

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Sport and Recreation Topic Group of the Moray Firth Partnership is made up of representatives from the three Local Authorities who have the Firth as part of their area, the Highland Sports Development Association, Coastguard Service and Forest Enterprise. The participants are listed in full in Appendix 1.

A recurrent theme of the Paper is that there is no accurate picture of how the Firth and its coastline is utilised for sport and recreation. The paper identifies two reasons for this:-

- (a) Much of the activity is, by its nature, made up of information activities such as walking, enjoyment of scenery, jogging/running, mountain biking, sail boarding and dinghy sailing. This activity therefore goes unrecorded and its extent is only known by repute or where conflicts have meant the involvement of a landowner or Local Authority.
- (b) Organised activity through clubs and organisations may or may not be recorded. Such information as is recorded is unsurprisingly of single activity interest. There has been no known attempt to co-ordinate information from these organisations to obtain a picture of use in terms of numbers, activity or location.

The topic subject is touched upon in previous reports and plans and also by aspects of the legislative framework although few focus specifically on the topic.

Nevertheless, the Topic Group conclude that there are a number of important issues to be raised around the subject as well as opportunities for the future enhancement and co-ordination of information and activity.

This issues discussed include the loss of green space, provision of facilities at known beaches, ownership and management responsibility of the coastline and conflicts of use. Opportunities are explored for the promotion of new clubs/associations to cater for new minority sports and encouragement of good practice, collation and presentation of information, zoning of activities, the forthcoming development of the Sustrans Route, a burgeoning Countryside Ranger Service and co-ordination of walking opportunities.

2. AREA OF INTEREST

The map used by the Topic Group is based on that used by the Moray Firth Review, updated for the purposes of this paper. The map is attached as Appendix 2.

The geographical area of interest of the Topic Group, for guidance purposes only, was taken as 5 miles inland and 12 miles offshore.

3. AGREED VISION

Vision - to maintain and enhance safe public access and enjoyment of the Moray Firth while minimising conflicts with other users, through the provision of information and careful management of sport and recreation.

4. REVIEW OF INFORMATION

The review of information useful to the Topic followed the format below.

4.1 Current Situation in Topic

The current situation relating to Sport and Recreation in the Moray Firth Area is that the types of activity and numbers using the Firth and its environs tend to be toward the informal end of the scale which means that the collection of data is difficult. There are a number of organised water and land based clubs and organisations operating in the area although used by families, informal groups and individuals without a set base and to no particular set pattern appears to be in the majority.

The above is a significant issue as are codes of conduct, conflicts and the need or potential for zoning of activities.

The Moray Firth Review (Rachel Harding-Hill - SNH 1993) Distribution of Activity on land based, water based and provision for visitor use. This paper gives further information and offers some background on the range and location of organised activity around the Firth.

4.2 Key Reports and Plans

Beaches - the Moray Firth Review covers some similar areas of information as this Topic Group paper and lists several reports on the beach resource of Scotland (Countryside Commission for Scotland 1969-1977); Local Authority Policy Frameworks on the protection and enhancement of the natural environment including the coastline (Banff and Buchan District Council 1985/86) and the Ross and Cromarty District Council's "Feasibility Study for Clean Beaches" (Environmental Resource Group, University of Edinburgh (1991)). As many of these reports were conducted some time ago, it must be assumed that whilst general thrusts may remain the same, much of their detail may no longer be accurate.

Byelaws/Management Rules - The Moray Firth Review also identified that the number of mechanisms available for control within the Moray Firth is limited with reliance largely on Local Authority (and Forestry Commission) byelaws/management rules. The designation of Local and National Nature Reserves also enables the creation of byelaws whilst the Port Authorities have the power to manage and regulate activities within their area of jurisdiction. Indeed, there are specific regulations relating to vessels carrying paying passengers, for example Dolphin Watch operations.

Scottish Natural Heritage can, under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and the Natural Heritage (Scotland) Act 1991, make byelaws for the protection of National Nature Reserves. The Secretary of State for Scotland may, after consultation with Scottish Natural Heritage, make orders relating to these sites. For example, " .. no person shall carry out on any land ... any operation which - .. appears to the Secretary of State to be likely to destroy or damage the flora, fauna, or geological or physio graphical features of the land ...".

