



Cairngorms
NATIONAL PARK
Pàirc Nàiseanta a' Mhonaidh Ruaidh

Cairngorms National Park
Partnership Plan 2017-2022

Habitats Regulations Appraisal Report

March 2017

**THE
BIG 9**



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List of Abbreviations

2000 Act	National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000
AA	Appropriate Assessment
Ha	Hectares
HRA	Habitats Regulations Appraisal
LSE	Likely Significant Effect
MRE	Minor Residual Effect
NPPP	National Park Partnership Plan
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
SPA	Special Protection Area

Introduction

This document records the Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) of the National Park Partnership Plan (NPPP) 2017-20122 which is the National Park Plan for the Cairngorms National Park required under the section 11 of the National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000.

Article 6(3) of the EC Habitats Directive requires that any plan (or project) which is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of a European site, but would be likely to have a significant effect on such a site, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to an 'appropriate assessment' of its implications for the European site in view of the site's conservation objectives. This procedure is applied in Scotland through The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended), and is known as the 'Habitats Regulations Appraisal' of plans.

European sites are Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the

EC Habitats Directive to protect particular habitats and non-bird species, and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the EC Birds Directive to protect wild birds. Ramsar Sites are identified under the International Convention on the Conservation of Wetlands of International Importance and Scottish Ministers require these sites to be subject to the same protection as European sites.

The NPPP can only be adopted if it can be ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of a European site.

This document is the consultation Report of the NPPP Habitats regulations appraisal. Following the consultation a final report shall be prepared and published.

The NPPP also falls within the scope of section 5(3) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. The SEA of the NPPP is being conducted in parallel to the HRA and will be reported separately during the NPPP process.

The HRA Process

There is no prescribed method for a HRA. The CNPA are therefore following the guidelines prepared by David Tyldesley and Associates for Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) 'Habitats Regulations Appraisals of Plans' (January 2015) and have consulted SNH during the preparation of the appraisal.

There are 13 stages to the methodology followed, set out in **Table I**. This report records all stages. Further details of the methodology applied during screening and appropriate assessment are given in the relevant sections.

Table I Stages of the methodology (Source: SNH Guidance: Habitats Regulations Appraisal of Plans, D Tyldesley, 2015)

Stage 1	Decide whether plan is subject to HRA
Stage 2	Identify Natura Sites that should be considered
Stage 3	Gather information about the Natura Sites
Stage 4	Discretionary consultation on the method and scope of the appraisal
Stage 5	Screening the plan for potential likely significant effects on Natura sites
Stage 6	Apply mitigation measures
Stage 7	Re-screen the plan after mitigation measures have been applied
Stage 8	If significant effects still likely, undertake an appropriate assessment in view of conservation objectives
Stage 9	Apply mitigation measures until there is no adverse effect on site integrity
Stage 10	Prepare a draft record of the HRA (this report)
Stage 11	Consult on the draft record of the HRA
Stage 12	If amending the plan in light of consultation, screen amendments for likely significant effects and if required, carry out appropriate assessment and consult SNH again
Stage 13	Modify HRA record in light of any amendments, complete and publish the final HRA record with clear conclusions

Stage I: The Cairngorms National Park Partnership Plan 2017-2022 and the Decision to Screen for HRA

The NPPP will be the management plan for the Cairngorms National Park as required under section 11 of the National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000.

It is a plan for all those with an interest in and responsibility for managing the National Park. This includes public bodies that must have regard to the Plan in carrying out their functions and the private and voluntary sectors including businesses, land managers and communities who are all integral to managing the National Park.

In particular, the NPPP will:

- Set out the vision and overarching strategy for managing the Park;
- Provide focus and priorities at a time of limited financial resources;
- Provide a strategic context for the next Local Development Plan;
- Show how the four aims of the National Park can be achieved

together, benefiting people and place.

In order to make a plan that is effective and can be used by the many organisations needed, it needs to provide a clear framework for action and management, with flexibility in how it is delivered by different partners in different ways, places and times. This means that it necessarily leaves the detailed planning of programmes and projects to deliver it to the most appropriate organisations and partners.

The NPPP will set out the strategic direction and priorities, identifying the things that the CNPA and its partners think will make the biggest contribution to a successful National Park over the plan's lifetime and beyond.

It is clear that the NPPP may contain aspects that could have a direct consequence for at least one natura site. It is also clear that it is not solely for the

purposes of managing natura sites and therefore an HRA is required.

Stages 2 and 3: Identification of Natura Sites and Gathering their Details

The second and third stages in the assessment process are to identify which European sites either within or outwith the National Park that may be affected by the NPPP.

A total of 2,213 km² (around 50%) of the National Park has been designated as a European site (**Figure 1**). A number of European sites overlap the National Park Boundary, with a total 572 km² of their area located outwith its boundary.

A total of 43 European sites were considered in the assessment. They are listed in **Table 2**. Details of the sites are provided in **Appendix 1**.

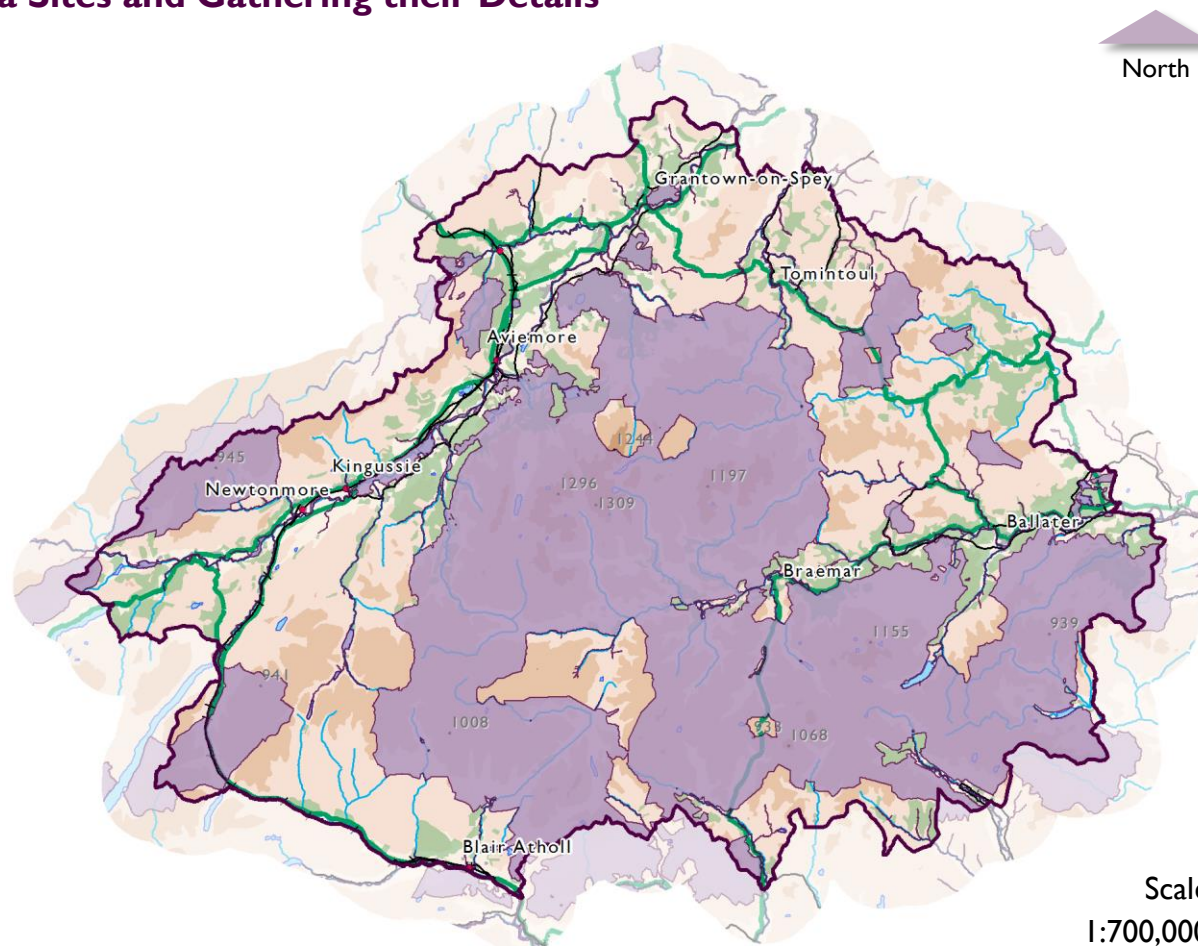


Figure 1 Land within the Cairngorms National Park that is protected as either an SAC, SPA or Ramsar site. For individual site maps, see Appendix 1.

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Table 2 European Sites selected for assessment in the HRA of the NPPP.

Site Code	Site Name	Site Status	Local Authority Area	Wholly Within CNP	Partially Within CNP	Total Area (ha)	Area within CNP (ha)	% Within CNP
UK9002561	Abernethy Forest	SPA	Highland	✓	✗	5,793.46	5,793.46	100%
UK9020297	Anagach Woods	SPA	Highland	✓	✗	392.78	392.78	100%
UK0012957	Beinn a' Ghlo	SAC	Perth & Kinross	✗	✓	8,084.76	7,762.25	96.0%
UK0030030	Ballochbuie	SAC	Aberdeenshire	✓	✗	1,881.73	1,881.73	100%
UK9002781	Ballochbuie	SPA	Aberdeenshire	✓	✗	1,881.73	1,881.73	100%
UK0012821	Caenlochan	SAC	Aberdeenshire; Angus; Perth and Kinross	✓	✗	5,204.16	5,204.16	100%
UK9004011	Caenlochan	SPA	Aberdeenshire; Angus; Perth and Kinross	✓	✗	5,975.28	5,975.28	100%
UK13002	Cairngorm Lochs	Ramsar	Highland	✓	✗	172.99	172.99	100%
UK0016412	Cairngorms	SAC	Aberdeenshire; Highland; Moray	✓	✗	57,685.02	57,685.02	100%
UK9002241	Cairngorms	SPA	Aberdeenshire; Highland; Moray	✓	✗	50,903.74	50,903.74	100%
UK9020308	Cairngorms Massif	SPA	Aberdeenshire, Angus, Highland, Moray, Perth and Kinross	✗	✓	187,504.06	173,254.64	92.4%
UK0030122	Coyles of Muick	SAC	Aberdeenshire	✓	✗	135.16	135.16	100%
UK9001801	Craigmore Wood	SPA	Highland	✓	✗	654.09	654.09	100%

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Site Code	Site Name	Site Status	Local Authority Area	Wholly Within CNP	Partially Within CNP	Total Area (ha)	Area within CNP (ha)	% Within CNP
UK0012955	Creag Meagaidh	SAC	Highland	x	✓	6,144.58	507.19	8.3%
UK9002161	Creag Meagaidh	SPA	Highland	x	✓	2,872.64	71.18	2.5%
UK0013584	Creag nan Gamhainn	SAC	Moray	✓	x	15.75	15.75	100%
UK0030134	Dinnet Oakwood	SAC	Aberdeenshire	✓	x	19.73	19.73	100%
UK0012942	Drumochter Hills	SAC	Highland; Perth and Kinross	x	✓	9,445.56	7,382.22	78.2%
UK9002301	Drumochter Hills	SPA	Highland; Perth and Kinross	x	✓	9,445.56	7,382.22	78.2%
UK9004381	Forest of Clunie	SPA	Perth and Kinross	x	✓	19,349.38	905.22	4.7%
UK0012756	Glen Tanar	SAC	Aberdeenshire	x	✓	4,180.09	4,142.25	99.1%
UK9002771	Glen Tanar	SPA	Aberdeenshire	x	✓	4,180.09	4,142.25	99.1%
UK0030159	Green Hill of Strathdon	SAC	Aberdeenshire	✓	x	640.77	640.77	100%
UK0019812	Insh Marshes	SAC	Highland	✓	x	1,158.78	1,158.78	100%
UK0012759	Kinveachy Forest	SAC	Highland	x	✓	2,849.36	2,232.59	78.4%
UK9002581	Kinveachy Forest	SPA	Highland	x	✓	2,849.36	2,232.59	78.4%
UK0030179	Ladder Hills	SAC	Aberdeenshire; Moray	✓	x	4,357.94	4,357.94	100%
UK9002951	Ladder Hills	pSPA	Aberdeenshire; Moray	✓	x	4,240.4	4,240.4	100%

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Site Code	Site Name	Site Status	Local Authority Area	Wholly Within CNP	Partially Within CNP	Total Area (ha)	Area within CNP (ha)	% Within CNP
UK9002751	Loch Vaa	SPA	Highland	✓	✗	44.6	44.6	100%
UK9002281	Lochnagar	SPA	Angus, Aberdeenshire	✓	✗	1,431.28	1,431.28	100%
UK0030210	Monadhliath	SAC	Highland	✗	✓	10,671.11	7,121.03	66.7%
UK0012894	Morrone Birkwood	SAC	Aberdeenshire	✓	✗	318.4	318.4	100%
UK0019958	Morven & Mullachdubh	SAC	Aberdeenshire	✓	✗	916.76	916.76	100%
UK0019959	Muir of Dinnet	SAC	Aberdeenshire	✓	✗	415.76	415.76	100%
UK9002791	Muir of Dinnet	SPA	Aberdeenshire	✓	✗	157.6	157.6	100%
UK13049	Muir of Dinnet	Ramsar	Aberdeenshire	✓	✗	157.6	157.6	100%
UK0030251	River Dee	SAC	Aberdeenshire	✗	✓	2,446.82	1,368.59	55.9%
UK0030262	River South Esk	SAC	Angus	✗	✓	478.62	103.48	21.6%
UK0019811	River Spey	SAC	Highland; Moray	✗	✓	5,729.48	4,181.76	73.0%
UK9002231	River Spey – Insh Marshes	SPA	Highland	✓	✗	1,158.87	1,158.87	100%
UK13053	River Spey – Insh Marshes	Ramsar	Highland	✓	✗	1,158.77	1,158.77	100%
UK0030312	River Tay	SAC	Angus; Argyll and Bute; Perth & Kinross; Stirling	✗	✓	9,497.72	233.94	2.5%

Site Code	Site Name	Site Status	Local Authority Area	Wholly Within CNP	Partially Within CNP	Total Area (ha)	Area within CNP (ha)	% Within CNP
UK0030348	The Maim	SAC	Aberdeenshire	✓	x	484.58	484.58	100%

Stage 4: Discussions on the Method and Scope of Appraisal

Advice from SNH was sought at key stages in preparing the HRA including:

- Scoping approach and methodology for assessment
- Review and discussion of first draft

Stage 5: Screening the Plan

According to David Tyldesley and Associates (2015), the purpose of screening is to:

- a. Identify all aspects of the plan which would have no effect on a European site, so that they can be eliminated from further consideration in respect of this and other plans;
- b. Identify all aspects of the plan which would not be likely to have a significant effect on a European site (i.e. would have some effect, because of links/connectivity, but which are minor residual), either alone or in combination with other aspects of the same plan or other plans or projects, which therefore do not require 'appropriate assessment'; and
- c. Identify those aspects of the plan where it is not possible to rule out the risk of significant effects on a European site, either alone or in combination with other plans or

projects. This provides a clear scope for the parts of the plan that will require appropriate assessment.

The screening process has four key steps:

- Screening step 1: screening out general policy statements
- Screening step 2: screening out projects referred to in, but not proposed by, the plan
- Screening step 3: screening out aspects of a plan that could have no likely significant effect on a site, alone or in combination with other aspects of the same plan, or with other plans or projects.
- Screening step 4: consideration of likely significant effects in combination

Screening Step 1: Screening out general policy statements

The long term outcomes of the NPPP, Priorities, and policy statements that support this set out the overall direction for the plan. **Table 3** sets out the screening for these statements.

Table 3 Screening of General Policy Statements.

Aspect of Plan, policy, project or strategy	Screened in or out	General policy statement
Long Term Outcomes		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A sustainable economy supporting thriving businesses and communities 	Out	Long term outcome from the NPPP for the National Park to have a sustainable economy supporting thriving businesses and communities.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A special place for people and nature with natural and cultural heritage enhanced 	Out	Long term outcome from the NPPP for the National Park to be a special place for people and nature.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People enjoying the Park through outstanding visitor and learning experiences 	Out	Long term outcome from the NPPP for the National Park to be a special place for people and nature.
Priorities for Action		
2a) Providing clarity on the public interest priorities;	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park

Aspect of Plan, policy, project or strategy	Screened in or out	General policy statement
2c) Supporting an adaptive approach by monitoring the habitat, economic and welfare implications of changes in the context of the Deer Code;	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
2d) Supporting greater co-ordination of roe deer management and associated habitat and economic benefits;	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
2e) Facilitating communication and joint action across Deer Management Group boundaries where necessary.	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
3d) Minimising landscape (impacts) through a presumption against new constructed tracks in open moorland;	Out	
3e) Eliminating the illegal killing of raptors through increased wildlife crime enforcement capacity and recognition for good management:	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
i) Supporting a more collaborative approach to integrating objectives for conservation, sport and woodland through the East Cairngorms	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park

Aspect of Plan, policy, project or strategy	Screened in or out	General policy statement
Moorland Partnership and with other estates.		
Delivery of the Tourism Action Plan	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
4a) Developing new ways including visitor giving to fund infrastructure investment and maintaining and upgrading key off-road routes including Speyside Way, Deeside Way and the Core Paths network	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
4b) Delivering a consistent high quality of visitor welcome through new and improved information, support for rangers services and partnership working to support businesses, communities and visitor attractions;	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
4c) Improving the visitor experience in Cairngorm and Glenmore, and Tomintoul and Glenlivet;	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
4d) Completing the 'Snow Roads Scenic Route' and developing a similar experience along the A9; and	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park

Aspect of Plan, policy, project or strategy	Screened in or out	General policy statement
4e) Encouraging the provision of low cost camping and motor home sites in appropriate locations	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
4f) Improving visitor transport options and information	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
5a) Using partnership in the National Park as an example of how to support delivery of Scotland's Natural Health Service	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
6a) Maintaining existing outdoor learning programmes; John Muir Award and Junior Rangers;	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
6e) Creating a 'Park for All' that reduces barriers and inspires diversity of people to engage with and care for their National Park through lifelong learning.	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
7a) Reducing the proportion of second homes by ensuring that new housing development is targeted at meeting local needs as far as possible;	out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park

Aspect of Plan, policy, project or strategy	Screened in or out	General policy statement
7e) Applying flexible planning policies to encourage or enable majority affordable housing developments and encouraging the use of innovative delivery models to maximise the number of affordable homes that are built;	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
7f) Targeting public sector funding towards sites with the greatest potential for delivering affordable housing;	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
7h) Promoting high standards of sustainable design and energy efficiency in new homes to ensure they are affordable in terms of lifetime running costs	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
8a) Offering support to communities across the National Park through locally based support organisations and working with partner organisations, with a presumption in favour of collaborative working;	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
8b) Supporting community groups to improve communication and engagement with their communities in order to enhance local democracy and participation	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park

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Aspect of Plan, policy, project or strategy	Screened in or out	General policy statement
8c) Continuing to support communities to review and update their Community Action Plans at least every five years;	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
8d) Working with community groups to improve succession planning and volunteering in order to allow them to take advantage of new opportunities and proactively address issues; ;	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
8e) Working collaboratively through community planning structures within the five Community Planning Partnership areas to provide consistent and clear support and information to communities;	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
8f) Continuing to offer support to the Association of Cairngorms Communities and using it as a forum for broader engagement;	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
8g)Establishing a new spatial priority area to provide an enhanced level of future assistance/collaboration over a focused time period to the Dalwhinnie, Kingussie, Laggan and Newtonmore area from 2019/20, making the most of investment in the A9 dualling project	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park

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Aspect of Plan, policy, project or strategy	Screened in or out	General policy statement
8h) Establishing a new spatial priority area to provide an enhanced level of future assistance/collaboration over a focused time period to the Dalwhinnie, Kingussie, Laggan and Newtonmore area from 2020/2021, making the most of investment in the A9 upgrade.	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
9a) Developing sector-specific plans (e.g. forestry, food and drink) to tackle investment, skills and support long-term resilience as well as building business on the natural capital of the National Park;	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
9b) Supporting Cairngorms Community Broadband to deliver superfast broadband in the hardest to reach parts of the Park;	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
9c) Continuing to improve physical infrastructure, including access to affordable housing and digital connectivity;	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
9d) Maximising the opportunities for businesses, communities and visitors from the A9 dualling project;	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park
9e) Using the next Local Development Plan (LDP) to identifying new sites for business use and expansion and the delivery of the LDP to	Out	General statement from NPPP setting out priority for the National Park

Aspect of Plan, policy, project or strategy	Screened in or out	General policy statement
target investment that opens up those sites to business.		
Policies		
3.1c. encouraging growth of business sectors that draw on the special qualities of the Park such as sustainable tourism and food and drink	Out	General policy statement from NPPP setting out long term outcome for the National Park to have a sustainable economy supporting thriving businesses and communities
3.3 Support development of a low carbon economy	Out	General policy statement from NPPP setting out long term outcome for the National Park to have a sustainable economy supporting thriving businesses and communities
3.4. a) supporting communities to plan for their own futures, develop and implement projects, engage the support of partners and share good practice.	Out	General policy statement from NPPP setting out long term outcome for the National Park to have a sustainable economy supporting thriving businesses and communities
3.4c) aligning community planning processes to simplify support to communities	Out	General policy statement from NPPP setting out long term outcome for the National Park to have a sustainable economy supporting thriving businesses and communities
3.4 d) engaging communities effectively in the long term management of the National Park and in projects or programmes that affect them	Out	General policy statement from NPPP setting out long term outcome for the National Park to have a sustainable economy supporting thriving businesses and communities

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Aspect of Plan, policy, project or strategy	Screened in or out	General policy statement
1.2 Enhance the resilience of habitats, species and land use to climate change pest and disease risks	Out	General policy statement from NPPP setting out long term outcome for the National Park to be a special place for people and nature.
1.3 Conserve and enhance the special landscape qualities	Out	General policy statement from NPPP setting out long term outcome for the National Park to be a special place for people and nature.
1.3 a) conserving and enhancing wildness qualities	Out	General policy statement from NPPP setting out long term outcome for the National Park to be a special place for people and nature.
1.3 d) enhancing opportunities to enjoy and experience the landscapes of the Park	Out	General policy statement from NPPP setting out long term outcome for the National Park to be a special place for people and nature.
1.5 c) engaging people on species that are important in the National Park	Out	General policy statement from NPPP setting out long term outcome for the National Park to be a special place for people and nature.
1.6 Support collaboration across ownership boundaries and between interests to reduce conflicts in species and wildlife management including:	Out	General policy statement from NPPP setting out long term outcome for the National Park to be a special place for people and nature.
1.6 a) deer and moorland management;	Out	General policy statement from NPPP setting out long term outcome for the National Park to be a special place for people and nature.
1.6 b) wildlife crime;	Out	General policy statement from NPPP setting out long term outcome for the National Park to be a special place for people and nature.

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Aspect of Plan, policy, project or strategy	Screened in or out	General policy statement
1.6 c) species reintroductions.	Out	General policy statement from NPPP setting out long term outcome for the National Park to be a special place for people and nature.
1.7 Conserve and enhance the cultural heritage that helps to create the sense of place and identity of communities within the Park by:	Out	General policy statement from NPPP setting out long term outcome for the National Park to be a special place for people and nature.
1.7 d) promoting opportunities to enjoy and celebrate the cultural heritage of the Park.	Out	General policy statement from NPPP setting out long term outcome for the National Park to be a special place for people and nature.
3.1 Provide a welcoming and high quality National Park experience for all	Out	General policy statement from NPPP setting out the long term outcome for the National Park to be a place people enjoy through outstanding visitor and learning experiences
3.1 c) enhancing the provision of ranger services to deliver visitor welcome and resource protection	Out	General policy statement from NPPP setting out the long term outcome for the National Park to be a place people enjoy through outstanding visitor and learning experiences
3.2 Promote sustainable tourism management	Out	General policy statement from NPPP setting out the long term outcome for the National Park to be a place people enjoy through outstanding visitor and learning experiences
3.2 a) co-ordinated promotion and management of the Cairngorms National Park as a visitor destination	Out	General policy statement from NPPP setting out the long term outcome for the National Park to be a place people enjoy through outstanding visitor and learning experiences
3.5a Enhance the design and sense of place in	Out	General policy statement from NPPP setting out long term outcome for the

Aspect of Plan, policy, project or strategy	Screened in or out	General policy statement
new development and existing settlements		National Park to be a special place for people and nature.

Screening Step 2: Screening out projects referred to in, but not proposed by, the plan

Policy 1.2. c) refers to improvements in road and rail infrastructure, Priority 1e) refers to the Tomintoul and Glenlivet Landscape Partnership project, there are no other references to projects which are not proposed by the plan (**Table 4**).

Table 4 Projects referred to in, but not proposed by, the Plan.

Aspect of Plan, policy, project or strategy		Screened in or out	General policy statement
Priorities			
Priority 1	e) Deliver co-ordinated conservation action through the Tomintoul and Glenlivet Landscape partnership;	out	General supporting statement of Projects not proposed by this plan
Policies			
Policy	3.2 c) supporting sensitively designed improvements to the A9 and other trunk roads and main railway line as an integral part of enhancing the connectivity of the Highlands;	Out	General supporting statement of Projects not proposed by this plan

Screening Step 3: Screening Out Other Aspects of the NPPP that Could Have No Likely Significant Effect

The remaining policies have been screened for any likely significant effects on any specific Natura site (**Table 5**).

Table 5 Screening policy for no likely significant effects.

