

MANAGEMENT PLANS

Cairngorms National Park
Partnership Plan 2017 – 2022

SEA Screening Determination
October 2015

Cover Note

PART 1

To: SEA.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
or
SEA Gateway
Scottish Executive
Area I H (Bridge)
Victoria Quay
Edinburgh EH6 6QQ

PART 2

An SEA Screening Determination is attached for the plan, programme or strategy (PPS) entitled:

The Cairngorms National Park Partnership Plan 2017 - 2022

The Responsible Authority is:

The Cairngorms National Park Authority

COMPLETE PART 3 OR 4 OR 5

PART 3

Screening is required by the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. Our view is that

- An SEA is required** because the PPS falls under the scope of Section 5(3) of the Act and is likely to have significant environmental effects. **or**
- an SEA is required** because the PPS falls under the scope of Section 5(4) of the Act and is likely to have significant environmental effects **or**
- an SEA is not required** because the PPS is unlikely to have significant environmental effects.

PART 4

- The PPS does not require an SEA under the Act. However, we wish to carry out an SEA on a voluntary basis. We accept that, because this SEA is voluntary, the statutory 28 day timescale for views from the Consultation Authorities cannot be guaranteed.

PART 5

None of the above apply. We have prepared this screening report because:

PART 6

Contact name

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Job Title

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PART 7

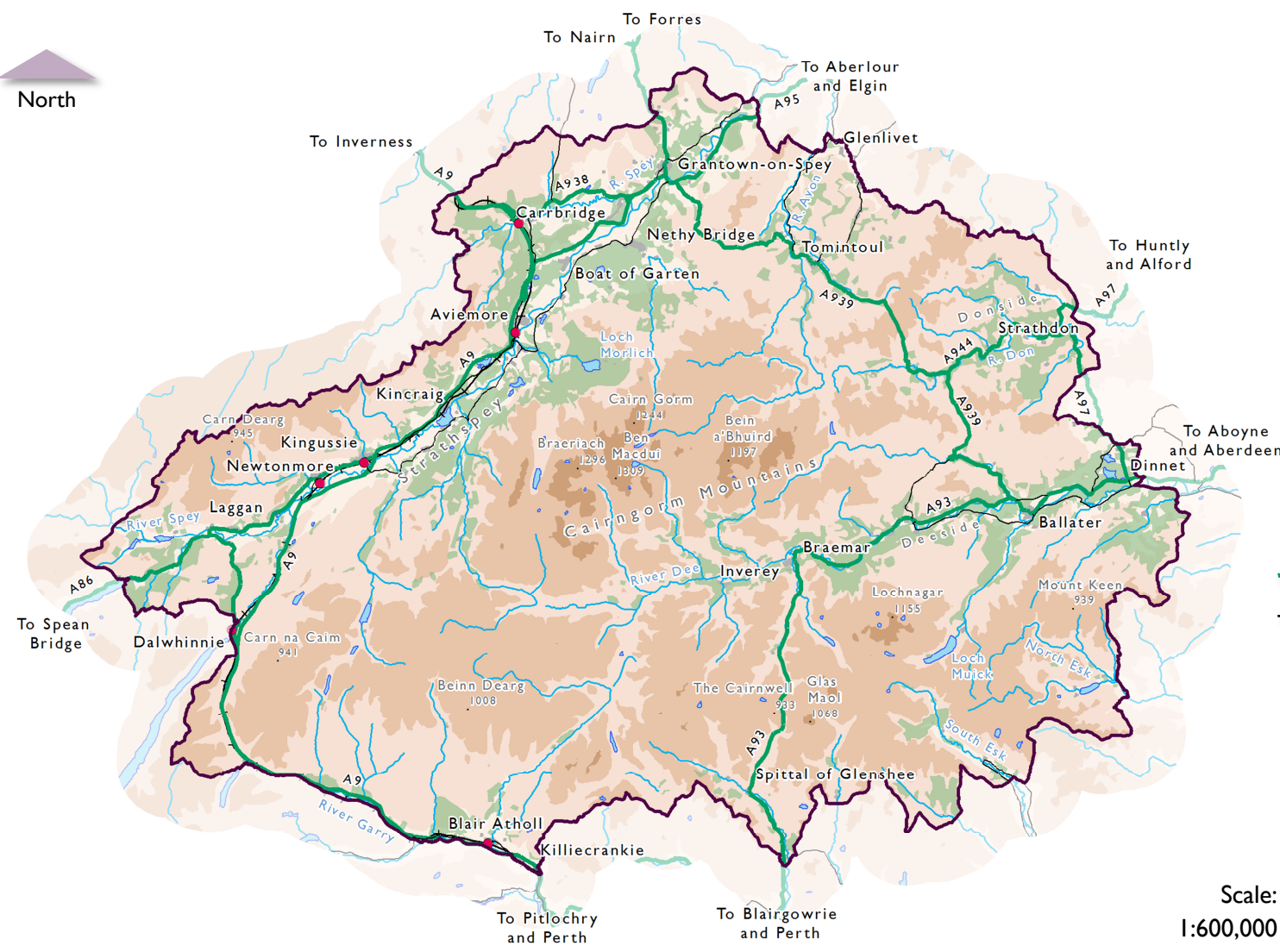
Signature
(electronic
signature
is acceptable)

