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29.03.2016

## BONOMY REPORT SUBMISSION

Dear Sir

We would like to give our views of the effectiveness of hunting with a pack of hounds on our farm.

We are arable farmers in the Duke of Buccleuch Hunt country near Kelso in the Scottish Borders. The family have owned and run this farm for many generations.

Included on our farm we have a 6000 hen poultry unit. With having so many hens in one area we are subject to the interest of foxes and so in order to protect our livelihood and the hens welfare we need to consider fox control. Fortunately our local hunt the Duke of Buccleuch foxhounds is able to provide a service to help keep fox numbers down. They are very professional working through our farm with a pack of hounds who thoroughly search out foxes and if found flush out towards waiting guns where it will be effectively and humanly destroyed and therefore protect our interests.

The hunt would be unable to find and eradicate any foxes on our land with only one or two hounds as we need the number of hounds to be significant enough in order to search the land efficiently and not miss anything.

Alternatives have not been considered on our farm as the other wildlife we have roaming on our land including deer and badgers causes no problems to us and we don't want to see trapping, lamping (night shooting) or poisoning which will directly result in all animals being hurt or injured. We are simply after fox control only and the free of charge service the Hunt can provide us is the only solution to any of our fox problems.

Regards



Douglas Scott-Watson  
Douglas Scott-Watson