

Cairngorms National Park

Local Development Plan 2020

Habitats Regulations Appraisal Report



Table of Contents

| | | | |
|--|----|---|-----|
| Table of Contents | 1 | Abernethy Forest SPA..... | 67 |
| List of Abbreviations..... | 3 | Anagach Woods SPA | 72 |
| Introduction..... | 4 | Ballochbuie SPA | 75 |
| The HRA Process..... | 5 | Cairngorms SPA..... | 77 |
| 1. Deciding whether the Cairngorms National Park Local Development Plan is subject to HRA | 6 | Craigmore Wood SPA | 82 |
| 2. Identifying European sites and gathering information about them ... | 7 | Glen Tanar SPA..... | 85 |
| 3. Discretionary consultation on the method and scope of the appraisal..... | 11 | Kinveachy Forest SPA..... | 87 |
| 4. Screening the Plan..... | 11 | Conclusions | 91 |
| Proposed Policies..... | 11 | 6. Prepare and consult on a draft record of the HRA | 91 |
| Proposed Sites | 12 | 7 & 8. Amending the LDP and modifying the HRA record | 91 |
| 5. Appropriate assessment..... | 22 | Appendix 1: Information on European sites considered by the Habitats Regulations Appraisal | 92 |
| Safeguarding policies..... | 22 | Capercaillie woodlands | 108 |
| Appropriate assessment tables | 22 | Appendix 2: Process flow chart for assessment of potential for capercaillie disturbance | 109 |
| River Spey SAC..... | 23 | Rationale for each question and initial criteria for assessing the answers..... | 111 |
| River Dee SAC | 27 | Appendix 3: LDP & Potential Population Change | 113 |
| River Tay SAC..... | 30 | Introduction..... | 113 |
| Insh Marshes SAC | 33 | Methodology and Assumptions..... | 115 |
| River Spey – Insh Marshes SPA..... | 35 | Population..... | 115 |

Geography..... 115

Housing Occupation 116

Housing Delivery..... 116

Results 116

List of Abbreviations

| | |
|----------|---|
| 2000 Act | National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000 |
| AA | Appropriate Assessment |
| DPEA | Planning and Environmental Appeals Division |
| Ha | Hectares |
| HRA | Habitats Regulations Appraisal |
| LDP | Local Development Plan 2020 |
| LSE | Likely Significant Effect |
| MRE | Minor Residual Effect |
| SAC | Special Area of Conservation |
| SEA | Strategic Environmental Assessment |
| SPA | Special Protection Area |

Introduction

This document records the Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) of the Local Development Plan (LDP) 2020 which is the development plan for the Cairngorms National Park as required under the terms of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2006.

Article 6(3) of the EC Habitats Directive requires that any plan (or project) which is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of a European site, but would be likely to have a significant effect on such a site, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to an 'appropriate assessment' of its implications for the European site in view of the site's conservation objectives. This procedure is applied in Scotland through The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended), and is known as the 'Habitats Regulations Appraisal' of plans.

A HRA was prepared to accompany the proposed LDP. The proposed LDP was then subject to examination by the Planning

and Environmental Appeals Division (DPEA) of Scottish Government. The examination identified a number of modifications to the proposed LDP. The HRA has been updated to take account of the modifications to the LDP, which was adopted in November 2020.

The HRA Process

There is no prescribed method for a HRA. The CNPA therefore roughly followed the guidance prepared by David Tyldesley and Associates for NatureScot (formerly known as Scottish Natural Heritage, SNH) 'Habitats Regulations Appraisals of Plans' (January 2015), apart from where this has been superseded by more recent case law. The CNPA have consulted NatureScot during the preparation of the appraisal.

There are a number of stages to the methodology followed, as summarised in **Table 1**. The stages are adapted from the guidance prepared by David Tyldesley and Associates, taking account of more recent case law.

Table 1 The HRA process (Adapted from NatureScot Guidance: Habitats Regulations Appraisal of Plans, D Tyldesley, 2015)

| | |
|----------|---|
| 1 | Decide whether plan is subject to HRA |
| 2 | Identify European sites that should be considered and gather information about them |
| 3 | Discretionary consultation on the method and scope of the appraisal |
| 4 | Screen the plan for potential likely significant effects (LSEs) on European sites |
| 5 | Undertake an appropriate assessment in view of conservation objectives of any aspect of the plan for which LSEs have been identified, and apply mitigation measures until there is no adverse effect on European site integrity |
| 6 | Prepare and consult on a draft record of the HRA |
| 7 | If amending the plan in light of consultation, screen amendments for likely significant effects and, if required, carry out appropriate assessment and consult NatureScot again |
| 8 | Modify HRA record in light of any amendments, complete and publish the final HRA record with clear conclusions |

I. Deciding whether the Cairngorms National Park Local Development Plan is subject to HRA

The LDP 2020 is the development plan for the Cairngorms National Park as required under the terms of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2006. It will replace the Cairngorms National Park LDP 2015. The 2020 LDP covers the whole of the Cairngorms National Park administrative area and will be used by both the National Park Authority and the Local Authorities that cover its area.

The purpose of the LDP is to provide a land use planning policy framework to guide future development and be used to determine planning applications. The LDP includes a strategic “vision” for the Cairngorms National Park, forecasts for new housing, industrial and commercial requirements, with site allocations made to meet these requirements. The LDP also contains policies aimed at considering development proposals while protecting the built and natural environment resources of the National Park.

It was clear that the proposed LDP contained aspects that could have a direct

consequence for at least one European site.

It was also clear that the LDP is not solely for the purposes of managing European sites. The LDP must therefore be subject to HRA.

2. Identifying European sites and gathering information about them

The next stage of the assessment process involved identifying which of the European sites either within or outwith the National Park may be affected by the LDP.

A total of 2,213 km² (around 50%) of the National Park has been designated as a European site (**Figure 1**). A number of European sites overlap the National Park boundary, with a total 572 km² of their area located outwith its boundary.

A total of 43 European sites were considered in the assessment. They are listed in **Table 2**. Details of the condition of the sites are provided in **Appendix 1**.

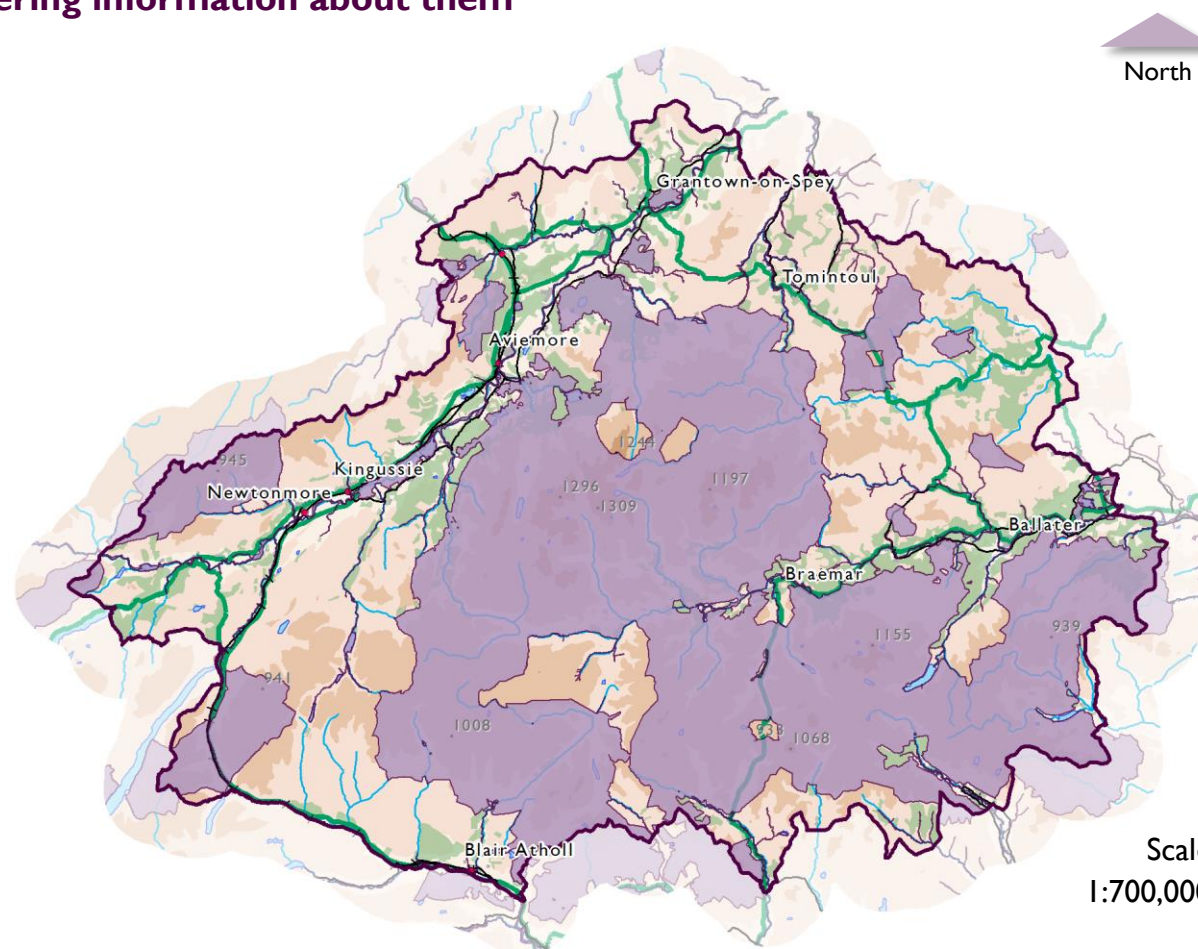


Figure 1 Land within the Cairngorms National Park that is protected as either an SAC or SPA. For individual site maps, see SiteLink <https://sitelink.nature.scot/home>.

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Table 2 European Sites selected for assessment in the HRA of the LDP.

| Site Code | Site Name | Site Status | Local Authority Area | Wholly Within CNP | Partially Within CNP | Total Area (ha) | Area within CNP (ha) | % Within CNP |
|-----------|-------------------|-------------|--|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|--------------|
| UK9002561 | Abernethy Forest | SPA | Highland | ✓ | ✗ | 5,793.46 | 5,793.46 | 100% |
| UK9020297 | Anagach Woods | SPA | Highland | ✓ | ✗ | 392.78 | 392.78 | 100% |
| UK0012957 | Beinn a' Ghlo | SAC | Perth & Kinross | ✗ | ✓ | 8,084.76 | 7,762.25 | 96.0% |
| UK0030030 | Ballochbuie | SAC | Aberdeenshire | ✓ | ✗ | 1,881.73 | 1,881.73 | 100% |
| UK9002781 | Ballochbuie | SPA | Aberdeenshire | ✓ | ✗ | 1,881.73 | 1,881.73 | 100% |
| UK0012821 | Caenlochan | SAC | Aberdeenshire; Angus; Perth and Kinross | ✓ | ✗ | 5,204.16 | 5,204.16 | 100% |
| UK9004011 | Caenlochan | SPA | Aberdeenshire; Angus; Perth and Kinross | ✓ | ✗ | 5,975.28 | 5,975.28 | 100% |
| UK0016412 | Cairngorms | SAC | Aberdeenshire; Highland; Moray | ✓ | ✗ | 57,685.02 | 57,685.02 | 100% |
| UK9002241 | Cairngorms | SPA | Aberdeenshire; Highland; Moray | ✓ | ✗ | 50,903.74 | 50,903.74 | 100% |
| UK9020308 | Cairngorms Massif | SPA | Aberdeenshire, Angus, Highland, Moray, Perth and Kinross | ✗ | ✓ | 187,504.06 | 173,254.64 | 92.4% |
| UK0030122 | Coyles of Muick | SAC | Aberdeenshire | ✓ | ✗ | 135.16 | 135.16 | 100% |
| UK9001801 | Craigmore Wood | SPA | Highland | ✓ | ✗ | 654.09 | 654.09 | 100% |
| UK0012955 | Creag Meagaidh | SAC | Highland | ✗ | ✓ | 6,144.58 | 507.19 | 8.3% |

| Site Code | Site Name | Site Status | Local Authority Area | Wholly Within CNP | Partially Within CNP | Total Area (ha) | Area within CNP (ha) | % Within CNP |
|-----------|-------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|--------------|
| UK9002161 | Creag Meagaidh | SPA | Highland | ✗ | ✓ | 2,872.64 | 71.18 | 2.5% |
| UK0013584 | Creag nan Gamhainn | SAC | Moray | ✓ | ✗ | 15.75 | 15.75 | 100% |
| UK0030134 | Dinnet Oakwood | SAC | Aberdeenshire | ✓ | ✗ | 19.73 | 19.73 | 100% |
| UK0012942 | Drumochter Hills | SAC | Highland; Perth and Kinross | ✗ | ✓ | 9,445.56 | 7,382.22 | 78.2% |
| UK9002301 | Drumochter Hills | SPA | Highland; Perth and Kinross | ✗ | ✓ | 9,445.56 | 7,382.22 | 78.2% |
| UK9004381 | Forest of Clunie | SPA | Perth and Kinross | ✗ | ✓ | 19,349.38 | 905.22 | 4.7% |
| UK0012756 | Glen Tanar | SAC | Aberdeenshire | ✗ | ✓ | 4,180.09 | 4,142.25 | 99.1% |
| UK9002771 | Glen Tanar | SPA | Aberdeenshire | ✗ | ✓ | 4,180.09 | 4,142.25 | 99.1% |
| UK0030159 | Green Hill of Strathdon | SAC | Aberdeenshire | ✓ | ✗ | 640.77 | 640.77 | 100% |
| UK0019812 | Insh Marshes | SAC | Highland | ✓ | ✗ | 1,158.78 | 1,158.78 | 100% |
| UK0030179 | Ladder Hills | SAC | Aberdeenshire; Moray | ✓ | ✗ | 4,357.94 | 4,357.94 | 100% |
| UK0012759 | Kinveachy Forest | SAC | Highland | ✗ | ✓ | 2,849.36 | 2,232.59 | 78.4% |
| UK9002581 | Kinveachy Forest | SPA | Highland | ✗ | ✓ | 2,849.36 | 2,232.59 | 78.4% |
| UK9002751 | Loch Vaa | SPA | Highland | ✓ | ✗ | 44.6 | 44.6 | 100% |
| UK9002281 | Lochnagar | SPA | Angus, Aberdeenshire | ✓ | ✗ | 1,431.28 | 1,431.28 | 100% |

| Site Code | Site Name | Site Status | Local Authority Area | Wholly Within CNP | Partially Within CNP | Total Area (ha) | Area within CNP (ha) | % Within CNP |
|-----------|---------------------------|-------------|---|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|--------------|
| UK0030210 | Monadhliath | SAC | Highland | ✗ | ✓ | 10,671.11 | 7,121.03 | 66.7% |
| UK0012894 | Morrone Birkwood | SAC | Aberdeenshire | ✓ | ✗ | 318.4 | 318.4 | 100% |
| UK0019958 | Morven & Mullachdubh | SAC | Aberdeenshire | ✓ | ✗ | 916.76 | 916.76 | 100% |
| UK0019959 | Muir of Dinnet | SAC | Aberdeenshire | ✓ | ✗ | 415.76 | 415.76 | 100% |
| UK9002791 | Muir of Dinnet | SPA | Aberdeenshire | ✓ | ✗ | 157.6 | 157.6 | 100% |
| UK0030251 | River Dee | SAC | Aberdeenshire | ✗ | ✓ | 2,446.82 | 1,368.59 | 55.9% |
| UK0030262 | River South Esk | SAC | Angus | ✗ | ✓ | 478.62 | 103.48 | 21.6% |
| UK0019811 | River Spey | SAC | Highland; Moray | ✗ | ✓ | 5,729.48 | 4,181.76 | 73.0% |
| UK9002231 | River Spey – Insh Marshes | SPA | Highland | ✓ | ✗ | 1,158.87 | 1,158.87 | 100% |
| UK0030312 | River Tay | SAC | Angus; Argyll and Bute; Perth & Kinross; Stirling | ✗ | ✓ | 9,497.72 | 233.94 | 2.5% |
| UK0030348 | The Maim | SAC | Aberdeenshire | ✓ | ✗ | 484.58 | 484.58 | 100% |

3. Discretionary consultation on the method and scope of the appraisal

Advice from NatureScot was sought at key stages in preparing the HRA including:

- Scoping approach and methodology for assessment.
- Assessing the potential for recreational disturbance to capercaillie.
- Review and discussion of emerging drafts of HRA report.
- Formal consultation as part of the proposed LDP consultation.

Table 3 screens the policies in the LDP for likely significant effects on European sites. Table 4 then considers whether the site allocations in the LDP have connectivity and potential for likely significant effects on European sites.

