

**Subject** Ennerdale and Kinniside PC EGM  
**From** Holroyd, Mark <mark.holroyd@forestryengland.uk>  
**To** clerk@eandkpc.co.uk <clerk@eandkpc.co.uk>  
**Copy** May, Kevin <kevin.may@forestryengland.uk>, Browning, Gareth <Gareth.Browning@forestryengland.uk>  
**Date** 31/08/2022 10:25



Message sent on behalf of Kevin May, Forest Management Director North England

Dear Jane

Gareth Browning has forwarded on correspondence regarding the EGM of Ennerdale and Kinniside Parish Council this week. Forestry England will not be sending a representative to this meeting. However, in relation to agenda **item 5 - Timber Transport Operations**, please see the information below which may inform the discussion of parish councillors.

Forestry England are planning harvesting activities in response to an outbreak of Phytophthora Ramorum in the Ennerdale Valley in summer and autumn 2022. We are required to undertake these activities as part of a Statutory Plant Health Notice.

We undertook a discretionary public engagement exercise for this work using our Citizenspace portal earlier this year, this consultation was extended by a further 5 weeks to enable a wider audience to view and comment on the plan. 11 responses were received. The updated plan can be viewed here: [Ennerdale Phytophthora Ramorum Public Engagement 2022 - Forestry Commission England - Citizen Space \(forestryengland.uk\)](#)

Timber transport is planned to take place on agreed route agreed with the Cumbria and North East Timber Transport Group (CNETTG), which includes the Local Highway Authority (Cumbria County Council). The agreed route status was determined by CNETTF in 2014 following consultation with Ennerdale and Kinniside Parish Council.

In the recent public engagement exercise, concerns were raised about time slots for timber haulage leaving the valley, the direction of travel of number movements, signage in certain areas, and a request for clarification of the exact routes of timber transport movements. In addition, there was a request to avoid schools during drop off and pick up times.

Forestry England have undertaken to:

- Explore with our contractor the use of Central Tyre Inflation on public roads and whether this would reduce noise.
- Avoid timber despatch at weekends.
- Discuss setting a lower speed limit through Croasdale, Kirkland and Ennerdale to reduce early morning noise.
- Explore with the County Council the provision of temporary highways specification metal signs warning road users that timber lorries are using the road.
- Continue our normal practice of avoiding school opening and closing times and will check these with Ennerdale school.
- Set a maximum speed limit between Bowness Knott and the A5086 of 25mph

In addition to the above we will look to agree with hauliers' locations for hauliers to wait during school opening and closing which do not obstruct traffic along the haulage route. Timber haulage from Ennerdale will follow the Agreed Route from to and from Bowness Knott via Croasdale, Ennerdale Bridge, Kirkland and A5086 south of Lamplugh Cross. This is highlighted red on the Timber Transport forum map: <https://timbertf.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=4a23d4910e604b71872956441113c83c>

In meeting with representatives from your Parish Council on 31/03/2022, my staff were challenged around our compliance with a best practice document for timber transport activities in Scotland and we undertook to consider the implications of this. There was a belief this document applied to England, this is not the case.

The Cumbria and North East Timber Transport Group (CNETTG) met on 26 May 2022 in response to concerns raised by Ennerdale and Kinniside Parish councillors to Cumbria County Council around timber transport activity to and from the Ennerdale valley. The meeting included representation from Cumbria County Council Highways. The following is an extract from the minutes:

- *“The CNETTG believe the level of engagement with local communities has been proportional and therefore see no reason to reclassify the proposed timber haulage route from Ennerdale Forest, through Croasdale and then Ennerdale Bridge. To this end, it will remain an AGREED ROUTE.*
- *The CNETTG will not impose a restriction on the total number of timber haulage vehicles that can use the route on any given day (Mon-Fri). It was agreed however, that weekends would be avoided as would running between the school drop-off/pick-up times.*
- *Forestry England, with approval from Cumbria County Council will erect roadside signage to inform local residents and visitors about the use of the road by vehicles that will be heading to/from the forest.*
- *Timber haulage vehicle drivers will be made aware of the sensitivities relating to the haulage from Ennerdale Forest and will drive according to the conditions. The drivers who will be operating on this route are experienced, highly skilled and very familiar with the route.*
- *Forestry England will continue to monitor the forest operations and timber haulage works and will keep the CNETTG well informed of any changes to their plans.”*

As a result of this discussion and agreement with Cumbria County Council, the timber harvesting operation will continue as planned. I am content that the plan we have prepared meets our statutory obligations.

If I can provide further clarification on these issues please let me know.

Yours sincerely

Kevin May  
Forest Management Director – North England

**Mark Holroyd** (he/him)  
Head of Recreation and Communications  
North England  
Forestry England

m: 07768 03 6370  
[Mark.Holroyd@forestryengland.uk](mailto:Mark.Holroyd@forestryengland.uk)  
[www.forestryengland.uk](http://www.forestryengland.uk)



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