

Press release

NEW APPROACH TO GREY SQUIRREL CONTROL CALLED FOR

A new approach to grey squirrel control is being called for by a leading conservation charity.

Speaking today, Andy Wiseman, Chairman of the European Squirrel Initiative called for a more robust approach to grey squirrel control and the adoption of a “landscape scale” policy to dealing with grey squirrel numbers.

“All landowners and land managers have an obligation to deal with the problem of grey squirrels. They are not only driving our native red squirrel to extinction but causing untold damage to our trees, parks and gardens as well as other flora and fauna,” said Mr Wiseman.

No one must be exempt from this duty in particular government agencies and NGO’s who manage land on our behalf.

Recent work carried out by red squirrel conservation groups has shown that when grey squirrels are controlled on a “landscape” basis it can have a significant effect on their numbers etc.

Ends

The European Squirrel Initiative:

The grey squirrel, *Sciurus carolinensis*, a native species of North America, was introduced to England from the late 19th century, until 1938 when it became illegal to import or keep the species in captivity.

The European Squirrel Initiative was founded in June 2002 by a group of concerned conservationists and foresters. The organisation seeks the restoration of the native red squirrel and the protection of the natural environment by removing the impact of the alien grey squirrel in Europe.

Its role is to:

- Persuade conservation bodies and governments of the absolute necessity of ridding Europe of the grey squirrel.
- Continue to commission research into the impact of the grey squirrel on

local ecosystems. For more information visit the ESI website:

www.europeansquirrelinitiative.org

Issued by Kendalls on behalf of the European Squirrel Initiative.

For more information, please contact Andrew Kendall:

Email info@europeansquirrelinitiative.org Telephone 0139461002



European
Squirrel
Initiative