

Drumbrae Woodland Creation

**Analysis of key viewpoints using Map
Maker Prospect**

Viewpoints

Following on from initial landscape and viewpoint analysis, nine viewpoints were identified to be representative of commonly available views, or views onto or out from the more visually sensitive parts of the site. Four viewpoints could be classified as being 'internal' views out from the site, and five as being 'external' views onto the site.

The Map Maker Prospect programme was then used to generate various computer images of the proposed woodland as seen from the identified viewpoints.

For each of the viewpoints, plan and perspective images have been generated using digital design information. The plans show the location of the viewpoint, the breadth of view used in the perspective, and the footprint of the design of the proposed woodland at Drumbrae. In addition, the footprint of the newly planted woodland at Dumyat was included, as this woodland doesn't yet appear on the National forest Inventory.

The views selected were from the following locations. The numbers are as those used as shown on Map 1:-

1. **Dumyat Summit** – This shows the views looking to the west and north from the summit, over the site.
2. **Dumyat Path** – this provides a snapshot of one of the many views available looking southwards from the core path.
3. **Scheduled Monuments** – this provides the view to the west from the large clearing containing three linked monuments
4. **Stirling Castle** – this shows the view looking north-east from the Castle's esplanade, towards the Wallace Monument and the Western Ochils.
5. **The Carse** – this shows the view looking northwards from the A907 onto the southern slopes of the site; this view is typical of the views over a wide area around the Forth.

6. **Sherrifmuir Battlefield** – This shows a typical view available from the road taking the lower northern section of the site as well as the northern slopes of Dumyat.

7. **Sherrifmuir Road** – wide views are available looking southwards from this road just south of Cauldham; elsewhere views are generally restricted to being short-distance

8. **The M9 Motorway** – panoramic views taking in the Castle, Wallace monument, and the western Ochils are available from the motorway, although as the views are distant, Drumbrae occupies only a very small proportion of it.

8. **Towards Sherrifmuir Battlefield** -While not currently well used, the northern end of Cocksburn Hill ridge provides a panoramic view over the Wharry Burn and towards the core of the Sherrifmuir Battlefield.

One map view and two panoramas have been produced for each viewpoint:-

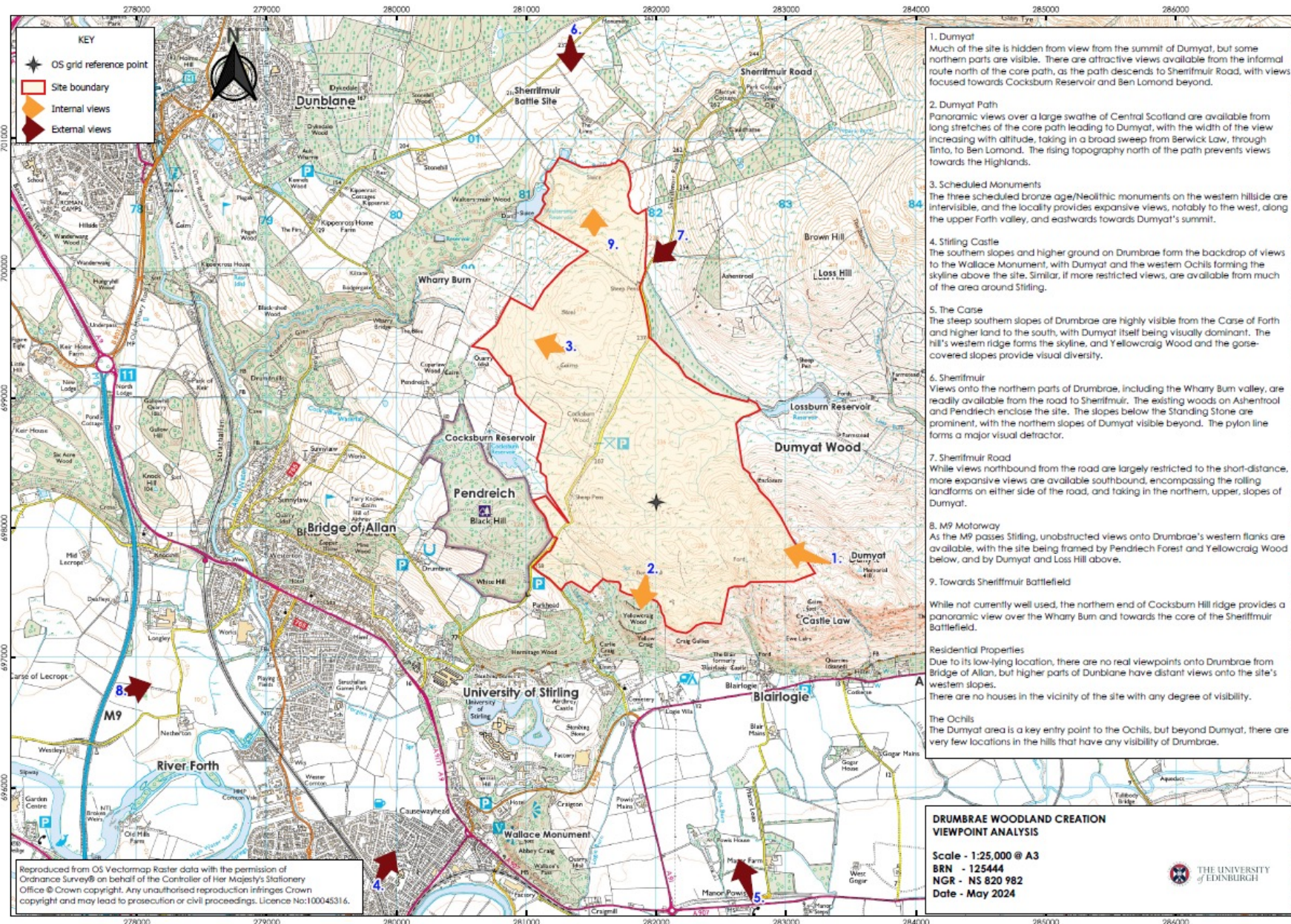
Map View – the map shows the location of the view point, the direction of the view, and the footprint of the design (of Drumbrae and Dumyat), while the inset shows the design in profile as it would appear in 2065 in vibrant colours to represent species mixes.

