



Balcaskie Wetlands Project Proposal

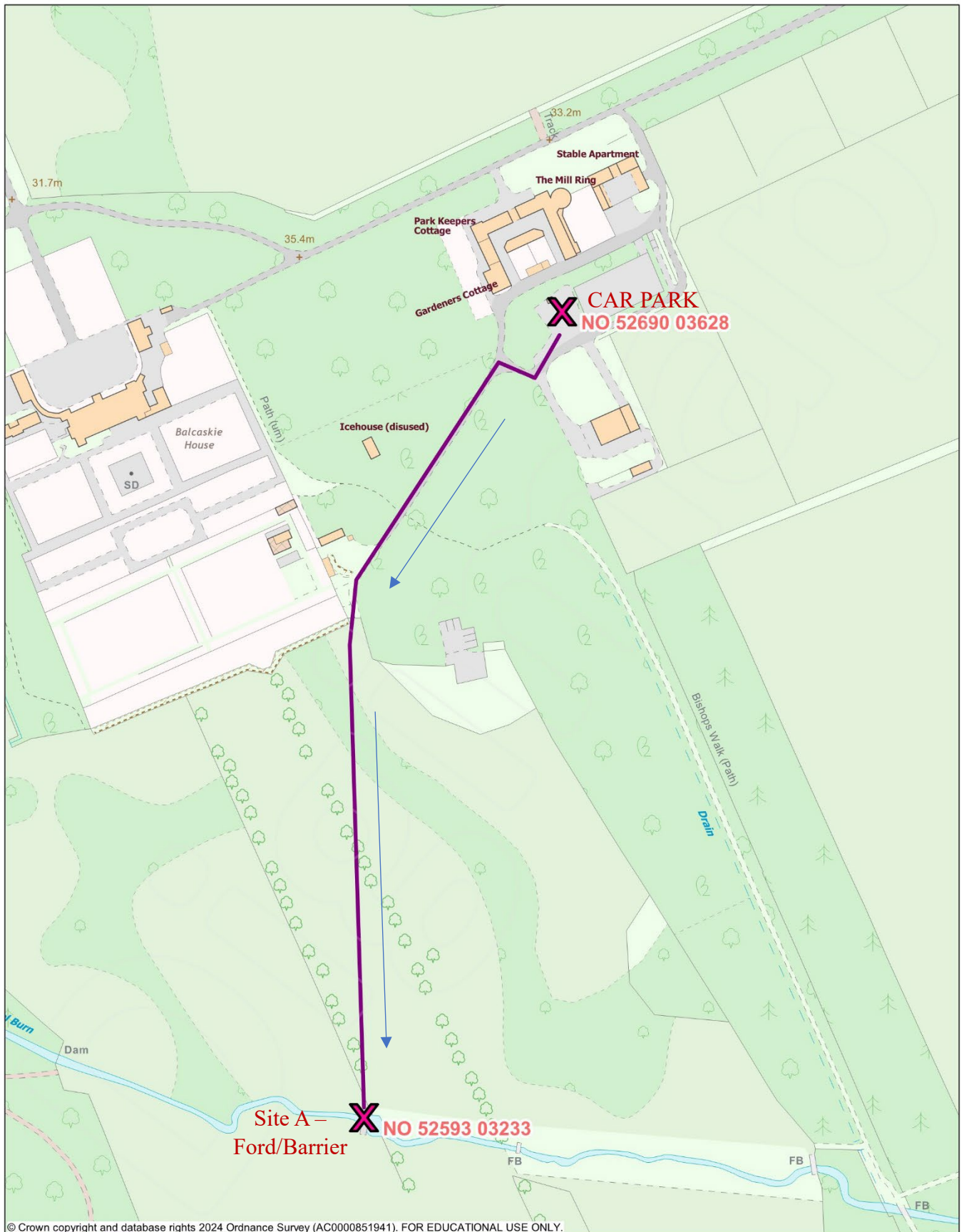
The area of focus for the work sits within Balcaskie Estate. Balcaskie Estate is situated within the East Neuk of Fife. The estate is comprised of over 2000 ha of land – with the Dreel running through a mixture of farmland and woodland. The Balcaskie Wetlands Project aims to deliver a series of landscape-scale restorative interventions in the upper reaches of the Dreel Burn. The next phase of the project will see the removal of an old concrete crossing or ford, which is impounding the water and fragmenting habitat. Therefore, the scope of work needed to be delivered includes -

- Complete removal of old concrete ford via appropriate machinery
- Recycle and repurpose (crushing) of concrete waste (for estate use)
- Bank reprofiling D/S once the structure has been removed with membrane installed for support and re-vegetation

Site A

Site A is the location of the old ford, and all the works will be contained within this area. Site A can be accessed through entering Balcaskie estate and parking at the location shown in the map on the next page. From here there is a path that leads to the Ford in a Southernly direction. Access should be relatively straight forward for the digger and any other equipment needed to be brought on to site (skip, other tools or other vehicles).

