

Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey Cairngorms Local Development Plan

Site: Dalwhinnie H2

March 2011

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APPENDIX 3 – PHASE 1 CODES



Summary

1. As part of the process of considering the suitability of Site Dalwhinnie H2, for inclusion into the Local Development Plan, the Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) has commissioned Landcare NorthEast to undertake a desktop study and initial ecological survey.
2. A desktop study and subsequent ecological survey was conducted at Site Dalwhinnie H2 in March 2011.
3. The proposed development site is located at NN 636 848 on Ben Alder Road, Dalwhinnie, and comprises approximately 0.49ha.
4. The main habitat is J1.3 Ephemeral/short perennial patchy plant associations with mounds of rubble from demolished buildings.
5. No notable plant species (those of UK conservation concern - see UK list of Vascular Plants of Conservation Concern <http://www.ukbap.org.uk> - or those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species) were noted.
6. The site may provide bat and badger foraging habitat.



1.0 Introduction

Background

1.1 In order to make an assessment on ecological impacts of developments of sites that have been presented for inclusion in the Cairngorms Local Development Plan, CNPA require desktop studies and ecological surveys of each site to be undertaken.

1.2 With regard to this, an extended Phase 1 survey and habitat suitability assessment was conducted at Site Dalwhinnie H2.

1.3 The site is located at NN 636 848 on Ben Alder Road, Dalwhinnie and comprises approximately 0.49ha.

1.4 The survey work was conducted by Steff Ferguson and Flora Grigor-Taylor, both experienced wildlife surveyors, chartered environmentalists and members of IEEM.

Existing Data

1.5 A review of the data held on the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) gateway was undertaken to identify species of conservation concern that have been recorded on the proposed development site.

1.6 NBN results

Occurring within the 10km square in which the site is located:

Goldeneye

Hen harrier

Black grouse

Atlantic salmon (100m record 150m south)

Woolly willow

Scottish wildcat

Cousin German (1km record 250m north)

Otter

Badger

At 2km square level:

Twite

Redshank

Lapwing

At 1km square level:

Daubentons bat

Designated Sites

1.7 There are no statutory designations on, or sharing a boundary with, the land surveyed.



2.0 Survey

Method

2.1 An ecological survey was undertaken on the site in March 2011.

2.2 A Phase 1 Habitat Mapping & Protected Species Survey, also referred to as an Extended Phase 1 Ecological Survey, was undertaken for the site. Standard Phase 1 methodology was used, including detailed target notes of notable plant species (those of conservation concern; also those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species).

2.3 An assessment of the habitat suitability within the proposed development site for mammal species was also undertaken.

2.4 The standard optimal time to undertake an Extended Phase 1 Survey is between April and the end of September. The survey time of early March was therefore outwith the optimal time, and where potential for botanical interest was noted, further survey may be necessary to provide comprehensive information on a site.

2.5 The habitats are described by the use of target notes, annotated to the survey map (see Fig.1). Common species names and scientific names (Stace C (1997) *New Flora of the British Isles. Second Ed.* Cambridge University Press.) are given in the text below.

Results

2.6 This brown field site is on flat ground located in the centre of the settlement of Dalwhinnie. The site's boundary is marked with stock, deer and wooden fencing. The site can be divided into 2 distinct sections, separated by a wooden fence: the western part comprises some rough grassland with a few trees, and large mounds of dumped rubble and burnt litter. The eastern end comprises a building, currently unused, which was the premises of a former takeaway/café and associated carparking.

Vegetation

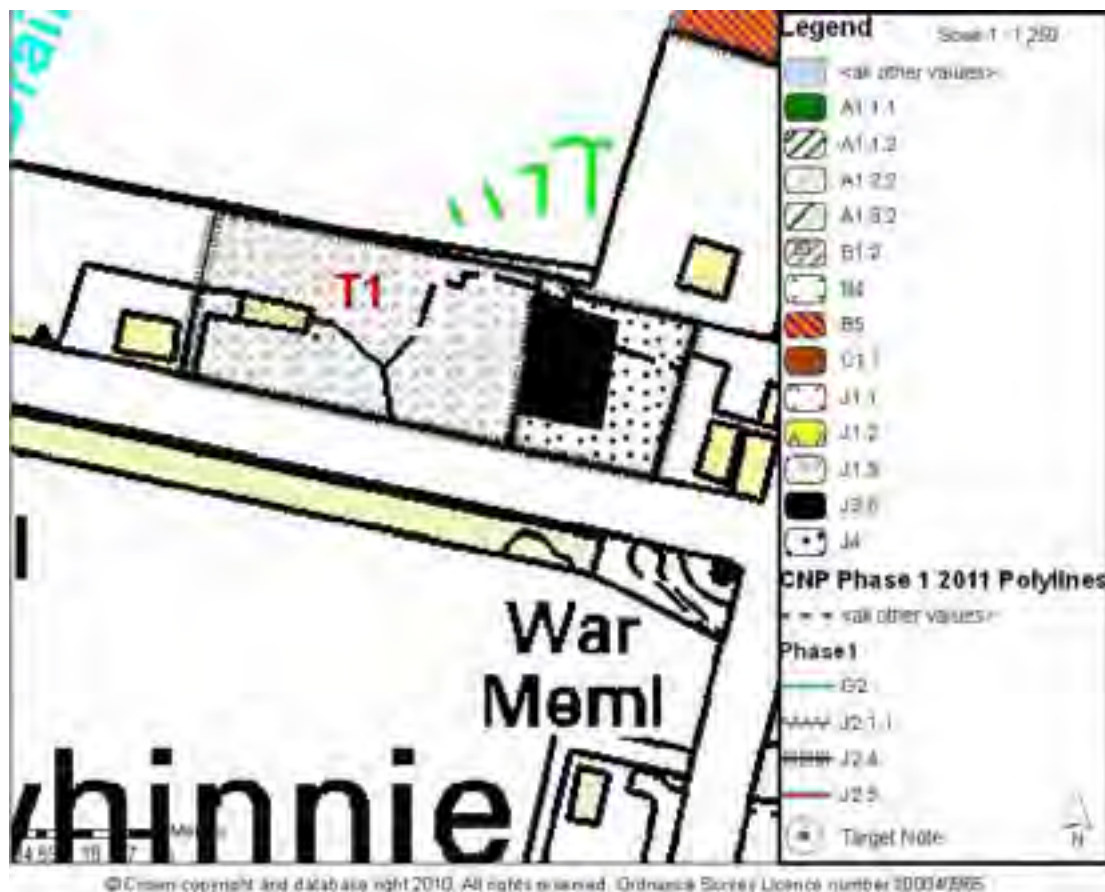
2.7 The western section is a derelict site, characterised by mounds of rubble and remnant foundations from demolished buildings and disturbed ground now vegetated over by short patchy plant associations and shrubs. Some mature trees feature along the site boundary: Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*), birch (*Betula* sp), lime (*Tilia x europaea*) and ornamental spruce. A patch of rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and bridewort (*Spiraea* Agg.) is located near the centre.

2.8 The eastern section has no botanical interest. Habitats present are J4 Bare Ground and J3.6 Built-up area

Fauna

2.9 No species of conservation concern and/or listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species were noted on site.

Fig 1 Survey Map



3.0 Assessment of Habitat Suitability for Mammals

3.1 The site itself offers no suitable breeding habitat for otter, water vole, badger or red squirrel. There may be foraging opportunity for badger and bats here.

3.2 Existing buildings and mature trees may offer bat roosting habitat.

4.0 References

JNCC. 1990. *Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey – a technique for environmental audit*. 2007 edition. Nature Conservancy Council

Stace, C.A. 1997. *New Flora of the British Isles*. 2nd Edition. Cambridge University Press.



APPENDIX 1 – TARGET NOTES

T1 - NN 636 848

Derelict site, characterised by mounds of rubble and remnant foundations from demolished buildings and disturbed ground now vegetated over by short patchy plant associations and shrubs. Some mature trees feature along the site boundary: Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*), birch (*Betula* sp), lime (*Tilia x europaea*) and ornamental spruce. A patch of rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and bridewort (*Spiraea* Agg.) is located near the centre.



APPENDIX 2 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS



Western section of site, with rubble piles and patches of shrub vegetation visible



Western section of site, looking east



Looking towards eastern section & existing disused café; remnant foundations in foreground



APPENDIX 3 – PHASE 1 CODES

PHASE 1 CODE	Description
A1.1.1	Broadleaved woodland - semi-natural
A1.1.2	Broadleaved woodland - plantation
A1.2.1	Coniferous woodland - semi-natural
A1.2.2	Coniferous woodland - plantation
A1.3.1	Mixed woodland - semi-natural
A1.3.2	Mixed woodland - plantation
A2.1	Scrub - dense/continuous
A2.2	Scrub - scattered
A3.1	Parkland/scattered trees – broad-leaved
A3.2	Parkland/scattered trees - coniferous
A3.3	Parkland/scattered trees – mixed
A4.1	Broadleaved woodland – recently felled
A4.2	Coniferous woodland – recently felled
A4.3	Mixed woodland – recently felled
B1.1	Acid grassland – unimproved
B1.2	Acid grassland – semi-improved
B2.1	Neutral grassland – unimproved
B2.2	Neutral grassland - semi-improved
B3.1	Calcareous grassland – unimproved
B3.2	Calcareous grassland – semi-improved
B4	Improved grassland
B5	Marsh/marshy grassland
C1.1	Tall herb & fen – bracken continuous
C1.2	Tall herb & fen – bracken scattered
C3.1	Other tall herb and fern - ruderal
D1.1	Dry dwarf shrub heath - acid
G2	Running water
J1.1	Cultivated/disturbed land – arable
J1.2	Cultivated/disturbed land – amenity grassland
J1.3	Cultivated/disturbed land – ephemeral/short perennial
J1.4	Cultivated/disturbed land – introduced shrub
J2.1.1	Intact hedge – native species rich
J2.1.2	Intact hedge – species poor
J2.3.2	Hedge with trees – species-poor
J2.4	Fence
J2.5	Wall
J2.6	Dry ditch
J3.6	Built-up areas - buildings
J4	Bare ground

Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey Cairngorms Local Development Plan

Site: Dalwhinnie H3

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APPENDIX 1 – TARGET NOTES

APPENDIX 2 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS

APPENDIX 3 – PHASE 1 CODES



Summary

1. As part of the process of considering the suitability of Site Dalwhinnie H3, for inclusion into the Local Development Plan, the Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) has commissioned Landcare NorthEast to undertake a desktop study and initial ecological survey.
2. A desktop study and subsequent ecological survey was conducted at Site Dalwhinnie H3 in March 2011.
3. The proposed development site is located at NN 636841, behind Dalwhinnie Garage off the A889 and comprises approximately 0.48ha.
4. The main habitat is A1.1.1 Broad-leaved semi-natural woodland.
5. No notable plant species (those of UK conservation concern - see UK list of Vascular Plants of Conservation Concern <http://www.ukbap.org.uk> - or those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species) were noted.
6. The site may provide bat and badger foraging habitat.



1.0 Introduction

Background

1.1 In order to make an assessment on ecological impacts of developments of sites that have been presented for inclusion in the Cairngorms Local Development Plan, CNPA require desktop studies and ecological surveys of each site to be undertaken.

1.2 With regard to this, an extended Phase 1 survey and habitat suitability assessment was conducted at Site Dalwhinnie H3,

1.3 The site is located at NN 636841, behind Dalwhinnie Garage off the A889, and comprises approximately 0.48ha.

1.4 The survey work was conducted by Steff Ferguson and Flora Grigor-Taylor, both experienced wildlife surveyors, chartered environmentalists and members of IEEM.

Existing Data

1.5 A review of the data held on the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) gateway was undertaken to identify species of conservation concern that have been recorded on the proposed development site.

1.6 NBN results

Occurring within the 10km square in which the site is located:

Goldeneye

Hen harrier

Black grouse

Atlantic salmon (100m record 150m south)

Woolly willow

Scottish wildcat

Cousin German (1km record 250m north)

Otter (2km 100m south of site)

Badger

At 2km square level:

Twite

Redshank

Lapwing

At 1km square level:

Daubenton's bat

Designated Sites

1.7 There are no statutory designations on, or sharing a boundary with, the land surveyed.



2.0 Survey

Method

2.1 An ecological survey was undertaken on the site in March 2011.

2.2 A Phase 1 Habitat Mapping & Protected Species Survey, also referred to as an Extended Phase 1 Ecological Survey, was undertaken for the site. Standard Phase 1 methodology was used, including detailed target notes of notable plant species (those of conservation concern; also those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species).

2.3 An assessment of the habitat suitability within the proposed development site for mammal species was also undertaken.

2.4 The standard optimal time to undertake an Extended Phase 1 Survey is between April and the end of September. The survey time of early March was therefore outwith the optimal time, and where potential for botanical interest was noted, further survey may be necessary to provide comprehensive information on a site.

2.5 The habitats are described by the use of target notes, annotated to the survey map (see Fig.1). Common species names and scientific names (Stace C (1997) *New Flora of the British Isles. Second Ed.* Cambridge University Press.) are given in the text below.

Results

2.6 The site is an area of wooded ground, positioned between the curtilages of two existing buildings. The site is open along its north boundary to a larger tract of mixed broadleaved woodland. A powerline and wayleave cross the site and the eastern section comprises an area of hardstanding, presumably associated with the adjacent garage.

Vegetation

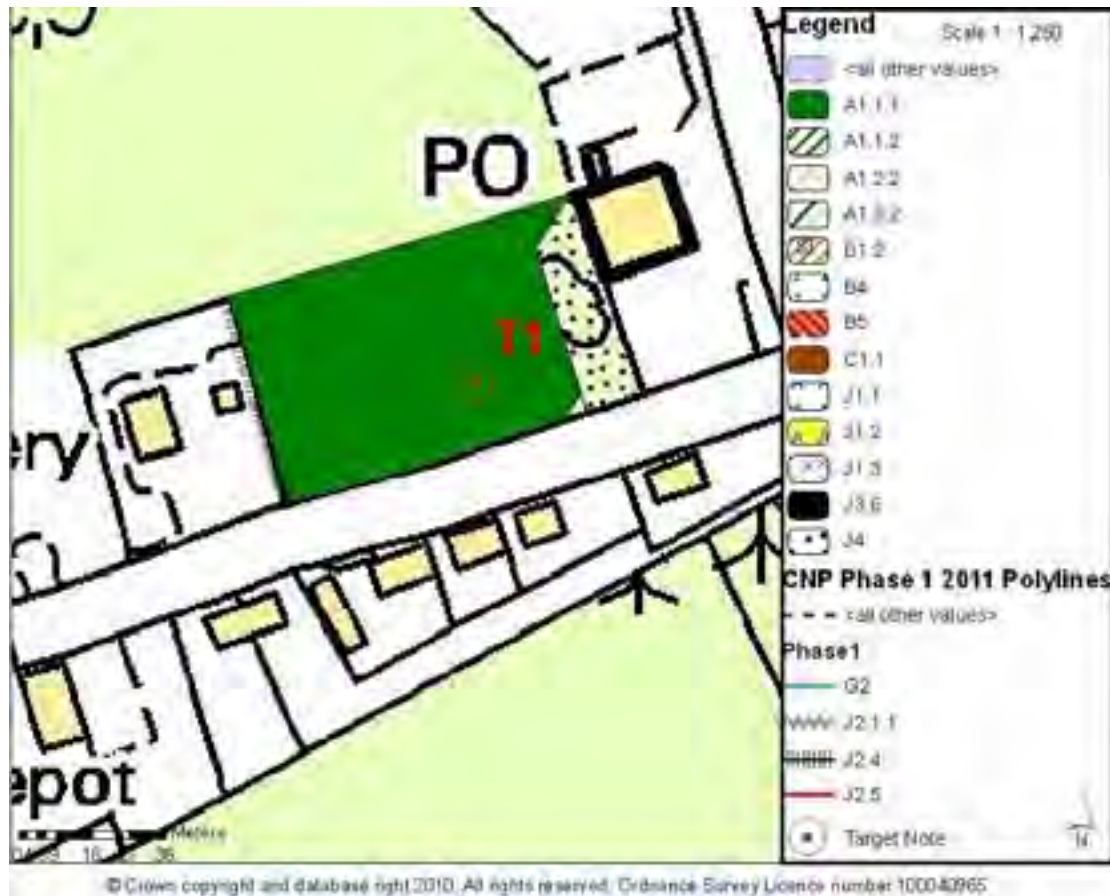
2.7 This site supports A1.1.1 Broad-leaved semi-natural woodland. Birch (*Betula* sp) is the dominant canopy species, interspersed with willow (*Salix* sp), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and occasional Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). The canopy structure varies, with open scattered woodland giving way to patches of soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) and wet grassland species. Underplanting has taken place (c. 10 year old) below the canopy and natural regeneration of birch is evident along the wayleave.

A small patch of ruderal vegetation - rosebay willowherb (*Chamerion angustifolium*), raspberry (*Rubus idaeus*), etc - has colonised a corner of disturbed ground adjacent to the J4 hardstanding by the garage.

Fauna

2.8 No species of conservation concern and/or listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species were noted on site.

Fig 1 Survey Map



3.0 Assessment of Habitat Suitability for Mammals

3.1 The site itself offers no suitable breeding habitat for otter, water vole or red squirrel. No badger setts or bat roosts were observed. There may be foraging opportunity for badger and bats here.

4.0 References

JNCC. 1990. *Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey – a technique for environmental audit*. 2007 edition. Nature Conservancy Council

Stace, C.A. 1997. *New Flora of the British Isles*. 2nd Edition. Cambridge University Press.



APPENDIX 1 – TARGET NOTES

T - NN 636841

This site supports A1.1.1 Broad-leaved semi-natural woodland. Birch (*Betula* sp) is the dominant canopy species, interspersed with willow (*Salix* sp), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and occasional Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) Canopy structure varies, with open scattered woodland giving way to patches of soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) and wet grassland species. Underplanting has taken place (c. 10 year old) below the canopy and natural regeneration of birch is evident under the wayleave.

A small patch of ruderal vegetation - rosebay willowherb (*Chamerion angustifolium*), raspberry (*Rubus idaeus*), etc - has colonised a corner of disturbed ground adjacent to the hardstanding by the garage.



APPENDIX 2 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS



*Open scattered birch woodland, interspersed with willow and rowan; A1.1.1
Broad-leaved semi-natural woodland*



Eastern section, showing J4 hardstanding and adjacent garage

APPENDIX 3 – PHASE 1 CODES

PHASE 1 CODE	Description
A1.1.1	Broadleaved woodland - semi-natural
A1.1.2	Broadleaved woodland - plantation
A1.2.1	Coniferous woodland - semi-natural
A1.2.2	Coniferous woodland - plantation
A1.3.1	Mixed woodland - semi-natural
A1.3.2	Mixed woodland - plantation
A2.1	Scrub - dense/continuous
A2.2	Scrub - scattered
A3.1	Parkland/scattered trees – broad-leaved
A3.2	Parkland/scattered trees - coniferous
A3.3	Parkland/scattered trees – mixed
A4.1	Broadleaved woodland – recently felled
A4.2	Coniferous woodland – recently felled
A4.3	Mixed woodland – recently felled
B1.1	Acid grassland – unimproved
B1.2	Acid grassland – semi-improved
B2.1	Neutral grassland – unimproved
B2.2	Neutral grassland - semi-improved
B3.1	Calcareous grassland – unimproved
B3.2	Calcareous grassland – semi-improved
B4	Improved grassland
B5	Marsh/marshy grassland
C1.1	Tall herb & fen – bracken continuous
C1.2	Tall herb & fen – bracken scattered
C3.1	Other tall herb and fern - ruderal
D1.1	Dry dwarf shrub heath - acid
G2	Running water
J1.1	Cultivated/disturbed land – arable
J1.2	Cultivated/disturbed land – amenity grassland
J1.3	Cultivated/disturbed land – ephemeral/short perennial
J1.4	Cultivated/disturbed land – introduced shrub
J2.1.1	Intact hedge – native species rich
J2.1.2	Intact hedge – species poor
J2.3.2	Hedge with trees – species-poor
J2.4	Fence
J2.5	Wall
J2.6	Dry ditch
J3.6	Built-up areas - buildings
J4	Bare ground

Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey Cairngorms Local Development Plan

Site: Blair Atholl H27

March 2011

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APPENDIX 1 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS

APPENDIX 2 – PHASE 1 CODES



Summary

1. As part of the process of considering the suitability of Site Blair Atholl H27, for inclusion into the Local Development Plan, the Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) has commissioned Landcare NorthEast to undertake a desktop study and initial ecological survey.
2. A desktop study and subsequent ecological survey was conducted at Site Blair Atholl H27 in March 2011.
3. The proposed development site is located at NN869653 in the small town of Blair Atholl and comprises approximately 0.19ha.
4. The site comprises a walled garden area (J1.3), as well as access track and existing residential housing (J4 & J3.6).
5. No notable plant species (those of UK conservation concern - see UK list of Vascular Plants of Conservation Concern <http://www.ukbap.org.uk> - or those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species) were noted.
6. The site may provide limited bat foraging habitat.



1.0 Introduction

Background

1.1 In order to make an assessment on ecological impacts of developments of sites that have been presented for inclusion in the Cairngorms Local Development Plan, CNPA require desktop studies and ecological surveys of each site to be undertaken.

1.2 With regard to this, an extended Phase 1 survey and habitat suitability assessment was conducted at Site Blair Atholl H27.

1.3 The site is located at NN869653 in the small town of Blair Atholl and comprises approximately 0.19ha.

1.4 The survey work was conducted by Steff Ferguson and Flora Grigor-Taylor, both experienced wildlife surveyors, chartered environmentalists and members of IEEM.

Existing Data

1.5 A review of the data held on the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) gateway was undertaken to identify species of conservation concern that have been recorded on the proposed development site.

1.6 NBN results

Occurring within the 10km square the site is located in:

- Goldeneye
- Twite
- Hen harrier
- Black grouse
- Capercaillie
- Redshank
- Lapwing
- Freshwater pearl mussel
- Mason bee
- Scottish wildcat
- Kentish glory
- Otter
- Badger

At 2km square level:

- Northern brown argus
- Pearl bordered fritillary

At 1km square level:

- Atlantic salmon
- Red squirrel
- Pipistrelle bat spp.
- Brown/long-eared bat spp.



