

Agenda Item	7.
Report No	SCC/09/17

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Committee: Sutherland Area Committee

Date: 23 June 2017

Report Title: Caithness and Sutherland Amended Core Paths Pan

Report By: Director of Development & Infrastructure

1 Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present a Draft Amended Core Paths Plan for the Sutherland area. Members are asked to consider and approve the plan for public consultation.

2

Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to approve the Sutherland area of the Caithness and Sutherland Amended Core Paths Plan to be published for formal consultation.

3 Introduction

- 3.1 The development of the existing Core Paths Plan was part of The Highland Council's duties provided by the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 (LR(S)A 2003). The existing plan was adopted by the full Council in September 2011 after the plan had been through the statutory consultation process and also a Public Local Inquiry (PLI).
- 3.2 The Core Paths Plan was expected to be reviewed alongside the Local Development Plans. The Caithness and Sutherland Local Development Plan (CaSLDP) was started in 2014 as was the review of the Core Paths in this LDP area
- 3.3 The review aims to
- improve connectivity of the current plan by utilising existing routes;
 - ensure current routes can be used, at a minimum standard of pedestrian use without significant impediment, by the general public;
 - review mapping of existing plan to identify change of line of routes or identify where upgraded/new routes have been constructed or used differently by the public;
 - work with Local Development Plan team to identify new routes within Settlement Development Areas (SDA), specifically those associated with a specific site in the SDA, these routes could be aspirational; and
 - consider the recommendations of the Public Local Inquiry report on The Highland Council's first Core Paths Plan submitted to the Scottish Government in 2011.
- 3.4 A consultative report was prepared by officers in November 2014 and this was promoted at drop in events at the initial stages of the CaS LDP. The consultative report was promoted by direct mailing to owners and occupiers affected by the proposals
- 3.5 The consultative report has been considered by the Caithness and the Sutherland Local Access Forums.
- 3.6 The formal consultation period for an amended core paths plan is 12 weeks after which, subject to no outstanding objections, the amended core paths plan can be submitted to The Highland Council Places Committee for adoption. If any objection is made and not withdrawn, the Plan must not be adopted unless directed by Scottish Ministers, who may call a public local inquiry.

4. The Amended Core Paths Plan

- 4.1 The Caithness and Sutherland Amended Core Paths Plan is a series of maps showing where changes or new Core Paths (the amendments) are proposed. The Plan for the Sutherland area is attached to this report as **Appendix 1**. There are no associated policies or implementation timescales.
- 4.2 The formal consultation seeking approval in this report is on the Core Path amendments only; existing Core Paths not subject to an amendment are not open for consultation, though a copy of the existing Core Paths Plan will be available for examination.
- 4.3 The Highland Council has a duty, under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2016, to notify owners and occupiers of land where a core path is proposed for the first time. Where, after reasonable enquiry, it is not possible to identify an owner or occupier a copy of the notice may be left of the affected land.

- 4.4 The formal consultation period for an Amended Core Paths Plan is 12 weeks, the original plan and the amended plan shall be available for public inspection at the main Council offices in Caithness (Caithness House, Wick), Sutherland (Drummuie, Golspie) and Inverness (Glenurquhart Road). The amended plan will be available for viewing and comment through the Councils consultation on-line portal.
- 4.5 Any objections received during the formal consultation will, after having been assessed as competent, be addressed directly by officers to try and resolve the reasons for the objection.
- 4.6 The Local Access Forum(s) shall be consulted on any outstanding objections. After such consultation with the Forum(s), the Council may seek to resolve outstanding objections by producing a Modified Amended Core Paths Plan. The Council must notify and consult such persons as they consider appropriate on any Modified Amended Core Paths Plan. Minor modifications will not be brought to the area committee but any deletions or significant changes will be.
- 4.7 After the formal consultation and a period of time to resolve objections, the Amended Core Paths Plan will be put to the Places Committee for approval to adopt (where there are no objections) or approval to submit to Scottish Ministers (where there are outstanding objections).

5. Implications

- 5.1 Resource – Advertisement of the formal consultation, adoption notice and publication of the amended core paths plan are statutory duties and will incur costs and staff resource to the Council. Further implementation of the core paths plan is discretionary.
- 5.2 Legal - The Highland Council has a statutory duty to produce a core paths plan sufficient for the purpose of giving the public reasonable access throughout their area. The Plan must be reviewed and amended at such times as appropriate, a period of between 5 and 10 years is deemed appropriate.
- 5.3 Community (Equality, Poverty and Rural) - Improvement and promotion of Core Paths increases community connectivity, encourages healthy lifestyles and are available to all users equally.
- 5.4 Climate Change/Carbon Clever - Improvement and promotion of Core Paths can contribute to reduced car usage.
- 5.5 Risk – Risk to The Highland Council is minimal, Scottish Ministers will decide whether to direct the Council to adopt the plan where there are outstanding objections or they may cause a Public Local Inquiry to be called at their cost. The existing Core Paths Plan remains in place and used to promote and protect the public's access rights.
- 5.6 Gaelic - Where installed, signs to direct users to core paths will be bilingual subject to consultation with Community Councils.

Designation: Director of Development and Infrastructure

Date: 6 June 2017

Author: Matt Dent, Access Officer, Caithness and Sutherland

Background Papers: Appendix 1 – Sutherland Amended Core Paths Pan

Sutherland Core Paths Plan			Amended Core Paths Plan		
Area	Map Number	Core Path Change	Area	Map Number	Core Path Reference and Name
Lochinver	1	No Changes	-	-	-
North Assynt	2a-d	New core paths	Drumbeg	SU 2e	SU10.05(C) - Oldany Jetty SU10.06(C) - Port Dhromaig
		New core path	Clashnessie	SU 2f	SU23.04(C) - Clashnessie Falls
Loch Assynt and Inchnadamph	3a-b	New core path	Little Assynt	SU 3c	SU17.05(C) - Loch an t-Sabhail
		New Core path	Ardvreck	SU 3d	SU17.06(C) - Ardvreck Castle and Calda House
		New core path	Elphin	SU 3e	SU17.07(C) - Uamh an Tartair
Kylesku	4	New core path	Kylestrome - Achfary	SU 4b	SU25.05(C) - Kylestrome - Achfary
Scourie	5a-b	New core path	Scourie	SU 5c	SU22.06(C) - Leathad Woodland
		New core path	Handa	SU 5d	SU22.07(C) - Handa
Achfary	6	No Changes	-	-	-
Kinlochbervie	7a-b	No Changes	-	-	-
Durness	8	New core path	Ceannabeinne	SU 8b	SU11.12(C) - Ceannabeinne Township Trail
		New core path	Gobernuisgach	SU 8c	SU11.13(C) - Loch Merkland - Gobernuisgach
Tongue	9	New core paths	Tongue	SU 9b	SU24.09(C) - Loch A'Mhuilinn SU24.10(C) - Coldbackie Beach SU24.11(C) - Loyal Terrace - Braetongue SU04.24(C) - Sleiteil
Borgie & Rossal	10a-b	Core path partial deletion and New core path	Borgie	SU 10c	SU04.03(D) - Borgie Glen - The Unknown SU04.25(C)
Bettyhill	11	New core path	Swordly	SU 11b	SU04.23(C) - Swordly - A836
		New core paths	Invernaver	SU 11c	SU04.28(C) - Coille na Borgie Cairns Achnaillanaborgie Broch SU04.29(C) - Achanlochy SU04.30(C) -
		New core paths	Strathnaver	SU 11d	SU04.26(C) - Skail Chambered Cairn SU04.27(C) - Red Priests Stone
Armadaile & Strathy	12	Core path partial deletion	Armadaile	SU 12b	SU04.08(D) - Armadaile - A836
Melvich & Forsinard	13a-c	New core paths	Portskerra	SU 13d	SU19.10(C) - Rubha Bra SU19.11(C) - Windyknowe
		New core path	Forsinain	SU 13e	SU19.09(C) - Forsinain Trail
		Core Path Change	Forsinard	SU 13f	SU19.04 - Dunbh Lochan Trail
Helmsdale	14	New core paths and delete core path	Helmsdale	SU 14b	SU13.05(D) - Old Helmsdale - Old Caithness Road SU13.09(C) - Navidale Cycle Path SU13.10(C) - Navidale Farm Track
		New core path	Kildonan	SU 14c	SU13.11(C) - Baile an Or
Brora	15	Delete core path and core path change	Brora	SU 15b	SU06.06(D) - Jubilee Walks (East) SU06.07 - Brora Links, Shore Route
		New core path	Strathbrora	SU 15c	SU06.16(C) - Scriberscross Cemetery
Golspie	16	New core path	Golspie	SU 16b	SU12.24(C) - Loch Lunndaidh
		New core path	Dunrobin	SU 16c	SU12.26(C) - West Drummie - Beinn Bhraggie Forest SU12.25(C) - Sportmans Walk - A9
Rogart	17	Core Path Change	Rogart	SU 17b	SU20.01 - Meall Mor Fire Track
Dornoch	18	New core path	Loch Buidhe	SU 18b	SU09.19(C) - Achvaich - Loch Buidhe
		New core path	Dornoch	SU 18c	SU09.20(C) - Embo Muir/Tinkes Drive - Railway Line
Edderton	19	New core paths	Edderton	SU 19b	RC15.10(C) - Admirals Farm - Aultnamain RC15.11(C) - Edderton - Tarlogie RC15.12(C) - Dounie Hill Fort RC15.13(C) - Struie Hill Cairn Path
Spinningdale	20	New core path	Spinningdale	SU 20b	SU09.21(C) - A'Chraisg - Spinningdale
Ardgay & Bonar Bridge	21	Core path change and new core paths	Ardgay & Culrain	SU 21b	SU03.05 - Badvoon Forest, Allt Eiteachan Path SU03.15(C) - Gledfield - Cona Creag SU08.04(C) - Loch a'Choire
Invershin & Lairg	22a-b	New core paths	Lairg	SU 22c	SU16.10(C) - Loch Craggie SU16.11(C) - Little Loch Shin Dam
Rosehall	23	Delete section of core path and new core path	Rosehall	SU 23b	SU21.01(D) - Ravens Rock Forest Walk SU21.09(D) - Achness Waterfall SU08.05(C) - Loch Mhic Mharsail
Glen Einig	24	New core path	Glen Einig	SU 24b	SU21.14(C) - Glen Einig - Ullapool
Altnaharra	-	New core paths	Loch Naver	SU 25	SU02.01(C) - Grummore SU02.02(C) - Grumbeg
Croick	-	New core paths	Glencalvie - Gleann Mor	SU 26	SU07.02(C) - Glencalvie - Gleann Mor SU07.03(C) - Strathrusdale - Glencalvie SU07.04(C) - Eas Charron

