

Monitoring responsible behaviour among recreational users and land managers



COMMISSIONED REPORT

Commissioned Report No. 424

Monitoring responsible behaviour among recreational users and land managers

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COMMISSIONED REPORT

Summary

Monitoring responsible behaviour among recreational users and land managers

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Background

This survey was commissioned in 2008 to monitor responsible behaviour among recreational users and land managers. The aim was to investigate trends in attitudes and behaviour with respect to use of the outdoors since access rights under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 (the Act) and the Scottish Outdoor Access Code (the Code) came into effect in 2005. Results were compared to a Baseline Survey conducted in 2002/03 and a three year interim monitoring study (2005-2007). The study also compared survey data from the general public with results from the Scottish Recreation Survey (ScRS).

Main findings

- Awareness of the Code and its contents has increased significantly among recreational users from 35% in 2002/03 to 73% in 2008. Awareness has also increased significantly among land managers over the five years from 39% in 2002/03 to 63% in 2008.
- The Responsible Behaviour Surveys show an increasing and widespread awareness of the key responsibilities for access to the outdoors as detailed in the Code among both recreational users and land owners/managers.
- Both recreational users and the general public claim a high awareness of acting with consideration, awareness and responsibility when accessing the outdoors. Whilst land owners and managers demonstrate a high awareness of their more general responsibilities as laid down in the Code, the findings identify an opportunity to increase awareness of specific responsibilities under the Code among land owners and managers.
- Just under half of all land managers said that their ability to undertake their activities had been affected to some degree by access related problems in the 2008 survey. Many of these problems result from behaviour which is a criminal offence and are long-standing, pre-dating access rights. Just under half of recreational users said that their access to and enjoyment of the outdoors had been affected by land management activities in 2008. In general, the trends reported by both recreational users and land managers are either static or improving by comparison with the position before access rights came into force.
- Between the Baseline Survey and 2008 Survey, the proportion of recreational users that felt 'very comfortable' when using the outdoors has increased from 63% to 75%.

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1 RESEARCH BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

1.1 Background to the research

The Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 established statutory public rights of access to the outdoors for informal recreation and passage. These rights are conditional on users behaving responsibly, and managers of land and water are required to manage their land responsibly to respect access rights.

The Scottish Outdoor Access Code (the Code), which came into force at the same time as the access legislation in February 2005, provides guidance on the responsibilities of these target groups. Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) has a duty to keep the Code under review and, as part of this process, is monitoring the actual levels of responsible behaviour by both those taking access and those managing land over which access rights apply. Further information on the Land Reform Act and the Code can be found by accessing the website www.outdooraccess-scotland.com.

SNH established an effective baseline of responsible behaviour through a survey undertaken in 2002/03, before the commencement of access rights and the launch of the Code. This study, referred to as the 'baseline survey', sampled four groups; the general public, recreational users, land owners/managers and rangers, and looked at levels of awareness of the Code and its main messages, attitudes towards the Code, and actual experience of behaviour by the Code's key audiences.

Since the baseline survey, responsible behaviour among the general public has been monitored using SNH's Scottish Recreation Survey (ScRS), delivered through a national omnibus survey. SNH has also monitored recreational users, land managers and rangers' attitudes and experience regarding responsible behaviour over the three years between 2005 and 2007, using a similar approach to that used in the 2002/03 baseline survey – this study is referred to as the 'monitoring survey'. These results have been compared against the baseline and relevant ScRS data and conclusions drawn about the effectiveness of the Code and education programme in influencing responsible behaviour among these two key audiences.

In 2008 SNH commissioned MacLeod Research Ltd to conduct a further one year benchmarking study to monitor levels of responsible behaviour in two target groups – recreational users and land managers – in relation to the Code. The data from this study, referred to as the '2008 survey', will be used by SNH for comparison with the relevant annual findings of the monitoring survey undertaken between 2005 and 2007 and the baseline survey of 2002/03.

1.2 Research objectives

The 2008 survey was required:

- i. To refine the existing monitoring survey methodology, and develop and implement the method of survey to obtain further data from land managers and recreational users, but not rangers or the general public, and;
- ii. To report on and compare the results of this short survey of recreational users and land managers with data from the monitoring of the general public (2008 ScRS), and with the equivalent relevant data from the baseline survey (2002/03) and the monitoring survey (2005/07).

1.3 Conventions and analysis caveats

A number of conventions have been used in the production of this report:

- i. Where they differ from the total number of participants, bases (the population from which the measurement is drawn) are shown in the notes attached to each table.
- ii. Data for the monitoring survey covering 2005, 2006 and 2007 is included where available – where data is omitted because it is not available, this is indicated in the footnote at the bottom of the relevant table.
- iii. In tables where figures have been rounded, there may be a slight discrepancy between the sum of the constituent items and the totals shown.
- iv. A number of questions within each survey questionnaire allow respondents to give multiple answers, e.g. one individual encountering several problems, or being with more than one other person during their last visit to the countryside. The percentages for these questions consequently add up to more than 100%. These multiple response questions are indicated in the relevant tables.
- v. When differences are statistically significant at the 95% confidence level, this is highlighted and reported. Other apparent differences with lower statistical significance may also be mentioned in the text, but should be treated with corresponding caution.
- vi. In cases where results pertain to a range of responses represented on a numeric scale, mean values are presented throughout this report. In order to ensure that these mean values, as well as the corresponding base sizes, reflect only those who made a definite answer to a question, the 'don't know' and 'not applicable' answers are excluded from the calculations of these means.
- vii. The baseline survey in 2002/03 was conducted in various waves between 2002 and 2003. Where baseline survey data is reported, it is the total across all waves.

1.4 Report structure

The main findings from the study are presented in the following chapters. The content of each chapter is summarised below:

- Chapter 2: Survey methodology and response rates;
- Chapter 3: Respondent profiles;
- Chapter 4: Key research findings; and
- Chapter 5: Conclusions and recommendations.

In addition, the following information is provided in appendices:

- Appendix A – Survey questionnaires (recreational users and land owners/managers);
- Appendix B – Response rate by organisation;
- Appendix C – Sample characteristics;
- Appendix D – Example of electronic version of survey questionnaire.

2 SURVEY METHODOLOGY AND RESPONSE RATES

2.1 Baseline survey 2002/03 and one year survey 2008

2.1.1 Methodology

To achieve the study objectives and ensure compatibility with the baseline survey in 2002/03 for analysis purposes, the 2008 survey methodology largely replicated the baseline survey approach. The only notable difference was that the 2008 survey was conducted in a single stage rather than multiple waves spread through the year (see Table 2.1). The timing of the 2008 survey correlates with that of the monitoring survey conducted between 2005 and 2007 i.e. between August and November.

Table 2.1: Survey dates

Target group	2008 survey	Monitoring survey 2005 - 2007	Baseline survey 2002/03
Recreational users	Aug – Nov 2008	Aug – Nov 2005 Aug – Nov 2006 Aug – Nov 2007	Wave 1 = Nov 2002 Wave 2 = Mar 2003 Wave 3 = Jul 2003
Land owners/managers	Aug – Nov 2008	Aug – Nov 2005 Aug – Nov 2006 Aug – Nov 2007	Wave 1 = Nov 2002 Wave 2 = Mar 2003 Wave 3 = Jul 2003 Wave 4 = Aug 2003

The baseline survey in 2002/03 and monitoring survey in 2005-2007 relied completely on self-completion postal questionnaires for recreational users and land owners/managers.

The 2008 survey methodology considered the merits of an electronic approach to promote, distribute and/or receive responses to the survey. The initial plan was to develop an approach which primarily used electronic distribution, completion and return, with a view to enhancing the speed of return, cost-efficiency and quality of responses. A paper-based alternative was to be made available for those who did not want to or could not complete the questionnaire electronically. This approach, however, proved to be of limited value because the majority of previously participating recreation and land management organisations could not provide SNH or MacLeod Research with member contact details in electronic format.

In the end, just three of the twenty participating organisations in 2008 were able to distribute the questionnaire to all or some of their members in electronic form. This approach proved to be highly successful in the case of one participating organisation – the Scottish Orienteering Association - but was less successful for the other two organisations. The Scottish Orienteering Association's questionnaire (which was based on a combined email and web based approach) can be found in Appendix D of this report. The survey was also sent electronically to 850 land owners/managers via the Reed Publishing database – the response rate to this was less than 1%.

The majority of questionnaires were sent out by post to a randomly selected sample provided by the participating organisations, as in previous years. To encourage electronic responses, all participants receiving a postal questionnaire in 2008 were given the opportunity to respond via a web link (provided in the covering letter) as an alternative to the postal questionnaire. A minority of respondents did choose to reply by the former method - in total 178 (9%) responses out of a combined total of 1818 responses in 2008 were returned using the electronic format of the questionnaire.

The 2008 survey involved a single phase only – i.e. administering the recreational users and land owners/managers survey and processing the data collected. No follow-up comments were requested of outdoor recreation managers, as was the case with the monitoring survey during 2005 to 2007.

The two questionnaires used for the 2008 survey were largely based on those used for the baseline survey, with the adoption of some minor changes which had been made in the 2005 monitoring survey questionnaire to reflect the introduction of the Code. There were also small differences in the way some of the questions were asked between the baseline and monitoring surveys, to address slight ambiguities, and these changes were also incorporated in the 2008 survey. Where the baseline survey referred to the previous four weeks, the monitoring survey and 2008 survey referred to the last month. Respondents may not have interpreted these in the same way, and “in the last month” may be taken to mean the last four weeks or be interpreted as from the start of the month to the point when they filled in the questionnaire. Any differences in the question wording have been detailed in the relevant sections of this report. Otherwise the questions remained largely unaltered to allow direct comparison between the baseline, monitoring and 2008 surveys (see Appendix A for the questionnaires used in 2008).

Although the questionnaires were largely the same, and the baseline survey results showed little seasonal difference in the results, it is possible that the monitoring survey and 2008 survey may not entirely represent the full spectrum of experiences. A number of the monitoring survey and 2008 survey questions, which were circulated between August and September, asked about respondents’ recent experiences (during “the last 2-3 months”). Land owners/managers or recreational users may experience problems of different nature or severity at other times of the year (for example during lambing/calving), or may regard the same problems as more or less serious during other seasons.

Two additional questions were introduced to the land owner/manager and recreational land user questionnaires in 2008, to identify which land management activities were being carried out by land owners/managers and consider the interaction between these activities and access.

2.1.2 *Sample design*

Recreational users and land owners/managers were contacted via the membership lists of a sample of 20 representative bodies. All of the outdoor recreational and land management organisations included in the 2008 survey were included in previous surveys i.e. the 2003 baseline survey and/or the 2005-2007 monitoring survey. Details of the organisations selected for each survey group in 2008 are provided in Appendix B.

There was some risk of attracting a ‘conditioned response’ due to repeated use of the same organisations’ membership lists for previous sampling, and this was addressed by introducing fresh sampling sources in the 2008 survey to reach broadly the same type of recreational user and land owner/manager. In addition to the inclusion of organisations participating in previous surveys, the 2008 sample included land owners and managers selected at random from subscription lists to leading farming journals (*‘Farmers*

Weekly and *Crops*) held by the Reed Publishing Group, and recreational users selected at random from subscription lists to outdoor recreational activity magazines (*Country Walking*, *Trail*, *Your Horse* and *Bird Watching*) held by the Bauer Media Group.

Table 2.2 shows that just 3% of the 2008 survey recreational user sample claimed to have taken part in previous surveys and just 14% of the 2008 survey land owner/manager sample claimed to have taken part in previous surveys.

Table 2.2: Respondents from 2008 survey that had participated in previous surveys

Have you participated in previous SNH Surveys?	Recreational Users	Land Owners/Managers
Yes	3%	14%
No or 'Not Sure'/No Response	97%	86%
BASE	989	829

2.1.3 Response rates – recreational users

The highest overall response rate from recreational users was achieved during the baseline survey (35%) and the response rate during the three year monitoring survey was relatively consistent; between 31% and 32%. A lower response rate was achieved in the 2008 survey and is believed to be due to a combination of potential respondent fatigue (by repeatedly returning to members of the same organisations over a five year period) and the introduction of fresh sampling sources with less imperative to respond (by comparison with those who received the questionnaire through a membership organisation). The introduction of electronic response options also affected overall response rates – although this was anticipated and accounted for in the sampling method. Table 2.3 shows response rates for each year, while Appendix B details the response rates within each organisation between survey years, and the proportion each organisation makes up of the overall sample in each year. Within the reduced overall response to the 2008 survey, there is some variation between organisations. For example, 42% of Mountaineering Council of Scotland members included in the mailing responded in 2002/03 but only 27% in 2008, while only 14% of Scottish Hill Runners members included in the mailing responded in 2002/03 but 59% of members responded in 2008.

Table 2.3: Recreational user response rates – 2008 survey

	Questionnaires sent	Responses received	% Response rate
Baseline survey 2002/03	3285	1142	35%
Monitoring survey 2005	3400	1044	31%
Monitoring survey 2006	3400	1073	32%
Monitoring survey 2007	3400	1044	31%
2008 survey ¹	4340	989	23%

¹Includes surveys sent out electronically

2.1.4 Response rates - land owners/managers

The highest overall response rate within this group was achieved during the baseline survey (24%) while the response rate remained the same in 2005 and 2006 (20%) with an increase to 23% in the 2007 monitoring survey. In the 2008 survey a response rate of just 16% was achieved. The lower response rate in 2008 is partially explained by the introduction of electronic distribution methods which provided a particularly poor response from land owners/managers (see Table 2.4 and Appendix B).

Table 2.4: Land owner/manager response rates – 2008 survey

	Questionnaires sent	Responses received	% Response rate
Baseline survey 2002/03	4000	958	24%
Monitoring survey 2005	3861	754	20%
Monitoring survey 2006	3840	752	20%
Monitoring survey 2007	3840	881	23%
2008 survey ¹	5100	829	16%

¹Includes surveys sent out electronically

As with recreational users, the response rates within some land owners/managers organisations have varied between years. Full details of response rates within each organisation for each survey year, and the proportion each organisation makes up of the overall sample each year, can be found in Appendix B.

2.1.5. Presentation of data

Some of the questions in the 2008 survey asked respondents to express their views on particular issues using numerical scales, for example from 1 to 4, and these are summarized as mean values in the results section of this report. These values are not

statistically meaningful and this approach is used only to allow broad indicative comparisons within this report, and with earlier reports in the series.

2.2 Scottish Recreation Survey (ScRS)

SNH commissions the Scottish Recreation Survey (ScRS) to provide information on the volume and characteristics of outdoor recreation. This study sets out to monitor people's participation in, and attitudes towards, outdoor recreation in Scotland and is also used to monitor awareness and understanding of the Code and the effect of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003.

A core set of questions for the ScRS is inserted into the monthly Scottish Opinion Survey, a consumer omnibus survey, with a number of additional questions asked every second or third month. The Scottish Opinion Survey consists of face-to-face interviews undertaken with a representative sample of Scotland's adult population in 42 sampling points throughout the country, with quota targets set on the basis of gender, age-group, social class and working status. This methodology ensures that a representative sample of Scotland's adult population, aged 16 years and over, is interviewed each month.

Where relevant, ScRS results (from the 12 months to September 2008) are used in this report to compare with the results of interviews with the general public which were conducted as part of the baseline survey in 2002/03, and to provide context to the findings of the baseline, monitoring and 2008 surveys. The baseline general public surveys were conducted in four waves (September 2002, January, April and July 2003) as part of a larger telephone omnibus survey. ScRS results are also used to provide comparisons with the results for recreational users from the monitoring and 2008 surveys to illustrate differences between active recreational users and members of the general public.

3 RESPONDENT PROFILE

This section of the report presents the respondent profiles of recreational users and land owners/managers from the 2008 survey. Comparison is made to the recreational user and land owner/manager respondent profiles of the 2002/03 baseline survey and where appropriate to ScRS data for the 12 months to September 2008.

3.1 Characteristics of recreational users

3.1.1 Age, gender, location and social characteristics

As shown in Table 3.1, the findings of the 2008 survey are based on a respondent profile of recreational users who are typically mature, predominantly male, car drivers from a socio-economic grouping of middle to top managerial/professional status or retired:

- i. 71% of respondents are 45 or over.
- ii. The ratio of male to female recreational land users is two to one.
(62% of respondents are male).
- iii. 95% of respondents claim to own or have access to a car.
- iv. 55% of respondents claim to belong to an A or B socio-economic household grouping
(as defined by the Market Research Society).
- v. One in four respondents is retired (income/socio-economic grouping unspecified).

A recent study carried out by the Mountaineering Council of Scotland and subscriber data held by Bauer Media Group (for the journals included in the 2008 Survey) support this profile of the recreational user: i.e. mature, relatively wealthy in comparison to the national average and typically within the ABC1 socio-economic group (as opposed to C2DE).

The findings of the baseline survey (Table 3.1.) show that the sampled recreational user profile was similar in terms of age, gender and social characteristics to the 2008 survey. However, a higher proportion (60%) of recreational users taking part in the baseline survey were living in an urban (city/suburb/town) environment), compared to 52% of respondents in the 2008 survey.

Table 3.1 Comparison of recreational user sample profiles
 Base: All respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	Recreational users		ScRS 2008 ¹ %
	2008 survey %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %	
Sex			
Male	62	63	52
Female	38	36	48
Age			
Under 45	29	N/A	N/A
45 or over	71		
Location²			
North	45	N/A	25
East/South	32		32
West	23		43
Type of location			
Urban	18	21	Not asked
Suburban	15	19	
Small town	19	20	
Village	19	17	
Rural	25	23	
Unsure	4	0	
Socio-economic group³			
AB	55	N/A	Not comparable
C1C2DE	19		
Retired (unspecified)	27		
Children under 15			
Yes	25	18	Not asked
No	75	82	
Access to car			
Yes	95	93	Not asked
No	5	7	
Dog owner			
Yes	37	24	Not asked
No	63	76	
Base	989	1142	12182

¹Twelve months data to September 2008. Source: TNS Travel and Tourism

²Based on postcode – not analysed in previous years.

³Derived via self-classification rather than interviewer-led. Not analysed in previous years.

Thirty seven percent of recreational users in the 2008 survey claim to be dog owners compared to 24% of recreational users in the 2002/03 baseline survey. This increased trend is in line with national statistics for dog ownership in the UK and Scotland¹.

The recreational user group sampled in the 2008 survey differs from the wider general public (ScRS 12 months to September 2008) in its greater proportion of AB socio-economic classified households (for example including doctors, scientists, chief executive officers, senior and middle management, architects and solicitors). The 2008 responsible behaviour survey also had a predominance of male respondents and a bias towards residence in the North of Scotland among the recreational user.

A more detailed demographic profile for recreational users, including the profile of respondents for the monitoring survey conducted in 2005, 2006 and 2007, can be found in Appendix C.

3.1.2 Use of the countryside

Table 3.2 summarises the use of the countryside by the recreational users participating in the 2008 survey and the 2002/03 baseline survey. The survey results show that recreational users predominately use the countryside for active pursuits (78% and 79% in 2002/2003).

Table 3.2: Use of the countryside – comparing baseline survey and 2008 survey

Base: All respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	Recreational Users	
	2008 survey %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
Active pursuits	78	79
General leisure	22	20
Rarely	0	0
Base	989	1124

A comparison between the 2002/2003 and 2008 survey results shows very little change in the frequency with which recreational users reported using the countryside (Table 3.3). Most recreational users said that they used the countryside either daily (34-35%) or at least once a week (45%-48%).

In the wider context the ScRS (figures for 12 months to September 2008) identifies that 14% of the general public visit the outdoors for recreational purposes on a daily basis, although 47% said that they use the outdoors for recreation at least once a week. The ScRS identifies that one in five of the general public never visits the outdoors for recreational purposes.

¹The PFMA (pet food manufacturers association) provides statistics on the UK pet population including population size and trends in ownership. According to the PFMA, the number of dogs kept as pets in the UK has risen significantly between the years 2002 and 2008 rising from 6.1m dogs kept in 4.8m households in 2002 to 7.1m dogs in 5.7m households in 2008. According to the PFMA, in 2008 22% of Scottish households keep a dog or dogs as a pet.

Table 3.3: Frequency of using the outdoors for recreation

Base: All respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	Recreational users		General public
	2008 survey %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %	ScRS 2008 ¹ %
Daily	35	34	14
At least once a week	45	48	47
At least once a month	16	15	16
At least every 2-3 months	2	2	9
At least 2-3 times a year	1	1	-
Once a year	< 1	0	8
Never	< 1	0	19
Unsure	0	0	0
Base	989	1145	12182

¹Twelve months data to September 2008 for trips to the outdoors. Source: TNS Travel and Tourism

In the 2008 survey, 97% of recreational users had visited the outdoors for recreational purposes at least once in the last month, with just under half (47%) of recreational users doing so at least eight times and 39% more than ten times.

Table 3.4 compares the type of activities undertaken by recreational users in the month leading up to participation in the baseline survey 2002/03 and the 2008 survey. Long distance walking (over 2 miles), including hill walking and rambling continue to be the most popular activity with 77% of respondents undertaking this activity in 2002/03 and 74% of respondents undertaking this activity in 2008.

In 2008, 62% of respondents claimed to have undertaken shorter walking activities of less than 2 miles in the last month, an increase on 2002/03 when just over half of respondents (54%) claimed to have undertaken shorter walking activities. This appears to have been a developing trend over the last 5 years with the 2005-2007 interim surveys indicating an increase in the percentage of respondents taking shorter walks year on year. This trend was reflected by the ScRS (12 months to September 2008) which showed an increase in the proportion of shorter trips taken closer to home.

Involvement in other active outdoor pursuits appears to have remained fairly constant in terms of percentage of respondents involved over the last 5 years. In response to issues related to camping which were identified by the 2005 monitoring survey, informal camping was introduced as a response option in the 2006 and 2007 monitoring survey and in the 2008 survey questionnaires. The percentage number of respondents claiming to participate in this activity has remained fairly constant over the survey period 2006, 2007 and 2008.

Table 3.4: Type of activity undertaken in the last month¹

Base: All respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	Recreational users	
	2008 survey %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
Longer walks over 2 miles	74	77
Walking for up to 2 miles	62	54
Cycling on paths or tracks	34	36
Cycling on public highway	34	35
Bird watching	24	18
Picnic-ing	17	18
Water sports	16	17
Climbing	13	16
Hill running/orienteering	18	16
Horse riding on public highway	16	}
Horse riding on paths or tracks	17	13
Cycling not on paths or tracks	5	4
Fishing	5	3
Informal camping	12	Not asked
Base	961	1112

¹ Respondents unrestricted in number of responses to this question.

Table 3.5 shows the type of activities undertaken by recreational users on their last visit to the outdoors. Long distance walking (over 2 miles), including hill walking and rambling, is the most popular activity with 49% of respondents undertaking this activity on their last visit to the outdoors in the 2008 survey and 53% of respondents undertaking this activity on their last visit to the outdoors in the 2002/03 baseline survey.

The ScRS (12 months to September 2008) asks respondents about their main activity and other activities during their last trip to the outdoors. Walking was also cited as the most popular activity undertaken by the general public in the ScRS (12 months to September 2008), although among a smaller percentage of respondents.

Table 3.5: Type of activity undertaken on last outdoor recreation trip¹

Base: All respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	Recreational users	
	2008 survey %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
Longer walks over 2 miles	49	53
Walking for up to 2 miles	26	21
Bird watching	15	11
Horse riding on paths or tracks	13	11
Hill running/orienteering	10	8
Cycling on paths or tracks	9	7
Horse riding on public highway	9	11
Picnic-ing	8	7
Cycling on public highway	7	12
Water sports	7	8
Climbing	5	7
Informal camping	4	Not asked
Cycling not on paths or tracks	2	2
Fishing	2	1
Base	961	1112

¹ Respondents unrestricted in number of responses to this question.