Designated Sites

1.7 There are no statutory designations on the land surveyed.

2.0 Survey

Method

2.1 An ecological survey was undertaken on the site in March 2011.

2.2 A Phase 1 Habitat Mapping & Protected Species Survey, also referred to as an Extended Phase 1 Ecological Survey, was undertaken for the site. Standard Phase 1 methodology was used, including detailed target notes of notable plant species (those of conservation concern; also those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species).

2.3 An assessment of the habitat suitability within the proposed development site for mammal species was also undertaken.

2.4 The standard optimal time to undertake an Extended Phase 1 Survey is between April and the end of September. The survey time of early March was therefore outwith the optimal time, and where potential for botanical interest was noted, further survey may be necessary to provide adequate information on a site.

2.5 The habitats are described by the use of target notes, annotated to the survey map (see Fig.1). Common species names and scientific names (Stace C (1997) *New Flora of the British Isles. Second Ed.* Cambridge University Press.) are given in the text below.

Results

Vegetation

2.6 This site consists of a walled garden area, as well as access track and existing residential housing.

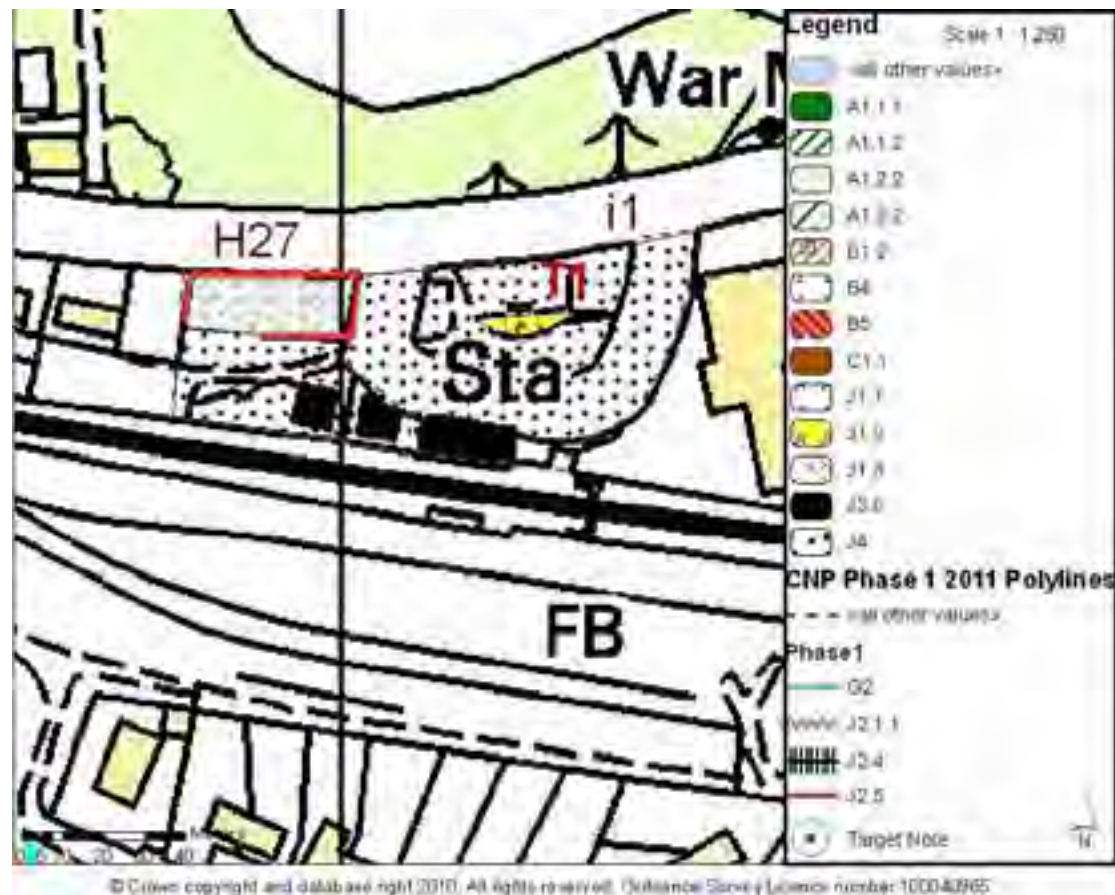
2.7 The walled area contains waste ground, a storage area for logs and C3, tall ruderal vegetation, including rosebay willowherb (*Epilobium angustifolium*), ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*), cleavers (*Galium aparine*), broad-leaved dock (*Rumex obtusifolius*) and thistles (*Cirsium spp.*). The vegetation appeared to have been kept in check by strimming. Two coppiced wych elm (*Ulmus glabra*) stumps and some young oak (*Quercus spp.*) saplings are growing along the wall perimeter, adjacent to the main road.

Fauna

2.8 No species of conservation concern and/or listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species were noted on site.



Fig 1 Survey Map



3.0 Assessment of Habitat Suitability for Mammals

3.1 The site itself offers no suitable breeding habitat for otter, water vole, bat and red squirrel. No badger setts were observed. There may be limited foraging opportunity for bats.

4.0 References

JNCC. 1990. *Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey – a technique for environmental audit*. 2007 edition. Nature Conservancy Council

Stace, C.A. 1997. *New Flora of the British Isles*. 2nd Edition. Cambridge University Press.



APPENDIX 1 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS



Site H27 – Walled area



APPENDIX 3 – PHASE 1 CODES

PHASE 1 CODE	Description
A1.1.1	Broadleaved woodland - semi-natural
A1.1.2	Broadleaved woodland - plantation
A1.2.1	Coniferous woodland - semi-natural
A1.2.2	Coniferous woodland - plantation
A1.3.1	Mixed woodland - semi-natural
A1.3.2	Mixed woodland - plantation
A2.1	Scrub - dense/continuous
A2.2	Scrub - scattered
A3.1	Parkland/scattered trees – broad-leaved
A3.2	Parkland/scattered trees - coniferous
A3.3	Parkland/scattered trees – mixed
A4.1	Broadleaved woodland – recently felled
A4.2	Coniferous woodland – recently felled
A4.3	Mixed woodland – recently felled
B1.1	Acid grassland – unimproved
B1.2	Acid grassland – semi-improved
B2.1	Neutral grassland – unimproved
B2.2	Neutral grassland - semi-improved
B3.1	Calcareous grassland – unimproved
B3.2	Calcareous grassland – semi-improved
B4	Improved grassland
B5	Marsh/marshy grassland
C1.1	Tall herb & fen – bracken continuous
C1.2	Tall herb & fen – bracken scattered
C3.1	Other tall herb and fern - ruderal
D1.1	Dry dwarf shrub heath - acid
G2	Running water
J1.1	Cultivated/disturbed land – arable
J1.2	Cultivated/disturbed land – amenity grassland
J1.3	Cultivated/disturbed land – ephemeral/short perennial
J1.4	Cultivated/disturbed land – introduced shrub
J2.1.1	Intact hedge – native species rich
J2.1.2	Intact hedge – species poor
J2.3.2	Hedge with trees – species-poor
J2.4	Fence
J2.5	Wall
J2.6	Dry ditch
J3.6	Built-up areas - buildings
J4	Bare ground

Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey Cairngorms Local Development Plan

Site: Blair Atholl, H28

March 2011

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APPENDIX 1 – TARGET NOTES

APPENDIX 2 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS

APPENDIX 3 – PHASE 1 CODES



Summary

1. As part of the process of considering the suitability of Site Blair Atholl H28, for inclusion into the Local Development Plan, the Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) has commissioned Landcare NorthEast to undertake a desktop study and initial ecological survey.
2. A desktop study and subsequent ecological survey was conducted at Site Blair Atholl H28 in March 2011.
3. The proposed development site is located at NN870651 and comprises approximately 0.66ha.
4. The main habitat is B4, improved grassland, with a strip of riparian trees along the River Garry to the south.
5. No notable plant species (those of UK conservation concern - see UK list of Vascular Plants of Conservation Concern <http://www.ukbap.org.uk> - or those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species) were noted.
6. The site may provide bat, otter and badger foraging habitat.



1.0 Introduction

Background

1.1 In order to make an assessment on ecological impacts of developments of sites that have been presented for inclusion in the Cairngorms Local Development Plan, CNPA require desktop studies and ecological surveys of each site to be undertaken.

1.2 With regard to this, an extended Phase 1 survey and habitat suitability assessment was conducted at Site Blair Atholl H28.

1.3 The site is located at NN870651 within the small town of Blair Atholl and comprises approximately 0.66ha..

1.4 The survey work was conducted by Steff Ferguson and Flora Grigor-Taylor, both experienced wildlife surveyors, chartered environmentalists and members of IEEM.

Existing Data

1.5 A review of the data held on the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) gateway was undertaken to identify species of conservation concern that have been recorded on the proposed development site.

1.6 NBN results

Occurring within the 10km square in which the site is located:

- Goldeneye
- Twite
- Hen harrier
- Black grouse
- Capercaillie
- Redshank
- Lapwing
- Freshwater pearl mussel
- Mason bee
- Scottish wildcat
- Kentish glory
- Otter
- Badger

At 2km square level:

- Northern brown argus
- Pearl bordered fritillary

At 1km square level:

- Atlantic salmon
- Red squirrel
- Pipistrelle bat spp.
- Brown/long-eared bat spp.

Designated Sites

1.7 The River Garry is located within the River Tay SAC



2.0 Survey

Method

2.1 An ecological survey was undertaken on the site in March 2011.

2.2 A Phase 1 Habitat Mapping & Protected Species Survey, also referred to as an Extended Phase 1 Ecological Survey, was undertaken for the site. Standard Phase 1 methodology was used, including detailed target notes of notable plant species (those of conservation concern; also those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species).

2.3 An assessment of the habitat suitability within the proposed development site for mammal species was also undertaken.

2.4 The standard optimal time to undertake an Extended Phase 1 Survey is between April and the end of September. The survey time of early March was therefore outwith the optimal time, and where potential for botanical interest was noted, further survey may be necessary to provide comprehensive information on a site.

2.5 The habitats are described by the use of target notes, annotated to the survey map (see Fig.1). Common species names and scientific names (Stace C (1997) *New Flora of the British Isles. Second Ed.* Cambridge University Press.) are given in the text below.

Results

Vegetation

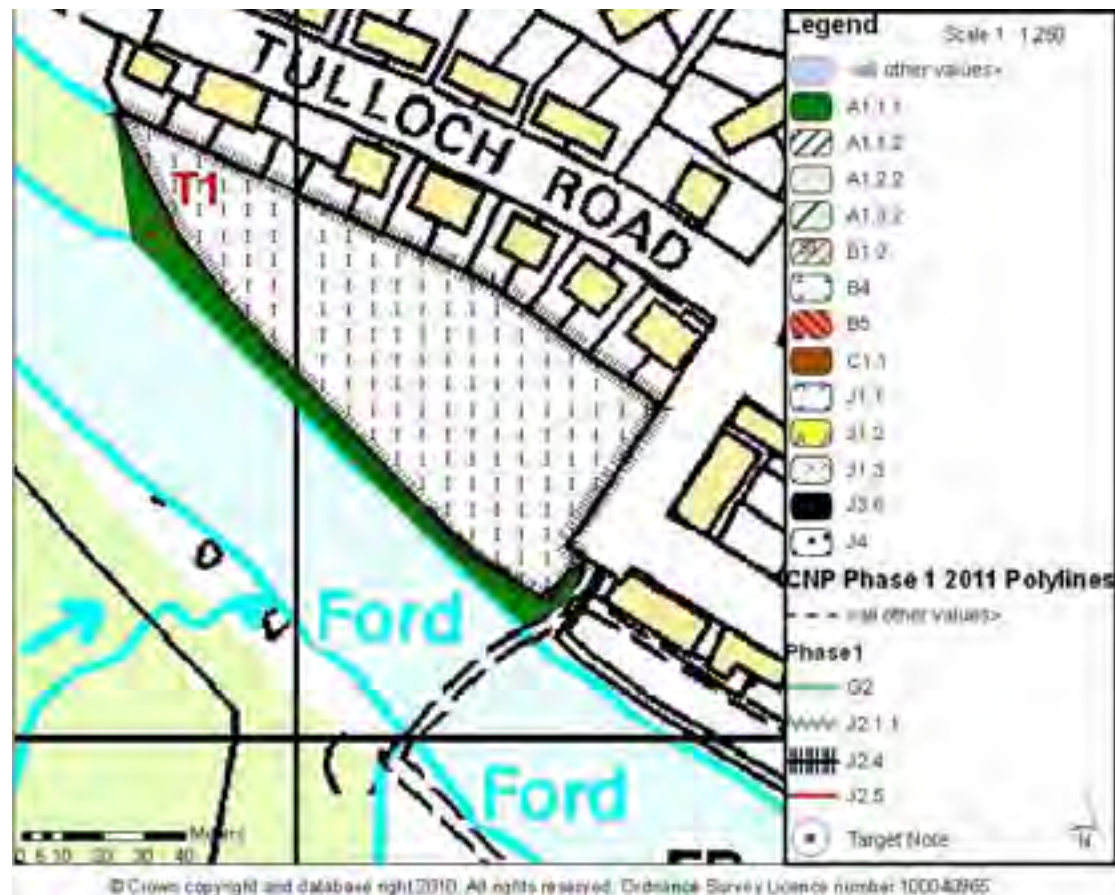
2.6 This site is a level grazed field of B4, improved grassland, currently grazed by sheep. A strip of mature riparian trees separates the grass field from the River Garry. The main tree species noted were common alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), oak (*Quercus* sp.) and willow (*Salix* spp.)

Fauna

2.7 No species of conservation concern and/or listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species were noted on site.



Fig 1 Survey Map



3.0 Assessment of Habitat Suitability for Mammals

3.1 The site itself offers no suitable breeding habitat for otter, water vole, bat or red squirrel. No badger setts were observed, although the grassland will offer foraging opportunities for this species.

3.2 The banks of the River Garry are highly likely to be utilised by otter, while the strip of mature trees will provide foraging opportunities for bats.

4.0 References

JNCC. 1990. *Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey – a technique for environmental audit*. 2007 edition. Nature Conservancy Council

Stace, C.A. 1997. *New Flora of the British Isles*. 2nd Edition. Cambridge University Press.



APPENDIX 1 – TARGET NOTES

T1

Strip of mature trees along banks of River Garry, consisting of common alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), oak (*Quercus* sp.) and willow (*Salix* spp.).

This strip provides a valuable buffer to the river, part of River Tay SAC, as well as offering habitat for otter, bats, insects and a range of birds.



APPENDIX 2 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS



Improved
grassland at H28,
Blair Atholl.



Riparian trees
along River Garry,
Blair Atholl H28



APPENDIX 3 – PHASE 1 CODES

PHASE 1 CODE	Description
A1.1.1	Broadleaved woodland - semi-natural
A1.1.2	Broadleaved woodland - plantation
A1.2.1	Coniferous woodland - semi-natural
A1.2.2	Coniferous woodland - plantation
A1.3.1	Mixed woodland - semi-natural
A1.3.2	Mixed woodland - plantation
A2.1	Scrub - dense/continuous
A2.2	Scrub - scattered
A3.1	Parkland/scattered trees – broad-leaved
A3.2	Parkland/scattered trees - coniferous
A3.3	Parkland/scattered trees – mixed
A4.1	Broadleaved woodland – recently felled
A4.2	Coniferous woodland – recently felled
A4.3	Mixed woodland – recently felled
B1.1	Acid grassland – unimproved
B1.2	Acid grassland – semi-improved
B2.1	Neutral grassland – unimproved
B2.2	Neutral grassland - semi-improved
B3.1	Calcareous grassland – unimproved
B3.2	Calcareous grassland – semi-improved
B4	Improved grassland
B5	Marsh/marshy grassland
C1.1	Tall herb & fen – bracken continuous
C1.2	Tall herb & fen – bracken scattered
C3.1	Other tall herb and fern - ruderal
D1.1	Dry dwarf shrub heath - acid
G2	Running water
J1.1	Cultivated/disturbed land – arable
J1.2	Cultivated/disturbed land – amenity grassland
J1.3	Cultivated/disturbed land – ephemeral/short perennial
J1.4	Cultivated/disturbed land – introduced shrub
J2.1.1	Intact hedge – native species rich
J2.1.2	Intact hedge – species poor
J2.3.2	Hedge with trees – species-poor
J2.4	Fence
J2.5	Wall
J2.6	Dry ditch
J3.6	Built-up areas - buildings
J4	Bare ground

Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey Cairngorms Local Development Plan

Site: Blair Atholl i1

March 2011

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APPENDIX 1 – TARGET NOTES

APPENDIX 2 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS

APPENDIX 3 – PHASE 1 CODES



Summary

1. As part of the process of considering the suitability of Site Blair Atholl i1, for inclusion into the Local Development Plan, the Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) has commissioned Landcare NorthEast to undertake a desktop study and initial ecological survey.
2. A desktop study and subsequent ecological survey was conducted at Site Blair Atholl i1 in March 2011.
3. The proposed development site is located at NN870653 in the small town of Blair Atholl and comprises approximately 0.36ha.
4. The site consists mainly of tarmac surfacing (J4) for access and car parking for the train station (J3.6) and parking for a small shop. There is a small area of amenity grassland (J1.2) with ornamental trees and shrubs in the centre of the site.
5. No notable plant species (those of UK conservation concern - see UK list of Vascular Plants of Conservation Concern <http://www.ukbap.org.uk> - or those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species) were noted.
6. The site may provide limited bat foraging habitat.



1.0 Introduction

Background

1.1 In order to make an assessment on ecological impacts of developments of sites that have been presented for inclusion in the Cairngorms Local Development Plan, CNPA require desktop studies and ecological surveys of each site to be undertaken.

1.2 With regard to this, an extended Phase 1 survey and habitat suitability assessment was conducted at Site Blair Atholl i1.

1.3 The site is located at NN870653 in the small town of Blair Atholl and comprises approximately 0.36ha.

1.4 The survey work was conducted by Steff Ferguson and Flora Grigor-Taylor, both experienced wildlife surveyors, chartered environmentalists and members of IEEM.

Existing Data

1.5 A review of the data held on the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) gateway was undertaken to identify species of conservation concern that have been recorded on the proposed development site.

1.6 NBN results

Occurring within the 10km square the site is located in:

- Goldeneye
- Twite
- Hen harrier
- Black grouse
- Capercaillie
- Redshank
- Lapwing
- Freshwater pearl mussel
- Mason bee
- Scottish wildcat
- Kentish glory
- Otter
- Badger

At 2km square level:

- Northern brown argus
- Pearl bordered fritillary



At 1km square level:

Atlantic salmon
Red squirrel
Pipistrelle bat spp.
Brown/long-eared bat spp.

Designated Sites

1.7 There are no statutory designations on the land surveyed.

2.0 Survey

Method

2.1 An ecological survey was undertaken on the site in March 2011.

2.2 A Phase 1 Habitat Mapping & Protected Species Survey, also referred to as an Extended Phase 1 Ecological Survey, was undertaken for the site. Standard Phase 1 methodology was used, including detailed target notes of notable plant species (those of conservation concern; also those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species).

2.3 An assessment of the habitat suitability within the proposed development site for mammal species was also undertaken.

2.4 The standard optimal time to undertake an Extended Phase 1 Survey is between April and the end of September. The survey time of early March was therefore outwith the optimal time, and where potential for botanical interest was noted, further survey may be necessary to provide adequate information on a site.

2.5 The habitats are described by the use of target notes, annotated to the survey map (see Fig.1). Common species names and scientific names (Stace C (1997) *New Flora of the British Isles. Second Ed.* Cambridge University Press.) are given in the text below.

Results

Vegetation

2.6 This site consists mainly of tarmac car parking for a small shop, housed in a wooden building near the main road, and the train station and associated access and parking to the north of the site.

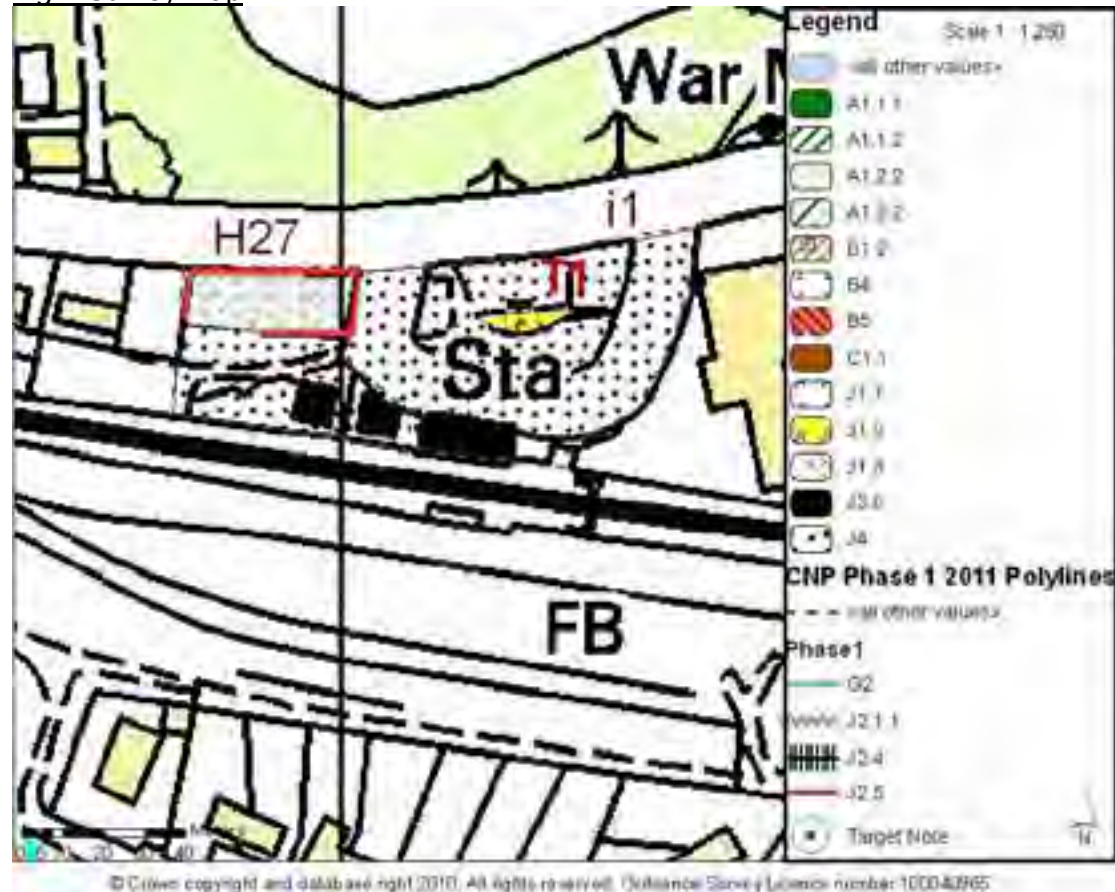
2.7 There is a small area of improved grassland and ornamental trees and shrubs such as Leyland cypress (*Cupressocyparis leylandii*), snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), yew (*Taxus baccata*) and willows (*Salix spp.*) in the centre of the site.



