

By email to: [john@corrour.co.uk](mailto:john@corrour.co.uk)

John Sutherland  
Head Forester  
Corrour Estate  
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16 August 2021

Dear John

### **Corrour Forest LTFP Consultation**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Long Term Forest Plan for Corrour Forest.

1. Mountaineering Scotland is a membership organisation with more than 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. 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.
2. Our interests lie with access through the forest blocks to the open high ground, and the visual implications of restocking and other management on the landscape.
3. We note the change in emphasis toward conservation and biodiversity and support your intention to establish native woodland without deer fencing. Where deer fences are deemed essential, we would expect self-closing pass gates to be installed at the main points of informal access to the open hillside to the south. The Strava heat map indicates which routes are in popular usage: <https://www.strava.com/heatmap#12.65/-4.66009/56.88116/hot/all>.
4. We would welcome the occasional stile on extensive stretches between gates to allow access over the fence without significant detours to a gate, especially where a ridge meets the fence, or the fence significantly changes direction.
5. Regarding native woodland establishment, many of our members welcome more tree cover on the hills, but there is also a significant percentage who appreciate the open views from hillsides and are concerned that woodland plantation would obstruct these wide and long views. Encouraging more natural regeneration would allow trees to grow naturally where they can, and may result in a more open, scattered appearance rather than the straight rows and blocks of plantation, and preserve views through the trees.

6. We welcome your statement that all forest management operations will comply with the requirements of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

We hope that these comments on the Corroul Forest Long Term Forest Plan Plan are helpful, and we will be pleased to assist with any of these points above if we can.

Yours sincerely



D. Black

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