European directives on Environmental Assessment (EA) mean that an EA must be conducted on all major developments likely to have a "significant" effect on the environment. The Wild Birds and Habitats and Species Directives cover the designation of special protection areas for birds, special areas of conservation for habitats and species.

Planning control - The Highland Council, as planning authority, have policies relating to the control of housing development in rural areas and the former Banff and Buchan District Council had a general presumption against any development in coastal areas, as defined by Land Use Policy Areas designation "Areas of Restraint". The Moray Firth Review further lists Banff and Buchan District Council's series of Special Project Areas set up to promote recreational and other improvement programmes whilst minimising of the effects of erosion caused by natural and human activity (Banff and Buchan District Council 1988).

Interpretive Plans - More recent reports and plans include the Black isle Local Interpretive Plan (Highland Interpretive Strategy Project 1997) which, at the time of writing, is approaching completion. The plan recognises the Firth as an important resource to local communities as is the surrounding, land based natural and man-made environment. The Moray Coast and Countryside Ranger Service with the Moray Council is currently preparing an Interpretive Plan for the Moray Coast expected for completion by April 1998. The Nairn Seafront Management Plan (NSMP 1995) has sought to plan and deliver a series of tourism related projects.

Tourism Plans - Although covering mostly land based issues, the three Councils and/or Tourist Authorities within the area of interest are developing or have developed Tourism Management Plans.

These plans attempt to positively manage aspects relating to tourism such as large numbers attracted to environmentally sensitive areas and the enhancement of the tourism experience and tourism destination for visitors and local people.

4.3 Sources of Existing Data and their Scope

The above review of reports makes clear that information is available either on a very localised scale, addressing a particular concern or opportunity or is on a much wider scale with the Firth and its coastline featuring as a small part of, for example, a local structure plan. Further, the majority of the types of activities identified as being pursued on or by the Firth are by their very nature unstructured, unsupervised and many are carried out by individuals, families and small groups outwith any kind of formal club or organisational structure.

Sources which do collect data include:-

<u>Title</u>	<u>Scope</u>
British Waterways Board	Usage, size, nationality and type of craft using Caledonian Canal.
Harbour Masters	Number of moorings, usage, size of craft, periods of stay.
Forest Enterprise	Within the Moray Forest District, cars entering four car parks at King's steps (RSPB), Cloddymoss, Wellhill and Roseisle are counted and from the data visitor numbers are estimated.
Coastguard Agency	Collates information on water related incidents which have been notified to them.

<u>Title</u>	<u>Scope</u>
Sporting Clubs (eg sailing, sub-aqua, wildfowling)	Membership, range of activities, club location/participation, sites.
Private Marina	Number of berths and occupancy rates, types of crafts, places or origin.
Local Authority - Services	Community Education, Cultural and Leisure, Countryside Rangers, Planning.
Private Schools/Outdoor Centres/ Activity/Companies	Numbers, types, participation/location.
Youth Hostels/Campsites/Caravan Parks	Numbers, patterns of use, places of origin.
Marine Operators (eg Dolphin, sightseeing, fishing)	Numbers, routes, frequency.
Dolphin Watching Sites - Aberdeen University Dolphin Watch Scheme - North Kessock - South Kessock - Chanonry	Where manned - numbers, frequency, peak periods.
Armed Forces Recreation Clubs	Numbers, range of activities, participation/location.

4.4 Key Organisations and Individuals

The key organisations and individuals identified are Highland, Moray and Aberdeenshire Councils, Scottish Natural heritage, Landowners, Governing Bodies of Sport, Local Sports Councils, Clubs, Coastguard Agency, Forest Enterprise, Police Service, Community Councils.

4.5 Review of Existing Data and its Quality (including relevant statistics)

A review of existing data re-enforces the view that the very nature of the recreational activities associated with the Firth tend to be unstructured and unrecorded. Apart from straight forward lists of the activities undertaken, known locations of facilities serving those activities and organisations which exist to serve those activities the quality of the existing data is extremely patchy and relates only to organised activities. Appendix 2 details activity, facility and organisational listings.

Trends in outdoor participation for Scotland (Scottish Sports Council 1997) show a slow but steady growth on the use of the countryside for recreation over the years 1993-95. Appendix 3 lists the data.

