



Countryside Recreation Network

Managing Outdoor Events & their Impacts

2010 Seminar Proceedings of the
Countryside Recreation Network

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CRN Secretariat

**Held at Centre in the Park, Sheffield
16 June 2010**

"Managing Outdoor Events & their Impacts"

Published by CRN Countryside Recreation Network
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ISBN's: 1-843873273 / 9781843873273

Copies cost £20 and are available from:

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"Managing Outdoor Events & their Impacts"

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For a copy of the publication *Outdoor UK Challenge Events including the Three Peaks Code of Fundraising Practice*, please visit the Institute of Fundraising's website:
<http://www.institute-of-fundraising.org.uk/>

Events Guidance: A National Park Perspective

Bob Grant
Senior Outdoor Access Officer
Cairngorms National Park Authority

The Cairngorms National Park is renowned for its outstanding landscape, iconic species and is a place that many people come for both quiet recreation and active sports. It is also a highly designated landscape with 39% of the ground being covered by some of designation. Outdoor events are also attracted to this area and in developing an outdoor access strategy for the National Park it became apparent that a number of problems came to the fore. These include:

- Lack of contact from event organisers to land managers
- Mountain users about perceived impact on their activity from mass participation events
- Adverse impacts on the natural heritage
- Apparently excessive and unnecessary restrictions being imposed by land managers
- Exclusion of events for no justifiable reason
- No mechanism to allow stakeholders to get together to discuss and plan events throughout the year.

These concerns prompted the National Park Authority to work with interested parties to discuss and agree a way to resolve the problems. The process towards finding a solution proved an important aspect in developing 'ownership' from those involved and the resulting guidance is starting to be of assistance to all concerned.

Advice was sought from the Cairngorms Local Outdoor Access Forum and a workshop was set up that involved, land managers, event organisers, local authorities, Government Agencies and representative bodies. A short paper was sent out in advance of the meeting highlighting the main issues and allowing the audience to raise additional issues which were then collectively addressed at the workshop. The workshop clarified roles and responsibilities, the form and function that guidance should take and provided the opportunity for further refinement as the guidance was developed. A small steering group was set up to develop the guidance involving representatives of all involved in the workshop.

The resulting guidance sets out a simple, three stage process for those involved in organising outdoor events. These are:

- Stage 1 – research and consult;
- Stage 2 – plan and implement;
- Stage 3 – restore and review

"Managing Outdoor Events & their Impacts"

In addition, two meetings are held each year with one in October designed to reflect on what went well, what didn't and the lessons learned. The second one in January provides a forward look and planning perspective for the forthcoming season.

The guidance is available at the following web address:

<http://www.cairngorms.co.uk/outdooraccess/rightsandresponsibilities/recreationalusers/index.php>

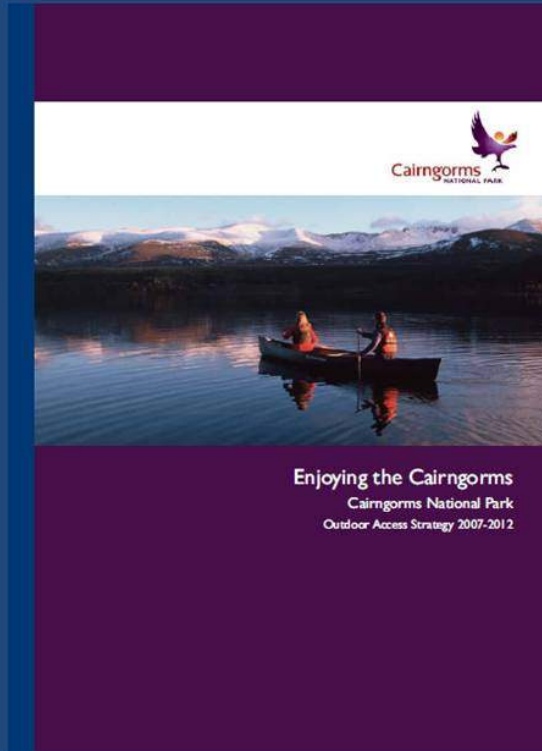
Outdoor Events in the Cairngorms National Park

1. Where ?



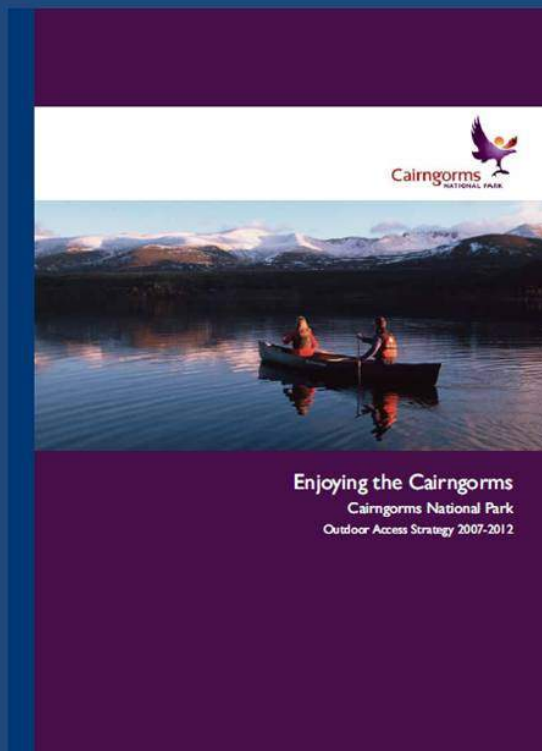
Strategy consultation

- lack of contact from organisers to land managers
- Mountain users about perceived impact on their activity from mass participation events
- Adverse impacts on the natural heritage



Strategy consultation

- Apparently excessive and unnecessary restrictions being imposed by land managers
- Exclusion of events for no justifiable reasons
- No mechanism to allow stakeholders to get together to discuss and plan events throughout the year



Forum Advice

- Detailed guidance is required
- Essential to involve land managers and event organisers
- Organised through a facilitated workshop
- Steering group to take it forward

Workshop – who?

- Land managers
- Event organisers
- Local authorities
- Government agencies
- Representative bodies

Workshop – how?

- Short paper in advance
- Key issues incorporated in agenda
- Roles responsibilities
- Guidance – form and function
- Undertaking to keep informed and engaged
- Opportunities for refinement
- Open process.

Steering Group

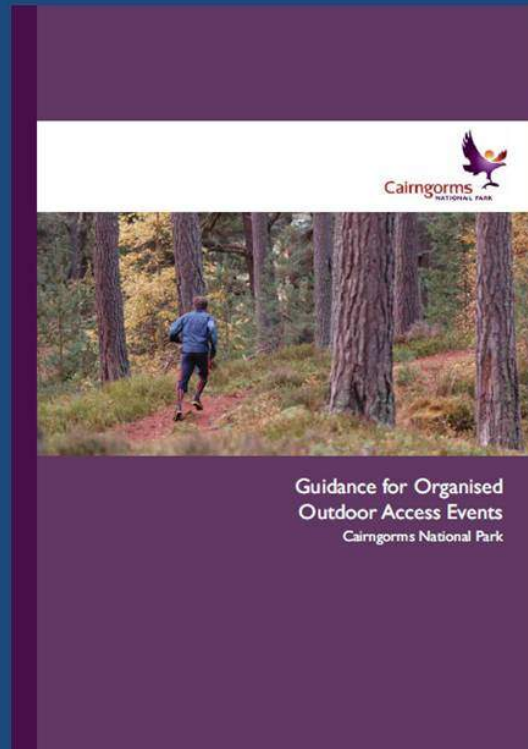
- Land Manager
- Event Organiser
- Local Outdoor Access Forum
- Destination Management Organisation
- Scottish Natural Heritage
- Cairngorms National Park Authority

Guidance

Stage 1 – research and consult

Stage 2 – plan and implement

Stage 3 – restore and review



Stage 1 – research and consult

- Discuss proposals
- Areas locations, routes and activities
- Timing
- Liaison and permission
- Protected areas and species

Stage 2 – plan and implement

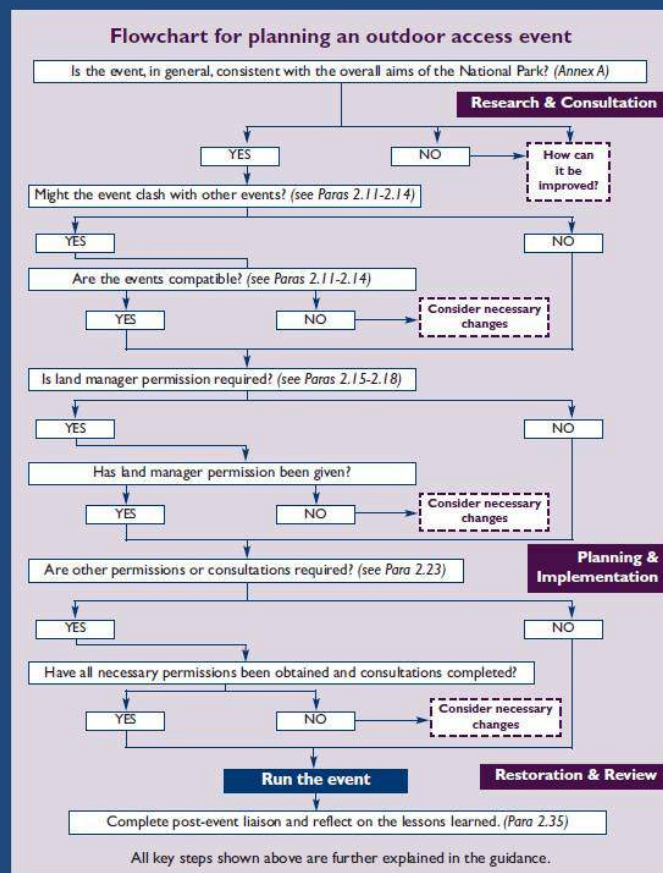
- Health and safety
- Liability and insurance
- Who to involve and further approvals
- Briefing participants and others
- Maximising the benefits

Maximising the benefits

- Promoting active participation
- Promoting local economic and social benefits
- Promoting the National Park
- Promoting the Scottish Outdoor Access Code
- Sustainable transport
- Voluntary contributions
- Encouraging new members

Stage 3 – restore and review

- On the day
- After the event
- Review



Bi annual meetings

.

October – review and reflect

January – plan and discuss

Events Calendar

Well run events

Useful websites

- <http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com/>
- <http://www.cairngorms.co.uk/outdooraccess/rightsandresponsibilities/recreationalusers/index.php>

Safety and Litigation aspect of charity events, guided walks etc

John Ireland and Jon Wayte
Visitor Safety in the Countryside Group

Civil law sub divides in to 2 main areas

- Contract Law
- Law of tort

Tort (delict in Scotland) is a civil wrong

The main torts affecting H&S are

- Negligence
- Nuisance
- Trespass
- Breach of statutory duty

Duty of Care - No such thing as at your own risk

“You must take reasonable care to avoid acts or omissions which you can reasonably foresee would be likely to injure your neighbour”

Foreseeability is the most important concept within the law of negligence – Once the duty of care arises, a defendant will be liable for the foreseeable consequences of any breach of that duty of care.

Duty of Care - England and Wales

The 1957 Occupiers Liability Act defines this as:

‘A duty to take such care as in all the circumstances of the case is reasonable to see that the visitor will be reasonably safe in using the premises for the purposes for which he is permitted by the occupier to be there’.

Duty of Care - Scotland

The Occupiers Liability Act (Scotland) 1960 reads as follows:

“The care which an occupier of premises is required, by reason of his occupation or control of the premises to show towards a person entering thereon in respect of dangers which are due to the state of the premises or anything done or omitted to be done on them and for which the occupier is in law responsible shall, except in so far as he is entitled to and does extend, restrict, modify or exclude by agreement his obligations towards that person, be such care as in all the circumstances of the case is reasonable to see that the person will not suffer injury or damage by reason of any such danger.”

As a matter of law everyone has a duty of care to their neighbour - Who then in law is my neighbour?

“Persons who are so closely and directly affected by my act that I ought to reasonably have them in contemplation as being so affected when I am directing my mind to the acts or omissions which are called into question”. LORD AITKIN

A neighbour is someone whom we can or should be able to foresee might be harmed by our acts or omissions, and it is precisely we can or should be able to see this possibility of harm that a duty of care arises. It therefore follows that the defendant owes a duty of care to his neighbour precisely because he ought to be able to foresee that his acts or omissions might harm his neighbour.

Foreseeability of harm is all important if a reasonably prudent person could foresee that his acts or omissions might cause harm to another person then the other person will be regarded as a neighbour to whom the reasonably prudent person owes a duty of care.

Extent of duty of care

The extent of duty of care depends on 3 things - **remoteness, reasonableness and foreseeability**

Remoteness – the neighbour principle applies

Reasonableness - all that is required of the defendant is that they should act with reasonable skill and care, if a court considers their reasonable best has been done the claim will fail, the test is an objective one provided the defendant has acted in a way that would be considered reasonable in all circumstances by a reasonably "prudent" person then they can be said to have discharged or satisfied their duty. The emphasis is on what's reasonable

The reasonable person will weigh all of the following factors before acting:

- the foreseeable risk of harm his actions create versus the utility of his actions;
- the extent of the risk so created;
- the likelihood such risk will actually cause harm to others;
- any alternatives of lesser risk, and the costs of those alternatives.

Foreseeability

The claimant has to prove on the balance of probabilities that:-

- a) The defendant did not foresee or should have foreseen that his acts or omissions might cause harm to the claimant thereby generating the existence of a duty of care owed to the claimant.
- b) The defendant failed to perform his duties with reasonable skill and care.
- c) As a result of failure to perform his duties with reasonable skill and care the claimant has suffered an injury, damage or other loss.

A person may take an action through the civil courts against another person in pursuance of a remedy following a violation of a right. Remedies come in various forms and may include

- Damages (£)
- Injunctions
- Court remedy orders

Claimant initiates action against defendant.

In civil proceedings the onus is on the claimant to demonstrate that the tort /breach of contract has been committed.

The standard of proof is "On the balance of probabilities" and hence is less onerous than that required by the criminal law.

Statute Law

Employers and others must comply with various statutory legal duties

- **Absolute (these must be complied to without regard to cost)**
- **Practicable (duty need only be met if technically feasible)**
- **Reasonably practicable (risk v Cost)** it is the responsibility of the accused to show the court that it was not reasonably practicable for him to do more than he had in fact done to comply with his duty

Standard of proof criminal law - beyond reasonable doubt

The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 (an enabling act)

The Act applies to all persons at work, employers, self employed and employees, with the exception of domestic servants in private households. The legislation protects not only people at work, but also the health and safety of the general public who may be affected by work activities.

The aim of the Act is to:

- (a) Secure the health, safety and welfare of persons at work;
- (b) Protect persons other than persons at work against risks to health or safety arising out of or in connection with the activities of persons at work;
- (c) Control the keeping and use of explosive or highly flammable or otherwise dangerous substances, and generally preventing the unlawful acquisition, possession and use of such substances;
- (d) Control the emission into the atmosphere of noxious or offensive substances from premises of any class prescribed for the purpose of this paragraph.

One of the principal objectives is to involve everybody at the workplace - management and workpeople – and to create an awareness of the importance of achieving high standards of health and safety.

The primary responsibility for doing what is needed to avoid accidents and occupational ill health lies with those who create the risks.

Promotion of health and safety is an essential function of good management.

Employers must allocate responsibilities to the different levels of management and will need a planned strategy and an effective organisation which pays due regard to objectives and accountability.

Section 2 (1)

It is the duty of every employer as far as is reasonably practicable to ensure the health safety and welfare at work of all his employees.

Section 3(1)

Places duties on employers and the self employed to persons other than employees. Employers must conduct their undertakings in such a way as to ensure, so far as is practicable, that persons not in their employment who may be affected are not exposed to risks to their health and safety. A similar duty also applies to the self employed (Section 3(2)).

This Section 3 duty has four parts –

- a) The duty is owed by employers or self employed people. This will include farmers, owners of sporting estates and land managers. It would also include tenant farmers, those who lease sporting estates and fishing's, and those organising events in the countryside as their employment (e.g. walking guides, climbing instructors, organisers of paintball games).
- b) The duty is owed to 'persons other than employees'. This includes all members of the public and people taking access to the countryside.
- c) The standard is one of reasonable practicability. (Risk v cost)
- d) The duty arises out of the conduct of the undertaking.

Section 4 DUTIES RELATING TO PREMISES

Section 5 not any more replaced was environment legislation

Section 6 DUTIES OF MANUFACTURERS AND SUPPLIERS OF ARTICLES AND SUBSTANCES FOR USE AT WORK e.g. (PUWER)

Section 7 **DUTIES OF EMPLOYEES to take reasonable care**

Section 8 **no person to misuse anything provided for the interest of health safety & welfare**

Section 9 **NO CHARGE TO EMPLOYEES FOR PROVISION OF SAFETY EQUIPMENT**

Any person who may owe duties under **s 3 of the 1974 Act** must also take into account the:

Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (the 1999 Regulations)

These regulations provide more specific direction on how to carry out the duties under the 1974 Act. In doing this they also introduce the principle of

Risk assessment

Regulation 3(1)(b)

Requires every employer to make a suitable and sufficient assessment of **“the risks to the health and safety of persons not in his employment arising out of or in connection with the conduct by him of his undertaking.”**

Regulation 3(2)(b)

Sets out the same requirement for self employed people. Employers and the self employed are also required to keep their risk assessments under review and to make any necessary changes

Reg. 3(3)

Employers who employ five or more employees must record the significant findings of the assessment and any group of employees who are especially at risk

Reg. 3(6)

The failure by such an employer to carry out a suitable and sufficient risk assessment is a criminal offence.

