Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks

Spittal to Loch Buidhe to Beauly 400 kV OHL Connection

Environmental Impact Assessment

Volume 5, Appendix 13.1 – X:

Woodland Reports

Novar Estate

July 2025

Contents

1. Introduction

1.1 Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) Transmission, hereafter referred to as 'the Applicant', owns, operates, develops and maintains the high voltage electricity transmission system in the north of Scotland and the Scottish islands. Due to the growth in renewable electricity generation in the north and north-east of Scotland, upgrade of the transmission network is required to provide the necessary increase in transmission capacity. The Applicant is applying for consent under Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989 to construct and operate a new double circuit 400 (kilovolt) kV overhead line (OHL).

1.2 This report provides an assessment of woodland impact related to the Spittal to Loch Buidhe to Beauly 400 kV OHL Connection project (the 'Proposed Development'). The report details the woodland area affected by the Operational Corridor (OC), new access tracks (permanent), and additional felling required due to windblow risk within individual ownerships. It also includes mitigation considerations and compensatory planting recommendations.

2. Purpose of this Woodland Report

2.1 As part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, it was identified that construction of the OHL and associated access tracks would cross a number of woodland areas within both public and private landholdings. The landholding property boundaries are identified in **Figure 1: Woodland Impacted by the Proposed Development**.

2.2 This document provides an assessment of the woodland areas that are affected by the Proposed Development, including the requirement for woodland removal and management recommendations to mitigate the impact of the woodland removal.

2.3 Field surveys of the woodland areas have been undertaken and have been used to determine the various woodland characteristics to identify the woodland removal required and recommended. This document also sets out the area, in hectares (ha), of compensatory planting required to ensure no net loss of woodland is achieved.

3. Woodland Property

3.1 Novar estate is a large property consisting of a mix of woodlands and open moorland at higher elevations. It is located approximately 12 km north of Dingwall, with the nearest major public roads being the B817, B917, and A9 to the southeast. The estate can be accessed via a minor public road leading to Swordale in the south and to Boath in the north. Access to different parts of the estate depends on where it is intended to reach, with the southern areas most easily reached from Evanton, while the northern sections are more accessible from Alness.

3.1 The estate features an extensive and upgraded network of tracks spanning the entire property, providing access to the moorland and higher ground and connecting to a

previously constructed wind farm scheme. Refer to **Figure 1: Woodland Impacted by the Proposed Development**.

4. Development Requirements

4.1 400 kV Operational Corridor

4.1.1 With reference to **Figure 1: Woodland Impacted by the Proposed Development**, the OHL sections relevant to Novar estate extend from 100 m north of Tower S82 to just over 170 m south of Tower S121.

4.1.2 The Study Area for this assessment is based around an operational corridor of 90 m. The Applicant defines the OC as the area in which it has rights to remove woodland for the purposes of creation of new OHL, resilience and maintenance of OHLs, or protection of electrical plant as required by the Electricity Safety, Quality and Continuity Regulations (ESQCR) 2002 regulations and The Electricity Act 1989. The OC is defined as to the distance at which a tree could fall and cause damage to the OHL, resulting in a supply outage. As a result, the final OC width would be based on the safety distance required from the OHL centreline to allow for a mature tree falling towards the OHL, taking account of topography and tree height at maturity.

4.1.3 The OC width that has been assessed and identified for the safe build and energisation of the new OHL through areas of conifer woodland is 90 m (45 m either side of the OHL centreline). Further details can be found in **Section 13.3** of **Volume 2, Chapter 13: Forestry** which outlines the extent of the study area.

4.1.4 The OC width that has been assessed and identified for the safe build and energisation of the OHL through the areas of broadleaves is also 90 m (45 m either side of the OHL centreline). This has been assessed as a maximum OC width required at these woodland locations, with the potential of further narrowing of the OC prior to construction to allow greater tree retention depending on factors such as tree height, topography, crown reduction or other mitigation strategies[1].

4.2 Access Track Route Design

4.2.1 An existing infrastructure network within the property provides access to various areas of the woodlands and is in proximity to the Proposed Development features; however, new sections of both temporary and permanent access tracks will be constructed within and outside the OC.

