

## Managing for Visitors – Western Cairngorms Plan

### Overview

The CNPA and its partners will be working within the national visitor management framework (#RespectProtectEnjoy) and the #CairngormsTogether framework to develop Managing for Visitors plans for key areas in the Park. These Managing for Visitors plans dovetail and support site based visitor management plans and estate management objectives.

### Objectives

The purpose of the managing for visitors plan is to

- Provide a warm welcome and support exceptional experiences for the public to enjoy the outdoors:
- Mitigate any negative impacts from increased recreation in sensitive or popular sites:
- Reduce potential conflict between residents and visitors:
- Promote collaboration across estate and organisational boundaries ensuring a positive visitor experience.
- Agree visitor infrastructure priorities for the area

### On the Ground Staff Resources

Organisation	Numbers
CNPA	5 Rangers (+2 permanent rangers being recruited)
FLS	2 rangers + seasonal warden staff
Rothiemurchus	2 Rangers
Cairngorm Mountain	2 Rangers
RSPB	2 Ranger +seasonal visitor staff (Loch Garten)
NatureScot	Seasonal NNR staff
Highlife Highland	1 Ranger

### Key Hotspots

A risk rating for each site identified is given as follows:

	Very popular, pinch points on trails, could be on a dead end road, limited parking and overspill sites, popular hills or beauty spots, heavily promoted by 3 <sup>rd</sup> parties, close to main transport routes i.e trunk roads and accessible from large towns.
	Popular, parking previously sufficient for level of use, setting off point for hills or beauty spots and promoted by 3 <sup>rd</sup> parties, likely to experience overspill from nearby popular sites.
	Less popular, sufficient parking, generally used by residents.

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Table One- Rural 'Hotspots'

Key Countryside Location	Risk	Manager	Onsite support (including estimated FTE coverage)	Parking	Toilets
Killiecrankie		NTS	NTS Visitor Manager (1)	TBC	Yes
Beinn a Ghlo (car park)		Lude Estate	No ranger service	20	No
Falls of Bruar		Atholl Estate and House of Bruar	Atholl Estates	Large capacity at House of Bruar	Yes
Glen Feshie (car park)		THC?	No ranger service	15	No
Uath Lochans		FLS	FLS Ranger (0.1)	12	no
Loch Insh		RSPB	1 Ranger	Less than 10	No
Ruthven Barracks		Historic Environment Scotland		Less than 10	No
Laggan Wolftrax		FLS and Laggan Forest Trust	FLS Ranger (0.1) and LFT staff	50	yes

Loch an Eilien		Rothiemurchus	Rothiemurchus Estate Ranger Service (2)	Parking Spaces 96 plus overflow.	Yes
Glenmore		FLS	FLS Ranger Service (2) + seasonal warden staff.	<p>290 in total            Sugar Bowl – 40            Allt Mhor – 33            Hayfield – 50 + 50 in field            AlltBhan – 12            Visitor Centre – 28            Beach car park – 92            Lochside – 19            Loch Morlich -32</p> <p>Roadside car parking, approximately: “ski lane” between village and snow gates 140; reindeer centre 10; Glenmore shop 5.</p> <p>At the Glenmore end of Loch Morlich approx. 10 cars park informally off the road; in addition at very busy times when car parks are full 50+ often park half on the road all along the loch side, restricting width on the carriageway</p>	yes
Cairngorm Mountain		HIE	CM Ranger Service (2)	<p>Car parking capacity in the cas car parks is 600 cars; or 350 cars in the upper car park and max 52 coaches in the lower car park.</p> <p>Car parking capacity in the ciste car parks is 380; and the overspill car park next to the building brings it to around 420 cars</p>	yes
Loch Garten		RSPB Scotland	RSPB Community Ranger and estate staff (0.3)	55 + 1 coach Garten, 15 at Mallachie & 7 at Garten Wood	Yes
Loch Pityoulish		Pityoulish Estate	No Ranger	Less than 10	no

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Glenlivet Mountain Bike Trail Centre		Crown Estate Scotland	CES Ranger (0.5)	?	Yes
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Table Two-Community 'Hotspots'

Community	Risk	Community Path Leaflet (y/n)	Popular Routes	Onsite Support (including estimated FTE coverage)
Atholl		Y	Falls of Bruar, River Tilt Trail	Atholl Estate Ranger Service (2)
Dalwhinne		Y	Loch Ericht	
Newtonmore		Y	Glen Banchor, Wildcat Trail,	
Kingussie		Y	Creag Bheag, Gynack Mill, Loch Gynack	
Kincraig		N	Speyside Way, Loch Insh	
Insh		N	Speyside Way	RSPB Scotland – 1 Ranger
Aviemore		Y	Old Logging Way, NCN 7, Craigellachie NNR	
Carrbridge		Y	Riverside Path, Ellan Wood	CNPA Community Ranger (0.2)
Boat of Garten		Y	Deshar Wood, Speyside Way	RSPB Community Ranger (0.2)
Nethybridge		Y	Dell Woods, Speyside Way, Riverside Path	RSPB Community Ranger (0.2)
Dulnain Bridge		Y	Riverside Path, Old Laundry path	
Grantown-on-Spey		Y	Anagach Woods, Speyside Way, Dava Way	Highlife Highland Ranger (0.1)
Cromdale		N	Speyside Way	