The 2008 survey results show a modestly increasing trend in the percentage of respondents using the outdoors with their friends and family (Table 3.6). This increased from 47% in the baseline survey, to 52% in 2005 and 2006 then went up to 54% in 2007 and 55% in 2008. In 2008, 80% of recreational users visiting the outdoors with friends and family on their last visit were on a walk. All other group composition results have remained within 1% and 3% from the baseline survey results, with very little change between the three monitoring surveys and the 2008 survey. Although dog ownership appears to have increased, the percentage of recreational users taking a dog with them on their last visit to the outdoors has remained constant (2008 compared to 2002/03). Almost all of the 14% of respondents who took a dog with them in 2008 were on a walk and 29% of all respondents undertaking a walk of less than 2 miles on their last visit said they had a dog with them.

In contrast, the ScRS (12 months to September 2008), shows that a higher proportion of the general public visited the outdoors on their own (41%) but similarly 58% of the general public were with friends or family. 41% of the general public had a dog with them when they visited the outdoors in the 4 week period before the survey was conducted.

Table 3.6: Group composition on last outdoor recreation trip¹

	Recreational users	
	2008 survey %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
I was on my own	24	25
With friends or family members	55	47
With children aged 15 or under	9	8
On a club organised activity	18	20
With an outdoor activity centre or educational centre	2	3
Taking part in a sponsored event	1	1
With a guide or other commercial provider	1	2
Taking part in a competitive event	4	5
Taking part in an educational outing	1	2
With a dog	14	13
None of these	1	1
Base	961	1106

Base: All respondents ('non responses' excluded)

¹ Respondents unrestricted in number of responses to this question.

Table 3.7 shows that there has been very little change in the types of countryside used by recreational users on their last visit to the outdoors in the five year interval between the baseline survey 2002/03 and the 2008 survey. A 4% increase in use of mountain and moorland locations cannot be accounted for by any changes in the sample profile between 2002/03 and 2008 but could possibly have been influenced by the location of the sample base in 2008 (see section 3.1).

Regionally there are differences in the type of countryside used by recreational users on their last visit to the outdoors in 2008. For instance, 41% of recreational users residing in the west had accessed mountain and moorland terrain on their last visit to the outdoors as opposed to 37% in the north and 34% in the south and east of Scotland. 28% of recreational users residing in the north had accessed forest or woodland on their last visit to the outdoors as opposed to 22% in the west and 20% in the east and south of Scotland. One in five respondents residing in the east and south of Scotland had accessed farmland on their last visit to the outdoors compared to 15% in the north and 12% in the west.

The ScRS (12 months to September 2008) shows that the general public are more likely to visit a local park or other open space – 49% of the general public did so on their last trip outdoors for recreational purposes with just 8% of respondents accessing mountain and moorland terrain on their last visit outdoors, 9% visiting farmland and 17% visiting forest or woodland areas.

Table 3.7: Type of countryside last visited

Base: All respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	Recreational users	
	2008 Survey %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
Mountains or moorland	37	41
Forest or woodland	23	21
Farmland	16	13
River or riverbank, loch or loch shore	10	12
Coastal – beach/cliff	7	7
Country park or other managed site	6	6
Base	957	1110

Table 3.8 shows that in the five year period from 2002/03 to 2008 there has been an increase in the use of off-road tracks and routes and access through or within fields. In 2008 65% of respondents said that on their last outdoor recreation visit they had used off-road tracks and routes and 28% said that they had taken access through or within fields.

The monitoring surveys in 2005 to 2007 suggest that this increase in access through or within fields happened immediately after the introduction of the access legislation and that the individual 2005, 2006 and 2007 results were fairly consistent with the 2008 results.

Regionally there is a difference in the type of surface used. Three out of four (75%) respondents to the 2008 survey residing in the west said that they used off-road tracks and routes when last visiting the outdoors for recreational purposes compared to 65% in the north and 63% in the east and south of Scotland. One in three (33%) respondents residing in the east and south of Scotland said that they had taken access through or within fields on their last visit to the outdoors for recreational purposes compared to 27% in the west and 23% in the north.

Typically, the general public use paths for recreation – with 75% of respondents to the ScRS (12 months to September 2008) claiming to have used a path or network of paths on their last visit to the outdoors for recreational purposes.

Table 3.8: Type of surface used on last outdoor recreation trip¹

Base: All respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	Recreational users	
	2008 survey %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
On off-road tracks and routes	65	57
On footpaths	60	56
Across open country and moorland with no paths	36	39
On tarmac roads	35	35
Through or within fields	28	17
Flat water	7	7
White water	4	5
Other	7	6
Base	956	1111

¹ Respondents unrestricted in number of responses to this question.

Table 3.9 describes the type of fields entered by recreational users in 2008 on their last visit to the outdoors for recreational purposes compared to 2002/03. It should be noted that there are differences in the survey methodologies which will directly impact on the response to this question – i.e. the timing of the survey completion (all year round in 2002/03 and between August and November in 2008) and multiple versus single responses. As detailed in the almost all respondents to the 2008 postal survey gave more than one answer even though just one response was requested, thereby making it a multiple answer question.

Table 3.9: Description of fields entered on last outdoor recreation trip

Base: Respondents who accessed fields only ('non responses' excluded)

	Recreational users	
	2008 survey ¹ %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
Used for grazing but no animals present	30	32
Contained sheep	29	16
Contained cattle	14	11
Contained arable crops (wheat, oats, barley)	15	4
Contained sheep and lambs	6	10
Contained cows and calves	6	5
Contained grass for hay/silage	7	5
None of the above	11	16
Base	266	256

¹ Almost all respondents to the 2008 postal survey gave more than one answer even though just one response was requested – thereby making it a multiple answer question.

Table 3.10 describes the routes taken through fields by recreational users in 2008 on their last outdoor recreation visit, compared to 2002/03. The findings suggest that just 5% of respondents took the shortest possible route across a field in 2008 compared to 15% in 2002/03. The monitoring surveys conducted in 2005, 2006 and 2007 indicate that

this apparent change happened gradually over a period of time.

Table 3.10: Routes taken through fields on last outdoor recreation trip

Base: Respondents who accessed fields only ('non responses' excluded)

	Recreational users	
	2008 survey %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
Follow a path or track	39	45
Go around the field margin or edge	40	37
Take the shortest route across the field	5	15
Follow tractor drills (tram lines)	9	2
Other	6	0
Base	265	255

In the 2008 survey, two additional questions were incorporated into the original questionnaire to address the relationship between land management operations and the impact on public access. Table 3.11 identifies the types of land management operations encountered by recreational users when accessing the outdoors for recreational purposes. The most common land management activity encountered by recreational users is tree felling and timber extraction – 89% of respondents said they had come across this activity when using the outdoors for recreation. Whilst just 23% of recreational users said that they accessed forest and woodland on their last visit to the outdoors (ref. Table 3.7), the findings of the 2008 survey suggest that a high proportion of recreational users do typically pass through or by woodland or forest areas in their course of access to the outdoors over time i.e. other than on the last visit to the outdoors. The next four most common activities encountered are ploughing, silage and hay making, combine harvesting and supplemented outdoor feeding. Shooting activities are also frequently encountered by recreational users. Forty nine percent of recreational users reported encountering deer stalking activities when accessing the outdoors for recreation or leisure activities.

Table 3.11: Land management activities encountered in 2008¹

Base: All Respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	2008 survey %
Tree felling and timber extraction	89
Ploughing, planting and re-seeding	69
Production of winter forage for livestock e.g. silage, hay	61
Supplemented outdoor feeding of livestock	59
Combine harvesting	54
Drainage and re-hedging	50
Deer stalking	49
Outdoor lambing	43
Controlled or strip grazing using temporary stock fencing	41
Grouse shooting	38
Pheasant or partridge shooting	33
Sheep dipping	20
Outdoor calving	18
Outdoor sheep shearing	18
Other management activities	7
Base	963

¹ Respondents unrestricted in number of responses to this question.

Responses to the effect of land management activities on public access and enjoyment of the countryside are presented in Section 4.8 *'Problems and their effects as encountered by different groups'*.

3.1.3 Confidence in use of the outdoors

Table 3.12 summarises confidence in use of the outdoors reported by recreational users. There has been an increase in the mean comfort levels from 6.28 in the baseline survey to 6.55 in the 2008 survey. The percentage of respondents in the top two comfort categories has increased from 83% in the baseline to 91% in the 2008 survey, indicating that recreational users are now marginally more comfortable using the outdoors than they were five years ago.

Table 3.12: *Comfort levels for recreational users when visiting the outdoors*

Base: All Respondents ('non responses' excluded). See note on methodology at 2.1.5.

	Recreational users	
	2008 survey %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
Very comfortable 7	75	63
6	16	20
5	5	8
4	2	3
3	1	3
2	1	1
Not at all comfortable 1	1	1
Mean	6.55	6.28
Base	977	1045

3.1.4 *Membership and affiliation to outdoor recreational clubs and organisations*

Table 3.13 shows membership and affiliation to outdoor recreation clubs and organisations among the respondents to the 2008 survey. Just under one in three (30%) are members or affiliated to the Mountaineering Council of Scotland and 29% are members of the National Trust for Scotland. Although RSPB members were not specifically targeted in 2008, 17% of the recreational users in the sample were members of the RSPB.

Twenty two percent of recreational users were members of other organisations not listed in the questionnaire. Other organisations mentioned by at least 1% of the sample were; the British Mountaineering Council, Historic Scotland and the Mountain Bothies Association.

A key difference in the membership profile in 2008 compared to 2002/03 is a lower representation of members of the Ramblers' Association Scotland and the Cyclist's Touring Club/CTC Scotland.

Table 3.13: Membership of clubs and organisations¹

Base: All Respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	2008 survey %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
Mountaineering Council of Scotland	30	32
National Trust for Scotland	29	27
RSPB	17	16
British Horse Society Scotland	15	14
The Ramblers Association Scotland	13	24
Scottish Canoe Association	12	14
Scottish Wildlife Trust	9	8
John Muir Trust	9	12
Scottish Orienteering Association	8	9
Scottish Hill Runners	7	4
Scottish Cyclist's Union/CTC Scotland	7	14
Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society	5	10
Other organisations	22	24
Base	989	1139

¹Responses were unrestricted in number of responses to this question.

3.2 Characteristics of land owners and managers

3.2.1 Status, experience, hectares managed, location

Table 3.14 details the profile of land owners and managers from both the baseline survey 2002/03 and the 2008 survey. The profile of respondents for both surveys is highly weighted towards land owners and managers with larger holdings when comparing the 2008 and 2002/2003 survey samples with the national census.

According to the 2007 Scottish Government Census profile for agricultural holdings (see Table C14 in Appendix B), just 28% of holdings in Scotland in 2007 is larger than 50 hectares. In the 2008 survey sample, 80% of respondents manage holdings larger than 50 hectares. 30% of holdings in the 2003 Scottish Government Census were larger than 50 hectares compared to the baseline survey sample of 83%.

It is reasonable to assume that land owners and managers of larger holdings are likely to have more exposure to public access and potentially public access issues. The problems and experiences identified in this report (both for 2002/2003 and 2008) could therefore possibly be overstated in terms of numbers of land owners and managers if used to project against all land owners and managers in Scotland.

Table 3.14: Land owners/managers sample profile

Base: All respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	Land managers/owners	
	2008 survey %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
Status		
Owner	68	72
Tenant	21	17
Agent/Manager	11	11
Location¹		
North	51	N/A
East/South	37	
West	12	
Type of location		
Urban fringe	9	9
Rural	78	82
Mix	14	9
Size of farm/estate		
Less than 50 hectares	20	17
51-125 hectares	20	15
126-400 hectares	33	23
More than 400 hectares	28	46
Experience as owner/manager		
Less than 5 years	5	3
6-10 years	8	7
11-15 years	8	11
16-20 years	10	11
More than 20 years	70	68

¹Based on postcode – not analysed in previous years.

Several other features of the land manager sample participating in the 2008 survey should also be noted. According to the 2007 Scottish Government Census profile for agricultural holdings, 57% of holdings are based in the north of Scotland², compared to 51% of the profile of land owners and managers participating in the 2008 survey. There are slightly more tenant land managers in the 2008 Survey compared to the baseline survey 2002/03. Finally 23% of the land owners and managers participating in the 2008 survey manage land within proximity of urban areas either on the urban fringe or in a mixed urban and rural area. This is a slight increase compared to the baseline survey 2002/03.

The majority of land owners and managers participating in the Baseline Survey 2002/03 and the 2008 Survey have more than 20 years experience in land management.

A more detailed demographical profile for land owners and managers (including the profile of respondents for the monitoring surveys conducted in 2005, 2006 and 2007) can

² Statistics taken from the Economic Report on Scottish Agriculture – 2008 Edition and 2003 Edition (Source: Scottish Government www.scotland.gov.uk)

be found in Appendix C.

3.2.2 Business and management activities

Table 3.15 shows the main business activity of the land owners and managers participating in the 2008 survey and the baseline survey 2002/03. A key difference in the sample profiles is a significantly higher proportion of land owners and managers in the 2008 survey who state that arable farming – cereals, crops or vegetables - is their main business activity. This difference has been introduced because of the inclusion of land managers and owners in Scotland who subscribe to key farming journals such as 'Farmers Weekly' and 'Crops'. 29% of holdings in Scotland produce crops although only 10% of Scottish land is under tillage³.

Over two-thirds³ of Scottish land is 'rough grazing' with just 30% being intensively managed for crops or livestock purposes. Management for purposes such as upland grazing, shooting and forestry makes up a smaller proportion of main business enterprise in the 2008 survey (24%) compared to the 2002/03 baseline survey (38%).

There is a possibility therefore that the access issues raised by owners and managers of intensively farmed land will be overstated if the findings are used as a comparison against all land managers and owners in Scotland.

Table 3.15: Land owners/managers main business activity

Base: All respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	Land owners/managers	
	2008 survey %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
Lowland livestock – beef, dairy, sheep	35	31
Arable – cereal, crops, vegetables	30	17
Upland grazing	18	25
Forestry	4	6
Shooting estate	3	7
Fishing	3	4
Tourism	3	3
Recreation	<1	1
Other	4	5
Base	820	921

Table 3.16 shows other business activities undertaken. When considering all business activities, 60% of land managers and owners taking part in the 2008 survey have lowland livestock enterprises, 53% have arable enterprises, 32% manage upland grazing, 23% manage forestry, 20% manage shooting estates, 16% manage fishing enterprises, 16% manage tourism enterprises and 14% manage recreational enterprises on their land. No equivalent data are available for 2002/03.

³ Statistics taken from the Economic Report on Scottish Agriculture – 2008 Edition (Source: Scottish Government www.scotland.gov.uk)

Table 3.16: Secondary business activities of land owners/managers ¹

Base: All respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	2008 survey %
Lowland livestock – beef, dairy, sheep	25
Arable – cereal, crops, vegetables	23
Upland grazing	15
Forestry	19
Shooting estate	17
Fishing	13
Tourism	16
Recreation	14
Other	5
Base	820

¹ Respondents unrestricted in number of responses to this question.

In the 2008 survey, two additional questions were incorporated into the original questionnaire to address the relationship between access and impacts on land management operations. Table 3.17 identifies the types of operations carried out by land owners and managers. The most common land management activity undertaken by land owners and managers is cultivation i.e. ploughing, planting and re-seeding – 72% of respondents said that this activity took place on their land. Other activities and operations undertaken by the majority of land owners and managers were; production of winter forage, supplemented outdoor feeding, harvesting and drainage/re-hedging. 70% of land owners and land managers said that they produced winter forage on their land, 63% said that they provided outdoor supplemented feeding for livestock, 60% said that they carried out harvesting activities and 53% said that they carried out drainage and re-hedging activities.

Responses to the effect of public access to the countryside on land owners'/managers' ability to carry out land management operations are presented in Section 4.8. 'Problems encountered by the different groups and the effects of these problems'.

Table 3.17: Land management activities undertaken¹ – 2008 survey

Base: All Respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	2008 survey %
Ploughing, planting and re-seeding	72
Production of winter forage for livestock e.g. silage, hay	70
Supplemented outdoor feeding of livestock	63
Harvesting e.g. cereals, root and fruit crops	60
Drainage and re-hedging	53
Outdoor calving	42
Outdoor lambing	41
Outdoor sheep shearing	26
Sheep dipping	24
Pheasant or partridge shooting	23
Tree felling and timber extraction	22
Controlled or strip grazing using temporary stock fencing	21
Deer stalking	20
Grouse shooting	8
Other management activities	8
Base	817

¹ Respondents unrestricted in number of responses to this question.

3.2.3 Use of land for recreational purposes

In the 2008 survey and 2005–2007 monitoring surveys, but not the baseline survey 2002/ 03, land owners and managers were asked if the land they manage is used by the general public for recreational purposes – including leisure activities such as dog walking or picnic-ing as well as more active pursuits such as canoeing, mountain biking or horse-riding. Sixty five per cent of land owners and managers said that the land they manage is used for recreational purposes by the general public. This compares to 70% in 2005 and 68% in 2005 and 2006.

Table 3.18: Land used for recreation – 2008 survey

Base: All Respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	2008 survey %
Yes	65
No	35
Base	815

Table 3.19 shows the type of recreational activities undertaken by the general public on or adjacent to the land managed by the land owners and managers participating in the 2008 survey. Short walks of up to two miles are the most popular form of recreation activity undertaken by the general public on the land managed by 57% of land owners and managers.

Twenty four percent of land owners or managers have informal camping by the general public occurring on the land that they manage (either all year round or seasonally) and

around one in three land owners and managers have activities such as horse riding and cycling taking place on or adjacent to the land they manage either all year round or seasonally.

Thirty eight percent of land owners or managers have the general public participating in bird watching either seasonally or all year round on the land that they manage and one in three land owners or managers have the general public picnic-ing on the land that they manage.

Table 3.19: *Recreational activities undertaken by the public on your land*¹

Base: All respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	Land owners/managers	
	All year round %	Seasonally %
Walking for up to 2 miles	53	4
Bird watching	29	9
Cycling on classified roads through or adjacent to land	26	4
Cycling off-road on paths or tracks	26	6
Horse riding off-road on paths or tracks	25	7
Horse riding on classified roads through or adjacent to land	24	5
Longer walks including hill walking and rambling	22	5
Picnic-ing	13	17
Informal camping	10	14
Fishing	10	19
Cycling not using paths or tracks	9	4
Water sports	7	6
Climbing	5	2
Other	3	2
Base	829	829

¹ Respondents unrestricted in number of responses to this question.

Sixty five percent of land owners and managers who said that walking for up to 2 miles occurs on their land, said that this happens most days, whereas longer walking activities are less likely to happen most days (41%) and more likely to happen occasionally (20%).

Apart from walking for up to 2 miles, other activities are more likely to happen only at weekends or occasionally rather than on most days, although one in three land owners are experiencing cycling, fishing, horse-riding and bird watching activities on their land most days.

3.2.4 *Services or facilities offered by land owners and managers*

In the 2008 survey and the monitoring survey 2005-2007, land owners and managers were asked what recreational services and facilities they offered for use by the general public who wished to access the outdoors.

The findings show that the majority of land owners and managers do not provide services or facilities specifically for the general public wishing to access the outdoors. The most popular facilities or services are self-catering accommodation and organised visits for

school groups but these are only provided by a small percentage of land owners and managers.

Table 3.20: *Recreational services or facilities offered by land owners and managers*¹

Base: All respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	Survey 2008 %	Monitoring Survey 2007 %	Monitoring Survey 2006 %	Monitoring Survey 2005 %
Self catering	14	20	16	18
Organised school visits	12	13	14	15
Caravan and camping	6	5	5	7
Ranger service	5	6	6	7
Riding stables/livery	5	6	8	8
Bed and Breakfast	4	5	5	5
Café or restaurant	4	5	4	7
Farm shop	3	3	1	3
Bothy	2	2	2	2
Golf course	2	1	2	2
Cycle hire	1	2	2	2
Bunk house	<1	1	0	1
Farm open days (for fee)	<1	1	0	1
No services/facilities	62	57	57	53
Base	811	878	745	754

¹ Respondents unrestricted in number of responses to this question.

3.2.5 *Extent of advice and support received for improving access*

Less than one fifth (18%) of land owners or managers participating in the 2008 survey said that they had received support or advice from a public body about managing or improving access to their land. This compares with approximately one in three land owners and managers participating in the monitoring surveys of 2005-2007.

4 KEY RESEARCH FINDINGS

This section of the report examines the findings from each of the target audiences; recreational users, land owners and managers and where appropriate the general public.

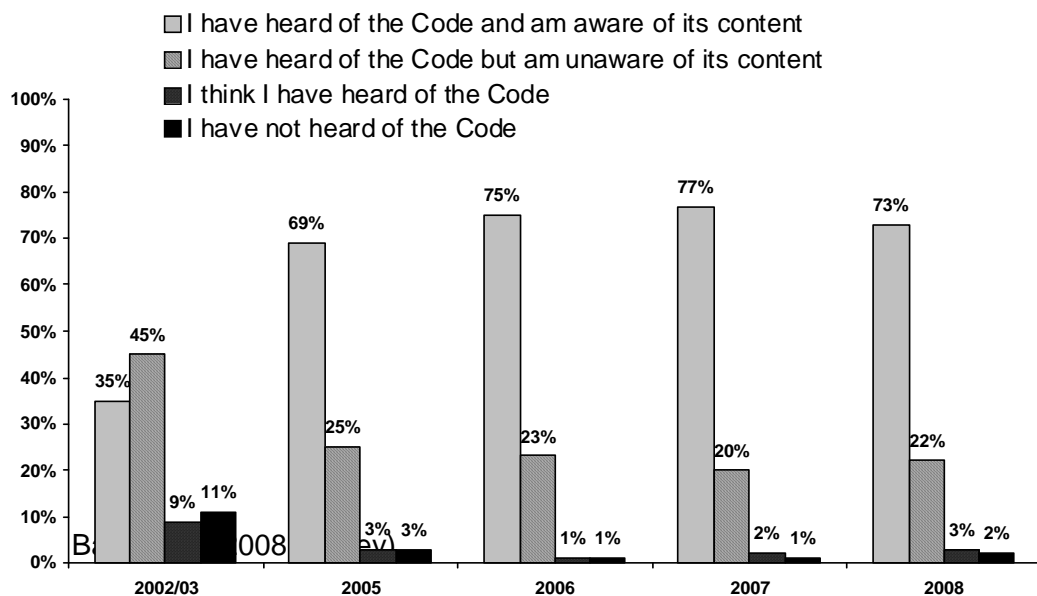
4.1 Awareness of the Code

This section compares awareness of the draft Code, established by the 2002/03 baseline survey, with awareness of the Code in the 2005-2007 and the 2008 survey, three years since the Code formally came into existence in 2005. Over the five year period 2003 to 2008, SNH has actively promoted awareness of the Code to land owners/managers, members of outdoor recreation organisations and the general public through an access education campaign.

4.1.1 Awareness of the Code among recreational users

Awareness of the Code and its content increased dramatically between 2002/03 and 2005 when the Code was approved by Scottish Parliament (shown in Figure 4.1). Between 2005 and 2007, awareness of the Code and its content has increased steadily and by 2007, some 77% of recreational users claimed to have heard of the Code and to be aware of its contents.

