

Glenfiddich Hunting Lodge

Property Based Wildlife Management Plan







2017



1. PRIMARY LANDOWNER OBJECTIVES:

The landowners recognise that the management and control of both native and non-native animals on their holdings, is an integral part of their overall rural business. It has therefore been decided that wildlife management on "Kimbala", be undertaken in a sustainable manner as part of an overall property management plan.

The objectives of this management plan include:

- 1. Retain property control and knowledge of exactly who is present on the property at all times by restricting access to authorised personnel only.
- 2. Reduce any impact that native or exotic wild animals may have on the viability of the property, in a safe and orderly manner.
- 3. Control the growth rate and distribution of exotic species to limit any negative impact on neighbouring properties.
- 4. Provide a sustainable income from select species that can be utilised to recover wildlife management expenses and improve the management of the property.
- 5. Set required safety and behaviour standards for Guests, Hunters and Staff.
- 6. To maintain a close working relationship with the property wildlife manager resulting in the development and implementation of a successful property-based wildlife management plan.
- 7. To reduce poaching and illegal trespass through the active involvement of the property management, hunters, Government agencies and Police.

2. WILDLIFE MANAGER

The responsibility for the implementation of this plan and the harvesting of all feral animals upon the designated property has been assigned to a specific "Wildlife Manager",

being Clark McGhie of "Australian Wild Country Adventures Pty Ltd", 15 McIlhatton St, Wondai, 4606

who can be contacted on mobile Number: 0429 688192

or <u>clarkmcghie@bigpond.com</u>

and who will be responsible for

- The harvesting of all feral animals upon the property,
- The organisation of access to the property for hunters, hunting clubs or research groups;
- The distribution of and compliance with property rules, safety standards and indemnity forms to hunters and property visitors;
- Implementation of wildlife management initiatives;
- Collection of relevant fees or charges;
- Collection of relevant hunter harvest details:
- Coordination of property surveillance;
- Upkeep of camping areas.

Property Description.

The property is described as Lots 12 and 13 (commonly referred to as "Cow Paddock"), and sections of Lots 21 and 2 (which form the area known as "Steer Paddock").

Insurance.

This Wildlife Manager will be required to be insured as a professional hunter, licensed for all vehicles and firearms used and having their own Quality Assurance and Best Practice programs.

3. <u>HUNTER RESPONSIBILITIES</u>

- All enquiries, bookings, payments and disputes to be directed through the Wildlife Manager.
- Individuals or families may apply for membership to the "Glenfiddich Hunting Lodge" and will be issued with a membership number. Preference will be given to G.H.L members to harvest feral animals from cooperating properties such as, "Paradise" "Braeburn" and "Glenlands" under the supervision of AWCA.
- Species such as deer on all properties coordinated by AWCA P/L will be harvested for antlers, skins or tusks and a harvest fee is required for each animal taken.
- Membership of the RIDGE group is optional but preferred. The membership of an additional hunting group is suggested. (ie; SSAA, AHI, ABA, 3D AAA or ADA)
- Hunters are required to provide the details of all animals taken while on the property.
- All members and their families are required to maintain ethical, lawful and responsible conduct whilst on the property.
- All members and their families are required to comply with the property rules within the provisions of this management plan.
- All members are required to report any suspicious activities to property management or the authorities and record relevant data in property logbook.
- Approval from the property manager is needed if hunters wish to bring guests on to the property.

The responsibilities outlined above may be reviewed and adjusted on an 'as needed' basis

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

4. <u>WILDLIFE SPECIES COVERED</u>

Until complete harvest and sighting data is available for this property, the following species profiles have been estimated by the Wildlife Manager and intended as a guide only. More detailed information will be incorporated into this plan based on the data retrieved from the property's harvesting and sighting logbooks.

Red Deer

Red deer are present in medium to high numbers on the property and the population appears to be stable. They cause no damage to crops, trees, pasture and fences above the income they generate. Red deer may be harvested under the criteria outlined in this management plan with the permission of the Wildlife Manager. Bag limits apply and red deer may be taken by bow and rifle hunting during their set harvest seasons.

Rusa Deer

Rusa deer are present in low numbers on the property and the population appears to be stable. They cause no damage to crops, trees, pasture and fences above the income they generate. Rusa deer may NOT be harvested except on an organised guided hunt with AWCA.

Fallow Deer

Fallow deer are present in low numbers on the property and the population appears to be stable. They cause no damage to crops, trees, pasture and fences above the income they generate. Fallow deer may only be harvested under direct authority from AWCA.

Wild Dogs

Wild dogs on this property are present in moderate and increasing numbers and are considered a major threat to stock and wild stock species. Wild dogs may be harvested under the criteria outlined in this management plan with the permission of the Wildlife Manager. There is no bag limit and wild dogs may be taken by rifle and bow hunting.

Pias

Wild pigs on this property are present in low but increasing numbers and cause minor damage to crops, trees, pasture and fences. Wild pigs may be harvested under the criteria outlined in this management plan with the permission of the Wildlife Manager. There is no bag limit and pigs are to be taken: 1. By bow hunting or, 2. With a rifle and/or with the aid of dogs providing an AWCA staff member is present.

Rabbits

Rabbits are classified as vermin and may be harvested under the criteria outlined in this management plan with the permission of the Wildlife Manager. There is no bag limit and

rabbits are to be taken by bow hunting only. Rabbits are present in low numbers and the population appears to be fluctuating on the property. They are considered to be a minor problem. Hunters are encouraged to harvest rabbits whenever possible because they have the potential to become a major problem in the future if not properly managed.

Hares

Hares can be hunted under the same conditions that apply to rabbits. Hares are present in moderate and increasing numbers on the property but are not considered a problem at present. Hares may be harvested with bows only.

Foxes

Fox are present in low and stable numbers and are considered a major threat to native birds, small mammals and reptiles. All foxes should be shot whenever possible, under the criteria outlined in this management plan. Fox can be taken by 1. bow and 2. Rifle under the direction of AWCA.

