

Glen Brittle

Gaelic of Glen Brittle

Location Action Plan (LAP) 2021

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Aim: Glen Brittle as a thriving sustainable location where the needs of residents, visitors and the environment are acknowledged and evaluated as an ongoing process.

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Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

Glen Brittle	The geographical area of the whole glen surrounding the river Brittle.
Glenbrittle	The farm and township

FLS	Forestry and Land Scotland
LAP	Location Action Plan
MCHA	Minginish Community Hall Association
MH/CVs	Motorhomes and Campervans
OATS	Outdoor Access Trust for Scotland
SISP	Skye Iconic Sites Project
SOAC	Scottish Outdoor Access Code
THC	The Highland Council

Action Plan Timeframes	Description
Short Term	To be achieved within 3 - 9 months
Medium Term	To be achieved within 9 - 18 months
Long Term	To be achieved beyond 18 months

Appendices

Appendix 1: Stakeholder Contacts/Groups/Organisations informing the Glen Brittle Location Action Plan

Appendix 2: Community Consultation attendees

Appendix 3: Stakeholder and Community Feedback Contacts/Groups/Organisations

To be added

Executive Summary

Objectives

The following objectives have been identified for the Glen Brittle Location Action Plan:

1. Summarise in detail the priority challenges in Glen Brittle using a range of data sources, conversations and consultations with stakeholders and community members, and through site visits.
2. Identify possible solutions with stakeholders to mitigate, reduce or prevent the priority challenges in Glen Brittle, these will include:
 - a) Suggested pilot projects to test solutions
 - b) Suggested short, medium and long-term solutions
 - c) Suggested joint and collaborative working opportunities
3. Generate the 'Location Action Plan' as a working document to share with the community and stakeholders in awareness of evolving factors.

Summary of Priority Challenges

The priority challenges identified through the Access Rangers team 2021 and stakeholder engagement are:

Volume of visitors

Existing infrastructure can't support current increase and expected growth in visitor numbers.

Traffic and Parking

Obstructions, verge damage and traffic congestion throughout the tourist season.

Outdoor Access

Irresponsible Outdoor Access throughout Glen Brittle at multiple sites.

These challenges are causing:

1. Increased strain on local community wellbeing and infrastructure
2. Direct and indirect impacts on the livelihoods of farmers and crofters
3. Accumulative impacts on the land and ecosystems from camping, overnighing and visitor use
4. Stressful and unenjoyable visitor experiences at sites where further discreet destination management is required

Summary of Suggested Solutions

1. Glen Brittle Destination Management:
 - a. Establish a Destination Management Forum of stakeholders
 - b. Establish a Destination Management Officer (part-time permanent role)
 - c. Establish a Glen Brittle or Minginish Warden (seasonal full-time role)
 - d. Improve and join-up the virtual destination 'narrative' and information for visitors
 - e. Community and stakeholder buy-in for the Destination Management Forum
2. Traffic management in Glen Brittle:
 - a. Reduce or prevent obstructions to single track road by improving road infrastructure in tandem with b. and c. below
 - b. Establish visitor transport systems that reduce traffic to manageable levels for Fairy Pools Car Park and Glen Brittle
 - c. Connect to the emerging pilot Smart Tourism for 'real-time' traffic, parking and visitor information systems
3. Responsible outdoor access in Glen Brittle:
 - a. A Glen Brittle or Minginish Warden can work with the seasonal Access Ranger engaging with visitors about SOAC
 - b. Joined-up approach to signs, messaging and advice to visitors throughout the glen about camping and overnighting
 - c. Consistent use of signs for dog walkers
 - d. A Destination Management Officer can work with the Warden and the Forum on the virtual destination 'narrative' ensuring visitors understand the importance of the history, culture, land and community, and how to care for it.
4. Monitor and respond to changes and evolutions of community needs and tourism trends.
 - a. The Destination Management Forum can adopt the Location Action Plan, using it as a working document to be reviewed and updated annually in response to changing needs and trends.

Summary Outcomes

The Location Action Plan is working towards achieving the aspirations of the community in balancing livelihoods and local wellbeing with a tourism economy that meets The Highland Council's Tourism Strategy¹ and Visit Scotland's Tourism² priority areas of:

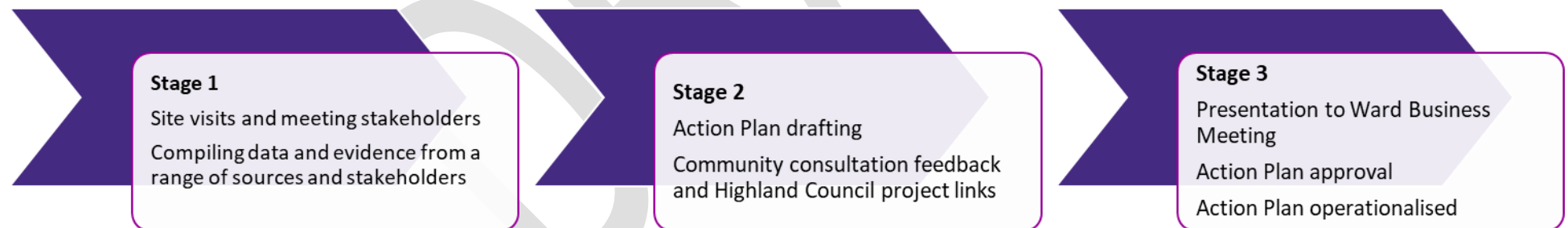
1. Supporting Scotland's transition to a low carbon economy
2. Ensuring tourism and events in Scotland are inclusive
3. Ensuring tourism and events contribute to thriving communities
4. Supporting the protection and considerate enjoyment of Scotland's natural and cultural heritage³

With the objectives, suggested solutions and responsible tourism aims in mind, the following overarching outcomes have been identified:

- Support community wellbeing and livelihoods with a tourism economy that celebrates and protects the local natural and cultural heritage
- Join up the destination management for Glen Brittle through collaboration across stakeholders and community members.

The Staged Process Adopted for the LAP

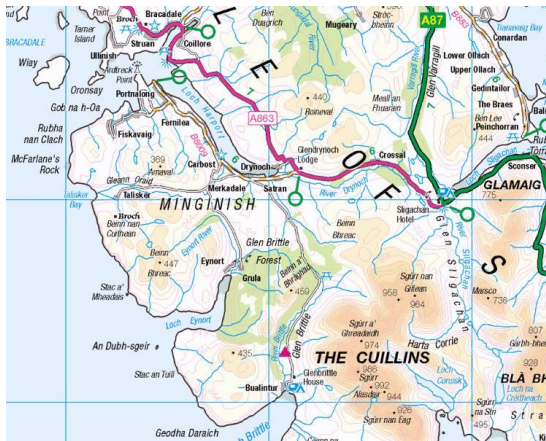
The following process was adopted based on guidance from other destination and community consultation procedures. Please see appendix 1, 2 and 3 for a full overview of all stakeholders and community members who have contributed to developing the Location Action Plan.



¹ More information about the strategy can be found later in the document

² Visit Scotland Website <http://www.visitscotland.org/supporting-your-business/responsible-tourism/>