Balcaskie Barrier



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Digimap[®]

Ewan Malecki
Scotland's Rural
College

Scale 1:2500

0 20 40 60 80 100 120 140 160 180 200 m

Projection: British National Grid
27 May 2024 13:17



Licensed Data

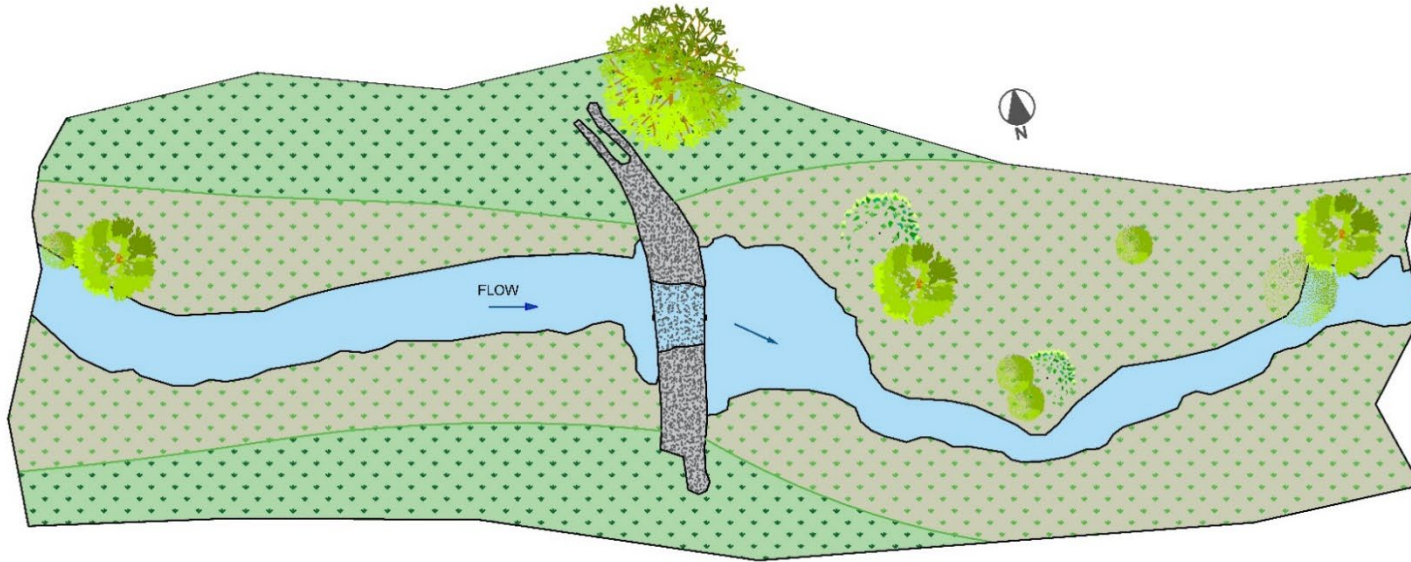
The Ford/Barrier

The old ford structure was put in place in the early 90's as a point in which to cross the burn, however over time it has started to degrade. It is now being undercut from the water and as a result the structure's stability is getting compromised.

The consensus is to fully remove the ford and recycle the concrete, via appropriate milling equipment, which will be left-over from the works. All **natural** stone materials will be retained to create local habitat or bank reinforcement. As the channel will naturally narrow, it is proposed that some willow-weaving will be created at the bank edges both upstream and downstream of the ford, for additional stability control (this will be done post-contractor work and carried out by FRT staff). It is also proposed to re-vegetate the scoured section once the structure has been removed, this will be achieved by green (soft) reinforcement with temporary, biodegradable netting until the bank revegetates. Fish rescues are ear-marked to take place before the demolition begins and it is anticipated that the works will take no longer than 1 week to complete.