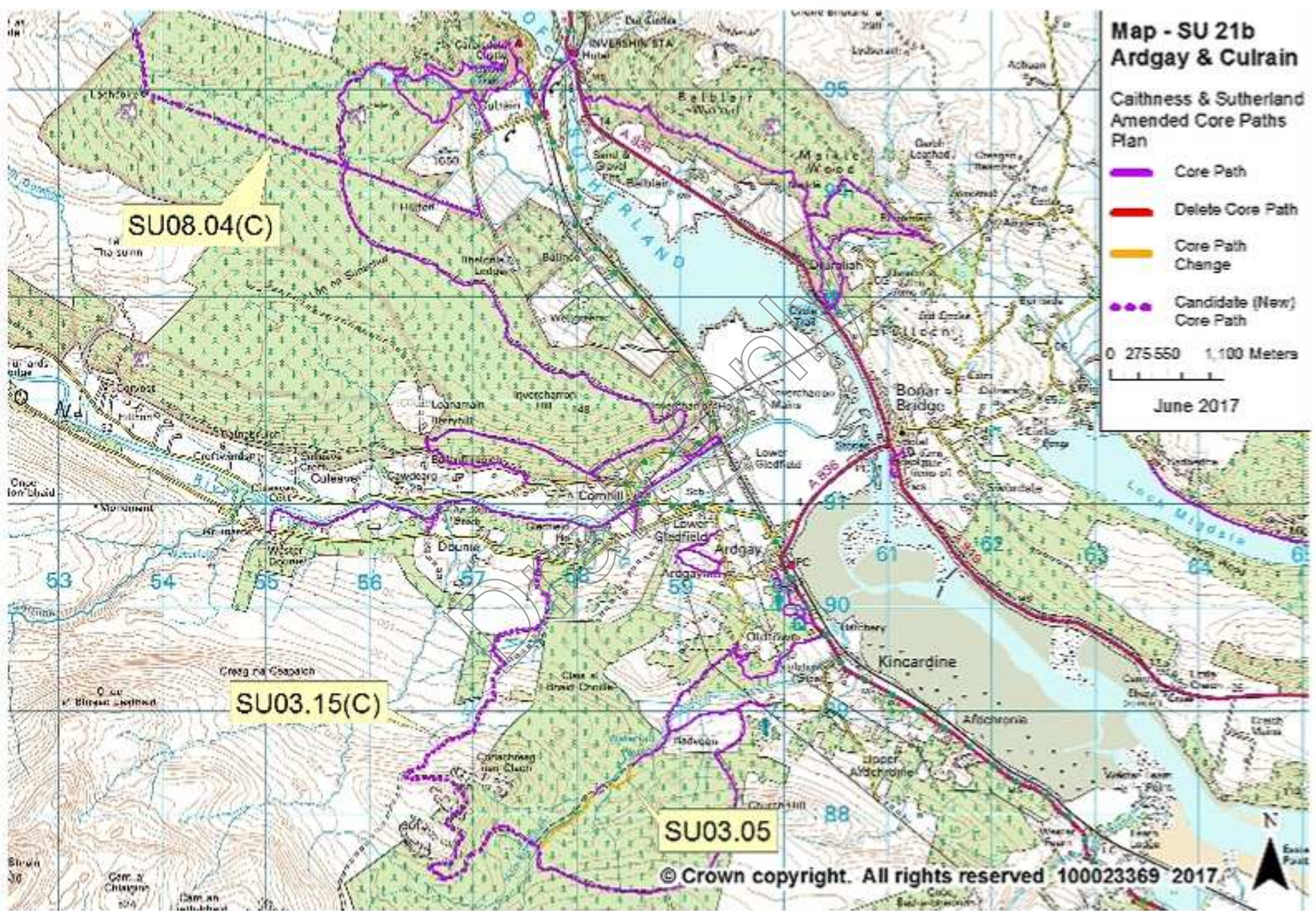
Map - SU 21b Ardgay & Culrain

Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path Change
-  Candidate (New) Core Path

0 275 550 1,100 Meters

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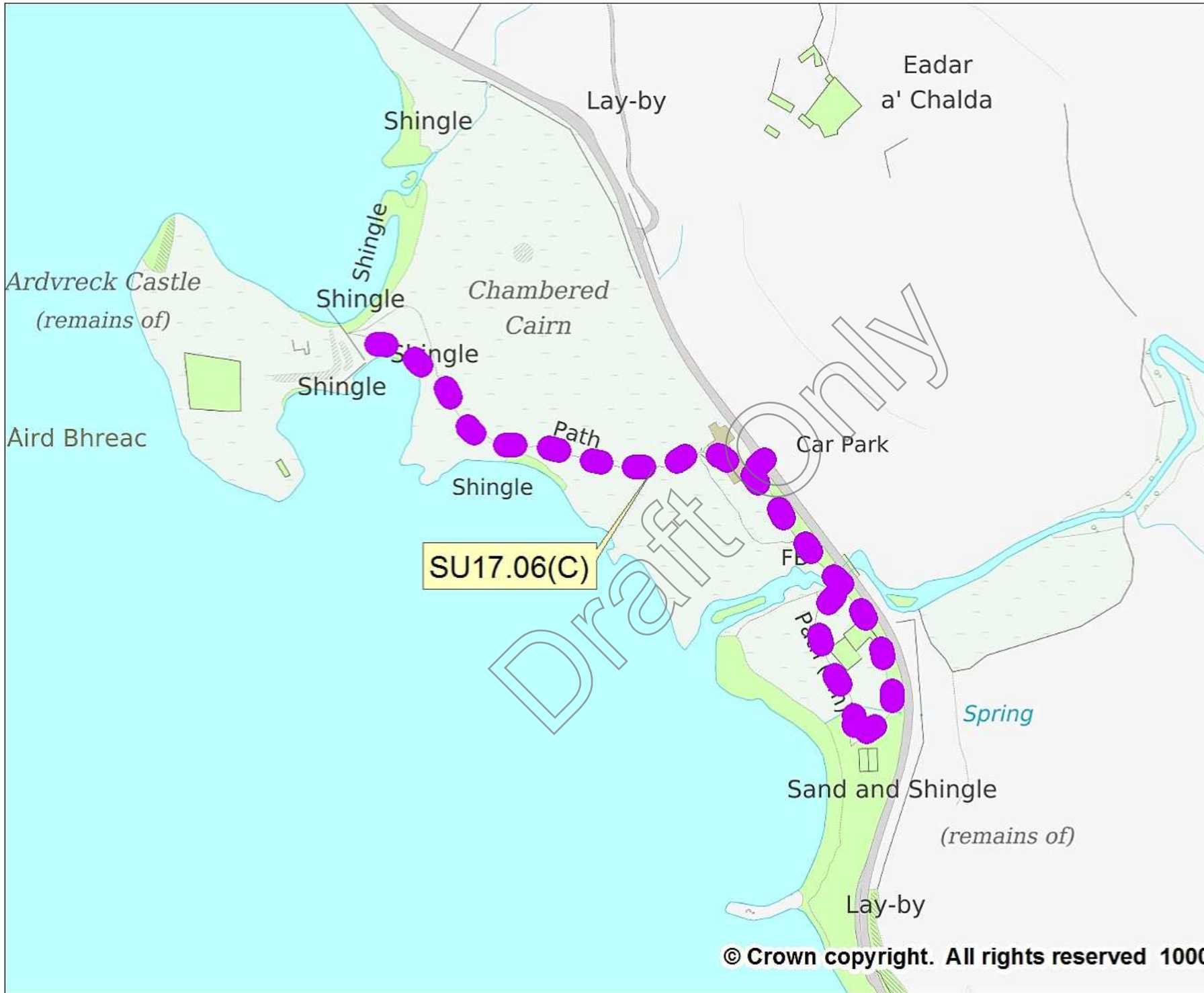
Map - SU 3d Ardvreck

Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

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-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path Change
-  Candidate (New) Core Path



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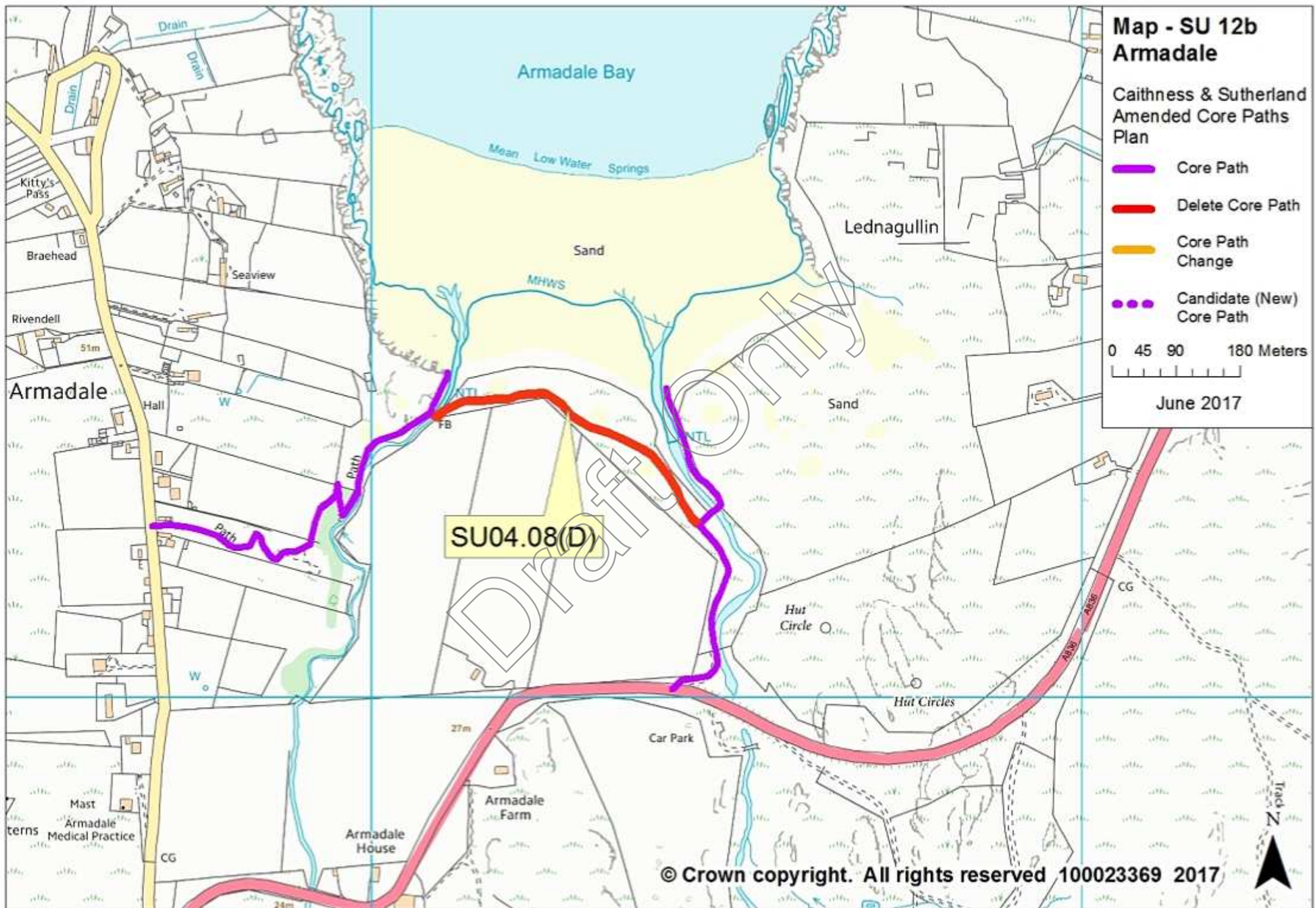
Map - SU 12b Armadale

Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

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-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path Change
-  Candidate (New) Core Path