Location

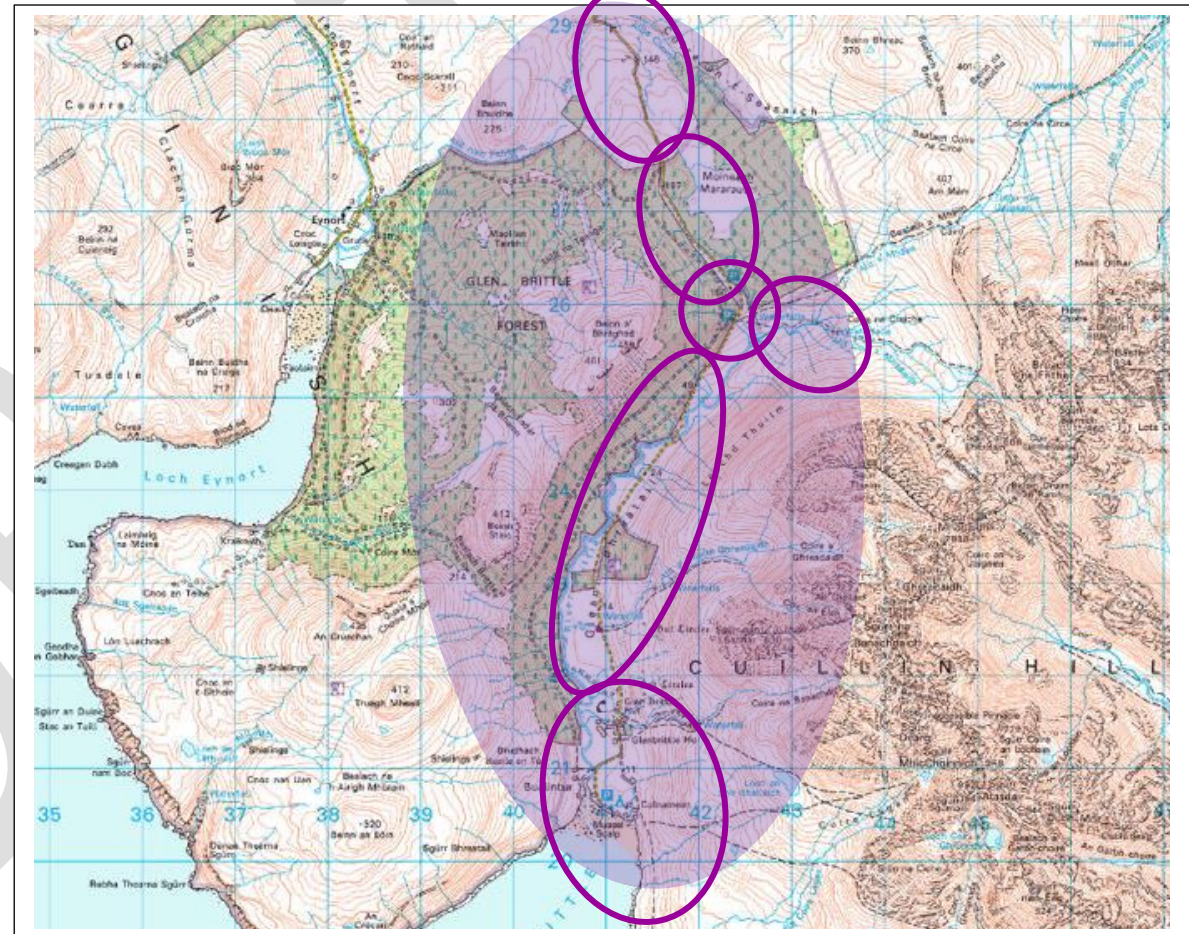


Glen Brittle is situated within the Minginish Peninsular of the Isle of Skye and has a variety of very popular visitor destinations within the glen and its immediate vicinity, including the internationally renowned Fairy Pools, Glenbrittle Beach with Campsite and Cafe, The Cuillins, and nearby Talisker Distillery.

For the purposes of the **Location Action Plan**, Glen Brittle will be looked at as a single location, as well as separated into six distinct areas, enabling a more focused analysis of key visitor challenges in each area alongside discreet action plan proposals to mitigate visitor impacts for the community and the natural environment of Glen Brittle.

The areas are:

1. Carboist Junction to Forestry Boundaries
2. Forestry and Square Mile Car Park
3. Fairy Pools Car Park Area
4. Fairy Pools
5. Glenbrittle Bridge, Flats and Farm
6. Glenbrittle Beach, Parking and Campsite



Tourism Background & Destination Trends

Hiking & Mountaineering

Glen Brittle has previously and continues to be very popular for hikers and mountaineers accessing The Cuillins and other hiking trails.

Fairy Pools ... Global Sensation

Within the past decade the Fairy Pools has become an internationally known visitor attraction across various Social Media platforms with #fairyponds; tagged in Travel Blogs; featured on Visit Scotland and local tourism sites, as well as Wikipedia, Tripadvisor, and other Hiking/Outdoors websites.

Fairy Pools ... Bucket List Destination

The Fairy Pools is now an 'instagramable' bucket list destination with increasing visitors and changing demographics of visitors – many less experienced in the outdoors. Mini-bus and coach tours include it on their trip itineraries, and it features on all travel and tourism websites/blogs about the Isle of Skye. There is also consistent and growing interest in outdoor experiences and adventure sports across Skye and the Highlands increasing the popularity of The Cuillins and Glen Brittle as a whole.

The Highlands is one of the most popular destinations in Scotland, based on 2019 tourism data Visit Scotland⁴ states that the Highlands received:

2.9 million overnight stays

9.6 million day visits

11.5 million nights of stays

£1.6 billion spend

With staycations and changing tourism trends due to the global pandemic, it is predicted that 2021 will either return to or exceed the number of overnight stays, visits and spend in the Highlands. This is positive news after the pandemic impacted local economies and in some areas across the Highlands 43%⁵ of the workforce annually rely on some form of tourism income. However, it is important to note that over the last eighteen months there has been an increase in touring motorhomes/campervans and 'informal camping' across the Highlands, whose data will not be included in Visit Scotland calculations and therefore visitor numbers may exceed those published.

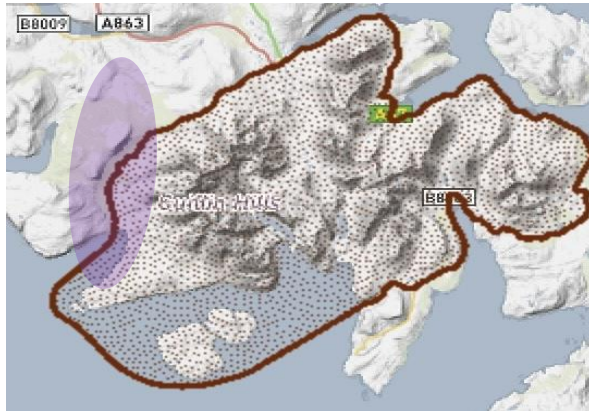
⁴ Visit Scotland 2019 Tourism Data <http://www.visitscotland.org/research-insights/regions/highlands>

⁵ Highlands and Islands Enterprise <http://www.hie.co.uk/our-region/our-growth-sectors/tourism>

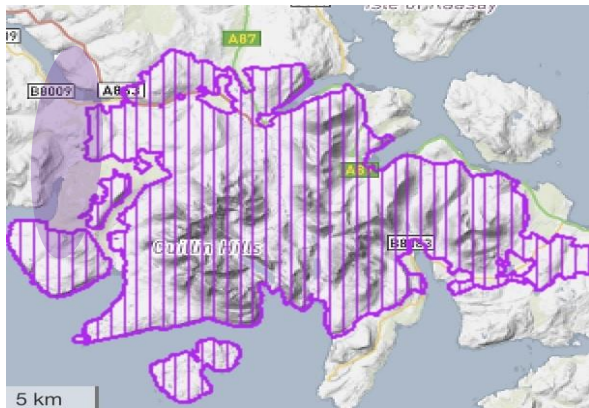
Scenic, Special, Scientific and Historical Designations

The Cuillins have three designations that are monitored and managed by NatureScot⁶. The boundaries of all three of these designated areas sit within and border Glen Brittle as a location and therefore need to be taken into consideration for conservation and biodiversity purposes of the LAP.

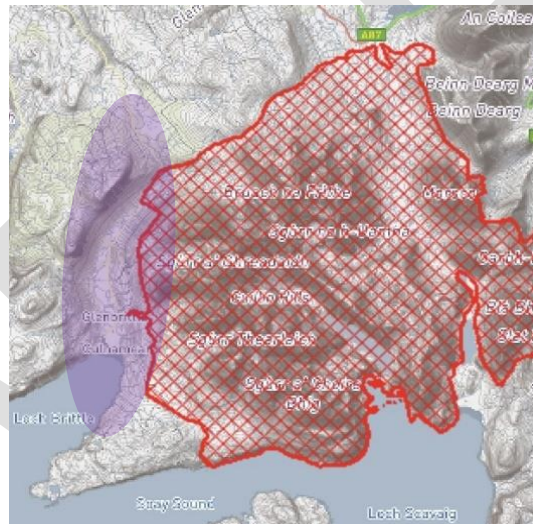
National Scenic Area



Special Protection Area

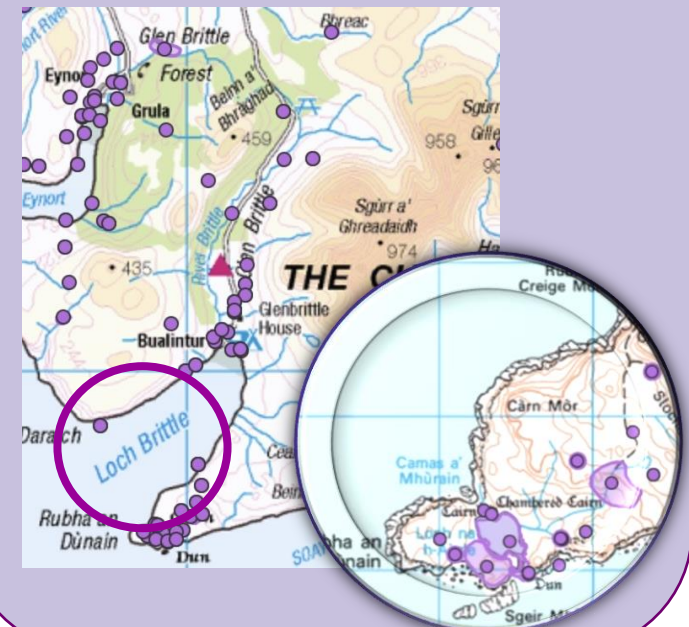


Site of Special Scientific Interest



Highland Historic Environment Record

These sites are recorded on the record from the earliest human activity up to the Cold War in the Highlands. The Viking Canal – Rubha an Dunain being the most well known at the location.



