

FEARNA STORAGE

Fearna Pumped Storage Hydro Scheme EIA Report

Appendix 14.1.2 – Gairich

February 2025



Quality Information

Prepared by

Chris Pasteur

Checked by

Fraser Allison

Approved by

Fraser Allison

Revision History

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01

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Fraser Allison

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Appendix 14.1.2

Photographic Record of Views from the Munro Walk Gairich

Introduction

This document presents a photographic record of the views seen whilst walking the Munro Gairich. 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 and Anna Pasteur on Sunday 1 September 2024. Photos were taken looking in all directions from the majority of 43 locations on the route of the walk, this being that described in the Scottish Mountaineering Club guidebook "The Munros"¹ and the Walkhighland website². The route also follows the most popular line of travel on the Strava Global Heatmap³.

The weather was generally fine, with a slight haze, and all summits were clear. Nine other hillwalkers were seen on the day.

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 locations from which the photographs are taken are shown in the attached **Figure 14.15 – Munro Routes Site Photograph Locations**.

Survey Results

The survey established that:

- The walking route up Gairich looks across Loch Quoich for the majority of the way, except where hidden by topography towards the bottom of the east ridge, where the path on the ridge is to the south side and for some sections of the route up the summit pyramid.
- During the survey it took 185 minutes to reach the summit, of which the following components of the PSH were visible for the following periods:
 - Powerhouse area – 60 minutes, 32% of the time
 - Access track to upper dam – 65 minutes, 35% of the time
 - Fearna and or Coire Dubh dams – 135 minutes, 73% of the time
- The proportion of time these features would be visible would be the same for the return walk.

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				Visible Infrastructure		
Location	Grid Reference	Time	Comments	Dams	Access Tracks	Powerhouse
01	07094 02160	09:25	South end of Quoich dam			X
02	07044 02005	09:29	Path	X		X
03	06966 01678	09:35	Path	X		X
04	06892 01396	09:40	End of very boggy section of path	X		X
05	06852 01216	09:46	View of powerhouse only	X		X
06	06796 01042	09:49	Near lochan	X		
07	06699 00658	09:56	Path	X		
08	06655 00121	10:07	Path	X		
09	06672 99749	10:14	Approaching start of ridge – no view of any PSH infrastructure			
10	06583 99569	10:19	Near bottom of ridge	X		
11	06534 99555	10:21	Path is to south of ridge			
12	06487 99543	10:24	View of PSH	X		
13	06370 99572	10:27	View of dam access road	X	X	
14	06312 99476	10:30	PSH out of view			
15	06253 99447	10:32	Dams and road in view	X	X	
16	06057 99433	10:36	PSH out of view			
17	05986 99395	10:40	Back in view	X		
18	05943 99384	10:41	Powerhouse in view	X	X	X
19	05784 99411	10:44	All of PSH in view	X	X	X
20	05465 99282	10:51	Path	X	X	X
21	05379 99303		Beinn Bheag WF sound monitoring station	-	-	-
22	05266 99293	10:56	PSH out of view			
23	05184 99253	11:01	Back in view	X		
24	05013 99228	11:04	Nothing in view			
25	04981 99233	11:05	Nothing in view			
26	04793 99249	11:09	Nothing in view			
27	04765 99250	11:09	Back in view	X		
28	04483 99291	11:15	View of dam but not powerhouse	X		
29	04285	11:19	Path	X	X	

Table 1 – Record of Photographs				Visible Infrastructure		
Location	Grid Reference	Time	Comments	Dams	Access Tracks	Powerhouse
	99290					
30	04077 99310	11:33	No view of PSH			
31	03576 99385	11:42	Approaching base of final summit pyramid	X	X	
32	03508 99413	11:44	Dam back in view	X	X	
33	03371 99373	11:48	Start of final ascent	X	X	X
34	03222 99337	11:53	Zig-zag path, view sometimes hidden	X	X	X
35	03172 99306	11:55	View of PSH hidden			
36	02981 99400	12:06	Powerhouse in view			X
37	02992 99417	12:07			X	X
38	02979 99446	12:09	View of all PSH	X	X	X
39	02929 99453	12:15	View of all PSH	X	X	X
40	02848 99455	12:19	View of all PSH	X	X	X
41	02793 99476	12:22	View of all PSH	X	X	X
42	02680 99576	12:28	Approaching summit	X	X	X
43	02593 99571	12:31	Summit of Gairich	X	X	X

