



BEN LUI, GLEN FALLOCH &  
GLEN DOCHART

SPECIAL QUALITIES OF BREADALBANE

# BEN LUI, GLEN FALLOCH & GLEN DOCHART

## Key Features

Glens with largely open sides
Flat strath floors
The uplands
Strath Fillan, Glen Falloch and Glen Dochart
Falls of Falloch and Falls of Dochart
Ben More
Breadalbane Estate
'The High Country'

## Summary of Evaluation

### **Sense of Place**

This area lies within Breadalbane, 'The High Country', and is characterised by long glens and the surrounding open upland hills with their peaks, rocky outcrops, gullies and screes. Ben More is the highest peak in the National Park and lies in this area. Narrow upland glens cut through the hills with fast flowing burns and waterfalls. The upland areas are generally remote and unspoilt.

The flat glen floors of Glen Falloch, Glen Dochart and Strath Fillan are a focus for transport routes and settlement. The farmed glen floors and straths are characteristically enclosed farmland, with drystone dykes and fences forming an attractive patchwork of upland fields and hay meadows in the summer. There are isolated traditional farm steadings and occasional estates with policies and formal tree planting. The glens are predominantly rural in character and development is focussed in the main settlements of Killin, Crianlarich and Tyndrum. Settlement is located at glen junctions and loch heads.

Many of the glen sides in this area are open, unlike other areas of the Park where glen sides have tended to be forested. The open glen sides form attractive features with burns and waterfalls such as the Falls of Falloch and the Falls of Dochart. The glen sides around Crianlarich, Tyndrum and to the south of Killin are densely forested.

The landuse is a combination of moorland and rough grazing on the uplands, forestry and woodland on some of the lower slopes and farming and settlement on the flat strath floors.

### **Cultural heritage**

In common with most of the Park, the landscape has been profoundly influenced by human activity from prehistoric to the present day. Evidence of prehistoric use of the area includes the only Neolithic Stone Circle surviving in the Park at Kinnel, prehistoric rock carvings at West Lix and a prehistoric fort on Innes Bhuide.

There is reference in the Argyll Forest Assessment to the boundaries of the kingdom of Dalriada and the stone known as Clach Na Briton in Glen Falloch is thought to be part of this.

There are several important medieval religious sites in this area, of which the graveyard and ruins of the priory at St Fillans are the most significant. There are also two burial grounds associated with the Macnabs, one in Glen Dochart and the other at Killin which may have medieval origins. Military buildings are rare in the area and include the remains of the late sixteenth/early seventeenth century Loch Dochart Castle.

In common with other highland areas of the Park, there is extensive pre-improvement period landscape, with evidence of abandoned shielings in the uplands and considerable evidence for former extensive settlement in the glens, particularly Glen Dochart in the form of deserted farms and townships and some surviving lime and corn-drying kilns.

The flat strath floors comprise eighteenth and nineteenth century rectilinear fields with their origins in the Improvement Period when landlords introduced improvements to increase yields and profits from farming. The strath floor also includes several small areas of policies and parklands. There is also evidence of industrial activity in the area. Deposits of gold and lead were exploited from 1739 until the early twentieth century at Tyndrum.

The glen floors provided strategic routes both in the past and the present day. The military road, built by General Caulfield from 1748 to 1753, from Stirling to Fort William passed through this area. Parts of the military road still retain original features such as culverts and bridges, particularly at Glen Ogle and Glen Falloch. Railways and the associated buildings and structures, some in use and some now disused, are an important quality of this area. Both Crianlarich and Tyndrum have distinctive station buildings.

Killin is the settlement of most historical importance in this area. The settlement is linear in form and a mix of gable-to-gable one and two storey cottages and larger villas and hotels. Across the area, there is some 'antler Gothic' treatment of bargeboards favoured by the Breadalbane Estate.

### **Biodiversity**

The area is of high importance for biodiversity and includes a diverse range of habitats. The flat strath floors are of biodiversity value for their wetland habitats, areas of particular importance include the River Dochart Meadows for their reed, meadow and woodland habitats and Loch Tay Marshes for transition fen, Carr woodland and other plant communities. The River Tay is important for salmon, lamprey and otter.

A key landscape component of the area is the open upland hills, an important habitat for a range of upland plant communities, invertebrates and nationally rare and scarce plant communities such as remnants of montane willow scrub alpine flush communities, calcareous grasslands found at Ben Lui and other locations. Notable species include golden eagle, raven, peregrine, ptarmigan, dotterel and other upland birds, red deer, mountain hare, lower plants and lichens. Areas of upland of particular importance are designated SSSIs and part of Ben Lui is a National Nature Reserve.

This area includes the Park's two significant areas of remnant Caledonian pinewood, at Cononish near Tyndrum and in Glen Falloch. These areas of pinewood are highly significant to the Park and the nation as the most southerly remnant ancient pinewoods in Britain. There are also important areas of ancient deciduous woodland.

### **Geology**

The area is important for its geology. There are a number of SSSIs designated for their geological value: the Falls of Dochart is highly important for its fluvial geomorphological features; Garabal Hill of world importance for its igneous rock exposures and historical and present day research into fractional crystallisation; and Crom Allt for mineral exposures on the Tyndrum Main Fault

### **Associations**

The area is valued for its historic and cultural associations. The Celtic St Fillan founded a monastery at Kirkton. The saint also has strong links with Killin and it is thought he taught and preached in the village around the end of the 7th century and his healing stones are still located there.

The district was originally the territory of the Macnabs, MacLarens and MacGregors but the Campbells gradually became more important from the fifteenth century, making Killin part of their larger Breadalbane Estate. Sir Duncan Campbell built Loch Dochart Castle and Finlarig Castle at Killin.

Dal Righ at Tyndrum is the site of a battle in 1306 between Robert the Bruce and the MacDougalls. Legend has it that the King threw his heavy sword into a small lochan in order to escape more swiftly. The famous Brooch of Lorne was lost by Robert the Bruce at this battle.

