Appendix 11.10 - Updated Issues Log

Ref	Raised By	Date	Issue (include date and raised by)	Applicant's response	SWL suggested significance following mitigation.	FCS Comments	Agreed Mitigation	Status (Open, Closed)	Significance of Impact (High, Medium, Low)
SoR1	Cameron Maxwell	22/12/2017	There is no explanation as to how the Acha-Bheinn proposal has been designed to complement or fit with Barmolloch 1, 2 and 3. i.e. FCS does not believe the current proposal has been designed to compliment the previous 3 barmolloch schemes	The proposal plants natural land forms, leaving areas of open ground and existing broadleaves. Previous proposals were designed in a similar manner and these areas naturally link up, providing transition through non coniferous forest areas. There will be information to support this in the revised FGS submission and the EIA chapter on black grouse (suggested below) is likely to assess the suitability of the remaining open ground throughout the recent afforestations. Any revised proposal coming forward in the Environmental Report will take greater account of the 3 previous schemes in the revised proposal design.	low subject to the revisal of the proposals to take greater account of the previous Barmolloch schemes.				
SoR2	Cameron Maxwell	22/12/2017	From the ornithological report, the site seems to be important for black grouse with four blackcock seen leking in the spring. The operational plan seems to contradict this and no mitigation is suggested for the lek on the site (the lek was not identified on the maps) or for general black grouse use of the proposal area.	The original mitigation will be rectified to remove the lek area from the scheme. A bespoke buffer area will be created, taking into account the manner in which the birds use the lek (further surveys required).	This lek site will be assessed as part of the assessment of the impact of the proposal on black grouse in the Environmental Report. 19/09/2019 - The ammended woodland design inlcudes a large oblong area of open ground around all areas with leking activity. Residual impact is negligable adverse.				
SoR3	Cameron Maxwell	22/12/2017	The ornithological report concludes that the scheme may result in neutral impact to black grouse but notes an element of uncertainty that the current number of cocks could be supported long term. This raises a question which doesn't seem to have been answered in the scheme design. There is no consideration of the effects of fences in the plan.	The applicant suggests an EIA chapter on black grouse, which will answer this question. Fences will be marked to prevent grouse strikes.	Long term viability of population, significance unknown - Recommend including in EIA. The significance of deer fencing will be low if marked. 19/09/2019 - The EIA report suggests that the residual effects of the combined impacts are not significant. Mitigation includes marking all deer fencing.				
SoR4	Cameron Maxwell	22/12/2017	Open habitat management is necessary to maintain the low / grazed type sward black grouse need to maintain a presence in the landscape. Bird movement, and activity at leks, is traditionally highly mobile across these types of landscape and some displacement would seem highly likely. The SNH Species Action Framework advocates moorland management, new native woodland creation and predator control as key prescriptions for black grouse management. These three actions could be considered as potential mitigation.	Open habitat management for black grouse will be considered in the Environmental Report. The report will consider options for moorland management (including potential grazing regimes), woodland creation and predator control.	Will form part of Environmental Report in relation to black grouse habitat. 19/09/2019 - Grazing/mowing and preditor control are part of the suggested mitigation, this means the residual impact is negligable adverse.				
SoR5	Cameron Maxwell	22/12/2017	The cumulative impact of the current and preceding three woodland creation schemes on black grouse has not been considered. There is reference to the importance of black grouse in the documentation for the previous three schemes and a reference to a commitment by Scottish Woodlands to monitor the populations.	Cumulative impact unknown, mitigation depends on impact assessment.	Screening determination assesses cumulative impact as likely to be signifcant. - Recommend including in EIA. Mitigation of impact to be delivered will be dependant on surveys and assessment and expert advice through the Environmental Report. 19/09/2019 - Data suggests grouse continue to use the previous woodland creations, but that use will reduse as trees mature. The chambered cairn and stroneskar leks will remain viable and are supported by a large number of satalite leks of varying significance. The cumulative effect of all woodland creations, including the proposed, is a change in how the birds use the area. There is no obvious negative affect predicted on the viability of the study area population.				
