

**Annex 1M – Woodland Report.****Section 4 – Kinloch Hourn Estate****Contents**

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Figure 2b – Operational Corridor Felling Requirements BF170 - BF179

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Figure 3 – Kinlochourn Restock Plan

**1. Woodland Characteristics**

Kinlochourn Woodland is owned by Kinloch Hourn Estate. The woodland is accessed from the unclassified Loch Hourn Road, approximately 23 miles west of Invergarry (see **Figure 1 – Kinloch Hourn Location Plan**). This native woodland has upland birch (W4) as its principal species. The proposed OHL affects this woodland between towers BF157-BF183.

The woodland has no active management plan.

Towers BF157-BF161

Mature upland birch woodland (W4). The woodland is recorded on the Ancient Woodland Inventory (AWI) as Ancient of semi-natural origin. Open scattered habitat.



Upland birch woodland, towers BF157-BF158



Upland birch woodland, towers BF160-BF161

Towers BF170-BF171

Mature upland birch woodland (W4). The woodland is recorded on the AWI as Ancient of semi-natural origin. Open scattered habitat.



Open scattered W4 habitat

Towers BF175-BF179

Mature upland birch woodland (W4). The woodland is recorded on the AWI as Ancient of semi-natural origin. Open scattered habitat. Mature policy woodlands to the south of Towers BF177-BF179.



Upland birch woodlands





Upland birch and oak woodlands



Policy conifer woodlands

Towers BF182-BF183

Mature upland birch and oak woodland (W4/17). The woodland is recorded on the AWI as Ancient of semi-natural origin. Additional felling required on existing access track out with OC. Open scattered habitat



Upland birch woodland within gully.



Oak woodland.

## 2. Development Requirements

A resilient OC of 15m in width either side of the OHL would be required throughout the AWI woodland site. This would be increased to 30 m in width either side of the OHL within the semi-natural broadleaved area. This allows for the widest part of the tower and an allowance for maintaining the necessary safety clearance distances.

The existing access tracks through Kinlochourn Estate would be utilised to access Towers BF157-BF183.

The felling of the woodland within the OC for Towers BF157-BF161, BF170-BF171, BF175-BF179 and BF182-BF183 would be able to utilise existing tracks, prior to any construction activity. These roads are unsuitable for extraction so the trees would be felled to waste.

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).

### **4. Woodland Management Impact**

The total loss of Native Broadleaved woodland resulting from the proposed OHL in this woodland site is 1.29 ha.

### **5. Mitigation Opportunities**

The reduction in the OC within the AWI and broadleaved areas would reduce the impact on native woodland within this area. The native upland birch and oak woodland is likely to regenerate into the OC in vicinity of the OC r post construction and present an opportunity to replace some of the woodland loss from the construction of the towers and OHL.

#### **a. Restructuring**

There is currently no active management plan for the woodland area. The proposed felling would have no impact on future works.

#### **b. Restocking**

It is anticipated that native broadleaved regeneration is likely to occur within the OC from towers BF157-BF161, BF170-BF171, BF175-BF179 and BF182-BF183 due to the presence of mature birch and oak woodlands.

Any opportunity to restock within the OC would be discussed with the landowner following felling

Refer to **Figure 3** for plan showing the on-site restocking.

## 6. Net Effect/Summary

<b>Tower Span</b>	<b>Operational Requirements</b>
BF157-BF161	Gross area of OC felling required, undertaken by the Applicant. - Native woodland 0.28 ha
BF170-BF171	Gross area of OC felling required, undertaken by the Applicant. - Native woodland 0.13ha
BF175-BF179	Gross area of OC felling required, undertaken by the Applicant. - Native woodland 0.61 ha
BF182-BF183	Gross area of OC felling required, undertaken by the Applicant. - Native woodland 0.13ha
Existing Access Track	Accommodating 12m buffer – 0.14 ha native woodland to be felled.
<b>Compensatory Planting Options</b>	
Potential onsite replacement planting/ regeneration within OC	0
Net effect (Loss of Woodland)	1.29 ha
<b>Operational Works</b>	
	<b>Total Area (ha)</b>
Clear fell harvesting	1.15
Existing Access Tracks	0.14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1.29</b>

## 7. Compensatory Planting

The total amount of net felling requiring compensation under the Control of Woodland Removal Policy is 1.29 ha.

