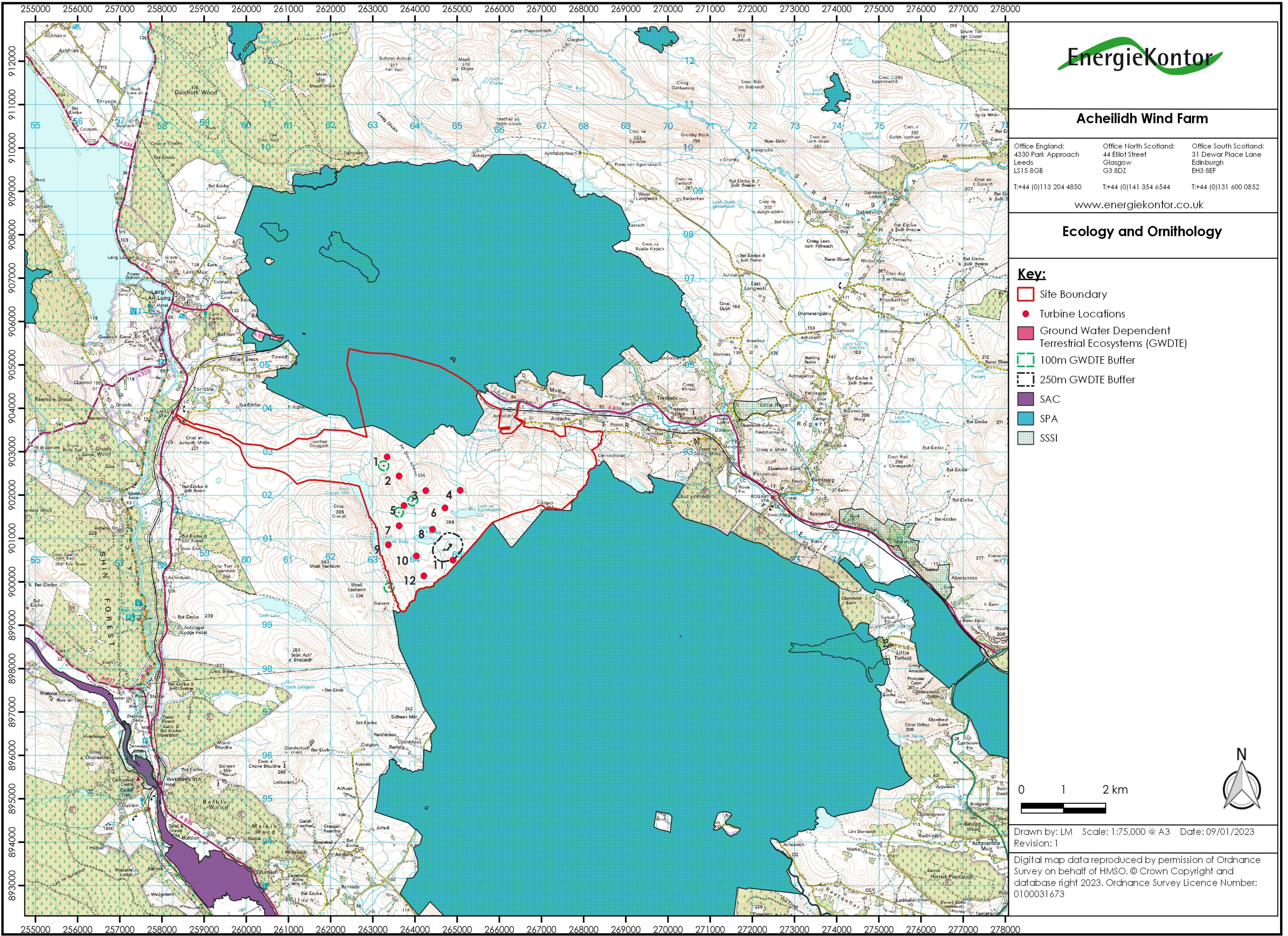


Why Acheilidh Wind Farm?

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 site, 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 Starth Carnaig and Strath Fleet Moors SPA and SSSI, designated for Hen Harrier.

From Phase 1 Habitat Surveys and National Vegetation surveys we have identified GWDTE and applied appropriate buffers. Buffers have also been applied to safeguard certain bird species such as black throated diver which have been identified over the 2 year bird survey period.

A Protected Species Survey was also conducted, and more detail on this will be included within the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report.