



Cairngorms Connect

Chris Donald





Scottish Natural Heritage
Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba

nature.scot



Forestry and
Land Scotland
Coilltearachd agus
Fearann Alba



giving
nature
a home

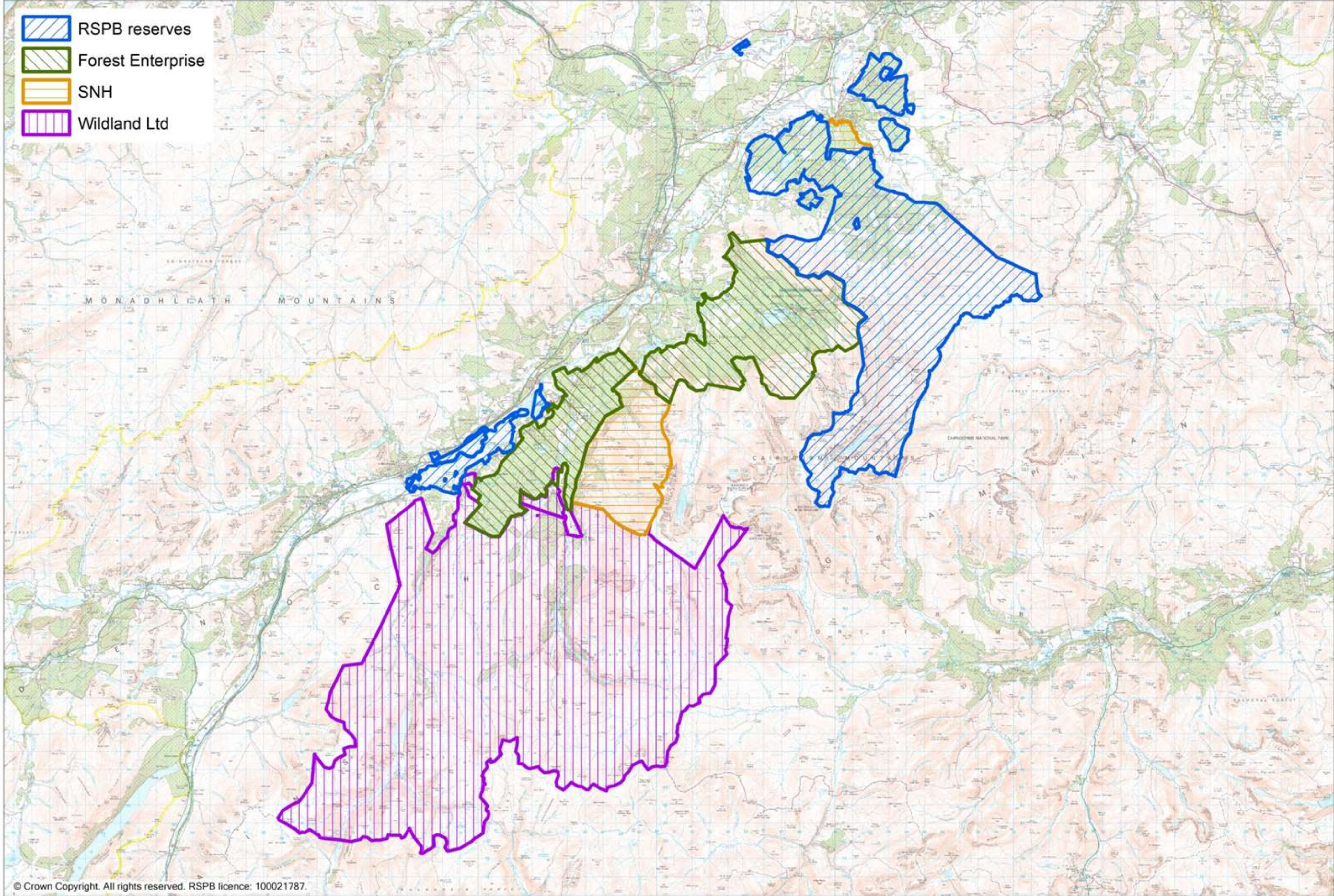
CAIRNGORMS
NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY


ÙGH DARRAS PÀIRC NÀISEANTA A'
MHONaidh Ruaidh



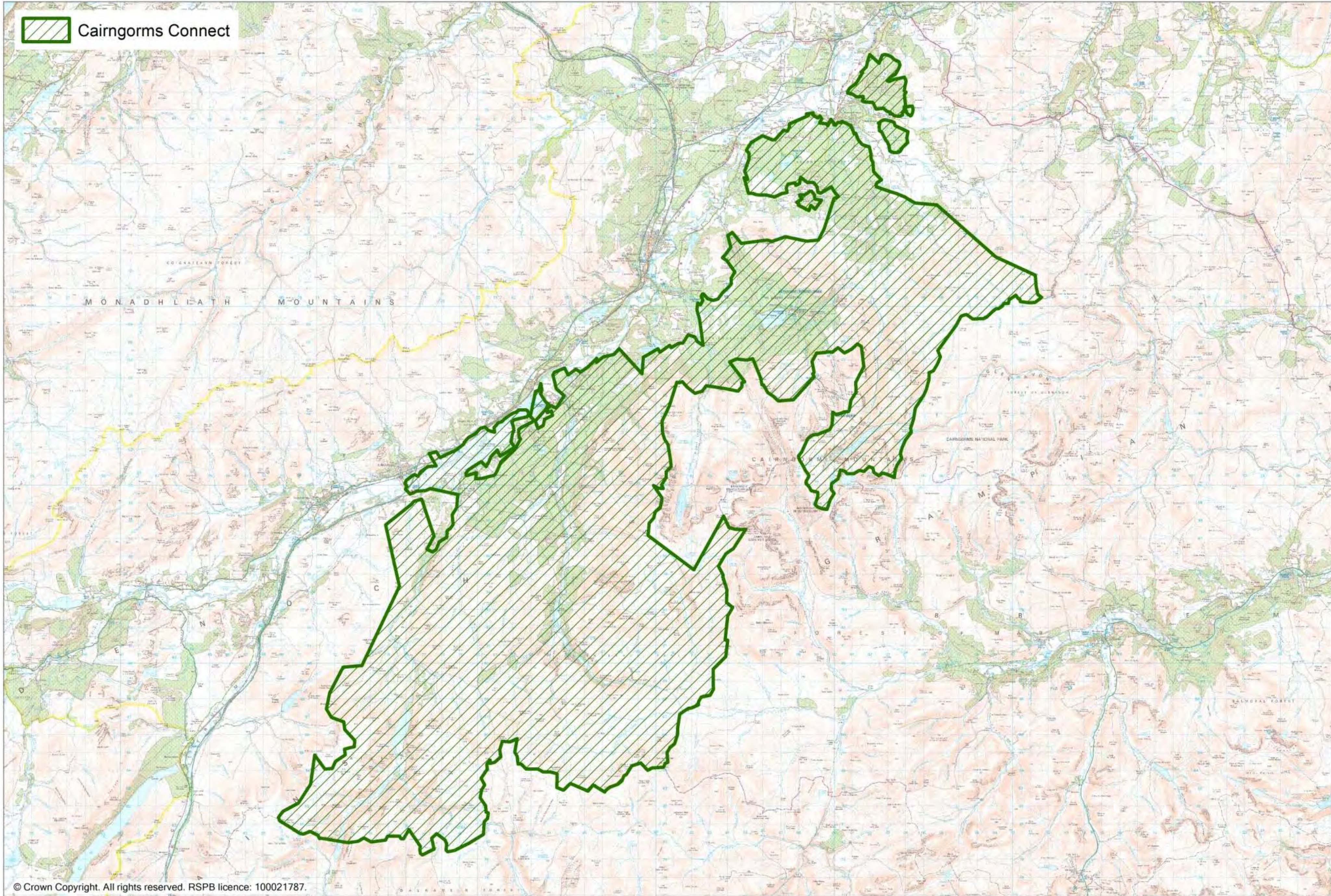
-  RSPB reserves
-  Forest Enterprise
-  SNH
-  Wildland Ltd

Cairngorms Connect



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Cairngorms
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ENDANGERED
LANDSCAPES
PROGRAMME

FUNDED BY



ARCADIA

A charitable fund of Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin



Danube Delta

Ukraine, Romania & Moldova



Iori River Valley

Georgia



Greater Côa Valley

Portugal



Gökova Bay to Cape

Gelidonya

Turkey



Carpathian Mountains

Romania



Polesia

Belarus & Ukraine



Cairngorms Connect

Scotland



Summit to Sea

Cambrian Mountains, Wales





- 84ha of Lodgepole pine from Rothiemurchus (the McAlpine Plantation), Drumguish and Inshriach. This area has now been scarified for direct seeding with Scots pine.

