## Caingorms National Park: An Overview

Murray Ferguson
Director for People and Place

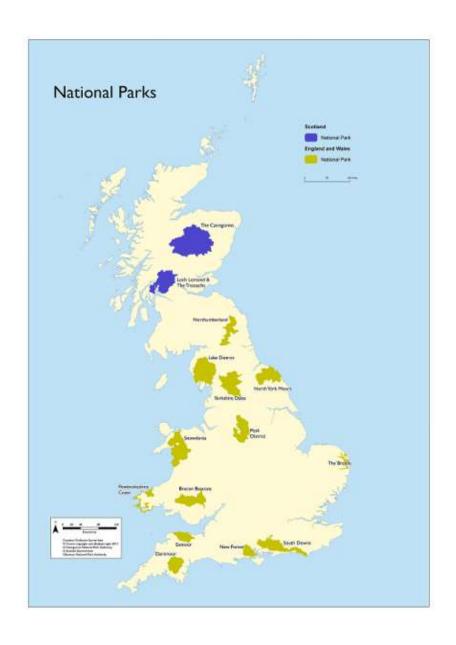








# Part of a family of National Parks



### About the National Park



UK's largest National Park at 4,528 sq km (or 6% of Scotland's land mass - larger than Yosemite and twice the Lake District)



Home to one quarter of the UK's rare and endangered species



Around 18,000 people live in the Park across Aberdeenshire, Angus, Highland, Moray, Perth and Kinross

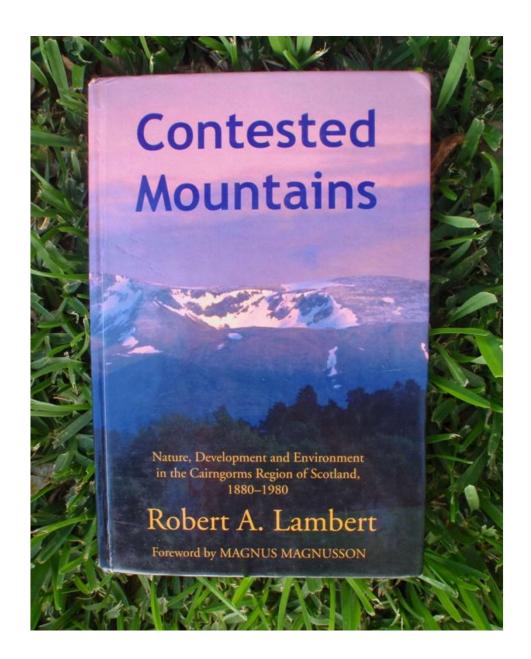


Over two million visitors come to enjoy this special place every year



Cairngorms means 'blue hills' from the blue crystals found here, but the Gaelic Mhonaidh Ruaidh means 'red hills', likely inspired by the area's pink granite

### 1. The early days of the Park



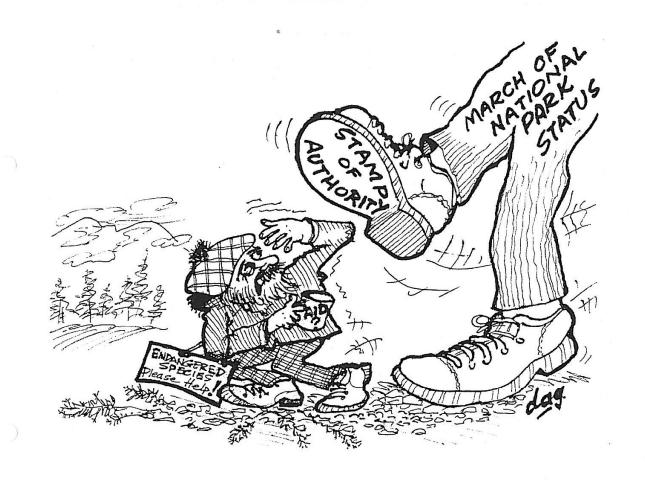








### Who decides what happens here?



### Grazing management



### Managing for Visitors



### Recreation vs Conservation



### 2. Managing the Park

Four distinct aims set by Parliament



To conserve and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of the area



To promote sustainable use of the natural resources of the area



To promote understanding and enjoyment (including enjoyment in the form of recreation) of the special qualities of the area by the public



