



Scottish Natural Heritage
Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba

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DMG Assessment 2019

- The Assessment will be carried out on the same basis as 2014 and 2016 using the 101 criteria of the Benchmark and public Interest.
- The DMG assessments will take place in Spring 2019 (April 2019 – May 2019).



What is expected in 2019?

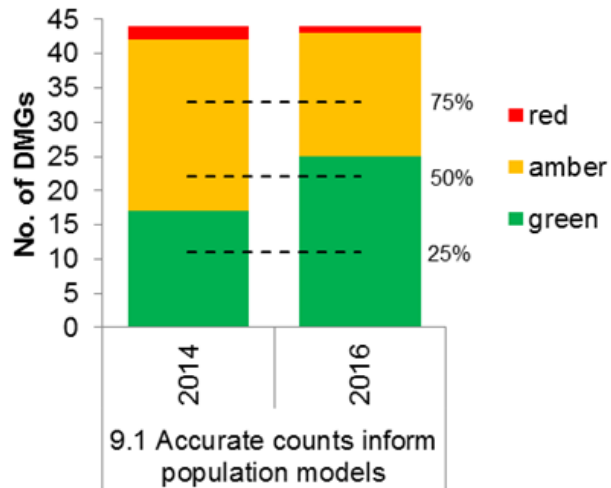
- Ultimately (not by 2019) the goal for SNH and ADMG is for all DMGs to score Green for all criteria.
- To understand what good progress towards 'All Green' would look like by 2019, SNH have identified 35 of the 101 Benchmark and Public Interest criteria are priorities.
- For each of those criteria SNH will set a target for the overall proportion of DMGs assessed as Green.
- The targets will be ambitious but realistic.



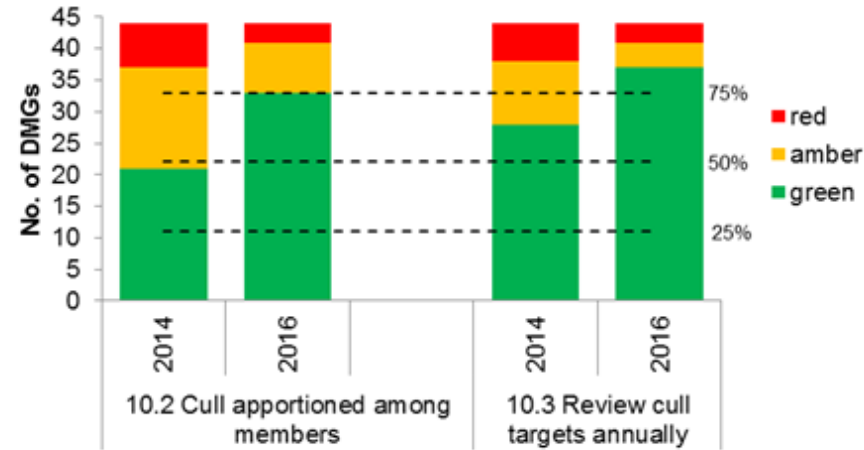
ADMG Benchmark Criteria

- In terms of the Benchmark these priority criteria relate to the fundamental aspects of deer management – Counts, culls and habitat monitoring (Benchmark areas 9,10 and 11).
- As in 2016 there is an expectation that DMPs will be accessible and publically available.