0 45 90 180 Meters


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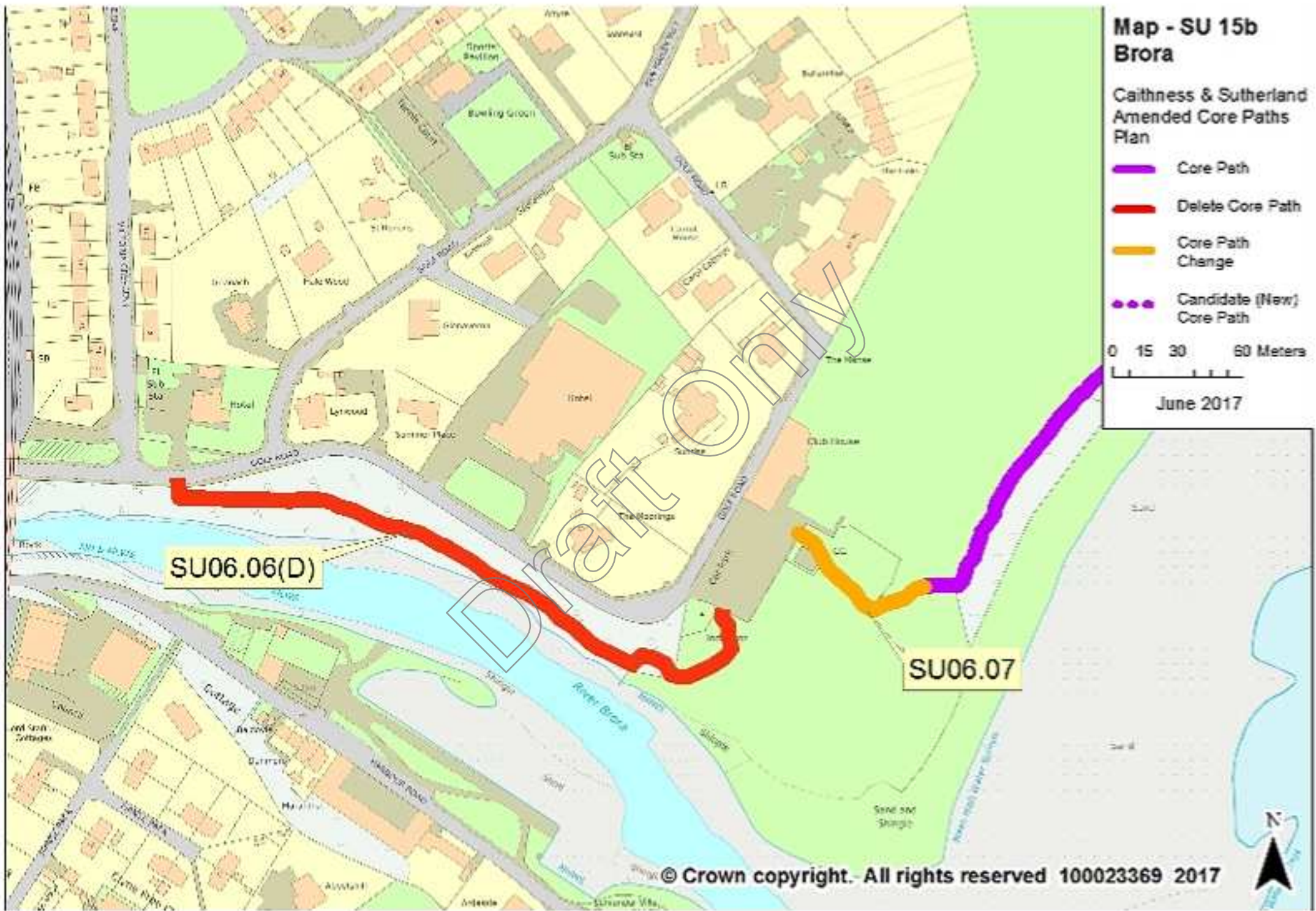
Map - SU 15b Brora

Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

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-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path
Change
-  Candidate (New)
Core Path

0 15 30 60 Meters

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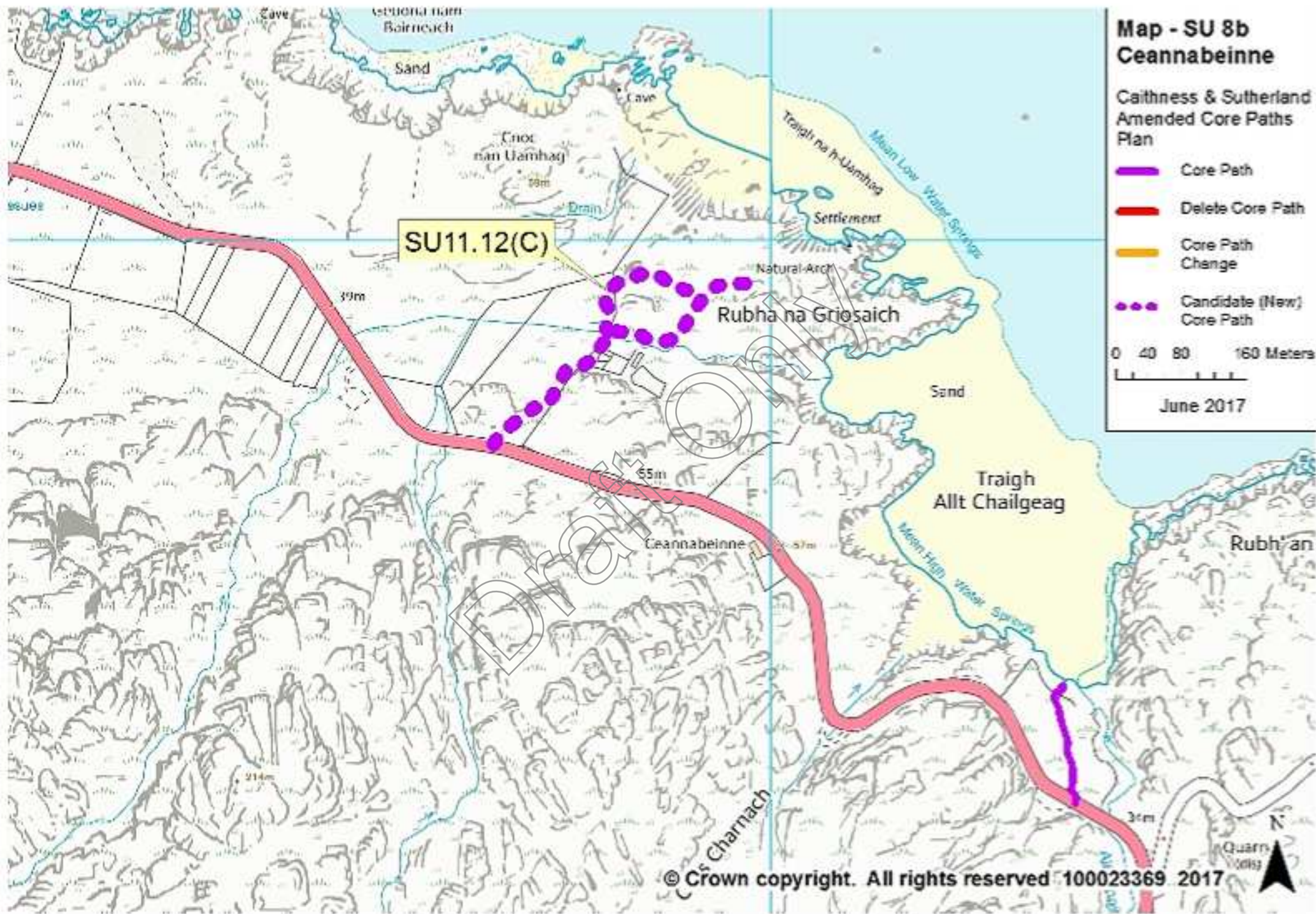
Map - SU 8b Ceannabeinne

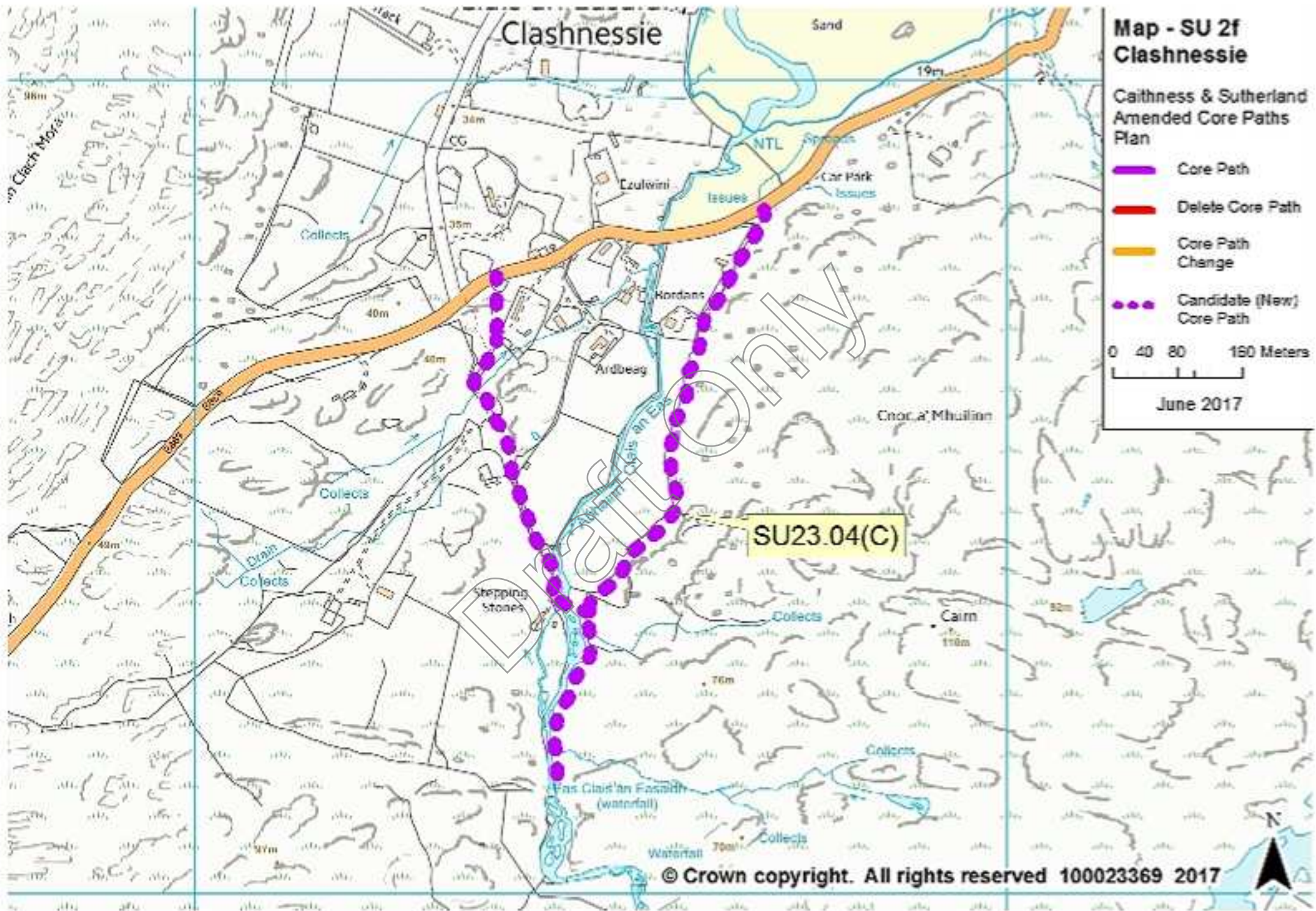
Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path Change
-  Candidate (New) Core Path

0 40 80 160 Meters



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Map - SU 2e Drumbeg

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Amended Core Paths
Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path
Change
-  Candidate (New)
Core Path

0 75 150 300 Meters



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SU10.05(C)

SU10.06(C)