The purpose of risk assessment is set out in the Approved Code of Practice (ACOP) which has been produced by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) as follows:

“The purpose of the risk assessment is to help the employer or self employed person to determine what measures should be taken to comply with the employer’s or self employed person’s duties under the ‘relevant statutory duties’.

This phrase covers the general duties in the 1974 Act and the more specific duties in the various Acts and Regulations associated with it.

In essence the risk assessment guides the judgement of the employer or the self employed person as to the measures they ought to take to fulfil their statutory obligations” (paras. 7 and 8 HSE Code of Practice).

The 1999 Regulations also place a number of additional duties on employers which complement and enhance the basic requirement of risk assessment.

Reg. 5(1)

Employers must make and give effect to appropriate health and safety arrangements, for the effective planning, organisation, control, monitoring and review of preventative and protective measures.

The test of whether land managers' actions are “reasonably practicable” may be judged to some extent by any Codes of Practice relevant to their operations, as for instance published by organisations like HSE,

UNFAIR CONTRACT TERMS ACT 1977 – no disclaimers

Legislates on whether an occupier may attempt to disclaim or restrict liability for breach of the duty of care by, for instance, displaying notices disclaiming responsibility at principal access points. This 1977 Act states that any such disclaimers are void if they try to exclude or restrict liability for death or personal injury. A disclaimer notice may be valid for loss or damage other than for death or personal injury, but it would have to be fair and reasonable.

The question of fairness and reasonableness will depend on the circumstances in each case, and the person relying on the disclaimer would have to persuade the court that, having regard to all the circumstances, it was fair and reasonable.

A person cannot by reference to any contract term or to a notice exclude or restrict his liability for death or personal injury resulting from negligence.

Scotland – Occupiers' Liability (Scotland) Act 1960

Differs from:

England – i) Occupiers' Liability Act 1957
ii) Occupiers' Liability Act 1984

Distinction as to different types of capacity of person on premises

Duty of Care - England and Wales - 2 acts that apply

The 1957 Occupiers Liability Act

'A duty to take such care as in all the circumstances of the case is reasonable to see that the visitor will be reasonably safe in using the premises for the purposes for which he is permitted by the occupier to be there'.

As a general rule a person can be said to be a lawful visitor when he is using the premises for the purposes for which he is invited or permitted to be there.

Section 2(1) of the occupier's liability Act 1957 provides that the **OCCUPIER** owes a common duty of care to all his lawful visitors

3 concepts to understand

- Occupier
- Lawful visitor
- Duty of care

Occupier

The definition of an '**occupier**' for the purposes of the Occupiers Liability Acts is the person '**having control of the premises**', and this effectively means whoever has possession of and controls the land. The FC is, in law, the occupier of the forest it manages. It is worth noting that there can be more than one 'occupier' of premises for the purposes of the Occupiers Liability Acts. For example, if contractors are working in a particular area, and effectively have control of that area, then the law may see them as the 'occupiers' in certain circumstances.

Lawful Visitor

Under the 1957 Occupiers Liability Act in England and Wales, a 'visitor' is a person who is on the land and invited by the occupier (an invitee), or who is there by permission but not actual invitation (a licensee).

Common Duty of Care

"A duty to act without negligence with regard to the safety of the visitor"

- An occupier is not an insurer against all risks expected in general to take only "**reasonable care**"

- The act refers to the safety of visitors not necessarily the safety of the premises thus a visitor may be "Safe" on unsafe premises provided the occupier has taken

adequate precautions in the circumstances for example by providing adequate warning of danger on the premises.

It is a question of evidence on the facts of the case whether the common duty of care has been observed.

The sort of factors that a court might consider when deciding whether an occupier has discharged their obligations under the common duty of care include

- If there is more than 1 occupier it could be that each one will be expected to observe a different standard of care;
- The likelihood of injury occurring in the circumstances
- The nature of the danger itself
- The steps necessary to avert the danger- here the practicalities of taking precautions come into play e.g. cost, extent and how long the state of affairs has existed
- Was a warning necessary in the circumstances of the case

Children

Section 2(3)(a) of the 1957 act states that an occupier should be prepared for children to be less careful than adults, it means that occupiers must be particular careful in relation to lawful visitors who are children and should appreciate that for example where a warning notice might suffice for an adult something more would be required in relation to a child.

Whether an occupier has discharged their duty, where a child visiting their land is injured, depends on the facts in each case. The parents are primarily responsible for protecting their small children, unless an area is so dangerous that no one should enter, in which case the children would become trespassers, and the **duty of care** set out in the **1984 Act** would apply.

Note that the courts have made it clear that this principle may be different in public parks, or recognised playing areas, where parents can reasonably expect children to play unaccompanied.

The 1984 Occupiers Liability Act

The **1984 Occupiers Liability Act** deals with the duty of care owed to those who are not visitors, for example trespassers, setting out the duty of care which an occupier in England and Wales owes to them.

Prior to the enactment of this piece of legislation the law in relation to trespass was in a mess, the main problem was the existence of the **1957 Occupiers Liability Act** because this act provided that a common duty of care was owed to lawful visitors it left unclear what duty occupiers owed to persons other than their lawful visitors. It would be difficult to argue that occupiers owed a common duty of care to persons other than their lawful visitors because this would make nonsense of the 1957 act.

The act has been criticised for being vague for example section 1(4) lays down the standard of care that a trespasser is entitled to

"To take such care as is reasonable in all circumstances of the case to see that he does not suffer injury on the premises"

Fortunately this is clarified by section 1(3) of the act which lays down statutory criteria of foreseeability.

In order to satisfy those criteria and have a successful claim for damages the injured trespasser would have to prove all 3 of the following on the balance of probabilities:

- a) That the occupier knew of the danger or had reasonable grounds that it existed; and
- b) That the occupier knew or had reasonable grounds to believe that an uninvited entrant might come to the vicinity of the danger: and
- c) That the risk was one which the occupier could reasonably have been expected to offer the trespasser some protection

For example leasehold land if the lease does not permit public access. In these situations, consider using notices advising the public that no access is allowed, or fence it if it is serious enough. In practice, the approach by the courts to cases involving personal injury is unlikely to differ greatly whether the claim is made by a visitor or by someone else. It is however worth noting that the Commission will not be liable for an injury arising from the visitor's lack of care where a hazard is **Obvious, Apparent and Avoidable**.

Trespassers cannot make a claim for loss or damage to property. They may, however, be able to claim for personal injury.

CRoW Land

Occupiers Liability has special considerations relating to CRoW access land. This is that CRoW dedication should not place an undue burden (financial or otherwise) on the occupier. You can find more information about the importance of maintaining the character of the countryside, including features of historic, traditional or archaeological interest under Section 20 of the Act.

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2000/ukpga_20000037_en_2#pt1-ch1-pb3-l1g13

Duty of Care - Scotland

The Occupiers Liability Act (Scotland) 1960:

"The care which an occupier of premises is required, by reason of his occupation or control of the premises to show towards a person entering thereon in respect of dangers which are due to the state of the premises or anything done or omitted to be done on them and for which the occupier is in law responsible shall, except in so far as he is entitled to and does extend, restrict, modify or exclude by agreement his obligations towards that person, be such care as in all the circumstances of the case is reasonable to see that the person will not suffer injury or damage by reason of any such danger."

Liability is restricted to injury or damage, which might include damage to property where there is no personal injury, which is due to the state of the premises or anything done or not done on them. The premises will include all parts of a forest and not just way marked paths or areas which the public are specifically invited to.

The duty to be shown to a person entering the premises is: **'to take reasonable care to see that that person does not suffer injury'**. What is reasonable will depend on the circumstances of each case. Generally, the occupier will owe a duty of care if they can, or ought reasonably to; foresee that a person entering their premises could hurt themselves by their (the occupier's) act or omission. The danger does not need to be something within the occupier's control, but if the pursuer can show that the occupier was aware of it, or that they ought to have been aware of it, and that it was reasonably foreseeable that it would cause injury or damage then the occupier will be liable.

Willingly-accepted risks – The 1960 Act explicitly excludes any obligation of occupier liability over risks willingly accepted by the visitor. Section 2.3, states – *"Nothing in the foregoing provisions of this Act shall be held to impose on an occupier any obligation to a person entering on his premises in respect of risks which that person has willingly accepted as his; and any question whether a risk was so accepted shall be decided on the same principles as in other cases in which one person owes another a duty to show care."*

This applies to the risks inherent in any pursuits undertaken by visitors on the land, and may for instance include mishaps inherent in quite ordinary activities like walking, swimming etc. This provision also relates to the general legal principle known as 'volenti non fit injuria', which means that if a person knowingly participates in a risky activity, for example rock climbing, they will be taken to have accepted the risk of injury if they have an accident.

Characteristics of the visitor – The 1960 Act does not specifically refer to the duties owed to children.

However, it should be borne in mind that certain dangers will be less obvious to children than to adults, and if it may be anticipated that children are going to be present on the land, then it will be reasonable to expect that to be taken into account in the level of care shown. The principal duty in relation to very young children remains with their parents.

Willing Acceptance of Risk

You are not liable for risks that are willingly accepted by a visitor or trespasser, for example when a member of a climbing club is rock climbing. The actual risks accepted are limited to those normally arising in the circumstances. Visitors might, for example, willingly accept the risks specifically associated with a sport or recreational activity in which they are participating. However, they are not accepting any additional risks that arise out of your negligence. You also need to be sure that the risk was, in fact, accepted. That a person proceeded beyond a warning sign cannot in itself be relied upon to signify that the person had accepted the risk

Defences against Duty of Care

- Denial of the Facts
- No Duty owed
- No breach of duty

- No damage or loss or the damage/loss was insignificant
- The alleged breach of duty did not lead directly to the loss being claimed
- The breach or damage was not foreseeable
- It was not considered reasonable to do more

COILS Test

- **Cost of controls** was disproportionate to the risk
- **Obviousness** – the hazard was unexpected
- **Inherent risk**
- **Likelihood** - taken all reasonable steps in the circumstances
- **Seriousness** - would one normally expect a far less serious injury consistent with the circumstances

- **Time limitation** – Under the limitation act 1980 where personal injury and ill health is concerned a claimant has 3 years from the date of injury or the date of diagnosis of a disease/ill health condition to commence proceedings for compensation. The time will start from the date of knowledge, or if the claimant is under 18 from their 18th birthday.

- **Contributory negligence**

2 ways a claimant can contribute to his own injuries

Make an accident more likely by taking insufficient care for his own safety

And can increase the likelihood of injury should an accident occur by failing to take reasonable care of their own safety

The Compensation Act 2006

An Act of Parliament which introduced changes to the rules of claims and compensation. The act was given the highly descriptive long title: '*An Act to specify certain factors that may be taken into account by a court determining a claim in negligence or breach of statutory duty; to make provision about damages for mesothelioma; and to make provision for the regulation of claims management services*'.

The need for the act, according to parliament, arose from an increase in fear of litigation. The American litigation culture has been influencing British culture for some time now, and businesses had become fearful of litigation to such an extent that it was influencing the manner in which they operated.

The Compensation Act largely seeks to stop litigation from becoming a business in its own right. Parliament hopes the act will reflect the view that litigation is available as a last resort for people who have suffered a real loss, and that compensation should only recover their loss, rather than put them in a better position than the one they were in before the loss occurred. To that end the law made it a crime for an unauthorised person to provide claim-management services.

1 Deterrent effect of potential liability

A court considering a claim in negligence or breach of statutory duty may, in determining whether the defendant should have taken particular steps to meet a standard of care (whether by taking precautions against a risk or otherwise), have regard to whether a requirement to take those steps might—

- (a) prevent a desirable activity from being undertaken at all, to a particular extent or in a particular way, or
- (b) discourage persons from undertaking functions in connection with a desirable activity.

To manage access, visitor safety and enjoyment effectively, there are a number of management responsibilities that all organisations should practise. The benefits of practising this policy will be improved visitor safety, enhanced business, customer care, and higher satisfaction levels amongst visitors.

Access legislation

In England and Wales, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (2000) is now the all-embracing access legislation. This formalises a situation that had been in place in most FC woods – the right to roam on foot. Other rights to roam by bicycle or on horseback have not been granted by the Act.

Access legislation in Scotland now falls under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 which establishes a statutory right of responsible access to land and inland waters for:

- outdoor recreation;
- crossing land; and
- some educational and commercial purposes.

The Scottish Outdoor Access Code gives detailed guidance on your responsibilities when exercising access rights and if you are managing land and water. The Act sets out where and when access rights apply.

The Code defines how access rights should be exercised.

You find the Scottish Outdoor Access Code on the Outdoor Access Scotland website:

- <http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com/>.

Specific guidance for land managers at:

- <http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com/default.asp?PageRef=2>

For recreation managers at:

- <http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com/default.asp?PageRef=4>

As you can see there are now considerable differences from arrangements in the other two countries.

Small events will include activities such as guided walks and children's activities and generally be for groups of less than 100 people.

Large events for over 100 people will include activities such as site open days, large craft fairs, theatre performances and concerts.

Indemnities

Within the Forestry Commission all events that need a permission, the permit holder must have adequate third party insurance Cover.

<http://www.heritageinterp.com/> – lots of free material.

Planning the event

Safety

You have responsibility for the safety of those on your “premises” and this includes anyone attending an event – however they also have responsibility for their own safety. Where people attending an event do not have suitable clothing or equipment that will endanger their safety, or the safety of others, you must consider not letting them take part.

While you must take every care that you have taken reasonably practicable measures to reduce the risks, it is not possible to provide people with a risk-free environment.

- You must ensure that a risk assessment is undertaken for each aspect of any event as part of your planning.
- The line manager of staff organising event should scrutinise and countersign a sample of event checklists.

For trail-type events such as guided walks or on a cycle trail, check that forestry operations are not planned in the area and make sure that someone checks the route during the planning stage, and again a few days before the event.

It is essential that you have an effective Cancellation Procedure. This must include:

- under what circumstances will you cancel the event – will it be bad weather, event manager illness or unavailability or poor uptake?
- when will you make this decision?
- if you cancel the event before it starts, how are you going to tell people?
- if during the event you have to stop it, how will you safely evacuate everyone and stop more people entering the site?

You must have an Emergency Plan to deal with unforeseen emergencies such as an accident or medical emergency involving the event manager, staff or the public.

- Contact number for duty ranger or duty member of staff.
- Contact numbers for emergency services plus any specialist services necessary such as mountain rescue.
- Mobile phone with extra batteries.
- Flares and mountain survival equipment as necessary for the conditions and the event.

Visitor Safety in the Countryside <http://www.vscg.co.uk/>

HSE Leisure and Entertainment <http://www.hse.gov.uk/entertainment/>

Information

The public can only decide whether they want to come to your event if they have all the information they need to make this decision, and if the information is easily accessible to them. In addition, correctly dressed and well-briefed participants will undoubtedly enjoy the event more. Those taking part will probably want the answers to many questions.

- How long the event goes on for (in time or distance)?
- What exactly will be happening?
- What level of fitness do they require?
- Do they need any special clothing, footwear and equipment and will they have to provide it, or will the organiser?
- Do they need to bring a drink or packed lunch?
- Is the event suitable for children?
- Is the event suitable for disabled people – has the event been modified to make it more accessible – for example, a wheelchair friendly path or a tour guide system for those with hearing difficulties, a designated car park, access to toilets or reserved seating?
- Are dogs allowed?
- Is there a charge for the event? If so how much?
- Is advance booking required?
- How do they book?
- Where is the start point (not everyone uses OS grid references? Give a postcode as well.
- What will stop the event taking place (for example, severe weather) and how do they find out?
- Arrival and car parking information.

The good practice safety guide download free from
<http://www.eventscotland.org/funding-and-resources/downloads/get/2>

The Event Safety Guide: A guide to the health, safety and welfare at music and other events. (The Purple Guide) download free from
<http://books.hse.gov.uk/hse/public/saleproduct.jsf?catalogueCode=9780717624539>

Charity and voluntary workers guide download free from
<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/priced/hsg192.pdf>

Adventure Activity Licensing Regulations 2004

The Adventure Activity Licensing Regulations 2004 regulate the provision of certain adventure activities. This legislation applies to activities including:

- climbing;
- watersports;

- trekking; and
- caving.

These activities must be supervised by a properly qualified instructor licensed by the Adventure Activity Licensing Authority.

References

- Adventure Activity Licensing Authority www.aals.org.uk

Does the event need an entertainments licence?

The Licensing Act 2003 has four licensing objectives:

- preventing crime and disorder;
- public safety;
- preventing public nuisance; and
- protecting children.

The Act regulates the provision of these activities:

- retail sale of alcohol;
- supply of alcohol on club premises;
- providing regulated entertainment; and
- late night refreshment.

Regulated entertainment consists of providing certain entertainment for an audience or spectators, or providing facilities for an audience to take part in music and, or, dancing. The following are classed as entertainment:

- performance of a play;
- showing a film;
- indoor sporting event;
- boxing or wrestling (indoor or outdoor);
- performing live music;
- playing recorded music (but not live television or radio);
- performing dance (excluding Morris dancing and related activities); and
- entertainment of a similar description to the last three above.

If the event has regulated entertainment and, or, alcohol sales, you will need an Entertainments Licence.

For events taking place over a maximum of 4 days, with a maximum of no more than 15 days a year, and with a maximum capacity of 499 including staff, you can apply for a Temporary Events Notice (TENS) from your local district council.

TENS require a small administration fee, but are straightforward to apply for. You will need to apply at least six weeks before the event.

For large events for over 499 people or taking place for more than 15 days a year, you will need a Premises Licence.

Apply for a premises licence at least six months before the event. Premises licences are charged depending how many people are to attend the event.

Alcohol sales must be authorised by a holder of a Personal Licence. You can get Personal Licences from your local district council. Check that the supplier of

alcohol for your event, for example, a mobile bar unit operator, has a personal licence.

It is an offence to carry out a licensable activity if you are not properly authorised with either:

- a TENS;
- Premises Licence; or
- Personal Licence.

