

BEAULY BESS

LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT PLAN S01

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Appendix A – Landscape Maintenance Schedule

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Landscape Management Plan has been prepared by TGP Landscape Architects Ltd, a firm of independent consultants. The report sets out the requirements for the future maintenance of landscape works at Beauly BESS, Highlands. These requirements are summarised in the maintenance schedule within Appendix A.
- 1.2 The Landscape Management Plan should be read in conjunction with TGP drawing nos.
 2210 LVA Fig 5a L01H Landscape Layout Compound, and 2210 LVA Fig 5a L02E Landscape Layout Field Boundaries, which provides further information in relation to the planting approach, including plant species and sizes.

2 General Requirements

General Maintenance Operations

- 2.1 Maintenance operations shall include watering; pruning; localised application of fertiliser; weeding and cultivation as necessary; use of chemical weed / pest control only where essential; wildflower meadow cutting; adjustment of tree ties; removal of stakes as necessary and removal of litter / debris trapped in branches.
- 2.2 Operations shall be based on the Landscape Maintenance Schedule in Appendix A.

Climatic Conditions

2.3 All maintenance works shall be carried out while soil and weather conditions are suitable for the relevant operations.

Machines and Tools

2.4 Only machinery and tools suitable for the site conditions and the work to be carried out shall be used. Hand tools shall be used around trees / plants and in confined spaces where it is impracticable to use machinery. Cutting tools must be sharp and caution should be exercised to prevent the transmission of plant disease via tools.

Litter Clearance

2.5 All types of litter, debris and rubbish that has become trapped in tree branches and hedgerows should be removed on a periodic basis.

Chemical Fertilisers, Weedkillers and Sprays

2.6 Chemical Fertilisers, weedkillers and sprays are to be used sparingly and only where specified and measured; ensuring no run-off to adjoining areas. They shall conform in every respect to the mixture required and be applied strictly in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. All chemicals are to be used and distributed under the direct supervision of a Foreman who is certified to handle chemicals.

2.7 All chemicals to be used must have been approved for the use specified by MAFF in accordance with Control of Pesticides Regulations, 1980. All chemicals used will be non-toxic to human beings, birds and animals under normal use and only chemicals on the "Agricultural Chemicals Approved Scheme" current list of approved products may be used. The appropriate sections of the Health and Safety at Work Act of 1974, the Food and Environment Protection Act of 1985 and the control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 1988, shall be adhered to in full.

Pruning Operations

- 2.8 Pruning, shaping and trimming of trees shall be carried out in accordance with BS 3998; 1989. Dead, dying or diseased wood, stumps or branches, unwanted epicormic shoots, climbing plants and rubbish accumulated in branch forks should be removed.
- 2.9 Pruning cuts should be made at a fork or at the main stem and wounds shall be kept as small as possible. The final cut should be just outside the branch or collar or at an angle, which is the mirror image of the branch bark ridge. Treatment of wounds shall only take place where the risk of infection is high.
- 2.10 Formative pruning should produce a plant which is fair and symmetrical and which will be free from major physical weaknesses.
- 2.11 Damaged roots or those that have to be pruned should be cut so that the final wound will be as small as possible and free from ragged and torn ends. Exposed roots should be cut back to clean wood and covered with the indigenous soil.

Weeding

2.12 Trees / plants shall be inspected and maintained accordingly to ensure that they can develop without unnecessary competition. Weeding around the base of the plants shall be by hand or by machine (strimming).

Damage of Stock

2.13 Special care shall be taken when working in planting areas not to cause damage to plants by trampling, careless mechanical weeding, or in any other way.

Watering

2.14 During long dry spells, all plants shall be watered using a fine hose or a sprinkler until full depth of topsoil is saturated.

Pesticides

2.15 Pesticides shall not be used unless in the case of heavy infestation of insects, fungi or other pests, the plants shall be treated with an approved pesticide.

Frost Lift

2.16 All plants that have been lifted by frost, or have exposed roots, and plants not standing upright shall be lifted and replanted.

3 Objectives

Management Objectives

- 3.1 Management shall be undertaken in a manner that maintains the mix of plant species and prevents any one species from dominating.
- 3.2 Maintenance works will observe bird nesting seasons (months of March to July inclusive) with management works to trees undertaken outwith this period. The tree canopy around the site will not be artificially lit.
- 3.3 The landscape maintenance schedule in Appendix A provides further detail in relation to the management activities and timing required to achieve these aims and objectives.

Appendix A: Landscape Maintenance Schedule	



BEAULY BESS: LANDSCAPE MAINTENACE SCHEDULE

Component	Objective	Task	Time of Year	Frequency
			-	
Native Trees (individual 'Standard' trees located within	To ensure that trees throughout the site remain in a healthy, attractive and safe condition	Inspection, including adjustment / removal of stakes and ties	March - Sept	Annually, with removal after 5-10 years.
the Native Woodland Edge areas)		Apply Fertiliser	Spring	Annually for 5 years
Luge areas,		Pruning and repair of wounds	Oct - Feb	As required
		Watering	As necessary depending on weather condition; primarily May - August	As required - daily in very dry spells during initial establishment
		Replacement planting for any trees that fail to establish	October - Feb	As required annually to the end of Year 5
Native Woodland Edge	To ensure trees and understorey scrub remain in a healthy, attractive and safe condition.	Inspection, including adjustment / removal of stakes and ties	March - Sept	Annually, with removal after 5-10 Years.
	Maintain a mix of species.	Manual weed control by hand or machine (strimming) to remove any pernicious weeds, allowing specified species to develop free of unnecessary competition.	March - Sept	Monthly
		Selective thinning to ensure healthy growth of slower growing species and understorey plants.	October – Feb	Every 10 years
		Watering	As necessary; generally May – August	As required during initial establishment
		Replacement planting for any trees / plants that fail to establish	October - Feb	As required annually to the end of Year 5



BEAULY BESS: LANDSCAPE MAINTENACE SCHEDULE

Component	Objective	Task	Time of Year	Frequency
Species-Rich Meadow (extending along peripheral Site areas)	Maintain an attractive species- rich meadow, allowing seeds to fall and scatter, with no one species predominating. Maintain low-fertility of substrate through removal of all cut arisings, and	Cut to 50mm after flowering and seed drop. Remove arisings from Site Repair eroded areas / areas that fail to establish; rotovate to 150mm, apply matching seed mix (refer to drawing no.	September - October May - September	Once annually As required annually to the end of Year 5
Wetland Meadow (extending around SUDS basin)	avoidance of fertiliser application. Maintain an attractive speciesrich meadow, allowing seeds to fall and scatter, with no one species predominating. Maintain low-fertility of substrate through	2210/L01: Landscape Plan) First Year Management: Cut growth back to 50mm after flowering and seed drop. Remove arisings from Site Management once established: Cut back	September - October September - October	Once annually Once every 2 years
	removal of all cut arisings, and avoidance of fertiliser application.	localised sections / wedges to 50mm, leaving other areas undisturbed to create variation in structure Repair areas that fail to establish: rotovate to 150mm, apply matching seed	May - September	As required annually to end of Year 5
SUDS / Attenuation Basin	To maintain attractive, wildlife- encouraging water features.	mix (refer to drawing no. 2210/L01: Landscape Plan) Inspection to check water levels, and presence of invasive species to be removed	March - Sept	Annually
		Litter / Debris Removal	Throughout	As required