

**From:** [NNR](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Filming Request - Abernethy Forest Reserve and Dell Woods - 9-11 May 2025  
**Date:** 07 May 2025 12:35:14  
**Attachments:** [Evidence of Cover.pdf](#)  
[CAA Operator ID 2024-25.pdf](#)  
[PLT \(#1935999064\) Lark AnnualPerformance\\_VerificationOfIns \(1\).pdf](#)  
[Midas Media - Risk Assessment - CaileagNanEun\\_v25\\_04\\_25.docx.pdf](#)  
[CAA Flyer ID valid to 2027.pdf](#)  
**Importance:** High

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[REDACTED]

Request in for filming. Sorry I've only just picked this up, it came in at 10.35 this morning.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] | **Nature Reserves Adviser**  
[REDACTED]  
**NatureScot** | Battleby, Redgorton, Perth PH1 3EW | T: [REDACTED]  
**NàdarAlba** | Battleby, Ràth a' Ghoirtein, Peairt PH1 3EW  
[nature.scot](http://nature.scot) | [@nature\\_scot](https://twitter.com/nature_scot) | *Scotland's Nature Agency* | *Buidheann Nàdair na h-Alba*

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**From:** MEDIA <MEDIA@nature.scot>  
**Sent:** 07 May 2025 10:38  
**To:** NNR <NNR@nature.scot>; MEDIA <MEDIA@nature.scot>  
**Subject:** FW: Filming Request - Abernethy Forest Reserve and Dell Woods

And another one sorry! Is this something we can direct to NNR address to pick up as per new filming guidance?

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 07 May 2025 10:35  
**To:** MEDIA <MEDIA@nature.scot>  
**Subject:** Filming Request - Abernethy Forest Reserve and Dell Woods

Caution! This message was sent from outside NatureScot.

Good morning,

My name's [REDACTED] I'm an Assistant Producer with Midas Media, working on a documentary for BBC Alba about birdwatching. I'm getting in touch as we are coming to the Cairngorms for filming.

The filming would be over the period 9th - 11th May, and would only be for maximum 6 hours over that period. The locations would be :

- Abernethy Forest Nature Reserve
- Dell Woods

It would be a small crew of 2 - a shooting director and a camera operator. Most of this would be handheld, with the occasional use of a tripod. There will also be a presenter. It would be great to also use a drone in these spaces.

Attached is our Risk Assessment, PLI and drone certificates.

Apologies for this being last minute. Please let me know if you have any questions and if there are forms we need to fill in. Happy to talk on the phone.

All the best,

[REDACTED]



### SUMMARY OF INSURANCE COVER

The information in this document is a summary only.

For full details of applicable policy cover please refer to the Policy Schedule and Policy Wording.

PART 1	<b>Policy No.</b>	CDA22281254GBP		
	<b>Insurers</b>	Starr International (Europe) Limited – 75% Travelers Insurance Company Limited – 25%		
	<b>Name of insured</b>	Midas Multimedia Ltd		
	<b>Usage</b>	Owners and Operators of Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS)		
	<b>Address</b>	49 Craigview, Montrose, DD10 0QA,		
	<b>Period of insurance</b>	from	15:46:52 on 02/10/2024	
to		01/10/2025		
Both days inclusive				
PART 2	<b>Particulars of UAS</b>			
	(1) Make	(2) Type	(3) Year of Manufacture	(4) Registration Marks
	DJI	Mavic 2 Pro		
	DJI	Mini 3 Pro		
	Non Owned Electronic Equipment	Sum Insured	Not insured	
PART 3	<b>Standard Uses:</b> Commercial	<b>Special Uses:</b>	None	
	<b>Operators</b>	Any Authorised Operator, as defined in the Policy Wording, approved by the Insured, working in connection with the Insured's business.		
PART 5	<b>Geographical Limits</b>	Worldwide Excluding: North Korea, Iran, Russia, Crimea, Ukraine and Belarus Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Syria, Yemen, Nagorno-Karabakh, North Caucasian Federal District, Somalia, The Republic of Sudan, South Sudan Burundi, Cabinda, Central African Republic, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Mauritania, Gorgia, Pakistan Any country where the operation of the insured Aircraft is in breach of the United Nations resolutions or the trade or economic sanctions, laws or regulations of the European Union, United Kingdom or United States of America.		

PART 6

<b>Limits and Deductibles</b>	(Appropriate boxes to be completed – others to be marked as ‘not applicable’)	
(A) Policy Section & Risk	(B) Amounts to be deducted	(C) Limit of Indemnity from which must be deducted the amount in column (B)
<p>SECTION TWO Liability to Third Parties (Relating to All UAS operated by the Insured)</p>	<p><b>Bodily Injury</b> Nil <b>Damage to Property</b> You will pay the first GBP 100.00 in respect of damage to property <b>Professional Indemnity</b> The amount of GBP 1,000.00 shall be deducted from each and every claim</p> <p style="text-align: right;">each Occurrence</p>	<p>Bodily Injury and Damage to Property Combined GBP 1,000,000.00 each Occurrence and in the aggregate in respect of the Products Liability (Limited to GBP 1,000,000.00 whilst Training) Inclusive of Aviation Liabilities sub-limit GBP 1,000,000 (Limited to GBP 1,000,000.00 whilst Training) (never less than 750,000 SDR’s)</p> <p>Civil use of MOD Airfields GBP 7,500,000 Any one Occurrence</p> <p>Professional Indemnity shall not exceed GBP 50,000 in the policy period</p> <p><b>This policy is fully compliant with EU Regulation (EC) No 785/2004</b></p>
<p><b>Important</b></p>		

**From:** Drone & Model Aircraft Registration Service UK  
drone.model.aircraft.registration.service.uk@notifications.service.gov.uk  
**Subject:** You've renewed your operator ID for another 12 months  
**Date:** 1 December 2024 at 15:18  
**To:** [REDACTED]



## Civil Aviation Authority

[REDACTED],

Thank you for renewing your drone and model aircraft operator registration for another 12 months.

Please keep this email and make a note of your operator ID. We do not provide a certificate or card.

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## Operator ID details

- [REDACTED]
- Valid for: 1 year
  - Expiry date: 02/12/2025

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## Before you fly

Make sure you label your operator ID on all drones and model aircraft you're responsible for. Find out how at:

<https://register-drones.caa.co.uk/labelling-drones>

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## View and add to your registration

Use the My registration service to view your registration details, add an ID, or add a child under 13:

<https://register-drones.caa.co.uk/my-registration>

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Further information on how your data will be used can be found at:

<https://register-drones.caa.co.uk/privacy>

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Always follow the Drone and Model Aircraft Code:

<https://register-drones.caa.co.uk/drone-code>

Regards

The Drone and Model Aircraft Registration Team  
CAA (Civil Aviation Authority)

<https://register-drones.caa.co.uk/>

**VERIFICATION OF INSURANCE**

**To whom it may concern**

I confirm that we have effected insurance coverage for the following client and that the details of the insurance in force are as follows:-

**Name** Midas Multimedia Ltd  
**Address** 49 Craigview, High Street, Inverbervie, Montrose, Angus, DD10 0QA

**Employers Liability**

**Limit of Indemnity** £10,000,000  
**Period of insurance** 14 August 2024 to 13 August 2025  
**Insurer** Aviva Insurance  
**Policy Number** [REDACTED]

**Public and Products Liability Insurance**

**Limit of Indemnity** £5,000,000 any one occurrence, unlimited in the year but in the aggregate for Products Liability  
**Period of insurance** 14 August 2024 to 13 August 2025  
**Insurer** Aviva Insurance  
**Policy Number** [REDACTED]

Subject to the policy terms, conditions, warranties and exclusions, which are available upon request from our client.

