

EUCHANHEAD RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

Technical Appendix 11.1: ACH Site Walkover
Prepared for: ScottishPower Renewables

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1.0 Introduction

The following field work was carried out to inform the assessment:

A targeted walkover survey of the Inner Study Area was undertaken in March and May of 2020. Weather conditions were fair on each day of the survey. All areas outwith conifer plantations were inspected, due to young conifer plantations being impenetrable, with visibility too poor to be able to find or record assets adequately. The plantation tracks and rides were assessed where appropriate. Pictures of previously unrecorded assets are below. The location of assets referred to below are presented in **Figure 11.2**.

Ground conditions, excluding the plantations, were predominantly those of rough grazing with grasses and heather, with areas of bog. In areas of dense vegetative cover, vegetation may have obscured above ground archaeological features, but overall there was low potential of this happening. A large portion of the Proposed Development was covered in dense conifer plantation, or felled forestry.

Ten heritage assets recorded by the Historic Environment Record (HER) and/or the Historic Scotland database Canmore were not found by the walkover survey: **SLR7, 15-17, 19, 25, 29, 32, 35, 37**. Prehistoric cropmarks (**SLR35**), were in areas of dense forestry plantations likely destroyed by ploughing, a cairnfield that was untraceable in forestry (**SLR37**). All other features were sheepfolds that lay within forestry or were not located.



Plate 1: Condition view of Northern Parcel of the Inner Study Area.



Plate 2: Condition Shot of Southern Parcel of the Proposed Development

A total of three additional features on the site were discovered during the walkover, a sheiling (**SLR133**), a farmstead (**SLR132**) and a potential archaeological feature (**SLR134**).

The Sheiling (**SLR133**) was a grass covered mound, with an outer ring of stone lined walls and a southern entrance. The hut was approximately 4 m long by 3 m wide. It is situated above Bottom Burn on the easterly slope of a valley. There was no previous record of this feature in the HER. The site is situated along the proposed access track.



Plate 3: SLR133; Sheiling hut facing North East.

A farmstead was located at the marked site of Euchanhead (**SLR9**) as an enclosure. On inspection there is a disused farmstead, sheepfold and enclosure with associated agriculture shown on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map. The building has two windows and two doors facing south. The farmstead has three segregated room with two other entrances to the building, one facing north and an additional to the south. The site is situated above the Euchanhead river in the northern parcel of the site.



Plate 4: SLR9: Farmstead facing south

A possible archaeological feature (**SLR134**) was also identified along the access track. The feature is situated 100 m from **SLR133**, and overlooks Bottom Burn. The feature is a circular with 4m in diameter and approximately 0.4 m high. The feature has the potential to be a prehistoric burnt mound.



Plate 5: SLR134:: Possible Archaeological Feature

In the southern parcel of land of the Inner Study Area, features such as Allan's Cairn (SLR27), Sheepfolds at Shinnelhead (SLR14) and Sheepfolds north of Polskeoch (SLR12) were accessed where possible.

Allan's Cairn (SLR27) was in location as described, the site is eroding due to weathering, causing the wording to fade on the monument.



Plate 6: Allan's Cairn (SLR27)

Polskeoch sheepfold (**SLR12**) were as described in the HER records as circular, and 10 m in diameter overlooking the convergence of Pot burn and Polvaddoch Burn. The feature is made of dry stone wall and it is in disuse.



Plate 7: Sheepfold of Polskeoch, (SLR 12)

Shinnelhead sheepfold (**SLR14**), is recorded as Post Medieval feature of the farm of Shinnelhead. The site is as described in the HER, it has four segments of use and is made of dry stone with wooden fences. The Sheepfold has clearly been in use to the modern period and is now disused. The farm of Shinnelhead is operational.



Plate 8:Shinnelhead Sheepfold (SLR14)

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