



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF MOUNTAINS SCOTLAND PROJECT

AUGUST 2001 – FEBRUARY 2003

PROJECT OFFICER'S REPORT

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Finally, these acknowledgements would be incomplete without mention of Scotland's mountains and their people.

Andrew Macpherson
February 2003

1. Background

2002 was designated the International Year of Mountains (IYM) by the General Assembly of the United Nations, with the overall aim of “promoting the conservation and sustainable development of mountain regions, thereby ensuring the wellbeing of both mountain and lowland people.” 130 states supported the resolution, the greatest number ever to support the declaration of an International Year. UN guidelines for IYM and International Years in general are listed in Annexes 1 and 2.

In Scotland, in August 2000 some of the people and organisations originally involved in the 1996 European Intergovernmental Consultation on Sustainable Mountain Development and others came together to discuss current issues affecting Scotland’s mountains. From this meeting, proposals for a Project Officer for IYM in Scotland were developed and funding was obtained from Scottish Natural Heritage. The post has been co-funded and managed by a partnership of conservation and recreation NGOs and public bodies (British Mountaineering Council; Cairngorms Campaign; Cairngorms Partnership; John Muir Trust; Mountaineering Council of Scotland; Ramblers Association Scotland; Scottish Countryside Activities Council; Scottish Mountaineering Trust; Scottish Wild Land Group; Scotways and WWF Scotland) with SNH being the major funder and the Centre for Mountain Studies at Perth College, UHI Millennium Institute providing in-kind support including office accommodation and day-to-day management.

2. Project aims

The overall aims of the IYM Scotland project set by the steering group were:

- to raise public awareness of Scotland’s mountains, their importance and role, in both ecological and human terms, and the need to protect their special characteristics.
- to celebrate the special values and promote debate about the future of Scotland’s mountains, including sustainable land use.
- to increase awareness, among public agencies and government departments with an interest in mountains, of issues relating to sustainable mountain use and development and thus to promote change towards more sustainable use.
- to promote links between non-governmental organisations (NGOs), government agencies and the private sector with an interest in mountains in order to facilitate more ‘joined up thinking’ and action in relation to sustainable mountain use and development.

3. IYM Scotland events and initiatives

The overall aim of the Project Officer has been to ensure a well-co-ordinated series of events/initiatives involving NGOs and other partners throughout 2002 in Scotland.

Approximately 150 events took place over the year, putting Scotland’s IYM programme firmly on the overall international IYM effort. This is a tribute to the efforts of the many public, private and voluntary players involved. Events and initiatives have ranged in scale from small, local and voluntary events such as guided walks and talks at mountaineering and other clubs to international conferences. Key events are listed below; further detail is provided in Annexes 3, 4 and 5.

Political Events

- Tabling of a motion in the Scottish Parliament in support of IYM in December 2001 by Mike Rumbles MSP with all-party support;
- Formal launch of IYM in Scotland on 4 February 2002 by Mike Watson MSP (minister for Tourism, Culture and Sport), with supporting statements from SNH, VisitScotland and sportscotland and attendance by MSPs from all parties;
- Tabling of a motion in the Scottish Parliament in support of Glenmore Lodge and the importance of outdoor pursuits in IYM;
- Tabling of a motion and subsequent debate in the Scottish Parliament in support of World Heritage Site status for the Cairngorms in IYM;
- Tabling of a second parliamentary motion in the Scottish Parliament in support of IYM in January 2003 by Mike Rumbles MSP;
- Presentation on IYM to the Cross Party Group on Sports;
- Presentation at the Scottish Parliament on “A response to the Education Plan” with reference to outdoor education and IYM;
- Support for IYM stated by 30 MSPs including one Minister and one Deputy Minister.

Further details on these events, and on MSPs supporting IYM, are in Annex 3.

Academic/specialist Events

- “Recreational Management in the Cairngorms” Festival and seminar led by North East Mountain Trust, Ballater 24-26 May;
- “Nature and People: Conservation and Management in the Mountains of Northern Europe” International conference on organised by SNH and CMS, Pitlochry, 6-9 November;
- “Roots to the Summits” Conference on futures for Cairngorm woodlands led by Cairngorms Campaign, Battleby 17 November;
- “Summit to Sea: The Values of Scotland’s Mountains and Water in the 21st Century” Conference on water and land management in the uplands organised by CMS, SNH and SEPA, Battleby, 20-21 January 2003.

Key events with limited Project Officer involvement include:

- Euromontana’s Third European Mountain Convention in Inverness, 16-18 May
- “Sustainable Futures for the British Uplands” conference at the Royal Geographical Society, London, convenor Martin Price, 20 November.

Further detail on these events is available in Annex 4.

