



DUMFRIES AND
GALLOWAY COUNCIL

Local Development Plan

Technical Paper

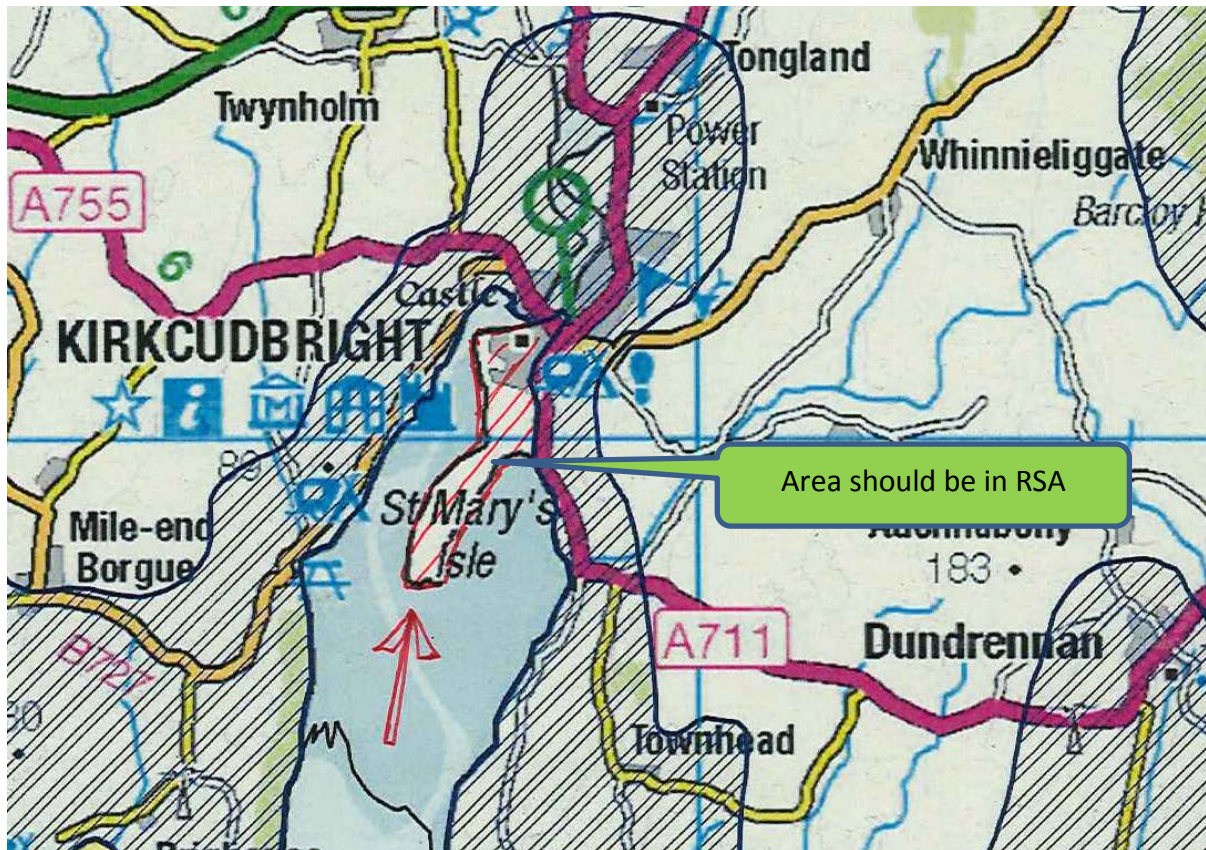
SEPTEMBER 2014



*Regional Scenic
Areas*

2. Solway Coast RSA (two areas):

St Mary's Isle, Kirkcudbright (NX 673491) should have been included within the RSA boundary (Maps on pages 12 and 24 should be revised as below):

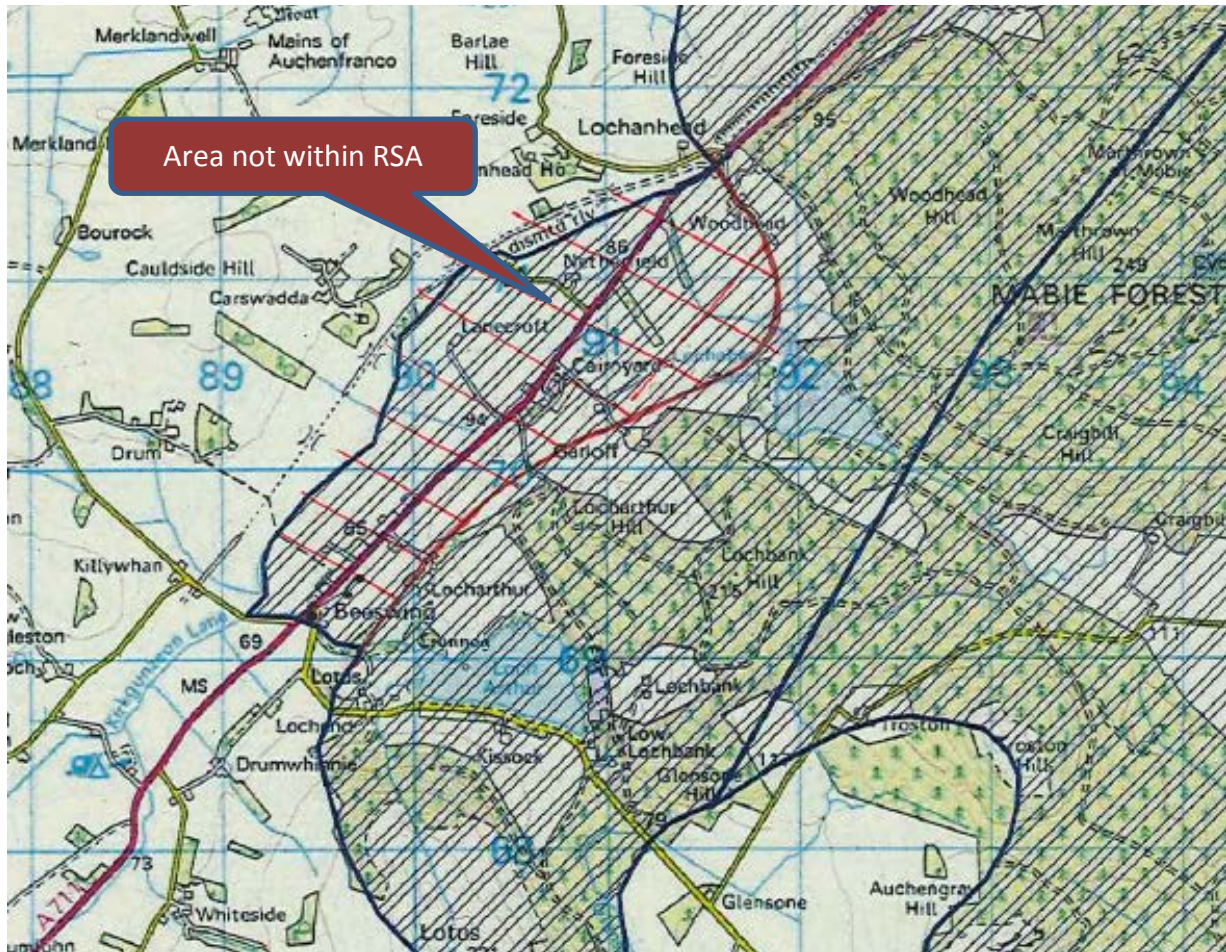


The area to the west of Powfoot (NY 148657) should have been included within the RSA (Maps on pages 12 and 24 should be revised as below):



3. Terregles Ridge RSA

The area around the A711 at Beeswing (NX 897694) should not have been included within the RSA (Maps on pages 12 and 27 should be revised as below):



Technical Paper: Regional Scenic Areas

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Part 1: INTRODUCTION

The quality of the landscape is one of Dumfries and Galloway's major assets, providing an attractive environment for both residents and visitors.

This technical paper examines and defines 10 Regional Scenic Areas (RSAs) which are locally designated scenic areas within Dumfries and Galloway in the context of the Dumfries and Galloway Landscape Assessment, to be protected by Policy NE2 of the Local Development Plan (LDP). The RSAs form part of a wider framework of designated scenic areas which include the existing National Scenic Areas. Together these provide protection to those areas of special scenic interest which form our most cherished landscapes. The designations are supported by a range of policies, strategies and guidelines for the wider landscape.

Some of the very best of Scotland's renowned landscapes are in Dumfries and Galloway. They attract visitors to the region and provide the setting for where people live, work and play. Three National Scenic Areas have been designated on the river estuaries and bays of the Solway Firth. A further ten Regional Scenic Areas recognise and help celebrate the most attractive upland areas, glens and coastlines. These special landscapes are of substantial economic value to the region and of great importance for our quality of life.

Dumfries and Galloway contains a wide range of different landscapes. The coastline, which extends to 215 miles (350 km), stretches from the tidal flats of the Solway Firth in the east, flats on a scale not found elsewhere in Scotland, to the sea cliffs of the Mull of Galloway, Scotland's most southerly point. The highest mountains in southern Scotland and Britain's largest Forest Park (also designated as the UK's first Dark Sky Park) lie to the north within a landscape divided by river valleys that stretch to the coastal plains where they open out into a series of estuaries, bays, inlets and beaches. The rich pattern of farmland between the hills and coast contains many picturesque small towns and villages.

The landscape of Dumfries and Galloway is described in the Dumfries and Galloway Landscape Assessment, which provides guidance on managing change.

Regional Scenic Designations

The first regional scenic designations in Dumfries and Galloway comprised Areas of Great Landscape Value (AGLVs) established in response to SDD Circular 2/62. This placed the onus on local planning authorities to 'safeguard the most outstanding beauty spots' and encourage the provision of visitor facilities in these areas. The intention was that there should be a strong presumption against development within designated areas, except where it was plainly necessary in connection with existing development, or was consistent with the purposes of designation in providing appropriate recreation facilities. In cases where development was permissible, a high standard of architectural layout and design was considered essential.

Little guidance was given on the assessment of landscape quality or value, and as a result no systematic evaluation of the wider landscape was undertaken as a basis for designation. The approaches of the different planning authorities varied, and in some cases designated areas related to specific features within the landscape such as historic gardens or lochs, whilst others covered broader tracts of countryside.

'Scotland's Natural Heritage' [sic; '*Natural Scenic Areas*'] (Countryside Commission Scotland (CCS) 1978; Section 4.1, p10) stressed the continued need to recognise areas of landscape

significance at a regional level, and advised that these would require 'conservation strategies and development control procedures which recognise this significance'. The Dumfries and Galloway Structure Plan (1984) identified a series of Areas of Regional Scenic Significance (ARSS) which took account of the existing Areas of Great Landscape Value, but encompassed a wider range of landscapes and covered significantly larger tracts of countryside. In total 11 Areas of Regional Scenic Significance were identified. However, again these were not based on a systematic evaluation of the landscape but relied on the subjective judgement of planning officers.

Dumfries and Galloway Landscape Assessment

In 1998 the Council adopted the Dumfries and Galloway Landscape Assessment which was developed by Land Use consultants in partnership with Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), the council, Dumfries and Galloway Enterprise and the Forestry Authority.

The study divides the region into areas of similar landscape character using a range of variables including topography and vegetation, landuse and settlement patterns, building styles and cultural associations. Four broad Regional Character Areas (Rhins and Machars, Galloway Uplands, Southern Uplands and Dumfries Lowlands) are divided into 31 landscape character types and sub-types whose characteristics are described. The full range of character types is listed on page 10, and where individual character types are referred to subsequently they are indicated in italics. Some landscape types are represented by a single example, whilst others recur across the region, resulting in a series of 102 individual named landscape units, listed in Appendix 4.

Landscape character types are separated into those whose character is either worthy of conservation, requires enhancing or requires restoring. Examples of the former include the Rugged Granite Uplands of the Rhinns of Kells and the Merrick, plus the lush undulating Drumlin Pastures around Castle Douglas, whilst the Plateau Moorland with Forest to the west of the Galloway Hills, and the Lower Dale landscapes around Dumfries and Lockerbie are seen as in need of enhancing. This advice provides the basis for Local Development Plan Policy NE2 in relation to Landscape Character.

The report offers guidelines on the capacity of the different landscape types to absorb landscape change associated with agriculture, forestry and various forms of development.

In 2011 the council adopted the Dumfries and Galloway Windfarm Landscape Capacity Study (DGWLCS) which provides updated information on landscape character in relation to wind energy development. The RSAs have not been revised in the period since the DGWLCS was produced and although several of the RSA descriptions in Part 3 below refer to interest from wind energy developers, this interest now extends across most of the region. The DGWLCS should therefore be referred to alongside this report when considering potential onshore wind energy proposals within or potentially impacting on all RSAs.

