

## **Introduction to Map 39: Cruach Mhor to Cnoc Aingil**

This map section covers some 3.5km of coastline which extends along the long sandy beach of Traigh Mhor. Most of this coast edge is classified as accreting and eroding, with a short stretch of accreting coast edge to the south. The hinterland is made up of vegetated dunes, bogland and grazing land and is largely unenclosed. There is no modern settlement within the area and access to the coast is by foot following tracks from the public road which lies in the interior.

A total of three sites were identified within this map section; none of these had been recorded previously. All of the sites are thought to date to the 18th-20th C period. Traces of past cultivation are in evidence at two locations (IY156, IY158). At the former location there are indistinct traces of beds or rigs measuring some 2m in width with disused peat cuttings lying to their landward side. At the latter location there are intermittent cultivation remains extending to the perimeter of the modern airfield. Here The beds or rigs measure some 2.5m in width. A gravel quarry is located nearby (IY157).

**IY156**

NR 30955 53438

Traigh Mhor

Cultivation remains and peat cuttings

18-20th C

Fair

Nil

**IY158**

NR 31450 52627

Traigh Mhor

Cultivation remains

18-20th C

Fair

Nil

**IY157**

NR 31450 52627

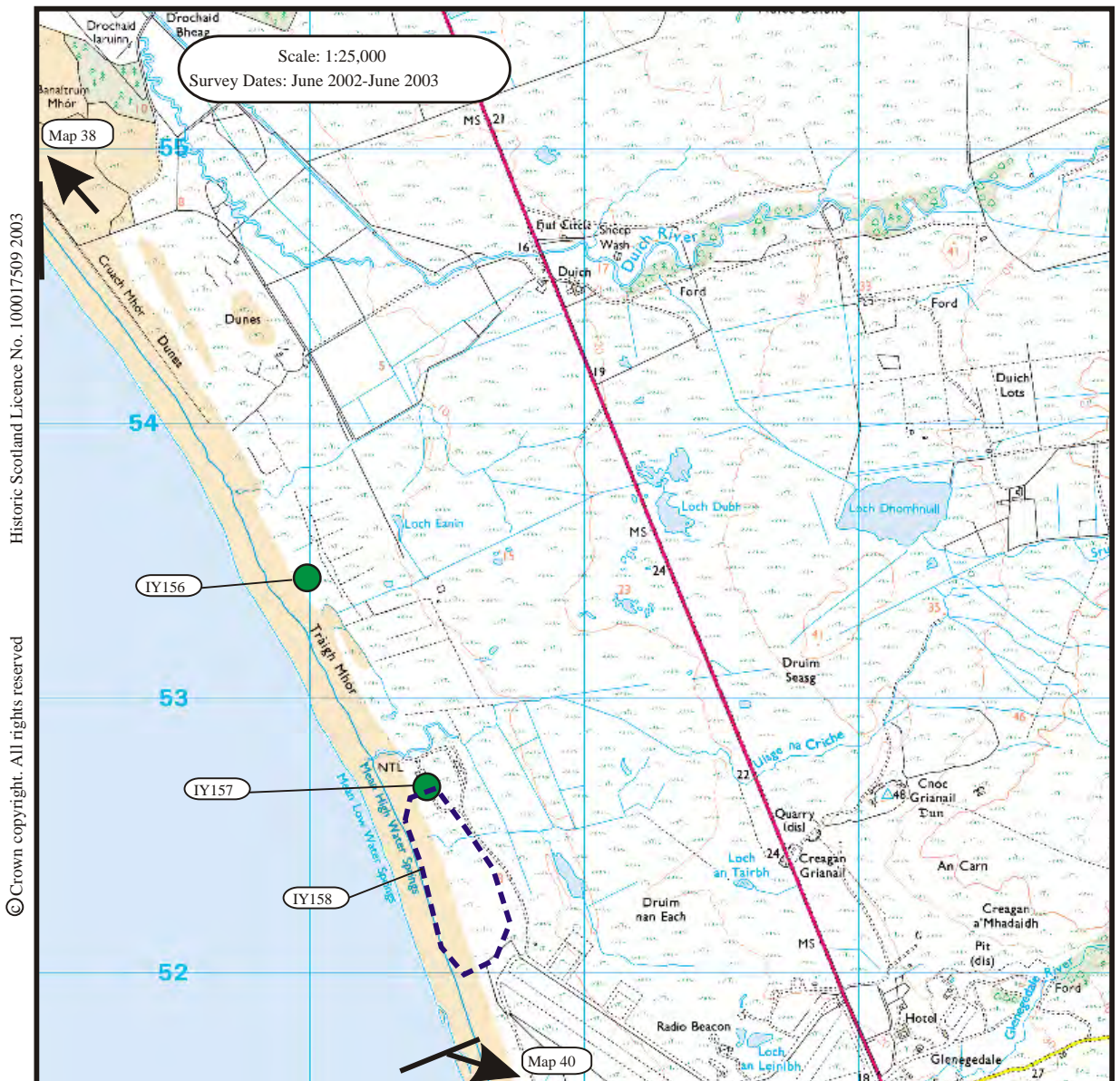
Traigh Mhor








Quarry

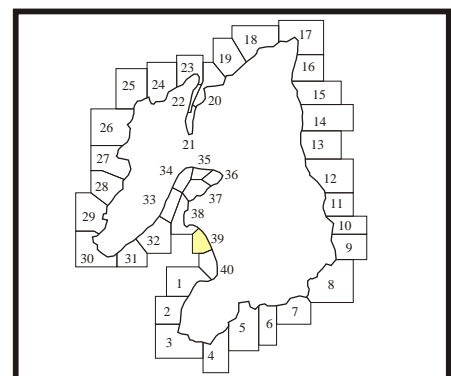
18-20th C

Good

Nil



- Built Heritage & Archaeology**
-  Protected Ancient Monument or area of Designated Wreck
  -  Monument formally proposed by Historic Scotland for scheduling or wreck for designation
  -  Listed Historic Building
  -  Undesignated wreck
  -  Known ancient monument
  -  Site found by this survey
  -  Site complex



