AGENDA ITEM 5

APPENDIX 4

2017/0086/DET

HABITAT REGULATIONS APPRAISAL

Cairngorms National Park Authority

Habitats Regulations Appraisal Report:

An Camas Mòr, Planning Application No: **2017/0086/DET**

Application under Section 42 to variation condition 1 of Planning Permission in Principle (CNPA Ref 09/155/CP)

20th June 2017

Habitats Regulations Appraisal Report: An Camas Mor

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Introduction

This is a record of the appraisal under regulation 48 of the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended) for the planning application **2017/0086/DET** made by An Camas Mor LLP. The application is to vary Condition 1 under Section 42 of Planning Permission in Principle. Planning Permission in Principle was granted for the development of a new community of up to 1500 houses; associated business, community facilities and provision of infrastructure.

Proposed new Condition 1

a) No development shall commence until a Site-wide Phasing Plan (SPP) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the CNPA acting as planning authority. The proposed development shall then be implemented in accordance with the SPP with any amendments to the document to be submitted to and approved in writing by the CNPA.
b) The SPP shall include a review of potential landscape and ecological impacts and associated mitigation strategy in respect of those phases beyond 630 residential units. Details of the Review shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the CNPA.
c) Detailed Site Plans (DSPs) shall then be submitted to and approved in writing by the CNPA for each phase or sub-phase and shall define the range and quantity of uses proposed to include (but not exclusive to):

- residential (Class 9);
- residential institutions (Class 8);
- retail (Class 1-3);
- business (Class 4);
- hotel (Class 7);
- non-residential institutions (Class 10); and
- leisure (Class 11).

Methodology

There is no prescribed methodology within Scotland for HRAs for projects. The CNPA has based its methodology on those prepared by D Tyldesley Associates for the Welsh Assembly Government, their Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook, together with the European Guidance on 'Managing Natura 2000 Sites' and associated methodology , both of which are referred to in the references below. We have derived a 10 stage process from the initial decision to assess a project to the regulation 49 derogation procedures; though these are not needed in this case.

Screening

The screening exercise looks at which Natura sites may be affected by the development. It then considers what effects there may be and if they are a "likely significant effect" (LSE). This showed that there were LSEs on seven Natura sites:

- Abernethy Forest SPA
- Anagach Woods SPA
- Cairngorms SPA
- Craigmore Wood SPA
- Kinveachy Forest SPA
- Cairngorms SAC
- River Spey SAC

Lastly, the screening considered the possible combination of effects between the proposal and other plans and projects. None were found.

Appropriate Assessment

The appropriate assessment considered in more detail the nature of the effects of the development on the Natura sites. Its purpose is to determine if there are any adverse effects in view of the conservation objectives of the Natura sites, and then to see if there is no adverse effect upon the integrity of any of these sites. The Appropriate Assessment found that there could be adverse effects and then identified mitigation measures to address them so that they could either be avoided, or minimised, so that there was no longer an adverse effect on site integrity

The most complicated potential adverse effect identified was the significant disturbance to capercaillie from recreational use of their habitats by new residents from the development. The maintenance of capercaillie populations within Badenoch & Strathspey is dependent upon bird usage of habitats within, and dispersal throughout, a number of different SPA and non- designated habitats which means that the whole meta-population must be assessed for likelihood of significant or residual effects. Our assessment demonstrated that there were a number of direct and indirect effects upon capercaillie across the area, and that they were not restricted to the SPAs or the development site itself.

The mitigation identified is the requirement for a Recreation Management Plan and careful monitoring of recreation and species dynamics which are linked to the phases of development. The monitoring results will allow for an Adaptive Management Approach to ensure no additional significant disturbance of capercaillie arising from the development.

Mitigation measures to protect Freshwater Pearl Mussel, Sea Lamprey, Salmon and Otter have been identified within this assessment and are a requirement for the development. Additional mitigation may be required for habitats within Cairngorms SAC but these can only be identified when detailed proposals are submitted.

Conclusion

This assessment shows that there is a LSE in relation to capercaillie on five SPAs: Abernethy Forest, Anagach Woods, Craigmore Wood, Cairngorms and Kinveachy Forest and a LSE on two SACs: Cairngorms (otter and some qualifying habitats) and

River Spey (otter, freshwater pearl mussel, sea lamprey and Atlantic salmon). With the incorporation of the identified mitigation measures within and outwith the development, we conclude that there is no adverse effect on site integrity from the proposed development upon any Natura sites.

Section One

Introduction

This is a record of the assessment under regulation 48 of the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended) for the planning application **2017/0086/DET** made by **An Camas Mor LLP**. These regulations are otherwise known as "the habitat regulations". It is the purpose of this assessment to inform the decision making body (the CNPA) on the effects of the above development upon the relevant Natura sites to allow them to determine the application in accordance with the European Habitat Directive 92/43/EEC.

European Directive 92/43/EEC is transposed into law in Scotland by the habitat regulations. This requires that plans and projects considered by competent authorities that could have a likely significant effect on a Natura site, should be subject to an assessment of their potential impacts upon the site. Regulation 48 directs that:

"48.-(1) A competent authority, before deciding to undertake, or give any consent, permission or other authorisation for, a plan or project which–
(a)is likely to have a significant effect on a European site in Great Britain (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects), and
(b)is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site,
shall make an appropriate assessment of the implications for the site in view of that site's conservation objectives. "

It further states that:

"48 - (5) In the light of the conclusions of the assessment, and subject to regulation 49, the authority shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the European site. "

The Cairngorms National Park Authority, as the determining and therefore competent authority, is therefore required in law to undertake this assessment in order to comply with these regulations.

Within the Habitats and Birds Directives there are two categories of protected sites, both of which are found within the Cairngorms National Park. In addition, in Scotland, sites designated for protection under the Ramsar Convention (1971) are also Natura sites and/or Sites of Special Scientific Interest and are protected under the relevant statutory regimes. Sites put forward for designation under Natura (provisional sites) are also fully protected until the time when the designation is either confirmed or refused. The types of site considered for this appraisal are therefore:

- Special Area of Conservation (SAC, SCI, cSAC and pSAC) – a European designation which protects natural habitats and wild flora and fauna other than birds

- Special Protection Area (SPA and pSPA) – a European designation which protects wild birds

- Ramsar Site –Sites designated under the Ramsar Convention 1971 which protects wetlands

This process of assessment is known formally as a Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA). This is not to be confused with an Appropriate Assessment (AA), which is one component of the process of the HRA.

Background to the assessment

- The subject of this appraisal is for an application under Section 42 to variation of condition 1 of Planning Permission in Principle (PPIP) (CNPA Ref 09/155/CP). The current PPiP was to expire in March 2017 and an extension of the PPiP is required therefore it is necessary to undertake a full assessment of the development proposal and not only Condition 1.
- 2017/0086/DET S42 Proposal Condition 1- a) No development shall commence until a Site-wide Phasing Plan (SPP) has been
  submitted to and approved in writing by the CNPA acting as planning authority. The proposed development shall then be implemented in accordance with the SPP with any amendments to the document to be submitted to and approved in writing by the CNPA.
  b) The SPP shall include a review of potential landscape and ecological impacts and associated mitigation strategy in respect of those phases beyond 630 residential units. Details of the Review shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the CNPA.
  c) Detailed Site Plans (DSPs) shall then be submitted to and approved in writing by the CNPA for each phase or sub-phase and shall define the range and quantity of uses proposed to include (but not exclusive to):
  - residential (Class 9);
  - residential institutions (Class 8);
  - retail (Class 1-3);
  - business (Class 4);
  - hotel (Class 7);
  - non-residential institutions (Class 10); and
  - leisure (Class 11).

This is a revised HRA. Two earlier appraisals have been undertaken.

2013: This assessment demonstrated that there was a LSE on seven Natura sites but that with additional mitigation measures it would be possible to remove this effect from the proposed development of the effect on qualifying features and conservation objectives and therefore have no adverse effect upon the integrity of any Natura site.

2010: This was carried before the planning committee first considered the application and resolved to grant approval in June 2010. The decision notice had not been released pending

resolution of a number of issues including finalising the section 75 agreement. Since that time further relevant information has become available through HRA work on other proposals and the Proposed Local Development Plan.

An Camas Mor is contained within the Strategic Settlements section of the Cairngorms National Park Local Plan 2010, which also identifies an indicative settlement boundary for the site. This was subject to a Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA). An allocation for An Camas Mor is also contained within the Cairngorms National Park Local Development Plan 2015 which was adopted on March 2015 and was also subject to a HRA.

The principle documents which have been taken into account for this assessment are:

- Planning application
- Planning statement
- Indicative land use planning strategies
- Design and access statement
- Masterplan report and supplementary information
- Environmental Statement and appendices
- Additional information report June 2009
- Confidential reports and surveys on capercaillie distribution in Rotheimurchus, Inshriach, Abernethy and Craigmore Wood. (T.Poole, FCS and RSPB 2013)*
- Identification of woodlands with potential for significant recreational disturbance to capercaillie arising from An Camas Mor, and specification of the mitigation required to avoid such disturbance. CNPA and SNH, August 2016 (Updated April 2017.)
- Report on predicted levels and patterns of recreational use of the outdoors by An Camas Mor residents. Adam Streeter Smith, CNPA (July 2016).

* Within this report the details of locations of capercaillie and their Lekking sites are generalised and the capercaillie survey results listed above are not within the public domain. This is to protect the birds from possible disturbance that may result from this information being widely distributed. Consultees have been given access to all information.

Section Two

Methodology

There is no prescribed method for a Habitats Regulations Appraisal. The CNPA has therefore consulted the Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook and the guidelines prepared by David Tyldesley and Associates for the Welsh Assembly Government These are contained within TAN 5 "Nature conservation and Planning" and where necessary they have been adapted for the situation in Scotland. In addition EU guidelines on 'Managing Natura 2000 sites have also been consulted in this process, see references for details.

Table 1 Stages of Assessment

Stages of Assessment

Stage 1	Decide whether proposal is subject to HRA
Stage 2	Identify Natura Sites that should be considered and gather information about the Natura Sites
Stage 3	Consultation on the method and scope of the appraisal with SNH and others. Request additional information from applicant if required.
Stage 4	Screening the proposal for likely significant effects on Natura sites including mitigation measures included within the proposal
Stage 5	Screen for "in combination effects" with other plans or projects
Stage 6	Appropriate Assessment to determine effect upon conservation objectives. Preliminary conclusion about adverse effect upon the integrity of any site.
Stage 7	Consultation with SNH (and others if considered appropriate)
Stage 8	Apply additional mitigation measures, if required, via conditions or agreements to ensure that there is no adverse effect on site integrity
Stage 9	Conclusion on Integrity test
Stage 10	Regulation 49 derogation procedures. This only applies if adverse effects remain and Competent Authority still wishes to approve the application

Further details of the methodology applied during screening and appropriate assessment are given in the relevant sections.

Section Three

Stages 1-5 describing the Natura sites and Screening

Stage 1: The development proposal and the decision to screen

The proposal for the new community at An Camas Mor is close to a number of Natura sites and is within the definition of a project under Regulation 54 of the Natura regulations.

Regulation 54(2) states that:

"Regulations 48 and 49 (requirement to consider effect on European site) apply, in Scotland, in relation to–

(a)granting planning permission on an application under Part III of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1972."

The proposed development is not wholly concerned with the necessary management of a European site for nature conservation and requires planning permission and so the plans must be subject to assessment under the terms of Directive 92/43/EEC.

Stages 2: Identification of Natura Sites and gathering their details

An assessment of all possible sites affected by the proposed development has been undertaken. This has considered any possible outcomes of the development together with any conceivable effect. The list below is those sites that have been taken forward to screening for likely significant effects. See Appendix 1 for details on each site and its qualifying features.

Other sites were considered but have not been taken forward. For example the Insh Marshes SAC was considered to be too far upstream to be affected by any aspect of the development.

Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

Cairngorms
Kinveachy Forest
River Spey

Special Protection Area (SPA)

Abernethy Forest
Anagach Woods
Cairngorms
Cairngorms Massif
Craigmore Wood
Kinveachy Forest
Loch Vaa

Stage 3: Discussions on the method and scope of the appraisal and requests for additional information

Advice has been sought from SNH on this application and in relation to this proposal and allocations in the Local Plan and Proposed Local Development Plan. The advice sought included otter, golden eagle, fresh water pearl mussel, salmon and sea lamprey and capercaillie impacts. Discussions on the specific effects on capercaillie have been held with SNH on a number of occasions between 2013 and 2017.

SNH have been closely involved in the preparatory work to inform the HRA, including the appraisal of the impacts to Capercaillie and the identified mitigation. However it should be noted that the CNPA have formally adopted the appraisal, including the joint work, as their own AA.

Stage 4: Screening the proposal for likely significant effects

The test in regulation 48 is whether the proposal is likely to have a significant effect, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, on the Natura sites identified in stage 2 above. This clearly requires an initial assessment, or screening, for which interest features of any Natura site, may be affected and if it is likely or significant.

In considering what is 'likely' the CNPA is mindful of existing case law in relation to the application of the habitats regulations. The CNPA notes the ruling of the ECJ in case C-127/02 (often known as the Waddenzee judgement). This rules (in paragraph 45) that an appropriate assessment must be undertaken if "it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that it will have a significant effect on that site, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects". Consequently we take the word 'likely' not to mean 'probable' but 'possible'.

The ruling also gives useful clarification for the word 'significant'. In Paragraph 47 it states that: "where such a plan or project has an effect on that site but it is not likely to undermine its conservation objectives, it cannot be considered likely to have a significant effect on the site concerned." The CNPA draws from this that in order to conclude that there will be no effect on the conservation objectives it must be confident that any significant effects can be excluded on the basis of objective information.

In considering the part of the test which is "alone or in combination with other plans or projects" we understand that this refers to proposed or incomplete plans or projects. Completed developments will also be considered but as part of the baseline for assessment if they have continuing effects on any site and "point to a pattern of progressive loss of site integrity ". If a development would have a possible likely significant effect alone then it is to be assessed alone. An in combination assessment is therefore not required, until it is no longer considered to have an effect alone.

When considering in combination effects only projects and plans that are relevant to the affected sites will be included. Furthermore they will be excluded unless the effects they have are related to the effects of the development on the qualifying interests being assessed here.

The first step of the screening process will consider what the level of any effect these may be: no effect, likely insignificant or likely significant. If likely insignificant effects are found they will be further screened at stage 5 in combination with other plans or projects. If there are any significant effects found, either alone or in combination, then these will be considered in detail within an Appropriate Assessment.

Table 2; the four possible outcomes from the screening process

Screening outcome	Description	Stage of process outcome found
No effect	there is no effect at all upon the qualifying interests	Stage 4
No likely significant effect in combination	there is an insignificant effect from the development itself and even in	Stage 5

	combination with other plans and projects does not amount to a significant effect.	
Likely significant effect in combination	there is an insignificant effect from the development itself but in combination with the insignificant effects of other plans and projects becomes significant.	Stage 5
Likely significant effect alone	there is a possible significant effect from the development by itself	Stage 4

The Local Plan and Local Development Plan HRAs both identify that development at An Camas Mor has the potential to affect the qualifying features on the sites listed above. The possible effects are included within the screening assessment in table 3, below, which considers any possible effects that would arise from granting an extension to the Planning Permission in Principle for development at An Camas Mor.

Effects on capercaillie qualifying interests of the SPAs

Table 3 below, identify likely impacts on the capercaillie qualifying interests of Abernethy Forest, Cairngorms, Anagach Woods, Craigmore Wood, and Kinveachy Forest SPAs. Badenoch & Strathspey is the last main refuge of this species containing c75% of the national population, with populations still in decline in all other areas. Capercaillie live and breed in a number of woods that are likely to be used for recreation by residents of An Camas Mor.

Disturbance by people and dogs can affect capercaillie by reducing the availability of otherwise suitable habitat (including habitat used for roosting, feeding, nesting and brood rearing), displacing the birds from leks, disrupting behaviour patterns, increasing the risk of predation, separating chicks from hens, and by direct killing of chicks and adult birds. These effects can occur separately or additively, and can result in a decline in local capercaillie numbers. Capercaillie are sensitive to disturbance at all life stages but especially so when attending leks, incubating eggs (late April to mid June) or rearing broods (late May - late August), which coincides with when people are mostly likely to be using woods for recreation. The evidence for these effects is set out at Appendix 3.

In addition, capercaillie within Badenoch & Strathspey is known to function as a metapopulation. The five SPAs listed above are designated here to safeguard this population. All five are located well within maximum capercaillie dispersal distances known from the literature (Appendix 4). This metapopulation is small and vulnerable. Effects on the capercaillie population in any one of these SPAs could therefore potentially affect the population in the others. Similarly, effects on the capercaillie population within Badenoch & Strathspey but outside the boundaries of the SPAs, such as the undesignated woodlands home to capercaillie and near An Camas Mor, could affect the populations in the five SPAs.

Table 3: Screening for LSE from An Camas Mor

Abernethy Forest SPA					
Qualifying Feature Affected	**Possible effect of development**	**Potential impact on the qualifying habitat/species**	**Duration**	**Screening assessment**	**Screening decision**
Capercaillie	Increase in recreational activity from residents of new development within the SPA (direct effect)	Disturbance to lekking, brood rearing and feeding habitats from recreational activity. See Appendix 3.	permanent	Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Garten Woods** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Forest Lodge**: predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Loch Garten (Loch Mallachie car park**): predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas	**Likely Significant Effect Alone**

	Increase in recreation within other SPAs that support caper meta-population from residents of new development (indirect effect)	A reduction in productivity in other SPAs reducing the viability of the meta population through decreased migration and in effect increased habitat fragmentation. See Appendix 4.	permanent	Where there is a likely significant effect identified on one or more of the other four SPAs (for Capercaillie) this may also have an effect for this SPA. A reduction in productivity within another SPA may restrict movement of birds, especially females, between sites. This could reduce the numbers within this SPA and its genetic diversity, both affecting its distribution and viability of the SPA population. Direct effects have also been found in the following SPAs • Cairngorms – LSE • Kinveachy Forest – LSE Indirect effects have been found for the following SPAs • Anagach Woods - LSE • Craigmore Wood - LSE	**Likely Significant Effect Alone**
	Increase in recreation within suitable habitats outside the SPAs that supports caper meta-population from residents of new development • (indirect effect)	Reduction in population productivity within undesignated part of Inshriach, Uath Lochans, Kinveachy Face, Glenmore/Rothiemurchus, Beananach Woods, Inverlaidnan Hill Woods and Mondhuie, and Sluggan Bridge. Reducing the viability of meta-population though decreased migration and in effect increased	permanent	Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Drumintoul Woods (Rothiemurchus)** predicted: • New informal paths likely to develop within / leading to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;	**Likely Significant Effect Alone**

		habitat fragmentation. See Appendix 4.		Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Kinveachy Face** predicted: • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Sluggan bridge** and **Beananach Woods** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Inshriach** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Glenmore** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;	

				• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas; .Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Uath Lochans** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Mondhuie** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Inverlaidnan Hill Woods** predicted: • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas	
	Increase in recreation within suitable habitats outside the SPAs that supports caper meta-population from residents of new development (indirect effect)	Reduction in productivity within, Boat woods, population reducing the viability of meta-population though decreased migration and in effect increased habitat fragmentation. See Appendix 4.	permanent	Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Boat Woods** predicted • Impacts from additional visits will be mitigated by measures already in place Mitigation is already in place from housing planning consent in Boat of Garten woods. This includes path side screening, promotion of responsible access and a ranger presence in perpetuity These measures will ensure no significant disturbance from additional visitors from ACM residents.	**No effect**

Scottish Crossbill	Increase in recreational activity from residents of new development within the SPA	Disturbance to nesting sites and feeding habitat	permanent	There is no evidence that this species is affected by disturbance. Therefore birds within SPA are unlikely to be affected.	**No effect**
Osprey	Increase in recreational activity from residents of new development within the SPA	Disturbance to nesting sites	permanent	Nest sites are managed and protected by RSPB. Visitor centre provides opportunity for viewing without disturbance. General recreation managed by RSPB to minimise effects, as far as possible, by providing promoted paths away from nest sites.	**No effect**

Anagach woods SPA					
Qualifying Feature Affected	**Possible effect of development**	**Likely significant effect**	**Duration**	**Screening assessment**	**Screening outcome**
Capercaillie	Increase in recreational activity from residents of new development within the SPA (direct effect)	Disturbance to lekking, brood rearing and feeding habitats from recreational activity. See Appendix 3.	permanent	Recreational visits by An Camas Mor residents involving a round trip journey of >20 miles to the setting off point will be small in number and so dispersed in geographic scope that they will not result in significant additional recreational use or capercaillie disturbance at locations this distant from ACM. Rationale is: SPANS data shows 14% of visits by Scottish rural residents involve a journey from	**No effect**

				home to the start point of the recreational visit of 10 miles or more. This 14% of visits could be located anywhere in Scotland. This means that the volume at any one recreational destination within the capercaillie range but beyond 10 miles from ACM will be negligible.	
	Increase in recreation within other SPAs that support caper meta-population from residents of new development (An indirect effect)	A reduction in productivity in other SPAs reducing the viability of the meta population through decreased migration and in effect increased habitat fragmentation. See Appendix 4.	permanent	Where there is a likely significant effect identified upon one or more of the other four SPAs (for Capercaillie) within the area this may also have an effect for this SPA. A reduction in productivity within another SPA may restrict movement of birds, especially females, between sites. This could reduce the numbers within this SPA and its genetic diversity, both affecting its distribution and viability of the SPA population. Anagach Woods is particularly dependent upon immigration of young birds from surrounding areas and so is very sensitive to a reduction in dispersal. Direct effects have been found in the following SPAs Abernethy Forest LSE Cairngorms – LSE Kinveachy Forest - LSE Indirect effects have been found for the following SPAs Craigmore Wood - LSE	**Likely Significant Effect Alone**

	Increase in recreation within suitable habitats outside the SPAs that supports caper meta-population from residents of new development • (indirect effect)	Reduction in population productivity within undesignated part of Inshriach, Uath Lochans, Kinveachy Face, Glenmore/Rothiemurchus, Beananach Woods, Inverlaidnan Hill Woods and Mondhuie, and Sluggan Bridge. Reducing the viability of meta-population though decreased migration and in effect increased habitat fragmentation. See Appendix 4.	permanent	Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Drumintoul Woods (Rothiemurchus)** predicted: • New informal paths likely to develop within / leading to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Kinveachy Face** predicted: • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Sluggan bridge** and **Beananach Woods** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Inshriach** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas	**Likely Significant Effect Alone**

				• Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Glenmore** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas; .Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Uath Lochans** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Mondhuie** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Inverlaidnan Hill Woods** predicted: • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas	
	Increase in recreation suitable habitats outside the SPAs that supports	Reduction in productivity within Boat woods population reducing the viability of meta-population	permanent	Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Boat Woods** predicted • Impacts from additional visits will be	**No effect**

	caper meta-population from residents of new development (indirect effect)	though decreased migration and in effect increased habitat fragmentation. See Appendix 4.		mitigated by measures already in place Mitigation is already in place from housing planning consent in Boat of Garten woods. This includes path side screening, promotion of responsible access and a ranger presence in perpetuity. These measures will ensure no significant disturbance from additional visitors from ACM residents.	
	Occupation of new housing	N/A	N/A	The development Site is too far from the SPA to have any possible effects	**No effect**
	Construction activity	N/A	N/A	The development Site is too far from the SPA to have any possible effects	**No effect**

Cairngorms SPA					
Qualifying Feature Affected	**Possible effect of development**	**Likely significant effect**	**Duration**	**Screening assessment**	**Screening outcome**

Capercaillie	Increase in recreational activity from residents of new development within the SPA (Direct effect)	Disturbance to lekking, brood rearing and feeding habitats from recreational activity. See Appendix 3.	permanent	Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on Rothiemurchus and Glenmore predicts: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • New informal paths likely to develop within / leading to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;	**Likely significant effect alone**
	Increase in recreation within other SPAs that support caper meta-population from residents of new development (An indirect effect)	A reduction in productivity in other SPAs reducing the viability of the meta population through decreased migration and in effect increased habitat fragmentation. See Appendix 4.	permanent	Where there is a likely significant effect identified upon one or more of the other four SPAs (for Capercaillie) within the area this may also have an effect for this SPA. A reduction in productivity within another SPA may restrict movement of birds, especially females, between sites. This could reduce the numbers within this SPA and its genetic diversity, both affecting its distribution and viability of the SPA population. Direct effects have been found in the following SPAs Abernethy Forest LSE Kinveachy Forest - LSE Indirect effects have been found for the following SPAs Anagach Woods - LSE	**Likely Significant Effect Alone**

				Craigmore Wood - LSE	
	Increase in recreation within suitable habitats outside the SPAs that supports caper meta-population from residents of new development • (indirect effect)	Reduction in population productivity within undesignated part of Inshriach, Uath Lochans, Kinveachy Face, Glenmore/Rothiemurchus, Beananach Woods, Inverlaidnan Hill Woods and Mondhuie, and Sluggan Bridge. Reducing the viability of meta-population though decreased migration and in effect increased habitat fragmentation. See Appendix 4.	permanent	Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Drumintoul Woods (Rothiemurchus)** predicted: • New informal paths likely to develop within / leading to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Kinveachy Face** predicted: • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Sluggan bridge** and **Beananach Woods** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Inshriach** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening	**Likely Significant Effect Alone**

				dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Glenmore** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas; .Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Uath Lochans** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Mondhuie** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Inverlaidnan Hill Woods** predicted: • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas	
	Increase in recreation within	Reduction in productivity within Boat woods	permanent	Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Boat Woods** predicted	**No effect**

	suitable habitats outside the SPAs that supports caper meta-population from residents of new development (indirect effect)	population reducing the viability of meta-population though decreased migration and in effect increased habitat fragmentation. See Appendix 4.		• Impacts from additional visits will be mitigated by measures already in place • Mitigation is already in place from housing planning consent in Boat of Garten woods. This includes path side screening, promotion of responsible access and a ranger presence in perpetuity These measures will ensure no significant disturbance from additional visitors from ACM residents	
	Occupation of new community	Disturbance from normal /everyday activities by the occupants of housing, and other activity from the new community in the immediate vicinity of the development	permanent	The development is approximately 1.1km from the nearest point of the SPA. This western side shows less use by capercaillie and the nearest lek is over 2km away. The site itself will be screened by planting belts reducing visual and to a lesser extent noise impacts.	**No effect**
	Construction activity	Disturbance from construction on site and use of B992 for construction traffic	Construction phase 1 only	The development is approximately 1.1km from the nearest point of the SPA. This western side shows less use by capercaillie and the nearest lek is over 2km away. The site itself is screened by existing planting belts reducing visual impact and to a lesser extent noise impacts. Access will be limited to a single point on the B992 for first phase only.	**No effect**
Scottish Crossbill	Increase in recreational activity from residents of new development within the SPA	Disturbance to nesting sites and feeding habitat	permanent	There is no evidence that this species is affected by disturbance. Therefore birds within SPA are unlikely to be affected.	**No effect**

Osprey	Increase in recreational activity from residents of new development within the SPA	Disturbance to nesting sites	permanent	Nest sites are well managed and monitored by Rothiemurchus Estate and FCS. General recreation managed by FCS and Rothiemurchus to encourage recreational access to promoted paths away from nest sites.	**No effect**
Dotterel	Increase in recreational activity from residents of new development within the SPA	Disturbance to nesting and chick rearing sites	permanent	Nest sites are in remote upland plateau. New nest sites are chosen each year. The number of likely visits to such areas generated by this new development will be negligible and the pattern of use is unlikely to be significantly different from existing use to have an effect on nest site choice or chick rearing site availability and disturbance at these sites.	**No effect**
Golden eagle	Increase in recreational activity from residents of new development within the SPA	Disturbance to nesting sites	permanent	The nest sites are well managed and monitored by land managers. Nest sites are in remote locations either in trees or inaccessible cliff faces. The number of possible visits generated by new development to the parts of this SPA where eagles nest will be negligible to have an effect.	**No effect**
Merlin	Increase in recreational activity from residents of new development within the SPA	Disturbance to nesting sites	permanent	Nest sites are in remote upland sites in heather moorland or old crow nests. New nest sites are chosen each year. The number of likely visits to such areas generated by new development will be negligible to have an effect on nest site choice and disturbance at these sites, and the pattern of recreational use by ACM residents is unlikely to be different from existing recreational use.	**No effect**
Peregrine	Increase in recreational activity	Disturbance to nesting sites	permanent	Nest sites in this SPA are usually on remote and inaccessible cliff faces away from footpaths,	**No effect**

	from residents of new development within the SPA			though sometimes within sight. The number of possible visits generated by the new development to the parts of this SPA where peregrines nest will be negligible to have an effect.	

