

# Developing sustainable hunting tourism in Scotland

Fiona Newcombe

Research and Data Manager

Deer Commission for Scotland



# Structure of talk

- Aimed at audience range
- Brief history of deer management
- Current issues
- Future
- Role of research



# Deer stalking history



# Deer stalking history



# Deer as an icon



# Government intervention - history

- 7 public enquiries between 1872 – 1954 on problem of control of red deer
- 1959 Deer (Scotland) Act
- Damage to agriculture and forestry
- Red Deer Commission established



1959



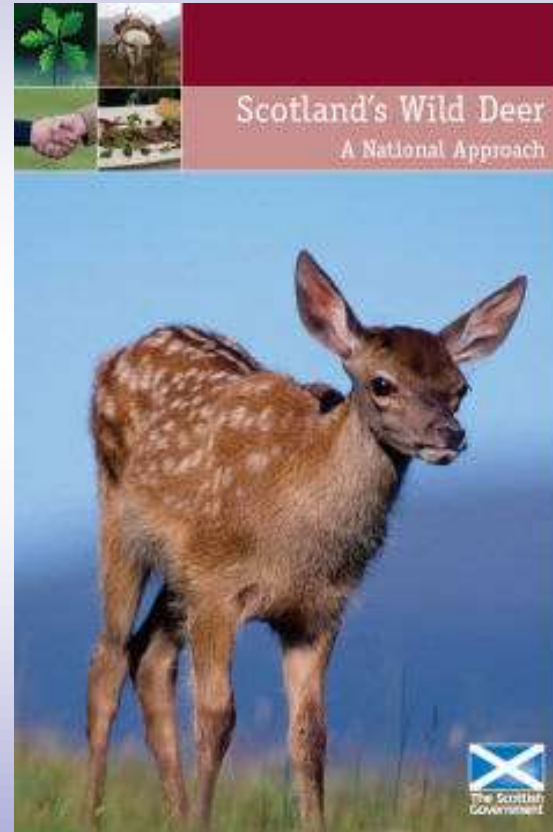
# 1996 Deer (Scotland) Act

- Update of 1959 Act
- Natural heritage issues
- Deer Commission for Scotland
- Voluntary control agreements
- Large-scale culls



# Wild Deer: A National Approach

- 2008 joint agency
- Vision and mechanisms for sustainable deer management
- Wide range of issues
- Action plan and stakeholders