It is also an offence to knowingly allow an unlicensed activity to be carried out. The maximum penalty is six months imprisonment or £20,000 fine or both!

The Licensing Act

www.culture.gov.uk/what_we_do/alcohol_and_entertainment

Performing Rights Society

The Performing Rights Society (PRS) regulates live and recorded music and makes sure artists receive royalties. If the event involves playing live or recorded music, you will need an Entertainments Licence, and you may also need to pay a fee to the PRS. References

- Performing Rights Society www.prsformusic.com

The responsibility to undertake meaningful Risk Assessments is detailed in the Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1999, in particular Regulations 3 & 5:

Supervision

The levels of supervision will vary depending on the type of event, the number taking part, their ages and their abilities.

Children

If an event is suitable for unaccompanied under 18s the event manager and any other key staff must undergo a CRB check or Disclosure Scotland.

For Large Events where there are stewards, the ratio should be at least 1 Steward to 50 People.

Stewards might be your organisations staff, volunteers or staff from other organisations depending on the type of event and level of stewarding necessary.

For very large events (over 2000 people), or events where alcohol is sold, or there is the potential for violence, use SIA (Security Industry Authority) stewards at a ratio of One SIA Steward and One Regular Steward to 100 people.

Any stewards must be properly organised and briefed to be fully effective.

Designating a steward team leader may help communications.

Where ever appropriate, make sure that stewards are selected to suit the needs of the visiting groups (for example, single-gender, faith, disabled and LGBT groups) and make sure they understand any particular need or custom that could affect the way those groups are supervised.

Communications

It is essential that all staff involved in an event can communicate with each other and that the event manager has access to the emergency services. If you are going to use mobile phones make sure that there is enough network coverage and that you have spare batteries. If you are going to use radios make sure they are fully charged, you have spare batteries and there is good coverage. Make sure all members of the team know how to use them correctly.

Very large events – over 2000 people

For very large events, there are some other points you need to consider.

- If you need a Premises Licence under the Entertainments Licensing Act 2005 information on many of these elements must be submitted with the application.
- It may be necessary to engage contractors to carry out many of these roles. Make sure any contractors are competent, have the appropriate training and public liability insurance, and are fully briefed by the event manager.
- For all very large events refer to the **HSE Events Safety Guide (HSG195)** for full information available from www.hsebooks.com and is essential reading for managers of large events.

Here are some other important elements to consider for very large events.

- Safety during set up and dismantling.
- Traffic management and signs.
- Car parking.
- Staffing, supervision levels and using SIA staff.
- Drink and drugs policy.
- Police attendance.
- Managing the impact on local residents.
- Alcohol sales and designated premises supervisor.
- Fire safety, evacuation plan and a public address system.
- Noise at Work Regulations
- Electrical safety.
- Sanitary facilities.
- Waste management
- Refreshments.
- Disabled access and Equality and Diversity issues both for information and the site.
- Operational site assessment (OSA), or equivalent, regarding the impact on sensitive habitats or species.
- Most local authorities have Public Safety Liaison Groups where you can discuss an event with all the emergency services in one go.

First aid

At small events at least one qualified First Aider should be available with a first aid kit of the right size and type for that activity. Make sure that the first aid service (including the gender of first aider) is appropriate for the groups attending (for example, faith, single-gender, disabled groups). At larger events, it may be necessary to contract this service out to one of the many event medical services.

You may need an ambulance available on site. Make sure you have a full report of any casualties and any action taken at the end of the event.

Sustainability

Organising events has an effect on the environment. Things to consider:

- How will people travel to the event?
- Provide information on local bus or train routes.
- Offer a discount for those travelling by bike, foot and public transport.
- Waste and recycling – make sure all waste generated is sorted and recycled.
- Use or only provide locally produced products and services and consider organic, free range and a good proportion of vegetarian options.
- Site repair after the event.

Traffic management

A great event can be ruined by poor traffic management. Some things to consider:

- What are the main routes to the site?
- Is there enough car parking?
- Do you need stewards to help the flow of traffic in and out?
- Do you need temporary traffic lights?
- Have you told the police about your event?
- Do you have enough signs, and are they clear?

Advance booking

Using an advance booking system is useful if you want to limit numbers and to give an accurate guide on how many people the event manager can expect. It can also make sure that everyone attending gets the correct information about what to wear and what to bring.

If bookings are taken for an event where there is no charge, be aware that these bookings may not be honoured, and people don't turn up in bad weather.

If tickets are sold at the local level or by the event manager on the day, make sure you have the correct cash handling policy in place.

Advance booking can also lead to useful data capture, which may help you promote future events.

The 'Swiss cheese model' is useful to consider the relative strengths, weaknesses and 'reality' of specified control measures.

Some controls such as notices and some instructions are known to be weak, whereas physical measures such as guards and safety switches on machines are relatively strong. Some paper controls may in reality be of little value.

In 99% of accidents the final control measure is a person failing to act safely. This indicates the importance of human factors in accident control.

An alternative to using a qualitative matrix for decision making is to ask for a subjective judgement to be made by the risk assessor as to the expected success of existing controls.

This model is currently used by the Peal District National Park Authority.

During the event

On the day of the event, be at the meeting point in good time. Make sure you are easily identifiable (for example, a name badge on corporate clothing).

If the event is pre-booked, carry a list of those coming and check them off as they arrive. If the list contains other personal information such as addresses or phone numbers make sure you dispose of it carefully after the event (shred it).

Check the suitability of clothing, footwear and equipment. If anyone is not suitably dressed or does not have the right equipment, and you know they have received full details of what to expect, make it clear that they do not meet the criteria for the event and politely explain why they cannot take part.

Run through any relevant points from the risk assessment with participants before starting the event.

Following the investigation into the Glenridding Beck tragedy the HSE urged people to ask "10 vital questions" about any proposed visits, including supposedly "low-risk" ones.

www.hse.gov.uk/schooltrips/tenquestions.htm

Organisations in the public sector are expected to lead the way in carrying out their functions clearly showing respect for equality and human rights. In delivering services, and devising policies and procedures, public authorities have a crucial role to play in promoting the values and practices of a fair and democratic society.

The Forestry Commission, as with all public organisations in England, Scotland and Wales, has legal responsibilities to tackle discrimination and promote equality on the grounds of race, disability and gender.

Equality and Diversity – what are they?

Equality is about creating a fairer society, where everyone can participate and everyone has the opportunity to fulfil their potential. It is mostly backed by legislation designed to address unfair discrimination based on membership of a particular group of people.

Equal opportunity practices include measures taken by organisations like ours to ensure fairness in employment, dealings with customers and others. Equality practices should impact on every aspect of all our working and personal lives.

Diversity is about recognising and valuing difference in its broadest sense. It is about creating a culture and practices that recognise, respect, value and harness difference. It is the sense that no matter where you come from, who you are, or what your background is, there is a place for you.

Equality and Diversity are not interchangeable, they need to be processed together. There is no equality of opportunity if difference (diversity) is not recognised and valued. We know that within the foreseeable future there will be new legal duties for age, sexual orientation and religion or belief. Therefore, the Forestry Commission, as with many other public organisations, has decided that we will extend our present legal responsibilities to include these additional elements of equality and diversity. Together, these are known as the Six Strands of Diversity.

- race;
- disability;
- gender;
- age;
- sexual orientation; and
- religion/belief.

Events

What do we need to do?

Large concerts and small guided walks all come within the scope of the DDA. This does not mean that a disabled person would get preferential treatment but it does mean that if it is reasonable to expect that disabled people will want to attend the event, this should be accommodated.

With a guided walk we should be prepared for all abilities but it would be acceptable to turn down a disabled person if the nature of the activity was unsafe or to change the event to include participation by a disabled person affected the nature of the activity. However, it is vital that all events should be planned to ensure that everyone can participate and be included as much as possible. Ideally within a programme of events there should be opportunities for a diverse range of disabled customers. This means that when somebody rings up to book events the person taking bookings must have full details of events. They should know whether wheelchairs are ok, do we have someone who can use sign language, are guide dogs ok, what, regarding the nature of the activity makes it inappropriate, steepness, boggy ground, viewing animals that would be scared by a dog. The person should also know what events we do have that could meet the persons needs.

With larger events, concerts, festivals etc, provision must be made for the disabled. The following issues need to be considered: access, ramps, viewing areas, facilities, support staff, signage for impaired vision, emergency evacuation and publicity.

Countryside for All - Interpretation Guidelines and Events Guidelines

<http://www.fieldfare.org.uk/>

HSE: The Event Safety Guide

Disability discrimination act

<http://www.legislation.hms.gov.uk/acts/acts1995/1995050.htm>

Disability discrimination act code <http://www.drc-gb.org/>
SENDA 2001 and Education (DSPEP) (Scotland) Act 2002 <http://www.drc-gb.org/>

Countryside for All - <http://www.fieldfare.org.uk/>

Examples of what to consider:

- Advertising – has the event been advertised in a way that is likely to attract the attention of various groups and in a way that helps them know they would be able to attend

Transport – how will people be able to get to you?

Access – are the facilities suitable for disabled people?

Culture – are the supervisors, stewards and hosts aware of the potentially different cultural traditions of the group?

Food – are there any particular dietary requirements and can these be provided in the café (if there is one) or other catering?

Faith – is there a need for a quiet time or private place for prayer during the visit?

First aid – are there any particular issues about providing first aid for the group?

- Understanding – are the supervisors, stewards and hosts sympathetic to the group and ready to learn from them?

- Signs and training – do you have to make any changes to make sure everyone in the group understands (for example, non-English speakers or English as second language, visual and hearing impairments, learning difficulties and mobility difficulties)?

- Feedback – it is important to understand how the event was received, and if you can make any alterations to make the next one better.

Guided Walk Risk Assessment (a generic risk assessment which is used by all the Community staff in Sherwood Forest District)

Brodsworth (this is an example of our site hazard risk assessment which site along side our activity risk assessment, which the Guided Walk RA would fit in with)
Site Specific Risk Assessment (this is completed by the Ranger on the day, to determine the top four risks for the event from the first two risk assessments)

Risk Assessment

‘Assessing the risks which arise from the hazard. The level of risk can be assessed by relating the hazard severity (the worst likely outcome) to the likelihood of it happening.’ (Risk rating)

Qualitative RA 3X3 Matrix - Risk = likelihood x Severity

AFAG 802 Emergency planning

Web address <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/afag802.pdf>

It may be interesting to read the Health & Safety Executives Big Event report which can be found at the following address:

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrhtm/rr790.htm>



Forestry Commission



Safety and Litigation aspect of Events



Forestry Commission

Risk Control Matrix





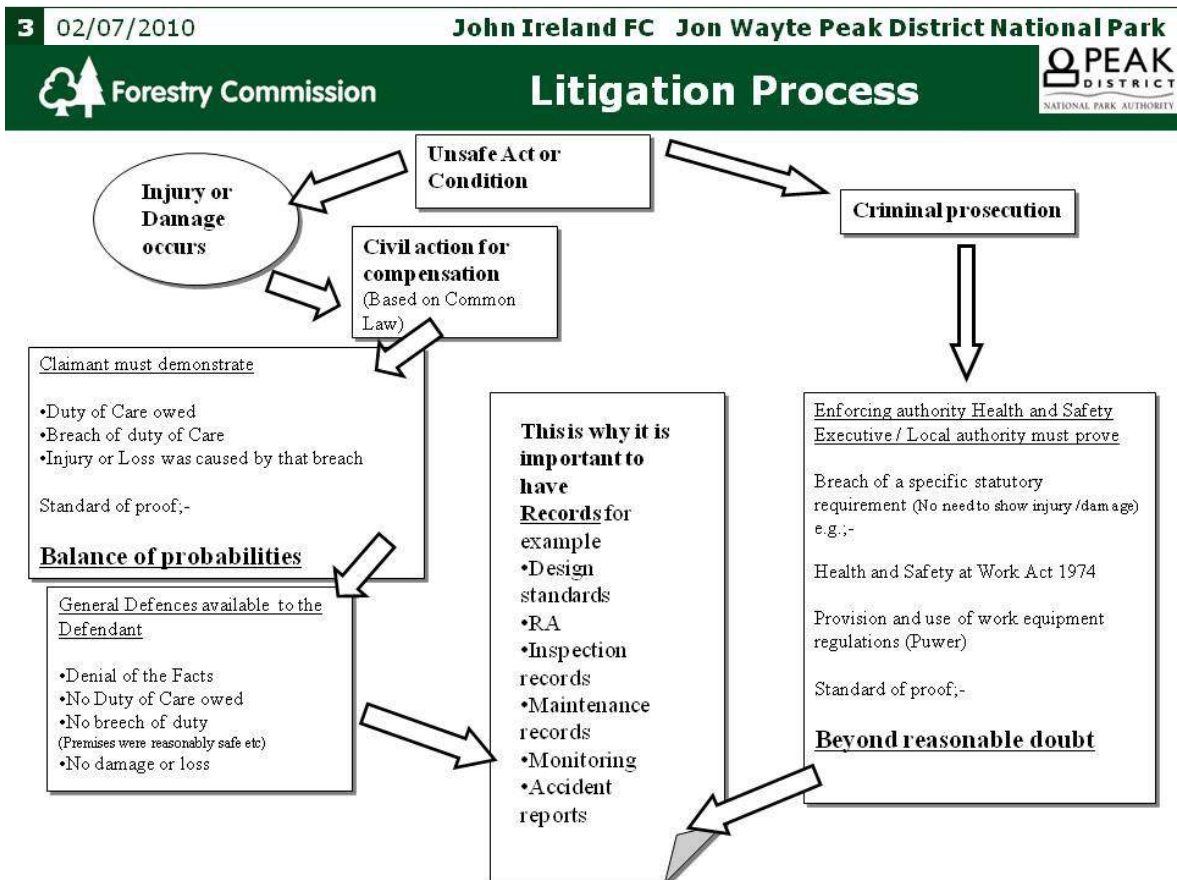
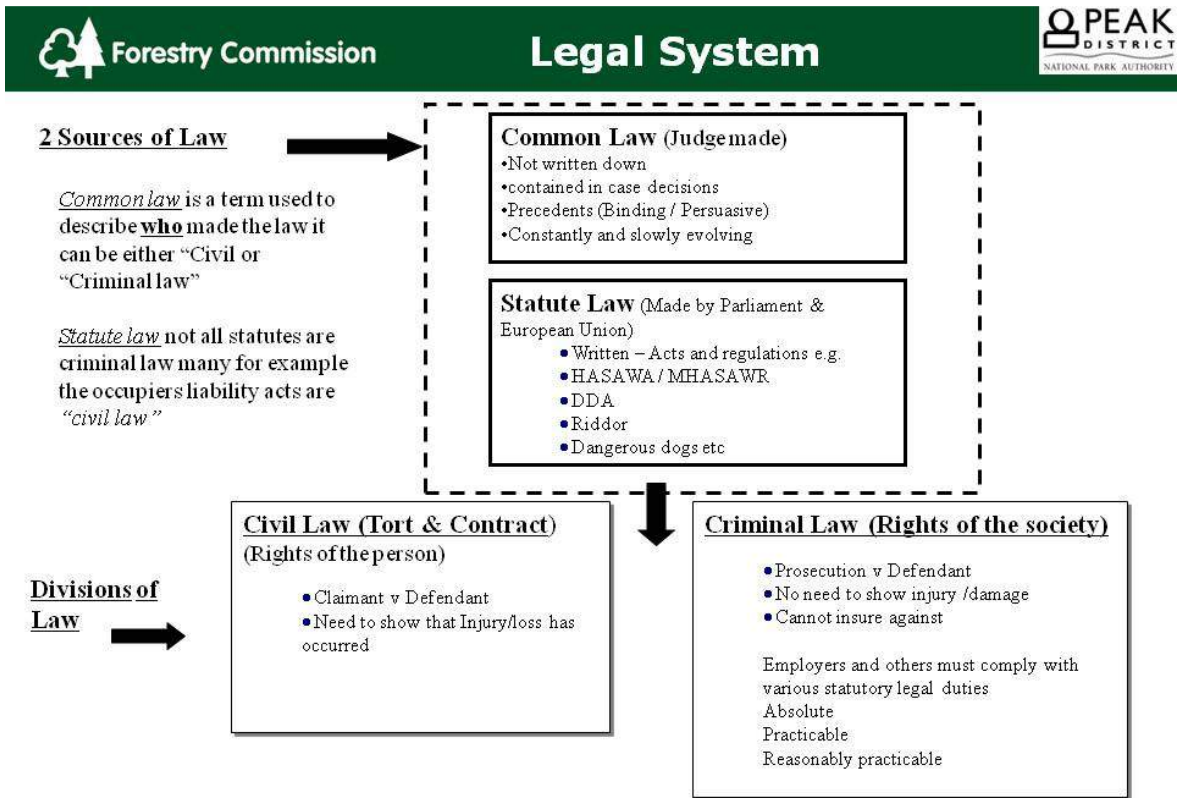
<p>WILD TERRAIN</p> <p>Extremely rugged terrain. High level of fitness required. No access facilities for the less able.</p>	<p>RUGGED TERRAIN</p> <p>Rugged terrain. Reasonable level of fitness required. Access facilities for the less able unlikely.</p>	<p>RURAL TERRAIN</p> <p>Varied terrain, modest level of fitness required. Limited access for the less able.</p>	<p>URBAN TERRAIN</p> <p>Easy terrain, accessible for all ages with full facilities for the less able.</p>
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LEVEL OF USER'S SKILL AND SELF RELIANCE			
<p>ADVANCED</p> <p>Advanced personal safety skills, training and experience of first aid, leadership, personal safety and self reliance are essential.</p>	<p>MODERATE</p> <p>Skills and knowledge of basic first aid, personal safety and self reliance are important.</p>	<p>MINOR</p> <p>An understanding of emergency first aid, personal safety and self reliance encouraged but not expected.</p>	<p>MINIMAL</p> <p>Skills and experience of emergency first aid, personal safety and self reliance not expected.</p>

LEVEL OF SUPPORT AND HAZARD		MANAGEMENT FROM LAND MANAGER OR OWNER	
<p>NONE / MINIMAL</p>	<p>MINOR</p> <p>Few warning signs. Limited use of physical safety measures.</p>	<p>MODERATE</p> <p>Some warning signs and physical safety measures likely.</p>	<p>MAJOR</p> <p>Warning signs, barriers and welfare provision expected.</p>

Visitor Safety In The Countryside Group

Web Site <http://www.vscg.co.uk/>





'an event is a service provided to the public, either free or charged for, which increases public awareness of outdoor recreation, our sites and in particular, our work'.