Nature of policy	Screened in or out	Title of policy or guidance
Aspect protective of the natural environment and so has no potential negative effects upon designated sites.	Out	<p>Priority</p> <p>1d) Co-ordinate habitat, recreation and development management to secure the capercaillie population through delivery for the Capercaillie framework;</p> <p>1f) Develop a regional Natura Plan for the suite of SACs and SPAs in the Cairngorms National Park. The plan will address conservation objectives, measures and priorities for the suite of sites. It will seek to enhance delivery of favourable condition and integrate site management with broader conservation objectives beyond the designated sites;</p> <p>1g) Consider options to provide appropriate public recognition where large areas of land are managed for nature conservation;</p> <p>2b) Supporting the use of population modelling, herbivore impact assessments and habitat monitoring to inform management;</p> <p>3a) Improving a shared definition and understanding of healthy moorland ecosystems;</p> <p>3b) Delivering more habitat and species diversity within and alongside moorlands;</p> <p>3f) Delivering peatland restoration and securing peatland for the long term</p> <p>Policy</p> <p>2.2 b) enhancing the health and connectivity of habitats;</p>

[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Nature of policy	Screened in or out	Title of policy or guidance
		2.2 c) securing effective management of peat and carbon-rich soils; 2.3 c) enhancements that also deliver habitat improvements; 2.4 Conserve and enhance habitat quality and connectivity; 2.4 a) woodland enhancement and expansion, especially montane, farm and riparian woodlands; 2.4 b) wetland enhancement; 2.5 Conserve and enhance the species for which the Cairngorms National park is most important; 2.5 a) species whose conservation status is in decline or at risk; 2.5 b) tackling and reducing the impacts of invasive non-native species; 3.2 b) ensuring high quality facilities and infrastructure are designed to manage the effects of visitor pressures on the natural heritage and communities; 3.2 c) implementing and reviewing the strategy and action plan for sustainable tourism in the Cairngorms National Park; 3.3 c) identifying areas where particular management measures are needed in relation to delivering a high quality visitor experience, safeguarding sensitive environments and maintaining the integrity of designated sites; 5e) Delivering more environmental volunteering opportunities and developing volunteer rangers
Aspect not lead to change or does not promote development	Out	1.1 e) slowing outward migration of young people; to encourage their return; and the inward migration of workers to the Park to meet business and community needs; 2.7 a) protecting archaeological sites and their settings and promoting understanding of their significance; 2.7 c) protecting and enhancing the built heritage and designed landscapes;

[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Nature of policy	Screened in or out	Title of policy or guidance
Aspect has no conceivable effect or would not otherwise undermine conservation objectives	Out	<p>Priority</p> <p>6d) Raising awareness and understanding of the Park and the issues and choices involved in management of the Park;</p> <p>Policy</p> <p>1.1g) securing ways to reduce the proportion of vacant and second homes to support community vibrancy and ensure the overall housing supply best meets local needs;</p> <p>1.2 a) consolidating the role of the existing main settlements of Aviemore, Ballater, Grantown-on-Spey, Kingussie and Newtonmore, as well as new community at An Camas Mòr, as the most sustainable places for future growth and the focus for housing land supply while maintaining the integrity of designated sites;</p> <p>1.2 e) planning and supporting improvements to the information technology network;</p> <p>1.3 a) increasing renewable energy generation, especially biomass and hydro, that is compatible with conserving the special qualities of the National Park and maintaining the integrity of designated sites. Large-scale wind turbines are not compatible with the landscape character or special landscape qualities of the National Park. They are considered inappropriate within the National Park or where outside the Park they adversely affect its landscape character or special landscape qualities;</p> <p>1.3 b) supporting businesses and communities to use less energy, reduce emissions, improve the energy efficiency of existing buildings, generate low impact renewable energy and plan for a changing climate;</p> <p>1.3 c) maximising the benefits to communities through direct use of locally generated energy or where sold to the grid, reinvesting income to support community development;</p> <p>1.3 d) promoting high standards of sustainable design and efficient use of energy and materials in</p>

[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Nature of policy	Screened in or out	Title of policy or guidance
		<p>construction</p> <p>2.1 The management and use of land should deliver multiple benefits – delivering the best possible combination of the National Park Partnership Plan’s long-term outcomes, always ensuring that the integrity of designated sites is maintained; and that the special qualities are conserved and, where possible, enhanced. This will be supported by:</p> <p>2.1 a) a long-term planned approach by landbased businesses to delivering environmental, economic and social benefits;</p> <p>2.1 b) support for land managers to plan and deliver environmental and social benefits underpinned by sound economic businesses;</p> <p>2.1 c) research to support an ecosystems approach to management</p> <p>2.3 b) maintaining and promoting dark skies;</p> <p>2.7 b) ensuring appropriate advice and investigation for archaeology is used to inform proposals for land use change;</p> <p>2.8 b) promoting a high standard of sustainable design, energy efficiency, sustainably sourced materials and construction in new development;</p> <p>2.8 c) supporting the retention and enhancement of local character;</p> <p>3.1 a) delivering a visitor/customer experience that spans organisational boundaries;</p> <p>3.1 b) providing high quality co-ordinated information setting visitor experiences in the context of the National Park;</p> <p>3.1 d) building on the National Park brand and the promise it delivers;</p>

[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Nature of policy	Screened in or out	Title of policy or guidance
		<p>3.3 d) promoting responsible behaviour in enjoying and managing access;</p> <p>3.4 c) promoting a sense of shared ownership and responsibility towards Scotland's National Parks and rural environment.</p>
Aspect can have no significant effect	Out	<p>Policy</p> <p>1.2a) collaborating on land use and flood management, including natural flood management, through river catchment management plans, Proposals arising from the river catchment management plans will always ensure that the integrity of designated sites is maintained;</p> <p>5c) Targeting people currently living sedentary lifestyles where inactivity is the norm; older adults, young girls and those living with long-term medical conditions</p> <p>5f) Better co-ordination and promotion of public transport and active travel</p>
Aspect too general to know when, how or which site could be affected	Out	<p>Priority</p> <p>1a) Target effort and support to the most effective opportunities to deliver the public interest priorities such as woodland expansion, peatland restoration, flood risk management</p> <p>1c) Support land owner led collaborations to co-ordinate planning, delivery and monitoring across multiple land holdings, including Cairngorms Connect and the East Cairngorms Moorland Partnership;</p> <p>1g) Plan proactively for the potential and management implications of beaver populations;</p> <p>3c) Implementing guidance and trialling new approaches emerging from national initiatives, for example: mapping what implementation of the revised muirburn code means, using the Principles of Moorland management and using the lessons of the Understanding predation project to share knowledge and data;</p> <p>3g) Integrating woodland expansion and montane scrub within and around moorlands, supporting a</p>

[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Nature of policy	Screened in or out	Title of policy or guidance
		<p>more collaborative approach to integrating objectives for conservation, sport and woodland through the East Cairngorms Moorland Partnership and with other estates.</p> <p>5b) Encouraging residents and visitors to responsibly enjoy and use the National Park for physical activity as part of daily life;</p> <p>5d) Maintaining and growing health walks through the Cairngorms Walking project and linking with other opportunities to be active;</p> <p>5g) Improving opportunities for active travel in Aviemore that deliver improved transport connections for visitors and residents.</p> <p>6b) Providing an opportunity for every child to visit the Cairngorms National Park during their school life to learn about and connect with the Park;</p> <p>6c) Developing and promoting learning resources and training opportunities that make it easier for education providers to use the National Park;</p> <p>6f) Using volunteering and physical activity to promote learning and inclusion</p> <p>7a) Maximising the proportion of new housing that is affordable in perpetuity;</p> <p>7b) Identifying sites in the next Local Development Plan where the affordable housing contribution will be more than 25% because of acute affordability pressures and the shortage of supply;</p> <p>7c) Using the next Local Development Plan to manage the nature of new open market housing so it is better targeted towards local needs (eg by seeking a greater mix of house types and sizes, including smaller homes, in new developments)</p> <p>7f) Supporting communities to deliver community-led housing solutions, including by making the most of powers to buy land and taking a more pro-active role in management where appropriate;</p> <p>Policy</p>

[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Nature of policy	Screened in or out	Title of policy or guidance
		<p>1.1d) linking land management planning with community action planning</p> <p>1.4 d) delivering a combination of ecosystem services including natural flood management, carbon</p> <p>2.3 Provide high quality opportunities for access and recreation;</p> <p>2.3 a) ensuring a high quality functional network of core paths and long distance routes;</p> <p>2.3 b) promoting the health benefits of outdoor recreation, including through the Active Cairngorms outdoor access strategy;</p> <p>2.4 Provide opportunities for inspiration, learning and understanding through engaging with people with a particular focus on;</p> <p>2.4 a) young people and other under-represented groups;</p> <p>2.4 b) opportunities to deliver the curriculum for excellence.</p> <p>Grow the economy of the Park by strengthening existing business sectors, supporting business start-ups and diversification, and increasing the number of workers employed in the Park;</p> <p>a) supporting the diversification of existing landbased businesses;</p> <p>3.1d) broadening the economic base of the Park into sectors such as creative industries, renewable energy, and making stronger links with higher and further education;</p> <p>3.1e) increased provision for business land where there is an identified need and demand; and to support the use of land for small business, particularly within settlements</p> <p>3.1g) provision of a housing land supply that meets identified need and demand, supports migration of young people and workers to the Park, and maintains vibrant communities;</p> <p>Enable sustainable patterns of settlement growth, infrastructure and communications;</p> <p>3.2b) providing any additional flexibility in future land supply for housing at small sites around a wider</p>

Nature of policy	Screened in or out	Title of policy or guidance
		<p>range of settlements;</p> <p>3.2d) planning and improving integrated and sustainable local transport networks that allow for safe travel off-road and link with public transport;</p> <p>3.2f) planning and supporting improvements to the mobile communications network that improve access to new generation technology and minimise the need for visually intrusive infrastructure;</p> <p>3.4b) supporting innovative approaches to providing affordable housing to meet local needs;</p> <p>sequestration and storage, timber and food production;</p> <p>3.5 a) enabling new development which contributes positively to the sense of place;</p> <p>3.5 d) facilitating the rehabilitation of redundant rural buildings and recycling of resources;</p> <p>3.5 e) ensuring road upgrades and improvements respond to local landscape character;</p>

Screening Step 4: In-combination effects

There were no Minor Residual Effects identified within the long term objectives, priorities or policies, therefore there are no in-combination effects.

Summary of Screening

Table 6 provides a summary of the screening process, outlining the steps in which the elements of the NPPP were either screened in or out of the appraisal.

Table 6 Screening Summary

Outcome /Priority/ Policy		Step 1: General policy statements	Step 2: Projects referred to in, but not proposed by, the plan	Step 3: Other aspects of the NPPP that could have no LSEs	Step 4: In-combination effects	Aspect not screened out
Long term Outcome 1		Out				
Long term Outcome 2		Out				
Long term Outcome 3		Out				
Priority 1	1a			Out		
	1b					In
	1c			Out		
	1d			Out		
	1e		Out			
	1f			Out		
	1g			Out		
	1h	Out				
Priority 2	2a	Out				
	2b			Out		
	2c	Out				
	2d	Out				

[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Outcome /Priority/ Policy		Step 1: General policy statements	Step 2: Projects referred to in, but not proposed by, the plan	Step 3: Other aspects of the NPPP that could have no LSEs	Step 4: In-combination effects	Aspect not screened out
	2e	Out				
Priority 3	3a			Out		
	3b			Out		
	3c			Out		
	3d			Out		
	3e	Out				
	3f			Out		
	3g			Out		
	3h					In
	3i	Out				
Priority 4	4a	Out				
	4b					In
	4c	Out				
	4d	Out				
	4e	Out				
	4f	Out				
Priority 5	5a	Out				
	5b			Out		
	5c			Out		
	5d			Out		
	5e			Out		
	5f			Out		
	5g			Out		

[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Outcome /Priority/ Policy		Step 1: General policy statements	Step 2: Projects referred to in, but not proposed by, the plan	Step 3: Other aspects of the NPPP that could have no LSEs	Step 4: In-combination effects	Aspect not screened out
Priority 6	6a	Out				
	6b			Out		
	6c			Out		
	6d			Out		
	6e	Out				
	6f			Out		
Priority 7	7a	Out				
	7b			Out		
	7c			Out		
	7d			Out		
	7e	Out				
	7f	Out				
	7g			Out		
	7h	Out				
Priority 8	8a	Out				
	8b	Out				
	8c	Out				
	8d	Out				
	8e	Out				
	8f	Out				
	8g	Out				
Priority 9	9a	Out				
	9b	Out				

[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Outcome /Priority/ Policy		Step 1: General policy statements	Step 2: Projects referred to in, but not proposed by, the plan	Step 3: Other aspects of the NPPP that could have no LSEs	Step 4: In-combination effects	Aspect not screened out
	9c	Out				
	9d	Out				
	9e	Out				
Policy 1.1	Policy 1.1			Out		
	a			Out		
	b			Out		
	c			Out		
Policy 1.2	Policy 1.2			Out		
	a			Out		
	b			Out		
	c					In
	d			Out		
Policy 1.3	Policy 1.3	Out				
	a			Out		
	b			Out		
	c			Out		
	d			Out		
Policy 1.4	Policy 1.4			Out		
	a			Out		
	b			Out		
	c			Out		
	d			Out		

[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Outcome /Priority/ Policy		Step 1: General policy statements	Step 2: Projects referred to in, but not proposed by, the plan	Step 3: Other aspects of the NPPP that could have no LSEs	Step 4: In-combination effects	Aspect not screened out
Policy 1.5	Policy 1.5			Out		
	a			Out		
	b			Out		
	c			Out		
	d			Out		
Policy 1.6	Policy 1.6	Out				
	a	Out				
	b	Out				
	c	Out				
Policy 1.7	Policy 1.7	Out				
	a			Out		
	b			Out		
	c			Out		
	d	Out				
Policy 2.1	Policy 2.1	Out				
	a			Out		
	b			Out		
	c	Out				
	d			Out		
Policy 2.2	Policy 2.2	Out				
	a	Out				
	b			Out		
	c	Out				

[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Outcome /Priority/ Policy		Step 1: General policy statements	Step 2: Projects referred to in, but not proposed by, the plan	Step 3: Other aspects of the NPPP that could have no LSEs	Step 4: In-combination effects	Aspect not screened out
Policy 2.3	Policy 2.3	Out				
	a			Out		
	b			Out		
	c			Out		
	d			Out		
Policy 2.4	Policy 2.4			Out		
	a			Out		
	b			Out		
	c			Out		
	d			Out		
Policy 3.1	Policy 3.1			Out		
	a			Out		
	b			Out		
	c	Out				
	d			Out		
Policy 3.2	Policy 3.2			Out		
	a			Out		
	b			Out		
	c		Out			
Policy 3.3	Policy 3.3	Out				
	a			Out		
	b			Out		
	c			Out		

[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Outcome /Priority/ Policy		Step 1: General policy statements	Step 2: Projects referred to in, but not proposed by, the plan	Step 3: Other aspects of the NPPP that could have no LSEs	Step 4: In-combination effects	Aspect not screened out
	d			Out		
Policy 3.4	Policy 3.4	Out				
	a	Out				
	b			Out		
	c	Out				
	d	Out				

Summary of Likely Significant Effects

Table 7 provides a summary of the NPPP's Likely Significant Effects identified during the screening process.

Table 7 Summary of Likely Significant Effects.

Aspect of NPPP	Natura sites	Likely Significant Effect
Priority 1b: Support and further develop the role of catchment partnerships as mechanisms to co-ordinate land use planning and identify priority area for natural flood management;	River Spey SAC , River Dee SAC, River Tay SAC & River South Esk SAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Disturbance to Qualifying Interests ➤ Pollution and siltation ➤ River engineering ➤ Changes in water management ➤ New or increased discharges to watercourses ➤ New or increased sources of diffuse pollution/sedimentation ➤ Changes to levels, patterns or types of recreational use ➤ Release of invasive species, plant pests or diseases, or land management that facilitates faster spread
Priority 3h: Integrating woodland expansion and montane scrub within and around moorlands,	All non-river SACs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Loss of qualifying features ➤ Changes in the distribution of qualifying features ➤ Changes to the supporting habitats for qualifying species
Priority 4c: Developing new ways to fund infrastructure investment and maintaining and upgrading key off-road routes including Speyside Way,	Abernethy Forest SPA, Craigmore Wood SPA, Anagach Woods SPA, Kinveachy Forest SPA,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Disturbance to Qualifying Interests ➤ Changes to levels, patterns or types of recreational use

<p>Deeside Way and the Core Paths network, maintained;</p>	<p>Cairngorms SPA, Glen Tanar SPA, Ballochbuie SPA</p>	
<p>Policy 1.2c: expanding woodland on appropriate soils;</p>	<p>All non-river SACs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Loss of qualifying features ➤ Changes in the distribution of qualifying features ➤ Changes to the supporting habitats for qualifying species

Stage 6: Mitigation measures

Where LSEs have **not** been screened out during **Stage 5** it may be possible to incorporate measures into the Plan that will mitigate these effects. Such mitigation must reduce the effects identified to a level where they are not likely to be significant and will have no adverse effect on the integrity of any Natura site.

Stage 6 immediately follows screening. At this point mitigation may be applied by deleting an aspect of the Plan or modifying

it in some way; for example by relocating it, changing the time of delivery, or by making changes that avoid effects or reduce scale. Where this is done the mitigated aspect is then re-screened to see if LSEs remain.

Once mitigation measures have been applied in **Stage 6, Stage 7** re-screens the Plan to determine whether significant effects are still likely. If they are, an appropriate assessment is undertaken (Stage 8), through which further mitigation measures are identified.

Having considered the LSEs identified in **Stage 5**, and summarised in **Table 7, Stage 6** identifies a mitigation measure that is straightforward and can be applied to the Plan immediately after screening to address specific LSEs.

Table 8 outlines the caveat that must be included within Policy 2.2, as of the 2nd June 2016.

Table 8 Mitigation Measures

Step Screened in I	Original Policy wording	Amended Policy wording
Step I	Priority 1b: Support and further develop the role of catchment partnerships as mechanisms to co-ordinate land use planning and identify priority area for natural flood management;	The priority does not need to be amended but it needs to be explicitly stated that the priorities are only delivered through the later policies. These policies have been screened for LSE separately. Therefore additional wording to this effect is required: <i>An ‘Agenda for Action’ is identified for each of the nine priorities, and a series of clearly defined policies provide a framework for delivering the priorities and actions.</i>
Step I	Priority 3h: Integrating woodland expansion and montane scrub within and around moorlands,	The priority does not need to be amended but it needs to be explicitly stated that the priorities are only delivered through the later policies. These policies have been screened for LSE separately. Therefore additional wording to this effect is

		required: <i>An ‘Agenda for Action’ is identified for each of the nine priorities, and a series of clearly defined policies provide a framework for delivering the priorities and actions.</i>
Step 1	Priority 4c) Developing new ways to fund infrastructure investment and maintaining and upgrading key off-road routes including Speyside Way, Deeside Way and the Core Paths network, maintained;	The priority does not need to be amended but it needs to be explicitly stated that the priorities are only delivered through the later policies. These policies have been screened for LSE separately. Therefore additional wording to this effect is required: <i>An ‘Agenda for Action’ is identified for each of the nine priorities, and a series of clearly defined policies provide a framework for delivering the priorities and actions.</i>
Step 1	Policy 1.2c) expanding woodland on appropriate soils;	Policy 1.2c) expanding woodland on appropriate soils. All proposals will always ensure that the integrity of designated sites is maintained;

Stage 7: Re-screen the NPPP and Determine the Need for an Appropriate Assessment

Following application of the mitigation measures in **Stage 6**, this stage re-screens the plan to identify LSEs that remain.

Stage 6 shows that here are simple mitigation measures available to the four aspects identified as having possible LSEs during screening. As a consequence there are no remaining LSEs to take forward to appropriate assessment or Minor Residual Effect to be considered in-combination with other MREs from other plans or policies.

An appropriate assessment is not required because no outstanding LSEs have been identified.

Stages 8 and 9: Appropriate Assessment and further mitigation

As determined in stage 7 above this stage is not required

Stage 10: Preparing the consultation draft

This document is the consultation draft for the HRA

Stage 11: Consultation Process

There is a requirement under the regulations to consult upon the draft HRA with the statutory conservation body. In Scotland this is Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH).

Stage 12: Modifying the HRA in light of the consultation process

This will be undertaken at the close of the consultation processes outlined above

Stage 13: Final conclusion

This assessment based upon the best available scientific evidence and advice offered from SNH and others has shown that there is no likely significant effect from the proposed development upon the qualifying features or the conservation objectives for any Natura site.

We therefore conclude that the Cairngorms National Park Partnership Plan 2017-22 will not adversely affect the integrity of any Natura site.

Appendix I: Information on European sites considered by the Habitats Regulations Appraisal

Appendix I provides information on European sites both within and outwith the Cairngorms National Park, that have been identified as being potentially vulnerable to the effects of the Plan. Sites are listed with their qualifying features, the latest assessment of their respective conditions and when the assessments took place, their conservation objectives, the key factors affecting the features and what affects the Plan is likely to have on the site.

A simple colour scheme has been used to highlight the condition of qualifying features, the key to which is provided below:

Features in 'Favourable' condition.
Features that are in 'Unfavourable' condition.
Features that have not been monitored to date.

Special Areas of Conservation

SACs are strictly protected sites designated under the EC Habitats Directive. Article 3 of the Directive requires the establishment

of a European network of important high-quality conservation sites that will make a significant contribution to conserving the 189 habitat types and 788 species identified in Annexes I and II of the Directive (as amended). The listed habitat types and species are those considered to be most in need of conservation at a European level (excluding birds). Of the UK's 78 Annex I habitat types (of which 26 are marine and coastal and therefore not relevant to the National Park), 33 occur in the National Park. Of the UK's 33 Annex II species (of which 4 are marine and coastal and therefore not relevant to the National Park), 10 are native to, and normally resident in, the National Park.

There are 23 SACs within or overlapping the National Park, covering an area of around 1,063 km² (or 24% of the National

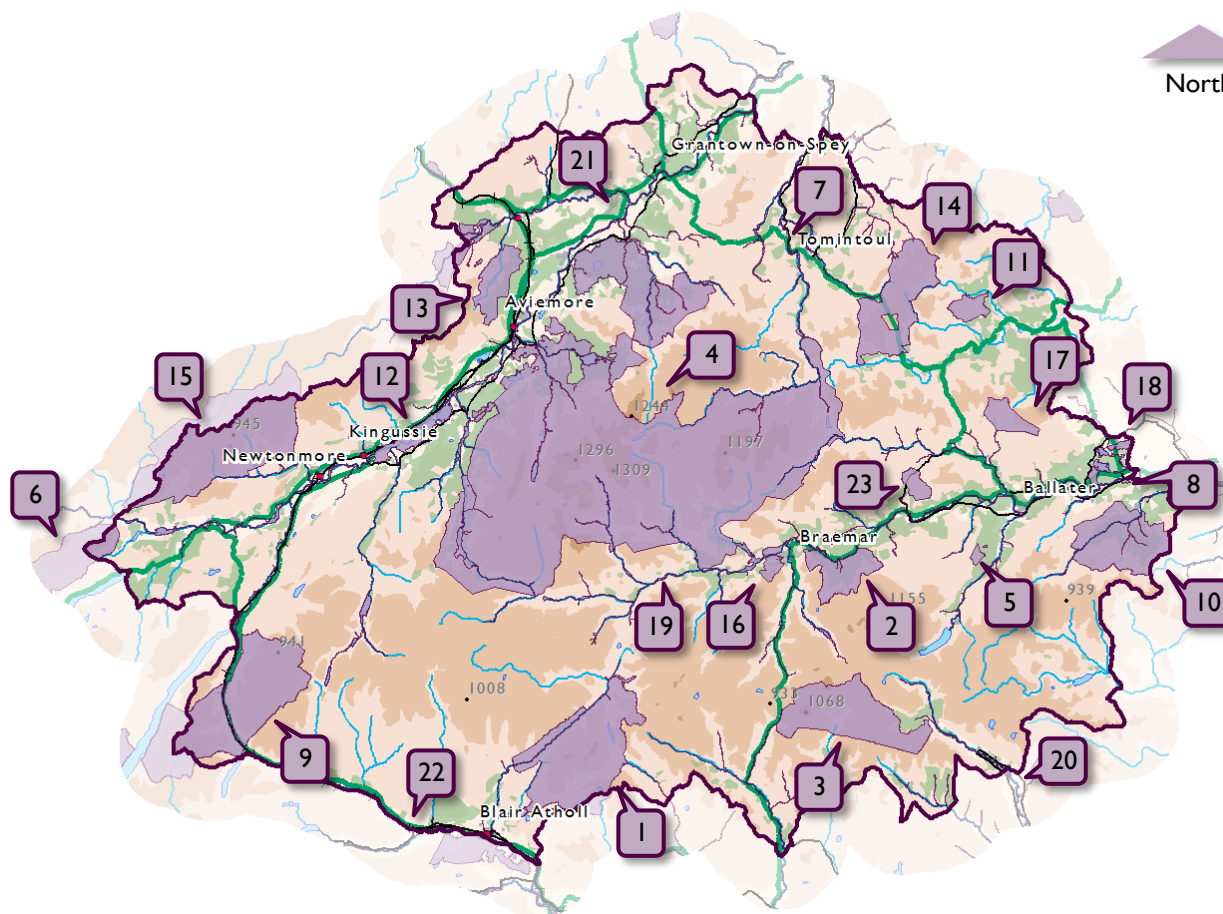
Park's area). Of these, 16 have at least one notifiable feature that is in unfavourable condition. 4 SACs, namely Monadhliath,

River South Esk, Kinveachy Forest and The Maim, have no features in favourable condition. It should be noted that the majority of the River South Esk SAC is located outwith the National Park boundary and therefore the CNPA has only limited influence over its status.

Around 53% of the land area protected as an SAC falls within the Cairngorms SAC, which is the third largest in Scotland.

Location of Special Areas of Conservation

1.	Bein a' Ghlo	p. 50
2.	Ballochbuie	p. 53
3.	Caenlochan	p. 56
4.	Cairngorms	p. 59
5.	Coyles of Muick	p. 63
6.	Creag Meagaidh	p. 65
7.	Creag nan Gamhainn	p. 68
8.	Dinnet Oakwood	p. 70
9.	Drumochter Hills	p. 72
10.	Glen Tanar	p. 75
11.	Greenhill of Strathdon	p. 78
12.	Insh Marshes	p. 80
13.	Kinveachy Forest	p. 83
14.	Ladder Hills	p. 85
15.	Monadliath	p. 87
16.	Morrone Birkwood	p. 89
17.	Morven and Mullachdubh	p. 92
18.	Muir of Dinnet	p. 94
19.	River Dee	p. 97
20.	River South Esk	p. 100
21.	River Spey	p. 102
22.	River Tay	p. 105
23.	The Maim	p. 108



Scale
1:700,000

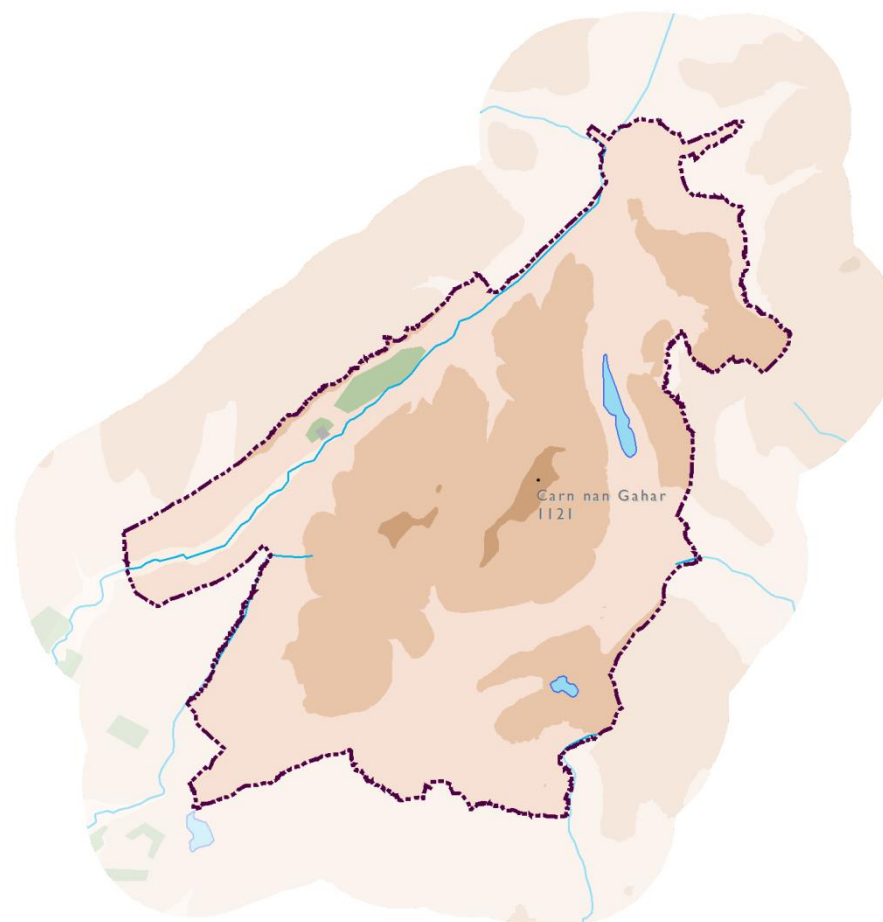
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Beinn a' Ghlo SAC

Local Authority	Perth & Kinross
SAC status	Designated 17/03/2005
Latitude	56 50 05 N
Longitude	03 42 20 W
SAC EU code	UK0012957
Area (ha)	8,084.76
Area (ha) in CNP	7,762.25 (96.0%)

General site character

Inland water bodies (Standing water, Running water)	0.5%
Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens	15.8%
Heath, Scrub, Maquis and Garrigue, Phygrana	61.4%
Humid grassland, Mesophile grassland	0.1%
Alpine and sub-Alpine grassland	3.4%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	0.1%
Coniferous woodland	0.6%
Inland rocks, Screes, Sands, Permanent Snow and ice	4.5%



Scale
1:140,000

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Conservation Objectives**Habitats**

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favorable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site;
- Distribution of the habitat within site;
- Structure and function of the habitat;
- Processes supporting the habitat;
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat;
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat;
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat.

Status of Qualifying Habitat

Qualifying Habitat	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Base-rich fens	Unfavourable	Trampling, over-grazing.	22/07/2010
Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	22/07/2010
High-altitude plant communities associated with areas of water seepage	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	22/07/2010
Species-rich grassland with mat-grass in upland areas	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	22/07/2010
Plants in crevices on acid rocks	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	22/07/2010
Alpine and subalpine heaths	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	22/07/2010
Blanket bog	Favourable	Burning	22/07/2010
Montane acid grasslands	Unfavourable Recovering Due to Management	Over-grazing	19/08/2004
Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	19/08/2004
Dry heaths	Unfavourable Recovering Due to Management	Burning, over-grazing.	19/08/2004
Acidic scree	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	19/08/2004
Hard-water springs depositing lime	Unfavourable	Burning, over-grazing.	19/08/2004

Species

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Related European Sites

No related European sites.

