

Loch Arkaig Pine Forest

White Bridge & Glen Mallie Track Upgrade

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Why are the White Bridge and the Glen Mallie track being upgraded?

As part of the restoration of Loch Arkaig Pine Forest, a large number of non-native trees are being removed from the Glen Mallie Forest between 2020 and 2026. In order to cope with the trucks required to transport timber, the White Bridge over the River Arkaig is being strengthened and the Glen Mallie track is being resurfaced and upgraded.

When will the White Bridge be closed?

We plan to close the White Bridge from 29 July – 15 November 2019. During this period, there will be no vehicle or pedestrian access across the White Bridge.

When will the Glen Mallie track be upgraded?

We plan for the Glen Mallie track to be upgraded between 12 August – 10 November 2019. Pedestrian access (including bicycles) along the Glen Mallie track will be maintained during the work; however, there may be times when you will have to wait for short periods. Please observe all warning signs and instructions from the workforce.

How can we access the Glen Mallie track and Invermallie bothy during these upgrades?

The only route in to the Glen Mallie track and Invermallie bothy from a public road will be on foot from Bunarkaig via the Achnacarry Estate drive. There will be no access from the Chia-aig car park over the White Bridge.

How long will it take to remove all of the non-native trees?

We plan for tree felling in Glen Mallie to take place every year between 2020 and 2026. In order to avoid bird breeding season, no work will be carried out in any year between 1 April and 31 July.

How many lorries will be transporting timber?

We estimate that timber haulage will last approximately 20 weeks each year and will require an average of 12 loads per week. We will have a better idea of this when work begins in 2020.

How will the harvested non-native trees be transported from the western forest block (The Gusach)?

During consultation with Arkaig Community Forest, the option to use barges to transport timber from this remote forest block was received much more favourably than the alternative of building a new road out to the forest. There are social, environmental and economic factors still to consider for both options; however, we expect a final decision about the method of timber removal will be made during 2019.

Any changes to these plans will be publicised via on-site signage.

For further information, please contact:

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