



Cairngorms
National Park Authority

Ùghdarras Pàirc Nàiseanta a'
Mhonaidh Ruaidh

Item 8 Appendix 2 28 April 2023

Agenda item 8

Appendix 2

2023/0125/PPP

Habitats regulations appraisal

HABITATS REGULATIONS APPRAISAL

Planning reference and proposal information	2023/012/PPP Erection of 3 no. houses at land SE of Lynwilg Farm.
Appraised by	Karen Aldridge, Planning Ecological Advice Officer
Date	12 April 2023
Checked by	Stephanie Wade
Date	12 April 2023

INFORMATION
European site details
Name of European site(s) potentially affected
I) River Spey SAC
Qualifying interest(s)
<p>I) River Spey SAC</p> <p>Otter</p> <p>Freshwater pearl mussel</p> <p>Sea lamprey</p> <p>Atlantic salmon</p>
Conservation objectives for qualifying interests
<p>River Spey SAC</p> <p>Conservation Objective 2. To ensure that the integrity of the River Spey SAC is restored by meeting objectives 2a, 2b, 2c for each qualifying feature (and 2d for freshwater pearl mussel):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2b. Restore the distribution of freshwater pearl mussel throughout the site 2c. Restore the habitats supporting freshwater pearl mussel within the site and availability of food 2d. Restore the distribution and viability of freshwater pearl mussel host species and their supporting habitats 2a. Restore the population of freshwater pearl mussel as a viable component of the site <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2b. Maintain the distribution of sea lamprey throughout the site 2c. Maintain the habitats supporting sea lamprey within the site and availability of food 2a. Maintain the population of sea lamprey as a viable component of the site <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2b. Restore the distribution of Atlantic salmon throughout the site 2c. Restore the habitats supporting Atlantic salmon within the site and availability of food 2a. Restore the population of Atlantic salmon, including range of genetic types, as a viable component of the site <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2b. Maintain the distribution of otter throughout the site

2c. Maintain the habitats supporting otter within the site and availability of food

2a. Maintain the population of otter as a viable component of the site

Conservation Objective I. To ensure that the qualifying features of the River Spey SAC are in favourable condition and make an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status

APPRAISAL
<u>STAGE 1:</u>
What is the plan or project?
Relevant summary details of proposal (including location, timing, methods, etc)
Construction of 3 detached houses, garages and associated services and access infrastructure, located to the south east of Lynwilg Farm. The proposed site is within agricultural ground with scattered broadleaved trees. The Allt na-Criche (part of River Spey SAC) is located to the east of the proposed site, approximately 300 m from the proposed site boundary.
<u>STAGE 2:</u>
Is the plan or project directly connected with or necessary for the management of the European site for nature conservation?
No
<u>STAGE 3:</u>
Is the plan or project (either alone or in-combination with other plans or projects) likely to have a significant effect on the site(s)?
I) River Spey SAC All qualifying features: No Likely Significant Effect. The Allt na Criche is approximately 300 m at the closest point of the proposed site location. There are no apparent natural or man-made pathways between the proposed development and the designated SAC watercourse (e.g. drainage channels or tributaries). Given the distance from the site, it is considered unlikely that any pollution (e.g sediment or fuels) from the site would reach the SAC and have any detrimental impacts on the conservation objectives of the River Spey SAC. Similarly due to the distance and position of the proposed development, no disturbance is considered for any otter which may be using the Allt na-Criche for resting or foraging/commuting. No further appraisal is considered as all conservation objectives are met.
<u>STAGE 4:</u>
Undertake an Appropriate Assessment of the implications for the site(s) in view of the(ir) conservation objectives
N/A
<u>STAGE 5:</u>

Can it be ascertained that there will not be an adverse effect on site integrity?
N/A