

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 Dalnaspidal and Drumochter. **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, the Dalnaspidal and Drumochter Lodge/ Balsporran 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 three chartered landscape architects over a series of visits in 2014 through to 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 Drumochter Pass 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 November 2016, 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. Selected for Visual Assessment. 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: Pass of Drumochter | | Grid reference/Chainage: ch 4 000 | | | | | | | |
| Photo viewpoint reference(s): 5, 6, 7, 15, 16, and 17 | | | | | | | | | |
| Views across area (Mark on map): E, F, G, Q, R, H, W & X | | | | | | | | | |
| Nature of views: | Short | Medium | Long | | | | | | |
| Desire lines / Footpaths (Mark on map): | | | | | | | | | |
| LANDFORM / TOPOGRAPHY: | | | | | | | | | |
| Flat | Plain | Ravine | Strath | | | | | | |
| Undulating | Rolling Lowland | Glen | | | | | | | |
| Rolling | Plateau | Floodplain | | | | | | | |
| Steep | Scarp / Cliffs / Ridge | | | | | | | | |
| Vertical | Hills | | | | | | | | |
| Exposed Rock | Highland/Massif | | | | | | | | |
| LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS: | | | | | | | | | |
| Built Form | Farming | 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 | | | | |
| Ecclesiastic | Hedgerows- unmanaged | Rough Grassland | Isolated trees | | Pylons | | | | |
| Derelict Land | Fences | Forestry | Avenue | | Mobile phone masts | | | | |
| Railway buildings | | Quarry | Small blocks/ clumps | | Telegraph poles | | | | |
| 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: Narrow, steep sided pass enclosed by Creagan Doire Dhonaich and Boar of Badenoch. Hummocky moor and heather moraines cover the floor of the pass. The A9, Highland mainline railway and Beauly-Denny Powerline intersect the area. Small coniferous shelterbelt to the east of the A9. | | | | | | | | | |
| Key Characteristics and Distinctive Features and why important: Dramatic character formed by narrow pass and burnt umbre/sepia vegetation colour palette. | | | | | | | | | |
| Rarity: The enclosed character and vertical elements makes this area so unique. It is also the highest point on the A9. | | | | | | | | | |
| Condition / Management: Moorland results from historic clearnace of primordial forest. Management for grouse shooting by muirburn, which together with occasional deer grazing prevents succession to shrub/woodland. | | | | | | | | | |
| Built form and infrastructure: (incl. settlement form/vernacular style/local materials): infrastructure is intrusive and disrupts the landscape, non-native materials used and lack of screening. | | | | | | | | | |
| Additional Comments (e.g. forces for change): | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Site Location: Dail A Chuirn | | Grid reference/Chainage: ch 7 300 | | | | | | | |
| Photo viewpoint reference(s): 16 | | | | | | | | | |
| Views across area (Mark on map): 12, 13, 15, 17, 18, F, H | | | | | | | | | |
| Nature of views: | Short | Medium | Long | | | | | | |
| Desire lines / Footpaths (Mark on map): | | | | | | | | | |
| LANDFORM / TOPOGRAPHY: | | | | | | | | | |
| Flat Undulating Rolling Steep Vertical Exposed Rock | Plain Rolling Lowland Plateau Scarp / Cliffs / Ridge Hills Highland/Massif | Ravine Strath Glen Floodplain | | | | | | | |
| LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS: | | | | | | | | | |
| Built Form | Farming | Land Cover | Woodland /Trees | Hydrology | Infrastructure | | | | |
| Scattered Farms/ farmhouses Village Urban Urban Fringe Industry Military Archaeological / Historical features Ecclesiastic Derelict Land Railway buildings Bridge | Arable Pasture Mixed Rough Grazing Regular fields Irregular fields Walls Hedgerows- managed Hedgerows- unmanaged Fences | Parkland Amenity / recreation Scrub Marsh Bog Moor / heath Meadow Agriculture Rough Grassland Forestry Quarry | Deciduous woodland Coniferous plantation Mixed Woodland Shelterbelt Hedgerow trees Orchard Cope Coppice Isolated trees Avenue Small blocks/ clumps | River – natural River– engineered Canal Burn Drainage ditch / dyke Reservoir Loch Lochan | Motorway A Roads B Roads / Lanes Access track Footpaths Railway Canal Military Pylons Mobile phone masts Telegraph poles | | | | |
| 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: Open/shallow U-shaped strath floor made up of Dail A chuirn floodplain and shallow sloping sides. Coniferous shelterbelt plantation to the east of the A9 blocks views/impression of the character of this side of the area. Slopes are covered in open moorland with burnt umbre/speia winter vegetation colour palette. Two dwellings straddle the A9. | | | | | | | | | |
| Key Characteristics and Distinctive Features and why important: Long distance views north towards central Cairngorm peaks. Much more open character in contrast to Pass of Drumochter. Presence of dwellings adds add feeling of human intervention in the landscape. | | | | | | | | | |
| Rarity: | | | | | | | | | |
| Condition / Management: Moorland results from historic clearnace of primordial forest. Management for grouse shooting by muirburn, which together with occasional deer grazing prevents succession to shrub/woodland. | | | | | | | | | |
