
From: [Redacted - personal info] on behalf of Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform
Sent: 30 January 2020 15:05
To: Public Engagement Unit
Subject: FW: Meeting Request with the Revive coalition
Categories: MICASE, [Redacted - personal info]

[Redacted - out of scope]

[Redacted - personal info] Roseanna Cunningham MSP | Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform | Scottish Government | Tel: 0131 244 5337 | cabsecclr@gov.scot

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From: [Redacted - personal info]@Revive.scot>
Sent: 30 January 2020 14:26
To: Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform <CabSecECCLR@gov.scot>
Subject: Meeting Request with the Revive coalition

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

We are writing to request a meeting with you as a stakeholder with regards to the reform of Scotland's grouse moors. We have been scheduled to meet with you before and have now met with Minister Mairi Gougeon. We would be grateful to have the opportunity to discuss grouse moor management with you at a date and time of your convenience. I look forward to hearing from you.

Many thanks and kind regards,

[Redacted - personal info]

Revive is a coalition of like-minded organisations working for reform of Scotland's grouse moors. The coalition is made up by Common Weal, Friends of the Earth Scotland, League Against Cruel Sports Scotland, OneKind, and Raptor Persecution UK.

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REVIVE

The coalition for grouse moor reform

Dear Nicola Sturgeon MSP,

The Scottish Government has now published the 'Werritty report' by the Grouse Moor Management Review Group and we understand an official response will be made in due course.

We are pleased to enclose a summary of the report with this letter for your convenience. This briefing is intended to help those who do not have the time to read the 94-page report and we hope you find it useful.

As the Werritty report did not address the huge animal welfare impact of the grouse shooting industry, largely due to a limited remit, we have also enclosed a new landmark report, *Untold Suffering*, produced by Revive members The League Against Cruel Sports Scotland and OneKind.

This report explores how thousands of animals like mountain hares, foxes, weasels and crows are trapped, snared and killed, just so there are more grouse available for sport shooting. While driven grouse shooting is also economically and environmentally unsustainable, the Revive coalition believes that due consideration of the animal welfare impact is essential when legislating.

We would be delighted to meet with you in person to discuss the case for significantly reforming Scotland's grouse moors, which would benefit our people, our wildlife and the environment, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

[Redacted - personal info]

[Redacted - personal info] Revive

[Redacted - personal info]@revive.scot

Revive is a coalition of like-minded organisations working for reform of Scotland's grouse moors. The coalition is made up by Common Weal, Friends of the Earth Scotland, League Against Cruel Sports Scotland, OneKind, and Raptor Persecution.



[Redacted - personal info]@revive.scot

Our Reference: 202000014854
Your Reference: Grouse Moors

13 March 2020

Dear [Redacted - personal info],

Thank you for your recent letter sent to Nicola Sturgeon, First Minister, raising your concerns regarding the recently published report from the Independent Grouse Moor Review Group. This has been passed to the Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment and I have been asked to respond.

We are giving careful consideration to the recommendations in the report and will publish our response later this year. Our response will cover all the key recommendations in the report including the recommendation on the licensing of grouse moor businesses and the timescales for doing so.

As both the First Minister and Mairi Gougeon MSP, have stated, the Scottish Government is of the view that the option of a licensing scheme will need to be considered and - if required – implemented earlier than the five-year timeframe suggested by the review group.

We would like to assure you that we will take into account the views of stakeholders and all other evidence, including the evidence taken by the Scottish Parliament's Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee, when developing our response to the review.

The full report and further details on the review group can be found on the grouse moor review group website. Once published, the Scottish Government response to the report will also be available here – <https://www.gov.scot/groups/grouse-moor-management-group/> .

Yours sincerely

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[Redacted - personal info]
NATRES : Wildlife and Flood Management

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**Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change
and Land Reform**
Roseanna Cunningham MSP



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

T :0300 244 4000

E :scottish.ministers@gov.scot

[Redacted - personal info]@revive.scot

Our Reference: 202000014193

Your Reference: Meeting Request with the Revive coalition

21 February 2020

Dear [Redacted - personal info],

Thank you for your letter of 30 January inviting Roseanna Cunningham MSP, Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform to meet with you to discuss grouse moor management.

Unfortunately, due to engagements we're unable to rearrange, Ms Cunningham is unable to accept your kind invitation on this occasion. Please accept her apologies and best wishes.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted - personal info]
Private Secretary

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From: [Redacted - personal info]
Sent: 16 September 2021 11:35
To: Public Engagement Unit
Subject: FW: Meeting with REVIVE coalition for grouse moor reform

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: MICASE

DR please

From: [\[Redacted - personal info\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted - personal info]@gov.scot) **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands **Sent:** 16 August 2021 10:27
To: [\[Redacted - personal info\]@revive.scot](mailto:[Redacted - personal info]@revive.scot)
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands <CabSecRAI@gov.scot>; Minister for Environment, Biodiversity & Land reform <MinisterEBLR@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Meeting with REVIVE coalition for grouse moor reform

[Redacted - personal info]

Apologies for the delay in replying.