Location G-01 – Quoich Dam



Looking North



Looking east



Looking south



Looking towards Gairich

Location G-02



Towards Quoich dam and intakes



Footpath looking north



Footpath looking south



View towards Gairich and powerhouse area



Looking towards Fearna dam

Location G-03



View towards Quoich dam



View towards Fearn dam



Looking west up Loch Quoich

Location G-04



View towards Gairich



View towards powerhouse site



View towards Fearna Dam



View towards Quoich dam

Location G-05



View towards powerhouse area and Fearn dam

Location G-06



View looking south along footpath

View looking



Gairich and Lochan an Phigheadair



View towards Fearn Dam



Lochan an Phigheadair

Location G-08



View towards Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach

Location G-09



Looking north



Looking east



Looking south



Looking west

Location G-10



Path up east ridge of Gairich



View towards Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach

Location G-11



View towards east ridge of Spidean Mialach

Location G-12



View up east ridge of Gairich



View north towards Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach

Location G-13



View towards Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach

Location G-14



Only summit of Spidean Mialach visible, not Fearnna dam

Location G-15



View towards Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach



Panorama looking west

Location G-16



View towards Spidean Mialach, Fearn dam out of view

Location G-17



View towards Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach, Fearnna and Coire Dubh dams visible

Location G-18



View towards Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach



View southwards



View towards south east



View westwards towards Gairich summit and along Loch Quoich

Location G-19



View towards Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach



Panorama looking north round to south east

Location G-20



Looking towards Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach



View towards summit of Gairich



Panorama from Gairich round to Spidean Mialach

Location G-22



View northwards from footpath

Location G-23



View towards Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach

Location G-24

View towards Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach, dams not visible



Panorama west through to east



Panorama east through to west

Location G-25



View towards Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach, dams not visible

Location G-26



View towards Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach, dams not visible

Location G-27



View towards Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach, dams visible

Location G-28



Summit of Gairich



Towards Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach



Panorama Gairich through to Invergarry

Location G-29



Looking west towards Gairich summit



Towards Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach



Looking east down Glengarry



Panorama west through to east

Location G-30



Summit of Spidean Mialach, no view of dams



Looking south-west up Glen Kingie

Location G-31



Summits of Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach, dams not in view

Location G-32



Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach, Coire Dubh dam visible



Panorama from Gairich through to Spidean Mialach

Location G-33



Looking towards Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach

Location G-34



Footpath up Gairich summit block



Looking south over Glen Kingie



View towards Spidean Mialach



Panorama looking from north-west to east

Location G-35



Looking towards Quoich dam, Fearna dam not visible

Location G-36



Looking towards Quoich dam, Fearn dam not visible

Location G-37



Looking towards Quoich dam, Fearna dam not visible

Location G-38



View towards Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach



View towards Quoich dam and along Glengarry



Panorama across the east end of Loch Quoich

Location G-39



View over PSH site



Panorama across PSH site



Panorama across Glen Kingie

Location G-40



Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach



Eastern end of Loch Quoich and PSH site

Location G-41

View over PSH site



Panorama over Gairich, Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach



Panorama over Glen Kingie

Location G-42



View over Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach



Panorama Gairich summit through to Quoich dam

Location G-43

Sgurr Mhaoraich and Gleouraich from the summit of Gairich



Gleouraich and Spidean Mialach from the summit of Gairich



Quoich Dam and Glengarry from the summit of Gairich



Meall Blair from the summit of Gairich



Sgurr Mhurlagain from the summit of Gairich



Towards Knoydart from the summit of Gairich



Looking west from the summit of Gairich



Looking north-west from the summit of Gairich