

Råvildtsymposium

Tirsdag, 11 Sept 2018

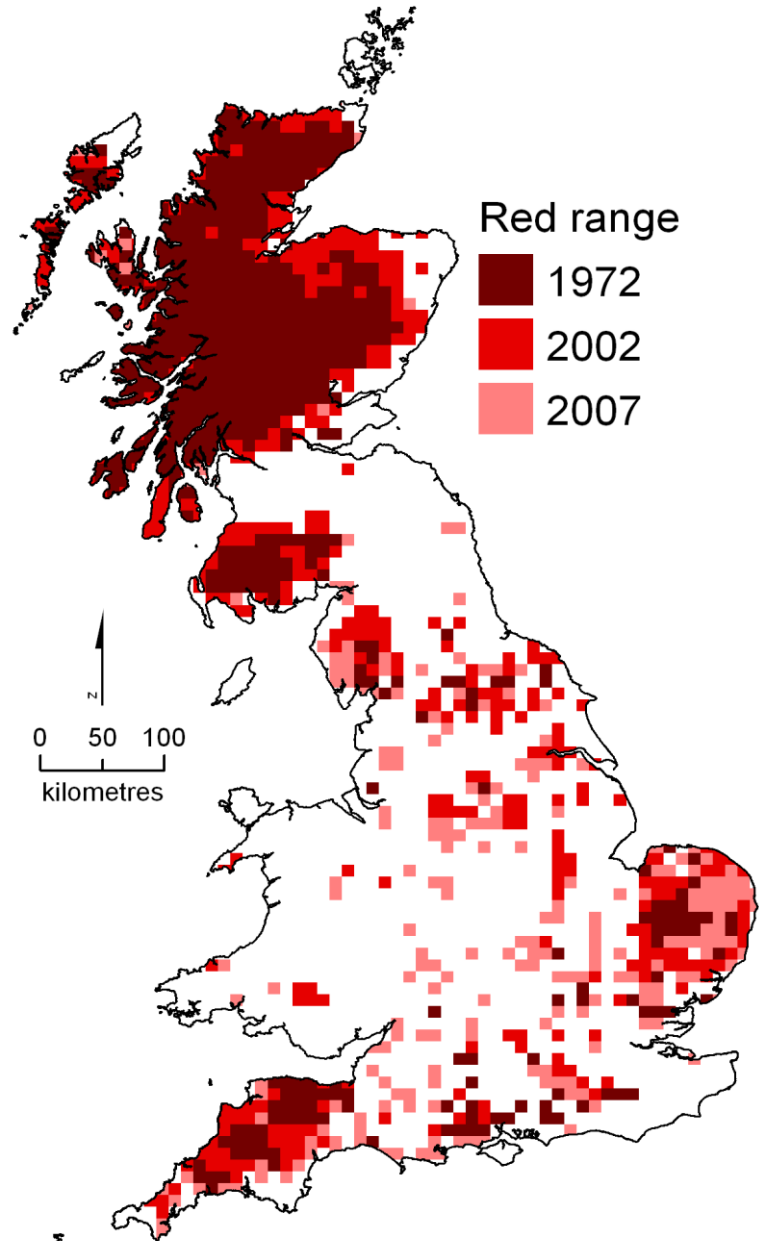
Roe Deer – Good Neighbours?

