EUROPARC Conference 2018: Inspired by the next generation

Scotland's Wild Land What - Where - for Whom?

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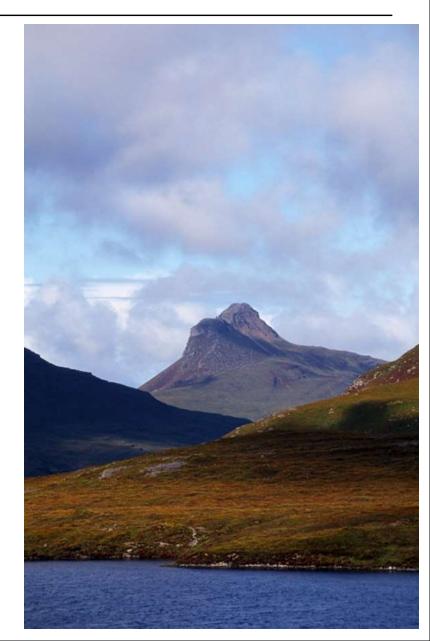
• Non-departmental public body – c.700 staff -

- more people enjoying & Scottish Nathenefiting from nature Dualchas Naimproved health of nature

- more investment in Scotland's natural capital to improve wellbeing & nature

- 1. What is wild land?
- 2. Where is it?
- 3. For Whom?





1. What is wild land?









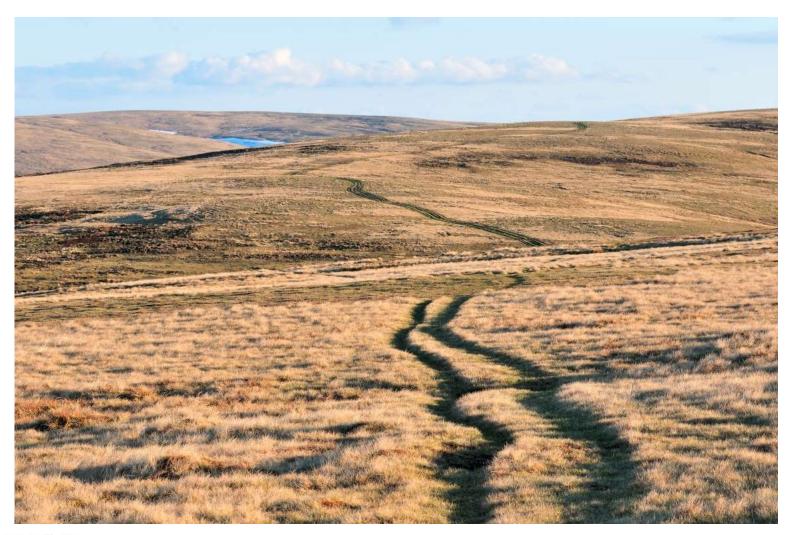




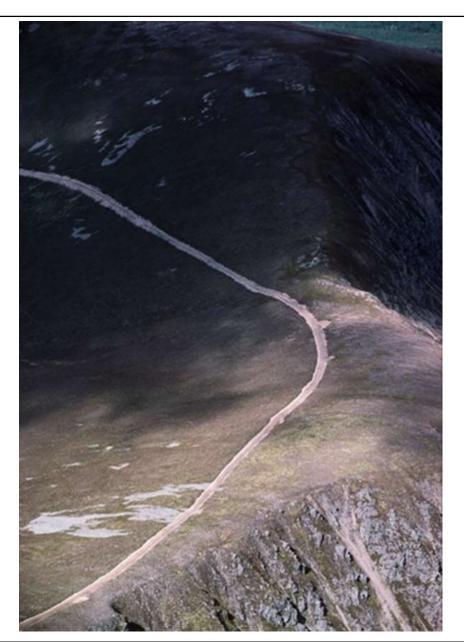








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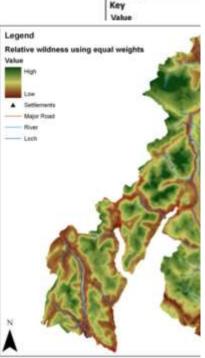
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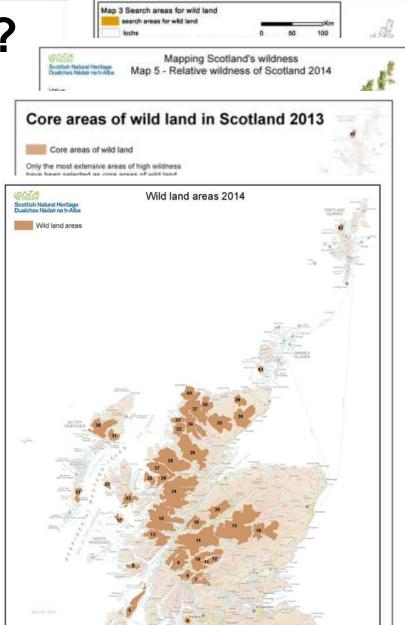