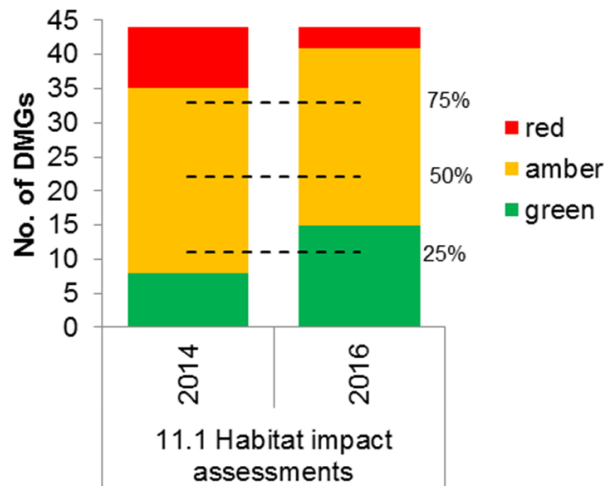




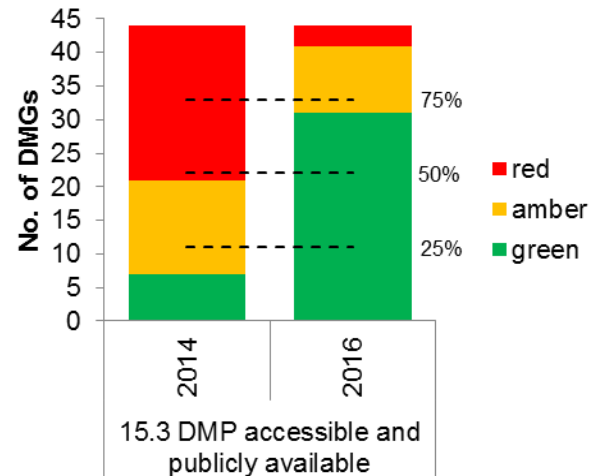
Category 9: Deer counts



Category 10: Culls



Category 11: Habitat monitoring



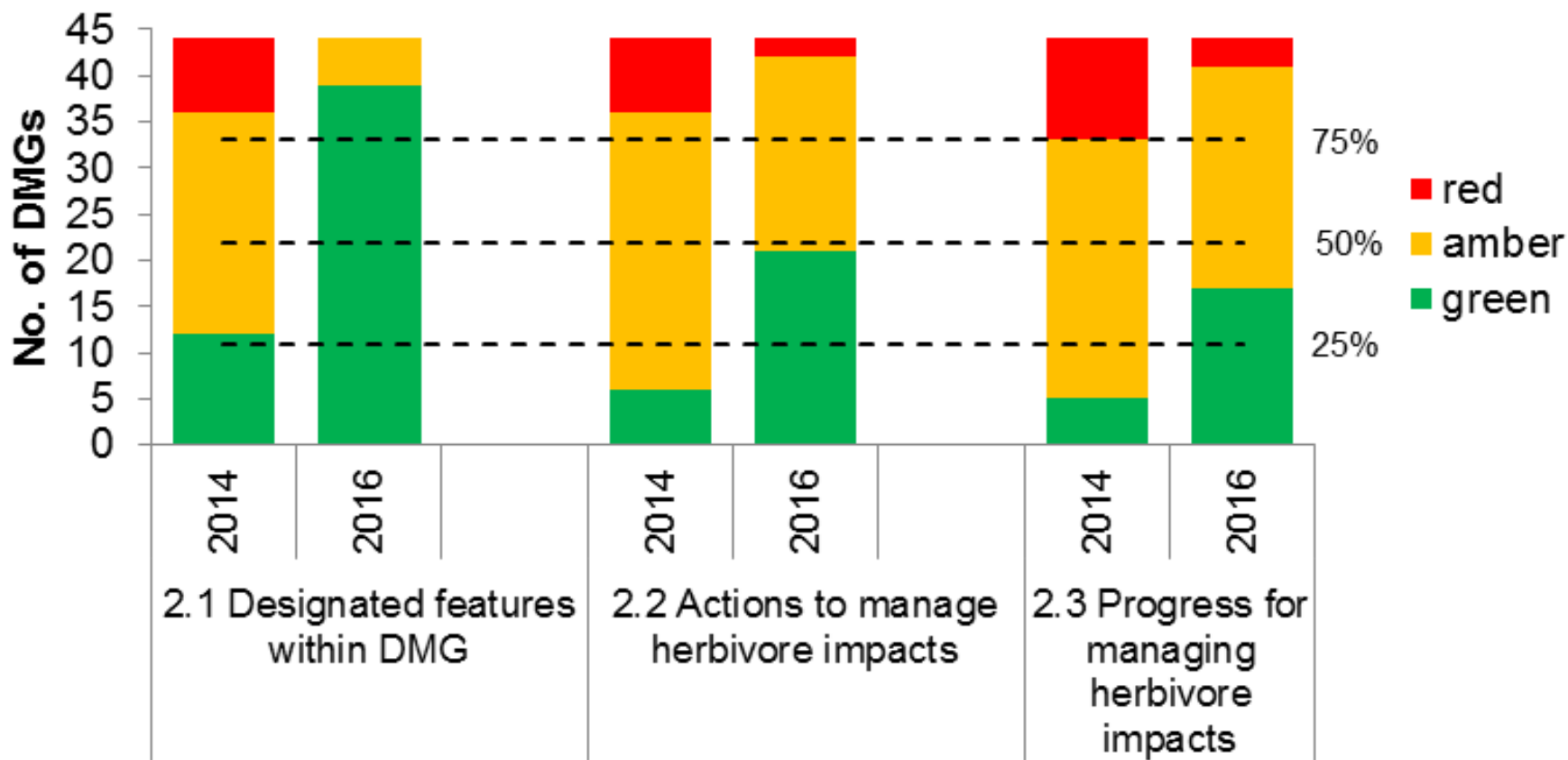
Category 15: Communications



SNH Public Interest Criteria: 2019 Assessment

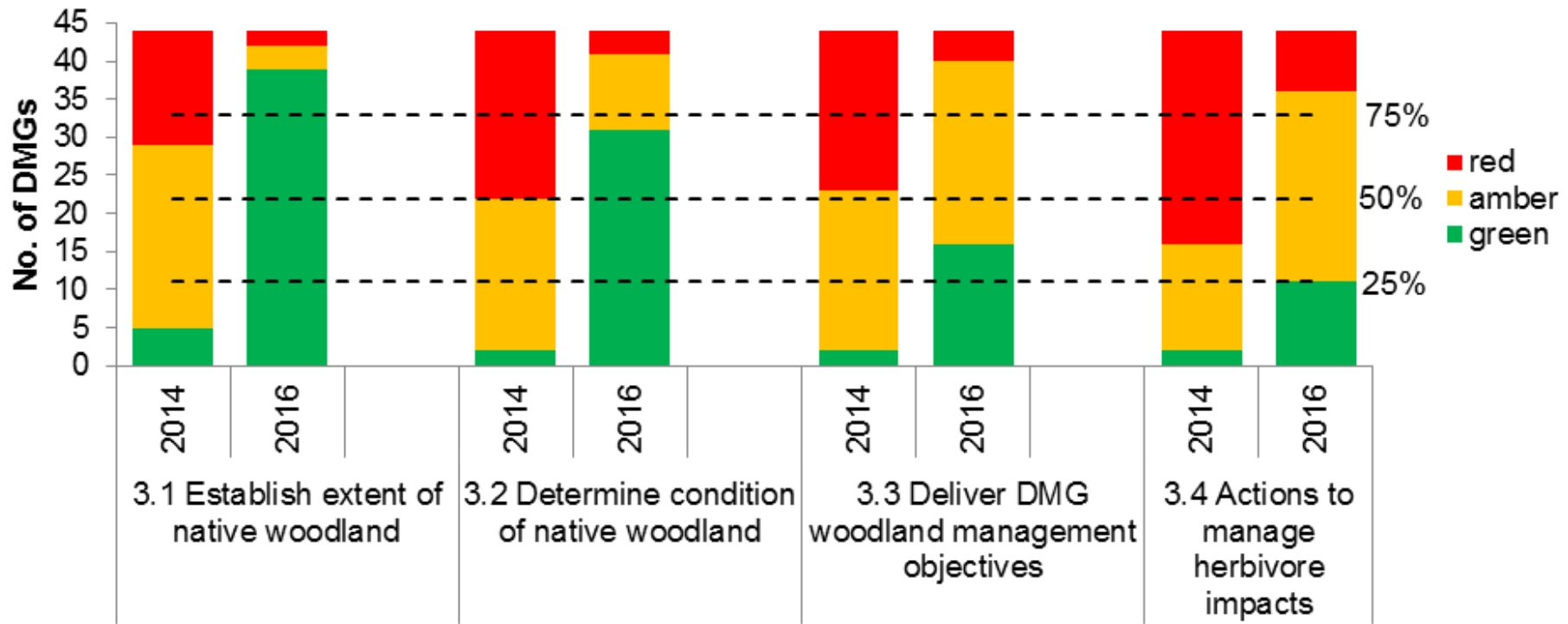
- In terms of the Public Interest SNH are looking for progress, measured by the number of groups scoring green, in all areas of Public Interest.
- SNH will be particularly looking at the criteria linking planning with implementation. These relate to the second half of the criteria in each category, rather than the first couple which are generally focused on setting out the current position/extent of the resource.