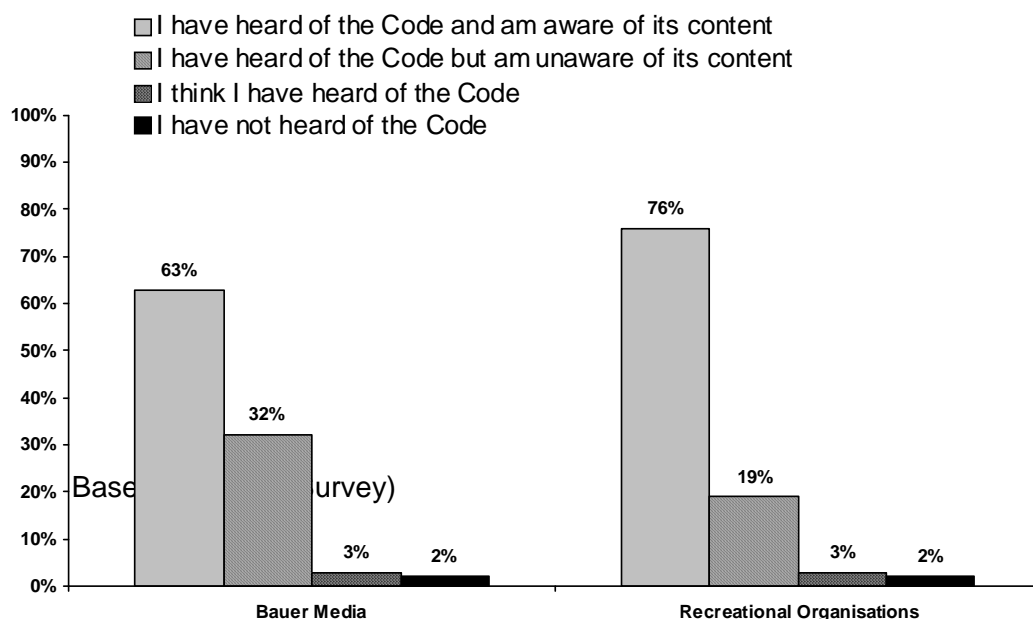
Figure 4.1: Changes in recreational users' awareness of the Code



Awareness of the Code and its contents dips slightly to 73% in 2008. This may to some degree reflect the introduction of respondents who subscribe to outdoor recreation publications (Bauer Media) alongside respondents from outdoor recreation organisations. Awareness of the Code and its contents among this sub-group of subscribers to recreational magazines is lower than among members of outdoor recreation organisations (as shown in figure 4.2). Thirty two percent of respondents selected from the Bauer Media subscription list claimed to be unaware of the contents of the Code, although the majority of these respondents are active users of the outdoors for recreational pursuits. In the 2008 survey, a question was added to identify respondents who had participated in previous SNH responsible behaviour surveys. When the 3% of recreational users who had participated in previous surveys are excluded from the findings, awareness of the Code and its contents drops slightly to 72% (i.e. among the

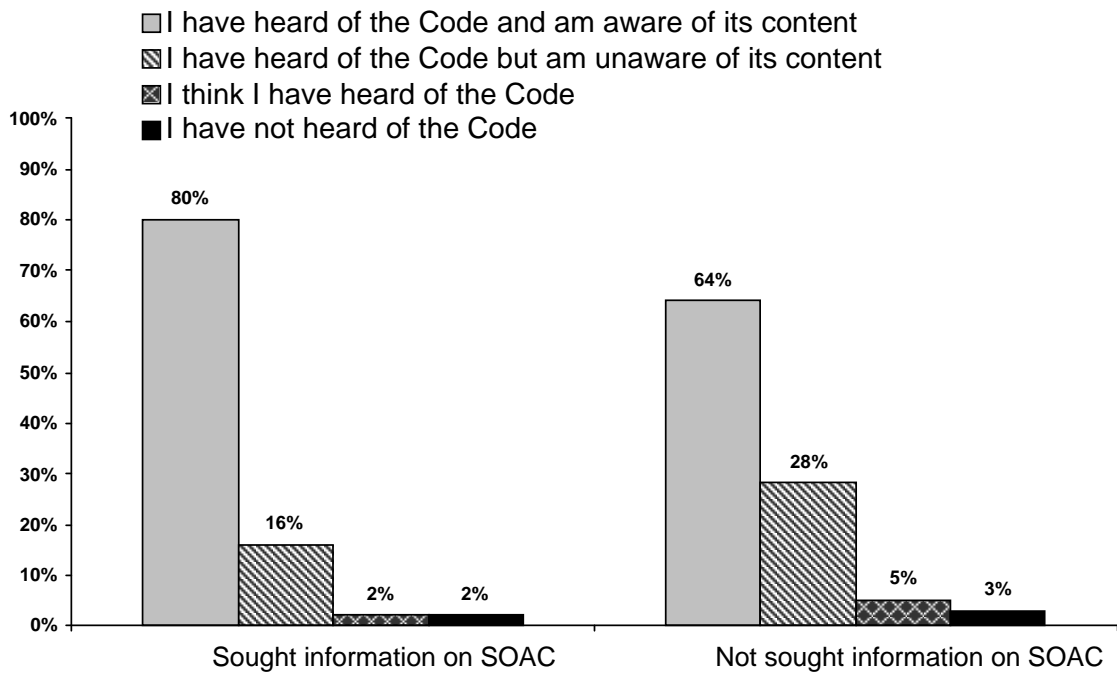
remaining 97% of respondents who had not participated in previous surveys).

Figure 4.2: Comparison of recreational groups and magazine subscribers' awareness of the Code (2008)



Just over half (52%) of respondents to the 2008 survey said that they had actively sought information on their rights and responsibilities when using the outdoors. Figure 4.3 shows that recreational users who have actively sought information are more aware of the Code and its contents than those who have not. Most typically, recreational users source this information from Tourist Information Offices or an information office located at a visitor attraction such as a Country Park. A similar correlation exists between 'awareness of the Code and its contents' and whether or not respondents had been sent information about rights and responsibilities regarding access to the outdoors. Fifty three percent of recreational users in the 2008 survey said that they had been sent information without asking for it – most typically through a formal recreation group or organisation such as the Mountaineering Council for Scotland or Ramblers Association Scotland. Eighty percent of respondents who said they had received information without asking for it said that they were aware of the Code and its contents.

Figure 4.3: Awareness of the Code among respondents who had actively sought information



Base: 948 (2008 Survey)

4.1.2 Awareness of the Code among the general public

Both the baseline survey 2002/03 and the ScRS (figures for 12 months to September 2008) asked members of the general public if they had heard of the Code. Table 4.1 shows that 93% of the general public responding to the baseline survey 2002/03 claimed not to have heard of the proposed Code, but results from the ScRS (figures for 12 months to September 2008) show that by 2008, 44% of the general public claimed to have definitely heard of the Code, with a further 17% claiming that they may have heard of it.

When respondents to the ScRS (figures for 12 months to September 2008) were asked if they had seen a copy of the Code (either the full Code or the summary), only 11% said yes compared to 86% who had not.

Table 4.1: General public's awareness of the Code

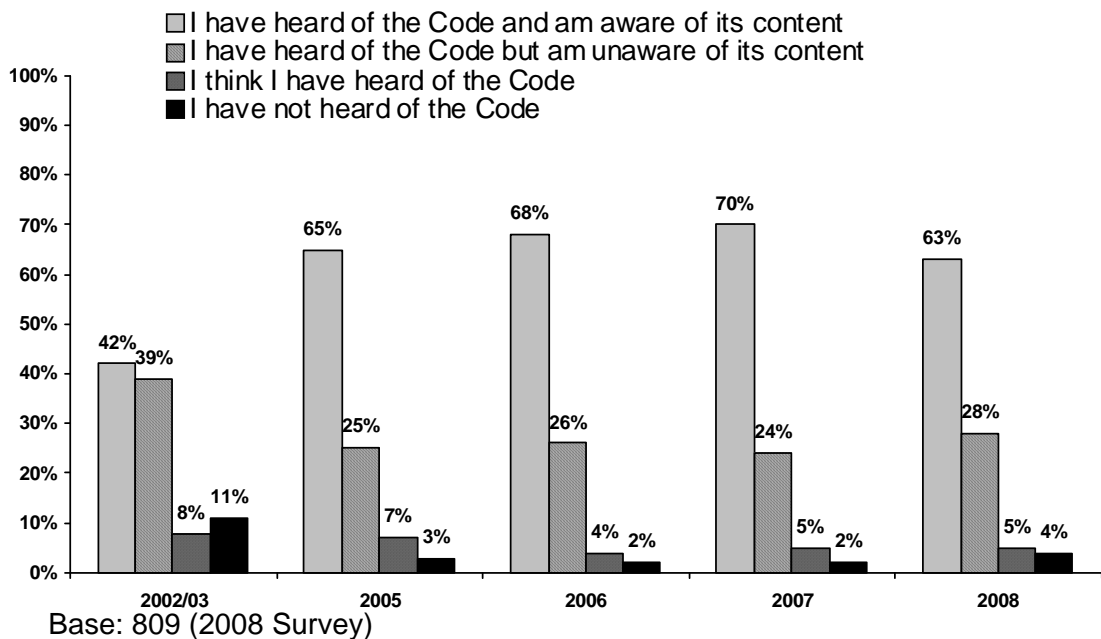
	Baseline survey 2002/03 %	October 2007 – September 2008 ScRS ¹ %
Yes, definitely	4	44
Yes, think so	3	17
No/definitely not	93	37
Unsure/don't know	1	2
Base	4036	4045

¹ Base: All respondents – source TNS Travel and Tourism

4.1.3 Land owners/managers' awareness of the Code

Awareness of the Code and its content also increased dramatically among land owners and managers between 2002/03 and 2005, (see Figure 4.4). Between 2005 and 2007 awareness continued to increase steadily, with 70% of land owners/managers claiming to be aware of its contents by 2007. Awareness dips to 63% in 2008 which probably reflects the introduction of respondents subscribing to land management publications (Reed Publishing) alongside those belonging to land management organisations. Of the 381 land owners and managers in the 2008 survey who were sourced from the Reed Publishing subscription, 51% said that they were aware of the Code's contents, compared to 67% of land owners and managers in the 2008 survey who were sourced from the land management organisations.

Figure 4.4: Changes in land owners'/managers' awareness of the Code



In the 2008 survey, a question was added to identify respondents who had participated in previous SNH responsible behaviour surveys. When the 14% of land owners and managers who had participated in previous surveys are excluded, awareness of the Code and its contents drops further to 59%.

4.2 Perceptions of who the Code is aimed at

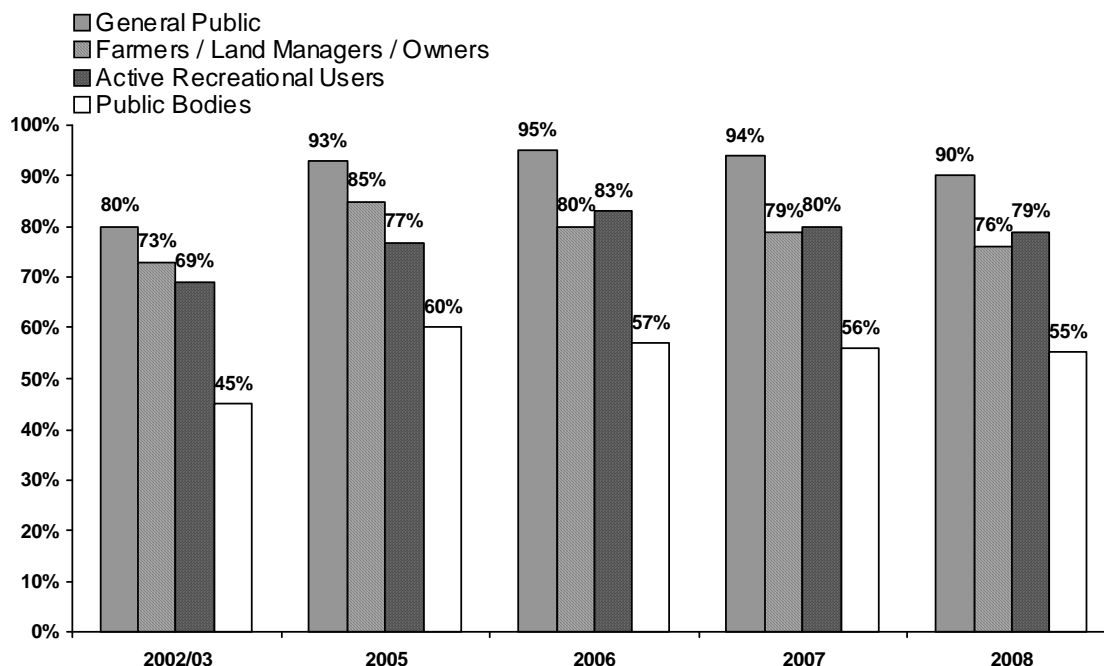
Both the baseline survey 2002/03 and the 2008 survey asked recreational users and land owners/managers to indicate who they perceived the draft Code/Code to be aimed at. Survey respondents were allowed to select as many audiences as they thought applicable.

4.2.1 Recreational users' perceptions of who the Code is aimed at

Perceptions of who the Code is aimed at have remained relatively constant from 2002/03 to 2008 as shown in Figure 4.5. In 2008, the general public continues to be perceived as a target audience by the vast majority of recreational users who claimed to be aware of the Code. 76% of those aware of the Code in the 2008 survey consider farmers, land owners and land managers to be a target of the Code. 79% of those aware of the Code in the 2008 survey consider active recreational users to be a target audience. The percentage of recreational user respondents considering public bodies

to be the target of the Code has remained quite low over the five year period, moving from 45% in 2002/03 to 55% in 2008.

Figure 4.5: Changes in recreational users' perceptions of audiences for the Code¹



¹Responses were unrestricted in number of responses to this question.

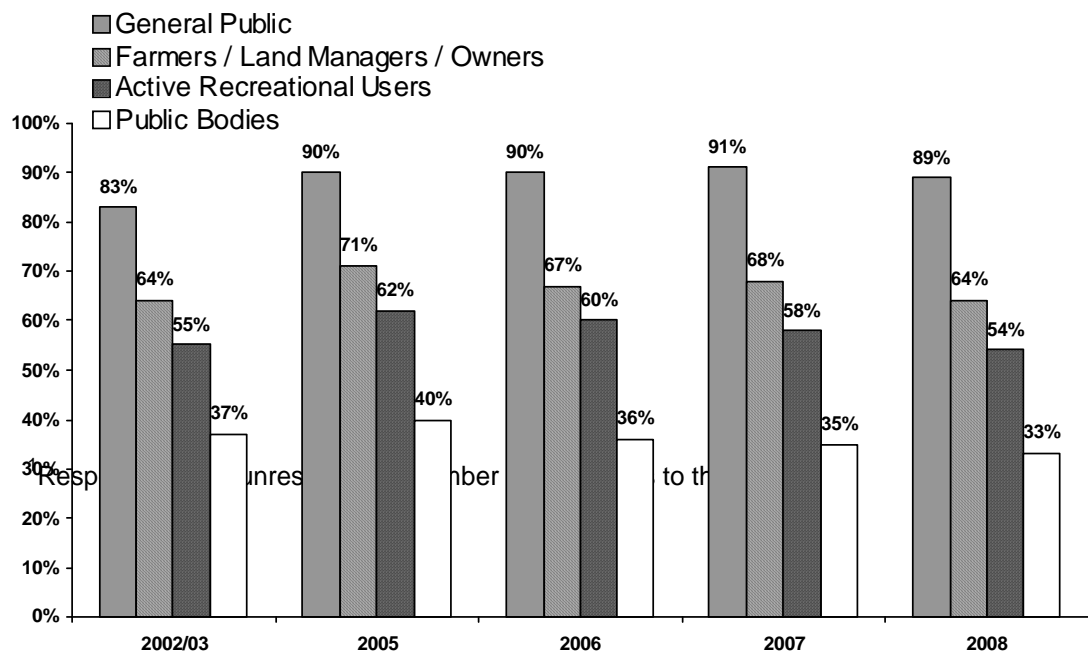
4.2.2 General public's perceptions of who the Code is aimed at

Perceptions of audiences of the Code among the general public have remained relatively constant from 2002/03 to 2008. The results of the ScRS (figures for 12 months to September 2008) are similar to those reported by recreational users, in that the majority of respondents who had heard of the Code (86%) consider that the Code is aimed at the general public. Only a minority of ScRS participants who have heard of the Code consider that the Code is aimed at active recreational users or farmers/land owners/managers. Overall, just 21% of ScRS respondents who had heard of the Code considered the Code to be aimed at active recreational users, 17% consider the Code is aimed at farmers/land owners/managers, and only 7% consider it to be aimed at public bodies. When comparing responses from the ScRS with the responses of recreational users participating in the 2008 survey, it should be noted that in the ScRS, responses are based on 'top of the mind recall' rather than recognition of specified target groups as in the responsible behaviour surveys.

4.2.3 Land owners/managers' perceptions of who the Code is aimed at

Figure 4.6 shows that there has been little change in these perceptions among land owners and managers claiming to be aware of the draft Code/Code over the period 2002/03 to 2008.

Figure 4.6: Changes in land owners/managers' perceptions of who the Code is aimed at¹



The majority of land owners and managers who claim awareness of the Code both prior to and since its approval by Scottish Parliament perceive that it is aimed at the general public. However, just two out of three land owners and managers (64%) who claim awareness of the Code in the 2008 survey perceive it to be aimed at farmers, land owners and managers – i.e. one in three (36%) do not consider the Code to be aimed at themselves. Just over half (54%) consider the Code to be aimed at active recreational users and one in three (33%) consider the Code to be aimed at public bodies.

4.3 Awareness and perception of key responsibilities within the Code

The Code provides guidance on responsible behaviour for both recreational users and land owners and managers. The key responsibilities of recreational users are:

- i. Respecting people's privacy and peace.
- ii. Always acting with consideration, awareness and responsibility.
- iii. Respecting the needs of other people enjoying the outdoors.
- iv. Helping land managers to work safely and effectively.
- v. Respecting reasonable and practicable advice to limit access due to land management operations.
- vi. Caring for the environment.
- vii. Keeping dogs under proper control.
- viii. Taking special care when organising a group or event.

The key responsibilities of land owners and managers are:

- i. Not obstructing the public from accessing the outdoors responsibly.
- ii. Not deterring or discouraging the public from accessing the outdoors responsibly.
- iii. Keeping any requests to limit access to the minimum required for the land management operation.
- iv. Informing the public of the extent and duration of the management operation.
- v. Providing or suggesting alternative routes where appropriate.
- vi. Planning and conducting land management operations in ways that minimise.

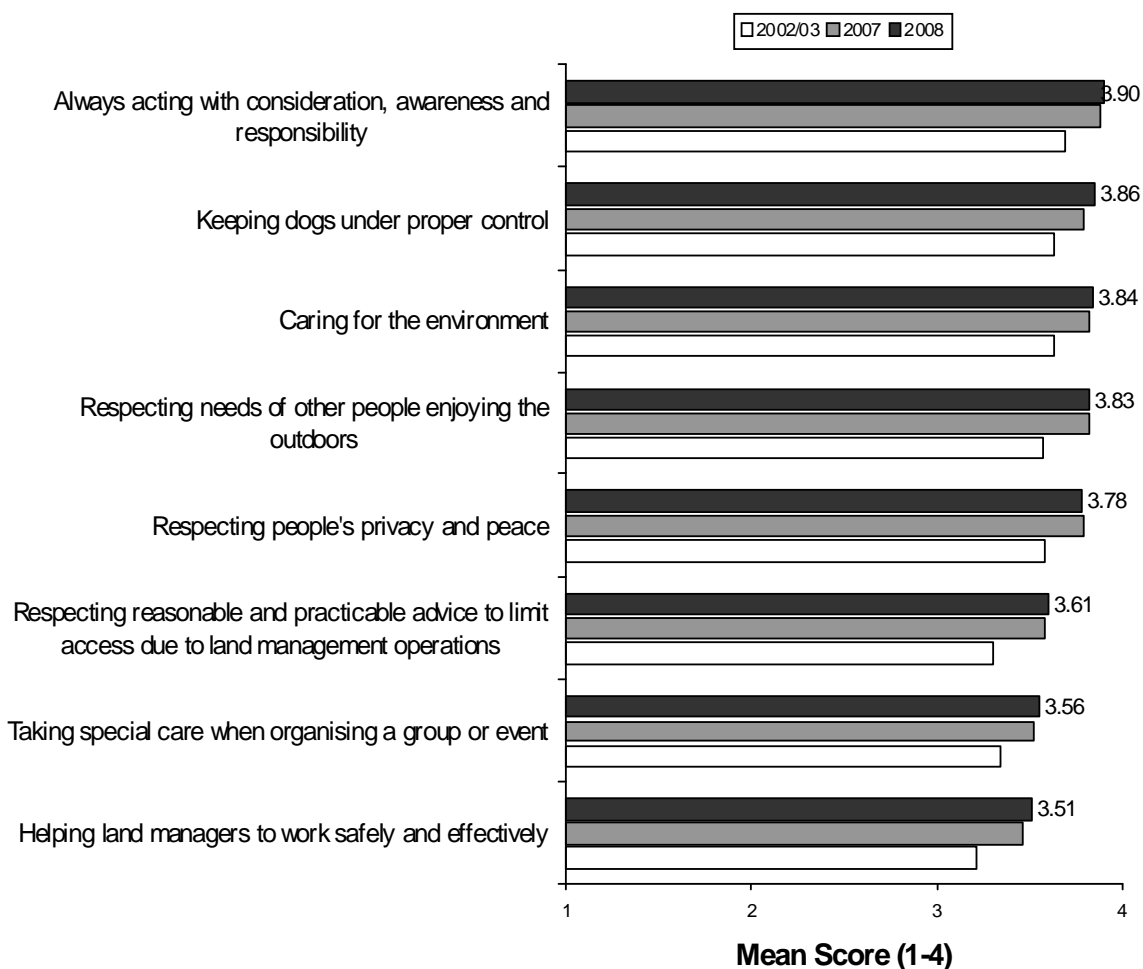
- interference with people exercising access rights.
- vii. Providing clear and constructive advice to the organisers of events.
- viii. Working in partnership with local authorities, recreational organisations and public bodies.

4.3.1 Recreational users' awareness of responsibilities

Recreational users were asked how aware or unaware they were of the various responsibilities that come with access as explained in the Code. Awareness of responsibilities among recreational users was measured using a four point descriptive scale comprising; 'very aware' (4); 'quite aware' (3); 'not very aware' (2) and 'not at all aware' (1). For the purposes of analysis, the data is shown as a mean score based on these assigned values of one to four. The mean scores for the 2008 survey are compared with the mean scores for the baseline survey 2002/03 (i.e. the change over five years) and also the 2007 monitoring survey (i.e. the change over one year).

Figure 4.7 shows that in 2002/03, recreational users displayed a high awareness of the responsibilities of visitors to the land under the proposed access code. In 2008, recreational users, as a group, have increasingly become 'very aware' of the responsibilities that go with access to the outdoors.

Figure 4.7: Awareness of responsibilities – recreational users (see note on methodology at 2.1.5).



4.3.2 General publics' awareness of responsibilities

The general public participating in the ScRS (2005, 2006, 2007 and 12 months to September 2008) who claimed to have heard of the Code were asked to indicate what they thought it asked people accessing the outdoors for recreation to do. Unlike the recreational user survey which was based on responses to shown statements, respondents to the ScRS were not given prompts – and their responses were therefore based on recalled perceptions. Responses were categorised into a number of pre-coded responses, but these were not revealed to the respondents.

Table 4.2 shows the categorised responses of the general public's perceived responsibilities regarding access to the outdoors for recreational purposes. Results are shown across a four year period – 2005 to 2008 (figures from 12 months to September 2008). Whilst the figures show that there has been a growing awareness of responsibilities among the general public who have heard of the Code over the last four years, some responsibilities continue to be less well recognised by the general public (i.e. in terms of 'top of the mind' recall). In particular, the need to keep dogs under proper control and respecting privacy and peace – just one in four respondents from the ScRS (12 months to September 2008) mentioned this as one of the responsibilities linked to access rights.

