



Scottish Natural Heritage Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba

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

Mr Iain Thornber

By email: request-484434-99e45c6c@whatdotheyknow.com

Our Ref: SIR150601/A2645570

12 June 2018

Dear Mr Thornber

Information Request – License to Shoot Protected Species

Thank you for your information request, which we received on 14 May. We have considered your request under the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 ('the EIRs').

You asked us whether any application for a license to kill ravens (*Corvus corax*) on the Morvern Peninsula, Lochaber, Highland, has been granted in the last three years.

We have taken the Morvern Peninsula to mean from the west coast going east as far inland as where the A861 bisects the peninsula from Achnalea to Inversanda. In the last five years there have been eight licences issued to kill ravens in this area. Three licences were issued in 2016, three in 2017, and two in 2018. All the licences were issued under Section 16(1)(k) of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), for the purpose of '*preventing serious damage to livestock, foodstuffs for livestock, crops, vegetables, fruit, growing timber, fisheries or inland waters*'.

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. We will carry out a review of our response and contact you with our 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

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

Telephone: 01334 464610

Yours sincerely

Rhoda Davidson

Rhoda Davidson
Information Officer
FOI@snh.gov.uk