



Fort Augustus Land Management Plan Revision

Text Annotations on Map 11 - Landscape Character and Issues

In order to make the label information on Map 11 accessible to people using screen reading technology, the exact text of each label is given in this document.

There are eight labels on the map which state the name of each Landscape Character classification and these labels are placed in the relevant geographical areas of the map. The eight classifications are: Rocky Moorland Plateau; Steep Sided Glen; Broad Steep Sided Glen; Farmed Strath; Farmed Wooded Foothills; Rolling Upland; Broad Glen; and Rugged Massif.

There are also six large text boxes which provide a description of the main issues relating to the intended forest management within particular areas of the Land Management Plan. The content of these text boxes is given here, in no particular order of significance, as well as an additional sentence for each - describing where on the map the particular text box's arrow is pointing: -

1. Felling using cable crane winch has cleared the forest from the slopes at the eastern end of the LMP area. Landscape design principles cannot be followed in these operations – compromising the appearance of the forest margins over the short to medium term until the planned protection forest is established. No further forest clearance is envisaged on these slopes so visual impact is accepted as temporary. *The text box's arrow points at the forest slopes above the northern shore of Loch Ness between the village of Allt sigh and the Bunloit estate.*
2. Proposed felling between Allt Sigh and Invermoriston will change the character of the forested slopes. The large even aged conifers will be felled and replaced with a more diverse mixed broadleaf and native forest. The clearfelling and subsequent replanting will change the character of the side slopes viewed mostly from Loch Ness and the south of the Great Glen. The character of the Great Glen Way will also change. *The text box's arrow points to the sloping ground on the northern side of Loch Ness between the village of Invermoriston and Allt sigh.*
3. Long term, the character of the glen will be changed as the forest is felled and replanted as a native woodland. Instead of the tall and majestic Douglas firs, oak and birch will dominate. In the short to medium term the hillsides will lack the grandeur of the current forest cover. *This text box is placed over Glen Moriston as the commentary relates to forests within this glen.*
4. Felling of the recently windblown huge scale conifer trees which are a characteristic feature of the A82 roadside to the east of Fort Augustus, and their replacement with oak and birch native woodland, will permanently change the character of the road corridor. In time the maturity will return, though in the short to medium term the roadside will have a more open character. *This text box's arrow points at the afforested slopes above the western shoreline of Loch Ness between Fort Augustus (to the south west) and Invermoriston (to the north east).*

5. Parallel lines of the power transmission lines cross perpendicular to the alignment of the glens. The larger pylons in particular break the skyline drawing the eye and detracting from the natural setting. The open wayleave through the forest areas around the powerlines dissects the forest and further magnifies the visual impact. *The text box's arrow points to the centre point of the powerline corridor as it traverses from Glen Moriston (to the north) to the Great Glen (to the south).*
6. Extensive windblow clearance will have a significant impact on the character of the area around Auchterawe and Jenkins Park. This compounds the impact that felling for the powerlines and crop rotation has had in opening up views to the sub-station. This is particularly significant from Torr Dhuin Scheduled Ancient Monument. *The text box has two arrows: one pointing at the Auchterawe electricity sub-station and the other pointing at the forest area in the vicinity of Jenkins Park.*