Table 4.2: Awareness of responsibilities – general public¹

Base: Respondents who have heard of Code

	2008 ScRS ² %	2007 ScRS %	2006 ScRS %	2005 ScRS %
Care for the environment	61	57	58	51
Take responsibility for your own actions	58	55	54	48
Respect the interests of other people	57	53	53	51
Respect people's privacy and peace of mind	26	21	20	19
Keep your dog under proper control	27	19	23	21
Help land managers and others to work safely and effectively	16	11	12	11
Take extra care when organising an event or running a business	11	7	8	7
Base	2429	2382	1961	2364

¹ Respondents were unrestricted in number of responses to this question. Source: TNS Travel and Tourism

² Twelve months to September 2008

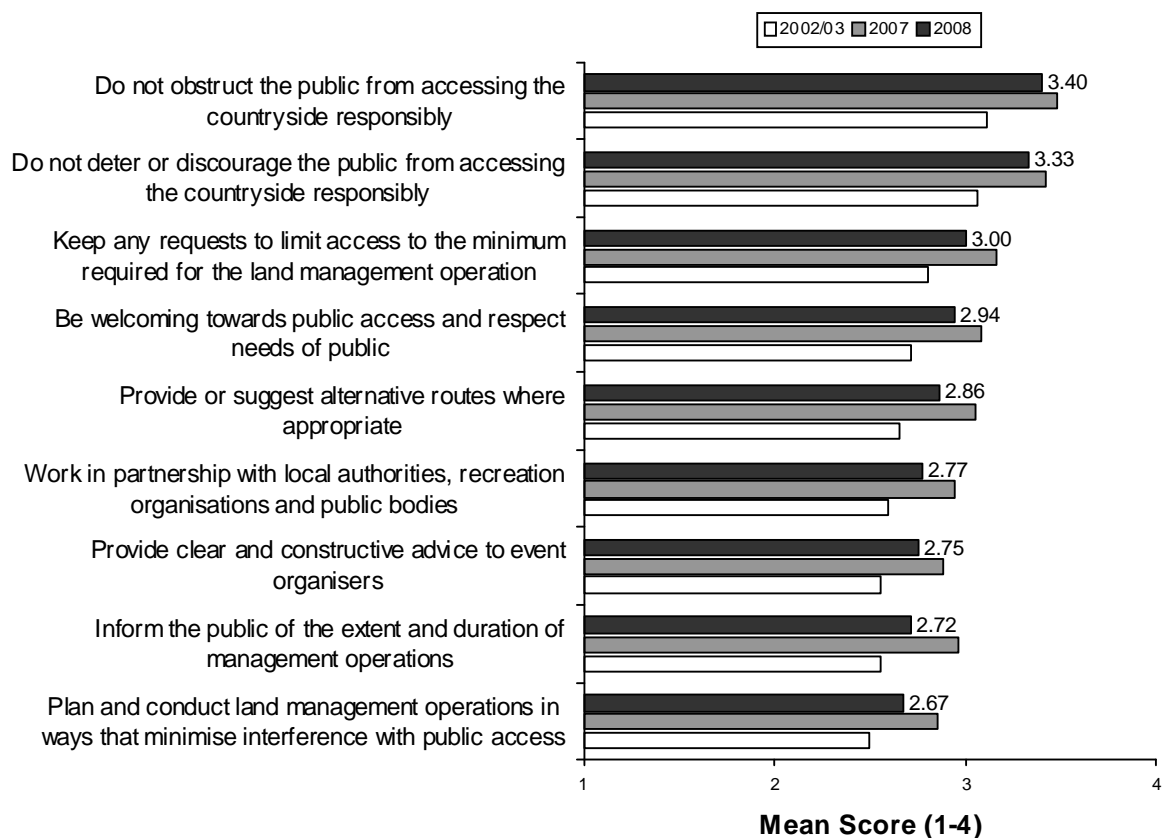
4.3.3 Land owners/managers' awareness of responsibilities

Land owners and managers were asked how aware or unaware they were of the various responsibilities that come with land ownership and management in respect of public access as explained in the Code. Awareness of responsibilities among land owners and managers was measured using a four point descriptive scale comprising; 'very aware' (4); 'quite aware' (3); 'not very aware' (2) and 'not at all aware' (1). For analysis, the data is shown as a mean score using these assigned values of one to

four. The mean scores for the 2008 survey are compared with the mean scores for the baseline survey 2002/03 (i.e. changes over a five year period) and the 2007 monitoring survey (i.e. changes over the last 12 months).

Figure 4.8 shows that in the years between 2002/03, before the Code was introduced, and 2007 there has been a significant increase in the awareness of the responsibilities of land owners and managers towards public access to their land. In 2008, land owners and managers as a group are, on average, 'very aware' of responsibilities to not obstruct responsible public access and to not deter or discourage responsible public access. Land owners and managers are also 'quite aware' of the responsibility to keep requests to limit access to a minimum, to be welcoming towards public access and to provide or suggest alternative routes where appropriate. Collectively, land owners and managers are not so aware of the other specific responsibilities in the Code. The mean scores of the 2008 survey are lower than for the monitoring survey 2007. Although this is not possible to quantify, the lower awareness of specific responsibilities is likely to be in whole or in part influenced by a lower awareness of the existence of the Code as a result of introducing respondents from fresh sources.

Figure 4.8: Awareness of responsibilities – land owners/managers (see note on methodology at 2.1.5).



4.4 Effects of the Code

This section of the report evaluates the effects of the right of responsible access and the Code on recreational users and land owners/managers surveyed over a five year period from 2002/03 to 2008, thereby providing baseline data before the Code was approved by the Scottish Parliament in 2005 and comparisons with later years.

4.4.1 Effects of the Code on recreational users

Recreational users were asked how much effect they felt that the access legislation and Code had had on the type and location of their outdoor leisure activities.

In Table 4.3, the findings of the 2008 survey are compared with the findings of the baseline survey 2002/03 and the monitoring surveys of 2005 and 2007. Data from the 2006 monitoring survey are not available for comparison. As the access legislation and Code had not been introduced at the time of the baseline survey 2002/03, this survey evaluated respondents' perception of their likely future effect as opposed to the actual effect. The monitoring surveys of 2005 and 2007 and the 2008 survey collected information on the actual effects on type and location of countryside leisure activities.

Table 4.3: Extent of effect of the Code on the type and location of outdoor leisure activities¹

Base: All respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	2008 survey %	Monitoring survey 2007 %	Monitoring survey 2005 %	Baseline survey 2002/03 ² %
A great effect	15	12	8	21
Some effect	35	38	32	38
Not very much effect	30	34	36	24
No effect at all	11	12	18	6
Unsure	9	4	6	9
Base	989	1032	1033	1130

¹2006 data unavailable for use in this report

²Perceived effect only

The findings show that initially the actual effect of the Code (2005 survey) was less than the perceived effect of the Code (2002/03). However, between the 2005 survey and the 2008 survey, the actual effect of the Code on type and location of leisure activities has increased. By 2007, and also in 2008, 50% of recreational users said that the Code had had 'a great effect' or 'some effect' on the type and location of outdoor activity chosen (i.e. in comparison to 59% who anticipated such effects when asked in 2002/03).

All respondents answering 'a great effect' or 'some effect' to Q10 (table 4.3) were asked in what ways the right of responsible access and Code had affected the type and location of their outdoor leisure activities.

Table 4.4 categorises the answers given by the 50% of respondents who said that the right of responsible access and the Code had had either a 'great effect' or 'some effect' on the type or location of their outdoor leisure activities.

Table 4.4: Ways in which the Code has impacted on the type and location of outdoor leisure activities

Base: Respondents who answered 'great effect' or 'some effect' to Q10

	2008 survey %
Improved access to the outdoors	22
Increased confidence to explore and access areas of the countryside	18
Greater or more discerning access based on clarification of rights	15
Modification in behaviour due to awareness of responsibilities	9
Greater freedom to roam i.e. not sticking to designated paths/roads	8
Greater access/more activities due to easier relationship with land owners/managers	8
Better signposting/greater information	3
No 'verbatim response' given	18
Base	496

Twenty two percent of the 496 respondents said that they had experienced an improvement in access to the outdoors which had effectively opened up their opportunities to enjoy the countryside for leisure pursuits. Examples given were:

- Private estate land being opened up for access – where previously access had been prohibited.
- Greater opportunities for orienteering events because of areas opened up and access charges no longer being made for entering forests etc.
- Greater access for mountain bikes i.e. able to bike on more tracks.
- More walking routes being made available.
- Removal of locks on gates giving greater access to rivers, hills and wild camping opportunities.
- More opportunities and less hostility to canoeing and kayaking activities.
- More opportunities to cycle and ride horses off roads.
- More places to take dogs e.g. in nature reserves – previously prohibited.
- An opening up of opportunities for hillwalkers and climbers to access mountainous areas of Scotland, previously not accessible.
- Better facilities for countryside pursuits e.g. provision of stiles, better paths etc.

Eighteen percent of the 496 respondents said that the right of responsible access and the Code had given them a greater confidence to take access either on foot, bike or horseback across areas of land that were not signposted or not clearly designated for public access – in particular across farm and estate land. Fifteen percent of the respondents said that they were more aware of what they could and could not do in terms of their rights. Nine percent of the respondents said that they were more aware of their responsibilities in terms of responsible access and that this had affected both where they conducted their activities and the manner in which they conducted their activities.

Other effects mentioned were a general sense of having more freedom to roam, an easier relationship with land owners and managers, particularly regarding the organisation of group activities and events, and the provision of more information about access e.g. more signposting and other forms of information such as Hillphones.

Of the 403 (41%) respondents who said the right of responsible access and the Code had made very little or no difference to the type and location of outdoor activities they pursued, 49% said that this was because they were already being responsible and/or had very good or unlimited outdoor access in their area prior to the Code being introduced in 2005. Twenty one percent said that they had seen no evidence of change to access or the attitudes and behaviour of land managers since the Code had been introduced. Other reasons given were a lack of confidence or inclination to depart from designated areas of public access despite now having the right to do so (6%), participating in activities for which the Code has had limited application (10%) and lack of awareness that the Code existed (1%).

4.4.2 Effects of the Code on land owners and managers

Land owners and managers were asked how much they felt that the right of responsible public access and Code had affected the way in which they manage their land.

In Table 4.5, the findings of the 2008 survey are compared with the findings of the baseline survey (2002/03) and the monitoring surveys of 2005 and 2007. No data are available for 2006. As the Code had not been introduced at the time of the baseline survey, this evaluates respondents' perception of the likely future effect of access rights and the Code, as opposed to the actual effect. The monitoring surveys of 2005 and 2007 and the 2008 survey collected information on actual effects on the way in which land owners and managers manage their land.

Table 4.5: Extent of effect of the Code on approach to land management ¹

Base: All respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	2008 survey %	Monitoring survey 2007 %	Monitoring survey 2005 %	Baseline survey 2002/03 ² %
A great effect	7	6	5	17
Some effect	30	31	29	37
Not very much effect	33	32	34	31
No effect at all	23	27	28	7
Unsure	7	4	4	7
Base	805	860	735	917

¹2006 data unavailable for use in this report

² Perceived effect only

Despite a perception in 2002/03 of 54% of land owners and managers surveyed in the baseline survey that access rights and the Code would have an effect on land management, surveys conducted after the introduction of the Code in 2005 indicate that the actual impact has not been so far reaching. The proportion of land owners and managers stating that access rights and the Code have had an effect (either 'a great effect' or 'some effect') on the way in which they currently approach the management of their land has remained fairly static over the period 2005 to 2008 with around 30% of land owners and managers claiming 'some effect' and around 6% claiming 'a great effect'. In this three year period since the introduction of the Code, the findings show that the majority of land owners and managers (56% to 62%) have experienced not

very much or no effect at all.

All respondents answering 'a great effect' or 'some effect' to question 13 (Table 4.5) were asked in what ways the access legislation and Code had affected their current approach to land management. Table 4.6 categorises the answers given by the 37% of respondents who reported such effects in 2008.

Table 4.6: Ways the access legislation and Code have affected land management

Base: Respondents who answered 'great effect' or 'some effect' to Q13

	2008 survey %
Investment of time and money in proactive management of public access	14
A requirement to be extra vigilant because of irresponsible behaviour	12
Aggressive and inconsiderate infringement of privacy and peace	10
Increased financial burden and man hours required to clear up after public 'abuse' of land	9
A conscious burden of increased responsibility to public welfare	9
Changes in approach to specific stock management operations in order to accommodate public access	7
Changes in approach to specific land management operations in order to accommodate public access	5
Unspecific or no 'verbatim' response	34
Base	298

Thirty four percent of the 298 respondents did not give a verbatim response to the question. Fourteen percent mentioned a proactive response to public access - they had invested time and money in the management of public access rights. Examples given were:

- The creation of new and more paths or access points for walkers and cyclists.
- Replacement of gates and creation of stiles for user friendly access.
- Improved signage and signposting.
- Active maintenance of paths, bridges, removal of blockages etc.
- Being available to provide helpful advice on access.

Other responses reported more 'reactive' effects on contributors' approaches to land management. Twelve percent said that they had to be extra vigilant at all times and in all aspects of their approach to land management as a result of the possible effect of irresponsible public access on the security and well-being of their livestock and crops. Ten percent had felt intimidated either in aspects of their land management or in private activities by experiences of an aggressive and inconsiderate attitude towards access by the general public and 9% said they were having to dedicate considerable time and money to clearing up after abuse of their land by the public (e.g. dog and human excrement, litter, fly tipping and deliberate damage to fences). Nine percent said that they felt an increased burden of responsibility towards the public, both in terms of health and safety issues and public liability insurance. A small number said that farm management and stock management operations (including sporting activities) were

affected or restricted because of public access issues.

Of the 452 respondents (56%) who said that access rights and the Code had made very little or no difference to their current approach to land management, 315 (70%) gave verbatim comments as to why this was the case. Twenty three percent of those who said that the legislation and Code had made very little or no difference to their current approach to land management said this was because they had received very few or no members of the general public accessing their land over the past five years. Seventeen percent (76) of these said that no changes had been made because they and/or the people accessing their land were already embracing the principles of responsible access before the introduction of the Code. In the case of some respondents, this was because they are part of an organisation or enterprise which actively promotes responsible public access (e.g. National Trust for Scotland) or because they are involved in recreation as a commercial enterprise. Seventeen percent (78) said that they had seen or had no cause for making changes to their approach to land management as a result of the introduction of the Code. Eleven percent (42) made other more general comments about the effects of public access.

4.5 Perceptions of behaviour in relation to the Access Code

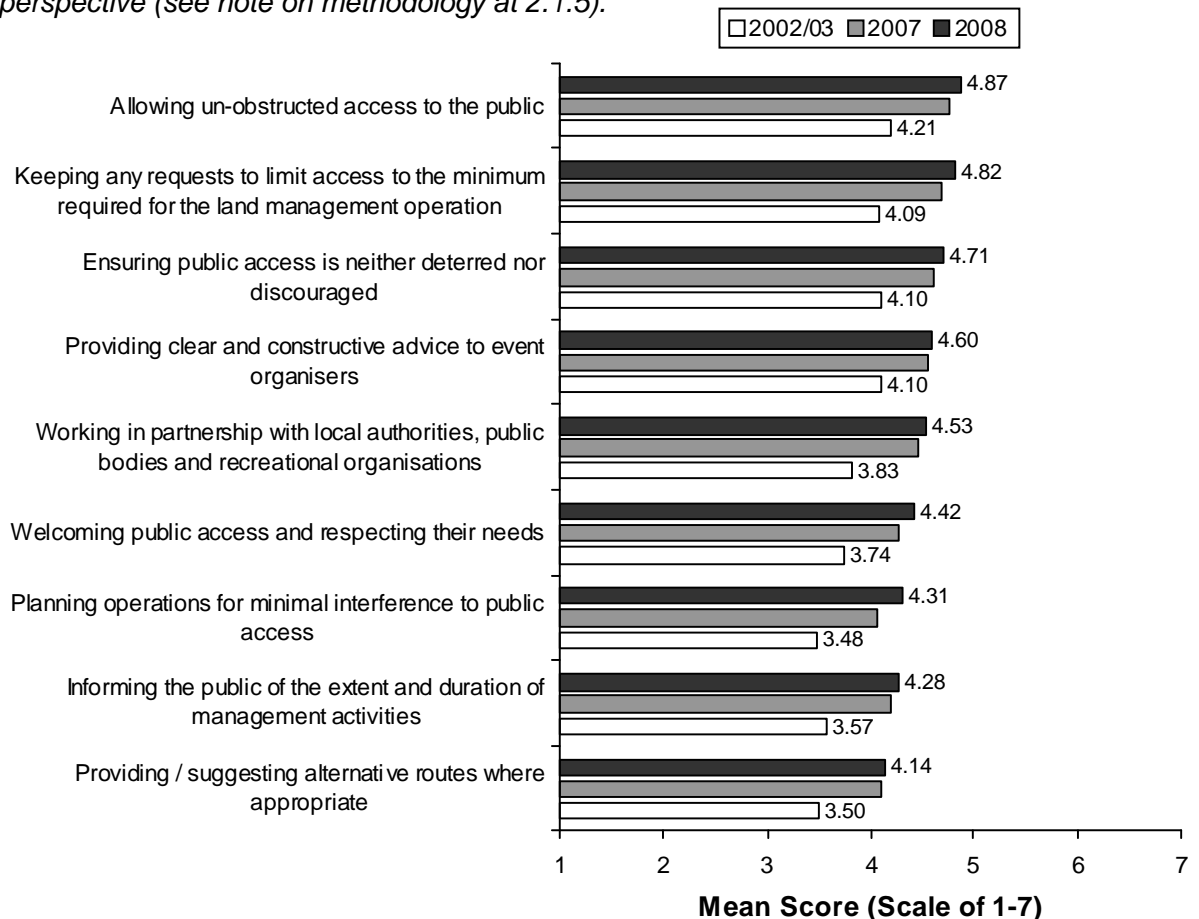
This section evaluates the behaviour of land owners and managers as perceived by recreational users and the behaviour of recreational users as perceived by land owners and managers by comparison with the Code.

4.5.1 The behaviour of land owners and managers from the recreational users' perspective

Recreational users were asked how much they agreed or disagreed that land owners and managers were demonstrating a series of 'behaviours' relating to the advice in the draft Code 2002/03 and the published Code (2005 to 2008). A seven point scale is used where 1 = the particular behaviour is perceived to never be demonstrated and 7 = the particular behaviour is perceived to always be demonstrated. Figure 4.9 compares the results of the 2008 survey with the mean scores from the baseline survey (i.e. over a five year period) and the monitoring survey 2007. In general this suggests an overall improvement in perceived behaviour with all types of behaviour attracting a mean score above the mid-point of four in 2007 and 2008.

The findings of the 2008 survey show a statistically significant increase in mean scores across each of the perceived land owner/manager behaviour categories over the five year period (i.e. since the 2002/03 baseline survey). When comparing with the mean scores of the 2007 monitoring survey the findings suggest that there has been a perceived improvement in behaviour over the last 12 months across each of the land owner/manager behaviour categories.

Figure 4.9: The behaviour of land owners and managers from the recreational users' perspective (see note on methodology at 2.1.5).

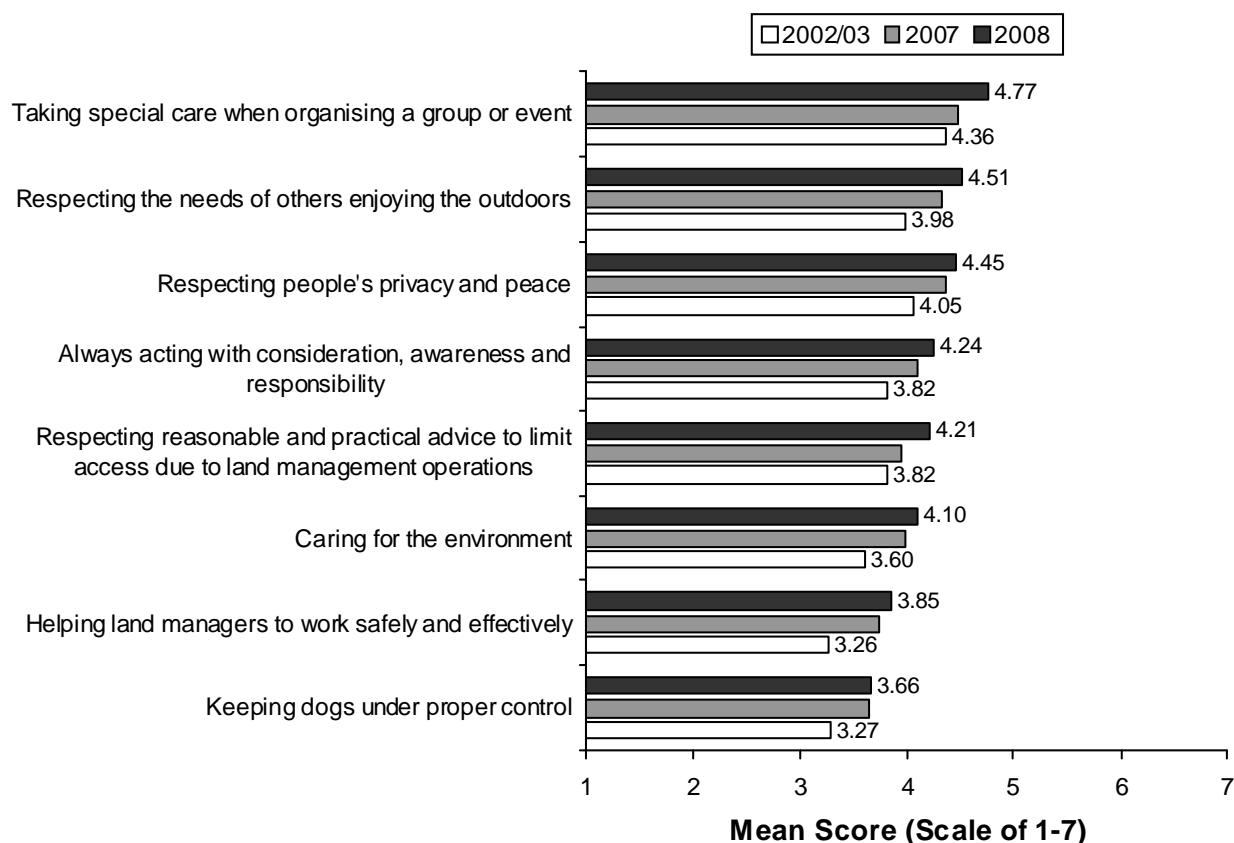


4.5.2 The behaviour of visitors to the outdoors from the land owners' and managers' perspective

Land owners and managers were asked how much they agreed or disagreed that visitors to their land were demonstrating a series of 'behaviours' relating to the advice in the draft Code 2002/03 and the published Code in 2005 to 2008. A seven point scale is used where 1 = the particular behaviour is perceived to never be demonstrated and 7 = the particular behaviour is perceived to always be demonstrated. Figure 4.10 compares the results of the 2008 survey with mean scores from the baseline survey in 2002/03 (i.e. over a five year period) and the monitoring survey 2007 (i.e. over a 12 month period). In general this suggests an overall progressive improvement in perceived behaviour, and all types of behaviour attracted a mean score above the mid point of four in 2008, with the exception of 'keeping dogs under proper control' and 'helping land managers to work safely and effectively'.

The findings of the 2008 survey show a statistically significant increase in mean scores across each of the visitor behaviour categories over the last five years (i.e. since the 2002/03 baseline survey). When comparing the mean scores of the 2007 monitoring survey the results suggest that there has been a perceived improvement in behaviour over the last 12 months across each of the recreational user behaviour categories.

Figure 4.10: The behaviour of visitors to the outdoors from the land owners' and managers' perspective (see note on methodology at 2.1.5).



4.6 Land owners/managers' perceptions about the volume of public access over the last five years

Land owners/managers were asked if they felt that there had been a change in the volume of public access to their land over the previous five years. Table 4.7 details the responses given in the baseline survey in 2002/03, monitoring surveys in 2005 and 2007, and in the 2008 survey. No data is available for 2006.