You will have recently received the attached letter from Mairi McAllan MSP, Minister for Environment, Biodiversity and Land Reform, accepting a meeting. We will work between our offices to offer you dates for a joint meeting with both Ms McAllan (who has the main portfolio responsibility) and Ms Gougeon.

I will defer to Ms McAllan's office to respond on delivering the keynote speech at the REVIVE national conference on November 14th, in Perth Concert Hall.

One of our offices will be in touch shortly with suggested meeting dates.

Kind regards

[Redacted - personal info]
Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands
2N.08
St Andrews House
☎ [Redacted - personal info]
☎ [Redacted - personal info]

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From: [\[Redacted - personal info\]@revive.scot](mailto:[Redacted - personal info]@revive.scot)

Sent: 12 July 2021 16:12

To: Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands <CabSecRAI@gov.scot>

Subject: Meeting with REVIVE coalition for grouse moor reform

Dear Diary Secretary to Cabinet Secretary Mairi Gougeon,

Your colleague [Redacted - personal info] directed me to you so that we can arrange a suitable meeting time with the Cabinet Secretary. I would be very pleased to receive your preferred available dates so that we can discuss grouse moor reform and I very much look forward to hearing from you.

Moreover, the previous Cabinet Secretary Roseanna Cunningham, committed to giving the keynote speech at our REVIVE national conference on November 14th, in Perth Concert Hall. We were hoping that the Cabinet Secretary might now be willing to provide our keynote speech on that date. If you can let me know if this possible that would be very appreciated.

Many thanks and kind regards,

[Redacted - personal info]
Campaign Manager for REVIVE

Minister for Environment and Land Reform
Ministear airson Àrainneachd agus Ath-leasachadh
Fearainn
Mairi McAllan BPA/MSP



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gov.scot

T : 0300 244 4000
E : scottish.ministers@gov.scot

[Redacted - personal info]@revive.scot

Our Reference: 202100240632

21 October 2021

Dear [Redacted - personal info]

Thank you for your correspondence of 12 July 2021, inviting Mairi Gougeon, Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands to deliver the keynote speech at REVIVE's national conference in Perth Concert Hall on Sunday 14 November. I have been asked to respond on behalf of Mairi McAllan, Minister for Environment and Land Reform, as this falls under her portfolio.

Unfortunately, neither Mairi Gougeon nor Mairi McAllan, are able to attend due to other current workload pressures during this unprecedented time. However, they are grateful for your kind invitation and wish you a successful event.

[Redacted - personal info]

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From: [Redacted - personal info] on behalf of Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment
Sent: 15 June 2020 09:12
To: Public Engagement Unit
Cc: Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment
Subject: FW: Letter from the Revive coalition: Wednesday's vote on protecting Mountain Hares
Attachments: Protecting Scotland's Mountain Hares, Revive coalition.pdf
Categories: MICASE

For Micase please

[Redacted - personal info]
Private Secretary to the Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment

[Redacted - personal info]
MinisterRANE@gov.scot

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From: [Redacted - personal info]@revive.scot>
Sent: 15 June 2020 09:07
To: Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment <MinisterRANE@gov.scot>
Subject: Letter from the Revive coalition: Wednesday's vote on protecting Mountain Hares

Dear Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment,

I hope you and yours are well. Please find enclosed a letter from the Revive coalition concerning amendment 30 of the Animals and Wildlife (Scotland) bill. I hope you find it well.

Many thanks and kind regards,

[Redacted - personal info] Revive

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For more information please visit <http://www.symanteccloud.com>



[Redacted - personal info]@revive.scot

Our Reference: 202000047338

15 June 2020

Dear [redacted - personal info],

Thank you for your email of 15 June to Mairi Gougeon, Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment, regarding the amendments lodged under the Animal and Wildlife Penalties, Protections and Powers Bill. I have been asked to respond.

Firstly, I would like to thank you for taking the time to write in about the Bill and for following the debate and we are very grateful to the REVIVE Coalition for the information and advice that you have provided. I would like to assure you that the Scottish Government takes animal welfare very seriously.

I would also like to assure you that the Minister is giving all the amendments lodged under the Animal and Wildlife Penalties, Protections and Powers Bill very careful consideration, and will outline the Scottish Governments position on each of them at the Stage 3 debate on Wednesday 17 June, which you can watch on the Scottish Parliament website at <https://www.scottishparliament.tv/>

Yours sincerely

[Redacted - personal info]
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REVIVE

The coalition for grouse moor reform

Dear Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment,

We hope you and yours are well in these difficult times. Regarding the Wednesday 17th June vote on the Animals and Wildlife (Scotland) bill, we are writing to request your support for amendment 30 which concerns mountain hares.

