

6.0 Appendix B

West Lochaber DMG Constitution

Name

The Group name shall be the West Lochaber Deer Management Group (WLDMG).

Objectives

The Group's objective is to promote the sustainable management of deer in the WLDMG area in accordance with the WLDMG Deer Management Plan.

Group Area

The geographic area covered by the WLDMG is as depicted on the attached map. The boundary may be open to amendment should the Group so decide.

Membership

The Members of WLDMG will be the owners of land within the Group area or their authorised representatives. For the avoidance of doubt private, public sector, voluntary body or corporate land owners are entitled to be members of the Group.

Representatives from relevant public bodies, NGOs and local bodies may be invited to attend meetings of the Group.

Members' obligations

Members agree to support the effective running of the Group by:

- Attending or being represented at all DMG meetings.
- Supplying information required for the administration of the Group
- Supplying information required for the writing and review of the Group Deer Management Plan and for the other purposes of the Group.
- Paying an annual subscription to the WLDMG at such rates as may be agreed.
- Collaborating with other Members and other relevant interests as set out in the ADMG Principles of Collaboration.
- Advising the Group of any relevant changes in terms of ownership or land management in respect of their individual landholdings.
- Carrying out deer management in accordance with all relevant legislation, the SNH Code of Practice for Deer Management and Wild Deer Best Practice.

Office Bearers

Office bearers will comprise Chair and, if required, Vice Chair, who shall be elected annually at the Group AGM. Re-election on a rolling basis is permitted with no restriction on the period of time that an office bearer may serve.

The administrative positions of Secretary and Treasurer (which may be combined) and external Auditor are appointed positions and such appointments and any terms of employment shall be for approval annually at the Group AGM.

Meetings

- The Group will meet twice annually or more frequently as may be necessary.
- The Secretary will take a Minute of all meetings and circulate copies to all Members.
- An Annual General (AGM) meeting shall be held at such a place, date and hour as the Group shall decide. Advance notice will be given to Members not less than 28 days in advance of the AGM.
- A voting majority shall be defined as two thirds of the full Membership of the Group.

Funding and Financial Arrangements

The Group will be self-financing and the subscription will be set annually at the AGM. The basis of subscription calculation shall be agreed by the Group and approved by members at an AGM. Subscriptions will be set a rate sufficient to cover all the operating expenses of the Group. Subscriptions will be payable at a date to be determined by the Group.

The Treasurer will operate a Bank Account for the Group and all financial transactions will be made on this account. Joint signatures of the Treasurer and Chair will be required on all cheques or debits drawn on the account in excess of £500.

A financial Statement will be prepared by an Auditor appointed by the Group and presented at the AGM for approval by Members. In the event of funds being left upon the winding up of the Group the disbursement of these funds will be determined by the Members.

Conflict resolution

It shall be the duty of all Members to seek agreement in respect of Group objectives and, where a dispute arises between Members, to resolve such dispute by negotiation and compromise. When agreement cannot be reached it shall be in the option of the Chairman to refer the matter to arbitration by the Chairman of the Association of Deer Management Groups or such other independent expert as the parties may agree.

Membership information, records and data

Storage of membership information will be the responsibility of the Secretary, such information to be used solely for the administration of the Group and stored in accordance with the law.

The Group shall determine such deer management and related data as will be required to fulfil the objectives of the WLDMG. Such data will be collected by all Members and submitted to the Secretary for storage and analysis and shall be regarded as the property of the Group.

7.0 Appendix C

Declaration by Hunter

Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a highly infectious disease which has had devastating effects on many populations of deer. Scottish red deer are susceptible. CWD affects only deer and at present CWD is restricted to the United States of America and Canada.

CWD is caused by a prion and belongs to the same group of diseases as 'mad cow disease' (bovine spongiform encephalopathy or 'BSE'). This group of diseases are known collectively as 'transmissible spongiform encephalopathies' or 'TSE' for short and CWD is the most infectious of these. The prion is transmitted in deer body fluids and body parts including urine, faeces and in meat. The prion can remain infectious for up to ten years when bound to soil, several years on stainless steel and it defies normal farm disinfection processes.

CWD has resulted in the death of every known infected deer. There are currently no treatments or vaccines available to control the disease and efforts to control the spread of CWD in the USA/Canada have so far failed. There is no evidence that CWD is present in Europe however, if it were to become established in wild deer it would be likely have the following major consequences:

- Loss of large numbers of the wild deer population
- Restrictions on sales of venison and live deer
- Restrictions on stalking activities

If the disease became established, stopping its spread might be practically impossible.

A possible (likely) route of transmission into the UK could be through hunters or stalkers bringing in contaminated clothing and equipment from North America. We therefore ask you to make the following declaration:

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge, none of my equipment, clothing or footwear has been in contact with an animal infected or likely to have been infected with CWD.

Signed.....

Print name.....

Date.....

I declare that my equipment, clothing and footwear has been meticulously cleaned of all adherent debris or dirt.

Or

I declare that my equipment, clothing and footwear is bought in Europe and has not been worn in North America.

Signed.....

Print name.....

Date.....

8.0 Appendix D

Example of a simple deer population model (in Excel)

	A	B	C	D
1		Stags	Hinds	Calves
2	Count (late winter or spring)	1000	1000	300
3	Mortality (late spring)	10	10	30
4	Population post mortality	990	990	270
5	Recruitment %			35
6	Population adjusted for recruitment count	990	990	346.5
7	Adult pop in July	1163.25	1163.25	
8	Target population	1000	1000	300
9	Cull target	163.25	163.25	

Formulas entered into Excel to calculate the above results

	A	B	C	D
1		Stags	Hinds	Calves
2	Count (late winter or spring)	1000	1000	300
3	Mortality (late spring)	10	10	30
4	Population post mortality	= B2-B3	= C2-C3	= D2-D3
5	Recruitment %			35
6	Population adjusted for recruitment count	= B4	= C4	= C4*(D5/100)
7	Adult pop in July	= B6+(D6/2)	= C6+(D6/2)	
8	Target population	1000	1000	300
9	Cull target	= B7-B8	= C7-C8	

9.0 Appendix E

References

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- Lindsay, R. & Immirzi, P. 1996. An Inventory of lowland raised bogs in Great Britain. SNH research, Survey & Monitoring Report No. 78 [online].
- Littlewood, N., Anderson, P., Artz, R., Bragg, O., Lunt, P. & Marr, R. 2010. Peatland Biodiversity. Scientific Review 2010 commissioned by IUCN UK Peatlands Programme Commission of Inquiry on Peatlands.
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- Pilot UK Peatland Code <http://www.iucn-uk-peatlandprogramme.org/peatland-gateway/uk/peatland-code> [accessed 28/10/15]
- Scotland National Peatland Plan <http://www.snh.gov.uk/climate-change/taking-action/carbon-management/peatland-action/national-peatland-plan/> [accessed 27/10/15]
- Scottish Government guidance on developments on Peatlands www.gov.scot/Resource/Doc/917/0120462.pdf [accessed 25/10/15]