[REDACTED] for and on behalf of Performance

Date: 12 August 2024

Production Title	BBC Alba: 'Caileag Nan Eun'	
Dates this RA covers	07/05/2025 - 29/05/2025	
Producer/Director Camera Directors	[REDACTED]	
Location address	Loch an Eilean, Rothiemurchus RSPB Loch Garten Glenmore Forest Park Wader Survey Loc TBC Footpaths by the River Ness, Inverness St Mary's Hall, Inverness River Kelvin, Glasgow Rothesay Town Loch Fad, Bute Atlantic Rainforest, Bute Duddingston Loch, Dr Neil's Garden Musselburgh Lagoons Loch Druidibeg, Uist Balranald Reserve, Uist Mingulay University of Glasgow Kelvin Walkway, Kelvingrove Park RSPB Loch Leven	
Location Contact Number	n/a	

Details of Activity: We are filming a presenter-led 60 min documentary on the past time of birding and how there has been an increase in young people taking up the hobby. We will be meeting people individually and in groups to talk to us about their experiences and also go bird watching together. We will be taking part in a wader survey which is being organised by the RSPB.



HAZARD	tic k	HAZARD	tic k	HAZARD	tic k
1.Aircraft/special flying*	x	16.Glass		31.Radiation	
2. Access/egress	x	17.Hazardous substances		32.Scaffolds*	
3. Animals	x	18.Heat/Cold		33.Smoke Effects*	
4. Audience/public	x	19.Hostile Environment		34.Speed	
5. Children (U-18) **		20.Hydraulic Hoists*		35.Stunts*	
6.Communication Failure		21.Inexperienced performer	x	36.Tropical Diseases	
7. Compressed Gas		22.Lasers*		37.Vehicles/Off road	x
8. Confined Spaces		23.Lifting machinery		38.Violence/Public Order	
9. Costume/Make up		24.Lighting Equipment	x	39.Water	x
10.Dangerous Structures		25.Machinery		40.Weather	x
11.Diving*		26.Manual handling	x	41.Working hours	x
12.Electricity or Gas		27.Mines/caves/quarries		42.Working Patterns	
13.Explosives/pyrotechnics*		28.Noise		43.Working at Heights	
14.Fire/flammable material		29.		44.Other – COVID-19	
15.Fight sequence		30.Physical Exertion	x	45.Working Offices	

\*\* Child Protection & Risk Assessment to be provided to parents or guardian.

A separate and specific Risk Assessment is required for any of the high-risk activities identified with \*

MIDAS MEDIA - PRODUCTION RISK ASSESSMENT FORM

PROGRAMME TITLE - Caileag Nan Eun					
DESCRIPTION OF HAZARD	INJURY/DAMAGE	PROBABILITY	PEOPLE AT RISK	PRECAUTIONS	RESIDUAL RISK
1.Aircraft/special flying*	Med	Low	General public, artists, presenter, Midas crew	**There will be a separate RA for this activity.**	Low
(2) Access / egress	Low	Low	General public, artists, presenter, Midas crew	Midas crew will ensure all equipment will be stored out of the way and not block any thoroughfares.  The director will ensure that crew, contributors and our presenter will not be put in positions where they block access and egress points.	Low
3. Animals	Med	Low	Contributors, Presenter, Midas crew	We will be filming birds and we may also come into contact with other wildlife. There is a risk that they see us as a threat and attack. Most of the time we will be at a distance and we will do our utmost not to disturb the animals. Should an animal show signs of distress at our presence, we will withdraw to a safe distance. We will note safe areas to withdraw to before filming.	Low
(4) Public	Low	Low	General public /camera operator	We will be filming in public areas. Where possible we will avoid filming general public however if they are in shot, the permission shall be sought. Should a member of the public show distress or agitation at our filming then we	Low



				shall stop filming and if possible, move location. we shall avoid confrontation at all costs.	
21.Inexperienced performer	Low	Low	Contributors	We are aware of our contributors with less television experience and have scheduled the shoot accordingly so that we allow more time. From the outset we will have a relaxed approach to filming to allow the contributor to become comfortable and at least working with us. Breaks will be scheduled so that people do not become over tired and can be "off camera" for a time.	
24.Lighting Equipment	Low	Low	Contributors, Crew, Presenter	Any lights that are being used shall be battery powered where possible. If AC power is being used than all stands will be weighed down and cables taped. They will not be set at access and egress points.	Low
26.Manual handling	Med	Low	Crew	The equipment will be split into smaller bags to spread the weight where possible. Should any heavy items need moved then we shall ask for help. When lifting we will bend at the knees.	Low
30.Physical Exertion	Low	Low	Crew	Locations are being looked at prior to recording to help make the shoot efficient. Should we need to walk longer distances then we shall look at how to move the kit easily by using a trolley. We can also share the kit and look at asking for vehicle access to certain locations.	Low
37.Vehicles/ Off road	Med	Low	Presenter, Crew	We will be driving large distances and sometimes very early in the morning. The drivers of the vehicles will drive without distractions. They will have a proper break before filming a long distance. Breaks have been scheduled for the longer travel days. Plenty of travel time has	Low

				been scheduled to ensure no one has to rush. The vehicles will not be driven on roads that are unsuitable.	
39. Water	Med	Low	Contributors, Presenter, Midas crew	<p>We will be filming near and around water. We will ensure that we are filming well back from the water's edge. Will do a quick recce at each location to make sure we know the areas we are filming are stable underfoot. Should we need to get closer to the water's edge then there will be a back watcher to ensure the safety of the person filming.</p> <p>We may take a boat trip to Mingulay - should this be confirmed then we will reassess this part of the RA.</p>	Low
40. Weather	Med	Low	Contributors, Presenter, Midas crew	We will be filming outside for the majority of the filming and will be out in all weathers. Contributors, Presenter and Crew will be advised to dress appropriately for all weathers. Production will identify an area for shelter at each location. Should the weather be very hot, production shall ensure a supply of water and sun protection.	Low
41. Working Hours	Med	Low	Contributors, Presenter, Midas crew	The shoot has been scheduled so that the days do not exceed 12 hr days (average 10hrs) and there will be a day off at least every 6 days. Breaks are being scheduled throughout the day. There will be some very early starts on this production but this is being mitigated by having hotels close to the locations and an early finish is anticipated when this happens and the working hours from the previous day are also being taken into account.	Low

Slips, trips & falls	Low	Low	Crew	It may be slippery underfoot or there may be trip hazards, especially on rural paths. Crew will use a back watcher if needed and the ground underfoot will be assessed before filming. Proper robust footwear will be advised. Areas where will be filming will be cleared of trip hazards before we start filming.	Low
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Experts or Contractors Used:  
Should we take a boat to Mingulay we would ask for the correct skippers certificates. At the moment this filming is still TBC and should be progress this RA will be updated accordingly.

Midas Media uses [REDACTED] Ken Law Safety for Health and Safety advice. [REDACTED] holds the British Safety Council's Diploma in Safety Management, is an Associate of the Institute of Occupational Health and Safety and a Fellow of the International Institute of Risk and Safety Management. He has advised production companies on health, safety and risk matters for over three decades.

Declaration: I am satisfied that this constitutes a proper and adequate risk assessment in respect of the proposed activity and that the precautions identified above are sufficient to control the risks.

Signed [REDACTED]

Date 25/04/2025

### Upcoming closure of operator registration and renewal for maintenance

The operator registration and renewal service will be unavailable between 4am and 8am on the following Tuesdays: 14 November 2023; 21 November 2023; 28 November 2023.

This is due to essential maintenance at our payment providers.

