

Appendix A13.2

Landscape Objectives



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1. Introduction

- 1.1.1. Strategic Landscape Principles were identified as part of the development of the A9 Dualling Programme Strategic Environmental Design Principles set out in Appendix A4.1. These Strategic Landscape Principles were considered in the production of the landscape and visual chapters of the Environmental Statement at DMRB Stage 3, including the development of the Landscape and Ecological Mitigation Strategy.
- 1.1.2. Project general and specific landscape objectives were developed for the Tomatin to Moy section of the A9 Dualling Programme. These were produced in the context of the Strategic Landscape Principles and in response to the local landscape of this section of the A9 and are set out in Table 1.1 and 1.2 respectively below.

Table A1.1: Tomatin to Moy - General Objectives (GO)

Tomatin to Moy General Objectives (GO)	General Objectives Demonstrated Through
T-M -GO1 - Respect the character and sensitivity of the local landscape and integrate the road into the landscape (L1, L2).	Consult effectively with statutory consultees for continuity as part of the ESG and the A9 Landscape Forum to agree a corridor wide approach to the assessment process. Early consideration of the landscape character through the design and assessment process to identify areas of local landscape character against which the assessment is undertaken and specific mitigation measures developed.
T-M -GO2 - Vary the gradients of engineered slopes in response to local landforms (L1, L2).	Several locations identified as having slope profiles relaxed in order to provide an integrated approach to the final design.
T-M -GO3 - Tops and bottoms of slopes and ends of cuttings to be rounded and feathered into the adjacent landform (L1, SP2).	Several locations identified as having slope profiles relaxed in order to provide an integrated approach to the final design.
T-M -GO4 - Promote a clear identity for this section of the A9 between Tomatin-Moy through consulting with Scottish Natural Heritage, Local Planning Authority, and other consultants, promoting the reputation of the A9 as an iconic tourist route (L3, L15).	Early consideration of the landscape character. Consult effectively with statutory consultees for continuity as part of the ESG and the A9 Landscape Forum to agree a corridor wide approach to the assessment process. The Landscape and Ecological Mitigation Strategy has been developed maintaining views of the iconic Scottish landscape, whilst identifying and enhancing several layby areas affording visitors to pause and benefit from the wider scenery.
T-M -GO5 - Provide and maintain various interesting and scenic views both of and from the A9 (L4).	Seek opportunities for key views and enhanced laybys in design development through an initial review of potential locations and development of the design, including laybys north of Moy with views of the Aultnaslanach Viaduct.
T-M -GO6 – Avoid or reduce landscape effects on land and people through consultation with statutory consultees and local stakeholders (L8, L9).	Consultation with statutory consultees on local designations and landform fit as part of the ESG and A9 Landscape Forum.
T-M -GO7 - Use plant species and mixes that are appropriate to the landscape context and are locally distinctive (L1, L2, L14).	Consult effectively with statutory consultees for continuity as part of the ESG and the A9 Landscape Forum to agree a corridor wide approach to the assessment process. Early consideration of the landscape character through the design and assessment process to identify areas of local landscape character against which the assessment is undertaken and specific mitigation measures developed. The landscape and Ecological Mitigation Plans have been developed using native species, appropriate to the location and capable of establishing within the challenging growing conditions and that reflect the mosaic of local habitats, species include the use of birch and pine woodland.
T-M -GO8 - Specify plants of local provenance where appropriate i.e. seeds/cuttings sourced from native planting within the north east of Scotland (L11).	The landscape and Ecological Mitigation Plans have been developed using existing landscape features, including several areas of native woodland within the proposed scheme to maintain a sense of maturity and native species, appropriate to the location. The Plans



Tomatin to Moy General Objectives (GO)	General Objectives Demonstrated Through
	propose the use of native species, appropriate to the location and capable of establishing within the challenging growing conditions.
T-M -GO9 - Veteran trees, and significant landscape trees or woodlands to be identified and safeguarded where possible (L4, L7, L13).	<p>Seek opportunities for key views and enhanced laybys in design development through an initial review of potential locations and development of the design, including laybys north of Moy with views of the Aultnaslanach Viaduct.</p> <p>The landscape and Ecological Mitigation Plans have been developed using native species, appropriate to the location and capable of establishing within the challenging growing conditions.</p> <p>The landscape and Ecological Mitigation Plans have been developed using existing landscape features, including several areas of native woodland within the proposed scheme along with new native planting to replace habitat loss and maintain local connectivity.</p>

Table A1.2: Tomatin to Moy - Specific Objectives (SO)