Other Events

In addition to these high profile events, a series of more locally-oriented events took place. Local authority, private estate and National Trust for Scotland estate rangers led IYM-themed walks throughout the year in all mountain areas of Scotland. In addition to approximately 50 presentations, talks or manning stalls (Annex 5), the project officer collaborated with:

- Arts Catalyst and Atholl Estates to site the “Makrolab” travelling laboratory/studio on Atholl Estate and assisted in securing SCIART funding for this project;
- The Scottish National Portrait Gallery on their “On Top of the World” exhibition of Scottish mountaineers;

- The National Museum of Mountaineering and Cumbrian mountain rescue teams on the Cumbrian IYM programme
- The British Geological Survey on their “Rock on Your Mountain” schools geology competition;
- The Scottish Youth Hostels Association on their “Escape for a Fiver” mountain hostels promotion;
- Dundee-based Tayside Aid and a local printer, resulting in a range of IYM Scotland merchandise with profits funding Nepalese medical charities.

“WalkingWild” grants

The Scottish IYM project was fortunate to secure £5,000 funding from WalkingWild (initially part of the Highlands of Scotland Tourist Board but now part of VisitScotland) for publicity and event promotion. This funding enabled or assisted the following specific Scottish IYM events to take place:

- Launch of the “Munro Society”
- Mountain Music Festival in Achiltibuie, Wester Ross
- Transport and Access costs for Scottish Disabled Ramblers
- Programme of mountain visits for schools in Speyside
- Mountain Heritage Weekend in Torridon
- Mountain Heritage Festival in Ullapool
- Contribution to the Dundee Mountain Film Festival

4. Media Coverage

Awareness raising has been a key aim of the Scottish IYM project, and one measure of this is media coverage. The project has received coverage (either by writing articles or by provision of information) in 34 newspapers, magazines and journals and 48 websites in addition to setting up and running a Scottish IYM website (www.iym.org.uk, archived at www.cms.uhi.ac.uk). The website received a total of 253464 hits/13457 visits between November 2001 and February 2003, averaging 521 hits per day. The project officer has also been interviewed for national and regional television and regional radio.

A summary of media coverage can be found in Annex 6.

5. Key issues for Scotland’s mountain areas

The project officer contributed to a report providing an overview of the key issues for Scotland’s mountain areas in collaboration with the Director of the Centre for Mountain Studies (CMS); Imperial College, London; and the School of Geography and Geosciences at the University of St. Andrews. Key conclusions with regard to partnerships and data and information are presented, recognising the diversity of situations and the need for integration. The report, ‘Scotland’s mountains: Key issues for their future management’ has been published by Scottish Natural Heritage, and is available free of charge.

6. IYM across the UK

Although this report concerns the IYM Scotland project, interest in IYM in the UK was not limited to Scotland, and a series of initiatives took place outside Scotland. These were primarily in Cumbria and in London, the latter through the Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers) (RGS-IBG), and the Alpine Club. The British Mountaineering Council generously provided some funding for the IYM Scotland project, and the project officer spoke at the BMC Festival of Climbing in Birmingham in December 2001 and collaborated with the programme of events celebrating IYM in Cumbria.

In London, the RGS-IBG ran a series of lectures and in conjunction with the Director of the CMS organised the “Sustainable Futures for the British Uplands” seminar in November 2002. The Alpine Club instigated a series of exhibitions celebrating IYM in London, and IYM featured in Westminster Parliamentary debates in January and March 2002 (Annex 6).

The project officer also liaised with the Mountaineering Council of Ireland and in conjunction with the British Mountaineering Council and the Mountaineering Council of Scotland issued a joint statement on UIAA Mountain Protection Day.

7. Outcomes and Lessons Learned

Feedback from IYM’s global co-ordinating unit at FAO in Rome indicates that IYM internationally has exceeded expectations and been the most successful International Year.

The four basic aims of the Scottish International Year of Mountains project were listed earlier in this report, and in order to gauge the project’s outcomes these are referred to again below:

- *To raise public awareness of Scotland’s mountains, their importance and role, in both ecological and human terms, and the need to protect their special characteristics.*

With some 150 events across the country during 2002, IYM activities clearly raised awareness of mountains in Scotland. Harder to gauge is the extent and nature of that awareness-raising. Many events were small and low-key, and on many occasions most participants were already aware of mountain issues. In this respect, the BTCV’s “Cobbler Conservation Challenge” and the Fort William Mountain Film Festival stand out for attracting large numbers of people with less of a legacy of involvement with issues associated with caring for the mountains, so that a clear message about sustainable development could be put across. It is notable that one of these events was largely organised by a key organiser with a planning committee and staff with responsibilities built into their work plans, while the other had a key organiser largely supported by volunteers who constitute a significant new force in the local community.

One smaller event that stands out is the Ullapool Mountain Heritage Festival: small and local in focus, this consisted of evening lectures and a series of indoor and outdoor workshops as well as displays and a ceilidh. As with other small events, the ceilidh broadened the festival to encompass more of the local population and also enhanced the celebratory aspect. Two similar events in Torridon and Achiltibuie suffered from adverse weather forecasts and were poorly attended, although in both cases the evening ceilidhs provided a boost to the local community and economy. The weather dependence of these events only serves to highlight some of the difficulties facing communities in remote mountain areas.