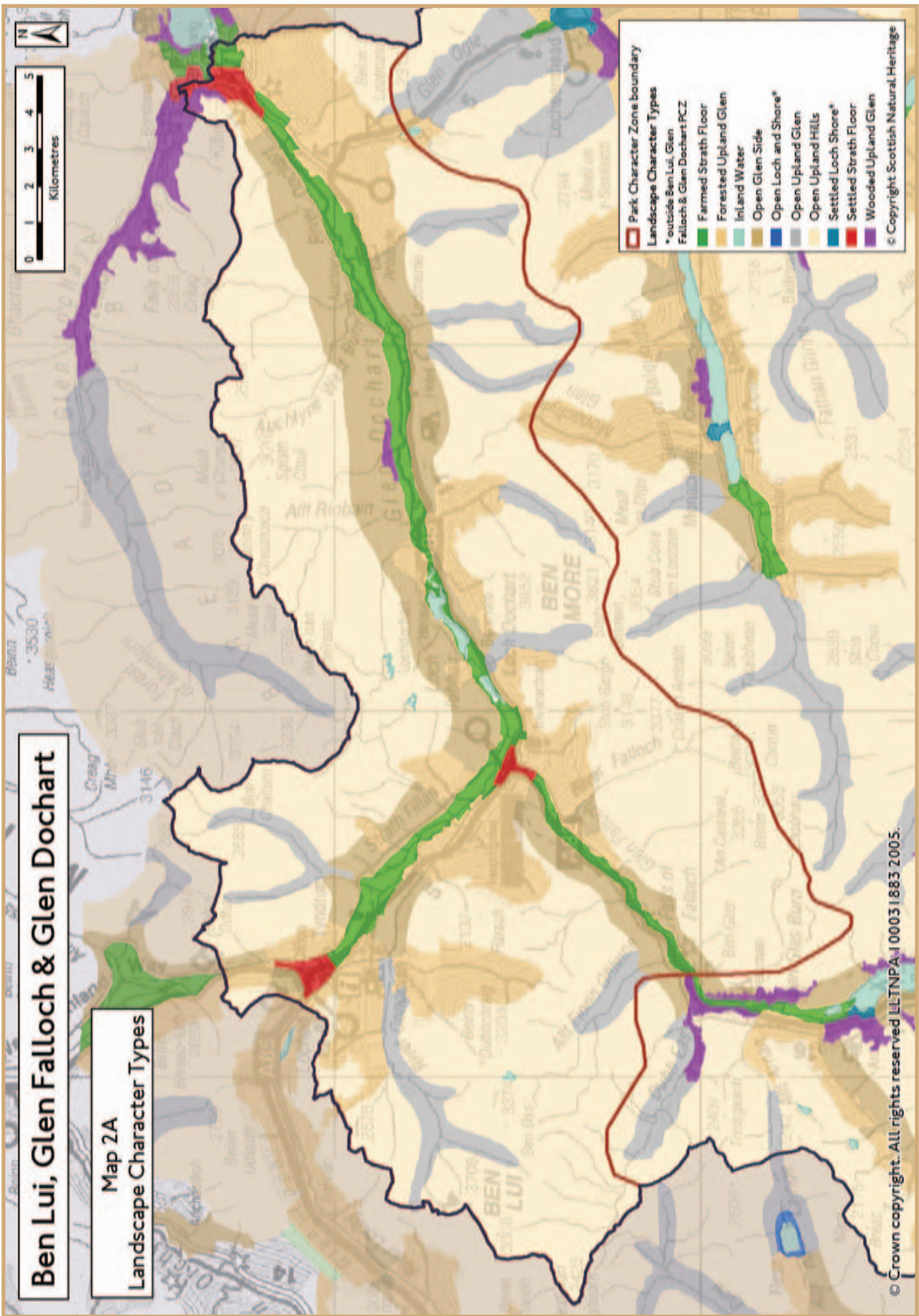
### **Qualities valued by local communities**

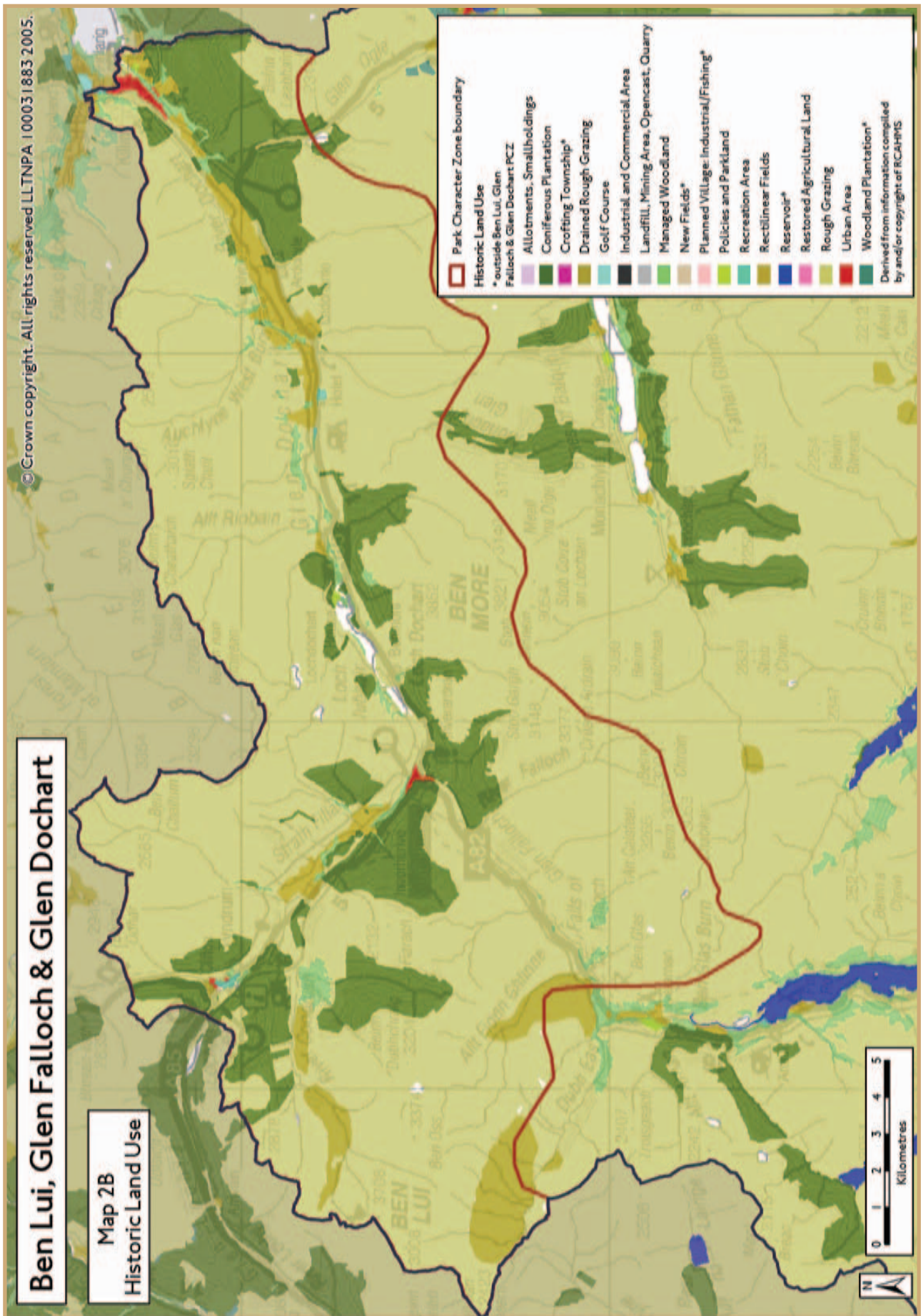
(Source: Park Plan Workshop on Special Qualities, April 2004)

- The cultural and historical associations are a special part of Breadalbane.
- Railway history and the West Highland Line
- Gold Mine
- The 'Highlands' feeling of the area
- The mountain wilderness areas tucked away from the glens
- Living and working farmed landscape
- The diversity and accessibility of the scenery
- The wildlife
- Recreational benefits of landscape – walking in particular mentioned
- Long history of families (mentioned by Killin group)