Cairngorms SAC					
Qualifying Feature Affected	**Possible effect of development**	**Likely significant effect**	**Duration**	**Screening assessment**	**Screening outcome**
Qualifying habitats: Caledonian Pine woods and Dry Heath	The increase in recreational activity will result in higher pressure on the path networks creation of informal route ways	Effects may lead to deterioration and / or erosion of habitats along pathways and if new routes cross qualifying habitats these may become eroded and reduced in extent.	permanent	Rothiemurchus and Glenmore both have well established paths ways for walkers and cyclists. The network is both well promoted and extensive but it is anticipated that there will be a significant increase in downhill and cross country biking on existing tracks, paths and informal trails. It is likely that the current path network will be expanded by the development of informal paths as people explore and discover an easy accessible area close to home (CNPA & SNH, 2017)	**Likely significant effect alone**
Qualifying habitats: Acidic scree Alpine and subalpine heaths Blanket bog* Dry heaths Plants in crevices on acid rocks	Loss of habitat extent	The proposals include creating a new 78ha area of upland woodland within Cairngorms SAC, This would benefit the Caledonian Forest priority qualifying feature by expanding the area and range but this could be	permanent	It is possible that this could occur over one or more of the QHs. There is no survey data or planting plan to delineate the distribution of the new woodland	**Likely significant effect alone**

Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath		located upon qualifying habitats thus reducing their extent The creation of a new footbridge and access bridge could lead to the loss of qualifying habitat.			
Otter	Increase in recreational activity derived from larger local human population	Disturbance to holts and resting places	permanent	It is anticipated that there will be an increase in dog walking in early morning and late evening arising from the development which has the potential to disturb otter, in the River Spey SAC but outwith the boundary of the Cairngorms SAC. . The Otter in the Cairngorms SAC are considered to be part of the same population as that of the River Spey SAC which lies immediately downstream. As a consequence there is the potential for disturbance in the River Spey SAC population to affect that of the Cairngorms SAC	**Likely Significant effect alone**
	The design of the road bridge and construction activity close to water.	Disturbance to otters resting and breeding sites. Disturbance to otters feeding. The bridge acting as a barrier to the safe passage of otters.	permanent	The construction and bridge design has the potential to disturb otter and create a barrier to otter passage along the River Spey SAC but outwith the boundary of the Cairngorms SAC. The Otter in the Cairngorms SAC are considered to be part of the same population as that of the River Spey SAC which lies immediately downstream. As a consequence there is the potential these issues in the River Spey SAC population to affect that of the Cairngorms SAC.	**Likely significant effect alone**

Green shield-moss	The increase in recreational activity will result in higher pressure on the path networks creation of informal route ways	Effects may lead to erosion of habitats along pathways and if new routes cross qualifying habitats which include this species it may be damaged by the erosion.	permanent	Rothiemurchus and Glenmore both have well established paths ways for walkers and cyclists. The network is both well promoted and extensive but it is anticipated that there will be a significant increase in downhill and cross country biking on existing tracks, paths and informal trails. It is likely that the current path network will be expanded by the development of informal paths as people explore and discover an easy accessible area close to home (CNPA & SNH, 2016). However, this species is found on dead trees, therefore the woodland management plan must ensure that appropriate dead wood management for Green Shield Moss is included. Its distribution is more likely to be impacted by removal of dead wood, and the impact from walkers or bikers is considered to be insignificant.	**No effect**

Cairngorms Massif SPA					
Qualifying Feature Affected	**Possible effect of development**	**Likely significant effect**	**Duration**	**Screening assessment**	**Screening outcome**
Golden eagle	Increase in recreational activity from residents of new development within the SPA	Disturbance to nesting sites	permanent	The nest sites are well managed and monitored by land managers. Nest sites are in remote locations either in trees or inaccessible cliff faces. The number of possible visits generated by new development to the parts of this SPA where	**No effect**

				eagles nest will be negligible to have an effect.	

Craigmore Wood SPA					
Qualifying Feature Affected	**Possible effect of development**	**Likely significant effect**	**Duration**	**Screening assessment**	**Screening outcome**
Capercaillie	Increase in recreational activity from residents of new development within the SPA (direct effect)	Disturbance to lekking, brood rearing and feeding habitats from recreational activity. See Appendix 3.	permanent	Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on access points to Craigmore Wood predicted: Recreational visits by An Camas Mor residents involving a round trip journey of >20 miles to the setting off point will be small in number and so dispersed in geographic scope that they will not result in significant additional recreational use or capercaillie disturbance at locations this distant from ACM. Rationale is: SPANS data shows 14% of visits by Scottish rural residents involve a journey from home to the start point of the recreational visit of 10 miles or more. This 14% of visits could be located anywhere in Scotland. This means that the volume at any one recreational destination within the capercaillie range but beyond 10 miles from ACM will be negligible.	**No effect**
	Increase in recreation within other SPAs that	A reduction in productivity in other SPAs reducing the viability of the meta	permanent	Where there is a likely significant effect identified upon one or more of the other four SPAs (for Capercaillie) within the area this may also have	**Likely Significant Effect Alone**

	support caper meta-population from residents of new development (indirect effect)	population through decreased migration and in effect increased habitat fragmentation. See Appendix 4.		an effect for this SPA. A reduction in productivity within another SPA may restrict movement of birds, especially females, between sites. This could reduce the numbers within this SPA and its genetic diversity, both affecting its distribution and viability of the SPA population. Direct effects have been found in the following SPAs Abernethy Forest LSE Cairngorms – LSE Kinveachy Forest - LSE Indirect effects have been found for the following SPA Anagach Woods - LSE	
	Increase in recreation within suitable habitats outside the SPAs that supports caper meta-population from residents of new development • (indirect effect)	Reduction in population productivity within undesignated part of Inshriach, Uath Lochans, Kinveachy Face, Glenmore/Rothiemurchus, Beananach Woods, Inverlaidnan Hill Woods and Mondhuie, and Sluggan Bridge. Reducing the viability of meta-population though decreased migration and in effect increased habitat fragmentation. See Appendix 4.	permanent	Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Drumintoul Woods (Rothiemurchus)** predicted: • New informal paths likely to develop within / leading to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Kinveachy Face** predicted:	**Likely Significant Effect Alone**

				• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Sluggan Bridge** and **Beananach Woods** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Inshriach** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Glenmore** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;	

				.Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Uath Lochans** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Mondhuie** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Inverlaidnan Hill Woods** predicted: • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas	
	Increase in recreation within suitable habitats outside the SPAs that supports caper meta-population from residents of new development (indirect effect)	Reduction in productivity within Boat woods population reducing the viability of meta-population though decreased migration and in effect increased habitat fragmentation. See Appendix 4.	permanent	Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Boat Woods** predicted • Impacts from additional visits will be mitigated by measures already in place • Mitigation is already in place from housing planning consent in Boat of Garten woods. This includes path side screening, promotion of responsible access and a ranger presence in perpetuity These measures will ensure no significant disturbance from additional visitors from ACM residents	**No effect**
	Occupation of new housing	N/A	N/A	The development Site is too far from the SPA to have any possible effects	**No effect**

	Construction activity	N/A	N/A	The development Site is too far from the SPA to have any possible effects	**No effect**

Kinveachy Forest SPA					
Qualifying Feature Affected	**Possible effect of development**	**Likely significant effect**	**Duration**	**Screening assessment**	**Screening outcome**
Capercaillie	Increase in recreational activity from residents of new development within the SPA (direct effect)	Disturbance to lekking, brood rearing and feeding habitats from recreational activity. See Appendix 3.	permanent	Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on access points to Kinveachy Forest SPA) • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;	**Likely Significant Effect Alone**
	Increase in recreation within other SPAs that support caper meta-	A reduction in productivity in other SPAs reducing the viability of the meta population through	permanent	Where there is a likely significant effect identified upon one or more of the other four SPAs (for Capercaillie) within the area this may also have an effect for this SPA. A reduction in	**Likely Significant Effect Alone**

	population from residents of new development (indirect effect)	decreased migration and in effect increased habitat fragmentation. See Appendix 4.		productivity within another SPA may restrict movement of birds, especially females, between sites. This could reduce the numbers within this SPA and its genetic diversity, both affecting its distribution and viability of the SPA population. Direct effects have been found in the following SPAs Abernethy Forest LSE Cairngorms – LSE Indirect effects have been found for the following SPAs Anagach Woods - LSE Craigmore Wood - LSE	
	Increase in recreation within suitable habitats outside the SPAs that supports caper meta-population from residents of new development • (indirect effect)	Reduction in population productivity within undesignated part of Inshriach, Uath Lochans, Kinveachy Face, Glenmore/Rothiemurchus, Beananach Woods, Inverlaidnan Hill Woods and Mondhuie, and Sluggan Bridge. Reducing the viability of meta-population though decreased migration and in effect increased habitat fragmentation. See Appendix 4.	permanent	Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Drumintoul Woods (Rothiemurchus)** predicted: • New informal paths likely to develop within / leading to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Kinveachy Face** predicted: • Increase in trail riding, and development of new	**Likely Significant Effect Alone**

				informal trails, in sensitive areas; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Sluggan bridge** and **Beananach Woods** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Inshriach** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Glenmore** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational	

				Impact Assessment on **Uath Lochans** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Mondhuie** predicted: • Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on Slochd and Inverlaidnan woods predicted: • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas	
	Increase in recreation within suitable habitats outside the SPAs that supports caper meta-population from residents of new development (indirect effect)	Reduction in productivity within Boat woods population reducing the viability of meta-population though decreased migration and in effect increased habitat fragmentation. See Appendix 4.	permanent	Summary of CNPA & SNH (2017) Recreational Impact Assessment on **Boat Woods** predicted • Impacts from additional visits will be mitigated by measures already in place • Mitigation is already in place from housing planning consent in Boat of Garten woods. This includes path side screening, promotion of responsible access and a ranger presence in perpetuity These measures will ensure no significant disturbance from additional visitors from ACM residents	**No effect**
	Occupation of new housing	N/A	N/A	The development Site is too far from the SPA to have any possible effects	**No effect**

	Construction activity	N/A	N/A	The development Site is too far from the SPA to have any possible effects	**No effect**
Scottish Crossbill	Increase in recreational activity from residents of new development within the SPA	Disturbance to nesting sites and feeding habitat	permanent	There is no evidence that this species is affected by disturbance. Therefore birds within SPA are unlikely to be affected.	**No effect**

Kinveachy Forest SAC					
Qualifying Feature Affected	**Possible effect of development**	**Likely significant effect**	**Duration**	**Screening assessment**	**Screening outcome**
Bog Woodland	Increase in recreational activity from residents of new development within the SAC	Erosion and / or deterioration of habitat from over use of existing paths and tracks and formation of new informal paths	permanent	There is a well-developed path network already within the SAC for cyclists and walkers and additional informal paths are unlikely to be made as a consequence of the development.	**No effect**

Caledonian Forest	Increase in recreational activity from residents of new development within the SAC	Erosion of habitat from over use of existing paths and tracks and formation of new informal paths	permanent	There is a well-developed path network already within the SAC for cyclists and walkers and additional informal paths are unlikely to be made as a consequence of the development.	**No effect**

Loch Vaa SPA					
Qualifying Feature Affected	**Possible effect of development**	**Likely significant effect**	**Duration**	**Screening assessment**	**Screening outcome**
Slavonian grebe	Increase in recreational activity from residents of new development within the SPA	Disturbance to nesting sites and brood rearing	permanent	The new development is unlikely to generate a change in the established general recreational behaviour to the loch including the sensitive areas where the birds breed. Slavonian grebes can be disturbed by fishermen and bird watchers. The fishing on the loch is carefully managed by the Estate and fishermen are asked to avoid areas where the grebes nest. The site is also monitored by RSPB.	**No effect**

River Spey SAC					
Qualifying Feature Affected	**Possible effect of development**	**Likely significant effect**	**Duration**	**Screening assessment**	**Screening outcome**
Otter	Increase in recreational activity adjacent to the SAC from residents of new development	Disturbance to otters resting and breeding sites. Disturbance to otters feeding	permanent	The proximity of development to the SAC means impacts from users on new paths may be significant. Will include walkers and cyclists with dogs. Bridge proposals will also allow Aviemore residents to access eastern bank more easily.	**Likely significant effect alone**
	Construction activity close to water courses	Pollution from chemical leakage and siltation clouding water. Disturbance to holts and resting places from plant and workers	Construction period	There are two bridges associated with the development and other works close to watercourses. Footpaths may need to be constructed within 30m of Spey. Spillage of chemicals, physical damage and siltation may occur from operations close to river.	**Likely significant effect alone**
	Construction of road bridge over the Druie	Loss of supporting habitat	permanent	The bridge across the River Druie would result in the loss of a section of riparian woodland (approx. 0.2ha). This woodland supports the otter by proving foraging habitat as well as potential cover along the river banks. The loss is insignificant compared with the habitat available. It is therefore considered de minimis.	**No effect**
	Lighting to footbridge and areas close to	Light levels from footbridge over the River Spey may be high enough to prevent otter from using the area	permanent	Disturbance of otter could result from lighting of this bridge and off paths nearby.	**Likely significant effect alone**

	River Spey	upstream.			
	The design of the road bridge and construction activity close to water.	Disturbance to otters resting and breeding sites. Disturbance to otters feeding. The bridge acting as a barrier to the safe passage of otters.	permanent	The construction and bridge design has the potential to disturb otter and create a barrier to otter passage along the River Spey SAC but outwith the boundary of the Cairngorms SAC. The Otter in the Cairngorms SAC are considered to be part of the same population as that of the River Spey SAC which lies immediately downstream. As a consequence there is the potential these issues in the River Spey SAC population to affect that of the Cairngorms SAC.	**Likely significant effect alone**
Sea Lamprey	Construction activity close to water courses	Pollution from chemical leakage and siltation clouding water	Construction period	There are two bridges associated with the development and other works close to watercourses. Footpaths may need to be constructed within 30m of Spey. Spillage of chemicals, physical damage and siltation may occur from operations close to river.	**Likely significant effect alone**
	Lighting to footbridge and areas close to River Spey	Light levels from footbridge over the River Spey may be high enough to prevent Lamprey from migrating upstream to spawning area.	Permanent and/or during construction period	Evidence from Fredricks *et al.* (1996) suggests that under bridge lighting may have a detrimental effect upon lamprey by deterring migration at night. The footbridge is likely to require lighting. Footpaths are also likely to be near to river and there may be a requirement for this to be lit. Other construction activity may require lighting at some point.	**Likely significant effect alone**
	Pollution from waste water	Increased nutrient levels in the water may affect Sea Lamprey	permanent	Aviemore WWTW will take all wastewater from the development and this will have to comply with SEPA CAR regulations	**No Effect**
Freshwater Pearl Mussel	Pollution from waste water	Increase phosphorous levels in the water may affect	permanent	Aviemore WWTW will take all wastewater from the development and this will have to comply with	**No effect**

		FWPM		SEPA CAR regulations	
	Construction activity close to water courses	Pollution from chemical leakage and siltation clouding water	Construction period	There are two bridges associated with the development and other works close to watercourses. Footpaths may need to be constructed within 30m of Spey. Spillage of chemicals, physical damage and siltation may occur from operations close to river. This may smother and suffocate FWPM and/or poison them.	**Likely significant effect alone**
Atlantic Salmon	Construction activity close to water courses	Pollution from chemical leakage and siltation clouding water	Construction period	There are two bridges associated with the development and other works close to watercourses. Footpaths may need to be constructed within 30m of Spey. Spillage of chemicals, physical damage and siltation may occur from operations close to river. This may effect breeding and juvenile stage habitat and/or poison them.	**Likely significant effect alone**
	Construction of road bridge over the Druie	Loss of supporting habitat	permanent	The river embankment provides cover to salmon where woodland and small groups of trees overhang the river. In addition the trees can be a source of invertebrates falling into the water which is food for young fish. However the section where the road bridge is proposed does not have any overhanging trees.	**No effect**
	Pollution from waste water	Increased nutrient levels in the water may affect Atlantic Salmon	permanent	Aviemore WWTW will take all wastewater from the development and this will have to comply with SEPA CAR regulations	**No effect**
All qualifying features	Abstraction of water for domestic supply	Reduction in water level and volume leading to changes in temperature increases in chemical concentrations and	permanent	The capacity of the new Water Treatment Works near Aviemore has been sized to meet Scottish Water estimation of demand up to 2030. Scottish Water has projected an increase in abstraction	**No effect**

		altered flow dynamics.		from 7.1 million litres per day at 2008 levels to an estimated 10.25 million litres per day by 2030 based on increased development within the local area (this included all of ACM). The abstraction of 7.1 million litres per day had been calculated to result in a 7mm lowering of water level in a roughly 1 km stretch of the River Spey downstream of Kinakyle until flow levels were replenished by compensation flow from the River Druie which would then no longer be subject to abstraction. SNH concluded in 2009 there would be no impact on the integrity of populations of Atlantic salmon, sea lamprey, and freshwater pearl mussel in the River Spey from the scale of water level reductions suggested by projected water use at the Aviemore WTW. CNPA LDP AA also concluded no effect upon integrity of designation. in 2013. Current projections of demand have not changed.	

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Stage 5: In-combination effects

Regulation 48(1)a. is clear in setting out a requirement to include the assessment of the impacts of any development *in combination* with other plans and projects. This is to ensure that any cumulative and synergistic effects that are likely to be significant to the conservation objectives are identified.

In combination effects are where the minor residual effects (MRE) found at screening are assessed with other MREs for the plans and projects. If, together, they are considered significant then this will be taken into the appropriate assessment. Likely significant effects already identified at screening are tackled individually within the appropriate assessment

No MREs were assessed at the screening above and consequently there is no requirement for an in combination assessment.

Section Four

Stages 6–10 Assessment and Conclusions

Stage 6: Appropriate Assessment

The proposals have been screened in Stages 4. It was found that for some Natura sites there were likely significant effects upon the qualifying interests. Consequently the following appropriate assessment is required to ascertain the implications for each site, in view of their conservation objectives. The affected sites identified are:

- Abernethy Forest SPA
- Anagach Woods SPA
- Cairngorms SPA
- Craigmore Wood SPA
- Kinveachy Forest SPA
- Cairngorms SAC
- River Spey SAC

Each Natura site will be assessed against the development to see if there would be an adverse effect upon the site's integrity. The appropriate assessment stage considers the relevant information to inform this judgement. The Waddenzee ruling of the European courts (C-127/02 September 2004) sets out clear principles that have guided this assessment and judgement process. These include the need to take a precautionary approach (para '58) (examined further in Smyth EWCA civ 174 5th March 2015).

The integrity of a site is defined as: "the coherence of its ecological structure and function, across its whole area, which enables it to sustain the habitat, complex of habitats and/or the levels of populations of the species for which it was classified." (Scottish Government circular 6/1995 – revised June 2000)

Cairngorms SPA
Qualifying species and conservation status Capercaillie - 2011 Favourable Maintained
Conservation objectives To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed above) 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 the site Distribution and extend of habitats supporting the species Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species

No significant disturbance of the species

Effect on conservation objectives

Capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus*) – Likely significant effect alone; see table 3

Capercaillie

It was concluded in the screening stage that there is a likely significant effect alone arising from the development on the population of capercaillie within this SPA. The following section considers the nature of this effect against the conservation objectives.

Will the development not adversely affect the sites conservation objectives?

In this assessment, the implications of the planning application for the sites' conservation objectives are assessed in order to answer the question: "Can it be ascertained that the proposal will not adversely affect the integrity of the sites?"

The over-arching conservation objective of SPAs is to avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species, or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the sites is maintained. This over-arching conservation objective can be broken down into the following detailed elements:

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

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

In combination effects

As described at Stage 5 (screening); identification of in combination effects is required to identify where cumulative and synergistic effects are likely to be significant. The screening did not identify any in combination effect upon the Cairngorms SPA that are likely to be significant.

Assessment against the Conservation Objectives

Capercaillie

1. Population of capercaillie as a viable component of the sites and, 2. distribution of capercaillie within the Special Protection Area

The population of capercaillie as a viable component of the Cairngorms SPA, and the distribution within the SPA, could be affected by the proposal if any birds within the Badenoch & Strathspey capercaillie metapopulation were to be subject to significant disturbance from recreational use by people from An Camas Mor (see evidence detailed in Appendices 3 and 4). Given the vulnerability of the capercaillie population, deaths or reduced breeding success amongst even low numbers of birds could affect the viability of the population.

Similarly, the population of capercaillie as a viable component of the Cairngorms SPA, and the distribution within the SPA, could be affected by the proposal if recreational trampling by people from An Camas Mor resulted in a significant loss of habitats used by birds elsewhere within the Badenoch & Strathspey capercaillie metapopulation, or a change in habitat distribution. The impact assessment detailed at Appendix 5 in CNPA & SNH (2017) predicts off-path recreational use in various woodlands used by capercaillie, which could result in habitat loss along favoured routes over time. However, any loss along such routes would be minimal in scale compared to the overall area of capercaillie habitat, and would not change habitat distribution, so there will be no effects on the population of capercaillie as a viable component of the Cairngorms SPA, nor the distribution within the SPA, via this mechanism.

Conclusion: **These conservation objectives will be met if it is concluded that there will be no significant disturbance to capercaillie in the Badenoch & Strathspey metapopulation arising from this proposal. This question is considered in detail at 5 below.**

3. Distribution and extent of habitats supporting capercaillie and 4 structure, function and supporting processes of habitat supporting capercaillie

The proposed development lies out with the SPA and does not include any habitat used by capercaillie. There is therefore no effect upon the distribution, extent or function of supporting habitat.

It is concluded that these conservation objectives will be met.

5. No significant disturbance of capercaillie

There are three ways in which the proposed housing development could cause increased disturbance to capercaillie:

- Disturbance during construction.
- Disturbance arising directly from people living and working in An Camas Mor once it is occupied.
- Increased recreational disturbance by people from An Camas Mor

Disturbance during construction

It was concluded at screening in table 3 that there is no effect from this source.

Disturbance arising directly from people living and working in An Camas Mor once it is occupied

It was concluded at screening in table 3 that there is no effect from this source.

Increased recreational disturbance by people from An Camas Mor

CNPA and SNH (2017) predicted the distribution and approximate volume of additional recreational use that will arise from An Camas Mor in the "Report on predicted levels and patterns of recreational use of the outdoors by An Camas Mor residents" (CNPA 2016). This was compared with the distribution of capercaillie to assess where recreational disturbance which is likely to have a significant effect occurs (Appendix 5, CNPA & SNH, 2017).

Such significant recreational disturbance was predicted within the Cairngorms SPA in woods accessed from the recreational setting off points as listed in Appendix 5, CNPA & SNH (2017). Based on the evidence detailed in Appendix 3, significant disturbance within these woods is likely to

have a direct effect upon the species within the SPA.

These woods include:

Woodlands around Drumintoul Lodge, Moormore, Allt Druidh south of Coylumbridge and Loch an Eilein Sluggan Bridge, Badaguish, and North Loch Morlich Woods, Ryvoan, Cairngorms Bridge, 'Piccadilly' area, Rothiemurchus Lodge, South Loch Morlich woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore Forest and Meall a Bhuachaille.

In addition; significant disturbance to capercaillie from ACM residents within other SPA and non-SPA woodlands is predicted (CNPA & SNH, 2017). These woods are also listed in Table 4 of Appendix 5. Significant disturbance to any part of the local metapopulation could undermine the conservation objectives of Cairngorms SPA (Appendix 4).

Conclusion: This conservation objective will not be met, mitigation is therefore required.

Mitigation

Capercaillie

From the assessment against the conservation objectives is it apparent that the issue of concern is significant recreational disturbance from the occupants of the development. This finding is consistent with those of the HRA for the draft Local Development Plan. Accordingly mitigation measures must address this issue and this can be delivered though the production of a recreation management plan (RMP) for capercaillie.

The 2013 HRA for the ACM Planning Permission in Principle identified 10 criteria for a RMP for the development. These were devised by CNPA in consultation with SNH and were designed to provide a robust and adaptable framework for the development of a RMP that will give sufficient certainty of outcomes regarding the integrity of SPAs. This was granted planning permission on 21/6/2013. These are:

- **Criterion 1 -** Current and estimated recreational use and provision
- **Criterion 2 -** Best practice mitigation measures
- **Criterion 3 -** Location and time-specific
- **Criterion 4 -** Paths and peoples' use
- **Criterion 5 -** Community engagement and support
- **Criterion 6 -** Alternative recreational provision
- **Criterion 7 -** Any Screening measures, if required, may include planting and vegetation management
- **Criterion 8 -** Practical enforcement
- **Criterion 9 -** Phasing: The RMP must identify how mitigation measures will be effective at the appropriate time in line with the construction and development phasing.

- **Criterion 10 -** Monitoring, review and adaptive management.

CNPA and SNH (2017) assessed the predicted distribution of recreation and the distribution of capercaillie around An Camas Mor and identified the mitigation needed to avoid significant recreational disturbance to capercaillie from An Camas Mor. This mitigation is designed to meet the criteria above. The CNPA & SNH (2017) report specifies outcomes and measures that must be addressed within a Recreational Management Plan to avoid significant recreational disturbance to capercaillie. It is the mitigation identified within this report that forms the basis of the mitigation required later in this HRA to avoid an adverse effect on site integrity. There are two components to the mitigation required:

1. **Recreational infrastructure on and immediately around the development site; and**

2. **Specific off site mitigation for direct and indirect effects on other SPA's**

The mitigation measures, and the outcomes they need to deliver, are specified on Page 4 (measures required on and around the development site) and in Table 4 (off-site measures) of CNPA and SNH (2017). They are repeated below for clarity:

Recreational infrastructure on and immediately around the development site (CNPA & SNH, 2017, Page 4)

Good on-site recreational opportunities will allow residents to meet as many of their local recreational needs as possible, on or around the site, and include:

a. Dog walking: routes that offer a wide range of experiences including long/medium/short distances; formal / informal characters; woodland / open settings; attractive features of interest; on and off-lead exercise; popular / quiet. See also guidance in *Jenkinson 2013, Planning for dog ownership in new developments: reducing conflict – adding value. Hampshire County Council*
b. Areas suitable for off-lead dog exercise within that network above
c. Areas attractive for informal children's play such as den-making and constructing informal cycle trails, some of which should be in woodland
d. Walking, cycling, running, cross-country skiing: routes offering a similar range of experiences as listed above for dog walking
e. Formal mountain bike skills training area to reduce the likelihood of an informal development within sensitive woodlands
f. Dedicated Ranger service to deliver the required activity such as awareness raising and engagement activity within the ACM site. Staff requirement is for 1.0 FTE. See note on page 17 for more information.
g. Ranger base facility to house the Rangers in f. above

Specific off site mitigation for direct and indirect effects on other SPA's

All the measures below are described in CNPA and SNH 2017 appendix 2 (this is included in full as appendix 5 below). It is important to note that references in the required outcomes to no increase in recreational activity are specific to the residents of An Camas Mor alone.

A. Rothiemurchus

(Woodlands around Atnahatnich farm, Guislich Farm and Drumintoul Lodge, Moormore, Allt Druidh south of Coylumbridge and Loch an Eilein)

Required outcomes:

1 Ensure there are more easily accessible and attractive routes and areas for dog walking and informal off-path activities for ACM residents, so that they avoid recreational use of this area.
2 Prevent additional impacts of mountain biking on sensitive sites by ACM residents
3 Reduce potential for occasional recreation use that is likely to cause disturbance to capercaillie.

Mitigation Measures:

- Prevention of informal parking at track and access entrances to Drumintoul lodge and Atnahatnich farm
- Awareness raising, promoting alternative locations for recreation and avoiding recreation in this sensitive areas through off site measures, (eg media/leaflets Ranger events targeted at ACM residents)
- Ranger presence during key season in vicinity of sensitive areas
- Alternative off-lead dog walking – in ACM and Rothiemurchus Estate area
- New path provision in Loch Pityoulish area to provide suitable alternative walking area to east of ACM (drawing potential visits away from the woodlands around the lodge)
- Alternative Downhill Mountain biking on Pityoulish hill and woods (to mitigate against increased pressure on Kinveachy, Sluggan and Glenmore).
- Path closure in vicinity of Lodge from Coylum Road and reconsidering the link proposed in indicative masterplan.
- Diversionary car parking in vicinity of Loch Pityoulish linking to new paths in area
- Removal of new informal paths within sensitive parts of this area if they develop
- Making other local coniferous woodlands in and around ACM more easily accessible and attractive for sheltered walks and informal play, informal bike trails, etc.
- Diversionary Car Parking at Loch an Eilein. Free parking or equivalent measures for ACM residents early mornings and late in afternoons to provide alternative dog walking away from capercaillie sensitive areas

B. Glenmore

(Woodlands around Sluggan Pass, Badaguish, and North Loch Morlich Woods, Ryvoan, Cairngorms Bridge, 'Piccadilly' area, Rothiemurchus Lodge, South Loch Morlich woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore Forest and Meall a Bhuachaille)

Required Outcomes:

1. No off-path recreational activities, nor development of new informal routes.

2. Improved screening between the main routes and areas important for capercaillie.

3. No net increase in use of paths and tracks that are currently lightly visited.

4. No increase in mountain biking away from the main forest tracks and promoted routes at the Sluggan and Glenmore

5. Revegetation of the unused path through Blar Ban and Glenmore.

Measures:

- Removal of any new informal mountain bike tracks that evolve – especially to south of Badaguish, Sluggan Pass and within 1km of known lek sites or core brood rearing areas.
- Proactive management to make some areas, including Sluggan Pass and South Loch Morlich

Woods, unattractive for mountain biking eg facilitating wind blow, and monitoring and removal of informal mountain biking trails
- Restrict parking at Sled-dog centre, Badaguish road end and Milton end of Sluggan pass
- Complete blocking of old layby and timber loading area and other informal parking areas on Ski road
- Improved screening in woods south of Badaguish/Sluggan tracks, Glenmore Forest and south Loch Morlich Woods from users on paths through active woodland management
- Awareness raising and promote responsible access through off site measures, (eg media/leaflets Ranger events targeted at ACM residents)
- Promotion of alternative dog walking locations
- Removal of trees that have fallen across River Luineag to avoid facilitating access to sensitive areas
- On site ranger presence during key season
- Management for continued revegetation of 'Hidden Path' across River Luineag and track through Blar Ban, and liaise with OS re not marking it on maps
- Management for revegetation of low use dead end tracks in upper Glenmore/Allt Ban and South Morlich to discourage use
- Diversionary parking – Measures to attract ACM residents away from most sensitive car parking area at early and later parts of the day. Any such measure should be in line with final Glenmore Visitor Improvement Plan

C: Inshriach

(Thieves Road, Inshriach Forest to Feshiebridge, Tracks to Inshriach House)

Required Outcomes:

1. No off-path recreational activities, nor development of new informal routes within this area.
2. Residents & visitors keep to the main promoted existing routes in this area, and dogs do not stray off the routes.
3. Improved screening between the main routes and areas important for capercaillie.
4. No increase in dog walking.
5. No increase in mountain biking beyond the main forest tracks and promoted routes.

Measures:

- Awareness raising and promote responsible access through off site measures, (eg media/leaflets Ranger events targeted at ACM residents)
- On site ranger presence during key season especially on Thieves road and Inshriach informal car parking areas.
- Management of car parking along the B970 to ensure no increase in level of use especially at sensitive times of year and day. for example Dalnavert , Feshiebruach car park and Inshriach House informal car parking areas redesigned to limit capacity
- Improved screening through vegetation management between paths and leks
- Signage at Inshriach Nursery Car park (public) to reinforce it is for customers
- Path management for seasonal diversions onto parallel routes, away from key leks
- Monitoring and removal of any informal mountain biking trails that evolve

D: Garten Woods

(Osprey Centre, Garten woods)

Required Outcomes:

1. No off-path recreational activities, nor development of new informal routes within this area.
2. Residents & visitors keep to the main promoted existing routes in this area, and dogs do not

stray off the routes.