Relationship between the Landscape Assessment and Scenic Designations

Landscape assessments enable policy considerations to be extended to the wider landscape, but they do not remove the need to define areas of cherished landscapes which are valued regionally or locally for their special scenic qualities, and to give them special protection. When combined with wider landscape strategies derived from the landscape assessment, they provide a powerful tool for focusing landscape conservation and enhancement initiatives.

In 1988 a review of the effectiveness of regional landscape designations in Scotland was prepared for the Countryside Commission for Scotland (CCS) and the Scottish Office. This report took account of the advances in techniques for describing, analysing and classifying

landscapes, and envisaged that Regional Scenic Areas would be identified afresh, based on systematic landscape assessments. This advice was reiterated in the subsequent CCS report on the principles and practice of landscape assessment.

In 1997 the Council's Environment and Infrastructure Committee concluded that there was a continued need for local authorities to meet local needs through development plans within an agreed framework of designations. The designation process remains particularly important in Dumfries and Galloway at this time in view of the poor representation of national landscape designations in the Scottish and British context. Indeed, several of our locally designated landscapes bear comparison with nationally designated landscapes elsewhere.

The Landscape Assessment provides a systematic and objective framework from which to evaluate scenic interest. Scenic interest relates to landscape character through the local mix of individual landscape elements, the landscape character types, and the juxtaposition of different landscape types. These interact to create visual characteristics relating to form, line, colour, texture, diversity, scale etc., and contribute to the overall coherence and legibility of the landscape. Less tangible qualities such as the 'sense of place' and the emotional response of the viewer are also relevant, as are the preferences of the public both for particular types of landscape and particular places. These can relate to the relative accessibility and prominence of the landscape, as well as values such as wild land qualities, cultural associations and special heritage interests.

Landscape elements generally considered to contribute positively towards landscape quality include sea, undeveloped coast, rivers, watercourses and lakes, uplands, steep slopes, pastures, rough heath, bracken and gorse, parkland, woodland and attractive man made features. Attractive combinations of these elements are characteristic of certain landscape types (for example the bare rock, steep slopes and heather of the Rugged Granite Uplands), but elsewhere may be concentrated within parts of character units (for example, steep slopes, bare rock, scree and heather moorland are found in varying concentrations across the Southern Uplands). Juxtapositions of different landscape types, such as occur with the Cairnsmore of Fleet Coastal Granite Uplands and Wigtown Bay Estuarine Flats, or the Moffat and upper Annandale Upland Glens and north Moffat Southern Uplands, create distinctive and varied compositions and open up dramatic views. Scenic quality thus relates to, but is distinct from, landscape character, and variations in scenic quality will not necessarily reflect character area boundaries.

PART 2: 1999 REVIEW PROCESS

Aims and objectives

The RSAs were reviewed as part of the previous Structure Plan in 1999. All references below refer to the review undertaken at that time.

In view of the lack of national guidance on regional scenic designations and an ongoing national review of designations at that time, it was not considered appropriate to establish a completely new framework of RSAs based on radically different criteria. The review therefore revisited the existing designations in the context of a fuller understanding of the process of landscape assessment, based on landscape character. The Dumfries and Galloway Landscape Assessment was used to inform this process.

The detailed objectives of the 1999 review were to:

- provide a robust and defensible series of designated areas capable of sustaining strong and effective policies;
- define areas with a distinctive and recognisable identity, and with simple, comprehensible and justifiable boundaries;
- bring additional areas under designation where it is felt that further protection is needed; and
- remove areas from designation and establish alternative forms of protection where considered more appropriate.

The review noted that removal from designation should not necessarily be interpreted as an indication that there will be less concern about the landscape impacts of development within such areas. Rather, it may be that the factors which give such landscapes their special quality or vulnerability relate to more locally based landscape or development issues rather than the overall quality of a wide tract of countryside, and are more effectively addressed by an assessment against the overarching LDP policy OP1 or by topic related policies such as Policy HE6 in relation to historic gardens and designed landscapes.

In 2003 Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) produced guidance on local landscape designations, which encouraged the adoption of a whole-landscapes approach to Scotland's landscapes and recognition of the historic dimension of landscape. A further review of the Regional Scenic Areas as defined and mapped in 1999 was not undertaken within the development of the current Local Development Plan. However, it is recognised that a consideration of these factors may help refresh the RSA's at some stage in the future.

Methodology

Whilst any assessment of scenic value must in the end include a subjective element, a systematic review methodology was developed to ensure that the results were robust and defensible. First, a review of past and present national and regional designations was undertaken.

This was followed by an iterative process of establishing clearly identified parameters for selecting areas for designation, and for defining their boundaries, and then assessing the existing ARSSs against these parameters in the context of the wider landscape and the regional landscape assessment, through a combination of literature review, map study, consultation and field survey. Factors taken into account when considering areas for designation included:

- Existing and past designations

- Combinations of valued landscape elements
- Scenically valued landscape character types
- Juxtapositions of landscape types
- Settings to valued landscapes
- Visual prominence in relation to sensitive receptors
- Accessibility and popularity for recreation
- Wild land values
- Recognisable identity and local distinctiveness
- Typicality and uniqueness
- Sensitivity to change

The importance of weather conditions in influencing perceptions of scenic value in the field cannot be overstated. Many areas within Dumfries and Galloway can look very attractive on the first gloriously sunny day of summer, whilst fewer areas remain scenic on very gloomy days. Large scale moorland landscapes and some coastal landscapes, for example, can appear bleak to some people in poor weather, whilst the most robust landscapes tend to be those with a more diverse and intimate character. Every effort was made to ensure landscapes were considered under a range of varying weather conditions so that these issues could be taken into account.

The review set out to establish boundary parameters for each RSA. The parameters used depended on the scale of the landscape as a whole and of individual landscape units, as well as on the juxtaposition of different landscape types and the nature of the boundaries between them. Parameters used included:-

- **Character area boundaries** - Where character area boundaries separate landscape types particularly valued for their scenic qualities from less valued landscape types then the Scenic Areas boundaries were rationalised to follow these. However, where only part of a particular landscape character area was considered of sufficient scenic value to warrant designation, other forms of boundary were adopted.
- **Visual envelopes** - Certain upland and lowland landscapes derive their scenic value principally from their juxtaposition with adjacent valleys and coastlines. In such cases Scenic Area boundaries were related to the visual envelopes of these valleys or coasts. A visual envelope can be defined as the area which falls within a particular field of view, and will vary with the viewpoint selected. The ridgelines which form the main horizon from principal viewpoints such as valley or coastal roads were therefore used as a first approximation of visual envelopes.
- **Topographic units** - Where scenic landscapes comprise distinctive topographic units which are widely visible and appreciated for their scenic value from a variety of directions, and which may also be more readily experienced and appreciated from within as well as from the adjacent lowlands, then topographic units were more generally used.
- **Transition zones** - Where none of the above provided an appropriate boundary, changes in landform/vegetation/settlement and communications patterns within the character area which bring about a gradual change in the overall scenic quality and accessibility of the landscape were used to define boundaries. Transitions between areas of higher and lower scenic quality can sometimes be quite distinct and abrupt, but more often are of a transitional nature, for example where one landscape character type grades gradually into another, or where the particular combination of landscape elements giving rise to an attractive character become gradually diluted. In these circumstances, RSAs have been defined as broad zones with boundaries unrelated to individual features on the ground such as roads or field boundaries. Care should be taken in

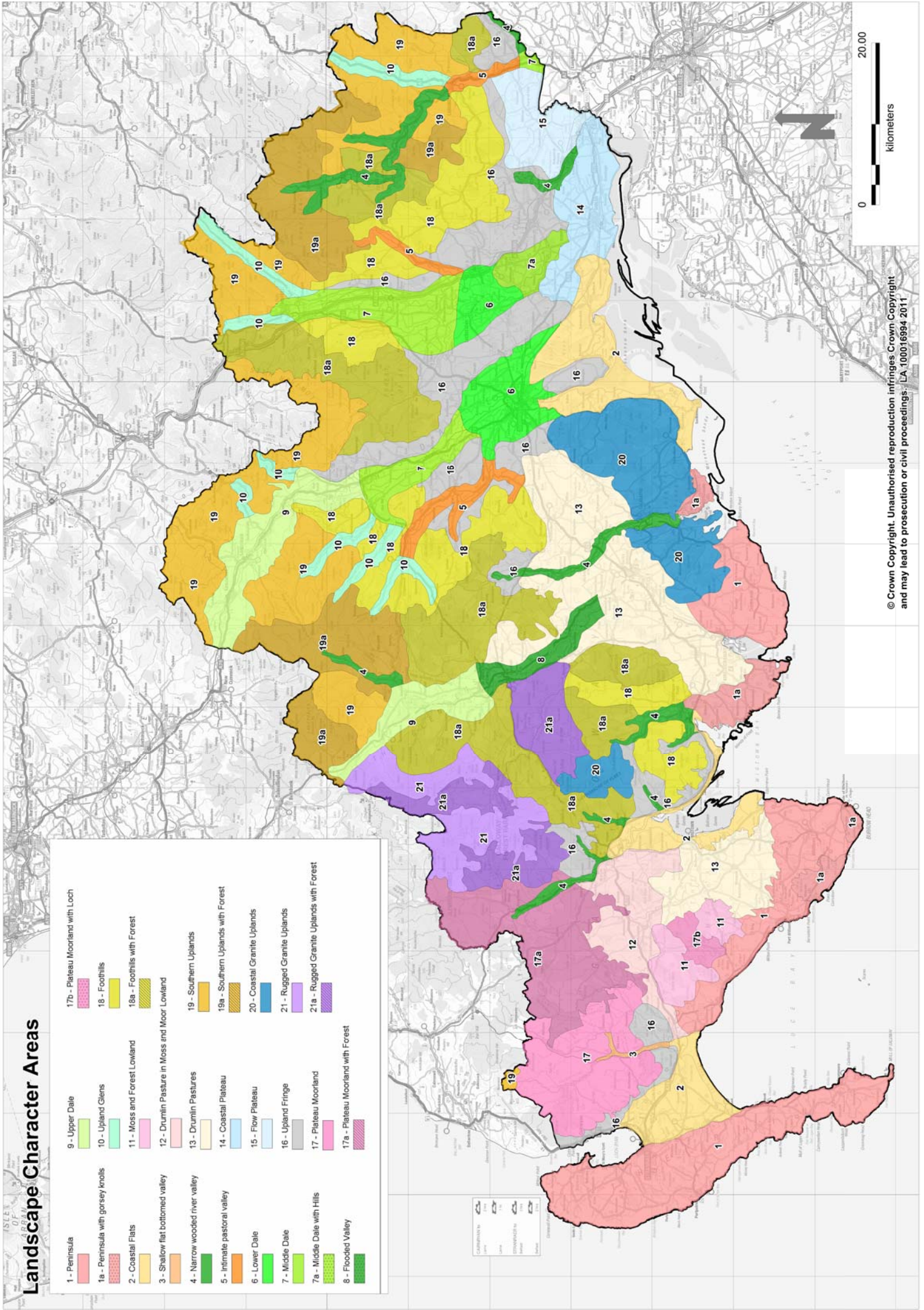
interpreting policies in relation to mapped boundaries and reference should always be made to reasons for designation and the nature of the boundary. For example, where boundaries relate to visual envelopes, a tall structure on the edges of the designated area may fall within the relevant visual envelope whilst a smaller structure may be lost over the horizon and will therefore not be relevant.

Because the designated areas are defined at a broad scale, they may sometimes include areas of lower landscape quality such as prominent quarries or extensive areas of blanket forestry, where these form an integral part of, or the setting to, valued wider landscapes. Designation is then seen as a means of encouraging higher standards in the future.

