

Key Considerations in Upland Path Management

This introductory module to the Helping the Hills training programme is ideal for anyone involved in managing paths in our uplands. While the course is most suitable for those who have little or no previous experience in assessing or developing paths in upland areas, it can also be used as a refresher. It is particularly appropriate to Rural Recreation Officers, Outdoor Recreation Officers, Trail Management Organisations, other land managers, contractors, Mountain Access Groups and upland community groups.

This half day training course takes place online and aims to provide participants with the tools to make decisions around the necessity for path intervention work and the options to consider.

Next course date: Monday July 20th (2.00 – 5.00 pm)

Course price: €40.00

Click [here](#) for bookings

Learning outcomes

By the end of this module, participants will have a good understanding of:

1.	What are the characteristics of an upland path?
2.	The factors which cause and contribute to upland erosion
3.	How to determine if a path requires work
4.	Key path intervention types and influencing factors to each approach; Routine maintenance/Reactive repair/New construction
5.	Planning regulations, environmental legislation and environmental assessments to consider in an upland path project
6.	Helping the Hills Guiding Principles and their place in the planning process
7.	Where to find support, advice and practical resources in upland path management in Ireland

The following themes contained in the [ORIKS Framework](#) will be discussed. A competency level of ‘basic’ is assumed in each case.

ORIKS Theme	Sub-theme
Planning Recreational Infrastructure	User Experience; Walk Over Survey
Monitoring and Maintenance	Monitoring and Reporting Condition; Routine Maintenance; Repair
Regulations	Planning System; Habitats Regulations
Recreational Users	Walking
Environment and Culture	Geology; Geomorphology; Landscape Character; Ecology

Helping the Hills training provision is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht and is aligned with the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Knowledge and Skills (ORIKS) Framework and hosted by Mountaineering Ireland.