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Geyer's whorl snail (<i>Vertigo geyeri</i>)	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	22/07/2010
Round-mouthed whorl snail (<i>Vertigo genesii</i>)	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	22/07/2010

Factors currently influencing site

- Recreation
- Burning
- Grazing.

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- https://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8197
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0012957>

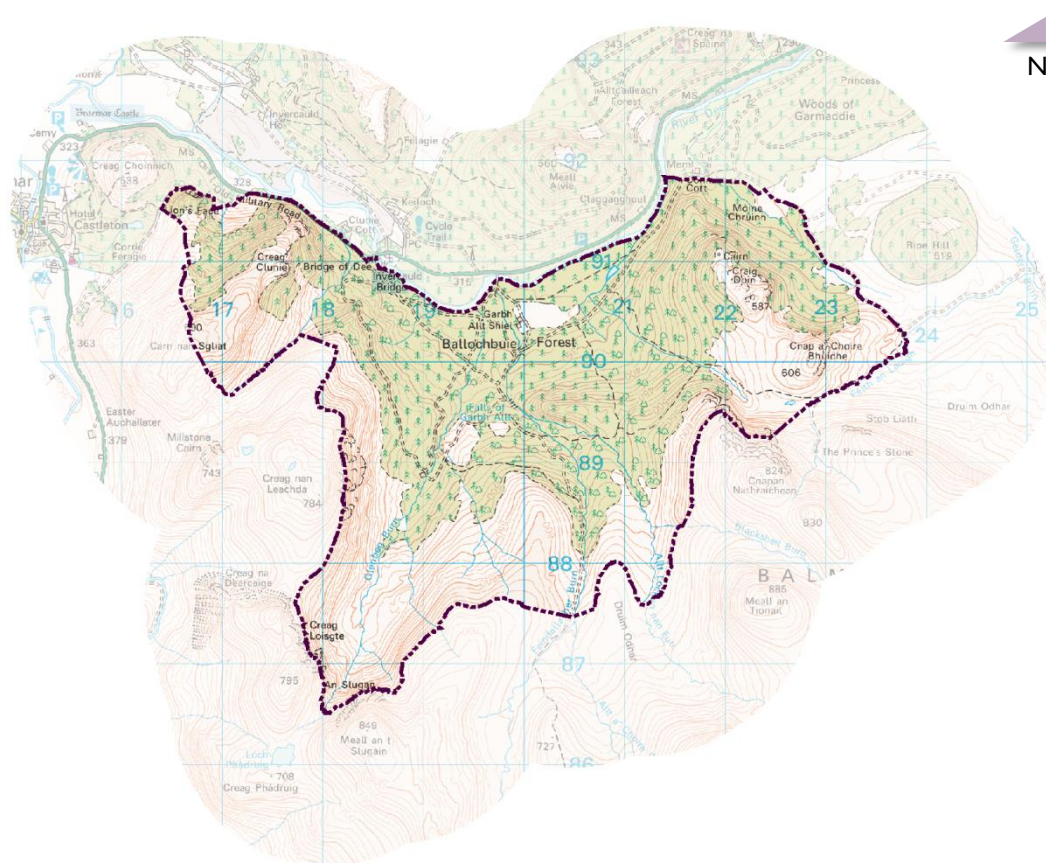
[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Ballochbuie SAC

Local Authority	Aberdeenshire
SAC status	Designated
	17/03/2005
Latitude	56 59 30 N
Longitude	03 19 06 W
SAC EU code	UK0030030
Area (ha)	1,881.73
Area (ha) in CNP	1,881.73 (100%)

General site character

Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens	13%
Heath, Scrub, Maquis and Garrigue, Phygrana	36%
Humid grassland, Mesophile grassland	1%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	1%
Coniferous woodland	48%
Inland rocks, Scree, Sands,	
Permanent Snow and ice	1%



Scale
1:75,000

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Conservation Objectives**Habitats**

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat

Status of Qualifying Habitat

Qualifying Habitat	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Bog woodland	Unfavourable Recovering Due to Management	Over-grazing	02/08/2011
Caledonian forest	Unfavourable Recovering Due to Management	Over-grazing	08/08/2011
Blanket bog	Unfavourable Recovering Due to Management	Burning	05/05/2006
Plants in crevices on acid rocks	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	01/11/2006
Dry heaths	Unfavourable Recovering Due to Management	Burning	01/11/2006
Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath	Unfavourable Recovering Due to Management	Burning	01/11/2006
Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	23/11/2004

Species

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with Ballochbuie Special Protection Area and the River Dee Special Area of Conservation.

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	12/11/2011

Factors currently influencing site

- Grazing
- Burning

Sources

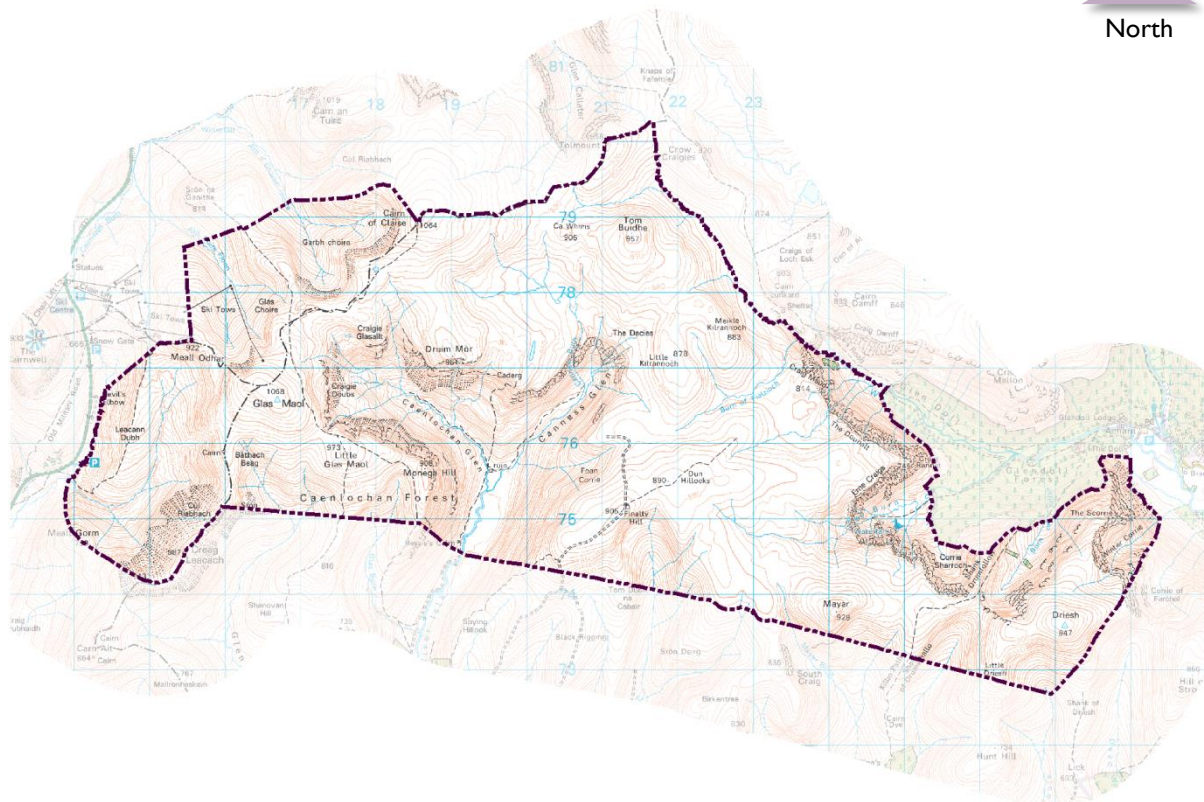
- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8194
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0030030>

Caenlochan SAC

Local Authority	Aberdeenshire; Angus; Perth and Kinross
SAC status	Designated 1703/2005
Latitude	56 52 30 N
Longitude	03 17 30 W
SAC EU code	UK0012821
Area (ha)	5,204.16
Area (ha) in CNP	5,024.16 (100%)

General site character

Inland water bodies (Standing water, Running water)	0.1%
Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens	29%
Heath, Scrub, Maquis and Garrigue, Phygrana	30.2%
Dry grassland, Steppes	9.2%
Humid grassland, Mesophile grassland	2.4%
Alpine and sub-Alpine grassland	23.7%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	0.2%
Inland rocks, Screes, Sands, Permanent Snow and ice	5.2%



Scale
1:100,000

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[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Conservation Objectives**Habitats**

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with the River Dee Special Area of Conservation and the Caenlochan Special Protection Area.

Status of Qualifying Habitat

Qualifying Habitat	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Mountain willow scrub	Unfavourable	Climate change, over-grazing, plant pests and diseases	23/08/2012
Acidic scree	Unfavourable	Over-grazing	30/08/2012
Montane acid grasslands	Unfavourable	Climate change, over-grazing	18/09/2012
High-altitude plant communities associated with areas of water seepage	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	18/09/2012
Tall herb communities	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	18/09/2012
Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	18/09/2012
Dry heaths	Unfavourable	Burning, over-grazing	16/07/2006
Plants in crevices on acid rocks	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	16/07/2006
Blanket bog	Unfavourable	Burning, over-grazing	16/07/2006
Alpine and subalpine heaths	Unfavourable	Climate change, over-grazing	16/07/2006
Base-rich fens	Unfavourable	No negative pressures identified	16/07/2006
Base-rich scree	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	16/07/2006

[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]**Factors currently influencing site**

- Grazing
- Burning

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8216
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0012821>

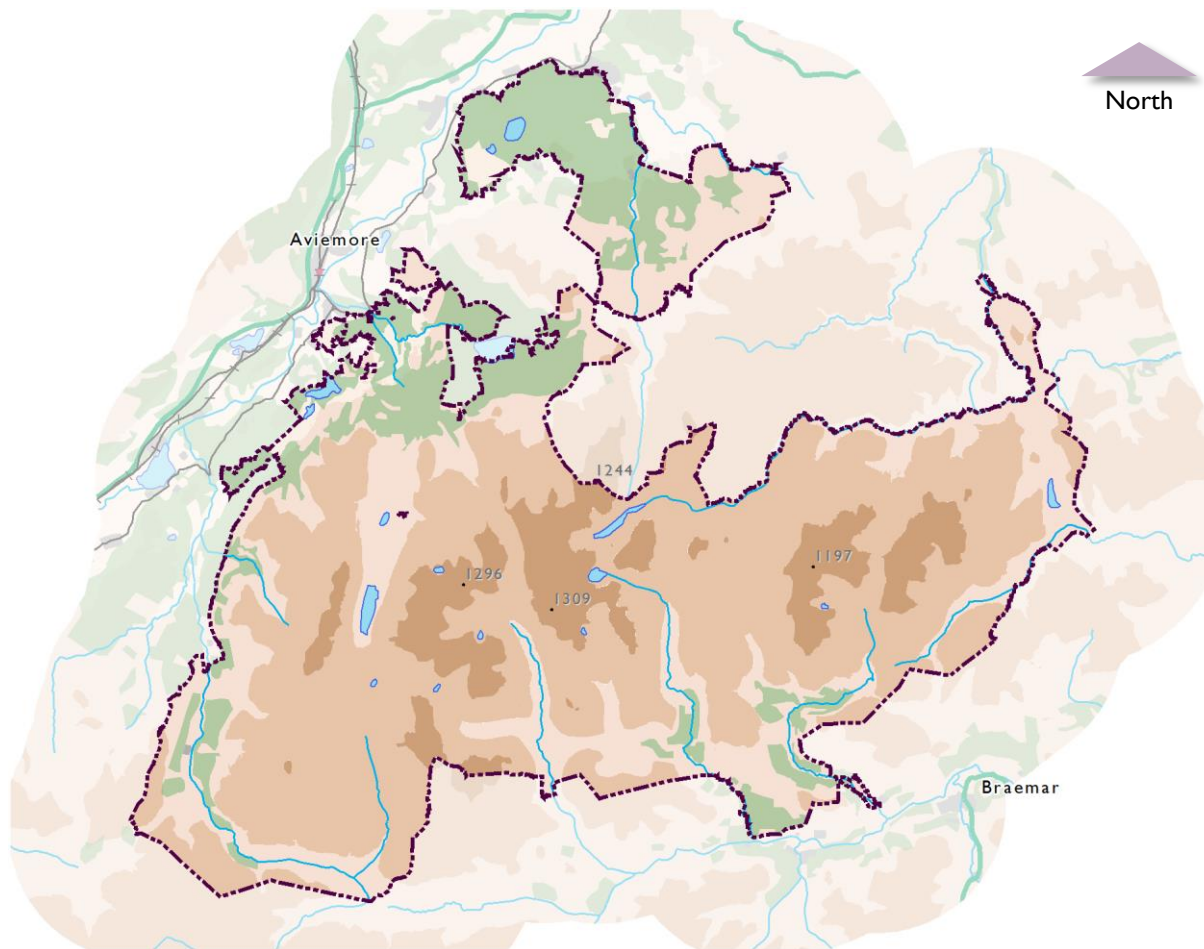
Qualifying Habitat	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Grasslands on soils rich in heavy metals	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	16/07/2006
Species-rich grassland with mat-grass in upland areas	Unfavourable	No negative pressures identified	16/07/2006

Cairngorms SAC

Local Authority	Aberdeenshire; Highland; Moray
SAC status	Designated 17/03/2005
Latitude	57 04 36 N
Longitude	03 39 15 W
SAC EU code	UK0016412
Area (ha)	57,685.02
Area (ha) in CNP	57,685.02 (100%)

General site character

Inland water bodies (Standing water, Running water)	2.1%
Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens	10%
Heath, Scrub, Maquis and Garrigue, Phygrana	42.7%
Dry grassland, Steppes	2.2%
Humid grassland, Mesophile grassland	1%
Alpine and sub-Alpine grassland	16%
Improved grassland	1%
Other arable land	1%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	1%
Coniferous woodland	13%
Mixed woodland	1%
Inland rocks, Scree, Sands, Permanent Snow and ice	8%
Other land	1%



Scale
1:300,000

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Conservation Objectives**Habitats**

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat

Status of Qualifying Habitat

Qualifying Habitat	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	23/06/2010
Acid peat-stained lakes and ponds	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	24/06/2010
Caledonian forest	Unfavourable Recovering Due to Management	Invasive species; under-grazing	27/01/2009
Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone	Unfavourable	Over-grazing; under-grazing; over grazing	03/04/2007
Blanket bog	Unfavourable	Over-grazing	03/04/2007
Tall herb communities	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	03/04/2007
Hard-water springs depositing lime	Favourable	Over-grazing	03/04/2007
Alpine and subalpine heaths	Unfavourable	Burning; over grazing; Recreation / disturbance	03/04/2007
Dry heaths	Unfavourable	Burning	03/04/2007
Plants in crevices on acid rocks	Favourable	Recreation / disturbance	03/04/2007
Acidic scree	Favourable	Recreation / disturbance	03/04/2007
Mountain willow scrub	Unfavourable	Over-grazing	03/04/2007

[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Species

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Qualifying Habitat	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath	Unfavourable	Over-grazing	03/04/2007
Species-rich grassland with mat-grass in upland areas	Unfavourable	Trampling; under-grazing	03/04/2007
Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks	Unfavourable	Invasive species	03/04/2007
Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	03/04/2007
Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	08/04/2007
Montane acid grasslands	Favourable	Recreation / disturbance	14/07/2006
High-altitude plant communities associated with areas of water seepage	Unfavourable	Over-grazing	15/10/2006
Bog woodland	Favourable	Over-grazing	05/09/2002

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Green shield-moss (<i>Buxbaumia viridis</i>)	Favourable	Forestry operations	02/05/2006
Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)	Unfavourable	Recreation / disturbance	08/09/2004

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with the River Dee and River Spey Special Conservation Areas. The site overlaps with Cairngorms, Cairngorms Massif and Abernethy Forest Special Protection Areas. The site also overlaps the Cairngorms Lochs Ramsar site.

Factors currently influencing site

- Grazing
- Burning
- Recreation
- Trampling
- Invasive species

Sources

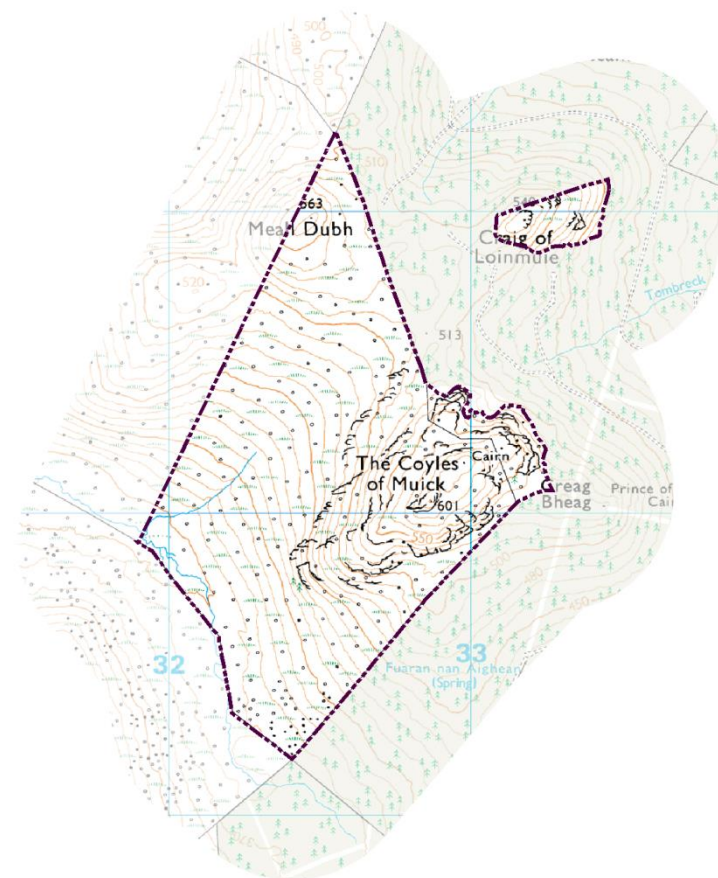
- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8217
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0016412>

Coyles of Muick SAC

Local Authority	Aberdeenshire
SAC status	Designated
	17/03/2005
Latitude	57 33 30 N
Longitude	04 26 45 W
SAC EU code	UK0013575
Area (ha)	120.11
Area (ha) in CNP	120.11 (100%)

General site character

Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens	5%
Heath, Scrub, Maquis and Garrigue, Phygrana	70%
Dry grassland, Steppes	18.4%
Coniferous woodland	0.1%
Inland rocks, Screens, Sands, Permanent Snow and ice	6.5%



Scale
1:25,000

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Conservation Objectives

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying habitat that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat

Status of Qualifying Habitat

Qualifying Habitat	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Grasslands on soils rich in heavy metals	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	03/08/2006

Related European Sites

No related sites.

Factors currently influencing site

None identified.

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8231
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0013575>

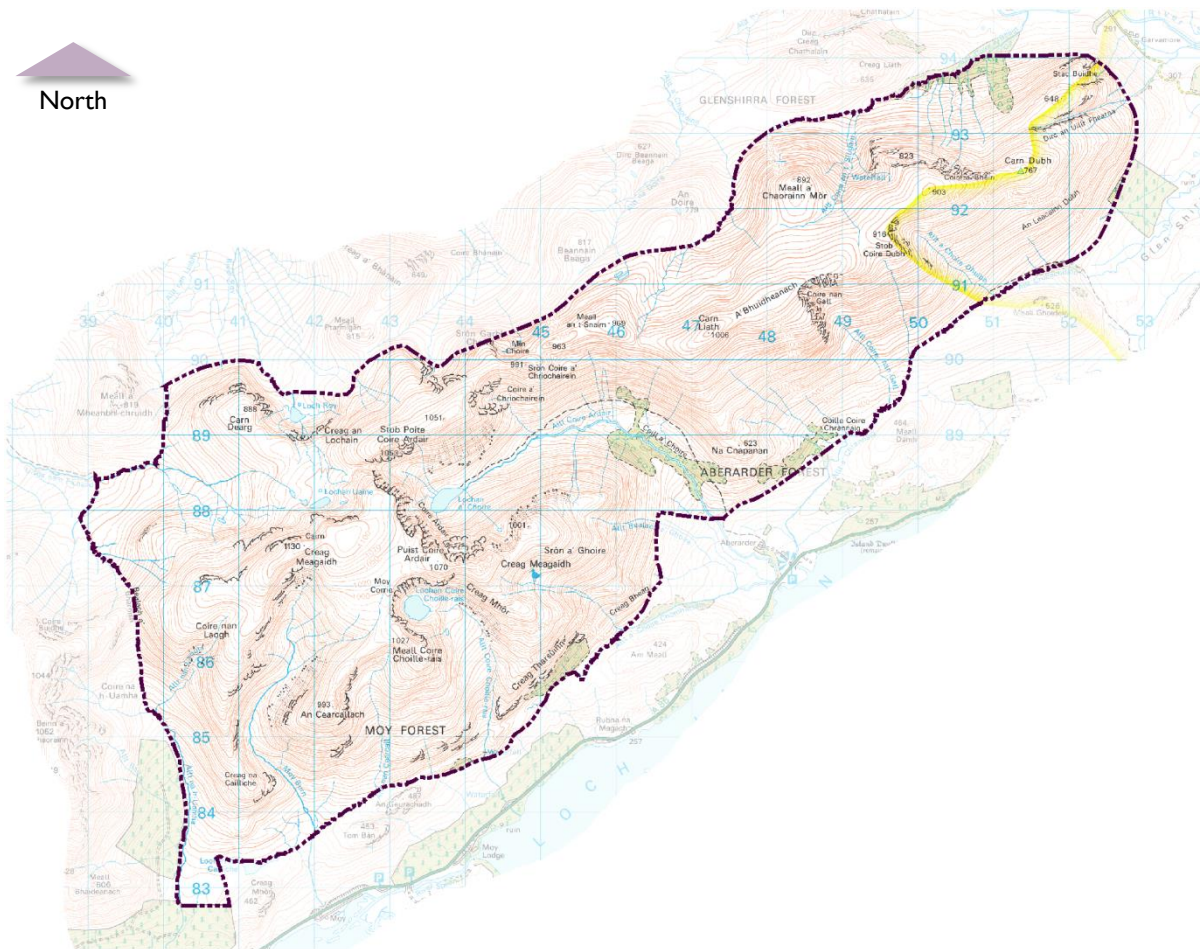
[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Creag Meagaidh SAC

Local Authority	Highland
SAC status	Designated 17/03/2005
Latitude	56 57 45 N
Longitude	04 32 55 W
SAC EU code	UK0012955
Area (ha)	6,144.58
Area (ha) in CNP	507.19 (8.3%)

General site character

Inland water bodies (Standing water, Running water)	1%
Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens	10%
Heath, Scrub, Maquis and Garrigue, Phygrana	36.5%
Humid grassland, Mesophile grassland	1%
Alpine and sub-Alpine grassland	35.5%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	10%
Inland rocks, Scree, Sands, Permanent Snow and ice	9%



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Conservation Objectives

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat

Status of Qualifying Habitat

Qualifying Habitat	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	10/06/2010
Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	15/08/2010
Plants in crevices on acid rocks	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	08/08/2005
Alpine and subalpine heaths	Unfavourable	Over-grazing	01/09/2005
Mountain willow scrub	Unfavourable Recovering Due to Management	Over-grazing	01/09/2005
Tall herb communities	Unfavourable	Over-grazing	30/09/2005
Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath	Unfavourable	Burning, game / fisheries management, over-grazing	30/09/2005
Montane acid grasslands	Unfavourable	Over-grazing	30/09/2005
Dry heaths	Unfavourable	Burning, over-grazing	30/09/2005
Blanket bog	Unfavourable	Burning, over-grazing	30/09/2005
Acidic scree	Unfavourable	Over-grazing	30/09/2005

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with Creag Meagaidh Special Protection Area.

Factors currently influencing site

- Burning
- Grazing
- Game or fisheries management

Sources

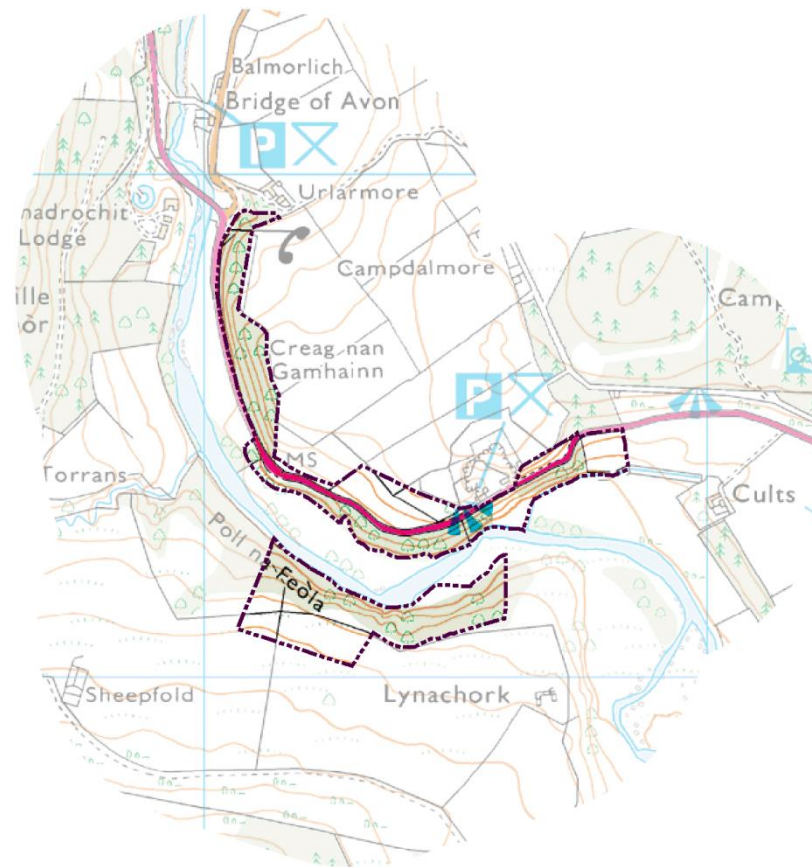
- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8235
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0012955>

Creag nan Gamhainn SAC

Local Authority	Moray
SAC status	Designated 17/03/2005
Latitude	57 15 35 N
Longitude	03 24 15 W
SAC EU code	UK0013584
Area (ha)	15.75
Area (ha) in CNP	15.75 (100%)

General site character

Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens	6%
Heath, Scrub, Maquis and Garrigue, Phygrana	1%
Dry grassland, Steppes	7%
Humid grassland, Mesophile grassland	28%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	57%
Other land	1%



Scale
1:15,000

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Conservation Objectives

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying habitat that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat

Related European Sites

No related sites

Factors currently influencing site

None identified.

