

Appendix 13.2

Local Landscape Character Assessment Methodology and Field Sheets

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1 Introduction

1.1 General

1.1.1 The approach and methodology that has been used is in accordance with best practice, as set out in the guidance noted below, and has been refined to enable a bespoke approach that enables a thorough evaluation of the potential landscape character effects within this highly scenic landscape.

Scope and Guidance

1.1.2 This EIA was undertaken with reference to the Highways Agency et al, '*Interim Advice Note (IAN) 135/10*' and DMRB Volume 11, Section 3, Part 5, '*Landscape Effects*', 1993 and The Scottish Government '*Planning Advice Note 1/2013 Environmental Impact Assessment*'.

1.1.3 The landscape character assessment was also undertaken in accordance with other guidance, which included '*Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Third Edition*' (GLVIA 3) (Landscape Institute and the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, 2013) and '*Fitting Landscapes: Securing more sustainable landscapes*' (Transport Scotland, 2014).

1.1.4 Landscape architects from the various Design Organisations across the A9 Dualling Programme assessing Landscape and Visual effects for DMRB Stage 3 have formed a sub-group of the Landscape Forum, to agree a common approach to the assessment and to utilise a similar methodology and terminology.

1.1.5 The *A9 Dualling Programme Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report* includes a series of Strategic Considerations and Key Design Implications, which have been taken into account within this visual assessment, the outline design proposals for the Proposed Scheme and mitigation.

1.1.6 The landscape effect of the Proposed Scheme on users of the A9 is important. In accordance with the Highways Agency et al, IAN 125/09, 2009 the assessment of potential effect on views from the A9 is reported in **Chapter 9**.

Study Area

1.1.7 The study area for this assessment includes the visual envelope of the existing A9 between Crubenmore and Kincaig. **Drawing 13.1**, in **Volume 3** of this report, identifies an existing theoretical Zone of Visual Influence (tZVI) of the existing A9.

1.1.8 **Drawing 14.3** in **Volume 3** identifies a proposed tZVI based upon the Proposed Scheme. This includes the mainline, access underbridges and other features within the Proposed Scheme. tZVIs are based upon bare ground topography and do not take into account any screening or filtering of visibility by local landform, vegetation or built form, and are therefore a worst-case indication of theoretical visibility. See **Appendix 13.3** in **Volume 2** for a description of the methodology behind the proposed tZVI.

1.1.9 Based on the extent of theoretical visibility indicated on **Drawings 13.1** and **14.3** in **Volume 3**, and due to the nature of the upland terrain that the A9 passes through, the visual assessment study area has been set at 5km, with the greatest impacts anticipated within 2km of the Proposed Scheme. These distance buffers are included on **Drawings 13.1** and **14.3** in **Volume 3**.

Areas beyond 5km that are within the A9 viewshed will not be subject to perceived significant effects on the visual resource.

- 1.1.10 **Drawing 13.5** in **Volume 3** indicates the topography of the area; this has also been taken into consideration when defining the study area, as indicated above.

Baseline data sources

Site Walkover and Surveys

- 1.1.11 The key data sources included Ordnance Survey (OS) map data at 1:25,000 scale, and detailed site assessments made by landscape architects over a series of visits in 2017. The assessments considered built and outdoor receptors, as follows:
- Built receptors include residential properties, workplaces and recreational buildings
 - Outdoor receptors include users of minor roads, the Highland Mainline (HML) railway, footpaths, cycleways and equestrian routes. The summits of surrounding Munros and other hills adjoining the road corridor are also included as popular recreational destinations.
- 1.1.12 Representative viewpoints typical of the visual receptors likely to be affected by the Proposed Scheme have been identified and are set out in sub-section 14.3.
- 1.1.13 Field surveys were carried out to include both winter and summer scenarios. The surveys were carried out by at least two landscape architects on foot and/or by car. Data was collected using a standardised checklist; photographs of the current A9 alignment and potential changes in views associated with the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme that may be physically affected; and photographs to/ from representative viewpoints that may have potential visibility of the scheme.

Desk-based Assessment

- 1.1.14 A desk-based assessment collected baseline information, including a review of the following:
- 1:5,000, 1:10,000, 1:25,000 and 1:50,000 scale OS mapping
 - Google Earth web-based photography
 - Aerial photography
 - Geographical Information System (GIS) datasets (including those obtained through the CFJV GIS team in liaison with relevant stakeholders)
 - Three-dimensional visualisation models of the existing A9 and of the Proposed Scheme
 - Fitting Landscape: Securing more Sustainable Landscapes (Transport Scotland, 2014)
 - Planning Advice Note (PAN) 1/2013: Environmental Impact Assessment (Scottish Government, 2013)

1.2 Local Landscape Character Assessment

- 1.2.1 The derivation of Local Landscape Character Areas (LLCAs) was based on the methodology and terminology set out by the Cairngorms National Park Authority