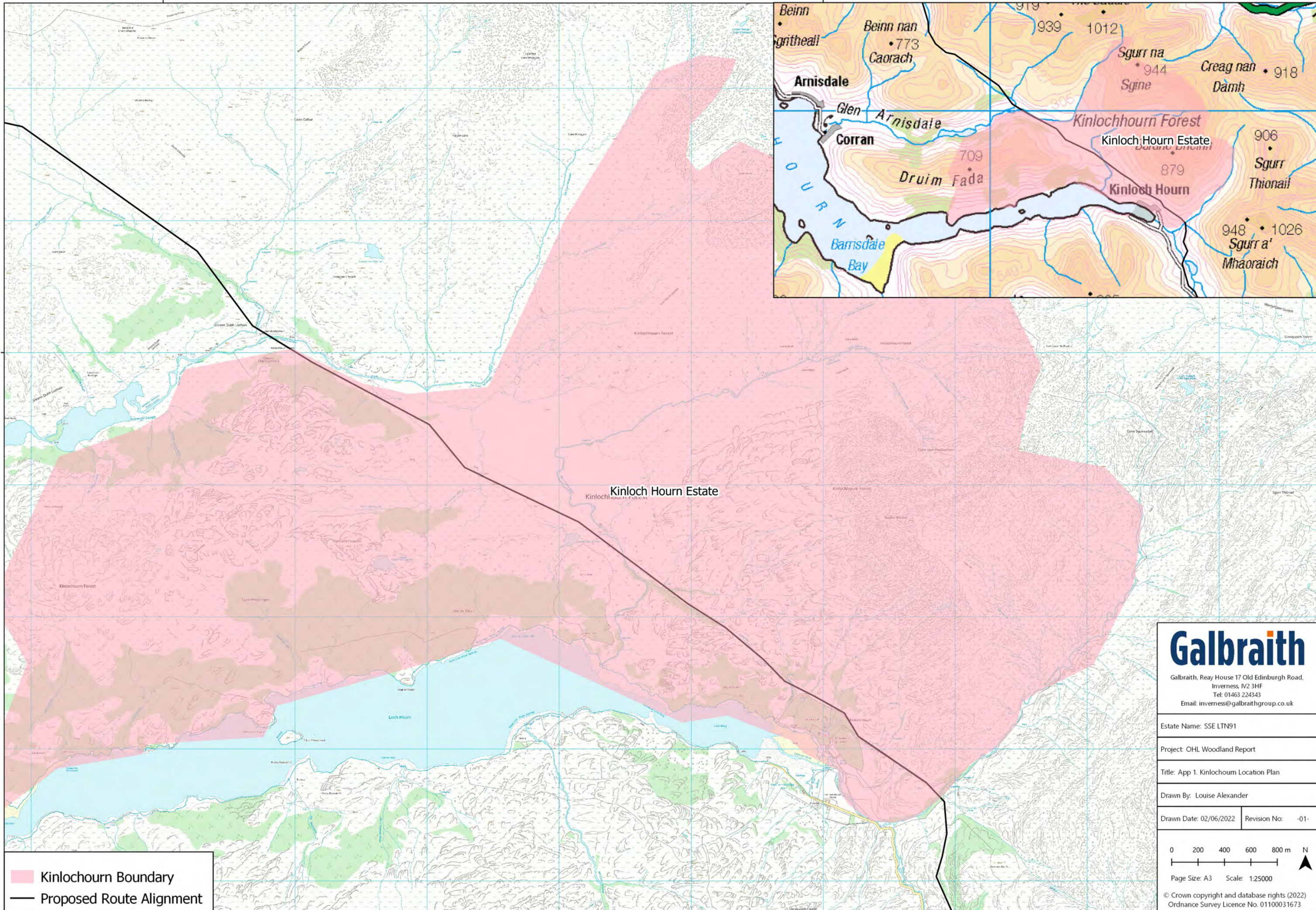
In order to provide a greater balance limiting long term impacts on forestry interests it is proposed that the majority of this woodland loss is compensated via offsite compensatory planting. It is proposed that full details of the areas subject to this offsite compensatory planting is notified to Scottish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