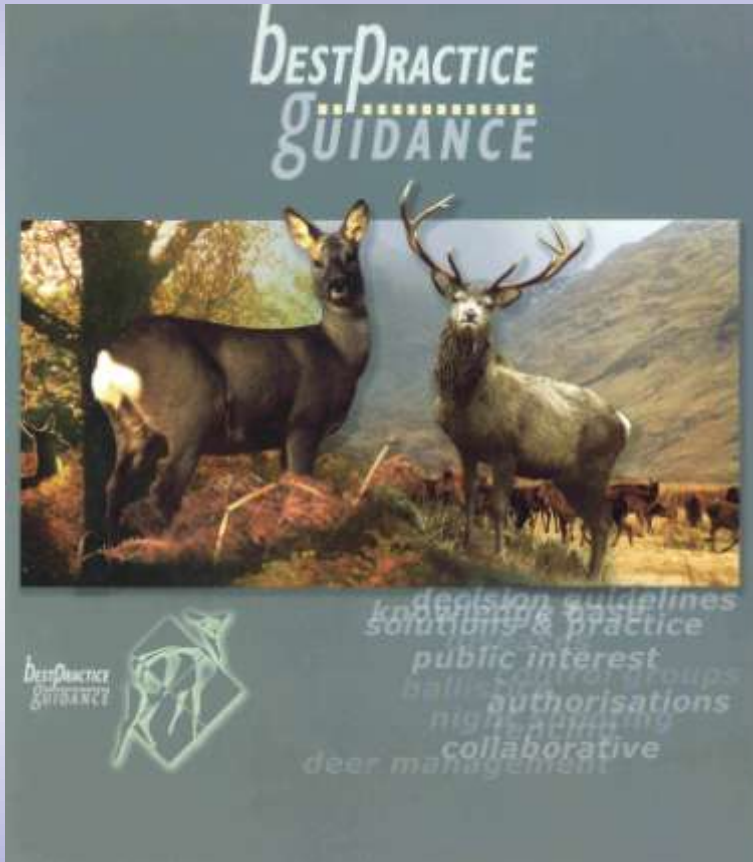


# Country Sports Tourism Group

- Lists providers
- Gives information
- Beginners package
- Training course in customer care



# Best Practice Guidance



- Best information available
- Guides and events
- Working with clients
- Other organisations training



# Current issues



# Current issues – animal welfare

The screenshot shows a Windows Internet Explorer browser window displaying a BBC News article. The browser's address bar shows the URL <http://www.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/5543000.stm>. The page title is "BBC News - Animal charity seeks deer cull amid starvation fears". The article's main headline is "Animal charity seeks deer cull amid starvation fears". The article text states that a conservation charity has called for the annual cull of deer in Scotland to continue because large numbers of the animals are starving to death. The Scottish Wildlife Trust said the harsh winter had left many deer suffering through lack of food. It wants them culled to prevent 'inhumane suffering' and further damage to Scotland's environment caused by large deer populations. The staking period for female deer in Scotland ended on 15 February. The charity said deer numbers in Scotland had reached record levels due to the absence of natural predators. Together, the population of the country's two native species, the... The article includes a photo of three deer in a snowy landscape. The page also features a sidebar with navigation links, a 'SEE ALSO' section with related articles, and a 'RELATED INTERNET LINKS' section. The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button and several open applications.

Page last updated at 12:21 GMT, Monday, 1 March 2010

## Animal charity seeks deer cull amid starvation fears



The SWT said large numbers of deer were starving to death.

A conservation charity has called for the annual cull of deer in Scotland to continue because large numbers of the animals are starving to death.

The Scottish Wildlife Trust said the harsh winter had left many deer suffering through lack of food.

It wants them culled to prevent 'inhumane suffering' and further damage to Scotland's environment caused by large deer populations.

The staking period for female deer in Scotland ended on 15 February.

The charity said deer numbers in Scotland had reached record levels due to the absence of natural predators.

Together, the population of the country's two native species, the...

“ I understand that this

**SEE ALSO**

- Cold winter leaves starving deer (15 Feb 10 | Edinburgh, East and Fife)
- Scotland's deer 'changing shape' (18 Dec 09 | Earth News)
- Drivers warned to watch for deer (20 Oct 09 | South of Scotland)
- Campaign to cut deer accidents (20 Apr 09 | Highlands and Islands)
- Cross-breeding 'threat' to deer (22 Jan 09 | Edinburgh, East and Fife)
- East is deer accident blackspot (23 Nov 08 | England)
- Deer cull plan to boost woodland (07 Oct 08 | Highlands and Islands)
- New deer season service launched (06 Aug 08 | Highlands and Islands)

**RELATED INTERNET LINKS**

- SWT
- Deer Commission for Scotland

The BBC is not responsible for the content of external internet sites.

**TOP SCOTLAND STORIES**

- Police injured in motorway crash
- SNP begins BBC debate legal bid
- Kirk to 'cut' number of ministers

3 News feeds



# Wildlife and Natural Environment Bill

- Final Bill launched shortly
- Proposals to date link rights to range of responsibilities:
- Sustainable Deer Management supported by code of practice and competence
- Inclusive voluntary deer management planning and delivery with backstop compulsory powers



# Role of research



- Underpinning decisions
- Stakeholder engagement – and fatigue
- Knowledge exchange
- Language



# Final thoughts

- Culture and traditions important – how maintain?
- Role of Government?
- Integration of land uses – Land Use Strategy
- Gap between rural and urban understanding

