NFI provisional estimates for woodland within 75 miles of Pontrilas

NFI Provisional Report

Summary

This report provides a detailed picture of stocked area and the standing volume of timber for woodland within a 75 mile radius of Pontrilas. These estimates are a subset of those published as part of the 2012 growing stock information presented in the National Forest Inventory (NFI) *50-year forecasts of softwood timber availability* and *50-year forecast of hardwood timber availability*. NFI reports are published at www.forestry.gov.uk/inventory.

In addition, the report provides forecasts of timber availability, for softwoods and hardwoods arising from the stocked area and standing volume. Forecasts are based on the 'headline' harvesting scenario described in the NFI 50-year forecast reports. Forecasting for broadleaved woodland in the Private sector is provided using a harvesting scenario which brings all Private sector broadleaved woodland into production.

The estimates provided in this report are provisional in nature.

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Approach

The approach taken in the derivation of these results and to be used in their interpretation is described in the full suite of forecast reports which can be found at www.forestry.gov.uk/forecast. Refer to the *Standing timber volume in coniferous trees in Britain* (2012) and the *NFI preliminary estimates of quantities of broadleaved species in British Woodlands with special focus on ash* (2014) reports for a description of the underlying methodologies and interpretation, and also for the England and GB context. Refer to the *NFI forecasts methodology overview* (2012) report for a detailed description and discussion of forecasting future availability of timber from NFI field survey data and from information in the Forestry Commission's sub-compartment database (SCDB). The wider context of forecasts of timber production from woodland in Great Britain and its constituent countries under a range of harvesting scenarios can be found in the *50-year forecast of softwood timber availability* (2014) and the *50-year forecast of hardwood timber availability* (2014).

The estimates reported here are based upon field samples assessed between October 2009 and August 2013, the results of which have been subjected to rigorous data quality assurance procedures. These field samples constitute approximately two thirds of the sites to be sampled within the first cycle of NFI field sampling. As a consequence, the estimates in this report are classed as provisional.

Results

The results presented in this report are estimates of stocked areas and standing volumes at 31 March 2012, and 25-year forecasts of softwood and hardwood availability under the 'headline' harvesting scenario and modified to assume that all hardwoods are harvested in woodland within 100 miles of Pontrilas. The data sources used for the compilation of these estimates are the same as described in the National Forest Inventory reports *Standing timber volume for coniferous trees in Britain* (2012), the *50-year forecast of softwood availability* (2014) and the *50-year forecast of hardwood availability* (2014). Estimates for the Forestry Commission (FC) and Natural Resources Wales (NRW) estates are derived from their sub-compartment databases, while those for the private sector (i.e. non-FC in England or non-NRW in Wales) estate are derived from information collected in the NFI field survey. A fuller description of these data sources and how they are used in the production of estimates, including sampling standard errors attached to the private sector estimates, is provided in the earlier documents.

The Private sector forecast in this report represents the potential availability of timber under the assumption of harvesting to maximise timber production. The actual levels of timber that will be produced will vary from the results reported here as production

depends on the harvesting choices made by forest and woodland owners who are unlikely to consistrently choose to maximise production over the forecast period.

Results are provided for stocked area at 31 March 2012 (**Figures 1a-1b** and **Tables 1-3**), felled area (**Table 4**), standing volume at 31 March 2012 (**Figures 2a-2b** and **Tables 5-7**) and the 25-year forecast (**Figures 3 - 6** and **Tables 8-9)**.

The values in the tables have been independently rounded, so may not add to the totals shown. In some breakdowns of Private sector estimates, the estimates in the body of the table may not sum to the quoted total because each individual value, including the total, has been independently generated by the estimation procedure used for results from the NFI sample survey. Sampling standard errors (SE) attached to Private sector estimates are expressed in relative terms (%) to the right of the relevant estimate.

Where the standard error is high this indicates that the estimate should be interpreted with a degree of caution. Any estimate with a relatively large standard error is shown in amber in the tables.

These standard errors depend on the combination of a number of factors but broadly:

- The more woodland that is within the area of interest the more samples that will have been selected, generally leading to lower standard errors

- Increasing the number of categories and sub-categories used (e.g. conifers and broadleaves then sub-divided into species groupings) may well result in higher standard errors, especially for the categories that occur less frequently such as minor species

- More variability will also result in higher standard errors; for instance if a species is usually more evenly stocked when compared with another then its standard error will tend to be lower than the latter species.