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Tomintoul		Y	Speyside Way, Circular Walk	Crown Estate Scotland Ranger Service (0.5)
Glenlivet		N	Scalan, Cairn Diamh, Speyside Way, Drumin	Crown Estate Scotland Ranger Service (0.5)

## Key Actions

Action	Owner	Timescale	Priority	Actions/ updates
<b>Signage</b>				
Consistent signage for sites & access to be developed and distributed before Easter 21	Adam-Streeter Smith, CNPA	Sent to all relevant Estates before Easter 21	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resources developed including posters, social media graphics and leaflets on core “tread lightly in the Park” messages</li> <li>Develop protocols for time limited site specific messages and signage</li> </ul>
Variable message signs to be deployed at agreed key locations from Easter 21 – September 21	Pete Crane, CNPA	Easter 21	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New permanent variable message sign being grant aided by CNPA for FLS to install at Glenmore.</li> </ul>
<b>Visitor Information</b>				
Consistent messages deployed across partners. CNPA & other websites kept up to date with latest information.	Olly Davies, CNPA Pete Crane, CNPA Mark Tate, CBP Chris Foy, VA	Easter 21	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>#CairngormsTogether &amp; #RespectProtectEnjoy communications approach and assets being developed for Easter.</li> <li>Websites updated regularly.</li> </ul>
Develop “real time” information for car park management and promotion	Adam-Streeter Smith, CNPA	Summer 21	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify opportunities for link VMS signs with car park sensors</li> <li>Develop web page for car park status</li> </ul>
<b>Transport</b>				

Look at development of public transport options for Glenmore during summer holidays	Highland Council & CNPA	Summer 21	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work underway to develop trial service during summer holiday period from Aviemore to Glenmore &amp; Cairngorm Mountain</li> </ul>
<b>Ranger Services</b>				
Ranger Partnership Framework – Maintain and enhance family of Cairngorms Ranger Services. Develop approach for CNPA Ranger Services with input from Estate – based ranger services and managers. Link with FLS seasonal staff.	Adam-Streeter Smith, CNPA	Easter 21	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 CNPA Seasonal Rangers in place from 15 March.</li> <li>• Western Cairngorms Ranger Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> March.</li> <li>• CNPA supporting Atholl, Rothiemurchus and RSPB Ranger Services with grant-in-aid</li> <li>• FLS Seasonal staff in place from Easter onwards.</li> <li>• Seasonal Ranger Training in 2<sup>nd</sup> half of March</li> <li>• Effective communication channels in place between all ranger services and land managers.</li> <li>• CNPA recruiting 2 permanent rangers for Western Cairngorms</li> </ul>
<b>Infrastructure 2021</b>				
Glenmore	Richard Porteous, THC Paul Hibberd, FLS Pete Crane, CNPA	Spring 21	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CAGOUL (Cairngorm and Glenmore Outdoor Use and Learning) Project being developed with partners to deploy a network of sensors to monitor visitor and traffic use of the area, connected by a new network for the Internet of Things</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint work between THC and CNPA to do works along Loch Morlich roadside to improve traffic management. Grant in aid support from CNPA to THC.</li> <li>• Improvements being made to beach toilets including installation of external taps and sinks.</li> <li>• £175k secured in THC budget for 21/22</li> </ul>
Agree approach to campervan management in the area between CBP, CNPA, THC and all relevant landowners.	Jim Cornfoot, CMSL Paul Hibberd, FLS	Summer 21	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working with CMSL to deliver a campervan facility at Ciste car park for summer. CNPA providing grant in aid support. CMSL will need to apply for planning permission.</li> </ul>
Loch an Eilien	Rothiemurchus	Spring 21	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CNPA providing grant in aid support to increase car park capacity at Loch an Eilein.</li> </ul>
Loch Garten	RSPB	Spring 21	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CNPA providing funding support for upgrading paths and potential new all abilities access toilet at main car park at Loch Garten.</li> <li>• Chemical toilet waste disposal system being developed.</li> </ul>
Dalwhinnie		Spring 21	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dalwhinnie Community &amp; Ben Alder Estate are working together to provide improved parking for Munro access – grant aid from Green Recovery Fund</li> </ul>

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<b>Infrastructure &amp; Services – Longer Term</b>
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Work ongoing to produce agreed 3-5 year infrastructure improvement programme (link to new NPPP)
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