4. Screening the Plan

Proposed Policies

Table 3 LDP Policies: Screening for likely significant effects.

| | Potential development issues | PPS likely to have significant effects individually or in combination | General Supporting Statement | Projects not generated by this PPS | Protective, enhancement and conservation | Does not generate development and change | Provision of a change with no connectivity to European site | Provision of a change with no or minimal effects | Too general to assess due to lack of information on where, how or when | Screen in/screen out |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---|------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|---|--|--|----------------------|
| Policy 1: Housing | | | | | | | | | ✓ | Out |
| Policy 2: Economic Development | | | | | | | | | ✓ | Out |
| Policy 3: Design | | | | | ✓ | | | | ✓ | Out |
| Policy 4: Natural heritage | | | | | ✓ | | | | ✓ | Out |
| Policy 5: Landscape | | | | | ✓ | | | | ✓ | Out |

| | Potential development issues | PPS likely to have significant effects individually or in combination | General Supporting Statement | Projects not generated by this PPS | Protective, enhancement and conservation | Does not generate development and change | Provision of a change with no connectivity to European site | Provision of a change with no or minimal effects | Too general to assess due to lack of information on where, how or when | Screen in/screen out |
|---|------------------------------|---|------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|---|--|--|----------------------|
| Policy 6: Digital Communications Infrastructure | | | | | | | | | ✓ | Out |
| Policy 7: Renewable Energy | | | | | | | | | ✓ | Out |
| Policy 8: Sport & recreation | | | | | | | | | ✓ | Out |
| Policy 9: Cultural heritage | | | | | ✓ | | | | ✓ | Out |
| Policy 10: Resources | | | | | | | | | ✓ | Out |
| Policy 11: Developer Obligations | | | | | | | | | ✓ | Out |

Proposed Sites

Table 4 LDP allocation sites: Screening for likely significant effects.

| Settlement | Allocation sites | Connectivity | Protected Sites | LSE | Screen in / Screen out |
|------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Aviemore | HI Dalfaber | Yes | Kinveachy SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | | Yes | Cairngorms SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | | Yes | Abernethy SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |

| Settlement | Allocation sites | Connectivity | Protected Sites | LSE | Screen in / Screen out |
|------------|---------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|---|------------------------|
| | H2 Dalfaber | Yes | Kinveachy SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | | Yes | Cairngorms SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | | Yes | Abernethy SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | M1 Aviemore Highland resort | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation, Disturbance to otter | In |
| | | Yes | Kinveachy SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | | Yes | Cairngorms SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | | Yes | Abernethy SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | M2 Laurel Bank | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation, Disturbance to otter | In |
| | | Yes | Kinveachy SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | | Yes | Cairngorms SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | | Yes | Abernethy SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | ED1 Dalfaber Industrial Estate | No | | | Out |
| | ED2 Myrtlefield | No | | | Out |
| | ED3 Granish | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | | Yes | Kinveachy SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | | Yes | Cairngorms SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | | Yes | Abernethy SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | C1 Land at Dalfaber Drive | No | | | Out |
| | C2 Former School Playing Fields | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |

| Settlement | Allocation sites | Connectivity | Protected Sites | LSE | Screen in / Screen out |
|-----------------|---|--------------|----------------------|--|------------------------|
| | C3 Land south of Dalfaber Industrial Estate | No | | | Out |
| | An Camas Mòr | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation, Disturbance to otter | In |
| | | Yes | Anagach Woods SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | | | Abernethy Forest SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | | | Craigmore Woods SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | | | Kinveachy SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | | | Cairngorms SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie and golden eagle | In |
| Ballater | HI Monaltrie Park | Yes | River Dee SAC | Change to water quality / quantity through abstraction | In |
| | | Yes | Glen Tanar SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | | Yes | Ballochbuie SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | EDI Ballater Bus Park | Yes | River Dee SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | TI Caravan Park | Yes | River Dee SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | | Yes | Glen Tanar SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | | Yes | Ballochbuie SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | CI Former school site | No | | | Out |
| | HI Beachan Court | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |

| Settlement | Allocation sites | Connectivity | Protected Sites | LSE | Screen in / Screen out |
|-------------------------|--|--------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Grantown on Spey | | Yes | Anagach Woods SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | H2 Castle Road | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | | Yes | Anagach Woods SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | ED1 Woodland Industrial estate | No | | | Out |
| | T1 Caravan park | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | | Yes | Anagach Woods SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | C1 Community Use | No | | | Out |
| | C2 Speyside Railway Extension | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| Kingussie | Allotments adjacent to C1 | No | | | Out |
| | H1 Land at Ardbailach Road and Craig an Darach | No | | | Out |
| | ED1 Council Depot | No | | | Out |
| | ED2 McCormacks Garage | No | | | Out |
| | C1 Ardvonie Car Park | No | | | Out |
| | C2 Car park | No | | | Out |

| Settlement | Allocation sites | Connectivity | Protected Sites | LSE | Screen in / Screen out |
|---------------------|---|--------------|-------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| | C3 Land west of Spey Street | No | | | Out |
| | C4 Car park | No | | | Out |
| | T1 Kingussie Golf Club | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | | Yes | Insh Marshes SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | | Yes | River Spey – Insh Marshes SPA | Pollution & siltation | In |
| Newtonmore | H1 Land between Perth Rd and Station Rd | No | | | Out |
| | ED1 Rear of café | No | | | Out |
| | ED2 Industrial Park | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | | Yes | Insh Marshes SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | | Yes | River Spey – Insh Marshes SPA | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | T1 Highland Folk Museum | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | | Yes | Insh Marshes SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | | Yes | River Spey – Insh Marshes SPA | Pollution & siltation | In |
| Blair Atholl | H1 Old Bridge of Tilt | Yes | River Tay SAC | Pollution & siltation, Change to water quality / quantity through waste water | In |

| Settlement | Allocation sites | Connectivity | Protected Sites | LSE | Screen in / Screen out |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|---|------------------------|
| | H2 Main Road | Yes | River Tay SAC | Pollution & siltation, Change to water quality / quantity through waste water | In |
| | H3 Land North of Old Orchard | Yes | River Tay SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | T1 Blair castle Caravan Park | Yes | River Tay SAC | Pollution & siltation, Change to water quality / quantity through waste water | In |
| | T2 Caravan park | Yes | River Tay SAC | Pollution & siltation, Change to water quality / quantity through waste water | In |
| | T3 Visitor gateway | Yes | River Tay SAC | Pollution & siltation, Change to water quality / quantity through waste water | In |
| | EDI Sawmill Yard | Yes | River Tay SAC | Pollution & siltation, Change to water quality / quantity through waste water | In |
| Boat of Garten | EDI Steam Railway Station | Yes | Abernethy Forest SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie on SPA and in connecting woodland such as Boat of Garten woods. | In |
| | T1 BoG Caravan Park | Yes | Abernethy Forest SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie on SPA and in connecting woodland such as Boat of Garten woods. | In |
| Braemar | H1 Chapel Brae | Yes | River Dee SAC | Change to water quality / quantity through abstraction | In |
| | | Yes | Glen Tanar SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | | Yes | Ballochbuie SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |

| Settlement | Allocation sites | Connectivity | Protected Sites | LSE | Screen in / Screen out |
|------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------------|---|------------------------|
| | H2 St Andrews Terrace | Yes | River Dee SAC | Pollution & siltation, Change to water quality / quantity through abstraction | In |
| | | Yes | Glen Tanar SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | | Yes | Ballochbuie SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | H3 Kindrochit Court | Yes | River Dee SAC | Change to water quality / quantity through abstraction | In |
| | | Yes | Glen Tanar SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | | Yes | Ballochbuie SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | H4 Chapel Brae | Yes | River Dee SAC | Change to water quality / quantity through abstraction | In |
| | | Yes | Glen Tanar SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | | Yes | Ballochbuie SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | ED1 Ambulance Station | No | | | Out |
| | ED2 The Mews | Yes | River Dee SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | T1 Caravan Park | Yes | River Dee SAC | Pollution & siltation, Change to water quality / quantity through abstraction | In |
| | | Yes | Glen Tanar SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | | Yes | Ballochbuie SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| Carrbridge | H1 Carr Road | Yes | Kinveachy SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | H2 Crannich park | Yes | Kinveachy SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | ED1 Land at Railway Station | No | | | Out |

| Settlement | Allocation sites | Connectivity | Protected Sites | LSE | Screen in / Screen out |
|-----------------|---------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| | ED2 Carrbridge garage | No | | | Out |
| | ED3 Former Sawmill | No | | | Out |
| | T1 Landmark | Yes | Kinveachy SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| Cromdale | H1 Kirk Road | Yes | Anagach Woods SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | H2 Auchroisk Park | Yes | Anagach Woods SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | ED1 Smokehouse | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| Dalnain | H1 Land west of play area | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | | Yes | Craigmore Wood SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | H2 Land adjacent to A938 | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | | Yes | Craigmore Wood SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | ED1 Dalnain Garage | No | | | Out |
| Kincraig | H1 Opposite school | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | | Yes | Insh Marshes SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | | Yes | River Spey – Insh Marshes SPA | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | | Yes | Cairngorms SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |

| Settlement | Allocation sites | Connectivity | Protected Sites | LSE | Screen in / Screen out |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| | EDI Baldaw Smiddy | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | | Yes | Insh Marshes SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | | Yes | River Spey – Insh Marshes SPA | Pollution & siltation | In |
| Nethybridge | H1 Lettoch Road | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | | Yes | Abernethy Forest SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | H2 Land at Lynstock Crescent | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | | Yes | Abernethy Forest SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| Tomintoul | H1 Land to North East | No | | | Out |
| | H2 Lecht Drive | No | | | Out |
| | EDI Garage | No | | | Out |
| | ED2 Land by A939 | No | | | Out |
| | T1 Land to SW | No | | | Out |
| Angus Glens | N/A | No | | | Out |
| Bruar & Pitagowan | N/A | No | | | Out |
| Calvine | CI Community use | No | | | Out |
| Dalwhinnie | H1 land by garage | No | | | Out |
| | EDI Garage Site | No | | | Out |

| Settlement | Allocation sites | Connectivity | Protected Sites | LSE | Screen in / Screen out |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|-----------------|---|------------------------|
| Dinnet | HI Land to East | Yes | River Dee SAC | Pollution & siltation, Change to water quality / quantity through abstraction | In |
| | | Yes | Glen Tanar SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | | Yes | Ballochbuie SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | EDI Former Steading | Yes | River Dee SAC | Pollution & siltation, Change to water quality / quantity through abstraction | In |
| Glenlivet | N/A | No | | | Out |
| Glenmore | T1 camp site | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | | Yes | Cairngorms SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| | T2 Glenmore Lodge | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | | Yes | Cairngorms SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| Glenshee | N/A | No | | | Out |
| Insh | N/A | No | | | Out |
| Inverdrue & Coylumbridge | T1 Camping site | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |
| | | Yes | Cairngorms SPA | Disturbance to capercaillie | In |
| Killiecrankie | N/A | No | | | Out |
| Laggan | HI | Yes | River Spey SAC | Pollution & siltation | In |

5. Appropriate assessment

The appropriate assessment (AA) considers the aspects of the LDP that LSEs have been identified during the screening stage to determine whether or not they will adversely affect the integrity of European site(s). The AA identifies the potential effects for each aspect and provides the information to allow the CNPA, as competent authority, to apply mitigation measures to the LDP to avoid any adverse effects on the integrity of European sites. The AA applies the precautionary approach in the case of all potential impacts identified.

Safeguarding policies

It is important to note that policies to safeguard European sites have been incorporated into the LDP.

The principal safeguarding policy is Policy 4 (Natural Heritage). Amongst other things, this policy states that development likely to have a significant effect on a European site must demonstrate no adverse effect on the integrity of the site. It goes on to state that where this is not possible, development will

be considered favourably only where: there are no alternative solutions; and there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest including those of a social or economic nature.

Policy 10 (Resources) is also significant. Amongst other things, this policy supports the protection and enhancement of the water environment, seeks to minimise the use of treated and abstracted water, and requires the appropriate use of sustainable drainage schemes (SuDS).

Appropriate assessment tables

The AA is set out in the following tables, which are primarily structured by European site.

However, the assessments of the potential for capercaillie disturbance are structured slightly differently. In this case a series of initial tables are presented before the European site tables. The initial tables cover each of the defined settlements in the LDP. They assess whether or not the total amount of development proposed in each

settlement is likely to have a significant effect on capercaillie through increased recreational disturbance.

The settlement tables are based on a process flow-chart that has been developed and agreed with NatureScot. All assessments were undertaken jointly with NatureScot. The process flow-chart is included in Appendix 2: Process flow chart for assessment of potential for capercaillie disturbance.

The conclusions in the settlement tables are based, in part, on an assessment of the likely population change that could arise as a consequence of the LDP. This assessment is outlined in Appendix 3: LDP & Potential Population Change.

River Spey SAC

The qualifying species of the River Spey SAC are:

- Atlantic salmon;
- freshwater pearl mussel;
- otter; and
- sea lamprey

The conservation objectives are:

- To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and
- To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long-term:
 - Population of the species, including range of genetic types for salmon, as a viable component of the site
 - Distribution of the species within the site
 - Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
 - Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
 - No significant disturbance to the species
 - Distribution and viability of freshwater pearl mussel host species
 - Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting freshwater pearl mussel host species

Table 3: River Spey SAC

| River Spey SAC – Atlantic salmon, freshwater pearl mussel, otter, and sea lamprey | | | | |
|---|--|--|-------------------------|--|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| Aviemore (ED3); Grantown (H1, H2, T1, C2); Kingussie (T1); Newtonmore (ED2, T1); Cromdale (ED1); Dulnain Bridge (H1, H2); Kincraig (H1, ED1); Nethy Bridge (H1, H2); Glenmore (T1, T2); | i. Potential for contamination of protected watercourses by chemical pollutants or particles washed into them from construction sites. This could result in pollution, affect water quality and potentially smother habitats / species | A development requirement for these sites should be applied in the LDP to ensure that: i. The likelihood of pollution and siltation from construction sites reaching watercourses connected to the SAC is eliminated through safe handling of potential pollutants and provision of interceptor drains, filters, and other measures on a site in accordance with accepted best practice. These measures should be set out in a Construction Method Statement which should be submitted as part of any relevant planning application | None | The identified mitigation measures and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC, either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it |

| River Spey SAC – Atlantic salmon, freshwater pearl mussel, otter, and sea lamprey | | | | |
|---|--|--|------------------|--|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| Inverdrue & Coylumbridge (TI); Laggan (HI) | | | | |
| Aviemore (M1, M2, ACM) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Potential for contamination of protected watercourses by chemical pollutants or particles washed into them from construction sites. This could result in pollution, affect water quality and potentially smother habitats / species ii. Otters and other qualifying species such as salmon may be disturbed by construction activity, noise, lighting and other features of development design or post-construction activity | <p>A development requirement for these sites should be applied in the LDP to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The likelihood of pollution and siltation from construction sites reaching watercourses connected to the SAC is eliminated through safe handling of potential pollutants and provision of interceptor drains, filters, and other measures on a site in accordance with accepted best practice. These measures should be set out in a Construction Method Statement which should be submitted as part of any relevant planning application ii. A full survey must be undertaken, in accordance with a recognised methodology, to determine if there are otters or other qualifying species in the vicinity of development. An appraisal | | |

| River Spey SAC – Atlantic salmon, freshwater pearl mussel, otter, and sea lamprey | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|------------------|--|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| | | will then be required of the construction activity, design and use of the development to see if there would be any effect on otters or other qualifying species. Any identified effects must be eliminated through modifications to the development proposal and detailed within a Species Protection Plan | | |

River Dee SAC

The qualifying species of the River Dee SAC are:

- Atlantic salmon;
- freshwater pearl mussel; and
- otter

The conservation objectives are:

- To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and
- To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long-term:
 - Population of the species, including range of genetic types for salmon, as a viable component of the site
 - Distribution of the species within the site
 - Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
 - Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
 - No significant disturbance to the species
 - Distribution and viability of freshwater pearl mussel host species
 - Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting freshwater pearl mussel host species