Fauna

2.8 No species of conservation concern and/or listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species were noted on site.

Fig 1 Survey Map



3.0 Assessment of Habitat Suitability for Mammals

3.1 The site itself offers no suitable breeding habitat for otter, water vole, bat and red squirrel. No badger setts were observed.

3.2 The buildings on site may offer potential for bat roosts. There may be limited foraging opportunity for bats.

4.0 References

JNCC. 1990. *Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey – a technique for environmental audit*. 2007 edition. Nature Conservancy Council

Stace, C.A. 1997. *New Flora of the British Isles*. 2nd Edition. Cambridge University Press.



APPENDIX 1 – TARGET NOTES

T1

Small area of amenity grassland (J1.2) , ornamental trees and shrubs such as Leyland cypress (*Cupressocyparis leylandii*), snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), yew (*Taxus baccata*) and willows (*Salix spp.*) in the centre of the site, the remainder of which consist of access road, car parking and buildings.



APPENDIX 2 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS



Blair Atholl i1 – Car parking and small shop in foreground, amenity green & ornamental trees & shrubs behind, with station to the rear.



APPENDIX 3 – PHASE 1 CODES

PHASE 1 CODE	Description
A1.1.1	Broadleaved woodland - semi-natural
A1.1.2	Broadleaved woodland - plantation
A1.2.1	Coniferous woodland - semi-natural
A1.2.2	Coniferous woodland - plantation
A1.3.1	Mixed woodland - semi-natural
A1.3.2	Mixed woodland - plantation
A2.1	Scrub - dense/continuous
A2.2	Scrub - scattered
A3.1	Parkland/scattered trees – broad-leaved
A3.2	Parkland/scattered trees - coniferous
A3.3	Parkland/scattered trees – mixed
A4.1	Broadleaved woodland – recently felled
A4.2	Coniferous woodland – recently felled
A4.3	Mixed woodland – recently felled
B1.1	Acid grassland – unimproved
B1.2	Acid grassland – semi-improved
B2.1	Neutral grassland – unimproved
B2.2	Neutral grassland - semi-improved
B3.1	Calcareous grassland – unimproved
B3.2	Calcareous grassland – semi-improved
B4	Improved grassland
B5	Marsh/marshy grassland
C1.1	Tall herb & fen – bracken continuous
C1.2	Tall herb & fen – bracken scattered
C3.1	Other tall herb and fern - ruderal
D1.1	Dry dwarf shrub heath - acid
G2	Running water
J1.1	Cultivated/disturbed land – arable
J1.2	Cultivated/disturbed land – amenity grassland
J1.3	Cultivated/disturbed land – ephemeral/short perennial
J1.4	Cultivated/disturbed land – introduced shrub
J2.1.1	Intact hedge – native species rich
J2.1.2	Intact hedge – species poor
J2.3.2	Hedge with trees – species-poor
J2.4	Fence
J2.5	Wall
J2.6	Dry ditch
J3.6	Built-up areas - buildings
J4	Bare ground

Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey Cairngorms Local Development Plan

Site: Cromdale Kirk Road

March 2011

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APPENDIX 1 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS

APPENDIX 2 – PHASE 1 CODES



Summary

1. As part of the process of considering the suitability of Site Cromdale Kirk Road, for inclusion into the Local Development Plan, the Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) has commissioned Landcare NorthEast to undertake a desktop study and initial ecological survey.
2. A desktop study and subsequent ecological survey was conducted at Site Cromdale Kirk Road in March 2011.
3. The proposed development site is located at NJ071286 and comprises approximately 4.36ha.
4. The main habitat is arable farmland.
5. No notable plant species (those of UK conservation concern - see UK list of Vascular Plants of Conservation Concern <http://www.ukbap.org.uk> - or those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species) were noted.
6. The site may provide bat and badger foraging habitat.



1.0 Introduction

Background

1.1 In order to make an assessment on ecological impacts of developments of sites that have been presented for inclusion in the Cairngorms Local Development Plan, CNPA require desktop studies and ecological surveys of each site to be undertaken.

1.2 With regard to this, an extended Phase 1 survey and habitat suitability assessment was conducted at Site Cromdale Kirk Road.

1.3 The site is located at NJ071286 and comprises approximately 4.36ha.

1.4 The survey work was conducted by Steff Ferguson and Flora Grigor-Taylor, both experienced wildlife surveyors, chartered environmentalists and members of IEEM.

Existing Data

1.5 A review of the data held on the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) gateway was undertaken to identify species of conservation concern that have been recorded on the proposed development site.

1.6 NBN results

Occurring within the 10km square in which the site is located:

- Goldeneye
- Twite
- Hen harrier
- Scottish crossbill
- Black grouse
- Capercaillie
- Pearl bordered fritillary
- Twinflower
- Aspen bracket fungus
- Pine hoverfly
- Northern damselfly
- Aspen hoverfly
- Freshwater pearl mussel
- Blunt-leaved bristle moss
- Water vole
- Scottish wildcat
- Kentish glory
- Dark-bordered beauty
- Cousin German
- Netted mountain moth
- Badger
- Pipistrelle bat spp.
- Daubentons bat
- Natterers bat
- Brown/long-eared bat spp.



At 2km square level:

Redshank
Lapwing
Northern brown argus
Atlantic salmon
Otter

At 1km square level:

Red squirrel

Designated Sites

1.7 There are no statutory designations on the land surveyed.

1.8 The long distance Speyside Way route skirts the site to the north along the dismantled railway line.

2.0 Survey

Method

2.1 An ecological survey was undertaken on the site in March 2011.

2.2 A Phase 1 Habitat Mapping & Protected Species Survey, also referred to as an Extended Phase 1 Ecological Survey, was undertaken for the site. Standard Phase 1 methodology was used, including detailed target notes of notable plant species (those of conservation concern; also those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species).

2.3 An assessment of the habitat suitability within the proposed development site for mammal species was also undertaken.

2.4 The standard optimal time to undertake an Extended Phase 1 Survey is between April and the end of September. The survey time of early March was therefore outwith the optimal time, and where potential for botanical interest was noted, further survey may be necessary to provide comprehensive information on a site.

2.5 The habitats are described by the use of target notes, annotated to the survey map (see Fig.1). Common species names and scientific names (Stace C (1997) *New Flora of the British Isles. Second Ed.* Cambridge University Press.) are given in the text below.

Results

Vegetation

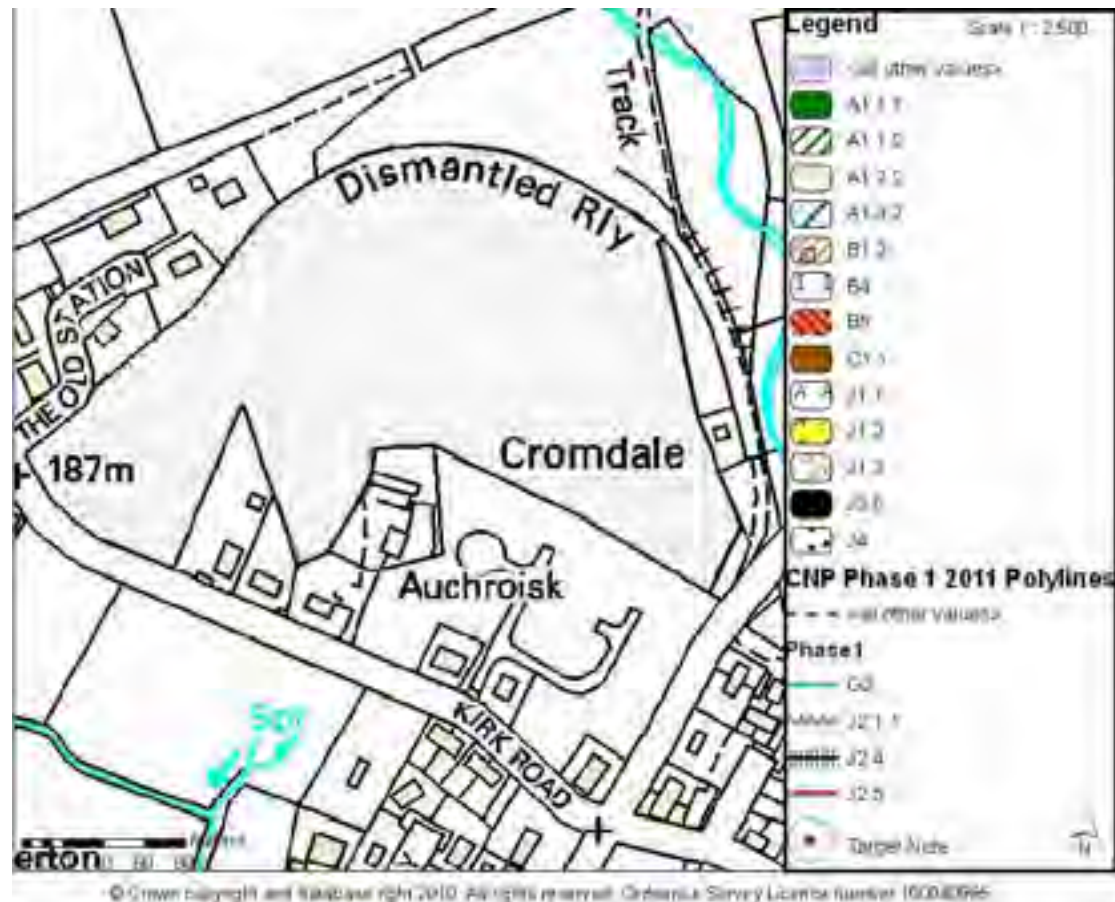
2.6 This site comprises a large field of arable farmland.



Fauna

2.7 No species of conservation concern and/or listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species were noted on site.

Fig 1 Survey Map



3.0 Assessment of Habitat Suitability for Mammals

3.1 The site itself offers no suitable breeding habitat for otter, water vole, bat or red squirrel. No badger setts were observed. There may be foraging opportunity for badger and bats here.

4.0 References

JNCC. 1990. *Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey – a technique for environmental audit*. 2007 edition. Nature Conservancy Council

Stace, C.A. 1997. *New Flora of the British Isles*. 2nd Edition. Cambridge University Press.



APPENDIX – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS



Arable field,
Cromdale Kirk
Road





APPENDIX 3 – PHASE 1 CODES

PHASE 1 CODE	Description
A1.1.1	Broadleaved woodland - semi-natural
A1.1.2	Broadleaved woodland - plantation
A1.2.1	Coniferous woodland - semi-natural
A1.2.2	Coniferous woodland - plantation
A1.3.1	Mixed woodland - semi-natural
A1.3.2	Mixed woodland - plantation
A2.1	Scrub - dense/continuous
A2.2	Scrub - scattered
A3.1	Parkland/scattered trees – broad-leaved
A3.2	Parkland/scattered trees - coniferous
A3.3	Parkland/scattered trees – mixed
A4.1	Broadleaved woodland – recently felled
A4.2	Coniferous woodland – recently felled
A4.3	Mixed woodland – recently felled
B1.1	Acid grassland – unimproved
B1.2	Acid grassland – semi-improved
B2.1	Neutral grassland – unimproved
B2.2	Neutral grassland - semi-improved
B3.1	Calcareous grassland – unimproved
B3.2	Calcareous grassland – semi-improved
B4	Improved grassland
B5	Marsh/marshy grassland
C1.1	Tall herb & fen – bracken continuous
C1.2	Tall herb & fen – bracken scattered
C3.1	Other tall herb and fern - ruderal
D1.1	Dry dwarf shrub heath - acid
G2	Running water
J1.1	Cultivated/disturbed land – arable
J1.2	Cultivated/disturbed land – amenity grassland
J1.3	Cultivated/disturbed land – ephemeral/short perennial
J1.4	Cultivated/disturbed land – introduced shrub
J2.1.1	Intact hedge – native species rich
J2.1.2	Intact hedge – species poor
J2.3.2	Hedge with trees – species-poor
J2.4	Fence
J2.5	Wall
J2.6	Dry ditch
J3.6	Built-up areas - buildings
J4	Bare ground

Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey Cairngorms Local Development Plan

Site: 005a

Land at Struan, near Calvine

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APPENDIX 1 – TARGET NOTES
APPENDIX 2 – PLANT SPECIES LIST
APPENDIX 3 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS
APPENDIX 4 – PHASE 1 CODES



Summary

1. As part of the process of considering the suitability of Site 005a for inclusion into the Local Development Plan, the Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) has commissioned Landcare Northeast to undertake a desktop study and initial ecological survey.

2. A desktop study and subsequent ecological survey was conducted at Site 005a, land at Struan, near Cairvine on 18 August 2010.

3. The 4.5ha proposed development site is located at NN 901655.

4. The main habitats are Recently-felled Coniferous Woodland, Dry Dwarf Shrub Heath with some Marshy and Acid Grassland patches.

5. No notable plant species (those of UK conservation concern – see UK list of Vascular Plants of Conservation Concern <http://www.ukbap.org.uk> - or those listed on the Cairngorms LBAF list of priority species) were noted.

6. No species of conservation concern and/or listed on the Cairngorms LBAF list of priority species were recorded on site.

7. Some of the older trees may have potential roost sites for bats, in cracks, holes or under loose bark. The site is within 100m of the River Garry, where otters are known to be present. As such, site 005a is within potential otter foraging and breeding territory distance from the watercourse. There may be limited foraging opportunity for badger and bats here.

The site offers no suitable breeding habitat for water vole or red squirrel.

1.0 Introduction

Background

- 1.1 In order to make an assessment on ecological impacts of developments of sites that have been presented for inclusion in the Cairngorms Local Development Plan, CNPA require desktop studies and ecological surveys of each site to be undertaken.
- 1.2 With regard to this, an extended Phase 1 survey and habitat suitability assessment was conducted at Site 005a, land at Struan, near Calvine, Perthshire.
- 1.3 The 4 sites are located at NN B01655.
- 1.4 The survey work was conducted by Steve Ferguson and Flora Grogan-Taylor, both experienced wildlife surveyors, chartered environmentalists and members of IEM.

Existing Data

- 1.5 A review of the data held on the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) gateway was undertaken to identify species of conservation concern that have been recorded on the proposed development site.
- 1.6 Otter, badger, common pipistrelle and brown long-eared bat records exist at the 10km level for the vicinity of the site. Red squirrel and Scottish wildcat have been recorded within 1km square of the site.
- 1.7 Also recorded within 10km square of the site – Atlantic salmon, goldeneye, wile, hen harrier, black grouse, capercaillie, redshank, lapwing, northern brown argus, peat bordered fritillary, mason bee, Kentish glory and netted mountain moth.

Designated Sites

- 1.8 The site is classified as Long Established Woodland of Plantation Origin (2b) on the inventory of ancient and long-established woodland sites. However, the woodland was felled in 2007.
- 1.9 To the west of the site sits Struan Wood SSSI, designated for heath, a moor, and upland birch woodland.

2.13 No species of conservation concern and/or listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species were recorded on site. However, a good range of invertebrates were noted, particularly butterflies and dragonflies. Other recorded fauna – common frog, wren, willow bunting, blue tit, rabbit droppings, roe deer prints.

Fauna

2.12 Although some of the perimeter is fenced, most of the boundary is either open or delineated by drystone dyking.

2.11 Acid grassland - unimproved B1.1 As the ground rises to the west end of the site, dominant species are those of acid grassland conditions, grading into dwarf shrub heath. Plants such as heath bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*), heath woodrush (*Luzula multiflora*), Germaner speedwell (*Veronica chamaedrys*), wavy hair grass (*Deschampsia flexuosa*) and sweet vernal grass (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*) become more frequent in the field layer (see Target note 7).

2.10 Dry dwarf shrub heath – acid D1 Although this community is damp in places, overall species composition is more characteristic of a dry heath. Ling heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) dominates, with small patches of cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*) and blueberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*) present (see Target note 5).

occasionally oak (*Quercus* sp.) were found where the ground layer of vegetation cover is less dense.



Fig 1 Survey Map

UK list of Vascular plants of Conservation Concern <http://www.ukbap.org.uk>
Cairngorms LBAP Priority Species List www.cairngorms.co.uk

Siace, C.A. 1997. New Flora of the British Isles. 2nd Edition. Cambridge University Press.
JNCC. 1990. Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey – a technique for environmental audit. 2007 edition. Nature Conservancy Council

4.0 References

No badger setts or other holds were observed.

Some of the older trees may have potential roost sites for bats, in cracks, holes or under loose bark. The site is within 100m of the River Garry, where otters are known to be present. As such, site 005a is within potential otter foraging and breeding territory distance from the watercourse.
However, at present, the site itself offers no suitable breeding habitat for water vole, or red squirrel, although there may still be limited foraging opportunity for badger and breeding and foraging badgers, red squirrels and possibly bats.
3.1 Prior to felling, it is highly likely that this site would have been suitable for bats here.

3.0 Assessment of Habitat Suitability for Mammals

Willows	<i>Salix</i> spp
Wood forget-me-not	<i>Myosotis sylvatica</i>
Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>
Yorkshire fog	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>
	<i>Sphagnum</i> spp



Site 005a is rich in invertebrates: such as black darter and golden ringed dragonflies



Clear-felling has led to brush restricting ground flora growth; individual trees left standing

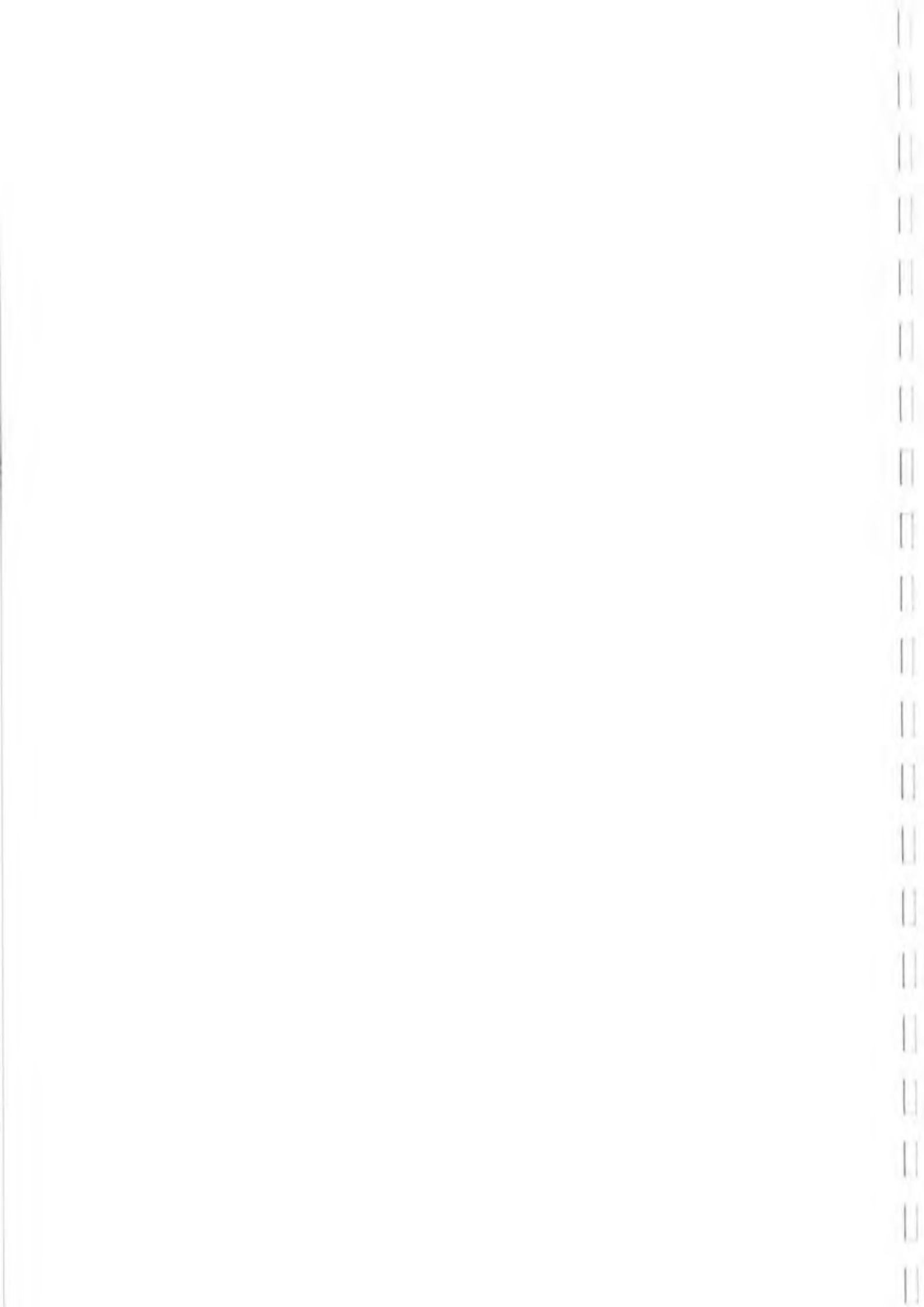


APPENDIX 3 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS



APPENDIX 4 – PHASE 1 CODES

PHASE 1 CODE	Description
A1.1	Broadleaved woodland - semi-natural
A1.2	Broadleaved woodland - plantation
A1.2.1	Coniferous woodland - semi-natural
A1.2.2	Coniferous woodland - plantation
A1.3.1	Mixed woodland - semi-natural
A1.3.2	Mixed woodland - plantation
A2.1	Scrub - dense/continuous
A2.2	Scrub - scattered
A4.1	Broadleaved woodland - recently felled
A4.2	Coniferous woodland - recently felled
A4.3	Mixed woodland - recently felled
B1.1	Acid grassland - unimproved
B1.2	Acid grassland - semi-improved
B2.2	Neutral grassland - semi-improved
B3.2	Calcareous grassland - semi-improved
B4	Improved grassland
B5	Marsh/marshy grassland
C3.1	Other tall herb and fern - ruderal
D1.1	Dry dwarf shrub heath - acid
G2	Running water
J2.3.2	Hedge with trees - species-poor
J2.4	Fence
J2.5	Wall
J2.6	Dry ditch
J4	Bare ground



Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey
Cairngorms Local Development Plan
Site: 005b
Land to the north of Blair Castle Caravan Park
Blair Atholl

August 2010

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4.0 References	5

APPENDIX 1 – TARGET NOTES

APPENDIX 2 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS

APPENDIX 3 – PHASE 1 CODES

Summary

1. As part of the process of considering the suitability of Site 005b, Land to the north of Blair Castle Caravan Park, Blair Atholl for inclusion into the Local Development Plan, the Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) has commissioned Landcare Northeast to undertake a desktop study and initial ecological survey.