Feral cats

Feral cats are present in moderate and increasing numbers and are considered a major threat to native birds, small mammals and reptiles. All feral cats should be shot whenever possible under the criteria outlined in this management plan. Cats can be taken by 1. bow and 2. Rifle under the direction of AWCA.

Wild ducks

Due to changes to Government regulations, there is presently no hunting season for ducks in Queensland.

Quails

Due to changes to Government regulations, there is presently no hunting season for quail in Queensland.

*Species not listed in this plan <u>may not</u> be harvested unless special permission is given by the wildlife manager and permitted under the law.

Native Wildlife

All species of native wildlife upon this property are fully protected and must not be harmed in any way. Glenfiddich Hunting Lodge members are requested to:

- Report any dead or injured native wildlife species found.
- Report any suspicious activities which may be linked to native wildlife.
- Record sightings of the rarer native species (eg. Koala, Gliders, Regent Bowerbirds)
- Rescue any injured native species if possible (ie: entangled in fences)

5. <u>Property Rules for Hunters and Campers.</u>

All people are required to:

- 1. Act in a responsible and ethical manner at all times.
- 2. Hold all licences and permits required pursuant to the Weapons Act 1990.
- 3. No hunter shall have possession on the land of any illegal firearm.
- 4. Minimum calibres for experienced hunters; .223 Win for venison deer hunting and .243 Win for trophy hunting. Recommended minimums; .243, .270 and .308.
- 5. Minimum draw weights for bows; 65lb for compounds and 50lb for recurve and long bows. All shots to be taken under 30m if possible.
- 6. The possession or use of spotlights or dogs is expressly prohibited on the land without prior written permission from the Wildlife Manager.
- 7. Sign an annual "Waiver and Indemnity" form before hunting or camping on the property.
- 8. No hunter or camper shall take any type of animal or plant except as prescribed.
- 9. All efforts must be made to locate and dispatch any wounded or injured animal.
- 10. Hunters or campers shall report to the Wildlife Manager any unlawfully entry or trespass. No person is to enter or permit any other person to enter upon the land without the express prior written consent of the landowner / manager.
- 11. No hunter shall cross over any external boundary on his or her designated block.
- 12. Hunt only on their allocated hunting area unless special permission is obtained from the Wildlife Manager to hunt another area.
- 13. All hunters and campers shall, whilst on the land, utilise the highest level of firearm and personal safety standards.
- 14. All hunters and campers shall conduct themselves in such a manner so as to avoid drawing undue attention, while fostering good relations with fellow hunters, campers, neighbouring property personnel, Government Departments and Police.
- 15. Campsites shall be kept tidy and all refuse removed from the land. Camping only permitted at designated camping areas.
- 16. Hunters and campers shall take extreme care with campfires and acknowledge that total fire-bans can be imposed. Seek approval from property management before lighting fires.
- 17. The landowner and Wildlife Manager reserves the right, without notice being given to inspect the equipment, including firearms and ammunition of any person.
- 18. All hunting areas are part of working rural properties and hunters and campers must exercise all care and diligence in their activities. Please don't disturb stock.
- 19. Not exceed the speed limit of 40 kph on any property road, especially at night. Speeds must be regulated according to the conditions of the road surface.
- 20. Drive only on formed tracks, especially during severe weather.
- 21. Avoid causing damage to locks, fences, gates, trees or any other such structures.
- 22. Record the species and number of animals sighted and harvested in the data collection book before leaving the property.
- 23. Notify property management of any broken fences, escaped stock or property that has been illegally entered or vandalised.
- 24. Promote and participate in the conservation of all flora and fauna.
- 25. No excessive consumption of alcohol within 6 hours of driving or an intended hunt.

6. POPULATION MONITORING AND DATA COLLECTION

Populations of wildlife species included in this plan will be monitored by the Wildlife manager in conjunction with RIDGE through the introduction of a harvest index (logbook). The number of species both harvested and sighted plus the total number of hours spent hunting must be recorded by hunters during each trip to the property. This information will assist in the establishment of the appropriate level of harvest required to maintain these species at acceptable and sustainable levels.

It is the responsibility of the wildlife manager to supervise the data collection and logbooks.

7. Management Suggestions for the "Glenfiddich Hunting Lodge"

- A designated Professional Hunter (PH) is placed in charge of the deer herd and all persons participating in hunting activities on the property, excluding family members. This role will require them to work under the direct instructions of the landowner, (one person designated only) as agreed in the Wildlife Management Plan (PBWMP).
- The PH agrees to undertake the best possible management of the resource, as described by the PBWMP, under the seasonal conditions that prevail.
- A simple agreement is drafted and signed by both parties.
- Any necessary changes to the PBWMP are discussed, agreed and noted on the plan.
- Through the PH, members of the Glenfiddich Hunting Lodge management team and the RIDGE group are offered the right of first refusal for any membership opportunities or hunting dates available, in return for assistance with the required research necessary for the construction of the WMP.
- The PH agrees to assist hunters during each hunting season and keep a logbook of hunters, trophies taken, cull animals etc as part of the PBWMP.
- The required conduct of hunters is described under the PBWMP.
- The management of dingoes/wild dogs, wild pigs and wild deer, as well as native species, are all outlined on the PBWMP.
- Herd management targets are set in the PBWMP and reviewed each year.

8. Specific Deer Management Objectives

- The PH promotes this hunting opportunity to Glenfiddich and RIDGE members, plus potential new members and books hunters for each hunting season or Hunter Education Course.
- The PH conducts an initial estimate of deer numbers.
- Aim to harvest the yearly quota of animals as set down in the management plan.
- Prepare and instigate a dingo trapping program if required.
- Gather herd data from harvested animals and develop criteria for controlling animals.
- Produce a mapping program for the property.
- Produce an educational video for hunters detailing aspects of trophy selection, culling criteria and the overall management strategy.
- Review after each12 month period.