Map - SU 16c Dunrobin

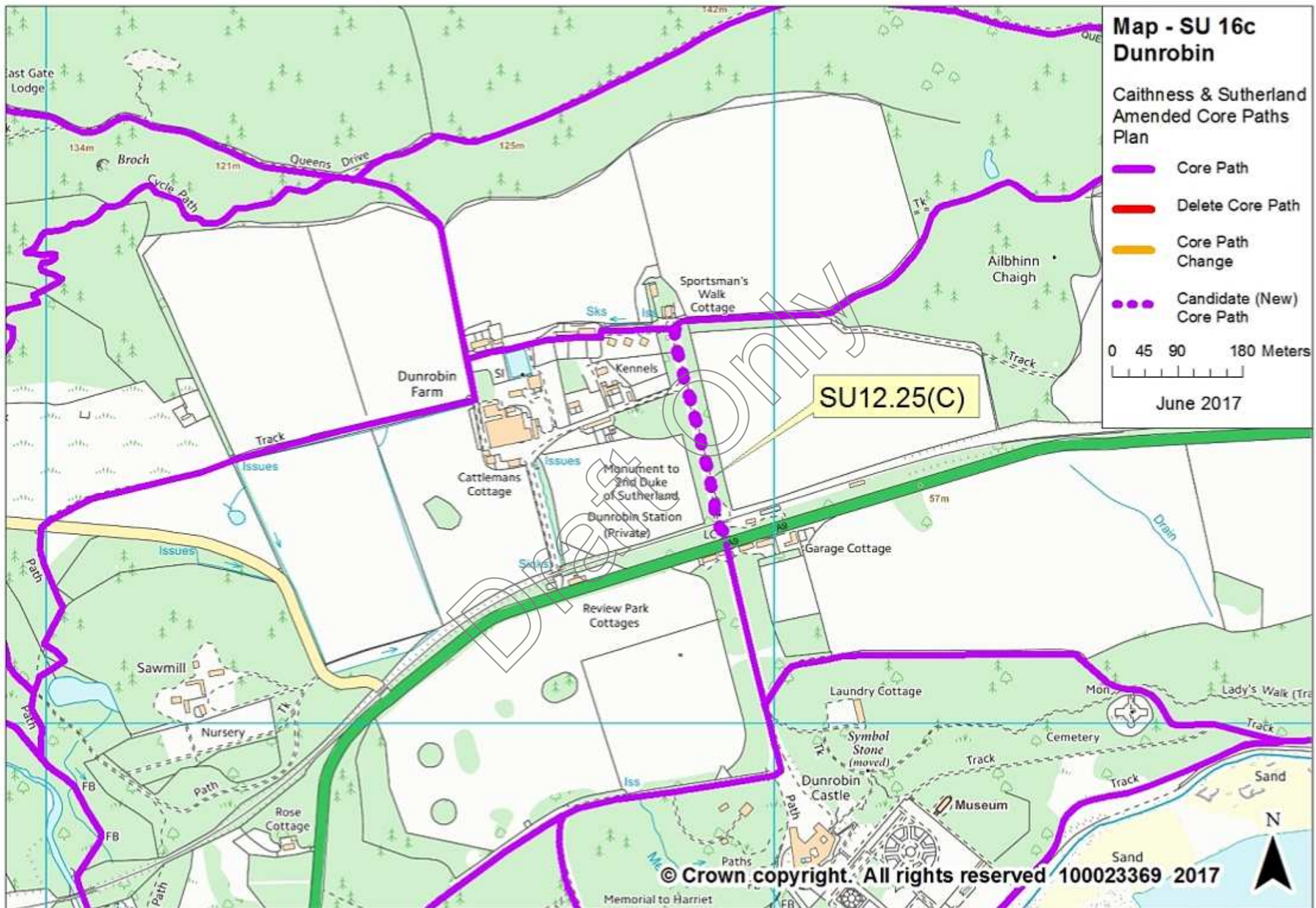
Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path Change
-  Candidate (New) Core Path

0 45 90 180 Meters



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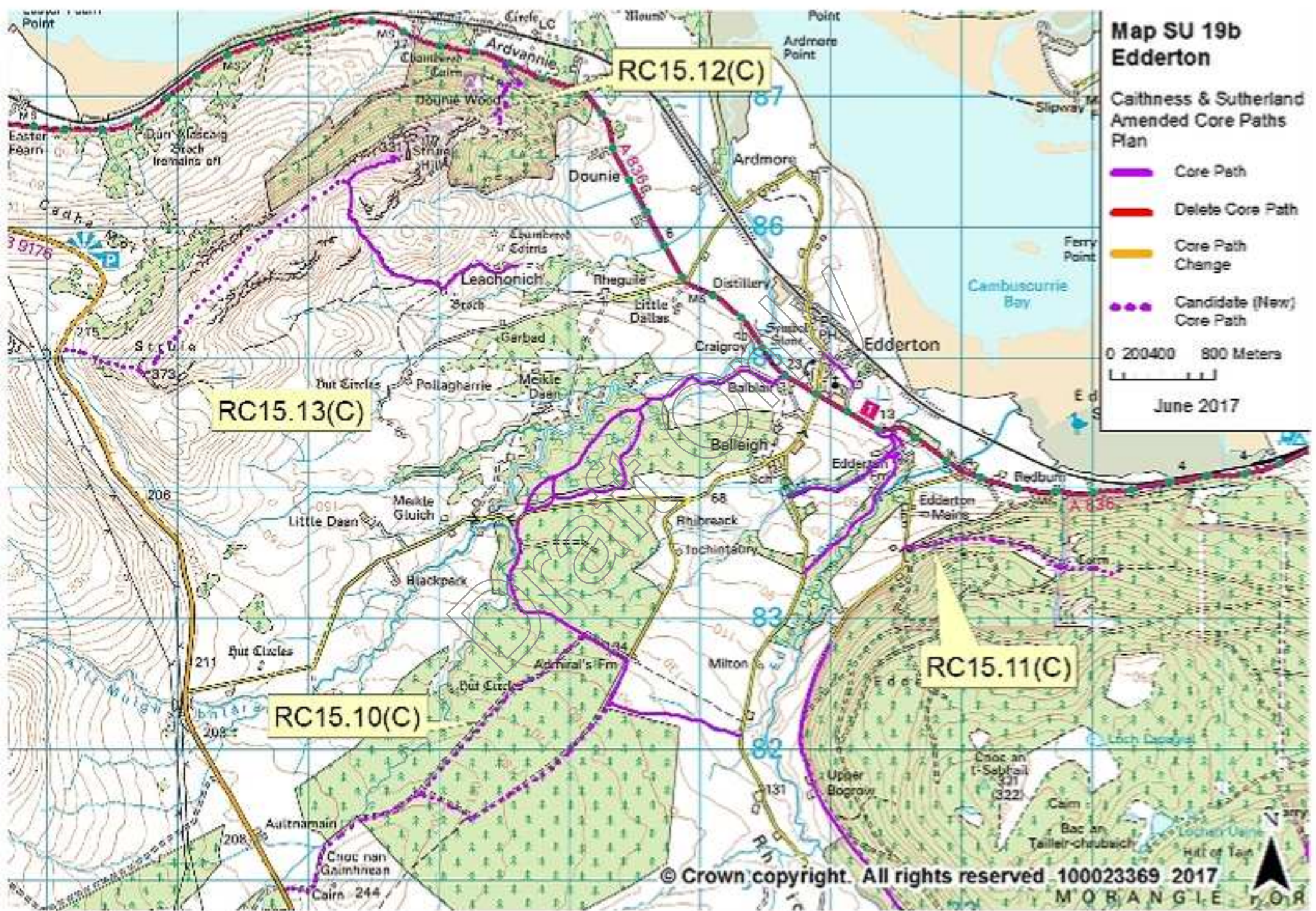
Map SU 19b Edderton

Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path Change
-  Candidate (New) Core Path


0 200 400 800 Meters

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Map - SU 3e Elphin

Caithness & Sutherland Amended Core Paths Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path
Change
-  Candidate (New)
Core Path

0 87.5 175 350 Meters



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SU17.07(C)



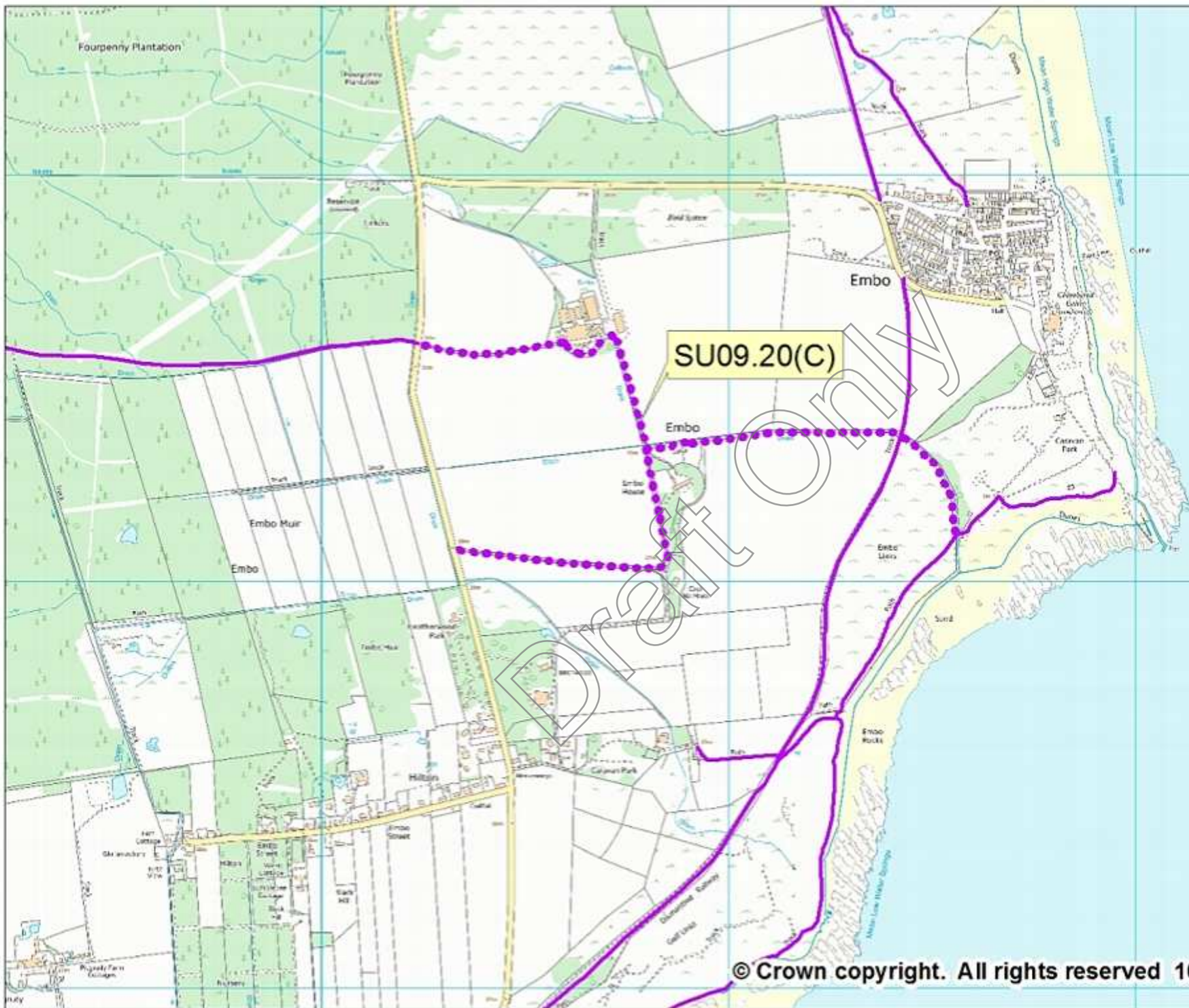
Map SU 18c Embo

Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path
Change
-  Candidate (New)
Core Path

0 90 180 360 Meters



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Map - SU 13e Forsinain

Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path
Change
-  Candidate (New)
Core Path

0 100 200 400 Meters


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SU19.09(C)


