

## Annex 1- Delivery of National Park Plan Outcomes

RAG Assessment Key:	
1	Will not be achieved
2	Unlikely to be achieved
3	Needs more work/resource to be achieved
4	Should be achieved with existing work/resource
5	Achieved

I Conserving & Enhancing Biodiversity & Landscapes							Mid-Term Review comments:		
Park Plan 5 year outcome	RA G 01/ 09	RA G 05/ 09	RA G 09/ 09	RA G 01/ 10	RA G 05/ 10	RA G0 9/1 0	Assessment of achievement of outcome	Milestone for 2012 – By 2012 we expect...	Priorities to 2012 – To achieve that milestone the priorities are...
(1a) A Landscape Plan for the Park will identify the natural, cultural and built landscape qualities, the factors influencing them and underpin actions for positive management.							<p><b>4. This outcome should be achieved with existing work/resource because</b> Key baseline studies (the LCA and Geo-diversity audit) are completed or nearly completed. Activity for 2010 is within programme including establishing priority landscape management issues, finalising baseline information and initiating partner engagement.</p>	<p><b>The completion of the Landscape Framework and development of planning policy that uses it.</b></p>	<p><b>CNPA and steering group to coordinate development of the Landscape Framework through engagement in NPP development, using detailed Landscape Character Assessment and wide community engagement</b></p>

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(1b) The key areas for the experience of wild land qualities will be identified, protected and enhanced as a major source of enjoyment of the Park and wild land qualities throughout the rest of the Park will be safeguarded.							<p><b>4. This outcome should be achieved with existing work/resource because:</b> The policy development work is planned as part of the supplementary planning guidance programme for 2010. A typology study will be commissioned to form the baseline for the SPG. The original wildness work will be extended to cover the extension of the National Park.</p> <p>Workshops on Hill tracks for land managers, agents and recreational groups has taken place and engagement on guidance will commence in Autumn 2010.</p>	<p><b>The development of draft planning policy guidance that uses the CNP wildness maps.</b></p>	<p><b>CNPA to develop a wildness draft planning policy.</b></p>

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(1c) The location, scale, layout and design of all new development will make a positive contribution to the natural, cultural and built landscapes of the Park, and the adverse impacts of some existing developments will be reduced.							<p><b>4. This outcome should be achieved with existing work/resource because significant progress has been made in developing the Local Plan and supplementary guidance including natural heritage and energy generation.</b></p> <p>A programme of work is being developed to complete this and other guidance, but there remains work on baseline information, habitat and landscape capacity and carbon management that requires joint work among partners.</p> <p>Work with SNH in particular to identify ways to help streamline advice and ensure consistent and transparent guidance in relation to new Local Plan policies has been discussed and a workshop to develop this further was held in April 2010.</p>	<p><b>The adoption and implementation of the CNP Local Plan and associated planning policy outlined in (i) and (ii) above, as well as the development of the subsequent CNP local development plan.</b></p>	<p><b>CNPA to complete planning guidance on natural heritage and landscape</b></p>

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(1d) Species and habitats identified as the highest priorities in the Cairngorms Local Biodiversity Action Plan, the UK and Scottish Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and the Scottish Species Framework will be protected and under active conservation management.							<p><b>4. This outcome should be achieved with existing work/resource because</b> there is a programme of action co-ordinated by the LBAP Group. Highest priority species and habitats are identified and action shared with range of partners and targeted in a variety of projects and initiatives. E.g. wildcat, red squirrel, water vole, black grouse, capercaillie, forest habitat network, lowland grassland, wetlands, action for mountain woodlands.</p> <p>The Cairngorms Rare Plants project has been established and project officer appointed.</p> <p>Recording project is continuing well with an annual conference taking place in spring 2010</p>	<p><b>An increase in the number of priority species for which positive action is underway including wildcat, red squirrel, water voles, black grouse, capercaillie and rare plants.</b></p>	<p><b>Progression of a partnership funding bid for the rare plants project;</b></p> <p><b>Delivery of the Cairngorms Wildcat project;</b></p> <p><b>Promotion of records collation and submission through the Cairngorms Biological Recording System</b></p>

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(1e) There will be enhanced connectivity within habitat networks through practical implementation of a planned, landscape-scale approach, with early emphasis on lowland agricultural habitat networks and forest networks.							<p><b>3. This outcome needs more work/resource to be achieved because</b> there is a need to identify how to incentivise action on the ground. The Cairngorms Forest Habitat Networks project and lowland farm grassland surveys have provided good information and is being extended this year to include Glen Livet and Donside. There is a need for further work on GIS integration of this data and links into available funding support through SRDP. Discussions on taking forward forest networks are ongoing between CNPA and FCS.</p> <p>The wetland restoration project has begun to seek potential sites for delivery through a number of funding mechanisms including SRDP.</p>	<p><b>Increased forest habitat connectivity and an expansion of wetland area</b></p>	<p><b>FCS &amp; CNPA target advice to potential woodland network enhancement;</b></p> <p><b>CNPA &amp; SEPA to target wetland enhancement opportunities;</b></p> <p><b>CNPA to source RPID data to enable effective monitoring</b></p> <p><b>Trial integration of network planning through Landscape Framework</b></p>

