

Assessing impacts on Wild Land Areas – technical guidance – consultation

Page 2: RESPONDENT INFORMATION FORM

Q1. Are you responding as an individual or an organisation?

Individual

Q2. Your name or your organisation/ group name

Name

Q3. email

Email

Q4. How do you wish your response to be treated?

Publish response but not my name.

Q5. If required, may we contact you regarding your response?

Yes

Page 3: CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

Q6. 1) Does the 2017 draft guidance provide a clear explanation of the methodology and general principles for assessing the impact of development proposals on Wild Land Areas

Some sections

Comments/explanations:

The methodology described will not protect WLAs from gradual attrition. There must be no risk that the adopted methodology will undermine the protection of wild land. The assessor should not have the right to establish a WLA baseline. Since WLAs were adopted in Scottish Planning Policy in 2014, Environmental Statements submitted by some developers have attempted to divide WLA into smaller areas, claiming that some of these areas cannot be called wild land. The correct baseline for a study area with a WLA must be the SNH descriptor of that WLA as originally published (January 2017). The baseline is already set by the WLAs and the assessment must start from the principle that the government intention, and therefore the planning process, is to protect the WLA so it is not diminished. SNH must have the lead role in assessing whether a wild land assessment is required in situations where there is a possibility that the proposed development will impact on a Wild Land Area; it is not enough to state that the Planning Authority or Scottish Ministers may consult

Q6. 1) Does the 2017 draft guidance provide a clear explanation of the methodology and general principles for assessing the impact of development proposals on Wild Land Areas

SNH.

Q7. 2) Are the examples within Annex 2 helpful in illustrating the approach to assessing impacts?

Some sections