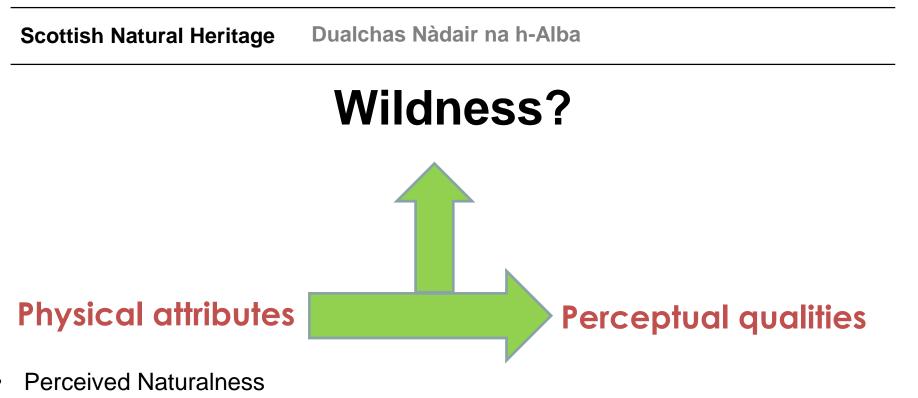
- 2002 SNH search Areas
- 2008 Cairngorms NP
- 2011 L.Lomond & Trossachs NP
- 2012 SNH relative wildness
- 2013 SNH CAWLs
- 2014 SNH WLAs



Cairngorms Nationa







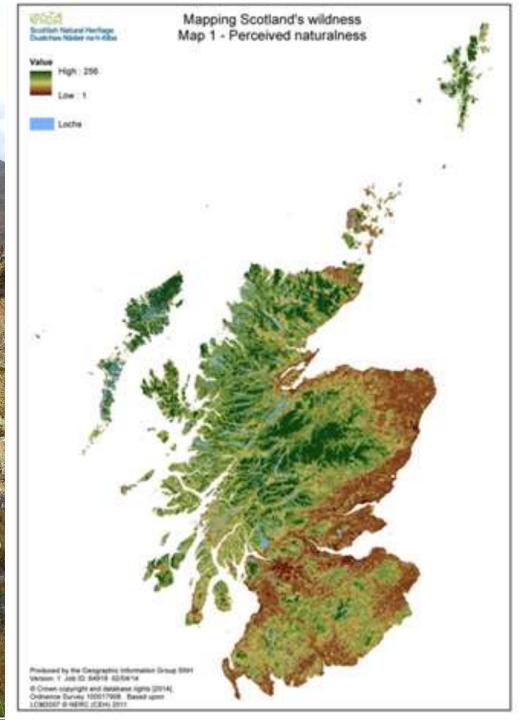
- Lack of modern artifacts or structures
- Little evidence of contemporary land uses
- Rugged / physically challenging terrain
- Remoteness or inaccessibility

- Sense of sanctuary or solitude
- Sense of risk, awe or anxiety
- Arresting or inspiring qualities
- Physically challenging



1. Naturalness

A high degree of perceived naturalness in the setting, especially in its vegetation cover and wildlife, and in the natural processe affecting the land.... and ... little evidence of contemporary human land uses of the land.



2. Ruggedness

Landform which is rugged, or otherwise physically challenging

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Mapping Scotland's wildness other Nature Perlie Map 2 - Rugged or challenging terrain igh : 256 Loche