4.2.2 These access tracks will serve as the primary vehicle access route for the Proposed Development, as illustrated in **Figure 1: Woodland Impacted by the**

[1]As specified by the 'Red Zone' set out in paragraph 41 of the Forest Industry Safety Accord. (2020) Safety Guide 804 Electricity at Work: Forestry. [pdf] Available at: FISA 804 (ukfisa.com).

Proposed Development, and will undergo maintenance and upgrades as part of the construction scope.

4.2.3 New access tracks, also detailed in **Figure 1: Woodland Impacted by the Proposed Development** will be built to service Towers S82 to S121.

4.2.4 The access track corridor width required for clearing through the woodland is 20 m (10 m on either side of the centreline), but this will be evaluated in situ to determine the suitability for further tree retention.

4.2.5 The construction of these new access tracks will increase the impact of woodland removal along routes located outside the OC. The affected woodland along the new access tracks will consist of a similar composition to that found within the OC, featuring a combination of coniferous plantations and broadleaved woodlands, depending on the location of the access tracks. Refer to **Table 9.1** below.

4.2.6 Tree felling, stump removal and residue mulching will be required for the installation of new access tracks and at each tower location for the formation of temporary construction working areas.

4.2.7 These access tracks can serve as the main arterial construction route. Tree felling and timber extraction would be able to utilise existing tracks, prior to any construction activity.

4.2.8 Where existing tracks require maintenance or upgrading, this may involve the removal of trees and scrub to facilitate the works, particularly to accommodate the creation of additional passing places. While much of the upgrade activity would fall within standard forest access maintenance, which typically involves the removal of scrub, regeneration, and crown management, some sections may require additional tree clearance within a corridor of up to 12 m in width.

5. Woodland Characteristics

5.1 A desk-based study of the woodland areas was conducted, to identify current woodland environmental designations and classifications.

5.2 The web-based data provided by Scottish Forestry and referencing the Scottish Government's Ancient Woodland Inventory (AWI), and

- The Scottish Forestry Map Viewer provides spatial data on the Native Woodland Survey of Scotland (NWSS) and classifies the woodland types into four categories[2] [3]:

1. Native woodland
2. Nearly-native woodland
3. Open land habitat
4. Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS)

5.3 The property is located at central Grid ref NH 57019 71071 within the open ground at highest elevation.

5.4 . The woodland characteristics in the property include a diverse mix of coniferous plantations some of them being classified as LEPO or Native Woodlands and broadleaved designated as AWSNO. The existing woodlands predominantly feature semi-mature commercial conifer with Scots pine, spruce with lesser amounts of other conifer species, larch and lodgepole pine and some scattered broadleaves. Broadleaved areas of predominantly upland birchwood. Overall, the woodlands exhibit varying species composition and structural complexity, contributing to the landscape's biodiversity. Refer to **Table 5.1.**

5.5 The Proposed Development crosses Novar estate from north to south, passing through distinct areas of woodland and open ground. The Operational Corridor (OC) within Novar estate can be divided into three differentiated areas. In the north, the OC passes through woodlands near Loch Morie and the River Averon, particularly around Boath. The central section is characterized by higher elevations, consisting mainly of open ground and moorland, running east of the existing wind farm at Cnoc Gille Mo Bhriana and parallel to Strath Mor glen. In the south, the estate extends towards Glen Glass with River Glass and Allt nan Caorach burn, reaching the boundary with neighbouring land west of Swordale Hill.

5.6 The woodlands within this ownership are generally situated on moderate slopes, transitioning into steeper terrain, particularly around the depressions of the two main watercourses—River Glass and Allt nan Caorach burn in the south and River Averon in the north—where the landscape features steeper foothills and cliffs leading into riparian areas.

---

[2] Scottish Forestry Map Viewer URL https://scottishforestry.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=0d6125cfe892439ab0e5d0b74d9acc18

[3] Scottish Forestry Native Woodland Survey of Scotland: Glossary of Terms; URL: Main Title (forestry.gov.scot)
Native Woodland – woods where the canopy cover is composed mainly of native species (i.e., over 50%).
Nearly Native Woodland - where native species make up between 40% and 50% of the canopy. These are woods that could have potential to be converted into native woodlands by altering their species mix.
Open Land Habitat – areas with <20% canopy cover of trees and shrubs adjoining a native woodland.
PAWS - Plantation on Ancient Woodland Sites. These are surveyed in the NWSS where they are recorded in the Scottish ancient woodland inventory (SAWI). These woodlands appear to have originated through natural regeneration sometime before the mid-19th century, but were later converted to planted wood.

