

Land South of Dugarro, Taynuilt, Argyll and Bute

**Tree Method Protection Statement & Felling for Red Squirrels and
Breeding Birds**

February 2026

For Mr Murray and Kenneth Grant

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This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the **Landscape Layout Proposals Plan HD-LSH-Dugarro/01 with Tree Protection Detail at the end of this report as well as separate drawing HD-LSH-Dugarro / DET 01.**

General Notes

General Management

1. All tree planting operations to be in accordance with BS 8545: 2014 TREES: 'From Nursery to Independence in the Landscape - recommendations'.
2. All planting material is to conform to BS 3936 - parts 1-10 Specification for Nursery stock.
3. All landscape operations to be in accordance with BS 4428: 1989 Recommendations for general landscape operations.
4. In line with recommendations from the UK Government's Tree Health and Plant Biosecurity Expert Taskforce all planting material is to be sourced from reputable nurseries in order to avoid the spread of any pest and plant disease which may threaten the health of any proposed or existing planting material. All necessary information with regards to the identity and source of the planting material, from original source, should be obtained from the nursery and made available for inspection on request. Every care has been taken at time of preparation of the planting design to specify plants which are currently disease free however during ongoing general maintenance works all plants should be routinely inspected to ensure plant health. For further details on notifiable, and non-notifiable, pests and diseases refer to the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) UK Plant Health Risk Register.

Landscape Planting Seasons & Tree Felling Time of Year

1. No planting shall take place into frozen ground.
2. The following outlines the best-practice times of year for planting.
3. For details on tree felling refer to separate section within report with table showing broad months in which to avoid felling of trees.

Planting Operation	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Rootballed trees												
Bare-root structural trees / shrubs												
Bare-root hedging												
Grass Seeding												

Tree Felling Avoidance Months	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Red Squirrels												
Bird Breeding Season												

Tree Method & Protection Statement

Maintenance and Protection of Existing Trees

Maintenance of Existing Trees

1. Any existing trees on the site, which have been retained shall be regularly inspected by a professionally qualified person such as an Arboriculturalist, and any remedial work required shall be carried out with the approval of the Director of Planning.
2. The existing trees should be inspected by the Factor appointed in accordance with any Tree Survey or management plan prepared for the site by others which has been detailed below.
3. As part of the original submission documents a Tree Survey report prepared by ROAVR GROUP dated March 2024 was prepared.

General Protection Measures

1. The following works must be carried out in accordance with BS 5837:(2012) 'Trees in relation to construction – recommendations'.
2. Prior to commencement of any work on site, temporary protective fencing must be erected around existing trees to be retained. This fencing will be positioned in accordance to arboriculturists' Report and associated drawings within if one was prepared.
3. Protective fencing to be 2m tall welded mesh panels on rubber or concrete feet, supported on the tree side by stabiliser struts and joined using a minimum of two anti-tamper couplers to conform to clause 6 of BS 5837:(2012). Refer to drawing detail **Temporary Heras Fencing – Tree Protection Measures** at the rear of this report.
4. A temporary cellular confinement system such as 'Cellweb' (www.geosyn.co.uk) may be required where there is conflict between the proposed development and existing trees to protect the root zone. This is in order to facilitate gaseous exchange and soil water movement and to alleviate compaction of underlying soil by construction traffic.
5. Protective fencing around existing trees must remain intact until the cellular confinement system is installed around these trees, at which point it must be moved to the edges of the newly laid cellular confinement system to prevent vehicles moving off this temporary protective surface onto unprotected RPA.
6. Protective fencing elsewhere may only to be removed once this is required to install the vehicular access road surface.
7. Vehicular access road surface to be installed within RPAs must comply with the requirements set out within clause 7 of BS 5837:(2012).
8. All earthworks and excavation operations within RPAs required to install extended water supply along access road to the north of the site are to be conducted to conform to clause 7 of BS 5837:(2012). No other earthworks or excavation within RPAs should take place without advice from a suitably qualified arboricultural consultant and approval from the local authority.

9. Once the required depth of the above excavation works is known, further on-site investigations are required to determine whether these will penetrate the RPAs of existing trees. Further assessment by a suitably qualified arboriculturist should be made to determine the most suitable method for excavation and whether hand-dig methods are appropriate. If these works will penetrate the RPAs, this excavation should be carried out in accordance with NJUG Publication Volume 4 Issue 2 – 'Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Apparatus in Proximity to Trees'.
10. Where required to existing trees retained crown lifting or reduction of the lower branches of should be carried out to give adequate ground clearance (clear stem of minimum 2.5 metres from ground level). This must be carried out by a suitably qualified arboricultural contractor and must conform to BS 3998:(2010) 'Tree work – recommendations'.
11. No materials may be stored under the canopy of existing trees and no cement, diesel or oil stored, mixed or discharged within 10 metres of their trunks.
12. No materials such as ropes, cables or notices may be attached to exiting trees.
13. Fires should not be lit within 5 metres of existing tree canopies.
14. Once above-mentioned vehicular road surface installation / excavations are complete ground level must be at the same level as it was before works commenced.