PART 3: REGIONAL SCENIC AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Landscape Character Areas

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| 1 - Peninsula | 9 - Upper Dale | 17b - Plateau Moorland with Loch |
| 1a - Peninsula with gorse knolls | 10 - Upland Glens | 18 - Foothills |
| 2 - Coastal Flats | 11 - Moss and Forest Lowland | 18a - Foothills with Forest |
| 3 - Shallow flat bottomed valley | 12 - Drumlins Pasture in Moss and Moor Lowland | 19 - Southern Uplands |
| 4 - Narrow wooded river valley | 13 - Drumlins Pastures | 19a - Southern Uplands with Forest |
| 5 - Intimate pastoral valley | 14 - Coastal Plateau | 20 - Coastal Granite Uplands |
| 6 - Lower Dale | 15 - Flow Plateau | 21 - Rugged Granite Uplands |
| 7 - Middle Dale | 16 - Upland Fringe | 21a - Rugged Granite Uplands with Forest |
| 7a - Middle Dale with Hills | 17 - Plateau Moorland | 21a - Plateau Moorland with Forest |
| 8 - Flooded Valley | 17a - Plateau Moorland with Forest | |



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Regional Scenic Areas

Key



Regional Scenic Areas

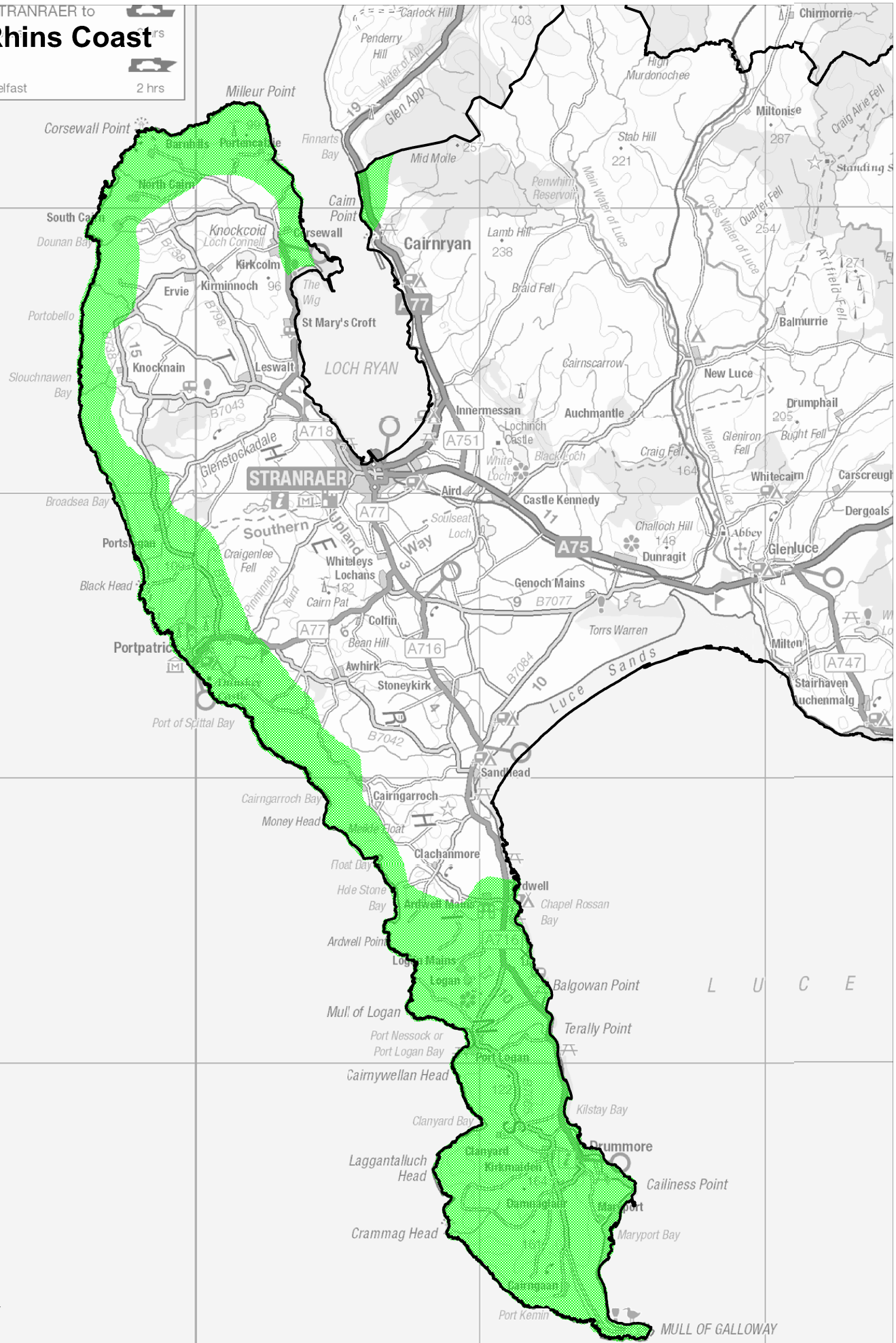


Scale 1:500,000

- 1. Rhins Coast
- 2. Mochrum Lochs
- 3. Machars Coast
- 4. Galloway Hills
- 5. Solway Coast
- 6. Terregles Ridge
- 7. Torthorwald Ridge
- 8. Thornhill Uplands
- 9. Moffat Hills
- 10. Langholm Hills

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STRANRAER to Belfast
1. Rhins Coast
 2 hrs



This area comprises the attractive rocky coastlines of the Rhins Peninsula from the Wig in the north, round past the Mull of Galloway in the south, to Ardwell. It also includes the eastern shore of Loch Ryan from opposite the Wig northwards. It is based on the previous Rhins ARSS.

The boundaries of the designated area were modified to reflect the visual envelope of the sea, and to include the whole of the narrow southern peninsula leading to the Mull of Galloway where the dominant presence of the sea creates a unique and special character. The locally distinctive policy landscapes around Lochnaw Castle were excluded as these and other policy landscapes elsewhere in the region are more appropriately protected under LDP policy HE6: Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes.

The coast is characterised by steep cliffs of varying height, plus raised beaches and rocky foreshores, with small rocky and sandy bays connected by a ribbon of low lying land. It is relatively inaccessible, approached only at intervals by a network of narrow lanes which serve scattered farmsteads, plus occasional coastal villages connected by more major roads. There are several camping, caravanning and chalet sites, and the area is subject to a degree of interest in further tourist facilities. Inland the topography is gently undulating, with a pattern of smooth hills and valleys, and the landscape is an open one of improved pastures, bounded by walls or hedges, but with few trees. Views of the coast generally tend to be lost over near ground horizons within a kilometre or so from the shore, other than from the crests of hills. The exception is the narrow southern peninsula leading down to the Mull of Galloway, where the proximity of the two coasts means the sea is always evident.

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPES	LANDSCAPE CHARACTER UNITS	EXTENT INCLUDED
Peninsula (1)	Rhins	Coastal margins of rockier outward facing coasts plus entire narrow, sea dominated southern peninsula.
Upland Fringe (16)	Balker Moor	Areas facing designated shore of Rhins across narrow entrance to Loch, and where raised beach shoreline to south ends and coastal cliffs meet sea.

BOUNDARIES

Seaward	Coast
Inland on Rhins	All major areas within the visual envelope of the sea.
Extent along north	Varied rocky shore as far round as the coastal spit at the coastline of Rhins Wig.
Extent along south	Extended to include the whole of the southern section of coastline

of Rhins [sic] the Rhins including the eastern side of the peninsula as far north as Ardwell, south of which the narrowness of the peninsula combined with the high central ridge slopes bring the whole area under the visual influence of the sea and create a special character.

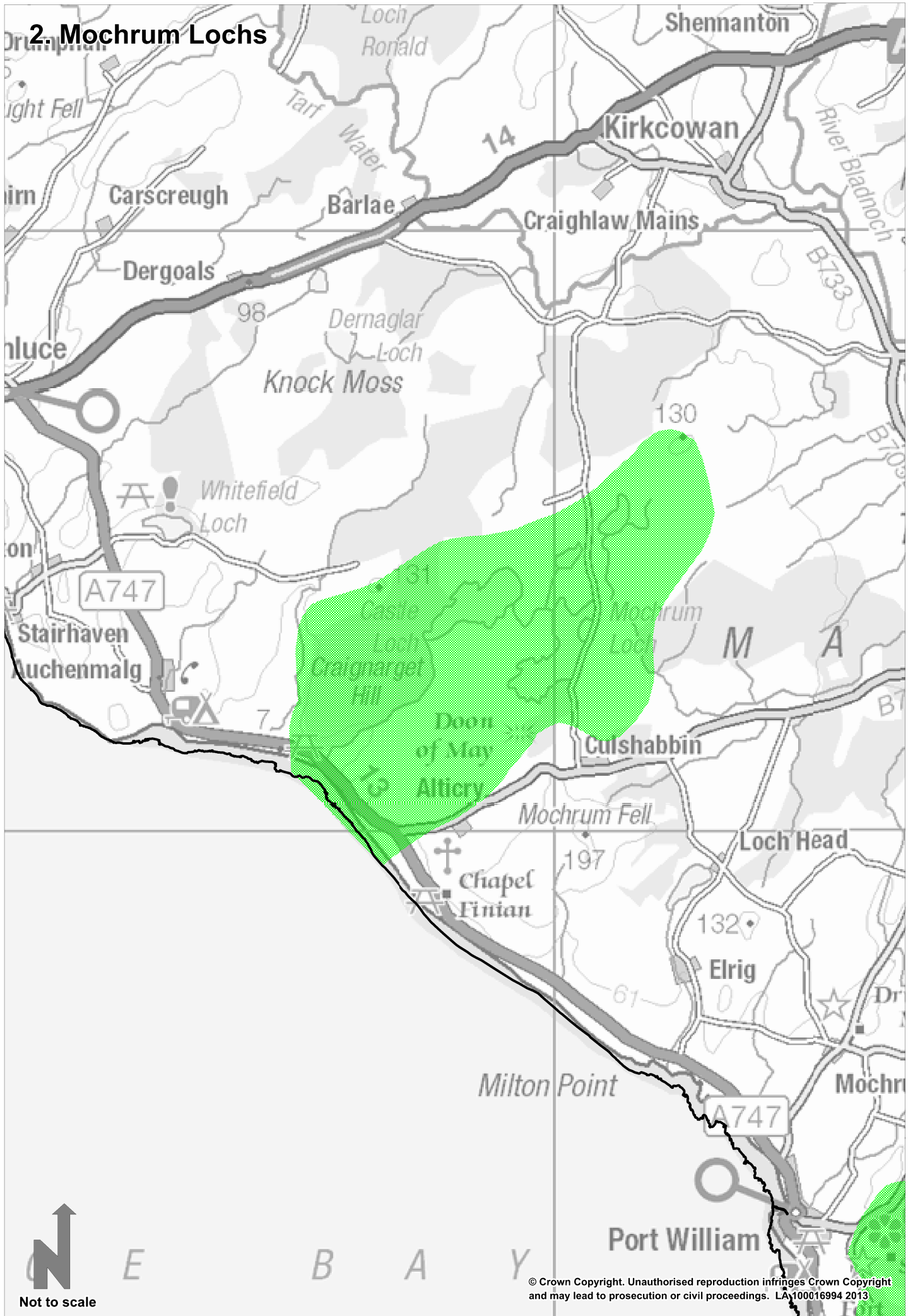
Inland on eastern shore of Loch Ryan

All major areas within visual envelope of sea.

Extent along eastern

Northwards from Cairnryan, where the raised beach shoreline shore of Loch Ryan ends and coastal cliffs meet the sea, along the narrow loch entrance facing the designated shore of the Rhins, and abutting the designated area within adjacent authority area.

2. Mochrum Lochs



This is the smallest RSA. It centres around Mochrum Lochs, where the combination of scattered lochs within gently undulating, rocky Plateau Moorland create a unique and distinctive landscape and coastline. The RSA is based on an additional ARSS designated in the Whithorn and the Machars Local Plan.

The area under designation was modified to reflect the visual envelope of Mochrum Lochs, and the coastal expression of this distinctive moorland landscape.

