

By email to: [Ian.Sargent@nature.scot](mailto:Ian.Sargent@nature.scot)

31<sup>st</sup> March 2026

Dear Ian,

**Re: Montane Willow Scrub project - Invereshie & Inshriach NNR**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project. Mountaineering Scotland is a membership organisation with 16,000 members and is the only recognised representative body for hill walkers, climbers, mountaineers and ski-tourers who enjoy Scotland's mountains. We represent, support and promote Scottish mountaineering, and provide information and training to mountaineers on safe and responsible enjoyment of our mountain environment.

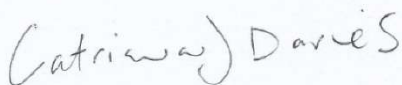
Mountaineering Scotland supports the re-establishment of native woodland in areas where it would naturally occur. We favour natural regeneration as it helps to establish a species mix that best fits the site and creates high quality habitat that integrates seamlessly with the landscape, whilst supporting increased biodiversity. However, we do support planting in areas where key native species are no longer present and need to be reintroduced to help create an optimum species mix.

It is Mountaineering Scotland's view that land management infrastructure, including fences and hill tracks, should be kept to a minimum in mountain landscapes. When fences are needed, they should be carefully sited to minimise their visual impact, and to avoid fence-lines standing out against the skyline. I am therefore pleased to note that there are no fences proposed as part of this project. Not only will this help create natural tree-lines but it will avoid creating barriers to access.

I am also pleased to note that you recognise public access to the Invereshie & Inshriach NNR is important. The Munro (Scottish mountain over 3,000 feet) of Sgòr Gaoith and the adjacent tops of Sgòran Dubh Mòr, Meall Buidhe and Geall-Charn are popular hillwalking objectives, often undertaken in a single day, starting and finishing in Glen Feshie. In addition, there is an extensive crag below the Sgòr Gaoith/Sgòran Dubh Mòr summit ridge, above the east shore of Loch Eanaich, with a number of rock climbing and winter climbing routes.

I hope these comments are useful.

Kind regards,



Catriona Davies  
Access & Environment Officer

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