- 1.2.2 The indicative study area for the assessment is represented by the LLCAs identified as likely to be potentially affected by significant effects from the Proposed Scheme. The identified LLCAs, shown on **Drawing No. 13.4 in Volume 3**, occupy the land included within approximately 1km either side of the Proposed Scheme; based on professional judgement, within land beyond 1km, direct landscape impacts generally would be negligible due to topography and distance. However, where further potential effects on character were identified, LLCAs were extended accordingly for completeness. This approach was subsequently confirmed during the site assessment.
- 1.2.3 The landscape assessment was undertaken in accordance with DMRB Volume 11, Section 3, Part 5 Landscape Effects, including Section 7, Variation for Widening Schemes (Highways Agency et al., 1993) and Interim Advice Note 135/10 (Highways Agency et al., 2010). The A9 is of recognised importance as a tourist route, so consideration has also been given to the A9 Dualling Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and the design principles for mitigation proposals.
- 1.2.4 The methodology described in this section was developed based on Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, 2002(GLVIA3)).
- 1.2.5 The study area is covered by the SNH commissioned Cairngorm National Park Landscape Character Assessment (CNPLCA), which was used as the basis for the landscape character assessment. This document divides the study area into various Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) of particular Landscape Character Types (LCTs). Detailed desk-based and field assessment were undertaken to allow the boundaries of LCAs to be refined and considered at a more local scale. This provided a level of detail that enabled the evaluation of sensitivity and impact assessment. In some cases, this has meant the subdivision of land which is identified in the SNH assessments as being of a single LCT or LCA into smaller scale units, or LLCAs to better reflect local variations in character.

1.3 Desk Study

- 1.3.1 The desk study entailed the following:
- A review of aerial photographs of the study area, and current 1:25,000 scale and 1:50,000 scale Ordnance Survey (OS), to help identify the presence of areas of statutory designation and protection, landscape elements and patterns;
 - An examination of data relating to landscape, archaeology, ecology, buildings and settlements to provide a thorough knowledge of conservation interests. Other human interests were established by analysing data relating to recreation and public rights of way;
 - Review of strategic studies of the wider programme of works being progressed by Transport Scotland to dual the full A9 from Perth to Inverness).
- 1.3.2 Information of relevance to the Proposed Scheme was extracted from these sources and the following topics were explored:
- Landform and topography
 - Landscape elements
 - Aesthetic and perceptual elements
 - Pattern and scale of landform, land cover and built development;

- Special values including national and local landscape designations, Conservation Areas and historical and cultural associations.

1.3.3 Following the CNPLCA approach, this assessment utilises the Glen Truim LCA, Badenoch: Upper Strath LCA, Badenoch: Newtonmore to Kingussie LCA and Badenoch: Insh Marshes LCA as a basis for deriving Local Landscape Assessment Areas, further sub dividing the regional character area in identifiably unique Local Landscape Character Areas (LLCAs). These are distinct and recognisable ‘places’, which are named, as far as possible, according to local place names. They are all different, but within each one there is a consistency of character formed by the topography, land use, history, settlement and development pattern and the way the landscape is experienced. They are mapped, and their differences developed using field work supported by desk-based review.

1.3.4 A description of the landscape characteristics and the landscape experience of each area are provided in written text, along with a succinct summary of what makes the character area distinctive from elsewhere in the Park. The character descriptions of the landscape areas are set out as bullet points, and broadly follow a description of topography and geomorphology, followed by comments on vegetation pattern and current land use, settlement pattern, relevant historic land use and infrastructure.

1.4 Field Survey

1.4.1 The study area was visited to conduct an up-to-date field survey that included identification of specific landscape constraints and verification/ supplementation of data collected in the desk study.

1.4.2 Field surveys, undertaken in August 2017, were carried out by car and by site walkovers from the surrounding minor roads, tracks and footpaths by a team of two landscape architects.

The survey team

1.4.3 The purpose of the field survey is to identify the key qualities and components of the landscape that cannot be determined by desk-based assessment. The landscape character was assessed by completing a field survey sheet template for each LCP (provided in section 2 below). The field survey sheets were derived from survey sheets developed by other authorities.

1.4.4 The survey itself was originally carried out by two assessors (both of which were Landscape Architects). Each Local Landscape Character Area (LLCA) area was explored by car initially and footpaths walked where necessary to view inaccessible areas. Once the extent of the LLCA could be visualised on the ground by the assessors a suitable viewpoint was chosen to make the record. This was generally a high point in the LCP from which a typical view of the LLCA and its components could be obtained. The information recorded included:

- Landform and topography
- Landscape elements, including:
 - Built Form
 - Farming
 - Land Cover
 - Woodland /Trees

- Hydrology
- Communications
- Aesthetic and perceptual elements, including:
 - Scale
 - Enclosure
 - Diversity
 - Texture
 - Form
 - Line
 - Colour
 - Balance
 - Movement
 - Pattern
 - Tranquillity
 - Visual Dynamic
- Special values, including national and local landscape designations, Conservation Areas and historical and cultural associations.

- 1.4.5 The data was entered directly into a Map Info database using a laptop. A concise summary was also recorded in the field for each LLCA. Rarity, condition and any comments regarding architecture was noted (including settlement form/vernacular style/local materials)
- 1.4.6 Photo Viewpoints (photos taken that covered all or part of the LLCA) were recorded and marked on an OS map in the field. A representative photograph of the landscape character was taken for each LLCA. The survey point and the photo point locations were fixed using a 6-figure GPS reference.
- 1.4.7 The data recorded in the field was used to produce descriptions of each proposed Local Landscape Character Area. The initial descriptions were used as a basis for the text included in the Landscape Character Assessment chapter.