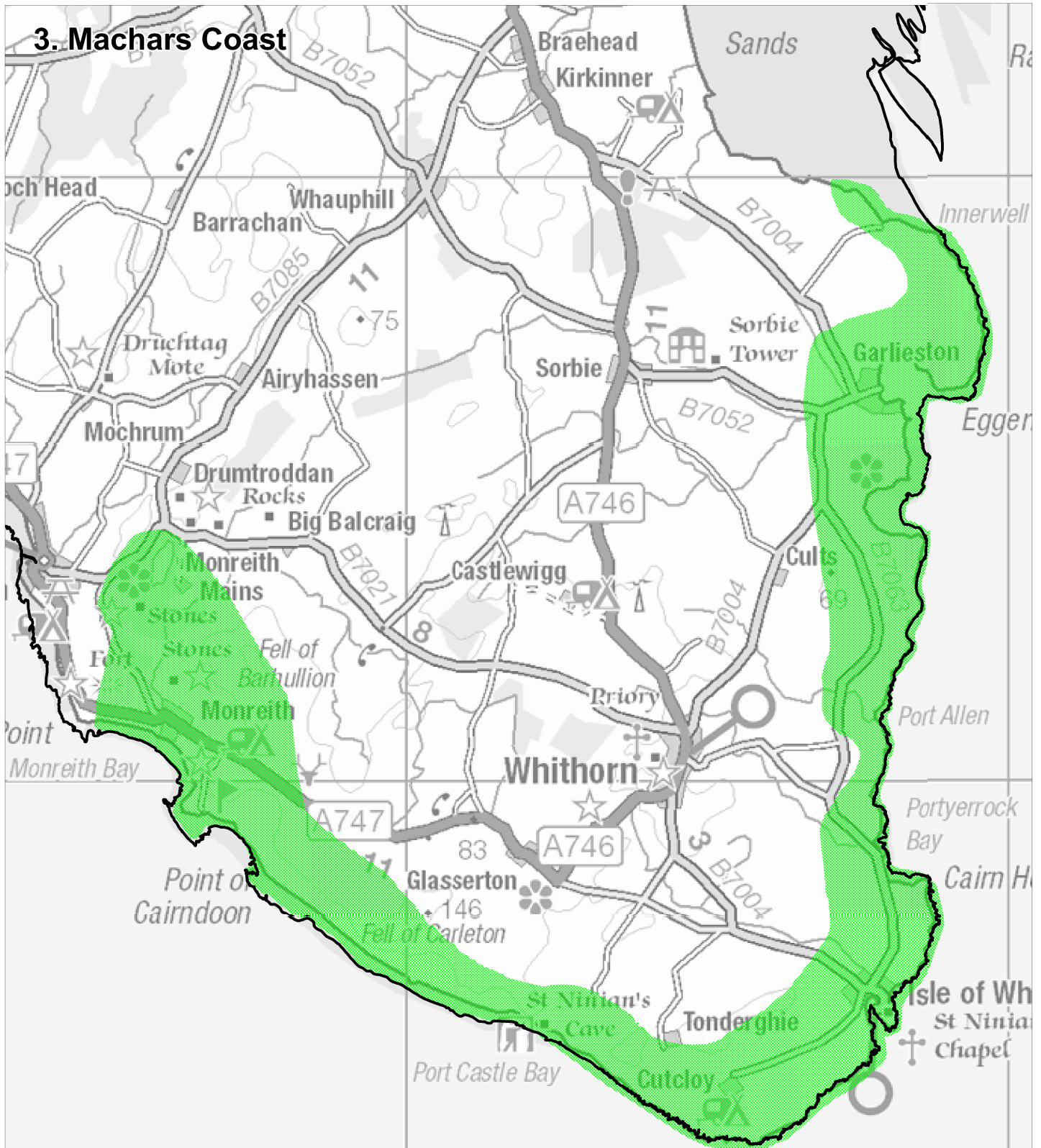
The area has an open, exposed, wild feel with a distinctive character unique in Dumfries and Galloway. Large irregular lochans spread across the floors of wide basins. The gently undulating topography is broken by knolly outcrops where exposed rocks punctuate the heather and rough grassland. There is some plantation forestry on Craignarget Hill and around the peripheries of the area, but apart from this there are few signs of human activity, even in the form of walls or fences, other than the atmospheric policy landscape of 'Old Place of Mochrum'. The area is crossed by one minor road and has a remote, upland feel.

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPES	LANDSCAPE CHARACTER UNITS	EXTENT INCLUDED
Plateau Moorland (17)	Machars	Core area centred around Mochrum Lochs.
Moss and Forest Lowland (11)		Machars Southern extremities where forested areas interlock with the Plateau Moorland and Peninsula.
Peninsula (1)		Machars Discrete section from end of raised beach at Garheugh north to include areas of steeper rockier shore where heather and rough pasture dominate.

BOUNDARIES

Seaward	Coast
Linear extent north	Coastal expression of topographic unit centred on Craignarget and south along Hill and Garheugh Fell characterised by higher, knolly terrain coastline with exposed rock, heather and rough grassland, plus some plantation forestry, in contrast to the adjacent lower, smoother topography dominated by improved pasture, and the raised beach coastline to the south.
Inland	Defined by the visual envelope of Mochrum Lochs, which combine with the distinctive character of the moorland to create a particularly strong character unique in Dumfries and Galloway.

3. Machars Coast



BURROW HEAD



Not to scale

The varied rocky coastline around the head of the Machars Peninsula from Monreith to Garlieston have been included in this designation, which was based on the old Machars Coast ARSS.

The western extent of the designated coastline is defined by the transition to a more uniform and less scenic shoreline of raised beach and inland cliffs at Port William. The eastern boundary is marked by the transition from the rockier shore of the Coastal Plain to the Estuarine Flats of Wigtown Bay to the north of Garlieston. Inland, the boundary was amended to reflect the visual envelope of the sea, extending to include the setting of the Isle of Whithorn and Garlieston Bay, but elsewhere moving coastwards excluded locally distinctive policy landscapes which are protected under LDP Policy HE6: Historic Gardens and Designed Landscape.

The area encompasses the southern and eastern perimeters of the Machars Peninsula landscape unit and the coastal sections of the attractive south-west facing Burrowhead and Monreith Peninsula with Gorsey Knolls. The landscape is an open one of smooth undulating hills and valleys and improved pastures, contrasting with rougher and more knolly areas invaded by gorse. The coastline comprises steep low grassy cliffs, raised beaches and rocky foreshores, indented by occasional sandy coves. There are a few well spaced coastal villages, plus several camping and caravan sites. Elsewhere the landscape is one of scattered farmsteads served by lanes, and the coastline is relatively inaccessible. As on the Rhins, the coastal influence is lost behind intervening horizons within around a kilometre of the shore.

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE	LANDSCAPE CHARACTER UNIT	EXTENT INCLUDED
Peninsula (1)	Machars (coastal section excluding Port William northwards)	Diverse, rocky less developed lengths of coast excluding more uniform section the where the main coast road follows the coastal raised beach.
Peninsula with Gorsey Knolls (1a)	Monreith Barrowhead	Coastal margins.
Coastal Plain area of Coastal Flats (2a)	Wigtown (coastal section)	Coastal margins.

BOUNDARIES

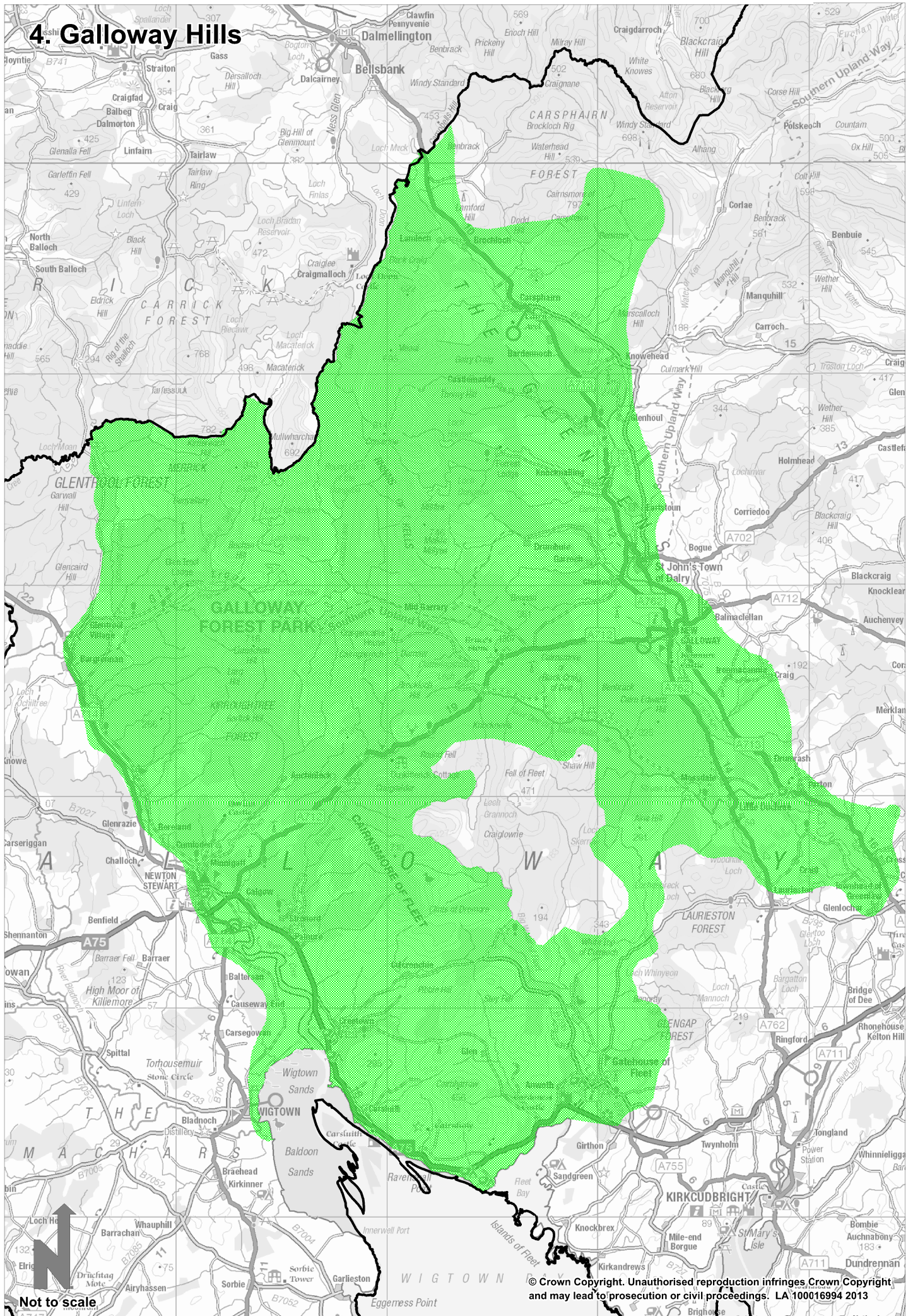
Seaward	Coast
Western extent	Defined where coastline changes from a rocky along coastline shore to a more uniform raised beach, backed by cliffs and traversed by the coastal road.
Eastern extent	Extends as far as the transition from rocky to estuarine shore along coastline delineated by boundary between Coastal Plain

and Estuarine Flats landscape character units.

Inland boundaries

All major areas within the visual envelope of the sea, and in particular the settings of the Isle of Whithorn and Garlieston Bay.

4. Galloway Hills



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Not to scale

This area centres on the Rugged Granite Uplands and Coastal Granite Uplands of central Galloway, extending from the Ayrshire boundary south to where the hills meet the sea. It is based on an amalgam of the following three ARSSs; Valley of Ken/Dee River System; Cairnsmore, Merrick and Rhinns of Kells Uplands; and Fleet Estuary and Valley. It includes the Fleet Valley National Scenic Area and its setting. South of the Fleet Estuary, the area merges into the Solway Coast RSA.

The area under designation was extended to include the principal foothills, lower ridges and side slopes of the eastern and western flanks of the Galloway Uplands, as well the adjacent Cairnsmore of Carsphairn range of hills. The outer boundaries were redrawn to include the immediate visual envelopes of the three major valleys which encircle the hills; the Cree, Fleet and Glenkens. The Fleet Valley and Loch Ken, previously under separate designation, were incorporated, and the contrasting flat landscapes of the upper Cree Estuary were included.

This is the largest Regional Scenic Area, a reflection both of the scale of the landscape of the Galloway Hills and the interesting juxtaposition of contrasting upland, valley and coastal landscapes. The relationship between the hills and the adjacent lowlands gives rise to sweeping and dramatic views of the hills, in particular from the western side of Wigtown Bay and certain sections of the perimeter valleys. The overall scale of the designated area results in some parts, particularly those areas included because of their contribution to the wider view, being of less internal scenic interest than others. Examples include certain of the forested foothills of the Merrick and the Rhinns of Kells. However, these areas form the setting to the dramatic summits of the Galloway Uplands, and so warrant designation as an integral part of the scenically valued landscape of the Galloway hills, to protect them from unsuitable development, and encourage sensitive management.

The uplands vary in character from the massive craggy peaks of the Rugged Granite Uplands with their heather covered slopes and granite outcrops to the smoother, rounder, lower summits of the Foothills, and their extensive forested counterparts. The designated area was extended to include the dramatic sculptural peaks of the Cairnsmore of Carsphairn Southern Uplands Landscape Unit to the east, as well as the forested eastern slopes of the Rhinns of Kells.

The peripheral Narrow Wooded Valleys and the Coastal Flats of adjacent estuaries were included both for their own inherent characteristics and because of their scenic juxtaposition with the uplands. Scenic Area boundaries follow the immediate outward facing visual envelope of these valleys. More distant hills outwith the central hill mass of the Galloway Uplands, but which may be visible from these valleys, were excluded as being less critical to the scenic value of the area, but the potential impact on the designated area of proposals in these areas should be considered.

Much of the central area is uninhabited and is accessible only via forestry roads or on foot, other than via the scenic A712 'Queensway', and Rusko and Coarse of Slakes roads. However there are several villages plus the small towns of Gatehouse of Fleet and Newton Stewart in the peripheral valleys, and a range of tourist facilities including camping and caravan sites. The area sees continued interest in forestry such that land-use balance is a potential issue, and is subject to interest from windfarm developers (see also the DGWLCS).