2. A desktop study and subsequent ecological survey was conducted at Site 005b, Land to the north of Blair Castle Caravan Park, Blair Atholl on 18 August 2010.

3. The proposed development site is located at NN873661 and comprises approximately 4.5ha.

4. The main habitat is coniferous plantation woodland.

5. No notable plant species (those of UK conservation concern - see UK list of Vascular Plants of Conservation Concern <http://www.ukbap.org.uk> - or those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species) were noted.

6. Signs of red squirrel foraging were noted. The site has good habitat potential for red squirrel, bats and badger.



1.0 Introduction

Background

1.1 In order to make an assessment on ecological impacts of developments of sites that have been presented for inclusion in the Cairngorms Local Development Plan, CNRA require desktop studies and ecological surveys of each site to be undertaken.

1.2 With regard to this, an extended Phase 1 survey and habitat suitability assessment was conducted at Site 005b, Land to the north of Blair Castle Caravan Park, Blair Atholl.

1.3 The site is located at NB873661 and comprises approximately 4.9ha.

1.4 The survey work was conducted by Steff Ferguson and Flora Grigor-Taylor, both experienced wildlife surveyors, chartered environmentalists and members of IECM.

Existing Data

1.5 A review of the data held on the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) gateway was undertaken to identify species of conservation concern that have been recorded on the proposed development site.

1.6 Badger, otter, wildcat and bat records exist at the 10km level for the vicinity of the site. Peat bordered fritillary have been recorded within the 2km level. Red squirrel have been recorded within 1km square of the site.

1.7 Also recorded within 10km square of the site ~ goldeneye, (wige, hen harrier, black grouse, capercaillie, northern brown argus, redshank and lapwing.

Designated Sites

1.8 The site is classified as Ancient woodland; Ancient wood replanted 2b

1.9 The River Till which flows parallel with the eastern edge of the site, is part of the River Tay SAC

1.10 The land is located within Blair Castle Historic Gardens and Designed Landscape designated as outlined in the Highland Area Local Plan 2000, defined as 'Areas that have been set out and planted in the past (mostly within the last 200-300 years) and which are still recognizable as representative of a particular style or quality of period'.

were noted on site.

2.10 Evidence in the form of droppings of rabbits, deer and hedgehog (live sighting)

throughout the site.

2.9 Fresh and abundant evidence of feeding remains of red squirrel were noted

Fauna

completed (Target Note 2).

2.8 Phase 1 of holiday chalets in the southern most area of the site has been

and dog's mercury (*Mercurialis perennis*),
hedge woundwort (*Stachys sylvatica*), chickweed wintergreen (*Trientalis europaea*),
chamaedrys), wood sorrel (*Oxalis acetosella*), wild strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*),
Forbs include common dog violet (*Viola riviniana*), germander speedwell (*Veronica*
male fern (*Dryopteris filix-mas*), raspberry (*Rubus idaeus*) and a rich bryophyte layer.
2.7 Ground flora is species rich (see Target Note 1 in Appendix 1), with stands of
Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), sika spruce (*Picea sitchensis*) and larch (*Larix* spp.).
Occasional sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), birch (*Betula* spp.), rowan (*Sorbus*
aucuparia) and Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) have self-seeded into open areas.

2.6 The site consists of conifer woodland of plantation origin (A1.2.2). Stands of
mature conifer form a closed canopy throughout most of the site and comprise mainly
mature conifer form a closed canopy throughout most of the site and comprise mainly

Vegetation

Results

text below.

2.5 The habitats are described by the use of target notes, annotated to the survey
map (see Fig 1). Common species names and scientific names (Stace C (1987) *New*
Flora of the British Isles, Second Ed. Cambridge University Press.) are given in the

April and the end of September. The survey time of mid-August is therefore optimal.

2.4 The standard optimal time to undertake an extended Phase 1 survey is between

mammal species was also undertaken.

2.3 An assessment of the habitat suitability within the proposed development site for

extended Phase 1 Ecological Survey, was undertaken for the site. Standard Phase 1
methodology was used, including detailed target notes of notable plant species
(those of conservation concern; also those listed on the Cairngorms LBAF list of
priority species).

2.2 A Phase 1 Habitat Mapping & Protected Species Survey, also referred to as an

2.1 An ecological survey was undertaken on the site on 19 August 2010.

Method

2.0 Survey



JNCC. 1990. *Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey – a technique for environmental audit*. 2007 edition. Nature Conservancy Council
 State, C.A. 1997. *New Flora of the British Isles*. 2nd Edition. Cambridge University Press.

4.0 References

3.1 Evidence of red squirrel feeding on site was noted. The woodland type offers ideal habitat for this species, and dreys may be present on site.

3.2 Mature trees are likely to offer potential roost sites for bats within cracks, holes and loose bark. Bat foraging opportunities are ideal within woodland, woodland edge and surrounding parkland and farmland.

3.3 The site is adjacent to the River Till, where otters are likely to forage and potentially may breed. The River at this location is unlikely to offer suitable water vole habitat.

3.4 No badger setts were noted during the survey, however the habitat is suitable for this species.

3.0 Assessment of Habitat Suitability for Mammals

APPENDIX 1 – TARGET NOTES

T1 - NN 87379 66130

Species list woodland ground flora

American elder	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>
Birch (seedling)	<i>Betula</i> sp.
Blaeberry	<i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i>
Bugle	<i>Ajuga reptans</i>
Bush vetch	<i>Vicia sepium</i>
Chickweed wintergreen	<i>Trientalis europaea</i>
Cleavers	<i>Galium aparine</i>
Common bent	<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>
Common dog's violet	<i>Viola riviniana</i>
Common figwort	<i>Scrophularia nodosa</i>
Dog rose	<i>Rosa canina</i>
Dog's mercury	<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>
False brome	<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>
Foxglove	<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>
Garnet speedwell	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>
Great woodrush	<i>Luzula sylvatica</i>
Hedge woundwort	<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>
Male fern	<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>
Oak (seedling)	<i>Quercus</i> spp.
Pink purslane	<i>Claytonia sibirica</i>
Raspberry	<i>Rubus idaeus</i>
Rosebay willowherb	<i>Epilobium angustifolium</i>
Selfheal	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>
Snowberry	<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>
Stinging Nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>
Sycamore (seedling)	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>
Tufted hairgrass	<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>
Wild strawberry	<i>Fragaria vesca</i>
Wood avens	<i>Geum urbanum</i>
Wood forget-me-not	<i>Myosotis sylvatica</i>
Wood sorrel	<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>

T2 - NN 87137 65846

Phase 1A of holiday chalets has been completed.



005b - Stands of male fern (*Dryopteris filix-mas*)



005b - Evidence of recent squirrel feeding



005b - Mature stands of planted conifers



APPENDIX 2 - SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS



APPENDIX 3 – PHASE 1 CODES

PHASE 1 CODE	Description
A1.1	Broadleaved woodland - semi-natural
A1.2	Broadleaved woodland - plantation
A1.2.1	Coniferous woodland - semi-natural
A1.2.2	Coniferous woodland - plantation
A1.3.1	Mixed woodland - semi-natural
A1.3.2	Mixed woodland - plantation
A2.1	Scrub - dense/continuous
A2.2	Scrub - scattered
A4.1	Broadleaved woodland - recently felled
A4.2	Coniferous woodland - recently felled
A4.3	Mixed woodland - recently felled
B1.1	Acid grassland - unimproved
B1.2	Acid grassland - semi-improved
B2.2	Neutral grassland - semi-improved
B3.2	Calcareous grassland - semi-improved
B4	Improved grassland
B5	Marsh/marshy grassland
C3.1	Other tall herb and fern - ruderal
D1.1	Dry dwarf shrub heath - acid
G2	Running water
J2.3.2	Hedge with trees - species-poor
J2.4	Fence
J2.5	Wall
J2.6	Dry ditch
J4	Bare ground





Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey
Cairngorms Local Development Plan
Site: 005c
Land at the Old Nursery, Old Blair, Blair Atholl

September 2010

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Summary

1. As part of the process of considering the suitability of Site 005c for inclusion into the Local Development Plan, the Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) has commissioned Landcare NorthEast to undertake a desktop study and initial ecological survey.

2. A desktop study and subsequent ecological survey was conducted at Site 005c, land at the Old Nursery, Old Blair, Blair Atholl on 18 August 2010.

3. The proposed development site is 1Ha, located at NN 867667.

4. The main habitat is wet Semi-improved Neutral Grassland and beach hedge.

5. No notable plant species (those of UK conservation concern – see UK list of Vascular Plants of Conservation Concern <http://www.ukbap.org.uk> – or those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species) were noted.

6. The site offers suitable foraging habitat for badger and bats.



1.0 Introduction

Background

1.1 In order to make an assessment on ecological impacts of developments of sites that have been presented for inclusion in the Cairngorms Local Development Plan, CNPA require desktop studies and ecological surveys of each site to be undertaken.

1.2 With regard to this, an extended Phase 1 survey and habitat suitability assessment was conducted at Site 005c, land at the Old Nursery, Old Blair, Blair Atholl, Perthshire.

1.3 The site is located at NN 867667.

1.4 The survey work was conducted by Staff Ferguson and Flora Grigor-Taylor, both experienced wildlife surveyors, chartered environmentalists and members of IEM.

Existing Data

1.5 A review of the data held on the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) gateway was undertaken to identify species of conservation concern that have been recorded on the proposed development site.

1.6 Common pipistrelle, brown long-eared bat, wildcat, otter and badger records exist at the 10km level for the vicinity of the site. Red squirrel and Soprano pipistrelle presence have been recorded in 1km squares approx. 1km (or less) from the site.

1.7 Also recorded within 10km square of the site – goldeneye, twite, hen harrier, black grouse, capercaillie, redshank, lapwing, Northern brown argus, peat bordered fritillary, mason bee and Kenish glory.

Designated Sites

1.8 There are no statutorily designated sites within the survey area itself, although Ancient Woodlands of Old Blair are close to the western boundary.

1.9 The land is located within Blair Castle Historic Gardens and Designed Landscape designated as outlined in the Highland Area Local Plan 2000, defined as "Areas that have been set out and planted in the past (mostly within the last 200-300 years) and which are still recognizable as representative of a particular style or quality of period."



2.0 Survey

Method

2.1 An ecological survey was undertaken on the site on 18 August 2010.

2.2 A Phase 1 Habitat Mapping & Protected Species Survey, also referred to as an extended Phase 1 Ecological Survey, was undertaken for the site. Standard Phase 1 methodology was used, including detailed target notes of notable plant species (those of conservation concern; also those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species).

2.3 An assessment of the habitat suitability within the proposed development site for mammal species was also undertaken.

2.4 The standard optimal time to undertake an extended Phase 1 survey is between April and the end of September. The survey time of mid-August is therefore optimal.

2.5 The habitats are described by the use of target notes, annotated to the survey map (see Fig 2). Common species names and scientific names (Stace C (1997) *New Flora of the British Isles: Second Ed.* Cambridge University Press.) are given in the text below.

Results

Vegetation

2.6 This site comprises an enclosed field, previously managed as a tree nursery for growing young trees for commercial sale. The site is now unmanaged, with no sign of being grazed or mowed in past year or more. In place of trees, the area is now dominated by rushes, grasses and other tall wetland species and ruderals.

2.7 Semi-improved Neutral grassland B2 Much of the site is permanently moist-waterlogged. The main species present are soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), common hogweed (*Heracleum sphondylium*), creeping thistle (*Cirsium arvense*) and tufted yetch (*Vicia cracca*); see Target note 1 for species list. Patches of tall ruderals (see Target note 2) have colonised around the edge of an area of handstanding, now used as a farm storage site. Piles of brash and occasional moribund lichen-covered rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) were noted on the site.

2.8 The boundary is delineated by a beech hedge on all four sides, with some mature perimeter trees present – copper beech (*Fagus sylvatica purpurea*) and sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*).

Fauna

2.9 No species of conservation concern and/or listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species were noted on site.

3.1 The site itself offers no suitable breeding habitat for otter, water vole, bat, badger or red squirrel. It does offer suitable foraging habitat for badger and bats.

3.0 Assessment of Habitat Suitability for Mammals

4.0 References

JNCC, 1990. Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey – a technique for environmental audit. 2007 edition. Nature Conservancy Council
Stace, C.A. 1997. New Flora of the British Isles. 2nd Edition. Cambridge University Press.
UK list of Vascular plants of Conservation Concern <http://www.ukbap.org.uk>
Cairngorms LBAF Priority Species List www.cairngorms.co.uk

T3 - NN 86735 66743
Line of trees, remnants of nursery – silver birch (*Betula pendula*), Norway spruce (*Picea abies*)

T2 - NN 86710 66787
Hard standing area used as farm storage site – silage wraps, feed trailers and feed rings. Tall colonised vegetation on disturbed ground at edge, such as broad-leaved dock (*Rumex obtusifolius*), creeping thistle (*Cirsium arvense*)

T1 - NN 86776 66782
Main species in the sward: soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), common hogweed (*Achillea millefolium*), creeping thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), tufted vetch (*Vicia cracca*), Yorkshire fog (*Festuca ovina*), meadow foxtail (*Alopecurus pratensis*), broad-leaved dock (*Rumex obtusifolius*), cleavers/goosegrass (*Galium aparine*), yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), common ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*), marsh willowherb (*Epilobium palustre*)

APPENDIX 1 – TARGET NOTES



**Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey
Cairngorms Local Development Plan**

Site: 005d

Land at Black Island, Blair Atholl

September 2010

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Summary

1. As part of the process of considering the suitability of Site 005d for inclusion into the Local Development Plan, the Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) has commissioned Landcare Northeast to undertake a desktop study and initial ecological survey.

2. A desktop study and subsequent ecological survey was conducted at Site 005d, land at Black Island, Blair Atholl on 18 August 2010.

3. The 31.5ha proposed development site is located at NN 853654.

4. The main habitats are conifer plantation, broad-leaved semi-natural woodland, stands of ancient Scots pine, regenerated scrub, disturbed open ground supporting arable weeds and other open areas of unimproved species-rich calcareous/mesotrophic grasslands and shingle banks.

5. No notable plant species (those of UK conservation concern – see UK list of Vascular Plants of Conservation Concern <http://www.ukbap.org.uk> - or those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species) were noted.

6. Evidence of otter, bat and red squirrel presence were recorded on the site.

7. The site offers suitable breeding and foraging habitat for otter, bats, red squirrels and badgers.



1.0 Introduction

Background

1.1 In order to make an assessment on ecological impacts of developments of sites that have been presented for inclusion in the Cairngorms Local Development Plan, CNPA require desktop studies and ecological surveys of each site to be undertaken.

1.2 With regard to this, an extended Phase 1 survey and habitat suitability assessment was conducted at Site 005d, land at Black Island, Blair Atholl, Perthshire.

1.3 The 31.5ha site is located at NN 853654.

1.4 The survey work was conducted by Staff Ferguson and Flora Gifford-Taylor, both experienced wildlife surveyors, chartered environmentalists and members of IECM.

Existing Data

1.5 A review of the data held on the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) gateway was undertaken to identify species of conservation concern that have been recorded on the proposed development site.

1.6 Common pipit and brown long-eared bat, badger, otter and wildcat records exist at the 10km level for the vicinity of the site. Soprano pipit and red squirrel are recorded within 1km square of the site.

1.7 Also recorded within 10km square of the site - Goldeneye, twite, hen harrier, black grouse, capercaillie, redshank, lapwing, mason bee and kestrel. Northern brown argus and peat bordered fritillary have been recorded within 2km square and Atlantic salmon in the River Garry to a distance of 100m.

Designated Sites

1.8 This site is on the banks of the River Garry, a tributary of the River Tay SAC designated for Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*). Brook lamprey (*Lampetra planed*), Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels; Otter (*Lutra lutra*), River lamprey (*Lampetra fluviatilis*); See lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*).

The eastern section of the site is classified as Long Established woodland of plantation origin (2b) on the inventory of ancient and long-established woodland sites. These are defined as "Sites shown as plantation woodland in c. 1860 but not shown as woodland at all in 1750 or shown as plantation on these maps. These are woods that were apparently planted before 1860."



2.0 Survey

Method

2.1 An ecological survey was undertaken on the site on 18th August 2010.

2.2 A Phase 1 Habitat Mapping & Protected Species Survey, also referred to as an extended Phase 1 ecological survey, was undertaken for the site. Standard phase 1 methodology was used, including detailed target notes of notable plant species (those of conservation concern, also those listed on the Cairngorms LBAF list of priority species).

2.3 An assessment of the habitat suitability within the proposed development site for mammal species was also undertaken.

2.4 The standard optimal time to undertake an extended Phase 1 survey is between April and the end of September. The survey time of mid-August is therefore optimal.

2.5 The habitats are described by the use of target notes, annotated to the survey map (see Fig 2). Common species names and scientific names (Stace C (1997) *New Flora of the British Isles*, Second Ed. Cambridge University Press.) are given in the text below.

Results

Vegetation

2.6 This site is on flat ground on the north bank of the River Garry. It comprises a strip of floodplain between the main Perth to Inverness railway line and the riverbank and incorporates a series of paths, open rides and a wayleave from overhead power lines. It is close to the main A8 road.

2.7 The main habitats present are open conifer plantation, broad-leaved semi-natural woodland, stands of ancient Scots pine, regenerated scrub, disturbed open ground supporting arable weeds, open areas of unimproved species-rich calcareous and mesotrophic grasslands and shingle banks.

Main species present are listed in Appendix 2.

2.8 Coniferous Plantation Woodland A1.2.2

A variety of conifer plantation types are found, presenting a range of ages, species and management methods. In general, the canopy is fairly open, particularly towards the western end of the site, where dominant species are Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*) and Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) with occasional birch (*Betula* spp) and alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) at the woodland edge. Evidence of thinning and grazing was noted here. Sections of disturbed ground with feed bales support a number of arable weeds – see Target Note 1.

Stands of Scots Pine are evident throughout the site; one stand in particular supports a number of notable ancient trees – see Target Note 2. In addition to spruce and pine, larch (*Larix decidua*) becomes more frequent towards the eastern edge of the woodland.

2.9 Broad-leaved Semi-natural Woodland A1.1

A variety of woodland sub-categories feature here. Naturally regenerating birch and alder wet woodland; mature policy specimens along an old embankment; overhanging riparian willow (*Salix* spp), birch and alder scrub. Other than small open grassland patches, broadleaves typically form the main vegetation type along the riverbank. Shingle material is being colonised in many places by alder and willow scrub.

Other prints were noted on sandy substrate below riparian scrub – see Target Note 4

For much of the site, well-established mature broadleaves dominate, with a scattering of conifers in the canopy layer. Dominant species in the canopy are birch, alder, rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), willow and bird cherry (*Prunus padus*), with beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) occurring occasionally along the embankment at eastern end of the site. The understorey and ground layer are typically well-developed and diverse with frequent evidence of natural regeneration – see Target Note 5. Notable species present in the ground flora include columbine (*Aquilegia vulgaris*), water mint (*Mentha aquatica*), dog's mercury (*Mercurialis perennis*), bladder campion (*Silene vulgaris*), common figwort (*Scrophularia nodosa*) and goldenrod (*Solidago virgaurea*).

2.10 Unimproved Calcareous Grassland B3.1

The interior woodland habitat incorporates small patches of open ground supporting floristically diverse swards, with species characteristic of calcareous conditions. Notable species present include common restioweed (*Cirsium repens*), kidney vetch (*Athyllis virginiana*), wood sage (*Teucrium scordonia*), tufted vetch (*Vicia cracca*), ling heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), bird's-foot trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*) and yellow (*Achillea millefolium*). Numerous common earler bees were recorded foraging here.

2.11 Unimproved Neutral Grassland B2.1

On open ground, this type of grassland dominates and is largely unmodified (by, for example, artificial fertilisers, slurry, intensive grazing, herbicide or drainage). Consequently it is classified as unimproved, although has been maintained through human intervention as unplanted open ground due to presence of overhead powerlines.

The wayleave runs almost parallel to the railway line along the north edge of the site. Regenerated scrub is evident on this strip of open ground – see Target note 3

2.12 The site is fenced along the railway line and open to River Garry. Posts and lengths of defunct fencing (stockproof and electric) were noted in various states of disrepair within the site. Many disused concrete structures remain on the site, most likely left over from a wartime logging camp constructed for Canadian forestry workers. There are also remains of an old stone embankment and other stone derelict buildings possibly associated with a former water supply system. The level of noise from passing rail and nearby car traffic is considerable.