Table 4: River Dee SAC

| River Dee SAC – Atlantic salmon, freshwater pearl mussel, and otter | | | | |
|--|--|--|-------------------------|---|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDPmodification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| Ballater (ED1, T1); | i. Potential for contamination of protected watercourses by chemical pollutants or particles washed into | A development requirement for these sites should be applied in the LDP to ensure that: | None | The identified mitigation measures and application of |

| River Dee SAC – Atlantic salmon, freshwater pearl mussel, and otter | | | | |
|--|--|--|-------------------------|--|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDPmodification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| Braemar (ED2) | them from construction sites. This could result in pollution, affect water quality and potentially smother habitats / species | i. The likelihood of pollution and siltation from construction sites reaching watercourses connected to the SAC is eliminated through safe handling of potential pollutants and provision of interceptor drains, filters, and other measures on a site in accordance with accepted best practice. These measures should be set out in a Construction Method Statement which should be submitted as part of any relevant planning application | | safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC, either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it |
| Ballater (H1); Braemar (H1, H3, H4) | i. Water for developments will be supplied from public or private systems. Increases in water abstraction may change ground or surface water levels in water courses part of or connected to the river SAC, and this may affect the integrity of the site through changes in temperature, water levels or flow rates | A development requirement for these sites should be applied in the LDP to ensure that: i. The water supply must be available for the development from known sources and these must have a demonstrated capacity to supply the required water without adverse effects that would affect the integrity of the European site. If the capacity has not been demonstrated then developments will be refused until it is in place | | |
| Braemar (H2, T1); | i. Potential for contamination of protected watercourses by chemical pollutants or particles washed into | A development requirement for these sites should be applied in the LDP to ensure that: | | |

| River Dee SAC – Atlantic salmon, freshwater pearl mussel, and otter | | | | |
|--|---|--|-------------------------|---|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDPmodification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| Dinnet (HI, EDI) | <p>them from construction sites. This could result in pollution, affect water quality and potentially smother habitats / species</p> <p>ii. Water for developments will be supplied from public or private systems. Increases in water abstraction may change ground or surface water levels in water courses part of or connected to the river SAC, and this may affect the integrity of the site through changes in temperature, water levels or flow rates</p> | <p>i. The likelihood of pollution and siltation from construction sites reaching watercourses connected to the SAC is eliminated through safe handling of potential pollutants and provision of interceptor drains, filters, and other measures on a site in accordance with accepted best practice. These measures should be set out in a Construction Method Statement which should be submitted as part of any relevant planning application</p> <p>ii. The water supply must be available for the development from known sources and these must have a demonstrated capacity to supply the required water without adverse effects that would affect the integrity of the European site. If the capacity has not been demonstrated then developments will be refused until it is in place</p> | | |

River Tay SAC

The qualifying features of the River Tay SAC are:

- Atlantic salmon;
- brook lamprey;
- river lamprey;
- sea lamprey;
- otter; and
- clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels

The conservation objectives are:

- To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and
- To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long-term:
 - Population of the species, including range of genetic types for salmon, as a viable component of the site
 - Distribution of the species within the site
 - Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
 - Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
 - No significant disturbance to the species
 - Distribution and viability of freshwater pearl mussel host species
 - Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting freshwater pearl mussel host species

Table 5: River Tay SAC

| River Tay SAC – Atlantic salmon, brook lamprey, river lamprey, sea lamprey, otter, and clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels | | | | |
|---|---|--|-------------------------|--|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| Blair Atholl (H1, H2, H3, ED1, T1, T2, T3) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Potential for contamination of protected watercourses by chemical pollutants or particles washed into them from construction sites. This could result in pollution, affect water quality and potentially smother habitats / species ii. Water for developments will be supplied from public or private systems. Discharges and/or increases in water abstraction may change ground or surface water levels in water courses part of or connected to the river SAC, and this may affect the integrity of the site through changes in temperature, water levels or flow rates. Waste water and diffuse pollution from development contains a number of chemicals and nutrients that could pollute water courses | <p>H3 – this site benefits from existing planning permission for development, which did not have connectivity with the SAC. Should a new or revised application come forward, then the below requirements would also apply to H3.</p> <p>A development requirement for these sites should be applied in the LDP to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The likelihood of pollution and siltation from construction sites reaching watercourses connected to the SAC is eliminated through safe handling of potential pollutants and provision of interceptor drains, filters, and other measures on a site in accordance with accepted best practice. These measures should be set out in a Construction Method Statement which should be submitted as part of any relevant planning application ii. The water supply must be available for the development from known sources and these must have a demonstrated | None | The identified mitigation measures and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC, either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it |

| River Tay SAC – Atlantic salmon, brook lamprey, river lamprey, sea lamprey, otter, and clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|------------------|--|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| | | <p>capacity to supply the required water without adverse effects that would affect the integrity of the European site. If the capacity has not been demonstrated then developments will be refused until it is in place. All waste water from developments must be treated at waste water treatment works to remove harmful levels of pollutants and nutrients. Development may not commence until it has been demonstrated to the planning authority that there is sufficient capacity in local waste water treatment works in terms of capacity and ability to remove pollutants to recommended standard. Where connection to public waste water treatment plants via mains sewerage is not possible, private water treatment solutions must demonstrate that they will not have an adverse effect of the integrity of the SAC through nutrient enrichment</p> | | |

Insh Marshes SAC

The qualifying species of the Insh Marshes SAC are:

- Otter

The qualifying habitats are:

- Alder woodland on floodplains*;
- Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels; and
- Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface

(* indicates priority habitat)

The conservation objectives are:

- To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and
- To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long-term:
 - Extent of the habitat on site
 - Distribution of the habitat within the site
 - Structure and function of the habitat
 - Process supporting the site
 - Distribution of typical species of the habitat
 - Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
 - No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat
- To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and
- To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long-term:

- Population of the species as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within the site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Table 6: Insh Marshes SAC

| Insh Marshes SAC – Otter | | | | |
|--|--|--|-------------------------|--|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| Kingussie (TI); Newtonmore (ED2, TI); Kincraig (HI, EDI) | i. Potential for contamination of protected watercourses by chemical pollutants or particles washed into them from construction sites. This could result in pollution, affect water quality and potentially smother habitats / species | A development requirement for these sites should be applied in the LDP to ensure that: i. The likelihood of pollution and siltation from construction sites reaching watercourses connected to the SAC is eliminated through safe handling of potential pollutants and provision of interceptor drains, filters, and other measures on a site in accordance with accepted best practice. These measures should be set out in a Construction Method Statement which should be submitted as part of any relevant planning application | None | The identified mitigation measures and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC, either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it |

River Spey – Insh Marshes SPA

The relevant qualifying species of the River Spey – Insh Marshes SPA are:

- Hen harrier
- Osprey
- Spotted crane
- Whooper swan
- Wigeon
- Wood sandpiper

The conservation objectives are:

- To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and
- To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long-term:
 - Population of the species as a viable component of the site
 - Distribution of the species within the site
 - Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
 - Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species
 - No significant disturbance of the species

Table 7: River Spey - Insh Marshes SPA

| River Spey – Insh Marshes SPA – Osprey, Spotted crane, Whooper swan, Wigeon, Wood sandpiper | | | | |
|---|--|--|------------------|---|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| Kingussie (TI); | i. Potential for contamination of protected watercourses by chemical pollutants or particles washed into | A development requirement for these sites should be applied in the LDP to ensure that: | None | The identified mitigation measures and application of |

| River Spey – Insh Marshes SPA – Osprey, Spotted crane, Whooper swan, Wigeon, Wood sandpiper | | | | |
|---|---|--|------------------|--|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| Newtonmore (ED2, T1); Kincraig (HI, EDI) | them from construction sites. This could result in pollution, affect water quality and potentially smother habitats / species | i. The likelihood of pollution and siltation from construction sites reaching watercourses connected to the SPA is eliminated through safe handling of potential pollutants and provision of interceptor drains, filters, and other measures on a site in accordance with accepted best practice. These measures should be set out in a Construction Method Statement which should be submitted as part of any relevant planning application | | safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA, either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it |

Table 8: Aviemore with An Camas Mor capercaillie assessment

| Settlement: Aviemore with An Camas Mor strategic consent option | |
|---|--|
| Q1. If all the current and proposed development sites in this settlement are developed, is the population of the settlement predicted to increase over the plan period and/or are any non-housing development sites likely to change levels of human activity or patterns of recreation around the settlement? | |
| Yes | |
| Q2. Are capercaillie woods significantly more accessible from this development site than from other parts of the settlement? | |
| Yes | |
| Q3. Which capercaillie woods are likely to be used regularly for recreation by residents / users of the development site at detectable levels? (list all) | |
| Rothiemurchus (Cairngorms SPA) Glenmore (Cairngorms SPA) Inshriach(Cairngorms SPA) Uath Lochans (Cairngorms SPA) Garten Woods (Abernethy SPA) Loch Vaa and Boat of Garten (Kinveachy SPA & Abernethy SPA) Forest Lodge (Abernethy SPA) | |

| |
|--|
| Kinveachy (Kinveachy SPA) |
| Q4. Are residents / users of this development site predicted to undertake any off path recreational activities in any of the woods identified at Q3 at detectable levels? |
| <p>Yes - Rothiemurchus (Cairngorms SPA)</p> <p>Yes - Glenmore (Cairngorms SPA) potential off-path MTB use</p> <p>Yes - Inschriach (Cairngorms SPA) potential off-path MTB use</p> <p>No - Uath Lochans (Cairngorms SPA)</p> <p>No - Garten Woods (Abernethy SPA)</p> <p>No - Loch Vaa and Boat of Garten (Kinveachy SPA & Abernethy SPA)</p> <p>No - Forest Lodge (Abernethy SPA)</p> <p>Yes - Kinveachy (Kinveachy SPA) potential off-path MTB use</p> |
| Q5: Are each of the woods identified at Q3 already established locations for recreation? |
| <p>Yes - Rothiemurchus (Cairngorms SPA) southern part (Loch an Eilean area) is used but northern area (Drumintoul area) is not well used</p> <p>Yes - Glenmore (Cairngorms SPA) on-path/track walking, running and dog walking, MTB use on paths and tracks as well as off-path/track</p> <p>Yes - Inschriach (Cairngorms SPA) on-path/track walking, running and dog walking, MTB use on paths and tracks as well as off-path/track</p> <p>Yes - Uath Lochans (Cairngorms SPA) on-path/track walking, running and dog walking, MTB use on paths and tracks as well as off-path/track</p> <p>Yes - Garten Woods (Abernethy SPA) on-path/track walking, running and dog walking, MTB use on paths and tracks</p> <p>Yes - Loch Vaa and Boat of Garten (Kinveachy SPA & Abernethy SPA) on-path/track walking, running and dog walking, MTB use on paths and tracks as well as off-path/track</p> |

Yes - Forest Lodge (Abernethy SPA) on-path/track walking, running and dog walking, MTB use on paths and tracks as well as off-path/track

Yes - Kinveachy (Kinveachy SPA) on-path/track walking, running and dog walking, MTB use on paths and tracks as well as off-path/track

Q6: For each of the woods identified at Q3, are residents / users of the development site predicted to have different temporal patterns of recreational use to any existing visitors, or to undertake a different profile of activities? (eg. more dog walking, or early morning use)

Yes - Rothiemurchus (Cairngorms SPA) northern part of this area significantly more people likely to undertake short trips from home all day and early morning/evening including with dogs. Proximity to ACM will mean more off-path use of this area unless managed.

No - Glenmore (Cairngorms SPA)

No - Inschriach (Cairngorms SPA)

No - Uath Lochans (Cairngorms SPA)

No - Garten Woods (Abernethy SPA)

No - Loch Vaa and Boat of Garten (Kinveachy SPA & Abernethy SPA)

No - Forest Lodge (Abernethy SPA)

No - Kinveachy (Kinveachy SPA)

Q7: For each of the woods identified at Q3, could the predicted level of use by residents / users of the development site significantly increase overall levels of recreational use?

Yes - Rothiemurchus (Cairngorms SPA) in northern part of this area significantly more people likely to undertake short trips from home all day and early morning/evening including with dogs from ACM into capercaillie woods with little current recreational disturbance.

Yes - Glenmore (Cairngorms SPA) likely to increase numbers of people cycling through Sluggan area on forest tracks from ACM.

Yes - Inschriach (Cairngorms SPA) increase in on and off-path MTB use and dog walking from track ends/laybys from ACM

No - Uath Lochans (Cairngorms SPA)

Yes - Garten Woods (Abernethy SPA) increase in on-path use of Garten Woods by ACM residents. However the increases are only likely to be once ACM is beyond first phase as Garten Woods are distant from the site itself and there are multiple other promoted and quiet locations for recreation that are closer to or easier to get to from ACM.

No - Loch Vaa and Boat of Garten (Kinveachy SPA & Abernethy SPA)

No - Forest Lodge (Abernethy SPA)

Yes - Kinveachy (Kinveachy SPA). The development of sites in Aviemore (excluding ACM & ED3) will not significantly increase use of Kinveachy on their own. MTB users of Kinveachy come from across Badenoch & Strathspey and other parts of Scotland as well as Aviemore and only a small proportion of MTB users are capable of accessing the informal trails in capercaillie areas of Kinveachy. However, as ACM is developed, there is a likelihood of additional off-path MTB use from the combination of ACM (increasing population) and ED3 (a site close to Kinveachy).

Conclusion: Is mitigation needed as a consequence of this development site in relation to each wood listed at Q3? Give Yes/No answer for each wood

Yes - Rothiemurchus (Cairngorms SPA) Schedule of mitigation for ACM

Provision of a Recreation Management Plan for ACM covering:

1. Prevention of informal parking at track and access entrances to Drumintoul lodge and Atnahatnich farm.
2. New path provision in Loch Pityoulish area to provide suitable alternative walking area to east of ACM (drawing potential visits away from the woodlands around the Drumintoul lodge).
3. Diversionary car parking in vicinity of Loch Pityoulish linking to new paths in area Path closure in vicinity of Lodge from Coylum Road and reconsidering the link proposed in indicative masterplan.
4. Awareness raising, promoting alternative locations for recreation and avoiding recreation in this sensitive area through off site measures, (eg media/leaflets Ranger events targeted at ACM residents).
5. Ranger presence during key season in vicinity of sensitive areas.
6. Provision of a network of attractive paths in and around ACM with access to areas that are not sensitive.

7. Provision of a range of attractive areas for dog walking (including off-lead dog walking) on ACM site and Rothiemurchus Estate area away from capercaillie sensitive areas.
8. Development of MTB opportunities on Pityoulish Hill and woods.
9. Diversionary Car Parking at Loch an Eilein. Free parking or equivalent measures for ACM residents early mornings and late in afternoons.
10. Removal of new informal paths within sensitive parts of Rothiemurchus this area if they develop.

Yes - Glenmore (Cairngorms SPA) Development of MTB opportunities on Pityoulish Hill and woods.

Yes - Inschriach (Cairngorms SPA)

1. The provision of MTB opportunities on Pityoulish Hill and woods area will divert use and focus new MTB development on a less sensitive area.
2. Good on-site dog walking opportunities on ACM.
3. Restrict informal parking opportunities at track ends and laybys along the B970 to Feshiebridge where they provide quick access to capercaillie woods.

No - Uath Lochans (Cairngorms SPA)

Yes - Garten Woods (Abernethy SPA)

1. Good on-site dog walking opportunities on ACM.
2. Restrict informal parking opportunities at track ends and laybys along the B970 to Boat of Garten where they provide quick access to capercaillie woods.

No - Loch Vaa and Boat of Garten (Kinveachy SPA & Abernethy SPA)

No - Forest Lodge (Abernethy SPA)

Yes - Kinveachy (Kinveachy SPA). The provision of MTB opportunities on Pityoulish Hill area will provide attractive opportunities for MTB use close to ACM and will also divert some MTB use from Kinveachy woods.

Reasons mitigation needed

Rothiemurchus (Cairngorms SPA) to avoid disturbance to capercallie from ACM residents in the vicinity.

Glenmore (Cairngorms SPA) to avoid disturbance to capercallie from ACM residents taking part in MTB activities.

Inschriach (Cairngorms SPA) to avoid disturbance to capercallie from ACM residents taking part in MTB activities or driving to quiet locations for dog walking.

Garten Woods (Abernethy SPA) to avoid disturbance to capercallie from ACM residents driving to quiet locations for dog walking and to ensure that there is not additional car parking capacity at promoted path locations.

Kinveachy (Kinveachy SPA). The provision of MTB opportunities on Pityoulish Hill area will provide attractive opportunities for MTB use close to ACM, directing potential use of Kinveachy from ACM residents and will also divert some existing MTB use from Kinveachy woods.

Table 9: Ballater capercaillie assessment

| Settlement: Ballater | |
|---|--|
| Q1. If all the current and proposed development sites in this settlement are developed, is the population of the settlement predicted to increase over the plan period and/or are any non-housing development sites likely to change levels of human activity or patterns of recreation around the settlement? | |
| No. New housing over plan period is only likely to mean that Ballater can accommodate a net increase in population of around 1%. It may even see a slight decline. | |
| Q2. Are capercaillie woods significantly more accessible from this development site than from other parts of the settlement? | |
| No | |
| Q3. Which capercaillie woods are likely to be used regularly for recreation by residents / users of the development site at detectable levels? (list all) | |
| | |
| Q4. Are residents / users of this development site predicted to undertake any off path recreational activities in any of the woods identified at Q3 at detectable levels? | |
| | |
| Q5: Are each of the woods identified at Q3 already established locations for recreation? | |
| | |

Q6: For each of the woods identified at Q3, are residents / users of the development site predicted to have different temporal patterns of recreational use to any existing visitors, or to undertake a different profile of activities? (eg. more dog walking, or early morning use)

Q7: For each of the woods identified at Q3, could the predicted level of use by residents / users of the development site significantly increase overall levels of recreational use?

