

Indicative Sections

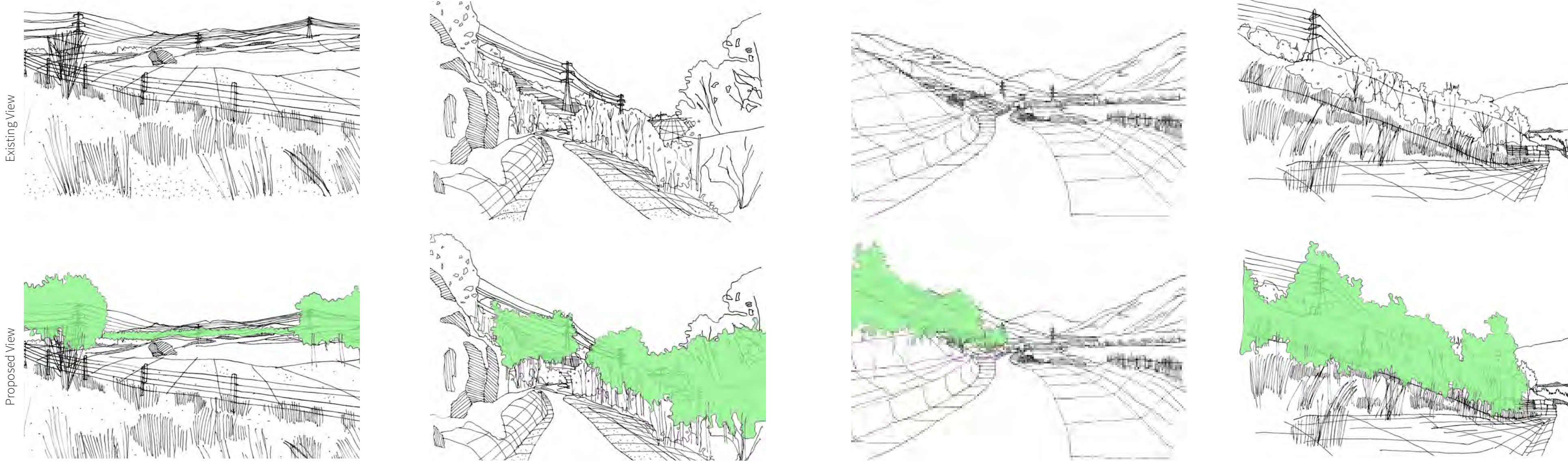


**Section 1**  
 Illustrating the proposed treatment of the upland edge of the proposed native woodland planting across the mid slopes of the glen west of Loch Katrine. The section shows the proposed fence line in relation to the edge of the proposed planting. It is proposed to leave a swathe of land, of varying width and design, between the woodland edge and the fence line to encourage natural regeneration within this area and a feathering out of the woodland edge to create a 'more natural' edge zone' with increased biodiversity value, complementing the objectives of the Great Trossachs Forest Project and National Nature Reserve. The woodland edge will vary in design along the wayleave in accordance with the principles outlined below.

**Section 2**  
 Illustrating the proposed new path/alternative route of the Great Trossachs Forest Path alongside the water's edge of Loch Katrine with associated new native and riparian woodland planting. Native woodland planting is proposed to strengthen the scrubby riparian woodland found along loch edge, to screen and filter views back towards the line from pedestrian users of this footpath offering an alternative to the shared route (with cyclists and motor vehicles) along the existing minor road.

**Section 3**  
 Illustrating the extent of proposed native woodland planting to the mid-upper northern flanks of Maol Mòr, designed to provide backclothing of the transmission lines in views across Loch Katrine from the east, and pitched views towards the line from the Great Trossachs Forest Path around the loch. It is proposed to leave a swathe of land, of varying width and design, between the woodland edge and the fence line to encourage natural regeneration within this area and a feathering out of the woodland edge to create a 'more natural' edge zone' at the highest elevations, reflecting the existing extent of the tree line across these slopes, whilst delivering increased biodiversity value, complementing the objectives of the Great Trossachs Forest Project and National Nature Reserve.

Indicative Sketches



**Sketch 1**  
 Illustrating indicative view northwards along Glen Gyle from section of Great Trossachs Forest Path at the head of Loch Katrine. Foreground native woodland along the route of the path, and more extensive native woodland across the lower and mid slopes of the glen will help screen and backcloth views of the transmission line.

**Sketch 2**  
 The proposed native woodland planting will provide intermittent screening and filtering of views towards the lines, strengthening the existing matrix of woodland and restoring the overgrazed understorey vegetation. Sensitive design of proposed woodland planting, will complement the proposals and objectives of the Great Trossachs Forest Project and National Nature Reserve, whilst views east, north-east across Loch Katrine will be unchanged.

**Sketch 3**  
 Illustrating the mitigation offered by extensive native woodland planting on the lower slopes of the glen alongside the minor road around Loch Katrine, and route of Great Trossachs Forest Path. The open views afforded across Loch Katrine to the hill summits and ridges beyond will be uninterrupted by planting, with native woodland proposed predominantly restricted to the west of the road.

**Sketch 4**  
 Route towards the transmission line as it crosses the complex and craggy topography west of the route. Intermittent screening and filtering of visibility of the transmission line will be afforded from sections of the route, however the most prominent and elevated towers will still be perceptible above the intervening new and enhanced woodland cover.

Native Woodland Principles

The introduction of extensive native woodland will be implemented in line with the **Biodiversity Action Plan for the National Park (Wild Park 2020)** which notes that expanding and restoring native woodland is one of the major goals for Forestry Commission land in the National Park. Appropriate woodland mixes of native species of trees and lower growing vegetation will be developed sympathetically, with reference to the geographical location, elevation, topography, soil type, hydrology and biodiversity of the specific area. Within the Stronachlachar area the following woodland mixes are proposed, subject to more detailed survey and understanding of the areas to be planted.