- 100ha of Lodgepole pine from Glenfeshie

LinkedIn interface showing a post by Alban Thom, Sustainable Forest Management BSc. The post includes a photo of a forest with fallen trees and text describing wind throw recreation for @rspb as part of #Cairngormsconnect. The post has 82 likes, 8 comments, and 1,475 views.

114ha of Scots pine plantation restructuring

In the first 9 months of 2019:

- The total value of contracts awarded across the CC partnership is over £632k.
- over £55k has been spent on materials, equipment and services; £45k of this was spent within 50 miles of the project area.
- CC partners spent over £2m in the project area.



Team of 10 new staff appointed (9FTE), including 2 new Cairngorms Connect Stalkers with a cross-boundary remit.







Will Boyd-Wallis



Becks Denny



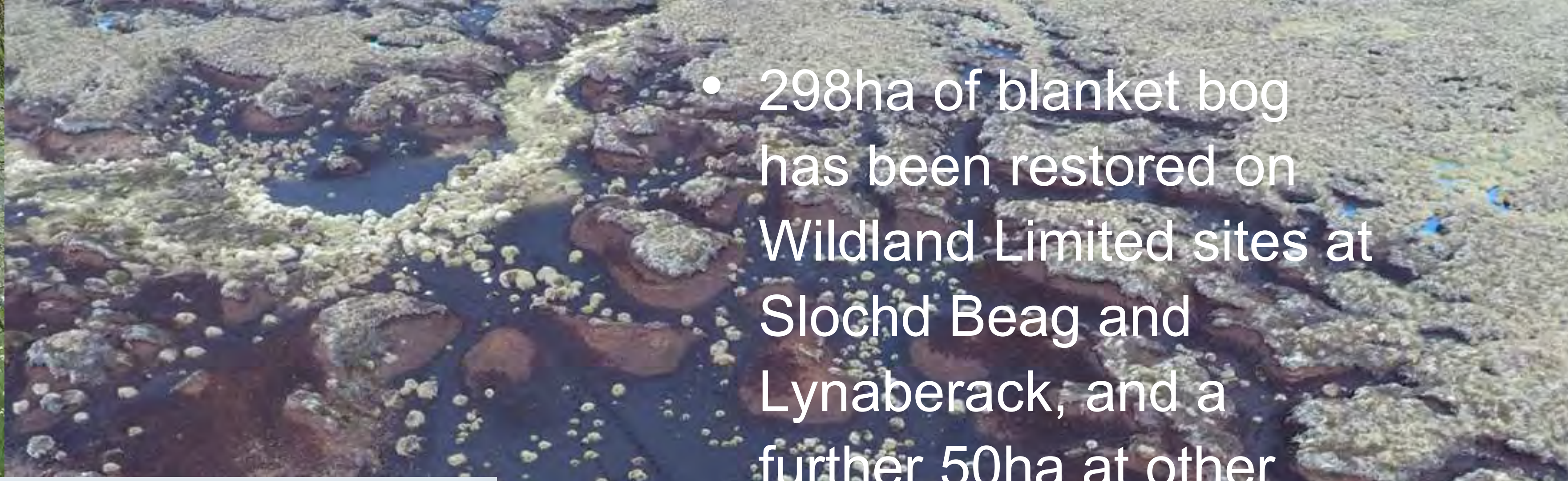
- **347 cuttings collected and planted in the Cairngorms Connect tree nursery...**
- **...from 205 individual montane willows, of 5 different species plus 2 hybrids.**
- **Leaf samples have been sent to the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh for genetic testing. This will inform further collection and planting, to ensure genetic diversity.**



Staff and volunteers have collected downy birch seed from higher-altitude stands of trees on Abernethy and Glenmore (500m+) and have sown these in the tree nursery, where an initial 210 seedlings have become established.

Wildland Limited have established 550ha of new native woodland planting, accelerating woodland recovery far from seed sources.

