

Annex 1K – Woodland Report**Section 4 – Eileanreach Estate****Contents**

1. Woodland Characteristics
2. Development Requirements
3. Wind Blow Risk
4. Woodland Management Impact
5. Mitigation Opportunities
 - a. Restructuring
 - b. Restocking
6. Net Effect/Summary
7. Compensatory planting

Figures

Figure 1 – Eileanreach Estate Location Plan

Figure 2 – Eileanreach Operational Corridor Felling Requirements

Figure 3 – Eileanreach Restock Plan

1. Woodland Characteristics

Eileanreach woodland within Eileanreach Estate would be affected by the proposed tower BF125. It is owned by The Trustees of Lord Dulverton's 1997 Settlement. The woodland is accessed from the unclassified Balvraid road south of Glenelg (see **Figure 1 - Location Plan**). The proposed OHL affects the woodland between towers BF124-BF126.

The woodland is managed under the Rural Development Contract Long Term Forest Plan (LTFP) Case Reference: 4098181.

Towers BF124-BF126

The tree species present within this woodland site include Lodgepole pine (LP) and Sitka spruce (SS). There are areas of sporadic wind throw damage to the north east of the plantation. There is no information available as to felling phase proposals within the LTFP. Additional felling would be required out with the OC to create a windfirm edge, but this would not form part of the ancillary works for the section 37 application for consent.

2. Development Requirements

A resilient OC of 40m in width either side of the OHL would be required throughout this woodland site. This allows for the widest part of the tower and an allowance for maintaining the necessary safety clearance distances.

Existing access tracks and the creation of new tracks would be utilised to access towers BF124-BF126

Tree felling and timber extraction of the woodland within Towers BF124-BF126 would be able to utilise existing forestry tracks, prior to any construction activity.

Stump removal and residue mulching would be required for the installation of access tracks within the OC and at each steel lattice tower, working areas would be formed and which would include a temporary crane pad.

3. Wind Blow Risk

There is a low-medium wind blow risk across much of the woodland (DAMS Score of 15). The proposed OC would result in a green edge to the prevailing wind necessitating additional felling out-with the OC to reach a stable edge.

In areas where the trees are smaller due to age or exposure then the wind blow risk is reduced along with the requirement for additional felling to wind firm boundaries.

4. Woodland Management Impact

The OHL would create additional challenges for the future management of the woodland as it dissects existing management units and introduces an electrical hazard. The constraint associated with the electrical hazard would be reduced by regular maintenance of the OC which would avoid the incidences of "Red Zone" trees (reference FISA 804 "Electricity at Work: Forestry"). As part of construction works, dedicated crossing points would be discussed once the OHL has been constructed, thus ensuring safe future working within the woodland.

The total loss of native broadleaved woodland resulting from the Proposed Development in this woodland site is nil.

5. Mitigation Opportunities

a. Restructuring

Clear felling and restocking of Eileanreach Woodland is planned to be undertaken by the landowner in the future, regardless of development felling, as detailed in the LTFP. It is recognised that the proposed route may result in felling being brought forward which would impact on the remaining proposed LTFP felling coupes in the LTFP area and may require substitute changes in the wider plan area to smooth timber production. The felling of the OC for the Proposed Development would create a new green edge, allowing the landowner to carry out future clear fell more safely in proximity to the new OHL.

b. Restocking

Any opportunity to restock within the OC would be discussed with the landowner following felling to link in with adjacent planned felling coupes where appropriate.

Refer to **Figure 3** for a plan showing on-site restocking with Eileanreach Woodland.

6. Net Effect/Summary

Tower Span	Operational Requirements
BF124-BF126	Gross area of OC felling required, undertaken by the Applicant. - Commercial woodland LP/SS – fell to windfirm edge - 1.36 ha
Additional area of recommended felling outside OC for wind throw or forest design purposes (Landowner to fell under forest plan revision or felling licence)	Clear fell to windfirm edge – LP/SS – 3.6 ha
Compensatory Planting Options	
Potential onsite replacement planting/ regeneration within OC	0
Net effect (Loss of Woodland)	1.36
Operational Works	
	Total Area (ha)
Clear fell harvesting	1.36
Felling out with OC	3.6
TOTAL	4.96