An event takes place for a set time, unlike an activity which is available all year.

Events can be a good way to increase familiarity and confidence with the forest environment and encourage groups that don't traditionally visit the forest to start visiting regularly.

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- small events will include activities such as guided walks and children's activities and generally be for groups of less than 100 people.
- Large events for over 100 people will include activities such as site open days, large craft fairs, theatre performances and concerts.
- Whatever the size of your event the management process is the same.

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Before you start to plan any event you must be clear about why you are organising it and what you hope to achieve.

Objectives may include:

- promote or raise the profile of a particular site, wildlife or benefits of outdoor exercise;
- increasing the awareness of your organisations work;
- introduce otherwise under-represented groups to the benefits of outdoor exercise; or
- generating income for your organisation.

Most events will have a theme and several objectives.

Once you have set these, think carefully about how you are going to publicise these messages during the event.

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- Licensing Act 2003.
- Adventure Activities Licensing Regulations 1996.
- Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 (HASAWA).
- Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (Management Regulations)
- Reporting of Injuries, Diseases, Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR)
- Disability Discrimination Act.
- Noise at Work Act.
- Private Security Industry Act 2001.

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- **Legal requirement under the Health and Safety at work regulations**

- We have a "Duty of care"
- Can reduce frequency and risk of accidents

5 steps to RA (HSE):

- Step 1 – look for the hazard
- Step 2 – decide who might be harmed and how
- Step 3 – evaluate the risks and decide whether existing precautions are adequate or more should be done
- Step 4 – record your findings
- Step 5 - review your assessment and revise if necessary.

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- **What Is a Risk Assessment (RA)?**
- RA is a systematic evaluation that identifies the hazards present and evaluates the extent of the risks involved.
- You will need to rank the Hazards to establish those which, when there are no controls in place, present the highest risk. To determine the level of risk consider:
 - Who could be harmed?
 - How severe is the hazard (what is the worst likely outcome)?
 - How likely is it to happen if you assume there are no controls in place?

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 **Forestry Commission** **Qualitative RA 3X3 Matrix** 

	RISK RATING		3	2	1	
Likelihood	HIGH Likely certain or near certain that harm will occur	3	9	6	3	RED
	MEDIUM Possible harm will occur often	2	6	4	2	AMBER
	LOW Improbable harm will seldom occur	1	3	2	1	GREEN
			MAJOR Death or major injury or illness causing long term disability	SERIOUS Significant injury causing short term disability	SLIGHT All other injuries or illness	
SEVERITY						
Risk = likelihood x Severity						

Risk rating	Action Required
6-9	High risk and may require the provision of considerable resources involving special equipment training high levels of supervision and consideration of the most effective methods of eliminating and controlling hazards
3-4	Medium risk and will require an appropriate level of resource
1-2	Low risk but actions should still be taken to try to reduce these risks further if possible within reasonable limits.

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 **Forestry Commission** **Risk Assessment** 

- **Hazard** - anything with the potential to cause harm e.g. any situation that could contribute to an accident ,electricity, dipping pond, dangerous tree). (Ignore the Trivial and concentrate only on significant hazards which could result in serious harm or affect several people.)
- **Risk** - the chance high or low that somebody will be harmed by the "hazard"

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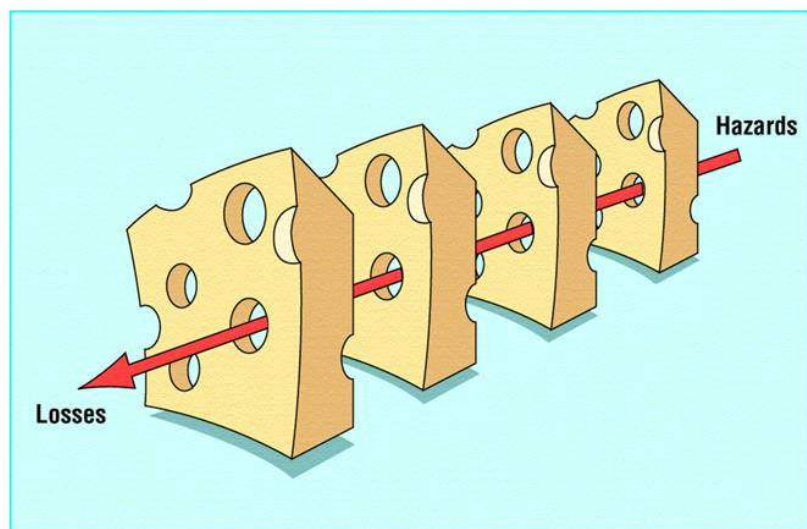
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- **Risk Control**
- 'Deciding on suitable measures to eliminate or control risk.'
- involves identifying the best ways of controlling the risks. Do this by referring to current HSE and your organisations guidance and industry best practice.
- You are at this stage required to make a judgement on whether the controls are Adequate to Eliminate or Reduce the risk to an Acceptable (low) level.

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(Delete as appropriate)

- 1. A serious risk remains requiring immediate action as detailed below**
- 2. A significant risk remains and will be further dealt with as detailed below**
- 3. This is considered a low/acceptable risk that is currently sufficiently well controlled**

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You will want to be able to show that

- A proper check was made
- You asked who might be affected
- You dealt with the obvious significant hazards
- The precautions are reasonable and the remaining risk is low

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1. **What are the main objectives of the visit?**
2. **What is "Plan B" if the main objectives can't be achieved?**
3. **What could go wrong ? Does the risk assessment cover:**
 - The main activity
 - "Plan B"
 - Travel arrangements
 - Emergency procedures
 - Staff numbers, gender and skill mixes
 - Generic and site-specific hazards and risks (including for Plan B)
 - Variable hazards (including environmental and participants' personal abilities and the 'cut off' points).
4. **What information will be provided for parents?**
5. **What consents will be sought?**
6. **What opportunities will parents have to ask questions (including any arrangements for a parents' meeting)?**
7. **What assurances are there of the leader's competencies?**
8. **What are the communication arrangements?**
9. **What are the arrangements for supervision, both during activities and 'free time' – is there a Code of Conduct?**
10. **What are the arrangements for monitoring and reviewing the visit?**

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- **Record the Risk Assessment**
- 'Write down the significant findings of the risk assessment.'
- You must record the significant findings of the Risk Assessment – The level of detail recorded needs to equate to the level of risk.
- **Review your assessment regularly and revise it if necessary**

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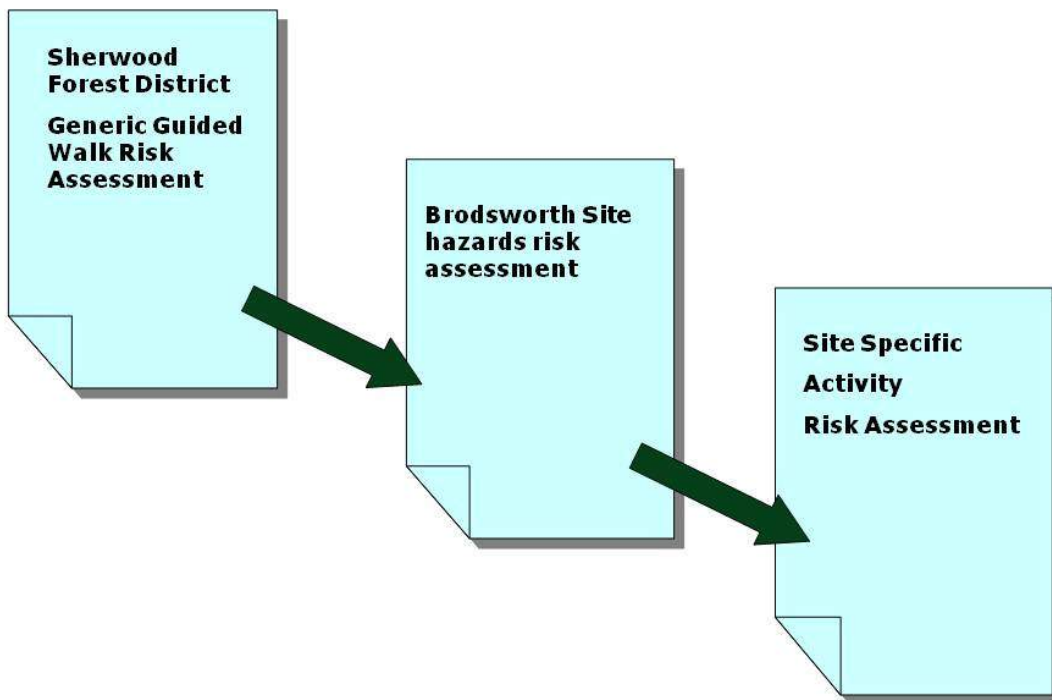
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"It is unlawful for a public authority exercising a function of a public nature to perform any act that constitutes discrimination."

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 Forestry Commission	Example Generic Risk Assessment	
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Activity	Guided Walk - <i>Earthwalks, Orienteering</i>
Location	All South Yorkshire Sites
Time Period Covered	1st April 2009 – 31st March 2010
Employees covered by risk assessment	Community Rangers, Recreation Rangers, Education Rangers
Members of public covered by risk assessment	Volunteers, Walk Participants, Public, Teachers, Children, Parent Helpers
The AFAG units of competence & F.E.S.S. required	AFAG 802

Hazard	Location	Persons Exposed	Risk level	Control Measures	Implementation/Monitoring
Separation from group activity	On site	Walk Participants	Medium	Plan supervision before visit. Introductory & safety talk to clearly state areas of the forest to be explored. Leave no-one isolated on site. First aid and accident reporting procedure in place; leader to carry mobile phone.	Ranger to ensure volunteer/leader aware of emergency procedures. Ranger to ensure group remain together when walking to site. Ranger & group leader to take regular head counts to ensure the group are together.

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 Forestry Commission	Example Generic Risk Assessment	
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Hazard	Location	Persons Exposed	Risk level	Control Measures	Implementation/Monitoring
Inappropriate clothing/footwear	On participants	Walk Participants	Medium	Publicity/pre-visits/booking forms to include a clear statement on appropriate clothing.	Leader to monitor group on arrival and to prohibit anyone from the activity who has inappropriate clothing and/or footwear.
Exposure to extreme weather conditions	On site	Ranger Volunteer Leader Walk Participants	Medium	Leader to ensure that all participants have adequate clothing. Suspend work outdoors if conditions become too extreme. Leader to carry suntan lotion in sunny weather.	Leader to monitor group and weather conditions on arrival and throughout the activity.

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"Managing Outdoor Events & their Impacts"

Introduction

The purpose of this leaflet is to help minimise the time taken for the emergency services to reach you and advise on ways to minimise the risk to operators if there is an emergency. It also highlights the need to include environmental and other emergencies within the planning process.

You can use this leaflet as part of the risk assessment process to help identify controls which can be used as part of an emergency planning procedure.

Precautions

- 1 Avoid working alone. If you must, you should make arrangements for someone to check on you at regular intervals. The greater the risk, the more frequent the checks should be. As a minimum requirement, always inform your contact when work starts and finishes.
- 2 If you are part of a team scattered across an area, everyone in the team should arrange to meet at agreed times throughout the day.
- 3 Carry a personal first-aid kit on you while at work. It should contain at least a large wound dressing, a pair of plastic gloves and a Resuscitator (or similar device). This is in addition to a worksite first-aid kit which should be kept at a central location (see HSE leaflet IND2214 First aid at work (your questions answered)).
- 4 Employers and the self-employed need to assess the first-aid requirements of their work. Make sure there are enough suitably trained first-aid personnel (first-aiders) and facilities so that immediate assistance is available to casualties of illness or injury, and that an ambulance or other professional help can be summoned without delay. The assessment should also identify which items need to be in the worksite first-aid kit.
- 5 The first-aid assessment should take account of:
 - the nature of the work;
 - the past history and consequences of accidents;
 - the nature and distribution of the workforce;
 - the remoteness of the site from the emergency services, including location, terrain and weather conditions;
 - working on shared or multi-occupied sites;
 - holidays and other absences of first-aiders;
 - the presence of trainees and the public;
 - the possibility of medical conditions or allergies. (The use of MedicaAlert® may be considered – Tel: 0800 581 420 for details.)

Forward planning

- 6 For any emergency procedures to work well, it is vital that all operators and managers are aware of the procedures and have had the opportunity to test them.
- 7 Anticipate problems that will exist in getting to a casualty, eg tree climbing and the need for aerial tree rescue (see AFAG leaflet 402 Aerial tree rescue) or releasing a casualty that has been trapped below a tree or heavy equipment. Identify the personnel and equipment that need to be on site and establish how to quickly get access to others that may become necessary.
- 8 Identify hazardous overhead or underground services at the worksite, eg overhead/underground power lines, gas mains etc. Arrange any emergency contact details and site evacuation procedures that may be necessary.
- 9 Be aware that a spillage of petrol, diesel, uraa or pesticide can cause harm to the environment (particularly aquatic plants and animals) and contaminate drinking water supplies. Emergency procedures should be put in place and followed if there is a spill. They should include contact details, what needs to go in a spill kit, how to use it and where it should be deployed.
- 10 Emergency procedures should be tested, evaluated and modified, as necessary, to ensure they are working.

Emergency procedures

- 11 If there is an emergency, make sure the site is safe for you, the casualty and any other people in the area. Look out for hung-up trees, dangerous parts of machinery, high-voltage electricity cables etc.
- 12 Put in place a system for contacting the emergency services, power/gas/water companies and environmental agencies (EA/SEPA) as necessary. Ensure the system is clearly understood by all people working on the site. Identify areas of poor radio and mobile telephone reception. The emergency services may be contacted using a mobile phone (112 or 999) or public telephone (999).
- 13 Ensure you know your location. Be able to provide the emergency services with the necessary information to find the site, eg the grid reference and the access points from the main road to your location in the forest or woodland. In urban areas street names will be required. If possible send someone to meet the emergency services at a designated meeting point to guide them to the site.
- 14 Evacuation measures need to be examined as part of the risk assessment by the owner, site manager or main contractor and outlined in the site safety rules. You should make sure you are familiar with the evacuation procedure.
- 15 If after first aid has been administered the casualty can walk and is near to transport or the roadside, help them leave the area. Otherwise only move them if it is absolutely necessary. If the casualty must be carried, wait for trained help to arrive.

- 16 The completed emergency procedures should be recorded and should accompany the site-specific risk assessment. A simple example is given below.

Emergency procedures- Contact details

Location name	
Grid reference	
Designated meeting place (useful in remote areas to guide the emergency services to the worksite)	
Site location name	
Nearest access point	
Street name/district	
Type of access (public road/light vehicles, four-wheel drive)	
Suitable helicopter landing area	
Phone number of nearest doctor	
Location of nearest Accident and Emergency hospital	
Phone number	
Works Manager contact details	
Radio call sign	
Phone number	
Mobile number	
Your own contact number	
Mobile number	

02/07/2010

John Ireland FC Jon Wayte Peak District National Park

Site	Brodsworth Community Woodland
Location and Grid ref	Long Lands Lane, Nr Woodlands, Doncaster Grid Ref: SE 524 078 Explorer 279 1:25 000
Time Period Covered	1st April 2009 to 31st March 2010
Employees covered by risk assessment	Rangers, Work Supervisor, Forester, Shadow Rangers
Members of public covered by risk assessment	Volunteers, Event Participants, Public, Teachers, Children, Parent Helpers

02/07/2010

John Ireland FC Jon Wayte Peak District National Park

Forestry Commission		Site hazards RA			PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY
Hazard	Location	Persons Exposed	Risk level	Control Measures	Implementation/Monitoring
Uneven track / Path surface	On Site	All site users	Low	Monitor the standard of all footpaths reporting erosion/ reduction issues that may cause a hazard through monthly facility checks.	The site Community Ranger is responsible for providing the facility check. Forest Work Supervisor to notify Site contractors of work required.
Litter (needles/glass)	On site	All site users	Low	Monitoring of litter levels and type. Rangers and works supervisor have access to sharps bins and/or contact details for FLAG to arrange safe disposal.	All staff to make a visual inspection during site visit. Rangers work with Local Authority for removal of needles and drug related materials where necessary.

02/07/2010 **John Ireland FC Jon Wayte Peak District National Park**

Forestry Commission		Site hazards RA			PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY
Hazard	Location	Persons Exposed	Risk level	Control Measures	Implementation/Monitoring
Open Water	On site	All site users (children in particular)	Medium	Provision of throw ropes during events, where necessary and water safety signage on site.	Community Rangers to check equipment during facility check.
Discarded metal work and belting	On site	All site users	Low	Regular site checks and monthly facility checks to ensure the site is clear of debris. Contractors are contacted for removal.	The Community Ranger is responsible for providing the facility check. Forest Work Supervisor to notify contractors for the removal of material.
Animal faeces	On site	All site users	Low	Clearance prior to an event and continual monitoring.	Community Rangers for the event are responsible for checking event area.