Jamie Cordery
Southern Region-Deer Liaison Officer
The Deer Initiative

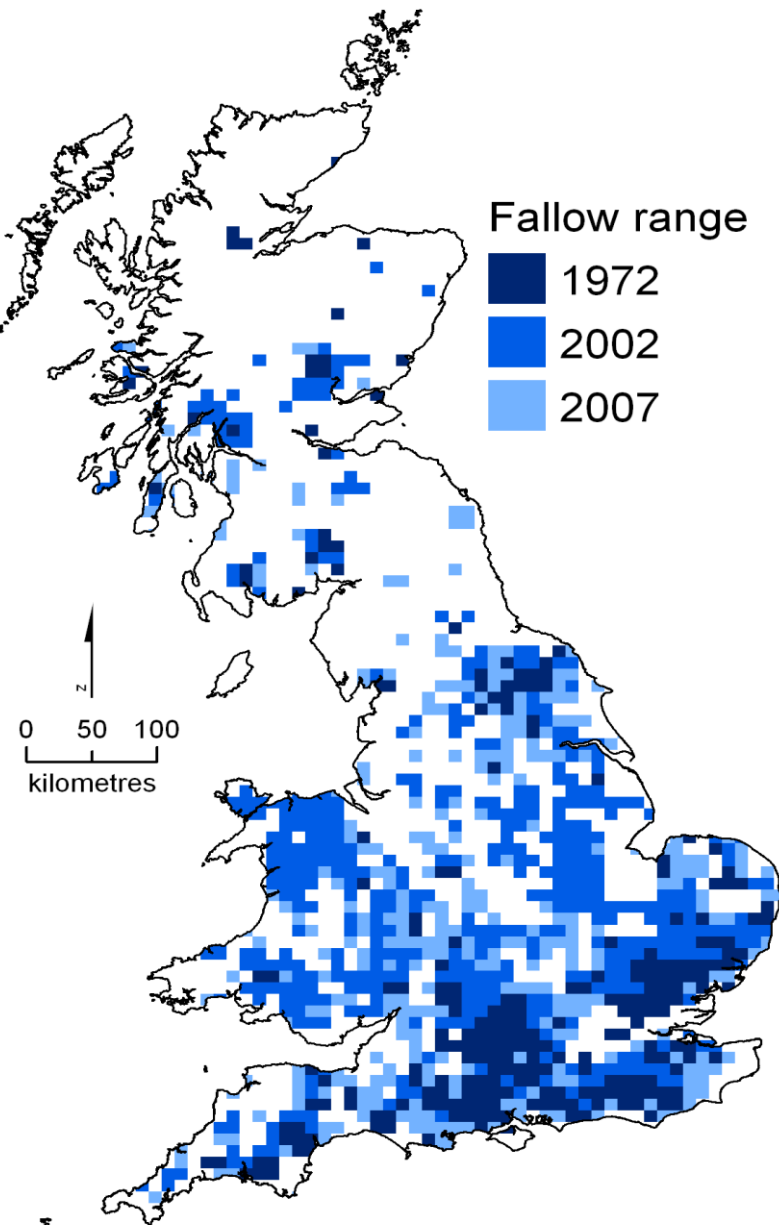
southeast@thedeerinitiative.co.uk
01962715107 / 07790 583867
www.thedeerinitiative.co.uk



