



INVERNESS DISTRICT TARGET NOTES 1992 to 1995



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NH 30 NW

NH322054 Map sheet: NH30NW

Wet heath/acid grassland mosaic and blanket bog.

NH327052 Map sheet: NH30NW

Coille Reidh nan Lair. An interesting area surrounding the burn with waterfalls, pools, small islands, boggy sections, and steep slopes. Alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) woodland grows adjacent to the burn, with birch (*Betula* sp.) on the dryer slopes. The area has high potential, but is currently over-grazed. This site will eventually degrade unless grazing is more carefully controlled. Identified by SNH 1986 survey as a Grade 2 site (p30).

NH335058 Map sheet: NH30NW

Felled area with scattered young birch (*Betula* sp.) and conifer saplings.

NH 30 NE

NH353075 Map sheet: NH30NE

Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) regeneration on wet heath/acid grassland.

NH354073 Map sheet: NH30NE

Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) plantation with good ground cover in this part of grasses, mosses and ericoid shrubs (heather etc.).

NH354087 Map sheet: NH30NE

Large areas of conifer plantation felled but recently (ca. last 5 years) re-planted with conifers. Ground flora currently dominated by bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*).

NH355068 Map sheet: NH30NE

Wet heath/acid grassland mosaic with remnants of bog pools. Area apparently became modified quite some time ago (probably when the Caledonian Canal was constructed). Whole area now heavily stock grazed.

NH357082 Map sheet: NH30NE

Grassland, partially limed and therefore both acid and neutral species present. Wet heath/acid grassland to the south and east contains several *Sphagnum* spp. The whole area appears to have been a blanket bog, now modified to various degrees.

NH358091 Map sheet: NH30NE

Large areas of conifer plantation felled but recently (ca. last 5 years) re-planted with conifers. Ground flora currently dominated by bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*).

NH362083 Map sheet: NH30NE

Blanket bog with bog pools now modified - probably due to growth of adjacent conifers rather than direct interference.

NH362088 Map sheet: NH30NE

Small area of relatively species rich blanket bog and bog pools. Soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) forms marginal vegetation to the largest pool which supports a dense clump of willow (*Salix* sp.). Surrounding area is poor semi-improved grassland with scattered bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*).

NH365069 Map sheet: NH30NE

Dry heath/acid grassland mosaic - heavily burned and stock grazed (including the gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) scrub in the area). Thus turning to species poor acid grassland.

NH365089 Map sheet: NH30NE

Forest Enterprise conifer nurseries. Currently only partially in use. The remainder is turning to rank, neutral grassland.

NH367099 Map sheet: NH30NE

Scattered Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), birch (*Betula* sp.) and some larch (*Larix* sp.). Most of conifers probably originate from surrounding plantations, but no recent regeneration.

NH368097 Map sheet: NH30NE

Public footpath to Glen Moriston. Conifers in this area are planted within scattered clumps of birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland.

NH370052 Map sheet: NH30NE

Dam gone and no pool remains. Birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland heavily stock grazed, over-mature and dying.

NH376099 Map sheet: NH30NE

Pine marten reported by local resident.

NH379061 Map sheet: NH30NE

Birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland and poor semi-improved grassland with bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*). Whole area heavily stock grazed (sheep). Trees even aged and mature and beginning to die back. Woodland turning to scattered trees through lack of regeneration. Upper (southern) part is an SSSI but lower section appears species poor. The oak (*Quercus* sp.) woodland to the north is richer in species (particularly bryophytes) and less heavily grazed, but again all trees are fairly even aged and quite mature.

NH382088 Map sheet: NH30NE

Wet alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) woodland with a little ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) in dryer parts and willow (*Salix* sp.) carr in wettest parts. Dryer by the river and loch side with a wider range of tree species including sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*). Ramsons (*Allium ursinum*) abundant in woods by river. Much of the wood is W7 *Alnus glutinosa*-*Fraxinus excelsior*-*Lysmachia nemorum* woodland (NVC).

NH386063 Map sheet: NH30NE

Large scale mosaic of heath and acid grassland. Although not recorded as such, many small areas are quite wet. However, precise mapping of these is difficult at a distance and otherwise overly time consuming. (Such areas must await an upland survey). Scattered bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) is abundant in grassy areas. Grazing and possibly burning are the dominant factors over this area, especially on lower slopes which grade into poor semi-improved grassland.

NH 30 SW

NH345024 Map sheet: NH30SW

Complex mosaic of bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), dry heath and acid grassland.

NH345043 Map sheet: NH30SW

Mosaic of poor semi-improved grassland with scattered areas of marshy grassland.

NH346018 Map sheet: NH30SW

Birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland. All trees old, many damaged or dead. Heavily stock grazed (sheep), therefore species poor and no tree regeneration. The woodland is listed in the Inverness inventory of ancient, semi-natural woodland as covering 54 hectares, all of semi-natural origin.

NH346031 Map sheet: NH30SW

Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) along the north bank of the stream on crags inaccessible to sheep. Some natural regeneration is taking place. Appears very natural and possibly of ancient origin.

NH348028 Map sheet: NH30SW

Abercharder. An area of alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) and birch (*Betula* sp.) woodlands with ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), hazel (*Corylus avellana*), and willow (*Salix* sp.), within an interesting range of habitats including riverside, wet flushes, loch-side plateau, disused railway line, and steep valley sides. This has led to high species diversity within a relatively small area. Identified by SNH 1986 as a Grade 2 site (p31).

NH 32 NW

NH300284 Map sheet: NH32NW

Native pinewoods (*Pinus sylvestris*) mixed with birch (*Betula* sp.) and other native tree species. This extends south-west into Glen Affric and represents an important area for wildlife.

NH303271 Map sheet NH32NW

Several wildlife ponds have been created in this area and are now well established, becoming rich in vegetation species. The ponds support exotic species of water fowl and also attract wild birds. The adjacent grassland has been planted with broadleaved trees in parts as well as several Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). The river separating this area from the village of Tomich supports mature ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), oak (*Quercus* sp.), hazel (*Corylus avellana*), willow (*Salix* sp.), birch (*Betula* sp.), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and bird cherry (*Prunus padus*) on its banks. There is evidence of regeneration. The occasional aspen (*Populus tremula*) can also be found.

NH304280 Map sheet: NH32NW

Fasnakyle Wood. Woodland running south-west to north-east on the north side of Strathglass. Much of this is good birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland, identified by SNH 1986 survey as a Grade 1 site (p13). However, an area at NH307288 has been seriously over-grazed by sheep. These were traditionally allowed to graze in Glen Affric on the shores of Loch Bienn a Mheadhoin which has now been closed to grazing.

NH305269 Map sheet: NH32NW

Well established holiday chalet development in a birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland with rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*). Dense clumps of rhododendron present which could eventually take over the woodland and prevent regeneration. To the south of this area, across and adjacent to the track, a wildlife pond has been created. The area immediately surrounding this has been fenced off and planted with broadleaved trees.

NH 33 NW

NH314394 Map sheet: NH33NW

Wet heath/acid grassland mosaic. Unenclosed. Stock grazed. (Wet heath 60%, acid grassland 40%.) Wet heath dominant species; cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*). Acid grassland dominant species; purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*). Frequent; bog asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*), deer sedge (*Trichophorum cespitosum*) [*Scirpus cespitosus*], *Sphagnum* sp. The above habitat types proportions can be applied to the rest of the wet heath/acid grassland mosaic habitats found on this map.

NH316395 Map sheet: NH33NW

Purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*) dominant. Soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), common dog-violet (*Viola riviniana*), marsh lousewort (*Pedicularis palustris*) and star sedge (*Carex echinata*) frequent. Unenclosed, stock grazed.

NH317394 Map sheet: NH33NW

This area of wet heath has been burned for grazing.

NH320380 Map sheet: NH33NW

Valley mire. Found along the slopes and floor of a small valley, there is a central water-course running through, which is receiving water from springs and seepage from the valley sides. Purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*) dominant. Frequent: green ribbed sedge (*Carex binervis*), soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), common dog-violet (*Viola riviniana*), cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*), and some very small scattered patches of bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*). Also present: pondweed (*Potamogeton polygonifolius*). Unenclosed.

NH324396 Map sheet: NH33NW

Marshy grassland. Purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*) dominant. Frequent: soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), heath rush (*Juncus squarrosus*). Also present: star sedge (*Carex echinata*), bog asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*), crowberry (*Vaccinium vitis-idaea*), bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*) birch (*Betula* sp.) saplings also present.

NH327396 Map sheet: NH33NW

Prince Charlie's Cave. Mixed semi-natural wooded gorge dominated by birch (*Betula* sp.) and Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). Oak (*Quercus* sp.) and aspen (*Populus tremula*) are frequent. Ground flora is dominated by blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*), bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and *Sphagnum* spp.. Unenclosed.

NH329389 Map sheet: NH33NW

Strathfarrar pinewood. An area of approximately 2250 hectares of old forest of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) and birch (*Betula* sp.) much of which is being protected. Dominant; Scots, birch plus a few mature stands of oak (*Quercus* sp.). Ground layer: heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*) dominant.

Frequent: tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*). Managed/Co-owned by S.N.H. and Strathfarrar/Struy estates.

NH329398 Map sheet: NH33NW

Mixed semi-natural woodland, enclosed to aid regeneration by protecting from overgrazing from red deer and sheep. Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), birch (*Betula* sp.) saplings dominant. Ground layer: heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) dominates. Frequent: blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*), bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*).

NH335383 Map sheet: NH33NW

Loch an Airigh Fhraoich. Regenerating Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) adjacent to loch. Reed bed found on west side of the loch bank dominated by bottle sedge (*Carex rostrata*). Good for dragonflies.

NH338398 Map sheet: NH33NW

Mixed semi-natural woodland. Enclosed to aid regeneration by protecting from overgrazing from red deer and sheep. Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) saplings dominant. Frequent: mature stands of Scots pine, birch (*Betula* sp.) saplings. Ground layer: heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) dominant. Frequent: blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*), bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*).

NH342395 Map sheet: NH33NW

Ox bow lake. This small lake is surrounded by broadleaved semi-natural woodland. Dominant: alder (*Alnus glutinosa*). Ground layer poor: bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*). Unenclosed. Stock grazed. No regeneration.

NH347399 Map sheet: NH33NW

Broadleaved semi-natural wood dominated by birch (*Betula* sp.). Frequent: alder (*Alnus glutinosa*). No shrub layer. Ground layer poor: tufted hair-grass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*) frequent. Unenclosed. Stock grazed. No regeneration.

NH 33 NE

NH351368 Map sheet: NH33NE

Occurrences of alpine clubmoss (*Diphasiastrum alpinum*) and stag's horn clubmoss (*Lycopodium clavatum*).

NH351374 Map sheet: NH33NE

Many occurrences of fir clubmoss (*Huperzia selago*) over this hillside. Also some occurrence of the moss *Racomitrium lanuginosum*.

NH353388 Map sheet: NH33NE

Very good native pinewood (*Pinus sylvestris*) with associated ground flora. Part of Glen Strathfarrar National Nature Reserve.

NH354393 Map sheet: NH33NE

Occurrence of aspen (*Populus tremula*) along the river bank.

NH359366 Map sheet: NH33NE

Heath communities very stunted at the top of the hill. Occurrence of dwarf birch (*Betula nana*) reported by surveyor but not confirmed by supervisor.

NH359368 Map sheet: NH33NE

Occurrence of bearberry (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*) all over this hillside. (Probably H16 *Calluna vulgaris*-*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* heath (NVC).)

NH367390 Map sheet: NH33NE

Birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland with scattered Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), gradually grading into native pinewoods to the west.

NH380350 Map sheet: NH33NE

Oxbow lake in the river flood plain containing white water-lily (*Nymphaea alba*).

NH380365 Map sheet: NH33NE

East Strathglass. Steep wooded slopes with some deep gorges. Although this section of the woodlands is conifer plantation with only a few pockets of birch (*Betula* sp.) remaining, the area in general is of high wildlife value due to a wide range of available habitats. When areas of conifer such as this are added to the remaining birchwoods in this part of Strathglass they form a virtually unbroken wildlife corridor connecting the lower lying parts of Glen Strathfarrar with those of Glen Cannich. In terms of nature conservation, the future aim would be to improve these woodlands by encouraging more broadleaf cover. Identified by SNH 1986 survey as a Grade 2 site (p27).

NH386373 Map sheet: NH33NE

North-west Strathglass. A birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland dominated by bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) but still showing reasonable species diversity. However, the area is heavily grazed and no regeneration is taking place. Unless grazing is reduced this woodland will fragment further. Part of the site is a geological SSSI - Allt Tigh Cumhaig. Identified by SNH 1986 as a Grade 2 site (p25).

NH396395 Map sheet: NH33NE

Conifer plantation with scattered, mature, deciduous trees (mainly birch (*Betula* sp.)).

NH 33 SW

NH342342 Map sheet: NH33SW

Upland area north of Cannich - This area of upland in general was not visited on this occasion and no information obtained except from aerial photos and observation from the road.

NH343314 Map sheet: NH33SW

Cannich. A new holiday accommodation and chalet park has now been built on this land. Mapping of individual buildings is only approximate.

NH 33 SE

NH353328 Map sheet: NH33SE

Wet woodland and scrub adjacent to drain. The line at the base of the hill slopes along this part of the glen has drainage independent of the river. This is partly man made, but also appears to be natural. This narrow strip supports wet alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) woodland and marshy grassland in places.

NH355315 Map sheet: NH33SE

Newly planted conifers - Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), on wet heath with thick regeneration of birch (*Betula* sp.), heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), deer sedge (*Trichophorum cespitosum* [*Scirpus cespitosus*]) and bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*).

NH362316 Map sheet: NH33SE

New plantation - Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) with semi-natural birch (*Betula* sp.) - over a wet heath. Ground flora includes heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*), cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*) and purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*).

NH371328 Map sheet: NH33SE

Long-leaved sundew (*Drosera anglica*) locally frequent.

NH378337 Map sheet: NH33SE

Mature broadleaved trees, predominantly birch (*Betula* sp.), in conifer plantation. (Conifers obviously planted around these existing mature trees.)

NH382335 Map sheet: NH33SE

Mature broadleaf woodland, predominantly birch (*Betula* sp.), in a conifer plantation. (Conifers obviously planted around these existing mature trees.)

NH384312 Map sheet: NH33SE

Good birch/rowan (*Betula* sp./*Sorbus aucuparia*) woodland with alder (*Alnus glutinosa*). Though of limited extent, several patches of this woodland remain along the burn (the lower part of which is the River Enrick) between Mill Ness (NH380317) and Whitebridge (NH399302). The woodland has a high species diversity, and rocky outcrops and wet flushes add to the botanical interest. Identified by SNH 1986 survey as a Grade 2 site (p26).

NH386310 Map sheet: NH33SE

Mature juniper (*Juniperus communis*) interspersed with birch (*Betula* sp.).

NH391330 Map sheet: NH33SE

Wet/dry mosaic heath - heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*), bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*), deer sedge (*Trichophorum cespitosum* [*Scirpus cespitosus*]).

NH391336 Map sheet: NH33SE

Young conifer plantation with wet flush running through it.

NH395342 Map sheet: NH33SE

Wet flush running into lochan - deer sedge (*Trichophorum cespitosum* [*Scirpus cespitosus*]), purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*), bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*) and black bog rush (*Schoenus nigricans*) present. Adder caught and photographed in this area having recently cast skin.

NH 34 SE

NH351402 Map sheet: NH34SE

Scattered trees observed on aerial photo but the area was not visited.

NH376400 Map sheet: NH34SE

Occurrence of aspen (*Populus tremula*), locally under-represented.

NH379412 Map sheet: NH34SE

Scattered trees - difficult to map accurately. The uplands in this area were not surveyed in detail. Much appeared to be fairly dry but patches of wet heath were no doubt present.

NH394401 Map sheet: NH34SE

New plantation with some mature birch (*Betula* sp.).

NH395424 Map sheet: NH34SE

This plantation was not visited but was observed on aerial photographs.

NH398401 Map sheet: NH34SE

Duck pond surrounded by soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), reeds (unidentified since inaccessible) and yellow iris (*Iris pseudacorus*).

NH399400 Map sheet: NH34SE

Mature elm (*Ulmus* sp.) - locally uncommon.

NH40 >	NH40NW	NH42NE	NH43SE
	NH41NW	NH42SE	NH44NE
	NH42NE	NH43NW	NH44SW
	NH41SE	NH43NE	NH44SE
	NH42NW	NH43SW	

NH 40 NW

NH410085 Map sheet: NH40NW

Glen Doe. An alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) woodland with birch (*Betula* sp.) in dryer parts up-slope, surrounding a rocky burn with steep sides containing interesting wet flushes. Identified by SNH 1986 survey as a Grade 2 site (p33).

NH 41 NW

NH417163 Map sheet: NH41NW

Much of lower slopes felled but recently re-planted in this area.

NH417176 Map sheet: NH41NW

Complex mosaic of mature birch (*Betula* sp.) with dense bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) grading into birch with wet heath/acid grassland mosaic with abundant scattered juniper (*Juniperus communis*) to the north. No regeneration.

NH419181 Map sheet: NH41NW

Old deer enclosure. Fence to east now gone but birch (*Betula* sp.) regeneration is abundant in parts. Stock grazed (sheep).

NH420174 Map sheet: NH41NW

Partially abandoned fields (set aside?). Relatively species rich with common species including "waste ground species" such as redshank (*Polygonum maculosa*).

NH422161 Map sheet: NH41NW

Complex mosaic of birch (*Betula* sp.) and bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), the latter very dense. Boundaries difficult to define.

NH423166 Map sheet: NH41NW

Meadow with recently planted broadleaves including alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) and rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*).

NH423168 Map sheet: NH41NW

A small oak (*Quercus* sp.) woodland of plantation origin but now quite semi-natural in character. Known to be from acorns from Germany (planted in late 1700s). An interesting site with holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) as an understorey, scattered throughout the site. Identified by SNH 1986 as a Grade 2 site (p34).

NH426162 Map sheet: NH41NW

Clumps of recently planted broadleaves and some conifers. Grass allowed to grow therefore boundaries hard to define.

NH 41 NE

NH482175 Map sheet: NH41NE

Thin soils and numerous areas of exposed bedrock in this area mean that much of vegetation is dry heath (H12 *Calluna vulgaris*-*Vaccinium myrtillus* heath NVC). However, small patches of bog and wet heath exist in hollows (M19 *Calluna vulgaris*-*Eriophorum vaginatum* blanket mire, M16d *Erica tetralix*-*Sphagnum compactum* wet heath, *Juncus squarrosus*-*Dicranum scoparium* sub-community). The upland to the west and south was mapped only from vantage points around Creag Mhor.

NH484183 Map sheet: NH41NE

Much is wet heath (M16d *Erica tetralix*-*Sphagnum compactum* wet heath, *Juncus squarrosus*-*Dicranum scoparium* sub-community NVC), with only small pockets of dry H12 *Calluna vulgaris*-*Vaccinium myrtillus* heath. Drainage is both east to the valley and north-west to an area of flush below the conifer plantation, (then north-east or south-west). The larger wet modified bog to the north-west appears to be the most species rich in the area, including common butterwort (*Pinguicula vulgaris*), bog asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*). Drains to the north-west.

NH486164 Map sheet: NH41NE

Poor semi-improved grass with abundant soft rush (*Juncus effusus*). Only the larger areas of marshy grassland are mapped.

NH488175 Map sheet: NH41NE

Wet area. Appears to be very degraded bog or valley mire, drained, poached, stock grazed. Still very wet with a network of channels. Currently functioning as wet heath with some acid grassland. However only viewed from vantage points on Creag Mhor to west. (Access permission to fields denied due to lambs.)

NH490172 Map sheet: NH41NE

The small fields in this area are improved but so heavily poached by cattle as to appear as bare mud.

NH492154 Map sheet: NH41NE

Heavily grazed heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), also bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*).

NH493174 Map sheet: NH41NE

Wet birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland with flush running through and a very small area of wet modified bog. Birch all mature and beginning to die back. No regeneration due to over grazing by sheep. Species include soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), hare's-tail cotton sedge (*Eriophorum vaginatum*) and *Sphagnum* spp. Surrounding area supports poor semi-improved grassland with scattered bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*).

NH494174 Map sheet: NH41NE

Area of wet heath/acid grassland which has been modified by heavy grazing. Surrounded by marshy grassland and with adjacent birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland which is very wet.

Wet birch woodland with flush running through and a very small area of wet modified bog. Birch all mature and beginning to die back. No regeneration due to over grazing by sheep (stock grazed). Species included soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), hare's-tail cotton sedge (*Eriophorum vaginatum*), and *Sphagnum* spp. Surrounding area contains poor semi-improved grassland with scattered bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*).

NH495175 Map sheet: NH41NE

Poor semi-improved grassland with bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and small areas of marshy grassland, soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) dominant. Some birch (*Betula* sp.) regeneration but stunted and heavily browsed (average height 50 cm). Higher ground is very short grazed with heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) and grasses present.

NH496167 Map sheet: NH41NE

Due to drainage in this area of the valley mire the bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*) is dying back. The dying bog myrtle follows the fence line running south-west to north-east.

NH498167 Map sheet: NH41NE

Considerably modified bog, drained by a single ditch. Some bog pools remain, the rest has turned into wet heath.

NH499165 Map sheet: NH41NE

A complex mosaic of marshy grassland and poor semi-improved grass with some tufts of mat-grass (*Nardus stricta*).

