

NA8 Golden eagle range report – Glen Etive and Glen Fyne Special Protection Area



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COMMISSIONED REPORT

Commissioned Report No. 610

NA8 Golden eagle range report – Glen Etive and Glen Fyne Special Protection Area

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COMMISSIONED REPORT

Summary

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Commissioned Report No.: 610
Project no: 12304
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Background

This report is one of a series, covering all the ranges in the Glen Etive and Glen Fyne Golden Eagle SPA. It contains sensitive environmental information on protected species. As such it will only be distributed under licence. The range reports are being produced as a direct positive response to feedback SNH received, during the consultation for the SPA, on the difficulties associated with applying for grant aid once an area had been designated as an SPA.

The report identifies areas of search for habitat management which may be of interest to farmers, managers, landowners and agents, which will enhance habitats to support golden eagles and comply with the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994. A novel methodology has been developed to facilitate the identification of targeted habitat management for the reports. The methodology entails identifying areas of three generic categories of prey habitat communities found in any given range. The 3 categories are as follows:

Rich Prey Communities (RPC): these communities have high productivity in terms of prey.

Medium Prey Community (MPC): these communities have an existing prey productivity that could be improved further by improved management of the existing habitat.

Constrained Prey Community (CPC): these communities contain virtually no or very little golden eagle prey.

The main management objective for a range is to change CPCs into RPCs. This makes a range more robust and sustainable in the long term as its overall baseline MPC/RPC area will have been increased. Improving existing MPCs can bring additional benefits to the range, and should be considered in any management improvement programme, but it will not increase the baseline MPC/RPC and deliver the associated long term sustainable benefits.

It is important to note that each range is unique and the recommendations in any given range report cannot be used for other ranges. Furthermore, the advice on the Habitat Regulations Appraisal (HRA) contained in this report is specific to this range, and cannot be used to inform HRA decisions on other sites.

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Main findings

The main findings of the report are only available under licence from SNH.

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