Stocked area at 31 March 2012

Figure 1a Principal tree species composition by stocked area at 31 March 2012

Legend:
- Sitka spruce
- Scots pine
- Corsican pine
- Norway spruce
- Larches
- Douglas fir
- Lodgepole pine
- Other conifers
- Oak
- Beech
- Sycamore
- Ash
- Birch
- Sweet chestnut
- Hazel
- Hawthorn
- Alder
- Willow
- Other broadleaves
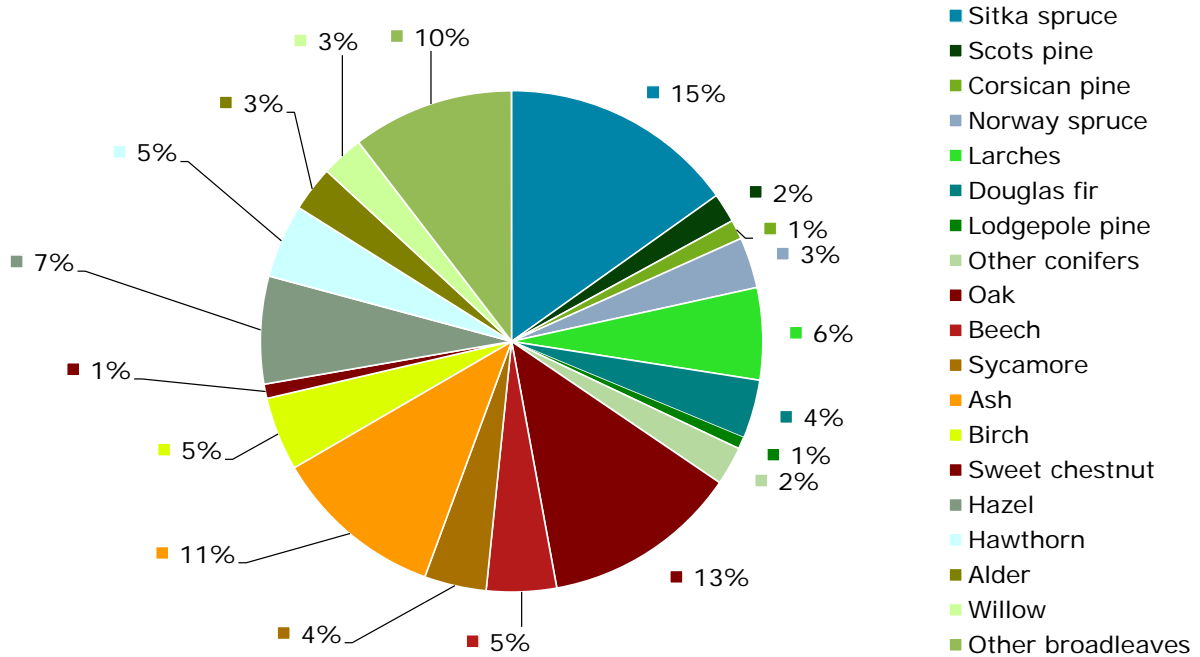
Figure 1b Principal conifer tree species composition by stocked area at 31 March 2012

Legend:
- Sitka spruce
- Scots pine
- Corsican pine
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- Larches
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- Other conifers
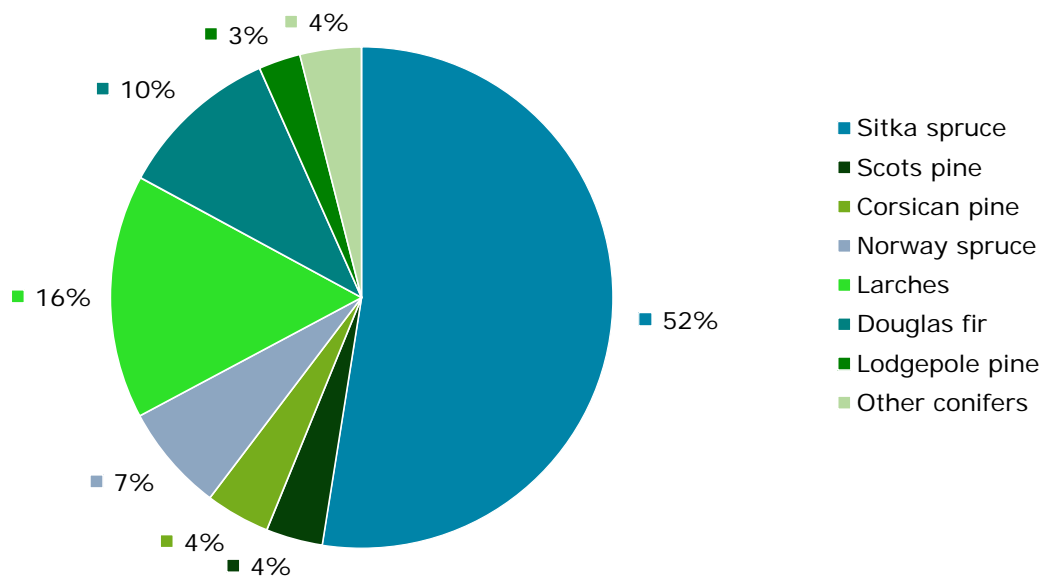
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Table 1 Stocked area by principal tree species at 31 March 2012

Principal species	FC/NRW area (000 ha)	Private sector area (000 ha)	SE%	Total area (000 ha)
Conifers				
Sitka spruce	43.9	22.7	8	66.6
Scots pine	3.1	5.2	14	8.3
Corsican pine	3.5	2.1	21	5.5
Norway spruce	5.8	8.6	11	14.4
Larches	13.2	12.9	9	26.1
Douglas fir	8.7	7.9	12	16.7
Lodgepole pine	2.2	1.1	33	3.4
Other conifers	3.3	7.6	12	10.9
All conifers	**83.7**	**68.5**	**3**	**152.1**
Broadleaves				
Oak	6.5	49.0	5	55.5
Beech	4.1	15.7	9	19.8
Sycamore	0.2	17.4	8	17.6
Ash	1.1	47.3	4	48.4
Birch	2.1	18.8	8	20.8
Sweet chestnut	0.4	3.6	19	4.0
Hazel	0.1	30.4	6	30.5
Hawthorn	0.0	20.9	7	20.9
Alder	0.2	12.6	9	12.9
Willow	0.0	11.9	9	12.0
Other broadleaves	10.4	35.4	5	45.8
All broadleaves	**25.3**	**262.7**	**1**	**288.0**
All species				
All species	**109.0**	**331.4**	**1**	**440.3**

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Table 2 Stocked area by age class at 31 March 2012

