14	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Bosta	Native
28 Jul 01	NB14	NB14	Pilling, E., Wilson, A.P.	North West corner of Great Bernera, Great Bernera, Little Bernera	Native
13 Sep 01	NB14	NB14	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Carloway, Southern North Lewis	
1940	NB14	NB1440	Clark, W.A., Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Little Bernera, cliffs on shore, Great Bernera, Little Bernera	Native
1950	NB14	NB1440	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Little Bernera, Great Bernera, Little Bernera	Native
22 Jul 96	NB20	NB20	Pankhurst, Dr R.J., Smith, P.A.	Rhenigidale, North Harris	Native
6 Aug 04	NB20	NB21670196	Smith, P.A.	Gill Mhic Allein	Native
6 Aug 04	NB20	NB21720186	Smith, P.A.	Gill Mhic Allein	Native
11 Aug 97	NB20	NB2906	Smith, P.A.	Ravine of Allt Gil Bhigurra, Park	Native
11 Aug 97	NB21	NB21	Smith, P.A.	Head of Loch Shell to Beannan Mor, Park	Native
24 Aug 80	NB21	NB2910	Chater, A.O., Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Head of Loch Shell, Loch Shell	Native
1935	NB22	NB22		South East Lewis	
1939	NB23	NB2130	Campbell, M.S.	Grimersta, Uig	
1939	NB23	NB2331	Campbell, M.S.	Ben Gary Nahine, Uig	Native
27 Jul 46	NB24	NB2345	Wilmott, A.J., Campbell, M.S.	Near Dalebeg, Southern North Lewis	
1930	NB24	NB24	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Southern North Lewis	
1935	NB24	NB24		Carloway, Southern North Lewis	
1948	NB24	NB24		Southern North Lewis	
1978	NB43	NB4133	Cunningham, W.A.J.	Stornoway Castle, South East Lewis	Introduced?





## Hazel *Corylus avellana*

Date	Hectad	Grid ref	Collector	Locality	Status
15 Jul 97	NB43	NB43	Pankhurst, Dr R.J., Cunningham, W.A.J.	Stornoway Castle, South East Lewis	Introduced?
1941	NF60	NF60	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Barra	
1950	NF70	NF70		Barra	
16 Aug 83	NF70	NF70	Pankhurst, Dr R.J., Chater, A.O., Chorley, P.M., Cannon, J.F.M., Cannon, M.J.	Earsary	
1935	NF71	NF71		South Uist	
Jul 1888	NF71	NF71	Somerville, A.	South Uist, South Uist	
1941	NF71	NF7910	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Eriskay	Native
1950	NF72	NF72		South Uist	Native
23 May 04	NF72	NF72Z	Smith, P.A.	Allt Volagir, South Uist	Native
19 Jun 00	NF72	NF7929	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Allt Volagir, South Uist	Native
1950	NF73	NF73		South Uist	
8 Jul 79	NF73	NF73	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Central South Uist, South Uist	
24 Jul 47	NF73	NF7930	Wilmott, A.J., Campbell, M.S., Warburg, E.F., Crabbe, J.A.	Gorge of Allt Volagir, South Uist	Native
29 Aug 51	NF73	NF7930	Taylor, G.	Beinn Mhor, Allt Volagir, South Uist	Native
9 Jul 79	NF73	NF7930	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Allt Volagir	Native
1889	NF81	NF8018	Bennett, A.	Rocky banks overhanging the sea near Lochboisdale, South Uist	Native
26 Jul 47	NF81	NF81	Campbell, M.S.	North shore Loch Boisdale, South Uist	Native
	NF81	NF81		South Uist	Native
22 May 04	NF81	NF81E	Smith, P.A.	Beinn Ruigh Coinnich area, South Uist	Native
1935	NF82	NF82		South Uist	
3 May 03	NF82	NF82D	Smith, P.A., Orledge, G.	Meall Mor, South Uist	Introduced
1950	NF83	NF83		South Uist	
4-Jun-36	NF85	NF8253	Campbell, M.S.	Rueval, Benbecula	
1935	NF85	NF85		Benbecula	
1941	NF85	NF85	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Benbecula	
5 Aug 98	NF86	NF839652	Aungier, Dr F.M.	Langass Hotel plantation, North Uist	
1935	NF88	NF88		Pabbay and Shillay	
1950	NF88	NF8887	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Pabbay, Pabbay and Shillay	
1950	NF88	NF8887	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Pabbay, Pabbay and Shillay	
1898	NF96	NF9265	Shoolbred, W.A.	Rocky gorge East of Ben Lee, North Uist	
24 May 04	NF96	NF928651	Smith, P.A.	Abhainn Loch na Leige, ravine, North Uist	Native
1942	NF96	NF9365	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Ravine to South of North Lee, North Uist	Native
1935	NF96	NF96		North Uist	
1950	NF98	NF9783	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	Killegray, Sound of Harris	
1930	NF98	NF98		South Harris	
1945	NF98	NF98	Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	South Harris	
1948	NF98	NF98		South Harris	
Aug 1841	NG08	NG0484	Balfour, J.H., Babington, C.C.	Glen of Roddal (Rodel), South Harris	
4 May 39	NG08	NG0583	Campbell, M.S.	Rodel, South Harris	