Panorama 2023 – the upper image provides a perspective image in the Timeline 2022, before any new planting. Information on existing woodlands is gleaned from the National Forest Inventory, with the woodland being classed/shaded as broadleaved, coniferous, or mixed. Note that small woodlands, trees lines etc. are unlikely to be represented. Also note that the Dumyat woodland is shown as it will appear in 2065.

Panorama 2064– the lower image shows the woodland design as it will appear in roughly 40 years time, using yield class predictions to produce tree heights. Existing woodland is shown as it is in 2022 (i.e. not including for any future growth), with the new woodland in Spring colours. In essence, this drawing shows the anticipated view just prior to any first rotation felling.

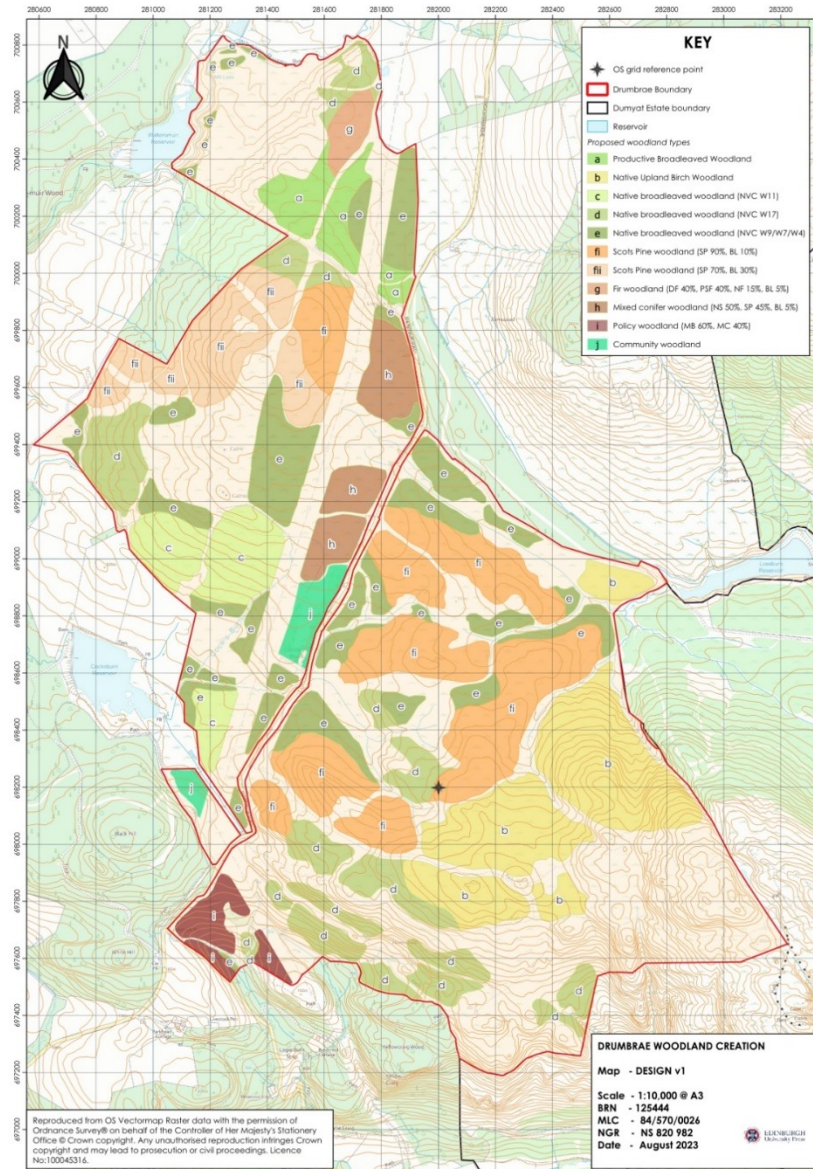
Drumbrae Landscape Visualisations

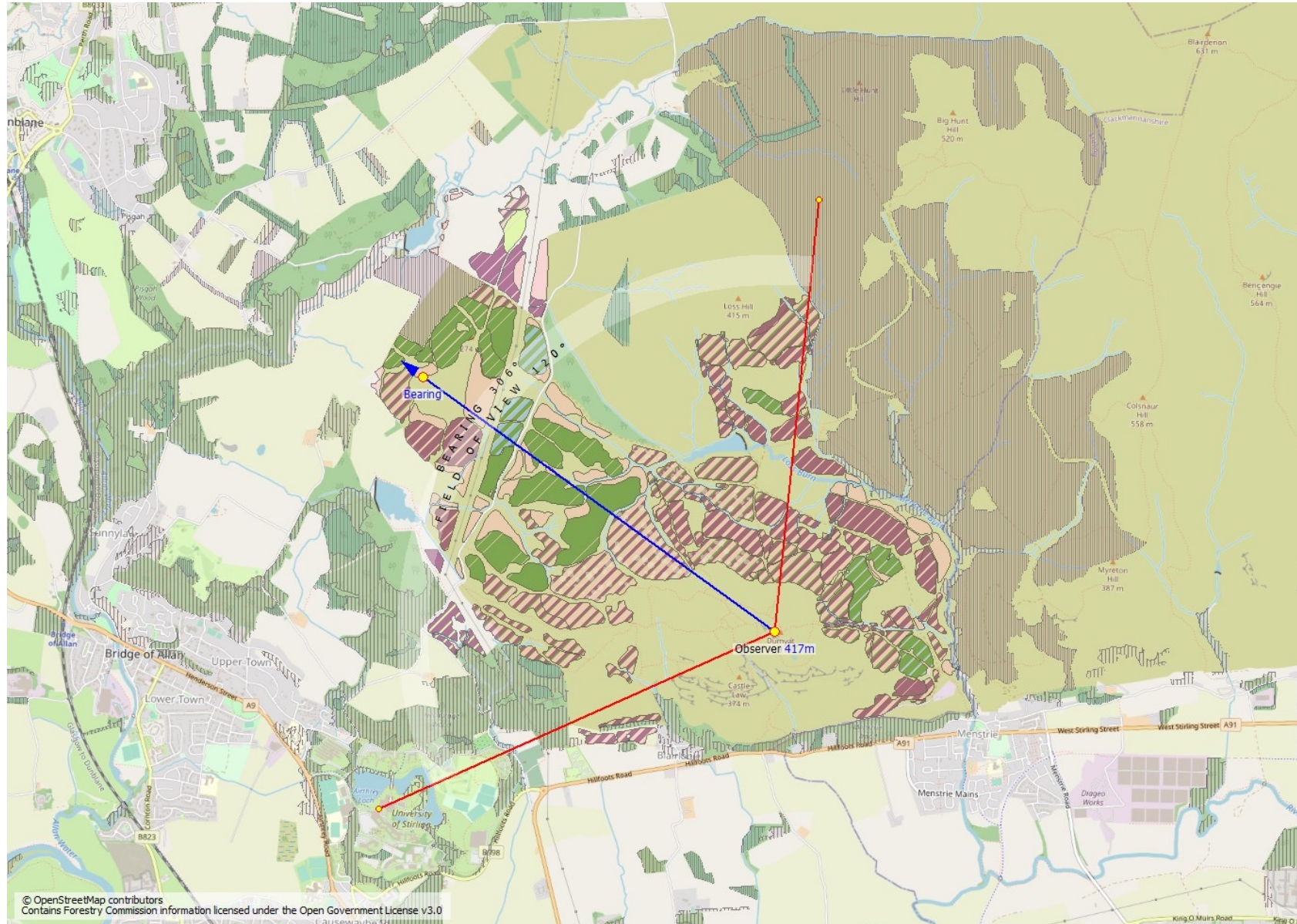
Location of Viewpoints



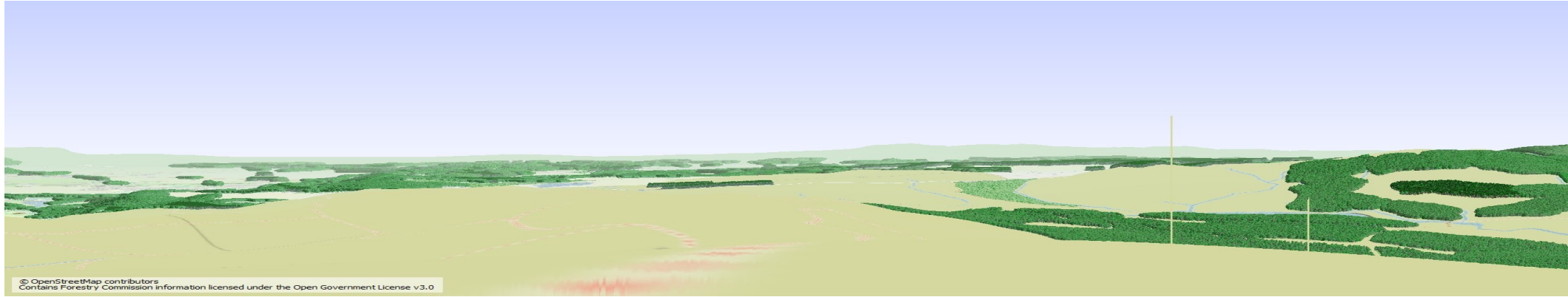
Drumbrae Landscape Visualisations

Woodland Design

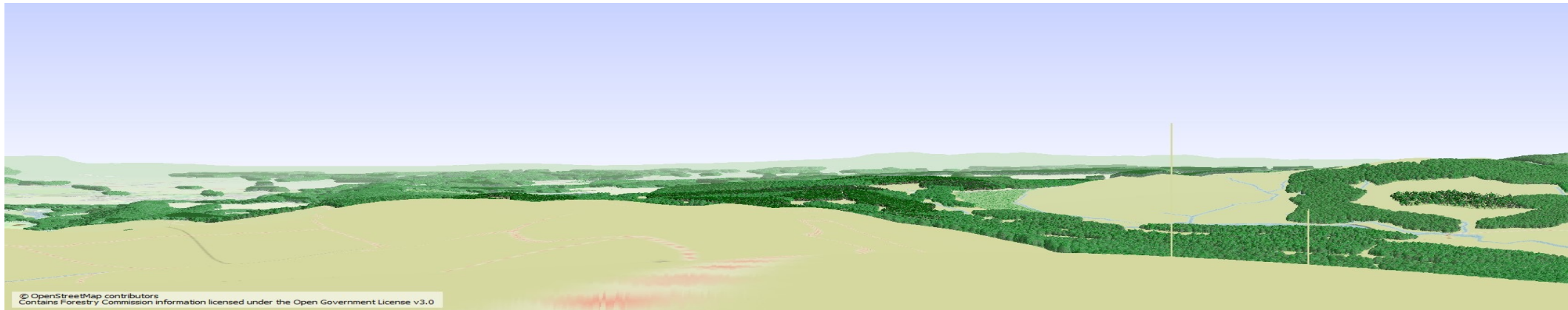




Landscape Visualisations View 1 – NS 836977 Panorama 2023 & 2064



Year 2023 - Much of the site is hidden from view from the summit of Dumyat, but some northern parts are visible. There are attractive views available from the informal route north of the core path, as the path descends to Sherrifmuir Road.

