

## Appendix 2: Glen Croe LMP Consultation Record

LLTNP scoping response following site meeting in 2015. Full scoping carried out in January 2018. Site meeting proposed spring 2018.

Statutory Consultee	Date contacted	Date response received	Issue raised	Forest District Response
Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Initial Site Meeting		09/11/2015	<p>Supportive of general principles.</p> <p>Assess and mitigate the negative access and visual impacts of deer fencing on the summit of Ben Luibhean and on views from the path approaching Beinn Ime from Bealach a Mhain (coll).</p> <p>A lower ring fence would be the preferred option to avoid hilltops.</p> <p>Extend planting up gullies to improve landscape interlock.</p> <p>Explore with Transport Scotland the potential to improve the roadside landscape in relation to screening of Catch Nets and other infrastructure.</p> <p>Consider impacts on Golden Eagles.</p>	<p>Considered in plan as a priority.</p> <p>This approach has been adopted.</p> <p>This approach has been adopted.</p> <p>This approach will be adopted as part of a detailed approach supplementary to the main LMP.</p> <p>PAT model run which indicates area is likely to fall outwith core Eagle range. Supplementary advice on impacts</p>

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			<p>Potential Impacts on Beinn an Lochain SSSI.</p> <p>Potential for area to become more attractive to Black Grouse Is there potential to extend woodland below the A83.</p> <p>Integrate woodland creation with LMP for established woodland in Glen Croe.</p> <p>High level viewpoint from Beinn an Lochain is desirable.</p>	<p>obtained.</p> <p>Use of NBL likely to lead to minimal impacts. Deer impacts from fencing assessed as negligible.</p> <p>The developing woodland and stock removal should provide appropriate Black Grouse Habitat.</p> <p>Woodland creation south of the Croe Water is considered in the LMP and proposed for the longer term to integrate with restructuring to create wider areas of protection forest.</p> <p>Viewpoint added.</p>
Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Postal Scoping		01/02/2018	What proportion of Open Ground is proposed.	On the core project area open ground will be provided by unplatable and stable rock outcrops, no other open ground is envisaged in order to enhance slope

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			<p>Further details required on access routes.</p> <p>Assess landscape impacts on deer fencing on views from paths around the coll at Bealach a Mhain in view of its value as core wild land.</p> <p>Consult on viewpoints.</p> <p>Area of woodland creation south of the Croe Water and outside the main deer fence....what are the fencing proposals for this area.</p>	<p>stability. Outwith core area open ground will be left as per guidance and is anticipated to be around 20% of the planted area.</p> <p>To be provided at follow up site meeting.</p> <p>Considered in LMP.</p> <p>Carried out.</p> <p>This area will require deer fencing, precise line to be determined.</p>
Scottish Natural Heritage		23/01/2018	<p>Impacts on Glen Etive and Glen Fyne SPA are unlikely to require assessment.</p> <p>Beinn an Lochain SSSI: Effects likely to be temporary and not significant,</p>	<p>PAT modelling and an associated report based on internal expert assessment indicates low adverse &amp; potentially positive impacts.</p> <p>A DMP will be carried out together with a deer count</p>

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			<p>but impact of deer fencing on deer movements and displacement needs to be considered in a DMP.</p> <p>Avoid impacts on protected species by survey and appropriate actions to avoid impacts. Badgers are likely to be the most significant interest that may be impacted on.</p> <p>An EIA may be required for this project.</p>	<p>of the area.</p> <p>The LMP will form part of the documentation to be submitted to the Forest Authority as part of the EIA determination process.</p>
Mountaineering Scotland		22/01/2018	<p>Supportive of principles of project.</p> <p>Natural regeneration to the top of Beinn Luibhean...would this be achieved by fencing around the summit with additional fence lines. Further details on fencing required.</p>	<p>North of the Croe Water only one ring fence is proposed. Additional fencing will be required at a later date south of the Croe Water and this will be linked with the expansion of NBL woodland in this area post felling. The exposed mountain tops are likely to remain unchanged in terms of flora for many years.</p>

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			<p>MS would like details on the lines of proposed access tracks and that these should be proportionate and in line with best practice.</p> <p>Maintain full access over existing routes by the use of gates and stiles including access to Beinn Luibhean.</p> <p>Use appropriate signage and provide diversions when hazardous forestry operations are planned.</p> <p>Consider potential for new access routes or the restoration of old routes.</p>	<p>The minimal track lengths that enable the project to proceed will be used and the design, layout and construction of these will follow best practice, details to be provided.</p> <p>MS will be consulted on fence access points which will seek to minimise any adverse impacts.</p> <p>Track construction and airlift of materials may require temporary path closures with diversions. Tree planting by hand will not require path closure.</p> <p>This will be considered where budgets allow and will be included in the siting of gates and stiles.</p>
Lochgoil CC		15/01/2018	Fully supportive of proposals. No queries or issues raised.	
Forestry Commission Conservancy meeting.		10/01/2018	An EIA determination is required for the planting and track formation with the LMP providing the supporting information for decision	LMP will seek to provide full information for decision making.