3. Remoteness

Remoteness and / or inaccessibility

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Lochs

Public roads, ferries and railway stations

Mapping Scotland's wildness

Map 3 - Remoteness from public mechanised access

4. Lack of built modern artefacts

The lack of any modern artefacts or structures

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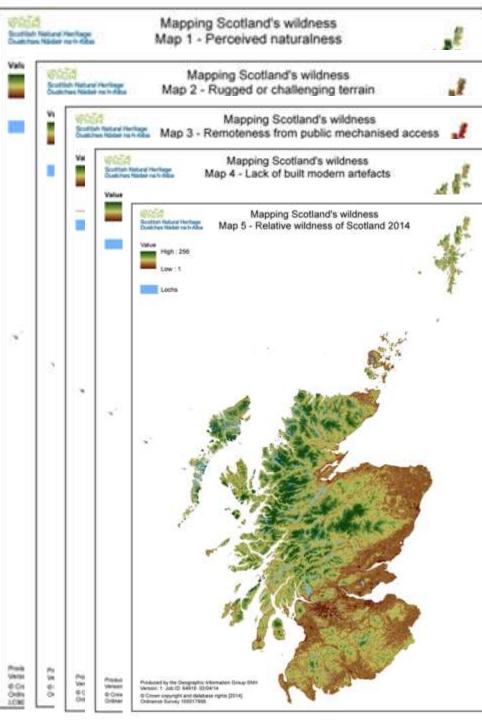
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Mapping Scotland's wildness

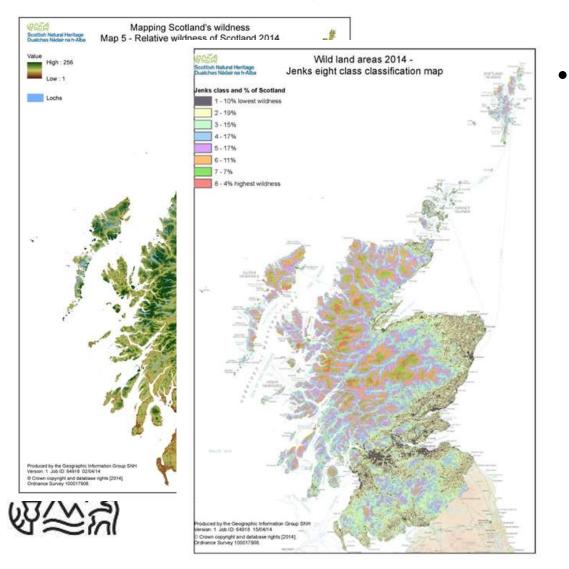
Map 4 - Lack of built modern artefacts

5. Relative Wildness

Combination of all four layers equally weighted

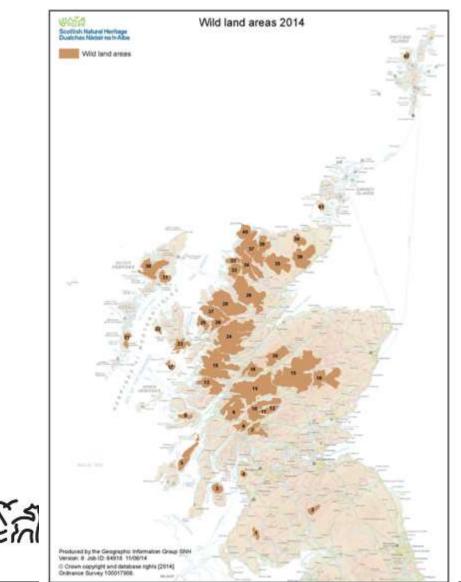


• Phase I – mapping relative wildness



Phase II – identification of potential wild land areas

• Phase III – selection and delineation of wild land



- 42 Wild Land Areas
 ▶ 1.5 million ha
 - ➤ 19.5% of Scotland
 - north focus
- 4,110ha 157,225 ha

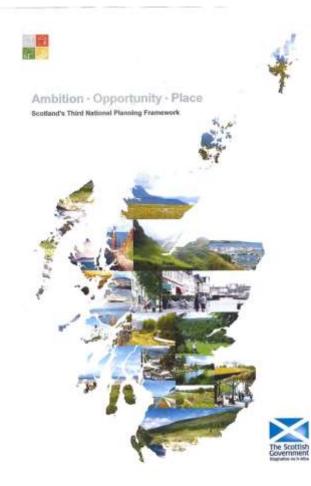
< 10,000	10
10,000 - 50,000	21
50,000 - 100,000	7
> 100,000	4

What do Wild Land Areas mean?

3rd National Planning Framework

We also want to continue our strong protection for our wildest landscapes – wild land is a nationally important asset." (4.4)

"SPP ... will guide new wind energy development to appropriate locations, taking into account important features including wild land." (3.23)





Scottish Planning Policy 2014

200) Wild land character is displayed in some of Scotland's remoter upland, mountain and coastal areas, which are **very sensitive to any form of intrusive human activity and have little or no capacity to accept new development**. Plans should identify and safeguard the character of areas of wild land ...

Scottish Planning Policy

215) In areas of wild land **development may be appropriate in some circumstances.** Further consideration will be required to demonstrate that any significant effects on the qualities of these areas can be substantially overcome by siting, design or other mitigation.