SoR6	Cameron Maxwell	22/12/2017	The ornithological report flags up significant concerns over the loss of red listed scrub/moorland songbirds and identifies a cumulative impact caused by the current proposal, other current proposals and the previous Barmolloch schemes. Although our internal advice suggests that the red listed songbirds identified are not in decline in Argyll, it is concerning that the issue identified in the report has not been addressed by the proposal.	The moorland bird survey dealt with these species on a national level. Any revised woodland creation proposal coming forward as part of the Environmental Report will consider this as part of ensuring any revised proposal is UK Forestry Standard compliant.	low				
SoR7	Cameron Maxwell	22/12/2017	The impacts on black grouse, on a site and cumulative impact basis, have not been adequately addressed or mitigated in the proposal and are likely to have significant effects on the environment.	Cumulative impact unknown, mitigation depends on impact assessment.	Screening determination assesses cumulative impact as likely to be signifcant. Recommend including in EIA. 19/09/2019 - Section 7 of the EIA report asseses all potential impacts and predicts residual impacts that are not significant in EIA regulations.				
SoR8	Cameron Maxwell	22/12/2017	The design of any woodland in and around the higher, craggier areas within the proposal area likely to be of use to golden eagle should follow good practice on golden eagles and forestry.	This is a UKFS compliance issue and will be rectified in any revised WC proposal which forms part of the Environmental Report	na				
SoR9	Cameron Maxwell	22/12/2017	A significant area (9 hectares) of new native woodland placed at the highest part of the scheme could (at least in part) have been used to strengthen habitat networks within the forest.	This is a UKFS compliance issue and will be rectified in any revised WC proposal which forms part of the Environmental Report	The creation of any new native woodland habitat networks will be considered as part of the black grouse assessment in the Environmental Report. The ammended woodland design shows new habitat coridors.				
SoR10	Cameron Maxwell	22/12/2017	It will be important to check site suitability for the establishment of native woodland at the highest parts of the scheme.	This is a UKFS compliance issue and will be rectified in any revised WC proposal which forms part of the Environmental Report	na				
SoR11	Cameron Maxwell	22/12/2017	It's not clear how the 18 hectares of potential ground water dependant habitats (GWDTE), the marshy grassland identified in the vegetation survey, have been considered in light of the recent guidance on GWDTEs.	This is a UKFS compliance issue and will be rectified in any revised WC proposal which forms part of the Environmental Report	na				
SoR12	Cameron Maxwell	22/12/2017	There has been some attempt at creating habitat networks on the site but this is limited and more should be done to enhance and buffer the existing native woodlands and remnant mature trees and to connect to open space provided by the deep peat and high number of archaeological features.	This is a UKFS compliance issue and will be rectified in any revised WC proposal which forms part of the Environmental Report	na				
SoR13	Cameron Maxwell	22/12/2017	The ornithological report mentions calcareous grasslands and it would be useful to note how these are being mitigated and to cross-reference these with the vegetation survey.	This classification was a typo mistake in the bird report and was referring to calcareous rich marshy grassland for which the majority is retained in the revised design. This is a UKFS compliance issue and will be rectified in any revised WC proposal which forms part of the Environmental Report	na				
SoR14	Cameron Maxwell	22/12/2017	The operational plan does not identify how the habitats identified as being of conservation importance in the habitat survey will be mitigated.	This is a UKFS compliance issue and will be rectified in any revised WC proposal which forms part of the Environmental Report	na				

SoR15	Cameron Maxwell	22/12/2017	We would want to take a look at the area (7.5 hectares) of shallow and occasionally deep peat to confirm that it is appropriate for planting.	This is a UKFS compliance issue and will be rectified in any revised WC proposal which forms part of the Environmental Report	na				