HUNTER CONDUCT AND SAFETY

CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT

- 1. Hunters must obey all gun laws, wildlife regulations and fire regulations.
- 2. Only legal firearms with appropriate ammunition may be used to harvest wildlife.
- 3. All target animals must be clearly visible before firing.
- 4. When using a rifle or bow, the target animal must be as close to stationary as possible, and within range as to allow for an accurate shot.
- 5. Every effort should be made to hit all target animals in the head, neck or chest.
- 6. Endeavour to locate all wounded animals. If a wounded animal crosses onto adjacent private property, the landowner / wildlife manager must be notified immediately. The landowner and/or wildlife manager of that neighbouring property must be notified and must give permission to enter, prior to retrieving the animal.
- 7. All wounded animals must be dispatched in the most humane manner. Acceptable dispatch methods include a sharp blow or shot to the brain, or a shot to the heart.
- 8. Make use of all game and wildlife harvested whenever possible either for human or pet consumption.
- 9. Ensure that all harvested animals are concealed and not visible to the public prior to leaving the property.

HUNTER CODE OF SAFETY

The main objective of firearm safety is to reduce the incidence of firearm "accidents". In reality, there is no such thing as a firearm accident. In every case at least one of the firearms safety rules will have been broken. It is essential that all hunters are aware of their responsibilities to themselves, their family and to fellow hunters.

1. TREAT EVERY FIREARM AS BEING LOADED

Check every firearm yourself. Ensure that the firearm is unloaded and that the action is open when carrying, accepting, passing or when removing if from storage. Ensure that a Game Council Firearm Safety Tag is inserted in the breach of all firearms unless in immediate use. Remember, it is the "empty" firearm that kills.

2. ALWAYS POINT FIREARMS IN A SAFE DIRECTION

Whether loaded or unloaded, ensure the muzzle is always pointed in a SAFE direction.

3. NEVER HAVE LOADED FIREARMS IN THE CAR, HOME OR CAMP

Ensure that when entering a car, house or camp all ammunition has been removed from all firearms. Do not nock an arrow unless a shot is going to be taken immediately. Do not walk with a loaded bow until immediately prior to shooting.

4. IDENTIFY YOUR TARGET AND WHAT IS BEHIND IT

Make certain to completely identify your target before shooting; also be aware of what is behind your target and never shoot at animals on the sky line.

5. NEVER FIRE AT A HARD SURFACE OR WATER

Consider the area your target is in: could a ricochet occur? A ricochet will almost certainly result from shooting at smooth or flat surfaces, water or rocks. Be mindful of where an arrow may go if it deflects off the ground or a hard object.

6. STORE AMMUNITION AND FIREARMS SEPARATELY

When not in use, your ammunition and your firearm are to be stored separately under lock and key in appropriate cabinets. Do not leave sharp arrows around young children.

7. NO ALCOHOL OR DRUGS PRIOR TO OR DURING THE USE OF FIREARMS. Alcohol and drugs can impair judgement and the safe use of firearms.

8. DO NOT CLIMB FENCES OR OBSTACLES WITH LOADED FIREARMS

Make sure before attempting to climb through the fence or negotiate any obstacle that your firearm is unloaded. Do not rely on safety catches.

OBSERVE THIS CODE AND INSIST THAT OTHERS DO THE SAME.

Bow and Knife safety

Unfortunately, safety procedures for hunting bows and knives are often overlooked or taken too lightly. Both bows and knives can kill or maim the user or another person/s as quickly as a rifle can, and the utmost care **MUST** be taken with their use, both in the field and around camp.

Safety Rules.

- Never walk or run with an exposed blade, unless in the act of immediately taking an animal
- Never walk behind another person with a nocked arrow or exposed blade.
- Take care when climbing up or over objects that you do not fall on top of an exposed arrow or knife.
- If an animal needs to be neck bled or pithed at the skull base, great care MUST be taken that the animal does not react violently. Nervous reactions from a dead or apparently dead animal including head swings and kicks, may lead to serious injury to, or even death of the hunter.
- Take the utmost care when approaching any harvested animal even if they appear to be dead. Approach from behind the back of the animal, checking for ear movement, breathing or other body movement. Check for eye reflex if possible to determine if the animal is still alive or has passed away.
- Never shoot at an animal on the skyline.
- Take note of where an arrow may travel if it deflects or skips off a hard surface and never shoot if there is a chance of the arrow deflecting towards another animal or person.
- Never dry fire a bow or use arrows that are not matched to that bow weight and draw length.
- Never touch another person's equipment without prior permission.
- Take absolute care when skinning and boning an animal.
- Ensure knives are sharp and do not attempt knife work in poor light conditions.
- Ensure other people, especially children, remain out of range of your knife.
- Do not cut towards yourself unless care is taken to avoid sudden uncontrolled movements of the knife. Use both hands on the knife to give better control.
- Do not cut towards other people who may be assisting you.
- Keep an emergency first aid kit on hand at all times and be competent in the
 application of pressure bandages to restrict blood loss in the case of a severe knife
 or arrow wound occurring.
- Have a pre-determined safety and survival plan in place in case of accidents in the field. At all times, have either or both, another person with you or be able to contact by phone or UHF, someone who can offer you immediate assistance.

Daily Safety Check-list

To ensure the highest level of safety for yourself, other hunters, the landowner and his property, you must think – **Safety First.**

Before you embark each day, you must consider the following suggestions as a minimum safety procedure.

- 1. Check your firearm/bow and equipment Is it safe?
- 2. Is the GC NSW Safety Tag in place? Inset a tag in the breach unless hunting.
- 3. You must carry enough water and food for the trip and any emergency.
- 4. You must carry a map of the area, a compass, GPS, UHF radio or mobile phone and know how to use it.
- 5. You must have a contingency plan in the event of an accident.
- 6. You must ensure that someone knows where you are going and when you intend to return.
- 7. Carry with you matches, bandages, a torch and a space blanket.
- 8. Have you any medical conditions that may put you at risk? Ensure you let someone know before you go.
- 9. You must be confident with the first aid procedures for snakebite, heat stress, cuts, breaks, sprains etc.?