02/07/2010 **John Ireland FC Jon Wayte Peak District National Park**

"Managing Outdoor Events & their Impacts"

Forestry Commission Site hazards RA 

Hazard	Location	Persons Exposed	Risk level	Control Measures	Implementation/Monitoring
Attack/abusive behaviour by a member of the public	On Site	All site users	Low	Staff / volunteers trained in managing conflict	Regular patrols by the Community Rangers and South Yorkshire Team. Reporting Incidents to the local police force.
Mining Shaft Cover, causing trip hazard	On Site by Long Lands Lane Car Park	All site users	Low	Keep vegetation mentioned around shaft cover to enhance visibility. When organised events covering that area fence off. Keep ditches maintained around area to reduce public access.	Community Ranger to monitor through monthly facility checks. Forest Work Supervisor to implement any issues arising from Facility Checks.

02/07/2010



John Ireland FC Jon Wayte Peak District National Park

Forestry Commission Site hazards RA 

Hazard	Location	Persons Exposed	Risk level	Control Measures	Implementation/Monitoring
Steep Slope	A1(M) side of the site from mature woodland	All Site users	Low	Signage to be put in place when organised events are on to warn people. Particularly when using bikes	Community Ranger to put in place and maintain.
Mud Flats and Quick Sand	On site	All site users, (children in particular)	Low	Provision of notices where necessary to warn the general public.	Community Ranger is responsible for providing the facility check. Forest Work Supervisor to Notify Contractors.



02/07/2010

John Ireland FC Jon Wayte Peak District National Park

 Forestry Commission Site hazards RA					
Hazard	Location	Persons Exposed	Risk level	Control Measures	Implementation/Monitoring
Barbed Wire	On site	All site users	Low	Where possible remove from fence line. Community Ranger to monitor safety in facility checks	Community Ranger to provide facility checks. Forest Work Supervisor to notify contractors for removal when required.
Unauthorised vehicles	On site	All site users	Low	Signage where unauthorised vehicles access site, Provision of contact details for police and Community Ranger on site. Inform Police of illegal usage	Community Rangers to inform Police of Incidents. Forest Work Supervisor to have signage erected where necessary.

02/07/2010

John Ireland FC Jon Wayte Peak District National Park

 Forestry Commission Site hazards RA					
Hazard	Location	Persons Exposed	Risk level	Control Measures	Implementation/Monitoring
Vandalism	All fixed facilities	All Site users	Low	Regular site checks and monthly facility checks to ensure that fixed facilities (Activity room, benches, sculptures, mini interpretation panels etc.) are suited for use. Where vandalism has occurred the facility should be removed or made as secure and visual as possible, until fixed.	Community Ranger to monitor and report back in Facility Check. Works Supervisor to report to Contractors for removal when required.
Ditches	All fixed facilities	All Site users	Low	Keep vegetation maintained around ditches to maintain visibility. Keep planned events away from ditches where possible and provide safety talks when necessary	Community Rangers to monitor through facility checks. Forest Work Supervisor to report to contractors.

02/07/2010

John Ireland FC Jon Wayte Peak District National Park

 **Forestry Commission** **Site hazards RA** 

Hazard	Location	Persons Exposed	Risk level	Control Measures	Implementation/Monitoring
All fixed facilities causing slips, trips and falls	All fixed facilities and site in general	All site users (children in particular)	Low	To ensure that the areas surrounding fixed facilities (Activity room, benches, orienteering course, sculptures, Interpretation panels etc. is clear of debris	Community Rangers to check vegetation, equipment and surrounding areas during facility checks.
Invasive Plants	On Site	All Site users	Low	Monitoring of irritating/poisonous plants on site. Removal where necessary around event areas	Community Ranger to monitor and report back in Facility Check. Forest Work Supervisor to report to Contractors for removal when required.

02/07/2010 **John Ireland FC Jon Wayte Peak District National Park**
 **Forestry Commission** **Activity RA Guided Walks** 

Site	Brodsworth Community Woodland
Location and Grid ref	Long Lands Lane, Nr Woodlands, Doncaster Grid Ref: SE 524 078 Explorer 279 1:25 000
Time Period Covered	1st April 2009 to 31st March 2010
Employees covered by risk assessment	Community Rangers, Work Supervisor, Forester, Shadow Rangers
Members of public covered by risk assessment	Volunteers, Event Participants, Public, Teachers, Children, Parent Helpers

 **Forestry Commission Activity RA Guided Walks** 

Hazard	Location	Persons Exposed	Risk level	Control Measures	Implementation/Monitoring
Separation from group activity	On site	Walk Participants	Medium	Plan supervision before visit. Introductory & safety talk to clearly state areas of the forest to be explored. Leave no-one isolated on site. First aid and accident reporting procedure in place; leader to carry mobile phone.	Ranger to ensure volunteer/leader aware of Emergency procedures. Ranger to ensure group remain together when walking to site. Ranger & group leader to take regular head counts to ensure the group are together.
Inappropriate clothing/footwear	On participants	Walk Participants	Medium	Publicity/pre-visits/booking forms to include a clear statement on appropriate clothing.	Leader to monitor group on arrival and to prohibit anyone from the activity who has inappropriate clothing and/or footwear.

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 **Forestry Commission Activity RA Guided Walks** 

Hazard	Location	Persons Exposed	Risk level	Control Measures	Implementation/Monitoring
Exposure to extreme weather conditions	On site	Ranger Volunteer Leader Walk Participants	Medium	Leader to ensure that all participants have adequate clothing. Suspend work outdoors if conditions become too bad. Leader to carry suntan lotion in hot weather.	Leader to monitor group and weather conditions on arrival and throughout the activity.
Injury from equipment	On session	Walk Participants Public	low	Equipment checked before and after each session. Leader to advise group on safe use of equipment.	Supervision by leader during the activity.

02/07/2010

John Ireland FC Jon Wayte Peak District National Park



Forestry Commission

Contact details



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Managing guided walks, trails and events in sensitive environments

David Switzer
Access & Recreation Developer
Lake District National Park Authority

Introduction

The Lake District National Park was established in 1951 and is England's largest national park at 885 sq miles. It has approximately 12 million visitors a year, many of whom come to take part in outdoor recreational activities.

The Lake District National Park Authority, along with our partner organisations, has a 25 year Vision for the Lake District National Park which runs from 2006-2030.

The vision is that the Lake District National Park will be an inspirational example of sustainable development in action.

Cumbria is nationally and internationally known as an area of outstanding beauty combined with a landscape which gives great opportunities for use as an 'outdoor playground'. We want to provide high quality and unique experiences for visitors within a stunning and globally significant landscape. The Lake District is hugely popular for outdoor recreation including walking, cycling, climbing and water-sports. But these have to be managed to ensure that natural and cultural resources are assets of this landscape are used wisely and conserved for future generations.

The area has always attracted people keen to take part in outdoor recreation but as demand has grown through an increase in available leisure time and a desire for healthier lifestyles, awareness has also grown regarding the environmental impacts of large numbers of people using our upland landscapes for outdoor activities. These impacts include:

- Trampling.
- Vegetation loss.
- Footpath erosion.
- Creation of new and 'secondary' footpaths.
- Increased levels of sediment in lakes and rivers.
- Habitat and biodiversity loss.

The Lake District National Park Authority has a role to play in managing or influencing these recreational activities and impacts in the park. We support and work with key partners and stakeholders to manage access and recreational activity in a way that minimises conflict and enables people to enjoy and understand the landscape.

Key activities include managing the rights of way network, including paths on the fells, providing guided walks in the park and helping to manage the impacts of organised recreational events.

Guided walks

The Lake District National Park Authority provides a wide range of activities including a guided walks programme, activities for schools, children and families, and taster sessions for outdoor activities at our visitor centre.

Each year we run about 300 guided walks throughout the park, mainly lead by our volunteer service. These guided walks offer fresh air and adventure led by friendly, knowledgeable volunteers and are very popular, with some visitors basing their holidays around our walks programme.

The walks are all held on rights of way or other paths and are graded - easy, moderate, hard and strenuous. Only a few walks are held on the high fells, as we believe that high fell guided walks are better delivered by professional walking guides.

The walks programme is planned in advance and all routes are assessed and approved by LDNPA staff working alongside the volunteer walk leaders. Risk assessments are carried out and numbers are controlled – one leader per 15 walkers on easy routes and 1 leader to 10 walkers on other routes.

Volunteer walk leaders also carry out familiarisation walks of the routes to be used. An important function of this is to note any environmental sensitive areas or damaged paths, and therefore the route changed if necessary.

Rights of way network

There are 3046 km of public footpath, bridleway and byways within the national park. These are regularly surveyed by staff and voluntary rangers. By monitoring the condition of paths we can then repair, maintain, prevent the stopping up or obstruction of paths and improve to work towards our goal of achieving excellence in this area.

We carry out practical projects that make the most of the opportunities offered by access and recreation. Much of this work is now carried out to deliver the Cumbria Rights of Way Improvement Plan (CROWIP) through the Cumbria Countryside Access partnership (CCAP).

We aim to improve accessibility to the countryside for those with limited mobility and we have an Access Improvement Fund that supports capital schemes within the Lake District National Park that extend the countryside path network or make it more accessible for everyone to enjoy. This can include improving path surfaces for cyclists and people with limited mobility and remove or replace stiles, and improve bridges and gates to make the countryside more accessible.

Paths for people with limited mobility are those that can be improved for some or all of the following: wheelchair-users, the visually impaired, parents or carers with pushchairs, or those who simply find it difficult to negotiate stiles or rough ground.

These are promoted under the banner of 'Miles without Stiles' routes. A booklet has been produced which currently shows 39 routes MwS routes, some of these developed from following ROWIP consultation with the public.

The work to improve accessibility needs to be sensitive to landscape. We want to improve access where appropriate by improved surfacing, sign-posting, furniture, etc but we don't want to urbanise "wilderness areas".

Fix the Fells Project

Walking in the high fells is one of the main activities for both locals and visitors to the Lake District, but popularity has its drawbacks. Erosion scars caused by the passage of millions of feet can damage the landscape irrevocably. In the Lake District we are striving to repair access related erosion to ensure the landscape is maintained as a spectacular landscape that we're proud to hand on to future generations. Erosion can include very wide paths or very deeply eroded channels.

To tackle this issue a partnership project, called "Fix the Fells", involving ourselves, the National Trust and Natural England has been addressing the problem over recent years. A five-year Heritage Lottery Fund award from 2007-11 is building on what has already been achieved. The Partnership utilises the experience and best attributes of each organisation. Other organisations involved in the work are the Field Studies Council, Friends of the Lake District and Tourism and Conservation Partnership. The project repairs seriously eroded landscapes and associated paths resulting from access coupled with the effects of the Lake District climate.

Most practical work carried out by highly skilled teams employed by the National Trust or contractors. Training takes six months full time, so it is not realistic for volunteers to do the majority of the work. All work carried out in strict accordance with the nationally agreed best practice guidelines. Only use traditional, locally occurring techniques with modern adaptations to suit current use. No imported material other than seed and fertiliser, approved by Natural England for use on SSSIs. All work is planned 18 months or more in advance with strict set of controls and checks.

Some of the methods can be controversial and can provoke adverse publicity, and therefore an important part of the project is also to promote an understanding of what the project is doing and why.

Promoted/long-distance walks

Within the national park and wider Cumbria there are a number of promoted long-distance walks, e.g. Cumbria Way, Windermere Way, Allerdale Ramble, Dales Way. These are not national trails and therefore are not managed by Natural England but have been set up by various bodies and organisations. How these routes are supported has been considered recently by the Cumbria Countryside Access partnership. The CCAP are trialing a joint approach to the management of the Dales Way and Cumbria Way. This may include working with the host organisation, in this case the Dales Way Association, on how the route can be maintained, improved and promoted.

Organised Recreational Events

There are an increasing number of organised recreational events in the Lake District National Park. These range from large challenge events with 1000+ competitors, to smaller scale activities with less than a hundred competitors. There are also a large number of charity events take place, the most popular of which is the 3-peaks challenge.

It is likely that the numbers of these events will continue to grow due to the marketing of Cumbria as the 'Adventure Capital'. Events make an important contribution to the vibrancy and economy of the area and promote the benefits of health and fitness to participants. For example in 6000 people took part in the Great North Swim in Windermere in September 2009, with a local economic impact estimated of £1.5 million. Nevertheless, events have the potential to put pressures upon the natural environment, the cultural and social identities of local communities and on the infrastructures which support the region.

Practical management of events

We encourage event organizers to contact us well in advance of their event to enable us to discuss any concerns or issues. Our rangers and other partners can advise on appropriate routes, areas to avoid, and other events that may be occurring in the local area. In addition we have worked closely with the Institute of Fundraising and partners at Ben Nevis and Snowdonia on the revision of the IoF's code of Conduct for Outdoor Challenge events.

A particular concern has been the impacts of the large numbers of charity "3-Peak challengers". Issues include erosion on Scafell Pike itself, but also disruption to the local community at Wasdale where many challengers start their ascent of Scafell Pike. Recently we have been working with the local community and the National Trust to tackle some of these issues by providing new temporary toilets, tackling parking problems and providing litter-bins. It is hoped that in future we can work more closely in partnership with the charities to ensure that the sustainable management of the 3-Peaks challenges.

Sustainable management of Events

A growing concern and awareness of the potential for negative impacts to the environment and local communities through the increasing growth of events has led to the need to address the question of sustainability through developing effective and beneficial management and mitigation strategies.

Whilst it is a far from clear cut argument that large-scale events have a greater detrimental effect on the natural environment than the collective impact of regular, individual or small groups of recreational users, the results research study suggest that large-scale events may be adding to erosion problems already in existence and could, in some circumstances create localised issues through for example, parking in fields and creation of new path diversions.

The most useful position to take in addressing the issues of environmental degradation therefore, is to acknowledge that it is inevitable that any, and all, recreational users of the natural environment will impact upon that environment

and that it is in the best interests of all users to seek to use and promote sustainable practices to mitigate and manage these impacts.

A partnership of the Tourism and Conservation Partnership, Friends of the Lake District, the Lake District National Park Authority, the National Trust and Natural England commissioned a research study in order to assess the impacts and find ways to develop and implement sustainable practices in the organisation and running of large-scale events across Cumbria.

A set of recommendations drawn from the study results includes:

- Developing a 'best practice' toolkit for event organisers.
- a "one-stop shop" for event organisers
- A possible opt-out payback scheme for events
- Post event impact assessments
- Sustainable travel planning for events
- Carbon mitigation as part of planning

Organised Recreational Events Unit & calendar

Currently the Cumbria County Council along with the LDNPA and other partners are seeking to set-up what would become a "one-stop shop" for event organisers to access resources and services in order to run a safe and successful event in Cumbria. A more coordinated approach to events between event organisers and stakeholders would ensure smoother running of events in terms of safety and sustainability; in addition to having promoting greater local community and business involvement

Conclusion

Cumbria has been graced by a spectacular outdoor landscape making it an attractive area for outdoor recreational activities. We have a clear vision that we want people to enjoy the outdoor environment, and to have the opportunity to use, understand and be inspired by it but also to take action to conserve it.

Managing guided walks, trails and events in sensitive environments



David Switzer
Access and Recreation Developer
Lake District National Park

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Outline

- Introduction to the Lake District
- Recreational activities and impacts
- LDNPA guided walks
- Trails
 - Rights of way network
 - Fix the Fells
 - Promoted trails
- Organised recreational events

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Facts and Figures

- LDNP established 1951
- Own approx 4% of land
- Largest national park - 885 sq miles
- 15.5 million visitors per year



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The Vision

- Prosperous Economy
- World Class Visitor Experiences
- Vibrant Communities
- Spectacular Landscape
- Achieving Excellence



Context

- Countryside – an asset
- Protected landscapes – opportunity & constraint
- Recreation – awareness and well-being



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Impacts

- Landscape provides great opportunities for use as an 'outdoor playground'.
- But environmental impacts of large numbers of people using our upland landscapes for outdoor activities.
 - Trampling.
 - Vegetation loss.
 - Footpath erosion.
 - Creation of new and 'secondary' footpaths.
 - Increased levels of sediment in lakes and rivers.
 - Habitat and biodiversity loss.

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Guided walks



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Guided walks

- 300 -350 a year – led by volunteers
- Routes – all on rights of way or other paths
- Graded - Easy, moderate, hard and strenuous
- Only a few on high fells –high fell walking left to professionals.
- Most people from NW regions - some visitors base holidays around our walks

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Guided walks - planning

- Routes assessed each year – LDNPA approves routes to be used.
- Volunteer does familiarisation walk – route changed if necessary e.g. due to damage on path, environmental sensitivity
- Routes risk-assessed before walk.
- Numbers controlled - 1 leader per 15 on easy, 1 to 10 on others
- Alternative routes if bad weather
- % of walks are Fix the Fells walks – showing people what this project is doing

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Managing Trails

- Rights of way network
- Fix the Fells
- Promoted trails



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Rights of way network

- 3046 km of public footpath, bridleway & byways
- Target of 86% passing ease of use
- Surveys by staff and voluntary rangers
- Carry out maintenance and improvement work - ROWIP
- Some are managed as Miles without Stiles routes to increase accessibility to Park

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Miles without Stiles



Eskdale TRail



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Fix the Fells Project



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Fix the Fells Project



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Fix the Fells Project



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Lake District
National Park 

**Wansfell
before
pitching
work**

**Wansfell
after
pitching
work**



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Fix the Fells Project

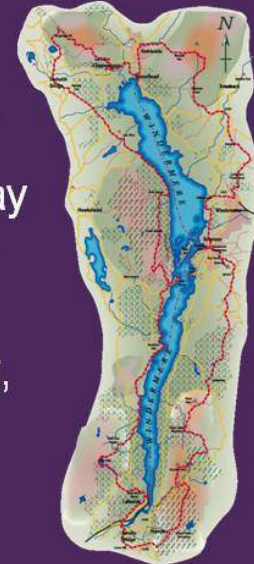
- Coledale Hause – soil inversion



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Promoted/long-distance walks

- Long-distance walks
- Which do we support or promote?
- Support Cumbria Way & Dales way
- Work with host organisation– they do survey, they suggest improvements and provide money, we may provide some labour



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- Increasing number of Organised recreational events in the Lake District National Park
- From large challenge events with 1000+ competitors, to smaller scale activities with less than one hundred competitors.
- Likely that will continue to grow due to the marketing of Cumbria as the ‘Adventure Capital’

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Outdoor Recreational Events

- Practical management
 - Work with organisers to advise on practicalities of events and address any concerns
 - Work with IoF on revised Code of Conduct for outdoor charity events
 - Specific support at key sites/events e.g.
 - Great North Swim
 - Three-peaks challenge

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Three-peaks challenge

- Thousand of participants each year
- Raising money for good causes but can have impacts on mountain and surrounding area
- Working with local community, National Trust and charities to promote sustainability and tackle specific issues.
 - Litter
 - Parking
 - Lack of toilets

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Three-peaks challenge



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Outdoor Recreational Events

- Likely to lead to a greater influx of people as well as an increase in number of events.
- Concerns about how these increases may impact not only the landscape, but also on local communities
- Research to assess the impacts
- Develop sustainable practices in the organisation and running of events

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What is happening in the Lake District?