Age class	FC/NRW area (000 ha)	Private sector area (000 ha)	SE%	Total area (000 ha)
All conifers				
0–10 years	9.1	3.8	*19*	**12.9**
11–20 years	14.2	4.9	*16*	**19.2**
21–40 years	25.4	23.5	*8*	**48.9**
41–60 years	27.8	28.4	*7*	**56.2**
61–80 years	6.2	5.1	*16*	**11.4**
81–100 years	0.9	1.8	*31*	**2.7**
100+ years	0.1	0.9	*36*	**1.0**
Total	**83.7**	**68.5**	*3*	**152.1**
All broadleaves				
0–10 years	4.2	32.7	*6*	**36.8**
11–20 years	2.9	37.2	*6*	**40.1**
21–40 years	3.1	71.7	*4*	**74.8**
41–60 years	4.6	40.8	*6*	**45.4**
61–80 years	4.7	33.8	*6*	**38.5**
81–100 years	1.7	27.3	*7*	**28.9**
100+ years	4.2	19.3	*9*	**23.4**
Total	**25.3**	**262.7**	*1*	**288.0**
All species				
0–10 years	13.2	36.5	*6*	**49.8**
11–20 years	17.1	42.1	*5*	**59.3**
21–40 years	28.5	95.4	*4*	**123.9**
41–60 years	32.4	69.1	*4*	**101.5**
61–80 years	10.9	39.0	*6*	**49.9**
81–100 years	2.5	29.0	*7*	**31.6**
100+ years	4.3	20.2	*8*	**24.5**
Total	**109.0**	**331.4**	*1*	**440.3**

Table 3 Stocked area by mean stand dbh class at 31 March 2012

Mean stand DBH	FC/NRW	Private sector		Total
	area (000 ha)	area (000 ha)	*SE%*	area (000 ha)
All conifers				
0–7 cm	12.4	4.1	*18*	**16.5**
7–10 cm	4.7	3.9	*17*	**8.6**
10–15 cm	15.4	6.9	*14*	**22.3**
15–20 cm	14.6	9.6	*12*	**24.2**
20–30 cm	19.4	16.7	*9*	**36.1**
30–40 cm	10.3	14.4	*8*	**24.6**
40–60 cm	6.3	11.3	*11*	**17.5**
60–80 cm	0.5	1.0	*36*	**1.4**
80+ cm	0.1	0.6	*43*	**0.7**
Total	**83.7**	**68.5**	*3*	**152.1**
All broadleaves				
0–7 cm	5.3	37.7	*6*	**43.0**
7–10 cm	3.9	48.4	*4*	**52.3**
10–15 cm	3.1	40.4	*5*	**43.5**
15–20 cm	3.8	28.1	*6*	**31.9**
20–30 cm	4.3	37.6	*5*	**41.9**
30–40 cm	2.9	24.0	*7*	**26.9**
40–60 cm	1.6	28.9	*6*	**30.5**
60–80 cm	0.3	12.2	*10*	**12.5**
80+ cm	0.0	5.5	*17*	**5.6**
Total	**25.3**	**262.7**	*1*	**288.0**
All species				
0–7 cm	17.7	41.8	*5*	**59.5**
7–10 cm	8.7	52.2	*4*	**60.9**
10–15 cm	18.5	47.4	*5*	**66.0**
15–20 cm	18.4	37.8	*6*	**56.3**
20–30 cm	23.7	54.3	*5*	**78.0**
30–40 cm	13.1	38.4	*5*	**51.5**
40–60 cm	7.9	40.1	*5*	**48.0**
60–80 cm	0.7	13.1	*9*	**13.8**
80+ cm	0.1	6.1	*16*	**6.3**
Total	**109.0**	**331.4**	*1*	**440.3**

Table 4 Felled area at 31 March 2012

Clearfelled area	FC/NRW	Private sector		Total
	area (000 ha)	area (000 ha)	*SE%*	area (000 ha)
	6.8	2.5	*24*	**9.3**

