

Coll

Map 11: Bheinn Beag to Bagh Fiaranuis

From the foot of Ben Feall, which stands over 60m OD, this map section extends north eastwards past the small sheltered beach at Port an t-Saoir. From here, it climbs up into a jagged landscape of outcrops and small valleys set behind an indented rocky coast edge as far as the W side of Traigh Hogh. There is no modern settlement within the coastal zone in this area and little sign of any 18-20th C settlement either.

The majority of the coast edge in this area is rock platform and is stable. There is a small area of lower lying soft sediment around Port an t-Saoir which is backed by sand dunes and which is eroding. In this area, a watercourse runs down to the coast edge through the dunes. The course has shifted on numerous occasions, causing the erosion of the banks and land immediately adjacent to it. Under wet conditions, such as pertained at the time of this visit, the inland section of this watercourse has a tendency to flood, covering the lower lying ground behind the dunes. This has led to the transport of soft sediment towards the coast and temporary damage to the vegetation of the area. This is not currently problematic but, under adverse weather conditions, could lead to the creation of new blow out areas amongst the sand dunes.

The remains of farmed land, in the form of field boundaries, enclosures and cultivations (C66-68) provide an indication that the area was worked in the recent past and suggests that contemporary settlement may lie within the hinterland. Field survey of these areas may be productive in locating such sites. Two dun sites are recorded within this section. One is located on the summit of Ben Feall, but no traces of archaeological remains were found here. The other, Dun Beic, lies to the N and is situated on a rocky knoll surrounded by the sea. This site is said to have comprised of a stone structure surrounded by an enclosure wall and finds of pottery and bone have been made here in the past. Only a few earthfast stones now remain. Of particular interest within this area, is the eroding site at Port an t-Saoir. This site lies within sand dunes to the E side of a small watercourse. It has been eroding for some considerable time and a wealth of artefacts have been removed from it over the years. The finds span the early prehistoric to Viking and later periods and indicate that there has been settlement and activity in the area over an extended duration. During at least one phase, the site appears to have been used as a metalworking area. This site, which has already been extensively robbed of artefacts, remains vulnerable to further erosion and requires urgent attention.

Built Heritage &
Archaeology

Coll
Map 11

C65 (NM15NE31)

NM 16444 56991

Traigh Hogh (S end)

Stone lined trough

Unknown

Fair

Nil

C66

NM 16022 56853

Cnocan Loisgte (W of)

Land boundaries and cultivations

18-20th C

Fair

Survey

C67

NM 15720 56524

Dun Beic (N of)

Field walls and cultivations

18-20th C

Fair

Survey

C68

NM 15404 55938

Creag na Druideige (SW of)

Enclosure and cultivations

18-20th C

Fair

Survey

C69 (NM15SW14)

NM 14825 54936

Port an tSaoir

Probable settlement, metalworking debris and middens

1st mill BC-1st mill AD

Fair/poor

Survey

C99 (NM15SW1/11)

NM 14388 54653

Ben Feall

Alleged site of Dun, possible burial cairn, cultivations and clearance cairns

3rd-1st mill BC/18-20th C

Fair

Nil

C116 (NM15NE5)

NM 1549 5644

Dun Beic

Dun

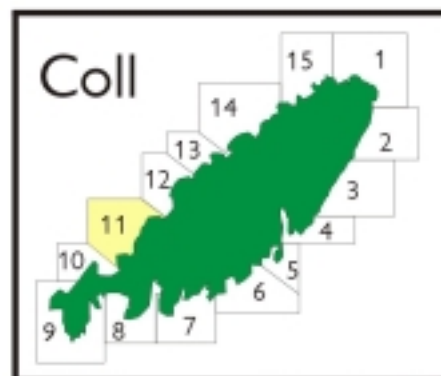
1st mill BC- 1st mill AD

Poor

Nil



- Built Heritage & Archaeology
- Protected Ancient Monument or area of Designated Wreck
 - Monument formally proposed by Historic Scotland for scheduling or wreck for designation
 - + Listed Historic Building
 - Undesignated wreck
 - Known ancient monument
 - Site found by this survey
 - Site complex