- Perception
- Reality
- Type of events & activity
- Number of events & activity



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Perception

- More events and more people
- Inappropriate activities
- There is money to be made
- Traditional is okay
- Flora and fauna will suffer
- Cumulative impact is damaging
- It's not sustainable
- Countryside is not a playground



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Reality – could be:

- Promoting opportunities for understanding and enjoyment
- Economic values of countryside optimised locally
- Diverse needs met
- Delivering quality recreation and conservation aims



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Events & activity – Lake District

EVENT TYPE Per year	Numbers of Participants
Water-based	8,500
Biking & Motor	5,000
Running/Walking & Orienteering	22,000
Triathlon/Mixed events	4,000
3 Peaks Challenge	6,000
Total conservative estimate	45,500

EVENT TYPE Per year	Number of Events
Water-based	16
Biking & Motor	16
Running/Walking & Orienteering	60
Triathlon/Mixed events	16
3 Peaks Challenge	40
Total conservative estimate	142

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Outdoor Recreational Events

- A set of recommendations drawn from the study results includes:
- Developing a 'best practice' toolkit for event organisers.
- Opt-out payback scheme for events within designated areas
- Post event impact assessments
- Sustainable travel planning for events
- Carbon mitigation as part of planning

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Events unit/calendar

- Lack of communication between event organisers and interested parties
- Can result in problems such as
 - major incidents
 - traffic management
 - erosion of the landscape.
- Need a more coordinated approach – a “one-stop shop” for event organisers



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A clear Vision

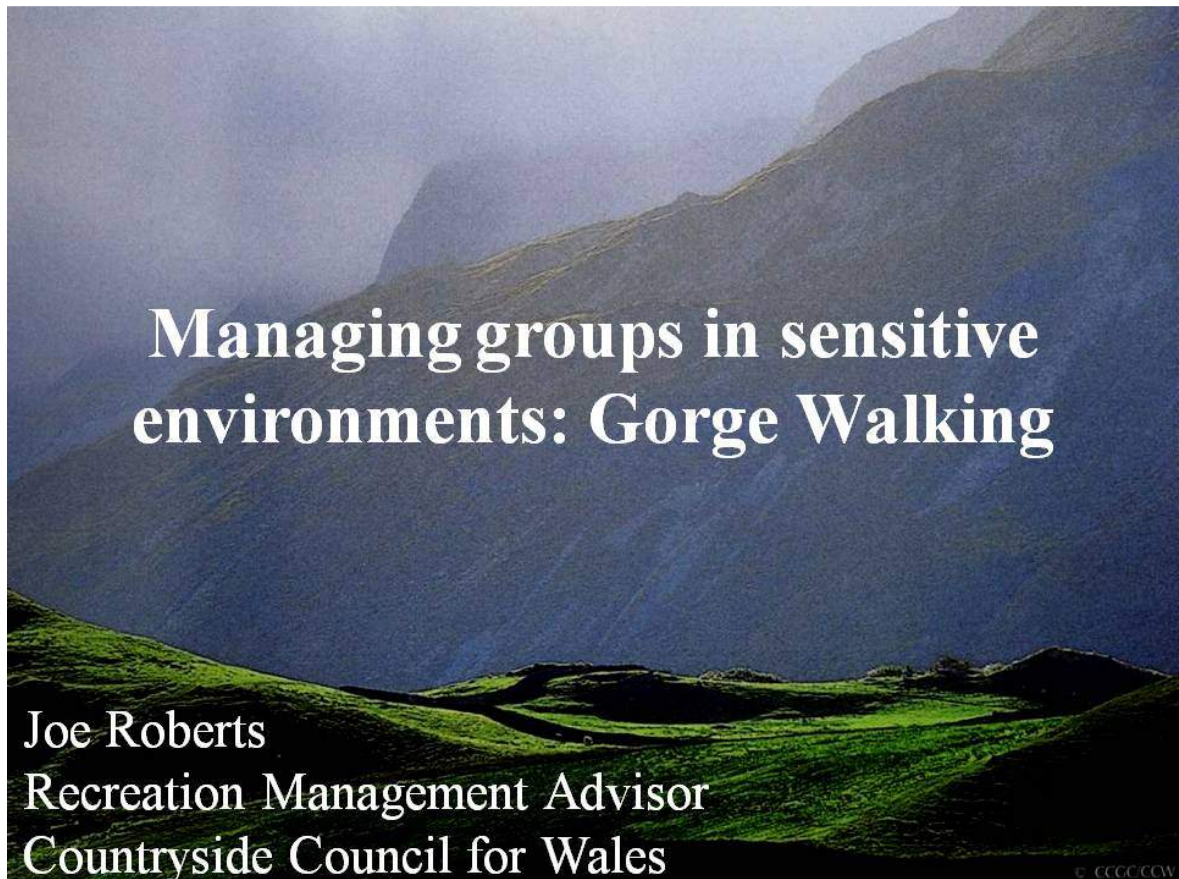
- We want people to enjoy the outdoor environment
- We want everybody to have the opportunity to use, understand, be inspired by and take action to conserve it.






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Case Study 1
Management of groups in sensitive environments using
the example of gorge walking



Joe Roberts
Recreation Management Advisors
Countryside Council for Wales






	<h1>Introduction</h1>
<p>Content</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Context</p> <p>Gorges of Wales</p> <p>Gorge walking</p> <p>Case study 1</p> <p>Case study 2</p> <p>Case study 3</p> <p>Reflection</p> <p>Conclusion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Context• The Gorges of Wales• Gorge Walking and Canyoning• Case study 1: Afon Ddu• Case study 2: Ceunant Llennyrch• Case Study 3: Afon Sychryd• Reflection• Conclusion
	<h1>Context</h1>
<p>Content</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Context</p> <p>Gorges of Wales</p> <p>Gorge walking</p> <p>Case study 1</p> <p>Case study 2</p> <p>Case study 3</p> <p>Reflection</p> <p>Conclusion</p>	 <p>This presentation will look at an organised activity that happens regularly in environmentally sensitive areas</p>

	<h2>The Gorges of Wales</h2>	
<p>Content</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Context</p> <p>Gorges of Wales</p> <p>Gorge walking</p> <p>Case study 1</p> <p>Case study 2</p> <p>Case study 3</p> <p>Reflection</p> <p>Conclusion</p>	<p>The gorges of Wales are often very rich in biodiversity. They are the only surviving remnants of the Atlantic woodlands. Their damp and humid nature makes them perfect habitats for lower plants and their relative inextensibility means that the surrounding woodland is at a level of maturity not often seen on these shores. These factors make it incredibly important to manage the recreational activities in the gorges effectively.</p>	 

	<h2>Gorge Walking and Canyoning</h2>	
<p>Content</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Context</p> <p>Gorges of Wales</p> <p>Gorge walking</p> <p>Case study 1</p> <p>Case study 2</p> <p>Case study 3</p> <p>Reflection</p> <p>Conclusion</p>	<p>Wikipedia definition:</p> <p>“An outdoor activity in which one follows the course of a stream (on foot, in the water), negotiating rapids and jumping or climbing waterfalls”</p>	


	<h2>Gorge Walking and Canyoning</h2>	
<p>Content</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Context</p> <p>Gorges of Wales</p> <p>Gorge walking</p> <p>Case study 1</p> <p>Case study 2</p> <p>Case study 3</p> <p>Reflection</p> <p>Conclusion</p>	<h3>Gorge walking</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A “dry” activity• Carried out by moving up the river bed, trying to stay dry• Emphasis on scrambling the rocky sides of the river, squeezing through boulders and climbing the sides of waterfalls• Participants wear waterproof clothing and trainers or Wellington boots.	

	<h2>Gorge Walking and Canyoning</h2>	
<p>Content</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Context</p> <p>Gorges of Wales</p> <p>Gorge walking</p> <p>Case study 1</p> <p>Case study 2</p> <p>Case study 3</p> <p>Reflection</p> <p>Conclusion</p>		<h3>Canyoning</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Typically a “wet” activity• Carried out by moving down the the river bed, in the watercourse• Emphasis on getting into the river, sliding down waterfalls and jumping into pools.• Participants wear wetsuits, buoyancy aids and trainers





Gorge Walking and Canyoning




Content	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; width: 150px; text-align: center;">University Groups</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; width: 150px; text-align: center;">Primary Schools</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center; margin-top: 20px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; width: 150px; text-align: center;">Team Building</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; width: 150px; text-align: center; background-color: #FFD700;">Outdoor Leaders</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; width: 150px; text-align: center;">Stag do's</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center; margin-top: 20px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; width: 150px; text-align: center;">Hen do's</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; width: 150px; text-align: center;">Secondary Schools</div> </div>		
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Gorge walking			
Case study 1			
Case study 2			
Case study 3			
Reflection			
Conclusion			








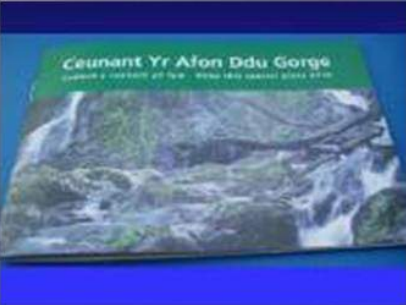
Case Studies

Content	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; width: 150px; text-align: center; background-color: #4682B4; color: white;">Afon Ddu</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; width: 150px; text-align: center; background-color: #4682B4; color: white;">Ceunant Lennyrch</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center; margin-top: 20px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; width: 150px; text-align: center; background-color: #4682B4; color: white;">Afon Sychryd</div> </div>		
Introduction			
Context			
Gorges of Wales			
Gorge walking			
Case study 1			
Case study 2			
Case study 3			
Reflection			
Conclusion			

	<h2>Case Study 1: Afon Ddu</h2>	
<p>Content</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Context</p> <p>Gorges of Wales</p> <p>Gorge walking</p> <p>Case study 1</p> <p>Case study 2</p> <p>Case study 3</p> <p>Reflection</p> <p>Conclusion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Afon Ddu is within Snowdonia National Park, is situated on one side of an NNR and part of it is designated as SSSI• The land is owned by a power company that has a hydroelectric scheme in the valley• It is the most heavily used gorge in North Wales for gorge walking, though is rarely used by the general public.• Concerns were raised by Outdoor Activity Providers in the late 1990's about the state of the gorge.	

	<h2>Case Study 1: Afon Ddu</h2>	
<p>Content</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Context</p> <p>Gorges of Wales</p> <p>Gorge walking</p> <p>Case study 1</p> <p>Case study 2</p> <p>Case study 3</p> <p>Reflection</p> <p>Conclusion</p>	 	<p>A working group was set up to tackle problems faced in the gorge. The group consisted of members from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outdoor centres (AHOEC)• AMI• Snowdonia National Park• CCW <p>The group then set about raising money to fund the work that intended to carry out</p>

	<h2>Case Study 1: Afon Ddu</h2>	
<p>Content</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Context</p> <p>Gorges of Wales</p> <p>Gorge walking</p> <p>Case study 1</p> <p>Case study 2</p> <p>Case study 3</p> <p>Reflection</p> <p>Conclusion</p>	<p>One of the main problems at Afon Ddu was the erosion caused by people bypassing sections of the gorge.</p> <p>As this is often necessary from a safety perspective the group decided that improving the infrastructure on the site was the only way to deal with the problem.</p>	 

	<h2>Case Study 1: Afon Ddu</h2>	
<p>Content</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Context</p> <p>Gorges of Wales</p> <p>Gorge walking</p> <p>Case study 1</p> <p>Case study 2</p> <p>Case study 3</p> <p>Reflection</p> <p>Conclusion</p>	<p>A water resistant guidebook was produced and handed out to those who use the gorge regularly.</p> 	 <p>An interpretation panel was placed at the entrance to the gorge to remind visitors of the code of conduct and the sensitivity of the site.</p>



Habitat Sensitivity Index

Content

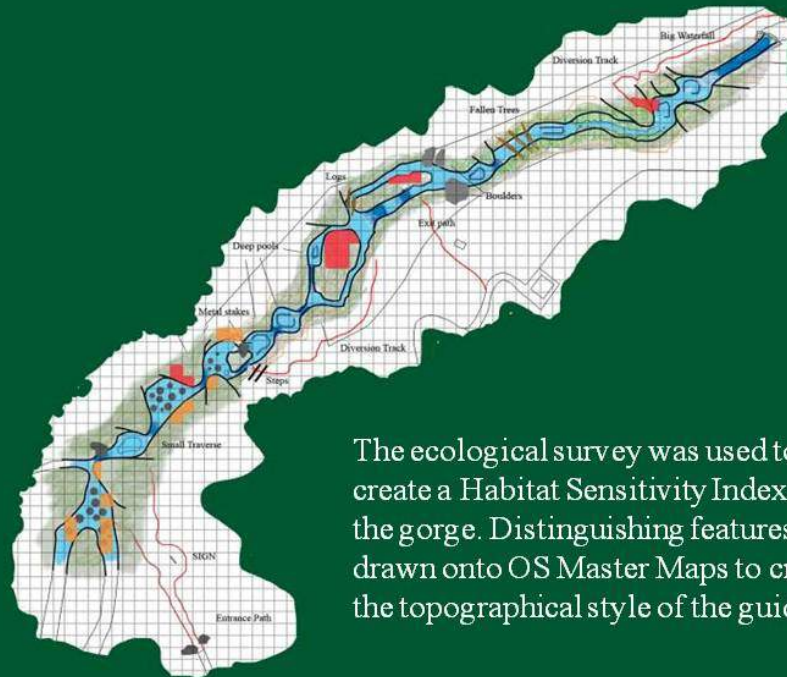
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- Context
- Gorges of Wales
- Gorge walking
- Case study 1
- Case study 2
- Case study 3
- Reflection
- Conclusion






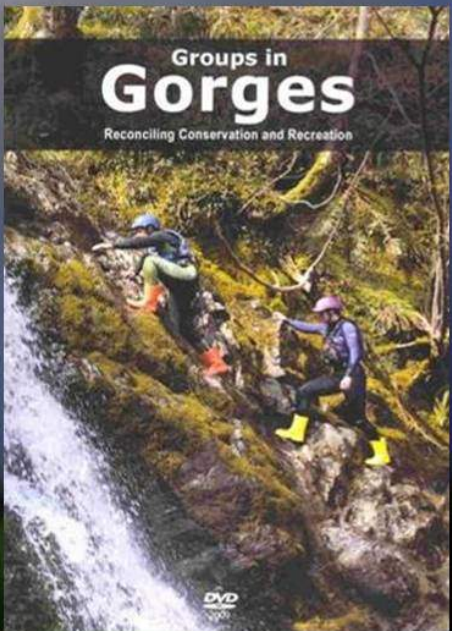
Habitat Sensitivity Index


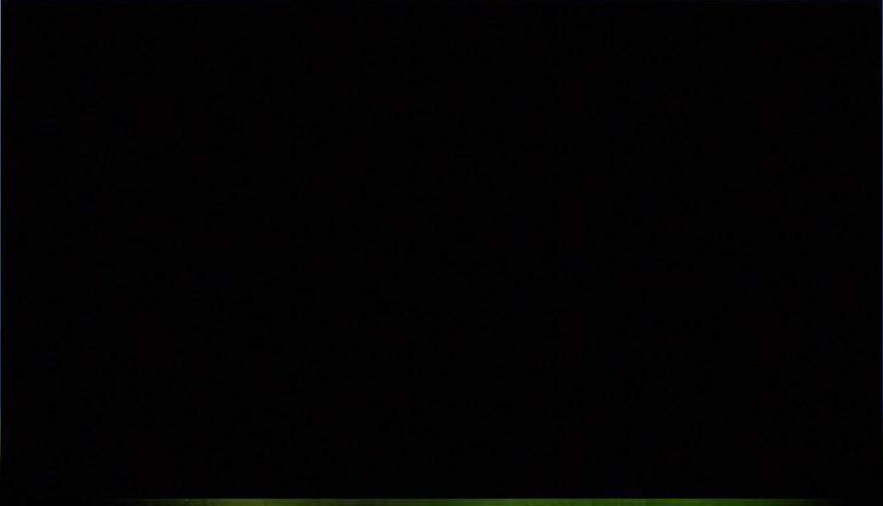


Content


- Introduction
- Context
- Gorges of Wales
- Gorge walking
- Case study 1
- Case study 2
- Case study 3
- Reflection
- Conclusion



The ecological survey was used to create a Habitat Sensitivity Index for the gorge. Distinguishing features were drawn onto OS Master Maps to create the topographical style of the guide.