2 Field Assessment Sheets

Site Location: Loch Etteridge			Grid reference/Chainage: NN 68169 92243						
Photo viewpoint reference(s): Invernahavon Caravan Park									
Views across area (Mark on map):									
Nature of views:		Short			Medium			Long	
Desire lines / Footpaths (Mark on map):									
LANDFORM / TOPOGRAPHY:									
Flat		Plan			Ravine				
Undulating		Rolling Lowland			Strath				
Rolling		Plateau			Glen				
Steep		Scarp / Cliffs / Ridge			Floodplain				
Vertical		Hills							
Exposed Rock		Highland/Massif							
LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS:									
Built Form	Agriculture	Land Cover	Woodland /Trees	Hydrology	Infrastructure				
Scattered Farms/ farmhouses	Arable	Parkland	Deciduous woodland	River – natural	Motorway				
	Pasture	Amenity / recreation	Coniferous plantation	River– engineered	A Roads				
Village	Mixed	Scrub	Mixed Woodland	Canal	B Roads / Lanes				
Urban	Rough Grazing	Marsh	Shelterbelt	Burn	Access track				
Urban Fringe	Regular fields	Bog	Hedgerow trees	Drainage ditch / dyke	Footpaths				
Industry - Caravan Park	Irregular fields	Moor / heath	Orchard	Reservoir	Railway				
Military	Walls	Meadow	Copse	Loch	Canal				
Archaeological / Historical features	Hedgerows- managed	Agriculture	Coppice	Lochan	Military				
	Hedgerows- unmanaged	Rough Grassland	Isolated trees		Pylons				
Ecclesiastic	Fences	Forestry	Avenue		Mobile phone masts				
Derelict Land		Quarry	Small blocks/ clumps		Telegraph poles				
Railway buildings									
Bridge									
AESTHETIC / PERCEPTUAL ASPECTS:									
Scale	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast	Movement	Dead	Still	Calm	Busy
Enclosure	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed	Pattern	Random	Organised	Regular	Formal
Diversity	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex	Unity	Unified	Interrupted	Fragmented	Chaotic
Texture	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough	Security	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening
Form	Vertical	Sloping	Rolling	Horizontal	Stimulus	Monotonous	Bland	Interesting	Inspiring
Line	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuuous	Tranquility	Turbulent	Disturbed	Changeable	Peaceful
Colour	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish	Pleasure	Offensive	Unattractive	Attractive	Beautiful
Balance	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic	Visual Dynamic	Sweeping	Spreading	Dispersed	Channelled
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER:									
Brief Description: Regenerating mixed woodland with mature conifer and birch. The character is open however surrounding trees and rolling terrain provide enclosure. The railway runs adjacent to the road but is very well hidden. Stone walls and wooden/wire fences line the road. Access tracks lead off the road into woodland and to surrounding cottages/houses.									
Key Characteristics and Distinctive Features and why important: The Truim Bridge, part of the General Wade Military Road, crosses the River Spey. Important as it is grade II listed									
Rarity: Rare due to its Highland nature and location within the CNP. Rarity of Truim Bridge in well wooded surroundings creates a unique landscape									
Condition / Management: Managed access tracks and new tree plantation lining the river indicate management.									
Built form and infrastructure: The Invernahavon Caravan Park is the main built form. Buildings include wooden cabins of a brown and grey colour palette with white mobile caravans visible.									
Additional Comments (e.g. forces for change):									

Site Location: Ralia				Grid reference/Chainage: NN 70480 98481						
Photo viewpoint reference(s):										
Views across area (Mark on map):										
Nature of views:		Short		Medium			Long			
Desire lines / Footpaths (Mark on map):										
LANDFORM / TOPOGRAPHY:										
Flat		Plain				Ravine				
Undulating		Rolling Lowland				Strath				
Rolling		Plateau				Glen				
Steep		Scarp / Cliffs / Ridge				Floodplain				
Vertical		Hills								
Exposed Rock		Highland/Massif								
LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS:										
Built Form		Agriculture		Land Cover		Woodland /Trees		Hydrology		Infrastructure
Scattered Farms/ farmhouses		Arable		Parkland		Deciduous woodland		River – natural		Motorway
		Pasture		Amenity / recreation		Coniferous plantation		River– engineered		A Roads
Village		Mixed		Scrub		Mixed Woodland		Canal		B Roads / Lanes
Urban		Rough Grazing		Marsh		Shelterbelt		Burn		Access track
Urban Fringe		Regular fields		Bog		Hedgerow trees		Drainage ditch / dyke		Footpaths
Industry		Irregular fields		Moor / heath		Orchard		Reservoir		Railway
Military		Walls		Meadow		Copse		Loch		Canal
Archaeological / Historical features		Hedgerows- managed		Agriculture		Coppice		Lochan		Military
		Hedgerows- unmanaged		Rough Grassland		Isolated trees				Pylons
Ecclesiastic		Fences		Forestry		Avenue				Mobile phone masts
Derelict Land				Quarry		Small blocks/ clumps				Telegraph poles
Railway buildings										
Bridge										
AESTHETIC / PERCEPTUAL ASPECTS:										
Scale	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast	Movement	Dead	Still	Calm	Busy	
Enclosure	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed	Pattern	Random	Organised	Regular	Formal	
Diversity	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex	Unity	Unified	Interrupted	Fragmented	Chaotic	
Texture	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough	Security	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening	
Form	Vertical	Sloping	Rolling	Horizontal	Stimulus	Monotonous	Bland	Interesting	Inspiring	
Line	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous	Tranquility	Turbulent	Disturbed	Changeable	Peaceful	
Colour	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish	Pleasure	Offensive	Unattractive	Attractive	Beautiful	
Balance	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic	Visual Dynamic	Sweeping	Spreading	Dispersed	Channelled	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER:										
Brief Description: Rolling/gently sloping topography which is enclosed by mountains. Pastoral fields separated by hedgerows and drystone walls give an open character. There are areas of heath and rough grassland with patches of deciduous woodland.										
Key Characteristics and Distinctive Features and why important:										
Rarity: Rare due to its Highland nature and location within the CNP, however the agricultural land and built form are more common characteristics.										
Condition / Management: Tidy appearance with well managed condition due to agricultural character										
Built form and infrastructure: Scattered farms with the predominant built form being white washed buildings with slate roofs. Wooden/wire fences separate fields from the A86.										
Additional Comments (e.g. forces for change):										

