

FEARNA STORAGE

Fearna Pumped Storage Hydro Scheme EIA Report

Appendix 14.1.1 – Gleouraich & Spidean Mialach

February 2025



Quality Information

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Revision History

Revision

01

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Appendix 14.2

Photographic Record of Views from the Munro Circular Walk, Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach

Introduction

This document presents a photographic record of the views seen whilst walking the circuit of the Munros Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach. The aim of this is to enable readers to appreciate the views from this walk and to assist with understanding which components of the Proposed Development would be visible and for what durations of the walk.

Scope of Survey

The survey was carried out by Chris Pasteur on Saturday 31 August 2024. Photos were taken looking in all directions from the majority of 54 locations on the route of the walk, this being that described in the Scottish Mountaineering Club guidebook “The Munros”¹ and the Walkhighland website² (although Walkhighlands describes the route in the opposite direction to the SMC, which was that taken during the survey). The route also follows the most popular lines on the Strava Global Heatmap³.

The weather was fine, with a slight haze, and all summits were clear. Two other hillwalkers were seen on the day, although four cars in the parking area suggest there were others too.

Table 1 below records the locations of the points from which photos were taken, the time they were taken and the key components of infrastructure comprising the Proposed Development that would be visible from each viewpoint.

The survey locations are shown in the attached **Figure 14.15 – Munro Routes Site Photograph Locations**.

Survey Results

The survey established that:

- During the survey it took 7 hours to walk the full circuit, of which the following components of the PSH were visible for the following periods:
 - Powerhouse area – 0% of the time
 - Access track to upper dam – 30% of the time
 - Fearna and / or Coire Dubh dams – 75% of the time

Table 1 – Record of Photographs Munro Circular Walk, Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach				Visible Infrastructure		
Location	Grid Reference	Time	Comments	Dams	Access Tracks	Powerhouse Area
01	02989 03000	10:50	Car park area			
02	03020 03138		Top of woodland			
03	03088 03258		Hydro Track			
04	03004 03481		Stalkers' path			
05	02897 03661		Stalkers' path – view of Spidean Mialach			

¹ “The Munros” – Scottish Mountaineering Press, 2021

² Walkhighlands: <https://www.walkhighlands.co.uk/>, accessed September 2024

³ Strava Global Heatmap: <https://www.strava.com/heatmap#7.00/-120.90000/38.36000/hot/all>, accessed September 2024

Table 1 – Record of Photographs Munro Circular Walk, Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach				Visible Infrastructure		
Location	Grid Reference	Time	Comments	Dams	Access Tracks	Powerhouse Area
06	02727 03825	11:30	View of Sgurr a Mhaoraich			
07	02724 03946	11:36	Possible view of dam			
08	02765 04067	11:48	Stalkers' path	X		
09	02745 04170	11:53	Stalkers' path to west of Gleouraich ridge			
10	02772 04260	11:59	Stalkers' path behind ridge			
11	02852 04372	12:18	Stalkers' path behind ridge			
12	02854 04418	12:21	Dam in view for approx. 30m	X	X	
13	02905 04630	12:28	Window of view of dam	X		
14	02914 04653	12:30	Window of view of dam, stalker's wall in foreground	X		
15	02899 04695	12:32	End of view of dam			
16	02916 04789	12:36	Partial view of dam	X		
17	02927 04815	12:37	End of partial view			
18	02955 04953	12:40	Stalkers' path behind ridge			
19	03098 05202	12:45	Dam back in view	X		
20	03184 05235	12:47	View from bealach	X		
21	03382 05286	12:51	Dams in view	X	X	
22	03444 05272	12:54	Stalkers' rest – dam in view	X	X	
23	03460 05332	12:57	Partial view of dam	X	X	
24	03510 05404	13:01	No view of dams	X		
25	03946 05334	13:19	Summit of Gleouraich	X		
26	03993 05241	13:54		X	X	
27	04279 05148	14:01	Between Gleouraich summits	X	X	
28	04738 05108	14:12	Just east of Gleouraich sub-summit	X		
29	04988 05129	14:21	Descent towards bealach	X	X	
30	05177 05007	14:31	Approaching bealach	X	X	
31	05483 04796	14:42	Bealach	X	X	
32	05638 04649	14:55	Path up Spidean Mialach – only Coire Dubh dam visible	X	X	
33	05751 04567	15:02	Spidean Mialach path	X	X	

