

Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park

Stronachlachar, Loch Katrine



Stronachlachar Pier on Loch Katrine

Landscape and visual context

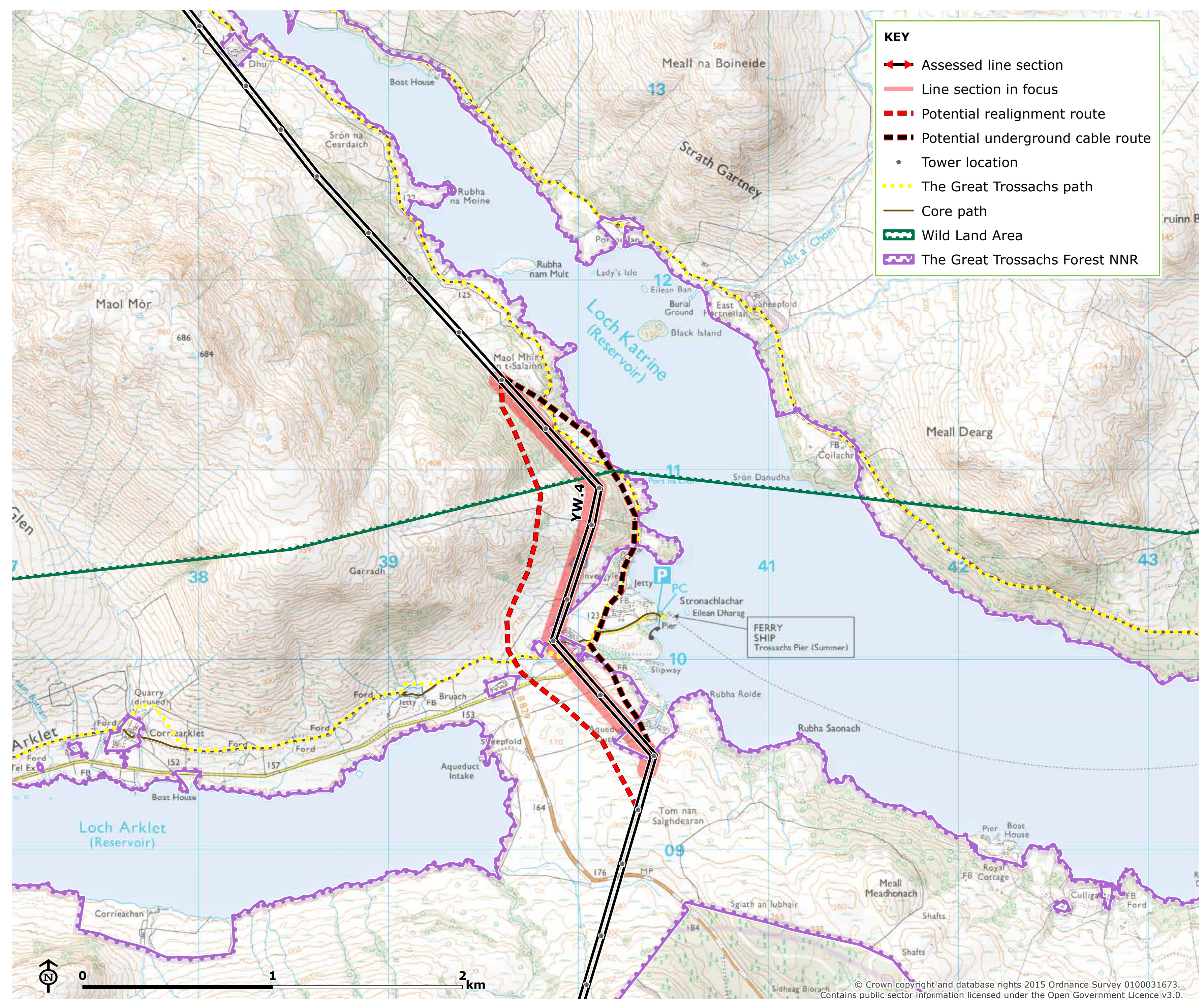
This section of the 275 kV overhead line passes along the steep slopes above the western edge of Loch Katrine between Glen Gyle and the small settlement of Stronachlachar, where it runs parallel to the Great Trossachs Path which skirts the loch edge.

Semi-natural and ancient woodland fringes the shores of the loch. The line crosses high ground above Stronachlachar before heading south towards Loch Ard Forest, passing an aqueduct outlet waterfall and crossing the B829.

Landscape and visual impacts

The pylons diminish the scale of the hills, particularly around Stronachlachar, and detract from some of the special qualities attributed to the Loch Katrine area. Overall there is a **High** landscape impact.

Close views of the pylons are available to sensitive receptors, including recreational users of the Great Trossachs Path, residential receptors on the western shores of the loch and visitors to this key tourist destination. From Loch Arklet to the west, visibility reduces with distance and the pylons do not detract from key views across the loch. Overall there is a **High** visual impact.



Mitigation proposals



Undergrounding

A

Undergrounding of approximately 2 km of 275 kV overhead line to remove towers visible above headland near Stronachlachar, from Stronachlachar Pier and café, Great Trossachs trail and nearby residential properties.

Re-routeing

B

Minor re-route of approximately 2km of 275 kV overhead line to remove towers visible above headland near Stronachlachar, from Stronachlachar Pier and café, Great Trossachs trail and nearby residential properties.

Landscape enhancement

C

Catchment and green infrastructure improvements (native tree and shrub planting) along corridor of existing 275 kV overhead line to screen and filter localised views.

New installation

D

New installation or attraction at Stronachlachar, or on small headland to north, to focus views along Loch Katrine away from existing infrastructure.