APPENDIX 6.3: ASSESSMENT OF ORNITHOLOGICAL RECEPTORS OF LOCAL VALUE

1.1.1 **Table 6-1** below provides the assessment of potential effects of the Proposed Development on Ornithological Receptors of Local Value.

Table 6-1: Ornithological Receptors of Local Value

Species	Conservation Status *	Scottish Context †	Status in region	Baseline	Potential disturbance / displacement effects	Potential Collision Effects
Bullfinch	Amber- listed due to declines in UK breeding population	Little change in overall breeding range between 2	Relatively common resident in Inverness-shire	Two breeding territories were estimated within the breeding bird survey area.	Due to the low level of breeding activity recorded, the effect of displacement due to disturbance is likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.	Not considered to be a target species in terms of collision risk; if any collisions do occur, the effect is likely to be undetectable against the natural mortality rate. Collision effects likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.
Cuckoo	SBL priority species; Red-listed due to severe declines in breeding population.	Recent BTO data show that in contrast to continuing strong declines in England and Wales, the Scottish population has shown only a small decrease.	Relatively common summer resident in Inverness-shire	Three cuckoo breeding territories were estimated within the breeding bird survey area.	Although small numbers of host species (mainly meadow pipit) may be displaced, alternative breeding habitat is available in the surrounding area. Effects of displacement due to disturbance is likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.	Not considered to be a target species in terms of collision risk; if any collisions do occur, the effect is likely to be undetectable against the natural mortality rate. Collision effects likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.
Dunnock	Amber- listed due to declines in UK breeding population	11% decline in Scottish breeding population between 2012 and 2017.	Regular breeder and migrant	Two territories recorded within the breeding bird survey area, both within 100 m of the Proposed Development.	Due to the low level of breeding activity recorded, the effect of displacement due to disturbance is likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.	Not considered to be a target species in terms of collision risk; if any collisions do occur, the effect is likely to be undetectable against the natural mortality rate. Collision effects likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.

Species	Conservation Status *	Scottish Context †	Status in region	Baseline	Potential disturbance / displacement effects	Potential Collision Effects
Grey wagtail	Red- listed due to declines in UK breeding population	40 % decline in Scottish breeding population in last ten years.	Resident and migrant breeder	One territory recorded within the breeding bird survey area, close to the Allt Bhlaraidh.	Due to the low level of breeding activity recorded, the effect of displacement due to disturbance is likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.	Not considered to be a target species in terms of collision risk; if any collisions do occur, the effect is likely to be undetectable against the natural mortality rate. Collision effects likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.
Meadow pipit	Amber-listed due to moderate declines in the UK breeding population.	Scottish breeding population has declined by 11% between 1995 and 2017.	Common breeder across the region but absent from most areas in winter.	A total of approximately 58 territories were recorded within the breeding bird survey area. This estimate is based on average tallied meadow pipit registrations per 1km grid square.	It is possible that the construction of the Proposed Development may result in the displacement of some meadow pipit pairs within the LOD. Alternative breeding habitat is available within the surrounding area and any effects would be temporary, therefore the effect of displacement due to disturbance is likely to be of **low magnitude** and **not significant**.	Not considered to be a target species in terms of collision risk; if any collisions do occur, the effect is likely to be undetectable against the natural mortality rate. Collision effects likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.
Mistle thrush	SBL priority species; Red-listed due to long-term declines in breeding population	Has experienced declines in Scottish breeding population since 1970s.	Relatively common resident in Inverness-shire	One territory recorded within the breeding bird survey area, close to the River Moriston.	Due to the low level of breeding activity recorded, the effect of displacement due to disturbance is likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**	Not considered to be a target species in terms of collision risk; if any collisions do occur, the effect is likely to be undetectable against the natural mortality rate. Collision effects likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.
Skylark	SBL priority species; Red-listed due to long-term declines in breeding population	Has experienced declines in Scottish breeding population since 1970s.	Common breeder across the region but absent from most areas in winter.	A total of 20 breeding territories were recorded during the breeding bird survey. This estimate is based on average tallied skylark registrations per 1km grid square.	It is possible that the construction of the Proposed Development may result in the displacement of some skylark pairs within the Limit of Deviation (LOD). Alternative breeding habitat is available within the surrounding area and any effects would be temporary, therefore the effect of displacement due	Not considered to be a target species in terms of collision risk; if any collisions do occur, the effect is likely to be undetectable against the natural mortality rate. Collision effects likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.

