

November/December 2017

## *Forest Management*

Timber haulage stopped on 31<sup>st</sup> October when our exemption permit expired. An estimated 200t of spruce and 1,000t of PHN larch (felled pre-February 2017) remain in stacks.

We are currently in negotiation with Argyll and Bute Council over the terms and conditions of a future Timber Transport Management Plan.

## *Plant Health Notices (PHN)*

Felling under the SPHNs is continuing and is due to be completed by Christmas. The machinery has caused damage to the surface of much of the main track as well as some bridge planks. The track is to be repaired before the digger is finally removed.

One of the remaining areas to fell is around the former sea eagle nest and a retention area has been agreed with SNH and the RSPB.

## *Woodland Crofts*

Two scoping exercises have now been carried out to explore possible sites for woodland crofts. We are delighted that a few potential woodland crofters have been involved in evaluating various features of the sites, including access, power, water, aspect, soil condition and topography. We also have to consider future felling and replanting plans, the proximity of power lines and sea eagle nests.

*(A cold, sunny day for a scoping exercise)*



## *Farewell to John Clare*



We are sad to be saying goodbye to our forest officer, John Clare, who is leaving us at the end of December. We wish him every success in his next project. No doubt he will still be around giving us the benefit of his expertise!

*(John with SWMID director Colin MacDonald, keeping an eye on forest operations)*