Under The Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations, all due care will be applied to work in a safe and environmentally sound manner. Therefore "All reasonable steps will be taken to ensure that the discharge does not result in pollution of the water environment". This will include the contractors working on the bank without entering the watercourse whilst removal is taking place, ensuring there is no risk of any oil/diesel entering the watercourse. All concrete will be removed and recycled and not be placed into the watercourse as supplementary bank reinforcement. It is also proposed that the work will be carried out between the safe working window of June – September, as per discussions with the Forth District Salmon Fishery Board.





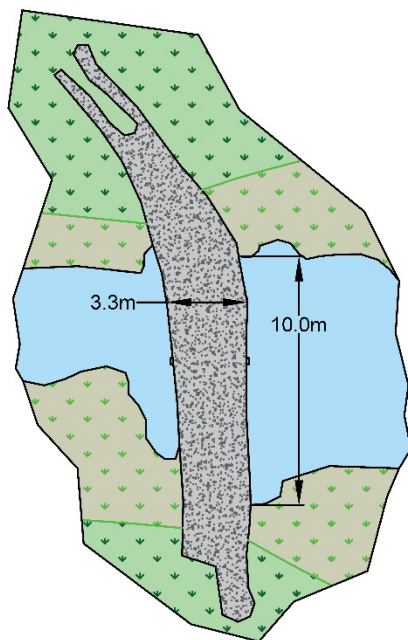
Balcaskie Estate Weir

Balcaskie Estate weir is a small weir across the Dreel Burn and was installed by the estate in the 1990's. A pipe runs through the weir presumably to keep the weir surface dry in low water conditions to allow vehicles to pass over.

The weir is in a state of semi disrepair and exhibits significant base erosion (see sheet 2/2). Water is visible leaking from under the weir at the base.

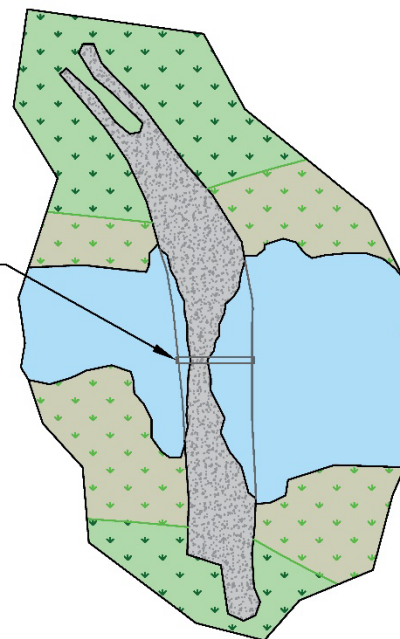
It is not safe to determine the exact construction of the weir however it appears to be poured concrete over rubble and concrete bagwork.

PROJECT	Balcaskie Wetland Project	DRN	AT	NOTES Schematic overview only Not to scale, sizes are approximate Survey date: 05MAR24 (AT/SM)
DRG NAME	Survey of Dreel Burn Estate Weir	CHECKED	SM	
No	1/2	DESC	Survey of existing weir (as found)	
		DATE DRN	15MAR24	

