

**DEER MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
**Glenlude**  
**2022-2025**

**1. Rationale**

JMT recognises that:

- Native deer species are an integral part of the natural heritage,
- Deer management can bring environmental, social and economic benefits,
- At inappropriate population levels, deer impacts can damage habitat condition and suppress natural processes.

Deer populations will be manipulated through culling:

- To achieve JMT's charitable objective to "conserve and protect wild land encouraging natural processes",
- In line with industry Best Practice Guidance,
- Not impeding public access at any time.

**2. Audit**

**2.1 Geology, soils, habitats and species**

A range of habitats are present on the property of 149Ha in total, with 75Ha under conifer plantation a mixture of Larch and Sitka Spruce. There are also some small areas of native tree planting. The open areas are a mainly a mix of acid grassland and small areas of heath and bog. There are some interesting areas of neutral grassland, and also small patches of calcareous grassland associated with flushes at the South of the property. To the north of the property on the paddock burn there are some areas of willow scrub with some regeneration occurring.

**2.2 Designations, biodiversity priorities, habitat conditions**

A small section of the Paddock burn falls within the River Tweed SAC, this is an area of about 1 Hectare and forms less than 1% of the total area of the site.

Key habitats for biodiversity on the property:

- Blanket bog (0.7 Ha)
- Wet heath (5Ha approx.)
- Native tree planting areas
- Calcareous flushes
- Wetlands along water courses and recently created ponds
- Neutral grassland.

**2.3 Livestock**

The perimeter of the estate is effectively stock fenced, and incursions are unusual.

**2.4 Employment and income**

Deer management is carried out by a local contract stalker at a cost of approximately £2,500 per annum. There is no income from venison due to the cost of transporting them to a game dealer being higher than their value. There is currently no sport stalking on the estate.

**2.5 Deer population estimates and cull figures**

No count data is available for the property. The main species of deer present is roe deer. Sika are also present.

Year	Roe cull				Sika cull			
	Bucks	Does	Kids	Total	Stags	Hinds	Calves	Total
2005/06	3	4	2	9				
2006/07	4	5	12	21				
2007/08	4	3	7	14				
2008/09	2	3	7	12				
2009/10	3	4	3	10				
2010/11	6	10	0	16				
2011/12	10	4	6	20				
2012/13	5	3	6	14				
2013/14	4	5	10	19				
2014/15	4	9	14	27				
2015/16	3	5	11	19				
2016/17	4	3	6	13	2	0	0	2
2017/18	7	7	7	21				
2018/19	6	12	6	24				
2019/20	9	4	7	20	2	1	0	3
2020/21	5	7	14	26	2	0	0	2

### 3. Objectives, targets and constraints

#### 3.1 Habitat

To manipulate the deer population through culling to enable:

- All habitats (designated and non-designated features) to be in or move towards favourable condition
- Natural habitat processes (such as woodland regeneration) to continue or to start
- Populations of priority species to be maintained or enhanced.

#### 3.2 Deer population and cull

A specific target deer density has **not** been set. Instead culls will be adjusted in line with monitoring information to achieve the above objectives. Purely as a **guide** it is anticipated that a total annual cull of around 20 will be achievable for 2020-25. This figure will be reviewed annually.

#### 3.3 Employment and income

The current annual level of employment is expected to be maintained with no income from stalking activity.

#### 3.4 Constraints and mitigation

It is recognised that the habitat, natural process and priority species population objectives set out above may be constrained by external uncontrollable factors such as weather, fire etc. Wider deer management by neighbours may also impact on both the habitat objectives and the cull required. Where possible JMT will seek to negotiate or influence neighbours sharing deer range to meet objectives.

### 4. Monitoring

#### 4.1 Habitats and species

A programme of habitat and species monitoring is in place on the property. Annual habitat impact monitoring (carried out in May / June) will be used to inform cull targets for the year.

#### 4.2 Deer and livestock numbers

The key measures are habitat impact and condition. Due to the difficulty of counting deer on the estate impact assessment will be used to determine numbers.

### 5. Review

Habitat, count estimate data and cull data will be reviewed annually with the plan adjusted accordingly. A review of the whole plan will take place in 2025.