⁶ NSA Site Link <http://sitelink.nature.scot/site/9153> ; SPA Site Link <http://sitelink.nature.scot/site/8610> ; SSSI Site Link <http://sitelink.nature.scot/site/476>

Visitor Management and Infrastructure Development So Far

Timber Access Improvements with Roads Authority, THC and Forestry & Land Scotland - Road infrastructure improvements from Carbst junction to the Glenbrittle Forestry and Land Scotland entrance.

Fairy Pools Car Park, OATS and MCHA (2016 +) - The Car Park is a partnership between Minginish Community Hall Association (MCHA) and the Outdoor Access Trust for Scotland (OATS) both registered charities. MCHA purchased the site and leases it to OATS where some of the parking income goes to MCHA community projects and the rest is reinvested by OATS into pathway projects and environmental restoration work. The first phase of the Car Park construction was jointly funded by the Scottish Government, LEADER, Highland Council, the Scottish Land Fund, Highlands & Islands Enterprise, the Minginish community, donations from local tour bus companies and other individual donations. The Car Park provides approximately 140 spaces for ticket paying cars, campervans/motorhomes and small tour buses with annual passes, and there is a toilet block now on site with a one-way system for all vehicles to follow⁷.

Shuttle Bus Project, Roads and Transport, THC (2021 +) To be added

Roads Authority, THC - Verge maintenance during Lockdown to protect edges of tarmac from further deterioration and damage. During 2021 roads maintenance officers additionally reversed the verge erosion caused by parking and from track lines and filled potholes in some sections of the single track.

Waste Management, THC - Twice weekly up-lifts in Glen Brittle to manage visitor waste with bins at Glenbrittle beach and Fairy Pools Car Park (2 THC bins and OATS bins on site). Seasonal Visitor Waste Operative serviced waste bins and cleared litter at bin sites. The Council's Tourism Committee has proposed funding for the seasonal Visitor Waste Operatives to continue for 2022 which awaits confirmation of the budget meetings of the full Council.

⁷ Outdoor Access Trust Scotland - Fairy Pools Facility Supervisor and <http://www.outdooraccesstrustforscotland.org.uk/projects/skye-projects/>

Pathway and Environmental Restoration, OATS (2021 +) - Skye Iconic Sites Projects is now undertaking path restoration, interpretive signage, environmental restoration and constructing footpath bridges at the Fairy Pools Site.⁸ Funding has been provided through NatureScot's Natural and Cultural Heritage Fund (NCHF), OATS, Scottish Government Rural Payments Inspection Division (SGRPID), MCHA and THC.

Access Rangers and Path Works, Outdoor Access Team, THC - The Access Officer for Skye and Lochalsh has previously undertaken path work and volunteering path days at the Fairy Pools and other hiking trails within Glen Brittle. Additionally, there has been a people counter at Fairy Pools collecting data since 2014 to inform visitor and footpath management. In 2021 seasonal Access Rangers patrolled weekly and engaged with members of the public in Glen Brittle in support of improving responsible outdoor access behaviour, as well as, collecting data on visitor numbers and behaviour. The Council's Tourism Committee has proposed funding for the seasonal Access Ranger service to continue for 2022 which awaits confirmation of the budget meetings of the full Council. To ensure the same or improved level of service further funding will be required from Scottish Government or NatureScot as in 2021

Smart Tourism Project, SkyeConnect with University of Edinburgh (2021 +) To be added - Funding provisionally confirmed through Skye Iconic Sites Project (SISP) with OATS to include Glen Brittle and Fairy Pools destination for traffic sensors to be included in the 'SMART' tourism website data.

Public Donations Project, SkyeConnect and Scottish Agricultural College (SAC) Consulting (2021) - Research and report into 'Public Goods Funding from Public Donations'⁹. The report explores the existing tensions between recreational and primary production land use on Skye, using several case studies from crofters and farmers while showcasing how voluntary donation systems could mitigate impacts on livelihoods and provide financial environmental protective measures.

⁸ Outdoor Access Trust for Scotland (2021) <https://www.outdooraccesstrustforscotland.org.uk/cms/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/OATS-Annual-Report-2020-2021-Final.pdf>

⁹ Report provided by SkyeConnect (2021) <http://www.skye-connect.com>

Visitor Data and Impacts

Access Ranger Data 2021

This data was collected between May and October 2021 through weekly Ranger patrols of Glenbrittle¹⁰

Square Mile

	Month	Number of Patrols	Number of Cars	Number of MH/CVs	Number of Tents	Number of new Fire Marks	Litter (1/4 bags)	Number of Toileting deposits	Number of people seen	Number of people spoken to
Square Mile	May	3	18	13	2	3	1	3	7	7
	Jun	17	56	39	11	19	2	0	19	10
	Jul	19	58	84	17	20	2	0	81	53
	Aug	22	74	114	18	3	4	3	70	32
	Sep	13	33	81	2	2	4	3	39	14
	Oct	6	8	17	4	2	2	32	3	1

Comments and findings of Rangers on site included the following:

- Camping, overnighing and parking issues
- Irresponsible Outdoor Access – Open fires on site, high risk during dry periods and not following SOAC ‘leave no trace’
- Irresponsible Outdoor Access – Toileting and littering across areas where campers and MH/CVs are overnighing

Photo: No Fires sign erected by Access Ranger at Square Mile.



¹⁰ Site Monitoring completed by two Access Rangers, one a Senior Ranger. The Rangers patrolled for six months and four months depending on their seasonal contract. Patrols were undertaken predominantly during early morning and late afternoon to evening.

Fairy Pools Car Park Area

	Month	Number of Patrols	Number of Cars	Number of MH/CVs	Number of Tents	Number of new Fire Marks	Litter (1/4 bags)	Number of Toileting deposits	Number of people seen	Number of people spoken to
Fairy Pools Car Park Area	May	2	66	18	0	0	0	0	8	2
	Jun	16	422	68	0	0	0	3	117	8
	Jul	18	594	116	5	0	0	0	296	23
	Aug	19	602	189	0	0	0	0	357	5
	Sep	11	248	56	6	1	1	0	167	7
	Oct	5	1*	1*	0	0	0	0	438	8

*Car Park not counted in October, only roadside vehicles and number of people on footpath.

Comments and findings of Rangers on site included the following:

- Visitors using passing places to wait for family or friends
- Visitors parking on verges and obstructing traffic
- Visitors walking to Fairy Pools with some dogs out of control near livestock

Photos: Tail backs and obstructions from verge parking on hair pins. Filmed by Fairy Pools Car Park Facility Manager.



Glenbrittle Bridge to Farm

	Month	Number of Patrols	Number of Cars	Number of MH/CVs	Number of Tents	Number of new Fire Marks	Litter (1/4 bags)	Number of Toileting deposits	Number of people seen	Number of people spoken to
Glenbrittle Bridge to Farm	May	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	2
	Jun	16	49	23	25	5	0	0	26	0
	Jul	18	220	210	118	12	0	7	174	63
	Aug	20	213	101	105	22	4	1	185	92
	Sep	11	30	34	4	2	2	1	30	7
	Oct	5	1	1	0	1	0	0	2	1

Comments and findings of Rangers on site included the following:

- Irresponsible Outdoor Access – Campers by river parking on grazing land beyond 3m edge of single-track road.
- Irresponsible Outdoor Access – Open fires on site, high risk during dry periods and not following SOAC 'leave no trace'
- Irresponsible Outdoor Access – Toileting and littering across areas where campers and Motorhomes/Campervans are overnighing

Photo: Vehicle found by Access Ranger, which had been driven off onto grazing land and ended up stuck in boggy area.



Site Photos

Road Sections



Carbost Junction Signs



Single-track road by Square Mile



Proposed section for extended bollards



Glenbrittle Beach single-track road surface



Fairy Pools Footpath and Surrounding Desire Lines



Fairy Pools Footpath Start



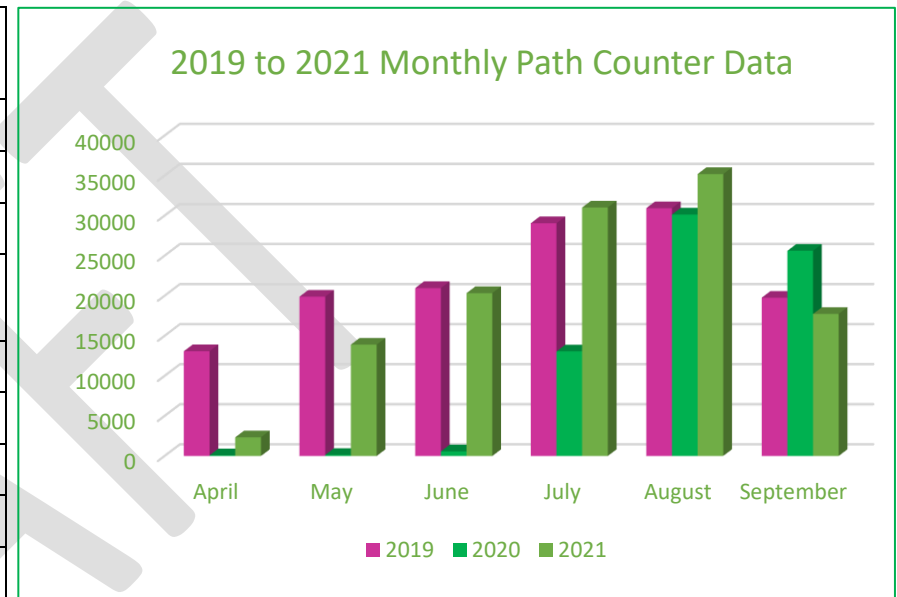
Desire lines from Square Mile parking area