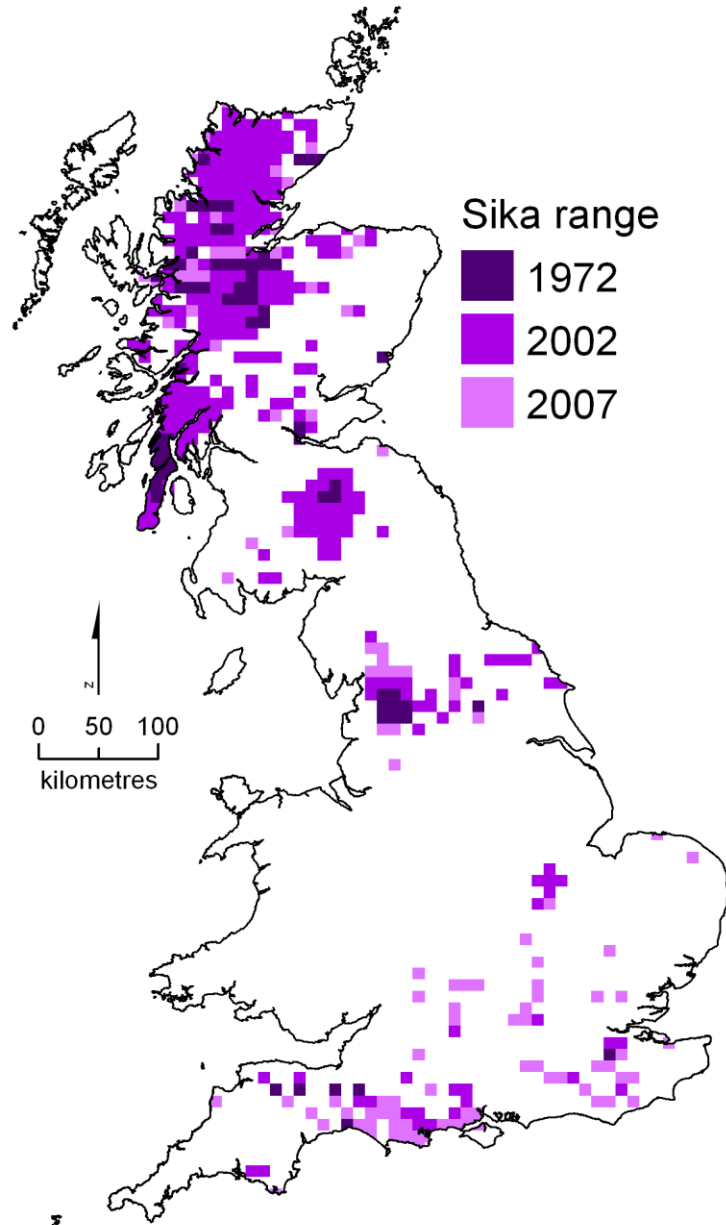
Red Deer



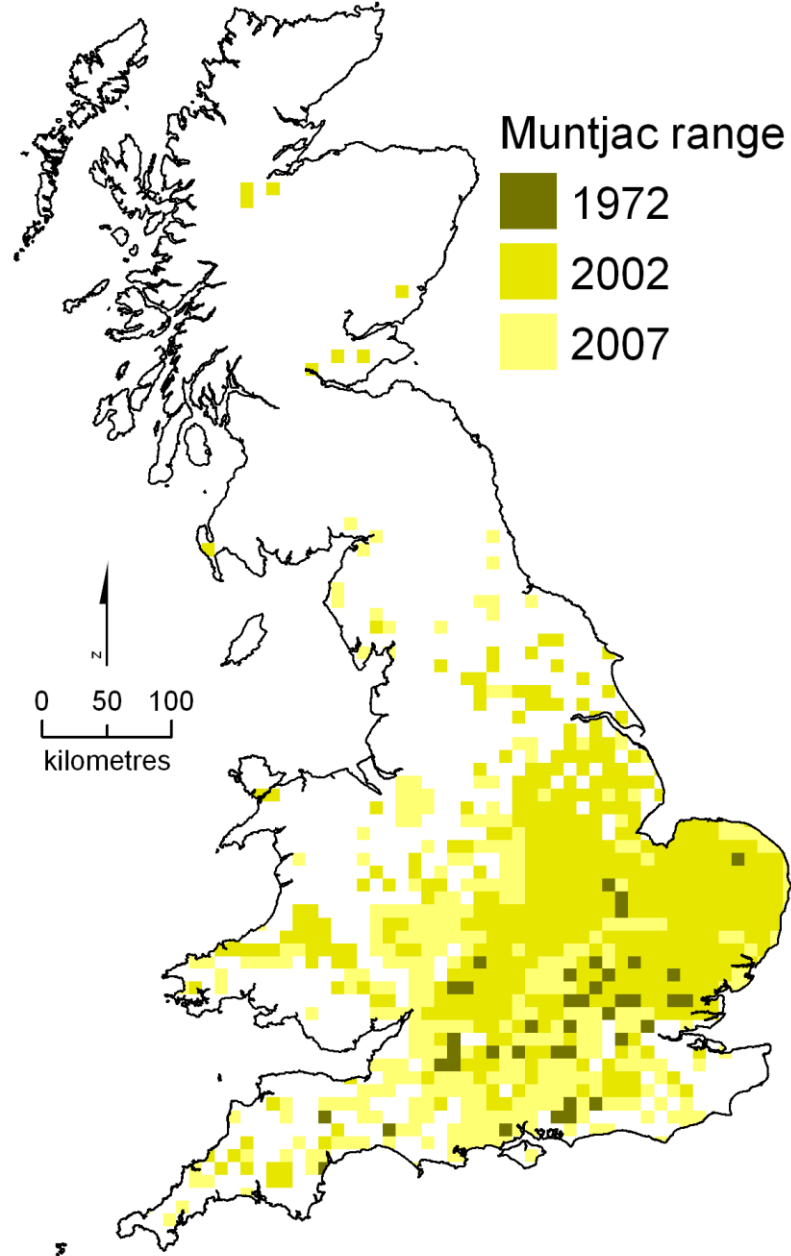