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE	LANDSCAPE CHARACTER UNIT	EXTENT INCLUDED
Rugged granite uplands (21)	Merrick, Rhins of Kells	Both examples of this dramatic and scenic landscape type within the region are included in their entirety
Rugged granite Uplands with forest (21a)	Merrick, Cairn Edward	Both examples of this type within the region are included, Cairn Edward for its inherent scenic qualities in parts, and elsewhere for its importance to the setting of the Rugged Granite Uplands, Loch Doon and Clatteringshaws Loch
Coastal Granite Uplands (20)	Cairnsmore	The entire Galloway example of this landscape type
Southern Uplands (19)	Carsphairn, Merrick, Lamford	Dramatic sculptural forms of Cairnsmore of Carsphairn and associated peaks as they relate to Glenkens and its main attractive tributary valleys, plus areas forming part of the setting to the Merrick, Loch Doon and the Glenkens.
Southern Uplands with Forest (19a)	Carsphairn, Ken, Rhinns of Kells	Areas within the immediate visual envelope of the Glenkens, flanking and forming the setting to the main Rhinns of Kells ridge.
Foothills (18)	Cairnharrow, Fleet	Areas which form part of the setting to the Fleet Valley, the Cree Estuary and main hill masses of the Coastal Granite Uplands and/or which have an attractive upland character in their own right.
Foothills with Forest (18a)	Cairnsmore, Cullendoch, Lauriston, Rhinns of Kells	Those areas which form part of the setting to the valued areas of the Galloway Hills, and/or which have an attractive upland forested, character in their own right. Parts of the Cairnsmore and Rhinns of Kells units along the A712 'Queensway' through the Galloway Forest Park, where particular attention is being paid to forest design, are, for example, included on their own merits. Other areas such as the northern parts of the Rhinns of Kells character unit may have a less valued internal character but are included because they form an important part of the setting to the Galloway Hills, and thus may for example require particular attention to certain aspect of forestry restocking design, and would be highly sensitive to developments such as windfarms.
Plateau	Glentrool	Eastern edges of the extensive character unit

Moorland with Forest (17a)		to the west of the Galloway Hills where this abuts and form the flanks of, and setting to, the Merrick Rugged Granite Uplands.
Upland Fringe (16)	Cairnharrow, Corsock, Glentrool	Areas forming the prominent westward facing edges of the main hill masses of the Galloway Hills, plus small areas relating to hills to the east of the Galloway Hills which fall within the immediate visual envelope of Loch Ken.
Narrow Wooded Valleys (4)	Cree, Moneypool, Fleet Palnure	Those examples leading into and forming part of the setting to the central Galloway Hills, some of which have a distinctive and attractive character in their own right, notably the Fleet, Palnure and Cree valleys.
Flooded Valley (8)	Ken Valley	The whole of this unique, distinctive and attractive character area except for a small area outwith the visual envelope of the loch.
Upper Dale (9)	Upper Glenkens	All those areas within the immediate visual envelope of the Glenkens valley which bounds the eastern flanks of the Galloway Hills, and from which views of the rugged Granite Uplands of the Rhinns of Kells, and the sculptural shapes of the Cairnsmore of Carsphairn are both visible.
Coastal Flats (2)	Wigtown	Coastal fringes of the Galloway Hills plus the flat coastal areas within the visual envelope of the upper Cree Estuary. These have a strong and distinctive estuarine character in their own right, and abut, form part of the setting to, and provide a dramatic contrast to the Galloway Hills.
Drumlin Pastures (13)	Deeside	Peripheral areas within the immediate visual envelope of Loch Ken.

BOUNDARIES

Seaward

Coast

North

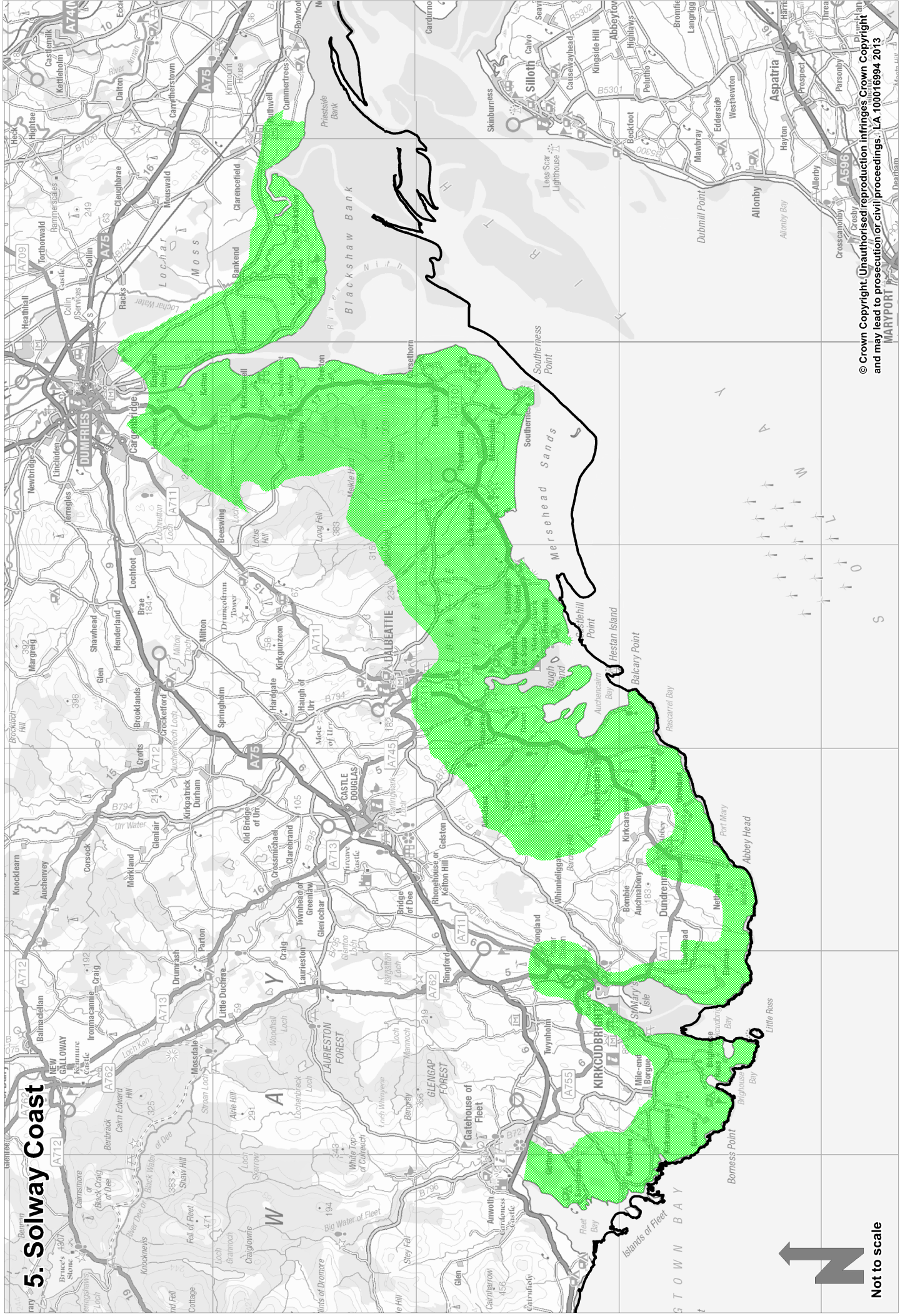
Abuts scenic area designated by adjacent Structure Plan Authority.

Northwest

Immediate visual envelopes of Water of Minnoch and Cree valleys as experienced from C road to Straiton and A714. From these valleys, the Plateau Moorland with Forest rises directly to the summits of the Galloway Hills, offering dramatic views. The Narrow Wooded Valley of the Cree is also attractive in its own right with its narrow riverside pastures. To the west the undulating,

	partially forested landscapes are less distinctive and dramatic.
Southwest	Immediate visual envelope of upper Cree estuary, which forms a dramatic contrast to and setting for the Galloway Hills.
South	Coast
Southeast	Merges into Solway Coast RSA along coastline. Visual envelopes of attractive Fleet and Grobdale valleys further north.
Northeast	Visual envelope of Glenkens as experienced from A roads, extending east to include sculptural summits of Cairnsmore/Moorbrock//Beninner.
Centre	The extensive forested landscapes at the headwaters of the Fleet, in the heart of the Galloway Hills, and which are not overlooked from any of the main valleys, are excluded.

5. Solway Coast



This area embraces the varied coastlines of western Dumfriesshire and the Stewartry, stretching from the Fleet Valley and the Galloway Hills RSA in the west to Powfoot in the east. It encompasses the estuaries of the Fleet, Dee, Rough Firth/Auchencairn Bay and Nith and the contrasting intervening rugged shores and associated coastal uplands. It is based on an amalgam of the Kirkcudbright Bay and Stewartry Coast ARSS, and the southern part of the Nith Estuary and Criffel Upland ARSS. It encompasses the Stewartry Coast and Nith Estuary NSAs.

At its western extremity, the designated landscape continues northwards as the Galloway Hills RSA. Meanwhile in the east, the area to the north of Criffel abuts the Terregles Ridge RSA. In each case there is no distinct division between the different areas but they have been considered separately because their core characters and reasons for designation vary.

In the west the inland boundaries were amended to reflect the visual influence of the sea, and to incorporate all the seaward facing valleys of the Criffel uplands. All the upper slopes of Criffel itself have been included, as have both flanks of the long low ridge of Ward Law hill, because they are important to the wider views of the estuary and uplands and the local setting of these views, and to the wider recreational landscape. Meanwhile the eastern boundary has been extended as far as Powfoot, where the influence of the Nith estuary recedes and is gradually overtaken by the differing character of the inner Solway and the Eden/Esk estuary.

The area exhibits a diverse and attractive mixture of coastal landscape types. In the west the Peninsulas and Peninsulas with Gorsey Knolls create rocky coastlines of cliffs, raised beaches and isolated coves, backed by smooth undulating open landscapes of improved pastures interspersed with knolly, gorsey areas. These coastlines show similarities to the northern Rhins and the Machars RSAs, but are dissected by the major inlets of Kirkcudbright Bay, Auchencairn Bay and Rough Firth. The Coastal Granite Uplands of Criffel and Bengairn are characterised by steep sided, rocky granite hills with heather moorland, bracken and gorse on the higher and more rugged areas, contrasting with areas of smoother topography and improved pastures, plus considerable, generally sympathetically designed forestry. These uplands are dramatically juxtaposed with the flat, exposed landscapes of the Coastal Flats around the Nith estuary. These lowland landscapes include the gently undulating pasture and arable lands of the Coastal Plain, the more intimate, wooded landscape of the Coastal Parkland around New Abbey, plus the flat pastures, saltmarsh and mudflats of the Estuarine Flats and Merse along the shore. Views across the Solway to the Cumbrian Mountains and the Isle of Mann contribute to the scenic quality of this area.

The area is readily accessible from the more populated south-eastern part of the region and the M74. As well as the harbour town of Kirkcudbright, it includes a number of villages plus scattered farms and hamlets located on the main coast road or reached via a network of lanes. There are a number of fairly large caravan sites and chalet parks as well as numerous tourist facilities. The area is subject to continued pressure for further tourist developments, and sees continued interest in forestry.