5.7 While the terrain is largely undulating with pronounced slopes, the orientation of the woodlands varies across the estate. In the northern sections, north of the River Averon, the predominant aspect is north and south facing. In the central areas, it transitions to west- and east-facing slopes, whereas in the southern sections, west-facing slopes are the most dominant. Woodland elevations range from approximately 190 m to 400 m above sea level.

5.8 Within this landscape, the Proposed Development primarily traverses conifer plantations which are largely managed for commercial forestry purposes and broadleaf semi-natural woodlands.

5.9 The OC primarily passes through coniferous plantations classified as Long-Established Woodland of Plantation Origin (LEPO) 2b in both the northern and southern areas of Novar estate. The Proposed Development also intersects an Ancient Woodland Site of Semi-Natural Origin (AWSNO) 2a along the riparian banks of Allt nan Caorach burn about 700 meters west before merging with the River Glass, as well as a second small AWSNO area approximately 300 m north of the River Averon with the latter also classified as Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS). Additionally, several Native Woodland sites fall within the OC, the majority classified as native pinewoods, with some areas of upland birchwood coinciding with the AWSNO semi-natural broadleaved woodlands along the River Glass. LEPO and AWSNO classifications are part of the AWI, while Native Woodlands are identified through the NWSS.

5.10 Most of the designations, including AWSNO, LEPO, and Native Woodlands, are concentrated in the southern area of the estate, with some scattered sites in the north. However, there are no designated woodlands within the central area of the estate.

Table 5.1: Woodland Designations

Item	Type of Impact	Woodland Designations	Area (ha)
Operational corridor	Permanent	AWI- AWSNO 2a	0.83
		AWI-LEPO 2b	3.37
		NWSS- Native woodland	8.10
Access track corridor	Permanent	NWSS- Native woodland	0.42
Management Felling*	Temporary	AWI- LEPO 2b	5.22
		NWSS- Native woodland	17.67

*Management Felling reference and details described in **Section 6**- Windblow Risk Impact.

5.11 Within the OC, the AWSNO (2a) designation encompasses 0.83 ha, with 0.46 ha located in the southern part of the estate along the Allt nan Caorach gorge,

coinciding with the tail of the Allt nan Caorach Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), recognised for its biological significance. This site primarily consists of upland birch woodlands, featuring scattered pole-stage immature trees in relatively good condition, along with established regenerated birch trees averaging 6 m in height, holly trees of shrub sizes and young and semi-mature Scots pine trees averaging 14 m tall. Refer to **Plate 1**.

Plate 1 – AWSNO (2a) looking into the Allt nan Caorach burn from the south. Grid reference: NH 55714 68070.

5.11 The remaining 0.37 ha of AWSNO is situated in the north, approximately 300 m north of the River Averon, and consists of a non-native young commercial conifer plantation, mainly spruce. The trees in this area average around 1.5 m in height. This site is also classified as PAWS under the NWSS. There are no indications of ancient woodland in the upper storey, and heavy bracken is present surrounding this small young plantation within the AWSNO area. Refer to **Plate 2.**

Plate 2- Looking across into the AWSNO, the area features a young plantation of commercial conifers, predominantly spruce, adjacent to a cluster of broadleaved trees, situated beneath a semi-mature conifer plantation. Grid reference for the AWSNO is NH 55219 75596.

5.11 The LEPO areas are situated on the southern side of Novar estate, enclosed between the River Glass and a local minor public road. These woodlands primarily consist of commercial conifer plantations, showcasing a diverse mix of conifer species and age classes. Refer to **Plate 3**. The upper storey is dominated by spruce, Scots pine, and fir, while the understorey features regenerated trees of the same species in gaps where light penetrates. Some coupes have undergone thinning, resulting in medium levels of regeneration of the same conifer species within the LEPO sites. No remnant features of ancient woodlands were observed in the surveyed OC area, but scattered pole-immature birch and rowan trees were noted at the edges of the conifer stands.