Draft Only



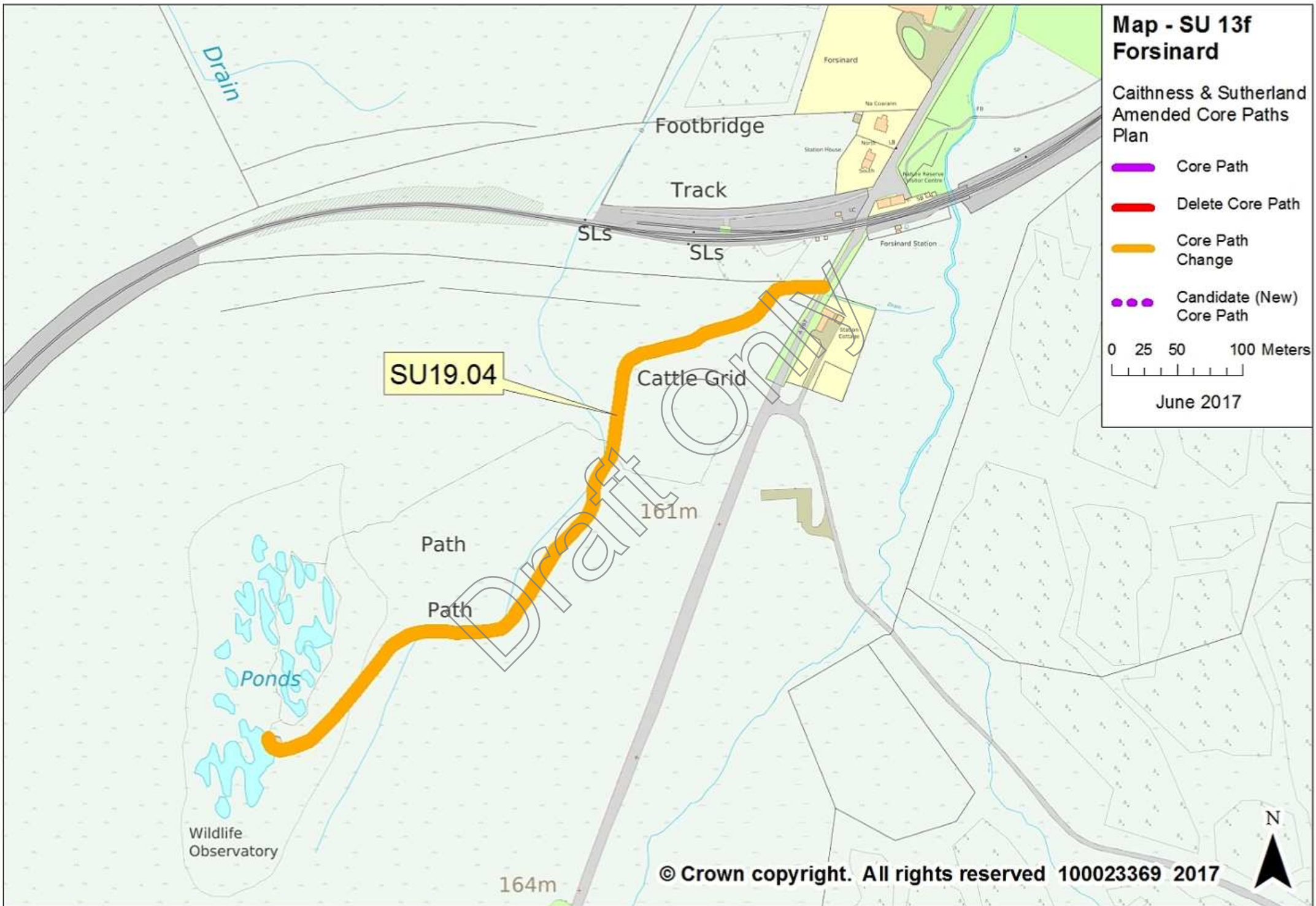
Map - SU 13f Forsinard

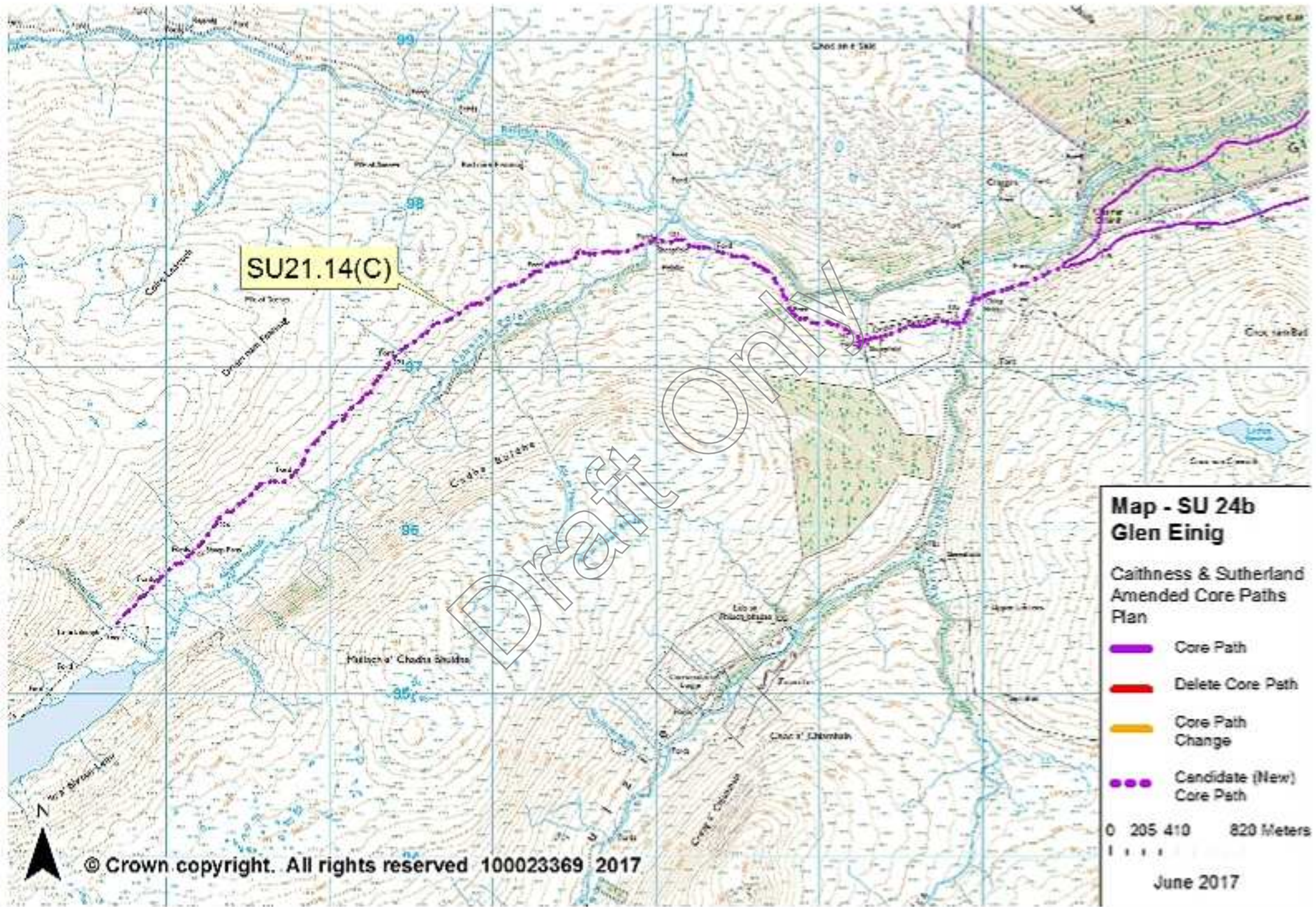
Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path Change
-  Candidate (New) Core Path

0 25 50 100 Meters


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SU21.14(C)

Draft Only

**Map - SU 24b
Glen Einig**

Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path Change
-  Candidate (New) Core Path


0 205 410 820 Meters

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Map SU 26 Glencalvie & Glenn Mor

Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

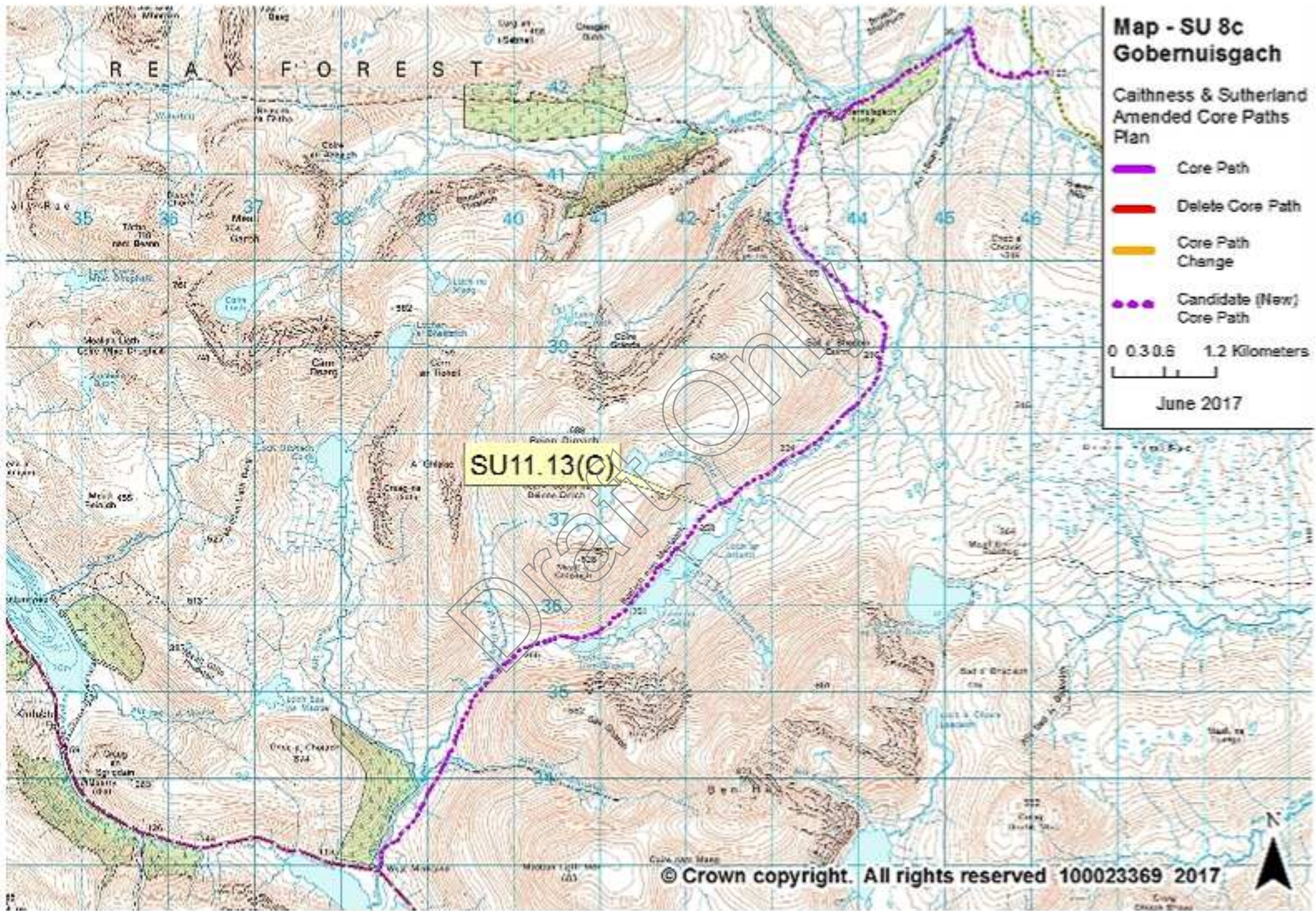
-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path
Change
-  Candidate (New)
Core Path

0 300 600 1,200 Meters



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Map - SU 8c Gobernuisgach

Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

- Core Path
- Delete Core Path
- Core Path Change
- Candidate (New) Core Path

0 0.3 0.6 1.2 Kilometers

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SU11.13(C)

