



LINK

Mr Derek Mackay MSP
Minister for Local Government and Planning
Scottish Government,
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Dear Minister

Review of General Permitted Rights in relation to hill tracks in Scotland

Following the publication of our *Track Changes* report in November 2013 which made the case for the removal of Permitted Development Rights with regard to hill track construction, we understand you have recently been sent a report written in response by Scottish Land & Estates, *The Way Ahead for Constructed Private Tracks*.

Scottish Environment LINK is now pleased to enclose with this letter a copy of our report which responds to the arguments made in the Scottish Land & Estates document. While we welcome Scottish Land & Estates' comments and their engagement in this issue, we do not believe their report fundamentally challenges our case for the regulation of hill tracks. We continue to believe that the only way to ensure good standards of construction, and the balancing of public and private interests in such developments, is to bring track construction into the planning system.

We trust you will find our report useful, and would be happy to discuss this matter with you at any time.

Yours sincerely

Helen Todd
Co-convener, LINK Hill tracks campaign group

LINK members of the hill tracks campaign group are:

Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland
Cairngorms Campaign
John Muir Trust
National Trust for Scotland
North East Mountain Trust

Ramblers Scotland
RSPB Scotland
Scottish Campaign for National Parks
Scottish Wild Land Group

The Mountaineering Council of Scotland, while not a member of LINK, also supports this campaign.

Scottish Environment **LINK** The voice of Scotland's environment movement

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