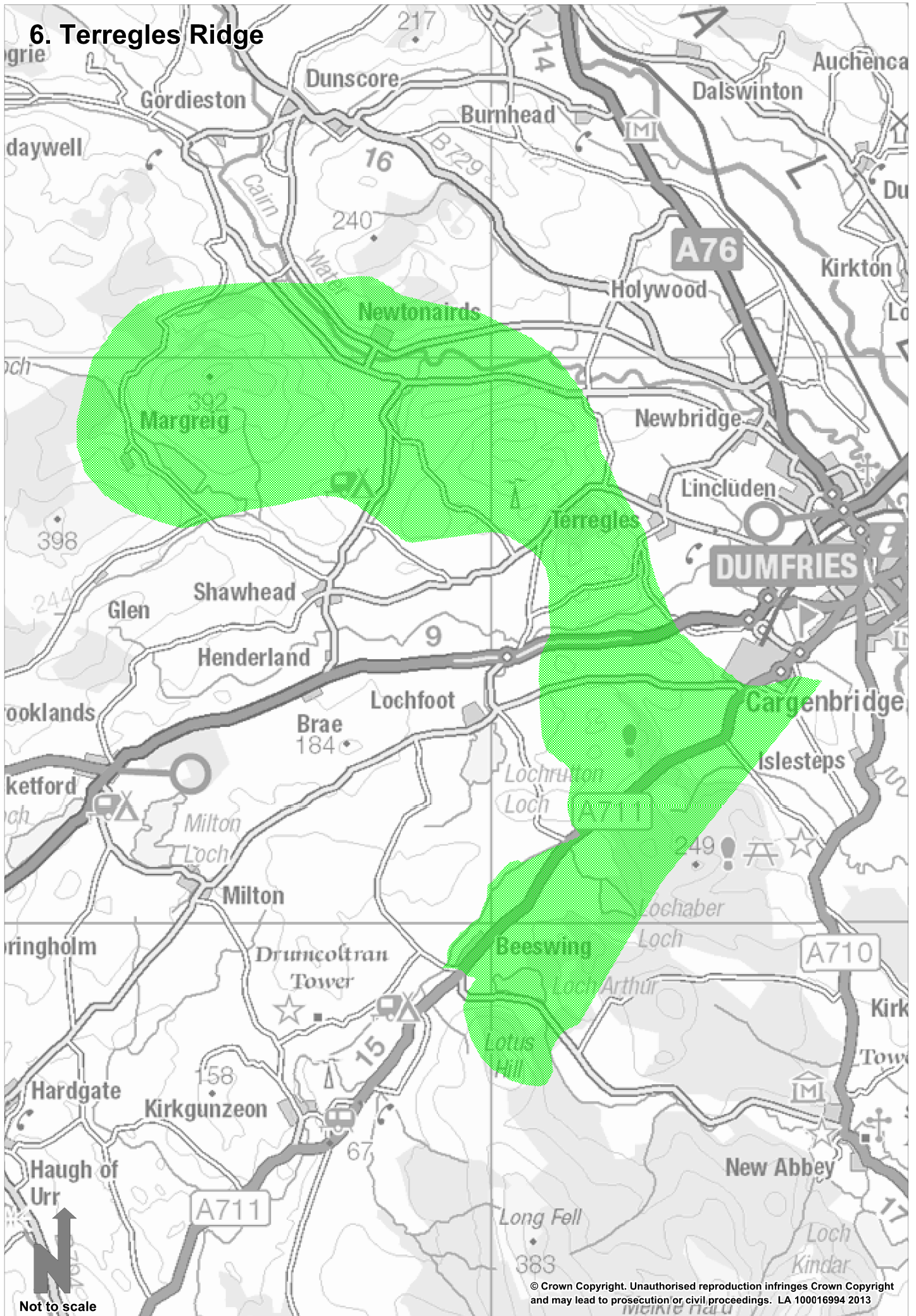
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE	LANDSCAPE CHARACTER UNIT	EXTENT INCLUDED
Peninsular (1)	Dundrennan	Coastal Margins
Peninsular with	Rockcliffe,	Coastal margins

Gorsey Knolls (1a)	Borgue	
Coastal Granite Uplands (20)	Criffel/Dalbeattie, Bengairn	Upland topographic unit centred on Bengairn. Seaward facing slopes and valleys larger Criffel landscape unit, including all faces and surrounding enclosing slopes of dominant Criffel peak.
Coastal Flats subtypes (2)	Inner Solway	West of the Nith, the contrasting flatter coastal landscapes between the Coastal Granite Uplands and shore are included. East of the Nith, the area incorporates the coastal Merse and Estuarine Flats eastwards to Powfoot.
Lower Dale (6)	Nithsdale	Southward projection along Ward Law ridge enclosing Nith estuary, and lower valley south of suburbanising influence of Dumfries to the sea.
Narrow Wooded Valleys (4)	Urr	Lower valley from south of Dalbeattie and quarry to the sea, where the wide flat valley and the enclosing inland cliffs reflect the estuary to the south.
Drumlin Pastures (13)	Deeside	Small extent within visual envelope of Dee estuary.

BOUNDARIES

Seaward	Coast (linking across to Solway coast AONB on opposite shore)
Inland west of Nith	Areas within the visual influence of sea along Peninsula coasts around major inlets. Inland edge of topographic unit around Bengairn Coastal Granite Uplands. North-south watershed within Criffel/Dalbeattie Coastal Granite Uplands, including immediate surrounding slopes to dominate Criffel peak but excluding more uniform northward facing slopes of landscape unit. Abuts Terregles Ridge RSA to the north.
Inland from the Nith eastwards	Inland along Nith valley as far as suburbanising influence of Dumfries. Amended to follow topographic unit and character area boundary of low enclosing ridge of Ward Law, and inland boundaries of strikingly flat Esuarine Flats and Merse landscape character units, where the influence of the sea is strongest, to the east.
Eastern extent along coastline	Extended to Powfoot, where the influence of the Nith estuary and the coastal Granite Uplands gives way to the inner estuary of the Eden, the merse ends, and the urbanising influence of Annan begins.

6. Terregles Ridge



Terregles ridge contains and forms the western setting to Dumfries, separating the Nith Valley from the contrasting drumlin landscapes stretching west to Castle Douglas. The designated area is based on the northern section of the Nith Estuary and Criffel Uplands RSA, but has been differentiated because it has its own separate character, identity, and reasons for designation.

The area under designation was amended to follow the foot of the ridge between the two lowlands, and to reflect the visual envelopes of Glenkiln and the lower Cairn and upper Cluden valleys, to the north and west of which the topography becomes gentler and the landscape less varied.

The ridge is dissected by the Old Water and other tributaries of the Nith to create a very diverse landscape of transitional uplands and steep sided valleys concentrated within a small area. It is criss-crossed by lanes serving scattered farms and hamlets, and traversed by major through routes. It is readily accessible from the adjacent well populated lowlands and forms part of the setting to Dumfries and the Drumlin Pastures to the west. Within the designated area each of the three contrasting landscape types exhibits its own internal diversity. The Upland Fringe has an attractive knolly topography with areas of enclosed improved pastures and rough grazing, interspersed with gorse knolls and scattered woodlands, whilst the Foothills have a wilder landscape of open heather moorland, bracken and rock outcrops. The Intimate Pastoral Valleys include the valley floor pastures and arable lands of the Cluden which are flanked by a mosaic of grasslands, heather, bracken, native woodlands and plantation forestry, as well as the wild moorland landscape of Glenkiln reservoir with its sculptures, and the steep sided wooded lower Cairn valley.

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE	LANDSCAPE CHARACTER UNIT	EXTENT INCLUDED
Intimate Pastoral Valley (5)	Cairn and Old	Old Water, lower Cairn and upper Cluden Water valleys, where a concentration and juxtaposition of diverse valley and upland landscapes are found within a small area.
Upland Fringe (16)	Cairn, Terregles	Sections which form the western setting to Dumfries and the prominent ridge between the Nith valley and the Drumlin Pastures to the west, plus the flanks of the above valleys.
Foothills (18)	Dalmacallan	Bishop Forest Hill and western flanks of Glenkiln and Barbuie Burn valleys where steeper slopes of attractive rocky heather moorland are juxtaposed with varied valley landscapes.

BOUNDARIES

South	Abuts Solway Coast RSA.
West	Edge of Upland Fringe character area and Terregles ridge topographic unit, and visual envelope of distinctive Glenkiln valley.

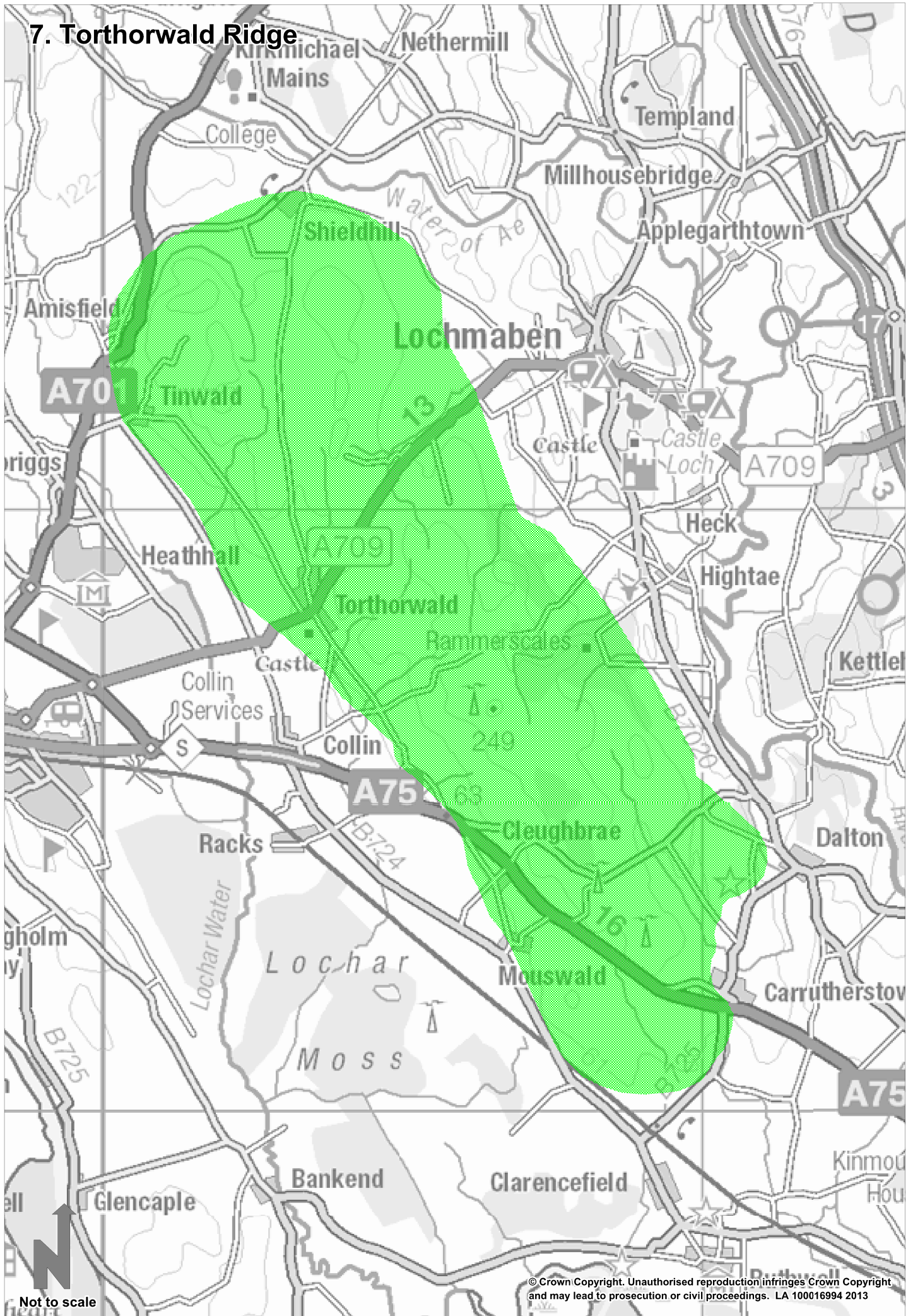
North

Visual envelope of lower Cairn and upper Cluden valleys.

East

Edge of Upland Fringe character area and Terregles ridge topographic unit.

7. Torthorwald Ridge



Torthorwald Ridge forms a prominent hill separating, and widely overlooked and easily accessible from, the well populated lower Nith and Annandale valleys. The designated area is based on the old Mid Annandale and Torthorwald Ridge ARSS.

The boundaries of the designated area were modified to exclude a series of narrow projections taking in the individual estate landscapes of Castlemilk, Kirkwood, Murraythwaite and Hoddom, plus the Roman fort near Rickerby house, and the landscapes which happen to lie between. The relevant areas within Mid Annandale are more effectively protected by the appropriate Structure Plan Policies. The boundaries now run around the foot of the topographic unit.