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(If) All the designated nature conservation sites in the Park will be in favourable condition, or under positive management to bring them into favourable condition, and this will be enhanced further by the appropriate management of the surrounding land to increase their ecological integrity and viability.							<p><b>4. This outcome should be achieved with existing work/resource because</b> there is a programme of joint agency work underway to support management action on all designated sites, including through Section 7 (Deer (Scotland) Act 1996) agreements on some sites.</p> <p>SNH has undergoing a national assessment of the condition of designated sites. The work shows that 78% of sites within the CNPA are in Favourable condition.</p>	<p><b>Designated Nature conservation sites remain in favourable condition or under management to bring them into favourable condition</b></p>	<p><b>SNH to provide updated baseline for 2009 and ongoing reporting towards target;</b></p> <p><b>Joint working and associated agreements to continue;</b></p> <p><b>Support land managers in identifying ways to monitor and report on biodiversity management beyond designated sites</b></p>
(Ig) The habitat and water quality of rivers and wetlands will be enhanced through commencement of positive management initiatives guided by catchment management planning.							<p><b>4. This outcome should be achieved with existing work/resource because</b> The River Dee catchment management partnership is actively developing projects. The River Spey catchment management partnership has been reformed and is starting to develop projects. The River South Esk Catchment Partnership are implementing the South Esk Catchment Management Plan. A catchment plan officer for the Spey is about to be appointed.</p>	<p><b>Catchment Management Planning for the Rivers Dee, Spey and South Esk to be embedded and coordinating work.</b></p>	<p><b>All partners to support the development of the catchment management partnerships</b></p>

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(Ii) The diversity of rocks, minerals, landforms and soils of international, national and regional value will be safeguarded and more widely appreciated, together with the natural processes underpinning them.							<b>4. This outcome should be achieved with existing work/resource because</b> an audit of important features of geodiversity was undertaken by the British Geological Survey in 2009 and the final report was received in March 2010. This is a key step in ensuring wide recognition of the significance and value of geodiversity in the National Park. Evaluation for an action plan is the next step and this may be done in conjunction with interest groups.	<b>There will be a completed audit of the important features of geodiversity in the Park to inform future management.</b>	<b>BGS to undertake geodiversity audit</b>
(Ij) An active programme will be underway to safeguard and manage priority historic landscapes and archaeology sites, and to promote them to the public.							<b>3. This outcome needs more work/resource to be achieved because</b> while significant progress has been made in developing the Local Plan that helps safeguard historic landscapes and archaeology sites from development, there are no additional resources to manage or promote sites or historic landscapes.	<b>The adoption and implementation of the CNP Local Plan and associated planning policy outlined in (i) and (ii) above, as well as the development of the subsequent CNP local development plan.</b>	<b>CNPA to complete planning guidance on natural heritage and landscape</b>

2 Integrating Public Support for Land Management							Mid-Term Review comments:		
Park Plan 5 year outcome	RAG 01/09	RAG 05/09	RAG 09/09	RAG 01/10	RAG 05/10	RAG 09/10	Assessment of achievement of outcome	Milestone for 2012 – By 2012 we expect...	Priorities to 2012 – To achieve that milestone the priorities are...
(2a) A diverse, viable and productive land management sector will continue to provide high quality primary produce such as food and timber, whilst delivering public benefits which are compatible with the Park's special qualities and will make a growing contribution to employment and the local economy.							<p><b>4. This outcome should be achieved with existing work/resource because</b> key actions are in place to stimulate and support production in relation to energy, food and drink and timber.</p> <p>There remain many challenges facing land-based businesses and the outcome is so broad that it is difficult to measure. Action is therefore focused on specific opportunities where a difference can be made in the short-term. Key steps to be taken in the longer term include investigation of options for future support mechanisms and likely implications of changes to support.</p>	<p><b>Implementation of actions in the woodfuel action plan; short-term actions from the food and drink action plan and guidance on renewable energy opportunities.</b></p> <p><b>Forward planning to inform land management support post 2013.</b></p>	<p><b>FCS, CNPA, LAs, Enterprise Companies and other partners to implement action on timber use; woodfuel; food and drink production;</b></p> <p><b>Establish a green monitor farm;</b></p> <p><b>Develop a land use strategy as part of the next NPP for 2012</b></p>