As we are sure you are aware, on average 26,000 Scottish native mountain hares are killed every year, mostly on grouse moors on the questionable assumption that this will protect grouse numbers for sport shooting. In 2018 our First Minister called these mass-culls 'unacceptable' following the footage released by our coalition members to the BBC. Moreover, the Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform committed to tackling the mass culls provided there was evidence of it existing, which we are pleased to say was provided.

While we understand this amendment has arrived at the third reading of the bill it's clear that the Scottish public including 88% of SNP supporters [support action and regulation](#) on mountain hare culling and that this is likely our only opportunity within this Parliament.

Mountain hares are already a protected species but only from March until July and this amendment would extend protection throughout the year. If there is a justified reason for mountain hares to be culled, one can still apply for a license to do so although the Revive coalition does not believe that protecting grouse for sport shooting should be one of these reasons. Revive therefore believes this to be a common sense and practical step towards protecting this iconic Scottish species from unnecessary mass culls and sport shooting which have appalled the nation.

We hope that the Scottish Government and your party will do the right thing and back amendment 30.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Richard Dixon, Director of Friends of the Earth Scotland

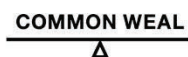
Bob Elliot, CEO of OneKind

Dr Ruth Tingay, Director of Raptor Persecution UK

Robbie Marsland, Director of League Against Cruel Sports Scotland

Robin McAlpine, Director of Common Weal

Max Wiszniewski, Campaign Manager for Revive



From: [Redacted - personal info] on behalf of Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform
Sent: 03 March 2020 15:00
To: Public Engagement Unit
Subject: FW: Invitation to address the Revive National Conference in Perth

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: MICASE

[Redacted - out of scope]

From: [Redacted - personal info]@revive.scot>
Sent: 03 March 2020 15:00
To: Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform <CabSecECCLR@gov.scot>
Subject: Invitation to address the Revive National Conference in Perth

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

We are writing to request your attendance as a keynote speaker at the national Revive coalition conference in Perth Concert Hall on Saturday 1 August 2020. The conference will be an all-day event so we can be very flexible regarding your preferred time. We expect a large attendance and speakers consisting of national-level NGOs, stakeholders, high profile guest speakers, members of the public and MSPs from a range of political parties and we would be very pleased if you can accept this invitation to speak on behalf of the Scottish Government.

Many thanks and kind regards,

[Redacted - personal info]Revive

Revive is a coalition of like-minded organisations working for reform of Scotland's grouse moors. The coalition is made up by Friends of the Earth Scotland, League Against Cruel Sports Scotland, Common Weal, OneKind, and Raptor Persecution UK.

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T: 0300 244 4000

E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

[Redacted - personal info]@revive.scot

Our Reference: 202000019292 09 April 2020

Dear [Redacted - personal info]

Thank you for your email of 3 March 2020 to Roseanna Cunningham, Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform, to provide the keynote speech at the national Revive coalition conference in Perth Concert Hall on Saturday 1 August 2020.

The Cabinet Secretary would be keen to provide the keynote speech at the conference, but given the current uncertainty, we will make a note of the date, but will have to confirm nearer the time when the picture is clearer.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted - personal info]

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From: [Redacted - personal info] on behalf of Minister for Environment and
Sent: Land Reform 02 February 2023 11:59
To: Public Engagement Unit
Subject: FW: REVIVE National Conference with Chris Packham

Categories: MICASE

[Redacted - out of scope]

From: [\[Redacted - personal info\]@revive.scot](mailto:[Redacted - personal info]@revive.scot)>
Sent: 01 February 2023 16:58
To: Minister for Environment and Land Reform <MinisterELR@gov.scot>
Subject: REVIVE National Conference with Chris Packham

Dear Minister Màiri McAllan,

I am writing to invite you to be the keynote speaker at REVIVE's National conference, in Perth Concert Hall on Sunday the 12th November. Television presenter and Naturalist Chris Packham will be speaking and is planning to be our host on the day. In November 2021 hundreds were in attendance as prominent speakers from economic, rural, environmental and animal welfare backgrounds and NGOs came together and we would be very pleased if you could join us on this year.

We would work according to the times that would suit you best and I very much look forward to hearing if you are able to attend.