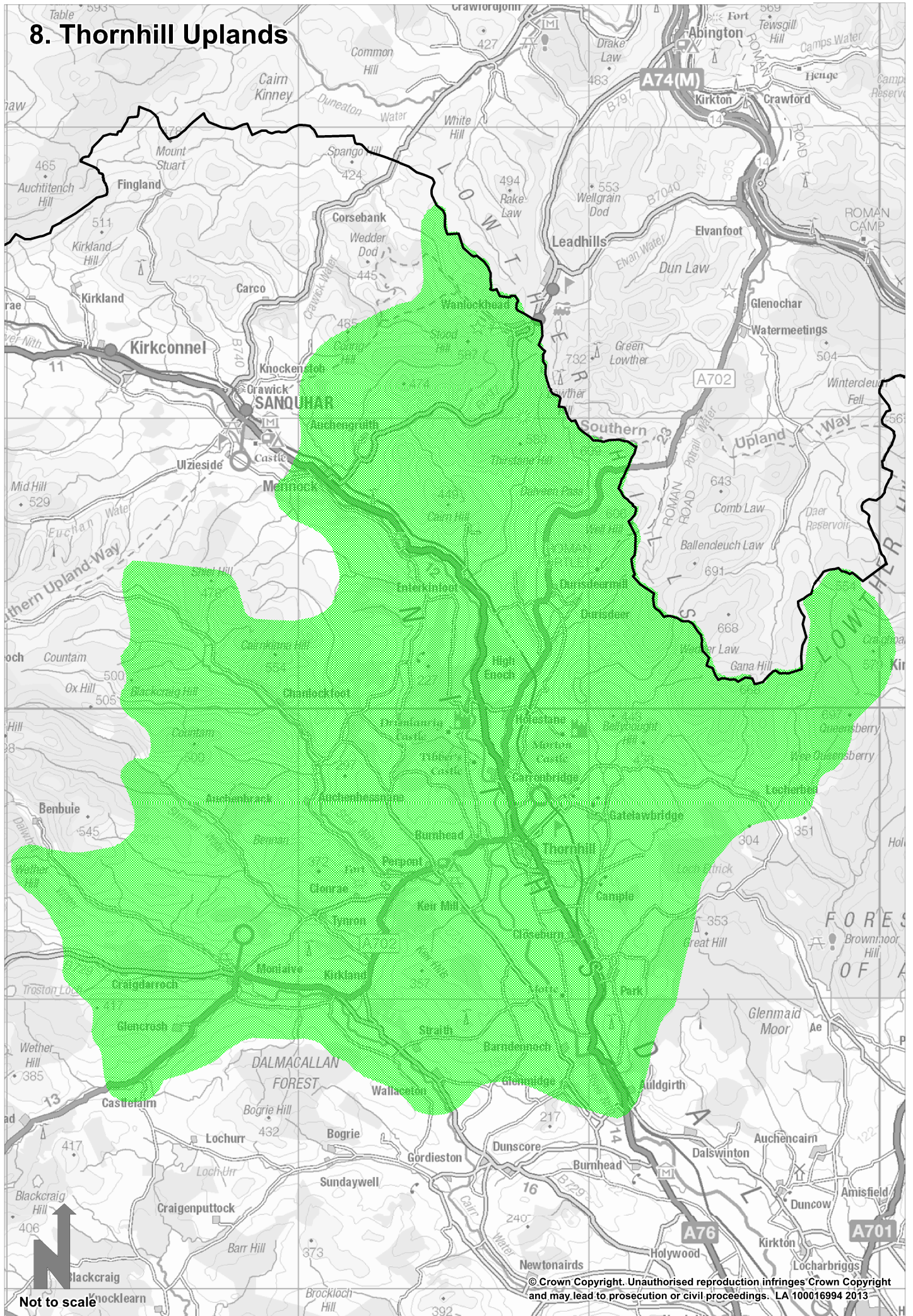
The ridge forms an attractive and less extensively afforested example of the Upland Fringe landscape character type. The side slopes are characterised by fairly large fields of improved pastures, enclosed by walls, fences or beech hedgerows lined with beech trees. Woodlands are present in the form of traditional policies, and more modern plantations in rectangular blocks around certain of the farms, but the ridge retains a predominantly open feel, particularly towards the north and west. Rough grasslands and areas of heather moorland run along the top, giving a sense of upland exposure. The topography is locally uneven with numerous minor hollows and ridges creating interesting local views. The landscape is relatively well settled and is crossed by a number of roads, making it readily accessible from the adjacent lowlands and the lower slopes see limited pressure for further residential development.

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE	LANDSCAPE CHARACTER UNIT	EXTENT INCLUDED
Upland Fringe (16)	Torthorwald	Southern section of landscape character unit from Amisfield southwards, where the Upland Fringe forms a ridge in its own right, as opposed to the outward facing edges of higher land, and is widely visible from the well populated valley landscapes on either side.
Middle Dale (7) Lower Dale (9)	Annandale	Peripheral areas around the edge of the Upland Fringe landscape unit which form part of the overall topographical unit
Coastal Plateau (14)	Hoddom	Peripheral areas around the edge of the Upland Fringe landscape unit which form part of the overall topographic unit.

BOUNDARIES

All	Adjusted to follow transition zone between steeper more prominent flanks of ridge and gentler valley. Sometimes follows character area boundary where this coincides with break in slope.
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8. Thornhill Uplands



The designated area centres around the Middle and Upper Dale of the Nith from Mennock south to Auldgirth, and the series of glaciated Upland Glens of the Mennock, Dalveen, Scar, Shinnel, Dalwhat and Castlefairn which form its tributaries, carving their way southwards through the hills of the Southern Uplands. It is based on the Mid Nithsdale and Lowther Hills ARSS.

The boundaries of the designated area were amended to include the entire valley floor and visual envelope of the Thornhill Middle Dale, south to the pinch point at Auldgirth; the visual envelopes of the Moniaive valley and the Scar, Shinnel and Dalwhat Upland Glens; and those parts of the Southern Uplands in the north and east where the characteristics of the landscape type are most strongly expressed, including the summits of the uplands to the north of Queensberry.

The area encompasses varied and contrasting upland and valley scenery ranging from the exposed, remote summits of the Lowther Hills, through the wooded gorge of the Nith above Drumlanrig to the pastoral character of the wide, enclosed upper Cairn and Mid Nithsdale valleys. Overall, though there are strong contrasts in relief, the topography is smoother and rounder than the Galloway Uplands to the west and the area is more highly populated and has a more managed feel.

The hills of the Southern Uplands form large, smooth steep sided domes with complex spurs and ridges, dissected by numerous steeply sided clefts and several long, deep, U shaped Upland Glens. The uplands are patterned with a mosaic of rough grassland, bracken and rushes, combined with heather moorland on the higher areas. The lower slopes of the glens are enclosed by stone dykes, and some valley floor pastures have been improved. There is relatively little tree cover though the forestry plantations to the west have encroached on the heads and sides of certain valleys. Roads to the heads of the glens give access to isolated farms. Further south the valleys become wider and less steeply sided and start coalescing to form Intimate Pastoral Valleys with scattered farms, hamlets and villages. The improved pastures of the valley sides are patterned with drystone dykes, and interspersed by farm and streamside woodlands. The intervening Foothills and Upland Fringe form open, sculptural ridges, though conifer plantations on the uplands outwith the designated area sometimes lap over the southern horizons.

The main valley of the Nith has a varied character of strong contrasts. In the north it forms a steep wooded gorge, before opening out to the policy woodlands of Drumlanrig. The broad valley centred around Thornhill has a lush feel near the town with hedgerows rather than dykes, woodland and a little arable land. Further afield the landscape becomes more open, with pastures enclosed by stone dykes, and some plantation forestry, leading upwards to the remote, exposed landscape of the enclosing Southern Uplands.

The main valleys are accessible from Dumfries, and the Middle Dale and Intimate Pastoral Valleys and are subject to pressure for residential development, as well as being popular for informal recreation. The flanks of the valleys see continued demand for forestry, and the flanks and summits have seen interest from windfarm developers.

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE	LANDSCAPE CHARACTER UNIT	EXTENT INCLUDED
Southern Uplands (19)	Lowther	Southern sections where characteristic of landscape type are most strongly represented, including particularly strong sculptural relief

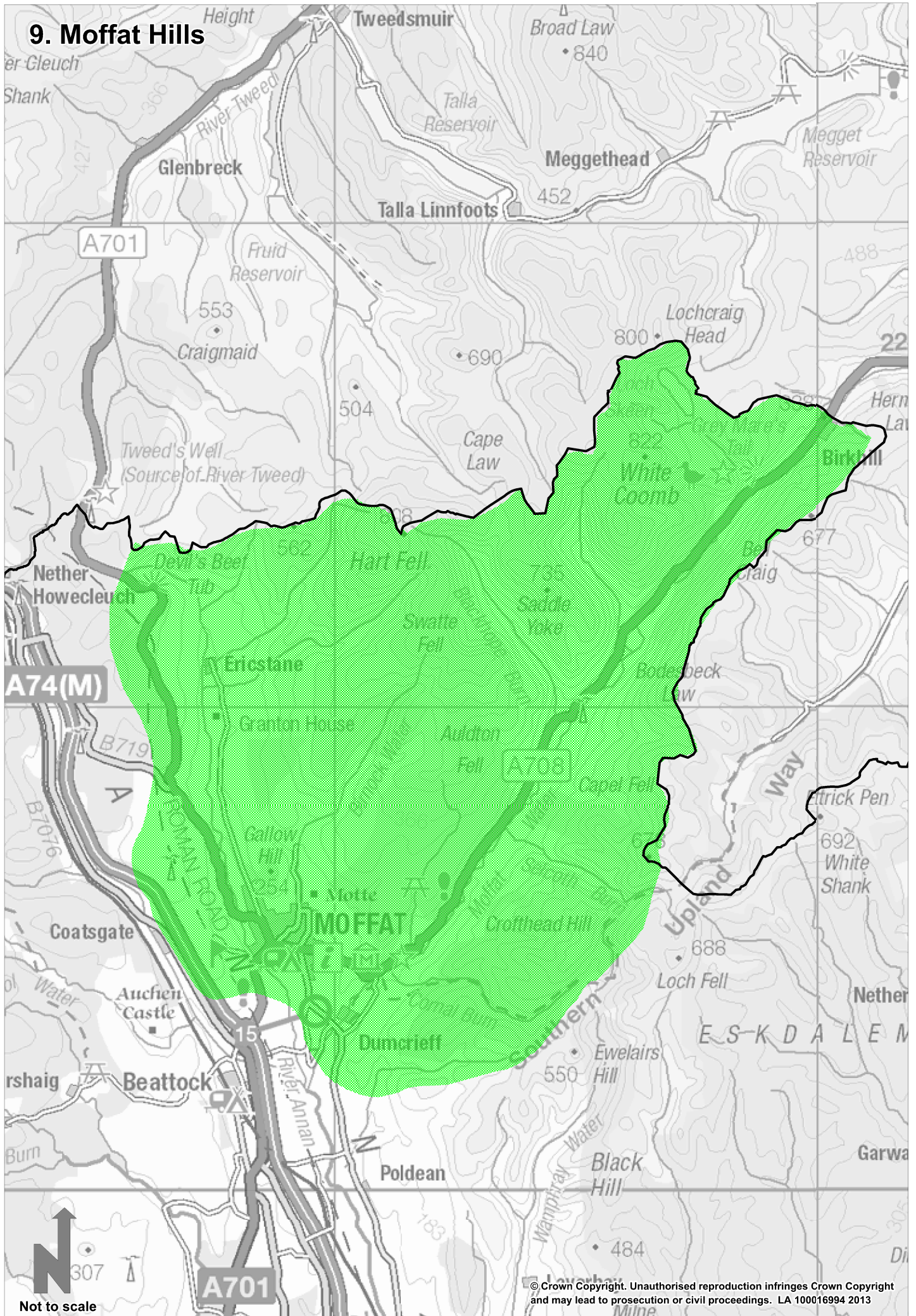
		and concentrations of heather moorland, and where landscape types are scenically juxtaposed with deep, steep sided valleys.
Upland Glen (10)	Castlefairn, Dalwhat, Dalveen, Mennock, Scar, Shinnel	All upland glens within upper Nithsdale where they contrast dramatically with the adjacent Southern Uplands and Foothills. The extreme upper margins of certain glens have been omitted where the glen character becomes less pronounced and/or the landscapes are dominated by forestry.
Foothills (18)	Nithsdale, Keir	Areas juxtaposed with and forming contrasting visual envelopes to main valleys.
Upper Dale (9)	Upper Nithsdale	Southern, more steeply sided section from Mennock southwards where valley narrows towards Drumlanrig gorge, woodlands increase and form a more sensitive interlocking pattern in the landscape, and valley landscape is juxtaposed with more dramatic sections of Southern Uplands.
Middle Dale (7)	Mid Nithsdale	Drumlanrig gorge and wide scenic pastoral valley centred around Thornhill, as far south as visual pinch point at Auldgirith. Further south the adjacent uplands gradually reduce in height, and the strength of enclosure and contrast between valley and upland landscapes becomes less pronounced.
Intimate Pastoral Valley (5)	Cairn	Visual envelope of upper, deeper sections of Cairn valley from Wallacetown northwards, where relief become stronger and pastoral valley landscapes contrast more strongly with enclosing Foothills.
Foothills with Forest (18a)	Ae	Peripheral areas within the visual envelope of the upper section of the Nith Middle Dale centred around Thornhill.
Upland Fringe (16)	Cairn, Dunscore, Ae	Fringes of scenic valley landscapes.
Southern Uplands with Forest (19a)	Nithsdale	Peripheral areas within the visual envelope of scenic Upland Glens where the forest does not dominate the character of the glen.