		Case Study 2: Ceunant Llennyrch	
Content			
Introduction			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A seminar was arranged to bring together all the different stakeholders in North Wales.• Presentations were made from conservation, recreation and landowner perspectives to try and foster a wider understanding of the issues faced in the gorges• The event was a success and led to the creation of a briefing DVD for the gorge users
Context			
Gorges of Wales			
Gorge walking			
Case study 1			
Case study 2			
Case study 3			
Reflection			
Conclusion			
			
Content			
Introduction			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The DVD was produced by Snowdonia Active for CCW and EA illustrating the value and importance of the gorges in Wales and explaining how to use them sustainably• The DVD is intended to be used as a briefing for those about to use a gorge
Context			
Gorges of Wales			
Gorge walking			
Case study 1			
Case study 2			
Case study 3			
Reflection			
Conclusion			

	<h1>Guidance DVD</h1>	
<p>Content</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Context</p> <p>Gorges of Wales</p> <p>Gorge walking</p> <p>Case study 1</p> <p>Case study 2</p> <p>Case study 3</p> <p>Reflection</p> <p>Conclusion</p>		
	<h1>Case Study 3: Afon Sychryd</h1>	
<p>Content</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Context</p> <p>Gorges of Wales</p> <p>Gorge walking</p> <p>Case study 1</p> <p>Case study 2</p> <p>Case study 3</p> <p>Reflection</p> <p>Conclusion</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Afon Sychryd is part of the Waterfalls area of the Brecon Beacons National Park• It is designated as an SSSI and SAC for its woodland habitat• It is situated on land owned by the Forestry Commission and is designated as CRoW access land• It gets very heavy use by outdoor centres and local inhabitants who like to visit the river to walk and swim



Case Study 3: Afon Sychryd

Content

Introduction

Context

Gorges of Wales

Gorge walking

Case study 1


Case study 2


Case study 3

Reflection

Conclusion

- A user group was set up by the National Park
- A seminar was held, similar to the one in North Wales, to discuss the use of the gorge
- A concordat was created by which the users of the gorge signed up to a code of conduct
- An access map for the site was created and a training program was devised for the leaders





Case Study 3: Afon Sychryd

Content

Introduction

Context

Gorges of Wales

Gorge walking

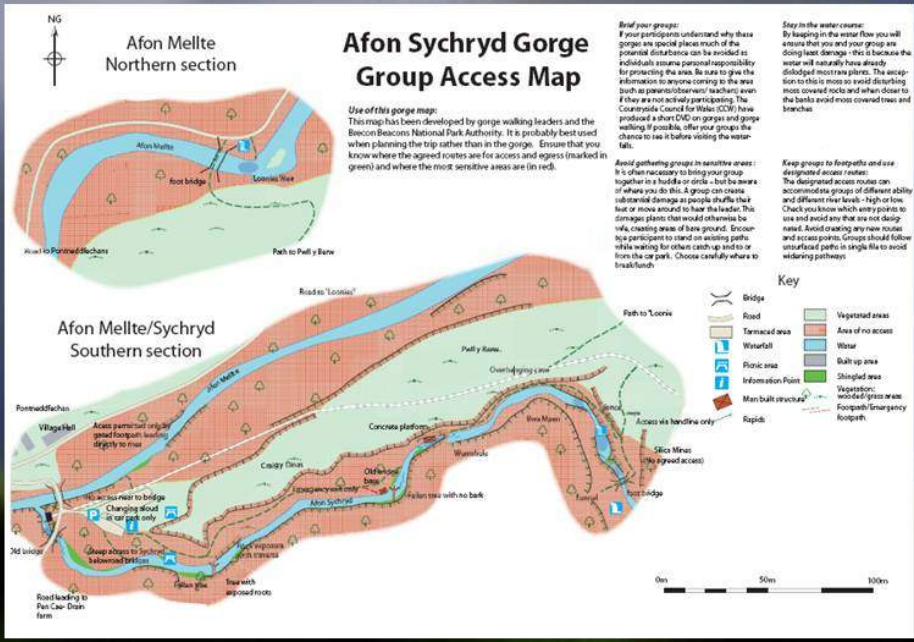
Case study 1

Case study 2

Case study 3

Reflection

Conclusion



Afon Mellte Northern section

Afon Sychryd Gorge Group Access Map

Afon Mellte/Sychryd Southern section

Key

- Bridge
- Road
- Tarmac area
- Wastfall
- Picnic area
- Man built structure
- Rapids
- Vegetated area
- Area of no access
- Water
- Built up area
- Shingled area
- Vegetation: wooded grass areas
- Footpath (emergency)
- Footpath

Use of this gorge map: This map has been developed by gorge walking leaders and the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority. It is probably best used when planning the trip rather than in the gorge. Ensure that you know where the agreed routes are for access and egress (marked in green) and where the most sensitive areas are (in red).

Brief your groups: If your participants understand why these gorges are special places much of the potential disturbance can be avoided as individuals assume personal responsibility for protecting the area. Be sure to give the information to anyone coming in the area such as parents/observers/teachers even if they are not actively participating. The Coarsemud Council for Wales (CCW) have produced a short DVD on gorges and gorge walking if possible, offer your groups the chance to see it before visiting the wastfall.





Avoid gathering groups in sensitive areas: It is often necessary to bring your group together in a huddle or circle - be aware of where you do this. A group can cause substantial damage as people shuffle that feet or move around to hear the leader. This damages plants that would otherwise be safe, creating areas of bare ground. Encourage participants to stand on existing paths while waiting for others to catch up and to or from the car park. Choose carefully where to break lunch.

Stay in the water course: By keeping in the water flow you will ensure that you and your group are doing least damage - this is because the water will naturally have already dislodged most river plants. The exception to this is moss or avoid disturbing most covered rocks and when closer to the banks avoid most covered trees and branches.

Keep groups to footpaths and use designated access routes: The designated access routes can accommodate groups of different ability and different river levels - high or low. Check you know which way points to use and avoid any that are not designated. Avoid creating any new routes and access points. Groups should follow un surfaced paths in single file to avoid widening pathways.

NG



0m 50m 100m



	<h2>Case Study 3: Afon Sychryd</h2>
<p>Content</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Context</p> <p>Gorges of Wales</p> <p>Gorge walking</p> <p>Case study 1</p> <p>Case study 2</p> <p>Case study 3</p> <p>Reflection</p> <p>Conclusion</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An onsite training programme was initiated to show outdoor leaders guiding groups in the gorge where the sensitive areas are• Ecologists and reserve managers from CCW and BBNP educate leaders about the ecology of the area• Then other outdoor leaders give briefings on the most environmentally friendly way to run the gorge.
	<h2>Reflection</h2>
<p>Content</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Context</p> <p>Gorges of Wales</p> <p>Gorge walking</p> <p>Case study 1</p> <p>Case study 2</p> <p>Case study 3</p> <p>Reflection</p> <p>Conclusion</p>	



The image displays two slides from a presentation, both titled "Reflection".

Slide 1: The top header is "Reflection" on a yellow background with a leaf pattern. Below it is a dark blue content area with a green sidebar on the left. The sidebar lists: Content, Introduction, Context, Gorges of Wales, Gorge walking, Case study 1, Case study 2, Case study 3, Reflection, and Conclusion. The main area contains several boxes: "Physical Infrastructure" and "Seminars" (top); "Signs and Interpretation" and "Guidance DVD" (middle); "Habitat Sensitivity Index" and "User Groups" (lower middle); "Site Maps", "Training", and "Codes of Conduct" (bottom). At the very bottom, a red-to-yellow gradient bar shows "Site Relevance" on the left and "Dispersal/Visibility" on the right.

Slide 2: The top header is "Reflection" on a yellow background with a leaf pattern. Below it is a dark blue content area with a green sidebar on the left. The sidebar lists: Content, Introduction, Context, Gorges of Wales, Gorge walking, Case study 1, Case study 2, Case study 3, Reflection, and Conclusion. The main area features a legend: a yellow circle for "Point of Influence", a blue circle for "Key Decision", and a red circle for "Impact". Below the legend is a large blue arrow pointing right, with yellow circles above it and blue circles below it. At the bottom, a color-coded bar shows: Learning (yellow), Planning (orange), Travelling (red), Activity (red), Travelling (orange), and Reflecting (yellow).

	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Conclusion</h2>	
<p>Content</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Context</p> <p>Gorges of Wales</p> <p>Gorge walking</p> <p>Case study 1</p> <p>Case study 2</p> <p>Case study 3</p> <p>Reflection</p> <p>Conclusion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consult widely – engage with as many stakeholders as possible as soon as possible.• Find middle ground – make sure that stakeholders meet (onsite if possible) to go through preconceived ideas and ensure that a clear picture of the issue is formed on both sides before deciding on any management interventions.• User led intervention - let the users decide what format they'd like the interventions to come in (within reason); they are after all the ones who will be using them.	

	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Conclusion</h2>	
<p>Content</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Context</p> <p>Gorges of Wales</p> <p>Gorge walking</p> <p>Case study 1</p> <p>Case study 2</p> <p>Case study 3</p> <p>Reflection</p> <p>Conclusion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Target information – ensure that information is available to the audiences in a format that is accessible to their needs• Enlist a multifaceted approach – do not rely on one method of disseminating information alone.• Use monitoring effectively – make the monitoring of the site transparent and keep a clear log of how monitoring is used to advise management.	

	<h1>Conclusion</h1>	
<p>Content</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">IntroductionContextGorges of WalesGorge walkingCase study 1Case study 2Case study 3ReflectionConclusion		<p>Although a generic standard in the approach to managing this type of recreation could be formed, the nature of use of each site and its designation may mean that the management interventions that come out are very different. Therefore, flexibility in approach is essential and should be considered on a river by river basis.</p>



Thank you / Diolch

More information about this issue and about planning events in the outdoors is available on the Best of Both Worlds website

www.bobw.co.uk

© CCCCW

Case Study 2

Managing the National Cycle Network

Martyn Brunt
National Cycle Network Development Manager
Sustrans

WHAT IS THE NCN

NCN has been “developed” by Sustrans, which is the country’s leading sustainable transport charity and our vision is a world in which people choose to travel in ways that benefit their health and the environment.

This means that the focus of our work is on increasing the amount of walking and cycling people do.

One aspect of this work is creating the right physical environment for people to walk and cycle.

The National Cycle Network (NCN) has been a Sustrans project since 1995 and is now over 12,600 miles long.

It passes within a mile of 57% of the population (over 32 million people)

The Network is not formally designated as part of the highway network, although it does in places coincide with minor highways,

Sustrans receives no core funding from Central Government for its creation or maintenance.

Rather it is delivered through a variety of legal arrangements dependent upon the particular route it follows at any given location

As such it is owned by a variety of bodies from local authorities to private landowners to national organisations such as British Waterways or Network rail etc.

It is made up of a mixture of types of route including

- quiet roads
- greenways from converted former railways,
- canal towpaths,
- paths across private land of all sorts,
- paths through public parkland/ open space,
- public highways
- and no doubt other ways and paths.

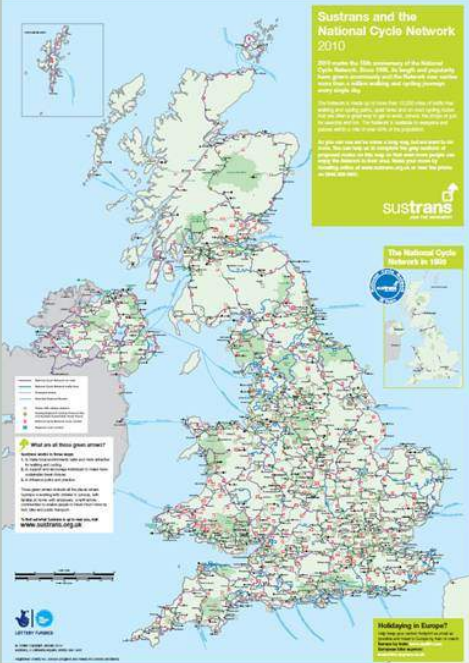


Agenda

- What is the NCN
- A brief history of time
- Sustrans vision for the NCN
- Volunteers
- Maintenance
- Access controls
- Managing the needs of different users
- Ecology
- Artwork and sculpture
- Signing
- Questions



What is the NCN



Sustrans and the National Cycle Network 2010

2010 marks the 15th anniversary of the National Cycle Network (NCN). The route is now 12,619 miles long and is used by 1.5 million people every day. It is the longest and most popular route in the world, and is used by 1.5 million people every day.

The National Cycle Network in 1995

The NCN was first established in 1995, and has since grown to become the longest and most popular route in the world.

What are all these green arrows?

Green arrows on the map indicate the direction of the route. They are used to show the direction of the route and to help cyclists find their way.

Holidaying in Europe?

The NCN is a great way to explore the UK and Europe. It is a great way to see the sights and enjoy the scenery.

- National transport infrastructure
- 15 years old
- 12,619 miles long
- Within 1 mile of 57% of the population
- Long distance routes and day-to-day community links
- Many partners
- 12 regions and nations
- Locally funded
- Managed by 2500 volunteers

sustrans
JOIN THE MOVEMENT

A brief history



The Vision



- Something that delivers large scale travel behaviour change
- Mainstream funded as a fully fledged transport network
- A way of making local environments safer and more attractive for walking and cycling
- Built to our image with high standards, not local standards
- Within 1 mile of over 65% of the population by 2013
- As well known in the minds of the public as the railways, London Underground or motorway network
- Easy to find, easy to follow, safe to use and a nicer way to travel than sitting in a car



Volunteers



Maintenance



Access Controls



Managing the needs of users



Ecology



Artwork



Signing



Summary



Case Study 3 **Dublin Mountains Partnership**

Bill Murphy
Manager - Recreation and Leisure
Coillte



Dublin Mountains
Partnership

Attracting people to nature...
Managing public lands for many uses

Bill Murphy,
Chair of Dublin Mountains Partnership


coillte



Dublin Mountains
Partnership

**Attracting people to nature...
Managing public lands for many uses**

Bill Murphy,
Chair of Dublin Mountains Partnership

coillte

About this presentation...

- Look at how changes in Ireland have influenced the development of the DMP and "help providers, managers and policymakers understand contemporary Irish patterns of rural recreation and the implications for countryside management"
- Examine how the DMP presents "practical solutions for managing the environmental effects of concentrated recreational visits"
- Outline the benefits and practical achievements of the partnership
- Look at the key success factors.

The Dublin Mountains Partnership

- Bringing together all stakeholders/ key holders
- Objective:
 - to develop both a **strategic** and an **action plan** for managing recreation in the Dublin Mountains based on publicly owned land
- Secure resources to deliver plan
- Implement plan over ten years

Current partners

- **Coillte** – largest single public land owner
- **County & City Councils**
 - **Dublin City Council** – Bohernabreena reservoir
 - **Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Co. Council**
 - **South Dublin Co. Council**
- **Recreation Users** - Dublin Mountains Initiative
- **National Parks & Wildlife Service** – national park lands in Glencullen

Why the initiative? - Urbanisation

- **70% of people now live in urban centres**
- **Access to the countryside**
 - county development plans
 - No CRoW or Right to Roam legislation in Ireland
- **New towns**
 - **Cherrywood / Kilternan**
 - **Knocklyon**
 - **Tallaght**

Why the initiative? – Increasing demands

- **Increasing demand** from “traditional users” for more recreation facilities
- Forests and other public lands are increasingly seen as part of **tourism infrastructure**.

Why this initiative? – Environmental Damage

- Environmental damage to sensitive sites / soils etc.
- Resulting in
 - Loss of the recreation experience
 - Damage to SACs
 - Limiting access

Why this initiative? – Anti Social Behaviour

Need to manage anti social and unauthorised activities

Why this initiative? – New Demands

- **New uses**
 - Mountain biking
 - Horse riding
 - Scrambler biking
- **Solutions**
 - Land owners cannot manage or solve these issues on their own

Why this initiative?- Resources

- **Investment** in new trails, signage, car parks etc..
- This requires resources
 - Who will pay?

Why this initiative?- Landowner Interests

- Most of the land used for recreation is owned and managed for other objectives
 - Timber production
 - Water collection
 - Nature conservation
- Some users want only recreation

The Dublin Mountains – A Valuable Resource

- Strategic and aligned management can deliver on many of the shared partner agendas
- The forest lands and other public lands in the Dublin Mountains are a significant recreation resource for the capital's close to 1.2million inhabitants.

Background to DMP – Conflict!

- 2005 DLRCC County Development Plan – ROWs
- Coillte and DLRCC opened discussions on access BUT managing the resource was identified as the main challenge
 - Conflicting interests,
 - Resources
 - Environmental considerations – protecting special sites
 - Health and safety considerations – scramblers/mountain biking

Coillte proposed a Dublin Mountains Project to

- **Examine recreation in its totality**
- **Develop plans and strategies** to improve the **recreation experience** while allowing other key holder objectives

The project - 2006

- Coillte and DLRCC agree and scope a study to develop an integrated approach to the Mountains
- SDCC and NPWS invited to join
- **Dublin Mountains Initiative** formed mid 2006 and invited to join ad hoc group.

Study Approach

- Review of
 - **County Development plans**,
 - **Forest management plans**,
 - **National park plans**,
 - **National strategies** – National Trails strategy, Countryside recreation strategy,
 - **Legislation** etc.,
 - **Submissions** – requested from various organisations,
- Consultations with a wide variety of interests
 - **Workshops**
 - **"mapping"** of various activities based on existing usage

The outcome

- **Vision statement**
- **Action plan**
 - 10 year plan to deliver on the vision
 - Costed
 - Prioritised
- **Recommendations on implementation, funding and the management structure.**
- **Plan presented to and agreed by C.E., County Managers, Director NPWS etc.**

The Agreed DMP Vision

"The Dublin Mountains is a well resourced and well managed area of significant scenic and high nature conservation value that provides a:-

- High quality recreation amenity and experience;*
- Breathing space for residents and well informed responsible visitors;*
- Sustainable economy for those who own or manage the land."*

Action plan

- List of prioritised and costed actions to deliver on the agreed vision
- Listed as **quick wins** through to **priority 3**

Example

- **Quick wins** – develop **website to improve information** on recreation for users of the area
- **Priority 3** – develop **visitor centre**.