Standing volume at 31 March 2012

Figure 2a Principal tree species composition by standing volume at 31 March 2012
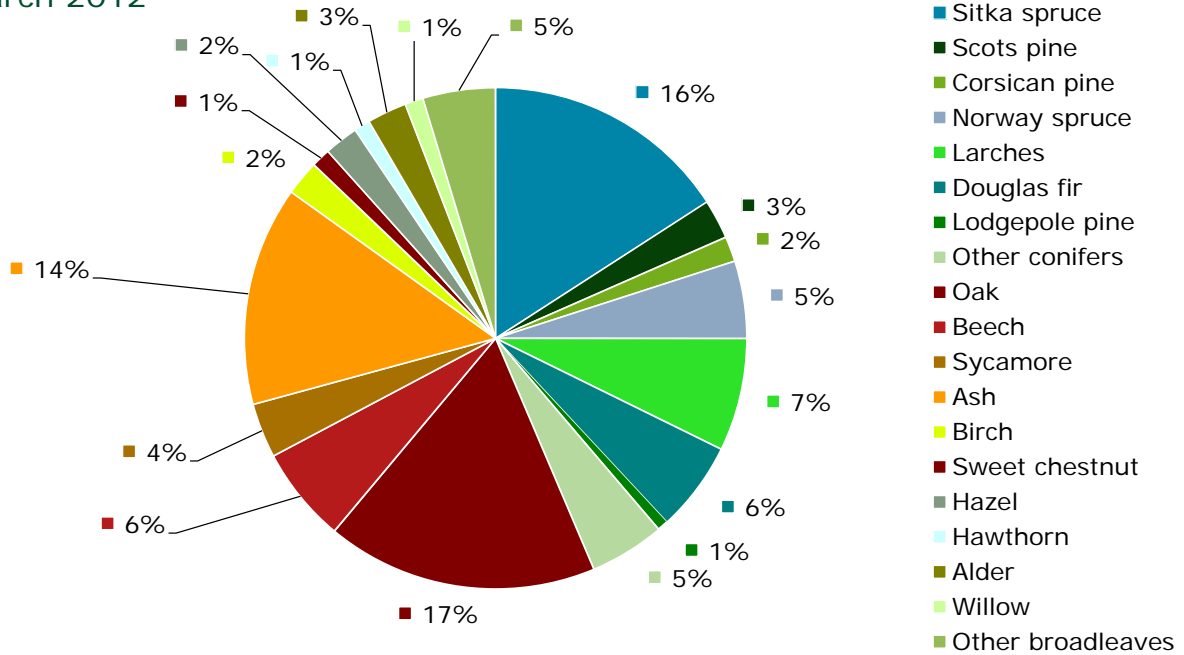
Figure 2b Principal conifer tree species composition by standing volume at 31 March 2012
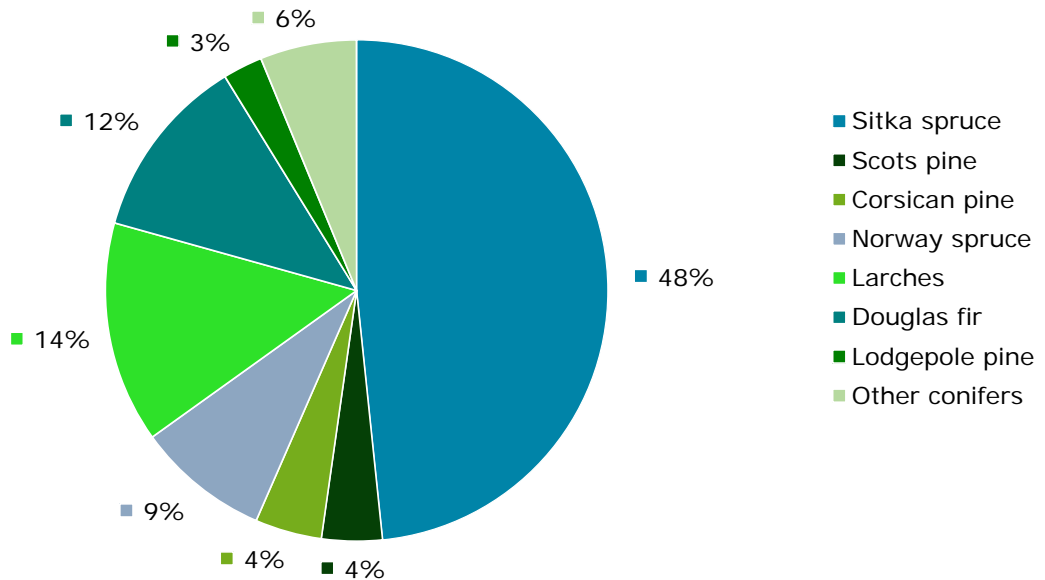
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Table 5 Standing volume by principal tree species at 31 March 2012

Principal species	FC/NRW volume (000 m³ obs)	Private sector volume (000 m³ obs)	SE%	Total volume (000 m³ obs)
Conifers				
Sitka spruce	9,679	7,974	11	**17,653**
Scots pine	779	2,041	15	**2,821**
Corsican pine	859	946	23	**1,805**
Norway spruce	1,712	3,842	14	**5,554**
Larches	2,854	5,241	11	**8,095**
Douglas fir	2,381	4,066	14	**6,447**
Lodgepole pine	509	255	37	**764**
Other conifers	1,245	4,153	18	**5,397**
All conifers	**20,018**	**28,647**	**5**	**48,664**
Broadleaves				
Oak	1,053	18,368	7	**19,421**
Beech	868	5,986	13	**6,854**
Sycamore	31	3,901	13	**3,932**
Ash	155	15,587	10	**15,742**
Birch	169	2,338	9	**2,507**
Sweet chestnut	59	1,302	22	**1,361**
Hazel	14	2,426	9	**2,440**
Hawthorn	0	1,144	10	**1,144**
Alder	34	2,808	12	**2,842**
Willow	0	1,308	15	**1,308**
Other broadleaves	903	4,290	11	**5,194**
All broadleaves	**3,285**	**59,457**	**3**	**62,743**
All species				
All species	**23,303**	**88,115**	**3**	**111,418**

Table 6 Standing volume by age class at 31 March 2012

Age class	FC/NRW volume (000 m³ obs)	Private sector volume (000 m³ obs)	SE%	Total volume (000 m³ obs)
All conifers				
0–10 years	5	0	45	5
11–20 years	600	467	36	1,066
21–40 years	5,368	7,605	10	12,973
41–60 years	10,890	15,257	8	26,147
61–80 years	2,726	3,297	20	6,023
81–100 years	393	1,397	33	1,790
100+ years	36	624	35	659
Total	**20,018**	**28,647**	**5**	**48,664**
All broadleaves				
0–10 years	0	58	30	58
11–20 years	30	1,680	8	1,710
21–40 years	214	9,338	5	9,552
41–60 years	741	10,382	6	11,123
61–80 years	933	11,789	8	12,722
81–100 years	362	14,809	11	15,171
100+ years	1,005	11,400	11	12,405
Total	**3,285**	**59,457**	**3**	**62,743**
All species				
0–10 years	5	58	30	63
11–20 years	630	2,150	10	2,780
21–40 years	5,582	16,965	5	22,547
41–60 years	11,631	25,524	5	37,155
61–80 years	3,659	15,156	8	18,815
81–100 years	755	16,217	10	16,972
100+ years	1,041	12,046	11	13,086
Total	**23,303**	**88,115**	**3**	**111,418**

