



The Mountaineering Council of Scotland

The Old Granary
West Mill Street
Perth PH1 5QP
Tel: 01738 493 942

Please reply by email to david@mcofs.org.uk

Lyndsay Sharp
Mid-West DMG Secretary
Bidwells
Carn Dearg House
North Road
Fort William
PH33 6PP

18 April 2016

Your ref: MWDMG/DMP

Dear Ms Sharp

Mid-West Deer Management Group: Deer Management Plan

Thank you for your letter dated 16 February and the opportunity to comment on the Deer Management Plan. The area covered by the Mid-West DMG includes many of the highest and most iconic mountains in Scotland to which access has been taken for walking, climbing and skiing for many years.

We note that the plan recognises the importance of recreation and access to the mountains for individuals and through a number of organised events that are fully supported by the members of the DMG.

It also acknowledges the important role that the Heading for the Scottish Hills website plays in providing up to date information to the public about stalking activities. We suggest that it would be helpful if the website was named correctly as it is given 2 different and incorrect names.

Currently the John Muir Trust, Killiechonate and Mamore estates provide information for this website, and we suggest that other estates in the DMG should be encouraged to sign up to the service and regularly provide up to date information, as doing so will be of benefit both to the estates concerned and those wishing to take responsible access during the stalking season.

The MCOFS takes the view that collaboration between organisations sharing mutual interests will be the way forward over the next few years, particularly as the impact of new legislation becomes clear, and we thank the Mid-West DMG for the opportunity to comment on this occasion.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely

David Gibson
CEO