4.6 Identification of Data Gaps and Research, Survey and Monitoring Needs

Two themes emerge from the review of Data and organisations, the existence of many single interest groups who record information for their own purposes and the large amount of casual, unrecorded activity.

For a full picture to emerge of the amount, type and location of recreational activity associated with the Firth, there needs to be

- a) co-ordination of the scattered, single interest sources of info and
- b) on-site sampling of casual recreational activities to create raw data.

4.7 Legislative Framework -including significant policies and non-implementation

Local Government (Scotland) Act 1974 - covers Local Authority involvement in leisure and recreational facilities or programmes provided or supported by them under ... adequate provision for facilities ... for recreational, cultural and sporting activities.

Civic Government (Scotland) Act (1982) covers the creation of Byelaws for recreational craft up to 1000 metres beyond the low-water mark.

Bacteriological quality of bathing waters, monitored by SEPA, is controlled under the terms of the EC Bathing Waters Directive.

5. REVIEW OF ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

5.1 Description and Rationale of Issues and Opportunities

The following is a brief description of each of the issues and opportunities identified by the group and some justification of why the group believe it to be an issue or opportunity relevant to this topic within the Moray Firth area:

Issue - Loss of green space

There is an increase in the amount of land use for industrial and residential development, whilst "Set Aside" is no longer applicable to agricultural land.

The increasing demands for specific land application reduces the availability of that land for recreational purposes.

Issue - Provision of facilities at known beaches

There is a need to know the location of key facilities such as toilets, car parking, slipways etc at sites popularly frequented, or lack of facilities at sites which could be more frequented.

The provision of key facilities will influence the decisions made by participants as to their chosen location for an activity. The provision of, or lack of facilities could be used as a tool in the planning and management of activities.

Issue - Ownership and management responsibility of coastline is unclear - Are proposals for zoning required?

There needs to be a definition as to where ownership lies along the boundaries of a given foreshore of either Private, Public or Crown Property, in order to map out whom is responsible for the management of which piece of coastline/foreshore.

The responsibility for the management of coastline would be expected to rest with the owners, however it is not clear where the boundary lies (ie at mean high water mark?). Does private ownership include the foreshore and if so to what point? Where public or crown agencies converge, are there clear boundaries and who has rights to access across such boundaries? It is felt that a clear definition of areas of responsibility is required.

Issue - Conflicts

Access v Agriculture

Where an activity requires a form of transportation or access to a particular location there is likely to be occasion when this conflicts with private ownership and/or agricultural use of land.

Bikes, etc v Walkers

In the increasing competition for rights of way and recreational destinations, mountain bikes and various other forms of non-pedestrian transportation are replacing the more traditional walkers.

Quiet v Noisy

Many forms of recreation are found to be so because they are by nature peaceful or quiet activities, this is at direct variance to the increasing forms of sport & recreation dependent on motorisation or some other form of generating noise. This conflict also exists between participants and residents in certain areas.

Issues - Conflicts (contd)

Wildflowers v Walkers

Where relatively large areas need control of access to minimise disturbance, encourage breeding and for safety, will conflict with the walkers desires to find new areas within which to wander freely.

Slow v Fast

The slower pace of many forms of recreation are the very thing that attracts many participants to them, but there is a growing number of activities which are now dependent on being ever faster, as the source of their excitement.

Paddlers v Anglers

River rafters, canoeists and similar are often using the same stretches of river, estuary or foreshore as anglers, with the consequence that fish are disturbed, lines snagged and tempers fray

Locals v Tourists

The benefits gained to a community which depends on tourism for much of its income and employment, is often too quickly forgotten when confronted with the inherent inconveniences which come with the tourists (ie traffic, parking, crowds, litter etc).

Locals v Environmentalists

The immediate needs of a local resident or community to do what they wish on their own figurative doorstep may not always be to the advantage of the larger view of the environment or its lobbyists.

Surfers v Sewerage

Water quality issues in rivers, on "Blue Flag" beaches and in the sea (especially favoured surf spots) are not only issues of the environment, but also directly effect the health of individual participants, some of which have long established lobby groups. This requires to be seen against the increasing production of industrial and domestic effluent and the investment requirement of effective treatment.

Motorised Watersports v Nature Watchers

Increasing popularity and availability of motorised watersports is disturbing the very wildlife that more and more people are taking an interest in observing.