**UNITED KINGDOM**

## Drone and model aircraft

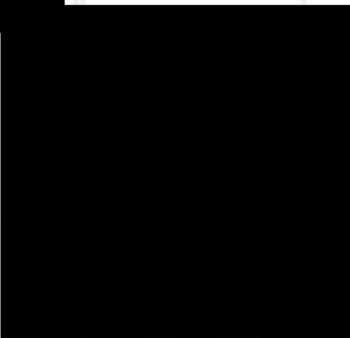
Proof of completion of online training

**Flyer ID**



**Expiry date: 1 December 2027**

**A1 & A3**  
OPEN  
SUB  
CATEGORY



[register-drones.caa.co.uk](https://register-drones.caa.co.uk)

From: [REDACTED]  
To: [REDACTED]  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Re: Tuesday 20th May - Dell Wood - Filming permission - Robson Green Weekend Escapes  
Date: 19 May 2025 08:17:54  
Attachments: [ITV Public Liability 2014\\_15.pdf](#)  
[E04 Production Risk Assessment- Robson Green's Weekend Escapes Series 4 \(part 1\) - signed \(1\).pdf](#)

I dealt with this request late on Friday, using you and [REDACTED] pattern from the last filming request.

If I had know it was for tomorrow I wouldn't have bothered!

Wondering if you might consider if we need to charge? I understood we did if it was non wildlife/conservation filming.

Will call you later.

Regards,  
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 17 May 2025 18:26  
To: [REDACTED] @nature.scot>  
Cc: [REDACTED] MEDIA <media@nature.scot>; [REDACTED]  
Subject: Re: Tuesday 20th May - Dell Wood - Filming permission - Robson Green Weekend Escapes

Caution! This message was sent from outside NatureScot.

Massive thanks for coming back to us on a Saturday.

I've attached our Public Liability to this email along with our RA.

The route we plan to take is so beautiful and we will only be promoting the natural beauty of the area in our programme.

We are such a small team, so unfortunately we just don't have 1K in our budget for this, and so I wondered whether you can help us with this fee?

We have just filmed on the Isle of May with Robson and the team and kindly this was given to us for no charge as we are able to show how beautiful the land will be to lots of people watching the programme and promoting the Island.

Any help would be appreciated here and happy to chat on the phone if you are free. I am available anytime [REDACTED] can call you on the mobile if needed?

Kind Regards,  
[REDACTED]

On Sat, 17 May 2025 at 17:06, [REDACTED] @nature.scot> wrote:  
Hi Oli,

Thanks for the email.

Thank you for getting in touch with us about filming on NatureScot land at Dell Woods, Abernethy National Nature Reserve (NNR). The land bounded by the red line on the attached map is owned and managed by NatureScot.

We will need copies of your Public Liability Insurance and Risk Assessments.

Unfortunately at this time of the year we cannot consent to drone use due to this being breed period for Capercaillie. Any breach of this request could be leave you liable for prosecution for wildlife disturbance. Apologies that we cannot allow this, at any other time of the year we would allow drone use.

We agree that Multistory TV Ltd may proceed with filming activities on the following basis:

- That this will take place on 20th May 2025 for a period of 3 hours in total;
- That all persons involved in any way in the filming work will stick to the path network and will not use drones.
- That all persons involved in any way in the filming work will observe safe working practices and comply with all relevant legislation;
- That Multistory TV Ltd's risk assessment, covers all filming activities and takes into account the site's natural features.
- That vehicular access will not be needed and that any other access will be on foot/cycle and will not interfere with public access provision;
- That Multistory TV Ltd has provided evidence to NatureScot of adequate insurance cover (Public Liability Insurance and Employer's Liability Insurance each of at least £5M for any one claim and unlimited in the period);
- That the activities to be undertaken will not impact on the natural features of the land's designated sites;
- We will notify our sporting tenants of your proposed filming activity.

Lastly, we normally charge production companies carrying out commercial activities on NNR's by payment in advance, however in this case we don't have time to process your company prior to Tuesday. I would suggest that as an alternative we require a payment of £1000 to **my park Scotland**: <https://www.mypark.scot/> - please follow the link to "Donate to National Nature Reserves" and reference Dell Woods, Abernethy NNR.

Please confirm that these terms are acceptable.

Regards,  
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, May 16, 2025 15:18  
To: [REDACTED]  
Cc: [REDACTED] MEDIA  
Subject: Re: Tuesday 20th May - Dell Wood - Filming permission - Robson Green Weekend Escapes

[REDACTED] and I'm the production co-ordinator on Robson Green's Weekend Escapes.

I've tried to reach you on the phone but you may be out in the field.

Regarding our filming request in Dell Wood for Tuesday 20th May - I'm hoping we can agree this today ahead of our team travelling to Scotland on Monday.

I will be in my car driving from 4pm today (unrelated to this filming) but in the hope you are able to come back to us before the end of the day, my colleagues [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are looped in to this email.

Many thanks,  
[REDACTED]

On Fri, 16 May 2025 at 13:31, [REDACTED] wrote:  
[REDACTED]

Great, thanks for this.

We have our team travelling to Scotland on Monday and we have all our other locations and activities lined up - this is the final piece of the puzzle!

Just to be clear, we are a very small team - self contained and we have no additional funds. We hadn't factored in any additional fees for the size and scale of this programme.

I am happy to talk with [REDACTED] over the phone ASAP if he is available as I might be able to reassure him better over the phone.

And just to reiterate, I really appreciate all your help with this so far - I understand the time sensitive nature of our request.

Thanks again,  
[REDACTED]

On Fri, 16 May 2025 at 12:47, MEDIA <MEDIA@nature.scot> wrote:

FYI

Thanks for getting in touch. In principle yes we would allow filming, as its commercial and not wildlife/conservation based there will be a charge. If you can ask [REDACTED] to get back to me with dates, I'll progress with our land agent and get a cost and filming agreement across. Date dependent, there may be restrictions on drone use.

Thanks,  
[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 16 May 2025 08:45  
To: MEDIA <MEDIA@nature.scot>  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Re: Tuesday 20th May - Dell Wood - Filming permission - Robson Green Weekend Escapes  
Good morning [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

Would you happen to have heard back from your team?

Please forgive my urgency in trying to put this in place - our team will be travelling on Monday for filming so we hope/ aim to send them all information about the upcoming shoot today.

Thanks again,  
[REDACTED]

On Thu, 15 May 2025 at 15:00, [REDACTED] wrote:

[REDACTED]

Thanks very much - greatly appreciated!

Thanks again,  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Postal Address:**

[REDACTED]  
FullStory Media  
Trafford Wharf Road  
Trafford  
M17 1FZ

On Thu, 15 May 2025, 14:57 MEDIA, <MEDIA@nature.scot> wrote:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] here on the media desk today.

I'll give our NNR Manager a nudge now, apologies, it's a very busy time at the moment.

Thanks,  
[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 15 May 2025 14:42  
To: MEDIA <MEDIA@nature.scot>  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Re: Tuesday 20th May - Dell Wood - Filming permission - Robson Green Weekend Escapes

[REDACTED]

Hope you are well.

I was wondering if there was any update from the Central Highland operations staff?

I know I only emailed yesterday - just with filming fast approaching next week, it would be greatly appreciated to have everything in place.

Much appreciated,  
[REDACTED]

On Wed, 14 May 2025 at 17:08, [REDACTED] > wrote:

That's great, thank you so much!

On Wed, 14 May 2025 at 17:00, MEDIA <MEDIA@nature.scot> wrote:

Thank [REDACTED]

I'll add that to the information sent to the NNR manager.

Best wishes,  
[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 14 May 2025 16:07  
To: MEDIA <MEDIA@nature.scot>  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Re: Tuesday 20th May - Dell Wood - Filming permission - Robson Green Weekend Escapes

[REDACTED]

I also should have mentioned, we hope to use our drone during this filming - just so the operations staff are aware.

Thanks again,  
[REDACTED]

On Wed, 14 May 2025 at 12:50, [REDACTED] wrote:

[REDACTED]

That's fantastic.

Speak soon!