Map - SU 16b Golspie

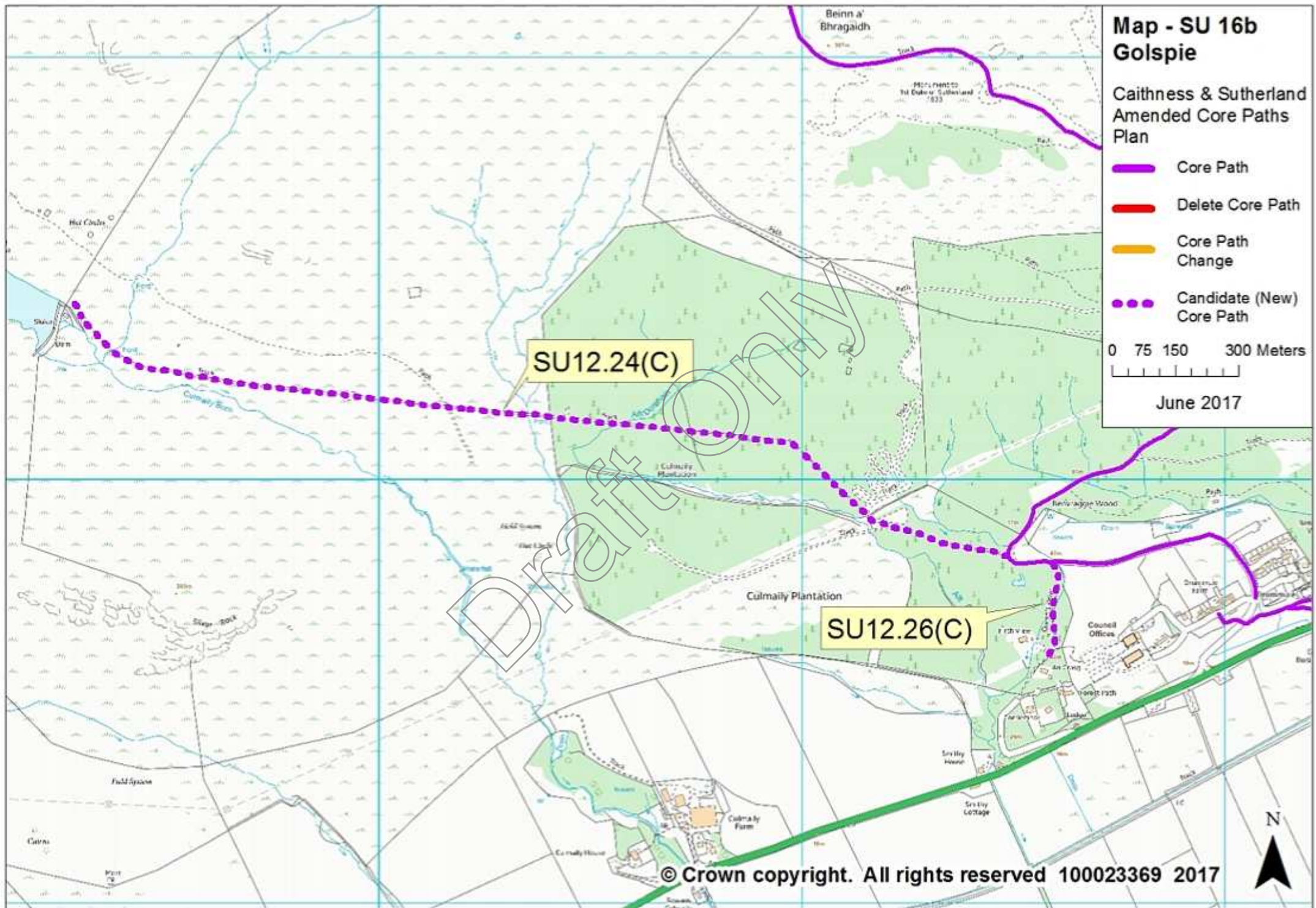
Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path Change
-  Candidate (New) Core Path

0 75 150 300 Meters



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Map - SU 14b Helmsdale

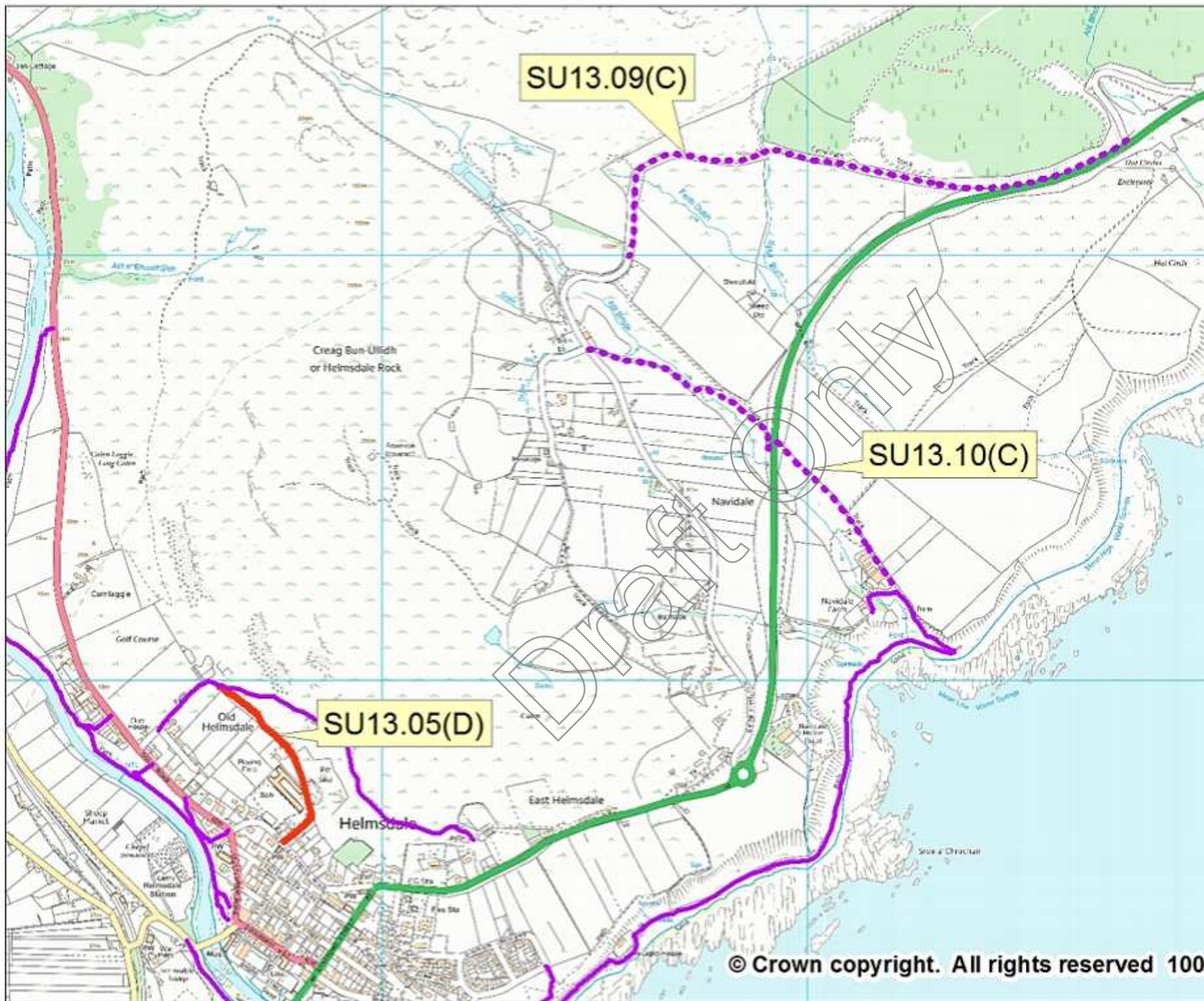
Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path Change
-  Candidate (New) Core Path

0 85 170 340 Meters



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Map - SU 11c Invernaver

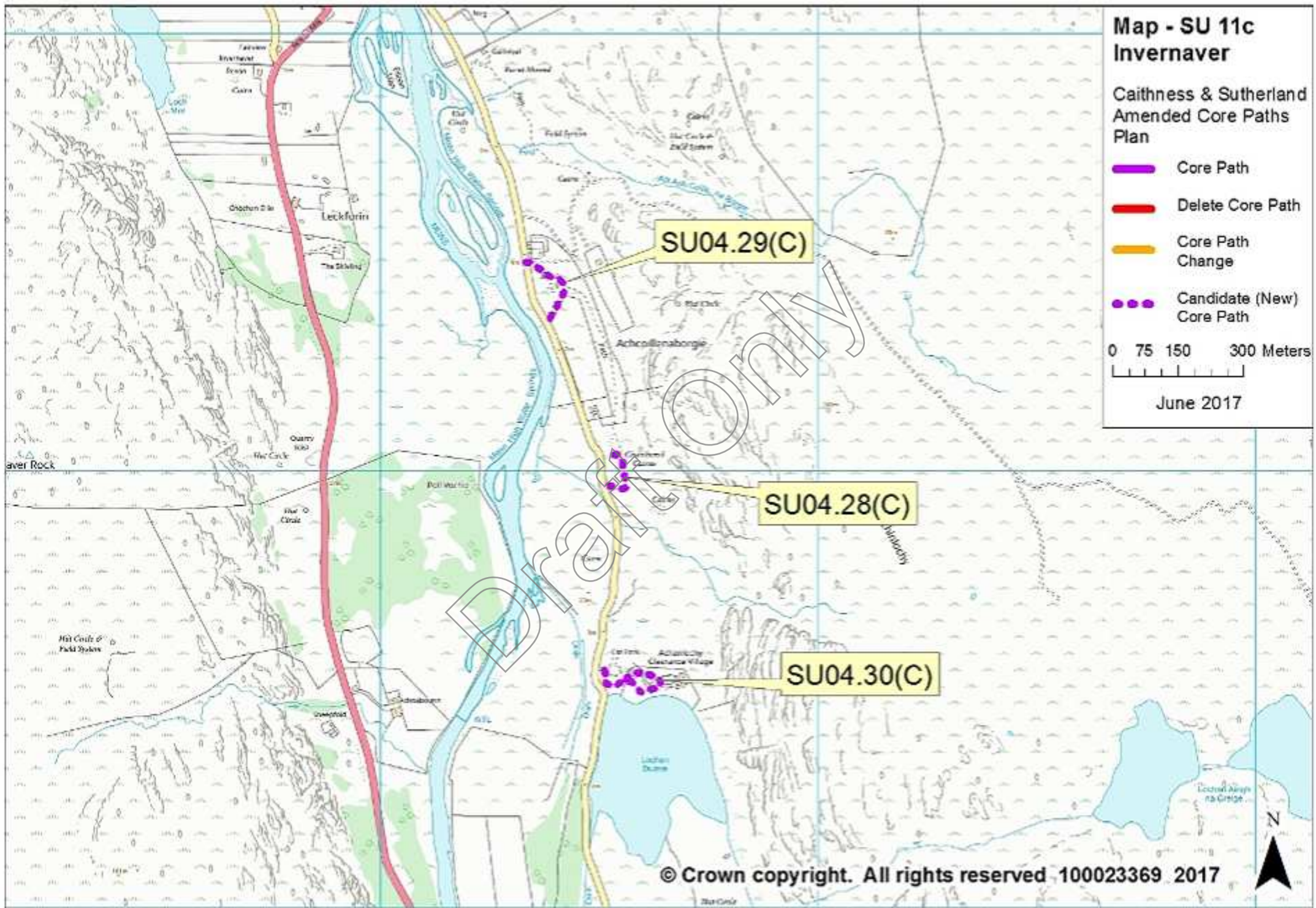
Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path Change
-  Candidate (New) Core Path

0 75 150 300 Meters



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Map - SU 14c Kildonan

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Amended Core Paths
Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path Change
-  Candidate (New) Core Path

0 65 130 260 Meters



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SU13.11(C)



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SU25.05(C)

