

Phy. d. Gibson
8/1/19/2



FORESTRY COMMISSION (SCOTLAND)
CONSERVANCY OFFICE (NORTH)

21 Church Street Inverness IV1 1EL

Telephone Inverness 232811

Mrs Ella Sutherland
 Mill of Pitmedden
 Oyne
 Insh
 AB5 6RT

Please address any reply to The Conservator
 Your reference

Our reference H 4/2 S 18/8/2

Date 21 April 1986

Dear Mrs Sutherland

EXTRACTION OF TIMBER AT THE BACK O' BENNACHIE

I refer to your letter of 18 March 1986 on behalf of the West Garioch Community Council.

The points of public concern you mention are fully appreciated and have been very much in our minds in planning for the management of the Woodlands at Bennachie.

We have explored the possibility of an alternative access route but the most suitable and satisfactory access, taking full account of all factors concerned, is the existing one from the B 9002. With additional traffic in mind, we are in touch with the Regional Authority Road Department in the hope that improvements to the road (including, no doubt, additional passing places) can be made.

For many years to come, the only harvesting operations planned are thinnings (that is subject, of course, to no unforeseen circumstances such as a major windblow), so I do not anticipate that the extent of use of the access road by timber traffic should prove any serious inconvenience to the public.

It is inevitable that, for safety reasons, some areas will have to be closed to walkers while harvesting is in operation. That, of course, would be equally true wherever the access road was.

You can be assured, nevertheless, that we will do our utmost to minimise inconvenience and I am sure the results of thinning will only be welcomed by visitors thereafter.

Yours sincerely

A F Mackay
 for Conservator