Fallow Deer



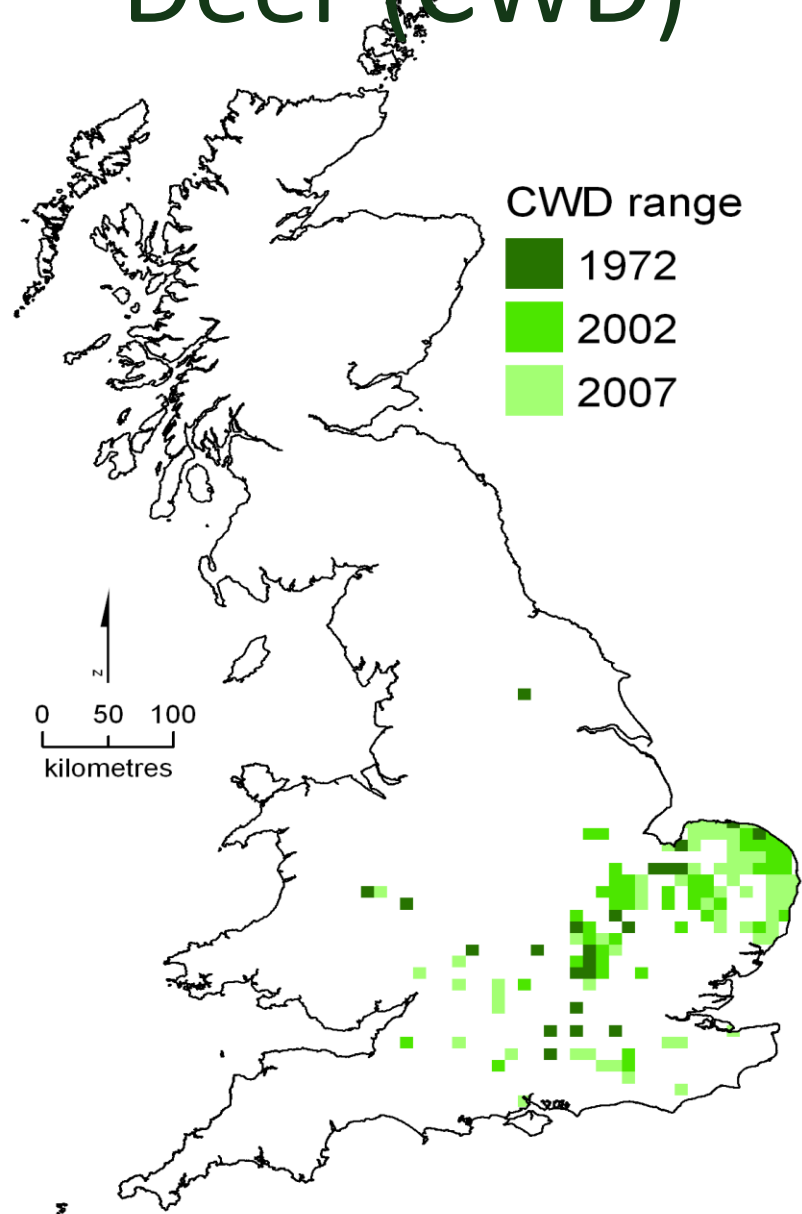
Sika Deer



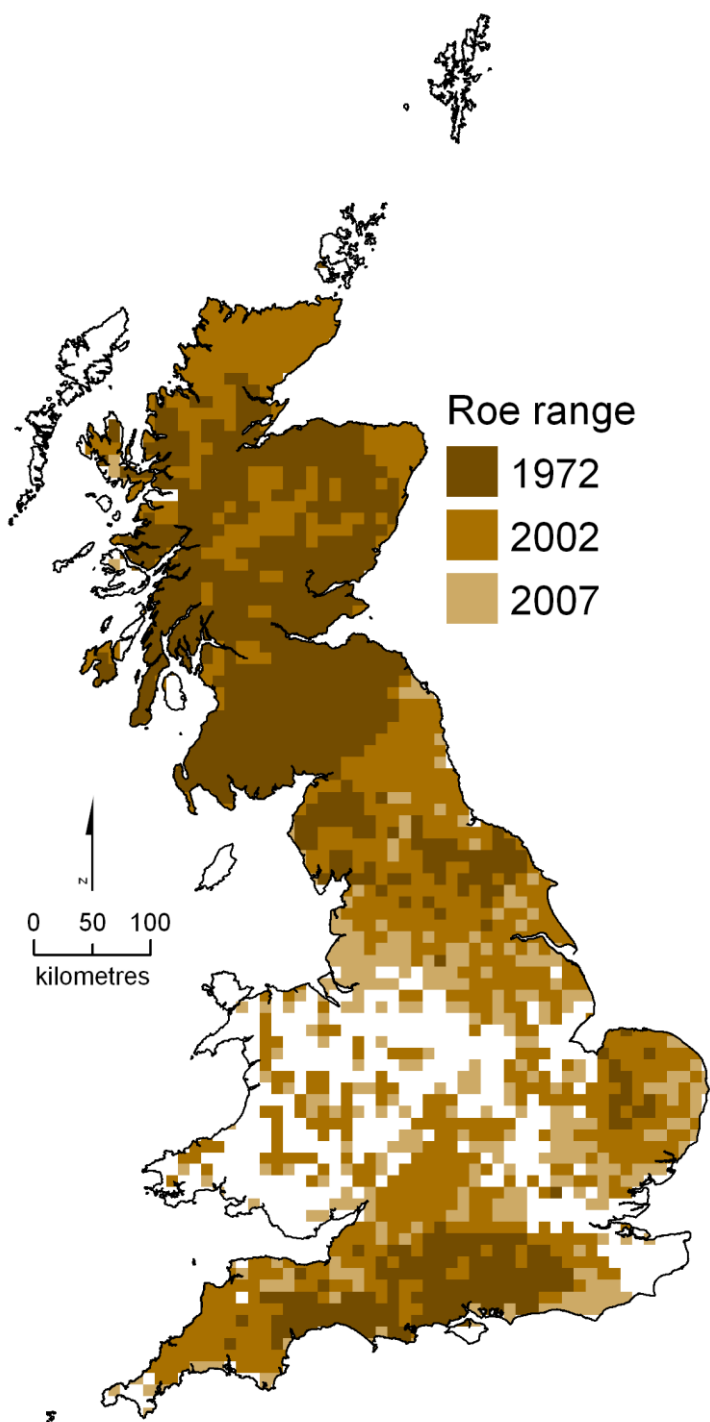
Muntjac



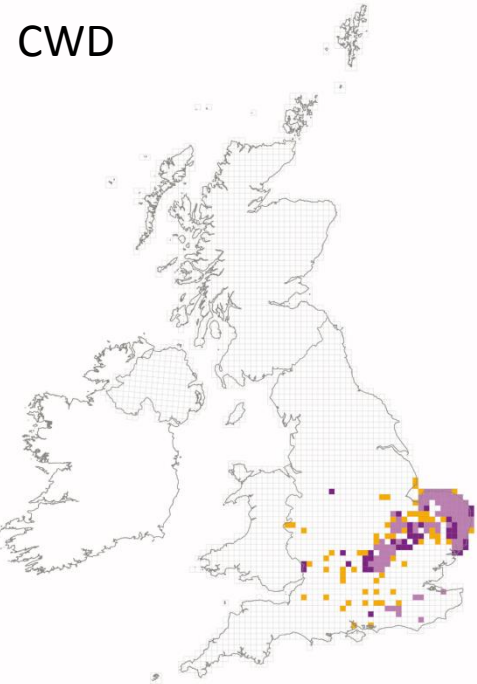
Chinese Water Deer (CWD)



