

# Ardnamurchan Deer Management Group Meeting

6 July 2018

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## Minutes of Meeting

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**In Attendance:** Max Hartley, Shielbridge Estate; Doug MacDonald, Shielbridge Estate; Niall Rowantree, Ardnamurchan Estate; Steve Grant, Ardnamurchan Estate; Duncan McLean, Beinn Bhreac Estate; Alasdair MacLachlan, Kilchoan West; John Jackson, Forestry Commission; Cathy Mayne, Secretary.

**Apologies:** Graeme Taylor, SNH; William Kelly, AE; Charlie McQueen, Beinn Bhreac.

**Minutes of April 2018 meeting:** approved by Max, seconded by SG.

### Matters arising:

1. Membership fees. Land allocation is to be the basis for fee allocation. MH suggests cut-off for those below £100 (with the exception of FCS), agreed by all. CM to update list and take DH comments regarding those not actively involved in deer management (eg Laga) into account.
2. Bank account – agreed to go with RBS. CM to action.
3. DMQs. Re-send the form to all; CM to action. Level 1 course to be run in February which will lead straight into Advanced DM, through NAR/WHH.
4. Count data and mortality. Looking for a reliable count of whole population, plus end of March calf-at-foot ratio and end of winter mortality. Whole count needs to happen at end March 2019. CM to coordinate. All to send 2017/18 mortality figures to NAR/CM.
5. Density map – GT. CM to chase. Add in W Kilchoan area.
6. Population model update – all data to NAR to disseminate cull figures for stags.
7. Peatland actions. CM to chase Kentra report. No other actions in view.
8. HIA data to collect and send to CM when complete.
9. DMG health check – CM to submit for comments prior to autumn meeting.
10. Venison quality assurance – set up our own group standards. NAR to send to CM (cc MH).

### AOCB:

**Date and time of next meeting:** Check when Charlie is available. Possibly later one evening. 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> October, evening at 7pm? Or another weekday? CM to send email. Ideally week commencing 8<sup>th</sup>.

### Action points – pressing ones in red, bold for ALL to consider/action ASAP

Action points	By whom	By when
<b>DMG membership fees – set up system for subs</b>	<b>CM</b>	<b>June 2018</b>
<b>DMG bank account to set up</b>	<b>CM</b>	<b>June 2018</b>

HIA training and support money to new bank account from AE	CM	June 2018
<b>Deer Manager qualifications – update and keep records according to Data Protection Act</b>	<b>NAR, CM, All</b>	<b>June 2018</b>
Review of DMP – use of ADMG 2 days support	CM	August 2018
<b>Deer counts – carry out and send data to Secretary</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>June 2018</b>
SNH latest deer count and density map – recalculate with correct area of ground	GT	July 2018
Woodland counts – use of thermal imaging	All to consider	2019
Update population model	NAR	July 2018
Mapping NWSS high/v high impacts and new woodlands	CM	2018
Peatland action – retrieve Kentra report	CM	June 2018
Fire – report all fires to Secretary	All	On-going
Fire – develop simple fire plan	CM	2018
Off-road extraction routes – identification of issues to Sec	All	On-going
Off-road illegal activity report to Police Scotland	All	On-going
Sika and feral pigs – report presence to group and control	All	On-going
Chronic Wasting Disease – ensure all clients disease-free	All	On-going
Lyme disease – develop some generic guidance for all	CM	2018
Tourism businesses using Ard pen for wildlife watching – report all businesses know to operate here to Secretary	All	2018
Audit of tourism businesses and invitation to contribute	CM	2018
<b>Mortality 2017/18 counts to NAR for population model</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>May 2018</b>
Poaching – Police Scotland to again consider use of cameras to record vehicles on roads	AC	2018
Website set up – options and costs	CM	2018
HIA targets for all SNH HIA habitat types	GT	July 2018
Next meeting – email date and book hall	CM	October 2018
HIA training set up	CM	Discharged
HIA data collation – meet up to discuss and share	CM, CmcQ	Discharged
Provide cull return for all owners registered with SNH	GT	Discharged
Sonachan owners - firearms	Police Scot	Discharged
SNH HIA work – contact with landowners by surveyors	GT	Discharged
Peatland action – potential actions; none in view	All	Discharged

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