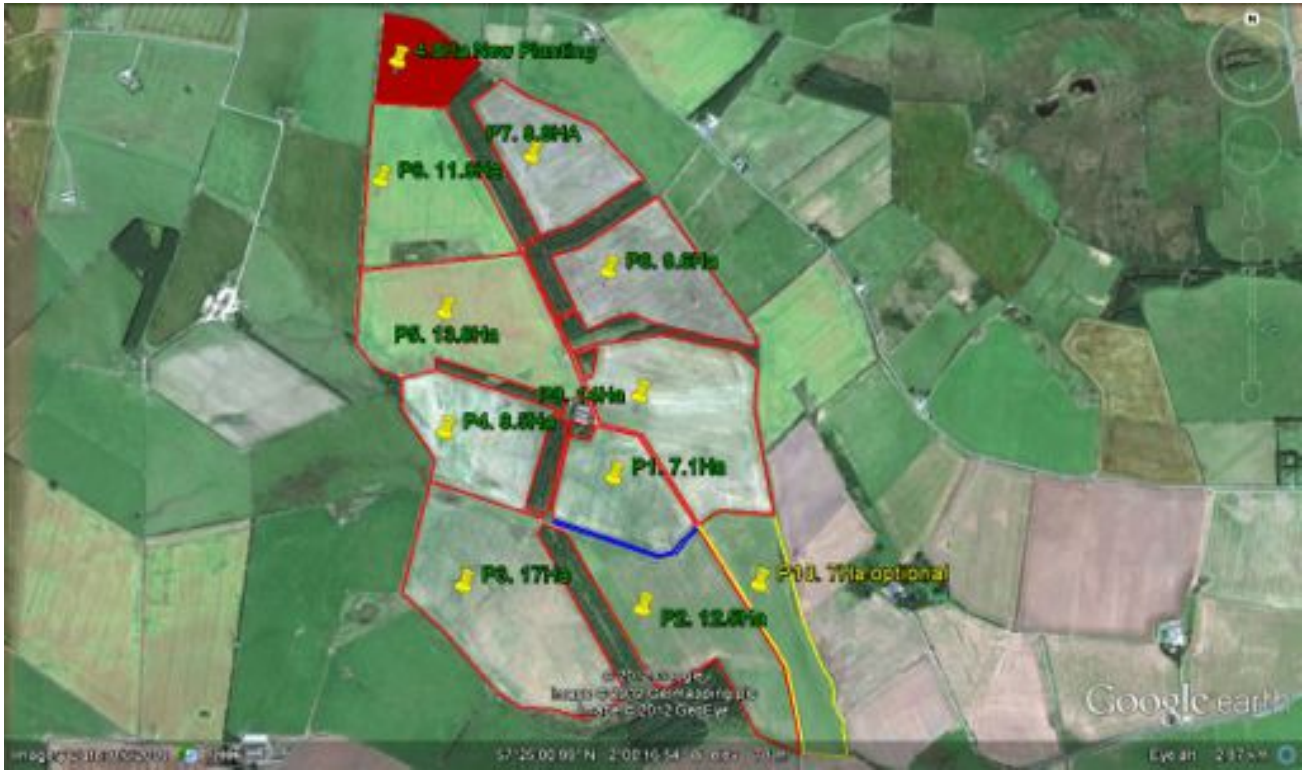
THE DEER FARM & PARK DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

Day 2 – 16th June 2015

The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas
The Scottish Government
The funding is being made available through the SRDP Skills Development Scheme which is jointly funded by the Scottish Government and the European Union



Farm Design and Layout

Alan Sneddon Venison

Advisory Service

What to consider!

- Quality of land
- Shelter and Shade
- Climate and contour
- Overwintering
- Water
- Buildings

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And More!

- Breeding Finishing or Finishing only
- Availability of winter feed
- Existing fences/infrastructure
- Integration with other farm businesses
- Woodland
- How much will it cost and will it make money?