To promote sustainable economic and social development of the area's communities

### National Park Partnership Plan 2022-27

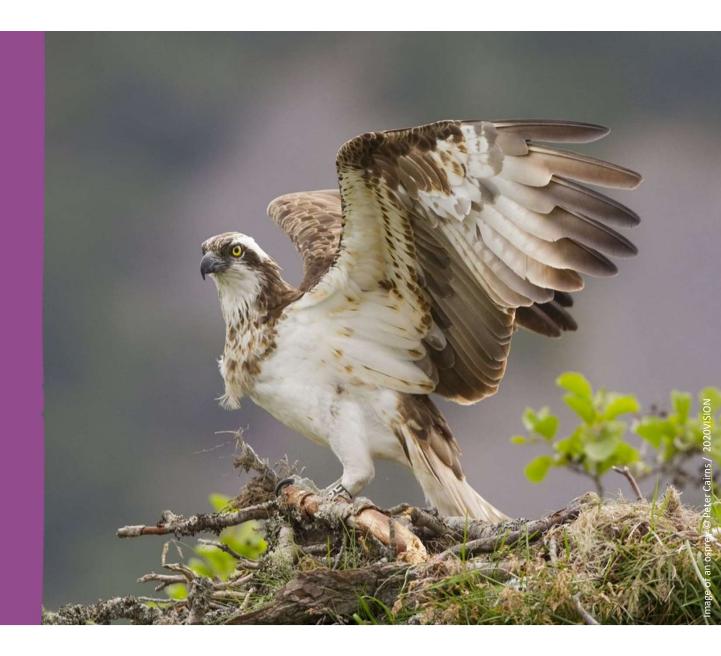
An ambitious vision for the future of the National Park involving over 100 partners



### Our vision

An outstanding National Park, enjoyed and valued by everyone, where nature and people thrive together

"



### National Park Partnership Plan 2022-27

An ambitious vision for the future of the National Park involving over 100 partners

#### Nature

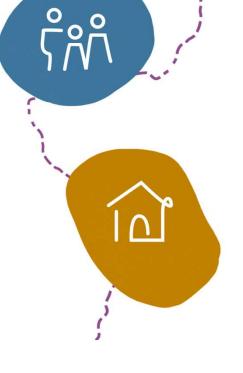
A carbon negative and biodiversity rich National Park with better functioning, better connected and more resilient ecosystems

#### People

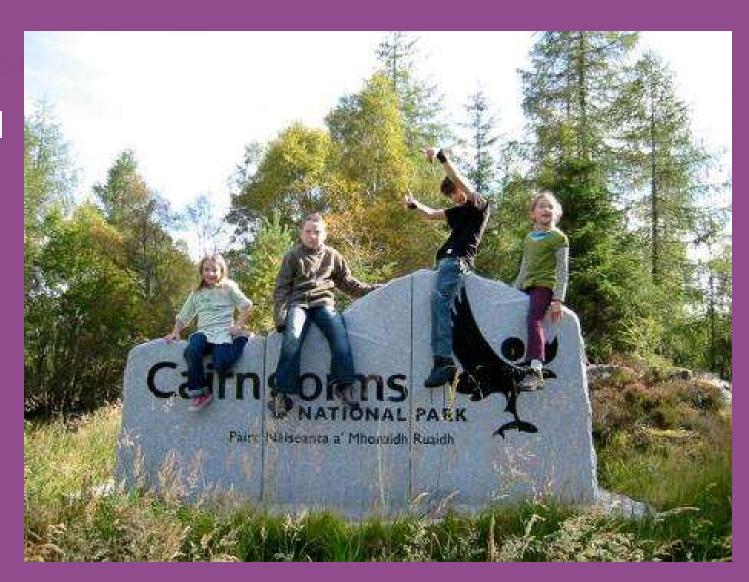
A wellbeing economy that works for all the people of the Cairngorms