Table 7 Standing volume by mean stand dbh class at 31 March 2012

Mean stand DBH	FC/NRW	Private sector		Total
	volume (000 m³ obs)	volume (000 m³ obs)	*SE%*	volume (000 m³ obs)
All conifers				
0–7 cm	1	2	70	3
7–10 cm	111	124	19	236
10–15 cm	1,682	864	18	2,546
15–20 cm	3,917	2,591	15	6,508
20–30 cm	7,913	7,846	10	15,759
30–40 cm	3,759	8,113	10	11,872
40–60 cm	2,375	7,329	12	9,704
60–80 cm	223	896	46	1,119
80+ cm	36	882	48	918
Total	**20,018**	**28,647**	**5**	**48,664**
All broadleaves				
0–7 cm	10	159	14	168
7–10 cm	135	1,711	5	1,846
10–15 cm	454	4,176	6	4,630
15–20 cm	816	4,795	7	5,611
20–30 cm	874	9,776	6	10,650
30–40 cm	612	8,800	8	9,412
40–60 cm	328	14,729	8	15,057
60–80 cm	51	8,253	10	8,304
80+ cm	6	7,059	21	7,065
Total	**3,285**	**59,457**	**3**	**62,743**
All species				
0–7 cm	11	160	14	171
7–10 cm	246	1,838	5	2,085
10–15 cm	2,136	5,052	6	7,187
15–20 cm	4,733	7,418	7	12,150
20–30 cm	8,787	17,633	6	26,419
30–40 cm	4,371	16,952	6	21,323
40–60 cm	2,703	21,954	7	24,657
60–80 cm	274	9,142	10	9,417
80+ cm	42	7,967	20	8,009
Total	**23,303**	**88,115**	**3**	**111,418**

25-year forecast of timber availability

Refer to the NFI report *50-year forecast of softwood timber availability* (2014) for a description of the underlying methodology and interpretation of the softwood forecast, and also for the England, Wales and GB context.

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In **Tables 8 and 9** and **Figures 3-6** the estimates for the Forestry Commission and Natural Resources Wales are based on harvesting regimes derived from their felling and thinning plans as of 31 March 2012.

For the Private sector, information for **Tables 8 and 9** and **Figures 3-6** is based on a scenario which assumes felling at age of maximum mean annual increment with moderate wind risk measures for conifers and broadleaves.

Restocking assumptions for conifer stands clearfelled during the forecast period have been implemented that provide for:

- a 10% reduction in the area of conifers on the subsequent rotation
- restocking of currently clearfelled land
- a change in the composition of conifer species on restocking

Restocking assumptions for broadleaved stands clearfelled during the forecast period have been included that provide for:

- No reduction in stocked area.
- Like for like species choices are used for broadleaves.
- That 50% of the land associated with the reduction in conifer stocked area arising from the assumption above is stocked with broadleaves.

A full description of the restocking assumptions is to be found in **Table D3** of the *50-year forecast of softwood timber availability* (2014). The same restocking assumptions have been applied to both the FC, NRW and Private sector forecasts.
Woodland that is classed as currently clearfelled will be restocked according to the restock prescription.

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25-year forecast of timber availability

Table 8 25-year forecast of timber availability by time period and principal species; average annual volumes within period

| Principal species | 2017–21 | | | | | 2022–26 | | | | | 2027–31 | | | |
| | FC/NRW | Private sector | | Total | | FC/NRW | Private sector | | Total | | FC/NRW | Private sector | | Total |
	volume (000 m³ obs)	volume (000 m³ obs)	SE%	volume (000 m³ obs)		volume (000 m³ obs)	volume (000 m³ obs)	SE%	volume (000 m³ obs)		volume (000 m³ obs)	volume (000 m³ obs)	SE%	volume (000 m³ obs)
All conifers	**1,030**	**1,530**	*9*	**2,560**		**991**	**1,442**	*11*	**2,434**		**899**	**1,185**	*10*	**2,085**
Sitka spruce	585	512	*22*	1097		558	458	*22*	1016		516	351	*25*	867
Scots pine	39	95	*29*	133		40	72	*29*	111		27	109	*30*	136
Corsican pine	46	45	*36*	91		46	59	*33*	105		36	22	*41*	58
Norway spruce	82	187	*27*	269		74	225	*29*	299		62	217	*20*	279
Larches	105	263	*14*	368		97	168	*15*	265		85	173	*21*	258
Douglas fir	97	186	*17*	283		112	200	*28*	312		110	135	*28*	244
Lodgepole pine	23	13	*69*	35		18	6	*41*	24		16	4	*42*	21
Other conifers	53	223	*22*	276		45	248	*35*	294		47	169	*26*	216
All broadleaves	**69**	**2,964**	*5*	**3,032**		**31**	**1,503**	*5*	**1,534**		**65**	**1,381**	*7*	**1,446**
Oak	21	156	*20*	177		8	226	*19*	234		20	357	*16*	377
Beech	28	149	*46*	177		11	81	*18*	91		23	119	*42*	142
Sycamore	1	351	*15*	352		0	132	*13*	132		2	100	*18*	101
Ash	3	1194	*7*	1197		1	405	*8*	407		3	180	*8*	183
Birch	3	231	*10*	233		1	126	*14*	128		3	99	*16*	102
Sweet chestnut	2	40	*30*	43		2	29	*22*	31		2	100	*40*	102
Hazel	0	239	*11*	239		0	103	*9*	103		0	78	*21*	78
Hawthorn	0	48	*10*	48		0	42	*9*	42		0	45	*13*	45
Alder	1	247	*12*	248		0	152	*21*	153		1	55	*24*	56
Willow	0	48	*15*	48		0	37	*11*	37		0	95	*35*	95
Other broadleaves	10	264	*15*	274		7	168	*11*	175		11	155	*12*	166
All species	**1,098**	**4,473**	*4*	**5,571**		**1,022**	**2,945**	*6*	**3,967**		**964**	**2,571**	*6*	**3,535**

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Table 8 (cont'd) 25-year forecast of timber availability by time period and principal species; average annual volumes within period