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Stocking Densities

- **Top Quality Pasture Low Ground/Arable**
- 10 Hinds/Ha (perhaps more on excellent ground but consideration needed at calving to avoid mismothering)
- 14 yearlings/Ha (rotationally graze to maximise pasture utilisation and intakes….Better growth rates!!)
- Suits Breeding/Finishing or Finishing only

- **Improved Upland (Breeding/Finishing)**

8 Hinds/Ha (set stocked for calving until mid-late July higher with regular nitrogen inputs

10-12 yearlings/Ha (rotationally grazed)

Marginal/Hill Ground (store calf production)

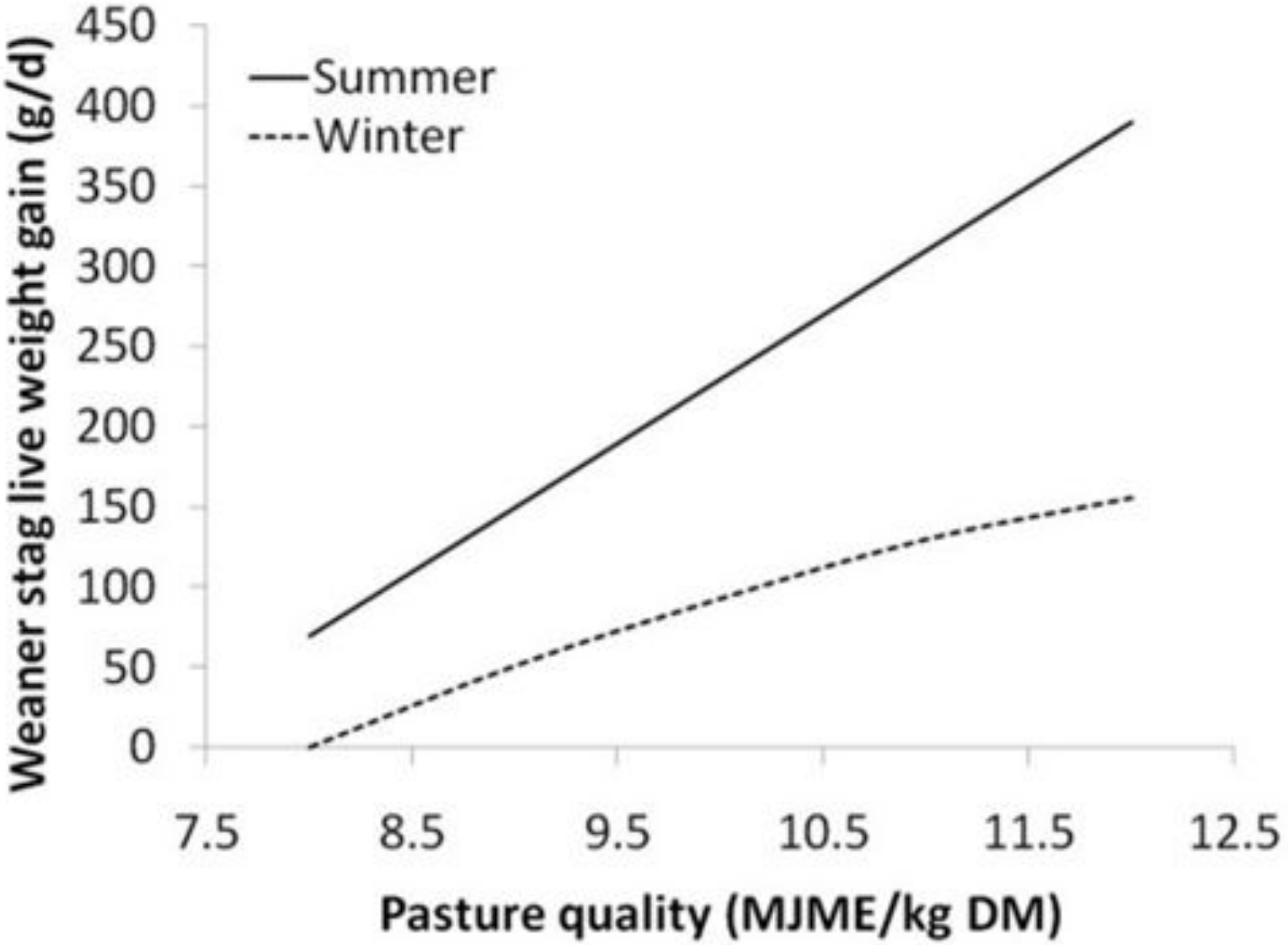
0.5- 4 Hinds/Ha (depends on aspect and winter feed inputs)