Date

28/10/2015

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- Legend**
- National Park Boundary
 - Land greater than 1,000m
 - 600 to 1,000m
 - 300 to 600m
 - Land less than 300m
 - River
 - Loch
 - Woodland
 - Built up area
 - Main Road
 - Minor Road
 - Railway
 - Railway station

Scale:
1:600,000

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List of Abbreviations

CA	Consultation Authority
CNPA	Cairngorms National Park Authority
HES	Historic Environment Scotland
NPPP	National Park Partnership Plan
PPS	Plans, Programmes and Strategies
RA	Responsible Authority
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SEPA	Scottish Environmental Protection Agency
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
2005 Act	Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005

Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Determination for the Cairngorms National Park Partnership Plan 2017 – 2022

Introduction

This statement sets out the Cairngorms National Park Authority’s (CNPA) determination under Regulation 10(1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 on whether or not a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is required for the National Park Partnership Plan 2017 – 2022 (NPPP).

The Screening Process

Screening is the first stage in the SEA process (see **Figure I**). The purpose of screening is to establish whether or not a Plan, Programme or Strategies (PPS) will have significant environmental effects.

Screening takes the form of a formal submission, where the Responsible Authority (RA) seeks the views of the following Consultation Authorities (CA) on whether a PPS is likely to have significant environmental effects and therefore whether a SEA is required:

- Historic Environment Scotland (HES),
- Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA), and
- Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH).

As well as consulting the above bodies, RAs are required to take into account the criteria set out in Schedule 2 of the 2005 Act when determining whether or not the plan is likely to have significant effects. The details of this process are contained within the Screening Report (September 2015).

The CNPA submitted the Screening Report to the Scottish Government’s SEA Gateway on 7 September 2015 and the responses of the CAs are summarised in Table I Summary of Responses

Table I.

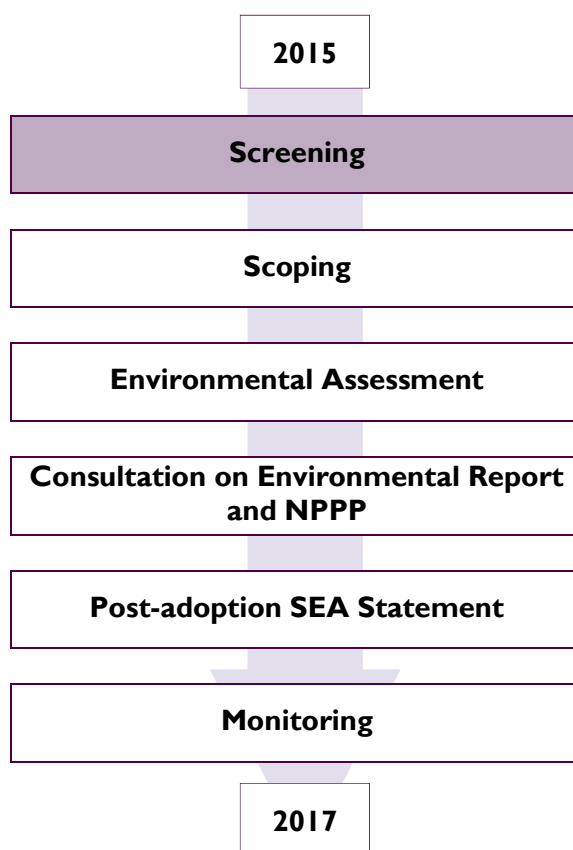


Figure I Stages of the SEA Process

Summary of Responses

Table 1 Summary of Screening Report responses from the Consultation Authorities.

Consultation Authority	Significant Environmental Effects likely?	Summary of Views
Historic Environment Scotland	✓	HES understand that the NPPP will be the management plan for the Cairngorms National Park, and will have influence over a wide range of subjects, including historic and cultural heritage. They note that whilst the CNPA consider the NPPP is likely to result in significant positive effects of the environment, there is also the possibility for negative effects to occur if the plan content is not assessed for potential impacts. On the basis of the information provided, HES agrees that the NPPP has potential for significant effects on the historic environment.
Scottish Environment Protection Agency	✓	SEPA considers that in respect of their main areas of interest (air, water, soil, human health, material assets (of which they have a specific interest in waste) and climatic factors) the NPPP is likely to have significant environmental effects.
Scottish Natural Heritage	✓	SNH agrees that the NPPP is likely to have significant environmental effects. They support the CNPA's commitment to establishing and integrating environmental objectives early within this plan's preparation process.

Conclusion of Screening Process

Having consulted the three CAs, and having considered the criteria set out in the 2005 Act, the CNPA considers that the Cairngorms National Park Partnership Plan 2017 – 2022 is likely to have significant environmental effects.

The CNPA has therefore determined that an SEA will be required for the plan under Regulation 13(1) of the Act 2005 Act.

An environmental report will be prepared alongside the NPPP. The environmental report will identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effect on the environment of the implementation of the Plan, and any reasonable alternatives, in accordance with the 2005 Act.