



Campaigning for the Conservation of Wild Land in Scotland

Publisher of Scottish Wild Land News

Beryl Leatherland
Convenor

Planning Department
The Highland Council
2nd Floor
Kintail House
Beechwood Park
Inverness IV2 3BW

28th November 2017

Dear Sir

Application 17/05189/FUL Extension to existing hilltrack at Glendoebeg, Upper Glendoe, Fort Augustus, Highland

On behalf of the Scottish Wild Land Group, I am writing to **OBJECT** to this application.

We consider this application to be inadequate and unacceptable for the following reasons:

- Much essential detail is omitted. There is no description of how the construction site will be managed, where it will be located, where the material for track construction will be sourced from, whether borrow pits will be required and if so where they will be located.
- The construction detail given is not site specific. Furthermore, in this location there are extensive areas of deep peat and the proposed construction would result in peat damage, going against what is specified in Scottish Planning Policy. Peat is known to be important in carbon sequestration and should not be disturbed. Where areas of deep peat are to be crossed floating roads should be used.
- There is no consideration of disturbance or mitigation of damage to the hydrology of the area, which tends to have areas of wet substrate.
- There is a stream crossing but no details of how this will be negotiated are given. Ideally there should be a bridge constructed in such a way as to avoid bank damage and collapse. Workings in the vicinity of water courses should indicate how silting is to be avoided, these are omitted here.
- There are no details of turf set aside and maintenance.



On the application form the description of the proposal as an extension to an existing hilltrack is meaningless, there should be some justification for building a track in this location. Given that this is a grouse area it would appear that the track is needed for shooting party access.

The existing use is given as "moorland"; again this is insufficiently explicit; moorland can be put to a variety of land management uses.

There is no precise location map and the location plan is displayed twice on the portal.

Should you have any queries regarding this objection please contact me using the details above

Yours sincerely

Beryl Leatherland