The rationale for including these conflicting areas as a relevant issue, is that the cause of conflict is largely the competition for ever decreasing space, to perform an increasingly diverse range of activities that are not always compatible, by a larger and larger number of people. An increase in such conflict is inevitable unless some form of management is undertaken.

Opportunity - Promotion of new clubs/associations to cater for new minority sports and encourage good practice

A large amount of participation in activities will always remain informal by its casual nature, but existing bodies can be encouraged to increase their promotion of good practice.

There is a plethora of growing new sports or recreational activities many of which have no option but to be informal due to a lack of recognition or organisation into bodies which can encourage good practice, ie forming codes of practice. Examples of codes of conduct produced on or by the Dolphin Space Programme, the British Sub Aqua Club, the Game Angling Club, Off-Road Cycling (Scottish Sports Council), British Orienteering Federation, Scottish Canoe Association and the National Watersports Code (Scottish Sports Council) and those suggested by the Coastguard Agency are held by the Moray Firth Partnership.

Opportunity - Collation and presentation of information

The ease of access to key information such as beach hazards, picnic areas, access routes, clubs and associations, codes of practice etc to be available in the most appropriate and effective places.

This is seen as crucial in the management of participants behavioural patterns, influence over inappropriate behaviour will only be achieved by the promotion of positive behaviour.

Opportunity - Zoning of activities

Conflict between incompatible activities can only be minimised by management in the form of "Zoning", for example certain controlled areas such as harbour or bathing beaches can restrict water skiing or jet skis, this can only be done practically on a local level.

In the larger view such zoning could not be controlled, but could be positively promoted to encourage certain types of compatible activities, by producing positive inducements for such activities to use a particular area if the appropriate facilities were made available to the needs of those activities, for example providing information and signage about appropriate access to areas with a slipway and toilet facilities away from harbours and bathing beaches, aimed at water skiers and jet skiers.

Opportunity - Sustrans Route

Pending the availability of the necessary funding, the old coastal railway route from Aberdeen to Inverness may be opened up for the millennium.

The availability of such a public access route will benefit local people and act as an additional attraction to tourism by providing more permissible access without increasing conflict.

Opportunity - Countryside Ranger Service

There is a capacity to utilise this service to positively influence people's behaviour by providing appropriate information to recognised groups as well as casual or informal recreation participants.

The public is becoming increasingly aware of the information and educational services available from the countryside ranger service, through positive promotion, working with schools, clubs and other bodies.

Opportunity - Listing of recognised Rights of Way and Walks

If information is readily available in the appropriate places, about where the rights of way and recognised walks are, then some of the conflicts over access can be minimised. Although there are many publications about local walks or rights of way, can we say that they provide the necessary information over a larger area or that it is provided to those who need it in the most appropriate place.

5.2 Priority of Importance

The following table attempts to show the importance of each issue and opportunity identified by the Topic Group together with a justification for the position given.

Moray Firth Partnership: Sport and Recreation
Priority of Importance for Issues and Opportunities

Issue	Very Important	Important	Not Important	Justification
Loss of greenspace		✓		There is a need to safeguard valuable coastline landscape and wildlife for the enjoyment and education of walkers, as flora and fauna includes species once typical of wider countryside.
Facility provision at beaches	✓			1) There is a need to provide basic facilities for identified "hot spots" - toilets, car parking and refreshments. This needs to be sympathetically done, as the public also has an appreciation of remote "unspoiled" landscape. 2) Facilities could also be provided in certain areas to relieve the pressure on "hot spots".
Coastline management responsibility	✓			The coastline suffers from natural erosion. There is also a need to protect sensitive sites.
Conflicts of Activities				
Public Access v Landowners			✓	Although this is not seen as a major issue, there are certain locations where new owners are reluctant to permit continued access.
Bikes/Horses v Walkers	✓			Increasing numbers of visitors are exacerbating an existing problem. Mountain bikers in particular cause disturbance to walkers and damage footpaths.

