

Appendix 5 - Emergency Services & Public Agents

- 5.1 For the purpose of this VMP the following bodies and their appointed agents will, from time to time, require assistance from the Chairlift Company who will provide efficient, safe access via the funicular. Access and egress will be provided in response to either an emergency rescue call out or in order to maintain/replace equipment and services vital to the safety of the general public or the environmental integrity of the site.

Table 5.1 Emergency Services and Public Agents

The following will have year round access:

Cairngorm Mountain Rescue (and agents)
RAF Mountain Rescue (and agents)
Glenmore Lodge Rescue Team
Police Rescue Team
Cairngorm Ranger Service
Cairngorm Chairlift Company Staff

The following will have notified access for the under noted reasons:

Avalanche Service (winter only)
The Met Office (weather instruments)
Heriot Watt Physics Dept (weather station)
Northern Constabulary (radio mast)
British Telecom and contracted agents (public phones and cables)
Scottish Hydro Electric (power supply)
Scottish Radio Holdings (radio mast)
Boyd Communications (radios)
SEPA (water courses)
The Highland Council (monitoring)
Scottish Natural Heritage (monitoring)
HIE and contracted agents (landowner)
Health & Safety Executive (safety insp)
Cairngorm Chairlift Company Ltd (contractors and safety agents)

- 5.2 The scope of geographic activity varies for each of the organisations identified above and this is detailed in the table below along with the management requirements, monitoring and fallback options. Access by all the above groups is currently coordinated with the Chairlift Company, however with the implementation of the VMP future access will be recorded for the purpose of monitoring.

Table 5.2 Emergency Services and Public Agent Management Arrangements

User Group	Access Req't	Geographic Scope of Activity	Management Arrangements	Monitoring Requirement	Fallback Options
Cairngorm Mountain Rescue RAF Mountain Rescue Glenmore Lodge Rescue Police Rescue	car park access funicular access Ptarmigan egress piste machine assistance (winter)	Ski Area and beyond	Access co-ordinated between the Company and rescue services under existing arrangements i.e contact call with Cairngorm Operations Manager. In summer egress from Ptarmigan will be managed by a Company representative.	Operations manager to record in day book: date, incident, assistance provided	none
Avalanche Service	car park, funicular access Ptarmigan egress	Ski Area and beyond	Avalanche service will receive access as and when required as per ERDF conditions	none	none
Public Agents - The Met. Office Heriot Watt Physics Department Highland Constabulary BT Hydro Board Scottish Radio Holdings Boyd Comms SEPA THC SNH HIE H&S Exec Cairngorm staff & contractors Ranger Service	car park funicular access Ptarmigan egress	Mainly within Ski Area	Current management system will apply i.e. pre notification required (phone or fax) from these agents, with date, scope of work etc.	Operations Manager to note: Agent-, date and reason for visit in Hill day book. Egress from Ptarmigan arranged by Company representative	Refuse access
		Some work beyond ski area (i.e. monitoring)	Work beyond the boundary of the Ski Area - as above but permission required from relevant land owner.	As above and evidence of contact with relevant landowner	Refuse access

5.3 Mountain Rescue and Training Exercises

Cairngorm Chairlift Company Ltd will continue to provide whatever assistance is required to support the Cairngorms rescue services. The funicular will provide a more reliable and quicker means of access to the high tops than previously provided by the Chairlift and it is anticipated that rescue services responding to call outs will make more use of this access. From time to time mountain rescue services request access for training purposes. Local rescue teams i.e. Cairngorm Mountain Rescue and RAF Mountain Rescue Team will receive access for training year round. These local rescue teams will be requested to provide at least 24 hours advance warning of a training exercise which requires funicular access. Visiting rescue services will not be able to use the funicular for training activities unless they are involved in a joint exercise with the local rescue services in which case written notification of the training exercise will be required from the locally based rescue service. Rescue dogs accompanying rescue teams will be carried by the funicular.

5.4 Maintenance Activity

Maintenance activity by public agents is predominantly confined to within the operational Ski Area boundary. Maintenance activity is usually always pre-planned and the Company manages on-site requirements and arrangements. On arrival the agent reports to Company reception and is issued with a maintenance pass (this is also done for safety reasons - passes are returned when the agent is finished on site). The maintenance pass will be logged in the visitor log and reception staff notify the Operations manager of the agents arrival. The Operations/duty manager is then responsible for co-ordinating the agents access on site and recording the visit in the Hill day book.

5.5 Monitoring

Historically the Company has offered access via the chairlift to agents undertaking scientific monitoring both within the Ski Area and beyond its operational boundary. It is proposed that agents undertaking officially approved research and monitoring relevant to the site be permitted to use the funicular for access and egress. Agents and their work would be officially approved by SNH. SNH would be responsible for notifying the Company of such agents and the nature of their work. The rationale for permitting approved research agents to use the funicular is that their work is directly relevant to monitoring requirements required to meet monitoring obligations under EU or UK environmental legislation. Scientific research in the Cairngorms is difficult due to climatic conditions and the time it takes to access remote parts of the area and access via the funicular will greatly assist with time pressures of operating in such a hostile environment and assist with the timely delivery of information on which future management decisions rest. Scientific research agents will report on site in the same way as maintenance agents and a record of their access will be recorded in the same way.

A copy of the maintenance and monitoring policy is detailed over:

Cairngorm Ski Area & Cairngorm Estate

Third Party Maintenance and Monitoring Policy Guidelines

The Cairngorm Estate and Cairngorm Ski Area occupy a strategic site on the Northern edge of the Cairngorm Massif. The Estate is protected under European Birds and Habitats Directives and the owners (Highlands & Islands Enterprise) and operators (Cairngorm Chairlift Company Ltd) have a duty of care towards the Estate's environmental management.