Hand-Digging Guidance

1. If required, the below methods must be carried out in the presence of a suitably qualified arboricultural consultant.
2. Consultation with an arboricultural consultant is recommended to ascertain potential impacts to trees to be retained and the applicable best practice methods to follow.
3. The determination of the level of impact and specific methods should be determined by an arboricultural consultant.
4. Excavation within the RPA must be undertaken by hand or with the use of an air spade to limit the potential for root damage and ensure that root severance is kept to a minimum.
5. Roots of >25mm diameter should be retained intact.
6. Finer roots should be retained in bundles.
7. Any finer roots which require removal should be cut back cleanly with secateurs.
8. Exposed roots should be protected from desiccation by a layer of geotextile or hessian, and excavations should be backfilled as soon as practicable.
9. Cables, pipes and ducts should be fed below roots.
10. The excavation area should be backfilled with inert granular material mixed with topsoil to ground level existing prior to excavation.

Temporary Cellular Confinement System Construction

1. Construction of the access road should progress from out-with the RPA and progress in stages to avoid compaction of the underlying soils. A tracked mini-digger will be used to avoid soil compaction and avoid potential contact with tree crowns.

2. The soil surface should not be skimmed to achieve a level surface. The new surface should be established using an inert granular fill, where necessary, using materials that do not inhibit gaseous exchange such as no fines gravel, washed aggregate or cobbles.
3. Lay a Fibretex F4M non-woven geotextile material (or similar approved) directly on to the level ground surface. Overlap dry joints by 300mm.
4. Lay out and expand the Cellular Confinement System (of 100mm depth - footpath & 150mm –access road) and ensure that edges are anchored during the infilling process.
5. Fill the confinement system with aggregate (minimum 100mm –footpath and 150mm –access road). The infill should consist of no-fines angular granular material; particle size should be 20-40mm.
6. Lay a second layer of Fibrex F-4M Geotextile separation fabric over the in-filled Cellweb sections with 40mm depth of washed gravel. Edges shall be graded back to match surrounding ground levels using clean imported topsoil.
7. Install final finished surface at the completion of all other construction activity. This must be laid to the ground level that existed prior to installation of the temporary cellular confinement system.

Red Squirrels and Nesting Birds

1. The best time to undertake tree felling is during the winter months, specifically between November and very early February.
2. During this dormant season, trees are less active, reducing the risk of shock and allowing for a smoother recovery.
3. Additionally, winter is when most birds and other wildlife is less active, providing a less disruptive environment for tree work.
4. Consultation with the local authorities, tree surgeon, arboriculturist and ecologists to ensure compliance with the UK Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.
5. **Red Squirrels:**
 - Tree felling should not occur during the breeding season which is February to September, to avoid disturbing their nests. Employ management practices that support the survival of red squirrels while allowing for tree felling, including the selection of appropriate tree species that provide favourable foraging habitat for red squirrels;
 - Ideally avoid clear felling during the breeding season, but if this is not possible try to zone felling away from the richest red squirrel areas and the period up to the end of June;
 - Consider the availability of nearby red squirrel habitats to which red squirrels might move;
 - Leave connective links when planning the felling operation; and
 - Leave drey trees standing and consider leaving a group of trees around the drey tree and some connectivity to adjacent tree canopies
6. **Nesting Birds:**
 - Ensure that felling operations do not disturb birds and their nests, especially during the breeding season;
 - Different bird species breed at different times of the year, with many having overlapping seasons; and
 - Buffer zones around nests should be maintained. There are varying buffer zones depending on the bird species identified as being on site – a summary of the appropriate distances to use during both the breeding seasons and the non breeding seasons can be found at the following : [Disturbance Distances in selected Scottish Bird Species – NatureScot Guidance | NatureScot](#). The start of the breeding season is

defined as the approximate earliest start date for territory / nest site establishment and egg laying, and the end of the breeding season is defined by the end of chick rearing to fledgling.

- The majority of the breeding bird season falls between March – August, with some variances just before and just after the specified months. Further advice should be sought from an ecologist regarding the species found on site to fully define the breeding season which would influence when felling could take place.

Maintenance of Trees (Newly Planted)

7. All trees shall be inspected on each maintenance visit, and any which have died or have suffered serious physical damage such that they no longer provide any useful landscape function, shall be:
 - replaced where such a requirement is necessary according to the period noted in the planning conditions, with a tree equal to that first planted during the next planting season.
8. All trees shall be inspected on each maintenance visit, and any dead, diseased or damaged branches shall be pruned back to the main stem or suitable side shoot. All arisings shall be removed from site to an authorised recycling centre or tip.
9. At the beginning and end of each growing season all stakes and ties shall be inspected. Any looseness, constriction or abrasion shall be corrected by adjustment or replacement of the tie, as required.
10. Where the support of a stake is no longer required the stake and tie shall be removed from site. Stakes must be completely removed and not merely sawn off at ground level.
11. All trees in grass shall have a 1m diameter weed free circle maintained around the base of the trunk until the tree has become successfully established. This weed free circle shall be mulched with a minimum of 50mm depth medium grade recycled green compost to BSI PAS 100 from an approved supplier.
12. An assessment shall be made during November/ December of the planting season following planting, and all dead, dying or vandalised plants replaced. Before replanting, the cause of death shall be determined and any inadequacies dealt with. Plants and planting shall comply in every respect with the original specification. After this, according to the period noted in the planning conditions, an assessment of the condition of trees shall be made at the end of each growing season, and any that have failed to establish satisfactorily, died or been vandalised, or removed shall be replaced with a tree equal to that first planted during the next planting season.