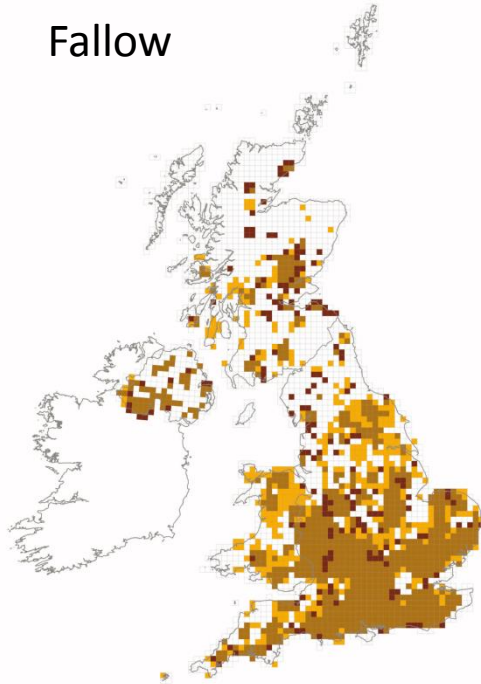
Roe Deer



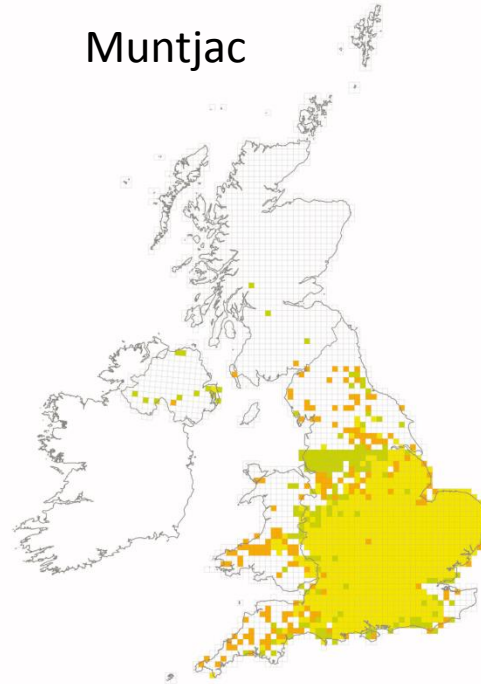
CWD



Fallow

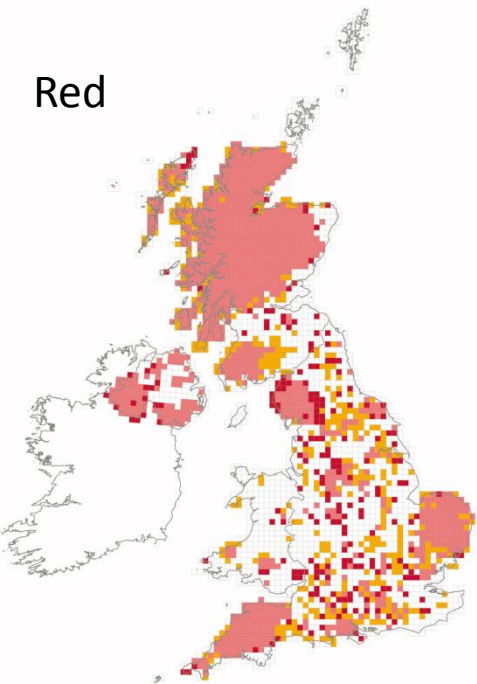


Muntjac

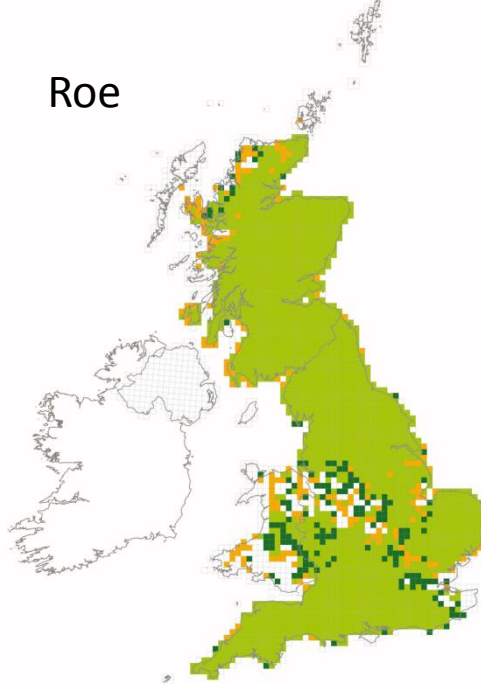


2016 BDS
Survey

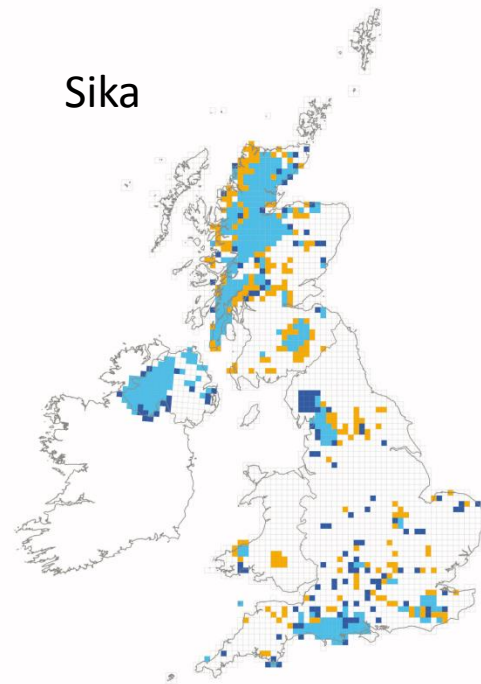
Red



Roe



Sika



Species distribution

- No wild deer end 1700s
- All English counties have deer
- Most counties 2-3 species, some have 5 (e.g. New Forest, Hampshire)
- Deer of all species are still expanding into new areas
- Wild Boar are coming....!

Deer density - England

Deer density (km ⁻²) 2014 Putnam/Watson								
Region	Red		Roe		Fallow		Muntjac	
East	0.8-15.2	[6.9]	3.0-64.0	[16.7]	1.3-181.4	[53.9]	3.7-144.4	[45.5]
Central	3.0-36.5	[19.8]	1.1-23.6	[8.1]	2.2-132.0	[35.3]	6.0-87.2	[32.7]
Northeast	1.6-35.3	[11.0]	6.8-14.5	[10.6]	4.2-20.5	[11.7]	1.3-26.0	[13.0]
Northwest	1.6-35.3	[11.0]	0.75-48.8	[7.7]	4.2-20.5	[11.7]	1.3-26.0	[13.0]
Southeast	0.5-7.4	[5.3]	1.1-26.1	[11.8]	4.2-20.5	[11.7]	1.3-26.0	[13.0]
Southwest	0.8-18.8	[7.9]	0.5-9.9	[5.2]	1.9-16.2	[11.6]	1.3-26.0	[13.0]

