Do you need FLS permission for filming/photography or can it be carried out under your right of responsible access?

**Low impact filming and photography may take place without FLS’ permission in line with the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003** (see guidance set out in the [Scottish Outdoor Access Code (SOAC)](https://www.outdooraccess-scotland.scot/), **provided it’s carried out responsibly, by:**

* **respecting the interests of others;**
* **caring for the environment;**
* **taking responsibility for your own actions.**

We make no distinction between personal or professional/work use, whether it’s filming, photography or drone use for filming/photography. Everyone must adhere to the law (Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003, and Civil Aviation Authority legislation, through the [Drone Code](https://register-drones.caa.co.uk/drone-code)), whatever their activity.

**1. You are unlikely to require permission if:**

* There is no impact on other forest users;
* You take the forest as you find it. The area where you wish to film is not limited to your use and other visitors can continue to access the area freely throughout;
* No motorised vehicle access is needed [can you walk in, or use bikes/e-bikes instead?];
* Limited numbers of crew/participants are involved;
* Only portable equipment is used;
* No/few onsite structures are required e.g. low impact markers/signs only, removed immediately after use;
* Use of car park does not prevent other forest users from parking [be considerate to the needs of other users and always pay your parking fee];
* You leave no trace – no temporary markers or litter left behind;
* Using a drone, you must abide by all relevant laws on land and in the air.

**Please let us know what you’ve done, by tagging us on social media or sending us a notification form afterwards.**

**2. You are likely to require permission if:**

* Large number of people/crew are involved;
* Signage, bins, toilets or other structures etc are required on site;
* Motorised vehicle access is needed (or locks changed, gates used);
* Potential impact on site or site use for other users is great e.g. areas not accessible, infrastructure intrusive;
* A guarantee is needed that you can use the event location/area on your preferred date/time;
* [If an exclusion order](https://www.gov.scot/publications/part-1-land-reform-scotland-act-2003-guidance-local-authorities-national-park-authorities/pages/1/) (Section 11 of Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003) is required (on Health & Safety grounds) or wanted (for commercial/privacy reasons).

**Apply for permission at least 6 weeks beforehand, following guidance on our website.**