



## Scottish Natural Heritage Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba

All of nature for all of Scotland  
Nàdar air fad airson Alba air fad

M Thrane

By email: [request-381757-691c4b29@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-381757-691c4b29@whatdotheyknow.com)

Our Ref: SIR144336/A2201682

13 February 2017

Dear M Thrane

### **Information Request – Cannon Netting Injuries and Fatalities**

Thank you for your information request, which we received on 16 January 2017. We have considered your request under the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 ('the EIRs').

You noted that you believe Scottish Natural Heritage 'licence' the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) to administer the ringing scheme in Scotland, and asked if it would be possible to obtain statistics relating to cannon netting fatalities in Scotland, by region, between 2014 and 2016.

You also noted that you are specifically interested in the number of birds killed or injured in the undertaking of this capture method.

A copy of the relevant information provided to us by BTO is set out in the attached document. The document details cannon netting returns between 2014 and 2016.

Between 2014 and 2016 there were a total of 16 cannon netting permits issued for Scotland. As the number of permits is small, identifying where casualties occurred could identify individual permit holders. Release of this personal data into the public domain in response to an access to information request would breach the Data Protection Act 1998. We have therefore applied EIRs Regulation 11(2) (Personal data) to this information.

The total number of catches listed in the attached document is 113, and 9 of those catches had casualties. The total number of birds caught in the cannon netting catches was 6280; the total number of casualties was 13 (0.2% of the number of birds caught).

### **How We Handled Your Request**

We believe you have asked for environmental information as defined in the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 ('the EIRs'), so we are dealing with your request under those regulations. To be able to use the EIRs, we must apply an exemption under section 39(2) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 ('FOISA'). The Scottish Information Commissioner's guidance recommends that public authorities apply this exemption to environmental information and handle requests under the EIRs.

If you would like to find out more about the access to information legislation there is a guidance booklet available on the Scottish Information Commissioner's website:

<http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.aspx?IID=5487&sID=5024>.

## **Review and Appeal**

I hope this information meets your requirements but if you are dissatisfied with how we have responded to your information request, please write to us within 40 working days explaining your concerns. You can contact us at Battleby, Redgorton, Perth, PH1 3EW or email us at [foi@snh.gov.uk](mailto:foi@snh.gov.uk). Our Director of Policy and Advice, Andrew Bachell, or his nominated delegate, will carry out a review of our response and contact you with their findings within 20 working days.

If you are not satisfied following this, you can make an appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner. The Scottish Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Scottish Information Commissioner  
Kinburn Castle  
Doubledykes Road  
St Andrews  
Fife  
KY16 9DS

Online appeal service: [www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal)

Website: <http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/>

Telephone: 01334 464610

Yours sincerely

***Rhoda Davidson***

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Information Officer  
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