

By email to: highland.cons@forestry.gov.scot

Mr Ian Collier
Woodland Officer
Scottish Forestry

17 October 2024

Dear Mr Collier

Barrisdale Long Term Forest Plan
FGS reference: 24FGS76858

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this phase of the Barrisdale LTFP.

Mountaineering Scotland is a membership organisation with 16,000 members and is the only recognised representative organisation for hill walkers, climbers, mountaineers and snowsports tourers who live in Scotland or who enjoy Scotland's mountains. We represent, support and promote Scottish mountaineering, and provide training and information to mountain users for safety, self-reliance and the enjoyment of our mountain environment.

Mountaineering Scotland's interests lie generally with the effect of proposals on mountain landscapes, especially National Scenic Areas and Wild Land Areas, and along routes to mountain summits and climbing crags.

Our comments here focus on arrangements for recreational public access. We understand the need to limit the number of gates to reduce them being accidentally being left open, allowing deer to enter the enclosure, and welcome the intention to provide pedestrian gates at intervals along the extensive fence line, as well as vehicular gates.

We ask that the estate takes the design of gate construction into consideration. We have a pragmatic preference for traditional wooden self-closing gates rather than weldmesh as it allows for easier climbing over in case it is accidentally locked (it happens!). This also applies to the vehicular gates which may need to be crossed in poor weather and visibility, for ensuring safety for walkers who may have strayed from their intended route.

We hope you find these comments useful in your consideration of this Forestry Grant Scheme.

Yours sincerely



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