5.12 These conifer stands are relatively dense and dark, with established regeneration in the canopy openings.

5.13 Age classes within these woodlands vary, with some large trees reaching financial maturity at approximately 32 m tall, while the average height of the semi-mature conifer stands is around 17 m.

Plate 3- The LEPO stands consist of commercial conifers predominantly dominated by semi-mature spruce, complemented by a significant mix of Scots pine, firs, and scattered birch and rowan, particularly along the edges of the stands. Grid ref: NH 55868 68606.

5.14 Native Woodlands classified as native pinewood are the most prevalent type found within Novar Estate. These woodlands are primarily characterised by a dominant species of Scots pine, accompanied by a significant mix of other species (up to 30% in some instances), particularly in the understorey, where notable regeneration has been observed. This species mix varies from stand to stand, and the woodlands generally consist of semi-mature pine trees that have been commercially planted, with some areas having undergone thinning operations. Refer to **Plates 4, 5 and 6.**

Plate 4- Native Woodland classified as a pinewood stand consists of semi-mature Scots pine, featuring a semi-open, previously thinned, canopy that covers approximately 40%. The understorey is primarily composed of heather, with little to no regeneration observed beneath the canopy. Grid ref: NH 55938 68610

Plate 5- Native Woodland classified as pinewood of commercial semi-mature Scots pine and heavy regeneration of spruce and pine in the understorey on a gap on the canopy. Semi-mature trees reaching 15 m in height and natural regeneration on establishing stage of 1.5 m Grid ref: NH 55434 67195

Plate 6- Native Woodland classified as pinewood features a mix of age classes within the Scots pine stand, characterised by an open canopy covering approximately 35%. The trees in this stand average a height of 6 m. Grid reference: NH 55757 68224

5.15 The remaining woodlands that do not fall under any specific designation or classification exhibit varying characteristics depending on their location.

5.16 In the southern area of Novar Estate, south of the Allt nan Caorach burn, the woodland consists of commercial conifer plantations with an intimate mix of spruce and Lodgepole pine. These stands are in an immature stage, with trees averaging 10 meters in height, growing on previously ploughed, wet ground. Some checked and stunted areas are evident. Refer to **Plate 8**.

5.17 In the vicinity of Swordale, the woodlands are composed of a diverse mix of conifer species, including Scots pine, firs, spruce, and lodgepole pine. These stands have a complex structure with varying regeneration stages. Refer to **Plate 7**. The upper canopy consists of semi-mature conifer trees, with canopy openings likely resulting from past clear-felling operations. The understorey is dense, featuring regenerated trees of the same species. Evidence of windblow is present in these stands, with fallen trees observed from several years ago.

Plate 7- Commercial conifer stand with natural regeneration occurring in canopy openings in areas previously clear-felled. There is evidence of both historical and recent windblow, with scattered fallen trees contributing to the structural complexity of the woodland. Grid reference: NH 55322 66855.

Plate 8 – Lodgepole pine and spruce plantation. Grid reference: NH 55401 67446.

5.18 In the central areas of the estate, at higher elevations where open ground dominates, newly planted woodlands have been established with a mix of commercial species, primarily Scots pine, spruce, and larch. These young plantations average around 5 m in height and are distributed along the main access road leading to the wind farm development. See **Plate 9**. Within the OC, scattered clumps of broadleaved trees, primarily birch but also willow and rowan, are interspersed among the commercial conifer plantations, forming small stands of similar height.

5.19 South of Boath, where the OC crosses a minor watercourse, a group of semi-mature larch trees is present within the riparian zone, with an average height of approximately 18 metres. Adjacent to this stand is a recently established plantation comprising a mix of Scots pine and larch. Refer to **Plate 10**.

Plate 9- Young commercial plantation of mix Scots pine, spruce, larch and scattered birch seen throughout. Average of 5 m tall. Grid ref: NH 57390 72288.

Plate 10- Semi-mature larch trees within the riparian zone, averaging 18 m in height. Grid reference: NH 57172 73218.