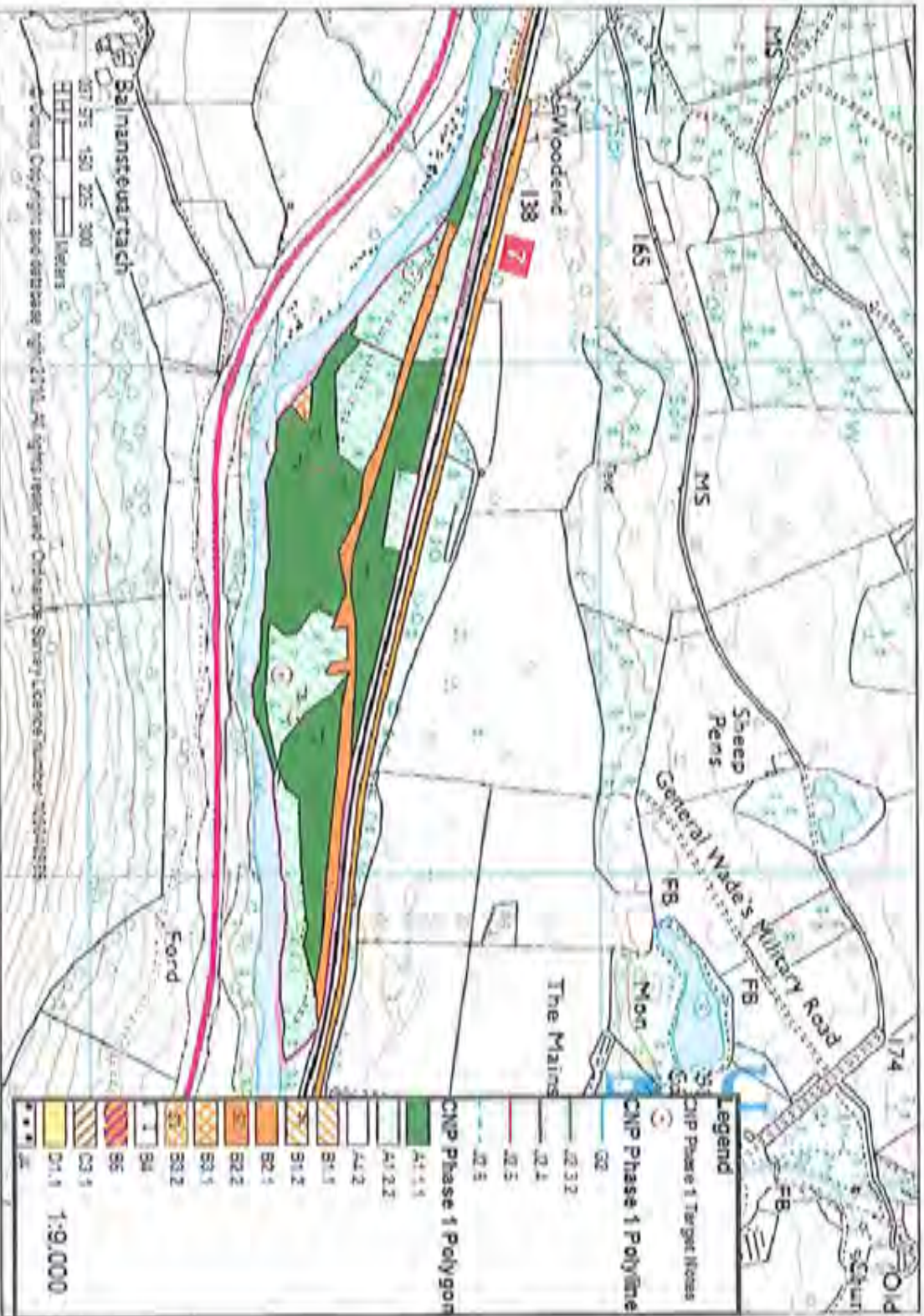
Fauna

2.13 Bat droppings, most likely Common or Soprano pipistrelle, were found stuck to the interior wall of a derelict concrete structure in the centre of the site. Otter prints were recorded along the river bank and evidence of squirrel presence was found throughout the site where suitable habitat was present. Signs of squirrel foraging were observed in much of the conifer plantation, particularly where the Sitka spruce canopy was most dense. Signs consisted of chewed cones, some fresh, on the forest floor. See Target Notes for further details.

2.14 Other recorded fauna - common carder bee, buff and white-tailed bumblebees, small white, small tortoiseshell and peacock butterflies, grey and pied wagtails, nesting swallows, Rabbit, fox, roe deer droppings and prints, A mink raft was present along the banks of the River Garry, suggesting suspected American mink presence.



Fig 1 Survey Map



3.0 Assessment of Habitat Suitability for Mammals

3.1 Otter: the site itself offers suitable foraging and breeding habitat for otter and signs of otter presence were recorded during survey.

3.2 Water Vole: the watercourse and associated banks have limited potential for water vole colonisation. However through much of the site, bankside substrate comprises cobbles and therefore offers few burrowing opportunities. Shorter sections of soft sandy substrate do occur.

3.3 Bats: there are plenty of old trees throughout the site, some of which would provide suitable bat roosting sites. The site also offers ample foraging potential. Bat droppings were noted in a derelict concrete structure.

3.4 Red squirrel: signs were recorded throughout the site wherever suitable feeding opportunities were found i.e. below stands of dense Sitka spruce. There are also ample nesting opportunities for red squirrels and it is highly likely that drays are on site.

3.5 Badger: the site offers suitable breeding habitat and foraging opportunities for badgers. It is highly likely that this site is utilised by foraging and transitory badgers.

4.0 References

JNCC 1990. Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey – a technique for environmental audit. 2007 edition. Nature Conservancy Council

Stace, C.A. 1997. New Flora of the British Isles. 2nd Edition. Cambridge University Press.

UK list of Vascular plants of Conservation Concern <http://www.ukbap.org.uk>

Cairngorms LBAP Priority Species List www.cairngorms.co.uk



APPENDIX 1 – TARGET NOTES

- T1 - NN 84824 85639
Open areas of disturbed ground amid thinned conifers, colonized by arable weeds – redbank, chickweed, perennial sow thistle, common nettle, white clover, red dead nettle, wild raspberry, spear thistle, ragwort.
- T2 - NN 85698 85410
Stand of notably large ancient Scots pines
- T3 - NN 86016 85475
Open ground below wayleave for overhead power lines supporting grassland vegetation and recolonising scattered birch and wild raspberry scrub.
- T4 - NN 85157 85356
Otter foot prints along sand at river bank
- T5 - NN 85206 85456
Ground layer below semi-natural broad-leaved woodland, includes bladder campion (*Silene vulgaris*), water mint (*Mentha aquatica*), dog's mercury (*Mercurialis perennis*), common fumitory (*Fumaria officinalis*), tufted hairgrass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*), false oat grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), wood sorrel (*Oxalis acetosella*), greater woodrush (*Luzula sylvatica*), common dog violet (*Viola riviniana*), wild strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*), common figwort (*Scrophularia nodosa*), hedge woundwort (*Stachys sylvatica*), black knapweed (*Centaurus nigra*), harebell (*Campanula rotundifolia*), germander speedwell (*Veronica chamaedrys*), devil's bit scabious (*Succisa pratensis*), lady's bedstraw (*Galium verum*), selfheal (*Funaria vulgaris*) oak and beech saplings, birch polypore
- T6 - NN 85100 85408
Birch-alder wet woodland with rusted dumped vehicle carcasses
- T7 - NN 85375 85601
Derelict concrete hut with bat droppings on wall and nesting swallows
- T8 - NN 85610 85379 (and throughout site)
Chewed pine and spruce cones on woodland floor, suggesting red squirrel foraging.
- T9 - NN 84598 85776
Open ground below wayleave
Meadow vetchling (*Lathyrus pratensis*), common hogweed (*Hieracium sphondylium*), black knapweed (*Centaurus nigra*), creeping thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), rosebay willowherb (*Epilobium angustifolium*), oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*), lady's mantle (*Alchemilla vulgaris*), broom (*Cytisus scoparius*), bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*), wild raspberry (*Rubus idaeus*), red clover (*Trifolium pratense*), harebell (*Campanula rotundifolia*), germander speedwell (*Veronica chamaedrys*), bird's foot trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), white clover (*Trifolium repens*), devil's bit scabious (*Succisa pratensis*), ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), columbine (*Aquilegia vulgaris*), lady's bedstraw (*Galium verum*), selfheal (*Funaria vulgaris*)

English	Scientific
Beech	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>
Bird cherry	<i>Prunus padus</i>
Bird's foot trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>
Black knapweed	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>
Bladder campion	<i>Silene vulgaris</i>
Bramble	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>
Broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>
Cocksfoot	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>
Columbine	<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>
Common alder	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>
Common ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>
Common chickweed	<i>Stellaria media</i>
Common dog violet	<i>Viola riviniana</i>
Common figwort	<i>Scrophularia nodosa</i>
Common fumitory	<i>Fumaria officinalis</i>
Common hogweed	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>
Common featherfew	<i>Ononis repens</i>
Creeping thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>
Devil's bit scabious	<i>Succisa pratensis</i>
Dog's mercury	<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>
Downy birch	<i>Betula pubescens</i>
European larch	<i>Larix decidua</i>
False oatgrass	<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>
Gemander speedwell	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>
Goldenrod	<i>Solidago virgaurea</i>
Greater woodrush	<i>Luzula sylvatica</i>
Harshbell	<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>
Hedge woundwort	<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>
Kidney vetch	<i>Anthyllus vulneraria</i>
Lady's bedstraw	<i>Galium verum</i>
Lady's mantle	<i>Alchemilla vulgaris</i>
Ling heather	<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>
Meadow vetchling	<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>
Oxeye daisy	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>
Pedunculate oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>
Perennial sow thistle	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>
Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>
Red clover	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>
Red dead nettle	<i>Lamium purpureum</i>
Redshank	<i>Polygonum persicaria</i>
Ribwort plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>
Rosebay willowherb	<i>Epilobium angustifolium</i>
Rowan	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>
Scots pine	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>
Saltmarsh	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>

APPENDIX 2 – PLANT SPECIES LIST



Silver Birch	<i>Betula pendula</i>
Silka spruce	<i>Picea sitchensis</i>
Spear thistle	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>
Stinging nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>
Tufted Hairgrass	<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>
Tufted vetch	<i>Vicia cracca</i>
Water mint	<i>Mentha aquatica</i>
White clover	<i>Trifolium repens</i>
Wild raspberry	<i>Rubus idaeus</i>
Wild strawberry	<i>Fragaria vesca</i>
Willow	<i>Salix spp</i>
Wood sage	<i>Thymum scorodonia</i>
Wood sorrel	<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>
Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>
Yorkshire fog	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>



Mixed broadleaved woodland with clearings



Thinned conifer plantation – see T1



APPENDIX 3 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS



Signs of squirrel foraging – noted throughout dense conifer blocks



Otter prints on riverbank – see T4



Ancient Scots Pines – see T2



PHASE 1 CODE	Description
A1.1.1	Broadleaved woodland - semi-natural
A1.1.2	Broadleaved woodland - plantation
A1.2.1	Coniferous woodland - semi-natural
A1.2.2	Coniferous woodland - plantation
A1.3.1	Mixed woodland - semi-natural
A1.3.2	Mixed woodland - plantation
A2.1	Scrub - dense/continuous
A2.2	Scrub - scattered
A4.1	Broadleaved woodland - recently felled
A4.2	Coniferous woodland - recently felled
A4.3	Mixed woodland - recently felled
B1.1	Acid grassland - unimproved
B1.2	Acid grassland - semi-improved
B2.2	Neutral grassland - semi-improved
B3.2	Calcareous grassland - semi-improved
B4	Improved grassland
B5	Maisy/moisty grassland
C3.1	Other tall herb and fern - ruderal
D1.1	Dry dwarf shrub heath - acid
G2	Running water
J2.2.2	Hedge with trees - species-poor
J2.4	Fence
J2.5	Wall
J2.6	Dry ditch
J4	Bare ground

APPENDIX 4 - PHASE 1 CODES





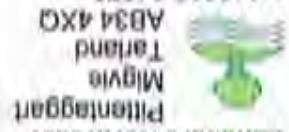
**Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey
Cairngorms Local Development Plan**

Site: 005f

Land at Garryside, Blair Atholl

August 2010

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APPENDIX 1 – TARGET NOTES

APPENDIX 2 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS

APPENDIX 3 – PHASE 1 CODES

Summary

1. As part of the process of considering the suitability of Site 005f, Land at Garryside, Blair Atholl for inclusion into the Local Development Plan, the Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) has commissioned Landcare Northeast to undertake a desktop study and initial ecological survey.

2. A desktop study and subsequent ecological survey was conducted at Site 005f, Land at Garryside, Blair Atholl on 19 August 2010.

3. The proposed development site is located at NN872650 and comprises approximately 2.2ha.

4. The main habitat is semi-improved acid grassland.

5. No notable plant species (those of UK conservation concern or those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species) were noted.

6. The site may provide bat, otter and badger foraging habitat as well as possible water vole habitat.



1.0 Introduction

Background

1.1 In order to make an assessment on ecological impacts of developments of sites that have been presented for inclusion in the Cairngorms Local Development Plan, GNPAs require desktop studies and ecological surveys of each site to be undertaken.

1.2 With regard to this, an extended Phase 1 survey and habitat suitability assessment was conducted at Site 005f, Land at Garryside, Blair Atholl, Perthshire.

1.3 The site is located at NN872650 and comprises approximately 2.2ha.

1.4 The survey work was conducted by Staff Ferguson and Flora Grigor-Taylor, both experienced wildlife surveyors, chartered environmentalists and members of IECM.

Existing Data

1.5 A review of the data held on the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) gateway was undertaken to identify species of conservation concern that have been recorded on the proposed development site.

1.6 Northern brown argus and pearl bordered fritillary butterflies have been recorded at 2km level, and red squirrel at 1km level.

1.7 Badger, otter, wildcat and bat records exist at the 10km level for the vicinity of the site. Also recorded within 10km square of the site – goldeneye, widgeon, hen harrier, black grouse, capercaillie, redshank and lapwing.

Designated Sites

1.8 The site is bordered by the River Garry to the south and the River Tilt to the east. Both are part of the River Tay SAC.

2.0 Survey

Method

2.1 An ecological survey was undertaken on the site on 19 August 2010.

2.2 A Phase 1 Habitat Mapping & Protected Species Survey, also referred to as an extended Phase 1 Ecological Survey, was undertaken for the site. Standard Phase 1 methodology was used, including detailed target notes of notable plant species (those of conservation concern; also those listed on the Cairngorms LBAF list of priority species).

2.3 An assessment of the habitat suitability within the proposed development site for mammal species was also undertaken.

2.4 The standard optimal time to undertake an extended Phase 1 survey is between April and the end of September. The survey time of mid-August is therefore optimal.

2.5 The habitats are described by the use of target notes, annotated to the survey map (see Figure 1). Common species names and scientific names (Stace C (1997) *New Flora of the British Isles*, Second Ed. Cambridge University Press.) are given in the text below.

Results

Vegetation

2.6 This site is on level ground with a single step located towards the north of the site, where the ground rises slightly. The level nature of the site indicates it may have constituted a flood plain in the past.

2.7 Main species present are false oat grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), Yorkshire fog (*Helcus lanatus*), cocksfoot (*Dactylis glomerata*), tufted hairgrass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*), tufted vetch (*Vicia cracca*), yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), common hogweed (*Heracleum sphondylium*) and creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*). Species richness of sward varies across the site, with a greater concentration of forbs towards River Till banks (east) as well as towards the north.

2.8 The boundary is a mill lade to the west (see Target Note 2) which has a retaining wall on its west bank. There is some overhanging vegetation and occasional common alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) on the west bank. Water quality appeared poor and emitted a bad odour.

2.9 On the south the site is bound by the River Garry, while the eastern boundary is the River Till, which flows into the Garry at the site's southeast corner.

2.10 A small bank forms a step in the site towards the northern end, which displays more species richness and also a non-typical clump of tall vegetation (see Target Note 3).

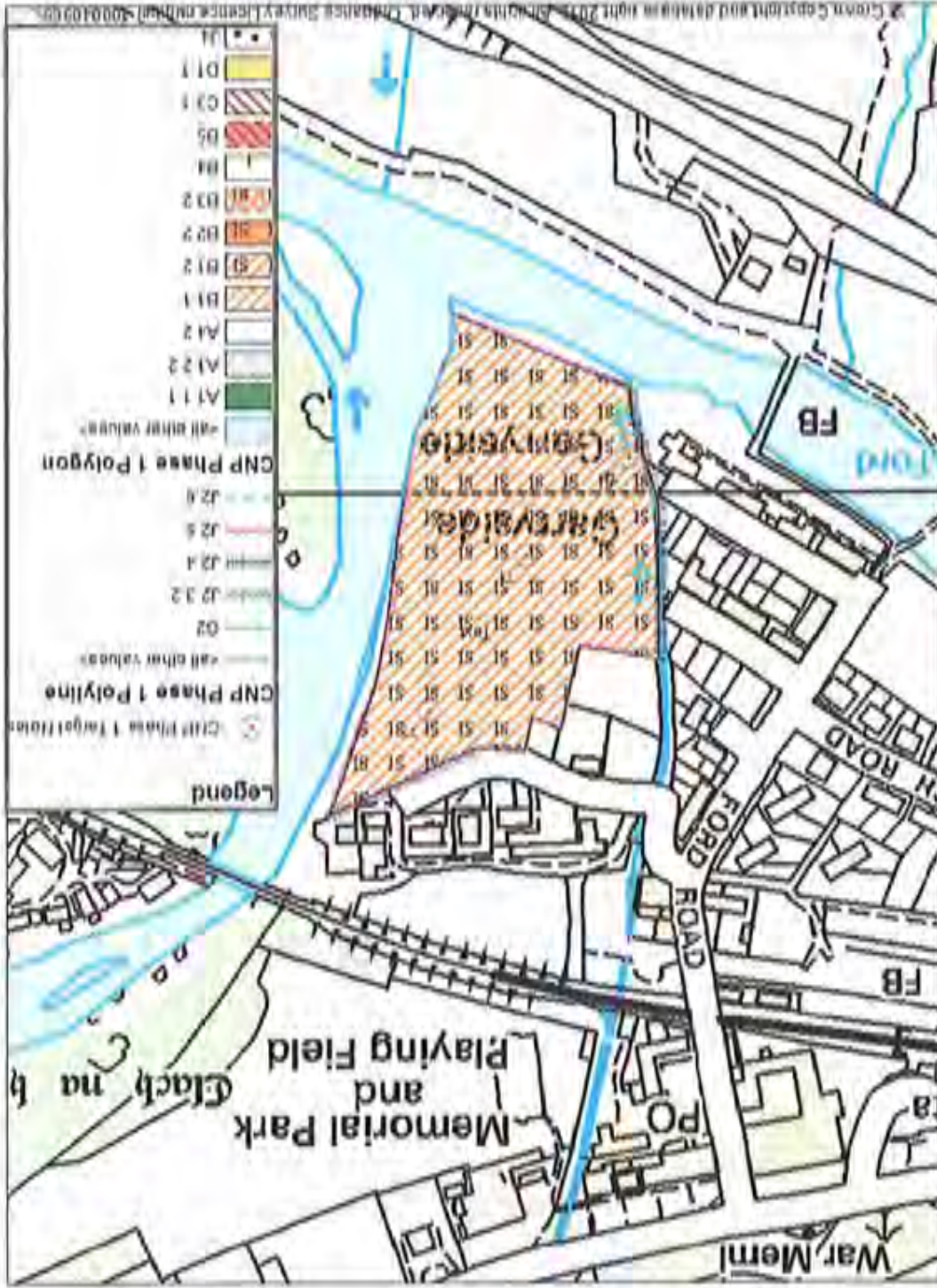


Fauna

2.11 No species of conservation concern and/or listed on the Cairngorms LBAF list of priority species were noted on site.

2.12 The site was observed to be rich in insects, with a range of foraging butterflies recorded, including peacock, small tortoiseshell and fritillaries, as well as bumblebees and other nectar feeders.

Figure 1. Survey Map



4.0 References

- JNCC, 1990. *Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey – a technique for environmental audit*. 2007 edition. Nature Conservancy Council
 Stace, C.A. 1997. *New Flora of the British Isles*. 2nd Edition. Cambridge University Press.

3.0 Assessment of Habitat Suitability for Mammals

- 3.1 The site itself offers no suitable breeding habitat for bat and red squirrel. No badger setts or other holt/resting sites were observed. There may be foraging opportunities for badger, otter and particularly bats, as the site attracts a wide range of insects. Limited tree cover is likely to restrict the suitability for bats.
- 3.2 The mill lade forming the west boundary of the site offers potentially suitable habitat for water vole.



APPENDIX 1 – TARGET NOTES

T1 - NN87241 65029

The main species in semi-improved acid grassland sward.

Cockfoot	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>
Common hogweed	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>
Common sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>
Creeping buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>
Creeping thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>
False oat grass	<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>
Germander speedwell	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>
Meadow vetchling	<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>
Tufted hairgrass	<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>
Tufted vetch	<i>Vicia cracca</i>
White clover	<i>Trifolium repens</i>
Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>
Yorkshire fog	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>

T2 - NN 87190 64982

Mill race forming the western boundary of the site. This is a deep ditch, with a stone retaining wall on its western bank. Water quality appeared poor, emitting an unpleasant odour. Vegetation is tall and overhangs the open water, with a few common alder *Alnus glutinosa* along the western bank. Clumps of garden loosestrife *Lysimachia* spp. were notable along the banks. Eastern bank may offer suitable water vole habitat.

Angelica	<i>Angelica sylvestris</i>
Bindweed	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>
Common alder	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>
Field scabious	<i>Knautia arvensis</i>
Meadowswale	<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>
Rosebay willowherb	<i>Epilobium angustifolium</i>
Stinging nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>
Garden loosestrife (garden escape)	<i>Lysimachia</i> spp.