Many thanks and kind regards,

[Redacted - personal info] REVIVE

Minister for Environment and Land Reform
Ministear airson Àrainneachd agus Ath-leasachadh
Fearainn
Mairi McAllan BPA/MSP



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T : 0300 244 4000
E : scottish.ministers@gov.scot

[Redacted - personal info]@revive.scot

Our Reference: 202300341742

14 March 2023

Dear [redacted - personal info]

Thank you for your correspondence of 1 February 2023 inviting Mairi McAllan, Minister for Environment and Land Reform, to deliver the keynote address at REVIVE's National conference, which is due to take place at Perth Concert Hall on Sunday 12 November.

The Minister is grateful for your kind invitation and would be pleased to address the conference. I would therefore be grateful if you could contact the Minister's Diary Secretary, via email at MinisterELR@gov.scot to make the necessary arrangements.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted - personal info]

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From: [Redacted - personal info] on behalf of Minister for Environment and Land Reform
Sent: 20 June 2022 11:40
To: Public Engagement Unit
Subject: FW: Killing to Kill on Scotland's grouse moors
Attachments: Letter to Minister Màiri McAllan MSP.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: [Redacted - personal info] MICASE

Diary please

From: [Redacted - personal info]@revive.scot
Sent: 15 June 2022 12:22
To: Minister for Environment and Land Reform <MinisterELR@gov.scot>
Subject: Killing to Kill on Scotland's grouse moors

Dear Minister,

Please find enclosed a letter about *Killing to Kill*, a new drive from the REVIVE coalition for grouse moor reform to highlight one part of the circle of destruction that surrounds grouse shooting in Scotland. I look forward to hearing from you and your team at a time of your convenience.

Many thanks and kind regards,

[Redacted - personal info] REVIVE

Minister for Environment and Land Reform
Ministear airson Àrainneachd agus Ath-leasachadh
Fearainn
Mairi McAllan BPA/MSP



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T : 0300 244 4000
E : scottish.ministers@gov.scot

[Redacted - personal info] @revive.scot

Our Reference: 202200312119

3 August 2022

Dear [Redacted - personal info]

Thank you for your recent letter to Màiri McAllan, Minister for Environment and Land Reform, requesting a meeting to discuss reform on grouse moors.

As the points you have raised previously are still outstanding, a meeting with the Minister's officials at this time would be more beneficial. On this basis, I would appreciate it if you could contact [\[redacted - personal info\] @gov.scot](#) to make the necessary arrangements.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted - personal info]

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REVIVE

The coalition for grouse moor reform

||Killing to Kill||

Dear Minister,

The REVIVE coalition for grouse moor reform appreciates our previous correspondence in which we've discussed the reform of Scotland's grouse moors. Moreover, it was encouraging to hear during our recent interview together that cruelty against wildlife is a motivating factor in your decision-making, which has led to you expanding the remit of the snaring review to explore a potential ban.

As is widely known, in order to maximise the numbers of grouse that are available for sport shooting, hundreds of thousands of foxes, stoats, weasels, crows and even so-called 'non-target species' like hedgehogs are snared trapped and killed on grouse moors every year.

This is Killing to Kill - a cruel part of the circle of destruction that surrounds grouse shooting, that REVIVE believes needs to end.

REVIVE recognises that on some occasions - like ethical conservation work - wildlife management can be deemed necessary and justified if approached properly. It's the killing to kill on grouse moors that is wholly unnecessary and not representative of a modern and progressive Scotland.

Therefore, we were encouraged by your contribution to the recent debate in Parliament concerning Motion S6M-03023, Ethical Principles in Wildlife Management. We regard the *International Consensus Principles for Ethical Wildlife Control* as the solution to Killing to Kill and believe it should be applied across the board when decisions are made in wildlife management.

As you alluded to when we spoke, grouse moor reform may be an opportunity to include other relevant legislation, including for our wildlife, and ending the killing to kill is something we are keen to push as part of this drive.

We believe that this move will aid in your Government's stated aim of supporting a transition away from intensively managed driven grouse moors to better land uses for our people, our wildlife and the environment and we would be very keen to support your efforts in doing so.

I and my colleagues would be very pleased to meet with you at a time of your convenience to discuss these issues and I look forward to hearing from you and your team.

Many thanks and kind regards,

[Redacted - personal info] REVIVE

From: [Redacted - personal info] on behalf of Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity
Sent: 08 December 2021 19:48
To: Public Engagement Unit
Subject: FW: Meeting request with REVIVE coalition
Categories: [Redacted - personal info] , MICASE

[Redacted - out of scope]

[Redacted - personal info] Lorna Slater MSP, Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity

Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG | Mob: [Redacted - personal info] |
Email: MinisterGSCEB@gov.scot

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From: [\[Redacted - personal info\]@revive.scot](mailto:[Redacted - personal info]@revive.scot)>
Sent: 08 December 2021 15:43
To: Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity <MinisterGSCEB@gov.scot>
Subject: Meeting request with REVIVE coalition

Dear Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy, and Biodiversity,

I am writing to request a meeting between yourself and the REVIVE coalition in the new year to discuss the reform of Scotland's grouse moors and how this relates to promoting biodiversity in Scotland. If your team are able to suggest some suitable dates I would be very happy to meet online or in person depending on your own preference. I look forward to hearing from you.