5.110 In the northern part of the estate, where the OC crosses, the woodlands consist of mature and semi-mature commercial conifer plantations. Some areas have recently undergone clearfelling and remain bare, awaiting restocking.

5.20 This is particularly obvious at Boathvic Wood, the OC passes through diverse stands of spruce, lodgepole pine, Scots pine, and larch. Refer to **Plate 11.**

5.21 Heavy windblow is evident at higher elevations, while at lower elevations, mixed conifer stands of spruce and Scots pine are present, with trees averaging 20 m in height. Refer to **Plate 12**.

5.22 A small stand of pure fir trees is also present in Boathvic Wood. Refer to **Plate 13**.

Plate 11- A stand of financially semi-mature spruce is located on the higher elevations south of Boathvic Wood. The trees average 20m in height, with some existing windblow present within the stand. Grid reference: NH 55860 74159.

Plate 12- A Scots pine stand with significant windblow is located south of Boathvic Wood. The trees average 15 m in height. Grid reference: NH 55847 74102.

Plate 13- A financially mature stand of fir trees is located within a woodland characterised by mixed-species stands northwest of Boathvic. Grid reference: NH 55532 74986.

5.21 The site soils are predominantly peaty gleyed podzols.[4]

6. Windblow Risk Impact

6.1 An assessment was undertaken of the risk of windblow to areas of woodland adjacent to the OC which would be exposed due to the tree clearance required for the OC. This assessment was based on the professional judgement of the forestry surveyor with consideration being given to the soil and moisture regime, the topography, tree species, top height, exposure, altitude and aspect in relation to the prevailing wind direction and any previous management regimes. This assessment was also based on site visits and observations, and available data of the site. Reference was also made to Forest GALES 2.5 Forest Research decision support system where appropriate. Felling outwith the OC to a windfirm boundary is termed Management Felling and is presented within **Figure 1: Woodland Impacted by the Proposed Development.**

6.2 Given the nature of some of the woodlands- those of semi-mature and mature conifer woodlands of averaging height of over 18 m with a mixture of both thinned and unthinned stands and the local characteristic of soils, topography and aspect, it is anticipated that the introduction of the OC will result in future windblow to the adjoining woods. Refer to **Table 9.1**.

6.3 The woodland site affected by the Proposed Development has a 'Detailed Aspect Method of Scoring' (DAMS)[5] windblow hazard class score of 12, which is classified as moderately exposed. The site has mineral soils with shallow rooting which are mostly cool and moist.

6.4 Management felling is proposed in the areas adjacent to the OC and the access track corridors to minimise the future risk of windblow. However, certain areas within the woodland contain more open coupes, which are likely to remain wind-stable. These coupes have been assessed up to the nearest green-edge and are therefore considered stable in the current conditions. Refer to **Table 9.4**.

6.5 While management felling is proposed by the Applicant as part of sound forestry practice, the decision to implement such operations ultimately rests with the forest owner, who must align any felling activities with their broader forest management plans and objectives. Felling permission for these areas must be obtained by the landowner through an application to Scottish Forestry. As part of this regulatory process, Scottish Forestry will consider the appropriateness of the proposed felling and will attach conditions requiring

[4] Scottish Government's Scotland's soils website https://soils.environment.gov.scot
[5] Detailed Aspect method of Scoring (DAMS) Ref. Forest Research, "Forest Gales software programme" and Forestry Commission Leaflet 85 "Windthrow Hazard Classification"

the restocking of felled areas to ensure continued sustainable forest management.

7. Woodland Management Impact

7.1 The OHL will create additional challenges for the future management of the forest as it dissects existing management coupes and introduces an electrical hazard. The risks associated with the electrical hazard will be reduced by regular maintenance of the OC, so maintaining the compliance of the OC and reducing any need for future tree clearance operations within the "Red Zone".[6]

7.2 The sterilisation of the OC, however, will have an impact on forest restructuring, potentially impacting the landowner's ability to utilise the forest's commercial viability in accordance with the UK Forestry Standard. Mitigation opportunities are discussed in the following **Section 8**.

7.3 The OHL will cross the woodland road network at either approximately 45 or 90 degrees and will be built to the regulatory safe height clearances above forest access tracks, which will reduce the hazard in respect of future timber haulage. It may still, however, impact on machine operations within the proximity of the OHL, such as stacking and loading. Mitigation of which could be incorporated into the access design, following discussions with the landowner.