Before the introduction of the Code in 2002/03, 74% of land owners and managers said that they had seen an increase in the amount of public access to their land over the previous five years, with 25% seeing a major increase in the volume of access. In the years 2005 to 2008, since the introduction of the Code, the increase in the volume of public access has remained fairly constant with just over half of the respondents to the 2005/2007 monitoring surveys and the 2008 survey seeing an increase in volume and approximately one in five seeing a major increase in the volume of public access over the previous five years.

Table 4.7: Land owners and managers' perceptions about changes in the volume of public access between the baseline and 2008 surveys¹

Base: All respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	2008 survey %	Monitoring survey 2007 %	Monitoring survey 2005 %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
A major increase	21	18	17	25
A minor increase	37	37	38	49
No change	38	41	42	23
Minor decrease	2	2	2	1
Major decrease	<1	<1	0	1
Don't know	1	2	2	2
Base	814	864	741	615

¹2006 data unavailable for use in this report

4.7 Land owners'/managers' attitude towards public access

Land owners/managers were asked to choose one of seven attitudinal statements which best described their feelings towards the public accessing their land:

- **Statement 1** – I don't mind people coming on my land as long as they cause no damage and act responsibly.
- **Statement 2** – I don't mind people coming on to my land as long as they cause no damage, act responsibly and ask permission first.
- **Statement 3** – I don't mind people coming on my land to undertake recreational activities as long as they cause no damage and act responsibly.
- **Statement 4** – I don't mind people coming on to my land for recreational activities as long as it is part of an organised event, no damage is caused and people act responsibly.
- **Statement 5** – I welcome people onto my land because I feel that providing for public recreation is a useful alternative source of income.
- **Statement 6** – I welcome people onto my land.
- **Statement 7** – I would prefer to exclude all public access from my land.

Table 4.8 shows the responses given in the baseline survey in 2002/03, monitoring surveys in 2005 and 2007, and in the 2008 survey. No data is available for 2006.

Table 4.8: Land owners' and managers' attitudes towards public access¹

Base: All respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	2008 survey %	Monitoring survey 2007 %	Monitoring survey 2005 %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
Attitudinal Statement 1	50	50	48	46
Attitudinal Statement 2	26	24	27	26
Attitudinal Statement 3	8	10	9	15
Attitudinal Statement 4	1	2	2	3
Attitudinal Statement 5	1	2	2	3
Attitudinal Statement 6	4	6	7	2
Attitudinal Statement 7	9	7	6	4
Base	814	827	747	615

¹2006 data is unavailable for use in this report

The findings across the five years are very similar with between 84% and 87% of respondents identifying with the first three attitudinal statements and approximately half of respondents identifying with the first statement. The findings indicate that land owners/managers' attitudes have remained consistently focused on a responsible approach to public access with no restriction on activity as long as no damage is done and with one in four land owners/managers appreciating permission being asked prior to public access being taken (although permission is not required in order to undertake activities which fall within access rights). Only a minority of land owners and managers would prefer that the public did not have access to their land.

NB. The chosen methodology (self-completion) allowed respondents to choose a statement without the control of considering all statements equally before making a choice. Given the length and subtle difference between the choices, a different approach to methodology (e.g. a rotating order of responses/or an interviewer driven methodology) may well give different results.

4.8 Problems encountered by the different groups and the effects of these problems

This section of the report reviews the problems encountered by the key target groups across the survey years when either managing land or taking access to the outdoors.

4.8.1 Recreational users

Table 4.9 shows that in 2008 a significant minority of recreational users (44%) claimed to have encountered problems which affected their access to or enjoyment of the outdoors as a result of land management operations. This question was not included in previous surveys.

Table 4.9: Whether land management activities affected access and enjoyment

Base: All Respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	2008 survey %
Yes	44
No	56
Base	987

The most frequently mentioned land management activities having an effect on access and enjoyment were tree felling and timber extraction operations, and deer stalking and shooting. Of the 44% of recreational users who said that land management activities had affected their access and/or enjoyment of the outdoors for recreation, 30% of these users mentioned shooting (deer stalking and grouse or pheasant shooting) as being the source of these problems. Some of these users were critical of the attitude of both participants in stalks and shoots, and the ghillies or land managers who organised them, towards recreational users - as well as a lack of appropriate advice and guidance on access and alternative routes.

Twenty percent of the recreational users encountering problems because of land management activities said this was because of tree felling and timber extraction. Some of these users were critical of the manner in which tree felling and timber extraction operations were being conducted in relation to other land users.

Respondents who had visited the outdoors for recreational purposes were asked whether or not they had encountered any of a list of specific problems on their last visit. Table 4.10 details the problems reported by respondents in 2008 with comparisons to the baseline survey in 2002/03 and monitoring survey in 2007. No data is available for 2005 and 2006.

Table 4.10: Problems encountered by recreational users during their last visit to the outdoors¹

Base: All respondents who visited the countryside for recreational purposes in the last month
(‘non responses’ excluded)

	2008 survey %	Monitoring survey 2007 %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
A locked gate that hindered access	9	10	13
An overgrown path blocking access	10	10	9
A path blocked by an obstruction	2	2	3
A restrictive sign barring access	5	6	10
Barbed wire/electric fencing across path	7	6	8
No clear information on alternative route	4	5	5
An aggressive or intimidating animal	4	3	4
Blocked or restricted car parking	3	2	4
An intimidating sign	1	2	4
A sign banning specific activity	1	1	3
Man-made obstruction or blockage on water	1	1	2
Other problems	3	5	4
I did not encounter any problems listed	71	70	65
Base	949	1055	1086

¹ Respondents were unrestricted in their number of responses to this question.

Whilst the numbers are too small to reliably quantify differences, the results in Table 4.10 suggest that there has been a slight improvement in the amount of problems encountered overall, with 71% of respondents encountering none of the listed problems in 2008 compared to 65% in 2002/03. Verbatim comments collected as part of the 2008 survey suggest a reduction in the prevalence of intimidating signage and locked gates since the introduction of the Code. However, in 2008, 9% of respondents accessing the outdoors still claimed access had been hindered on their last visit because of a locked gate and 10% stated that access had been hindered by a path blocked by overgrown vegetation.

Respondents were asked if they encountered a hostile person during their last visit to the outdoors. In the baseline survey 2002/03, 3% of respondents said that they encountered a hostile person. Similar results were found in the monitoring survey 2007 (2%) and the 2008 survey (3%). Overall, between 97% and 98% of respondents in these Surveys did not encounter a hostile person whilst accessing the outdoors for recreational purposes.

Those respondents who stated that they encountered a problem or hostile person on their last visit were asked to state their reaction to this encounter. Table 4.11 below shows a similar pattern of response across each of the three survey years (i.e. baseline 2002/03, monitoring 2007 and 2008 survey). No data is available for 2005 and 2006. In each year the majority of respondents confronted with a problem or a hostile person, either did nothing or were able to continue on their chosen route by finding a way around the problem or removing the obstacle.

Table 4.11: Reactions of recreational users to the problem/hostile person encountered on their last visit to the outdoors¹

Base: All respondents who visited the outdoors for recreational purposes in the last month and encountered a problem ('non responses' excluded)

	2008 survey %	Monitoring survey 2007 ² %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
Did nothing	44	20	35
Found a way around/removed obstruction	31	42	30
Altered route	16	16	16
Ignored the sign	7	7	12
Discontinued the activity	3	2	6
Ignored the person's request	2	2	2
Reported the problem to the police	1	<1	0
Reported the problem to a Ranger	2	1	0
Removed the obstruction or sign	<1	2	1
Reported the problem to the council	2	2	<1
Reported the problem to a club or organisation involved in countryside	3	1	2
Other	4	5	9
Base	234	130	248

¹ Respondents were unrestricted in their number of responses to this question.

² 2005 and 2006 data were unavailable for use in this report.

The findings indicate a slightly increasing trend over the last five years in the number of respondents reporting either a problem or hostile person. Verbatim comments suggest that this may be because recreational users are more aware of their access rights and more likely to report anything which contravenes these rights.

Eleven percent of respondents to the 2008 survey said that they had to significantly alter their chosen route on their last visit to the countryside. This compares to 10% of respondents to the 2007 monitoring survey and 9% of respondents to the baseline survey 2002/03. Reasons for altering their route significantly on their last visit are shown in Table 4.12. No data is available for 2005 and 2006.

Table 4.12: Reasons for recreational users altering their route significantly on their last visit to the outdoors¹

Base: All respondents who visited the outdoors for recreational purposes in the last month and significantly changed route ('non responses' excluded)

	2008 survey %	Monitoring survey 2007 ² %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
The route was obstructed	25	24	24
Reached a field with livestock	13	8	9
Came across a no entry sign	3	7	8
Encountered sign giving alternative route	12	10	13
Route became overused and eroded	5	6	14
Reached a field where machinery used	3	5	2
Reached a farmyard	3	2	2
Politely asked to alter route or leave	2	2	8
Had to pass close to house or garden	6	7	7
Reached a field with crops growing	5	2	5
Impolitely asked to alter route or leave	5	1	6
Encountered pheasant/deer/wildfowl shoot	4	1	3
Encountered fishing/angling			
Other	0	2	3
	40	44	29
Base	234	98	101

¹ Respondents were unrestricted in number of responses to this question.

² 2005 and 2006 data were unavailable for use in this report.

The most common reason given for recreational users having to significantly alter their route is obstruction by a fence or a locked gate. Approximately one in four recreational users who had to significantly alter their route gave this reason in the baseline survey in 2002/03, the monitoring survey in 2007 and the 2008 survey. The most common 'other' reason given in 2008 for significantly altering a route was because the intended path or route was either flooded or too wet to use.

In the 2008 survey, 13% of respondents using the outdoors in the last month said that they had encountered irresponsible or illegal behaviour by other visitors on their last visit to the outdoors. This is an increase in comparison with the findings of the previous year's monitoring survey in 2007, in which 8% of respondents said they encountered irresponsible or illegal behaviour by other visitors.

The most common activities encountered in 2008 by recreational users were dropping litter and not having dogs under control. Forty three percent of the respondents witnessing irresponsible or illegal behaviour in 2008 said that they intervened to stop the behaviour. Half of these respondents approached the offenders and asked them to stop what they were doing, and a small minority of these respondents reported the incident to the police or another authority or organisation. A small number of respondents picked up litter that had been dropped by others.

4.8.2 General public

In the baseline survey of 2002/03, members of the general public were asked whether

they had encountered any of a list of specific problems when most recently accessing the outdoors for recreational purposes. In the ScRS (figures for 12 months to September 2008), members of the general public that had visited the outdoors in the four weeks prior to participation in the survey were asked to indicate any problems they had encountered. The findings of both surveys are presented in Table 4.12.

Table 4.13: Problems encountered by the general public during recent visits to the outdoors¹

	ScRS 2008² %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
An overgrown or blocked path	8	7
Barbed wire or an electric fence across or alongside a path	2	4
A restrictive sign	6	3
A locked gate that hindered or obstructed access	4	3
Lack of advice or information about alternative route	1	2
An aggressive or intimidating animal	3	1
Other problems	0	4
Encountered none of the problems	78	82
Base	29024³	1952⁴

¹Source: TNS Travel and Tourism. Respondents were unrestricted in number of responses to this question.

²Twelve months to September 2008. Source: TNS Travel and Tourism.

³All those who visited the outdoors for leisure and recreation in the last 4 weeks.

⁴All those who visited the outdoors for leisure and recreation in the last month.

Only 5% of respondents in the baseline survey reported altering their route significantly, with the majority doing so because of road works or traffic. In the 2007 ScRS, 8% of respondents reported altering their route significantly, with the largest proportion stating this was due to the route being obstructed by a fence or locked gate. In the ScRS (12 months to September 2008) this had increased to 10% of respondents with the largest proportion stating this was either due to the route being obstructed by a fence or locked gate or becoming overgrown or blocked.

A total of 8% of respondents in the baseline survey reported encountering other recreational users behaving irresponsibly or illegally, most of which was related to dropping litter. In the 2007 ScRS, 12% of respondents indicated that they had encountered others behaving irresponsibly or illegally, again, mostly related to litter and also to not keeping dogs under control. In the ScRS (12 months to September 2008), 15% of respondents indicated that they had encountered others behaving irresponsibly or illegally. This again mostly related to dropping litter and not keeping dogs under control. This apparent increase may partly reflect an increased awareness of responsible behaviour among those responding to the survey.

4.8.3 Land owners and managers

Table 4.14 shows that in 2008 a significant minority (42%) of land owners and managers encountered problems which affected their ability to undertake land management operations. This question was not included in previous surveys.

Table 4.14: Whether access-related problems affected land owners' and managers' ability to undertake land management activities?

Base: All Respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	2008 survey %
Yes	42
No	58
Base	809

One hundred and eighty six (55%) of the 337 land owners and managers who claimed to have access related problems affecting their ability to undertake land management gave examples of the problems and of the activities affected. The activity most frequently affected was stock management, and such problems were reported by 9% of all land managers and 23% of land managers with access-related problems. Typical problems experienced in 2008 are poorly controlled dogs, gates being left open, people getting in the way of stock movement activities and inappropriate behaviour such as walking too close to cows with calves (i.e. causing stress to animals and/or putting themselves in danger) or disturbing ewes with young lambs so that they get mis-mothered. Twenty five percent of land owners and managers giving 'verbatim' responses mentioned problems relating to stalking and shooting activities – most typically walkers getting in the way of shoots or disturbing stalking. Other complaints related to deliberate acts of vandalism to machinery, fencing, stock, crops or equipment (11%) and the dropping of litter and other rubbish/fly tipping (6%).

Land owners and managers were asked to consider the problems they had experienced over the last 2-3 months when thinking about the public's use of their land. Table 4.15 details the problems reported by respondents in 2008 with comparisons to the baseline survey in 2002/03 and monitoring survey in 2007. No data is available for 2005 and 2006.

The findings show that between 72% and 76% of land owners and managers have experienced one or more of the access related problems listed in the questionnaire in the 2-3 months prior to undertaking the survey. However, the findings also suggest that almost all of these problems have either remained unchanged or have improved over the last five years, by comparison with the situation before access rights came into force.

Although there is a decrease in the percentage of land owners and managers experiencing problems with litter, this is still a significant access related problem with over half of land owners and managers surveyed in 2008 claiming they had experienced this problem in the 2-3 months prior to the survey taking place. Similarly, whilst there is an improvement in leaving gates inappropriately open or closed and a slight improvement in dog control related issues, these problems were still being experienced by one out of three land owners and managers in the 2-3 months prior to the 2008 survey.

The percentage of land owners and managers reporting recreational users not sticking to paths and tracks in fields and horse-riders riding in inappropriate places has increased over the five years from 2002/03 to 2008. Although this is only a small percentage increase, it is supported by 'verbatim' responses given by recreational users tabulated in Table 4.4. which shows that 8% of users feel more confident to roam away from tracks and paths as a result of the Code. Whilst access rights apply away

from paths and tracks, it is unclear, given the wording of these questions, whether this type of access had resulted in any specific problems – for example due to irresponsible behaviour.

Table 4.15: Problems experienced over the last 2-3 months¹ caused by public access

Base: All respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	2008 survey %	Monitoring survey 2007 ² %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
Dropping litter	53	54	60
Fly-tipping	37	32	39
Leaving gates inappropriately open or closed	36	39	43
Not keeping dogs on a short lead in fields with sheep, cattle or other farm animals	31	28	34
Dogs being taken into fields where there are calves, lambs or crops	30	32	37
Not keeping dogs on a short lead in areas where ground nesting birds are breeding/rearing young	29	26	31
Passing too close to your house or garden	26	24	30
Blocking entrances to fields or buildings	25	25	27
Disturbing wild animals or damaging plants	19	20	25
Not respecting the needs of other users	18	16	18
Starting fires	17	19	21
Not respecting reasonable limits to access	17	14	18
Vandalism of property or machinery	16	15	23
Not keeping to existing paths/tracks in fields	15	12	11
Mountain bikers in inappropriate places	14	11	15
Passing too near your house in the dark	14	13	17
Not consulting or seeking permission before organizing an event/leading a group	14	12	17
Horse riding in inappropriate places	13	11	12
Theft	12	10	17
Touching, handling feeding your animals	11	8	12
Poaching	11	10	20
Irresponsible wild camping	11	10	Not asked
People taking drugs on your land	10	9	12
Disrupted stalking activities	9	7	13
Polluting land or water	9	9	11
Damaging or disturbing historic, archaeological or cultural places	6	4	6
Canoeists disturbing other water users	4	5	9
Other	6	5	6
I have not encountered any of these problems in the last 2-3 months	26	28	24
Base	817	854	916

¹ Respondents were unrestricted in number of responses to this question.

² 2005 and 2006 data were unavailable for use in this report

Land owners and managers were asked to what extent they believed, (in a general sense relating to the area in which they own or manage land, as opposed to their own experiences in the last 2-3 months), the problems listed in Table 4.15 had got better, stayed the same, or got worse over the past three years. Table 4.16 shows the responses given in the 2008 survey.

In 2008, dropping litter, problems with dogs and leaving gates inappropriately open or closed are perceived as the most common problems. Sixty nine percent of respondents believe dropping litter is a problem with 37% of respondents (and 54% of those who consider this a problem) saying it is getting worse, and a smaller proportion (28% of all respondents) believing there had been no change over the past three years. Sixty seven percent of respondents believe dogs are a problem with 31% of respondents (46% of those who consider it a problem) believing there had been no change, and a slightly smaller proportion (28% of respondents) saying it is getting worse. Fifty eight percent of respondents believe leaving gates inappropriately open or closed is a problem, with 29% of respondents (50% of those who consider it a problem) believing there had been no change and 24% of respondents saying it is getting worse.

Generally, those land owners and managers who experience problems as a result of these types of behaviour do not perceive an improvement since the advent of access rights and the Code. Among this group, the majority view tends to be that these problems have not changed since then, although a substantial minority considers that generally these problems have become worse. Collectively, however, the research findings (Table 4.15) actually show an improvement in the proportion of land owners and managers experiencing these problems on their land since the advent of access rights and the Code. A number of the problems listed in this question are criminal offences which may not be strongly influenced, positively or negatively, by rights of responsible access.

Table 4.16: Perceptions of changes in problems caused by public access

Base: All respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	Got Better %	Stayed Same %	Got Worse %	Unsure %	Not a Problem %
Passing too near your house or garden day or night	2	24	17	3	54
Not respecting needs of other people	1	23	17	6	53
Inappropriate behaviour of mountain bikers	1	13	11	4	71
Not respecting reasonable access limits	2	20	15	6	57
Touching, handling or feeding animals	1	15	6	5	73
Inappropriate behaviour of horse riders	2	17	10	3	69
Leaving gates inappropriately open/closed	2	29	24	4	42
Blocking entrances to fields or buildings	1	25	18	2	53
Disturbing wild animals or plants	1	20	20	7	53
Polluting land or water	<1	14	9	7	70
Dropping litter	1	28	37	3	31
Damaging or disturbing sites of interest	<1	10	4	4	81
Problems with dogs	3	31	28	4	33
Not consulting or seeking permission for events or group activities on your land	2	15	10	3	69
Inappropriate behaviour of canoeists	<1	6	4	3	87

No data is available for the monitoring survey 2005 to 2007 regarding this question, although a comment is made in the 2007 report that problems with dropping litter, problems with dogs and people leaving gates inappropriately open or closed had got worse.

Land owners and managers who had directly experienced the access related problems tabled in 4.15 were asked what actions they had taken, if any, to stop the problems recurring. Table 4.17 compares actions taken by land owners and managers participating in the 2008 survey with those participating in the baseline survey (2002/03) and the monitoring survey in 2007. Results for 2005 and 2006 are not available for inclusion. Under the access legislation, local and National Park authority access officers and local access forums play an important role in management of access issues, but this local framework was not in place at the time of the baseline survey.

Across all the survey years below, the responses are consistent in that just over half of the respondents with access related problems talked to those behaving irresponsibly and between 22% and 28% reported offenders to the police. Only 12% to 13% raised the issue with the local council.

Table 4.17: Action taken by land owners and managers to prevent problems recurring¹

Base: All respondents who encountered an access related problem in the last 2-3 months ('non responses' and actions attracting < 1% excluded)

	2008 survey %	Monitoring survey 2007 ² %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
Talked to those behaving irresponsibly	56	55	58
Reported offenders to the police	22	23	28
Raised the issue with the local council	12	13	13
Raised issue with other organisation/took other actions	11	10	9
Reported the offenders to a Ranger	5	7	4
Raised issue with recreational organisation	5	2	5
Raised issue with NFU Scotland	4	4	9
Did nothing at all	30	28	24
Base	587	611	657

¹ Respondents were unrestricted in number of responses to this question.

² 2005 and 2006 data were unavailable for use in this report

There is an apparent trend in the percentage of respondents doing 'nothing at all' to prevent problems recurring. This has risen from 24% in 2002/03 to 30% in 2008. Verbatim responses attached to this question suggest that some land owners and managers who would have reported incidents to the police were not doing so because they had found that the police had not met their expectations in the past when reporting previous incidents. In some cases respondents said that they were frightened to confront members of the public whose behaviour they suspected to be fuelled by alcohol or drugs, or who were potentially carrying weapons. The proportion of respondents reporting problems to the local council does not seem to have increased, although local access management arrangements provided by the Land Reform Act are now in place to help address such issues.

Land owners and managers who had directly experienced the access related problems tabled in 4.15 were asked if they had incurred any costs as a result of the problems they had experienced in the last two to three months. Table 4.18 compares costs incurred by land owners and managers participating in the 2008 survey with those participating in the baseline survey in 2002/03 and the monitoring surveys 2005 to 2007. The results suggest a year on year decrease across the five year period in the percentage of land owners and managers who incurred costs because of access related problems – from 80% of land owners and managers in 2002/03, prior to the advent of access rights, to 67% of land owners and managers in 2008.

Table 4.18: Percentage of land owners and managers incurring costs as a result of access related problems¹

Base: All respondents who encountered an access related problem in the last 2-3 months ('non responses' excluded)

	2008 survey %	Monitoring survey			Baseline survey 2002/03 %
		2007 %	2006 %	2005 %	
Loss of time/income caused by removal of litter/rubbish/dumping	52	50	52	56	55
Repairs to damaged machinery/fences/walls	25	27	29	34	33
Loss of time/income caused by disturbance to livestock	26	27	25	25	36
Putting in gates/stiles	13	16	18	21	19
Loss of time/income caused by damaged crops/trees	11	9	12	13	13
Restrictions on land management operations	11	9	10	11	11
Increased insurance costs	9	9	9	13	16
Loss of time/income caused by disrupted stalking	8	6	8	13	15
Cost of surfacing paths	6	8	7	9	9
Loss of time/income caused by disrupted fishing	4	4	4	4	8
Other	9	12	11	14	6
Did not incur any costs	33	26	26	20	20
Base	588	611	532	512	661

¹ Respondents were unrestricted in number of responses to this question.

Whilst the percentage of land owners and managers incurring costs as a result of access related problems has gone down in five years, some problems appear to be persistently causing land owners and managers costs in time and money. In particular, the removal of litter, although reduced from 55% of respondents in 2002/03 and 56% of respondents in 2005, 52% of land owners and managers said that they are losing time and income because of this problem in 2008. Repairs to damaged machinery, fences and walls and loss of time and income caused by disturbance in livestock are also still an issue for one in four land owners and managers in 2008 although in comparison to previous years, this is an issue to less land owners and managers – in 2002/03 this was a issue for one in three land owners and managers. For some land owners and managers the cost incurred from access related problems remains significant and in one extreme instance a land manager reported an estimated cost of £3000 due to stock lost or straying.

The baseline, monitoring and 2008 surveys asked land owners and managers a question specifically about the effects of dogs not being kept under proper control by their owner while on land owners/managers' land. Table 4.19 shows the responses to the 2008 survey in comparison with the responses to the baseline survey in 2002/03 and the monitoring survey in 2007. No data are available for 2005 and 2006.