Principal species	2032–36				2037–41			
	FC/NRW	Private sector		Total	FC/NRW	Private sector		Total
	volume (000 m³ obs)	volume (000 m³ obs)	SE%	volume (000 m³ obs)	volume (000 m³ obs)	volume (000 m³ obs)	SE%	volume (000 m³ obs)
All conifers	**989**	**1,215**	**10**	**2,204**	**839**	**951**	**12**	**1,790**
Sitka spruce	621	457	23	1079	447	276	25	723
Scots pine	22	137	20	159	18	114	38	131
Corsican pine	27	16	31	43	30	7	28	37
Norway spruce	53	208	22	262	58	213	33	271
Larches	80	142	18	223	106	88	19	194
Douglas fir	143	87	20	230	129	117	21	246
Lodgepole pine	7	10	57	17	7	35	54	42
Other conifers	35	153	24	188	44	96	23	141
All broadleaves	**22**	**1,103**	**5**	**1,124**	**68**	**1,172**	**6**	**1,240**
Oak	4	142	16	147	19	239	22	258
Beech	3	88	28	91	23	80	20	102
Sycamore	1	75	12	75	1	94	15	95
Ash	2	276	11	277	3	247	8	249
Birch	2	86	13	89	4	79	13	83
Sweet chestnut	1	64	38	65	3	14	21	16
Hazel	1	89	17	90	1	97	13	97
Hawthorn	0	39	9	39	0	62	20	62
Alder	0	51	19	51	1	60	21	60
Willow	0	38	11	38	0	60	23	60
Other broadleaves	7	155	11	162	15	145	8	160
All species	**1,010**	**2,324**	**6**	**3,334**	**907**	**2,121**	**6**	**3,028**

Table 9 25-year forecast of timber availability by period, top-diameter class and conifers or broadleaves

Top diameter class (cm)	2017–21 FC/NRW (000 m³)	Private sector (000 m³)	SE%	2022–26 FC/NRW (000 m³)	Private sector (000 m³)	SE%	2027–31 FC/NRW (000 m³)	Private sector (000 m³)	SE%	2032–36 FC/NRW (000 m³)	Private sector (000 m³)	SE%	2037–41 FC/NRW (000 m³)	Private sector (000 m³)	SE%
All conifers															
7–14	193	123	10	178	99	10	136	102	15	156	98	13	157	118	10
14–16	80	56	11	74	46	11	64	50	16	72	48	16	61	41	15
16–18	85	69	11	74	57	11	73	57	15	86	59	16	67	47	17
18–24	257	294	12	241	274	12	230	223	13	287	248	15	218	182	16
24–34	256	500	11	251	481	12	226	354	12	239	375	11	203	259	13
34–44	96	251	12	96	243	14	91	190	12	77	187	10	68	135	15
44–54	40	121	14	41	124	18	42	97	13	35	95	12	29	70	17
54+	24	116	17	30	119	21	39	112	16	36	105	14	36	99	30
Total	**1,030**	**1,530**	**9**	**991**	**1,442**	**11**	**899**	**1,185**	**10**	**989**	**1,215**	**10**	**839**	**951**	**12**

Top diameter class (cm)	2017–21 FC/NRW (000 m³)	Private sector (000 m³)	SE%	2022–26 FC/NRW (000 m³)	Private sector (000 m³)	SE%	2027–31 FC/NRW (000 m³)	Private sector (000 m³)	SE%	2032–36 FC/NRW (000 m³)	Private sector (000 m³)	SE%	2037–41 FC/NRW (000 m³)	Private sector (000 m³)	SE%
All broadleaves															
7–14	17	553	4	10	369	3	14	369	4	12	401	3	21	449	3
14–16	5	154	4	2	80	5	4	70	7	2	64	5	4	81	5
16–18	5	162	4	2	82	6	4	66	7	1	58	6	4	76	7
18–24	16	536	4	7	273	6	14	212	7	3	159	7	12	209	9
24–34	16	738	5	6	369	7	18	309	11	2	202	10	15	203	13
34–44	6	384	7	2	169	8	7	166	13	1	103	12	7	79	13
44–54	2	198	8	1	76	9	3	82	15	0	51	15	3	35	15
54+	2	237	21	0	84	15	2	108	22	0	66	19	2	40	19
Total	**69**	**2,964**	**5**	**31**	**1,503**	**5**	**65**	**1,381**	**7**	**22**	**1,103**	**5**	**68**	**1,172**	**6**