NH499177 Map sheet: NH41NE

Old drainage ditch now blocked. Vegetation dominated by yellow iris (*Iris pseudacorus*). Also marsh marigold (*Caltha palustris*) abundant.

NH 41 SE

NH452108 Map sheet: NH41SE

M19 *Calluna vulgaris*- *Eriophorum vaginatum* blanket mire (NVC). Some small bog pools but heavily modified to east and turning to wet heath and marshy grassland in places. Some peat digging but not recently. *Sphagnum* abundant in some parts of marshy grassland.

NH454125 Map sheet: NH41SE

Small modified bog due to drainage. *Sphagnum* spp. hare's-tail cotton-sedge (*Eriophorum vaginatum*) soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) dominant.

NH458101 Map sheet: NH41SE

Large scale mosaic of heath/acid grassland. Some areas clearly wet but not mapped in detail.

NH463110 Map sheet: NH41SE

M19 *Calluna vulgaris*- *Eriophorum vaginatum* blanket mire (NVC). Some small bog pools but heavily modified to east and turning to wet heath and marshy grassland in places. Some peat digging in recent years. *Sphagnum* abundant in some parts of marshy grassland.

NH480118 Map sheet: NH41SE

Whole area of wet heath interspersed with small patches of acid semi-improved grassland and several small flushes.

NH481131 Map sheet: NH41SE

In the area around the burn both sides support bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*) and willow (*Salix* sp.) along with abundant bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*). Patches of *Sphagnum* present in places.

NH488138 Map sheet: NH41SE

Area of wet heath/acid grassland mosaic interspersed with bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*), purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*), various species of *Sphagnum*, hare's-tail cotton-sedge (*Eriophorum vaginatum*), willow (*Salix* sp.) and soft rush (*Juncus effusus*). Small plantation of conifers above the 300 m contour. Common lizard (*Lacerta vivipara*) present.

NH498142 Map sheet: NH41SE

Wet heath/acid grassland with numerous small flushes with purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*) and bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*)

NH 42 NW

NH437279 Map sheet: NH42NW

Uplands surveyed only from a distance. Although mapped as dry heath it is likely that gentler slopes will support wet heath with flatter terrain supporting modified bogs.

NH 42 NE

NH492274 Map sheet: NH42NE

Divach Burn. A deep gorge with oak/hazel (*Quercus* sp./*Corylus avellana*) woodland, identified by SNH 1986 survey as a Grade 1 site (p11).

NH 42 SE

NH465236 Map sheet: NH42SE

Scattered scrub species found on the north-east slope included: juniper (*Juniperus communis*) and willow (*Salix* sp.).

NH468236 Map sheet: NH42SE

Steep sided gully with higher than local average species richness. Species include birch (*Betula* sp.), foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*), hard fern (*Blechnum spicant*), alpine lady's mantle (*Alchemilla alpina*), blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*), great wood rush (*Luzula sylvatica*), heath bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*) and wood sorrel (*Oxalis acetosella*).

NH470233 Map sheet: NH42SE

Alpine clubmoss (*Diphasiastrum alpinum*) was found and regarded as important, until it was seen to be locally quite common at a later date.

NH475231 Map sheet: NH42SE

Juniper (*Juniperus communis*) was found scattered about and one small yew (*Taxus baccata*) of 30 cm height.

NH475233 Map sheet: NH42SE

The following species were found scattered within the dry heath: juniper (*Juniperus communis*), willow (*Salix* sp.), birch (*Betula* sp.), and a single rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*).

NH477230 Map sheet: NH42SE

Several butterwort (*Pinguicula vulgaris*) were found within this purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*) flush and also some scattered birch (*Betula* sp.) with willow (*Salix* sp.).

NH478242 Map sheet: NH42SE

Scattered willow (*Salix* sp.) and bog asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*).

NH481249 Map sheet: NH42SE

Scattered willow (*Salix* sp.) and birch (*Betula* sp.).

NH482233 Map sheet: NH42SE

Small patches of wet area in improved grassland, species present: willow (*Salix* sp.), Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*), Sphagnum moss, purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*).

NH482234 Map sheet: NH42SE

Three holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) of 8 m height were found in this one location.

NH489205 Map sheet: NH42SE

A good beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) wood containing a few other tree species but with a quite dense rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) scrub layer.

NH493239 Map sheet: NH42SE

The fields in this area were all heavily grazed and mapped as improved grassland in 1992. A re-visit in July 1993 showed them to be un-grazed at that time. This had allowed development of the ground flora with meadow buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*), eyebright (*Euphrasia nemorosa*), clover spp. (*Trifolium pratense* and *T. repens*), self-heal (*Prunella vulgaris*), speedwell sp. (*Veronica* sp.), and bird's-foot trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*). Grasses included crested dog's tail (*Cynosurus cristatus*), sweet vernal (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*) and Yorkshire fog (*Holcus lanatus*).

There were also small numbers of heathland species including heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), mat-grass (*Nardus stricta*), yellow rattle (*Rhinanthus minor*) and tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*).

NH495212 Map sheet: NH42SE

Wide variety of trees, mixed and native, but tending towards semi-natural habitat. Species include: horse chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), birch (*Betula* sp.), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), hazel (*Corylus avellana*). Ground flora diverse with lesser celandine (*Ranunculus ficaria*), bluebell (*Endymion non-scriptus*) and wood anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*). A small, shallow pond was found here. Area is well vegetated, species included: creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*), marsh-marigold (*Caltha palustris*) and other common species.

NH496248 Map sheet: NH42SE

A small area of scrub in improved grassland with scattered juniper (*Juniperus communis*) and gorse (*Ulex europaeus*).

NH 43 NW

NH432371 Map sheet: NH43NW

Abundant stag's-horn clubmoss (*Lycopodium clavatum*).

NH436369 Map sheet: NH43NW

Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) and birch (*Betula* sp.) regeneration with willow (*Salix* sp.), some bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*) and a little juniper (*Juniperus communis*).

NH 43 NE

NH452372 Map sheet: NH43NE

Bearberry (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*) found on rocky outcrops in this area suggesting that dryer areas are tending towards H16 *Calluna vulgaris*-*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* heath (NVC) in places.

NH458384 Map sheet: NH43NE

Slope fairly wet in places with scattered bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*).

NH459354 Map sheet: NH43NE

Part of Eskdale Moor, a large upland area supporting an interesting range of heath and bog habitats with a scattering of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) and birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland in places. This upland area was only surveyed from a distance. Although coloured as dry heath gentler slopes are likely to support wet heath similar to the area to the north of Loch Bruicheach. Level areas may support modified bogs.

NH460396 Map sheet: NH43NE

Eskdale Woods, stretching from here westwards to NH421400 near Struy. A once excellent birchwood with some areas showing good regeneration. The woodland has unfortunately been seriously degraded due to under-planting with exotic conifers (Fountain Forestry). The woodland was identified by SNH 1986 survey as a Grade 2 site (p23). Presumably this was for the quality of the woodland at present rather than the forestry plantation which will eventually smother it.

NH461397 Map sheet: NH43NE

Felled conifers, now acid grassland with some regenerating birch (*Betula* sp.) and spruce (*Picea* sp.).

NH463399 Map sheet: NH43NE

Good regeneration of rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and birch (*Betula* sp.) at the edge of a conifer plantation. (Appears to have been coppiced.)

NH467386 Map sheet: NH43NE

Stag's-horn Club Moss (*Lycopodium clavatum*).

NH468385 Map sheet: NH43NE

Fresh badger droppings found at this location.

NH469385 Map sheet: NH43NE

Slightly eutrophic pool with white water lilies (*Nymphaea alba*), bottle sedge (*Carex rostrata*), round-leaved sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*) plus diverse fauna including fish and dragonflies.

NH491378 Map sheet: NH43NE

Abundant, mature oak (*Quercus* sp.).

NH492395 Map sheet: NH43NE

Mature Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) plantation, well spaced therefore reasonable ground flora, but unfortunately underplanted with spruce (*Picea* sp.).

NH493397 Map sheet: NH43NE

Semi-natural area of mixed birch (*Betula* sp.) and Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) with gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) shrub layer and some juniper (*Juniperus communis*). Birch regenerating. Ground flora typical of wet woodland.

NH494394 Map sheet: NH43NE

Bruiach Burn Woods. A gorge with rocky outcrops and mainly gently sloping sides containing birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland with some hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) in wetter parts. Quite heavily grazed, but although this is preventing tree regeneration the site remains quite diverse. Identified by SNH 1986 survey as a Grade 2 site (p21).

NH494399 Map sheet: NH43NE

Conifers planted within last 5 - 10 years, but retaining reasonable species diversity: broom (*Sarothamnus* [*Cytisus*] *scoparius*), bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), and ground vegetation of grasses and herbs typical of acid upland.

NH 43 SW

NH416308 Map sheet: NH43SW

Birch woodland (*Betula* sp.) with ground layer of heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*) and scattered juniper (*Juniperus communis*). During a visit in 1996 it was found

that an area had been recently felled. The small conifer plantation to the south contains a drain which widens to a small pond supporting a very large quantity of frog spawn.

The woodland to the south-west (NH412304) is a hazel (*Corylus avellana*) coppice with wet, marshy areas. A great spotted woodpecker has been resident here for a number of years.

NB. A MUNTJACK DEER was sighted here in March 1996. apparently a male and quite tame. This is the only record of the species for the Scottish Highlands to our knowledge. Being a single specimen there is no evidence of breeding capability.

NH424308 Map sheet: NH43SW

Kilmartin Birchwood. A gently sloping birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland with planted oak (*Quercus* sp.) and some beech (*Fagus sylvatica*). Understorey of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) in places, with heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) and other heathland species as ground flora. Identified by SNH 1986 survey as a Grade 2 site (p24).

NH428311 Map sheet: NH43SW

Area of mixed birch (*Betula* sp.) and Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) (some planted), with heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) ground layer plus bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*) and bog asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*).

NH 43 SE

NH461313 Map sheet: NH43SE

Large area of bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*). Also found bog asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*), sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*) and common cotton sedge (*Eriophorum angustifolium*). Unenclosed. Stock grazed.

NH462317 Map sheet: NH43SE

Small area of willow (*Salix* sp.). Young trees. Frequent, alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*). Ground, wet with *Sphagnum* sp. dominant. Heath spotted orchid (*Dactylorhiza maculata*) frequent. Note, bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) is taking a firm hold of this area.

NH464317 Map sheet: NH43SE

A good, old semi-natural birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland, but enclosed, heavily stock grazed and therefore no regeneration.

NH465303 Map sheet: NH43SE

Regenerating birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland with bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*) frequent. Also found heath spotted orchids (*Dactylorhiza maculata*) and fragrant orchids (*Gymnadenia conopsea*). Also found many small frogs. Enclosed.

NH466310 Map sheet: NH43SE

Small area of recently felled coniferous trees. This small clearing is being taken over by soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) and sedges (*Carex* spp.). Many dragonflies present.

NH467308 Map sheet: NH43SE

Small patch of rough grassland. Heath spotted orchid (*Dactylorhiza maculata*) abundant. Also contains fragrant orchids (*Gymnadenia conopsea*) and one butterfly orchid (*Platanthera* sp.) (greater or lesser?). Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) also dominant in parts of this area.

NH468316 Map sheet: NH43SE

Dalreach. A birch/hazel (*Betula* sp./*Corylus avellana*) and birch/rowan (*Betula* sp./*Sorbus aucuparia*) woodland, partly grazed but still quite diverse with a rich ground flora due to a mix of wet, dry, rocky, grassy and heathland areas. Identified by SNH 1986 survey as a Grade 2 site.

NH470314 Map sheet: NH43SE

Semi-natural broadleaved woodland. Dominant species - mature stands of birch (*Betula* sp.). Ground flora generally poor. However there are a few small clearings with blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*) dominant. Frequent throughout the woodland is bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*). Enclosed. Stock grazed, (sheep). No regeneration.

NH478334 Map sheet: NH43SE

Small area of acid grassland. Cotton sedge (*Eriophorum* sp.) and deer sedge (*Trichophorum cespitosum* [*Scirpus cespitosus*]) abundant. Unenclosed. Stock grazed.

NH482325 Map sheet: NH43SE

Wet heath. Dominant, cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*). Frequent common cotton sedge (*Eriophorum angustifolium*), purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*). Unenclosed.

NH485319 Map sheet: NH43SE

Mature, semi-natural stands of birch (*Betula* sp.) which is regenerating and spreading all over the immediate area. Also frequent juniper (*Juniperus communis*). Unenclosed.

NH486322 Map sheet: NH43SE

Small lochan (Lochan an Torra Bhuidhe). Dominant around waters edge, white water-lily (*Nymphaea alba*). Dragonflies and Damsel flies present.

NH487313 Map sheet: NH43SE

This area has been ploughed/prepared for tree planting, possibly of coniferous trees.

NH487322 Map sheet: NH43SE

Semi-improved grassland, adjacent to Lochan an Torra Bhuidhe. Sedge (*Carex* sp.) (probably bottle sedge (*C. rostrata*)) and purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*) are dominant. Frequent,

butterwort (*Pinguicula vulgaris*), juniper (*Juniperus communis*), cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*), sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*). Unenclosed. Dragonflies and Damsel flies.

NH488309 Map sheet: NH43SE

Large, fenced off area with scattered trees, gorse (*Ulex europaeus*), juniper (*Juniperus communis*). Poor semi-improved grassland areas found throughout. Heavily stock grazed.

NH489317 Map sheet: NH43SE

This area contains juniper (*Juniperus communis*) which is regenerating and is slowly spreading over the immediate area.

NH492319 Map sheet: NH43SE

The dry heath in this particular area contained small wet patches of *Sphagnum* moss with cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*). Sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*) and butterwort (*Pinguicula vulgaris*) frequent. Also present but in small numbers was bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*) and juniper (*Juniperus communis*).

NH493317 Map sheet: NH43SE

A semi-improved field which compared to neighbouring fields has a good variety of plants including sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*), butterwort (*Pinguicula vulgaris*), lousewort (*Pedicularis sylvatica*), heath spotted orchid (*Dactylorhiza maculata*), common cotton sedge (*Eriophorum angustifolium*) and deer sedge (*Trichophorum cespitosum* [*Scirpus cespitosus*]). There was also some very small patches of *Sphagnum*. However, all these fields are grazed by sheep.

NB. Later visit in 1993 also revealed heath spotted orchid (*Dactylorhiza maculata*) to be particularly abundant with fragrant orchid (*Gymnadenia conopsea*) common in this area.

NH494311 Map sheet: NH43SE

The only hazel (*Corylus avellana*) to be found in this area, occurring in large numbers on the banks of *Gartally Burn*, along with birch (*Betula* sp.) and oak (*Quercus* sp.). Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) is found throughout this strip of woodland and the ground flora is species poor.

NH497332 Map sheet: NH43SE

Island colonized by willow (*Salix* sp.). On bank there are following species: juniper (*Juniperus communis*), birch (*Betula* sp.), willow (*Salix* sp.) and rush (*Juncus* sp.).

NH499328 Map sheet: NH43SE

Heath with following species present: juniper (*Juniperus communis*), blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*), willow (*Salix* sp.), purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*) and wood anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*).

NH 44 NE

NH466450 Map sheet: NH44NE

Coille na Cleithe and Breakachy Burn. A birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland with alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) and hazel (*Corylus avellana*), with a river gorge at its lower margin. Identified by SNH 1986 survey as a Grade 2 site (p18).

NH475473 Map sheet: NH44NE

Occurrence of grass-of-Parnassus (*Parnassia palustris*).

NH477461 Map sheet: NH44NE

Very small pond with mare's-tail (*Hippuris vulgaris*) (suggesting base-rich conditions) and creeping cinquefoil (*Potentilla reptans*).

NH489486 Map sheet: NH44NE

Occurrence of grass-of-Parnassus (*Parnassia palustris*) - first sighting of this plant in this area.

NH491486 Map sheet: NH44NE

Many occurrences of yellow saxifrage (*Saxifraga aizoides*) around the stream.

NH494484 Map sheet: NH44NE

Wet acid flush with purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*), horsetail (*Equisetum* sp.), Yorkshire fog (*Holcus lanatus*), soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), sedges (*Carex* spp.) and moss (*Polytrichum* sp.).

NH494485 Map sheet: NH44NE

Occurrence of fir clubmoss (*Huperzia selago*).

NH497485 Map sheet: NH44NE

Scattered Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) with an understorey of juniper (*Juniperus communis*) (some quite large), and heather (*Calluna vulgaris*).

NH499462 Map sheet: NH44NE

Poor semi-improved grassland with a very small area of heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) and scrub - gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and broom (*Sarothamnus* [*Cytisus*] *scoparius*).

NH499483 Map sheet: NH44NE

Good regeneration of birch (*Betula* sp.).

NH 44 SW

NH411400 Map sheet: NH44SW

Eskdale woods, stretching from here to NH460395 south-east of Eskdale. A north facing birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland containing some rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*). Despite some grazing the woodland appears to be regenerating well in some places. Unfortunately Fountains Forestry have under-planted with exotic conifers which will soon smother this otherwise fine woodland. The site was Given Grade 2 status by SNH 1986 survey, presumably for its current wildlife value rather than for what it will become as the conifers mature.

NH424406 Map sheet: NH44SW

Area of good semi-natural mature oak (*Quercus* sp.) woodland. The ground is quite wet in places with bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) dominating in dryer parts. Also supports alder (*Alnus glutinosa*).

NH426402 Map sheet: NH44SW

An alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) woodland quite heavily grazed, but important due to the extent of pure alder canopy (Extends from NH427403 to NH438389). Identified by SNH 1986 survey as a Grade 2 site (p19).

NH429438 Map sheet: NH44SW

All three species of sundew - (*Drosera rotundifolia*, *D. intermedia*, and *D. anglica*), were reported on the north-east corner of Lochan Fada in great abundance. On a following visit a month later all were under a metre of water due to the loch rising above its normal level.

NH432438 Map sheet: NH44SW

Loch na Cuilc and Loch nan Gobhor (to the east) support white water-lilies (*Nymphaea alba*). Large areas of heathland in the area showed signs of recent burning.

NH441418 Map sheet: NH44SW

A clump of old Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) was found on the corner within this conifer plantation.

NH444441 Map sheet: NH44SW

A large clump of white heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) was found here. To the north large areas of dense continuous bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) were noted.

NH 44 SE

NH454413 Map sheet: NH44SE

Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) woodland of plantation origin but becoming semi-natural (towards creeping lady's tresses (*Goodyera repens*) sub-community of W18 *Pinus sylvestris*-*Hylocomium splendens* woodland NVC). Regeneration on heath to south but heavily browsed. However, uneven aged and older trees established. This years growth not yet browsed. Some juniper (*Juniperus communis*).

NH457431 Map sheet: NH44SE

Dry modified bog and wet heath. All seriously degraded; heavily stock grazed. NB. Saw a pair of crossbills in trees to North of this point.

NH458414 Map sheet: NH44SE

New chalet development.

NH458433 Map sheet: NH44SE

In area as a whole this side of deer fence (to south) Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) regeneration abundant on heath. Shows signs of heavy browsing but most recent shoots are intact.

NH460444 Map sheet: NH44SE

The improved and poor semi-improved grassland in this area is all deer farm, suitably fenced, with restricted access.

NH461437 Map sheet: NH44SE

Mature Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) abundant in this area. Juniper (*Juniperus communis*) also abundant. Area holds high potential for native pinewood extension via natural regeneration.

NH465432 Map sheet: NH44SE

Complex, small-scale mosaic of wet modified and dry modified bog with bog pools and wet heath. Old peat workings (stock grazed). Section to South of target symbol: recently deep ploughed therefore drier. (Moderately spp. rich).

NH466449 Map sheet: NH44SE

Birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland with some bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) beginning to thin through age and lack of regeneration.

NH468449 Map sheet: NH44SE

Good semi-natural birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland with hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and a range of other species. Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*) abundant at east end of track. Area towards west is fenced off - deer farm. Stock grazed but ground relatively species rich in places. (Some areas of grassy glades, some marshy but too small to map). Dead wood abundant.

NH470434 Map sheet: NH44SE

Breakachy Burn/Blackwood - Mature birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland with some alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) and hazel (*Corylus avellana*), becoming open and scattered in places with little sign of regeneration. Clearly has been stock grazed in past (possibly by deer from the adjacent deer farm), but now deer fenced and ground flora moderately species rich in places. Species include wood anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*), bluebell (*Endymion non-scriptus*), violet (*Viola* sp.) primrose (*Primula vulgaris*). Very grassy with scattered bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) (continuous in places). Difficult to map due to mosaic. NB. Surveyed in early May therefore full potential of ground flora not necessarily visible - could be relatively high. However, this is threatened by further spread of bracken, exacerbated by thinning of tree cover with age. Identified by SNH 1986 survey as a grade 2 site (p17).

NH475449 Map sheet: NH44SE

New chalet development in woods.

NH477403 Map sheet: NH44SE

Relatively diverse valley between fields and conifer plantation. Suffers from gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) encroachment and grazing but moderately species rich due to wide variety of habitats. Scrub gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) but some juniper (*Juniperus communis*). A corridor: could be upgraded.

NH477448 Map sheet: NN44SE

Semi-natural broadleaved woodland dominated by mature birch (*Betula* sp.). Ground flora damp and diverse in places. This is under threat from a bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) invasion. Enclosed but evidence of grazing by deer.