Problems in relation to dogs and livestock have apparently decreased since the advent of access rights, but continue to be an issue for 39% of respondents. In common with most of the other access-related problems noted earlier, these are covered by legislation which predates the Land Reform Act and Code. Various land managers cited specific instances of livestock being attacked by uncontrolled dogs, and some linked this experience to the advent of access rights.

Whilst the percentage of land owners and managers experiencing problems with dogs has apparently decreased slightly overall in 2008 compared to 2002/03, a few specific problems with dogs are perceived to be increasing, in particular the problems of dog excrement, disturbance of pets and farm animals, and dogs let loose in fields with crops. Some of the reported problems affect recreational users – for example dogs attacking other visitors’ dogs and members of the public being intimidated by dogs that are not under proper control.

Table 4.19: Problems with dogs not kept under proper control whilst on land owners/managers’ land

Base: All respondents (‘non responses’ excluded)

	2008 survey %	Monitoring survey 2007² %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
Dogs in fields with livestock	39	36	47
Dog excrement	37	32	30
Disturbing ground nesting birds	33	29	36
Disturbing pets and farm animals	20	11	16
Disturbing pheasant rearing areas	14	7	19
In fields with crops	15	8	9
Disrupted stalking	7	4	9
Other dog problems	11	8	7
Do not have a problem with dogs	35	40	29
Base	781	832	892

¹ Respondents were unrestricted in number of responses to this question.

² 2005 and 2006 data were unavailable for use in this report.

4.9 Positive experiences of visitors to the outdoors

Land owners and managers were asked if they had encountered any instances or evidence of visitors to the outdoors helping them. Table 4.20 compares the responses given in the 2008 survey with the baseline survey in 2002/03 and the monitoring survey in 2007. No data are available for 2005 and 2006 for inclusion in this report.

In 2007 and 2008, one in four land owners and managers said that they had encountered instances or evidence of visitors to the outdoors helping them in the last month. This compares with one in five in 2002/03, suggesting a slight increase.

Table 4.20: Instances of help given to land owners and managers over the last month¹

Base: All respondents ('non responses' excluded)

	2008 survey %	Monitoring survey 2007 %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
Yes	24	26	20
No	67	66	71
Cannot recall	9	8	9
Base	807	854	898

¹2005 and 2006 data were unavailable for use in this report.

Table 4.21 shows the type of help given by visitors to the outdoors to land owners and managers. The percentage of land owners and managers (who said they had been helped by visitors in the last month) mentioning visitors reporting a dead or injured animal has increased from 43% in 2002/03 to 48% in 2008. Incidences of clearing rubbish and returning stray livestock to fields have also increased between 2002/03 and 2008. Other forms of help have remained constant. These results are drawn from quite small sample sizes and should be treated with caution.

Table 4.21: Type of help given to land owners and managers over the last month¹

Base: All respondents encountering instances or evidence of help from visitors in last month ('non responses' excluded)

	2008 survey %	Monitoring survey 2007 %	Baseline survey 2002/03 %
Reporting damage to land or property	30	28	34
Reporting dead or injured animal	48	42	43
Clearing an area of rubbish	19	18	9
Rescuing animal in distress	26	23	27
Reporting straying animal	44	36	46
Returning stray livestock to field	11	7	7
Reporting sheep worrying to police	3	4	4
Helping while fishing	1	0	1
Something else	13	16	15
Base	176	215	179

¹Respondents were unrestricted in number of responses to this question.

²2005 and 2006 data were unavailable.

5 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This section of the report draws conclusions from the main findings from each of the target audiences surveyed in 2008; recreational users, land owners and managers and where appropriate the general public. Recommendations for further action are offered on the basis of these conclusions. For the purposes of reference to the main findings documented in Section 4 of this report, the conclusions are drawn using the same sub-headings.

5.1 Conclusions

Conclusions are drawn from an assessment of data presented across the five year period from 2002/03 to 2008. The main comparison is between the 2002/03 baseline and 2008 surveys. Monitoring survey data presented for the interim years 2005 to 2007 are also considered (where available).

5.1.1 Awareness of the Code

Overall, the results of the 2008 survey show a positive trend, with growing awareness of both the Code and its contents over the five year period 2003 to 2008. Awareness of the Code and its contents is now widespread – particularly among recreational users and land owners/managers.

Awareness of the Code and its contents among recreational users has increased significantly over this five year period – from just 35% awareness in 2002/03 to 73% in 2008 with awareness of the existence of the Code (with or without knowledge of its contents) now reaching 95% among this target group.

The 2008 Survey identified a slightly higher awareness of the Code and its contents among respondents recruited from recreational groups and organisations than among respondents recruited on the basis of readership of publications aimed at ‘outdoor recreational activities’.

The survey findings show a distinct correlation between awareness of the Code and its contents among recreational users and the sourcing or receipt of information about access rights and responsibilities, confirming the link between increased awareness and the campaign to promote the Code. The 2008 survey identified that recreational users often seek out information about rights and responsibilities with regard to outdoor access from information centres at parks or places of interest, rather than through organisations or searching the Web. Recreational users are most likely to receive unrequested information about access rights and responsibilities from a recreational organisation to which they either belong to or to which they are affiliated.

Awareness of the Code and its contents among land owners and managers has also increased significantly over the five year period 2002/03 to 2008 – from just 42% awareness in 2002/03 to 63% in 2008, with awareness of the existence of the Code (with or without knowledge of its contents) now reaching 81% among this target group.

The 2008 survey identified a higher awareness of the Code and its contents among land owners and managers recruited from land management organisations than among respondents recruited on the basis of readership of specialist ‘farming’ publications. The 2008 survey also identified a lower awareness of the Code and its contents among respondents who were participating in these responsible behaviour surveys for the first time – perhaps highlighting a need to widen future awareness campaigns to include land owners and managers who are not affiliated to any particular land management body.

Awareness of the Code has also increased significantly among the general public, albeit from a very low base of awareness (7%) in 2002/03. The ScRS (12 months to September 2008) identifies that 61% of the general public are now aware of the existence of the Code and 11% have actually seen a copy of the Code.

The survey findings suggest that general awareness of the existence of the Code has now been achieved across each of the target groups, although there is still scope to increase awareness of the contents of the Code among all of these groups.

5.1.2 Perceptions of who the Code is aimed at

Across each of the target groups, perceptions of who the Code is aimed at have remained relatively constant over the five years from 2002/03 to 2008. The majority (between 86% and 90%) of respondents from each target group perceive the Code to be aimed at the general public. A high majority have perceived this from before its introduction – i.e. as far back as 2002/03 when it was still in draft form.

Recognition that the Code is also aimed at land owners and managers is more uneven. Perhaps most surprisingly in 2008, only two out of three land owners and managers said they believed the Code to be aimed at their group and this perception has not really changed over the five years. Three out of four recreational users consider the Code to be aimed at land owners and managers, but only a minority of the general public listed land owners and managers among the target groups. This is possibly a function of the way in which the question was asked, because the ScRS does not give menu-driven or prompted responses as was the case with the baseline, monitoring and 2008 surveys. Recognition of active recreational users as a target audience also varied, with four fifths of active users and just over half of land owners and managers considering that the Code is aimed at this group.

In 2008, 55% of recreational users consider the Code to be aimed at public bodies. The majority of the general public and land owners/managers do not consider the Code to be aimed at public bodies and again this perception has remained relatively constant over the five year period 2002/03 to 2008.

5.1.3 Awareness and perceptions of the key responsibilities within the Code

As well as being aware of the existence of the Code, the 2008 survey indicates that both recreational users and land owners/managers are highly aware of their responsibilities with regard to access. The results from the ScRS in 2008 also show considerable awareness of the need to take a responsible approach to access. The baseline, monitoring and 2008 surveys indicate that recreational users generally perceive the behaviour of land managers to be increasingly responsible, and vice versa.

Other findings of the 2008 survey, both qualitative and quantitative, indicate that appropriate standards of behaviour are not always realised in practice. When interpreting these results, it is important to bear in mind that the sampled populations of recreational users and land managers are unlikely to fully correspond. In other words, the recreational users whose behaviour is being highlighted by land managers may be drawn from a distinct population to those responding to the survey, and vice versa.

For example, whilst recreational users within the survey are highly aware of a responsibility to control dogs, the survey findings indicate that significant problems still exist with regard to visitors accessing managed land with dogs. Some land owners and managers raised concerns that visitors to the outdoors show a basic lack of

understanding of how to control and manage dogs around livestock – particularly when lambs and calves are around and also the damage that dogs can do by being allowed to run through crops. Responsible access with dogs is currently a major focus of the SNH access education campaign.

Both recreational users and the general public claim a high awareness of acting with consideration, awareness and responsibility when accessing the outdoors. Whilst 16% of the general public considered 'helping land managers and others to work safely and effectively' to be part of responsible access, this at least partly reflects a difference in the approach to questioning styles, because the ScRS does not use menu-driven or prompted responses. Despite this, the 2008 survey findings indicate that land owners and managers harbour concerns about conducting land management operations safely because of a perceived 'lack of understanding' among visitors of the risks involved in operations such as handling livestock, operation of spray equipment, timber felling and extraction, and stalking or other shooting activities.

Land owners and managers demonstrate a high awareness of the more general responsibilities of land owners and managers, such as 'not obstructing or discouraging public access', but some appear to be less aware of other more specific responsibilities. Whilst a number of land owners and managers raised concerns about being able to conduct land management operations safely when visitors are accessing their land, the survey findings indicate that many are not well aware of their responsibilities to 'plan and conduct (these) operations in ways that minimise interference with public access'. A number of land owners and managers are also less well aware of their responsibilities to 'inform the public of the extent and duration of management operations'. Some land owners and managers were the target of considerable criticism from recreational users taking part in the 2008 survey regarding the responsibility to keep access users well informed about land management operations particularly with regards to timber felling and extraction and shooting/stalking activities.

Other responsibilities for which land owners and managers collectively scored less than 3.00, (a score below 'quite aware'), were 'being welcoming and respecting the needs of the general public'; 'providing or suggesting alternative routes'; working in partnerships with local authorities, public bodies and recreational organisations' and 'providing clear and constructive advice to event organisers'. The research findings identify a potential need to further increase awareness of specific responsibilities under the Code among land owners and managers – particularly with a view to addressing perceptions identified from the 'verbatim comments' collected as part of the survey response which highlight a concern among some land owners and managers that the responsibilities of the Code does not sit comfortably alongside their wider land management responsibilities, for example, the requirement for bio-security in 'food chain management', public liability and safety issues and good animal husbandry.

5.1.4 Effects of the Code

Since the introduction of the Code, its effect on the type and location of leisure activities of visitors to the outdoors appears to be increasing. In 2008, one out of two recreational users claims that the Code has had either 'a great effect' or 'some effect' on their choice of location and activities. The effect has been very positive for recreational users, who feel they now have a greater choice of locations, either via newly constructed paths or an increased confidence in taking access generally, better facilities, increased clarity through better or increased signposting and other forms of information; an easier relationship with land owners and managers when organising groups and events and an increased confidence to explore new areas or activities based on a clarification of their rights.

One in ten recreational users who said that the Code had had some effect on their choice of location and conduct of their activities said this was because they had 'modified their behaviour due to awareness of responsibilities' – indicating that the introduction of the Code has made access users more aware of the need to behave responsibly.

The results of this survey confirm that the effects of access rights on land managers' approaches to their activities have been less than many land managers had anticipated. Before the Act came into force, 17% of land managers anticipated 'a great effect' with only 7% predicting 'no effect'. In the 2008 survey, the numbers actually experiencing these effects were 7% and 23% respectively.

The percentage of land owners and managers making changes in their approach to land management operations as a result of the introduction of the Code has remained fairly unchanged over the subsequent period from 2005 to 2008. Two out of three land owners and managers said that they were either actively embracing the principles of the Code before its introduction in 2005 or had had little or no experience of demand for access since the advent of access rights. 30% of land owners and managers claimed that the advent of access rights has had 'some effect' and 7% reported 'a great effect' on the way they conduct their land management operations. These effects included increased financial and man-power investment, a need for extra vigilance, having to deal with aggressive and inconsiderate behaviour, increased public liability insurance and loss in potential earnings due to restrictions on land management operations as a result of increased access. 14% of land managers reported investing resources in proactive provision for access.

5.1.5 Perceived behaviour of different groups using the outdoors

Despite a lack of awareness among some land owners and managers with regards to some of their more specific responsibilities, recreational users as a group have seen improvements across all land owner/ manager responsibilities under the Code. Again, it is important to recognise that these two populations may not fully correspond.

Over the five year period from 2002/03 to 2008, recreational users perceive that there has been an improvement in all aspects of responsible behaviour on the part of land owners and managers. There has also been a perceived improvement over the 12 month period between September/October 2007 and September/October 2008, though with room for continuing improvement in the future.

Over the five year period from 2002/03, land owners and managers also perceive that there has been an improvement in all aspects of responsible behaviour on the part of visitors accessing their land. There has also been a perceived improvement in all aspects of behaviour over the 12 month period between October 2007 and September 2008, again with scope for further improvement. The least well recognised responsibilities appeared to be 'keeping dogs under proper control' and 'helping land managers to work safely and effectively' and although improved, these perceived behaviours are still falling below the mid-point score of 4.00. It is not possible from the survey findings to identify whether visitors who are not meeting their responsibilities under the Code in these areas are from among the general public or members of formal recreational organisations or both. However, the findings of the ScRS do indicate that only a minority of the general public consider these to be identified responsibilities under the Access Code. Whilst the majority of recreational users are aware of these responsibilities, there is an observation from land owners and managers that visitors to their land demonstrate a lack of proper understanding of how to behave around stock and whilst land management operations are being carried out – both

when accompanied by dogs and when on their own.

Problems of access with dogs are long standing and have been identified in previous surveys. SNH have already allocated resources to promote responsible behaviour when accessing the outdoors with dogs prior to this research being carried out and increased promotional effort is being undertaken in this area.

5.1.6 Perceptions and attitudes towards public access

This survey suggests that public access to the outdoors is increasing year on year, in line with a trend that was apparent before the advent of access rights. Before the introduction of access rights and the Code, 74% of land owners and managers were seeing an increase in public access to their land over the previous five years. In 2008, and in the interim period of 2005 to 2007, between 55% and 58% of land owners and managers said they were seeing an increase in public access over the previous five years.

A few land owners and managers said that the increase in public access has started to seriously affect their ability to carry out land management activities or undertake farming viably. The survey method did not directly test the awareness of land owners and managers regarding management options that are available, such as through the access legislation, to address any issues arising as a result of access.

The majority of land managers do not mind responsible access being taken, although one in four would prefer visitors to ask permission first. Comments were made that this is particularly important for planning land management operations safely to accommodate public access, suggesting a need for continuing effort to promote awareness of approaches to access management under the Code (and existing guidance on this theme). Attitudes among land owners and managers towards access have remained constant over the five year period from 2002/03 to 2008, although the results suggest a slightly rising five year trend towards a growing minority of land owners and managers preferring to exclude all public access from their land.

5.1.7 Problems encountered by different groups and the effects of these problems

There has been a general reduction in the number of recreational users experiencing access related problems over the past five years, from 35% of users in 2002/03 to 29% of users in 2008. In particular, there appears to have been a reduction in intimidating signage and locked gates since the introduction of the access legislation. Other problems have continued to arise at consistent but generally low levels.

Whilst access related problems appear to be on the decline, there has been an increasing trend over the five year period 2002/03 and 2008 in the percentage of recreational users and members of the general public encountering irresponsible behaviour by other countryside users – in particular dogs not under proper control and litter being dropped. It is not clear from the survey whether this is because the Code has raised awareness of access users' responsibilities so that they more readily recognise irresponsible behaviour by others, or if these problems are genuinely getting worse.

For the first time in 2008, recreational users were asked if their access and enjoyment of the outdoors had been affected by land management activities. Just under half of the recreational users taking part in the 2008 survey said that their access and enjoyment to the outdoors had been affected by land management activities – most particularly by the activities of ghillies and estate managers organising shooting and stalking activities and the manner in which tree felling and extraction is conducted. In both situations,

the verbatim responses given indicate that 'consideration of public access' had not been made when planning, carrying out or clearing up after these activities had taken place. Specifically, in the case of shooting and stalking activities there appears to be a need for a better understanding of the needs of both sides and more constructive communication between those involved in organising shooting and stalking activities and visitors to the land. At the time of this survey, further action was in progress to address some of these issues, and a sub-group of the National Access Forum has since developed guidance for stalkers on the most appropriate and effective use of signs to communicate with hillwalkers. In the case of tree felling and timber extraction, visitors believe that large areas are being closed off to the public unnecessarily and that after these activities have taken place, access roads and paths are being left in a poor and sometimes hazardous condition from the point of view of taking public access. Mostly the general public, in contrast to recreational users, tend to stay within well established recreational areas or use paths and networks, and as such very few recalled encountering problems during recent visits to the outdoors before the introduction of the Access Code. However, in 2008 one in five members of the general public encountered access related problems during recent visits to the outdoors – bringing the general public's experience in line with recreational users.

For the first time in 2008, land owners and managers were asked if their ability to undertake land management activities had been affected by access related problems. Just under half of all land owners and managers taking part in the 2008 survey said their ability to undertake land management activities had been affected by access related problems. Stock management was cited most frequently as being the management activity affected by public access, typically by dog worrying, gates being left open, the public getting in the way of stock movement activities and other inappropriate behaviour such as walking too close to cows with young calves or disturbing ewes with young lambs.

The percentage of land owners and managers experiencing access related problems has remained broadly similar since access rights came into force, but the extent to which specific access problems are being encountered is decreasing. Three out of four land owners and managers reported access related problems in 2002/03 and also in 2008. However, it would appear that although problems are still experienced by a significant proportion of land owners and managers, since the introduction of the Code, less land owners and managers are experiencing specific problems such as dropped litter, gates being left open, dogs not under control, infringement on privacy, vandalism and damage than in 2002/03. Two problems which appear to buck the general trend (although not significantly increasing) are fly tipping and access users not sticking to designated paths and tracks, although the latter is a legitimate part of Scottish access rights if undertaken responsibly. However, a few land owners and managers reported that these rights had been over-stepped, for example by the public taking access across private gardens and wandering through agricultural buildings. Many of the problems noted are offences which are not legitimised by access rights and which were common before the new access framework came into operation.

In 2008 some problems appear to be persistently causing land managers costs in time and money. Just over half of all land managers said that they were incurring costs in removing rubbish and one in four land owners and managers are having to repair damage to machinery, fences and walls as well as dealing with the financial and time consequences of disturbance to livestock. Since access rights came into force, however, there has been a decrease in the percentage of land managers who have incurred costs as a result of access related problems. Some problems relating specifically to the control of dogs appear to be on the increase – in particular, the problem of dog excrement, the disturbance of pets and farm animals and dogs let loose in fields with crops – possibly influenced by the increasing trend in dog ownership.

Despite the survey findings suggesting an improvement in the number of land owners and managers experiencing specific problems, there appears to be a perception among many land managers that these problems are getting worse. A number of factors relating to the survey methodology, such as targeting land owners and managers with larger holdings and an over-emphasis in questioning about problems experienced rather than benefits, should be considered when evaluating the extent to which access problems are both reported and perceived as being a problem.

The 2008 survey reports an increasing trend for land owners and managers to take no action to stop problems recurring. The majority of land owners and managers are, however, tackling the problem by talking to access users who behave irresponsibly and reporting offenders to the police. There is concern among some land owners and managers that they and the law are powerless to stop what they see as an increasingly confident and aggressive minority of the general public from behaving irresponsibly or illegally on their land. However, few land managers experiencing such problems appear to be seeking advice from local authorities, which have a lead role in access management under the access legislation.

5.1.8 Positive experiences of visitors to the outdoors

The Code may be starting to have a positive effect on access users' approach to actively supporting land owners and managers with land management problems and situations. Since the introduction of the Code there has been a small increase not only in the percentage of land owners and managers experiencing or having evidence of visitors to the outdoors offering them help and support, but also an increase in help and support over specific problems such as picking up litter or reporting straying or injured livestock.

5.2 Recommendations

Recommendations are based on the conclusions drawn from an assessment of data presented across the five year period from 2002/03 to 2008. The main comparison is between the 2002/03 and 2008 surveys. Data presented for the interim years 2005 to 2007 are also considered (where available).

5.2.1 Increasing awareness and understanding

Potential exists to further improve awareness and/or encourage responsible behaviour. Although there is a very high level of awareness among recreational users and land owners/managers who are members of representative organisations, there is a continuing need to improve awareness and knowledge of the Code among the general public and participants in active outdoor recreational pursuits and land managers who do not belong to representative organisations.

There is a compelling argument (as highlighted throughout the findings of the report) to suggest that some users' interpretation and understanding of the Code needs to be addressed and where necessary corrected. In particular educating access users with regard to defining boundaries of access within an agricultural holding (e.g. not outdoor sheds and buildings); the need to keep dogs under close control or on leads and away from livestock and also on appropriately responsible behaviour when encountering certain land management situations such as crop spraying, moving livestock, tree felling or shooting. For recreational users, this suggests a continuing need to promote the Code through routes such as recreational activity and local information centres, as well as through popular outdoor recreational magazines or leaflets distributed locally in areas which attract visitors to the outdoors. This also highlights the importance of the

ongoing education campaign to encourage responsible dog ownership and work to increase users' general understanding of land management practices.

The 2008 survey also identifies an opportunity to include those in 'active land management' who do not necessarily belong to land management groups and organisations when considering future activities to promote awareness. Some land management activities may also require particular attention, and ongoing efforts to promote responsible land management with respect to stalking and shooting should perhaps be accompanied by a focus on responsible access management in association with tree felling and timber extraction operations.

5.2.2 Addressing perceptions of key responsibilities

There is concern among some land owners and managers that too much responsibility is expected of land owners and managers and not enough responsibility is being promoted to access users. The research findings indicate that access users have strongly grasped (and in some cases possibly misinterpreted) their rights of access but that some are less diligent in exercising their responsibilities. The scope of the research did not allow for this to be fully explored and potentially this could be the focus of further research among access users. There is also an opportunity to both benchmark and if necessary correct and/or develop users' understanding of key responsibilities when taking access to the outdoors. The research identified negativity towards the Code among some land owners and managers, and there is a continuing need to emphasise the balance of responsibilities between users and land managers as well as identifying any areas where there may be a need to further promote awareness of the Code. Essentially this is likely to be best achieved through further educational activities targeted at both users and owners and managers of land. Further research could also be used to help clarify the specific needs of particular groups (e.g. land managers on the urban fringes) when considering future campaigns.

5.2.3 Addressing persistent problems

Since the introduction of the Code, land owners and managers are experiencing fewer problems overall, but increasing numbers of access users on their land year on year are resulting in some continuing pressures and some problems persist despite the advent of the Code. The most serious of these are generally criminal offences but the Code could play an educational role where this behaviour results from a lack of understanding or consideration. Irresponsible behaviour and some lower level offences are often based on thoughtlessness, or a genuine lack of understanding of the needs of land owners and managers. In this area, there is an opportunity for SNH to develop its educational campaign to address the specific problems encountered by recreational users and land managers as noted above.

Other offences, including persistent dropping of litter, dumping of litter, fly tipping and deliberate acts of vandalism and damage, will be very hard to address by educational approaches. These offences reflect wider social problems which long predate the access legislation and are unlikely to be greatly encouraged or deterred by the existence of access rights or the Code. Although these activities are covered by existing legislation, land owners and managers feel there is not enough scope for deterrence either by direct intervention or by involving the police or other public bodies. There is perhaps an opportunity to address these issues through other channels rather than through the promotion of the Code, with SNH in a position to highlight the findings of the survey to (and possibly work with) those most appropriately placed to deal with these activities in order to minimise such problems.

The survey results suggest that land managers are not approaching their local

authorities for help in addressing access issues, although the reasons for this are not clear. Given the lead role of local access officers and forums in the management of access, there may be a need for further action to raise awareness of these roles and develop links between access authorities and land managers.