The issues involved with sustainable development in mountain areas are complex, and reducing these to a simple and communicable message remains a challenge. A parallel was provided by a Scottish Biodiversity Forum workshop in which the project officer participated,

where the aim was to come up with no more than three short sentences to explain biodiversity and its relevance to the general public – arguably a simpler task than making the concept of sustainable mountain development accessible.

Reaching younger people is another issue. Participation in mountain sports in Scotland is greater than ever, and more courses are available on various aspects of sustainability, but there is a lack of young/new people coming into voluntary work such as the informal Scottish mountain network and its constituent bodies. In terms of future action, a key issue is availability of people.

- *To celebrate the special values and promote debate about the future of Scotland's mountains, including sustainable land use.*

The four IYM conferences held in Scotland, and the one in London, all received positive reviews, witnessed lively debate, and will have facilitated networking for longer-term action - in addition to presenting summaries of current knowledge. The six parliamentary events specifically about or invoking IYM will have served to promote mountain issues among the policy community, but the diversity of views on what constitutes sustainable mountain development remains, as exemplified by the debates over arrangements for the Cairngorms National Park and its potential World Heritage Site status. Of significant benefit would have been more debate in the public domain, such as through newspapers. An interactive website could also have been valuable.

- *To increase awareness, among public agencies and government departments with an interest in mountains, of issues relating to sustainable mountain use and development and thus to promote change towards more sustainable use.*

As noted above, the issues involved with sustainable development in mountain areas are complex, as are the duties of the many public agencies and government bodies with an interest in mountains. By way of illustration, Scottish Natural Heritage as an organisation – which has sustainable development in its mandate – has a very high level of awareness of sustainable mountain development issues, yet this remains but one facet of its wide remit. It has been highly encouraging that many public bodies in Scotland have engaged with IYM; in addition to SNH, these include SEPA, SportScotland, VisitScotland, WalkingWild, the Forestry Commission, the British Geological Survey, the National Galleries of Scotland, and various elements of the Scottish Executive and local authorities.

- *To promote links between non-governmental organisations (NGOs), government agencies and the private sector with an interest in mountains in order to facilitate more 'joined up thinking' and action in relation to sustainable mountain use and development.*

An enormous amount of voluntary effort has gone into the IYM project and earlier campaigns for the Scottish mountains. However, a relatively small number of more or less the same people have been involved each time, and this is not an inexhaustible resource. At this stage it is probably premature to state that the Scottish IYM project has facilitated more 'joined up thinking'; rather, it has contributed to the process of promoting links and integrated thinking that players from all sectors have been encouraging over a longer period.

Some good new linkages between NGOs have developed or been reinforced, notably through the partnership comprising the IYM project steering group. The European Water Framework Directive provided a stimulus for convening the 'Summit to Sea' conference which as well as raising and sharing awareness has gone some way to promoting links.

Similarly the Cairngorms Campaign's 'Roots to the Summits' conference drew together representatives from public agencies and voluntary organisations with interests in both mountains and woodlands.

It is notable that private sector interest in IYM has come more from tourism and newer industries such as the burgeoning renewables sector, than for example from the more traditional land use interests such as agriculture.

While some developments (e.g., National Parks, land reform) have led to some extent to the mainstreaming of issues that were once the preserve of the voluntary sector, there will still be a need for some sort of independent body. A meeting was convened to explore the possibility of a wider informal Scottish mountain network, but it should not be assumed that the participants would implement such a network, with its attendant time commitments. A widely held view at this meeting was that there is still no overall framework for mountain protection in Scotland, and that there is a need for an overall vision. During the year the CMS commissioned a feasibility study for establishing the northern node of the European Mountain Forum in highland Perthshire (funded by Scottish Enterprise Tayside and the EC Leader Plus programme); again this could potentially serve to promote links and to lead on some issues.

8. Recommendations

One aim of UN International Years is that they should serve to stimulate long-term action. Although the Scottish IYM project did not reach as wide a public as had been hoped, there is a need to maintain the momentum that has been achieved. Maintaining a "Scottish Mountain Network" offers one means of doing this, although as stated above this network would not be an appropriate body to lead on issues. This network would require co-ordination, and the CMS has offered to host a website. Issues of chairing and secretariat would need to be resolved. Precedents where government has responded to identified needs exist, such as the Access Forum or the Physical Activity Task Force.

There is a need to continue the IYM dialogue, and key agencies including SEPA, SNH and SportScotland should be contacted in this regard. The Water Framework Directive offers opportunities for promoting integrated approaches to land and water management and for promoting participation, including forging links with land and water managers. The fact that 2003 is the International Year of Freshwater enhances the opportunity offered by the Directive.