Root Barrier Installation Guide – if required

1. Dig a trench or tree hole as per the depths outlined in sections above.
2. Roll out gtRootbarrier (or similar approved product) beside the trench or tree hole and cut to right length.
3. For trench planting over 50m in length use a 1m overlap and butyl joining tape to secure 2 sheets of gtRootbarrier (or similar approved product).
4. Place gtRootbarrier (or similar approved product) with its smooth, coated side towards the roots of the tree.

5. Check overlaps, joins and position of gtRootbarrier(or similar approved product).
6. Fill in the trench or tree hole.

The above are general instructions. The installer will have to make allowances for local conditions and should adhere to manufacturer's instruction guide.

Planting Schedule

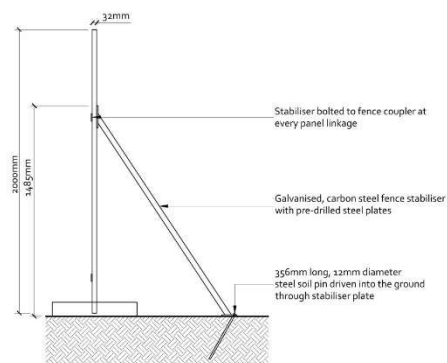
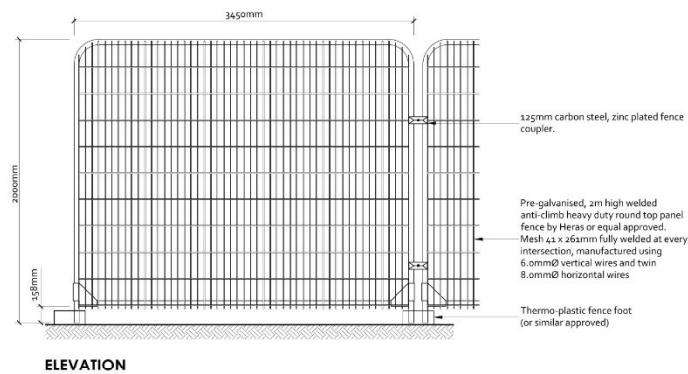
The following is the planting schedule as specified on the Landscape Layout Proposals Plan

HD-LSH-Dugarro/01

TREES						
CODE	SPECIES	SPECIFICATION	GIRTH	HEIGHT	DENSITY	TOTAL NoS
B pub	Betula pubescens	Heavy Standard: 5 brks: 3x: RB: Clear Stem min. 200cm	12-14cm	350-425cm	Counted	9
Sa ca	Salix caprea	Heavy Standard: 5 brks: 3x: RB: Clear Stem 175-200cm	12-14cm	350-425cm	Counted	4
S auc	Sorbus aucuparia	Heavy Standard: 5 brks: 3x: RB: Clear Stem 175-200cm	12-14cm	350-425cm	Counted	11

NATIVE HEDGEROW - double staggered 450mm apart, plant 6 plants per linear metre of 5 - 15 groups of same species						
CODE	SPECIES	SPECIFICATION	% MIX	HEIGHT	DENSITY	TOTAL NoS
C mon	Crataegus monogyna	1+2: Transplant - seed raised: Branched: 3 brks: B	10	80-100cm	6/m	49
Ia	Ilex aquifolium	Leader with Laterals: C	5	40-60cm	6/m	25
LONPE	Lonicera periclymenum	Branched: 3 brks: C: 5L	15	40-60cm	6/m	147
Psp	Prunus spinosa	1+2: Transplant - seed raised: Branched: 2 brks: B	30	80-100cm	6/m	74
Rca	Rosa canina	1+2: Transplant - seed raised: Provenance UK Area 304: B	20	80-100cm	6/m	98
S ni	Sambucus nigra	1+2: Transplant - seed raised: Provenance UK Area 304: B	20	80-100cm	6/m	98

Tree Protection Temporary Fencing Detail



NOTES

1. All fencing to be securely braced and bolted into the ground to prevent trespass.
2. All elements shown supplied by Heras UK Fencing Systems. No substitution without written approval from landscape architect.

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project:	Land South of Dugarro, Taynuilt, Argyll and Bute
client:	Mr Murray and Kenneth Grant
drawing:	Landscape Layout Proposals Plan
drawing ref:	HD-LSH / Dugarro / DET - 01
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