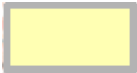








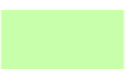
 When using the Inner Forth Habitat Network Concept Maps (East & West) to inform your work, plan or allocate resources, a further detailed assessment or ground-truthing of each site and the impacts of proposed changes should be undertaken with reference to additional, up-to-date habitat, protected area and land-use data sources.

The Inner Forth Habitat Network Concept Maps (East & West) were produced through the Inner Forth Habitat Network Pilot (2018) as a guide to inform future decision making in the Central Scotland Green Network (CSGN) areas of Stirling, Clackmannanshire, Falkirk and Fife. The Pilot followed an integrated ecological coherence approach to identify the best places within the area to carry out management interventions (habitat creation and/or enhancements) to maximise ecological, ecosystem services and socio-economic benefits whilst also considering practical constraints and opportunities. The concept maps express collaboratively agreed priorities based on these benefits. They do not indicate a desire to create habitat types in any given area and do not preclude other habitat enhancement works taking place. *Ecological Coherence: A Practitioners' Guide*, outlines the approach: <http://www.ecocolife.scot/> & www.innerforthlandscape.co.uk

Glossary

- **Conservation and Management:** Areas of existing habitat that the Pilot defined as important to protect for one of the following key habitat types identified within the Inner Forth: Woodland; Grassland and Open Mosaic Habitat or Rivers and Wetland.
- **Conservation and Restoration:** Areas of existing habitat that the Pilot defined as important to protect for one of the following key habitat types identified within the Inner Forth: Peatland and Heathland or Intertidal.
- **Opportunity Network:** Areas where the Pilot identified most opportunity to create or enhance one of the five key habitat types within the Inner Forth: Woodland; Grassland and Open Mosaic Habitat; Peatland and Heathland; Intertidal; or River and Wetland. These may not show functional habitat connectivity or modelled habitat integration.

Layer Name	Data Source	Description of the Layer
Inner Forth Habitat Network Pilot 	The Pilot extended over four local authorities within the Central Scotland Green Network (CSGN): Stirling, Clackmannanshire, Falkirk and Fife. <i>NB the Pilot and CSGN areas do not include Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park or eastern Fife.</i>	The section of the CSGN area considered as part of the Pilot. The landscape supports a range of land uses and habitats that offer diverse and complementary opportunities to enhance the coherence of the overall habitat network. Through the Pilot, places were identified as important for conservation (and management or restoration) or as having opportunities to develop networks for: Woodland; Grassland and Open Mosaic Habitat; Peatland and Heathland; Intertidal; or Rivers and Wetland. In addition, there will exist a range of ways to enhance the coherence of the habitat network across the Pilot area. These are not mapped and will additionally exist within the 'blank' sections of the map. Depending on existing land use, opportunities will include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green roofs and green walls. • Trees, hedgerows and orchards. • Wildflower meadows, bee and beetle banks and field margins. • Wild bird cover. • SUDS, raingardens, ponds, riparian buffer strips. • Wildlife friendly management of communications network buffer strips.
Designated sites – SSSI, SAC or SPA 	Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)	Sites within the Pilot area designated for protection at a national or international level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) are areas of land and water considered to best represent our natural heritage in terms of flora, fauna, geology, geomorphology or a mixture of these natural features. SSSI is a statutory designation made by SNH under the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Action 2004. • Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) are designated under the EU Habitats Directive for habitats and non-bird species. • Special Protection Areas (SPA) are classified under the EU Birds Directive to protect birds that are rare or vulnerable in Europe as well as all migratory birds that are regular visitors. SACs and SPAs are part of the Natura 2000 network of nature conservation sites across Europe. In Scotland these sites are given legal protection by the Habitats Regulations. (source: www.nature.scot)
Local Nature Conservation Sites (LNCS) 	Local authority specific data from Stirling Council, Falkirk Council, Fife Nature Records Centre and The Wildlife Information Centre (Clackmannanshire area data).	Local Nature Conservation Sites (LNCS) identify locally important natural heritage that could be damaged by development. Types of LNCS include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listed wildlife site (LWS) • Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) • Local Geodiversity Site (LGS) – also known as Regionally Important Geological Site (RIGS) The designation signals to planners and developers where there are natural features of some merit. For specific details of each LNCS site shown on this map, how sites have been identified and proposed, or how sites are considered in the planning process, please contact the relevant local authority. (source: www.nature.scot)
Peatland & Heathland Conservation and Restoration 	SNH Carbon and Peatland map with additions from Pilot workshop attendees.	Places where the conservation, restoration and management of existing peatland or heathland is the priority for the coherence of the habitat network.