Two further issues for consideration are renewable energy and wild land. Renewables are becoming a significant land use issue in the Scottish mountains and there is a need to engage and develop partnerships with the industry. The concept of wild land should be further explored as a possible means for promoting sustainable development in mountain areas; a process that has begun with a LINK seminar in February 2003. With growing interest in health education, recreation in wild mountain areas affords health and well-being opportunities that remain as yet undefined but worthy of further research and policy input.

Annex 1

Objectives of the International Year of Mountains

Under the overall goal of ensuring the well-being of mountain populations by promoting sustainable development of mountain regions, IYM objectives are to:

- Ensure present and future well-being of mountain communities by promoting conservation and sustainable development in mountain areas;
- Increase awareness of, and knowledge on, mountain ecosystems, their dynamics and functioning, and their overriding importance in providing a number of strategic goods and services essential to the well-being of both rural and urban, highland and lowland people, particularly water supply and food security;
- Promote and defend cultural heritage of mountain communities/societies;
- Pay attention to frequent conflicts in mountain areas and to promote peace-making in those regions.

Objectives are to be achieved through: information generation and exchange; awareness raising and sensitisation; education, training and extension; documentation of best practice and formulation of recommendations based on successful field case studies; and promotion of mountain-specific policy formulation and legislation.

Source: International Year of Mountains Concept Paper, FAO 2001.

Annex 2

Guidelines for International Years: extracts from ECOSOC Resolution 1980/67

Selected criteria for the proclamation of international years:

- The subject should be of priority concern in the political, social, economic, cultural, humanitarian or human rights fields.
- The subject should be of concern to all or the majority of countries, regardless of their economic and social systems, and should contribute to the development of international cooperation in solving global problems, with special attention to problems affecting developing countries.
- The desirability of proclaiming international years and the selection of their themes should in general be determined from the point of view of their possible contribution to solving existing international problems, thus contributing to the strengthening of universal peace.
- The subject should be one involving action at the international and national levels.
- The subject should be one for which there is a reasonable expectation that an international year would generate significant follow-up at both the national and international level in the form of new activities and the strengthening of existing ones.

Source: International Year of Mountains Concept Paper, FAO 2001.

Political attention to IYM

Involvement in Scotland

This motion was tabled by Mike Rumbles MSP (SLD, West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine) on 19 December 2001.

S1M – 2568 International Year of Mountains

"That the parliament notes that 2002 is International Year of Mountains; supports the year's aim of raising public awareness of the high ecological value and wider socioeconomic significance of mountains; recognises the global importance of Scotland's mountain areas, particularly their role in shaping the nation's image and culture; therefore urges the Scottish Executive to support the year's celebrations through fostering debate between local communities, farming interests, rural businesses, public bodies, and NGOs on how to maximise the mutual benefit from activities aimed at safeguarding, enhancing and promoting enjoyment of Scotland's mountain heritage."

The motion was supported by the following MSPs: Mary Scanlon, Mr Jamie McGrigor, Michael Matheson, Mr Duncan Hamilton, Mr Murray Tosh, Tommy Sheridan, Nora Radcliffe, John Scott, Roseanna Cunningham, Irene McGugan, Mr Kenneth Gibson, Dennis Canavan, Mr Keith Raffan, Scott Barrie, Fiona McLeod, Alasdair Morgan, Robin Harper, John Farquhar Munro, Donald Gorrie

Formal launch of IYM in Scotland, 4 February

IYM was given its formal launch at Our Dynamic Earth in Edinburgh by Minister for Tourism, Culture and Sport Mike Watson MSP. Senior delegates from three government agencies - Scottish Natural Heritage, sportscotland and VisitScotland - were present and delivered statements welcoming IYM, in addition to members of the Scottish Parliament from all political parties and representatives from the voluntary, private and academic sectors.

Among Mr. Watson's comments were that "Sports, tourism and an appreciation of the magnificence of the Scottish countryside can play a major role in rural regeneration"; "Scottish culture and Scottish identity are inextricably linked with the beauty of the scenery that surrounds us. The splendour of the Scottish countryside and the welcome of its people are among the many factors which attract tourists to this country"; "Our mountains are an established attraction to those enjoying outdoor recreation. Sport and recreation now rank alongside more traditional activities such as farming and forestry as a major use of our hills."

In a written statement, Scottish Natural Heritage, the major funder of IYM in Scotland, stressed that "we need to care better for our hills to ensure that the manner they are used, whether in recreation, agriculture or other economic development, does not disturb the fragile ecosystems which thrive upon them. International Year of the Mountains 2002 will be important in helping remind us of their value, both nationally and locally. It will help to refresh our commitment to their care, and spread the message that land which is of natural character and relatively free from development has great value to the nation in its own right."

sportscotland echoed the themes of care for mountains and benefit to communities: As the national agency responsible for the development of sport in Scotland, sportscotland is delighted to be involved in the celebrations to mark the International Year of the Mountain 2002. Through our National Centre in Aviemore, Glenmore Lodge, we are organising a seminar on the weekend of 11 and 12 May called 'Thinking like a Mountain', that will involve indoor and outdoor workshops aimed at looking at the ecology of the mountains. Scottish hills and mountains are world-renowned and contribute significantly to the economy of Scotland through tourism. The rise of tourism as a business has brought great benefits to mountain regions throughout the world and Scotland is no different. Tourism has been responsible for opening mountain regions to new ideas, new modes of production and cultural exchange. Today people in many mountain regions of the world owe their survival to tourism."

