



## Autumn Symposium: Non-native Mammals in Great Britain

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2018  
Arup Offices, Fitzroy Street, London, W1T 4BQ

### Day 1

09.30 – 10.00 **Registration and tea and coffee**

10.00 – 10.10 **Welcome and introduction**  
Kate Hills, the Mammal Society

### Non-native mammal status, horizon scanning and a wider perspective

10.10 – 10.30 **Olaf Booy, GB Non-Native Species Secretariat**  
The strategy for non-native species management and an update on EU exit plans.

10.30 – 10.50 **Prof Fiona Matthews, Chair, the Mammal Society**  
Conservation status review of invasive mammals in GB.

10.50 – 11.20 **Dr Dick Shaw, CABI**  
The devastating impact invasive plants can have, reducing carrying capacity, injuring animals and even driving human conflict.  
Whilst we are all aware of the problems that invasive plant species cause in the UK they seem pretty minor when compared with their devastating impacts in the Developing World. There weeds, some introduced through International aid in a misguided attempt to help, can massively reduce carrying capacity, injure animals and even drive human conflict.

11.20 – 11.50 **Coffee, tea and cookies**

### Biosecurity and prevention

11.50 – 12.10 **Trevor Renals, INNS Specialist EA**  
Enhancing biosecurity - biosecurity planning and changing behaviours.

12.10 – 12.30 **Laura Bambini, RSPB**  
Mammalian biosecurity on UK seabird islands  
The British Isles are home to an estimated 8 million breeding seabirds, with many of the most important colonies found on islands that are free of mammalian predators such as rats, stoats and mink. However, many of these islands are at risk from the introduction of invasive, non-native predators, one of the leading causes of seabird decline around the world. A new four year EU-funded project aims to strengthen biosecurity on UK islands, through training, an awareness raising campaign, and practical on-the-ground conservation work, securing a future for the UK's seabird islands.

12.30 – 12.50 **Allan McDevitt, University of Salford**  
The promise and application of DNA metabarcoding techniques to monitor, and assess the impacts of, invasive mammals

12.50 – 13.50 **Buffet lunch**

### Understanding environmental and economic impacts 1

13.50 – 14.10 TBC

14.10 – 14.30 **Darren Tansley, TWT/Essex Wildlife Trust**  
Is complacency about mink the most serious threat to water vole conservation in the 21st century? / Are mink still a threat to water vole conservation in the 21st century?  
As The Wildlife Trusts lead and Chairman of the UK Water Vole Steering Group and advised the People's Trust for Endangered Species during the development of the National Water Vole Monitoring Programme. He coordinates the Essex Water Vole Recovery Project as part of the Eastern Region Mink and Water Vole Project, the UK's longest-running, landscape-scale mink control initiative, where he has delivered two successful catchment-scale water vole re-introductions. He currently works for Essex Wildlife Trust as their River Catchment Coordinator and co-authored the updated Mammal Atlas for the county in 2014.

14.30 - 14.50 **Dr Johnny Birks, Swift Ecology**  
What's happening to mink in Britain? A review of the evidence suggesting a decline.

14.50 – 15.20 **Tea, coffee and muffins**

### Understanding environmental and economic impacts 2

15.20 – 15.40 **Dr Alastair Ward, University of Hull**  
Deer – economics and impacts

15.40 – 16.00 **Dr Roger Trout, Rabbitwise-plus Mammal Consultancy**  
The edible dormice (Glis glis); how can we manage a long lived, increasing pest within buildings and of woodland biota but which may hibernate for 20 months?  
Edible dormice escaped in 1902 and have very slowly spread through the Chilterns but populations are now confirmed more widely. Glis infestations in the built environment are challenging to manage. A woodland population has been monitored by microchipping Glis from 150+ nestboxes for 23 years. A review of the economic and environmental impacts.

16.00 – 16.20 **Roo Campbell, Scottish Wildcat Project, SNH**  
Hybridisation issue, status and new management plans blurb.

16.20 – 16.30 **Thanks and close for the day and evening arrangements.**

### Day 2

09.30 – 10.00 **Registration and tea and coffee**

10.00 – 10.10 **Welcome and introduction**  
Kate Hills, the Mammal Society

### Societal values and roles

10.10 – 10.40 tbc

### Controversy, conflict, and killing: social challenges for invasive mammal management

10.40 – 11.00 **Dr Sarah Crowley, University of Exeter**  
Invasive species management can be controversial, particularly when lethal control of mammals is involved, and some initiatives have even resulted in damaging social conflicts. Drawing on case examples, I introduce the social challenges involved with designing and implementing effective invasive mammal management, and outline key principles and strategies for addressing these challenges.

11.00 – 11.20 **Eden Edmunds, University of Leeds**  
Attitude surveys on mink control.

11.20 – 11.50 **Coffee, tea and cookies**

### Eradication and long term management

11.50 – 12.10 **Pete Robertson, Newcastle University**  
Review of mammal eradication, feasibility of control options ...

12.10 – 12.30 tbc

12.30 – 12.50 **Xavier Lambin**  
Pine Marten and grey squirrels.

12.50 – 13.50 **Buffet lunch**

13.50 – 14.50 **Landscape scale collaborative wildlife management**  
TBC - lead 10 mins on 4 diff projects + 20 mins qs to panel

Management of established invasive mammal species at a national scale is deemed too challenging and expensive for the public purse. However individual, localised efforts may not be sustainable in the long term if uncoordinated across the wider landscape. Symposium attendees will hear from a range of programmes adopting landscape scale invasive species management to explore issues of volunteers, citizen science, objective setting and costs of coordination.

14.50 – 15.10 **Tea, coffee and muffins**

15.10 – 15.50 **What is the future for coordinated approaches to Invasive mammal management in the UK?**  
Panel Discussion with Policy, Social, Natural scientist Practitioner perspectives

15.50 – 16.00 **Keynote Listener - tbc**

16.00 – 16.15 Paul Chanin, Mammal Society President - tbc