While you are in the field –

- 1. Identify any target completely before you consider shooting.
- 2. Don't attempt any terrain or situation that you are not completely confident with.
- 3. Don't push yourself beyond your own physical capabilities. Hunt smart, not fast.

When you return –

- 1. Unload firearms/bows completely before entering camp, insert a GC NSW Safety tag in the breach and store safely.
- 2. Maintain a high level of personal safety at all time.
- 3. Don't consume excessive amounts of alcohol.

Remember – Hunt safe, hunt smart, if in doubt – ask first!

Diseases and Parasites

There are a number of diseases and parasites which are or can be carried by game feral animals which can be passed across to humans or domestic pets. Great care MUST be taken to avoid contact with these hazards as they can be life threatening.

In the area covered by this management plan, the two main disease or parasite hazards are:

- 1. Hydatid Tapeworm
- 2. "O" Fever

Hydatid Tapeworm (Echinococcus granulosis)

Hydatid tapeworms are a serious threat to any person who handles wild game and feral pest species such as wild dogs and pigs, goats, horses, camels, wallabies and kangaroos. There is no information at hand that this parasite has been detected in wild deer.

This parasite requires an "Intermediate Host" such as wild pigs, goats, kangaroos etc to continue its life cycle. The Intermediate Host picks up the tapeworm eggs while grazing pasture which has been infected with the faeces of wild dogs or dingoes.

Wild dogs and dingoes are the "**Definitive Host**" of this parasite which eat the offal of the Intermediate Host species, then passes the tapeworm eggs back to the pasture through its faeces. These tapeworm eggs can then stay viable for many months and pose a serious threat to humans and to domestic dogs who may get access to animal offal.

Great care **MUST** be taken when handling animal offal or when handling wild dogs. Hand sanitizers and rubber gloves should be used during these activities.

"O Fever"

The disease known simply as "Q" fever is potentially lethal and great care should be taken to avoid contacting it. Abattoir workers and those who process meat from wild animals are at most risk as this disease can be carried by dust, animal faeces, hides, urine or birth products (vapors, afterbirth, bodily secretions).

There is an effective vaccine available from your doctor but before administration, a prior test must be conducted to determine if the patient has already contacted the disease and developed immunity.

For further information on both **Hydatid Tapeworms and Q Fever**, please consult your physician.

Pest Weeds.

The issue of pest weeds such as GRT (Giant Rat Tail grass) and Parthenium being spread by vehicles moving from one property to another is of serious concern to landholders in this area. Hunters within this program are asked to:

- Familiarise themselves with the features of the serious pest weed species.
- Report any sightings or suspected sightings of these weeds to the manager.
- Avoid driving over or walking through these pest weeds.
- Avoid driving in your hunting vehicle on any other property which has serious pest weeds.
- Conduct regular wash-downs of your hunting vehicle if it is suspected that you may have come into contact with pest weeds.



Interacting with Cattle

Often, cattle can cause serious disruption to a hunt and while this is unfortunate, it must be remembered and respected, that the cattle upon this property have right of way. A significant portion of the income from this property comes directly from cattle grazing so it is imperative that hunters follow some sensible rules to avoid any issues with domestic stock.

- 1. Avoid disturbing cattle if at all possible.
- 2. Avoid allowing your wind to blow across cattle therefore sending them running.
- 3. If possible, pass unseen on the downwind side of any cattle.
- 4. If seen by cattle, try walking the other direction from the way you intend to travel. Often cattle will move around you and head in the direction you are not wanting to hunt. This limits the disturbance to the initial confrontation.
- 5. Do not approach cattle if they are in a corner of a paddock or where they may spook badly and jump a fence or break wires.
- 6. Keep completely out of sight and out of the wind of cattle that are being mustered.
- 7. Show respect for cattle on roads and do not shout at them or make loud noises.
- 8. Do not approach cows with new born calves.
- 9. Report any dead, injured or sick cattle to the wildlife manager.
- 10. Report any broken boundary fences to the wildlife manager.

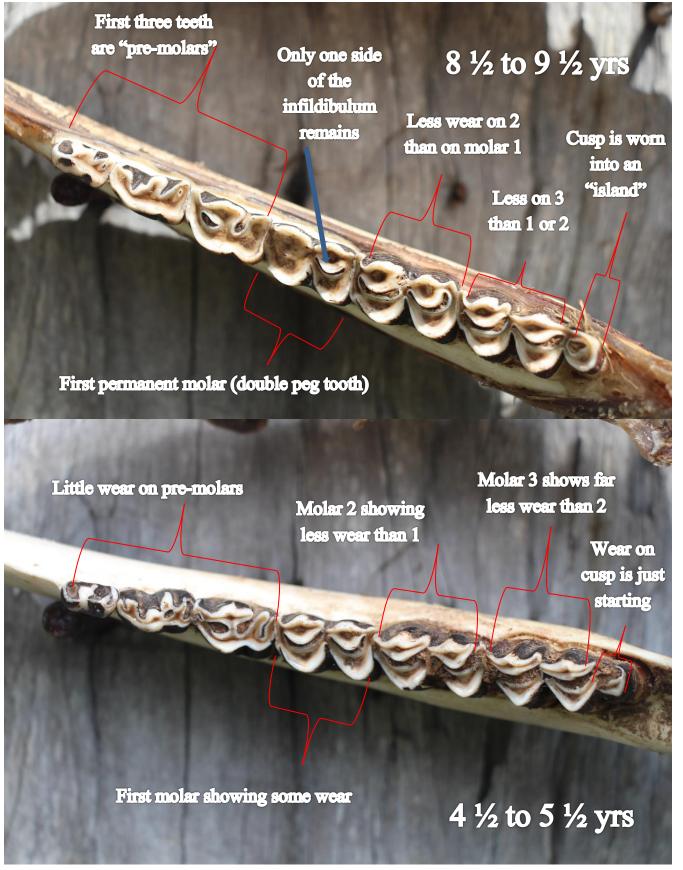


Ageing deer by teeth wear

The age of wild deer can be determined by extracting and sectioning a tooth, then counting the wear-layers under a microscope. This is a costly and time consuming practice that is not entirely practical under normal working conditions. An alternative method, which provides a high level of accuracy and can be done in the field, is to determine the age of a deer by the level of tooth wear. This method was developed for our project and others by Brian Murphy during his time in Australia over 20 years ago. This method works on a few simple principles:

- 1. As most stags are taken at the time of the "roar", the method is to describe them with a "1/2" at the end as they are taken mid-year.
- 2. Most deer develop eight front teeth and parallel rows of six rear teeth with an attached rear "cusp".
- 3. All "immature" or "baby" teeth have replaced by the time the deer has reached 3 ½.
- 4. The level of wear on the front teeth (incisors) and eye teeth (tusks) can be used as an indicator that the deer is old or young.
- 5. Deer will develop 3 front pre-molars followed by 3 double pegged molars and a cusp.
- 6. The first molar tooth is present from birth and will carry the most wear.
- 7. Tooth wear is determined by judging the thickness of the outside enamel (white) as compared to the inner (brown) dentine.
- 8. In the middle of the tooth is a "smile" called the Infundibulum. This "smile" reduces with tooth wear until the point that it disappears.
- 9. Once the Infundibulum has disappeared completely from the first permanent molar, the deer is at least 10 ½ years old.
- 10. When counting the age of a mature deer, start with the count of 3 ½ on the first permanent molar. Move to the next tooth rearward and determine if there is more white enamel showing than brown dentine. If there is, count 4 ½ and move to the next tooth. If this tooth then shows more enamel wear than dentine, count 5 ½ then look at the last small tooth attached to the rear of the last tooth.
- 11. If this "cusp" is only showing slight or no wear, then you have reached the limit of wear on the teeth. If the "cusp" is worn and the Infundibulum is worn into an "island", then count $6\frac{1}{2}$ and go back to the first permanent molar.
- 12. Now determine if the teeth have double the amount of enamel to dentine and follow the same procedure until you find a tooth with limited wear. Remember, if the first permanent molar is worn flat, you can count it as 10 ½.
- 13. If this is possible, you may have to determine if the wear is now three times the width of dentine as compared to enamel. Once past 13 ½, estimation becomes suggestive and the overall extent of tooth wear must be taken into consideration.

With practice and the ability to compare different sets of jawbones, you will soon be able to get a high level of accuracy. Knowing how old the deer is that you have taken is an important tool for any person or group managing wild deer.



<u>Categories and Specifications of Queensland Red Deer Stags</u> developed by Clark McGhie (AWCA P/L) in conjunction with RIDGE & Landowner

The following points need to be considered when assessing the genetic value between individual stags observed on hunting blocks working under RIDGE group herd management principles.

The aim of these principles is to allow for older age trophy animals to be taken while allowing for better genetic quality younger animals to do a higher percentage of the breeding. At the same time, considerable pressure will be directed on older aged stags carrying undesirable genetic traits as well as on aged female deer in areas where the overall sex ratio is badly balanced.

On the reverse side of this page are 9 photographs representing the 3 major classes of stags that may be taken on these management blocks. It should be recognised that there are many examples of trophy and non-trophy stags not represented within these classes. Each photo on the chart has the number and age of the stag recorded at the bottom. For ease of management, these 3 classes will be used in conjunction with the following points to determine the overall quality of stags harvested from the existing herds. Trophy fees charged will also be determined using this method.

Management Rules

- 1. No stag is to be taken that is under 6 ½ year old. (Unless directed by management.) * The methods to determine age of live deer under bush conditions are detailed on the RIDGE video and will be described to hunters prior to each hunt. If in doubt on any point, please ask.
- 2. * Lower jawbones and data sheets are required for all animals taken.
- 3. * No stag will be considered as a "cull" if it has suffered some form of damage to an antler or pedicle or has suffered a serious body wounding, (i.e 2x5, 2x6, 2x7) unless guided.
- 4. Stags 1, 2, 3 are all regarded as "cull" animals. (It must be remembered that any stag can be a trophy, depending on the hunt and the hunter.)
 - * They must be over 6 ½ year old.
 - *They must all carry a **maximum** of 3 clear points on at least one side.
- *Some stags carrying more points may also fall into this category but must measure less than 150 Douglas Score (DS) and be a minimum of 8 ½ year old.
 - *The final say will rest with the landowners and their agent.
- 5. Stags 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 are classed as "Mid Range" trophies.
- *They must carry a <u>maximum</u> of 4 points on at least one side and have a total of no more than 9 clear points.
 - *They must be at least 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ years or older and measure between 151 200 DS.
- 6. Stags shown on page 18 are all trophy class animals and are all 6 ½ years old or older.
 - * They can be 4x4, 4x5, forked 4x4, 4x6, 5x5 or better, scoring a minimum of 200 DS
 - * Any stag aged less than 6 ½ yr old is classed as a trophy, unless reclassified by AWCA.

Trophy Fees.

Cull Stags

Stags 1, 2 and 3 are all classed as "cull stags" being over 6 years old and carrying less than 3 points on at least one side. The most common trait that is seen as undesirable within this herd is the absence of a Trez (third lower) tine on one or both sides. The lack of Bez tines (second lower) is also seen as undesirable on stags over 6 ½ years old but not on stags less than 3 ½ years old as often they will grow them once their maximum body mass is reached and their full mouth of teeth has erupted.

A combination of missing Bez and Trez tines on one or both sides is seen as the worst trait in a quality red deer herd and these animals can be taken as young as $2\frac{1}{2}$ years old by more experienced hunters.(A) Due to the differences in the classification of cull stags, the trophy fee is broken into two parts; \$110 - 100 to 130 DS and \$220 - 131 to 150 DS.

Please note, it is critical that hunters distinguish between 3 x 3 red deer stags (B) and 3 x 3 rusa deer stags as a heavy trophy fee (\$2500) is attached to incorrectly taken rusa stags. It is also critical that a hunter does not mistake an excellent spiker stag for a cull 2 ½ year old, as some spikers will grow top points and brow tines. It is extremely rare to see a spiker grow a tine that looks like a Bez or Trez tine.