7. Compensatory Planting

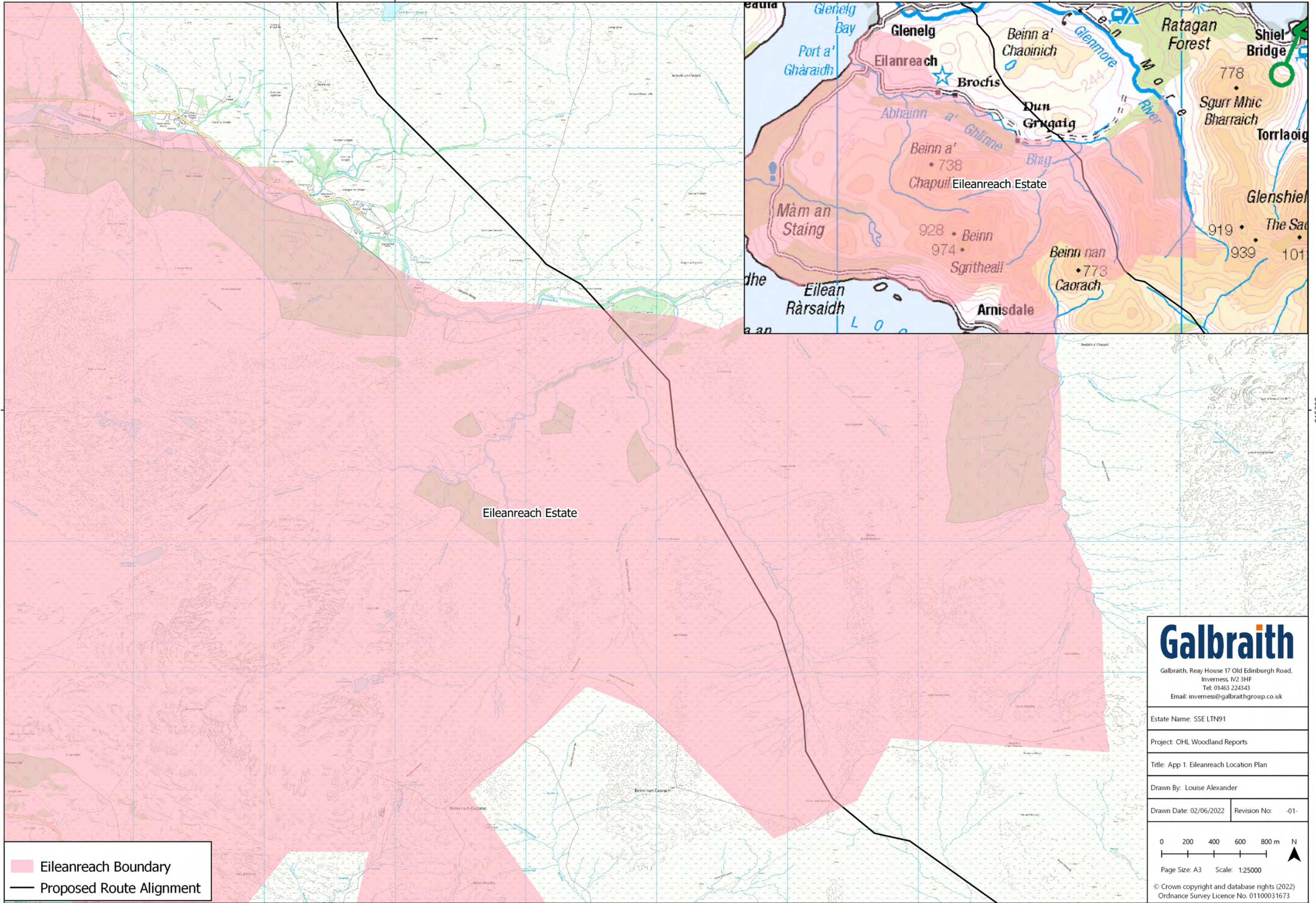
The total amount of net felling requiring compensation under the Control of Woodland Removal Policy is 1.36 ha.

In order to provide a greater balance limiting long term impacts on forestry interests it is proposed that the majority of this woodland loss is compensated via offsite compensatory planting. It is proposed that full details of the areas subject to this offsite compensatory planting is notified to Scottish Forestry prior to energising the OHL.

The dismantling of the existing 132 kV OHL could allow potential opportunities for compensatory planting where practical and in agreement with the landowner.

