

## Annex 2 – Example of Authorisation Application

<b>SNH Office Use Only</b>	Prev. auth		Auth. no		Field Officer	
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### 1. APPLICANT (Please note: Incomplete forms will not be considered)

Title	<b>Mr</b>	Surname	<b>A</b>	Forename	<b>Plicant</b>	Initial	
Address	<b>Agents House</b>			Tel No	<b>01463 725 000</b>		
	<b>Invernaewhere Estate</b>			Fax No			
				e-mail	<b>a-plicant@hotmail.com</b>		
Post Town:	<b>Invernaewhere</b>			Mobile No			
Post Code:	<b>IN3 8NW</b>						
I am the: (select all that apply)	Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Occupier <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural tenant <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting tenant <input type="checkbox"/> Agent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						
	If you are an agent, who are you acting on behalf of?: Owner , Mr A Owner, Owners House, Invernaewhere Estate .....						

### 2. PROPOSED CONTROLLER/S and FIREARM CERTIFICATE DETAILS

Controllers without valid FAC will not be added to any Authorisation

Initials / Surname	<b>A</b>	<b>Plicant</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Controller</b>		
Address	<b>Agents House</b>		<b>Controllers House</b>			
	<b>Invernaewhere Estate</b>		<b>nvernaewhere Estate</b>			
Post Town	<b>Invernaewhere</b>		<b>Invernaewhere</b>			
Post Code	<b>IN3 8NW</b>		<b>IN3 8NW</b>			
Tel. No	<b>01463 725 000</b>		<b>01463 725 000</b>			
Mob Tel						
e-mail Address	<b>a-plicant@hotmail.com</b>		<b>a-conroller@hotmail.com</b>			
<b>FAC Number:</b>	<b>FC12345678</b>		<b>FC910111213143</b>			
Calibres to be used under authorisation(s):	<b>.270, 6.5 x55</b>		<b>.243, 7mm</b>			
Expiry Date:	<b>27/12/22</b>		<b>21/12/22</b>			

Continue on separate sheet, if required.

**3. TYPE OF AUTHORISATION REQUIRED** (please note you may apply for more than 1 type of authorisation on this form) Please tick all that apply.

**Night Shooting only – 18(2)**    Agricultural Land     Woodland     Public Safety

**Out of Season – 5(6)**    Unenclosed Woodland     Public Safety     Natural Heritage

**4. PROPERTY TO WHICH THIS AUTHORISATION IS APPLICABLE**

Please list the name of the Property and Property Code (if known) to which this Authorisation is applicable

Property Name

*Invernaewhere Estate*

*SNH Property Code SR0123456*

**5. CONTROL AREAS TO WHICH THIS AUTHORISATION IS APPLICABLE**

Please list the name/s of the control area(s) with the OS Grid Refs for the centre of each control area  
**Provide a map showing the property boundary, proposed control areas and locations of greatest deer impact.**

Control Area Name(s)	Letters	Grid Ref. (6 figure)	Control Area Name (s)	Letters	Grid Ref. (6 figure)
<i>Invernaewhere Forest</i>	NH	63824400			
<i>Invernaewhere SSSI</i>	NH	62394734			
<i>Invernaewhere Farm</i>	NH	63604743			

Please use an additional sheet to list further sites for control

**6. DATES AUTHORISATION APPLIED FOR**

I Authorise The Person(s) Named at Section 2 for the Period: From *01/04/2017* To *31/3/2018*

**7. DETAILS OF DEER INTENDED TO BE KILLED, TICK AS APPROPRIATE**

Red     Roe     Sika     Fallow     Other (Specify)

**FIT AND COMPETENT:** In most circumstances, the Deer (Scotland) Act 1996 (As amended) requires SNH, prior to issuing an authorisation, to establish that a controller is fit and competent. If the controller(s) nominated are not already on the SNH fit and competent register they must apply and provide evidence by either:

1. Submitting a copy of a Deer Management level two qualification (DSC Level 2).

2. provide references( two for each controller one of which must have reached DSC level 1) from two separate individuals who:
- Have known the controller for a minimum of two years
  - Have a sound knowledge of the aspects of Best Practice necessary to cull deer in a fit and competent manner.

Reference forms and accompanying information are available on request from Scottish Natural Heritage or on the SNH web site [www.nature.scot](http://www.nature.scot).

**8. CONVICTIONS:** Are you aware of any offences under the Deer (Scotland) Act 1996 (as amended) which any of the proposed controllers, to the best of your knowledge, have been convicted of in the last five years? If yes, please provide the name of the controller concerned.

No Convictions.

**9. METHODS OF DAMAGE PREVENTION TRIED TO DATE:** Please detail the steps taken to date (e.g. scaring, control in season etc.) and explain why it has not been possible to effectively limit damage without recourse to an authorisation.