Rusa Deer (Cervus timoriensis)

Rusa deer within this area are present due to the escape or deliberate introduction of this species onto the private holdings of landholders during the period after the repeal of the *Deer Farming Act 1985*, when containment requirements were unclear and due to outside forces, prices for live deer fell dramatically.

Rusa deer hold a very high regard by trophy hunters and therefore produce a much higher return to landholders through trophy hunting ventures. While this financial return continues and the species overall population remains easy to contain, they will stay under a restricted harvest criteria within this plan.

Rusa deer must not be taken without prior consent of the wildlife manager. Take care to identify every deer prior to shooting.





Fallow deer (Dama dama)

Like rusa deer, fallow in this area are the result of the collapse of the deer industry in the 90's. They are present in small but growing numbers and mature bucks can be harvested by Glenfiddich members after consultation with the wildlife manager. It is expected that fallow does will be included as a hunting species in 2016.

Hunters should note populations of fallow on their hunt reports so that an overall estimation of their population can be ascertained.



Trophy Stags

The "traditional error" which has caused huge issues for the genetic structure of the Queensland red deer herd, (as it has with many other herd world-wide) is the thought that a stag grows one point per side per year, ie: a 6x6 = 6 yrs old. In truth, the best genetic animals may get to this number of points at 2 ½ years old. Most trophy stags, be they 4x5, 5x5, 5x6, 6x6 or better, need to be at least 8 ½ years old to get to this stage.

Therefore, it is essential to protect the younger aged stags carrying the best genetics and allow them to do the majority of the breeding, to maintain and improve overall herd quality and vigor. Older aged stags are best taken from a herd at peak trophy size and age as inbreeding is common in most herds and leads to an increase in lower quality animals.

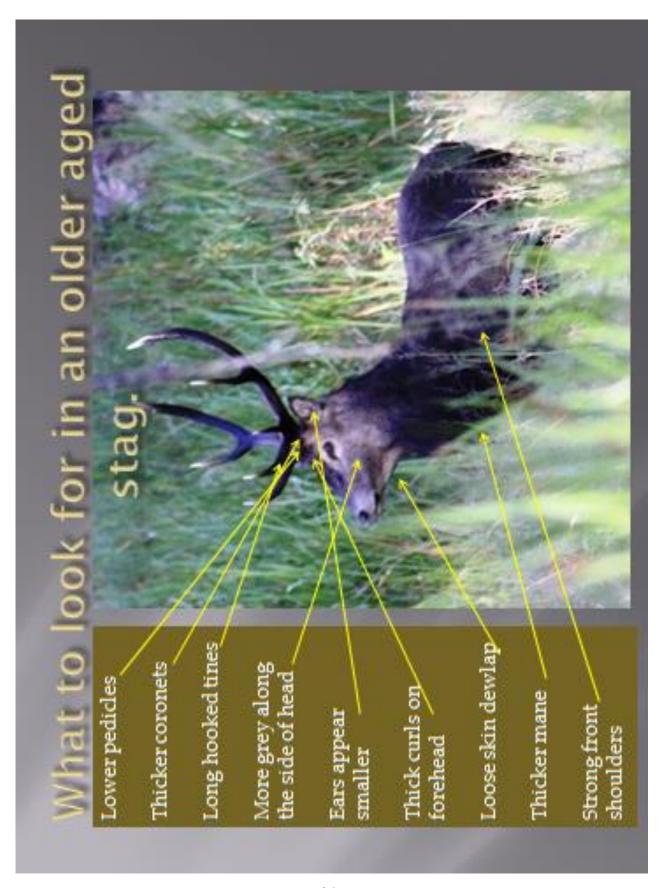


Mid-Range trophies

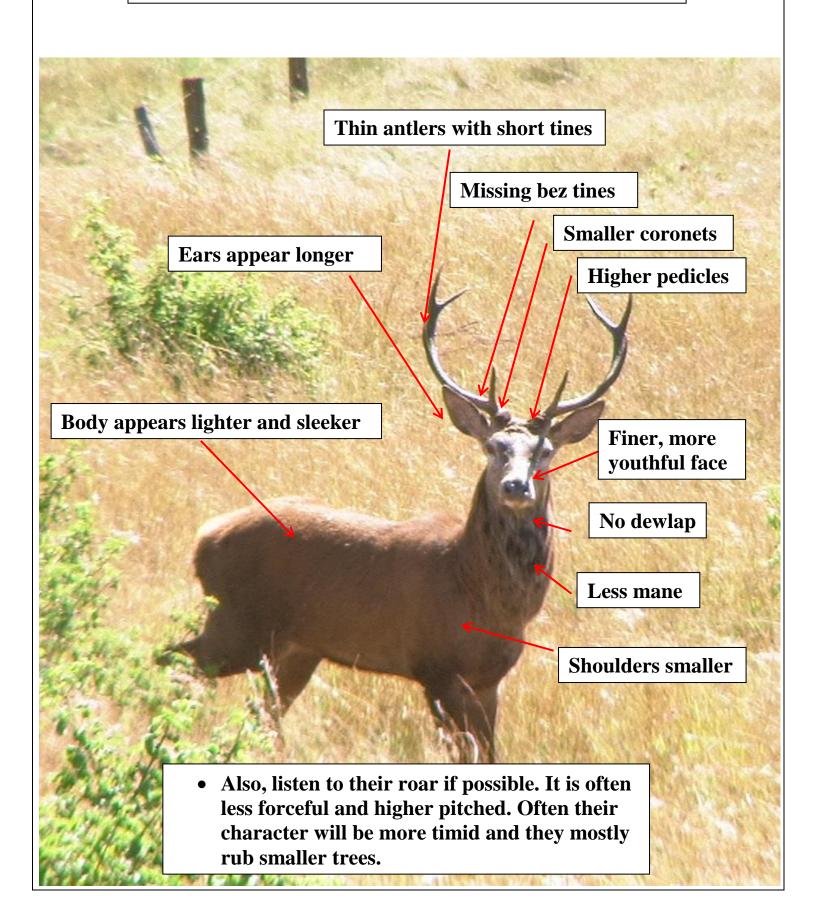
The stags 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 below are classed as "Mid – Range" trophies. They must carry a **maximum** of 4 points on at least one side and have a total of no more than 9 clear points.