3. Improved screening between the main routes and areas important for capercaillie.

4. Dog walkers habitually only use routes that lie close to public roads in this area.

5. No net increase in use of paths and tracks that are currently lightly visited.

Measures:

- Awareness raising and promote responsible access through off site measures, (eg media/leaflets Ranger events targeted at ACM residents)
- On site ranger presence during key season at Garten Woods and Loch Garten car parks
- Possible closure of informal laybys opposite Garten Woods car park
- Signage to direct track users onto suitable tracks during the sensitive seasons, especially those with dogs
- Alternative track for dog walking
- Management for revegetation of specific paths between car park and Loch Mallachie to reduce recreational use in sensitive areas
- Improved screening to Loch Mallachie routes by vegetation management

E: Kinveachy

Kinveachy Face including the track along fence line to the SPA)

Required Outcomes:

1. No net increase in use of downhill mountain bike trails within disturbance distances of areas used by capercaillie, as a consequence of use by ACM residents.

Measures:

- Site specific Awareness raising and promote responsible access through off site measures aimed specifically at downhill bikers, (eg media/leaflets / social media Ranger events targeted at ACM residents and mountain bikers)
- Monitoring and removal of informal mountain biking trails above the fence to the SPA
- Monitoring and forest management to discourage new trails close to clusters of capercaillie records

F: Forest Lodge, Abernethy Forest

Required Outcomes:

1. No off-path recreational activities, nor development of new informal routes within this area.
2. Residents & visitors keep to the main promoted existing routes in this area, and dogs do not stray off the routes.
3. Improved screening between the main routes and areas important for capercaillie.

Measures:

- Site specific Awareness raising and promote responsible access through off site measures (eg media/leaflets / social media Ranger events targeted at ACM residents)
- Improved screening to selected tracks by vegetation management
- On site ranger presence during key season in Forest Lodge area
- Signage to direct track users onto suitable tracks during the sensitive seasons, especially those with dogs
- potential changes to path network to ensure adequate network but avoiding most sensitive

areas and possible seasonal diversions
- Consider options to limit car parking opportunities at Forest Lodge

G: Uath Lochan Woods

Uath Lochan Woods between Feshiebridge and Craig Dhubh, including Coranstilmore and Coranstilbeg

Required Outcomes:

1. No off-path recreational activities, nor development of new informal routes within this area.
2. Residents & visitors keep to the main promoted existing routes in this area, and dogs do not stray off the routes.
3. Improved screening between the main routes and areas important for capercaillie.

Measures:

- Site specific Awareness raising and promote responsible access through off site measures (eg media/leaflets / social media Ranger events targeted at ACM residents)
- Improved screening to selected tracks by vegetation management
- On site ranger presence during key season
- Signage to direct track users onto suitable tracks during the sensitive seasons, especially those with dogs

Other sites within search area

Slochd and Inverlaidnan woods, Beananach Woods, Woods to upper Dulnain, Baddengorm woods, Tulloch Road,

Glen Feshie Lodge, Mondhuie, Invereshie,

- In the light of the outcome of the Impact Assessment at Annex 5, it was not considered necessary to have specific interventions to any of the more distant sites other than seasonal targeted ranger activity. However it was considered necessary that these sites were included within the wider package of awareness raising and promote responsible access together with the ACM focused Ranger Activities.

Delivery and duration of mitigation

Criteria 9 and 10 above identify that there is an important temporal element to implementation of the mitigation measures. They also require that an adaptive approach is taken within the plan. This is to allow changes to be made to the mitigation over time to ensure that it continues to effectively deliver the required outcomes. The RMP must identify mechanisms for this adaptive management including detailing how recreation patterns will be monitored; arrangements for reviewing the results and determining and implementing any changes in management needed; arrangements for monitoring the integrity and effectiveness of mitigation measures and their long-term maintenance. Any adaptations to the mitigation measures arising from monitoring and review must be approved by CNPA, following consultation with SNH, prior to implementation. The RMP itself will also need to be subject to an HRA prior to approval, to ensure there will be no adverse effects on the integrity of any Natura sites from implementing the mitigation measures.

The mitigation report (CNPA and SNH 2017) sets out the requirements for the delivery of the mitigation described. It identifies that the measures are required at the outset of the development. This is even where recreational disturbance effects may not be seen until later phases. The key

reasons are to ensure the habituation of residents to non-disturbing recreation patterns, and to allow mitigation measures composed of natural vegetation to grow to a point where they are effective. The RMP must include delivery mechanism for the mitigation. All consents and provision for the costs of delivery must be provided at the point of approval for the masterplan to allow the CNPA to have sufficient certainty for the purposes of the HRA at that point.

The mitigation report was produced with the assumption that there would be a footbridge across the River Spey between ACM and Aviemore either at the outset or by the end of phase 1 (200 homes). This assumption is based upon key stakeholders understanding at the time of the report. This was not included within the 2014 consent however it is a requirement for the successful delivery of mitigation. It is required at the stage noted above, for the avoidance of doubt this is before 200 dwellings are occupied. However it would be better delivered at the outset of construction. This is in order to give residents access to good recreation opportunities around Aviemore, away from woods used by capercaillie, which lie close to the east of the ACM site. Delivery of this footbridge is an additional mitigation requirement and must be secured through a condition to any consent or other agreed arrangements

The mitigation will need to be delivered effectively for as long as the new settlement is occupied or until such point as CNPA, following consultation with SNH, determines that the development no longer poses a risk to the integrity of the capercaillie SPAs.

It must be a condition of any consent that the master plan must include a recreation management plan that contains all the mitigation measures detailed above, or others that are proven to be at least equally effective in providing the required outcomes as specified in CNPA and SNH (2017). In addition the footbridge over the River Spey must be delivered within the timescales described above. There must be certainty on the delivery of these items within the timescales and for the duration described in this section. Each element of the mitigation must be demonstrably in place or legally bound to be planned and delivered prior to any construction commencing on site such that it avoids an adverse effect on Natura site integrity.

Minor residual effects

The mitigation Report (CNPA and SNH 2017) is designed to ensure no effect on the conservation objectives. The monitoring and adaptive management element is to ensure this continues in perpetuity. There are no minor residual effects.

Conclusion on site integrity

Provided this application is only approved subject to submission of a satisfactory recreational management plan that commits to delivery of the mitigation outcomes and measures (or alternative measures to deliver the same outcomes) identified on Page 4 (measures required on and around the development site) and in Table 4 (off-site measures) of CNPA and SNH (2017), with the addition of the footbridge over the River Spey as described above, there will be no adverse effect upon the integrity of the Cairngorms SPA.

Abernethy Forest SPA

Qualifying species and conservation status

Capercaillie – 2009 Favourable Maintained

Conservation objectives

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed above) 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 the site
Distribution and extend of habitats supporting the species
Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species
No significant disturbance of the species

Is the operation likely to have a significant effect on the qualifying interest? Consider each qualifying interest in relation to the conservation objectives

Capercaillie –Likely significant effect alone – see table 5

Capercaillie

It was concluded in the screening stage that there is a likely significant effect alone arising from the development on the population of capercaillie within this SPA. The following section considers the nature of this effect against the conservation objectives.

Will the development not adversely affect the sites conservation objectives?

In this assessment, the implications of the planning application for the sites' conservation objectives are assessed in order to answer the question: "Can it be ascertained that the proposal will not adversely affect the integrity of the sites?"

The over-arching conservation objective of SPAs is to avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species, or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the sites is maintained. This over-arching conservation objective can be broken down into the following detailed elements:

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

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

In combination effects

The screening did not identify any in combination effect upon the Abernethy Forest SPA.

Assessment against the Conservation Objectives

Capercaillie

1. Population of capercaillie as a viable component of the sites and 2. distribution of capercaillie within the Special Protection Areas

The population of capercaillie as a viable component of Abernethy Forest SPA, and the distribution within the SPA, could be affected by the proposal if any birds within the Badenoch & Strathspey capercaillie metapopulation were to be subject to significant disturbance from recreational use by people from An Camas Mor (see evidence detailed in Appendices 3 and 4). Given the vulnerability of the capercaillie population, deaths or reduced breeding success amongst even low numbers of birds could affect the viability of the population.

Similarly, the population of capercaillie as a viable component of Abernethy Forest SPA, and the distribution within the SPA, could be affected by the proposal if recreational trampling by people from An Camas Mor resulted in a significant loss of habitats used by birds elsewhere within the Badenoch & Strathspey capercaillie metapopulation, or a change in habitat distribution. The impact assessment detailed at Appendix 5 in CNPA & SNH (2017) predicts off-path recreational use in various woodlands used by capercaillie, which could result in habitat loss along favoured routes over time. However, any loss along such routes would be minimal in scale compared to the overall area of capercaillie habitat, and would not change habitat distribution, so there will be no effects on the population of capercaillie as a viable component of Abernethy Forest SPA, nor the distribution within the SPA, via this mechanism.

Conclusion: These conservation objectives will be met if it is concluded that there will be no significant disturbance to capercaillie in the Badenoch & Strathspey metapopulation arising from this proposal. This question is considered in detail at 5 below.

3. Distribution and extent of habitats supporting capercaillie and 4. structure, function and supporting processes of habitat supporting capercaillie

The proposed development lies out with the SPA and does not include any habitat used by capercaillie. There is therefore no effect upon the distribution, extent or function of supporting habitat.

It is concluded that these conservation objectives will be met.

5. No significant disturbance of capercaillie

There are three ways in which the proposed housing development could cause increased disturbance to capercaillie:

- Disturbance during construction.
- Disturbance arising directly from people living and working in An Camas Mor once it is occupied.
- Increased recreational disturbance by people from An Camas Mor

Disturbance during construction

It was concluded at screening in table 3 that there is no effect from this source.

Disturbance arising directly from people living and working in An Camas Mor once it is occupied

It was concluded at screening in table 3 that there is no effect from this source.

Increased recreational disturbance by people from An Camas Mor

The Abernethy Forest SPA is a large area and the distribution of capercaillie within it is uneven. However there are areas that are particularly well inhabited by the birds and some of these areas also contain key path routes well used by visitors.

CNPA and SNH (2017) predicted the distribution and approximate volume of additional recreational use that will arise from An Camas Mor in the "Report on predicted levels and patterns of recreational use of the outdoors by An Camas Mor residents" (Streeter-Smith 2016). This was compared with the distribution of capercaillie to assess where significant recreational disturbance is likely (Appendix 5, CNPA & SNH, 2017).

Significant recreational disturbance was predicted within Abernethy Forest SPA in woods accessed from the recreational setting off points as listed in Appendix 5, CNPA & SNH (2017). Based on the evidence detailed in Appendix 3, significant disturbance within these woods is likely to have a direct effect upon the species within the SPA. The parts of the SPA predicted to be affected are the area around Forest Lodge and Garten Woods.

In addition, significant disturbance to capercaillie from ACM residents within other SPA and non-SPA woodlands is predicted (CNPA & SNH, 2017). These woods are also listed in Table 4 of Appendix 5. Significant disturbance to any part of the local metapopulation could undermine the conservation objectives of Abernethy Forest SPA (Appendix 4).

Conclusion: This conservation objective will not be met, mitigation is therefore required.

Mitigation

The nature of the metapopulation in Badenoch and Strathspey means that mitigation measures identified in CNPA and SNH 2017 is required equally for all five capercaillie SPAs addressed in this appraisal. This is detailed in the mitigation section for the Cairngorms SPA above. These measures will therefore also cover the mitigation required to meet the conservation objectives of Abernethy Forest SPA.

Minor residual effects

The mitigation Report (CNPA and SNH 2017) is designed to ensure no effect on the conservation objectives. The monitoring and adaptive management element is to ensure this continues in perpetuity. There are no minor residual effects. There is no minor residual effect remaining on this site.

Conclusion on site integrity

Provided this application is only approved subject to submission of a satisfactory recreational management plan that commits to delivery of the mitigation outcomes and measures (or alternative measures to deliver the same outcomes) identified on Page 4 (measures required on and around the development site) and in Table 4 (off-site measures) of CNPA and SNH (2017), with the addition of the footbridge over the River Spey as per the Cairngorms SPA, there will be no adverse effect upon the integrity of

the Abernethy Forest SPA.

Anagach woods SPA

Qualifying species and conservation status

Capercaillie (Tetrao urogallus); Unfavourable declining 2015.

Conservation objectives

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed above) 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 the site
Distribution and extend of habitats supporting the species
Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species
No significant disturbance of the species

Assessment against the Conservation Objectives

Capercaillie

1. Population of capercaillie as a viable component of the sites and 2. distribution of capercaillie within the Special Protection Areas

The population of capercaillie as a viable component of Anagach Woods SPA, and the distribution within the SPA, could be affected by the proposal if any birds within the Badenoch & Strathspey capercaillie metapopulation were to be subject to significant disturbance from recreational use by people from An Camas Mor (see evidence detailed in Appendices 3 and 4). Given the vulnerability of the capercaillie population, deaths or reduced breeding success amongst even low numbers of birds could affect the viability of the population.

It is known that the population of capercaillie within the woods has very low productivity. The numbers of birds within the woods is low and in decline. It depends largely upon the dispersal of birds from other areas. This potentially makes it particularly vulnerable to secondary effects arising from a reduced immigration from other parts of the Strath.

Similarly, the population of capercaillie as a viable component of Anagach Woods SPA, and the distribution within the SPA, could be affected by the proposal if recreational trampling by people from An Camas Mor resulted in a significant loss of habitats used by birds elsewhere within the Badenoch & Strathspey capercaillie metapopulation, or a change in habitat distribution. The impact assessment detailed at Appendix 5 in CNPA & SNH (2017) predicts off-path recreational use in various woodlands used by capercaillie, which could result in habitat loss along favoured routes over time. However, any loss along such routes would be minimal in scale compared to the overall area

of capercaillie habitat, and would not change habitat distribution, so there will be no effects on the population of capercaillie as a viable component of Anagach Woods SPA, nor the distribution within the SPA, via this mechanism.

Conclusion: These conservation objectives will be met if it is concluded that there will be no significant disturbance to capercaillie in the Badenoch & Strathspey metapopulation arising from this proposal. This question is considered in detail at 5 below.

3. Distribution and extent of habitats supporting capercaillie and 4. structure, function and supporting processes of habitat supporting capercaillie

The proposed development lies out with the SPA and does not include any habitat used by capercaillie. There is therefore no effect upon the distribution, extent or function of supporting habitat.

It is concluded that these conservation objectives will be met.

5. No significant disturbance of capercaillie

There are three ways in which the proposed housing development could cause increased disturbance to capercaillie:

- Disturbance during construction.
- Disturbance arising directly from people living and working in An Camas Mor once it is occupied.
- Increased recreational disturbance by people from An Camas Mor.

Disturbance during construction

It was concluded at screening in table 3 that there is no effect from this source.

Disturbance arising directly from people living and working in An Camas Mor once it is occupied

It was concluded at screening in table 3 that there is no effect from this source.

Increased recreational disturbance by people from An Camas Mor

CNPA and SNH (2017) predicted the distribution and approximate volume of additional recreational use that will arise from An Camas Mor in the "Report on predicted levels and patterns of recreational use of the outdoors by An Camas Mor residents" (Streeter-Smith 2016). This was compared with the distribution of capercaillie to assess where significant recreational disturbance is likely (Appendix 5, CNPA & SNH, 2017).

This assessment concluded that there would not be increased recreational disturbance in Anagach Woods, largely due to the distance from An Camas Mor. Hence at screening in table 3 it was concluded that there is no direct effect from this source.

However, significant recreational disturbance to capercaillie from ACM residents within other SPA and non-SPA woodlands is predicted (CNPA & SNH, 2017). These woods are listed in Table 4 of Appendix 5. Significant disturbance to any part of the local metapopulation could undermine the conservation objectives of Anagach Woods SPA (Appendix 4).

Conclusion: This conservation objective will not be met, mitigation is therefore

required.

Mitigation

The nature of the metapopulation in Badenoch and Strathspey means that mitigation measures identified in CNPA and SNH 2017 is required equally for all five capercaillie SPAs addressed in this appraisal. This is detailed in the mitigation section for the Cairngorms SPA above. These measures will therefore also cover the mitigation required to meet the conservation objectives of Anagach Woods SPA.

Minor residual effects

The mitigation Report (CNPA and SNH 2017) is designed to ensure no effect on the conservation objectives. The monitoring and adaptive management element is to ensure this continues in perpetuity. There are no minor residual effects. There are no minor residual effects remaining upon this site.

Conclusion on site integrity

Provided this application is only approved subject to submission of a satisfactory recreational management plan that commits to delivery of the mitigation outcomes and measures (or alternative measures to deliver the same outcomes) identified on Page 4 (measures required on and around the development site) and in Table 4 (off-site measures) of CNPA and SNH (2017), with the addition of the footbridge over the River Spey as per the Cairngorms SPA, there will be no adverse effect upon the integrity of the Anagach woods SPA.

Craigmore wood SPA

Qualifying species and conservation status

Capercaillie (Tetrao urogallus); unfavourable declining 2015

Conservation objectives

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed above) 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 the site
Distribution and extend of habitats supporting the species

Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species
No significant disturbance of the species

Capercaillie – Likely significant effect alone; table 3

Assessment against the Conservation Objectives
Capercaillie

1. Population of capercaillie as a viable component of the sites and 2. distribution of capercaillie within the Special Protection Areas

The population of capercaillie as a viable component of Craigmore Wood SPA, and the distribution within the SPA, could be affected by the proposal if any birds within the Badenoch & Strathspey capercaillie metapopulation were to be subject to significant disturbance from recreational use by people from An Camas Mor (see evidence detailed in Appendices 3 and 4). Given the vulnerability of the capercaillie population, deaths or reduced breeding success amongst even low numbers of birds could affect the viability of the population.

It is known that the population of capercaillie within the wood is low and in decline. It depends largely upon the dispersal of birds from other areas. This potentially makes it particularly vulnerable to secondary effects arising from a reduced immigration from other parts of the Strath.

Similarly, the population of capercaillie as a viable component of Craigmore Wood SPA, and the distribution within the SPA, could be affected by the proposal if recreational trampling by people from An Camas Mor resulted in a significant loss of habitats used by birds elsewhere within the Badenoch & Strathspey capercaillie metapopulation, or a change in habitat distribution. The impact assessment detailed at Appendix 5 in CNPA & SNH (2017) predicts off-path recreational use in various woodlands used by capercaillie, which could result in habitat loss along favoured routes over time. However, any loss along such routes would be minimal in scale compared to the overall area of capercaillie habitat, and would not change habitat distribution, so there will be no effects on the population of capercaillie as a viable component of Craigmore Wood SPA, nor the distribution within the SPA, via this mechanism.

Conclusion: These conservation objectives will be met if it is concluded that there will be no significant disturbance to capercaillie in the Badenoch & Strathspey metapopulation arising from this proposal. This question is considered in detail at 5 below.

3. Distribution and extent of habitats supporting capercaillie and 4. structure, function and supporting processes of habitat supporting capercaillie

The proposed development lies out with the SPA and does not include any habitat used by capercaillie. There is therefore no effect upon the distribution, extent or function of supporting habitat.

It is concluded that these conservation objectives will be met.

5. No significant disturbance of capercaillie

There are three ways in which the proposed housing development could cause increased disturbance to capercaillie:

- Disturbance during construction.
- Disturbance arising directly from people living and working in An Camas Mor once it is occupied.
- Increased recreational disturbance by people from An Camas Mor.

Disturbance during construction

It was concluded at screening in table 3 that there is no effect from this source.

Disturbance arising directly from people living and working in An Camas Mor once it is occupied

It was concluded at screening in table 3 that there is no effect from this source.

Increased recreational disturbance by people from An Camas Mor

CNPA and SNH (2017) predicted the distribution and approximate volume of additional recreational use that will arise from An Camas Mor in the "Report on predicted levels and patterns of recreational use of the outdoors by An Camas Mor residents" (Streeter-Smith 2016). This was compared with the distribution of capercaillie to assess where significant recreational disturbance is likely (Appendix 5, CNPA & SNH, 2017).

This assessment concluded that there would not be increased recreational disturbance in Craigmore Wood SPA, largely due to the distance from An Camas Mor and relatively unattractive recreational opportunities. Hence at screening in table 3 it was concluded that there is no direct effect from this source.

However, significant recreational disturbance to capercaillie from ACM residents within other SPA and non-SPA woodlands is predicted (CNPA & SNH, 2017). These woods are listed in Table 4 of Appendix 5. Significant disturbance to any part of the local metapopulation could undermine the conservation objectives of Craigmore Wood SPA (Appendix 4).

Conclusion: This conservation objective will not be met, mitigation is therefore required.

Mitigation

The nature of the metapopulation in Badenoch and Strathspey means that mitigation measures identified in CNPA and SNH 2017 is required equally for all five capercaillie SPAs addressed in this appraisal. This is detailed in the mitigation section for the Cairngorms SPA above. These measures will therefore also cover the mitigation required to meet the conservation objectives of Craigmore Wood SPA.

Minor residual effects

The mitigation Report (CNPA and SNH 2017) is designed to ensure no effect on the conservation objectives. The monitoring and adaptive management element is to ensure this continues in perpetuity. There are no minor residual effects. There are no minor residual effects remaining upon this site.

Conclusion on site integrity

Provided this application is only approved subject to submission of a satisfactory recreational management plan that commits to delivery of the mitigation outcomes and measures (or alternative measures to deliver the same outcomes) identified on Page 4 (measures required on and around the development site) and in Table 4 (off-site

measures) of CNPA and SNH (2017), with the addition of the footbridge over the River Spey as per the Cairngorms SPA, there will be no adverse effect upon the integrity of the Craigmore Wood SPA.

Kinveachy Forest SPA

Qualifying species and conservation status

Capercaillie (Tetrao urogallus); 2008 Favourable maintained

Conservation objectives

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed above) 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 the site
Distribution and extend of habitats supporting the species
Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species
No significant disturbance of the species

Capercaillie – Likely significant effect alone; see table 3

Assessment against the Conservation Objectives

Capercaillie

1. Population of capercaillie as a viable component of the sites and 2. distribution of capercaillie within the Special Protection Areas

The population of capercaillie as a viable component of Kinveachy Forest SPA, and the distribution within the SPA, could be affected by the proposal if any birds within the Badenoch & Strathspey capercaillie metapopulation were to be subject to significant disturbance from recreational use by people from An Camas Mor (see evidence detailed in Appendices 3 and 4). Given the vulnerability of the capercaillie population, deaths or reduced breeding success amongst even low numbers of birds could affect the viability of the population.

Similarly, the population of capercaillie as a viable component of Kinveachy Forest SPA, and the distribution within the SPA, could be affected by the proposal if recreational trampling by people from An Camas Mor resulted in a significant loss of habitats used by birds elsewhere within the Badenoch & Strathspey capercaillie metapopulation, or a change in habitat distribution. The impact assessment detailed at Appendix 5 in CNPA & SNH (2017) predicts off-path recreational use in various woodlands used by capercaillie, which could result in habitat loss along favoured routes over time. However, any loss along such routes would be minimal in scale compared to the overall area of capercaillie habitat, and would not change habitat distribution, so there will be no effects on the

population of capercaillie as a viable component of Kinveachy Forest SPA, nor the distribution within the SPA, via this mechanism.

Conclusion: These conservation objectives will be met if it is concluded that there will be no significant disturbance to capercaillie in the Badenoch & Strathspey metapopulation arising from this proposal. This question is considered in detail at 5 below.

3. Distribution and extent of habitats supporting capercaillie and 4. structure, function and supporting processes of habitat supporting capercaillie

The proposed development lies out with the SPA and does not include any habitat used by capercaillie. There is therefore no effect upon the distribution, extent or function of supporting habitat.

It is concluded that these conservation objectives will be met.

5. No significant disturbance of capercaillie

There are three ways in which the proposed housing development could cause increased disturbance to capercaillie:

- Disturbance during construction.
- Disturbance arising directly from people living and working in An Camas Mor once it is occupied.
- Increased recreational disturbance by people from An Camas Mor.

Disturbance during construction

It was concluded at screening in table 3 that there is no effect from this source.

Disturbance arising directly from people living and working in An Camas Mor once it is occupied

It was concluded at screening in table 3 that there is no effect from this source.

Increased recreational disturbance by people from An Camas Mor

The Kinveachy Forest SPA is a large area most of which is only lightly used for recreation.

CNPA and SNH (2017) predicted the distribution and approximate volume of additional recreational use that will arise from An Camas Mor in the "Report on predicted levels and patterns of recreational use of the outdoors by An Camas Mor residents" (Streeter-Smith 2016). This was compared with the distribution of capercaillie to assess where significant recreational disturbance is likely (Appendix 5, CNPA & SNH, 2017).

Significant recreational disturbance was predicted within a small part of Kinveachy Forest SPA, Inverlaidnan woods, accessed from the recreational setting off points as listed in Appendix 5, CNPA & SNH (2017). Based on the evidence detailed in Appendix 3, significant disturbance within these woods is likely to have a direct effect upon the species within the SPA.

In addition, significant disturbance to capercaillie from ACM residents within other SPA and non-SPA woodlands is predicted (CNPA & SNH, 2017). These woods are also listed in Table 4 of Appendix 5. Significant disturbance to any part of the local metapopulation could undermine the conservation objectives of Kinveachy Forest SPA (Appendix 4).

Conclusion: This conservation objective will not be met, mitigation is therefore required.

Mitigation

The nature of the metapopulation in Badenoch and Strathspey means that mitigation measures identified in CNPA and SNH 2017 is required equally for all five capercaillie SPAs addressed in this appraisal. This is detailed in the mitigation section for the Cairngorms SPA above. These measures will therefore also cover the mitigation required to meet the conservation objectives of Kinveachy Forest SPA.

Minor residual effects

The mitigation Report (CNPA and SNH 2017) is designed to ensure no effect on the conservation objectives. The monitoring and adaptive management element is to ensure this continues in perpetuity. There are no minor residual effects. There is no minor residual effect remaining upon this site.

Conclusion on site integrity

Provided this application is only approved subject to submission of a satisfactory recreational management plan that commits to delivery of the mitigation outcomes and measures (or alternative measures to deliver the same outcomes) identified on Page 4 (measures required on and around the development site) and in Table 4 (off-site measures) of CNPA and SNH (2017), with the addition of the footbridge over the River Spey as described above, there will be no adverse effect upon the integrity of the Kinveachy Forest SPA.

Cairngorms SAC

Qualifying habitats and conservation status

Acidic scree, 2007. Favourable maintained
Alpine and subalpine heaths, 2007. Unfavourable no change
Blanket bog, 2004. Unfavourable no change
Dry heaths, 2007. Unfavourable no change
Plants in crevices on acid rocks, 2007. Favourable maintained
Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath, 2007. Unfavourable no change
(*indicates priority habitat)

Qualifying species and conservation status

Otter, 2011, Unfavourable declining

Conservation objectives

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats (listed above) 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 the site
Structure and function of the habitat
Process 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

Approved Woodland Expansion - Cairngorms SAC

A paper detailing a rationale and limits of acceptable change for favouring native woodland expansion in the Cairngorms SAC over a 20 year period was approved by the Scottish Government in 2010. The paper provides detail of agreed limits of change to certain habitats, when considered with other proposals. This now forms part of the conservation objectives for this site.

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed above) 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 the site
Distribution and extend of habitats supporting the species
Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species
No significant disturbance of the species

Effect on conservation objectives

Qualifying Habitats

Upland Woodland creation

- Qualifying habitats effected:
- Acidic scree
- Alpine and subalpine heaths
- Blanket bog*
- Dry heaths
- Plants in crevices on acid rocks
- Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath

(*indicates priority habitat)

Assessment against all the conservation objectives listed above:

The application includes a proposal for new upland woodland creation within the Cairngorms SAC to replace non-Natura woodland lost within the development site. This is proposed for a 78ha

upland site within the SAC. A detailed survey of habitat within the recipient site has not been undertaken by the application however Site monitoring by SNH has some information on the extent of qualifying habitats. It is likely that qualifying habitats will be lost by the new planting and/or natural regeneration. The 78ha area represents 0.1% of the area of the Cairngorms SAC. Native tree and shrub planting will increase the coverage of some of the other qualifying features e.g. Caledonian Forest (a priority habitat) and mountain willow scrub, however this could be at the expense of other qualifying features.

There is insufficient mapping at this stage of this and other habitats, and no details of the new woodland proposals. We cannot conclude therefore that it would be limited to the two habitats for which this process is acceptable.

There is potential to implement this upland woodland creation proposal whilst staying within the agreed limits of acceptable change approved by Scottish Government for favouring woodland expansion over specified open ground qualifying habitats in the Cairngorms SAC. In order to ensure this is the case, the detailed woodland creation proposals must be accompanied by a habitat survey of the part of the Cairngorms SAC affected, and a detailed planting / woodland regeneration plan that relates to the habitat survey. The proposal will only be approved if it can be demonstrated that it complies with the agreed limits of acceptable change and will not have an adverse effect on site integrity.

Conclusion: These conservation objectives will not be met, mitigation is therefore required.

Off Path recreational use

Qualifying habitats effected:

- Caledonian Forest
- Dry Heath

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

There is potential for off path recreational use from walkers or mountain bikers from ACM to damage and incur the loss of the above qualifying habitats. However the mitigation measures detailed above to avoid adverse effects on the integrity of the capercaillie SPAs will also ensure that this off path use does not take place and there is no effect on these conservation objectives.

Conclusion: These conservation objectives will not be met, mitigation is therefore required.

Structure and function of the habitat,
Process supporting the habitat

Any damage to, or loss of, qualifying habitat as a consequence of off-path recreational use will be very small in scale in comparison to the area of these habitats on the site, and will not form a barrier to typical species movement / dispersal. Any effects on the structure, function or supporting processes of these habitats will be de mininis.

Conclusion: These conservation objectives will be met

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

The only typical species that could be affected by habitat damage / loss as a consequence of off path recreational use is the capercaillie typical species of the Caledonian Forest qualifying feature. The mitigation measures detailed above to avoid adverse effects on the integrity of the capercaillie SPAs will also ensure that this off path use does not take place and there is no effect on these conservation objectives.

Conclusion: These conservation objectives will not be met, mitigation is therefore required.

Qualifying species

Otter (Lutra lutra) – LSE table 3

The Cairngorms SAC lies approximately 800m upstream of the proposed road bridge over the River Druie. This SAC overlaps with the River Spey SAC and the otter populations of the two sites are the same. Therefore effects on one will be felt throughout both SACs. It follows that mitigation proposed for the Spey SAC will be effective for the Cairngorms SAC population unless a different effect is identified for this site alone.