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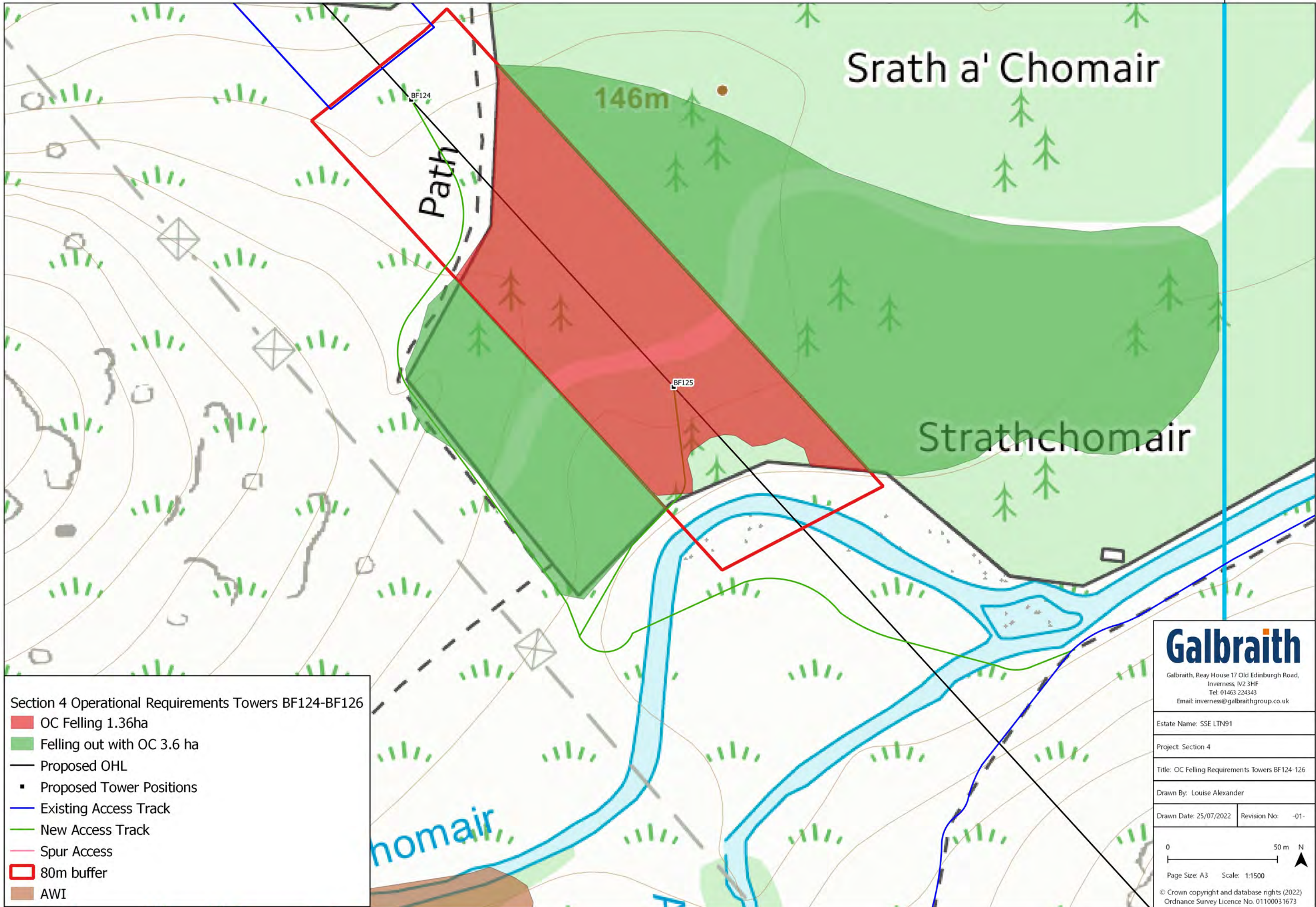
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Eileanreach Boundary
 Proposed Route Alignment

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Estate Name: SSE LTN91
 Project: OHL Woodland Reports
 Title: App 1. Eileanreach Location Plan
 Drawn By: Louise Alexander
 Drawn Date: 02/06/2022 Revision No: -01-

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Strath a' Chomair

Strathchomair

Section 4 Operational Requirements Towers BF124-BF126

- OC Felling 1.36ha
- Felling out with OC 3.6 ha
- Proposed OHL
- Proposed Tower Positions
- Existing Access Track
- New Access Track
- Spur Access
- 80m buffer
- AWI

