

## Implement and monitor wild deer culls

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### Overview

This standard outlines the competencies required by individuals who are responsible for implementing and monitoring wild deer culls. It has been developed so that it can be applied to a variety of situations.

This standard is aimed at those who work as deer managers and who are responsible for implementing the culling programme and monitoring the success of the programme.

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### Performance criteria

*You must be able to:*

1. implement and monitor wild deer culling activities according to risk management processes, including establishing safety precautions, preparing equipment and materials, liaising with stalkers and support staff, dealing with wounded deer, handling and storing carcasses
2. manage the allocation of resources to achieve the objectives of the wild deer cull
3. confirm that culling activities maintain health and safety and are consistent with relevant legislation, codes of practice and organisational requirements
4. confirm that the requirements of the wild deer cull are communicated effectively to those involved in its implementation
5. establish and maintain effective communications with stalkers and those involved in implementing the wild deer cull
6. confirm that all wild deer cull activities meet objectives and are implemented and monitored according to relevant legislation and national and local requirements
7. confirm that deer carcasses are transported, handled and stored according to relevant legal requirements
8. confirm that accurate cull records are maintained according to relevant legal requirements
9. monitor and obtain feedback from those involved in the wild deer cull to support the development of the wild deer management plan

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### Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

1. the roles essential to the implementation of wild deer culls
2. the resources required to support wild deer culling including people, transport, equipment, finance, animals
3. the methods of preparing and briefing those involved with wild deer culling activities
4. the relevant national and local regulations that control wild deer culling relating to access, the use of firearms, access to the countryside, animal welfare, and the use of casual staff and volunteers
5. the activities required to manage the effective implementation and monitoring of the planned wild deer cull
6. the importance of maintaining effective wild deer cull records and their value to the implementation of an effective wild deer management plan
7. the relevant legal requirements controlling the handling and storage of wild deer carcasses
8. why effective communication is important to shooting activities
9. how wild deer react during a cull and the influences that could alter their predicted behaviour
10. the need for contingency plans and when to implement them for example human influences, unexpected wild deer behaviour, environmental conditions
11. how wild deer culls can be implemented in built-up areas or transport corridors
12. the safety hazards associated with wild deer culling and how they can be managed
13. the role of relevant legislation, national policies, codes of practice, sector guidance and organisational requirements relating to wild deer culling activities and the recording of cull details

## Glossary

### **Sector guidance could include:**

The Code of Good Shooting Practice

Deer Initiative Best Practice Guides

Scottish Natural Heritage Best Practice Guides

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