



Deer Management Policy

Wild deer on Coillte's estate are to be managed in accordance with accepted principles of Sustainable Deer Management (SDM) whereby, the conservation, control and use of the species, will be balanced in order to achieve an integrated and collaborative solution to achieving viable deer populations across the Coillte estate at levels which are in harmony with their environment.

The key objectives for deer management are: -

i) Environmental Objectives

To manage the wild deer population as an important and valued element of the biodiversity and natural heritage value of Coillte's estate and the Irish countryside by: -

- Safeguarding deer welfare.
- Conserving indigenous deer species.
- Supporting the implementation of appropriate National policies and initiatives.
- Compliance with regulation.
- Protecting ecologically sensitive habitats from damage.
- Controlling deer populations through licensed recreational hunting and / or professional culling.
- Restricting range expansion.

ii) Economic Objectives

To manage the wild deer resource in a manner which sustains economic viability: -

- Maximising the financial contribution from the deer resource.
- Balancing the costs of damage prevention and / or population control in-line with the level of damage risk.

iii) Social Objectives

To manage wild deer in a safe, humane and a socially responsible manner: -

- Requiring the highest standards of safety at all times.
 - Permitting only ethical and humane practices in hunting / deer control, undertaken in a responsible and competent manner
 - Promoting knowledge, understanding, and proficiency.
 - Engaging with stakeholders at local and National level
 - Permitting deer hunting in designated areas in line with the Companies Recreation Policy.
 - Supporting relevant authorities in addressing public health and safety concerns.
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