AR1	Barbara Holmes, Jan Brown	28/03/2018	The applicant commissioned an archaeological walkover survey which identified 41 above ground features of local and regional significance, which will be protected according to the mitigation suggested in the survey. The scopees raised concerns that there are undiscovered, potentially below ground, features that would be damaged by operations. Quarrying operations in the nearby kilmartin glen were cited as an example of the existence of buried features and items.	The possibility of undiscovered archaeology is acknowledged. The location of the Acha-beinn is more remote than the kilmartin glen and therefore the likely frequency and significance of undiscovered features is lower. All ground prep operators will be made aware of the known features and asked to remain vigelant and report any features that are not known.	Low				
AR2	Barbara Holmes, Jan Brown	28/03/2018	In addition to buffers of no disturbance, the archaeological survey recommends that key features are connected by open ground. Scopees raised concerns that this was not being carried out to a great enough extent.	In any revised woodland creation proposal in the Environmental Report, archaeological features will be connected according to recommendations in the walkover survey and in compliance with UKFS	Low				
TT1	Barbara Holmes	28/03/2018	Concern was raised over use of the public road by timber lorries. Road quality and frequency of passing places are a problem now, this would be exacerbated in the future if further planting takes place.	Hazel Boyd will contact the local timber transport officer and revert to Barbara Holmes.	Low				
BG1	Alison Philip	28/03/2018	Black grouse require low density native woodland, including scots pine and juniper.	Subject to the expert advice in the Environmental Report, native woodland and low density native woodland will be planted in targeted areas to benefit black grouse. More information is required to inform the most beneficial type and extent of this.	Recommend including in EIA as part of potential black grouse mitigation. 19.09.2019 - See ammended woodland design (11.4).				
BG2	Simon Lawrence, Alison Philip, Blair Urquhart	28/03/2018	Potential loss of black grouse habitat within the site. The EIA determination statement of reasons and the scopees raised numerous concerns over the potential effects of the original proposal on black grouse habitat. The proposal failed to recognise a lek in the centre of the application area and showed trees to be planted over the area. Concern was also raised over the loss of nesting and brood rearing habitat. Concern was voiced over the suitability of the surrounding habitat, which would be relevant if birds were displaced.	The original mitigation will be rectified to incorporate the lek area within the scheme design. A bespoke buffer area will be created, taking into account the manner in which the birds use the lek (further surveys required). Areas of brood rearing habitat (nutrient rich flushes) will be preserved. Key areas of nesting habitat (rank heather) will be preserved. Management of the lek area (e.g. mowing or grazing) may be required, recommendations for will form part of the EIA.	Recommend including in EIA. 19/09/2019 - The Ammended woodland design (11.4) includes allowances for leking, nesting and brood rearing and predicts that the proposal will not have a significant impact.				
BG3	Barbara Holmes	28/03/2018	Is Glyphosate harmful to birds?	Glyphosate is licensed for use in forestry and agriculture subject to following directions for use.	Low				
BG4	Simon Lawrence, Sheila McCallum	28/03/2018	The landowner explained that sheep were removed from the area two to three years ago and that there has been occasional use by horses and cattle. They asked if this was likely to have had a positive or negative effect on the black grouse. Simon Lawrence provided examples of positive effects of grazing animals including vegetation control, predator control and parasite control. It is not intended that sheep return to the area and the alternative to woodland creation would be 5 ponies, plus any grazing pressure from deer.	The potential use of controlled grazing as mitigation will be addressed in the Environmental Report.	Recommend including in EIA. 19/09/2019 - Proposed mitigation includes annual grazing/mowing of lek area and preditor control.				