**BEN LUI, GLEN FALLOCH & GLEN DOCHART**

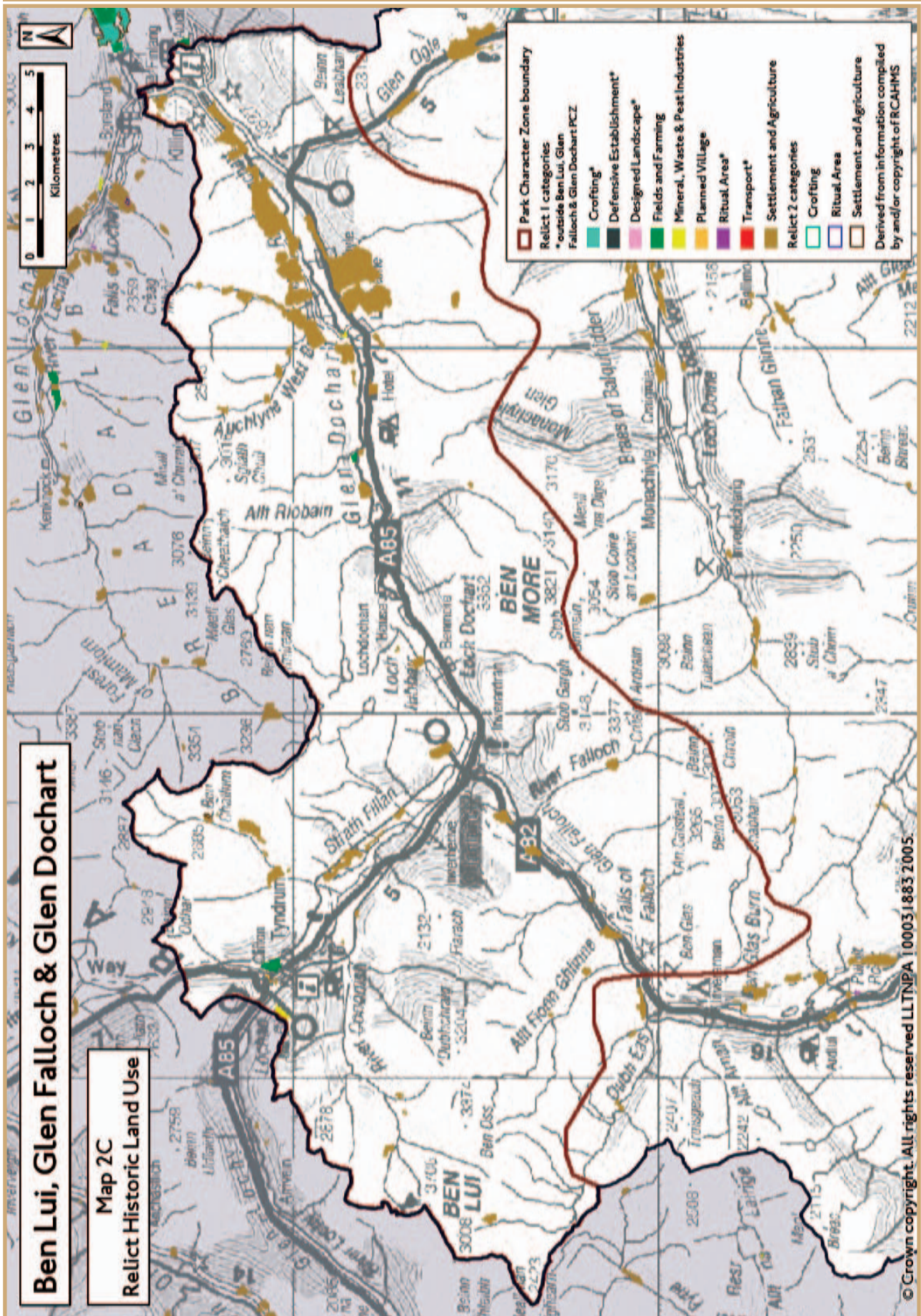
MAP 2A - LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPES

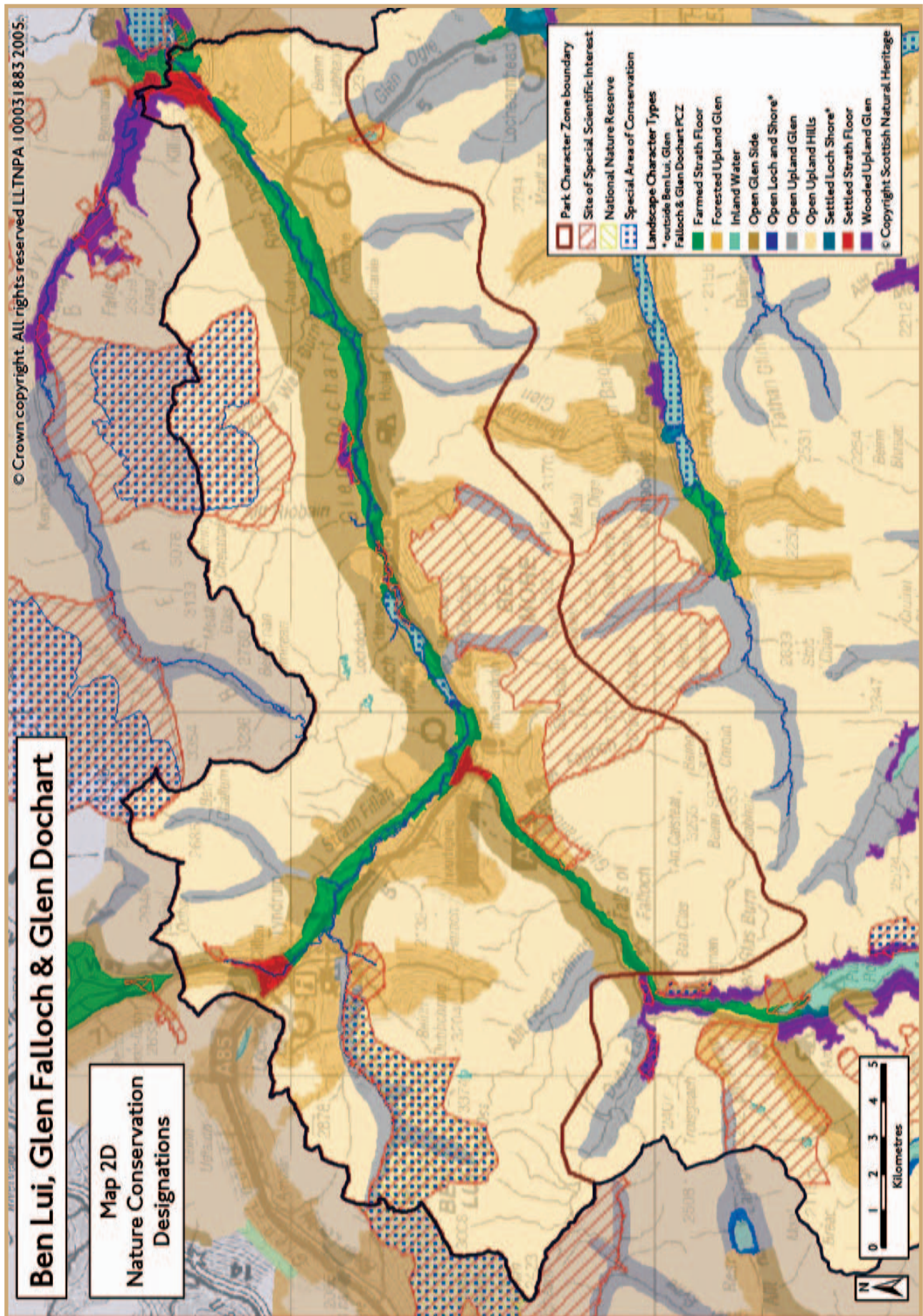




BEN LUI, GLEN FALLOCH & GLEN DOCHART

MAP 2C - RELICT HISTORIC LAND USE







## BEN LUI, GLEN FALLOCH & GLEN DOCHART

### LCT: OPEN UPLAND HILLS

A landform of peaks, moorland, rocky outcrops, gullies and screens. Key hills included Ben Lui and Ben Oss to the west of Glen Falloch and the highest peak within the area is Ben More.