Site Location: Newtonmore				Grid reference/Chainage: NN 71894 99996						
Photo viewpoint reference(s): North-western edge of Newtonmore										
Views across area (Mark on map):										
Nature of views:		Short			Medium			Long		
Desire lines / Footpaths (Mark on map):										
LANDFORM / TOPOGRAPHY:										
Flat / Sloping		Plain			Ravine					
Undulating		Rolling Lowland			Strath					
Rolling		Plateau			Glen					
Steep		Scarp / Cliffs / Ridge			Floodplain					
Vertical		Hills								
Exposed Rock		Highland/Massif								
LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS:										
Built Form		Agriculture		Land Cover		Woodland / Trees		Hydrology		Infrastructure
Scattered Farms/ farmhouses		Arable		Parkland		Deciduous woodland		River – natural		Motorway
		Pasture		Amenity / recreation		Coniferous plantation		River – engineered		A Roads
Village		Mixed		Scrub		Mixed Woodland		Canal		B Roads / Lanes
Urban		Rough Grazing		Marsh		Shelterbelt		Burn		Access track
Urban Fringe		Regular fields		Bog		Hedgerow trees		Drainage ditch / dyke		Footpaths
Industry		Irregular fields		Moor / heath		Orchard		Reservoir		Railway
Military		Walls		Meadow		Coppice		Loch		Canal
Archaeological / Historical features		Hedgerows- managed		Agriculture		Coppice		Lochan		Military
		Hedgerows- unmanaged		Rough Grassland		Isolated trees				Pylons
Ecclesiastic		Fences		Forestry		Avenue				Mobile phone masts
Derelict Land				Quarry		Small blocks/ clumps				Telegraph poles
Railway buildings										
Bridge										
AESTHETIC / PERCEPTUAL ASPECTS:										
Scale	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast	Movement	Dead	Still	Calm	Busy	
Enclosure	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed	Pattern	Random	Organised	Regular	Formal	
Diversity	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex	Unity	Unified	Interrupted	Fragmented	Chaotic	
Texture	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough	Security	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening	
Form	Vertical	Sloping	Rolling	Horizontal	Stimulus	Monotonous	Bland	Interesting	Inspiring	
Line	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous	Tranquility	Turbulent	Disturbed	Changeable	Peaceful	
Colour	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish	Pleasure	Offensive	Unattractive	Attractive	Beautiful	
Balance	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic	Visual Dynamic	Sweeping	Spreading	Dispersed	Channelled	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER:										
Brief Description: Open pastoral fields which are enclosed by surrounding mountains. Agricultural fields are separated by hedgerows and fences. Thick mixed tree planting in parts, including birch. Newtonmore is one of the main settlements in the study area and the town centre therefore has a relatively busy character, while the outskirts are more calm.										
Key Characteristics and Distinctive Features and why important:										
Rarity: Rare due to its Highland nature and location within the CNP, however the fairly common built form and pastoral fields are more common elements										
Condition / Management: Newtonmore is tidy in appearance and well managed in character										
Built form and infrastructure: White washed farm buildings with slate roofs. There are some views to Newtonmore through mixed tree plantation.										
Additional Comments (e.g. forces for change):										