VisitScotland stated that "Scotland's natural landscape is a worldwide 'bestseller' and while we encourage visitors to our shores it is crucial that the health and well-being of our landscapes remains at the forefront of our minds. I am therefore delighted to welcome the work being undertaken by partners involved in International Year of Mountains in Scotland. This is a good year for sustainable tourism - we have the ongoing International Year of Mountains campaign, the prospect of Scotland's first ever National Park moves closer and we look forward to the Land Reform Bill improving the way that we live, work and play in the countryside."

Second Parliamentary motion in support of IYM

This motion was tabled by Mike Rumbles MSP (SLD, West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine) on 12 January 2003.

S1M-3775 International Year of Mountains

“That the Parliament notes that 2002 was the International Year of Mountains; further notes the high ecological value and great socio-economic importance of mountains for Scotland; welcomes the figure that 90% of visitors associate "beautiful scenery" with Scotland prior to their visit; notes the estimate that visits to the countryside for walking are worth £438 million to the Scottish economy; further notes the essential health benefits associated with walking anywhere, particularly in the hills, and calls on the Scottish Executive to continue to protect and promote Scotland's mountains as essential natural heritage, a source of wealth for the economy and a destination with significant health benefits for visitors.”

The motion was supported by the following MSPs as at 20 February 2003: Scott Barrie, Donald Gorrie, Mr Lloyd Quinan, Mr Adam Ingram, Mr Keith Raffan, Michael Matheson, Nora Radcliffe, Mr Duncan Hamilton, Mr Gil Paterson.

Glenmore Lodge and International Year of Mountains (parliamentary motion S1M-2721)

Maureen Macmillan: National Outdoor Training Centre, Aviemore—That the Parliament notes, in this International Year of Mountains, the excellent training and adventure courses provided by sportscotland at the National Outdoor Training Centre at Glenmore Lodge, Aviemore and recognises the importance of outdoor pursuits to the development of young people’s health, fitness and self-reliance, the worth of careers as instructors for young people in rural areas and the importance of outdoor pursuits such as skiing and mountaineering to the rural economy.

Supported by: Mr Jamie Stone

World Heritage Site Status for the Cairngorms (parliamentary motion S1M-2669) 14 Feb 2002

Elaine Thomson: —That the Parliament congratulates the United Nations on its co-ordination of the International Year of Mountains; believes that an appropriate way to celebrate the year would be to ensure that the Cairngorm Mountain Range, the largest continuous area of high ground above 1,000 metres in Britain, is designated a World Heritage Site, and therefore considers that the Scottish Executive should speedily propose discussions with Her Majesty's Government to achieve the ultimate international acclaim of World Heritage Status for this beautiful and environmentally unique part of our heritage.

Summary of MSPs’ involvement with IYM

MSP & Party	First IYM Motion	Cairngorms Debate	Second IYM Motion	Other
Scott Barrie (Lab, Dunfermline West)	Y		Y	
Dennis Canavan (Independent, Falkirk West)	Y		Y	Sports CPG meetings on IYM and on Mountain Training
Roseanna Cunningham (SNP, Perth)	Y			

David Davidson (Con, North-East Scotland)		Y		
Fergus Ewing (SNP Inverness East, Nairn & Lochaber)		Y		Parliamentary Question on IYM prior to IYM
Kenneth Gibson (SNP, Glasgow)	Y			
Donald Gorrie (Lib Dem, Central Scotland)	Y		Y	
Rhoda Grant (Lab, Highlands & Islands)		Y		
Duncan Hamilton (SNP, Highlands & Islands)	Y		Y	
Robin Harper (Green, Lothians)	Y	Y		
Adam Ingram (SNP, South of Scotland)			Y	
Jamie McGrigor (Con, Highlands & Islands)	Y			
Irene McGugan (SNP, North East Scotland)	Y			
Fiona McLeod (SNP, West of Scotland)	Y			
Maureen Macmillan (Lab, Highlands & Islands)		Y		Glenmore Lodge motion
Michael Matheson (SNP, Central Scotland)	Y		Y	
Alasdair Morgan (SNP, Galloway & Upper Nithsdale)	Y			
John Farquhar Munro (Lib Dem, Ross, Skye & Inverness West)	Y			
Gil Paterson (SNP, Central Scotland)			Y	
Lloyd Quinan (SNP, West of Scotland)			Y	
Nora Radcliffe (Lib Dem, Gordon)	Y		Y	
Keith Raffan (Lib Dem, Mid Scotland & Fife)	Y	Y	Y	
Mike Rumbles (Lib Dem, West Aberdeenshire & Kincardine)	Y	Y	Y	
Mary Scanlon (Con, Highlands & Islands)	Y	Y		
John Scott (Con, Ayr)	Y			
Tommy Sheridan (SSP, Glasgow)	Y			
Jamie Stone (Lib Dem, Caithness, Sutherland & Easter Ross)			Y	Glenmore Lodge motion