7.4 The OHL may be restrictive to future in-forest machinery access. The requirement for dedicated forestry machine OHL crossing points will be discussed with the landowner and if required, will be identified once the OHL has been constructed, thus providing a safe OHL crossing point(s) for future working within the woodland.

7.5 The impact of the Proposed Development on the overall viability and continuity of woodland management has been considered. The affected woodland forms part of a larger estate predominantly composed of commercial conifer blocks. While the proposed OC intersects several woodland compartments, its incorporation is expected to have a minor impact on the implementation of forest operations and ongoing management. The OC crosses central sections of the woodland where existing access infrastructure is available on both sides, helping to maintain operational accessibility. However, some degree of fragmentation or isolation of woodland units may occur, particularly in the southern part of the estate, where the landscape is more complex due to the presence of watercourses and other infrastructure. As a result, the Proposed Development could potentially affect the viability of current or future management regimes in these more isolated coupes.

[6] As specified by the 'Red Zone' set out in paragraph 41 of the Forest Industry Safety Accord (FISA) Safety Guide 804. Electricity at Work: Forestry (2020) FISA 804 (ukfisa.com)

7.6 The impacts arising from the Proposed Development are not anticipated to affect the wider woodland management regime, nor are they expected to necessitate any alteration to the current or planned species composition.

8. Mitigation Opportunities

8.1 Mitigation to reduce the extent of tree felling within the OC will be considered and incorporated in areas of broadleaved woodlands as part of the Proposed Development. Refer to **Section 13.5.3** Good practice and **Section 13.7.1** Mitigation within **Volume 2, Chapter 13: Forestry**. The Applicant will be using a process of 'managed resilience' which will seek to retain naturally regenerated broadleaved trees and shrubs as close as possible to the line to keep as much tree cover as possible. Smaller and lower growing tree species and shrubs can be retained closer to the OHL. OHL vegetation maintenance would take place on a 4-yearly cycle as required.

8.2 Impacts on woodland restock opportunities, resulting from the OC sterilisation, could be addressed through the amendment of the Felling Licence Application or the Long-Term Forest Plan (LTFP), adhered to the regulations of the Forestry and Land Management (Scotland) Act 2018, and in line with the UK Forestry Standard guidance to utilise wayleave corridors as designed Open Ground, repurposing currently unplanted areas to maintain the commercial productivity of the woodland.

8.3 Before the construction phase, these areas, along with access tracks, will be assessed for selective felling and also crown reduction to determine if greater tree retention is feasible. The final extent of tree retention will depend on the requirements of the Proposed Development, particularly ensuring the safety of OHL wiring operations during construction.

8.4 The OC woodland removal area is required for the construction and operation of the new OHL infrastructure. Opportunities will be assessed for encouraging woodland regeneration within the OC, the identification of suitable areas cannot be guaranteed due to the requirement of maintaining the safe energisation of the OHL. Reference to **Tables 9.2 and 9.3** below, will fully mitigate the loss of forest resource within the OC through compensatory planting of the equivalent area (ha) of woodland removed.

8.5 Impacts on tree windfirm stability within the remaining crop has been assessed and considered as noted in **Section 6**. Woodland loss and management felling have been minimised through retention of crops identified as likely to be windfirm.

8.6 Impact of stability within the remaining crop has been assessed and reported on above.

9 Woodland Removal Impact

Table 9.1: Woodland Removal for Infrastructure			
Item	**Type of Infrastructure**	**Woodland type**	**Area (ha)**
Operational corridor	Permanent	Broadleaved woodland	4.89
		Conifer woodland	51.86
		Felled- awaiting restocking	9.04
Access track corridor	Permanent	Conifer woodland	1.08
		Felled- awaiting restocking	0.61
	Temporary	Felled- awaiting restocking	0.72
		Conifer woodland	2.53
Equipotential Zone (EPZ) Pulling Positions	Temporary	Broadleaved woodland	1.27
		Felled- awaiting restocking	1.18
		Conifer woodland	0.45