Site Location: Cairn / Nuide				Grid reference/Chainage: NN 73255 98464						
Photo viewpoint reference(s): Nuide Farm										
Views across area (Mark on map):										
Nature of views:		Short		Medium			Long			
Desire lines / Footpaths (Mark on map):										
LANDFORM / TOPOGRAPHY:										
Flat			Plain			Ravine				
Undulating			Rolling Lowland			Strath				
Rolling			Plateau			Glen				
Steep			Scarp / Cliffs / Ridge			Floodplain				
Vertical			Hills							
Exposed Rock			Highland/Massif							
LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS:										
Built Form		Agriculture		Land Cover		Woodland /Trees		Hydrology		Infrastructure
Scattered Farms/ farmhouses		Arable		Parkland		Deciduous woodland		River – natural		Motorway
		Pasture		Amenity / recreation		Coniferous plantation		River– engineered		A Roads
Village		Mixed		Scrub		Mixed Woodland		Canal		B Roads / Lanes
Urban		Rough Grazing		Marsh		Shelterbelt		Burn		Access track
Urban Fringe		Regular fields		Bog		Hedgerow trees		Drainage ditch / dyke		Footpaths
Industry		Irregular fields		Moor / heath		Orchard		Reservoir		Railway
Military		Walls		Meadow		Coppice		Loch		Canal
Archaeological / Historical features		Hedgerows- managed		Agriculture		Coppice		Lochan		Military
		Hedgerows- unmanaged		Rough Grassland		Isolated trees				Pylons
Ecclesiastic		Fences		Forestry		Avenue				Mobile phone masts
Derelict Land				Quarry		Small blocks/ clumps				Telegraph poles
Railway buildings										
Bridge										
AESTHETIC / PERCEPTUAL ASPECTS:										
Scale	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast	Movement	Dead	Still	Calm	Busy	
Enclosure	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed	Pattern	Random	Organised	Regular	Formal	
Diversity	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex	Unity	Unified	Interrupted	Fragmented	Chaotic	
Texture	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough	Security	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening	
Form	Vertical	Sloping	Rolling	Horizontal	Stimulus	Monotonous	Bland	Interesting	Inspiring	
Line	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous	Tranquility	Turbulent	Disturbed	Changeable	Peaceful	
Colour	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish	Pleasure	Offensive	Unattractive	Attractive	Beautiful	
Balance	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic	Visual Dynamic	Sweeping	Spreading	Dispersed	Channelled	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER:										
Brief Description: Rolling, open character with pastoral fields and rough grassland. Moor/heath provides colour. Wooden/wire fences separate fields. Surrounding mountains provide enclosure.										
Key Characteristics and Distinctive Features and why important:										
Rarity: Rare due to its Highland nature and location within the CNP, however the agricultural land is a more common characteristics.										
Condition / Management: Tidy and well managed										
Built form and infrastructure: Scattered farms buildings - whitewashed with slate roof. Telegraph poles.										
Additional Comments (e.g. forces for change):										

Site Location: Kingussie		Grid reference/Chainage: NN 76226 99965						
Photo viewpoint reference(s):								
Views across area (Mark on map):								
Nature of views:		Short		Medium			Long	
Desire lines / Footpaths (Mark on map):								
LANDFORM / TOPOGRAPHY:								
Flat			Plain			Ravine		
Undulating			Rolling Lowland			Strath		
Rolling			Plateau			Glen		
Steep			Scarp / Cliffs / Ridge			Floodplain		
Vertical			Hills					
Exposed Rock			Highland/Massif					
LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS:								
Built Form	Agriculture		Land Cover		Woodland /Trees	Hydrology		Infrastructure
Scattered Farms/ Farmhouses	Arable		Parkland		Deciduous woodland	River – natural		Motorway
	Pasture		Amenity / recreation		Coniferous plantation	River– engineered		A Roads
Village	Mixed		Scrub		Mixed Woodland	Canal		B Roads / Lanes
Urban	Rough Grazing		Marsh		Shelterbelt	Burn		Access track
Urban Fringe	Regular fields		Bog		Hedgerow trees	Drainage ditch / dyke		Footpaths
Industry	Irregular fields		Moor / heath		Orchard	Reservoir		Railway
Military	Walls		Meadow		Copse	Loch		Canal
Archaeological / Historical features	Hedgerows- managed		Agriculture		Coppice	Lochan		Military
	Hedgerows- unmanaged		Rough Grassland		Isolated trees			Pylons
Ecclesiastic	Fences		Forestry		Avenue		Mobile phone masts	
Derelict Land			Quarry		Small blocks/ clumps		Telegraph poles	
Railway buildings								
Bridge								
AESTHETIC / PERCEPTUAL ASPECTS:								
Intimate	Small	Large	Vast	Movement	Dead	Still	Calm	Busy
Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed	Pattern	Random	Organised	Regular	Formal
Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex	Unity	Unified	Interrupted	Fragmented	Chaotic
Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough	Security	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening
Vertical	Sloping	Rolling	Horizontal	Stimulus	Monotonous	Bland	Interesting	Inspiring
Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous	Tranquility	Turbulent	Disturbed	Changeable	Peaceful
Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish	Pleasure	Offensive	Unattractive	Attractive	Beautiful
Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic	Visual Dynamic	Sweeping	Spreading	Dispersed	Channelled
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER:								
Brief Description: Highland town consisting of a mix of residential, agricultural and commercial buildings. Kingussie is surrounded by predominantly flat playing fields and pastoral land. The town centre of Kingussie is fairly enclosed, however the flat open space on the outskirts creates a more exposed character surrounding the town. Kingussie is the main town and has a busy character in relation to other areas within the project area.								
Key Characteristics and Distinctive Features and why important:								
Rarity: Rare due to its Highland nature and location within the CNP, however the fairly common built form and pastoral fields are more common elements								
Condition / Management: Kingussie is tidy in appearance and well managed in character								
Built form and infrastructure: The built form is predominantly whitewashed buildings with slate roofs.								
Additional Comments (e.g. forces for change):								