Management structure

- Partnership model with a Memorandum of Understanding signed by all 5 (now 6) partners accepted.
- Management of the DMP by the Board.
- A full time Recreation Manager reports to the board.
- One organisation acts as the agent for the partnership – contracts, procurement etc.
- Funding in place to resource the DMP for three years.

Achievements to date - infrastructure

- Capital projects worth **€300K** delivered since 2008
- **2.4 km** new trail across Tibbradden Mountain part funded from NDP
- **1.4 km** of Wicklow Way upgraded part funded from NDP
- Cruagh **Mountain Access route** completed by volunteers
- Trail works and improvements to car parking area in Ticknock

- Trails limiting environmental damage

Achievements to date - infrastructure

- **New signage** and way marking across mountains
- **Permanent Orienteering** at three sites with support from local sports partnerships and clubs.
- **Six recreation access routes** agreed with DLRCC and marked

Achievements to date – visitor services

- New website developed and launched in January 09 www.dublinmountains.ie
- Newsletter – *Trailhead* published on a regular basis
- Dublin Mountaineer (shuttle) bus service operational during summer
- Dublin Mountains Map to be published in in next two months – showing public lands clearly

Achievements to date – promoting responsible use

- Volunteer ranger service
 - Over 30 rangers now serving
 - Regular patrols
 - Monthly ranger led walks
 - Visitor interaction
 - Promoting the Leave No Trace message
 - Bye laws introduced
 - Reduction in anti social behaviour

Achievements to date – “Soft results”

- Has engaged all users and encouraged a greater sense of ownership – volunteer programmes, club contributions etc.
- Has leveraged more than member contributions
- Leading to more but better use of the forest and other lands
- Developing a responsible culture
- Promoting member organisations as good corporate citizens
- Is attracting people to the outdoors and nature

Planned actions for 2010

- Publish **Public Lands Access Map**
- Complete new **mountain bike trail**
- Expand **Volunteer programme**
 - Conservation Corps
 - Adopt a forest
 - Adopt a trail
- Open **Dublin Mountains Way**
- Run special recreation events
- Continue **trail improvements**
- **Work on scrambler bike issue**
- Budget for year **€300K**

The DMP model delivers quality recreation resources

- This is an exciting project designed to integrate recreation with other land uses – forestry, conservation, water collection, farming etc.
- It is built on understanding all **keyholder** and **stakeholder aspirations** and **constraints**.

Why is it working?

- Based on a **solid foundation** – MOU between the key partners
- Considers the **legitimate concerns** of the key holders and important stakeholders
- Requires **full participation** in management for key partners
- The DMP is **results focussed**
- All members **must address problems**
- Has **real resources** to deliver results
- A **single management** approach

Thank you....

Any questions?

Case Study 4
Ministry of Defence - management of the Epynt Way
and wider access management

Richard Brooks
Senior Access and Recreation Advisor
Ministry of Defence



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE



DEFENCE ESTATES
Delivering Estate Solutions to Defence Needs

Management of the Epynt Way and
Wider Access Management

Richard Brooks MCMA

Defence Estates Environmental Advisory Services
Head of Access and Recreation

Introduction

- Background to the Defence Estate
- Access and Recreation Policy
- Clashes of activity and sensitivities
- Examples of Good Practice
- Lessons learnt
- Integration of pressures



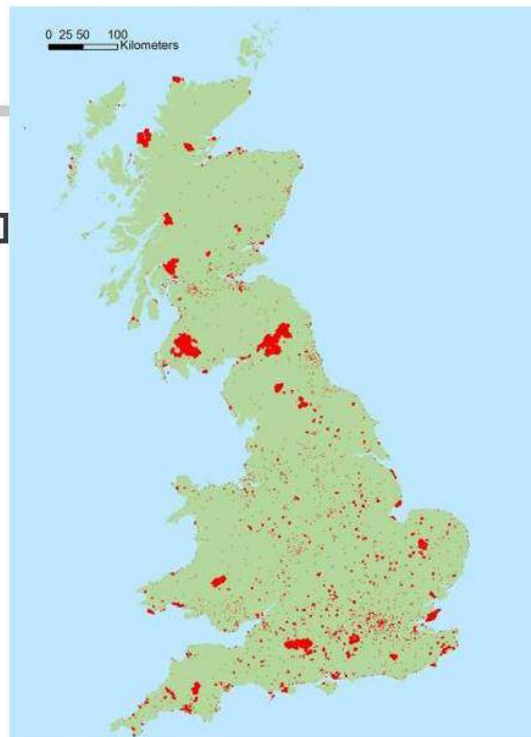
The UK Defence Estate

- 240,000 ha of UK land directly held
- [+210,000 ha training on 'private' land]
- 3,600 sites, 1% of UK land area

- 83,000 ha designated SSSI
- 79,000 ha designated SPA / SAC
- [+42,000 ha TOPL in SSSIs]

- 35,000 ha in National Parks
- [+81,000 ha TOPL in National Parks]

- 797 listed buildings, 737 scheduled monuments



Public Access and Recreation Policy: In Trust and On Trust - 2006

Introduction

- *"In Trust and On Trust set out our presumption in favour of access to the defence estate and this remains the case".*

'Outcomes for the Stakeholders'

- *Recreational enjoyment of the defence estate is encouraged and significant areas of the defence estate are accessible.*

Recognising Sustainable Development needs...

- *We will continue our presumption of public access... We will also continue to work with local authorities, Statutory Bodies, local and national access fora and other stakeholders to understand the public's wishes for access to our estate.*

Integrated Rural Management Plans

- *IRMPs ensure that defence related activities take account of nature conservation... landscape... and public access.*

- *"MOD holds the defence estate In Trust and On Trust for the Nation"*

Resulting Access:

- 1300 kms of Rights of Way
- Vast network of permissive routes
- Open access (CROW/LR(S)A)
- Byelaw enabled access
- Informal (illegal?) access
- Huge variety of activities – traditional and new
- Growing pressure



The Issues:

Estate is held for one purpose alone – national defence.
Recreation is a by-product – but we have the 'presumption of access' policy

Access has to be controlled:

- Training / Defence Requirements.
- Security (people and equipment).
- Contamination risk.
- Noise exposure.
- Legal Rights / Byelaws.

But we continue to work with stakeholders to maximise access opportunities within the constraints



Putting it all together:



The MOD cannot afford accidents.....

- **Certainty**
- **Clarity**
- **Consistency**

The MOD Access Mantra

Example 1: The Epynt Way:

- 90 Km permissive bridleway around Sennybridge Training Area, Mid Wales – fully open 2008.
- Route includes receptor areas with shelter, corralling and parking for horse transport.
- Managed through an MOD project funded by bodies including MOD, CCW, Powys County Council and European Funding.
- Project board consisting of representatives from funding partners, user groups and the MOD.
- Generating new tourism and income opportunities in a little known area.



Management of the Epynt Way:

- Defined route
- Clear Waymarking with safety advice
- Website based information
- Paper publications



- Epynteers
- Military briefings
- Working in partnership resolves other sensitivities

Castlemartin Access:

- Range divided in to 2 areas.
- Rights of Way / Cliff climbing / beach fishing – protection of nesting birds
- Relocation of Barriers
- Proposed range path running behind danger areas at Castlemartin
- Routed to avoid sensitive features: military, ecological, archaeological
- Clearly defined, waymarked with adequate safety signage
- Biodiversity project running alongside
- Huge support and interest enabling safety messages – partnership buy in



Communication is Key:

- The MOD has particular issues with safety!
- Badly managed access puts people and military training at risk
- Clear and consistent messages are paramount
- *Confusion causes mayhem!*
- On-site and off-site information informs visitors
- Partnership working spreads the word
- Engage with your audience
- Don't "*Just say no!*"

Operation Bright Eyes:

- MOD/BHS partnership in raising the awareness of the benefits of hi-viz attire in relation to helicopter tactical training.
- Establishment of MOD freephone number which advises on helicopter training activity (0800 515544).
- MOD presented with a BHS Safety Award for this work.



Managing Access: Byelaws

- MOD currently undergoing a review of all its sites.
- Byelaw Review looking at opportunity as much as enforcement.
- Forcing management decisions to be made.
- Protection of sensitivities is taken into account.
- Once in a lifetime opportunity.



Managing Access: Signage

- Must be clear
- Must be relevant
- Sensibly located
- Identifies the hazards
- Resolve sign blindness



Integrating the Pressures:

Integrated Rural Management Plans bring together:

- Military use
- Estate management (interests of tenants)
- Public Access
- Historic Environment
- Natural Environment
- Specialist features of any site

10 year plans with an annual update of action tables and a mid term review

Any Questions?



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*Defence Estates Environmental Advisory Services
Access and Recreation Team*

Appendix A

Programme

09:30 *Registration and Refreshments*

10:00 Introduction and welcome by Chair

10:15 **Events Guidance: A National Park Perspective**
Bob Grant, Cairngorms National Park Authority

10:45 **Safety and Litigation aspect of charity events, guided walks etc**
John Ireland and Jon Wayte, Visitor Safety in the Countryside Group

11:15 *Refreshments*

11:30 **Managing guided walks, trails and events in sensitive environments**
David Switzer, Lake District National Park Authority

12:00 Q&A with morning speakers

12:30 *Lunch*

13:15 Welcome back and introduction to the afternoon session

13:20 **Case Study 1: Management of groups in sensitive environments using the example of Gorge Walking**
Joe Roberts, Countryside Council for Wales

13:50 **Case study 2: Managing the National Cycle Network**
Martyn Brunt, Sustrans

14:20 *Refreshments*

14:35 **Case study 3: Dublin Mountains Partnership**
Bill Murphy, Coillte

15:05 **Case study 4: Ministry of Defence - management of the Epynt Way and wider access management**
Richard Brooks, Ministry of Defence

15:35 Q&A with afternoon speakers

15:55 Summary by Chair

16:00 Close

Appendix B

Speaker Biographies

CHAIR

Geoff Hughes - Countryside Recreation Network

Geoff is the independent Chairman of the Countryside Recreation Network. He is a Director and only full time employee G&L Hughes Limited a leisure, planning and open space consultancy. Until 2003, when he established his consultancy he was policy lead officer for countryside and water sport and recreation at Sport England and led a team dealing with strategic planning for sport and lottery funding in the North East Region. In a consultancy capacity he is a specialist adviser to CABI Space and from 2004 - 2008 project managed a programme of facility provision for Middlesbrough Council. He has led the preparation of strategies and been part of part of a team preparing a range of land and water related sport and recreation studies. He has undertaken work for a variety of public and private sector organisations including the North Yorkshire Cultural Consortium, Stockton on Tees Borough Council, Environment Agency, University of Brighton, British Waterways, North Yorkshire Moors National Park, Genesis Consulting and the Countryside Council for Wales. Geoff has recently been part of a team preparing a masterplan and business case for the velopark facilities as part of the 2102 Olympic Games. He is an associate of Genesis Consulting who are delivering a Facility Improvement Service on behalf Sport England working with a number of local authorities in the North East of England and the West Midlands to improve strategic planning for sport. In addition to his consultancy work Geoff is Chairman of the Durham County Local Access Forum.

SPEAKERS

Bob Grant, Cairngorms National Park

Bob has been a Senior Outdoor Access Officer in the Cairngorms National Park Authority from 2005 to date. His main area of work is developing high quality opportunities for outdoor access. This includes the completion of a Core Paths Plan (which extends to 932 kilometres) and implementing it, developing an Outdoor Access Trust, leading on large access projects such as extending the Speyside Way: one of four official long distance routes in Scotland and managing a small team of access officers.

Prior to working for Cairngorms National Park Authority Bob was an Advisory Officer in Scottish Natural Heritage 1999 – 2005. His main areas of work included providing advice and guidance on: matters dealing with upland path construction and design, long distance routes, implementing the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 and managing access related grants.

Bob has been written the following publications:

Co-author: "Enjoying the Cairngorms: Cairngorms Outdoor Access Strategy 2007 – 2012." (ISBN 978-0-9548782-4-5)

Author: "Guidance for Organised Outdoor Access Events, Cairngorms National Park." (ISBN978-1-906071-03-5)

Bob's interests and hobbies include climbing, mountain biking, running and skiing (all badly)

John Ireland - Visitor Safety in the Countryside Group

No biography available

Jon Wayte - Visitor Safety in the Countryside Group

Ex Royal Navy Submarine Service, these days I far prefer to spend as much time as possible in the great wide-open.

Happily, I now work for the Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA) where I can do just that. I hold the position of Safety Officer, helping to ensure that we fulfil all of our duties and properly look after all those that work for us and all those that use and visit the Park.

I am a member of the Visitor Safety in the Countryside Group which has members from many large organisations including: Natural England, National Trust, RSPB, Forestry Commission, Environment Agency, Historic Scotland, The Royal Parks, Woodland Trust, English Heritage and British Waterways. Set up in 1997 the group looks at how to create and maintain safe access to the countryside in ways that neither spoil the landscape and heritage, nor lessen the visitor's sense of exploration and adventure. The Group has made great progress in defining, often through practical examples, what is sensible and appropriate in managing risks for visitors to the great-outdoors.

As both, a father and Chair of Governors for our local school, I have a special interest in encouraging schools use of the natural local environment and promoting the participation of young people in adventurous activities.

David Switzer - Lake District National Park Authority

As Access and Recreation Developer David's role is to develop, implement and promote innovative and effective approaches to integrating the management of access in and to the countryside with issues of health, sustainable transport, education, the local economy and social inclusion. Currently this includes:

- Working to deliver the Rights of Way Improvement Plan.
- Working with partners to develop a coordinated approach to the management of the Three Peaks Challenge and other organized large-scale events within the Lake District.
- Leading on the production of our Access and Development Programme
- Providing the secretariat for the Lake District Local Access Forum.

Before moving to the Lake District, David worked for Natural England in a variety of roles, and for several years on wildlife conservation programmes in Africa.

Joe Roberts - Countryside Council for Wales

Joe advises on, and develops, projects that seek to explore and mitigate the impacts of recreation on the natural environment through research and targeted communication. His work programme integrates headline initiatives, such as the Countryside Code campaign Wales, with more in-depth and focused projects relating to professional guidance, personal development and education.

Martyn Brunt - Sustrans

Martyn is the National Cycle Network Development Manager. Martyn joined Sustrans as National Cycle Network Development Manager in February 2010. His recent background is in Strategy and Communications in the public transport industry, having worked most recently for National Express across their coach, bus and train divisions. Before this, Martyn worked for many years as a journalist, specialising in transport issues. An avid bike racer, Martyn is telling all his friends that as he is now paid to ride a bike, he is technically a pro cyclist.

Bill Murphy - Coillte

Bill is a professional forester with a masters degree in forest recreation from University College, Dublin. He is currently the Head of Recreation with Coillte, overseeing the development of policy and the implementation of recreation initiatives across the Coillte estate.

Bill is the Chairman of the Dublin Mountains Partnership, a partnership between Coillte, local authorities, the National Park and Wildlife Service and recreation users to promote and manage the recreation use of public lands in the Dublin Mountains.

Married, with three grown up children, Bill lives in Greystones and his interests include voluntary trail construction work, hiking, sailing, reading and art.

Richard Brooks, Ministry of Defence

Richard is the Senior Access and Recreation Advisor for Defence Estates. He manages a team of specialist access advisors and project posts across the Defence Estate. His team has a remit for all access and recreation issues pertaining to MOD property in the UK and abroad.

Richard has worked with Defence Estates in this role for 7 years having previously been employed in Ranger positions for both Exmoor and Dartmoor National Park Authorities. He has also been very involved with the Countryside Management Association and was a member of their National Council for over 10 years.

His current role continuously throws up challenges in managing safe public access on what can be a highly dangerous estate. Balancing operational military demand alongside striving to achieve the MODs policy presumption in favour of public access often puts him in the 'line of fire' from both military and recreational users.

Richard's presentation will highlight some of the issues and best practice that DE has developed to ensure safe public access.

Appendix C



Countryside Recreation Network

Managing Outdoor Events and their Impacts

Attendance List

Judy	Merryfield	Peak District National Park Authority
Geoff	Hughes	Countryside Recreation Network
Bob	Grant	Cairngorms National Park Authority
Suzanne	Leckie	Sheffield Hallam University
Bill	Murphy	Coillte Teoranta - Irish Forestry Board
Ken	Taylor	Asken Ltd
Maria	Murphy	Durham County Council
Andrew	Mackintosh	Natural England
Joe	Roberts	Countryside Council for Wales HQ
Richard	Brooks	Ministry of Defence
Helen	Lawless	Mountaineering Ireland
Tim	Gordon-	Forestry Commission Wales
Anna	Baness	Dartmoor National Park Authority
Nick	Stewart	Brecon Beacons National Park Authority
Jon	Wayte	Peak District National Park Authority
John	Ireland	Forestry Commission
Martyn	Brunt	Sustrans
David	Switzer	Lake District National Park Authority
Chris	Reece	Sheffield Hallam University
Coralie	Niven	Durham County Council
Emma	Lear	Wakefield Council
Neil	Henderson	Natural England
Caroline	Bailes	Natural England
Martin	Gray	Historic Scotland



Countrywide Recreation Network

Managing Outdoor Events and their Impacts

Attendance List

Kevin	Oates	Caerphilly Council Countryside Service
Phill	Loveless	Caerphilly Council Countryside Service
Wilter	Malandi	Sheffield Hallam University
Sarah	Fanthorpe	Derbyshire County Council
Simon	Bokowiec	Calderdale MBC