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Estate Name: SSE LTN91

Project: Section 4

Title: OC Felling Requirements Towers BF124-126

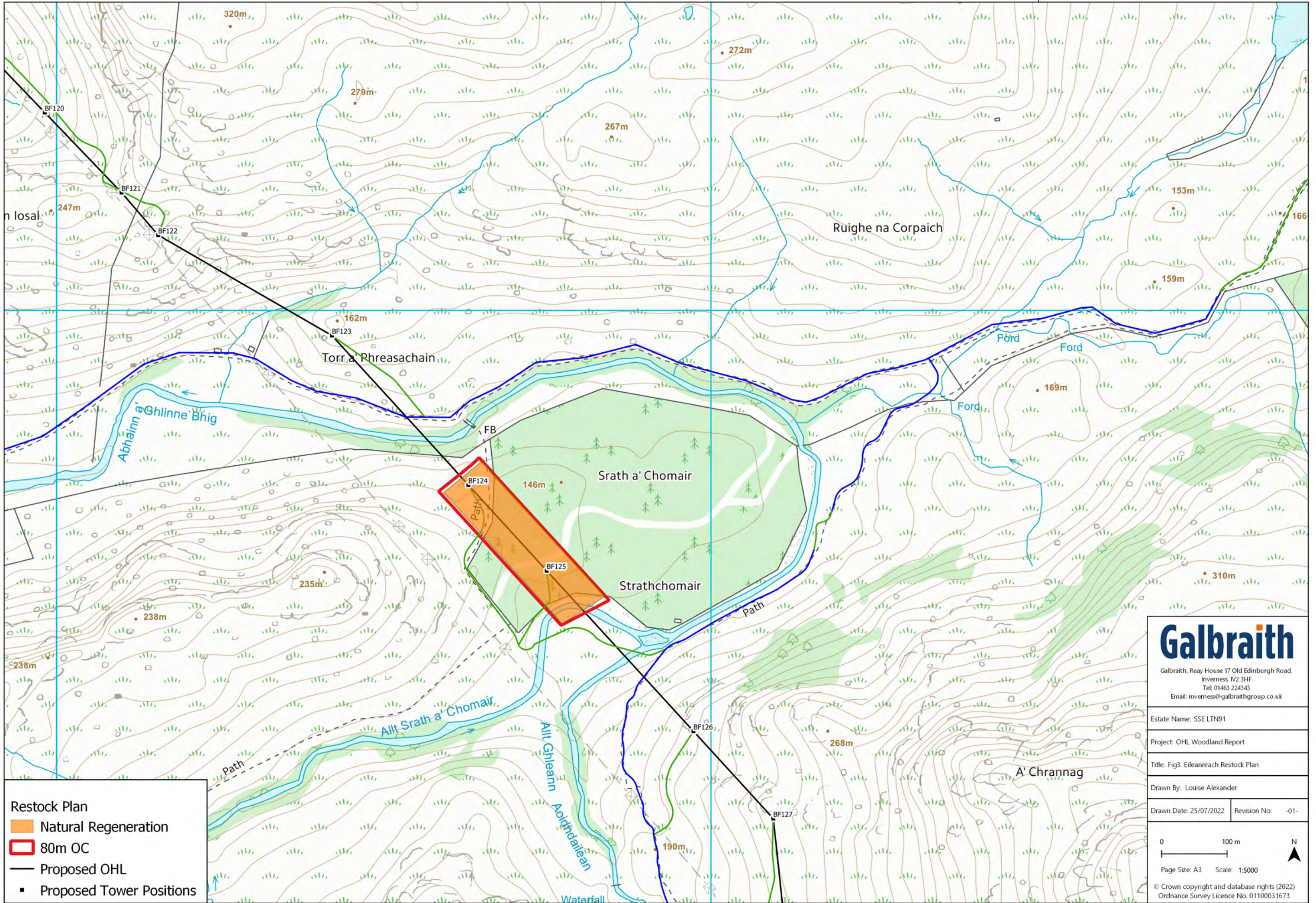
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Restock Plan

- Natural Regeneration
- 80m OC
- Proposed OHL
- Proposed Tower Positions

Galbraith

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Estate Name: SSE LTN91	
Project: OHL Woodland Report	
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