

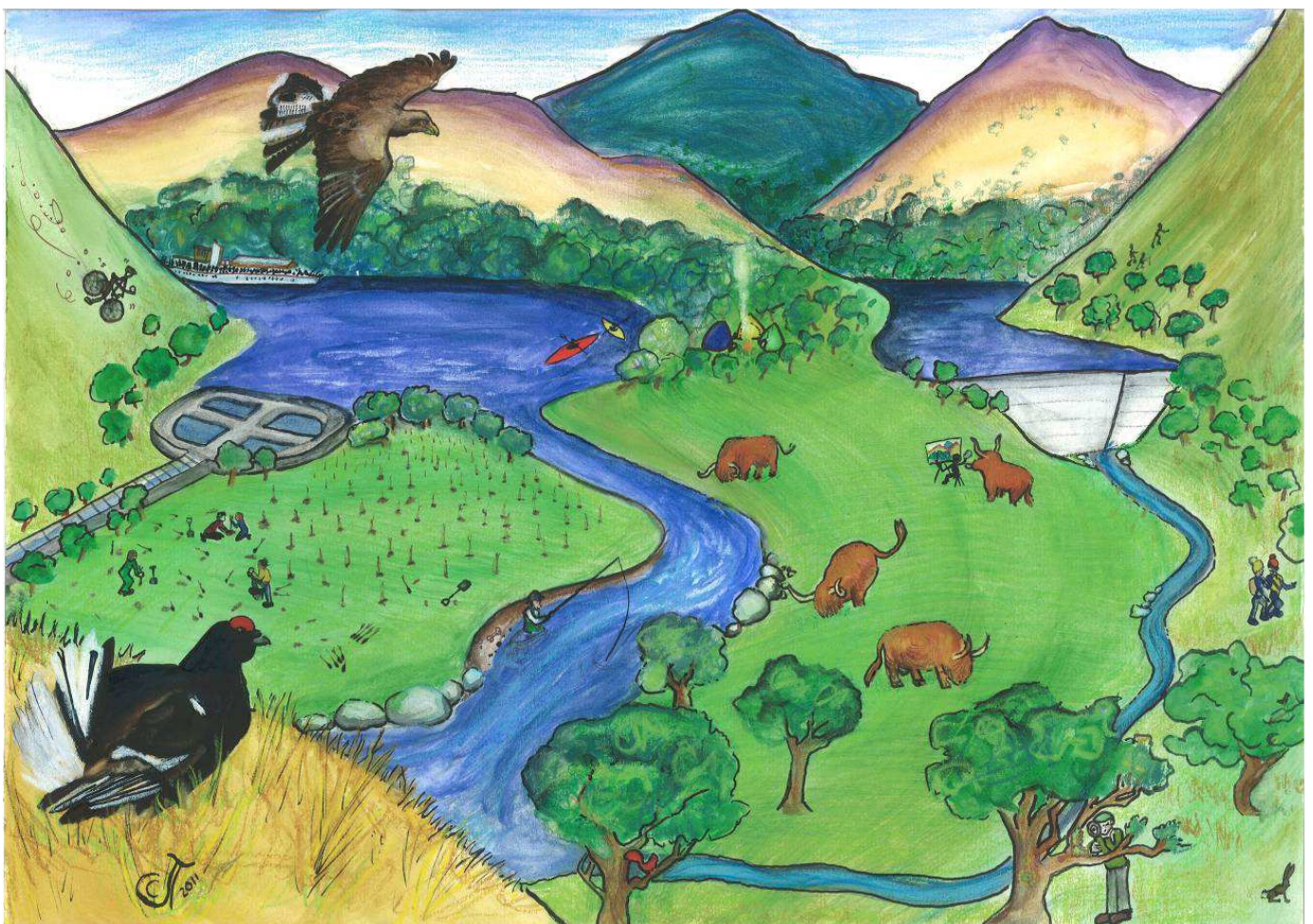
# The Great Trossachs Forest Education Resource

## An Introduction

The aim of these resources is to provide both teachers and learners with information and inspiration about The Great Trossachs Forest Project that directly links to the Scottish curriculum. These resources have been developed for the Forestry Commission Scotland by Rowanbank Environmental Education, with support from Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park and subject teachers from High Schools across Scotland. Illustrations by Jemima Thewes.