BOUNDARIES

Northwest	Transition from higher Lowther Hill section of Southern Uplands
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	with a concentration of heather moorland, dissected by Uplands Glens creating a strong and dramatic relief, to lower, more gently sloping and less dissected uplands to north. Change from steep narrow middle section of Nith valley to wide, more gently sloping V shaped Sanquhar/Kirkconnel valley, which lacks diversity of Thornhill section of valley.
West	Visual envelope of the Scar, Shinnel, Dalwhat and Castlefair Upland Glens where the headwaters of the western tributaries of Nith bisect the hills of the Southern Uplands and Foothills.
South	Visual envelope of Castlefair Upland Glen and upper section of Cairn Intimate Pastoral Valley where the relief is stronger. Visual envelope of Nith valley as far south as pinch point at Auldgirth.
Southeast	Boundary between landscapes visually dominated by extensive plantations of Ae forest, and open Southern Uplands to north. Upper, steeper, slopes of main summits of Queensberry and Harestane which face eastwards across the Foothills with Forest are included to protect the setting of the summits, but the lower forest dominated slopes are excluded as distant views from the east are more limited than in the case of the Galloway Hills.
Northeast	Abuts scenic area designated by adjacent Structure Plan Authority.

9. Moffat Hills



North arrow pointing up.
Not to scale

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This area is based on the juxtaposition of Southern Upland of Hart Fell with the Moffat and upper Annandale Upland Glens south to and including Moffat. It derives from the previous Moffat Hills ARSS.

The designated area was amended to include the visual envelopes of the upper Annan and Moffat glens as far as the ridge lines, and to include the outward facing ends of the ridges which are important to the views into and along the glens, plus the unspoilt borders town of Moffat at the junction of the two glens. To the north the area abuts a Special Landscape Area (locally designated landscape area) within the Scottish Borders.

The area centres on the Southern Uplands of Hart Fell, with their characteristic smooth, high, steep sided rounded hills, dissected by steep clefts and patterned with a mosaic of rough grassland, heather, scree, and montane vegetation on the high summits. Conifer plantations on the lower slopes combine with small scale valley woods to give an intermittently wooded character to the archetype long, straight, U shaped, glaciated Moffat Upland Glen. Plantations are also starting to encroach on the contrasting open character of upper Annandale, and the fine views across the valley from the A701. Both valleys have scattered farms with improved pastures enclosed by stone walls. Major roads run along both glens linking Moffat to the M74 to the east, making the area readily accessible from other parts of the country. Moffat forms an important tourist centre. Pressures for landscape change include forestry, tourism and residential expansion of the town.

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE	LANDSCAPE CHARACTER UNIT	EXTENT INCLUDED
Upland Glen (10)	River Annan Moffat Water	Both strongly developed examples of the character type in this part of the region, juxtaposed with associated Southern Uplands.
Southern Uplands (19)	North Moffat East Moffat	Both dramatic, sculptural examples of their landscape type in this otherwise extensively forested part of the uplands, and which may provide containment to the two main glens.
Middle Dale (7)	Mid Annandale (northern end)	Northern extremity where Moffat nestles at the junction of the two glens.
Foothills with Forest (18a)	Ae (eastern fringes)	Peripheral areas within visual envelope of Annan Upland Glen.

BOUNDARIES

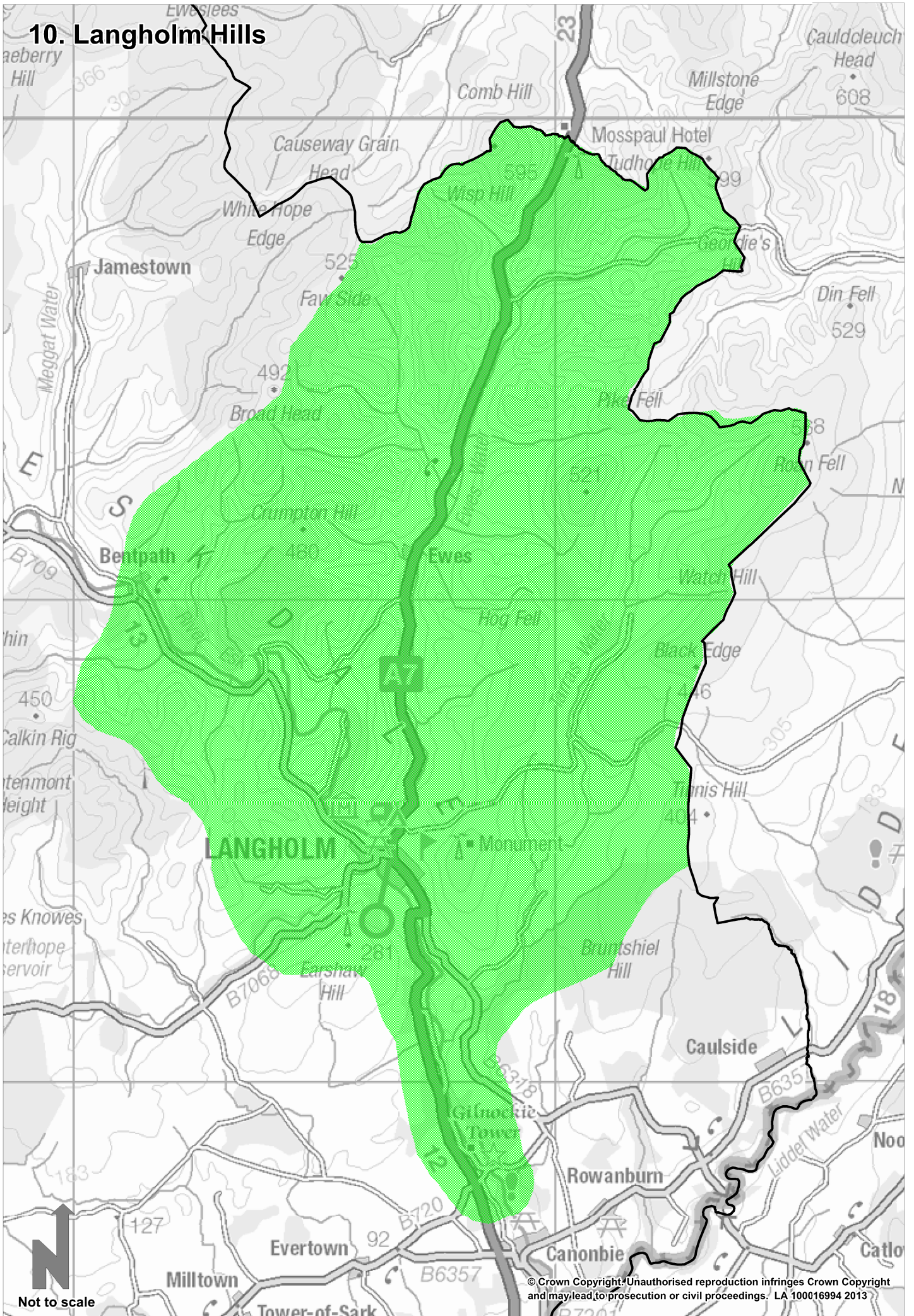
North and northeast	Abuts landscapes designated by adjacent Structure Plan Authority.
South east	Extended to follow the Southern Uplands character area boundary, to incorporate the containing uplands at the entrance to Moffat Dale
South	Extended to include the settlement of Moffat. The townscape of

Moffat and its siting at the junction of the two glens contributes to the scenic quality of the area.

West

Amended to follow the ridgeline to the east of the upper Annan valley, so incorporating the fringes of the adjacent Foothills with Forest character unit where they impinge on the character of the Annan Upland Glen.

10. Langholm Hills



This RSA centres on the combinations of Upland Glen and other attractive valley landscapes of Eskdale and the Ewes Water valley, and the adjacent Southern Uplands. It is based on the Langholm Hills ARSS.

The designated area continues north and east to the Local Authority boundary. It was extended north-westwards along the Esk valley as far as Bentpath. The landscape character changes gradually along this valley, without an obvious break-point to the designated area. The strong visual watershed of Great Hill has been selected to form the boundary, to include the major areas of heather moorland within the Southern Uplands. To the south, the boundaries were modified to follow the immediate visual envelope of the Esk Valley. Liddesdale Narrow Wooded Valley and the majority of the Upland Fringe to the north have been excluded as being less notable than the more dramatic scenery to the north. However, Liddesdale is seen as a potential local scenic area, and the area is identified within the Dumfries and Galloway Landscape Assessment as being worthy of landscape conservation and enhancement (this would be assessed through policy OP1).

The smooth, rounded, multi-ridged peaks of the Southern Uplands on either side of the Ewes valley are covered with extensive areas of unenclosed heather moorland. The Ewes valley itself is an archetype long, straight sided, U shaped glaciated Upland Glen with improved pastures in the valley floor and long, contained views from the A7 running along it. Scattered small to medium scale plantations break up the valley sides but the valley retains an essentially open character. To the south the Ewes joins the meandering Esk valley. North of the confluence at Langholm, Eskdale is more open with a flat valley floor of improved pastures, contained by steep slopes of rough grasslands and medium sized plantations. South of Langholm the valley sides close in and gradually reduce in height, and they are ribboned with an intricate pattern of policy-type woodlands. Farms and hamlets are scattered relatively sparsely along the northern valleys but are becomes more frequent south of Langholm. Interest in windfarms and forestry, plus expansion of Langholm itself, are the main pressures for landscape change.

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPE	LANDSCAPE CHARACTER UNIT	EXTENT INCLUDED
Southern Uplands (19)	Tarras, North Langholm, East Langholm	Uplands from A7 east to Local Authority boundary, plus flanks of mid Eskdale and Ewes valley, including major areas of heather moorland.
Upland Glen (10)	Ewes	Entire Ewes valley.
Intimate Pastoral Valley (5)	Eskdale	Enclosed Esk valley from Canonbie northwards.
Narrow Wooded Valley (4)	Eskdale	Section of Eskdale from Bentpath south to Ewes where landform and character closely approach that of Upland Glen, and which can be viewed from scenic minor road from Sorbie.
Southern Uplands with Forest (19a)	Tinnisburn	Peripheral areas within visual watershed of Tarras valley.

Foothills (18) Flow Plateau (15)	Annandale	Peripheral areas within visual watershed of Eskdale.
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BOUNDARIES

North and northeast	Defined by Local Authority boundary (no corresponding designations in Scottish Borders).
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South east	Visual envelope of Tarras valley.
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South	Visual envelope of Eskdale Narrow Wooded Valley as far south as where it opens out above the confluence with the Liddel Water.
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West	Enclosing visual horizons of Eskdale and Ewes valley. Extended north-west to include upper Eskdale as far north as major visual watershed of Great Hill.
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APPENDIX 1: REFERENCES

- Cobham Resource Consultants for CCS and SDD, 'The Effectiveness of Landscape Designations in Scotland - A Review Study', CRC,1988
- Countryside Commission for Scotland, 'Scotland's Scenic Heritage', CCS, 1978
- Land Use Consultants for CCS, 'Landscape Assessment Principles and Practice', CCS, 1991
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- Scottish Development Department Circular 2/1962 Development Plans, 'A Areas of Great Landscape Value and B Tourist Development Proposals', SDD, 1962
- Scottish Office, 'Natural Heritage Designations Review Discussion Paper', SO, 1996
- Solway Firth Partnership, 'Solway Firth Review', SFP,1996

APPENDIX 2

Landscape character types and units were defined in the 1995 Dumfries & Galloway Landscape Assessment.

Landscape Character Types		Units
1	Peninsula	Rhins Mahars Dundrennan
1a	Peninsula with Gorse Knolls	Monreith Burrowhead Borgue Rockcliffe
2	Coastal Flats Coastal Plain Estuarine Flats Intimate Coastal Parkland Coastal Moss Merse	Stranraer Basin Wigtown Flats Cree/Fleet Fringe Nith Coastal Fringe Inner Solway
3	Shallow Flat Bottomed Valley	Water of Luce
4	Narrow Wooded Valley	Cree Pulnure Moneypool Fleet Ken Urr Water Eskdale Liddel Water Kirtle Water
5	Intimate Pastoral Valley	Dryfe Pastoral Eskdale Cairn Old Water
6	Lower Dale	Lower Nithsdale Lower Annandale
7	Middle Dale	Mid Nithsdale Mid Annandale Mid Eskdale
8	Flooded Valley	Ken Valley
9	Upper Dale	Upper Glenkens Upper Nithsdale

10	Upper Glens	Castlefairn Dalwhat Shinnel Scar Evan Moffat Ewes Dalveen Mennock
11	Moss and Forest Lowland	Machars
12	Drumlin Pasture in Moss and Moor Lowland	Machars
13	Drumlin Pasture	Machars Milton Deeside
14	Coastal Plateau	Hoddom Annandale
15	Flow Plateau	Annandale
16	Upland Fringe	Camrie Glentrool Cairnharrow Cairn Corsock Dunscore Ae Torthorwald Annandale Liddersdale Balker Moor
17	Plateau Moorland	Balker Moor Machars
17a	Plateau Moorland with Forest	Glentrool Machars
18	Foothills	Cairnharrow Fleet Dalmellington Kier Nithsdale Beattock Annandale