NH479446 Map sheet: NH44SE

Dense birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland, stock grazed (sheep). Red kites reported by lady at Lower Leanassie.

NH484442 Map sheet: NH44SE

Extensive broadleaf woodland dominated by birch (*Betula* sp.) but with a range of other trees including some mature conifers. Quite diverse with marshy areas, drier areas, bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) etc. Latter not mapped in detail as is within woodland. Phase 1 does not do full justice to this diversity but more detailed mapping at this scale would be difficult and time consuming. An important section of the extensive Strathglass river corridor.

NH488400 Map sheet: NH44SE

Very dense birch (*Betula* sp.) (ca. 10 years old) with Norway spruce (*Picea abies*). May all be regeneration or possibly spruce planted within the semi-natural birch. Difficult to be sure without more careful study. Succession could lead to birch woodland with spruce rather than plantation but difficult to be certain at this stage.

NH488444 Map sheet: NH44SE

Birch (*Betula* sp.) and bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) - some grassy ground flora area littered with old farm machinery, tyres, wood, etc. (very untidy).

NH492402 Map sheet: NH44SE

Large area felled but now supporting abundant spruce (*Picea* sp.). Uncertain whether re-planted or natural regeneration? Abundant broom (*Sarothamnus* [*Cytisus*] *scoparius*) and brashings. Quite grassy in places but most will become plantation-like eventually. NB. Spacing suggests regeneration but density in places suggests planting.

NH493441 Map sheet: NH44SE

Disused quarry. Large clearing as a result of continued disturbance from heavy vehicles transporting gravel, boulders and waste building materials to and from this area. A well used, worn track runs through the middle with adjacent areas of bare ground/gravel and patches of cropped grass with eyebright (*Euphrasia nemorosa*) dominant. Red bartsia (*Odontites verna*), common ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*), self-heal (*Prunella vulgaris*), bird's-foot trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), common nettle (*Urtica dioica*), spear thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*) frequent. Dragonflies and slow worms are present in this area.

NH494446 Map sheet: NH44SE

Linear strip of semi-natural broadleaved trees bordering a slightly wider linear strip of spruce (*Picea* sp.) conifer plantation. Broadleaved species include hazel (*Corylus avellana*), birch (*Betula* sp.), oak (*Quercus* sp.), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*). Ground flora poor.

NH495411 Map sheet: NH44SE

Artificially created ponds with islands within alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) woodland. Not yet well established therefore limited aquatic vegetation. Tadpoles noted and a heron. Tending towards W7 *Alnus glutinosa*-*Fraxinus excelsior*-*Lysmachia nemorum* woodland (NVC) but of limited extent and quite grassy.

NH499401 Map sheet: NH44SE

Semi-improved grassland. Grazing recently reduced. Currently becoming relatively species rich with common grasses and herbs.

NH499433 Map sheet: NH44SE

Beauly Banks. A birch (*Betula* sp.) dominated woodland on steep slopes above the River Beauly stretching from Aileen Aigas to Lovat Bridge. The entire broadleaved woodland cover along this section of the river was identified by SNH 1986 survey as a Grade 2 site (p16).

NH499440 Map sheet: NH44SE

Woodland of plantation origin, but now becoming quite semi-natural in places. Ground flora area littered with old farm machinery, tyres, wood, etc. (very untidy).

NH50 >	NH51NW	NH53NW	NH54NW
	NH52NW	NH53NE	NH54NE
	NH52NE	NH53SW	NH54SW
	NH52SW	NH53SE	NH54SE
	NH52SE		

NH 51 NW

NH500174 Map sheet: NH51NW

Bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*) abundant. Has appearance of valley mire but turning to marshy grassland. No ericods (heathers etc.) or purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*).

NH504163 Map sheet: NH51NW

(Mapped from a distance as access denied). Mapped as bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) but could have been dense bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*) in this area between plantations.

NB: Plantation to North is new therefore boundary is approximate.

NH509192 Map sheet: NH51NW

Relatively species rich. The marshy grassland supports a range of *Sphagnum* species in places. Habitat diversity in general area quite high.

NH511180 Map sheet: NH51NW

This spot is abundant in grass-of-Parnassus (*Parnassia palustris*) and marsh cinquefoil (*Potentilla palustris*). The area in general is a very complex mosaic of very degraded bog/wet heath, poor semi-improved grassland and species poor marshy grassland dominated by soft rush (*Juncus effusus*). Boundaries very difficult to map.

NH530184 Map sheet: NH51NW

Area of bog modified by drainage (stock grazed) and probably by fluctuating water levels in Loch Mhor. Mapped as dry modified bog but with marshy grassland areas and some characteristics of valley mire. Bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*) locally abundant. A wide variety of fauna reported in this area including hen-harrier, osprey, pine marten, mink, otter, fox, brown hare, badger, deer (sika, roe, and red), and mountain hare.

NH530187 Map sheet: NH51NW

Dry heath, heavily burned and therefore shortened heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) undergrowth.

NH536199 Map sheet: NH51NW

Fields laid out for building.

NH543189 Map sheet: NH51NW

Area resembling dry modified bog and marshy grassland. However, influenced by fluctuating water levels of Loch Mhor and may be currently extending into loch. Difficult to classify.

NH 52 NW

NH501266 Map sheet: NH52NW

Small area of wetland within a dry heath/acid grassland mosaic. Probably worthy of further study later in the year.

NH502274 Map sheet: NH52NW

Phase 1 survey inadequate in this small area as no clear view was obtained.

NH502293 Map sheet: NH52NW

The area in general is a birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland with rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) invasion. Recent management has taken place to reduce the area of rhododendron and thereby maintain the woodland. Two mature giant sequoia (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*) are an interesting feature here.

NH505296 Map sheet: NH52NW

New houses under construction.

NH508256 Map sheet: NH52NW

Rough grazing land dominated by bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), but adjacent to semi-natural birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland. Boundary is unfenced, and there is potential for birch regeneration. The wildlife potential is uncertain, but the habitat contrasts sharply with all adjacent habitats.

NH508264 Map sheet: NH52NW

Newly planted conifers adjacent to existing semi-natural pinewoods (*Pinus sylvestris*).

NH510273 Map sheet: NH52NW

Regeneration of birch (*Betula* sp.) on dry heath/acid grassland mosaic, adjacent to semi-natural conifer woodland with scattered birch.

NH512274 Map sheet: NH52NW

Semi-natural mixed woodland of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) with birch (*Betula* sp.) and larch (*Larix* sp.). Good semi-natural ground flora dominated by heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) and blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*). Some regeneration of Scots pine and birch.

NH516270 Map sheet: NH52NW

Loch Ness side, Urquhart Castle to Bunloit. An area containing a wide range of tree species with rough heathland/grassland above. The remaining semi-natural habitat is important as a wildlife corridor connecting Glen Moriston to Glen Urquhart. Identified by SNH 1986 survey as a Grade 2 site (p29).

NH518296 Map sheet: NH52NW

Urquhart Bay woodland. A diverse, species rich broadleaf woodland adjacent to Loch Ness. Most of the area is essentially an alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) woodland (W7 *Alnus glutinosa*-*Fraxinus excelsior*-*Lysimachia nemorum* woodland NVC) with dryer areas of higher ground, although alder is now confined to wetter parts. Large areas are seasonally inundated adding sediment on an annual basis. The system is a very dynamic one, with smaller natural drainage channels changing from year to year. Clearance by the River Authority of any trees which block the main channels prevents natural development to some extent, probably leading to dryer conditions in some areas. The flora appears to be strongly influenced by garden escapes (presumably from upstream) in places. This adds to the interest but, in the case of Japanese knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum* [*Reynoutria japonica*]), the invasive nature of the species is already leading to some areas being smothered.

"Reed" beds of bottle sedge (*Carex rostrata*) and some reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*) occur by the loch shore to the south, useful for nesting water birds (including swans). The woodland has high recreation and education value due to high species and habitat diversity and a picturesque setting. However, public access should remain at the present informal level as more open access could lead to unacceptable disturbance. (NVC survey carried out by SWT 9/6/92 - see appropriate file for details.)

The woodland is part owned by the Woodland Trust and much of it is a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

NH521283 Map sheet: NH52NW

Former pond, now in an advanced state of in-filling by vegetation. Possibly worth further study later in the year.

NH533258 Map sheet: NH52NW

An area of plantation with some birch (*Betula* sp.) remaining and Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*).

NH535253 Map sheet: NH52NW

Area of marshy grassland where male and female smooth newts and frogs were found. Heath spotted orchid (*Dactylorhiza maculata*) was also present on this site.

NH541264 Map sheet: NH52NW

Wetland habitat amongst dry heath - this increases the diversity of habitats in what is a fairly homogeneous area. In general the habitats in this square range from broadleaved woodland

and conifer plantation around Loch Ness, to upland heath. This variation occurs within a kilometre.

NH 52 NE

NH554252 Map sheet: NH52NE

Unbranched bur-reed (*Sparganium emersum*) at the margins on both sides of the burn.

NH554258 Map sheet: NH52NE

Recently felled area of coniferous plantation with patches of juniper (*Juniperus communis*), which may now have the opportunity to spread.

NH562260 Map sheet: NH52NE

Marshy grassland with patches of bog and heath which are too small to map at this scale.

NH576278 Map sheet: NH52NE

Wet modified bog but relatively species poor and quite dry in places.

NH579279 Map sheet: NH52NE

Dry heath and some grass and abundant bryophytes. (Appears grassy but is in fact mossy.)

NH582283 Map sheet: NH52NE

Area of bog and marshy grassland somewhat difficult to map. The presence of running water has inhibited bog formation in places, thus tending towards a valley mire or large flush. The abundance of soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) suggests marshy grassland in places, while other areas support *Sphagnum* species suggesting bog. As clear distinction between the various components is impractical at this scale, the habitat has been mapped as wet modified bog and marshy grassland.

NH588262 Map sheet: NH52NE

Transition zone. The boundary marked on the map is therefore only approximate.

NH589260 Map sheet: NH52NE

Area now being used for game bird rearing, and bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) left to grow in field, probably as cover for game birds.

NH598266 Map sheet: NH52NE

Small area of bog with bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*) and bog asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*).

NH 52 SW

NH500243 Map sheet: NH52SW

Grotaig Burn (Bunloit Oakwood South). Oak/birch (*Quercus/Betula*) woodland with some elm (*Ulmus* sp.) and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*). Identified in SNH 1986 Woodland Survey as a Grade 1 site (p10).

NH510208 Map sheet: NH52SW

Small area of enclosed, quite interesting bog, with Grass-of-Parnassus (*Parnassia palustris*).

NH526244 Map sheet: NH52SW

This area of wood is not grazed. There is considerable regeneration of mainly birch (*Betula* sp.) and also exotic conifers from adjacent plantations.

NH533247 Map sheet: NH52SW

Swamp area around small pond has been fenced off. Good for reed nesting birds. Species include soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*) and tall sedge (almost certainly *Carex rostrata*).

NH535243 Map sheet: NH52SW

Birch (*Betula* sp.) under-planted with exotic conifers in places. Ground flora dominated by heather (*Calluna vulgaris*).

NH536247 Map sheet: NH52SW

Broadleaved trees - oak (*Quercus* sp.), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and birch (*Betula* sp.). The ground flora is heavily grazed but there is a potential for a good woodland habitat if fenced off.

NH 52 SE

NH552205 Map sheet: NH52SE

Probably once blanket bog. Now modified to wet heath/grassland. Some small areas of bog remain.

NH553218 Map sheet: NH52SE

Young conifer plantation, with bearberry (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*).

NH554209 Map sheet: NH52SE

Drained area, semi-improved.

NH555208 Map sheet: NH52SE

Sharp-flowered rush (*Juncus acutiflorus*) rush-pasture within a complex mosaic, ranging from wet heath/grassland to marshy grassland, but with areas of wet modified bog, too complex to map in detail. A little unusual for this area.

NH567227 Map sheet: NH52SE

Birch (*Betula* sp.) wood with marshy ground flora.

NH567228 Map sheet: NH52SE

Previously grazed area now apparently ungrazed, with the consequence that birch (*Betula* sp.) has invaded. In this square in general, the birch woodlands are regenerating. Some areas of woodland are marshy with typical marsh flora.

NH570229 Map sheet: NH52SE

Regenerating birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland on marshy ground dominated by rush (*Juncus* sp.).

NH574238 Map sheet: NH52SE

Upland hill pasture with rocky outcrops, near birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland and disused quarry (except for beehives). Surveyed early in the season but possibly quite species rich. Species noted at time of visit include needle whin (*Genista anglica*), heath milkwort (*Polygala serpyllifolia*), tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*), wood anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*), wood sorrel (*Oxalis acetosella*), bitter vetch (*Lathyrus montanus*), speedwells (*Veronica* sp.), violets (*Viola* sp.) and some juniper (*Juniperus communis*). Disused quarry may be of interest.

NH575235 Map sheet: NH52SE

Regeneration of birch (*Betula* sp.) beside strip of mature birch by roadside. Area of wet heath had sheep grazing. Perhaps some wildlife potential.

NH588212 Map sheet: NH52SE

Birch woodland (*Betula* sp.) with ground flora of blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*) and heather (*Calluna vulgaris*).

NH589210 Map sheet: NH52SE

Rough grazing with blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*).

NH590246 Map sheet: NH52SE

Small area of birch (*Betula* sp.) beside road, surrounded by heath. A ditch beside the road was characterised by marsh vegetation, typical of the area, including horsetails (*Equisetum* sp.) and marsh violets (*Viola palustris*). Dead badger found.

NH592220 Map sheet: NH52SE

Young broadleaf plantation.

NH593223 Map sheet: NH52SE

Exotic trees in grounds of estate including mature fir (*Abies* sp.) and western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*) with rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*).

NH593227 Map sheet: NH52SE

Wet, grassy heath with grazing and peat digging. Butterwort (*Pinguicula vulgaris*), cotton sedge (*Eriophorum* sp.) and deer sedge (*Trichophorum cespitosum* [*Scirpus cespitosus*]) noted.

NH 53 NW

NH502372 Map sheet: NH53NW

Wet heath (M16d *Erica tetralix*-*Sphagnum compactum* wet heath, *Juncus squarrosus*-*Dicranum scoparium* sub-community NVC) with a little acid grassland (U5 *Nardus stricta*-*Galium saxatile* grassland). Small dry hummocks support blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*) suggesting H12 *Calluna vulgaris*-*Vaccinium myrtillus* heath. However, all very short, stock grazed, and poached in wetter parts.

NH502394 Map sheet: NH53NW

Linear strip of semi-natural habitat. Woodland component is of birch (*Betula* sp.) and Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) with juniper (*Juniperus communis*) and willow (*Salix* sp.). The remainder is a mixture of bog, wet heath and grassland, all drained and stock grazed. However, relatively species rich. The bog to the south-west of this location is modified in places with intact bog pools. Drainage has done little to improve grazing but does appear to have reduced species richness. Could be upgraded by filling drains and fencing to exclude livestock. Heath spotted orchid (*Dactylorhiza maculata*) abundant.

NH503362 Map sheet: NH53NW

Juniper (*Juniperus communis*) scrub with gorse (*Ulex europaeus*). Alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) by burn.

NH504396 Map sheet: NH53NW

Exceptionally fine examples of juniper (*Juniperus communis*), up to about 5 metres tall.

NH505372 Map sheet: NH53NW

Glen Convinth Woods. A birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland in the upper part of the glen. Heavily grazed, but important due to its extent and as one of the few patches of upland birch woodland remaining in the area. Identified by SNH 1986 survey as a Grade 2 site (p20).

NH506357 Map sheet: NH53NW

Mainly wet heath, the dryer parts tending towards M16d *Erica tetralix*-*Sphagnum compactum* wet heath, *Juncus squarrosus*-*Dicranum scoparium* sub-community (NVC), with wetter areas of M25 *Molinia caerulea*-*Potentilla erecta* mire (indicated by dominance of purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*)). Steeper slopes are drier but still constitute wet heath. An attempt has been made to plot a flush to the north, but this is more of a zone dominated by purple moor-grass than a discrete line.

NH507389 Map sheet: NH53NW

Relatively species rich acid grassland with gorse (*Ulex europaeus*). Heath spotted orchid (*Dactylorhiza maculata*) abundant. Stock grazed.

NH507399 Map sheet: NH53NW

Birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland with some Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). Clumped rather than mixed, but more evenly mixed to the west. Ground flora of both dry and wet heath with some bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and some juniper (*Juniperus communis*) in places. Appears relatively natural, but probably stock grazed. However, trees unevenly aged. Possibly a thinned- out pinewood, where birch has taken advantage of the gaps. An interesting woodland.

NH509363 Map sheet: NH53NW

Early purple orchid (*Orchis mascula*) found on M25 *Molinia caerulea*-*Potentilla erecta* mire (NVC) in slightly flushed area. Area to north supports a small stand of planted Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), plus mature Scots pine and birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland of varied age, and grassy beneath. Plantation to east is dense lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*).

NH510374 Map sheet: NH53NW

Birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland, heavily stock grazed and beginning to die back. Some timber removed (probably fallen trees). No regeneration.

NH511385 Map sheet: NH53NW

Semi-natural broadleaved woodland destroyed to make way for housing. (Approximately three hectares of disturbance). Adjacent birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland is relatively species rich (see species list). Rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) seedlings are abundant but browsing heavy.

Species include:

Anthoxanthum odoratum
Deschampsia flexuosa
Luzula multiflora
Luzula pilosa
Potentilla erecta
Sorbus aucuparia
Trientalis europaea
Vaccinium myrtillus

NH514386 Map sheet: NH53NW

Glen Convinth Woods. A birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland in the area of Corrick which is relatively heavily grazed, but important due to its extent. Identified by SNH 1986 survey as a Grade 2 site (p20).

NH515383 Map sheet: NH53NW

Moderately species rich in places with bottle sedge (*Carex rostrata*), early purple orchid (*Orchis mascula*), meadowsweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*), water avens (*Geum rivale*) and others. This is marshy grassland but tending towards swamp.

NH515396 Map sheet: NH53NW

Relatively species rich semi-natural broadleaved woodland with a range of native trees, some mature. Dominated by beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), therefore ground flora poor, but could be managed for wildlife.

NH520373 Map sheet: NH53NW

Acid grassland, some marshy, with some gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and juniper (*Juniperus communis*) plus birch (*Betula* sp.). Somewhere between U4 *Festuca ovina*-*Agrostis capillaris*-*Galium saxatile* grassland and U5 *Nardus stricta*-*Galium saxatile* grassland (NVC), with some marshy grassland dominated by sharp flowered rush (*Juncus acutiflorus*). Relatively species rich.

NH520398 Map sheet: NH53NW

New houses. Residents stated that though trees had been felled to make way for building they had all been replaced by re-planting. (This appears to be a reasonable basis for producing a sound planning policy for such situations). Sightings of pine marten, badger, red squirrel and fox were reported. (Also "big cat" (presumably puma) sightings reported by a number of locals, but reliability of these reports uncertain.)

NH521372 Map sheet: NH53NW

Area of short cropped (heavily stock grazed) wet heath with acid grassland. Grasses increasingly dominant to west and north. Some juniper (*Juniperus communis*) scrub by the birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland in the south-west. Heavily stock grazed wet heath with acid grassland very short (M16d *Erica tetralix*-*Sphagnum compactum* wet heath, *Juncus squarrosus*-*Dicranum scoparium* sub-community with some U4 *Festuca ovina*-*Agrostis capillaris*-*Galium saxatile* grassland (NVC)). Relatively species poor.

NH522374 Map sheet: NH53NW

Species rich acid grassland (tending to U5 *Nardus stricta*-*Galium saxatile* grassland (NVC)), derived from grazed wet heath. Supports a range of common herbs and grasses.

NH526380 Map sheet: NH53NW

Relatively species rich acid grassland with abundant juniper (*Juniperus communis*) and some gorse (*Ulex europaeus*). Heath spotted orchid (*Dactylorhiza maculata*) abundant. Also a small number of SCOTTISH ASPHODEL (*Tofieldia pusilla*).

NH528371 Map sheet: NH53NW

Recently deep ploughed.

NH531398 Map sheet: NH53NW

Extensive areas of wet heath, strongly tending towards dry modified bog in places. Some grassy patches with mat-grass (*Nardus stricta*) but difficult to map. Area looks as though it should be wetter but no obvious signs of artificial drainage except by the field to the west. Could be the result of better drained substrate of glacial deposits.

NH535398 Map sheet: NH53NW

Areas of marshy grassland, acid grassland and wet heath surrounded by birch (*Betula* sp.). Heath spotted orchid (*Dactylorhiza maculata*) abundant. Relatively species rich and quite complex.

NH538366 Map sheet: NH53NW

Complex mosaics of modified habitats not mapped in detail. Some large areas represent much degraded blanket bog which is now functioning as wet heath with acid grassland. Some grassier areas are tending towards poor semi-improved where grazing is heavy.

NH538375 Map sheet: NH53NW

Abandoned steading and farm cottage. Local person told of an old lady, now dead, that remembered when thirty families lived in this area.

NH540382 Map sheet: NH53NW

Juniper (*Juniperus communis*) and "granny pines" (old Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*)).

NH540390 Map sheet: NH53NW

Area of wetland centred on Loch Battan. Tending towards valley mire in places. However, in the main, the area is swamp dominated by bottle sedge (*Carex rostrata*). Drier areas are wet modified bog with hare`s-tail cotton sedge (*Eriophorum vaginatum*) and some small areas of wet heath with acid grassland around margins. Dragonflies are abundant. Plantation to North is of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) with grassy ground flora, tending towards semi-natural in places.

