Quaternary field mapping: Upland Britain

Intended audience
This field course is suitable for students and professional geologists, environmental scientists, and geoenigneers wishing to gain a greater understanding of upland Quaternary deposits and the techniques used to map them. It is recommended that participants wishing to attend this course should have previously attended the Geological Field Surveying course.

Course objectives
To provide participants with an introduction to:
- The recognition, description, interpretation and mapping of glacigenic and glacially conditioned sediment-landform assemblages using air photos and ‘rapid’ walk-over surveying methods.
- The establishment of stratigraphical successions in order to decipher sequences of events.

Course description
The course provides:
- Experience in applying air photo interpretation to mapping superficial landforms and deposits
- Field demonstration and sedimentological analysis of a wide range of glacigenic deposits and associated landforms.
- Application of the BGS litho-morpho-genetic symbol scheme to map sediment/landform assemblages.
- Exercises in the description, interpretation and classification of glacigenic sediments.
- Techniques for establishing lithostratigraphies and interpreting histories of glacial, deglacial and post-glacial events from the geological record.
- Experience of mapping glaciated terrains (in pairs). Each participant will be expected to produce a geological field map and associated notebook records by the end of the course.

Course duration
Variable depending on requirements

Delivery mode
Field-based course

Course fee
£2300 for the whole course but subject to variation depending on requirements

Date(s)
Spring and Autumn

Location
The course is based in the Spey Valley and Inverness districts