Effect on conservation objectives

Population of the species as a viable component of the site
Distribution of the species within the site

The construction activity is limited in duration and extent however construction activity can be fatal to otters, which are inquisitive creatures and can easily be trapped. In addition the road in use may be fatal to otters that are forced to cross the road during times of high flooding or during other times unless appropriate measures are incorporated into the design of the structure.

Physical damage and normal activity from construction of structures or unplanned events during the construction phase may lead to the disturbance and/or the distribution of the species and its supporting habitat.
The use of the road bridge and adjacent roads and footpaths may cause disturbance effects, see below.

Conclusion: These conservation objectives will not be met, mitigation is therefore required.

Distribution and extend of habitats supporting the species
Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species
bridge
There will be no effect upon the otter habitat of the Cairngorms SAC because the development does not contain proposals that would affect otter habitat within this site.

Conclusion: These conservation objectives will be met,

No significant disturbance of the species

Activity from construction of structures, tree planting or unplanned events during the construction phase may lead to the disturbance and/or the distribution of the species and its supporting habitat. This may affect their ability to forage, breed and/or utilise their territory effectively.

There is potential for otter to be disturbed from:

- Recreational activity in and close to the river. In particular it is anticipated that there will be an increase in dog walking in early morning and late evening arising from the development.
- The construction of the road bridge over the River Druie.

Both have the potential to disturb otter along the River Spey SAC but outwith the boundary of the Cairngorms SAC. The Otter in the Cairngorms SAC are considered to be part of the same population as that of the River Spey SAC which lies immediately downstream. , As a consequence there is the potential these issues in the River Spey SAC population to affect that of the Cairngorms SAC

Conclusion: This conservation objective will not be met, mitigation is therefore required.

Mitigation

Upland woodland creation

The detailed upland woodland creation proposals must be accompanied by a habitat survey of the part of the Cairngorms SAC affected, and a detailed planting / woodland regeneration plan that relates to the habitat survey. The proposal will only be approved if it can be demonstrated that it complies with the agreed limits of acceptable change (SNH September 2010) and will not have an adverse effect on site integrity.

Off Path recreational use

The mitigation required to avoid adverse effects on the Cairngorms SPA, detailed in the appropriate assessment above, must be implemented to ensure no adverse effects on the integrity of the Cairngorms SAC

Otter

The mitigation detailed below to protect otter in the River Spey SAC must be implemented to ensure no adverse effects upon the integrity of the Cairngorms SAC.

Minor residual effects

There is no minor residual effect remaining upon this site.

Conclusion on site integrity

Following mitigation, there will be no adverse effect upon the integrity of the Cairngorms SAC.

River Spey SAC

Qualifying species and conservation status

Atlantic salmon, 2011. Unfavourable recovering
Freshwater pearl mussel, 2014. Unfavourable declining
Otter, 2011. Favourable maintained
Sea lamprey, 2011. Favourable maintained

Conservation objectives

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed above) 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 features 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 to the species
Distribution and viability of freshwater pearl mussel host species
Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting freshwater pearl mussel host species

Effect on conservation objectives

Freshwater pearl mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera*)

Maintain the population of the species as a viable component of the site. Distribution of the species within site

The overall population of FWPM in the river Spey numbers millions and most occur down stream of Grantown on Spey (which is itself 22km downstream of ACM).
There are small isolated FWPM beds between Grantown on Spey and ACM, and between ACM and the head waters further upstream. There is no mechanism by which these proposals could affect the population as a viable component of the site or the distribution within the site.

Conclusion: These conservation objectives will be met

Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species , Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species

Physical damage from construction of structures or unplanned events during the construction and accidental chemical pollution arising from incidents during construction phase may affect the distribution of the species and its supporting habitats. The design of the bridge or construction methodology could include in-river works. However at this stage we do not have this detail.

This is because of the potential to smother FWPM habitat with fine material. This material may be mineral or organic or both. Run-off with a high suspended sediment load is a major concern but

discharges containing suspended sediment may eventually have the same effect. Fine material that's deposited on FWPM habitat may fill interstices and reduce the availability of adequately oxygenated water or may simply smother and so suffocate FWPM.

In addition pollution, i.e. the accidental spillage of harmful substances in a watercourse or in an area that is hydraulically connected with a watercourse could cause direct or indirect toxic effects on FWPM or their habitats.

Conclusion: These conservation objectives will not be met, mitigation is therefore required.

No significant disturbance to the species

There are no populations of FWPM likely to be disturbed by construction activity of the bridges. This is because the populations are too far away.

Conclusion: There will be no effect upon this conservation objective.

Distribution and viability of freshwater pearl mussel host species

It is concluded below that there will be no impacts on the distribution or viability of the population of Atlantic salmon in the river Spey SAC. This is the FWPM host species.

Conclusion: This conservation objective will be met.

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

FWPM is dependent upon salmon as a host species for its glochidia, for its distribution. Therefore if the salmon is affected it follows that FWPM is. Please see the section below for effects on salmon. Mitigation for this species will also be mitigation for this conservation objective.
It is concluded below that there are potential impacts on the habitat of Atlantic salmon in the river Spey SAC. This is the FWPM host species

Conclusion: This conservation objective will not be met, mitigation is therefore required

Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*)

Maintain the population of the species as a viable component of the site. Distribution of the species within site

There is a large population of salmon distributed throughout the SAC and there is no mechanism by which the development can affect the population as a viable component of the site or the distribution within the site.

Conclusion: These conservation objectives will be met,

Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species. Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species

Physical damage to the salmon habitat from construction of structures or unplanned events during the construction phase may affect its supporting habitat. Accidental chemical pollution or siltation arising from incidents during construction may affect of the supporting habitats could lead to the temporary loss of food (invertebrates) through physical damage or pollution, in addition it may affect the suitability of juvenile habitat including shelter and adult spawning redds.

Conclusion: These conservation objectives will not be met, mitigation is therefore required.

No significant disturbance to the species

Salmon is not particularly sensitive to disturbance by people Any possible disturbance would be temporary and not significant. .

Conclusion: There will be no effect upon this conservation objective.

Otter (*Lutra lutra*)

Effect on conservation objectives

Population of the species as a viable component of the site
Distribution of the species within the site

There is relatively little information on the population within the SAC. Males in particular can range over a wide area and the loss of a dominant male could be significant because it could affect the breeding productivity of females over a wider area. A single fatality could affect the distribution of the species and create a short to medium term effect on the viability of the population within the SAC.

The construction activity is limited in duration and extent, however construction activity can be fatal to otters, which are inquisitive creatures and can easily be trapped. In addition the road, while in use, may be fatal to otters that are forced to cross the road during times of high flooding, or during other times unless appropriate measures are incorporated into the design of the structure.

Conclusion: This conservation objective will not be met, mitigation is therefore required.

Distribution and extend of habitats supporting the species
Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species
In the screening (table 3 above) it was explained that the loss of supporting habitat is de minimis.

Conclusion: This conservation objective will be met,

No significant disturbance of the species

Activity from construction of structures, tree planting or unplanned events during the construction phase may lead to the disturbance and/or the distribution of the species and its supporting habitat. This may affect their ability to forage, breed and/or utilise their territory effectively.

There is potential for otter to be disturbed from:

- Recreational activity in and close to the river. In particular it is anticipated that there will be an increase in dog walking in early morning and late evening arising from the development.

- The construction of the road bridge over the Druie and the footbridge over the Spey. Both have the potential to disturb otter along the River Spey.

    - Disturbance of otter could result from lighting of this bridge and off paths nearby.

Conclusion: This conservation objective will not be met, mitigation is therefore required.

Sea lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*)

Population of the species as a viable component of the site. Distribution of the species within site,

The majority of the population lies within the lower reaches of the Spey many kilometres downstream. There are records of the species in the vicinity of ACM but only on the main stem of the Spey and not the River Druie.

Canadian research indicates that Sea Lamprey are susceptible to bright lighting on the water course during migration. Lighting at these times of year from construction plan or to site works, permanently installed on bridges or footpaths close to water courses may inhibit the movement of the species. This may act as a barrier to the movement of the species upstream of the development site. If this happened this would effect the distribution of the species within the site and potentially the populations as a viable component of the site.

Conclusion: These conservation objectives will not be met, additional mitigation is therefore required.

Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species. Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species

Physical damage from construction of structures or unplanned events during the construction phase may affect its supporting habitat if there was any loss of silt habitat. Juveniles live in this silt habitat.

Accidental chemical pollution arising from incidents during construction may affect the its supporting habitats rendering it less or unsuitable for larval stages.

Conclusion: These conservation objectives will not be met, additional mitigation is therefore required.
No significant disturbance to the species

Sea lamprey is not particularly sensitive to disturbance by people Any possible disturbance would be temporary and not significant.

Conclusion: There will be no effect upon this conservation objective.

Mitigation

There are a number of mitigation measures required for the above effects:

1. Construction method statement

A condition must be applied to a permission that requires a construction method statement (CMS) to be agreed with the CNPA prior to the start of construction on site for each phase of construction. The CMS must clearly demonstrate that risks to watercourses and ground water are eliminated through application of good site management in accordance with accepted best practice and guidelines. This must be in accordance with recognising best practice guidelines in particular SEPA PPG 1, 5 and 6. Where required through statute, Controlled Activity Regulations (CAR) must be complied with. Development must not commence until it has been demonstrated to the planning authority that the measures in the CMS have been adopted for onsite management. If otters are present, measures will include: covering excavations when not in use to ensure otters do not become trapped.

This is a well-practiced approach that is applied to many construction projects and it will effectively manage these risks. This will mitigate the effects upon Otter, Atlantic salmon, Sea lamprey and Freshwater pearl mussel, and ensure that there will be no effect upon the distribution of these species within the site, their supporting habitats and no disturbance to these species from construction activity

2. Bridge design and lighting detail approval

A condition must be placed upon the application requiring the full design details of the bridges. This must require the bridges to be constructed without damage to key habitats that support the qualifying species and allow free passage of otters above the 1 in 200 year flood levels without crossing the road and avoiding loss of or damage to otter, FWPM, Atlantic salmon and sea lamprey habitat. This will ensure there is no effect upon the distribution of the species within the site or their supporting habitats.

The condition must also require that all bridges and footpaths within 30m of water courses must demonstrate that there will be no direct light fall on the water surface. This must help ensure there is no adverse effect on site integrity, and be agreed with the CNPA at the construction phases detailed planning permission stages. This will eliminate the likelihood of light fall preventing migration of sea lamprey and significant disturbance to otter within the site. Proper design will facilitate the safe passage of otter under the road.

3. Otter survey and footpath/bridge location approval

A condition must be applied that requires at Master plan stage a full survey, appraisal and species protection plan (SPP) for otter. This must be undertaken in accordance with recognised methodology. The details for footpath and bridge location must clearly demonstrate, by reference to the survey, that there will be no disturbance to any holts or resting places.

The appraisal must address construction activity, design and use of the development to see if there would be any effect upon otters. Any identified effects must be eliminated through modifications to proposals and detailed within the SPP in order to ensure no adverse effects on site integrity. If otters are present, measures will include: covering excavations when not in use to ensure otters do not become trapped, the siting of development, such as bridges, roads, storage areas and paths, more than 30 metres away from active places of rest, screening planting and removing lighting that may cause nocturnal disturbance. The survey must be submitted with the master plan planning application.

This is a well-practiced approach this will avoid impacts upon the distribution and avoid disturbance to the species within the site.

4. Site design for recreation provision

Landscape and ecology masterplan must include measures to restrict access to sensitive areas of the river banks as identified in the otter survey in order to ensure there is no adverse effect on site integrity. This may be through planting and location of footpaths to discourage recreational use in these areas. This will ensure there is no significant disturbance to otter or adversely affect the distribution of the species within the site.

5. SUDS

A condition must be applied requiring SUDS details for the master plan consent and the construction details for SUDS at each phase at the relevantconsent stages. This must clearly demonstrate that there will be no adverse effect on site integrity through the prevention of flooding and particle discharge into the river arising from the site. The SUDS must be fully implemented prior to the point it is required for effective operation. This will ensure there are no effects on the distribution of Atlantic salmon, sea lamprey or FWPM within the site or the extent of their supporting habitats or adverse effects on the structure, function and supporting processes of habitats.

Minor residual effects

There are no minor residual effects remaining upon this site.

Conclusion on site integrity

Following mitigation, there will be no adverse effect upon the integrity of the River Spey SAC.

Stage 7: Consultation

Regulation 48(3) of the Habitats Regulations requires the authority to consult with the appropriate conservation body and to have regard to their representations. In Scotland this is SNH. **SNH have been closely involved in the preparatory work to inform the HRA, including the appraisal of the impacts to Capercaillie and the identified mitigation.** This report and its conclusion have been prepared jointly by CNPA and SNH, and it incorporates their advice. An additional formal consultation with SNH is not therefore required.

Stage 8: Additional mitigation

Regulation 48(6) requires the competent authority to:

"(6) In considering whether a plan or project will adversely affect the integrity of the site, the authority shall have regard to the manner in which it is proposed to

be carried out or to any conditions or restrictions subject to which they propose that the consent, permission or other authorisation should be given"

In cases where significant effects have been identified upon the qualifying features the authority must give consideration to what additional measures may be applied, by way of a condition or agreement, to ensure that there are no adverse effects and so that the integrity of the site is maintained.

The appropriate assessment identified a number of additional mitigation measures that are required in addition to the development proposals. These have been detailed within the assessment for each Natura site however they are summarised below. They must be subject to a condition to the application to be delivered at the stage identified:

Cairngorms SPA – required prior to approval:

- A Recreation Management Plan for capercaillie – to be included at master plan stage and at individual development phases; delivered in accordance with and for timescales required in the appropriate assessment

- The footbridge over the River Spey to be delivered on site prior to the occupation of 200 dwellings or commencement of construction

Abernethy Forest SPA – to be included within the RMP for capercaillie above

Anagach Woods SPA – to be included within the RMP for capercaillie above

Craigmore Wood SPA – to be included within the RMP for capercaillie above

Kinveachy Forest SPA – to be included within the RMP for capercaillie above

Cairngorms SAC - required prior to approval:

- Habitat Survey and planting plan for compensation planting within SAC – required to be included at master plan application stage

- Otter Species Protection Plan- the requirements implementation of the mitigation for the River Spey SAC

River Spey SAC - required prior to approval unless otherwise stated:

- Construction method statement – required at each phase application, to be approved prior to on site works
- Bridge design and Lighting detail – required at each phase and bridge application
- Otter species protection plan and bridge locations– required to be included at master plan application stage
- Site design for recreation provision to avoid effects on otter
- A condition must be applied requiring SUDS details for the master plan consent and the construction details for SUDS at each phase at the relevant consent stages

Stage 9: Conclusion on the site integrity test

This assessment is based upon the best available scientific evidence and has been prepared jointly with SNH and others. It has shown that, with the mitigation measures, there is no adverse effect on site integrity from the proposed development for any Natura site, in particular:

- Cairngorms SAC
- Kinveachy Forest SAC
- River Spey SAC
- Abernethy Forest SPA
- Anagach Woods SPA
- Cairngorms SPA
- Cairngorms Massif SPA
- Craigmore Wood SPA
- Kinveachy Forest SPA
- Loch Vaa SPA

We therefore conclude that the proposed development, subject to the mitigation measures identified in this appropriate assessment and applied to any consent, will not adversely affect the integrity of any of these sites.

Stage 10: Section 49 (derogation)

The conclusion that there is no adverse effect upon the integrity of any of the Natura sites covered in this report means that regulation 49 is not relevant.

Summary of Residual Effects

There were no residual effects found during this assessment

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Appendix 1 –
Details of Natura 2000 sites within, or adjacent to, the proposed development site

Name of European Site	Abernethy Forest
Site Type	**Special Protection Area**
Conservation Objectives	To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed below) 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 the site Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species No significant disturbance of the species
Qualifying Species	Capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus*) Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) Scottish crossbill (*Loxia scotica*)
Site Condition	Capercaillie, breeding, 2009. Favourable maintained. Osprey, breeding, 2007. Favourable maintained. Scottish crossbill, 2017. Favourable maintained..
Factors currently influencing site	In terms of development, no factors currently influencing site
Vulnerabilities to change/potential effects of the Plan	Disturbance from construction and recreation arising from neighbouring development Relevant settlements: Boat of Garten, Nethy Bridge

Name of European Site	Anagach Woods
Site Type	**Special Protection Area**
Conservation Objectives	To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed below) 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 the site Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species No significant disturbance of the species
Qualifying Species	Capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus*)
Site Condition	Breeding capercaillie, 2015. Unfavourable declining.
Factors currently influencing site	Impact from disturbance from adjacent village and footpaths within the wood
Vulnerabilities to change/potential effects of the Plan	Disturbance from construction and recreation arising from neighbouring development Relevant settlements: Grantown-on-Spey

Name of European Site	Cairngorms
Site Type	**Special Area of Conservation**
Conservation Objectives	To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats (listed below) 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 the site Structure and function of the habitat Process 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
Qualifying Habitats	Acid peat-strained lakes and ponds Acidic scree Alpine and subalpine heaths Blanket bog* Bog woodland* Caledonian forest* Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone Dry heaths Hard-water springs depositing lime* High-altitude plant communities associated with areas of water seepage* Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands Montane acid grasslands Mountain willow scrub Plants in crevices on acid rocks Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks Species-rich grassland with mat-grass in upland areas* Tall herb communities Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath (*indicates priority habitat)
Site Type	**Special Area of Conservation**
Conservation Objectives	To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed below) 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 the site Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species No significant disturbance of the species
Qualifying Species	Green shield-moss (Buxbaumia viridis) Otter (Lutra lutra)
Site Type	**Special Protection Area**
Conservation Objectives	To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed below) 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 the site Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species No significant disturbance of the species
Qualifying Species	Capercaillie (Tetrao urogallus) Dotterel (Charadrius moninellus) Golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos) Merlin (Falco columbarius) Osprey (Panion haliaetus) Peregrine (Falco peregrinus) Scottish crossbill (Loxia scotica)
Site Condition	Acid peat-stained lakes and ponds, 2004. Favourable maintained. Acidic scree, 2007. Favourable maintained. Alpien and subalpine heaths, 2007. Unfavourable no change. Blanket bog, 2004. Unfavourable no change. Bog woodland, 2002. Favourable maintained. Caledonian forest, 2009. Unfavourable declining. Clear water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels, 2004. Favourable maintained. Dry heaths, 2007. Unfavourable no change. Green-shield moss (Bauxbaumia viridis), 2006. Favourable maintained. High-altitude plant communities associated with areas of water seepage, 2006. Unfavourable no change.

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Factors currently influencing site	In terms of development, none at present
Vulnerabilities to change/potential effects of the Plan	Recreational disturbance to species from neighbouring development Relevant settlements: An Camus Mòr, Boat of Garten – also developing of, or extension of existing, recreational facilities Wind farms could impact on young golden eagles, given their mobility

Name of European Site	Cairngorms Massif
Site Type	**Special Protection Area**
Conservation Objectives	To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed below) 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 the site Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species No significant disturbance of the species
Qualifying Species	Golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos)
Site Condition	Golden eagle – Favourable maintained 2015.
Factors currently influencing site	In terms of development, none at present
Vulnerabilities to change/potential effects of the Plan	No specific vulnerabilities identified

Name of European Site	Craigmore Wood
Site Type	**Special Protection Area**
Conservation Objectives	To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed below) 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 the site Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species No significant disturbance of the species
Qualifying Species	Capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus*)
Site Condition	Capercaille, 2015. Unfavourable declining.
Factors currently influencing site	In terms of development, none at present
Vulnerabilities to change/potential effects of the Plan	Recreational disturbance from development in neighbouring areas Relevant settlements: Boat of Garten, Nethy Bridge

Name of European Site	Kinveachy Forest
Site Type	**Special Area of Conservation**
Conservation Objectives	To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat (listed below) 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 the site Structure and function of the habitat Process 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
Qualifying Habitats	Bog woodland* Caledonian forest* (* indicates priority habitat)
Site Type	**Special Protection Area**
Conservation Objectives	To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed below) 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 the site Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species No significant disturbance of the species
Qualifying Species	Capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus*) Scottish crossbill (*Loxia scotica*)
Site Condition	Bog woodland*, 2009. Unfavourable recovering. Caledonian forest*, 2009. Unfavourable recovering. Capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus*), 2008. Favourable maintained. Scottish crossbill (*Loxia scotica*), 2012. Favourable maintained.
Factors currently	In terms of development, none at present.

influencing site	
Vulnerabilities to change/potential effects of the Plan	Recreational disturbance from development in neighbouring areas Relevant settlements: Boat of Garten

Name of European Site	Loch Vaa
Site Type	**Special Protection Area**
Conservation Objectives	To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed below) 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 the site Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species No significant disturbance of the species
Qualifying species	Slavonian grebe (Podiceps auritus)
Site Condition	Slavonian grebe (Podiceps auritus), 2007. Unfavourable no change.
Factors currently influencing site	In terms of development, none at present
Vulnerabilities to change/potential effects of the Plan	Effects on water quality including sewerage treatment, release of minerals, contamination or other waste

Name of European Site	River Spey
Site Type	**Special Area of Conservation**
Conservation Objectives	To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed below) 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 habitats 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 to the species Distribution and viability of freshwater pearl mussel host species Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting freshwater pearl mussel host species
Qualifying Interest(s)	Atlantic salmon Freshwater pearl mussel Otter Sea lamprey
Site Condition	Atlantic salmon, 2011. Unfavourable recovering. Freshwater pearl mussel, 2014. Unfavourable declining. Otter, 2011. Favourable maintained. Sea lamprey, 2011. Favourable maintained.
Factors currently influencing site	In terms of development, none at present
Vulnerabilities to change/potential effects of the Plan	Effects on water quality including sewerage treatment, release of minerals, contamination or other pollution and waste Functioning of flood plains and the river system Abstraction of water Relevant settlements: Dalwhinnie, Newtonmore, Kingussie, An Camus Mòr, Aviemore, Inverdruie, Kincraig, Insh, Boat of Garten, Carr-Bridge, Dulnain Bridge, Nethy Bridge, Grantown-on-Spey, Cromdale

Appendix 2

Glossary of terms and abbreviations

Appropriate Assessment (AA)	The part of the Habitats Regulations Assessment process that considers the effects of an aspect of a plan upon the conservation objectives for a Natura site.
CNPA	Cairngorms National Park Authority
CNAP	Cairngorms Nature Action Plan
Competent Authority	The decision making body required under the Habitats Directive to undertake HRA. This includes Scottish Government, National Park Authorities, SNH , SEPA or Local Authorities.
CPP	Core Paths Plan
Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA)	The whole appraisal process for determining effects upon Natura Sites. It includes Appropriate Assessments. It is a requirement by the Habitats Directive that competent authorities carry out HRAs where a plan or project affects a Natura site.
CLDP	Draft Cairngorms National Park Local Development Plan
Likely Significant Effect	An adverse effect of the development upon a qualifying interest or conservation objective that is considered to be potentially severe enough as to threaten the integrity of the Natura site itself.
Natura Sites	Collective term for Special Protection Areas and Special Areas of Conservation
Ramsar sites	Ramsar sites are wetlands of international importance designated under the Ramsar Convention 1971. Not technically Natura sites they are however usually also SPAs. They are included within the HRA process by policy.
Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	An area designated for the protection of habitats and species. Authorised under Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (commonly called the "Habitats Directive"). One of three designation to be considered in a HRA
Special Protection Area (SPA)	An area designation for the protection of birds. Authorised by the Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (commonly called the "Birds Directive"). One of three designation to be considered in a HRA

Appendix 3

Sensitivity of capercaillie to recreational disturbance

Disturbance can affect capercaillie by reducing the availability of otherwise suitable habitat (including habitat used for roosting, feeding, nesting and brood rearing), displacing the birds from leks, disrupting behaviour patterns and increasing the risk of predation. These effects can occur separately or additively. Capercaillie are sensitive to disturbance at all life stages but especially so when attending leks, incubating eggs (late April to mid-June) or rearing broods (late May - late August but critically during June and July when the chicks are small and dependent on the hen for warmth).

Research has recorded numerous examples of individuals reacting to disturbance, for example through short-term changes in behaviour and long-term shifts in habitat use, however, population-level effects are difficult to demonstrate so their importance remains unclear (Storch, 2013). Reported responses include a decline in local capercaillie numbers (Brenot *et al*., 1996 cited in Thiel *et al*., 2007) and abandonment of lek sites (Labigand & Munier, 1989 cited in Thiel *et al*., 2007).

Much of the continental European research on this subject has focussed on disturbance from off-path recreational use. A study of the behavioural response of capercaillie to off-trail hikers demonstrated that flushing distance varied between male and female birds, visibility of hiker, intensity of winter tourism, and hunting pressure (Thiel *et al*., 2007). Males tended to flush at greater distances than females and longer flushing distances were recorded in more open woodland. Birds also flushed more easily in areas with high intensity of winter tourism or hunting pressure compared to undisturbed areas. The authors noted that the unpredictable nature of off-trail tourism meant that birds are less likely to habituate to it. The mean flushing distance in this study was 27 ± 0.6 m (SE, n = 752; range 1 – 104 m) and 90% of all flushing events were at less than 50 m. The authors recommended the establishment of regulations requiring hikers to stay on trails and closing trails where inter-trail distances fall below 100m. An example of such management in the Bayerischer Wald National Park, Bavaria, resulted in capercaillie returning to the surrounding woodland (Scherzinger 2003 cited in Summers *et al*., 2007).

A recent radio-telemetry study in south-western Germany found that whilst outdoor recreation did not affect home range selection, strong effects on habitat use within the home range were detected. Distance to recreation infrastructure (e.g. hiking and cross-country skiing trails, ski pistes) was the main determinant of habitat selection in winter; in summer, mountain bike trails and hiker's restaurants were avoided up to an average distance of 145m (CI: 60-1092m). Relative avoidance of winter-infrastructure, was recorded up to 320m (CI: 36-327m), this reduced when dense understory provided visual cover. Between 8- 20% (summer) and 8- 40% (winter) of the population area was affected by outdoor recreation (Coppes *et al.* 2017).

Capercaillie need to compromise between shelter and outlook. A study by Finne and co-workers (Finne *et al*., 2000) indicated that males prefer good cover at the expense of a good overview of the surrounding area when selecting daytime roosting sites. They noted that to be suitable as male habitat, areas surrounding capercaillie leks should contain forest with a high vertical cover close to the ground, i.e. with low canopies. They indicated that this could be achieved by thinning young even aged plantations at an early stage, or rejuvenating forests by selection cutting and natural regeneration instead of clear felling and planting. Habitat structure has been shown to modify the alert distance of a number of bird species, with increasing bird tolerance associated with greater availability of escape cover (Fernandez-Juricic *et al*., 2001). In the specific case of capercaillie, Thiel and co-authors (2007) recommended planting or preserving evergreen conifer trees in dense rows along critical parts of disturbance sources thus reducing the degree of visibility between capercaillie and recreationists – this would increase the habitat available to capercaillie in forests with predictable recreation activities.

In the UK, expert opinion also states that capercaillie in Scotland are adversely affected by recreational disturbance and that disturbance is most critical during lekking and brood rearing times (Marshall, 2005). This report, which was based on the opinions of 15 experts, suggested a minimum 75 m buffer for exclusion of human activity at known leks but recognised the need for more field-based empirical research. This report also emphasised the potential impact of dogs not under control

in capercaillie areas. The experts considered that uncontrolled dogs can cause severe disturbance to capercaillie during the lek and breeding season (p19). Nearly 75% of the expert responses relating to walking a loose dog rated this activity as causing the highest (>75m) level of disturbance (p7).

A more recent report (Ruddock & Whitfield, 2007) also collated the views of experts and calculated the median alert distance (AD) and flight initiation distance (FID) for the species as ascertained from expert opinion, and these are tabulated below.

Alert distance

	Median distance (metres)	Sample Size	80% range values* (metres)
Incubating	75	11	<10 – 150
Chick rearing	75	4	<10 - 150
Lekking	125	9	100 - 750

* The 80% range value is the range in opinion values after the lower 10% and upper 10% of opinions were excluded.

Flight initiation distance

	Median distance (metres)	Sample Size	80% range values* (metres)
Incubating	5	11	<10 – 100
Chick rearing	30	5	<10 - 50
Lekking	75	5	50 - 500

* The 80% range value is the range in opinion values after the lower 10% and upper 10% of opinions were excluded.

In Scotland, research on recreational disturbance has provided evidence of the effects of paths and tracks on capercaillie. Summers and co-workers (2004) found that in winter capercaillie avoided woodland close to tracks and suggested that human disturbance may displace capercaillie and reduce the amount of woodland available. This led them to suggest that removal or closure of tracks might benefit capercaillie and a further study was undertaken. This follow-on study in four forests stands at Glenmore and Abernethy also concluded that the use of trees by capercaillie was lower close to tracks (Summers *et al.*, 2007). The authors estimated that 21-41% of woodland may be avoided by capercaillie as a result of disturbance and again recommended that unnecessary tracks should be removed, re-routed, or their promotion and maintenance reduced.

A separate study which used droppings as an inexpensive way of mapping the distribution of capercaillie at a fine-grained resolution in three woodlands in Badenoch & Strathspey, found that disturbance within a few hundred metres of woodland entrances was so great that ground there was little used by capercaillie. Beyond this, disturbance associated with tracks deterred capercaillie from a belt of ground at least 140 m wide, up to 470 m where people and dogs strayed off tracks (Moss *et al*., 2014).

In summary, capercaillie are vulnerable to disturbance. They nest on the ground and their most vulnerable stage is considered to be as eggs or chicks. At this stage, they can be directly killed by dogs, or killed by predators such as crows when the hen is flushed from the nest or brood, or killed by exposure if a hen is flushed. Capercaillie are also vulnerable to disturbance on the lek. Some cock birds become over-aggressive and lose their fear of humans, but the vast majority of males are very easily driven away. Adult birds can fly away from disturbance and to that extent, are less vulnerable than eggs and chicks. However, even adult birds can be vulnerable to collapse and death in winter. This is thought to happen when the weather is windy and wet, because in winter they mostly eat low calorie Scots pine needles, and exposure plus repeated disturbance may mean that they run out of energy. The precise ways in which disturbance from people and dogs affect different aspects of capercaillie ecology (e.g. courtship, breeding, rearing, dispersal, foraging, winter energy expenditure) are, however, not fully understood.