Status of Qualifying Habitat

Qualifying Habitat	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Hard-water springs depositing lime	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	21/07/2011

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8236
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0013584>

Dinnet Oakwood SAC

Local Authority	Aberdeenshire
SAC status	Designated 17/03/2005
Latitude	57 04 10 N
Longitude	02 53 00 W
SAC EU code	UK0030134
Area (ha)	19.73
Area (ha) in CNP	19.73 (100%)

General site character

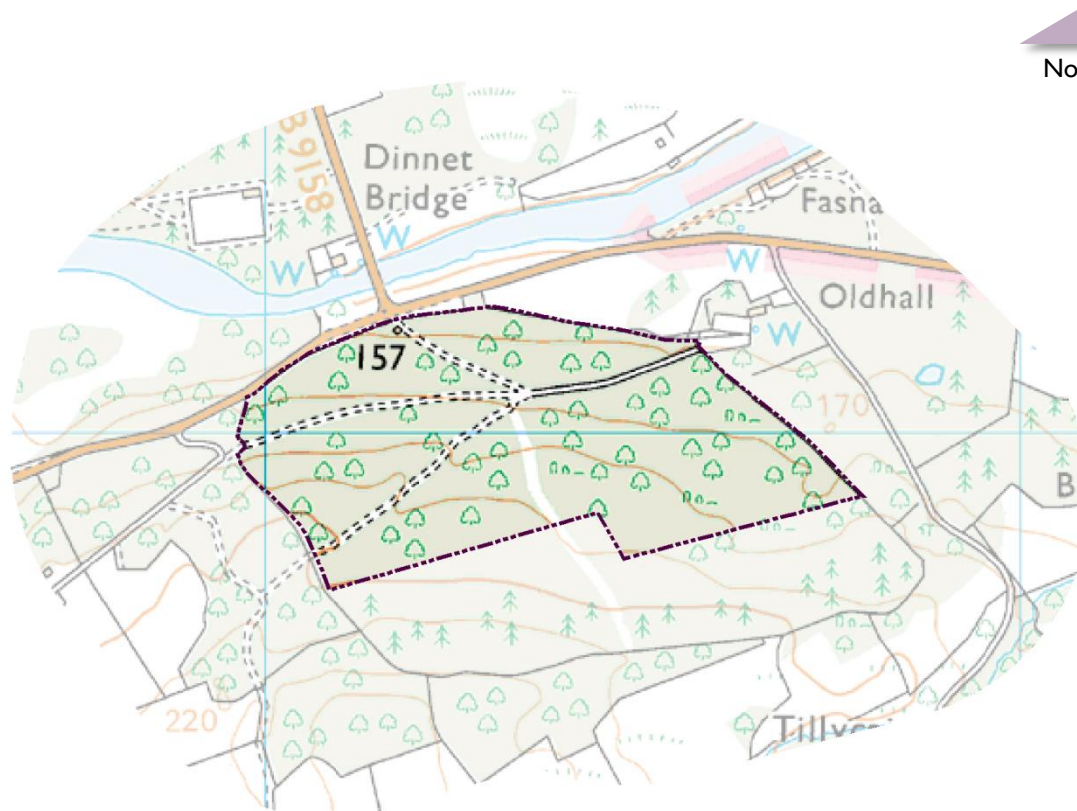
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	100%
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Conservation Objectives

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying habitat that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site



Scale
1:10,000

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- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat

Status of Qualifying Habitat

Qualifying Habitat	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Western acidic oak woodland	Favourable	Invasive species, no proactive management, over-grazing	12/07/2002

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with the River Dee Special Area of Conservation.

Factors currently influencing site

None identified.

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8240
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0030134>

Drumochter Hills SAC

Local Authority	Highland; Perth and Kinross
SAC status	Designated
	17/03/2005
Latitude	56 52 00 N
Longitude	04 11 30 W
SAC EU code	UK0012942
Area (ha)	9,445.56
Area (ha) in CNP	7,382.22 (78.2%)

General site character

Inland water bodies (Standing water, Running water)	2%
Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens	23%
Heath, Scrub, Maquis and Garrigue, Phygrana	46.5%
Alpine and sub-Alpine grassland	22%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	1%
Inland rocks, Scree, Sands,	5%
Permanent Snow and ice	
Other land	0.5%



Scale
1:130,000

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Conservation Objectives

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with the River Spey Special Area of Conservation and the Drumochter Hills Special Protection Area.

Status of Qualifying Habitat

Qualifying Habitat	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Alpine and subalpine heaths	Unfavourable	Over-grazing, trampling	05/07/2006
Montane acid grasslands	Unfavourable	Over-grazing, trampling	06/07/2006
Plants in crevices on acid rocks	Unfavourable	Over-grazing	06/07/2006
Dry heaths	Unfavourable	Burning	06/07/2006
Mountain willow scrub	Unfavourable	Over-grazing	06/07/2006
Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath	Unfavourable	Burning, over-grazing, trampling	06/07/2006
Blanket bog	Unfavourable	Burning, over-grazing, trampling	06/07/2006
Species-rich grassland with mat-grass in upland areas	Unfavourable	Under-grazing	06/07/2006
Acidic scree	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	06/07/2006
Tall herb communities	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	31/07/2006

Factors currently influencing site

- Grazing
- Burning
- Trampling
- Recreational disturbance.

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8243
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0012942>

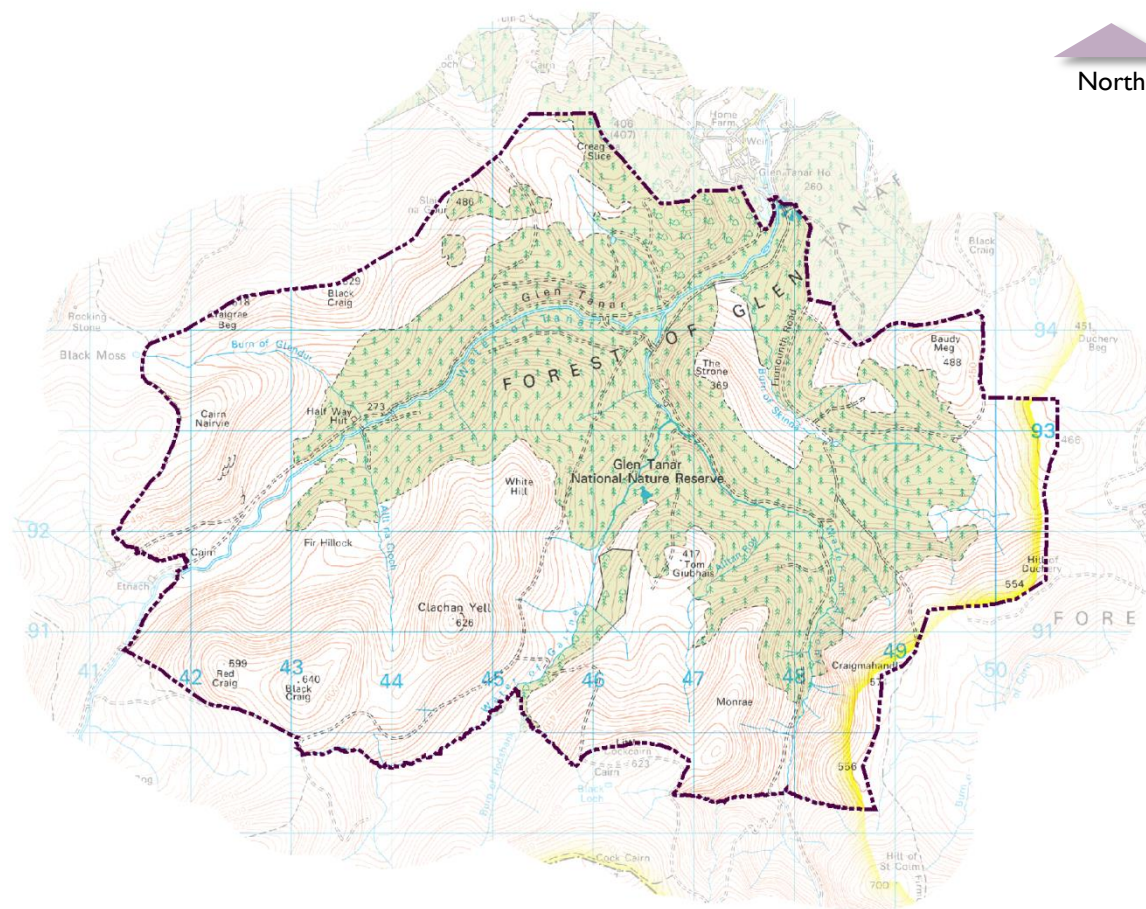
[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Glen Tanar SAC

Local Authority	Aberdeenshire
SAC status	Designated 17/03/2005
Latitude	57 01 20 N
Longitude	02 53 30 W
SAC EU code	UK0012756
Area (ha)	4,180.09
Area (ha) in CNP	4,142.25 (99.1%)

General site character

Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens	10%
Heath, Scrub, Maquis and Garrigue, Phygrana	30%
Dry grassland, Steppes	5%
Coniferous woodland	55%



Scale
1:75,000

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Conservation Objectives

Habitats

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat.

Status of Qualifying Habitat

Qualifying Habitat	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Caledonian forest	Favourable	Invasive species	08/04/2010
Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	21/11/2009
Dry heaths	Favourable	Under-grazing	23/10/2003
Blanket bog	Favourable	Burning	31/10/2003

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	30/09/2004

Species

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Related European Sites

This site overlaps with River Dee Special Conservation Area and the Glen Tanar Special Protection Area.

Factors currently influencing site

- Burning

Sources

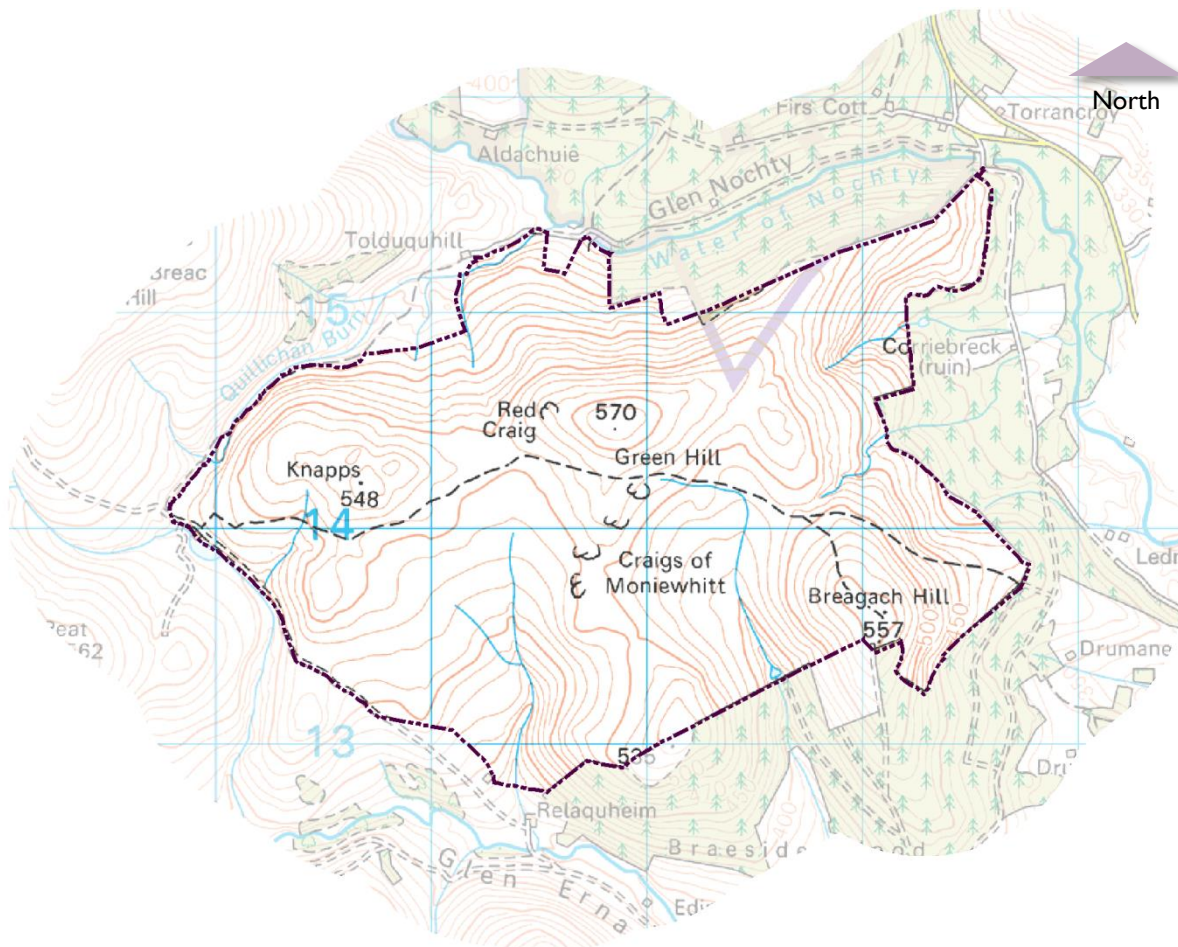
- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8266
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0012756>

Green Hill of Strathdon SAC

Local Authority	Aberdeenshire
SAC status	Designated
	17/03/2005
Latitude	57 14 00 N
Longitude	03 08 00 W
SAC EU code	UK0030159
Area (ha)	640.77
Area (ha) in CNP	640.77 (100%)

General site character

Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens	10%
Heath, Scrub, Maquis and Garrigue, Phygrana	65%
Dry grassland, Steppes	23%
Inland rocks, Screens, Sands, Permanent Snow and ice	2%



Scale
1:35,000

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Conservation Objectives

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat

Related European Sites

No related sites.

Status of Qualifying Habitat

Qualifying Habitat	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Dry heaths	Favourable	Burning, over-grazing	15/08/2008
Grasslands on soils rich in heavy metals	Favourable	Burning	15/08/2008
Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands	Favourable	Over-grazing	02/08/2002

Factors currently influencing site

None identified.

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8268
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0030159>

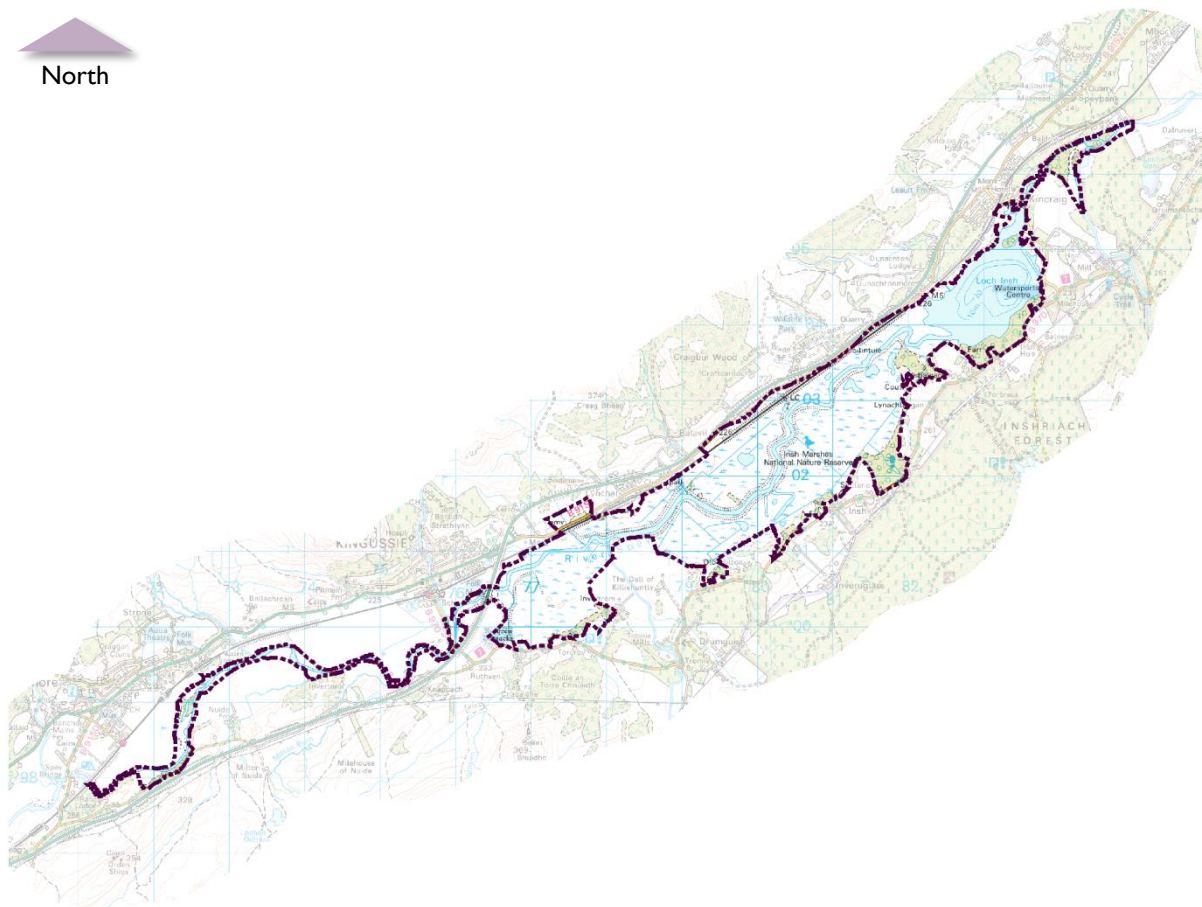
[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Insh Marshes SAC

Local Authority	Highland
SAC status	Designated
	17/03/2005
Latitude	57 05 30 N
Longitude	03 58 00 W
SAC EU code	UK0019812
Area (ha)	1,158.78
Area (ha) in CNP	1,158.78 (100%)

General site character

Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	18%
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	36%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	10%
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	25%
Improved grassland	1%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	8%
Coniferous woodland	2%



Scale
1:100,000

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Conservation Objectives**Habitats**

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat

Status of Qualifying Habitat

Qualifying Habitat	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels	Favourable	Invasive species, recreation / disturbance	30/07/2010
Alder woodland on floodplains	Favourable	Flood defence works, invasive species, no proactive management, over-grazing, water management	19/05/2009
Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	04/10/2002

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)	Favourable	Over-grazing, other	08/09/2004

Species

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with the River Spey Special Area of Conservation and the River

Spey – Insh Marshes Special Protection Area and Ramsar site.

Factors currently influencing site

- Grazing.
- Recreational disturbance.
- Forestry operations.
- Potential impacts from new development due to additional nutrient loading.

Sources

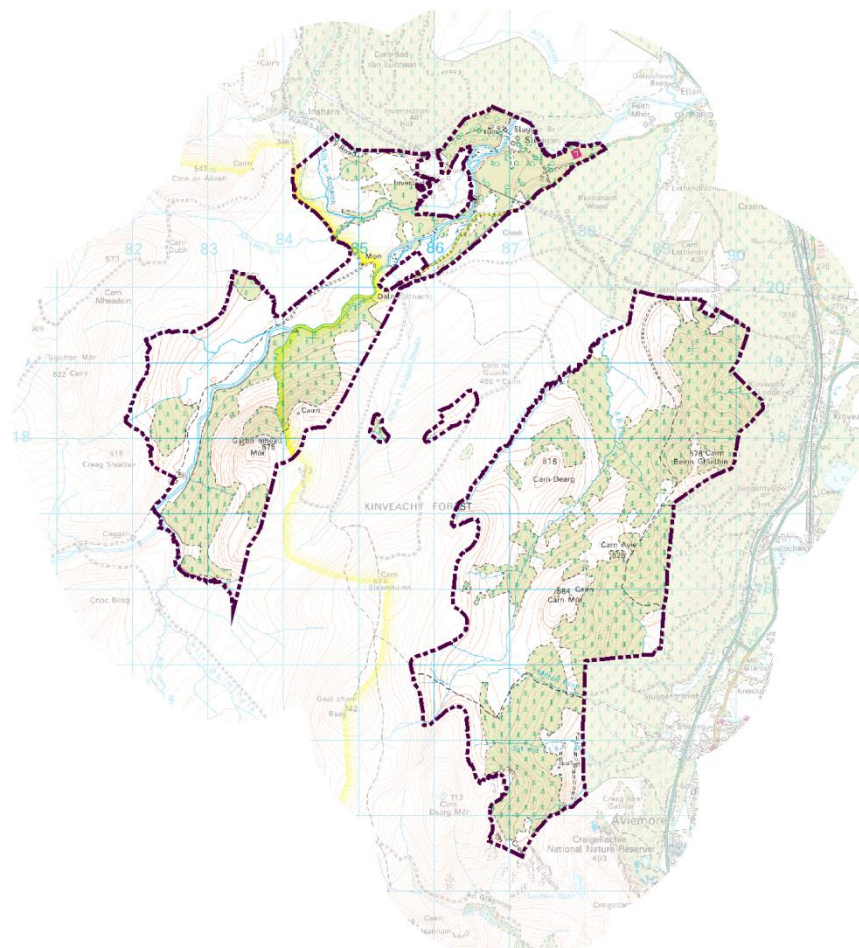
- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8274
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0019812>

Kinveachy Forest SAC

Local Authority	Highland
SAC status	Designated 17/03/2005
Latitude	57 14 15 N
Longitude	03 54 00 W
SPA EU code	UK0012759
Area (ha)	2,849.36
Area (ha) in CNP	2,232.59 (78.4%)

General site character

Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	0.5%
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	0.5%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	40%
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	1%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	9%
Coniferous woodland	49%



Scale
1:100,000

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Conservation Objectives

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat.

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with the River Spey Special Area of Conservation and the Kinveachy Forest Special Protection Area.

Status of Qualifying Habitat

Qualifying Habitat	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Bog woodland	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	24/06/2008
Caledonian forest	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	24/06/2008

Factors currently influencing site

- Grazing
- Burning
- Game or fisheries management.

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8283
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0012759>

Ladder Hills SAC

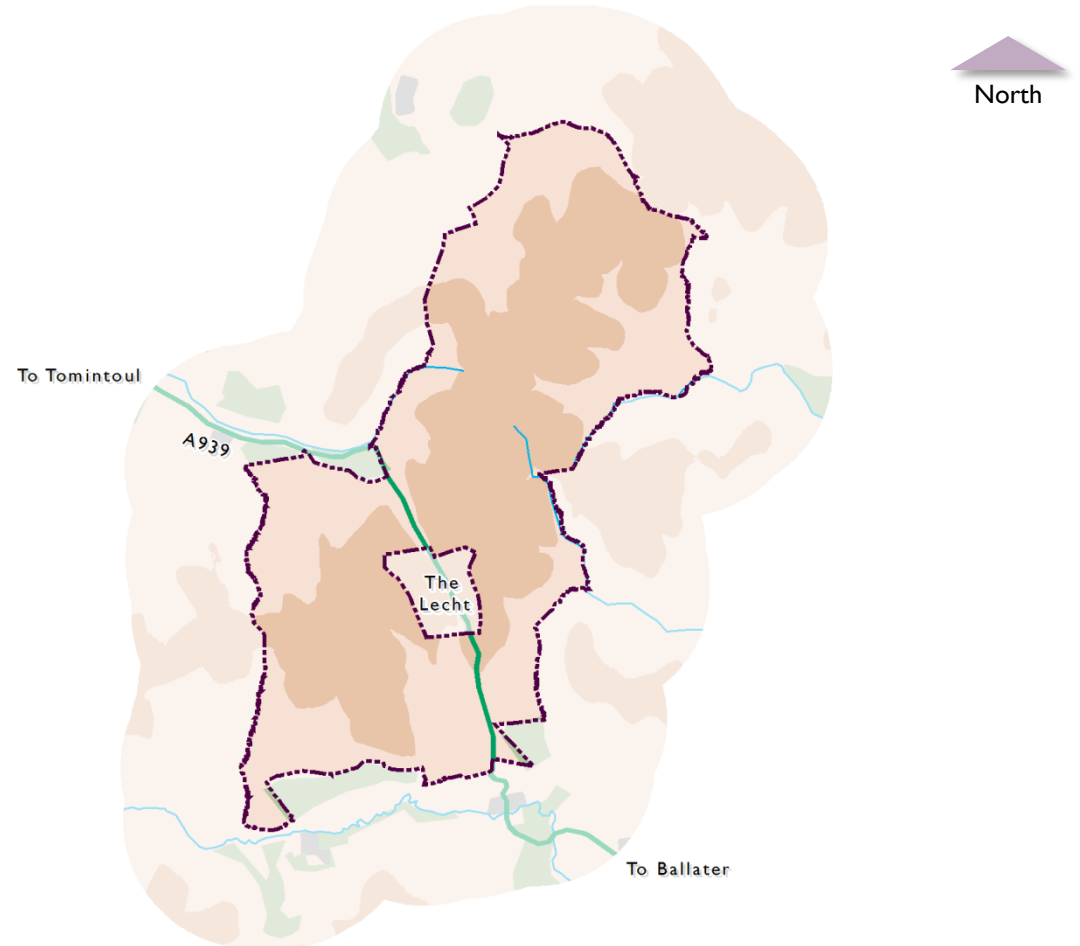
Local Authority	Aberdeenshire; Moray
SAC status	Designated 17/03/2005
Latitude	57 13 00 N
Longitude	03 14 55 W
SAC EU code	UK0030179
Area (ha)	4,357.94
Area (ha) in CNP	4,357.94 (100%)

General site character

Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	30%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	68%
Dry grassland, Steppes	2%

Conservation Objectives

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and



Scale
1:125,000

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To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat

Related European Sites

There is a proposed Ladder Hills Special Protection Area which is likely to overlap the Ladder Hills Special Area of Conservation.

Factors currently influencing site

- Grazing
- Burning
- Recreational disturbance

Sources

Status of Qualifying Habitat

Qualifying Habitat	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Dry heaths	Unfavourable	Burning, over-grazing, recreation / disturbance	09/04/2007
Blanket bog	Favourable	Agricultural operations, burning	03/09/1999
Alpine and subalpine heaths	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	03/09/1999

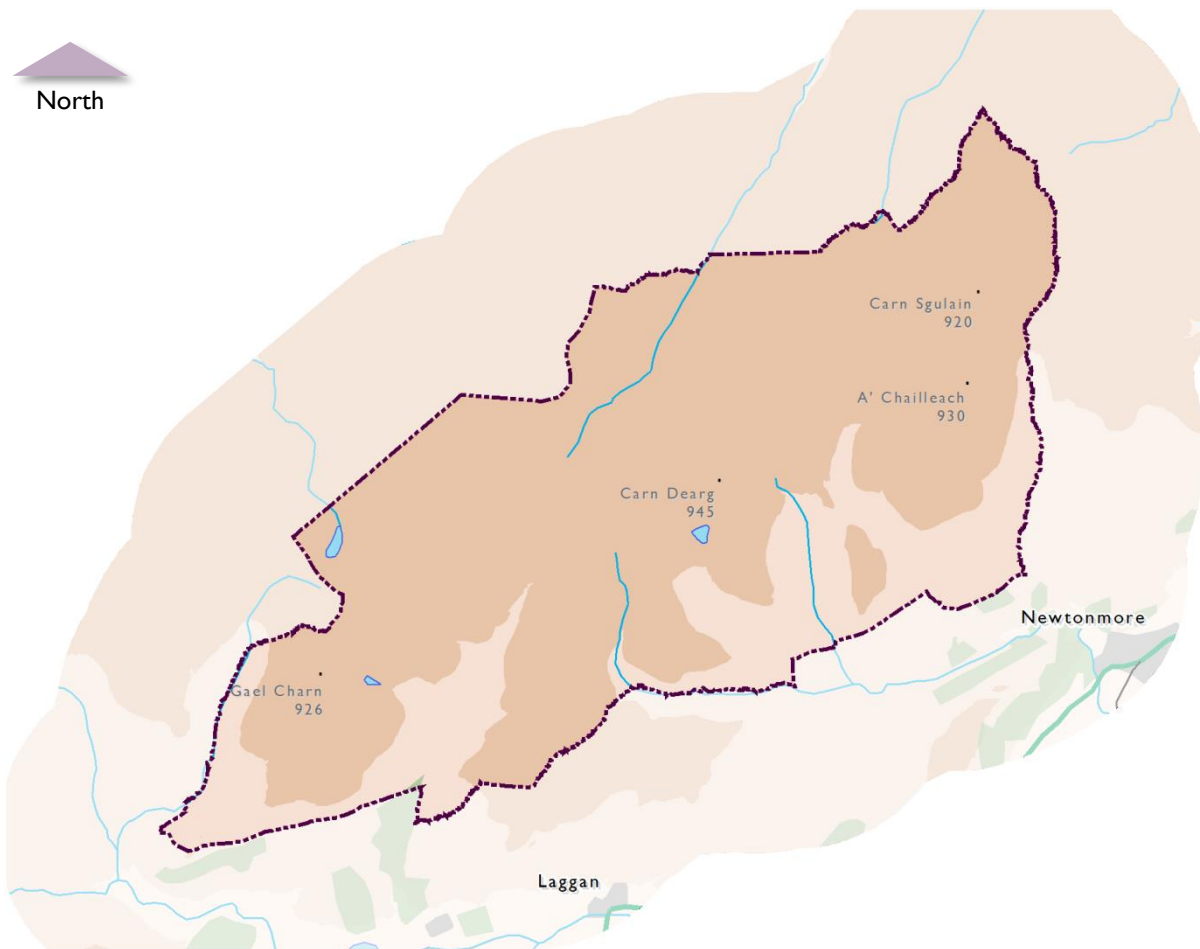
- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- https://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8286
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0030179>

Monadhliath SAC

Local Authority	Highland
SAC status	Designated
	17/03/2005
Latitude	57 05 10 N
Longitude	04 16 20 W
SAC EU code	UK0030210
Area (ha)	10,671.11
Area (ha) in CNP	7,121.03 (66.7%)

General site character

Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	1%
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	55%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue.	20%
Phygrana	
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	2.5%
Alpine and sub-Alpine grassland	21%
Inland rocks, Scree, Sands, Permanent Snow and ice	0.5%



Scale
1:140,000

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Conservation Objectives

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying habitat that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with the River Spey Special Area of Conservation.