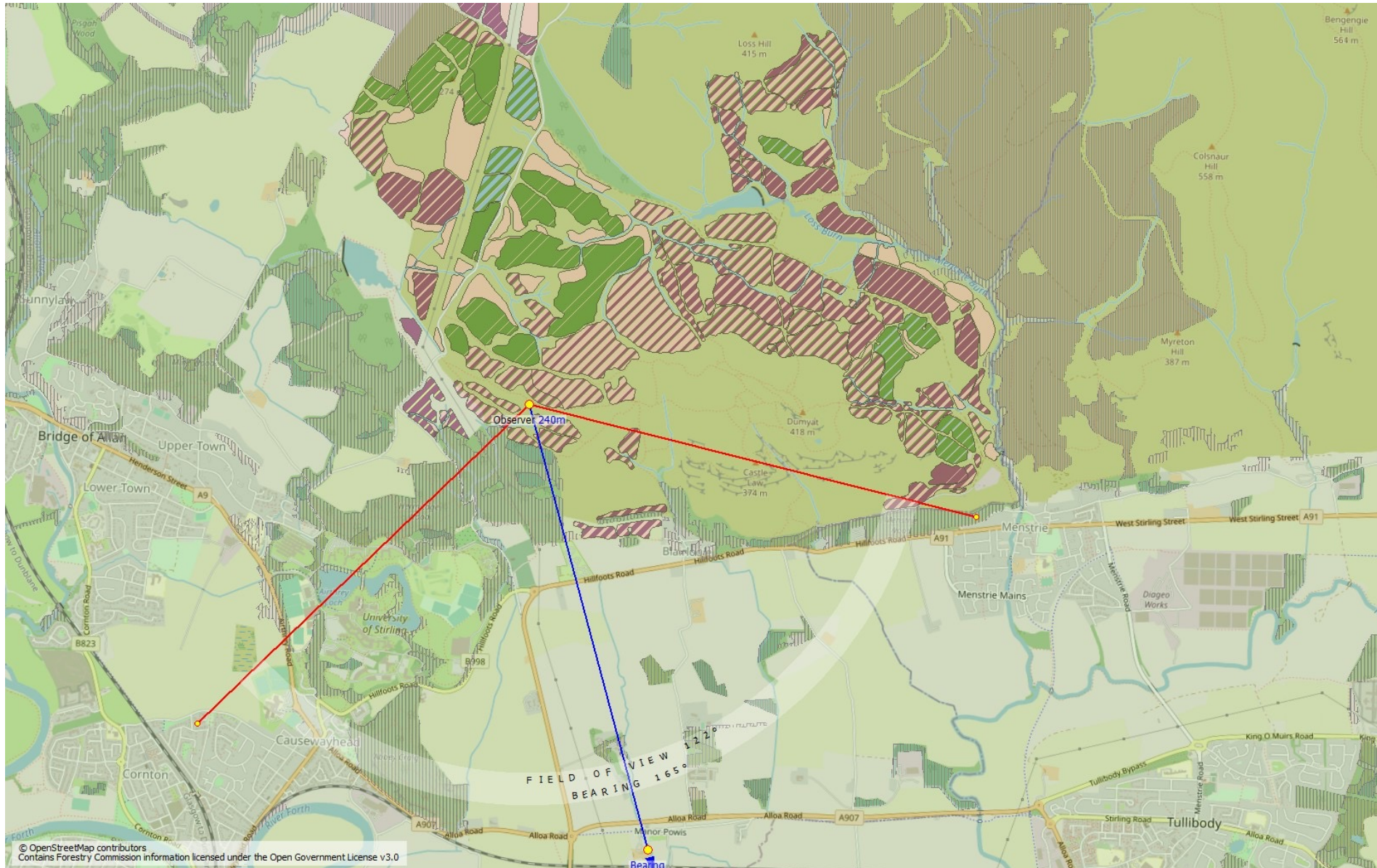


Year 2064 - Views from the summit are largely unaffected, although the woodland planting in the north will merge with woodlands on Dumyat and Kippendavie. Scots pine planting will accentuate the small knolls in the middle distance.

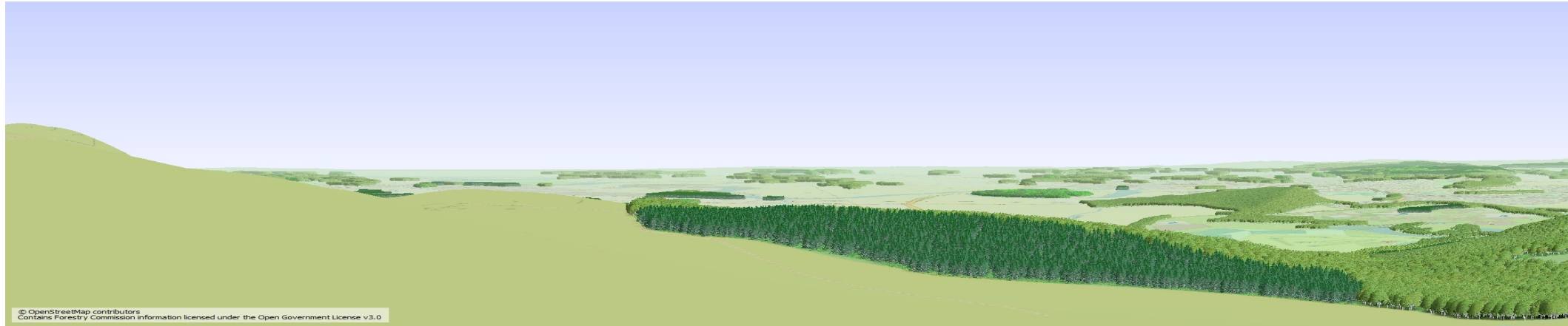
Drumrae Landscape Visualisations

View 2 – NS 819975

Map View



Drumbrae Landscape Visualisations View 2 – NS 819975 Panorama 2023 & 2064



Year 2023 -Panoramic views over a large swathe of Central Scotland are available from long stretches of the core path leading to Dumyat, with the width of the view increasing with altitude, taking in a broad sweep from Berwick Law, through Tinto, to Ben Lomond.