Appendix 4

Links between the SPAs, and between the SPAs and non-designated woodlands in Badenoch and Strathspey

After a period of rapid and significant decline (Eaton *et al.*, 2007) the national population of capercaillie has been estimated to be between 1000 and 2000 birds by each national survey undertaken since the first in 1992 - 1994. Thus, the national population is small and remains vulnerable. Conservation of capercaillie requires consideration at the metapopulation scale as well as at the scale of individual sites.

The Badenoch & Strathspey meta-population is the key population in the UK (Poole, 2010), holding around 75% of the estimated national population (Ewing *et al*., 2012). Within Badenoch & Strathspey there are five SPAs with capercaillie as a qualifying interest:Abernethy Forest; Anagach Woods; Craigmore Wood; Cairngorms; and Kinveachy Forest. The distances between these SPAs are well within maximum capercaillie dispersal distances known from the literature. These are:

- Storch (1995) radio-tracked 40 capercaillie in the Bavarian Alps and found that throughout the year distances of females from the leks they attended in spring averaged 1.3 km (Standard Error = 0.1 km). In winter and spring males aggregated within a 1 km radius of the lek, but dispersed within a 3 – 4 km radius during summer;
- Storch (2001 cited in Moss *et al*., 2006) concluded that most males settle close to their chick range but young female dispersal distances were typically 5 – 10 km;
- A radio-tracking study of males at leks in Russia and Norway recorded average dispersal distance of males to summer range of 2.3 km, SE = 0.37 (Russia 2.2.km, SE = 0.70; Norway 2.4 km, SE = 0.43) (Hjelford *et al*., 2000)
- Storch & Segelbacher (2000) summarised known movements as average seasonal movements of 1 – 2 km for adults and median dispersal distances of < 10 km for juveniles;

The distances recorded in a Scottish study (Moss *et al*., 2006) are somewhat longer than those above, and this may be related to the fragmented nature of Scottish forests compared with those on the continent, or possible incomplete natal dispersal in some of the Storch studies:

- the natal or first-winter dispersal distances of 13 hens radio-tracked by Moss *et al*. (2006) ranged within 1 – 30 km (median: 11, mean 12.3, SD 9.8).

We conclude that effects on the capercaillie population in any one of these SPAs could potentially affect the population in the others. Similarly, the effects on the capercaillie population within undesignated woods in Badenoch & Strathspey could affect the populations in the five SPAs.

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Appendix 5

Identification of woodlands with potential for significant recreational disturbance to capercaillie arising from An Camas Mor, and specification of the mitigation required to avoid such disturbance.

CNPA and SNH, August 2016 (Updated April 2017)

Identification of woodlands with potential for significant recreational disturbance to capercaillie arising from An Camas Mor, and specification of the mitigation required to avoid such disturbance.

CNPA and SNH, August 2016 (Updated April 2017)

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Identification of woodlands with potential for significant recreational disturbance to capercaillie arising from An Camas Mor, and specification of the mitigation required to avoid such disturbance.

Non-Technical Summary

Capercaillie is a species protected at national and international level. The CNPA, as planning authority, is required to be certain that development would have no adverse effect upon the integrity of the areas in which they are protected (SPAs). The species is highly sensitive to disturbance from people using their woodland habitats, especially if they are accompanied by dogs.

In order to achieve this protection the CNPA and SNH have modelled the volume and patterns of recreational use by An Camas Mor (ACM) residents[1]. This model has been compared with the known distribution of capercaillie and an assessment has been made of where there is likely to be increased risk of significant disturbance of the birds.

The assessment has shown seven key areas where these effects are likely. For each area suitable mitigation has been proposed to address the exact nature of the disturbance, in the context of the habitat and the needs of the birds themselves. These measures typically include changes to path networks, with some new routes and allowing other to revegetate, awareness raising through direct contact with the residents by ranger services as well as through media and signage. They also include changes to some car parks and establishment of alternative facilities for downhill mountain biking. The ACM site will also require specific measures to encourage recreation to take place there or nearby. These include safe off-lead dog exercise areas and new footpaths. An outline of onsite measures is included here but these will be addressed in detail in the Recreational Management Plan submitted as part of any application through the planning process.

The assessment shows that there will be effects in a wide area beyond the ACM site and Rothiemurchus Estate. These areas include some in public ownership, managed by FCS and SNH but also others in private ownership such as the RSPB and Seafield/Reidhaven Estate.

Lastly an estimated cost for the mitigation in each area is provided. The total cost has been estimated as £493,500.

[1] Recreational use by both residents and visitors was modelled. In the remainder of this report the term 'residents' should be interpreted as including both residents of, and visitors to, An Camas Mor.

Identification of woodlands with potential for significant recreational disturbance to capercaillie arising from An Camas Mor, and specification of the mitigation required to avoid such disturbance.

Introduction

An Camas Mor (ACM) is a proposed new settlement within the Cairngorms National Park. At the heart of the proposal are 1500 new homes providing for new and existing Badenoch and Strathspey residents as well as visitors to the National Park. It will be delivered in four phases over an extended period of time, possibly more than twenty years. The settlement is between Glenmore and Aviemore area which is part core of the UKs remaining stronghold for capercaillie, an Annex 1 species of the EU Directive 2009/147/EC (commonly known as the Birds Directive)and in Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act. It is a qualifying species for Seven Special Protection Areas (SPAs) within the Cairngorms National Park. Four of these are within a few miles of the development site and the fifth is connected to these as part of the wider meta-population.

Under the Conservation (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1994 (known for short as the Habitats Regulations), the planning authority **must not** approve plans, without ministerial consent, for any development unless it has been concluded there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of any Natura 2000 site. This includes the five Special Protection Areas (SPAs) in Badenoch and Strathspey for which capercaillie is a qualifying feature. In order to reach this conclusion, all the sites' conservation objectives must be maintained, for all the qualifying interests. This report is addressing a particular threat to the conservation status of capercaillie within the SPAs. This is outdoor recreation by people from ACM undermining the conservation objective for 'no significant disturbance'. There are other potential effects to other qualifying features and other Natura sites from ACM but they will be addressed in other assessments.

The CNPA and SNH have undertaken an assessment of the potential effects of the development on the surrounding capercaillie SPAs. This report records the process of predicting the effects of additional recreation from the developments residents on capercaillie and lists the required mitigation with the associated costs. The overall aim of this mitigation plan is therefore to avoid significant disturbance to capercaillie by residents or visitors from An Camas Mor. It is anticipated that the mitigation within this report will form part of a Recreational Management Plan submitted as part of any forthcoming application for the master plan of the development and that it, alongside the other elements of the master plan application, will be subject to Appropriate Assessment prior to determining the application.

Overall approach

The approach has two interlinked strands:

(i) Plan and design recreational infrastructure in and immediately around the new settlement to deliver attractive opportunities for residents to meet as many as possible of their local recreational needs;
(ii) Identify the recreation management measures required in offsite areas in order to ensure there is no significant disturbance by An Camas Mor residents.

It is important that the development site provides a high quality range of recreational opportunities so that the day-to-day recreation needs can be met on or near to it in areas where their presence won't disturb capercaillie. However, given known spatial patterns of recreational behaviour and the proximity of nationally valued recreational sites it is inevitable residents will venture beyond the settlement and surrounding area on a significant proportion of recreational visits.

Recreational infrastructure on and immediately around the development site

The development will be required to provide good on-site recreational opportunities through the delivery of appropriate infrastructure and spaces. This must allow residents to meet as many of their local recreational needs as possible on or immediately around the site. The proposed development plans must identify recreational facilities and routes, and demonstrate how and where different recreational needs will be met. It is not expected that the site will 'retain' more than an average level of this recreation need. This is because of the high quality of the surrounding areas and so the onsite provision should be of a high standard to even meet this level of need.

The key types of recreational needs that should be met in and around the site include:

a. Dog walking: routes that offer a wide range of experiences including long/medium/short distances; formal / informal characters; woodland / open settings; attractive features of interest; on and off-lead exercise; popular / quiet. See also guidance in *Jenkinson 2013, Planning for dog ownership in new developments: reducing conflict – adding value. Hampshire County Council*
b. Areas suitable for off-lead dog exercise within that network above
c. Areas attractive for informal children's play such as den-making and constructing informal cycle trails, some of which should be in woodland
d. Walking, cycling, running, cross-country skiing: routes offering a similar range of experiences as listed above for dog walking
e. Formal mountain bike skills training area to reduce the likelihood of an informal development within sensitive woodlands

f. Dedicated Ranger service to deliver the required activity such as awareness raising and engagement activity within the ACM site. Staff requirement is for 1.0 FTE. See note on page 17 for more information.
g. Ranger base facility to house the Rangers in f. above

It should be noted that the costs for these items above have not been included within the schedule under stage 5 below. It is expected that these facilities will be provided by the developer before or during the development process. These are subject to separate discussions with ACM LLP and are not taken further within this report.

Identifying offsite recreation management measures for capercaillie woodlands

The process outlined in Table 1 is based on approaches used to mitigate the impacts of recreational disturbance within SPAs from housing allocations in local plans in other parts of the UK (Solent SPAs; Dorset Heaths SPA; Thames Basin Heath SPA).

Table 1: Outline of process for identifying offsite mitigation requirements

	Task	Who
Stage 1	Review existing data on areas of woodland used by capercaillie; fill data gaps by requesting survey information from 3rd parties (RSPB, GWCT and FCS etc) and undertaking surveys to fill remaining gaps; and compile records into a single dataset and map.	CNPA, with advice from SNH and Capercaillie Project Officer.
Stage 2	Model the locations, types, patterns and approximate volumes of recreational visits by An Camas Mor residents that will be offsite; report on, and map, the results.	CNPA, with advice from SNH, James Hutton Institute (JHI) & Napier University
Stage 3	Overlay the capercaillie data with the recreational use predicted by modelling and published disturbance distances for capercaillie, to identify where there is potential for significant disturbance by An Camas Mor residents .	CNPA with advice from SNH & Capercaillie Project Officer
Stage 4	Identify potential mitigation measures to avoid significant disturbance at these locations	CNPA with advice from SNH & Capercaillie Project Officer
Stage 5	Prepare mitigation plan and cost estimates for mitigation measures	CNPA

There is a key difference between this approach, and that adopted to identify mitigation for the impacts of recreational disturbance within SPAs from housing

allocations in the local plans that are referred to above. This concerns the approach to Stage 2, predicting the volume and pattern of recreational visits by new residents. Compared to the situation at An Camas Mor, these cases in England were characterised by large existing populations, large new housing proposals, small discrete SPAs, and recreation opportunities limited by more restricted rights of access. In this situation, the main approach to predicting the volume and pattern of recreational use by residents of new housing proposals within SPAs was based on surveys of recreational use by the existing population.

The different circumstances surrounding An Camas Mor meant that a recreation survey of the existing population in the area was unlikely to produce the information required, for two key reasons:

- The right of responsible access enshrined in Scots law, and the rural, National Park nature of the An Camas Mor area, means that recreation is widely dispersed across a large area, including a large number of woodlands, within and outwith SPAs, inhabited by capercaillie. A sample survey of recreational visits by the nearby population would be unlikely to give reliable, or even any, information about recreation at infrequently-used sites. However, as capercaillie are sensitive to disturbance by even low levels of recreation, particularly at infrequently-visited sites where they are not habituated to disturbance, it is important that potential recreational use of such woodlands by An Camas Mor residents is identified and considered carefully.
- The wide range of potential recreational opportunities in land around An Camas Mor (arising from the factors listed above concerning access rights and rural land uses) also mean that the actual locations of recreation are likely to be distinctively different to those of residents of existing settlements, even those from Aviemore, the closest village.

As a consequence we adopted a different, more precautionary approach to predicting the volume and pattern of recreational visits by An Camas Mor residents. This reflects the fact that the Habitats Directive and the regulations require any competent authority to take a “precautionary approach” in determining effects and applying mitigation. A maximum volume of visits was estimated from national recreation survey data, using the assumption that An Camas Mor residents will visit the outdoors at least once a day. This can be considered a ‘realistic worst case scenario’; it is very unlikely residents will make this many visits, and it allows considerable ‘spare capacity’ for some additional factors that could affect the volume of visits that can’t be modelled quantitatively.

The locations of these recreational visits were predicted by identifying every likely place a resident could access on foot / cycle directly from home, and every place in the vicinity they could park a car in order to undertake a recreational visit from there (‘setting off points’). This allowed identification of the widest likely range of locations for recreational visits, including capercaillie woods where levels of recreational use are currently low or almost non-existent, but where proximity / convenience for future An Camas Mor residents means there is potential for them to be visited.

A significant additional precautionary element to the overall approach was incorporated at Stage 4. In deciding on mitigation requirements, regardless of scale of the predicted volume of visits, if An Camas Mor residents were predicted to use capercaillie woods for recreation we identified that mitigation would be needed for any woods that are either not well-visited at present, or are predicted to experience a different pattern of recreational use by ACM residents compared to that at present.

Stage 1 - Capercaillie data

Information on Capercaillie population and distribution has been collected from a wide range of sources including from RSPB, FCS, SNH and GWCT. This data has been collated onto a GIS database; mapped; and used to assess and identify the areas which capercaillie are likely to be most sensitive to disturbance. For the purposes of this assessment the data has been collated form the period 2007-2015, with additional data from spring 2016, to ensure that the most up-to-date and relevant information has been used.

The data sources used are:

Lek data

This data is made up of sightings at leks in spring and the number of displaying males and the centre point of the lek site.

Data obtained from Capercaillie Project Officer co-ordinated lek count data 2007-16, RSPB reserves lek count data 2007-16, FCS lek count data 2007-16

Brood data

All hen capercaillie encountered with chicks during counts with pointer dogs in late summer within assigned areas. No brood count data was available for Deeside. Brood count areas showing where the counting was undertaken.

Data obtained from GWCT and SNH brood count 2007-15; RSPB brood counts undertaken on RSPB owned land 2007-15; Capercaillie Project Officer organised brood counts undertaken via contract 2010-15.

Sightings data

This includes all sightings of capercaillie directly observed at any time of year but excludes Lek and brood counts. This dataset includes cold searches (in targeted areas, usually by Capercaillie Project staff) and casual records from NGO and RAFE staff and members of the public i.e. not from formal surveys. It also includes data from Abernethy RSPB reserve staff carrying out winter surveys.

Data obtained from Capercaillie Project Officer 2007-15; RSPB sightings records 2007-15 and FCS sightings records 2007-15.

Signs data

This is a combination of data on signs which indicate capercaillie presence including individual bird droppings, roost piles, feathers, dust baths etc, collected from formal surveys, including when cold searching for leks i.e. surveying March-May and casual records.

Data obtained from Capercaillie Project Officer collated data 2007-15; FCS site surveys 2015/16; RSPB signs records 2007-15

Other data

British Trust for Ornithology: data extracted from Bird Atlas 2007-11;

SNH: Capercaillie National Survey 2009/10;

The data was combined and mapped and overlaid onto forest habitat maps. Where knowledge gaps were identified site visits were undertaken. These surveys and habitat assessments were completed by the Capercaillie Project Officer and Assistant in 2014/15.

Stage 2 - Recreation Activity Model

The CNPA has modelled the likely level and pattern of recreational visits from residents to ACM. The approach is set out in "Report on predicted levels and patterns of recreational use of the outdoors by An Camas Mor residents" CNPA(2016) but the key findings are summarised below.

The key information requirements from this exercise were:

- The locations and routes on which ACM residents would be likely take recreational visits (see Map 1 Appendix 1)
- Approximate, order-of-magnitude estimates of the volume of visits at each location by ACM residents & visitors
- The locations of any types of recreational activities that are particularly disturbing to capercaillie (off-lead dog walking; early morning or late evening recreation; off-path use including downhill mountain biking; recreation in the breeding season).

The potential for disturbance depends most critically on whether recreational visits are taken in woods where capercaillie are known to be present or where suitable habitat is located within their dispersal distance from woodland known to be occupied.

Approximate, 'order of magnitude' estimates of the volume of recreational visits at each location were considered sufficient for the purpose of this exercise. This is because the relationship between the volume of recreational visits and disturbance to capercaillie in any location is not linear; nor is the relationship between the volume

of recreational visits and the mitigation needed to avoid disturbance to capercaillie. The model estimates the approximate number of recreational visits generated by residents of the settlement. The estimates have been derived from data on the frequency and characteristics of recreational visits to the outdoors gathered in the Scottish Recreation Survey (2012), and Scotland's People and Nature Survey (SPANS) 2013. This allowed an estimate of the overall approximate number of recreational visits by residents at each of the four phases of the proposed development, and the proportions of visits involving different recreational activities, different round trip distances travelled to/from the visit, and travelled during the visit. The SPANS data suggests that 86% of ACM residents will visit the outdoors for leisure and recreation each year and that 95% of those visits will be taken from home. Some 68% of recreational trips will be on foot directly from home (see table 3), whereas 25% will use a car to access a recreational 'setting off point'(table 4). Some 54% of these car-based visits will involve a round trip car travel distance of 10 miles or less. 83% of all recreational visits are predicted to be to destinations visited regularly - at least once a week or more frequently, on 85% the main activity will be walking, and 52% of visits will be accompanied by a dog. Table 2 shows the estimated number of visits made from the development for each of the development phases (based on the phasing described in the original Environmental Statement from 2009).

Table 2 shows estimated minimum and maximum number of visits by ACM residents. The minimum estimate is produced by assuming that ACM residents will make the same number of outdoor visits every 4 weeks as the average by Scottish adults living in rural areas. Adults living in rural areas visit the outdoors on average 9.9 times every 4 weeks. This may produce an underestimate because (a) the opportunities for outdoor recreation in the area around ACM are more attractive and abundant that those around most of rural Scotland, and (b) Strathspey is an area where many outdoors enthusiasts choose to live or visit. The maximum estimate was produced by assuming that ACM residents will not make more outdoor visits than the SPANS sub-group with a robust sample size that makes the most outdoor visits every four weeks. This sub-group is 'Scottish adults who visit the outdoors every day', and they make an average of 26.4 visits every 4 weeks. Based upon advice from JHI (Brown 2015) and Napier University (White & Velander 2016), it is considered that the actual number will be closer to the maximum estimate than the minimum. The maximum estimates were therefore used for modelling the spatial distribution of visits (Tables 3 and 4).

Table 2 – Approximate estimate of numbers of outdoor recreational visits from ACM (final figures are rounded to nearest 1000)

Phase	No. of homes (cumulative)	Likely phasing on a 20 year development (75 units per annum)	Projected mean household size at end of phase)	Total No. of residents	Total No. of adults*	Estimated minimum No. of annual visits taken from ACM #	Estimated maximum No. Of annual visits taken from ACM +

Phase 1	200	2017-2020	2.19	438	361	*44000*	*118000*
Phase 2	400	2020-2023	2.04	816	673	*82000*	*219000*
Phase 3	630	2023-2025	2.00	1260	1039	*127000*	*339000*
Phase 4	1500	2025-2037	1.93	2895	2388	*292000*	*778000*

*(Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics state children make up 17.5% of population in Highlands)

#(based 95% of 9.9 visits per month per adult over the course of a year)

+ (based on 95% of 26.4 visits per month)

Based on the SPANs data, 68% of these visits will be taken on foot directly from An Camas Mor. So, by phase 4, there will be up to 529,000 of recreational visits on foot from the settlement, and 195,000 visits by car. The remaining 7% of visits are predicted to be by bicycle or other means (eg bus). The proposed bridge over the River Spey was assumed to be in place for these estimates.

Table 3 – Number of visits on foot from ACM, figures are based on the maximum estimate and are rounded to the nearest 1000

Phase	**No. of homes (cumulative)**	**No. of annual visits on foot from ACM**
Phase 1	200	70000
Phase 2	400	14000
Phase 3	630	210000
Phase 4	1500	529000

Table 4 – Distribution of visits by car with round trip distance (to and from start point), figures are based on the maximum estimate and are rounded to the nearest 1000

Phase	**No. of homes**	**No. of annual visits by car taken**	**No. visits less than 2 miles**	**No. visits 2-5 miles** (23%)	**No. visits 6-10 miles**	**No. visits 11-20 miles**	**No. visits more than 20 miles**

		from ACM	(11%)		(20%)	**(14%)**	(32%)
Phase 1	200	30000	3000	7000	6000	4000	10000
Phase 2	400	55000	6000	13000	11000	8000	18000
Phase 3	630	85000	9000	19000	17000	12000	27000
Phase 4	1500	195000	21000	44000	39000	27000	62000

The spatial distribution of these visits around An Camas Mor was predicted based on CNPA and SNH staff knowledge of the relative attractiveness of local recreational destinations and routes, and the limited automatic people counter and survey data available. All potential starting points for recreation within a 20 mile round trip distance of ACM were identified (Appendix 1; Map 1). These included formal recreation destinations, known informal locations for recreation; and car parking opportunities that may not currently be used but are potentially accessible to ACM residents. Setting off points that are not conveniently located in relation to An Camas Mor and likely car journeys from there (i.e. that are not on routine travel routes or straight forward to travel to) and don't have "features of interest" (i.e. promoted trails, natural or cultural features of interest) were screened out as being unlikely to be used by ACM residents. Whilst it is possible that residents may visit these locations occasionally, it was considered that any such recreational use would be very low in volume, and effectively 'de minimis' and not significant in terms of disturbance to capercaillie. For example. Baddengorm Woods near Carr-bridge are remote from ACM, not located on predicted travel routes by ACM residents, do not contain features particularly attractive for recreation, and are thought to be used relatively lightly and mostly by local residents at present. It is possible that ACM residents might visit these woods very occasionally but the volumes are predicted to be so low as to be 'de minimis' in terms of the present assessment. The setting off point for this wood was therefore screened out.

The 'screened in' setting off points were then weighted for their relative attractiveness according to criteria based upon previous work by Stephen Jenkinson (2011?) and as advised by JHI (Brown 2015). An approximate estimate of the volume of visits from ACM was then calculated to each starting point within each distance band. Visits beyond a 20mile round trip distance could be undertaken anywhere in Scotland and were discounted from this analysis because they would be so geographically dispersed that they would not result in significant additional recreational use or capercaillie disturbance at locations this distant from ACM. The locations of the setting off points, and the recreational routes accessible from them, were plotted on maps.

The modelled volumes and patterns of recreational visits are approximate estimates. Levels and patterns of recreational use are influenced by a wide variety of factors, relatively few of which are known and understood in a sufficiently quantitative

manner to enable them to be reflected in these estimates. The key assumptions underlying this approach are detailed in Appendix 4, followed by a list of factors which have not been modelled quantitatively.

Visits on bikes

The following extract has been taken from Adam Streeter-Smith's "Report on predicted levels and patterns of recreational use of the outdoors by An Camas Mor residents" (CNPA 2016)

1. The national survey data in annex 1 indicate that just 8% of visits to the outdoors by rural residents involve cycling of some sort, with 4% involving cycling off road or mountain biking (referred to as 'mountain biking' in this report). Road cycling is not considered further as it does not disturb Capercaillie. Based on professional judgement and advice from JHI (Brown 2015) and Napier University (White & Velander 2016), we consider that the proportion of visits by An Camas Mor residents and visitors involving mountain biking would be considerably higher than this national survey data suggests. Judgement and anecdotal evidence suggest that local participation in mountain biking is high compared to other parts of rural Scotland, and we'd expect An Camas Mor residents and visitors to behave similarly to existing local residents and visitors.

2. Mountain biking can be broken down into three relatively distinct disciplines, although it is important to stress they are not mutually exclusive: downhill (including dirt jump and freeride) cross country (or single track) and trail riding. Downhill tends to involve full suspension bikes used on built or at least actively altered trails including jumps, drop off and other structures . Cross country tends to be along a combination of existing paths and tracks as well as informal trails sustained by regular use. Lastly trail riding tends to be on forest roads and promoted paths and is undertaken by a broad range of participants including families.

3. All three disciplines of mountain biking are already popular in the Cairngorms and especially in Badenoch and Strathspey. This is evidenced by the proliferation of informal trails in Kinveachy Forest, Glenmore and other areas like Docharn Woods near Carr Bridge. Whilst actual numbers and frequency using these trails are likely to be quite low the fact that they dissect Capercaillie habitat means that biking on informal trails is likely to have an impact on Capercaillie and needs to be considered carefully.

4. Projections for participation growth in mountain biking aren't available in a way that is disaggregated from the potential for economic growth in this sector. An Camas Mor will eventually be the same size that Aviemore is at present. We therefore assume that, once An Camas Mor is fully occupied, there will be a two fold increase in mountain biking visits in the local area. Such a two fold increase would include an increase in participation and any further growth in this sector as a result of increased levels of participation by underrepresented groups such as women. On this basis, we predict:

- That use of the current informal trail network would increase two fold
- That the development of new informal trails would evolve on near and around Pityoulish Hill as the topography, environment and lack of existing use by the public lends itself to downhill trail riding, this would be developed by both adults and under 16s
- That there would be a significant increase in both downhill riding and cross country riding in the already-popular locations of Glenmore, Kinveachy and Rothiemurchus on existing tracks, paths and informal trails.
- There will also be an increase in Abernethy, Inshriach and Alvie, although it is assumed that this would involve some form of motorised transport to access these locations as there are large sections of public road to ride which may act a disincentive and limit the numbers of participants. It is predicted that use in these areas will be confined largely to existing tracks, paths and informal trails.

Stage 3 - Identification of locations with potential for significant disturbance

The aim of this stage is to use the data on the location of capercaillie and the modelled pattern of recreation to identify where disturbance is likely to be significant in terms of the population of the birds. In simple terms the data sets have been compared to see where there is an overlap. Where one occurs an assessment has then been made as to whether the effects of people disturbing the birds are likely to be at significant levels.

The Habitats Directive and the regulations require any competent authority to take a "precautionary approach" in determining effects and applying mitigation. We have interpreted this as adopting, in general terms, a realistic worst case scenario. Hence, we erred on the side of caution in assessing the potential for significant disturbance. The Habitats Directive and regulations use the terms 'significant' or 'significance' in a specific way in relation to the test they require to determine effects on designated sites. We have adopted a similar approach and so where we call an effect 'significant' this is in our view in accordance with the regulations.

A number of criteria were established from the assumptions in Appendix 4 to guide the judgements about significant disturbance. These have been applied systematically as a sequential set of questions to assess the possible effects at each location. This assessment is documented in the impact matrix in Annex 5.

This systematic and precautionary approach was followed and concluded that significant disturbance to capercaillie is possible in all woods likely to be accessed by An Camas Mor residents that have records of capercaillie within 350m of setting off points, and/or within 125m of routes likely to be used by An Camas Mor residents, or with a lek within 1km of the setting off point or routes likely to be used, unless:

a) No off-path use by An Camas Mor residents is predicted and,
b) An Camas Mor residents are predicted to have the same patterns of recreational use as existing users and,
c) The predicted level of use by An Camas Mor residents will not significantly increase overall levels of use at that location.

It is helpful to read the assessment process described below alongside the impact matrix (annex 5) and to follow examples.

Firstly, for all screened-in setting off points within a 20 mile round trip travel distances of ACM:

1. Are there capercaillie woods accessible from here that are likely to be used by An Camas Mor residents for recreation?

If no, it was concluded no mitigation is needed at that location to avoid significant disturbance to capercaillie. If yes, then

2. Are there records of capercaillie within 350m of the setting off point, and/or within 125m of routes likely to be used by An Camas Mor residents, or is there a lek within 1km of the setting off point or routes likely to be used?

If no, it was concluded no mitigation is needed at that location to avoid significant disturbance to capercaillie. If the answer is yes, then

3. Is off-path recreational use (on foot or mountain biking) by An Camas Mor residents predicted in areas accessible from here?

If the answer to question 3 was yes, ie. off-path use is predicted, it was concluded that mitigation is required to avoid significant disturbance to capercaillie.

Next, the following questions were also addressed:

4. Is the setting off point currently an established location for recreation?
5. Are An Camas Mor residents predicted to have different temporal patterns of recreational use to any existing visitors, or to undertake a different profile of activities? (eg. more dog walking, or early morning use)

6. Will the predicted level of use by An Camas Mor residents significantly increase overall levels of recreational use from here?

If the answer to question 5 was yes, ie An Camas Mor residents are predicted to have different patterns of use to existing recreational visitors, it was concluded mitigation is required to avoid significant disturbance to capercaillie. In addition, if the answer to question 5 was no, but question 6 was yes, ie the level of recreational use by An Camas Mor residents is predicted to significantly increase levels of use at the site, it was also concluded mitigation is required to avoid significant disturbance of capercaillie.

The answers to questions 3-6 were based on the following principles and information sources:

Question 3: Off-path use was predicted at all setting off points within a 2 mile round trip distance of An Camas Mor. This is because evidence from areas adjacent to settlements in Strathspey shows a wide range of informal foot and bike paths & trails that have evolved from repeated off-path use, and of off-path activities such as children's dens. These features are not common further away from communities, except where the topography and ground cover are suitable for users to develop informal downhill or cross-country mountain bike trails. Any setting off-points close to areas suitable for new informal downhill or cross-country mountain bike trails were therefore also predicted to have off path use by An Camas Mor residents.

Question 4: This was answered on the basis of professional knowledge of whether setting off points are already established locations for recreation.

Question 5: Different patterns of recreational use were predicted at all setting off points that are not currently established locations for recreation. In the case of already established points, in the light of professional knowledge we considered existing patterns of recreational use and whether each location is sufficiently close and/or convenient in relation to An Camas Mor and patterns of travel from there, to be used by residents for different recreational activities or at different times of day. For example, setting off points with safe routes for dogs that are located close to the proposed settlement, and those located on car travel routes between An Camas Mor and likely workplaces, are likely to be used for early morning &/or after work dog walking.

Question 6: The predicted annual volumes of recreational visits by An Camas Mor residents were compared with any available data on existing annual volumes of recreational visits at setting off points. In practice, for most setting off points there is no such data available, and much of the data that does exist dates from surveys conducted nearly 20 years ago (Taylor & MacGregor 1999, Mather 2000). Where data was available, following a precautionary approach, a predicted increase of 10% or more was assessed as significant. A proportion this low was considered appropriate in the light of the approximate nature of the predicted volumes of use by An Camas Mor residents, the age of the data on existing levels of use, and the need to take a precautionary approach. Where no data on existing levels of use was available, the answer was assessed on the basis of professional judgement of

current levels of use and whether the increase is likely to be more than approximately 10%.

In the occasional circumstances where site specific factors (eg recent implementation of mitigation measures to reduce recreational disturbance) meant that the conclusion about the requirement for mitigation did not follow the principles set out above, the reason is documented in the impact matrix in Annex 5.