Thanks again,

■

On Wed, 14 May 2025 at 12:43, MEDIA <MEDIA@nature.scot> wrote:

Hello ■

It was lovely to chat to you, too.

I've shared this information with our Central Highland operations staff and asked them to get back in touch with the relevant guidance ahead of Tuesday.

As soon as I hear from them, I'll let you know.

Best wishes,

■

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**From:** ■  
**Sent:** 14 May 2025 11:21  
**To:** MEDIA <media@nature.scot>  
**Cc:** ■  
**Subject:** Tuesday 20th May - Dell Wood - Filming permission - Robson Green Weekend Escapes

Hello ■

Thanks for taking my call just now - lovely to speak with you.

The exact location in Dell Wood I am referring to is below on Google Maps:

[https://www.google.com/maps/place/57%C2%B015'36.5%22N+3%C2%B039'25.8%22W/@57.260125,-3.657155,618m/data=!3m2!1e3!4b!14m4!3m3!8m2!3d57.260125!4d-3.657155?entry=ttu&g\\_ep=EgoyMDI1MDUxMS4wKXkxMDS0ASAFQAw%3D%3D](https://www.google.com/maps/place/57%C2%B015'36.5%22N+3%C2%B039'25.8%22W/@57.260125,-3.657155,618m/data=!3m2!1e3!4b!14m4!3m3!8m2!3d57.260125!4d-3.657155?entry=ttu&g_ep=EgoyMDI1MDUxMS4wKXkxMDS0ASAFQAw%3D%3D)

We have been liaising with the RSPB and they mentioned that this land may be owned by yourselves?

We are planning on filming a mountain bike sequence with Robson Green, his guest Gail Porter and a qualified instructor.

The crew is approximately 10 people in total and is a self-contained shoot.

Please can you confirm if this land is under Nature Scot's jurisdiction and if so, how can we proceed to obtain permission to film here?

I'm happy to provide further information and any required documentation.

Please also feel free to give me a call anytime should you wish to do so.

Many thanks,

■

■  
■  
■  
■

**Postal Address:**

MultiStory Media  
Trafford Wharf Road  
Trafford  
M17 1FZ

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Tha an post-dealain seo agus fiosrachadh sam bith na chois dìomhair agus airson an neach no buidheann ainmichte a- mhàin. Mas e gun d' fhuair sibh am post-dealain seo le mearachd, cuiribh fios dhan manaidsear-siostaim no neach-sgrìobhaidh.  
Thoiribh an aire airson adhbharan gnothaich, 's dòcha gun tèid stùil a chumail air puist-dealain a' tighinn a-steach agus a' dol a- mach bhò NàdarAlba.

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**Postal Address:**

MultiStory Media  
Trafford Wharf Road  
Trafford  
M17 1FZ

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**Postal Address:**

MultiStory Media  
Trafford Wharf Road  
Trafford  
M17 1FZ

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Thoiribh an aire airson adhbharan gnothaich, 's dòcha gun tèid stùil a chumail air puist-dealain a' tighinn a-steach agus a' dol a- mach bhò NàdarAlba.

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■  
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■

**Postal Address:**

MultiStory Media  
Trafford Wharf Road  
Trafford  
M17 1FZ

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■  
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■

MultiStory Media

Trafford Wharf Road  
Trafford  
M17 1FZ

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Thoiribh an aire airson adhbharan gnothaich, 's dòcha gun tèid sùil a chumail air puist-dealain a' tighinn a-steach agus a' dol a- mach bho NàdarAlba.

--  
[Redacted]

[Redacted]  
MultiStory Media  
Trafford Wharf Road  
Trafford  
M17 1FZ

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--  
[Redacted]

[Redacted]  
MultiStory Media  
Trafford Wharf Road  
Trafford  
M17 1FZ

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[Redacted]

[Redacted]  
MultiStory Media  
Trafford Wharf Road  
Trafford  
M17 1FZ

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[www.multistory.tv](http://www.multistory.tv)

Broadcast Centre, 201 Wood Lane, London, W12 7RU

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Please consider the environment before printing this email



26<sup>th</sup> September 2014

The St Botolph Building  
138 Houndsditch  
London EC3A 7AW  
Telephone 020 7528 4000  
Direct Line 020 7528 4445

**To whom it may concern**

Dear Sirs,

**ITV plc and/or Subsidiary Companies Public and Products Liability Insurance**

Please note that we act as Insurance Brokers to the above named Company and as such we arrange coverage on their behalf on the following basis:

**Primary Insurer:** ACE European Group Limited and Others

**Primary Policy Number:** [REDACTED]

**Period of Agreement:** From: 29<sup>th</sup> September 2014  
To: 28<sup>th</sup> September 2015 both days inclusive Local Standard Time at the address of the Insured.

**Geographical Limits:** Worldwide

**Limits of Indemnity:** **Public Liability:**  
GBP 15,000,000 any one occurrence.

**Products Liability:**  
GBP 15,000,000 any one occurrence and in the aggregate for Products and Pollution in the period of Insurance

This document does not confer upon the addressee, recipient or holder any rights in the insurance.

This evidence of insurance does not set out the full terms, clauses, conditions, limits and exclusions of the insurance.

The terms, clauses, conditions, limits and exclusions of the insurance may alter after the date of this document, or the insurance may terminate or be cancelled. JLT Speciality Limited has no obligation to advise you of any changes which may be made to the insurance, nor to advise you or its cancellation or termination.

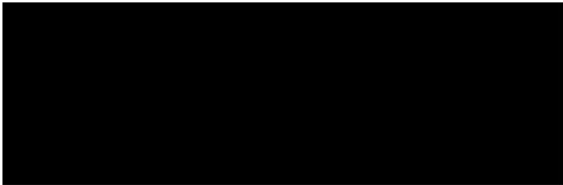
These statements have been made in good faith and are a summary of the insurance cover in force as at the date of this letter (which insurance remains subject to the full terms and conditions of the subscribing insurers' policy), although the Limit of Indemnity may have been impaired by incurred claims and therefore may vary from the amount shown. We accept no responsibility whatsoever for any inadvertent or negligent act, error or omission on our part in preparing these statements or for any loss, damage or expenses thereby occasioned to any recipient of this letter.



The subscribing insurers' obligations under contracts of insurance to which they subscribe are several and not joint and are limited solely to the extent of their individual subscriptions. The subscribing insurers are not responsible for the subscription of any co-subscribing insurer who for any reason does not satisfy all or part of its obligations.

Notwithstanding the issuance of this letter we are and remain solely the agent of ITV Plc in this matter and owe no duties to any recipient of this letter.

Yours faithfully,



**JLT Speciality Limited**

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED] [forestryandland.gov.scot](mailto:forestryandland.gov.scot); [REDACTED] [@rspb.org.uk](mailto:rspb.org.uk)  
**Subject:** RE: BBC Scotland Adventure Show  
**Date:** 21 July 2025 08:25:00  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)

---

Hi both,

Yes I saw that too and we've not had any request to film at Invereshie either. I'm sure CNPA made it clear in one of their emails to [REDACTED] that filming at this scale was not included under SOAC so would require landowner permission so this is something he really shouldn't be trying to challenge.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | **Operations Officer - Central Highland**  
NatureScot | Achantoul | Aviemore | PH22 1QD | [REDACTED]  
NàdarAlba | Achadh an t-Sabhail | An Aghaidh Mhòr | PH22 1QD  
[nature.scot](http://nature.scot) | [@nature\\_scot](https://twitter.com/nature_scot) | *Scotland's Nature Agency* | *Buidheann Nàdair na h-Alba*

---

**From:** [REDACTED] [forestryandland.gov.scot](mailto:forestryandland.gov.scot)  
[REDACTED] [@forestryandland.gov.scot](mailto:forestryandland.gov.scot)>  
**Sent:** 19 July 2025 14:04  
[REDACTED] [@rspb.org.uk](mailto:rspb.org.uk); [REDACTED] [@nature.scot](mailto:nature.scot)>  
**Subject:** RE: BBC Scotland Adventure Show

Caution! This message was sent from outside NatureScot.