Desire line from lower Fairy Pools Car Park

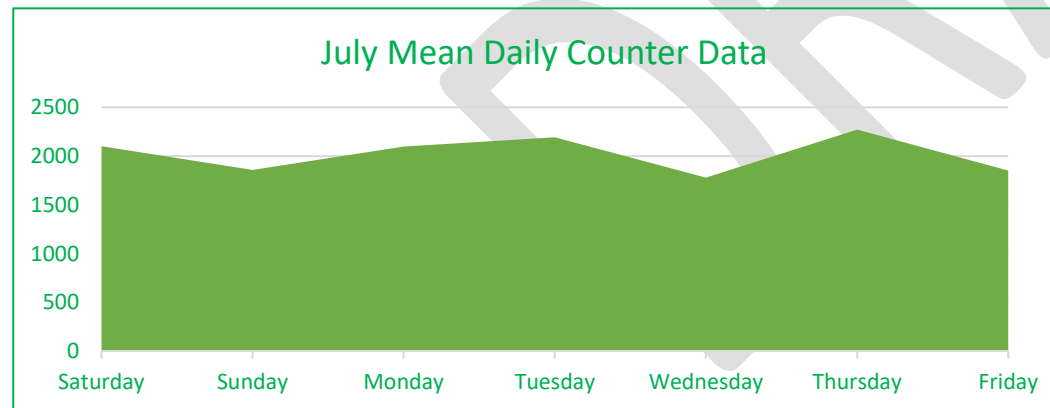
Fairy Pools People Counter Data

Data provided by the Skye and Lochalsh Access Officer.¹¹

Year	Count	User Numbers
2002	26,479	13,240
2014	134,125	67,062
2015 (new path installed March/April)	162,769	81,385
2016 (data loss – extrapolated from other data)	205,587	102,793
2017	282,250	141,125
2018	305,189	152,595
2019	360,839	180,419
2020 (Lockdown April to July)	200,679	100,339
2021*	266,549	146,602



*An estimated 10% was added, as maximum count of 255 per hour was exceeded numerous times.



Summary Data Findings:

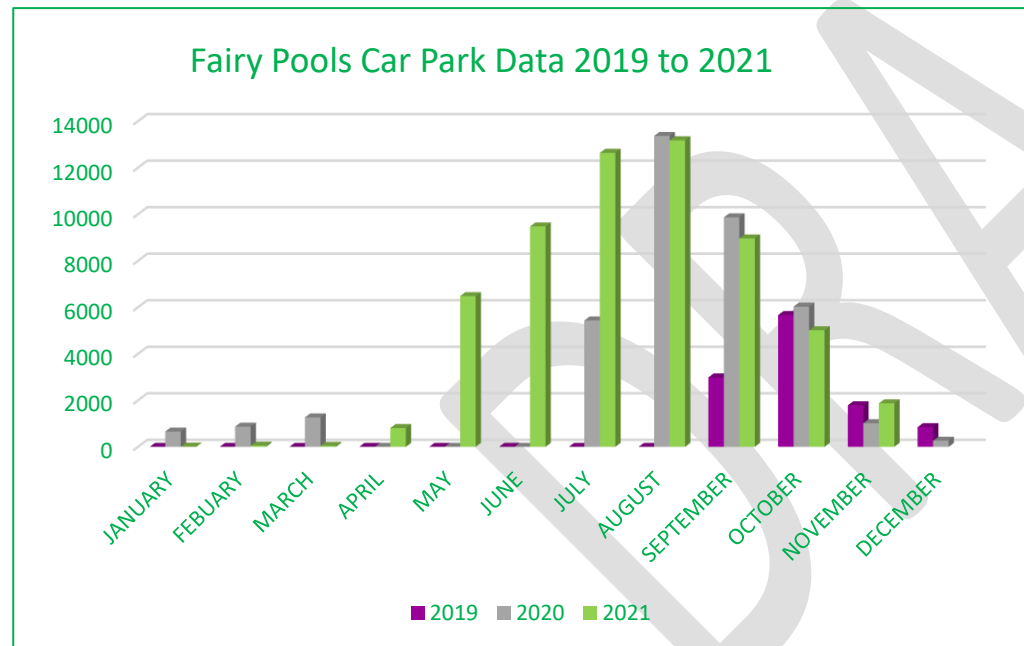
1. Visitor numbers have been increasing annually and are close to returning to pre-pandemic numbers.
2. Visitor numbers for August 2021 exceeded 2019/2020 Fairy Pools visits, which was the busiest month for Glen Brittle overall.
3. The most popular days to visit the Fairy Pools were Saturday, Monday and Tuesday, peaking on Thursdays.

¹¹ Data Collection – Chambers Radio Beam/Conversion Factor 2 assumes close to 100% return via the same route. The total count is also halved to identify total number of visitors.

Fairy Pools Car Park Data

2019 - 2021 Data provided by Fairy Pools Facilities Manager¹²

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2019	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,982	5,664	1,787	847	11,280
2020	657	868	1265	-	-	-	5,432	13,362	9,863	6,025	1,016	263	38,751
2021	8	51	41	808	6,478	9,473	12,635	13,173	8,955	5,010	1,870	-	58,502



Summary Data Findings and Comments:

1. Due to increases in MH/CVs in 2021 the numbers are lower for Car Park tickets in August and September yet exceeded capacity due to larger vehicles on site.
2. Car Park was full by 10:30/11:00 through July and August 2021 with verge parking through peak of the day and having to turn arrivals away.
3. Thursday identified as the busiest day for visitors with the possible explanation being a pattern of visiting sites, depending on short three-night stays or week-long holidays.
4. September showed a substantial increase on later summer and early Autumn visitors, extending into November, similar to the trend set in 2019.
5. Due to the recording of data only starting in September 2019 there is no comparison to pre-pandemic visitor numbers

¹² 2021 data collected from cards and coins of ticket machine stats and cash transactions by staff with handheld machines. The data does not include type of vehicle.

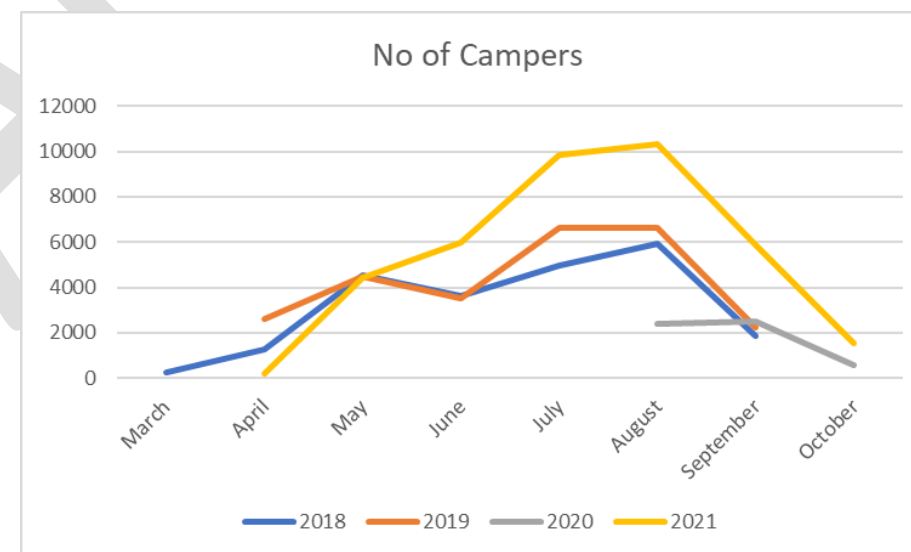
Glenbrittle Campsite Data

2018 to 2021 Glenbrittle Camping and Café overnight bookings managed by MacLeod Estates¹³

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Total
2018	245	1,291	4,516	3,603	4,981	5,942	1,865	-	22,443
2019	-	2,620	4,474	3,517	6,624	6,611	2,241	-	26,087
2020	-	-	-	-	-	2,419	2,495	579	5,493
2021	-	213	4,414	5,975	9,827	10,330	5,899	1,532	38,190

Summary Data Findings:

1. Open until end of October in 2020 and 2021, evidencing substantial interest of tourists in extending the season during pandemic 'staycationing' years. For example, September 2020 exceeded 2019 bookings after one month of opening from Lockdowns and doubled in 2021.
2. 2021 bookings from June onwards far exceeded 2019 pre-pandemic visitor bookings, peaking in August with over 10,000 bookings in one month.
3. In previous years there had been more of gradual increase in visitors with a drop during June, but 2021 shows that from April there was a steady increase across the tourism season that far exceeded previous visitor numbers.



