



8/1/25/1  
Clerk

THE DISTRICT OFFICE  
**FORESTRY COMMISSION**  
Corsee Road, BANCHORY, Kincardineshire, AB3 3RT  
Telephone: Banchory 2721

Please address any  
reply to: Area Land Agent  
and quote: L12/BCN/81 HCC/sh  
Your reference:

Mr J R Mackay  
The Dell  
Blairdaff  
Inverurie  
Aberdeenshire  
AB5 9LT

2 March 1987

Dear Mr Mackay

BUCHAN FOREST DISTRICT (BENNACHIE)  
Fishings - Afforsk Pond

A copy of your letter of 20 February has been forwarded to me from the Conservancy Office in connection with finalising terms for the proposed fishing lease.

I note what you say regarding your conversation with Mr Marnie, but although it was thought that the remedial works may have solved our problems, I understand that this is not necessarily the case. Since the last works were carried out the Area Civil Engineer (with whom I have been in constant touch) has carried out regular inspections and is concerned at signs of a further flow of water at another point. It is not clear whether or not this is coming directly from the dam or from some ground water source close by, and he does not consider that the dam itself is in danger of collapse, but has taken the precaution of reducing the level to that of the old spillway not far from the newly restored overflow. Although I understand that the pond is nearly full at the moment this may only reflect recent weather conditions, and if there is still a leak from the dam we could not guarantee to what extent the water level may fall during future dry weather. Were a lease to be granted, it would have to be on the basis that the Commission could not give any guarantees nor (if the Baillies were to take a lease knowing the circumstances) accept any liabilities should the water level fall in the future. As this would obviously be unsatisfactory I am recommending to the Conservator (to whom I am copying this letter) that no lease be granted for the coming summer but that we continue to keep the pond under observation and reconsider the matter towards the end of the year. Please do contact me if you wish to discuss this further.

Yours sincerely

H C Cooke  
for Conservator

cc: Conservator N(S)  
Mr Cartlidge ACE  
Mr Marnie BCN