For example Drumintoul Lodge woodlands are a short distance from ACM and so there is likely to be both a large increase over the existing levels of recreational activity (which is currently low) and a significant change in its pattern. We expect more users taking dogs for walks, including early in the morning and later in the evening. It is also likely that the current path network will be expanded by the development of informal paths as people explore and discover an easily accessible area close to home that could become a regular part of their routine activity. As there are capercaillie present in these woods, including close to paths and potential entrances, significant disturbance is likely, and it was concluded that mitigation will be required.

In contrast, at Forest Lodge, the predicted increase in recreational use attributable to An Camas Mor residents is not assessed as significant, compared to existing levels, until Phase 4 of the development. Forest Lodge is located at some distance from An Camas Mor, closer to the communities of Nethybridge and Boat of Garten, and is already an established location for recreational visits. Patterns of recreational use are established here, and An Camas Mor residents are predicted to follow the same patterns of behaviour as existing visitors. Capercaillie live and breed close to paths and tracks near Forest Lodge so, as a significant increase in recreational use is predicted by Phase 4, it is concluded that significant disturbance to capercaillie is possible at that stage, and mitigation will be needed then.

The outcome of this assessment has identified seven key areas where there is a risk of significant disturbance to Capercaillie and in which mitigation is required. These areas are shown on Map 3 in Appendix 1 (and described in Table 4) they are:

A – Rothiemurchus
B – Glenmore
C – Inshriach
D – Garten Woods
E – Kinveachy
F - Forest Lodge
G – Uath Lochan woodlands

Stage 4 – Mitigation assessment

For each area identified at Stage 3, a site-specific range of mitigation measures were selected to ensure significant disturbance by ACM residents is avoided. The measures were selected to tackle the specific recreational activities predicted to cause disturbance in each area, the proximity, level and type of capercaillie use, and

the characteristics of the recreational infrastructure and adjacent habitat. The measures are drawn from best practice guidance (listed in Appendix 4) and existing experience of managing recreation in Strathspey. The measures are shown in table 4 below.

Options for phasing delivery of mitigation have been considered. The assessment at Stage 3 showed that, at some recreational destinations further away from ACM, only the later development phases are likely to result in significant disturbance. It might appear therefore that delaying the implementation here is a reasonable approach. However it is clear that in most cases the mitigation requires many years to become effective from initial implementation (e.g. natural regeneration alongside paths to screen them). This means that significant phased application of mitigation is not generally possible. However there may be a few measures for which it is appropriate and consideration of this can be given when delivery is planned in detail. This may include, for example, restrictions or seasonal closure of paths or car parking areas in areas further away from ACM.

This is an important temporal element to the mitigation measures. They require that an adaptive approach is taken within the plan. This is to allow changes to be made to the mitigation over time to ensure that it continues to effectively deliver the required outcomes. It is expected that the RMP will identify mechanisms for this adapted management through monitoring of recreation patterns and the long term delivery of the mitigation itself.

These mitigation measures are required at the outset of the development. This is even where recreational disturbance effects may not be seen until later phases. This is for a variety of reasons for example the habituation of residents to non-disturbing recreation patterns and to allow natural mitigation measures to grow to a point where they are effective. The RMP must include delivery mechanism for the mitigation. All consents and provision for the costs of delivery must be provided at the point of approval for the masterplan to allow the CNPA to have sufficient certainty for the purposes of the HRA at that point.

Monitoring of the recreation use of the resident of ACM will be an important part of the ongoing delivery of mitigation. It will for example allow changes to be agreed varying the provision of mitigation to ensure its effectiveness.

The mitigation will be required for the duration of the development. However the monitoring, of capercaillie and recreation, and adaptive management may highlight that some or all of the mitigation will at some point not be required or need to be changed. Any such changes to the mitigation must be agreed with the CNPA in consultation with SNH in advance.

The mitigation measures identified below are those that are currently considered necessary to achieve the stated outcomes. The ongoing monitoring of the capercaillie population and visitor activity may in years to come indicate that the outcomes are not being met. If so, additional measures will be devised and implemented. These could include greater ranger presence, providing a wider range of recreational infrastructure close to An Camas Mor to ‘attract’ users away from sensitive sites, or any new techniques for reducing recreational disturbance which

may evolve in future. A 'last resort' approach might involve increasing restrictions on recreational activity. This could include additional seasonal closure of paths or, where paths have seasonal restrictions, these may be made permanent. As a final recourse new bylaws restricting access may be brought in by the CNPA, though it is not expected that this will be required.

Table 4 – Mitigation requirements according to area

Area	**Outcomes and Mitigation**
A. Rothiemurchus (Woodlands around Atnahatnich farm, Guislich Farm and Drumintoul Lodge, Moormore, Allt Druidh south of Coylumbridge and Loch an Eilein) **This is all located within Rothiemurchus Estate**	**A. Rothiemurchus** (Woodlands around Atnahatnich farm, Guislich Farm and Drumintoul Lodge, Moormore, Allt Druidh south of Coylumbridge and Loch an Eilein) Required outcomes: 4 Ensure there are more easily accessible and attractive routes and areas for dog walking and informal off-path activities for ACM residents, so that they avoid recreational use of this area. 5 Prevent additional impacts of mountain biking on sensitive sites by ACM residents 6 Reduce potential for occasional recreation use that is likely to cause disturbance to capercaillie. Mitigation Measures: • Prevention of informal parking at track and access entrances to Drumintoul lodge and Atnahatnich farm • Awareness raising, promoting alternative locations for recreation and avoiding recreation in this sensitive areas through off site measures, (eg media/leaflets Ranger events targeted at ACM residents) • Ranger presence during key season in vicinity of sensitive areas • Alternative off-lead dog walking – in ACM and Rothiemurchus Estate area • New path provision in Loch Pityoulish area to provide suitable alternative walking area to east of ACM (drawing potential visits away from the woodlands around the lodge) • Alternative Downhill Mountain biking on Pityoulish hill and woods (to mitigate against increased pressure on Kinveachy, Sluggan and Glenmore). • Path closure in vicinity of Lodge from Coylum Road and reconsidering the link proposed in indicative masterplan. • Diversionary car parking in vicinity of Loch Pityoulish linking to new paths in area • Removal of new informal paths within sensitive parts of this area if they develop • Making other local coniferous woodlands in and around ACM more easily accessible and attractive for sheltered walks and informal play, informal bike trails, etc. • Diversionary Car Parking at Loch an Eilein. Free parking or equivalent measures for ACM residents early mornings and late in afternoons to

	provide alternative dog walking away from capercaillie sensitive areas
B. Glenmore (Woodlands around Sluggan Pass, Badaguish, and North Loch Morlich Woods, Ryvoan, Cairngorms Bridge, 'Piccadilly' area, Rothiemurchus Lodge, South Loch Morlich woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore Forest and Meall a Bhuachaille) **This is all located on Forestry Commission Scotland Land**	**B. Glenmore** (Woodlands around Sluggan Pass, Badaguish, and North Loch Morlich Woods, Ryvoan, Cairngorms Bridge, 'Piccadilly' area, Rothiemurchus Lodge, South Loch Morlich woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore Forest and Meall a Bhuachaille) Required Outcomes: 1. No off-path recreational activities, nor development of new informal routes. 2. Improved screening between the main routes and areas important for capercaillie. 3. No net increase in use of paths and tracks that are currently lightly visited. 4. No increase in mountain biking away from the main forest tracks and promoted routes at the Sluggan and Glenmore 5. Revegetation of the unused path through Blar Ban and Glenmore. Measures: • Removal of any new informal mountain bike tracks that evolve – especially to south of Badaguish, Sluggan Pass and within 1km of known lek sites or core brood rearing areas. • Proactive management to make some areas, including Sluggan Pass and South Loch Morlich Woods, unattractive for mountain biking eg facilitating wind blow, and monitoring and removal of informal mountain biking trails • Restrict parking at Sled-dog centre, Badaguish road end and Milton end of Sluggan pass • Complete blocking of old layby and timber loading area and other informal parking areas on Ski road • Improved screening in woods south of Badaguish/Sluggan tracks, Glenmore Forest and south Loch Morlich Woods from users on paths through active woodland management • Awareness raising and promote responsible access through off site measures, (eg media/leaflets Ranger events targeted at ACM residents) • Promotion of alternative dog walking locations • Removal of trees that have fallen across River Luineag to avoid facilitating access to sensitive areas • On site ranger presence during key season • Management for continued revegetation of 'Hidden Path' across River Luineag and track through Blar Ban, and liaise with OS re not marking it on maps • Management for revegetation of low use dead end tracks in upper

	Glenmore/Allt Ban and South Morlich to discourage use • Diversionary parking – Measures to attract ACM residents away from most sensitive car parking area at early and later parts of the day. Any such measure should be in line with final Glenmore Visitor Improvement Plan •
C: Inshriach (Thieves Road, Inshriach Forest to Feshiebridge, Tracks to Inshriach House) **This is all located on Forestry Commission Scotland Land**	Required Outcomes: 6. No off-path recreational activities, nor development of new informal routes within this area. 7. Residents & visitors keep to the main promoted existing routes in this area, and dogs do not stray off the routes. 8. Improved screening between the main routes and areas important for capercaillie. 9. No increase in dog walking. 10. No increase in mountain biking beyond the main forest tracks and promoted routes. Measures: • Awareness raising and promote responsible access through off site measures, (eg media/leaflets Ranger events targeted at ACM residents) • On site ranger presence during key season especially on Thieves road and Inshriach informal car parking areas. • Management of car parking along the B970 to ensure no increase in level of use especially at sensitive times of year and day. for example Dalnavert , Feshiebruach car park and Inshriach House informal car parking areas redesigned to limit capacity • Improved screening through vegetation management between paths and leks • Signage at Inshriach Nursery Car park (public) to reinforce it is for customers • Path management for seasonal diversions onto parallel routes, away from key leks • Monitoring and removal of any informal mountain biking trails that evolve •
D: Garten Woods (Osprey Centre, Garten woods, **This is all located on RSPB land or Highways Authority Land (subject to confirmation)**	Required Outcomes: 6. No off-path recreational activities, nor development of new informal routes within this area. 7. Residents & visitors keep to the main promoted existing routes in this area, and dogs do not stray off the routes. 8. Improved screening between the main routes and areas important for capercaillie. 9. Dog walkers habitually only use routes that lie close to public roads in this area. 10. No net increase in use of paths and tracks that are currently lightly visited.

	Measures: • Awareness raising and promote responsible access through off site measures, (eg media/leaflets Ranger events targeted at ACM residents) • On site ranger presence during key season at Garten Woods and Loch Garten car parks • Possible closure of informal laybys opposite Garten Woods car park • Signage to direct track users onto suitable tracks during the sensitive seasons, especially those with dogs • Alternative track for dog walking • Management for revegetation of specific paths between car park and Loch Mallachie to reduce recreational use in sensitive areas Improved screening to Loch Mallachie routes by vegetation management
E: Kinveachy (Kinveachy Face including track along the fence line) **This is all located on Seafield/ Reidhaven Estate Land**	Required Outcomes: Required Outcomes: 1. No net increase in use of downhill mountain bike trails within disturbance distances of areas used by capercaillie, as a consequence of use by ACM residents. Measures: • Site specific Awareness raising and promote responsible access through off site measures aimed specifically at downhill bikers, (eg media/leaflets / social media Ranger events targeted at ACM residents and mountain bikers) • Monitoring and removal of informal mountain biking trails above the fence to the SPA • Monitoring and forest management to discourage new trails close to clusters of capercaillie records •
F: Forest Lodge Abernethy Forest	Required Outcomes: 4. No off-path recreational activities, nor development of new informal routes within this area. 5. Residents & visitors keep to the main promoted existing routes in this area, and dogs do not stray off the routes. 6. Improved screening between the main routes and areas important for capercaillie. Measures: • Site specific Awareness raising and promote responsible access through off site measures (eg media/leaflets / social media Ranger events targeted at ACM residents) • Improved screening to selected tracks by vegetation management • On site ranger presence during key season in Forest Lodge area

	• Signage to direct track users onto suitable tracks during the sensitive seasons, especially those with dogs • potential changes to path network to ensure adequate network but avoiding most sensitive areas and possible seasonal diversions • Consider options to limit car parking opportunities at Forest Lodge
G: Uath Lochan Woods Uath Lochan Woods between Feshiebridge and Craig Dhubh, including Coranstilmor and Coranstilbeg	Required Outcomes: 4. No off-path recreational activities, nor development of new informal routes within this area. 5. Residents & visitors keep to the main promoted existing routes in this area, and dogs do not stray off the routes. 6. Improved screening between the main routes and areas important for capercaillie. Measures: • Site specific Awareness raising and promote responsible access through off site measures (eg media/leaflets / social media Ranger events targeted at ACM residents) • Improved screening to selected tracks by vegetation management • On site ranger presence during key season • Signage to direct track users onto suitable tracks during the sensitive seasons, especially those with dogs
Other sites within search area	
Slochd and Inverlaidnan woods, Beananach Woods, Woods to upper Dulnain, Baddengorm woods	In the light of the outcome of the Impact Assessment at Annex 5, it was not considered necessary to have specific interventions to any of the more distant sites other than seasonal targeted ranger activity. However it was considered necessary that these sites were included within the wider package of awareness raising and promote responsible access together with the ACM focused Ranger Activities.
Tulloch Road	As above
Glen Feshie Lodge	As Above
Mondhuie	As above
Invereshie	Management to promote vegetation screening alongside tracks close to sensitive areas is already underway. Seasonal signage is also in place. No further mitigation needed.
Boat Woods	Mitigation required as a consequence of another housing development will be sufficient to avoid disturbance by An Camas Mor residents

Stage 5 – Cost estimate for Mitigation

The mitigation has been costed using similar and recent examples as far as possible. These include for example the path screening for Boat of Garten, recent footpath construction, awareness work for recent core path development. Works to car parks have been divided into small, medium and large scale works and generalised costs of £5k, £10k and £15k used respectively.

Table 5 - Cost estimate for mitigation scheme

Measure	**Total quantity**	**Rate (£)**	**Cost**	**location**
New footpaths – Around Loch Pityoulish	2,100m	30/m + 20k	83,000	Rothiemurchus estate
Car park capacity and reduction works (small)	5	5,000	25,000	2 Rothiemurchus estate 3 FCS
Car park capacity and reduction works (medium)	4	10,000	40,000	3 FCS 1 Highway
Car park capacity and reduction works (large)	2 large	15,000	30,000	2 FCS
Path diversions – seasonal management	2 sites	5,000	10,000	FCS
Management for reduction in path accessibility through revegetation and other measures.	10	10,000	100,000	1 Rothiemurchus estate 7 FCS 2 RSPB
Management for Alternative downhill biking	2 sites	40,000	80,000	1 Rothiemurchus estate

				1 FCS
Alternative dog off lead areas	3	10,000	30,000	3 Rothiemurchus estate
Awareness raising campaign	One 'campaign'	15,000	15,000	Whole of area outwith of ACM development site
Management for improved screening in woodlands	11,100	5/m	55,500	7600 FCS 2500 RSPB
Diversionary car parking	2 car parks: small	5,000	10,000	1 Rothiemurchus estate 1FCS
Diversionary car parking	large	15,000	15,000	Rothiemurchus estate
		Total	**493,500**	

Note on Ranger provision

The cost of additional offsite ranger provision is not included here. The range of services provided by the Rangers on and off site is summarised in table 7 below:

Table 7: Indicative Ranger activity off and on ACM development site required for Capercaillie mitigation

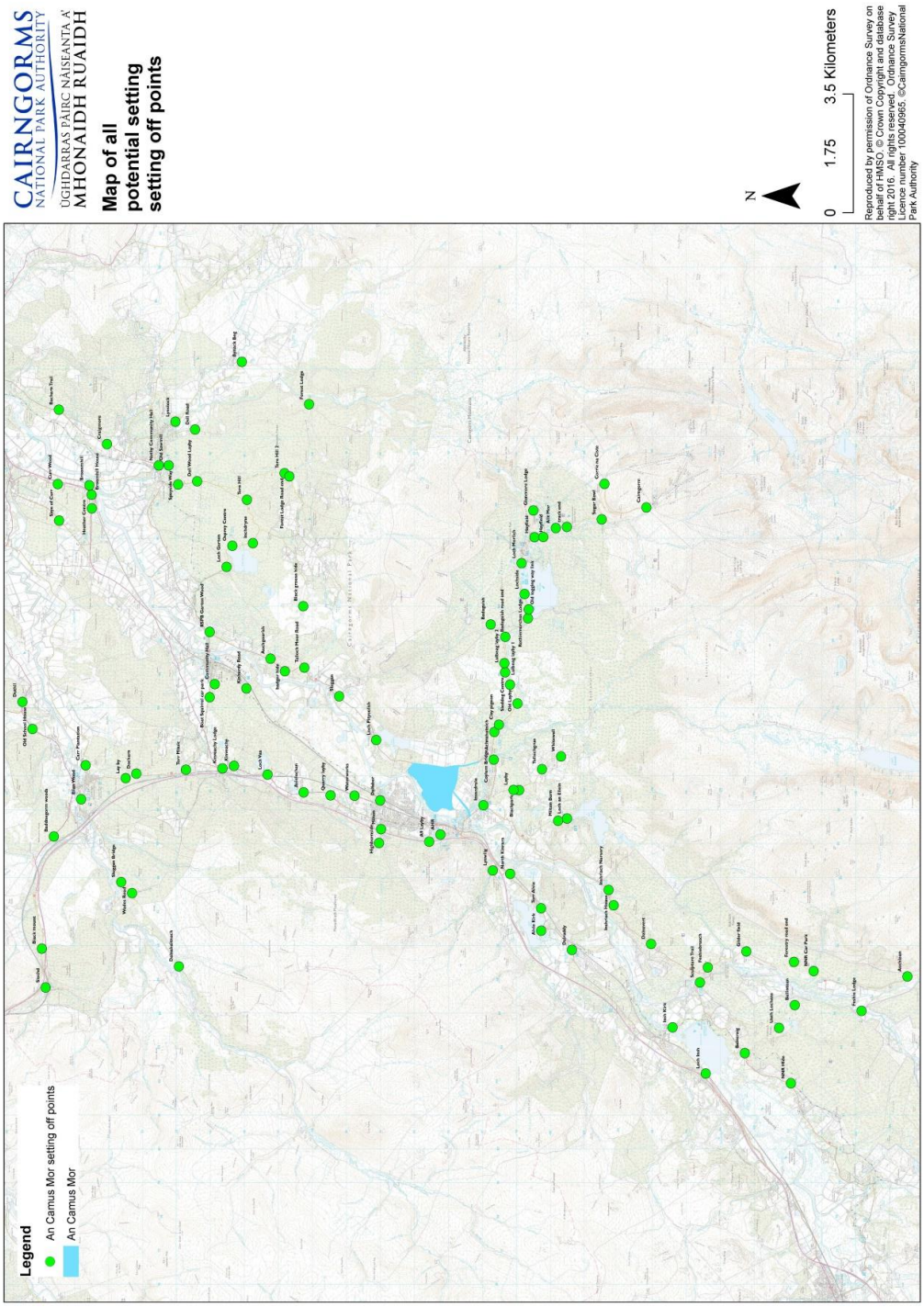
Ranger activity	Onsite Ranger service	Offsite Ranger service

Advising residents to the settlement about the best places and routes to use for different recreational activities, that will not disturb capercaillie or land management.	yes	
Develop and maintain good relationships and effective liaison and communications with the emerging community within the settlement, and work with them and local land managers to ensure their recreational needs are met without disturbance to capercaillie.	yes	
Awareness raising to generate community pride about capercaillie and the impacts of recreation	yes	
Design and run appealing events to increase the level of understanding and promote responsible recreation, particularly for dog walkers	yes	
Promote suitable recreation opportunities eg by articles in community newsletters / social media, signs, leaflets, and ensure these are maintained and kept up-to-date.	yes	
Patrol nearby woodlands that are home to capercaillie, and engage with recreationalists there to raise awareness and promote responsible behaviour.		yes
Monitor whether new informal paths are developing in nearby woodlands that are home to capercaillie, and work with the land manager to remove them and if necessary alter infrastructure / signage to avoid their redevelopment.		Yes
Monitor the effectiveness and integrity of physical measures to manage recreational impacts on capercaillie in sensitive areas (eg blocked-off parking opportunities; signs; path-side screening), and either repair any defects or report them to the land manager.		yes
Develop and maintain good relationships and effective liaison and communications with the emerging dog walking, and downhill mountain biking, communities within the settlement, and work with them and local land managers to ensure their recreational needs can be met without	yes	

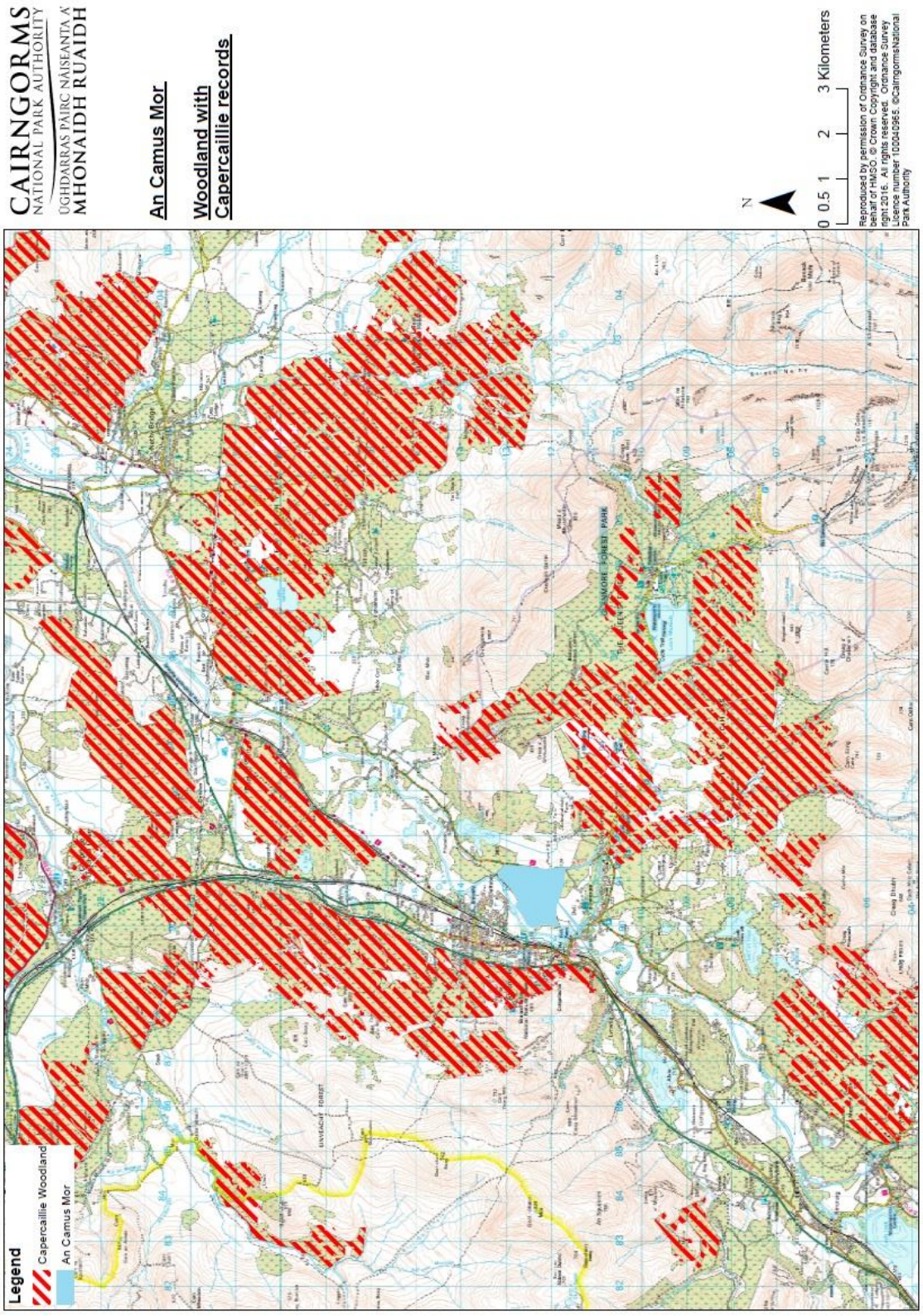
disturbance to capercaillie.		
Lead the deployment of, and publicity for, any requests for restrictions on recreational behaviour in the capercaillie breeding season.		Yes
Report back to the community on the health of the capercaillie population and on levels of responsible behaviour.	Yes	yes
Collect and manage information on visitor activity from ACM residents	yes	
Collect and manage other information of visitor activity		yes
Participate under the direction of agencies with the in the programme of capercaillie data management and collection	yes	yes
Installing, maintaining, calibrating and managing trail cameras and people counters, and analysing and reporting on the results		yes
Collaboration between rangers services to ensure 'seamless' delivery	yes	yes
Collaboration with other ranger services to support off site management of car parking at peak times		yes
Collaboration with other ranger services to support off site management of path diversion, formal and informal		yes
Collaboration with other ranger services to support enforcement of any new by-laws in offsite areas (by-laws are a last resort option, not expected to be necessary)		yes

Appendix 1 – Maps

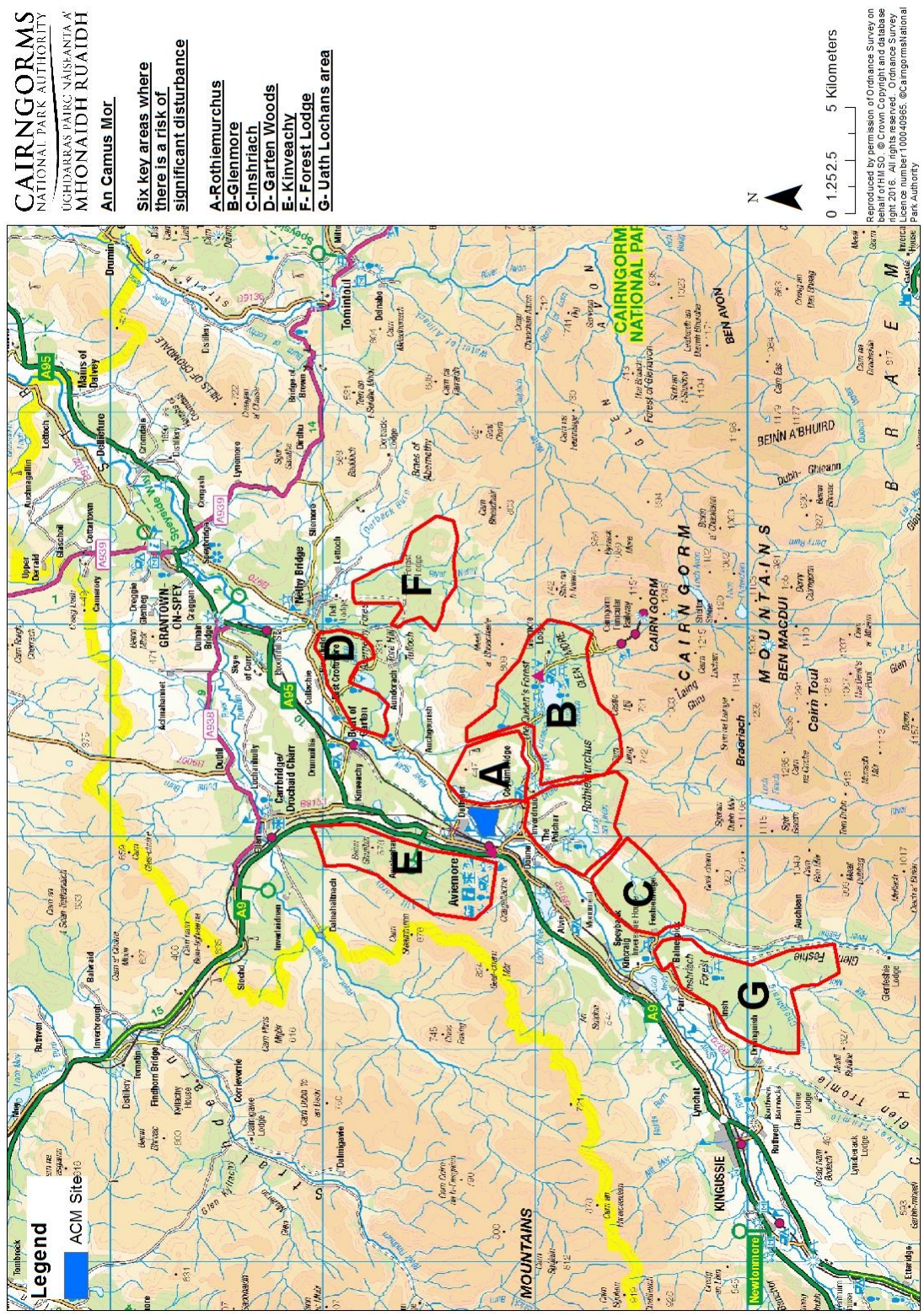
Map1: Starting points for recreational visits



Map 2: Capercaillie woodlands



Map 3: Mitigation areas



Appendix 2 - Details of individual mitigation measures

Mitigation description	**Detail of what measure will require – note that many will be very site specific and will require individual design at a future date.**
Awareness raising and promoting capercaillie friendly behaviour through on and off site measures	This measure covers a range of activity aimed at wide awareness raising targeted principally at ACM residents but also other visitors to the area. It is aimed to make the issues more understood by recipients so that they can adopt capercaillie friendly recreation patterns and behaviour from the start of the development. Measures will include: • Leaflets, social media posts and community news letters aimed at ACM residents explaining the issues and giving advice on behaviour and good locations for dog walking in particular (as done at Boat of Garten) • Engaging with the mountain biking community to seek to promote activity in areas away from capercaillie, and to discourage new trails development in caper woods. • Ranger led events in the ACM community - evening talks, walking events, drop in sessions etc • Media – website/leaflets/Facebook/twitter campaigns to promote good behaviour • Free dog training lessons for ACM residents – to improve control of pets. • Work with professional dog walkers in the area.
Offsite Ranger support	For some sites a ranger will be required to make contact with walkers, check on parking patterns, advise on alternatives sites and make direct contact with users. There will be a requirement for all year round activity but greater during the breeding season. Their roles will include: • Face to face contact with recreation users through key season at key locations in car parks and other sensitive area • Organising and leading public events for ACM residents • Production of publicity materials including printed, and electronic. • Media management and interviews • Distribution and management of trail camera • Monitoring and collection of data from people counters.