Hello,

Yes, us either. Apparently it's a two part special from the Adventure Show (I saw on social media)  
No application for filming through us.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] **Visitor Services Ranger**  
Forestry and Land Scotland, Glenmore Forest Park Visitor Centre, Glenmore, PH221QU  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [@forestryandland.gov.scot](mailto:forestryandland.gov.scot)

Visitor Services Ranger for the Forests of Strathspey.

[REDACTED]





Forestry and Land Scotland is an executive agency of the Scottish Government

**From:** [redacted]@rspb.org.uk>  
**Sent:** 18 July 2025 19:26  
**To:** [redacted]@forestryandland.gov.scot> [redacted]  
[redacted]@nature.scot>  
**Subject:** BBC Scotland Adventure Show

Hi you two,

I've just discovered that the Adventure Show are filming ITERA and not only that, but at least one of their presenters, [redacted] is taking part. We've had no approach from them about filming.

[redacted]

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

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\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*



**NatureScot**  
**NàdarAlba**

Scotland's Nature Agency  
Buidheann Nàdair na h-Alba

██████████  
Durdy Events Ltd  
5 Rogers Road  
Riverside Industrial Estate  
SELKIRK  
TD7 5DX

22 July 2025

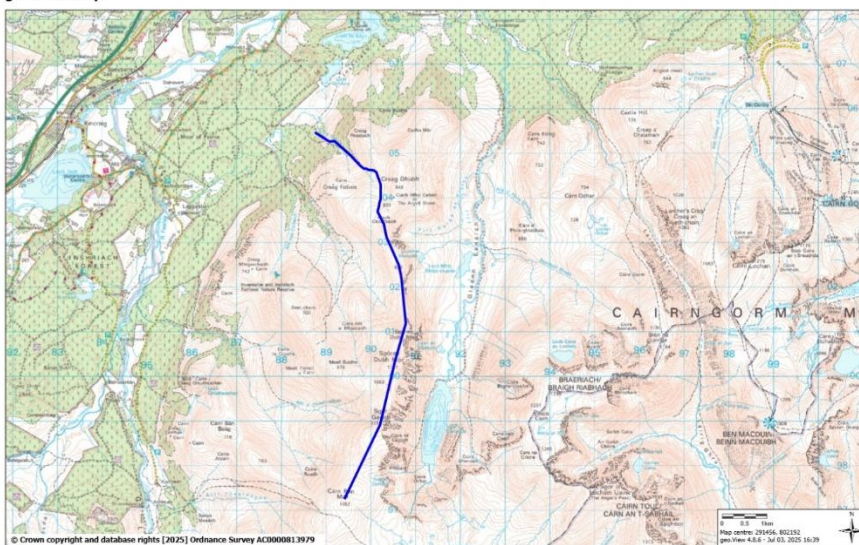
Our ref: Cairngorm SSSI – Information – Badenoch and Strathspey

Dear ██████████

**Cairngorms Special Protection Area (SPA) and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), and Invereshie and Inshriach National Nature Reserve (NNR)– Itera 2025**

We have now considered the route below on NatureScot's land following Rothiemurchus Estate's request to avoid Gleann Eanaich, with regards the [Itera 2025](#) non stop (racing through the night) adventure race event due to take place between 8 to 16 August 2025.

geo.View map



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Achantoul, Aviemore PH22 1QD  
Achadh an t-Sabhail, An Aghaidh Mhòr PH22 1QD  
01463 725219 nature.scot

NatureScot is the operating name of Scottish Natural Heritage

Our suggestion of this route was caveated with the need for input from [REDACTED] of RSPB who, collates and holds the capercaillie data in order to be sure that the route would not cause disturbance to capercaillie, a Schedule 1 bird species protected under the Wildlife and Countryside (1981) Act as amended, a qualifying feature of the [Cairngorms SPA](#) and a notified feature of interest of the breeding bird assemblage of the [Cairngorms SSSI](#). Please see Annex 1 for the protection afforded to Capercaillie as a Schedule 1 species.

Unfortunately, part of this route passes through an area of capercaillie brood activity. Event participants passing through this area, particularly at dawn and dusk is likely to cause disturbance to the birds, and so the route in the map above is also not acceptable.

**We do not give landowner permission for this event to go ahead in the manner and timing that is currently proposed.**

In coming to this decision, we considered the impact of the proposed operation on the [Cairngorms SPA](#) designated for capercaillie. An appropriate assessment has been carried out, with input from NatureScot ornithology adviser and found that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA can be avoided through the conditions below

- Restricting the event to taking place between 8am and 6pm to avoid dawn and dusk
- Or the event taking place outwith the breeding season, after 1<sup>st</sup> September (and before 1st March) when the chicks are more robust.

Please get back in touch if you are able to meet the above conditions.

### **Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 – SSSI consents**

It is also our understanding that RSPB and FLS have not given landowner permission for the event to go ahead where it crosses their land, with the exception of a section on the Speyside way within RSPB Abernethy land.

SSSI consent can only be issued to the landowner or land manager. So where a relevant Operation Requiring Consent (private landowners), or any activity likely to cause damage to a SSSI (public bodies) is proposed landowner permission would be required. SSSI consent can only be progressed with ourselves for sections of the event that have landowner permission.

### **Filming**

Furthermore, we understand the event is due to be filmed for the Adventure Show. The following NatureScot webpage includes FAQs around filming permissions <https://www.nature.scot/nnr-faq>.

Given the scale and nature of this proposed event, we would need to be provided further details on filming, including the legal entity undertaking the film, precise location, subject matter, filming methods, including if drones are to be used, how many personnel involved and whether vehicular access is required. This information would allow us to advise whether filming could go ahead or not. We may also charge a fee.

**We do not give our permission as landowner for filming to go ahead without the further details outlined above.**

### **Conclusion**

We would like to remind you that if the event and filming go ahead without our permission on our land in the timing and manner outlined on the event website and communicated by you at a stakeholder meeting on 3 July, you will be putting yourself at risk from committing an offence under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) through reckless disturbance to a Schedule 1 bird species.

Yours sincerely

**[REDACTED] | Operations Manager | Central Highland**

**NatureScot** | Achantoul, Aviemore PH22 1QD | [REDACTED]

[nature.scot](http://nature.scot) | [@nature\\_scot](https://twitter.com/nature_scot) | *Scotland's Nature Agency* | *Buidheann Nàdair na h-Alba*

[REDACTED] (RSPB), [REDACTED] (FLS), [REDACTED] (Rothiemurchus Estate), [REDACTED] (CNPA),

## Annex - Capercaillie - Schedule 1 Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) as amended

### Offences: wild birds

For any wild bird species, it is an offence to intentionally or recklessly:

- kill, injure or take a bird
- take, damage, destroy or interfere with a nest of any bird while it is in use or being built
- obstruct or prevent any bird from using its nest
- take or destroy an egg of any bird

For any wild bird species listed on Schedule 1, it's an offence to disturb:

- any bird while it is building a nest
- any bird while is in, on, or near a nest containing eggs or young
- any bird while lekking
- the dependent young of any bird

**From:** [Chris Donald](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: UPDATE CONFIDENTIAL Enquiry about purported NatureScot activity  
**Date:** 26 November 2025 13:21:32  
**Attachments:** [National Nature Reserves FAQ - filming and photography.docx](#)

---

For info and adding to the files.