NH543381 Map sheet: NH53NW

Recently "abandoned" improved grassland, currently moderately species rich, but will probably become dominated by a small number of aggressive species before long (particularly Cock's foot (*Dactylis glomerata*)). Some areas tending towards marshy grassland.

NH544360 Map sheet: NH53NW

Broadleaf trees, planted to screen the plantation, have begun to regenerate.

NH545395 Map sheet: NH53NW

Area of poor semi-improved grassland, stock grazed, with dry heath/acid grassland adjacent. Old tree stumps are abundant in this area, but there are no signs of recent felling.

NH546368 Map sheet: NH53NW

Owner of "Woodend Cottage" spoke of frequent visits by wild cat and sightings of pine marten. Owner also encountered badgers further along the road.

NH547357 Map sheet: NH53NW

The wet heath/acid grassland and bogs in this area in general, are all heavily stock grazed and therefore short cropped. Comprises complex mosaics and subtle transitions in many places. Too complex to map at this scale, but all apparently relatively species poor.

NH547364 Map sheet: NH53NW

Abundant pine regeneration up the forestry track along the wood side. The area also supports an interesting range of mosses.

NH548391 Map sheet: NH53NW

Regenerated semi-natural pinewood with blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*) carpet. Local resident reported that the crofter had removed sheep from the land when he found work in Inverness, hence the regeneration.

NH549361 Map sheet: NH53NW

An area of native pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) regeneration that has resulted from the area being fenced off because some hut circles and enclosures are located there. Young trees ranged from 30 cms to 2 m (3 - 10 yrs). There may have been younger trees but they were not seen on this visit.

NH 53 NE

NH554396 Map sheet: NH53NE

Broadleaf woodland in a steep gorge. Dominated by birch (*Betula* sp.). Ground layer well developed, with heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) and some juniper (*Juniperus communis*). Various moss and fern species were found around the river.

NH577357 Map sheet: NH53NE

The semi-natural woodlands overlooking Loch Ness in this area appear to be diverse and potentially of considerable interest. However, being on steep slopes access is difficult and thus they have not been surveyed in detail here.

NH 53 SW

NH500349 Map sheet: NH53SW

Regeneration of birch (*Betula* sp.) from core of scattered trees. Little evidence of grazing, so saplings visible over a wide area.

NH501348 Map sheet: NH53SW

Wet heath planted with Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*) in patches along drain. Species include cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*), heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*) vetches and horsetails (*Equisetum* sp.).

NH505305 Map sheet: NH53SW

Timber chalet development built on terraces cut into hillside, not intrusive as it blends into woodland.

NH505307 Map sheet: NH53SW

Regeneration of birch (*Betula* sp.) forming dense woodland on hillside in places.

NH505338 Map sheet: NH53SW

Wet flush containing sundew (*Drosera* sp.), heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*), butterwort (*Pinguicula* sp.) and lousewort (*Pedicularis* sp.).

NH509306 Map sheet: NH53SW

Deep, narrow rocky gorge. Birch (*Betula* sp.) with hazel (*Corylus avellana*). Some of the latter has been coppiced in the past. Access difficult but wildlife potential high.

NH511312 Map sheet: NH53SW

Area of grassland ranging from poor semi-improved to better semi-improved acid grassland of moderate species richness. The distinction between these was often difficult to make. A

more detailed survey at a more appropriate time of year would further clarify this. However preliminary survey results did not reveal any special case requiring further survey of grasslands alone. Also some marshy areas dominated by soft rush (*Juncus effusus*).

NH511331 Map Sheet: NH53SW

Wet modified bog and heath dominated by heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), with regeneration of birch (*Betula* sp.) and willow (*Salix* sp. (*aurita*?)).

NH511335 Map sheet: NH53SW

Wet heath mosaic with deer sedge (*Trichophorum cespitosum* [*Scirpus cespitosus*]), tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*), butterwort (*Pinguicula* sp.), lousewort (*Pedicularis* sp.), sundew (*Drosera* sp.), *Sphagnum* spp., and lichens. Birch (*Betula* sp.) is regenerating.

NH517309 Map sheet: NH53SW

Steep sided ravine with birch (*Betula* sp.), hazel (*Corylus avellana*) some apparently coppiced in the past, oak (*Quercus* sp.) and other broadleaved trees. Access difficult but wildlife potential high.

NH525312 Map sheet: NH53SW

Good semi-improved acid grassland. Quite heavily grazed but relatively species rich.

NH532339 Map sheet: NH53SW

Wet heath with acid grassland mosaic and tending to wet modified bog in places. Cotton sedge (*Eriophorum* sp.) and soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) on wetter parts.

NH540336 Map sheet: NH53SW

Wet flush with bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*), sedges (*Carex* spp.), cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*) and orchids (*Dactylorhiza* spp.).

NH541348 Map sheet: NH53SW

Conifer plantation with birch (*Betula* sp.) regenerating in places.

NH 53 SE

NH561339 Map sheet: NH53SE

Location of bearberry (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*). The only site seen during the survey of this map.

NH564336 Map sheet: NH53SE

Much of the semi-natural woodland overlooking Loch Ness in this area appears to be relatively species rich. However, being on quite steep slopes access was difficult and this survey did not examine the woodland in detail.

NH577307 Map sheet: NH53SE

Vacant semi-derelict farm and steading.

NH591304 Map sheet: NH53SE

Regenerating birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland.

NH597338 Map sheet: NH53SE

Very old Scots pines (*Pinus sylvestris*), hence potential for regeneration.

NH 54 NW

NH506464 Map sheet: NH54NW

Steep sided wooded den. Cliffs in places. Possibly old quarry. Bottom wet with willow (*Salix* sp.). Diverse and relatively species rich. Disturbance from new house adjacent to south-west due to dumping and tree felling.

NH510472 Map sheet: NH54NW

New housing.

NH513476 Map sheet: NH54NW

New housing.

NH521461 Map sheet: NH54NW

Abandoned tree nursery. Tall herbs and rank grass plus some surviving saplings including hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), willow (*Salix* sp.), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and beech (*Fagus sylvatica*).

NH522462 Map sheet: NH54NW

New housing.

NH524466 Map sheet: NH54NW

New housing.

NH525470 Map sheet: NH54NW

Line of mature hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*). Unclear whether a defunct hedge or planted as a windbreak rather than a barrier. The same applies to a number of other locations in the area including some by the A862.

NH531464 Map sheet: NH54NW

Willow (*Salix* sp.) carr. Mature willow scrub, some reaching the size of small trees. Ground flora of swamp/inundation vegetation, mainly reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*) with some common reed (*Phragmites australis*). Tending towards salt-marsh to east (seaward) end.

NH531465 Map sheet: NH54NW

Area of embankment and earth dyke between drainage channel and river. Dominated by reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*) and tall herbs including rosebay willow-herb (*Chamaenerion angustifolium*) and Japanese knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum* [*Reynoutria japonica*]). Also some small patches of common reed (*Phragmites australis*).

NH540466 Map sheet: NH54NW

Marginal vegetation with an area tending towards saltmarsh, particularly on lower margins. Area supports a range of species including common reed (*Phragmites australis*) and reed canary-grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*).

NH546471 Map sheet: NH54NW

Swamp and marginal vegetation, some possibly experiencing seasonal inundation. Transition to a narrow strip of marshy grassland (latter moderately species rich). A strip of salt-marsh borders in places.

NH549457 Map sheet: NH54NW

Small new housing development adjacent to old church and graveyard. Although down slope from the church, and thus not disturbing the view directly, the development is highly intrusive in an otherwise picturesque setting. Although the site is of limited wildlife value it is never the less disturbing that such a development could be allowed to take place. Although not actually encroaching on consecrated ground the very close proximity of the development is very insensitive.

NH 54 NE

NH570455 Map sheet: NH54NE

Small but relatively species rich woodland with aspen (*Populus tremula*), lime (*Tilia* sp.), oak (*Quercus* sp.), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), birch (*Betula* sp.) and willow (*Salix* sp.). Also a small pond.

NH572459 Map sheet: NH54NE

Area of salt-marsh with mudflats beyond. Likely to be important for wading birds. Also several herons noted in the area.

NH578455 Map sheet: NH54NE

Relatively species rich area with species including orchids, horsetails (*Equisetum* sp.) and lady's smock (*Cardamine pratensis*).

NH585453 Map sheet: NH54NE

Old orchard.

NH586452 Map sheet: NH54NE

Relatively species rich woodland (in places) with rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), birch (*Betula* sp.) and beech (*Fagus sylvatica*).

NH595453 Map sheet: NH54NE

Birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland with an interesting range of species and habitats.

NH 54 SW

NH500437 Map sheet: NH54SW

Part felled.

NH500438 Map sheet: NH54SW

Birch (*Betula* sp.) regeneration in Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) plantation.

NH501400 Map sheet: NH54SW

Small pool surrounded by wet heath and trees including alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), willow (*Salix* sp.), birch (*Betula* sp.) and rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*).

NH501436 Map sheet: NH54SW

Ditch excavation.

NH502441 Map sheet: NH54SW

Possible badger sett.

NH503435 Map sheet: NH54SW

Building and installation of fishery.

NH503439 Map sheet: NH54SW

Badger sett.

NH504406 Map sheet: NH54SW

Very dense young birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland. Ground flora includes chickweed wintergreen (*Trientalis europaea*).

NH504408 Map sheet: NH54SW

Birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland with chickweed wintergreen (*Trientalis europaea*).

NH504416 Map sheet: NH54SW

Rich flower meadow with abundant water avens (*Geum rivale*).

NH504417 Map sheet: NH54SW

Very good ground cover, ungrazed.

NH504437 Map sheet: NH54SW

Exotic conifers.

NH504441 Map sheet: NH54SW

Swamp surrounded by birch (*Betula* sp.) and a fringe of bottle sedge (*Carex rostrata*). Inner section comprises a small area of bog with hare's-tail cotton sedge (*Eriophorum vaginatum*).

NH505417 Map sheet: NH54SW

Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) with birch (*Betula* sp.) which is regenerating. Ground flora is dominated by blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*) with areas of rosebay willowherb (*Chamaenerion angustifolium*).

NH505445 Map sheet: NH54SW

Quarry being extended into area of conifer plantation. Disused areas re-seeding with Birch (*Betula* sp.).

NH505446 Map sheet: NH54SW

Some areas support grasses such as wavy hair-grass (*Deschampsia flexuosa*) and mat-grass (*Nardus stricta*), but in the main this is not sufficient to constitute a grassland mosaic. Creeping lady's tresses (*Goodyera repens*) was noted.

NH506442 Map sheet: NH54SW

Very old, cut off meander forming an elongated oxbow lake system. Now beginning to in-fill with swamp vegetation. Supports beds of bottle sedge (*Carex rostrata*) with some marshy grassland at edges dominated by soft rush (*Juncus effusus*). Also areas of open water. Surrounded by birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland (stock grazed). A relatively diverse area with high wildlife potential.

NH507400 Map sheet: NH54SW

Wet woodland with birch (*Betula* sp.) and willow (*Salix* sp.) surrounding a mosaic of both dry and wet heath, with a few patches of bog and scattered Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). Other frequent species include heath rush (*Juncus squarrosus*), deer sedge (*Trichophorum cespitosum* [*Scirpus cespitosus*]), blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*), sundew (*Drosera* sp.), chickweed wintergreen (*Trientalis europaea*), heath spotted orchid (*Dactylorhiza maculata*), devil's-bit scabious (*Succisa pratensis*), marsh pennywort (*Hydrocotyle vulgaris*), Sphagnum spp. and a large variety of mosses.

NH508403 Map sheet: NH54SW

Mixed woodland with Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) and wet/dry heathland towards south. Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and oak (*Quercus* sp.) occur towards north.

NH508427 Map sheet: NH54SW

Pond and marshy area with soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) and alder (*Alnus glutinosa*).

NH508432 Map sheet: NH54SW

Dominated by lupines (Probably escaped *Lupinus polyphyllus*).

NH508440 Map sheet: NH54SW

Wet woodland with small pools of standing water. Vegetation: birch (*Betula* sp.), alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), willow (*Salix* sp.), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), soft rush (*Juncus effusus*).

NH509421 Map sheet: NH54SW

Red Squirrel sighted. Area subjected to selective felling.

NH510420 Map sheet: NH54SW

Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) regeneration.

NH511434 Map sheet: NH54SW

Possible badger sett.

NH511438 Map sheet: NH54SW

Continuation of old river bed, differs from the other areas in that there is an abundance of horsetail (*Equisetum* sp.), reedmace (*Typha* sp.), common reed (*Phragmites australis*), bottle sedge (*Carex rostrata*) and common duckweed (*Lemna minor*) in the swamp. The wet woodland shows a wider variety of trees with birch (*Betula* sp.), alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), willow (*Salix* sp.) being dominant. The water is probably quite nutrient enriched due to inflow of fertilisers from the surrounding farmland.

NH512438 Map sheet: NH54SW

Wet area of alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) and willow (*Salix* sp.).

NH514445 Map sheet: NH54SW

Extensive area of standing water and broadleaved woodland. The area is species rich and apparently of high wildlife value. Dragonflies were noted. The area was not surveyed in detail and deserves further study.

NH515419 Map sheet: NH54SW

Rhododendron spreading in this area.

NH517403 Map sheet: NH54SW

Young aspen (*Populus tremula*).

NH517409 Map sheet: NH54SW

Ephemeral, dried river bed with boulders.

NH517435 Map sheet: NH54SW

Poor regeneration. Perennial rye grass (*Lolium perenne*) dominant.

NH518402 Map sheet: NH54SW

Area experiencing regeneration of oak (*Quercus* sp.), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and birch (*Betula* sp.). Some oaks ringed (marked in some manner? ed.). Ground flora of blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*), honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*) and woodrush (*Luzula* sp.).

NH518419 Map sheet: NH54SW

Young mixed plantation.

NH518437 Map sheet: NH54SW

Old riverbed.

NH519432 Map sheet: NH54SW

Small Iris swamp (*Iris pseudacorus*).

NH519441 Map sheet: NH54SW

Possible badger sett.

NH520430 Map sheet: NH54SW

Mixture of spruce (*Picea* sp.), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), larch (*Larix* sp.) and beech (*Fagus sylvatica*).

NH521407 Map sheet: NH54SW

Young conifer plantation.

NH521426 Map sheet: NH54SW

Oak (*Quercus* sp.) and beech (*Fagus sylvatica*). Much rhododendron and exotic tree species.

NH522409 Map sheet: NH54SW

A mature oak (*Quercus* sp.) woodland either under-planted with conifers, or being invaded from self-seeded conifers from adjacent plantation.

NH524438 Map sheet: NH54SW

No tree regeneration. Ground flora dominated by dog's mercury (*Mercurialis perennis*) and perennial rye-grass (*Lolium perenne*).

NH527429 Map sheet: NH54SW

New houses.

NH531433 Map sheet: NH54SW

Lily-of-the-valley (*Convallaria majalis*).

NH532431 Map sheet: NH54SW

Birch (*Betula* sp.) regeneration with older birch and bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*).

NH533430 Map sheet: NH54SW

Birch (*Betula* sp.) regeneration.

NH534433 Map sheet: NH54SW

Broadleaved woodland. Birch (*Betula* sp.) dominant. Also rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and some beech (*Fagus sylvatica*). Many small planted trees. Rich undergrowth of bryophytes, bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and other ferns, and honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*). Some signs of rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) invasion.

NH534447 Map sheet: NH54SW

Stand dominated by birch (*Betula* sp.) with gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and broom (*Sarothamnus [Cytisus] scoparius*) scrub.

NH537426 Map sheet: NH54SW

Wet modified bog with heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*), common spike-rush (*Eleocharis palustris*), sundew (*Drosera* sp.), bogbean (*Menyanthes trifoliata*) and *Sphagnum* spp.

NH537449 Map sheet: NH54SW

Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) plantation on a former marsh with birch (*Betula* sp.) (now dying back). Marsh violet (*Viola palustris*) was found on the track. Woodpecker, fox, badger, squirrel and common lizard were reported for this site. A fungus (*Elaphomyces* sp.) was also found.

NH538437 Map sheet: NH54SW

Swamp dominated by horsetail (*Equisetum* sp.). Reedmace (*Typha* sp.) occurred in the ditch.

NH539405 Map sheet: NH54SW

Mixed woodland, difficult to map accurately. Some areas are dominated by conifers and others by broadleaved trees. The understorey is dominated by grasses and bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), but heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*) and other ericoids (heathers etc.) were present.

NH539439 Map sheet: NH54SW

Marshy grassland dominated by soft rush (*Juncus effusus*). Some northern marsh orchid (*Dactylorhiza purpurella*) and lesser butterfly orchid (*Platanthera bifolia*) were noted.

NH542434 Map sheet: NH54SW

Mapped as marshy grassland but apparently in a transitional state between this and swamp. Soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) dominates but there is also an abundance of horsetail (*Equisetum* sp.), some reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*) and meadowsweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*).

NH542438 Map sheet: NH54SW

Marshy grassland. Soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) dominant with some horsetail (*Equisetum* sp.). Other species included meadowsweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*), lesser butterfly orchid (*Platanthera bifolia*), heath spotted orchid (*Dactylorhiza maculata*) and northern marsh orchid (*Dactylorhiza purpurella*). There were snipe nesting in the grassland.

NH542440 Map sheet: NH54SW

Swamp in former drainage ditch and extending into adjacent field dominated by horsetail (*Equisetum* sp.). Other species included bottle sedge (*Carex rostrata*), reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), branched bur-reed (*Sparganium erectum*), meadowsweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*), marsh pennywort (*Hydrocotyle vulgaris*), some northern marsh orchid (*Dactylorhiza purpurella*) and lesser butterfly orchid (*Platanthera bifolia*). Reed buntings sighted.

NH545435 Map sheet: NH54SW

Swamp dominated by reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*). Also some bottle sedge (*Carex rostrata*) and tufted hair-grass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*). Willow (*Salix* sp.) and alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) around margins.

NH546435 Map sheet: NH54SW

Scattered area of broadleaved woodland, tall herbs, scrub and agricultural land.

NH547415 Map sheet: NH54SW

Grassland and rush (*Juncus effusus*) with areas supporting cotton sedge (*Eriophorum* sp.), butterwort (*Pinguicula* sp.) and lousewort (*Pedicularis* sp.).

NH549413 Map sheet: NH54SW

Old, dry modified bog? Probably drained a long time ago. Species include sundew (*Drosera* sp.), butterwort (*Pinguicula* sp.), *Sphagnum capillifolium* and harebell (*Campanula rotundifolia*).

NH 54 SE

NH554446 Map sheet: NH54SE

Mixed broadleaf woodland with beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), elm (*Ulmus* sp.) and birch (*Betula* sp.). A stream runs through. Ground flora relatively rich.

NH555404 Map sheet: NH54SE

Dry heath area with birch (*Betula* sp.) and Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) regeneration.

NH556420 Map sheet: NH54SE

Areas of wet heath with bog pools and small areas of bog too complex to map on this scale.

NH557448 Map sheet: NH54SE

Old pond, now drying out - good marshy habitat. Marsh-marigold (*Caltha palustris*) growing here due to marshy ground.

NH559403 Map sheet: NH54SE

Area mapped as wet heath but containing some grass species including mat-grass (*Nardus stricta*). However, grass cover considered insufficient to map as a grassland mosaic.

NH559427 Map sheet: NH54SE

Mixed plantation and semi-natural deciduous trees, including very mature Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) and younger trees. Also birch (*Betula* sp.), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), some holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) and yew (*Taxus baccata*). Ground flora dominated by great wood-rush (*Luzula sylvatica*). Some areas of the woodland have a thick rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) understorey. Good wildlife and amenity wood.

NH560421 Map sheet: NH54SE

Good broadleaved woodland with a range of species including alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), yew (*Taxus baccata*), lime (*Tilia* sp.), cherry (*Prunus* sp.) birch (*Betula* sp.) and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*). Varied, well established ground flora.

NH561417 Map sheet: NH54SE

Good broadleaved woodland with rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), the latter preventing the ground flora from becoming well developed.

NH568436 Map sheet: NH54SE

Badger setts.

NH569432 Map sheet: NH54SE

Improved field with scattered marshy grassland, too complex to map in detail.

NH571421 Map sheet: NH54SE

Lemon-scented fern (*Oreopteris limbosperma*) - locally uncommon.

NH572407 Map sheet: NH54SE

Heath with scattered Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) regeneration.

NH572437 Map sheet: NH54SE

Small patch of native tree species regeneration (Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) with birch (*Betula* sp.)). Threatened by gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) encroachment.

NH574430 Map sheet: NH54SE

Small area of broadleaved plantation within large conifer (*Pinus sylvestris*) plantation.

NH575416 Map sheet: NH54SE

Local occurrence of yellow saxifrage (*Saxifraga aizoides*), round-leaved sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*) and butterwort (*Pinguicula vulgaris*) due to break in heath by an old path.

NH581422 Map sheet: NH54SE

Swamp with abundant sedges, especially black sedge (*Carex nigra*) and star sedge (*Carex echinata*). Surrounded by very wet heath/grassland. The result of past drainage (possibly once a small bog). The ruined bothy area to the south supports some acid grassland and scattered scrub, but patches of heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) make much of the area a heath/grassland mosaic.