Consideration will be given to all genuine equipment and service maintenance requests within the Cairngorm Ski Area and Cairngorm Estate from official agents and their contractors.

Official Agents include:

The Met. Office
Heriot Watt Physics Department
Highland Constabulary
BT
Hydro Board
Scottish Radio Holdings
Boyd Comms
SEPA
SNH
THC
H&S Exec
Cairngorm Chairlift staff and appointed contractors
Cairngorm Ranger Service

Requests to undertake maintenance work should be submitted by fax or telephone giving as much advance warning as possible to: Cairngorm Operations Manager, Cairngorm Ski Area, Aviemore, PH22 1RB. TEL: 01479 861261. If work extends into adjacent areas approval will also be required from landowners.

Requests should include:

1. A brief description of the maintenance work.
2. The geographic location of the maintenance work.
3. The dates and duration of the maintenance work.
4. Access routes required and equipment to be transported.
5. Contact supervisor's name.
6. A copy of liability insurance.

Permission to undertake maintenance work will be subject to the following standard terms and conditions.

1. On arrival the representative will report to Company reception - proof of identification may be required. A maintenance pass will be issued and the Operations/Duty Manager notified.
2. The representative will ensure that all members of the contract group are suitably clothed and equipped.

3. Depending on ground and weather conditions the Cairngorm Chairlift Company Ltd (or any representative) reserves the right to cancel, postpone or delay maintenance work. In the interests of safety and the environment the final decision on any activity rests with the Cairngorm Chairlift Company Ltd or its designated representatives.
4. Access to the site will be by foot on existing footpaths unless funicular access has been pre-arranged and approved by the Operations/Duty Manager. Any activity will be contained within the Ski Area boundary and Cairngorm Estate. (Any activity outside this area will require the written permission of respective land owners).
5. The Cairngorm Chairlift Company Ltd will accept no responsibility for injury to representatives or equipment loss/damage on site. It is the responsibility of the maintenance contractor to ensure they are adequately insured.
6. The applicant will undertake all necessary H&S precautions and environmental impact assessment measures prior to the commencement of work.
7. The representative will notify the Operations/Duty Manager on conclusion of maintenance activity and return the maintenance pass to Company reception before departure.
8. No access to the site will be provided via the funicular or other mechanised transport without prior notification by phone or fax to the Operations/Duty Manager.

All details provided will be held in the strictest confidence.

If you require any further information please contact: Operations Manager, Cairngorm Ski Area, Aviemore, Inverness - shire. PH22 1RB. TEL: 01479 861261.

5.6 General Field Research Requests

A number of general field research requests are received annually from University Groups and others, to conduct course related field work on site. These requests are managed by the standard Field Research Policy Guidelines that are detailed below. It is proposed that requests of this nature continue to be considered under this set of guidelines.

Cairngorm Ski Area & Cairngorm Estate

Field Research Guidelines

The Cairngorm Estate and Cairngorm Ski Area occupy a strategic site on the Northern edge of the Cairngorm Massif. The Estate is protected under European Birds and Habitats Directives and the owners (Highlands & Islands Enterprise) and operators (Cairngorm Chairlift Company Ltd) have a duty of care towards the Estate's environmental management.

Consideration will be given to all written requests for on-site field studies within the Cairngorm Ski Area and Cairngorm Estate from recognised establishments.

Consideration will be given to applications which demonstrate:

- Educational value
- Scientific value
- Tangible outputs
- Adequate supervision and management

Requests to undertake field work should be submitted in writing at least 4 weeks in advance to: Cairngorm Ranger Service, Cairngorm Ski Area, Aviemore, PH22 1RB. TEL: 01479 861261. If work extends into adjacent areas approval will also be required from respective landowners.

Written requests should include:

1. A brief description of the field work project - including objectives.
2. The geographic location and scope of the study area.
3. A summary of methodology i.e. numbers in group, equipment to be used, techniques.
4. The dates and duration of the field project.
5. Access routes to study site.
6. Supervisory arrangements and contact.
7. A copy of liability insurance.

Requests will be considered and a decision will be given in writing. Permission to undertake field work will be subject to the following standard terms and conditions.

1. On arrival the project supervisor will report to Company Reception where the Head Ranger will be contacted.
2. Supervisors are responsible for the study group's safety and will ensure that all members of the group are suitably clothed and equipped.
3. Depending on ground and weather conditions the Cairngorm Chairlift Company Ltd (or any representative) reserve the right to designate where the activity will take place. In the interests of safety and the environment the final decision on any activity rests with the Cairngorm Chairlift Company or its designated representatives.
4. Access to the site will be by foot on existing footpaths. Any activity will be limited to the area contained within the Cairngorm Estate and /or identified in the proposal as agreed in writing by the Head Ranger. (Any activity outside this area will require the written permission of respective land owners).
5. The Cairngorm Chairlift Company Ltd will accept no responsibility for injury to field workers or equipment loss/damage on site. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure they are adequately insured.
6. The applicant will consider all environmental impacts and mitigation measures prior to the commencement of work and submit this to the Head Ranger before field work starts.
7. The applicant will provide the Head Ranger with a summary report of findings and conclusions on field work completion.
8. The supervisor will notify the Head Ranger of departure on conclusion of the study.
9. No access to the site will be provided via the funicular or other mechanized transport.

All details provided will be held in the strictest confidence.

If you require any further information please contact: Head Ranger, Cairngorm Ski Area, Aviemore, Inverness - shire. PH22 1RB. TEL: 01479 861261.