SEI: SCHEDULE OF COMMITMENTS 16

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Introduction

- 16.1 **Chapter 16: Schedule of Commitments**, of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report presents a summary of the mitigation, compensation and enhancement measures committed to throughout the EIA Report. All the information contained in **Chapter 16** of the EIA Report remains valid unless stated otherwise in this Supplementary Environmental Information (SEI) Chapter.
- The purpose of this Chapter of the SEI is to provide a summary of the additional mitigation, compensation and enhancement measures committed to throughout the SEI Report. These additional measures may be the result of consultation since the application or measures deemed appropriate as a result of the amendments to the Proposed Development.
- **Table 16-1** provides a summary of additional mitigation, compensation and enhancement measures committed to in the SEI Report.

Consultee Responses to EIA Report

- 16.4 In response to the application for Balmeanach Wind Farm, NatureScot and The Highland Council (THC) requested revision to the Outline Habitat Management Plan (OHMP) to increase the amount of peatland restoration and enhancement that can be achieved on site as well as consideration of opportunities for wider habitat enhancement measures for golden eagle and white-tailed eagles. Peatland restoration potential on site was reviewed in 2025 for the Proposed Development with reference to recently developed peatland restoration methods, with the aim to meet NatureScot guidance whilst also improving foraging habitat for eagles.
- 16.5 The Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) requested changes to the proposed onsite access tracks to reduce track length and effects on peat, however this has not resulted in any changes to the mitigation proposed for peat management in the EIA Report.

Additional Commitments

Table 16-1 provides detail of the additional commitments put forward by the Applicant to address consultee comments, as presented in this SEI Report.

Table 16-1: Schedule of Additional Commitments

SEI Chapter	Type of Mitigation, Compensation or Enhancement	Mitigation, Compensation, or Enhancement Measure
SEI Chapter 8 Ecology	During / Post Construction (OHMP)	Outline HMP 293.47ha targeted for blanket bog restoration and enhancement comprising:
		 74.28ha forest-to-bog 195.85ha micro-erosion stabilisation and gully blocking/reprofiling of blanket bog 18.52ha drain blocking



SEI Chapter	Type of Mitigation, Compensation or Enhancement	Mitigation, Compensation, or Enhancement Measure
		4.82ha bare peat stabilization On its own, the Balmeanach HMP would deliver 1:10 peatland restoration and an additional 10.07ha of enhancement. Whilst the enhancement proposals fall slightly short of 10%, the proposals for habitat management have been greatly increased to those previously proposed and are considered appropriate on this site as the areas identified need to be balanced with the continued use of the common grazings land. Additional biodiversity enhancement would be provided through micro-erosion stabilisation and gully blocking/reprofiling of 19.15ha of wet heath. The proposed peatland restoration areas would be additional to those proposed for the Ben Sca Redesign Wind Farm, and are
		situated next to each other, which would provide further enhancement benefits due to the connectivity of habitat. The combined peatland restoration areas (for Balmeanach and Ben Sca Redesign together) deliver 1:10 peatland restoration along with 13% to 18% of enhancement, in line with NatureScot guidance.
SEI Chapter 9 Ornithology	During / Post Construction (OHMP)	Outline HMP Management goals are provided in the OHMP aimed at providing habitat for breeding and foraging waders, raptors and passerines. The 293.47ha habitat management area includes 113ha which is >500m from any turbines (including existing adjacent wind farms), providing enhanced foraging for eagles in areas away from the turbines and extends foraging areas for eagles that were previously unavailable due to the conifer plantation. The peatland restoration also includes an open corridor from Beinn Bheag up to Ben Aketil and Ben Sca, which lies in between the three proposed wind farms (Balmeanach, Ben Sca Redesign and Ben Aketil Repowering and Extension).

