



# Wild Deer in the UK: Impacts of rising deer populations

Thursday 26th February 2009  
3.30 – 5 pm,  
Jubilee Room, Westminster Hall, Westminster

Wild deer are a valuable natural resource in the UK; they contribute to rural economies and culture, are a source of a healthy meat, and are a popular component of UK biodiversity. However, deer populations have increased notably in recent decades, a change associated with a range of negative economic, social and ecological impacts. Deer can threaten biodiversity in protected habitats; they can cause significant economic losses to agriculture and forestry; can pose a risk on the roads; and are spreading into urban areas. Does the UK's approach to deer management need to change, and how can we prevent further damage?

This joint POST-British Ecological Society seminar follows POST's February 2009 briefing note on Wild Deer (POSTnote 325). We will hear from expert speakers in the scientific and practical aspects of deer management and impacts, and there will be a chance to discuss topics such as:

- Why and at what rate are deer numbers rising?
- How significant are the negative impacts of deer?
- Does the spread of deer into urban areas indicate a significant threat for the future?





## Programme

3.30 pm

Welcome by Chair

*Phillip Dunne MP*

3.35 pm

Presentations

*Mr Peter Watson (Director, Deer Initiative)*

*Emma Goldberg (Natural England)*

*Earl of Lytton (Landowner and Past Chairman of  
CLA Southeast Region)*

4.15 – 4.30 pm

Questions and discussion

4.30 – 5 pm

Informal reception

To attend please email [POST@parliament.uk](mailto:POST@parliament.uk)  
or telephone Emma Kearney on 020 7219 2840