HLA: Prehistoric to present moorland and rough grazing.

HLA Relict Landuse: Areas of medieval/post medieval settlement



BENEFITS	CONTRIBUTION TO BENEFIT?	EVALUATION OF IMPORTANCE	TRENDS & PRESSURES
<p><b>Sense of place</b></p>	<p>The open upland hills dominate the upper reaches of the glens forming high rocky summits and ridgelines, with a feeling of wildness, remoteness and exposure. The upland slopes are distinct from the glen sides, which tend to form a discreet mid slope.</p>	<p>Whilst being physically remote and difficult to access, the open upland hills are visually dominant and significant to communities and visitors to the Park, as distinctive landmarks that create a strong sense of identity. The twin peaks of Ben More and Stob Binnein are well renowned Munros and particularly visually distinctive seen from Strath Fillan, Glen Dochart and Balquhiddier Glen. The upland slopes and summits offer panoramic views over the surrounding area, accessible only by foot. These areas are remote and generally unspoilt although there is some evidence of masts, pylons and unsympathetic tracks. Open upland hills are a characteristic of all the highland area of the Park, but are distinctive in the Balquhiddier area as being generally higher and more unbroken, with distinct exposed upper slopes which sit beyond the enclosed glens. The Balquhiddier area includes the Park's only 'core wild land' and the more extensive nature means that qualities of wildness and tranquillity can be more readily appreciated.</p>	<p>There are certain pressures on all upland hill areas including pylon, mast and wind farm development. Recreational pressures are also evident on popular upland tracks, which can easily become severely eroded. The high visibility of the uplands and the general absence of structures or developments mean that any intrusion on the scene is likely to be highly visible and detrimental to the unspoilt qualities that underpin the areas opportunity for wildness and tranquillity.</p> <p>Inappropriate development in neighbouring glen or upland landscapes can also adversely impact on the experience of these uplands.</p>
<p><b>Cultural Heritage</b></p>	<p>There is scattered evidence of abandoned shielings. The lead mines at Tyndrum, some of which are a scheduled ancient monument, lie in this zone.</p>	<p>Local people, specialists and potentially visitors to the area.</p> <p>Some of the area is identified as relict medieval/post medieval settlement and there is evidence of past agricultural systems. It includes important groups of shielings on north Glen Dochart which still have visual and physical ties to the townships and deserted farmsteads in the lower open glen sides and farmed strath floors.</p> <p>Gold and lead mining only occurs in this area of the Park. The remains of the lead mining include old shafts, building ruins and evidence of the former mineral railway track. Old lead mining cottages still survive in Tyndrum. The mines are scheduled for their national interest.</p>	<p>Some of the lead mine remains may raise health and safety issues in terms of public access.</p> <p>There may be future interest in reopening the gold mine.</p>

## BEN LUI, GLEN FALLOCH & GLEN DOCHART

LCT: OPEN UPLAND HILLS (CONT)			
BENEFITS	CONTRIBUTION TO BENEFIT?	EVALUATION OF IMPORTANCE	TRENDS & PRESSURES
<b>Biodiversity</b>	Meall na Samnha SSSI/ SAC (part), Ben Heasgarnich SSSI/ SAC (part), Ben Lui SSSI/ SAC/ NNR (part), Ben More and Stob Binnein SSSI (part) for a range of upland plant communities, invertebrates and nationally rare and scarce plant species. Glen Falloch Pinewoods SSSI (part) for ancient pine wood. A range of largely natural plant communities occur outside the SSSI. Notable species include golden eagle, raven, peregrine, ptarmigan, dotterel and other upland birds, red deer, mountain hare, possibly water vole and lower plants and lichens.	<p>Important to all groups</p> <p>The large expanses of upland habitats are visually prominent.</p> <p>High biodiversity importance</p>	<p>The upland habitats, flora and fauna are somewhat degraded or restricted in distribution due to very high levels of sheep grazing over the last 200 years, and very high red deer numbers in some locations in the last few decades. Climate change is a threat to the survival of some species.</p> <p>Grazing is likely to decrease on coming years as a result of market forces and changes in CAP.</p>
<b>Associations</b>	Gold and lead mining heritage.		

### MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

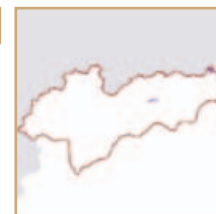
- The open upland areas need to be protected from development to maintain their open and wild character.
- Neighbouring uplands and glen landscapes should also be protected from inappropriate developments that would adversely impact on the peace and quiet and the view.
- Recreation and access pressures require to be managed to minimise damage.
- Seek to retain links between shielings and townships.
- The biodiversity benefit could be enhanced. Ecologically more sympathetic management would allow plant communities such as tall herbs, heath, treeline and montane scrub to recover
- Possible future restructuring of the forestry could enhance access to the uplands where appropriate .

## BEN LUI, GLEN FALLOCH & GLEN DOCHART

### LCT: WOODED UPLAND GLEN

Glens with low density semi-natural woodland of oak, birch, Scots Pine and fragmented moorland heather, drystone dykes, tracks and paths.

HLA: 18th to 20th century managed woodland and forestry



BENEFITS	CONTRIBUTION TO BENEFIT?	EVALUATION OF IMPORTANCE	TRENDS & PRESSURES
<b>Sense of place</b>	There are a few local examples of wooded upland glen, mostly associated with the lower glen slopes, along the transition to the farmed straths.	These woodlands make a valuable contribution to the natural qualities of these highland glen landscapes, which can tend to be dominated by commercial afforestation. They form a transition to open glen sides and open upland glens.	Grazing pressure may have adversely impacted on these woodlands.
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	No sites currently recorded.	N/A	N/A
<b>Biodiversity</b>	Innishewan Woods SSSI (part), all for oakwood and other broadleaved woodland.	Important to all groups Of high importance to biodiversity	The historical trend has been to a catastrophic loss and fragmentation of this habitat type in the UK.

### MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Scope exists to reverse the historical losses of broadleaved woodland by felling the planted conifers and replacing them with new broadleaved woodland, especially on FCS land and though SFGS elsewhere

## BEN LUI, GLEN FALLOCH & GLEN DOCHART

### LCT: OPEN UPLAND GLEN

Narrow open upland glen, with fast flowing burns and waterfalls. Steep v-shaped valleys with rocky outcrops, boulders and screes. Other features include scattered trees along the edges of burns, paths and tracks following burn sides.