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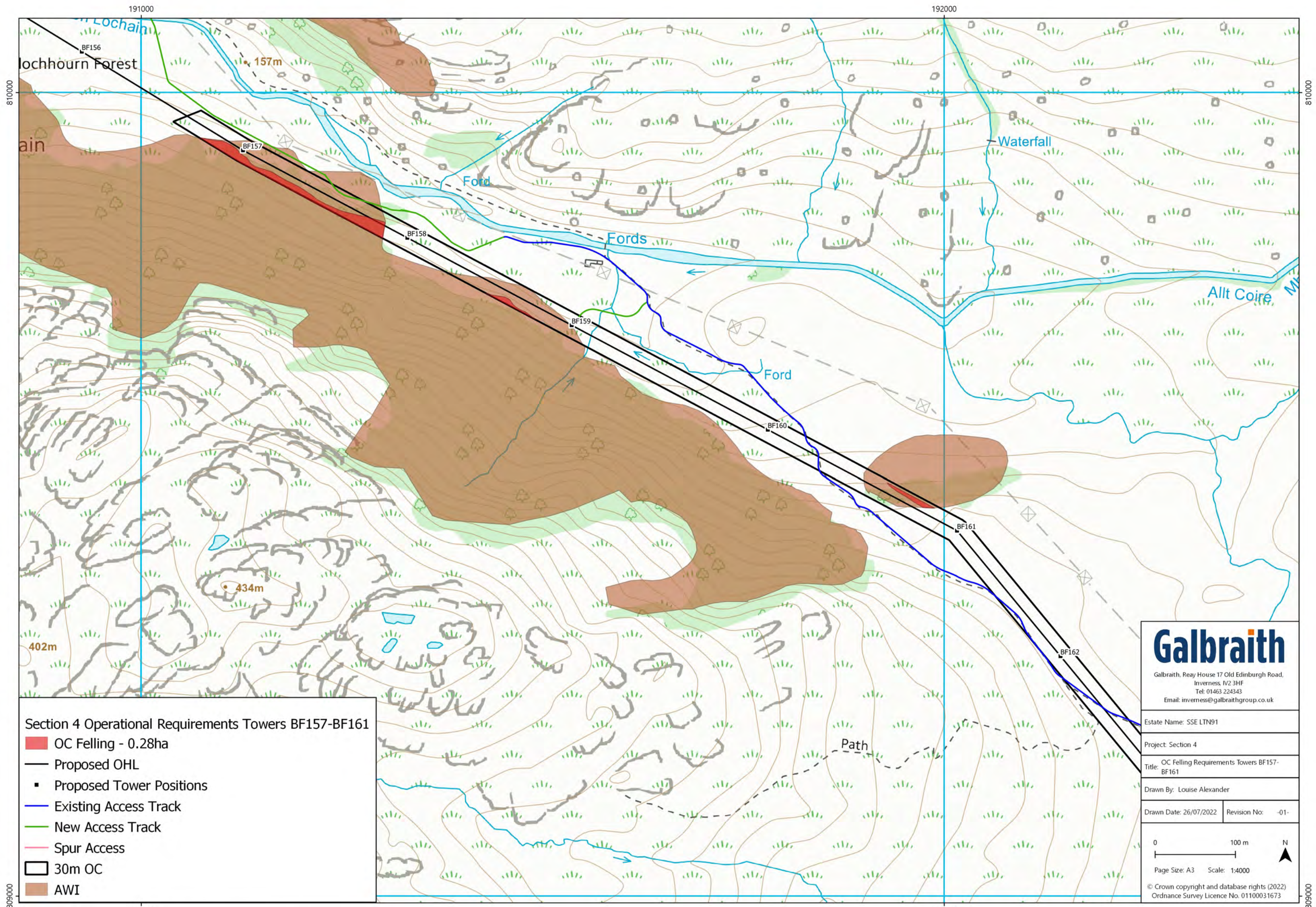
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Drawn Date: 02/06/2022	Revision No: -01-

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**Section 4 Operational Requirements Towers BF157-BF161**

- OC Felling - 0.28ha
- Proposed OHL
- Proposed Tower Positions
- Existing Access Track
- New Access Track
- Spur Access
- 30m OC
- AWI

