



# Pennyghael Estate Long Term Forest Plan



- Productive Landscapes
- Habitat and Species Protection
- Biodiversity Enhancement

#### What's Happening?

Pennyghael Estate changed ownership to Blackmead Nature Services Ltd. in August 2022 and Tilhill has been engaged to provide forest management and to prepare a Long Term Forest Plan Renewal, integrating the owners objectives in line with the updated UK Forestry Standard and past operations.

#### **Woodland Management**

Pennyghael Estate covers a total area of 3,931 Ha, of which 1,330 Ha are woodland. These are split into 7 discreet blocks which cover woodland types from Mixed broadleaves around the village of Pennyghael to commercial conifer in the productive woodlands of Kinloch and Brolass.



Estate woodlands will be managed to maximise their financial return from timber assets where appropriate and to enhance biodiversity where possible. The majority of commercial activities will be centred around the Kinloch and Brolass woodlands, with UK Forestry Standard (UKFS) forest restructuring providing biodiversity and habitat benefits. Treated trees will not be used in the Kinloch restock.

All forest management activities will be compliant to UKFS and certified within the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS).

## **Habitat and Species Protection**

Pennyghael is home to a number of locally significant landscape types and habitats, and the majority of the estate lies within the boundaries of the Cnuic agus Cladach Mhuile Special Protection Area for Golden Eagle. White Tailed Eagle and otters have also been identified on site, and the upland areas include raised peat bogs, and areas of rare native broadleaves in sheltered and secluded gullies. There are also areas of Ancient Woodland along the North shore around Pennyghael village and Westward towards the Killunaig woodlands.

All these features, and further identified habitats and species will be protected within this plan as per Scottish law and forestry best practice. Where possible habitats will be improved through UKFS compliant forest restructuring.



## **Public Access and Amenity**

The proposed planting will include access tracks that can be used for responsible non-motorised public access as per the Outdoor Access Code.

## **Biodiversity Enhancement**

Biodiversity is central to sustainable forest management and is enshrined within the UKFS and UKWAS. Portions of the forestry will be managed to maximise their value as a timber asset, but others will be restructured to increase species diversity with Scots Pine and Native Broadleaves in previous Sitka monocultures.

Areas of Ancient Woodlands along the A849 will also be managed for their habitat and species biodiversity value.



# **Minimise Community Disruption**

Forestry activities will be conducted in a manner to minimise disruption to the local community. Planned activities include the ground preparation of Kinloch, the creation of a new deer fence to enclose the Kinloch restock area, restocking of Kinloch, and possible future harvesting in Brolass.

Where possible, local companies will be used for these activities. Public rights of way will be maintained throughout the Estate in line with the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

#### **Contact**

If you have any questions or queries, or want to discuss your own forestry proposals, management, or harvesting, you can contact the Oban team through:

Email: consultationwhn@tilhill.com

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Further information, including maps, can

be made available upon request.