

## Deer Impact and Activity Report

Date	07/05/2020
Woodland Name:	Sandon Bury Farm, Compartment 1a, Roe Wood
Recorder:	R Smith
Species present:	Fallow, Muntjac
Species doing most damage:	Fallow, Muntjac
Weather Conditions:	Sunny, dry, 20 degrees

Activity	Score (0-3)	Low Mod High	Comments
Sightings of deer	3	High	A total of 14 fallow, in small groups, and one muntjac buck were seen in this block
Slot marks	3	High	Both muntjac and particularly fallow deer slots were found throughout.
Active pathways	3	High	A large percentage of the pathways were of high use
Droppings & scrapes	3	High	A lot of droppings were found, especially in the block to the NW where a group of 4 bucks were held up
TOTAL SCORE	12	High	Activity is high in the area and throughout the woodland block
Trend	Base Line		

Damage		Low Moderate High	Score (0-3)	Comments
Flora/grasses eaten		Low	1	Damage was found to some bluebells
Woody shoots eaten	Regeneration	High	3	Browse on 90% of all regen
	Coppice	Low		No recent coppice present
	Bramble	High		Bramble browsed on edge of the wood
	Other			
Bark removed	Fraying	Low	0	No fraying was found
	Bark stripping	Low		No bark stripping was found
Browse line	Bramble	High	3	Bramble browsed
	Coppice/standards	High		Browse on basal shoots, old coppice stools,
	Shrubs			
Broken stems		Low	1	One broken stem was found
TOTAL SCORE			8	
Trend: Base line		High		Damage in the wood is High

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### Other comments

Is there evidence of stalking occurring	1 high seat was seen between the two blocks which covers the grass fields between “big roe and little roe”
Are agricultural impacts occurring	Nothing known or observed
Are DVC’s an issue	Not known
Next steps / recommendations	See Below

Activity and impact within the wood is high. Deer were found in small groups rather than one large one throughout the block. The ground cover in some places was high but the damage to trees and regen was obvious. Some places in the wood where the deer seem to congregate had virtually no ground cover. As with the other blocks on the estate any coppice or replanting would require deer protection due to the high numbers of deer in the area. Installation of high seats and structured deer management should be considered. Although there doesn't appear to be any public footpaths through the wood people were still seen in there

### Photographs taken during the survey



Bramble browse is heavy in places



Browse line

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Small area where deer lay up and damage to bluebells



Even browsing on Elder which is not a preferred species



Browse like this is evident throughout the wood