### Contents

- Biology Resources for National 3, 4 & 5 and Standard Grade, Intermediate 2 and Advanced Higher
- Geography Resource for National 3, 4 & 5 and Standard Grade and Intermediate 1 & 2 based on the Landscapes of The Great Trossachs Forest
- Inspiring Landscapes - Resources for Art and Design Curriculum for Excellence Level 3.
- Bringing a Class to The Great Trossachs Forest



## Background information

The Great Trossachs Forest (TGTF) lies at the heart of the Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park, and is one of the outstanding scenic areas of Scotland. In addition to the recreational and environmental benefits they provide, Loch Katrine and Loch Arklet are of vital public importance, having been Glasgow's main source of drinking water since the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century.



Map showing location of the Great Trossachs Forest and its proximity to Glasgow.

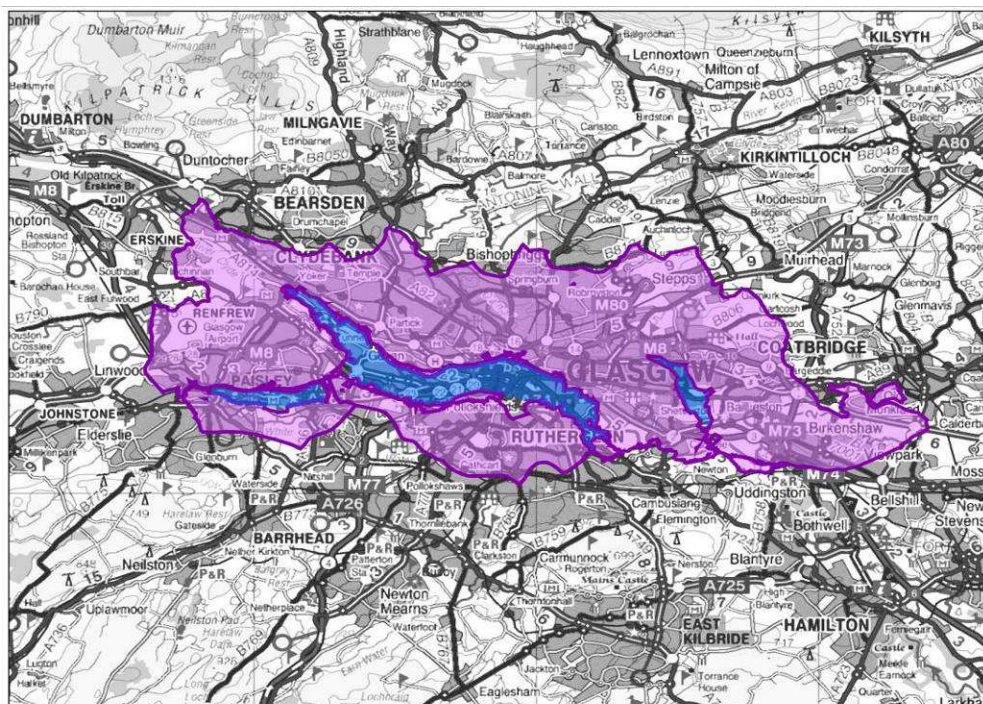
The area covered by TGTf Project was once largely native woodland, with trees stretching up to the 'tree line' of the surrounding mountains. In more recent history, much of that forest was felled and many areas were allowed to be severely overgrazed, dramatically reducing the biodiversity value of the land. In modern times, the remnants of the most important habitats have become formally designated as protected sites, acknowledging their special value.

One of the main aims of TGTf Project is to act as a demonstration site and showcase for sustainable land management and use. This aim will be achieved through an extensive programme of tree planting, natural woodland regeneration and active land management, maximising the potential for as many species as possible to adapt and move in response to the effects of climate change.

Over the 200 year project lifetime the landscape will be transformed, returning heavily grazed land and plantation forestry to a more natural mix of habitats, including areas of native woodland, moorland, montane scrub, wetland and pasture. The project will provide a range of conservation biodiversity, climate change, tourism and recreation benefits, protect the water supply and provide great opportunities for learning and inspiration.

One of the key drivers for TGTf is to engage with socially excluded audiences from the Central Belt. The aim is to encourage visits to the site and also to provide curriculum-linked education resources that enable teachers to use TGTf to inspire learning within the school environment.

The scale of the area covered by TGTf Project will make it, in time, the largest area of native woodland in the UK, and it is one of the biggest woodland regeneration schemes in Europe. (TGTf Project covers an area the size of Glasgow, approximately 16,650 hectares in total).



The area of TGTf shown relative to Glasgow.