Appendix 6 – Designated Site Plan

**Template for designated site plans incorporated in the main body of Land Management Plans or as appendices to a Land Management Plan**

**Cover Page**

Name of designated site/s **River Spey**

Type of designation/s **Special Area of Conservation**

Start Date of Plan ***2025***

End Date of Plan ***2035***

Overview photo of designated site/s (if overlapping with similar features)

**Overall Management Aims & Objectives for each designated site**

Enhance the Allt a’ Gheallaidh riparian corridor through the block to support habitat for the species identified as designated features of the Special Area of Conservation.

**Section 1 Designated Sites covered by this appendix (or LMP)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Designated Site Name | Site code | Site Type | Total Area of designated site (ha) | Area within this LMP (ha) | %  With  in this  LMP | % on NFL  \* | Annex containing SNH site documentation  # |
| River Spey | 8365 | SAC | 5759.72 | 9.7 | 0.16 | 1 | Annexe 2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

\* Occasionally an extensive designated site may cover 2 or more LMPs, or even more than one Forest District.

# It is important to retain a copy of the SNH site documentation as at the time of writing this document as these SNH documents could change with de-notifications, boundary changes, etc. It therefore could be difficult to link to the original document used when this plan was written and therefore the rationale for the decisions made based on these documents.

Refer to the map in (Annex 1 to this appendix or Map 3 within the main body of the LMP) which highlights the location of the above designated sites in relation to the LMP boundary and the NFL management area.

For further detail on the designation refer to the SNH documentation in the above listed annexes, which refers to the entire designated site area. The remainder of this plan will refer in detail to the element of the above designated site/s on the NFL.

Describe in the box below how the area of each designation integrates with the NFL and with the other designations:

**Section 2 Features on the NFL and condition**

Only features that exist on the NFL within this LMP are listed in the table below.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Site Type | Site  code | Feature  description | Feature  code | SCM Condition (Date assessed) | Condition on NFL | Management  Classification  (if relevant) |
| SAC | 8365 | Otter *(Lutra lutra)* | 1355 | Favourable Maintained  (28/09/2011) | Favourable Maintained |  |
| SAC | 8365 | Freshwater Pearl Mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera)* | 1029 | Unfavorable Declining  (30/09/2014) | Unfavorable Declining |  |
| SAC | 8365 | Sea Lamprey  *(Petromyzon marinus)* | 1095 | Favourable Maintained  (07/09/2011) | Favourable Maintained |  |
| SAC | 8365 | Atlantic Salmon *(Salmo salar)* | 1106 | Unfavorable Recovering (04/09/2011) | Unfavorable Recovering |  |

\* Note that the latest SCM results may not be contained within the SNH legal documentation for the site. Always check the SCM spreadsheet or database.

Otter (Lutra lutra) – Historically present, current abundance in the block not known.

Atlantic Salmon (Salmo salar) – Historically present, current abundance in the block not known.

Freshwater Pearl Mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) – Historically not present but management objectives support habitat

Sea Lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) - Historically not present but management objectives support habitat