	Analysis of data • Managing seasonal paths, seasonal signs, and car park information and infrastructure This is discussed further on page 15
Onsite Ranger support	Though not part of this report the onsite ranger service will provide a complimentary range of activities that focus on the needs of the residents to the development. It will include advising residents of the settlement about the best places and routes to use for different recreational activities that will not disturb capercaillie or land management. This is also discussed on page 15
Alternative off lead dog walking areas	A wide range of attractive dog walking areas and routes are required on and around the ACM site to provide safe areas where dogs can be exercised both on and off lead. The routes should include a range of lengths and settings (eg woodland for shelter; open for views).The aim is to make these dog walking options easier and more attractive than local sites that are sensitive for capercaillie. Possible locations include Callart Hill and woodland west of this, woodland around the Dell. The development site may be well suited to some of these but it is likely that they will be located within the Rothiemurchus Estate, both on and off the ACM site.
Alternative downhill mountain biking areas	New downhill biking areas are required to divert residents from Sluggan and the more sensitive parts of Glenmore, Inshriach and Kinveachy. This is required at Pityoulish Hill where there are no capercaillie and in the north Loch Morlich/Glenmore area. This will require: • restructuring of woodland to make room for tracks • provision of new tracks to suitable start points • Some minor remodelling of ground works to make more interesting landform • Publication of locations. • Mountain bike skills parks should be provided in the An Camas Mor development This needs to be manged carefully to retain the 'guerrilla biking' element of this activity which is a key attraction. Specific jumps and other features are likely to be developed informally by the users. Management of areas is required to ensure dangerous features and inappropriate structures are removed.
Path diversions and /or revegetation; seasonal or	Allowing path to close naturally through management of the surface to allow it to revegetate and so make it less suitable

permanent	for access and recreation. This process is already happening on some paths which have fallen out of use. This will require consultation with stakeholder groups. There is a range of possible measures depending upon consultation response. These include simple seasonal signage to physical removal of some or all of the path structure. Scarification of the surface to allow seedlings to establish may be needed and may need barriers to prevent access during this process to reduce wearing. Management may be done along length of the path depending on circumstances. In other situations, where there are parallel paths / tracks to the same destination, seasonal diversions may be put in place to steer users away from leks. By-laws prohibiting access at times of the year are possible but a last resort and would only be considered where all other measures have been exhausted.
Reducing opportunities for informal car parking/redesign of car parking	There are a number of types of intervention with existing car parks and bell mouths where informal parking takes place. This will either prevent any parking or restrict the capacity to limit the access from these points. For the purposes of estimation these will be categorised into small, medium and large works. (S,M,L) with an approximate cost of £5,000, £10,000 and £15,000 respectively. Physical measures may include: • Fencing/gates of existing parking areas where large forest vehicles still need access • Use of obstructions such as ditching or boulders to limit capacity. • Reshaping existing tarmac areas, curbing and drainage if required • Planting to ameliorate hard works and restore vegetation
Diversionary Car Parking	There are a number of car parking locations from which walkers are unlikely to increase disturbance in capercaillie sensitive areas. This is because the starting point is located so that the majority of walks start further away and /or not lead into sensitive areas. Improved provision here would relieve pressure from more sensitive car park areas. This can be done through physical changes to increase capacity and/or waiving of parking fees for residents of ACM. These locations are: • Loch an Eilein (increased capacity and seasonal free parking - Rothiemurchus) • Pityoulish area alternative location on Rothiemurchus near Callart Hill • Glenmore - at Loch Morlich (Seasonal free parking -

	FCS)
People counters and trail cameras leading to adaptive management	In some locations the recreational response to mitigation measures will need to be monitored in order to determine whether additional measures are required (eg those that are more restrictive or more expensive). People counters are semi-permanent installation situated underneath, or on either side of, a trail and capture the number of passes. These have to be individually calibrated and the data collected on a monthly basis. This data is then analysed against the calibration for the number of visitors. Some counters can distinguish between pedestrians and cycles and this will be required in a few areas. Trail cameras take video or still images when they are passed by people (or dogs) on tracks. These are temporary, in situ between 1-2 weeks, and are used to add qualitative information on who is using the trail, what their activity is, whether dogs are on a lead or not, how many in a group etc. They a can also be used to identify the best locations for people counters and calibrate them by comparing data outputs. This approach has been used successfully at Boat of Garten. Surveys of the new residents of ACM will be undertaken to verify their outdoor recreational habits and the locations they are using.
Signage	Signage is site specific and will alert users to the presence of capercaillie and advice on safe routes to use. It may be permanent or seasonal. The latter type would be repositioned by ranger staff. It is not usually needed or effective on its own but is best but in combination with other mitigation measures to explain changes in activity or facilities. The cost of signage has been included within the estimates for other mitigations; this is because it can vary considerably in accordance with the mitigation.
Alternative path provision	In some area new paths may be required to provide for routes away from sensitive sites. This may also be provided as mitigation for path removal. For example a new track close to Loch Pityoulish will provide a good quality alternative to walking in the Drumintoul area to the east of ACM.
Screening capercaillie areas from paths	This is the thickening of the woodland vegetation to reduce the visibility and sound transfer between the birds and path users and to reduce disturbance. There are several methods

	for achieving this for example through the scarification of existing ground within woodlands and some new planting in capercaillie sensitive areas. This is facilitated by tree removal to increase light levels. This has been done in Boat woods. There is a significant time delay between scarification and there being effective screening from regeneration/ planting of at least 5-8 years depending on ground conditions and altitude. Some short term or 'instant' effect screening might be necessary if monitoring shows particular problem areas. This could be achieved through a combination of land modelling, tree stumps/brash placement or screen fencing.
Removal of new informal tracks	New routes and desire lines can develop within sensitive areas by users exploring off track either on foot or cycle. These will be removed by a combination of repair of ground condition to allow regrowth, pulling over trees or even positioning obstacles on the track. Signage is also likely to be needed and staff time to liaise with users to advise on the issues and identify suitable alternative locations
Bylaws	Where persistent disturbance is found in any area and other measures have proven ineffective, bylaws can be made to restrict or eliminate access either seasonally or permanently. This requires lengthy legal processes, public consultation and will also require signage and enforcement measures on site. This is a last resort option.

Appendix 3 – Mitigation and other activity already in place or programmed

A number of existing programmes are already delivering activity that contribute to the mitigation required to reduce the recreational disturbance to capercaillie from ACM residents.

Location/activity	Description	Delivery agency	Date
Invereshie, within Invereshie & InshriachNNR	As a response to improvements to the Thieves road and its inclusion in the core path plan SNH identified a number of measures that deliver a reduction in disturbance to capercaillie from existing users as well as to compensate for additional levels of user from future users, in particular ACM	SNH	Already underway (screening is growing)
People counters and trail cameras	The use of trail cameras and people counters on paths is integral to delivering up to date information on recreational use of the sensitive areas. This will be delivered as part of the capercaillie framework. This information, added to capercaillie population data provides the essential data for assessing the level of mitigation and the success of that already implemented. Some of this work is already undertaken through the framework but this will be expanded in line with this project. The data collected will support an adaptive management approach to ensure outcomes are delivered effectively.	SNH/CNPA/FCS/RSPB	From 2016
Boat of Garten	The development of 33 houses at Boat has required a wider range of mitigation measure to prevent disturbance to birds in the adjacent woodlands. These include:	CNPA Seafield Reidhaven Daval Developments	Already in place

	• Screening to Paths • Prevention of informal route ways • Additional ranger support on site and within local community • Site signage • Additional monitoring of recreational activity It has been concluded that, within Boat woods, these measures will mitigate effects from ACM and that nothing further is required.		
Capercaillie Framework	The Framework provides a set of working data, analysis and recommendations that will inform implementation across a wide spectrum of work, from habitat and species management, to recreation management and development planning. Given the complex set of factors affecting capercaillie populations, the framework is intended to help ensure these measures are working in combination to the best effect. This approach is needed to deliver landscape scale conservation on the ground and to meet the legal obligations on Scottish public bodies under European and national legislation. The Framework provides a context for co-ordinating adaptive management measures, including the way in which other management decisions interact with mitigation measures for An Camas Mor in future.	CNPA/SNH/FCS/RSPB	HLF stage 1 bid in August 2016. Stage 2 1 year later. Delivery expected to start Autumn 2017
Capercaillie population monitoring	The Capercaillie population is monitored across the strath by a number of organisations. Birds are counted during Lekking and brood rearing periods annually as well as a national survey taken	SNH, RSPB, CNPA, FCS, Rothiemurchus, Seafield and other private estates. GWCT	The different counts are undertaken according to the needs and resource

	every six years. This work is co-ordinated by the Capercaillie Project officer and the data is the primary source for planning across the area.		available to each organisation.
Discouragement of mountain biking in areas sensitive for capercaillie	Proactive management to make some areas unattractive for mountain biking, and especially downhill biking, eg facilitating wind-blow through monitoring and removal of informal mountain biking trails. Changes to management can be undertaken through a re-prioritisation of forest plan objectives. Identification of sensitive areas will be done by Capercaillie Project officer.	FCS, Rothiemurchus and other estates	This will be an ongoing activity.
Awareness raising among specialist user groups.	Liaison with mountain biking groups to ensure expansion into sensitive areas does not occur, and adequate provision is available elsewhere	CNPA/SNH/FCS	This work has already begun and will be a permanent feature of officer and ranger activity in sensitive areas.
Existing forest operations	Current forest operations within the Glenmore forest park are in part aimed at improving the habitat for capercaillie and minimising the effects of visitor pressure on the birds. This is part of the long term forest plan.	FCS	Current and planned operations
Glenmore Visitor Improvement Plan	The Glenmore VIP has a key aim to manage visitor impacts on capercaillie. It seeks to delineate areas for conservation and recreation primacy.	CNPA/FCS/HIE/SNH	Plan has been out to consultation in final document is in preparation

Appendix 4 – Key assumptions and data sources

A number of key assumptions have been made in making the assessments outlined above. They are listed below. The detailed methodology is documented in separate reports.

Stage 1: Capercaillie data

Assumptions

Assumption	Rationale
Data showing capercaillie leks (and a 1 km radius around them), broods, sightings and signs from 2007 – 2015, when combined with brood survey search areas and mapped areas of high or medium brood habitat quality around brood sightings outwith search areas, together provide adequate understanding of the locations used by capercaillie at present and in the recent past.	Capercaillie are well-recorded in the area. Sites that held no records but that were thought to contain suitable habitat were checked for signs by skilled observers and the dataset updated accordingly.
The brood survey search areas represent a sample from each wood. This sample area is notably larger at Abernethy, done on rotation over a number of years, than other sites	Brood survey search areas were selected many years ago and were considered to be the best brood habitat within the best capercaillie woods at the time of selection. Many of the original search areas are no longer surveyed due to low numbers or absence of capercaillie. Other areas have subsequently developed good brood habitat.

Information sources:

The sources are already listed at Stage 2 page 7

Note: This data is restricted environmental information that cannot be released beyond SNH and CNPA without the owners' permission. Publication of the information could threaten the species.

Stage 2: Modelling recreational use by An Camas Mor residents

The method and results are described in 'Report on likely recreational trends and likely recreational pressure points associated with the residents of An Camas Mor' Adam Streeter-Smith, CNPA, 2016

Assumptions

Assumption	Rationale
The number of homes in An Camas Mor will be as follows: Phase 1 – 200 Phase 2 – 400 Phase 3 – 630 Phase 4 – 1500	Environmental Statement accompanying the application for planning permission in principle.
The mean number of residents per home in An Camas Mor will be 2.19, declining to 1.93 by Phase 4	Household Projections for Scotland's Strategic Development Plan Areas and National Parks (2012-based), National Records of Scotland
An Camas Mor residents will take more recreational visits to the outdoors than the average for Scottish rural residents, which is 9.9 visits every 4 weeks.	There are a range of reasons why this is likely: the site is within easy accessibility of iconic and nationally important recreational destinations and resources; the area is marketed and known as somewhere where outdoors enthusiasts purposefully come to live, work and visit; visitors have time available to take more recreational visits than working residents; compared to the average rural resident in Scotland the area attracts more active retirees, and more affluent residents, both of whom are likely to make more outdoors visits. (As advised by JHI & Napier University 2015)
An Camas Mor residents will not take more recreational visits to the outdoors than the sub-group that took the most visits in Scotland's People and Nature Survey (2013). This is 'adults who visited the outdoors every day', who made an average of 26.4 visits every 4 weeks.	An upper limit to the predicted increase in recreational use is needed in order to be able to use the model results in a meaningful way in the Habitats Regulations Appraisal. In the absence of any other evidence, this is the approach advised by JHI. It allows 'spare capacity' to account for the likely

	higher dwelling occupancy and greater volumes of recreational visits by visitors to the settlement compared to the residents on which the estimates are based. It is likely to result in an over-estimate of the volume of visits i.e to be precautionary
An Camas Mor residents will have broadly similar patterns of recreational use as Scottish rural residents in terms of the activities undertaken (except downhill mountain biking); the distance travelled from home to the setting off point; the distance travelled on foot / cycle etc.; and whether accompanied by a dog.	Unaware of any reasons why these attributes would be so significantly different as to affect the assessment of mitigation requirements.
Once An Camas Mor is fully occupied downhill mountain biking visits in the local area will roughly double in volume compared to present levels.	An Camas Mor will eventually be the same size that Aviemore is at present. Judgement and anecdotal evidence suggest that local participation in downhill mountain biking is high compared to other parts of rural Scotland, and we'd expect An Camas Mor residents to behave similarly to existing local residents .
An Camas Mor residents will make recreational visits: • Directly from home • From formal car parks • From informal car parking locations that are currently used for recreational visits • From any informal car parking opportunities within five miles of the settlement, even if they are not currently used	Based on professional knowledge and inference from recreation surveys in other locations e.g. Rothiemurchus and Glenmore Recreation Survey 1998-9. People walking unsocialised dogs are likely to seek locations where only 1 or 2 cars can be parked, and they are unlikely to meet other people, dogs or livestock (Advice from JHI 2015)
The relative attractiveness of potential locations for recreation around An Camas Mor is determined by the following criteria: • 'Close to home'. This criterion covers the ease of accessibility by car, bike or foot	Published research on dog walking by Jenkinson, SPANs data on the popularity of different recreational settings, and advice from JHI 2015.

from the settlement. In addition, convenient locations between nodes of daily travel (eg dog walking opportunities between home and work) also score highly. • Safe off-lead access. Areas where dog owners are comfortable letting their dogs off lead because they are away from public roads and livestock. • Away from other dogs. Exercising anti-social dogs, or those not well socialised, can be stressful and challenging for dog owners. Such owners often seek out quiet areas, or times of day, where they are unlikely to encounter many other people or dogs. • Feature(s) of interest. Popular features include attractive woodlands, lochs and/or rivers, views, and a range of routes of different lengths. • Good parking. Ample and safe off-road parking.	
Recreational visits by An Camas Mor residents involving a round trip journey of >20 miles to the setting off point will be small in number and so dispersed in geographic scope that they will not result in significant additional recreational use or capercaillie disturbance at locations this distant from ACM.	SPANS data shows 14% of visits by Scottish rural residents involve a journey from home to the start point of the recreational visit of 10 miles or more. This 14% of visits could be located anywhere in Scotland. This means that the volume at any one recreational destination within the capercaillie range but beyond 10 miles from ACM will be negligible.
From setting off-points, recreationalists may take access on any routes that are identified as core paths; routes identified by respondents to CNPA's first core path plan consultation; or shown on current OS maps (except downhill mountain bikers).	Collectively, this is the most comprehensive dataset of recreational routes available for this area.
An Camas Mor residents will not undertake off-path activities (except downhill mountain biking) in new locations within areas that are already popular for recreation (e.g. Glenmore).	Patterns of recreational use in these areas are already well-established.
An Camas Mor residents may undertake	Patterns of recreational use within a

off-path activities (a) within a 2 mile round trip distance of the settlement or (b) within 350m of setting off points.	2 mile round trip distance of the settlement are not well-established. Desire lines and zones of off-path activity (e.g. wild food foraging; den-making) are present around settlements throughout this area, and would therefore be expected to form around An Camas Mor, too. Research by Moss *et al.* 2014 shows a 'disturbance zone' around woodland entrances that is assumed to be at least partly due to off path activity by people and dogs. The size of the zone varied in different woodlands, and 350m was the largest statistically significant figure from the three sites where a figure had been generated (Boat of Garten, Anagach, Glenmore).
Unbridged rivers are a barrier to recreationalists accessing areas of woodland.	Professional judgement and knowledge.
It is assumed that there will be a footbridge over the Spey between ACM and Aviemore.	In multi-partner discussion about this development, including with Scottish Government, it was agreed this was needed and would be in place during phase 1 (200 homes)prior to occupation or construction.
Setting off points within a 5 mile round trip distance of An Camas Mor are likely to undergo a change in the pattern of recreational use compared to present, particularly an increased proportion of visits accompanied by dogs; and increased volumes of recreation in the early morning and late evening.	Professional knowledge and dog walking research indicates these activities are focussed close to home.
Setting off points beyond a 5 mile round trip distance of An Camas Mor that are en route between key nodes of car-based activity (home; work; school; shops etc, in Kingussie; Grantown; Inverness) are also likely to receive an increased proportion of visits accompanied by dogs; and increased	JHI on-going research in the Boat of Garten area has identified the importance of convenient stopping off locations for dog walking during journeys made for other purposes.

volumes of recreation in the early morning.	
New informal single-track downhill mountain bike trails are likely to evolve in areas near An Camas Mor with suitably steep slopes, land cover and accessibility.	Based on existing informal downhill trails that have evolved at Kinveachy Face / Highburnside; Sluggan pass; slopes above Glenmore Lodge. (Advice from JHI 2015)
An Camas Mor residents will start their recreational visit from home, or from a logical and convenient setting-off point for the recreational visit that broadly minimises both the distance driven and that walked / cycled on the road.	Professional knowledge and judgement, evidence from recreation surveys elsewhere including Rothiemurchus & Glenmore Recreation Survey 1998-9.

A number of factors that could influence the estimated volumes and patterns of recreational use cannot be taken into account quantitatively, but are addressed through the use of the generous upper limit to the estimated volumes. These include:

a. Levels of house occupancy by visitors may be higher than those of permanent residents (particularly during the capercaillie breeding season).
b. Visitors are likely to make more outdoor visits than residents.
c. Visitors are likely to travel further to their setting off point than residents, and are more likely to visit iconic and popular recreation destinations.
d. A small proportion of recreational visits by residents rehoused in An Camas Mor from overcrowded accommodation within 10 miles of the site may be to the same locations they currently visit, and hence not represent a net increase (NB because patterns of recreation are location-specific, it is likely that they will take most recreational visits in new locations once they move to An Camas Mor)
e. Redistribution of visits by Aviemore residents to locations in and around An Camas Mor once the proposed bridge between An Camas Mor and Aviemore is constructed.
f. Visits by children unaccompanied by an adult to offsite locations (except downhill mountain biking, which has been taken into account).
g. Potential displacement of existing recreational users into capercaillie woodlands, as favourite locations become busier.
h. Potential change in patterns of activity by residents over time as the size of the settlement increases, as favourite locations become busier and the novelty of nearby routes decreases the tendency to go further afield.

Data sources:

Brown K. (September 2015) Assessment of methodology of CNPA model of recreation demand for An Camus Mòr, James Hutton Institute

CNPA dataset of core paths and routes used by participants in the first core path plan consultation

CNPA and SNH staff knowledge of potential formal and informal car parks and setting off points within 10 miles of An Camas Mor

Jenkinson, S. (2011). People and Dogs in the Outdoors. Report for CNPA.

Mather, A S (2000). Rothiemurchus and Glenmore Recreation Survey 1998-9: final report. Scottish Natural Heritage Research, Survey and Monitoring Report No 166

Moss R, Leckie F, Biggins A, Poole T, Baines D & Kortland K (2014) Impacts of human disturbance on capercaillie *Tetrao urogallus* distribution and demography in Scottish woodland. Wildlife Biology, 20(1): 1-18
http://www.bioone.org/doi/abs/10.2981/wlb.12065

Moss R, Biggins A, Leckie F, Jones G, Jones F & Lambie D (2010) The distribution of capercaillie droppings in relation to sources of disturbance: part II Boat of Garten Wood. Progress report to capercaillie BAP group draft, version 2) October 2010.

National Records of Scotland, (2012) Household Projections for Scotland's Strategic Development Plan Areas and National Parks

Dr Patrick White & Dr Kathy Velander, Animal & Plant Sciences, (February 2016) Methodological Assessment of Cairngorms National Park Authority's An Camas Mor Recreational Visit Model, Edinburgh Napier University,

SNH, (2013). Scotland's People and Nature Survey (SPANS)

SNH,(2012). Scottish Recreation Survey

Stage 3: Compare modelled data on recreational use by ACM residents with data on locations used by capercaillie to identify where mitigation is needed to avoid significant disturbance

The spatial patterns of predicted recreational use and of capercaillie distribution were plotted on maps. Locations where there is potential for significant disturbance by An Camas Mor residents were identified using the following assumptions. The results are tabulated in a spreadsheet titled 'An Camas Mor Impact Assessment Matrix.

Assumptions

Assumption	Rationale

The lek range extends up to 1 km from the lek and represents a key area for capercaillie during the breeding season, when they are particularly sensitive to disturbance.	Kortland K 2006
Capercaillie within 125m of routes that will be used by An Camas Mor residents will be significantly disturbed by any significant increase in levels or use, &/or change in the pattern of use towards more disturbing behaviours (e.g. early morning activity; more dog walking; more off-path mountain biking)	Moss *et al.* (2014) report that capercaillie droppings are statistically significantly less likely to be found within 125m of tracks.
Capercaillie beyond 125m of routes that will be used by An Camas Mor residents will not be significantly disturbed by an increase in recreational use, provided the pattern of use remains as present.	Moss *et al.* (2014) report that capercaillie droppings are statistically significantly less likely to be found within 125m of tracks, and that beyond this distance there is an observable effect but it is not statistically significant.
An increase in informal trail development by mountain bikers within 125m of capercaillie records will result in significant disturbance.	Moss *et al.* (2014) report that capercaillie droppings are statistically significantly less likely to be found within 125m of tracks.
Capercaillie within 350m of woodland entrances that will be used by An Camas Mor residents will be significantly disturbed by any significant increase in levels or use, &/or change in the pattern of use towards more disturbing behaviours (e.g. early morning activity; more dog walking; more off-path mountain biking).	Moss *et al.* (2014) report that the effect of entrances is large and obvious but its form is site specific. 350m was the largest statistically significant avoidance distance of the sites reported elsewhere so this figure was used.
Use of routes that are not popular for recreation at present, and are predicted to receive a significant increase in use as a consequence of An Camas Mor residents , is particularly likely to result in significant disturbance to capercaillie.	There is greater scope for disturbance because capercaillie are unlikely to have become habituated to avoiding these routes. In addition, increased recreational use could result in zones 125m on both sides of such routes become effectively unavailable due to disturbance. This is likely to reduce the carrying capacity of the wood for capercaillie.

Recreational visits accompanied by dogs are particularly likely to result in significant disturbance to capercaillie	Marshall (2005)
Off-path recreational activity is particularly likely to result in significant disturbance to capercaillie	Thiel et al. 2007
Recreational use by An Camas Mor residents close to the only spatially isolated single record of non-breeding capercaillie, which is at Ord Ban near Loch an Eilean does not risk significant disturbance.	This capercaillie record is likely to represent a dispersing bird. The Loch an Eilean area is already popular for recreation and An Camas Mor residents are not likely to disturb infrequent dispersing birds in this area.

Information sources

Kortland K (2006) Forest Management for Capercaillie – an illustrated guide for forest managers. Nevisprint, Fort William.

Marshall K. (2005). Capercaillie and recreational disturbance study. Unpublished report for CNPA, FCS and SNH.

Mather, A.S. 2000. Rothiemurchus and Glenmore Recreation Survey 1998-99: final report. Scottish Natural Heritage Research, Survey and Monitoring Report No 166

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Taylor, J. & MacGregor, C. 1999. Cairngorms Mountain Recreation Survey 1997-1998. Scottish Natural Heritage Research, Survey and Monitoring Report No 162.

Thiel, D., Menoni, E., Brenot, J.-B. & Jenni, L. (2007) Effects of recreation and hunting on flushing distance of capercaillie. The Journal of Wildlife Management 71(6): 1784 – 1792.

Stage 4: Identify potential mitigation measures to avoid increased significant disturbance at these locations

Assumptions

Assumption	Rationale
Significant disturbance arising from increased access to unpromoted and currently little-used routes from small, informal parking opportunities can be effectively avoided by removing all the opportunities for car parking close to the junction of the road and the route.	Professional judgement and local experience.
Significant disturbance to capercaillie near recreational routes can be reduced if people and dogs stay on the route.	Recommended by Moss *et al.* (2014), Thiel *et al.* 2007,
Significant disturbance to capercaillie near recreational routes can be reduced by developing effective visual and noise screens e.g. through vegetation growth, topographic barriers etc.	Recommended by Thiel *et al.* 2007
A combination of communications methods all re-inforcing the same key messages is required in order to successfully influence recreational behaviour (e.g. for people and their dogs not to stray away from paths/tracks)	Jenkinson, S. (2011) People and Dogs in the Outdoors. Research Report for Cairngorms National Park Authority. Experience of recreation management in Boat of Garten woods.
Mountain biking can be broken down into two distinct disciplines – downhill and trail riding . Both have different needs and more importantly differing age profiles. Message targeted towards these age groups are more likely to be successful.	King, K., 2010. Lifestyle, Identity and Young People's Experiences of Mountain Biking. Forestry Commission Research Note FCRN007, December 2010.
Informal trails for downhill mountain biking will develop on suitable terrain that is accessible from the development but can be managed through active engagement with the users, identifying more favourable sites for users to occupy and intervening to remove infrastructure.	Professional judgement Knowledge and experience of informal trail development around nearby communities *See information sources*

Information sources

Adam Streeter-Smith (2016) Report on predicted levels and patterns of recreational use of the outdoors by An Camas Mor residents. CNPA

Forestry Commission Scotland ,Wild Trail and Desire line Management Practice Guide

International Mountain Biking Association, Guidelines to assist landowners in the management and or development of mountain biking trails and facilities

James Hutton Institute Understanding and resolving land use conflicts Vol 1: Mountain Biking in Scotland

Jenkinson, S. (2011) People and Dogs in the Outdoors. Research Report for Cairngorms National Park Authority.

Jenkinson 2013, Planning for dog ownership in new developments: reducing conflict – adding value. Hampshire County Council

Moss, R., Leckie F., Biggins A., Poole T., Baines D. & Kortland K.(2014). Impacts of Human Disturbance on Capercaillie Tetrao urogallus Distribution and demography in Scottish Woodland. Wildlife Biology, 20(1):1-18.

SNH (2012). Managing access with dogs in protected areas to safeguard breeding birds. http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com/responsible-access/land-managers/managing-access/

Thiel, D., Menoni, E., Brenot, J.-B. & Jenni, L. (2007) Effects of recreation and hunting on flushing distance of capercaillie. The Journal of Wildlife Management 71(6): 1784 – 1792.

Walking-the-Talk (2013). Visitor behaviour in sensitive woodland habitats – repeat photographic survey at Boat of Garten Woods. Scottish Natural Heritage Commissioned Report No. CR634.