Conclusion: Is mitigation needed as a consequence of this development site in relation to each wood listed at Q3? Give Yes/No answer for each wood

N/A – mitigation not required

Reasons mitigation needed

Table 10: Grantown-on-Spey capercaillie assessment

| Settlement: Grantown-on-Spey | |
|---|--|
| Q1. If all the current and proposed development sites in this settlement are developed, is the population of the settlement predicted to increase over the plan period and/or are any non-housing development sites likely to change levels of human activity or patterns of recreation around the settlement? | |
| No. The level of new housing over the plan period means that Grantown-on-Spey is unlikely to accommodate a net increase in population. It may even see a slight decline. | |
| Q2. Are capercaillie woods significantly more accessible from this development site than from other parts of the settlement? | |
| No. Closest capercaillie woods are Anagach Woods SPA which is on the opposite side of the settlement. | |
| Q3. Which capercaillie woods are likely to be used regularly for recreation by residents / users of the development site at detectable levels? (list all) | |
| | |
| Q4. Are residents / users of this development site predicted to undertake any off path recreational activities in any of the woods identified at Q3 at detectable levels? | |
| | |
| Q5: Are each of the woods identified at Q3 already established locations for recreation? | |
| | |

Q6: For each of the woods identified at Q3, are residents / users of the development site predicted to have different temporal patterns of recreational use to any existing visitors, or to undertake a different profile of activities? (eg. more dog walking, or early morning use)

Q7: For each of the woods identified at Q3, could the predicted level of use by residents / users of the development site significantly increase overall levels of recreational use?

Conclusion: Is mitigation needed as a consequence of this development site in relation to each wood listed at Q3? Give Yes/No answer for each wood

N/A – mitigation not required

Reasons mitigation needed

Table 11: Boat of Garten capercaillie assessment

| Settlement: Boat of Garten | |
|---|--|
| Q1. If all the current and proposed development sites in this settlement are developed, is the population of the settlement predicted to increase over the plan period and/or are any non-housing development sites likely to change levels of human activity or patterns of recreation around the settlement? | |
| No. No new housing sites are proposed in Boat of Garten and the other allocations (TI, EDI) are primarily intended to protect existing uses. | |
| Q2. Are capercaillie woods significantly more accessible from this development site than from other parts of the settlement? | |
| No | |
| Q3. Which capercaillie woods are likely to be used regularly for recreation by residents / users of the development site at detectable levels? (list all) | |
| | |
| Q4. Are residents / users of this development site predicted to undertake any off path recreational activities in any of the woods identified at Q3 at detectable levels? | |
| | |
| Q5: Are each of the woods identified at Q3 already established locations for recreation? | |
| | |

Q6: For each of the woods identified at Q3, are residents / users of the development site predicted to have different temporal patterns of recreational use to any existing visitors, or to undertake a different profile of activities? (eg. more dog walking, or early morning use)

Q7: For each of the woods identified at Q3, could the predicted level of use by residents / users of the development site significantly increase overall levels of recreational use?

Conclusion: Is mitigation needed as a consequence of this development site in relation to each wood listed at Q3? Give Yes/No answer for each wood

N/A – mitigation not required

Reasons mitigation needed

Table 12: Braemar capercaillie assessment

| |
|---|
| Settlement: Braemar |
| Q1. If all the current and proposed development sites in this settlement are developed, is the population of the settlement predicted to increase over the plan period and/or are any non-housing development sites likely to change levels of human activity or patterns of recreation around the settlement? |
| Yes. New housing over the plan period could mean that Braemar is able to accommodate a net increase in population of around 16% or around 90 people. |
| Q2. Are capercaillie woods significantly more accessible from this development site than from other parts of the settlement? |
| No. Ballochbuie woods remain a significant distance from the development sites and from Braemar. |
| Q3. Which capercaillie woods are likely to be used regularly for recreation by residents / users of the development site at detectable levels? (list all) |
| Ballochbuie woods (Ballochbuie SPA) |
| Q4. Are residents / users of this development site predicted to undertake any off path recreational activities in any of the woods identified at Q3 at detectable levels? |
| No. |
| Q5: Are each of the woods identified at Q3 already established locations for recreation? |
| Yes. for on path walking cycling by locals and visitors. Numbers are limited by available car parking. |

Q6: For each of the woods identified at Q3, are residents / users of the development site predicted to have different temporal patterns of recreational use to any existing visitors, or to undertake a different profile of activities? (eg. more dog walking, or early morning use)

No. There are well-promoted and closer opportunities for recreation.

Q7: For each of the woods identified at Q3, could the predicted level of use by residents / users of the development site significantly increase overall levels of recreational use?

No.

Conclusion: Is mitigation needed as a consequence of this development site in relation to each wood listed at Q3? Give Yes/No answer for each wood

No.

Reasons mitigation needed

Table 13: Carr-Bridge capercaillie assessment

| |
|---|
| Settlement: Carr-Bridge |
| Q1. If all the current and proposed development sites in this settlement are developed, is the population of the settlement predicted to increase over the plan period and/or are any non-housing development sites likely to change levels of human activity or patterns of recreation around the settlement? |
| Yes. However, new housing over plan period is only likely to mean that Carr-Bridge can accommodate a net increase in population of around 3%. It may even see a slight decline. |
| Q2. Are capercaillie woods significantly more accessible from this development site than from other parts of the settlement? |
| No |
| Q3. Which capercaillie woods are likely to be used regularly for recreation by residents / users of the development site at detectable levels? (list all) |
| Drocharn and Drumuillie Woods (Kinveachy SPA) North Carr-Bridge Woods (Kinveachy SPA) |
| Q4. Are residents / users of this development site predicted to undertake any off path recreational activities in any of the woods identified at Q3 at detectable levels? |
| No |
| Q5: Are each of the woods identified at Q3 already established locations for recreation? |
| Yes |

| |
|--|
| Q6: For each of the woods identified at Q3, are residents / users of the development site predicted to have different temporal patterns of recreational use to any existing visitors, or to undertake a different profile of activities? (eg. more dog walking, or early morning use) |
| No |
| Q7: For each of the woods identified at Q3, could the predicted level of use by residents / users of the development site significantly increase overall levels of recreational use? |
| No |
| Conclusion: Is mitigation needed as a consequence of this development site in relation to each wood listed at Q3? Give Yes/No answer for each wood |
| Mitigation is not required for either woodland |
| Reasons mitigation needed |
| |

Table 14: Cromdale capercaillie assessment

| Settlement: Cromdale | |
|---|--|
| Q1. If all the current and proposed development sites in this settlement are developed, is the population of the settlement predicted to increase over the plan period and/or are any non-housing development sites likely to change levels of human activity or patterns of recreation around the settlement? | |
| Yes. New housing over the plan period could mean that Cromdale is able to accommodate a net increase in population of around 9%. However, this would only equate to just over 20 additional people. | |
| Q2. Are capercaillie woods significantly more accessible from this development site than from other parts of the settlement? | |
| No | |
| Q3. Which capercaillie woods are likely to be used regularly for recreation by residents / users of the development site at detectable levels? (list all) | |
| Anagach Woods (Anagach Woods SPA) Tom an Aird (Anagach Woods SPA) Castle Grant and Mid Port (Anagach Woods SPA) | |
| Q4. Are residents / users of this development site predicted to undertake any off path recreational activities in any of the woods identified at Q3 at detectable levels? | |
| No | |
| Q5: Are each of the woods identified at Q3 already established locations for recreation? | |

| |
|--|
| Yes |
| Q6: For each of the woods identified at Q3, are residents / users of the development site predicted to have different temporal patterns of recreational use to any existing visitors, or to undertake a different profile of activities? (eg. more dog walking, or early morning use) |
| No |
| Q7: For each of the woods identified at Q3, could the predicted level of use by residents / users of the development site significantly increase overall levels of recreational use? |
| No |
| Conclusion: Is mitigation needed as a consequence of this development site in relation to each wood listed at Q3? Give Yes/No answer for each wood |
| Mitigation is not required for any of the woodlands listed |
| Reasons mitigation needed |
| |

Table 15: Dulnain Bridge capercaillie assessment

| Settlement: Dulnain Bridge | |
|---|--|
| Q1. If all the current and proposed development sites in this settlement are developed, is the population of the settlement predicted to increase over the plan period and/or are any non-housing development sites likely to change levels of human activity or patterns of recreation around the settlement? | |
| Yes. New housing over the plan period could mean that Dulnain Bridge is able to accommodate a net increase in population of around 15%. However, this would only equate to just over 50 additional people. | |
| Q2. Are capercaillie woods significantly more accessible from this development site than from other parts of the settlement? | |
| No | |
| Q3. Which capercaillie woods are likely to be used regularly for recreation by residents / users of the development site at detectable levels? (list all) | |
| N/A | |
| Q4. Are residents / users of this development site predicted to undertake any off path recreational activities in any of the woods identified at Q3 at detectable levels? | |
| N/A | |
| Q5: Are each of the woods identified at Q3 already established locations for recreation? | |
| N/A | |

Q6: For each of the woods identified at Q3, are residents / users of the development site predicted to have different temporal patterns of recreational use to any existing visitors, or to undertake a different profile of activities? (eg. more dog walking, or early morning use)

N/A

Q7: For each of the woods identified at Q3, could the predicted level of use by residents / users of the development site significantly increase overall levels of recreational use?

N/A

Conclusion: Is mitigation needed as a consequence of this development site in relation to each wood listed at Q3? Give Yes/No answer for each wood

N/A – mitigation not required

Reasons mitigation needed

Table 16: Kincaig capercaillie assessment

| |
|---|
| Settlement: Kincaig |
| Q1. If all the current and proposed development sites in this settlement are developed, is the population of the settlement predicted to increase over the plan period and/or are any non-housing development sites likely to change levels of human activity or patterns of recreation around the settlement? |
| Yes. New housing over the plan period could mean that Kincaig is able to accommodate a net increase in population of around 10%. However, this would only equate to just over 30 additional people. |
| Q2. Are capercaillie woods significantly more accessible from this development site than from other parts of the settlement? |
| No |
| Q3. Which capercaillie woods are likely to be used regularly for recreation by residents / users of the development site at detectable levels? (list all) |
| Inshriach (Cairngorms SPA) Uath Lochans (Cairngorms SPA) |
| Q4. Are residents / users of this development site predicted to undertake any off path recreational activities in any of the woods identified at Q3 at detectable levels? |
| No |
| Q5: Are each of the woods identified at Q3 already established locations for recreation? |
| Yes |

Q6: For each of the woods identified at Q3, are residents / users of the development site predicted to have different temporal patterns of recreational use to any existing visitors, or to undertake a different profile of activities? (eg. more dog walking, or early morning use)

No

Q7: For each of the woods identified at Q3, could the predicted level of use by residents / users of the development site significantly increase overall levels of recreational use?

No

Conclusion: Is mitigation needed as a consequence of this development site in relation to each wood listed at Q3? Give Yes/No answer for each wood

Mitigation not required for either woodland

Reasons mitigation needed

Table 17: Nethy Bridge capercaillie assessment

| Settlement: Nethy Bridge | |
|---|--|
| Q1. If all the current and proposed development sites in this settlement are developed, is the population of the settlement predicted to increase over the plan period and/or are any non-housing development sites likely to change levels of human activity or patterns of recreation around the settlement? | |
| No. The level of new housing over the plan period means that Nethy Bridge is unlikely to accommodate a net increase in population. It may even see a slight decline. | |
| Q2. Are capercaillie woods significantly more accessible from this development site than from other parts of the settlement? | |
| No | |
| Q3. Which capercaillie woods are likely to be used regularly for recreation by residents / users of the development site at detectable levels? (list all) | |
| | |
| Q4. Are residents / users of this development site predicted to undertake any off path recreational activities in any of the woods identified at Q3 at detectable levels? | |
| | |
| Q5: Are each of the woods identified at Q3 already established locations for recreation? | |
| | |

Q6: For each of the woods identified at Q3, are residents / users of the development site predicted to have different temporal patterns of recreational use to any existing visitors, or to undertake a different profile of activities? (eg. more dog walking, or early morning use)

Q7: For each of the woods identified at Q3, could the predicted level of use by residents / users of the development site significantly increase overall levels of recreational use?

Conclusion: Is mitigation needed as a consequence of this development site in relation to each wood listed at Q3? Give Yes/No answer for each wood

Reasons mitigation needed

Table 18: Dinnet capercaillie assessment

| Settlement: Dinnet | |
|---|--|
| Q1. If all the current and proposed development sites in this settlement are developed, is the population of the settlement predicted to increase over the plan period and/or are any non-housing development sites likely to change levels of human activity or patterns of recreation around the settlement? | |
| No. Although new housing over the plan period could mean that Dinnet is able to accommodate a net increase in population of around 15%, this only equates to around 14 additional people. | |
| Q2. Are capercaillie woods significantly more accessible from this development site than from other parts of the settlement? | |
| No | |
| Q3. Which capercaillie woods are likely to be used regularly for recreation by residents / users of the development site at detectable levels? (list all) | |
| | |
| Q4. Are residents / users of this development site predicted to undertake any off path recreational activities in any of the woods identified at Q3 at detectable levels? | |
| | |
| Q5: Are each of the woods identified at Q3 already established locations for recreation? | |
| | |

Q6: For each of the woods identified at Q3, are residents / users of the development site predicted to have different temporal patterns of recreational use to any existing visitors, or to undertake a different profile of activities? (eg. more dog walking, or early morning use)

Q7: For each of the woods identified at Q3, could the predicted level of use by residents / users of the development site significantly increase overall levels of recreational use?

Conclusion: Is mitigation needed as a consequence of this development site in relation to each wood listed at Q3? Give Yes/No answer for each wood

Reasons mitigation needed

N/A – mitigation not required

Table 19: Glenmore capercaillie assessment

| Settlement: Glenmore | |
|---|--|
| Q1. If all the current and proposed development sites in this settlement are developed, is the population of the settlement predicted to increase over the plan period and/or are any non-housing development sites likely to change levels of human activity or patterns of recreation around the settlement? | |
| No new housing sites are proposed in Glenmore and the other allocations (TI & TI) are primarily intended to protect existing uses. | |
| Q2. Are capercaillie woods significantly more accessible from this development site than from other parts of the settlement? | |
| No | |
| Q3. Which capercaillie woods are likely to be used regularly for recreation by residents / users of the development site at detectable levels? (list all) | |
| | |
| Q4. Are residents / users of this development site predicted to undertake any off path recreational activities in any of the woods identified at Q3 at detectable levels? | |
| | |
| Q5: Are each of the woods identified at Q3 already established locations for recreation? | |
| | |

Q6: For each of the woods identified at Q3, are residents / users of the development site predicted to have different temporal patterns of recreational use to any existing visitors, or to undertake a different profile of activities? (eg. more dog walking, or early morning use)

Q7: For each of the woods identified at Q3, could the predicted level of use by residents / users of the development site significantly increase overall levels of recreational use?

Conclusion: Is mitigation needed as a consequence of this development site in relation to each wood listed at Q3? Give Yes/No answer for each wood

N/A – mitigation not required

Reasons mitigation needed

Table 20: Inverdrue and Coylumbridge capercaillie assessment

| Settlement: Inverdrue and Coylumbridge | |
|---|--|
| Q1. If all the current and proposed development sites in this settlement are developed, is the population of the settlement predicted to increase over the plan period and/or are any non-housing development sites likely to change levels of human activity or patterns of recreation around the settlement? | |
| No new housing sites are proposed in Inverdrue and Coylumbridge and the only other allocation (TI) is primarily intended to protect an existing use. | |
| Q2. Are capercaillie woods significantly more accessible from this development site than from other parts of the settlement? | |
| No | |
| Q3. Which capercaillie woods are likely to be used regularly for recreation by residents / users of the development site at detectable levels? (list all) | |
| | |
| Q4. Are residents / users of this development site predicted to undertake any off path recreational activities in any of the woods identified at Q3 at detectable levels? | |
| | |
| Q5: Are each of the woods identified at Q3 already established locations for recreation? | |
| | |

Q6: For each of the woods identified at Q3, are residents / users of the development site predicted to have different temporal patterns of recreational use to any existing visitors, or to undertake a different profile of activities? (eg. more dog walking, or early morning use)

Q7: For each of the woods identified at Q3, could the predicted level of use by residents / users of the development site significantly increase overall levels of recreational use?