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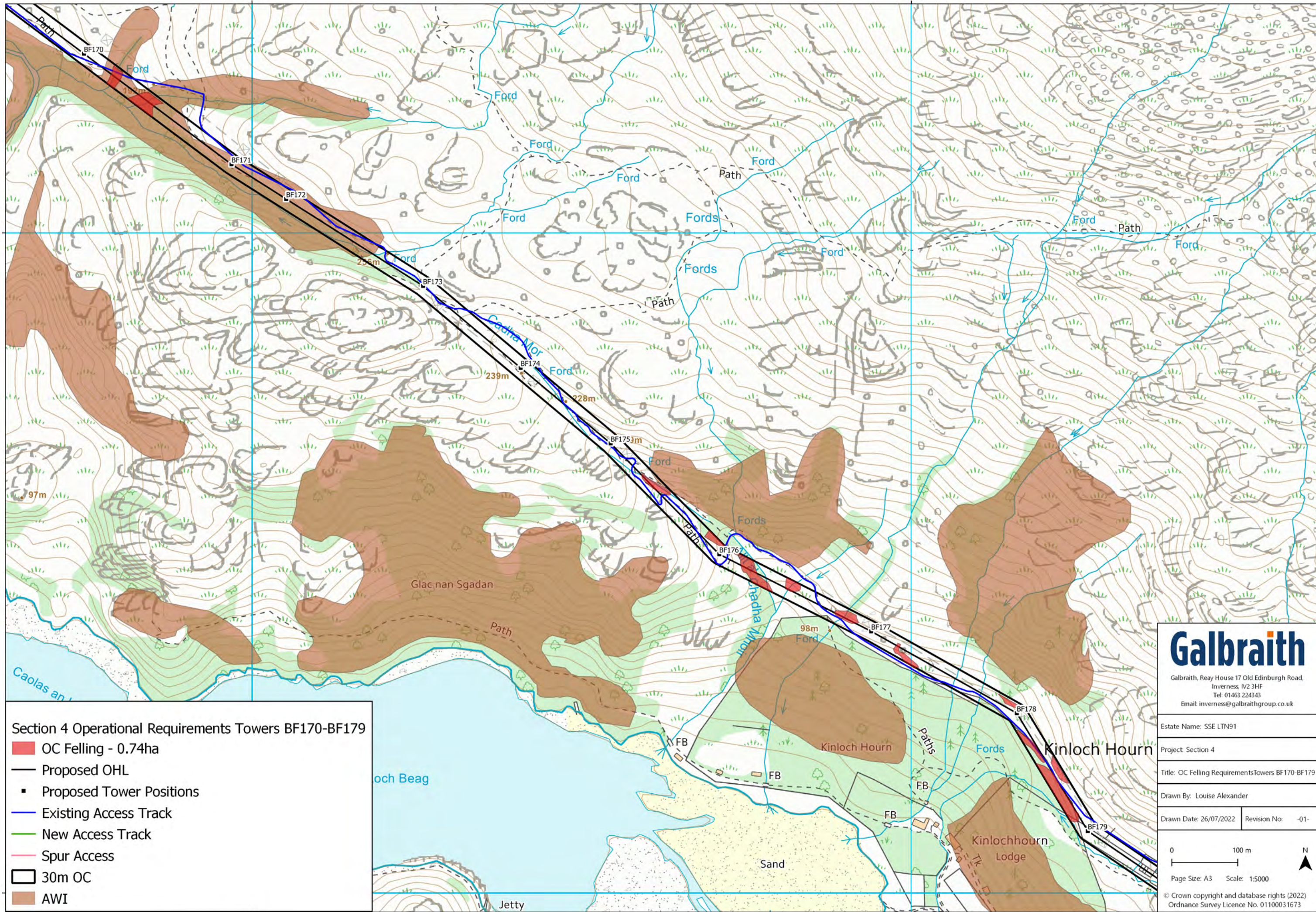
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**Section 4 Operational Requirements Towers BF170-BF179**

- OC Felling - 0.74ha
- Proposed OHL
- Proposed Tower Positions
- Existing Access Track
- New Access Track
- Spur Access
- 30m OC
- AWI

