

1.1.1 *Landscape Character*

Craggy slopes, steepened and roughened by glacial erosion, form the flanks of high hills, some of which are munros, and enclose this glen, extending in a band of exposed rock around the rim of the glen

The glen is dominated by this exposed rock which creates massive, overhanging rocky outcrops and dramatic corries along the ridgeline, and rock falls across lower slopes

The White Water and its tributaries tumble down the steep side slopes and down a narrow, steeply sloping, glen floor

Upland grassland dominates the summits and upper slopes, with rare arctic alpines growing on a band of mineral-rich hornblende schist in Corrie Fee

Extensive conifer woodland extends over all the lower slopes, which include extensive areas of gravelly glacial deposits often extending close to the base of many of the rocky outcrops

There is little apparent historic settlement, although the evidence may simply be hidden by the extensive woodland and remain unrecorded

The former youth hostel and a cluster of buildings at Acharn are located where the glen meets Upper Glen Clova

There is no vehicle access, and the area is a focal point for recreation activity and the starting point to many walks of different degrees of difficulty, including access to Munros and over the high pass of Jock's Road to neighbouring glens

1.1.2 *Landscape experience*

The steep sided hills, emphasised by their height and dramatic, often overhanging rocky cliffs and corries, create a very pronounced sense of enclosure, reinforced by the woodland

The area is secluded and forms a threshold to more remote mountainous hinterland

The drama of arriving at the head of the glen is reinforced by the mass of the mountains at the head and sides of the glen, creating a very pronounced focal point when accessed from the south

This is further reinforced when approaching this area through the high passes from the mountainous hinterland, where descending into the glen creates a sense of arrival

1.1.3 *Relationship to adjacent character areas*

The area is in part inter-visible with Glen Clova. There is a sense of arrival to Glen Doll which is experienced when travelling through Glen Clova towards this northern glen, with the twin summits of Craig Mellon and Cairn Broadlands visible from a distance, framed by Glen Clova.

1.1.4 *Assessment of distinctiveness*

The drama of the sheerness of the side slopes and the height of the hills forms a very pronounced sense of enclosure and reinforces the sense of 'high pass' when walking or cycling up and down this glen. The rocky overhangs, corries and massive outcrops of rock reinforce the ruggedness of the upper slopes and mountain tops.



Conifer woodland fills much of the floor of this glen, extending up to the base of the rocky cliffs (photograph courtesy of Scottish Natural Heritage)



The dramatic Corrie Fee with massive rock outcrops (photograph courtesy of Scottish Natural Heritage)