Elaine Thomson (Lab, Aberdeen North)		Y		
Murray Tosh (Con, South of Scotland)		Y		
Mike Watson (Minister for Tourism, Culture and Sport)				IYM launch: "Sports, tourism and an appreciation of the magnificence of the Scottish countryside can play a major role in rural regeneration"
Allan Wilson (Deputy Minister for Environment and Rural Development)		Y		"We support fully the aims of that UN initiative. We are aware of the importance of our mountain areas and we welcome the programme of events that is being organised throughout Scotland to mark the international year of mountains."

Westminster Parliamentary involvement with IYM

21 January 2002

Dr. Jack Cunningham (Copeland): Is my right hon. Friend aware that, in respect of damage to tourism, few counties were more adversely affected than Cumbria following the atrocities in the United States of America and the disaster of foot and mouth disease? Is she aware that 2002 is the international year of mountains: a celebration of mountains, their ecology and environment and the communities that have to work and earn their livings in mountainous areas? Is she aware that the Cumbrian mountain festival will be launched in spring this year—a serious attempt to bring a resurgence of support for tourism in all its aspects in the Lake District national park and surrounding areas in Cumbria? Will she ask her officials to engage with those planning the festival to ensure that her Department maximises its support for those important and exciting proposals for Cumbria, and that, in addition to what I am sure will be words of encouragement, we get some tangible financial support too?

Tessa Jowell: We will certainly ensure that the Department provides all possible support to the international year of mountains. My hon. Friend the Minister for Tourism, Film and Broadcasting, himself a distinguished mountaineer, will be present at the launch.

I pay tribute to my right hon. Friend's advocacy for Cumbria in what have been terribly difficult times for the tourism and farming industries there. We will provide all possible help to get tourists back to one of the most beautiful parts of our country. As 2002 is not only the year of mountains but the Queen's golden jubilee, we hope that that will be a tremendous draw for visitors from north America and other parts of the world who have simply been too afraid to travel in the intervening months.

25 March 2002

Tony Cunningham: To ask the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport what support the Department is giving to Cumbria for celebrations during the international year of the mountains.

Dr. Howells: I intend to visit the National Mountaineering Exhibition at the Rheged Discovery Centre in June to celebrate the Cumbrian Mountain Festival that is being held in association with the United Nations International Year of Mountains to boost sustainable tourism in the county.

The Festival has already received support from both local and national figures. The Prime Minister Tony Blair has written a letter of endorsement as well as mentioning it in the House of Commons. Local politician Dr Jack Cunningham MP has also praised the initiative in the House and Dr Kim Howells MP, the Minister for Tourism, Film and Broadcasting promised to attend the launch if possible. Other support has come from local politicians including Tony Cunningham MP, Tim Collins MP and Lord Inglewood MEP who is also a patron.

Annex 4

Key Meetings

The Third European Mountain Convention (Euromontana) in Inverness, 16-18 May

The European Mountain Conventions are an initiative of the European association Euromontana whose members include agricultural organisations, communities, research institutes, development and environmental agencies and mountain associations in 15 countries across Europe. Enlargement of the EU was one of the key themes underlying the conference. The programme concentrated on the organisation of prospective debates, the identification of different perspectives, reports of innovative studies and experiences, the consultation of experts and representatives of the European institutions including Michel Barnier, the Commissioner for Regional Policy. The Convention gathered about 230 participants from more than 20 European countries.

“Recreational Management in the Cairngorms” festival and seminar led by North East Mountain Trust, Ballater, 24-26 May

The seminar, part of a weekend of events including lectures, guided walks and a ceilidh, heard from Cairngorms experts from a wide variety of backgrounds and viewpoints including estate managers, wildlife and conservation specialists, local authority planners, mountaineering group representatives and politicians. The forthcoming National Park featured heavily in the discussions. Mike Rumbles MSP called for those with strong interests and views to make themselves heard through their elected representatives in the Scottish Parliament. This event also stimulated the “Summit to Sea” conference jointly organised by CMS, SEPA and SNH.

“Nature and People: Conservation and Management in the Mountains of Northern Europe”, Pitlochry, 6-9 November

This international conference, held at Pitlochry Festival Theatre, was organised by SNH and the Centre for Mountain Studies. The conference attracted 280 participants including 33 from overseas, with Scottish, UK and international speakers and a programme of field visits. The conference objectives were to link science and policy developments in the mountains of Northern Europe; to highlight management needs in terms of stimulating and sharing best practice; to make connections between these objectives, and to inform policy and research agendas. Proceedings will be available from SNH.