5.2 Priority of Importance (contd)

Issue	Very Important	Important	Not Important	Justification
Quiet Recreation v Motorised sport		✓		Quad motorbikes are a growing problem in certain areas causing a nuisance to the public who enjoy quiet informal recreation.
Wildfowlers v Walkers/Nature		✓		The law allowing unrestricted shooting on inter-tidal zones is attracting visitors from afar to the detriment of quiet recreation. Since shooting occurs mainly at dusk & dawn and not on Sundays, it is not too big a problem at the moment.
River paddlers v Anglers			✓	Not seen as a great conflict issue at present but has the potential to be so if river paddling increases in popularity. Situation needs monitoring.
Locals v Visitors		✓		Although businesses benefit from visitors, some local communities are concerned that increasing numbers at certain locations could cause problems, eg Findhorn.
Locals v Environmentalists			✓	Not aware of any conflicts but situation needs monitoring.
Surfers and Bathers v Sewage	✓			Certain spots along the coast suffer from poor water quality & raw sewage. There is an urgent need both for increased testing & improvements to sewage treatment.
Motorised water sports v nature watchers and bathers	✓			Potentially the biggest problem in the area as the coastline becomes an increasingly popular visitor destination & activities become more diverse.

5.2 Priority of Importance (contd)

Opportunity	Very Important	Important	Not Important	Justification
Formation of clubs and associations			✓	As well as forming new clubs and associations, the opportunity exists for networking effectively amongst existing organisations - environmental, community bases, recreational and local authorities.
Collation and presentation of information	✓			There are major opportunities for education, interpreting the natural environment and publicising issues and promoting public enjoyment whilst engendering a caring attitude to the coast.
Zoning of activities		✓		Could be the means of avoiding conflicts from competing interests.
SUSTRANS Route		✓		Opportunity for cyclists to enjoy part of the coastline - but needs co-operation and consultation between all parties involved in the Aberdeen-Inverness cycle route.
Countryside Ranger Service	✓			Seen as a major contributor to the interpretation of the natural environment and as a facilitator for community involvement in countryside care.
Listing Rights of Way & Walks	✓			(MOFAS) Moray Firth Community Access Strategy will take an important lead in this respect.

5.3 Requirements for Future Research Survey or Monitoring

Paragraph 4.6 of the Topic Group's paper lists two areas as worthy of further research and monitoring if the full picture of Recreational activity associated with the Firth is to be understood. These are

- a) The need for co-ordination of information held by single interest groups, for example sports clubs, Harbour Trusts and Services within Local Authorities.
- b) The need to collect raw data on casual unrecorded activity.

Co-ordination of the collection onto a database of the variety of information as listed in Appendix 2 and in a common form could be a time consuming and therefore costly activity. Nevertheless were it possible - perhaps through financial or "win a prize" inducements, the annual collection of data would produce very valuable information on trends, organised activity by location, numbers participating and the like. This type of information would be especially useful to Local Authorities when Planning Services, Tourism Agencies, private providers of services and would highlight particular areas of conflict.

Unrecorded activity - the picture of use would be incomplete without knowing the pattern of casual, unrecorded use. Raw data could be collected in two ways.

1. Annually on specific days throughout the year and at locations where activities are known to take place, conduct a survey of the activities, including collecting information about the participants.
2. Create a system where staff or volunteers can collect information as they are carrying out their normal duties or activities on a proforma. Countryside Rangers, Beach Wardens perhaps utilising regular volunteer walkers.

5.4 Interaction with other Moray Firth Partnership Topic Groups

TOPIC GROUPS

ISSUES	eco dev	landuse	fisheries	sport & rec	water quality	natural heritage	built heritage	tourism	geomorphology/ coastal defence	education/ awareness	research/ geographical info systems	develop manag strategy	community involvement
loss of green space		✓		✓		✓						✓	✓
facility provision at beaches				✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	
coastline management responsibility	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	
conflict of activities		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
OPPORTUNITIES													
formation of clubs/ associations				✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
collation & presentation of information				✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
zoning of activities		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
SUSTRANS route		✓		✓				✓		✓	✓	✓	
countryside ranger service		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
listing rights of way and walks		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	

5.5 Possible Issue/Opportunity Resolutions **- including a possible role for the Moray Firth Partnership**

ISSUE - LOSS OF GREEN SPACE

The partnership should seek to facilitate between the various interested parties to ensure that green field development is considered only after all other avenues have been explored. Existing developed areas should be used where at all possible and areas of special scenic or ecological interest should be avoided. Development which would encroach on forest areas should also be excluded. The development of golf courses can also be considered to encroach on natural unspoilt greenfield sites.