Woodland mixes shown are for guidance purposes only with species and percentage mix of each woodland type indicative. Woodland mixes will be subject to further development during the detailed design stage.

Woodland Layer (Primary)	Woodland Layer Primary 85%	Woodland Layer (Primary) 85%	Woodland Layer (Primary) 100%
Pinus sylvestris (Scott's pine)	Betula pendula/pubescens (Birch spp.)	Fraxinus excelsior (Common ash)	Grey willow (Salix cinerea)
Woodland Layer (Secondary) 15%	Woodland Layer (Secondary) 15%	Woodland Layer (Secondary) 15%	Shrub/Understorey Layer
Betula pendula (Silver birch)	Pinus sylvestris (Scott's pine)	Grey willow (Salix cinerea)	Alder (Alnus glutinosa)
Betula pubescens (Downy birch)	Shrub/Understorey Layer	Hazel (Corylus avellana)	Shrub/Understorey Layer
Alnus glutinosa (Alder)	Eared willow (Salix aurita)	Downy birch (Betula pubescens)	Eared willow (Salix aurita)
Salix cinerea (Grey willow)	Salix nigra (Black willow)	Elder (Sambucus nigra)	Osier (Salix viminalis)
Ilex aquifolium (Holly)	Corylus avellana (Hazel)	Sorbus aucuparia (Rowan)	Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)
Shrub/Understorey Layer	Shrub/Understorey Layer	Shrub/Understorey Layer	Shrub/Understorey Layer
Salix aurita (Eared willow)	Juniperus communis (Juniper)	Juniperus communis (Juniper)	Dog rose (Rosa canina)
			Gorse (Ulex europaeus)

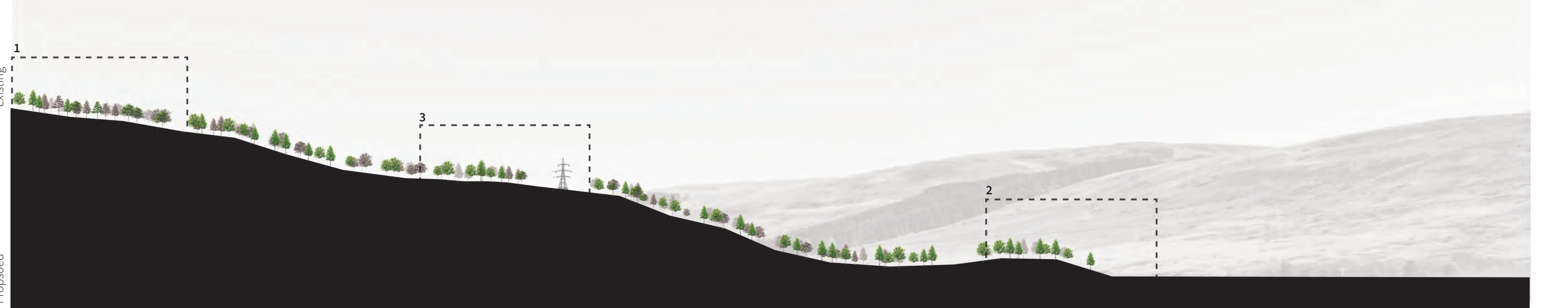
**Woodland Establishment Indicative Diagram**

1 year old	5 years old	10 years old	25 years old	40 years old
Whipwillow	Growth: 2.0m-3.5m height and 0.6m wide; trunk 15-20cm wide	6.0-7.5m height and 1.2m wide; trunk 15-20cm wide	12-15m height and 7m wide; trunk 25cm wide	20-30m height and 10-15m wide; trunk 30-40cm wide
Age: 1 year	Age: 5 years	Age: 10 years	Age: 25 years	Age: 40 years
Canopy: 15cm	Canopy: 1.2m	Canopy: 1.2m	Canopy: 10-15m	Canopy: 10-15m
Height: 5m-1.0m	Height: 2.0-3.5m	Height: 6.0-7.5m	Height: 12-15m	Height: 20-30m
Thinning: every 5-10 years	Thinning: every 5-10 years	Thinning: every 5-10 years	Thinning: every 5-10 years	Thinning: every 5-10 years

**Woodland Edge Treatments Indicative Plan Diagrams**

The above plan diagrams illustrate the proposed edge treatment in situations likely to arise during the design development and implementation of native woodland planting within the Stronachlachar area. These are intended to act as a guide for edge treatments in the scenarios likely to be encountered. Treatments all propose naturalistic design of the permanent woodland and woodland edge through creation of glades, rides, scalloped edges, habitat islands and feathered edges to upland slope sides through sensitive following of natural hollows and depressions within the existing landscape. Clockwise from top left: Native woodland edge to existing forestry and open space. Native woodland planting to lower slopes and wayleave edge. New native woodland edge to wayleave.

Indicative Cross Section A



Indicative Visuals

<p><b>Visual 1</b>                      Illustrating screening afforded by new native woodland planting along the western edge of the Great Trossachs Forest Path. Views will be largely screened at this point, but will be intermittently screened and filtered along this length of the path between Stronachlachar and the head of Loch Katrine.</p>	<p><b>Visual 2</b>                      Section of Great Trossachs Forest Path close to the edge of Loch Katrine, where the introduction of further native woodland planting will improve the experience of users of the path and focus across Loch Katrine and away from the transmission line on higher ground to the west of the route.</p>	<p><b>Visual 3</b>                      Visualisation showing the screening and filtering of the transmission line pitched views west from the route of the Great Trossachs Path. The introduction of native woodland along the lower slopes will reduce the perceptibility of the transmission lines for considerable sections of the route.</p>
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