T3 - 87289 65104

In the northern section, an embankment traverses the site roughly from northeast to south west, forming a small step in the otherwise level plane. Some forbs not found elsewhere on the site were recorded here, as well as an unusual clump of tall vegetation, dominated by Dame's violet *Hesperis matronalis*.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Hesperis matronalis</i> | Dame's violet |
| <i>Galium aparine</i> | Cleavers |
| <i>Matricaria perforata</i> | Scintless mayweed |
| <i>Cnicus repens</i> | Common restiarrow |
| <i>Epilobium angustifolium</i> | Rosebay willowherb |
| <i>Stachys palustris</i> | Marsh woundwort |
| <i>Pimpinella saxifraga</i> | Burnet saxifrage |

Mill lade at site 005f



Site 005f looking south from bank. River Tilt to left of picture.



APPENDIX 2 - SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS

APPENDIX 3 – PHASE 1 CODES

PHASE 1 CODE	Description
A1.1.1	Broadleaved woodland - semi-natural
A1.1.2	Broadleaved woodland - plantation
A1.2.1	Coniferous woodland - semi-natural
A1.2.2	Coniferous woodland - plantation
A1.3.1	Mixed woodland - semi-natural
A1.3.2	Mixed woodland - plantation
A2.1	Scrub - dense/continuous
A2.2	Scrub - scattered
A4.1	Broadleaved woodland - recently felled
A4.2	Coniferous woodland - recently felled
A4.3	Mixed woodland - recently felled
B1.1	Acid grassland - unimproved
B1.2	Acid grassland - semi-improved
B2.2	Neutral grassland - semi-improved
B3.2	Calcareous grassland - semi-improved
B4	Improved grassland
B5	Marsh/marshy grassland
C3.1	Other tall herb and fern - ruderal
D1.1	Dry dwarf shrub heath - acid
G2	Running water
J2.3.2	Hedge with trees - species-poor
J2.4	Fence
J2.5	Wall
J2.6	Dry ditch
J4	Bare ground





Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey
Cairngorms Local Development Plan
Site: 005g
Land at Middlebridge, Bridge of Tilt, Blair Atholl

September 2010

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APPENDIX 1 – TARGET NOTES

APPENDIX 2 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS

APPENDIX 3 – PHASE 1 CODES



Summary

1. As part of the process of considering the suitability of Site 005g for inclusion into the Local Development Plan, the Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) has commissioned Landcare NorthEast to undertake a desktop study and initial ecological survey.

2. A desktop study and subsequent ecological survey was conducted at Site 005g, Middlebridge near Bridge of Tilt on 18 August 2010.

3. The proposed development site is 6.3ha located at NN 878668.

4. The main habitat is improved Grassland.

5. No notable plant species (those of UK conservation concern - see UK list of Vascular plants of Conservation Concern <http://www.ukbap.org.uk> - or those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species) were noted.

6. The site may provide bat and badger foraging habitat.



1.0 Introduction

Background

1.1 In order to make an assessment on ecological impacts of developments of sites that have been presented for inclusion in the Cairngorms Local Development Plan, CNA require desktop studies and ecological surveys of each site to be undertaken.

1.2 With regard to this, an extended Phase 1 survey and habitat suitability assessment was conducted at Site 005g, Land at Middlebridge, Bridge of Tilt, Blair Atholl, Perthshire.

1.3 The 6.3ha site is located north of the village of Old Bridge of Tilt at NN 878888.

1.4 The survey work was conducted by Steve Ferguson and Flora Grigor-Taylor, both experienced wildlife surveyors, chartered environmentalists and members of IEM.

Existing Data

1.5 A review of the data held on the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) gateway was undertaken to identify species of conservation concern that have been recorded on the proposed development site.

1.6 Badger, otter, wildcat and bat (common & soprano pipistrelle, brown long-eared) records exist at the 10km level for the vicinity of the site. Red squirrel is recorded within 1km square of the site, as well as records at 100m level in mature woodlands at the western site boundary.

1.7 Also recorded within 10km square of the site – Goldeneye, widgeon, hen harrier, black grouse, capercaillie, redshank, lapwing, peat-bordered frill-throat, Kentish plover and mason bee. Northern brown argus has been recorded within 2km square.

Designated Sites

1.7 Glen Tilt Wood SSSI, designated for its upland mixed ash woodland, is located immediately west of site boundary. The River Tilt, situated approximately 100m from the western edge of the site, is part of the River Tay SAC.



2.0 Survey

Method

2.1 An ecological survey was undertaken on the site on 18 August 2010.

2.2 A Phase 1 Habitat Mapping & Protected Species Survey, also referred to as an extended Phase 1 ecological survey, was undertaken for the site. Standard Phase 1 methodology was used, including detailed target notes of notable plant species (those of conservation concern; also those listed on the Calne Gorms LBAP list of priority species).

2.3 An assessment of the habitat suitability within the proposed development site for mammal species was also undertaken.

2.4 The standard optimal time to undertake an extended Phase 1 survey is between April and the end of September. The survey time of mid-August is therefore optimal.

2.5 The habitats are described by the use of target notes, annotated to the survey map (see Fig 2). Common species names and scientific names (Stace C (1997) *New Flora of the British Isles*, Second Ed. Cambridge University Press.) are given in the text below.

Results

Vegetation

2.6 This site is on undulating steeply sloping farmland and comprises improved pasture, grazed by sheep and horses.

2.7 Improved Grassland B4

Main species in the sward are perennial ryegrass (*Lolium perenne*), crested dog's tail (*Cynosurus cristatus*), Yorkshire fog (*Holcus lanatus*), white clover (*Trifolium repens*), common mouseear (*Cerastium fontanum*) and daisy (*Bellis perennis*) with patches of common nettle (*Urtica dioica*) and creeping thistle (*Cirsium arvense*).

2.8 The boundary is fenced on all sides. Overhanging mature broadleaf trees of the adjacent Glen Tilt Wood feature along the western site boundary.

Fauna

2.9 No species of conservation concern and/or listed on the Calne Gorms LBAP list of priority species were noted on site.

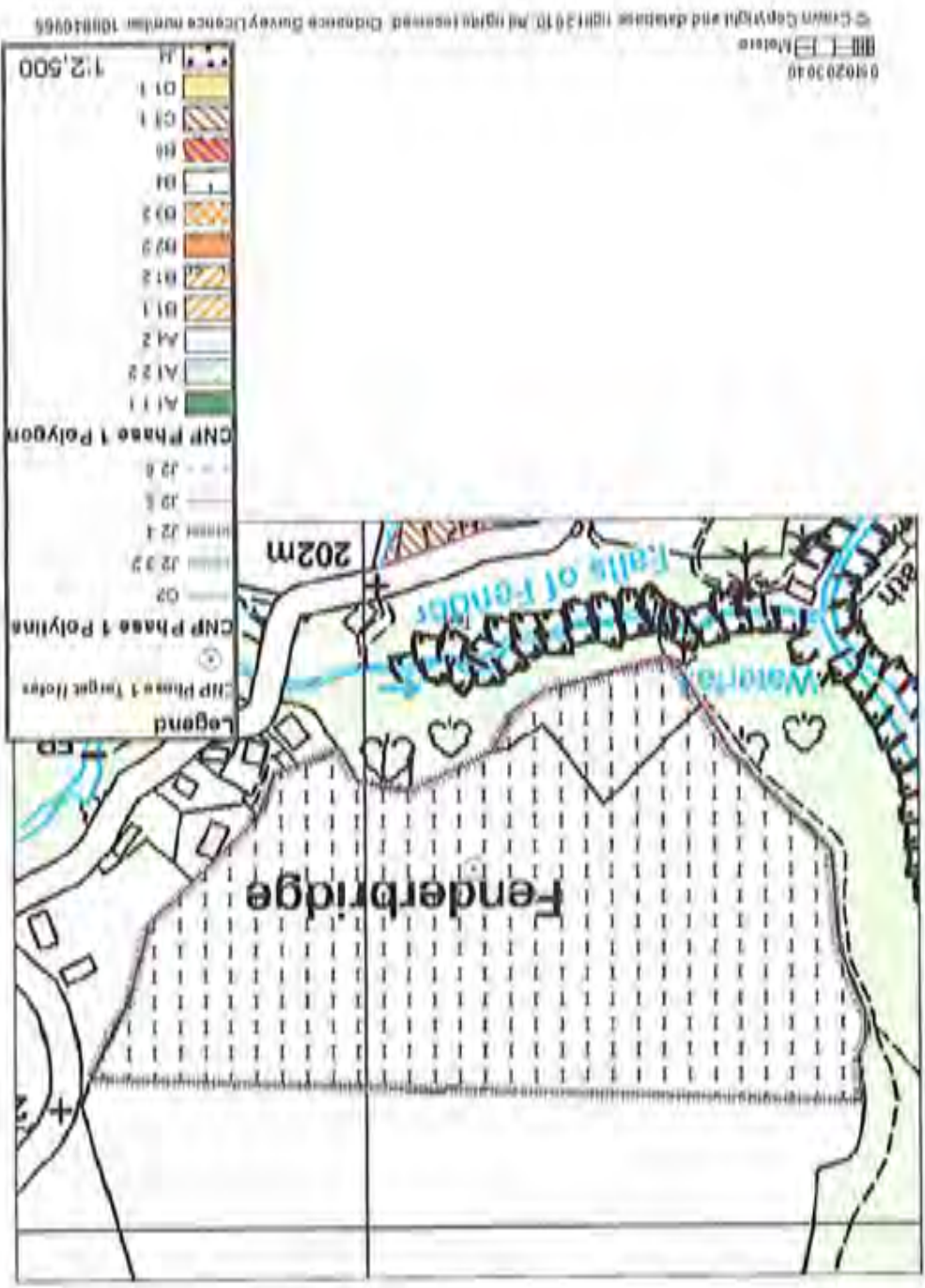


Fig 1 Survey Map

3.1 The site itself offers no suitable breeding habitat for otter, water vole, bat and red squirrel. No badger setts were observed. There may be limited foraging opportunity for badger and bats here.

3.0 Habitat Suitability for Mammals

4.0 References

- JNCC. 1990. Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey – a technique for environmental audit. 2007 edition. Nature Conservancy Council
- Stace, C.A. 1997. New Flora of the British Isles. 2nd Edition. Cambridge University Press.
- UK list of Vascular plants of Conservation Concern <http://www.ukbap.org.uk>
- Calmgorms LBAP Priority Species List www.calmgorms.co.uk

Wet spring with small open ditches, jointed rush (*Juncus articulatus*), soft rush (*J. effusus*), cuckooflower (*Cardamine pratensis*), bristle club-rush (*Scirpus setaceus*)

T1 - NN 87942 66814

APPENDIX 1 - TARGET NOTES



Site 005g, from eastern boundary



Site 005g, looking uphill from the western end

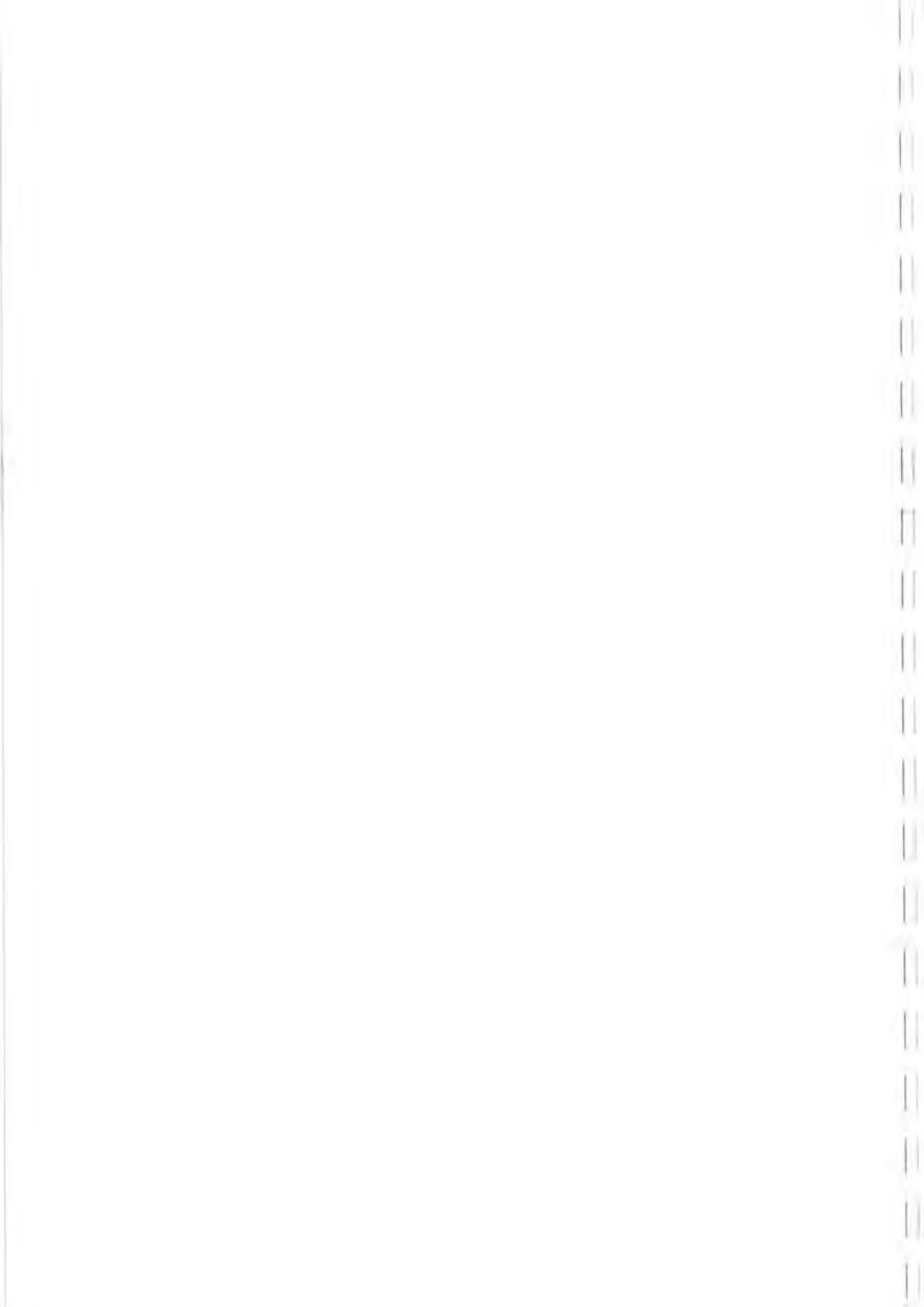


APPENDIX 2 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS



APPENDIX 3 - PHASE 1 CODES

PHASE 1 CODE	Description
A1.1.1	Broadleaved woodland - semi-natural
A1.1.2	Broadleaved woodland - plantation
A1.2.1	Coniferous woodland - semi-natural
A1.2.2	Coniferous woodland - plantation
A1.3.1	Mixed woodland - semi-natural
A1.3.2	Mixed woodland - plantation
A2.1	Scrub - dense/continuous
A2.2	Scrub - scattered
A4.1	Broadleaved woodland - recently felled
A4.2	Coniferous woodland - recently felled
A4.3	Mixed woodland - recently felled
B1.1	Acid grassland - unimproved
B1.2	Acid grassland - semi-improved
B2.2	Neutral grassland - semi-improved
B3.2	Calcareous grassland - semi-improved
B4	Improved grassland
B5	Marsh/wetland grassland
C3.1	Other tall herb and fern - ruderal
D1.1	Dry dwarf shrub heath - acid
G2	Running water
J2.3.2	Hedge with trees - species-poor
J2.4	Fence
J2.5	Wall
J2.6	Dry ditch
J4	Bare ground



Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey
Cairngorms Local Development Plan
Site: 005h
Land at Pitagowan, Blair Atholl

September 2010

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APPENDIX 1 - TARGET NOTES
APPENDIX 2 - SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS
APPENDIX 3 - PHASE 1 CODES



1. As part of the process of considering the suitability of site 005h for inclusion into the Local Development Plan, the Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) has commissioned Landcare NorthEast to undertake a desktop study and initial ecological survey.
2. A desktop study and subsequent ecological survey was conducted at Site 005h, land at Pitgovan, near Blair Atholl on 18 August 2010.
3. The proposed development site is 2.2ha located at NN 81765B.
4. The main habitat is broadleaved semi-natural woodland.
5. No notable plant species (those of UK conservation concern – see UK list of Vascular Plants of Conservation Concern <http://www.ukbap.org.uk> – or those listed on the Cairngorms LBAF list of priority species) were noted. However, the presence of aspen is note-worthy, as the species is important to encourage aspen hoverfly (*Hammerschmidia ferruginea*) and aspen bracket fungus (*Phellinus tremulae*), both Cairngorms LBAF priority species.
6. The site offers suitable breeding and foraging habitat for badgers and bats.

Summary



1.0 Introduction

Background

1.1 In order to make an assessment on ecological impacts of developments of sites that have been proposed for inclusion in the Cairngorms Local Development Plan, CNPA require desktop studies and ecological surveys of each site to be undertaken.

1.2 With regard to this, an extended Phase 1 survey and habitat suitability assessment was conducted at Site 005h, land at Pitgovan, Blair Atholl, Perthshire.

1.3 The 2.2ha site is located at NN B17658.

1.4 The survey work was conducted by Steff Ferguson and Flora Grigor-Taylor, both experienced wildlife surveyors, chartered environmentalists and members of IEM.

Existing Data

1.5 A review of the data held on the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) gateway was undertaken to identify species of conservation concern that have been recorded on the proposed development site.

1.6 Common pipistrelle, brown long-eared bat and badger records exist at the 10km level for the vicinity of the site. Otter, Soprano pipistrelle, Atlantic salmon and wildcat have been recorded within 1km square and red squirrels at 100m level.

1.7 Also recorded within 10km square of the site – goldeneye, twite, hen harrier, black grouse, capercaillie, redshank, lapwing, Northern brown argus, peat bordered trillium, mason bee and Kentish glory.

Designated Sites

1.7 There are no statutorily designated sites in the survey areas or immediate environs.



2.7 Semi-natural Broadleaved woodland A1.1
 The dominant trees in the canopy are aspen (*Populus tremula*), bird cherry (*Prunus padus*), silver birch (*Betula pendula*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and willows (*Salix* spp). Aspen is particularly prevalent towards the western end of the site. The most frequent plants in the ground flora are chickweed wintergreen (*Thriftalis europaea*) and Gormander speedwell (*Veronica chamaedrys*) along with fine grasses - see Target Note 1. Conditions are wet for much of the site, particularly towards the western end. Small drainage ditches and wet features are present, supporting wetland plants such as broad-leaved pondweed (*Potamogeton natans*) and lesser sparrowwort (*Ranunculus flammula*). Where the canopy is open, regeneration of all the main canopy species is evident, as well as the occasional oak (*Quercus* sp) seedling. Birch regeneration is dense where the canopy is open below the powerline wayleave - see Target Note 2. The site is also rich in fungi, typical of this type of woodland (e.g. chanterelle, birch polypore, birch bolete).

2.6 This site is on uneven ground, situated alongside the main Perth to Inverness railway line, which forms the northern site boundary. The busy B847 runs along the site's southern boundary. The main habitat supported is wet mixed broadleaved woodland, exhibiting abundant signs of natural regeneration in the field and scrub layers.

Vegetation

Results

2.5 The habitats are described by the use of target notes, annotated to the survey map (see Fig.2). Common species names and scientific names (Stace C (1997) *New Flora of the British Isles*, Second Ed. Cambridge University Press) are given in the text below.

2.4 The standard optimal time to undertake an extended Phase 1 survey is between April and the end of September. The survey time of mid-August is therefore optimal.

2.3 An assessment of the habitat suitability within the proposed development site for mammal species was also undertaken.

2.2 A Phase 1 Habitat Mapping & Protected Species Survey, also referred to as an extended Phase 1 Ecological Survey, was undertaken for the site. Standard Phase 1 methodology was used, including detailed target notes of notable plant species (those of conservation concern; also those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species).

2.1 An ecological survey was undertaken on the site on 18 August 2010.

Method

2.0 Survey

2.8 The boundary is fenced on all sides and the level of noise from passing rail and car traffic is considerable.

2.9 No species of conservation concern and/or listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species were noted on site.

The open rides in the woodland were rich in butterflies and other invertebrates.

Fauna

2.8 The boundary is fenced on all sides and the level of noise from passing rail and car traffic is considerable.



3.0 Assessment of Habitat Suitability for Mammals

3.1 The site itself offers no suitable breeding habitat for otter or water vole and little opportunity for red squirrels.

There are numerous old trees throughout the site, some of which would provide suitable but roosting sites. The site also offers foraging potential for bats.

Woodland sections offer good badger habitat, both for foraging and dwelling, although no setts were observed during survey.

4.0 References

JNCC, 1990. Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey – a technique for environmental audit. 2007 edition. Nature Conservancy Council

Stace, C.A. 1997. *New Flora of the British Isles*, 2nd Edition. Cambridge University Press.

UK list of Vascular plants of Conservation Concern <http://www.ukbap.org.uk>

Cairngorms LBAP Priority Species List www.cairngorms.co.uk

T2 - NN81772 65879
Open canopy below wayleave supporting abundant birch regeneration.

T1 - 81720 65860
Ground flora: most frequent forbs are Germaner speedwell (*Veronica chamaedrys*) and chickweed wintergreen (*Trientalis europaea*), alongside health bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*) and localised extensive patches of blueberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*). Occasional harebell (*Campanula rotundifolia*), common dog violet (*Viola riviniana*), wild raspberry (*Rubus idaeus*) and devil's-bit scabious (*Succisa pratensis*) present.