Table 1 – Record of Photographs Munro Circular Walk, Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach				Visible Infrastructure		
Location	Grid Reference	Time	Comments	Dams	Access Tracks	Powerhouse Area
34	05947 04629	15:09	Spidean Mialach path	X	X	
35	06165 04534	15:17	Spidean Mialach subsidiary summit	X	X	
36	06301 04321	15:22	Intermittent view of dam crest	X		
37	06597 04295	15:30	Summit of Spidean Mialach – top of Fearna dam visible	X		
38	06590 04271	15:51	Start of new diversion path	X		
39	06595 04222	15:53	New diversion path	X		
40	06624 04107	15:56	New diversion path	X		
41	06636 03809	16:04	New diversion path	X		
42	06446 03655	16:12	New diversion path	X		
43	06276 03600	16:17	New diversion path	X		
44	06127 03285	16:25	New diversion path	X		
45	05199 02901	17:07	By Fearna outfall	X	X	
46	05124 02973	17:11	Line of potential footpath diversion	X	X	
47	04973 03113	17:17	Line of potential footpath diversion	X	X	
48	04572 03481	17:29	Stalkers' path	X	X	
49	04349 03423	17:34	Stalkers' path	X	X	
50	04022 03271	17:41	Stalkers' path	X	X	
51	03792 03066	17:47	Stalkers' path	X	X	
52	03666 02925	17:52	Stalkers' path			
53	03347 02829	17:59	Stalkers' path			
54	03237 02773	18:02	Road			

Location GSM-01 – Quoich Dam



Car parking area

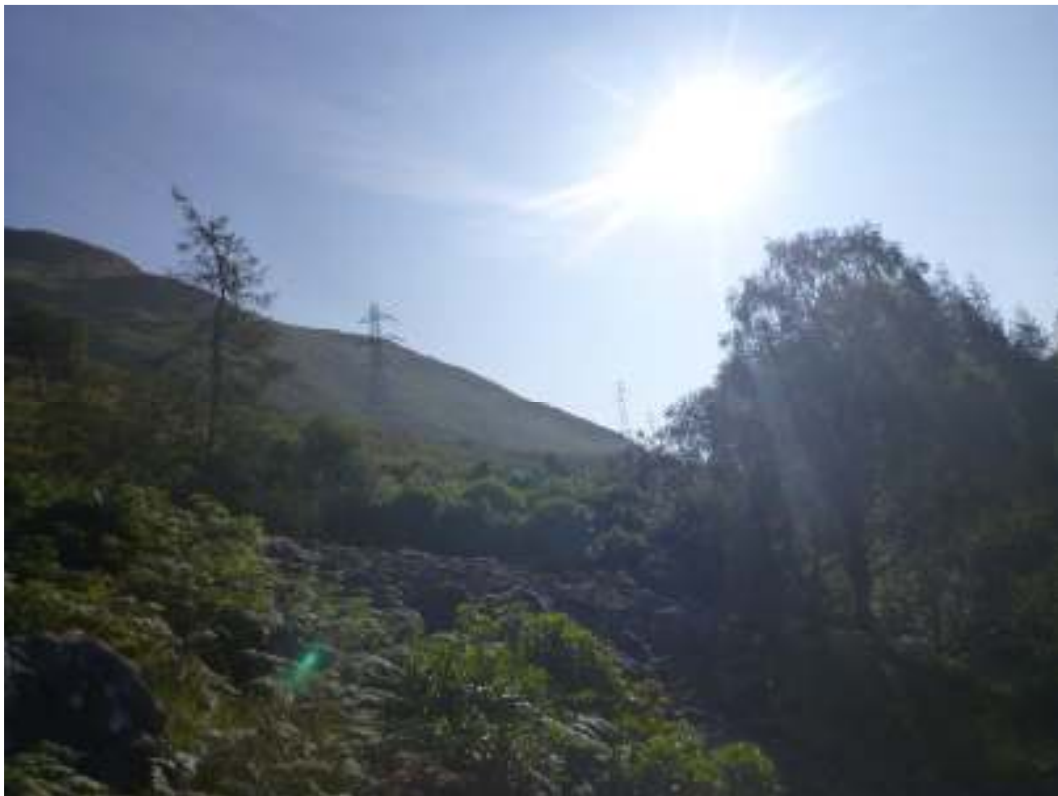


Start of walk through rhododendrons

Location GSM-02



Looking northwards up path



Skye transmission line to east



Panorama south and west over Loch Quoich



Skye transmission line looking west

Location GSM-03

Looking south down path across Skye transmission line



West along Skye transmission line



View across to Allt Coire Peitireach hydro access track



Looking up the Allt Coire Peitireach hydro access track towards the summit of Gleouraich

Location GSM-04



Panorama looking east



Panorama looking south east



Panorama over Loch Quoich centred on Gairich

Location GSM-05



Panorama looking east



View up Loch Quoich to south west

Location GSM-06



Looking north up stalkers' path



Panorama looking east over summits of Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach



Hills to south



View over Sgurr Mhaoraich

Location GSM-07



Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach



Spidean Mialach

Location GSM-8



Panorama towards Spidean Mialach



Spidean Mialach



Looking down stalkers' path

Location GSM-09

Stalkers' path hidden from PSH area by ridge to east



Panorama looking west

Location GSM-10



Stalkers' path behind ridge, looking south towards Gairich

Location GSM-11



Panorama across summits of Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach

Location GSM-12

Panorama across Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach



Spidean Mialach, view into Coire Dubh

Location GSM-13



View towards Spidean Mialach

Location GSM-14



View towards Spidean Mialach, stalkers' rest in foreground

Location GSM-15



Looking north west towards Glen Quoich

Location GSM-16



View towards Spidean Mialach

Location GSM-17



View towards Spidean Mialach

Location GSM-18



Path behind ridge, looking north



Path behind ridge, looking south

Location GSM-19



Panorama across Gleouraich



View towards PSH upper reservoir

Location PSH-20



View towards PSH upper reservoir

Location GSM-21



Looking towards PSH site

Location GSM-22



View towards PSH site



Panorama across Coire Mheil

Location GSM-23

View towards PSH upper reservoir from stalkers' rest

Location GSM-24

View towards eastern end of Loch Quoich



Panorama approaching the summit of Gleouraich

Location GSM-25

Summit of Gleouraich, panorama towards Loch Fearna



Summit of Gleouraich, panorama looking north



Summit of Gleouraich, panorama looking south

Location GSM-26



View towards Loch Fearn



Panorama towards Loch Fearn

Location GSM-27



View towards Loch Fearn



Panorama across Loch Fearn

Location GSM-28



View towards Loch Fearn



Panorama across Loch Fearn

Location GSM-29



Approaching bealach, looking towards Loch Fearna and Coire Dubh



Looking down Coire Dubh and the Allt Mheil

Location GSM-30



View towards Loch Fearn



Panorama across Coire Dubh and Loch Fearn

Location GSM-31

View into Coire Dubh from the bealach



Looking from the bealach towards Gleouraich



Towards Spidean Mialach from the bealach



Panorama from bealach towards Gairich



Panorama from Spidean Mialach through to Gleouraich

Location GSM-32



Looking into Coire Dubh



Panorama across Coire Dubh

Location GSM-33



Towards Loch Fearn



Corie Dubh and Allt Mheil



Panorama across Coire Dubh



Gleouraich and South Cluanie Ridge

Location GSM-34



Approaching the summit of Spidean Mialach



View towards Loch Fearn



View into Coire Mheil



View towards Gleouraich

Location GSM-35



Spidean Mialach summit ridge



Panorama across Coire Mheil

Location GSM-36

Approaching summit of Spidean Mialach



Panorama looking south across Loch Fearn (hidden)

Location GSM-37

From summit of Spidean Mialach looking south – Loch Fearn just in view



Panorama east to west looking south



Panorama west to east looking north

Location GSM-38



Looking down line of proposed new path



View across Loch Fearn



View looking along Loch Quoich



Panorama towards Gairich

Location GSM-39



Looking down line of proposed new path



Panorama across Loch Fearn

Location GSM-40



Looking down line of proposed new path



Panorama across Loch Fearna

Location GSM-41

Line of proposed new path



Line of proposed new path

Location GSM-42



Line of proposed new path



Panorama across line of proposed new path towards Loch Fearn

Location GSM-43



Line of proposed new path



Panorama across line of proposed new path

Location GSM-44



Line of proposed new path



Panorama from line of proposed new path

Location GSM-45



View looking east to the south of the proposed Fearna dam



Approximate line of proposed path to south of Fearna dam

Location GSM-46



Looking down approximate line of proposed new path



Panorama across approximate line of proposed new path

Location GSM-47



Approx line of proposed new path



Coire Mheil

Location GSM-48

Looking up existing footpath towards Coire Dubh



Looking back (east) towards line of proposed new footpath



Looking down the existing footpath

Location GSM-49



Looking up existing footpath



Looking down existing footpath



Panorama looking up existing footpath



Panorama looking down existing footpath

Location GSM-50



Looking up existing footpath



Looking down existing footpath



Panorama looking up existing footpath

Location GSM-51



Looking up existing footpath



Looking down existing footpath

Location GSM-52



Looking up existing footpath



Looking down existing footpath

Location GSM-53



Looking up existing footpath



Looking down existing footpath

Location GSM-54



Looking up existing footpath from the C1144



Where the existing footpath meets the C1144