

Wild Boar – welcome back?

A workshop to discuss the implications of feral wild boar

7 December 2005 at Nature in Art, Wallsworth Hall, nr Gloucester

Hosted by BANC and the Wildland Network

Wild boar have jumped the fence of farm enclosures in several parts of southern England, returning to woods and parkland after a 300 year absence. Some bodies see environmental gains from boar being back in the woods, others see opportunities and challenges for game management, while some groups are concerned about possible disease risk, farmland disturbance, and public safety.

At a time when Defra are consulting on how feral wild boar should be managed, this event brings people together to discuss the key issues.

An estimated 500 feral wild boar are in Kent and Sussex and smaller breeding populations in Dorset, Herefordshire, and possibly Gloucestershire.

Defra consultation details at www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/wild-boar/index.htm

The event will:

- **Hear from wild boar experts**
- **Illustrate wild boar management issues**
- **Allow everyone to learn about and debate the key issues**

Full programme below.

Location details at: www.nature-in-art.org.uk

Lists of nearby accommodation can be sent on request.

Participants can gain free access to the Nature in Art galleries of wildlife art and exhibits before and after the workshop.

Fees include lunch and refreshments and a write up of the event's discussion. Lunch will include wild boar sausages for carnivores.

Fees are payable to BANC, at the following rates:

Public, private and academic bodies: £95 Charities and NGOs: £45 Individuals: £30

Bookings to:

Jocelyn Murgatroyd, 34 South Street, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV21 3SE

jocelynmurgatroyd@hotmail.com Tel: 01788 560247, 01452 739142 (tel for emergencies only please)

The British Association of Nature Conservationists (BANC) is a think tank which publishes ECOS magazine. The Wildland Network promotes the environmental and human potential of wild land and wild nature. Details of these bodies are at: www.wildland-network.org.uk

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Programme

10.10 **Arrival and coffee**

10.40 **Welcome & introductions**

Rick Minter and **Alison Parfitt**. Facilitators for the day

10.50 **Defra feral wild boar consultation** - the objectives and next stages

Charlie Wilson, Defra

Questions and clarification

11.20 **Wild boar - key briefings**

- a. Wild boar biology, behaviour, and disease concerns.
- b. Farming issues and farmers' experience with wild boar.
- c. Wild boar, countryside access, and walkers' safety and responsibilities
- d. Nature conservation and woodland management issues.
- e. The wild boar economy - food, game, hunting and visitor income.

The above topics will also be used for the afternoon small group discussions

Presentations on the above topics from:

Martin Goulding, author 'Wild Boar in Britain'

Derek Gow, consultant ecologist

Derek Booth, founder, British Wild Boar Association

Jenny Farrant, farmer with regular experience of wild boar on her family's farm

12.20 **Key perspectives on wild boar**

Comments on issues a-e above from participants representing wildlife, farming, forestry, access and game interests.

12.50 **LUNCH** including wild boar sausages.

Wild boar exhibits & DVD footage of feral wild boar in Britain.

13.50 **Discussion on key issues**

Discussion in groups a - e.

Participants discuss one of the topics a-e above in small groups. Each small group will discuss key challenges of that topic, and will note what implications it has for other issues.

14.45 **Tea**

15.00 **Key conclusions from groups a – e and collective discussion**

All discussion will be facilitated, scribed and e-mailed to participants.

15.45 **Concluding points** 15.50 **Close**

Speakers' details:

Charlie Wilson is a Senior Wildlife Management Adviser, Defra.

Martin Goulding is an ex-DEFRA scientist who has a PhD in wild boar ecology. He is author of the book 'Wild Boar in Britain' and runs the website 'www.britishwildboar.org.uk'

Derek Gow is an independent wildlife ecologist. He has participated in a range of native mammal recovery initiatives and now mainly works on water vole and european beaver restoration projects in Britain.

Derek Booth was with the Agricultural and Food Research Council and in 1989 was a founder of the British Wild Boar Association.

Jenny Farrant farms with her husband on the Kent-Sussex border and has much recent experience of feral wild boar on the farm.

Facilitators:

Rick Minter is an environmental consultant and facilitator who specialises in linking the environment with people's livelihoods and values.

Alison Parfitt is a consultant and facilitator specialising in helping achieve sustainability at the local level.

Booking form below

Wild Boar – welcome back?

Booking form

Please reserve..... place(s) at the 7 Dec wild boar workshop

I would like to participate in the following afternoon group
(ring your choice) : a b c d e

Name(s).....

Organisation (if applicable).....

Address:.....
.....
.....
.....

e-mail: Tel:.....

Have you any special access requirements?.....

Have you any special dietary requirements? Yes/No Vegetarian.....
Vegan..... Other.....

Fees:

Public, private and academic bodies: £95

Charities and community Groups: £45

Individuals: £30

I enclose a cheque for payable to BANC

Please invoice me at the above address for:

Train travel: Tick below if you require a lift from nearby rail stations:

I would like a lift from Gloucester rail station at 10.15

I would like a lift from Cheltenham Spa rail station at 10.15

Car travel:

If you can offer a lift or need a lift, please register under 'car sharing' in the Events section of www.wildland-network.org.uk

Booking confirmations will be sent by e-mail. Invoices can be issued. Receipts will be provided at the event.

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