**1. Traigh Mhor (north)**

NR 309 533

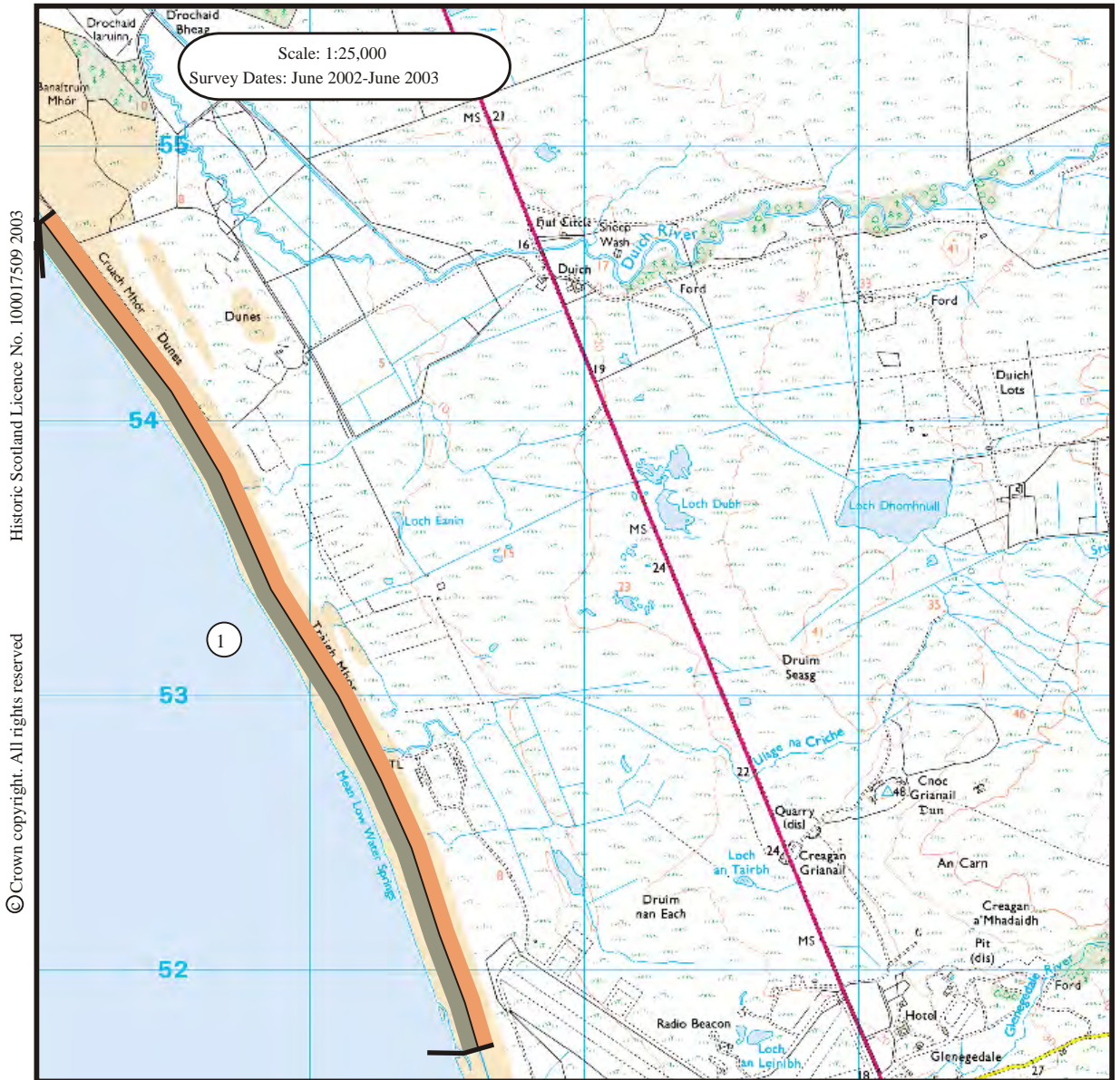
3.5 Km

Mainly sand

Coast edge <5m

Blown sand.

This unit encompasses Traigh Mhor, a long sandy beach backed by an extensive dune system. The dunes are high in places, up to c. 20m and covered by a mix of marram and grass, in use for rough grazing. This coast edge not classed as >5m because of the unstable nature of dune systems. From a point around NR 30668 53957 south the dune height drops to less than 5m.



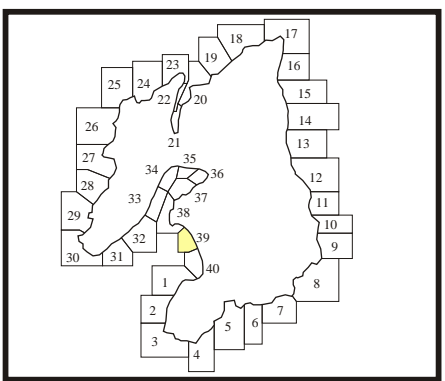
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- Foreshore**
- Rock platform
  - Mainly sand
  - Mainly alluvial/marine mud
  - Marsh

- Hinterland**
- Drift
  - Drift on visible rock
  - Raised beach etc.
  - Blown sand
  - Glacial sand/gravel
  - Alluvium

- Modifiers**
- Low edge <5m
  - Cliff >5m
  - Man made barrier
  - Shingle/storm bank
  - Human disturbance



**1. Cruach Mhor**

NR 307 535

2.8 Km

Accreting and Eroding

This unit encompasses a very long sandy beach backed by an extensive dune system.

In general, the dunes appear stable or accreting - marram grass seems to be thriving and new sand is being deposited. There are some deflation hollows in the hinterland, however.

The dune face, on the beach, appears to be eroding or unstable. Here, there is slumped turf and grass at the base of the dunes and fresh sand is exposed on the dune face.