NH586434 Map sheet: NH54SE

Three occurrences of early-purple orchid (*Orchis mascula*), locally uncommon.

NH588420 Map sheet: NH54SE

Much of the plantation in this general area is of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), tending to develop a semi-natural ground flora in places, and adding to the extent of pinewoods in the area. However, some is lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*) in dense stands. Plantations have not been mapped in detail and some open areas exist, supporting wet heath, although too scattered to map thoroughly.

NH589415 Map sheet: NH54SE

Fairly large and complex native pinewood (*Pinus sylvestris*) system of quite uneven age structure, with successful regeneration in places. Some may be of plantation origin but all now shows advanced semi-natural characteristics. Much of the underlying flora is of wet heath with some patches of bog. Drier areas tend to support denser stands of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). Juniper (*Juniperus communis*) occurs frequently. Plotting of clumps of Scots pine is quite approximate in most cases. This is an attempt to show the true character of the woodland rather than accurately record each individual stand.

NH592436 Map sheet: NH54SE

One occurrence of marsh lousewort (*Pedicularis palustris*) noted (being the only one found in this area).

NH594413 Map sheet: NH54SE

Good semi-natural Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) woodland with open areas of mostly wet heath. Trees uneven aged and regenerating. Scattered juniper (*Juniperus communis*) in places. (The full extent of this to the north was uncertain at the time of this target note 18/02/94. However, more details were gathered in 1995.)

NH595437 Map sheet: NH54SE

Relatively young Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) plantation with semi-natural birch (*Betula* sp.) and some heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) ground flora. Pathway edges rich in species (see list). Extensive regeneration of gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) in places.

Ajuga reptans
Anemone nemorosa
Cardamine pratensis
Dactylorhiza maculata
Drosera rotundifolia
Equisetum sp.
Linum catharticum
Lotus corniculatus
Pinguicula vulgaris
Polygala vulgaris
Potentilla erecta
Veronica chamaedrys
Viola riviniana

NH60 >	NH62NW	NH63NW	NH64NW
	NH62NE	NH63NE	NH64NE
	NH62SW	NH63SW	NH64SW
	NH62SE	NH63SE	NH64SE

NH 62 NW

NH600289 Map sheet: NH62NW

Peregrine falcon sighted in this area.

NH602261 Map sheet: NH62NW

Bog area with grass-of-Parnassus (*Parnassia palustris*).

NH602273 Map sheet: NH62NW

Patches of bog with grass-of-Parnassus (*Parnassia palustris*). Loch edge has common reed (*Phragmites australis*), water horsetail (*Equisetum fluviatile*) and spike rush (*Eleocharis* sp.)

NH604286 Map sheet: NH62NW

Five bog pools fenced off.

NH608267 Map sheet: NH62NW

Extensive conifer plantations, also broadleaved trees, not surveyed in detail.

NH610257 Map sheet: NH62NW

New plantation of Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*), larch (*Larix* sp.) and Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). Owned by Aberarder Estate, continuation of existing plantation.

NH610293 Map sheet: NH62NW

Isolated rectangular Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*) plantation not in character with surrounding habitat.

NH625297 Map sheet: NH62NW

New Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*) plantation and forestry access road.

NH637281 Map sheet: NH62NW

RSPB nature reserve on south-east shores of Loch Ruthven - wetland - good site for breeding birds and renowned for Slavonian grebe.

NH 62 NE

NH655281 Map sheet: NH62NE

Small area of wet modified bog.

NH662279 Map sheet: NH62NE

Wet heath with occasional dry areas, too small to map in detail. Area supports a range of common species including cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*), bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*), deer sedge (*Trichophorum cespitosum* [*Scirpus cespitosus*]) and heather (*Calluna vulgaris*).

NH663294 Map sheet: NH62NE

Vegetated ledges, rich in mosses and ferns including maidenhair spleenwort (*Asplenium trichomanus*). Also exposed rock faces.

NH665290 Map sheet: NH62NE

Small area of dry heath with heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*), needle whin (*Genista anglica*), bell heather (*Erica cinerea*), a patch of stag's-horn clubmoss (*Lycopodium clavatum*) and mountain everlasting (*Antennaria dioica*).

NH673281 Map sheet: NH62NE

Broadleaved trees on small island. Pond surrounded by ornamental conifers.

NH676277 Map sheet: NH62NE

New plantation of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), larch (*Larix* sp.) and spruce (*Picea* sp.) extensively planted, with new road running through it.

NH676284 Map sheet: NH62NE

Rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*).

NH678289 Map sheet: NH62NE

New plantation of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), larch (*Larix* sp.) and spruce (*Picea* sp.). Drainage ditches contain specimens of marsh horsetail (*Equisetum palustre*).

NH690285 Map sheet: NH62NE

Evidence of old peat cutting on what now appears to be dry heath (probably due to a drop in the water table). The upland habitats in this general area have not been recorded in detail having been viewed, in the main, only from a distance.

NH696259 Map sheet: NH62NE

Wet flushes supporting cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*), soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) and common cotton sedge (*Eriophorum angustifolium*).

NH697273 Map sheet: NH62NE

Evidence of old peat cutting on wet heath. The uplands in this area were not surveyed in detail. Habitats were recorded, in the main, from a distance and are thus only approximate.

NH 62 SW

NH601231 Map sheet: NH62SW

Plantation with larch (*Larix* sp.) and spruce (*Picea* sp.). However, birch (*Betula* sp.) and Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) occur along the drain.

NH602209 Map sheet: NH62SW

Semi-natural birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland on hillside with extensive blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*) and heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) ground cover.

NH602212 Map sheet: NH62SW

Extensive blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*) on hillside.

NH602228 Map sheet: NH62SW

Blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*) occurring along edge of farmland track.

NH608243 Map sheet: NH62SW

Recently fenced-off wet acid heath with regenerating birch (*Betula* sp.).

NH616234 Map sheet: NH62SW

Cleft in rock face wooded with Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) and birch (*Betula* sp.).

NH617214 Map sheet: NH62SW

Occurrence of stag's-horn clubmoss (*Lycopodium clavatum*), the only specimen found in this area.

NH618233 Map sheet: NH62SW

Rock face containing very old Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) - no regeneration evident.

NH618236 Map sheet: NH62SW

Scattered birch (*Betula* sp.). Trees regenerating and beginning to form woodland on the hillsides.

NH623216 Map sheet: NH62SW

Trailing azalea (*Loiseleuria procumbens*) and cloudberry (*Rubus chamaemorus*) occurring extensively over the hillsides. Both of these species are normally confined to higher slopes and are quite uncommon in this area.

NH628230 Map sheet: NH62SW

Stock grazed area with some heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), Sphagnum and rush (*Juncus* sp.).

NH635212 Map sheet: NH62SW

Heath/grass mosaic with wet flushes and peat bogs.

NH635242 Map sheet: NH62SW

New plantation of mixed conifers - however there is good willow (*Salix* sp.) regeneration since fencing-off.

NH636234 Map sheet: NH62SW

Severe erosion of river bank from river to plateau. One of many localities in the river gorge.

NH 62 SE (Not mapped)

NH650200 Map sheet: NH62SE

NB. These notes relate to the whole 5 km square (NH 62 SE), being a fairly uniform upland area.

Whole area seemingly in process of change, from blanket bog to dry modified bog. Grasses and heathers regenerating in peat hags. Sphagnum present but mostly dried out except in flushed areas.

Species present include:

- Rosa chamaemorus
- Calluna vulgaris
- Erica tetralix
- Eriophorum spp.
- Trichophorum cespitosum
- Huperzia selago
- Carex spp

NH653223 Map sheet: NH62SE

Starry saxifrage (*Saxifraga stellaris*) and marsh marigold (*Caltha palustris*) common in flushes, but absent from other areas.

NH663249 Map sheet: NH62SE

Common reed (*Phragmites australis*) plus grass, bog and dry heath.

NH688222 Map sheet: NH62SE

Starry saxifrage (*Saxifraga stellaris*), marsh marigold (*Caltha palustris*) common in flush.

NH 63 NW

NH606374 Map sheet: NH63NW

Ground flora of moss and blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*).

NH606377 Map sheet: NH63NW

Broadleaved woodland with oak (*Quercus* sp.), birch (*Betula* sp.), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and some holly (*Ilex aquifolium*). Ground layer well developed, dominated by blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*) and moss.

NH608370 Map sheet: NH63NW

Semi-natural mixed woodland with dense understorey of rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*).

NH609379 Map sheet: NH63NW

Dense blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*) ground cover.

NH610377 Map sheet: NH63NW

Dense blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*) ground cover.

NH612386 Map sheet: NH63NW

Wet modified bog with abundant Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) regeneration.

NH613352 Map sheet: NH63NW

Heath dominated by heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) with some regeneration of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), probably from the surrounding plantations.

NH613379 Map sheet: NH63NW

Plantation dominated by Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) with a well developed ground flora dominated by heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) and blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*) but supporting a range of other species.

NH613393 Map sheet: NH63NW

Continuous rhododendrons (*Rhododendron ponticum*).

NH614389 Map sheet: NH63NW

Swamp with Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*).

NH615359 Map sheet: NH63NW

Small pond with bottle sedge (*Carex rostrata*), water horsetail (*Equisetum fluviatile*) and bogbean (*Menyanthes trifoliata*), surrounded by wet heath with sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*) and bog asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*).

NH616384 Map sheet: NH63NW

Scrub clearance in progress.

NH616386 Map sheet: NH63NW

Very varied habitat, difficult to map accurately. Large areas of dwarf shrub heath and scrub (*Ulex europaeus*) plus mixed woodland of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) and birch (*Betula* sp.).

NH619362 Map sheet: NH63NW

Chalybeate well. A wet, swampy area of bottle sedge (*Carex rostrata*) with well established juniper (*Juniperus communis*) to the west (some quite mature). Also mature oaks (*Quercus* sp.), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). The heath has been grazed short giving way to small areas of grass with crested dog's-tail (*Cynosurus cristatus*), red fescue (*Festuca rubra*), Wild thyme (*Thymus drucei*), selfheal (*Prunella vulgaris*) and eyebright (*Euphrasia nemorosa*).

The Allt Garbh below here forms a small, rocky gorge with a range of common bryophytes and ferns.

NH620354 Map sheet: NH63NW

Semi-natural pinewood (*Pinus sylvestris*) with extensively regeneration.

NH622353 Map sheet: NH63NW

Abundant Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) regeneration.

NH623370 Map sheet: NH63NW

Mosaic of wet and dry heath too complex to map in detail.

NH627359 Map sheet: NH63NW

Small patches of dry heath too small to map.

NH644383 Map sheet: NH63NW

Area of bog with cotton sedge (*Eriophorum* sp.), *Sphagnum* species, cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*) and soft rush (*Juncus effusus*). A few Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) and some exotic conifers are stunted and dying due to the wet ground.

NH644397 Map sheet: NH63NW

Rubbish tip.

NH648370 Map sheet: NH63NW

Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), a few mature but mainly young. Regeneration taking place.

NH 63 NE

NH650383 Map sheet: NH63NE

A remnant of blanket mire with bog pools and some marshy grassland. Floral diversity is relatively high due to mosaic. Includes heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), common cotton sedge (*Eriophorum angustifolium*), round-leaved sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*), bog asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*), bogbean (*Menyanthes trifoliata*), water horsetail (*Equisetum fluviatile*) and bottle sedge (*Carex rostrata*).

Sheep had gained access and a hare was sighted, therefore some grazing pressure due to a breach in the fence.

Marsh cinquefoil (*Potentilla palustris*) was of particular note. Small, dense clumps of willow (*Salix* sp.) scrub are present at either end.

NH651383 Map sheet: NH63NE

Small pond with bog pondweed (*Potamogeton polygonifolius*) and bogbean (*Menyanthes trifoliata*). Fringed by sharp flowered rush (*Juncus acutiflorus*) and slender spike-rush (*Eleocharis uniglumis*). Marsh cinquefoil (*Potentilla palustris*) and marsh lousewort (*Pedicularis palustris*) adjacent.

NH651385 Map sheet: NH63NE

Small area of marshy grassland with swamp at centre. Latter dominated by bottle sedge (*Carex rostrata*) with large clumps of marsh lousewort (*Pedicularis palustris*) adjacent.

NH660393 Map sheet: NH63NE

Mixed semi-natural woodland, with a good variety of trees and ground flora.

NH660398 Map sheet: NH63NE

Birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland with hazel (*Corylus avellana*) coppice as understorey. Some large, mature oak (*Quercus* sp.) remain. Fairly large, good semi-natural woodland in a relatively steep den. Ground cover complete. Woodrush (*Luzula sylvatica*) locally dominant.

NH668388 Map sheet: NH63NE

Areas of wet modified bog with seepage channels, and wet heath dominated by very short heather (*Calluna vulgaris*). Heavily stock grazed. Some marshy areas including soft rush (*Juncus effusus*). A complex mosaic, difficult to map at this scale. NB. Gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) heavily browsed forming short, compact bushes.

NH669379 Map sheet: NH63NE

Regenerating Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) and birch (*Betula* sp.). Much of the heath in this area is deceptively dry. This is possibly due to improved drainage due to underlying glacial drift as the area is quite flat and would otherwise be expected to develop into bog.

NH678351 Map sheet: NH63NE

Signs of badgers and their setts.

NH679351 Map sheet: NH63NE

Regenerating alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) woodland.

NH681350 Map sheet: NH63NE

Abandoned hazel (*Corylus avellana*) coppice.

NH699362 Map sheet: NH63NE

Sphagnum rich hollow with bottle sedge (*Carex rostrata*) and clumps of birch (*Betula* sp.). Very wet with some small patches of open water. Some cotton sedge (*Eriophorum vaginatum*). Appears to be natural succession from a small lochan trapped by a ridge of glacial deposits to the west. The small stands of birch appear to correspond to W4 *Betula pubescens*-*Molinia caerulea* woodland (NVC) but are too small to fully form a distinct community. The sedge beds with *Sphagnum* appear to be M5 *Carex rostrata*-*Sphagnum squarrosum* mire. Although not actually found, the area appears to be suited to the eventual development of M18 *Erica tetralix*-*Sphagnum papillosum* mire (NVC) and very small patches may exist at the landward margins of the M5. A botanically interesting site which appears to hold potential for a range of fauna.

NH699382 Map sheet: NH63NE

Area of moderately species rich modified bog dominated by hare's-tail cotton sedge (*Eriophorum vaginatum*) and *Sphagnum* mosses. Modified by some drainage and ploughing plus growth of adjacent conifers taking up water. However, still very wet. Connected to a larger area to east (on map sheet NH73NW).

NB. Although mapped as plantation the area as a whole is quite complex. Though not mapped in detail, within the plantation there are glades and rides supporting a range of heath, heath/grassland and bog communities plus some dense scrub (broom (*Sarothamnus* [*Cytisus*] *scoparius*) appears to dominate). Some areas of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) exist with better developed ground vegetation.

NH 63 SW

NH601313 Map sheet: NH63SW

Relatively species rich area within wet heath. Species include tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*), bog asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*), butterwort (*Pinguicula* sp.) deer sedge (*Trichophorum cespitosum* [*Scirpus cespitosus*]), and cotton sedge (*Eriophorum* sp.)

NH601326 Map sheet: NH63SW

Relatively species rich area within wet heath. Species include *Sphagnum*, cotton sedge (*Eriophorum* sp.), butterwort (*Pinguicula* sp.) and bog asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*). The area also supports scattered juniper (*Juniperus communis*) interspersed with gorse (*Ulex europaeus*).

NH601336 Map sheet: NH63SW

Birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland, some recently felled but some birch still standing. Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) rapidly colonising. Awaiting Broadleaf Woodland Grant. Limited conifer planting to the east. Unfenced.

NH630340 Map sheet: NH63SW

Relatively species rich area within wet heath. Species include tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*), bog asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*), heath milkwort (*Polygala serpyllifolia*), deer sedge (*Trichophorum cespitosum* [*Scirpus cespitosus*]) and butterwort (*Pinguicula* sp.).

NH 63 SE

NH651320 Map sheet: NH63SE

Bog in this area is turning into wet heath.

NH651349 Map sheet: NH63SE

Complex mosaic of bog, heathland and marshy grassland recorded here as wet modified bog as scale is too small to include details.

NH652326 Map sheet: NH63SE

Semi-natural broadleaf woodland and wet heath. According to signs on trees and fence posts this is a protected area. The signs inform the public that this is a protected area and that dogs/fires/camping are not allowed, but details of ownership are not given. The woodland is

dominated by birch (*Betula* sp.) and within it ponds have been created, bird boxes erected and additional trees have been planted.

NH658322 Map sheet: NH63SE

Tiny pool supporting amphibians.

NH660303 Map sheet: NH63SE

Dry heath dominated by heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) with a small scattering of mature Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*).

NH661325 Map sheet: NH63SE

Shallow lochan at edge of bog with horsetail (*Equisetum* sp.). Dammed with wall.

NH662347 Map sheet: NH63SE

Area of common reed (*Phragmites australis*) adjacent to a mosaic of grassland, bog and heath.

NH663315 Map sheet: NH63SE

Dead wood abundant in this area.

NH666331 Map sheet: NH63SE

Orchids abundant in this small area.

NH667328 Map sheet: NH63SE

Birch (*Betula* sp.) and bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*) found within this area of wet modified bog. The bog myrtle suggests localised water movement/flushing tending towards valley mire conditions. The birch suggests patches of W4 *Betula pubescens*-*Molinia caerulea* woodland (NVC).

NH667348 Map sheet: NH63SE

New plantation.

NH669315 Map sheet: NH63SE

Artificial pond.

NH669319 Map sheet: NH63SE

Small patches of wet heath, wet modified bog and marshy grassland within poor semi-improved grassland.

NH669329 Map sheet: NH63SE

Herons (2), ducks, newts, frogs, roe deer, and small clumps of yellow iris (*Iris pseudacorus*) all sighted within this area of swamp adjacent to a wet modified bog.

NH670314 Map sheet: NH63SE

Area ploughed and planted with broadleaved trees.

NH675324 Map sheet: NH63SE

Swamp with Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) and birch (*Betula* sp.).

NH675327 Map sheet: NH63SE

Orchids in small patch of bog too small to map.

NH676332 Map sheet: NH63SE

Patches of heath (not mapped) and many boulders within poor semi-improved grassland.

NH677331 Map sheet: NH63SE

Patches of heath (not mapped) and many boulders within poor semi-improved grassland. Also some marshy grassland.

NH677346 Map sheet: NH63SE

Large drainage ditch and possibly adjacent trees reducing water level of bog.

NH681333 Map sheet: NH63SE

Stag's-horn clubmoss (*Lycopodium clavatum*).

NH684313 Map sheet: NH63SE

Rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) abundant.

NH686310 Map sheet: NH63SE

North edge of Loch Farr has serious rhododendron encroachment.

NH692342 Map sheet: NH63SE

Birch (*Betula* sp.) almost all dead, supporting horseshoe fungi.

NH692345 Map sheet: NH63SE

Rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), larch (*Larix* sp.) and birch (*Betula* sp.).

NH693310 Map sheet: NH63SE

Numerous small flushes on the slopes and patches of bog on the flat in this area.

NH695301 Map sheet: NH63SE

Many scattered patches of marshy grassland with bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*).

NH695305 Map sheet: NH63SE

Bog pools and patches of bog with bog asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*).

NH 64 NW

NH626451 Map sheet: NH64NW

Coppiced woodland of birch (*Betula* sp.) and hazel (*Corylus avellana*) with some scattered, mature oak (*Quercus* sp.). Stock grazed, especially in the west, but ground flora continuous and bryophytes abundant. A small area to the south has been felled and is therefore more open.

NH635450 Map sheet: NH64NW

Several houses here not recorded by Ordnance Survey. Not mapped in detail here. Area around houses either garden or improved grassland. There also appears to be a small pond at one point.

NH638460 Map sheet: NH64NW

A heronry was reported in this woodland in 1992 and herons have been seen in the area recently (22/11/95). Thus, although apparently of little interest, the area is quite important.

NH641456 Map sheet: NH64NW

Craigphadrig. A wooded hill of old red sandstone with the remains of an iron age fort at the summit. Owned by Forest Enterprise. Although of plantation origin much of the woodland has gained semi-natural characteristics. The areas of pinewood supporting, amongst other species, creeping lady's tresses (*Goodyera repens*) is particularly interesting. Although no rare species were encountered the site is valuable for the range of habitats and species which it supports. It is situated at the culmination of a much larger system of habitats linking with the Great Glen to the south-west and a range of habitats to the west. The site is of high amenity value and is visited by a large number of people. Currently the site is being managed for amenity purposes. However, with large areas of conifer plantation remaining the long term management strategy also includes commercial forestry. Gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) is found throughout the site and is dense and impenetrable in places. This could pose a future threat to any areas where the canopy opens sufficiently to allow the species to spread. Another potential long term threat is the encroachment of housing developments. Although not obviously threatened at present, the close proximity of other housing in adjacent areas does suggest the possible danger of encroachment from single developments over a period of time.

The site was surveyed in detail by the Scottish Wildlife Trust in 1995.

NH644458 Map sheet: NH64NW

Area of housing not recorded by Ordnance Survey on this map. Not mapped in detail.