HLA Period: Mainly prehistoric to present moorland and rough grazing, with some small areas having been drained in the 20th Century.



BENEFITS	CONTRIBUTION TO BENEFIT?	EVALUATION OF IMPORTANCE	TRENDS & PRESSURES
<b>Sense of place</b>	Narrow glens with steep sides, rocky outcrops and screes, remote and undeveloped. The higher upland glens provide open vistas and varied views as a result of their elevation and openness.	The open upland glens are remote, without vehicular access from the main glens. They also tend to be hidden from direct views, although the mouth of the glens are significant visual features, the strong silhouette of the receding v-shaped glens emphasising the sense of depth in the landscape. These glens are of great significance to hill walkers, often forming part of the 'walk in'. The glens contribute to the overall open character of the open uplands and are well represented in the Breadalbane area. The glens typically have framed views up to the upland slopes and summits or down to glimpses of the glen floor and strath farmland or lochs where they occur. They tend to be remote and unspoilt.	The open upland glens are a valuable landscape and ecological resource. Pressures which exist on this landscape include afforestation, new woodlands, hill tracks, and hydro-electric power developments. The undeveloped and predominantly open character should be conserved.
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	A number of both single shielings and shieling groups are recorded. The largest concentration is recorded above Auchtertyre and it is important to note that here as in Glen Finglas the survey information is excellent, having been undertaken as part of a woodland expansion proposal.  An important survival in this area is the former tacksmen's house at Cononish where in addition to the largely unaltered house of c1769 the byre still has the lower sections of its cruck supports in place. The military roads run through this area of the National Park.	Of interest to locals and walkers.  Only Kirkton Glen still has a direct link to its lower township but some of this relationship will have been lost in the re-forestation of the upper glens.  The military roads in the Park are of specialist interest but may also have tourism value. Their significance extends beyond the Park as they were built at the start of the process of military occupation of the highlands, which de-gaelicised Scotland, and contributed to the widespread depopulation.	Possible damage to shielings by the encroachment of scrub.  The military roads throughout the Park are in a poor condition, with a number of bridges suffering damage in recent flash floods.
<b>Biodiversity</b>	Ben Lui SSSI/SAC/NNR (part), Ben More and Stob Binnein SSSI (part) for a range of upland plant communities and associated species. River Tay SAC (part) for salmon and lamprey. Upland plant communities, upland birds.	The large expanses of upland habitats are visually prominent within the uplands, and are of high importance for biodiversity.	The upland habitats, flora and fauna are all somewhat degraded or restricted in distribution due to very high levels of sheep grazing over the last 200 years, and very high red deer numbers in some locations in the last few decades. Salmon & lamprey populations are greatly reduced nationally. Climate change is a threat to the survival of some species.
<b>Associations</b>	Economic - land used for grazing and deer stalking.		

### MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

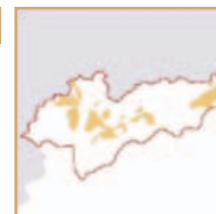
- Natural woodland regeneration and native woodland planting should be encouraged along burn sides, but the predominantly open quality of these glens should be retained.
- Undertake a survey of the condition of all military roads and their associated structures in the Park, aiming at a strategy for their protection and enhancement.
- Biodiversity benefit could be enhanced. Ecologically more sympathetic management would allow plant communities such as heath, treeline and montane scrub to recover and could enhance the habitat value of the rivers for fish.

## BEN LUI, GLEN FALLOCH & GLEN DOCHART

### LCT: FORESTED UPLAND GLEN

Steep glens with coniferous woodland, native grassland and heather are found around Tyndrum, Crianlarich and south of Killin.

HLA: Predominantly 20th century coniferous woodland and forestry



BENEFITS	CONTRIBUTION TO BENEFIT?	EVALUATION OF IMPORTANCE	TRENDS & PRESSURES
<b>Sense of place</b>	Dense and dominating plantations on glen sides, in contrast to the open upland hills.	The forested glen sides are highly visible from the main transport corridors and settlements, which focus on the glens. They tend to have a negative landscape character and visual quality impact on both the visitor experience and for local communities. The forested glen sides comprise a prominent type of woodland in the Breadalbane area and within the individual glens, where there is a relatively poor representation of more natural woodlands. The forested tributary upland glens are somewhat less prominent in the wider landscape, but impact negatively on the setting of the surrounding uplands, with forestry tending to extend too far up slope, with insensitive margins and artificial abrupt transitions to the open ground. They also detract from popular hill walks. The steep topography of glen sides makes the forests particularly visible and associated features, such as engineered forest roads, erosion scars and drainage ditches can cause significant negative visual impact.	At present there is an abundance of forested glen, with felling and replanting likely to be the key forces for change. New forest siting and design guidelines will help to improve the landscape character and reduce visual problems.
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	<p>There are numerous deserted farmsteads and townships included in this zone. Many are now hidden within the forests which also conceal or isolate them from their associated shielings e.g. at Lix. This latter site was the subject of a series of archaeological investigations but is now enclosed in woodland although access to each of the sites was included in the design. Some shieling groups also lie in this zone although as they are generally to be found along the burn sides most remain undisturbed by forestry planting.</p> <p>There are also a small number of prehistoric rock carvings including the scheduled example at West Lix.</p> <p>Part of the lead mines at Tyndrum lie in this area.</p>	<p>The remnant townships and farmsteads are of value for genealogical research, often beyond Scotland, especially to those whose ancestors came from these settlements, or to local people. They also have specialist archaeological value as they may contain evidence of medieval and post-medieval settlement. They form part of the commonest relict settlement type in the National Park. The ones in this area have been badly disrupted by 20th century forestry planting, which has separated settlements from their shielings. There are better preserved examples of townships elsewhere in the National Park, eg with settlement, fields, and shielings still intact and related to each other and not cut off by forestry.</p> <p>The cup and ring markings at Lix and the lead mines are scheduled as monuments of national importance.</p>	Thinning, felling and replanting of forestry can have an impact on surviving structures.

## BEN LUI, GLEN FALLOCH & GLEN DOCHART

### LCT: FORESTED UPLAND GLEN

BENEFITS	CONTRIBUTION TO BENEFIT?	EVALUATION OF IMPORTANCE	TRENDS & PRESSURES
<b>Biodiversity</b>	The native woodland elements have high biodiversity value. Lochan Lairig Cheile SSSI for nutrient poor water and plant communities and valley mire, Glen Falloch Pinewoods (part) and Coille Coire Chuilc SSSIs for ancient pinewoods and associated plants and invertebrates. The planted forests include small areas of broadleaf woodland and some areas of new native pinewood planting. Woodland birds, plants and invertebrates.	Highly significant to the zone, the Park and Scotland. The pinewoods are the most southerly remnant ancient pinewoods in Britain. Elsewhere, pockets of ancient and broadleaved woodland exist amongst the planted non native conifers.	The historical trend has seen a catastrophic loss and fragmentation of native woodland habitat types throughout the UK.

### MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- The landscape qualities created by this type of plantation are likely to be enhanced due to forest restructuring and the promotion of native tree species and networks of open space. A proactive approach should be taken in key areas.
- Restructuring might provide an opportunity to allow these historic sites to re-emerge from the trees and only replant where appropriate. Care should be taken not to damage surviving structures.
- Scope exists to reverse the historical losses of native woodland by felling significant tracts of the non-native conifers and replacing them with new native pinewood and broadleaved woodlands, especially on FCS land and though SFGS elsewhere. This process is already underway in places.

## BEN LUI, GLEN FALLOCH & GLEN DOCHART

### LCT: OPEN GLEN SIDE

Steep open strath sides, craggy with scree and rock outcrops rising from the glen floor to the hilltops. Burns and waterfalls. Examples include Glen Dochart, Strath Fillan and Glen Falloch.

HLA: Mainly prehistoric to present moorland and rough grazing.

HLA Relict Landuse: Areas of medieval and post medieval settlement and agriculture.



BENEFITS	CONTRIBUTION TO BENEFIT?	EVALUATION OF IMPORTANCE	TRENDS & PRESSURES
<p><b>Sense of place</b></p>	<p>Interesting large scale open landscapes with varied features such as waterfalls and screes, which relate to the open upper slopes and summits and provide contrast and diversity with the forested glen sides. The open glen side in Glen Falloch has some areas of relict pines.</p>	<p>The open glen sides are highly visible from the main transport corridors and settlements, which focus on the glens. They tend to make a positive contribution to landscape character and visual quality, impacting on both the visitor experience and local communities. They provide a relief from the blanket forestry that can otherwise dominate the glen landscapes and make them inaccessible.</p> <p>The open glen sides reveal the diversity of a varied and contrasting topography with features such as waterfalls and screes contributing to scenic quality at the local detail scale and in the wider glen context. The drainage pattern of burns, sometimes emphasised with riparian woodland, is clearly legible in these open areas and accentuates the vertical drama of the glen slopes.</p> <p>The open glen sides have good quality views down onto the strath areas. The glen sides are not greatly accessible due to their topography and lack of footpaths. The areas are quite unspoilt however there are some roads and railway lines on glen sides. The glen sides do not always have a distinct character and often blend with the open upland hills. The open glen sides flank the majority of the main glens, which is not typical elsewhere in the Park where forests and woodlands tend to predominate.</p> <p>The relict Caledonian Pine at Glen Falloch, which occupy broken terrain are a distinctive landmark feature in this transitional zone on the route north, creating a sense of entering the highlands. The trees and terrain are viewed on a sub horizon that is seen against a dramatic mountain backdrop from the A82 road and railway. The decrepit nature of the trees and the fact that they appear silhouetted in isolation contribute to the scenic quality and atmospheric effect.</p>	<p>These open areas are under pressure from the expansion of commercial forests, the invasion of bracken and rhododendrons and overgrazing. They should be protected as they contribute to the diversity of the landscape.</p> <p>The new native pine wood at Glen Falloch will change the distinctive scenery there. This could adversely impact on the visual qualities by obscuring the detail features of the trees and the landform, if not carefully considered.</p>

## BEN LUI, GLEN FALLOCH & GLEN DOCHART

### LCT: OPEN GLEN SIDE (CONT)

BENEFITS	CONTRIBUTION TO BENEFIT?	EVALUATION OF IMPORTANCE	TRENDS & PRESSURES
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	<p>There is considerable evidence for former extensive settlement on both sides of the glens, especially in Glen Dochart in the form of deserted farms and townships. A number have surviving kilns both corn-drying and lime. There are also areas of field systems. Only a few scattered shielings are recorded in this zone as its occupation was permanent.</p> <p>The stone known as Clach Na Briton in Glen Falloch is thought to be part of the boundaries of the kingdom of Dalriada.</p> <p>Also important in this zone, especially in Glen Falloch, is the old military way which is now part of the West Highland Way long distance footpath and which retains some of its original features e.g. culverts and bridges.</p> <p>A small number of cup marked rocks confirm the presence of people here in the prehistoric period.</p>	<p>The townships are of value for genealogical research, often beyond Scotland, and they have specialist archaeological value as they may contain evidence of medieval and post-medieval settlement. They form part of the commonest relict settlement type in the National Park.</p> <p>These townships are important as, unlike many other examples in the Park, many are still associated with their corn and lime kilns, their field systems, and their shieling grounds. They have avoided the dense forestry plantations which elsewhere in the Park has left the individual elements isolated from each other.</p>	<p>May be under pressure from the expansion of commercial forestry and the inappropriate conversions of traditional farm buildings.</p>
<b>Biodiversity</b>	<p>Glen Falloch Pinewoods SSSI (part) for ancient pinewoods (see comments under Forested Upland Glen) and associated plants and invertebrates. Red deer, buzzard and moorland birds, moorland habitats.</p>	<p>Highly significant to the local area, the Park and the UK. The pinewoods are the most southerly remnant ancient pinewoods in Britain. Elsewhere, pockets of ancient and broadleaved woodland exist amongst the planted non native conifers.</p> <p>The conservation and enhancement of these pinewoods is highly significant in terms of conserving and enhancing the natural and cultural heritage of the Park</p>	<p>The historical trend has been a catastrophic loss and fragmentation of native woodland habitat types in the UK.</p>
<b>Geology</b>	<p>Crom Allt SSSI for mineral exposures on the Tyndrum Main Fault</p>	<p>A feature of high importance linked geologically to mineral deposits in the Tyndrum lead and gold mines.</p>	<p>No immediate threats, minimal management required.</p>

### MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Support traditional upland agriculture.
- Limit new commercial woodland planting and retain the open character of the glen sides.
- Ensure that regeneration of the Glen Falloch pine woods, retains a locally open landscape setting without compromising wider biodiversity benefits to the scots pine relicts and distinctive knolls.
- Seek to retain the landscape setting and links between townships, field systems and shieling grounds and protect them from intrusive land use change.
- Bracken and rhododendron invasion should be controlled.
- Scope exists to reverse the historical losses of native woodland by encouraging regeneration of broadleaf and pinewood on suitable areas of the open glen side, especially on FCS land and though SFGS elsewhere. This process is already underway in places.



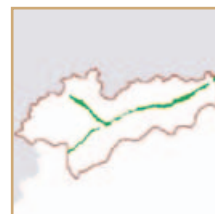
## BEN LUI, GLEN FALLOCH & GLEN DOCHART

### LCT: FARMED STRATH FLOOR

Small flat strips of farmland around watercourses, with fields and hay meadows. Post and wire fences, hedgerows, degraded dykes and ditches, pylons. The farmed strath floor examples in the area are Glen Dochart, Strath Fillan and Glen Falloch. Other features include remnant parkland trees and woodlands associated with designed landscapes.

HLA: Some 18th to 19th century fields and farming and prehistoric to present moorland and rough grazing

HLA Relict Landuse: Areas of medieval and post medieval settlement and agriculture.



