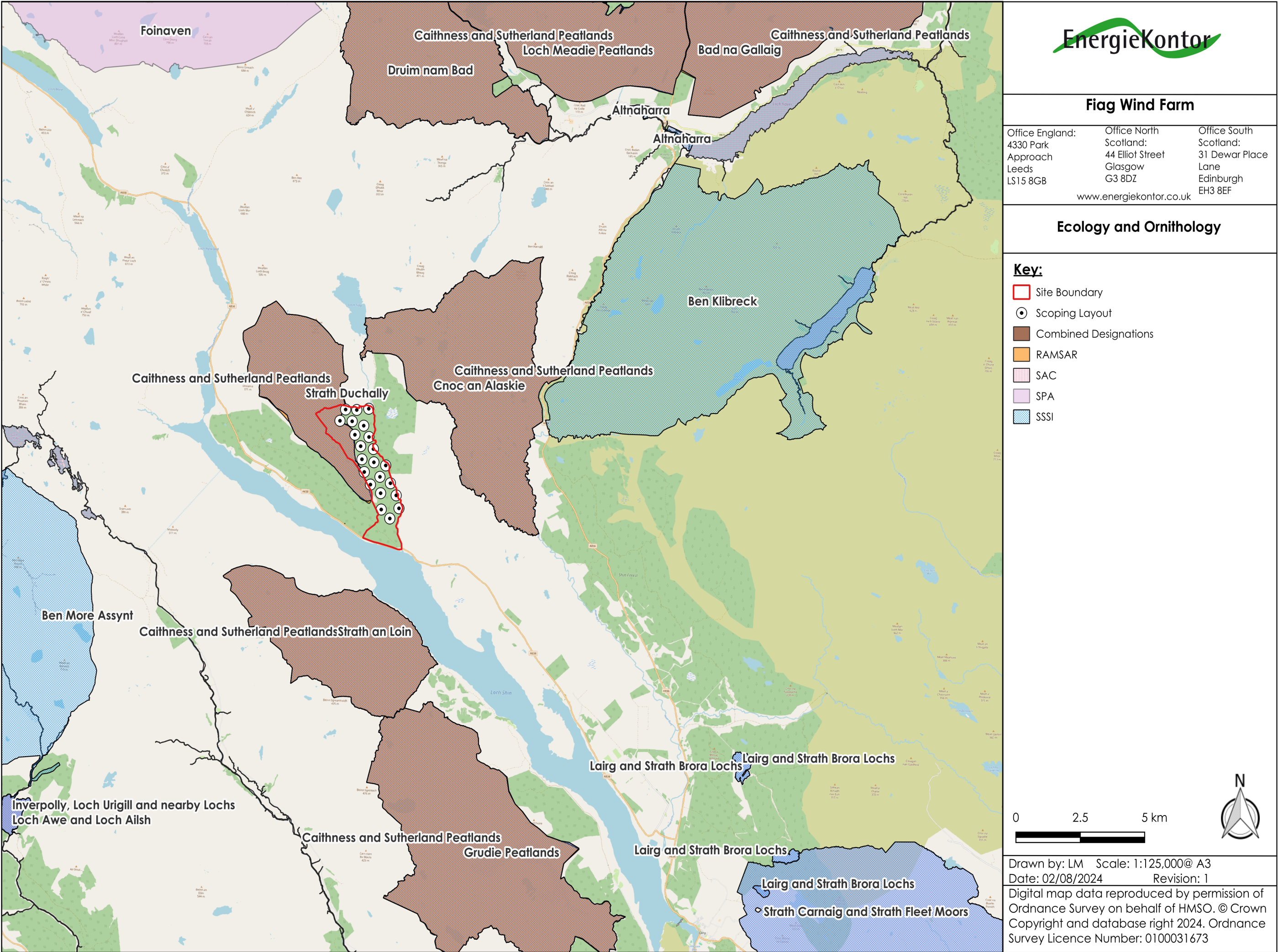


Why Fiag Wind Farm?

ECOLOGY AND ORNITHOLOGY

An initial step with site identification is to understand if there are any ecological constraints and designations which could be affected by the proposed development, for example:

- Ancient Woodland
- Ground Water Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTE)
- RAMSAR
- Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
- Special Protection Area (SPA)
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- National Nature Reserve (NNR)
- Nationally Important Peat



From review of the surrounding environmental designations, the closest designation is the Strath Duchally SSSI and the Caithness and Sutherland Peatlands SAC, SPA and RAMSAR site (represented by the brown areas) which lies within the red line boundary however this has been avoided through design. Other designations within 15km include Ben Klibreck SSSI and Foinaven SPA.

From Phase 1 Habitat Surveys and National Vegetation surveys the site largely comprises commercial forestry. Buffers have also been applied to safeguard certain bird species such as Greenshank and Golden Plover which have been identified over the 2 year bird survey period.

A Protected Species Survey will also be carried out with details to be included within the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report.