| Built form and infrastructure: (incl. settlement form/vernacular style/local materials): Drumochter Lodge and Balsporran cottages are dispersed. Drumochter Lodge located within woodland. Balsporran Cottages much more exposed. Both have characteristic white washed external walls and slate roofs. Drumochter Lodge has French style turret. | | | | | | | | | |
| Additional Comments (e.g. forces for change): | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Site Location: Dalnapsidal Forest | | Grid reference/Chainage: | | | | | | | |
| Photo viewpoint reference(s): 7, 9, 12, 15, 17 | | | | | | | | | |
| Views across area (Mark on map): 8, 10, 11, 13, A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H | | | | | | | | | |
| 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 | Farming | 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 | | | | |
| Ecclesiastic | Hedgerows- unmanaged | Rough Grassland | Isolated trees | | Pylons | | | | |
| Derelict Land | Fences | Forestry | Avenue | | Mobile phone masts | | | | |
| Railway buildings | | Quarry | Small blocks/ clumps | | Telegraph poles | | | | |
| 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 | Gaish | Pleasure | Offensive | Unattractive | Attractive | Beautiful |
| Balance | Harmonious | Balanced | Discordant | Chaotic | Visual Dynamic | Sweeping | Spreading | Dispersed | Channelled |
| LANDSCAPE CHARACTER: | | | | | | | | | |
| Brief Description: Defined by steep hills of varying topographical shape, separated by V-shaped valleys and ravines historically carved by glaciers, presently with burns running down, eastwards. Several small burns down the hillsides into the larger rivers below. Ground is covered by a mosaic of heather moorland, bog and rough grass. A collection of geological features including ridges, spurs, scree, moraines and rocky outcrops create varying character through the area. | | | | | | | | | |
| Key Characteristics and Distinctive Features and why important: Steep slopes forming and overlooking the strath floor. Clearly separated by side valleys. A distinct lack of infrastructure. | | | | | | | | | |
| Rarity: Individual summits each with varying character with long distance views north and south. | | | | | | | | | |
| Condition / Management: Moorland results from historic clearance of primordial forest. Management for grouse shooting by muirburn, which together with occasional deer grazing prevents succession to shrub/woodland. | | | | | | | | | |
| Built form and infrastructure: (incl. settlement form/vernacular style/local materials): Access roads are discrete and rock material fits well with context. | | | | | | | | | |
| Additional Comments (e.g. forces for change): | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Site Location: Southern Hill Slopes | | Grid reference/Chainage: | | | | | | | |
| Photo viewpoint reference(s): | | | | | | | | | |
| Views across area (Mark on map): 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 15, 17,10, H | | | | | | | | | |
| 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 | Farming | 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 | | | | |
| Ecclesiastic | Hedgerows- unmanaged | Rough Grassland | Isolated trees | | Pylons | | | | |
| Derelict Land | Fences | Forestry | Avenue | | Mobile phone masts | | | | |
| Railway buildings | | Quarry | Small blocks/ clumps | | Telegraph poles | | | | |
| 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: A continuous 'massif' cut but not divided, occasionally by small ravines with exposed rock and cascades. Vegetation characterised by heather moorland. Steep verging on sheer slopes rise up to the southern hill range plateau. | | | | | | | | | |
| Key Characteristics and Distinctive Features and why important: Continuous, undivided massif with impressive hillside rockwork and cascades. | | | | | | | | | |
| Rarity: The first 'massif' encountered along the A9, forms a precursor and a 'gateway' into the Cairngorm National Park. | | | | | | | | | |
| Condition / Management: Moorland results from historic clearnace of primordial forest. Management for grouse shooting by muirburn, which together with occasional deer grazing prevents succession to shrub/woodland. | | | | | | | | | |
| Built form and infrastructure: (incl. settlement form/vernacular style/local materials): Access tracks are discrete and rock used fits well with the context. | | | | | | | | | |
| Additional Comments (e.g. forces for change): | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Site Location: Loch Garry | | Grid reference/Chainage: | | | | | | | |
| Photo viewpoint reference(s): 5 | | | | | | | | | |
| Views across area (Mark on map): 4, 8 | | | | | | | | | |
| 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 | Farming | 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 | | | | |
| Derelect 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 | Gaish | Pleasure | Offensive | Unattractive | Attractive | Beautiful |
| Balance | Harmonious | Balanced | Discordant | Chaotic | Visual Dynamic | Sweeping | Spreading | Dispersed | Channelled |
| LANDSCAPE CHARACTER: | | | | | | | | | |
| Brief Description: Long narrow loch contained by steep, scree/moor covered eastern slope of Meall na Leitreach and a shallower slope of Meallan Buidhe. An access track runs | | | | | | | | | |
| Key Characteristics and Distinctive Features and why important: | | | | | | | | | |
| Rarity: | | | | | | | | | |
| Condition / Management: | | | | | | | | | |
| Built form and infrastructure: (incl. settlement form/vernacular style/local materials): | | | | | | | | | |
| Additional Comments (e.g. forces for change): | | | | | | | | | |