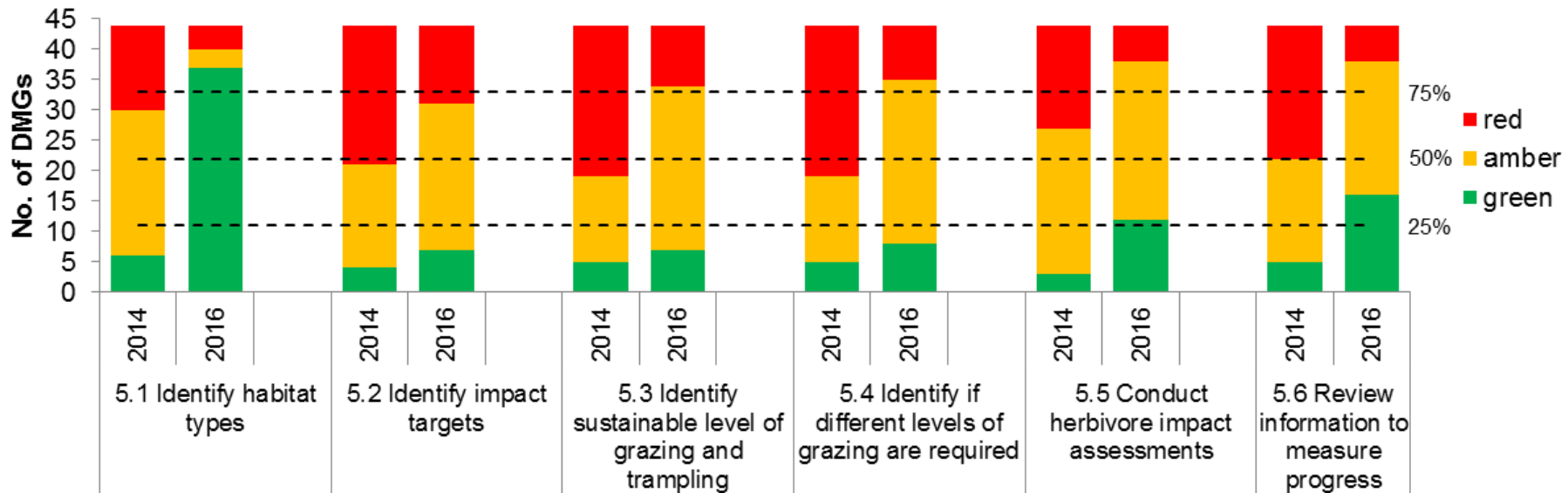
Category 2: Designated features in to Favourable Condition





Category 3: Retain existing native woodland cover





Category 5: Monitor and manage deer impacts



Nationally we are expecting DMGs to demonstrate the contribution they are making to:

- **Bring designated sites into Favourable condition.**
- **Address Native Woodland Condition.**
- **Woodland Expansion**
- **Carbon and peatland**



Next Steps:

- The list of priority criteria and targets will be set out.
- Prior to the Assessment process in 2019 SNH and ADMG will review and provide guidance on the criteria where the 2016 assessments flagged issues of inconsistency or lack of clarity in attributing scoring.
- The Assessments will be undertaken by SNH Area / WMO staff in conjunction with the DMG Chair and Secretary and, where available, the ADMG Regional representative in Spring 2019.
- As in 2016 a QA of assessments will be undertaken by SNH Area Operations Managers.
- If there is significant disagreement on a number of criteria then this can be referred for Review – details TBC.



SNH Support

- Between now and assessment in 2019 SNH will provide regular feedback to DMGs. We have trialed and will develop and refine the template for doing this with ADMG.
- This feedback is intended to support and help DMGs prepare for the 2019 assessment by identifying the areas where progress can be made.
- DMGs are encouraged to work with SNH in preparing for the 2019 Assessment and review the actions from their plans and 2016 assessments to identify where further progress can be made.