¹³ Data collected is only inclusive of overnight bookings from Motorhomes/Campervans and camping. Not included are day visitors parking on site to use the café, paths or beach.

Highland Council Tourism Strategy connections

Details to be added + Other THC connected planning

DRAFT

Action Plan

Glen Brittle as a Destination Area

Challenge	Description	Suggested Actions	Stakeholders Involved
Joined-up Destination Management to curate the visitor experience and mitigate negative tourism impacts on community.	Due to a variety of stakeholders there is no central or lead organisation, business or individual who can take point on drawing together the destination management aims specifically needed for Glen Brittle. Nor is there one organisation as point of contact for framing the visitor 'narrative'* of Glen Brittle.	<p>Short Term: Form a Glen Brittle Destination Management Forum and employ a Destination Management Officer (part-time).</p> <p>The Forum can establish contact directories, one of landowners, land managers and tenants. The other of bus tours and guide groups.</p> <p>Medium Term: The Destination Management Officer can coordinate the 'narrative'* of the glen, through reviewing, correcting and consolidating all virtual destination news across all stakeholders - unifying online presence and work on short-term to long-term solutions identified in the Location Action Plan with Forum stakeholders and community members. The role could also involve ongoing community consultations and linking to wider Skye destination management approaches.</p> <p>Ongoing: Identify ways to fund and source finance in support of the Location Action Plan suggestions being operationalised and for future projects of the Forum.</p>	
Visitor Information,	There are a wide range of websites, personal blogs, social media hashtags and tourism promotional pages (Tripadvisor) that advertise	Pilot Project: Smart Tourism Project – SkyeConnect and University of Edinburgh. Funding confirmed by SISP to include Glen Brittle / Fairy Pools as a key	SkyeConnect and University of Edinburgh

<p>Guidance and Advice</p>	<p>and mention the Fairy Pools specifically and other features of the location.</p> <p>These websites, pages and promotional materials do not adequately explain the vehicle access or requirements of visitors to adhere to parking in designated areas nor raising awareness of impact on communities and places.</p>	<p>site for traffic monitoring sensors and to produce ‘real-time’ data for tourists to pre-plan and self-organise destination visits across Isle of Skye. The project includes online website page for ‘real-time’ data and Dynamic Message Boards. Interactive data interpretations, alongside audio update notifications – an option for a Warden, Access Ranger and the Car Park Operatives to upload audio guidance to visitors for the day.</p> <p>Medium Term: The Destination Management Officer can coordinate the ‘narrative’* of the glen, through reviewing, correcting and consolidating all virtual destination news across all stakeholders - unifying online presence. Link to all other websites/ Tripadvisor/tourism info pages – creating a virtual interpretation point / virtual visitor information point. Info about where the fees go to from Car Park and how they support the community alongside other projects that may get set up (I.e. Voluntourism)</p>	
<p>Traffic Management</p>	<p>The Fairy Pools Car Park in peak tourist season is full by 10:30/11:00. Once full visitors will park on verges, in passing places, use the Square Mile parking area or park further down the glen causing obstructions.</p> <p>At peak season mountain rescue and emergency vehicle access is limited throughout the glen, alongside ongoing issues with obstructions for waste/recycling operatives</p>	<p>Short Term: THC – Shuttle Bus Project. More Information to be added</p> <p>Pilot Project: Smart Tourism Project – SkyeConnect and University of Edinburgh Funding confirmed by SISP to include Glen Brittle / Fairy Pools as a key site for traffic monitoring sensors and to produce ‘real-time’ data for tourists to pre-plan and self-organise destination visits across Isle of Skye. The project includes online website page for ‘real-time’</p>	<p>THC Roads and Transport</p> <p>SkyeConnect with University of Edinburgh</p>

	<p>with lorries, delivery lorries and residents entering or exiting the glen.</p> <p>Roadside verge damage puts additional pressure on roads maintenance, increasing the long-term costs for road improvements and resurfacing.</p> <p>The Fairy Pools Car Park will not extend beyond the 140 bays currently available on site. There is no plan to have an overflow area at this time.</p> <p>Police do not have staff available to manage traffic daily in the glen during the peak season.</p>	<p>data and Dynamic Message Boards. Interactive data interpretations, alongside audio update notifications – an option for Warden, Access Ranger and Car Park Operatives to upload audio guidance to visitors.</p> <p>With increased roads and parking budget:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Extend rural clearway and bollards along single-track road and explore option to have a Parking Enforcement Officer attend on peak days of the week (I.e. either Mon, Tues, Thurs or Sat) 2. Road maintenance at Square Mile single-track road section and Glenbrittle beach. Improved road surface, wider single-track and extend some passing places to significantly reduce tail backs and obstructions. Improved road surfacing would also enable better access to the campsite for overnighting and with possible reduction in camping and MH/CV parking in the glen. 	<p>THC Roads Authority</p>
<p>Footpath Maintenance / Route erosion</p>	<p>With increasing visitor numbers, adventure groups and interest in The Cuillins for experienced outdoor trips there is increasing erosion across footpaths throughout Glen Brittle.</p>	<p>Short Term: Review all routes and identify key path works that are needed throughout Glen Brittle.</p> <p>Short Term: Establish a Path Volunteering Group of tourists, tour bus groups and tourism guides who are keen to ‘give back’. Explore options of accessing materials and equipment to sustain this long-term.</p> <p>Medium to Long Term: Seek funding for mountain path improvement projects.</p>	

Google Maps	Incorrect drop pins, information and missing details about the glen. This is confusing for visitors and causes disruption (i.e. an area by the farm had a car park drop pin but it isn't a 'car park' and the parking by the beach had no drop pin for parking)	The Destination Management Officer could take 'ownership' of google data associated with land and businesses of the Forum. Can edit, add and change information on Google / Google Maps – correcting and editing as things arise. (Wikipedia is also a page where self-editing could be useful to update information for visitors).	
Point of Contact	No single organisation able to designate a point of contact for tourists or to manage issues as they arise in the glen.	Employ a seasonal Warden , who could also cover Minginish Peninsular if needed (Eynort and Talisker Bay). A Warden could work daytimes in collaboration with a seasonal Access Ranger who usually patrols early mornings and evenings, and the Destination Management Officer can further support the Warden through the joined-up online messaging and information about Glen Brittle. Recommended that the Warden has knowledge and experience of the local area and community.	
Tourist Information Point / Tourist Advice	<p>There is no tourism information point in Glen Brittle or nearby.</p> <p>The Fairy Pools Car Park has been functioning as an informal tourism information point, including first aid and outdoor safety advice.</p>	<p>The Warden and Destination Management Officer could have a base of operations if desired, possibly connected to the OATS Car Park office/staff facilities being developed soon. Or all tourism information becomes 'virtual' through interpretation points, signs and QR codes – branding could also be linked and connected to Lateral North/SISP projects to continue the joined-up approach.</p> <p>Having an information point and continued interaction with the public at the Car Park would be useful, especially in relation to outdoor safety, first</p>	

		aid support and visitor engagement about responsible access in the glen.	
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*Destination 'narrative' is referring to an overarching visitor story and experience that all organisations, businesses and community members support. Such as raising awareness of the traditions, cultures and local experiences of the community in relationship with the land, and how visitors can contribute and enhance this rather than cause negative impacts. This can include local stories, anecdotes, linking into the Skye Iconic Sites Project interpretation points and curating the visitor experience in the glen.

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Area 1: Carbost Junction to Forestry Boundaries

Challenge	Description	Proposed Actions	Responsible Group
Junction Signs	Variety of business signs on the junction verge.	<p>Short Term: Explore improvements to signs. Some options include industrial unit style board with clear arrows and directions towards businesses and holiday lets.</p> <p>Longer term a more aesthetic landscaping as a gateway to Glen Brittle of stonework and multi-lingual signage.</p>	THC & MCHA - TBC
Traffic Management	Carbost junction is the final point at which traffic can be intercepted and given guidance on Car Park capacity and road congestion.	<p>Pilot Project: Smart Tourism Project – possible Dynamic Message Board point and traffic sensor site.</p> <p>Short Term: Visitor Shuttle Bus / Park & Ride system. More to be added</p>	<p>SkyeConnect with Uni of Edinburgh</p> <p>THC Roads and Transport</p>

