

## **9. Quantifying the effect of afforestation on soil carbon (WP 2.5)**

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This work package proposes to measure the effect of planting broadleaved trees on ex-agricultural mineral soils, using measurements at a number of sites where chronosequences are available. The Scottish Forestry Alliance manage nine sites in Scotland where recent planting has taken place, and baseline surveys of soil carbon have been carried out at the time of planting (Meir *et al*, 2003). At a sub-set of these sites, we propose to measure soil carbon in stands of varying age, and compare this with the baseline data quantifying the soil carbon prior to planting. The priority sites to be re-sampled will be Abernethy Forest Reserve, Glen Finglas, Glen Sherup and Geordie's Wood, and an experimental plan has been produced, based on the baseline survey. The field work is planned for summer 2008.

Meir P, Conen, F and Nagy, L (2003) Baseline survey of carbon stocks at selected SFA sites in Scotland. Interim report for 2003, covering measurements made at three sites: Abernethy Forest Reserve, Glen Sherup and Darrochwids. Unpublished report to SFA/BP/ECCM, Edinburgh.