NH 64 NE

NH653467 Map sheet: NH64NE

Muirtown Pools. Area of high habitat diversity with mudflats supporting wading birds, brackish pools with small areas of salt marsh, fresh water pool with reed beds dominated by reed mace (*Typha* sp.) (with Swans and other birds nesting), an area of scrub to the north-east and a wooded area with a variety of ground flora on the embankment by the canal basin. The north-eastern pool by the scrub supports a small area of saltmarsh, with an area dominated by wet heath adjacent supporting species including cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*) and bog asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*). This is a very unusual habitat combination. Some development for public access has taken place around the area of this target note symbol with boardwalks and footpaths. However, it is unclear whether the management of this interesting site has been considered beyond that of amenity improvement.

NH666472 Map sheet: NH64NE

An area of mudflats important for wading birds, with some small salt-marsh areas. The area is popular with bird-watchers and sometimes good for dolphin spotting. Unfortunately it is now planned to build an access road to the new football stadium through here.

NH679463 Map sheet: NH64NE

Longman Tip and mudflats. The Longman coastal strip is a council refuse tip. The area has undergone a process of in-filling for many years. First artificial lagoons are created which are then filled with refuse. The remaining adjacent areas of mudflat, particularly to the east towards Seafield, are very important for wading birds. Although the council persists in extending the tip south-eastwards it seems inconceivable that they will be able to continue this process much longer due to the international importance of such habitat.

Parts of the area currently support some good semi-natural habitats. Nearest the A9 road there is scrub with gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and broom (*Sarothamnus* [*Cytisus*] *scoparius*) and a range of other species in a mosaic with semi-improved grassland. A variety of broadleaved trees have been planted throughout.

Although the new and controversial football stadium planned for the north-west tip of the site will no doubt be unsightly from many angles the location in question is of lesser wildlife value than other parts of the site. The potential for future development as a form of country park (with good views over the firth and a range of habitats to explore) will remain. As Inverness desperately lacks a sea front (having been developed for industry over the years) this represents a final opportunity to produce an attractive coastal environment for locals and visitors alike.

NH693463 Map sheet: NH64NE

Area of mudflats important for wading birds. Now particularly important for wildlife conservation as the Longman land-fill has already destroyed a large section of this area.

NH 64 SW

NH600435 Map sheet: NH64SW

Deer fence erected aiding regeneration of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) with a scrub layer of broom (*Sarothamnus* [*Cytisus*] *scoparius*).

NH603418 Map sheet: NH64SW

Good semi-natural area. Wet heath sometimes with acid grassland/marshy grassland mosaic with numerous small stands of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) and some birch (*Betula* sp.). Juniper (*Juniperus communis*) occurs occasionally to the south-west. Stock grazed, but pressure relatively low, and some successful regeneration is evident.

NH603428 Map sheet: NH64SW

Large area has been mapped as "recently felled conifers". However, felling apparently took place some time ago, and no management has taken place recently. The area is now wet heath with some acid grassland and marshy grassland with regeneration of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), Douglas Fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) and Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*). Clumps of gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) occur, especially in the eastern corner. Lying dead wood and old tree stumps are abundant.

NH603446 Map sheet: NH64SW

Established birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland with several streams. The area immediately around the target note is level ground creating wetter conditions. There is also some willow (*Salix* sp.) adjacent. Ground cover includes purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*), sedges (*Carex* spp.), butterwort (*Pinguicula vulgaris*), bugle (*Ajuga reptans*), tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*), water avens (*Geum rivale*), early marsh orchid (*Dactylorhiza incarnata*). On the drier, wooded slopes species include rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), violet (*Viola* sp.), common spotted orchid (*Dactylorhiza fuchsii*), pignut (*Comopodium majus*), bluebells (*Endymion non-scriptus*), juniper (*Juniperus communis*) and Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*).

NH604442 Map sheet: NH64SW

Stands of mature Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) and birch (*Betula* sp.) on road boundary.

NH600435 Map sheet: NH64SW

New deer fence and conifer plantation. Appears to post date the extensive area of felling which lies adjacent.

NH602436 Map sheet: NH64SW

Grassland, tending towards neutral but with some acid grassland indicator species. Possibly limed. The area to the north-west, mapped as acid grassland, is a complex mosaic of rather damp acid grassland and wet heath with juniper (*Juniperus communis*), Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) and birch (*Betula* sp.).

NH605433 Map sheet: NH64SW

Marshy grassland adjoining birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland, with heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), and patches of scrub.

NH606433 Map sheet: NH64SW

Area of old felled conifers, reverted to wet heath/acid grassland mosaic with scattered gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) plus regenerating birch (*Betula* sp.) and conifer saplings.

NH608427 Map sheet: NH64SW

Conifer plantation (spruce (*Picea* sp.)), fairly recently planted (ca. 5 years). A relatively small, unsympathetic scheme which effectively cuts a wildlife corridor. At the narrowest point (between the two large existing plantations) the trees are planted right up to the burn. Once mature this will separate the good semi-natural pinewoods and heath to the west from the important broadleaved woodland of Bunchrew Burn to the north-east.

NH612443 Map sheet: NH64SW

Felled birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland now regenerating but being grazed by ponies. Species rich. Species include bugle (*Ajuga reptans*), common spotted orchid (*Dactylorhiza fuchsii*), chickweed wintergreen (*Trientalis europaea*), germander speedwell (*Veronica chamaedrys*), lousewort (*Pedicularis sylvatica*), needle whin (*Genista anglica*), gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*).

NH612448 Map sheet: NH64SW

Dam shown on Ordnance Survey map no longer present.

NH613417 Map sheet: NH64SW

Area of conifer plantation in general not surveyed in detail due to access problems. The south-eastern margin (Craig Dunain hospital to Dochgarroch), although visible from the road in places, may lack some detail on the map. Much of the plantation appears to be larch (*Larix* sp.) but some is Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), particularly to the north. Some of the latter may be developing semi-natural characteristics.

NH615445 Map sheet: NH64SW

Bunchrew Burn. A relatively species rich wooded ravine. Much of the site is dominated by alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) with some ash, oak, rowan, and willow and thickets containing blackthorn. Identified by SNH 1986 survey as a Grade 2 site (p15).

NH626427 Map sheet: NH64SW

Although of limited extent the broadleaf woodland in this area appears of good semi-natural character. The area supports some large, mature oak (*Quercus* sp.) and other broadleaved trees. In parts the ground flora is well developed.

NH626433 Map sheet: NH64SW

Communications mast and small buildings here not shown on this map. Small area to the east, above the crags, by the Ordnance Survey triangulation point, appears to be quite semi-natural with heath and Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). Much of the plantation in this area is of Scots pine.

NH626447 Map sheet: NH64SW

Area of dense woodland, varying from conifer plantation to clumps of semi-natural broadleaf woodland and some scrub. Species distribution appears quite uneven in places, with some stands of birch (*Betula* sp.) and some of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). Access quite difficult from this direction and therefore difficult to survey. (See also target note NH626451 from map NH64NW for details of northern section.) The area appears to become less dense and more semi-natural to the north. Mapped as semi-natural mixed woodland as the category of conifer plantation alone does not adequately describe this habitat.

NH628441 Map sheet: NH64SW

Very small area of wet heath/acid grassland with bog pools of some wildlife interest. Too small to map.

NH630443 Map sheet: NH64SW

Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) woodland of plantation origin. Birch (*Betula* sp.) is semi-natural, with a scrub layer of gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) in many parts. Overall effect is semi-natural. (Much is impenetrable but some parts support reasonable semi-natural ground flora.) Species distribution is uneven, with some stands of birch and some of Scots pine.

NH631400 Map sheet: NH64SW

Laggan House Cottage. Mixture of coniferous plantation and semi-natural woodland dominated by Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). New buildings have been erected. Large gardens.

NH631416 Map sheet: NH64SW

Wet boggy area with pond, birch (*Betula* sp.) and Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) present.

NH631420 Map sheet: NH64SW

Pond surrounded by gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) adjacent to improved grassland and stands of mature Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*).

NH632423 Map sheet: NH64SW

Pond surrounded by gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) adjacent to improved grassland.

NH632447 Map sheet: NH64SW

Area of felled conifer plantation which has been left to regenerate naturally. Now dominated by dense gorse (*Ulex europaeus*), with semi-natural grassland dominated by tufted hair-grass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*).

NH633432 Map sheet: NH64SW

Marshy hollow formed by esker deposits. Appears to be a former lochan, now in-filled through natural succession. Now a very wet, fairly natural looking bog, in a stage of recent transition from swamp. Did not appear to be particularly rich in vegetation species but a rare community in a purely local context and thus very interesting.

NH637448 Map sheet: NH64SW

Complex mosaic of gorse (*Ulex europaeus*), tufted hair grass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*) and regenerating birch (*Betula* sp.) with some conifers. Appears to have once been a conifer plantation which was felled some time ago and allowed to regenerate naturally. Now forms an important wildlife link between the semi-natural habitats to the west and Craighadrig to the east.

NH638407 Map sheet: NH64SW

Mixed semi-natural woodland, dominated by birch (*Betula* sp.) with Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) frequent. No evident grazing, and ground flora apparently quite rich.

NH639404 Map sheet: NH64SW

Cullaird Wood. Plantation of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) and larch (*Larix* sp.) with a pond.

NH641444 Map sheet: NH64SW

Hospital area with grassland, mainly for amenity use, but ranging from amenity grassland to poor semi-improved according to management. New tree planting, both broadleaves and conifers, in places. Also scattered mature trees and some gorse (*Ulex europaeus*).

NH642431 Map sheet: NH64SW

A mixed woodland of particular wildlife interest, in an area already known to be of significant geomorphological and archaeological interest. The site extends north and east to the hillside overlooking Torvean Golf Course.

NH643418 Map sheet: NH64SW

Caledonian Canal, River Ness and river banks habitat complex. The area includes the banks of both the canal and the river, with some adjacent land, and particularly the strip of land

between the two. This represents an important wildlife corridor connecting the semi-natural habitats around Loch Ness and Dochfour with the centre of Inverness.

NH644412 Map sheet: NH64SW

Semi-natural broadleaved woodland containing much oak (*Quercus* sp.) and of particular wildlife interest due to high species diversity.

NH644415 Map sheet: NH64SW

Linear strip of broadleaf woodland, dominated by beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and oak (*Quercus* sp.). Interesting fungi present, good shrub layer, ground flora dominated by blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*), great wood-rush (*Luzula sylvatica*) and bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*).

NH646408 Map sheet: NH64SW

Pond adjacent to Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) plantation and gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) scrub.

NH646432 Map sheet: NH64SW

Torvean quarry/esker. Gravel quarry which ceased operation in 1994. Interior now stabilised, graded and planted with numerous broadleaf trees. Remaining areas support neutral grassland and herbs typical of waste ground. Outer slopes support dense scrub and some semi-natural woodland. The Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) plantation to the south-west has developed semi-natural characteristics. However, much of that area suffers from dense bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) encroachment. The site as a whole, although apparently not supporting any rare species, has very high amenity potential. It affords good views over the surrounding area and has considerable geomorphological interest. Surveyed by Scottish Wildlife Trust in 1994.

NH649411 Map sheet: NH64SW

Fairly diverse, semi-natural broadleaf woodland, dominated by birch (*Betula* sp.) with some beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) in dryer parts. Alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) dominates wetter areas with some ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and willow (*Salix* sp.). The pond is in an advanced stage of succession to swamp. Water flows through the woodland in a north-easterly direction. The channels are confined in places, but elsewhere meander over wider areas forming pools. The ground flora is moderately rich. Some lying dead wood.

NH 64 SE

NH651401 Map sheet: NH64SE

An almost pure stand of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) with much dead wood which should support a good invertebrate population. Rich in fungi, lichens, and mosses. The ground flora appeared interesting, but some illegal dumping has been taking place.

NH651434 Map sheet: NH64SE

The remains of part of a glacial esker ridge which was, until recently, worked as a gravel quarry. Since operations ceased the interior (to the west of this point) has been planted with numerous broadleaved trees and is scheduled for development as an amenity area. The outer slopes support a range of woodland and scrub habitats. The southern margin in particular (overlooking the canal) is dominated by dense gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) which is helping to stabilise the steep slope. The most semi-natural woodland is to be found in the area around this target note. The southern part is dominated by mature oakwood (tending towards W11 *Quercus petraea*-*Betula pubescens*-*Oxalis acetosella* woodland (NVC)) with a well developed ground flora, and a range of other tree species at the lower margins. The north-east section supports moderately dense, fairly mature beechwood (*Fagus sylvatica*) with a relatively poor ground flora).

The site as a whole is of high amenity value and has potential for further improvement in this respect. A number of paths link parts of the site with both the road and the canal tow path. The site was surveyed in greater detail (Autumn 1994) by the Scottish Wildlife Trust.

NH654417 Map sheet: NH64SE

Holm Glen Wood. Interesting semi-natural broadleaf woodland within a small, steep sided glen with a deeply incised burn running through. The canopy is dominated by beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) in places, but there is a range of other trees elsewhere. Several large, fairly mature Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) are located along the eastern margin. The ground flora ranges from sparse beneath mature beech, to moderately species rich elsewhere. Although apparently not of high botanical interest the site is of high amenity value, with good potential for education and interpretation. The amenity aspect is particularly important as the site is close to housing and schools, in an area where some woodlands have already been developed for housing. Unfortunately at the time of this update (21/11/95), although the area has been long used for amenity purposes, the landowner has closed off the woodland by fencing of entrances with barbed wire.

NH651441 Map sheet: NH64SE

Torvean Golf Course. Numerous broadleaved trees have been planted in the rough in this area. The golf course is currently little developed. However, it has potential as a wildlife haven if the trees reach maturity and the ground beneath is allowed to develop semi-natural characteristics. There are also three quite interesting ponds on the course.

NH654442 Map sheet: NH64SE

Tomnahurich Cemetery and Hill. A well established cemetery supporting a wide range of mature trees, both broadleaved and coniferous. Tomnahurich Hill is densely wooded, but the ground flora has developed some semi-natural characteristics in a few places. The subject of local myths and legends, the hill is a part of the Torvean esker ridge which has become isolated due to erosion in post-glacial times. The site supports a wide range of common bird species and is a prominent landscape feature in the Inverness area.

NH657433 Map sheet: NH64SE

Whin Park. Amenity parkland with children's play areas and boating pond surrounded by strips of semi-natural woodland. Although not of high wildlife value, the site is an interesting

blend of the formal and the informal. It is thus currently both of high amenity value and useful for educational purposes (tree identification etc.)

NH658403 Map sheet: NH64SE

Big Burn. An area of good semi-natural broadleaved woodland. Species include rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), and alder (*Alnus glutinosa*). There is a good scrub layer. The area connects with Balvonie of Leys heathland to the south, making this an important wildlife corridor into Inverness in addition to it being a valuable wildlife area in its own right. The area was the subject of an NCC Phase 2 survey. Records are available through SNH.

NH662436 Map sheet: NH64SE

Ness Islands. A long established amenity area with large mature exotic conifers, and a range of broadleaf trees. The wildlife value is limited by tree species present, by the sometimes dense canopy which restricts ground flora development and by the large number of visitors which the site attracts. However, the site represents an important landscape feature of considerable character, and is enjoyed by large numbers of visitors each year.

NH664423 Map sheet: NH64SE

Culduthel hospital is being demolished. The land is intended for new housing. Hopefully some of the woodland should remain.

NH668427 Map sheet: NH64SE

The old hospital has gone and the area is being developed for housing (Autumn 1992). Apparently the area was once of some amenity value but access is now increasingly restricted. Further development seems likely and parts of the woodland may be degraded.

NH670408 Map sheet: NH64SE

This is a mixed woodland which contains many species both native and exotic. There is some rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*), but this is not very dominant as yet.

NH671405 Map sheet: NH64SE

This is the site of a small hazel (*Corylus avellana*) coppice.

NH672426 Map sheet: NH64SE

The land use has changed. This area is now being developed for a golf course and other leisure amenities.

NH672428 Map sheet: NH64SE

This land is now being developed for a new road.

NH678433 Map sheet: NH64SE

This area is now a housing development.

NH679424 Map sheet: NH64SE

A strip of mixed woodland which contains many species including oak (*Quercus* sp.), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) (some very mature), birch (*Betula* sp.), elm (*Ulmus* sp.), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and willow (*Salix* sp.). There is a good ground flora and some regeneration of ash, beech, rowan and oak.

NH679443 Map sheet: NH64SE

This is a golf course with many small areas of scrub and woodland, but access for mapping and identification of dominant species is limited.

NH680438 Map sheet: NH64SE

Wester Culcabock farm has been demolished. The land has been built upon (houses). One enclosed strip of grassland remains but this also is under development.

NH683427 Map sheet: NH64SE

A mixed woodland which contains many species including sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), birch (*Betula* sp.), willow (*Salix* sp.), elder (*Sambucus nigra*), and holly (*Ilex aquifolium*). There is a good scrub and ground layer. Some trees, including birch and oak have been planted.

NH686448 Map sheet: NH64SE

There has been a land use change. This area is now undergoing building development.

NH687405 Map sheet: NH64SE

Scrub recently cut and burned over a large area.

NH689446 Map sheet: NH64SE

This area is now a building/construction site. There are a few mature broadleaves on the site which may be threatened by this development.

NH692432 Map sheet: NH64SE

A number of the wooded dens running parallel to one another in the Inshes area support a healthy badger population, as well as other interesting fauna and flora. (This target note represents the general area.) While bordered by the pasture linking these wooded dens, the area will remain one of significant wildlife value, particularly as it is so close to Inverness. By agreement with Highland Regional Council, future developments will take into account the need for links between the dens. Any development which isolates the dens from one another would be seriously detrimental to the wildlife in this area. As isolated islands, the wooded dens would be unable to maintain their current level of species diversity.

NH695406 Map sheet: NH64SE

An area of dry heath/grassland mosaic. Approximately 90% heath dominated by heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), with gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and juniper (*Juniperus communis*) and 10% grassland. Grassland status borderline - probably just sufficiently rich to be classified as better semi-improved, but could easily change with slight variations in management. Also numerous small patches of marshy grassland, awkward to map in detail.

NH695416 Map sheet: NH64SE

Land use has changed. This area is now being developed for housing.

NH696401 Map sheet: NH64SE

Small area of modified bog with abundant Sphagnum. Raised hummocks support wavy hair-grass (*Deschampsia flexuosa*).

NH696411 Map sheet: NH64SE

Mature Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) and juniper (*Juniperus communis*) within a mosaic of habitats, including marshy grassland, wet and dry heath, acid grassland with abundant mat-grass (*Nardus stricta*), and scrub.

NH697416 Map sheet: NH64SE

Land use has changed. This area is now being developed for housing.

NH697417 Map sheet: NH64SE

There are a number of new houses and roads. The existing boundaries have been altered or removed. The spring shown on the map has either been piped or drained.

NH697420 Map sheet: NH64SE

A new road which goes to Milton of Leys has been constructed.

NH698404 Map sheet: NH64SE

An area with a good mixture of heath, scrub and scattered trees. Dominant species are heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) and gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) with scattered willow (*Salix* sp.) and rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*).

NH698418 Map sheet: NH64SE

Marked Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) regeneration in this area.

NH698440 Map sheet: NH64SE

There has been a new housing development on Caulfield Road.

NH699409 Map sheet: NH64SE

Acid grassland. The abundance of tufted hair-grass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*) in the general area suggests neutral, but mat-grass (*Nardus stricta*) and wavy hair-grass (*Deschampsia flexuosa*) are also present, and there is an acid heath (sometimes as mosaic) adjacent. The area appears to have been limed in the past, but now reverting to acid grassland due to leaching.

NH699413 Map sheet: NH64SE

Bogbain Wood and heath. Area of predominantly wet acid heath with areas of wet modified bog, some with abundant *Sphagnum* and bog pools. Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) with some lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*) is regenerating over a wide area to the east. This is relatively unique for the area surrounding Inverness. While pinewood regeneration is being encouraged in other parts of the district, no comparable area can be found so close to Inverness.

Although much of the wet heath is fairly uniform and not at present particularly species rich, the site as a whole contains a wide range of habitats, which together support a wide range of species. The area also contains an important strip of alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) woodland, a pond and dam containing a wide variety of wetland species, large patches of scrub (mainly gorse (*Ulex europaeus*), but with some broom (*Sarothamnus* [*Cytisus*] *scoparius*)), and grassland. Further development of the regenerating pinewoods could then lead to a site of considerable interest for wildlife and informal recreation.

The area was scheduled for development of a hotel and leisure complex with a golf course. However, the scheme has now fallen through and the future of the site remains uncertain (22/11/95).

NH699415 Map sheet: NH64SE

Neutral grassland. Recorded as neutral due to abundance of tufted hair-grass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*). Probably limed in the past and only marginally neutral. Grades into wet heath and acid grassland.

NH699422 Map sheet: NH64SE

Spoil - earth from nearby housing development. Scrub to north is gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) in a steep sided gully with marshy areas.

NH70 >	NH72NE	NH73SE	NH74SE
	NH72SW	NH74NW	NH75NE
	NH73NW	NH74NE	NH75SE
	NH73NE	NH74SW	

NH 72 NE

NH755251 Map sheet: NH72NE

Wet heath possibly with some acid grassland mosaic. Taken only from aerial photograph.

NH777258 Map sheet: NH72NE

Old Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), no regeneration here or in this whole area.

NH779251 Map sheet: NH72NE

A stand of semi-natural Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). Many trees felled, fallen or about to fall. No regeneration evident either here or to the north and east.

NH780255 Map sheet: NH72NE

Dry heath. Very heavily grazed.

NH780259 Map sheet: NH72NE

Bryophyte dominated spring. Very muddy, deep soft mud (rather dangerous). Heavily poached (trodden) by livestock.