Many thanks and kind regards,

[Redacted - personal info] REVIVE

Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and
Biodiversity
COMMS : Ministerial Private Offices
Lorna Slater MSP



Scottish Government
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gov.scot

T : 0300 244 4000
E : scottish.ministers@gov.scot

[Redacted - personal info]

Our Reference: 202100262842

22 December 2021

Dear [Redacted - personal info]

Thank you for your correspondence of 8 December 2021 to Lorna Slater, Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity, inviting her to meet with members of the REVIVE coalition to discuss the reform of grouse moor management and how this relates to promoting biodiversity in Scotland.

The Minister would be pleased to accept your invitation. I would therefore be most grateful if you could contact the Minister's Assistant Private Secretary at MinisterGSCEB@gov.scot to discuss a mutually convenient date.

Kind regards

[Redacted - personal info]

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From: [Redacted - personal info] @revive.scot
Sent: 22 June 2021 14:23
To: Scottish Ministers
Subject: Ministerial Introduction to REVIVE Grouse moor licence
Attachments: briefing sheet.pdf

Categories: MiCase

Dear Minister for the Environment, Biodiversity and Land Reform Màiri McAllan,

First of all I would like to thank you for working with us in your previous role as special advisor to the Scottish Government and we are very pleased to continue that working relationship in your new role as Cabinet Secretary. I previously sent this attached licence briefing document to your colleague Ben Macpherson when he was in a similar role and I hope it finds you well. While this document is not yet public we felt it would be helpful to share it with the Scottish Government in advance as it outlines what REVIVE believes should be part of the upcoming grouse moor licence.

Moreover, we would be very pleased to meet and discuss grouse moor reform with you and, at a date and time of your convenience from July 26th onwards, the opportunities such reform can bring for our people, our wildlife and the environment. I very much look forward to hearing from you.

Many thanks and kind regards,

[Redacted - personal info] REVIVE the coalition for grouse moor reform

Minister for Environment, Biodiversity & Land Reform

Ministear airson Àrainneachd, Bith-iomadachd agus Ath-leasachadh Fearainn

Mairi McAllan BPA/MSP



Scottish Government
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T : 0300 244 4000

E : scottish.ministers@gov.scot

[Redacted - personal info] [@revive.scot](mailto:)

Our Reference: 202100217461

11 August 2021

Dear [Redacted - personal info]

Thank you for your letter of 22 June to the Minister for Environment, Biodiversity and Land Reform, Mairi McAllan MSP, to meet to discuss grouse moor reform.

Ms McAllan would be pleased to accept your invitation subject to Parliamentary business, I would be grateful if you could contact the Minister's Diary Secretary, via email at MinisterEBLR@gov.scot to arrange a mutually convenient date.

Yours sincerely

P.P.

MAIRI MCALLAN

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Tha Ministearanna h-Alba, an luchd-comhairleachaidh sònraichte agus Rùnaire Maireannach fo chumhachan Achd Coiteachaidh (Alba) 2016. Faicibh www.lobbying.scot

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The Coalition for Grouse Moor Reform

Briefing Sheet 4

Towards a robust and comprehensive licensing scheme for shooting estates

Administering the licence

- Managing land for the shooting of red grouse should require a licence, regardless of whether it is called 'driven', 'walked-up' or some other form. This would be to avoid loopholes such as altering driven grouse shooting slightly to fit a different definition of the activity, thereby finding ways to avoid a licence while maintaining similar management practices.
- Licensing should include controls at the shoot level, identifying a named responsible individual or group of individuals (a management group), which can then be held accountable within the licence terms and a designated area of land.
- The owners of grouse moor estates that hire responsible individuals or management groups should also be held responsible for management activities on their land and subject to the terms of a licence. Similar to vicarious liability laws, the hope is that this would encourage estates to hire those known for good practice rather than risk losing shooting rights on their land.
- The licence should be administered by an independent unit as part of NatureScot. This independent unit must have no relevant ties or vested interests within the shooting sector to avoid conflicts of interest, and should have a specific remit. The remit would include: deliberating the merits of; the monitoring of; and the granting of licences with the power of revocation and a range of sanctions for non-compliance.
- The licensing system must be effectively enforced by NatureScot and other relevant public agencies. Licensing should include the condition of reasonable and automatic access for monitoring purposes by public agencies, without the need to alert the licence holder.
- The price for obtaining a licence must at least cover the costs of NatureScot to administer and enforce the conditions of the licence.
- Land managed for shooting interests is a major component of inequitable patterns of land ownership in Scotland. The government should consider additional licence fees beyond being cost neutral to contribute to the Scottish Land Fund, to aid the Scottish

