



- Spaniels
- Labradors
- Other

If other, please specify:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Is the Wild Mammals Act providing a sufficient level of protection for wild mammals, while at the same time allowing effective and humane control of mammals, such as foxes, where necessary?

- Yes
- No

Do you feel the activities of organised fox shoots conducted by hunts and individuals using dogs in Scotland are open, public and accountable?

- Yes
- No

Have you noticed any public opposition to the control of pest species using dogs under the Wild Mammals Act in your local area?

- Yes
- No

If yes please explain when and from whom.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

The Wild Mammals Act allows an unlimited number of dogs to be used to locate and flush wild mammals for the purpose of sport or pest control. Do you feel restrictions on the number of dogs that could be used for these purposes would hinder the ability of individuals to carry out some sporting or pest controlling operations?

- Yes
- No

Please give reasons for your answer.

If you are going to hunt, one may as well hunt effectively, fewer dogs means you are reducing the 'overmatch' (to steal a military term) increasing the likelihood of both predator and prey being wounded rather than killed.

Someone who hunts a wild mammal illegally under the Wild Mammals Act is guilty of an offence along with the landowner or occupier, as well as the owner or person responsible for the dog(s) if they are not directly committing the offence. The basic penalty is a fine of up to £5,000 and/or imprisonment for up to 6 months. Do you feel this is enough of a deterrent to keep people from using dogs to hunt wild mammals in Scotland as defined by the Wild Mammals Act?

- Yes
- No

Please give reasons for your answer.

Are there any circumstances in which the only way of effectively and humanely controlling a wild mammal, for the purposes listed in the Wild Mammals Act, is to use dogs to flush the wild mammal to guns or to a falconer?

Yes

No

Please give reasons for your answer, including examples if you answered yes as to why other methods of control could not be used.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

If you use dogs to flush a wild mammal to guns or to a falconer, including from underground, how do you ensure that the quarry is despatched by the gun(s) or bird as soon as possible after being flushed?

An exception in the Wild Mammals Act means that it is not an offence if a dog(s) unintentionally kills a wild mammal in the course of flushing that wild mammal from cover, or underground, if the intention is for it to be shot or killed by a falcon. Is this a reasonable exception in terms of allowing effective, humane control?

Yes

No

Please give reasons for your answer.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Do you feel that the use of dogs to flush foxes or mink from underground, or from tight cover, is important in allowing for the effective and humane control of wild mammals in Scotland?

Yes

No

Please give reasons for your answer.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

The Wild Mammals Act allows a dog(s) to be used to locate and dispatch a severely injured wild mammal for the purpose of reducing suffering. Do you feel that this is important in allowing for the effective and humane control of wild mammals in Scotland?

Yes

No

Please give reasons for your answer.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Do you feel there are any ways that the Wild Mammals Act could be improved?

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Do you have any other comments for Lord Bonomy?

If one intends to kill, whatever the prey, I feel it is a moral duty to bring overwhelming force to bear on the prey in order that it is done as quickly, cleanly and effectively as possible. My experience of the

countryside community is there is no kudos or pleasure derived by anyone from inflicted excessive suffering on any animal. No form of hunting is a fair fight, nor should we endeavour to make it so. It is part of country life that things need to be killed, both to control vermin and for food. All hindrances upon people from bringing maximum force to bear will ultimately increase animal suffering as they make it harder to give prey a clean and dignified end.