Conclusion: Is mitigation needed as a consequence of this development site in relation to each wood listed at Q3? Give Yes/No answer for each wood

N/A – mitigation not required

Reasons mitigation needed

Abernethy Forest SPA

The relevant qualifying species of Abernethy Forest SPA are:

- capercaillie

The conservation objectives are:

- To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed below) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and
- To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:
 - Population of the species as a viable component of the site
 - Distribution of the species within the site
 - Distribution and extend of habitats supporting the species
 - Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species
 - No significant disturbance of the species

Table 21: Abernethy Forest SPA

| Abernethy Forest SPA – capercaillie | | | | |
|--|--|---|-------------------------|--|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| Aviemore (ACM) | Garten Woods (Abernethy SPA) increase in on-path use of Garten Woods by ACM residents. However the increases are only likely to be once ACM is beyond first phase as Garten Woods are distant from the site itself and there are multiple other promoted and quiet locations for recreation that are closer to or easier to get to from ACM. | A development requirement for this site should be applied in the LDP to ensure provision of a Recreation Management Plan (RMP) for ACM covering: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prevention of informal parking at track and access entrances to Drumintoul lodge and Atnahatnich farm. 2. New path provision in Loch Pityoulish area to provide suitable | None | The identified mitigation measures and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA, either alone |

| Abernethy Forest SPA – capercaillie | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|------------------|---|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| | The potential direct effect on Abernethy SPA may also lead to indirect effects on other capercaillie SPAs within the Badenoch and Strathspey area – these indirect effects are considered in the tables for the other capercaillie SPAs. | <p>alternative walking area to east of ACM (drawing potential visits away from the woodlands around the Drumintoul lodge).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Diversionary car parking in vicinity of Loch Pityoulish linking to new paths in area Path closure in vicinity of Lodge from Coylum Road and reconsidering the link proposed in indicative masterplan. 4. Awareness raising, promoting alternative locations for recreation and avoiding recreation in this sensitive area through off site measures, (eg media/leaflets Ranger events targeted at ACM residents). 5. Ranger presence during key season in vicinity of sensitive areas. 6. Provision of a network of attractive paths in and around ACM with access to areas that are not sensitive. 7. Provision of a range of attractive areas for dog walking (including off-lead dog walking) on ACM site and Rothiemurchus Estate area | | or cumulatively with other development affecting it |

| Abernethy Forest SPA – capercaillie | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|------------------|--|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| | | <p>away from capercaillie sensitive areas.</p> <p>8. Development of MTB opportunities on Pityoulish Hill and woods.</p> <p>9. Diversionary Car Parking at Loch an Eilein. Free parking or equivalent measures for ACM residents early mornings and late in afternoons.</p> <p>10. Removal of new informal paths within sensitive parts of Rothiemurchus this area if they develop.</p> <p>In addition to the RMP, a development requirement should be applied in the LDP to ensure the restriction of informal parking opportunities at track ends and laybys along the B970 to Boat of Garten where they provide quick access to capercaillie woods.</p> <p>The above mitigation measures will prevent any direct effect on Abernethy SPA, preventing any indirect effects on</p> | | |

| Abernethy Forest SPA – capercaillie | | | | |
|--|---|---|-------------------------|---|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| | | other capercaillie SPAs within the Badenoch and Strathspey area. | | |
| Aviemore (ED3: Granish; ACM) | The potential direct effect on Kinveachy SPA from all these sites, and the direct effect on Cairngorms SPA from ACM, may also lead to indirect effects on other capercaillie SPAs within the Badenoch and Strathspey area. | The mitigation measures identified for Kinveachy SPA and Cairngorms SPA will prevent any indirect effects on other capercaillie SPAs within the Badenoch and Strathspey area. | | |
| Aviemore (H1: Dalfaber; H2: Dalfaber; M1: Aviemore Highland resort; M2: Laurel Bank) Boat of Garten (ED1 Steam Railway Station; T1 BoG Caravan Park) Nethybridge (H1: Lettoch Road; H2: Land at Lynstock Crescent) | There are no likely significant effects because the proposed development sites are either: A) i. not predicted to increase the population of the settlement over the plan period; and / or change levels or patterns of recreational activity around the settlement; and ii. not significantly more accessible to capercaillie woods OR B) i. residents of the development sites are not predicted to undertake off path recreational activities in any of the woods; and | None required | | |

| Abernethy Forest SPA – capercaillie | | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. the woods are already established locations for recreation; and iii. residents/users of the development site are not expected to have different temporal patterns of recreation use from any existing visitor or undertake a different profile of activities; and iv. the overall level of recreational use will not significantly increase. <p>(See settlement specific tables above for further details).</p> | | | |

Anagach Woods SPA

The relevant qualifying species of the Anagach Woods SPA are:

- capercaillie

The conservation objectives are:

- To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and
- To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:
 - Population of the species as a viable component of the site
 - Distribution of the species within the site
 - Distribution and extend of habitats supporting the species
 - Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species
 - No significant disturbance of the species

Table 22: Anagach Woods SPA

| Anagach Woods SPA – capercaillie | | | | |
|---|---|--|-------------------------|--|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| Aviemore (ED3: Granish; ACM) | The potential direct effect on Kinveachy SPA from all of these sites, and the direct effect on Abernethy SPA and Cairngorms SPA from ACM, may also lead to indirect effects on other capercaillie SPAs within the Badenoch and Strathspey area. | The mitigation measures identified for Abernethy SPA, Cairngorms SPA and Kinveachy SPA will prevent any indirect effects on other capercaillie SPAs within the Badenoch and Strathspey area. | None | The identified mitigation measures and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC, either alone |
| Grantown (H1: Bechan Court; H2: Castle | There are no likely significant effects because the proposed development sites are either: | None required | | |

| Anagach Woods SPA – capercaillie | | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| Road; T1: Caravan park) Cromdale (H1: Kirk Road; H2: Auchroisk Park) | <p>A)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. not predicted to increase the population of the settlement over the plan period; and / or change levels or patterns of recreational activity around the settlement; and ii. not significantly more accessible to capercaillie woods <p>OR</p> <p>B)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. residents of the development sites are not predicted to undertake off path recreational activities in any of the woods; and ii. the woods are already established locations for recreation; and iii. residents/users of the development site are not expected to have different temporal patterns of recreation use from any existing visitor or undertake a different profile of activities; and iv. the overall level of recreational use will not significantly increase. | | | or cumulatively with other development affecting it |

| Anagach Woods SPA – capercaillie | | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| | (See settlement specific table above for further details). | | | |

Ballochbuie SPA

The relevant qualifying features of the Ballochbuie SPA are:

- capercaillie

The conservation objectives are:

- To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and
- To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:
 - Population of the species as a viable component of the site
 - Distribution of the species within the site
 - Distribution and extend of habitats supporting the species
 - Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species
 - No significant disturbance of the species

Table 23: Ballochbuie SPA

| Ballochbuie SPA – capercaillie | | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| Ballater (H1: Monaltrie Park; T1 Caravan Park) Braemar (H1: Chapel Brae; H2 St Andrews Terrace; H3 | There are no likely significant effects because the proposed development sites are either: A) i. not predicted to increase the population of the settlement over the plan period; and / or change levels or patterns of recreational activity around the settlement; and | None required | None | The identified mitigation measures and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC, either alone |

| Ballochbuie SPA – capercaillie | | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| Kindrochit Court; H4 Chapel Brae; T1 Caravan Park) Dinnet (H1: Land to East) | ii. not significantly more accessible to capercaillie woods OR B) i. residents of the development sites are not predicted to undertake off path recreational activities in any of the woods; and ii. the woods are already established locations for recreation; and iii. residents/users of the development site are not expected to have different temporal patterns of recreation use from any existing visitor or undertake a different profile of activities; and iv. the overall level of recreational use will not significantly increase. (See settlement specific table above for further details). | | | or cumulatively with other development affecting it |

Cairngorms SPA

The relevant qualifying species of the Cairngorms SPA are:

- capercaillie

The conservation objectives are:

- To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and
- To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:
 - Population of the species as a viable component of the site
 - Distribution of the species within the site
 - Distribution and extend of habitats supporting the species
 - Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species
 - No significant disturbance of the species

Table 24: Cairngorms SPA

| Cairngorms SPA - capercaillie | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------|--|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| Aviemore (ACM) | Rothiemurchus - in northern part of this area significantly more people likely to undertake short trips from home all day and early morning/evening including with dogs from ACM into capercaillie woodlands with little current recreational disturbance. Glenmore - likely to increase numbers of people cycling through Sluggan area on forest tracks from ACM. | A development requirement for this site should be applied in the LDP to ensure provision of a Recreation Management Plan (RMP) for ACM covering: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prevention of informal parking at track and access entrances to Drumintoul lodge and Atnahatnich farm. 2. New path provision in Loch Pityoulish area to provide suitable | None | The identified mitigation measures and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC, either alone |

| Cairngorms SPA - capercaillie | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|-------------------------|--|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| | <p>Inschriach - increase in on and off-path MTB use and dog walking from track ends/laybys from ACM</p> <p>The potential direct effect on Cairngorms SPA may also lead to indirect effects on other capercaillie SPAs within the Badenoch and Strathspey area – these indirect effects are considered in the tables for the other capercaillie SPAs.</p> | <p>alternative walking area to east of ACM (drawing potential visits away from the woodlands around the Drumintoul lodge).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Diversionary car parking in vicinity of Loch Pityoulish linking to new paths in area Path closure in vicinity of Lodge from Coylum Road and reconsidering the link proposed in indicative masterplan. 4. Awareness raising, promoting alternative locations for recreation and avoiding recreation in this sensitive area through off site measures, (eg media/leaflets Ranger events targeted at ACM residents). 5. Ranger presence during key season in vicinity of sensitive areas. 6. Provision of a network of attractive paths in and around ACM with access to areas that are not sensitive. 7. Provision of a range of attractive areas for dog walking (including off-lead dog walking) on ACM site and Rothiemurchus Estate area | | <p>or cumulatively with other development affecting it</p> |

| Cairngorms SPA - capercaillie | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------|---|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| | | <p>away from capercaillie sensitive areas.</p> <p>8. Development of MTB opportunities on Pityoulish Hill and woods.</p> <p>9. Diversionary Car Parking at Loch an Eilein. Free parking or equivalent measures for ACM residents early mornings and late in afternoons.</p> <p>10. Removal of new informal paths within sensitive parts of Rothiemurchus this area if they develop.</p> <p>In addition to the RMP, a development requirement should be applied in the LDP to ensure the restriction of informal parking opportunities at track ends and laybys along the B970 to Feshie Bridge where they provide quick access to capercaillie woods.</p> <p>The above mitigation measures will prevent any direct effect on Cairngorms SPA, preventing any indirect effects on other capercaillie SPAs within the Badenoch and Strathspey area.</p> | | |

| Cairngorms SPA - capercaillie | | | | |
|---|--|--|-------------------------|---|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| Aviemore (ED3: Granish; ACM) | The potential direct effect on Kinveachy SPA from all of these sites, and the direct effect on Abernethy SPA from ACM, may also lead to indirect effects on other capercaillie SPAs within the Badenoch and Strathspey area. | The mitigation measures identified for Abernethy SPA and Kinveachy SPA will prevent any indirect effects on other capercaillie SPAs within the Badenoch and Strathspey area. | | |
| Aviemore (H1: Dalfaber; H2: Dalfaber; M1: Aviemore Highland resort; M2: Laurel Bank) Kincraig (H1: Opposite School) Glenmore (T1: Campsite; T2: Glenmore Lodge) Inverdrurie & Coylumbridge (T1: Campsite) | There are no likely significant effects because the proposed development sites are either: A) i. not predicted to increase the population of the settlement over the plan period; and / or change levels or patterns of recreational activity around the settlement; and ii. not significantly more accessible to capercaillie woods OR B) i. residents of the development sites are not predicted to undertake off path recreational activities in any of the woods; and ii. the woods are already established locations for recreation; and | None required | | |

| Cairngorms SPA - capercaillie | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> iii. residents/users of the development site are not expected to have different temporal patterns of recreation use from any existing visitor or undertake a different profile of activities; and iv. the overall level of recreational use will not significantly increase. (See settlement specific table above for further details). | | | |

Craigmore Wood SPA

The relevant qualifying species of the Craigmore Wood SPA are:

- capercaillie

The conservation objectives are:

- To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and
- To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:
 - Population of the species as a viable component of the site
 - Distribution of the species within the site
 - Distribution and extend of habitats supporting the species
 - Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species
 - No significant disturbance of the species

Table 25: Craigmore Wood SPA

| Craigmore Wood SPA – capercaillie | | | | |
|--|---|--|-------------------------|---|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| Aviemore (ED3: Granish; ACM) | The potential direct effect on Kinveachy SPA from all of these sites, and the direct effect on Abernethy SPA and Cairngorms SPA from ACM, may also lead to indirect effects on other capercaillie SPAs within the Badenoch and Strathspey area. | The mitigation measures identified for Abernethy SPA, Cairngorms SPA and Kinveachy SPA will prevent any indirect effects on other capercaillie SPAs within the Badenoch and Strathspey area. | None | The identified mitigation measures and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no |

| Craigmore Wood SPA – capercaillie | | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| Dulnain Bridge (H1: Land west of play area; H2: Land adjacent to A938) | <p>There are no likely significant effects because the proposed development sites are either:</p> <p>A)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. not predicted to increase the population of the settlement over the plan period; and / or change levels or patterns of recreational activity around the settlement; and ii. not significantly more accessible to capercaillie woods <p>OR</p> <p>B)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. residents of the development sites are not predicted to undertake off path recreational activities in any of the woods; and ii. the woods are already established locations for recreation; and iii. residents/users of the development site are not expected to have different temporal patterns of recreation use from any existing visitor or undertake a different profile of activities; and | None required | | adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA, either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it |

| Craigmore Wood SPA – capercaillie | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|------------------|--|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| | iv. the overall level of recreational use will not significantly increase. (See settlement specific table above for further details). | | | |

Glen Tanar SPA

The relevant qualifying species of the Glen Tanar SPA are:

- capercaillie

The conservation objectives are:

- To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and
- To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:
 - Population of the species as a viable component of the site
 - Distribution of the species within the site
 - Distribution and extend of habitats supporting the species
 - Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species
 - No significant disturbance of the species

Table 26: Glen Tanar SPA

| Glen Tanar SPA – capercaillie | | | | |
|---|--|-------------------------------|------------------|--|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| Ballater (H1: Monaltrie Park; T1 Caravan Park) Braemar (H1: Chapel Brae; H2 St Andrews Terrace; H3 Kindrochit Court; | There are no likely significant effects because the proposed development sites are either: A) i. not predicted to increase the population of the settlement over the plan period; and / or change levels or patterns of recreational activity around the settlement; and | None required | None | The identified mitigation measures and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC, either alone |

| Glen Tanar SPA – capercaillie | | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| H4 Chapel Brae; T1 Caravan Park) Dinnet (H1: Land to East) | ii. not significantly more accessible to capercaillie woods OR B) i. residents of the development sites are not predicted to undertake off path recreational activities in any of the woods; and ii. the woods are already established locations for recreation; and iii. residents/users of the development site are not expected to have different temporal patterns of recreation use from any existing visitor or undertake a different profile of activities; and iv. the overall level of recreational use will not significantly increase. (See settlement specific table above for further details). | | | or cumulatively with other development affecting it |

Kinveachy Forest SPA

The relevant qualifying species of the Kinveachy SPA are:

- capercaillie

The conservation objectives are:

- To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed below) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and
- iii. To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:
 - Population of the species as a viable component of the site
 - Distribution of the species within the site
 - Distribution and extend of habitats supporting the species
 - Structure, function and supporting process of habitats supporting the species
 - No significant disturbance of the species

Table 27: Kinveachy Forest SPA

| Kinveachy Forest SPA – capercaillie | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|------------------|--|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| Aviemore (ED3: Granish; ACM) | <p>Kinveachy - The development of sites in Aviemore (excluding ACM and ED3) will not significantly increase use of Kinveachy on their own. However, as ACM and ED3 are developed there is a likelihood of additional off-path MTB use from the combination of these sites.</p> <p>The potential direct effect on Kinveachy SPA may also lead to indirect effects on</p> | <p>A development requirement for ED3 should be applied in the LDP to ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. enhanced Ranger presence to educate and influence behaviour of MTB participants ii. management of MTB trails signage and information and promotion of areas that are not sensitive to disturbance. iii. removal of new trails in capercaillie areas | None | The identified mitigation measures and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA, either alone |

| Kinveachy Forest SPA – capercaillie | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|------------------|---|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| | other capercaillie SPAs within the Badenoch and Strathspey area – these indirect effects are considered in the tables for the other capercaillie SPAs. | <p>In addition, a development requirement should be applied in the LDP to ensure provision of a Recreation Management Plan (RMP) for ACM covering (amongst other things):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Awareness raising, promoting alternative locations for recreation and avoiding recreation in this sensitive area through off site measures, (eg media/leaflets Ranger events targeted at ACM residents). 2. Ranger presence during key season in vicinity of sensitive areas. 3. Provision of a network of attractive paths in and around ACM with access to areas that are not sensitive. 4. Development of MTB opportunities on Pityoulish Hill and woods. <p>The above mitigation measures will prevent any direct effect on Kinveachy SPA, preventing any indirect effects on other capercaillie SPAs within the Badenoch and Strathspey area.</p> | | or cumulatively with other development affecting it |
| Aviemore (ACM) | The potential direct effect on Abernethy SPA and Cairngorms SPA from ACM | The mitigation measures identified for Abernethy SPA and Cairngorms SPA will | | |

| Kinveachy Forest SPA – capercaillie | | | | |
|---|---|--|------------------|--|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| | may also lead to indirect effects on other capercaillie SPAs within the Badenoch and Strathspey area. | prevent any indirect effects on other capercaillie SPAs within the Badenoch and Strathspey area. | | |
| Aviemore (H1: Dalfaber; H2: Dalfaber; M1: Aviemore Highland resort; M2: Laurel Bank) Boat of Garten (ED1 Steam Railway Station; T1 BoG Caravan Park) Carrbridge (H1: Carr Road; H2: Crannich Park; T1: Landmark) | There are no likely significant effects because the proposed development sites are either: A) i. not predicted to increase the population of the settlement over the plan period; and / or change levels or patterns of recreational activity around the settlement; and ii. not significantly more accessible to capercaillie woods OR B) i. residents of the development sites are not predicted to undertake off path recreational activities in any of the woods; and ii. the woods are already established locations for recreation; and iii. residents/users of the development site are not expected to have different temporal patterns of recreation | None required | | |

| Kinveachy Forest SPA – capercaillie | | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Settlement(s) / site(s) | Potential likely significant effects | LDP modification / mitigation | Residual effects | Conclusion – any adverse effect on site integrity? |
| | <p>use from any existing visitor or undertake a different profile of activities; and</p> <p>iv. the overall level of recreational use will not significantly increase. (See settlement specific table above for further details).</p> | | | |

Conclusions

This HRA has identified a range of LSEs on the qualifying interests of European sites within the Cairngorms National Park arising from the LDP. It has also identified a range of mitigation measures that must be included within the LDP and implemented through its delivery.

