A2.5 Kinneil Estate Woodland Reborn 2				
Project Overview:	This project led on from Kinneil Estate Woodland Reborn 1, and carried out additional woodland management works at the site as per phase 2 of works detailed in the Long Term Forest Plan.			
	The woodland felling and thinning works opened up a new viewpoint from the Estate thus creating a visual link with the Forth Estuary beyond. Adjacent woodland blocks along the escarpment were thinned improving vistas. With works sited to align with the installation location of a 'beacon' (interpretative installation) from the IFLI Telling the Inner Forth Story project, the visitor experience in this setting has been enhanced.			
Project lead organisation and other organisations involved:	Central Scotland Green Network Trust, contractors, Falkirk Community Trust.			
Project Location:	Kinneil Estate, Bo'ness, Falkirk. Grid Ref: NS981807			
Project dates	July 2017 to May 2018 (Year 4, Quarter 2 to Year 5, Quarter 1)			

Project Outputs				
Measure	Target	Delivered	Notes	
Area of woodland brought into active management (felling, thinning, brashing)	8.39ha	6.2ha	The tender process returned priced that exceeded the funding available, so a reduced extent of works was carried out.	
Restock with native broadleaf species	8.39ha	0.25ha	Far less re-stocking than originally intended was carried out as stakeholders felt that it would impinge on views to the Forth and not be in keeping with the landscape character that is being created on the site.	

What difference has this project made to the built, cultural and natural heritage of the Inner Forth?

These works helped to deliver another element of the Kinneil Estate Long Term Forest Plan. The selective felling, thinning, brashing and re-planting with native species has increased the biodiversity value of the woodland by improving structural, age class and species diversity.

The thinning and felling has opened up views between the Estate and Estuary, creating better links between the historic landscape and the Inner Forth estuary that influenced its development.

What difference has this project made to people?

The Kinneil Estate is a well-used area for recreation on the outskirts of Bo'ness in Falkirk. The visitor experience for users of the wider site and visitors to the interpretative installation has been enhanced with the creation of new landscape views towards the River.

Useful Links

There is a page dedicated to this project on the IFLI website: <u>www.innerforthlandscape.co.uk</u>

Future Plans

The woodlands will continue to be managed by Falkirk Community Trust through their long term forest plan, which has been developed, in partnership with Forest Community Scotland, for the wider estate. Funding to carry out the next phases of work, as identified in the LTFP will be sought through forestry grant schemes, as well as any other grant schemes available. Given the work carried out to date the woodland is now healthier and in a more robust shape than it was prior to management works being carried out, so management interventions in the short term will be minimal.

Lessons Learned

Timing of works is critical, particularly with woodland management which can only happen between Sept and March. There are obviously things like the weather that are outwith our control, but which can also cause delays to works. So, having a realistic timetable for delivery is imperative, as is careful management of on-site activity. I think given these factors, we would be less ambitious about what we could deliver the next time, and stick to the original brief, which was to create the viewpoint and only the viewpoint. We tried to deliver too much and given the issues stated above, made life quite difficult!

Photographic Evidence



Photos courtesy of IFLI team/ 2018.





