

Deer in Kishorn

Meeting at Kishorn Seafood Bar, Lochcarron Friday, 9 November 2018 at 16:00hrs

Present:

Willie Fraser (WF)	- <i>ADMG (Chair)</i>	Helen Murchison (HM)	- <i>Kishorn Comm.</i>
Mark Pattinson (MP)	- <i>Lochcarron Estate</i>	Colin Murdoch (CM)	- <i>Reraig Forest</i>
Gillian Pattinson (GP)	- <i>Lochcarron Estate</i>	Rosemary Murdoch (RM)	- <i>Reraig Forest</i>
Sarah Houston (SH)	- <i>Kishorn Comm.</i>	Alastair Baxter (AB)	- <i>Ardoch</i>
Lynda Beveridge (LB)	- <i>Kishorn Comm.</i>	Chris Mackenzie (CM)	- <i>Achnashellach Estate</i>
Mike Tweats (MT)	- <i>Kishorn Comm.</i>	Susan Tweats (ST)	- <i>Kishorn Comm.</i>
Marion Mackenzie (MM)	- <i>Kishorn Comm.</i>	Sinclair Coghill (SC)	- <i>SNH</i>
Charlie Hill (CH)	- <i>Glen Mhor Estate</i>	Tom Chetwynd (TC)	- <i>SWRDMG (Sec)</i>

Apologies

David Mackenzie	- <i>Couldoran Estate</i>	Shaun Macdonald	- <i>SWRDMG</i>
Kurt Larson	- <i>Ardoch</i>	David Abrahams	- <i>Applecross Estate</i>
Archie Maclellan	- <i>Applecross Estate</i>		

1.0 Welcome

The Secretary welcomed those present and briefly explained the purpose of the meeting and the background to the issue with deer in Kishorn before handing over to The Chair.

The Chair asked those present to provide a brief introduction to include how they are involved with deer in the community and what their concerns are.

2.0 Issues Raised

The discussions that followed covered a range of matters and various issues including the following:

- **Lyme Disease:** incidence may be increasing although this may partly be due to greater awareness; range of hot spots across Scotland, including Uists; recent cases included family members and child in Kishorn; blood tests from deer collected for NHS England research.
- **Ticks:** prevalence of ticks in local area; identified that deer culled recently on enclosed crofting common grazings had fewer ticks than those culled in local woodland; decline in ticks may be due to either decline in sheep on crofts and/or effectiveness of treatment on existing sheep.
- **Fencing:** extent of deer fences from Tornapress to Reraig; recent repairs undertaken by Glen Mhor Estate; recent installation of fence and cattle grid by Mike and Susan Tweats; possibility of enclosing residential properties, and/or extending fence at Seafield.
- **Current Position with Deer:** Two sub-populations of predominantly stags; Kishorn population supplemented by possible from Applecross across Seafield; Achintraid population resident in birch woods on common grazings; deer continuing to enter gardens causing private damage; some culling undertaken at Ardoch and Achintraid; no culling undertaken in and around Kishorn; no winter feeding undertaken but stalker presence continues to be strong.
- **Current Actions:** Lochcarron Estate culled stags in Achintraid and Ardoch culled stags between Achintraid and Kishorn in Summer 2018 with further culling planned for both areas.
- **Deer Vehicle Collisions:** no recent deer vehicle collisions reported.

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3.0 Action List

Ref:	Detail	Action
1.0	Lohcarron Estate and Ardoch to continue reduction cull with immediate focus on sub-populations around Achintraid and regular returns submitted to SWRDMG	Lohcarron Est. / Ardoch
2.0	Deer fences surrounding both Kishorn and Achintraid to be checked on quarterly basis by relevant owners	Lohcarron Est. / Glen Mhor Est. / Ardoch / Reraig / M Tweats
3.0	SNH to assist with authorisations deemed necessary to undertake cull	SNH
4.0	SWRDMG to provide collaborative support if required	SWRDMG
5.0	Contact to be made with Applecross Estate and owners of Seafield Farm ref: appropriate actions to mitigate movement of and damage by deer	SWRDMG
6.0	Situation to be monitored by Community Deer Rep (Helen Murchison) with reports to SWRDMG	HM / SWRDMG
7.0	Deer management article to be produced for An Carronach magazine	SWRDMG
8.0	Approach to Highland Council re: upgrade to gate on A896 east of Kishorn	SWRDMG
9.0	All Deer Vehicle Collisions (DVCs) to be logged with / recorded by Community Deer Rep and reported to SWRDMG	HM