Table 9.2: Compensatory planting		
Compensatory Planting Area	Broadleaved woodland	6.16
	Conifer woodland	67.47

Table 9.3: Woodland Removal Impact of Infrastructure		
Item	**Woodland type**	**Area (ha)**
Total Loss of Woodland Area	Broadleaved woodland	6.16
	Conifer woodland	67.47
Total Compensatory Planting Area off-site	Broadleaved woodland	4.89
	Conifer woodland	62.59

Total Restocking/ Replanting Area on-site	Broadleaved woodland	1.27
	Conifer woodland	4.88
Total Net Loss of Woodland Area		**0**

Table 9.4: Woodland Removal for Management Felling

Item		**Woodland type**	**Area (ha)**
Management Felling	Temporary	Conifer woodland	48.85
Replanting / Restocking	Adhere to Forestry and Land Management (Scotland) Act 2018.	Conifer woodland	48.85
Net Loss of Woodland Area			0
Note: Felling approval is via Scottish Forestry Felling Licence Application process or Long-Term Forest Plan application or amendments process.			

10. Compensatory Planting

10.1 Compensatory planting to achieve the area quantity (ha) of woodland removal as a result of the Proposed Development will be in accordance with the Scottish Government's Control of Woodland Removal Policy of no net loss of woodland. A compensatory planting strategy is set out in **Volume 5, Appendix 13.3: Compensatory Planting Strategy.**

Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks

TRANSMISSION

S82 S83 S84 S85 S86 S87 S88 S89 S90 S91 S92 S93

A B C D

Scale 1:350,000

Scale @ A3 1:10,000

N

0 0.25 0.5 km

Legend

- Landownership boundary/parcel
- Operational Corridor
- Central line Operational Corridor
- Proposed 400kV OHL Towers
- Management Felling
- HLP/EPZs buffer
- Conifer woodland- Operational Corridor 90m
- Broadleaved woodland- Operational Corridor 90m
- Felled - Operational Corridor 90m
- NWSS- Native woodland
- 20m Access Corridor
- Access Tracks- Existing Upgrade
- Access Tracks- New Stone Perm
- Access Tracks- New Stone Temp

Woodland report
Project No- LT000132
Spittal- Loch Buidhe - Beauly 400kV Connection
Figure 1. Woodland Impacted by the Proposed Development
Section D-Novar Estate
1 Out of 4

Ref No: 28-06-2025

Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks
TRANSMISSION

S92 S93 S94 S95 S96 S97 S98 S99 S100 S101 S102 S103 S104 S105 S106

A B C D

Scale 1:350,000

Scale @ A3 1:10,000

N

0 0.25 0.5 km

255500 256000 256500 257000 257500 258000

874500 874000 873500 873000 872500 872000 871500 871000

Cnoc nam Buth
Creag na Glaic
Boathvic
Boathmore
Grouse Butts
Ballone
Cnoc a' Leacachan
Cnoc Gille Mo Bhrianaig
Torr a' Mhulcan
Allt a' Ghreaich
Allt Torran an Tairneanaich
Allt na Seasgaich
Allt Leacach
Srath Mor
Allt a' Choire
Coire Glas
Wind Turbine
Track
Drain
Ford
Butts
Field System

Legend

- Landownership boundary/parcel
- Operational Corridor
- Central line Operational Corridor
- Proposed 400kV OHL Towers
- Management Felling
- HLP/EPZs buffer
- Conifer woodland- Operational Corridor 90m
- Broadleaved woodland- Operational Corridor 90m
- Felled - Operational Corridor 90m
- 20m Access Corridor
- Access Tracks- Existing Upgrade
- Access Tracks- New Stone Perm
- Access Tracks- New Stone Temp

Woodland report
Project No- LT000132
Spittal- Loch Buidhe - Beauly 400kV Connection
Figure 1. Woodland Impacted by the Proposed Development
Section D-Novar Estate
2 Out of 4

