

**Annex 1S – Woodland Report****Section 5 - Leacan Dubha****Contents**

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4. Woodland Management Impact
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Figure 1 – Leacan Dubha Location Plan

Figure 2 – Leacan Dubh Operational Corridor Felling Requirements

Figure 3 – Leacan Dubha Restock Plan

## 1. Woodland Characteristics

Leacan Dubha woodland is privately owned. The woodland is accessed from the A87, approximately 2 miles west of Invergarry (see **Figure 1**). This native woodland has upland birch (W4) as its principal species. The proposed OHL affects this woodland between towers BF324-BF327.

The woodland has no active management plan.

### Towers BF324-BF327

Scattered open habitat of native upland birch woodland (W4), and historical native woodland planting scheme. OC runs through the edge of the native woodland with a more scattered planting creating a natural green edge. Small sections of the woodland are recorded within the Ancient Woodland Inventory (AWI) as Ancient semi-natural origin.



## 2. Development Requirements

A resilient OC of 15m in width either side of the OHL would be required throughout the AWI area. This allows for the widest part of the tower and an allowance for maintaining the necessary safety clearance distances.

A private farm road serves towers BF324-BF327, accessed from the A87 road.

Tree felling and extraction would be able to utilise existing tracks, prior to any construction activity.

Stump removal and residue mulching would be required for the installation of tracks within the operational corridor 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 14).

## 4. Woodland Management Impact

The total loss of Native Broadleaved woodland resulting from the Proposed Development in this woodland site is 0.35 hectares (ha) (see **Figure 2**).

## 5. Mitigation Opportunities

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

### 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 BF324-BF327 due to the presence of mature birch woodlands. Any opportunity to restock within the OC would be discussed with the landowner following felling.

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

## 6. Net Effect/Summary

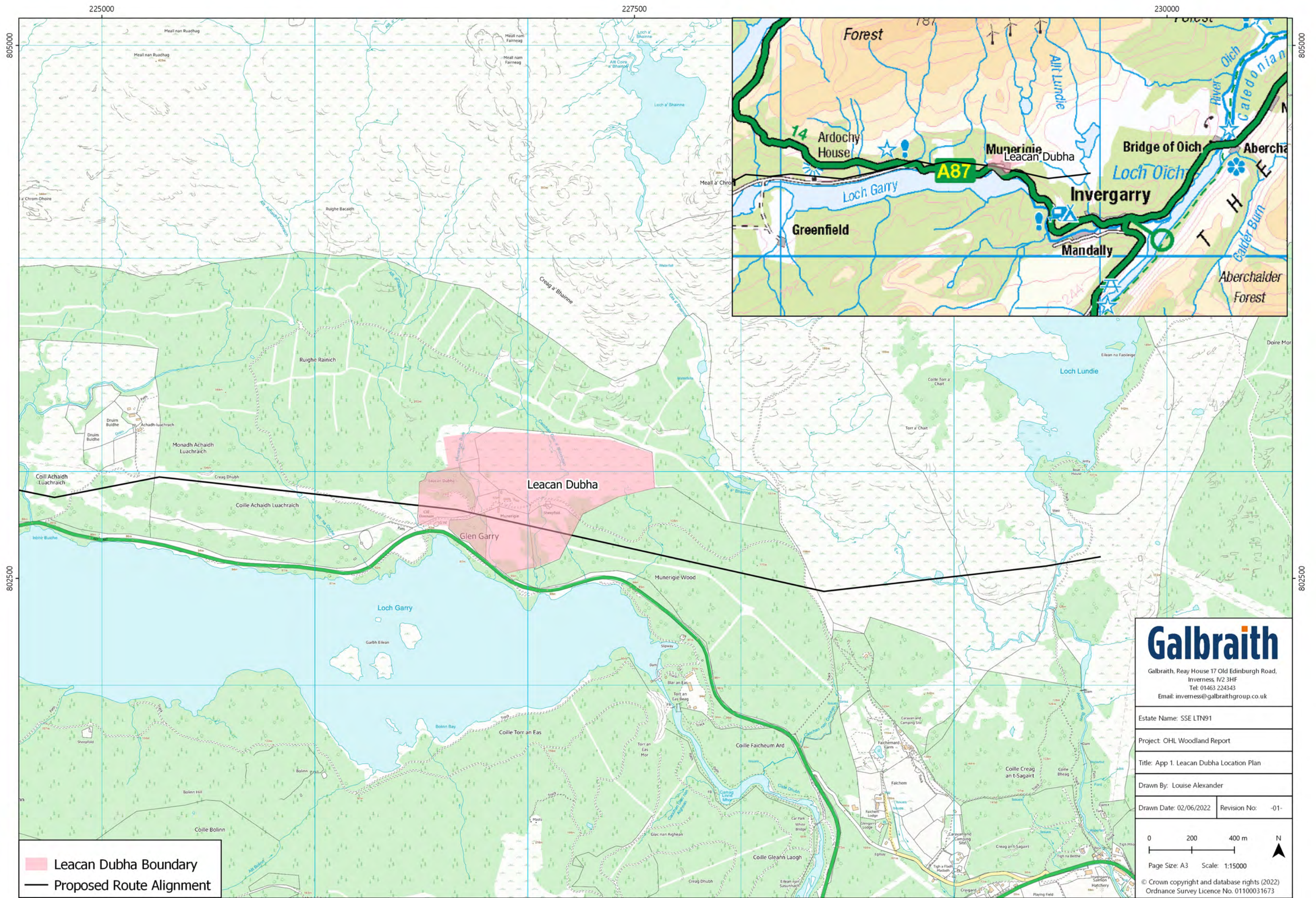
Tower Span	Operational Requirements
BF324-BF327	Gross area of OC felling required, undertaken by the Applicant. - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Native woodland edge. 0.35 ha</li> </ul>
Compensatory Planting Options	
Potential onsite replacement planting/ regeneration within OC	0
Nett effect (Loss of Woodland)	0.35 ha
Operational Works	
	Total Area (ha)
Clear fell harvesting	0.35
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.35</b>