Area 2: Forestry and Square Mile Car Park

Challenge	Description	Action	Stakeholders Involved
<p>Traffic Management - Road Width, Surface and Passing Places</p> <p>Verge Parking and single-track obstructions</p>	<p>The width of the sing-track road and size of the passing places have been identified as needing attention to ensure there is enough room for two Motorhomes to pass one another and not cause traffic obstructions and tail backs down to the Car Park when the volume of vehicles are high at peak times</p> <p>Verge damage is ongoing due to vehicles not using passing places appropriately creating track lines or parking on verges, and maintenance of roads is further exacerbated by this damage, which will in the long-term increase overall costs for resurfacing and maintenance.</p> <p>Extremely challenging conditions on single-track from Square Mile to Fairy Pools Car Park entrance – wide range of vehicles (cars, campers, motorhomes) parking on verges and causing obstructions – lack of access for emergency vehicles and loss of traffic flow in both directions. Passing places also being used for parking or visitors not sure how to use passing places appropriately</p>	<p>Short Term: In the short-term gravel fill on edges of single-track, ongoing pot-hole filling and other verge damage maintenance can continue where possible in awareness of the roads team responsibilities to A and B class roads. If resurfacing and more extensive works are wanted sooner, then additional budget will need to be allocated for works in the glen beyond general maintenance.</p> <p>Pilot Project: Temporary traffic lights from Forestry and Land gate (wider section of single-track) to Car Park to manage traffic flow through these sections. Explore this option with the Forum and Roads Authority.</p> <p>With Increased Roads Budget: Widening single-track, extension of some passing places, re-enforcement of verge edges and overall a reduction in damage to the road due to wider surfaces and visitors able to use longer passing places with motorhomes or several cars where obstructions are reduced, and traffic flow improved. Explore option of Traffic Enforcement and Parking Enforcement in the glen. Signs with advice on use of passing places would also be beneficial. Additionally, there is scope for high tourism destinations to have road designated changed if they are high tourism routes.</p>	<p>THC Roads Authority</p> <p>To be confirmed</p> <p>THC Roads Authority, Police Scotland, & THC Roads and Transport Traffic Officer</p>

		Skye wide: Tourism information about driving on single-track roads and appropriate use of passing places.	To be confirmed
Square Mile Parking Area and Plantation	<p>Open fires found regularly by Access Rangers throughout the summer at edges of the forestry area and within the Car Park. High Fire Risk to Forest and neighbouring plantations, as well as heathlands due to increasing drier summer weather and volume of visitors having open fires.</p> <p>Irresponsible Outdoor Toileting increasing public health concerns in plantation area and possible run off into burns.</p>	<p>Short Term: Contact with landowner initiated and conversations ongoing about Square Mile site.</p> <p>Short Term: Access Ranger in 2022 / Warden can ensure signs are up on site, warning of risks and advising visitors of responsible outdoor access. Recommending overnighing MH/CVs or campers use the campsite at the beach.</p>	<p>THC Outdoor Access / Ranger</p> <p>THC Outdoor Access – seasonal Access Ranger.</p>
Desire Lines – Heathland Erosion	<p>Due to visitors using the Square Mile Car Park ‘desire lines’ have now formed across the heathland and roadside edges towards the Fairy Pools footpath.</p> <p>There is a narrow ‘unofficial’ footpath section alongside the single-track that is gravelled but not all pedestrians are using this and there are sections with water saturation/run off. Also, a safety issue if pedestrians are going to continue walking on edge of single-track.</p>	<p>Short to Medium Term: Markers and signs needed to guide visitors on correct route and additional gravel beside single-track with cut offs for drainage needed.</p> <p>Medium to Long Term: Footpath work to prevent ‘desire lines’ and create route to join with Fairy Pools and Sligachan paths.</p>	<p>THC Outdoor Access – seasonal Access Ranger.</p> <p>To be confirmed</p>

Area 3: Fairy Pools Car Park Area

Challenge	Description	Action	Stakeholders Involved
Passing Place and Verge Parking	<p>Parking in Passing Places – persistent issue especially on single-track section from Square Mile to lower FLS gateway. Some of this is due to the Car Park being full but also due to visitors refusing to pay for parking.</p> <p>Passing Place signs have been removed and vandalised, vehicles use passing places as waiting areas, for overnighting and parking.</p> <p>Extremely challenging conditions on single-track road between Square Mile to lower Forestry gateway – wide range of vehicles (cars, campers, motorhomes) parking on verges and causing obstructions – lack of access for emergency vehicles and loss of traffic flow in both directions and use of passing places.</p>	<p>Short to Medium Term: Rural Clearway extended & No Stopping Signs with possibility of Parking Enforcement Officer visits on peak days. Combine this with the clearer visitor information about the glen from a Destination Management Officer and Warden. Consistent requests for all visitors to use the Fairy Pools Car Park, campsite and beach parking.</p> <p>With Increased Roads Budget: Extend verge bollards from below the Fairy Pools Car Park to next passing place or even to Forestry and Land Scotland entrance. Replace Passing Place signs. Explore option of road lines to further emphasise ‘rural clearway’ and ‘no stopping at any time’ signs.</p>	<p>THC Roads Authority, Police Scotland, THC Roads and Transport Traffic Officer, & ...</p> <p>THC Roads Authority & THC Roads and Transport.</p>
Virtual Information at Fairy Pools and Glen Brittle	<p>Unclear or confusing information on tourism websites about public or free parking nearby, and some tourism information online doesn’t state the fee for parking and that there are toilets on site.</p>	<p>Medium Term: Destination Management Officer could ensure all websites and tourism information state that there is only the Fairy Pools Car Park available and what the fee is. There is no other public or formal parking available nearby with a request to use available facilities to not cause obstructions or damage to verges. Also, worth adding info about the benefits the Car Park provide to the local community.</p>	

Turning Area	<p>Fairy Pool Car Park attendants find that visitors don't want to pay to park – attempting to turn in entrance area and obstructing the road and gateway.</p> <p>There are also challenges with mini-bus tours, coach tours and other buses needing a drop-off point or turning area. If they do not notify in advance then there is no room in the parking areas for them to park, turn or drive through.</p> <p>Due to verge or passing place parking there are also very few sections of the single-track where vehicles can turn safely and not have to continue driving down to Hostel, Farm or the Beach.</p>	<p>Short to Medium Term: FLS gate entrance could have signs requesting no overnighting to ensure a reasonable 'unofficial' turning area is kept clear. Option to explore tarring and line marking to define a walker's car park, keep clear and/or turning area only.</p> <p>Short to Medium Term: Further conversations needed between bus companies, tour companies, shuttle bus, OATS and THC to identify suitable solutions.</p>	<p>FLS</p> <p>Ongoing and to be confirmed</p>
Car Park Capacity	<p>Car Park is full by 10:30/11:00 in peak tourism times (July and August) and this is even when stewards are managing to fit in cars beyond the expected 140 capacity.</p> <p>The Car Park is also considering tarmac surface and lined bays, which would reduce attendant requirements on site but also reduce space for vehicles due to regulation sizes of parking bays.</p> <p>No plan from MCHA to extend Car Park or create an overflow area for peak season.</p>	<p>Short Term: THC– Shuttle Bus Project. More Information to be added</p> <p>Pilot Project: Smart Tourism Project – SkyeConnect and University of Edinburgh. Producing 'real-time' data for tourists using Car Park ticket sales, which enables visitors to pre-plan and self-organise destination visits across Isle of Skye.</p> <p>Pilot Project: Booking system for Fairy Pools Car Park. This could be used as a way of visitors knowing in advance the availability on site and if they can travel into the glen without a parking space booked. Could link into SMART Tourism.</p>	<p>THC Roads and Transport</p> <p>SkyeConnect with University of Edinburgh</p> <p>OATS And/or SkyeConnect with University of Edinburgh</p>

<p>Tourism Information – Outdoor Advice, First Aid and Visitor Support</p>	<p>Car Park attendants have been undertaking additional elements to their role on site, which have included tourist information and guidance for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Outdoor Clothing/Footwear and safety awareness for walkers and wild swimmers 2. Weather warnings and burn water level warnings 3. First Aid support 4. Meeting point for missing children/family 5. Monitoring walkers on the footpath for any issues or concerns. 6. Point of contact for Mountain Rescue. 	<p>Short Term: Keep a contact point by entrance to Car Park for operatives to speak with visitors on site and sustain communications when accessing the path. Explore opportunities to develop a ‘Tourism Point’ for a Glen Brittle Warden and/or Destination Management Officer with the Car Park developments.</p> <p>Short Term: Interpretation Board being put in at the Fairy Pools Car Park as part of the SISF project. This will be distinct from normal tourism information and safety advise – how best to inform visitors about safety needs to be considered to no create ‘sign blindness’.</p> <p>Short Term: Collaboration between OATS and FLS on hiking routes leaflet information. FLS Footpath information will be available at the Car Park.</p> <p>Long Term: It may be useful to consider a more formalised tourism kiosk/centre and advisory role on site for safety and advice as visitors to the Fairy Pools are increasingly not experienced outdoor tourists.</p>	<p>OATS – TBC</p> <p>OATS / SISF & THC Outdoor Access / Ranger</p> <p>OATS & FLS</p> <p>To be confirmed</p>
<p>Abusive and confrontational behaviour from visitors</p>	<p>Parking attendants have had to deal with verbal abuse and threatening behaviour, as well as conflict resolution at the Car Park through a couple of incidents of assault on the premises between visitors.</p>	<p>Short to Medium Term: Improve traffic management, reduce stress and agitation of visitors arriving into the glen.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shuttle Bus System • Smart Tourism Project • Road maintenance 	<p>THC Roads Authority, Roads & Transport, and Parking. SkyeConnect with University of Edinburgh</p>