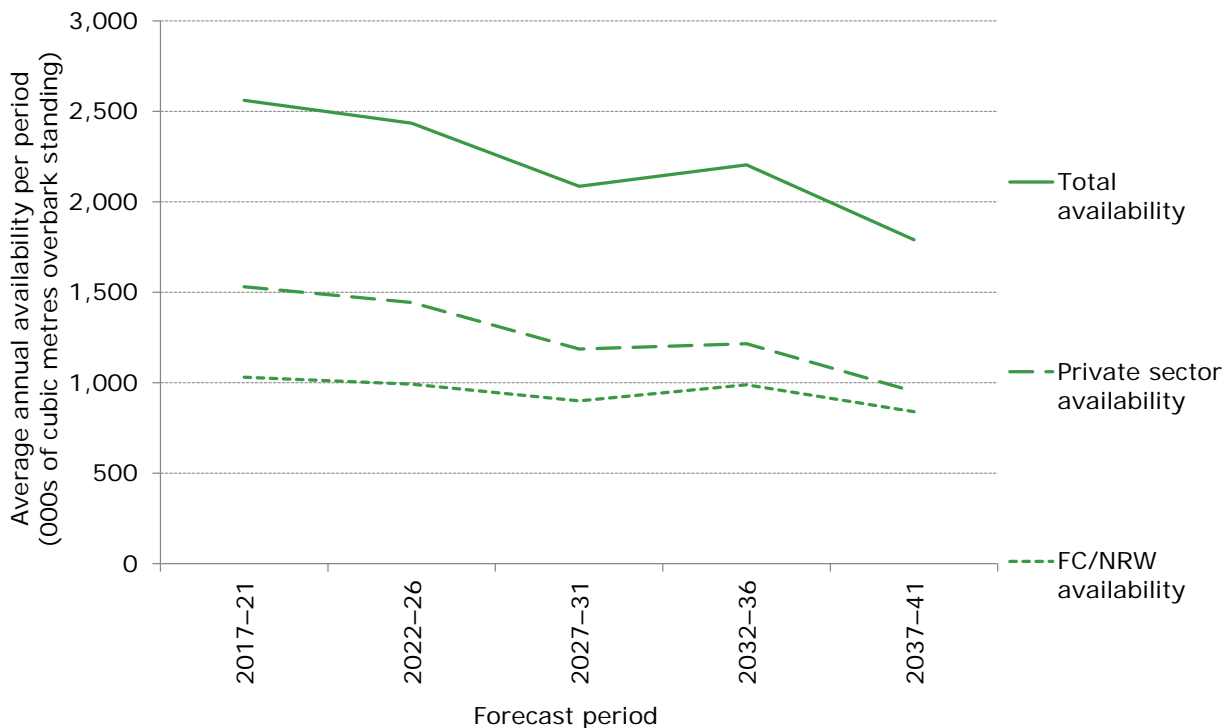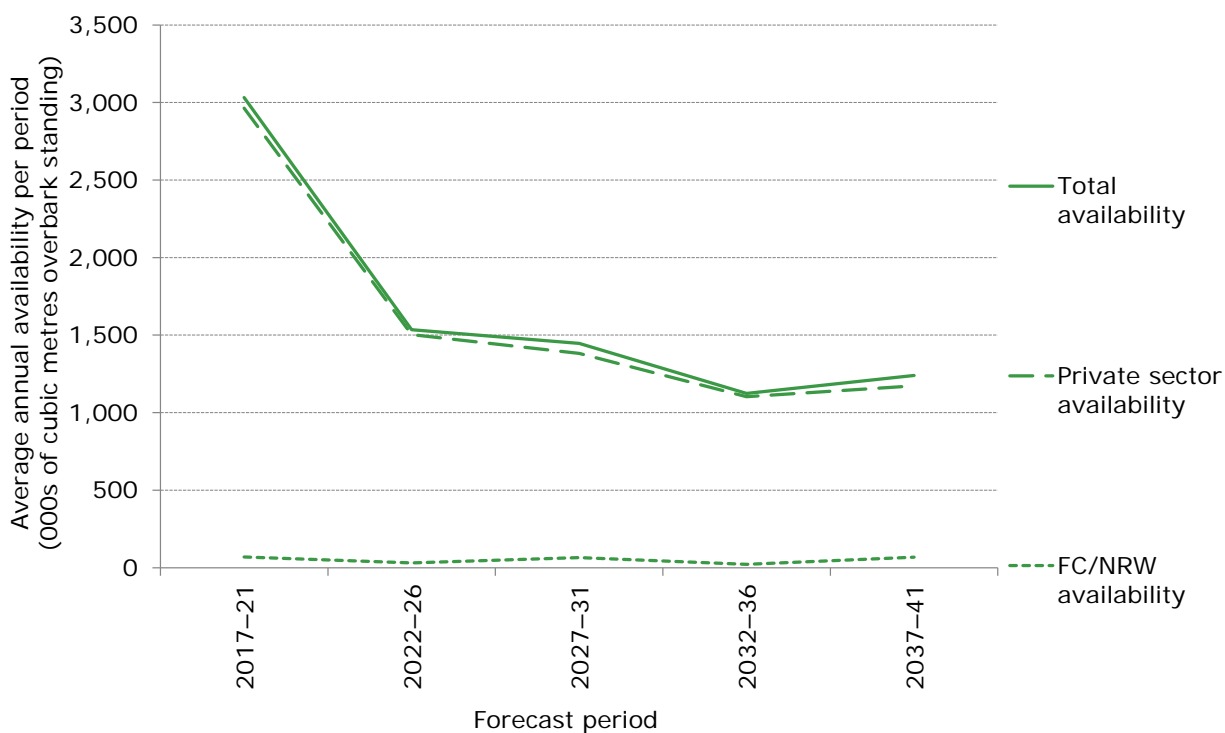**Figure 3** Overview of 25-year forecast of average annual softwood availability