Factors currently influencing site

Status of Qualifying Habitat

Qualifying Habitat	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Blanket bog	Unfavourable	Trampling	23/09/2004

- Grazing
- Trampling
- Recreational disturbance

Sources

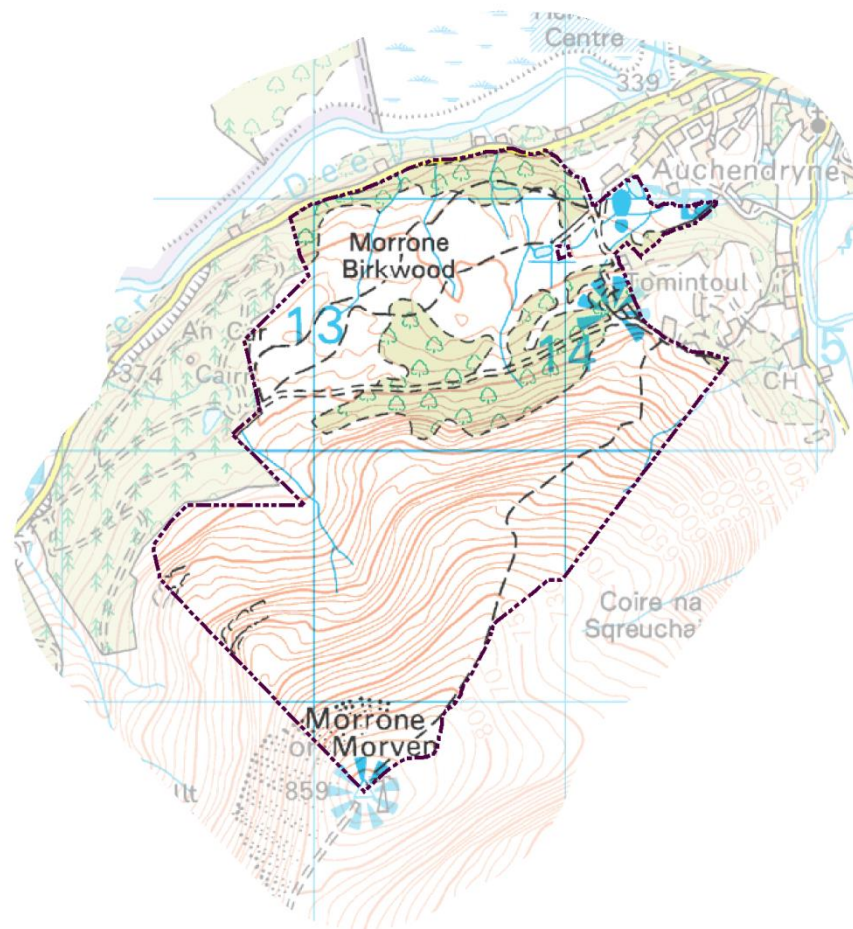
- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- https://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8324
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0030210>

Morrone Birkwood SAC

Local Authority	Aberdeenshire
SAC status	Designated 17/03/2005
Latitude	56 59 40 N
Longitude	03 25 30 W
SAC EU code	UK0012894
Area (ha)	318.4
Area (ha) in CNP	318.4 (100%)

General site character

Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	5%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	85%
Dry grassland, Steppes	3%
Alpine and sub-Alpine grassland	11%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	5%
Inland rocks, Screens, Sands, Permanent Snow and ice	0.5%



Scale
1:30,000

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Conservation Objectives

Habitats

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat.

Status of Qualifying Habitat

Qualifying Habitat	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Base-rich fens	Favourable	Trampling	03/06/2014
Hard-water springs depositing lime	Favourable	Invasive species, over-grazing	03/06/2014
High-altitude plant communities associated with areas of water seepage	Favourable	Invasive species, trampling	03/06/2014
Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	03/06/2014
Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands	Unfavourable Recovering Due to Management	Over-grazing	11/10/2009
Alpine and subalpine heaths	Favourable	Over-grazing, recreation / disturbance	01/07/2008

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Geyer's whorl snail (<i>Vertigo geyeri</i>)	Unfavourable	No negative pressures identified	30/06/2013

Species

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with the River Dee Special Area of Conservation.

Factors currently influencing site

- Grazing
- Burning
- Invasive species
- Recreational disturbance.

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- https://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8328
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0012894>

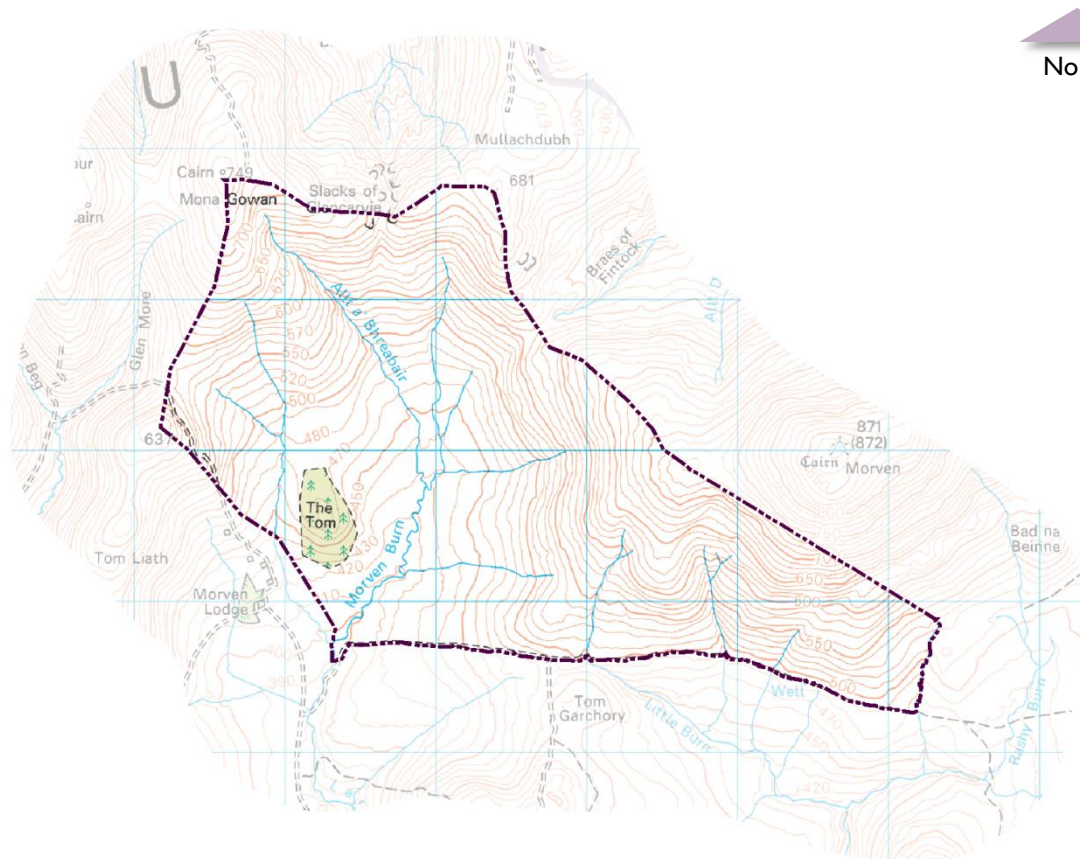
[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Morven & Mullachdubh SAC

Local Authority	Aberdeenshire
SAC status	Designated 17/03/2005
Latitude	57 07 30 N
Longitude	03 04 30 W
SAC EU code	UK0019958
Area (ha)	916.76
Area (ha) in CNP	916.76 (100%)

General site character

Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	1%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue.	62%
Phygrana	
Dry grassland, Steppes	28%
Humid grassland, Mesophile grassland	7%
Coniferous woodland	1%



Scale
1:50,000

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Conservation Objectives

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying habitat that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat

Related European Sites

No related European sites.

Factors currently influencing site

- Grazing

Status of Qualifying Habitat

Qualifying Habitat	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands	Favourable	Burning, no proactive management, over-grazing, plant pests and diseases	25/01/2005

- Burning.

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- https://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8330
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0019958>

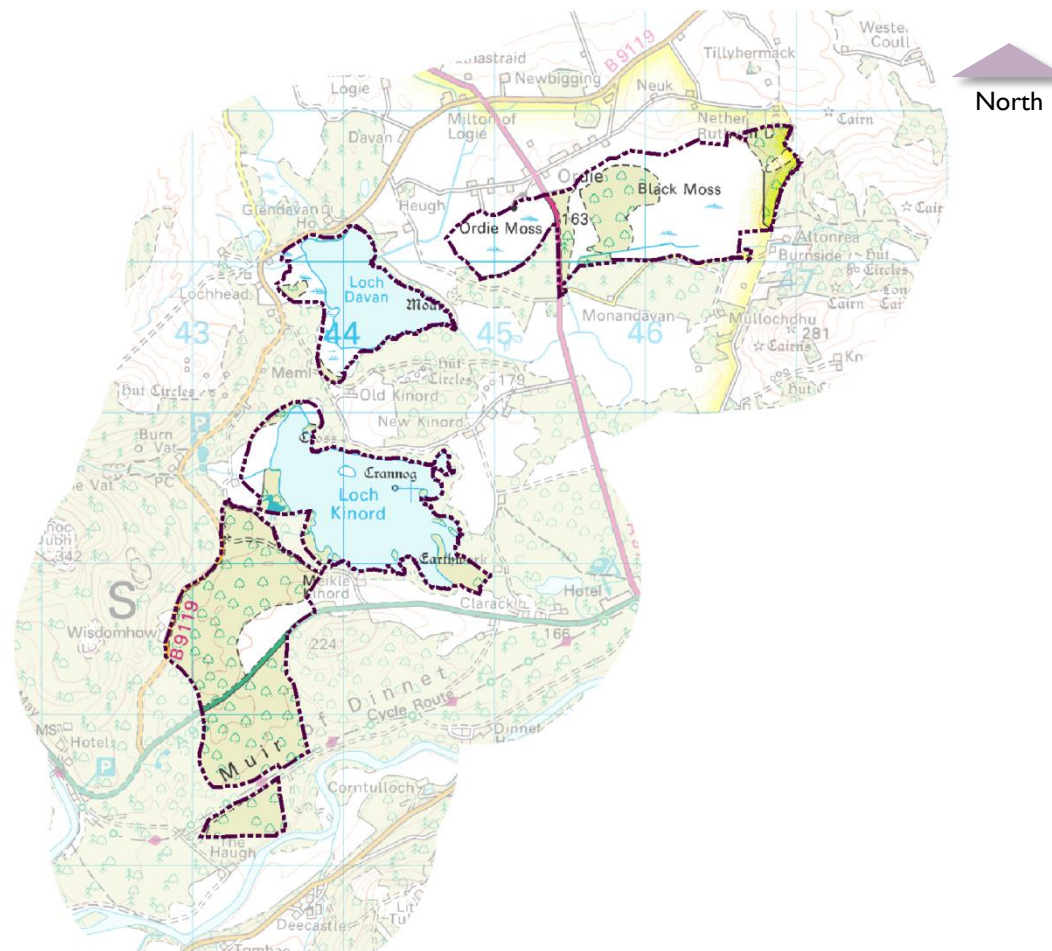
[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Muir of Dinnet SAC

Local Authority	Aberdeenshire
SAC status	Designated 17/03/2005
Latitude	57 06 05 N
Longitude	02 53 35 W
SAC EU code	UK0019959
Area (ha)	415.76
Area (ha) in CNP	415.76 (100%)

General site character

Inland water bodies (Standing water, Running water)	24%
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	13%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	57%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	3%
Coniferous woodland	3%



Scale
1:50,000

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Conservation Objectives**Habitats**

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat

Status of Qualifying Habitat

Qualifying Habitat	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface	Unfavourable Recovering Due to Management	Invasive species	30/08/2008
Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels	Favourable	Invasive species, water quality	25/06/2004
Dry heaths	Unfavourable Recovering Due to Management	No proactive management	16/02/2001
Degraded raised bog	Favourable	Agricultural operations, invasive species	30/06/2000

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)	Favourable	Natural event, water quality	04/10/2012

Species

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with the River Dee Special Area of Conservation and the Muir

of Dinnet Special Protection Area and Ramsar site.

Factors currently influencing site

- Agricultural operations
- Water quality
- Game or fisheries management
- Invasive species

Vulnerabilities to change/potential effects of the Plan

- Land management changes
- Potential effects on water quality
- Potential for recreational disturbance
- Relevant settlement: Dinnet.

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- https://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=9166
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0019959>

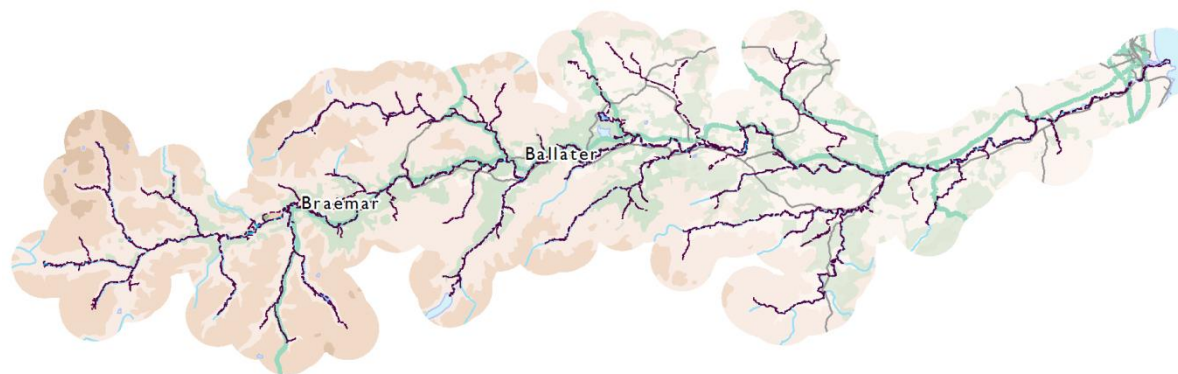
River Dee SAC

Local Authority	Aberdeenshire
SAC status	Designated 17/03/2005
Latitude	57 03 20 N
Longitude	03 04 30 W
SAC EU code	UK0030251
Area (ha)	2,446.82
Area (ha) in CNP	1,368.59 (55.9%)



General site character

Tidal rivers, Estuaries, Mud flats, Sand flats, Lagoons (including saltwork basins)	2%
Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	53.5%
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	1%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue.	5%
Phygrana	
Dry grassland, Steppes	2%
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	15%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	14%
Coniferous woodland	0.5%
Mixed woodland	5%
Inland rocks, Scree, Sands, Permanent Snow and ice	2%



Scale
1:700,000

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Conservation Objectives

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species, including range of genetic types for salmon, as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species
- Distribution and viability of freshwater pearl mussel host species

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	06/10/2012
Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>)	Favourable	Agricultural operations, invasive species, water management, water quality	21/07/2011
Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>)	Unfavourable	Development, invasive species, water management. To be identified, other	07/08/2003

- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting freshwater pearl mussel host species

site also overlaps with the Muir of Dinnet Ramsar site.

Factors currently influencing site

- Development.

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- https://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8357

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with the Ballochbuie, Caenlochan, Cairngorms, Dinnet Oakwood, Glen Tanar, Morrone Birkwood, Muir of Dinnet and The Maim Special Areas of Conservation. The site overlaps with Cairngorms, Cairngorms Massif, Glen Tanar, Ballochbuie, Muir of Dinnet, and Caenlochan Special Protection Areas. The

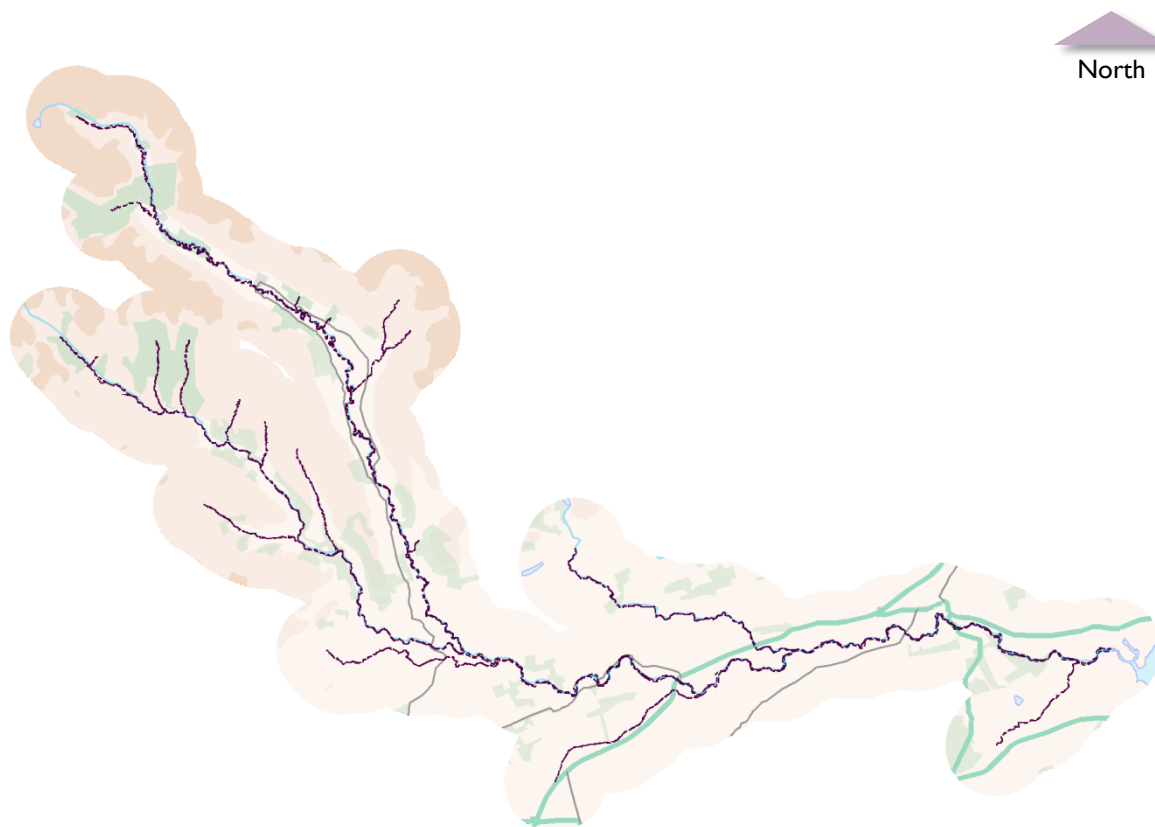
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0030251>

River South Esk SAC

Local Authority	Angus
SAC status	Designated
	17/03/2005
Latitude	56 42 10 N
Longitude	02 55 00 W
SAC EU code	UK0030262
Area (ha)	478.62
Area (ha) in CNP	103.48 (21.6%)

General site character

Tidal rivers, Estuaries, Mud flats, Sand flats, Lagoons (including saltwork basins)	0.5%
Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	75%
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	1%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue.	1%
Phygrana	
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	2%
Improved grassland	2%
Other arable land	5%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	4.5%
Coniferous woodland	3%
Mixed woodland	5%
Other land	1%



Scale
1:350,000

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Conservation Objectives

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species, including range of genetic types for salmon, as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- Distribution and viability of freshwater pearl mussel host species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting freshwater pearl mussel host species

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>)	Unfavourable	Agricultural operations, climate change, forestry operations, invasive species, over-grazing, water management, water quality	22/09/2004
Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>)	Unfavourable	Invasive species, water management, wildlife crime	19/09/2002

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with Montrose Basin Special Protection Area

Status of Qualifying Species

Factors currently influencing site

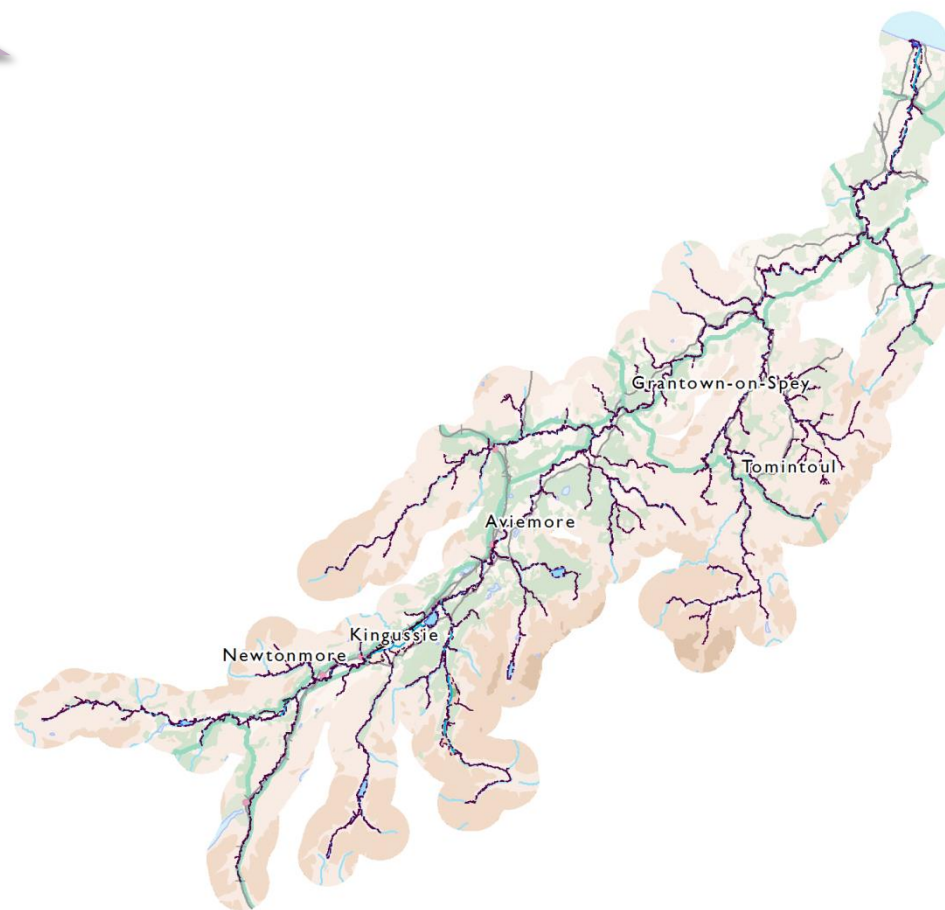
- Grazing
- Diffuse pollution from agricultural operations, illegal collection of freshwater pearl mussels, morphological alterations to river channel.

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- https://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8364
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0030262>

River Spey SAC

Local Authority	Highland; Moray; Perth & Kinross
SAC status	Designated 17/03/2005
Latitude	57 22 15 N
Longitude	03 30 00 W
SAC EU code	UK0019811
Area (ha)	5,729.48
Area (ha) in CNP	4,181.76 (73.0%)



General site character

Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	60%
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	11%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue.	1%
Phygrana	
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	15%
Improved grassland	4%
Other arable land	1%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	5%
Coniferous woodland	1%
Mixed woodland	1%
Other land	1%

Scale
1:800,000

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Conservation Objectives

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species, including range of genetic types for salmon, as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species
- Distribution and viability of freshwater pearl mussel host species

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>)	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	07/09/2011
Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)	Favourable	Over-grazing; other	08/09/2004
Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>)	Unfavourable	Agricultural operations; invasive species; water management	20/10/2004
Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>)	Unfavourable	Extraction; invasive species; water quality; wildlife crime	01/10/2000

- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting freshwater pearl mussel host species

overlaps with the Cairngorm Lochs and River Spey – Insh Marshes Ramsar sites.

Factors currently influencing site

None identified.

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- https://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8365

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with the Cairngorms, Drumochter Hills, Kinveachy Forest, Insh Marshes and Monadhliath Special Areas of Conservation. The site overlaps with Abernethy Forest, Cairngorms, Cairngorms Massif, Craigmore Wood, Drumochter Hills, Kinveachy Forest, Moray and Nairn Coast, and River Spey – Insh Marshes Special Protection Areas. The site also

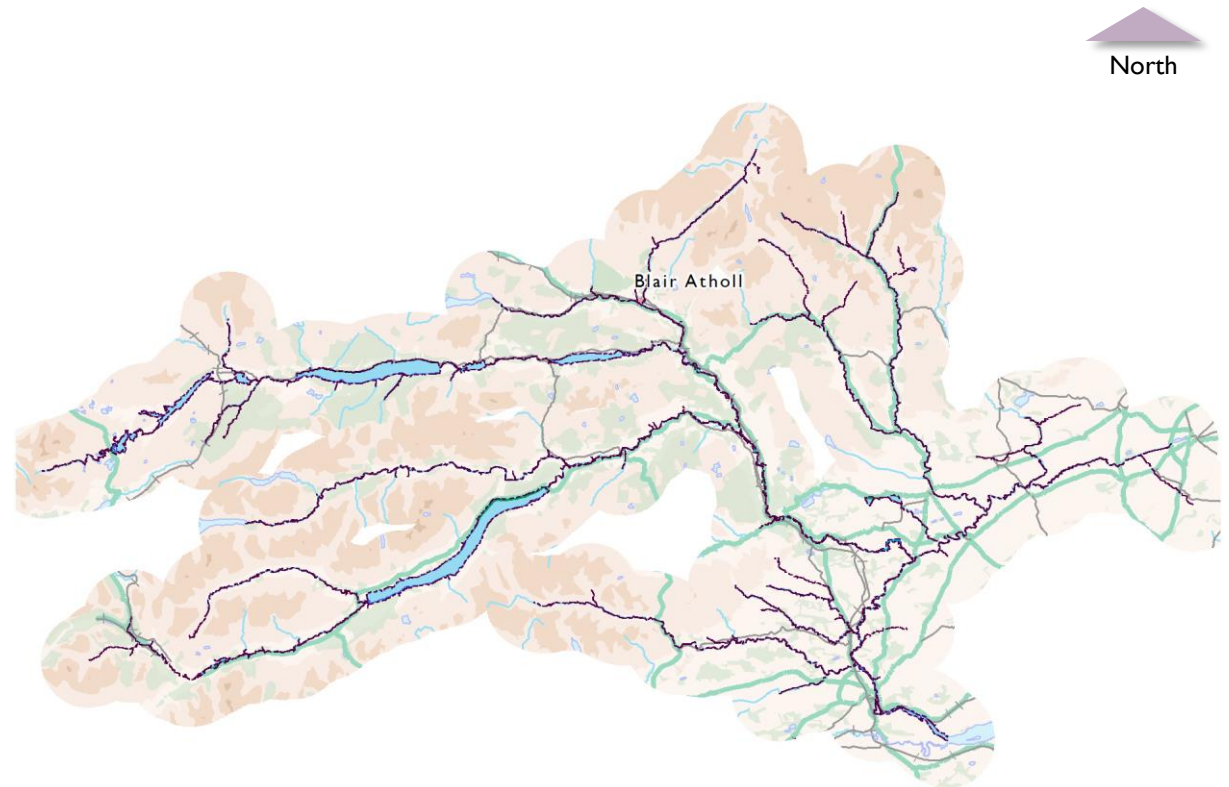
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0019811>

River Tay SAC

Local Authority	Angus; Argyll and Bute; Perth & Kinross; Stirling
SAC status	Designated
Latitude	56 34 00 N
Longitude	04 05 00 W
SAC EU code	UK0030312
Area (ha)	9,497.72
Area (ha) in CNP	233.94 (2.5%)

General site character

Shingle, Sea cliffs, Islets	0.5%
Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	95%
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	4.5%



Scale
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Conservation Objectives

Habitats

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying habitat that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat

Status of Qualifying Habitat

Qualifying Habitat	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels	Favourable	Water management	09/09/2004

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
<i>Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar)</i>	Favourable	Game/ fisheries management, invasive species, water management, water quality	19/09/2011
<i>Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus)</i>	Favourable	Development, water management, water quality	30/11/2007
<i>River lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis)</i>	Favourable	Development, water management, water quality	30/11/2007
<i>Brook lamprey (Lampetra planeri)</i>	Favourable	Development, water management, water quality	30/11/2007
<i>Otter (Lutra lutra)</i>	Favourable	Agricultural operations, invasive species, recreation / disturbance, water management	03/04/2004

Species

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species, including range of genetic types for salmon, as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with Rannoch Lochs and Forest of Clunie Special Protection Area.

Factors currently influencing site

None identified.