Species	Conservation Status *	Scottish Context †	Status in region	Baseline	Potential disturbance / displacement effects	Potential Collision Effects
					to disturbance is likely to be of **low magnitude** and **not significant**.	
Song thrush	Amber- listed due to declines in UK breeding population	Has experienced declines in Scottish breeding population since 1970s.	Relatively common resident in Inverness-shire	Six breeding territories were recorded during the breeding bird survey.	Due to the low level of breeding activity recorded, the effect of displacement due to disturbance is likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**	Not considered to be a target species in terms of collision risk; if any collisions do occur, the effect is likely to be undetectable against the natural mortality rate. Collision effects likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.
Spotted flycatcher	SBL priority species; Red-listed due to long-term declines in breeding population	Has experienced declines in Scottish breeding population since 1970s.	Migrant breeder; passage migrant	One territory recorded within the breeding bird survey area, close to the River Moriston.	Due to the low level of breeding activity recorded, the effect of displacement due to disturbance is likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.	Not considered to be a target species in terms of collision risk; if any collisions do occur, the effect is likely to be undetectable against the natural mortality rate. Collision effects likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.
Tawny owl	Amber- listed due to declines in UK breeding population	Has experienced declines in Scottish breeding population since 1970s.	Relatively common resident in Inverness-shire	One territory recorded within the breeding bird survey area.	Due to the low level of breeding activity recorded, the effect of displacement due to disturbance is likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.	Not considered to be a target species in terms of collision risk; if any collisions do occur, the effect is likely to be undetectable against the natural mortality rate. Collision effects likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.
Tree pipit	SBL priority species; Red-listed due to long-term declines in	Has experienced declines in Scottish breeding	Migrant breeder; passage migrant	Seven breeding territories were recorded within the breeding bird survey area, associated with open birch and mixed woodland.	Due to the low level of breeding activity recorded, the effect of displacement due to disturbance is likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.	Not considered to be a target species in terms of collision risk; if any collisions do occur, the effect is likely to be undetectable against the natural mortality rate. Collision

Species	Conservation Status *	Scottish Context †	Status in region	Baseline	Potential disturbance / displacement effects	Potential Collision Effects
	breeding population	population since 1970s.				effects likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.
Willow warbler	Amber- listed due to declines in UK breeding population	Modest increase in Scottish breeding population between 1995 and 2017	Migrant breeder; passage migrant	Twenty one territories were recorded within the breeding bird survey area.	It is possible that the construction of the Proposed Development may result in the displacement of some willow warbler pairs within the Limit of Deviation (LOD) – principally through habitat loss due to tree felling. Alternative breeding habitat is available within the surrounding area and any effects would be temporary, therefore the effect of displacement due to disturbance is likely to be of **low magnitude** and **not significant**.	Not considered to be a target species in terms of collision risk; if any collisions do occur, the effect is likely to be undetectable against the natural mortality rate. Collision effects likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.
Wren	Amber- listed due to declines in UK breeding population	Has experienced declines in Scottish breeding population since 1970s.	Relatively common summer resident in Inverness-shire	Four territories were recorded within the breeding bird survey area.	Due to the low level of breeding activity recorded, the effect of displacement due to disturbance is likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.	Not considered to be a target species in terms of collision risk; if any collisions do occur, the effect is likely to be undetectable against the natural mortality rate. Collision effects likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.
Yellowhammer	SBL priority species; Red-listed due to long-term declines in breeding population	Has experienced declines in Scottish breeding population since 1970s.	Relatively common resident in Inverness-shire	One territory recorded within the breeding bird survey area, close to the River Moriston.	Due to the low level of breeding activity recorded, the effect of displacement due to disturbance is likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.	Not considered to be a target species in terms of collision risk; if any collisions do occur, the effect is likely to be undetectable against the natural mortality rate. Collision effects likely to be of **negligible magnitude** and **not significant**.

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***** = Conservation Status from Eaton, M., Aebischer, N., Brown, A., Hearn, R., Lock, L., Musgrove, A., Noble, D., Stroud, D. and Gregory, R. (2015) Birds of Conservation Concern 4: The Population Status of Birds in the UK, Channel Islands and Isle of Man. British Birds 108, 708-746

Species	Conservation Status *	Scottish Context †	Status in region	Baseline	Potential disturbance / displacement effects	Potential Collision Effects

† = Population estimates and trends from Forrester, R., Andrews, I., McInerny, C., Murray, R., McGowan, R., Zonfrillo, B., Betts, M., Jardine, D. and Grundy, D. (2007) The Birds of Scotland. The Scottish Ornithologists' Club. Aberlady and Harris, S., Massimino, D., Eaton, M., Gilings, S., Noble, D. Balmer, D., Pearce-Higgins, J. & Woodcock, P. (2019) The Breeding Bird Survey 2018. BTO Research Report 717. BTO, Thetford.

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