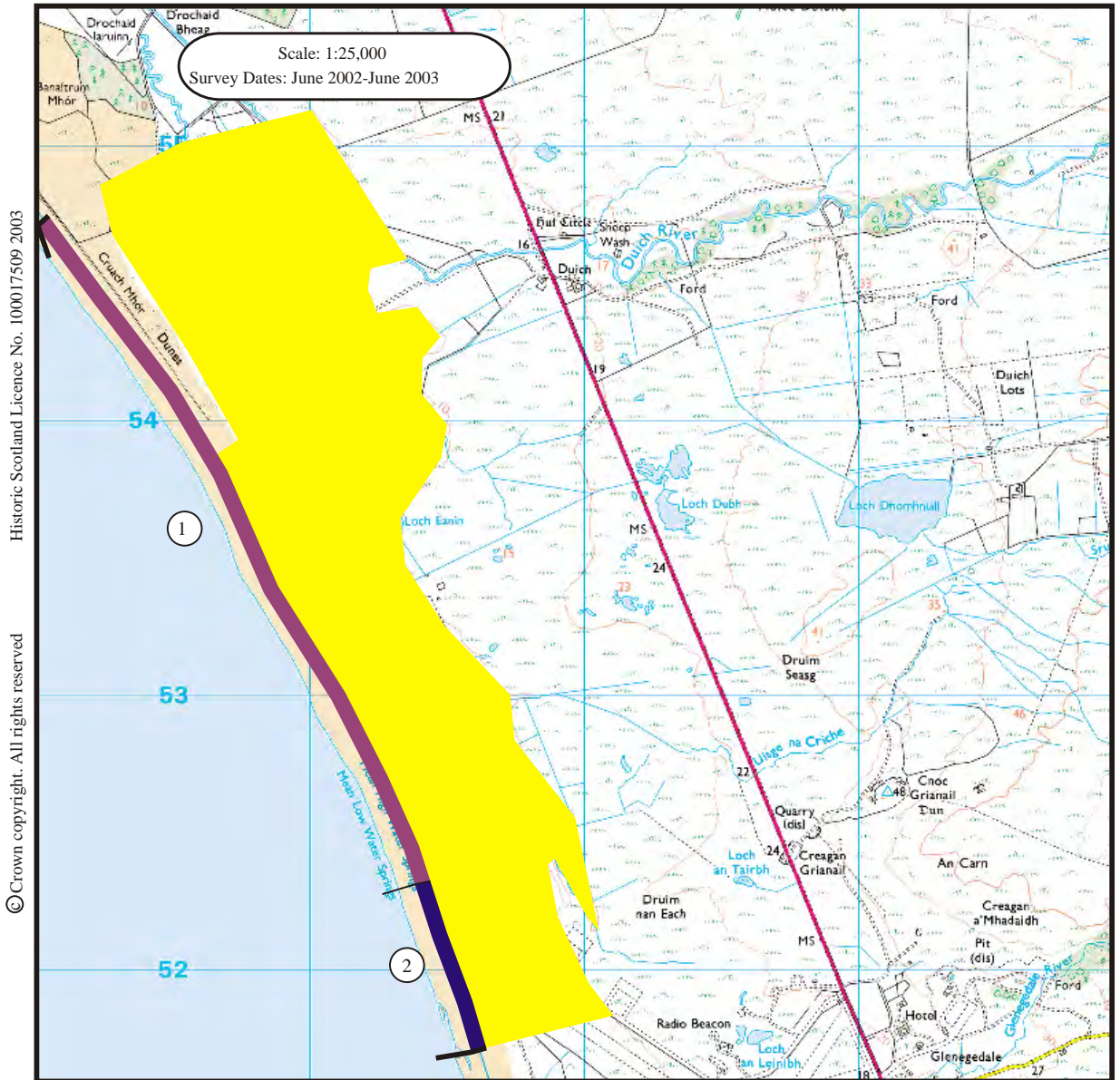
**2. Traigh Mhor (north)**

NR 315 520

0.7 Km

Definitely Accreting

The coast edge within this unit is stable and marram grass is colonising the upper foreshore, suggesting that sand is accreting here.



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- Erosion Class
- Definitely Accreting
  - Accreting or Stable
  - Stable
  - Eroding or Stable
  - Definitely Eroding
  - Accreting and Eroding
  - No access
  - Land below 10m