Chris

**Chris Donald | Head of Operations, Central Highland**

**NatureScot** | Achantoul, Grampian Road, Aviemore, PH22 1QD | [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[nature.scot](#) | [@nature\\_scot](#) | *Scotland's Nature Agency* | *Buidheann Nàdair na h-Alba*

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**From:** [REDACTED]@adventureshow.tv>  
**Sent:** 17 November 2025 08:03  
**To:** Chris Donald <chris.donald@nature.scot>  
**Subject:** Re: UPDATE CONFIDENTIAL Enquiry about purported NatureScot activity

Caution! This message was sent from outside NatureScot.

Dear Chris,

Thank you for your email. [REDACTED]  
so am not able to accept your kind offer of a meeting.

With respect your quotations are from the Guidance and not the 2003 Act and, as numerous lawyers have made clear - [REDACTED] - it is the Act that should concern us. They have also raised an important issue: namely, what happens if the advice provided by land managers is partial, inaccurate or obstructive? This may seem academic but this was exactly what happened when 2 senior SNH staff we were filming with approached a landowner on our behalf and received a blanket refusal for no apparent reason. As your own staff pointed out at the time, the Guidance is not without its own problems.

Thank you your replies but I now feel it would be more appropriate to proceed in a more formal manner through the official Nature Scot channels.

Regards,  
[REDACTED]

On 29 Oct 2025, at 13:51, Chris Donald <[chris.donald@nature.scot](mailto:chris.donald@nature.scot)> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

Please find below our response to the key issues you raise in your email

[REDACTED] Adventure Show Productions

The matter of the personal message sent to [REDACTED] from a member of our staff has been fully investigated in line with our internal social media and cybersecurity policies and procedures and an apology made to the Race Director. In summary, the communication was made from a private social media account and highlighted that the message was personal. As such, there was no intention from a NatureScot perspective. I do not agree with your assertion that our procedures are deficient.

National Nature Reserves (NNRS) - filming

I refer you to our NatureScot webpage which includes FAQs around filming permissions <https://www.nature.scot/nnr-faq>. I have copied and attached the relevant FAQ 'filming and photography'. No details on filming had been provided therefore we could not determine whether the filming was of a low impact nature and as such we did not give our permission.

In particular, Para 3.63 of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code – my highlight for reference:

*'If you wish to take detailed photographs of houses or other buildings, you need to respect the privacy and peace of mind of those living or working there. Talking to the occupier can help a lot. If you wish to film a TV programme to further people's understanding of the natural or cultural heritage and which requires only hand-held equipment and involves no vehicles off the road, talk to the land managers beforehand and listen carefully to any advice provided. If you need to use vehicles or stay in an area for a few days or put down equipment or are filming for other purposes, you still require the permission of the relevant land managers. If you are writing a guidebook, leaflet or other promotional material about access in an area, try to talk to the relevant land managers to see if any local issues relating to privacy, safety or conservation need to be referred to in the publication.'*

For clarity, our refusal to grant permission for filming was only for this event and a decision made as a result of short notice, and lack of appropriate engagement with plans. We would have been happy to discuss filming on our

land as part of the planning for the event or with appropriate notice. We were only informed that there were plans to film the event very late in the process and did not receive information as to what was planned and where. I am sure that a courtesy call from yourselves and/or the race organiser to us would have clarified what was planned and we could advise on operations and help to reduce or avoid impacts.

I would like to meet up with you and [REDACTED] to enable me to understand any remaining issues you both may have with how we have dealt with this matter. I would be available on the following dates and times and would be happy to meet up in Newtonmore if you prefer.

December:

4<sup>th</sup> AM

10<sup>th</sup> AM

12<sup>th</sup> AM

15<sup>th</sup> 3-5pm

16<sup>th</sup> PM

18<sup>th</sup> PM

19<sup>th</sup> PM

Yours sincerely

Chris

**Chris Donald | Head of Operations, Central Highland**

**NatureScot** | Achantoul, Grampian Road, Aviemore, PH22 1QD | [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[nature.scot](http://nature.scot) | [@nature\\_scot](https://twitter.com/nature_scot) | *Scotland's Nature Agency* | *Buidheann Nàdair na h-Alba*

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@adventureshow.tv](mailto:[REDACTED]@adventureshow.tv)>

**Sent:** 07 October 2025 10:25

**To:** Chris Donald <[chris.donald@nature.scot](mailto:chris.donald@nature.scot)>

**Subject:** UPDATE CONFIDENTIAL Enquiry about purported NatureScot activity

[REDACTED]

I have taken some time to evaluate your response and, in doing so, has sought advice about some aspects of your email from senior executives in other public bodies. You'll see the relevance of this below. For

information I have been contacted by 2 MSP's and have provided information to them. I have also been approached by a number of other individuals with specialist knowledge and interest in access issues. Likewise I am in discussion with Ramblers Scotland and Mountaineering Scotland.

Having had the privilege of filming in some of the world's most precious landscapes across every continent apart from Antarctica, I have endeavoured, in responding to the above queries, to benchmark our experience of working with these numerous statutory authorities with that of NatureScot.

I should also make it clear that I am not concerned about any issues relating to the ITERA race that took place in August, only insofar as it impacts on our filming.

I have the following comments to make.

1. In terms of the message sent to [REDACTED] I originally asked:

*Could you please explain why this message was sent and what it purported to achieve?*

I do not seem to have received any answer to this and would be grateful if you can now specifically address this.

2. In your response you state:

*The member of staff was operating in a personal capacity.*

I have discussed this with two senior executives working in the public sector. Both agree with me that the original message with its reference to NatureScot should be judged to be an official communication. Key to all our thinking, and with reference to well tried quality assurance procedures, is how this message would be received. There is nothing within it - indeed quite the opposite - to indicate it is a personal communication.

It has also been suggested that if you were to insist it is a personal communication, you would, in effect, and again from a quality assurance perspective, be admitting that your office procedures are deficient.

Another observation from those I consulted is that there seems to be an insularity inherent in your comment that *an apology has been made*. An apology to whom? Certainly [REDACTED] and Adventure Show Productions have not received any that we are aware of and, it has been observed, surely we deserve one.

3. Most troubling is your comment about filming and, with the risk of appearing pedantic but aware that you will value precision, *lens based media* is a more accurate and useful team.

Since the 2003 Act we have consulted widely on this issue including with [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (often cited as Scotland's leading authority on access and the 2003 Act), a number of media lawyers, and many landowners and their representatives. All agree that if we enter land on foot or, where applicable by pedal cycle, in the same way as any member of the public then we have the right to use our lens based equipment. Moreover, the 2003 Act does not specify that any work must be for educational or similar use. [REDACTED] focuses on the part of the Act that states that anything that is carried out on a non professional basis can also be undertaken on a commercial one.

No payment is necessary and, as one lawyer made clear, we should not ask for what is ours by legal right. [REDACTED] published *The Law of Access to Land in Scotland* together with references in the *Scots Law Times* are helpful in this respect. Of course, should we wish to request vehicular access, erect structures etc. that is a different matter.

Incidentally, during the run up to the ITERA I received a call from [REDACTED] [REDACTED] of the RSPB (who I have worked with previously) who confirmed that, from his perspective, the above understanding is accurate. I have also received the same response from former and current NatureScot/SNH staff elsewhere in the country.

Therefore, can you please clarify why you made the comment, *we do not give permission for filming within NatureScot owned land as we do not have full information regarding what filming is proposed and where*. In respect of my comments above can you also explain how this is compliant with the clearly stated provisions of the 2003 Act.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course,

[REDACTED]

On 31 Jul 2025, at 10:43, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@nature.scot> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

I have now had a chance to discuss your email with colleagues.  
Please see my response below to each of your salient points:

[REDACTED] – Adventure Show Productions

1. I can confirm that the electronic message you have copied below was sent from one of our Operations Officers via a personal message. The officer volunteered that she had sent that message and an apology has been made. A review of the incident with the member of staff and our Head of Information and Cyber Security has been undertaken and we are content that the incident was an error of judgement and has now been fully addressed.
2. The member of staff was operating in a personal capacity . No additional information about the event or maps were sent to [REDACTED] or more widely. However, the message she sent is indeed factual as described more fully below.