1. Rubha a Ghraineig

NM 151 558

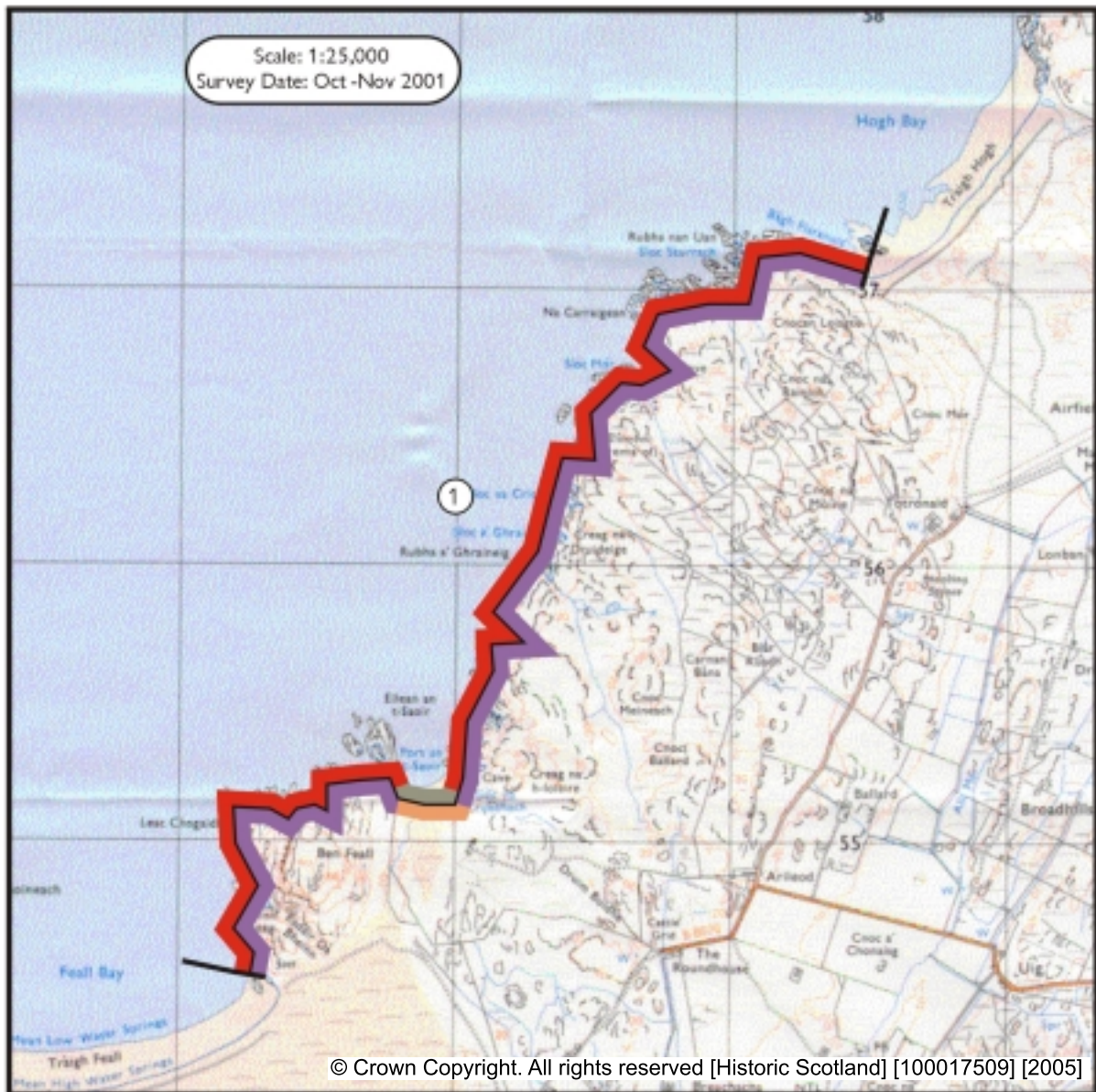
5.6 Km

Rock platform, some cobble cover

Coast edge <5m

Drift/rock interface occasionally visible

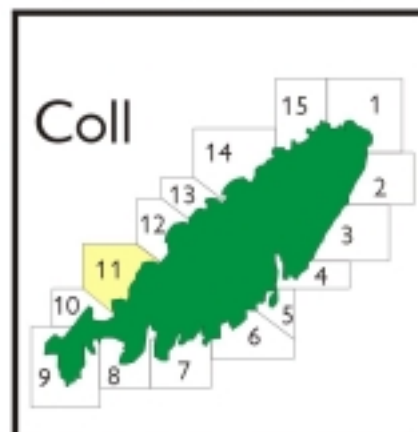
Rocky coast edge sloping steeply to sea. In places, especially in the area of Rubha a Ghraineig to Na Carraigan the coast edge is bare of vegetation for up to 50m inland. Many of the small coves in this unit contain storm beaches, all of which appear to be new or active. This unit includes Port an t-Saoir, a small stretch of sandy beach c. 200m long. The hinterland throughout this section is poorly drained. Sheep stocking is moderately high and the grass is often well cropped. One area of the hinterland by Rubha nan Uan contains land which appears to have been improved; a good well drained humic soil is visible in occasional rabbit/sheep scrapes.



- Foreshore**
- Rock platform
 - Mainly sand
 - Mainly alluvial/marine mud
 - Marsh

- Modifiers**
- Low edge <5m
 - Cliff >5m
 - Man made barrier
 - Shingle/storm bank
 - Human disturbance

- Hinterland**
- Drift
 - Drift on visible rock
 - Raised beach etc.
 - Blown sand
 - Glacial sand/gravel
 - Alluvium



1. Ben Feall NM 142 551 1.7 Km Stable A high rocky coast edge with little sign of recent erosion.	3. Rubha a'Ghraineig NM 154 563 3.7 Km Stable A rocky coast edge with little sign of recent erosion. Large areas of coast edge are bare of vegetation for up to 50m into the hinterland, especially in the vicinity of Rubha a Ghraineig. Many small coves contain storm beaches which appear to be recent or actively moving.
2. Port an t-Saoir NM 148 551 0.2 Km Eroding to stable This unit is a short length of sandy beach. The coast edge appears mostly stable, however there are areas of erosion inland where turf cover has gone, revealing underlying sand. This erosion may be due to, or exacerbated by, animal stocking.	