Extrapolated deer culls

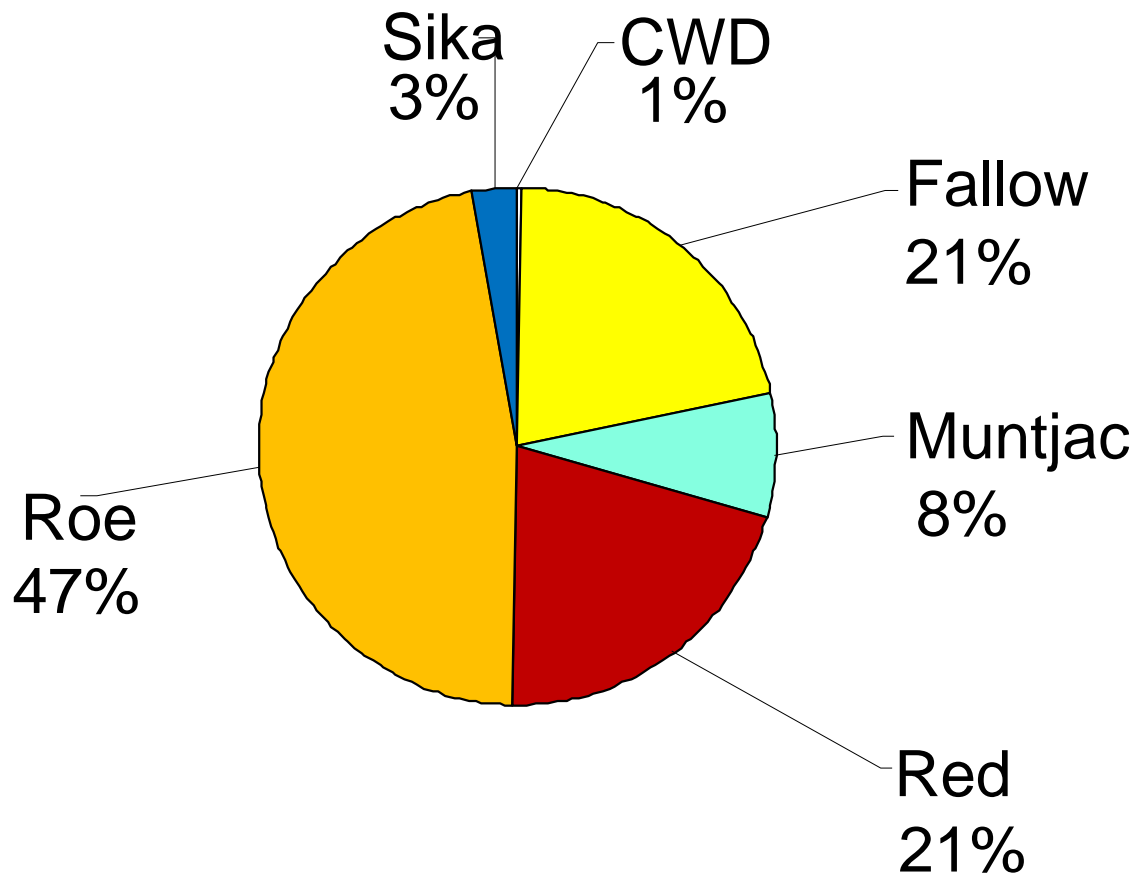
BASC 2004

Deer species	England		UK Total	
	Low	High	Low	High
Red	11,500	14,000	46,500	55,500
Roe	62,000	74,500	94,000	112,000
Fallow	46,500	56,000	48,500	58,500
Sika	3,000	4,000	5,000	6,500
Muntjac	19,000	23,000	19,000	23,000
CWD	1,000	1,500	1,000	1,500
Total	143,000	173,000	214,000	256,000

Between 36-46%
of pop total.