APPENDIX 1 -- TARGET NOTES



Semi-natural woodland, with self-seeded broadleaves



APPENDIX 2 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS

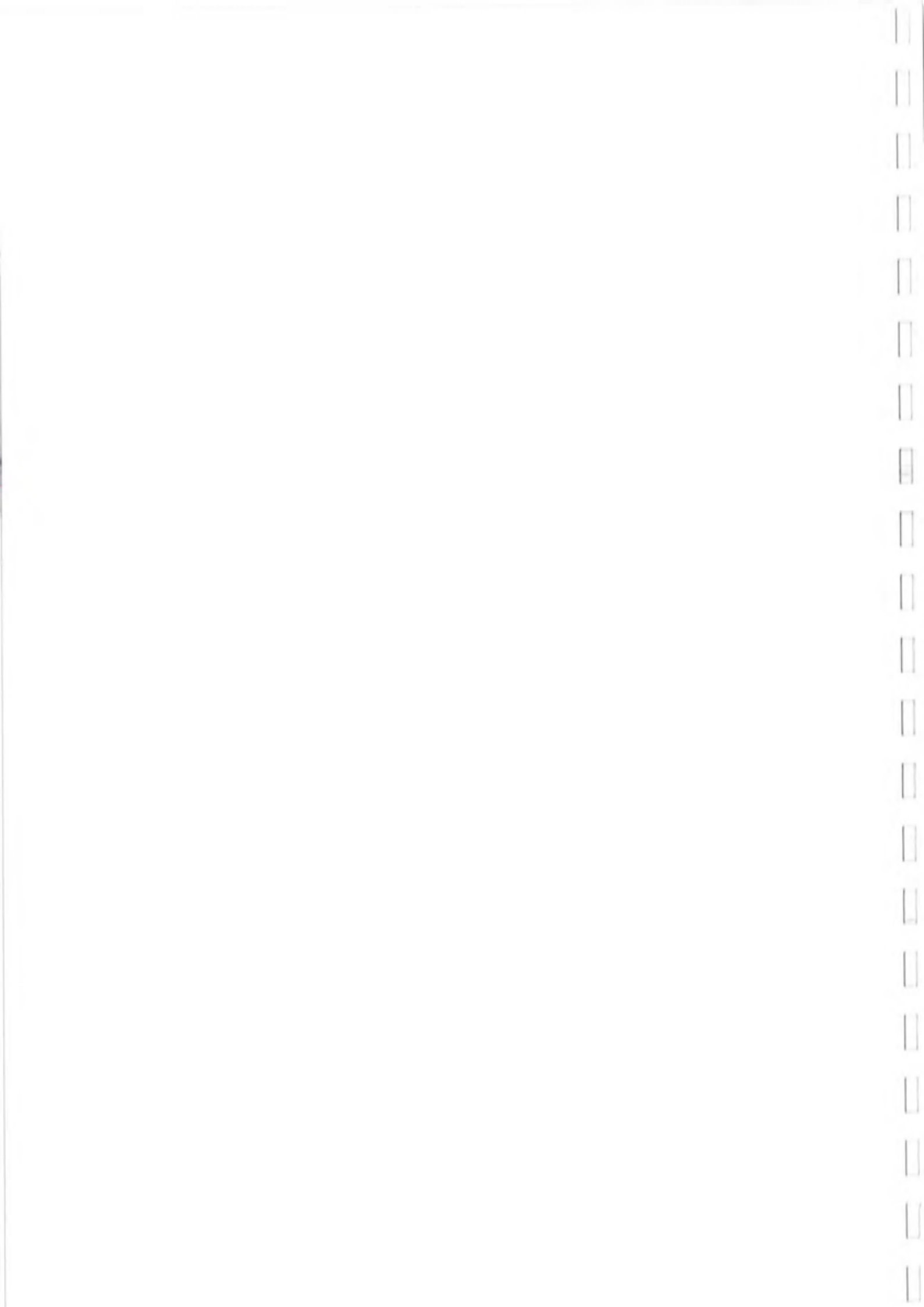


Aspen features frequently in the canopy and shrub layers, with evidence of spread by root suckers



APPENDIX 3 – PHASE 1 CODES

PHASE 1 CODE	Description
A1.1.1	Broadleaved woodland - semi-natural
A1.1.2	Broadleaved woodland - plantation
A1.2.1	Coniferous woodland - semi-natural
A1.2.2	Coniferous woodland - plantation
A1.3.1	Mixed woodland - semi-natural
A1.3.2	Mixed woodland - plantation
A2.1	Scrub - dense/continuous
A2.2	Scrub - scattered
A4.1	Broadleaved woodland - recently felled
A4.2	Coniferous woodland - recently felled
A4.3	Mixed woodland - recently felled
B1.1	Acid grassland - unimproved
B1.2	Acid grassland - semi-improved
B2.2	Neutral grassland - semi-improved
B3.2	Calcareous grassland - semi-improved
B4	Improved grassland
B5	Marsh/marshy grassland
C3.1	Other tall herb and fern - ruderal
D1.1	Dry dwarf shrub heath - acid
G2	Running water
J2.3.2	Hedge with trees - species-poor
J2.4	Fence
J2.5	Wall
J2.6	Dry ditch
J4	Bare ground



Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey
Cairngorms Local Development Plan
Site: 19a
Land at Ballintoul - Potential Development Site

August 2010

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APPENDIX 1 – TARGET NOTES

APPENDIX 2 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS

APPENDIX 3 – PHASE 1 CODES

Summary

1. As part of the process of considering the suitability of Site 19a, Land at Ballintou - Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) has commissioned Landcare NorthEast to undertake a desktop study and initial ecological survey

2. A desktop study and subsequent ecological survey was conducted at Site 19a on 19 August 2010.

3. The proposed development site is located at NB879651 and comprises approximately 3.1ha.

4. The main habitats are improved grassland, currently managed for silage as well as a narrow strip of semi-improved calcareous grassland along the west and north boundary of the site, where no agricultural management has taken place.

5. No notable plant species (those of UK conservation concern - see UK list of Vascular Plants of Conservation Concern <http://www.ukbap.org.uk> - or those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species) were noted.

6. The site may provide bat and badger foraging habitat.



1.0 Introduction

Background

1.1 In order to make an assessment on ecological impacts of developments of sites that have been presented for inclusion in the Cairngorms Local Development Plan, CNPA require desktop studies and ecological surveys of each site to be undertaken.

1.2 With regard to this, an extended Phase 1 survey and habitat suitability assessment was conducted at Site 19a, Land at Ballintoul - Potential Development Site, Blair Atholl, Perthshire.

1.3 The site is located at NNB79651 and comprises approximately 3.1ha.

1.4 The survey work was conducted by Steff Ferguson and Flora Grigor-Taylor, both experienced wildlife surveyors, chartered environmentalists and members of IECM.

Existing Data

1.5 A review of the data held on the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) gateway was undertaken to identify species of conservation concern that have been recorded on the proposed development site.

1.6 Northern brown argus and pearl bordered fritillary butterflies as well as otter have been recorded at 2km level, and red squirrel at 1km level.

1.7 Badger, otter, wildcat and bat records exist at the 10km level for the vicinity of the site. Also recorded within 10km square of the site – goldeneye, wige, hen harrier, black grouse, capercaillie, redshank and lapwing.

Designated Sites

1.7 There are no statutory designations on the land surveyed.

1.8 There is a SSSI site approximately 150m east of the site, located within the same parcel of land as the development site. Blair Atholl Meadow SSSI is a thin strip of sloping grassland on fluvioglacial deposits and is important for the presence of species-rich calcareous grassland, the only known example in Perthshire.

2.10 An access track leading to sewage treatment works to the east bisects the site west-east, also providing access from the residential area to the northwest.

2.9 The boundary of the site consists of garden walls and some fences to the northwest, several fences divide the western end of the strip into smaller units currently grazed by sheep, while the main bulk of the site is unfenced along its eastern and northern edge. Mature trees (including gean (*Pinus avium*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and willows (*Salix spp.*) as well as shrubs including blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*) and snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*) overhang the site to the northwest and a dry ditch lies to the north.

2.8 The improved grassland consists of commercial grasses and is rich in white clover. The semi-improved strip of tall vegetation has a wide range of plants, including field scabious (*Knautia arvensis*), black knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*), cocksfoot (*Dactylis glomerata*), false oat grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), lesser burdock (*Achillea minus*), bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*) and meadow cranesbill (*Geranium pratense*).

2.7 The main habitat is improved grassland (B4), currently managed for silage or grazed. A strip of semi-improved calcareous grassland (B3.2) lies between the improved sward and the gardens of the residential houses to the northwest, with a range of wildflowers present in the sward, which appears unmanaged.

2.6 This site is on level ground, located in a strip along residential houses and mature gardens to the northwest.

Results

2.5 The habitats are described by the use of target notes, annotated to the survey map (see Fig. 1). Common species names and scientific names (Stace C (1997) *New Flora of the British Isles*, Second Ed. Cambridge University Press.) are given in the text below.

2.4 The standard optimal time to undertake an Extended Phase 1 Survey is between April and the end of September. The survey time of mid-August is therefore optimal.

2.3 An assessment of the habitat suitability within the proposed development site for mammal species was also undertaken.

2.2 A Phase 1 Habitat Mapping & Protected Species Survey, also referred to as an Extended Phase 1 Ecological Survey, was undertaken for the site. Standard Phase 1 methodology was used, including detailed target notes of notable plant species (those of conservation concern; also those listed on the Cairngorms LBAF list of priority species).

2.1 An ecological survey was undertaken on the site on 19 August 2010.

Method

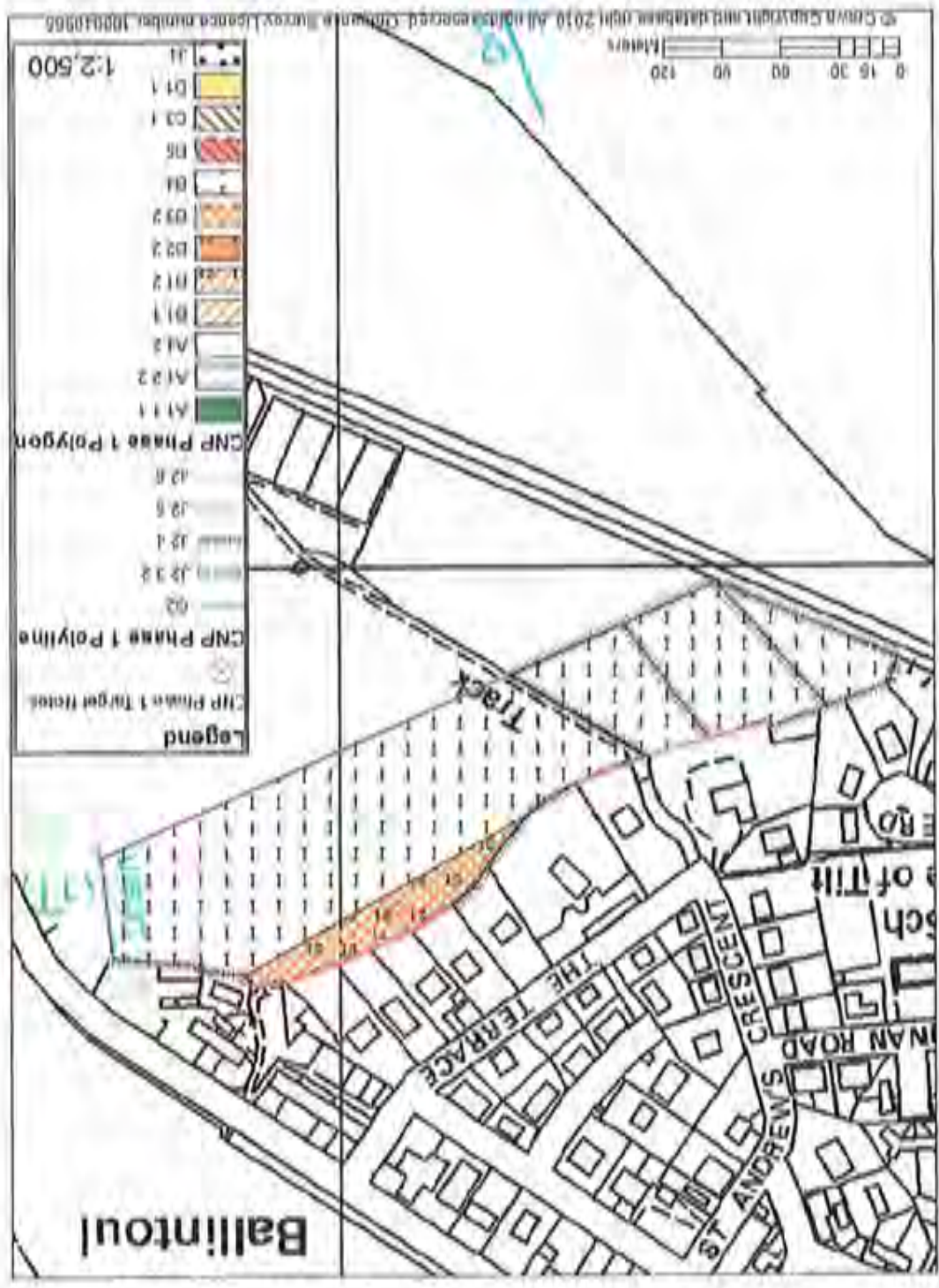
2.0 Survey



Fauna

2.11 No species of conservation concern and/or listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species were noted on site.

Fig 1 Survey Map



JNCC. 1990. *Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey - a technique for environmental audit*. 2007 edition. Nature Conservancy Council
 Press.
 State, C.A. 1997. *New Flora of the British Isles*. 2nd Edition. Cambridge University

4.0 References

3.1 The site itself offers no suitable breeding habitat for otter, water vole, bat and red squirrel. No badger setts were observed. There may be foraging opportunity for badger and bats here.

3.0 Assessment of Habitat Suitability for Mammals



APPENDIX 1 – TARGET NOTES

T1 – NN 87970 65176

Calcareous grassland bank along unmanaged ground adjoining residential gardens to northwest.

Species recorded:

Convolvulus arvensis	Bindweed
Centaurea nigra	Black knapweed
Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved dock
Dactylis glomerata	Cocksfoot
Ranunculus repens	Creeping buttercup
Cirsium arvense	Creeping thistle
Rosa canina	Dogrose
Artematherum elatius	False oat grass
Knautia arvensis	Field scabious
Agropodium podagraria	Gound elder
Stellaria holostea	Greater stitchwort
Arctium minus	Lesser burdock
Geranium pratense	Meadow crane-bill
Rubus idaeus	Raspberry
Trifolium pratense	Red clover
Vicia cracca	Tufted vetch
Trifolium repens	White clover



Site 19a looking south, internal fencing and sheep grazing.



Site 19a looking north and west, adjoining residential properties and gardens.



APPENDIX 2 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS

APPENDIX 3 – PHASE 1 CODES

PHASE 1 CODE	Description
A1.1	Broadleaved woodland - semi-natural
A1.2	Broadleaved woodland - plantation
A1.2.1	Coniferous woodland - semi-natural
A1.2.2	Coniferous woodland - plantation
A1.3.1	Mixed woodland - semi-natural
A1.3.2	Mixed woodland - plantation
A2.1	Scrub - dense/continuous
A2.2	Scrub - scattered
A4.1	Broadleaved woodland - recently felled
A4.2	Coniferous woodland - recently felled
A4.3	Mixed woodland - recently felled
B1.1	Acid grassland - unimproved
B1.2	Acid grassland - semi-improved
B2.2	Neutral grassland - semi-improved
B3.2	Calcareous grassland - semi-improved
B4	Improved grassland
B5	Marsh/marshy grassland
C3.1	Other tall herb and fern - ruderal
D1.1	Dry dwarf shrub heath - acid
G2	Running water
J2.3.2	Hedge with trees - species-poor
J2.4	Fence
J2.5	Wall
J2.6	Dry ditch
J4	Bare ground





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August 2010

Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey
Cairngorms Local Development Plan
Site: 19b
Land at Middlebridge - Potential Development Site



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APPENDIX 1 – TARGET NOTES

APPENDIX 2 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS

APPENDIX 3 – PHASE 1 CODES



Summary

1. As part of the process of considering the suitability of Site 19b, Land at Middlebridge - Potential Development Site for inclusion into the Local Development Plan, the Cairngorms National Park Authority (GNPA) has commissioned Landcare Northeast to undertake a desktop study and initial ecological survey.

2. A desktop study and subsequent ecological survey was conducted at Site 19b, Land at Middlebridge on 19 August 2010.

3. The proposed development site is located at NN879888 and comprises approximately 0.2ha.

4. The main habitat is tall ruderal shrubs.

5. No notable plant species (those of UK conservation concern - see UK list of Vascular plants of Conservation Concern <http://www.ukbap.org.uk> - or those listed on the Cairngorms LBAF list of priority species) were noted.

6. The site may provide bat and badger foraging habitat.



1.0 Introduction

Background

1.1 In order to make an assessment on ecological impacts of developments of sites that have been presented for inclusion in the Cairngorms Local Development Plan, CNPA require desktop studies and ecological surveys of each site to be undertaken.

1.2 With regard to this, an extended Phase 1 survey and habitat suitability assessment was conducted at Site 19b, Land at Middlebridge - Potential Development.

1.3 The site is located at NB879666 and comprises approximately 0.2ha.

1.4 The survey work was conducted by Steff Ferguson and Flora Grigor-Taylor, both experienced wildlife surveyors, chartered environmentalists and members of IEMM.

Existing Data

1.5 A review of the data held on the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) gateway was undertaken to identify species of conservation concern that have been recorded on the proposed development site.

1.6 Badger, otter, wildcat and bat records exist at the 10km level for the vicinity of the site. Red squirrel is recorded within 1km square of the site.

1.7 Also recorded within 10km square of the site – goldeneye, twite, hen harrier, black grouse, capercaillie, redshank and lapwing, northern brown argus and pearl bordered fritillary.

Designated Sites

1.8 There are no designations applying to the site. Glen Tilt Wood SSSI, designated for its upland mixed ash woodland, is located approx 200m to the northwest.

2.0 Survey

Method

2.1 An ecological survey was undertaken on the site on 19 August 2010.

2.2 A Phase 1 Habitat Mapping & Protected Species Survey, also referred to as an extended Phase 1 Ecological Survey, was undertaken for the site. Standard Phase 1 methodology was used, including detailed target notes of notable plant species (those of conservation concern); also those listed on the Cairngorms LBAF list of priority species).

2.3 An assessment of the habitat suitability within the proposed development site for mammal species was also undertaken.

2.4 The standard optimal time to undertake an extended Phase 1 survey is between April and the end of September. The survey time of mid-August is therefore optimal.

2.5 The habitats are described by the use of target notes, annotated to the survey map (see Fig.2). Common species names and scientific names (Stace C (1987) *New Flora of the British Isles*, Second Ed. Cambridge University Press.) are given in the text below.

Results

Vegetation

2.6 The site comprises disturbed ground with tall stands ruderal vegetation (C3.1), such as creeping thistle (*Cirsium arvense*) and prickly sow thistle (*Sonchus asper*), stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*), rosebay willowherb (*Epilobium angustifolium*) and raspberry (*Rubus idaeus*). Between the stands the ground flora consists of colonising species including cleaver (*Galium aparine*), birch and spruce seedlings (*Betula* spp., *Picea sitchensis*), daisy (*Bellis perennis*) and ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*).

2.7 There is evidence of felling, with occasional tree stumps. A single standing mature beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) is located on the roadside.

2.8 A dry ditch and fence form the eastern boundary, with stock fencing to the south and west, and no boundary to the roadside on the north.

2.9 The dry ditch banks are vegetated by common broom (*Cytisus scoparius*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), wych elm (*Ulmus glabra*) and Russian comfrey (*Symphytum x uplandicum*).

2.10 Evidence of maintained mown pathways dissected the site, with domestic chickens foraging amongst the vegetation.

Fauna

2.11 No species of conservation concern and/or listed on the Cairngorms LBAF list of priority species were noted on site.



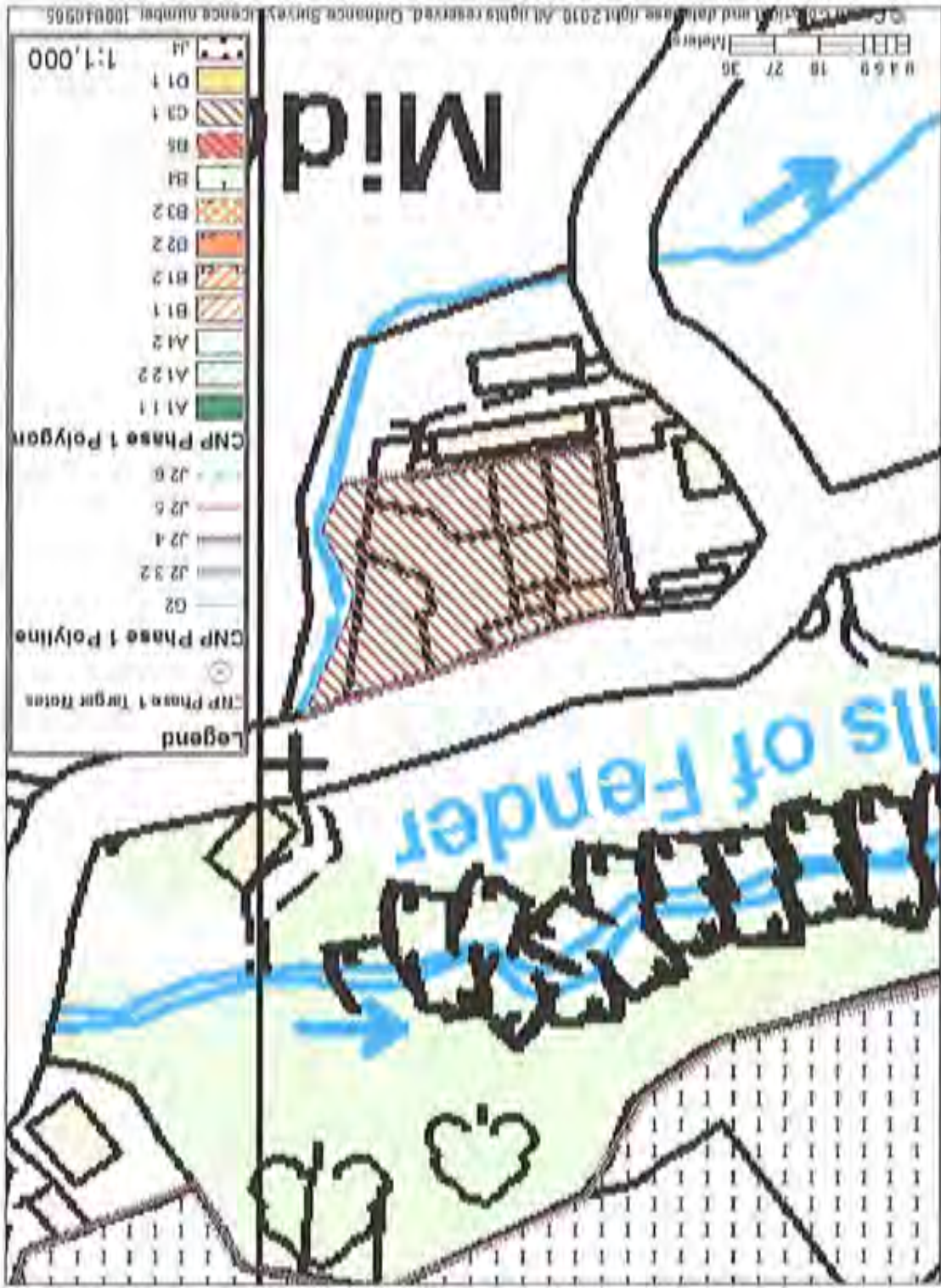


Fig 1 Survey Map

3.1 The site offers no suitable breeding habitat for otter, water vole, bat or red squirrel. No badger setts were observed. There may be foraging opportunity for badger and bats here.

