

Dear Sir

I am writing regarding the review of the Protection of Wild Mammals (Scotland) Act 2002.

I submit that the operation of the act at present does not provide a sufficient level of protection for wild mammals, since there are loopholes which continue to allow hunting with dogs. The act is therefore ineffective as it stands and does not protect wild mammals; hunts go ahead much as before and the act has changed nothing.

These loopholes must be closed to outlaw the practice of wild animals being ripped apart by packs of dogs, as obviously this is not a humane death. Humane control of these animals can be implemented by neutering, there is no need to kill the animals, especially in such a brutal fashion. The arguments for hunting have no substance - there are more effective methods of control with better long term results; those who hunt do so because they enjoy killing defenceless animals, whilst decent human beings are appalled by it.

Hunting of wild animals has no place in the 21st century, and I respectfully ask that this legislation be strengthened and enforced so that when implemented it prevents the abuse of wild animals as was originally intended.

Thank you.

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