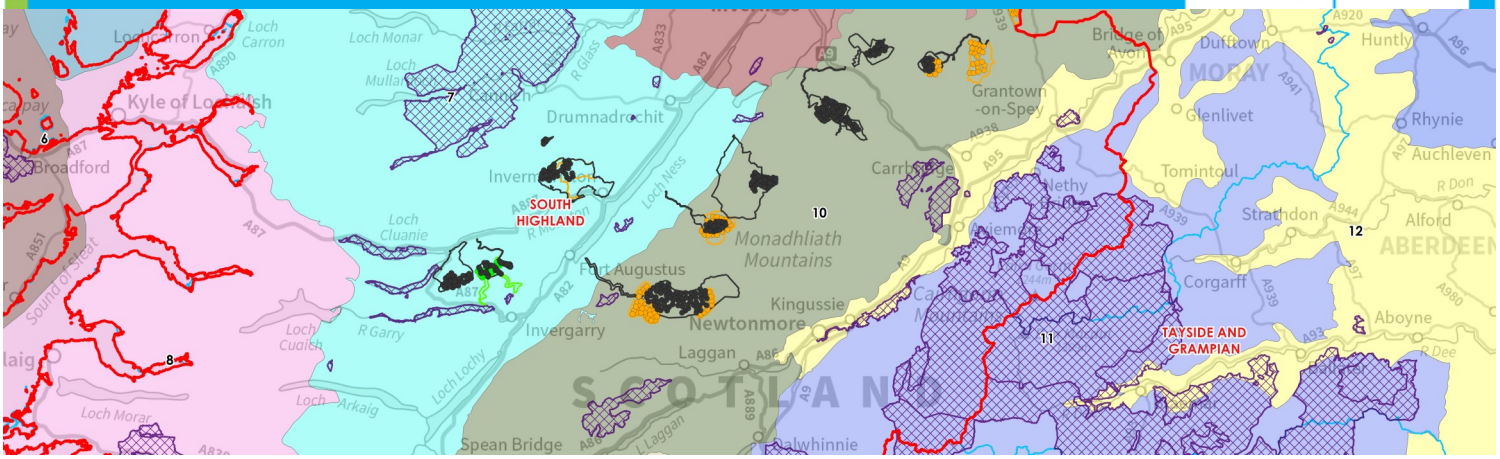
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Cumulative Collision Risk Database

Client: NatureScot

Location: Scotland

Project Overview

NatureScot wanted to develop a resource for collating predicted collision risk figures and displacement data for wind farm development across their internal reporting regions in Scotland.

Key Challenges

The collision risk and displacement data is contained within hundreds of separate assessments submitted to planning authorities, recorded in different formats and relating to changing guidance over time.

Our Solutions

- Atmos used expertise from the GIS, Ornithology and EIA teams to run tasks concurrently across different regions and meet the challenging project timescales.
- The internal Atmos cumulative wind farms GIS database was used to efficiently generate lists of documents to extract from planning portals.
- GIS analysis was also used to allocate wind farms to Natural Heritage Zones (NHZs) and Special Protection Area (SPA) buffer zones for qualifying species, so that impacts on different populations could be established.
- The compiled spreadsheet of collision risk values was configured to automatically correct for changes in avoidance rates used in historical reports to allow cumulative assessment.

The Successful Outcome

After an initial trial region to test the proposed approach, spreadsheets for each of the five regions were delivered within a three month period.

Where wind farms from multiple regions could potentially impact on individual NHZ and SPA populations , the spreadsheets were cross-referenced to allow the overall cumulative impacts to be determined.

The data allows cumulative impacts on sensitive bird species to be assessed more accurately for proposed wind farm developments.

What our client said

The Atmos project team have done a fantastic job and have really understood what we needed from the project and put a lot of thought into how this can be achieved. NatureScot had to set a tight deadline for this project as the funds had to be spent by the end of the financial year so I was concerned this might be an issue for the project team. However, they managed to deliver the project on time which was fantastic. Thanks again to the project team for all their hard work!

Debbie Skinner

Renewable Casework Advisor, NatureScot