**Section 3 Pressures and proposed actions**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Site Type | Feature  description | Feature  code | Pressures | Proposed action | Timescale | Location Map highlighting work & other key limiting factors |
| SAC | Otter *(Lutra lutra)* | 1355 | Damage or disturbance to holts and resting places | All operations will be planned and managed in line with Scottish Forestry’s Guidance Note 35c: Forest Operations and Otters in Scotland | Throughout the Land Management Plan Period (2025-2035) |  |
| No new recreation facilities are proposed. |
| Water quality | All operations will comply with the UK Forest Standard Forest and Water guidelines to prevent pollution of the watercourse. |  |
| SAC | Freshwater Pearl Mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera)* | 1029 | Forestry operations  resulting in  silt/nutrients  entering the watercourse | All operations will comply with the UK Forest Standard Forest and Water guidelines to prevent pollution of the watercourse. |  |
| SAC | Sea Lamprey  *(Petromyzon marinus)* | 1095 |  |
| SAC | Atlantic Salmon *(Salmo salar)* | 1106 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Section 4 Operations within the LMP that could impact on the designated features on the NFL**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Operation Type** | **Detailed description of operation and method** | **Mitigation measures to be applied** | **Timing** | **Map reference & other relevant comments** |
| Clear felling coupes 11577, 11490, 11791, 11879, 11578 | This involves removal of trees on non-designated ground adjacent to the SAC with a track based harvester to fell the trees and then a forwarder to extract them. | The Forest & Water guidelines will be adhered to. Pollution control kit will be on site. Fuel storage and refuelling to take place outwith designated area. Effective planning of extraction routes and use of brash to minimise soil disturbance. Consideration given to working in drier months where possible. | Throughout plan period. (2025-2035) | Refer to LMP Management Map |
| Thinning coupes 11921, 11925, 11903, 11910, 11917, 11924, 11909, 11901, 11915, 11919, 11902, 11901, 11925, 11914, 11908, 11911 | This involves selective removal of trees on non-designated ground adjacent to the SAC with a track based harvester to fell the trees and then a forwarder to extract them. | The Forest & Water guidelines will be adhered to. Pollution control kit will be on site. Fuel storage and refuelling to take place outwith designated area. Effective planning of extraction routes and use of brash to minimise soil disturbance. Consideration given to working in drier months where possible. | Throughout plan period. (2025-2035) | Refer to LMP Thinning coupes map |
| Restocking coupes 11577, 11395 | This involves mechanical ground preparation techniques and manual planting of trees | The Forest & Water guidelines will be adhered to. Pollution control kit will be on site. Fuel storage and refuelling to take place outwith designated area.  No treated trees to be planted within the designated area, | Throughout plan period. (2025-2035) | Refer to LMP Future species map |
| Forest Road maintenance | Maintenance of Forest Roads using heavy machinery such as grading and rolling machines. Flailing operations. | All works to comply with the UK Forest Standard.  Forestry Civil Engineers to ensure that road drainage networks are not connected to watercourses.  Road surfaces, drainage and harvesting access points designed to avoid erosion and adverse impacts on soils and water quality.  Pollution control kit will be on site.  Flailing to take place outside of bird nesting season. | Throughout plan period. (2025-2035) | Refer to LMP maps for roads network. |

**Section 5 Operations within the LMP or aspects of the national forests and land within the LMP that could impact on designated sites adjacent to national forest estate**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Operation Type /**  **Aspect of forest** | **Detailed description of issue or operation** | **Proposed action &/or mitigation** | **Timing** | **Map reference & other relevant comments** |
| Respacing and removal of non native conifer species in coupes 11607, 11997 adjacent to River Spey SSSI (1699) | Motor manual felling of conifer trees to enhance broadleaved areas. | The Forest & Water guidelines will be adhered to. Pollution control kit will be on site. | Throughout plan period (2025-2035) | See LMP management map. |

**Section 6 Appropriate Assessment/s undertaken on work contained within the LMP**

Appropriate assessment undertaken as part of the Land Management Plan review process to assess risk to the River Spey SAC from the planned operations. Potential risks to the designated featured from forestry operations such as harvesting and restocking were identified. These risks can be effectively mitigated through the use of management conditions and following industry standard guidance to protect the water environment.

**Section 7 Approvals, agreements & signatures**

**I confirm that the above management plan which covers the section of River Spey SAC (Site code 8365) within Land Management Plan LMP 11-2025 Scootmore, contains the necessary detail, content and mitigation measures to comply with the statutory requirements contained within the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 and in particular in relation to Part 2, Chapter 1, Section 14 (d), which covers consents via an agreed management plan (i.e. “SNH’s consent under section 13 is not required in relation to carrying out an operation of the type described in subsection (1) of that section – …….(d) in accordance with the terms of a management agreement between SNH and the public body or office-holder carrying out the operation”).**

**SNH Signature ………………………………………. Date …………..**

**SNH Name …………..**

**SNH Job Title ……………………..**

**Address……………………………..**

**Email ……………………………..**

**Contact telephone number ………………………..**

FCS has a corporate requirement under UKWAS (2nd edition) and under the FCS Framework Document for FES (2010) to manage all designated sites in accordance with plans approved by the statutory authority, I therefore sign below to approve the contents of this plan in relation to the designated sites SAC River Spey that fall within its boundary on the NFL.

**SNH Signature ………………………………………. Date …………..**

**SNH Name …………..**

**Annex 1**

**Map highlighting the location of the designated sites in relation to the LMP boundary and the NFL management area.**

See Map 3 – Concept

**Annex 2**

**River Spey SAC (Site Code 8365):**

Notification documentation

**JNCC Standard Data form can be found at:**[*UK0019811.pdf*](https://jncc.gov.uk/jncc-assets/SAC-N2K/UK0019811.pdf)