Sources

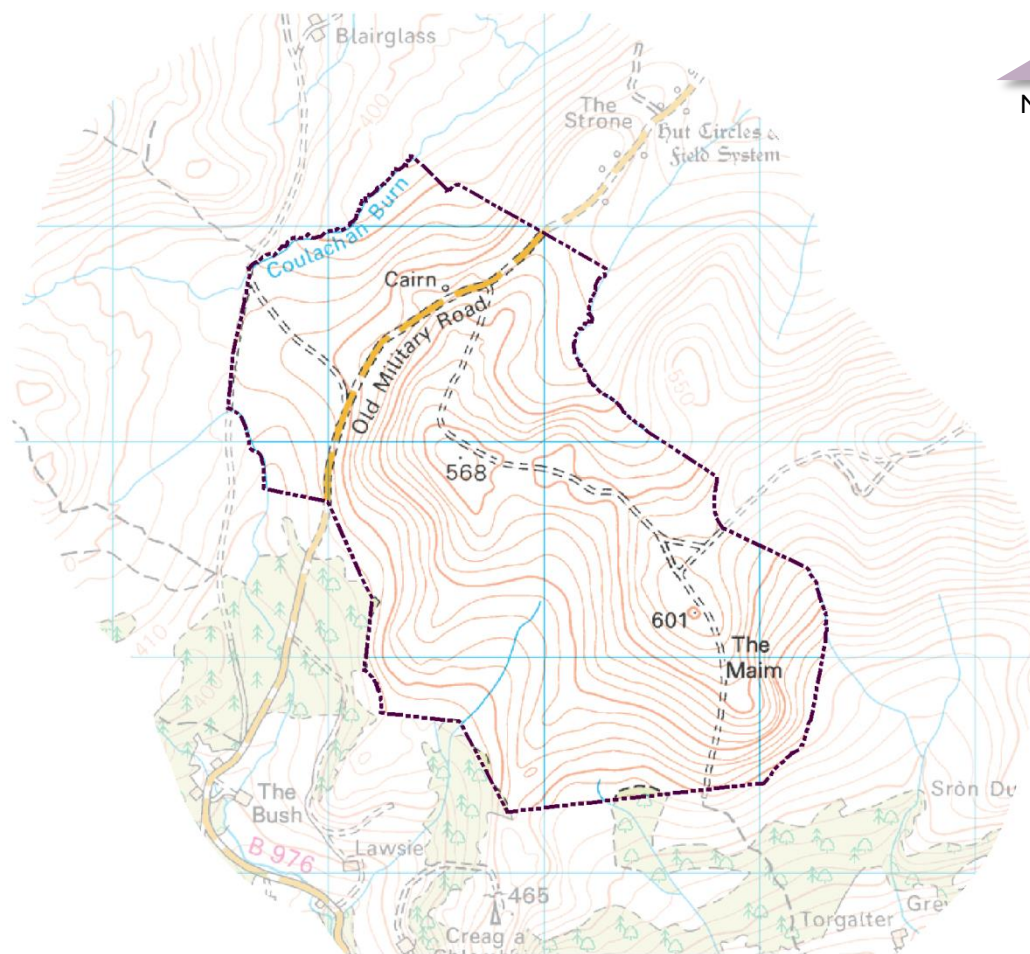
- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- https://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8366
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0030312>

The Maim SAC

Local Authority	Aberdeenshire
SAC status	Designated
	17/03/2005
Latitude	57 04 00 N
Longitude	03 12 30 W
SAC EU code	UK0030348
Area (ha)	484.58
Area (ha) in CNP	484.58 (100%)

General site character

Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	1%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue.	98%
Phygrana	
Other land	1%



Scale
1:35,000

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Conservation Objectives

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and

To ensure for the qualifying habitat that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with the River Dee Special Area of Conservation.

Factors currently influencing site

Status of Qualifying Habitat

Qualifying Habitat	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Dry heaths	Unfavourable	Burning	12/06/2006

- Burning.

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- https://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8625
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0030348>

Special Protection Areas

Special Protection Areas (SPAs) are strictly protected sites classified in accordance with Article 4 of the EC Birds Directive. They are classified for rare and vulnerable birds (as listed on Annex I of the Directive), and for regularly occurring migratory species. 35 of these Annex I species can be found within the Cairngorms National Park, with SPAs designated to protect populations of 15 of them.

There are 15 SPAs within or overlapping the National Park, covering an area of around 2,013 km² (or 45% of the National Park's area, although large areas of this over). Of these, 9 have at least one notifiable feature that is in unfavourable condition. 3 SPAs, namely Craigmore Wood, Creag Meagaidh and Muir of Dinnet have no features in favourable condition.

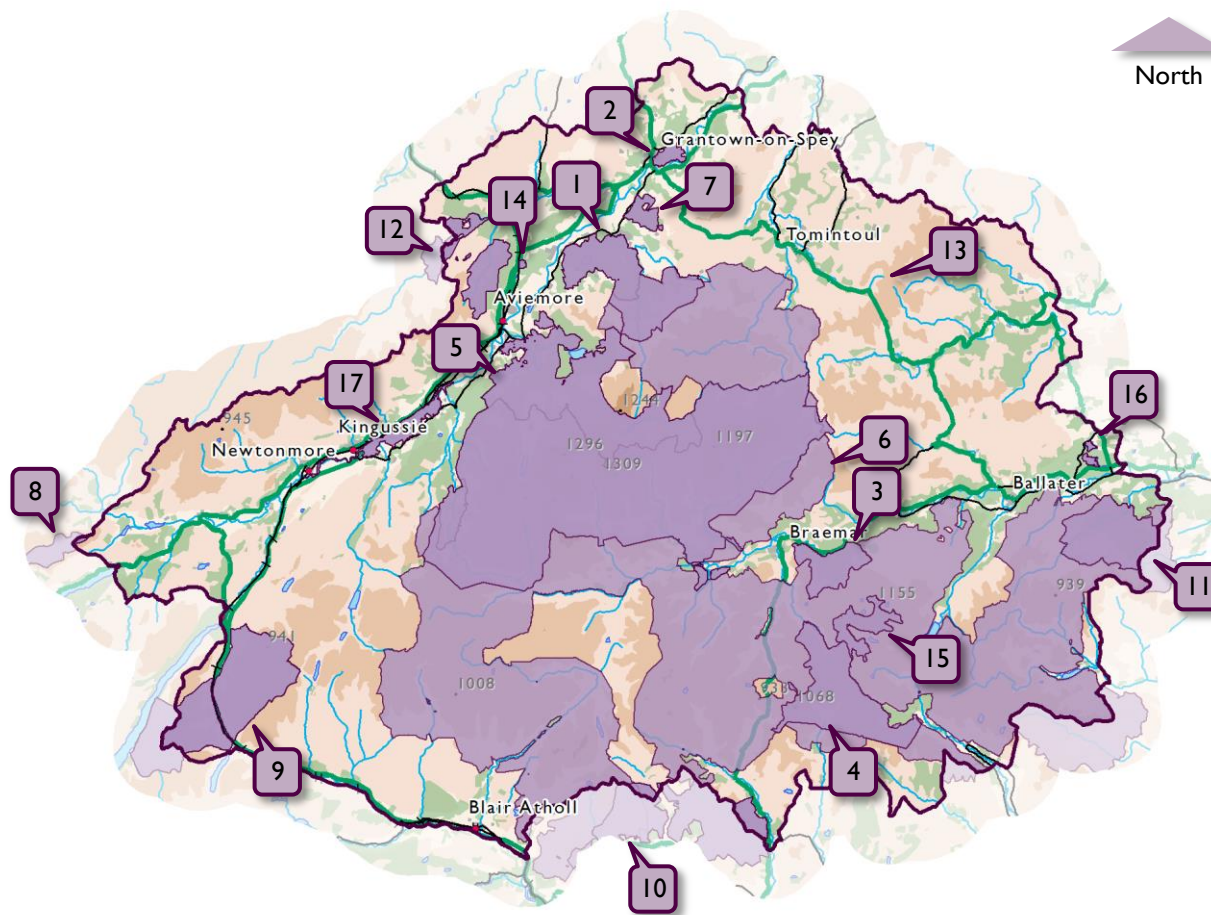
With around 1,733 km² of its 1,875 km² within the National Park, The Cairngorms Massif SPA contributes 68% of the land protected as an SPA within the National Park. It is the largest in Scotland. There are currently no public records on the

condition of the breeding population of Golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) in the SPA, which is its only qualifying feature.

There is also one area currently under consideration for designation as a SPA. If Ladder Hills is designated then it will create an additional area of around 42 km² of land within the National Park protected under the Birds Directive.

Location of Special Protection Areas

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|--------|
| 1. | Abernethy Forest | p. 112 |
| 2. | Anagach Woods | p. 114 |
| 3. | Ballochbuie | p. 116 |
| 4. | Caenlochan | p. 118 |
| 5. | Cairngorms | p. 120 |
| 6. | Cairngorms Massif | p. 122 |
| 7. | Craigmore Woods | p. 124 |
| 8. | Creag Maegaidh | p. 126 |
| 9. | Drumochter Hills | p. 128 |
| 10. | Forest of Clunie | p. 130 |
| 11. | Glen Tanar | p. 132 |
| 12. | Kinveachy Forest | p. 134 |
| 13. | Ladder Hills (approximate location) | p. 136 |
| 14. | Loch Vaa | p. 138 |
| 15. | Lochnagar | p. 140 |
| 16. | Muir of Dinnet | p. 142 |
| 17. | River Spey – Insh Marshes | p. 144 |



Scale
1:700,000

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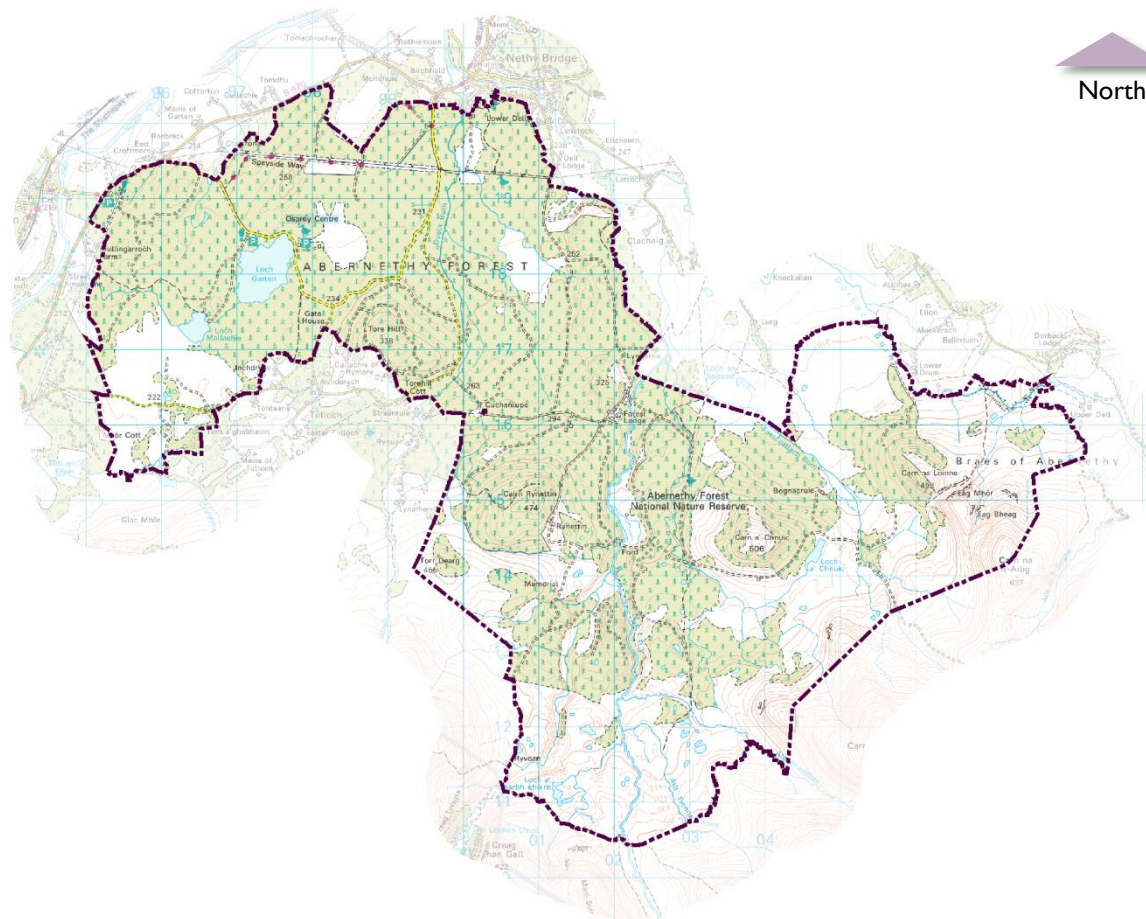
[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Abernethy Forest SPA

Local Authority	Highland
SPA status	Classified
	25/04/1990
Latitude	57 13 22 N
Longitude	03 18 10 W
SPA EU code	UK9002561
Area (ha)	5,793.46
Area (ha) in CNP	5,793.46 (100%)

General site character

Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	1%
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	11.2%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	27.6%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	0.8%
Coniferous woodland	59.3%



Scale
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Conservation Objectives

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and

To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species as a viable component of the site.
- Distribution of the species within site.
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species.
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species.
- No significant disturbance of the species.

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with Cairngorms Special Areas of Conservation and River Spey Special Area of Conservation. The site overlaps the Cairngorms Massif Special Protection Area.

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding	Favourable	Under-grazing	28/04/2009
Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>), breeding	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	31/05/2007
Scottish crossbill (<i>Loxia scotica</i>), breeding	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	28/03/2012

Factors currently influencing site

- Grazing.
- Burning.
- Recreational disturbance.

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- https://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8461
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=1925>

- Distribution of the species within site.
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species.
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species.
- No significant disturbance of the species.

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable	Recreation / disturbance	29/04/2015

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with River Spey Special Area of Conservation.

Factors currently influencing site

- Impact from disturbance from adjacent village and footpaths within the wood.

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- https://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=9166
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/SPA/UK9020297.pdf>

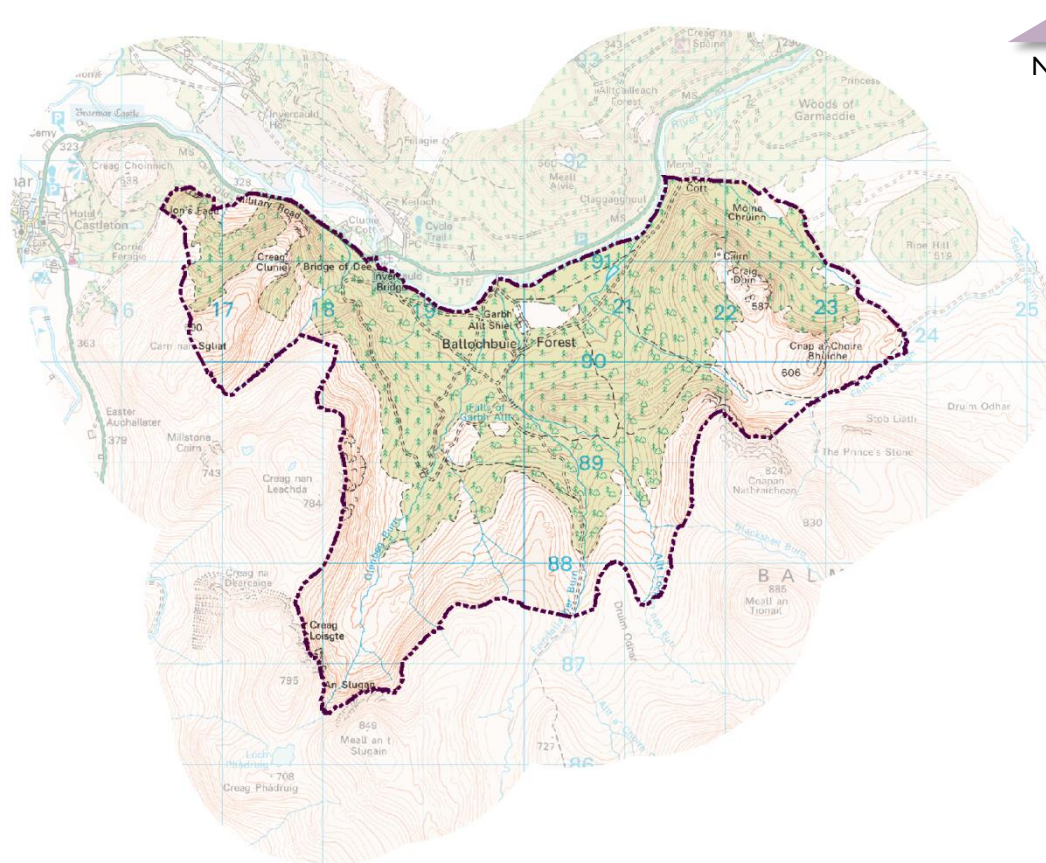
[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Ballochbuie SPA

Local Authority	Aberdeenshire
SPA status	Classified 12/06/1998
Latitude	56 59 30 N
Longitude	03 19 06 W
SPA EU code	UK9002781
Area (ha)	1,881.73
Area (ha) in CNP	1,881.73 (100%).

General site character

Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	13%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	36%
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	1%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	1%
Coniferous woodland	48%
Inland rocks. Scree. Sands.	1%
Permanent snow and ice	



Scale
1:75,000

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Conservation Objectives

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To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with Ballochbuie Special Area of Conservation and River Dee Special Area of Conservation. The Site

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable	Forestry operations, natural event, over-grazing, under-grazing.	14/04/2014
Scottish crossbill (<i>Loxia scotica</i>), breeding	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	01/03/2015

overlaps the Cairngorms Massif Special Protection Area.

Factors currently influencing site

- Grazing.
- Burning.

Sources

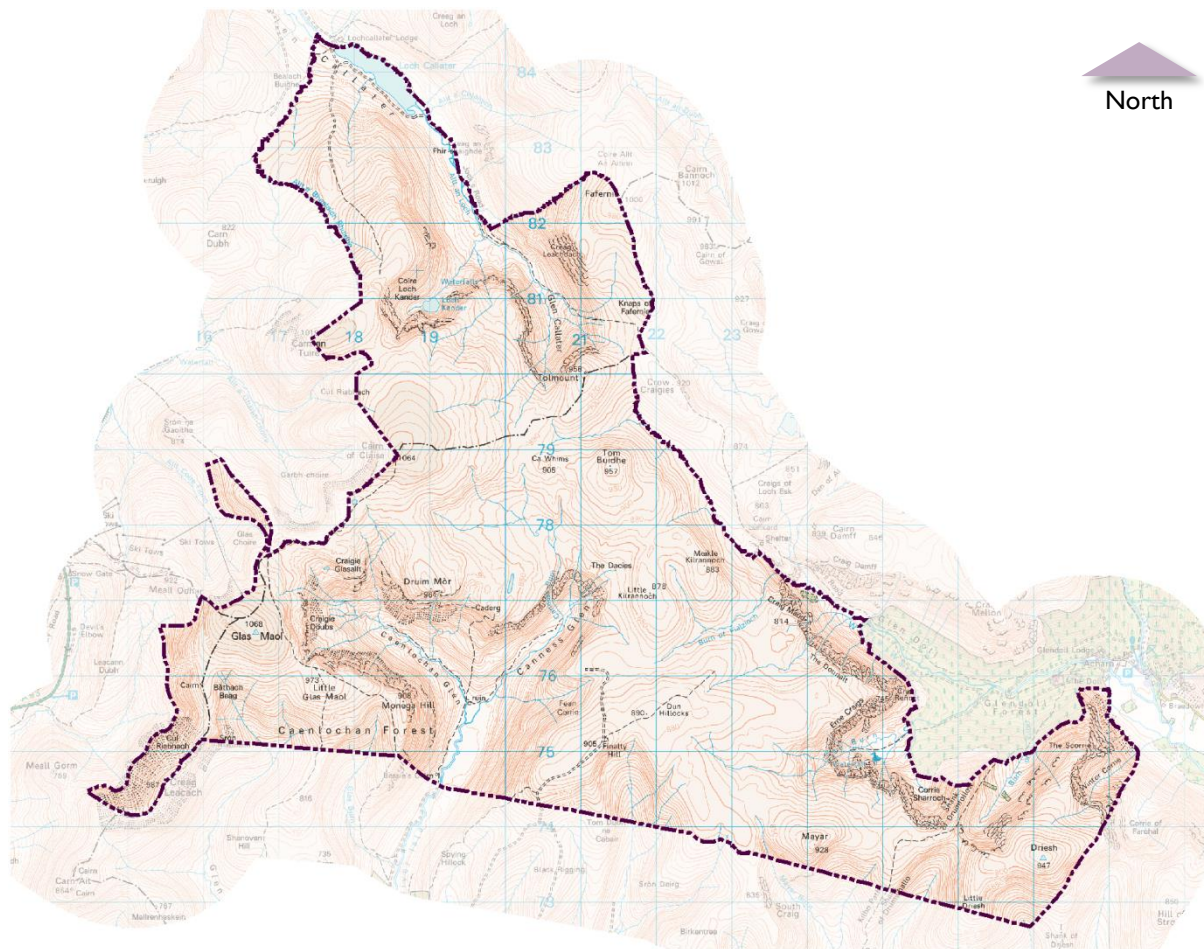
- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- https://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8467
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=1930>

Caenlochan SPA

Local Authority	Aberdeenshire, Perth and Kinross, Angus
SPA status	Classified 25/09/1997
Latitude	56 52 54 N
Longitude	03 17 30 W
SPA EU code	UK9004011
Area (ha)	5,975.28
Area (ha) in CNP	5,975.28 (100%)

General site character

Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	0.6%
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	30.8%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	34.1%
Dry grassland. Steppes	7.6%
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	1.5%
Alpine and sub-alpine grassland	19.9%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	0.2%
Inland rocks. Screens. Sands.	5.3%
Permanent snow and ice	



Scale
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Conservation Objectives

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and

To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with Caenlochan Special Area of Conservation and River Dee Special Area of Conservation. The site overlaps the Cairngorms Massif Special Protection Area.

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Dotterel (<i>Charadrius morinellus</i>), breeding	Favourable	Over-grazing, recreation / disturbance	01/01/1999
Golden eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>), breeding	Favourable	Over-grazing, recreation / disturbance	04/12/2009

Factors currently influencing site

- Burning
- Grazing

Sources

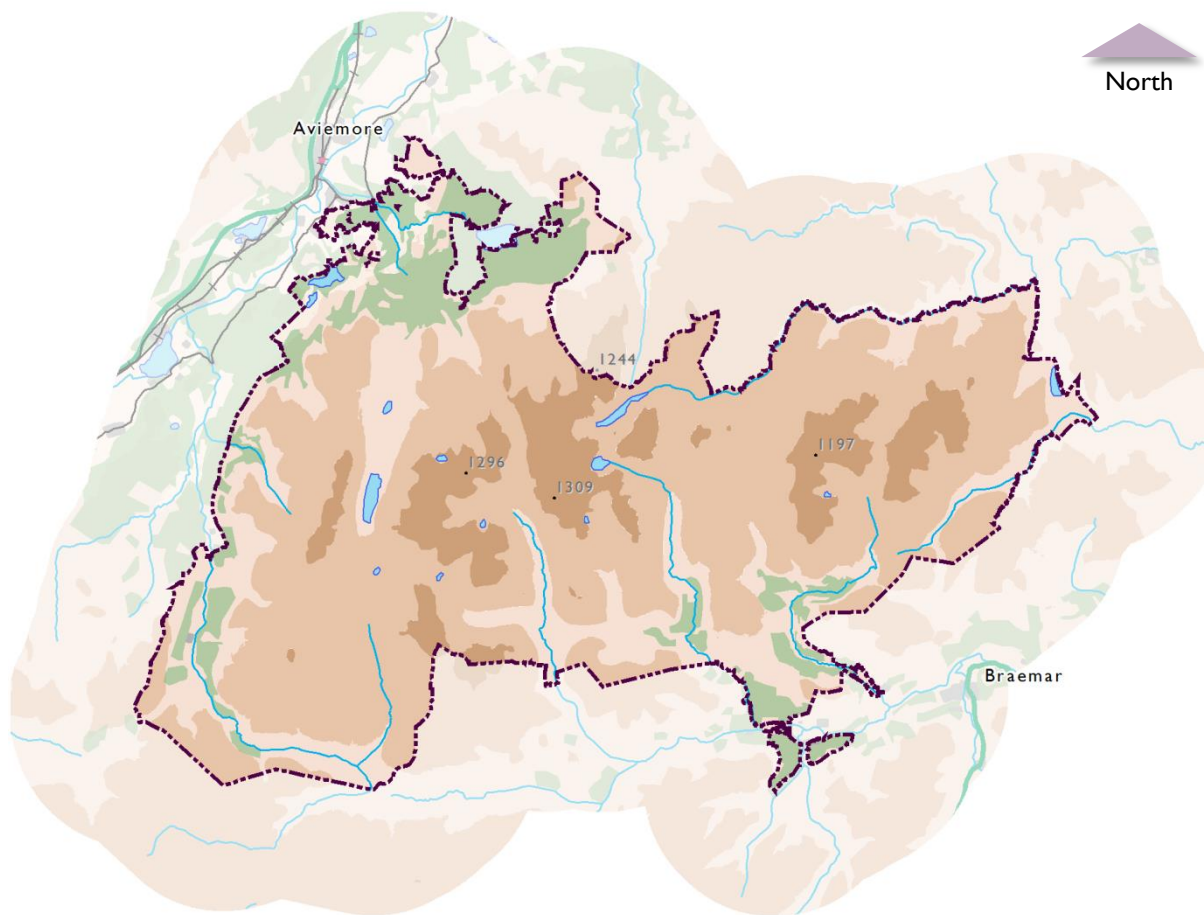
- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8474
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=1962>

Cairngorms SPA

Local Authority	Highland, Aberdeenshire
SPA status	Classified 25/09/1997
Latitude	57 04 30 N
Longitude	03 38 30 W
SPA EU code	UK9002241
Area (ha)	50,586.64
Area (ha) in CNP	50,586.64 (100%)

General site character

Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	2%
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	16%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	44%
Dry grassland. Steppes	2%
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	1%
Alpine and sub-alpine grassland	14%
Improved grassland	1%
Other arable land	1%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	1%
Coniferous woodland	6%
Mixed woodland	1 %
Inland rocks. Screes. Sands.	5.3%
Permanent snow and ice	
Other land	1%



Scale
1:300,000

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Conservation Objectives

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and

To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with Cairngorms Special Area of Conservation, River Dee Special Area of Conservation and River Spey Special Area of Conservation. The site also overlaps the Cairngorms Massif Special

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	25/04/2011
Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>), breeding	Not monitored to date	No negative pressures identified	N/A
Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>), breeding	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	01/06/2006
Golden eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>), breeding	Favourable	Game / fisheries management	31/07/2009
Dotterel (<i>Charadrius morinellus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable	Recreation / disturbance; over-grazing	01/07/2011
Scottish crossbill (<i>Loxia scotica</i>), breeding	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	14/03/2012
Peregrine (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>), breeding	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	25/04/2011

Protection Area and the Cairngorms Lochs Ramsar site.

