

Cocksburn Reservoir/Dumyat Footpath Works – Environmental Clerk of Works Report

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Report No. - Week commencing 16 – 30/04/2018
Site visit 02/05/2018
Weather during visit Mild and dry.
Report Issued 03/05/2018



- Summary of construction activity on site**
- Cocksburn Reservoir works ongoing with approximately 300m to complete.
 - Works continue on Section 6 with approximately half of the path construction and sub-base in place.
- ECoW Activities**
- Checks of existing drainage and silt mitigation.
 - Walkover Cocksburn Reservoir and Dumyat Hill route.
 - Discussions with McGowans with respect to ongoing activities on Section 6 and issues encountered.
 - Discussions with McGowans with respect to ongoing activities on Cocksburn.
 - Reminders to all operatives regarding reptiles and nesting bird issues.
- Anticipated future activities on site**
- Completion of Cocksburn Reservoir route within next weeks or so.
 - Completion of sub-base construction along Section 6.
- Information Requests**
- Concerns over Revised CEMP and SWMP highlighted by SPEN – no further revisions received to date.
- Observed Good Practice**
- Disturbance to GWDTE areas is minimal and existing flow is maintained.
 - Good use of plant nappies throughout site including up on hill although some nappies are becoming less effective.
 - Use of appropriate drainage where required with drainage ditches within pathway sites running clear.
 - Good quality reinstatement continues. Minor concerns about drying out of turves in exposed locations.
 - Good use of silt fences and other drainage management features

New ECoW Observations					
Ref	Site Area	Category	Details	Recommendations	Importance
16.1	Cocksburn	Pollution Risk	Fuel bowser at Cocksburn compound was unlocked with no staff present.	Fuel store should be kept locked at all times when not in use, especially in light of recent issues with tampering of equipment.	Moderate
16.2	Cocksburn	Drainage	Damaged culvert outfall near Cocksburn compound resulting in partial blocking of culvert.	Area can be repaired during reinstatement works to be undertaken in next few days.	Low
16.3	Cocksburn and Dumyat	Pollution Risk	Some of the plant nappies have become heavily soiled and their effectiveness may be reduced.	Consider replacing any plant nappies to ensure effectiveness.	Moderate
16.4	Dumyat	Sensitive Habitats/Species	Small area of steep slope has been cut away on lower section of Section 6 to allow path bed to be created. Due to the angle of the slope it will be difficult to get reinstated turves to establish. In addition reinstated turves in places support gaps which may allow edges of turves to dry resulting in shrinkage, erosion and failure to establish.	Suggested use of some of the boulders present to form natural looking ledges and then some degree of reinstatement where possible to create natural look. Also potential to expose bedrock in areas discussed. Key will be to obtain natural looking feature with no potential for erosion. Ensure that as far as possible no gaps between reinstated turves remain. Gaps may need filling with soils to ensure that a tight surface is present preventing drying by wind.	Low
16.5	Dumyat	Drainage	Close to the temporary compound on Section 6 a small area of impeded drainage and subsequent standing water is present immediately adjacent to the path.	Additional drainage management required at location. Ensure that whichever approach is taken additional drainage of GWDTE areas is not facilitated.	Low

Photographs



16.1 Fuel bowser not locked and unattended.



16.2 Damaged culvert near Cocksburn compound.



16.3 Plant nappy with reduced effectiveness.



Continuation of good reinstatement along Cocksburn.



16.4 Section of steep slope which will be difficult to revegetate.



16.4 Section of reinstatement that risks drying out due to gaps between short sward turves.



16.5 Section of wet ground that requires drainage management.

Ongoing ECoW Observations					
Ref	Site Area	Category	Details	Ongoing Notes	Importance
15.1	Dumyat	Protected Species	Potential nesting meadow pipits approximately 20m south of line of path at end of Section 6.	<p>At present potential nesting location is far enough away from works corridor, especially considering the path is relatively busy. No additional mitigation required, but vigilance by workforce is required. If concerns arise then workers should minimise the amount of time spent outside of machines in areas of concern. Communications with ECoW should be undertaken if nests within 20m of working corridor are suspected.</p> <p>02/05/2018 – No further evidence of birds nesting within close proximity of the works corridor so no mitigation required at present. Issues of nesting birds discussed with site operatives.</p>	Moderate

14.3	Dumyat	Sensitive Habitats/ Species	Works along Section 6 is now underway and particular care is required to limit impacts on GWDTEs.	<p>Discussions between McGowans and ECoW were undertaken during site visit, with approach agreed. In summary line of path is to avoid significant area of potential GWDTEs. Where crossing such habitats, localised flushed areas will be avoided with appropriate water management (culvert with diffuse outfall) will be sensitively installed. Extensive ditching will be avoided in sensitive areas to avoid any significant changes in hydrological connectivity. Culvert locations discussed and agreed. Path construction and water management to be monitored for effectiveness. Works are in line with those proposed on Tracks Ecology Drawing 18/001/MCG/004 GWDTE Mitigation.</p> <p>23/04/2018 – Care is being taken around GWDTEs areas with works suspended during wet weather to limit disturbance. Footprint of works is being kept to a minimum with early installation of culverts and use of silt fences resulting in no silt issues arising. Area to be monitored with continuation of existing sensitive working practices.</p> <p>02/05/2018 - Disturbance to GWDTE areas is minimal and existing flow is maintained which should ensure that the associated habitats are also maintained in the long run. Areas to be monitored until completion of sub-base works.</p>	Moderate
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Recently Closed ECoW Observations					
Ref	Site Area	Category	Details	Notes	Closed
11.1	Cocksburn	Habitats	Storage of top layer material has mixed with adjacent turves, making reinstatement more difficult.	<p>Ensure that turves are not contaminated with stored materials. Ensure that as much material as possible is removed from turves and adjacent habitat as is possible during reinstatement.</p> <p>04/04/2018 – Issue noted by McGowans and area is to be tidied and reinstated as soon as weather allows.</p>	23/04/2018