ISSUE - FACILITY PROVISION AT BEACHES

Taking each site in context, information held by the partnership could be used to assist local authorities in determining their priorities in developing facilities at known beaches. Statistical information on numbers and type of activity could determine whether a slipway or toilets would be best suited (given the assumed financial constraints).

It may be appropriate to deliberately avoid the placement of built facilities to serve beaches in sensitive areas.

Safety of the public must be considered. Notification of any danger areas and the provision of lifebelts/line throwing apparatus together with safety information/tidal advice should be readily available. Easy public telephone access with Coastguard contact number displayed.

Provision, where appropriate, for litter disposal (and its removal) - thought given to the exposed nature of beaches.

Conflict of interests - ie swimmers v speedboats - consider zoning (see zoning of activities).

ISSUE - COASTLINE MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY

The partnership could co-ordinate a database to establish ownership/responsibility. This would hold information such as crown/private boundaries, rights of way dangerous or no go areas, coastal erosion and availability of public access.

ISSUE - CONFLICT OF ACTIVITIES/ZONING

Various activities conflict with each other in the same area. This problem ranges from the annoying to the downright dangerous. Each particular problem area has to be looked at separately but if consultation, education and harmonious integration are not working, then zoning of the area might be one answer. This would involve, for instance, separately marked areas for swimming, and water-skiing backed up by a local byelaw. Another solution may be to relieve pressure on a particular area by promoting and directing one activity to another location, where suitable facilities are available. The issue is particularly difficult as it touches on freedom on the individual, but some locations in England have had zoned beaches and other areas for years.

The partnership could act as a catalyst to assist owner/agencies at particular "hot spots".

OPPORTUNITY - FORMATION OF CLUBS/ASSOCIATIONS

Where appropriate, the partnership could actively encourage the formation of new clubs/associations for sporting activities in the area. This would allow mutually acceptable codes of practice to be put in place, which would be self governing within that organisation. These would also be a conduit for information/education on possible areas of conflict, which in turn may then avoid the introduction of zoning or segregation by encouraging sensitive and harmonious participation in their sport. Encouragement could also be given to local councils to assist in site management.

Many people, however, purposely avoid clubs, preferring to participate in their sport on an independent basis. These people need to be given the information necessary to allow them to enjoy their activity in a safe, considerate manner to avoid conflict with others and the environment.

OPPORTUNITY - COLLATION AND PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION

Moray Firth Partnership could act as a central collation point and disseminator of information. This could include safety and environmental information packs and provide notice boards in appropriate areas.

OPPORTUNITY - SUSTRANS ROUTE

The partnership could actively encourage and promote sustainable transport and activity by cycle. The provision of cycle routes both between towns/villages and through scenic areas will benefit residents and tourists alike. Good cycle routes, may decrease the number of "off road" activity which can damage the terrain and create conflict with landowners.

The partnership could exert pressure to establish these routes.

OPPORTUNITY - COUNTRYSIDE RANGE SERVICE

The Countryside Ranger Service and the Moray Firth Partnership could operate jointly to provide information, interpretation and opportunities for environmental education.

OPPORTUNITY - RIGHTS OF WAY

Similarly, a database could be provided by the partnership on rights of way, landowners specific requirements, access etc. The Rights of Way Society could be approached as could Local Authority Planning Services and the Moray Firth Community Access Strategy Project to agree on a contact and information service in this area.

Members of Sport and Recreation Topic Group

Ian Murray (Chair)	Cultural and Leisure Services, Highland Council
George Duff	Assistant Countryside Officer, Highland Council
Terry Parker	Area Recreation Officer, Aberdeenshire Council
Ann Dunn	Sports Development Officer, Moray Council
Ivor Souter	Highland Sports Development Association
Kevin Peace	District Forester, Moray Forest Enterprise
Mike Armitage	HM Coastguard Agency
Rachel Harding-Hill	Moray Firth Partnership

Map of Area of Interest - Sport and Recreation Topic Group

Relevant Statistics

Activity Listings

Abseiling	Car touring
Fishing (pond, river)	Orienteering
Wildlife Cruises	Gliding/flying/ballooning/parascending
Walking	Golf
Heritage Visits	Wild fowling
Camping and Caravanning	Model Aeroplane Flying
Watersports (Motorised/non motorised)	Sea Bathing/paddling
Scuba Diving	"Passive" recreation, eg picnicking
Scrambling and Quad Biking	Caving
Mountain Biking	
Horse riding/equestrian activities	

