



Tomintoul & Glenlivet Landscape Partnership - Dark Skies Project 3.6

Being a Dark Sky Park Applicant

An IDA Dark Sky Park (DSP) is a land possessing an exceptional or distinguished quality of starry nights and a nocturnal environment that is specifically protected for its scientific, natural, educational, cultural heritage, and/or public enjoyment.

Please see information below outlining the responsibilities that would entail should Crown Estate Scotland (CES) (Interim Management) along with CNPA become Dark Sky Park (DSP) Applicants.

Table 1: Applicant’s Responsibilities

Tasks	Responsible
<p>Lighting Inventory and a plan to bring 90% of outdoor lighting controlled by the applicant(s) into compliance with the DSP LMP¹ within five years and commitment to bring the DSP into 100% compliance within ten years of designation.</p>	<p>TGLP (for the duration of the programme TGLP is working towards these targets).</p> <p>CES (to assist CAG with remaining lighting upgrades on the CES estate after the TGLP project is complete).</p> <p>CAG will undertake monitoring (see box below) to maintain DSP status. This monitoring will record new lights/bulbs erected on tenant farms and will identify those that affect the light quality and DSP status. Following the monitoring, CAG may ask for tenant farmers to amend outdoor lighting to reduce the impact on the DSP. The appropriate lines of communication for lighting changes would be through CES, who would be asked by CAG to contact the tenant farmer to discuss and ideally agree the proposed changes.</p>
<p>A measurement program must be maintained to follow the evolution of light pollution in the DSP and assert that the night sky quality does not degrade.</p>	<p>Cairngorms Astronomy Group</p> <p>CAG would be responsible for monitoring and as part of the TGLP project a monitoring programme has been developed that is easily repeatable and designed so that non experts can use it. It is estimated the time to undertake monitoring, per year, is no more than 4 hours.</p> <p>In addition to the technical light quality monitoring work undertaken by CAG, local schools will also be involved. A successful monitoring session has already been held with T&G primary schools. As part of the education element monitoring packs will be produced that visitors/educational groups can complete during their stay and hand in to CAG.</p> <p>In the event that CAG was to dissolve, it is possible that DSP status would be lost. The remaining partners, CES and CNPA, would have to decide whether to undertake</p>

¹ Lighting Management Plan



	the monitoring work.
A minimum of four events per year.	Cairngorms Astronomy Group.
DSP Signage erected and maintained. Once the sign is erected a picture documenting this sign must be taken and sent to IDA for records along with a description of its location.	<p>TGLP</p> <p>CES (long term sign maintenance – there is a budget of £2000 in the TGLP post project maintenance budget for CES for interpretation panel and signage maintenance)</p> <p>As part of the whole TGLP project CES are named as lead for the legacy monitoring and maintenance of all interpretation that will be installed on the Glenlivet Estate through the Interpretation and Digital Project 3.1. This also includes the Access project and Blairfindy. The type of interpretation to be installed has not yet been confirmed, although it is likely to involve panels, it may involve artwork or using natural features as part of an interpretative story. Importantly, all installations will be constructed of materials that are durable with minimal requirements for long term maintenance.</p> <p>All activities undertaken as part of the legacy for the DSP project will be underpinned by a Management Agreement with CES, CAG and CNPA.</p>
<p>Submit Annual Report to IDA by 1st October each year. The report should contain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress toward at least 90% compliance with LMPs. • Brief descriptions of interpretive events • Samples of printed materials and press articles should also be included. • The annual report should not require a lot of time to produce, as it should be a compilation of information generated during the previous year. A form will be provided to aid in the compilation of these details. Electronic submission of these documents is required in MS Word or PDF format. 	<p>Jointly produced by Cairngorms Astronomy Group and CES and submitted by CNPA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAG will collate event and monitoring data (incl light quality readings and lighting changes between monitoring periods). • CES may receive requests from CAG to provide information on lighting changes on the Estate. • CNPA may receive requests from CAG on visitor information (e.g. from the CNPA's visitor surveys). • CES would be asked to review the Annual Report, prior to its submission, to ensure information regarding the Glenlivet Estate is correct. • CNPA would be asked to submit the application to the International Dark Sky Association (IDA).

Further information

- IDA Applicant Guidelines: www.darksky.org/wp-content/uploads/bsk-pdf-manager/IDSP_Guidelines_Oct2015_23.pdf
- IDA website: <http://www.darksky.org/>
- Annual Report Example: <http://images.visitkielder.com/Northumberland-Dark-Sky-Park/nidsp-annual-report-2016.pdf>



- Northumberland DSP - <http://www.visitkielder.com/play/discover/dark-skies>
- Snowdonia DSP - <http://discoveryinthedark.wales/snowdonia>
- Keilder Observatory Tourist Attraction - <https://kielderobservatory.org/>