Peatland & Heathland Opportunity Network 	Participation from Pilot workshop attendees.	Places where opportunities for enhancement, of peatland and heathland should be prioritised for the coherence of the habitat network.
Grassland & Open Mosaic Habitat (OMH) Conservation and Management 	Grassland Integrated Habitat Network layer from local authorities plus OMH sites from Buglife with additions from Pilot workshops attendees.	Places where conservation and management of existing grassland, unimproved grassland or OMH is the priority for the coherence of the habitat network. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Mosaic Habitats on Previously Developed Land (OMH) is a UKBAP Priority Habitat that represents a diverse range of sites, largely because of the range of previous land uses associated with the sites, which include coal mining, industry and housing. OMH is concentrated in, but not confined to, urban and former industrial landscapes. The habitat supports many species and some habitat types that are a priority for nature conservation, such as pioneer communities and flower-rich grasslands. The areas have been described as important habitats for many UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) priority species or Red Data Book/List species.
Grassland & Open Mosaic Habitat (OMH) Opportunity Network 	Participation from Pilot workshop attendees.	Places where opportunities for creation and enhancement of grassland, unimproved grassland and OMH (including wildflower meadows or strips) should be prioritised for the coherence of the habitat network. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See above for a description of OMH.
Rivers & Wetland Conservation and Management 	Integrated Habitat Network layer from local authorities with additions from SEPA prioritised action mapping and Pilot workshop attendees.	Places where the conservation and management of existing river and wetland habitats (including pond, lake, fen, marsh) is the priority for the coherence of the habitat network.
Rivers & Wetland Opportunity Network 	Participation from Pilot workshop attendees.	Places where opportunities for creation and enhancement of riparian and wetland habitats (including pond, lake, fen and marsh) should be prioritised for the coherence of the habitat network.
Intertidal Conservation 	Integrated Habitat Network layer from local authorities with additions from SEPA prioritised action mapping and Pilot workshop attendees.	Places where the conservation of existing intertidal habitat is the priority for the coherence of the habitat network.
Intertidal Opportunity Network 	Participation from Pilot workshop attendees.	Places where opportunities for creation of intertidal habitat should be prioritised for the coherence of the habitat network.
Woodland Conservation and Management 	Ancient Woodland Inventory with additions from Pilot workshop attendees.	Places where conservation and management of existing broadleaved woodland is the priority for the coherence of the habitat network.
Woodland Opportunity Network 	Participation from Pilot workshop attendees.	Places where opportunities for creation and enhancement of broadleaved woodland (this includes hedgerows, orchards and trees) should be prioritised for the coherence of the habitat network.
Urban Opportunity Areas 	Desk based exercise of identifying conurbations shown on a 1:50000 OS map.	Built-up areas where there are a range of opportunities to enhance the ecological coherence of the habitat network and deliver benefits for people and wildlife through collaboration with local authorities, businesses, developers, schools, communities and householders. Opportunities include but should not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Green roofs and green walls. Street trees, hedgerows and urban orchards. Wildflower planting at a range of scales. SUDS, raingardens and ponds. Wildlife friendly management of verges, gardens and greenspaces.

Acknowledgements

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