

Cairngorms National Park Authority
14 The Square
Grantown on Spey
PH26 3HG

T: 01479 873 535

26 August 2026

Dear NatureScot,

Many thanks for the opportunity to comment on Scotland's Peatland Standard. Peatland restoration is a key part of the Cairngorms National Park Partnership Plan as it delivers multiple benefits for communities and nature. As one of five delivery partners for the Scottish Government's Peatland ACTION programme the Park Authority has ambitious aims for, and is committed to, peatland restoration delivery in the National Park. The Park Authority is very supportive of the Peatland Standard and the information it holds in one place.

We welcome the guidance and support the document brings in providing a shared, consistent framework for the sector, clarifying legislation and essential good practices without adding new statutory requirements. We recognise the vital contribution the Standard makes as a natural partner alongside publications such as the UK Forestry Standard and planning consents. The Peatland Standard will be very helpful in supporting staff, contractors and land managers navigating through sometimes complex decision requiring the consideration of different policies and guidance. Bringing everything into one place will be very beneficial and the Park Authority recommends this is carefully considered as the Standard is launched and promoted.

We feel the information the Standard links to is appropriate to support key elements of decision making, and the technical aspects described to improve practices will result in restoration and maintenance of a higher standard in the National Park. As Peatland ACTION partners expand programmes of activity into more challenging landscapes, in the presence of herbivores and at altitude, it will be increasingly important there is a common understanding across all sectors of land management of what good practice looks like and of the requirements on land managers to maintain restoration sites in good condition. We feel the Peatland Standard is clear on these expectations and works



Cairngorms
National Park Authority

Ùghdarras Pàirc Nàiseanta a'
Mhonaidh Ruaidh

14 The Square
Grantown on Spey
Scotland, PH26 3HG

☎ +44 (0) 1479 873 535
✉ enquiries@cairngorms.co.uk
🌐 cairngorms.co.uk

well as a framework for funders, regulators and land managers to monitor, evaluate and be accountable for delivery of long-term multiple benefits.

Finally, the Park Authority would like to recognise the significant achievement reached and the breadth of collaboration involved in producing the Peatland Standard. We highly value our role as a partner in the Peatland ACTION programme and the contributions we make in the early development of documents, particularly through the delivery partners' Technical Advice Working Group. We look forwards to continuing our commitment as a partner in the development of the programme.

Yours sincerely



ANDY FORD

Director of Nature & Climate Change



Cairngorms
National Park Authority

Ùghdarras Pàirc Nàiseanta a'
Mhonaidh Ruaidh

14 The Square
Grantown on Spey
Scotland, PH26 3HG

☎ +44 (0) 1479 873 535
✉ enquiries@cairngorms.co.uk
🌐 cairngorms.co.uk