- Government in its land reform goals for more equitable land ownership and more community buyouts.
- Because of the historic environmental damage from driven grouse shooting additional fees should be considered to aid government efforts at peatland restoration.
- Planning for and the reporting of licence holders must be transparent and be made available as public information. The reporting system should include the recording of annual bag numbers of red grouse. This would be reported to NatureScot who could also monitor counts. Large bag numbers would indicate intensive management practices which form parts of the circle of destruction that surrounds the industry.
- The individual, company or estate that obtains a licence must register the landholding with the Land Register of Scotland, if it has not already done so, as a condition of that licence being obtained.
- Unlike in many other European countries, shooters are not required to undergo mandatory shooting proficiency tests nor do they require a licence to use a firearm. This must be revised. Mandatory tests should include theory such as wildlife identification and biology, firearms use and safety, hunting techniques, and rules and laws. It would be the responsibility of the grouse moor licence holder to ensure each shooter has passed these tests.

Sanctions

- Sanctions for non-compliance would include fines, licence suspension and revocation depending on the severity of non-compliance. The revocation should mean a permanent loss of all shooting rights for the individual / management group involved. As mentioned above it is the estate owners who should also be held responsible for breaking the terms of the licence.
- Being granted a licence would come with the condition of accepting the above sanctions for non-compliance.

Grouse shooting estates and managers should not be granted an automatic licence.

- There needs to be a mechanism and set of standards for accepting or refusing licences from the outset.
- Some grouse moor estates and managers have a history of bad practice in Scotland and England which should be accounted for in the granting of licences. For instance, there are cases where there have been patterns of missing or killed satellite-tagged birds of prey or poison found on estates but not enough legal burden of proof for prosecution.
- Grouse shooting estates that are recognised to have a poor record retrospectively, should be subject to the same civil burden of proof for previous offences, that grouse moors who obtain a licence in future would be subject to.

- Moreover, grouse moor managers who are subject to retrospective licence refusal should be ineligible from obtaining a licence elsewhere in Scotland.
- The period of retrospective licence refusal could be from May 1999, the point at which the Scottish Parliament, then established, would have had the power to legislate on this. This would serve to stop bad actors (individuals or management companies) from taking their practices elsewhere in Scotland.

Aspects of a grouse moor licence that may require additional legislation to tackle the circle of destruction

- Muirburn
- Although all muirburn is due to be subject to a separate licence scheme, it must not take place for the purpose of increasing the numbers of grouse and burning on peat should be illegal anywhere in Scotland.
- Muirburn takes place across large and remote land areas in Scotland so policing it effectively against bad practice (such as burning on peat) is nearly impossible. Therefore there should be a presumption against muirburn in all areas licenced for grouse shooting.
- Non-compliance should result in permanent licence revocation.

Mass outdoor medication

- Pharmaceutical medicines left out in the open in grit stations, in attempt to maximise grouse numbers for sport shooting, should be disallowed. NatureScot would supervise the safe removal of these chemicals from Scotland's moorland. Licenced grouse moors should not be allowed to use medicated grit as the only purpose, despite the risks, is to protect and increase grouse numbers for sport shooting.

Mountain hares

- As a protected species they should not be killed for sport or in the attempt to increase grouse numbers for sport shooting. Although subject to a separate licence, grouse moors must notify NatureScot when culls take place under licence, allow for on-site monitoring by relevant environmental NGOs and government agencies and this information must be transparent and publicly available.