BENEFITS	CONTRIBUTION TO BENEFIT?	EVALUATION OF IMPORTANCE	TRENDS & PRESSURES
<p><b>Sense of place</b></p>	<p>Farmed strath floors provide important areas of diversity in the Breadalbane landscape, by providing strong visual contrast to the enclosing upland slopes. Traditionally managed farmed and estate lands, these areas are notably managed with distinct field patterns giving a human dimension to the landscape. They are a component of the rural setting of the settled strath floors.</p>	<p>The strath floors have a distinctive character due to their flat topography and contrast with the surrounding uplands. This landscape type is generally important as an element of diversity in the Park's glen landscapes and specifically contributes to the scenic and distinctive qualities of the Breadalbane glens. Here the farmed strath floors are a more extensive feature than elsewhere in the Park and this contributes to the tiered quality of these northern highlands. Lochs are smaller scale local features within the landscape and not dominant characteristics.</p> <p>Whilst still occupying a small proportion of the landscape, the straths are visually highly significant, form the setting of the main and trunk roads passing through the Park and are compositionally important within views and in terms of allowing views across and through the glens. The West Highland railway line and West Highland Way pass through Glen Falloch and Strath Fillan, as well as the A82 and A85.</p> <p>The areas have good quality views of the surrounding hills and upland areas (for example the dominating view of Ben More from Glen Dochart), these views are highly accessible and seen from main roads such as at Auchlyne, the scenic contribution of river and meadow landscapes can be exceptional, with traditional hay meadow management adding greatly to the summer scene and atmosphere. The strath areas are developed and include features such as transport corridors and pylons. However, they retain an overall rural character. Significantly this landscape type, as elsewhere in the Park, helps to establish a farmed countryside setting to the rural villages of a generally unspoilt and traditional quality.</p>	<p>The farmed strath areas are under pressure from the expansion of settlements. Other impacts include road infrastructure upgrading and forestry shelterbelt planting.</p>

## BEN LUI, GLEN FALLOCH & GLEN DOCHART

### LCT: FARMED STRATH FLOOR (CONT)

BENEFITS	CONTRIBUTION TO BENEFIT?	EVALUATION OF IMPORTANCE	TRENDS & PRESSURES
<p><b>Cultural Heritage</b></p>	<p>The HLA identifies much of the zone as 18th/19th century rectilinear fields but with some areas of relict medieval and post medieval settlement and agriculture. There are a number of deserted townships recorded especially on the south-facing northern sides of the straths although this is more significant in the adjoining open glen side zone. The area also includes one of the best preserved crofter's cottages in Killin parish, at Bowachter.</p> <p>There are also small areas of policies and parkland at Kinnell, Glenfalloch Lodge and Loch Dochart House.</p>	<p>The remnant townships are of value for genealogical research, often beyond Scotland, and they have specialist archaeological value as they may contain evidence of medieval and post-medieval settlement. Sites may be of especial value to those whose ancestors came from these settlements as well as to local people.</p> <p>The townships are no different from many others of the type throughout the Park and north and west highland Scotland. They relate to the former Gaelic speaking area and were typical of land use up until the Clearances (earliest date is unknown). They form part of the commonest relict settlement type in the National Park. However, unlike many other examples in the Park some examples in this area, especially on the north side of Glen Dochart, are still linked both visually and physically to their field systems, kilns and shieling grounds. They have avoided the dense forestry plantations so common on the intervening ground as seen in some parts of this area e.g. on the south of Glen Dochart.</p>	<p>Large scale and intrusive land-use change, including wind farms and commercial forestry can potentially have an adverse impact on these townships which still show links to other elements of the Pre-Improvement farming system and should be protected .</p>
	<p>There are several important medieval religious sites in this character area, of which the graveyard and ruins of the priory at St Fillan's are the most significant. St Fillans and Suie in Glen Dochart also have Early Christian grave markers identifying them as early Christian sites.</p> <p>This area also includes the only Neolithic Stone Circle surviving in the Park, at Kinnell.</p> <p>There are a number of private clan burying places – including the Campbells at Auchlyne and McNabs at Suie.</p> <p>The military road from Stirling to Fort William passes through this zone but much of its route is now followed by the present public road. Both former and current railway lines run through the area.</p>	<p>Important to local people, tourists and specialists and for geneological research although not all are readily accessible. A notable exception is St Fillans which lies adjacent to the West Highland Way and has a small information board.</p> <p>The sites at St Fillans and Kinnell are all scheduled ancient monuments of national significance.</p> <p>The significance of the military roads extend beyond the Park, and were built at the start of the process to occupy the highlands, which de-gaelicised Scotland, and led to the Clearances</p>	<p>Many of the military roads and associated structures are in poor condition through age and neglect.</p> <p>The graveyards are suffering from neglect with fallen and broken stones and crumbling walls.</p>

<b>LCT: FARMED STRATH FLOOR (CONT)</b>			
<b>BENEFITS</b>	<b>CONTRIBUTION TO BENEFIT?</b>	<b>EVALUATION OF IMPORTANCE</b>	<b>TRENDS &amp; PRESSURES</b>
<b>Biodiversity</b>	The farmed strath floors have a range of biodiversity benefits which are recognised in a number of designations. The River Tay SAC (part) for salmon, lamprey, otter; River Dochart Meadows SSSI for reed, meadow and woodland habitats, Loch Tay Marshes SSSI (part) for transition fen, Carr woodland and other plant communities, Innishewan Woods SSSI (part) for ancient deciduous woodland. Mosaic of trees, boundary features, fields. Breeding waders in areas of rushy pasture.	The farmed strath floors are of high biodiversity importance overall. Important to local people, visitors, travellers and specialists	River systems and fish populations are impacted upon by river engineering, eg Hydro Electric Power schemes. Also modern farming patterns have tended to diminish the wildlife value, eg through winter cropping & higher livestock densities.
<b>Associations</b>	St Fillan Clans Campbell and Macnab At Tyndrum the famous Brooch of Lorne was lost by Robert the Bruce to the MacDougalls in 1306.		

**MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

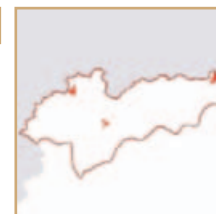
- Farmers should be encouraged to continue low intensity agricultural practices, including the traditional management of hay meadows, which makes a particular contribution to the summer landscape.
- New woodland planting should not be encouraged where this results in a significant loss of this landscape character type .
- Access to these landscapes could be improved with path network development from the villages and also links along the rivers and field boundaries.
- There is potential for interpretation of the Pre-Improvement agricultural system.
- There is a need to protect links between different elements of Pre-Improvement agriculture systems where these still survive.
- There is a need for improved management of the military roads in the Park. This may be achieved in relation to promotion of their use as footpaths. However, this would require careful management to ensure the resource is not eroded.
- There is potential to promote a programme of repair for the graveyards, and develop interpretation associated with these.
- The biodiversity benefit could be enhanced through more wildlife friendly farming and measures to improve the habitat value of the riparian corridors and woodlands. A management agreement is already in place on Innishewan Woods.

## BEN LUI, GLEN FALLOCH & GLEN DOCHART

### LCT: SETTLED STRATH FLOOR

Small low lying settlements on strath floor, surrounded by backdrop of woodland, forests and hills. Includes the settlements of Killin, Crianlarich and Tyndrum.