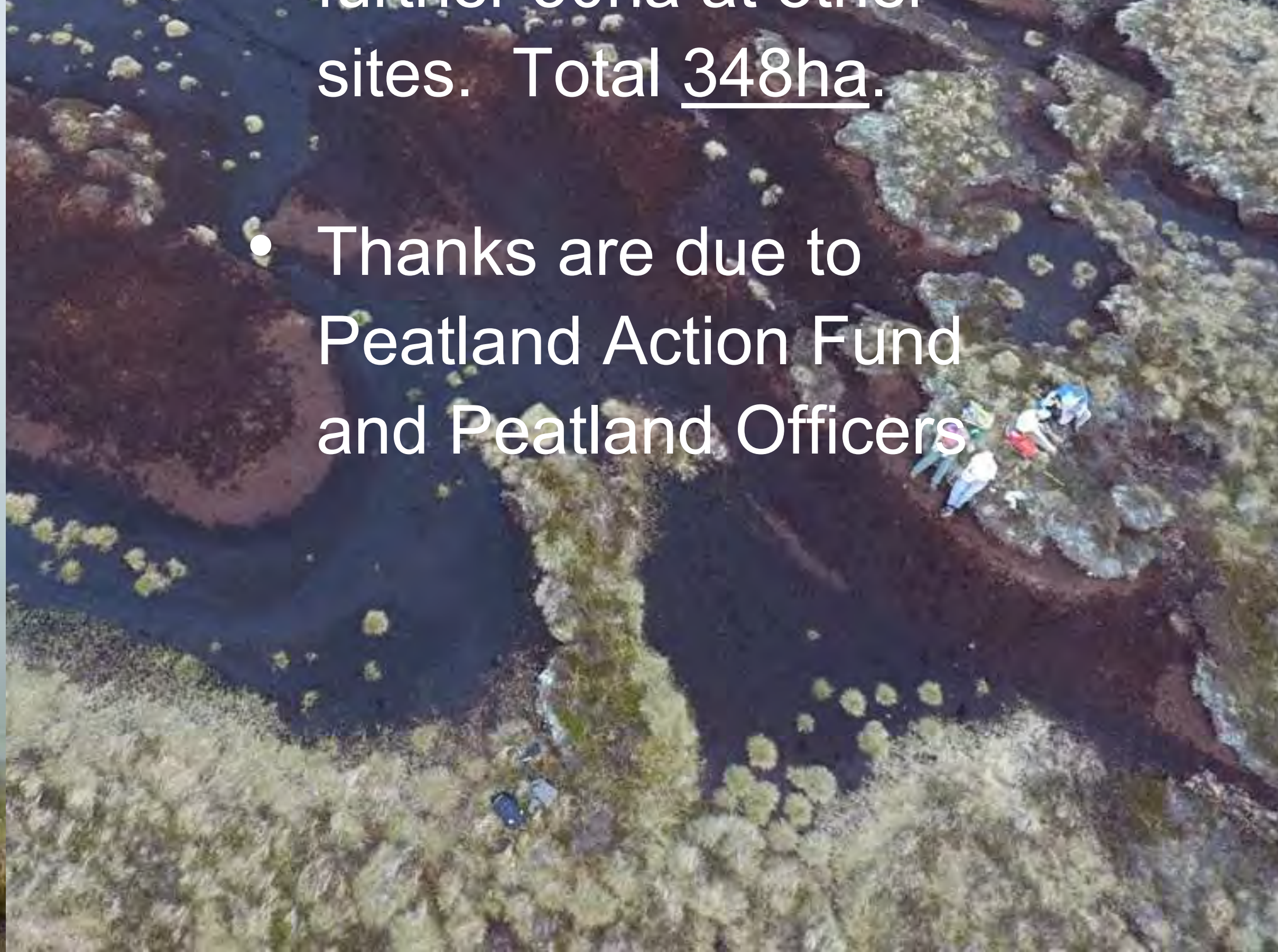


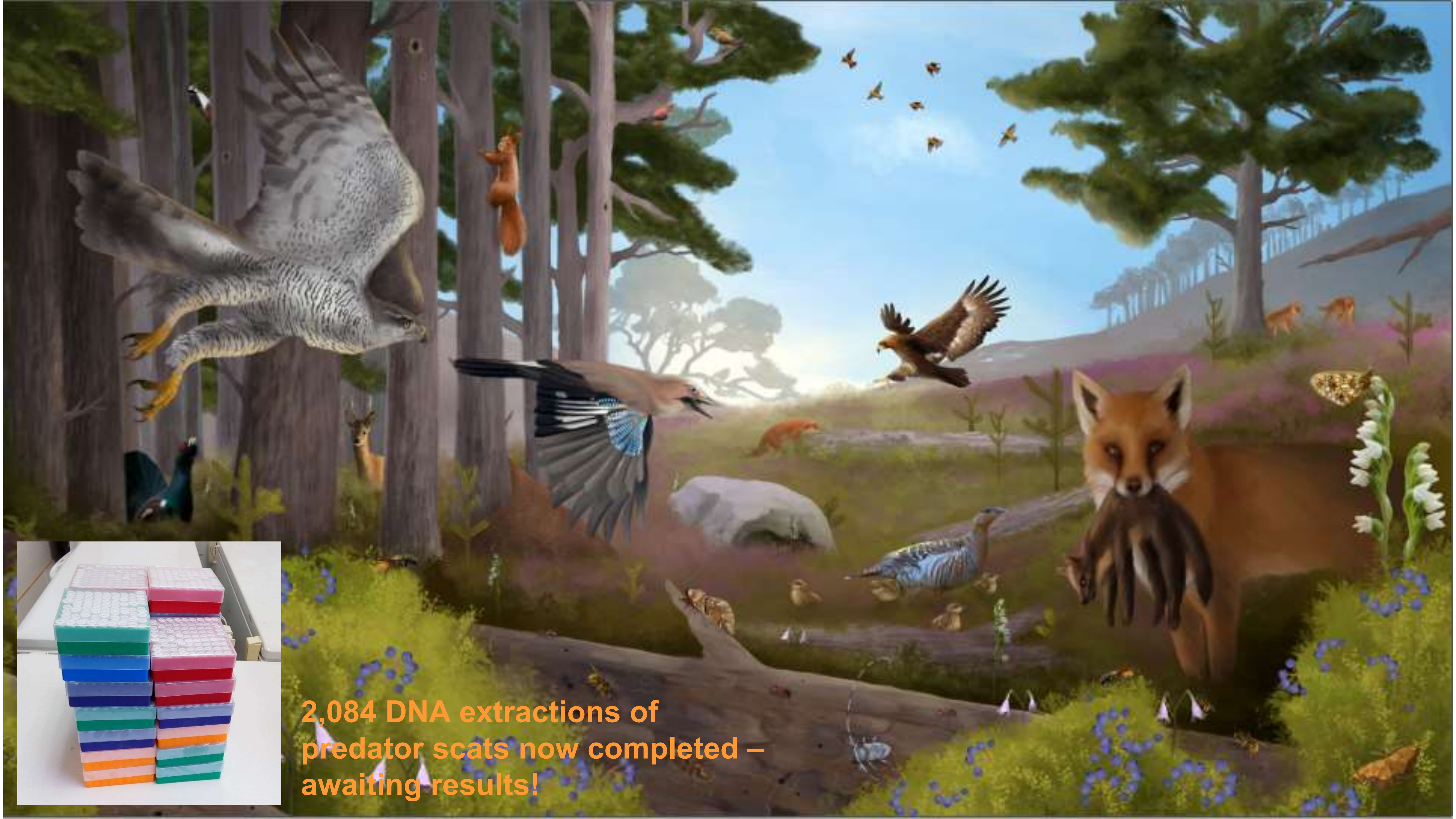


- 298ha of blanket bog has been restored on Wildland Limited sites at Slochd Beag and Lynaberack, and a further 50ha at other sites. Total 348ha.



- Thanks are due to Peatland Action Fund and Peatland Officers





2,084 DNA extractions of predator scats now completed – awaiting results!



Cairngorms Connect
Conference held –
attended by 75 people
from across the
partnership



**£400k pledged by
Anders Povlsen for a
new apprenticeship
scheme**



Monitoring Projects

Ecological indicators

- Physical: Floodplain restoration (Neil C)
- Habitat: Woodland expansion (Mark H)
- Species: Species indicator (Pip G)
- Function: Deadwood beetles (Pip G)

Ecosystem services indicators

- Supporting: Vertebrate food webs (Kenny Kortland, FLS)
- Regulating: Catchment restoration (Neil C)

Societal benefits indicators

- Economic: Contribution of landscape restoration to local economies (Tom McKenna, SNH)
- Education / Capacity: Empowerment & influence (Joelene H)
- Institutional: Public attitudes to restoration (Joelene H)

