

Mountain Leader Training

Access and conservation
the uplands of Britain

Why be concerned!

Mountain areas are 'wild' recreational escapes. While there is an increase in the numbers of people visiting the uplands of Great Britain, there is also an increased awareness of the need to preserve and conserve these fragile landscapes.

The Mountain Environment

- Millions of years of erosion through ice wind and water have left us with the fragile and special mountain environments we know today.
- Their fragility is a result of the harsh climate and landforms which affect the way in which plants and animals can survive.
- They are also special because they are largely protected from human developments and contain a wealth of environmental and cultural history.

Coastal Access in England and Wales

- BMC continue to lobby new coastal access Bill
- New audit shows 34% of coast has no legally secure path
- Results show that 66% of the coast (1,827 miles) has good core paths
- While 34% (921 miles) has no secure path
- New marine and coastal access bill currently going through the house of commons

Land Access



- Misconceptions and misunderstandings
- Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000
www.countrysideaccess.gov.uk
- Land Reform Act (Scotland) 2003 (part 1)

Scottish Outdoor Access Code



- 1.3 The code is based upon three key principles and these apply equally to the public and land managers:
 - Respect the interests of other people
 - Care for the environment
 - Take responsibility for your actions

Scottish Outdoor Access Code

- Access Rights - Read pages 5-6
- Exercising Access Rights Responsibly - Read pages 17-19
 1. Take responsibility for your actions (*volenti non fit injuria*)
 2. Respect people's privacy and peace of mind
 3. Help land managers and others to work safely and effectively
 4. Care for your environment
 5. Keep your dog under proper control
 6. Take extra care if you are organising a group, an event or running a business
- Land Managers must also manage land and water responsibly for access (Summary Pages 53 and 54)

Section 5. Practical Guide to Access Rights and Responsibilities

- Climbing (Page77)
- Birds (Countryside Act 1981)
 - An offence to ‘intentionally’ disturb a bird ‘at, or near’ the nest.
 - Also an offence to disturb ‘dependent’ fledged young



<http://www.mountaineeringscotland.org.uk/council/birds.html>

<http://www.thebmc.co.uk>

More Practical Guides

- Cultural Heritage Sites (Page 78)

- Wild Camping (Page 115)

:- Wild Camping

<http://www.mountaineering-scotland.org.uk/leaflets/wildcamp.html>

:- Where to go in the great outdoors

<http://www.mountaineering-scotland.org.uk/leaflets/toilet.html>

- Deer stalking (Page 81 and 82)

Deer Stalking

Single greatest cause of local access problems notified to MCofS

<http://www.mountaineering-scotland.org.uk/access/hillphones.html>

Total GVA (£m)	(Gross Value Added)		
	Deer Management in Scotland effect on Gross Value Added in Scotland		
	Sporting shooting of deer	Deer Management (not for sport)	Deer Management Including Sport)
Direct Total	12.1	3.6	15.7
Indirect Total	51.0	4.0	55.0
Total GVA	62.8	7.6	70.4

The Contribution of Deer Management to the Scottish Economy
(Public and Corporate Economic Consultants)

http://www.dcs.gov.uk/info_documents.aspx#annual (Page 9)



Hill Phones



- Currently 13 areas
- Easily accessible information about the location of deer stalking activities during the main part of the stag stalking season (August to October)

<http://www.snh.org.uk/hillphones/whatare.asp>