Grouse moors and wildlife

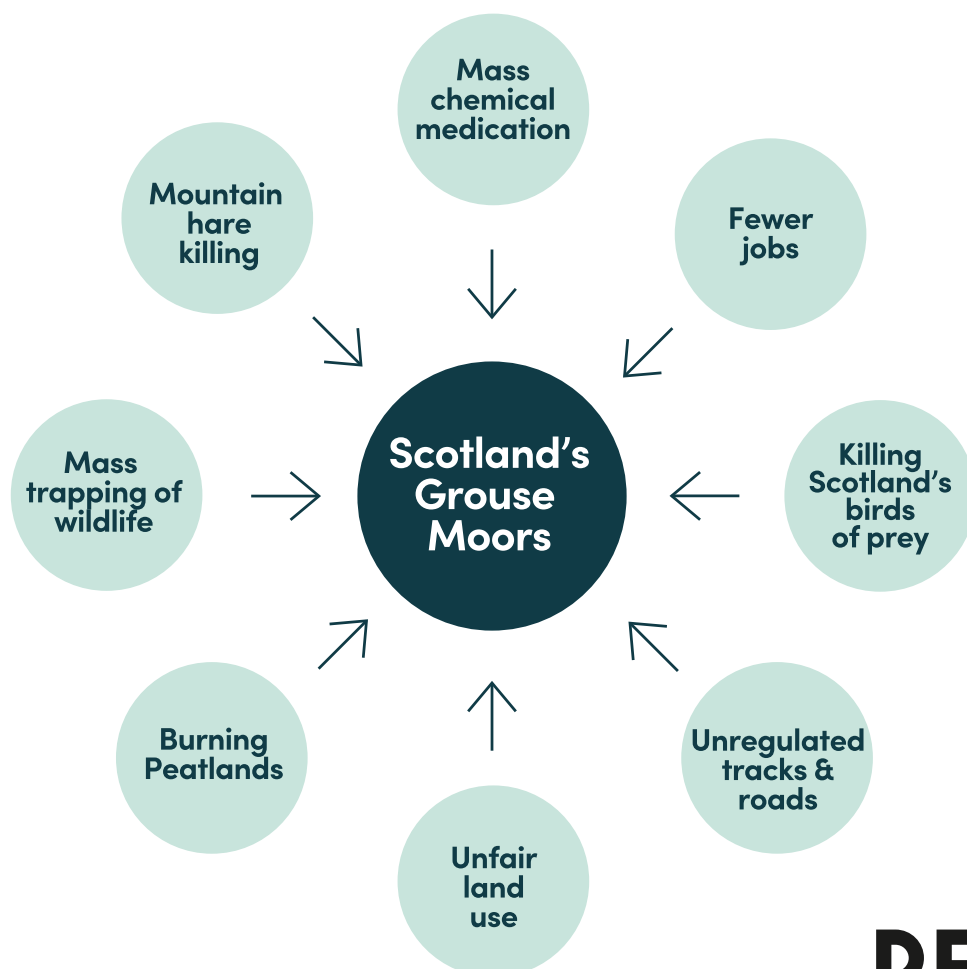
- If grouse moors are to be regarded as sustainable, a grouse moor management licence should obligate the licence holder to end the snaring, trapping, and killing of wildlife to increase grouse numbers for sport shooting.
- Any wildlife killed on licenced grouse shooting estates should be subject to a transparent and strict licence of their own with numbers recorded and publicly available. In correlation with the recording of annual bag numbers, this would allow NatureScot to obtain information on how management practices affect grouse numbers for sport shooting.

- While it is recognised that the culling of some species for conservation purposes can be deemed as necessary, the killing of any number of wildlife is not justifiable for the unnecessary aim of increasing the number of grouse to be shot for sport.
- There must be a proven conservation need to cull wildlife and doing so under the guise of protecting some species to cover for increasing grouse numbers for sport shooting should result in sanctions to licenced estates.
- If wildlife control is deemed justifiable in Scotland, e.g., for conservation and not increasing red grouse numbers for sport shooting, then licence holders should be subject to the Seven Principles of Ethical Wildlife Control.¹
- Snares and stink pits are rightly not used on land managed by NatureScot. Snares and stink pits should be banned and across the country, not just on grouse moors, to promote a higher standard of regulated land stewardship. Their use on licenced grouse moors should result in licence revocation.

¹ *International consensus principles for ethical wildlife control: The Society for Conservation Biology (wiley.com)*