“Roots to the Summits” conference on futures for Cairngorm woodlands led by Cairngorms Campaign, Battleby, 17 November

The aims of this conference, which attracted some 75 participants, were to: advance a new vision for woodland enhancement in the Cairngorms, proposing changes to funding, regulatory and administrative systems where needed; enthuse the wider public on the importance of Cairngorms forests and mountains and produce a long term strategy; crystallise what is already known about Cairngorms woodlands by drawing together research, and to publicise and promote the value of Cairngorms woodlands.

“Sustainable Futures for the British Uplands”, London, 20 November

Organised by the Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers) and convened by Martin Price, this conference was aimed at addressing at a UK level the need for 'joined-up action' in the British uplands. The conference, which attracted 130 participants, sought to renew and strengthen networks by revealing common challenges and sharing experiences. Presentations, using examples from a range of upland areas, emphasized linkages between sectors and set immediate priorities within the three key themes of economy, environment and people. A summary statement was published by the RGS-IBG and is available on their website.

“Summit to Sea: The Values of Scotland’s Mountains and Water in the 21st Century”, Battleby, 20-21 January 2003

This conference and programme of workshops was organised by CMS, SNH and SEPA. The conference was held in response to the perceived need identified at an earlier IYM seminar in Ballater where water emerged as a recurring theme in upland management issues. With about 60 participants from agencies, industry, NGOs and individuals, the conference had three key objectives: to provide a snapshot of the current state of our upland waters; to identify pressures and trends, and to establish future directions. The European Water Framework Directive featured prominently in the event, which was the first globally to link IYM with the International Year of Freshwater 2003. Proceedings will be published, and will be available on the CMS website.

Annex 5

Presentations, Lectures and Stalls

The IYM project officer delivered presentations/lectures, or manned stalls, at a variety of events and venues, including:

Achiltibuie college of Piping/Hoot on the Fiddler
Alvie Primary School
Atholl Estates
Blairgowrie Hillwalking Club
BMC Festival of Climbing/World Indoor Climbing Championship
Braemar Telefest
British Trust for Conservation Volunteers
Cairngorm Communities Council (Kirkton & Glen Isla)
Cairngorm Mountain Company
Cairngorms Partnership Recreation Forum
Cairngorms Partnership Youth Group
Deer Commission for Scotland
Dundee Mountain Film Festival
Fairbridge Trust
Forestry Commission/Treefest
Fort William Mountain Film Festival and Lochaber Mountain Culture Association
FOSSUK (Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK)
Glenrothes Hillwalking Club
Highland Birchwoods
Highland Council Rangers and Access Officers
Institute of Outdoor Learning
IYM Cumbria
Kurt Diemberger/Ramblers Lecture Tour
Munro Society
Napier University
National Museum of Mountaineering
Nevis Working Party
Rothiemurchus Estate
Royal Scottish Geographical Society
RSPB/Scottish Biodiversity Week
SCIART Foundation
Scottish Biodiversity Strategy
Scottish Countryside Activities Council
Scottish Disabled Ramblers
Scottish Environment LINK
Scottish Parliament Cross Party Group on Sports
Scottish Wild Land Group
Scottish Wildlife and Countryside Fair
Scottish Wildlife Trust
Scotways
Southern Uplands Partnership
Sustainable Scotland Symposium
Tayside Aid
Torridon Mountain Heritage Festival
Ullapool Mountain Heritage Festival
VisitScotland
WalkingWild
WWF Scotland

Annex 6

Media Coverage

The project received coverage (either by writing articles or by provision of information) in the following publications:

Newspapers

Aberdeenshire Press and Journal 12 September 2002, 7 January 2003

Business a.m. 1 February, 26 April 2002

Daily Record 1 October 2002

Daily Telegraph 4 November 2002

Dundee Courier 4 January, 1 July, 23 November, 18 December 2002

The Guardian 7 May, 24 October 2002

The Herald 7 Jan 2002 27 October 2002

The Independent

The Scotsman 3 February 2002

Scotland on Sunday 19 Jan 2003

Strathspey Herald 26 December 2002

Sunday Times

Times Educational Supplement

West Highland Free Press 10 May 2002

Magazines/Journals/Newsletters

“Climber” Magazine – various through year

Council for Environmental Education “CEEmail” Summer 2002

Geographical Magazine – various through year

Glenmore Lodge 2002 brochure

Junior Focus January 2002

“Mountain Views” North East Mountain Trust Autumn 2001, Spring & Autumn 02

New Scientist, 2 November 2002

“Round Up” Perth College newsletter - various through year

The Scots Magazine August 2002

Scottish Wild Land News 54 Winter 2001-02

Scottish Environment LINK newsletter – various through year

Scottish Natural Heritage newsletters: Northern Lights, The First 10 Years

“Summit” magazine (British Mountaineering Council) Spring 2002

Teachd An Tir Spring 2002

“The Scottish Mountaineer” (Mountaineering Council of Scotland)

