Abriachan’s woods for all
35 years ago Abriachan lay dormant......we awoke when young families got together .....first the hall renovation .....then the follow on activities using new community confidence, aspirations and skills
.... with aims to benefit, engage and sustain the whole community
Abriachan Forest Trust
15km south west of Inverness
534 hectares mixed woodland and open hill
12 years of ownership & management by community
ensure continued public access
while running a forest
responsible access - the challenge!
improve biodiversity

don’t work folk too hard

make it fun, record records

target interests
engage with biodiversity
entertain with biodiversity
partner work on biodiversity
share skills learned
local job creation
a dream team
delivering quality product
share skills for life and work
positive destinations
employability skills
cross subject learning

challenge and achievement
stimulate local community involvement

- in decision making
- entertain and train them
- listen to what is *not* said....
highlight our heritage
provide surprises

peat paths to fitness
shelters provide sites for Forest School groups

>>sense of ownership
problem solve /design trails in the forest

challenge in the forest and on the bikes
health & wellbeing for all

smart running, Star-O
working together
serve the wider community
partnerships and links
SENSE, APEX, NHS, HEN, TfL
Local Authority – ECS, SW
Skills Development Scotland
Wildwalks, Alzheimers’Scot..
Step it Up, Girls on the move
Moniack Mhor writers
challenge in the forest ... .......whatever the weather!
THIRTEEN YEAR TALLY - March 2011

- 160,000 – new native trees established
- 50,000 – new productive conifers established - restructuring
- 30,000 - tonnes of timber sold
- £750,000 - timber worth into immediate local economy
- £2,350,000 - into Inner Moray Firth economy
- 30,000m - of paths, tracks, bike trails, roads
- 6 shelters - + Forest School & classroom & play area
- 250 man days of training for community
- shed, tractor, trailer, ATV, firewood processor, chipper , Scorpion forwarder , mountain bikes
- ~ 4.5 persons working on site on average, plus volunteers
- Forest Stewardship Certification, National Awards & recognition
- Building reputation as Forest School/MTB/bushcraft trainers
- Education/recreation options popular all year – 275 groups.... many repeat visitors & successful partnerships/contracts
- 24,000 ton CO₂ locked up = all AFT members’ use over 13 years
2010/11 Money IN

- Education
- Grants
- Timber
- Donations & Misc
2010/11 Money OUT

- Sub Contracting
- Depreciation
- Forest Ops
- Course Expenses
- Insurance
- Admin & audit
Abriachan's community benefits

interest, enthusiasm and involvement

employment

confidence

improvement in habitats

excitement, exercise and wellbeing

fun, stimulation, exploration

creativity, play, learning

pride and passion

sense of stewardship.... plans for future
Abriachan's community benefits
interest, enthusiasm and involvement
employment confidence improvement in habitats excitement, exercise and wellbeing fun, stimulation, exploration creativity, play pride and passion sense of stewardship...

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and next ....
annexe...mains water
pond dipping platform
green woodworking shelter
O mapping, fixed course
literacy trail
community training workshops.....
firewood sales development
Abriachan’s open to all

Kilchuimen, ASN, Birchwood Highland, New Craigs, GUHS, AAs, 4 ASN, CA short course, FS Level 1, AAs, APEX, ASN, Rural Skills CA, Excl.