#### Place

A place that people want to live in, work in and visit that works for all

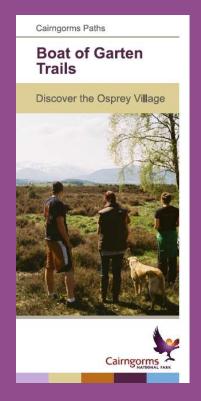


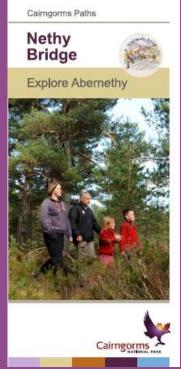
A place for cooperation and collaboration

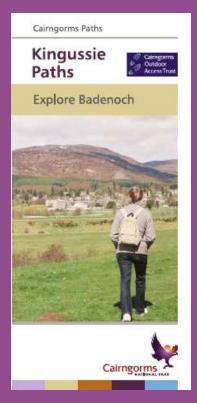


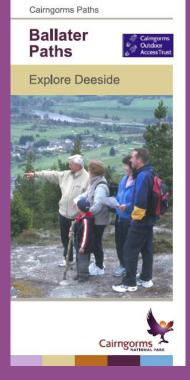


### Starting where people are at

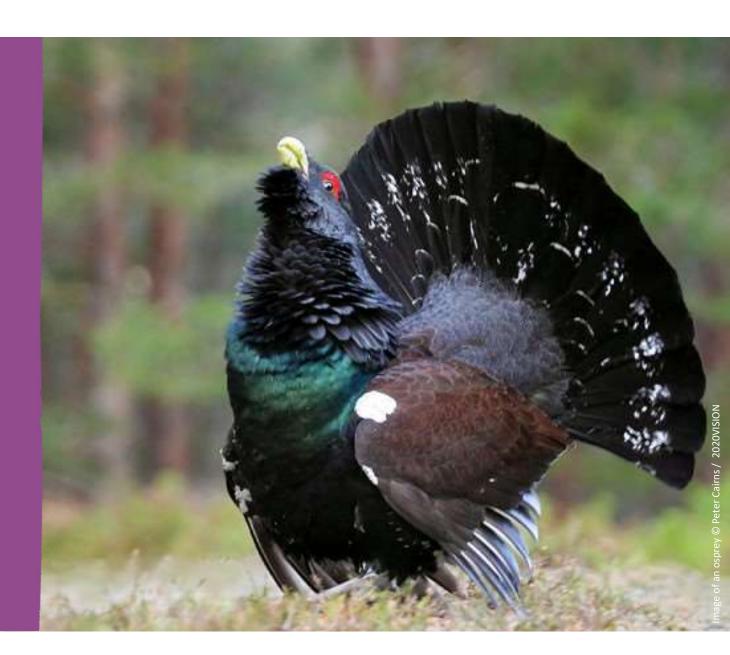






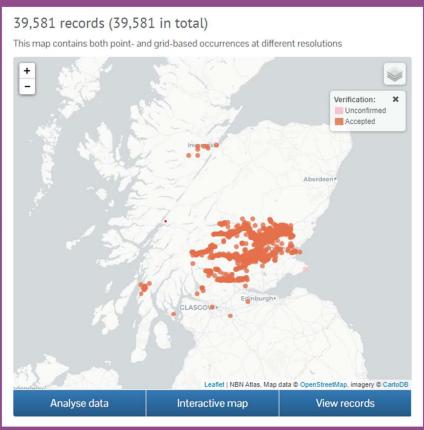


### Nature: Capercaillie



### Species reintroductions





### People: Working with businesses



Shop By Category Shop by Vendor Shop By Community



"Develop a wellbeing economy that delivers social justice in a healthy ecosystem, drawing on the special natural and cultural qualities of the Cairngorms"