Site Location: Lynchat & Balavil		Grid reference/Chainage: NH78207 01746							
Photo viewpoint reference(s):									
Views across area (Mark on map):									
Nature of views:		Short		Medium			Long		
Desire lines / Footpaths (Mark on map):									
LANDFORM / TOPOGRAPHY:									
Flat		Plain				Ravine			
Undulating		Rolling Lowland				Strath			
Rolling		Plateau				Glen			
Steep		Scarp / Cliffs / Ridge				Floodplain			
Vertical		Hills							
Exposed Rock		Highland/Massif							
LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS:									
Built Form	Agriculture		Land Cover		Woodland /Trees		Hydrology		Infrastructure
Scattered Farms/ farmhouses	Arable		Parkland		Deciduous woodland		River – natural		Motorway
	Pasture		Amenity / recreation		Coniferous plantation		River– engineered		A Roads
Village	Mixed		Scrub		Mixed Woodland		Canal		B Roads / Lanes
Urban	Rough Grazing		Marsh		Shelterbelt		Burn		Access track
Urban Fringe	Regular fields		Bog		Hedgerow trees		Drainage ditch / dyke		Footpaths
Industry	Irregular fields		Moor / heath		Orchard		Reservoir		Railway
Military	Walls		Meadow		Copse		Loch		Canal
Archaeological / Historical features	Hedgerows- managed		Agriculture		Coppice		Lochan		Military
	Hedgerows- unmanaged		Rough Grassland		Isolated trees				Pylons
Ecclesiastic	Fences		Forestry		Avenue				Mobile phone masts
Derelict Land			Quarry		Small blocks/ clumps				Telegraph poles
Railway buildings									
Bridge									
AESTHETIC / PERCEPTUAL ASPECTS:									
Scale	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast	Movement	Dead	Still	Calm	Busy
Enclosure	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed	Pattern	Random	Organised	Regular	Formal
Diversity	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex	Unity	Unified	Interrupted	Fragmented	Chaotic
Texture	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough	Security	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening
Form	Vertical	Sloping	Rolling	Horizontal	Stimulus	Monotonous	Bland	Interesting	Inspiring
Line	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous	Tranquility	Turbulent	Disturbed	Changeable	Peaceful
Colour	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish	Pleasure	Offensive	Unattractive	Attractive	Beautiful
Balance	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic	Visual Dynamic	Sweeping	Spreading	Dispersed	Channelled
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER:									
Brief Description: Complex mosaic of coniferous, mixed and deciduous copses and woodland. Agricultural landscape of regular farm fields. Avenues of trees lining the road. Open fields with some grazing.									
Key Characteristics and Distinctive Features and why important:									
Rarity: Rare due to its Highland nature and location within the CNP. Designations of Raitt's Cave Scheduled Ancient Monument and Balavil House listed property further contribute to the rarity.									
Condition / Management: Well managed and of aesthetical high quality.									
Built form and infrastructure: Village of Lynchat consists mainly of whitewashed buildings with slate roofs									
Additional Comments (e.g. forces for change):									

Site Location: Dunachtonmore				Grid reference/Chainage: NH 81070 03750						
Photo viewpoint reference(s):										
Views across area (Mark on map):										
Nature of views:		Short			Medium			Long		
Desire lines / Footpaths (Mark on map):										
LANDFORM / TOPOGRAPHY:										
Flat			Plain			Ravine				
Undulating			Rolling Lowland			Strath				
Rolling			Plateau			Glen				
Steep			Scarp / Cliffs / Ridge			Floodplain				
Vertical			Hills							
Exposed Rock			Highland/Massif							
LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS:										
Built Form		Agriculture		Land Cover		Woodland /Trees		Hydrology		Infrastructure
Scattered Farms/ farmhouses		Arable		Parkland		Deciduous woodland		River – natural		Motorway
		Pasture		Amenity / recreation		Coniferous plantation		River– engineered		A Roads
Village		Mixed		Scrub		Mixed Woodland		Canal		B Roads / Lanes
Urban		Rough Grazing		Marsh		Shelterbelt		Burn		Access track
Urban Fringe		Regular fields		Bog		Hedgerow trees		Drainage ditch / dyke		Footpaths
Industry		Irregular fields		Moor / heath		Orchard		Reservoir		Railway
Military		Walls		Meadow		Copse		Loch		Canal
Archaeological / Historical features		Hedgerows- managed		Agriculture		Coppice		Lochan		Military
		Hedgerows- unmanaged		Rough Grassland		Isolated trees				Pylons
Ecclesiastic		Fences		Forestry		Avenue				Mobile phone masts
Derelict Land				Quarry		Small blocks/ clumps				Telegraph poles
Railway buildings										
Bridge										
AESTHETIC / PERCEPTUAL ASPECTS:										
Scale	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast	Movement	Dead	Still	Calm	Busy	
Enclosure	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed	Pattern	Random	Organised	Regular	Formal	
Diversity	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex	Unity	Unified	Interrupted	Fragmented	Chaotic	
Texture	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough	Security	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening	
Form	Vertical	Sloping	Rolling	Horizontal	Stimulus	Monotonous	Bland	Interesting	Inspiring	
Line	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous	Tranquility	Turbulent	Disturbed	Changeable	Peaceful	
Colour	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish	Pleasure	Offensive	Unattractive	Attractive	Beautiful	
Balance	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic	Visual Dynamic	Sweeping	Spreading	Dispersed	Channelled	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER:										
Brief Description: Holiday cottages, wildlife park and quarry give a commercial and industrial character. Signage to attractions/industry contribute to commercial character.										
Key Characteristics and Distinctive Features and why important: Predominantly birch woodland lines the road, along with steep slopes giving an enclosed character.										
Rarity: Rare due to its Highland nature and location within the CNP. The built form and commercial character detract from rarity										
Condition / Management:										
Built form and infrastructure:										
Additional Comments (e.g. forces for change):										

