

## Permissions guidance for drone use by professionals/commercial drone use on the National Forest Estate

If you want to fly drones for professional reasons (e.g. for commercial photography, film-making or surveying), please contact the [relevant forest district office](#) to apply for permission.

This guidance will help you prepare your application.

1. Compliance with the [Civil Aviation Authority guidance](#):
  - a. You must have a valid CAA permission.
  - b. You must abide by the [Dronocode](#)
  - c. Be aware of the regulations in the Air Navigation Order, specifically:
    - article 241 - endangering safety of any person or property
    - article 94 - small unmanned aircraft
    - article 95 - small unmanned surveillance aircraft
    - article 2 & schedule 1 – definition of terms
2. Forestry Commission Scotland will require copies of:
  - a. Your valid CAA permission
  - b. Your Public Liability Insurance
  - c. For each activity/date/location:
    - i. Map of operating area
    - ii. Flight plan
    - iii. Identified pilot/s, with contact details
    - iv. Risk assessment
3. If a permission is given, Forestry Commission Scotland will provide you:
  - a. Information on any areas or times which are specifically excluded
  - b. The reasons for this exclusion
4. Any additional terms and conditions will be found within your specific permission.
  - a. Non-compliance with any of the terms in your permission could result in it being revoked without notice.

Forestry Commission Scotland manages the National Forest estate as sustainably and responsibly as we can. For this reason, we ask and expect all of our contractors and permission holders to act in accordance with the [Scottish Outdoor Access Code](#) and all other relevant laws and regulations. Please act responsibly and respectfully at all times while operating on and above Scotland's National Forest Estate.