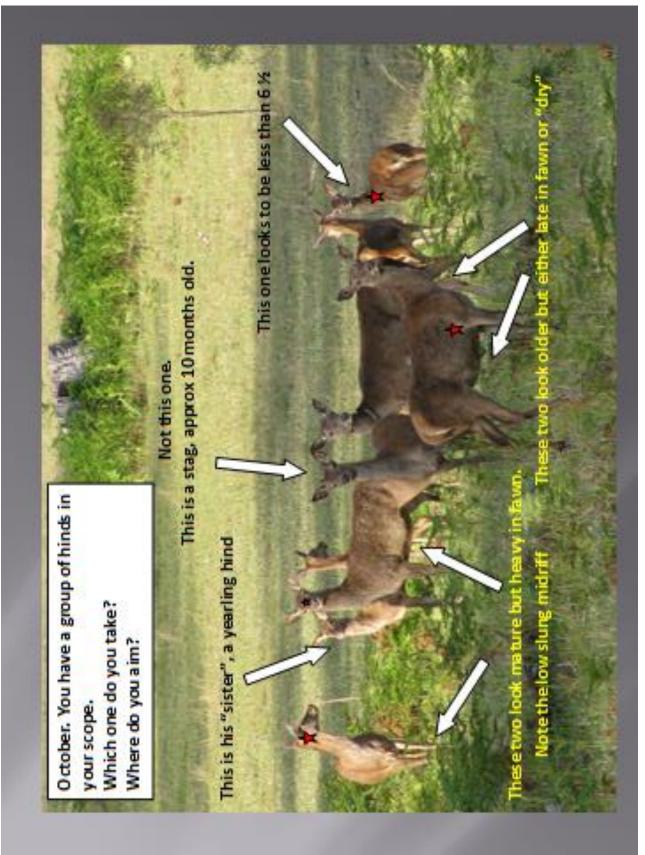
The stags that generally fall into this category are the big 4 x 4 style, older aged stags but some of the bigger 3 x 3, 3 x 4 and forked 4 x 4 stags may fall into this category as well. These stags are offered at a lower trophy fee to encourage hunters to harvest more of this style animal, especially prior to the rut with archery gear and during the first weeks of the rut with rifle and bow.

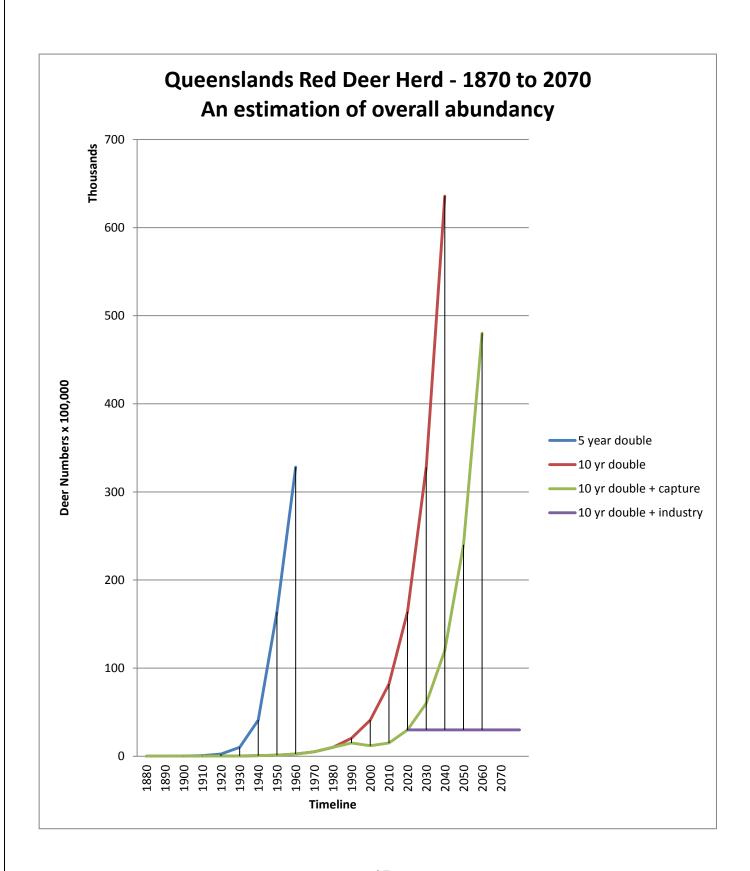




What to look for in a younger aged red stag







Harvest estimation

To ensure the success of a PBWMP, an overall harvest criterion must be established. This criterion would require the following:

- 1. Recognition of each prey species of importance as well as each species to be harvested within the PBWMP.
- 2. An initial estimation of the overall population (OP) of each species to be harvested. These species shall be referred to as "Game" species.
- 3. An initial estimation of the rate of natural increase (NI) of each Game species.
- 4. An initial estimation of the lethality rate (LR) by prey species on NI figures for each Game species.
- 5. An initial estimation of the sex ratio (SR) within the existing Game herds and any trend toward a predominance of either gender, mature female (Mf) or mature males (Mm). Possible mitigating factors should be noted.
- 6. A calculation of the existing harvest totals of each Game species by humans. (H)
- 7. An assessment of the actual outcomes pertaining to estimations of harvest, target figures, predation and natural increase be carried out on an annual basis and corrections made using the best data available.

Prey species affecting NI of Game species.

- 1. Wild dogs
- 2. Scrub Ticks
- 3. Wedgetail eagles.