At this stage of the planning process, without the fine detail of specific projects, the proper resolution of effects has been put forward at an appropriate level, together with clear indications of how and when mitigation will be implemented at future stages. This approach follows the opinion of the Advocate General in the ECJ case C-6/04.

Following completion of the various stages of the HRA process, CNPA conclude that there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of any European site within the Cairngorms National Park through the provisions of the LDP, implemented in accordance with the identified mitigation.

6. Prepare and consult on a draft record of the HRA

The draft HRA was available for public comment and was part of the formal consultation process alongside the LDP with statutory consultees, including NatureScot during January – April 2019. Modifications to the draft HRA were made prior to the proposed LDP being subject to examination.

7 & 8. Amending the LDP and modifying the HRA record

As the LDP was amended as part of the examination process, the HRA has also been updated accordingly.

Appendix I: Information on European sites considered by the Habitats Regulations Appraisal

Appendix I provides information on European sites both within and outwith the Cairngorms National Park, that have been identified as being potentially vulnerable to the effects of the Plan. Sites are listed with their qualifying interests, the latest assessment of their respective conditions and when the assessments took place, their conservation objectives, the key factors affecting the features and what affects the Plan is likely to have on the site.

A simple colour scheme has been used to highlight the condition of qualifying features, the key to which is provided below:

| |
|---|
| Features in favourable maintained condition |
| Features that are unfavourable but recovering or favourable but declining condition |
| Features that are unfavourable no change or declining condition |
| Features that have not been monitored |

| SAC/SPA | Site Name | Feature Name | Assessed Condition | Assessed Visit Date |
|---------|---------------|---|-------------------------|---------------------|
| SAC | Ballochbuie | Blanket bog | Unfavourable No change | 05/05/2006 |
| | | Bog woodland | Unfavourable No change | 08/02/2011 |
| | | Caledonian forest | Unfavourable No change | 08/08/2011 |
| | | Dry heaths | Unfavourable No change | 11/01/2006 |
| | | Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) | Favourable Maintained | 11/12/2011 |
| | | Plants in crevices on acid rocks | Favourable Maintained | 11/01/2006 |
| | | Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks | Favourable Maintained | 11/23/2004 |
| | | Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath | Unfavourable No change | 11/01/2006 |
| SAC | Beinn a' Ghlo | Acidic scree | Favourable Maintained | 07/03/2017 |
| | | Alpine and subalpine heaths | Favourable Maintained | 07/03/2017 |
| | | Base-rich fens | Favourable Recovered | 8/26/2015 |
| | | Blanket bog | Favourable Recovered | 7/22/2010 |
| | | Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone | Unfavourable Recovering | 7/22/2010 |
| | | Dry heaths | Unfavourable No change | 8/19/2004 |
| | | Geyer's whorl snail (<i>Vertigo geyeri</i>) | Favourable Maintained | 07/03/2017 |

| | | | | |
|-----|------------|--|-------------------------|------------|
| | | Hard-water springs depositing lime | Unfavourable Recovering | 8/26/2015 |
| | | High-altitude plant communities associated with areas of water seepage | Favourable Maintained | 07/03/2017 |
| | | Montane acid grasslands | Favourable Recovered | 07/03/2017 |
| | | Plants in crevices on acid rocks | Favourable Maintained | 07/03/2017 |
| | | Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks | Favourable Maintained | 07/03/2017 |
| | | Round-mouthed whorl snail (<i>Vertigo genesii</i>) | Favourable Maintained | 6/19/2017 |
| | | Species-rich grassland with mat-grass in upland areas | Favourable Recovered | 7/22/2010 |
| SAC | Caenlochan | Acidic scree | Unfavourable Declining | 8/30/2012 |
| | | Alpine and subalpine heaths | Unfavourable No change | 7/16/2006 |
| | | Base-rich fens | Unfavourable No change | 7/16/2006 |
| | | Base-rich scree | Favourable Maintained | 7/16/2006 |
| | | Blanket bog | Unfavourable No change | 7/16/2006 |
| | | Dry heaths | Unfavourable No change | 7/16/2006 |
| | | Grasslands on soils rich in heavy metals | Favourable Maintained | 7/16/2006 |

| | | | | |
|-----|------------|--|-------------------------|------------|
| | | High-altitude plant communities associated with areas of water seepage | Favourable Recovered | 9/18/2012 |
| | | Montane acid grasslands | Unfavourable No change | 9/18/2012 |
| | | Mountain willow scrub | Unfavourable No change | 8/23/2012 |
| | | Plants in crevices on acid rocks | Favourable Maintained | 7/16/2006 |
| | | Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks | Favourable Maintained | 9/18/2012 |
| | | Species-rich grassland with mat-grass in upland areas | Unfavourable No change | 7/16/2006 |
| | | Tall herb communities | Favourable Maintained | 9/18/2012 |
| SAC | Cairngorms | Acid peat-stained lakes and ponds | Favourable Maintained | 09/09/2014 |
| | | Acidic scree | Favourable Maintained | 09/08/2015 |
| | | Alpine and subalpine heaths | Unfavourable No change | 09/08/2015 |
| | | Blanket bog | Unfavourable No change | 04/03/2007 |
| | | Bog woodland | Favourable Maintained | 09/05/2002 |
| | | Caledonian forest | Unfavourable Recovering | 10/05/2015 |

| | | | |
|--|---|-------------------------|------------|
| | Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels | Favourable Maintained | 6/23/2010 |
| | Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone | Unfavourable No change | 04/03/2007 |
| | Dry heaths | Unfavourable No change | 04/03/2007 |
| | Green shield-moss (<i>Buxbaumia viridis</i>) | Favourable Maintained | 05/02/2006 |
| | Hard-water springs depositing lime | Favourable Maintained | 04/03/2007 |
| | High-altitude plant communities associated with areas of water seepage | Unfavourable No change | 10/15/2006 |
| | Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands | Favourable Maintained | 04/03/2007 |
| | Montane acid grasslands | Unfavourable Recovering | 7/14/2006 |
| | Mountain willow scrub | Unfavourable No change | 04/03/2007 |
| | Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) | Unfavourable Declining | 9/22/2011 |
| | Plants in crevices on acid rocks | Favourable Maintained | 04/03/2007 |
| | Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks | Unfavourable No change | 04/03/2007 |

| | | | | |
|-----|------------------------|---|------------------------|------------|
| | | Species-rich grassland with mat-grass in upland areas | Unfavourable No change | 04/03/2007 |
| | | Tall herb communities | Favourable Maintained | 9/26/2013 |
| | | Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface | Favourable Maintained | 8/20/2015 |
| | | Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath | Unfavourable No change | 09/08/2015 |
| SAC | Coyles of Muick | Grasslands on soils rich in heavy metals | Favourable Maintained | 08/03/2006 |
| SAC | Creag Meagaidh | Acidic scree | Favourable Recovered | 9/29/2015 |
| | | Alpine and subalpine heaths | Favourable Recovered | 10/02/2015 |
| | | Blanket bog | Unfavourable No change | 9/30/2005 |
| | | Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels | Favourable Maintained | 06/10/2010 |
| | | Dry heaths | Unfavourable No change | 9/30/2005 |
| | | Montane acid grasslands | Favourable Maintained | 10/02/2015 |
| | | Mountain willow scrub | Unfavourable No change | 09/01/2005 |
| | | Plants in crevices on acid rocks | Favourable Maintained | 10/02/2015 |

| | | | | |
|-----|---------------------------|---|-------------------------|------------|
| | | Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks | Favourable Maintained | 10/02/2015 |
| | | Tall herb communities | Favourable Recovered | 9/29/2015 |
| | | Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath | Unfavourable No change | 9/30/2005 |
| SAC | Creag nan Gamhainn | Hard-water springs depositing lime | Favourable Maintained | 6/26/2013 |
| SAC | Dinnet Oakwood | Western acidic oak woodland | Favourable Maintained | 07/12/2002 |
| SAC | Drumochter Hills | Acidic scree | Favourable Maintained | 07/06/2006 |
| | | Alpine and subalpine heaths | Unfavourable No change | 07/05/2006 |
| | | Blanket bog | Unfavourable No change | 07/06/2006 |
| | | Dry heaths | Unfavourable No change | 07/06/2006 |
| | | Montane acid grasslands | Favourable Recovered | 08/08/2013 |
| | | Mountain willow scrub | Unfavourable Declining | 08/08/2013 |
| | | Plants in crevices on acid rocks | Favourable Maintained | 08/08/2013 |
| | | Species-rich grassland with mat-grass in upland areas | Unfavourable No change | 08/08/2013 |
| | | Tall herb communities | Unfavourable Recovering | 08/08/2013 |
| | | Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath | Unfavourable No change | 07/06/2006 |
| SAC | Glen Tanar | Blanket bog | Unfavourable Declining | 6/19/2017 |

| | | | | |
|-----|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------|------------|
| | | Caledonian forest | Favourable Maintained | 04/08/2010 |
| | | Dry heaths | Favourable Maintained | 10/23/2003 |
| | | Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) | Favourable Maintained | 9/23/2012 |
| | | Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath | Favourable Maintained | 11/21/2009 |
| SAC | Green Hill of Strathdon | Dry heaths | Favourable Maintained | 8/15/2008 |
| | | Grasslands on soils rich in heavy metals | Favourable Maintained | 8/15/2008 |
| | | Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands | Favourable Maintained | 08/02/2002 |
| SAC | Insh Marshes | Alder woodland on floodplains | Unfavourable Recovering | 5/19/2009 |
| | | Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels | Favourable Maintained | 7/30/2010 |
| | | Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) | Favourable Declining | 8/17/2011 |
| | | Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface | Favourable Maintained | 10/04/2002 |
| SAC | Kinveachy Forest | Bog woodland | Unfavourable Recovering | 6/24/2008 |
| | | Caledonian forest | Unfavourable Recovering | 6/24/2008 |
| SAC | Ladder Hills | Alpine and subalpine heaths | Favourable Maintained | 09/03/1999 |
| | | Blanket bog | Favourable Maintained | 09/03/1999 |

| | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|---|------------------------|------------|
| | | Dry heaths | Unfavourable Declining | 04/09/2007 |
| SAC | Monadhliath | Blanket bog | Unfavourable No change | 9/23/2004 |
| SAC | Morrone Birkwood | Alpine and subalpine heaths | Favourable Maintained | 07/01/2008 |
| | | Base-rich fens | Favourable Declining | 06/03/2014 |
| | | Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone | Favourable Maintained | 06/03/2014 |
| | | Geyer's whorl snail (<i>Vertigo geyeri</i>) | Unfavourable Declining | 6/30/2013 |
| | | Hard-water springs depositing lime | Favourable Maintained | 06/03/2014 |
| | | High-altitude plant communities associated with areas of water seepage | Favourable Declining | 06/03/2014 |
| | | Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands | Unfavourable No change | 10/11/2009 |
| SAC | Morven and Mullachdubh | Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands | Favourable Maintained | 1/25/2005 |
| SAC | Muir of Dinnet | Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels | Favourable Maintained | 6/25/2004 |
| | | Degraded raised bog | Favourable Maintained | 6/30/2000 |

| | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|--|-------------------------|------------|
| | | Dry heaths | Unfavourable Declining | 2/16/2001 |
| | | Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) | Favourable Maintained | 10/04/2012 |
| | | Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface | Favourable Maintained | 09/10/2014 |
| SAC | River Dee | Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) | Favourable Maintained | 7/21/2011 |
| | | Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>) | Unfavourable No change | 08/07/2003 |
| | | Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) | Favourable Declining | 10/06/2012 |
| SAC | River South Esk | Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) | Unfavourable Recovering | 7/29/2011 |
| | | Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>) | Unfavourable No change | 9/13/2009 |
| SAC | River Spey | Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) | Unfavourable Recovering | 09/04/2011 |
| | | Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>) | Unfavourable Declining | 9/30/2014 |
| | | Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) | Favourable Maintained | 9/18/2011 |
| | | Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) | Favourable Maintained | 09/07/2011 |

| | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|------------|
| SAC | River Tay | Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) | Favourable Maintained | 9/19/2011 |
| | | Brook lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>) | Favourable Maintained | 11/30/2007 |
| | | Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels | Favourable Maintained | 08/12/2009 |
| | | Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) | Favourable Maintained | 09/03/2012 |
| | | River lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) | Favourable Maintained | 11/30/2007 |
| | | Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) | Favourable Maintained | 11/30/2007 |
| SAC | The Maim | Dry heaths | Favourable Recovered | 06/11/2013 |
| SAC | Tulach Hill and Glen Fender Meadows | Base-rich fens | Favourable Recovered | 8/24/2010 |
| | | Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone | Favourable Recovered | 8/24/2010 |
| | | Dry heaths | Favourable Recovered | 8/24/2010 |
| | | Geyer's whorl snail (<i>Vertigo geyeri</i>) | Favourable Maintained | 09/02/2004 |
| | | Limestone pavements | Favourable Maintained | 8/24/2010 |

| | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------|---|------------------------|------------|
| | | Round-mouthed whorl snail (<i>Vertigo genesii</i>) | Favourable Maintained | 8/24/2010 |
| SPA | Abernethy Forest | Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding | Favourable Maintained | 4/28/2009 |
| | | Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>), breeding | Favourable Maintained | 5/31/2007 |
| | | Scottish crossbill (<i>Loxia scotica</i>), breeding | Favourable Maintained | 3/28/2012 |
| SPA | Anagach Woods | Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding | Unfavourable Declining | 4/29/2015 |
| SPA | Ballochbuie | Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding | Unfavourable Declining | 4/14/2014 |
| | | Scottish crossbill (<i>Loxia scotica</i>), breeding | Favourable Maintained | 03/01/2015 |
| SPA | Caenlochan | Dotterel (<i>Charadrius morinellus</i>), breeding | Unfavourable Declining | 07/04/2011 |
| | | Golden eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>), breeding | Favourable Maintained | 12/04/2009 |
| SPA | Cairngorms | Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding | Favourable Maintained | 4/25/2011 |
| | | Dotterel (<i>Charadrius morinellus</i>), breeding | Unfavourable Declining | 07/01/2011 |
| | | Golden eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>), breeding | Favourable Maintained | 7/31/2009 |