An internationally - accredited
Sustainable
Tourism Destination



### **Outdoor Access**

- 55 Munros
- 26 Corbetts
- 200 miles of waymarked paths
- 4 long distance paths
- Path networks around every community



### Responsible behaviour





### Rangers in the Park



### Cairngorms Junior Rangers





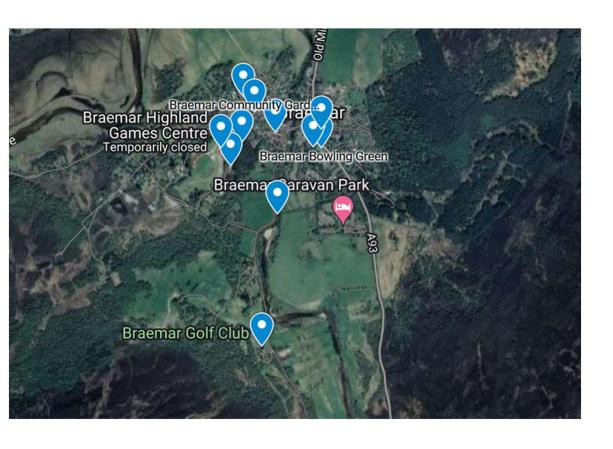








### Community-owned and managed assets





### 3. Looking ahead: Cairngorms 2030

#### **Dùthchas**

[n.] The deep-rooted connection between people and nature



It's easy to feel powerless in the face of a global climate emergency and nature crisis. But we believe it doesn't have to be this way.

Inspired by the Gaelic word Dùthchas, we have a plan to empower the people who live, visit and work in the Park to take action and make a difference.



### Cairngorms 2030

A collection of projects delivering meaningful action on the ground

Empowering communities to shape the future of their local area



Changing the way people travel to and get around the National Park



Transforming the way landscapes are managed within the National Park



Fostering healthier, happier communities with wellbeing at their heart



### **Nature**

#### **Green Investment**

Developing innovative new strategies to work with private finance investors for environmentally sustainable projects, technologies and businesses that aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, mitigate climate change, and deliver nature restoration in ways that support socially inclusive, sustainable changes in land use.

### Woodland expansion

Increase the cover of biodiverse native woodland within the National Park by at least 1,000 hectares between 2023 and 2028

### Peatland restoration

This project will deliver 1,300 hectares of high-quality peatland restoration in the National Park each year through the delivery phase.

### **Nature Recovery**

This project will work with specific communities of land managers and landowners, to co-develop strategies for land management that increases the biodiversity and ecological health of their land while also considering the Highland cultural heritage, traditions, and employment



### People

#### Wellbeing Economy

To enhance ecological and economic wellbeing through transformational, collaborative and innovative change.

### **Effective Community Engagement**

To inform and change attitudes and behaviours to deliver net-zero and biodiversity targets.

#### **Climate Conscious Communities**

To empower people to take responsibility for decisions affecting change in their environment and see the benefits of those changes flow to their communities.

### Community Managed Climate Grants

To empower people to take responsibility for decisions affecting change in their environment and see the benefits of those changes flow to their communities.



### Place

#### **Active communities**

Making it easier and safer for residents and visitors to get around without a vehicle. By improving active travel infrastructure and public spaces.

#### Sustainable Transport

Supporting the delivery of a range of initiatives, including further development of the sustainable transport model for Aviemore to Cairngorm Mountain, options in Deeside and initiatives to enable multi modal journeys.

### Cycle Friendly Cairngorms

Creating the conditions where cycling as a method of sustainable transport is an accessible option. Enabling residents and visitors to embrace travelling by cycle as a realistic alternative to car use

#### **Changing Travel Behaviours**

By encouraging more people to walk, wheel, and cycle for everyday journeys, the project will improve health, create safer communities and reduce environmental impacts.



### Here to help

Website: cairngorms.co.uk

Facebook/Twitter: @cairngormsnews

Email: HaveYourSay@cairngorms.co.uk