	SR	OP	Mf	Mm	LR	NI	H 2014/15
1. Red deer	1.5f/1m	900	550	350	60%	220	96
2. Rusa deer	2.2f/1m	120	85	35	50%	40	6
3. Fallow deer	2.5f/1m	105	75	30	30%	50	2
4. Wild Pig	1f/1m	150	75	75	50%	37	28

Data Collection Form (Example)

To assist with the management of wild game species on this property/ies, hunters are asked to collect as much information as possible during each field trip. Points to note:

- Make the best estimation and assessment you can under the circumstances.
- Carry a note book if possible and write down comments when time allows.
- Utilize "Block" boundaries on each property to describe sightings. (ie: in Rally block etc)
- Note repeat sightings of a particular animal/s and record date and time etc.
- Detail any illegal activity or unusual sightings.

Example:

Name: Joe Bloggs		Bow	Bow/Rifle. Bow		Date: 01/04/16			Block/s hunted. Top diaper, Jiggera			
Description	Red	Rusa	Fallo w	Pig	Dingo	Hare	Ra	bbit	Cat	Fox	Native
Mature female	10	2	1								Koala x 1. Top Diaper
Female under 1 yr	4										Kangaroo. 3
Male under 1 yr	?										Jiggera
Total antlerless	16	6	2								
Spiker	2		1								
Stag under 6 ½	1		1								
Stag over 6 ½	2										
Total stags/males	5		2								
Total of each	21	8	4	3		1					

Comments: Vehicle tracks in through top gate from forestry seem unusual. Dingo tracks on crossing at pig trap. Dog howled towards SE boundary.

Data Collection Form for Hunter Education Courses.

Data collected during Hunter Education and culling days is of vital importance to the management of the herd. It is used as a method to monitor herd health and performance.

Your assistance is appreciated.



Live weight if possible. (LW) Skin on gutted weight. (SOW) Dressed weight hot carcass. (HC)

Collect jawbone

Check pregnancy status

Circumference of body behind front leg

Length of leg from dewclaw to hock

Hunter.				
Species Sex Age LW SOW				
Sex				
Age				
LW				
SOW				
HC				
HC Preg ?				
HL				
GRTH				

Membership Application January 1, 2017-December 31, 2017 'Glenfiddich Hunting Lodge Management Team'

proudly presented by Australian Wild Country Adventures Pty Ltd

I/We the undersigned, would like to apply for membership to the "Glenfiddich Hunting Lodge Management Team"								
Name of applicant								
Names of partner / family members								
Address								
	P/Code Er	nail						
Phone: Home		bile						
Standard Family 6 month Membership Fee - \$275 Membership from day of signing to 1 st July 2015, then to 31 December 2015 will include their spouse or partner and up to 4 children under the age of 18 yrs. Each member of the family who wishes to hunt will be required to also pay the Hunter Fee or Ballot fee. PLEASE NOTE: All membership fees are payable in Australian Dollars. Additional services such as transport and provision of camping gear and supplies can be organized by AWCA P/L. Membership includes use of camping area and facilities for 21 days p/a exclusive of the ballot period. Dates of usage must be booked with AWCA P/L staff.								
Additional activities can be added to the initial membership and purchased on this form or as required. Please indicate if you wish to make a Ballot booking. Ballot fees can be paid now or prior to December 1 st 2015								
Standard Family Membership Fee	Ballot fee to be added to Star Family Membership		Red Deer Ballot (For members who cannot					
6 month \$275 (Each extra family member hunting -	(Member who wishes to hunt March/April ballot period \$440 total single hunter Plus \$330 for each extra family	1	utilize camping except during the ballot period) \$660 for 5 days hunting (plus 3 days camping)					
\$110pa)	(Plus trophy fees) (Plus trophy fees)							
Amount Payable								
	Membership S Act	vities \(\s\ \)	Total §					
Please make payments by Cheque, Money order to.								

Australian Wild Country Adventures P/L PO Box 691, Nanango, Qld, 4615

Members wishing to make a direct deposit, please email for account details. clarkmcghie@bigpond.com

Australian Australian Australian Adventures

Australian Wild Country Adventures Pty Ltd

15 McIlhatton St, Wondai, Qld 4606

ACN: 133 912 366 Phone :0429 688192

Email: clarkmcghie@bigpond.com

Please read carefully. Executing this release is a condition of participating in the guided and self-guided excursions and unless agreed to and signed, reservations are not valid.

ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND RELEASE FROM LIABILITY

I hereby acknowledge the hunting trip, balloted hunting trip, fishing trip, sightseeing trip, camping trip, photography or other guided or self-guided tour that I am participating in under the arrangements of Australian Wild Country Adventures Pty Ltd, its employees, agents and associates, involves risks and danger which are inherent to hunting and wilderness travel, including but not limited to hazards of travelling by motorized vehicle, on 2 wheel and 4 wheel motorbikes, on horseback, by aircraft and by boat, hazards of carrying and being in possession of firearms and ammunition; hazards of being exposed to the elements of nature; hazards of being in areas where hunters are likely to be present; hazards of being and travelling in remote wilderness areas and hazards arising from accident, acts of God, illness, infections and forces of nature

I further accept and assume all risk of personal injury or death or loss or damage to property while participating in the said guided excursion, including negligence of Australian Wild Country Adventures Pty Ltd, and their employees, agents, and associates.

I understand and accept that audio visual footage and still photographs taken during my visit may be used as part of promotional activities and DVD productions by Australian Wild Country Adventures Pty Ltd and Australian Wild Country Productions Pty Ltd, and I give my unconditional permission for this.

I acknowledge that I have read the forgoing, understand that I am relinquishing all rights that my heirs, my executors, administrators or I might otherwise have against Australian Wild Country Adventures Pty Ltd and their employees, agents and associates and that I do so voluntarily.

Dated at Glenfiddich Hunting Lodge, this		, 2017.
Name (Please Print)		 Adult Signature
(Parent or guardian must sign for minors under 18yrs old)	Name of minor/s	
Minor Min	or	
Address	Phone	
Email		