Between 62-86%
of annual
mortality

Proportion of deer shot



Increasing proportion of muntjac

Increasing proportion of fallow





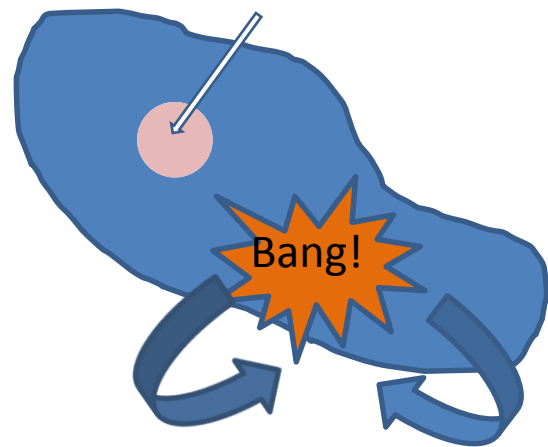




Species Interactions in the Southern Counties

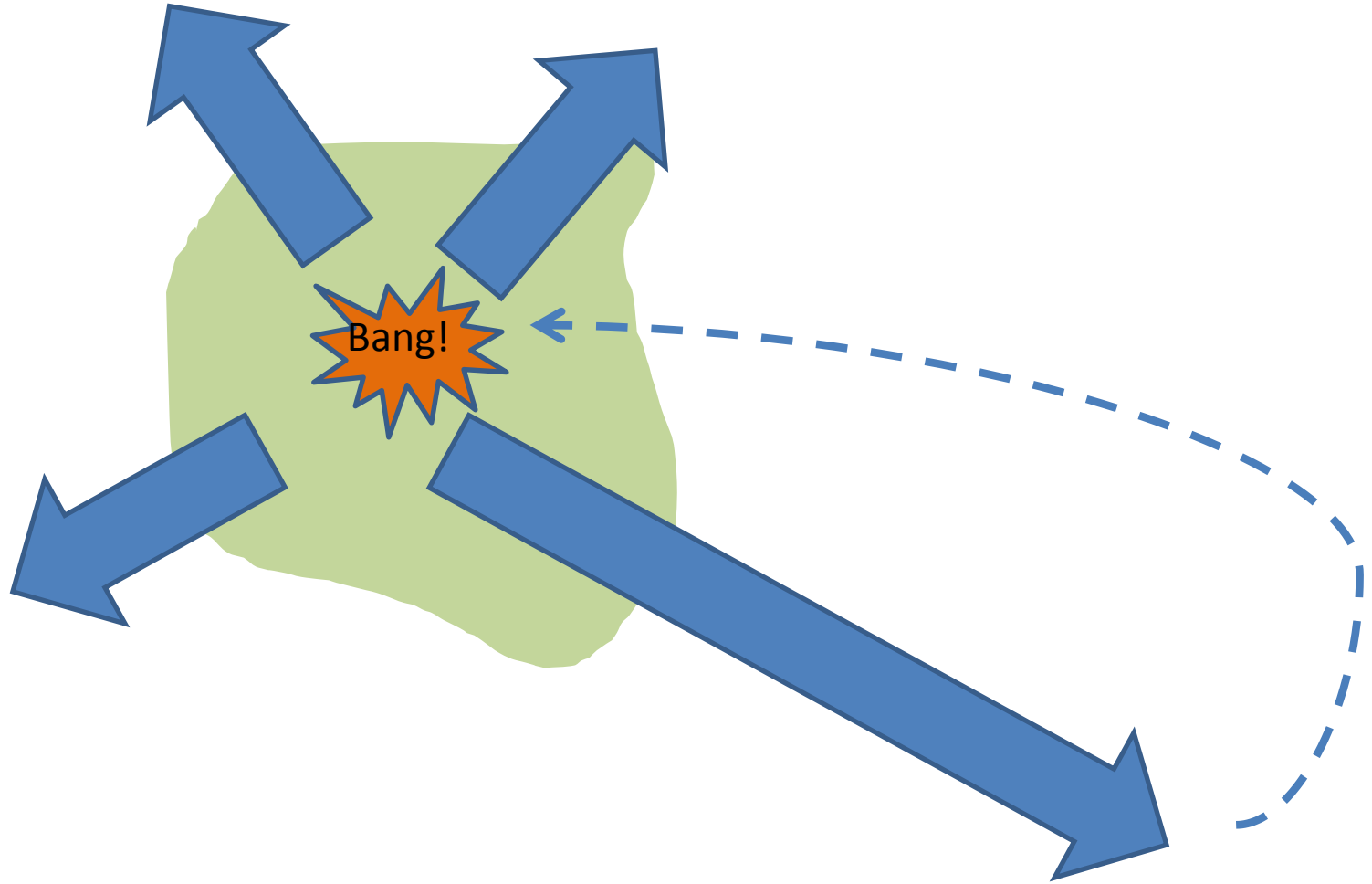
- All have Roe, most have Fallow and Muntjac
- Densities are some of the highest
- Presence of other species affects Roe in many ways.....

Territorial species





Herding species



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- In poor conditions/under stress, females tend to “hunker down” rather than move, and
 - Become less fussy about food quality (so lose condition)
 - Have slightly more male young in poor conditions (but lower survival) Respond to improving conditions with more female young and better survival. Twins or triplets
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- Roe are much easier to hunt than the other species (are often culled when other spp were main target)



Muntjac

- Territorial, hefted but prepared to re-locate
- Male breeding success is based on moving around territory, finding receptive females
- Breed all year round and get to very high densities
- In poor conditions/under stress, will re-locate
- If displaced are very adaptable
- Share habitat with Roe and are equally selective feeders. Physical interactions not common but do compete for resources at high density (evidence of Roe decline as Muntjac increase).
- Trickier than Roe to cull effectively











Fallow

- Herding, sometimes large numbers (+500) with skewed sex ratios (therefore high recruitment)
- Core areas/laying up/feeding areas can be some distance apart. Move unpredictably in landscape on daily/seasonal/weather basis (Roe hate that!)
- Very destructive of habitat at high density and although generalists, compete with Roe but can co-exist. Prefer slightly more mature habitats esp with grazing
- Known to be aggressive to Roe
- Reducing Fallow numbers often results in Roe increase





Other Issues for Roe - Predators



Free Running dogs



Poaching



Wild Boar???



Roe Interactions- Summary

- Roe interactions with other deer :
 - Competition - For space and food
 - Aggression – Mostly herding spp and Roe come off worst!
- Predators:
 - Foxes, free running pet dogs
- Poaching
- People
 - Extended doe season
 - Car accidents
 - Urban incidents
- Wild Boar
- Disease?
- But they are very adaptable and usually bounce back!

