



## Fort Augustus Land Management Plan Revision – external scoping April 2024

### Text Annotations on Map 2 Key Issues and Challenges

There are two large text boxes included on Map 2 which contain a list of issues and challenges relating to the Plan area. Each issue has been assigned a unique number – in no particular order of significance – and this number has then been replicated on the map wherever the particular issue is relevant.

To make this information accessible to people using screen reading technology, the exact text of each itemised issue is given here. An additional sentence has been added at the end of each issue to describe where on the map the number(s) has been placed.

1. Some FLS forests in Glen Moriston are within Core Pinewood areas (Achlain, Dundreggan & Achnaconeran) and contain remnants and features of high ecological value. *Labels placed at three locations in Glen Moriston where the three main core pinewood remnants are located.*
2. All FLS ground within Glen Moriston is in the catchment of the River Moriston Special Area of Conservation so management has potential to impact water quality and its designated features. *Labels placed at two locations along the river Moriston to highlight this feature.*
3. 40% of forest area in Glen Moriston is 'PAWS' (Plantation on Ancient Woodland sites) - containing fragmented native woodland and/or related ecological features/remnants. *Labels placed at two locations: Dalcataig and Dundreggan as examples of afforested areas with ancient woodland remnants.*
4. Some afforested ground established on deep peats. *One label placed on the upper afforested plateau area north of the village of Dalchriechart.*
5. Tomcrasky forest block no longer owned and managed by FLS since last LMP revision (2014). *One label placed on the Tomcrasky forest block, near Dalchriechart.*
6. Utilities (renewables) - four hydro-electric schemes established within the last Plan period and powerlines associated with neighbouring windfarms also traverse FLS ground. *Labels placed at the approximate location of each of the four schemes within Glen Moriston.*
7. Afforested slopes within Glen Moriston and along Loch Ness are highly visible from communities, main transport corridors and many external vantage points - and consequently sensitive to change and unsympathetic forest design. *Two labels placed on both the northern and southern afforested slopes around Invermoriston.*

8. LMP area/forest bounded by Levishie oakwood - a Site of Special Scientific Interest. *A label is placed on the symbol for Levishie SSSI, north-west of Invermoriston.*
9. Auchterawe, Dalcataig and Dalchriechart public roads are Consultation routes for timber haulage. *Labels placed where these three roads are located.*
10. Maturing and over-mature conifer forests on very steep, potentially unstable, slopes above major trunk road A82. *Labels placed at four locations along the north side of the Great Glen to identify example areas.*
11. Tor Dhuinn scheduled ancient monument and extensive sections of old military 'Wades' road are in the LMP area. Other pre- & post-medieval ruins/structures can be found within the wider afforested area. *A label placed at the location of Tor Dhuinn.*
12. Utilities (electricity) - the Beaully-Denny powerlines pass through the LMP area - as do several current and planned tributary powerlines - focussed upon Auchterawe sub-station. *Labels placed at two locations highlight Beaully-Denny line crossing open hill ground and the main powerline heading west towards Skye.*
13. Stands of 'cathedral trees' - older fir, larch and spruce groves - retained for aesthetic and historic value, are increasingly impacted by storm events with potential for collateral impacts on neighbouring roads, properties & infrastructure. *Labels placed at three locations where conspicuous stands of large trees are growing: Jenkins Park, Allt na Criche and Dalcataig.*

Five additional issues are described on Map 2 but with no particular location i.e. they are issues or features that relate to the Plan area as a whole as opposed to specific locations:-

- Perimeter deer fencing allows control of internal deer numbers irrespective of external deer populations and management.
- FLS' forests and open ground support iconic wildlife species including red squirrel, badger, pine marten, black grouse and several deer and raptor species.
- Forest trails - including 'Great Glen Way' long distance route - car parks, interpretation & picnic sites are of high recreational value to both locals & visitors.
- Utilities (water) FLS ground hosts public and private water supply infrastructure and catchments - susceptible to potential impacts from forest operations.
- Larch and lodgepole pine tree species are susceptible to virulent tree diseases which - if left unchecked - have potential to adversely impact native pinewoods & productive larch stands in the wider landscape.