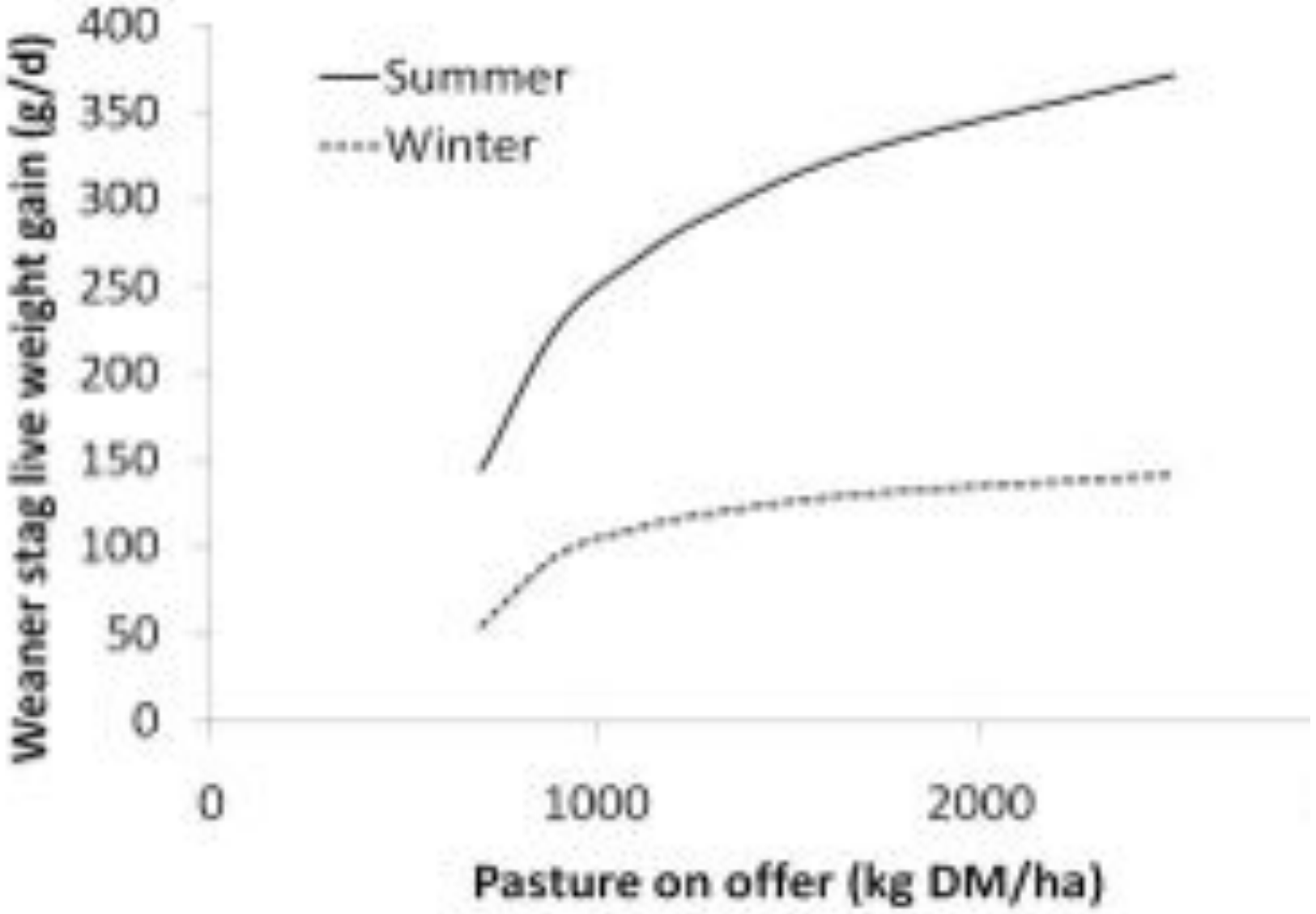
- **Park System (herd run together in one or few enclosures)**
- Stocking rate depends on grazing quality and level of feed input (sound winter feeding programme)
- Difficult to target nutrition for different classes of stock (calves in winter!)
- More difficult to manage pasture effective

