

29/3/2016.

Dear Sir,  
I would like to comment on the Review of the Protection of  
Wild Animals (Scotland) Act 2002.

I farm at the above address, which is in the Inver Forest  
Country, & I welcome the Hunt, when & if it arrives.

My main farm income comes from sheep farming, & not the  
time of year (lambs), I am keen that the fox population is not out  
of control. Part of my farm lies into the River Inver, & was formerly a  
SSSI. This site is a haven for foxes, because it lies to the S.W., &  
its gradient (v. steep), & also because of bracken, ferns which grow in  
abundance there.

I would suspect that flushing with two hands would not work  
- the foxes would not break cover, - the shooter would have instant - so  
home, or fast to turn up in the first place.

There is no doubt in my mind that the Act as it is - works.

It has killed 'the sport' of hunting foxes to a pretty major extent -  
Some are the 10 mile parts (finding to dispatching the fox) of bygone days.

- Hunt subscriptions are down, Ad-hoc mounted followers, & the police  
have downgraded hunt activities to very low priority. (No Vandalism or

drunkenness!)

Some times (myself included) have let up some Hunt Jumps - this keeps the mounted followers amused whilst 'flushing' is taking place. This gives the mounted followers some excitement, horsemanship etc when hands move on to the next draw. (Places where foxes might be.)

The Led Forest Hands has been in existence for over 100 yrs. -

it has supporters from all walks of life. I support people in our area who are on balance pro hunting. - We do have good community spirit, & have made a sizeable donation to the Margaret Kerr Unit at the local Bowden General Hospital.

There are 7 packs of Fox Hounds in the Scottish Borders Council Area

- on high days & holidays (Christmas & New Year etc.). I suspect there are more people at the Hunt meets than at the rugby games taking place.

In conclusion, hunting/flushing with 2 hands would not work

- totally impractical. Community are certainly not against hunting. Police are not really concerned. My cynical mind thinks that this review has been bought about by the SNP - who's threatening to vote against the English law at Westminster - which proposed bringing it into line with Scottish law, & some have to now justify their position having stated they would not vote on solely English matters!

Yr sincerely,

A.A. Scott