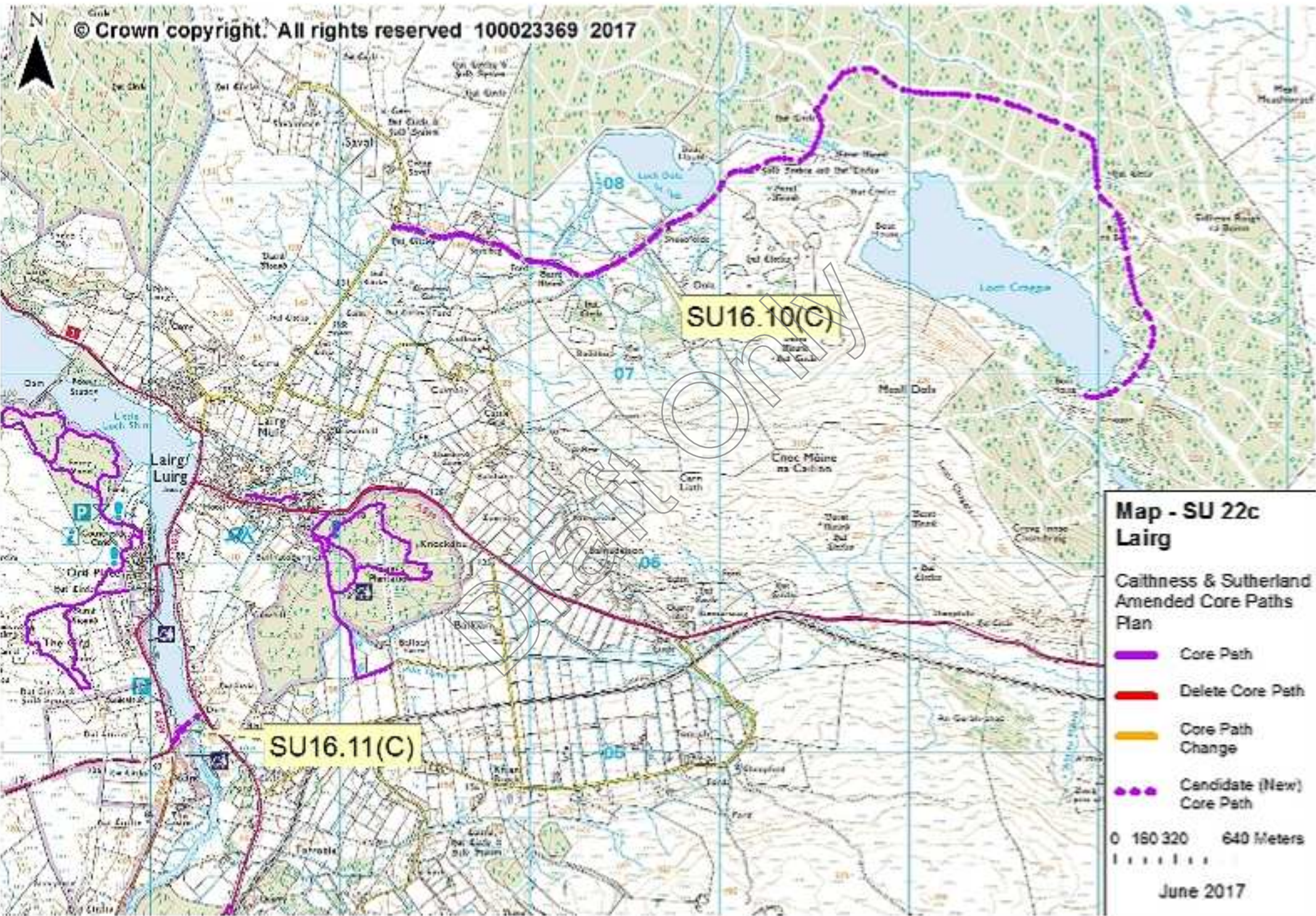
Map - SU 4b Kylestrome - Achfary

Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

- Core Path
- Delete Core Path
- Core Path Change
- Candidate (New) Core Path

0 250 500 1,000 Meters

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Map - SU 22c Lairg

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Amended Core Paths
Plan




-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path Change
-  Candidate (New) Core Path

0 160 320 640 Meters

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Map - SU 3c Little Assynt

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Amended Core Paths
Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path Change
-  Candidate (New) Core Path



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SU17.05(C)

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Map SU 18b Loch Buidhe

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Amended Core Paths
Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path Change
-  Candidate (New) Core Path

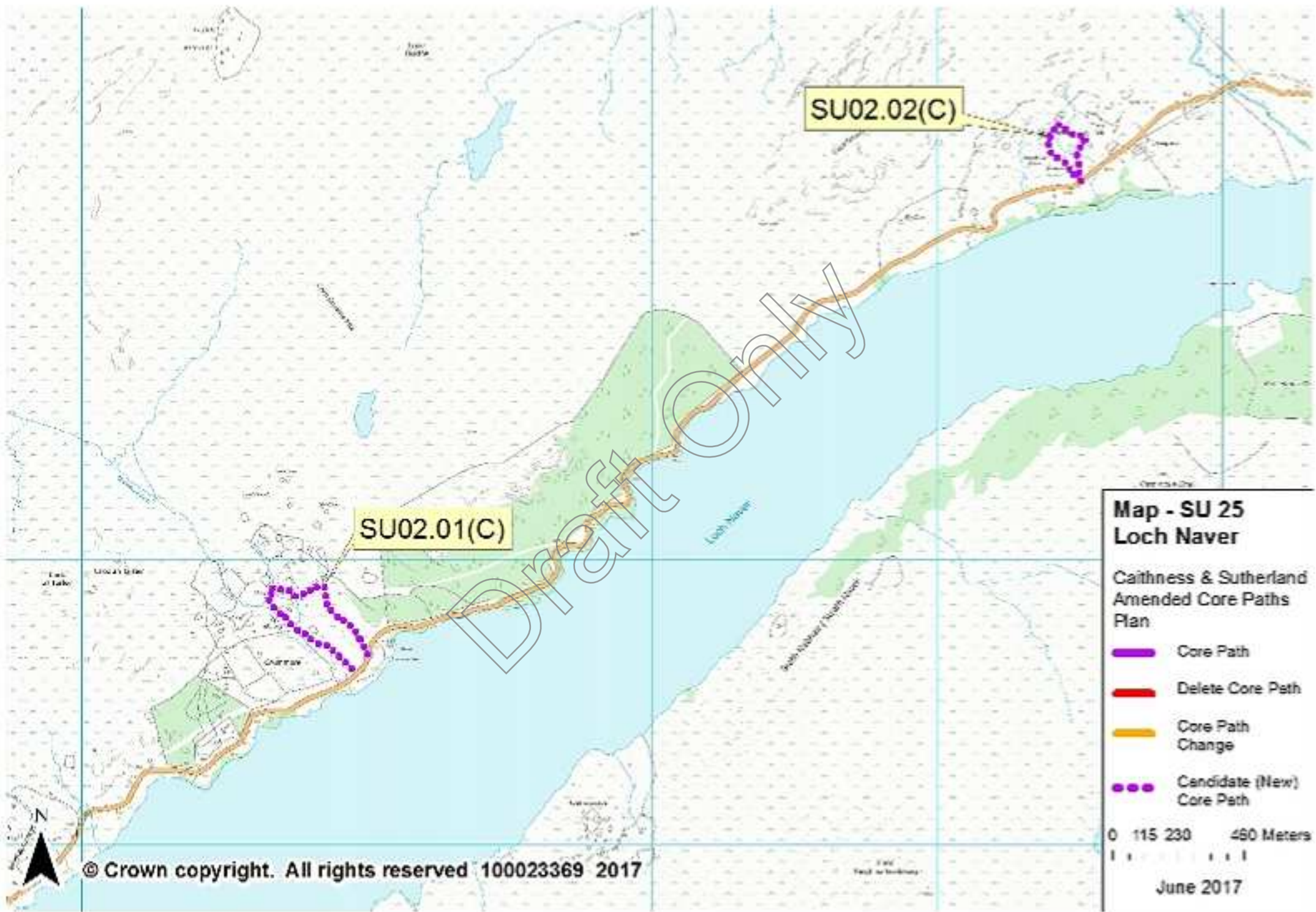
0 205 410 820 Meters



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SU09.19(C)





SU02.02(C)

SU02.01(C)

**Map - SU 25
Loch Naver**

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Amended Core Paths
Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path Change
-  Candidate (New) Core Path

0 115 230 460 Meters

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Map SU 17b Rogart

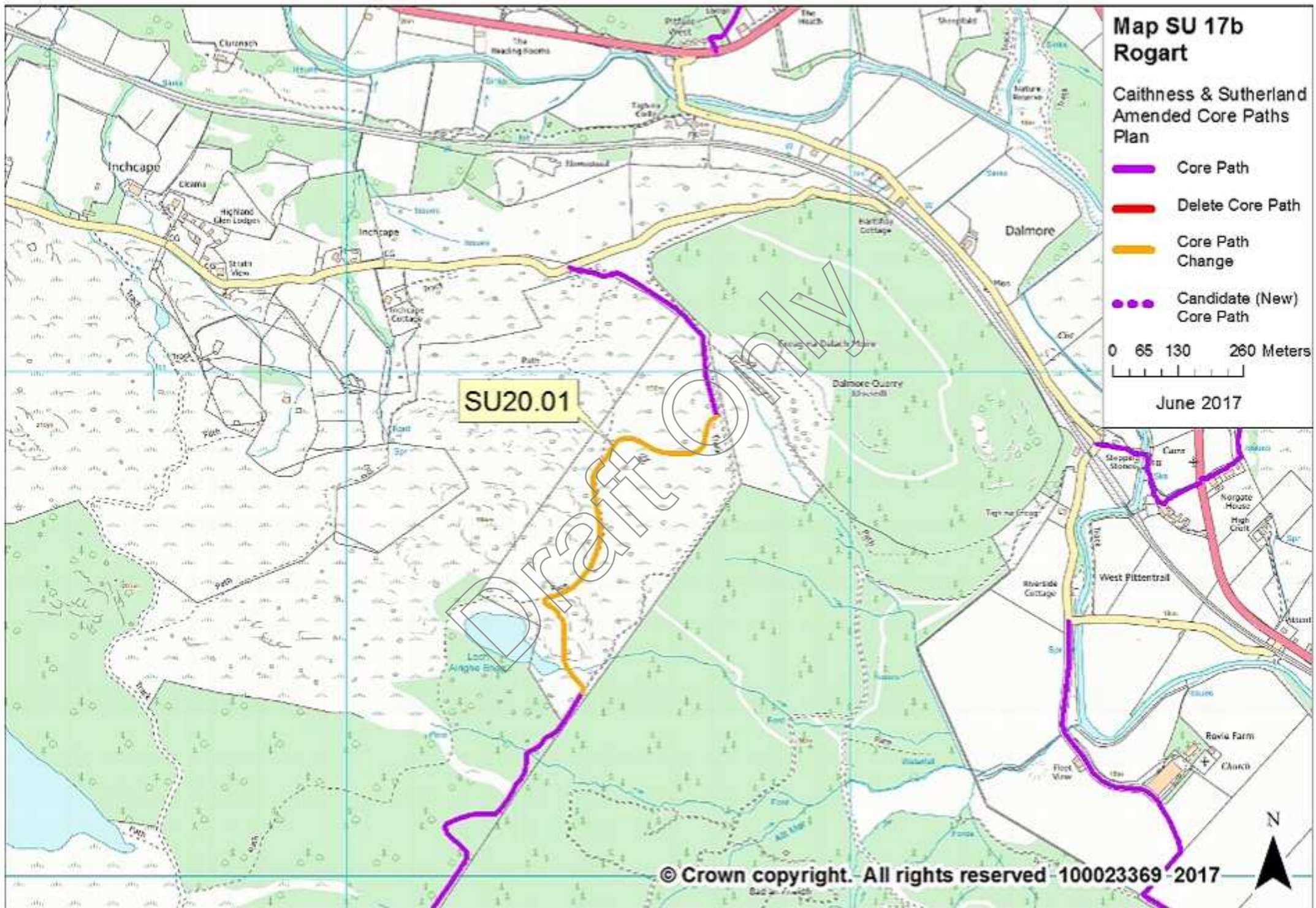
Caithness & Sutherland Amended Core Paths Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path
Change
-  Candidate (New)
Core Path

