

Dubh Loch – Case Study

Path Number

UL18

Path Name

Dubh Loch

Distance

5.266km

Location

Start: NO2732282284

End: NO2289183398

Landowner

Balmoral

Designations

n/a

Land Management Priorities

Sporting/stewardship

Use

Moderately used path up to scenic loch.

Previous Path Management

The first section of the path up to the burn crossing by the waterfall is full construction. The Balmoral rangers currently carry out maintenance work further up mainly shedding water from the path.

Path Management Constraints

- ▶ Shortage of block stone on upper sections.

Path Condition

- ▶ Section 1 is in good condition.
- ▶ The rest of the path needs drainage especially on several vwey wet sections where path spread is a problem

Recommendations

- ▶ Section 1 – Maintenance only
- ▶ Section 2 – full build
- ▶ Section 3 – light touch works
- ▶ Section 4 & 5 full build

Maintenance

Once repaired the path will require quite intensive maintenance, with drains to be cleared, path surface occasionally topped up, and continuing light touch and pre-emptive work.

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▶ Section 2 – full build



▶ Section 3 – light touch works



▶ Section 4 – full build



▶ Section – 5 full build

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Dubh Loch – Amber (Condition) Survey

A full Amber (condition) survey for Dubh Loch was completed in 2013. This resulted in the works being carried out as part of the Mountains & The People project in 2015. Following the works a second Amber (condition) survey was completed. These surveys were completed using the guidance provided in section 2.4 (pages 40-54) of the Upland Path Management document.

This is the data for one of the sections of the Dubh Loch Amber surveys.

Before works

Overview

Weather conditions: Overcast, showery	Date: 27th June 2013
Path Name: Dubh Loch	Surveyor: Donald Mackenzie
Start Grid Reference: NO2732282284	End Grid Reference: NO2289183398
<p>General description of the Path: Path deteriorating and in need of full build with side ditch, water bars and surfacing. Absence of block stone for most of section.</p>	

Specification

Section:	4
Length:	653m
Grid Ref:	NO2422682675
Surface Type:	Aggregate
Features:	Burn
Paths/Braids:	1/2
Bare Width:	2.4m
Tramp Width:	7m
Gully Depth:	0.1m
LG/XF:	5/17

Condition

Roughness:	4
Drainage:	2
Erosion:	2
Dynamism:	2
Condition:	2
Urgency:	2

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Dubh Loch – Amber (Condition) Survey

After works

Overview

Weather conditions: Sunny and dry	Date: 12th May 2016
Path Name: Dubh Loch	Surveyor: Rosie Winch
Start Grid Reference: NO2732282284	End Grid Reference: NO2289183398
<p>General description of the Path: New aggregate path with good even surface and side ditch. Section in very good condition</p>	

Specification	
Section:	4
Length:	653m
Grid Ref:	NO2422682675
Surface Type:	Aggregate
Features:	Burn
Paths/Braids:	1/0
Bare Width:	1.2m
Tramp Width:	1.2m
Gully Depth:	0m
LG/XF:	5/17

Condition	
Roughness:	5
Drainage:	5
Erosion:	5
Dynamism:	5
Condition:	5
Urgency:	5

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Before works



After works

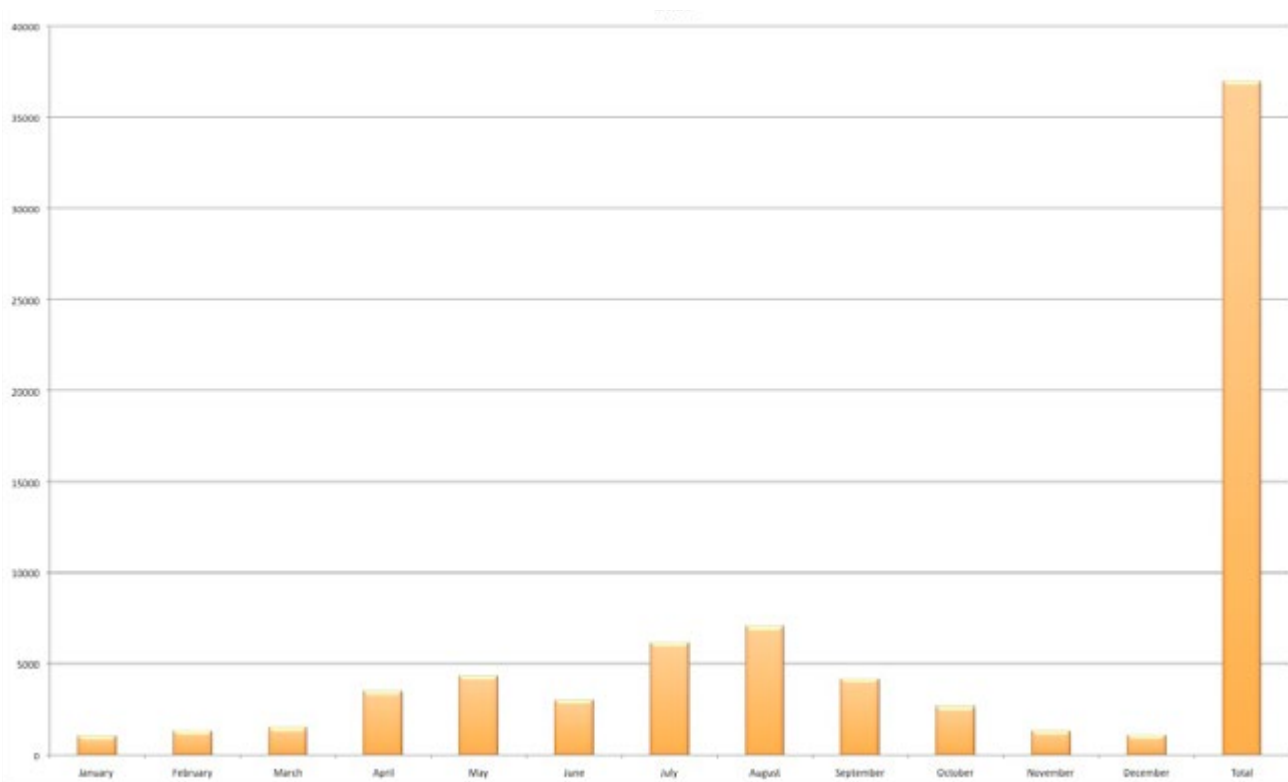


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Dubh Loch People Counter Data: 1 January 2017 – 31 December 2017

People counter data for The Loch Muick Visitor Centre near Ballater in the Cairngorms National Park

Data was collected by a people counter on the door of the visitors centre.



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Dubh Loch Rainfall Data in millimeters

Rainfall data for Glenmuick, near Ballater in the Cairngorms National Park

This data was provided by Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) Evidence & Flooding Advice Helpdesk.