Pasture Management is Critical

Poor Pasture=Poor growth

Quality leafy pasture=Good Growth


Weaner stag live weight gain (g/d)
450
400
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
Summer
Winter
7.5
8.5
9.5
10.5
11.5
12.5
Pasture quality (MJME/kg DM)


Weaner stag live weight gain (g/d)
400
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Summer
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Pasture on offer (kg DM/ha)

Deer Fencing

1.9 m net (tornado titan or Cyclone tightlock or similar)
5-6m post spacings
£7.50 - £10 m

Deer Gate with railed panels

Cattle gate extended with rails

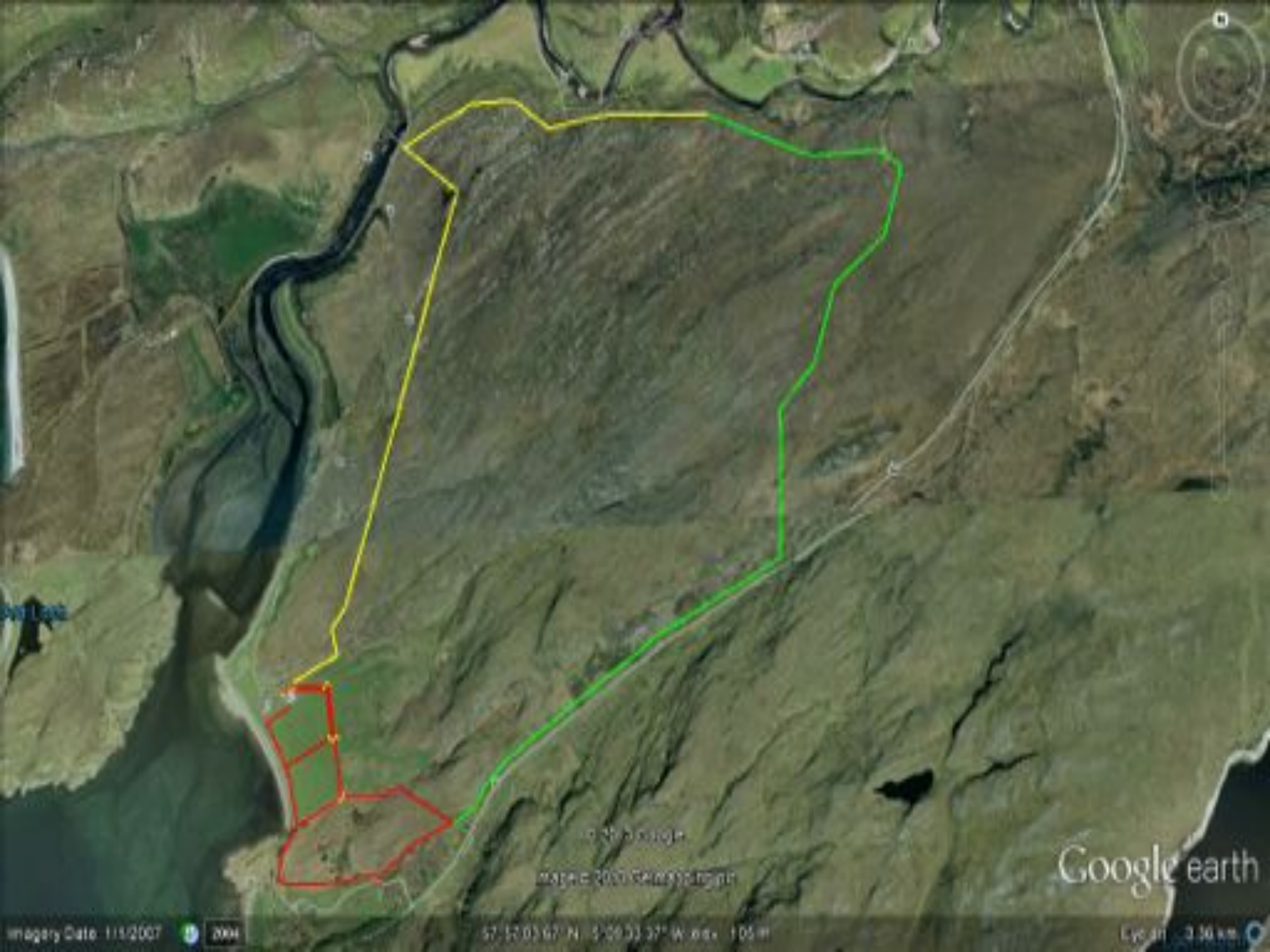
Stock Fence Topped Up

Raceways

- 18-20ft wide (up to 30 ft when fencing off access tracks on large units)
- Deer like to run round corners
- Stop gates can be 12ft with angled panels of rails either side


Google earth


Woodland Block 7.3 Ha approx
Google earth


Google earth


P 5. 5.5Ha
P 6. 5.1Ha
P 4. 5.8 Ha
P 3. 4.4Ha
P 2. 1.65 Ha
P 1. 2.03 Ha
Google earth


P 4 17.2 ha
P 3 19 ha
P1 10.9 ha
Google earth

Deer Handling

Weighing

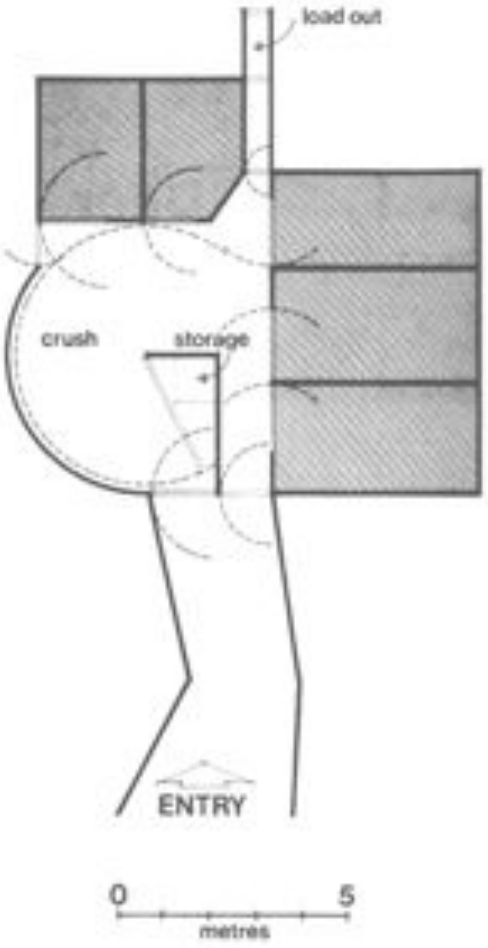
Tagging

Drenching

De-antlering

Transport

SCOTTISH VENISON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