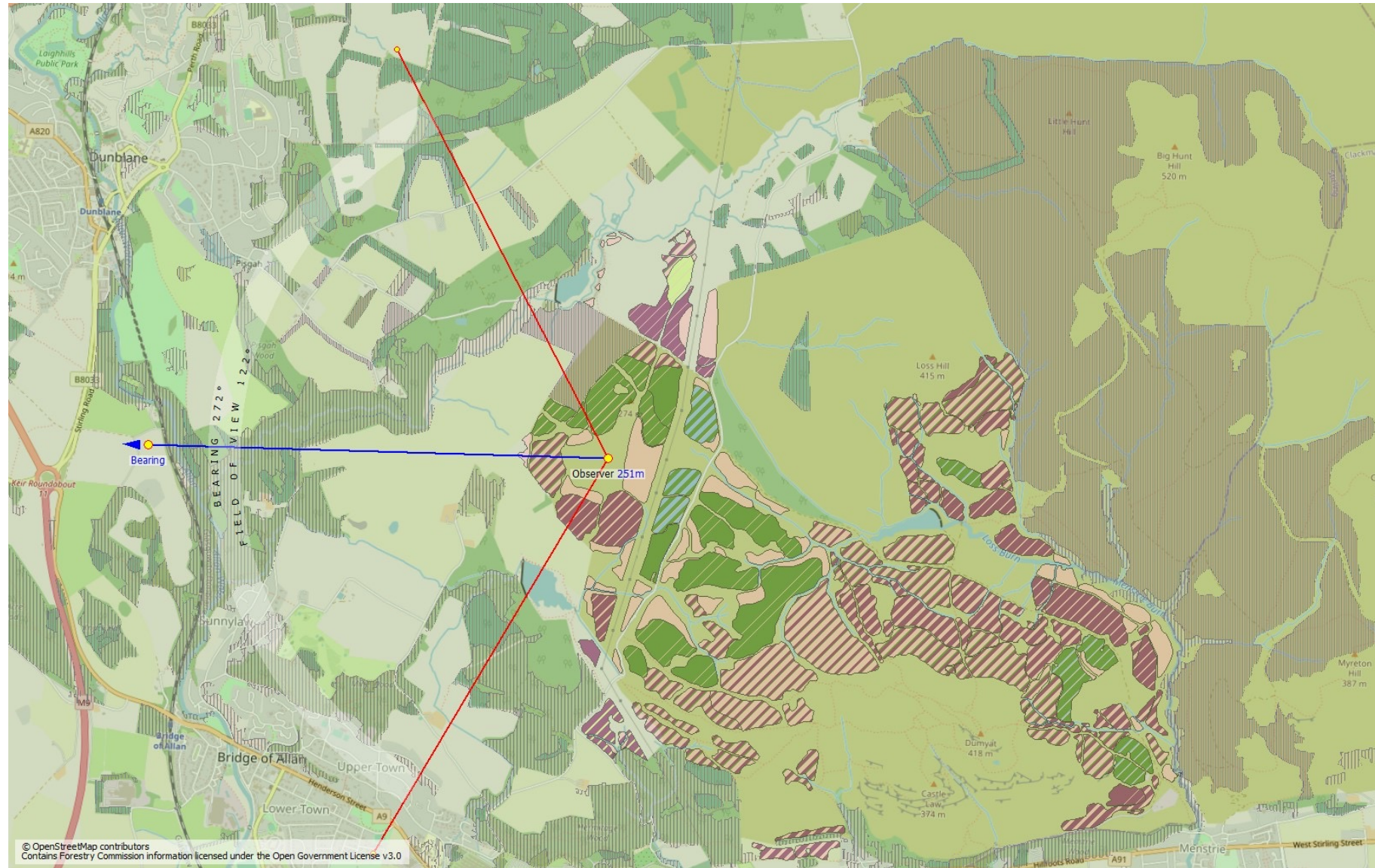


Year 2064 – There will be limited planting on the slopes below the main path to Dumyat; the tree groups will in time frame, rather than obscure views, and panoramic views over the Forth valley will be retained.

Drumbrae Landscape Visualisations

View 3 – NS 814993

Map View



Drumbrae Landscape Visualisations View 3 – NS 814993 Panorama 2023 & 2064



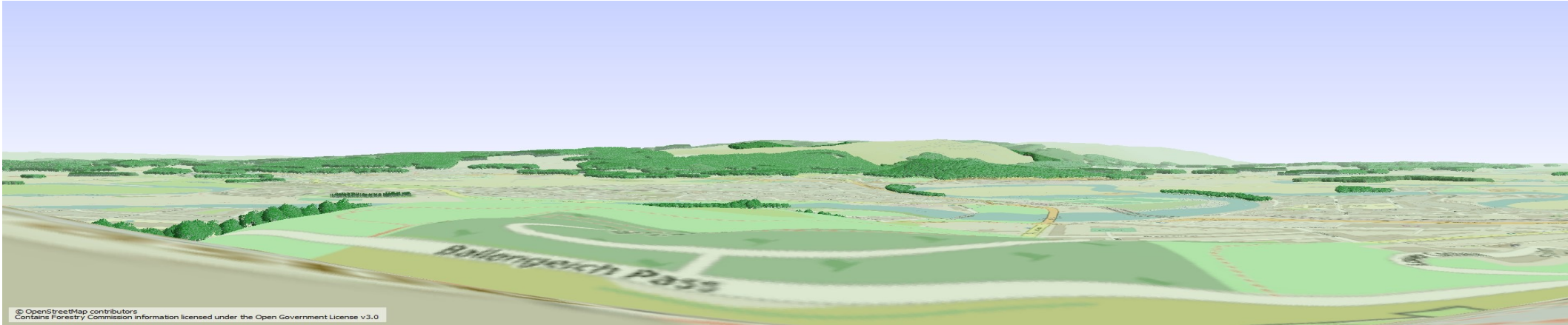
Year 2023 - The three scheduled bronze age/Neolithic monuments on the western hillside are intervisible, and the locality provides expansive views, notably to the west, along the upper Forth valley, and eastwards towards Dumyat's summit.