## 7. Compensatory Planting

The total amount of net felling requiring compensation under the Control of Woodland Removal Policy is 0.35 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.

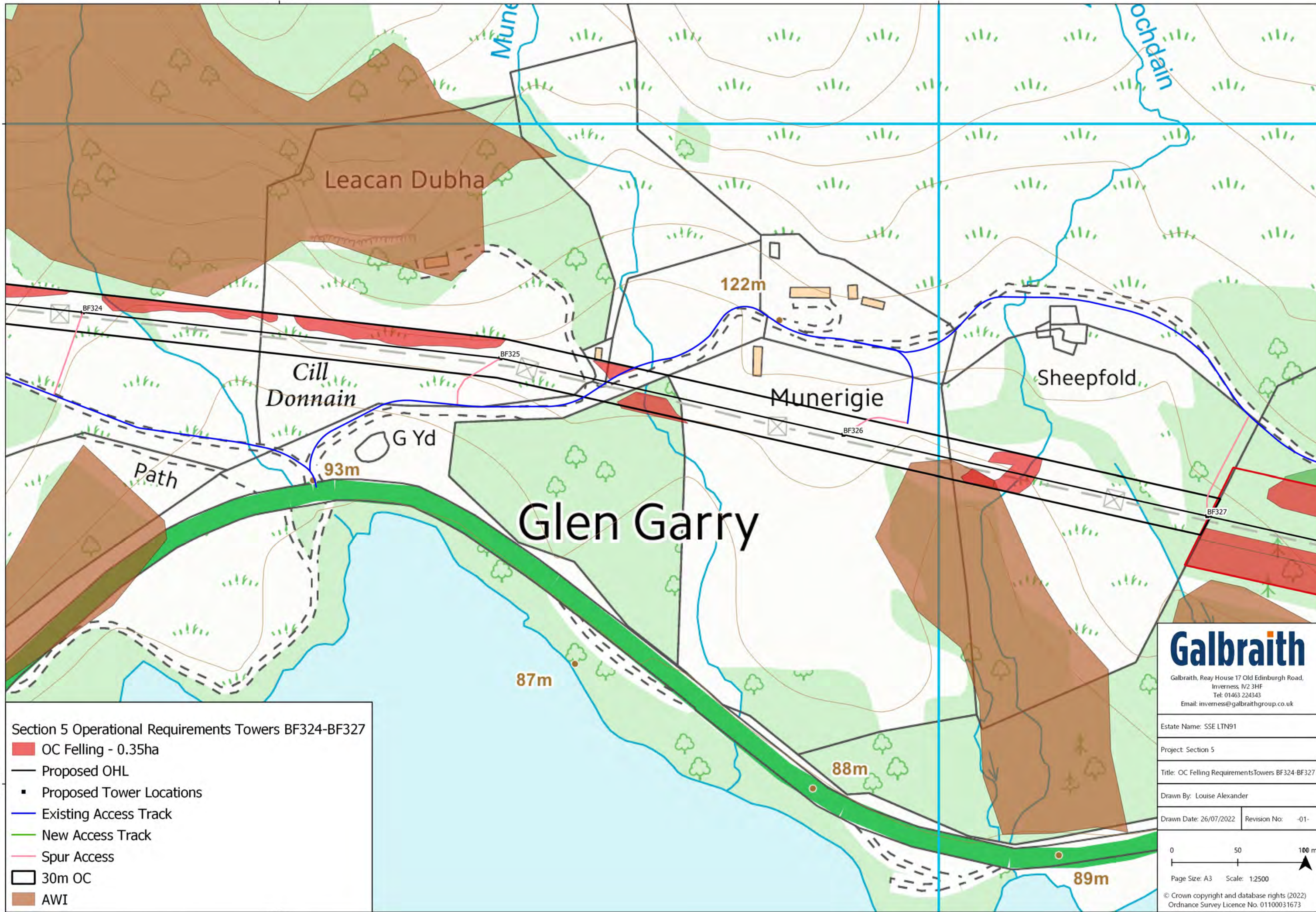


Leacan Dubha Boundary  
 Proposed Route Alignment

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 Title: App 1. Leacan Dubha Location Plan  
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 Drawn Date: 02/06/2022    Revision No: -01-

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**Section 5 Operational Requirements Towers BF324-BF327**

- OC Felling - 0.35ha
- Proposed OHL
- Proposed Tower Locations
- Existing Access Track
- New Access Track
- Spur Access
- 30m OC
- AWI

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**Restock Plan**

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

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