TGO Magazine – various through year

Trail Magazine November 2002

UHI News winter 2001-02

WOW Magazine (Oxford-based outdoors magazine) August 2002

Radio and TV

The project officer was interviewed on Heartland Radio (11/12/01), BBC Radio Solent (10/1/02), BBC Radio Scotland (14/9/02) BBC1 National News (23/10/02), Grampian TV Midweek (31/10/02). He also contributed to features on Beinn Eighe, BBC Na Gaeltachd, and a BBC series on “Mountain Tales” as well as a series, yet to be released, on special mountains in Scotland and the UK by Element Productions, to follow an earlier series on special mountains in Wales.

Websites

The project and/or specific IYM Scotland activities was mentioned on the following websites:

Air na Creagan Mountaineering Club www.craggy.org.uk
Allan Wilson MSP www.allanwilsonmsp.fsnet.co.uk
Ancrum Mountaineering Club www.ancrum.org
Arts Council England www.artscouncil.org.uk
IYM Scotland www.iym.org.uk
International IYM site www.mountains2002.org
The Arts Catalyst www.artscatalyst.org
BBC <http://news.bbc.co.uk>
Brecon Beacons National Park www.breconbeacons.org
British Mountaineering Council www.thebmc.co.uk
British Trust for Conservation Volunteers www.btcv.org
Cairn Ban Mountaineering Club www.ewart.hogarth.btinternet.co.uk
Cairngorms Campaign www.cairngormscampaign.org
Cairngorms Partnership www.cairngorms.co.uk
Dundee Mountain Film Festival www.dundeemountainfilm.org.uk
East of Scotland Local Association www.ice-eastscotland.org.uk
Gaelic Forum <http://forums.highland.gov.uk>
Granite City Hillwalkers <http://uk.geocities.com/granitecityhillwalkers>
Highland Council www.highland.gov.uk
Holiday Scotland www.holiday.scotland.net
John Muir Trust www.jmt.org
Kendal Mountain Film Festival www.mountainfilm.co.uk
Local Inverness www.localinverness.co.uk
Mountain Forum www.mtnforum.org
Mountaineering Council of Ireland www.mountaineering.ie
Mountaineering Council of Scotland www.mountaineering-scotland.org.uk
Munro Society www.munrosociety.com
North East Mountain Trust www.nemt.org.uk
Outdoors Magic www.outdoorsmagic.com
Perthshire Convention Bureau www.perthshire.co.uk
Ramblers Association Scotland www.ramblers.org.uk
Scotland Online www.scotlandonline.com
Scottish Environment LINK www.scotlink.org
Scottish Executive www.scotland.gov.uk
Scottish Liberal Democrats www.scotlibdems.org.uk
Scottish Parliament www.scottish.parliament.uk
Scottish Sports Association www.scottishsportsassociation.org.uk
Scottish Wild Land Group www.swlg.org
Scottish Youth Hostels Association www.syha.org.uk
Scotways www.scotways.com
SNH www.snh.org.uk
SEPA www.sepa.org.uk
Travel Scotland www.travelscotland.co.uk
UHI www.uhi.ac.uk
UNESCO www.unesco.org
Virtual Montana www.virtualmontana.org
VisitScotland www.visitscotland.com
WalkingWild www.walkingwild.com

Annex 7

IYM Scotland Project Funders

Anonymous	£50
British Mountaineering Council	£500
Cairngorms Campaign	£200
Cairngorms Partnership	£2,000
John Muir Trust	£2,000
Mountaineering Council of Scotland	£500
North East Mountain Trust	£500
Ramblers Association Scotland	£500
Scottish Countryside Activities Council	£100
Scottish Mountaineering Trust	£1,000
Scottish Natural Heritage	£30,000
Scottish Wild Land Group	£750
Scotways	£100
WWF Scotland	£1,000
Walking Wild (grants & publicity)	£5,000

Annex 8

Financial Summary

	2001	2002	2003	Total
Core Project				
Project Officer Salary	7842.14	19125.36	3246.96	30214.46
Office Overheads	1687.84	3825.12	649.4	6162.36
T&S	822.92	3369.5	388.1	4580.52
Publicity/Advertising	82	1812.8	587.5	2482.3
Steering Group (in kind)	4232	3845	1750	9827
In House (in kind - management, design, admin)	2970	6850	1075	10895
Total	17636.9	38827.78	7696.96	64161.64
Water Conference				
Water Conference		446	3892	4338
Water Conference Steering Group (in kind)		1650	950	2600
Total	17636.9	2096	4842	6938
Walking Wild Project				
Walking Wild grants		2560		2560
Walking Wild publicity		1287		1287