Overnighting in Car Park.	Car Park has a 'No Overnighting' policy but as the gates do not lock some MH/CVs do park up overnight. There has been a reduction since putting the 'No Overnighting' sign up.	Short Term: Car Park information clearly stating no overnighting on site – staff verbally reiterate this, keep existing signs and virtually clarify on websites and tourist information. This can be further supported by a Warden and seasonal Access Ranger. Ensure signs direct overnighting to the beach campsite.	OATS THC Outdoor Access Ranger
Car Park access to Toilets	Presently the Car Park has two levels with a long walk around from the bottom level to reach the toilet facilities.	Short – Medium Term: Plans are in place to construct a connecting footpath and steps between the lower and upper parking areas for all visitors to access the toilets. This may additionally reduce the desire lines from the lower parking area.	OATS
Desire lines from lower Fairy Pools Car Park	A substantial desire line has formed from the lower Fairy Pools Car Park area crossing the grazing land and meeting up with the formal Fairy Pools footpath. Urgent improvements required to Fairy Pools path and either prevent use of desire lines or create spur paths	Short Term: Advising visitors parking in the lower Car Park area to walk up the road to join the path. Short to Medium Term: Explore the option to add a new section of footpath that will encourage walkers to remain on a path in this area and reduce erosion and track lines on the grazing land. Additional funding will need to be sought.	OATS Ongoing and to be confirmed
Grazing Land and lack of use due to increasing visitors	The grazings area of Glenbrittle farm extends beyond the Fairy Pools footpath towards Sligachan. Due to ever increasing visitor numbers, dogs not under close control and the challenges with vehicle access and recent construction of the Car Park and toilet facilities the grazing area available to the farm has substantially decreased but rent is still paid.	Short to Medium Term: Additional discussions need to be made about the wider impact of visitors on the livelihood of the farm and crofters. Short to Medium Term: The Warden, in collaboration with the seasonal Access Ranger and Destination Management Officer can have some impact on helping behaviour change of visitors and ensuring overnighting happens at designated sites.	Ongoing and to be confirmed THC Outdoor Access Ranger

Area 4: Fairy Pools

Challenge	Description	Action	Stakeholders Involved
Awareness of Footpath or River Conditions	<p>Visitors are arriving to the Fairy Pools with inadequate and inappropriate footwear, clothing or abilities to hike down. There are increasing incidents occurring of sprains, cuts, ankle/arm breaks and hip damage from falls, and additionally minor head injuries from slips and trips on footpath. General lack of knowledge about going outdoors, appropriate clothing and weather acumen.</p> <p>Lack of clarity on some websites about ability and clothing requirements to walk to the Fairy Pools.</p> <p>Growing concerns about inadequate experience and knowledge for wild swimming in a range of river / pools conditions. With the addition of the footbridge allowing access to the pools year-round further concerns have been raised about 'cold water shock' from swimming by inexperienced visitors in Autumn and Winter season.</p> <p>There have also been incidents of children swimming without adequate supervision from parents in extremely cold water.</p>	<p>Short Term: The bridges being constructed April 2022 will ensure safer river crossings rather than the stepping-stones that are high risk when the river is in spate. Improvements to path in October and November 2022, which include sections to reduce erosion at 'viewpoint' sites.</p> <p>Short Term: Existing Car Park Operatives can continue advising visitors on footpath and river conditions and through the Facebook Page for the Fairy Pools and on site with existing signs.</p> <p>Medium Term: Destination Management Officer could clarify footpath/river conditions and accessibility across all Social Media and Tourist Information. Encourage websites and tourism info pages to recommend appropriate clothing, swimwear and footwear. The Warden could also verbally advise visitors on site and appropriate safety signs considered.</p> <p>Skye wide: Grading all sites/footpaths across Skye based on the Paths for All system to keep it consistent nationally. https://www.pathsforall.org.uk/resources/resource/the-path-managers-guide-to-grading</p>	<p>OATS / SISP</p> <p>OATS</p> <p>To be confirmed</p>

<p>Wild Swimming Safety</p>	<p>Inexperienced swimmers using pools and burn. Increasing risk to life and pressures on Mountain Rescue and emergency services in the glen.</p> <p>On Tourism websites there is advisory notices about wearing wet suits to wild swim due to water temperature, but Car Park attendants are observing advice is not being followed.</p> <p>There have also been incidents of children swimming without adequate supervision or protection from cold water. After Loch Lomond incidents of summer 2021 – outdoor wild swimming needs to be highlighted as ‘high risk’ at sites.</p>	<p>Short Term: Appropriate warning signs at Fairy Pools Car Park. Verbal advice from Operatives and a Warden on site.</p> <p>Medium Term: Destination Management Officer highlighting information virtually about wild swimming safety.</p>	<p>OATS – TBC</p> <p>To be confirmed</p>
<p>Mountain Rescue Call Outs to Fairy Pools</p>	<p>12 Mountain Rescue Call Outs to Fairy Pools for slips, trips and breaks, with many of these not wearing appropriate footwear. Mountain Rescue have come across head injuries and dislocations due to visitors diving into the pools and unaware of depth or risks.</p> <p>There has been one heart attack fatality at the Fairy Pools in 2021.</p> <p>MRT don’t have swift water capability for rescues and would need to rely on teams from central belt to attend. This is relevant to burn crossings and year-round access to burn and pools with addition of bridges.</p>	<p>Short to Medium Term: Appropriate warning signs at Fairy Pools Car Park. Verbal advice from attendants and a Warden on site. Destination Management Officer highlighting information virtually about wild swimming safety.</p> <p>Signs Available: St. John Scotland have mountain risk and safety warning signs that could be used on site. i.e. Beyond this point is mountainous country & in emergency call police and request MR (no ambulances).</p>	<p>OATS – TBC &</p> <p>THC Outdoor Access Ranger / St. John Scotland</p>

Area 5: Glenbrittle Bridge, Flats and Farm

Challenge	Description	Action	Stakeholders involved
<p>Overnighting - Cars driving off onto farmland (The Green) and Helipad.</p> <p>Informal camping along the glen</p>	<p>Vehicles using The Green area after the bridge to park beyond the 3m distance from the roadside and stay overnight on grazing farmland. Vehicles and campers using helipad to stay overnight. Vehicles not permitted under SOAC to be on grazing /private land. Camping not allowed near buildings or on helipad under SOAC.</p> <p>Land management with large obstruction objects being used to block access to river ford and track to woodlands.</p>	<p>Short Term: Explore rural clearway extension with Roads and Parking. With option to have a Parking Enforcement Officer visit at peak times.</p> <p>Short Term: Access Officer providing materials to erect a section of fence (100m) along a stretch of the single-track 1.5m from road edge, which will include safety measures on fence wires. Attached to the fence will be Outdoor Access Guidance for dog walkers and other visitors considering 'informal' camping.</p> <p>Short Term: Glenbrittle Campsite signs directing campers and overnighers to campsite.</p> <p>Short to Medium Term: Warden / seasonal Access Ranger engaging with visitors and requesting everyone move to campsite at beach if 'informally' camping.</p>	<p>THC Roads & Transport</p> <p>THC Outdoor Access & Glenbrittle Farm</p> <p>MacLeod Estates</p> <p>THC Outdoor Access Ranger</p>
<p>Dogs not under close control or on leads</p>	<p>Incidents of dogs not under close control or on leads causing distress, injury or death to livestock on grazing land – externalities of tourism increasing costs for farm. Indirect costs to changing where livestock graze. Police have been involved in investigating livestock attacks and fatalities by dogs.</p>	<p>Short Term: SOAC advice for Dog Owners on fencing section at The Green.</p> <p>Medium Term: Destination Management Officer could ensure virtual information clearly states the glen is grazing land and give SOAC guidance across online sites.</p>	<p>THC Outdoor Access & Glenbrittle Farm</p> <p>To be confirmed</p>

		Short to Medium Term: Warden / seasonal Access Ranger engaging with visitors and raising awareness about livestock and grazing areas in the glen. Opportunity to link with local Police Officers.	THC Outdoor Access – seasonal Access Ranger
Glenbrittle Bridge	MH/CVs parking and overnighting on site. Also used for parking for campers. Track lines, verge damage and erosion occurring on site, alongside irresponsible outdoor access with fire marks, littering and toileting from campers.	Short Term: Provision of fencing to prevent cars and MH/CVs pulling off and parking can be supplied by Access Officer to Glenbrittle Farm. Option for more permanent land management with larger boulders being put in at a safe distance from edge of single-track road.	THC Outdoor Access Team & Glenbrittle Farm.
Littering	Where visitors are ‘informally’ camping and overnighting in the glen there have been sites where littering is an increasing concern. Especially when broken glass is left in fires/on ground where grazing livestock are getting harmed.	Short to Medium Term: Warden / seasonal Access Ranger engaging with visitors and raising awareness about livestock and grazing areas in the glen. Additionally, the SOAC signs at fenced areas will give guidance to visitors on responsible behaviour.	THC Outdoor Access Team / Ranger
Parking at Farm sites and buildings	Visitors using areas that farm keeps clear for feeding or other farm activities for parking. This has included visitors parking in front of farm cottage and buildings, during 2021 cones and other notices were left alongside the single track to prevent parking on farm sites.	Short Term: Continue using traffic cones and signs. Explore other prevention methods with Parking and Roads team. Medium Term: Destination Management Officer - Pin drop the beach parking area to ensure visitors stop using farm. Remove any other google pin drops.	THC Roads and Transport/Parking To be confirmed
Interference with drinking water / mountain water to farm	Visitors found to be paddling and leaving litter in or near the mountain water. There is a sign on site but is being ignored and said to look ‘unofficial’ by visitors found at the water source.	Short Term: Identify a more ‘official’ warning sign to put up permanently to prevent contamination and interference.	THC Access Team / Ranger

