

Opportunity to Purchase Pending Issuance Units

Lochawe, Argyll and Bute, Scotland

Project Highlights

- 44 hectares of land planted to establish a native mixed woodland.
- 5,000 PIUs available for sale.
- The species chosen are native to Argyllshire, so are well equipped to deal with the climate and will create a natural ecosystem.

Project Background

The land on which the woodland is planted has been managed and farmed by the same family of tenant farmers for over 100 years. The current incumbent, being a secured (and therefore heritable) tenant, inherited the farm from his father who had also taken the reins from his father before him.

Farming is experiencing significant change. Sheep and cattle prices are declining and traditional farm subsidies, such as the Basic Payment Scheme, are being replaced by the Sustainable Farming Incentive, encouraging farming practices which improve water quality, wildlife, climate change mitigation and air quality.

The conventional forms of farm income are therefore declining. Meantime, the farmer wants to ensure the farm offers a viable livelihood for the next generation. As a result, they are considering new, forward thinking uses for their land and woodland creation, which sequesters carbon and enhances biodiversity, is one such example.

The family has allocated 44 hectares of land towards establishing a native mixed woodland. This uses the less productive land situated up the hill from the main farm and helps restore an area of ground whose ecology has been damaged by heavy sheep grazing in recent decades.

By planting a portion of the land with trees and substituting livestock sales for woodland-generated carbon income, the family are striking a healthy balance between producing the food we eat while enhancing the nature and wildlife in our countryside. In so doing, they are setting an example for farmers across the UK to follow.

View of the Site Looking Westwards Capturing the Rugged Landscape



The Planting Scheme

The woodland comprises a balanced mix of Scots pine (19% of the total area), birch (20%), rowan (32%), hazel (5%), alder (32%), and willow (9%). The alder and willow are well suited to the damper areas of ground, especially at the site's northern end. The Scots pine, being native to the area, is amply equipped to withstand the bitter climate.

The land is rugged and the climate around the project is harsh. As a result, Tilhill's forest manager, who designed and planted the project, chose species which, being native to Argyllshire, are well equipped to survive the cold winters, wet summers and biting winds. Trees were also planted in wide spacings from each other so that, as they grow, they develop a natural resistance to these conditions.

A Young Scots Pine planted within the scheme, Looking Northwards





The Golden Eagle is one of many species which could benefit from the creation of native woodland schemes.

The Evolution of a Natural Ecosystem

The restoration of woodland on open grazed landscapes will assist in the recovery of a more natural ecosystem, providing cover and prey for a variety of species. The mix of varying densities of alder, willow, hazel and Scots pine, combined with recovery of the ground vegetation will provide shelter and food for insects and other invertebrates, which will then attract other species of birds and mammals, thus starting the process of rewilding in its broadest sense.

Carbon Sequestration

The farmer is selling 5,183 PIUs from the project, representing exactly 50% of the carbon the project is expected to sequester over the next 100 years. The table below details the timeline when these PIUs are expected to be verified as Woodland Carbon Units i.e. the carbon is expected to be sequestered. By then, the woodland will have matured into an attractive and mature mixed woodland, similar to the scenery shown on the front page.

Carbon Sequestration Timetable for the Project, as Forecast by Woodland Carbon Code

Verification: years since start date	Vintage start date	Vintage end date	Total PIUs in vintage to be listed	PIUs to Buffer	PIUs to Project
5	01 April 2019	31 March 2024	0	0	0
15	01 April 2024	31 March 2034	328	66	131
25	01 April 2034	31 March 2044	3717	743	1487
35	01 April 2044	31 March 2054	2954	591	1181
45	01 April 2054	31 March 2064	2009	402	804
55	01 April 2064	31 March 2074	1413	282	565
65	01 April 2074	31 March 2084	885	177	354
75	01 April 2084	31 March 2094	614	123	246
85	01 April 2094	31 March 2104	467	93	187
95	01 April 2104	31 March 2114	440	88	176
100	01 April 2114	31 March 2119	129	26	52
Total			12956	2591	5183

Access to the site

The farmer would welcome visitors to the site and gladly erect signage nearby in order to promote the purchase of the carbon units generated by the project. Please note that the planting scheme is remote, lying approximately 1.5 miles from the nearest road, 0.5 miles from the nearest track and accessible either by walking or on a 4x4 quad bike. It is also situated approximately 2.5 hours and 1.5 hours drive from Edinburgh and Glasgow respectively.



For more information on this project,
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