NH783262 Map sheet: NH72NE

Old Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), no regeneration. Dense juniper (*Juniperus communis*) to North-west and South-east.

NH786297 Map sheet: NH72NE

Dense juniper (*Juniperus communis*).

NH787296 Map sheet: NH72NE

Dry modified bog, seriously degraded but with the occasional area of *Sphagnum* persisting. Area beyond the fence to the south-west is even more degraded.

NH790252 Map sheet: NH72NE

Heath/grassland mosaic, heavily grazed and poached. Juniper (*Juniperus communis*) abundant.

NH790264 Map sheet: NH72NE

Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) plantation (saplings). Deer browsing evident. Ground flora, relatively species rich heathland. Dense juniper (*Juniperus communis*) occurs in the northern part.

NH795250 Map sheet: NH72NE

Pond. Dammed at one end. Supports emergent vegetation and green algae.

NH796280 Map sheet: NH72NE

Dry modified bog, but some wet patches remain.

NH796290 Map sheet: NH72NE

Very good heathland. Species rich, best in area.

NH799288 Map sheet: NH72NE

Mature larch (*Larix* sp.), with young oak (*Quercus* sp.) in plastic tubes.

NH 72 SW

NH709235 Map sheet: NH72SW

Area of moderately species rich modified bog dominated by hare's-tail cotton sedge (*Eriophorum vaginatum*) and *Sphagnum* mosses. Dryer hummocks (particularly to east of lochan) support heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) and crowberry (*Empetrum nigrum*). *Polytrichum commune* (moss) abundant. Surveyed in November therefore some interesting species may have been overlooked.

NB. Although mapped as plantation the area as a whole is quite complex. Though not mapped in detail, within the plantation are glades and rides supporting a range of heath, heath/grassland and bog communities plus some dense scrub (apparently dominated by broom (*Sarothamnus* [*Cytisus*] *scoparius*)). Some areas of planted Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) exist with better development of ground flora.

NH 73 NW

NH701385 Map sheet: NH73NW

Wet modified bog surrounding a small lochan. Some parts drained, some parts ploughed but area has retained hare's-tail cotton-sedge (*Eriophorum vaginatum*) and a range of *Sphagnum* (bog moss species) (important bog building plants). Dryer hummocks support heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) with some crowberry (*Empetrum nigrum*) and the moss *Polytrichum commune*. Appears relatively species rich but surveyed in November and some species of interest may have been overlooked.

NH702362 Map sheet: NH73NW

Blanket bog with bog pools and extensive Sphagnum with soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) on the margins of the loch. Heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) and cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*) becoming increasingly common as the bog grades into wet heath.

NH704353 Map sheet: NH73NW

Semi-improved grassland with a diverse flora. A variety of grass species including wavy Hair-grass (*Deschampsia flexuosa*); also heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), devil's-bit scabious (*Succisa pratensis*), tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*), eyebright (*Euphrasia* sp.).

NH708354 Map sheet: NH73NW

Wet heath/acid grassland mosaic grading into modified bog.

NH708356 Map sheet: NH73NW

Poor semi-improved grassland, but relatively species-rich in places. Species include buttercup (*Ranunculus* sp.), marsh thistle (*Cirsium palustre*), white clover (*Trifolium repens*), soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), dock (*Rumex* sp.), Yorkshire fog (*Holcus lanatus*), bent grass (*Agrostis* sp.) and crested dog's-tail (*Cynosurus cristatus*).

NH709362 Map sheet: NH73NW

Area being turned over to quarrying. Reservoir is being drained and filled and the surrounding land drained by a new ditch system.

NH709370 Map sheet: NH73NW

Continuous alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) along stream banks.

NH710358 Map sheet: NH73NW

Wet heath with occasional boggy areas and pools. Species composition mainly heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), deer sedge (*Trichophorum cespitosum* [*Scirpus cespitosus*]) and cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*) with bog asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*).

NH714363 Map sheet: NH73NW

Patchy blanket bog with willow.

NH715364 Map sheet: NH73NW

Marshy area blending into modified bog.

NH715368 Map sheet: NH73NW

Small area of semi-improved grassland interspersed with heather (*Calluna vulgaris*).

NH716364 Map sheet: NH73NW

Area of wet heath with drier patches; extensive willow (*Salix* sp.); sedges (*Carex* spp.) also present.

NH725393 Map sheet: NH73NW

Species-rich grassland and species-rich marshy grassland with grass-of-Parnassus (*Parnassia palustris*).

NH727390 Map sheet: NH73NW

Immature broadleaf plantation with scattered mature birch (*Betula* sp.) and scattered bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*). Planted trees include oak (*Quercus* sp.), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and elder (*Sambucus nigra*).

NH728395 Map sheet: NH73NW

The birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland has regenerated to cover this area. The area as a whole, including the rocky gorge of the Nairn river, is of particularly high wildlife potential, having a wide range of habitats in a relatively small area.

NH739390 Map sheet: NH73NW

Sandy cliff forming the north bank of the river is a nesting site for sand martins.

NH745386 Map sheet: NH73NW

Part of an important river corridor linking the habitats around Loch a Chaodrainn with those along the river Nairn. This stretch contains a small scale mosaic of wet heath, marshy grassland and willow (*Salix* sp.) scrub, difficult to map at 1:10,000 scale.

NH 73 NE

NH755368 Map sheet: NH73NE

Deep, clear pool, probably old rock quarry. Rocky one side, marsh species including lousewort (*Pedicularis* sp.) marsh cinquefoil (*Potentilla palustris*) and pondweed (*Potamogeton* sp.) occur in one corner. Stocked with fish. Adjacent side difficult to map precisely, but mainly wet heath/acid grassland.

NH755373 Map sheet: NH73NE

Area of particularly high habitat diversity, includes reed beds, marshy grassland, willow (*Salix* sp.) scrub, mixed woodland, wet heath acid grassland, standing and running water and conifer plantation.

NH755388 Map sheet: NH73NE

Commercial peat extraction

NH756378 Map sheet: NH73NE

New track giving access to peat extraction

NH757366 Map sheet: NH73NE

This area of marshy grassland is more natural (less improved) than others in this area. Thus the wildlife potential is greater.

NH759379 Map sheet: NH73NE

Relatively intact blanket mire, only modified by grazing

NH761378 Map sheet: NH73NE

Recent drainage channels, roughly north to south, approx. 20 m apart. Purpose unclear. Grazing, forestry or peat extraction?).

NH768352 Map sheet: NH73NE

Moy Hall estate garden. Trees include beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) which is dominant, aspen (*Populus tremula*), birch (*Betula* sp.), giant sequoias (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*), various spruce species (*Picea* sp.), elm (*Ulmus* sp.), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*), white poplar (*Populus alba*), grey willow (*Salix cinerea*), Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), oak (*Quercus* sp.), western red cedar (*Thuja plicata*), yew (*Taxus baccata*) and rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*). Rhododendron forms a scrub layer in places. There is also some ivy (*Hedera helix*) and dog rose (*Rosa canina* agg.). Ground flora includes raspberry (*Rubus idaeus*), tufted hair-grass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*), stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*), cock's-foot (*Dactylis glomerata*), bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), great woodrush (*Luzula sylvatica*), dock (*Rumex* sp.), foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*), rose-bay willowherb (*Chamaenerion angustifolium*), greater plantain (*Plantago major*), vetch (*Vicia* sp.), white clover (*Trifolium repens*) and buttercup (*Ranunculus* sp.).

NH 73 SE

NH750346 Map sheet: NH73SE

Aultnaslanach has been demolished. All that remains are a few stones scattered in a patch of neutral grassland with a few patches of stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*).

NH756342 Map sheet: NH73SE

Whole area underlain by thick fluvioglacial deposits of sands and gravels. Higher ground burned, lower ground drained. Therefore drier than topography alone would suggest. Generally species poor. Flatter parts on tops of ridges dominated by hare's-tail cotton sedge (*Eriophorum vaginatum*) (ie. tending towards bog) but generally dried out and more like wet heath than dry bog. NB. This drain is choked with *Sphagnum* and soft rush (*Juncus effusus*). The marshy grassland to the east is very wet (difficult to cross).

NH758347 Map sheet: NH73SE

Complex mosaic of wet heath/acid grassland, bog (mainly dry modified), and bog pools. The bog appears to be M20 *Eriophorum vaginatum* blanket mire (NVC), bog pools are M3 *Eriophorum angustifolium* bog pool community in the main. Hare's-tail cotton-sedge (*Eriophorum vaginatum*) is dominant in most areas. Heath rush (*Juncus squarrosus*) is locally abundant on wet heath indicating M16d *Erica tetralix-Sphagnum compactum* wet heath, *Juncus squarrosus-Dicranum scoparium* sub-community. Bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*) is locally abundant to east of fence line. Round-leaved sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*) is locally frequent by pools and runnels. Whole area mapped as dry modified bog due to patches of bare peat, and abundance of common cotton sedge (*Eriophorum angustifolium*) in wetter parts.

NH760336 Map sheet: NH73SE

Mature birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland with understorey of scattered, mature juniper (*Juniperus communis*). Though heavily grazed in parts, this area has retained a quite natural character. However, no regeneration therefore would benefit from reduced grazing. An important area as a seed source for future regeneration and the largest remaining broadleaf woodland in this area.

NH767346 Map sheet: NH73SE

Rhododendrons abundant by driveways on this estate (both this and main drive to north-west).

NH768340 Map sheet: NH73SE

Regeneration of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) is abundant along verges in this area. Also dense stands of birch (*Betula* sp.) in places. Scots pine by road is "salt burned" due to road gritting.

NH788318 Map sheet: NH73SE

Upland area not surveyed in detail.

NH788330 Map sheet: NH73SE

Dry heath/acid grassland mosaic, but very short, burned and heavily grazed in this area.

NH792306 Map sheet: NH73SE

Modified bog, mostly dry. Some bare peat, but some wet patches remain with species poor bog pools.

NH792311 Map sheet: NH73SE

A long degraded blanket/valley mire turned to wet heath with some acid grassland and marshy grassland. A few species poor bog pools remain. Channels are well defined except in the marshy grassland.

NH795313 Map sheet: NH73SE

Appears to be abandoned agricultural land, reverting to acid grassland (mat-grass (*Nardus stricta*)) with patches of heath (wet in places). Now experiencing abundant birch (*Betula* sp.) regeneration.

NH795324 Map sheet: NH73SE

Area dominated by purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*) and bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*). Has the appearance of valley mire but is in fact wet heath/acid grassland mosaic with wetter channels with purple moor-grass and sedges. This appears to be a very wet form of M15a *Scirpus cespitosus*-*Erica tetralix* wet heath, *Carex panicea* sub-community (NVC). This is more commonly associated with the west coast but occurs further east where lack of drainage increases overall wetness.

(The Phase 1 "valley mire" which is NVC M21 *Narthecium ossifragum*-*Sphagnum papillosum* valley mire does not appear to occur in the Highlands. It seems to be replaced by M15a in locations with distinct water channels and by M18 in places of more diffuse drainage.)

NH796304 Map sheet: NH73SE

Dried out bog. Now turning to wet heath/acid grassland, but hare's-tail cotton-sedge (*Eriophorum vaginatum*) is still abundant though *Sphagnum* species are only occasional.

NH798300 Map sheet: NH73SE

Dry heath/acid grassland mosaic, but very short - burned or cut and heavily grazed in this area.

NH 74 NW

NH709455 Map sheet: NH74NW

New housing estate.

NH711457 Map sheet: NH74NW

Possible development of houses in the near future.

NH714479 Map sheet: NH74NW

Strandline vegetation. Species include a mixture of plants of coastal areas and waste ground such as orache (*Atriplex* sp.), couch grass (*Elymus repens*), sow thistle (*Sonchus* sp.), ragwort (*Senecio* sp.), scentless mayweed (*Tripleurospermum maritimum*), lady's bedstraw (*Galium verum*), ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), false oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), saltmarsh grass (*Puccinellia* sp.) and greater sea spurrey (*Spergularia media*). Area too small to map in detail.

NH715457 Map sheet: NH74NW

Scrub mainly gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and broom (*Sarothamnus* [*Cytisus*] *scoparius*) but with regeneration of birch (*Betula* sp.), hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and willow (*Salix* sp.). Well developed ground flora of grasses and common herbs. Also some bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*).

NH716453 Map sheet: NH74NW

Horse grazing, marshy areas too small to map.

NH716462 Map sheet: NH74NW

Area of new houses.

NH718457 Map sheet: NH74NW

Area of new houses.

NH720456 Map sheet: NH74NW

Area supports red-berried elder (*Sambucus racemosa*), young birch (*Betula* sp.) and scrub. The ground layer is relatively species rich.

NH720459 Map sheet: NH74NW

Continuing development.

NH720473 Map sheet: NH74NW

Gas terminal. Beginning of new pipeline to the Black Isle.

NH726456 Map sheet: NH74NW

Conifer plantation with spruce (*Picea* sp.) and fir (probably *Pseudotsuga menziesii* but not specified. ed.). Many open rides and areas of broadleaved trees including birch (*Betula* sp.), alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) and beech (*Fagus sylvatica*). Area is quite rich in fungi.

NH734464 Map sheet: NH74NW

Birch woodland (*Betula* sp.) with marshy understorey of grass, fern and herbs. Chanterelles.

NH736462 Map sheet: NH74NW

Small area of broadleaf woodland with alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), birch (*Betula* sp.) and willow (*Salix* sp.). Ground dominated by bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) with grass and some herbs.

NH738497 Map sheet: NH74NW

Saltmarsh. Species include glasswort (*Salicornia* sp.), orache (*Atriplex* sp.), sea plantain (*Plantago maritima*), sea arrowgrass (*Triglochin maritima*) and common saltmarsh grass (*Puccinellia maritima*).

NH740496 Map sheet: NH74NW

Dense area of common reed (*Phragmites australis*) and other swamp species.

NH743460 Map sheet: NH74NW

Mature Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), heavily grazed beneath. Therefore no regeneration and the ground flora is improved grassland.

NH745452 Map sheet: NH74NW

Broadleaved trees including young planted oaks (*Quercus* sp.). This area is adjacent to Culloden Battlefield which is attempting to revert to broadleaf woodland through birch (*Betula* sp.) regeneration. Attempts to clear this area of scrub and young trees appear to be experiencing only limited success.

NH746455 Map sheet: NH74NW

Self-seeded? Species include Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*), larch (*Larix* sp.) and birch (*Betula* sp.). Ground flora dominated by heather (*Calluna vulgaris*).

NH746456 Map sheet: NH74NW

Species include spruce (*Picea* sp.), larch (*Larix* sp.) and birch (*Betula* sp.). See also NH746455 and NH745452.

NH 74 NE

NH757470 Map sheet: NH74NE

Wet pasture with diverse grassland including grass-of-Parnassus (*Parnassia palustris*). The area is bounded by conifer plantations on each side of the improved/semi-improved fields.

NH762470 Map sheet: NH74NE

Mature stands of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) within a semi-improved grassland, which is enclosed and grazed by sheep. There are a few patches of soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and the occasional common spotted orchid (*Dactylorhiza fuchsii*).

NH763477 Map sheet: NH74NE

Felled area with some mature birch (*Betula* sp.) which is regenerating. Also some very young planted conifer seedlings. This suggests that the area should be mapped as conifer plantation, but it appears more like regenerating birch woodland and so mapped as recently felled.

NH764478 Map sheet: NH74NE

Area of windthrow of birch (*Betula* sp.) and planted conifers. Just a few conifers remain standing.

NH765478 Map sheet: NH74NE

Grassy glade dominated by tufted hair-grass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*) with a few regenerating conifers.

NH768494 Map sheet: NH74NE

Ground flora grassy by burn. Large stand of bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*). Also a few broadleaved trees, mainly sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*).

NH773495 Map sheet: NH74NE

Recently felled area of coniferous plantation. A few stands have been left. As the ground is wet, soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) has colonised. However, it appears likely that this area will be re-planted in the future.

NH774453 Map sheet: NH74NE

Broadleaf plantation overgrown with bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*).

NH776499 Map sheet: NH74NE

Small area of marshy grassland, scrub and trees with a number of tree stumps.

NH777480 Map sheet: NH74NE

Broadleaf woodland dominated by mature beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and birch (*Betula* sp.) of different ages. Ground flora grassy with patches of moss.

NH779455 Map sheet: NH74NE

Marshy area with wet heath too small to map.

NH785451 Map sheet: NH74NE

Some mature Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) with natural regeneration, but some evidence of deer browsing.

NH786455 Map sheet: NH74NE

Former bog, now wet modified but becoming dryer in places. Drainage channels present and some areas dug up. Some patches of bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*). Also some horsetails (*Equisetum* sp.).

NH788454 Map sheet: NH74NE

Wet heath with abundant bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*) suggesting flushing. Also some grassy areas.

NH788490 Map sheet: NH74NE

Wet heath found in a small clearing of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) plantation. Ground flora dominated by cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*) and *Sphagnum* with frequent soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), black sedge (*Carex nigra*), bog asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*), tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*), chickweed wintergreen (*Trientalis europaea*), cock's-foot (*Dactylis glomerata*) and heath spotted orchid (*Dactylorhiza maculata*). However, conifer saplings have been planted on this heath, and once the trees reach a certain height, the richness of this area is likely to be greatly reduced.

NH791490 Map sheet: NH74NE

Semi-natural broadleaved woodland dominated by birch (*Betula* sp.). Ground wet/marshy, with frequent patches of soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), and Yorkshire fog (*Holcus lanatus*). Enclosed. Stock grazed. No regeneration.

NH796465 Map sheet: NH74NE

Semi-natural broadleaved woodland dominated by oak (*Quercus* sp.) with frequent birch (*Betula* sp.) and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*). Enclosed.

NH796488 Map sheet: NH74NE

Linear strip of semi-natural broadleaved trees dominated by birch (*Betula* sp.) with frequent rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), oak (*Quercus* sp.), elm (*Ulmus* sp.), and a few stands of Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). Enclosed. NB. Some oaks have been planted.

NH799497 Map sheet: NH74NE

New building site.

NH 74 SW

NH701409 Map sheet: NH74SW

Bogbain Wood and heath. Acid grassland. Abundant tufted hair-grass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*) suggests neutral conditions, but mat-grass (*Nardus stricta*) and wavy hair-grass (*Deschampsia flexuosa*) are also present and there is an acid heath adjacent (sometimes as a mosaic), suggesting more acid conditions. The area has probably been limed in the past, but is now reverting to acid grassland due to leaching.

NH702413 Map sheet: NH74SW

Bogbain Wood and heath. Mix of wet and dry heath with some areas of wet modified bog and bog pools (M2 *Sphagnum cuspidatum/recurvum* bog pool community and M3 *Eriophorum angustifolium* bog pool community NVC). The heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) is quite young and short, with abundant regenerating Scots (*Pinus sylvestris*) with lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*) and some areas of mature native Scots pine woodland. The heath and bog boundaries are very difficult to map at a distance, due to uniform heather growth. The area

has experienced burning in the past (evidence of uniform plant growth and blackened trees). Moderately species rich. High amenity value for walking.

NH703440 Map sheet: NH74SW

Remnant of semi-natural broadleaf woodland surrounded by housing on three sides. Much of the broadleaf woodland in this area has already been destroyed to make way for housing. The future of the remaining pockets is uncertain. However, they are now all the more important as features which provide a more pleasant living environment, even though their limited extent and increasing isolation has reduced their wildlife value.

(1995 footnote: The policy of destroying woodland in this manner is now widely condemned, but the process continues throughout the district on a smaller scale. This is difficult to monitor, detect and prevent. Any change in this trend will rely on greater scrutiny of planning applications and a more sympathetic approach by the Regional Council.)

NH705409 Map sheet: NH74SW

Bogbain Wood and heath. Extensive Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) regeneration (with some lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*)) on modified bog and wet heath. Several small M2 *Sphagnum cuspidatum/ recurvum* bog pools (NVC) in the area. Succession would probably lead quite readily to a distinct NVC sub-community of W18 *Pinus sylvestris-Hylocomium splendens* woodland.

NH705411 Map sheet: NH74SW

Bogbain Wood and heath. Mature native Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) woodland with grassy/mossy ground flora including *Rhytidiadelphus triquetrus* and wavy hair-grass (*Deschampsia flexuosa*). Also found blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*) and the moss *Hylocomium splendens*. Clearly a W18 *Pinus sylvestris-Hylocomium splendens* woodland (NVC). Some areas are clearly tending towards the creeping lady's tresses (*Goodyera repens*) sub-community, though none of the latter was found. The Scots pine regeneration in this area would readily mature into at least three recognisable NVC sub-communities of the W18 woodland.

NH708413 Map sheet: NH74SW

Bogbain Wood and heath. Extensive regeneration of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) and lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*).

NH708441 Map sheet: NH74SW

Semi-natural broadleaved woodland with good species diversity.

NH708448 Map sheet: NH74SW

Mature sessile oak (*Quercus petraea*) in middle of housing.

NH709444 Map sheet: NH74SW

New housing development.

NH710439 Map sheet: NH74SW

Relatively species rich woodland with a well developed ground flora. Trees include oak (*Quercus* sp.), larch (*Larix* sp.), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), birch (*Betula* sp.) and hazel (*Corylus avellana*).

NH711447 Map sheet: NH74SW

New roads being constructed.

NH713437 Map sheet: NH74SW

Mixture of gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and birch (*Betula* sp.) The former dominates to the north, while the latter dominates to the south.

NH715428 Map sheet: NH74SW

Man made pond beginning to experience colonisation by vegetation and birds.