0 65 130 260 Meters







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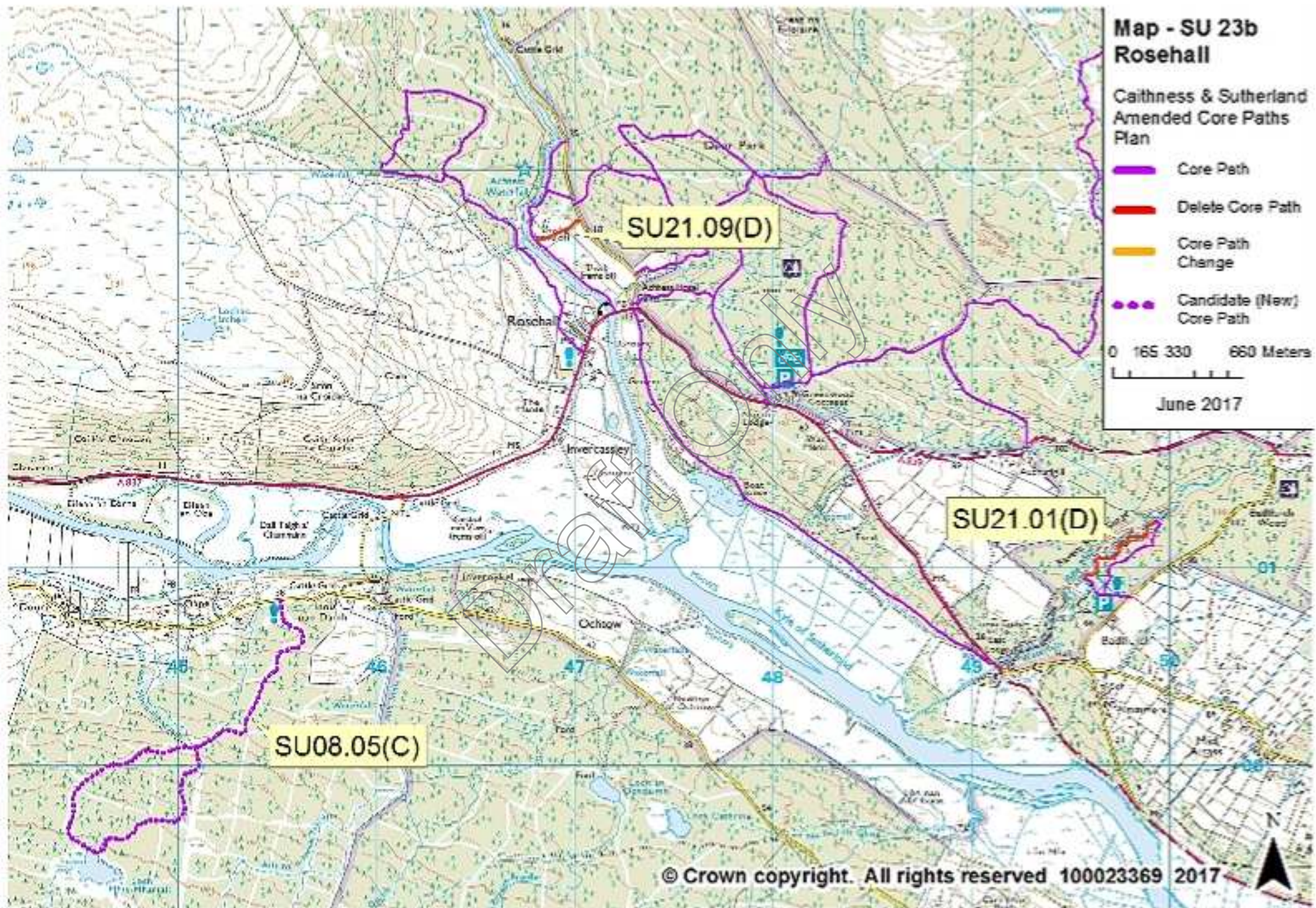
Map - SU 23b Rosehall

Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path
Change
-  Candidate (New)
Core Path

0 165 330 660 Meters

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Map - SU 5c Scourie

Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

- Core Path
- Delete Core Path
- Core Path Change
- Candidate (New) Core Path

0 65 130 260 Meters





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SU22.06(C)



Map SU 20b Spinningdale

Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path
Change
-  Candidate (New)
Core Path

0 95 190 380 Meters


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SU09.22(C)

SU09.21(C)



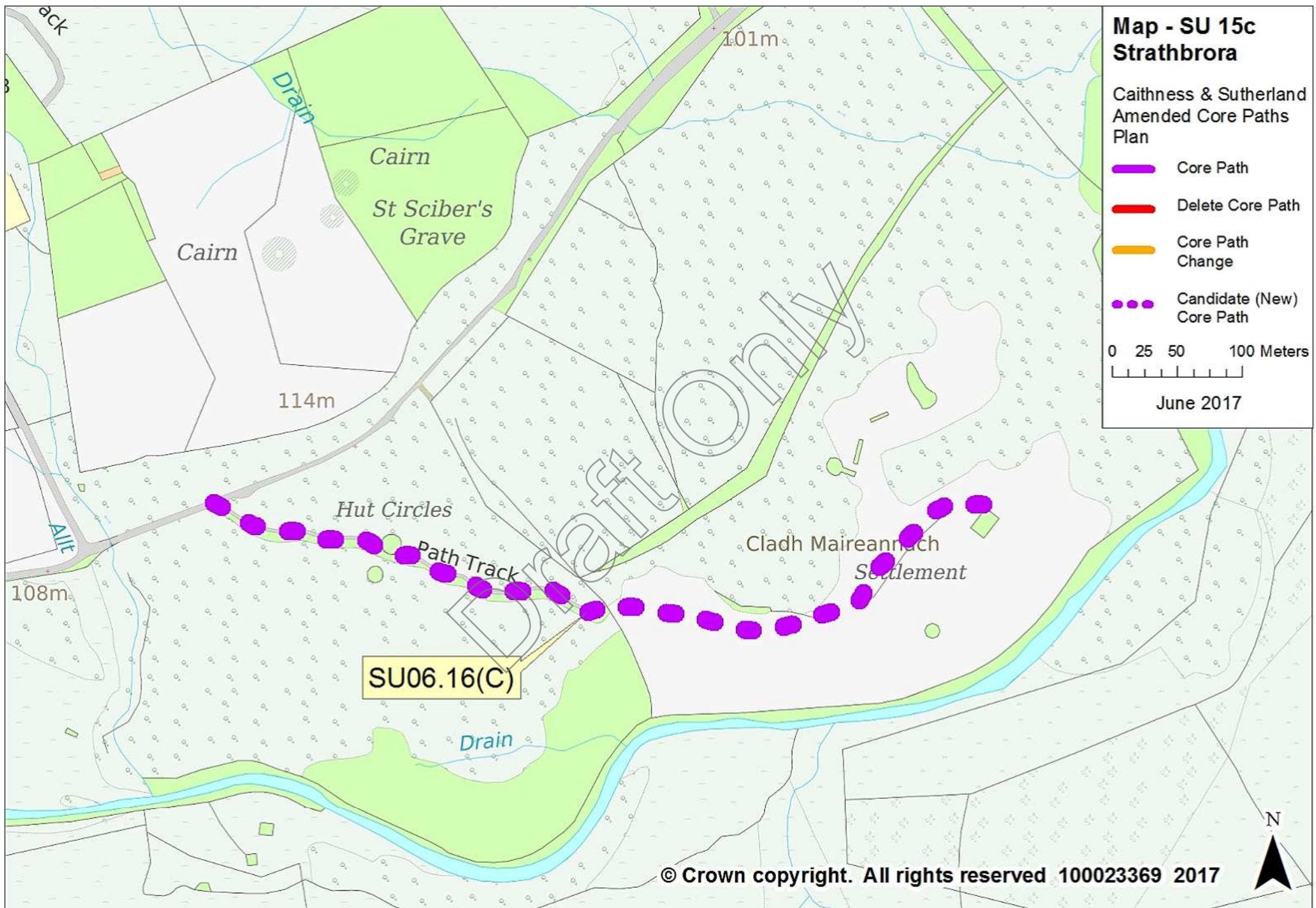
Map - SU 15c Strathbrora

Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path Change
-  Candidate (New) Core Path




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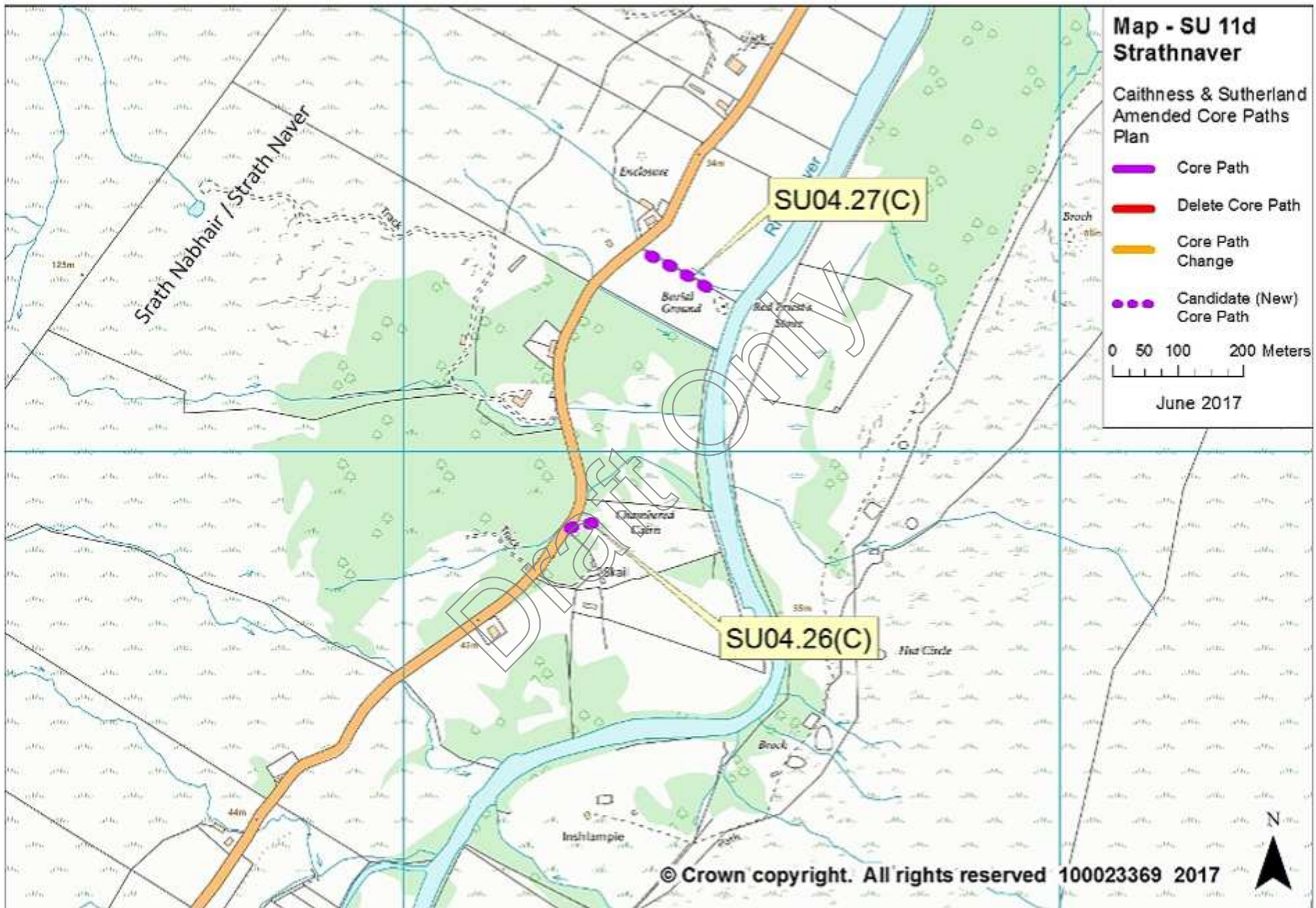
Map - SU 11d Strathnaver

Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path
Change
-  Candidate (New)
Core Path

0 50 100 200 Meters


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Map - SU 11b Swordly

Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path Change
-  Candidate (New) Core Path

0 75 150 300 Meters




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Map - SU 9b Tongue

Caithness & Sutherland
Amended Core Paths
Plan

-  Core Path
-  Delete Core Path
-  Core Path Change
-  Candidate (New) Core Path

0 0.250.5 1 Kilometers


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