				<p>10/04/2018 – Reinstatement of area has not been undertaken to date but will be completed as section of path is reinstated to avoid further double handling of material.</p> <p>16/04/2018 – Majority of stored material now removed and reinstatement works along section likely in coming days.</p> <p>23/04/2018 – Area has been reinstated well.</p>	
14.1	Cocksburn	Sensitive Habitats/Species	Section of wet grassland east of reservoir dam has been significantly disturbed by vehicles.	This is unrelated to McGowans work and is assumed to be as a result of members of the public using the location for parking. Included within this report as a record.	23/04/2018
14.2	Dumyat	Sensitive Habitats/Species	Reinstatement has been slightly impacted upon by movement of cattle across sections of path – particularly within Section 9.	Although disturbance is not extensive, it is noted that some impact on reinstatement has been caused and is not easily controlled. Ad hoc repairs have been undertaken but further disturbance is possible. Issue likely to become less of an issue as reinstatement becomes settled.	23/04/2018

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Cocksburn Reservoir and Dumyat Footpath Works

ECoW Visit 16 - 02/05/2018



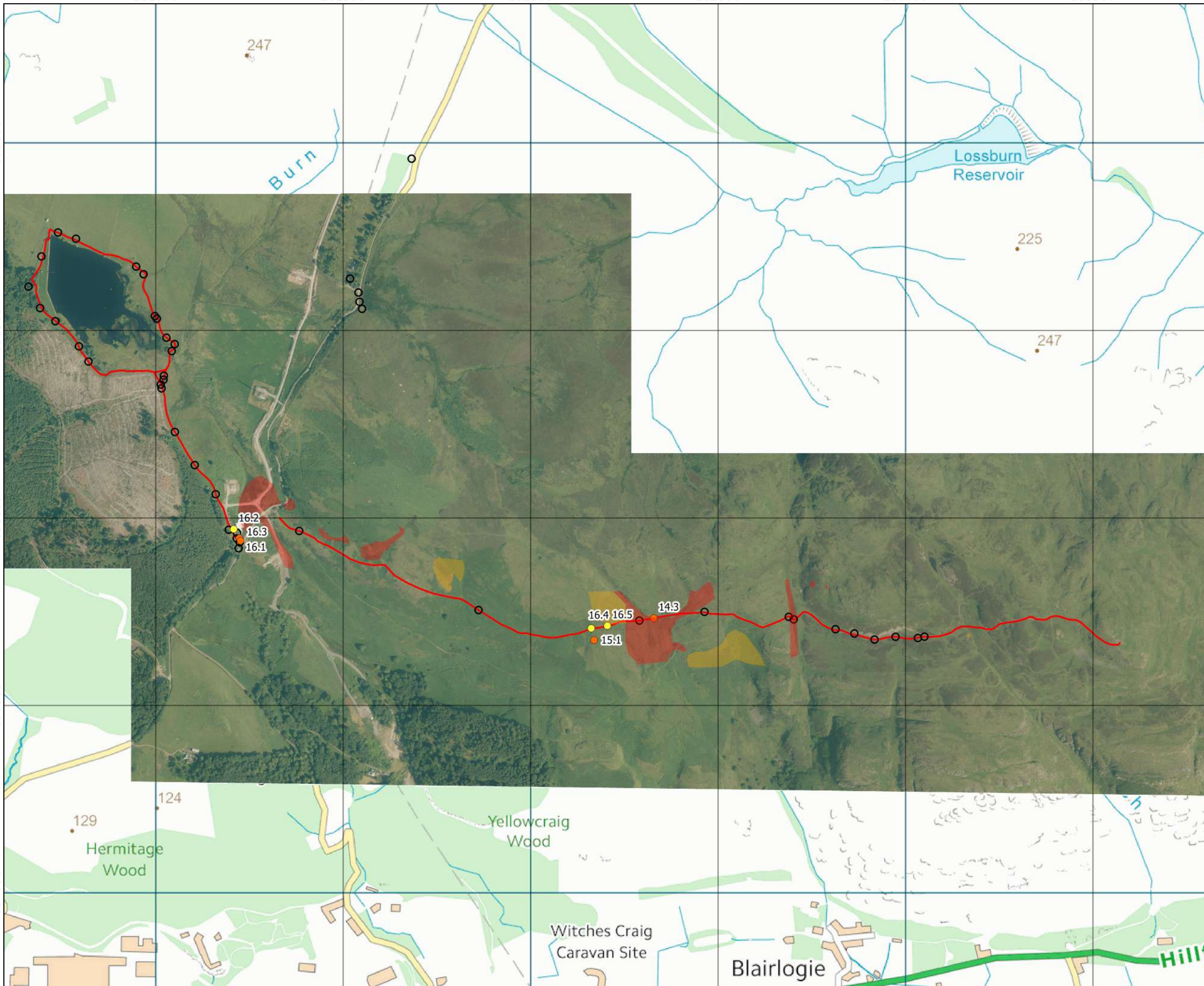
Legend

GWDTE Dependency

- High Potential
- Moderate Potential

ECoW Observations

- High
- Moderate
- Low
- Resolved
- Updated Proposed Path Routes



Note: Aerial imagery from 2015 during Beauldy Denny construction



0 100 200 300 m



Drawing number: 18/001/MCG/017
 Revision: 1
 Date of production: 2018-05-03
 Drawn by: JB - Tracks Ecology
 Projection: British National Grid EPSG:27700
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