

From: [Alistair Campbell](#)
To: [2002 Act Review](#)
Subject: Re: Review of Wild Mammals Protection Scotland Act 2002 (aka Watson's Law)
Date: 31 March 2016 22:55:59

Sent from Alistair Campbell's global Smartphone

On 31 Mar 2016 23:47, "Alistair Campbell" [REDACTED] wrote:

Lord Bonomy
Scottish Executive
EDINBURGH

My Lord,

I am a 64 year-old retired company director, landowner and former Scottish foxhunter. I have given up following my hunt after life-long membership as I consider more animal suffering under Watson is caused than was the case under 21st century Masters of Foxhounds Association regulated, hunting.

By my witness more foxes are being wounded by shotguns since the 2002 Act. Under MFHA rules, the quarry was caught and killed instantly or escaped unharmed, wiler and more experienced to get better of hounds another day. Shunting (flushing foxes from cover to waiting guns) results, more often than not, in the fox being merely slowed by guns. If lucky, he is eventually caught and killed by the hounds. The unlucky ones escape to fresh cover and, depending upon seriousness of injury, die painfully later. In both cases suffering is increased from what would have been the truth had venery been allowed its natural course.

In venery it is the hounds that are hunting the fox - the nearest it now has to a natural predator. They are a pack hunting animal using differing individual senses in harmony enabling them to catch and despatch their quarry in an efficient, natural way which man and his machines cannot replicate. As an animal loving foxhunter, I consider it to be abusing hounds to excite them in the chase and deprive them of their reward at the end of a hunt.

I know that many politicians were led to believe that they were doing the "right thing" banning foxhunting. Regrettably Watson's Law has caused more suffering in Scotland just as Blair's ban south of the border has proven to be as unworkable as it is unjust. In France their licensing system seems to work well. Perhaps lessons could be learned from them?

Please do not hesitate to ask if you need further information in evidence on this submission to your review.

Kind regards

Alistair Campbell

[REDACTED]

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