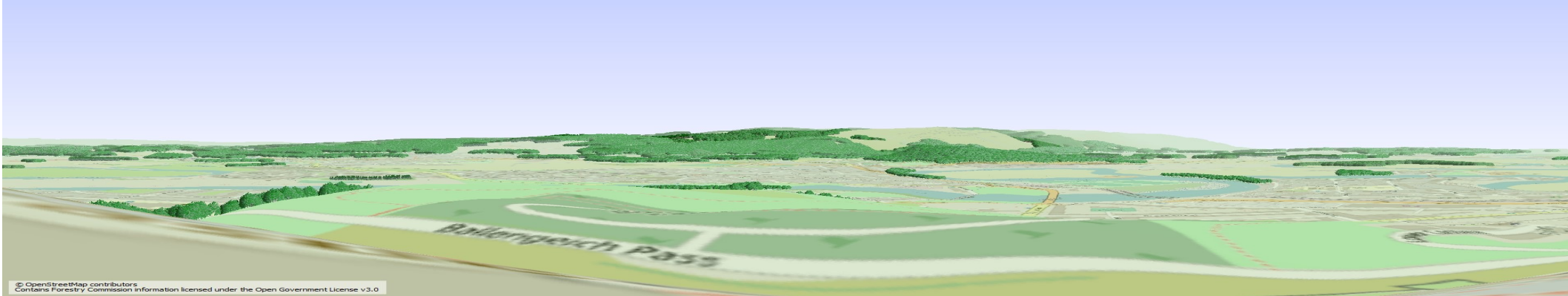
Year 2023 – The woodland edge has been held well back from the monuments to ensure that long distance views to the west are retained. A soft woodland edge will be created, utilizing native broadleaved species along with Scots pine. The higher slopes of Dumyat will also remain visible.



Drumbrae Landscape Visualisations View 4 – NS 791940 Panorama 2023 & 2064



Year 2023 - The southern slopes and higher ground on Drumbrae form the backdrop of views to the Wallace Monument, with Dumyat and the western Ochils forming the skyline above the site. Similar, if more restricted views, are available from much of the area around Stirling.



Year 2064 – The new planting has a very limited visual impact, as most of the site is hidden from view, but the planting on the slopes around the main path will link the existing woodlands at Yellowcraig and Ashentool, reducing the rigid appearance of the latter wood on the skyline.



Drumbrae Landscape Visualisations View 5 – NS 826952 Panorama 2023 & 2064



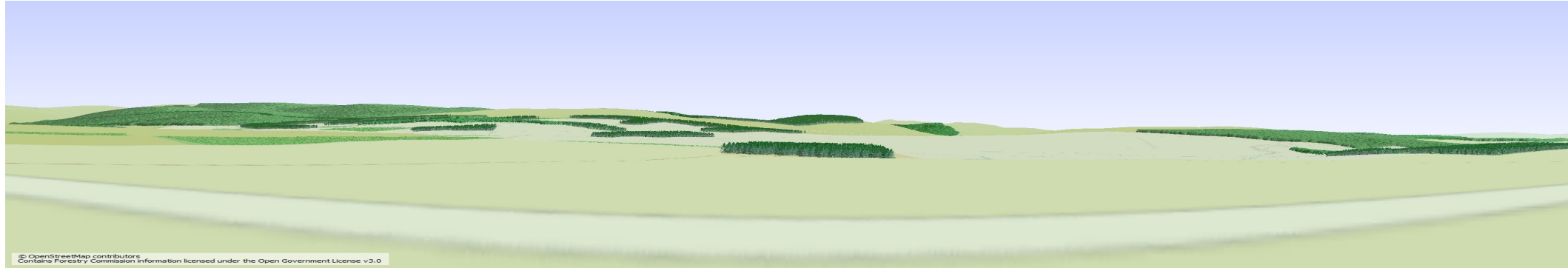
Year 2023 - The steep southern slopes of Drumbrae are highly visible from the Carse of Forth and higher land to the south, with Dumyat itself being visually dominant. The hill's western ridge forms the skyline, and Yellowcraig Wood and the gorse-covered slopes provide visual diversity, not picked up on the above image.



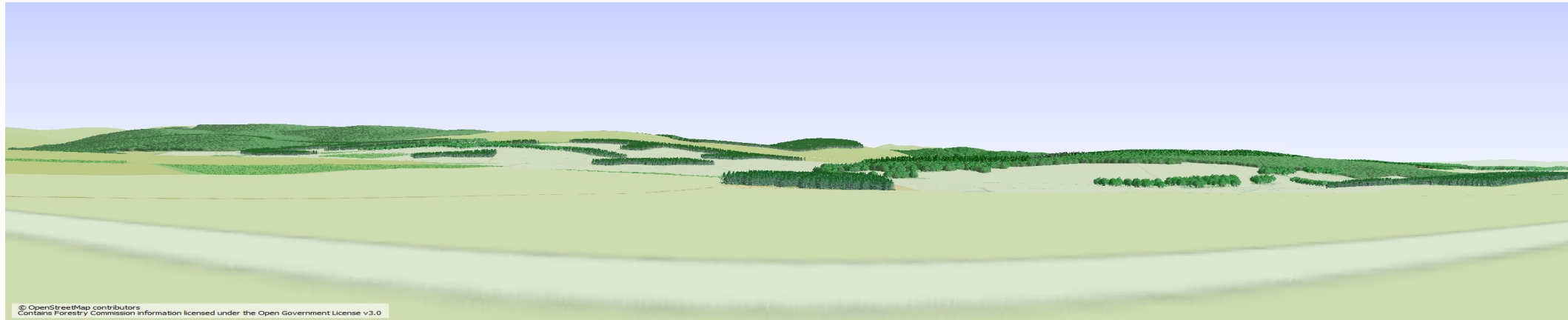
Year 2023 – The new woodland will occupy part of the skyline above the main path to Dumyat (which evidences that view from the higher section of the path will be unrestricted). In practice, the isolated stand below the path will visually merge with developing scrub above Blairlogie.