*Invernaewhere Forest- This woodland is currently under a sporting lease to one individual who lives around 300 miles away. In season and under the General Authorisation this season they have culled 15 deer mainly roe over the whole woodland. We as owners have concurrent rights and despite requests to increase culling effort the sporting leaseholder has been unable to limit damage to an acceptable level. We have also been in contact with our woodland neighbours regarding the damage and red deer incursion but they have not responded.*

***Invernaewhere SSSI***

*This area is managed by estate staff member Mr A Controller who devotes 50% of his time controlling deer on the open ground and birch woodland SSSI. 150 red deer have been culled this year over the SSSI in line with the SSSI management plan and Invernaewhere DMG Deer Management Plan 2017-2022. Fencing not suitable due to landscape concerns and cost of 15km of deer fence.*

***Invernaewhere Farm***

*This area is under an agricultural lease, the tenant has tried various ways of scaring the deer who only come in at night including bangers and other disturbance. No deer have been culled as deer are only present at night.*

**10. REASONS FOR APPLYING**

Please detail what your objectives for the proposed control site/s are?

*Invernaewhere Forest- Successful establishment of newly planted mixed woodland which has been planted under a recent grant aided scheme. Target establishment of 2600 stems per hectare by 2022. There are also areas of mature riparian woodland which we also keen to see regenerating.*

*Invernaewhere SSSI- Delivery of SSSI targets set by SNH under our management plan. The unenclosed woodland needs to show regeneration over approximately 60% of the area. With reference to the open ground the targets set are less than 10% high trampling in blanket bog and less than 33% browsing on dwarf shrub heath (heather).*

***Invernaewhere Farm***

***The tenant wishes to see successful establishment of recently planted silage fields.***

What is your definition of damage for the site/s?

***Invernaewhere Forest- Damage levels on newly planted mixed woodlands (230,00 trees planted last year) should not exceed 15% which is the target set by our forest manager.***

***Invernaewhere SSSI- Damage by deer and other herbivores is putting the sites statutory conservation objectives at risk. For the unenclosed woodlands SNH's site condition monitoring has identified that continued browsing of the woodlands under layer has meant that potential regeneration is not getting past seedling stage and the woodland is aging, without action it is likely the woodland will lose part of its extent within the next ten years.***

***For the open ground habitats***

***Invernaewhere Farm***

***Excessive grazing and poaching of newly planted silage fields, which has damaged around 25% of the fields area. Replanting net cost was c£15,000 to the tenant.***

What evidence is there to confirm deer are responsible for the damage?

***Invernaewhere Forest- Our woodland manager has been carrying out woodland monitoring as per Wild Deer Best Practice. This springs results indicated that damage to leader shoots on newly planted trees is variable over the site but that most palatable species have damage levels of 24%. A walk through survey of the riparian woodlands by a local conservation charity has suggested that no regeneration is occurring.***

***In addition these areas were highlighted in the Native Woodland Survey of Scotland as being in "high to very" high levels of impacts.***

***Invernaewhere SSSI- As described above SNH site condition monitoring in 2015 detailed the pressures facing both the woodland and open ground from browsing, grazing and trampling. Report available on request. Recent open ground deer census revealed that c 300 deer were still present on the site despite culling effort in season.***

***Invernaewhere Farm***

***Tenant has been seeing c40 deer present on the silage fields at night via checking with spotlight. Walkover assessment of the silage fields by the applicant and the agricultural tenant has confirmed that large areas have been poached and grazed bare.***

How will the prevention of damage be measured?

***Invernaewhere Forest- Repeat woodland assessment in line with Wild Deer Best Practice guidance next spring to assess the success of the culling under Authorisation.***

***Invernaewhere SSSI- Under the new Invernaewhere DMG deer management plan the estate has undertaken to carry out open ground and woodland damage assessments in line with Best Practice on a yearly basis to monitor the success of the plan.***

***Invernaewhere Farm***

***Successful establishment of a good silage sward will be visually inspected by the applicant and the agricultural tenant throughout the growing season.***

- How many deer have been controlled in season to prevent damage during the last 12 months?  
*Invernaewhere Forest- 25 Roe deer*  
*Invernaewhere SSSI 150 Red deer*  
*Invernaewhere Farm 0*

- Please quantify effort e.g. number of days / outings  
*Invernaewhere Forest- 45 Outings*  
*Invernaewhere SSSI 50% of 1 full time staff members time.*  
*Invernaewhere Farm 15 evenings/nights attempted culling & scaring & surveying.*

- Is there a current Deer Management Plan or documented agreement on local deer management and what is the agreed position on the use of Authorisations?

Invernaewhere SSSI is part of the wider Invernaewhere DMG. Last year the DMG commissioned a Deer Management Plan to deliver on all aspects of the "Public Interest", this included delivery of the statutory conservation objectives for Invernaewhere SSSI. In section 27 the plan details that there is agreement between all DMG members that an additional 15% of the hind cull can be added on a yearly basis should damage still be occurring to the site. Invernaewhere estate has contacted the DMG to let them know that we intend to cull an extra 50 hinds as we have seen an influx over winter. The DMG chair has indicated that in line with the plan this is acceptable and the population model will be revised to reflect this.