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(2b) Public support for land management will be better integrated and directed at delivering tangible public benefits.	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	<p><b>This outcome needs more work/resource to be achieved because</b> of the extent to which SRDP is delivering National Park Plan priorities remains unclear due to a) lack of data availability and b) lack of active targeting through the Rural Development Contract proposal process.</p> <p>Key steps to be taken include accessing RPID data to be able to assess effectiveness of SRDP in the Park and better targeting within the current SRDP framework. Other long term options for future support will be considered in order to inform future SRDP development.</p>	<p><b>Support and advice will be actively targeted to encourage individual and collaborative applications to SRDP that deliver Park Plan priorities</b></p>	<p><b>Scottish Government and SEARS Bodies to improve the targeting and co-ordination of SRDP in delivering National Park priorities.</b></p>

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(2c) The public benefits which land managers are asked to deliver with public sector support in the Park will be informed by sound information and determined through an open process involving land managers, communities and other stakeholders.							<b>4. This outcome should be achieved with existing work/resource because a variety of stakeholders were involved in the setting of the regional Rural Priorities last autumn/winter. It is likely that the Priorities will be reviewed at some point and that the involvement of a wider range stakeholders is expected. There remains however, inconsistency between RPAC areas and a lack of focus on the National Park priorities.</b>	<b>Identification and communication of specific opportunities within SRDP for land managers to take up</b>	<b>Scottish Government and SEARs to improve the effectiveness of SRDP in targeting and reporting on delivery of National Park priorities.</b>

3 Supporting Sustainable Deer Management							Mid-Term Review comments:		
Park Plan 5 year outcome	RAG 01/09	RAG 05/09	RAG 09/09	RAG 01/10	RAG 05/10	RAG 09/10	Assessment of achievement of outcome	Milestone for 2012 – By 2012 we expect...	Priorities to 2012 – To achieve that milestone the priorities are...
(3a) There will be a large scale patchwork of deer densities across the National park underpinned by an inclusive deer management planning process.							<p><b>4. This outcome should be achieved with existing work/resource because</b> CDAG are developing a Deer Framework that will enable effective co-ordination between DMGs and set out how the national strategy for wild deer can be taken forward within the Park.</p> <p>Key to successful achievement will be the continued support of CDAG members and their engagement with DMGs in implementation.</p>	<p><b>CDAG will have established an effective Deer Framework.</b></p>	<p><b>CDAG to establish the Deer Framework with Deer Management Groups</b></p>
(3b) Designated sites will be protected and enhanced and deer range throughout the Park will be managed to a good environmental standard appropriate to the management unit. This standard will be agreed as an integral part of the deer management planning process.							<p><b>4. This outcome should be achieved with existing work/resource because</b> the majority of designated sites are now in favourable management leading to habitat improvements. However there have been some significant advances in some and slower progress in others. Agencies are working effectively together; a review of Joint Agency Working is due to take place in 2010.</p> <p>Training in habitat monitoring has been provided through the LBBTP.</p>	<p><b>Designated sites will remain in favourable condition and CDAG will have established the Deer Framework.</b></p>	<p><b>DCS, FCS and SNH lead continued support for deer management through joint working.</b></p> <p><b>CDAG to embed habitat assessment and management within deer framework.</b></p>

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(3c) There will be good communication and understanding between all sectors involved in deer management including public agencies, local communities and other interest groups. Better understanding of objectives, requirements and deer management activities should reduce conflict between sectors.							<p><b>4. This outcome should be achieved with existing work/resource because</b> CDAG meets three or four times a year and has improved communication between deer managers, public agencies, communities and environmental NGOs.</p> <p>A number of public and schools events have been held by CNPA and DCS with local estates to promote better understanding of objectives and requirements. More events of this kind due to take place in 2010.</p> <p>CDAG is promoting the mapping of deer management objectives in order to foster greater understanding.</p>	<p><b>Better liaison and mutual understanding between deer managers, communities and NGOs.</b></p>	<p><b>CDAG continue to meet and engage between sectors</b></p>

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(3d) The economic value of the deer resource will be enhanced.							<p><b>4. This outcome should be achieved with existing work/resource because</b> economic opportunities are being promoted in new ways, including public and schools events to promote venison and engagement with tourism operators on wildlife tourism opportunities. CNPA is an active member of the Scottish Venison Working Group and contributed to a venison reception for MSPs at Holyrood in January 2009 and Eat Venison Day promotion. A very successful ‘wildlife tourism for estates’ event was held in Nov 2009 to promote opportunities for maximising the tourism value of deer and other wildlife watching.</p>	<p><b>Venison promotion linked into implementation of the food and drink action plan; wildlife tourism opportunities promoted and investigated by estates</b></p>	<p><b>Continued support through Scottish Venison Working Group</b></p> <p><b>Promotion of wildlife tourism opportunities</b></p>
(3e) There will be more opportunities and fewer barriers for a wider range of people to enjoy stalking.							<p><b>3. This outcome needs more work/resource to be achieved because:</b> An initiative led by the Scottish Country Sports Tourism Group is being developed in the National Park to encourage greater interest, uptake and understanding of deer management in the CNP.</p>	<p><b>Wider promotion of stalking opportunities</b></p>	<p><b>The Country Sports Tourism Group will continue work to increase the accessibility of deer stalking</b></p>