

Hi Dan

All well here thanks and thank you for the enquiry below.

We think what you propose is acceptable. Part of the reason for recommending that the map component of SFRAs is done via a GIS tool is so that any map updates can be quickly fed in, particularly now that our live link is available to everyone, but as yours are in PDF then your proposal is one way round this.

We'd still recommend changing to GIS files, if possible, going forward and highlight the newest update to our Future Flood Map layers which now include surface water and small watercourse future flood risk went live on March 11th.

On a separate note, I sadly will not be the SEPA lead officer for Cairngorms LDP and liaison going forward due to other workload commitments. My colleague Nicki Dunn will be taking over as the lead officer. I'm aware she hasn't probably met any of your team yet and I am wondering whether it would be good for us to have a brief Teams meeting to have a wee bit of a handover and for her to meet your team. However, Nicki and I appear to have pretty much mutually exclusive availability due to leave and meetings until mid-April. Would you and your team have availability on Tuesday 15th April or Wednesday 16th April?

In the meantime, if you can send all future correspondence to our Planning North email that would be much appreciated.

Kindest regards

Zoe

Zoe Griffin

Senior Planner


Scottish Environment Protection Agency

Buidheann Dìon Àrainneachd na h-Alba

Advanced Notice of Leave: April 1st-3rd, April 9-11th and April 18th-May7th inclusive


Working flexibly

Normal working hours currently Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:00am-4:30pm,

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OFFICIAL

From: Dan Harris <DanHarris@cairnngorms.co.uk>

Sent: 12 March 2025 11:52

To: Griffin, Zoe <zoe.griffin@sepa.org.uk>

Subject: Cairnngorms evidence report - version 3.0 flood hazard maps

Hi Zoe

Hope you're doing well.

I've got a question about the use of version 3.0 in our LDP evidence base. We published our SFRA in April 2024, which uses version 2.1 of the flood hazard maps, and I wanted to check how SEPA would like us take this into account at this point of the evidence report process.

We obviously do not want to re-do the SFRA and to address the emergence of new data it contains the following statement:

'The strategic flood risk assessment may become out of date in time because of significant improvements in flooding data, or large flood events may alter our understanding of the hazard. A review of the data will be required during the preparation of the Proposed Plan to ensure that the

settlement strategy and proposed development sites meet the requirements of National Planning Framework 4's Policy 22.'

We are still working on the section of the evidence report that covers flood risk and I have drafted this statement, which I think should cover the point about the new data. Can you tell me if SEPA would be happy with this approach?

'Detailed information on flood risk is contained within the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for the National Park. Scottish Environment Protection Agency have confirmed that the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment is sufficient for publication. This section will summarise the findings of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, which may be accessed via the following link:

- <https://cairngorms.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Cairngorms-Strategic-Flood-Risk-Assessment-2024.pdf>

The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment was published in April 2024 and uses version 2.1 of Scottish Environment Protection Agency's flood hazard maps. On March 11 2025 Scottish Environment Protection Agency published a public beta of Version 3.0 of the maps, which extends the range of information available to include the publication of a new surface water and small watercourses flood hazard map, and a new dataset which shows the potential effects of climate change on surface water flooding. The Park Authority recognises Scottish Environment Protection Agency's desire that the operational use of the new mapping by planning authorities be fully effective by the end of May 2025 and is committed to using the latest available data in the preparation of the Proposed Plan.'

Many thanks

Dan Harris (he/him)

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Read our plan for the future: cairngorms.co.uk/PartnershipPlan

Disclaimer: I have Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and am on the autistic spectrum. Please be clear and direct in replies, be forgiving of drafting errors and please feel free to follow up any queries or requests with a reminder if matters are urgent or you have not had a response within two days.