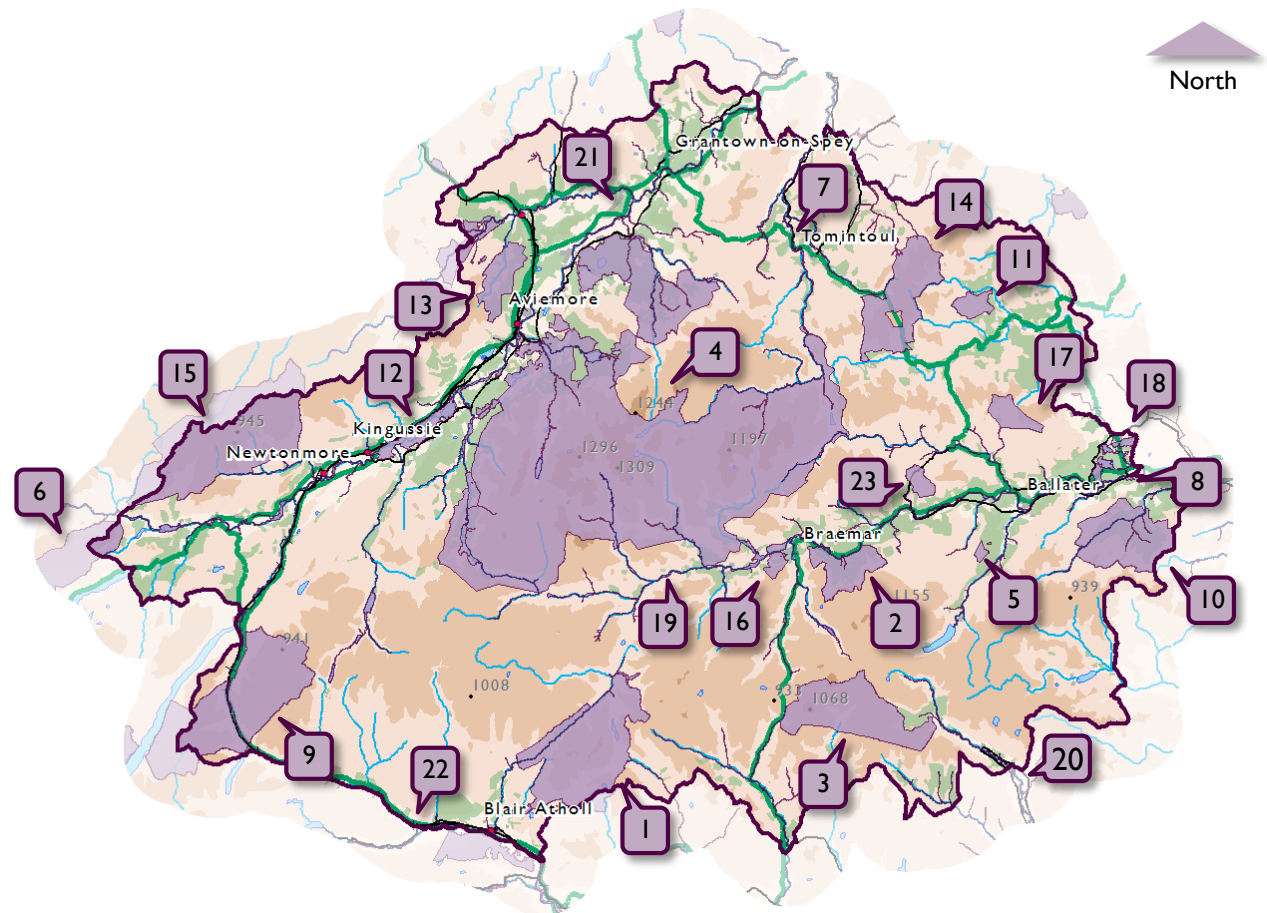
| | | | | |
|-----|--------------------------|--|------------------------|------------|
| | | Merlin (Falco columbarius), breeding | | |
| | | Osprey (Pandion haliaetus), breeding | Favourable Maintained | 06/01/2006 |
| | | Peregrine (Falco peregrinus), breeding | Favourable Maintained | 6/30/2002 |
| | | Scottish crossbill (Loxia scotica), breeding | Favourable Maintained | 3/14/2012 |
| SPA | Cairngorms Massif | Golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos), breeding | Favourable Maintained | 7/31/2015 |
| SPA | Craigmore Wood | Capercaillie (Tetrao urogallus), breeding | Unfavourable Declining | 4/20/2015 |
| SPA | Creag Meagaidh | Dotterel (Charadrius morinellus), breeding | Unfavourable Declining | 07/01/2011 |
| SPA | Drumochter Hills | Dotterel (Charadrius morinellus), breeding | Unfavourable Declining | 07/04/2011 |
| | | Merlin (Falco columbarius), breeding | Unfavourable No change | 8/31/2004 |
| SPA | Forest of Clunie | Hen harrier (Circus cyaneus), breeding | Unfavourable Declining | 05/05/2015 |
| | | Merlin (Falco columbarius), breeding | Unfavourable No change | 06/01/2015 |
| | | Osprey (Pandion haliaetus), breeding | Unfavourable Declining | 06/01/2015 |

| | | | | |
|-----|----------------------------------|---|------------------------|------------|
| | | Short-eared owl (<i>Asio flammeus</i>), breeding | Unfavourable No change | 06/01/2015 |
| SPA | Glen Tanar | Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding | Unfavourable Declining | 4/18/2011 |
| | | Hen harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>), breeding | Favourable Maintained | 7/19/2010 |
| | | Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>), breeding | Favourable Maintained | 10/13/2010 |
| | | Scottish crossbill (<i>Loxia scotica</i>), breeding | Favourable Maintained | 3/23/2012 |
| SPA | Kinveachy Forest | Capercaillie (<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>), breeding | Favourable Maintained | 5/15/2008 |
| | | Scottish crossbill (<i>Loxia scotica</i>), breeding | Favourable Maintained | 3/27/2012 |
| SPA | Loch Vaa | Slavonian grebe (<i>Podiceps auritus</i>), breeding | Unfavourable No change | 6/30/2007 |
| SPA | Lochnagar | Dotterel (<i>Charadrius morinellus</i>), breeding | Unfavourable No change | 07/04/2011 |
| SPA | Muir of Dinnet | Greylag goose (<i>Anser anser</i>), non-breeding | Unfavourable Declining | 11/05/2010 |
| | | Waterfowl assemblage, non-breeding | Unfavourable No change | 12/01/2012 |
| SPA | River Spey - Insh Marshes | Hen harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>), non-breeding | Favourable Maintained | 2/22/2010 |

| | | | |
|--|---|------------------------|------------|
| | Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>), breeding | Favourable Maintained | 09/07/2009 |
| | Spotted crane (<i>Porzana porzana</i>), breeding | Favourable Maintained | 12/31/2000 |
| | Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>), non-breeding | Favourable Maintained | 12/31/2000 |
| | Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>), breeding | Unfavourable No change | 5/30/2009 |
| | Wood sandpiper (<i>Tringa glareola</i>), breeding | Unfavourable Declining | 12/31/2000 |

Location of Special Areas of Conservation

1. Bein a' Ghlo
2. Ballochbuie
3. Caenlochan
4. Cairngorms
5. Coyles of Muick
6. Creag Meagaidh
7. Creag nan Gamhainn
8. Dinnet Oakwood
9. Drumochter Hills
10. Glen Tanar
11. Greenhill of Strathdon
12. Insh Marshes
13. Kinveachy Forest
14. Ladder Hills
15. Monadiath
16. Morrone Birkwood
17. Morven and Mullachdubh
18. Muir of Dinnet
19. River Dee
20. River South Esk
21. River Spey
22. River Tay
23. The Maim



Scale
1:700,000

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Capercaillie woodlands

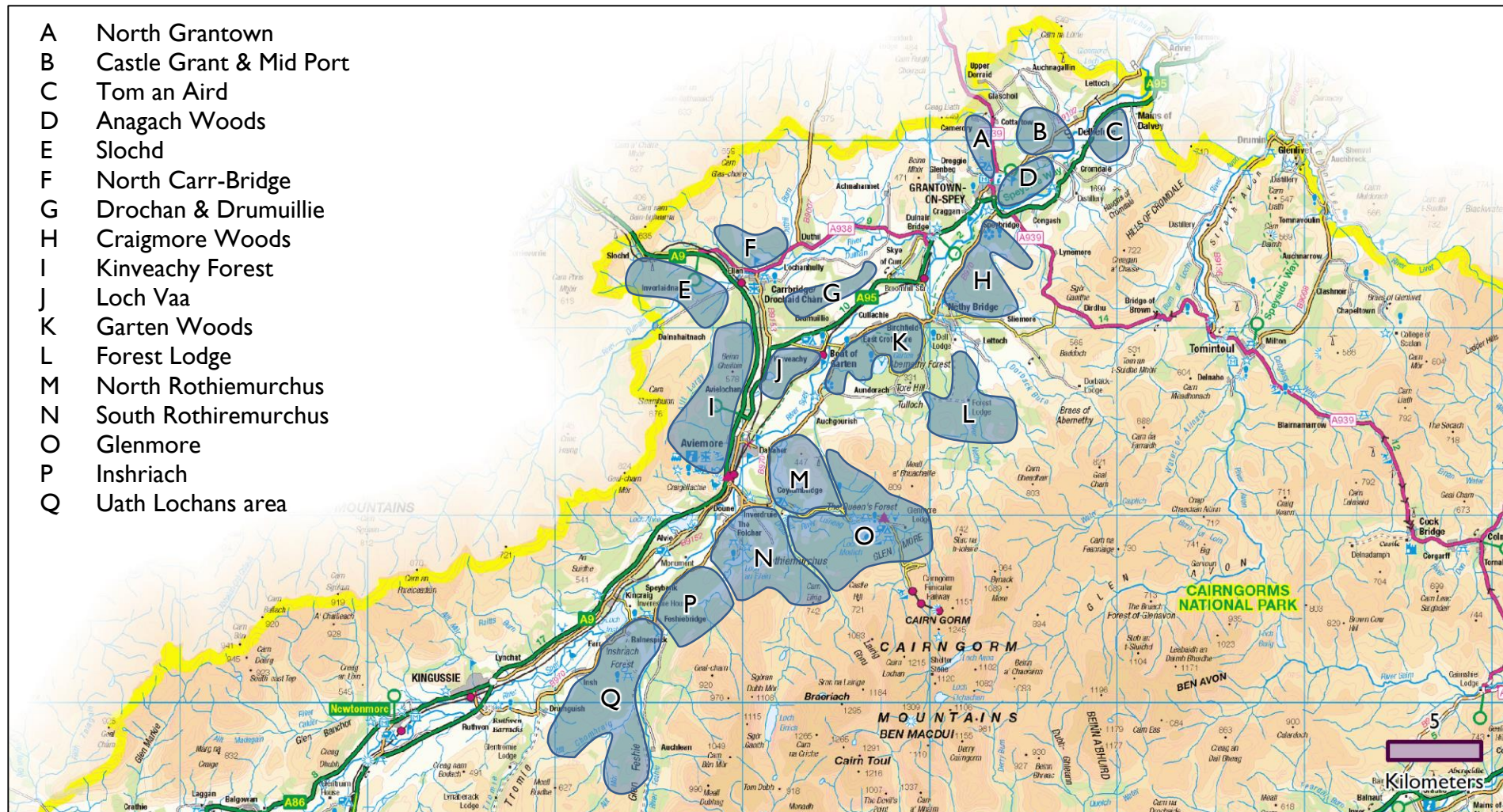


Figure 2 Capercaillie woodland in Badenoch and Strathspey.

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Appendix 2: Process flow chart for assessment of potential for capercaillie disturbance

Flow chart for assessing whether LDP allocation sites will require mitigation to avoid impacts of recreational disturbance on capercaillie in local woods, either alone or in combination with: other development sites that are in the LDP 2020, allocations that are in the 2015 LDP and are carried forward to the LDP 2020, or sites that have existing planning permission but are not yet built.

Q1. If all the current and proposed development sites in this settlement are developed, is the population of the settlement predicted to increase over the plan period and/or are any non-housing development sites likely to change levels of human activity or patterns of recreation around the settlement?

Q2. Are capercaillie woods significantly more accessible from this development site than from other parts of the settlement?

If Q1 & Q2 = No, conclusion is no significant disturbance to capercaillie & assessment ends here
If Q1 or Q2 = Yes, continue to Q3

Q3. Which capercaillie woods are likely to be used regularly for recreation by residents / users of the development site at detectable levels?
(list all)

Continue to Q4

Q4. Are residents / users of this development site predicted to undertake any off path recreational activities in any of the woods identified at Q3 at detectable levels?

If Q4 = No for any woods, continue to Q5
If Q4 = Yes for any woods, mitigation is needed. Note and continue to Q5.

Q5: Are each of the woods identified at Q3 already established locations for recreation?

If Q5 = No for any woods, mitigation is needed. Note and continue to Q6.

If Q5 = Yes for any woods, continue to Q6

Q6: For each of the woods identified at Q3, are residents / users of the development site predicted to have different temporal patterns of recreational use to any existing visitors, or to undertake a different profile of activities? (eg. more dog walking, or early morning use)

If Q6 = yes for any woods, mitigation is needed. Note and continue to Q7.

If Q6 = No for any woods, continue to Q7

Q7: For each of the woods identified at Q3, could the predicted level of use by residents / users of the development site significantly increase overall levels of recreational use?

If Q4-7 = No for all woods, conclusion is no significant disturbance to capercaillie & assessment ends here

If Q4, 5, 6 and/or 7 = Yes for any woods, mitigation is needed

Conclusion: Is mitigation needed as a consequence of this development site in relation to each wood listed at Q3?

Reasons mitigation needed

Rationale for each question and initial criteria for assessing the answers

Q1: This and Q2 are included as screening questions to filter out any settlements that aren't likely to have changed levels or patterns of recreation as a consequence of the LDP, over the plan period.

Q2: This is included to ensure the effect of otherwise small-scale development sites particularly close to capercaillie woods are adequately considered. The rationale is that SPANS data shows that 68% of recreational visits are taken directly from home, and evidence from settlements in Strathspey where houses are adjacent to woodlands indicates that networks of informal paths and trails have developed within the woods linking back gardens with formal path networks and other popular local destinations (eg primary schools). Levels and patterns of recreation within these woods are therefore likely to change as a consequence of such sites being developed, regardless of the size of the sites.

Q3: This is included to identify which capercaillie woods are likely to be used for recreation by residents of housing development sites or users of non-housing development sites at levels that would be detectable. The answer will be assessed using professional judgement based on knowledge of existing patterns of recreation around settlements and in the local area, the relative appeal of the capercaillie woods concerned compared to other recreational opportunities in the area, the volume of recreational visits likely to be generated by the development site, and informed by national survey data (eg on the distances people travel for recreational visits).

Q4: This is included because any off path recreational use in capercaillie woods will result in significant disturbance and require mitigation.

Q5: This is included because if residents/users of the development site are likely to access previously infrequently-visited capercaillie woods, or parts of these woods, for recreation, significant disturbance is likely and mitigation is needed. This will be answered on the basis of professional knowledge.

Q6: This is included because some types of recreation are particularly disturbing to capercaillie; and increased levels of these types of recreation will cause significant disturbance and require mitigation. This will be answered on the basis of professional knowledge on existing patterns of recreational use and whether each location is sufficiently close and/or convenient in relation to the development site and patterns of travel from there, to be used by residents for different recreational activities or at different times of day. For example, capercaillie woods with safe routes for dogs that are located close to development sites are likely to be used for early morning &/or after work dog walking.

Q7: This is included because a significant increase in recreational use could result in significant disturbance to capercaillie, even in situations where the capercaillie wood is already popular for recreation, and no changes to current recreational patterns / activities or off path activities are

predicted. The answer was assessed on the basis of professional judgement of current levels of use and whether the increase is likely to be more than approximately 10%.

Appendix 3: LDP & Potential Population Change

Introduction

Long term population and household projections for the National Park are produced by the National Records of Scotland (NRS). According to the 2018 NRS population projections, the overall population of the Park is predicted to fall from 19,006 to 18,332 over the 25 year period between 2016 and 2041 (a decrease of around 4%). By the end of the LDP period, the decline is projected to be around 1%. This is because it is likely that over the next 20-25 years more people will die of old age than are born in the National Park. Migration to the National Park from other places is still expected to be high during that period.

But population projections have limitations. A projection is a calculation showing what happens if particular assumptions are made. The NRS population projections are trend-based. They are, therefore, not policy-based forecasts of what the government expects to happen. Many social and economic factors influence population change, including policies adopted by both central and local government. The relationships between the various factors are complex and largely unknown.

The LDP is an example of a local government policy intervention that may have an influence over population trends. While population and household projections form a key element of estimating housing need and demand, they are not the sole factor in determining what the Plan's Housing Land Requirement.

If the LDP delivers housing at a rate that would meet its objectives, that is to say, that the housing land requirement was met in full during its period, then the development rate would exceed that at which has been experienced in the past (**Figure 3**) and therefore, population change within the Cairngorms may differ to that projected by NRS.

