

Opportunities & Sensitivities Map

- Archaeological Feature
 - ★ Other Feature
 - Forest Road
 - ATV Track
 - Footpath
 - Archaeological Feature
 - Other Feature
 - ▨ Ancient Woodland (wooded pre1850)
 - ▨ Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
 - ▨ Scheduled Ancient Monument
 - ▭ Proposal Boundary
 - ▨ Peatland habitats
 - ▨ Riparian habitats
- Steepness**
- 50-70%
 - 70-90%
 - +90%
- *Boundaries are indicative and subject to change

- 5** Area of native Caledonian pine located nearby. Regeneration zone and buffer zone in which Scots pine cannot be brought in and planted due to risk of introduction of disease to native stands. Opportunity to create native Scots pine woodland outside of this buffer zone and encourage expansion of this habitat without putting existing stands at risk.
- 6** Sustainable commercial forestry
Opportunity to contribute to the rural forest economy through expansion of existing commercial forests into areas where sensitivities allow. New productive forest areas will be planted in a diverse and resilient design. Planting of conifer trees will avoid steep ground or inaccessible areas where future harvesting would not be suitable.
- 7** Aberdeenshire Forest and Woodland Strategy notes areas around and leading to Clachnaben as sensitive to woodland expansion which relates to the Feughside Local Nature Conservation Site (LNCS) noted for geomorphological interest as well as rare plants and mire.
Opportunity to carefully design woodlands and peatland works within this area to enhance or maintain the current setting and protect sensitive features.
- 8** Footpath to Clachnaben
Opportunity to improve path conditions and potential for new path networks to be identified in cooperation with local interest groups and the Aberdeenshire Council Access Officer.

- 1** River Dee SAC designated for Atlantic salmon, otters, and freshwater pearl mussels
Opportunity to work with fisheries boards, interest groups and partnerships to develop riparian woodland habitats and improve conditions through shading, nutrient input and to recruit woody debris into the channel systems. Peatland restoration can improve hydrologic functions in the catchment including flood prevention
- 2** Ancient Semi-Natural Woodlands are not present within the boundary of the proposal area, though they are nearby.
Opportunity to design native planting which mimics the species composition found in local ancient woodlands.
- 3** Historic land use: peat cutting, subsistence farming, grouse shooting
Opportunity to preserve features such as grouse butts, turf dykes, sheepfolds, and peat cuts through careful planning.
- 4** Archaeological sites are recorded around the proposal.
Opportunity to conduct full archaeological survey and assess significance of each feature to inform enhancement or maintenance works. Findings of archaeological survey work will be shared with the local Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Department to further the understanding of the local historic setting. There are also records of plane crash remains with opportunity to locate sites and ensure protection during peatland restoration and woodland creation operations.

- 9** Charr Bothy
Opportunity to maintain access and use of the bothy and work with interest groups such as the Mountain Bothies Association.
- 10** Landscape character and setting, Clachnaben and Forest of Birse Special Landscape Area
Opportunity to design new woodlands which complement the landscape and carry out peatland restoration which improves the sense of place, particularly in degraded and eroding areas of peatland.
- 11** Deer and herbivore impacts
Opportunity to shore up perimeter fencing and restrict movement of deer and sheep into the Glen Dye Moor to allow natural growth patterns to return.
- 12** Rifle range
Opportunity to encourage continued use by community sporting groups
- 13** Degraded Peatland
Opportunity to target peatland works in areas with the greatest potential for habitat improvement and enhancement and to halt carbon losses.