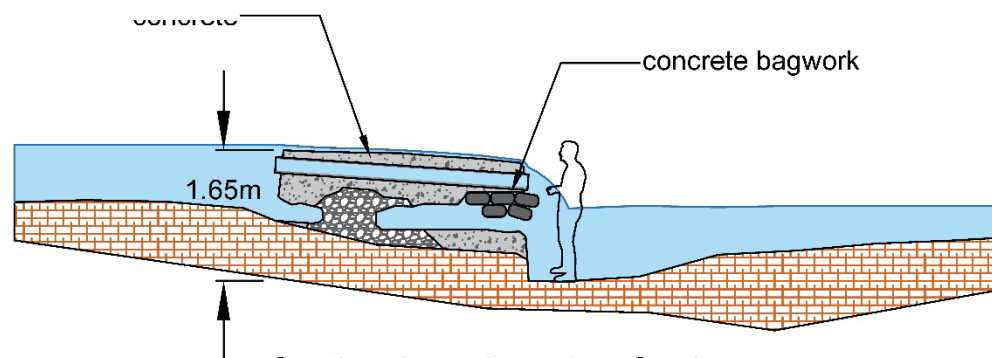


Overall dimensions

8" Pipe running
through weir



Section showing extent of
erosion at water level

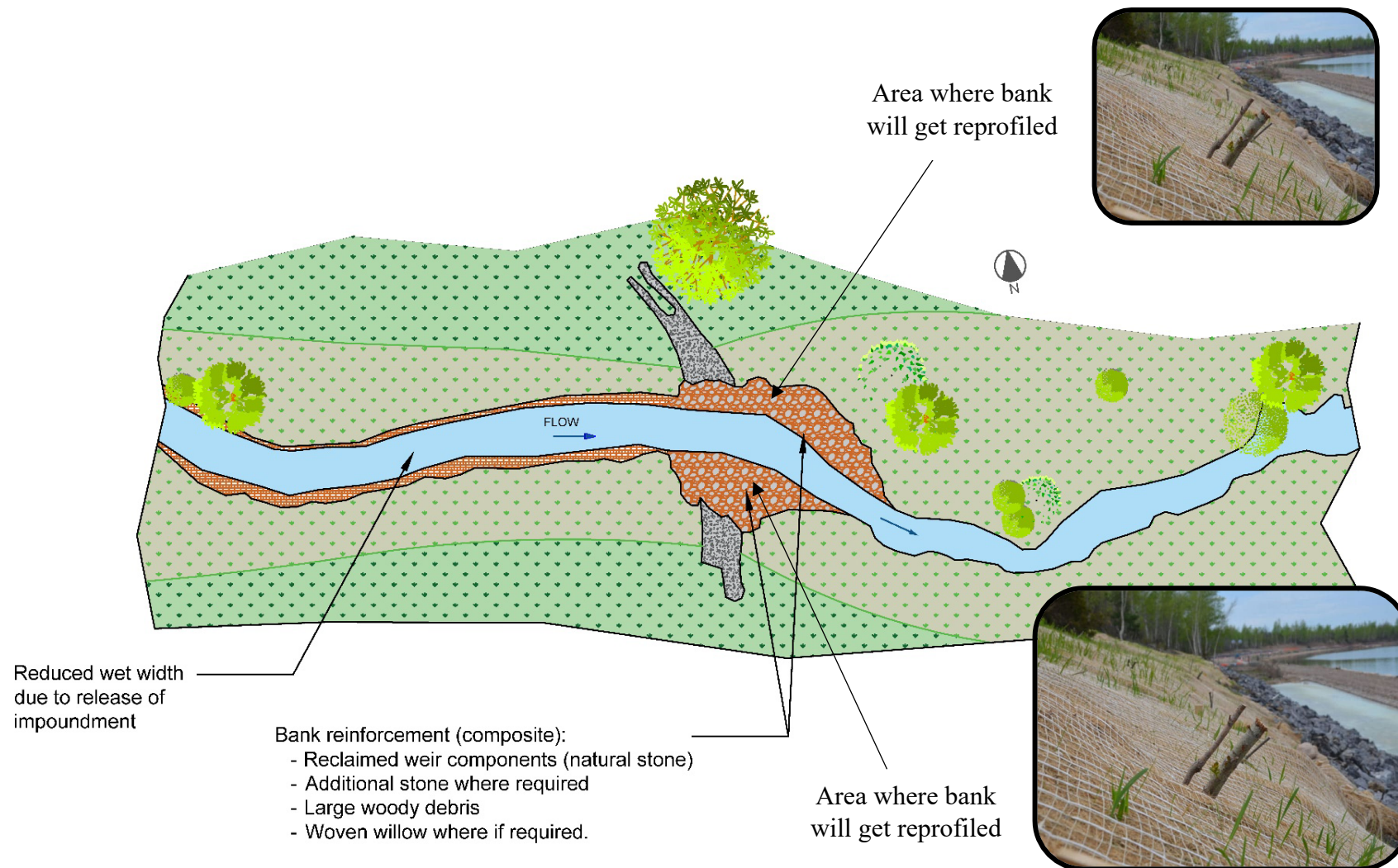


Section through centre of weir
(channel, water and weir to scale)

PROJECT		Balcaskie Wetland Project	DRN	AT
DRG NAME		Survey of Dreel Burn Estate Weir	CHECKED	SM
No	2/2	DESC	Survey of existing weir (as found)	DATE DRN 15MAR24

NOTES

Schematic overview only
Not to scale, sizes are approximate
Survey date: 05MAR24 (AT/SM)



PROJECT			Balcaskie Wetland Project	DRN	AT
DRG NAME			Dreel Burn: post weir removal	APPROVED	EM (FRT)
No	1/1	DESC	Site overview post weir removal	DATE	25MAR24

NOTES

Schematic overview only - not an engineering specification
 Not to scale, sizes are approximate
 Final 'wet width' not able to be established at this time



Balcaskie Wetlands