NH716433 Map sheet: NH74SW

Very wet, flushed area with bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*), but tending towards marshy grassland in places.

NH718424 Map sheet: NH74SW

Planted Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). The trees appear to be unhealthy due to wet conditions.

NH718432 Map sheet: NH74SW

Dense gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) with scattered birch (*Betula* sp.).

NH721417 Map sheet: NH74SW

Felled area with ground cover of heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*), bell heather (*Erica cinerea*), tufted hair-grass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*), moss (*Polytrichum* sp.), wavy hair-grass (*Deschampsia flexuosa*), soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) and field horsetail (*Equisetum arvense*).

NH722421 Map sheet: NH74SW

Larch (*Larix* sp.) with an abundance of juniper (*Juniperus communis*).

NH723425 Map sheet: NH74SW

Wet acid heath with cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*), deer sedge (*Trichophorum cespitosum* [*Scirpus cespitosus*]), common cotton sedge (*Eriophorum angustifolium*), bog asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*), sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia* and *Drosera intermedia*). Some Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) regeneration.

NH723428 Map sheet: NH74SW

Regeneration of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) and birch (*Betula* sp.). However, some browsing by deer.

NH725432 Map sheet: NH74SW

Occurrence of cranberry (*Vaccinium oxycoccus*) - locally quite rare.

NH727418 Map sheet: NH74SW

Mature Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). Originally planted, now developing characteristics of a native pinewood. Relatively rich in flora and fauna including red squirrels and birds.

NH729420 Map sheet: NH74SW

Mature Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). Sightings of pine marten reported.

NH732429 Map sheet: NH74SW

Short-eared owl sighted and two stoats in roadside vegetation.

NH734415 Map sheet: NH74SW

Birch (*Betula* sp.) with coppiced hazel (*Corylus avellana*). Canopy very dense.

NH734422 Map sheet: NH74SW

Good semi-natural woodland with birch (*Betula* sp.), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and hazel (*Corylus avellana*).

NH737428 Map sheet: NH74SW

Some mature oak (*Quercus petraea*), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), birch (*Betula* sp.), larch (*Larix* sp.), silver fir (*Abies alba*) and Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*).

NH737430 Map sheet: NH74SW

Broadleaved woodland with lime (*Tilia* sp.), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), birch (*Betula* sp.) with an understorey rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) which is spreading to adjacent countryside.

NH738447 Map sheet: NH74SW

Regenerating scrub and woodland of birch (*Betula* sp.), willow (*Salix* sp.), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*).

NH739425 Map sheet: NH74SW

Planted spruce (*Picea* sp.) and larch (*Larix* sp.) with extensive regeneration of birch (*Betula* sp.).

NH740424 Map sheet: NH74SW

Occurrence of foxes' earths.

NH741429 Map sheet: NH74SW

Extensive cover of rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*).

NH742420 Map sheet: NH74SW

Wet acid heath with soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) and bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*).

NH742428 Map sheet: NH74SW

Occurrence of wild cherry (*Prunus avium*), locally (within the area of this map) uncommon.

NH 74 SE

NH752424 Map sheet: NH74SE

Large area of heath, dry at the top of slope graduating into wet heath further down. A large proportion of this was heavily covered with gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and willow (*Salix* sp.). The wet heath continued down into the valley and towards a wooded area which showed good signs of tree regeneration.

NH752449 Map sheet: NH74SE

Old pond by farm surrounded by yellow iris (*Iris pseudacorus*).

NH757422 Map sheet: NH74SE

Burn with steep sides cutting through a coniferous plantation. Both sides had a variety of habitats with species including gorse (*Ulex europaeus*), willow (*Salix* sp.), larch (*Larix* sp.), birch (*Betula* sp.), Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and small areas of marshy grassland.

NH757426 Map sheet: NH74SE

Small area of wet heath with good regeneration of birch (*Betula* sp.) coming in from adjacent wood.

NH759430 Map sheet: NH74SE

Farmer gradually reclaiming bog and marshy grassland.

NH767441 Map sheet: NH74SE

Badger sett.

NH771415 Map sheet: NH74SE

Large area around burns dominated by many small acid flushes.

NH 75 NE

NH773564 Map sheet: NH75NE

Conifers planted within gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) scrub. The pines (*Pinus* sp.) are very small and may be under stress from salt spray.

NH774570 Map sheet: NH75NE

Ministry of Defence property - restricted access. Some disturbance from military training, but the area contains definite wildlife potential.

NH778557 Map sheet: NH75NE

Willow (*Salix* sp.) scrub behind old shingle storm ridge. Habitat somewhat degraded from visitor pressure and severe litter problem, but certainly of local interest.

NH781568 Map sheet: NH75NE

Area of recently planted broadleaves by a pond. Habitat diversity higher than local average and relatively low disturbance. Wildlife potential should increase as trees mature. (Ministry of Defence - access restricted.)

NH792564 Map sheet: NH75NE

Recently planted broadleaves.

NH798577 Map sheet: NH75NE

Pools (brackish?) behind dunes. Part of McDermott Oil rig Fabrication Yard. Monitored by RSPB.

NH 75 SE

NH754515 Map sheet: NH75SE

Small pocket of mature beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) woodland surrounded by Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) plantation. Ground flora under the latter is developing semi-natural characteristics in places.

NH760501 Map sheet: NH75SE

Once a conifer plantation, the area has been clear felled and then left. It has developed into an acid grassland with small, scattered clumps of heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) and other heathland species in places. The whole area supports scattered broom (*Sarothamnus* [*Cytisus*])

scoparius) with some gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and birch (*Betula* sp.). The area to the west, over the railway appears quite similar but was only viewed from a distance.

NH772507 Map sheet: NH75SE

An area of felled Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) plantation, which is now re-planted. It appears that birch (*Betula* sp.) and other species have colonised in the intervening period. Whether or not these will be totally shaded out as the plantation matures is uncertain.

NH773523 Map sheet: NH75SE

Inverness Airport grassland. Mown grassland very similar to amenity grassland though obviously not available for public access. The area has been coloured as amenity grassland to distinguish it from improved agricultural grassland in the area. (This is not standard Phase 1 method but proved useful for this purpose.)

NH774503 Map sheet: NH75SE

A disused quarry area, now covered by scrub both of gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and broom (*Sarothamnus* [*Cytisus*] *scoparius*). The area was surveyed briefly by trainees in 1992 but could not be re-visited at the time of final checking in 1995.

NH779503 Map sheet: NH75SE

A raised, hummocky area, probably glacial deposits similar to the kames found further to the east. It appears that the area was once a Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) plantation which was felled and then left. The area is now dominated by bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) in many parts with scrub and some grass elsewhere. The grassland (observed in December) appeared to be borderline between acid and neutral, reflecting the range of conditions and species found in the area. It was mapped as acid grassland for convenience.

NH784503 Map sheet: NH75SE

Site of a disused sand quarry. Natural succession of conifers, birch (*Betula* sp.), other broadleaved trees, and scrub, particularly gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) has taken place. The quarry is now virtually obliterated. Some of the area is being used to rear pheasants.

NH793504 Map sheet: NH75SE

Large semi-natural area of scrub, broadleaved trees, conifers, bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and some semi-improved grassland. The area was surveyed from adjacent roads and thus mainly from a distance. By the B9006 the scrub is dense, mature juniper (*Juniperus communis*), but the species of that to the west could not be ascertained in fading light from a distance. The area also supports abundant birch (*Betula* sp.) and some old Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*).

NH796529 Map sheet: NH75SE

Dismantled railway runs from here to Ardersier. Natural regeneration of a range of species has taken place (scrub in particular). To the north the area is mainly improved grassland with scattered scrub.

NH 82 NW

NH800258 Map sheet: NH82NW

Birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland, with marshy grassland beneath. Some patches of soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), too small to map. Also juniper (*Juniperus communis*), and areas of wet heath/grassland mosaic which are heavily grazed.

NH801282 Map sheet: NH82NW

Trees felled long time ago. Now used for grazing.

NH801298 Map sheet: NH82NW

Whole area very wet, abundance of hare's-tail cotton sedge (*Eriophorum vaginatum*).

NH802255 Map sheet: NH82NW

Area of wet heath/acid grassland, heavily grazed. Semi-improved grassland to west also quite wet. Adjoining heath is on a lower level.

NH803263 Map sheet: NH82NW

Small, species rich area with bryophytes (mosses) lady's mantle (*Alchemilla vulgaris*), marsh violet (*Viola palustris*), sweet vernal grass (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*), broad-leaved dock (*Rumex obtusifolius*), marsh thistle (*Cirsium palustre*), daisy (*Bellis perennis*), ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), marsh marigold (*Caltha Palustris*) and lady's-smock (*Cardamine pratensis*).

NH804297 Map sheet: NH82NW

Strip of broadleaved trees under-planted with broadleaf saplings.

NH805281 Map sheet: NH82NW

Narrow strip of water roughly 200 m by 5 m across surrounded by an area supporting a diverse range of species including soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), black sedge (*Carex nigra*), marsh-marigold (*Caltha palustris*), marsh thistle (*Cirsium palustre*), sweet vernal grass (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*), wavy bitter-cress (*Cardamine flexuosa*), lady's smock (*Cardamine pratensis*), dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* agg.), meadow buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*), bottle sedge (*Carex rostrata*) and field horsetail (*Equisetum arvense*).

NH808283 Map sheet: NH82NW

Mature birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland recently (ca. 10 years) under-planted with exotic conifers. Adjacent unplanted woodland to south heavily grazed and showing no signs of regeneration. Some trees beginning to die from old age.

NH810269 Map sheet: NH82NW

Area clear felled of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) many years ago. (Tree stumps very decayed.) Now used for grazing. Area covered with small juniper (*Juniperus communis*) bushes.

NH810293 Map sheet: NH82NW

Mature birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland under-planted with dense conifer saplings.

NH812296 Map sheet: NH82NW

Semi-improved neutral grassland appears to have been cultivated (probably a tree nursery) and then abandoned. Supports a range of common neutral grassland and disturbed ground species.

NH813256 Map sheet: NH82NW

Small area of wet modified bog. Hare's-tail cotton-sedge (*Eriophorum vaginatum*) abundant, plus various *Sphagnum* species, cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*) and some black [common] sedge (*Carex nigra*).

NH813298 Map sheet: NH82NW

Small enclosed area that is un-grazed with mature elm (*Ulmus* sp.). Also thistles (*Cirsium* sp.), stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*), pignut (*Conopodium majus*) and grasses.

NH817292 Map sheet: NH82NW

Several small fenced off areas of broadleaf saplings.

NH819263 Map sheet: NH82NW

Wet heath/acid grassland mosaic heavily modified by burning, grazing and drainage. Large patches of juniper (*Juniperus communis*) remain but heavy grazing is limiting regeneration of this.

NH829260 Map sheet: NH82NW

Bare peat here and extending to southeast and a smaller patch northeast of A9. Not due to extraction. Dry and actively eroding.

NH 83 SW

NH806322 Map sheet: NH83SW

Area of shingle now has a range of vegetation growing on top in the form of grassy patches and also patches of flowering plants.

NH807305 Map sheet: NH83SW

Wet modified bog extends into the birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland as a ground layer. Also evidence of peat cutting.

NH809306 Map sheet: NH83SW

Small bog pools occur in this wet heath and also many birch (*Betula* sp.) seedlings colonising.

NH815315 Map sheet: NH83SW

Red squirrel.

NH815318 Map sheet: NH83SW

Peat cutting within area of wet modified bog. Further drying due to drainage ditches.

NH827302 Map sheet: NH83SW

Semi-natural Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) woodland but ground layer species poor and no regeneration.

NH827346 Map sheet: NH83SW

Populated with marsh marigold (*Caltha palustris*) and opposite-leaved golden-saxifrage (*Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*).

NH828332 Map sheet: NH83SW

Large scale extension of existing conifer plantations not surveyed in detail. The extent of the plantation far exceeds that shown on any of the current Ordnance Survey maps and development may be continuing.

NH842305 Map sheet: NH83SW

Hillside rich in cowberry (*Vaccinium vitis-idaea*), crowberry (*Empetrum nigrum*), blaeberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*), juniper (*Juniperus communis*) with hard fern (*Blechnum spicant*), heath rush (*Juncus squarrosus*), mosses and tiny amount of heather (*Calluna vulgaris*).

NH 85 NW

NH803566 Map sheet: NH85NW

Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) plantation, but ground flora relatively species poor with heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) and mosses (particularly *Hylocomium splendens*). Occasional clumps of birch (*Betula* sp.) and occasionally holly (*Ilex aquifolium*). Becoming semi-natural but still at an intermediate stage.

NH807570 Map sheet: NH85NW

Cock's foot (*Dactylis glomerata*) dominated semi-improved grassland bordered by gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and several mature Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*).

NH811582 Map sheet: NH85NW

"Grey dune" with dune grassland dominated by marram grass (*Ammophila arenaria*) in many places with a range of other common grasses. English stonecrop (*Sedum anglicum*) found, but visited in March therefore full botanical interest probably not visible. Whole area grazed by sheep, maintaining grassland. (Whether or not this is near optimum for species richness is unknown.) The whole spit area suffers from a serious litter problem, blown/washed from elsewhere, and some could be a threat to wildlife.

NH812558 Map sheet: NH85NW

Grassland with abundant *Hylocomium splendens* (moss). Apparently maintained by limited grazing. Some heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) present which could spread if grazing was reduced.

NH814557 Map sheet: NH85NW

Badger sett - occupied?

NH814567 Map sheet: NH85NW

Abandoned fields with cock's foot (*Dactylis glomerata*) dominant. Areas of soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), patches of gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and broom (*Sarothamnus* [*Cytisus*] *scoparius*) scrub. Soil sandy but some areas marshy with small pools.

NH816555 Map sheet: NH85NW

Small pond and wetland with willow (*Salix caprea*) and soft rush (*Juncus effusus*).

NH816578 Map sheet: NH85NW

Dune grassland with areas of heath. Some patches of *Cladonia* sp. (lichen) and scattered scrub (both gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and broom (*Sarothamnus* [*Cytisus*] *scoparius*)). Also some crowberry (*Empetrum nigrum*).

NN - NH821553 Map sheet: NH85NW

Wetland (former pond) with willow (*Salix* sp.) and gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) scrub backed by birch (*Betula* sp.), but closely bordered by arable land.

NN - NH822574 Map sheet: NH85NW

Dune scrub, dune heath and dune grassland mosaic with heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), gorse (*Ulex europaeus*), crowberry (*Empetrum nigrum*) and marram grass (*Ammophila arenaria*).

NN - NH828563 Map sheet: NH85NW

Mosaic of poor semi-improved grassland and soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) dominated marshy grassland, heavily grazed by sheep. Species diversity very low.

NN - NH830567 Map sheet: NH85NW

Stand of willow with scattered birch (*Betula* sp.) and Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) with marshy grassland dominated by soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) and some dry heath/grassland mosaic. Some of the area appears to have been a pond at one time. Frog spawn was found in a ditch.

NN - NH830573 Map sheet: NH85NW

A single juniper bush (*Juniperus communis*), a locally under-represented species.

NN - NH839551 Map sheet: NH85NW

Recently planted broadleaves in marshy grassland. Some conifers planted south of drainage ditch. Several pools present - appear permanent but may be partly seasonal.

NN - NH844563 Map sheet: NH85NW

Short-eared owl sighted March 1992.

NN - NH849552 Map sheet: NH85NW

Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) woodland of plantation origin but with ground flora comparable with native pinewood. Classified as semi-natural because "plantation" would not do justice to this woodland.

NH 85 SW

NH803517 Map sheet: NH85SW

Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) plantation. This plantation is now largely semi-natural in character with some mature Scots pine and a ground flora of *Hylocomium splendens* (moss) and heather (*Calluna vulgaris*).

NH804546 Map sheet: NH85SW

Smithstown Wood. Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) plantation (mature). Ground flora poor: very grassy with patches of *Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus* (moss). Broom (*Sarothamnus* [*Cytisus*] *scoparius*) sparse throughout. Also occasional rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) (sapling) and holly (*Ilex aquifolium*).

NN - NH808504 Map sheet: NH85SW

Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) plantation with felled Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*). The latter had been regenerating. Also some regenerating Scots pine has been felled.

NN - NH815507 Map sheet: NH85SW

A range of broadleaved trees bordering a lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*) plantation. Birch (*Betula* sp.) is dominant and rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) is frequent. Broom (*Sarothamnus* [*Cytisus*] *scoparius*) occurs in places. The ground layer includes bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*) and bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*).

NN - NH817515 Map sheet: NH85SW

Semi-natural birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland, with water lying in the hollows. Species poor ground flora, but abundant lying dead wood.

NN - NH818504 Map sheet: NH85SW

Semi-natural mixed woodland on north-east side of the road. Yew (*Taxus baccata*) dominates. There are also some birch (*Betula* sp.), Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) (with regeneration), elm (*Ulmus* sp.), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), spruce (*Picea* sp.) and beech (*Fagus sylvatica*). Dead wood is abundant. Broom (*Sarothamnus* [*Cytisus*] *scoparius*) and lesser celandine (*Ranunculus ficaria*) were also noted.

NN - NH826514 Map sheet: NH85SW

Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) plantation bordered on all sides by a strip of birch (*Betula* sp.) and willow (*Salix* sp.). On the south side there is also a strip of larch (*Larix* sp.) between the conifers and broadleaves. There are also species poor pools in the broadleaved strip.

NN - NH832531 Map sheet: NH85SW

Extensive linear strip of scattered mature birch (*Betula* sp.) dominated woodland. Other species include mature Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) and juniper (*Juniperus communis*). The ground flora is of species-poor grassland which is heavily grazed. No regeneration.

NN - NH834531 Map sheet: NH85SW

Loch of the Clans. This Loch contains an extensive area of Willow (*Salix* sp.) carr and reed mace (*Typha* sp.), with soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) and bottle sedge (*Carex rostrata*). Common duckweed (*Lemna minor*) is also present. This Loch is quite extensive, and a good bird habitat.

NN - NH832549 Map sheet: NH85SW

Broadleaved plantation. Most are still in protective cases. Species include sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and birch (*Betula* sp.), with a border of hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*).

NN - NH838544 Map sheet: NH85SW

Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) plantation. The trees are all mature and the canopy is quite open. Thinning is evident. The ground flora is mostly grassy. However, on the east side, patches of Sphagnum and heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) are occasional. Mosses include *Hylocomium splendens*. There is no scrub layer, but around the woodland edges broom (*Sarothamnus* [*Cytisus*] *scoparius*) and gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) occur and narrow stands of birch (*Betula* sp.) are frequent. No regeneration. Lying dead wood is abundant. Faunal interest: roe deer were sighted; evidence of red squirrel: dreys and stripped cones; evidence of foxes - tracks, droppings, food remains and one earth was found. Two badger latrines were also found.

NN - NH841506 Map sheet: NH85SW

Bog of Cawdor. This consists of a burn running through a pool. There is a small area of elder (*Sambucus nigra*) with willow (*Salix* sp.). Broom (*Sarothamnus* [*Cytisus*] *scoparius*) occurs beside the road.

NN - NH841547 Map sheet: NH85SW

Large area of broom (*Sarothamnus* [*Cytisus*] *scoparius*) dominated dense scrub with scattered stands of birch (*Betula* sp.) around the border. Broadleaves have been planted throughout the area and they are still in their protective tubes. There is a network of roads/dirt tracks and clearances throughout the scrub for the purpose of storing recently felled timber.

NN - NH842542 Map sheet: NH85SW

Large pond. This pond appears to be seasonal. It is drying up and receding, leaving behind small ponds/pools, which contain numerous clumps of frog spawn. Young saplings of birch (*Betula* sp.) and willow (*Salix* sp.) are numerous between the smallest pond and the largest. These saplings probably originate from the small pocket of birch woodland in the corner. The ground flora between and around these ponds is mostly improved grassland (grazed by ponies) with cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*) frequent. Mosses are numerous here too, including *Sphagnum* sp..

NN - NH845534 Map sheet: NH85SW

Kildrummie Kames. Kames are ridges and mounds of sand and gravel, accumulated by glacial meltwater, and later deposited by retreating glaciers. Kildrummie Kames consist of a series of east-west tending ridges covered in dense gorse (*Ulex europaeus*). These ridges are separated by grazing pasture and boggy areas/pools. These boggy areas are mostly marshy grassland with soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) dominant. The wet area at NH846535 is different, with *Sphagnum* sp. dominant. These boggy areas are seasonally flooded. There are isolated pockets of birch (*Betula* sp.) throughout. Juniper (*Juniperus communis*) is present but scarce. Badger setts were found at the east end.

NN - NH844510 Map sheet: NH85SW

This is a mixed woodland with mature Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) dominant. Some have been felled and stacked. There are also willow (*Salix* sp.), alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), larch (*Larix* sp.), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), oak (*Quercus* sp.), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and elder (*Sambucus nigra*) which are all regenerating. There is also mature sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*). The understorey consists of gorse (*Ulex europaeus*), broom (*Sarothamnus* [*Cytisus*] *scoparius*), great wood rush (*Luzula sylvatica*), soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) and occasionally bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*). There is a plantation of Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) in the middle of this woodland.

NN - NH847519 Map sheet: NH85SW

This is a semi-natural broadleaved woodland with willow (*Salix* sp.), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), birch (*Betula* sp.), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) which are all regenerating. There is lying dead wood. The understorey consists of gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and broom (*Sarothamnus* [*Cytisus*] *scoparius*). Alder is dominant beside the river.