5.2.4 Future research

The 2008 survey achieved its objectives. However, the use of postal self-completion surveys is starting to attract lower returns and as a result higher costs per respondent. Intentions to use an on-line methodology were not realised in 2008 because most participating organisations could not accommodate this type of methodology. Despite this, the electronic version of the questionnaire worked well and received a good response where used as originally intended (i.e. actively promoted by the participating organisations). Appendix D shows the approach taken by the Scottish Orienteering Association. In future, other organisations could be encouraged to take this approach if sufficient time were to be incorporated into the research to allow them to integrate this with their own websites and promotional activities.

SNH could also consider hosting a web-based survey directly (over a 12 month period), which could be accessed via the SNH website and promoted through planned advertising and promotional campaigns with possible links to sites of outdoor recreational and land management organisations.

In future studies, it is recommended that serious consideration be given to re-writing and re-wording the questionnaire as data quality could greatly be improved by re-designing some questions. Questions relating to the understanding of responsibilities could also be introduced in future surveys.

There is scope to include more land owners and managers with holdings of less than 200 hectares in future surveys (i.e. to bring the sample more in line with the national profile of land managers) – in particular, small holdings/crofters are currently under represented in the current sampling approach. To facilitate comparison between the general public and recreational users in future surveys, it would also be useful to eliminate duplication within the ScRS by adding a question to determine whether or not members of the public are also members of recreational organisations.

In addition to a general benchmarking study, perhaps conducted only every few years, there is scope to conduct other qualitative research which addresses specific issues or targets specific subgroups of countryside users e.g. dog owners; land owners and managers who farm on the urban fringes; land owners who manage forestry or shooting/stalking activities. A sample profile could be generated from agencies holding agricultural databases, in the case of land owners and managers, or from within the ScRS sampling process in the case of access users.

6 APPENDICES

APPENDIX A - Survey Questionnaires (recreational users, land owners/managers)

Survey of Responsible Behaviour - Recreational Users

Your Use of the Countryside

Q1 Which of the following statements **BEST** describes how you most often use the countryside? Please tick one option only.

I mainly use the countryside for general leisure activities such as dog walking, picnic-ing, leisurely cycling or short walks.

I mainly use the countryside for more active recreational pursuits such as longer walks, hillwalking, canoeing, club or vigorous cycling.

I use the countryside only very rarely or not at all.

Q2 Please tick the box of each of the following clubs or organisations you are a member of. Please also write the name of any other club or organisation involved in recreation or countryside issues that you are a member of in the space provided.

British Horse Society Scotland

Cyclists' Touring Club or CTC Scotland

Scottish Cyclists' Union

Mountaineering Council of Scotland

The Ramblers' Association Scotland

Royal Yachting Association Scotland

Scottish Canoe Association

Scottish Hill Runners

Scottish Orienteering Association

Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society (SCOTWAYS)

National Trust for Scotland

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (Scotland)

Scottish Wildlife Trust

John Muir Trust

The Woodland Trust

Scottish Ornithologists Club

No, I am not a member of any of these clubs or organisations

Other clubs and organisations (Please write in the box below)

Q3 How frequently, on average, would you say you use the countryside for any recreational or leisure activity (including non-sporting activities, e.g. dog walking, bird watching, picnic-ing)?

- Daily GO TO Q4
- At least once a week GO TO Q4
- At least once a month GO TO Q4
- At least one every 2 - 3 months GO TO Q4
- At least 2 - 3 times a year GO TO Q4
- Once a year GO TO Q4
- Unsure GO TO Q4
- Never GO TO Q6

Q4 When using the countryside for recreational and leisure activities, which of the following land management activities have you come across? PLEASE TICK ALL THAT APPLY

- Drainage and re-hedging
- Ploughing, planting and re-seeding
- Tree felling and timber extraction
- Outdoor lambing
- Outdoor calving
- Outdoor sheep shearing
- Dipping of sheep to control endo/ectoparasites
- Combine harvesting e.g. of cereals, root and fruit crops
- Production of winter forage for livestock e.g. silage, hay, haylage
- Supplemented outdoor feeding of livestock e.g. concentrates, forage in ring feeders or loose on the ground
- Controlled/strip grazing of livestock (using temporary fencing to control stock within a larger field or area)
- Deer stalking
- Grouse-shooting
- Pheasant and partridge shooting
- Other (please specify) _____

Q5 Did any of these activities affect your access and/or enjoyment of the countryside for recreational and leisure activities?

- Yes No

If, yes - which activities affected your access and/or enjoyment of the countryside for recreational and leisure activities and in what way - please specify below:

Awareness of your Rights and Responsibilities in the Countryside

Q6 The Scottish Outdoor Access Code came into effect in February 2005. The Code was prepared by Scottish Natural Heritage under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003. The Code provides guidance regarding access to and responsibilities in the countryside. Which of the following statements best describes your knowledge of the Code?

- I have definitely heard of the Code and I am aware of its content* **GO TO QUESTION 7**
- I have definitely heard of the Code but I am not aware of its content* **GO TO QUESTION 7**
- I think I have heard of the Code* **GO TO QUESTION 7**
- I have not heard of the Code* **GO TO QUESTION 8**

Q7 To your knowledge, who is the Scottish Outdoor Access Code aimed at? Please place a tick next to all of those audiences you feel are relevant below:

- Unsure*
- The general public*
- Farmers/land owners/land managers*
- Public bodies (e.g. Government agencies, Councils)*
- Active recreational users (e.g. canoeists, hill walkers, vigorous cyclists)*
- Other*

Q8 How aware or unaware are you of the following responsibilities applicable to visitors to the countryside as they are laid down in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code? It does not matter if you are unfamiliar with the Code. It may be that you are aware of some of the responsibilities already.

	<i>Very aware</i>	<i>Quite aware</i>	<i>Not very aware</i>	<i>Not at all aware</i>
Respecting people's privacy and peace	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Always acting with consideration, awareness and responsibility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Respecting needs of other people enjoying the outdoors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Helping land managers to work safely and effectively	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Respecting reasonable and practicable advice to limit access due to land management operations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Caring for the environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keeping dogs under proper control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Taking special care when organising a group or event	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q9 The Scottish Outdoor Access Code provides guidance on how land managers and owners should act responsibly to those exercising access. Thinking, in general, about your experience of being on land or water for countryside recreation - how much do you agree or disagree that land managers/owners currently demonstrate the following behaviours?

Please give a score of between 1 and 7 for each statement. A score of 1 means you feel that the particular behaviour is never demonstrated by land managers/owners whereas a score of 7 means you feel the particular behaviour is always demonstrated by land managers/owners.

Land managers/owners.....

	Never 1	2	3	4	5	6	Always 7	D/K N/A
Allowing un-obstructed access to the public (when public accessing the countryside responsibly)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ensuring access for the public is neither deterred nor discouraged (when public accessing the countryside responsibly)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keeping any requests to limit access to the minimum required for the land management operation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Informing the public of the extent and duration of the management operation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Providing or suggesting alternative routes where appropriate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Planning and conducting land management operations in ways that minimise interference with people accessing the countryside responsibly	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Being welcoming towards public access and respecting the needs of people accessing the countryside	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Providing clear and constructive advice to the organisers of events	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Working in partnership with local authorities, public bodies and recreation organisations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q10 Overall, how much of an effect do you feel the right of responsible access and the associated Scottish Outdoor Access Code has had on you and the type and location of leisure activities you do in the countryside?

- A great effect* **GO TO Q 11** *No effect at all* **GO TO Q 12**
Some effect **GO TO Q 11** *Unsure* **GO TO Q 13**
Not very much effect **GO TO Q 12**

Q11 In what way(s) has the right of responsible access and the associated Scottish Outdoor Access Code had an effect on you and the type and location of leisure activities you do in the countryside? Please write in the box below then GO TO Q13:

Q12 Why do you say the right of responsible access and the associated Scottish Outdoor Access Code has had little or no effect on you? Please write in the box below:

Your use of the Countryside within the Last Month

Q13 How many times have you visited the countryside for recreational purposes in the last month?

- No visits in last month* **Go to Q31** *5-7 times* **Go to Q14**
Once **Go to Q14** *8-10 times* **Go to Q14**
2-4 times **Go to Q14** *More than 10 times* **Go to Q14**

Q14 Which activities have you taken part in in the countryside WITHIN THE LAST MONTH?
Please tick all of the relevant activities below:

- Walking for up to 2 miles*
- Longer walks (over 2 miles), including hillwalking and rambling*
- Climbing*
- Hill running or orienteering*
- Cycling on classified roads used by motorised vehicles*
- Cycling off-road on paths/tracks/unclassified roads not regularly used by motorised vehicles*
- Cycling not using any paths or tracks*
- Fishing*
- Informal camping i.e. not at a designated campsite*
- Horse riding on classified roads used by motorised vehicles*
- Horse riding off-road on paths tracks/unclassified roads not regularly used by motorised vehicles*
- Watersports including canoeing, boating (non motorised)*
- Bird watching*
- Picnic-ing*
- Other - please specify* _____

Your Last Visit to the Countryside

Q15 Which activities did you take part in DURING YOUR LAST VISIT to the countryside?
Please tick all of the relevant activities below:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| <i>Walking for up to 2 miles</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>Longer walks (over 2 miles), including hillwalking and rambling</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>Climbing</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>Hill running or orienteering</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>Cycling on classified roads used by motorised vehicles</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>Cycling off-road on paths/tracks/unclassified roads not regularly used by motorised vehicles</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>Cycling not using any paths or tracks</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>Fishing</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>Informal camping i.e. not at a designated campsite</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>Horse riding on classified roads used by motorised vehicles</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>Horse riding off-road on paths/tracks/unclassified roads not regularly used by motorised vehicles</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>Watersports including canoeing, boating (non motorised)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>Bird watching</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>Picnic-ing</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>Other - please specify _____</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

For the following questions (i.e. Q16 to Q31) please think only of your LAST VISIT to the countryside as referred to in Q15

Q16 Which of the following different types of countryside BEST describes where you visited on your LAST VISIT to the countryside? Please tick only one option.

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| <i>Mountains or moorland</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Country park or other managed site (e.g. bird or nature reserve)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>Forest or woodland</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>River or riverbank, loch or loch shore</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>Farmland</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Coastal - beach/cliff</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Q17 Which of the following different types of surface were you on during this visit (I.E. Your LAST VISIT to the countryside)? Please tick all that apply.

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| <i>Flat water</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>On footpaths</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>White water</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Through or within field(s)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>On tarmac roads</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Across open country or moorland with no paths</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>On off-road tracks or routes</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Other - please specify _____</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

If you went through/within field(s) during your last visit go to Q18. Otherwise go to Q20

Q18 When you went through/within the field(s), which of the following statements, in the main, applies?
PLEASE TICK ONLY ONE OPTION

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| <i>The field(s) was used for grazing but no animals were present</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>The field(s) contained cows and calves</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>The field(s) contained sheep</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>The field(s) contained arable crops (wheat, oats, barley)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>The field(s) contained sheep and lambs</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>The field(s) contained grass for hay/silage</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>The field(s) contained cattle</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>None of the above applies to field(s) I crossed</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Q19 When going through/within the field(s) did you in the main...? PLEASE TICK ONLY ONE OPTION

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| <i>Follow a path or track</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Take the shortest route across the field</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>Go around the field margin/edge</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Other (please specify)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>Follow tractor drills (tram lines)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

Q20 Who were you with during this last visit to the countryside? Please tick all that are relevant.

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| <i>I was on my own</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>With a guide or other commercial provider</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>With friends or family members</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Taking part in a competitive event</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>With children aged 15 and under</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Taking part in an educational outing (e.g. school or university visit)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>On a club organised activity</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>With a dog</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>With an outdoor activity centre or education centre</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>None of these</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>Taking part in a sponsored event</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

Any Problems You Encountered During your Last Visit to the Countryside

Q21 During your last visit to the countryside did you encounter any of the following problems? Please tick all of the statements that apply.

- A locked gate that hindered or obstructed your access*
 - A path blocked by overgrowing vegetation*
 - A blocked path (e.g. by farm machinery or dumped materials)*
 - A man-made obstruction or blockage on water*
 - Blocked or restricted car parking*
 - An aggressive or intimidating animal (including dogs)*
 - Barbed wire or an electric fence across or alongside a path*
 - A restrictive sign (e.g. private, no entry, keep out)*
 - A sign banning your particular activity*
 - An intimidating sign*
 - Lack of advice or information offering an alternative route*
 - I did not encounter any of the above problems*
 - I encountered other problems associated with land management practices (please specify)*
-

Q22 Did you encounter any hostile people during this last visit?

Yes **GO TO QUESTION 23** No **GO TO QUESTION 24**

Q23 If you did encounter a hostile person, who was it? Please tick all that apply.

- A farmer/land manager*
 - A farm or estate worker*
 - Another recreational user (e.g. canoeists, hillwalkers, mountain bikers or anglers)*
 - A ranger*
 - A local resident*
 - Another type of person - please specify or write 'unsure'*
-

Q24 Thinking about the problem or hostile person you encountered mentioned in either Q21 or Q23, what did you, or anyone in your party, do?

- I did not encounter any problem or hostile person*
 - Although I encountered a problem or hostile person I did nothing*
 - Discontinued the activity you were participated in*
 - Found a way around/removed the obstruction*
 - Ignored the sign*
 - Ignored the person's request*
 - Altered a route as a result of the obstruction/sign/person's request*
 - Removed the obstruction/sign*
 - Reported the obstruction/sign/hostile person to the police*
 - Reported the obstruction/sign/hostile person to a ranger*
 - Reported the obstruction/sign/hostile person to the local council*
 - Reported the obstruction/sign/hostile person to a club or organisation involved in recreational or countryside issues*
 - Other (please specify)*
-

Q25 During your last visit did you alter your route significantly for any reason?

- Yes **GO TO QUESTION 26** No **GO TO QUESTION 27**

Q26 Why did you alter your route significantly? Please tick all that apply.

- Politely asked to alter route/leave land by a farmer or other person*
- Impolitely asked to alter route/leave land by a farmer or other person*
- Came across a no entry sign*
- Encountered an informative sign giving reasons and/or directions for an alternative route*
- Reached a field with livestock*
- Reached a field with crops growing*
- Reached a field where machinery was being used (e.g. ploughing, spraying)*
- Had to pass close by a house and/or garden*
- Encountered a pheasant/deer/wildfowl shoot*
- Encountered fishing/angling*
- Reached a farmyard*
- The route was becoming overused and eroded*
- The route was obstructed (e.g. by a fence or locked gate)*
- Other (please specify)* _____

Q27 During your last visit did you encounter any other recreational users or general visitors to the countryside who you felt were behaving irresponsibly or illegally?

- Yes **GO TO QUESTION 28** No **GO TO QUESTION 31**

Q28 If yes, how were they behaving irresponsibly or illegally? Please tick all that apply.

- Car parked blocking a gate/entrance*
- Causing damage to a growing crop*
- Cycling in an inappropriate place*
- Dropping litter*
- Dog not under control*
- Disturbing livestock*
- Causing damage or disturbance to wild animals/birds/plants*
- Disturbing others' enjoyment of the countryside*
- Horse riding in an inappropriate place*
- Not adequately equipped for the activity/weather /terrain*
- Ignoring correct/reasonable advice of a farmer/land manager/ranger*
- Interfering with farm machinery*
- Interfering with land management operations (e.g. ploughing, crop spraying)*
- Lighting a fire*
- Fly tipping*
- Misusing drugs*
- Poaching*
- Taking part in watersports in an irresponsible manner*
- Other (please specify) _____*

Q29 Did you, or anyone in your party, do anything to intervene when you witnessed this behaviour?

Yes GO TO Q 30 No GO TO Q 31 Unsure GO TO Q 31

Q30 What did you/they do to intervene? Please tick all that apply.

- Approached the offenders and asked them to stop*
- Did not address the offender(s) but sorted the problem (e.g. picked up the litter)*
- Reported the incident to the police*
- Reported the incident to a Ranger*
- Reported the incident to the council*
- Reported the incident to the farm/land manager*
- Reported the incident to a club or organisation involved in recreational or countryside issues*
- Other action (please specify) _____*

Q31 Still thinking about your last visit to the countryside - how comfortable did you feel whilst accessing the area(s) you visited? We have defined comfortable as being able to access the countryside freely and without hindrance. Please use a scale of 1 to 7 where 1 is not at all comfortable and 7 is very comfortable.

- 1 (Not at all comfortable)
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7 (Very comfortable)
- Don't know

Information on Your Rights and responsibilities in the Countryside

Q32 Thinking about sources of information on rights and responsibilities when using and managing the countryside, which of the following sources of information have you used **FIRSTLY to actively seek information & SECONDLY whom you have received information from without requesting** in the last 12 months? Please tick all that are relevant.

	<i>Sought Information</i>	<i>Received Information without Request</i>
I have not sought/been given information on rights and responsibilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A Tourist Information Centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A Ranger	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
An information office located at a particular countryside location (e.g. country park, national park, visitor attraction)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A farmer or estate worker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Forestry Commission	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
British Horse Society Scotland	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cyclist's Touring Club or CTC Scotland	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scottish Cyclists' Union	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mountaineering Council of Scotland	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Ramblers' Association Scotland	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Royal Yachting Association Scotland	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scottish Canoe Association	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scottish Hill Runners	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scottish Orienteering Association	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society (SCOTWAYS)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scottish Ornithologists Club	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Another organisation involved in recreational or countryside issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
An outdoor activity centre or organiser	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scottish Natural Heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The web (please specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

About Yourself

Q33 Your postcode:

Q34 Which of the following BEST describes the area where you live?

- | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>An urban area</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>A village</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>A suburban area</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>A rural area</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>A small town</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Unsure</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Q35 During the last 6 months which of the following have you done?

- Contributed to any charities involved in outdoor recreational or conservation*
- Being involved in a conservation project*
- Neither of these*

Q36 Do you own a dog?

- Yes No

Q37 Do you own or have access to a car?

- Yes No

Q38 What is the occupation of the chief wage earner in your household?

Q41 Gender

- Male* *Female*

Q39 Do you have any children aged 15 or under living in your household?

- Yes No

Q42 Have you taken part in the SNH Responsible Behaviour Survey in previous years?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

Q40 Age

- | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Under 18</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>45-54</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>18-24</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>55-64</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>25-34</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>65+</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>35-44</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

Survey of Responsible Behaviour - Land/Water Managers and Owners

THE NATURE OF YOUR BUSINESS

Q1 How would you best describe the **MAIN ACTIVITY** of your business? Please tick one option only in the left column. Please also tick **ALL OTHER ACTIVITIES** you are also active in down the right column.

	<i>MAIN</i>	<i>OTHER</i>
<i>Arable - cereals, crops, vegetables</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Lowland livestock - beef, dairy, sheep</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Upland grazing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Shooting estate</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Forestry</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Recreation</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Fishing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Tourism</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Other (please specify)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q2 Which of the following ongoing and seasonal activities take place on your holding/estate as part of your land/enterprise management?
PLEASE TICK ALL THAT APPLY

<i>Drainage and re-hedging</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Ploughing, planting and re-seeding</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Tree felling and timber extraction</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Outdoor lambing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Outdoor calving</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Outdoor sheep shearing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Dipping to control endo/ectoparasites</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Harvesting e.g. of cereals, root and fruit crops</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Production of winter forage for livestock e.g. silage, hay, hayleage</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Supplemented outdoor feeding of livestock e.g. concentrates, forage in ring feeders or loose on the ground</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Controlled/strip grazing of livestock</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Deer stalking</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Grouse-shooting</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Pheasant and partridge shooting</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Other (please specify) _____</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q3 Did any access related problems affect your ability to undertake these activities?

Yes No

If, yes - which activities were affected by access related problems and how were they affected - please specify below:

Q4 Is your land used by the general public for recreational purposes? This could include leisurely activities such as dog walking or picnic-ing as well as more active pursuits for example, canoeing, mountain biking or horse-riding.

Yes **GO TO QUESTION 5** No **GO TO QUESTION 7**

Q5 Which recreational activities are conducted on your land all year round or seasonally? Please tick one column for each activity. If the activity is not conducted on your land please place a tick in column 3. Please make sure you select one box for each activity.

	<i>All Year Round</i>	<i>Seasonally</i>	<i>Not Conducted</i>
<i>Walking for up to 2 miles</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Longer walks (over 2 miles of which are on your land), including hill walking and rambling</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Climbing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Cycling on classified roads used by motorised vehicles through or adjacent to your land</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Cycling off-road on paths or tracks or unclassified roads which are not used regularly by motorised vehicles</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Cycling not using any paths or tracks</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Fishing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Informal camping i.e. not on a designated camp site</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Horse riding on classified roads used by motorised vehicles through or adjacent to your land</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Horse riding off-road on paths and tracks or unclassified roads which are not used regularly by motorised vehicles</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Water sports including canoeing, boating (non-motorised)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Bird watching</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Picnic-ing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Other (please specify)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q6 When do these recreational activities (which happen either all year round or seasonally on your land) that you mentioned in Q5 mainly take place ? Please answer for each activity selected under the first or second column in the previous question (Q5).

	Weekends only	Most days	Occasionally
<i>Walking for up to 2 miles</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Longer walks (over 2 miles of which are on your land), including hill walking and rambling</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Climbing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Cycling on classified roads used by motorised vehicles through or adjacent to your land</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Cycling off-road on paths or tracks or unclassified roads which are not used regularly by motorised vehicles</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Cycling not using any paths or tracks</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Fishing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Informal camping i.e. not on a designated camp site</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Horse riding on classified roads used by motorised vehicles through or adjacent to your land</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Horse riding off-road on paths and tracks or unclassified roads which are not used regularly by motorised vehicles</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Water sports including canoeing, boating (non-motorised)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Bird watching</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Picnic-ing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Other (please specify)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q7 Over the last 5 years, do you feel there has been an increase, a decrease or no change in the amount of public access to your land?

<i>Major increase</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Minor decrease</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Minor increase</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Major decrease</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>No change</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Don't know</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q8 Which of the following statements **BEST** describes how you feel in general about public access to your land. Please tick one option only.

<i>I don't mind people coming on to my land as long as they cause no damage and act responsibly.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>I don't mind people coming on to my land as long as they cause no damage, act responsibly and ask permission first.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>I don't mind people coming on to my land to undertake recreational activities as long as they cause no damage and act responsibly.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>I don't mind people coming on to my land for recreational activities as long as it is part of an organised event, no damage is caused and people act responsibly.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>I welcome people onto my land because I feel that providing for public recreation is a useful alternative source of income.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>I welcome people onto my land.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>I would prefer to exclude all public access from my land.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>

AWARENESS OF THE SCOTTISH OUTDOOR ACCESS CODE

Q9 The Scottish Outdoor Access Code came into effect in February 2005. The Code was prepared by Scottish Natural Heritage under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003. The Code provides guidance regarding access to and responsibilities in the countryside. Which of the following statements best describes your knowledge of the Code?

- I have definitely heard of the Code and I am aware of its content* **GO TO QUESTION 10**
- I have definitely heard of the Code but I am not aware of its content* **GO TO QUESTION 10**
- I think I have heard of the Code* **GO TO QUESTION 10**
- I have not heard of the Code* **GO TO QUESTION 11**

Q10 To your knowledge, who is the Scottish Outdoor Access Code aimed at? Please place a tick next to all of those audiences you feel are relevant below:

- Unsure*
- The general public*
- Farmers/land owners/land managers*
- Public bodies (e.g. Government agencies, Councils)*
- People who are active recreational users (e.g. canoeists, hill walkers, mountain bikers)*
- Other*
- Please specify other:*

Q11 How aware or unaware are you of the following land managers'/owners' responsibilities as they are laid down in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code? It does not matter if you are unfamiliar with the Code. It may be that you are aware of some of the responsibilities already.