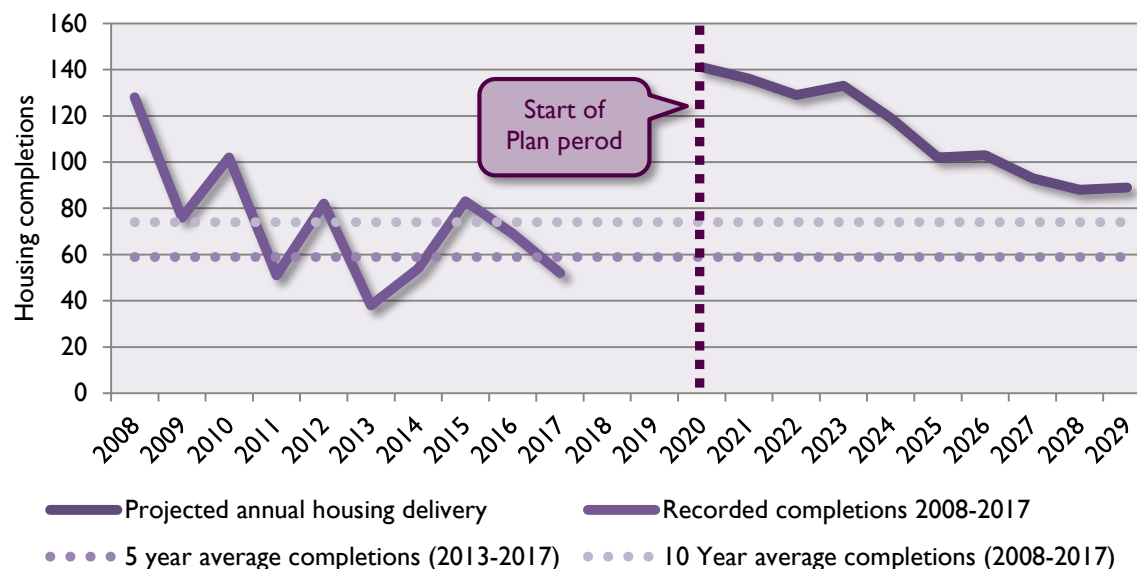


Figure 3 LDP (2020-2029) Projected annual housing delivery and historic completions (Source: Local Authorities and CNPA).

It is important to note that the Cairngorms National Park is not in a position to produce its own population projections. However, it is possible to estimate a population that may accommodated within the new housing and the distribution of this population by settlement based on the location of sites.

Such estimates come with the caveat that they are based on a set of particular assumptions, some of which rely on professional judgement. Further issues relate to the scale at which the estimates are produced, not last being the volatile nature of the small area population estimates on which the model relies.

All assumptions are set out within the methodology section of this paper.

Methodology and Assumptions

Population

In order to measure change a baseline population for settlements needs to be established. While mid-year estimates exist at a data zone level, in LDP terms these are problematic as creating aggregates or disaggregates for settlements is an inherently problematic exercise. There is also the factor that change through the LDP comes through the creation of new dwellings and therefore new dwellings act as a proxy for population.

The methodology of determining the baseline population of settlements and the degree of change therefore uses estimates of average household size as per NRS latest household estimates (2014-based). According to these the average household size across the National Park in 2020 will be 2.06 and will fall at an average rate of 0.01 each year of the projection period.

The baseline population of settlements is therefore based on the number occupied dwellings that exist in 2017 multiplied by the estimated average household size in that year, which is 2.09. In order to estimate the population at the start of the LDP, the estimated number of new occupied dwellings are added for the years 2018 and 2019 with the appropriate average household size multipliers. These multipliers are applied to all of the estimated occupied dwellings not just the new ones.

Geography

For the purpose of these estimates, the geography of the settlements is identified by applying a 500m buffer around LDP settlement boundaries. This is because settlement boundaries are a tool to delineate the limits of development and that individual and clusters of dwellings exist outside of these boundaries while still being an effective part of that settlement.

There is a single exception to this and that is in Dulnain Bridge and this is because of its close relationship with Skye of Curr. Both settlements are separate entities though they are also physically connected. Dulnain Bridge is identified as a Rural Settlement in the LDP's Settlement Strategy and therefore has a settlement boundary, while Skye of Curr is not identified as settlement and therefore does not have a settlement boundary. This distinction simply comes down to the existence of services in Dulnain Bridge that do not exist in Skye of Curr. However, both have populations that are interconnected, therefore in functional terms, for example in the context of recreational patterns, Skye of Curr needs to be taken account of. For the purpose of these estimates therefore, Skye of Curr is included as part of Dulnain Bridge.

The number of residential properties within these geographies can be identified based on Basic Land and Property Unit (BLPU) data.

Housing Occupation

Across the National Park around the level of ineffective stock lies around 17%. There are local variations and this information is available at datazone level in the form of NRS's household estimates. Therefore, the local levels of ineffective stock are applied to the residential properties identified in the BLPU data.

An equivalent level of ineffective stock is also applied to the new housing, although it is only applied to the market component, as affordable housing has restrictions that prevent it from becoming the most significant contributor to ineffective stock, namely second homes.

Housing Delivery

The rate of development is informed by the Housing Land Audits of the Local Authorities that cover the National Park's area. Where a site is newly proposed assumptions about delivery are based on the information provided by site owners during the call for sites process. Such a rate of delivery is higher than the historic average and is designed to ensure objectives of the LDP are achieved. Assumptions about windfall have not been applied as levels are too low and the land too constrained to provide accurate estimate.

Results

The following section sets out the projections based on the methodology set out in the previous section. Note that the data only includes settlements identified in the LDP's settlement strategy and that there are residential properties outwith this area. It should also be noted that the provision of housing is not considered to be the cause of population change in itself, so the tables offer an estimate of the population the housing is likely to accommodate if occupancy rates reflect those already experienced in the National Park.

Three scenarios have been created. **Table 28** shows the theoretical population the housing stock could accommodate if delivery rates are those required to meet the LDP's objectives and are set out within Local Authority HMAs.

Table 29 shows the theoretical population the housing stock could accommodate if delivery rates match the average of the last 10 years.

Table 30 shows the theoretical population the housing stock could accommodate if no new housing was provided during the plan period.

Table 28 Projected change in dwellings and population for settlements identified in the LDP's Settlement Strategy according to HLA delivery rates.

| Settlement | Estimated Occupied Dwellings 2020 | Estimated population 2020 | Estimated Occupied Dwellings at end of 20-24 | Estimated population at end of 20-24 | Population change at end 20-24 | % Population change at end 20-24 | Estimated Occupied Dwellings at end of 25-29 | Estimated population at end of 25-29 | Population change at end 25-29 | % Population change at end 25-29 |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Aberdeenshire | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ballater | 740 | 1,533 | 762 | 1,531 | -2 | +1% | 783 | 1,542 | +9 | +1% |
| Braemar | 262 | 542 | 287 | 576 | +35 | +6% | 322 | 635 | +93 | +17% |
| Dinnet | 44 | 90 | 53 | 106 | +16 | +18% | 53 | 104 | +14 | +15% |
| Strathdon | 38 | 79 | 38 | 76 | -2 | -3% | 38 | 75 | -4 | -5% |
| HMA TOTAL | 1,084 | 2,243 | 1,139 | 2,290 | +46 | +2% | 1,196 | 2,356 | +112 | +5% |
| Angus | | | | | | | | | | |
| Clova | 8 | 16 | 8 | 16 | 0 | -3% | 8 | 16 | -1 | -5% |
| HMA TOTAL | 8 | 16 | 8 | 16 | 0 | -3% | 8 | 16 | -1 | -5% |
| Highland | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aviemore | 1,777 | 3,679 | 2,043 | 4,106 | +428 | +12% | 2,304 | 4,539 | +861 | +23% |
| Boat of Garten | 315 | 653 | 315 | 634 | -19 | -3% | 315 | 621 | -32 | -5% |
| Carr-Bridge | 379 | 784 | 412 | 828 | +43 | +6% | 412 | 811 | +27 | +3% |
| Coylumbridge | 32 | 67 | 32 | 65 | -2 | -3% | 32 | 64 | -3 | -5% |
| Cromdale | 118 | 243 | 126 | 254 | +11 | +4% | 135 | 266 | +23 | +9% |
| Dalwhinnie | 86 | 179 | 92 | 185 | +6 | +3% | 92 | 181 | +2 | +1% |
| Dulnain Bridge | 169 | 351 | 187 | 375 | +25 | +7% | 204 | 402 | +51 | +15% |
| Grantown-on-Spey | 1,370 | 2,836 | 1,423 | 2,860 | +24 | +1% | 1,423 | 28,03 | -33 | -1% |
| Insh | 57 | 118 | 57 | 114 | -3 | -3% | 57 | 112 | -6 | -5% |
| Inverdruie | 61 | 126 | 61 | 122 | -4 | -3% | 61 | 119 | -6 | -5% |
| Kincraig | 153 | 317 | 166 | 333 | +15 | +5% | 178 | 350 | +33 | +10% |
| Kingussie | 799 | 1,653 | 845 | 1,699 | +46 | +3% | 892 | 1,758 | +105 | +6% |
| Laggan | 34 | 71 | 34 | 69 | -2 | -3% | 34 | 67 | -3 | -5% |
| Nethy Bridge | 361 | 747 | 381 | 766 | +19 | +3% | 381 | 751 | 3 | 0% |
| Newtonmore | 692 | 1,433 | 732 | 1,471 | +38 | +3% | 767 | 1,510 | +77 | +5% |
| HMA TOTAL | 6,404 | 13,257 | 6,906 | 13,881 | +624 | +5% | 7,287 | 14,356 | +1,099 | +8% |
| Moray | | | | | | | | | | |
| Glenlivet | 40 | 82 | 40 | 80 | -2 | -3% | 40 | 78 | -4 | -5% |
| Tomintoul | 179 | 370 | 185 | 373 | +3 | +1% | 192 | 378 | +8 | +2% |
| HMA TOTAL | 219 | 452 | 225 | 453 | 0 | 0% | 232 | 457 | +4 | +1% |
| Perth and Kinross | | | | | | | | | | |

| Settlement | Estimated Occupied Dwellings 2020 | Estimated population 2020 | Estimated Occupied Dwellings at end of 20-24 | Estimated population at end of 20-24 | Population change at end 20-24 | % Population change at end 20-24 | Estimated Occupied Dwellings at end of 25-29 | Estimated population at end of 25-29 | Population change at end 25-29 | % Population change at end 25-29 |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Blair Atholl | 229 | 473 | 253 | 509 | +36 | +8% | 255 | 503 | +30 | +6% |
| Bruar & Pitgowan | 11 | 23 | 11 | 22 | -1 | -3% | 11 | 22 | -1 | -5% |
| Calvine | 20 | 41 | 20 | 40 | -1 | -3% | 20 | 39 | -2 | -5% |
| Glenshee | 11 | 23 | 11 | 22 | -1 | -3% | 11 | 22 | -1 | -5% |
| Killiecrankie | 30 | 62 | 30 | 61 | -2 | -3% | 30 | 59 | -3 | -5% |
| HMA TOTAL | 301 | 623 | 326 | 655 | +32 | +5% | 327 | 645 | +22 | +4% |
| All Settlements | 8,015 | 16,592 | 8,604 | 17,294 | 702 | +4% | 9,050 | 17,829 | 1237 | +7% |

Table 29 Projected change in dwellings and population for Housing Market Areas if 10-year average annual completion rate continues.

| Settlement | Estimated Occupied Dwellings 2020 | Estimated population 2020 | Estimated Occupied Dwellings at end of 20-24 | Estimated population at end of 20-24 | Population change at end 20-24 | % Population change at end 20-24 | Estimated Occupied Dwellings at end of 25-29 | Estimated population at end of 25-29 | Population change at end 25-29 | % Population change at end 25-29 |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Aberdeenshire | 1,055 | 2,221 | 1,101 | 2,251 | +29 | +1% | 1,148 | 2,298 | +76 | +3% |
| Angus | 8 | 16 | 8 | 16 | 0 | -3% | 8 | 16 | -1 | -5% |
| Highland | 6,366 | 13,252 | 6,636 | 13,411 | +159 | +1% | 6,907 | 13,677 | +425 | +3% |
| Moray | 219 | 459 | 227 | 463 | +3 | +1% | 235 | 470 | +10 | +2% |
| Perth and Kinross | 301 | 626 | 305 | 617 | -9 | -1% | 310 | 614 | -13 | -2% |
| All Settlements | 7,948 | 16,575 | 8,278 | 16,757 | +182 | +1% | 8,607 | 17,073 | +498 | +3% |

Table 30 Projected change in dwellings and population for settlements identified in the LDP's Settlement Strategy if no housing is delivered.

| Settlement | Estimated Occupied Dwellings 2020 | Estimated population 2020 | Estimated Occupied Dwellings at end of 20-24 | Estimated population at end of 20-24 | Population change at end 20-24 | % Population change at end 20-24 | Estimated Occupied Dwellings at end of 25-29 | Estimated population at end of 25-29 | Population change at end 25-29 | % Population change at end 25-29 |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Aberdeenshire | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ballater | 718 | 1,487 | 718 | 1,444 | -43 | -3% | 718 | 1,415 | -72 | -5% |
| Braemar | 259 | 536 | 259 | 521 | -16 | -3% | 259 | 511 | -26 | -5% |
| Dinnet | 39 | 81 | 39 | 78 | -2 | -3% | 39 | 77 | -4 | -5% |
| Strathdon | 38 | 79 | 38 | 76 | -2 | -3% | 38 | 75 | -4 | -5% |
| HMA TOTAL | 1,055 | 2,183 | 1,055 | 2,120 | -63 | -3% | 1,055 | 2,077 | -105 | -5% |
| Angus | | | | | | | | | | |
| Clova | 8 | 16 | 8 | 16 | 0 | -3% | 8 | 16 | -1 | -5% |
| HMA TOTAL | 8 | 16 | 8 | 16 | 0 | -3% | 8 | 16 | -1 | -5% |
| Highland | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aviemore | 1,768 | 3,660 | 1,768 | 3,554 | -106 | -3% | 1,768 | 3,483 | -177 | -5% |
| Boat of Garten | 315 | 653 | 315 | 634 | -19 | -3% | 315 | 621 | -32 | -5% |
| Carr-Bridge | 358 | 741 | 358 | 720 | -21 | -3% | 358 | 705 | -36 | -5% |
| Coylumbridge | 32 | 67 | 32 | 65 | -2 | -3% | 32 | 64 | -3 | -5% |
| Cromdale | 112 | 232 | 112 | 226 | -7 | -3% | 112 | 221 | -11 | -5% |
| Dalwhinnie | 86 | 179 | 86 | 174 | -5 | -3% | 86 | 170 | -9 | -5% |
| Dulnain Bridge | 169 | 351 | 169 | 340 | -10 | -3% | 169 | 334 | -17 | -5% |
| Grantown-on-Spey | 1,326 | 2,745 | 1,326 | 2,665 | -80 | -3% | 1,326 | 2,612 | -133 | -5% |
| Insh | 57 | 118 | 57 | 114 | -3 | -3% | 57 | 112 | -6 | -5% |
| Inverdrue | 61 | 126 | 61 | 122 | -4 | -3% | 61 | 119 | -6 | -5% |
| Kincraig | 150 | 311 | 150 | 302 | -9 | -3% | 150 | 296 | -15 | -5% |
| Kingussie | 789 | 1,634 | 789 | 1,586 | -47 | -3% | 789 | 1,555 | -79 | -5% |
| Laggan | 34 | 71 | 34 | 69 | -2 | -3% | 34 | 67 | -3 | -5% |
| Nethy Bridge | 361 | 747 | 361 | 726 | -22 | -3% | 361 | 711 | -36 | -5% |
| Newtonmore | 674 | 1,395 | 674 | 1,354 | -40 | -3% | 674 | 1,327 | -67 | -5% |
| HMA TOTAL | 6,294 | 13,028 | 6,294 | 12,650 | -378 | -3% | 6,294 | 12,398 | -629 | -5% |
| Moray | | | | | | | | | | |
| Glenlivet | 40 | 82 | 40 | 80 | -2 | -3% | 40 | 78 | -4 | -5% |
| Tomintoul | 179 | 370 | 179 | 359 | -11 | -3% | 179 | 352 | -18 | -5% |
| HMA TOTAL | 219 | 452 | 219 | 439 | -13 | -3% | 219 | 431 | -22 | -5% |
| Perth and Kinross | | | | | | | | | | |

| Settlement | Estimated Occupied Dwellings 2020 | Estimated population 2020 | Estimated Occupied Dwellings at end of 20-24 | Estimated population at end of 20-24 | Population change at end 20-24 | % Population change at end 20-24 | Estimated Occupied Dwellings at end of 25-29 | Estimated population at end of 25-29 | Population change at end 25-29 | % Population change at end 25-29 |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Blair Atholl | 229 | 473 | 229 | 459 | -14 | -3% | 229 | 450 | -23 | -5% |
| Bruar & Pitagowan | 11 | 23 | 11 | 22 | -1 | -3% | 11 | 22 | -1 | -5% |
| Calvine | 20 | 41 | 20 | 40 | -1 | -3% | 20 | 39 | -2 | -5% |
| Glenshee | 11 | 23 | 11 | 22 | -1 | -3% | 11 | 22 | -1 | -5% |
| Killiecrankie | 30 | 62 | 30 | 61 | -2 | -3% | 30 | 59 | -3 | -5% |
| HMA TOTAL | 301 | 623 | 301 | 605 | -18 | -3% | 301 | 593 | -30 | -5% |
| All Settlements | 7,875 | 16,302 | 7,875 | 15,830 | -473 | -3% | 7,875 | 15,515 | -788 | -5% |