Factors currently influencing site

- Grazing
- Burning
- Recreation
- Trampling
- Invasive species

Sources

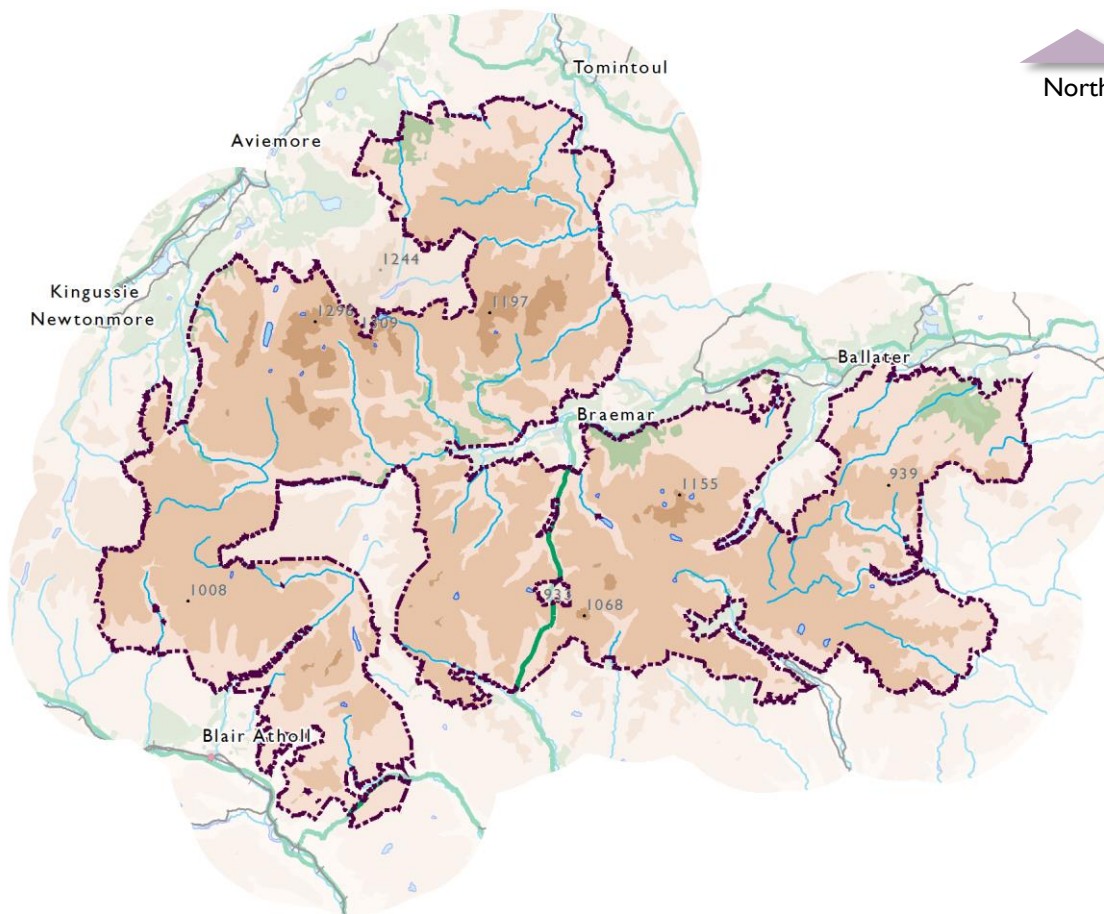
- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8475
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=1910>

Cairngorms Massif SPA

Local Authority	Aberdeenshire, Angus, Highland, Moray, Perth and Kinross
SPA status	Classified 28/10/2010
Latitude	56 58 08 N
Longitude	03 29 29 W
SPA EU code	UK9020308
Area (ha)	187,504.06
Area (ha) in CNP	173,254.64 (92.4%)

General site character

Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	0.2%
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	27.6%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	45.3%
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	5.9%
Alpine and sub-alpine grassland	17.8%
Improved grassland	0.1%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	0.1%
Coniferous woodland	0.8%
Mixed woodland	1.5%
Inland rocks. Screes. Sands. Permanent snow and ice	0.7%



Scale
1:600,000

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Conservation Objectives

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To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Related European Sites

This site overlaps with the following Special Areas of Conservation (SACs):

- Ballochbuie,
- Beinn a' Ghlo,
- Caenlochan,

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Golden eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>), breeding	Favourable	Plant pests & diseases; proactive onsite management	31/08/2003

- Cairngorms,
- Coyles of Muick, Glen Tanar,
- River Dee,
- River South Esk,
- River Spey and River Tay.

Site also overlaps with the following Special Protection Areas (SPAs):

- Abernethy Forest,
- Ballochbuie,
- Caenlochan,
- Cairngorms,
- Forest of Clunie,
- Glen Tanar and
- Lochnagar.

The site also overlaps the Cairngorm Lochs Ramsar site.

Factors currently influencing site

- Grazing
- Burning
- Recreation
- Trampling
- Invasive species

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=10234
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/SPA/UK9020308.pdf>

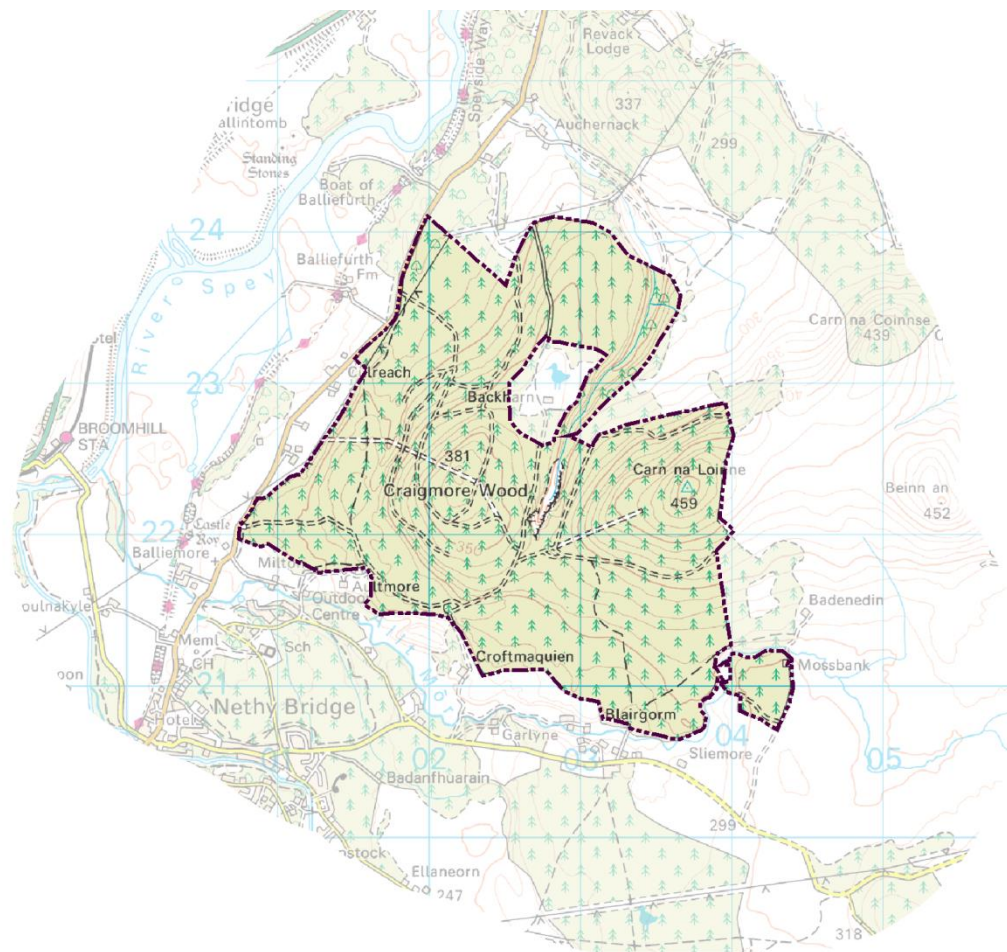
[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Craigmore Wood SPA

Local Authority	Highland
SPA status	Classified
	30/10/2001
Latitude	57 17 00 N
Longitude	03 37 00 W
SPA EU code	UK9001801
Area (ha)	654.09
Area (ha) in CNP	654.09 (100%)

General site character

Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	0.5%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	3%
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	0.5%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	10%
Coniferous woodland	85%
Other land	1%



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- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with River Spey Special Area of Conservation.

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable	No onsite activities identified	20/04/2014

Factors currently influencing site

- Burning
- Grazing
- Game or fisheries management

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8486
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/SPA/UK9001801.pdf>

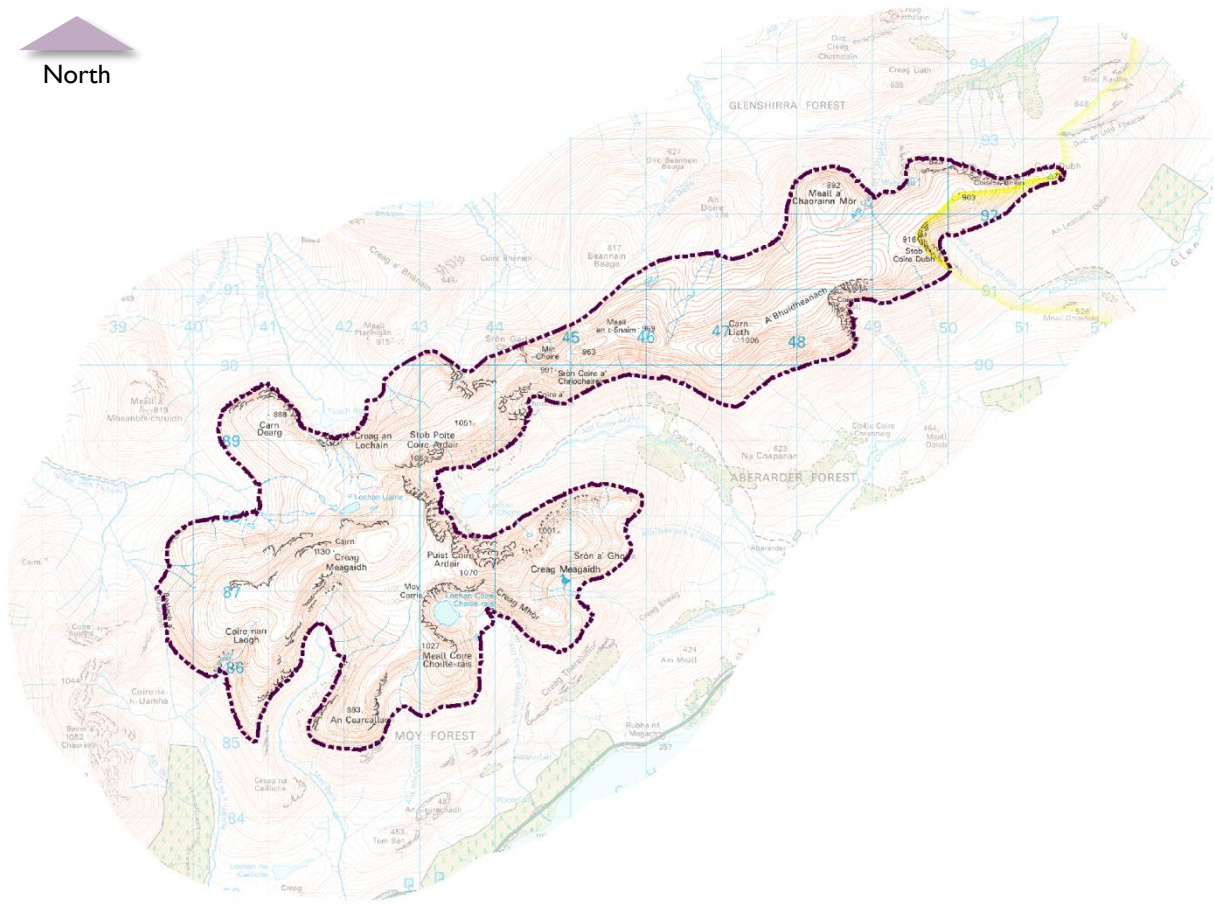
[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Creag Maegaidh SPA

Local Authority	Highland
SPA status	Classified
	30/03/1998
Latitude	56 57 00 N
Longitude	04 35 00 W
SPA EU code	UK9002161
Area (ha)	2,872.64
Area (ha) in CNP	71.18 (2.5%)

General site character

Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	0.3%
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	3.8%
Alpine and sub-alpine grassland	93.3%
Inland rocks. Screens. Sands.	
Permanent snow and ice	2.6%



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- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with Creag Meagaidh Special Area of Conservation.

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Dotterel (<i>Charadrius morinellus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable	No negative pressures identified	01/07/2011

Factors currently influencing site

- Burning
- Grazing
- Game or fisheries management

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8487
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=1904>

Drumochter Hills SPA

Local Authority	Highland
SPA status	Classified
	25/09/1997
Latitude	56 51 54 N
Longitude	04 14 48 W
SPA EU code	UK9002301
Area (ha)	9,445.56
Area (ha) in CNP	7,382.22 (72.2%)

General site character

Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	2%
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	25%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	45%
Alpine and sub-alpine grassland	22%
Inland rocks. Screens. Sands.	5%
Permanent snow and ice	
Other land	1%



Scale
1:130,000

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- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with Drumochter Hills Special Area of Conservation and River Spey Special Area of Conservation.

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Dotterel (<i>Charadrius morinellus</i>), breeding	Favourable	Other	11/02/2004
Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>), breeding	Unfavourable	Burning, over-grazing	31/08/2004

Factors currently influencing site

- Grazing
- Burning
- Trampling
- Recreational disturbance

Sources

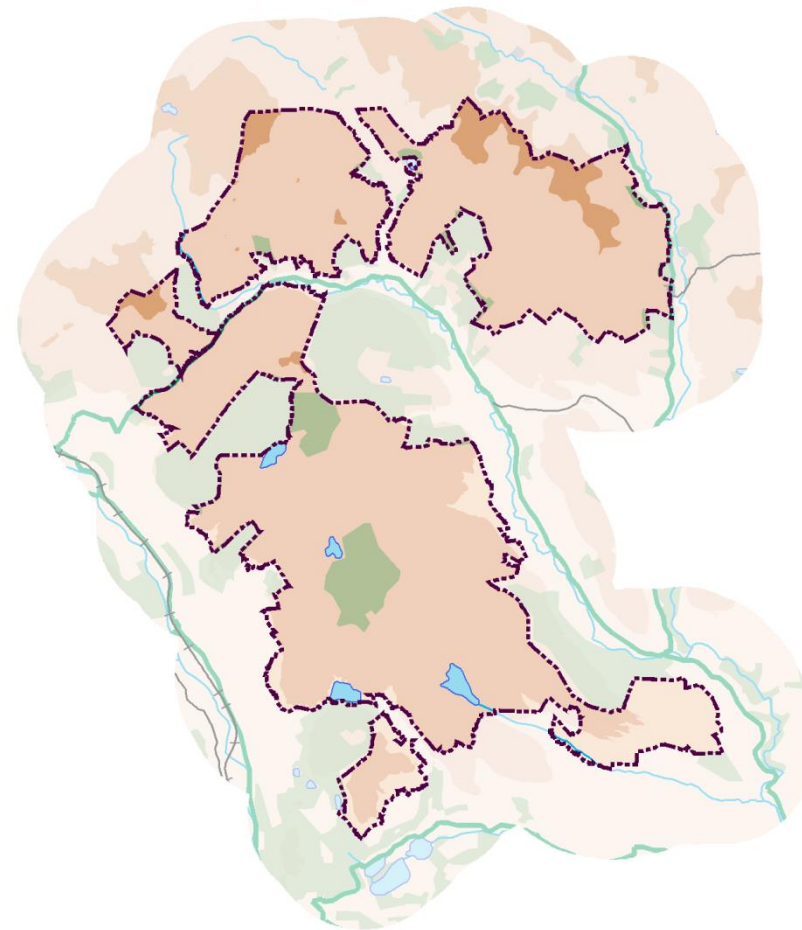
- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8491
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=1914>

Forest of Clunie SPA

Local Authority	Perth and Kinross
SPA status	Classified
	13/08/2001
Latitude	56 40 00 N
Longitude	03 35 00 W
SPA EU code	UK9004381
Area (ha)	19,349.38
Area (ha) in CNP	905.22 (4.7%)

General site character

Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	3%
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	21%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	64%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	0.2%
Coniferous woodland	4.4%
Inland rocks. Scree. Sands.	0.4%
Permanent snow and ice	



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- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Related European Sites

This site overlaps with the River Tay Special Area of Conservation and the Cairngorms Massif Special Protection Area.

Factors currently influencing site

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>), breeding	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	01/08/2010
Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>), breeding	Unfavourable	Burning, natural event, over-grazing	29/05/2009
Hen harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable	Burning, natural event, over-grazing	29/05/2009
Short-eared owl (<i>Asio flammeus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable	Burning	29/05/2009

- Burning
- Grazing.

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8503
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/SPA/UK9004381.pdf>

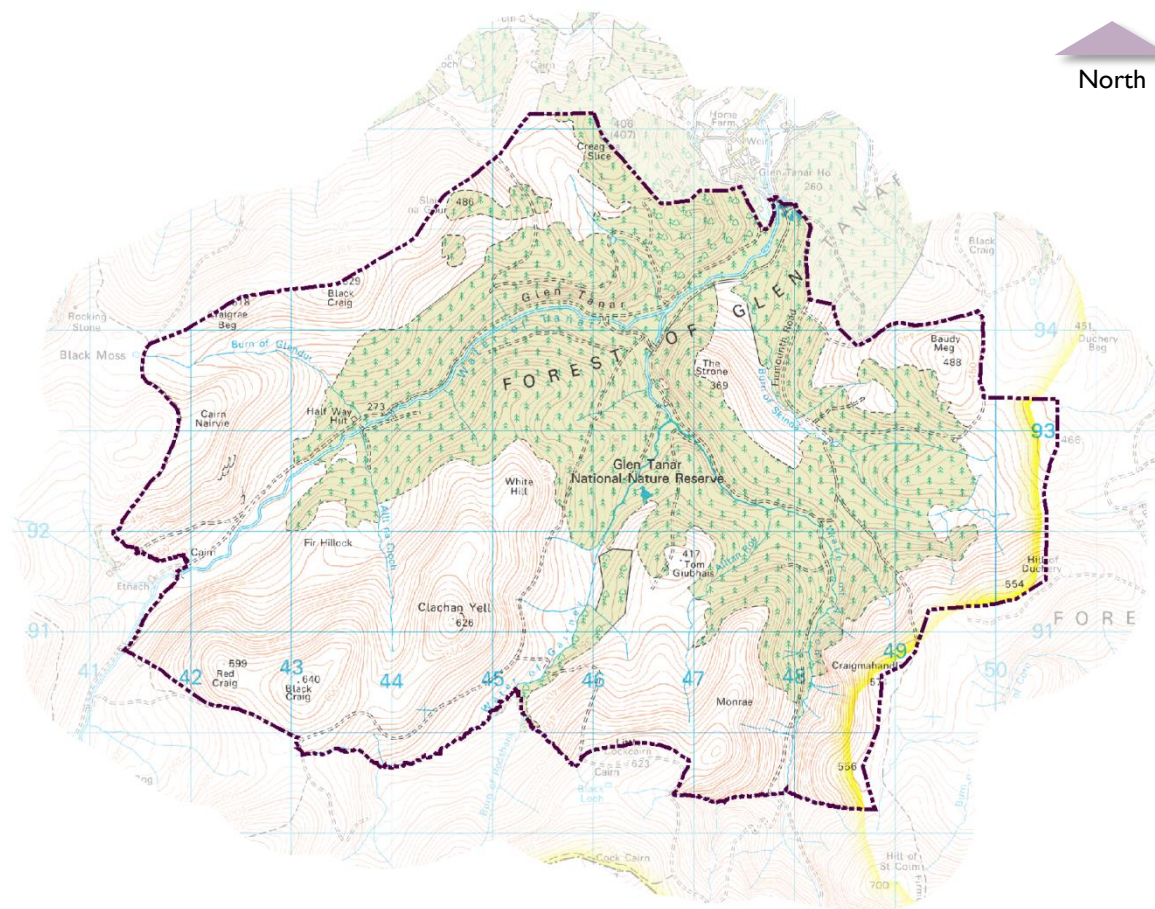
[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Glen Tanar SPA

Local Authority	Aberdeenshire
SPA status	Classified 19/09/1994
Latitude	57 01 10 N
Longitude	02 53 30 W
SPA EU code	UK9002771
Area (ha)	4,180.09
Area (ha) in CNP	4,142.25 (99.1%)

General site character

Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	10%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	30%
Dry grassland. Steppes	5%
Coniferous woodland	45%



Scale
1:75,000

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- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with Glen Tanar Special Area of Conservation and River Dee Special Area of Conservation. The site also overlaps the Cairngorms Massif Special Protection Area.

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable	Forestry operations, recreation / disturbance, under-grazing	18/04/2011
Hen harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>), breeding	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	19/07/2010
Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>), breeding	Favourable	Forestry operations, recreation / disturbance	13/10/2010
Scottish crossbill (<i>Loxia scotica</i>), breeding	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	23/03/2012

Factors currently influencing site

- Burning.

Sources

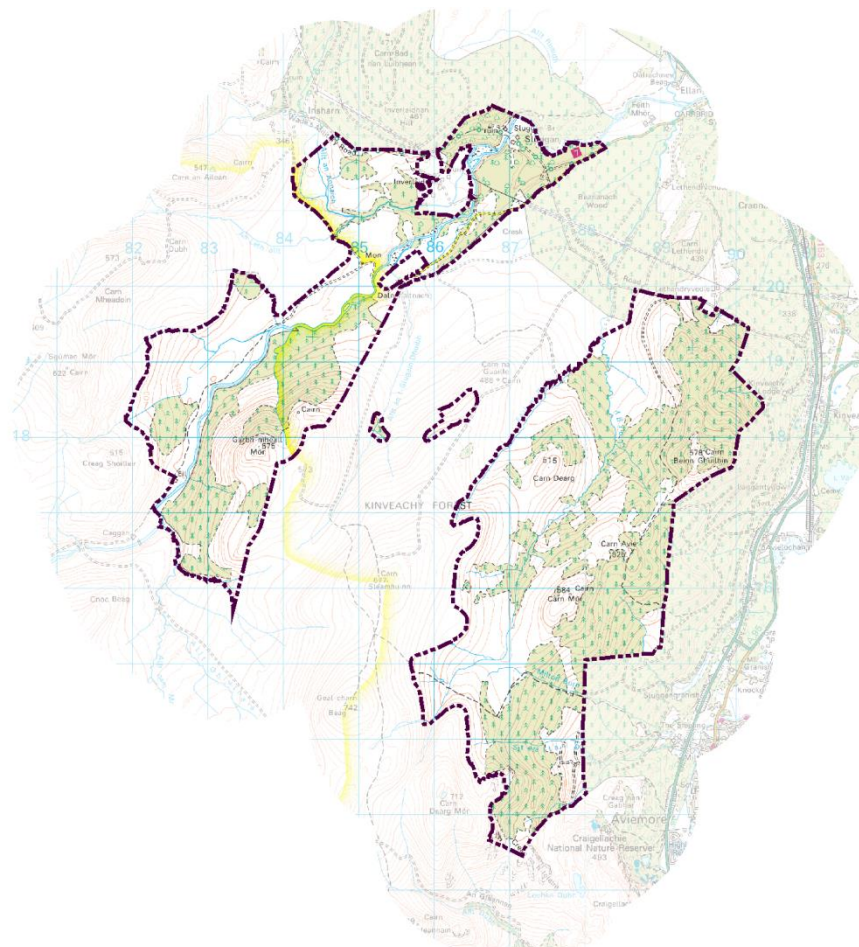
- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8508
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=1929>

Kinveachy Forest SPA

Local Authority	Highland
SPA status	Classified
	02/02/2000
Latitude	57 14 15 N
Longitude	03 54 00 W
SPA EU code	UK9002581
Area (ha)	2,849.36
Area (ha) in CNP	2,232.59 (78.4%)

General site character

Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	1%
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	10%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	40%
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	10%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	5%
Coniferous woodland	25%
Mixed woodland	9%



Scale
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- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with Kinveachy Forest Special Area of Conservation and River Spey Special Area of Conservation.

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	15/05/2008
Scottish crossbill (<i>Loxia scotica</i>), breeding	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	27/03/2012

Factors currently influencing site

- Grazing
- Burning
- Game and fisheries management

Sources

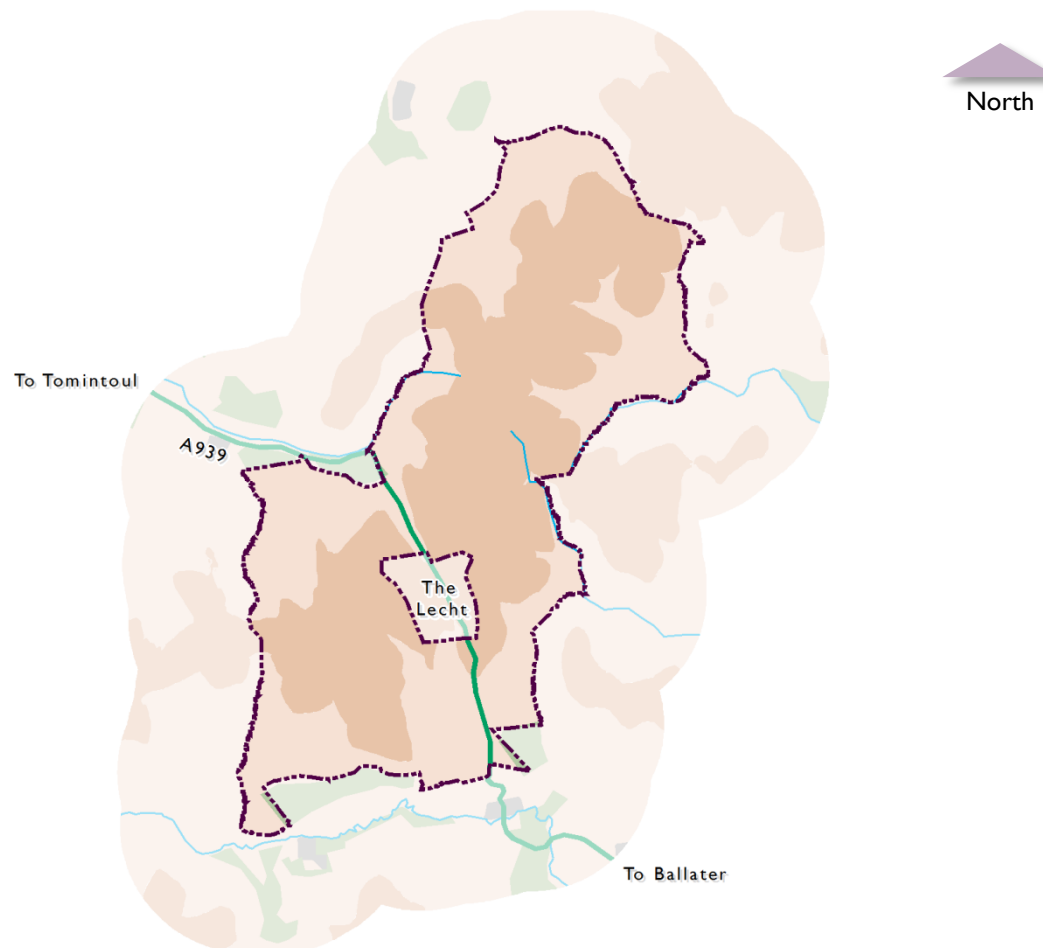
- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8519
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=1926>

Ladder Hills pSPA

Local Authority	Aberdeenshire, Moray
SPA status	Candidate SPA
Latitude	57 12 12 N
Longitude	03 15 00 W
SPA EU code	UK9002951
Area (ha)	4,240.4, but to be confirmed on classification
Area (ha) in CNP	4,240.4 (100%), but to be confirmed on classification

The Ladder Hills comprise a large block of upland between Corgarff and Tomintoul in inland north-east Scotland. The site supports extensive areas of dry heath, summit heath and blanket bog. The Ladder Hills are important for their assemblages of breeding birds typical of upland moorland areas. The site is of European importance for its breeding population of Hen Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*), with 9 pairs representing at least 1.8% of the breeding population in Great Britain (1998 National Survey).

Map displays area of Ladder Hills SAC and approximate location of the proposed SPA.



Scale
1:125,000

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Conservation Objectives

To be confirmed on classification.

Related European Sites

The site potentially overlaps the Ladder Hills Special Area of Conservation.

