



**CAIRNGORMS
CAPERCAILLIE
PROJECT**



Identifying how people feel about capercaillie conservation in Deeside to inform community-led action

Introduction

The Cairngorms Capercaillie Project is facilitating community-led action across the Cairngorms National Park to help secure the long-term future of capercaillie in the UK.

Deeside is home to an extremely vulnerable capercaillie population. Although low in number, the birds are a genetic lifeline to the larger Strathspey population. Work with communities in Deeside is therefore an essential part of building a future for capercaillie in the UK.

The project currently has no plans in place related to Deeside. Instead, it's working with a 'blank sheet of paper' and simply wants to listen to people's views about capercaillie conservation in the area in order to inform next steps.

Identifying how people feel

Listening sessions conducted by an objective third party have been held with 30 key people connected to the area, including landowners and landmanagers, businesses related to tourism and recreation, and representatives from interest groups including field sports and mountain biking.

The views shared in the listening sessions are summarised overleaf. Some of the views were shared by many; others by only a few. The majority views have been used to create an online survey for Deeside residents and visitors to complete.

The views of at least 385 residents and visitors will be gathered via the survey to ensure a 95% confidence level in the results. The results will then be used to identify how widespread the views are that were heard in the initial listening sessions and the degrees of consensus that exist. This information will enable the project to plan next steps and ensure that any action facilitated in Deeside is based on how the majority of people feel.

To enquire about getting involved, to ask questions or to share thoughts, please email: capercaillie@cairngorms.co.uk



Figure 1: Views shared during listening sessions with a wide range of people connected to Deeside