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			<p>making.</p> <p>Prior notification is required for track formation &amp; planning permission within 25m of A83.</p> <p>Spec of access tracks and assessment of visual impacts essential for process.</p> <p>Ecological walk over survey to identify features of interest.</p> <p>Open ground management to be considered in the LMP.</p> <p>Consider GWDTE in connection with tracks.</p> <p>Consider deer issues.</p> <p>Agree viewpoints with Conservancy &amp; NP.</p>	<p>These will be submitted along with the LMP.</p> <p>These will be submitted with the LMP.</p> <p>This will be undertaken.</p> <p>This will be considered in the LMP.</p> <p>This will be considered in the LMP.</p> <p>This will be considered in the LMP.</p> <p>This will be undertaken.</p>
<p>Site Meeting</p> <p>Alan Bell (LLTNP)</p> <p>Angus Corby (Transport Scotland)</p> <p>Catherine Walker (FC) (Apologies sent)</p>	19/04/18		<p>The planting of the plan area running onto FC Land to the south had a later phasing, and details of fence lines for this part had not been provided. Was it appropriate to include this in the plan and if so</p>	<p>Given the potential to link up landscape scale woodland creation then linking the two areas within the LMP is considered the best</p>

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Davie Black (Mountaineering Scotland) (Apologies sent) Guy Keating (LLTNP) Ian Thomas (DCP) John Hair (FES) Ruari Dunsmuir (SNH) Simon Franks (LLTNP)			could more details be provided.	approach in terms of integrated land management. There is also a common theme of increasing slope stability above the A83. The phasing of the main planting area will also need to extend over two or three years depending on resources and weather constraints. The planting to the south on the FES holding will occur in the next few years, but the timing will be linked to the felling and restocking of the mature conifers directly above the A83. There is scope for natural regeneration in this area with increased deer control and particularly as the mature conifers are progressively removed which reduces deer cover. Any fencing in this area to protect new planting would be agreed with the LLTNP

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				and would seek to minimise fence density, with any redundant fencing removed to reduce aesthetic and access impacts. Slope stability within this area and above the existing mature conifers is a priority and has a potential bearing on A83 resilience.
			There was general agreement that the southern and eastern fencelines were highly significant. Visuals indicated lower possible impacts than might have been anticipated. Was there scope to adjust the fenceline in critical areas (subject to functionality) to improve the landscape fit and to pull the fence back from the main Beinn Ime path? Could redundant fences be dismantled and removed while helicopter on site? Interpretation boards were agreed as being essential for a wide range of reasons.	The proposed site visit with the FC, LLTNP & MS would pinpoint the detailed locations of these adjustments/fixtures and would form an appendix to the LMP. The submitted LMP would refer to this process as providing the definitive operational fine tuning. The redundant stock fence could be removed to reduce overall impacts and operationally helicopter removal during plant delivery or fence material layouts



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				would make sense. Interpretation boards would be provided with the content and location to be agreed with the LLTNP. This was an essential part of communicating the positive aspects of the project generally, but also to reduce adverse aesthetic impacts from fences etc, by explaining why they were there.
			Species choice: could this include wider range of willow species, juniper, specialist montane sub-species and an element of Scots Pine for landscape adjacent to Butterbridge Plantation?	A note on other willow species, juniper and specialist montane sub species would be added to the planting design map. Scots Pine would be included for landscape and ecological reasons at the northern end of the plantings to link with the Butterbridge plantation. Scots Pine wouldn't be planted on the core slope stabilisation areas. A note would be added to the species map

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				indicating location for an element of SP.
			Could the planting area be expanded in future?	There was scope for looking at this in future given that the major cost item of the deer fence was in situ. The focus would be however on the current proposal and in terms of a larger third stage planting there may be more cost effective sites within the national Forest Estate. There would be scope for both research plots/areas or volunteer group plantings, particularly in relation to the hard to establish montane woodland. Any further non FC planting would need to be controlled to ensure the correct species were planted in ecological terms and crucially that plant health constraints were fully considered.
			The main proposed quad bike track up the Croe Water (along the	These factors would be included in the LMP

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			southern margin of the site) could play a very positive role as a new mountain access. It could largely replace the existing desire line access route north of the burn, but could be complementary to the desire line/path south of the burn. Additional access directly from the established formal layby could also ease congestion at the current unofficial car park south of the burn that was designed for agricultural access to the hill. While landscape impacts from the proposed track were low, it was agreed that the immediate aesthetic impacts of the track were significant for walkers, and that good path design in terms of restoring cuttings/embankments and culvert/headwall design were essential considerations. The FC path constructed near Ben A'an was considered to be an example to emulate. Extending the path beyond the formation by leaving open ground corridors would benefit access provision.	specifically with the spec referred back to guidance on ranger track formation, mountain path construction and the positive example of Ben A'an. Specifically the work would follow "Upland Pathwork: Construction Standards for Scotland. 2015", with modifications as necessary to ensure the tracks were fit for safe ATV access. There is scope to leave open ground path networks along the Glen Croe Water either using the existing path or other line, and there is potential to link this to open ground retentions around the shieling groups.

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Consultees contacted.

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