Factors currently influencing site

- Grazing
- Burning
- Recreational disturbance

Sources

- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=1935>

Status of Qualifying Species

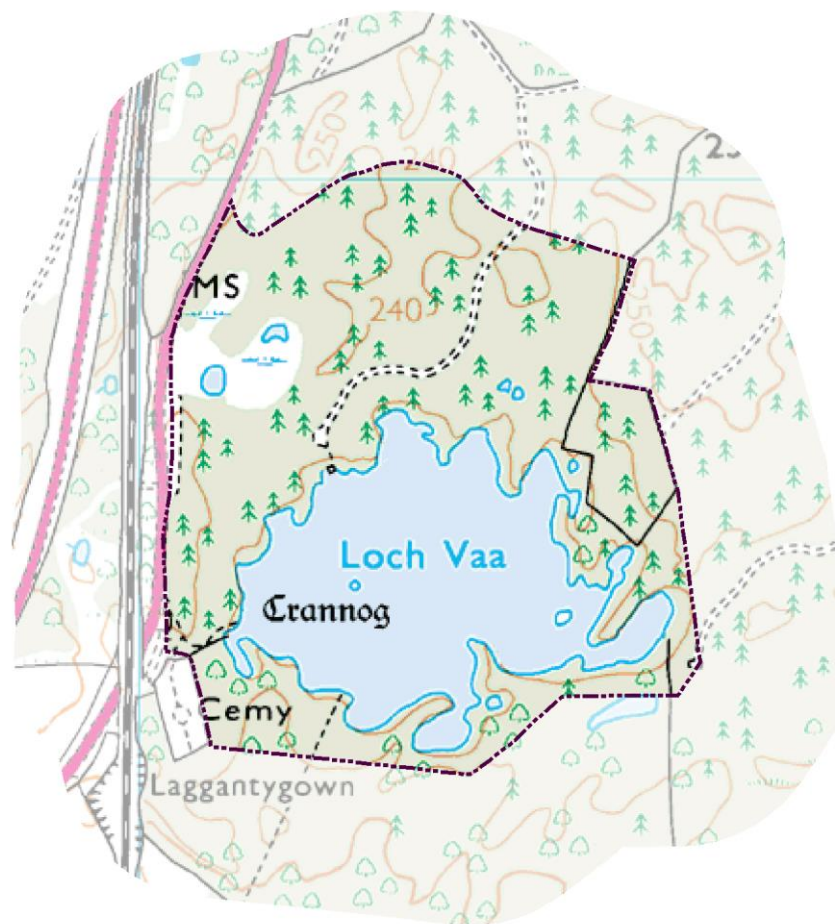
Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Hen Harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>), breeding	Not monitored to date	No negative pressures identified	N/A

Loch Vaa SPA

Local Authority	Highland
SPA status	Classified
	19/09/1994
Latitude	57 14 20 N
Longitude	03 48 00 W
SPA EU code	UK9002751
Area (ha)	44.6
Area (ha) in CNP	44.6 (100%)

General site character

Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	26.7%
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	4.4%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	15.6%
Coniferous woodland	48.9%
Inland rocks. Screens. Sands.	2.2%
Permanent snow and ice	2.2%
Other land	2.2%



Scale
1:10,000

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- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Related European Sites

No Related European Sites.

Factors currently influencing site

- Recreational disturbance

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Slavonian grebe (<i>Podiceps auritus</i>), breeding	Unfavourable	Natural event, recreation / disturbance	30/06/2007

Sources

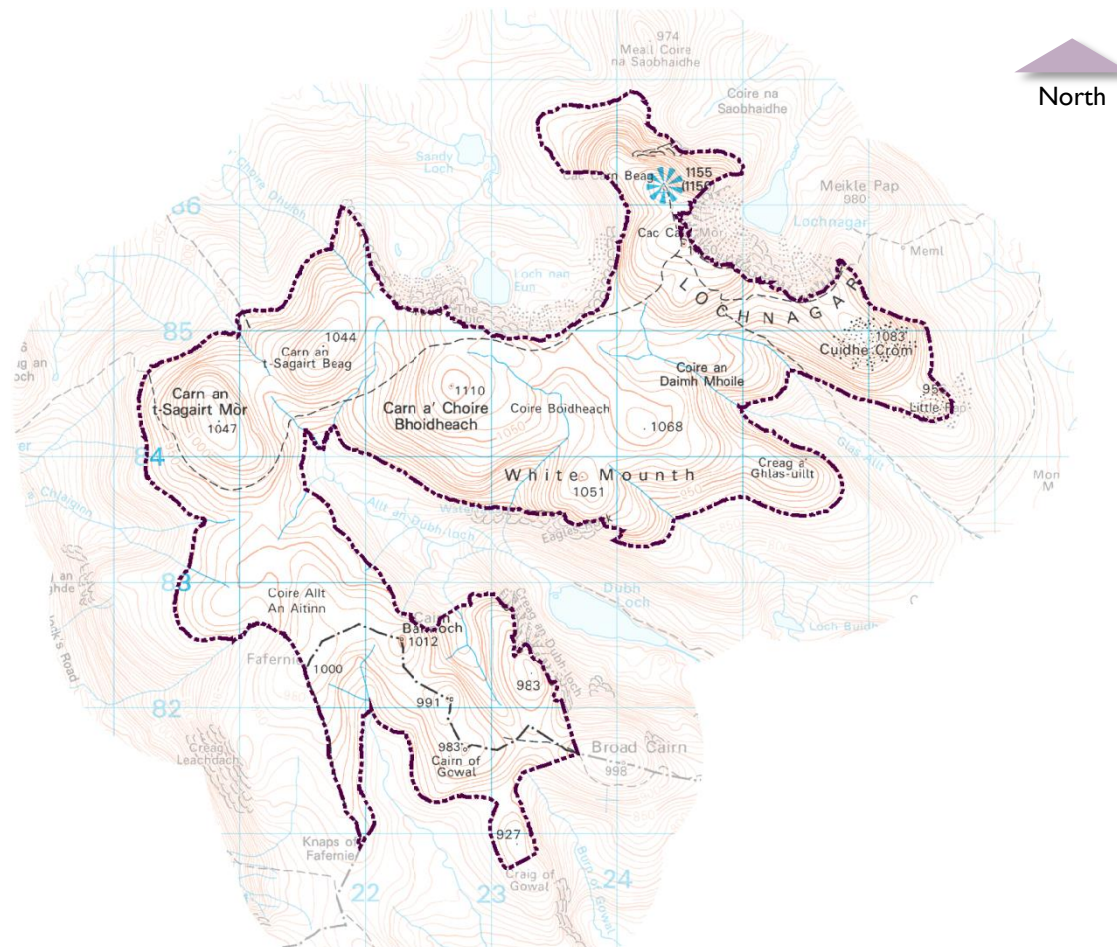
- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8541
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=1928>

Lochnagar SPA

Local Authority	Angus, Aberdeenshire
SPA status	Classified 12/06/1998
Latitude	56 56 30 N
Longitude	03 16 00 W
SPA EU code	UK9002281
Area (ha)	1,431.28
Area (ha) in CNP	1,431.28 (100%)

General site character

Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	6.3%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue.	48.1%
Phygrana	
Alpine and sub-alpine grassland	40.7%
Inland rocks. Screes. Sands.	
Permanent snow and ice	4.9%



Scale
1:60,000

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- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Related European Sites

The site overlaps the Cairngorms Massif Special Protection Area.

Factors currently influencing site

None identified.

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Dotterel (<i>Charadrius morinellus</i>), breeding	Favourable	Over-grazing, recreation / disturbance	31/05/1999

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8542
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=1913>

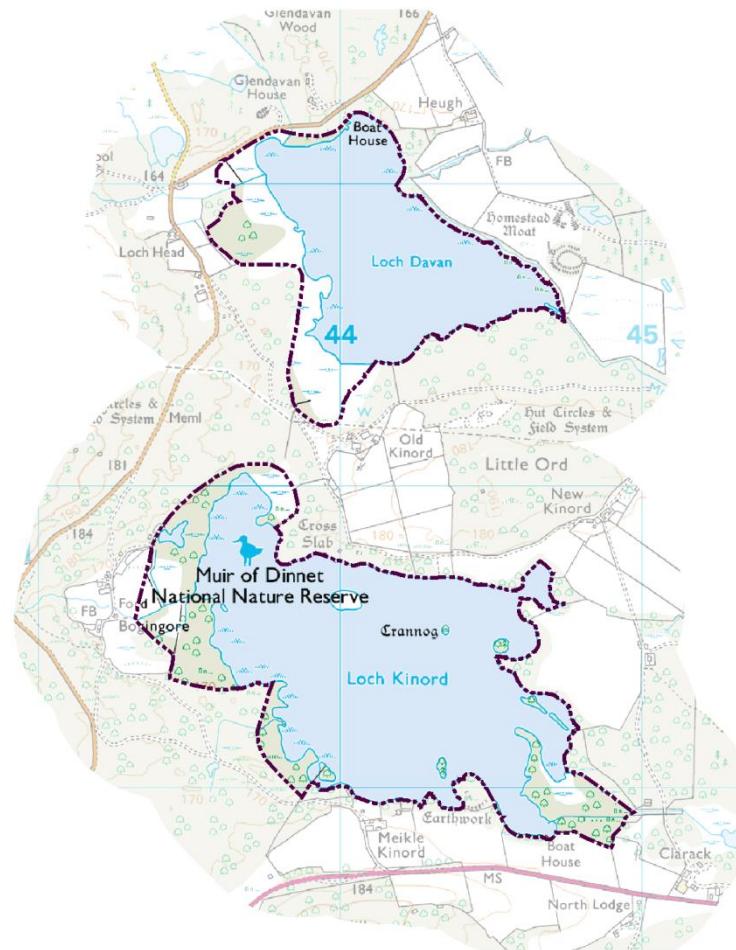
[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

Muir of Dinnet SPA

Local Authority	Aberdeenshire
SPA status	Classified
	10/05/1999
Latitude	57 05 00 N
Longitude	02 55 00 W
SPA EU code	UK9002791
Area (ha)	157.6
Area (ha) in CNP	157.6 (100%)

General site character

Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	66.9%
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	23%
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	1%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	9%
Coniferous woodland	0.1%



Scale
1:25,000

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- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with Muir of Dinnet and River Dee Special Areas of Conservation and the Muir of Dinnet Ramsar site.

Factors currently influencing site

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Waterfowl assemblage, non-breeding	Unfavourable	No negative pressures identified	01/12/2012
Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding	Unfavourable	No negative pressures identified	05/11/2010

- Agricultural operations
- Water quality
- Game or fisheries management
- Invasive species

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8552
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=1931>

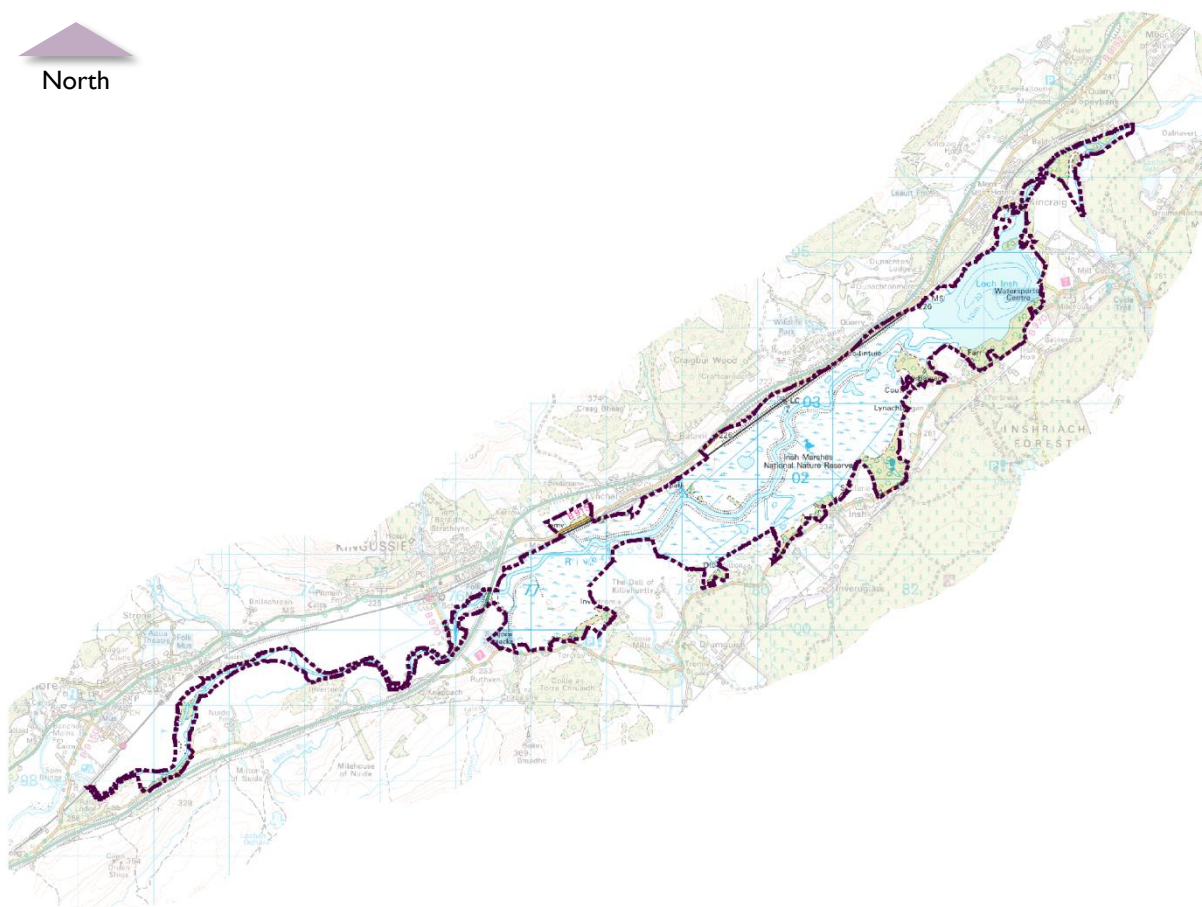
[NPPP HABITATS REGULATION APPRAISAL REPORT]

River Spey – Insh Marshes SPA

Local Authority	Highland
SPA status	Classified
	02/02/1997
Latitude	57 05 23 N
Longitude	03 59 48 W
SPA EU code	UK9002231
Area (ha)	1,158.87
Area (ha) in CNP	1,158.87 (100%)

General site character

Inland water bodies (standing water, running water)	15%
Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens	43%
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana	8%
Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland	25%
Improved grassland	1%
Other arable land	5%
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	2%
Inland rocks. Screes. Sands.	1%
Permanent snow and ice	1%



Scale
1:100,000

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To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species as a viable component of the site.
- Distribution of the species within site.
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species.
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species.
- No significant disturbance of the species.

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with Insh Marshes Special Area of Conservation and River Spey Special Area of Conservation. The site also overlaps the River Spey – Insh Marshes Ramsar site.

Status of Qualifying Species

Qualifying Species	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Hen harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>), non-breeding	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	22/02/2010
Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>), breeding	Unfavourable	Natural event, recreation / disturbance	30/05/2009
Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>), breeding	Favourable	Recreation / disturbance	07/09/2009
Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>), non-breeding	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	31/12/2000
Spotted crake (<i>Porzana porzana</i>), breeding	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	31/12/2000
Wood sandpiper (<i>Tringa glareola</i>), breeding	Unfavourable Recovering Due to Management	Forestry operations	31/12/2000

Factors currently influencing site

- Grazing.
- Recreational disturbance.
- Forestry operations.
- Potential impacts from new development due to additional nutrient loading.

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8571
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=1909>

Sources

Ramsar Sites

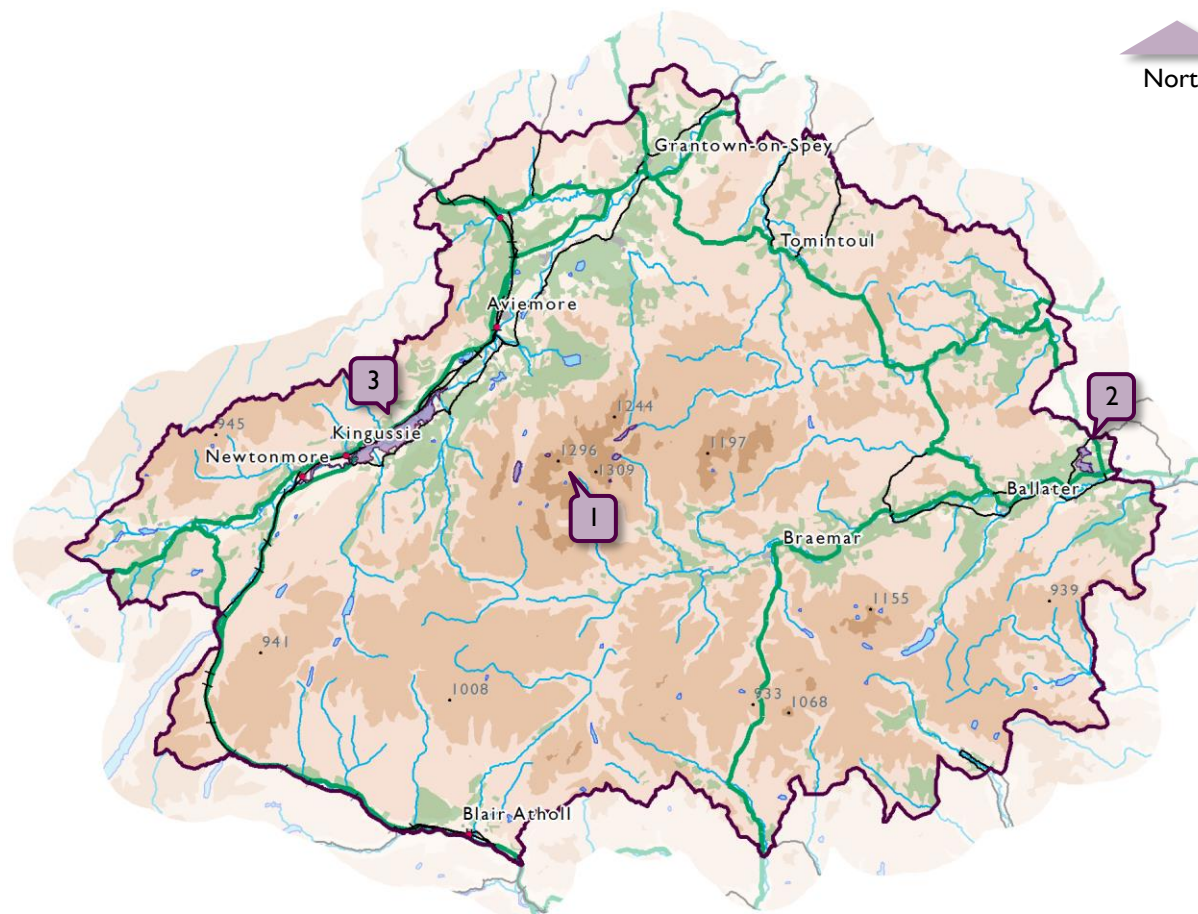
Ramsar Sites are wetlands of international importance designated in recognition of their fundamental ecological functions as well as their economic, cultural, scientific, and recreational value.

While Ramsar sites are a global designation, Paragraph 211 of the revised Scottish Planning Policy (June 2014) refers to the fact that all Ramsar sites are also European sites and / or Sites of Special Scientific Interest. Therefore, where the interest features of Ramsar sites overlap with those of European sites it is Scottish Government policy to afford them the same protection. The Ramsar interests should be adequately protected by consideration of the effects of plans on the European sites defined above.

There are three Ramsar sites within the Cairngorms National Park, all of which are wholly located within its boundary.

Location of Ramsar Sites

- 1. Cairngorm Lochs p. 147
- 2. Muir of Dinnet p. 149
- 3. River Spey - Insh Marshes p. 151



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Cairngorm Lochs Ramsar Site

Local Authority	Highland
Ramsar status	Designated
	24/07/1981
Latitude	57 04 08 N
Longitude	03 47 27 W
SPA EU code	UK13002
Area (ha)	172.99
Area (ha) in CNP	172.99 (100%)

General overview

The Cairngorm Lochs Ramsar site consists of Lochs Etchachan, Uaine, Coire an Lochain, Avon and Einich which are amongst the highest standing waters in the UK. The first three lochs are corrie lochans at altitudes of 900-1000 m whilst the other two are much larger and occupy the upper reaches of major glacial troughs at lower altitudes. All five lochs are extremely oligotrophic. The three corrie lochans have shorelines predominately of ice-polished boulders and have continuous ice cover from December to May in most years. Lochs Avon and Einich have more varied shorelines with boulders, glacial drift and



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storm beaches and much shorter periods of ice-cover. All the lochs have an arctic-alpine nature and support specialised populations of plankton.

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with Cairngorms Special Area of Conservation, Cairngorms Special Protection Area and Cairngorms Massif Special Protection Area.

Factors currently influencing site

- Water quality
- Game or fisheries management
- Invasive species

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- https://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8411
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/RIS/UK13002.pdf>

Status of Qualifying Features

Qualifying Features	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Oligotrophic loch	Favourable	Water management, other	23/06/2010

Muir of Dinnet Ramsar Site

Local Authority	Aberdeenshire
Ramsar status	Designated 10/05/1999
Latitude	57 05 00 N
Longitude	02 55 00 W
SPA EU code	UK13049
Area (ha)	157.6
Area (ha) in CNP	157.6 (100%)

General overview

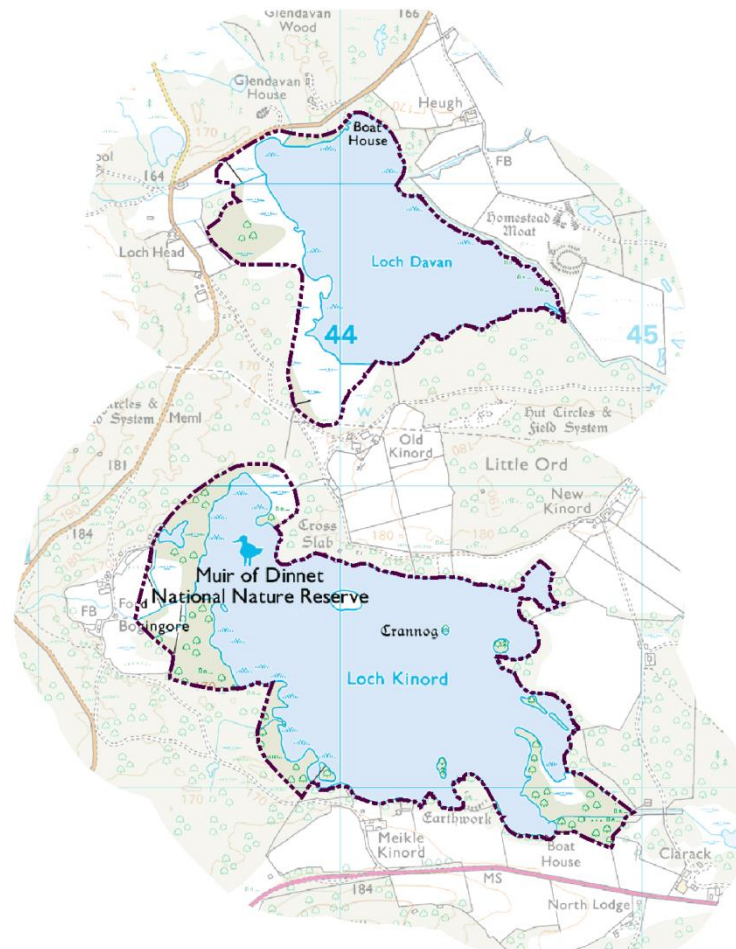
The Muir of Dinnet Ramsar Site comprises two neighbouring freshwater lochs (Davan and Kinord) of high importance as a roost for greylag geese in autumn and winter.

Related European Sites

The site overlaps with Muir of Dinnet Special Area of Conservation, The Muir of Dinnet Special Protection Area and the River Dee Special Area of Conservation.

Factors currently influencing site

- Agricultural operations
- Water quality
- Game or fisheries management
- Invasive species



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Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- https://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8448
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/RIS/UK13049.pdf>

Status of Qualifying Features

Qualifying Features	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding	Unfavourable	No negative pressures identified	10/12/2012

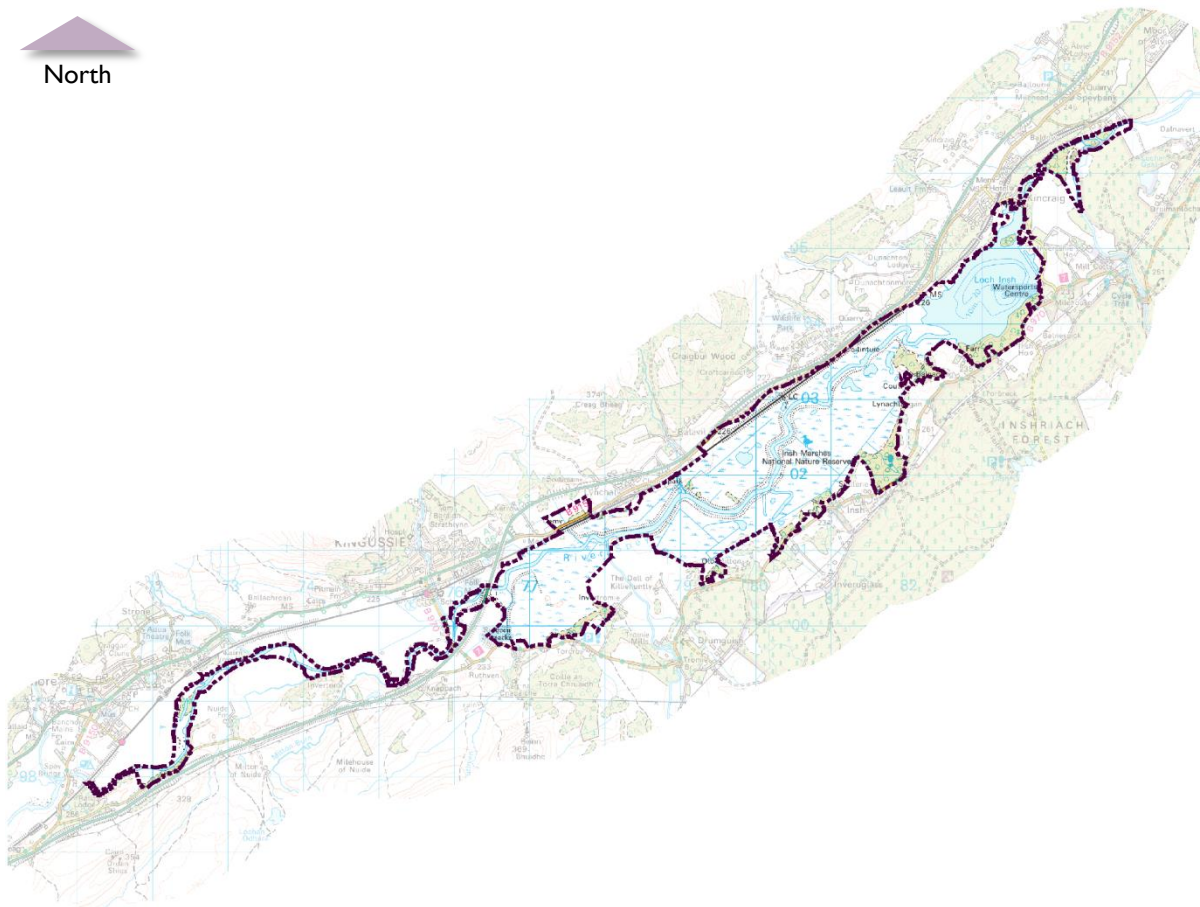
River Spey – Insh Marshes Ramsar Site

Local Authority	Highland
Ramsar status	Designated
	02/02/1997
Latitude	57 05 24 N
Longitude	03 59 48 W
SPA EU code	UK13053
Area (ha)	1,158.77
Area (ha) in CNP	1,158.77 (100%)

General overview

The Insh Marshes lie either side of the River Spey upstream of Loch Insh. Partly due to seasonal flooding there is a very large area of swamp, fen and carr which together form the largest single unit of poor-fen floodplain mire in Britain.

The site includes Loch Insh and the River Spey between Newtonmore and Kingussie which support large numbers of wintering wildfowl, as well as a significant assemblage of rare breeding waterfowl. The Feshie-Spey confluence has extensive river shingles which support a large number of rare invertebrates.



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Related European Sites

The site overlaps with Insh Marshes Special Area of Conservation, River Spey Special Area of Conservation and River Spey – Insh Marshes Special Protection Area.

Factors currently influencing site

- Grazing.
- Recreational disturbance.
- Forestry operations.
- Potential impacts from new development due to additional nutrient loading.

Sources

- <http://www.environment.scotland.gov.uk/get-interactive/data/protected-nature-sites/>
- https://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/siteinfo.jsp?pa_code=8452
- <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/RIS/UK13053.pdf>
-

Status of Qualifying Features

Qualifying Features	Summary Condition	Pressures	Visit Date
Mesotrophic loch	Favourable	Invasive species, recreation / disturbance	30/07/2010
Trophic range river/stream	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	07/07/2003
Flood-plain fen	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	04/10/2002
Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>), non-breeding	Favourable	Recreation / disturbance	28/03/2010
Breeding bird assemblage	Favourable	No negative pressures identified	31/07/2001