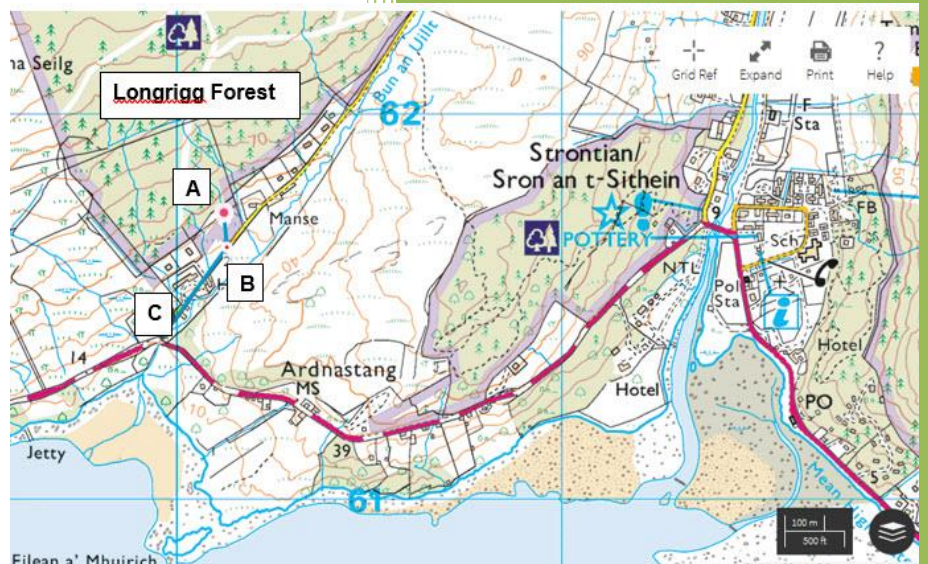


2020

Longrigg Forest: Access Report



Prepared by Arvikaconsult Ltd for Sunart
Community Company

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Introduction:

Sunart Community Company are considering a potential purchase of Longrigg Forest near Strontian and require:

- Swept path analysis of junction with the A861 providing an indication of the land required to allow 44 tonne wagon and drag timber trucks to negotiate the junction.
- Cross section of the proposed works at the junction
- Potential costs of the works at the junction
- Potential costs of the public road improvements required between A-B (see location map below)
- Potential costs for a new forest road (A-B) linking the public road to the forest, including a new access onto the public road.



Location Plan

Approximate Road Lengths are:

- A-B 100 metres
- B-C 300 metres

Swept Path Analysis:

A swept path analysis carried out for the junction using detailed Ordnance Survey Mapping and AutoCAD Swept Path Analysis Software. The truck used in the analysis is a 44 tonne wagon and drag. This type of truck is used in the forest industry to access forests with narrow public roads and is best suited to this site.

The results of the analysis is shown in Appendix 1 (drawing no 19/14/01 Rev A) and indicate that an area adjacent to the west of the junction is required for turning timber vehicles.

A larger area is required to turn vehicles onto the A861 from the minor public road and this was used to produce a road cross section. This cross section along with a plan of the area required for the works is shown in Appendix 2 (drawing no 19/14/02).

Potential Costs:

The following table provides potential construction costs for the works involved in providing access to the forest. These costs are based on experience of similar works but can only be confirmed by preparing a detailed scope of works followed by a competitive tendering process. The costs do not include land purchase, potential legal or planning costs. It has also assumed that the public road bridge at the A861 junction is in good condition and no works are required to allow 44 tonne trucks to use the bridge.

Item	Potential Cost	Comments
Improve Junction with A861	£30,000	From photographs it appears rock is present in this area and may be difficult excavate.
Improve the public road from C-B (300 metres)	£21,666	The local Highland Council Roads authority provided this figure based on re-cycling the full length of the minor public road at £16/sq metre and that the community contribute 1/3 rd cost. This cost may be light and care required. I suggest that a figure of £30k used
Form new access and bellmouth at B	£10,000	Access to be designed and constructed in accordance with Highland Council Roads and Transport Guidelines for New Developments Guidance for Forestry Extraction Appendix 11
Form New Forest Road (100 metres)	£12,000	Forest Road to be designed to Forestry Commission Outline Forest Road Specification with a turning area within the forest boundary. This assumes that material will be found for constructing the road within the forest. If truck access required within the forest allow £75/m for constructing roads again assuming that suitable material will be found on site.
Total	£73,666	

Summary:

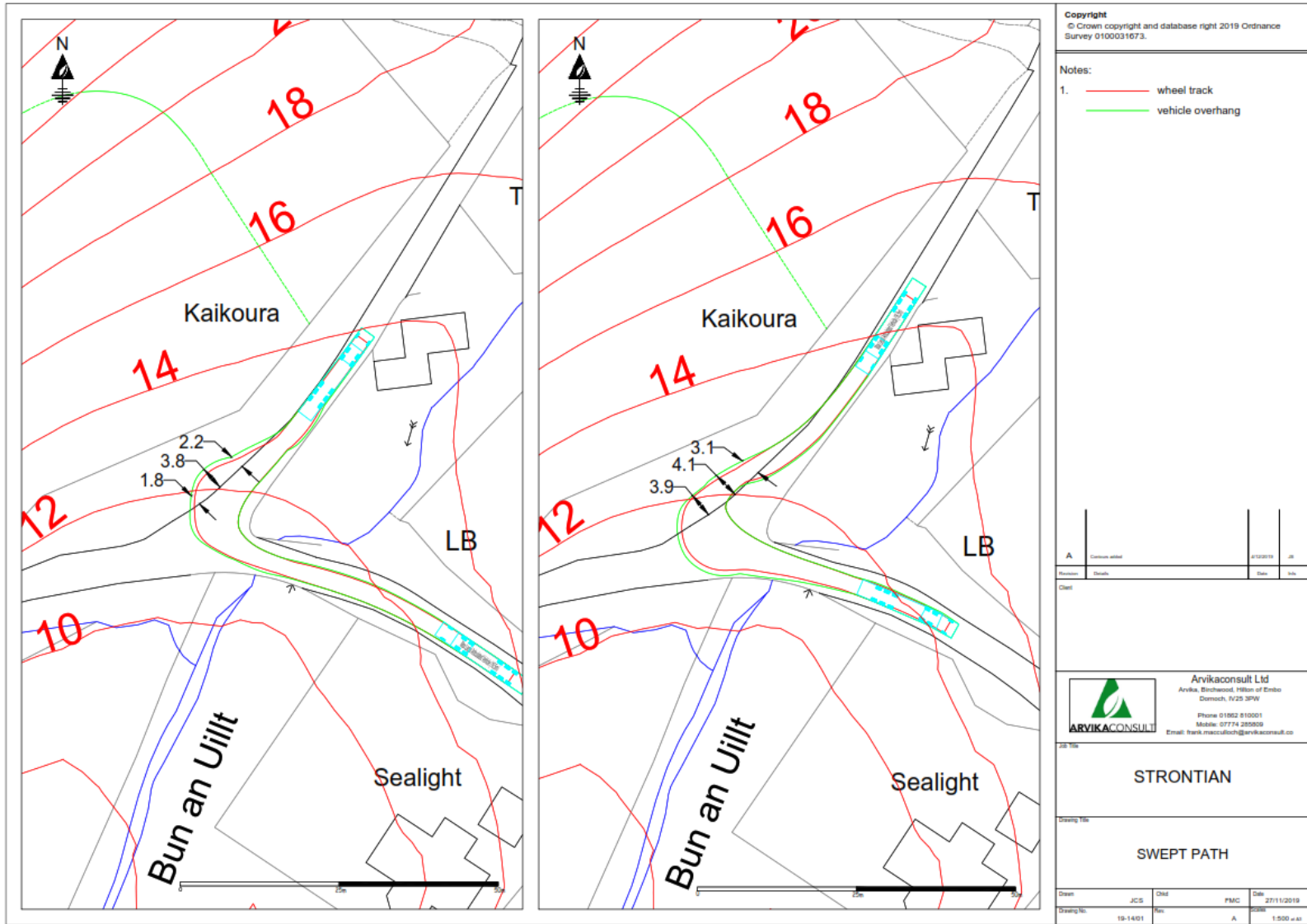
The total proposed volume of timber to be extracted from the forest is approximately 13-15,000 tonnes. This equates to potentially 600 loaded trucks using the access. The turning area onto the A861 is tight and the surfacing specification will have to be agreed with The Highland Council Roads Authority as the truck trailers have the ability to damage the road surface due to a “screwing” action. The proposal by THC Roads authority to recycle the road material has worked well in other areas and a local example is at Loch Doilet, Polloch. Planning consent may be required for the junction improvement as may the new access and forest road and it is advised to seek further guidance from THC Planning Department .



Signed : Date : ... 12th February 2020

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Appendix 1



Appendix 2