Drumbrae Landscape Visualisations View 6 – NN 814017 Panorama 2023 & 2064



Year 2023 - Views onto the northern parts of Drumbrae, including the Wharry Burn valley, are readily available from the road to Sherrifmuir. The existing woods on Ashentool and Pendriech enclose the site. The slopes below the Standing Stone are prominent, lying on the southern extremity of the Sherrifmuir battlefield, with the northern slopes of Dumyat visible beyond. The pylon line, which isn't shown on the image above, forms a major visual detractor.



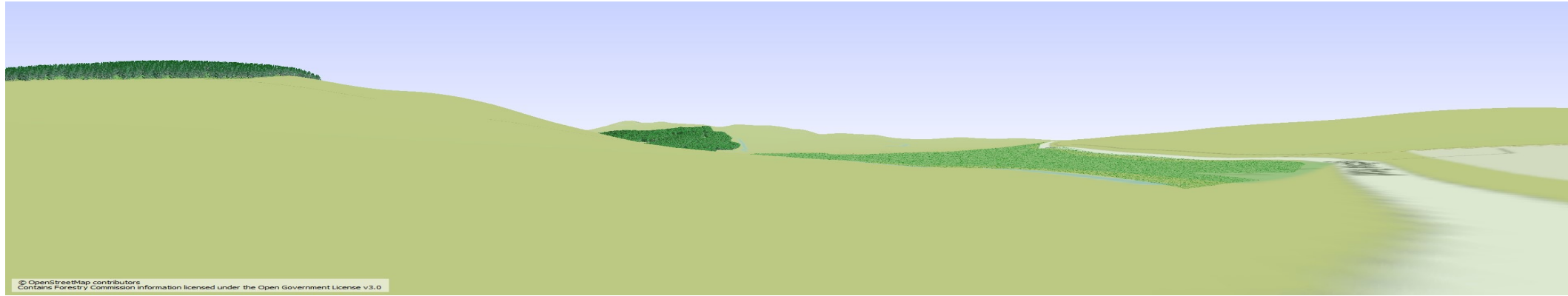
Year 2064 – The new woodland will occupy a small part of the lower ground, linking the woods on Pendriech farm and Kippendavie, and accentuating the presence of the Wharry Burn. Trees will also become visible on the northern slopes of Dumyat, but the higher ground will remain clear.

Drumrae Landscape Visualisations

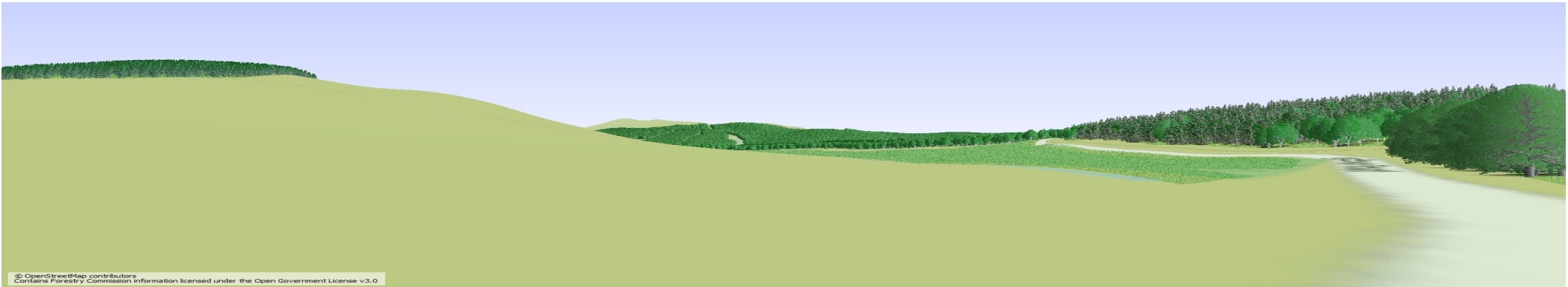
View 7 – NN 821001 Map View



Drumbrae Landscape Visualisations View 7 – NN 821001 Panorama 2023 & 2064

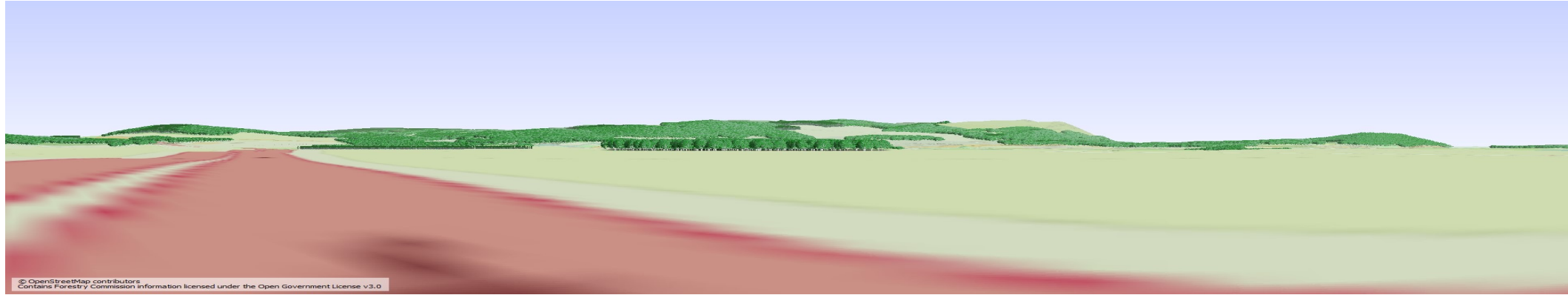


Year 2023 - While views northbound from the road are largely restricted to the short-distance, more expansive views are available southbound, encompassing the rolling landforms on either side of the road, and taking in the northern, upper, slopes of Dumyat.