HLA: Prehistoric to present moorland, mix of 18th to 20th and 20th century woodland and forestry, 18th to 20th century built up area and 19th to 20th century recreation areas



BENEFITS	CONTRIBUTION TO BENEFIT?	EVALUATION OF IMPORTANCE	TRENDS & PRESSURES
<b>Sense of place</b>	<p>These settlements provide a human context within a dramatic natural landscape, the built quality of this area of the park is extremely mixed. In the traditional village of Killin, the buildings themselves give the appearance of being nestled and clustered within this landscape. In Crianlarich and Tyndrum the villagescape and architectural quality is dominated by recent commercial developments that are not traditional in character. The settlements are linear in form and tend to locate at junctions in the glens. There is a sense of local distinctiveness in the built form.</p>	<p>The settled strath floor is the focus for settlement in this area. The villages are important features contrasting with the surrounding apparently natural and dramatic landscapes. They provide nodal points within each of the main glens and strath areas, but are not amongst the well renowned gateway settlements into the Park. The settled strath areas have accessible and good quality views of the surrounding landscape and peaks. These settled areas are linear in form and reflect a mixed and variable quality built character. They make a mixed contribution to the landscape character and visual qualities. In Killin, where the village remains dominated by traditional scale, form and architecture, there is a benefit to the wider and local landscape. The Dochart Falls and bridge are well set and are a significant tourist beauty spot. Tyndrum and Crianlarich have less traditional built character and are dominated by more recent developments, some of a large scale. However, the scale and drama of the mountain surroundings does tend to dominate the wider scene.</p>	<p>These settled areas are often under pressure from tourism and other development. The traditional character of the areas needs to be maintained and positively enhanced.</p>
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	<p>Killin is an interesting settlement with a Conservation Area. The north end of the village has two planned rows of houses of 19th century date. The street arrangement between these houses and the bridge is significant as there are few street villages of potentially pre-improvement origin in the National Park. It includes the MacNab Clan burial ground and the prehistoric fort on Innis Bhuide which are both scheduled. The built form is a mix of architectural styles and periods.</p>	<p>Important to local people, visitors, specialists and travellers through the area.</p> <p>Killin is a highland village of architectural and historic interest. The area has seen a continuity of use over a significant period of time with heritage sites of significant historical importance such as the scheduled prehistoric fort, the stone circle at Kinnell and the Clan burial ground. The village retains much of its historic character</p>	<p>Some pressure for development. There has been some loss of historic character due to unsympathetic alterations to windows and other building elements.</p>

**LCT: SETTLED STRATH FLOOR (CONT)**

<b>BENEFITS</b>	<b>CONTRIBUTION TO BENEFIT?</b>	<b>EVALUATION OF IMPORTANCE</b>	<b>TRENDS &amp; PRESSURES</b>
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	Tyndrum and Crianlarich lie at key junctions on the historic drove roads linking the north and west to markets in Central Scotland. Gold and lead were mined in the area surrounding Tyndrum and the villages experienced further growth with the arrival of the railways. In 1873 the Callander and Oban Railway was extended to Tyndrum. In 1894 the West Highland Railway was laid to Crianlarich and traversed Strathfillan to Tyndrum and on to Fort William. Only the latter rail route survives. Both settlements have distinctive station buildings and an interesting engine shed also survives in Crianlarich. A small terrace of cottages associated with the lead mining in Tyndrum are designated as a Conservation Area.	<p>Important to local people, visitors, specialists and travellers through the area. Tyndrum in particular is a main gateway to the National Park and popular tourist stop off point on the journey north.</p> <p>The railway heritage of the area is an important part of the history and growth of Crianlarich and Tyndrum. The structures and buildings associated with the railways that survive are of architectural and historical interest, some are listed. There is a small Conservation Area in Tyndrum which includes the cottages associated with the lead mining. However, the villages lack coherence and the quality of the built heritage is variable.</p>	There is some development pressure for tourism related developments.
<b>Biodiversity</b>	River Tay SAC (part) for salmon, lamprey, otter. Pipistrelle and brown long eared bat roosts in some built premises.	<p>Of importance to local people, visitors and specialists, especially anglers.</p> <p>The availability of good angling is a contribution to the sense of place for a significant minority, both for the local area and the Park as a whole</p> <p>High nature conservation importance</p>	River ecosystems and populations of salmon, lamprey and bats are generally under pressure in the UK.
<b>Geology</b>	Falls of Dochart SSSI for fluvial geomorphological features.	Of high importance geologically	No immediate threats, minimal management required.
<b>Associations</b>	Killin has associations with the celtic St Fillan. His healing stones are now kept in the Breadalbane Folklore Centre. The district was originally the territory of the MacNabs, McLarens and MacGregors but the Campbells, based at Finlarig Castle, gradually became more important from the C15, making Killin part of their large Breadalbane Estate.		

**MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

- There is significant opportunity for enhancement of the villages of Tyndrum and Crianlarich. High quality development which reflects local building styles should be promoted in these areas. A more proactive approach to planning the development and design of the settlements would be appropriate.
- Conservation Area Appraisals and Conservation Enhancement Schemes could be promoted to conserve and enhance settlement character.
- Sympathetic management of riparian habitats, upgraded sewage and grey water treatment and building repair works can safeguard and enhance biodiversity
- There is opportunity to raise awareness through interpretation of the industrial heritage of Crianlarich and Tyndrum.

## BEN LUI, GLEN FALLOCH & GLEN DOCHART

### LCT: INLAND WATERS

Loch Dochart and Loch Lubhair are the main lochs in this zone of the Park

HLA: natural water area



BENEFITS	CONTRIBUTION TO BENEFIT?	EVALUATION OF IMPORTANCE	TRENDS & PRESSURES
<b>Sense of place</b>	The lochs and lochans are local landscape features, usually fringed with natural tree, scrub and emergent vegetation and with a sense of tranquillity.	The lochans can be viewed from the road by visitors to, and those travelling through, the area. The lochs are discreet local features, strong characteristics of the glens, but contributing greatly to diversity and the detail grain of the scenery. Loch Dochart Castle makes a particularly significant contribution to the local scenery and is a local landmark.	Road upgrading along Glen Dochart has meant that the lochs are not really appreciated as people pass by them too fast, with little opportunity to stop or access them by foot.
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	Loch Dochart Castle is situated on an island at the SW end of the loch and was built by Sir Duncan Campbell, 7th Laird of Glenorchy in the late 16th or early 17th century. It is in a ruinous condition. Sir Duncan Campbell also built Finlarig Castle.	Specialists. Loch Dochart Castle is a scheduled ancient monument and listed building. It is of national importance.	None
<b>Biodiversity</b>	River Tay SAC (part) for salmon, lamprey, otter; River Dochart Meadows SSSI (part) for reed, meadow and woodland habitats and nationally and locally rare plants including lesser water-plantain.	Of high importance overall.	Impacts on the river system and fish populations upstream, eg for road infrastructure and gravel extraction are likely to have affected the lochs. Recreational pressures, eg. litter, fires on parts of the loch shore.  Encourage management of the recreational pressures on the loch shores, possibly through controlled grazing, to maintain a range of plant communities..
<b>Associations</b>	Campbell clan		

### MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Laybys on the roads, with opportunities to view and make short walks to access the lochs.
- Interpretation of cultural heritage.