

HUMAN DIMENSIONS IN CAPERCAILLIE CONSERVATION

WORKSHOP 1

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Date: Fri. – Sat. September 27th - 28th, 2019

Location: Carrbridge, Scotland

Summary report prepared by Dr. Alistair Bath on behalf of the workshop participants.

Introduction: On Friday, September 27th, 2019 and Saturday, September 28th, 2019, the Carrbridge Capercaillie Group gathered for two full days to begin to understand and address the key issues facing capercaillie and capercaillie management, and to review the preliminary results of the quantitative research undertaken within the community. The workshop was facilitated by Dr. Alistair Bath from Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada.

Understanding the current situation: Before actively working on a capercaillie conservation strategy, the group wanted to hear some of the quantitative results to assess whether they had a mandate from the community to keep working on capercaillie conservation. Preliminary results were presented demonstrating that there is overwhelming support for capercaillie conservation. Most respondents to the questionnaire believe that money isn't being wasted on capercaillie conservation and want to see capercaillie exist for future generations. Such information was positively received by the group, who, in response, worked hard during the workshop, on behalf of the community, on ways to move ahead.

In terms of understanding and addressing capercaillie and capercaillie management, several issues were discussed. Some could be obstacles which were explored in more detail. Some of these need to be addressed to reach a common vision while others are clearly opportunities or characteristics of a future vision for the community and capercaillie conservation. A discussion was held to define the characteristics and principles of a vision for capercaillie conservation which will in turn underpin the strategy.

Communicating key messages: The group outlined several messages to communicate in the newsletter for those interested to know more about the workshops. It was agreed that preliminary results from the quantitative study be communicated in clear sentences within a few days; this action was completed. Several items were identified for the newsletter; these have also been integrated into the newsletter. A public event to share the quantitative results has been scheduled for Sun. Nov. 3rd evening, a venue booked and advertisements about the event have been created.