Capercaillie and disturbance

1. I enclose for your information a copy of our recent letter to the events organiser where we outline the mitigation required for the Itera 2025 event to go ahead within NatureScot owned land in order to avoid disturbance to capercaillie, a Schedule 1 bird species. Please also see enclosed link to the Capercaillie Emergency Plan 2025 to 2030 jointly produce by NatureScot and the Cairngorms National Park Authority <https://cairngorms.co.uk/our-work/capercaillie-emergency-plan-2025-2030>Page 38 lists the disturbance pressures that are known to be

contributing to the decline of Capercaillie . There are agreed actions under the objective, ' **Reduce recreational disturbance in the priority areas relevant to capercaillie** ' . These priority areas include some of the Itera stages.

As part of our advice letter I would like to draw your attention to the paragraph about filming where we advise that we do not give permission for filming within NatureScot owned land as we do not have full information regarding what filming is proposed and where. We list the additional information required in order for us to assess whether landowner permission could be issued for filming within our land.

#### Media management

1. We are not sure if you are aware but other landowners have refused permission for the event to go ahead as presented by the organisers (with the exception of a small section within the Speyside Way at RSPB Abernethy). Our own refusal of landowner permission in the manner and timing of the current event proposed within NatureScot land is described in our attached letter. The Cairngorms National Park Authority in their role as access authority have also outlined the need for land owner permission and SSSI consent in order for the event to go ahead as currently advertised. Whilst we recognise the difficult position that this situation presents for you, which includes a risk of committing an offence under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) through reckless disturbance to a Schedule 1 bird species, we will not be making a proactive media statement .

If you have any further queries, please get back to me.

Kind regards,  
Chris

**Chris Donald | Head of Operations, Central Highland**

**NatureScot** | Achantoul, Grampian Road, Aviemore, PH22 1QD



[nature.scot](https://www.nature.scot) | [@nature\\_scot](https://twitter.com/nature_scot) | *Scotland's Nature Agency | Buidheann Nàdair na h-Alba*



**From:** [REDACTED] Adventure Show  
[REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@adventureshow.tv](mailto:[REDACTED]@adventureshow.tv)>  
**Sent:** 28 July 2025 15:48  
**To:** Chris Donald <[chris.donald@nature.scot](mailto:chris.donald@nature.scot)>  
**Subject:** Re: CONFIDENTIAL Enquiry about purported NatureScot activity

Thanks Chris. Much appreciated and apologies if you didn't receive the original email.

Thanks again.

[REDACTED].

-----

Adventure Show Productions,  
The Birches, Old Glen Road,  
Newtonmore, Inverness-shire, PH20 1EB.

[REDACTED]

On 28 Jul 2025, at 15:19, Chris Donald  
<[chris.donald@nature.scot](mailto:chris.donald@nature.scot)> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED],

I see from the text you intended to send the original email to me. I am up to date with my email correspondence and have checked my spam folder and I can confirm that I haven't received the original email labelled below.

As for your questions, I note your urgency, but I will need time to consult with colleagues. We will endeavour to get a response to you as soon as possible.

Chris

**Chris Donald | Head of Operations, Central**

## Highland

**NatureScot** | Achantoul, Grampian Road, Aviemore,  
PH22 1QD | [REDACTED]

[nature.scot](http://nature.scot) | [@nature\\_scot](https://twitter.com/nature_scot) | *Scotland's Nature Agency* | *Buidheann Nàdair na h-Alba*

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**From:** [REDACTED] Adventure Show  
[REDACTED] [@adventureshow.tv](mailto:[REDACTED]@adventureshow.tv)>  
**Sent:** 28 July 2025 14:52  
**To:** Chris Donald <[chris.donald@nature.scot](mailto:chris.donald@nature.scot)>  
**Subject:** CONFIDENTIAL Enquiry about purported NatureScot activity

Dear Mr Donald,

I hope you can help me. I sent the email below on July 18th and thus far have not received either an acknowledgement or a response. I would, therefore, be grateful if you can confirm receipt of it.

As time is pressing a swift response would be helpful.

Incidentally, I have now been approached by third parties who have requested more information.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

### Original email:

Chris Donald,  
Head of Operations, Central Highland,  
NatureScot.

Dear Mr Donald,

I hope you will be able to help me with a query

relating to a purported electronic message that appeared to come from a member of NatureScot staff.

For information, I am a Company Director of Adventure Show Productions and also an academic, with research interests that, whilst predominantly focusing on social justice and social inclusion, also look at issues around transparency and quality assurance procedures especially in relation to public institutions.

Earlier this week I was made aware of an electronic message sent to [REDACTED] that purported to come from a NatureScot employee called [REDACTED]. It contained the following message:

[REDACTED], apologies for the random message. I work for NatureScot and am getting in touch about the ITERA event you're participating in. I just want to make you aware that the event organisers do not have any landowner permission secured for the sections in and around Abernathy, Glenmore and Invereshie as there are significant concerns regarding disturbance to protected species including capercaillie, particularly since folk will be travelling through at dawn and dusk which are really sensitive times for capercaillie broods near tracks. There is also no landowner permission in place for the filming aspect. It's the responsibility of Dirty Events, not you guys as participants, to make sure all the boxes are ticked but I just thought it might be worth flagging.  
Thanks

For your information, [REDACTED] is currently contracted to Adventure Show Productions to work on a number of programmes for this company and, as part of these duties, is leading a team of 4 athletes in the ITERA 2025 adventure race.

In the first instance I would be most grateful if you could help with the following queries:

1. Was this a genuine message sent from the person named above?

2. Could you please explain why this message was sent and what it purported to achieve?

I'm asking these questions because, possibly inadvertently, it may be deemed to have broken contractual arrangements Adventure Show Productions has with BBC Scotland, BBC Alba and MG Alba. I am sure you are aware from recent events that the relationship the BBC has with its independent suppliers and with its audiences is being tested at present and subject to intense scrutiny.

Our legal contract with various BBC / MGAlba departments states that both [REDACTED] and the team he leads will not receive any information about the race, the route and the landscape it travels through that is not available to all competitors. This was discussed at some length with various BBC Commissioners and was intended to put a ring fence between the team competing on our behalf and the rest of the production personnel. Secondly, but of equal importance, it protected our company and team against any potential conflict of interest arising from anyone questioning the status of the team we have entered and their access to information.

From the advice I have been receiving this week, the communication from NatureScot (if genuine) presents a very real difficulty that I need to address as a matter of urgency. Your help in doing so would be appreciated. If you are able to answer the points I raised above as a matter of urgency, that would be most helpful.

I think there are two other areas that may be useful when framing your answer and which may help me to avoid asking additional questions later.

1. How would you address any accusation that the information sent to [REDACTED] offered a less than accurate view of the problems facing capercaillie? I'm thinking of the report 'Capercaillie Conservation and Management' commissioned by NatureScot, chaired by [REDACTED], produced on 25th February 2022. Whilst I think it could be established that any disturbance to capercaillie is a matter of some regret, disturbance by human activity does not appear to be one of the major factors identified by this report. As the report notes as 'a useful rule of thumb' any area within 100 metres of a path is unlikely to be used by breeding birds and many of these paths and tracks are already well used by runners, walkers and cyclists. It is a pity, of course, that quantitative evidence at the time the report was compiled seemed to be lacking.

My main point is this: how do I defend any comment directed at our company that the information provided by NatureScot to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was partial and sought to present a less than comprehensive summary of the current situation?