Figure 4 Overview of 25-year forecast of average annual hardwood availability

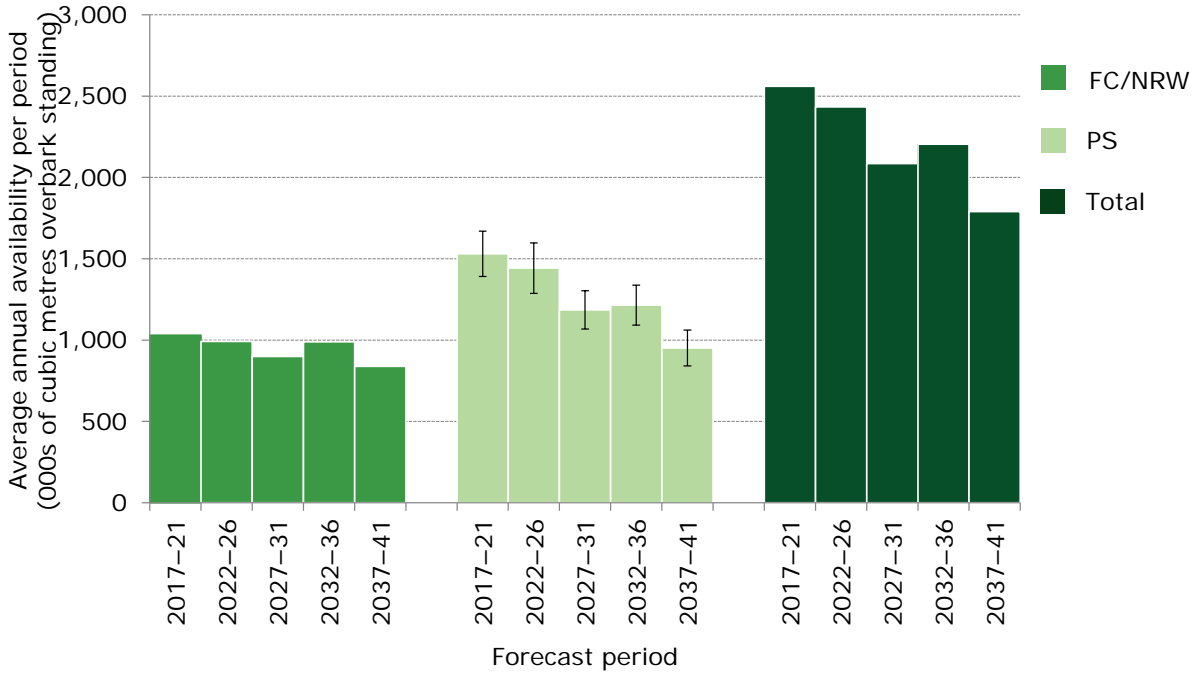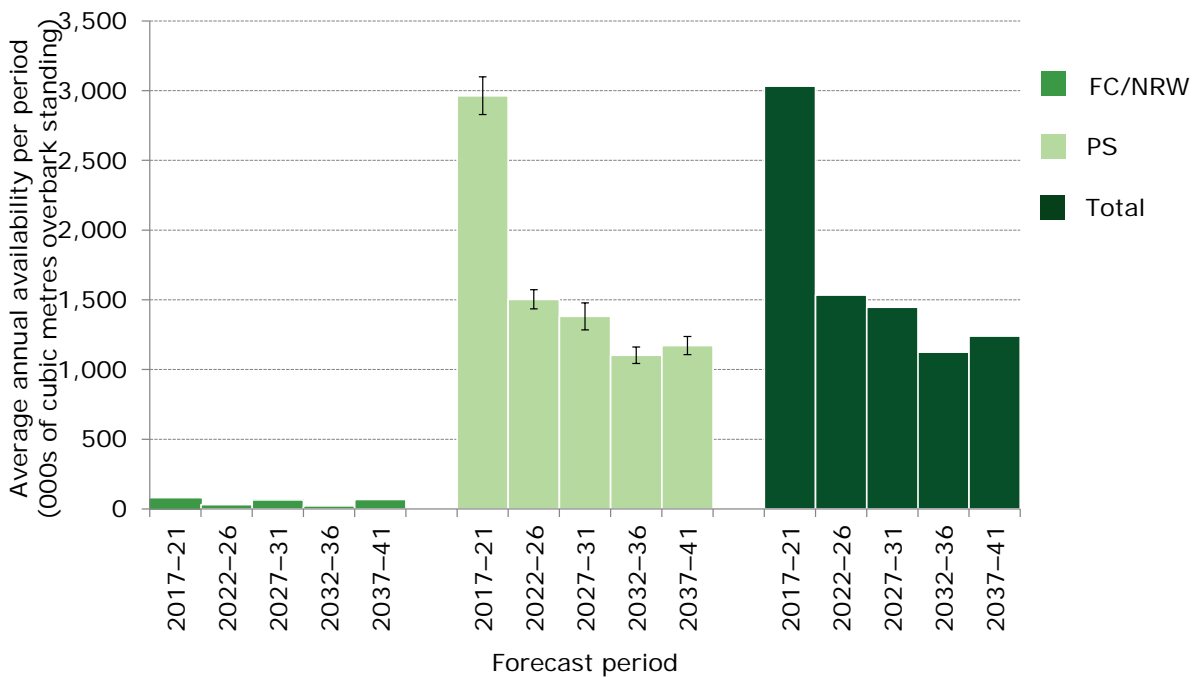**Figure 5** 25-year forecast of average annual softwood availability

Figure 6 25-year forecast of average annual hardwood availability

NFI national reports and papers

The principal themes reported on for the 2011 woodland profile and future forecasts are:

- GB 2011 preliminary estimates of broadleaved species
- GB 2011 standing coniferous timber volume
- UK 25-year forecast of softwood availability
- GB 25-year forecast of coniferous standing volume and increment
- Biomass in live woodland trees in Britain
- Carbon in live woodland trees in Britain

The principal themes reported on for the 2012 woodland profile and future forecasts are:

- 50-year forecast of softwood timber availability
- 50-year forecast of hardwood timber availability
- 25-year forecast of softwood availability (2016) update

Each theme has a series of reports, papers and data, tailored for different audiences and uses. All the documents and data can be found on the NFI website www.forestry.gov.uk/inventory.

Glossary

A glossary of terms is presented in the full suite of forecast reports which can be found at www.forestry.gov.uk/forecast.

Lead author:

J.R. Gilbert

Reviewed by:

L. Halsall, A. Brewer

This report contains a subset of the information provided in the Official Statistics reports *50-year forecast of softwood timber availability* (2014) and *50-year forecast of hardwood timber availability* (2014) publications. More information about Official Statistics and the UK Statistics Authority is available at www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk

National Forest Inventory Statistician: Alan Brewer