



Our Ref: 24-NW-0313-28
Date: 27th January 2025

Dear Sir / Madam,

NMC CONTRACT FOR MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF THE SCOTTISH TRUNK ROAD NETWORK – NORTH WEST UNIT
TRUNK ROAD MAINTENANCE – A85 NORTHWEST ASH DIEBACK RESPONSE – INFORMATION LETTER

BEAR Scotland will be helping ensure the resilience of Scotland’s native species by felling trees affected by Ash Dieback throughout the North West trunk road network. Works are set to get underway on Monday 3rd of February 2025 on the A85 between Crieff and Loch Earn.

Ash Dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*) is a disease which will lead to the decline and death of 50–75% of ash trees in Scotland over the next two decades. The disease can spread; evidence from Europe suggests it has the potential to infect more than 75 million ash trees (over 64 million saplings and seedlings and some 10.7 million mature trees) across the country.

BEAR Scotland has assessed the trunk road boundary it is responsible for in line with guidance from the Tree Council and Scottish Forestry. As a result, it has been decided that the tree felling must be undertaken to ensure the safety of road users and the trunk road network.

The works will be undertaken over 2 weeks on the A85:

Route Number	Location	Dates	Working Times
A85	Loch Earn to Crieff	Monday Night 3 rd February to Saturday Morning 15 th February (2 Weeks)	19:00pm to 06:00am (work will also be carried out during the weekend of the 8 th and 9 th of February)

The estimated programme of work for the tree felling is below.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>
Loch Earn – St Fillans	7pm on Monday 3 rd February	6am on Saturday 8 th February
St Fillans - Comrie	7pm on Sunday 9 th February	6am on Wednesday 12 th February
Comrie – Crieff	7pm on Thursday 13 th February	6am on Saturday 15 th February

A85 Crieff – Loch Earn – Ash Dieback Tree Felling:

To ensure the safety of the road workers and motorists, all works will be carried out under a full road closure with amnesty periods between 19:00pm and 06:00am. The amnesty periods for letting traffic through the closure will be on an hourly basis, the first amnesty period will be at 20:00pm and then at every hour after that.

A diversion route will also be available during these times. For traffic travelling west to Lochearnhead from Crieff the diversion route will be via the A822, A823 onto the A9 then onto the A820 and then on

the A84 towards Lochearnhead. It will be the reverse of the diversion route for traffic travelling east towards Crieff from Lochearnhead.

Please note that the above times are the maximum available working window, and we will endeavour to complete works each night as quickly and safely as possible. Throughout the works there will be levels of construction noise emanating from site plant and tools, this will be kept to a minimum whenever possible.

We understand works of this nature can be disruptive and have planned works to minimise disruption as far as possible. We thank you in advance for your patience whilst these works are carried out.

Any significant changes to the programme will be communicated via another letter.

The traffic management arrangements are essential for ensuring the safety of road workers and motorists. We have scheduled the works to take place at a quieter time of year before the busy tourism season begins.

Should you require any further information or have any queries related to the above works, please email us on NWConsultation@bearsotland.co.uk.

Yours faithfully,

James Glancey
Landscaping Design Team Leader
For and on behalf of BEAR Scotland

Please see the attached location plan and diversion plan for further details.