3. For Whom – some issues?

2013 consultation questions:

- Does the map effectively identify wild land?
- Is it fit for purpose of supporting the policy intentions set out in the draft SPP?





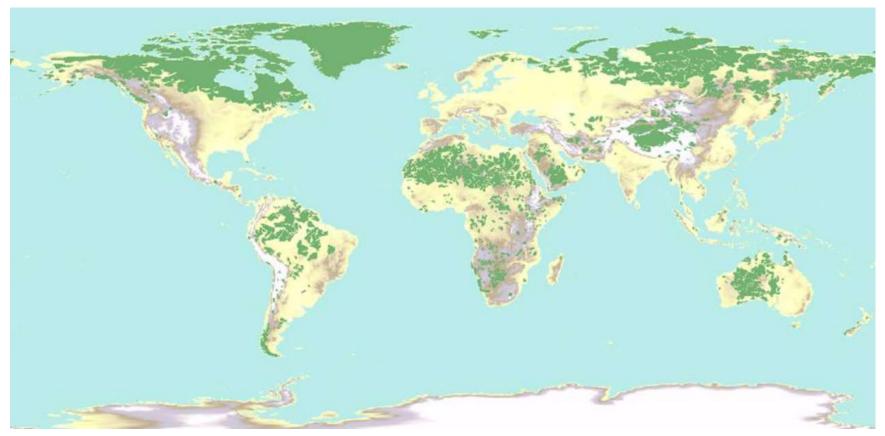
1. Its not that wild?



SG National Performance Framework 2018

Vision – "We see our natural landscape and wilderness as essential to our identity and way of life....."



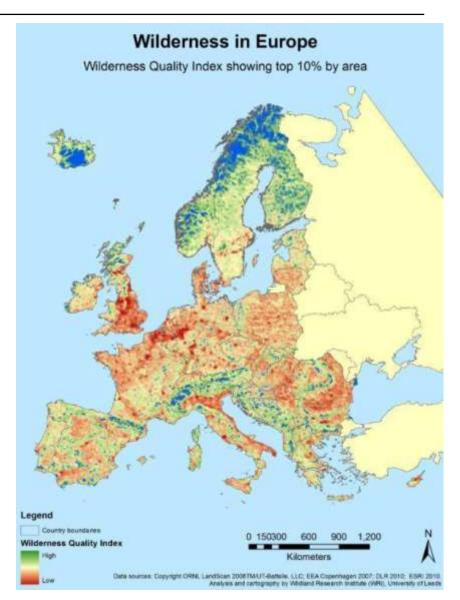


- > 1 million acres (405,000 ha)
- weight roadless, lacking permanent habitation/structures
 (McCloskey and Spalding, 1989)

WQI based on:

- distance from road / railway
- population density
- land use
- terrain ruggedness

Blue areas - top 10%



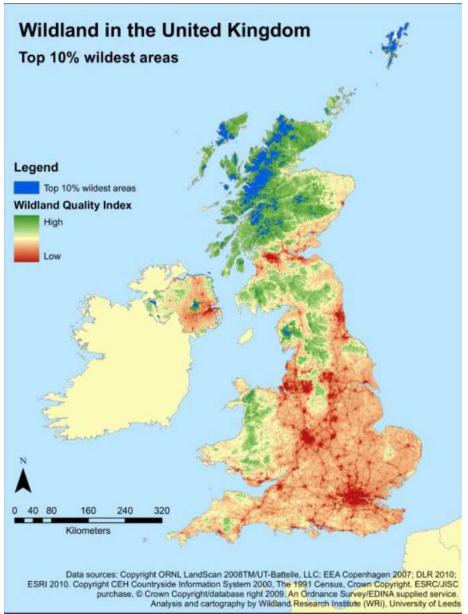
(Wildland Research Institute)



Wild within a Scottish & UK

context

(JMT / Wildland Research Institute)



1. Its not that wild?

2. Ignores past and present use?







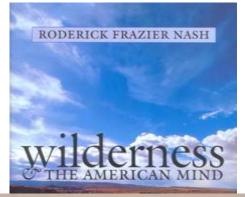
Management and land use?

"...does need supportive management, even if the considered management prescription for many areas will be to do little or nothing.

"... low intensity uses...traditional uses for grazing and stalking at appropriate levels; appropriate forms of open-air recreation; and nature conservation."



- 1. Its not that wild?
- 2. Ignores past & present use?
- 3. Its all too subjective?







- 1. Its not that wild?
- 2. Ignores past and present use?
- 3. Its all too subjective?
- 4. Wasteland or asset?





Questions?

Scottish Natural Heritage Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba **nature.scot**