

PROPOSED SHOOTING LODGE, GLENTRUIM, LAGGAN

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

- 1 The larger of the two ponds could be dug out at its western end creating another island thus providing more nesting sites for ducks, geese and waders. There is already one island on this pond and to date we have had green shank, grey long, mallards and sandpipers nesting on it.
- 2 Down from the proposed site there is a flat very wet area - small pools or flashes could be dug out to create feeding areas for waders such as snipe, woodcock, plover, sandpipers etc., also for duck and geese. The small pools would also provide breeding areas for insects thus providing food for many species of birds.
- 3 Water plants and water loving trees such as willow could be planted around the edges of the small pools and ponds to create cover for nesting birds.
- 4 I have started a small feeding programme for the ducks, this could be increased by providing more feeders around the estate thus providing food for more species during the winter months.
- 5 Although Glentruim has a WGS scheme, there are still large areas of moorland (heather and blaberry etc.) but because of the trees, we cannot do any controlled burning. This year I have used a strimmer to create small areas of cut heather and so far this seems to be working as the heather is regrowing. We could use a larger Flail mover to create much larger areas to provide feeding areas for grouse and golden plover etc.
- 6 On some parts of the estate there are areas of bracken, these could be sprayed and then grasses and wild flowers would soon return.
- 7 We could put out nesting boxes for ducks and small birds.
- 8 Around the proposed site there would be some landscaping in this area, we could plant berry bearing shrubs and trees to provide winter food for the birds.
- 9 There is a small area near one of the ponds that could be cleared and cultivated and planted with oats to provide extra food for the black grouse.

SPORTING

- 1 The ponds were originally stocked with mature brown trout several years ago. A small restocking programme could be started putting in small numbers of larger trout (brown trout) to increase the sporting potential.
- 2 The trees are at the thicket stage now and roe deer no longer pose a threat to the trees so clients could be taken out roebuck and roedeer stalking in season.
- 3 A small amount of game rearing and release could be started, pheasants and partridges, then try to build up from the reared birds a wild breeding population to provide extra walked up shooting. This would also include extra vermin control.
- 4 Grouse, more heather cutting, providing grit and vermin control to try to increase breeding stock.
- 5 Ducks and Geese – Build hides, provide feed, nesting boxes. We have mallard and teal and graylong geese coming into the pond so we could provide duck and goose flighting in season.

I would like to stress that any contribution to the sporting aspect also provides conservation for many other species including intended species.

Mr P Hoare