Site Location: Insh Marshes				Grid reference/Chainage: NN 77417 99926					
Photo viewpoint reference(s):									
Views across area (Mark on map):									
Nature of views:		Short		Medium			Long		
Desire lines / Footpaths (Mark on map):									
LANDFORM / TOPOGRAPHY:									
Flat		Plain				Ravine			
Undulating		Rolling Lowland				Strath			
Rolling		Plateau				Glen			
Steep		Scarp / Cliffs / Ridge				Floodplain			
Vertical		Hills							
Exposed Rock		Highland/Massif							
LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS:									
Built Form	Agriculture		Land Cover		Woodland /Trees		Hydrology		Infrastructure
Scattered Farms/ farmhouses	Arable		Parkland		Deciduous woodland		River – natural		Motorway
	Pasture		Amenity / recreation		Coniferous plantation		River– engineered		A Roads
Village	Mixed		Scrub		Mixed Woodland		Canal		B Roads / Lanes
Urban	Rough Grazing		Marsh		Shelterbelt		Burn		Access track
Urban Fringe	Regular fields		Bog		Hedgerow trees		Drainage ditch / dyke		Footpaths
Industry	Irregular fields		Moor / heath		Orchard		Reservoir		Railway
Military	Walls		Meadow		Copse		Loch		Canal
Archaeological / Historical features	Hedgerows- managed		Agriculture		Coppice		Lochan		Military
	Hedgerows- unmanaged		Rough Grassland		Isolated trees				Pylons
Ecclesiastic	Fences		Forestry		Avenue				Mobile phone masts
Derelict Land			Quarry		Small blocks/ clumps				Telegraph poles
Railway buildings									
Bridge									
AESTHETIC / PERCEPTUAL ASPECTS:									
Scale	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast	Movement	Dead	Still	Calm	Busy
Enclosure	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed	Pattern	Random	Organised	Regular	Formal
Diversity	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex	Unity	Unified	Interrupted	Fragmented	Chaotic
Texture	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough	Security	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening
Form	Vertical	Sloping	Rolling	Horizontal	Stimulus	Monotonous	Bland	Interesting	Inspiring
Line	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuuous	Tranquility	Turbulent	Disturbed	Changeable	Peaceful
Colour	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish	Pleasure	Offensive	Unattractive	Attractive	Beautiful
Balance	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic	Visual Dynamic	Sweeping	Spreading	Dispersed	Channelled
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER:									
Brief Description: Flat, open marshland with a variety of bird life. The mountains beyond Kingussie provide enclosure.									
Key Characteristics and Distinctive Features and why important:									
Rarity: Rare due to its Highland nature and location within the CNP. Designations create a very rare and unique landscape: Insh Marshes is designated an SSSI, RAMSAR site, SAC and SPA. Ruthven Barracks is a Category A listed monument.									
Condition / Management:									
Built form and infrastructure: The Spey Crossing is a notable feature on the landscape.									
Additional Comments (e.g. forces for change):									