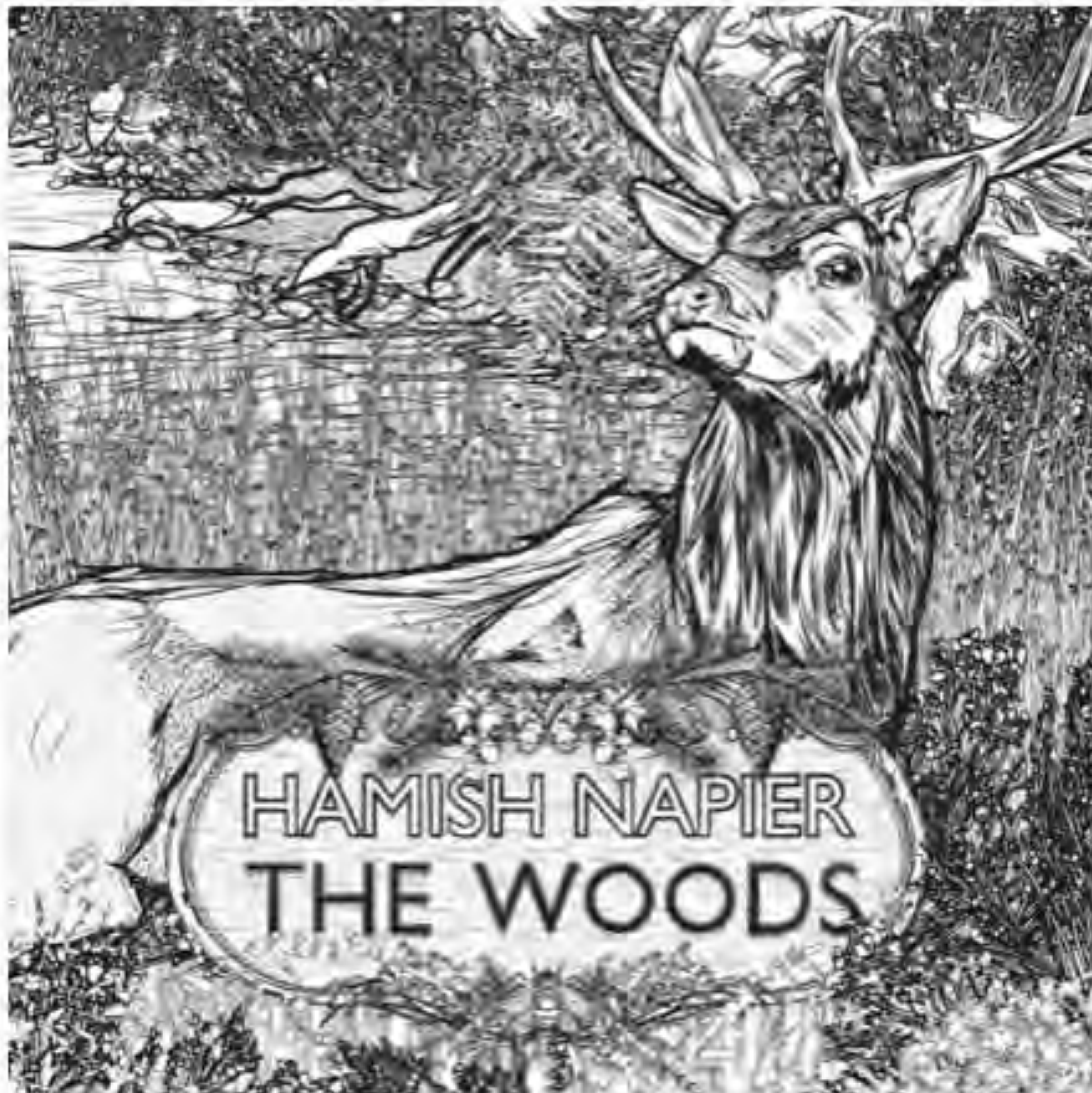
Testing interventions Projects

- Seed source foci (Pip G)
- Deadwood creation (Pip G)
- Rare plant invigoration (Neil C)
- Trail re-alignment (Kenny K)
- Emulating missing ecosystem processes (Mark H)





Baselines for most of the monitoring projects are now complete



As a local musician, I am very grateful to 'Cairngorms Connect' for this special opportunity by sponsoring me to compose this album of new Scottish music. I grew up right next to Anagach Woods in Grantown and spent many hours of my childhood playing there.



- Total of 23,863 people addressed directly about the project, in 2019.
- 2.1m heard about it on Springwatch 2019
- Great coverage on Winterwatch 2020



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