Environmental considerations

Ornithology

Avoiding impacts on bird species, wherever possible, is an important factor in the design of the site. We have commissioned over 200 hours of baseline ornithological survey work over a three-year period during breeding and non-breeding seasons to build our understanding of the species on site. Surveys have included flight path activity, breeding behaviour and winter walkover surveys, as well as specific black grouse and raptor surveys. Some of the key species we have monitored in the area are Red kite, White-tailed and golden eagle, and Merlin. Full details of all survey findings will be included in the EIA Report.



Cultural heritage

A targeted walkover was undertaken in order to examine the turbine and infrastructure locations for any unrecorded heritage assets and confirm the existence of any already recorded heritage assets within the site. Data gathered during the walkover was used to ensure that there are no direct impacts on known heritage assets as a result of the proposed development, from both turbines and related infrastructure.

The Cultural Heritage chapter of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) will provide assessment of the impacts of the development on heritage assets identified and agreed in consultation with Historic Environment Scotland.

Two site visits have taken place in order to assess the potential for impact on the setting of these assets. The first took place before the final design freeze, to feed into mitigation by design and resulted in the reduction of turbine numbers. The second site visit used the final turbine layout to conduct the assessment and the results will be presented in the EIA Report.



Edinchat cairn looking roughly to the north/northwest.



Clune Wind Farm - updated proposal