- If no local agreement exists what discussions have you had with others who manage deer on this land, neighbouring landowners and managers or, where applicable, the local deer management group, to try to address the damage? What has been the result of these discussions?

Invernaewhere Farm- the farm is surrounded by Invernaewhere estate ground, deer present on the lowground silage parks are moving in from our ground. We have been in contact with the tenant in the past few weeks after they indicated they were suffering damage to their interests. The tenant has no time to control the deer and has nominated A Plicant and A Controller who are estate staff to carry out the control. Mr Applicant is also the agent for both the estate and the tenant farmer and is under the law therefore allowed to apply for this Authorisation. We estimate that an extra 10-15 deer will be culled, some of these will be from the same groups as those culled on the SSSI. There is no local agreement with the DMG regarding these extra deer culled for agricultural purposes and the Invernaewhere DMP did not foresee this issue arising. Invernaewhere estate and the agricultural tenant have however been in discussion with the local DMG chair who realises that these deer could be legally culled by the tenant and that the issue is one requiring immediate action. The 65 extra hinds are within the 15% contingency of the DMP and the DMG are therefore content that for this year only these extra deer are culled.

The estate and the tenant farmer have agreed that in order that his situation does not continue into next year they will co- fund a deer fence between the agricultural land and the open hill/woodlands. This will reduce incursion but not solve the problem so the estate have agreed that a portion of their in season cull next year will be taken in and around the farm area.

Invernaewhere Forest- The woodlands are shared between Invernaewhere estate and Strathnaewhere Woodland Company Ltd. The woodlands are managed with similar objectives in mind. The two woodland areas are both under Forest Grant Scheme and their publically circulated Deer Management Plans both contain reference to Out of Season shooting. No adverse feedback was received on this public consultation.

**FOR PUBLIC SAFETY APPLICATIONS ONLY**

- What evidence do you have that deer are posing a threat to Public Safety? (Only complete this and the next question if applicable.) **N/A**

- How will culling under authorisation reduce the risk to Public Safety? **N/A**

**FOR OUT OF SEASON APPLICATIONS TO PREVENT DAMAGE TO WOODLAND AND NATURAL HERITAGE ONLY**

- Are Sheep and cattle currently present? Yes present on Invernaewhere Farm . 600 Sheep and 40 Cattle.

- If Cattle / Sheep are present, how many and how would they be taken into account when measuring damage? Areas of damage are currently not being used by livestock.

**GROUND DESIGNATED AS SSSI, SAC OR SPA:**

Where you are undertaking control on ground that is subject to a designation such as a SSSI, SAC, or SPA you **must** ensure that the control carried out under this authorisation would not be damaging to the site and that any consents required are in place.

**12. I CONFIRM THAT:**

1. I am the occupier of the land mentioned in section above;
2. all other information given in this form and in support of this application is, to the best of my knowledge, correct;
3. the taking or killing of deer is necessary to prevent damage or in the interests of public safety;
4. the killing of deer is necessary to prevent damage to crops, pasture, human or animal foodstuffs, or to woodlands;

**I ACCEPT IT IS A CONDITION OF ANY AUTHORISATION ISSUED THAT I UNDERTAKE TO RETURN THE AUTHORISATION AND REPORT THE NUMBER OF DEER KILLED WITHIN 7 DAYS OF ITS EXPIRY.**

*Details of Authorisations issued, including names and addresses of Authorisation holders, will be stored and processed on a computer database. This information will be used by Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) to undertake Authorisation functions. To do this we may have to discuss applications with third parties or disclose information about Authorisation decisions. In these cases, we will operate within the Data Protection Act 1998. That Act gives individuals the right to know what data we hold on them, how we use it and to which third parties it is disclosed. We will respect personal privacy, whilst complying with access requests under the Environment Information Regulations 1992 and any future open government legislation.*

Print Name:

Signed:.....

Date:

## **Annex 3 - Further Information**

Code of Practice

<https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/land-and-sea-management/managing-wildlife/managing-deer/code-practice-deer-management>

SNH Authorisations Forms

<https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/safeguarding-protected-areas-and-species/licensing/species-licensing-z-guide/deer-licensing/deer-authorisations>

SNH Fit & Competent Register Forms

<https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/safeguarding-protected-areas-and-species/licensing/species-licensing-z-guide/deer-licensing/fit-and-competent-status>

Wild Deer Best Practice

<http://www.bestpracticeguides.org.uk/>

Night Shooting Code of Practice

<http://www.bestpracticeguides.org.uk/reference/night-shooting>

Scottish Natural Heritage, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness, IV3 8NW  
Tel: 01463 725000 Fax: 01463 725067 [www.nature.scot](http://www.nature.scot)

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