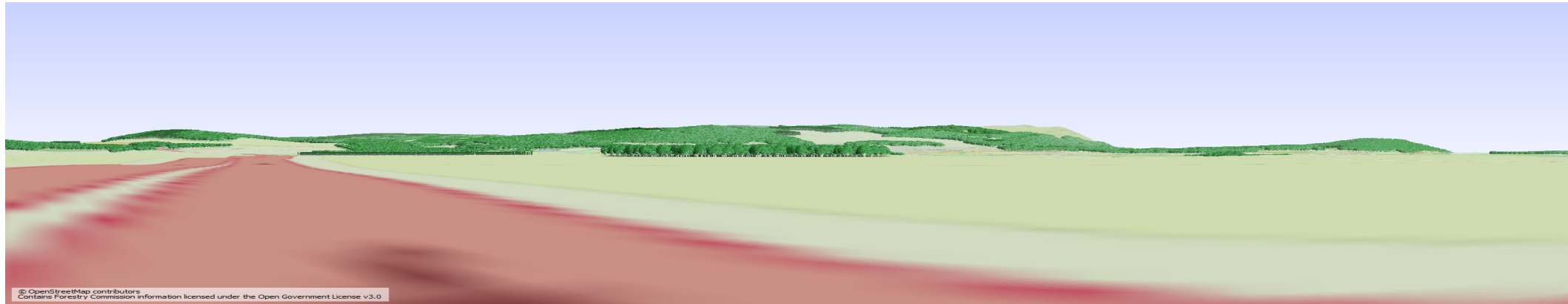


Year 2064 – The planting on the mid slopes of Dumyat will merge with the recently planted woodland to the east. The planting on the west side of the road will comprise of stands of native broadleaves and diverse coniferous species; no long distance views will be lost.





Year 2023 - As the M9 passes Stirling, unobstructed views onto Drumbrae's western flanks are available, with the site being framed by Pendriech Forest and Yellowcraig Wood below, and by Dumyat and Loss Hill above.

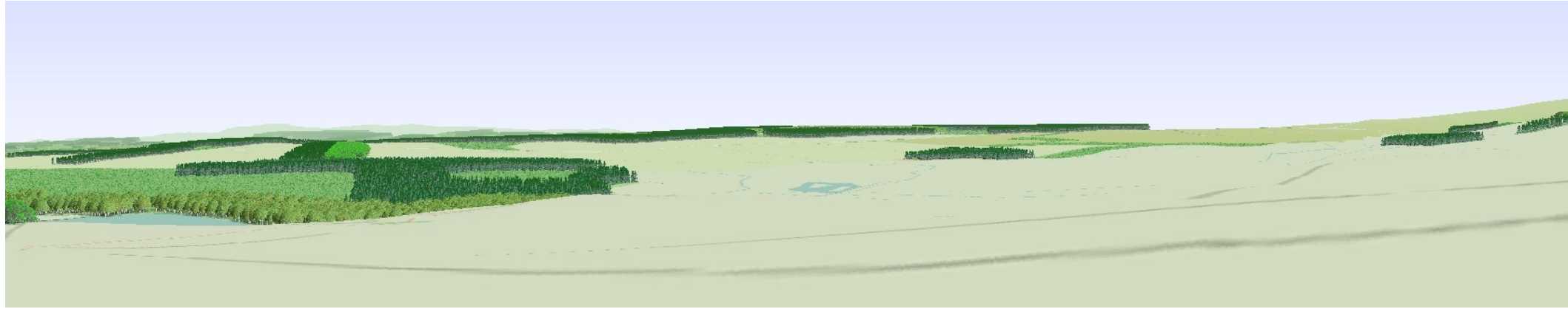


Year 2064 – The visual impact of the planting will be minimal, with the change being the infilling of open ground above Yellowcraig. The hill summits will remain visible above the woodlands.

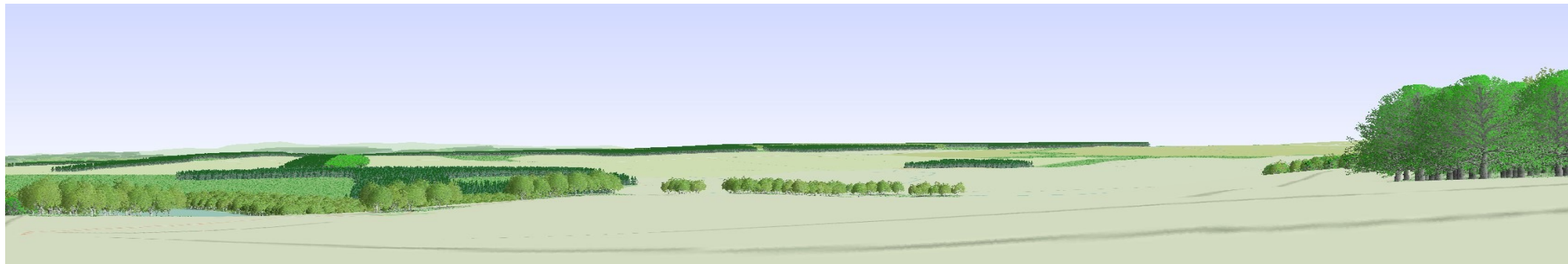
Drumrae Landscape Visualisations

View 9 – NS 815 002 Map View





Year 2023 – Panoramic views over the Wharry Burn and into the core of the Battlefield site can be gained from the track that bisects the northern end of Cocksburn Hill. The eastern edge of the forest visible on the horizon marks the easternmost extent of the battle. The valley itself now support developing broadleaved woodland not shown here. The high voltage powerline which follows Sheriffmuir Road is also not represented, but it does impinge on the view. While the track is accessible, there is no significant use made of it currently.



Year 2064 – The visual impact of the planting on the Battlefield site will be very limited. The sporadic riparian planting will have no greater impact than does the existing trees on the north bank of the Wharry Burn, while the planting to the west will screen the high voltage powerline from view.