Tomatin to Moy Specific Objectives (SO)	Specific Objectives Demonstrated Through
T-M-SO1 - Ensure that notable views are protected and maintain their status as staging points along the A9 route (GO4, GO5)	Seek opportunities for key views and enhanced laybys in design development through an initial review of potential locations and development of the design, including laybys north of Moy with views of the Aultnaslanach Viaduct.
T-M-SO2 - Provide opportunities for glimpsed views to the River Findhorn and strath to the east, whilst ensuring that the mitigation planting delivers appropriate screening and landscape integration (GO4, GO5)	Early consideration of the landscape character through the design and assessment process to identify areas of local landscape character against which the assessment is undertaken and specific mitigation measures developed. Seek opportunities for key views e.g. Findhorn viaduct and laybys (north of Moy) in design development through an initial review of potential locations and development of the design.
T-M-SO3 - Replanting of native woodland as part of the landscape and ecological mitigation strategy (GO7, GO8, GO9)	The landscape and Ecological Mitigation Plans have been developed using native species, appropriate to the location and capable of establishing within the challenging growing conditions. In addition, existing landscape features, including several areas of native woodland have will be retained within the proposed scheme, along with new native planting to replace habitat loss and maintain local connectivity, reflecting the mosaic of local habitats.
T-M-SO4 - Define locations where slop profiles are to be eased to reflect local landform, or steepened to reduce the loss of existing woodland, including ancient woodland (GO2, GO3)	Several locations (ref to 13.4.32 of the ES) identified as having slope profiles relaxed in order to provide an integrated approach to the final design. E.g. Moy LILLO, north of Moy adjacent to the southbound carriageway where slopes have been relaxed. Tigh an Allt cottage and associated woodland will be retained through steepening of adjacent engineered slopes. Elsewhere the profiles of SuDS ponds have been designed so as to avoid the appearance of engineered slopes and provide a more natural appearance.
T-M-SO5 - Maintain opportunities for inter-visibility between the A9 and the Highland Mainline Railway (GO4, GO5)	Seek opportunities for key views and enhanced laybys in design development through an initial review of potential locations and development of the design, including laybys north of Moy with views of the Aultnaslanach Viaduct and the Highland Mainline Railway.
T-M-SO6 - Deliver opportunities to integrate the re-alignment of the Dalmagarry Burn through sensitive design and appropriate planting strategy (GO3, GO7)	The Landscape and Ecological Mitigation Plans have been developed using native species and appropriate treatments that are appropriate to the location and in keeping with the natural characteristics of the landscape e.g. rock cuttings treatments, slope profiles, diversion of water courses (Dalmagarry Burn). The Landscape and Ecological Mitigation Plans have been developed using existing landscape features, including several areas of native woodland within the proposed scheme along with new native planting to replace habitat loss and maintain local connectivity.
T-M-SO7 - Replanting of native riverine woodland as part of the landscape and ecological mitigation strategy (GO7, GO8)	The Landscape and Ecological Mitigation Plans have been developed using native species and appropriate treatments that are capable of establishing in challenging conditions, appropriate to the location and



Tomatin to Moy Specific Objectives (SO)	Specific Objectives Demonstrated Through
	<p>in keeping with the natural characteristics of the landscape e.g. rock cuttings treatments, slope profiles, diversion of water courses (Dalmagarry Burn). Adapting to reflect the mosaic of local habitats.</p>
<p>T-M-SO8 – Retention and replanting of native woodland as part of the landscape and ecological mitigation strategy (GO7, GO8, GO9)</p>	<p>The Landscape and Ecological Mitigation Plans have been developed using native species and appropriate treatments that are appropriate to the location and in keeping with the natural characteristics of the landscape e.g. rock cuttings treatments, slope profiles, diversion of water courses (Dalmagarry Burn).</p> <p>The Landscape and Ecological Mitigation Plans have been developed using existing landscape features, including several areas of native woodland within the proposed scheme along with new native planting to replace habitat loss and maintain local connectivity.</p>
<p>T-M-SO9 - Ensure that open views to the north and north east are maintained, reflecting the existing views and unique qualities of the local landscape character and A9 corridor therein (GO5)</p>	<p>Several locations identified as having slope profiles relaxed in order to provide an integrated approach to the final design. E.g. north of Moy adjacent to the southbound carriageway where slopes have been relaxed. This has allowed opportunities for key views and enhanced laybys in the design development including laybys north of Moy with views of the Aultnaslanach Viaduct and the Highland Mainline Railway.</p>