# APPENDIX 1

## Hazel *Corylus avellana*

Date	Hectad	Grid ref	Collector	Locality	Status
2 Jul 79	NG08	NG08	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Rodel	
22 Sep 96	NG08	NG08	Pilling, E., Smith, R.A.H.	Leverburgh	Native
2 Jul 99	NG08	NG08	Smith, P.A., Orledge, G.	Leverburgh, Loch Steisavat, South Harris	Native
15 Sep 02	NG08	NG08	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	South Harris	
1939	NG09	NG0898	Wilmott, A.J.	Abhainn Bun na Gill, South Harris	
12 Jul 97	NG09	NG0898	Pankhurst, Dr R.J., Smith, R.A.H., Pilling, E.	Abhainn Bun na Gill, South Harris	
10 Jul 97	NG19	NG1599	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	East Loch Tarbert, South side at Tarbert, South Harris	
17 Sep 02	NG19	NG19	Pankhurst, Dr R.J.	Glen Geisdale, South Harris	
6 Aug 04	NG19	NG15209262	Smith, P.A.	Ghreasabhagh (Grosebay), low sea cliff	Native
28 Jul 03	NL69	NL6398	Pankhurst, Dr R.J., Smith, P.A.	Allt a Ghoirrean, Barra	
1930	NL69	NL69		Barra	
1947	NL69	NL69	McLeod, A.M.	Castle Bay, Barra	
1947	NL69	NL69		Barra	
1703			Martin, M.	Lewis, Northern North Lewis	
1894			Shoolbred, W.A.	South Harris, cliffs, South Harris	
1894			Shoolbred, W.A.	North Harris, cliffs, North Harris	
1941			Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	North Uist, North Uist	
1941			Harrison, J.W.Heslop.	South Uist, South Uist	





## Detailed Survey Sites

1. Mullach na Ron, NB 354 100
2. Tolsta Aspen, NB 536 508
3. Diabadale, NB 552 544
4. Willow Glen (Lews Castle Grounds), NB 417 340
5. Loch Buaille Bhig, NB 423 293 – 419 293
6. Ranish & Loch Colla, NB 415 248
7. Soval Islands, (Thulabhat, NB 354 240, Nam Bradam, NB 356 251)
8. Cromore, NB 393 210
9. Crobeag
10. Loch Shealg, NB 327 115 onwards
11. Allt Gil Bhigurra, NB 2693 0824
12. Boglass, NB 174 122 & NB 193 123
13. Rubha Eilean, NB 214 057
14. Rhenigadale, NB 205 017
15. Geodha Mor, NB 234 041
16. Loch Claidh
  - a. NB 259 062
  - b. NB 260 061
  - c. NB 265 052 Geodha Gorm
  - d. NB 276 029 Creag Ruadh
17. Loch Brolluim
  - a. NB 310 030 Creag na Gaoith
  - b. NB 307 035 Creag na Coillteach
  - c. NB 308 045 Coire Buidhe
18. Alt na Torcan, NB 327 288
19. Grimersta River, NB 208 286
20. Loch Orasay, NB 390 278
21. Loch nan Eilean, NB 231 232
22. Loch Innseag, NB 403 283
23. Loch nan Eilean, NB 412 276
24. Loch Crogavat, NB 375 271
25. Loch Nan Ritheanan, NB 353 226
26. Loch Keose, NB 366 222
27. 15 Keose, NB 352 212
28. Grianan Beag, NB 383 202
29. Loch Mor an Tonga, NB 378 194
30. Loch na Croibe, NB 299 276
31. Loch nan Faleag, NB 300 269
32. Loch Foid, NB 310 279
33. Loch Trealabhal, NB 278 238
34. Loch Fada Gobha, NB 242 240
35. Loch Raoineabhat, NB 283 117
36. Loch Shaghachain, NB 351 121
37. Loch an Eilean Dubh, NB 364 147
38. Loch nan Eilean, NB 361 176
39. Loch na Craoibhe, NB 298 183
40. Loch an Eilean Liatha, NB 322 158
41. Loch Ghiuthais, NB 324 140
42. Loch an Eilean, NB 322 131
43. Loch Suardail, NB 376 238
44. Abhainn Gleann na h-umha, NB 269 126
45. Abhainn Gil Shromois, NB 263 144
46. Bruinagil, NB 278 155
47. Cul Creag, NB 286 159
48. Loch Obe, NF 708 017
49. Crulabhig, NB 170 334
50. Bhalasaig, NB 147 368



## Scottish Forestry Grants Scheme sites - where remnant woodland areas were recorded.

1. 47 Ranish Croft NB 417 256
2. 11 Grimshader
3. 12 Grimshader
4. Croft 32 Lemreway



A brittlegill (Fungi)







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