Facilities serving known activities

HARBOURS IN MORAY FIRTH

Avoch	Hopeman
Balintore	Invergordon
Banff	Inverness
Brora	Lossiemouth
Buckie	Lybster
Burghead	Macduff
Cromarty	Nairn
Cullen	Pennan Cove
Findhorn	Portknockie
Findochty	Portmahomack
Fortrose	Portsoy
Fraserburgh	Rosehearty
Gardenstown	Scrabster
Golspie	Whitehills
Helmsdale	Wick

Source HM Coastguard November 1997 -

NB - The Moray Firth Review also list slipways and moorings

CLUB

Appendix 3 (contd)

Angling

Alness Angling Club
Beaully Angling Club
Dingwall & District angling Club
Dows Angling Club
Elgin & District Angling Club
Lairg Angling Club
Loch Achonachie Angling Club
Moray F.F. League Angling Club
Nairn Angling Club

Canoeing

Caithness Kayak Club
Inverness and Nairn Canoeing Club
Kinloss Canoe Club
Moray Kayak Club
Peterhead Canoe Club
Stonehaven Canoe Club
Gordonstoun Canoe Club
East Sutherland Canoe Club, Golspie

Cycling

Cyclists Touring Club
Highland Cycle Campaign Cyclists Touring Club
Highland District Association Cyclists Touring Club

Diving/Sub Aqua Clubs

Inverness SAC
Burghed SAC
Ellon SAC
Peterhead SAC
Fraserburgh SAC
RAF Lossiemouth SAC
RAF Kinloss SAC

Motor Sport

RSAC Motor Sport
Highland Car Club
Grampian Cart Club
Sixty Three Car Club
4 Wheel Drive Club
NOS Kart Club
Grampian Automobile Club

Orienteering

Inverness INVOC
Moravian Orienteers

Riding

Caledonian Riding Club
Buchan Riding Club
Moray Riding Club
Inverness-shire Pony Club
Moray & Nairn Pony Club
Ross-shire Pony Club
Sutherland Pony Club

Sea Angling

Kingsmill Sea Angling Club
Kinloss Sea Angling Club
R.A.F. Lossie Angling Club
Leaching Angling Club

Sub Aqua

Regional Coach
Buckie Sub Aqua Club
Grampian Sub Aqua Club

Walking

Ramblers Area Officer

Yacht/Sailing Clubs

The Seafront Centre, Golspie
Invergordon Boating Club
Findhorn River Runners, Forres
Lossiemouth Cruising Club
Royal Findhorn Yacht Club
Lossiemouth Sailing Club
Peterhead Sailing Club
Banff Sailing Club
Nairn Sailing Club
Chanonry Sailing Club

TRENDS IN OUTDOOR PARTICIPATION

Appendix 4

Figures based on information obtained from a sample of approximately 6,000 per annum taken from 40 points throughout mainland Scotland. All figures are expressed in percentage.

1. Sports participation in Scotland 1995

	Indoor Sports	Outdoor Sports
Total	42	41
Sex Male	43	50
Female	41	32
Age 16-24	66	55
25-34	57	45
35-54	42	43
55+	21	28

2. Trends in Sports participation

	1993	1994	1995
Total	53	55	57
Sex Male	59	61	63
Female	48	49	52
Age 16-24	73	75	77
25-34	66	68	69
35-54	54	56	58
55+	34	36	38

3. Trends in Outdoor Sports participation

	1993	1994	1994
Total	36	36	38
Sex Male	45	46	48
Female	27	28	29
Age 16-24	51	50	52
25-34	41	43	44
35-54	36	38	40
55+	23	24	25

4. Trends in Individual Sports participation

(2 peak survey months rather than annual average)

	1993	1994	1995
Cycling	6.3	6.9	7.3
Fishing/Angling	3.3	3.3	3.3
Golf	8.0	7.7	8.2
Horse Riding	0.9	0.9	1.1
Running/Jogging	4.7	5.2	5.8
Sailing	1.3	1.1	1.1
Walking (2 miles+)	22.5	21.3	24.0

Source: Scottish Sports Council 1997