Ref No: 28-06-2025

Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks

TRANSMISSION

S105 S106 S107 S108 S109 S110 S111 S112 S113 S114 S115 S116

A B C D

Scale 1:350,000

Scale @ A3 1:10,000

N

0 0.25 0.5 km

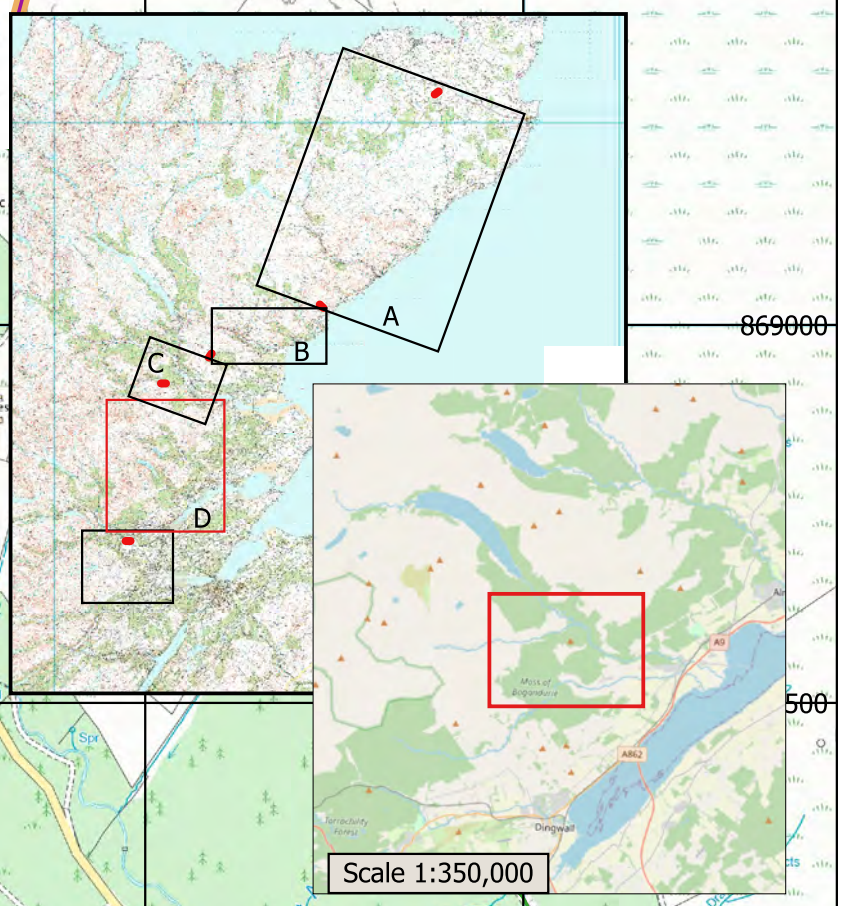
Legend

- Landownership boundary/parcel
- Operational Corridor
- Central line Operational Corridor
- Proposed 400kV OHL Towers
- Management Felling
- HLP/EPZs buffer
- Conifer woodland- Operational Corridor 90m
- Broadleaved woodland- Operational Corridor 90m
- NWSS- Native woodland
- 20m Access Corridor
- Access Tracks- Existing Upgrade
- Access Tracks- New Stone Perm

Woodland report
Project No- LT000132
Spittal- Loch Buidhe - Beauly 400kV Connection
Figure 1. Woodland Impacted by the Proposed Development
Section D-Novar Estate
3 Out of 4

Ref No: 28-06-2025

Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks
TRANSMISSION



S112
S113
S114
S115
S116
S117
S118
S119
S120
S121
S122

E

Glen Glass
River Glass
Allt a' Ghlinne / Glen Burn
Allt nan Caorach

Scale @ A3 1:10,000
N
0 0.25 0.5 km

Legend

- Landownership boundary/parcel
- Operational Corridor
- Central line Operational Corridor
- Proposed 400kV OHL Towers
- Management Felling
- HLP/EPZs buffer
- Conifer woodland- Operational Corridor 90m
- Broadleaved woodland- Operational Corridor 90m
- Felled - Operational Corridor 90m
- NWSS- Native woodland
- 20m Access Corridor
- Access Tracks- Existing Upgrade
- Access Tracks- New Stone Perm

Woodland report
Project No- LT000132
Spittal- Loch Buidhe - Beauly 400kV Connection
Figure 1. Woodland Impacted by the Proposed Development
Section D-Novar Estate
4 Out of 4

Ref No: 28-06-2025