2. Your help would also be appreciated in terms of media management. My experience - accumulated over 40 years of filming in the Cairngorms - is that such matters rarely stay private for long. It has been suggested to me that we should take proactive steps to protect the reputation of Adventure Show Productions and by implication our BBC commissioners. For information: a large selection of stakeholders

(including, but not limited to, conservation bodies, landowners and their representatives and, of course, the people who consume our media content) value our work for its perceived accuracy, fair portrayal and authenticity. We - and presumably NatureScot - would not wish to be associated with what the popular media might describe as a 'cover up' if the above communication became common knowledge.

I wondered therefore if you might be considering any media statement to take control of the narrative? It could also transpire that I am asked to issue a statement so that those taking part in the ITERA and our broadcasting partners can satisfy a desire for transparency and openness. There is a time imperative here so I would be grateful if you are able to respond within the next 5 working days.

If you need any further information or I can be of any other assistance, do not hesitate to make contact.

Regards,

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Adventure Show Productions,

The Birches, Old Glen Road,

Newtonmore, Inverness-shire, PH20 1EB.



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This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the system manager or the sender.  
Please note that for business purposes, outgoing and incoming

emails from and to NatureScot may be monitored.

Tha am post-dealain seo agus fiosrachadh sam bith na chois dìomhair agus airson an neach no buidheann ainmichte a-mhàin. Mas e gun d' fhuair sibh am post-dealain seo le mearachd, cuiribh fios dhan manaidsèar-siostaim no neach-sgrìobhaidh.

Thoiribh an aire airson adhbharan gnothaich, 's dòcha gun tèid sùil a chumail air puist-dealain a' tighinn a-steach agus a' dol a-mach bho NàdarAlba.

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<Itera advice letter re landonwer permission - redacted 31 July 2025.pdf>

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██████████,

Adventure Show Productions  
The Birches, Old Glen Road,  
Newtonmore, Inverness-shire, United Kingdom, PH20 1EB.

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Follow The Adventure Show at: [www.facebook.com/adventureshow](http://www.facebook.com/adventureshow)

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Adventure Show Productions  
The Birches, Old Glen Road,  
Newtonmore, Inverness-shire, United Kingdom, PH20 1EB.  


Follow The Adventure Show at: [www.facebook.com/adventureshow](http://www.facebook.com/adventureshow)

National Nature Reserves (NNRs) are the best places for people to see and hear the finest of Scotland's amazing nature. All are nationally or internationally important for the rare or endangered species living or visiting them, or for their special habitats. We provide waymarked trails and information signs and some have visitor centres and hides.

Everyone is welcome but please remember that these really special places are managed for wildlife first and people second!

Find out more about access rights, camping, fires and BBQs, campervans, car parking, Stay the Night, dogs, donations, drones, metal detecting, filming and photography, geocaches, metal detecting, memorials, scattering ashes and volunteering using the FAQ below.

Access rights on NNRs

Accessibility

Camping and fires

Campervans and motorhomes – Stay the Night

Car parking - Invitation to pay

Dogs

Donations

Drones

Events

Filming and photography

Do I need permission?

National Nature Reserves (NNRs) are some of the best places to see nature in Scotland and they are managed for nature first and people second. All NNRs are unique with their individual habitats, species and sensitivities at different times of year. They are often busy with visitors, often have limited parking and some have no facilities.

1. Low impact filming, photography and sound recording activities for personal and some commercial purposes

These activities can usually be carried out using the right of responsible access as outlined in the [Scottish Outdoor Access Code](#) (Access Code). They can be carried out free of charge and no permission is required on NatureScot land. What the

Access Code says about photography can be found below in 'Further information'. If you are in any doubt please ask us for advice. It is NatureScot's expectation that you:

- must not have any impact on the environment or wildlife or affect other people's enjoyment;
- cannot book a location or parking spaces and must not restrict access for other visitors;
- will take the reserve as you find it and must leave no trace of your visit;
- must follow any local guidance, signs or advice if there are any operational activities occurring;
- must not use motorised vehicles - except for anyone with a disability using a motorised vehicle (wheelchair, mobility scooter) or vessel built or adapted for use by that person;
- should limit numbers of participants involved with the filming;
- may only use portable equipment eg cameras, hides and may not leave such equipment unattended or in place for any period of time;
- may not place structures (eg no signs, markers or toilets) on the land;
- must abide by all relevant laws on land and in the air when using a drone – including small lightweight drones not covered by the CAA rules - see the [Drone Code](#).

Please share your activity with us on social media but please first consider any potential impact your activity might have on these protected places.

Instagram [@naturescot](#), Facebook [@NatureScot](#), X [@NatureScot](#)

We welcome donations to help with the upkeep of our NNRs. You can donate online through [MyParkScotland](#) - to donate to a specific NNR please put the name of the reserve in the comments box.

## 2. You are likely to need permission and may be asked to pay a fee if:

- large numbers of people/crew are involved;
- signage, bins, toilets or other structures etc are required on site.
- motorised vehicle access is needed (or locks changed, gates used);
- there are potential impacts on the location, or its use for other users eg areas not accessible, infrastructure is intrusive;
- exclusive use of the location, or part of it, will be needed by the filming company on a preferred date/time;
- [an exemption order](#) (Section 11 of Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003) is required by the filming company, in advance, on Health & Safety grounds, or wanted for commercial/privacy reasons. This is a power given to local authorities to exempt certain land from access rights.
- where the filming has potential to impact the features of a protected area.

Please allow at least 6 weeks for permissions to be processed.

## 3. Species licensing

To film certain protected species you require a licence. It is your responsibility to apply for this. You can find out more here: [Licensing](#).

#### 4. Drone photography

Anyone using a drone must abide by all relevant laws on land and in the air, see the [Drone Code](#) by the UK Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

If you are using a small lightweight drone not covered by CAA rules there are still rules of etiquette and other legislation will apply eg to prevent disturbance to wildlife, the Wildlife and Countryside Act is relevant.

#### 5. Contact us

Email: [nnr@nature.scot](mailto:nnr@nature.scot)

If you are in any doubt about your proposed activity please get in touch for advice. Please include a brief outline of what it is you would like to do: who is the filming for, which reserve do you want to film at, what is it you want to film and why, what dates do you want to film on, how many people will be involved etc.

Other organisations also own/manage NNRs (in addition to NatureScot) and will have their own policies on photography. Please check who owns/manages which NNR at [www.nnr.scot](http://www.nnr.scot) and contact them direct for further information.

#### Further information

This is what the [Scottish Outdoor Access Code](#) says about photography:

- Part 2, paragraph 2.6: You can exercise access rights for recreational purposes, some educational activities and certain commercial purposes, and for crossing over land and water.
- Part 2, paragraph 2.7: includes 'photography' as a typical pastime that would be included as a 'recreational activity' mentioned in paragraph 2.6.
- Part 2, paragraph 2.9: Access rights extend to activities carried out commercially or for profit, provided that these activities could also be carried on other than commercially or for profit (ie by the general public for recreational purposes or for educational activities or for crossing land). It then gives an example of a commercial photographer writing about or taking photographs of the natural or cultural heritage. The activity – photography – could be done by anyone else exercising access rights and is there for a free activity.
- Part 3, paragraph 3.63: if you wish to take detailed photographs of houses or other buildings you need to respect the privacy and peace of mind of those living or working there. Talking to the occupier can help a lot. If you wish to film a TV programme to further people's understanding of the natural or cultural heritage and which requires only hand-held equipment and involves no vehicles off the road, talk

to the land managers beforehand and listen carefully to any advice provided. If you need to use vehicles or stay in an area for a few days or put down equipment or are filming for other purposes, you still require the permission of the relevant land managers. If you are writing a guidebook, leaflet or other promotional material about access in an area, try to talk to the relevant land managers to see if any local issues relating to privacy, safety or conservation need to be referred to in the publication.