Area 6: Glenbrittle Beach, Parking and Campsite

Challenge	Description	Action	Stakeholders Involved
Road Surface between footbridge and beach	<p>Road surface section between the holiday cottage footbridges and the beach parking is becoming impassable and in need of immediate repair.</p> <p>The almost impassable road surface has meant goods lorries refuse to deliver to Glenbrittle Campsite and it is impacting vehicle access to the campsite and beach for customers. In addition, there is erosion and further damage occurring to fencing, grazing land and verges.</p>	<p>With Increased Roads Budget: Resurfacing single-track section can be completed sooner and in full to meet community and visitor need.</p>	THC Roads Authority
Parking Area	<p>Not a formalised area for parking. Often used for overnighting next to the campsite without any prevention enforcement.</p> <p>Often overfull, parking on farmland and causing verge damage.</p>	<p>With Increased Roads/Parking Budget: Improvements to the parking area and defining the bays more distinctly. Explore the option to have temporary bays painted for 2022.</p> <p>Medium to Long Term: Opportunity to continue a conversation about formalising the parking area with consultation on adopting some form of fee-paying system for visitors/passes for residents. Possibly a site for an 'invitation to pay' Car Park? Aim would be to normalise paying for parking throughout the glen for all visitors whilst not impacting residents.</p>	<p>THC Roads Authority / Roads and Transport / Parking</p> <p>THC Parking / Roads and Transport with MacLeod Estates</p>

<p>Grazing Land</p>	<p>Some incidents of dogs out of control and causing distress, injury or death to livestock on grazing land. Police have been involved in investigating.</p> <p>Glenbrittle farm have ongoing issues with hikers on farmland not getting out of the way when bringing livestock in from grazing. Changing farming practices with additional costs incurred.</p>	<p>Short Term: SOAC signs in the area for dog owners and outdoor access advice in general. Explore best sign options and positioning. Signs for seasonal livestock activities could also be included.</p> <p>Short to Medium Term: Warden / seasonal Access Ranger engaging with visitors and raising awareness about livestock and grazing areas in the glen. Opportunity to link with local Police Officers.</p> <p>Medium Term: Destination Management Officer could ensure virtual information clearly states the glen is grazing land and give SOAC guidance across online sites.</p>	<p>THC Outdoor Access / Access Ranger with resources from NatureScot</p> <p>THC Outdoor Access / Ranger &</p> <p>To be confirmed</p>
<p>Viking Canal - Rubha an Dùnain</p>	<p>Discovered in 2009 and from online sources is becoming more known from 2017 onwards. The Viking Canal is accessed from the beach along the coastal path to Loch na h-Airde.</p> <p>Glenbrittle farm have noted that more visitors are stating they are coming down to the beach to specifically find the Viking Canal. There has also been filming on site without notification.</p>	<p>Short to Medium Term: Monitor tourism interest and identify if there is a need to manage additional destination impacts.</p> <p>Skye Wide: Destination Management Officer can identify any growing interest trends. Also, can link to the proposal of a Guiding Association for Skye – etiquette for access onto farmland/grazings.</p> <p>Medium Term: Voluntourism Project - “Krall” for walkers to pick up + deposit any flotsam / jetsom / marine waste. Twice a year a boat is organised along with a skip at the campsite beach to take it all away.</p>	<p>To be confirmed</p> <p>To be confirmed</p> <p>SkyeConnect with THC Outdoor Access / Ranger & Others</p>

Additional Opportunities

Voluntourism - Glenbrittle Beach Cleans / Beach Cleaning Station & “Krall” – Proposal to establish a beach cleaning station at Glenbrittle beach and “Krall” at Rubha an Dùnain for visitors to contribute to litter picks and beach cleans while enjoying the area. Conversation has begun with MacLeod Estates and THC Waste Management regarding putting this proposal into action. The “krall” will need additional coordination for waste to be removed by boat annually.

Voluntourism – Path Works / Restoration Projects – Proposal to develop volunteering group (Skye wide or for Glen Brittle) in support of path works and environmental conservation projects.

Guiding Giving Back – Nature and Adventure Guide Volunteering – Proposal for all guides who use Glen Brittle to ‘give back’ through an organised set of volunteering projects or days. This could link with a Guiding Association and Good Practice approach for all nature and adventure guiding across Skye.

Public Goods Funding from Public Donations – Proposal to set up public donation points to mitigate the direct and indirect costs and impacts of recreational use of land alongside farming and crofting livelihoods. The research and proposal has been developed by SkyeConnect with SAC Consulting.

Guiding Association for Skye & Good Practice Etiquette – Proposal to establish an association that joins up good guiding practices and becomes a point of contact for all Guides working across Skye to uphold appropriate etiquette with landowners, land users, crofters and farmers alongside adhering to the principles and expectations of the SOAC.

Skye Cycle Network - Plans to establish route within Glen Brittle. Potential for promoting eco-tourism and once the project is underway will need to be additionally considered in future editions of the Location Action Plan.

Shuttle Bus - At present there are only plans to run the shuttle bus from Portree to the Fairy Pools, but there could additionally be the opportunity to extend the shuttle route in mornings and evenings for hikers and mountaineers who may not be staying elsewhere. This would also provide more ecological and low carbon transport access for visitors to the Hostel, Memorial Hut and Campsite with the potential of being a public transport option for residents.

References*

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- Tourism, Technology & Data (no date) Isle of Skye and Internet of Things Project. Accessed at: https://www.cdcs.ed.ac.uk/research_clusters/tourism-technology_data
- Visit England: Principles for Developing Destination Management Plans (2012) Accessed at: https://www.visitbritain.org/sites/default/files/vb-corporate/Documents-Library/documents/England-documents/dm_plans_guiding_principles.pdf
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*Some references and sources were reports and research papers not currently published or available, note of the authors and groups involved have been provided in the footnotes. Please contact the organisations and groups referenced for any further information.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Stakeholder Contacts/Groups/Organisations informing the Glen Brittle Location Action Plan (Alphabetical Order) – to be added.

Stakeholders Engaged with	Role/Community Connection
C & J Sutherland	Tenant of Trien Croft and owners of Forestry Workers Holdings
Forestry and Land Scotland	Visitor Services Manager
Glenbrittle Farm	Farmers and livestock grazing throughout the glen
Hostelling Scotland	Skye Group Manager for Hostelling Scotland
MacLeod Estates	Clan Chief
MacLeod Estates	Finance Director
Minginish Community Council	Community Council Member
Minginish Community Hall Association	Project Officer and Directors
Mountain Rescue	Team Leader
Mrs Catherine Sutherland	Merkerdale CL Site
Nature Scot	Area Officer
OATS	Facility Manager for Fairy Pools Car Park
OATS	Access Projects Manager – Skye Iconic Sites Project and Fairy Pools Path Work
OATS	Car Park Facility Operative
Police Scotland	Sergeant
SAC Consulting	Agriculture Advisors
SkyeConnect	Project Manager and Destination Management Organisation for Skye
Skye Guides	Owner and Director of Skye Guides
Square Mile	Representative of landowner
THC	Waste Management Officer (Skye and Lochalsh)
THC	Roads Officer (Isle of Skye)
THC	Roads & Transport – Shuttle Bus Project Team
THC	Principle Traffic Officer (Highlands)
THC	Access Manager (Highlands)
THC	Access Officer (Skye and Lochalsh)
University of Edinburgh – Smart Tourism	Project Lead with SkyeConnect

Appendix 2: Community consultation attendees

Stakeholders Engaged with	Role/Community Connection
Forestry and Land Scotland	Visitor Services Manager
Minginish Community Council	Community Council Member
Minginish Community Hall Association	Project Officer and Directors
Mountain Rescue	Team Leader
OATS	Facility Manager for Fairy Pools Car Park
SkyeConnect	Project Manager and Destination Management Organisation for Skye
Skye Guides	Owner and Director of Skye Guides

Appendix 3: Stakeholder and Community Feedback from Contacts/Groups/Organisations

Stakeholders Engaged with	Role/Community Connection
C & J Sutherland	Tenant of Trien Croft and owners of Forestry Workers Holdings
Cuillin Guides	Guide and Community Members
Mrs Catherine Sutherland	Merkerdale CL Site
OATS	Facility Manager for Fairy Pools Car Park
SkyeConnect	Project Manager and Destination Management Organisation for Skye
SAC Consulting	Agriculture Advisors