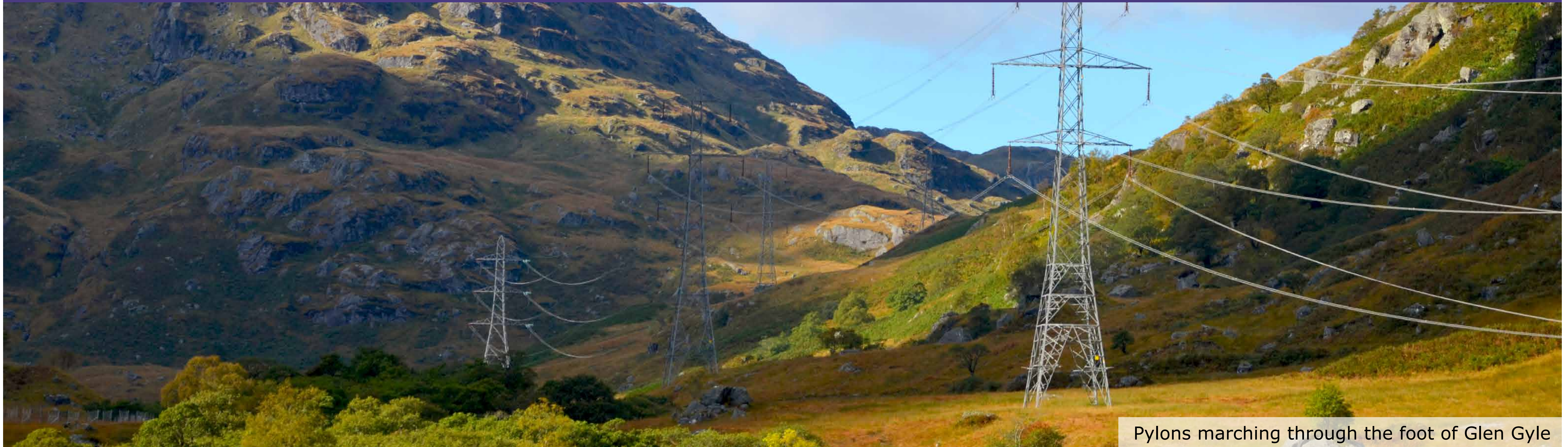


Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park

Glen Gyle



Pylons marching through the foot of Glen Gyle

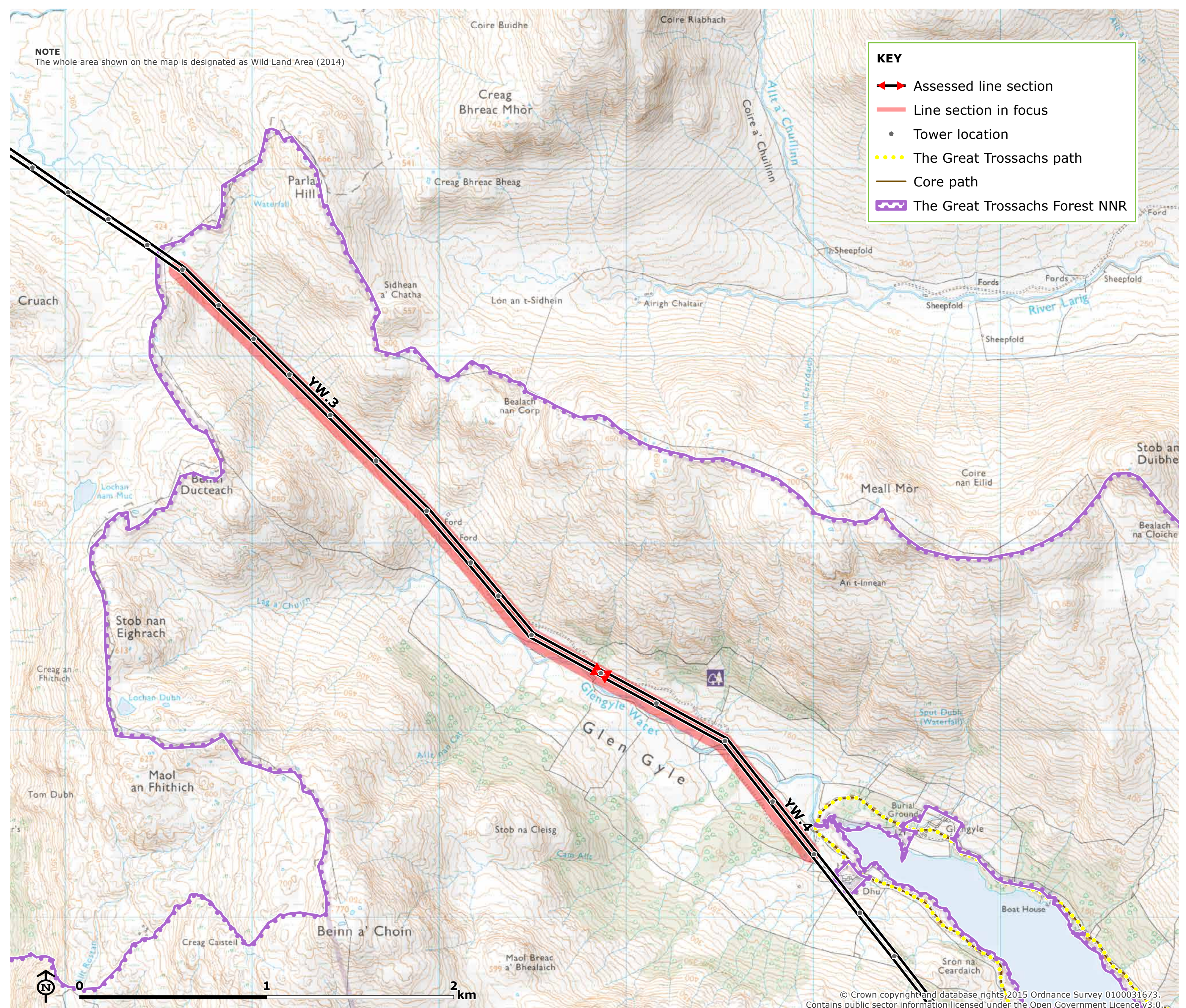
Landscape and visual context

This section of overhead line runs through Glen Gyle, a dramatic, steep sided upland glen enclosed by the rugged peaks of Beinn a Choin (770 m AOD) and Beinn Chabhair (933 m AOD), above and to the east of Loch Lomond. The overhead line crosses an upland moorland plateau above Glen Falloch before heading down Glen Gyle, running in parallel with the Glengyle Water. The upper part of the glen is relatively remote and accessible only via a maintenance track, which is also a core path.

Landscape and visual impacts

The pylons are generally well accommodated within this large scale landscape, particularly where sited on lower slopes and backclothed by the rugged hills that enclose the glen, however these man-made structures substantially detract from the overall sense of remoteness and wilderness and the line has an adverse impact on the Ben More - Ben Ledi Wild Land Area. Overall the landscape impact is **High**.

The line is visible in close proximity views from the track (also a core path), which runs in parallel for most of its length. There is also visibility from nearby hill summits including Ben Glas and the pylons are visible on the skyline where they pass over the ridge at the head of Glen Gyle before descending westwards towards Inverarnan. Overall the visual impact is **High**.



Mitigation proposals



Undergrounding

A

Undergrounding of 275 kV overhead line through Glen Gyle to remove towers visible within the glen and from within the wider Ben More - Ben Ledi WLA.

Landscape enhancement

B

Planting of native trees (i.e. Scots Pine) in line with the Great Trossachs Forest initiative. Regeneration of overgrazed vegetation along the corridor of the OHL.