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Estate Name: SSE LTN91

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Project: Section 4

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Title: OC Felling Requirements Towers BF170-BF179

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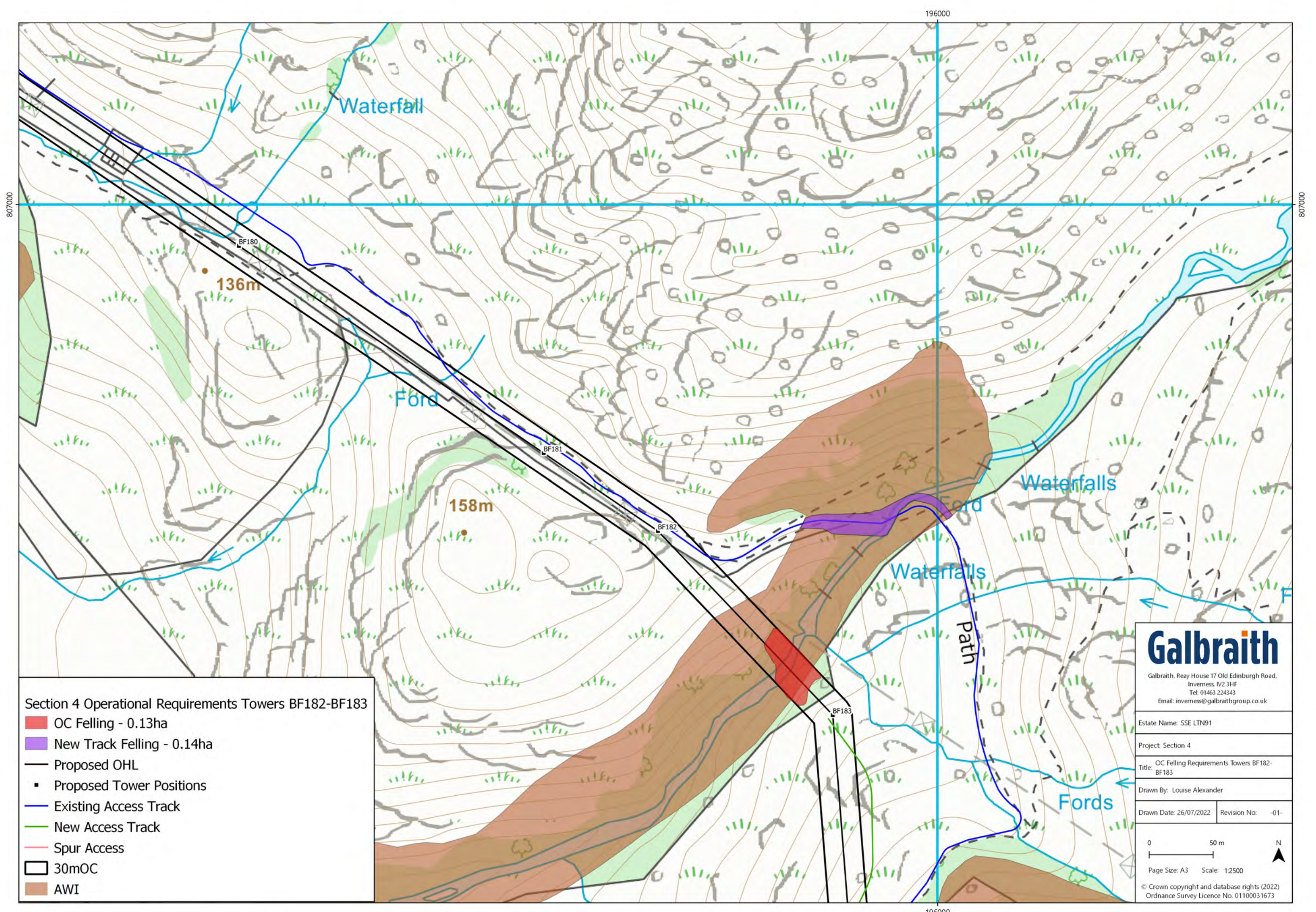
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Section 4 Operational Requirements Towers BF182-BF183

