

By email to: mandie.currie@forestryandland.gov.scot

Dr Mandie Currie
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1 February 2021

Dear Dr Currie

Glenachulish LMP Scoping Brief Consultation

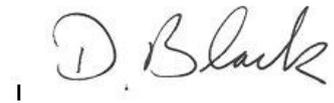
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Scoping Brief for the Glenachulish LMP.

1. Our interests lie with access through the Forest blocks to the open high ground, and the landscape implications of restocking and other management on the National Scenic Area.
2. Mountaineering Scotland is a membership organisation with over 14,000 members and is the only recognised representative organisation for hill walkers, climbers, mountaineers and ski-tourers who live in Scotland or who enjoy Scotland's mountains, and acts to represent, support and promote Scottish mountaineering. Mountaineering Scotland also acts on behalf of the 80,000 members of the British Mountaineering Council (BMC) on matters related to landscape and access in Scotland, and provides training and information to mountain users to promote safety, self-reliance and the enjoyment of our mountain environment.
3. We support restructuring plans that would minimise impact on the visual amenity of the landscape in the National Scenic Area.
4. We welcome the intention to maintain footpaths providing access to Munros and other tops and ridges in the vicinity. Also welcome is the intention to expand native woodland and montane scrub further up the hillsides.
5. We support your plans to reducing browsing by deer and livestock to assist tree and shrub regeneration. This will likely involve extensive stretches of deer fencing, which The Scottish Outdoor Access Code recognises may be considered an unreasonable restriction on recreational access if there are insufficient crossing points (section 4.9).
6. We would expect self-closing gates on the main routes to the summits and we suggest that crossings be provided at regular intervals so that the public do not have to make unreasonable detours. Where use is relatively infrequent, we think it would be reasonable to provide crossings every

kilometre. Away from paths or tracks stiles would be adequate for crossing, especially where the terrain is rough or remote.

I hope that these comments will be helpful as you develop the land management plan for the forest.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Black". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small vertical line to the left of the first letter.

Davie Black
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Mountaineering Scotland

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