The circle of Destruction that surrounds grouse shooting in Scotland

The circle of destruction surrounding Scotland's grouse moors

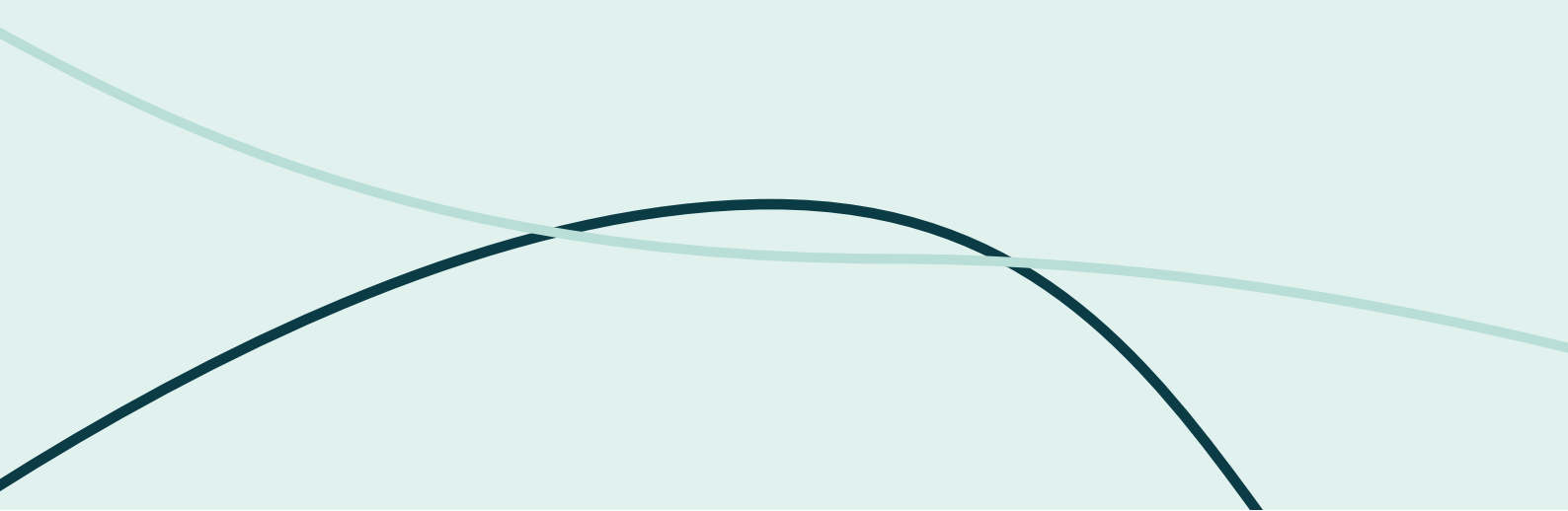


Revive is a coalition of like-minded organisations working for reform of Scotland's grouse moors. The coalition is made up by Common Weal, Friends of the Earth Scotland, League Against Cruel Sports Scotland, OneKind, and Raptor Persecution UK.

Website: www.revive.scot

Twitter: [@ReviveCoalition](https://twitter.com/ReviveCoalition)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ReviveScotlandCoalition



From: [Redacted - personal info] @revive.scot
Sent: 22 June 2021 12:52
To: Scottish Ministers
Subject: Re-introduction to REVIVE coalition for grouse moor reform
Attachments: Grouse moor licence briefing sheet.pdf

Categories: MiCase

Dear Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands,

First of all I would like to thank you for working with us in your previous role and we are very pleased to continue that working relationship in your new role as Cabinet Secretary. I previously sent this attached licence briefing document to your colleague Ben Macpherson and I hope it finds you well. While this document is not yet public we felt it would be helpful to share it with the Scottish Government as it outlines what REVIVE believes should be part of the upcoming grouse moor licence.

Moreover, the former Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Roseanna Cunningham previously committed to making the keynote speech at REVIVE's delayed national conference – now taking place on November 14th, at Perth Concert Hall. Should the conference go ahead as planned we would be very pleased if you could take up the invitation to be keynote speaker on that day. The conference will be chaired by renowned broadcaster and naturalist, Chris Packham.

We would be very pleased to meet and discuss grouse moor reform with you, at a date and time of your convenience from July 26th onwards, and the opportunities such reform can bring to rural Scotland. I very much look forward to hearing from you.

Many thanks and kind regards,

[Redacted - personal info] REVIVE the coalition for grouse moor reform

Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson Cùisean Dùthchail agus
nan Eilean
Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands
Mairi Gougeon MSP



Scottish Government
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Our ref: 202100217332
12 July 2021

Dear Mr

Thank you for your letter of 22 June to the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands, Mairi Gougeon MSP, to meet to discuss grouse moor reform.

Ms Gougeon would be pleased to accept your invitation subject to Parliamentary business, I would be grateful if you could contact the Cabinet Secretary's Diary Secretary, via email at CabSecRAI@gov.scot to arrange a mutually convenient date.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted - personal info]

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From: [Redacted - personal info] on behalf of Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment
Sent: 15 January 2021 09:01
To: Public Engagement Unit
Cc: Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment
Subject: FW: Introduction to REVIVE: the coalition for grouse moor reform

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: MICASE

[Redacted - out of scope]

From: [Redacted - personal info] @revive.scot
Sent: 14 January 2021 16:37
To: Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment
Subject: Introduction to REVIVE: the coalition for grouse moor reform

Dear Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment,

First of all I would like to congratulate you on your new appointment and wish you a happy new year. I had regular contact with the previous Minister Mairi Gougeon and I look forward to continued correspondence with yourself as one of the key stakeholders for grouse moor reform.

I would be very pleased to take the next opportunity you have available, to meet with you online, to discuss the case for grouse moor reform. I very much look forward to hearing from you.

Many thanks and kind regards,

[Redacted - personal info] REVIVE: the coalition for grouse moor reform

Revive is a coalition of like-minded organisations working for grouse moor reform in Scotland. The coalition is made up by Friends of the Earth Scotland, Common Weal, League Against Cruel Sports Scotland, OneKind and Raptor Persecution UK.

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