	<i>Very aware</i>	<i>Quite aware</i>	<i>Not very aware</i>	<i>Not at all aware</i>
Do not obstruct the public from accessing the countryside responsibly	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do not deter or discourage the public from accessing the countryside responsibly	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keep any requests to limit access to the minimum required for the land management operation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inform the public of the extent and duration of the management operation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provide or suggest alternative routes where appropriate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Plan and conduct land management operations in ways that minimise interference with people accessing the countryside responsibly	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Be welcoming towards public access and respect the needs of people exercising access rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provide clear and constructive advice to the organisers of events	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Work in partnership with local authorities, recreational organisations and public bodies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q12 The Scottish Outdoor Access Code provides guidance on how visitors to the countryside should act responsibly. Thinking, in general, about the activities of those accessing your land for recreational purposes, how much do you agree or disagree that visitors to your land are currently demonstrating the following behaviour?

Please give a score of between 1 and 7 for each statement. A score of 1 means you feel in general that the particular behaviour is never demonstrated by visitors to your land whereas a score of 7 means you feel the particular behaviour is always demonstrated by visitors to your land.

Visitors to your area.....

	Never 1	2	3	4	5	6	Always 7	D/K or N/A
Respecting people's privacy and peace	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Always acting with consideration, awareness and responsibility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Respecting the needs of others enjoying the outdoors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Helping land managers to work safely and effectively	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Respecting reasonable and practical advice to limit access due to land management operations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Caring for the environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keeping dogs under proper control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Taking special care when organising a group or event	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q13 Overall, how much of an effect do you feel the right of responsible access and the associated Scottish Outdoor Access Code has had on the way you currently manage your land?

- A great effect **GO TO QUESTION 14**
- Some effect **GO TO QUESTION 14**
- Not very much effect **GO TO QUESTION 14**
- No effect at all **GO TO QUESTION 14**
- Unsure **GO TO QUESTION 15**

Q14 If you feel the right of responsible access and the associated Scottish Outdoor Access Code has had a 'great' or 'some' effect on the way you currently manage your land please write in BOX A what you feel that effect has been. If you feel the right of responsible access and the associated Scottish Outdoor Access Code has had 'not very much' or 'no' effect on the way you currently manage your land please write in BOX B why you feel that way:

PROBLEMS CREATED BY THOSE WHO VISIT THE COUNTRYSIDE

Q15 Thinking about the public's use of your land over the last 2-3 months, have you experienced any problems due to people acting in the following ways? If you have **NOT** experienced any of these within the last 2-3 months, please place a tick in the box at the bottom of the list. Please tick all that apply.

The general public.....

- Passing too near your house or garden*
 - Passing too near your house outwith daylight hours*
 - Not respecting the needs of other people enjoying the outdoors*
 - Canoeists disturbing other water users*
 - Not respecting the reasonable and practicable limits on access that you have requested*
 - Touching, handling or feeding your animals*
 - Leaving gates inappropriately open or closed*
 - Disrupting stalking activities*
 - Mountain bikers in inappropriate places*
 - Blocking entrances to fields or buildings*
 - Disturbing wild animals or damaging plants*
 - Polluting land or water*
 - Dropping litter*
 - Damaging or disturbing historic, archaeological or cultural places*
 - Horse riders riding in inappropriate places*
 - Dogs being taken into fields where there are calves, lambs or crops*
 - Not keeping dogs on a short lead in fields with sheep, cattle or other farm animals*
 - Not keeping dogs on a short lead in areas where ground nesting birds are breeding/rearing young*
 - Not consulting or seeking permission from you before organising an event or leading a group on your land*
 - Not keeping to paths or tracks where they exist when crossing fields with crops*
 - Vandalism of property/machinery*
 - Theft*
 - Poaching*
 - Starting fires*
 - Fly-tipping*
 - People taking drugs on your land*
 - Camping causing alarm or annoyance, e.g. camping in enclosed fields or close to roads or buildings*
 - Other (please specify in box below)*
 - HAVE NOT ENCOUNTERED ANY OF THE ABOVE WITHIN THE LAST 2-3 MONTHS**
- Please specify other:**

If you have not experienced any of the problems listed in Q15 within the last 2-3 months, go to Q18

Q16 Which of the following did you do to try and prevent the problem recurring? Please tick all that apply.

- Did nothing at all*
- Talked to those behaving irresponsibly*
- Reported the offenders to the police*
- Reported the offenders to a ranger*
- Raised the issue with Scottish Rural Property and Business Association (SRPBA)*
- Raised the issue with National Farmers' Union Scotland*
- Raised the issue with Scottish Crofting Foundation*
- Raised the issue with the Association of Salmon Fisheries Board*
- Raised the issue with the Forestry and Timber Association*
- Raised the issue with the local council*
- Raised the issue with the organisation which supports the recreational activity in question*
- Raised the issue with another organisation or took other actions (please specify below)*

Please specify other:

Q17 What costs have you had to incur as a result of this behaviour? Please tick all that apply.

- I did not incur any costs*
- Repairs to damaged machinery/fences/walls*
- Putting in gates/stiles*
- Surfacing paths*
- Increased insurance costs*
- Loss of time and/or income due to damaged crops/trees*
- Loss of time and/or income due to disrupted stalking*
- Loss of time and/or income due to disrupted fishing*
- Loss of time and/or income due to disturbance of livestock*
- Restrictions on land management operations*
- Removal of litter/rubbish/dumping*
- Other (please specify below)*

Please specify other:

Q18 Still thinking about the activities of those accessing the area for recreational purposes, do you believe that the scale of each of these problems detailed in the list below has got better, worse or stayed the same compared to say three years ago?

Please make sure that you tick one box on each row. If you believe that there has never been one of the problems listed on your land then tick box titled 'Never been a problem'.

	<i>Got better</i>	<i>Stayed the same</i>	<i>Got worse</i>	<i>Unsure</i>	<i>Never been a problem</i>
Passing too near your house or garden day or night	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not respecting the needs of other people enjoying the outdoors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inappropriate behaviour of mountain bikers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not respecting the reasonable and practicable limitations on access that you have requested	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Touching, handling or feeding farm animals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inappropriate behaviour of horse riders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leaving gates inappropriately open or closed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Blocking entrances to fields or buildings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disturbing wild animals or plants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Polluting land or water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dropping litter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Damaging or disturbing historic, archaeological or cultural places	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Problems with dogs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not consulting or seeking permission from you before organising an event or leading a group on your land	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inappropriate behaviour of canoeists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q19 Do you have any of the following problems with dogs not being kept under proper control by their owners while on your land? Please tick all that apply.

<i>No, I do not have any problems with dogs</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>In fields with livestock</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>In fields with cereal crops, fruit or veg</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Disturbing pets and farm animals around the estate/farm buildings</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Dog excrement</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Disturbing ground nesting birds</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Disturbing pheasant rearing areas</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Disrupting stalking</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Other problems relating to dogs (please specify in the box below)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please specify other problems:</i>	

POSITIVE EXPERIENCES WITH VISITORS TO THE COUNTRYSIDE

Q20 Within the last month have you encountered any instances or evidence of visitors to the countryside helping you?

Yes **GO TO Q21** No **GO TO Q22** *Can't recall* **GO TO Q22**

Q21 If you have experienced or found evidence of the public helping you, what was it? Please tick all that apply.

- Reporting damage to land or property*
- Rescuing an animal that was in distress*
- Reporting a dead or injured animal*
- Reporting straying livestock*
- Reporting sheep worrying to the police*
- Returning straying livestock to their field*
- Clearing an area of rubbish*
- Helping you/your clients whilst you are fishing*
- Something else (please specify in the box below)*

Please specify other positive experiences:

FINALLY

Q22 Are you the owner or tenant of the farm/estate you manage?

- Owner*
- Tenant*
- Agent or manager*

Q24 How large is the farm/estate that you manage/own?

- Less than 5 hectares*
- 5 to 20 hectares*
- 21 to 50 hectares*
- 51 to 125 hectares*
- 126 to 400 hectares*
- More than 400 hectares*

Q23 How long have you been a land manager/owner?

- Less than 5 years*
- 6 - 10 years*
- 11 - 15 years*
- 16 - 20 years*
- More than 20 years*

Q25 Would you describe your land as being on the urban fringe or in a rural area?

- Urban fringe*
- Rural*
- Mixture of urban fringe and rural areas*

Q26 Which of the following services or facilities do you offer? Please tick all that apply.

- Bed and breakfast*
- Self catering accommodation*
- Caravan/camping pitches*
- Bunkhouse*
- Bothy*
- Farm Shop*
- Cafe/restaurant*
- Farm open to paying visitors*
- Organised visits for school groups*
- Stables for riding and livery*
- Cycle hire*
- Ranger service*
- Golf course*
- None of the above*
- Other (please write in the box below)*
Other services or facilities

Q27 Have you received any support or advice from a public body about managing/improving access to your land in the last year?

- Yes*
- No*
- Don't know*
- Not applicable*

Q28 Your Postcode:

Q29 Have you participated in the previous SNH Responsible Behaviour Surveys conducted between 2003 and 2007?

- Yes*
- No*
- Not sure/can't remember*

APPENDIX B - Response rates and sample profiles

Response rates and sample profiles

Table B-1 Recreational Users Response Rates by Organisation

	Baseline Survey 2002/03 ¹	Interim Monitoring Survey			Final Survey 2008
		2005	2006	2007	
Mountaineering Council of Scotland	42%	44%	37%	34%	27%
The Ramblers Association Scotland	35%	29%	32%	31%	29%
Royal Yachting Association Scotland	-	24%	22%	21%	20%
British Horse Society Scotland	30%	27%	29%	27%	29%
Cyclists Touring Club Scotland	42%	43%	28%	32%	25%
Scottish Canoe Association	25%	29%	23%	31%	37%
Scottish Cycling	27%	23%	15%	15%	6%
Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society	52%	20%	42%	40%	56%
Scottish Ornithologists' Club	-	17%	45%	37%	-
Scottish Orienteering Association	47%	53%	44%	45%	24%
Scottish Hill Runners	14%	12%	53%	44%	59%
Bauer Media ²	-	-	-	-	14%
Total	35%	31%	32%	31%	23%

Note 1: Figures shown are the combined totals for all three waves.

Note 2: Bauer Media (subscription list for specialist outdoor recreational journals – ‘Country Walking’, ‘Trail’, ‘Your Horse’ and ‘Bird Watching’.)

- = not included in survey in these years.

Table B-2 Land Owners/Managers Response Rates by Organisation

	Baseline Survey 2002/03 ¹	Interim Monitoring Survey			Final Survey 2008
		2005	2006	2007	
SNH National Nature Reserves Staff ²	-	91%	44%	69%	Unknown
RSPB Scotland ³	-	27%	58%	38%	-
Forestry Commission	-	42%	44%	36%	50%
Scottish Rural Property & Business Association	33%	30%	23%	24%	22%
National Farmers' Union of Scotland ²	20%	16%	22%	22%	12% ²
Scottish Crofting Foundation	17%	7%	6%	22%	15%
Forestry and Timber Association ³	24%	30%	24%	20%	-
National Trust for Scotland ²	-	34%	9%	19%	Unknown
Association of Salmon Fishery Boards ³	36%	19%	27%	18%	-
Shooting and Fishing Estates (Yell.com)	-	-	-	-	25%
Reed Publishing Group ^{2 and 4}	-	-	-	-	22% ²
Total	24%	20%	20%	23%	16%

Note 1: Figures shown are the combined totals for all four waves.

Note 2: Some responses from this group received electronically not included in count 2008

Note 3: Declined to participate in 2008

Note 4: Reed Publishing Group (subscription list for specialist agricultural journals – 'Farmers Weekly' and 'Crops'.)

- = not included in survey in these years.

Sample profile

Table B-3 Recreational Users Sample Profile

	Baseline Survey 2002/03 ¹	Interim Monitoring Survey			Final Survey 2008
		2005	2006	2007	
Mountaineering Council of Scotland	24%	25%	21%	20%	22%
The Ramblers Association Scotland	21%	17%	18%	18%	9%
Royal Yachting Association Scotland	-	10%	9%	9%	2%
British Horse Society Scotland	13%	10%	11%	10%	12%
Cyclists Touring Club Scotland	10%	12%	8%	9%	4%
Scottish Canoe Association	11%	7%	5%	7%	9%
Scottish Cycling	4%	4%	3%	3%	1%
Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society	8%	4%	8%	8%	4%
Scottish Ornithologists' Club	-	3%	8%	7%	-
Scottish Orienteering Association	7%	5%	4%	4%	5%
Scottish Hill Runners	2%	1%	5%	4%	8%
Bauer Media ²	-	-	-	-	25%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Note 1: Figures shown are the combined totals for all three waves.

Note 2: Bauer Media (subscription list for specialist outdoor recreational journals – ‘Country Walking’, ‘Trail’, ‘Your Horse’ and ‘Bird Watching’.)

- = not included in survey in these years.

Table B-4 Land Owners/Managers Sample Profile

	Baseline Survey 2002/03 ¹	Interim Monitoring Survey			Final Survey 2008
		2005	2006	2007	
National Farmers' Union of Scotland	34%	35%	46%	40%	14%
Scottish Rural Property & Business Association	27%	31%	24%	22%	13%
Scottish Crofting Foundation	14%	7%	6%	20%	8%
Forestry and Timber Association ²	10%	18%	14%	10%	-
RSPB Scotland ²	-	2%	3%	2%	-
Forestry Commission	-	3%	3%	2%	3%
Unknown/Electronic response 2008	-	-	-	2%	8%
Association of Salmon Fishery Boards ²	15%	1%	2%	1%	-
National Trust for Scotland	-	2%	0%	1%	< 1%
SNH National Nature Reserves Staff	-	1%	1%	1%	< 1%
Sporting and Fishing Estates (Yell)	-	-	-	-	9%
Reed Publishing Group ³	-	-	-	-	46%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Note 1: Figures shown are the combined totals for all four waves.

Note 2: Declined to participate in 2008

Note 3: Reed Publishing Group (subscription list for specialist agricultural journals – ‘Farmers Weekly’ and ‘Crops’.)

- = not included in survey in these years.

APPENDIX C – Characteristics of the recreational user and land owner/manager groups

Sample demographics/characteristics of recreational users

Table C-1 Region – figures only available for 2008:

	Baseline Survey 2002/03 ¹	Interim Monitoring Survey			Final Survey 2008 ²
		2005	2006	2007	
North	-	-	-	-	45%
East/South	-	-	-	-	32%
West	-	-	-	-	23%
Base	1142	1028	1063	1026	937

Note 1: Figures shown are the combined totals for all three waves.

Note 2: Groupings based on postcode analysis

Definition of groups (In keeping with the geographical groupings used in the annual ScRS reports) as follows:

North – Aberdeenshire, Angus, Dundee, Highland, Moray, Orkney, Perth and Kinross, Shetland, Western Isles.

East/South – Scottish Borders, Edinburgh, Dumfries and Galloway, Clackmannanshire, East and West Lothian, Falkirk, Fife, Midlothian, Stirling.

West – Argyll and Bute, Glasgow, Ayrshire, Dunbartonshire, Renfrewshire, Inverclyde, Lanarkshire.

Table C-2 Which of the following best describes the area where you live?

	Baseline Survey 2002/03 ¹	Interim Monitoring Survey			Final Survey 2008
		2005	2006	2007	
An urban area	21%	20%	19%	18%	18%
A suburban area	19%	18%	18%	18%	15%
A small town	20%	22%	21%	24%	19%
A village	17%	16%	19%	18%	19%
A rural area	23%	23%	22%	21%	25%
Unsure	0%	6%	3%	< 1%	4%
Base	1142	1028	1063	1026	989

Note 1: Figures shown are the combined totals for all three waves.

Table C-3 Age

	Baseline Survey 2002/03 ¹	Interim Monitoring Survey			Final Survey 2008
		2005	2006	2007	
Under 18	3%	1%	2%	3%	2%
18-24	13%	1%	3%	1%	2%
25-34		7%	6%	6%	7%
35-44	44%	17%	17%	15%	17%
45-54		24%	19%	22%	26%
55-64	40%	26%	23%	25%	28%
65+		24%	30%	27%	17%
Base	1142	1002	1025	993	920

Note 1: Figures shown are the combined totals for all three waves.

Table C-4 Gender

	Baseline Survey 2002/03 ¹	Interim Monitoring Survey			Survey 2008
		2005	2006	2007	
Male	63%	67%	64%	64%	62%
Female	36%	33%	36%	36%	38%
Base	1142	1012	1042	993	931

Note 1: Figures shown are the combined totals for all three waves.

Table C-5 Do you have children under the age of 15 living at home?

	Baseline Survey 2002/03 ¹	Interim Monitoring Survey			Final Survey 2008
		2005	2006	2007	
Yes	18%	-	-	-	25%
No	82%	-	-	-	75%
Base	1142	1012	1042	993	951

Note 1: Figures shown are the combined totals for all three waves.

Table C-6 Socio-economic group – based on occupation of main income earner in household – figures only available for 2008

	Final Survey 2008 ¹
A	12%
B	43%
C1	12%
C2 DE	7%
Retired (prior occupation unknown)	27%
Base	909

Note 1: Groupings based on description of main income earner in household as defined by the respondent

Market Research Society – Occupational Groupings

- A. Professional people, senior managers in business or commerce, top civil servants, and retired people previously graded A and their widows.
- B. Middle management executives in large organisations with appropriate qualifications, principle officers in local government, civil servant top management or owners of small business concerns, educational and service establishments, and retired people previously grade B and their widows.
- C. 1 – Junior management, owners of small establishments and all others in non-manual positions, and retired people previously grade C1 and their widows.
2 – All skilled manual workers and those manual workers with responsibility for other people, and retired people previously grade C2 with pensions from their job and their widows.
- D. All semi-skilled and unskilled manual workers, apprentices and trainees to skilled workers, retired people previously grade D with pensions from their job and their widows.
- E. All those entirely dependent on the state long-term through sickness, unemployment, old age or other reasons, those unemployed for a period exceeding six months, casual workers without a regular income.

Table C-7 Are you a dog owner?

	Baseline Survey 2002/03 ¹	Interim Monitoring Survey			Final Survey 2008
		2005	2006	2007	
Yes	24%	23%	25%	23%	37%
No	76%	77%	75%	78%	63%
Base	1142	1032	1061	1031	956

Note 1: Figures shown are the combined totals for all three waves.

Table C-8 Are you a car owner or have access to a car?

	Baseline Survey 2002/03 ¹	Interim Monitoring Survey			Final Survey 2008
		2005	2006	2007	
Yes	93%	95%	93%	94%	95%
No	7%	5%	7%	6%	5%
Base	1142	1034	1066	1032	957

Note 1: Figures shown are the combined totals for all three waves.

Table C-9 Which of the Following Have You Done in the Last 6 Months?

	Baseline Survey 2002/03 ¹	Interim Monitoring Survey			Final Survey 2008 ²
		2005	2006	2007	
Contributed to any charities involved in outdoor recreational or conservation	65%	92%	96%	96%	57%
Been involved in a conservation project	12%	9%	20%	19%	11%
Base	1091	756	736	705	938

Note 1: Figures shown are the combined totals for all three waves.

Note 2: Figures shown in 2002/03 and 2008 take account of those who neither contributed to a charity or took part in a conservation project.

A comparison of the recreational land user sample profile with that of the population universe (i.e. profile of all members of recreational organisations involved in the 2008 Survey) is not possible as this information is not available.

Some demographical information is available for the population universe of the subscribers to the recreational user publications included in the 2008 survey. This information is presented below:

Bird Watching

Readership

- Average age of readers – 51.
- The readers are wealthy on average; 55.5% higher than the national average.
- 59% of *Bird Watching* readers fall into the ABC1 social category.

Country Walking

Readership

- Average age of readers – 49.
- Average household income £49k (national average £27k)
- 87% of *Country Walking* readers fall into the ABC1 social category.

Trail

Readership

- 55% are aged 25-44
- Average household income £30k (national average £27k)
- 72% of *Trail* readers fall into the ABC1 social category

Sample characteristics of land managers and owners

Table C-10 Is your land used for recreational purposes?¹

	Interim Monitoring Survey			Final Survey 2008
	2005	2006	2007	
Yes	70%	68%	68%	65%
No	30%	32%	32%	35%
Base	754	745	878	815

Note 1: Not asked in baseline survey 2002/03

Table C-11 How long have you been a land manager/owner?

	Baseline Survey 2002/03 ¹	Interim Monitoring Survey			Final Survey 2008
		2005	2006	2007	
Less than 5 years	3%	5%	4%	5%	5%
6 - 10 years	7%	7%	5%	7%	8%
11 - 15 years	11%	9%	8%	9%	8%
16 - 20 years	11%	9%	11%	10%	10%
More than 20 years	68%	70%	73%	70%	70%
Base	958	748	743	873	811

Note 1: Figures shown are the combined totals for all four waves.

Table C-12 How large is the farm or estate that you manage/own?

	Baseline Survey 2002/03 ¹	Interim Monitoring Survey			Final Survey 2008
		2005	2006	2007	
Less than 5 hectares	17%	4%	3%	4%	5%
5 - 20 hectares		6%	6%	9%	7%
21 - 50 hectares		8%	7%	11%	8%
51 - 125 hectares	15%	16%	19%	16%	20%
126 - 400 hectares	23%	26%	29%	26%	33%
Over 400 hectares	46%	39%	36%	33%	28%
Base	958	739	739	869	812

Note 1: Figures shown are the combined totals for all four waves.

Table C-13 Would you describe your land as being on the urban fringe or in a rural area?

	Baseline Survey 2002/03 ¹	Interim Monitoring Survey			Final Survey 2008
		2005	2006	2007	
Urban fringe	9%	8%	9%	7%	9%
Rural	82%	76%	77%	82%	78%
Mix of urban fringe/rural	9%	17%	14%	11%	14%
Base	958	747	745	863	812

Note 1: Figures shown are the combined totals for all four waves.

Table C-14 Agricultural statistics published by Scottish Government –2003 and 2007¹

	Total Holdings in Scotland	Less than 10 hectares	10 to 50 hectares	51 to 200 hectares	200 + hectares
2003	50,144	48%	22%	21%	9%
2007	51,319	50%	22%	19%	9%

Note 1: Full statistics available on Scottish Government website www.scotland.gov.uk.
 Economic Report on Scottish Agriculture: 2008 Edition – Table C34 and 2003 Edition – Table C32.

APPENDIX D – Example of ‘on-line’ survey promotion:

Survey of Responsible Behaviour - Recreational Users



Dear Countryside User

Scottish Natural Heritage would like you to help with some research following the introduction of the new statutory right of responsible access in February 2005 under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003.

Monitoring Responsible Behaviour Among Users of the Countryside for Recreational Purposes

Your help with this research is very important, as it will help to give balanced and representative data. Your answers to the survey will help us gather data on levels of responsible behaviour and what we need to do to in the future to promote responsible behaviour.

We will be exploring changes to awareness and understanding of responsible behaviour in the countryside and the extent of changes compared to a baseline study and a subsequent 3 year survey

You can help us by considering participation in our e-survey which can be accessed by clicking on the following web link below:

[SNH Survey 2008 \(opens in a new window\)](#)

You need to participate by **29th September 2008** for your answers to be included. This is an opportunity for you to tell us how you think things have changed since the new legislation came into effect.

Scottish Natural Heritage has commissioned MacLeod Research Ltd, an independent consultancy, to conduct this research. We can reassure you that MacLeod Research operates in accordance with the strict code of conduct of the Market Research Society, which ensures confidentiality and preserves the anonymity of individuals and organisations participating in research. The research findings will be reported in aggregate form only and no comments would ever be attributed any person.

If you wish to complete the questionnaire in Gaelic, that is equally acceptable. We are also running a postal survey should you prefer to complete a paper-based questionnaire. You can request a paper version to be sent to you at the following email address:

enquiries@macleodresearch.com

We thank you in advance for participating; your experience is very valuable to us.

Yours sincerely

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All of nature for all of Scotland
Nàdar air fad airson Alba air fad