BG5	Simon Lawrence	28/03/2018	Some of the black grouse issues raised by at the scoping meeting and in the EIA statement of reasons cannot be adequately mitigated without further information on how the black grouse use the site, as well as how they use the previous planting and the surrounding hill ground, it is evident that more date is required.	Requirement for a survey of how black grouse use the area in spring 2018. Ongoing requirement for surveys following planting. Suggested survey area is a 1.5km buffer around the two main leks at Acha-bheinn and Stroneskar, which includes minor satellite leks. Surveys would be used to assess cumulative impact of the previous schemes and current proposal.	This would be an essential part of the suggested chapter on black grouse. Further information is available in appendices 11.15, 11.16, 11.17 and 11.18. This was considered when assesing the potential impacts.				
BG6	Alison Philip	28/03/2018	Potential for operations to disturb black grouse breeding season.	Operations to take place outside of the breeding season (March to August). Or otherwise a works curfew in dawn dusk period April- early May, and Ecow supervision for nests May to June with constraint zones. This is a UK FS compliance issue.	na				
GE1	Simon Lawrence, Blair Urquhart, Cameron Maxwell	28/03/2018	Golden eagles are present within the area. Prior to commissioning surveys the, the PAT model was used to inform the need for a golden eagle survey. This indicated low use, so no vantage point surveys were commissioned. During the moorland bird survey one juvenile was spotted perching on a crag. After consultation with FCS it was agreed that 3 sets of 3 hour vantage point surveys would be carried out. These showed no further sightings. Blair Urquhart noted that this survey intensity was too low. Simon Lawrence noted that this it not typical golden eagle territory and so their use is hard to predict. In a letter following the meeting Alison Philips highlighted that one of the vantage points used to survey golden eagles was within the site, which does not follow standard guidance.	From professional ornithologist's obervations (including members of the raptor study group), the pair of golden eagles most likely to be affected prefers nest locations >5km to the west and north of the site (with one year closer to the south). The species is known to use the area with a preference for the nearby Beinn Bhan ridge. We suggest that the site constitutes the outer parts of an active eagle range, but that it's importance is relatively low and that existing data is adequate to support this. The vantage point was not within the SRDP application site (there was one record of a juvenile golden eagle seen while undertaking the moorland bird survey within the site). Any revised woodland creation proposal in the Environmental Report will follow the new guidance (soon to be available) on forestry and golden eagles. This is a UKFS compliance issue.	na				
GE2	Cameron Maxwell	28/03/2018	Questions raised about prey availability on the site. Black grouse are a prey item for golden eagles.	Any revised woodland creation proposal coming forward in the Environmental Report should identify mitigation measures to ensure there is not a negative impact on black grouse (as GE prey).	Will be covered by black grouse assessment and proposed mitigation in ER. 19/09/2019 - See EIA report and issues above.				
GE3	Blair Urquhart, Alison Philip	28/03/2018	This and previous plantings are leading to a reduction in eagle habitat. Alison Philip would like to see the cumulative effect addressed at EIA. It was also noted that golden eagles adapt to changes in land use and prey.	Advice from GE reports at Barmolloch 3 suggests that the ground is not of high value to GE and woodland creation will not have a signifcant impact on GE territory or breeding success.	Low				
WC1	Alison Philip	28/03/2018	Whinchats are a red listed species and the site has a relatively high number. These are a moorland bird and afforestation would decrease potential habitat.	Any revised woodland creation proposal in the Environmental Report is likely to include a very high proportion of open ground due to mitigation for archaeology and environment, this would lessen the impact on any moorland bird species. See also SoR6	Low				

MF1	Alison Philip	28/03/2018	Planting could potentially reduce marsh fritillary habitat.	There are no known records of marsh fritillary within the proposal. Devils-bit scabious can be a good indicator of their presence. Key areas of devils-bit scobious will be identified and remain as open ground or be planted with native woodland.	Low				
HH1	Alison Philip	28/03/2018	Planting could potentially reduce hen harrier habitat.	The moorland bird survey showed hen harriers nesting to the north. The revised proposal will include increased open ground, with continuous corridors linked to adjacent hunting habitat. Adjacent sheep walk to the north maintains the required habitat balance for the retention of this breeding species.	Low				