

The state of Cairngorm under Natural Retreats' management

Description

We decided to walk into Coire na Ciste, Monday 2 July 2018, and then up to the top of the Daylodge Poma and down to the Coire Cas carpark.

The 'path' that follows the line of the [now demolished] Ciste Chairlift is very eroded at a point above the Allt na Ciste about 100m from the Ciste Building. There is evidence of a recent collapse and the path requires to be re-routed to prevent further erosion



The 'path' is less distinct than it was because some of it has collapsed down the slope. There is also erosion which can be seen in the next picture.



We then walked up to the Aonach Poma loading area. Anyone venturing here should exercise caution as there are metal shards, protruding from the concrete, that have not been fully removed. These dangers may be less visible in wet and/or poor light conditions and would certainly be invisible with an inch or two of snow, if they have not been removed before next winter.



Very dangerous reinforcing metal rods that have been left protruding from the concrete.



A slip here could have seriously bad consequences

We then walked along the route of the [now removed] boardwalk. There is plenty of evidence of where it was and what it was made from. Some of the remaining parts are made of metal and will be in the ground for many, many years. There were also 2 new style fence posts, that had clearly been washed down the burn from above.







That's a section of the old Boardwalk which wasn't removed from the site and has now been overgrown by vegetation.

We retraced our footsteps and headed across to the West Wall Poma loading area. It is in a state of disrepair and it requires dismantling and rebuilding with new materials. It appears to be unsafe with broken timbers and the walkway has plenty of protruding wire all ready to ruin the most expensive ski jackets.





Our

default water

walk then took us up to the Daylodge Poma and we were able to observe the dilapidated fencing on the way up.



That

section alone was about 50m in length and it has been on the ground for some time...to judge by how the vegetation has grown through it.



How

that piece of fabricated metal came to be there I've no idea [a section from the demolished Aonach Poma perhaps].

There are spoilt materials all around...far too many to post here...but they are there nonetheless



That

is how the old fencing has been left when the newer style fence on the right of the picture was erected. Nothing at all cleared away when the fence job was done.

The other side of the fence is shown below.



We could see considerable spoil materials along the length of the Daylodge Piste. Some have been piled for removal, some not. We noted that the old style Chestnut Fencing that has been stacked for removal was all cut down BEFORE the new posts were put in. We question why it was not immediately removed from the hillside. Leaving it in situ over the summer will simply kill all of the vegetation beneath it.....and there were numerous piles of it.



I'd no

idea what that pile of metal was...looks like some kind of tower 'jacket' The real question though is just exactly why has that been abandoned and left lying there?



rope...whatever it is for....is very frayed and will snap soon enough. It appeared to be some kind of Pulley system.



There is even a pile of old fencing at the Daylodge Poma loading area. Even when it is this close to the base station.....Natural Retreats do not bother to remove it. You can also see that the fencing behind it is knackered.

The whole place is a mess. It's beyond saving with Highlands and Islands Enterprise/Natural Retreats in charge and with elements of the present workforce disenchanted...you know...the ones that claim to work so hard and do such a great job....there just isn't any evidence of that. For some, there's clearly a culture of not giving two fecks about anything.

Sad to see it all close up.

Category

1. Cairngorms

Tags

1. HIE
2. natural retreats

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