

KDMG 24th November Meeting Minutes:

1. Apologies:
 - Eric Delwart
 - Andrew Aitchison

2. Minutes of June 2014 meeting

3. Matters Arising - SNH Helicopter Count / November 2014
 - SNH carried out a comprehensive count of the total KDMG / WKDMG areas.
 - The results of which are attached in a separate document
 - This provides an excellent basis for a KDMG DMP
 - Graeme stated that WKDMG are willing to engage with the KDMG in the process of producing separate DMPs
 - The general reaction from the attendees was confirmation of a perception that deer numbers for the KDMG area and elsewhere are low for many members

4. Estate Reports
 - Document attached

5. SNH / JMT out of season licence
 - Graeme Taylor informed the group that the JMT licence for winter 2014/2015 was restricted to 15 stags by February 2015
 - He stated that the submission by KDMG had been taken into account, in considering the public interest
 - He also stated that the matter will be kept under review

6. Deer Management Plan / Habitat Monitoring
 - It was agreed at the meeting that the KDMG will fully commit to completing an up to date DMP
 - Richard Cooke from ADMG pointed out that a cost of £12,000 - £15,000 was normal
 - SNH will fund up to £12,000
 - Graeme Taylor stated that we would need to work with the WKDMG DMP planning and further stated that they were willing to cooperate
 - It is not known whether JMT will participate in the collaborative approach, but it is hoped that they would

- The DMP must demonstrate that it can deliver to the ADMG Best Practice Code, and any other public interest issues considered relevant

- Graeme recommended the formation of a sub group, and this was agreed

- The members of the sub group are Sir Patrick Grant, Linda Campbell, Simon Laird and Iain Biggart

- A meeting will be held on the 18th December at SNH office Inverness. Time to be confirmed. This is for a pre DMP assessment meeting. The agenda will be:

- 1) Assessment

- 2) Liaison

- 3) DMP

- 4) Contractor

- With regard to the contractor, the chairman pointed out that he had spoken to Andrew Barbour and he was willing to complete the plan. However he was not seeking work in this area and has many other commitments.

- The chairman had also spoken to Victor Clements, who gave a very good presentation at the ADMG Birnam meeting, in his capacity as secretary for Breadalbane DMG

- He will continue to liaise with potential contractors, including Victor

- Colin Lavin / FE, said that they would contribute to a DMP. SPG pointed out that it would be advantageous to have a contractor who could assist with habitat monitoring as well

7. ADMG update

- Richard Cooke assisted the meeting at different points, including providing an update on the current political situation, and also some advice on Section 7

- SPG said that he would organise the payment of ADMG dues, to which all the members agreed

8. AOB

9. Date of next meeting

- 15th June 2015, 10.30am Achnacarry

- Donald Cameron of Locheil very kindly offered to host the next meeting