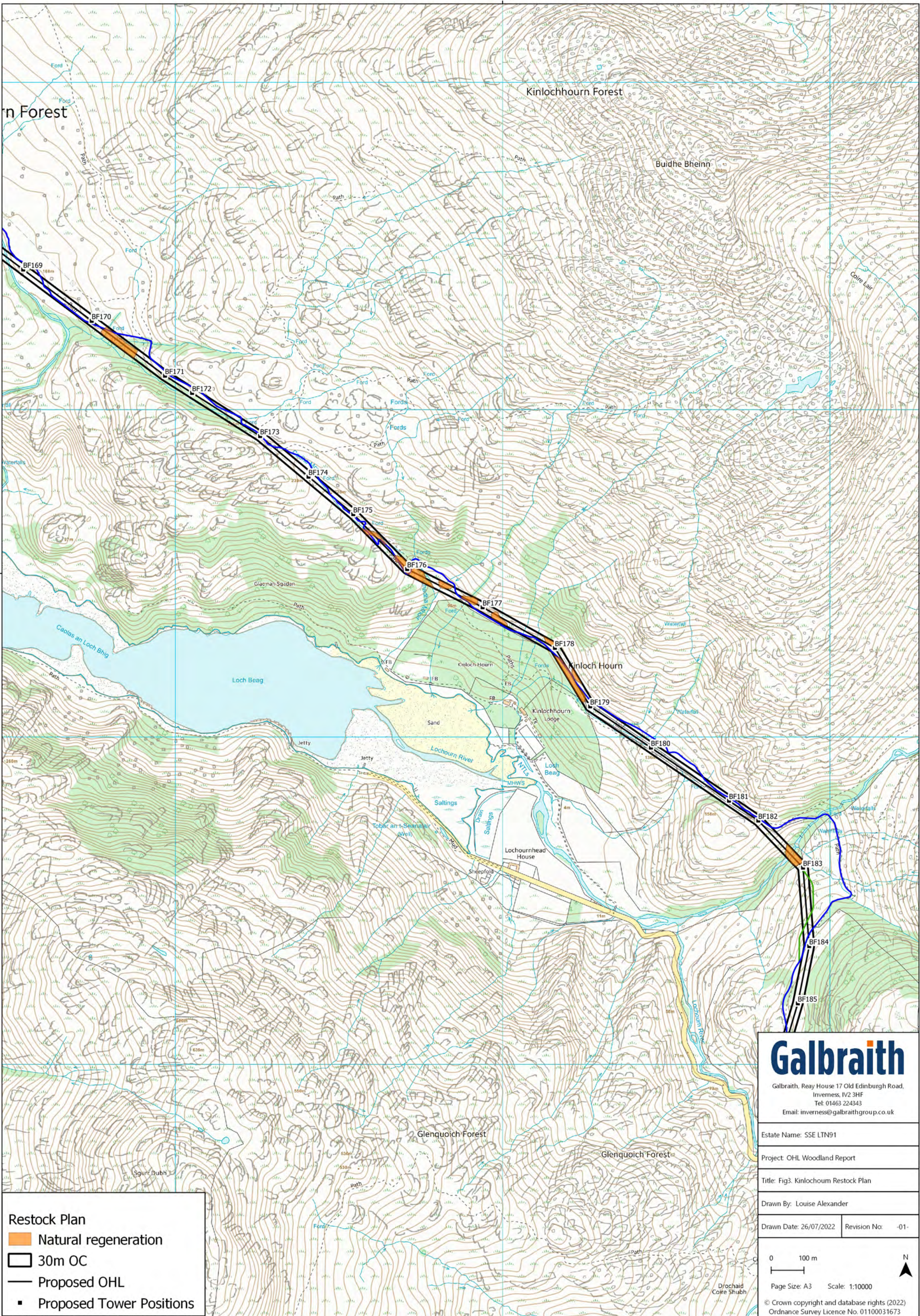
- OC Felling - 0.13ha
- New Track Felling - 0.14ha
- Proposed OHL
- Proposed Tower Positions
- Existing Access Track
- New Access Track
- Spur Access
- 30mOC
- AWI

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**Restock Plan**

- Natural regeneration
- 30m OC
- Proposed OHL
- Proposed Tower Positions

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Estate Name: SSE LTN91

Project: OHL Woodland Report

Title: Fig3. Kinlochhour Restock Plan

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