Appendix 5 - Impact Assessment Matrix

The ACM Site

Setting off point	Are there capercaillie woods accessible from here that are likely to be used by An Camas Mor residents for recreation?	Are there records of capercaillie within 350m of the setting off point, and/or within 125m of routes likely to be used by An Camas Mor residents, or is there a lek within 1km of the setting off point or routes likely to	Is off-path recreational use (on foot or mountain biking) by An Camas Mor residents predicted in areas accessible from here?	Is the setting off point currently an established location for recreation?	Are An Camas Mor residents predicted to have different temporal patterns of recreational use to any existing visitors, or to undertake a different profile of activities? (eg. more dog walking, or early morning use)	Will the predicted level of use by an Camas Mor residents significantly increase overall levels of recreational use from here?	Is mitigation required to avoid significant disturbance of these Capercaillie by ACM residents?	Why?

		be used?						
ACM								
Phase 1	Yes	Yes- Druminto ul Woods and Kinveachy	Yes - All types of use in Drumintou l woods and Mountain biking in Kinveachy	No; there are no current users	Yes	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • New informal paths likely to develop within / leading to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;

Phase 2	Yes	Yes- Druminto ul Woods and Kinveachy	Yes - All types of use in Drumintou l woods and Mountain biking in Kinveachy	No; there are no current users	Yes	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • New informal paths likely to develop within / leading to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 3	Yes	Yes- Druminto ul Woods and Kinveachy	Yes - All types of use in Drumintou l woods and Mountain biking in Kinveachy	No; there are no current users	Yes	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • New informal paths likely to develop within / leading to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;

Phase 4	Yes	Yes- Druminto ul Woods and Kinveachy	Yes - All types of use in Drumintou l woods and Mountain biking in Kinveachy	No; there are no current users	Yes	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • New informal paths likely to develop within / leading to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;

Starting Of Points (SOP) O-2 miles

Are there records of capercaillie within 350m of the setting off point, and/or within 125m of routes likely to be used by An Camas Mor	**Is off-path recreational use (on foot or mountain biking) by An Camas Mor residents predicted in areas accessible from here?**	**Is the setting off point currently an established location for recreation?**	**Are An Camas Mor residents predicted to have different temporal patterns of recreational use to any existing visitors, or to undertake a**	**Will the predicted level of use by an Camas Mor residents significantly increase overall levels of recreational use from**	**Is mitigation required to avoid significant disturbance of these Capercaillie by ACM residents?**	**Why?**

residents, or is there a lek within 1km of the setting off point or routes likely to be used?			**different profile of activities? (eg. more dog walking, or early morning use)**	**here?**		
Yes	Yes in Drumintoul but not elsewhere	yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • New informal paths likely to develop within / leading to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with unsocialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;

Yes	Yes in Drumintoul but not elsewhere	yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • New informal paths likely to develop within / leading to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with unsocialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Yes	Yes in Drumintoul but not elsewhere	yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • New informal paths likely to develop within / leading to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with unsocialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;

Yes	Yes in Drumintoul but not elsewhere	yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • New informal paths likely to develop within / leading to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with unsocialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;

SOP 2 - 5 miles

Setting off point	Are there capercaillie woods accessible from here that are likely to be used by An Camas Mor residents for recreation?	Are there records of capercaillie within 350m of the setting off point, and/or within 125m of routes likely to be used by An Camas Mor residents, or is there a lek within 1km of the setting off point or routes likely to be used?	Is off-path recreational use (on foot or mountain biking) by An Camas Mor residents predicted in areas accessible from here?	Is the setting off point currently an established location for recreation?	Are An Camas Mor residents predicted to have different temporal patterns of recreational use to any existing visitors, or to undertake a different profile of activities? (eg. more dog walking, or early morning use)	Will the predicted level of use by an Camas Mor residents significantly increase overall levels of recreational use from here?	Is mitigation required to avoid significant disturbance of these Capercaillie by ACM residents?	Why?
Loch Pityoulish								
Phase 1	No						n	• Sensitive areas not accessible from here

Phase 2	No						n	• Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 3	No						n	• Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 4	No						n	• Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Coylum Bridge								
Phase 1	Yes - Druminteoul woods and woods around Cairngorm Footbridge	Yes	Yes - mountain biking	Yes	yes- early morning and late evening dog walking and mountain biking	no	y	• New informal paths likely to develop within / leading to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 2	Yes - Druminteoul woods and woods around	Yes	Yes - mountain biking	Yes	yes- early morning and late evening dog walking and mountain biking	no	y	• New informal paths likely to develop within / leading to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive

	Cairngorm Footbridge							areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 3	Yes - Drumintoul woods and woods around Cairngorm Footbridge	Yes	Yes - mountain biking	Yes	yes- early morning and late evening dog walking and mountain biking	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • New informal paths likely to develop within / leading to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 4	yes	Yes	Yes - mountain biking	yes	yes- early morning and late evening dog walking and mountain biking	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • New informal paths likely to develop within / leading to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised

								dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;

Achnahatnich								
Phase 1	Yes - Drumintoul Woodlands	Yes	Yes	no	Yes- early morning and late evening dog walking	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • New informal paths likely to develop within / leading to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 2	Yes - Drumintoul Woodlands	Yes	Yes	no	Yes- early morning and late evening dog walking	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • New informal paths likely to develop within / leading to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 3	Yes - Drumintoul Woodlands	Yes	Yes	no	Yes- early morning and late evening dog walking	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • New informal paths likely to develop within / leading to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised

								dogs;
Phase 4	Yes - Drumintoul Woodlands	Yes	Yes	no	Yes- early morning and late evening dog walking	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • New informal paths likely to develop within / leading to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;

Sled dog Centre								
Phase 1	Yes Drumintoul Woods and Moormore Woods	Yes	no	no	Yes- early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	yes	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 2	Yes Drumintoul Woods and Moormore Woods	Yes	no	no	Yes- early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	yes	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 3	Yes Drumintoul Woods and Moormore Woods	Yes	no	no	Yes- early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	yes	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 4	Yes Drumintoul Woods	Yes	no	no	Yes- early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	yes	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas

	and Moormore Woods							• Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Loch an Eilein								
Phase 1	Yes - Cairngorms Footbridge and Inshriach	Yes	No	Yes	No	no	n	• Distant from sensitive areas • Surrounding path network offers ample opportunity for short, medium and long distance walks not in sensitive areas. Unlikely to generate a signficant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in sensitive areas
Phase 2	Yes - Cairngorms Footbridge and Inshriach	Yes	No	Yes	No	no	n	• Distant from sensitive areas • Surrounding path network offers ample opportunity for short, medium and long distance walks not in sensitive areas. Unlikely to generate a signficant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in sensitive areas
Phase 3	Yes - Cairngorms Footbridge and Inshriach	Yes	No	Yes	No	no	n	• Distant from sensitive areas • Surrounding path network offers ample opportunity for short, medium and long distance walks not in sensitive areas. Unlikely to generate a signficant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in sensitive

								areas
Phase 4	Yes - Cairngorms Footbridge and Inshriach	Yes	No	Yes	No	no	n	• Distant from sensitive areas • Surrounding path network offers ample opportunity for short, medium and long distance walks not in sensitive areas. Unlikely to generate a signficant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in sensitive areas
Tullochgrue								
Phase 1	Yes Cairngorm Footbridge	Yes	no	Yes	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking	no	y	• increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 2	Yes Cairngorm Footbridge	Yes	no	Yes	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking	no	y	• increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;

Phase 3	Yes Cairngorm Footbridge	Yes	no	Yes	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 4	Yes Cairngorm Footbridge	Yes	no	Yes	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;

Blackpark								
Phase 1	Yes Inshriach	Yes	no	Yes	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	n	• Distant from sensitive areas • Surrounding path network offers ample opportunity for short, medium and long distance walks not in sensitive areas. Unlikely to generate a signficant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in sensitive areas
Phase 2	Yes Inshriach	Yes	no	Yes	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	n	• Distant from sensitive areas • Surrounding path network offers ample opportunity for short, medium and long distance walks not in sensitive areas. Unlikely to generate a signficant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in sensitive areas
Phase 3	Yes Inshriach	Yes	no	Yes	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	n	• Distant from sensitive areas • Surrounding path network offers ample opportunity for short, medium and long distance walks not in sensitive areas. Unlikely to generate a signficant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in sensitive areas

Phase 4	Yes Inshriach	Yes	no	Yes	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	n	• Distant from sensitive areas • Surrounding path network offers ample opportunity for short, medium and long distance walks not in sensitive areas. Unlikely to generate a signficant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in sensitive areas
Layby on Tullochgrue Road								
Phase 1	Yes Inshriach	Yes	no	no	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	n	• Distant from sensitive areas • Surrounding path network offers ample opportunity for short, medium and long distance walks not in sensitive areas. Unlikely to generate a signficant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in sensitive areas
Phase 2	Yes Inshriach	Yes	no	no	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	n	• Distant from sensitive areas • Surrounding path network offers ample opportunity for short, medium and long distance walks not in sensitive areas. Unlikely to generate a signficant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in sensitive areas

Phase 3	Yes Inshriach	Yes	no	no	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	n	• Distant from sensitive areas • Surrounding path network offers ample opportunity for short, medium and long distance walks not in sensitive areas. Unlikely to generate a signficant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in sensitive areas
Phase 4	Yes Inshriach	Yes	no	no	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	n	• Distant from sensitive areas • Surrounding path network offers ample opportunity for short, medium and long distance walks not in sensitive areas. Unlikely to generate a signficant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in sensitive areas
Lynwilg								
Phase 1	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 2	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 3	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 4	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Sluggan								

Phase 1	Yes Sluggan Pass and Badaguish	Yes	Yes - Mountain biking	Yes	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking and more mountain biking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 2	Yes Sluggan Pass and Badaguish	Yes	Yes - Mountain biking	Yes	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking and more mountain biking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;

Phase 3	Yes Sluggan Pass and Badaguish	Yes	Yes - Mountain biking	Yes	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking and more mountain biking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 4	Yes Sluggan Pass and Badaguish	Yes	Yes - Mountain biking	Yes	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking and more mountain biking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Milton Burn near Loch an Eilain								

Phase 1	Yes - Cairngorms Footbridge and Inshriach	Yes	No	no	yes	yes	n	• Distant from sensitive areas • Surrounding path network offers ample opportunity for short, medium and long distance walks not in sensitive areas. Unlikely to generate a signficant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in sensitive areas
Phase 2	Yes - Cairngorms Footbridge and Inshriach	Yes	No	no	yes	yes	n	• Distant from sensitive areas • Surrounding path network offers ample opportunity for short, medium and long distance walks not in sensitive areas. Unlikely to generate a signficant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in sensitive areas
Phase 3	Yes - Cairngorms Footbridge and Inshriach	Yes	No	no	yes	yes	n	• Distant from sensitive areas • Surrounding path network offers ample opportunity for short, medium and long distance walks not in sensitive areas. Unlikely to generate a signficant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in sensitive areas
Phase 4	Yes - Cairngorms Footbridge and	Yes	No	no	yes	yes	n	• Distant from sensitive areas • Surrounding path network offers ample opportunity for short, medium and long distance walks not in sensitive areas. Unlikely to generate a signficant

	Inshriach							increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in sensitive areas
Whitewell								
Phase 1	Yes Cairngorm Footbridge	Yes	no	Yes	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking	no	y	• increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 2	Yes Cairngorm Footbridge	Yes	no	Yes	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking	no	y	• increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 3	Yes Cairngorm Footbridge	Yes	no	Yes	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;

Phase 4	Yes Cairngorm Footbridge	Yes	no	Yes	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;

Old Layby								
Phase 1	yes - Blar Ban	yes	no	no	yes	yes	yes	Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 2	yes - Blar Ban	yes	no	no	yes	yes	yes	Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 3	yes - Blar Ban	yes	no	no	yes	yes	yes	Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised

								dogs;
Phase 4	yes - Blar Ban	yes	no	no	yes	yes	yes	Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Milton (Aviemore)								
Phase 1	Yes - Kinveachy Face	Yes	Yes Mountain biking	Yes	no	Yes	yes	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 2	Yes - Kinveachy Face	Yes	Yes Mountain biking	Yes	no	Yes	yes	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 3	Yes - Kinveachy Face	Yes	Yes Mountain biking	Yes	no	Yes	yes	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 4	Yes - Kinveachy Face	Yes	Yes Mountain biking	Yes	no	Yes	yes	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;

Highburnside								
Phase 1	Yes - Kinveachy Face	Yes	Yes Mountain biking	Yes	no	Yes	yes	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 2	Yes - Kinveachy Face	Yes	Yes Mountain biking	Yes	no	Yes	yes	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 3	Yes - Kinveachy Face	Yes	Yes Mountain biking	Yes	no	Yes	yes	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 4	Yes - Kinveachy Face	Yes	Yes Mountain biking	Yes	no	Yes	yes	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
AHR								
Phase 1	No						no	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 2	No						no	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 3	No						no	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 4	No						no	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Dalfaber								
Phase 1	No						no	Sensitive areas not accessible from here

Phase 2	No						no	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 3	No						no	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 4	No						no	Sensitive areas not accessible from here

Luibeag layby 1								
Phase 1	yes - Moormore and Drumintoul woods	yes	no	no	yes - early morning and late evening dog walking	yes	yes	• increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 2	yes - Moormore and Drumintoul woods	yes	no	no	yes - early morning and late evening dog walking	yes	yes	• increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 3	yes - Moormore and Drumintoul woods	yes	no	no	yes - early morning and late evening dog walking	yes	yes	• increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 4	yes - Moormore and Drumint	yes	no	no	yes - early morning and late evening dog walking	yes	yes	• increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas

	oul woods							• Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Luibeag Layby 2								
Phase 1	yes - Moormore and Drumintoul woods	yes	no	no	yes - early morning and late evening dog walking	yes	yes	• increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 2	yes - Moormore and Drumintoul woods	yes	no	no	yes - early morning and late evening dog walking	yes	yes	• increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 3	yes - Moormore and Drumintoul woods	yes	no	no	yes - early morning and late evening dog walking	yes	yes	• increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;

Phase 4	yes - Moormore and Druminteoul woods	yes	no	no	yes - early morning and late evening dog walking	yes	yes	• increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
North Kinrara								
Phase 1	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 2	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 3	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 4	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
								• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas

SOP 6-11 miles

Setting off point	Are there capercaillie woods accessible from here that are likely to be used by An Camas Mor residents for recreation?	Are there records of capercaillie within 350m of the setting off point, and/or within 125m of routes likely to be used by An Camas Mor residents, or is there a lek within 1km of the setting off point or routes likely to be used?	Is off-path recreational use (on foot or mountain biking) by An Camas Mor residents predicted in areas accessible from here?	Is the setting off point currently an established location for recreation?	Are An Camas Mor residents predicted to have different temporal patterns of recreational use to any existing visitors, or to undertake a different profile of activities? (eg. more dog walking, or early morning use)	Will the predicted level of use by an Camas Mor residents significantly increase overall levels of recreational use from here?	Is mitigation required to avoid significant disturbance of these Capercaillie by ACM residents?	Why?

Phase 1	Yes - Garten Woods and Mondhuie	Yes	no	Yes	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	yes	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 2	Yes - Garten Woods and Mondhuie	Yes	no	Yes	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	yes	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 3	Yes - Garten Woods and Mondhuie	Yes	no	Yes	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	yes	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;

Phase 4	Yes - Garten Woods and Mondhuie	Yes	no	Yes	Yes- potential for early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	yes	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 1	No						no	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 2	No						no	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 3	No						no	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 4	No						no	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 1	Yes Sluggan, Moormore and Glenmore	Yes	Yes mountain biking	Yes	no	no	y	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;

Phase 2	Yes Sluggan, Moormore and Glenmore	Yes	Yes mountain biking	Yes	no	no	y	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 3	Yes Sluggan, Moormore and Glenmore	Yes	Yes mountain biking	Yes	no	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 4	Yes Sluggan, Moormore and Glenmore	Yes	Yes mountain biking	Yes	no	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 1	Yes - Inshriach	Yes	Yes - mountain biking	Yes	yes - early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal

								trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 2	Yes - Inshriach	Yes	Yes - mountain biking	Yes	yes - early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 3	Yes - Inshriach	Yes	Yes - mountain biking	Yes	yes - early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;

								• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 4	Yes - Inshriach	Yes	Yes - mountain biking	Yes	yes - early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 1	Yes - South Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore	Yes	Yes - Mountain Biking	yes	no	no	y	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 2	Yes - South Loch Morlich Woods, Allt	Yes	Yes - Mountain Biking	yes	no	no	y	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;

	Ban, Glenmore							
Phase 3	Yes - South Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore	Yes	Yes - Mountain Biking	yes	no	no	y	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 4	Yes - South Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore	Yes	Yes - Mountain Biking	yes	no	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 1	Yes - Inshriach	Yes	Yes - mountain biking	Yes	yes - early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;

Phase 2	Yes - Inshriach	Yes	Yes - mountain biking	Yes	yes - early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 3	Yes - Inshriach	Yes	Yes - mountain biking	Yes	yes - early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 4	Yes - Inshriach	Yes	Yes - mountain biking	Yes	yes - early morning and late evening dog	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog

					walking			walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 1	Yes - Inshriach	Yes	Yes - mountain biking	Yes	yes - early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 2	Yes - Inshriach	Yes	Yes - mountain biking	Yes	yes - early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in

								sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 3	Yes - Inshriach	Yes	Yes - mountain biking	Yes	yes - early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 4	Yes - Inshriach	Yes	Yes - mountain biking	Yes	yes - early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;

								• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 1	Yes Sluggan, Moormore and Glenmore	Yes	Yes mountain biking	Yes	Yes- early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 2	Yes Sluggan, Moormore and Glenmore	Yes	Yes mountain biking	Yes	Yes- early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;

								• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 3	Yes Sluggan, Moormore and Glenmore	Yes	Yes mountain biking	Yes	Yes- early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 4	Yes Sluggan, Moormore and Glenmore	Yes	Yes mountain biking	Yes	Yes- early morning and late evening dog walking	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • increase in early morning and/or late evening dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and

								development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 1	Yes - North and South Loch Morlich woods, Allt Ban , Glenmore, Moormore and Sluggan Pass	Yes	Yes mountain biking	yes	No	No	Yes	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 2	Yes - North and South Loch Morlich woods, Allt Ban , Glenmore, Moormore and Sluggan Pass	Yes	Yes mountain biking	yes	No	No	Yes	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 3	Yes - North and South Loch Morlich woods, Allt Ban ,	Yes	Yes mountain biking	yes	No	No	Yes	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;

	Glenmore, Moormore and Sluggan Pass							
Phase 4	Yes - North and South Loch Morlich woods, Allt Ban , Glenmore, Moormore and Sluggan Pass	Yes	Yes mountain biking	yes	No	yes	Yes	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 1	No - car park is used for Lochside viewing and picnics not for walking or mountain biking						n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 2	No - car park is used for Lochside viewing and picnics not for walking or mountain biking						n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas

Phase 3	No - car park is used for Lochside viewing and picnics not for walking or mountain biking						n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 4	No - car park is used for Lochside viewing and picnics not for walking or mountain biking						n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 1	yes - Moormore, Sluggan Pass, North ans south Loch Morlich woods and Rothiemurchus Lodge	Yes	Yes mountain biking	Yes	no	no	y	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 2	yes - Moormore, Sluggan Pass, North ans south Loch	Yes	Yes mountain biking	Yes	no	no	y	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;

	Morlich woods and Rothiemurchus Lodge							
Phase 3	yes - Moormore, Sluggan Pass, North ans south Loch Morlich woods and Rothiemurchus Lodge	Yes	Yes mountain biking	Yes	no	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 4	yes - Moormore, Sluggan Pass, North ans south Loch Morlich woods and Rothiemurchus Lodge	Yes	Yes mountain biking	Yes	no	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs; • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 1	Yes - South Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban,	Yes	Yes - Mountain Biking	yes	no	no	y	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;

	Glenmore							
Phase 2	Yes - South Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore	Yes	Yes - Mountain Biking	yes	no	no	y	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 3	Yes - South Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore	Yes	Yes - Mountain Biking	yes	no	no	y	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 4	Yes - South Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore	Yes	Yes - Mountain Biking	yes	no	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 1	yes - Rothiemurchus Lodge, Cairngorms Footbridge, South Loch Morlich	Yes	no	yes	no	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas

Phase 2	yes - Rothiemurchus Lodge, Cairngorms Footbridge, South Loch Morlich	Yes	no	yes	no	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 3	yes - Rothiemurchus Lodge, Cairngorms Footbridge, South Loch Morlich	Yes	no	yes	no	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas
Phase 4	yes - Rothiemurchus Lodge, Cairngorms Footbridge, South Loch Morlich	Yes	no	yes	no	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas
Phase 1	no						no	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 2	no						no	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 3	no						no	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 4	no						no	Sensitive areas not accessible from here

Phase 1	yes- Boat of Garten Woods	yes	No	Yes	no	No	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 2	yes- Boat of Garten Woods	yes	No	Yes	no	No	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 3	yes- Boat of Garten Woods	yes	No	Yes	no	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 4	yes- Boat of Garten Woods	yes	No	Yes	no	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 1	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 2	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 3	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here

Phase 4	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase I	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 2	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 3	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 4	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase I	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 2	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 3	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 4	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase I	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 2	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 3	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here

Phase 4	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 1	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 2	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 3	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 4	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 1	Yes - South Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore	Yes	Yes - Mountain Biking	yes	no	no	y	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 2	Yes - South Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore	Yes	Yes - Mountain Biking	yes	no	no	y	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 3	Yes - South Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore	Yes	Yes - Mountain Biking	yes	no	no	y	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;

Phase 4	Yes - South Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore	Yes	Yes - Mountain Biking	yes	no	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 1	Yes - North Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore, Abernethy	Yes	Yes - Mountain Biking	yes	No	No	Y	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 2	Yes - North Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore, Abernethy	Yes	Yes - Mountain Biking	yes	No	No	Y	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 3	Yes - North Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore, Abernethy	Yes	Yes - Mountain Biking	yes	No	No	Y	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;

Phase 4	Yes - North Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore, Abernethy	Yes	Yes - Mountain Biking	yes	No	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 1	Yes - South Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore	Yes	Yes - Mountain Biking	yes	no	no	y	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 2	Yes - South Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore	Yes	Yes - Mountain Biking	yes	no	no	y	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 3	Yes - South Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore	Yes	Yes - Mountain Biking	yes	no	no	y	• Increase in trail riding, and development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 4	Yes - South Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban,	Yes	Yes - Mountain Biking	yes	no	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in trail riding, and

	Glenmore							development of new informal trails, in sensitive areas;
Phase 1	Yes - South Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore	Yes	no	no	Yes - more dog walking	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas
Phase 2	Yes - South Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore	Yes	no	no	Yes - more dog walking	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive area
Phase 3	Yes - South Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore	Yes	no	no	Yes - more dog walking	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas
Phase 4	Yes - South Loch Morlich Woods, Allt Ban, Glenmore	Yes	no	no	Yes - more dog walking	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas

SOP 12-20 miles

Setting off point	**Are there capercaillie woods accessible from here that are likely to be used by An Camas Mor residents for recreation?**	**Are there records of capercaillie within 350m of the setting off point, and/or within 125m of routes likely to be used by An Camas Mor residents, or is there a lek within 1km of the setting off point or routes likely to be used?**	**Is off-path recreational use (on foot or mountain biking) by An Camas Mor residents predicted in areas accessible from here?**	**Is the setting off point currently an established location for recreation?**	**Are An Camas Mor residents predicted to have different temporal patterns of recreational use to any existing visitors, or to undertake a different profile of activities? (eg. more dog walking, or early morning use)**	**Will the predicted level of use by an Camas Mor residents significantly increase overall levels of recreational use from here?**	**Is mitigation required to avoid significant disturbance of these Capercaillie by ACM residents?**	**Why?**
Setting off point 11-20 Miles								
<u>Cairngorm</u>								
Phase 1	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 2	No						n	Sensitive areas not

								accessible from here
Phase 3	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here
Phase 4	No						n	Sensitive areas not accessible from here

Corrie na Ciste								
Phase 1	No This car park is used for walks on the open hill						n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 2	No This car park is used for walks on the open hill						n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 3	No This car park is used for walks on the open hill						n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 4	No This car park is used for walks on the open hill						n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Feshiebruach								

Phase 1	Yes Inshriach	Yes	no	Yes	Yes - more dog walking	No	y	• Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas
Phase 2	Yes Inshriach	Yes	no	Yes	Yes - more dog walking	No	y	• Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas
Phase 3	Yes Inshriach	Yes	no	Yes	Yes - more dog walking	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 4	Yes Inshriach	Yes	no	Yes	Yes - more dog walking	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Forestry road end								

Phase 1	Yes Inshriach	Yes	No	no	Yes - more dog walking	yes	yes	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 2	Yes Inshriach	Yes	No	no	Yes - more dog walking	yes	yes	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 3	Yes Inshriach	Yes	No	no	Yes - more dog walking	yes	yes	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised

								dogs;
Phase 4	Yes Inshriach	Yes	No	no	Yes - more dog walking	yes	yes	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Glider field								
Phase 1	Yes Inshriach	Yes	No	yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas

Phase 2	Yes Inshriach	Yes	No	yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 3	Yes Inshriach	Yes	No	yes	no	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 4	Yes Inshriach	Yes	No	yes	no	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Sculpture Trail								

Phase 1	Yes - Uath Lochan Woodlands	Yes	No	yes	no	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 2	Yes - Uath Lochan Woodlands	Yes	No	yes	no	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 3	Yes - Uath Lochan Woodlands	Yes	No	yes	no	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Phase 4	Yes - Uath Lochan Woodlands	Yes	No	yes	no	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive

								areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;

Sluggan Bridge								
Phase 1	yes - Slochd and Beananach, but small proportion will access to these areas	yes	no	yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas (the most popular routes from here don't go into the sensitive areas)
Phase 2	yes - Slochd and Beananach, but small proportion will access to these areas	yes	no	yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas (the most popular routes from here don't go into the sensitive areas)
Phase 3	yes - Slochd and Beananach, but small proportion will access to these areas	yes	no	yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas (the most popular routes from here don't go into the

								sensitive areas)
Phase 4	yes - Slochd and Beananach, but small proportion will access to these areas	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Speyside Way								
Phase 1	Yes - Mondhuie	Yes	No	yes	no	No	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 2	Yes - Mondhuie	Yes	No	yes	no	No	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour,

								in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 3	Yes - Mondhuie	Yes	No	yes	no	No	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas

Phase 4	Yes - Mondhuie	Yes	No	yes	no	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Wades Road								
Phase 1	Yes - Beananach woods	Yes	No	Yes	no	No	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 2	Yes - Beananach woods	Yes	No	Yes	no	No	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 3	Yes - Beananach woods	Yes	No	Yes	no	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour,

								in nearby sensitive areas

Phase 4	Yes - Beananach woods	Yes	No	Yes	no	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas by dog walkers with un-socialised dogs;
Slochd								
Phase 1	Yes - Inverlaidnan Hill Woods	Yes	No	Yes	no	No	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 2	Yes - Inverlaidnan Hill Woods	Yes	No	Yes	no	No	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 3	Yes - Inverlaidnan Hill Woods	Yes	No	Yes	no	No	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour,

								in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 4	Yes - Inverlaidnan Hill Woods	Yes	No	Yes	no	yes	yes	• Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas

Forest Lodge								
Phase 1	Yes - Abernethy	Yes	No	Yes	no	No	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 2	Yes - Abernethy	Yes	No	Yes	no	No	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 3	Yes - Abernethy	Yes	No	Yes	no	Y	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas
Phase 4	Yes - Abernethy	Yes	No	Yes	no	Y	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas
NNR Car Park								

Phase 1	Yes Inshriach	Yes	No	yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas

Phase 2	Yes Inshriach	Yes	No	yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 3	Yes Inshriach	Yes	No	yes	no	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas
Phase 4	Yes Inshriach	Yes	No	yes	no	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas
Auchlean								
Phase 1	Yes Inshriach and Coranstilmore, Glen Feshie Woodlands	Yes (but no for Glen Feshie Woodlands)	No	Yes	No	No	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas

Phase 2	Yes Inshriach and Coranstilmore, Glen Feshie Woodlands	Yes (but no for Glen Feshie Woodlands)	No	Yes	No	No	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 3	Yes Inshriach and Coranstilmore, Glen Feshie Woodlands	Yes (but no for Glen Feshie Woodlands)	No	Yes	No	No	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 4	Yes Inshriach and Coranstilmore, Glen Feshie Woodlands	Yes (but no for Glen Feshie Woodlands)	No	Yes	No	Yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas
Uath Lochans								
Phase 1	Yes - Uath Lochan Woodlands	Yes	No	yes	no	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas

Phase 2	Yes - Uath Lochan Woodlands	Yes	No	yes	no	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 3	Yes - Uath Lochan Woodlands	Yes	No	yes	no	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas

Phase 4	Yes - Uath Lochan Woodlands	Yes	No	yes	no	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas
Loch Garten (Loch Mallachie Car park)								
Phase 1	Yes - Garten Woods	Yes	no	Yes	no	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 2	Yes - Garten Woods	Yes	no	Yes	no	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 3	Yes - Garten Woods	Yes	no	Yes	no	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 4	Yes - Garten Woods	Yes	no	Yes	no	Yes	yes	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas;

								• Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas

Nethy Community Hall								
Phase 1	Yes - Dell wood, Abernethy	yes Abernethy but no at Dell wood	no	yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 2	Yes - Dell wood, Abernethy	yes Abernethy but no at Dell wood	no	yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 3	Yes - Dell wood, Abernethy	yes Abernethy but no at Dell wood	no	yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 4	Yes - Dell wood, Abernethy	yes Abernethy but no at Dell wood	no	yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Dell Road								

Phase 1	Yes - Dell wood , Abernethy	yes Abernethy but no at Dell wood	no	yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 2	Yes - Dell wood , Abernethy	yes Abernethy but no at Dell wood	no	yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 3	Yes - Dell wood , Abernethy	yes Abernethy but no at Dell wood	no	yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 4	Yes - Dell wood , Abernethy	yes Abernethy but no at Dell wood	no	yes	no	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas
Forest :Lodge Road End								
Phase 1	Yes - Abernethy	yes	no	Yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour,

								in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 2	Yes - Abernethy	yes	no	Yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas

Phase 3	Yes - Abernethy	yes	no	Yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 4	Yes - Abernethy	yes	no	Yes	no	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas
<u>Feshie Lodge</u>								
Phase 1	Yes - Uath Lochan, Glen Feshie Woodlands and Coranstilmore	Yes	No	yes	no	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 2	Yes - Uath Lochan, Glen Feshie Woodlands and Coranstilmore	Yes	No	yes	no	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas

Phase 3	Yes - Uath Lochan, Glen Feshie Woodlands and Coranstilmore	Yes	No	yes	no	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 4	Yes - Uath Lochan, Glen Feshie Woodlands and Coranstilmore	Yes	No	yes	no	yes	y	• Significantly more visits to sensitive areas; • Increase in dog walking in sensitive areas
Balncraig								
Phase 1	yes, Uath Lochan Woods	yes	no	Yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 2	yes, Uath Lochan Woods	yes	no	Yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas

Phase 3	yes, Uath Lochan Woods	yes	no	Yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas

Phase 4	yes, Uath Lochan Woods	yes	no	Yes	no	yes	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas (the most popular routes from here don't go into the sensitive areas)
Insh Kirk								
Phase 1	yes, Uath Lochan Woods	yes	no	Yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 2	yes, Uath Lochan Woods	yes	no	Yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 3	yes, Uath Lochan Woods	yes	no	Yes	no	no	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive

								areas
Phase 4	yes, Uath Lochan Woods	yes	no	Yes	no	yes	no	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas (the most popular routes from here don't go into the sensitive areas)
Osprey Centre								
Phase 1	No - car park is used for Lochside viewing not for walking or mountain biking	Yes	no	Yes	no	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 2	No - car park is used for Lochside viewing not for walking or mountain biking	Yes	no	Yes	no	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas

Phase 3	No - car park is used for Lochside viewing not for walking or mountain biking	Yes	no	Yes	no	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 4	No - car park is used for Lochside viewing not for walking or mountain biking	Yes	no	Yes	no	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Boat Squirrel Car Park								
Phase 1	Yes - Boat of Garten Woods	yes	no	Yes	No	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 2	Yes - Boat of Garten Woods	yes	no	Yes	No	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas

Phase 3	Yes - Boat of Garten Woods	yes	no	Yes	No	yes	n	Impacts from additional visits will be mitigated by measures already in place
Phase 4	Yes - Boat of Garten Woods	yes	no	Yes	No	yes	n	Impacts from additional visits will be mitigated by measures already in place

Boat Community Hall								
Phase 1	Yes - Boat of Garten Woods	yes	no	Yes	No	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 2	Yes - Boat of Garten Woods	yes	no	Yes	No	no	n	• Unlikely to generate significant increase in visits, nor a change in recreational behaviour, in nearby sensitive areas
Phase 3	Yes - Boat of Garten Woods	yes	no	Yes	No	yes	n	Impacts from additional visits will be mitigated by measures already in place
Phase 4	Yes - Boat of Garten Woods	yes	no	Yes	No	yes	n	Impacts from additional visits will be mitigated by measures already in place