



# Craigengillan Woodland Restoration UK

Promoting biodiversity and conservation  
with a community woodland in the south  
western uplands of Scotland



*In an area that bears the scars of its industrial heritage, this project has planted over 200 hectares of native woodland in the estate of Craigengillan. This woodland not only sequesters carbon, but also serves as an educational and recreational resource for local communities.*



### The Context

With the closure of the last of the deep mining pits a generation ago, both the landscape and economy of Craigengillan have suffered. The environmentally sensitive area, which extends 3,000 acres in the western Southern Uplands, adjoins the former coal mining communities of Dalmellington and Bellsbank. These communities are ranked in the 3% most deprived settlements in Scotland and lack the resources to mobilise the conservation of this incredibly diverse area without outside support.

### The Project

The Craigengillan Estate restoration project involves the replanting 219 hectares of woodland with mixed native broadleaves (including Birch, Oak, Hazel and Rowan) as well as managing and restocking over 202 hectares of older mixed woodland. The protected and managed woodlands provide a sink for carbon emissions, habitats for a diversity of wildlife and a unique natural resource for the recreation and education of the local community.

### The Benefits

Not only does the project mitigate the effects of climate change, but through the creation of a community woodland it continues to benefit the wider community with over 12000 visitors a year. The estate also works with Scouts, Cadets, Duke of Edinburgh and John Muir Trust award candidates providing a natural capital resource for young people to use to develop and gain knowledge of the outdoors.

The woods are also part of the Woodland Trust's project to commemorate the centenary of the First World War



**5 schools**

use the woodland as an environmental education resource



**4 new jobs**

will be created for forest maintenance, thinning, wildlife photography hides, harvesting and wildlife rangers



**82,000 tCO<sub>2</sub>e**

will be sequestered over the next 100 years



**400 ha**

of native woodland is planted or protected

For more information on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, please visit: <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

**Official name:** Craigengillan - Groups 1 and 2 | **Registry links:** [https://mer.markit.com/br-reg/public/master-project.jsp?project\\_id=103000000000847](https://mer.markit.com/br-reg/public/master-project.jsp?project_id=103000000000847), [https://mer.markit.com/br-reg/public/master-project.jsp?project\\_id=103000000000848](https://mer.markit.com/br-reg/public/master-project.jsp?project_id=103000000000848) | **Registry ID:** 103000000000847 |

**Project webpage:** <https://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-9qshqy>