3.0 Assessment of Habitat Suitability for Mammals

From 1 (first survey) 2007
2007-198
1 (second) 1987-2010



4.0 References

JNCC 1990, *Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey - a technique for environmental audit*, 2007 edition, Nature Conservancy Council
Stace, C.A. 1997, *New Flora of the British Isles*, 2nd Edition, Cambridge University Press.

Dry ditch on eastern edge of 19b



Tall stands of vegetation on site 19b



Site 19b viewed from roadside



APPENDIX 1 - SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS



APPENDIX 3 – PHASE 1 CODES

PHASE 1 CODE	Description
A1.1.1	Broadleaved woodland - semi-natural
A1.1.2	Broadleaved woodland - plantation
A1.2.1	Coniferous woodland - semi-natural
A1.2.2	Coniferous woodland - plantation
A1.3.1	Mixed woodland - semi-natural
A1.3.2	Mixed woodland - plantation
A2.1	Scrub - dense/continuous
A2.2	Scrub - scattered
A4.1	Broadleaved woodland - recently felled
A4.2	Coniferous woodland - recently felled
A4.3	Mixed woodland - recently felled
B1.1	Acid grassland - unimproved
B1.2	Acid grassland - semi-improved
B2.2	Neutral grassland - semi-improved
B3.2	Calcareous grassland - semi-improved
B4	Improved grassland
B5	Marsh/marshy grassland
C3.1	Other tall herb and fern - ruderal
D1.1	Dry dwarf shrub heath - acid
G2	Running water
J2.3.2	Hedge with trees - species-poor
J2.4	Fence
J2.5	Wall
J2.6	Dry ditch
J4	Bare ground

Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey
Cairngorms Local Development Plan
Site: 19c
Land at Old Bridge of Tilt - Potential Development Site

August 2010

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4.0	References	5

APPENDIX 1 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS APPENDIX 2 – PHASE 1 CODES



Summary

1. As part of the process of considering the suitability of Site 19c, Land at Old Bridge of Tilt - Potential Development Site, for inclusion into the Local Development Plan, the Cairngorms National Park Authority (GNPA) has commissioned Landcare NorthEast to undertake a desktop study and initial ecological survey.

2. A desktop study and subsequent ecological survey was conducted at Site 19c on 19 August 2010.

3. The proposed development site is located at NN875660 and comprises approximately 4.1ha.

4. The main habitat is improved grassland, currently managed for silage.

5. No notable plant species (those of UK conservation concern - see UK list of Vascular Plants of Conservation Concern <http://www.ukbap.org.uk> - or those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species) were noted.

6. The site may provide bat and badger foraging habitat.

1.0 Introduction

Background

1.1 In order to make an assessment on ecological impacts of developments of sites that have been presented for inclusion in the Cairngorms Local Development Plan, CNPA require desktop studies and ecological surveys of each site to be undertaken.

1.2 With regard to this, an extended Phase 1 survey and habitat suitability assessment was conducted at Site 19c, Land at Old Bridge of Till - Potential Development Site, Blair Atholl, Perthshire.

1.3 The site is located at NN875660 and comprises approximately 4.1ha.

1.4 The survey work was conducted by Steve Ferguson and Flora Grigor-Taylor, both experienced wildlife surveyors, chartered environmentalists and members of IEM.

Existing Data

1.5 A review of the data held on the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) gateway was undertaken to identify species of conservation concern that have been recorded on the proposed development site.

1.6 Northern brown argus and pearl bordered fritillary butterflies have been recorded at 2km level, and red squirrel at 1km level.

1.7 Badger, otter, wildcat and bat records exist at the 10km level for the vicinity of the site. Also recorded within 10km square of the site - goldeneye, twite, hen harrier, black grouse, capercaillie, redshank and lapwing.

Designated Sites

1.8 There are no statutorily designated sites in the survey area or immediate environs. Across the road to the west lies woodland classified in the Ancient Woodland Inventory.

2.0 Survey

Method

2.1 An ecological survey was undertaken on the site on 19 August 2010.

2.2 A Phase 1 Habitat Mapping & Protected Species Survey, also referred to as an Extended Phase 1 Ecological Survey, was undertaken for the site. Standard Phase 1 methodology was used, including detailed target notes of notable plant species (those of conservation concern; also those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species).

2.3 An assessment of the habitat suitability within the proposed development site for mammal species was also undertaken.

2.4 The standard optimal time to undertake an extended Phase 1 Survey is between April and the end of September. The survey time of mid-August is therefore optimal.

2.5 The habitats are described by the use of target notes where appropriate, annotated to the survey map (see Fig 1). Common species names and scientific names (Stace C (1987) *New Flora of the British Isles*, Second Ed. Cambridge University Press) are given in the text below.

Results

Vegetation

2.6 This site is on improved farmland, on level ground, bounded by a fence to the west where there is a minor road, and currently unfenced and part of a larger farmed field to the east.

2.7 The sward is one of improved grassland (Phase 1 code B4), which at the time of survey had just been cut for silage. It was therefore not possible to identify grass species. Forbs were generally absent from the sward.

Fauna

2.8 No species of conservation concern and/or listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species were noted on site.



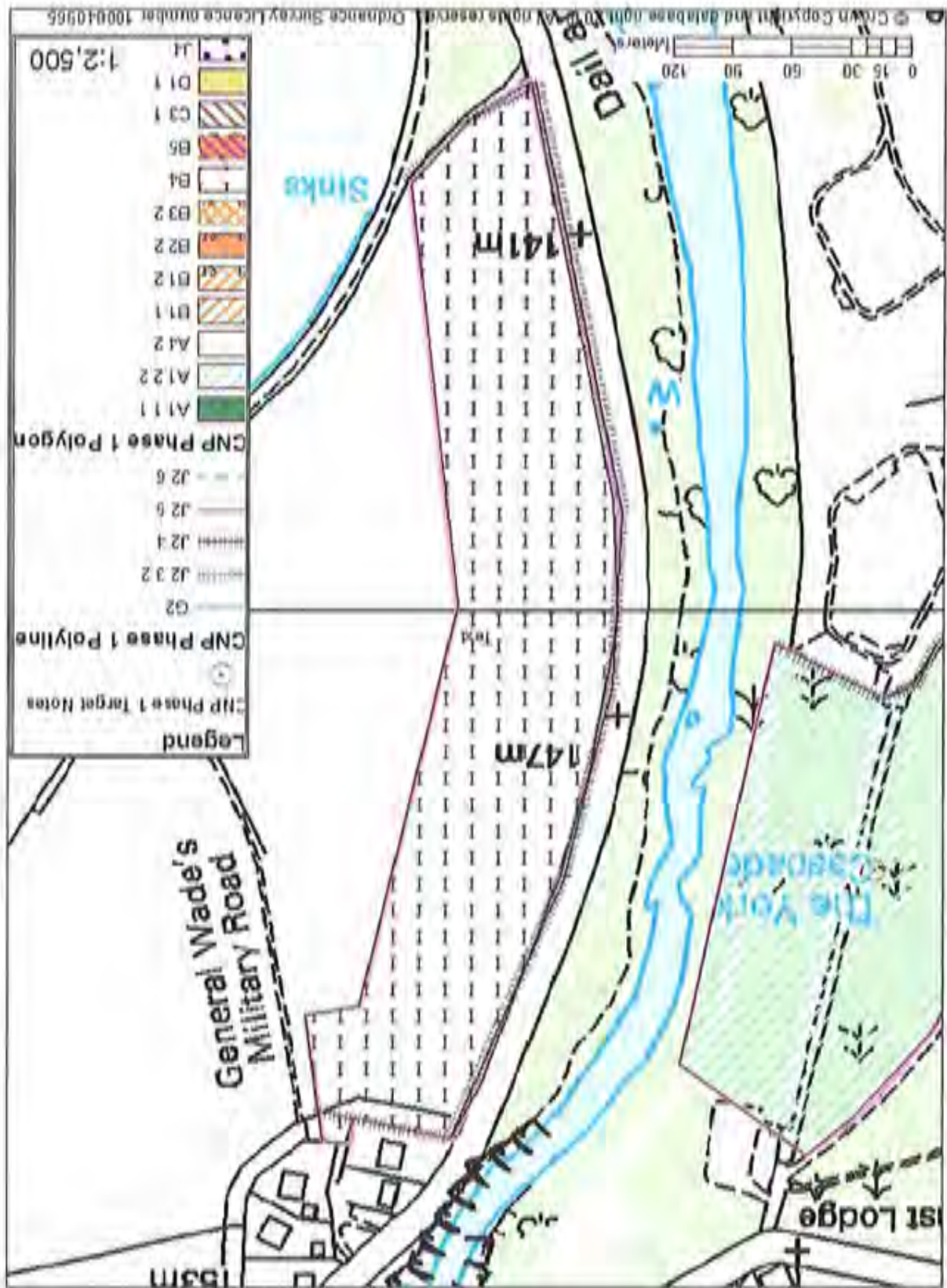


Fig 1: Survey Map

Site 19c looking northwest, Old Bridge of Tilt in the distance



Site 19c looking north towards Old Bridge of Tilt.



APPENDIX 1 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS



PHASE 1 CODE	Description
A1.1	Broadleaved woodland - semi-natural
A1.2	Broadleaved woodland - plantation
A1.2.1	Coniferous woodland - semi-natural
A1.2.2	Coniferous woodland - plantation
A1.3.1	Mixed woodland - semi-natural
A1.3.2	Mixed woodland - plantation
A2.1	Scrub - dense/continuous
A2.2	Scrub - scattered
A4.1	Broadleaved woodland - recently felled
A4.2	Coniferous woodland - recently felled
A4.3	Mixed woodland - recently felled
B1.1	Acid grassland - unimproved
B1.2	Acid grassland - semi-improved
B2.2	Neutral grassland - semi-improved
B3.2	Calcareous grassland - semi-improved
B4	Improved grassland
B5	Marsh/marshy grassland
C3.1	Other tall herb and fern - ruderal
D1.1	Dry dwarf shrub heath - acid
G2	Running water
J2.3.2	Hedge with trees - species-poor
J2.4	Fence
J2.5	Wall
J2.6	Dry ditch
J4	Bare ground

APPENDIX 2 – PHASE 1 CODES



**Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey
Cairngorms Local Development Plan
Site: 19d
Land at Old Bridge of Tilt - Potential Development Site 2**

August 2010

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Phase 1 Habitat Survey
Site 19d
Cairngorms Northeast August 2010

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APPENDIX 1 – TARGET NOTES

APPENDIX 2 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS

APPENDIX 3 – PHASE 1 CODES



Summary

1. As part of the process of considering the suitability of Site 19d, Land at Old Bridge of Till - Potential Development Site 2 for inclusion into the Local Development Plan, the Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) has commissioned Landcare Northeast to undertake a desktop study and initial ecological survey.

2. A desktop study and subsequent ecological survey was conducted at Site 19d, Land at Old Bridge of Till - Potential Development Site 2 on 19 August 2010.

3. The proposed development site is located at NN878665 and comprises approximately 0.5ha.

4. The main habitats are semi-improved neutral grassland and semi-natural broadleaved woodland.

5. No notable plant species (those of UK conservation concern - see UK list of Vascular Plants of Conservation Concern <http://www.ukbap.org.uk> - or those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species) were noted.

6. The site may provide bat and badger foraging habitat.



1.0 Introduction

Background

1.1 In order to make an assessment on ecological impacts of developments of sites that have been presented for inclusion in the Cairngorms Local Development Plan, CMA requires desktop studies and ecological surveys of each site to be undertaken.

1.2 With regard to this, an extended Phase 1 survey and habitat suitability assessment was conducted at Site 19d, Land at Old Bridge of Tilt - Potential Development Site 2.

1.3 The site is located at NN878665 and comprises approximately 0.5ha.

1.4 The survey work was conducted by Steff Ferguson and Flora Grigor-Taylor, both experienced wildlife surveyors, chartered environmentalists and members of IEMA.

Existing Data

1.5 A review of the data held on the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) gateway was undertaken to identify species of conservation concern that have been recorded on the proposed development site.

1.6 Badger, otter, wildcat and bat records exist at the 10km level for the vicinity of the site. Red squirrel is recorded within 1km square of the site.

1.7 Also recorded within 10km square of the site – goldeneye, widgeon, hen harrier, black grouse, capercaillie, redshank and lapwing, northern brown argus and pearl-bordered fritillary.

Designated Sites

1.8 Glen Tilt Wood SSSI, designated for its upland mixed ash woodland, is located immediately west and north of site boundary. The River Tilt, situated approximately 100m from the western edge of the site, is part of the River Tay SAC.



2.0 Survey

Method

2.1 An ecological survey was undertaken on the site on 19 August 2010

2.2 A Phase 1 Habitat Mapping & Protected Species Survey, also referred to as an extended Phase 1 Ecological Survey, was undertaken for the site. Standard Phase 1 methodology was used, including detailed target notes of notable plant species (those of conservation concern; also those listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species).

2.3 An assessment of the habitat suitability within the proposed development site for mammal species was also undertaken.

2.4 The standard optimal time to undertake an extended Phase 1 survey is between April and the end of September. The survey time of mid-August is therefore optimal.

2.5 The habitats are described by the use of target notes, unrelated to the survey map (see Fig 1). Common species names and scientific names (Stace C (1997) *New Flora of the British Isles*, Second Ed. Cambridge University Press.) are given in the text below.

Results

Vegetation

2.6 This site comprises 2 distinct units, separated by the public road from Old Bridge of Tilt to Middlebridge.

2.7 To the west of the road the site consists of semi-improved neutral grassland, B2.2 (see Target Note 1), sloping from the road downhill. A track runs diagonally (roughly north-south) through the field. The grassland is dominated by false oat grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), cockfoot (*Dactylis glomerata*), common hogweed (*Heracleum sphondylium*) and black knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*) with abundant red clover (*Trifolium pratense*) and meadow vetchling (*Lathyrus pratensis*), as well as some lady's mantle (*Alchemilla mollis*), german shepherd's clock (*Veronica chamaedrys*) and clumps of field scabious (*Knautia arvensis*). Occasional patches of raspberry (*Rubus idaeus*) and stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*). The field is enclosed by a fence and bordering beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) to the south, and blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*) to the west and north. A small stand of aspen (*Populus tremula*) (approx. 10 individual trees) is located in the most southern corner of the grass field and directly across the road from here (Target Note 2).

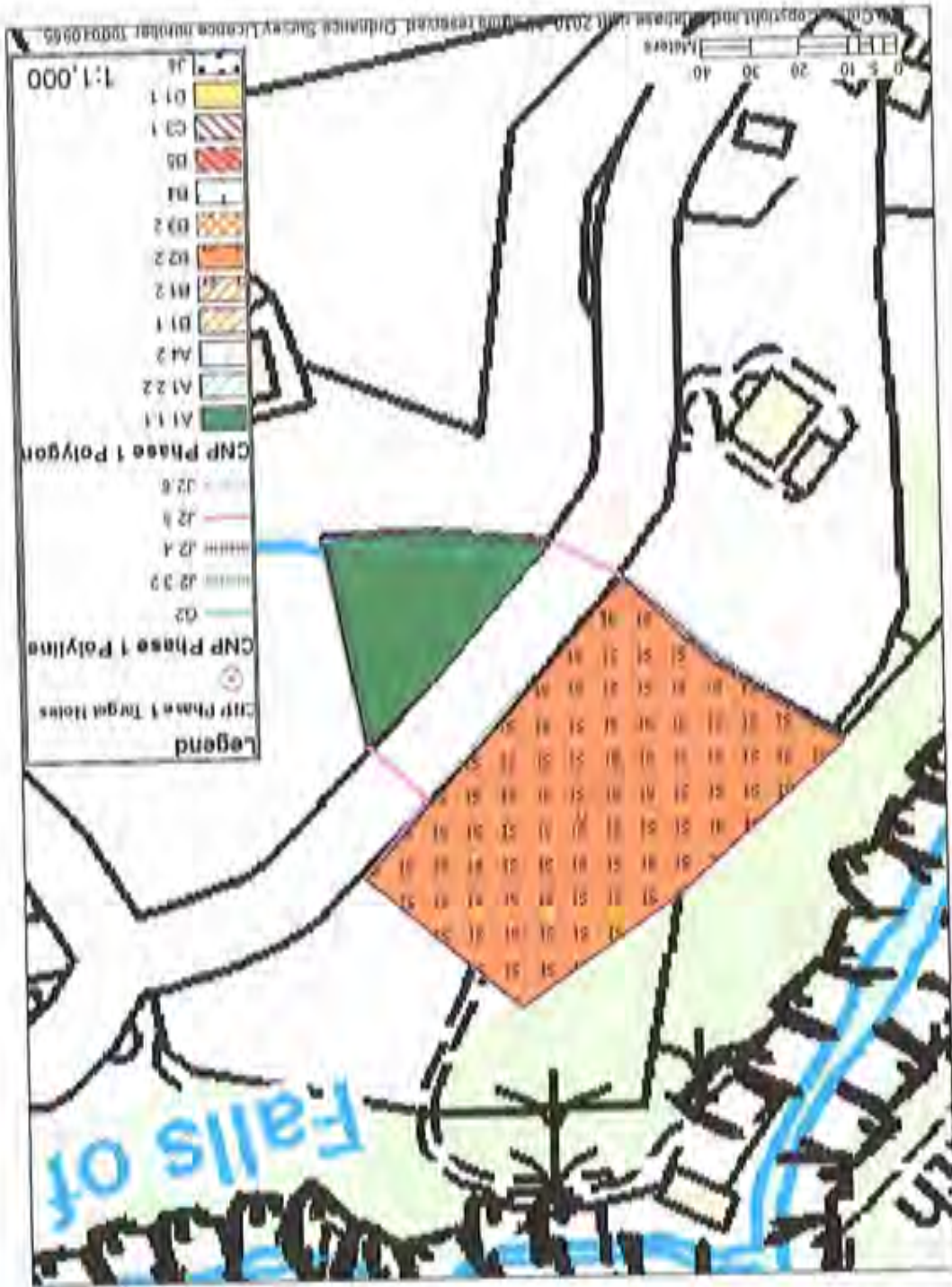
2.8 To the east of the road the site comprises semi-natural broadleaved woodland, A1.1.1. Trees are mostly mature, with the canopy closed and sparse understorey. Main tree species are ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), beech, wych elm (*Ulmus glabra*), birch (*Betula* spp.), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and bird cherry (*Prunus padus*). Ground flora comprises mainly dog's mercury (*Mercurialis perennis*), butterbur (*Petasites hybridus*), with some wood avens (*Galeum verbanum*) and bugle (*Ajuga reptans*). The woodland is triangular in outline, with 2 sides fenced and the side facing the road open. Along the southern edge there is a

small burn, which flows past a ruined mill building (Target Note 3) located within the woodland.

Fauna

2.9 No species of conservation concern and/or listed on the Cairngorms LBAP list of priority species were noted on site.

Fig 1 Survey Map



APPENDIX 1 - TARGET NOTES

T1 - NN 87789 66589

Species list semi-improved neutral grassland

<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Black knapweed
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved dock
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cocksfoot
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Common hogweed
<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	Common ragwort
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common sorrel
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow parsley
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping buttercup
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping thistle
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	Dandelion
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False oat grass
<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	Field scabious
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Germander speedwell
<i>Stellaria holostea</i>	Greater stitchwort
<i>Alchemilla mollis</i>	Lady's mantle
<i>Arctium minus</i>	Lesser burdock
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow vetchling
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red clover
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Stinging nettle
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted vetch

T2 - NN 87785 66549

Aspen (*Populus tremula*) stand of about 10 individuals, on both sides of road

T3 - NN 87828 66541

Ruined mill building



View of grassland site 19d from road southwest – note track through centre of site:



View of grassland site 19d from road directly west



APPENDIX 2 – SURVEY PHOTOGRAPHS



Burn along woodland 19d edge to south



Woodland 19d – mature trees, lack of understorey



Ruined mill set within woodland (Target Note 3)



APPENDIX 3 – PHASE 1 CODES

PHASE 1 CODE	Description
A1.1.1	Broadleaved woodland - semi-natural
A1.1.2	Broadleaved woodland - plantation
A1.2.1	Coniferous woodland - semi-natural
A1.2.2	Coniferous woodland - plantation
A1.3.1	Mixed woodland - semi-natural
A1.3.2	Mixed woodland - plantation
A2.1	Scrub - dense/continuous
A2.2	Scrub - scattered
A4.1	Broadleaved woodland - recently felled
A4.2	Coniferous woodland - recently felled
A4.3	Mixed woodland - recently felled
B1.1	Acid grassland - unimproved
B1.2	Acid grassland - semi-improved
B2.2	Neutral grassland - semi-improved
B3.2	Calcareous grassland - semi-improved
B4	Improved grassland
B5	Marsh/marshy grassland
C3.1	Other tall herb and fern - ruderal
D1.1	Dry dwarf shrub heath - acid
G2	Running water
J2.3.2	Hedge with trees - species-poor
J2.4	Fence
J2.6	Wall
J2.6	Dry ditch
J4	Bare ground

