# Scotland's Nature Agency

# Mountain Hare – Herbivore Management Plan

## Section A: Licence details

| **Licence details required** | **Provide required information below** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Site Name** |  | | | |
| **Description of the key land management objective(s) for the site, and the main method(s) for delivery.** | (For example – Aim to maintain open habitats for livestock grazing, achieved by adhering to an appropriate grazing plan, and deer control is carried out) | | | |
| **How will success of the above management objectives be recorded and assessed?** | (For example - in open habitats, grazing plan(s) and deer cull records are kept. Deer counts and HIA are carried out) | | | |
| **Herbivores present on site**  Tick all boxes that apply | Deer | Sheep | Cattle | Goats |
| Mountain Hare | Brown Hare | Rabbits | Other |
| **Please give details of how each species of herbivore present on site is managed to achieve the key land management objectives?** |  | | | |
| **Why is mountain hare control required?** |  | | | |
| **How do you know damage is being caused specifically by mountain hare?** |  | | | |

## Section B: Herbivore Impact Assessment

* Carry out a herbivore impact assessment (HIA) following this [guidance](https://www.bestpracticeguides.org.uk/impacts/principles/)
* Include map(s) with OS backdrop showing (minimum 1:25,000 scale):
  + property boundaries and fences/internal boundaries
  + protected area boundaries e.g. SSSI, SAC and SPA (if applicable)
  + habitats present and which have been assessed as part of the HIA
  + HIA area
  + location of HIA sample points
* Include an explanation of which habitats you assessed and why
* Summarise the herbivore impact in each of the management areas, and relate this to why there is a need to control mountain hare

## Section C: Herbivore management

### **Livestock**

If livestock are present please complete the below table for each Land Parcel Identifier (LPID) in which mountain hare control is proposed (additional tables are found in the appendix at the end of this document if required).

| **Livestock details required** | **Provide required information below** | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **LPID & map ref:** |  | | | | | |
| **Area of unit (ha):** |  | | | | | |
| **Habitat type:** |  | | | | | |
| **Grazing period** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | |
| **Dates** |  |  |  |  |  | |
| **Number of cattle** |  |  |  |  |  | |
| **Number of sheep** |  |  |  |  |  | |
| **Number of other domesticated herbivores** *(please specify species):* |  |  |  |  |  | |
| **LU/ha** |  |  |  |  |  | |
| **Average stocking density (LU/ha/yr)** |  |  |  |  |  | |
| **Annual average stocking density (LU/ha/yr)**  Add all average values for the year together | | | | | |  |

### **Deer**

| **Deer details required** | **Provide required information below** |
| --- | --- |
| **Deer population estimate:** |  |
| **Deer population estimate method:** |  |
| **Current deer density:**  (deer/km2) |  |
| **Deer density target:**  (deer/km2) |  |

Detail of any fences or supplementary feeding to be included on a map

### **Mountain hare**

(Please complete the below table for all areas where hare control is proposed. If you are applying for the purpose of conservation of young native trees or for the prevention of damage to timber, and this data is not available please type ‘N/A’)

| **Mountain hare details required** | **Provide required information below** |
| --- | --- |
| **Count methodology used** |  |
| **When was the count carried out** |  |
| **Count result** |  |
| **Estimated area** (km²) **over which the count was undertaken**  (also detailed on a 1:25,000 map) |  |
| **Count data from previous 5 years, where these exist.** Include count method used for each year. |  |
| **Previous cull data** |  |

**Mountain Hare Control** (Please complete the table below regardless of available data)

| **Mountain hare control details required** | **Provide required information below** |
| --- | --- |
| **Proposed maximum cull number** |  |
| **How maximum cull number was derived** |  |

### **Other wild herbivores** (e.g. goats)

| **Other wild herbivore details required** | **Provide required information below** |
| --- | --- |
| **Count methodology** |  |
| **When was the count carried out** |  |
| **Count number** |  |
| **Current population level compared to previous counts**  (low, medium or high) |  |
| **Population trend**  (falling, stable or rising) |  |
| **Proposed maximum cull number** |  |

**Checklist of additional documents required:**

| **Additional documents required** | **Tick box** |
| --- | --- |
| **A map showing the land holding**  (including LPIDs, fences & supplementary feeding sites) |  |
| **A 1:25,000 map showing areas where mountain hare impact is recorded** |  |
| **A 1:25,000 map showing mountain hare count areas** |  |
| **A Herbivore Impact Assessment** |  |

**Date of document:**

## Appendix

Additional livestock tables are found below. If livestock are present please complete a table for each Land Parcel Identifier (LPID) in which mountain hare control is proposed.

| **Livestock details required** | **Provide required information below** | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **LPID & map ref:** |  | | | | | |
| **Area of unit (ha):** |  | | | | | |
| **Habitat type:** |  | | | | | |
| **Grazing period** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | |
| **Dates** |  |  |  |  |  | |
| **Number of cattle** |  |  |  |  |  | |
| **Number of sheep** |  |  |  |  |  | |
| **Number of other domesticated herbivores** *(please specify species):* |  |  |  |  |  | |
| **LU/ha** |  |  |  |  |  | |
| **Average stocking density (LU/ha/yr)** |  |  |  |  |  | |
| **Annual average stocking density (LU/ha/yr)**  Add all average values for the year together | | | | | |  |

| **Livestock details required** | **Provide required information below** | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **LPID & map ref:** |  | | | | | |
| **Area of unit (ha):** |  | | | | | |
| **Habitat type:** |  | | | | | |
| **Grazing period** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | |
| **Dates** |  |  |  |  |  | |
| **Number of cattle** |  |  |  |  |  | |
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| **LU/ha** |  |  |  |  |  | |
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| **Livestock details required** | **Provide required information below** | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **LPID & map ref:** |  | | | | | |
| **Area of unit (ha):** |  | | | | | |
| **Habitat type:** |  | | | | | |
| **Grazing period** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | |
| **Dates** |  |  |  |  |  | |
| **Number of cattle** |  |  |  |  |  | |
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| **Annual average stocking density (LU/ha/yr)**  Add all average values for the year together | | | | | |  |

| **Livestock details required** | **Provide required information below** | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **LPID & map ref:** |  | | | | | |
| **Area of unit (ha):** |  | | | | | |
| **Habitat type:** |  | | | | | |
| **Grazing period** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | |
| **Dates** |  |  |  |  |  | |
| **Number of cattle** |  |  |  |  |  | |
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| **Livestock details required** | **Provide required information below** | | | | | |
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| **Grazing period** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | |
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