



CWA SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

Essential Forestry Skills: Practical Woodland Deer Management

29 – 31 May 2009

Hosted by:
Knoydart Forest Trust
Inverie
Knoydart
by Mallaig
PH41 4PL
01687 462560
forest@knoydart.org

INVITATION

Essential Forestry Skills: Woodland Deer Management Course

Background

Knoydart Forest Trust manages around 800ha of woodland, roughly half native woodland regeneration and half conifer plantation. The mixed woodland at Inverie (c250ha) is fenced on 3 sides and open to the sea on the fourth side, here we have succeeded in reducing the red and roe deer population to a level that is allowing natural regeneration, our aim is to maintain levels that will allow re-planting of felled areas.

Course Objectives

We are running this event in order to develop our own woodland deer management and to offer the same opportunity to other woodland groups.

A practical based weekend aimed at:

Existing and trainee stalkers who want to develop their woodland skills and techniques and Community Woodland project managers and management groups who want to increase their knowledge and understanding.

Visiting Speakers/ Trainers:

Linzi Seiwright (Deer Commission Scotland)

Alastair Macgugan (Deer Commission Scotland)

Colin Lavin (Deer Management Officer, Forestry Commission Scotland)

Derick Macaskill (Wildlife Ranger Manager for Forestry Commission Scotland, Lochaber Forest District)

The Course will cover:

Why & How we need to manage woodland deer

Responsibilities and Legal Aspects

Deer Impact assessment and monitoring

Practical Woodland Stalking methods and techniques

Please return your completed booking form to Lorna Schofield at Knoydart Forest Trust as soon as possible and by no later than Wednesday 29 April 2009.

Numbers are limited to 12-15 and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

Delegates are encouraged to read or re-read DCS Best Practice Guidance before the Course, refer to <http://www.bestpracticeguides.org.uk/default.aspx>

This event is supported by the Scottish Government Skills Development Scheme, Robertson Trust, Hugh Fraser Foundation and the HIE Community Land Unit.



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DRAFT Programme

Friday 29th

6pm	Depart Mallaig Pier	Charter Boat
7pm	Inverie Village Hall	Registration & Background
8pm	Old Forge Pub, Inverie	Dinner

Saturday 30th

9.30am	Village Hall	Introduction: Jim Brown (Stalker) and Grant Holroyd (Community Forest Manager)
10.00am	Village Hall	(2 sessions split as app between DCS and FCS) DCS Best Practice Legal aspects Landowners responsibilities Woodland Deer Impact; monitoring and assessment Deer ecology, behaviour FCS Setting objectives Woodland Stalking techniques & aids Night shooting
12.30pm		Local Background (the way we do things) JB & GH
1 pm	Village hall	Lunch Soup & Sands in hall
2-5pm	In the wood practical sessions	(2 or 3 groups) Jim & FCS: woodland stalking techniques Grant & DCS Practical Monitoring exercise Dinner

Sunday 31st

9.00 am	Village Hall	Coffee
9.30 am	Outdoors sessions	Larder, venison, local sales Outdoor session to be confirmed
11.30am	Indoors session	Leasing Guests Budgeting, how much does it cost? Dealer Dogs
1pm	Hall/ Pub/ Tea room	Lunch
c3pm	Depart in time for afternoon train	