

Glen Affric Hydro Scheme monthly newsletter – August 2016

Work continues on Affric hydro schemes

Unseasonably high rainfall during July has meant that progress on the penstock corridors has not been as rapid as expected, although both schemes still remain firmly on track. Given the environmental sensitivity of Glen Affric, our contractors are adopting a cautionary approach and often stand down from earthworks that could risk a silt spill during a downpour.



Allt Garbh – penstock corridor now above the woodland and onto Wester Guisachan Estate land.

Penstock progress

At Allt Garbh, the bulk earthworks around the powerhouse are complete and the earthworks around the outfall are 50 percent finished. 1250 metres of temporary penstock access corridor has now been completed, with a further 1250 metres to go.

At Abhainn Gleann nam Fiadh, 2700 metres of the temporary penstock access corridor has been finished, with only 400 metres to go. Once construction is complete, the track will be reduced to a much narrower track suitable for walkers and small vehicles.

Health, safety and the environment

There have been no health and safety issues over the last month, and despite a wetter than average July there have been no environmental problems. The silt mitigation measures coped well with some very heavy rain storms.





Abhainn Gleann nam Fiadh penstock corridor – turf stripping and storage.

Project background

The two Glen Affric projects, comprising a 2MW scheme on the Abhainn Gleann nam Fiadh and 1.5MW on the Allt Garbh, received full consent from The Highland Council in 2013.

The run-of-river hydro schemes are being developed by Green Highland Renewables on land managed or owned by Forest Enterprise Scotland, SSE and part of Wester Guisachan Estate.

The projects are scheduled to finish in summer 2017 and together the schemes will produce enough power to supply approximately 2,750 homes.

The developments are among a number being progressed by energy companies as part of an on-going renewables programme being promoted across land managed by Forest Enterprise Scotland.

Further information

To keep everyone up to date on the progress of the schemes we have posted information notes at Dog Falls car park, Allt na h-Imrich car park, River Affric car park and at the foot of each scheme.

We are also providing up to date information to the local and wider community via the Forest Enterprise Scotland web site, Green Highland Renewables web site and a dedicated Twitter feed.

Web: www.greenhighland.co.uk/glen-affric-project

Twitter: @AffricHydro