Site Location: Upper Strath		Grid reference/Chainage:							
Photo viewpoint reference(s):									
Views across area (Mark on map):									
Nature of views:		Short			Medium			Long	
Desire lines / Footpaths (Mark on map):									
LANDFORM / TOPOGRAPHY:									
Flat		Plain			Ravine				
Undulating		Rolling Lowland			Strath				
Rolling		Plateau			Glen				
Steep		Scarp / Cliffs / Ridge			Floodplain				
Vertical		Hills							
Exposed Rock		Highland/Massif							
LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS:									
Built Form	Agriculture		Land Cover		Woodland /Trees		Hydrology		Infrastructure
Scattered Farms/ farmhouses	Arable		Parkland		Deciduous woodland		River – natural		Motorway
	Pasture		Amenity / recreation		Coniferous plantation		River– engineered		A Roads
Village	Mixed		Scrub		Mixed Woodland		Canal		B Roads / Lanes
Urban	Rough Grazing		Marsh		Shelterbelt		Burn		Access track
Urban Fringe	Regular fields		Bog		Hedgerow trees		Drainage ditch / dyke		Footpaths
Industry	Irregular fields		Moor / heath		Orchard		Reservoir		Railway
Military	Walls		Meadow		Copse		Loch		Canal
Archaeological / Historical features	Hedgerows- managed		Agriculture		Coppice		Lochan		Military
	Hedgerows- unmanaged		Rough Grassland		Isolated trees				Pylons
Ecclesiastic	Fences		Forestry		Avenue				Mobile phone masts
Derelict Land			Quarry		Small blocks/ clumps				Telegraph poles
Railway buildings									
Bridge									
AESTHETIC / PERCEPTUAL ASPECTS:									
Scale	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast	Movement	Dead	Still	Calm	Busy
Enclosure	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed	Pattern	Random	Organised	Regular	Formal
Diversity	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex	Unity	Unified	Interrupted	Fragmented	Chaotic
Texture	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough	Security	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening
Form	Vertical	Sloping	Rolling	Horizontal	Stimulus	Monotonous	Bland	Interesting	Inspiring
Line	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuous	Tranquility	Turbulent	Disturbed	Changeable	Peaceful
Colour	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish	Pleasure	Offensive	Unattractive	Attractive	Beautiful
Balance	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic	Visual Dynamic	Sweeping	Spreading	Dispersed	Channelled
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER:									
Brief Description: Extensive native broadleaved woodland with topography rising steeply to the west. The thick woodland creates an enclosed feel with an open character as the topography rises.									
Key Characteristics and Distinctive Features and why important:									
Rarity: Rare due to its Highland nature and location within the CNP									
Condition / Management: Some slopes are less accessible giving a less accessible character and natural and remote condition									
Built form and infrastructure: Lack of built form and accessibility gives a remote character									
Additional Comments (e.g. forces for change):									

Site Location: Insh Marsh Woodland		Grid reference/Chainage:							
Photo viewpoint reference(s):									
Views across area (Mark on map):									
Nature of views:		Short		Medium			Long		
Desire lines / Footpaths (Mark on map):									
LANDFORM / TOPOGRAPHY:									
Flat		Plain				Ravine			
Undulating		Rolling Lowland				Strath			
Rolling		Plateau				Glen			
Steep		Scarp / Cliffs / Ridge				Floodplain			
Vertical		Hills							
Exposed Rock		Highland/Massif							
LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS:									
Built Form	Agriculture		Land Cover		Woodland /Trees		Hydrology		Infrastructure
Scattered Farms/ farmhouses	Arable		Parkland		Deciduous woodland		River – natural		Motorway
	Pasture		Amenity / recreation		Coniferous plantation		River– engineered		A Roads
Village	Mixed		Scrub		Mixed Woodland		Canal		B Roads / Lanes
Urban	Rough Grazing		Marsh		Shelterbelt		Burn		Access track
Urban Fringe	Regular fields		Bog		Hedgerow trees		Drainage ditch / dyke		Footpaths
Industry	Irregular fields		Moor / heath		Orchard		Reservoir		Railway
Military	Walls		Meadow		Copse		Loch		Canal
Archaeological / Historical features	Hedgerows- managed		Agriculture		Coppice		Lochan		Military
	Hedgerows- unmanaged		Rough Grassland		Isolated trees				Pylons
Ecclesiastic	Fences		Forestry		Avenue				Mobile phone masts
Derelict Land			Quarry		Small blocks/ clumps				Telegraph poles
Railway buildings									
Bridge									
AESTHETIC / PERCEPTUAL ASPECTS:									
Scale	Intimate	Small	Large	Vast	Movement	Dead	Still	Calm	Busy
Enclosure	Tight	Enclosed	Open	Exposed	Pattern	Random	Organised	Regular	Formal
Diversity	Uniform	Simple	Diverse	Complex	Unity	Unified	Interrupted	Fragmented	Chaotic
Texture	Smooth	Textured	Rough	Very Rough	Security	Comfortable	Safe	Unsettling	Threatening
Form	Vertical	Sloping	Rolling	Horizontal	Stimulus	Monotonous	Bland	Interesting	Inspiring
Line	Straight	Angular	Curved	Sinuuous	Tranquility	Turbulent	Disturbed	Changeable	Peaceful
Colour	Monochrome	Muted	Colourful	Garish	Pleasure	Offensive	Unattractive	Attractive	Beautiful
Balance	Harmonious	Balanced	Discordant	Chaotic	Visual Dynamic	Sweeping	Spreading	Dispersed	Channelled
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER:									
Brief Description: Gently undulating pastoral land. The topography rises towards Beinn Bhuidhe, with dense coniferous woodland throughout.									
Key Characteristics and Distinctive Features and why important:									
Rarity: Rare due to its Highland nature and location within the CNP. Pastoral land and built form is common form but the rising topograpy towards Beinn Bhuidhe adds to the rarity of the LLCA.									
Condition / Management: Pastoral land indicates well managed									
Built form and infrastructure: Buildings consist of predominantly white washed farm houses with slate roofs, fences, stone walls and minor roads									
Additional Comments (e.g. forces for change):									