

AGENDA ITEM 5

APPENDIX 3b

2020/0076/DET

**REPRESENTATION –
GENERAL**

From:Claire BSmith
Sent:23 Apr 2020 00:07:54 +0100
To:Planning;Stephanie Wade
Subject:2020/0076/DET

Dear Stephanie

2020/0076/DET | Engineering works for strengthening funicular viaduct | Cairngorm Mountain Glenmore Aviemore Highland PH22 1RB

Thank you for consulting RSPB Scotland on the above proposal.

We note that a species protection plan for breeding birds has been produced and that this highlights the likely species that may be encountered within the construction footprint and 3km buffer as well as including the recommended construction buffers for Schedule 1 species. The ECoW should carry out surveys for breeding birds prior to work taking place in an area. Due to the length of the site, such checks may need to be repeated if there are gaps between construction activity in some areas. If breeding birds are found, the species protection plan and appropriate buffers should then be implemented.

We note that five hours of helicopter flight time have been scheduled with up to eight trips per hour. A helicopter flight plan should be agreed taking into account up to date information on breeding Schedule 1 species along the flight path from Inverness and within the site boundary. SNH provide further guidance on this:

<https://www.nature.scot/sites/default/files/2017-09/Guidance%20Note%20-%20Helicopters%20Aircraft%20and%20Schedule%201%20%26%20A%20species.pdf>

Kind regards, Claire

Claire Smith
Senior Conservation Officer – South Highland

My usual work days are Mon - Thurs

RSPB North Scotland Office, Beechwood Park, Etive House, Inverness, IV2 3BW

rspb.org.uk

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